

Critical Phone limits for the Haematology Laboratory St James' Hospital

PARAMETER	UNITS	CRITICAL PHONE LIMITS
Haemoglobin *	g/dl	<8.0 g/dl (Hospital In –Patients) <9.0 g/dl (Out-Patients and GP'S) >19.0g/dl(Out-Patients and GP'S)
Platelet Count *	x 10 ⁹ /l	<50 x 10 ⁹ /l (Hospital In –Patients) <80 x 10 ⁹ /(Out-Patients and GP'S)
White blood cells *	x 10 ⁹ /l	>50 x 10 ⁹ /l (Hospital In –Patients) >20 x 10 ⁹ /l (Out-Patients and GP'S)
Neutrophil count *	x 10 ⁹ /l	<0.8 x 10 ⁹ /l on initial presentation if not previously known
New Leukaemia Diagnosis		New diagnosis of Acute Leukaemia
TTP/HUS/MAHA		Evidence of TTP/HUS/ MAHA
CSF Immunophenotyping		CSF showing involvement of Leukaemia/Lymphoma
Malarial parasite screen		All new Positive Malaria cases (RDT and Blood Film Report)
Sickle Solubility Test (Sickledex)	POS/NEG	All Sickle Solubility Test results, positive and negative.
Haemoglobinopathy Screen		New diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease, Sickle Cell Anaemia or Beta Thalassemia Major.
Plasma Viscosity	mPa	Results > 2 mPas
Cyclosporin level	µg/l	>259µg/l
Tacrolimus level	µg/l	>30µg/l

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Notes:

- *Results will be phoned if there are no recent similar results available for comparison, if there is no known clinical reason for the result or if results are significantly abnormal- as defined in table above.
- If the abnormal results cannot be communicated to the clinical team by phone, despite two attempts by Haematology Staff to do so, these results will then be released into EPR and Healthlink. Further attempts to contact the clinical team may be undertaken but cannot be guaranteed.
- If GP or Out-patient results cannot be phoned, particularly outside of routine working hours, then appropriate further action will be determined post consultation with Haematology consultant on-call. Refer to section 12. Haematology policy document HAEM-MP-H-0010
- All other results of tests performed in the Haematology Department will be released on EPR as soon as they have been authorised in the Haematology Department.
- While the staff in the Haematology Department will do their best to adhere to the above guidelines, it is the duty of all clinicians to follow up, in a timely fashion, on the results of haematology investigations requested on patients under their care.
- Urgent results pertaining to Out-Patients out of routine hours should be phoned to the Medical Registrar On-Call.
- Where difficulties are encountered in telephoning critical results Refer to Haematology policy document HAEM-MP-H-0010 section 12
- Critical phoning limits determined with reference to *Royal College of Pathologists: Out of hours reporting of Laboratory results requiring urgent clinical action to primary care, November 2010* and Haematology policy document HAEM-MP-H-0010 Reporting of Results in Haematology and Coagulation

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