SEPSIS SCREENING TOOL GENERAL PRACTICE

01 START THIS CHART IF THE CHILD LOOKS UNWELL OR HAS ABNORMAL PHYSIOLOGY

RISK FACTORS FOR SEPSIS INCLUDE:

- Impaired immunity (e.g. diabetes, steroids, chemotherapy)
- Recent trauma / surgery / invasive procedure
- Indwelling lines / broken skin

02 COULD THIS BE DUE TO AN INFECTION?

LIKELY SOURCE:

- Respiratory
- Urine
- Skin / joint / wound
- Indwelling device

03 ANY RED FLAG PRESENT?

- Objective evidence of new or altered mental state
- Doesn’t wake when roused/ won’t stay awake
- Looks very unwell to healthcare professional
- Severe tachycardia (see chart)
- Severe tachypnoea (see chart)
- Bradycardia (<60 bpm)
- SpO2 < 90% on air
- Non-blanching rash / mottled / ashen / cyanotic

04 ANY AMBER FLAG PRESENT?

IF IMMUNITY IMPAIRED TREAT AS RED FLAG SEPSIS

- Behaving abnormally / not wanting to play
- Parental concern
- Moderate tachypnoea (see chart)
- Moderate tachycardia (see chart)
- SpO2 < 92% on air
- Capillary refill time ≥ 3 seconds
- Reduced urine output
- Temperature <36°C
- Leg pain

NO AMBER FLAGS: ROUTINE CARE AND GIVE SAFETY-NETTING ADVICE:

GP RED FLAG BUNDLE:

THIS IS TIME-CRITICAL – IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED: DIAL 999
AND ARRANGE BLUE LIGHT TRANSFER

COMMUNICATION: Ensure communication of ‘Red Flag Sepsis’ to crew. Advise crew to pre-alert as ‘Red Flag Sepsis’. Where possible a written handover is recommended including observations and antibiotic allergies.

Age [years] | Tachypnoea (breaths per minute) | Tachycardia (beats per minute)
-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------
5            | Severe ≥29 24-28 Moderate ≥130 120-129 |
6-7          | Severe ≥27 24-26 Moderate ≥120 110-119 |
8-11         | Severe ≥25 22-24 Moderate ≥115 105-115 |