

New Approaches in Diagnosing Sepsis

**Eiman Mokaddas, MD, FRCPath
Professor of Clinical Microbiology
Faculty of Medicine
Kuwait University**

Outline

- Introduction
- Sepsis bundles
- Diagnosing sepsis
 - Molecular methods
- Experience from Kuwait

Introduction

Definition of sepsis

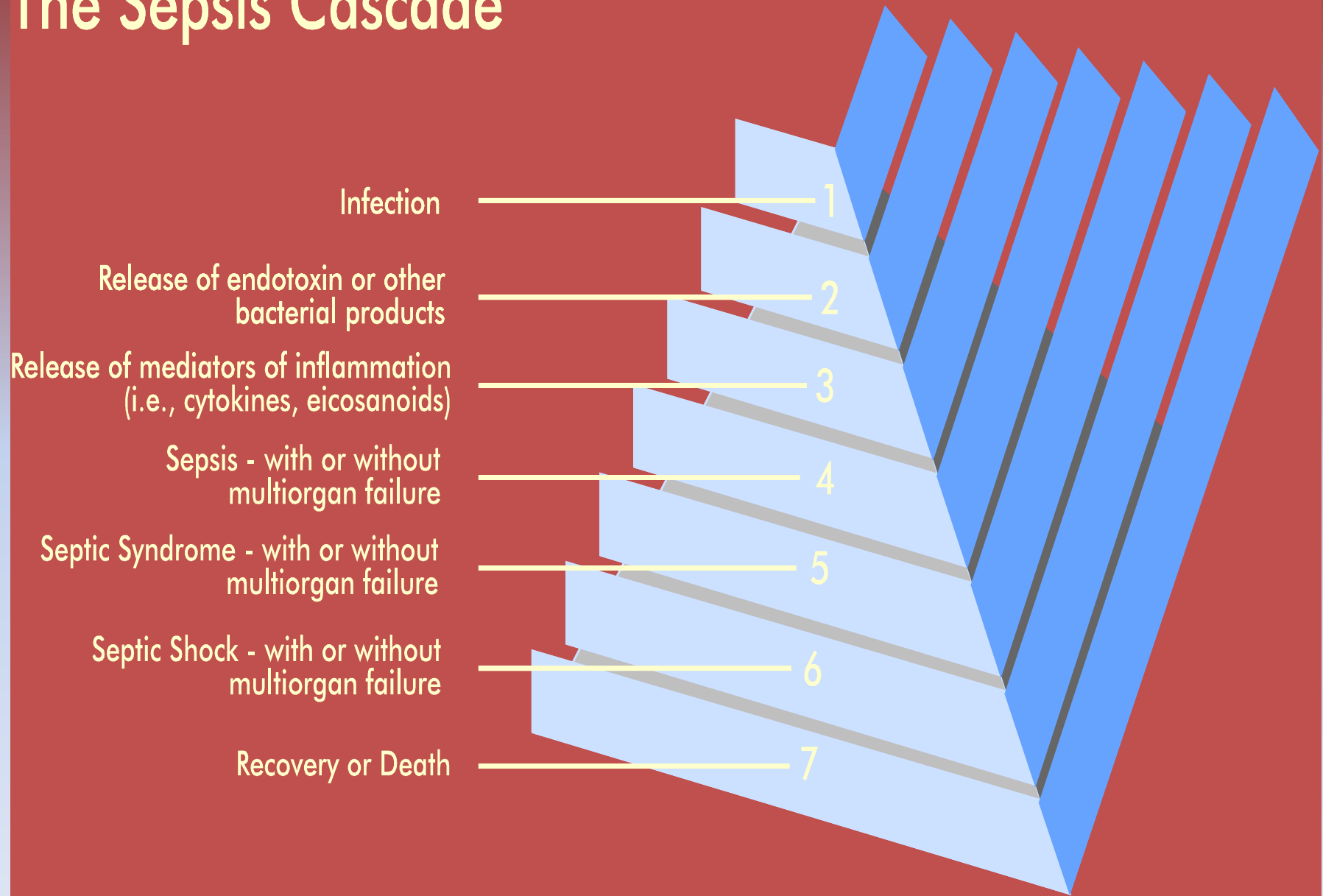
Sepsis is present, when an infectious focus has formed in the body from which the germs are disseminated and spread, so that a systemic response can be observed in peripheral organs!“

SEPSIS
=
Infection
+
Systemic inflammation

**Every 3-4 seconds
someone dies of
sepsis**

**Stop it
Spot it**

The Sepsis Cascade



Mortality rate increases with increasing severity

Mortality rate is:

Down scale in no time



→ 7% in patients with SIRS

→ 16% in patients with Sepsis

→ 20% in patients with Severe Sepsis

→ 46% in patients with Septic Shock

Rangel-Frausto et al. (JAMA 1995)

The World **Sep**sis Day

13th **Sep**tember



Diagnosing Sepsis

*We ought to spend more time to search for an **accurate diagnosis** rather than search for the **Magic Bullet** for the treatment of **Sepsis**"*

Roger Bone, 1996

**The Golden
Hour**

And

**The Silver
Day**

- Resuscitation bundle

- 6 hours



Golden hours

- Management bundle

- 24 hours



Silver day

How can we improve our laboratory service in the diagnosis of Sepsis??

DNA-based techniques

Rapid identification (within 2 hrs) after a positive blood culture signal

Evaluation of the comparative performance of Verigene Blood Culture Nucleic acid System to Conventional Techniques in a Tertiary-care Hospital in Kuwait

***Mokaddas EM, Behbehani A, Abdullah A, Shatti S**

- The Verigene Gram-positive and Gram negative Blood Culture (BC-GP, BC-GN)) system (Nanosphere, USA) is a qualitative multiplexed automated nucleic acid in vitro diagnostic test for the direct identification of Gram-positive and Gram negative bacteria and their genetic resistance markers.

Verigene BC-GP and BC-GN identifiable targets

Gram-Positive Blood Culture (BC – GP) Tests :

Genus	Staphylococcus Spp. Streptococcus Spp. Micrococcus Spp. Listeria Spp.	Species	S. aureus S. epidermidis S. lugdumensis
			S. pneumoniae S. anginosus. Group S. agalaticae
Resistance	Mec A. Van A. Van B.		S. pyogenes Enterococcus faecalis Enterococcus faecium

NB. Of the staphylococci only *S.aures*, *S. epidermidis* and *S. lugdumensis* can be identified as the other staphylococci are not present in the data base.

Targets	Organism/Gene	
Bacterial Targets	<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp.	
	<i>Citrobacter</i> spp.	
	<i>Enterobacter</i> spp.	
	<i>Proteus</i> spp.	
	<i>E. coli</i>	
	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	
	<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	
Resistance Marker	CTX-M	VIM
	KPC	IMP
	NDM	OXA (48/23/40/58)

N.B. *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* cannot be identified as it is not present in the data base

Objectives

- To evaluate the performance of Verigene (BC-GP and BC-GN) nucleic acid test for the direct identification of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria from positive blood culture bottles in comparison with Gene–Xpert system (Cephid, USA) for Gram-positive bacteria and with the conventional culture technique for both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria.
- To evaluate the performance of Verigene (**BC-GP**) for the detection of **resistant markers** directly from positive blood culture bottles in comparison with conventional culture technique.
- To evaluate the performance of Verigene (**BC-GN**) for the detection of **resistant markers** directly from positive blood culture bottles in comparison with conventional culture technique.

Materials and Methods

- All the demographic data including the age, sex, patient location, underlying clinical condition, clinical and laboratory data suggesting sepsis, initial empirical therapy, adjusted therapy and outcome of the patients were collected.
- **For Gram-positive bacteria:**
 - All blood culture bottles (Bactec, Bekton Dickinson, USA) showing Gram-positive cocci by Gram stain were processed in:
 - Verigene for BC-GP according to the manufacturer's instructions
 - GeneXpert (Cepheid, USA) for BC-GP (only for Gram-positive cocci in clusters)
 - All the positive blood culture bottles were simultaneously cultured by conventional methods for both ID as well as susceptibility using Vitek II, and Vitek MS (Biomerioux, France)

Materials and Methods

- **For Gram-negative bacteria:**
 - All blood culture bottles showing Gram-negative bacilli by Gram stain were processed in:
 - Verigene for BC-GN according to the manufacturer's instructions
 - All the positive blood culture bottles were simultaneously cultured by conventional methods for both ID as well as susceptibility using Vitek II, and Vitek MS
- A total of 11 QC strains of different streptococci were included in the evaluation

Results

A. Gram-positive

A total of 63 patients with positive blood culture for Gram-positive cocci were included in the evaluation

Table 1: Comparison between results of Verigine and conventional culture for Gram-positive bacteria

Gram-positive	Virigine	Conventional culture
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	16	16
<i>S.epidermidis</i>	19	17
<i>S.homonis</i>	0	1
<i>S.hemolyticus</i>	0	3
Other Staphylococci	9	6
<i>Enterococcus fecalis</i>	9	9
<i>Enterococcus fecium</i>	4	4
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	2	2
<i>Streptococcus mitis</i>	1	2
<i>Streptococcus spp.</i>	2	1
<i>Micrococcus spp.</i>	1	0

Table 2: Comparison between results of Verigine and conventional culture for 11 QC strains

Gram-positive cocci (QC strains)	Verigine	Conventional	% Concordance
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	3	3	100
<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	4	4	100
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	3	3	100
<i>Enterococcus fecium</i>	1	1	100

Table 3: Comparison between Verigine, Cepheid Gene Xpert and conventional culture for *Staphylococcus* spp.

<i>Staphylococcus</i> spp.	Verigine	Gene Xpert	Conventional culture	% Concordance
Methicillin sensitive <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	8	8	8	100
<i>S.epidermidis</i>	12	12	12	100
<i>S.homonis</i>	1	1	1	100
<i>S.hemolyticus</i>	2	2	2	100

Table 4: Comparison between Verigine and conventional culture for detection of resistance markers for *Staphylococcus* spp.

Conventional Culture	Verigine	
	Mec A negative	Mec A positive
Methicillin sensitive <i>staphylococcus aureus</i>	TN 11	FP 2
MRSA	FN 2	TP 1
Methicillin-resistant coagulase-negative Staphylococci	0	TP 15

Table 5: Comparison between Verigine and conventional culture for detection of resistance markers for *Enterococcus* spp.

Conventional Culture	Verigine	
	VAN A and B negative	VAN A and B positive
Vancomycin sensitive <i>Enterococcus fecalis</i>	TN 9	0
Vancomycin-sensitive <i>Enterococcus fecium</i>	2	0
Vancomycin-resistant <i>Enterococcus fecium</i>	FN 2	0

A total of 63 patients with positive blood culture for Gram-negative bacilli were included in the evaluation

Table 6: Comparison between results of Verigine and conventional culture for Gram-negative bacteria

Gram negative	Verigine	Conventional culture	% Concordance
<i>E.coli</i>	24	24	100
<i>Acinitobacter spp.</i>	15	15	100
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	8	8	100
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	7	7	100
<i>Pseudomonas oryzihabitans</i>	1	1	100
<i>Enterobacter spp.</i>	2	2	100
<i>Proteus spp.</i>	1	1	100
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	1	1	100

Table 8: Impact of rapid identification of Gram-positive bacteria on the modification of the empirical antibiotic

Antimicrobial stewardship

Gram positive bacteria	Change antibiotic	Same antibiotic	Stop antibiotic
<i>Staphylococcus</i> spp.	11	16	14
<i>Enterococcus</i> spp.	0	0	13
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	0	0	2
<i>Streptococcus mitis</i>	0	0	0

Table 9: Impact of rapid identification of Gram-negative bacteria on the modification of the empirical antibiotic therapy

Gram- negative bacteria	antibiotic therapy		Continue same antibiotic
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>			21
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	0	3	4
<i>Acinetobacter spp.</i>	0	6	9

Antimicrobial stewardship

Conclusion

- Verigene BC can be used for the **rapid identification of Gram-positive bacteria and their resistance markers from positive blood bottles.**
- The **time to detection** of resistance is **less than** that of conventional culture.
- **Modification** of the Verigene BC system allowing the rapid identification of Gram-positive bacteria and their resistance markers directly from positive blood cultures.
- Rapid molecular methods used to identify both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria directly from positive blood culture bottles in septic patients greatly helps the implementation of antimicrobial stewardship programs in the process to encourage rational use of antimicrobial agents with subsequent reduction in antibiotic resistance as well as cost.

**Will be introduced
into Kuwait by end
of the year**

Acknowledgement



Conclusion

Diagnosing Sepsis

Tomorrow is too late!!!

Sepsis is an Emergency

**Sepsis is a potentially fatal condition
caused by the body's immune system**

**This is more than lung cancer
And more than breast cancer
and colon cancer combined**

**Sepsis claims the lives of 37,000
people in the UK each year**

**Sepsis is not a condition that
is spoken about a lot**

**When find out the full extent of the
severity of it,
it is fearing**

**Thousands dying of sepsis because of poor
NHS care**

Its Time to act

**The delays are causing almost 13,000 deaths
of sepsis needlessly a year (UK)**

**Unfair while we are in the 21st century
to carry out diagnostic tests that**

Tomorrow is too late

Even for 24 hrs

Thank you