

Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock in Pregnancy

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Continuing medical education credit for "Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock in Pregnancy" will be available through September 2015.

1. The incidence of severe sepsis and septic shock has increased during the past decade and is expected to continue to increase in the future due to:

- A. Emergence of antibiotic resistance
- B. Younger age at first pregnancy
- C. Increased use of intrauterine fetal monitoring
- D. Reduced rates of prophylactic antibiotic use
- E. Increased rates of obesity

2. A patient is suspected of having a septic abortion and broad-spectrum antibiotics are started. The most appropriate next step in the management of this patient should be:

- A. Observation for 10–12 hours
- B. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the pelvis
- C. Serial blood cultures every 6 hours for 24 hours
- D. Uterine evacuation
- E. Laparoscopic hysterectomy

3. The single most common community-acquired pathogen for pneumonia in pregnancy is:

- A. *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
- B. *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*
- C. *Streptococcus pyogenes*
- D. *E. coli*
- E. Influenza B

4. Puerperal infections by group A beta-hemolytic streptococcus (for example, *Streptococcus pyogenes*) present a particularly high risk for multiorgan infection and mortality because of:

- A. High rates of antibiotic resistance
- B. Associated platelet dysfunction
- C. Indolent symptomatology
- D. T cell-mediated release of cytokines
- E. Difficulty in laboratory characterization of the infection

5. In nonpregnant septic patients, serum lactate levels correlate with:

- A. Bacterial load
- B. White blood count
- C. Blood glucose levels
- D. Bacterial species
- E. Mortality

6. A decrease in central venous oxygen saturation (ScvO₂) can be a marker for:
- A. Increased fetal metabolic rate
 - B. Increased oxygen delivery
 - C. Increased oxygen consumption
 - D. Decreased pulmonary wedge pressure
 - E. Decreased mean arterial pressure
7. The first line in vasoactive therapy in septic shock should be:
- A. Norepinephrine
 - B. Epinephrine
 - C. Dopamine
 - D. Atenolol
 - E. Amlodipine
8. The two most common bacterial etiologies of lethal peripartum sepsis identified are group A beta-hemolytic streptococcus and:
- A. *Escherichia coli*
 - B. *Streptococci oralis*
 - C. *Staphylococcus aureus*
 - D. *Citrobacter*
 - E. *Fusobacterium*
9. In the face of maternal sepsis, the most common fetal heart rate finding is:
- A. Bradycardia
 - B. Tachycardia
 - C. Increased beat-to-beat variability
 - D. Variable decelerations
 - E. Early decelerations

10. In the event of cardiopulmonary arrest, a cesarean delivery should be performed at the site of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) using what anesthetic?

- A. Local
- B. Epidural
- C. Spinal
- D. General
- E. None

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