

Child Health BC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit for Emergency and Urgent Care Settings Factsheet

BACKGROUND

Sepsis represents a leading cause of preventable death and long term morbidity for children globally. Early recognition and management is key to optimizing outcomes. It was identified through the Child Health BC (CHBC) Children's Department (ED) Tiers of Service self-assessments that the implementation of best practice resources to support pediatric sepsis was needed.

Many advancements have since been made including:

- a 6-month trial in 2021 piloting a Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit in a rural Emergency Department
- the development of a Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Recognition and Management Guideline to improve standard of care across BC
- the development of patient/caregiver resources for sepsis education
- the development of knowledge translation materials to support health authority led implementation

ABOUT THE CHBC PROVINCIAL PEDIATRIC SEPSIS RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE & ACCOMPANYING TOOLKIT

The CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Recognition and Management Guideline is based on international best practice and incorporates input from a broad range of pediatric clinicians across BC.

Additional resources in the toolkit are:

- an information booklet for parents and caregivers of a child diagnosed with sepsis
- a one page infographic, "Could It Be Sepsis"
- implementation materials

Included in the guideline is:

- a screening tool
- a clinical care algorithm
- fluid resuscitation & antimicrobial guidance
- recommended laboratory and other investigations

The image displays two key clinical tools. The top tool is the 'CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Screening Tool', which is a flowchart starting with 'Sepsis is a MEDICAL EMERGENCY; Early Recognition and Treatment is Imperative for Survival'. It asks 'ARE THERE SIGNS OF SUSPECTED SEPSIS?' and 'IS THE CHILD AT HIGH RISK OF COMPLICATIONS FROM SEPSIS?'. If either is 'AND/OR' true, it leads to 'ARE THERE SIGNS OF SEPTIC SHOCK?'. If 'NO', it instructs to 'REMAIN ALERT' and 'DON'T DELAY - TREAT FOR SEPSIS OR SEPTIC SHOCK'. If 'AND/OR' true, it leads to 'IMMEDIATE ACTIONS' and 'ESTABLISH VASCULAR ACCESS, OBTAIN LAB WORK & ADMINISTER ANTIBIOTICS' within the first 40 minutes. The bottom tool is the 'Child Health BC Pediatric Sepsis Clinical Care Algorithm', which details 'RECOGNITION', 'IMMEDIATE ACTIONS', 'ESTABLISH VASCULAR ACCESS, OBTAIN LAB WORK & ADMINISTER ANTIBIOTICS', 'FLUID ADMINISTRATION', 'ONGOING CARE', 'PEDIATRIC CONSULTATION', and 'CONSULT PICU VIA P24 FOR'. It also includes a 'LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS'.

PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

The toolkit resources were developed after extensive consultation with the following BC & international partners:

- BC Patient Voices Network
- Center for International Child Health
- CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Advisory & Working Group
- Hamilton Health Services
- Health Quality BC
- PHSA Health Literacy Language Specialist
- Queensland Paediatric Sepsis Program, Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Services
- Sepsis Alliance
- Sepsis Canada
- University of British Columbia Action on Sepsis Research Cluster

HOW TO ACCESS RESOURCES

The CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit for ED and Urgent Care Settings resources are available to download from the [Child Health BC Sepsis Toolkit](#) webpage.

KEY DOCUMENTS

- [CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Recognition and Management Guideline](#)
- [CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Screening Tool](#)
- [CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Clinical Care Algorithm](#)
- [Parent/Caregiver Information Booklet: When your Child has Sepsis: Information about Sepsis, Care and Recovery](#)
- ["Could It Be Sepsis" Infographic](#)
- [Translated parent/caregiver resources](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

For more details on what has changed with pediatric sepsis management and why, resources and support available including guidelines and education refer to the [CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit for ED and Urgent Care Settings Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) Guide](#).

EDUCATION

- [CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit for ED and Urgent Care Settings Webinar with Dr. Mark Chilvers & Dr. Garth Meckler](#)
- [Pediatric Sepsis SIM scenario](#)
- [Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit Huddle Facilitator Guide](#)

PATIENT JOURNEYS

The following video clips have been shared by the Queensland Paediatric Sepsis Program & UBC Action on Sepsis Research Cluster:

- [Could this be sepsis? Mia's Story](#)
- [Could this be sepsis? Sadie's Story](#)
- [Kristine & Ellie's Sepsis Story Part 1](#)
- [Kristine & Ellie's Sepsis Story Part 2](#)

MORE INFORMATION

Child Health BC is committed to supporting your service to adopt the CHBC Provincial Pediatric Sepsis Toolkit for ED and Urgent Care Settings and improve outcomes for families and children.

For more information email chbcadmin@cw.bc.ca