## **Collaboration in Extending Respiratory Testing to the Emergency Department**

Thursday, May 11, 2023 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM ET



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Baylor College of Medicine Houston, TX

Moderator:



#### MODERATOR

## Ian Reilly, MD, FACEP

Emergency Physician Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

## Objectives

- Describe apparent (and less apparent) factors that affect care in the Emergency Department (ED)
- Analyze the role of timely diagnostic test results on patients, ED staff, and the healthcare system
- Examine approaches and evidence for delivering results in time for targeted patient care and infection control decisions
- Assess strategies where ED influence and laboratory collaboration helped facilitate the implementation of POC testing



#### W. Frank Peacock IV MD, FACEP, FACC, FESC

Professor, Emergency Medicine Vice Chair for Research Baylor College of Medicine

## Saving Lives: Respiratory Point of Care Testing in the Emergency Department

May 11, 2023, 13-14:00 EST

W. Frank Peacock, MD, FACEP, FACC, FESC Vice Chair of Research, Baylor College of Medicine President, Comprehensive Research Associates,

# W. F. Peacock, MD, FACEP, FACC, FESC Disclosures

#### **Research Grants:**

Brainbox, Quidel

**Consultant:** 

Abbott, Brainbox, Instrument Labs, Janssen, Osler, Roche, Siemens, Spinchip, Vifor

#### **Stock/Ownership Interests:**

AseptiScope Inc, Brainbox Inc, Braincheck Inc, Coagulo Inc, Comprehensive Research Associates LLC, Comprehensive Research Management Inc, Emergencies in Medicine LLC, Fast Inc, Forrest Devices, Ischemia DX LLC, Lucia Inc, Prevencio Inc, RCE Technologies, ROMTech, ScPharma, Trivirum Inc, Upstream Inc.

# Some may say it is not.....

#### RESEARCH

Association between waiting times and short term mortality and hospital admission after departure from emergency department: population based cohort study from Ontario, Canada

Astrid Guttmann, senior scientist,<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Michael J Schull, senior scientist and 2010-11 Commonwealth Fund Harkness fellow,<sup>1,4,5,6,7</sup> Marian J Vermeulen, epidemiologist,<sup>16</sup> Therese A Stukel, senior scientist<sup>1,4,6</sup>

#### N = 13,934,542

Adverse events increase with mean LOS in similar patients in the same ED shift

OR for Death if LOS  $\ge 6 v < 1$  hr cohorts

Hi Acuity 1.79
 Low Acuity 1.71

The association between hospital overcrowding and mortality among patients admitted via Western Australian emergency departments

Peter C Sprivulis, Julie-Ann Da Silva, Ian G Jacobs, Amanda RL Frazer and George A Jelinek

N= 62,495

**Risk ratio for DEATH** 

- Per hour of ED stay = 1.1 (p < 0.001)
- Per hour of ED wait = 1.2 (p=0.01)

HEALTH POLICY AND CLINICAL PRACTICE/ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Prolonged Emergency Department Stays of Non–ST-Segment-Elevation Myocardial Infarction Patients Are Associated With Worse Adherence to the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Guidelines for Management and Increased Adverse Events

Deborah B. Diercks, MD Matthew T. Roe, MD, MHS Anita Y. Chen, MS W. Franklin Peacock, MD J. Douglas Kirk, MD Charles V. Pollack, Jr., MD, MA W. Brian Gibler, MD Sidney C. Smith, Jr., MDE Magnus Ohman, MD Eric D. Peterson, MD, MPH

From the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine, Sacramento, CA (Diercks, Kirk); the Division of Cardiology and Duke Clinical Research Institute, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC (Roe, Chen, Ohman, Peterson); the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH (Peacock); the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, PA (Pollack); the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, Cincinnati, OH (Gibler); and the Department of Cardiology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC (Smith).

#### N=42,780

Long ED stays less often received guideline-recommended NSTEMI therapies

#### The Impact of Emergency Department Crowding Measures on Time to Antibiotics for Patients With Community-Acquired Pneumonia

Jesse M. Pines, MD, MBA, MSCE A. Russell Localio, PhD Judd E. Hollander, MD William G. Baxt, MD Hoi Lee, MD Carolyn Phillips, MD Joshua P. Metlay, MD, PhD From the Department of Emergency Medicine (Pines, Hollander, Baxt, Lee, Phillips) and Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (Pines, Localio, Metlay), University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA; the Department of Medicine (Metlay), Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics (Pines), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; and the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion, VA Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA (Metlay).

#### N=694 patients Delayed/No antibiotics

- OR 1.05 for each additional WR patient
- OR 1.14 for each additional WR hour

HEALTH POLICY AND CLINICAL PRACTICE/ORIGINAL RESEARCH

#### Emergency Department Crowding Is Associated With Poor Care for Patients With Severe Pain

| Jesse M. Pines, MD, MBA, | From the Department of Emergency Medicine (Pines, Hollander), the Center for Clinical          |
|--------------------------|--|
| MSCE                     | Epidemiology and Biostatistics (Pines), University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and the |
| Judd E. Hollander, MD    | Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.    |

N=13,758

Non-treatment of pain associated with waiting room number OR = 1.03 for each additional waiting patient

#### A Pilot Study Examining Undesirable Events Among Emergency Department–Boarded Patients Awaiting Inpatient Beds

Shan W. Liu, MD, MPH Stephen H. Thomas, MD, MPH James A. Gordon, MD, MPA Azita G. Hamedani, MD, MPH Joel S. Weissman, PhD

From the Department of Surgery (Liu, Thomas) and Department of Medicine (Gordon), Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; the Department of Emergency Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA (Liu, Thomas, Gordon); the Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI (Hamedani); and the Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA (Weissman).

#### N=162 "boarded" patients (waiting for room)

#### Undesirable event

Missed meds, lab results, arrhythmias, or other adverse events

#### 27.8% had an undesirable event

## Crowding and Death within 7 Days

- 2,146,605 people over 7 years (1<sup>st</sup> ED visit)
- Model to predict mortality based on:
  - Age, urgency, hospital, year, season, day of week, deprivation, ethnicity, <u>degree of crowding at time of arrival</u>
- <u>PURPOSE</u>: To see if coming to ED when it was crowded changed your risk of death



## Outcomes:

- Changes in death risk based on ED arrival events
- Death ↑
  - 6% if not meeting triage time targets
  - 7% if >90% not meeting a 4 hr ED LOS target
  - 10% if ≥10% of patients have Access Block
    - Access Block = admitted with ED LOS >8 h
- Death  $\downarrow$ 
  - 9% if ED occupancy is <100%



## 16,201,036 patients

# YES, AN HOUR IS IMPORTANT



What business intentionally kills its customers?

If you had a way of getting data quickly, wouldn't you?



Source: Yale University Library

## **FASTER IS IMPORTANT**



## How long would you wait for...??



## ER Insights

#### Vernacular

LWOBS Elope AMA



#### What to do?

Admit? Absolutely no help.

Discharge? Fixes the problem

## 2006 Press Ganey

**1.5 million ER patients**, >1,500 US hospitals Mean ED LOS = 4h

- LOS ↑ for all states, except Hawaii
- ED LOS increases 30 minutes for each 10,000 ↑ vol
- Patient satisfaction

Lowest 3:00-11:00 p.m. (busiest ED time) Highest 7:00 AM – 3:00 p.m.

#### Patient satisfaction a direct function of ED LOS

89.3 if < 1 hour

77.7 if > 4 hours

## 2006 Press Ganey

#### 1.5 million ER patients, >1,500 US hospitals



## 2022 Press Ganey

#### **COVID Impact on Patient Experience**

PRESS GANEY EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT LIKELIHOOD TO RECOMMEND

National patient experience data reveals unprecedented drops in ED patient experience



https://info.pressganey.com/press-ganey-blog-healthcare-experience-insights/usemergency-departments-seeing-unprecedented-decreases-in-patient-experience

## Financial Impact of ER crowding

How Frank got POCT in his ER

#### <u>32 beds</u>

- 18 critical care Most get marker testing
- 14 fast track Rare marker testing

LOS ~4 hours = can handle 152 pts/day

Decrease to LOS ~3 hours = can handle 228 pts/day

#### An additional 76 pts/day

- @ mean billing of  $2,000/pt = \uparrow$  in gross billables 102K/day
- If only an extra 30 pts/day (40% of 76) = \$60K/day
- If only 30% (n=10) of these get marker testing = \$20K/day
- If only 50% (n=5) of these discharged 1 hour earlier = \$10K/day
- If collection rate is 30% = \$3K/day...... ~\$1.1Mn/yr

## What is POINT OF CARE?

#### FAST

- Turn around time (TAT)
- Door to Brain

#### SMALL

STREP A CA

INFLUENZA A&B CARD 2

POC

• Handheld or Compact

#### EASY

- For Nurse
- For Tech
- No centrifuge
- No pipette



• Inaccurate







## **Door to Brain Time**

- Prospectively collected Tn TAT data during all ED shifts
- From patient ED arrival until Emergency Physician aware of result

Peacock WF et al. Acad Emerg Med. 2004;11(5):569–570. (abstract)



Credit: W. Frank Peacock

#### Direct correlation between better guideline adherence and fewer adverse outcomes

Peterson ED et al. JACC. 2003;41:53A. (abstract)



DTBT, door to brain time

Peacock WF et al. Acad Emerg Med. 2004;11(5):569–570. (abstract)

#### The Use of a Quantitative POC System Greatly Reduces the Turnaround Time of Cardiac Marker Determination

Gaze D, Collinson PO, Haass M, Derhaschnig U, Hirschl MM, Katus HA, et al. for the CARMYT Multicentre Study Group

5 hospitals
4609 Tn T POC samples
3447 split and sent to lab for CKMB

| Locale | Hosp<br>Type | Transp      | POC<br>TnT          | CK<br>CKMB          | Diff<br>(mins) |
|--------|--------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| ED     | Univ         | Pneumo tube | 21 ±0.2<br>(n=1879) | 107±2.3<br>(n=1744) | 86±2.3         |
| ED     | Univ         | Courier     | 22±0.5<br>(n=855)   | 72±1.7<br>(n=689)   | 50±1.5         |
| CCU    | Rural        | Nurses      | 12±0.5<br>(n=471)   | 147±64.1<br>(n=150) | 135±64.1       |
| ED     | Muni         | Pneumo tube | 22±0.8<br>(n=706)   | 90±0.5<br>(n=185)   | 68±1.1         |
| ED     | Univ         | Pneumo tube | 18±0.5<br>(n=698)   | 52±1.4<br>(n=679)   | 34±1.4         |
| All    |              |             | 20±0.2<br>(n=4609)  | 85±1.5<br>(n=3447)  | 65±1.5         |

Gaze D et al. for the CARMYT Multicentre Study Group. Point of Care: The Journal of Near-Patient Testing & Technology. 2004;3:156–158.
# POC saves 1 hour in the ER

## Single and multisite ED EHR encounters at a tertiary hospital

Reduction in lab TAT decreases ER LOS

- Multisite analysis:4,483,169 ED visits
  - 1-minute decrease in lab TAT, associated with 0.5 minute of decrease in LOS
  - Consistent for all patient acuities

Retrospective multivariate analysis

- Single-site analysis, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center ED
  - **52,080** visits on **36,570** unique patients:
  - A 5-, 10- and 15-minute TAT reduction allowed an increase of 127, 256 and 386 additional annual admissions.



### Retrospective multivariate analysis Single and multisite ED EHR encounters at a tertiary hospital

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Kaushik N. Open Access Emerg Med. 2018 Apr 20;10:37-45.

# **Quality and Patient Satisfaction**





# If you aren't increasing efficiency and quality...



...there are penalties:

1/3 - Patient Satisfaction

2/3 - Quality measures

Value-based purchasing (VBP) program reductions: FY 2013: 1.0% FY 2014: 1.25% FY 2015: 1.5% FY 2016: 1.75% FY 2017/subsequent years: 2.0%

Data.CMS.gov. Linking quality to payment. https://data.cms.gov/provider-data/topics/hospitals/linking-quality-to-payment

#### Average time patients spent in the emergency department before being sent home



A lower number of minutes is better

http://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare, accessed in 2010

# Got a daughter?







# Sunday in the ER





# Impact of Fast SARS-CoV-2 Molecular POCT on LOS in an ED

Saint-Louis Hospital, Paris, France

Adult patients, needing rapid diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2

Period 1) N=337 10/16 - 11/3, 2020 Lab-based NAAT (Cepheid Xpert<sup>®</sup> Xpress SARS-CoV-2) or Lab-based respiratory panel (Biofire FilmArray<sup>®</sup> RP2) in virology lab

 Period 2) N=339
 11/4 to 11/30, 2020

 POC NAAT (Abbott ID NOW™) in ED



#### POC NAAT (Period 2)

- More patients spent less time (<4 h) in the ED, 61.3% vs 38.3%, p < 0.0001</li>
- **Shorter ED LOS**, median 208 vs 276 min, p < 0.0001
  - Univariate analysis factors: HTN, anosmia/ageusia, number of pts/day, rapid NAAT in the ED
  - $\circ$  By multivariate analysis, period of testing remained significantly associated with ED LOS

### Rapid POCT SARS-CoV-2 NAAT performed in ED associated with reduced ED LOS

# Outcomes of POC testing for Flu in the ED of a tertiary referral hospital in Ireland

- 7,150 lab records
- 2017-2020, 4 Flu seasons
- POC NAAT (ID NOW<sup>™</sup>) vs. Lab-based NAAT Flu A/B/RSV (GeneXpert<sup>®</sup>)
- POC NAAT Influenza A
  - Sensitivity = 90.6% (95% CI = 78.6-96.5)
  - Specificity = 99.2% (95% CI = 95.2-100)
- POCT NAAT:
  - Reduced HAI, 51.4% and 41.9% (2 seasons using POCT)
  - Admit rate ratio: 0.72 for Flu diagnosed by POCT (95% CI: 0.53-0.97), p = 0.031





# Paving cowpaths?

Prospective, ED ordered flu test

Test: CLIA waived flu POC NAAT (Roche cobas<sup>®</sup> Liat<sup>®</sup>)

POCT (N = 100) vs lab test (N = 97)

Time to Disposition (TTD) = time of discharge order



[Photo credit: Gonzalo Viera Azpiroz]

### POC NAAT

- Shorter TAT: median (IQR) 30.5 (7.5) vs 106.0 (55) mins, p = 0.001
- More flu (+): 51.0% vs. 33.0%, p = 0.01
- No change in Pt Antibiotic Rx: 14.0% vs 14.4%, p = 0.93
- No change in TTD: median (IQR) 146.5 (98.5) and 165.5 (127) mins, p = 0.26

#### POC flu test provided faster TAT than the lab, there was no difference in TTD or antibiotic use

### Impact of Rapid Molecular Respiratory Virus Testing on Real-Time Decision Making in a Pediatric ED

- Prospective cohort study
- Consecutive peds pts, 9 weeks, peak flu season
- ED ordered respiratory NAATs (from lab)
- ED Drs interviewed to discern plans if given immediate flu/RSV results
- Drs would change management in 39 (64%) of 61 ED-ordered tests
- Drs actions would have:
  - Decreased ED LOS, 33 mins
  - Ordered fewer tests, 18%, p < 0.001; mean pt charge savings of \$669
  - Ordered fewer antibiotics among discharged patients, 17%, p = 0.043
  - Increased appropriate antiviral use, 13%, p = 0.023





# Clinical and operational impact of POC SARS-CoV-2 detection in the ED

- Prospective, 'Before/After'
  - COVID-19 Rapid NAAT (Abbott ID NOW™)
  - Weeks 37 to 50, 2020
- N=3333 ED pts, 331 (9.9%) SARS-CoV-2 (+)
  - 136 (9.2%) before, 195 (10.5%) after POC

### POC NAAT

- In-hospital mortality similar, 8.2 vs 9.5%
- **Hospitalizations higher**, 81.6% vs. 65.4%, p < 0.001
- If (+), anticoagulants higher, 40% vs. 24.2%, p < 0.003, antibx/steroids similar</li>
- More pts able to leave the ED within 6 h

| OW™)<br>CoV-2 (+)<br>POC |            | Median (IQR) ED<br>LOS (hrs) |                  |  |
|--------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------|--|
|                          |            | Before<br>POC                | After<br>POC     |  |
|                          | Overall    | 6.7<br>(4.6-9.2)             | 7.2<br>(4.4-9.5) |  |
|                          | <3h, n (%) | 8<br>(5.6)                   | 32<br>(16.4)     |  |
| )                        | 3-6, n (%) | 50<br>(36.9)                 | 39<br>(20)       |  |

6-12, n (%)

>12, n (%)



**P-value** 

0.43

0.003

0.0009

0.34

0.85

Gerlier C. Am J Emerg Med. 2021 Dec;50:713-718.

104

(53.3)

20

(10.2)

66

(48.5)

12

(8.8)

## Clinical and operational impact of POC SARS-CoV-2 detection in the ED





Gerlier C. Am J Emerg Med. 2021 Dec;50:713-718.

## Positive Impact of an ED POC Flu Test During the 2017–2018 Epidemic

- Retrospective, observational study, adults
- 1200-bed hospital, northeastern France
- 2017–2018 flu epidemic, when ran out of reagents for POC testing
- Only pts (+) flu test included
  - 451 POC NAAT: (+) 119 (26.4%)
    - 365 Lab-based NAAT: (+) 128 (35.1%)
- invalid 50 (11.1%) invalid 5 (1.3%)
- (-) 282 (62.5%)(-) 232 (63.6%)

- POC Flu NAAT
  - Similar Oseltamivir tx rate with lab-based NAAT
  - Earlier tx with POC NAAT; mean 9.5 vs 23.6 hrs
  - Fewer antibiotics, 38.9% vs 55.7%, p = 0.03
  - Shorter ED LOS, 10.2 vs 12.9 hrs, p = 0.005
  - Lower hospitalization rate, 38.9% vs 61.3%, p = 0.003





## Large Reductions in Uninfected Pt Exposure

- Retrospective, Adults in ED, 2 Academic, 1 Suburban (Johns Hopkins Health System)
- 12,263 tested (excluded d/c'd pts; isolation independent result)
- 9,018 pts remained in hospital (ED or inpatient) until results available ("exposed cohort")
  - 3502 (38.8%) POC SARS-CoV-2 NAAT (Xpert Xpress), ~45 mins time to result
  - Remainder Lab-based SARS-CoV-2 NAAT
- 9.9% tested (+); most (60%) hospitalized

#### POC SARS-CoV-2 NAAT

- Shorter Median (IQR) hours to result
   1.9 (1.4 2.8) vs 7.8 (3.7 11.7), p < 0.001</li>
- Increased treatment capacity 3,028 more bed-hours per week
- Fewer patient interactions requiring personal protective equipment 7,500 per week





# POC NAAT for Flu A/B on an acute medical unit in a large UK teaching hospital

- POC Influenza A/B NAAT (Cepheid GeneXpert<sup>®</sup>) in Acute Medical Unit, 12/17 – 3/18
- Any pt with Flu-like illness vs same time 1-yr prior
- Outcomes measured

### **POC NAAT**

- Shorter LOS: 2.4 vs 7.9 d
- Shorter time to isolation: 0.09 vs 1.26 d
- Shorter time to antivirals: 0.59 vs 1.1d
- Confirmed flu: 51 before POC, 666 after POC
- Fewer flu cases identified 72 h after admission: 9% vs 51%



# Implementation of Flu POCT and cohorting during a high-incidence season: the impact on infection prevention, control, and clinical outcomes

- 'Before/After' study
- N = 654 inpatients (223 before, 431 after) with confirmed flu



Influenza POC NAAT in ED and pt cohorting on a flu ward:

- Fewer cases of hospital-acquired/nosocomial flu per day, 0.66 vs 0.95, p < 0.0001
- **Shorter median LOS**, 5.5 vs 7.5 days, p = 0.005
- More antiviral prescriptions, 80% vs 64.1%, p < 0.0001
- Improved bed management/patient flow, 779 single rooms released for use elsewhere

Fixed probability of being PCR-negative by the next day (P) was 0.14 (95% CI = 0.12 - 0.16) for immunocompetent patients

• Implies half of immunocompetent pts are PCR-negative by 5-days post-diagnosis (95% CI = 5 - 6)

Effect of POCT for Respiratory Pathogens on Antibiotic Use in Children: An RCT

Unblinded, RCT

Pediatric ED, Oulu University Hospital, Finland

- 1243 children with fever and/or respiratory signs/symptoms
  - Randomized 2:1, Intervention (n=829) or controls (n=414)
    - Multiplex POCT NAAT (18 respiratory viruses and 3 bacteria), analysis time 70 mins
    - Routine care, included rapid lab-based flu/RSV NAAT, results in 2-3 hours
  - Mean (sd) age 3.0 (3.6) yrs
- POCT did not change
  - Antibiotics prescribing, POCT n=226 (27.3%) vs 118 (28.5%) controls
    - Risk ratio=0.96; 95% Cl, 0.79-1.16
  - Diagnostic tests
  - Costs





## - POCT for flu in a university ED: A prospective study

n=828 Adults, fever (≥38°C), respiratory symptoms

n=375 (intervention group) POC Influenza A/B NAAT (cobas<sup>®</sup> Liat<sup>®</sup>); 103 (27.6%) flu (+)

### Intervention, POCT

- Fewer staff sick days, reduced by 34.4%, p = 0.023
- More patients received:
  - Antivirals, 7.2% vs 3.8%, p = 0.028
  - Antibiotics, 40.0% vs 31.6%, p = 0.033
- High rate of patients transferred to external hospitals, 5.6% vs 1.3%, p = 0.01

POC testing for influenza is useful in the ED





# The impact of rapid molecular diagnostic testing for respiratory viruses on outcomes for ED pts

- 'Before/After study, consecutive pts, 4 urban EDs, New South Wales
- 1491 multiplex NAAT (July–December 2016)
- 2250 rapid NAAT (July–December 2017)

#### Rapid NAAT

- Fewer hospital admissions, 1649 (73.3%) v 1159 (77.7%), p < 0.001
- More results received before ED discharge, 67.4% v 1.3%, p < 0.001
- Shorter median test TAT, 2.4 h [IQR, 1.6–3.9 h] v 26.7 h [IQR, 21.2–37.8 h], p < 0.001
- Lower hospitalization rates, if <18 (50.6% v 66.6%; p < 0.001) or >60 years (84.3% v 91.8%), p < 0.001
- Diagnostic stewardship; fewer orders for blood cultures, sputum culture, ABG's, respiratory bacterial and viral serology, p < 0.001</li>
- ED LOS similar for rapid (7.4 h; IQR, 5.0–12.9 h) and standard PCR (6.5 h; IQR, 4.2–11.9 h), p = 0.27



# Using a novel rapid viral test to improve triage of ED patients with acute respiratory illness during flu season

- Prospective cohort, consecutive ED patients, ARI symptoms
  - POC Influenza A/B / RSV NAAT (Roche cobas® Liat®), physicians and patients blinded to results
  - Lab-based NAATs, standard of care
- 52.9% POC NAAT (+)
  - **~70%** put in rooms shared with non-ARI pts
  - 27.3% prescribed antibiotics
  - 77.8% of oseltamivir-eligible patients did not receive tx
- POC NAAT in ED triage
  - Potential to:
    - Improve social distancing practices through better triage
    - Increase appropriate prescription of antimicrobials





Systematic review of the impact of POCT for flu on the outcomes of pts with acute respiratory tract infection

- Systematic review
- Assess effect of POCT flu on 3 outcomes:
  (1) antiviral Rx, (2) antibiotic Rx, (3) ED LOS
- Searched Medline and Embase; MeSH terms/keywords: influenza, POCT, antivirals, antibiotics, and LOS
- 245 studies, 30 included

Most studies reporting antiviral Rxs found flu (+) POCT result:

1) increased the use of antivirals

2) decreased antibiotic use

Studies assessing effect of POCT on ED LOS were not definitive.



# What did you see today?

### An extra ER hour kills

16,201,036 patients

A minute faster TAT shortens ER stay 4,483,169 ED visits

**Patient Satisfaction/Quality Measures** 1 – 3% of reimbursement

### POCT for Respiratory Infectious Diseases Improves ER Patient Care

| France         | 676    | More ER discharges                       |
|----------------|--------|--|
| Ireland        | 7,150  | More ER discharges                       |
| USA            | 197    | Faster TAT, no d/c speed change          |
| USA            | 61     | Faster discharge, fewer tests and antibx |
| France         | 3,333  | Faster discharge                         |
| France         | 866    | Faster discharges                        |
| USA            | 12,263 | Less COVID-19 exposure                   |
| UK             | 717    | Shorter LOS                              |
| Finland (peds) | 1,243  | No changes                               |
| Germany        | 828    | Less sick staff                          |
| Australia      | 1,491  | Fewer patients hospitalized              |
| USA            | 119    | Improved social distancing               |
| Tatal          | 00.044 |  |
| Iotal          | 28,944 |  |





## **Kimberly Evans, RN**

Emergency Department Unit Supervisor University of South Alabama Children's and Women's Hospital

## **Rapid Viral Testing in the Emergency Department**



Why we changed How we changed Why we call it a success

### KIMBERLY EVANS, RN

Emergency Department Unit Supervisor

University of South Alabama Children's and Women's Hospital

## Disclosures

• Speaker honorarium, Abbott

## In The Beginning - Physician-driven Respiratory Testing



## In The Beginning - Physician-driven Respiratory Testing





# Negative Factors Affecting the ED

- Patient **throughput** was at a standstill
- Average LOS, 3.5 to 5hrs and that was on a real good day
- Extended **wait times** for testing results lead to limited treatment rooms for arriving patients.
- Substantial **surges** of patients with mild symptoms or with recent exposure presenting out of fear of infection and they want answers, and they want them quick

# Negative Factors Affecting the ED

- Potential increased exposure for staff and visitors
- Staffing shortages
- Patient and family experience/satisfaction compromised
- HCAP Scores suffered.

Unhappy angry patients and families = stressed staff

Respiratory Testing in the ED Our ED Journey

## A Better Process to Streamline Care



#### WHAT WE CREATED

## A New Operational Approach/ED workflow



ILI, influenza like illness; GAS, Group A Strep

TESTING PROTOCOL FOR ED MINI LAB BASED ON DIFFERENTIAL



COVID-19 COVID-19, only Flu, RSV

## Steps to Establish a Better Process


#### HOW WE MADE THE CHANGE

Brought team together including physicians, nursing, administration and lab leadership

All parties committed to improving the process

All members of the team presented what they needed and required

All members of the team came to the table with answers (not just questions) and solutions (not just issues)



### Administration Wants





Improved patient satisfaction

Results without budget sacrifice (staffing, space dedicated for testing area)

### Physician Wants





Easy process that would not put increased demands on staff

Efficient way to obtain timely results for a more rapid developing plan for treatment/disposition

Method for mid-level practitioners to run a rapid treatment area for patients presenting with influenza type illness or GAS symptoms

### Lab Wants



Method to track education for personnel preforming testing

Method to track and confirm that proper quality controls were completed.

Method to track appropriate cleaning of equipment

Random audit review for invalid results

# Nursing Wants





Protocol orders for who should be tested

Decrease LOS for patients in the waiting room

Method to easily identify patients who required isolation

Clinical, Operational and Laboratory Concerns and Solutions

# **Clinical and Operational**





#### **Test Reliability / Sensitivity**

Selected highly accurate molecular test method

- ~93% of positive samples; > 98% of negative samples
- More accurate than an antigen test
- Sensitive for testing needed for emergency population

Maintained consistent chart reviews; found no issues with false negative results

# Detection: Antigen vs Molecular

**ANTIGEN TESTS** 

**NO AMPLIFICATION** 

available pathogens (virus or bacteria)

Detects the presence of

Rapid Antigen



#### **POSITIVE PATIENT** Sample Containing Antigen/RNA



#### **MOLECULAR TESTS**

Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs)<sup>2</sup>

#### AMPLIFICATION

Amplifies the sample millions of times for easier pathogen detection

Lower levels of pathogen are less likely to be detected

Lower levels of pathogen are more likely to be detected

#### SELECT TEST BASED ON HEALTHCARE NEEDS FOR RAPID RESULT AND TEST UTILITY

- Carter LJ, Garner LV, Smoot JW, et al. Assay Techniques and Test Development for COVID-19 Diagnosis. ACS Cent Sci. 2020;6(5):591-605.
- 2. CDC. Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs). https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/naats.html, updated June 14, 2021.

# Molecular Amplification: 2 Approaches





#### **ISOTHERMAL**

#### PCR

- Requires **temperature change** to amplify genetic material
- Each temperature cycle is a cycle threshold (Ct)

#### NEAR LAMP HDA

- Enzymes **DO NOT** require temperature change to amplify genetic material
- Reactions occur simultaneously, no cycling; may speed time to result



#### **Confirmation Testing**

Negative tests with a strong exposure history received additional testing, using back-up PCR





#### Staffing

**New staffing strategy;** Redistribution of staff to run testing area; added RN, which was OK'd by admin; scheduling assignments coordinated for efficiency

RNs welcomed new process, remained supportive after implementation





#### Demand

Pressure from community to be utilized as a testing center...

Resolved with community education



#### Laboratory





#### **Quality Standards**

Compliance with testing regulations; training and competency checks for all operators

#### **CLIA waived test:**

- Test and QC procedure feasible for non-lab personnel QC/Calibration per instructions; auto-lock if internal QC fails
- Logs and documentation, record of corrective actions



#### **Program Management and Oversight**

- Documentation of all operations, testing, QC and measures to meet quality standards
- Quality Management reviews consistently performed to ensure reliability of test results
- Probation period of weekly logs to demonstrate following proper procedures
- On-going guidance and support from the Laboratory
- Streamlined program management with IT/connectivity

# Staff Training and Competency



#### **ESTABLISH PROCEDURES**

- Staff Training
  - Authorized to perform POC respiratory tests (pre-analytic, analytic and post-analytic)
  - i.e., PCA's, paramedics
- Staff retraining, when problems identified
- Staff competency assessments, annually
- Documentation, retain records 2 years

# Consolidated Management and Ease of Documentation with Connectivity





#### Licensure

Obtain testing license for the ED Mini Lab

Established ED Mini Lab as CLIA test site separate from the laboratory license



#### Revenue

- Might reduce revenues for the laboratory
- Rapid tests had insignificant impact on the lab revenues





# What We Achieved ED Mini Lab

#### WHAT WE ACHIEVED

# Results

#### Administration

Physicians

Lab

Nursing

- HCAP patient satisfaction scores improved greatly
- Only 2 FTE positions were added
- Space already existing was utilized for the designated testing lab

# Results

#### Administration

Physicians

Lab

Nursing

• Decrease in patient throughput opened treatment rooms for higher acuity patients

• Patients could be seen by the mid-level practitioner

- Results were available within 20 minutes of patient's arrival with interface connectivity
- Reduced time to appropriate patient care

# Results

#### Administration

Physicians

Lab

#### Nursing

- All employees were educated on performance of rapid testing lab on orientation to unit and complete annual competencies.
- QC is completed and logged and made available to Lab for review.
- Equipment is cleaned daily, and cleaning is recorded on daily log and available for Lab review.
- A daily report is done and reviewed for all invalid results with appropriate interventions such as staff counseled/re-educated documented as well
- CLIA certificate valid and renewed
- Added bonus: Fewer urgent tests from the ED; reduced calls requesting an update on wait time for a test result

# Results

#### Administration

#### Physicians

Lab

#### Nursing

- Assigned staffing responsibilities did not increase
- PCA's and Paramedics were included in education and training on testing which decreased nursing workload
- Standing protocol orders were built and approved by medical staff for use to determine testing parameters.
- The decreased in the patient throughput help to decrease the backup of patients waiting on a treatment room.
- Patients were quickly identified as needing isolation which lead to a decreased staff and visitor exposure.

#### WHY WE CALL IT A SUCCESS

# Achieved Goals

Testing and diagnosing questions at time of ED visit

Patients/families happier = happier employees

Fewer employees exposed and absent

Results available for provider as soon as patient placed in treatment area

Upstream efficiencies helped improve downstream throughput

All team member's support and are satisfied with process

# What Others Have Achieved with Rapid Respiratory Testing in the ED

- 63% reduction time to treatment (7.9 to 2.9 hours) <sup>1</sup>
- 19.8% decrease ED LOS (74 min reduction) <sup>1</sup>
- 66% reduction **exposure time** of infected patients with uninfected patients <sup>2</sup>
- Up to 82% reduction hospital acquired infections <sup>3,4</sup>
- Increase COVID-19 treatment capacity (~1,009 hours/hospital/week)<sup>2</sup>
- Significant reduction **unnecessary infection control measures** (isolation rooms and PPE)<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1.</sup> Peaper DR, et al. Clinical impact of rapid influenza PCR in the adult emergency department on patient management, ED length of stay, and nosocomial infection rate. Influenza Other Respir Viruses. 2021;15(2):254-261.

<sup>2.</sup> Hinson JS, et al. Targeted rapid testing for SARS-CoV-2 in the emergency department is associated with large reductions in uninfected patient exposure time. J Hosp Infect. 2021;107:35-39.

<sup>3.</sup> Teoh TK, et al. Outcomes of point-of-care testing for influenza in the emergency department of a tertiary referral hospital in Ireland. J Hosp Infect. 2021 Apr;110:45-51.

<sup>4.</sup> Garvey MI, et al. Impact of a PCR point of care test for influenza A/B on an acute medical unit in a large UK teaching hospital: results of an observational, pre and post intervention study. Antimicrob Resist Infect Control 8, 120 (2019).

# Summary

- COVID-19 was game changer; increased need for rapid testing in the ED
- New operational protocol for triage; RN driven vs. physician driven testing
- Highly accurate, reliable and rapid testing was feasible using CLIA waived rapid molecular test
- Upstream efficiencies helped improve downstream throughput, reduce transmissions, improve staff safety, and increase patient satisfaction by giving patients the care they expected in a timeframe they demanded
- HCAHPS scores have motivated implementation of mini lab with RN-driven rapid respiratory testing in sister hospital





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