

## Sepsis essentials

## Sepsis The world's most neglected medical emergency

- Number one cause of death from infection. Affects all ages, all nations.
- More common than a heart attack, kills more people than any cancer.
- Affects more than 30 million people a year worldwide, many of whom die or suffer permanent disabilities. Its incidence is **increasing.**
- Costs many countries more than any illness and is the leading cause of years of lives lost.
- Is caused by any infection and if recognized and treated too late produces the catastrophic failure of multiple organ systems which frequently results in death or permanent disability.

### What's needed?

- **needed?** Better education of health care workers and lay people on prevention and the early symptoms of sepsis.
  - Access to simple, low-cost and effective diagnostic and treatment interventions that are the pillars of any basic health care system.
  - E.g. antibiotics, fluids, oxygen and other basic supportive care.

This will save lives, reduce disabilities and result in large savings for health care budgets.

# Organizations and individuals around the world should ask their governments to support the following:

The World Health Organization (WHO) through the World Health Assembly should designate a World Sepsis Day to focus global attention and action that will strengthen health care systems worldwide to address this, the world's most neglected medical emergency.

### For further information on this program, please contact us:

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**Sepsis Fact sheet:** www.world-sepsis-day.org/FACTSHEET **Information on World Sepsis Day:** www.world-sepsis-day.org

#### Contact

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