

# CARE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT MAP

## Sepsis (Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock)

**LEGEND**

- Key outcome metrics
- Key time-measured processes
- Key initial improvement/aim focus areas
- Key recommended knowledge assets (standardization tools)

Phase or site of care	
	• Key best practice
	• Key process metrics
	• Key outcome metrics

Sepsis has the highest mortality rate and cost of any condition treated in U.S. hospitals, and causes significant morbidity. It ranks high on Health Catalyst's key process analysis of opportunity based on financial and volume metrics from a large normalized data set. This high-level Care Process Improvement Map illustrates key evidence-based best practices and associated improvement opportunities that drive metrics and data visualizations in the Sepsis application. It is not intended as an inclusive care process model or protocol, but rather to catalyze iterative care process analysis and outcomes improvement.

**KEY OUTCOME METRICS**

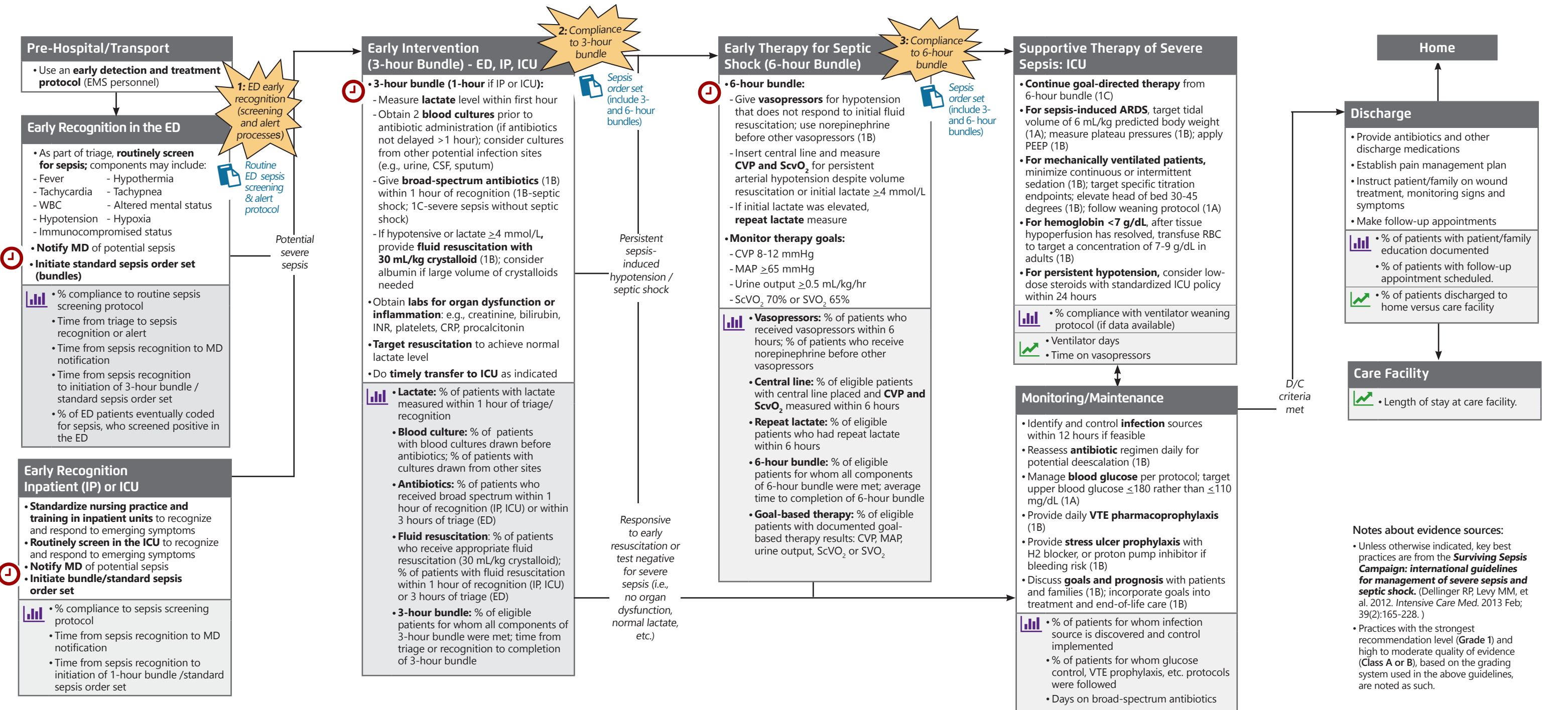
<b>Clinical</b>	<b>Financial</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospital mortality rate</li> <li>• Length of stay (ICU, overall)</li> <li>• Readmissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ventilator days</li> <li>• Time on vasopressors</li> <li>• Discharges to home (vs. long-term care)</li> <li>• Variable cost per case</li> </ul>

**DEFINITIONS**

- **Sepsis:** The presence (probable or documented) of infection, together with systemic manifestations of infection.
- **Severe sepsis:** Sepsis plus sepsis-induced organ dysfunction or tissue hypoperfusion.
- **Septic shock:** Sepsis-induced hypotension persisting despite adequate fluid resuscitation.

**KEY DATA SOURCES**

- Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
- Billing: Professional and Hospital
- Financial



See the Sepsis [Outcomes Improvement Packet](#) for aims, interventions, and resources related to each of these areas of focus.