

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

## RISK FACTORS FOR SEPSIS INCLUDE:

- Age > 75
- Impaired immunity (e.g. diabetes, steroids, chemotherapy)
- Recent trauma / surgery / invasive procedure
- Indwelling lines / IVDU / broken skin

# 02 COULD THIS BE DUE TO AN INFECTION?

## LIKELY SOURCE:

- Respiratory
- Brain
- Urine
- Surgical
- Skin / joint / wound
- Other
- Indwelling device

NO

**SEPSIS UNLIKELY, CONSIDER OTHER DIAGNOSIS**

# 03 ANY RED FLAG PRESENT?

- Objective evidence of new or altered mental state
- Systolic BP  $\leq$  90 mmHg (or drop of  $>$ 40 from normal)
- Heart rate  $\geq$  130 per minute
- Respiratory rate  $\geq$  25 per minute
- Needs O<sub>2</sub> to keep SpO<sub>2</sub>  $\geq$  92% (88% in COPD)
- Non-blanching rash / mottled / ashen / cyanotic
- Recent chemotherapy
- Not passed urine in 18 hours ( $<$ 0.5ml/kg/hr if catheterised)

YES

**RED FLAG SEPSIS**  
**START GP BUNDLE**

# 04 ANY AMBER FLAG PRESENT?

## IF UNDER 17 & IMMUNITY IMPAIRED TREAT AS RED FLAG SEPSIS

- Relatives concerned about mental status
- Acute deterioration in functional ability
- Immunosuppressed
- Trauma / surgery / procedure in last 8 weeks
- Respiratory rate 21-24
- Systolic BP 91-100 mmHg
- Heart rate 91-130 or new dysrhythmia
- Temperature  $<$ 36°C
- Clinical signs of wound infection

YES

USE CLINICAL JUDGEMENT TO DETERMINE WHETHER PATIENT CAN BE MANAGED IN COMMUNITY SETTING. IF TREATING IN THE COMMUNITY CONSIDER:

- PLANNED SECOND ASSESSMENT +/- BLOODS
- SPECIFIC SAFETY NETTING ADVICE

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

CALL 111 IF CONDITION CHANGES OR DETERIORATES.  
SIGNPOST TO AVAILABLE RESOURCES AS APPROPRIATE

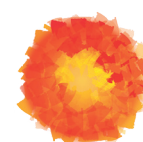
CALL 999 IF ANY OF:

Slurred speech or confusion  
Extreme shivering or muscle pain  
Passing no urine (in a day)  
Severe breathlessness  
'I feel I might die'  
Skin mottled, ashen, blue or very pale

## 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.



THE UK  
SEPSIS  
TRUST