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Authors Category Primary study Journal American heart journal Year 2002 Links PubMed DOI BACKGROUND: The European Society of Cardiology and American College of Cardiology guidelines for redefinition of myocardial infarction suggest that the cutoff value for diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) be the 99th percentile of the reference population at a level measured with imprecision (coefficient of variation) $>= 10\%$. No current commercially available troponin assay meets this requirement. Accordingly, questions have been raised about how to implement cutoff values from the guidelines. The Clinical Outcomes Utilizing Revascularization and Aggressive drug Evaluation (COURAGE) trial asks for recommendations concerning the use of troponin assays for the trial. METHODS: Cutoff values for the various assays were obtained from package inserts or from direct communication with manufacturers. RESULTS: The cutoff value with $>= 10\%$ imprecision was above the 99th percentile of the reference range for all assays. For the present, we suggest that this value be used for clinical and clinical research purposes. We also propose that new assays be developed with improved precision. These changes will provide increased consistency until assays improve to allow full implementation of the guidelines. Epistemonikos ID: a50b089a9e2933e0d95a3f7abac4kec0 First added: Jun 08, 2011 Last updated: Jun 08, 2011