

Surgical Expert Systems: Sepsis

Sepsis, a state of life-threatening organ dysfunction, is one of the most common causes of death worldwide¹. The condition arises when the body's response to an infection injures its own tissues, and is shaped by a variety of pathogen and host factors². Specific risk factors include advanced age, male sex, and chronic medical conditions, outlining patient profiles requiring heightened awareness³.

According to 2020 data, approximately 48.9 million cases and 11 million sepsis-related deaths occurred worldwide, representing a jarring 20% of all deaths⁴.

Sepsis risk scores provided by Stream Care™ are selected based on a thorough and extensive review of existing literature, incorporating:

- ✓ 98 Peer Reviewed Papers
- ✓ 10 Systematic Reviews
- ✓ 4 Textbooks



Impact

Sepsis significantly affects General and GI surgical populations as a frequent and serious outcome⁵. In bariatric patient populations, incidence ranges from 0.3-1.2%^{6,7}, while in esophageal populations, it spans 1.9-19.0%^{8,9}. Similarly, 1.8-19.0% of colorectal patients develop the deadly condition^{10,11}.

The onset of sepsis is particularly burdensome for healthcare providers, with 15/1000 hospitalized patients developing sepsis as a result of receiving health care¹². Its diagnosis is difficult and often delayed, further amplifying the resource-intensive nature of the complication and posing a strain to clinical workloads^{13,14}. Furthermore, with an estimated expense of \$32,000 USD per patient, sepsis proves to be a costly complication¹⁵. In the Medicare population alone, its annual cost is more than \$57 billion USD¹⁶. As sepsis is a leading cause of hospital death, the magnitude of this complication warrants urgent action to improve mitigation strategies¹⁷.

Enabling *round-the-clock* automated patient monitoring for early signs of sepsis.

Dynamic Risk Scores

SOFA

The **Sepsis-related Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA)** score predicts the risk of **mortality** following postoperative sepsis starting at the **time of ICU admission** and updates **every 24h**¹⁸.

Source

SOFA was developed by [Vincent et al.](#) and validated by [Toker et al.](#) and [Seymour et al.](#)

Patient Population

SOFA was developed using patients who were admitted to the ICU¹⁸.

Data Set

European/ North American Study of Severity System (ENAS) data base¹⁸

Sample Size

1,643¹⁸

Inputs

- PaO2/FiO2
- Platelets
- MAP/ Vasoactive Agents
- Bilirubin
- Creatinine/ Urine Output
- Glasgow Coma Scale

qSOFA

The **Quick Sepsis-related Organ Failure Assessment (qSOFA)** score predicts the **risk of mortality** following postoperative sepsis starting at the time of diagnosed/ suspected sepsis for patients in a **non-ICU setting**¹⁹ and updates with **every 12 hours**.

Source

qSOFA was developed by [Seymour et al.](#) and validated by [Schertz et al.](#) and [Perman et al.](#)

Patient Population

qSOFA was developed using patients with suspected infection in and outside of the ICU¹⁹.

Data Set

UPMC health care system data base¹⁹

Sample Size

148,907¹⁹

Inputs

- Glasgow Coma Scale
- Respiratory Rate
- Systolic BP

mSOFA

The **Modified Sepsis-related Organ Failure Assessment (mSOFA)** predicts the **risk of mortality** following postoperative sepsis starting at the **time of ICU admission** and updates **every 24h**²⁰.

Source

mSOFA was developed by [Grissom et al.](#) and validated by [Yousry et al.](#) and [Khwannimit et al.](#)

Patient Population

mSOFA was developed using patients admitted to a medical, surgical, and trauma ICU²⁰.

Data Set

The Latter-day Saints (LDS) Hospital and Intermountain Medical Center EHR systems²⁰.

Sample Size

Retrospective: 718²⁰
Prospective: 1,770²⁰

Inputs

- PaO2/FiO2
- Platelets
- MAP/ Vasoactive Agents
- Jaundice
- Creatinine/ Urine Output
- Glasgow Coma Scale

NEWS

The **National Early Warning Score (NEWS)** predicts the risk of postoperative clinical **deterioration** in hospitalized patients starting at the initial assessment **upon hospital admission**²¹ and updates **every 12 hours**.

Source

NEWS was developed by the [NEWSDIG](#) and validated by [Wang et al.](#) and [Hincapié-Osorno et al.](#)

Patient Population

NEWS was developed using acute medical admissions²¹.

Data Set

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust data base²¹.

Sample Size

35,585²¹

Inputs

- Respiratory Rate
- SpO2
- Heart Rate
- AVPU
- Systolic BP
- Temperature
- Supplemental Oxygen

NEWS2

The **National Early Warning Score 2 (NEWS2)** predicts the risk of postoperative clinical **deterioration** in hospitalized patients starting at the initial assessment **upon hospital admission**²² and updates **every 12 hours**.

Source

NEWS2 was developed by the [NEWSDIG](#) and validated by [Wallgren et al.](#) and [Pimental et al.](#)

Patient Population

NEWS2 was developed using acute medical admissions²².

Data Set

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust data base²²

Sample Size

35,585²²

Inputs

- Respiratory Rate
- SpO2
- Heart Rate
- AVPU
- Systolic BP
- Temperature
- SpO2 (for Hypercapnic Respiratory Failure)

Performance Metrics

Risk Score	Cited By	Reference	Validation Type	AUC	Specificity	Sensitivity	NPV	PPV
SOFA	12,990	Vincent et al.	Internal	0.847	80	78	–	–
		Toker et al.	External	–	79	100	100	57.8
		Seymour et al.	External	0.79	–	–	–	–
NEWS	*	NEWSDIG	Internal	0.89	–	–	–	–
		Wang et al.	External	–	52	73	–	–
		Hincapié-Osorno et al.	External	0.86	–	–	–	–
NEWS2	*	NEWSDIG	Internal	0.72	–	–	–	–
		Wallgren et al.	External	0.73	61	74	74	60
		Pimental et al.	External	0.86	80.6	73.2	–	–
qSOFA	4,614	Seymour et al.	Internal	0.81	–	–	–	–
		Schertz et al.	External	–	72	61	56.7	73.3
		Perman et al.	External	0.62	55.5	69	91.5	20.6
mSOFA	205	Grissom et al.	Internal	0.84	–	–	–	–
		Youssry et al.	External	0.97	96	92	96	92
		Khwannimit et al.	External	–	74.6	85.6	–	–

*The original NEWS and NEWS2 scores were developed in internal NHS England reports, which are not formally published in academic literature and therefore do not have citation counts.

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