

**Sepsis: Recognition, assessment and early management guideline (update)
GCOMM1 minutes**

Sepsis: recognition, assessment and early management – Scoping and protocol meeting

Date: 18/04/2024

Location: Virtual

Minutes: Final

Committee members present:		
Ann Hoskins (Chair)		Present for notes 1 – 7
Mervyn Singer (Topic Adviser)		Present for notes 5 – 7
Samina Begum		Present for notes 1 – 7
Louise Bradbury		Present for notes 1 – 7
Tumena Corrah		Present for notes 1 – 7
Peter Gosling		Present for notes 1 – 7
Alasdair Gray		Present for notes 1 – 5
Jeremy Henning		Present for notes 1 – 7
Tessa Lewis		Present for notes 1 – 7
Barry Murphy-Jones		Present for notes 1 – 7
Marlies Ostermann		Present for notes 1 – 7
Ashley Reed		Present for notes 1 – 7
Giovanni Satta		Present for notes 1 – 7
Mervyn Singer		Present for notes 1 – 7
Kirstie Tomlinson		Present for notes 1 – 7
Sally Wood		Present for notes 1 – 7

In attendance:		
Astrid Aregui (AA)	Medical Editor	Present for notes 1 – 7
Martin Allaby	Consultation Clinical Adviser	Present for notes 1 – 7
Victoria Axe	Guideline Commissioning Manager	Present for notes 1 – 7
Lindsay Claxton (LC)	Technical Adviser, Health Economics	Present for notes 1 – 7
Anthony Gildea	Technical Analyst	Present for notes 1 – 7
James Hall	Senior Content Designer	Present for notes 1 – 7
James Jagroo	Senior Technical Analyst	Present for notes 1 – 7
Jon Littler (JL)	Project Manager	Present for notes 1 – 7
Emma McFarlane	Technical Adviser	Present for notes 1 – 7

Apologies:		
Erum Khan	Committee Member	
Anneka Patel	NICE Programme Manager	

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1. Welcome and objectives for the meeting

The Chair, Ann Hoskins (AH) welcomed the committee to the first development meeting for the third stage of the Sepsis update. She also introduced our two new members, Kirstie Tomlinson and Ashley Reed, and confirmed that our Topic Adviser, Mervyn Singer, would be sitting out items 1 – 4 due to previously declared interests that were in conflict. AH then asked all committee members to verbally declare any interests that had arisen since the most up-to-date register of interests had last been distributed. There were no new interests.

Finally, the minutes from the January scoping meeting were ratified and the Chair moved to the first main item on the agenda.

2. Review question 1 and 2 overview of evidence and methods – Rapid antigen testing and rapid PCR testing for diagnosing infection in people with suspected sepsis (papers A and B)

AH introduced Anthony Gildea (AG) and James Jagroo (JJ), the Technical and Senior Technical Analysts on this guideline, who gave brief but detailed presentations on the evidence and methods for the rapid antigen/rapid PCR review questions. AG presented on RQ 1 whilst JJ presented on RQ. The methods by which studies were (or were not selected) were highlighted as well as the quality of the evidence available.

AH thanked AG for his presentation and moved on to the next item on the agenda so that committee members could discuss the evidence.

3. Discussion of evidence and an overview of the equality impact assessment

Joined by James Jagroo (JJ), the Senior Technical Analyst for this update, AG took questions from the committee as they discussed the evidence presented. Additionally, JJ re-presented the EIA discussed at the previous meeting to clarify some small outstanding issues with the committee.

AH then moved the committee on to the next item on the agenda so recommendations could be drafted.

4. Drafting recommendations

Having reviewed the evidence, and still lead by AG and JJ, the committee were invited to assist on drafting recommendations for review questions 1 and 2 based on the available evidence.

The committee offered pointers for the development team so that they could draft appropriately worded recommendations. These would be taken away from the committee and ultimately re-sent to them shortly after to assure the committee's intent had been properly captured.

AH thanked AG and JJ for their work in preparing for this discussion, and the committee for their contributions, before moving on to the final main item of the day.

5. Review question 7 protocol discussion – What factors or groups of factors lead to a higher risk of developing sepsis?

For the final item of the day, AH introduced JJ who led a discussion on review question 7 so that it could be finalised, sent for internal quality assurance and signed-off.

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The committee offered their opinions on the best way to identify evidence for this protocol, what prognostic indicators and outcomes to look for and the cut-off date for searches.

AH thanked the committee for their input and moved to the close of the meeting.

6. Algorithm discussion

The Chair briefly introduced Astrid Aregui (AA) and James Hall (JH), the editors for this guideline so that they could discuss the importance of developing an algorithm for the Sepsis guideline.

It was agreed that a sub-group of members be convened by Jon Littler (JL) the Project Manager and a brief meeting be organised in June, with a subsequent one to follow later in the year. Members would volunteer.

7. AOB, Summary and next steps

JL advised the committee of the next steps, confirming that the committee would soon be contacted for their availability for an algorithm sub-group meeting and their feedback on updates made after the day's discussions.

AH thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions and closed the meeting.

Commented [EM1]: Wasn't there a specific item on the algorithms that we should add here?

Date of next meeting: 5 June 2024

Location of next meeting: Virtual