Sepsis Definition

Sepsis is life threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulation host response to infection.
The common language when referring to the Sepsis Severity at Munson Healthcare include:

Term	Definition
SIRS + Infection (This is NOT Sepsis)	Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) + suspected infection without organ dysfunction.
Sepsis	SIRS + suspected infection + organ dysfunction.
Septic Shock	Sepsis induced hypoperfusion evidenced by persistent hypotension despite adequate fluid resuscitation and/or lactic acid greater than or equal to 4mmol/L.

Sepsis Summary

1. **Sepsis Recognition** can occur in multiple ways including:
   a. A nurse Sepsis Screening.
   b. A nurse SIRS, Sepsis, or Septic Shock Alert.
   c. A provider **Open Chart Sepsis or Septic Shock Alert**.

2. **Sepsis Response**:
   a. Provider orders/launches the **Sepsis Advisor.**
   b. Clinical Staff initiates orders.

3. **Sepsis Reassessment:**
   a. Within one hour of fluid bolus completion, the nurse completes two full sets of vital signs and updates the provider.
   b. **Sepsis Advisor is relaunched** by the provider for addition of orders.

Note:
- The system continually monitors patient results and alerts upon recognition of SIRS, Sepsis and Septic Shock.
- SIRS, Sepsis, and Septic Shock Alerts automatically place orders for CBC, CMP, and Lactic Acid if NOT present.
- Alerts and the nurse Screening tool are suppressed for 72 hours after the Sepsis Advisor is ordered unless the patient qualifies for Septic Shock criteria.
- Alerts do not fire for maternity unit patients.

The alerts are displayed on the ED LaunchPoint dashboard next to the patient's name.

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Sepsis Screening Tool

1. Open the Sepsis Screening Tool from the Triage form, a Task, or from AdHoc.
2. Select all the boxes that apply for SIRS Screen.
3. Select the appropriate response for Infection Screen. **Choose Possible suspected, or Known infection or positive culture, if applicable. This does NOT generate a diagnosis as that is outside of nursing scope.**
4. A positive SIRS and Infection Screen opens the Organ Dysfunction Screen.
   a. Select organ dysfunction criteria that apply for **NEW, acute, or worsening** organ dysfunction. **For stable patients with chronic issues like chronic kidney disease, choose 'Known or improving organ dysfunction' box.**
   b. One or more signs of Organ Dysfunction will calculate a positive Sepsis Screen.
5. Once the Sepsis Action window opens, click Notify the Provider, chart Sepsis Provider Notification (this will generate a Provider Notification Task).
   a. Click the ⟳.
6. Notify the Provider.
7. Document the Sepsis Provider Notification task.
8. Right click to access the Checklist **(see the Sepsis and Septic Shock Checklist section for more details).**
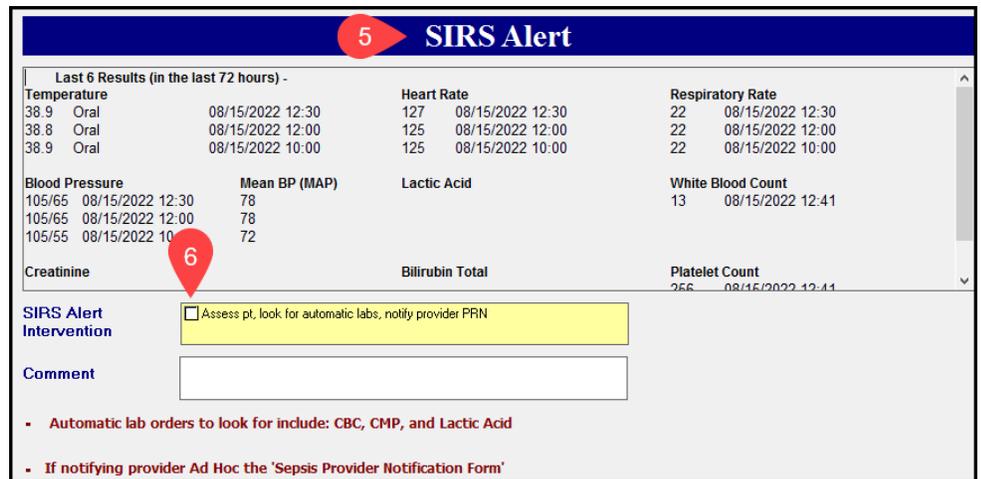9. Implement Sepsis orders ASAP.

SIRS Notification Workflow

PowerChart/FirstNet detects symptoms consistent with SIRS:

1. A SIRS Alert fires to nurses who have an established electronic relationship with the patient.
2. Verify the patient's name on the notification.
3. Labs automatically placed: CBC, CMP, and Lactic Acid.
4. Acknowledge the notification:
   a. Click SIRS Form if you are the caregiver responding to the alert.
   b. Click Close and others will continue to receive the alert.
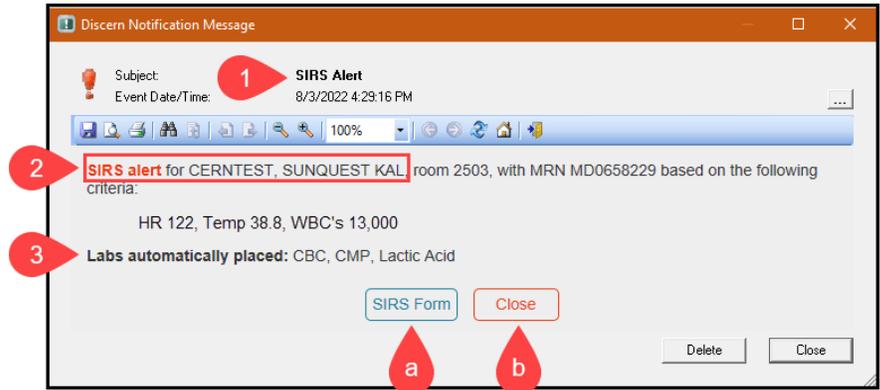

5. Selecting SIRS Form will open the SIRS Alert Form.
6. Click Assess pt. and look for automatic labs, **notify provider PRN.**
7. If the provider is notified, document notification on the AdHoc Sepsis Provider Notification form.

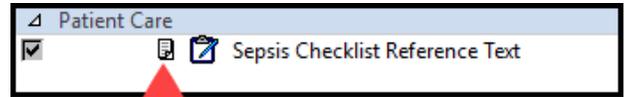## Sepsis and Septic Shock Notification Workflow

PowerChart/FirstNet detects symptoms consistent with Sepsis or Septic Shock:

1. A Sepsis or Septic Shock Alert fires to nurses who have an established electronic relationship with the patient.
2. Verify the patient's name on the notification.
3. Labs automatically placed: CBC, CMP, and Lactic Acid.
4. Acknowledge the notification and click Close.
5. The Sepsis Provider Notification Task fires to the nurse.
6. **Notify the provider immediately.**
7. Document the Sepsis Provider Notification form.
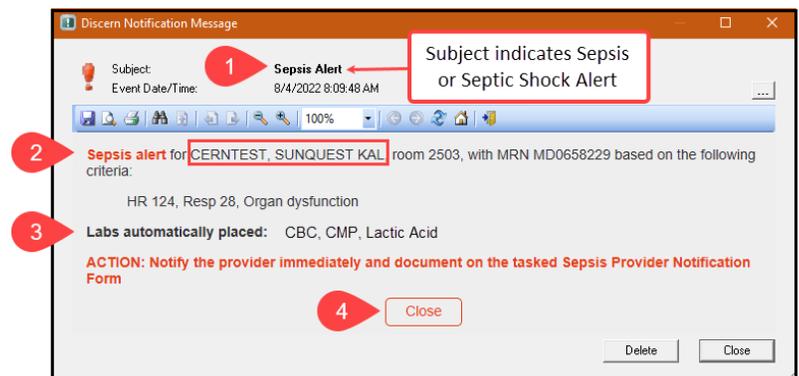
Sepsis and Septic Shock Checklist

1. Available in paper format which can be accessed from:
   a. The Sepsis Checklist Reference Text order.
   b. The Sepsis Screening Tool.
   c. The Provider Notification Task.

2. The Checklist assists with the recognition of sepsis, treatment guidelines, and provides an area to record the dates and times of sepsis tasks completed.
   a. It serves as an SBAR/Hand-off tool to let the next caregivers know what has and has not been completed.

3. Send the Checklist with the patient upon transfer to another floor/facility.

4. The Checklist will be scanned into the medical record upon discharge.

Viewing and Discontinuing Sepsis Advisor Orders

1. Sepsis Advisor orders can be viewed in the Orders Flowsheet within the assigned categories of the Navigator.
   a. Sepsis Advisor orders do **NOT** appear in the Plans (PowerPlan) section.

   NOTE: Nurses cannot order the Sepsis Advisor. Only providers can place the order.
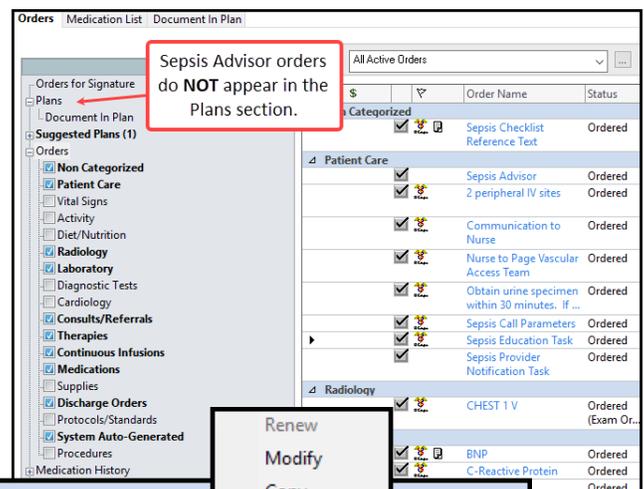
2. All Sepsis Advisor orders can be individually discontinued from the Orders Flowsheet.

Results Review: Sepsis Screening Results

Within the Screening Results section of various flowsheets, users can view the following information:

 a. Recommendation/Action-Crawler - Displays system generated Sepsis Alerts.
 b. Sepsis Infection Source - Displays Infection Source assigned in the Sepsis Advisor.
 c. Patient shows signs of (Sepsis Advisor) - Displays the Sepsis term assigned in the Sepsis Advisor.
 d. Sepsis Dismiss Alert - Displays **Yes** when the provider selects **Open Chart** from Sepsis Alert.

Flowsheet	10/7/2022 12:22 PM EDT	10/7/2022 11:14 AM EDT	10/7/2022 10:50 AM EDT	10/7/2022 10:42 AM EDT
Screening Results				
Recommendation/Action-Crawler				Septic shock *
Sepsis Infection Source		Pneumonia		
Patient shows signs of (Sepsis Advisor)		Septic shock		
Sepsis Dismiss Alert			Yes	