

# ***Adult Inpatient Sepsis Screening Tool for Clinical Teaching Units***

## **Does the patient have any TWO of the following Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) criteria?**

- Heart rate greater than 90 beats/min
- Respiratory rate greater than 20 breaths/min
- Temperature greater than or equal to 38°C or less than 36°C
- WBC greater than 12.0 or less than 4.0 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L
- Altered mental status

## **Does the patient have a confirmed or suspected source of infection or any of the symptoms below?**

- Cough/sputum/chest pain/shortness of breath
- Abdominal pain/distension/vomiting/diarrhea
- Dysuria/frequency/indwelling catheter
- Skin or joint pain/swelling/redness
- Central line present
- Mottled skin, cold extremities

**PATIENT MAY HAVE NEW INFECTION/SEPSIS**

## **Initial triage assessment (by phone or in person)**

- Is activation of Early Sepsis Investigation and Treatment Orders consistent with the patient's goals of care (e.g., comfort care only)?
- Should the Early Sepsis Investigation and Treatment Orders be activated (by phone) before the physician can examine the patient?
- **Note:** Patient may have sepsis/septic shock if they have a SBP less than 90 mmHg, and/or MAP less than 65 mmHg, and/or a lactate greater than 2.0 mmol/L
- If any of the above are positive, requires **IMMEDIATE BEDSIDE ASSESSMENT**
  - Investigations
  - Antibiotics
  - IV fluids

## **Complete Assessment (in person within 30 minutes)**

- Is continuation of Early Sepsis Investigation and Treatment Orders indicated?
- Are any changes to the Early Sepsis Investigation and Treatment Orders required?

## **Reassessment of Diagnosis & Treatment Plan**

- Review results of investigations and reassess diagnosis. Are further investigations required?
- Review response to IV fluids. Are additional IV fluids required?
- Review antibiotic(s) including dose/frequency/duration
- Is consultation required (e.g., ICU, ID, Respirology GI, General Surgery)? Consider ICU consultation if sepsis/septic shock is present
- Is source control required?

