

'Modest at best' discriminatory ability for CBC test in infants

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(HealthDay)—Complete blood cell count parameters at commonly used

or optimal thresholds do not offer high accuracy in identifying invasive bacterial infections (IBIs) in febrile infants (≤ 60 days of age), according to a study published online Sept. 11 in *JAMA Pediatrics*.

Andrea T. Cruz, M.D., from the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, and colleagues conducted planned secondary analysis of a prospective observational cohort study that included 4,313 febrile (≥ 38 C), previously healthy, full-term infants (≤ 60 days) from 26 emergency departments in the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (from 2008 to 2013). The accuracies of the white [blood cell count](#), absolute neutrophil [count](#), and platelet count were assessed for detecting IBIs.

The researchers found that 2.2 percent had IBIs. Sensitivities were low for common complete blood cell count thresholds: white blood cell count

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