

Appendix 1: Search Strategy

- 1 Ambulatory Care/
- 2 exp Ambulatory Care Facilities/
- 3 general practice/ or family practice/
- 4 general practitioners/ or physicians, family/ or physicians, primary care/
- 5 Primary Health Care/
- 6 Office Visits/
- 7 exp Emergency Service, Hospital/
- 8 Emergency Medical Services/
- 9 (ambulatory adj3 (care or setting? or facilit* or ward? or department? or service?)).ti,ab.
- 10 ((general or family) adj2 (practi* or physician? or doctor?)).ti,ab.
- 11 (primary care or primary health care or primary healthcare).ti,ab.
- 12 (emergency adj3 (care or setting? or facilit* or ward? or department? or service?)).ti,ab.
- 13 (after hour? or afterhour? or "out of hour?" or ooh).ti,ab.
- 14 (clinic? or visit?).ti,ab.
- 15 ((health* or medical) adj2 (center? or centre?)).ti,ab.
- 16 community health services/ or exp community health nursing/
- 17 Community Health Workers/
- 18 (community adj2 (health or health care or service? or program*)).ti,ab.
- 19 (community adj2 (worker? or aide? or volunteer? or assistant? or visitor?)).ti,ab.
- 20 ((lay or volunteer) adj2 (health worker? or health aide? or health assistant?)).ti,ab.
- 21 ((health* or medical) adj2 (facility or facilities)).ti,ab.
- 22 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15
- 23 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21
- 24 Point-of-Care Systems/
- 25 ("point of care" or POC) adj3 (test* or diagnos*).ti,ab.
- 26 ("point of care" or POC) and (test* or diagnos*).ti.

- 27 poct.ti,ab.
- 28 ((rapid or bedside or bed-side or "near patient") adj3 (test* or diagnos*)).ti,ab.
- 29 ((rapid or bedside or bed-side or "near patient") and (test* or diagnos*)).ti.
- 30 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29
- 31 (istat or i-stat or afinion).ti,ab.
- 32 30 or 31
- 33 22 and 32
- 34 23 and 32
- 35 34 not 33

Appendix 2: Risk of bias assessment for Parvin et al, before-after study²⁷

Selection		Performance	Detection	Attrition	Reporting	Other	Pre-specified confounders		
Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants/ personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting		Baseline characteristics reported	Baseline characteristics similar in intervention and control groups	Detailed description of usual care pathway
not randomised	not concealed; time periods of intervention and control described	none	not described	not described	not described	control groups from before and after the intervention period; retrospective designation of presenting symptom codes	not reported	not reported	no details other than that samples are sent to central laboratory via vacuum transport system
HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK	UNCLEAR RISK	UNCLEAR RISK	UNCLEAR RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK

Appendix 3

Sensitivity Analysis

Figure 3: Disposition Decision (subgroups for patients who needed laboratory tests in addition to POCT)

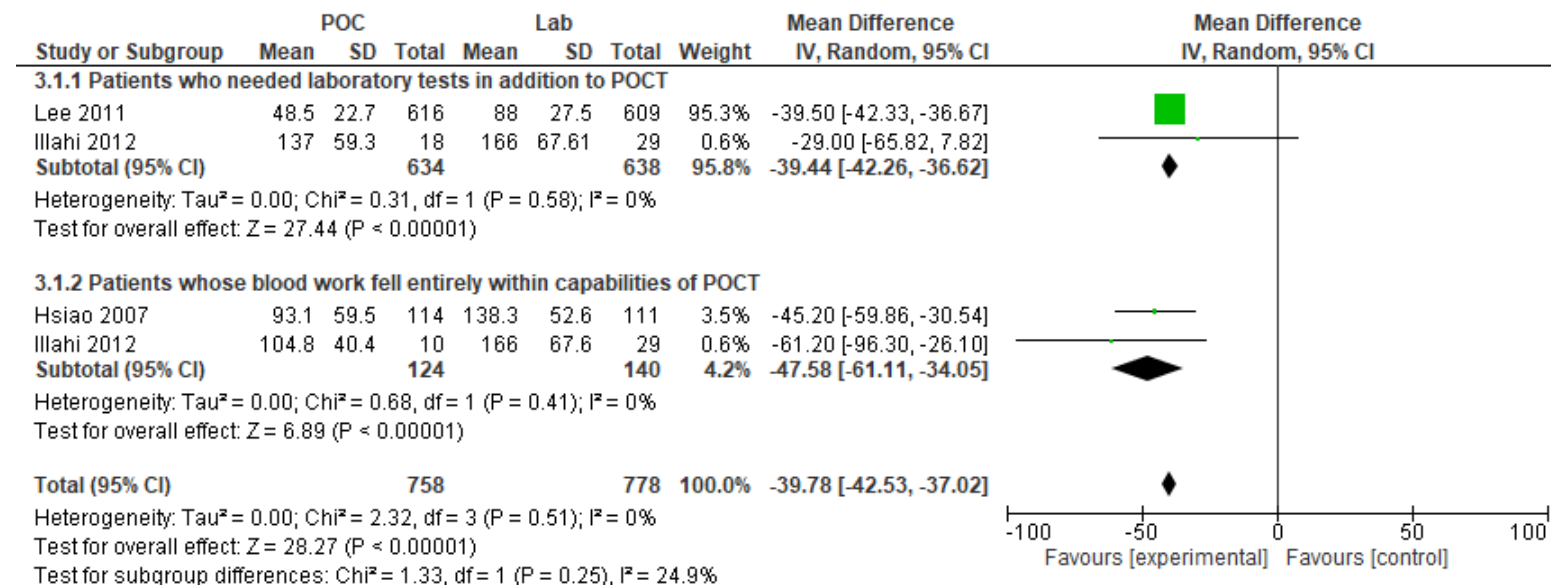
Figure 3a) With Illahi²⁵

Figure 3b) Without Illahi²⁵