
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH AND CONVENE A
SEPSIS BEST PRACTICES GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, sepsis is a serious medical condition caused by an
2 overwhelming immune response to bacterial infection, whereby
3 immune chemicals released into the blood to combat infection
4 trigger widespread inflammation; and

5
6 WHEREAS, sepsis can lead to shock, organ failure, and
7 death; and

8
9 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
10 indicates that sepsis kills more than 258,000 Americans each
11 year and leaves thousands of survivors with life-changing after
12 effects; and

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14 WHEREAS, there are over 1,000,000 cases of sepsis in the
15 United States each year, with sepsis being the ninth-leading
16 cause of disease-related death in the nation; and

17
18 WHEREAS, patients hospitalized for sepsis or septicemia had
19 longer lengths of stay and more than an eight-fold increase in
20 in-hospital mortality than patients hospitalized for other
21 diagnoses; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the current outbreak of dengue fever in Hawaii
24 County further necessitates heightened attention to sepsis, as
25 dengue shock syndrome is a type of sepsis; and

26
27 WHEREAS, dengue shock syndrome occurs due to the dengue
28 virus that causes abdominal pain, hemorrhage, and circulatory
29 collapse or shock, which can cause multi-organ failure; and
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1 WHEREAS, the threat of mortality for both septic shock and
2 dengue shock syndrome are higher in children and the elderly,
3 who have weaker immune systems; and
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5 WHEREAS, in 2014, the Legislature recognized the
6 seriousness of sepsis and requested the convening of a task
7 force to recommend ways to reduce incidents of sepsis and
8 sepsis-related deaths in the State; and
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10 WHEREAS, in its January 2015 report to the Legislature, the
11 State of Hawaii Sepsis Task Force "concluded that the optimal
12 approach to work towards early recognition of sepsis and
13 reducing sepsis deaths across the [S]tate is to regularly
14 convene experts from Hawaii's acute care hospitals in a Sepsis
15 Best Practice[s] Group"; now, therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
19 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Director of
20 Health is requested to establish a Sepsis Best Practices Group;
21 and
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health invite
24 one physician champion and one administrative representative
25 from each of Hawaii's acute care hospitals to become members of
26 the Sepsis Best Practices Group; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sepsis Best Practices Group
29 engage in the following tasks recommended by the State of Hawaii
30 Sepsis Task Force:
31

- 32 (1) Meet regularly to discuss best practices, educational
33 opportunities, and emerging federal sepsis policies
34 and regulations, as well as recommend implementation
35 of best practices, as necessary;
36
- 37 (2) Facilitate the performance of a sepsis improvement
38 needs-assessment within each facility so that
39 facilities can best determine resource allocation;
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- 41 (3) Monitor the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
42 Services' consideration of National Quality Forum



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1 measure #0500 and address the impact that the measure
2 is likely to have on Hawaii hospitals if adopted;

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4 (4) Work towards defining a more representative sepsis
5 incidence baseline in the State through administrative
6 or clinical data;

7
8 (5) Partner with each acute care hospital's associated
9 critical access hospital to disseminate current best
10 practices regarding early recognition and intervention
11 in sepsis; and

12
13 (6) Encourage the adoption of sepsis educational materials
14 and initiatives by facilities; and

15
16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and
17 recommendations of the Sepsis Best Practices Group be
18 considered, and incorporated as feasible, as part of a
19 comprehensive plan to be developed by the Department of Health
20 to combat sepsis; and

21
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sepsis Best Practices Group
23 is requested to submit a written report of its findings and
24 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
25 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
26 the Regular Session of 2017; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:

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