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an Evaluation**

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ASSESSMENT OF EARLY SEPSIS IN CHILDREN BY PARENTS AND GENERAL PRACTITIONERS: AN EVALUATION

Latour, J. M., Bracefield, S., Sadler, P., O'Connor, A., & Endacott, R. (2016). Assessment of Early Sepsis in Children by Parents and General Practitioners: an Evaluation. In EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PEDIATRICS Vol. 175 (pp. 1558-1559).

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Background and Aim: Early recognition and treatment of paediatric sepsis influence survival of children. Two interventions are developed to assess early sepsis in children: Sepsis-Assessment-Management (SAM) leaflet for parents and a Desktop SAM application for General Practitioners (GPs). The aim was to evaluate the feasibility and pilot the implementation of the SAM leaflet and the Desktop SAM.

Methods: SAM leaflet was disseminated in south west England via the child health record held by parents and media campaigns. Desktop SAM was implemented at 12 GP practices. A mixed-method design was deployed: surveys with parents (n=77) and GPs (n=21), and interviews with GPs (n=8). Parents were recruited via social media; data collection was between April 2015 and November 2015.

Results: Awareness of SAM leaflet among parents was low (n=12, 16%). Those who used it were affirmative: *'Very useful for deciding whether to get further advice or not'*. Parents (n=66) responded positively to communication with GPs (52-74%). GPs using the Desktop SAM (n=15) rated positively on clinical-decision-making statements (54-77%). GP interviews revealed three themes: Desktop SAM Accessibility, Usability, and Value of SAM leaflet to

Parents. GPs' experiences and intuitions were challenged by the Desktop SAM; "I think it's intuitive isn't it... usually you can tell in first 15-20 seconds whether that child is sick or not..."

Conclusions: The SAM leaflet and Desktop SAM can play a key-role in recognising early sepsis and timely treatment of sick children. New approaches are needed to raise parental awareness of the SAM leaflet.



Fig. 1. SAM Leaflet 1

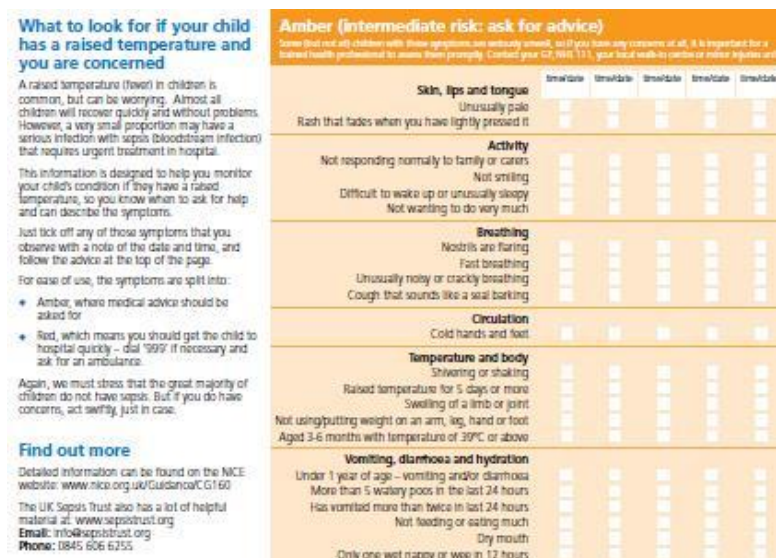


Fig. 2. SAM Leaflet 2

Table 1. Experiences of most recent contact with GP

	Very Good/ Good	Neither Good nor Poor	Poor/ Very Poor	Doesn't Apply
Giving you enough time (n=66)	76%	12%	11%	1%
Asking about your symptoms (n=66)	74%	14%	11%	1%
Listening to you (n=66)	70%	14%	15%	1%
Explaining tests and treatments (n=65)	52%	20%	19%	9%
Involving you in care decisions (n=66)	55%	24%	18%	3%
Treating you with care and concern (n=66)	69%	21%	9%	1%
Taking your problems seriously (n=66)	64%	14%	21%	1%

Table 2. Desktop SAM, decision-making and efficiency

n=13	no / not at all	yes / totally agree
Did the traffic light score assist you in making a diagnosis?	46%	54%
Did the traffic light score assist you in including or excluding sepsis as a differential diagnosis?	38%	62%
Did the traffic light score assist you in making your management decision?	38%	62%
Did the recording of the signs and symptoms assist in the efficiency of your consultation?	23%	77%