

# Community Nursing Sepsis Screening and Action Tool

To be applied to all non-pregnant adults and young people 12 years and over with fever (or recent fever) symptoms



1. Are you worried your patient is sick?

e.g.

Tick

2. Are there signs/ symptoms of infection?

Tick

3. Is **ONE** Red Flag present?

Tick

New deterioration in GCS/ AVPU  
or acute confusion

Systolic B.P  $\leq 90$  mmHg (or  $\geq 40$  mmHg below normal)

Heart rate  $\geq 130$  per minute

Respiratory rate  $\geq 25$  per minute

Needs oxygen to keep SpO<sub>2</sub> 92% (88% in COPD)

Non-blanching rash or mottled/ ashen/ cyanotic

Not passed urine in last 18 hours

Urine output less than 0.5 ml/kg/hr if catheterised

Recent chemotherapy (within last 6 weeks)

4. Is any **ONE** Amber Flag present?

Tick

Relatives worried about mental state/ behaviour

Acute deterioration in functional ability

Immunosuppressed (without recent chemotherapy)

Trauma, surgery or procedure in last 6 weeks

Respiratory rate 21-24 OR dyspnoeic

Systolic B.P 91-100 mmHg

Heart rate 91-130 OR new dysrhythmia

Not passed urine in last 12-18 hours

Tympanic temperature  $\leq 36^{\circ}\text{C}$

Clinical signs of wound, device or skin infection

*If under 17 & immunity impaired treat  
as Red Flag Sepsis*

At risk of sepsis

**Red Flag Sepsis!** This is a time critical condition, immediate action is required.

1. If appropriate\* dial 999, arrange blue light transfer

2. If available give O<sub>2</sub> to keep saturations  $>94\%$  (88-92% in COPD)

3. Cannulate if skills & competencies allow

4. Consider IV fluids

5. Inform Next of Kin

6. Ensure ambulance crew pre-alert 'Red Flag Sepsis'

\*Consider individual's advanced plan, if not for transfer consider appropriate limits of care