

## CRITICAL VALUES POLICY

A critical value is defined as any result that has been determined to be medically significant and potentially life threatening unless prompt and correct action is taken. Sanford Laboratories critical values are determined by technical and medical consensus based on input and discussion with physician experts from both the Sanford Clinic and Sanford USD Medical Center.

We will notify you or your authorized representative when critical limits of these specified test results are exceeded/obtained. Notification is made *within 60 minutes following the release of the critical results* to the ordering provider or person who indicates they have the authority to accept this communication as permitted or required by state and federal law.

It is the provider or authorized representative's responsibility to interpret the result in the context of the patient's clinical condition and to take immediate action, if needed. The provider or authorized representative **is also responsible** for providing us with *24-hour reliable* contact information.

***In the event that we are not able to reach you or your representative with a critical lab result, an RN from My Sanford Nurse Clinical Call Center may be contacting your patient with an offer to assess them in order to guide them in steps to take for follow-up. We believe this workflow will ensure the timeliest response to critical laboratory values for the patient.***