

Sepsis Screening Tool Acute Assessment

SEPSIS SCREENING TOOL ACUTE ASSESSMENT AGE 12+

PATIENT DETAILS: NAME: DATE: TIME: SIGNATURE: SIGNATURE:

01 START THIS CHART IF THE PATIENT LOOKS UNWELL OR NEWS2 IS 5 OR ABOVE

BOX FACTORS FOR SEPSIS INCLUDE:

- ☐ Age > 75
- ☐ Impaired ability to respond, react, communicate
- ☐ Recent trauma / surgery / medical procedure
- ☐ Invasive lines / IVs / drains etc.

02 COULD THIS BE DUE TO AN INFECTION?

LIKELY SOURCE:

- ☐ Respiratory
- ☐ Urine
- ☐ Skin / joint / wound
- ☐ Invasive device
- ☐ Surgical
- ☐ Other

SEPSIS UNLIKELY, CONSIDER OTHER DIAGNOSIS

03 ANY RED FLAG PRESENT?

- ☐ Objective evidence of new or altered mental state
- ☐ Systolic BP < 90 mmHg (or drop of >40 from normal)
- ☐ Heart rate > 130 per minute
- ☐ Respiratory rate > 25 per minute
- ☐ SpO2 < 92% on 2L O2, 1-2% O2 in COPD
- ☐ New / changing rash / mottled / mottled / mottled
- ☐ Lactate > 2 mmol/L
- ☐ Raised creatinine
- ☐ Not passed urine in 24 hours (or <0.5ml/kg/24h)

RED FLAG SEPSIS

SEPSIS SIX

04 ANY AMBER FLAG PRESENT?

- ☐ Alertness concerned about mental status
- ☐ Acute deterioration in functional ability
- ☐ Immunosuppressed
- ☐ Trauma / surgery / procedure in last 6 weeks
- ☐ Respiratory rate > 25
- ☐ Systolic BP 90-130 mmHg
- ☐ Heart rate 100-130 or new dysrhythmia
- ☐ Temp > 38°C
- ☐ Clinical signs of mixed infection

FURTHER REVIEW REQUIRED:

SEND ALONG AND REPORT RESULTS

ENTIRE CLINICAL REVIEW WITH DR

TIME ON REVIEW: ■■■ ■■■ ■■■

AMBER FLAG RESULTS: ■ ■ ■

NO AMBER FLAGS = ROUTINE CARE / CONSIDER OTHER DIAGNOSIS



Sepsis screening tool acute assessment is a critical component in the early identification and management of sepsis, a life-threatening condition resulting from the body's response to infection. Timely recognition and intervention can significantly improve patient outcomes, making the implementation of effective screening tools essential in clinical settings. This article will delve into the importance of sepsis screening, the components of an acute assessment, various screening tools available, and best practices for implementation in healthcare environments.

The Importance of Early Sepsis Detection

Sepsis is a global health concern, affecting millions of individuals each year. Its insidious onset and rapid progression can lead to severe complications, including organ failure and death. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), sepsis is responsible for approximately 11 million deaths annually, highlighting the urgency of effective screening and intervention strategies.

20 breaths per minute) or arterial CO₂ <32 mmHg.

4. Altered mental status: Confusion, lethargy, or altered consciousness.

5. Blood pressure: Hypotension (systolic BP <90 mmHg or a decrease of >40 mmHg from baseline).

Each of these criteria can indicate the presence of sepsis, and the more criteria that are met, the higher the suspicion for sepsis.