

LTACH Sepsis Consortium Onboarding Series: Why Sepsis Bundle Compliance Matters for LTACHs

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Welcome and Grounding

- Purpose: Not “just another thing” - this saves lives
- Story: Darrell (sepsis survivor), Deb (CMS recognition)



Objectives

- Describe why sepsis bundle compliance is critical in LTACH settings
- Recognize the impact of delayed sepsis identification and treatment
- Discuss current approaches to sepsis screening in LTACHs
- Identify barriers and opportunities for improvement
- Prepare to explore bundle elements more deeply in the May session



Why Sepsis Bundle Compliance Matters



- LTACH patients are medically complex and high-risk
- Recognition delays = worse outcomes
- Bundle compliance supports early intervention and saves lives



What Happens When We Miss It

- Delayed recognition = delayed antibiotics = poorer outcomes
- More ICU transfers, higher costs, longer stays
- LTACHs need fast systems for detection



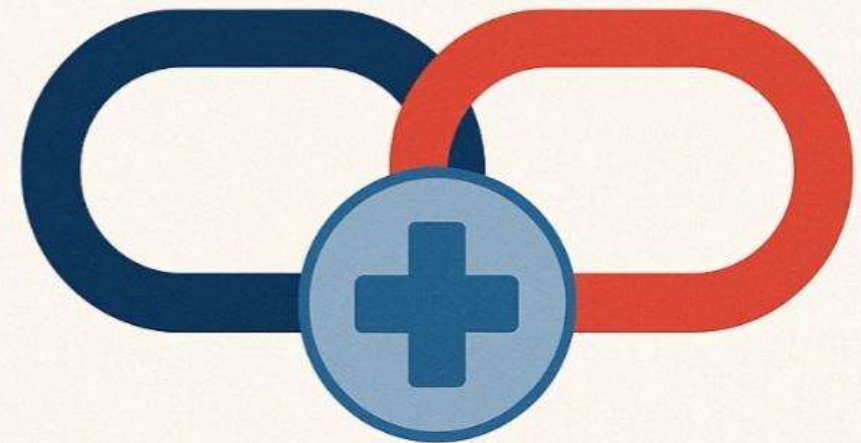
Delayed Action = Worse Outcomes

- Early action = shorter stays and fewer readmissions
 - Timely treatment reduces need for escalation
 - Helps teams and improves patient experience

- **We bridge acute care and long-term recovery**
- **Early detection is our responsibility**



LTACHs Are a Critical Link



Getting Started: Screening

- Sepsis screening = step one
 - How we do it at CCH
- What happens after a positive screen?

Discussion: Sepsis Screening in LTACHs

- Do you screen for sepsis?
- How and when is it done?
- What happens after a positive screen?
- What barriers are you facing?



- Presented by: Billie DeLauder 🍏
- High-level overview of bundle elements
- May = deeper dive into bundle



The Sepsis Bundle



Homework

- Bring one or more bundle related questions
 - Compare notes in May

Wrap-Up and What's Next

- No perfection required - just start
- You're doing more than you think
- May session: Bundle deep dive





References

1. Surviving Sepsis Campaign:
www.sccm.org/SurvivingSepsisCampaign
2. CDC Sepsis Early Recognition:
www.cdc.gov/sepsis
3. KHA LTACH Sepsis Steering Committee
(2024)
4. Importance of Tracking Sepsis in LTACHs
(KHA Memo)
5. Rhee et al., Critical Care Medicine, 2017:
'Impact of Delayed Antibiotic Administration
in Sepsis'

Thank you.

