**List of review questions**

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| 1 | What is the predictive value/usefulness of blood tests for the recognition and early assessment of sepsis? |
| 2 | What is the predictive value/utility of different signs and symptoms, alone or in combination, for the diagnosis of sepsis? |
| 3 | In people with sepsis or severe sepsis, what is the clinical and cost effectiveness of scoring systems, and specified blood markers (lactate clearance) in monitoring response to treatment? |
| 4 | When is the most appropriate time for care of people with sepsis to be directed to (a) a senior healthcare professional, and (b) critical care providers? |
| 5 | When is the most appropriate time for care of people with sepsis for venous access and arterial lines?  *Note: no systematic review carried out* |
| 6a | What is the most clinical and cost effective inotropic agent and vasopressor for early management of people with severe sepsis? |
| 6b | What are the most clinically and cost effective timings of inotropic agents and vasopressors in patients with sepsis? |
| 7 | What is the clinical test accuracy of the following tests to identify the source of infection?  a) Blood culture  b) Lumbar puncture  c) Chest X-ray and other imaging  *Note: no systematic review carried out* |
| 8 | What information, education and support would be useful for:  a) People assessed for possible sepsis, but discharged from medical care  b) People at high risk of sepsis  c) People who have sepsis or severe sepsis, families and carers  d) People who survived episodes of severe sepsis |
| 9a | What is the most clinical and cost effective immediate/bolus IV fluid for resuscitation of patients with sepsis? |
| 9b | What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of different volumes/dosages of immediate/bolus IV fluid resuscitation in patients with sepsis? |
| 9c | What is the most clinically and cost effective rate of administration of immediate/bolus IV fluids in patients with sepsis? |
| 10 | Is acid-base balance (that is, the use of bicarbonate) clinically and cost effective in people with sepsis? |
| 11 | Is the use of supplemental oxygen clinically and cost effective in patients with sepsis? |
| 12 | What education and training programmes are available, effective and cost effective for the early recognition, diagnosis and management of sepsis and severe sepsis? |
| 13 | What is the most accurate and cost effective assessment tool to identify patients with sepsis? |
| 14a | What are the most clinically and cost effective timings of IV or IM empiric antimicrobial treatments in patients with (a) septic shock, (b) severe sepsis without shock or (c) sepsis? |
| 14b | What is the most clinically and cost effective IV or IM empiric antimicrobial treatment in patients with sepsis?  *Note: no systematic review carried out* |
| 15 | What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of implementing early goal-directed therapy?  *Note: no systematic review carried out* |
| 16 | What is the predictive value of serum creatinine in people with sepsis for the recognition and early assessment of worsening sepsis? |
| 17 | What is the predictive value of disseminated intravascular coagulation in people with sepsis for the recognition and early assessment of worsening sepsis? |
| 18 | What is the predictive value of lactate in people with sepsis for the recognition and early assessment of worsening sepsis? |