

# MATERNAL SEPSIS



Maternal Sepsis is a life-threatening condition defined as organ dysfunction resulting from infection during pregnancy, childbirth, post-abortion or postpartum period (WHO 2016).

So who needs to get the Sepsis 6?  
Women with infection +1,2 or 3

**1**

### Immunosuppressed

Women who present unwell who are on treatment that puts them at risk of neutropenia, e.g. on anti-cancer treatment.

**2**

### SIRS Response,

i.e.  $\geq 2$  modified SIRS criteria listed below. Note – physiological changes must be sustained  $\geq 30$ mins

- Respiratory rate  $\geq 20$  breaths/min
- Heart rate  $\geq 100$  bpm
- Temperature  $< 36^\circ$  or  $\geq 38^\circ\text{C}$
- WCC  $< 4$  or  $> 16.9 \times 10^9/\text{L}$
- Bedside glucose  $> 7.7 \text{ mmol/L}$  (in the absence of diabetes mellitus)
- Fetal heart rate  $> 160$  bpm

**3**

### Clinically apparent new onset organ dysfunction due to infection.

Any 1 of the following signs of acute organ dysfunction:

- Altered Mental State
- RR  $> 30$  breaths/min
- $\text{O}_2$  Sat  $< 90\%$
- SBP  $< 100$  mmHg
- HR  $\geq 130$  bpm
- Mottled or ashen appearance
- Non-blanching rash
- Other organ dysfunction

Just by doing these six simple things **in the 1st hour** you can double the woman's chance of survival

Sepsis 6 + 1 (If pregnant, assess fetal wellbeing)

### Take 3

Bloods Cultures

(before 1st dose antimicrobial)

Blood Tests

(including POC Lactate)

Urine Output

(as part of perfusion status assessment)

### Give 3

Oxygen

(if required)

I.V. Fluid

(if deficit)

I.V. Antimicrobials

(local guidelines)

### 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR BUNDLE:

- Sepsis 6 completed ( $\text{O}_2$ , Fluids, Antimicrobials, Cultures, Tests, UOP)

Assess the woman's response

### 3-HOUR BUNDLE:

- Diagnosis and treatment reviewed with blood and other test results
- Sepsis/Septic shock diagnosed and documented as appropriate
- Lactate repeated if 1<sup>st</sup> abnormal
- Assess need for Source Control
- Care escalated to specialist care as required

### 6-HOUR BUNDLE:

- Diagnosis and treatment reviewed
- Is the woman responding, stabilising or deteriorating?
- Pressors commenced in women with fluid resistant shock



For more information visit:  
[www.hse.ie/sepsis](http://www.hse.ie/sepsis)



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Clinical Strategy and  
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Tús Áite do  
Shábháilteacht 1 Othar  
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