Despite this potential benefit, algorithm compliance in the US may be low, which could hinder the expected reduction of antibiotic use.

Evidence-based procalcitonin use for pneumonia includes:
- Procalcitonin is a blood test that rises in bacterial infections.
- The effect of procalcitonin utilization on antibiotic duration.
- The duration of antibiotic therapy for pneumonia is excessive.
- Physicians do not trend positive or repeat initial negative values.
- Procalcitonin use is not associated with a reduced antibiotic duration.
- Non-algorithmic use of procalcitonin may negate the effect of procalcitonin at reducing antibiotic utilization.

In the study, Physicians do not trend positive or repeat initial negative values and procalcitonin use is not associated with a reduced antibiotic duration. Non-algorithmic use of procalcitonin may negate the effect of procalcitonin at reducing antibiotic utilization.

This study was supported by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network as part of the BCBSM Value Partnership.