FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN URGENT CARE / EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

BE ALERT. SUSPECT SEPSIS. SAVE LIVES.

One in three patients who die in a hospital have sepsis.

More than 1.5 million people get sepsis each year in the U.S.

At least 250,000 Americans die from sepsis each year.

You can protect your patients by recognizing and treating sepsis quickly.

TIME MATTERS
Sepsis is a medical emergency. Protect your patients by acting fast. Your patients’ risk of death increases with delayed recognition and treatment of sepsis.

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS AND ACT FAST
Be alert to the signs of sepsis. If you suspect sepsis, act fast and initiate care.

Signs of sepsis can include any one or a combination of the following:

- Confusion or disorientation
- Shortness of breath
- High heart rate
- Fever, or shivering, or feeling very cold
- Extreme pain or discomfort
- Clammy or sweaty skin

• Immediately alert the clinician in charge if it is not you.
• Start antibiotics as soon as possible, in addition to other therapies appropriate for the patient.
• Check patient progress frequently. Reassess antibiotic therapy within 24-48 hours to stop or change therapy as needed. Be sure antibiotic type, dose, and duration are correct.

Know your facility’s existing guidance for diagnosing and managing sepsis.

To learn more about sepsis and how to prevent infections, visit www.cdc.gov/sepsis.