

Pre-eclampsia: Alere Triage PIGF test (and other alternative technologies identified during scoping) to aid diagnosis

The Alere Triage PIGF test is used to help diagnose pre-eclampsia, which is a potentially life threatening condition for some pregnant women. It is a near-patient fluorescence immunoassay that measures the level of placental growth factor (PIGF) in blood plasma, which can be abnormally low in women with pre-eclampsia. The test is intended for use alongside other diagnostic tests in women presenting with suspected pre-eclampsia to identify or exclude placental dysfunction, and assess the level of risk for pre-term delivery. It is claimed that the use of the PIGF test could provide a faster and more accurate diagnosis and enable quicker access to treatment for those identified at risk of complications. Use of the test may also provide more accurate and objective information for pregnant women which could improve birth planning and counselling, and reduce uncertainty and anxiety. The number of hospital admissions and length of stay may also be reduced because using the PIGF test may enable more women to be cared for in a community setting. The NICE Diagnostics Assessment Programme will assess the clinical and cost-effectiveness evidence of the Alere Triage PIGF test and alternative technologies identified during scoping in order to make recommendations on their use in the NHS.