



MEMORANDUM #159

TO: UNCHCS Attending Physicians and Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: *SWC* Steven W. Cotten, PhD; Co-Director of Clinical Chemistry Laboratory
Hou Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD; Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

SUBJECT: **Critical Calcium Threshold Lowered**

DATE: December 11, 2019

Effective December 17th 2019, the McLendon Clinical Laboratories and Hillsborough Hospital Laboratory will lower the critical calcium threshold to 6.0 mg/dL. The change comes from data analysis of critical results from inpatient units, provider feedback, and published literature*. It is important to note that any abnormal calcium result is clinically important and medical intervention should not rely solely upon critical value notification from the laboratory.

***Laboratory Critical Values Policies and Procedures: CAP Laboratory Improvement Program 2002**

	Low Critical Value Percentile			Number of Labs
	10 th	50 th (median)	90 th	
Calcium	6.0	6.0	7.0	623

If you have question please contact Dr. Steve Cotten (984-974-1489) Steven.Cotten@unchealth.unc.edu