

# VASOPRESSORS IN COVID-19

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COVID TRAINING CELL, UCMS & GTBH

# TREATMENT FOR HYPOTENSION IS NOT ALL ABOUT VASOPRESSORS!

IV FLUIDS HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT  
ROLE TO PLAY!





# SPECTRUM OF CLINICAL PRESENTATION OF COVID-19- WHEN TO USE VASOPRESSORS?

1. UNCOMPLICATED ILLNESS
2. MILD PNEUMONIA
3. SEVERE PNEUMONIA
4. ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME
5. SEPSIS
6. **SEPTIC SHOCK- (REQUIREMENT OF VASOPRESSORS)**

# HOW TO IDENTIFY SEPTIC SHOCK?

1. TAKE BP → CALCULATE  
MAP  
2. SEND ABG FOR  
LACTATE LEVELS

- FULFILL THE CRITERIA FOR SEPSIS AND
- **DESPITE ADEQUATE FLUID RESUSCITATION, REQUIRE VASOPRESSORS TO MAINTAIN MEAN ARTERIAL PRESSURE (MAP) >65MMHG AND LACTATE >2MMOL/L.**

**Reference:** Singer M, Deutschman CS, Seymour C, Shankar-Hari M, Annane D, Bauer M, et al. The third international consensus definitions for sepsis and septic shock (sepsis-3). Vol. 315, JAMA - Journal of the American Medical Association. American Medical Association; 2016. p. 801–10.



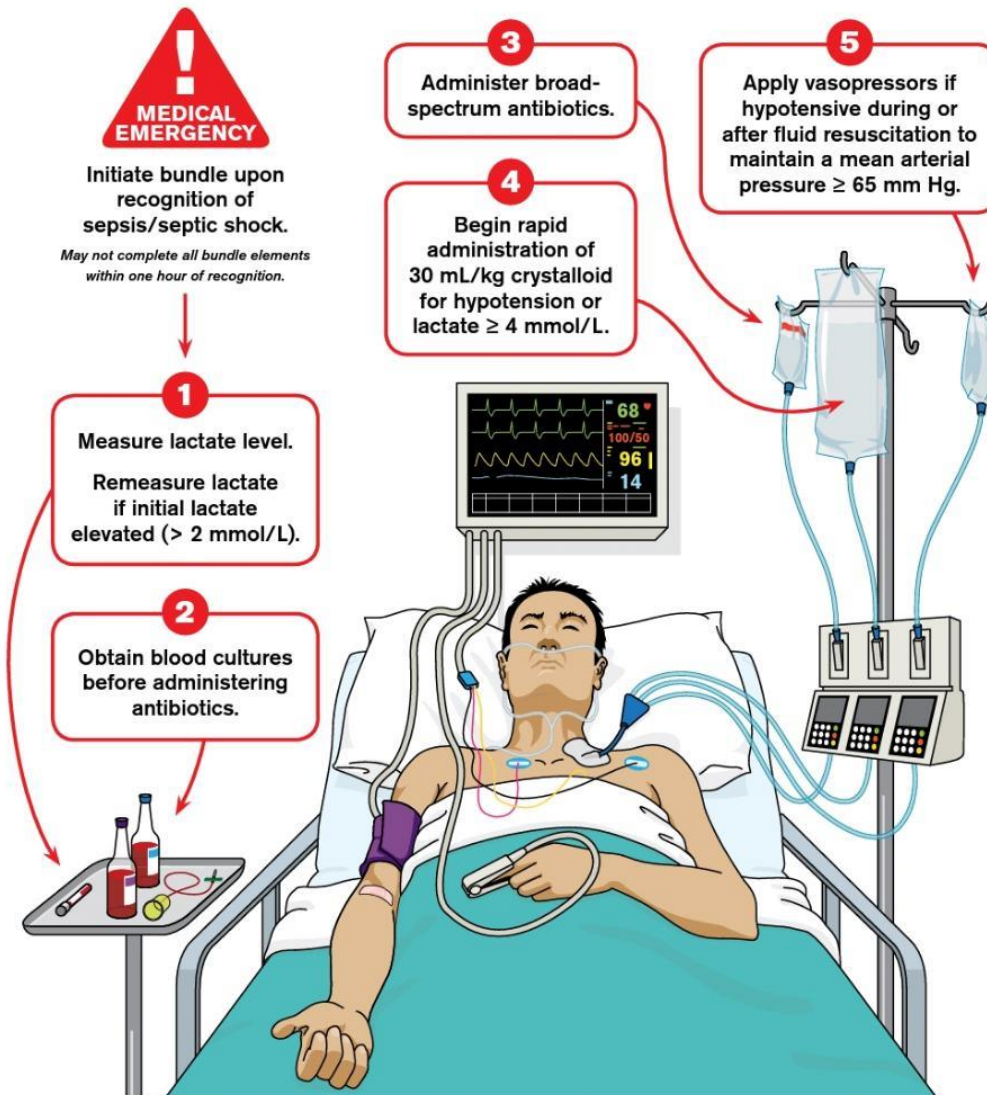
# MANAGING SEPTIC SHOCK

5 THINGS TO DO WITHIN 1  
HOUR OF RECEIVING THE  
PATIENT.

# Hour-1 Bundle

## Initial Resuscitation for Sepsis and Septic Shock

Surviving Sepsis  
Campaign



Bundle: [SurvivingSepsis.org/Bundle](https://www.survivingsepsis.org/Bundle)

Complete Guidelines: [SurvivingSepsis.org/Guidelines](https://www.survivingsepsis.org/Guidelines)



# INITIAL MANAGEMENT- HOUR 1 BUNDLE

- Measure lactate level. Remeasure if initial lactate is  $>2$  mmol/L.
- Obtain blood cultures prior to administration of antibiotics.
- Administer broad-spectrum antibiotics.
- Begin rapid administration of 30ml/kg crystalloid for hypotension or lactate  $\geq 4$  mmol/L.
- Apply vasopressors if patient is hypotensive during or after fluid resuscitation to maintain MAP  $\geq 65$  mm Hg.

*\*“Time zero” or “time of presentation” is defined as the time of triage in the Emergency Department or, if presenting from another care venue, from the earliest chart annotation consistent with all elements of sepsis (formerly severe sepsis) or septic shock ascertained through chart review.*

# CHOICE OF CRYSTALLOID?

WHAT TO GIVE → NS/RL  
HOW MUCH TO GIVE →  
30ML/KG IN 1 HOUR

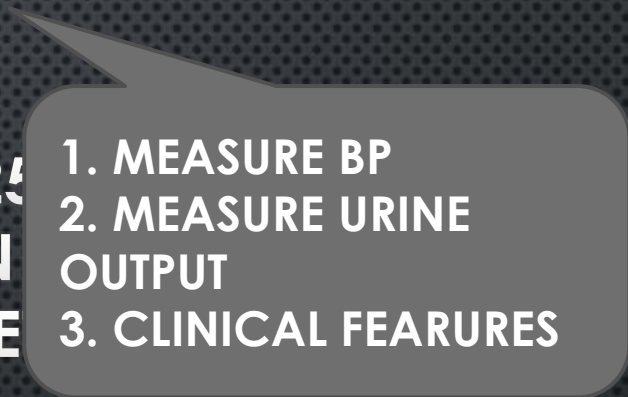
- “WE SUGGEST USING EITHER **BALANCED CRYSTALLOIDS (RINGER’S LACTATE) OR NORMAL SALINE** FOR FLUID RESUSCITATION OF PATIENTS WITH SEPSIS OR SEPTIC SHOCK” (WEAK RECOMMENDATION, LOW QUALITY OF EVIDENCE).

**Reference:** Rhodes A, Evans LE, Alhazzani W, Levy MM, Antonelli M, Ferrer R, et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign. Crit Care Med [Internet]. 2017 Mar 1 [cited 2020 Jun 10];45(3):486–552.



# AFTER CRYSTALLOID ADMINISTRATION..

- DETERMINE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FLUID BOLUSES (25 ML/KG IN ADULTS OR 10-20 ML/KG IN CHILDREN) BASED ON RESPONSE AND IMPROVEMENT OF PERFUSION TARGETS

- 
1. MEASURE BP
  2. MEASURE URINE OUTPUT
  3. CLINICAL FEATURES

- **PERFUSION TARGETS:**

- MAP (>65 MMHG OR AGE-APPROPRIATE TARGETS IN CHILDREN),
- URINE OUTPUT (>0.5 ML/KG/HR IN ADULTS, 1 ML/KG/HR IN CHILDREN)
- IMPROVEMENT OF SKIN MOTTLING, CAPILLARY REFILL, LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS, AND SERUM LACTATE.

# ALWAYS REMEMBER..

- IF THERE IS **NO RESPONSE TO FLUID LOADING** AND **SIGNS OF VOLUME OVERLOAD** APPEAR:
  - **JUGULAR VENOUS DISTENSION,**
  - **CRACKLES ON LUNG AUSCULTATION,**
  - **PULMONARY OEDEMA ON IMAGING OR**
  - **HEPATOMEGALY IN CHILDREN**

**THEN REDUCE OR DISCONTINUE FLUID ADMINISTRATION.**



# MONITORING RESPONSE

1. CLINICAL  
PARAMETERS
2. MONITORING  
CATHETERS
3. LABORATORY  
PARAMETERS

# MONITORING- CLINICAL PARAMETERS

- **MAP  $\{[(2 \times \text{DBP}) + \text{SBP}]/3\}$**
- **URINE OUTPUT**
- HEART RATE
- RESPIRATORY RATE
- SKIN COLOUR
- TEMPERATURE
- MENTAL STATUS



## MONITORING CATHETERS

- **CENTRAL VENOUS CATHETER- TARGET CVP 8-12 mmHg**  
**(MAY BE USED IN ICU SETTING)**

## LABORATORY VALUES

- **ABG:**
  - **LACTATE CLEARANCE (<2mmol/L)**
  - **P/F RATIO (>300)**
- **ROUTINE INVESTIGATIONS:**  
**PLATELET COUNT, TLC, RFT, LFT, ELECTROLYTES.**

# VASOPRESSORS

1. WHEN TO GIVE?
2. HOW TO GIVE?
3. WHAT TO GIVE?
4. HOW MUCH?



# WHEN TO ADMINISTER VASOPRESSORS?

- ADMINISTER VASOPRESSORS WHEN **SHOCK PERSISTS DURING OR AFTER FLUID RESUSCITATION.**
- THE INITIAL **BLOOD PRESSURE TARGET IS MAP  $\geq 65$  MMHG IN ADULTS** AND AGE-APPROPRIATE TARGETS IN CHILDREN.

# HOW TO ADMINISTER VASOPRESSORS

- ROUTE: INTRA-VENOUS
- WHICH VEIN?
  - **PREFERABLY VIA CENTRAL VENOUS CATHETER**
  - LARGE PERIPHERAL VEIN (LOOK FOR SIGNS OF EXTRAVASATION AND TISSUE NECROSIS. IF ANY PRESENT, STOP IMMEDIATELY)



# WHICH DRUG TO USE?

## NOR-EPINEPHRINE

***“WE RECOMMEND NOREPINEPHRINE AS THE FIRST-CHOICE VASOPRESSOR (STRONG RECOMMENDATION, MODERATE QUALITY OF EVIDENCE).”***

**Reference:** Rhodes A, Evans LE, Alhazzani W, Levy MM, Antonelli M, Ferrer R, et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign. Crit Care Med [Internet]. 2017 Mar 1 [cited 2020 Jun 10];45(3):486–552.

# DOSAGE AND TITRATION: NOR-EPINEPHRINE

- INITIAL DOSE: 8-12 MICROGRAM/MIN
- HOW TO WRITE THE ORDER: **2 AMPUOLE IN 100ML DNS @ 16 MICRODROPS/MIN** (CORRESPONDS TO 10MICROGRAM/MIN).  
**CAN GO UPTO 5 MICRODROPS/KG/MIN.**
- TITRATE TO EFFECT: MAP >65MMHG, URINE OUTPUT >0.5ML/KG/MIN, CLINICAL IMPROVEMENT



# ROLE OF DOPAMINE

## MAY BE USED IN PATIENTS WITH:

- BRADYCARDIA
- LOW RISK OF TACHYARRHYTHMIAS

## WHY IS **DOPAMINE NOT PREFERRED** AS INITIAL THERAPY?

- **INCREASED RISK OF ADVERSE OUTCOMES (LIKE TACHY-ARRHYTHMIAS AND DEATH AT DAY 28)** COMPARED TO NOR-EPINEPHRINE.

**Reference:** De Backer D, Biston P, Devriendt J, Madl C, Chochrad D, Aldecoa C, et al. Comparison of dopamine and norepinephrine in the treatment of shock. N Engl J Med. 2010 Mar 4;362(9):779–89.

# PATIENTS WHO FAIL INITIAL THERAPY- ADD INOTROPE

*“IF SIGNS OF POOR PERFUSION AND CARDIAC DYSFUNCTION PERSIST DESPITE ACHIEVING MAP TARGET WITH FLUIDS AND VASOPRESSORS, **CONSIDER AN INOTROPE SUCH AS DOBUTAMINE.**”*

**Reference:** Rhodes A, Evans LE, Alhazzani W, Levy MM, Antonelli M, Ferrer R, et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign. Crit Care Med [Internet]. 2017 Mar 1 [cited 2020 Jun 10];45(3):486–552.



# DOSAGE AND TITRATION- DOBUTAMINE

- DOSE: 1 MICROGRAM/KG/MIN → 2-40 MICROGRAM/KG/MIN
- 1 AMPUOLE IS 5ML (250MG)
- HOW TO WRITE THE ORDER: 1 AMPUOLE IN 500ML 5% DEXTROSE @ 6 MICRODROPS/MIN.  
(50MICROGRAM/MIN)  
CAN GO UPTO 240 MICRODROPS/MIN.
- TITRATE TO EFFECT: MAP >65MMHG, URINE OUTPUT >0.5ML/KG/MIN, CLINICAL IMPROVEMENT

# PATIENTS WHO RESPOND TO THERAPY

- IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF SEPTIC FOCUS
- DE- ESCALATE VASOPRESSORS
- DE- ESCALATE FLUIDS
- COMPLETE COURSE OF ANTIBIOTICS



# AN INITIATIVE OF:

- COVID TRAINING CELL AND
- MEDICAL EDUCATION UNIT

GTB HOSPITAL AND UCMS, DELHI

EMAIL: [MEDEDU.UCMS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MEDEDU.UCMS@GMAIL.COM)

WEBSITE: [WWW.MEDICALEDUCATIONUCMS.WEEBLY.COM](http://WWW.MEDICALEDUCATIONUCMS.WEEBLY.COM)

**THANK YOU.**