

### CURRENT COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Participants from more than 40 acute care and post-acute care organizations met face-to-face on July 16th in Princeton at the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA) for the first of two in-person meetings. New Jersey Sepsis Learning-Action Collaborative faculty, Dr. Phil Dellinger, MD, MCCM and Christa Schorr, RN, MSN, FCCM, led the group through the day's educational sessions which included collaborative and data updates, 3- and 6-hour bundle discussions and an update on sepsis clinical trials. Highlighting the day was NJHA's President and CEO, Betsy Ryan, who spoke to the group about her own personal experience as a hospital patient last year and the challenges she faced with sepsis.



PHOTO: Sean Varrichio, MSN, RN, CEN, nurse manager of the emergency department at Capital Health Hopewell, presents a storyboard prepared as part of an inter-active session during the N.J. Sepsis Learning-Action Collaborative session held on July 16 at NJHA in Princeton, N.J.

The meeting included two interactive rounds of storyboard sessions, during which time the teams presented their impressive work and results from the past seven months.

View sepsis storyboards here:

<http://www.njha.com/quality-patient-safety/provider-resources/sepsis/story-boards/>

### SPOTLIGHT ON SEPSIS

**NEW JERSEY SEPSIS LEARNING ACTION COLLABORATIVE**  
Toolkit for Post-Acute Care Settings  
TO SAVE LIVES: Early Identification • Early Treatment

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**SBAR FOR SEPSIS**

**S (describe the situation)**

- My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am calling from \_\_\_\_\_.
- I need to speak to you about patient Mr. or Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.
- This patient is showing signs and symptoms of infection and sepsis.

**B (provide background)**

- The patient was admitted on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) with the diagnosis of \_\_\_\_\_ (original condition).
- The patient now is showing these signs of a possible infection (infection): \_\_\_\_\_ (describe the signs and potential source of infection).
- This started on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).
- The patient is allergic to \_\_\_\_\_.
- The patient's advance care directive is \_\_\_\_\_.

**A (describe the key assessment findings)**

- My assessment of the situation is that the patient may be experiencing a new or worsening of his/her infection. Here are my assessment findings:
- The current vital signs:
  - SP  HR  RR  BP  (on room air or supplemental O<sub>2</sub>)
  - Temp  (°C)  (°F)
  - Temp  (°C)  (°F)
  - Heart rate  bpm
  - Respiratory rate  bpm
  - White Blood Cell Count  (x1,000 cells/cmm)
  - Platelet count  (x100,000 cells/cmm)
  - Altered mental status
  - SP/O<sub>2</sub>  (bpm)
  - Decreased urine output from recent drain-labs (within 24 hours)
  - Consciousness  (GCS)  (E)  (V)  (M)
  - Bilirubin  mg/dL (DL)  (mg/dL)
  - Platelet count  (x100,000 cells/cmm)
  - Lactate  mmol/L (DL)  (mg/dL)
  - Coagulopathy (INR   or aPTT  sec)
- The patient has voided \_\_\_\_\_ times in the last 8 hours
- Mental status is (changed or unchanged) from baseline
- Other physical assessment findings that are related to possible infection or sepsis (lung sounds, recent assessments, etc)

**R (recommendation)**

- I am concerned this patient has sepsis. I recommend that you see the patient as soon as possible and that we order a serum lactate, blood cultures and a basic metabolic panel. Do you agree?
- If the patient is hypotensive: Should I start on IV and give a fluid bolus?
- The physician should confirm, clarify and request additional information and then work with the nurse to take appropriate action with this patient.

The New Jersey Sepsis Learning Action Collaborative Toolkit for Post-Acute Settings is now available for teams to download. The toolkit was designed with the help of the N.J. Sepsis Post-acute Pilot group and contains a variety of educational tools for clinicians, including a recorded sepsis presentation, pre- and post- tests, sepsis SBAR and a sepsis pathway.

View and download toolkit here:  
[www.njha.com/sepsis](http://www.njha.com/sepsis)

### READINESS CHECK

- Enter July data into N.J. Sepsis data site by August 30
- Implement severe sepsis screening tools and protocols

### LOOKING AHEAD

Please join us August 19 at 1:00 p.m. for our next collaborative Webinar on "Implementing a Sepsis Improvement Program Beyond the ICU and ED" featuring speakers from Kennedy Health System.

Webinar log in info:

Event address for attendees:  
<https://njha.webex.com/njha/onstage/g.php?d=660926398&t=a>

For audio conference only:  
Toll-free number: 1-877-668-4490  
Access code: 660 926 398  
Event password: njsepsis