Sepsis Fact Sheet

Sepsis in the United States.

- More than 1.7 million people in the United States develop sepsis each year. (1)
- At least 350,000 people in the United States die each year from sepsis. (2)
- Sepsis is the leading cause of death in U.S. hospitals. (3) As many of half of all patients who die in U.S. hospitals have sepsis. (4)
- Sepsis is increasing at a rate of 10.3% each year in the United States. (5)
- Sepsis begins outside the hospital for the vast majority (nearly 80%) of sepsis patients. (6)
- Sepsis is the most expensive condition treated in U.S. hospitals, costing $62 billion annually. Sepsis is also the most expensive condition billed to Medicare. (7)
- 75,000 children in the U.S. are hospitalized each year with severe sepsis (8) resulting in 7,000 deaths (9).
- Every hour delay in treating a child with sepsis increases mortality by 8%. (10)
- Sepsis kills almost twice as many Black Americans as White Americans. (11)
- Sepsis is the second leading cause of maternal death in the U.S. (12)
- One in five severe sepsis patients are readmitted to hospital within 30 days. Among those readmitted within 30 days, 40.3% had severe sepsis on readmission. (13)
- The cost of sepsis is increasing annually by a rate of 11.9%. (14)
Sepsis Globally.

- 49 million people around the world develop sepsis each year. (1)
- Sepsis results in 11 million deaths each year. 1 in 5 of all deaths are caused by sepsis. (2)
- Sepsis accounts for 60-80% of lives lost in childhood. (3)
- Sepsis is the leading cause of death for infants and children worldwide. (4)
- 20 million children under the age of 5 develop sepsis each year; 2.9 million die as a result. (5)

Sepsis in the United States

(2) https://www.cdc.gov/patientsafety/features/get-ahead-of-sepsis.html
(3) https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(19)32989-7/fulltext
(4) https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/1873131
(6) https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2654187
(7) https://journals.lww.com/ccmjournalfulltext/2020/03000/Sepsis_Among_Medicare_Beneficiaries__3__The.4.aspx
(9) https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5581233/
(13) https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4537666/

Sepsis Globally

(1) https://www.thelancet.com/article/S0140-6736(19)32989-7/fulltext
(2) https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(19)32989-7/fulltext
(5) https://www.thelancet.com/article/S0140-6736(19)32989-7/fulltext