Sepsis staff knowledge survey

The purpose of the sepsis staff knowedge survey is to measure changes in the knowledge and confidence of staff to recognise and manage people with sepsis, before and after implementing the sepsis pathway(s) during a sepsis quality improvement project. The survey is short and multi-choice and designed to be quick for staff to complete.

How to use the survey

We recommend questions 1–6 of the survey are used as written. This allows for some standardised measurement across health organisations. Questions specific to a relevant sub-specialty may be added to the survey (we recommend these are limited to two questions).

Use the survey in whichever format is most convenient for you. Electronic survey tools (eg, Survey Monkey or MS Forms) are quick to use and automatically collate the results.

We recommend staff do the survey twice.

- As a baseline measure when preparing for implementation. This should happen before any sepsis education or engagement begins.

- Around one month into the implementation period, once most staff have received education sessions and used the sepsis pathway(s) in practice.

Questions

The correct answer to each question is coloured blue.

Q1. By definition sepsis is:

a) an infection

b) a blood poisoning

c) a dysregulated host response to an infection

Q2. Sepsis can be caused by:

a) bacteria

b) viruses

c) fungus

d) protozoa

e) all of the above

Q3. True or false: A person with a severe infection or sepsis may present with a high temperature (febrile), a low temperature (hypothermia), or a temperature within the normal range (normothermia).

a) True

b) False

Q4. What lactate threshold would indicate that a deteriorating patient with a suspected or confirmed infection has sepsis?

    a) 0.5 mmol/L or more

    b) 2 mmol/L or more

    c) 4 mmol/L or more

    d) 10 mmol/L or more

Q5. True or false: Blood culture results are needed to confirm a sepsis diagnosis:

    a) True

    b) False

Q6. On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your knowledge of how to recognise if someone has sepsis and provide immediate treatment?

    1) very low

    2) low

    3) moderate

    4) high

    5) very high

Q7. Project team / sub-speciality question

Q8. Project team / sub-speciality question

Analysing results

We recommend you analyse in two ways.

- The average number of questions answered correctly (questions 1 to 5 only, plus up to 2 sub-specialty questions).

- The average self-reported level of knowledge to recognise and manage sepsis (question 6).