

Title	Critical Results	Policy #	02-013
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POLICY

Critical radiology results will be reported by the radiologist to the patient caregiver within 45 minutes of completion of exam to enable prompt response to those results.

PURPOSE

To establish a policy for the reporting of radiology results that are determined to be critical, acute, and/or immediately life threatening.

DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL RADIOLOGY RESULTS/VALUES

1. Testicular torsion on US

PROCEDURE

When the radiologist determines the findings/diagnosis of an imaging exam is a **CRITICAL RESULT** the radiologist will take the following steps:

1. Communicate the defined critical result within 45 minutes of completion of exam.
2. Communicate directly to the patient caregiver (attending physician, house officer, referring physician, fellow, resident, nurse, PA, or nurse practitioner).
3. Include documentation in the dictated report that a critical result was communicated. Document the date, time, and person contacted

Auditing & Tracking:

1. Each critical result will be monitored on a quarterly basis to ensure:
 - a. Compliance with the policy
 - b. Turnaround time (TAT) and timeliness of delivering critical result How is this tracked? Should this be dictated?
2. Results will be reported at monthly radiology QA meetings and provided to the Hospital's PI committee.

Approved by:

Dorothy I Bulas, MD
Division Chief, Diagnostic Imaging and Radiology

6/30/2021

Date

Laurie Hogan, MBA, CRA
Director, Diagnostic Imaging and Radiology

6/30/2021

Date

Dates of review

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