

Abstract

Sepsis is one of the oldest and most elusive syndromes in medicine. Sepsis is a clinical syndrome characterized by systemic inflammation due to infection. There is a variation of severity ranging from sepsis to severe sepsis and septic shock. Over 1,665,000 cases of sepsis occur in the United States each year, with a mortality rate up to 50 percent. Severe sepsis occurs as a result of community acquired and health care–associated infections. Risk factors for severe sepsis are related both to a patient’s predisposition for infection and to the likelihood of acute organ dysfunction if infection develops. There are many risk factors for the infections that most commonly precipitate severe sepsis and septic shock, including chronic diseases (e.g., the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, chronic obstructive pulmonary Disease, and malignancy) and the use of immunosuppressive agents.

Key Words :

Venous-to-arterial - sepsis syndromes .