



Summary of NICE Guidelines

Title	BRAHMS copeptin assay to rule out myocardial infarction in patients with acute chest pain
NICE Reference	MTG4
Date of Review:	N/A
Date of Publication	June 2011
Summary of Guidance (Max 250 words)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copeptin is a surrogate marker for arginine vasopressin, which is known to be elevated as a stress response in MI, heart failure and shock. However, arginine vasopressin and therefore copeptin levels are modified in diabetic neuropathy.• Copeptin is elevated 0-4 hours after the onset of symptoms of MI.• BRAHMS copeptin assay is a promising new development for early ruling out of MI and therefore potential savings due to reduced bed-stays but it is unclear what proportion of patients would benefit from this and what the true cost savings would be.• There is currently insufficient evidence to support the use of the BRAHMS copeptin assay for routine use in the NHS, further research is strongly recommended to compare the BRAHMS copeptin assay plus troponin measurement with the current practice of sequential troponin measurement for the rule out of MI.
Impact on Lab (See Appendix 1)	■ Moderate
Lab professionals to be made aware	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chemical Pathologist• Clinical Scientist• Biomedical Scientist
Please detail the impact of this guideline (Max 150 words)	<p>Clinical Scientists and Chemical Pathologists should be aware of this new assay and its potential clinical use.</p> <p>Good quality clinical studies looking at the use of the BRAHMS copeptin assay in the NHS are encouraged by this NICE publication. Research should document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patient pathways• Patient experiences• Patient outcomes

Appendix 1

- **None:** This NICE guideline has no impact on the provision of laboratory services
- **Moderate:** This NICE guideline has information that is of relevance to our pathology service and may require review of our current service provision.
- **Important:** This NICE guideline is of direct relevance to our pathology service and will have a direct impact on one or more of the services that we currently offer.