

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CARDIO PULMONARY POLICY MANUAL
REPORTING CRITICAL VALUES**

Effective Date: July 2005
Cross Referenced:
Reviewed Date: 02/16
Revised Date: 02/16

Policy No: 8B.012
Origin: Cardio Pulmonary
Authority: Cardio/Pulmonary Manager
Page: 1 of 2

Purpose: To define the guidelines for the reporting of abnormal critical values of cardiology related diagnostic procedures.

Procedure:

1. Critical abnormal findings resulting from cardiology diagnostic procedures, based on the technician performing the test and the criteria listed, but not limited to, will be reported. The finding will be reported to the ordering physician, the patients Cardiologist and/or the Cardiologist on panel for the current month. Such findings will be reported within 20 minutes of starting the procedure. For Holter Monitoring, critical results will be reported within 20 minutes from the time the result is determined to be critical.
2. The communication will be recorded in the Critical Values Log book located in each sub-department of Cardiology.
3. The following will be recorded:
 - Date
 - Time
 - Patient Name
 - Medical Record Number
 - Value Reported
 - Value Read Back
 - Physician Notified
 - Reporting Technician

Critical Values:

Electrocardiogram

- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Heart Block (Mobitz II or greater)
- Pause greater than 2.0 seconds
- HR less than 40 BPM
- HR greater than 120 BPM
- Ventricular Tachycardia
- Ventricular Fibrillation
- Atrial Fibrillation new onset and/or undetermined onset

Holter Monitor

- Heart Block (Mobitz II or greater)
- Pause greater than 2.0 seconds
- HR less than 40 BPM
- HR greater than 120 BPM
- Ventricular Tachycardia
- Ventricular Fibrillation
- Torsade de Pointe
- Atrial Fibrillation, new onset

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A Cardiologist directly supervises the following procedures. Abnormal and critical findings do not require reporting by the Cardiology Department staff members. The Cardiologist reports abnormal findings and takes appropriate intervention when critical values are identified.

- Stress Test Regular
- Stress Test Echocardiography
- Stress Test Nuclear