



Are you concerned about your patient?
Are they getting worse?
Could they be Septic?

Use the Sepsis Screening Tool!
Remember the 3 Rs:

RECOGNIZE

RESPOND

REFER

ADDRESSOGRAPH

BC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
Screening Patients for Sepsis

Complete screen progressing from A to B to C as positive for each

A INFECTION - Does the patient have any of the following infection criteria or risks?

- History of Fever
- Anti-infective Therapy
- Myelosuppressed or Immunosuppressed
- Indwelling Medical Device(s): e.g. Central Line, VP shunt, etc.
- Recent surgery/Invasive Procedure/Hospitalization
- Suspected Perforated Organ e.g. appendix
- Chest: cough, increased work of breathing
- Neuro: decreased mental alertness, stiff neck, headache
- Urine: dysuria, frequency, odour
- Skin: cellulitis, wound, rash
- Abdomen: pain, peritonism

B SIRS (systemic inflammatory response syndrome) - Does the patient have two or more of the following? (One of which must be either temperature or WBC). For immunosuppressed patients, may accept 2 of the other criteria.

- Temperature - is the temperature greater than 38.5°C or less than 36°C?
- WBC count - is the patient's WBC count abnormal for age? (see reverse)
- Heart Rate - is the patient's heart rate abnormal for age? (see reverse)
- Respiratory Rate - is the patient's respiratory rate abnormal for age? (see reverse)

YES Refer to pre-printed order set to guide care

AND Treat and re-assess simultaneously

NO Sepsis may still be a concern

C ACUTE ORGAN DYSFUNCTION - Does the patient have cardiac or respiratory involvement? Patient must have either cardiovascular or respiratory organ dysfunction or 2 out of 5 of the other systems involved to meet the severe sepsis definition.

- Cardiovascular - Is the patient's perfusion altered (capillary refill greater than 2 seconds; core to peripheral temperature difference; decreased peripheral pulses compared to central pulses) or blood pressure (BP) abnormal for age? (see reverse)
- Respiratory - Does the patient require greater than 50% oxygen to maintain SpO₂ greater than 90% or need mechanical ventilation?
- Neurological - Glasgow coma scale score less than 11 or a drop in score of 3 or more?
- Hematologic - Does the patient have low urine output e.g. less than 1 mL/kg/hr despite adequate fluid intake?
- Renal - Does the patient have a low platelet count (less than 80,000/mm³) or PT/PTT greater than upper limit of normal?
- Metabolic - Does the patient have a low pH (e.g. pH less than 7.30) or elevated lactate (greater than 4 mmol/L)?

DID YOU CHECK ANY BOXES ABOVE? YES This patient has SEVERE SEPSIS
Refer to Resuscitation Algorithm

NO This patient is still at RISK for SEVERE SEPSIS refer to pre-printed order set to guide care

Date: _____ Time: _____ Screen completed by: _____

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