

# *West Cambridge Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine*



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On the interpretation of medical test results:

Beginning in October of 2013, WCP will be sending you your children's hemoglobin and lead results electronically through the patient portal. Before any results reach you, our clinicians will have screened them, and in the case of critical or abnormal results, you will always be called.

Normal lab values are reported as a range based on individual testing facility standards, and results at the top or bottom of that range are still normal. What's more, it is not uncommon for healthy individuals to have test values just outside the usual range. Thus, if the upper level for normal cholesterol in a particular laboratory is 170, a value of 172, in an otherwise healthy child, might be interpreted as "normal".

When you receive a "Normal Lab Results" message through the patient portal, please understand that the lab values have been reviewed and interpreted as such. Of course, if you have any concerns about normal or abnormal lab results, or anything else for that matter, you should give your clinician a call to discuss them directly.

Stay Well,

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