Table 5

Summary of key recommendations of the 'UK guidelines for the management of acute pancreatitis' [17]

Investigation	All patients should have a gallbladder ultrasound within 24 hours of admission
Diagnosis	**1** A diagnosis should be reached within 48 hours (including risk stratification) **2** Diagnoses should include no more than 20% idiopathic disease
Management	**1** Patients with gallstone AP should undergo laparoscopic cholecystectomy during the same admission or within 14 days **2** Insufficient evidence exists to warrant the use of prophylactic antibiotics for the prevention of infection of pancreatic necrosis: however, when employed, prophylactic antibiotics should not be continued > 14 days
Referral	All patients with severe AP should be admitted to HDU/ITU
Mortality	Mortality should be < 10% overall and < 30% in severe cases