

Evaluation for Severe Sepsis Screening Tool

Instructions: Use this optional tool to screen patients for severe sepsis in the emergency department, on the medical/surgical floors, or in the ICU.

1. Is the patient's history suggestive of a new infection?

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pneumonia, empyema | <input type="checkbox"/> Bone/joint infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Implantable device infection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urinary tract infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Wound infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Other infection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acute abdominal infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Blood stream catheter infection | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meningitis | <input type="checkbox"/> Endocarditis | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skin/soft tissue infection | | |

___ Yes ___ No

2. Are any two of following signs & symptoms of infection both present and new to the patient? Note: laboratory values may have been obtained for inpatients but may not be available for outpatients.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperthermia > 38.3 °C (101.0 °F) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tachypnea > 20 bpm | <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperglycemia (plasma glucose >140 mg/dL) or 7.7 mmol/L in the absence of diabetes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hypothermia < 36 °C (96.8°F) | <input type="checkbox"/> Leukocytosis (WBC count >12,000 μ L ⁻¹) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altered mental status | <input type="checkbox"/> Leukopenia (WBC count < 4000 μ L ⁻¹) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tachycardia > 90 bpm | | |

___ Yes ___ No

If the answer is yes, to both questions 1 and 2, suspicion of infection is present:

- ✓ Obtain: **lactic acid, blood cultures**, CBC with differential, basic chemistry labs, bilirubin.
- ✓ At the physician's discretion obtain: UA, chest x-ray, amylase, lipase, ABG, CRP, CT scan.

3. Are any of the following organ dysfunction criteria present at a site remote from the site of the infection that are NOT considered to be chronic conditions? Note: in the case of bilateral pulmonary infiltrates the remote site stipulation is waived.

- SBP < 90 mmHg or MAP <65 mmHg
- SBP decrease > 40 mm Hg from baseline
- Creatinine > 2.0 mg/dl (176.8 mmol/L) or urine output < 0.5 ml/kg/hour for 2 hours
- Bilirubin > 2 mg/dl (34.2 mmol/L)
- Platelet count < 100,000 μ L
- Lactate > 2 mmol/L (18.0 mg/dl)
- Coagulopathy (INR >1.5 or aPTT >60 secs)
- Acute lung injury with PaO₂/FiO₂ <250 in the absence of pneumonia as infection source
- Acute lung injury with PaO₂/FiO₂ <200 in the presence of pneumonia as infection source

___ Yes ___ No

If suspicion of infection is present AND organ dysfunction is present, the patient meets the criteria for SEVERE SEPSIS and should be entered into the severe sepsis protocol.

Date: ___/___/___ (circle: dd/mm/yy or mm/dd/yy)

Time: ___:___ (24 hr. clock)