

## **Sepsis: More than just the SIRS criteria**

### **Surviving Sepsis Campaign Definition of 2012**

**Table 1. Diagnostic Criteria for Sepsis**

Infection, documented or suspected, and some of the following:

#### **General variables**

- Fever ( $> 38.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Hypothermia (core temperature  $< 36^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Heart rate  $> 90/\text{min}$ –1 or more than two sd above the normal value for age
- Tachypnea
- Altered mental status
- Significant edema or positive fluid balance ( $> 20\text{mL}/\text{kg}$  over 24hr)
- Hyperglycemia (plasma glucose  $> 140\text{mg}/\text{dL}$  or  $7.7\text{ mmol}/\text{L}$ ) in the absence of diabetes

#### **Inflammatory variables**

- Leukocytosis (WBC count  $> 12,000\ \mu\text{L}^{-1}$ )
- Leukopenia (WBC count  $< 4000\ \mu\text{L}^{-1}$ )
- Normal WBC count with greater than 10% immature forms
- Plasma C-reactive protein more than two sd above the normal value
- Plasma procalcitonin more than two sd above the normal value

#### **Hemodynamic variables**

- Arterial hypotension (SBP  $< 90\text{mm Hg}$ , MAP  $< 70\text{mm Hg}$ , or an SBP decrease  $> 40\text{mm Hg}$  in adults or less than two sd below normal for age)

#### **Organ dysfunction variables**

- Arterial hypoxemia ( $\text{Pao}_2/\text{Fio}_2 < 300$ )
- Acute oliguria (urine output  $< 0.5\text{mL}/\text{kg}/\text{hr}$  for at least 2 hrs despite adequate fluid resuscitation)
- Creatinine increase  $> 0.5\text{mg}/\text{dL}$  or  $44.2\ \mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$
- Coagulation abnormalities (INR  $> 1.5$  or aPTT  $> 60\text{ s}$ )
- Ileus (absent bowel sounds) ☒ Thrombocytopenia (platelet count  $< 100,000\ \mu\text{L}^{-1}$ )
- Hyperbilirubinemia (plasma total bilirubin  $> 4\text{mg}/\text{dL}$  or  $70\ \mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ )

#### **Tissue perfusion variables**

- Hyperlactatemia ( $> 1\text{ mmol}/\text{L}$ )
- Decreased capillary refill or mottling

Adapted from Levy MM, Fink MP, Marshall JC, et al: 2001 SCCM/ESICM/ACCP/ATS/SIS International Sepsis Definitions Conference. Crit Care Med 2003; 31:1250–1256.