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Product News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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B·R·A·H·M·S GmbH, part of Thermo Fisher Scientific, Announces Copeptin Now Included in the German Cardiac Society (DGK) Recommendations

DGK follows the ESC recommendations for instant rule out of Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) with combined copeptin and troponin; specifies use for outpatient cardiologists

HENNIGSDORF, Germany (December 6, 2016) – In recently released recommendations the German Cardiac Society (DGK, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Kardiologie) confirms the actual ESC (European Society of Cardiology) recommendations which suggest the combination of both biomarkers copeptin and troponin for instant and fast rule-out of Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) at admission. In addition, the DGK explicitly recommends this diagnostic pathway for outpatient cardiologists.[1,2]

Fast but reliable testing to rule out AMI in patients with chest pain (who present in a pre-hospital or in a hospital setting) reduces both the increasing crowding in emergency departments (ED) and financial burden on health systems. Patients with suspected acute coronary syndrome are common, even though only few of these patients are ultimately diagnosed with AMI. As a result, rapid rule-out of AMI and support of early discharge is a major benefit for hospitals and the public health system in general. Additionally, faster diagnosis can improve patient well-being by avoiding unnecessary patient stress, anxiety and other risks associated with hospitalization.

"This new specific DGK recommendation is important because chest pain units and outpatient cardiologists are country-specific. In Germany we have more than 200 certified chest pain units and approximately 50 certified outpatient cardiologist offices," said Professor Evangelos Giannitsis, University Hospital Heidelberg in Germany. "The measurement of copeptin will be even more attractive as soon as a specific point-of-care testing is available."

Copeptin, in combination with troponin, is recommended by the ESC for a fast rule-out of AMI especially when using conventional troponin assays; this corresponds to a class 1a recommendation according to the guidelines grading system based on scientific publications including a prospective randomized interventional trial and a metanalysis.[3,4,5] According to a class 2b recommendation by the ESC Copeptin may have some added value, even over high-sensitivity cardiac troponin in the early rule out of AMI. "It is of significance that the DGK now endorsed the ESC statement", said Professor Martin Möckel, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. "Both, the ESC and DGK recognize the safety and efficacy of copeptin in the support of early discharge."

More information on the Thermo Scientific B·R·A·H·M·S Copeptin™ can be found here, or by visiting www.thermoscientific.com/brahms.

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