



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND MEDICAL SYSTEM

Sepsis Program

Recognition of Sepsis by Teams

DEFINITION OF SEPSIS = Organ dysfunction due to infection

Document both the indicators of organ dysfunction and the infection.

APPLY ABCDE THINKING



A

Assess & Access

- Assess airway
- Access for labs and medications
- Assess labs

B

Breathing, Blood Cultures & Antibiotics

- Assess breathing; *Tachypnea is one of the most sensitive markers for sepsis*
- Blood cultures and lactate collected
- Broad spectrum antibiotics (if source is unclear)
- Administer antibiotics within 1 hour of order/ASAP

C

Circulation - Hemodynamic Support

- Fluids
- Consider vasoactive agents
- Serial lactates

D

Diagnose Source of Infection

E

Evaluate Perfusion Status & Reassess Patient

- Reassess perfusion status. Consider volume status assessment and/or vasopressor support
- Ensures adequate source control (drainage, debridement, device removal)