

SEVERE SEPSIS SCREENING PROTOCOL

Utilize this tool as soon as you suspect the patient is developing infection or sepsis.

Reevaluate patient 12 & 24 hours post initiation. Stop screening if severe sepsis orders started.

Initiation date/time/initials _____ / _____ / _____
12 hour date/time/initials _____ / _____ / _____ 24 hour date/time/initials _____ / _____ / _____

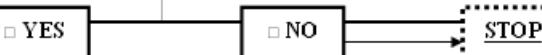
Step 1 Are any two signs & symptoms of infection both present and new to the patient?

Initial 12hr 24hr Hyperthermia > 101 F (38.3 C)	Initial 12hr 24hr Acutely altered mental status
Initial 12hr 24hr Hypothermia < 96.8 F (36 C)	Initial 12hr 24hr Leukocytosis (WBC count > 12 x 10 ⁹)
Initial 12hr 24hr Tachycardia > 100 beats / minute	Initial 12hr 24hr Leukopenia (WBC count < 4 x 10 ⁹)
Initial 12hr 24hr Hyperglycemia in the absence of diabetes (plasma glucose > 120mg/dL)	Initial 12hr 24hr Tachypnea > 20 breaths / minute



Step 2 Is the patient's presentation suggestive of a new infection?

Initial 12hr 24hr Pneumonia, empyema	Initial 12hr 24hr Wound infection
Initial 12hr 24hr Urinary tract infection	Initial 12hr 24hr Bloodstream catheter infection
Initial 12hr 24hr Acute abdominal infection	Initial 12hr 24hr Implantable device infection
Initial 12hr 24hr Meningitis	Initial 12hr 24hr Endocarditis
Initial 12hr 24hr Skin/soft tissue infection	Initial 12hr 24hr Other
Initial 12hr 24hr Bone/joint infection	



Step 3 Contact physician regarding change in patient status. Notify physician that patient is being screened for severe sepsis.

Step 4 Are any of the following acute organ dysfunction criteria present at a site other than the site of infection? *Note: If the patient has bilateral pulmonary infiltrates, then evaluate lungs for organ dysfunction even if pneumonia is the primary infection.*

Initial 12hr 24hr SBP < 90 mmHg (if using non-invasive BP) or MAP < 65 mmHg (if using arterial BP line)
Initial 12hr 24hr SBP decrease > 40 mmHg from baseline
Initial 12hr 24hr Bilateral pulmonary infiltrates with new (or increased) O ₂ requirement to maintain SpO ₂ > 90%
Initial 12hr 24hr Bilateral pulmonary infiltrates with PaO ₂ / FiO ₂ ratio < 300
Initial 12hr 24hr Creatinine > 2.0 mg/dL or urine output < 0.5 ml/kg/hr for > 2 consecutive hours
Initial 12hr 24hr Bilirubin > 2 mg/dL
Initial 12hr 24hr Platelet count < 100 x 10 ⁹
Initial 12hr 24hr Coagulopathy (INR > 1.5 or aPTT > 60 seconds)
Initial 12hr 24hr Lactic acid > 2 mmol / L



Step 5 The patient meets criteria for possible SEVERE SEPSIS. Notify the physician IMMEDIATELY of these findings → Name of MD notified _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ RN signature: _____