Pre-Hospital Sepsis Screening Tool

Under 5



Start this chart if the child LOOKS UNWELL, if there is PARENTAL CONCERN, EWS ≥5 or ABNORMAL TEMPERATURE (<36°C or >38°C)

Risk Factors for Sepsis include (note: the absence of risk factors does not rule out sepsis) Patients with risk factors are at higher risk of developing sepsis. Have a lower threshold for sepsis screening these patients

- Recent trauma/surgery/invasive procedures
- Impaired Immunity (e.g. diabetes, steroids, chemotherapy, neutropenic patient, asplenia)
- Indwelling lines/broken skin/indwelling devices
- Rural, remote or low socioeconomic status
- Re-presentation or delayed presentation to a health service
- Infants < 3 months old



Is there an obvious non-infective cause for the patients presentation and observations?



YES E



SEPSIS UNLIKELY

Treat other cause



Any RED flags?



- BSL \leq 3 mmol/L (Note: <2.6 mmol/L for neonates)
- Doesn't wake when roused/won't stay awake
- Child looks unwell to healthcare professional
- Weak, high pitched or continuous cry
- Tachypnoea (see chart below)
- Tachycardia (see chart below)
- Bradycardia (see chart below)
- Hypotension (see chart below)
- SpO₂≤88% on air or O₂ requirements ≥10 Litres/minute
- Non-blanching rash
- Lactate >4 mmol/L (if available)



RED FLAG SEPSIS

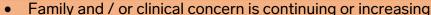
- 1 Pre-notify ED
- 2 Follow RED EWS escalation advice
- 3 Communicate RED flag sepsis at handover



Any AMBER flags?

YES -





- Not responding normally/ no smile/ reduced activity/ very sleepy
- Unexplained pain, leg pain or cold extremities
- Tachypnoea (see chart below)
- Tachycardia (see chart below)
- Hypotension (see chart below)
- $SpO_2 \le 91\%$ on air or O_2 requirements ≥ 5 Litres/minute
- Capillary refill time of ≥ 3 seconds, mottled or cold extremities
- Lactate 2-4 mmol/L (if available)
- Nasal flaring
- Reduced urine output





AMBER FLAG SEPSIS

- 1 Follow AMBER EWS escalation advice
- 2 Communicate AMBER flag sepsis at handover

SEPSIS UNLIKELY

Tachycardia Bradycardia Hypotension Tachypnoea (breaths per minute) (beats per minute) (beats per minute) (systolic BP) Severe Moderate Severe Moderate Severe Moderate Severe Moderate 65-74 ≥180 170-179 ≤90 <3 mnths ≥75 ≤100 ≤50 ≤60 ≤90 AGE 3-12 mnths ≥75 65-74 ≥180 170-179 ≤80 ≤60 ≤70 1-<5 Years ≥55 50-54 ≥170 160-169 ≤70 ≤80 ≤60

If no red or amber flags sepsis is unlikely. Routine care - Consider other diagnosis