**Critical appraisal questions August 2012**

1. Provide a no more than 200 word summary of this paper in the box provided. Only the first 200 words will be considered – short bullet points are acceptable (7 marks)
2. List three strengths of the study design in this paper (3 marks)
3. List two weakness of the study design in this paper (2 marks)
4. In this paper, the physicians involved in the study where blinded to the result. Explain (using an example if you wish) why a lack of such blinding may introduce possible bias into the results (2 marks)
5. The authors quote an overall diagnostic accuracy of 93% for their new strategy. How is this calculated and what does it mean? (2 marks)
6. Figure 2 in the paper presents a Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve. List 2 ways by which ROC curves add to the understanding of diagnostic tests (2 marks)
7. Give three reasons why you would not adopt this test in your Emergency Department (3 marks)

Total = 21 marks