

GET AHEAD OF SEPSIS

**KNOW THE RISKS.
SPOT THE SIGNS.
ACT FAST.**

Dear Partners:

CDC is pleased to share a new suite of materials as part of our *Get Ahead of Sepsis* educational effort. Sepsis is a medical emergency that can rapidly lead to tissue damage, organ failure, and death if not treated promptly. With fast recognition and treatment, most people survive. For the last seven years, *Get Ahead of Sepsis* has encouraged patients, their caregivers, and healthcare professionals to know the risks, spot the signs and symptoms, and act fast if they suspect sepsis.

These materials were created for parents and caregivers of children, as well as those who work or volunteer with children at schools, daycares, camps, sports, and other extracurricular activities. Please join our effort to shine a spotlight on this life-threatening condition, not only during Sepsis Awareness Month (September), but also all year round.

Did you know? Most sepsis cases in children and young adults start before they go to the hospital. There is a critical need to introduce sepsis education to parents, caregivers, staff, and volunteers because they spend time with children when signs of an infection could begin to show. This *Get Ahead of Sepsis* partner toolkit includes communication tools to make it easy for you and your organization to educate others about early recognition and prompt treatment of sepsis, as well as the importance of preventing and treating infections that can lead to sepsis. The toolkit includes:

- “Drop-in” articles for you to tailor and distribute
- Sample social media posts
- Graphics emphasizing infection prevention
- Educational resources, including fact sheets, posters, and health reports

You can access all of these resources and more on the [CDC sepsis partner toolkit webpage](#). Whether you work with young athletes, campers, or school children, please make sepsis awareness part of your ongoing health and safety training and orientations. We encourage you to share these materials with staff and volunteers, as well as parents and caregivers. You can even use this info to educate and empower children to speak up when they don’t feel well!

Together, we can protect our children by stopping infections and acting fast if we suspect sepsis. Families are counting on us.

Thank you for your partnership and commitment to children’s safety.

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