



SEPSIS TOOLKIT

FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS

**August
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The Arkansas Hospital Association (AHA) Quality Team hopes these resources will assist you as you work on improving quality and patient safety in your organization and communities.

This resource document was developed based on feedback from The Arkansas Hospital Association Quality Advisory Council. Participants requested to have the various resources all included in one easy-to-find location.

Please reach out to anyone on the AHA Quality team if you have any questions or if you need resources not listed here.



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Disclaimer: Please consider these resources as supplemental to the many existing resources available. This is not an exhaustive list of resources on any of the topics. Evidence-based practices are updated as new information becomes available, and the information provided in this document is current as of the print date.

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SEPSIS FACT SHEETS

Arkansas Facts

1. Infections is one of the top causes of maternal deaths (2018-2020). 13.2% of maternal deaths were attributed to infections.¹
2. Percentage of patients who received appropriate care for severe sepsis and/or septic shock: National average- 63%, Arkansas average- 66%.
3. The percentage of inpatient stays related to sepsis in Arkansas by population (2021) were <1% in the maternal and neonatal populations⁴.

Hospital Facts

Note: Hospitals participating in our AHA Data Analytics Hospital Industry Data Institute (HIDI) program can now review hospital specific data related to primary diagnosis of sepsis with filter options of Z-code categories, sex, race, and payer.

HIDI also has sepsis data by specialty (cardiovascular, medicine, etc.) in the hospital wide readmissions report/clinical risk factors report. This includes percentage of patients with comorbidities, number of admissions, number of readmissions, observed hospital rate and all hospital rate.

Contact Don McCormick – dmccormick@arkhospitals.org for more information or questions related to HIDI.



SEPSIS FACT SHEETS

Critical Sepsis Facts (Sepsis Alliance, 2024)²

1. As many as 87% of sepsis cases originate in the community and not in the hospital.
2. Treatment is delayed. As many as 80% of septic shock patients can be saved with rapid diagnosis and treatment.
3. Sepsis affects an estimated 49 million people worldwide each year, including more than 20 million children under age 5, and nearly 5 million older children and adolescents.
4. Sepsis takes 11 million lives around the world each year, contributing to 20% of all deaths globally and taking more lives than cancer. This is more than 20 deaths every minute.
5. More than 1.7 million people in the U.S. are diagnosed with sepsis each year- one every 20 seconds- and the incidence is rising.
6. An estimated 350,000 adults die from sepsis every year in the U.S. – one every 90 seconds. This includes 270,000 adults who die in-hospital and an estimated 80,000 released to hospice. This estimate places sepsis as the third leading cause of death in the United States.
7. An estimated 31% of U.S. adults have NEVER heard of sepsis.

Maternal Sepsis Facts (Sepsis Alliance, 2024)²

1. Maternal sepsis is estimated to complicate 10 cases per 10,000 live births in the U.S.
2. Sepsis in pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of cesarean delivery, preterm birth, prolonged recovery, stillbirth, and maternal death. One study found that maternal sepsis was associated with more than 6 times the risk of infant death compared to birth outcomes of healthy mothers.
3. The number of cases of maternal sepsis is increasing. One study of the National Inpatient Sample, a national database, reported a 10% annual increase in cases of maternal severe sepsis and sepsis-related deaths in the U.S. between 1998 and 2008.

SEPSIS FACT SHEETS

Maternal Sepsis Facts, (Sepsis Alliance, 2024)² Con't

4. Sepsis is driving increases in pregnancy-related deaths in the U.S. (Pregnancy-related death is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 1 year of the end of a pregnancy.) According to the CDC, 14.3% of pregnancy-related deaths across the U.S. between 2017 and 2019 were due to infection or sepsis. That makes infection/sepsis the second leading cause of pregnancy-related death in this analysis.
5. Infection is a leading cause of pregnancy-related death at several points in the pregnancy timeline. Infection is the third leading cause of death during pregnancy and in the period 1-6 days after delivery (postpartum). Infection is the leading cause of pregnancy-related death during the period of 7-42 days after delivery. Infection, if not properly treated, can lead to sepsis.

Pediatric Sepsis Facts (Sepsis Alliance, 2024)²

1. Sepsis affects more than 25 million children every year, representing over half of all sepsis case worldwide.
2. More than 80% of all pediatric sepsis cases and 40% of all sepsis cases occur in children under 5 years of age (20.3 million cases).
3. Every day, more than 200 children are diagnosed with severe sepsis in the U.S. This is more than 75,000 cases in the U.S. per year.
4. Mortality rates are high: each year, as many as 9% of children hospitalized with sepsis die in the U.S. (6,800 children or more than 18 on an average day). That is more children than are lost to childhood cancers.
5. Infants, especially newborns, have the highest rates of sepsis and death from sepsis of any child age group. Sepsis-related deaths in infants account for the majority of child sepsis deaths.
6. Among children who survive hospitalization for sepsis, nearly one-quarter experience a decrease in health-related quality of life. More than half of children surviving septic shock have lower health-related quality of life even after leaving the hospital, and as many as 35% fail to return to their previous quality of life one year later.

SEPSIS FACT SHEETS

Aging & Sepsis Facts (Sepsis Alliance, 2024)²

1. More than 70% of adult sepsis patients are 60 years of age or older.
2. More than 1.3 million adults 45+ are hospitalized with sepsis each year.
3. Adults age 65 and older are 13 times more likely to be hospitalized with sepsis than people younger than 65.³ Although older adults (65+) tend to have more conditions that put them at greater risk of sepsis, the aging process itself is also a risk factor.
4. More than 40% of adult patients have another hospitalization within three months of the initial sepsis, most commonly due to a repeat episode of sepsis or another infection.
5. Compared to patients with other diagnoses, adult patients hospitalized with sepsis are half as likely to be discharged home, and 3 times as likely to be discharged to long-term care.
6. In the United States, three-fourths of all sepsis deaths are in patients 65 years of age or older.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Centers for Disease Control³ (CDC):

- [Get Ahead of Sepsis: Parents & Caregivers of Children](#)
- [Get Ahead of Sepsis: Communication Resources for Patients](#)
- [Sepsis Communication Resources- Graphics for Facebook](#)



Sepsis Alliance

- [What is Sepsis](#)
- [Sepsis Basics FAQ](#)
- [Sepsis Prevention](#)
- [Things You Should Know if Diagnosed with Sepsis](#)
- [When A Loved One has Sepsis: A Caregiver's Guide](#)
- [Faces of Sepsis](#)
- [Multi Language Resources](#)
- [Sepsis for Kids](#)
- [2025 Sepsis Awareness Resources](#)



PATIENT TOOLS



Centers for Disease Control³ (CDC):

- [Four Ways to Get Ahead of Sepsis](#)
- [Start the Conversation Today: Patients & Families](#)
- [Protect Yourself and Your Family From Sepsis](#)

MULTI-LANGUAGE TOOLS



Sepsis Alliance

- [CDC Protect Yourself from Sepsis \(Marshallese\)](#)
- [CDC Prevent Sepsis and Improve Early Recognition \(Spanish\)](#)
- [CDC Sepsis Communication Resources \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Sepsis Alliance Resources \(Spanish\)](#)– this includes downloads for specific populations outlined in the “fact” sections.



Template with Logos

- [PowerPoint](#)
- Social Media Graphics: [Post 1](#), [Post 2](#), [Post 3](#), [Post 4](#), [Post 5](#), [Post 6](#)



REFERENCES

01Arkansas Maternal Health Scorecard**02**Sepsis Alliance Fact Sheets 2024**03**CDC: Get Ahead of Sepsis**04**AHRQ HCUP Report- 2021(published 2024).

Questions? We're here to help!

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