

Carboxyhemoglobin and Methemoglobin – New Critical Result Values

Orderable: Carboxyhemoglobin, Mixed Venous [LAB1230920]

Methemoglobin, Mixed Venous [LAB1230938]

Effective November 20th, 2024, critical value alerts will be issued for carboxyhemoglobin and Methemoglobin results for mixed venous specimens. See the table below for the established critical value limits:

EPIC Orderable	EPIC Abbreviation	New Critical Result Threshold
Mixed Venous (WB) Methemoglobin	MV MethHB	> 3.0%
Mixed Venous (WB) Carboxyhemoglobin	MV CoHB	> 3.0%

Background:

Although there are critical values reported for arterial and venous carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) and methemoglobin (MetHb) test results performed by the VCUH Blood Gas Laboratory, no established critical values for mixed venous specimen results were previously established. To ensure patient safety, critical value alerts for COHb and MetHb will be implemented for mixed venous samples.

For questions, please contact Pathology Client Services at (804) 828-7284 or Lorin Bachmann at (804) 828-6407.