

**MICROBIOLOGY CRITICAL VALUES FOR WARDS THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE CLINICAL NOTIFICATION**

| <b>Test</b>              | <b>Organism</b>   |
|--------------------------|---|
| AFB culture              | All positive Auramine smears and Ziehl-Neelsen (ZN)   |
| Blood culture            | All organisms seen on gram stain<br>All organisms isolated  |
| CSF culture              | All gram stains & microscopies<br>All organisms isolated  |
| Faeces culture           | Salmonella species<br>Shigella species<br>Campylobacter species<br>Escherichia coli 0:157<br>Clostridium difficile toxin A and B                            |
| Swabs                    | Corynebacterium diphtheriae<br>Neisseria meningitidis<br>Bordetella pertussis<br>Meticillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)<br>Group A Streptococcus |
| Fluid and Tissue culture | All positive gram stains<br>All organisms isolated  |
| Viral Culture            | Herpes simplex<br>Encephalitis<br>Influenza A and B<br>Norovirus  |

**Exceptions**

Physician to physician notifications

**It is the responsibility of ward staff receiving these results, to contact the relevant clinician within 15 minutes of Laboratory staff informing them of the result. Ward staff must document the verbal result communication on Form 37a titled "Verbal/ Telephone Result Communication Form"**

