



THE UK
SEPSIS
TRUST

Representing the UK Sepsis Trust

Thank you for representing the UK Sepsis Trust and helping us to raise awareness of sepsis – your support is invaluable.

Please see below for key facts and figures about the charity and the condition itself, as well as a summary of our current activity. We've also included UKST's key messages on page two – it'd be great if you could mention these 'asks' at your event. For leaflets, symptom cards, t-shirts and other resources, please contact info@sepsistrust.org, visit the website www.sepsistrust.org or call 0800 389 6255.

Sepsis takes 48,000 lives in the UK every year

Sepsis, is the reaction to an infection in which the body attacks its own organs and tissues. If not spotted and treated quickly, it can rapidly lead to organ failure and death. The numbers are staggering – every year in the UK **245,000** people are affected by sepsis; **48,000** people die because of sepsis (1,000 which are children) and **60,000** suffer permanent, life-changing after-effects.

Sepsis is an indiscriminate killer, claiming young and old lives alike and affecting the previously fit and healthy. It's more common than **heart attacks** and **kills more people than bowel, breast and prostate cancer and road accidents** combined. Current practice for diagnosis and treatment could be costing the UK economy up to **£15.6 billion** annually.

But despite the statistics and the condition's devastating impacts, **awareness of sepsis is astonishingly low.**

Headed by world leader in sepsis and NHS Consultant Dr. Ron Daniels, the **UK Sepsis Trust** has a clear **mission to save lives and improve outcomes for survivors of sepsis** by instigating **political change, educating healthcare professionals, raising public awareness**, and providing support for those affected.

Earlier identification and treatment across the UK would **save thousands of lives** and result in 400,000 fewer days in hospital for patients every year. This could save the UK economy as much as **£2.8 billion** per annum.

As a self-funded organisation we have made significant progress. In 2017, efforts spearheaded by the UK Sepsis Trust led the World Health Organisation to adopt a resolution to improve sepsis care in all UN member states, making the condition a priority for policy makers and healthcare authorities all over the world.

The awareness that we have raised has led to storylines in major radio and television programmes such as *The Archers* and *Coronation Street*, reaching millions of people.

We're also reaching more people in terms of support than ever. Since January we have opened 11 new support groups and our volunteer network has gone up by more than 300%.

Key messages

Get involved and help the Trust. We want audiences to become UKST supporters by:

- Donating
- Fundraising
- Connecting us with people who can help the cause (by providing pro bono consultancy, gifts in kind, or putting us in touch with potential influencers)
- Volunteering to help with the support groups run by UKST. They're designed to help people who have been affected by sepsis, and take place regularly across the UK.

The sepsis agenda: what needs to happen next?

- Following the public health awareness campaign for sepsis in babies and children launched in 2016, UKST is calling for a nationwide campaign for adults, too.
- We need the quality of sepsis care to be consistent across the UK. The current postcode lottery is not good enough.
- The NHS must change the way it records sepsis. Better data will allow healthcare professionals to diagnose and treat sepsis more quickly, which will save lives and improve outcomes for thousands of people.