

A Multifaceted Approach to Sepsis Mortality Improvement

Douglas Barton, MD, CPE, Chief Medical Officer SSM Health St. Joseph Hospital – St. Charles
 Barbara Quick, RN, MS, CPHQ, CMAC, ACM-RN, Regional Director Patient Safety and Quality, SSM Health St. Louis



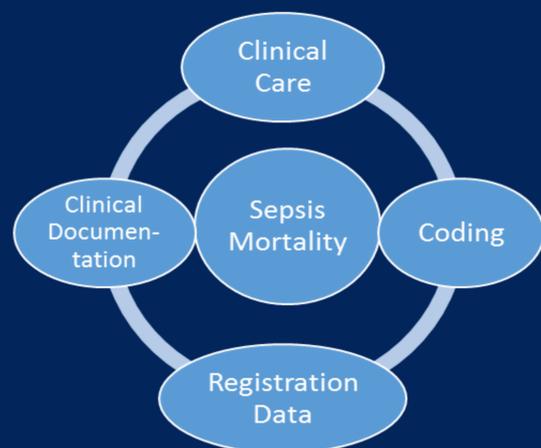
OUR MISSION: Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.

Organization Background

Based in St. Louis, SSM Health was founded in 1872 by the Franciscan Sisters of Mary. We care for people across the continuum in four different states. With seven hospitals, nearly 2,500 staff physicians and 11,500 employees, SSM Health St. Louis is committed to serving the comprehensive health needs of the St. Louis area and includes 4 adult community ministries, 2 adult teaching ministries, and one pediatric teaching ministry.

Opportunity

SSM Health St. Louis will achieve 90th percentile performance in sepsis mortality, using Premier Quest top performance threshold as the benchmark and goal.



Successes

- Senior leadership sponsorship
- Team engagement through quarterly summits attended by staff from all 7 ministries representing multiple clinical disciplines
- Use of Lean A3 methodology for process improvement
- Open discussion of successes and challenges led to shared learning

Challenges

- Inability to identify septic patients in real time to provide timely feedback
- Limited measures of daily improvement
- Physician reluctance to meet fluid bolus goals
- Lack of a dedicated resource to monitor processes daily
- SEP-1 compliance alone does not directly correlate with mortality results

Process Improvements

Clinical Care

- Sepsis bundle compliance
- Timely identification and treatment
- Team communication
- End-of-life decision-making

Clinical Documentation

- Identification of sepsis vs severe sepsis
- Rationale for clinical decision making
- Identification of co-morbidities

Coding

- Accurate coding of primary and secondary diagnoses
- Sequencing top 25 diagnoses
- Present on admission indicator
- Verification of point of origin and discharge disposition

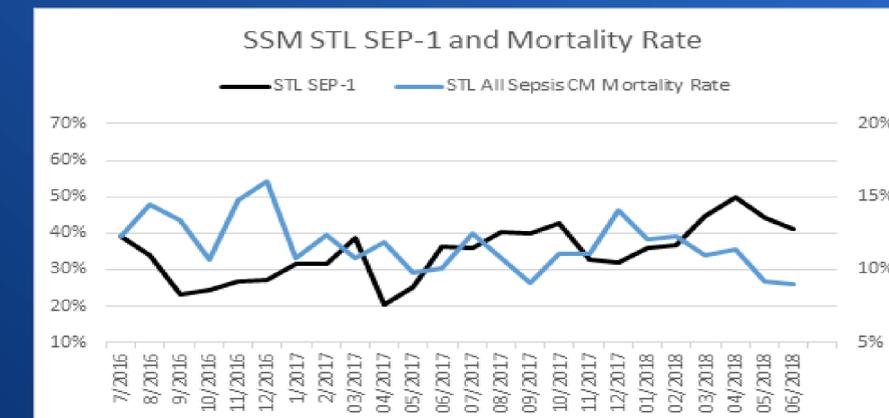
Registration

- Point of origin, admission type, address, financial class accuracy



Measures of Success

Measures of Success	June, 2017	June, 2018
Measures of Daily Improvement • ED sepsis order set utilization	69%	85%
Monthly In-Process Measures • SEP 1 Compliance	See graph	
Monthly Outcome Measure • Sepsis Mortality		



Resources

- www.IHI.org/topics/sepsis
- www.survivingsepsis.org
- Premierinc.com

Contact

Barbara Quick: Barbara.quick@ssmhealth.com
 Office: 314-268-7525