CDC Introduces Hospital Sepsis Program Guidelines

More than 30% of people who die in the hospital had sepsis at some point during their hospitalization, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates. However, only about half of hospitals have protected time for sepsis committee leaders to manage sepsis programs, according to survey results from 5221 US hospitals published in the CDC's Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report.

To shore up the ability of all hospitals to quickly identify and respond to sepsis, the CDC introduced a document outlining 7 elements that hospitals should incorporate when developing comprehensive sepsis programs. An accompanying assessment tool presented examples of what the Sepsis Core Elements look like in practice and can be used to track program progress.

“The Sepsis Core Elements complement existing sepsis guidelines and facilitate implementation of best practices across a range of patient populations (adults, children, and people who are pregnant or postpartum) and in a range of hospital settings,” the authors of a recent JAMA viewpoint wrote. – Emily Harris

Published Online: September 6, 2023.


Note: Source references are available through embedded hyperlinks in the article text online.