

SBAR for Sepsis

SITUATION

- My name is _____
- I'm calling from _____
- I need to speak with you about patient/resident, Mr. or Mrs. _____
- This patient/resident is showing signs and symptoms of infection and sepsis.

BACKGROUND

- The patient/resident was admitted on _____ (*date*) with the diagnosis of _____ (*original condition*).
- The patient/resident is now showing these signs of possible infection _____

(describe the signs and potential source of infection).
- This started on _____ (*date*).
- The patient/resident is allergic to _____
- The patient's/resident's advance care directive is _____

ASSESSMENT *(describe key findings)*

- My assessment of the situation is that the patient/resident may be experiencing a new or worsening infection. Here are my findings.
 - Current vital signs
BP _____ HR _____ RR _____ Temp _____
SpO₂ _____ (*on room air or supplemental O₂*)
 - The patient/resident has voided _____ times in the last 8 hours.
 - Mental status is (*changed OR unchanged*) from baseline: _____
 - Other physical assessment findings that are related to possible infection or sepsis (*e.g., lung sounds, wound assessment*): _____

RECOMMENDATION

- I am concerned that this patient/resident may have sepsis.
 - Would you like to order a serum lactate, blood culture and basic metabolic panel?
 - How soon can you see this patient/resident?
- If the patient/resident is hypotensive, should I start an IV and give a fluid bolus?
- The physician should confirm, clarify and request additional information and then work with the nurse to take appropriate action with this patient/resident.

Before calling the physician, NP, PA or other health care professional:

Evaluate the patient/resident and complete this form.

Check vital signs; be alert for the early sepsis warning signs.

Review the patient/resident record: recent hospitalizations, lab values, medications and progress notes.

Note any allergies.

Be aware of the patient's/resident's advance care wishes.

Sepsis Early Warning Signs *Report any of these findings*

Temperature ≥ 38.3 C (101 F)
or ≤ 36 C (96.8 F)
Heart rate ≥ 90 bpm
Respiratory rate ≥ 20 bpm

White blood cell count
≥ 12,000 µL⁻¹ or
≤ 4,000 µL⁻¹

Altered mental status

SpO₂ ≤ 90%

Decreased urine output

From recently drawn labs
(within 24 hours)
Creatinine > 2 mg/dL
Bilirubin > 2 mg/dL
Platelet count ≤ 100,000 µL
Lactate ≥ 2 mmol/L
Coagulopathy INR ≥ 1.5
or aPTT > 60 secs