



Wessex
Academic Health
Science Network

Oxford Academic Health Science Network
PATIENT SAFETY

Wessex Patient Safety Collaborative

Sepsis progress & challenges: **What are we doing regionally?**



Andrew Brent

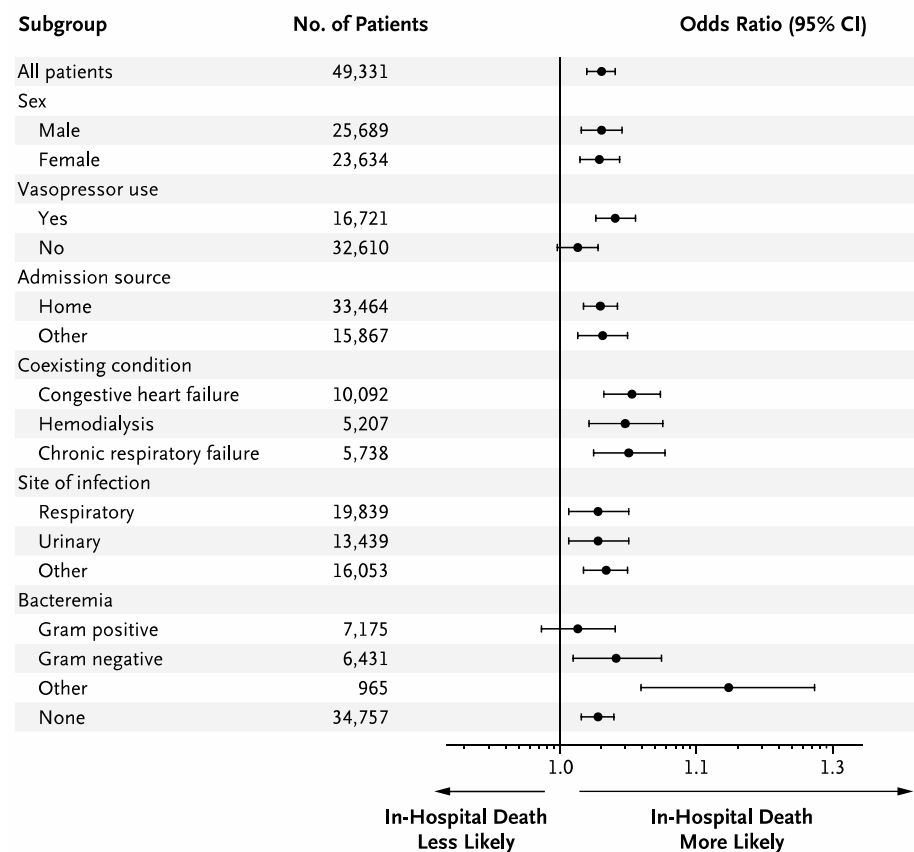
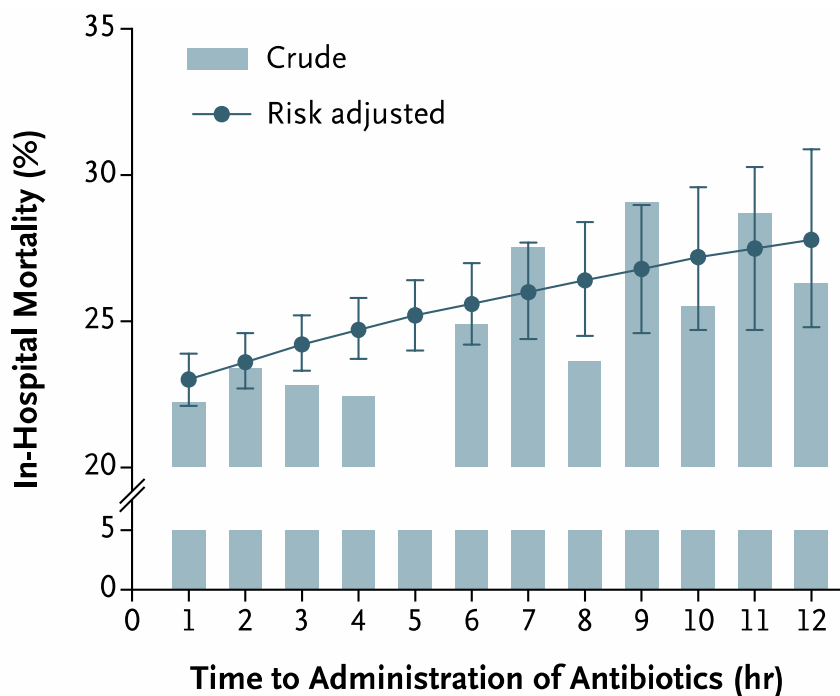
Infectious Diseases & Medicine Consultant

Sepsis Lead, OUH & Oxford Academic Health Sciences Network



Time to Treatment and Mortality during Mandated Emergency Care for Sepsis

49,331 patients at 149 New York hospitals



Risk adjusted OR for in-hospital mortality 1.04 (1.02-1.05) per hour

Oxford AHSN Sepsis Group

Aims



- Share quality improvement initiatives
- Share resources (e.g. for training)
- Share data (process & outcome; combine to max learning)
- Joint quality improvement projects (\pm research)
- Collaboratively review & apply guidelines

Sepsis

Sepsis: recognition, assessment and early management

NICE
Sept
Meth
July

Managing suspected sepsis in adults and young people aged 18 years and over - in an acute hospital setting

Stratify risk of severe illness and death from sepsis using the risk criteria in the stratification tool for adults, children and young people aged 12 years and over

High risk criteria

- Objective evidence of new altered mental state
- Respiratory rate: 25 breaths per minute or more OR new need for oxygen (more than 40% FiO₂) to maintain saturation more than 92% (or more than 98% in known chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Heart rate: 130 beats per minute or above
- Systolic blood pressure 90 mmHg or less or systolic blood pressure more than 40 mmHg below normal
- Not passed urine in previous 18 hours, or for catheterised patients passed less than 0.5 ml/kg of urine per hour
- Mottled or ashen appearance
- Cyanosis of skin, lips or tongue
- Non-blanching rash of skin

1 high risk criterion

Arrange immediate review by senior clinical decision maker (person authorised to prescribe antibiotics, such as CT3/ST3 and above or advanced nurse practitioner).

- Carry out venous blood test for the following:
- blood gas including glucose and lactate measurement
 - blood culture
 - full blood count
 - C-reactive protein
 - urea and electrolytes
 - creatinine
 - clotting screen.

Give intravenous antibiotics without delay, and at least within one hour of identification of high risk criteria.

Use an intravenous antimicrobial from agreed local formulary and in line with local (where available) or national guidelines.

Discuss with consultant

Lactate > 4 mmol/L OR SBP < 90 mmHg

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED.

Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Consider i.v. fluids.

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Moderate to high risk criteria

- History from patient, friend or relative of new onset of altered behaviour or mental state
- History of acute deterioration of functional ability
- Impaired immune system (illness or drugs including oral steroids)
- Trauma, surgery or invasive procedures in the last 6 weeks
- Respiratory rate: 21/24 breaths per minute
- Heart rate: 90/130 beats per minute (for pregnant women 100/130 beats per minute) OR new onset arrhythmia
- Systolic blood pressure 91/100 mmHg
- Not passed urine in the past 12/18 hours, or for catheterised patients passed 0.5/1 ml/kg of urine per hour
- Tympanic temperature less than 36°C
- Signs of potential infection, including redness, swelling or discharge at surgical site or breakdown of wound

2 or more moderate to high risk criteria OR SBP: 91/100 mmHg

Clinician to review person's condition and venous lactate results within 1 hour

Carry out venous blood test for the following:

- blood gas including lactate measurement
- blood culture
- full blood count
- C-reactive protein
- urea and electrolytes
- creatinine.

Lactate > 2 mmol/L OR assessed as having AKI* = escalate to high risk

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED.

Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Consider i.v. fluids.

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED.

Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Consider i.v. fluids.

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Low risk criteria

Suspected sepsis, but:

- No high risk or moderate to high risk criteria met

Suspected sepsis and no high risk or high to moderate risk criteria met

Clinical assessment and manage according to clinical judgement

Manage definitive condition / infection if diagnosed

Ensure review by a senior decision maker within 3 hours for consideration of antibiotics.

If no definitive condition identified, repeat structured assessment at least hourly

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED.

Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Consider i.v. fluids.

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED.

Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Consider i.v. fluids.

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED.

Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Consider i.v. fluids.

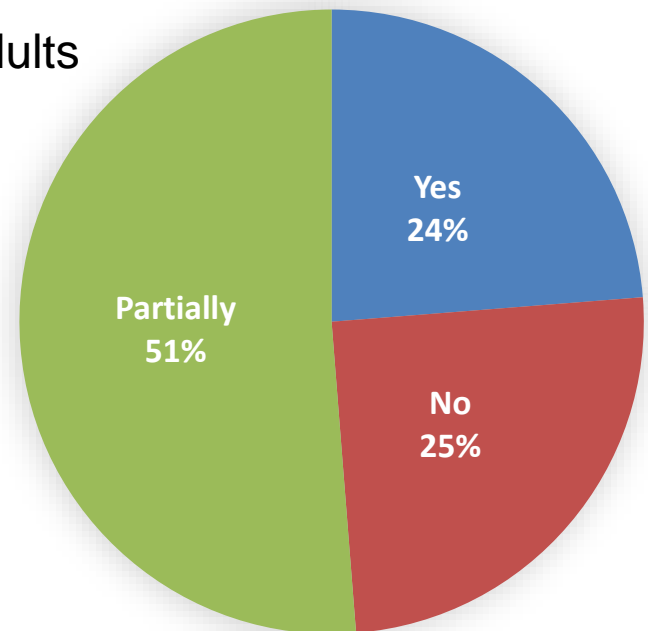
Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

Refer to critical care

National Sepsis Stakeholder Audit

Will you be implementing NICE?

Adults



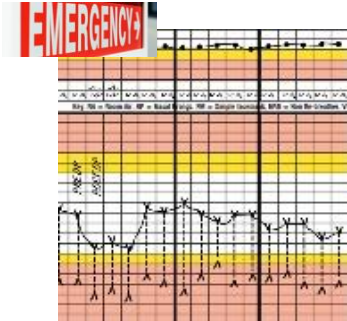
82 respondents
>50 acute Trusts

* See Acute kidney injury (NICE guideline CG169)

Oxford AHSN approach



- Regional approach to implementation



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



- Keep simple; 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 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 contact 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 \approx Red Flag Sepsis

Infection plus:

- HR > 130
- SBP < 90 (MAP < 65 ; \downarrow SBP > 40)
- RR > 25
- SaO₂ $< 91\%$
- Lactate > 2

- New altered mental state

- Purpuric rash, mottled/ashen, or cyanosed

- Poor urine output (not passed urine > 18 h or < 0.5 ml/kg/hr)

← **new**
(NICE 2016)

NICE 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 SaO₂ 94-98% (88-92% if risk of T2RF)
- **Blood cultures**
- **Lactate**
- **Monitoring** (urine output)
- **Source Identification & Control**
- **Escalation criteria**

**Sepsis
Six**



Oxford AHSN Regional pathway

Stratify risk of severe illness and death from sepsis using the risk criteria in the stratification tool for adults, children and young people aged 12 years and over

Low risk criteria

- Objective evidence of new altered mental state
- Respiratory rate: 25 breaths per minute or more OR new need for oxygen (more than 40% FiO2) to maintain saturation more than 92% (or more than 88% in known chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Heart rate: 130 beats per minute or above
- Systolic blood pressure 90 mmHg or less or systolic blood pressure more than 40 mmHg below normal
- Not passed urine in previous 18 hours, or for catheterised patients passed less than 0.5 ml/kg of urine per hour
- Mottled or ashen skin

Moderate to high risk criteria

- History from patient, friend or relative of new onset of altered behaviour or mental state
- History of acute deterioration of functional ability
- Impaired immune system (illness or drugs including oral steroids)
- Trauma, surgery or invasive procedures in the last 6 weeks
- Respiratory rate: 21-24 breaths per minute
- Heart rate: 91-130 beats per minute (for pregnant women 100-130 beats per minute) OR new onset arrhythmia
- Systolic blood pressure 91-100 mmHg
- Not passed urine in the past 12-18 hours, or for catheterised patients passed 0.5-1 ml/kg of urine per hour
- Core temperature less than 36°C
- Potential infection, including redness, swelling or pain at surgical site

Low risk criteria

- Suspected sepsis, but:
- Normal behaviour
- No high risk or moderate to high risk criteria met

Generic Sepsis Screening & Action Tool

THE UK SEPSIS TRUST

Staff member completing form:

Date completed: _____

Name of patient: _____

Drug ward: _____

Signature: _____

1. Does patient look sick?

2. Could this be due to an infection?

3. ANY red flag criteria?

4. Assess further for possible sepsis

5. Treat Urgently for Sepsis NOW (see overleaf)

Sepsis Six Pathway

THE UK SEPSIS TRUST

Time complete Initials Reason not done/variance

Oxygen

Blood (± other) cultures

V antibiotics

V fluids

Check serial lactates

Monitor urine output

Reviewing Sepsis Six there is:

Discuss with Critical Care / Outreach team

- Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay
- Refer to critical care

Give i.v. fluid (500 ml over less than 15 minutes) without delay

THE UK SEPSIS TRUST

Carry out observations, at least every 30 minutes or continuous monitoring in ED. Consultant to attend if not already present if patient does not improve

Review by a senior decision maker within 3 hours for consideration of antibiotics.

• See Acute kidney injury (NICE guideline CG169)

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust

Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Oxford AHSN Version 1

Early
Warning
Score

Your logo

Generic Sepsis Screening & Action Tool

To be applied to all non-pregnant adults and young people over 16 years with symptoms of infection, or who are clearly unwell with any abnormal observations



THE UK
SEPSIS
TRUST

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 \uparrow NEWS ≥ 3 [Inpatients ≥ 5 or single parameter ≥ 3]

Tick

☐

N

Y

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

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:)

Tick

☐
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☐
☐
☐

N

Y

N

4. Any amber flags (other sepsis concern)?

Other risk factor(s) for severe infection¹

Acute deterioration in functional/mental state

Systolic BP 91-100 mmHg or new arrhythmia

Hypothermia

Patient, relative or health professional remains worried

Tick

☐
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☐

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?).

[N.B. severe immunosuppression incl. neutropaenia = 'red flag']

Y

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 O_2 requirement to keep $SpO_2 \geq 92\%$ (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

Tick

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☐
☐

N

Y

Send bloods (including blood cultures, FBC, U&Es, CRP, LFTs, clotting, VBG)

Time complete Initials

Organize early clinical assessment

USE SBAR! Review results within 1 hour

Time clinician attended

AKI or Lactate ≥ 2 ?

(& infection concern persists)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Clinician to make antimicrobial prescribing decision within 3h.

Treat all bacterial infections promptly.

Time complete Initials

If senior clinician happy, may discharge with appropriate safety netting [ED/AMU]

Treat Urgently for Sepsis NOW (see overleaf)

This is time critical, immediate action is required.

Simplified
Amber
criteria

Oxford AHSN Version 2

Early
Warning
Score

Your logo

Generic Sepsis Screening & Action Tool

To be applied to all non-pregnant adults and young people over 16 years with symptoms of infection, or who are clearly unwell with any abnormal observations



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]

Tick

☐
☐

N

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

↓ Y

2. Could this be due to an infection?

Tick

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:)

☐

N

4. Assess further for possible sepsis

Organize early clinical assessment

USE SBAR!

Time complete Initials

Send bloods (including blood cultures, FBC, U&Es, CRP, LFTs, clotting, VBG)

Full clinical assessment
[Record time clinician attended]

Consider other investigations (e.g. CXR, urinalysis \pm MSU, etc)

Treat obvious bacterial infections promptly

↓

Monitor observations at least hourly

Time complete Initials

Review blood results within 1 hour!

↓

AKI or Lactate ≥ 2 ?
(& infection concern persists)

YES ☐

NO ☐

N

Clinician to make antimicrobial
prescribing decision within 3h.

Treat all bacterial infections promptly.

Time complete Initials

If senior clinician happy, may discharge
with appropriate safety netting [ED/AMU]

↓ Y

Y

Treat Urgently for Sepsis NOW (see overleaf)

This is time critical, immediate action is required.

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]

PIER
Paediatric Innovation, Education & Research Network

Thames Valley & Wessex
PAEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE
Operational Delivery Network

Paediatric Sepsis Screening Tool

Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____ Patient ID sticker: _____

Could this child have an infection? Could it be sepsis?

Look for 2 of:

Temperature	<36 or >38.5°C	Yes/No	Value
Tachycardia (↑HR)	Use age appropriate PEWS chart	Y/N	°C
Tachypnoea (↑RR)	Use age appropriate PEWS chart	Y/N	/min
Age	<1yr 1-2yrs 3-5yrs 6-11yrs 12-16yr 16+	Y/N	/min
HR	>160 >150 >140 >120 >100 >90	Y/N	/min
RR	>50 >50 >40 >25 >20 >20	Y/N	/min

Plus 1 of:

Altered mental state: Sleepy, floppy, lethargic or irritable	Yes / No
Mottled skin OR prolonged capillary refill time OR 'flash' capillary refill time	Yes / No
Clinical concern regarding possible sepsis – seek review if significant concern even if trigger criteria not met.	Yes / No

Recognise

Site/source: _____

Confirmed / Suspected (please circle)

BEWARE: The following are at particular RISK: Neonate / Immunocompromised / Recent Burn.

Are 2+1 criteria present?

IF YES, THINK SEPSIS: This is an emergency

Immediate Senior Clinician review (ST4+) and follow Sepsis 6 (see below)

If senior decision not to proceed to sepsis 6 immediately, document overleaf.

IF NO: SEPSIS UNLIKELY: Document your clinical impression overleaf

Date: _____ Time: _____ Sign: _____

Paediatric Sepsis 6: Achieve the following within 1 hr

Refer to SORT sepsis pathway (www.sort.nhs.uk)

1	2	3	4	5	6	Time	Sign
Give High Flow Oxygen	Record Blood Pressure and start urine collection (fresh nappy)	Obtain i/v access	Take blood cultures, blood gas (include glucose & lactate)	Give Ceftriaxone 80mg/kg	Fluid Resuscitation if required: 20ml/kg 0.9% Saline, reassess and repeat as required.		

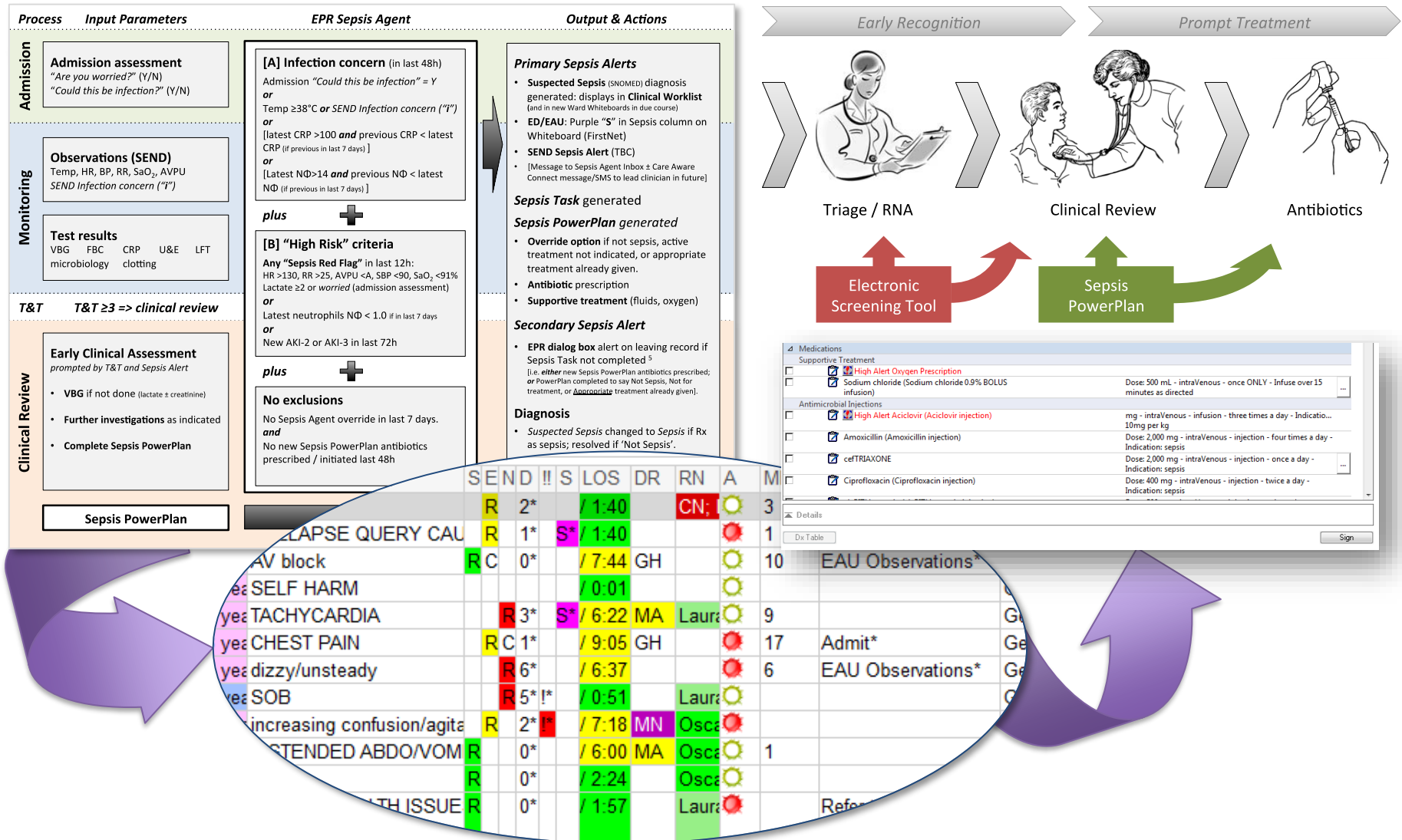
Respond

Reassess

1	2	3	Yes/No
HR or RR still above age specific normal range or CRT >3 seconds			
Venous (or arterial) Lactate >2			
Signs of fluid overload (hepatomegaly, desaturations, crepitations)			

If "YES" to ANY of above, Escalate Care to Consultant +/- ITU +/- SORT :02380 775502

Technological innovation (OUH)



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.
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ASSESSMENT

Assess people with suspected infection to identify:

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- 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 contact 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.

National Early Warning Score (NEWS)

NEWS KEY 0 1 2 3		NAME:	D.O.B.	ADMISSION DATE:	
DATE TIME				DATE TIME	
RESP. RATE	≥25			3	≥25
	21-24			2	21-24
	12-20			1	12-20
	9-11			0	9-11
SpO ₂	≥96			0	≥96
	94-95			1	94-95
	92-93			2	92-93
	≤91			3	≤91
Inspired O ₂ %	%			0	%
TEMP	≥39°			3	≥39°
	38°			2	38°
	37°			1	37°
	36°			0	36°
BLOOD PRESSURE	≤35°			3	≤35°
HEART RATE	>140			3	>140
	130			2	130
	120			1	120
	110			0	110
Level of Consciousness	Alert			0	Alert
	V / P / U			1	V / P / U
BLOOD SUGAR					
TOTAL NEWS SCORE					
Additional Parameters	Pain Score				Pain Score
Urine Output					
Monitoring Frequency					
Escalation Plan Y/N n/a					
Initials					

PHYSIOLOGICAL PARAMETERS	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
Respiration Rate	≤8		9 - 11	12 - 20		21 - 24	≥25
Oxygen Saturations	≤91	92 - 93	94 - 95	≥96			
Any Supplemental Oxygen		Yes		No			
Temperature	≤35.0		35.1 - 36.0	36.1 - 38.0	38.1 - 39.0	≥39.1	
Systolic BP	≤90	91 - 100	101 - 110	111 - 219			≥220
Heart Rate	≤40		41 - 50	51 - 90	91 - 110	111 - 130	≥131
Level of Consciousness				A			V, P, or U

NEW scores	Clinical risk
0	Low
Aggregate 1–4	
RED score* (Individual parameter scoring 3)	Medium
Aggregate 5–6	
Aggregate 7 or more	High

National Early Warning Score (NEWS)

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



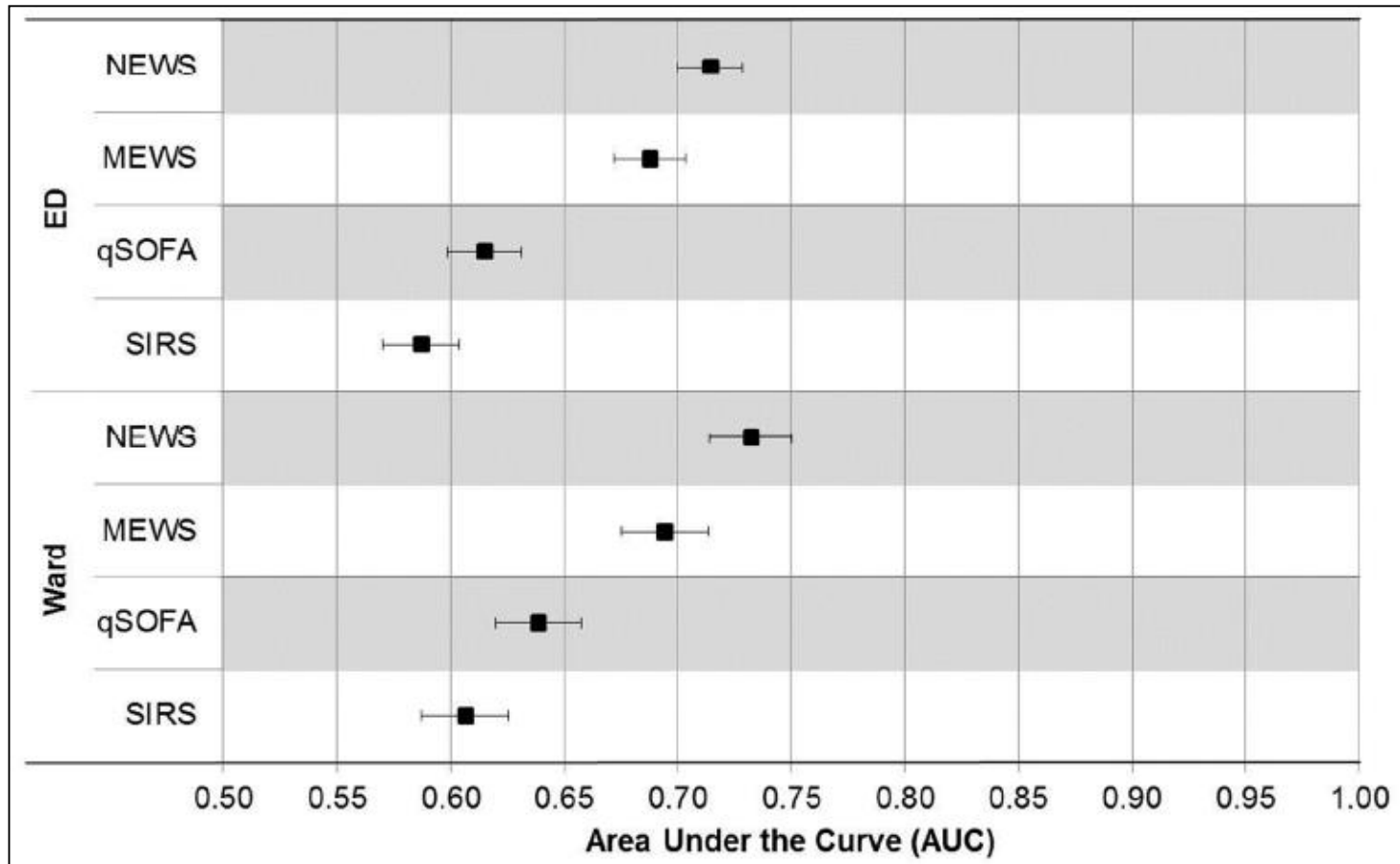
A single admission NEWS score in patients with symptoms of infection predicts mortality

Vital Signs in General Practice

- Vital signs inconsistently recorded
- Safety netting advice not routinely documented
- Currently exploring NEWS implementation in primary care

Audit of 123 patients admitted to hospital and vital signs recorded at last GP visit

NEWS and Sepsis



Churpek et al. AJRCCM 2016



What's new in NEWS2?

**New**

NHS England and the NEWS

NHS England and NHS Improvement have approved and endorsed use of the NEWS as the recommended early warning scoring system for use in adults across the NHS in England, to standardise the approach to detecting and grading the severity of acute illness.

The NEWS has also been endorsed as the recommended early warning system to detect acute clinical illness/deterioration due to sepsis in patients with an infection or at risk of infection.

The NEWS and sepsis

- 22 We recommend that **sepsis** should be considered in any patient with a known infection, signs or symptoms of infection, or in patients at high risk of infection, and a **NEW score of 5 or more** – ‘think sepsis’.
- 23 We recommend that patients with suspected infection and a NEW score of 5 or more require urgent assessment and intervention by a clinical team competent in the management of sepsis and urgent transfer to hospital or transfer to a higher-dependency clinical area within hospitals, for ongoing clinical care.

Oxford AHSN Version 2

Early
Warning
Score

Your logo

Generic Sepsis Screening & Action Tool

To be applied to all non-pregnant adults and young people over 16 years with symptoms of infection, or who are clearly unwell with any abnormal observations



THE UK
SEPSIS
TRUST

mic Health Science Network

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]

Tick

☐
☐

↓ Y

2. Could this be due to an infection?

Tick

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:)

☐
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☐
☐

N

↓ Y

3. ANY red flag criteria?

Tick

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 O_2 requirement to keep $SpO_2 \geq 92\%$ (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

☐
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N

↓ Y

↓ Y

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

4. Assess further for possible sepsis

Organize early clinical assessment

USE SBAR!

Send bloods (including blood cultures, FBC, U&Es, CRP, LFTs, clotting, VBG)

Full clinical assessment
[Record time clinician attended]

Consider other investigations (e.g. CXR, urinalysis \pm MSU, etc)

Treat obvious bacterial infections promptly

Time complete Initials

☐ ☐

☐ ☐

☐ ☐

Monitor observations at least hourly

Review blood results within 1 hour!

Time complete Initials

☐ ☐

AKI or Lactate ≥ 2 ?
(& infection concern persists)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Clinician to make antimicrobial
prescribing decision within 3h.

Treat all bacterial infections promptly.

If senior clinician happy, may discharge
with appropriate safety netting [ED/AMU]

Time complete Initials

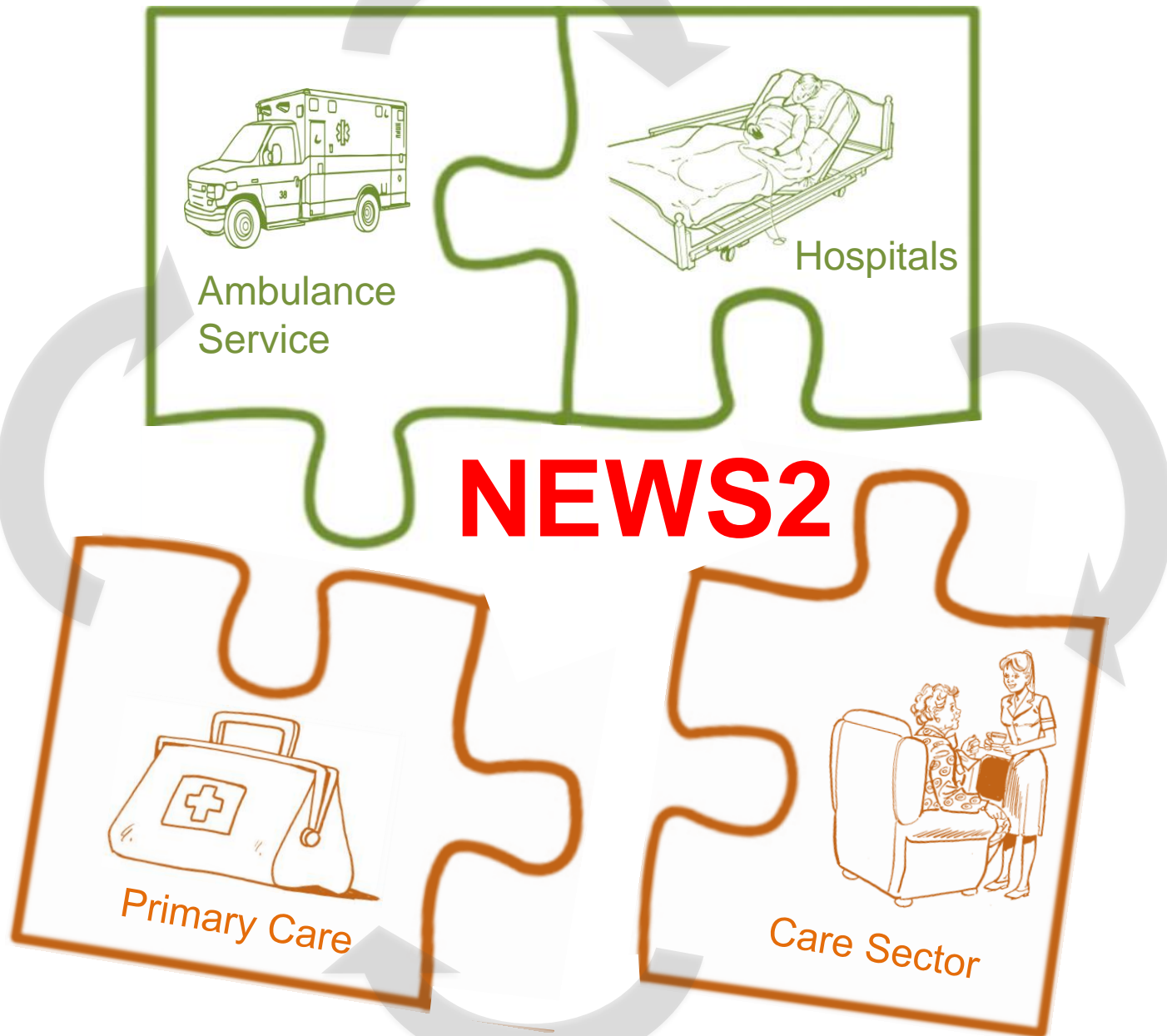
☐ ☐

☐ ☐

No amber
criteria:
assess all
patients

Treat Urgently for Sepsis NOW (see overleaf)

This is time critical, immediate action is required.



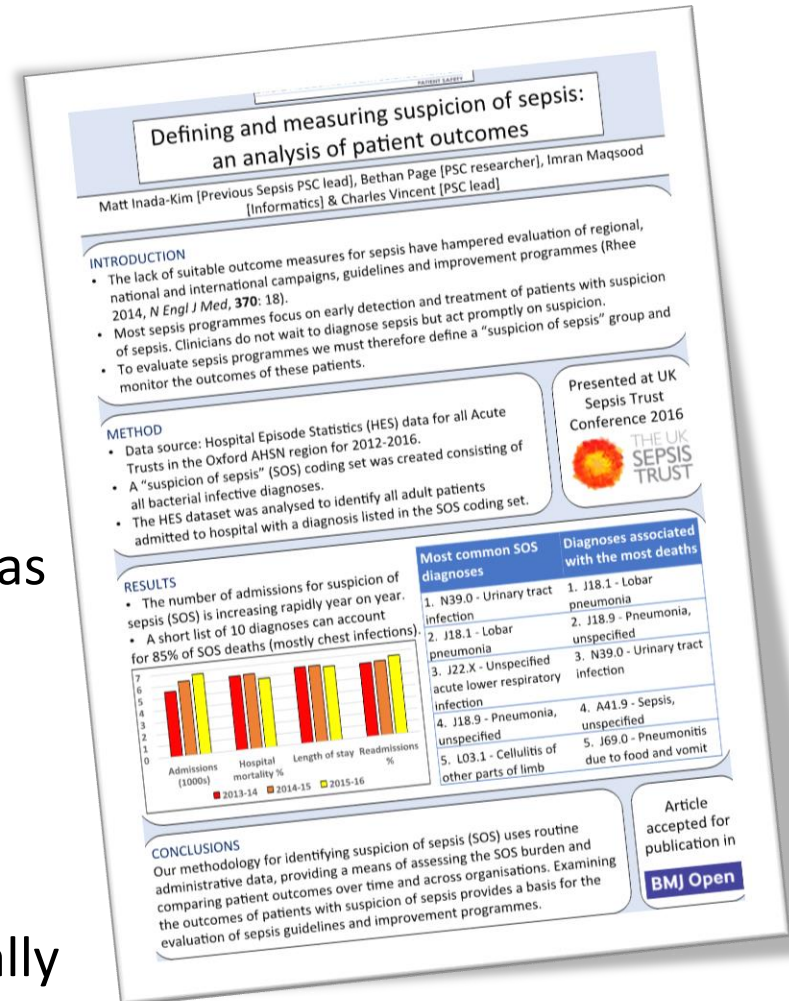
Measurement & Publication

Surveillance challenges

- HES sepsis codes insensitive
- QI initiatives → ascertainment bias
- Need improved case definition

HES Bacterial infection ('SOS') codes

- More sensitive, less ascertainment bias
- Temporal and geographic trends
- Inada-Kim *et al.* **BMJ Open** 2017
- Presented at *Sepsis Unplugged* 2016
- NHSE collaboration to extend nationally



Education



Sepsis *Working Together* event

Oxford, 19 Sep 2016

- **110 delegates**
- Acute Trusts (6)
- Community Trusts (2)
- Clinical Commissioning Groups (2)
- South Central Ambulance Service
- Private Hospitals (3)
- Care home providers
- NHS England
- Oxford AHSN
- Oxford University



Patient information

What if I go to the critical care unit?

Critical Care is where the most ill patients in a hospital are treated and nursed.

In Critical Care:

You can be carefully watched and monitored, including checking your pulse; blood pressure; breathing; oxygen levels; how much liquid you take in and how much you urinate (how much water you pass).

These checks are all very important because staff can quickly change your treatment as needed.

Staff can give you treatment including support for your major organs, like your heart, kidneys and lungs.

There are highly trained doctors, nurses and physiotherapists who look after you, and support your relatives by explaining what's happening.

Nurses look after fewer patients, so there may be one nurse looking after only one or two patients.



What about when I go home?

You may be given a rehabilitation plan by your physiotherapist to help you get strong again and a report of your hospital stay will be sent to your GP. Recovering from sepsis can take time, and you may have reduced strength.

You will be very tired, and will need to sleep and rest a lot. You may have been seriously ill and your body and mind need time to get better.

You may be very weak, may have lost a lot of weight and may find it difficult to walk around. You may also find it tiring talking to people. Begin by building up your activity slowly and rest when you are tired.

Your skin may be dry, itchy and peel. It may help to put moisturiser on your skin. Your nails may also break easily. You may notice changes to your hair and some may begin to fall out some weeks after your illness. It is unlikely it will all fall out, it usually just gets very thin and then starts to grow again.

It can help to have special nutritional drinks, like Fortisip® or Build up® to help you put on weight again. You can get these on prescription by asking your GP or you can buy them from a chemist or supermarket.

You might find it difficult to eat again. Build up slowly by having small meals and healthy snacks when you feel like it.

It can feel very frustrating once you are home, because all the things you could do easily before can suddenly feel very difficult or frightening. You have to remember how unwell you may have been and try and see that you have made progress, even if it doesn't feel like it sometimes.

Sepsis can be a very serious condition. You and your relatives may have gone through an extremely challenging time throughout this period. But this illness is a very well-known condition for which we have well-established treatments and interventions. We all work extremely hard to get our patients over this condition and our treatment aims are to get you back into the best physical condition that you can be.

(Information taken from NHS choices website and UK Sepsis Trust: A Guide for Patients & Relatives 2012) First Publication 06/2017, next review 05/2019

Great Western Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

What is Sepsis?

Just ASK*

*Acute Sepsis and Kidney Injury Team

Sepsis is a life threatening condition, but early recognition can greatly improve chances of survival. If you have any concerns about sepsis, ask the doctors or nurses looking after you.



Our Values
Service Teamwork Ambition Respect

Some Challenges



- **Common language**
 - Sepsis = bad infection
 - Deterioration (NEWS)

Some Challenges



- **Common language**
 - Sepsis = bad infection
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- **Competing clinical priorities**

Some Challenges



- **Common language**
 - Sepsis = bad infection
 - Deterioration (NEWS)



- **Competing clinical priorities**



- **Antibiotic resistance**
 - Targeting antibiotics appropriately
 - Antimicrobial Stewardship

It's all about patients

What can we learn?

What can we improve?

What might we do together?