

## Sepsis Freedom of Information Request Questionnaire

Completed By: [Name]: Dr Chakri Molugu  
On Behalf of: [Trust]: STHK

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> Apr 2014  
Email: chakri.molugu@sthk.nhs.uk

1. Does your Trust have a mechanism for recording incidents of severe sepsis and septic shock?

Yes

If Yes, please go to Question 2.

If No, please go to Question 5.

If sepsis or severe sepsis or septic shock is recorded in medical notes, it will be coded and recorded. However, in reality only few cases with sepsis, severe sepsis or septic shock have this documented in their notes. This is a local, regional and national issue. Advancing quality (AQ) is due to introduce measures for sepsis later this summer and hopefully this will drive an improvement in appropriate documentation quite significantly.

2. Is sepsis on the Trust's risk register?

No

3. Is there a nominated Consultant with responsibility for sepsis at the Trust?

Yes

Dr C Molugu a consultant on Acute Medical Unit is our sepsis lead for the Trust.

4. Does the Trust resource sepsis nurses and/or dedicated Consultant time?

No. The Trust does however carry out sepsis training and awareness for nursing and medical staff.

5. How does the Trust record cases of sepsis? (e.g. ICD-10) How is the data reported to the Executive?

The Trust uses ICD -10 codes for recording cases of sepsis. At present there is no formal mechanism to report cases of sepsis to the executive members.

6. How many patients were diagnosed with severe sepsis in:

2013/14:	38	_____
2012/13:	11	_____
2011/12:	Unavailable	
2010/11:	Unavailable	

7. How many patients were diagnosed with septic shock in (if included in severe sepsis, tick here):

2013/14:	74	_____
2012/13:	80	_____
2011/12:	Unavailable	
2010/11:	Unavailable	

8. Does the Trust have an established pathway for basic care once a patient is diagnosed with sepsis?

Yes

If Yes, please go to Question 9

If No, please go to Question 11

9. Does the Trust follow the Sepsis Six guidelines?

See question 10

10. If not using the Sepsis Six, please identify the pathway below

Our sepsis lead developed a pathway for the managing patients with sepsis. This pathway included all elements of sepsis six and goes beyond to incorporate other parameters that are not part of sepsis six but are vital in managing patients with sepsis, severe sepsis and septic shock.

Surviving sepsis campaign generated guidelines for management of sepsis and most countries including UK follow this guidance. The pathway developed by our sepsis lead has been appreciated by surviving sepsis campaign (website) and have listed this pathway under their resources section for other hospitals to use if it suits their needs.

11. Does the Trust use an Early Goal-Directed Therapy (EGDT) pathway for patients arriving in the Emergency Department with septic shock?

Yes

If yes, please go to question 13

If no, please go to question 14

12. How is EGDT initiated in patients arriving in the Emergency Department with septic shock?

By the Emergency Department team

13. Does the Trust audit the time taken for a patient to receive antibiotics within the first hour as recommended by the 'Start Smart then Focus' guidance provided by the Department of Health?

Yes. The Trust has audited this previously using a manual technique. We are implementing electronic prescribing this year which will support on-going electronic auditing.

If Yes, please go to Question 14.

If No, please go to Question 15.

14. What percentage of patients with early signs of severe sepsis received antibiotics within an hour as recommended?

The Trust does not hold this information currently. However, the Advancing Quality measures to be introduced this summer will capture this information.

15. Do you have an escalation and communication pathway in place for patients with severe sepsis to facilitate senior involvement and inter-departmental transfers?

Yes. Our sepsis pathway highlights this and inform the juniors when to involve a senior.

16. Do you provide a blood gas machine or near patient testing allowing measurement of lactate in the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit to allow early recognition of sepsis?

Yes, we do have an ABG machine in our Emergency Department and on the Intensive Treatment Unit that can measure Lactate

17. Are you aware of the recently released report of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman on Sepsis; and if so have you made any changes to the way you record and deal with Sepsis at the Trust?

The Trust is aware of the recent Ombudsman report regarding sepsis. Since then we have established a Sepsis Group in the Trust consisting multi-disciplinary team members including consultants from critical care, microbiology, the Emergency Department, Acute Medical Unit, nurses from Acute Medical Unit, infection prevention and control team and members from education and learning department. The main aim of the group is to spread awareness about sepsis amongst members of staff and general public. To that effect we recently participated in a coffee morning in collaboration with Sepsis Trust UK (charitable organisation which had input into the Ombudsmen report) and were able to raise £161 for sepsis trust UK.

18. The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman recommended that senior staff were available 24 hours a day 7 days a week and should be consulted when severe sepsis is present. Does your Trust have senior Consultant cover 24 hours a day 7 days a week for all acute specialities admitting patients?

Yes

Any Further Comments:

We have recently migrated to 7 days working for consultants across most medical specialities. We now have ward rounds by consultants every day of the week including weekends for all acute admissions in medicine.

The Trust takes sepsis seriously and our Sepsis Group has strong support from our Medical Director. The Sepsis Group is undertaking various educational and audit activities to enhance sepsis awareness amongst the staff members.

***Please return your completed questionnaire to:***

***Sarah Newton MP  
House of Commons  
Westminster  
London, SW1A 0AA***