

# Sepsis FACTS

Sepsis arises when the body's response to an infection injures its own tissues and organs. It may lead to shock, multi-organ failure, and death - especially if not recognized early and treated promptly. Sepsis is the final common pathway to death from most infectious diseases worldwide, including viruses such as SARS-CoV-2.

**47 - 50 million**  
cases  
per year<sup>1</sup>

At least  
**11 million**  
deaths per year<sup>2</sup>

**1 in 5 deaths**  
worldwide is  
associated  
with **sepsis**<sup>3</sup>

## Sepsis is the number

- 1**
- Cause of death in hospitals<sup>4</sup>
  - Cause for hospital readmissions<sup>5</sup>
  - Healthcare cost<sup>6</sup>  
(e.g. \$62 billion is spent on sepsis healthcare costs in the US alone)<sup>7</sup>

Up to **50%**  
of sepsis survivors  
suffer from long-term  
physical and/or  
psychological effects<sup>8</sup>

**40%**  
of cases  
are  
children  
**under 5**<sup>9</sup>

**80%**  
of sepsis cases  
occur **outside**  
of a hospital<sup>10</sup>

**SEPSIS** is  
always caused by  
an **infection** like  
pneumonia or  
diarrheal illness<sup>11</sup>

**SEPSIS** is a medical  
**emergency** - if you or someone  
you know shows signs of sepsis,  
seek medical care immediately.  
Every hour counts.<sup>12</sup>

## These signs may indicate sepsis:

**S**lurred Speech  
or Confusion

**E**xtrême Shivering  
or Muscle Pain  
/Fever

**P**assing No  
Urine  
All Day

**S**evere  
Breathlessness

**I**t Feels Like  
You're Going  
to Die

**S**kin Mottled  
or Discolored

**September 13**

You can help  
**#StopSepsis**  
and  
**#SaveLives**  
Get involved at  
**worldsepsisday.org**



## References

- 1, 2, 3, 9, 11 Rudd et al, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(19\)32989-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)32989-7).
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