

## Sepsis in Nursing Homes: Recognition and Response

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No Disclosures

### Learning Objectives

1. Review definitions of sepsis
2. Discuss screening tools for detection of sepsis in older adults
3. Discuss how to manage suspected sepsis while adhering to antibiotic stewardship principles

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### Case Presentation

- Mrs. S is a 92 year old nursing home resident with dementia, hypertension, congestive heart failure and remote history of UTI with sepsis 4 years ago.
- Change in Condition
  - Suddenly less alert/interactive
  - T = 97.8° F, BP = 102/58, P = 102, RR = 18
  - SPO<sub>2</sub> = 94% on room air
  - No dysuria, suprapubic pain, or frequency / urgency
  - Crackles heard on lung exam

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### What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A) Pneumonia
- B) Possible Sepsis
- C) UTI
- D) Congestive heart failure exacerbation
- E) A, B and D
- F) All of the above

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### What is Sepsis ?

- Sepsis is life threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to **infection**

<https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/what-is-sepsis.html>

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## What is Sepsis ?

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- Septic shock is a subset of sepsis with circulatory and cellular/metabolic dysfunction associated with higher risk of mortality

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## What is Sepsis ?

- Sepsis is life threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to infection
- Septic shock is a subset of sepsis with circulatory and cellular/metabolic dysfunction associated with higher risk of mortality
- Definitions are not diagnostic of sepsis

<https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/what-is-sepsis.html>

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## Sepsis in Older Adults

- Over 1.5 million people get sepsis each year in the U.S.
  - Older adults ≥ 65 years account for the majority (>60%) of sepsis cases
  - Nursing home residents → 7 fold increase in mortality compared to community dwelling adults (14% vs 1.9%)

<https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/datreports/index.html>

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- Prevalence of sepsis is increasing, mortality is decreasing

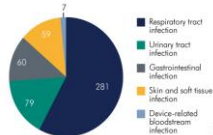
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- Prevalence of sepsis is increasing, mortality is decreasing
- In older adults, the most common cause of sepsis is **respiratory tract infection**

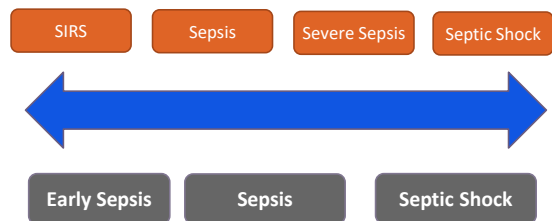


<https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/datreports/index.html>

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## Sepsis Continuum



\* Adapted from slide provided by David Nace, MD

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### Changes in Sepsis Definitions

Recommendations	SIRS*	Sepsis	Severe Sepsis	Septic Shock
1992 ACCP*/SCCM* Consensus Statement	T ≤ 36° C or > 38° C Pulse ≥ 90 RR ≥ 20 PaCO2 ≤ 32 WBC ≤ 4 K or > 12K Diff ≥ 10% bands	Infection + ≥ 2 SIRS criteria	Sepsis + EOD*	Sepsis + SBP <90, OR 40 mm below baseline, OR Low perfusion after IV fluid bolus

\* Adapted from slide provided by David Nace, MD

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2016 Sepsis 3	SIRS eliminated qSOFA* introduced	Infection + 2 qSOFA criteria	Eliminated	SBP < 90 AND Lactate > 2 after fluid bolus

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2016 Sepsis 3	SIRS eliminated qSOFA* introduced	Infection + 2 qSOFA criteria	Eliminated	SBP < 90 AND Lactate > 2 after fluid bolus
2017 SSCG*	No SIRS	Infection + EOD	Eliminated	Subset of sepsis with circulatory and cellular metabolic dysfunction associated with a higher risk of mortality (no clinical)

\* Adapted from slide provided by David Nace, MD

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### Sepsis – Early Identification Challenges

- Time from suspicion of sepsis to ICU or mortality is short (often < 24 hours)
- Most tools were intended for and tested in the ED settings
- Many parameters on existing detection/risk stratification tools are not available in LTC settings

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### Atypical Presentation of Infection

- Fever

Fever Definition	Guideline
ACCP/SCCM	T ≥ 38° C (100.4° F)
IDSA LTC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥ 37.8° C (100° F)</li> <li>Repeated ≥ 37.2° C (99° F)</li> <li>&gt; 1.1° C (2° F) over baseline</li> </ul>

- Altered Mental Status

*"Older is Colder"*

High KP, et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2009 Clinical practice guideline for evaluation of fever and infection in the residents of long-term care facilities.

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### Tools - SIRS Criteria Systemic Inflammatory Response System

<b>Criteria</b> (Score ≥ 2 = Positive)
T ≤ 36° C or > 38° C (96.8° F or 100.4° F)
Pulse ≥ 90
RR ≥ 20
PaCO2 ≤ 32
WBC ≤ 4 K or > 12K Diff ≥ 10% bands

Churpek MM, et al. Am J Resp Crit Care Med 2017;195:906-911  
[www.ajccf.org](http://www.ajccf.org)



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- Sensitivity = Good; Specificity = Very Poor
- 90% of ICU patients and 50% of general ward patients met criteria
- Too many false positives

### Tools qSOFA Quick Sequential Organ Failure Assessment

<b>Criteria</b>
Altered Mental Status – Glasgow Coma Score < 15 <sup>a</sup>
Systolic Blood Pressure < 90 mm Hg
Respiratory Rate ≥ 22 breaths per minute

<sup>a</sup> Some studies use cutoff of 13

<http://www.qsofa.org>  
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- Meant for ED and general wards – NOT LTC settings
- Derived using data from ICU database
- Sensitivity = Poor; Specificity = Good;
- Part of the 2016 guidelines

### Tools qSOFA Quick Sequential Organ Failure Assessment

<b>Criteria</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Altered Mental Status			
Systolic Blood Pressure < 90 mm Hg			
Respiratory Rate ≥ 22 breaths per minute			

<b>TABLE 38-2 Glasgow Coma Scale</b>		
<b>BEHAVIOR</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>SCORE</b>
Eye opening	Spontaneously	4
response	To speech	3
	To pain	2
	No response	1
Best verbal response	Oriented to time, place, and person	5
	Confused	4
	Inappropriate words	3
	Incomprehensible sounds	2
	No response	1
Best motor response	Obeys commands	6
	Moves to localized pain	5
	Flexion withdrawal from pain	4
	Abnormal flexion (decorticate)	3
	Abnormal extension (decerebrate)	2
	No response	1
<b>Total score:</b>	<b>Best response</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>Comatose client</b>	<b>8 or less</b>
	<b>Totally unresponsive</b>	<b>3</b>

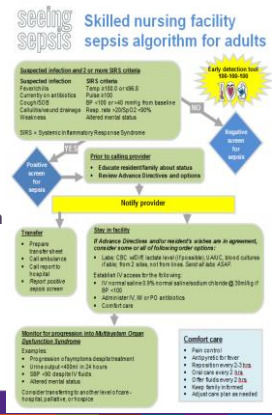
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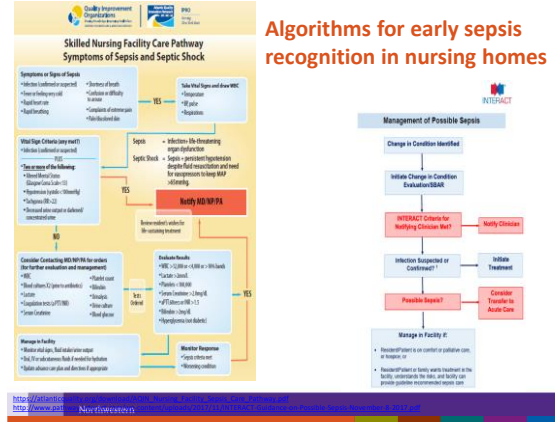
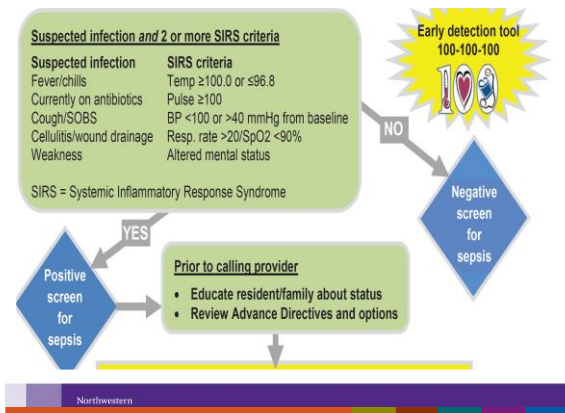
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Churpek MM, et al. Am J Resp Crit Care Med 2017;195:906-911  
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### Tools 100-100-100 Seeing Sepsis Campaign

Minnesota Hospital Association





Screening Mrs. S for sepsis

100-100-100	Yes	No
Pulse ≥100	X	
T ≥ 100 °F		X
Systolic Blood Pressure ≤ 100 mm Hg		X

Positive

Early sepsis detection

Suspected Infection and ≥ 2 SIRS criteria	Yes	No
Pulse ≥100	X	
T ≥ 100 °F or ≤ 96.8 °F		X
Respiratory Rate > 20/SpO2<90%		X
Systolic Blood Pressure < 100 or >40 mm Hg		X
Altered Mental Status	?	

? Negative

Does the resident meet the definition of delirium?

Early sepsis detection

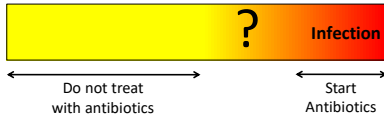
qSOFA	Yes	No
Altered Mental Status		?
Systolic Blood Pressure < 90 mm Hg		X
Respiratory Rate ≥ 22 bpm		X

? Negative

What would you do next?

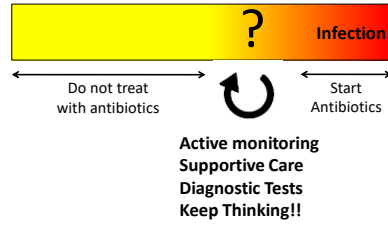
- A) Check a urinalysis and culture
- B) Send the patient to the ED for further evaluation
- C) Discuss with covering clinician and continuing monitoring
- D) Start empiric antibiotics
- E) Start antibiotics "just in case"

# Antibiotic Stewardship



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# Antibiotic Stewardship



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## Principles of Antibiotic Stewardship

## Treatment for Sepsis

## Principles of Antibiotic Stewardship

## Treatment for Sepsis

## Principles of Antibiotic Stewardship

## Treatment for Sepsis

## Antibiotic Use Protocols

### Summary

- Identifying sepsis is hard!
- Tools that help identify a resident change in condition and provide a structured communication are critical
- Early detection of sepsis and antibiotic stewardship go together like PB&J

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## References & Resources

- <https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/index.html>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/prevention/antibiotic-stewardship.html>
- [http://patientsafety.pa.gov/ADVISORIES/Pages/201609\\_108.aspx](http://patientsafety.pa.gov/ADVISORIES/Pages/201609_108.aspx)
- <https://www.mnhospitals.org/quality-patient-safety/quality-patient-safety-initiatives/sepsis-and-septic-shock#/videos/list>
- [https://atlanticquality.org/download/AQIN\\_Nursing\\_Facility\\_Sepsis\\_Care\\_Pathway.pdf](https://atlanticquality.org/download/AQIN_Nursing_Facility_Sepsis_Care_Pathway.pdf)
- [https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/4\\_TK1\\_T1-SBAR\\_UTI\\_Final.pdf](https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/4_TK1_T1-SBAR_UTI_Final.pdf)
- [http://www.interact2.net/docs/Communication%20Tools/SBAR\\_Communication\\_Tool\\_and\\_Progress\\_Notec.pdf](http://www.interact2.net/docs/Communication%20Tools/SBAR_Communication_Tool_and_Progress_Notec.pdf)
- [http://www.pathway-interact.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/INTERACT-V4-SBAR\\_Communication\\_Form-Dec\\_June-2018.pdf](http://www.pathway-interact.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/INTERACT-V4-SBAR_Communication_Form-Dec_June-2018.pdf)

Questions?



Thank You

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[nnq1@cdc.gov](mailto:nnq1@cdc.gov)

## Comparison of Nursing Home Screening Tools for Identifying Sepsis<sup>1</sup>

- Retrospective chart audit of nursing home documentation in 236 residents hospitalized with sepsis and returned to the nursing home
- In up to **34%** of cases, documentation of vital signs were missing



1. Sloane et al, J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2018 Jun;19(6):492-496.e1.



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In the 12 hours prior to hospitalization

<p><b>Most sensitive</b> 100-100-100 criteria (79%), Temperature &gt;99.0°F (51%)</p>	<p><b>Most specific</b> Temperature &gt; 100.2°F (93%) q-SOFA (88%) SIRS (86%) Temperature &gt; 99.0°F (93%)</p>
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1. Sloane et al, J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2018 Jun;19(6):492-496.e1.





## Identification of Sepsis

Bernardo J. Reyes MD  
 Assistant Professor Of Geriatrics  
 Associate Director  
 Internal Medicine Residency Program  
 Charles Schmidt College of Medicine



## Disclosure

Support through FAU for research on INTERACT  
 from Point Click Care.



## Objectives

- Limitations of current criteria to identify patients with sepsis in NF
- How to improve sensitivity and specificity
- Acute vs. Sub-Acute process of becoming septic
- The Value of Clinical Condition Variability
- Laboratory data as add-on criteria



## What is

- **Quality improvement program** designed to improve the care of older people with acute changes in condition in skilled nursing, long-term care, and assisted living facilities, and home health care
- **Prevent** conditions from becoming severe enough to require hospitalization through **early identification and evaluation** of changes in patient condition
- **Manage some conditions** without transfer when this is feasible and safe

<http://www.interact-pathway.com/>



## Mr. M

- 89 y/o male previous community dweller
- Transferred to your NF from a local hospital after surgical repair of a hip fracture complicated with urinary retention (now resolved)
- PMH: Depression, Afib, HTN, MCI, CHF
- **Three days** after admission to your facility has less appetite
- **On day 4**, the patient feels weaker, you stop his diuretic and ACE inh and encourage PO intake
- **On day 5**, the RN calls your coverage at 3 AM reporting that the patient is disoriented, HR 78 BP 123/78, RR= 22 and Temp 98.9 F. [Treat Pain](#)
- **On day 6** the patient is too weak to leave his bed. In the afternoon he develops fever and becomes somnolent. You evaluate the patient and decide to transfer the patient back to the hospital.



## Questions for the Audience

Was the transfer necessary ?

Was this situation avoidable?





### Identification of Sepsis

- The human and financial costs of acute transfers, hospital admissions and readmissions from NF are substantial
- Significant proportion of them are considered potentially avoidable
- Sepsis is a common cause of acute transfers among NF patients/residents
- Established criteria to identify septic patients such as Quick Sepsis Related Organ Failure Assessment (QSOFA) and Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS)
  - Lack both sensitivity and specificity
  - Require assessments that are not part of the regular work flow of the care providers in NF



### Performance of Screening Tools in Distinguishing Patients Transferred From a NH to a Hospital With Early Sepsis From Patients Without Sepsis

Sepsis Screening Tool	Variables	13-72 h Prior to Hospitalization		≥12 h Prior to Hospitalization	
		Nonsepsis	Sepsis	Nonsepsis	Sepsis
<b>Nonsepsis</b>					
<b>SIRS</b>	Met screening criteria	6%	10%	12%	36%
Sensitivity for sepsis		10%		36%	
Specificity for sepsis		94%		86%	
<b>qSOFA</b>	Met screening criteria	4%	7%	13%	27%
Sensitivity for sepsis		7%		27%	
Specificity for sepsis		96%		88%	
<b>100-100-100</b>	Met screening criteria	16%	28%	31%	79%
Sensitivity for sepsis		28%		79%	
Specificity for sepsis		84%		69%	
<b>Temperature &gt;99.0 ° F</b>	Met screening criteria	14%	22%	15%	51%
Sensitivity for sepsis		22%		51%	
Specificity for sepsis		86%		85%	
<b>Temperature &gt;100.2 ° F</b>	Met screening criteria	3%	9%	7%	20%
Sensitivity for sepsis		9%		40%	
Specificity for sepsis		97%		93%	

JAMA 2018;08-01; Volume 18, Issue 6, Pages 482-490

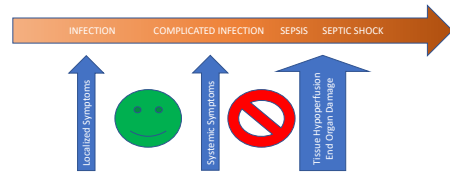


### Best Criteria

- Sensitive (we don't want to miss sepsis)
- Specific (we don't want to over-diagnose)
- Able to Identify Sepsis Early
  - Avoid the development of sepsis
  - Start Treatment Early
  - Triage those who need to be transferred

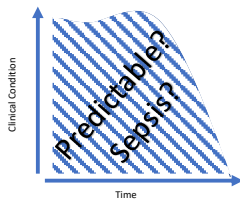


### Right Timing



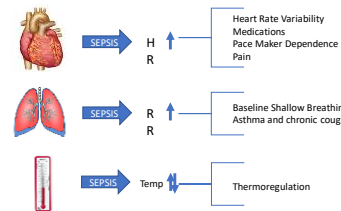
### Improving Sensitivity

- Change in Condition



### SIRS/qSOFA/3x100

- What does not happen that should happen?

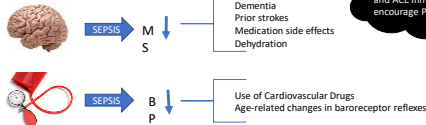


https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5411111/



### SIRS/qSOFA/3x100

- What does not happen that should happen?

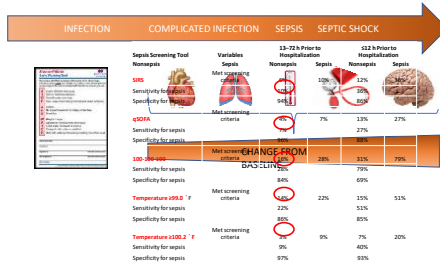


On day 4 the patient feels weaker, you stop his diuretic and encourage PO intake

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4012372/>



### Fine Tuning



### Initial Triggers

- Criteria should be designed to be used based on the capacities and available resources "typical" Nfs and should be the result of common assessments already in place (do not add another task)
- Using changes in the resident's condition or function as the only parameters to identify septic patients may be very sensitive, the criteria may lack specificity, leading to overdiagnosis

**Stop and Watch Early Warning Tool**

Any of the following triggers a Stop and Watch intervention. When a Stop and Watch occurs, alert the nurse and notify your nurse. After you have been notified, please contact your nurse.

**Signs different than usual**  
 - Call or communicate less  
 - Food and water intake  
 - Fall - new or recurring. Participated less in activities  
 - No less  
 - No bowel movement in 3 days or diarrhea  
 - Shortness of breath

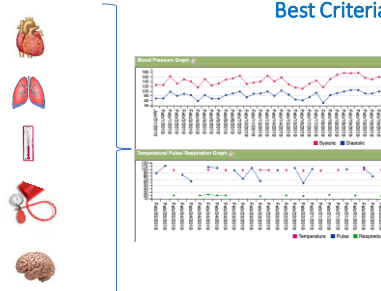
**Signs or changes in vitals that are not typical**  
 - Applied or removed more than usual  
 - 10% week, continued or changing  
 - Change in color or condition  
 - In bed with nothing trending, looking more than usual

FAU MEDICINE

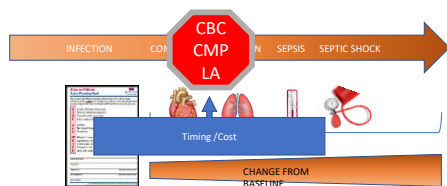


### Best Criteria

Changes in an individual's baseline function and vital signs may be more appropriate



### Labs



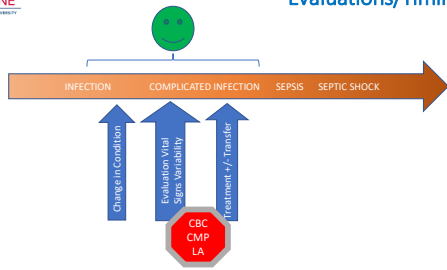
### Labs

- To improve both specificity and sensitivity, ancillary data could be incorporated in the criteria.
- Laboratory values could improve the accuracy of the diagnosis of sepsis in NF residents.
- Consider Using Point of Care Technology
- If considering using POC, look for CLIA waived technology
- If possible, consider technology that is compatible with your EHR



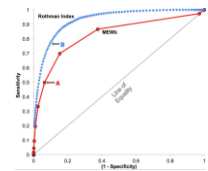


### Evaluations/Timing



### What is the degree of change that is clinically relevant?

- We have experience with variability and outcomes
- Early warning systems suffer from high false-alarm rates
- Frequency of Assessments (as patients get sicker we evaluate them more often)
- How you calculate risk based on data entry through the continuum
- AI (how to train your system)

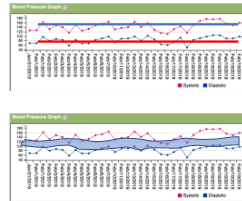


Modified Early Warning Score (MEWS) and Rothman Index (RI). 24-hour hospital mortality of general medical-surgical unit patients (N = 32,472)



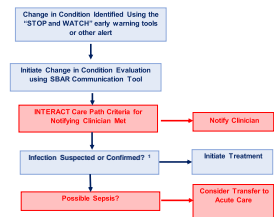
### Teaching your EHR

- Do not alarm only based on fixed parameters (might not be sensitive or specific enough)
- Single point-in-time probability
- Personalized probability trends over time
  - What is considered normal variance
  - Modify normal variance based on evolving issues (adding or removing a blood pressure medication or a pacemaker implantation)
- How you could incorporate good old fashion clinical judgment to any calculation?
- When we get an alert, what we should do?



### What to do with the data?

#### Management of Possible Sepsis Using INTERACT Tools



### Take Home Message

- Sepsis is a common cause for acute transfers
- Some transfers are avoidable
- In order to treat sepsis in NF we need to identify it early
- Wide-used criteria are not sensitive or specific enough
- Optimal criteria should be based on every day assessments
- The most sensitive criteria is a change in condition
- Variability of vitals signs and other parameters instead of set values (train your EHR)
- Consider using POC Testing
- Plan what to the information
- Treat or transfer



Thank you



## Updates in Management of Common Infections in Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Facilities

Swati Gaur, MD, MBA, CMD, AGSF  
 Chief Operating Officer, Care Advances Thru Technology  
 Medical Director, Post-Acute Long Term Care, Northeast  
 Georgia Health System



## Speaker Disclosures

Dr. Gaur has no financial relationships.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Objective 1: Know principles of sepsis clinical management
- Objective 2: Understand the role of communication cascade
- Objective 3: Discern whether to treat in LTC or transfer (location)

## Case Presentation:

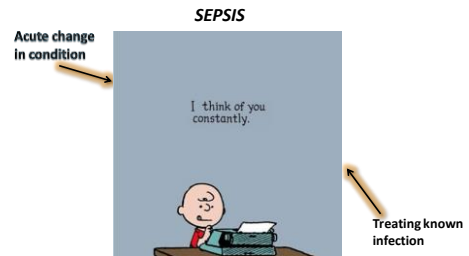
- 79 year old patient with indwelling foley and and history of CVA with dense left hemi, diabetes, hypertension, and CAD.
- Called by NP – facility called with patient having constitutional symptoms – acute change in condition initial workup 12K white count, no localizing symptoms. Ceftriaxone started and now with fever despite it, she wants to add more antibiotics.
- Is this enough information for decision making?
- What did we do with patient?

## Outcomes of the Surviving Sepsis Campaign in intensive care units in the USA and Europe: a prospective cohort study

Mitchell M Levy, Antonio Artigas, Gary S Phillips, Andrew Rhodes, Richard Beale, Tiffany Osborn, Jean-Louis Vincent, Sean Townsend, Stanley Lemeshow, R Phillip Dellinger

Hospital mortality if origin is emergency department	3008 (24.6%)	736 (34.1%)	<0.0001
Hospital mortality if origin is ward	# 1661 (34.9%)	1481 (43.5%)	<0.0001
Hospital mortality if origin is ICU	644 (36.1%)	502 (48.0%)	<0.0001

Lancet 2012



## TREATMENT OF ACUTE SEPSIS



## Effectiveness of the Bundles

- 263 patients –
- 6 hour bundle vs traditional treatment
- In hospital mortality 30.5 vs 46.5 with  $P=0.009$

Early Goal-Directed Therapy in the Treatment of Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock  
Emanuel Rivers, M.D., M.P.H., Bryant Nguyen, M.D., Suzanne Havstad, M.A., Julie Resler, B.S., Alexandria Muzzin, B.S., Bernhard Knoblich, M.D., Edward Peterson, Ph.D., and Michael Tomlanovich, M.D. for the Early Goal-Directed Therapy Collaborative Group\*

NEJM 2001

## What's in a bundle?



## 3 HR BUNDLE

- Measure lactate level
- Obtain blood cultures prior to administration of antibiotics
- Administer broad spectrum antibiotics
- Administer 30ml/kg crystalloid for hypotension or lactate  $\geq 4$ mmol/L

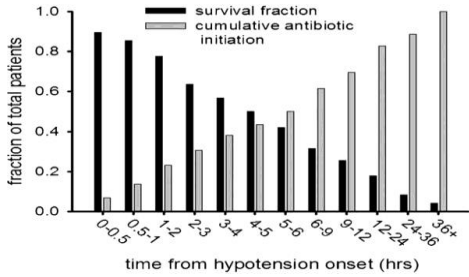
## 6 HOUR BUNDLE

- Apply vasopressors (for hypotension that does not respond to initial fluid resuscitation) to maintain a mean arterial pressure (MAP)  $\geq 65$ mmHg
- In the event of persistent hypotension after initial fluid administration (MAP $<65$ mmHg) or if initial lactate was  $\geq 4$ mmol/L, re-assess volume status and tissue perfusion.
- Re-measure lactate if initial lactate elevated.

## Hour-1 Bundle

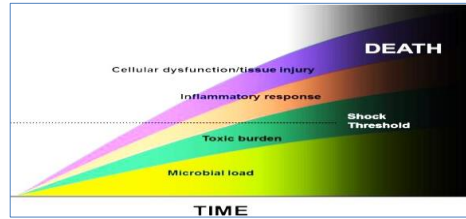
- Measure lactate level. Re-measure if initial lactate  $>2$ mmol/L
- Obtain blood cultures prior to antibiotic administration
- Administer broad- spectrum antibiotics
- Begin rapid administration of 30ml/kg crystalloid for hypotension or lactate  $\geq 4$ mmol/L
- Apply vasopressors if patient is hypotensive during or after fluid resuscitation to maintain MAP $\geq 65$ mm Hg

Intensive Care Medicine Jun18; MMLevy



Curr Infect Dis Rep. 2015 Jul; 17(7): 493.

### Broad Goals



Integrative paradigm-A. Kumar  
Virulence. 2014 Jan 1; 5(1): 80-97

### Antibiotic Choice

- Early – within 1 hour
- Appropriate –
  - Choice of antibiotic
  - Route of administration
  - Dose of antibiotic

Source	Choice
Lung	antipseudo beta lactam-AG/antipseudoGlyvanc
Urine	Antipseudo beta lactam
Undifferentiated	Antipseudo beta lactam-AG/antipseudoGlyvanc

Curr Infect Dis Rep. 2015 Jul; 17(7): 493,  
Clin Infect Dis 2009;48:503-35.

### Early Goal-Directed Therapy in the Treatment of Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock

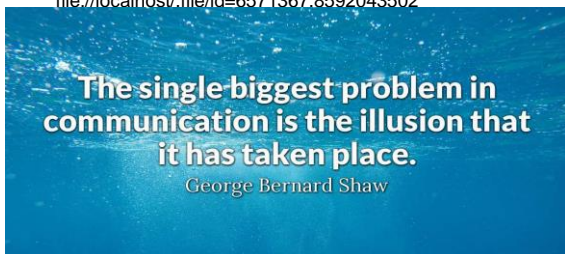
Erasmus Rivers, M.D., M.P.H., Bryan Nguyen, M.D., Suzanne Horvath, M.A., Julie Rescorla, B.S., Alexandra Mazzon, B.S., Bernhard Knoblich, M.D., Edward Peterson, Ph.D., and Michael Tomlanovich, M.D. for the Early Goal-Directed Therapy Collaborative Group\*

Article | Figures/Media | November 8, 2001  
N Engl J Med 2001; 345:1368-1377  
DOI: 10.1056/NEJ0409082

Early Goal directed therapy- Fluid bolus –Decrease in mortality  
NNT-6

### Communication

file:///localhost:/file/id=6571367.8592043502



### Can Sepsis Be Detected in the Nursing Home Prior to the Need for Hospital Transfer?

Philip D. Sloane MD, MPH <sup>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100</sup>, Kimberly Ward BA <sup>1</sup>, David J. Weber MD, MPH <sup>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100</sup>, Christine E. Kotler MD, MASC <sup>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100</sup>, Benjamin Brown BS <sup>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100</sup>, Katherine Davis BS <sup>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100</sup>, Sheryl Zimmerman PhD <sup>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100</sup>

## Seeing Sepsis: Identifying Sepsis

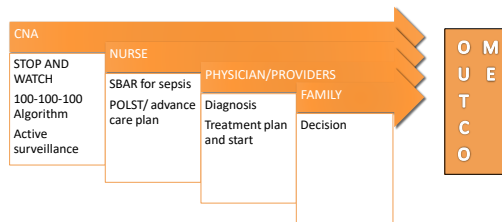
Is their temperature above 100?

Is their heart rate above 100?

Is their blood pressure below 100?

And does the resident just not look right? Tell the nurse, screen for sepsis and notify the physician immediately.

## Communication flow Cascade



**Stop and Watch Early Warning Tool**

INTERACT

If you have identified a change while caring for or observing a resident, please **circle** the change and notify a nurse. Either give the nurse a copy of this tool or review it with her/him as soon as you can.

**S** Seems different than usual  
**T** Talks or communicates less  
**O** Overall needs more help  
**P** Pain – new or worsening; Participated less in activities

**a** Ate less  
**n** No bowel movement in 3 days; or diarrhea  
**d** Drank less

**W** Weight change  
**A** Agitated or nervous more than usual  
**T** Tired, weak, confused, or drowsy  
**C** Change in skin color or condition  
**H** Help with walking, transferring, toileting more than usual

Check here if no change noted in the monitoring sign-in sheet

**Situation:** \_\_\_\_\_ has screened positive for sepsis at \_\_\_\_\_ (patient name) (time)

**Background:** \_\_\_\_\_ (patient name)  
*(state only those that apply)*

- Temperature > 100.6 (38C) or < 96.8% (36)
- BP < 90 mmHg or > 40 mmHg from baseline
- HR > 90/min
- Respiratory rate > 20/min
- Change in mental status, ALOC

2. I suspect infection  
 The most recent WBC is \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Consider infection if WBC > 12,000 or < 4,000)*

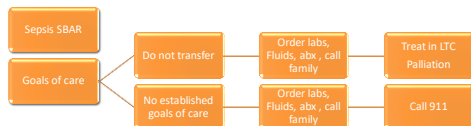
**Assessment:**

- Vital signs are: \_\_\_\_\_
- SaO<sub>2</sub> is \_\_\_\_\_ compared to \_\_\_\_\_ (last reading)
- Mental status is now \_\_\_\_\_
- Urine output is \_\_\_\_\_ cc per hour or \_\_\_\_\_ over the last 8<sup>h</sup>
- The most recent creatinine is \_\_\_\_\_ Creatinine on admission was \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommendation:**

- I need you to evaluate the patient to confirm if they have severe sepsis
- In addition to a stat Lactate, what other labs would you like me to order?
- Should I start an IV and give a fluid bolus? *(if patient hypotensive)*

## Decision cascade



## Let's not make our patients do this!



Site of treatment

To treat or not to treat...  
in the facility



To transfer or NOT to transfer

Patient with severe sepsis	Nursing home residents	Non nursing home residents
Rate of ICU admission	40%	21%
Hospital LOS	7 days	5 days
In-hospital mortality	37%	15%

Ginde AA, Moss M, Shapiro NI, Schwartz RS. Impact of older age and nursing home residence on clinical outcomes of U.S. Emergency Department visits for severe sepsis. J Crit Care 2013;28:606e611.

Treat

- 30ml/kg X 60 KG= fluid bolus.
- Sepsis is NOT a crisis of clisylis!
- Keep MAP >65 [(diastolic X 2)+systolic]/3
- Keep that VS machine in the room- Like Really!
- Follow up the lactate if the first level was high-
  - What color tube is that anyway?



Treat

- Send all Cultures before the first dose of antibiotics which should be within 1 hour-
  - Do we even have culture bottles?
- Start with broad spectrum antibiotics (2 with shock) and narrow a.s.a.p. –
  - Its 2 am, how long do I have to hold to get the ebox list?
- Duration 7-10 days (typical)
  - Will be tailored to the organ of origin

JAMA 320 (2018) 1-4

ELSEVIER

JAMDA  
journal homepage: www.jamda.com

Editorial

Post-acute and Long-term Care Settings as First Responders for the Surviving Sepsis Campaign

Robin L.P. Jump MD, PhD<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Susan M. Levy MD, CMD<sup>5</sup>, Wayne S. Saltzman MD, PhD, CMD<sup>1,4</sup>

Surviving Sepsis Campaign Hour-1 Bundle <sup>®11</sup>	Implementation in Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Setting
Measure lactate level. Remeasure if initial lactate is > 2mmol/L.	
Obtain blood cultures prior to administration of antibiotics	Blood cultures, urine culture from a newly placed urinary catheter. When appropriate, obtain a sputum culture and swabs of gross pus.
Administer broad-spectrum antibiotics	Administer broad-spectrum antibiotics (see text for details)
Begin rapid administration of 30ml/kg of crystalloid for hypotension or lactate ≥ 4 mmol/L.	For hypotension (< 90/60 mmHg for residents with a baseline ≥ 120/80), begin rapid administration of 1-2 liters of crystalloid, with the first liter going in over 1 hour.
Apply vasopressors if patient is hypotensive during or after fluid resuscitation to maintain mean arterial pressure of ≥65mmHg	



## The S-Kit: Making it operational

Category	Specific Components	Laboratory Tests
Durable equipment	Automated digital blood pressure machine Blood pressure cuffs (disposable) in several sizes Pulse oximeter Thermometer	Blood culture bottles (at least 2 sets of aerobic and anaerobic bottles) Collection tubes for common laboratory studies Sterile containers to collect additional specimens as clinically indicated
Supplies	Mask and tubing for supplemental oxygen Kits for placing intravenous catheters (include several sizes) Blood-drawing equipment, including tourniquets Chlorhexidine made for cleaning skin prior to placing intravenous catheters and collecting blood cultures Kits for placing urinary catheter to monitor urine output Sterile gloves (include several sizes) for placing the urinary catheter Personal protective equipment including gowns, gloves, and masks (include several sets) Dressing supplies, packing, and tape Bag of sterile repackaged fluid (eg, normal saline or lactated ringers)	Antibiotics If concern for Clostridiales (formerly Clostridium) spp for infection: oral vancomycin or fidaxomicin

Article in press: Post-acute and Long-term Care Settings as First Responders for the Surviving Sepsis Campaign  
Robin L.P. Jump MD, PhD a, b, \*, Susan M. Levy MD, CMD L, Wayne S. Saltzman MD, PhD, CMD a, \*

## Suggested Antibiotics in the Sepsis Kit

- Oral: amoxicillin/clavulanic acid and linezolid
- Intravenous: piperacillin/tazobactam and intravenous vancomycin
- If penicillin allergy: levofloxacin
- If concern for *C. difficile* infection: oral vancomycin or fidaxomicin

## Monitor

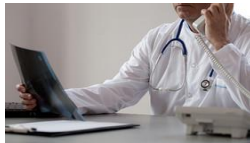
- Close monitoring of vital signs
- Watch for system failure with O2 monitoring, labs (glucose, creatinine, platelet)
- Watch for response (CBC, lactate level)
- Follow up on the Cultures

## Watch out for complications

- Pressure ulcers
- DVT/ stress ulcer
- Deconditioning
- Nutrition
- Delirium

## Communicate

- Call family to discuss prognosis and goals of care.



## Treatment in LTC

- Treat
- Monitor
- Communicate

## In summary:

- Patient level intervention: 3 big goals-
  - Start antibiotics
  - Maintain perfusion
  - Support patient through acute infection
- Facility level intervention: 3 big goals-
  - Don't miss it!
    - SBAR- Education!!!
  - Determine site of treatment:
    - Goals of care
  - Early intervention...regardless of site of care

## Always Team Work



## Questions:



## Role of Medical Director

- Nurture the Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee
- Actively participate in QAPI
- Know the LTC capabilities checklist\*
- Help develop capabilities – blood culture bottles, stat labs, IV fluids, E box antibiotics
- Standardization of Advanced Care Planning

INTERACT\*

## Role of Practitioners

- Know the capabilities
- High level of suspicion
- Education of nursing staff
- Proactive discussion of goals of care

## Mindful approach to treatment of Infections



### To transfer or NOT to transfer

---

- Nursing home residents with severe sepsis, compared with non-nursing home residents, had significantly higher rates of ICU admission (40% vs 21%), hospital LOS (median, 7 vs 5 days), and in-hospital mortality (37% vs 15%).

Ginde AA, Moss M, Shapiro NI, Schwartz RS. Impact of older age and nursing home residence on clinical outcomes of U.S. Emergency Department visits for severe sepsis. *J Crit Care* 2013;28:606e611.

### Be aware:

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- Mortality of sepsis is high if not following the full bundle!!
- May start treatment but several lab/ monitoring/ treatment resources may not be available in LTC facilities.
- The chance that patient will deteriorate despite initial treatment is high and we have no immediate ICU supportive interventions