



# Clinician's Gut Feeling about dyspnea and chest pain in primary care



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## Context

- Gut feeling = sense of alarm (SA) and sense of reassurance (1)
- **Questionnaire created from case vignettes** (2)
- Higher specificity of the gut feeling on the clinical impression in the context of serious infection in children in primary care (3)

## Research question

What is the predictive value of the SA facing dyspnea and/or chest pain in primary care?

## Objective

To measure SA's sensitivity, specificity and likelihood ratio

## Study design

Observational study  
Longitudinal  
Prospective way

## 1 Linguistic validation

- Forward and backward translation of the questionnaire into French with French and English native speakers



- Cultural check with 10 French GPs to disentangle grammatical errors and cultural misunderstandings.

## 2 Cases

### Inclusion criteria

- Reason for encounter: dyspnea and/or thoracic pain
- GP's office, home visit, nursing home and out of hours
- Over 18 years old



### Non-inclusion criteria:

- Below 18 years old
- Patient in palliative care
- Patient known as having coronary heart disease

## 3 Filling the questionnaire

- GPs fulfill the questionnaire: describe if they perceive a sense of alarm and their level of confidence in their supposed diagnosis



- Follow up information after 4 weeks provided by GPs
- Serious and non-serious pathologies defined using nominal group technique
- A consensus panel blinded to the results of the index questionnaire will adjudicate outcomes between serious and non-serious pathology.

## 4 Statistical analysis

- achieving sensibility, specificity and likelihood ratio of the SA



	Serious pathology	Non serious pathology
SA	TP	FP
No SA	FN	TN

LR+ = sen/(1-spe)      LR- = (1-sen)/spe

1: Stolper E, Van Royen P, Van de Wiel M, Van Bokhoven M, Houben P, Van der Weijden T, et al. Consensus on gut feelings in general practice. BMC Fam Pract 2009;10: 66.  
2: Stolper CF, Van de Wiel MW, De Vet HC, et al. Family physicians' diagnostic gut feelings are measurable: construct validation of a questionnaire. BMC Fam Pract 2013;14: 1.  
3: Van den Bruel A, Thompson M, Buntinx F, Mant D (Clinicians' gut feeling about serious infections in children: observational study. BMJ 2012;345:e6144-e6144.

