CALL FOR GREATER URGENCY IN SEPSIS CARE

Today the College of Emergency Medicine has published the results of a national audit of the management of severe sepsis and septic shock in UK Emergency Departments. The results demonstrate an overall improvement since the previous audit in 2011, specifically with respect to the timeliness of intravenous antibiotics.

The College welcomes a safety critical Level 2 alert issued yesterday by NHS England in response to continued pressure from the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) and the UK Sepsis Trust. With only one in four patients in the UK currently receiving appropriate care for sepsis, The College supports the call from the PHSO and UK Sepsis Trust in urging that improvements in sepsis care must accelerate and that public bodies must remain focused on combatting sepsis.

To help maintain this focus on improvement NHS England and the UK Sepsis Trust yesterday announced the launch of five clinical toolkits which map the path to success in sepsis management. Developed with the Royal Colleges and specialist Societies, these toolkits provide pragmatic solutions to improving sepsis care across the healthcare system. They are supported by robust education and are designed for immediate implementation. Exemplar standards will help identify those units excelling at sepsis care.

One of the clinical toolkits, ‘Sepsis: a toolkit for Emergency Departments’ has been developed in collaboration with the College of Emergency Medicine will assist emergency department staff in making real changes to their practise and processes that will improve the early recognition and management of this dangerous condition and ultimately save lives.

The audit report and toolkit are available at:
www.collemergencymed.ac.uk/Shop-Floor/Clinical Standards/Sepsis

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Contact
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Excellence in Emergency Care

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About the College of Emergency Medicine

The College of Emergency Medicine is the single authoritative body for Emergency Medicine in the UK. Emergency Medicine is the medical specialty which provides doctors and consultants to (Accident &) Emergency Departments in the NHS in the UK and other healthcare systems across the world.

The College works to ensure high quality care by setting and monitoring standards of care, and providing expert guidance and advice on policy to relevant bodies on matters relating to Emergency Medicine.

The College has over 4000 fellows and members, who are doctors and consultants in Emergency Departments working in the health services in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, Eire and across the world.