Supplemental information

Appendix 1: Statistical analysis plan

Statistical Analysis Plan

Prediction of invasive bacterial infections in febrile children presenting to Emergency Departments in Europe

SAP version 1.0 date 14th July 2019

Background

Still today children die on treatable infectious diseases due to delayed or missed diagnosis presented at the Emergency Department (ED) or primary care.(1-3) On the other hand, antibiotics are prescribed for viral infections and infection with an unknown bacterial or viral cause in order not to miss one child with an invasive bacterial infection.(4)

The distinction between invasive bacterial infections and viral infections on only clinical signs and symptoms is difficult. Biomarkers as C-reactive protein and procalcitonin are currently used in febrile children to detect bacterial infections and to target appropriate antibiotic prescribing. However, these markers measure non-specific inflammation and immunologic responses. Recent research focuses on finding new discriminators of bacterial and viral infections using novel, sophisticated techniques (genomic, proteomic and transcriptomic approaches).(5-7) It is yet unclear which patients would benefit from potential new biomarkers. It is not feasible to apply new biomarkers to all febrile children. Therefore, decision models need to be developed which can identify these patients.

We searched PUBMED from 1st January 2009 to 1st July 2019 for published studies covering clinical prediction models for bacterial infections in children using keywords "child", "fever", "bacterial infection" and "clinical prediction" and checked references for relevant articles. The existing literature on clinical prediction models for bacterial infections focuses on young infants (< 3 months) and healthy children in particular. For older children, the Feverkidstool (Nijman et al.) is an extensively validated clinical prediction model for prediction of pneumonia and other serious bacterial infections which includes bacteraemia and meningitis but also infections of the urinary tract, gastro-intestinal tract and soft tissue. We could not identify a clinical prediction model for the outcome invasive bacterial infections including older children or children with chronic conditions.

Objectives

- 1. To update an existing clinical prediction model to identify invasive bacterial infections in febrile children at the ED
- 2. Can we target patients who can benefit from a new biomarker based on risk-prediction by this model?

Methods

Study design:

Prospective observational study

This study is a prospectively planned analysis in the MOFICHE study (Management and Outcome of Febrile Illness in Children) which is part of the PERFORM project. MOFICHE is a prospective observational study using routine data. The need for informed consent was waived.

Setting:

12 Emergency Departments (EDs) in 8 countries

Population:

Children 0-18 years with fever (temperature >38.0 C) measured at ED or history of fever (<72 hours) before ED visit. For this analysis, we will exclude children with working diagnosis of urinary tract infections after ED visit. For diagnosis of urinary tract infections, easy available diagnostics are already available at the ED. Therefore, a clinical prediction model has limited additional value in this group. Furthermore, we will focus our analysis on patients with CRP measurement since these are patients with diagnostic uncertainty after initial assessment by the physician.

Inclusion period:

1 January 2017 – 1 April 2018, at least 12 months per study site.

Primary outcomes:

Invasive bacterial infections (IBI): bacteraemia, bacterial meningitis and bacterial bone and join infections. Infections were defined positive growth of a single pathogenic bacterium in blood, cerebrospinal fluid or synovial fluid from cultures collected at ED visit or the first 24 hours from hospital admission.

Cultures growing contaminants (coagulase-negative staphylococci, alpha-haemolytic streptococci, *Micrococcus* species or *Propionibacterium* species are defined negative (8)

In children who are immunocompromised, malignancies or with a central line, these contaminants are still relevant invasive bacterial infections that need antibiotic treatment. In these patient groups, cultures with a single contaminant are defined positive.

All patients were entered in the electronic case record form (eCRF) by the local team. We will check all the positive cultures to ensure consistency and validity of coding.

Missing data

For this analysis, we will exclude patients with no CRP value and exclude patients with working diagnosis of urinary tract infection. We will use multiple imputation by chained equations using the MICE package in R to impute all missing predictor variables. We will assume the variables to be 'missing at random' where missingness can be explained by other variables in the data. We will incorporate hospital, all predictor variables, outcome measures and other auxiliary variables in the imputation model. Multiple imputation will be performed on all patients (n=38480).

Variables in the multiple imputation model:

General	Markers of	Vital signs	Diagnostics	Treatment	Outcomes
characteristics	disease				
	severity				
Hospital	Triage	Heart rate	CRP-level	Immediate	Disposition
	urgency			life-saving interventions	
Age	Fever	Respiratory	Chest X-ray	Oxygen	Final
	duration	rate	categories	treatment	diagnosis
Sex	Capillary	Temperature	Urinalysis	Inhalation	Focus of
	refill time		categories	medication	infection
Referral type	Ill appearance	Oxygen	Blood culture	Antibiotic	
(self / GP /		saturation	performed	prescription	
emergency				type	
services / other)					
Previous medical	Work of		Cerebrospinal	Antibiotic	
care (yes,	breathing		fluid	prescription	
primary care /			performed	mode	
yes, this ED /					
yes other secondary care)					
Season	Meningeal			Previous	
Scason	signs			antibiotic	
	Signs			treatment	
Arrival hours	Focal			- 344414	
(morning /	neurology				
evening / night)					
Comorbidity	Non-				
-	blanching				
	rash				

Dehydration		
Seizures		

Descriptive analysis

We will perform descriptive analysis for children with and without IBI. We will use frequencies, mean and standard deviation for normally distributed data, median and interquartile range for normally distributed data. In addition, we will compare patients with CRP measurement and patients without CRP measurement.

Predictor variables

We will include predictor variables chosen a-priori that have predictive value for bacterial infection. We will perform univariate logistic regression analysis for these predictor variables:

Predictor variables included in the Feverkidstool (9):

- Age
- Sex
- Temperature
- Fever duration in days
- Tachypnea: defined by Advanced Paediatric Life Support (10)
- Tachycardia: defined by Advanced Paediatric Life Support (10)
- Hypoxia: oxygen saturation <94%
- Prolonged capillary refill time: >3 seconds
- Increased work of breathing: chest wall retractions, nasal flaring, grunting or apnoea
- Ill appearance: ill, moderately ill, irritable or uncomfortable
- C-reactive protein value

NICE red warning signs for serious illness (11):

- Abnormal consciousness: responsive to verbal stimulation, responsive to pain or unresponsive
- Presence of meningeal signs: presence of Kernig, Brudzinski, tripod phenomenon, neck stiffness or bulging fontanelle
- Focal neurological signs
- Status epilepticus: seizures for >=30 minutes
- Non-blanching rash: petechiae or other non-blanching rash

Complex chronic condition (12)

- Chronic condition in ≥2 body systems that is expected to last at least 1 year or malignancy or immunocompromised

We will use 10 events per variable to include predictor variables in model development. If not enough events are available, we will combine abnormal consciousness, presence of meningeal signs and focal neurological signs in a composite variable.

Linearity of continuous variables will be assessed using restricted cubic splines. Outliers for continuous variables will be truncated at the 0.01 percentile and the 0.99 centile.

Model development

We will perform variable selection by least absolute shrinkage and selection operator (LASSO). Using LASSO, we perform variable selection and reduce degree of overfitting by shrinking large regression coefficients.(13) We will estimate the lambda using 10 times 10-fold-cross validation. To note, variable selection will not be based on significance in univariate logistic regression analysis.

Model validation

The model will be validated using internal-external cross-validation. In this method, the model is repeatedly derived on all EDs except one, and validated on the remaining ED.(14, 15)

Model performance

Model performance will be assessed by

- Discrimination of the model by concordance (c)-statistic.
- Calibration, the agreement between predicted risks and observed outcome will be visualized using calibration plots.(16)
- Diagnostic performance at different risk-threshold for the probability of IBI using sensitivity, specificity and negative and positive likelihood ratios. We will focus on cut-offs that can be used to rule-out (negative LR <0.2) or rule-in IBI (positive LR>5).(17)

Sensitivity analysis

A sensitivity analysis will be performed in the population where missing CRP values will be imputed.

Drafted by: Nienke N. Hagedoorn

Statistician: Daan Nieboer

Supervision: Dr. Clementien Vermont, Prof. Henriette A. Moll

Appendix 2: Definition of contaminants

Appendix 3: Definition of contaminants

Micrococcus

Coagulase-negative staphylococci

Propionibacterium species

Alpha-haemolytic streptococci (except pneumococcus)

Corynebacterium species (diphteroids)

Bacillus species

Pseudomonas (except P. aeruginosa)

Other environmental non-fermenting gram-negative rods

Appendix 3: Additional methods on data analysis

Multiple imputation

Missing data were multiple imputed using the MICE package in R v3.4. The imputation model included the outcome variable IBI, all considered predictors, ED and other auxiliary variables related to casemix and disease severity (specific details of the multiple imputation model are proved in the Statistical Analysis Plan). The imputation process resulted in 20 imputation sets. For all the statistical analysis, apart from the model development in LASSO (least absolute shrinkage and selection operator), results were pooled for a final result.(18) The LASSO was applied to a stacked dataset containing all imputed data.(19) To adjust for the inflated sample size we assigned each record a weight of 1/20 (20 is number of imputed datasets).

Model development and internal-external cross-validation

For model development (20, 21), we considered predefined variables with predictive value for IBI: 1) variables in the Feverkidstool(9) (age, sex, temperature, fever duration, tachypnea and tachycardia defined by Advanced Pediatric Life Support(10), oxygen saturation <94%, capillary refill >=3 seconds, work of breathing, ill appearance and CRP value), 2) NICE warnings signs which were not included in the Feverkidstool (consciousness, meningeal signs, focal neurology, status epilepticus, non-blanching rash)(11) and 3) complex chronic condition (condition in ≥2 body systems, malignancy or immunocompromised).(12) Level of consciousness, meningeal signs and focal neurology were combined into a composite variable abnormal neurology. Linearity of continuous variables was assessed using restricted cubic splines. As in the Feverkidstool, age was modelled linear piecewise for children <1 year and children >1 year and a logarithmic transformation for CRP was used. Outliers were truncated at the 0.01 percentile for temperature (35.7 °Celsius) and the 0.99 percentile for CRP (215 mg/L) and fever duration (8 days).

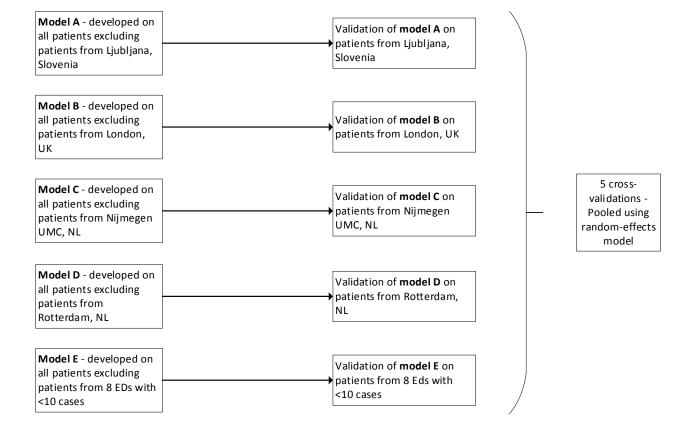
Variable selection was not influenced by the results of the univariate logistic regression analysis, but was performed using least absolute shrinkage and selection operator (LASSO).(13, 22) This approach aims to reduce the degree of overfitting by shrinking large regression coefficients and performs variable selection.(13) The lambda to derive the final model was estimated using 10 times 10-fold cross-validation. We used internal-external cross-validation in EDs with >10 IBI cases (four EDs) and EDs with <10 IBI cases (eight EDs) were combined in one group leading to five ED groups (appendix 5). In internal-external cross-validation The model was repeatedly derived on all ED groups except one, and validated on the remaining ED group (see figure A below).(14) Unlike splitting data in a derivation and validation set, this method uses all available data for the model development and uses cross-validation to validate the model five times. This cross-validation determines model performance most accurately but also provides information on the heterogeneity of performance across different settings. This internal-external crossvalidation is therefore superior to a single external validation. (14, 15) We assessed the discriminative ability by the area under the receiver operating curve (AUC), and calibration, the agreement between predicted risks and observed cases., was evaluated by calibration plots. We explored the impact of difference in casemix heterogeneity on the discriminative ability of the model in the internal-external cross-validation. Sensitivity, specificity, negative and positive likelihood ratios (LR) were evaluated at different cut-offs for the individual probability of IBI according to the model. We explored cut-offs for ruling-out (negative LR <0.2) or ruling-in IBI (positive LR >5).(17) Missing values for the covariates were multiple imputed (MICE). Sensitivity analysis was performed in the population where missing CRP values were imputed. All analyses were performed in R v3.6.

Figure A

Model adaptation

Final model – Model developed on all patients of 12 EDs

Cross-validation



Appendix 4: EDs - classification of EDs with low (<2%) and high incidence (>2%) for IBI based on proportion of invasive bacterial infection, and proportion of chronic complex comorbidity per ED

ED	N total included patients	N study population	IBIs N (% of study population per ED)	Chronic complex comorbidity N (% of study population per ED)
Graz, Austria	2241	1987	1 (0.1%)	73 (3.7%)
Athens, Greece	4548	1450	1 (0.1%)	19 (1.3%)
Riga, Latvia	9000	5495	9 (0.2%)	60 (1.1%)
Munich, Germany	1173	456	1 (0.2%)	19 (4.2%)
Nijmegen, CWZ, the Netherlands	423	184	1 (0.5%)	12 (6.5%)
Ljubljana, Slovenia	3667	3183	23 (0.7%)	61 (1.9%)
Liverpool, UK	1623	468	8 (1.7%)	76 (16.2%)
Newcastle, UK	3854	475	9 (1.9%)	41 (8.6%)
London, UK	5714	1047	22 (2.1%)	184 (17.6%)
Santiago de Compostela, Spain	3877	281	6 (2.1%)	9 (3.2%)
Rotterdam, the Netherlands	1683	921	36 (3.9%)	369 (40.1%)
Nijmegen, UMC, the Netherlands	677	321	18 (5.6%)	135 (42.1%)
Total	38480	16268	135	1058
EDs with low incidence for IBI (<2%)		13698	53 (0.4%)	367 (2.7%)
EDs with high incidence for IBI (>2%)		2570	82 (3.2%)	364 (14.2%)

ED, emergency department; IBI, invasive bacterial infection; UK, United Kingdom; UMC, university medical centre; CWZ, Canisius Wilhelmina Hospital

Appendix 5: Patient characteristics of patients with CRP measurement and patients without CRP measurement

	CRP measured (n=17,213)			No CRP measured (n=21267)			
		Range	Missi			Range	Missi
	n (%)	EDs	ng		n (%)	EDs	ng
General characteristics							
	2.77 (1.29-				2.74 (1.31-		
Age in years, median (IQR)	6.02)	10.6			5.28)	50.4	1
24.1	9305 (54.1)	49.6-			11805	52.4-	1
Male		62.0	07		(55.5)	62.4	272
Previous chronic condition	2222 (10.4)	70710	97		2162 (14.0)	20616	273
Any	3332 (19.4)	7.8-71.8			3162 (14.9)	3.9-61.6	
Complex	1138 (6.6)	1.1-41.3	000		729 (3.4)	0.0-32.6	105
Referred	9287 (53.9)	6.9-99.2	980		6789 (31.9)	3.9-99.3	185
Triage urgency	0504 (56.0)	10.0	529		1.4201	0 0 02 0	647
	9794 (56.9)	10.9-			14291	8.8-93.9	
Low: standard, non-urgent	(000 (40 0)	86.5			(67.2)	(1.00.0	
High: immediate, very urgent, intermediate	6890 (40.0)	13.5- 86.8			6329 (29.8)	6.1-89.9	
		80.8					
Feverkidstool Tomperature in °C median	37.8 (37-		809		37.7 (36.9-		2211
Temperature in °C, median (IQR)	38.5)		009		38.4)		2211
Fever duration in days, median	1.5 (0.5-3)		875		1.5 (0.5-		1900
(IQR)	1.5 (0.5-5)		073		3.0)		1700
Tachypnea (APLS)	3585 (20.8)	5.9-45.8	4186		4942 (23.2)	2.4-48.3	4607
raenyphea (M E5)	6001 (34.9)	11.0-	887		6854 (32.2)	11.4-	2620
Tachycardia (APLS)	0001 (31.5)	54.9	007		0031 (32.2)	49.4	2020
Hypoxia <95%	762 (4.4)	1.3-9.2	2538		733 (3.4)	0.3-12.9	3043
Prolonged capillary refill (>3	339 (1.9)	0.2-7.0	2503		84 (0.4)	0.0-2.6	1928
sec)	(-12)					*** =**	
Work of breathing	913 (5.3)	0.5-13.2	2315		1732 (8.1)	0.0-35.6	3176
Ill appearance	4742 (27.5)	1.9-52.6	664		1265 (5.9)	0.4-43.3	1057
CRP in mg/L, median (IQR)	17 (5-49)		7		NA		
NICE Warning signs							
Decreased consciousness	148 (0.9)	0.1-5.4	150		53 (0.2)	0.0-1.8	240
Meningeal signs	126 (0.7)	0.1-3.7	943		11 (0.1)	0.0-0.1	1101
Focal neurology	102 (0.6)	0.0-3.7	1376		31 (0.1)	0.0-1.8	1081
Status epilepticus	51 (0.3)	0.0-2.3	940		15 (0.1)	0.0-1.2	201
Rash: petechiae/non blanching	664 (3.9)	1.1-18.0	1307		448 (2.1)	0.4-4.1	3106
1	3478 (20.2)	0.5-73.7	1507		88 (0.4)	0.4-4.1	5100
Blood cultures performed	444 (2.6)	0.3-73.7			8 (0.4)	0.0-2.0	
CSF performed Admission to the ward >24	6590 (38.3)	18.0-	175		668 (3.1)	0.0-0.2	347
hours	0390 (38.3)	63.8	175		000 (3.1)	0.9-29.0	341
Admission to the ICU	135 (0.8)	0.3-5.4	21		23 (0.1)	0.0-2.4	35
Antibiotic treatment following	6795 (39.5)	27.9-	211		5504 (25.9)	16.9-	273
ED visit	0195 (39.5)	70.8	411		3307 (23.9)	43.0	413
Lifesaving interventions:	371 (2.2)	0.0-11.5			112 (0.5)	0.0-3.0	
airway, breathing or	5,1 (2.2)	0.0 11.0			112 (0.5)	0.0 0.0	
hemodynamic support							
Urinary tract infection	935 (5.4)	3.2-9.7	4		418 (1.9)	0.9-3.8	23
ADI C advanced meetion	` '		otain. CCI	_		end ED	

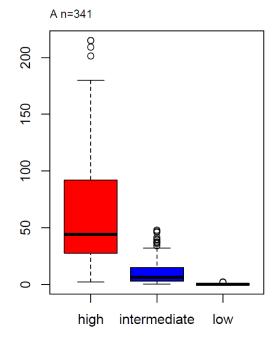
APLS, advanced paediatric life support; CRP, C-reactive protein; CSF, cerebrospinal fluid; ED, emergency department; ICU, intensive care unit; IQR, interquartile range; NA, not applicable

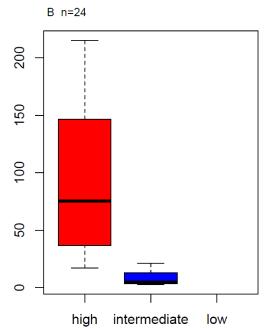
Appendix 6: Details of patients with complex chronic conditions

Identified pathogen stratified for complex chronic comorbidity

Identified pathogen	No complex chronic condition , n=85	Complex chronic condition , n=50	
	n (%)	n (%)	
Strep. pneumoniae	23 (27.1%)	5 (10%)	
Staph. aureus	15 (17.6%)	10 (20%)	
E. coli	9 (10.6%)	4 (8%)	
Neisseria meningitidis	9 (10.6%)	1 (2%)	
Kingella kingae	7 (8.2%)	0 (0%)	
Group B streptococcus	6 (7.1%)	0 (0%)	
Group A streptococcus	5 (5.9%)	1 (2%)	
Salmonella spp	4 (4.7%)	1 (2%)	
Haemophilus influenzae	4 (4.7%)	0 (0%)	
Enterobacter spp	2 (2.4%)	1 (2%)	
Coagulase-negative staphylococci (CoNS)		9 (18%)	
Candida species		4 (8%)	
Viridans streptococci		4 (8%)	
Klebsiella spp		3 (6%)	
Enterococcus spp		3 (6%)	
Moraxella spp		1 (2%)	
Other	1 (1.2%)	3 (6%)	

C-reactive protein level in immunocompromised patients for no IBI (A) vs IBI (B) for IBI risk categories





Appendix 7: Univariate logistic regression analysis for invasive bacterial infection.

Supplementary file 5: Univariate logistic regression analysis for invasive bacterial infection. N=16268, IBI cases N=135				
Variables	OR (95% CI)*			
Feverkidstool				
Male	1.04 (0.74-1.46)			
Age <1 year±	0.25 (0.14-0.43)*			
Age >1 year±	1.01 (0.97-1.05)			
Temperature in °C	1.34 (1.13-1.59)*			
Fever duration in days	0.89 (0.80-0.99)*			
Tachypnea (APLS)	1.50 (1.03-2.18)*			
Tachycardia (APLS)	2.84 (2.01-4.01)*			
o2 saturation <94%	0.65 (0.24-1.75)			
Prolonged capillary refill time (>3 sec)	2.62 (1.24-5.56)*			
Presence of work of breathing	1.62 (0.90-2.93)			
Ill appearance	2.51 (1.76-3.58)*			
Ln CRP	1.89 (1.63-2.19)*			
NICE alarming signs				
Status epilepticus	No cases			
Reduced level of consciousness	4.70 (2.04-10.83)*			

Non-blanching rash

Chronic condition

Focal neurology

Meningeal signs

APLS, Advanced Paediatric Life Support; CRP, C-reactive protein; ln, natural log

Abnormal neurology: decreased level of consciousness,

presence of meningeal signs or focal neurology

2.30 (0.54-9.71)

4.81 (2.61-8.91)

2.31 (1.21-4.41)*

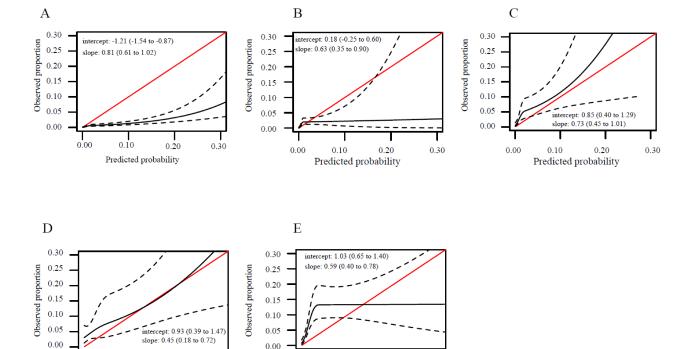
8.83 (6.19-12.59)*

9.20 (4.54-18.62)*

Complex chronic condition *Significant, p<0.05

 $[\]pm$ The risk of children aged ≤ 1 year was calculated: $\beta_{(age < 1 \text{ year})} \times age$ in years. The risk of children aged ≥ 1 years was calculated with: $\beta_{(age < 1 \text{ year})} \times 1 + \beta_{(age \geq 1 \text{ year})} \times (age \text{ in years} - 1)$.

Appendix 8: Calibration plot: observed proportion vs predicted probability of the clinical prediction model for 5 internal-external cross-validations.



The solid red line with a slope of 1 and intercept of 0 represents ideal prediction accuracy. The dotted lines indicate the 95% confidence interval.

0.10

Predicted probability

0.20

0.30

- A, Model developed on leave-out EDs with <10 cases, validated on EDs with <10 cases
- B, Model developed on leave-out Ljubljana (Slovenia), validated on Ljubljana (Slovenia)

0.00

C, Model developed on leave-out London (UK), validated on London (UK)

0.10

Predicted probability

0.20

0.30

- D, Model developed on leave-out Nijmegen (the Netherlands), validated on Nijmegen, UMC (the Netherlands)
- E, Model developed on leave-out Rotterdam (the Netherlands), validated on Rotterdam (the Netherlands) Legend: ED, emergency department; UK, united kingdom; UMC, University Medical Centre

Appendix 9: Model 2 - model specification and performance

In model 2 the variable ED with low/high IBI incidence is added to the model.

Model 2 - model specification

Model specification of multivariate logistic model for IBI, model 2 with the addition of variable low/high IBI incidence ED

		Coefficie	nt
		S	OR
	(Intercept)	-6.13	0.00
Feverkidstool	Male	-0.16	0.85
	Age < 1 year*	-2.22	0.11
	Age ≥ 1 year*	0.00	1.00
	Temperature	-0.16	0.85
	Fever duration in days	-0.15	0.86
	Tachypnea	-0.47	0.62
	Tachycardia	0.66	1.94
	Hypoxia	-0.81	0.44
	Prolonged capillary refill	-0.31	0.74
	Increased work of breathing	-0.47	0.62
	Ill appearance	1.18	3.26
	Ln CRP	0.75	2.11
NICE warning signs	Abnormal neurology	1.10	3.01
	Non-blanching rash	1.06	2.89
Chronic condition	Complex chronic condition	1.56	4.78
IBI incidence	ED with high IBI incidence (>2%)	1.98	7.26

^{*}Age <1 year and age \geq 1 year were calculated linear-piecewise:

The risk of children aged ≤ 1 year was calculated: $\beta_{(age \, \leq 1 \, year)} \! \times age$ in years.

The risk of children age ≥ 1 year was calculated: $\beta_{(age < 1 \text{ year})} \times 1 + (age \text{ in years-1}) \times \beta_{(age \geq 1 \text{ in years})}$.

CRP, C-reactive protein; IBI, invasive bacterial infection; ln, natural log

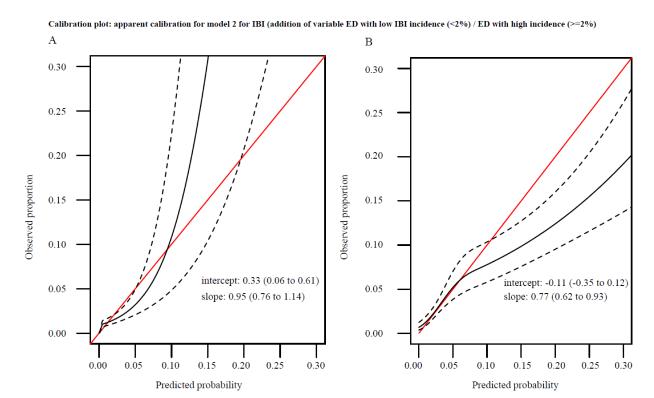
Model 2 - performance

Discrimination:

Development model 2: C-statistic 0.88 (95%CI 0.85-0.90)

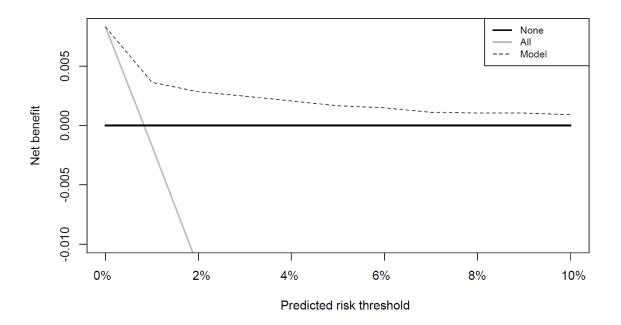
Calibration:

Apparent calibration for model 2 for IBI (addition of variable ED with low IBI incidence (<2%) / ED with high IBI incidence (>=2%)). Risk predictions are calculated on the developed model using all data (n=16268). These risk predictions are calibrated in the two groups: EDs with low IBI incidence (A) and EDs with high IBI incidence (B). ED, emergency department; IBI, invasive bacterial infection

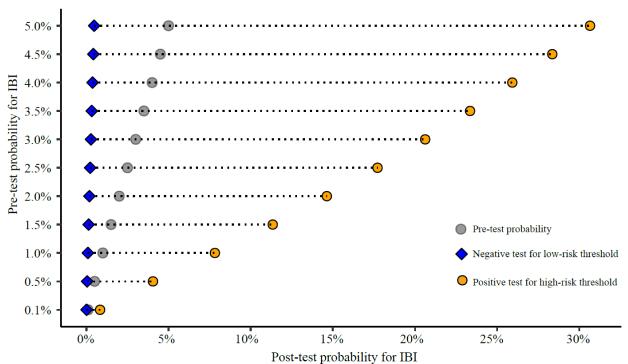


Appendix 10: Performance of the prediction model (model 1)

Decision curve analysis



Post-test probability for varying pre-test probabilities for invasive bacterial infection (IBI) Negative test for the low-risk threshold (0.1%) and positive test for the high-risk threshold (2.0%)



Appendix 11: Sensitivity analysis: model development on population with imputed CRP-level (n=37093)

Model specification of multivariate logistic model for IBI based on population with imputed CRP-level (n=37093)

		Coefficients	OR
	(Intercept)	-9.67	0.00
Feverkidstool	Male	-0.19	0.83
	Age < 1 year*	-2.58	0.08
	Age >1 year*	0.00	1.00
	Temperature	-0.05	0.95
	Fever duration in days	-0.15	0.86
	Tachypnea	-0.43	0.65
	Tachycardia	0.71	2.03
	Hypoxia	-0.86	0.42
	Prolonged capillary refill	0.02	1.02
	Increased work of breathing	-0.34	0.71
	Ill appearance	0.94	2.55
	Ln CRP	0.78	2.17
NICE warning signs	Abnormal neurology	1.54	4.66
	Non-blanching rash	1.40	4.04
Comorbidity	Complex chronic condition	2.43	11.3

^{*}The risk of children aged ≤ 1 year was calculated: $\beta_{(age \leq 1 \text{ year})} \times age$ in years. The risk of children aged ≤ 1 year was calculated: $\beta(age \leq 1)$ year)×age in years.

The risk of children aged >1 years was calculated with: $\beta(\text{age} < 1)$ year)×1+ β (age ≥1 year)×(age in years-1). CRP, C-reactive protein; ln, natural log

Appendix 12: Clinical case examples

Case 1:

A previously healthy, 4 year old boy presents with fever since 1.5 day.

At the ED he has a temperature of 38.9 degrees, heart rate of 160/min, respiratory rate of 45/min, oxygen saturation of 99% and normal capillary refill time. He is ill-appearing, has increased work of breathing and a normal neurological exam.

CRP-level = 10 mg/L.

Risk-prediction:

The patient is at intermediate-risk (>0.1% and <2%) for an invasive bacterial infection.

Case 2:

A previously healthy neonate of 2 months presents with fever since 12 hours.

She has temperature of 38.8 degrees, heart rate of 170/min, respiratory rate of 35/min, normal oxygen saturation and normal capillary refill time. She is ill-appearing and has no increased work of breathing. Neurological exam is normal.

CRP-level = 5 mg/L.

Risk-prediction:

The patient is at high-risk (>2%) for an invasive bacterial infection.

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PARTNER: IMPERIAL COLLEGE (UK)

Chief investigator/PERFORM coordinator:

Michael Levin

Principal and co-investigators; work package leads (alphabetical order)

Aubrey Cunnington (grant application)

Tisham De (work package lead)

Jethro Herberg (Principle Investigator, Deputy Coordinator, grant application)

Myrsini Kaforou (grant application, work package lead)

Victoria Wright (grant application, Scientific Coordinator)

Research Group (alphabetical order)

Lucas Baumard; Evangelos Bellos; Giselle D'Souza; Rachel Galassini; Dominic Habgood-Coote; Shea Hamilton; Clive Hoggart; Sara Hourmat; Heather Jackson; Ian Maconochie; Stephanie Menikou; Naomi Lin; Samuel Nichols; Ruud Nijman; Ivonne Pena Paz; Priyen Shah; Ching-Fen Shen; Ortensia Vito; Clare Wilson

Clinical recruitment at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (alphabetical order))

Amina Abdulla; Ladan Ali; Sarah Darnell; Rikke Jorgensen; Sobia Mustafa; Salina Persand

Imperial College Faculty of Engineering

Molly Stevens (co-investigator), Eunjung Kim (research group); Benjamin Pierce (research group)

<u>Clinical recruitment at Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals</u>

Katy Fidler (Principle Investigator)

Julia Dudley (Clinical Research Registrar)

Research nurses: Vivien Richmond, Emma Tavliavini

Clinical recruitment at National Cheng Kung University Hospital

Ching-Fen Shen (Principal Investigator); Ching-Chuan Liu (Co-investigator); Shih-Min Wang (Co-investigator), funded by the Center of Clinical Medicine Research, National Cheng Kung University

SERGAS Partner (Spain)

<u>Principal Investigators</u> Federico Martinón-Torres¹ Antonio Salas^{1,2}

GENVIP RESEARCH GROUP (in alphabetical order):

Fernando Álvez González¹, Cristina Balo Farto¹, Ruth Barral-Arca^{1,2}, María Barreiro Castro¹, Xabier Bello^{1,2}, Mirian Ben García¹, Sandra Carnota¹, Miriam Cebey-López¹, María José Curras-Tuala^{1,2}, Carlos Durán Suárez¹, Luisa García Vicente¹, Alberto Gómez-Carballa^{1,2}, Jose Gómez Rial¹, Pilar Leboráns Iglesias¹, Federico Martinón-Torres¹, Nazareth Martinón-Torres¹, José María Martinón Sánchez¹, Belén Mosquera Pérez¹, Jacobo Pardo-Seco^{1,2}, Lidia Piñeiro Rodríguez¹, Sara Pischedda^{1,2}, Sara Rey Vázquez¹, Irene Rivero Calle¹, Carmen Rodríguez-Tenreiro¹, Lorenzo Redondo-Collazo¹, Miguel Sadiki Ora¹, Antonio Salas^{1,2}, Sonia Serén Fernández¹, Cristina Serén Trasorras¹, Marisol Vilas Iglesias¹.

¹ Translational Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases, Pediatrics Department, Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, and GENVIP Research Group (www.genvip.org), Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria de Santiago, Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain.

² Unidade de Xenética, Departamento de Anatomía Patolóxica e Ciencias Forenses, Instituto de Ciencias Forenses, Facultade de Medicina, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, and GenPop Research Group, Instituto de Investigaciones Sanitarias (IDIS), Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago, Galicia, Spain

³ Fundación Pública Galega de Medicina Xenómica, Servizo Galego de Saúde (SERGAS), Instituto de Investigaciones Sanitarias (IDIS), and Grupo de Medicina Xenómica, Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Enfermedades Raras (CIBERER), Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (USC), Santiago de Compostela, Spain

RSU Partner (Latvia)

Principal Investigator

Dace Zavadska^{1,2}

Other RSU group authors (in alphabetical order):

Anda Balode^{1,2}, Arta Bārzdiņa^{1,2}, Dārta Deksne^{1,2}, Dace Gardovska^{1,2}, Dagne Grāvele², Ilze Grope^{1,2}, Anija Meiere^{1,2}, Ieva Nokalna^{1,2}, Jana Pavāre^{1,2}, Zanda Pučuka^{1,2}, Katrīna Selecka^{1,2}, Aleksandra Sidorova^{1,2}, Dace Svile², Urzula Nora Urbāne^{1,2}.

Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia (MRCG) at LSHTM Partner

Principal Investigator

Effua Usuf

Additional Investigators

Kalifa Bojang
Syed M. A. Zaman
Fatou Secka
Suzanne Anderson
Anna Rocalsatou Sarr
Momodou Saidykhan
Saffiatou Darboe
Samba Ceesay
Umberto D'alessandro

Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia at LSHTM P O Box 273,

¹ Riga Stradins university, Riga, Latvia.

² Children clinical university hospital, Riga, Latvia.

Fajara, The Gambia

ERASMUS MC-Sophia Children's Hospital

Principal Investigator

Henriëtte A. Moll¹

Research group

Dorine M. Borensztajn¹, Nienke N. Hagedoorn, Chantal Tan ¹, ¹, Clementien L. Vermont², Joany Zachariasse ¹

Additional investigator

W Dik 3

- ¹ Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's Hospital, Department of General Paediatrics, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- ² Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's Hospital, Department of Paediatric Infectious Diseases & Immunology, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- ³ Erasmus MC, Department of immunology, Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Swiss Pediatric Sepsis Study

Principal Investigators:

Philipp Agyeman, MD 1 (ORCID 0000-0002-8339-5444), Luregn J Schlapbach, MD, FCICM 2,3 (ORCID 0000-0003-2281-2598)

Clinical recruitment at University Children's Hospital Bern for PERFORM:

Christoph Aebi 1, Verena Wyss 1, Mariama Usman 1

Principal and co-investigators for the Swiss Pediatric Sepsis Study:

Philipp Agyeman, MD 1 , Luregn J Schlapbach, MD, FCICM 2,3 , Eric Giannoni, MD 4,5 , Martin Stocker, MD 6 , Klara M Posfay-Barbe, MD 7 , Ulrich Heininger, MD 8 , Sara Bernhard-Stirnemann, MD 9 , Anita Niederer-Loher, MD 10 , Christian Kahlert, MD 10 , Giancarlo Natalucci, MD 11 , Christa Relly, MD 12 , Thomas Riedel, MD 13 , Christoph Aebi, MD 1 , Christoph Berger, MD 12 for the Swiss Pediatric Sepsis Study

Affiliations:

¹ Department of Pediatrics, Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Switzerland

4

- ² Neonatal and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Children's Research Center, University Children's Hospital Zurich, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
- ³Child Health Research Centre, University of Queensland, and Queensland Children`s Hospital, Brisbane, Australia
- ⁴ Clinic of Neonatology, Department Mother-Woman-Child, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- ⁵ Infectious Diseases Service, Department of Medicine, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- ⁶ Department of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Lucerne, Lucerne, Switzerland
- ⁷ Pediatric Infectious Diseases Unit, Children's Hospital of Geneva, University Hospitals of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland
- ⁸ Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology, University of Basel Children's Hospital, Basel, Switzerland
- ⁹ Children's Hospital Aarau, Aarau, Switzerland
- ¹⁰ Division of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology, Children's Hospital of Eastern Switzerland St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland
- ¹¹ Department of Neonatology, University Hospital Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
- ¹² Division of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology, and Children's Research Center, University Children's Hospital Zurich, Switzerland
- ¹³ Children's Hospital Chur, Chur, Switzerland

Liverpool Partner

Principal Investigators

Enitan D Carrol^{1,2,3}

Stéphane Paulus 1,

Research Group (in alphabetical order):

Elizabeth Cocklin¹, Rebecca Jennings⁴, Joanne Johnston⁴, Simon Leigh¹, Karen Newall⁴, Sam Romaine¹

5

¹ Department of Clinical Infection, Microbiology and Immunology, University of Liverpool Institute of Infection and Global Health, Liverpool, England

² Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Department of Infectious Diseases, Eaton Road, Liverpool, L12 2AP

³ Liverpool Health Partners, 1st Floor, Liverpool Science Park, 131 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, L3 5TF

⁴Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Clinical Research Business Unit, Eaton Road, Liverpool, L12 2AP

NKUA Partner (Greece)

<u>Principal investigator</u>: Professor **Maria Tsolia** (all activities)

<u>Investigator/Research fellow</u>: **Irini Eleftheriou** (all activities)

Additional investigators:

Recruitment: Maria Tambouratzi

Lab: Antonis Marmarinos (Quality Manager)

Lab: Marietta Xagorari

Kelly Syggelou

2nd Department of Pediatrics, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens,

"P. and A. Kyriakou" Children's Hospital

Thivon and Levadias

Goudi, Athens

Micropathology Ltd:

Principal Investigator:

Professor Colin Fink¹, Clinical Microbiologist

Additional investigators

Dr Marie Voice¹, Post doc scientist

Dr. Leo Calvo-Bado¹, Post doc scientist

¹ Micropathology Ltd, The Venture Center, University of Warwick Science Park, Sir William Lyons Road, Coventry, CV4 7EZ.

Medical University of Graz, Austria (MUG)

Principal Investigator:

Werner Zenz¹ (all activities)

Co-investigators (in alphabetical order)

Benno Kohlmaier¹ (all activities)

Nina A. Schweintzger¹ (all activities)

Manfred G. Sagmeister¹ (study design, consortium wide sample management)

Research team

Daniela S. Kohlfürst¹ (study design)

Christoph Zurl¹ (BIVA PIC)

Alexander Binder¹ (grant application)

Recruitment team, data managers, (in alphabetical order):

Susanne Hösele¹, Manuel Leitner¹, Lena Pölz¹, Glorija Rajic¹,

Clinical recruitment partners (in alphabetical order):

Sebastian Bauchinger¹, Hinrich Baumgart⁴, Martin Benesch³, Astrid Ceolotto¹, Ernst Eber², Siegfried Gallistl¹, Gunther Gores⁵, Harald Haidl¹, Almuthe Hauer¹, Christa Hude¹, Markus Keldorfer⁵, Larissa Krenn⁴, Heidemarie Pilch⁵, Andreas Pfleger², Klaus Pfurtscheller⁴, Gudrun

Nordberg⁵, Tobias Niedrist⁸, Siegfried Rödl⁴, Andrea Skrabl-Baumgartner¹, Matthias Sperl⁷, Laura Stampfer⁵, Volker Strenger³, Holger Till⁶, Andreas Trobisch⁵, Sabine Löffler⁵

Author Affiliations:

¹ Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, Division of General Pediatrics, Medical University of Graz, Graz, Austria

²Department of Pediatric Pulmonology, Medical University of Graz, Graz, Austria

³Department of Pediatric Hematooncoloy, Medical University of Graz, Graz, Austria

⁴Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Medical University of Graz, Graz, Austria

⁵University Clinic of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine Graz, Medical University Graz, Graz,Austria

⁶Department of Paediatric and Adolescence Surgery, Medical University Graz, Graz, Austria

⁷Department of Pediatric Orthopedics, Medical University Graz, Graz, Austria

⁸Clinical Institute of Medical and Chemical Laboratory Diagnostics, Medical University Graz, Graz, Austria

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

WP 1 WP2, WP5

Principal Investigator:

Dr Shunmay Yeung^{1,23} PhD, MBBS, FRCPCH, MRCP, DTM&H

Research Group

Dr Juan Emmanuel Dewez¹ MD, DTM&H, MSc

Prof Martin Hibberd 1 BSc, PhD

Mr David Bath² MSc, MAppFin, BA(Hons)

Dr Alec Miners² BA(Hons), MSc, PhD

Dr Ruud Nijman³ PhD MSc MD MRCPCH

Dr Catherine Wedderburn¹ BA, MBChB, DTM&H, MSc, MRCPCH

Ms Anne Meierford¹ MSc, BMedSc, BMBS

Dr Baptiste Leurent⁴, PhD, MSc

- Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Disease, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK
- 2. Faculty of Public Health and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK
- 3. Department of Paediatrics, St. Mary's Hospital Imperial College Hospital, London, UK
- 4. Faculty of Epidemiology and Population Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK

Radboud University Medical Center (RUMC), The Netherlands

Principal Investigators:

Ronald de Groot ¹, Michiel van der Flier ^{1,2,3}, Marien I. de Jonge¹

Co-investigators Radboud University Medical Center (in alphabetical order):

Koen van Aerde^{1,2}, Wynand Alkema¹, Bryan van den Broek¹, Jolein Gloerich¹, Alain J. van Gool¹, Stefanie Henriet^{1,2}, Martijn Huijnen¹, Ria Philipsen¹, Esther Willems¹

Investigators PedBIG PERFORM DUTCH CLINICAL NETWORK (in alphabetical order):

G.P.J.M. Gerrits⁸, M. van Leur⁸, J. Heidema ⁴,L. de Haan^{1,2} C.J. Miedema ⁵, C. Neeleman ¹ C.C. Obihara ⁶, G.A. Tramper-Stranders7⁶

- ^{1.} Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- ^{2.} Amalia Children's Hospital, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- Wilhelmina Children's Hospital, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- ^{4.} St. Antonius Hospital, Nieuwegein, The Netherlands
- ^{5.} Catharina Hospital, Eindhoven, The Netherlands
- ^{6.} ETZ Elisabeth, Tilburg, The Netherlands
- 7. Franciscus Gasthuis, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 8. Canisius Wilhelmina Hospital, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Oxford team (UK)

Principal Investigators

Andrew J. Pollard^{1,2}, Rama Kandasamy^{1,2}, Stéphane Paulus ^{1,2}

Additional Investigators

Michael J. Carter^{1,2}, Daniel O'Connor^{1,2}, Sagida Bibi^{1,2}, Dominic F. Kelly^{1,2}, Meeru Gurung³, Stephen Thorson³, Imran Ansari³, David R. Murdoch⁴, Shrijana Shrestha³, Zoe Oliver⁵

Author Affiliations:

¹Oxford Vaccine Group, Department of Paediatrics, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom.

²NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre, Oxford, United Kingdom.

³Paediatric Research Unit, Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal.

⁴Department of Pathology, University of Otago, Christchurch, New Zealand.

⁵ Department of Paediatrics, University of Oxford.

Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, (UK)

Principal Investigator:

Marieke Emonts 1,2,3 (all activities)

Co-investigators

Emma Lim^{2,3,7} (all activities)

Lucille Valentine4

Recruitment team (alphabetical), data-managers, and GNCH Research unit:

10

Karen Allen⁵, Kathryn Bell⁵, Adora Chan⁵, Stephen Crulley⁵, Kirsty Devine⁵, Daniel Fabian⁵, Sharon King⁵, Paul McAlinden⁵, Sam McDonald⁵, Anne McDonnell², Ailsa Pickering^{2,5}, Evelyn Thomson⁵, Amanda Wood⁵, Diane Wallia⁵, Phil Woodsford⁵,

Sample processing: Frances Baxter⁵, Ashley Bell⁵, Mathew Rhodes⁵

PICU recruitment

Rachel Agbeko⁸

Christine Mackerness⁸

Students MOFICHE

Bryan Baas², Lieke Kloosterhuis², Wilma Oosthoek²

Students/medical staff PERFORM

Tasnim Arif⁶, Joshua Bennet², Kalvin Collings², Ilona van der Giessen², Alex Martin², Aqeela Rashid⁶, Emily Rowlands², Gabriella de Vries², Fabian van der Velden²

Engagement work/ethics/cost effectiveness

Lucille Valentine⁴, Mike Martin⁹, Ravi Mistry², Lucille Valentine⁴

Author Affiliations:

¹ Translational and Clinical Research Institute, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne UK

²Great North Children's Hospital, Paediatric Immunology, Infectious Diseases & Allergy, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

³NIHR Newcastle Biomedical Research Centre based at Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust and Newcastle University, Westgate Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 5PL, United Kingdom

⁴Newcastle University Business School, Centre for Knowledge, Innovation, Technology and Enterprise (KITE), Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom

⁵Great North Children's Hospital, Research Unit, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

⁶Great North Children's Hospital, Paediatric Oncology, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

⁷Population Health Sciences Institute, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

⁸Great North Children's Hospital, Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

⁹Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

LMU Munich Partner (Germany)

Principal Investigator:

Ulrich von Both^{1,2} MD, FRCPCH (all activities)

Research group:

Laura Kolberg¹ MSc (all activities)

Manuela Zwerenz¹ MSc, Judith Buschbeck¹ PhD

Clinical recruitment partners (in alphabetical order):

Christoph Bidlingmaier³, Vera Binder⁴, Katharina Danhauser⁵, Nikolaus Haas¹⁰, Matthias Griese⁶, Tobias Feuchtinger⁴, Julia Keil⁹, Matthias Kappler⁶, Eberhard Lurz⁷, Georg Muench⁸, Karl Reiter⁹, Carola Schoen⁹

Author Affiliations:

¹Div. Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Hauner Children's Hospital, University Hospital, Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany

²German Center for Infection Research (DZIF), Partner Site Munich, Munich, Germany

³Div. of General Paediatrics, ⁴Div. Paediatric Haematology & Oncology, ⁵Div. of Paediatric Rheumatology, ⁶Div. of Paediatric Pulmonology, ⁷Div. of Paediatric Gastroenterology, ⁸Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, ⁹Paediatric Intensive Care Unit Hauner Children's Hospital, University

Hospital, Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany, ¹⁰Department Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Intensive Care, University Hospital, Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany

bioMérieux, France

Principal Investigator:

François Mallet^{1,2,3}

Research Group:

Karen Brengel-Pesce^{1,2,3} Alexandre Pachot¹ Marine Mommert^{1,2}

Department of Infectious Diseases, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia

Principal Investigator:

Marko Pokorn^{1,2,3} MD, PhD

Research Group:

Mojca Kolnik¹ MD, Katarina Vincek¹ MD, Tina Plankar Srovin¹ MD, PhD, Natalija Bahovec¹ MD, Petra Prunk¹ MD, Veronika Osterman¹ MD, Tanja Avramoska¹ MD

Affiliations:

¹Department of Infectious Diseases, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Japljeva 2, SI-1525 Ljubljana, Slovenia

²University Childrens' Hospital, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

³Department of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

13

¹Open Innovation & Partnerships (OIP), bioMérieux S.A., Marcy l'Etoile, France

² Joint research unit Hospice Civils de Lyon - bioMérieux, Centre Hospitalier Lyon Sud, 165 Chemin du Grand Revoyet, 69310 Pierre-Bénite, France

³ EA 7426 Pathophysiology of Injury-induced Immunosuppression, University of Lyon1-Hospices Civils de Lyon-bioMérieux, Hôpital Edouard Herriot, 5 Place d'Arsonval, 69437 Lyon Cedex 3, France

Amsterdam, Academic Medical Hospital & Sanquin Research Institute (NL)

Principal Investigator:

Taco Kuijpers ^{1,2}

Co-investigators

Ilse Jongerius ²

Recruitment team (EUCLIDS, PERFORM):

J.M. van den Berg¹, D. Schonenberg¹, A.M. Barendregt¹, D. Pajkrt¹, M. van der Kuip^{1,3}, A.M. van Furth^{1,3}

Students PERFORM

Evelien Sprenkeler², Judith Zandstra²,

Technical support PERFORM

G. van Mierlo², J. Geissler²

Author Affiliations:

- ¹ Amsterdam University Medical Center (Amsterdam UMC), location Academic Medical Center (AMC), Dept of Pediatric Immunology, Rheumatology and Infectious Diseases, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- ² Sanquin Research Institute, & Landsteiner Laboratory at the AMC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- ³ Amsterdam University Medical Center (Amsterdam UMC), location Vrije Universiteit Medical Center (VUMC), Dept of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Immunology, Free University (VU), Amsterdam, the Netherlands (former affiliation)