**S1 Table. Diagnostic criteria for sepsis documented in the medical charts at the time of enrollment**

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| **Infection, documented or suspected, and some of the following:** |
| **General variables** |
| Fever or hypothermia (body temperature >38.3oC or <36oC) **a** |
| Heart rate >90/min-1 |
| Tachypnoea (respiratory rate >20/min-1) |
| Altered mental status (Glasgow Coma Scale <15 or <10T) b |
| Significant oedema or positive fluid balance (20 mL/kg over 24 hr) |
| Hyperglycaemia (plasma glucose >140 mg/dL) in the absence of diabetes |
| **Inflammatory variables** |
| Leukocytosis (WBC count >12,000 u/L), Leukopenia (WBC count <4,000 u/L), or immature forms >10% **c** |
| Plasma C-reactive protein more than two SD above the normal value |
| Plasma procalcitonin more than two SD above the normal value |
| Haemodynamic variables |
| Arterial hypotension (SBP <90 mmHg, MAP <70 mmHg or an SBP decrease >40 mmHg) |
| **Organ dysfunction variables** |
| Low oxygen saturation determined by pulse oximetry (SpO2 <95%) d |
| Arterial hypoxaemia (PaO2/FiO2 <300) |
| Acute oliguria (urine output <0.5 mL/kg/hr for at least 2 hrs) e |
| Creatinine increase >0.5 mg/dL |
| Coagulation abnormalities (INR >1.5 or aPTT >60s) |
| Ileus (absent bowel sounds) |
| Thrombocytopenia (platelet count <100,000 u/L) |
| Hyperbilirubinaemia (plasma total bilirubin >4 mg/dL) |
| **Tissue perfusion variables** |
| Hyperlactataemia (>1 mmol/L) |
| Decreased capillary refill or mottling |

Adapted from Dellinger et al, Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guideline for Management of Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: 2012

**a** Variables fever and hypothermia were consolidated into a single variable.

**b** Glasgow Coma Scale <15 or <10T wasdefined for the altered mental status variable.

**c** Variables Leukocytosis, Leukopenia and immature forms >10% were consolidated into a single variable.

**d** Variable Low oxygen saturation determined by pulse oximetry (SpO2 <95%) was added.

**e** There is a condition of ‘despite adequate fluid resuscitation’ for this criterion in the Surviving Sepsis Campaign 2012 diagnostic criteria for severe sepsis.