

Table 2
Measures of test accuracy reported in review of diagnostic literature (1994-2000)

Measures of test accuracy	Time periods				p-value **
	1994-1997		1998-2000		
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	
Included primary studies	50*		40*		
Sensitivity or specificity	35	70	30 ^a	75	0.77
Predictive values	13 ^b	26	13 ^c	33	0.66
Sensitivity, specificity and predictive values	12	24	12	30	0.69
Likelihood ratios	9	18	11	28	0.41
Diagnostic odds ratios	0	-	0	-	-
Meta-analysis	38*		22*		
Pooled sensitivity or specificity	22	58	13 ^d	62	0.86
Pooled predictive values	9 ^e	24	2 ^f	10	0.29
Pooled likelihood ratios	5	10	8	38	0.08
Pooled diagnostic odds ratios	5	19	0	0	0.20
Summary ROC plot or values	23	61	11	52	0.60

* numbers do not add up to totals because some reviews used more than one measures of accuracy

** chi sq. test with Yates' correction

a includes study that only reported either sensitivity or specificity

b,c. includes study that only reported either positive or negative predictive value

d includes meta-analyses that only reported either pooled sensitivity or specificity

e,f. includes meta-analyses that only reported either pooled positive or negative predictive values