

# Requests/Reporting

## General Reporting Concerns

For scheduling outpatients, test results, or accessing individual departments within the laboratory, please call 781-979-3151.

## Interfering Substances

The most common interfering substances are listed on the specimen requirement column of the test listing. A more comprehensive listing is available in *Young DS: Effects of Drugs on Clinical Laboratory Tests*, 4th edition. Washington DC, AACC Press, 1995.

## Notification to the Physician Office

- All STAT results will be called or faxed when completed.
- All critical values will be called to the appropriate physician.
- Positive results for the following tests are called to the physician or physician's office:
  - CSF cultures
  - CSF Gram stains
  - Blood cultures
  - Blood culture Gram stains
- Positive results for the following common tests are called or faxed to the physician or physician's office:
  - Throat cultures
  - Directigen® (meningitis) antigen
  - Directigen® respiratory syncytial virus antigen
  - Rapid strep (throat)
  - Clostridium difficile* toxin A
  - Ova and parasites (pathogens)
  - Salmonella/Shigella/Campylobacter/Escherichia coli* O157:H7

## Notification to the Physician Office and Massachusetts Public Health Department via Infection Control Nurse

- All positive results for:
  - Acid-fast bacilli (possible tuberculosis)
  - Bacillus anthracis*
  - Bordetella*
  - Brucella*
  - Burkholderia Mallei*
  - Campylobacter*
  - Clostridium*
  - Comynebacterium Dipheriae*
  - Cryptosporidium/Cyclospora*
  - DNA probe (*Chlamydia* or *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*)
  - Enterococci (vancomycin-resistant)
  - Escherichia coli* O157:H7

- Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Gram stains
- Giardia lamblia*
- Haemophilus influenza* (blood or spinal fluid)
- Listeria*
- Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC) cultures
- Neisseria meningitidis* (spinal fluid or blood)
- Salmonella*
- Shigella*
- Streptococcus agalactiae* (blood or spinal fluid)
- Staphylococcus aureus* (vancomycin-resistant)
- Streptococcus pyogenes* (group A) (invasive) (blood or spinal fluid)
- Streptococcus pyogenes* (invasive)
- Vibrio cholerae*
- Yersinia*

## Reference Values

All reference values listed for Hallmark Health Laboratory tests are for adult normals unless otherwise indicated. Reference ranges are subject to change. Please use the information on patient reports to guide your medical decisions.

## STAT Testing

Requests for expedited STAT testing should be made only when the patient's condition requires immediate action, and results of the laboratory test(s) are required before a decision regarding action or treatment can be made. Check off the STAT box on the requisition to request expedited testing. Contact Client Services at 781-979-3151 for STAT transportation.

## Test Results and Turnaround Time

Test results by telephone are available through client services at 781-979-3151. Completed results are electronically transmitted, delivered by our courier service, or mailed, based upon the specific needs of each client. Partial or final reports are available upon request. Most routine tests are completed the same day they are received in the laboratory. Special or esoteric tests are performed as rapidly as complexity permits.