

SEPSIS: When an Infection Turns Deadly

What is Sepsis?

- Sepsis is a deadly response to an infection. Some call it blood-poisoning.
- It can kill you if you don't get treatment fast.
- Sepsis kills more people than breast cancer, AIDS, and prostate cancer combined.
- It's an emergency!

Who is at risk for sepsis?

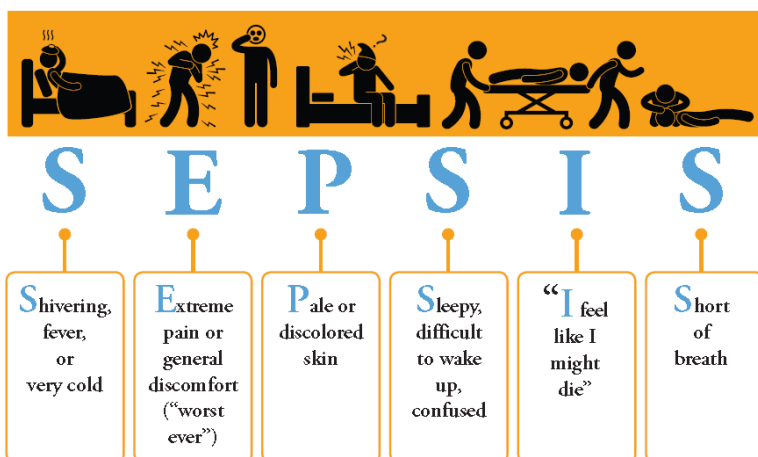
- People who have been in a hospital
- People with bad burns
- People who get infections easily
- Infants and children
- The elderly
- People with tubes or drains
- People with open sores or cuts

How do I know if I have sepsis?

Symptoms may include:

- Fever greater than 101° or shaking chills
- Very low temperature (less than 96.8°)
- Confusion or sleepiness
- Throwing up, diarrhea, unable to keep food and fluids down for more than 12 hours
- Fast heartbeat without exercising
- Hard to breathe, or breathing very fast or very slow

Report any symptoms to your doctor, who can determine if this is sepsis.



Infographic source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Early Treatment Saves Lives

You can help us help you. The sooner you or a family member gets treatment, the better.



Look for signs of sepsis.



Call your doctor **or** go to the emergency room.



Ask, "Could this be sepsis?"

For more information on sepsis, visit [MedStarHealth.org/Sepsis](https://www.MedStarHealth.org/Sepsis)



MedStar Visiting
Nurse Association