

Diagnosis and monitoring of sepsis: The BRAHMS PCT Sensitive Kryptor assay (and other alternative technologies identified in scoping)

The BRAHMS PCT Sensitive Kryptor assay (Thermo Fisher Scientific) is an in-vitro diagnostic for the quantitative determination of procalcitonin (PCT) in human serum and plasma. PCT is a protein which is released into the circulation in response to a bacterial infection. The BRAHMS PCT Sensitive Kryptor assay is intended to be used as an aid in the diagnosis and monitoring of sepsis and may guide the initiation, and cessation, of antimicrobial therapy. It is claimed that the use of the BRAHMS PCT Sensitive Kryptor assay could result in a faster and more accurate diagnosis of sepsis and consequently, more targeted treatment. This could lead to reduced exposure to broad spectrum antibiotics and reduced morbidity in patients presenting with symptoms of sepsis. The BRAHMS PCT Sensitive Kryptor assay may also offer benefit in the diagnosis of paediatric patients who do not always show the classical signs and symptoms of sepsis. The NICE Diagnostics Assessment Programme will assess the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the BRAHMS PCT Sensitive Kryptor assay (and other alternative technologies identified during scoping) in order to make recommendations on their use in the NHS.