UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY
Department of Critical Care Medicine

Research Newsletter - Issue 5 – March 2018

Sepsis Management Project coming to GSICU this Spring

AHS, in partnership with Alberta Innovates and Biomerieux, will be evaluating an Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP), procalcitonin (PCT) testing and rapid blood culture identification (BCID) in adults with confirmed or suspected sepsis in the ICU.

Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) - The ASP will provide prospective audit and feedback (PAF) to the attending ICU team of any and all antimicrobial prescriptions on a standardized APS feedback form in the patient chart.

The ASP team will be comprised of an infectious disease physician and a dedicated ASP pharmacist. All antimicrobials will be routinely assessed on 1 – 3 days following enrollment into the project for concordance with clinical practice guidelines and again between 3-5 days for optimization of therapy.

Procalcitonin Testing (PCT) – PCT is a biomarker for the diagnosis of sepsis and has also been used to guide the initiation and discontinuation of antimicrobial therapy. PCT will be measured daily and results will be provided to the ICU physicians and the ASP team 7 days a week along with evidence-informed clinical decision support.

Rapid Blood culture Identification (BCID) – BCID is a test capable of accurately identifying approximately 85-90% of bloodstream pathogens in positive-blood cultures within 1 hour. BCID will be performed for all eligible patients with a positive blood culture at the time of confirmation of the blood culture positivity.

Questions? Contact:

Lead Co-Investigators:
Wendy Sligl and Sean Bagshaw – sligl@ualberta.ca, bagshaw@uualberta.ca
Project Manager: Dawn Opgenorth - dawno@ualberta.ca

Meet Dr. Justin Chen – Director of the UAH Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

Justin completed his MD at the University of British Columbia, and his Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases training at the University of Alberta. He accepted a position at Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre, where he established a successful stewardship audit and feedback program, prior to being recruited back to Edmonton. In addition to his role as ASP director Justin is a clinical lecturer with the Division of Infectious Diseases.

Study Enrollment Update

ALFSG: 60
* ROTEM Sub-Study = Screening
BALANCE: 27
PEPTIC: *open to enrollment*
PREVENT: 5
PROSPECT:11
STARRT-AKI: GS-ICU: 24
CV-ICU: 2

PEPTIC RANDOMIZATION TREATMENT CHANGES ON APRIL 11

The first randomization SUP treatment for PEPTIC study will be complete April 10 and participating ICUs will change to the second SUP treatment on April 11.

The treatment changes at UAH/MAHI ICUs are as follows:
GSICU will change from H2RBs to PPIs
Neuro ICU will change from PPIs to H2RBs
CVICU will change from H2RBs to PPIs

Note that the new SUP prescription will apply to patients admitted to the ICU on April 11. Existing patients on the unit should not have their SUP treatment changed.

For more information on PEPTIC contact:
Sean Bagshaw – Principal Investigator - bagshaw@ualberta.ca
Dawn Opgenorth – Project Manager - dawno@ualberta.ca

To find out more about any study or ways you can be involved contact Dr. Sean Bagshaw, Director of Research at 780-492-3817, Nadia Baig, Research Manager at 780-492-9951, or visit our website at www.ualberta.ca/critical-care/research