An Approach to the Initial Management of Sepsis

Welcome to this series of 3 presentations. Part 1 will look at the new sepsis definitions and clinical criteria and examine why we needed this change. I do not have any conflict of interest regarding the subject matter



GANESAN ABBU BRANDON PRIMARY CARE CONFERENCE MAY 2018

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE



PreOPSYS Manitoba Health

OBJECTIVES

Understand the new definitions of Sepsis and Septic Shock

Apply an appropriate Clinical Tool to aid the diagnosis Consider the 3 most important initial Interventions What image comes to mind when one says Sepsis? Is it as clearly appreciated as say meningitis or pneumonia. I appreciate that sepsis is more complex, but can we do better!

WHAT IS SEPSIS?

MOST IMPORTANT MAKE THE DIAGNOSIS!

EXISTING DEFINITION

Lets examine the current definition that has been in use for the last 2 decades. Sepsis is documented or suspected infection with 2 or more SIRS criteria. These criteria are temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate and white blood cell count

UNCHANGED IN LAST 20YRS

Proven or Presumed Infection AND 2 or more SIRS Criteria

Temperature Heart Rate Respiratory Rate WBC Count <36c or > 38c >90bpm >20 <4 or > 11

- 1. The challenge facing the Sepsis 3.0 team was " how can we improve the definition of sepsis so that it can satisfy multiple domains of usefulness- helpful for clinicians, researchers and policy makers.
- 2. Can we describe sepsis in a way that better describes our current understanding of sepsis.
- 3. Can we differentiate sepsis from uncomplicated infection
- 4. Can we separate the definition from clinical criteria?

THE CHALLENGE

How can we define sepsis so that we can...





Sepsis vs Uncomplicated Infection



- We know that Infection is the initial trigger that sets in motion a self propagating cascade that drives the process
- 2. The host response is unlike the normal response to infection and involves both pro and antiinflammatory cytokines.
- 3. This intense response eventually leads to organ dysfunction. Not uncommonly, organ dysfunction is the initial presentation and infection and sepsis is a delayed consideration.
- 4. The final result is an overall higher risk of dying
- 5. These factors resulted in the final definition of sepsis as " life threatening organ dysfunction that results from a dysregulated host response to infection"
- 6. Since the definition includes organ dysfunction, the previous category of Severe sepsis becomes redundant.

THE BEST DEFINITION OF SEPSIS

Until we know better!

Causes Organ Dysfunction

Sepsis is ife-threatening organ dysfunction caused by a

dysregulated host response to

infection

Predicated on Infection

Abnormal host response

No need for "Severe Sepsis" category

THE BEST DEFINITION OF SEPTIC SHOCK

Until we know better!

The current definition is based on blood pressure and hemodynamics only.

a.How do we better define Septic Shock? Is it all about the cardiovascular systemWhilst blood pressure and the heart are important, the shock state in sepsis involves cellular and metabolic pathways

b.Does the management help differentiate ?

c. Is it possible that the pathobiology is different? We don't know

d.The thing that distinguishes septic shock from sepsis is Mortality

e.Septic Shock is a subset of Sepsis in which profound circulatory, cellular and metabolic abnormalities are associated with a greater risk of mortality than Sepsis alone Septic Shock is a subset of Sepsis in which ound circulatory, cellular and metabolic abnormalities are associated with a greater risk of mortality than Sepsis alone Sepsis is life-threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to infection

Limited Practical Utility

Septic Shock is a subset of Sepsis in which profound circulatory, cellular and metabolic abnormalities are associated with a greater risk of mortality than Sepsis alone



"Dysregulated Host Response" "Organ Dysfunction" a, If we were granted 3 wishes in this regard; what would we wish for?

We could wish for a diagnostic laboratory test or a screening tool that would either rule in or rule out the diagnosis. The absence of these puts that idea up in smoke so to speak!

b. Fortunately we have 1 wish left, and because we know that patients with sepsis are very sick and at high risk of dying, could we wish for a global risk stratifying tool that was based on clinical criteria, that could be easily done by the triage nurse and perhaps obviating the need for any Laboratory tests.

Wish! Wish!

Diagnostic Laboratory test Clinical Screening tool

Onuse

Global Risk Stratification Tool

Clinical Criteria ✓ No Labs ✓ Easily done by Triage Nurse√

WHATS WRONG WITH SIRS

Lets now examine why these old definitions are problematic. Firstly, our current definition fails to make a distinction between a definition and clinical criteria. It provides a tool to detect sepsis without telling us what sensie is Much now information is

av int

- 1. SIRS criteria were intended as a wide net and the high sensitivity falsely includes far too many patients as septic. Therefore, a high percentage of ICU patients in the US, Euroupe and ANZ would qualify on the basis of 2 or more SIRS criteria.
- 2. Low entry threshold results in a dramatic increase in less sick patients being

included in the prevalence of sepsis and a parallel deceptive reduction in mortality.

3. We all understand that it is statistically significant that Australian doctors are better at managing sepsis than their European counterparts, however a 40% difference underscores why proper definitions and criteria matter







NY Hospitals Screening Tool

ANY 3 OF THE FOLLOWING

Any alteration of mental status
 Temp <36c or >38.3 c
 Heart rate >90 bpm
 Systolic BP <90
 Resp Rate > 20/min
 SaO₂ <90% on room air
 Suspected Infection





Recall, the best we could wish for was a global risk assessment tool and not a screening tool. qSOFA picks out those patients at triage who are at most risk of dying.

Systolic Bp <100, altered mental state and respiratory rate >22 make up qSOFA.

If none of these are present, mortality risk is <1% whilst a score of 3 imparts a 20% risk

Again the major criticism is that there is no prospective validation.

950FA



Score of ≥2 Criteria Suggests a Greater Risk of a Poor Outcome

q SOFA ís NOT a screening tool or a management trigger qSOFA is a risk stratifier Mortality at 6-72 hrs 0/3=<1% 1/3=2-3% 2/3=8% 3/3=20%



SOFA



qSOFA

SIRS	0.64 (0.62, 0.66)	ICU er AUROC i		The results showed that in the ICU		0 76 (0.75,).77)	Outside	side the ICU encounters N = 66,522 AUROC in-hospital mortality		
SOFA	<0.01	0.74 (0.73, 0.76)		SOFA and the Organ Dysfund top. Outside th a newly coined	more cor ction Syst ne ICU se d qSOFA	nplex Logistics em came out o tting - SOFA a prevailed	on nd 0.01	0.79 (0.78, 0.80)		
LODS	<0.01	0.20	0.75 (0.73, 0.76)		1		<0.01	<0.01	0.81 (0.80, 0.82)	
qSOFA	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.66 (0.64, 0.68)		qSOFA	<0.01	<0.01	0.72	0.81 (0.80, 0.82)

NATIONAL EARLY WARNING SCORE

Physiological Parameters	3	2	1	0	1	2	3	
Respiration Rate (BPM)	≤8		9-11	12-20		21-24	≥25	
Oxygen Saturations (%)	≤91	92-93	94-95	≥96		What about other tools that may be better? NEWS is a British scoring system which holds much promise. In a retrospective review of 36000 charts at a Chicago Hospital - NEWS fared better than qSOFA or SIRS However, this was not prospective validation.		
Any Supplemental Oxygen		Yes		No				
Temperature (°C)	≤35		35.1-36.0	36.1-38.0	38.1-39.0			
Systolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)	≤90	19-100	101-110	111-219			≥220	
Heart Rate (BPM)	≤40		41-50	51-90	91-110	111-130	≥131	
Level of Consciousness				A			V, P or U	



We established that that single factor that discriminates septic shock from sepsis was mortality.

Therefore its logical to look for those clinical criteria that have the highest mortality

If lactate alone is >2 the mortality is 25%. If Fluid refractory hypotension and Vasopressors are required to maintain MAP>65 then mortality is 30% If all 3 factors are present then the mortality risk is 42%

To diagnose septic shock, we have to adequately fluid resuscitate in the first 3 hours and recheck the serum lactate at the 3h mark and if all 3 criteria are present, only then can we call this septic shock.

To illustrate this with an example- if a patient presents with lactate of 3.8 and is adequately fluid resuscitated and at the 3 hour mark the patient is on vasopressors and MAP is 55 but lactate is 1.7—this is not septic shock. They intended for the criteria to be tight.

42%

CRITERIA FOR SEPTIC SHOCK

ate > 2

d Refractory Hypotension uiring Vasopressor

INITIAL PRESENTATION MAP = 65 Lactate = 3.8

Resuscitated with 30ml/kg normal saline

Requiring Vasopressor Lactate > 2

MORTALITY REDUCTION WITH CRITICAL INTERVENTIONS



THESE ARE ADDITIVE

Today, I plan to focus on these 3

Why antibiotics do we need antibiotics in sepsis?

We know that sepsis is predicated on infection.

The severity of the syndrome would warrant rapid reduction of the antimicrobial load to:

1.prevent injury caused by microbial activity and toxin production 2.prevent or ameliorate harmful host responses to infection

Despite the difference in timing for first antibiotic in these studies, there was no difference in mortality. Difficult to figure out when time zero for infection was.

This study by Anand Kumar and Dan Roberts in Winnipeg showed that for each hour delay, there was a 7% increase in mortality. However, this has not been replicated.

Stronger evidence over increased mortality after 1 hour of hypotension in sepsis and easier to measure time zero for this event.

ANTIBIOTICS IN SEPSIS

inDication

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2016 Recommendation: Antibiotics ASAP and preferably within 1 hour from recognition

(Strong Recommendation on Moderate Quality Evidence)

ANTIBIOTICS IN SEPSIS

1.Choosing the correct drug the first time is crucial. Getting it right still has high mortality but getting it wrong doubles that number 2. We need to use broad spectrum drugs and by that we mean one that covers many different types of organisms. Combination therapy is suggested and this means 2 drugs from different classes that work against the most likely organs, to accelerate pathogen clearance.

-eg. beta lactamase plus fluroquinalone, gentamicin or macrolide. 3. How do we go about making those choices? Firstly we have to consider patient factors:

Age - extremes of age pose more problems in terms of choice and resistant organisms

Comorbidities such as diabetes, renal or hepatic dysfunction.

Host immune status -

immunocompromised, post splenectomy- more likely encapsulated bacteria

Dialysis patients and PCH- more likely to have resistant organisms Factors related to the site of the infection if known.

Certain bacteria have predilection for a specific site e.g.. commonest pathogen in pneumonia would be pneumococcus Bioavailability may be a factor in meningitis as one would want a drug with good penetration of the blood brain barrier.

Lastly, one has to consider the most likely organism in t.he environment How common is MRSA in the facilityvery low for us, what are the local resistance patterns - 80% E.coli would be resistant to amoxycillin so that would not be a good choice for urosepsis

Drug choice

ANTIBIOTIC CHOICE





ANTIBIOTICS IN SEPSIS







When considering dosing, 2 things are important: Leaky capillaries and fluid resuscitation cause an increased volume of distribution. Secondly, there appears to be a phenomenon of augmented renal clearance in sepsis. These 2 factors account for suboptimal dosing and a resultant low first peak level, ultimately leading to drug failure. Gentamicin failure is often accounted for by under dosing the first dose. Therefore- recommended one choose a dose at the high end of the spectrum as the first dose and deliver by rbolus or rapid iv infusion regardless of the mechanism of killing

Increased Volume of Distribution Augmented Renal Clearance

- 1. Time dependant killing relies on time above MIC - simple infections 60% maybe ok but aim for 100% in sepsis-> therefore continuous infusion may be best.
- 2. 2 things important with Conc dependant killing, CMax=Peak concentration and AUC(green). once daily dosing at high end of spectrum



Optimize within 12 hours

SOURCE CONTROL

Remove Indwelling Catheters





Non Invasive Intervention Preferred

MORTALITY REDUCTION WITH CRITICAL INTERVENTIONS



EARLY GOAL DIRECTED THERAPY (RIVERS AND RIVERS - 2001)



SEPSIS "TRIALogy"

PROTOCOL

bottom line - these trial showed that there was equivalent results with less interventions, complications and costs.

VS.

Process

Multicentred academic hospital study comparing EGDT to usual care X plain what was usual care- whatever the attending saw necessary- low satsgive oxygen, low bp give fluids, start vassopressors Criticism- academic hop study

2014 ProCESS Lactate ± CVP ± ScVO₂

2001 EGDT Protocol CVP ScVO₂



ARISE Multicentred academic and non academic hospital study Criticism - patients not as sick 2014 ARISE Lactate No CVP No ScVO₂

Promise looked at very sick group of patients and evaluated the cost effectiveness and QOL outcomes 2015 ProMISe Lactate No CVP No ScVO₂

USUAL CARE

SEPSIS "TRIALogy"

1.	Ilf we look at the trial parameters we
	notice that age, time to id and goal
	MAPs were not statistically different.
-	

VARIABLE

- 2. Mortality in the comparative trials in 2014/15 were similar but much lower than the original Rivers trial.
- One could argue that patient in the Rivers trial were more sick as they had lower ScVO2 and higher lactates

 the Promise trial had equally sick patients but the main reason is....
- 4. Patients in the newer trials were given antibiotics earlier and received fluids earlier so that even pre randomization the lactate and Scvo2 became less
- 5. This tells us that giving antibiotics and fluid early is the key rather than a strict protocol driven approach.
- 6. ASIDE—What we re comparing here is the arms of the 3 new trial versus the original Rivers trial - therefore fluids pre randomization would not be relevant for rivers trial.

RIVERS(EGDT)		PROCESS	ARISE	PROMISE	
rs we goal erent. als in	4.3% 60d)	18.9 vs 21% (60d)	18.8 vs 18.6% (90d)	29.2 vs 29.6% (90d)	
lower the ney	6H	3h	1.2	1.3	
ctates sick e eived	-	2L	2.5L	2L	
Scvo2	5L	2.8L	1.7L	2.0L	

If Early goal directed therapy is too much trouble, how do we approach the management of septic patients

HEMO

Start this section by describing the hemodynamic deficits in sepsis. You will discuss each in more detail. 2001 Rivers trial EGDT tried to give this a structured approach.

What this meant in term of intervention and a goal. Great idea but does it really make a difference; especially in terms of invasive interventions and excessive use of blood transfusions

ENSATION IN SEPSIS

HYPOVOLEMIA

ATION

MYOCARDIAL DYSFUNCTION





Restore Fluid Volume Avoid Tissue Edema

vasodilation mediated by nitric oxide Leaky capillaries because TNF denudes the glycocalyx.

Goal MAP ≥ 65

The heart, is exquisitely sensitive to increases in microvascular permeability and interstitial oedema . Whereas some organs can cope with profound increases in the interstitial fluid volume without a compromise in function, heart function is significantly compromised with only a few percent increase in the interstitial fluid volume. The ability of the LV to dilate appears to be protective in Sepsis and the

Improve Stroke Volume

interstitial deem compromises this

SUMMARY OF HEMODYNAMIC INTERVENTIONS



Emphasize that Strong recommendation on low quality evidence

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2016

- 1. Treatment and Resuscitation begin Immediately Best Practice Statement
- 2. At least 30ml/kg Crystalloid be given in the 1st 3h Strong Recommendation. Low Quality Evidence!!
- **3.** Additional fluids based on frequent reassessment of Hemodynamic Status

Best Practice Statement







1. Need to replace intravascular volume because of capillary leakage and v/d that increases venous capacitanceholds more







after distribution slides Ask 3 questions? 1.Why not give everyone blood? 2.choice between colloids and crystalloids? 3.are all crystalloids equivalent?



COLLOIDS VS. CRYSTALLOIDS



ARE ALL CRYSTALLOIDS EQUIVALENT?

If crystalloids are the answer, then it begs the question " are all crystalloids equivalent/"

Normal saline has been the go to drug largely because of cost. However, the current cost difference is negligible. Saline is really abnormal saline as it differs moocher widely from plasma than ringers lactate.

NS causes a non AG hyperchloremic metabolic acidosis and in small head to head studies trended toward greater renal injury.

Saline would be the ideal drug in severe vomiting-rx the low sodium, chloride and metal alkalosis.

In most situations balanced crystalloids such as RL would be preferable. Ringers cant be used together with blood transfusions because the calcium will chelate blood.

RL may not be the best choice for TBI because of its lower osmolality.

Na	CI	рН	Osm.	Cost
140	103	7.4	290	
154	154	5.7	308	\$1.23
130	109	6.5	273	\$1.45

HOW MUCH FLUID?

 In the early 1800's, British travellers returning from India were ravaged by a cholera epidemic. The treatment of the day was "blood-letting" as people believed that once used to ward off infection it became useless and had to be removed.
 In 1832, Scottish physician Thomas Latta came up with the revolutionary idea of balancing the current between arteries and veins. To the horror of his colleagues, he violated the sanctity of the human body by cannulating the basilica vein and injecting a dilute solution of sodium, chloride and bicarbonate.
 B of his patients survived.
 He uses ounce by ounce to get his effect.

4. Today we administer fluids litre by litre.

ARDS

Crit Care Med. 2013 Feb;41(2) 472-80. doi: 10.1097/CCM.0b013e31826ab377.

Extravascular lung water is an independent prognostic factor in patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome.

Jazwiek M¹, Silva S. Persishini R. Anguel N. Qamen D. Richard C. Teboul J., Monnet X-

n=200 70% Mortality if EVLW>21 ml/kg 40% Mortality if EVLW <21ml/kg

There's good evidence that more fluid in ARDS is bad. When extravascular lung water exceeds 21ml/kg, mortality increased 30%

ARDS More Fluids = 1 Mortality



ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY More Fluids = 1 Mortality



GENERAL SURGERY

More Fluids = 1 Mortality

"THE" ENDOTOXIC PIGS

Crit Care, 2009;13(6):R186. doi: 10.1186/cc8179. Epub 2009 Nov 23.

Effect of fluid resuscitation on mortality and organ function in experimental sepsis

Brandt S¹, Regueira T, Bracht H, Porta F, Djafarzadeh S, Takala J, Gorrasi J, Borotto E, Krejci V, Hiltebrand LB, Bruegger LE, Beldi G Lepper PM, Kessler U, Jakob SM.



Ok so we've proved that liberal fluid strategy is bad. Then is a conservative strategy better.In this study 48 pigs randomised to 3 groups of 16. A control group, endotoxin and fecal peritonitis grip. Each subdivided to receive 10ml/kg/hr R?L or 20ml/kg/hr RL In each of the groups the conservative strategy led to better outcomes. A man may be a pig but pigs are not human!

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

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Mortality after Fluid Bolus in African Children with Severe Infection

Kathryn Maitland, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Sarah Kiguli, M.B., Ch.B., M.Med., Robert O. Opoka, M.B., Ch.B., M.Med.,

DESIGN

This human study was done by Kathryn Maitland in sub-saharan Africa- multi centre RCT with 3 groups

Albumin bolus, saline bolus and no bolus of 20ml/kg and maintenance of 2.5-4ml/kg

She looked at mortality at 48h and 4 weeks.

I am sure you guessed that the no bolus group fared the based.

The critical care world really does not know what to do about this study because it was well designed but could never be replicated in North America The criticism of course was that it was in children and done in Africa

INTERVENTION

Albumin bolus (n=1,050) Saline bolus (n=1,047) No bolus (n=1,044)

20ml/kg bolus 2.5-4ml/kg maintenance

6 cent Saharan Tanzan

Mu





Open Access

RESEARCH

A positive fluid balance is an independent prognostic factor in patients with sepsis

Angela Acheampong and Jean-Louis Vincent*

This small Belgian studyof 173 ICU patients demonstrated that a positive fluid balance as shown in the upper blue line, leads to greater mortality (different from the other graphs that depicted survival



THE GLYCOCALYX

van den Berg et al Circ Res 92:592;2003





WHEN TO STOP FLUIDS?

Fluid that does not contribute to increased stroke volume leaks through into interstitial space and worsens edema





WHEN TO STOP FLUIDS?

Fluid that does not contribute to increased stroke volume leaks through into interstitial space and worsens edema



NO LONGER PRELOAD RESPONSIVE

When more fluid does not cause a commensurate increase in stroke volume

WHAT ABOUT CVP MONITORING?

there is no CVP meas cardiac ou [2]. A meta investigati to predict blood volu under the indicating

The 7 flawed assumptions in assuming that the CVP predicts fluid responsiveness





the

and ScVO2 in their 2012 guidelines but retracted to suggest dynamic rather than static measures of fluid responsiveness Long axis view of the IVC distal to convergence of hepatic vein held some promise in ventilated patients. Diameter and compressibility were surrogate markers of CVP. However, recent studies have found this to be not useful because the critical thing is does the inc volume translate to increased SV-

IVC DIAMETER



HOW DO WE DETERMINE PRE-LOAD RESPONSIVENES

NB. These clinical markers are only surrogates and may not reveal an accurate picture. (For organ perfusion one needs flow and pressure) e.g. BP 60% patients were preload responsive

The passive leg raise (PLR) mobilizes fluid approx extrem ow venous PLR is **PASSIVE LEG RAISING** can be sponta [19-21] use of CAPS clinicia and pc 7% whethe HEART likely to 7% Passiv **PULMON** leg rais 9% recum legs ar hemod evaluat **ARTERIES VEINS** 13% 64% we can then measure SV to see if the Sensors - \$110 x ?1 patient is preload responsive need 4 sensors

SUMMARY - FLUIDS

Do we need fluid in Sepsis?

How much fluid?

30ml/kg in first 3 hours "think ounce by ounce" 500ml by 500ml

GCS ↓HR ↓PP ↑BP ↑UO

When do we STOP?



NO LONGER PRELOAD RESPONSIVE

When more fluid does not cause a commensurate increase in stroke volume

HEMODYNAMIC DECOMPENSATION IN SEPSIS

HYPOVOLEMIA



Restore Fluid Volume Avoid Tissue Edema VASODILATION



Goal MAP \geq 65

vasociation mediated by nitric scide Leaky capillaties because TarF denudes the glycocalyx.

MYOCARDIAL DYSFUNCTION



Improve Stroke Volume

RAPID SUPPORT OF MAP IN SEPTIC SHOCK



Norepi is clearly the best option as a vasopressor drug because iit directly addresses one of the main components of shock state in sepsis. Its main effect in dealing with hypotension is peripheral vasoconstriction. Furthermore it raises blood pressure without increasing HR or inotropy thereby avoiding cardiac ischemia in an already compromised heart.

DON'T BE A [

its increase on HR and contractility. It reduces sphlacnic circulation and increase serum lactate by its beta 2 effect on skeletal muscles. Therefore lactate clearance as a measure of clinical improvement is negated. The Sepsis guideline committee ranks epinephrine or vasopressin as 2nd choice despite epinephrine having a lower evidence rating. Strangely, vasopressin was the sole 2nd choice in the consensus discussions but this was altered in the final written document. If the MAP is still below 65 despite adequate fluids and max dose norepi, then consider adding vasopressin or epinephrine to reach goal MAP of 65

Epinephrine exerts its effect primarily by

Vasopressin level are initially increased in sepsis and then reverts to normal. In the context of hypotension, one would expect increased vasopressin levels; therefore sepsis has a relative vasopressin deficiency. The VASST trial show no benefit of adding vasopressin to norepi but subgroup analysis showed that there was benefit in terms of adding vasopressin to enable a reduction in the norepi dose. Therefore this would be the main use for vasopressin.

PAMINE

PIN

EPINE

VASOP

From the VANISH trial we learn that adding hydrocortisone to vasopressin results in less need for acute dialysis.

Therefore, start ing vasopressin would be a trigger for starting hydrocortisone as hydrocortisone makes the alpha receptors more sensitive to the vasopressor effect.

Dopamine increases blood pressure by increasing heart rate and inotropy. The risk of tachycardia and arrhythmias are greater. It may have some value in instances where there is bradycardia. Low dose dopamine for renoprotection has been debunked by strong evidence and it should not be used for this purpose.

Apart from these physiologic considerations, head to head trials favour norepi over dopamine in sepsis and other shock states (RR 0.89)

SUMMARY OF HEMODYNAMIC INTERVENTIONS



TO WHAT ENDPOINT DO WE RESUSCITATE?

Michelle Hay Boosting oxy supernormal patients caus

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i cps up regulation t increases the to produce more actate. \EROBIC

proof that there is no tissue hypoxia Normal number of ATP molecules in septic tidssue 2016

Juiding resuscitation to normalize la jients with elevated lactate levels marker of tissue hypoperfusion

Increased lactate is produced by skeletal muscle, the liver and the oxygen rich lungs and serves as an important and more efficient biofuel for the heart and kidneys

(weak recommendation, low quality of evidence).

ARE WE MISSING SOMETHING?

Sepsis resuscitation focuses on hemodynamics and tissue oxygen delivery. We can deliver all the oxygen we want but it would be useless if the mitochondria cannot utilize it.

The question is, are we missing something more basic?



Interesting question that warrants more investigationf

Vitamin C difficiency causes edema and bleeding as is evident in scurvy. Vitamin C is also important for proper endothelial function and the synthesis of catecholamines —> failure of sympathetic nervous system Thiamine difficiency causes Beri Beri and Wernickes encephalopathy—-Notice how the pathophysiology and clinical symptoms mirror that of Sepsis?

Viatmin c and thiamine are both decreased in Sepsis. Could this combination be the trigger for that dysregulated host response?





Edema Bleeding Failed Sympathetics Vasodilation

Thiamine VitaminB1

BERI BERI

Distributive shock Increased Lactic Acid

WERNICKE'S

Delirium



1.THIS 2016 study shows the effect of low and high dose vitamin c on SOFA scores - see marked reduction in score with high dose vitamin c. 2, Another 2016 study looked at thiamine in sepsis and found no mortality benefit. However in considering only those patients with thiamine difficiency, there was a benefit 3. This study by Marik et Al is creating all the buzz in the Sepsis world. Their small randomized control trial had 47 patients in each arm. They used a iv cocktail of vit c 1.5g q 6h, thiamine 200mg q 12h and hydrocortisone 50mg q 6h. HC was added for its synergistic effect with vit c in protecting the endothelium.

They showed a mortality reduction 4. Earlier weaning of vasopressors despite less overall fluids given 5. and improvement in SOFA scores and Procalcitonin levels over time

METABOLIC RESUSCITATION: DOES IT WORK?



Zabet MH et al 2016:

Effect of high-dose ascorbic acid on vasopressor requirement in septic shock

