

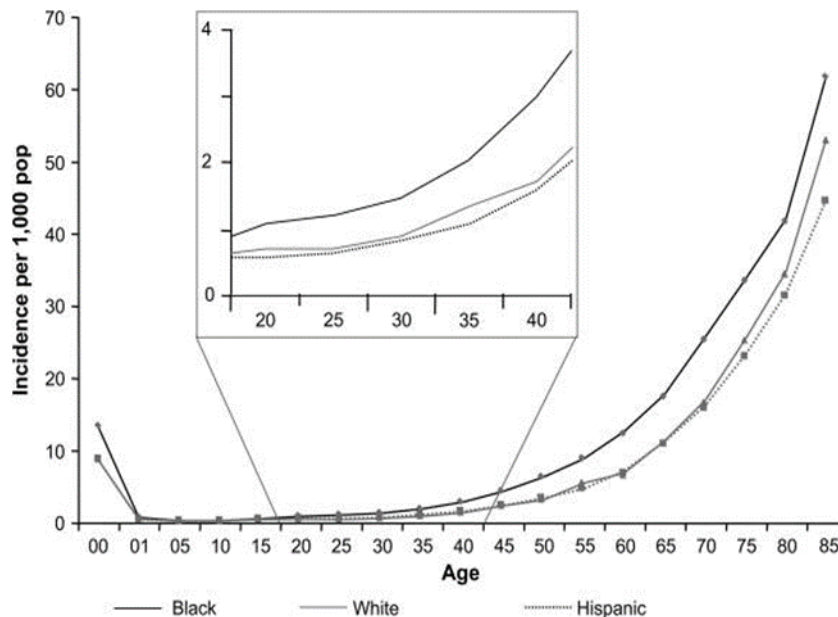
Sepsis Care in 2022: Identification + Management Strategies to Optimized Patient Outcomes

Thank you for registering for and/or attending the [HQIC Webinar](#) (Link)! Subject Matter Expert, Pat Posa, summarized the four-tier process for effective sepsis program development, examined the evidence for sepsis bundles, shared proven strategies to resolve barriers to bundle implementation and measurement, assisted attendees in identifying gaps between the evidence and their hospital's sepsis program. **Now, it is time to act!**

Why Now

Sepsis is the body's extreme response to infection. Sepsis can occur in both bacterial and viral infections, including COVID-19. Sepsis can worsen chronic conditions and is a leading cause of death for critically ill patients. Screening plays an important role in early detection of sepsis, which prevents tissue damage, organ failure, and death. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an increase in critically ill patients, underscoring the importance of vigilant sepsis screening and early treatment.

Review the Data



Rates of Severe sepsis by ethnicity

- Blacks (6.08 per 1,000)
- Hispanics (4.06 per 1,000)
- Whites (3.58 per 1,000)

Source: Bamato AE Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2008;177(3):279-284

Consider Common Barriers and Solutions

Review common barriers identified during the webinar and brainstorm ways to mitigate challenges to implementation in your organization.

- + Health disparities between black patients and white patients, men and women, and patients of various age groups
- + Gaining provider buy-in to sepsis protocols
- + Confusion around which elements of a sepsis bundle are needed to satisfy Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requirements
- + Difficulty collecting and utilizing sepsis-related data
- + Gaining leadership buy in for a designated sepsis coordinator
- + Uncertainty surrounding treating patients with fluid boluses that have conditions such as heart failure and renal disease

Perform a Root Cause Analysis

Fill in the [Gap Analysis](#) (Link) to identify opportunities for improvement.

Craft your AIM Statement

Identify your organization's goals related to sepsis screening and treatment. Fill in the blanks.

»»» By (date), the team at (hospital) will implement (intervention) to improve (the problem) by (how much) to benefit (for whom).

Example AIM:

»»» By December 30th, 2022, the emergency department sepsis improvement team will implement a new sepsis screening tool to be performed on all patients upon arrival to the ED to increase the department's sepsis screening rates by 20%.

Implement Changes with Leading Interventions and Best Practices

Beginner	Intermediate	Expert
Implement a sepsis screening protocol in your hospital's emergency department to increase early identification. Click here (PDF) to view an example.	Develop a 1-hr, 3-hr, and/or 6-hr sepsis bundle that includes standing orders (PDF) for positive screens.	Stratify data by severity, present on admission, and/or medical vs. surgical to further narrow improvement activities
Provide annual sepsis education (Link) to all clinical staff so that they are prepared to identify sepsis quickly.	Develop a tracking tool (PDF) and monitor time from presentation to screening performed and documented.	Consider creating a "Sepsis Coordinator" position at your facility. This role can help set performance goals and provide feedback to staff.

Incorporate Health Equity and Patient and Family Engagement

- + Provide education to staff on sepsis-related health disparities using the [sepsis and health equity fact sheet](#) (Link)
- + Share facts and [educational tools](#) (Link) with local long term care facilities to aid in sepsis awareness.

Seek Guidance

Not sure how to identify your organization's root cause? Need help getting started on implementing your selected intervention? Seeking feedback on your AIM statement?

Reach out to your HQIC clinical improvement consultant for assistance.

Additional Resources

- + [Sepsis Care in 2022: Identification + Management Strategies to Optimize Patient Outcomes Slides](#) (PDF)
- + [Sepsis | CDC](#) (Link)
- + [Sepsis Alliance](#) (Link)
- + [Surviving Sepsis Campaign](#) (Link)