

Sepsis

Measure 3: Timely Blood Culture for Children with Sepsis Syndrome

Description

The proportion of hospitalized children with sepsis syndrome who had blood culture drawn within 4 hours of meeting diagnostic criteria for sepsis syndrome. A higher proportion indicates better performance.

Definitions

Intake period	January 1 through December 31 of the measurement year.
Hospitalized children	All children admitted to the hospital, including the Emergency Department
Sepsis syndrome	Sepsis, severe sepsis or septic shock (see Table 3-A). Any of the ICD-9 codes listed in Table 3-B qualifies as sepsis syndrome.

Table 3-A: Definition of Sepsis Syndrome

Term	Definition
Sepsis syndrome	Sepsis, severe sepsis or septic shock
Sepsis	Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) in the presence of, or as a result of, suspected or proven infection
SIRS	The presence of at least two of the following four criteria, one of which must be abnormal temperature or leukocyte count: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core temperature of > 38.5°C or < 36°C.• Tachycardia, defined as a mean heart rate > 2 SD above normal for age in the absence of external stimulus, chronic drugs, or painful stimuli; or otherwise unexplained persistent elevation over a 0.5-to 4-hr time period OR for children <1 yr old: bradycardia, defined as a mean heart rate <10th percentile for age in the absence of external vagal stimulus, β- blocker drugs, or congenital heart disease; or otherwise unexplained persistent depression over a 0.5-hr time period.• Mean respiratory rate > 2 SD above normal for age or mechanical ventilation for an acute process not related to underlying neuromuscular disease or the receipt of general anesthesia.• Leukocyte count elevated or depressed for age (not secondary to chemotherapy-induced leukopenia) or > 10% immature neutrophils
Infection	A suspected or proven (by positive culture, tissue stain, or polymerase chain reaction test) infection caused by any pathogen OR a clinical syndrome associated with a high probability of infection. Evidence of infection includes positive findings on clinical exam, imaging, or laboratory tests (e.g., white blood cells in a normally sterile body fluid, perforated viscus, chest radiograph consistent with pneumonia, petechial or purpuric rash, or purpura fulminans).

Term	Definition
Suspected infection	Infection is suspected when one of the following is documented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orders for antibiotics OR • Antibiotics administered OR • Orders for urine, blood or spinal culture OR • Urine, blood or spinal culture drawn OR • Chart notation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Rule out infection” OR • “Suspected infection” OR • “Rule out sepsis” OR • “Suspected sepsis”
Severe sepsis	Sepsis plus one of the following: cardiovascular organ dysfunction OR acute respiratory distress syndrome OR two or more other organ dysfunctions.
Organ dysfunctions	<p>Cardiovascular</p> <p>Despite administration of isotonic intravenous fluid bolus ≥ 40 mL/kg in 1 hour,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease in BP (hypotension) < 5th percentile for age or systolic BP < 2 SD below normal for age <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for vasoactive drug to maintain BP in normal range (dopamine > 5 μg/kg/min or dobutamine, epinephrine, or norepinephrine at any dose) <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Two of the following:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Unexplained metabolic acidosis: base deficit > 5.0 mEq/L – Increased arterial lactate > 2 times upper limit of normal – Oliguria: urine output < 0.5 mL/kg/hr – Prolonged capillary refill: > 5 seconds – Core to peripheral temperature gap $> 3^{\circ}$C <p>Respiratory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PaO₂/FIO₂ < 300 in absence of cyanotic heart disease or preexisting lung disease <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PaCO₂ > 65 torr or 20 mm Hg over baseline PaCO₂ <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven need or $> 50\%$ FIO₂ to maintain saturation $\geq 92\%$ <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for non-elective invasive or noninvasive mechanical ventilation <p>Neurologic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glasgow Coma Score ≤ 11 <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute change in mental status with a decrease in Glasgow Coma Score ≥ 3 points from abnormal baseline <p>Hematologic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platelet count $< 80,000/\text{mm}^3$ or a decline of 50% in platelet count from highest value recorded over the past 3 days (for chronic hematology/oncology patients) <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International normalized ratio > 2 <p>Renal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serum creatinine ≥ 2 times upper limit of normal for age or 2-fold increase in baseline creatinine <p>Hepatic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total bilirubin ≥ 4 mg/dL (not applicable for newborn) <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALT 2 times upper limit of normal for age
Septic Shock	Sepsis and cardiovascular organ dysfunction

Table 3-B: Codes to Identify Sepsis Syndrome

Condition Name	ICD-9 Code(s)
Septicemia	038.xx
Streptococcal septicemia	038.0
Staphylococcal septicemia	038.1
Staphylococcal septicemia, unspecified	038.10
Methicillin susceptible Staphylococcus aureus septicemia	038.11
Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus septicemia	038.12
Other staphylococcal septicemia	038.19
Pneumococcal septicemia [Streptococcus pneumoniae septicemia]	038.2
Septicemia due to anaerobes	038.3
Septicemia due to other gram-negative organisms	038.4
Septicemia due to gram-negative organism, unspecified	038.40
Septicemia due to Haemophilus influenzae [H. influenzae]	038.41
Septicemia due to escherichia coli [E. coli]	038.42
Septicemia due to pseudomonas	038.43
Septicemia due to serratia	038.44
Other septicemia due to gram-negative organisms	038.49
Other specified septicemias	038.8
Unspecified septicemia	038.9
Severe sepsis	995.92
Sepsis	995.91
Septicemia [sepsis] of newborn	771.81
Systemic inflammatory response syndrome due to non-infectious process with acute organ dysfunction	995.94
Bacteremia	790.7
Septic shock	785.52

Eligible Population

The determination of eligible population for this measure requires medical record data.

Ages	Younger than 19 years of age during measurement year
Event/Diagnosis	Diagnosed with sepsis syndrome (sepsis, severe sepsis or septic shock) as documented in the medical record

Specification

Denominator	All hospitalized children with sepsis syndrome
Numerator	Number of hospitalized children with sepsis syndrome who had blood culture drawn within 4 hours of meeting diagnostic criteria for sepsis syndrome

Exclusions

- All children with sepsis syndrome who were transferred from another hospital, if blood culture was performed at the referring hospital
- Children who died within 4 hours of meeting diagnostic criteria for sepsis syndrome
- Patients with advanced directives for comfort care
- Patient or surrogate decision maker declined or is unwilling to consent to therapies