Title: Temporal Artery Thermometers in Pre-Hospital Settings: Clinical and Cost Effectiveness

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Research questions:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of temporal artery thermometers compared with oral, rectal, or tympanic thermometers for the detection of fever or hypothermia in pre-hospital settings?

2. What is the cost effectiveness of temporal artery thermometers compared with oral, rectal, or tympanic thermometers for the detection of fever or hypothermia in pre-hospital settings?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 2, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2003 and April 2008, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

Results:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by economic evaluations, randomized controlled trials, observational studies and evidence-based guidelines.

The literature search identified one evidence based guideline that relates to the research questions. No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, economic evaluations, randomized controlled trials, or observational studies were found that specifically addressed the
clinical or cost effectiveness of temporal artery thermometers in pre-hospital settings. Articles of interest are included in the appendix. The observational studies in the appendix assess the clinical effectiveness of temporal artery thermometers in hospital settings or controlled research settings.

**Health technology assessments**
No literature identified

**Systematic reviews and meta-analyses**
No literature identified

**Economic analyses and cost information**
No literature identified

**Randomized controlled trials**
No literature identified

**Observational studies**
No literature identified

**Guidelines and recommendations**


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Appendix – Further information:

Observational studies


Review articles


Additional references

