I'm Shocked: Adjunctive Vasoactive Therapies in Septic Shock

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Disclosures

• SB: serves on the speaker's bureau for LaJolla Pharmaceutical Company. All relevant conflicts have been resolved.



Objectives

- 1. Illustrate a classic presentation of septic shock.
- 2. Interpret hemodynamic variable alterations and compensatory mechanisms associated with septic shock.
- 3. Explain adjunctive therapies and considerations for use.



AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY #1

Framing of Outcomes in Septic Shock

Conceptualizing Septic Shock

- Sepsis = *sēpein*
- Shock = state in which there is failure of the circulatory system to maintain adequate cellular perfusion and/or oxygen delivery
- Three vital components
 - Arterial hypotension (absolute or relative)
 - Clinical signs of hypoperfusion
 - Abnormal cellular oxygen metabolism (hyperlactatemia)



Epidemiology of Septic Shock

- > 750,000 cases of severe sepsis/septic shock annually
- Sepsis accounts for 6-30% ICU admissions
 - Severe sepsis/septic shock ~10%
 - Type of ICU dependent
- Morality is associated with progression within disease continuum
 - 600 deaths per day from severe sepsis/septic shock
- Mortality is time dependent
 - Significantly increases if undetected for > 6 hours



History of Septic Shock has evolved to implicate the host response

"...hectic fever, at its inception, is difficult to recognize but easy to treat; left unattended it becomes easy to recognize and difficult to treat."

"They will invade and replicate if given the chance... but it is our response to their presence that makes the disease." -Germs

IL PRINCIPE
DI NICOLO MACHIAVELLA
AL MAGNIGO LORRXO
DI PIRO DI MIDIGI
TO CASTANIO LI VITE
DI CASTANIO LI VITE
DI CASTANIO LI VITE
DI LI CONTRETE VITE
DI LI CO









2002

1513

1900

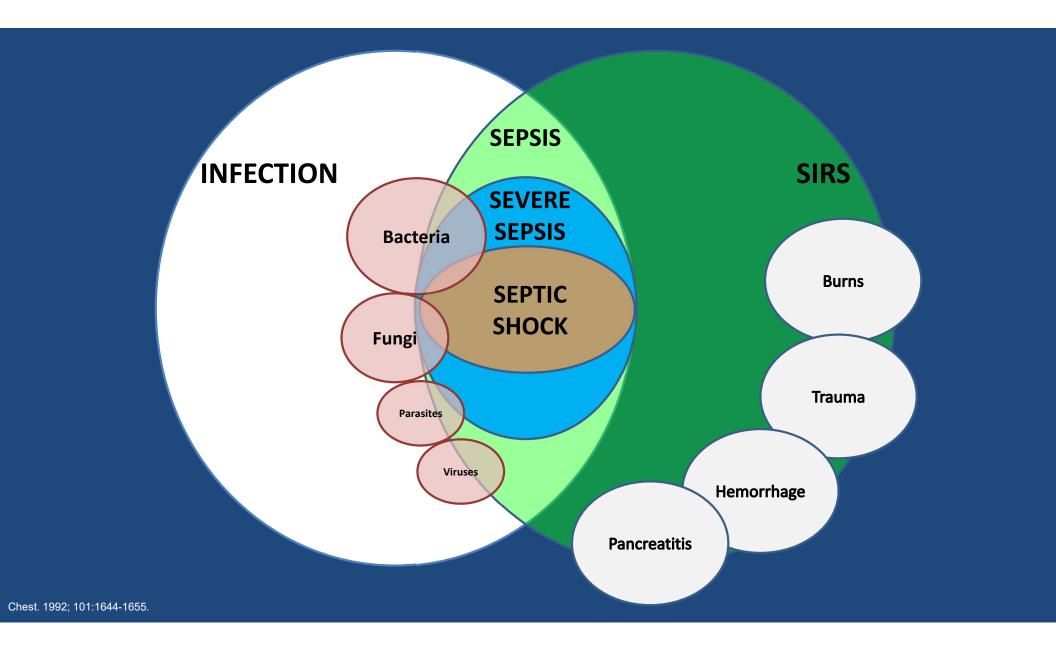
"Patients appear to die from the body's response rather than from the infection itself."

1972

1991				
ACCP/SCCM named condition	Defining criteria			
SIRS	Core body temperature >38°C or <36°C HR \geq 90 bpm Respirations \geq 20/min (or PaCO $_2$ <32 mmHg) WBC \geq 12,000/µl or \leq 4000/µl or >10% immature forms			
Sepsis	At least two SIRS criteria caused by known or suspected infection			
Severe sepsis	vere sepsis Sepsis with acute organ dysfunction (including hypoperfusion and hypotension) caused by sepsi			
Septic shock	Sepsis with persistent or refractory hypotension or tissue hypoperfusion despite adequate fluid resuscitation			



Expert Rev Anti Infect Ther. 2012;10:(6).



Clinical Review & Education

Special Communication | CARING FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT

The Third International Consensus Definitions for Sepsis and Septic Shock (Sepsis-3)

Mervyn Singer, MD, FRCP; Clifford S. Deutschman, MD, MS; Christopher Warren Seymour, MD, MSc; Manu Shankar-Hari, MSc, MD, FFICM; Djillali Annane, MD, PhD; Michael Bauer, MD; Rinaldo Bellomo, MD; Gordon R. Bernard, MD; Jean-Daniel Chiche, MD, PhD; Craig M. Coopersmith, MD; Richard S. Hotchkiss, MD; Mitchell M. Levy, MD; John C. Marshall, MD; Greg S. Martin, MD, MSc; Steven M. Opal, MD; Gordon D. Rubenfeld, MD, MS; Tom van der Poll, MD, PhD; Jean-Louis Vincent, MD, PhD; Derek C. Angus, MD, MPH

ONLINE SPECIAL ARTICLE

Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock 2021

KEY WORDS: adults; evidence-based medicine; guidelines; sepsis; septic shock

Laura Evans¹ Andrew Rhodes² Waleed Alhazzani³



Sepsis-3: Sepsis



CHANGE IN:

Sequential

Organ

Failure

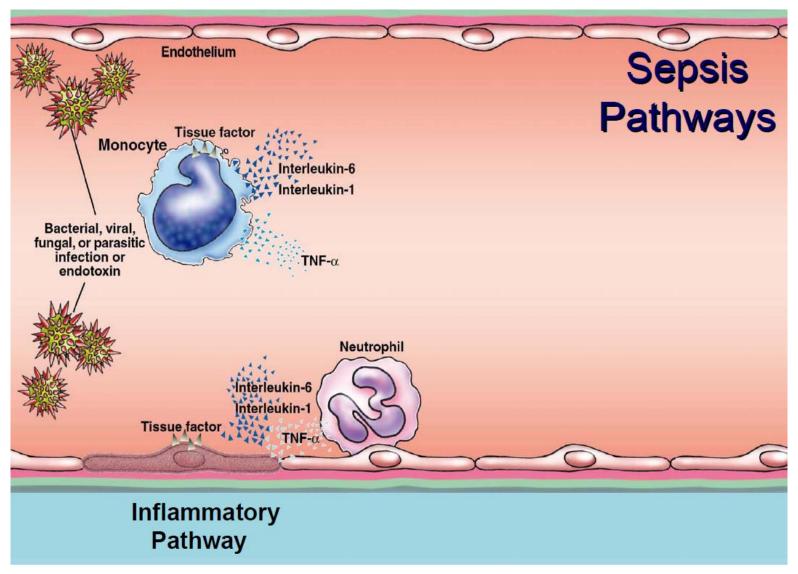
Assessment

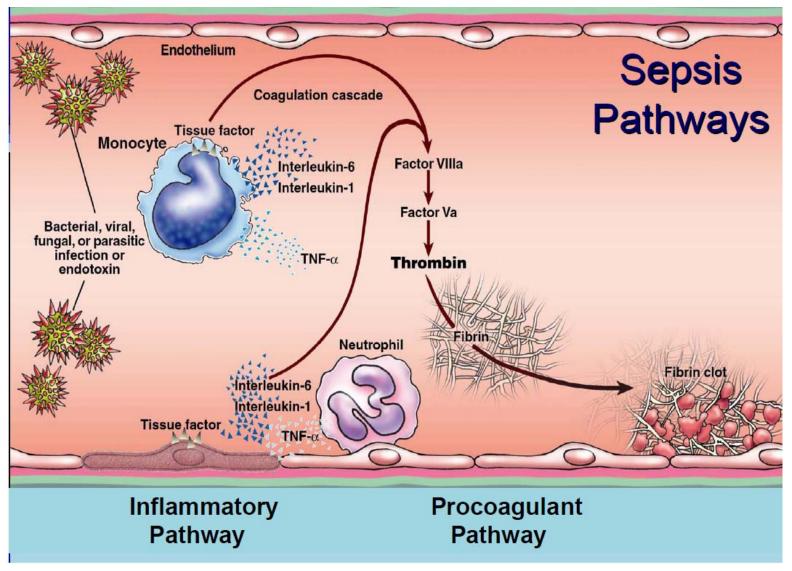


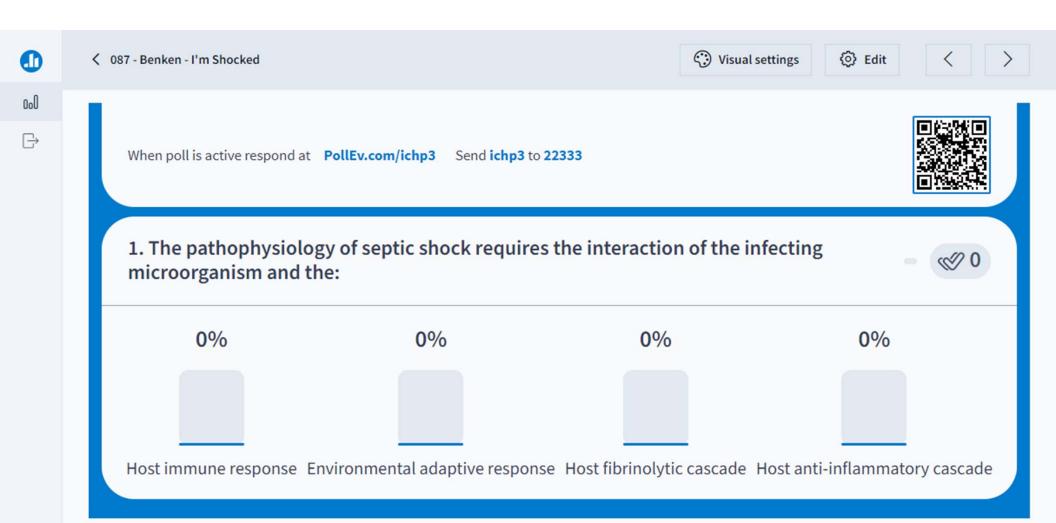
Pathophysiology

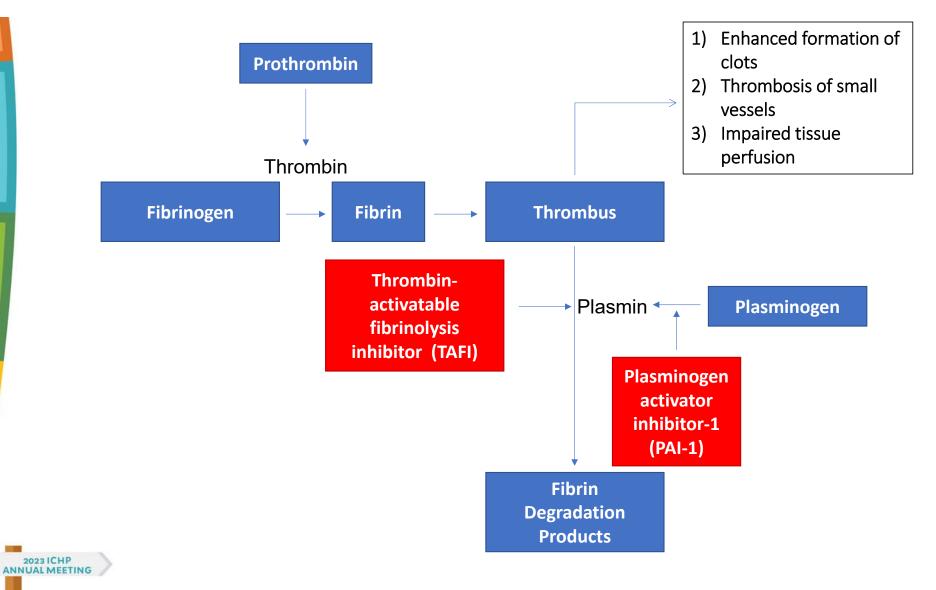
- Involves multiple interactions
 - Infecting microorganism
 - Host immune response
 - Inflammatory cascade
 - Procoagulant cascade
 - Anti-fibrinolysis cascade











Ann Pharmacother. 1995; 29: 892-905.

N Engl J Med. 2008; 358: 1037-1052.

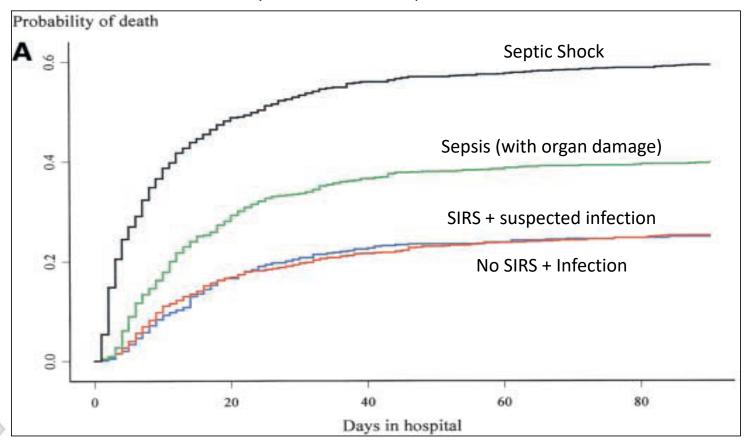
N Engl J Med 2006; 355:1699-1713

ODCAN	SEQUENTIAL ORGAN FAILURE ASSESSMENT SCORE					
ORGAN	0	1	2	3	4	
CV	MAP <u>></u> 70 mmHg	MAP < 70 mmHg	DA < 5 or DB	DA 5.1-15 or EPI/NE <u><</u> 0.1	DA > 15 or EPI/NE > 0.1	
RESP (PaO ₂ :FiO ₂)	<u>></u> 400 mmHg	< 400 mmHg	< 300 mmHg	< 200 mmHg w/ support	< 100 mmHg w/ support	
RENAL -SCr -UOP	< 1.2 mg/dL	1.2-1.9 mg/dL	2-3.4 mg/dL	3.5-4.9 mg/dL < 500 mL/24hr	> 5 mg/dL < 200 mL/24hr	
HEPATIC	< 1.2 mg/dL	1.2-1.9 mg/dL	2-5.9 mg/dL	6-11.9 mg/dL	> 12 mg/dL	
COAG (Plt x 10³)	≥ 150 /mcL	< 150 / mcL	< 100 /mcL	< 50 / mcL	< 20 /mcL	
CNS (GCS)	15	13-14	10-12	6-9	< 6	



Disease Continuum vs. Mortality

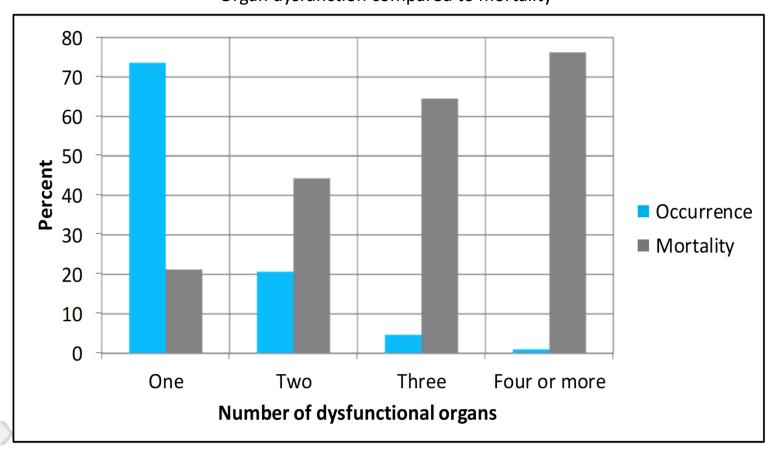
Probability of Death in the Sepsis Continuum





Organ Dysfunction vs. Mortality

Organ dysfunction compared to mortality



2023 ICHP

Audience Response Question Case A

<u>HPI</u>: Patient is a 72 y/o M who is POD4 from a planned admission for extensive abdominal surgery (abdominal exenteration with ileal conduit) and POD1 pelvic reconstruction. The nurse is calling the team to report fever and that his urine output has dropped to 0.3 mL/kg/hr.

PMH:

- Colon cancer s/p resection, chemotherapy, and radiation (2010)
- HTN
- HLD
- Stroke (2000, 2011)
- L hemiparesis
- Hypothyroidism
- IDDM

Allergies: NKDA

Anthropometrics: Weight 95kg

Vital Signs:

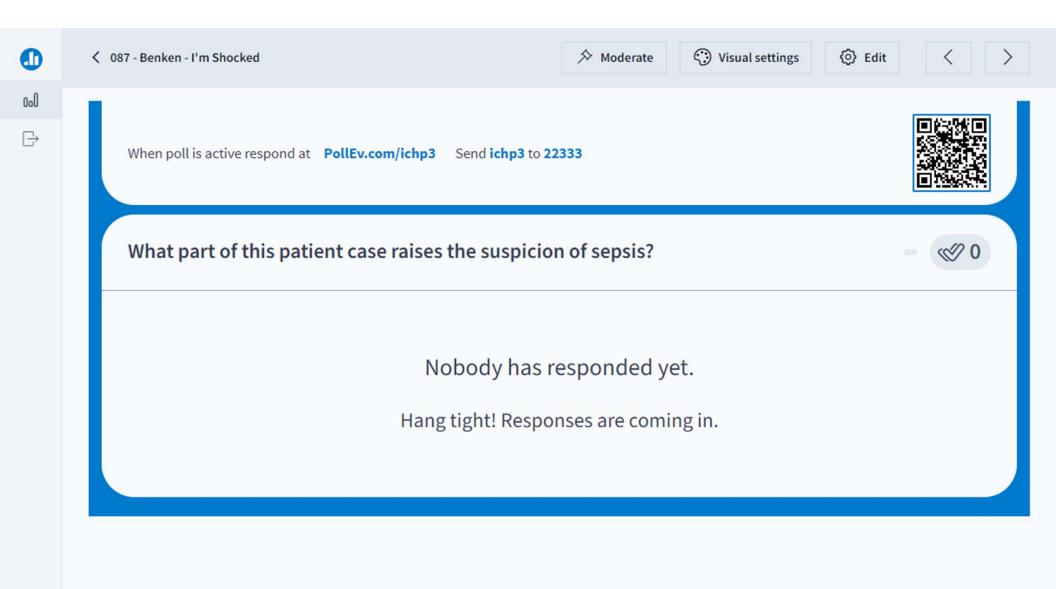
Temperature: 39.2°C (max 39.5°C)

HR: 135 beats/min

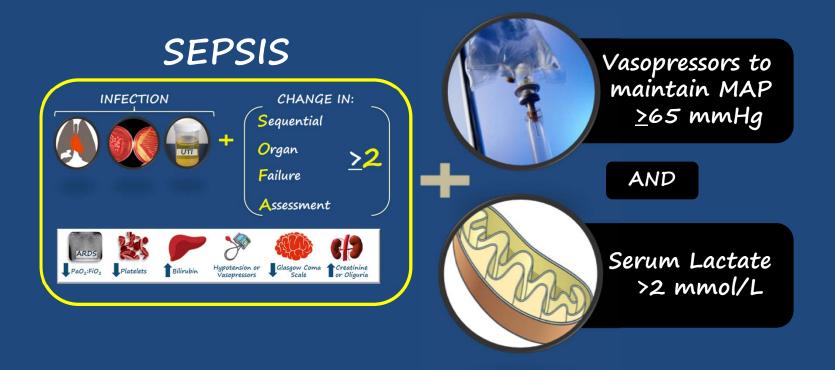
RR: 38 breaths/min

BP: 87/51 mmHg

Labs:



Sepsis-3: Septic Shock



Shock States

Cardiogenic:

Acute myocardial infarction
End-stage cardiomyopathy
Advanced valvular heart disease
Myocarditis
Acute arrhythmias

Hypovolemic:

Internal or external blood loss

Obstructive:

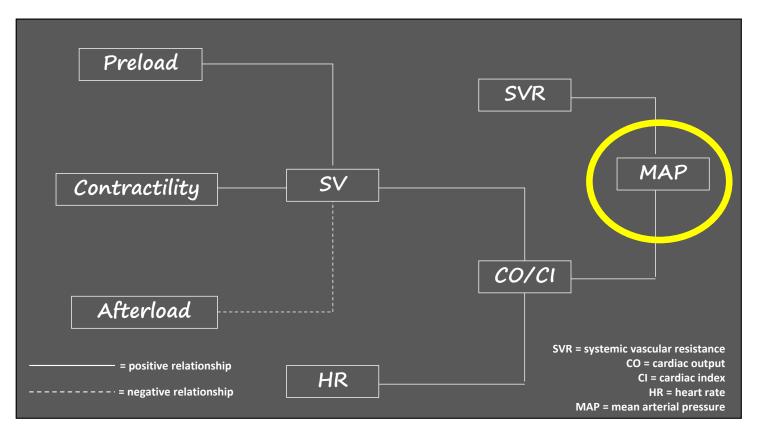
Pulmonary embolism Cardiac tamponade Tension pneumothorax

Distributive:

Anaphylaxis Neurogenic SEPTIC SHOCK



Global Hemodynamic Interactions

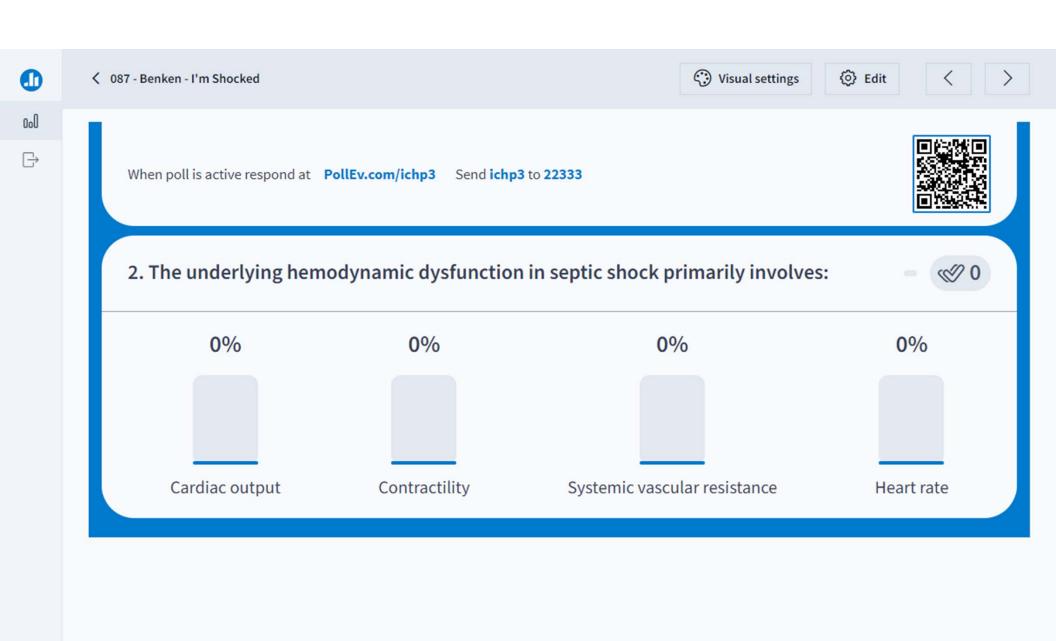




Hemodynamic Compensation

Preload (CVP, PAOP)*	СО	SVR	HR
	EARLY LATE		

^{*}Relative hypovolemia due to increase in the "tank" size (massive vasodilation)



Audience Response Question Case B

HPI:

Patient is a 72 y/o M who is POD4 from a planned admission for extensive abdominal surgery (abdominal exenteration with ileal conduit) and POD1 pelvic reconstruction. The nurse is calling the team to report fever and that his urine output has dropped to 0.3 mL/kg/hr.

Diagnostics:

TTE demonstrating LVEF 75%

Arterial Line:

MAP 63 mmHg

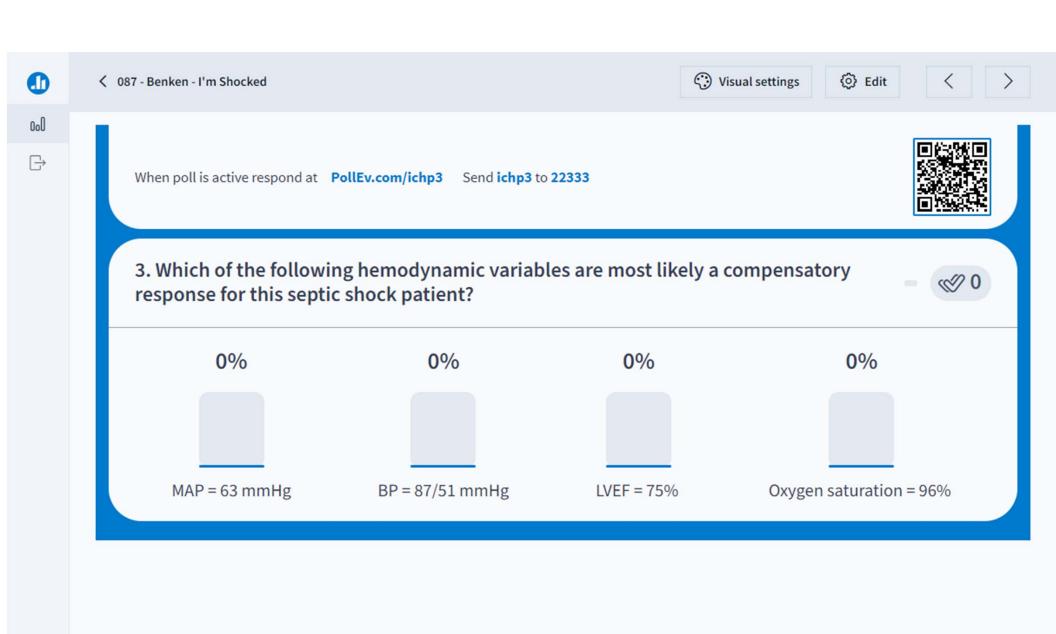
HR: 135 beats/min

Cuff blood pressure:

BP: 87/51 mmHg

Pulse oximeter:

SpO2 = 96%



Treatment of Septic Shock

Antimicrobial Therapy

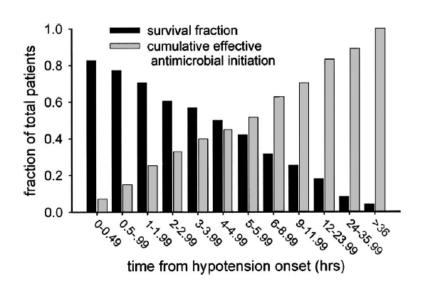
EARLY GOAL DIRECTED THERAPY

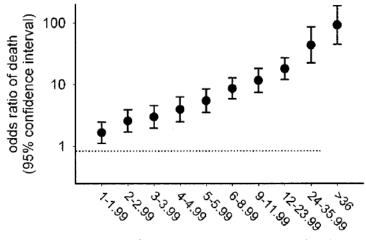
Adjunctive Therapy



Antibiotic therapy

- Goal:
 - Administration of <u>effective</u> antibiotics within the <u>first hour</u> of recognition





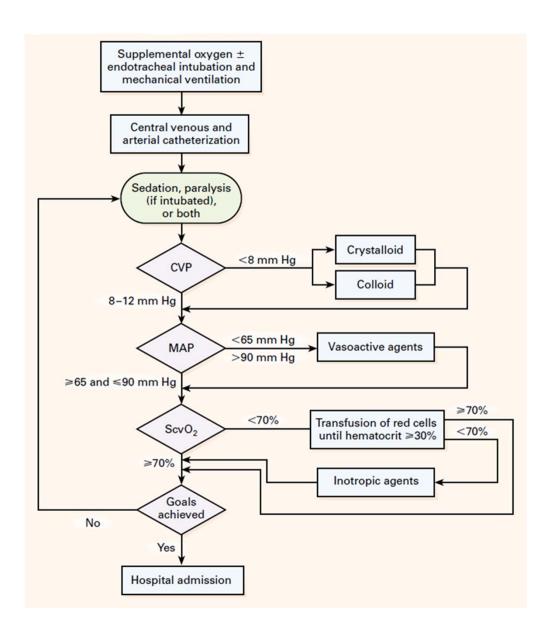
time from hypotension onset (hrs)



Antibiotic therapy

- Additional considerations:
 - Activity against likely pathogens
 - Penetrate adequately to presumed tissues
- *Source control*
 - Rapidly identify sources
 - Intervene to control source as soon as feasible (ideally within 12 hours)
 - Exception peripancreatic necrosis
 - Consider hemodynamic instability
 - Least physiologic insult (eg. percutaneous interventions vs. surgical)
 - Removal of infected devices as able







N Eng J Med. 2001; 345: 1368.

EARLY GOAL DIRECTED THERAPY

Fluid Resuscitation

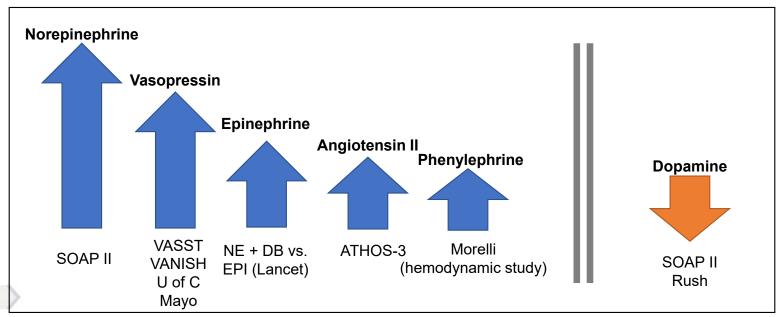
- Crystalloids first line
 - 30 mL/kg as initial intravenous bolus over minutes
 - Within the first 3 hours of diagnosis
 - Balanced crystalloids instead of normal saline for resuscitation (weak recommendation)
- Followed with "hemodynamic" techniques
 - Non-invasive
 - Invasive





Vasopressors

- Fluid refractory
- Goal:
 - MAP <u>></u> 65 mmHg
 - Should be individualized: "normal" BP and comorbidities

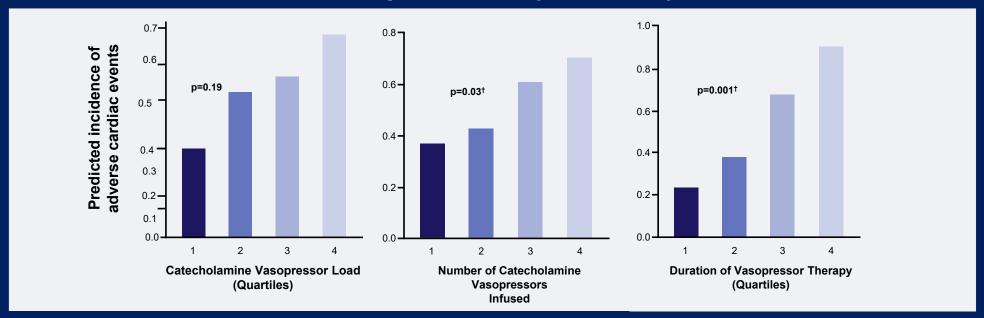




EARLY GOAL DIRECTED THERAPY

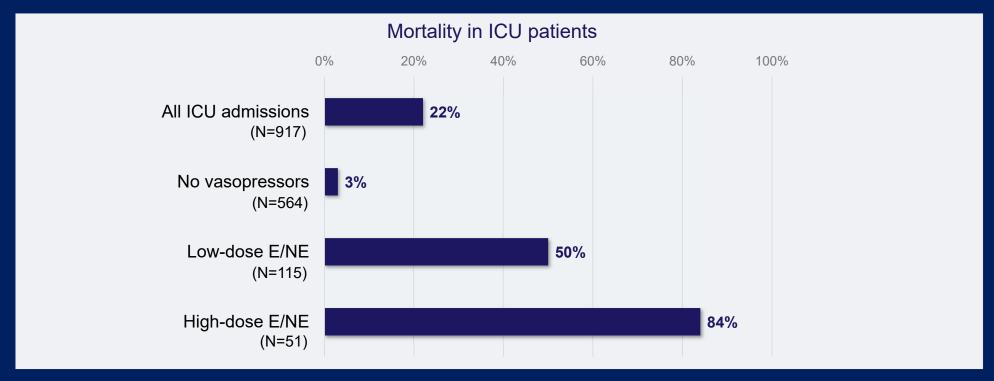
Catecholamine Vasopressor Therapy & AE's

- In a prospective observational study of 112 SICU patients, catecholamine vasopressor therapy* was associated with greater adverse event rates
- **48.2%** experienced cardiac AEs during catecholamine vasopressor therapy
 - Number of agents infused and duration of therapy independently associated with cardiac AEs*
 - Cardiac AEs associated with greater morbidity and mortality



*Epinephrine, NE, dopamine, and phenylephrine. †Independent association with the occurrence of cardiac AEs ‡ New-onset tachyarrhythmia [49.1%], prolonged elevated heart rate [23.7%], myocardial cell damage [17.5%] SICU=surgical intensive care unit; AE=adverse event, NE=Norepinephrine. Intensive Care Med. 2012;38:950-958.

Catecholamine Vasopressor Therapy & Mortality



In patients treated with high-dose catecholamines at any time during their ICU stay, the odds ratio of mortality was 5.1 (CI, 2.02–12.9; p=0.001)

Adjunctive Therapy

- Steroids
- "Fruit Cocktail"
- Blood product administration (goal Hgb > 7 g/dL)
- Mechanical ventilation in ARDS
- Sedation, analgesia, and paralysis
- Glucose control (<180mg/dL)
- Renal replacement therapy
- DVT prophylaxis and SUP
- Nutrition
- Goals of care



AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY #2

RE-framing of Outcomes in Septic Shock

Inadequate or Ineffective Natural Vasoconstrictive Response

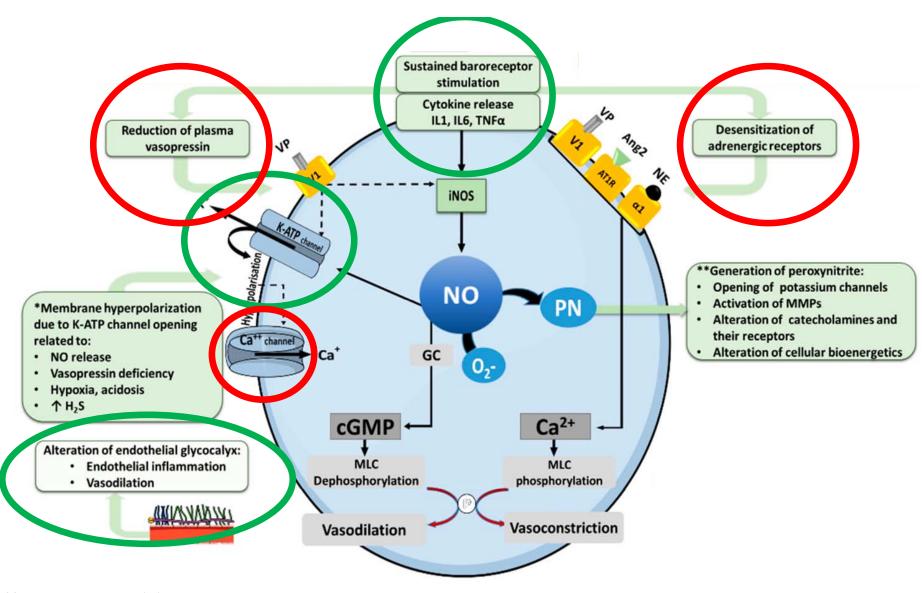
- Peripheral levels of catecholamines are dramatically increased but decreased responsiveness to natural vasoconstrictors
- Evidence of activation of the renin—angiotensin system ? inconsistent interpatient response.
- Deficiency in vasopressin Vasopressin is a nonapeptide potent vasopressor hormone released by the posterior pituitary gland in response to hypotension



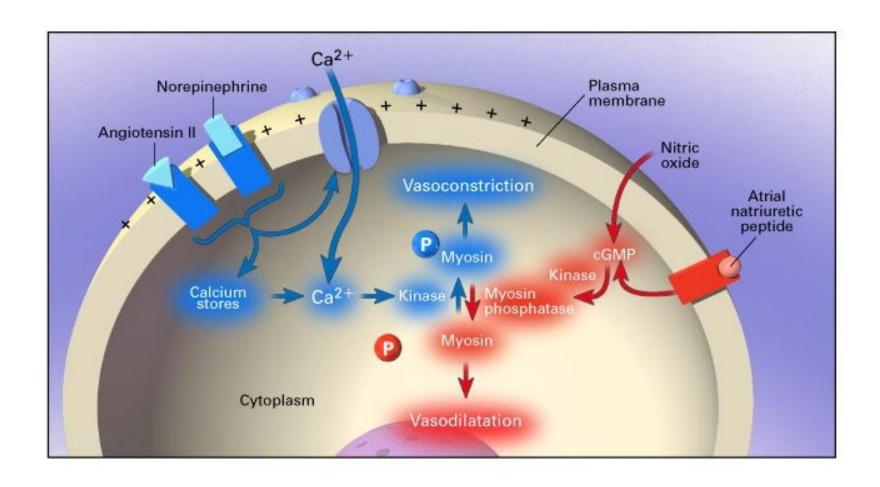
Induced Vasodilatory Response

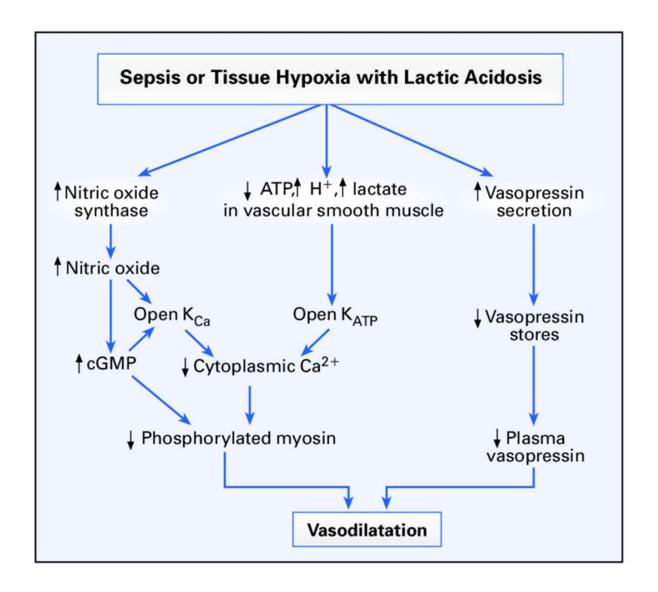
- Nitric oxide (NO)
- Prostacyclin synthesis
- Adrenomedullin
- Activation of the transient receptor potential vanilloid type 4 (TRPV4)





Journal of Clinical Medicine. 2022; 11(21):6407





Proposed Adjunctive Therapies

- Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)
- Hydroxocobalamin (Cyanokit)
- Methylene Blue (ProvayBlue)
- Goals of these therapies?

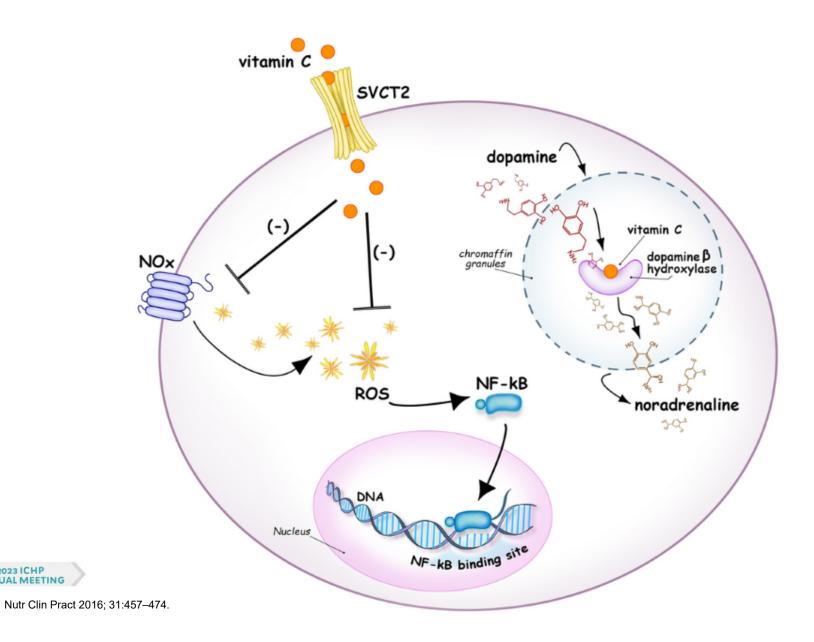


Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)

Proposed benefit

- Cofactor in the biosynthesis of cortisol, norepinephrine (restoring receptor sensitivity)
- Critically ill patients are at risk of low plasma ascorbic acid due to decreased intake, absorption, and acutely increased metabolism
- Clinical studies have investigated its use in septic shock among various ICU populations





2023 ICHP ANNUAL MEETING

ANIMAL MODEL OF SEPSIS

Exogenous vitamin
C increases
perfused capillary
density and
arteriolar
vasoconstrictor
responsiveness

EARLY EXCITEMENT – MARIK HAT STUDY

Before—after study assessing the combination of IV vitamin C (1.5 g every 6 h), hydrocortisone (50mg every 6 h), and thiamine (200mg every 12 h) in 94 patients with severe sepsis or septic shock

Hospital mortality -4 (8.5%) vs. 19 (40.4%) – p < 0.001

- -Duration of pressors -18.3 ± 9.8 vs. 54.9 ± 28.4 – p < 0.001
- -RRT for AKI3 -3/31 (10%) vs. 11/30 (33%) – p = 0.02

ATESS STUDY

Prospective RCT to evaluate effect of Vitamin C (50mg/kg q12hr) and Thiamine (200mg q12hr) on organ function in first 72 hours (SOFA score) and outcomes of shock reversal and mortality

111 of 116 randomized patients were included in the analysis

Delta SOFA score -3 (1 to 5) vs. 3 (0-4) - p = 0.96

7-day, 28-day, and 90-day mortality,

-9.4% vs. 10.3%, p = 0.87

-20.8% vs. 15.5%, p = 0.47

-32.1% vs. 27.6%, p = 0.61

No differences in RRT for AKI, mechanical ventilation free days, shock reversal, vasopressor free days (p > 0.05)

VITAMINS STUDY

Effect of Vitamin C, Hydrocortisone, and Thiamine vs Hydrocortisone Alone on Time Alive and Free of Vasopressor Support Among Patients With Septic Shock

216 patients – IV vitamin C (1.5 g every 6 hours), hydrocortisone (50mg every 6 hours), and thiamine (200mg every 12 hours) vs. IV hydrocortisone (50mg every 6 hours) alone until shock resolution or up to 10 days.

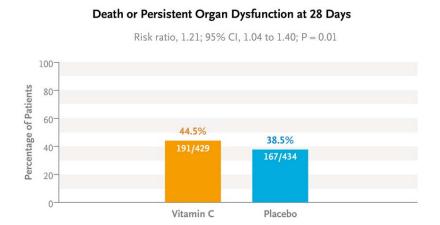
Alive and vasopressor free at 7 days
- 122.1 hours (76.3-145.4) vs.124.6 hours (82.1147) (95%Cl, -8.3 to 7.2 hours; p = 0.83).

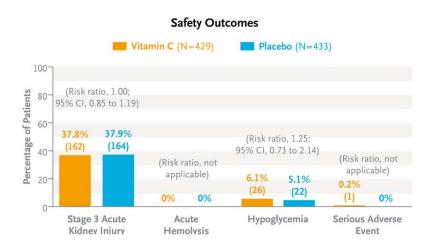
Change in SOFA score at 3 days -2 (-4 to 0) vs. -1 (-3 to 0), p = 0.02

No difference in mortality, mechanical ventilation free days, RRT for AKI free days, ICU LOS, mortality (p > 0.05)

LOVIT Trial: Intravenous Vitamin C in Adults with Sepsis in the Intensive Care Unit

- RCT infection + vasopressor within 24 hours of diagnosis
- Infusion of either ascorbic acid (50 mg/kg) or matched placebo administered every 6 hours for up to 96 hours





Meta analysis

- Nine RCTs were identified and included in the outcome evaluation.
- HAT therapy did not improve the 28-day and ICU mortality, new-onset AKI, ICU-LOS, or SOFA scores.

	Experimental Co				ontrol		Mean Difference			Mean Difference		Risk of Bias	
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Fixed, 95% C	I	IV, Fixed	, 95% CI		ABCDEFG
glesias et al. 2020	27	22	68	53	38	69	40.7%	-26.00 [-36.38, -15.62]					$\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$
lamshidi et al. 2021	11.66	17.21	29	23.45	24.53	29	36.9%	-11.79 [-22.70, -0.88]		-			
Vani et al. 2020	75.72	30.29	50	96.13	40.5	50	22.3%	-20.41 [-34.43, -6.39]		-			•••••
Total (95% CI)			147			148	100.0%	-19.51 [-26.13, -12.88]		•			⊕ Low
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 3.44, df = 2 (P = 0.18); l ² = 42%								-100	-50 0	50	100	? Some concern	
est for overall effect:	Z = 5.77	(P < 0.	00001)					0			Favours (cont	100	Some concern

- (A) Random sequence generation (selection bias)
- (B) Allocation concealment (selection bias)
- (C) Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)
- (D) Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)
- (E) Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)
- (F) Selective reporting (reporting bias)
- (G) Other bias



In Vivo. 2023 May-Jun;37(3):1236-1245.

Ascorbic Acid Takeaways

- No improvement in mortality
- Inconsistent results surrounding organ function
- Potential impact on vasopressor duration

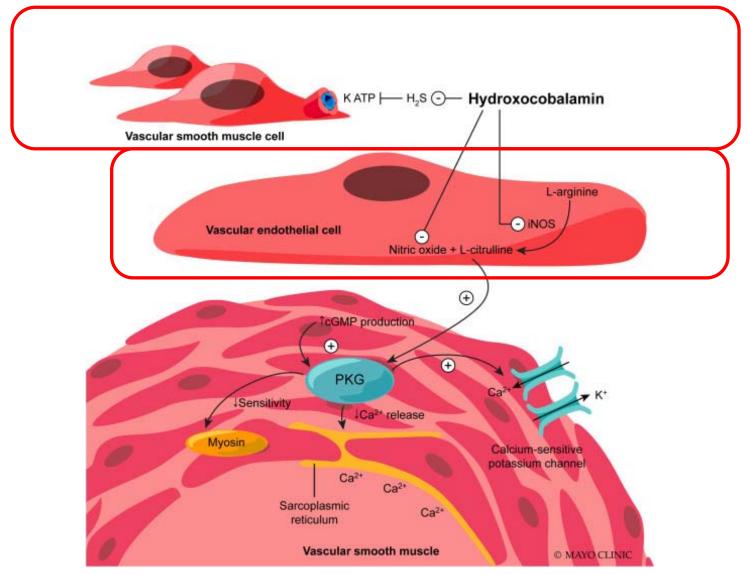


Hydroxocobalamin (Vitamin B12)

 Directly inhibits NO and iNOS, which prevents myosin dephosphorization minimizing the vasodilatory effects of these pathways

 Binds to hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), an endogenous vasodilator, by modifying potassium channels and amplifying its elimination





2023 ICHP ANNUAL MEETING

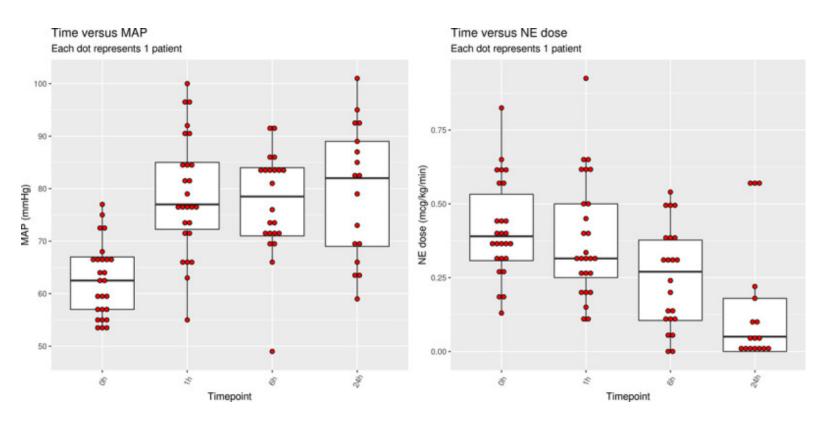
Scientific reports. 2016 Feb 15;6(1):20831.

Hydroxocobalamin in refractory septic shock: a retrospective case series.

- Case report and case series of 26 patients in refractory septic shock
- At least one dose of 5 g IV over 15 minutes
- Primary outcomes were the change from baseline in MAP and NE at 1, 6, and 24 hours after hydroxocobalamin administration.



Hydroxocobalamin in refractory septic shock: a retrospective case series.

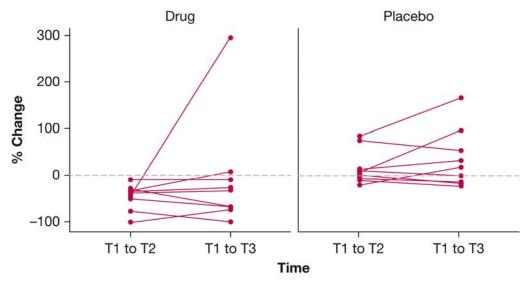


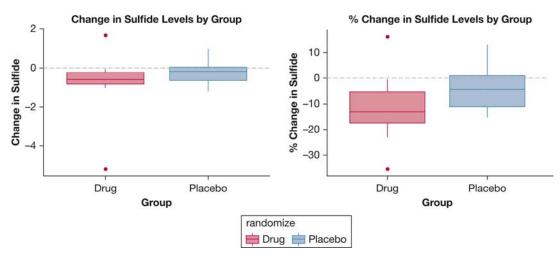
The Intravenous Hydroxocobalamin in Septic Shock Trial

- Phase 2 single-center, double-blind, allocation-concealed, placebocontrolled, parallel-group pilot randomized controlled trial comparing high-dose IV hydroxocobalamin with placebo in critically ill adults with septic shock
- The primary outcome was study feasibility (enrollment rate, clinical and laboratory compliance rate, and contamination rate).
- Secondary outcomes included between-group differences in plasma H₂S concentrations and vasopressor dose before and after infusion.



% Change in Total NE Dose by Time Point





Chest. 2023 Feb 1;163(2):303-12.

Hydroxocobalamin (Vitamin B12) Takeaways

Decrease in short-term vasopressor load

Increase in MAP or "relative" MAP

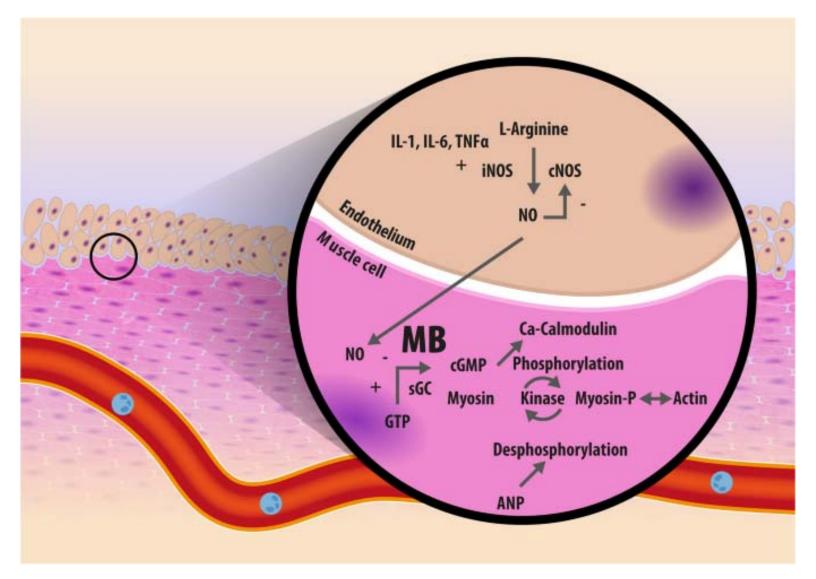
 No glaring signals surrounding oxalate nephropathy but limitations of small total sample



Methylene Blue

 Methylene blue inhibits guanylate cyclase, blocks the formation of cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP), which prevents smooth muscle relaxation by NO.

 Direct inhibitory effect on eNOS and possibly iNOS by oxidation of enzyme-bound ferrous iron.



Refractory septic shock

Original investigation

Use of methylene blue in patients with refractory septic shock: Impact on hemodynamics and gas exchange

Max Andresen Q, Alberto Dougnac, Orlando Diaz, Glen Hernandez, Luis Castillo, Guillermo Bugedo, Manuel Alvarez, Jorge Dagnino

Use of Methylene Blue in Sepsis: A Systematic Review

Edmund S. H. Kwok, MSc* Daniel Howes, MD, FRCPC[†]

Methylene Blue for the Treatment of Septic Shock

Christopher A. Paciullo, Pharm.D., Deanna McMahon Horner, Pharm.D., Kevin W. Hatton, M.D., and Jeremy D. Flynn, Pharm.D.

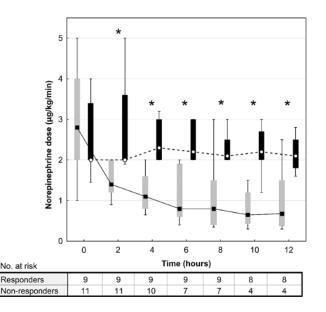


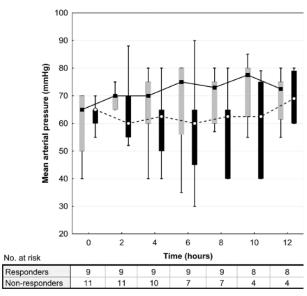
Article Open Access | Published: 04 February 2020

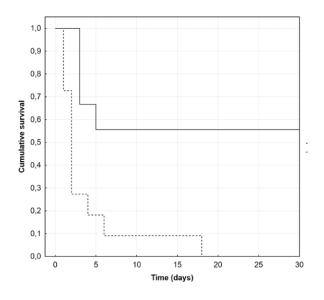
Methylene blue administration in patients with refractory distributive shock – a retrospective study

Michal Porizka [™], Petr Kopecky, Helena Dvorakova, Jan Kunstyr, Michal Lips, Pavel Michalek & Martin Balik

Scientific Reports 10, Article number: 1828 (2020) | Cite this article







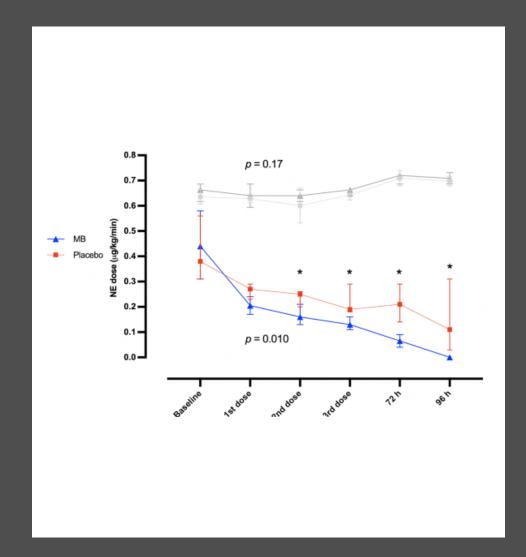
Early adjunctive methylene blue in patients with septic shock: a randomized controlled trial

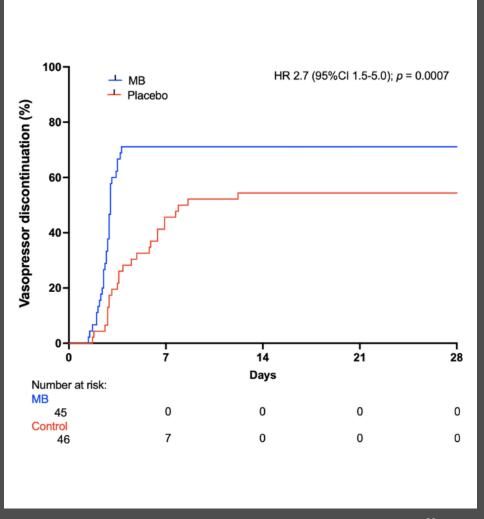
 100 mg of methylene blue over six hours, once a day for a total of three doses/days

• Primary outcome: Time to vasopressor discontinuation

Secondary outcome: Vasopressor free days at 28 days

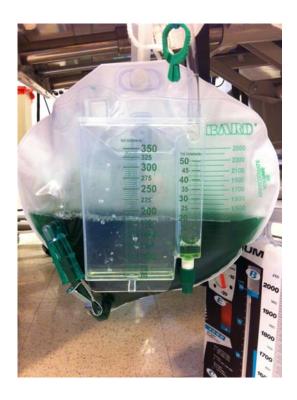






Early adjunctive methylene blue in patients with septic shock: a randomized controlled trial

 Methemoglobin saturation between the two groups.... This did not cause any clinical effects.



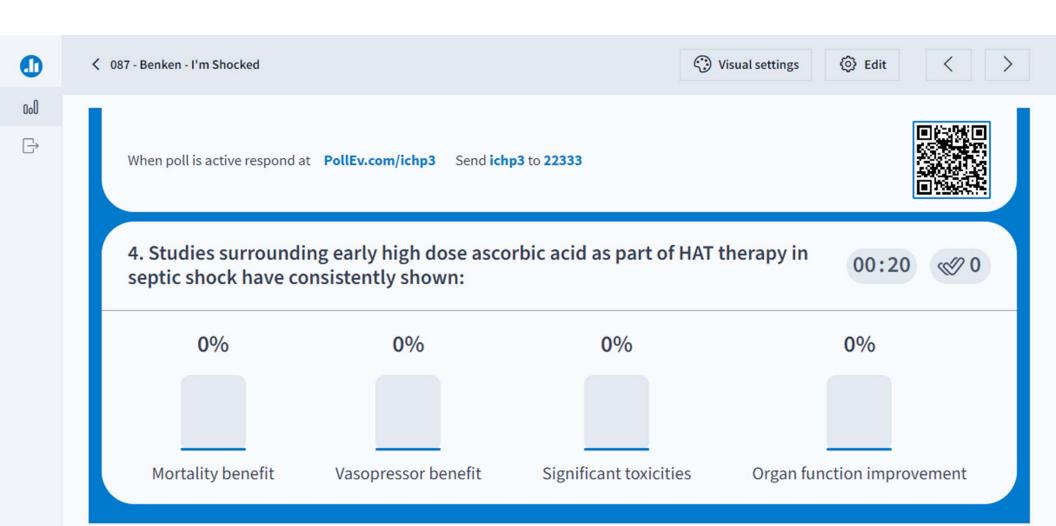


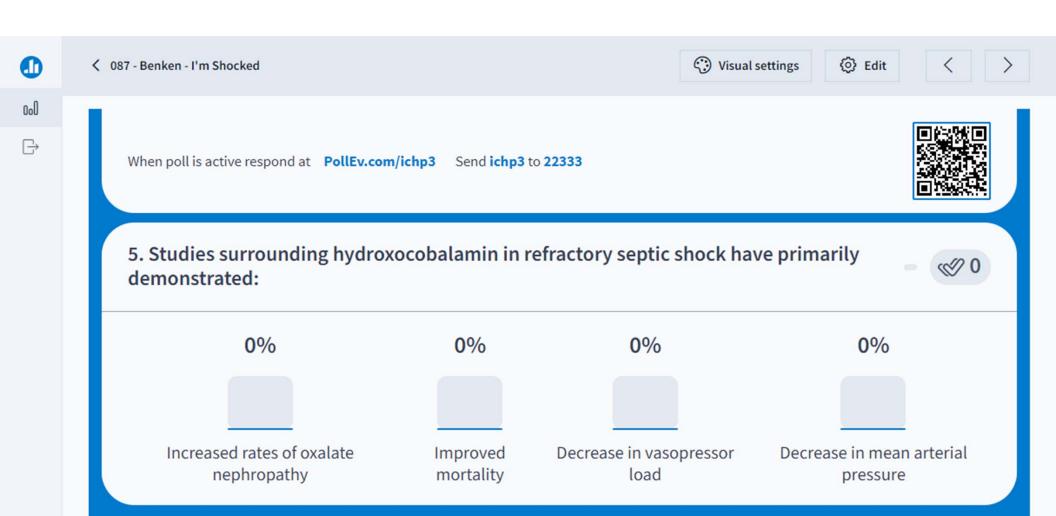
Methylene Blue Takeaways

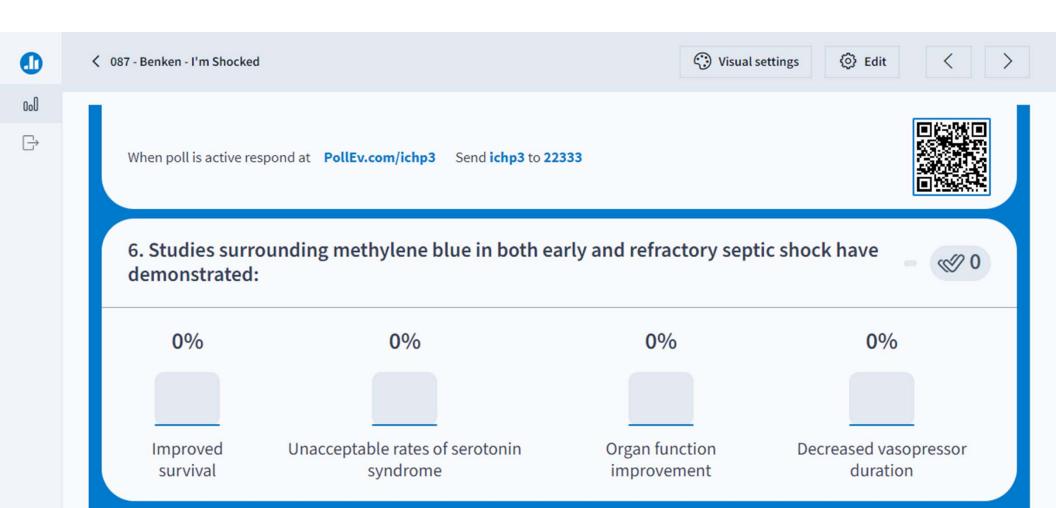
Decrease in short-term vasopressor load and earlier discontinuation

 Possible decrease in vasopressor free days which could impact ICU length of stay and hospital length of day





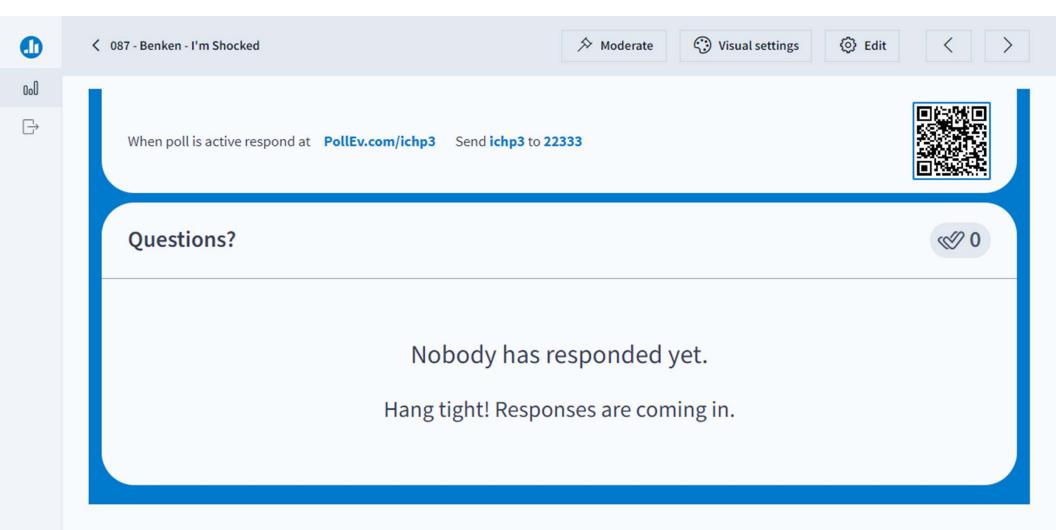




Summary

- Ascorbic acid, hydroxocobalamin, and methylene blue all appear to have a positive impact on vasopressors
- Unclear clinical impact of these findings
- Strong consideration in refractory septic shock
- MORE RESEARCH NEEDED





References:

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