

# Pediatric Sepsis – Suspected / Septic Shock

## SEPSIS:

“a life-threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to infection.” and should be treated as “a life-threatening condition that arises when the body’s response to an infection injures its own tissues and organs.”

Routine Medical Care

Vital Signs Including Temperature

## Pediatric SIRS Criteria (Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome)

Obvious or Suspected Infection PLUS ANY of the following criteria:

**Temperature >100°F or <96°F AND Heart Rate**

- 1 month – 1 year > 180 bpm
- 2 – 5 years > 140 bpm
- 6 – 12 years > 130 bpm
- 13 – 18 years > 120 bpm

The SIRS (Systemic Inflammatory Response System) criteria represent a series of objective physical and laboratory findings indicative of an infectious or non-infectious insult provoking a systemic immune response.

No

## Routine Medical Care<sup>2</sup>

Patients with suspected sepsis may not have a low EtCO<sub>2</sub> reading.

Consider sepsis based on clinical presentation.

## Hypotension for Age

Age	Systolic Blood Pressure
> 10 years	< 90 mmHg
1-10 years	< 70 + (2 x age in years)
< 1 year	< 70 mmHg

Reference charts

**EtCO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 25mmHg** OR

*These levels are associated with serum lactate levels > 4 mmol/L.*

**Hypotensive OR ANY of these criteria \* See reference charts**

No

Yes

## Criteria for consideration

- Immunocompromised
- Developmental Delay
- Cancer Patient
- Catheter – PICC or Foley
- S / S of poor perfusion
- Sick Cell Patient

Yes

Consider Sepsis

Call **SEPSIS ALERT** to receiving ED

**20 mL/kg or 1 liter fluid bolus w/ pressure bag IV / IO ( LR<sup>3</sup>)**  
with reassessment\* **\*max 60 mL/kg or 3 liters unless clinical concern for fluid overload**

**\*\*If signs of fluid overload or age appropriate Hypotension after MAX Bolus – STOP FLUIDS and START EPI\*\***

**Push Dose Epinephrine IV/IO**  
**10 mcg/ml [1:100,000] 1 ml/min**

or

**Epinephrine Drip IV/IO 0.01 – 0.5 mcg/kg/min**

or

**Norepinephrine Drip IV/IO 0.1 - 2 mcg/kg/min**

**Titrate to age appropriate BP: SBP ≥ 70 + 2 x Age**

<sup>3</sup> Lactated Ringers are the crystalloid of choice for the resuscitation of septic patients when available.

Consider Acetaminophen for fever  
15mg/kg IV over 15 minutes

## \*\*AGES 2 months and older\*\*

**Cefepime 50 mg/kg/dose IV / IO**  
**Max Dose 2 gm**

**\*\*\*Do Not administer if pt has allergy to: \*\*\***

**Penicillin – PCN**  
**Cephalexin - Keflex**

Contact Medical Control for consultation or further orders

## Signs / Symptoms:

- Hyper/Hypothermia
- Chills
- Rash
- Altered Mental Status
- Myalgias
- Cough
- Dysuria

## History:

- Age
- Fever
- Previous Infection
- Immunocompromised
- Bedridden / Immobilized patient
- Recent Surgery
- Developmental Delay
- Cancer
- Catheter – PICC or Foley
- Transplant