

Title	Point-Of-Care Test for Chlamydia
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Reference	Technology Review Report, 003/2012, online: http://www.moh.gov.my/index.php/database_stores/store_view_page/30/200

Aim

To assess the performance (sensitivity and specificity), and cost-effectiveness of Chlamydia Rapid Test (CRT) for detection of *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection.

Conclusions and results

There was good level of evidence retrieved to support the effectiveness of CRT. However, the sensitivity was inconclusive due to contradictory findings found in the systematic review by Hislop J et al. and the recent study by Helm JJ et al. (2012). Hislop J et al. in his SR found that the CRT had high sensitivity (80%) whereas Helm et al. found that the sensitivity was low (39.4%). However, both studies showed that the CRT had high specificity and high negative predictive value (NPV) which suggested that the CRT can be used as diagnostic tool for Chlamydia infection instead of screening. For better detection of Chlamydia infection using CRT; in women specimen from vaginal swab showed high specificity while in men high specificity was obtained from first void urine (FVU). Meanwhile, cost-effectiveness analysis from the systematic review showed that the current practice; polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was still the most accurate and cost-effective method for diagnosing chlamydia infection. However, when comparing two POCTs, it showed that CRT was more cost-effective than Clearview Chlamydia kit.

Methods

Electronic databases were searched through the MEDLINE(R) In-process and other Non-Indexed Citations and Ovid MEDLINE(R) 1948 to present, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials-4th Quarter 2010 and EBM Reviews - Health Technology Assessment - 4th Quarter 2010. Other DATABASE was PUBMED, NATIONAL HORIZON SCANNING and FDA WEBSITE. Besides that, additional articles from bibliographies of retrieved articles and requestor lists were also included. there was no limit in the search. ALL the relevant articles were critically appraised using Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP), evidence graded according to the US / Canadian Preventive Services Task Force and NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) University of York, Report Number 4 (2nd Edition).

Further research/reviews required

Local study is required

Written by

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