PredictSURE IBD to guide personalised treatment of Crohn's disease

PredictSURE IBD is a prognostic tool that can be used in people with newly-diagnosed Crohn's disease to identify those at a high risk of severe, relapsing course of disease. The tool uses PCR technology to measure the expression levels of 15 genetic biomarkers in a blood sample which can then be combined using an algorithm to predict the risk. People at high risk may benefit from early aggressive treatment with biological therapies such as tumour necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors. Early adequate control of disease activity may lead to reduction in disease flare-ups, prevent bowel damage and limit the need for surgery. Currently, there is no method to predict long-term disease course and facilitate personalised treatment. Instead, patients typically follow a 'step-up' therapy, which involves titrating and escalating drug use through steroids to immunosuppressives and biological therapies in response to refractory or relapsing disease, on a trial and error basis.

The NICE diagnostics assessment programme will assess the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the PredictSURE IBD test (and any other alternative technologies identified during scoping) in order to make recommendations on its use in the NHS.