

**Appendix 2** - The QUADAS-2 tool.

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Patient selection</b>	<b>Index test</b>	<b>Reference standard</b>	<b>Flow and timing</b>
<b>Description</b>	Describe methods of patient selection. Describe included patients (prior testing, presentation, intended use of index test and setting).	Describe the index test and how it was conducted and interpreted.	Describe the reference standard and how it was conducted and interpreted.	Describe any patients who did not receive the index test(s) and/or reference standard or who were excluded from the 2x2 table (refer to flow diagram). Describe the time interval and any interventions between index test(s) and reference standard.
<b>Signalling questions (yes/no/unclear)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?</li> <li>- Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?</li> <li>- Was a case-control design avoided?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?</li> <li>- Were the methods for CSF collection and handling appropriately described?</li> <li>- Do the he study forecasts the exclusion of blood-contaminated samples on the basis of an accurate cut – off?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition?</li> <li>- Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index test?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Was there an appropriate interval between index test(s) and reference standard?</li> <li>- Did all patients receive a reference standard?</li> <li>- Did all patients receive the same reference standard?</li> <li>- Were all patients included in the analysis?</li> </ul>
<b>Concerns regarding applicability: High/low/ unclear</b>	Are there concerns that the included patients do not match the review question?	Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differs from the review question?	Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the review question?	