

ASM/14/02 - Development of a point-of-care test for CCL17 (TARC) to improve risk-adapted therapy in classical Hodgkin lymphoma

Classical Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL) is a curable disease; however, late side-effects of treatment cause significant morbidity and mortality and ~20% of patients still die of their disease. There is a well-accepted need to develop biomarkers to guide treatment decisions in order to reduce side-effects and treatment failure in low and high risk patients, respectively. CCL17 shows great promise as a marker of disease activity that could be used with, or instead of, PET imaging to assess treatment response after 1-3 cycles of chemotherapy and guide further treatment. To accelerate the use of CCL17 testing in stratification of cHL patients, we will develop a point-of-care, quantitative test for serum CCL17. This will be developed by Abingdon Health and validated at the University of Glasgow using both stored and prospectively collected samples from cHL patients. Test kits will be prepared for use in two proposed clinical trials and a Scottish population-based study.