



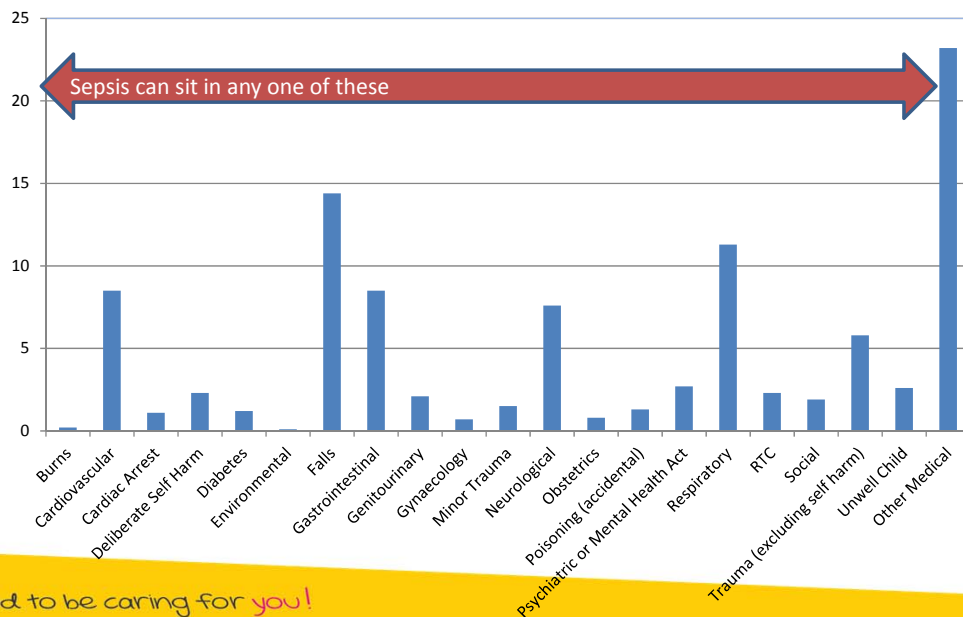
South Central Ambulance Service **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

South Central Ambulance Service

A good **NEWS** story.....

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The types of incident that we attend...



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Some patients are easy....

Heart Attack, Stroke, Major Trauma



560,000 x 999 and
over 1.25 million x 111
calls per annum

Sore throat, toothache, minor conditions

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NEWS2

SCAS introduced NEWS2 on 06/02/18

The key differences are:


- Different oxygen scale for patients with chronic hypoxia:
 - should reduce over-triage of COPD patients
 - improve patient safety
- Introduction of new confusion

National Early Warning Score (NEWS2)

Physiological parameter	Score							
	3	2	1	0	1	2	3	
Respiratory rate (per minute)	<8	8-11	12-20	>20	<8	8-11	12-20	>20
SpO ₂ score (1-5)	<91	92-93	94-95	>95	<91	92-93	94-95	>95
SpO ₂ score (1-5)	<91	92-93	94-95	>95	<91	92-93	94-95	>95
Air or oxygen?	Chaper	Chaper	Chaper	Chaper	Chaper	Chaper	Chaper	Chaper
Urea and electrolytes	<50	51-100	101-150	151-210	<50	51-100	101-150	151-210
Pulse (per minute)	<50	51-100	101-150	151-210	<50	51-100	101-150	151-210
Consciousness	AVL	AVL	AVL	AVL	AVL	AVL	AVL	AVL
Temperature (°C)	<35.5	35.5-36.0	36.1-38.0	38.1-40.0	<35.5	35.5-36.0	36.1-38.0	38.1-40.0

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Information has gone out to all staff.....



South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

HOT NEWS

6 February 2018

Sepsis
The introduction of NEWS2 across SCAS

What is sepsis?

There are around 150,000 cases of sepsis every year in the UK, with approximately 44,000 deaths attributed to this condition. Of patients admitted to Intensive Care from the Emergency Department, 60-90% will arrive by ambulance, so ambulance staff are very well placed to recognise sepsis cases.

Sepsis is defined as a life-threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to infection (surviving Sepsis Campaign 2016). Sir Bruce Keogh has stipulated that all NHS organisations MUST use a scoring system to try to identify those patients who are likely to have sepsis. Many staff will be familiar with NEWS scoring, but a decision has been made at our clinical review group to introduce the new NEWS2 tool (published in December 2017) across the entire SCAS footprint. This scoring system will also be used in care homes, GP surgeries and in acute hospitals across the Thames Valley and Wessex region that we cover.

NEWS2 scoring

NEWS2 is very similar to the original NEWS scoring tool. However there are some key changes:

- The introduction of two scores for oxygen saturations, with a score for normal patients (SpO2 Scale 1) and a score for patients with a diagnosis of pre-existing chronic breathing problems such as COPD where low oxygen saturations would be expected (SpO2 Scale 2)
- The reintroduction of red flag markers for deranged physiological signs. Clinicians should actively search for signs of sepsis if any patient scores a 3 on any single element of the NEWS2 chart parameters.

Produced by the South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust Communications Department
www.scas.nhs.uk

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Training

- NEWS2 has been incorporated into mandatory (face-to-face) training for 2018. All frontline staff are receiving training on NEWS2 / Recognition of the deteriorating patient.
- Staff are already able to complete the on-line NEWS2 training which is available at <https://tfinews.ocbmedia.com/>

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Challenges

It hasn't been all plain sailing.....

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Challenges



NEWS2 has not been inserted into the latest ePR update – as un-embedding it will affect all the CPI changes. For now NEWS will be displayed at the bottom of each set of vital signs.

It is hoped that NEWS2 will be fully live on ePR in September 2018



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Challenges



Hospital uncertainty about NEWS2

Some hospitals are not using NEWS or NEWS2. Our crews are transient and may take patients to a variety of hospitals in the course of a shift

One hospital has been using 3 different screening tools.....

A quote from an ED consultant: 'what the f*** is NEWS2!'



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Challenges



Uncertainty about Scale 2 for Chronic Hypoxia

FAQs include:

'Do I measure a NEWS2 before I apply oxygen?'



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Challenges

Limitations of NEWS

- **Pre-Hospital Evidence – lacking (but an amazing opportunity)**
- **Pregnant Patients**
- **Children <12**

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ePR – POPS scoring

Parameter	Value
Pulse	87
Resp Rate	29
SpO2 (on air)	94
SpO2 (on oxygen)	98
Systolic BP	137
Temperature	38.3
AVPU	Pain
POPS Breathing	Stridor
POPS Other	Diabetes
Gut Feeling	Looks unwell
NEWS	10

SCAS have implemented POPS scoring for <16s

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The guidance for our crews.....

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If NEWS2 is less than **5**.....

- Patients scoring **0-1** are unlikely to have sepsis and are probably suitable for discharge with safety-netting advice
- NEWS2 score **2-4** will generally be discussed with a clinician, such as a GP or out of hours clinician.
- If a patient has one extremity marker, i.e. a respiratory rate of 26 (which scores **3**) then clinicians should always consider if sepsis could be present.

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If sepsis NEWS2 is **5** or **6**.....

Patients scoring **5-6** will be conveyed to hospital with consideration of oxygen /IV fluids and a consideration of passing a pre-alert if clinicians are concerned.

A NEWS 5 or more in the presence of suspected infection should prompt the clinician to **THINK SEPSIS!**

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If sepsis is suspected and if NEWS2 is **7** or more.....

- Administration of IV fluids if BP<90mmHg
- Administration of oxygen
- Minimal time 'on scene'
- Pre-alert to nearest hospital
- Blue light transfer

This will be an ACQI measure

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Antibiotics

Crews are already giving antibiotics to suspected meningococcal septicaemia

However they will not be (currently) administering antibiotics to suspected sepsis cases. This relates to:

- Blood cultures
- Variation in antimicrobial strategies pan SCAS
- Short travel times to hospital

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NEWS2 App – Released 01/03/18

SCAS have heavily contributed to the NEWS2 Calculator app which is available at: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/news2-calculator/id1344278323?ls=1&mt=8>

The app can be switched between NEWS / NEWS2 in the settings menu

and takes 15 seconds to complete vs 45+ seconds on paper.



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Final Slide

- SCAS are the 1st ambulance service in the UK to introduce NEWS2
- Training already being rolled-out pan-SCAS
- Some amazing opportunities for research / audit
- A good NEWS story.....

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Any Questions?

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