

SEPSIS  HEROES™

*9th Annual
Sepsis Heroes Gala*

SEPTEMBER 17, 2020
8 PM EST/5 PM PST



SEPSIS
ALLIANCE

#SEPSISHEROES | [SEPSIS.ORG](https://sepsis.org)



erin's campaign for kids



In Memory of Erin "Bug" Flatley, 1978-2002
Erin was a daughter, a sister.

An aspiring teacher.

A young woman whose life was cut
short unnecessarily by SEPSIS, yet continues to
inspire us today.

Congratulations to the 2020 Spirit Award Winner,
Alyssia Aguilar.
You would have loved Erin!

EKFMF

ERIN KAY FLATLEY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

SEPSIS HEROES™

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A NOTE FROM

THOMAS HEYMANN

PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SEPSIS ALLIANCE

When we launched Sepsis Heroes in 2012, the sepsis landscape was significantly different than it is today. Fewer than half of American adults recognized the word sepsis. We had inaugurated Sepsis Awareness Month the year before, and sensed that hosting an event that celebrates the Heroes of Sepsis Awareness would powerfully impact sepsis awareness and inspire the sepsis community.

Our goal was simple: celebrate champions who are making strides in increasing sepsis awareness, and improving sepsis care and education.

Never could we have predicted that Sepsis Heroes would be such a dynamic vehicle for change. Fast forward to today: we have made significant progress in raising awareness (from 19% to 71%) and education levels across the country. This year we have an outstanding class of Sepsis Heroes, and an incredible virtual audience to celebrate.

From the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, Advisory Board, staff and volunteers of Sepsis Alliance, thank you for your continued support. Your presence tonight reaffirms your commitment to the cause. We are incredibly grateful for your participation in this meaningful event.

Sincerely,

Thomas Heymann

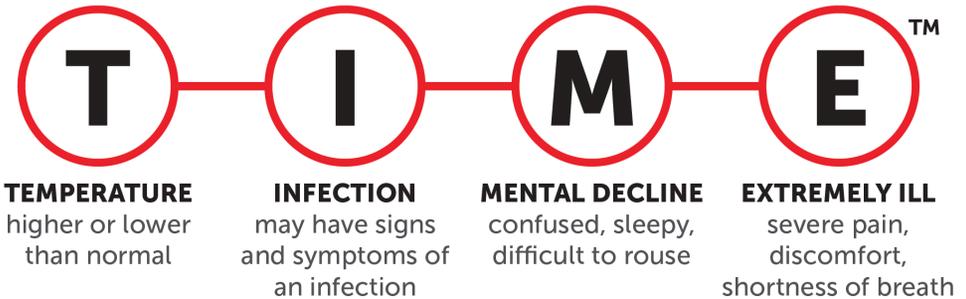
Sepsis Alliance wishes to express its sincere thanks to Spectrum Science for their time, energy, and dedication to raising sepsis awareness.

From everyone at Sepsis Alliance,
THANK YOU!



SPECTRUM

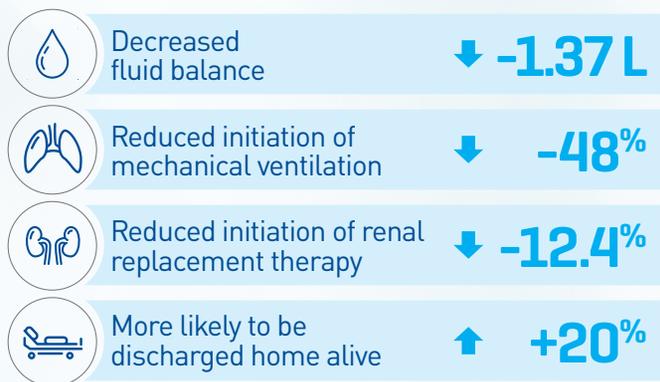
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* FRESH: Fluid Responsiveness Evaluation in Sepsis-associated Hypotension.

1. Douglas IS, Alapat PM, Corl KA, et al. Fluid response evaluation in sepsis hypotension and shock: a randomized clinical trial. *Chest*. 2020. doi:10.1016/j.chest.2020.04.025. Published online ahead of print.

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USMP/CHE/20-0072 08/20

THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM

8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT

Welcome Remarks

8:15 PM ET/5:15 PM PT

Erin's Campaign for Kids Awards

Erin Kay Flatley Spirit Award

Alyssia Aguilar

8:35 PM ET/5:35 PM PT

Sepsis Heroes Program

Fund a Need

Musical Guest Daniel Emmet

Sepsis Heroes Awards

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital

Rusty Wagstaff

Emanuel Rivers, MD, MPH

Ohio Hospital Association

Kathy Madlem, BSN, RN

9:00 PM ET/6:00 PM PT

Closing Remarks



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SEPSIS  HEROES
Celebrating Champions of Sepsis Awareness



EMANUEL RIVERS, MD, MPH

Emanuel P. Rivers, MD, MPH, is an emergency medicine and critical care specialist. He is vice chairman and director of research in emergency medicine at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI. He is a Clinical Professor at Wayne State University. Sepsis Alliance is pleased to announce that Dr. Rivers is also a 2020 Sepsis Hero.

Dr. Rivers has been at the forefront of sepsis research and care for several years, and has published several articles on sepsis diagnosis and management. His landmark paper, published in November 2001, supported and expanded early goal directed therapy. This improved early sepsis care to all hospitalized patients who had signs of severe sepsis or septic shock. This approach expanded the hospital landscape to include patients from the emergency department, general practice floors, and the critical care unit. Facilities across the country took notice of this concept and adapted it to suit their needs and save lives.

Dr. Rivers lives in the Detroit metropolitan area (Franklin, Michigan) and enjoys his leisure time following his daughter who is a gymnast at Louisiana State University and son who played football at Oberlin College, Ohio.

The work of Dr. Rivers and his colleagues has had a significant impact on sepsis care in the United States and internationally. Many lives have been saved over the years and this is why Sepsis Alliance has welcomed Dr. Rivers as a Sepsis Hero.

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RUSTY WAGSTAFF

Rusty has been a fixture in the sepsis awareness community since he survived sepsis in 2013. Rusty was left with amputations of both legs below the knee, the right arm below the elbow, and the left hand, reminders of his battle with sepsis.

Since his recovery, he has brought his positive attitude and his story to raising sepsis awareness. And, maybe even more importantly, Rusty never shies away from talking about his experiences and he is always willing to be a supportive ear to someone who needs one.

When Rusty was asked about his reaction to receiving the phone call from Sepsis Alliance Executive Director Thomas Heymann, telling him about the award, Rusty said, "I have never considered myself to be a hero. I consider the Sepsis Alliance people to be heroes."

Rusty didn't know what sepsis was before he became ill but as he worked on his recovery, he met others who did know about it. "A nurse told me her next door neighbor had died from sepsis," he said.

"After I was sick and had my amputations, we went to Chicago to the rehab institute," he continued. And the more he learned about sepsis and how common it was but how little known overall, Rusty was determined to do what he could to raise awareness. "We started a Step on Sepsis walk, which got us in touch with the folks in San Diego [Sepsis Alliance]."

Since then, Rusty has been part of many sepsis awareness events, in person and online. For the past two years, Rusty has allowed Sepsis Alliance to use his story and photos as part of Sepsis Survivor Week. He has also participated in Sepsis Alliance webinars, has been interviewed by members of the media, and has spoken to groups about sepsis.

Rusty says often people see his prosthetics and think he is a war veteran, and some children think he is a robot. He explains about sepsis and what can happen, continuing to spread the word one person at a time.

Rusty lives with his wife Bonnie in Wendell, NC, where he putters around, mowing his lawn and fixing things. "The only thing I don't do is climb a ladder!" Two of his four grandchildren live close enough that he spends a good bit of his time caring for them.

A few weeks ago, Rusty's life was at risk again when he had a heart attack. He left the hospital with two new stents in his arteries. "My new nickname is Second Chance," he said as he laughed. "Never give up."

Sepsis Alliance is proud to have Rusty Wagstaff as part of the 2020 class of Sepsis Heroes.

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MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital (MLKCH) has been named as one of this year's Sepsis Heroes. The facility's staff has made great strides in recognizing sepsis and reducing mortality by implementing protocols that deliver timely evidence-based care to the patients.

MLKCH is located in Los Angeles, CA, and operates as a private, non-profit, safety-net hospital in south LA. The new hospital opened in 2015, offering general medical-surgical services, critical care, labor and delivery, and more. Specifically, and what caught the attention of Sepsis Alliance, is their sepsis protocol, which guides healthcare workers throughout the facility on how to treat infection at any stage. Edna De Leon, RN, MSN, is the vice-president of quality for MLKCH, and one of the people leading the fight against sepsis. When asked how she felt when she was notified of the Sepsis Hero award, Edna said, "I was pleasantly surprised and excited. We started the Sepsis Committee in 2018 and we've been working on improving our performances for a long time." Edna emailed news of the award to the rest of the team, who were all very excited, and she is proud and thankful for MLK's team.

The multidisciplinary sepsis team includes people from throughout the facility, including medical directors from the ED (emergency department), critical care, and hospitalist service as well as intensivists, nursing leaders, pharmacists, those who work in the labs, and others. The protocol was first launched in the ED, knowing that majority of the population with sepsis diagnosis were patients presenting to the ED with sepsis on arrival. "We identified Sepsis Champions and an ED Sepsis Coordinator to work with the staff and physicians and we reviewed every single fallout [of the sepsis protocol] to see how we can build standard work and system improvements," Edna explained. This allowed for continuous improvements and continued monitoring of their successes.

The team began by looking at the individual sepsis bundle indicator rates to identify and prioritize the work that needed to be done, in addition to hospital length-of-stay, and sepsis mortality within the hospital. While getting everyone on board with the new protocol was challenging at times, eventually, everyone understood the importance of why they were doing it. One of the toughest challenges on getting the sepsis protocol compliance up was the electronic medical record (EMR), Edna explained. The EMR often had too many places to enter information that could complicate Time Zero, thus affecting the timing of the bundle elements. But what worked best, Edna said, was having a nurse in the role of a sepsis coordinator directly in the ED who worked side by side with the physicians and nurses and tracked every step of the bundle compliance.

There are too many things to list that would show how the sepsis team and protocol worked, but one example Edna gave was the importance of education. Part of the protocol requires a second set of blood tests but the lab staff would sometimes cancel the second order, thinking it was a duplicate. Educating the medical directors on the data abstraction guidelines was the biggest win. This enabled them to explain better to the team and providers why the fallout occurred and how to avoid it in the future.

Edna would like to stress to others starting or reworking their sepsis protocols to keep in mind how important it is to have a multidisciplinary team and very strong physician leadership to optimize the chances of a successful program. Edna wants to specifically thank Dr. Casillas, ED Medical Director, Alaine Schauer, ED Sr. Director, and Dr. Varghese, Hospitalist Medical Director for their leadership and support.

Welcome Martin Luther King Community Hospital to the 2020 Class of Sepsis Heroes!

We salute the 2020 Sepsis Heroes!

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KATHY MADLEM, BSN, RN

Kathy Madlem, BSN, RN, a nurse at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC) in San Jose, CA, has been named one of Sepsis Alliance's 2020 Sepsis Heroes. Sepsis Alliance was pleased to invite Kathy into the circle of Sepsis Heroes, which honors people who go above and beyond in aiding with sepsis identification, recognition, and treatment, among the public and within healthcare facilities.

Kathy took the position as Sepsis Quality Improvement Coordinator at SCVMC after working for 13 years in critical care, where she saw many patients with sepsis and septic shock. "It was the most common diagnosis we had," she said. "I started to hear that there was something you could look for and intervene earlier, preventing people from going into septic shock. I thought that was astounding and wanted to do as much as I could." Kathy is now in charge of program development and is responsible for educating staff, creating the EHR sepsis tools and reports, the hospital policy and nurse-driven protocol, performing CMS Sep-1 chart abstractions and reporting, collection and dissemination of performance data, leading the unit-based RN sepsis champions, and organizing an annual sepsis conference in San Jose during Sepsis Awareness Month.

There were quality improvement coordinators for strokes, heart failure, and others, but none for sepsis. "I looked at other quality improvement coordinators and nurse coordinators and picked what I liked out of all of them, and their existing programs, and I developed my own."

Kathy led the effort for SCVMC to become a TJC Sepsis Certified Center, which was achieved in September, 2018. She is also a member of the Santa Clara County Sepsis Collaborative, a network of sepsis program leaders from hospitals located in Santa Clara County. In addition to all that, Kathy is also on the Sepsis Alliance Clinical Community Advisory Committee, helping healthcare professionals learn more about sepsis care.

Initially, the hospital participated in a 5-year waiver program that allowed Kathy to participate in various sepsis educational opportunities, including subject matter experts. "In the first 5 years as part of that program, we dropped our sepsis mortality by more than 50%," Kathy said. The system has bought more hospitals within the last year, so the sepsis programs are migrating to those facilities too. "In theory, no matter what hospital someone goes to, they should have the same standard of care," she added.

When Kathy heard the news of the Sepsis Heroes award, she was shocked and overwhelmed, she said. "I've been putting in almost 80-hour weeks [because of the pandemic and the mobile testing], and I'm just so tired. It was an amazing phone call to receive."

When Kathy isn't at work, she spends time with her husband and her five, 4-legged friends, including 2 Clydesdale horses, which she loves to ride.

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The Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock (2016) suggests that PCT measurements can be used to support shortening the duration of antimicrobial therapy in sepsis patients.¹

The Infectious Diseases Society of America Antibiotic Stewardship Program Guidelines recommend the use of serial PCT measurements as an ASP intervention to decrease antibiotic use in adults in ICUs with suspected infection.²

1. Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: 2016. 2. Implementing an Antibiotic Stewardship Program: Guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, 2016.

Find out more at thermofisher.com/aboutsepsis

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OHIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Sepsis Alliance is delighted to honor the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) as a 2020 Sepsis Hero. The OHA represents the interests of 14 health systems and 240 hospitals in Ohio. The hospitals are diverse in the communities they serve, and the services they offer. Currently, hospitals in the association include acute care facilities, long-term acute care facilities, and hospitals specializing in psychiatry, rehabilitation, specialty surgery, and pediatrics.

Sepsis Alliance named OHA as a Sepsis Hero in recognition for their work in reducing sepsis mortality by raising sepsis awareness and improving sepsis management throughout Ohio and beyond.

One of the driving forces behind the sepsis work is James Guliano, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, FACHE, Vice-President, Quality Programs at OHA, and his team. Jim said he was humbled when he received the call from Sepsis Alliance President & Executive Director Thomas Heymann, telling him that Sepsis Alliance was honoring OHA. "The broad vision and ongoing support of our OHA board and our President and CEO, Mike Abrams has set a clear target of what we wanted, to reduce sepsis mortality," Jim said. "To start, we mapped out a strategy to engage people throughout the continuum of care."

The drive to improve sepsis care across the continuum of care began in the third quarter of 2015, and the work has been growing since. In addition to notable metrics such as quantifying the estimated number of lives saved and the percentage of mortality reduction, successes are determined through engagement in monthly evidence-based, continuing education webcasts. "Often, there may be over 750 active lines participating with multiple people per line," Jim pointed out.

Community engagement is also a big component of the OHA sepsis mortality reduction initiative. John Palmer, OHA's Director of Public and Media Relations, pointed out that for the past 5 years, OHA has worked with the Governor's office in the state of Ohio to officially proclaim September as Sepsis Awareness Month.

Collaboration is what makes the initiative continue to work, Jim said. "We are grateful for the advisement offered by James O'Brien, MD. We have had so much collaboration with international subject matter experts and others. We facilitate the opportunity for participants to hear about clinical evidence, lessons learned, and effective strategies."

Sepsis Alliance would like to congratulate Jim Guliano, the team, and OHA for being a Sepsis Hero.

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CytoSorb is approved in the European Union, but not yet approved in the U.S. CytoSorb has been authorized by FDA under an **Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)** for use in COVID-19 patients, 18 years of age or older in the intensive care unit with imminent or confirmed respiratory failure. It has neither been approved nor cleared for the indication to treat patients with COVID-19 infection. The CytoSorb device is authorized only for the duration of the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of the emergency use of the CytoSorb device under Section 564(b)(1) of the Act, 21 U.S.C § 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner.



ERIN K. FLATLEY SPIRIT
AWARD WINNER

ALYSSIA AGUILAR



Each year, Sepsis Alliance awards the Erin K. Flatley Spirit Award to a deserving individual who exemplifies the spirit of Erin, the daughter of Sepsis Alliance founder, Carl Flatley. Erin died in 2002 at the age of 23, because of sepsis following an elective surgery. This year, Sepsis Alliance is pleased to give this special award to Alyssia Aguilar, who lost her infant son, Mark Anthony II, to sepsis.

Alyssia became involved in promoting sepsis awareness when she discovered Sepsis Alliance, which helped her learn about sepsis and what had happened to her son. “I had no idea what sepsis was,” Alyssia said. As an artist, she found that her talent and skill were good outlets for her to express her grief, while remembering her son and helping others and she offered to help out however she could.

Her first project with Sepsis Alliance was the creation of Bug, a cartoon ladybug that has since been featured in various educational materials, print and video, geared towards children. Carl had called Erin his Bug, and he wanted to use this endearment in some way to help children understand sepsis. With Alyssia’s art, Carl’s idea became reality. Explaining a serious topic like sepsis to a child can be intimidating for a parent or guardian, but using Bug to share this information can make it easier. “I hope we can do more with Bug,” Alyssia said. “I would love to see Bug evolve, with friends, and more.”

Alyssia doesn’t stop with her art though. She also shares information about sepsis in her community. Earlier this year, she received word that someone who saw one of the Sepsis Alliance brochures distributed by Alyssia recognized the signs in her mother-in-law and they were able to seek help before it progressed too far.

Losing Mark Anthony II was devastating, but he remains part of his twin, Selena, who will learn – along with her sister Emma – all about Mark Anthony II and his legacy as they grow up. Her work will help with this.

Financial contributions to help support sepsis education are always appreciated but lack of funds – particularly in these uncertain times – shouldn’t keep anyone from becoming sepsis advocates. People can spread sepsis awareness and become sepsis advocates by spending time sharing information or they can use their talents, as Alyssia did. Her contributions with Bug are priceless. When asked how she felt when she received the news of the award, Alyssia said she was shocked and overwhelmed. Alyssia was having a down day when she received the phone call from Sepsis Alliance Executive Director, Thomas Heymann, and the call picked her back up again. “It really touched us,” she said. “I had no idea we were going to get something like that.” Alyssia said everything she does is in Mark Anthony’s honor, so he will be remembered. “We also have to show our daughters that he is not forgotten.”

Alyssia lives in Houston, Texas, with her husband Mark and her two daughters Selena and Emma.



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ERIN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS
PEDIATRIC NURSING AWARD

CHERYLE AIZLEY, BSN, MSN-PNP

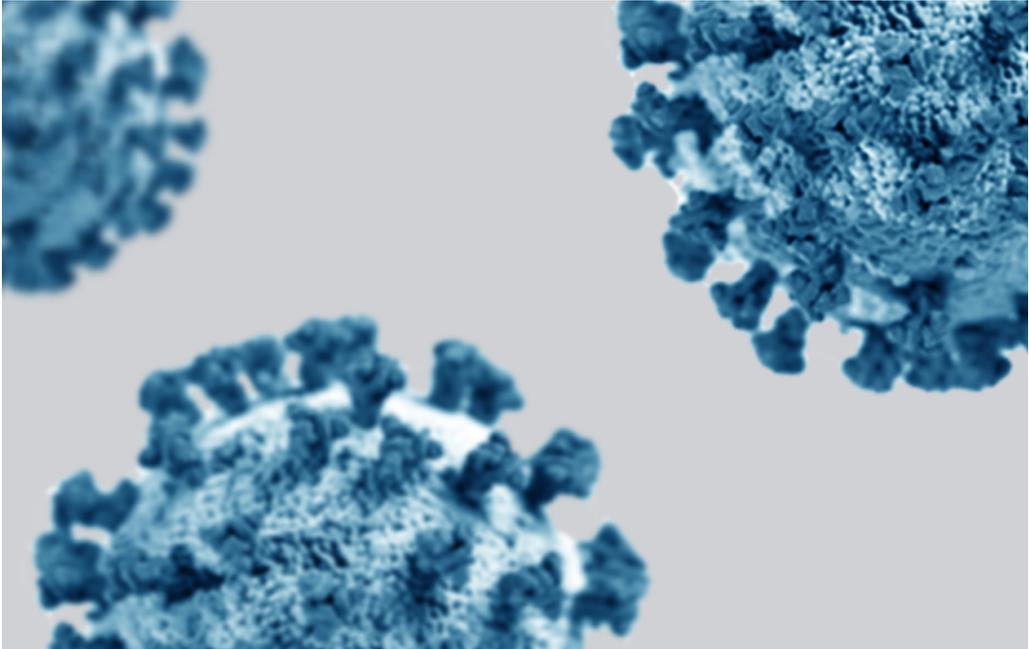
One of the two 2020 Erin's Campaign for Kids Nursing Awards in the category of Pediatric Nurse was awarded to Cheryle Aizley, BSN, MSN-PNP, a Pediatric Specialist for Center for Professional Development, Innovation, and Research at Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

In 2017, Aizley became involved with the Code Smart Pediatric Initiative, the hospital's sepsis code for pediatrics. "I designed an algorithm with another member of the nursing team and collaborated with the pharmacy, pediatric physicians, and quality department to design a process and workflow," she said of the process. "The next step was education. Initial introduction was done via eLearning and then we moved to Pediatric Code Smart drills, which were attended by PICU and pediatric staff nurses, attending pediatric physicians, pediatric residents, nursing assistants, and pharmacy."

Aizley is proud of the work her team has done. "It has led to a very organized approach to activating the sepsis team. Everyone springs into action when a potential sepsis case is identified. The huddle occurs and then the alert goes out. Everyone has their role. Securing IV access. Placing orders. Administering fluid boluses. Drawing cultures and other labs. Making antibiotics that are unit dosed. Administering antibiotics. Supporting the child and family. Documenting. Reassessing. Reassessing. Reassessing again."

Her goal for the future includes continuing this work for new and existing staff, as well as sharing the work and accomplishments through her system and beyond.

In response to her award, Aizley said, "Thank you so very much. I am humbled to win this award and could not have done it without my interdisciplinary team in my hospital and my healthcare system. The staff nurses, physicians, pharmacists, respiratory therapists, the EMR team, and quality and standards department all contributed to the success of our Pediatric Code Smart (Sepsis) program at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. It is my hope that our program educates the clinical staff to quickly recognize potential sepsis, call the team together to assess the patient and then quickly and accurately implement the diagnostics and treatment required. This goes along with the other aim that we have at the Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center to prevent healthcare acquired conditions such as Catheter Associated Blood Stream Infections and Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections which often are associated with sepsis. I will brainstorm with my team about how best to utilize the grant. I envision using it to enhance the simulation which we have been using for our Code Smart drills with all pediatric clinical staff."



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ERIN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS
PEDIATRIC NURSING AWARD

NICOLE MAGERS BSN, RN

One of the two 2020 Erin's Campaign for Kids Nursing Awards in the category of Pediatric Nurse is awarded to Nicole Magers, BSN, RN, a Clinical Educator and Critical Care Staff Nurse at St. Louis Children's Hospital, Critical Care Transport Team. As part of her role, Magers works to increase rapid recognition of sepsis and reduce mortality by minimizing the time to antibiotic administration in all neonate and pediatric patients.

Along with her physician partner, Magers developed three separate sepsis guidelines to distribute to their referral hospitals, based on surviving sepsis guidelines. They developed one to screen pre-term neonates, one for term neonates up to 28 days of life, and one for pediatric patients. The guidelines identify signs and symptoms with an algorithm for the referring facility to follow once a differential of sepsis is identified with the sole purpose of reducing time to antibiotic administration.

The Critical Care Transport Team was then trained to use the algorithms and treatment guidelines via didactic lectures, high-fidelity patient simulations, and competency validation through care study testing. "Once the training and distribution was complete, we began to collect data to evaluate the effectiveness of the guidelines in reducing the time to antibiotics," said Magers.

Her work is showing strong results. The data collected from January 2017 through June 2019 from the neonate population showed that there was a 36.4% reduction in time to antibiotics for patients diagnosed with sepsis at discharge compared to the time period before the implementation of these guidelines.

"I am incredibly proud to continue the legacy created by this amazing organization and to continue to honor the memory of Erin by furthering the knowledge of sepsis and its management in rural hospitals. The hope is that sepsis awareness can continue to grow and will reduce the number of preventable deaths."

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*Zhou, Fei, et. al. (2020) Lancet; 395:1054-62



Postmates



ERIN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS INTERNATIONAL
PEDIATRIC NURSING AWARD

**CLARE
KOMUGISHA**

Clare Komugisha, the Research Supervisor at Walimu in Uganda, is the recipient of the Erin's Campaign for Kids Nursing Award in the category of International Pediatric Nurse.

Since 2012, Komugisha has worked with the Smart Discharges Team to develop, validate, and implement risk stratification, educational, and referral-based intervention methods for reducing post-discharge mortality in children in Uganda. In Uganda, more children die after being discharged from a hospital following treatment for sepsis than during their stay in the hospital. As part of the Smart Discharges Team, Komugisha has helped bring attention to the under-recognized issue of post-discharge mortality in children and developed tools that nurses, and other frontline healthcare workers use to save lives. She was initially involved in the study as a research nurse, enrolling eligible children into the study and providing counseling and referral forms to children's caregivers upon discharge, before being promoted to Research Nurse Supervisor in 2017.

"As a Research Nurse Supervisor, I was responsible for training and mentoring project nurses to correctly identify and treat children with sepsis and to educate their caregivers on how to best care for their sick child, with a particular focus on reducing deaths after discharge among children recovering from sepsis."

Recently, Komugisha began working as the Research Supervisor at Walimu, the Ugandan NGO that implements the Smart Discharges Programming. In this role, she's supporting the Smart Discharges Program as it expands across the country, as well as developing new tools for reducing death related to sepsis, including the Smart Triage. Additionally, the nursing team that Komugisha trained and mentored is on the frontline of managing children with sepsis.

"While the pandemic resulted in a national lockdown in Uganda, the Smart Discharges team has provided us with appropriate protective equipment and private transport, so that we can continue providing critical care for children at our hospitals. This is incredibly important for our community, because the current ban on public transport means that many of the regular ward nurses are unable to reach the hospital. As a result, my team is providing the initial treatment and general patient care for children with sepsis, as well as post-discharge care."

Komugisha plans to use this award to help pay tuition fees for a master's degree in public health. With this degree, she hopes to gain new skills in program evaluation and research, so that she can play an even greater leadership role in developing interventions that improve care for children suffering from sepsis.

Northwell Health and
The Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research



applaud

Sepsis Alliance

for educating and informing the public on the causes, treatments and preventions for this life-threatening disease.

Congratulations to this year's **Sepsis Heroes**.

Thank you for your contributions to raising public awareness.



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ERIN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS
NURSING AWARD: SEPSIS COORDINATOR

MAUREEN HOLTZ, BSN

The 2020 Erin's Campaign for Kids Nursing Award in the category of Sepsis Coordinator was awarded to Maureen Holtz, Sepsis Coordinator at Orange Park Medical Center in Orange Park, FL.

"I believe very strongly that education for patients with sepsis and the staff who care for them is an integral part of the big picture," said Holtz. "We need to teach our patients, especially those at high risk for relapse, what signs they need to look for as well as things they can do to decrease the risks, such as vaccinating, managing blood sugar, quitting smoking, and, of course, handwashing."

This need for education and empowerment has inspired Holtz in her role as Sepsis Coordinator. "Education must be at a hospital-wide level and involve everyone: nurses, doctors, lab, etc. In my role, I interact with every nursing department and analyze process and workflow in many departments for efficiency and accuracy so we can quickly give life-saving care."

Orange Park Medical Center (OPMC) has been able to maintain low mortality rates because of this dedication to education across the continuum of care. In the past two years, OPMC has treated 1,529 patients with severe sepsis or septic shock and their mortality rate averages 4% for severe sepsis and 20% for septic shock.

In addition to her work in the hospitals, Holtz performs community outreach by speaking to senior citizen groups and civic organizations to raise sepsis awareness. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Holtz was also coordinating with the Sepsis Alliance team to host an awareness event in conjunction with a local car show that sadly lost a member to sepsis.

"To be recognized by Sepsis Alliance for the work that my team and I do is incredibly exciting. We have truly made recognizing sepsis, treating it and educating about it a part of our culture. Every department has awareness and is a stakeholder in constant education of staff, patients, and families in improving outcomes. The community partners we have are incredible. They are very engaged and really invested in learning how to recognize sepsis and get it treated quickly. Our community knows "We Know Sepsis".

Health Catalyst thanks the sepsis
heroes working on the frontlines
of care all over the world to keep
patients safe and save lives.

Since our inception in 2008, Health Catalyst identified sepsis as a promising area for quality improvement given its significant impact on patients, health systems, and the entire healthcare industry—and patient safety is even more critical than ever today. We are a leading provider of data and analytics technology and services to healthcare organizations, committed to being the catalyst for massive, measurable, data-informed healthcare improvement.

Learn more at healthcatalyst.com/sepsis.

See how Health Catalyst is supporting the fight against COVID-19 at healthcatalyst.com/COVID-19.



Saluting you. Saving lives.

On behalf of more than 150,000 clinicians at HCA Healthcare, we thank the Sepsis Alliance and 2020 Sepsis Heroes for your dedication and contributions to sepsis education and awareness.

Raising the Bar in the Fight Against Sepsis

At HCA Healthcare, we used data science to analyze patterns of sepsis development to create SPOT (Sepsis Prediction & Optimization of Therapy), an algorithm and workflow for early sepsis detection and treatment. SPOT offers clinicians computerized decision support to react the first moment sepsis is signaled, and the technology powering SPOT is now being leveraged to fight COVID-19.

We will continue to work with you to raise the bar in the fight against sepsis, and to save lives.

2019
Red Hat Innovation Awards "Innovator of the Year"

2019
John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award for National Innovation

2020
HealthTrust Member Recognition Award for Clinical Excellence

HCAhealthcare.com



ERIN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS
NURSING STUDENT AWARD

GABRIELLE LEE SEILBACH

The Erin's Campaign for Kids Nursing Awards recognized two nursing students in 2020. One award was given to Gabrielle Lee Seilbach, a student in the Bachelor's program at Western Governors University and a Quality Analyst RN at Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County (MHSC).

While in nursing school, Seilbach's grandfather was diagnosed with septic shock, sparking her passion for sepsis awareness and prevention. "I was in nursing school and told his nurse that I believed his v/s looked indicative of sepsis. Soon later, the physician met with him and diagnosed him, and began rapid treatment," she said of the experience. "As the family member I spoke up, and that's what I would like to share with others. The nurse was also very receptive and became concerned and took that to the physician. It was a very conducive environment. I want our nurses to be confident and open minded about sepsis."

Seilbach is already making improvements at MHSC in her Quality Analyst RN role. "After reviewing the hospital's dashboard, our sepsis compliance was at 16% for the month of November....I talked to my supervisor and asked if she would be willing to let me start a Sepsis Work Group and start making some improvement efforts to increase our sepsis compliance." After that innovative thinking and some hard work, the MHSC compliance was at 100% at the time of Seilbach's submission.

The sepsis work group that she established continues to grow and improve awareness and care in the facility.

"I am so humbled and grateful to be chosen as the recipient for this award. Winning this award will help in more ways than one; it will benefit our Sepsis Work Group by providing lunches for our frontline staff and other key members, as well as allowing myself and others to obtain higher education regarding sepsis. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

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ERIN'S CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS
NURSING STUDENT AWARD

**MATHIAS
MUGABE**

The Erin's Campaign for Kids Nursing Awards recognized two nursing students in 2020. One of these awards went to Mathias Mugabe, a student at Mayanja Memorial Medical Training Institute in Uganda. Mathias was also last year's honoree in the category of International Nurse for his work at Holy Innocents Children's Hospital in Mbarara, Uganda.

After losing his 9-month-old brother to sepsis in 2014, Mathias developed a passion for nursing and effective sepsis treatment and care.

In addition to being a nursing student, Mathias is also the Minister of Health at the institute, where he promotes and ensures adequate personal hygiene and sanitation. Throughout the past 6 months of serving in this position, Mathias has helped establish new handwashing and sanitation stations and lobbied for additional infection prevention measures.

Mathias also provides first aid to other students at the institute. "I provide first aid to all students who develop signs of sepsis, which includes conducting minor investigations such as rapid tests for malaria parasites, H-pylori, and HIV under the supervision of our school nurse," said Mathias of his duties. "I provide first doses of antibiotics within five minutes... at our teaching hospital I ensure the general cleanliness...all equipment is disinfected and sterilized in order to reduce the rate of sepsis on postoperative patients."

Mathias applied for this award to complete his schooling and said, "This will help me to attain my dream of advancing my skills to adequately deliver healthcare to communities, conduct outreach and weekly healthcare programs, and produce communication in newspapers about prevention, control, identification of sepsis. All of these efforts are to help reduce the mortality rate of patients with sepsis."

"After my school, I will work tirelessly to make sure the people of Uganda are well informed about sepsis."

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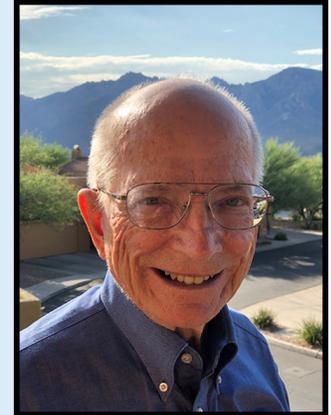
September 13th is World Sepsis Day!

Time is of the essence in the
management of Sepsis.

Diagnostics helps rapid medical
decision making.

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There is nothing like a near death experience to get your attention. I went in to septic shock and the ER doctor advised my wife that I was unlikely to survive the night. To not only survive but come out with zero physical impairment was truly a miracle. The Sepsis Alliance goal of raising awareness of sepsis is a mission that has my full support.



Philip Cotton, sepsis survivor

Click here to read
my story at
FacesOfSepsis.org

Edwards Lifesciences Foundation is proud to support Sepsis Heroes

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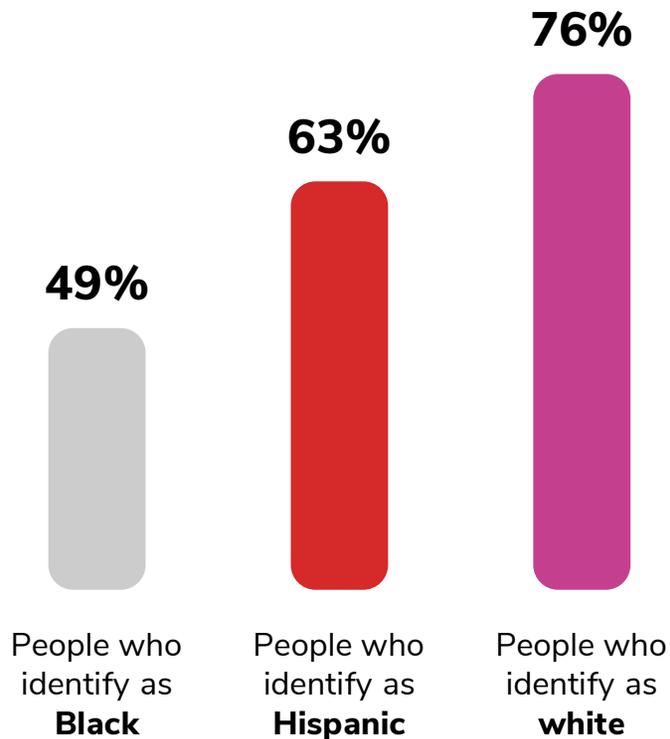


Edwards



Sepsis is a deadly complication of COVID-19, but the 2020 Sepsis Alliance Annual survey revealed that more than 60% of adults don't know. As sepsis awareness reaches a record high, deep racial and ethnic disparities are exposed.

Awareness of the term sepsis



To access the full 2020 report and download the above infographic, please visit sepsis.org/2020-sepsis-awareness-survey/



Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital is honored to be a part of the 9th Annual Sepsis Heroes Gala. Thank you Sepsis Alliance for leading the way in sepsis awareness and education.

Visit us online at MLKCH.ORG

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Steven Q. Simpson, MD, and Pamela Nicklaus, MD

Sue Sirianni

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Thank you for your belief in our mission!

Sepsis is a Public Health Crisis



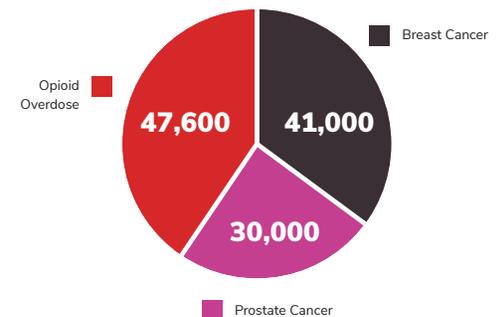
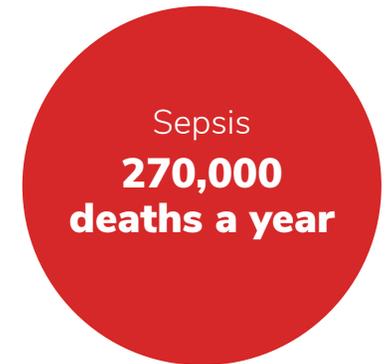
Every 20 seconds someone is diagnosed with sepsis.



Every 2 minutes sepsis takes a life.

Each year in the United States, sepsis takes more lives than **opioids, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined.**

Learn the signs at [Sepsis.org](https://www.sepsis.org). You could save a life.



= 118,600 deaths a year

*all numbers are approximate

*Sources - Sepsis: JAMA. 2017;318(13):1241-1249;
Cancer: CDC <https://gis.cdc.gov/Cancer/USCS/DataViz.html>;
Opioids: NIDA <https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>



@2020 Sepsis Alliance



Every year in the United States, sepsis kills more people than breast cancer, prostate cancer, and opioid overdoses combined. Experts estimate that more than 200,000 lives could be saved each year through early recognition and treatment.

Once sepsis takes hold, up to one-third of patients die. Many of those who survive sepsis end up seriously disabled. Sepsis Alliance aims for increased sepsis awareness to save lives and improve outcomes.

We are making progress. In 2020, awareness has hit an all-time high of 71%. However, there are disparities in awareness among different racial and ethnic groups, and awareness of the signs and symptoms remains low at only 15%. In short, we have more work to do. But we cannot do it alone and this is where the amazing efforts of so many have earned our deepest respect and gratitude.

We are sincerely thankful to you, our partners in the fight against sepsis who help us continue our mission of raising sepsis awareness.

So More Survive.



#SEPSISHEROES | SEPSIS.ORG