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Early Recognition and Management of Sepsis for Post-acute Settings

TOOLKIT



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Toolkit Overview

This toolkit is a resource to assist healthcare organizations in implementation of an early recognition and management of sepsis program in the post-acute healthcare setting. It is designed to provide evidence-based and best practice education on protocols and tools to assist in improving care processes to identify patients with severe sepsis and to provide timely and effective treatment. This is intended to be implemented as an interactive and integrated team approach with all health professionals, including certified nurse assistants in nursing facilities. Each facility must have a team identified to do this work. The team should include a medical director, a director of nursing and an infection prevention nurse at a minimum.

The recommended processes for success:

- Teamwork through action plans provided in specified time frame
- Educate staff on sepsis, screening and management processes
- Assess current infection prevention practices
- Implement screening process
- Implement early management of sepsis process
- Collect defined process and outcome data

We are providing use of the program's tools to measure and report sepsis treatment and to follow patient outcomes. Protocols provided are for healthcare organizations use for daily monitoring of patients with infection. The protocol contains a checklist of criteria to monitor as early warning signs that the infection may be progressing to severe sepsis and/or septic shock. As part of the performance improvement project, your facility can use the Severe Sepsis Screening Tool Audit form to determine if the appropriate responses were followed if sepsis was suspected.

80% of sepsis occurs **outside of the hospital** according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

How To Use This Toolkit

To effectively educate and train healthcare staff within your facility on sepsis using this toolkit, we suggest following these steps:

- 1** Identify the education and training coordinator within your facility who will be the primary contact.
- 2** Print the following materials before accessing the education session. One copy of each per person:
 - Sepsis education pre-test: to be completed by staff prior to viewing the educational session.
 - Sepsis educational slides: definitions and early recognition and management of sepsis program.
 - Sepsis education post-test: to be completed by staff after viewing the education session.
 - Sepsis training evaluation form: to be completed by staff at the conclusion of the training.
- 3** Staff participating in this training should complete each form at the appropriate time during the training. Pre- and post-tests should be returned to the facility education and training coordinator.

Training Materials

Early Recognition and Management of Sepsis Program

Participation Agreement Form

This form briefly describes the design, facility expectations, expected results and program education benefits. It also includes a “call to participate” section which identifies the facility name and leadership agreeing to champion the program. The form can be used to encourage accountability in the program.

[Download](#)

Agenda Template

In its current format, this template can be used as the agenda for the introduction of the sepsis program or modified for each learning session. It includes a suggested timeline for one hour meetings. It should be used throughout the program.

[Download](#)

Action Plan

This action plan aligns tasks with ownership and timelines. It also measures the progress of each task. It should be used at the beginning and then updated through each phase of the program.

[Download](#)

Facility Readiness Evaluation

This evaluation is used to identify and mediate gaps in implementing the sepsis program. It should be used at beginning of the program.

[Download](#)

Presentation Slides and Materials

[Sepsis program meeting 1 presentation](#)

This presentation contains helpful action items at the beginning and end of the presentation for the facilitator as they begin planning for their sepsis program. Actionable slides have black titles while content slides have blue titles. It discusses the roles of the participants and includes an action plan for early recognition and management of sepsis. It also contains the pathogenesis of sepsis, statistics and identifies educational resources. This presentation should be used to introduce the sepsis program.

- [Sepsis program meeting 1 agenda](#)
- [Sepsis program meeting 1 action plan](#)

[Sepsis program meeting 2 presentation](#)

The second presentation in the series reviews the previous information and defines metrics for sepsis screening. This presentation should be used to review and plan for the next steps in the sepsis program.

- [Sepsis program meeting 2 agenda](#)
- [Sepsis program meeting 2 action plan](#)

[Sepsis program meeting 3 presentation | Infection prevention: pneumonia](#)

This presentation provides an overview of PNA statistics, causes and preventative interventions. This presentation should be used to educate staff on the prevention of PNA.

- [Sepsis program meeting 3 agenda](#)
- [Sepsis program meeting 3 action plan](#)

[Sepsis program meeting 4 presentation | Infection prevention: UTI and CAUTI](#)

This presentation provides an overview of UTI/CAUTI statistics, causes and preventative interventions. This presentation should be used to educate staff on the prevention of UTI/CAUTIs.

- [Sepsis program meeting 4 agenda](#)
- [Sepsis program meeting 4 action plan](#)

[Sepsis program meeting 5 presentation | Infection prevention: CLABSI](#)

This presentation provides an overview of CLABSI statistics, causes and preventative interventions. This presentation should be used to educate staff on the prevention of CLABSI.

- [Sepsis program meeting 5 agenda](#)
- [Sepsis program meeting 5 action plan](#)

[Sepsis program meeting 6 presentation | Infection prevention: summary](#)

This presentation provides an overview of the entire sepsis program. It includes suggestions for tools that the facility may use in auditing and identifying gaps during the implementation of the sepsis program as well as resources for educational review. This presentation should be used at the end of the sepsis program.

Sepsis Education Pre-Test

The pre-test should be used to assess the knowledge of the participants prior to beginning the sepsis program meeting one presentation. It is useful for both the facilitator and the participants.

[Download](#)

Sepsis Education Post-Test

The post-test should be used to assess the knowledge of the participants after the sepsis program meeting one presentation.

[Download](#)

Sepsis Education Videos

[What Is Sepsis? \(CNA version\)](#)

[What Is Sepsis? \(Nurse version\)](#)

[Early Identification and Management of Sepsis](#)

Prevention Practice Current State Assessments

[Infection Prevention Action Plan](#)

This action plan aligns infection prevention tasks with ownership and timelines. It should be used to track the progress of evidence-based interventions for PNA, UTI/CAUTI and CLABSI after meeting three, four and five, respectively.

[Pneumonia Prevention](#)

This evaluation is used to assess policies and audits pertaining to PNA prevention in the facility. It should be introduced during meeting three and used throughout the sepsis program.

[UTI/CAUTI Prevention](#)

This evaluation is used to assess policies and audits pertaining to UTI/CAUTI prevention in the facility. It should be introduced during meeting four and used throughout the sepsis program.

[CLABSI Prevention](#)

This evaluation is used to assess policies and audits pertaining to CLABSI prevention in the facility. It should be introduced during meeting five and used throughout the sepsis program.

Infection Prevention Program Videos

These videos can be used by the facilitator of the sepsis program to get a better understanding of the author's goals and areas of emphasis during the development of the program. They can also be used as a reference for participants in the program.

[Pneumonia Prevention in Skilled Nursing Facilities](#)

[Preventing CAUTIs and UTIs Through Evidence-based Care Practices](#)

[Preventing CLABSI in Skilled Nursing Facilities](#)

Evaluation

This evaluation should be used to assess the effectiveness of the first sepsis program meeting. It can also be modified for use future evaluations.

[Download](#)

Sepsis Tools

Severe Sepsis Screening Tool Assessment

This screening tool is for use in identifying residents upon admission, daily on every shift and PRN upon condition change or a STOP AND WATCH notification.

[Download](#)

Severe Sepsis Screening Algorithm

This algorithm is for use in sepsis screening. It includes SBAR communication guidelines and should be used upon admission, daily with condition change.

[Download](#)

Severe Sepsis Bundle

This bundle is for patients with a known or suspected infection with two or more systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS) and new organ dysfunction. It should be used guide an SBAR report when making recommendations for physician orders.

[Download](#)

STOP and WATCH INTERACT Tool

This tool should be used by anyone who interacts with patients daily for early detection of sepsis.

[Download](#)

Patient and Family Engagement Tools

These tools can be passed out to patients to supplement face-to-face education.

[Sepsis and Immune System \(Source: Sepsis Alliance\)](#)

[Sepsis Fact Sheet \(Source: Sepsis Alliance\)](#)

[Life After Sepsis Fact Sheet \(Source: Sepsis Alliance\)](#)

[What Is Sepsis? \(Source: CDC\)](#)

[Protect Your Patients From Sepsis \(Source: CDC\)](#)

[Signs of Infection and Sepsis at Home \(Source: TMF Quality Innovation Network\)](#)

[Oral Care Handout \(Source: University of Iowa School of Nursing\)](#)

Resources

The reference information used to develop the Early Recognition and Management of Sepsis Program is below. These resources can be used to research data and obtain additional study materials for participants as well as patient education handouts.

New Jersey Sepsis Learning-action Collaborative

www.njha.com/sepsis

Surviving Sepsis Campaign

<http://www.survivingsepsis.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Sepsis

<http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Resources

<http://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/>

Minnesota Hospital Association “Seeing Sepsis Long Term Care Resources”

<http://www.mnhospitals.org/quality-patient-safety/>

American Hospital Association’s Health Research and Educational Trust “Sepsis Resources”

<http://www.hret-hen.org/>

Questions about this toolkit? Contact Pat Posa at Patricia.Posa@stjoeshealth.org.