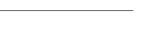
CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE



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Clinical practice guideline on the management of septic shock and sepsis-associated organ dysfunction in children: **Endorsement by the Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology** and Intensive Care Medicine

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Abstract

Background: The Clinical Practice Committee of the Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine endorses the clinical practice guideline Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Septic Shock and Sepsis-Associated Organ Dysfunction in Children. The guideline can serve as a useful decision aid for clinicians managing children with suspected and confirmed septic shock and sepsis-associated organ dysfunction.

KEYWORDS

AGREE II, children, clinical practice guideline, paediatrics, sepsis, septic shock

BACKGROUND

Sepsis remains a leading global cause of mortality and morbidity in children.¹ Early deaths in paediatric sepsis are often caused by refractory shock, whereas later deaths are more attributable to multiple organ dysfunction syndrome.² Anaesthesiologists and intensivists are regularly involved in the identification, resuscitation

and management of children with sepsis. In February 2020, the Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Septic Shock and Sepsis-Associated Organ Dysfunction in Children was published.³

The Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine (SSAI) Clinical Practice Committee (CPC) decided to appraise this guideline for possible endorsement to guide Scandinavian

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anaesthesiologists and intensivists in the identification, resuscitation and management of children with sepsis.

2 | METHODS

The SSAI CPC assessed the guideline using the Appraisal of Guidelines for REsearch and Evaluation (AGREE) II tool,⁴ as per the outlined process for endorsement of non-SSAI guidelines.⁵

3 | RESULTS

3.1 | Quality appraisal (AGREE II)

Five SSAI CPC members completed the appraisal. One member coauthored the guideline and was excluded from the evaluation, as per the SSAI endorsement process.⁵

The individual domain totals were: (1) Scope and purpose 91%; (2) Stakeholder involvement 89%; (3) Rigor of development 85%; (4) Clarity of presentation 82%; (5) Applicability 63%; (6) Editorial independence 95%; and (7) Overall assessment 85%.

The breakdown of the individual appraisers (de-identified) is available in the Supplementary Material.

4 | DISCUSSION

This clinical practice guideline on the management of septic shock and sepsis-associated organ dysfunction in children received overall high ratings on all domains with acceptable agreement between the SSAI CPC appraisers. We believe this guideline can serve as a useful decision aid for clinicians managing children with suspected and confirmed septic shock and sepsis-associated organ dysfunction.

5 | CONCLUSION

The SSAI CPC endorses the clinical practice guideline Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Septic Shock and Sepsis-Associated Organ Dysfunction in Children.³

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Clinical Practice Committee member had direct conflicts of interest. MHM was a co-author of the guideline assessed and did not participate in the AGREE II assessment, as per the SSAI endorsement process. No other authors had indirect conflicts of interest.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional supporting information may be found online in the Supporting Information section.

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