# Oxford Academic Health Science Network

**PATIENT SAFETY** 

# From confusion to consensus: The Oxford AHSN Sepsis Pathway



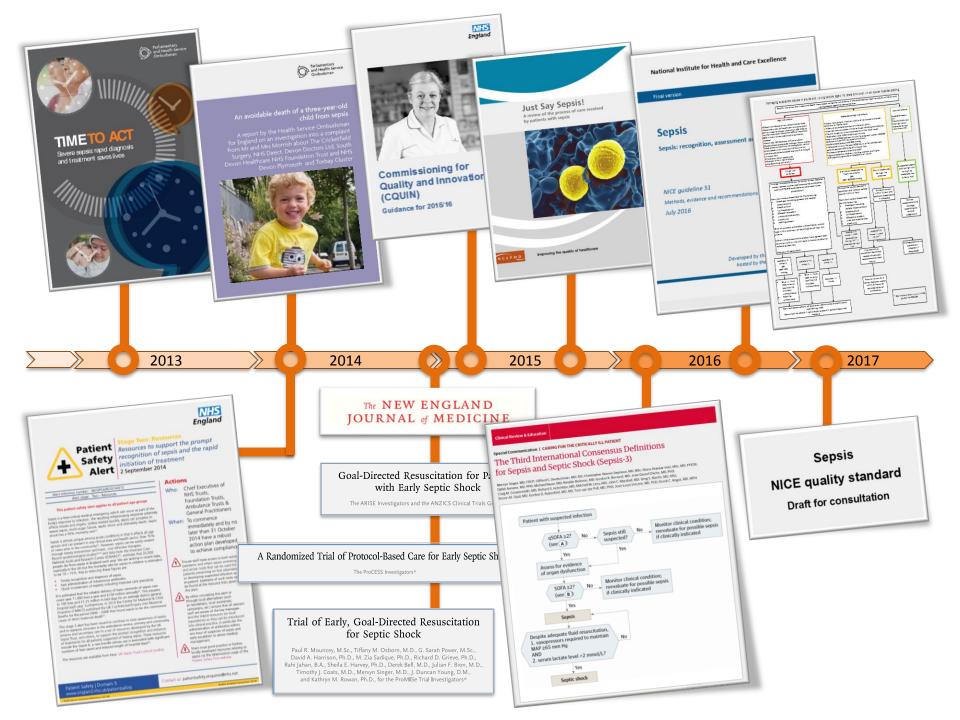






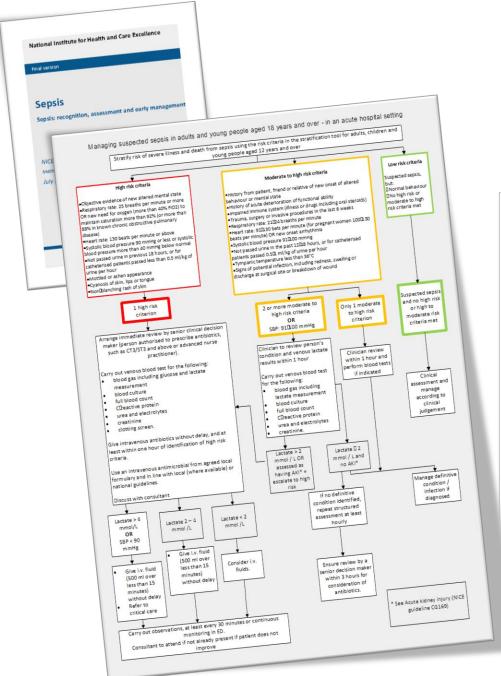
### **Andrew Brent**

Sepsis Clinical Lead, Oxford AHSN
& Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

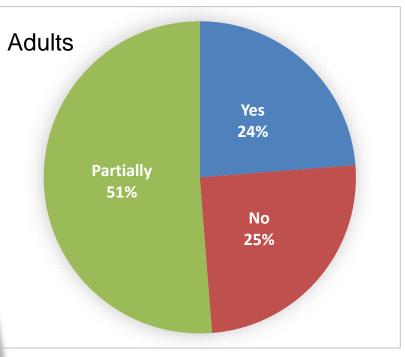


# **Oxford AHSN Sepsis Group Aims**

- Share experience of QI initiatives
- Share resources (e.g. for training)
- Share data (process & outcome; combine to max learning)
- Joint QI projects (± research)
- Collaboratively review & apply guidelines



# National Sepsis Stakeholder Audit Will you be implementing NICE?



82 respondents50 acute Trusts

# Oxford AHSN approach



Regional approach to implementation



- Integrate into existing pathways
  - Community
  - Acute admissions
  - Deteriorating patients (Track & Trigger / Early Warning Scores)



- Build on progress already made
  - 'Red Flag' Sepsis
  - Sepsis Six
  - Neutropaenic Sepsis

## THINK SEPSIS

#### Person with possible infection

- Think 'could this be sepsis?' if they present with signs or symptoms that indicate infection, even if they do not have a high temperature.
- · Be aware that people with sepsis may have non-specific, non-localising presentations (for example, feeling very unwell.
- Pay particular attention to concerns expressed by the person and family/carer.
- Take particular care in the assessment of people who might have sepsis who are unable, or their parent/carer is unable, to give a good history (for example, young children, people with English as a second language, people with communication problems)

#### **ASSESSMENT**

Assess people with suspected infection to identify:

- likely source of infection
- risk factors (see righthand box)
- Indicators of clinical of concern such as abnormalities of behaviour, circulation or respiration.

Healthcare professionals performing a remote assessment of a person with suspected infection should seek to identify factors that increase risk of sepsis or indicators of clinical concern.

#### People more vulnerable to sepsis

- the very young (under 1 year) and older people (over 75 years) or very frail people
- recent trauma or surgery or invasive procedure (within the last 6 weeks)
- Impaired immunity due to illness or drugs (for example, people receiving steroids, chemotherapy or immunosuppressants)
- Indwelling lines / catheters / intravenous drug misusers, any breach of skin integrity (for example, any cuts, burns, blisters or skin infections).

If at risk of neutropenic sepsis - refer to secondary care

Additional risk factors for women who are pregnant or who have been pregnant, given birth, had a termination or miscarriage within the past 6 weeks -gestational diabetes, diabetes or other co-morbidities; needed invasive procedure such as caesarean section, forceps delivery, removal of retained products of conception, prolonged rupture of membranes, close contract with someone with group A streptococcal infection, have continued vaginal bleeding or an offensive vaginal discharge).

#### Consider RISK FACTORS & Indicators of CLINICAL CONCERN

# Structured Assessment:

Observations & Early Warning Scores

#### SUSPECT SEPSIS

If sepsis is suspected, use a structured set of observations to assess people in a face-to-face setting.

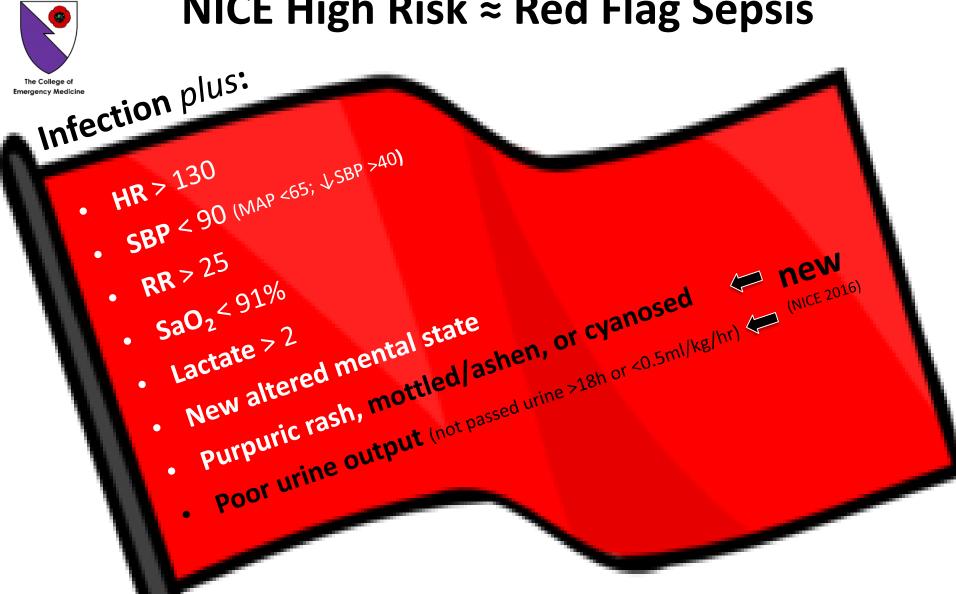
Consider using early warning scores in hospital settings.

Parental or carer concern is important and should be acknowledged.





# **NICE High Risk** ≈ Red Flag Sepsis

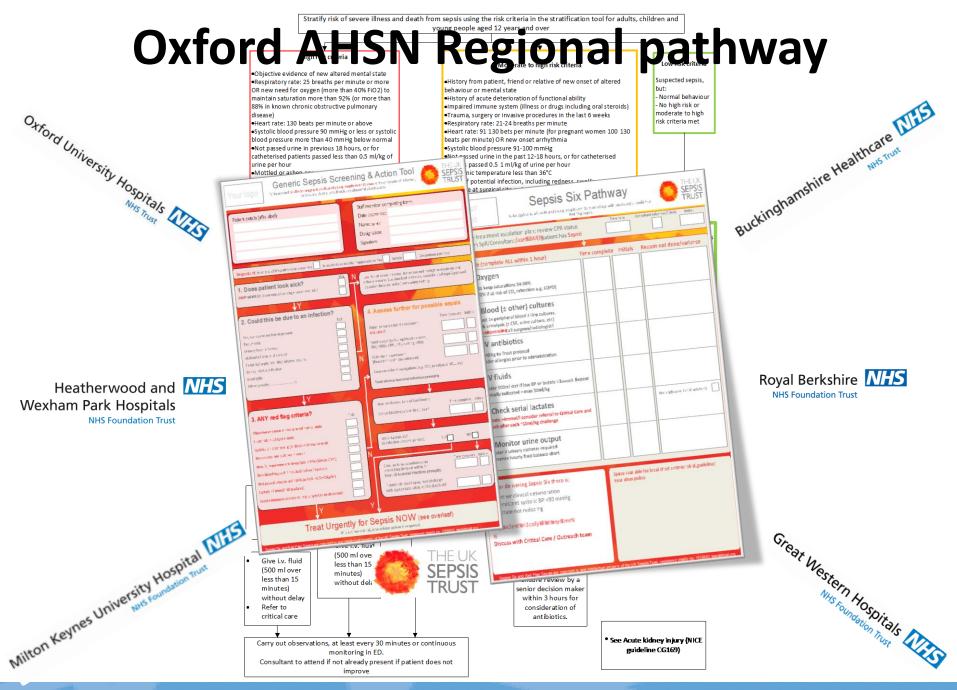




### **Care Bundle**

- IV Antibiotics
  - Pre-alert secondary care if high risk / red flag sepsis
  - Mechanism for delivery pre-hospital if >1h transfer
  - BenPen pre-hospital for suspected meningococcal disease
- IV Fluids guided by need / lactate
- Consider Oxygen target SaO<sub>2</sub> 94-98% (88-92% if risk of T2RF)
- Blood cultures
- Lactate
- Monitoring (urine output)
- Source Identification & Control
- Escalation criteria

## Sepsis Six



### Oxford AHSN Version

minor wording changes

simplified escalation criteria

#### Your logo

#### Sepsis Six Pathway

THE UK
SEPSIS
TRUST

Consultant informed? (tick)

To be applied to all adults and young people over 12 years of age with suspected or confirmed Red Flag Sepsis

Inform SpR/Consultant (use%BAR)%atient has Se					
	Ψ	/6		- 6	
Action (complete ALL within 1 hour)	Time complete	Initials	Reason no	t done/\	/ariance
1. Oxygen Aim to keep saturations 94-98%					
(88-92% if at risk of CO <sub>2</sub> retention e.g. COPD)					
2. Blood (± other) cultures					
At least 1x peripheral blood ± line cultures.  CXR & urinalysis (± CSF, urine culture, etc)  Source#ontrol##all surgeon/radiologist?					
3. IV antibiotics					
According to Trust protocol Consider allergies prior to administration.					
4. IV fluids					
Consider 500ml stat if low BP or lactate >2mmol/l. Repeat if clinically indicated – max 30ml/kg					
5. Check serial lactates			Not applicable	e- initial lact	ate <2
If lactate >4mmol/I consider referral to Critical Care and recheck after each ~10ml/kg challenge					
6. Monitor urine output					
Consider if urinary catheter required Commence hourly fluid balance chart.					

#### If after delivering Sepsis Six there is:

- further clinical deterioration
- persistent systolic BP <90 mmHg
- · lactate not reducing

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%

**Discuss with Critical Care / Outreach team** 

Space available for local short antimicrobial guideline/escalation policy

Sepsis Six and Red Flag Sepsis are copyright to and intellectual property of the UK Sepsis Trust, registered charity no. 1158843. sepsistrust.org

### Oxford AHSN Version 1

Early Warning Score

Staff member completing form:   Date (DDM-PYY):   Name (print):   Designation:   Signature:   Designation:   Discontinue pathway   Discontinue pathway	Your logo  Generic Sepsis Scree  To be applied to all non-pregnant adults and you infection, or who are clearly unwell	oung people over 16 years with symptoms of
1. Does patient look sick?  OR ↑NEWS ≥3 [Inpatients ≥5 or single parameter ≥3]  V 2. Could this be due to an infection? Yes, but source unclear at present Pneumonia Urinary Tract Infection Abdominal pain or distension Cellulitis/ septic arthritis/ infected wound Device-related infection Meningitis Other (specify:	Patient details (affix label):	Date (DD/MM/YY):  Name (print):  Designation:
1. Does patient look sick?  or ↑NEWS ≥3 [Inpatients ≥5 or single parameter ≥3]    VY    2. Could this be due to an infection?   Yes, but source unclear at present	Important: Is an end of life pathway in place? Yes Is escalation	clinically inappropriate? Yes Initials Discontinue pathway
2. Could this be due to an infection?  Yes, but source unclear at present Pneumonia Urinary Tract Infection Abdominal pain or distension Cellulitis/ septic arthritis/ infected wound Device-related infection Meningitis Other (specify:	1. Does patient look sick?	risk criteria present. Use standard protocols, consider discharge
Yes, but source unclear at present Pneumonia Urinary Tract Infection Abdominal pain or distension Cellulitis' septic arthritis' infected wound Device-related infection Meningitis Other (specify:	↓Y	↑N
3. ANY red flag criteria?  Objective evidence of new altered mental state  Heart rate > 130 per minute  Systolic B.P ≤ 90 mmHg (or drop >40 from normal)  Respiratory rate ≥ 25 per minute  New O₂ requirement to keep SaO₂ ≥92% (88% in COPD)  Non-blanching rash / mottled / ashen / cyanotic  Not passed urine in last ~18 h (or U.O. <0.5 ml/kg/hr)  Lactate ≥2 mmol/l (if available)  Severe immunosuppression, e.g. suspected neutropaenia  Treat Urgently for Sepsis NOW (see overleaf)	Yes, but source unclear at present Pneumonia Urinary Tract Infection Abdominal pain or distension Cellulitis/ septic arthritis/ infected wound Device-related infection Meningitis	Other risk factor(s) for severe infection <sup>1</sup> Acute deterioration in functional/mental state  Systolic BP 91-100 mmHg or new arrhythmia  Hypothermia  Patient, relative or health professional remains worried   1 E.g. recent surgery; immunosuppression; oral steroids; rapidly spreading cellulitis or possible necrotizing fasciitis (Is pain out of proportion to clinical signs of cellulitis?).
3. ANY red flag criteria?  Objective evidence of new altered mental state  Heart rate > 130 per minute  Systolic B.P ≤ 90 mmHg (or drop >40 from normal)  Respiratory rate ≥ 25 per minute  New O₂ requirement to keep SaO₂ ≥92% (88% in COPD)  Non-blanching rash / mottled / ashen / cyanotic  Not passed urine in last ~18 h (or U.O. <0.5 ml/kg/hr)  Lactate ≥2 mmol/l (if available)  Severe immunosuppression, e.g. suspected neutropaenia  Treat Urgently for Sepsis NOW (see overleaf)	Y	<b>↓</b> Y
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	Y	1137 3

Simplified Amber criteria

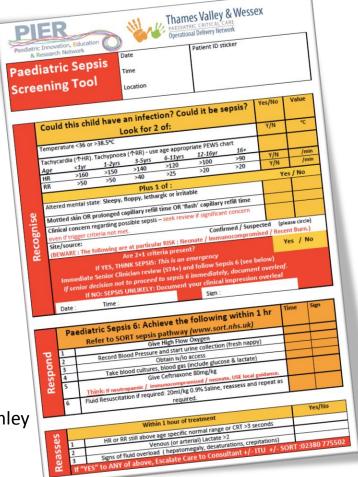
### Oxford AHSN Version 2

Your logo  Generic Sepsis Scre  To be applied to all non-pregnant adults and young p or who are clearly unwell with a	eople over 16 years with symptoms of infection,
Patient details (affix label):	Staff member completing form:  Date (DD/MM/YY):  Name (print):  Designation:  Signature:
Important: Is an end of life pathway in place? Yes Is escalation clinically	inappropriate? Yes Initials Discontinue pathway
1. Does patient look sick?  OR#↑NEWS ≥3 [Inpatients ≥5 or single parameter ≥3]?	Low risk of sepsis if normal behaviour and no high or moderate risk criteria present. Use standard protocols, consider discharge (approved by senior decision maker) with safety netting
VY	
2. Could this be due to an infection?	4. Assess further for possible sepsis
Yes, but source unclear at present Pneumonia	Organize early clinical assessment  USE SBAR!
Urinary Tract Infection Abdominal pain or distension	Send bloods (including blood cultures, FBC, U&Es, CRP, LFTs, clotting, VBG)
Cellulitis/ septic arthritis/ infected wound  Device-related infection	
Meningitis Other (specify:)	Consider other investigations (e.g. CXR, urinallysis ± MSU, etc)
	Treat obvious bacterial infections promptly
Υ	<b>+</b>
3. ANY red flag criteria?	Monitor observations at least hourly  Time complete Initials  Review blood results within 1 hour!
Objective evidence of new altered mental state	NOTE OF STREET STREET
Heart rate > 130 per minute  Systolic B.P ≤ 90 mmHg (or drop >40 from normal)	AKI or Lactate ≥2?
Respiratory rate ≥ 25 per minute !  New O <sub>2</sub> requirement to keep SpO <sub>2</sub> ≥92% (88% in COPD)	(& infection concern persists) YES NO NO
Non-blanching rash / mottled / ashen / cyanotic	Clinician to make antimicrobial Time complete_ Initials
Not passed urine in last ~18 h (or U.O. <0.5 ml/kg/hr)  Lactate ≥2 mmol/l (if available)	prescribing decision within 3h.  Treat all bacterial infections promptly.
Severe immunosuppression, e.g. suspected neutropaenia	If senior clinician happy, may discharge with appropriate safety netting [ED/AMU]
Y	
Treat Urgently for Sep	

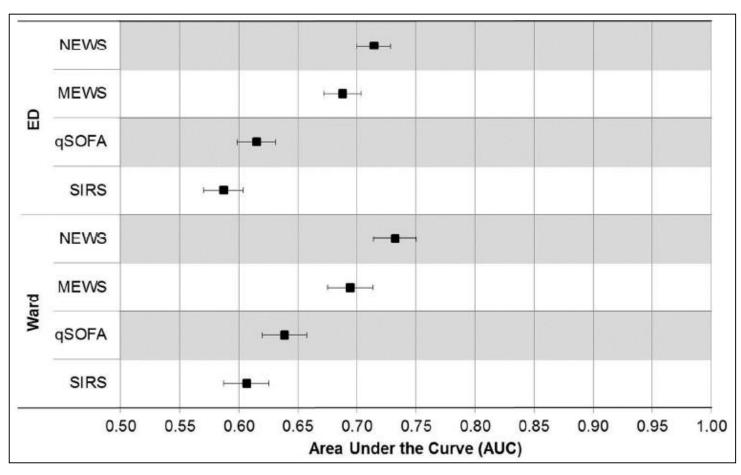
No amber criteria: assess all patients

# Paediatric screening tool

- Regional Collaboration
  - Paediatric Critical Care Network (PCCN)
  - Children's Network
  - Oxford & Wessex AHSNs
- Validated against NICE guideline
  - Audit of 227 notes (PCCN)
  - Equally sensitive, more specific
- Adopted by Oxford AHSN Sepsis group
- Implemented across Thames Valley
  - including Oxford, Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes, Frimley Health [Swindon agreed in principle]



# **Going forwards?**

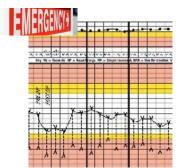


Churpek et al. AJRCCM 2016

# Oxford AHSN approach



Regional approach to implementation



- Integrate into existing pathways
  - Community
  - Acute admissions
  - Deteriorating patients (Track & Trigger / Early Warning Scores)



- Build on progress already made
  - 'Red Flag' Sepsis
  - Sepsis Six
  - Neutropaenic Sepsis



#### Standardising the language of deterioration in healthcare

### Dr Matt Inada-Kim and Mr Geoff Cooper

### **Wessex Patient Safety Collaborative**

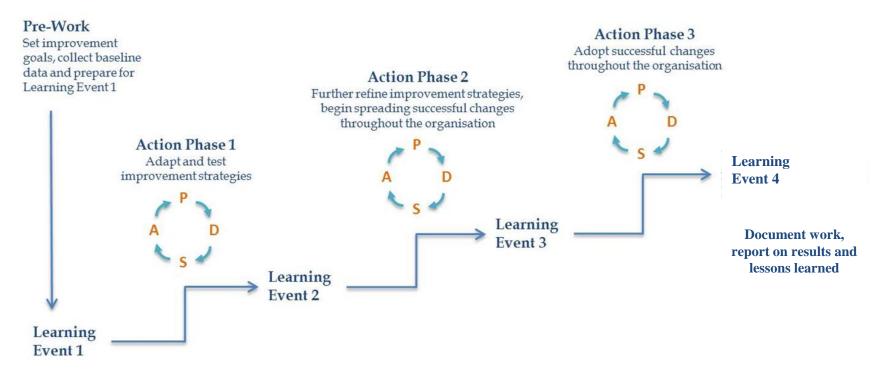
A Masterclass based on lessons learned from a collaborative pilot to standardise terminology relating to physical deterioration included a large general practice, 3 care homes, the acute hospital and the ambulance service.











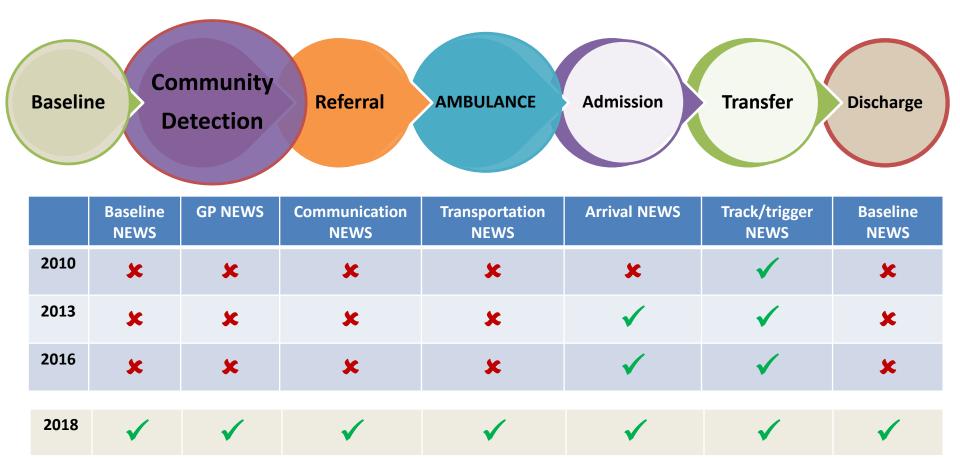
**On-going support** 

Phone conferences, monthly team reports, on-site peer-to-peer visits



#### Most Sepsis arises in the Community, but the focus is on hospitals

Hypotheses: A single, standardised language and pathway for sickness will improve outcomes Why should the calculation of risk only start in the hospital?



Matt Inada-Kim, Acute Physician, Hampshire Hospitals
National Clinical Advisor, Clinical Lead for Physical Deterioration & Sepsis, Wessex PSC

### 1. We need to focus on the Community

#### NCEPOD Sepsis cases prehospital Obs

Vital signs recorded	<b>GP</b> (n=129)	%	Paramedic (n=163)	%
Temperature	34	26.4	146	89.6
Blood pressure	32	24.8	157	96.3
Heart Rate	40	31.0	163	100
Respiratory Rate	8	6.2	159	97.5
AVPU	8	6.2	144	88.3

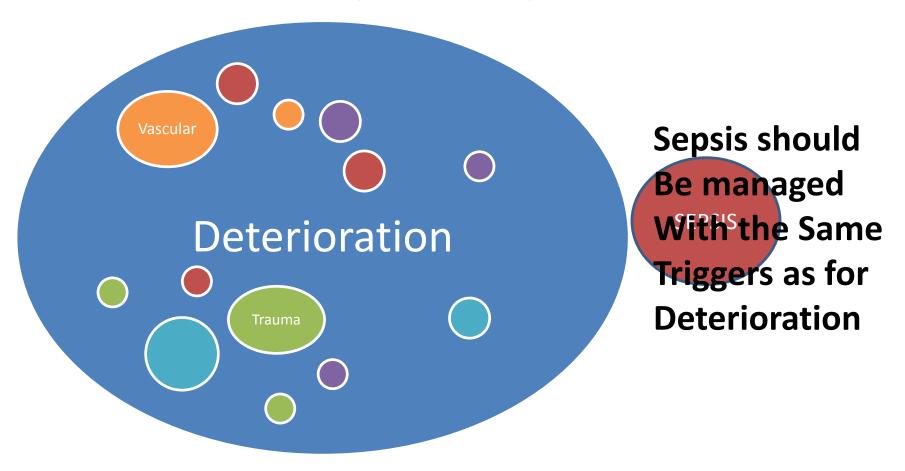


"National Early Warning Score (NEWS) should be used in both primary care and secondary care for patients where sepsis is suspected. This will aid the recognition of the severity of sepsis and can be used to prioritise urgency of care"

NCEPOD 2015

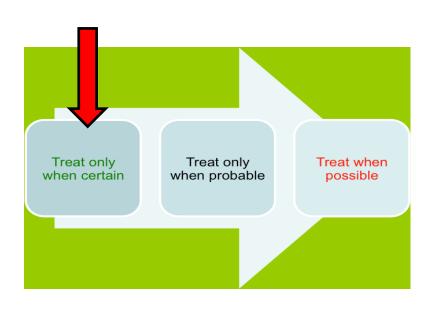
### 2. Separating Sepsis from Deterioration is harmful

Could this be sepsis in every deterioration



But not all deterioration is Sepsis

### 3. We don't treat *sepsis*, we treat on *suspicion*

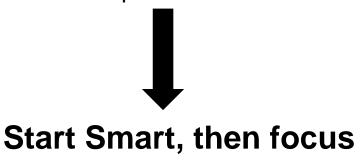


Harm of Antibiotic treatment

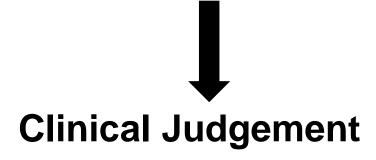
Benefit of Early antibiotics

Antibiotic resistance

Rx Broad spectrum antimicrobials



Protocolised Diagnosis & Rx



#### 4. In order to improve, Processes must be hardwired to Outcomes



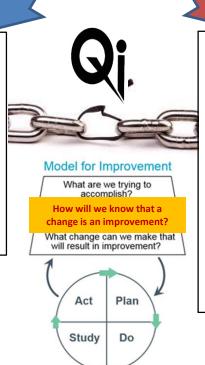


#### **PROCESSES**

Screening

Administration time

Antibiotic reviewing



#### **OUTCOMES**

Analyse the **"Suspicion of sepsis"** group

Mortality / ICU admissions

Length of stay/ comorbidites

Benchmark data over time and share results

Evaluate the efficacy of sepsis improvement

### 4. Patients define their badness by where they are managed...

Location	Label	"n"/year (estimated)	Mortality (estimated)	NEWS (off baseline)	Antibiotics





Stays at home	"Self limiting illness"	12 million	<0.1%	0-1	-
Sees GP but not referred	"Infection"	8 million	<1%	0-2	-/PO
Referred but not admitted	"Infection"	400,000	2%	0-3	PO/IV

### Hospital



Suspicion of Sepsis (SOS) = All bacterial infection derived codes (ICD 10)

≈ Sepsis outcomes measurement & Evaluation of sepsis screening/improvement

Hospitalized (mild)	Suspicion of Sepsis	1,000,000 <sub>(MIK)</sub>	7%	≥3	PO/IV
Hospitalized (moderate)	Suspected Sepsis	300,000	23%	≥5	IV
Admitted to ICU	Suspected Sepsis	36,000(icnarc)	35%	≥7	IV

### **Wessex PSC Outcomes from an Acute focus on Sepsis**



2013-14

2014-15

2015-16

2011-12

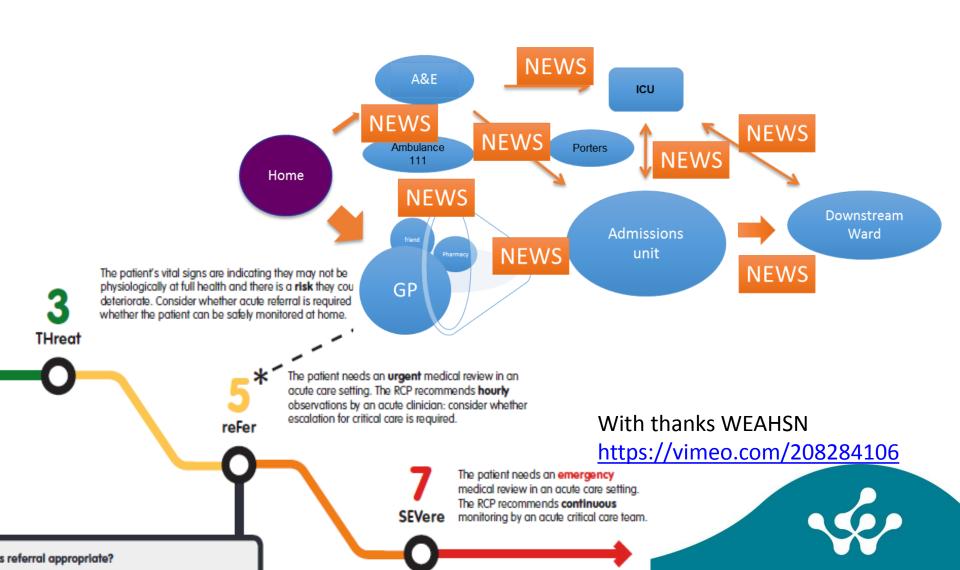
2012-13



2016-17 YTD

#### "Speaking the same language is a game changer"

Mr AS- sepsis survivor



### **Pan pathway Metrics**

Time point	Mr Sutton	Mrs X
Patient becomes unwell	20:00	20:00
Calls GP reception		09:00
GP Appointment		10:30
Ambulance call	20:08	10:45
Ambulance dispatch	20:08	14:00
Ambulance arrival	20:21	15:00
Ambulance departure	20:49	15:45
Pre alert	$\square$	×
A&E arrival	21:20	16:00
Antibiotic prescription	21:35	17:45
Antibiotic administration	21:45	18:35
Delay onset to antibiotics	1:45	22:35
Discharge	3 days	17 days
Function	Independent	Carer BD

### **Dialects & Tribes**

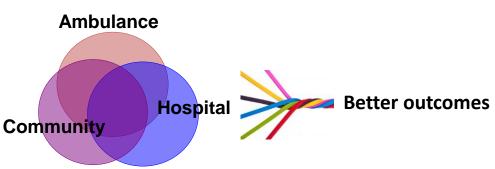
A Collaborative improvement strategy







Mark Ainsworth-Smith, Michael Lambert, Matthew Richardson





#### **System**

#### The same physiological language

Integrated pathways co designed A single tool

Collaborative pan pathway Ownership Sustained engagement Seamless transitions of care

#### Strategy

- Align Hospitals
- Implement in Ambulances
- 3. Community pilot
- Widespread dissemination









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#### **GP NEWS Pilot**

16 August 2016

Dear Colleague,

#### 120 Consecutive admissions

**80 SOS** 

With Suspicion of Sepsis (SOS) codes 25k city population, 11% mortality

	RR	Sp0 <sub>2</sub>	Temp	SBP	HR
All	20.7%	72.4%	75.9%	75.9%	86.29
Home Visits	21.1%	68.4%	84.2%	89.5%	84.2
Surgery	20.0%	80.0%	60.0%	50.0%	90.0

#### RE: Use of the National Early Warning Score in Primary Care

As GPs we not only want to provide the best care for our patients but also when we are concerned about patients, we need to be able to access the care they require in a timely manner. In addition, when patients' health deteriorates it is always helpful to have robust evidence to justify how the decision was made regarding the actions taken by individual clinician.

The National Early Warning Score is being used routinely in hospitals, by the Ambulance Service and is going to be available for use in Care Home Homes. It is therefore important that not only general practice understands how this is used by the wider NHS but also how it may be a useful tool to be used in general practice. This tool has been tested in Mid Hampshire and has been found to be helpful.

It is estimated that integration of NEWS into the whole care pathway across England could save 6000 lives per year. A NEWS App can be downloaded for Android and Apple devises by searching NEWS and sepsis screen.

#### What is NEWS?

This is a validated scoring system recommended that will help and support clinicians and not replace clinical skills. A score of 0-3 is allocated to seven physiological measurements and these are:

- Respiration Rate
- Oxygen Saturations
- Supplemental Oxygen
- Temperature

- Systolic BP
- **Heart Rate**
- · Level of Consciousness (defined on the AVPU system)

The NEWS scores are directly linked to mortality, the higher the score above what would normally be expected for the patient, the worse the prognosis.

When a single admission NEWS score is taken in patients with symptoms of infection (the commonest reason for admission) the mortality equates to:

NEWS =	NEV
Great predictor for admission	
No additional time for consultation	

NEWS Score	Mortality
0	0.5%
<5	5.5%
≥5	22%
≥7	27%
≥9	38%

#### Baseline observations

Patients with chronic hypoxic states (e.g. COPD) are like to always score for hypoxia even when well; knowing their baseline oxygen level and the presence of a deterioration in this and in their function is the best guide to determine admission

#### **NEWS in Care Homes**

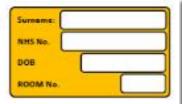




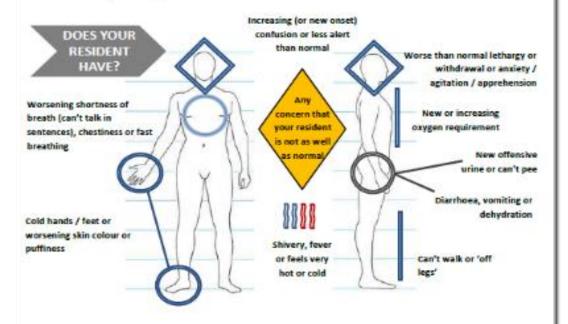


#### National Early Warning Score





#### Adult Physiological Observation & Escalation Chart



If you answer yes to any of these triggers, your resident is at risk of deterioration

COMMUNICATE **ESCALATE USING** USING SBAR AND ESCALATION RECORD YOUR ACTIONS

- Signs of Deterioration/Sepsis
- **Baseline NEWS**
- **Obs Chart**
- **Escalation directions**
- Communication tool 5.

#### **CCG / AHSN Injected QI capacity**

- Baseline 100 patients
- 27 **PDSA** cycles
- 3 **pilot** sites
- 4 training sessions
- 5 **focus** groups
- 5 case studies
- 100% +ve feedback

Now spreading pan Wessex + Across community care







# SUSPICION OF SEPSIS (SOS)

Measuring patient outcomes

How do we evaluate the impact of local, regional and national sepsis programmes?

Bethan Page (Oxford AHSN)

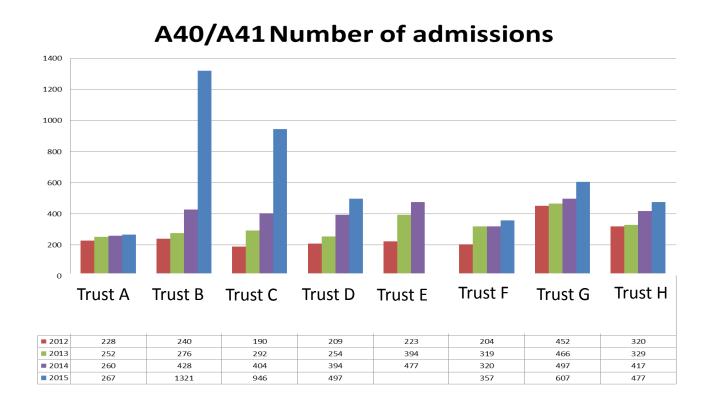
In collaboration with Dr Matt Inada-Kim (Wessex AHSN)

### Measurement & surveillance

- Surveillance needed to monitor sepsis burden and assess impact of interventions
- Ideally need readily available metrics which can be applied and compared nationally
- HES data is most readily available

# Limitations of HES sepsis codes

- Sensitivity of HES sepsis codes (A40/A41) is poor
- Ascertainment bias as sepsis initiatives (including CQUIN) change coding practice



# Suspicion of sepsis (SOS)

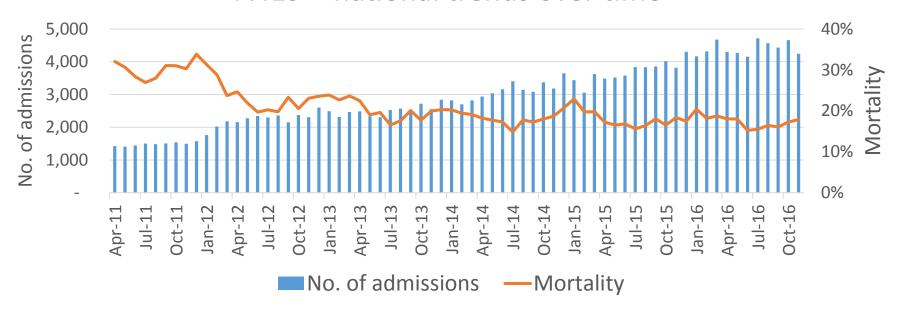
Need an improved case definition for surveillance.

'SOS' codes include all bacterial infections.

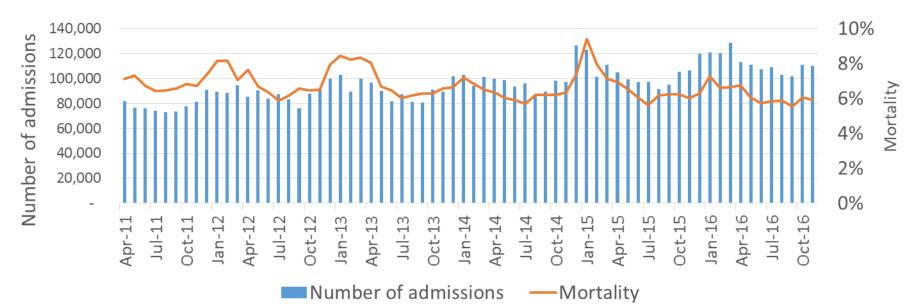
### Advantages include:

- More sensitive
- Identifies wider group of patients at whom many of the sepsis interventions are directed
- Should be less susceptible to ascertainment bias (due to changing coding practices)

#### A419 – national trends over time



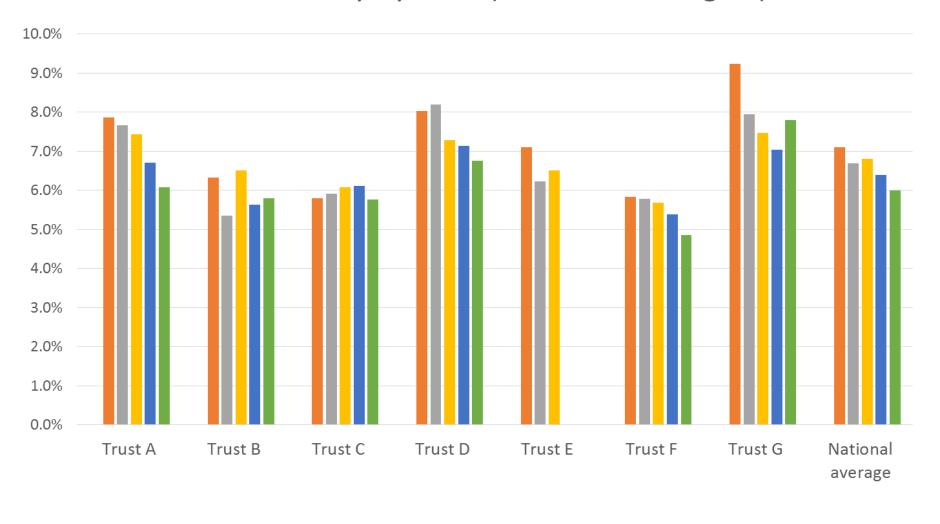
#### All SOS codes – national trends over time



# SOS outcomes for Oxford AHSN region

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17* (up to sept)
Admissions	52357	55077	63008	67817	33990
Mortality	6.7%	6.3%	6.3%	5.8%	5.2%
Length of stay	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.3	5.3
Readmissions	6.0%	6.2%	6.3%	6.6%	6.2%

### SOS mortality by Trust (Oxford AHSN region)



**■** 2013-14 **■** 2014-15 **■** 2015-16

**2016-17** 

**2012-13** 

# Future plans

- 30 day mortality (currently inpatient mortality)
- Incorporate ICU HES data
- Link to blood culture data to validate methodology
- NHS England collaboration to use methodology nationally
- A short guide for identifying SOS patients in your organisations and regions is available to take away today



Paper in press with BMJ Open this month
(Inada-Kim, Page, Maqsood & Vincent, 2017)



#### A GUIDE FOR IDENTIFYING SUSPICION OF SEPSIS USING HOSPITAL EPISODE STATISTICS

The lack of suitable outcome measures for sepsis have hampered evaluation of local and national campaigns and improvement programs. In a recent paper we developed a methodology for identifying patients with 'suspicion of sepsis' who are the critical target group both for clinical intervention and for sepsis detection and improvement programmes. The accompanying paper (Inada Kim et al, BMJ Open 2017) describes our approach and findings but contains only a limited account of the coding and analysis. This brief guide complements the paper and provides a full description of our coding strategy to allow others to identify suspicion of sepsis patients in their own organisation or region.

#### The problem with simply using sepsis codes

Sepsis is coded in Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data with codes starting with A4o/41. These codes are used when patients have developed sepsis either before or during hospital admission. While this is important information we need to adopt a broader perspective to fully explore the impact of sepsis improvement programmes. The main reasons for this are: