

# Data Pulse

April 2018

## Severe Sepsis: In-Hospital Mortality

Sepsis is a leading cause of death that is caused by the body's response to unmonitored infections. It impacts over 1.5 million people in the United States, yearly (CDC Basic Information: Sepsis, updated September 2016; CDC Vital Signs 2016). Sepsis is a preventable, life-threatening, medical condition for which the number of cases and deaths has increased over the past several years. If not treated properly, it can result in a severe condition with multiple organ failure (severe sepsis) and death.

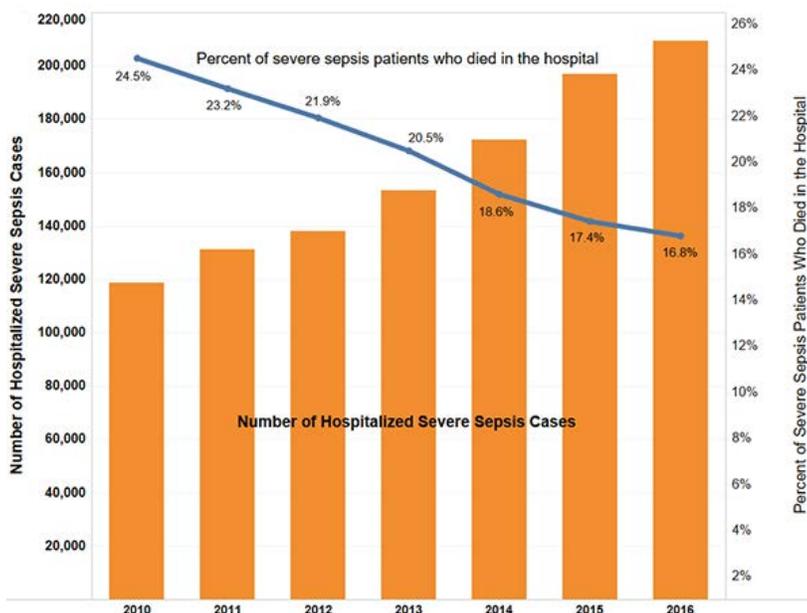
This Data Pulse presents the number of severe sepsis cases, percent hospital-acquired severe sepsis cases, and the percent of in-hospital severe sepsis deaths from 2010 to 2016.

### Key Findings:

- ◆ The number of severe sepsis cases has nearly doubled from 2010 to 2016 (Figure 1).
- ◆ The majority of severe sepsis cases are not hospital-acquired (Figure 2).
- ◆ The percent of non-hospital-acquired severe cases has increased by 91 percent (Figure 2).
- ◆ The percent of in-hospital deaths for severe sepsis has dropped by 45.9 percent (Figure 1).

The percent of severe sepsis in-hospital deaths has decreased, while the number of severe sepsis cases has increased.

**Figure 1. Number of Hospitalized Severe Sepsis and Percent of Severe Sepsis Patients who Died in the Hospital, 2010-2016**



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### Information About Sepsis

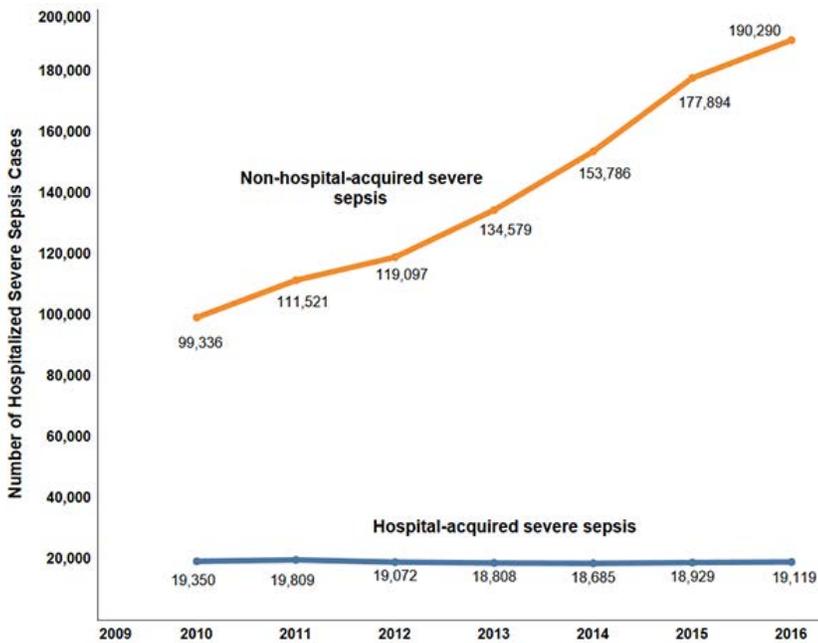
The following symptoms are signs of sepsis: shivering, fever, or very cold; extreme pain or discomfort, clammy or sweaty skin, confusion or disorientation, shortness of breath, and high heart rate (CDC Making Health Care Safer, updated July 2017; CDC Vital Signs 2016).

Sepsis can be acquired while a patient is hospitalized for another illness or procedure; these are referred to as hospital-acquired cases. Hospitals are making progress in preventing hospital-acquired severe sepsis.

To reduce the number of hospital-acquired severe sepsis cases, the CDC recommends training healthcare providers and educating the public to recognize the signs and symptoms of sepsis.

The number of hospital-acquired severe sepsis cases has remained constant over the past several years, while the number of non-hospital-acquired severe sepsis cases has increased. Therefore, the majority of severe sepsis cases are acquired outside of the hospital.

**Figure 2. Number of Hospital-Acquired Severe Sepsis and Non-Hospital-Acquired Severe Sepsis Cases, 2010-2016**



California’s Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) is the leader in collecting data and disseminating information about California’s healthcare infrastructure. OSHPD promotes an equitably distributed healthcare workforce, and publishes valuable information about healthcare outcomes.

OSHPD also monitors the construction, renovation, and seismic safety of hospitals and skilled nursing facilities and provides loan insurance to assist the capital needs of California’s not-for-profit healthcare facilities.

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**Data source**

California Patient Discharge Data 2010-2016, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)



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