

TELEPHONING LIMITS – WITHIN HOURS

Inpatients: at all times; outpatients and GP's: within normal working 'surgery' hours

Analyte	Phone if ≤	Phone if ≥	Comments
Adjusted calcium (mmol/L)	1.80	3.5	If adjusted calcium is not available because of a low albumin, telephone results based on the unadjusted calcium result using the same telephoning limits
AKI alert	New stage 2 or 3		GPs & outpatients only
ALT (U/L)	-	600	-
Ammonia (µmol/L)	-	100*	*Always phone results (new and repeats)
Amylase (U/L)	-	400	-
AST (U/L)	-	600	-
Bile acids (µmol/L)	-	14*	*Only phone results >14
Carbamazepine (mg/L)	-	15	-
CK (U/L)	-	5000	-
Cortisol, serum (nmol/L)	50** 250 (SST at 30min)	-	**Do not phone if part of a dexamethasone suppression test
Creatinine (µmol/L)	-	300 (≥200 if <16yrs)	-
Digoxin (µg/L)	-	2.5	-
Glucose (mmol/L)	2.5	25 (≥15 if <16yrs)	-
HbA1c (mmol/mol)	-	140	-
Lactate (mmol/L)	-	5.0	-
Lipase	-	300	-
Lithium (mmol/L)	-	1.0*	*Only phone results >1.0
Magnesium (mmol/L)	0.40	-	-
Phenobarbitone (mg/L)	-	50	-
Phenytoin (mg/L)	-	25	-
Phosphate (mmol/L)	0.30	-	-
Potassium (mmol/L)	2.5	6.0* 6.5 (pre-dialysis)**	* GPs only: When phoning potassium results ≥ 6.0 mmol/L to GP, also communicate any AKI stage 1 results ** Unless the request states pre-dialysis, potassium results > 6.0 must be phoned on renal patients including those with no clinical details from any location.
Salicylate	-	300	-
Sodium (mmol/L)	120 (≤130 if <16yrs)	160	-
Theophylline (mg/L)	-	25	-
Total CO2 (mmol/L)	10	-	-
Triglycerides (mmol/L)	-	20	-
Troponin T (ng/L)	-	12	GP only
Urea (mmol/L)	-	30 (≥10 if <16yrs) 40**	**Location FH31, FH32, FLCOP, FLDOP
TSH >20 mU/L			To GPs, A&E and EAU (RVI) only
TSH >10 mU/L with ft4 <9.5 pmol/L			
ft4 >30 pmol/L with TSH <0.05 mU/L or ft3 >10 pmol/L			

Consideration should be given to the abnormal result being part of an improving trend, where it may not be necessary to phone the result.

Haemolysis: The following locations should be notified when results are not available due to haemolysis: if potassium not available, ALL adult and paediatric inpatient locations and A&E, CPAU, ICCU and Theatres. PIU only need to be notified when no results are available due to severe haemolysis.