



Maternity Education Program

Sepsis Postnatal

Participant Resource Kit

CSDS



Clinical Skills Development Service



Maternity Education Program

The resources developed for Maternity Education Program (MEP) are designed for use in any Queensland Health facility that care for patients/women who are pregnant/birthing or postnatal.



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Sepsis Postnatal – Facilitator Resource Kit

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Who is this resource kit for?

This resource kit provides healthcare workers with knowledge and skills on assessing and managing maternal sepsis in the postnatal period.

Target audience

Midwifery and medical staff providing maternity care

Duration

45 mins (including setup, simulation and debrief)

Group size

Suited to small groups (6 – 8)

Learning objectives

By the end of the session the learner should be able to:

- Give telephone advice to an unwell woman at home.
- Recognise and respond to a clinically deteriorating patient.
- Demonstrate the clinical management for maternal collapse.
- Assess the possible cause of the maternal sepsis (postnatal) and its management.

Supporting documents

- List of further readings
- SOMANZ Flowchart for assessment and management of sepsis in pregnancy
- Maternal blood sampling values



Overview

Despite an overall decline in maternal mortality in Australia, the maternal mortality rate from sepsis has increased. In the period 2008–2012, sepsis accounted for 11.4% of maternal deaths in Australia.

Group A beta haemolytic streptococcal (GAS) infection is the most common pathogen, resulting in 25% of maternal deaths from sepsis in Australia. Sepsis continues to be one of the major causes of maternal mortality among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women¹.

Despite significant advances, understanding of the pathobiology of sepsis remains incomplete and currently no gold standard diagnostic test exists to confirm the presence of sepsis. Sepsis is broadly defined as life-threatening organ dysfunction

caused by a dysregulated host response to infection.

Early detection of sepsis is essential for appropriate multidisciplinary management to ensure the best outcomes for the mother and her baby. Septic patients may progress to develop septic shock, multi-organ failure and death.

Recognising the patient with sepsis is paramount and is the first step in appropriate assessment and management.

Obstetric Emergency is any clinical situation involving a maternity patient where immediate medical/ midwifery assistance is required.

Further Readings

SOMANZ Guidelines for the Investigation and Management of Sepsis in Pregnancy – Society of Obstetric Medicine Australia and New Zealand

The document addresses the issue of sepsis in the peri-partum period. It contains a number of recommendations to guide clinical practice and improve patient outcomes. We have identified several key outcomes that can be audited allowing individual centres to assess their performance in implementation of these guidelines.

<https://www.somanz.org/downloads/2017SepsisGuidelines.pdf>

Bacterial Sepsis in Pregnancy Green-top Guideline No. 64a April 2012

The scope of this guideline covers the recognition and management of serious bacterial illness in the antenatal and intrapartum periods, arising in the genital tract or elsewhere, and its management in secondary care.

https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg_64a.pdf

SMFM Consult Series #47: Sepsis during pregnancy and the puerperium

The purpose of this guideline is to summarize what is known about sepsis and to provide guidance for the management of sepsis in pregnancy and the postpartum period.

[https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378\(19\)30246-7/pdf](https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378(19)30246-7/pdf)

The Glasgow Structured Approach to Assessment of the Glasgow Coma Scale

The Glasgow Coma Scale provides a practical method for assessment of impairment of conscious level in response to defined stimuli.

<https://www.glasgowcomascale.org/>



Emergency Management

Sepsis SOMANZ Presentation

<https://bit.ly/3cjOBpt>



SOMANZ Guidelines for the investigation and management of sepsis in pregnancy 2017

Bowyer L, Robinson H, Barrett H, Crozier T, Giles M, Idel I, Lowe S, Lust K, Marnoch C, Morton M, Said J, Wong M, Makris A
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ajio.12646/pdf>



Scan me on your phone

Inpatient Maternal Sepsis Tool by The UK Sepsis Trust

<https://bit.ly/35Ti8p2>



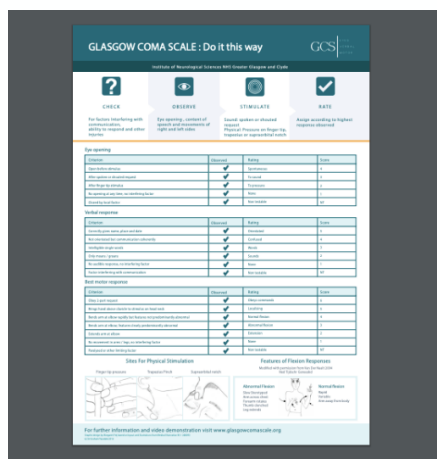
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Emergency Management

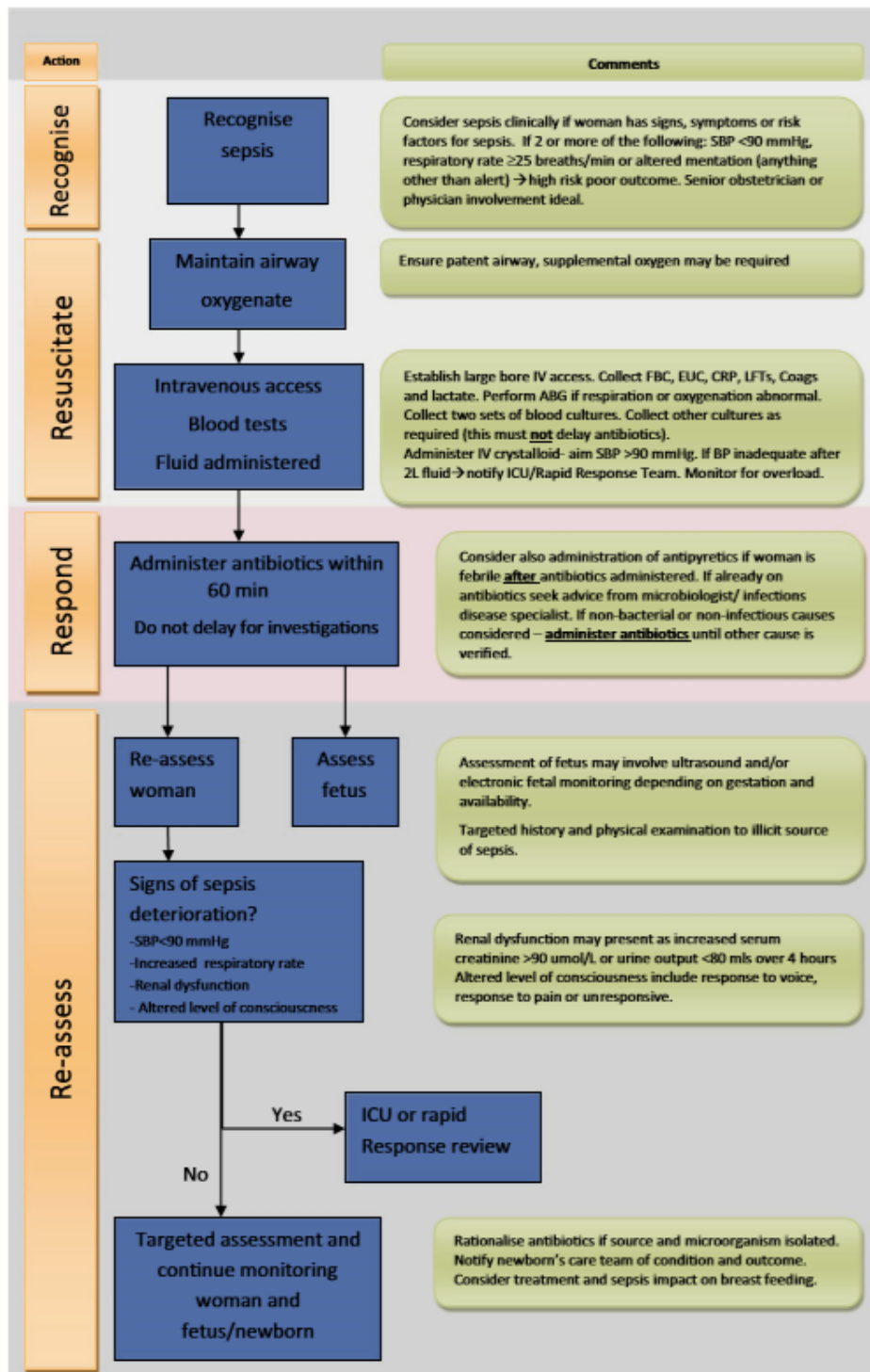
Glasgow Coma Scale

<https://www.glasgowcomascale.org/downloads/GCS-Assessment-Aid-English.pdf?v=3>



Scan me on your phone

SOMANZ Flowchart for assessment and management of sepsis in pregnancy

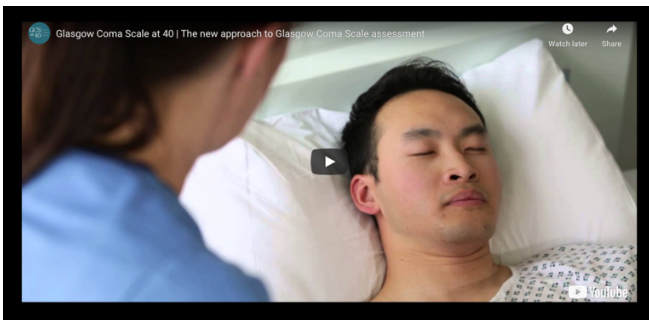




Emergency Management

Glasgow Coma scale video

<https://www.glasgowcomascale.org/#video>



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Acronyms and abbreviations

Term	Definition
BF	Breast feeding
BGL	Blood glucose level
CSDS	Clinical Skills Development Service
DRABC	Danger Response Airway Breathing Circulation
ECG	Electrocardiograph
FBC	Full blood count
GAS	Group A beta haemolytic streptococcal
GCS	Glasgow coma scale
GDM	Gestational diabetes mellitus
Hb	Haemoglobin
IDC	Indwelling catheter
ieMR	Integrated electronic medical records
IOL	Induction of labour
IVC	Intra venous cannula
MERT	Medical emergency response team
MO	Medical Officer
NAD	Nothing abnormal detected
Obs.	Observations
PHR	Pregnancy Health Record
PN	Postnatal
PPH	Postpartum haemorrhage
PV	Per vagina
QAS	Queensland Ambulance Service

QMEWT	Queensland Maternity Early Warning Tool
RCOG	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
SMFM	Society for Maternal – Fetal Medicine
SOMANZ	Society of Obstetric Medicine of Australia & New Zealand
SVD	Spontaneous vaginal delivery
USS	Ultrasound scan
VE	Vaginal examination

References

This resource kit has been inspired by the Optimus BONUS project of the Children’s Health Queensland’s Simulation Training Optimising Resuscitation for Kids (STORK) service. To know more information about STORK and their Optimus project, visit their website.

1. Children’s Health Queensland. 2020. Queensland Paediatric Emergency Care Education | CHQ. [online] Available at: <https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/research/education/queensland-paediatric-emergency-care-education/> [Accessed 24 July 2020].
2. SOMANZ Guideline for the Management of Sepsis in Pregnancy 2017
3. Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Bacterial Sepsis in Pregnancy. Green-top Guideline No. 64a. RCOG. 2012. Available from: www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg_64a.pdf

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The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Scan the QR code with your device or visit this link

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z8Q398N>



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