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The Benefits and Challenges of Point-of-Care Testing Across the Clinical Spectrum

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POCT instruments in pediatric ambulances – What to consider.

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POCT Instruments in pediatric ambulances – What to consider.
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**Background:** Growing demand for investigation of blood gas analysis during hospital-to-hospital transport of premature infants has emerged in Denmark. There are several things to consider before relocating the test procedures from the hospital to ambulances.

**Methods:** The systematic evaluation of what to consider when establishing POCT instruments in an ambulance is described.
What to consider before choosing instruments: Test menu, clinical demands for test quality, easy to handle and demands to external surroundings.
How to validate the instruments: Method comparison, precision and the impact of the surroundings.
What to consider before day-to-day running: Describing the QC procedure and the routine comparison with the laboratory instruments, how to release and save answers and the workflow in connection with answer release. Describing maintenance and management of utensils and how to educate and maintenance qualifications of staff.
The economy: It needs to be taken into consideration, if the clinical profit compensate sufficient for the increased economic expenses.

**Conclusion:** Systematic evaluation of all parameters involved in the process of establishing POCT instruments in pediatric ambulances, secure a firm grounding to make a well documented and qualified decision, as if you obtain a clinical profit.