

# Overview of Clinical and Basic Science in Sepsis Diagnosis and Definitions

Manu Shankar-Hari  
NIHR Clinician Scientist

 <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/shankar-hari-group>

 [manu.shankar-hari@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:manu.shankar-hari@kcl.ac.uk)  @msh\_manu



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# Acknowledgements and Disclaimers

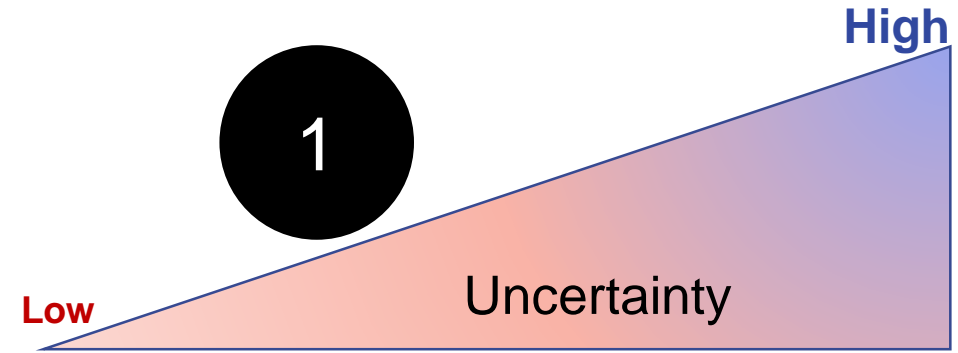
- Research funding  
Primary = NIHR Clinician Scientist Award



- Department of Health disclaimer  
The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.
- No COI directly relevant to this talk

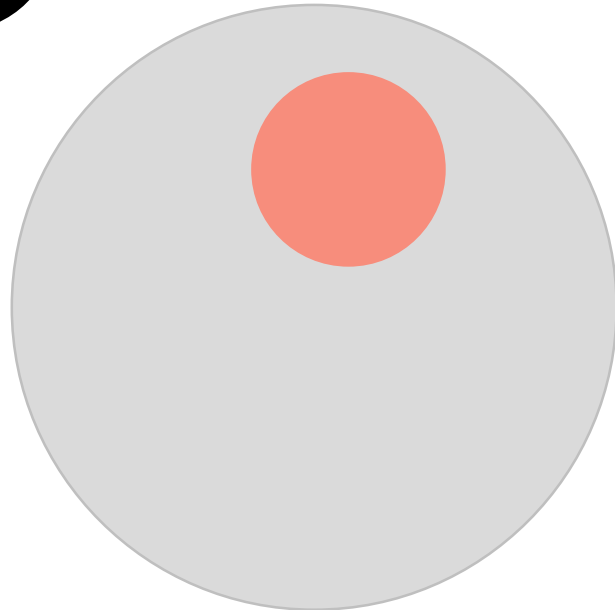
Why?

# Infection



Uncomplicated

2



Sepsis

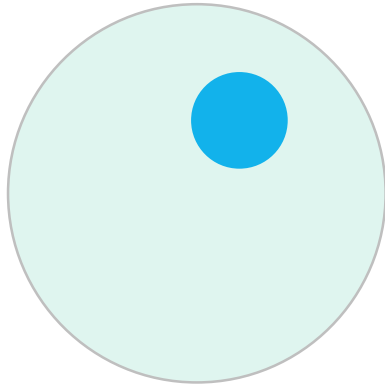
# Organ dysfunction (e.g. SOFA score)

1

Less  
uncertainty

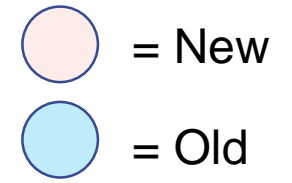
2

Not causal



Causal

# Potential impact-1

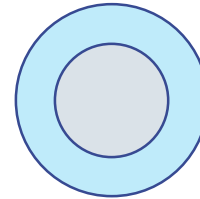
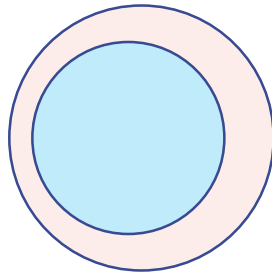


Increase

Decrease

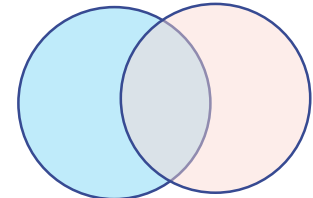
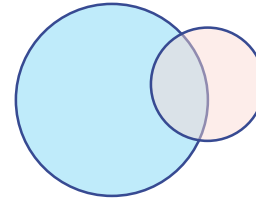
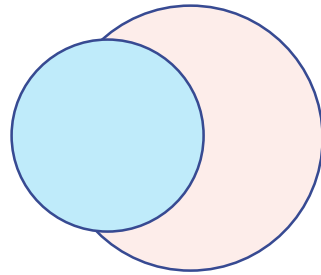
No change

Same TEST,  
Change in threshold

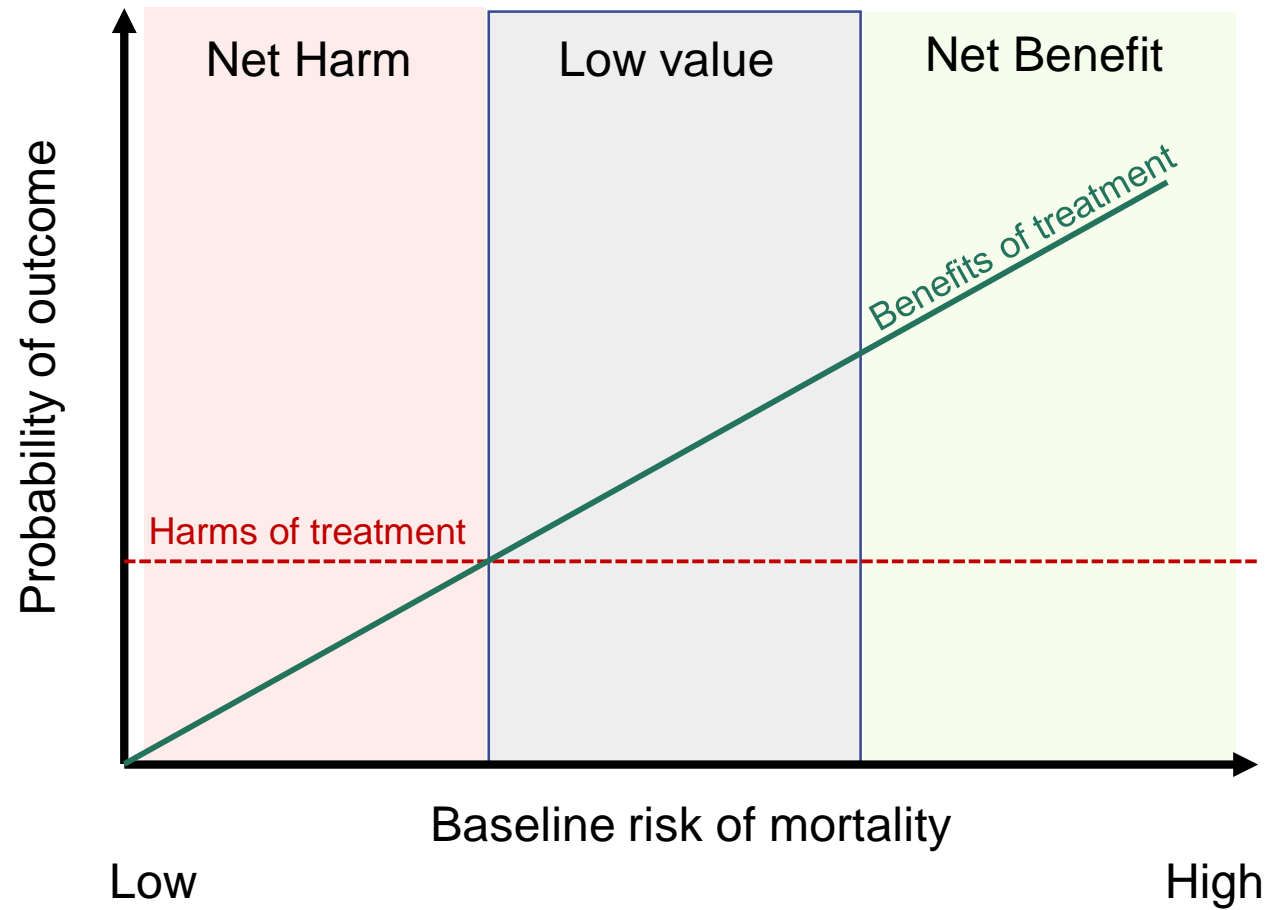


Not applicable

New TEST



# Potential Impact-2



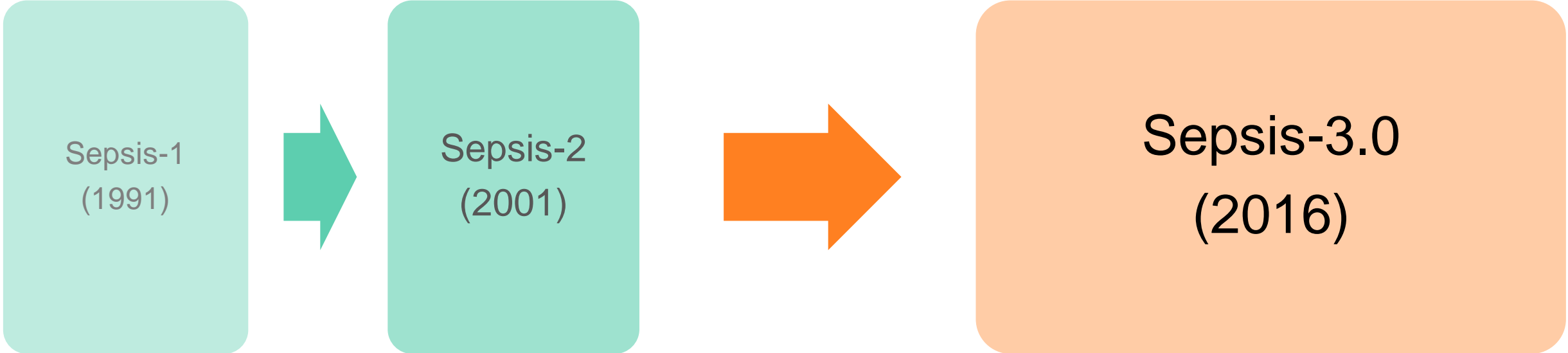
# Goals = Overview of

1. Sepsis definitions and criteria
2. Biology of sepsis





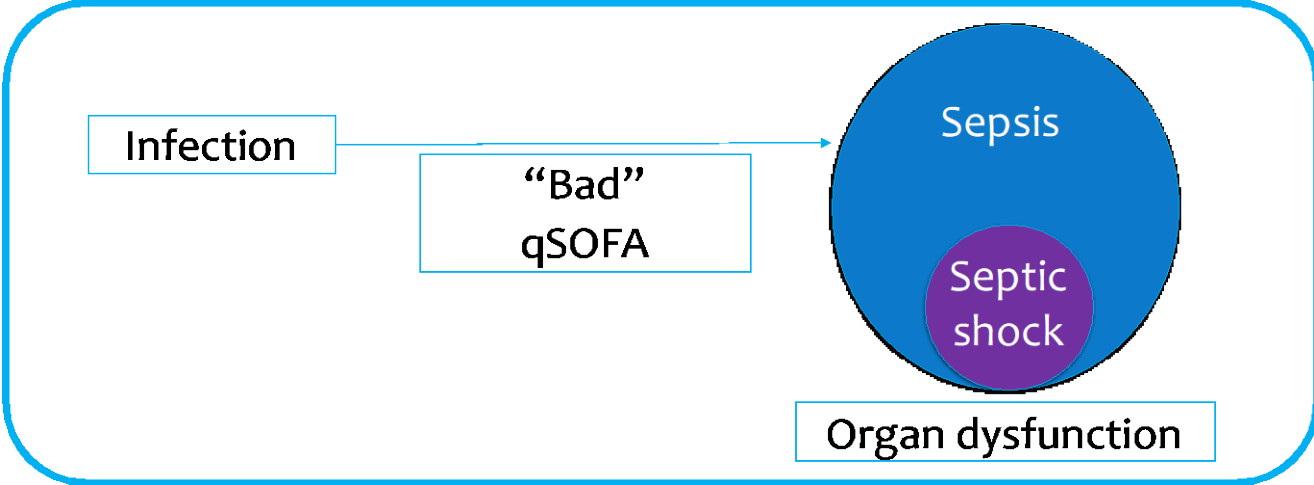
# Sepsis definitions and criteria



ck.<sup>7-12</sup> An additional source of confusion has application of the terms *sepsis* and *septic* to noninfectious inflammatory states.<sup>13,14</sup> Editorials and position papers have recently provided a framework for the standardization and simplification of this terminology.<sup>13,15-17</sup> To these processes, this consensus conference recommends for the standardization of terminology. Standardization of terminology is necessary to avoid confusion in communication for both clinicians and researchers concerning sepsis and its sequelae. Standardizing terms, such as *sepsis*, the comparison of protocols and evaluation of therapeutic interventions is significantly improved. The following recommendations should be used as general guidelines in the future investigations into potential new diagnostic and treatment modalities.

**Recommendation 1**  
The term *sepsis*, in popular usage, implies a clinical syndrome arising from infection. It is apparent that a

not limited to, more than one of the following manifestations: (1) a body temperature  $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $\leq 36^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; (2) a heart rate  $\geq 90$  beats per minute; (3) tachypnea, major respiratory rate greater than 20 breaths per minute or hyperventilation, as indicated by a  $\text{pCO}_2$  less than 32 mm Hg; and (4) an alteration in white blood cell count, such as a count greater than 12,000/cu mm, a count less than 4,000/cu mm, or of more than 10 percent immature ("bands"). These physiologic changes show an acute alteration from baseline in the absence of other known causes for such abnormal findings. **Rationale:** The systemic inflammatory response seen in association with a large number of conditions. Besides the infectious insult, noninfectious pathologies include pancreatitis, ischemia, multiple trauma, tissue injury, hemorrhagic shock, immune organ injury, and the exogenous administration of putative mediators of the inflammatory response.



Sepsis-3

Differences between Sepsis-2 vs Sepsis-3

# Differences between Sepsis-3 vs Sepsis-2

- Definitions and explicit data-driven\* criteria
  - Definitions = Illness description or concept
  - Criteria = Clinical & lab variables
- Terminology simplified
  - SIRS discarded
  - 'Severe' discarded
  - Septic shock explicitly made a subset of sepsis

# Differences between Sepsis-3 vs Sepsis-2

- Sepsis-3 'Sepsis'
  - Definition =  
life-threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to infection
  - Criteria =  
suspected or proven infection + change in SOFA score  $\geq 2$  points

Sepsis 2.0 severe sepsis == Sepsis 3.0 'sepsis'

# Differences between Sepsis-3 vs Sepsis-2

- Sepsis-2 “Septic shock”
  - Definition = a state of acute circulatory failure characterized by persistent arterial hypotension unexplained by other causes
  - Criteria =

Developing a New Definition and Assessing New Clinical Criteria for Septic Shock  
For the Third International Consensus Definitions for Sepsis and Septic Shock (Sepsis-3)

Manu Shankar-Hari, MD, MSc; Gary S. Phillips, MAS; Mitchell L. Levy, MD; Christopher W. Seymour, MD, MSc; Vincent X. Liu, MD, MSc; Clifford S. Deutschman, MD; Derek C. Angus, MD, MPH; Gordon D. Rubenfeld, MD, MSc; Mervyn Singer, MD, FRCP; for the Sepsis Definitions Task Force

Septic Shock Case Definition Criteria <sup>a</sup>	No. <sup>b</sup>	Mortality, No. of Events/ No. of Patients (%) [95% CI] <sup>c</sup>
Consensus definitions cited (no description)	7	4954/9590 (51.6) [46.3-56.9]
Hypotension	6	15 003/51 976 (39.8) [30.1-49.5]
Hypotension + perfusion abnormalities and/or vasopressor therapy	3	830/1323 (63.3) [48.3-78.4]
Hypotension + vasopressor therapy	11	18 446/32 095 (48.9) [40.5-57.4]
Hypotension + vasopressor therapy + serum lactate level >2 mmol/L	1	3602/8520 (42.3) [41.2-43.3]
Hypotension + perfusion abnormalities + vasopressor therapy	3	4175/8972 (47.0) [45.0-49.0]
Hypotension ± vasopressor therapy or metabolic abnormalities	1	75/324 (23.1) [18.6-27.7]
Hypotension or vasopressor therapy	13	1286/2971 (48.4) [41.3-55.5]
Hypotension or serum lactate any value or vasopressor therapy	2	7383/21 376 (33.9) [31.8-36.0]
<i>International Classification of Diseases</i> codes	3	13 843/28 055 (38.9) [22.5-55.2]
Serum lactate level >4 mmol/L	2	461/1277 (38.3) [21.5-55.1]
Overall	52	70 058/166 479 (46.5) [42.7-50.3]

# Differences between Sepsis-3 vs Sepsis-2

- Sepsis-3 'Septic shock'
  - Definition =  
as a subset of sepsis in which underlying circulatory, cellular, and metabolic abnormalities are associated with a greater risk of mortality than sepsis alone
  - Criteria =  
hypotension requiring vasopressor therapy to maintain mean BP 65 mm Hg or greater and having a serum lactate level greater than 2 mmol/L after adequate fluid resuscitation

## qSOFA

Amongst patients with suspected or proven infection, who are at risk of bad outcomes?



# qSOFA

Sepsis =

life threatening organ dysfunction caused by a dysregulated host response to infection



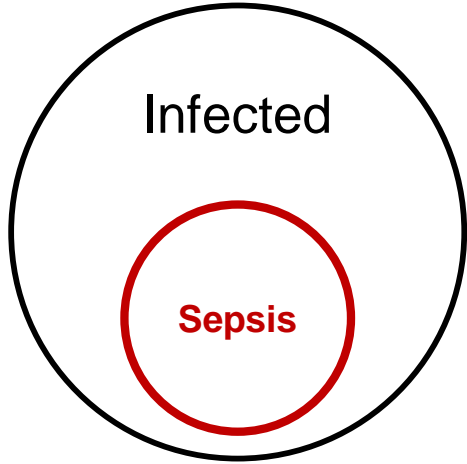
Among encounters with  
suspected infection,



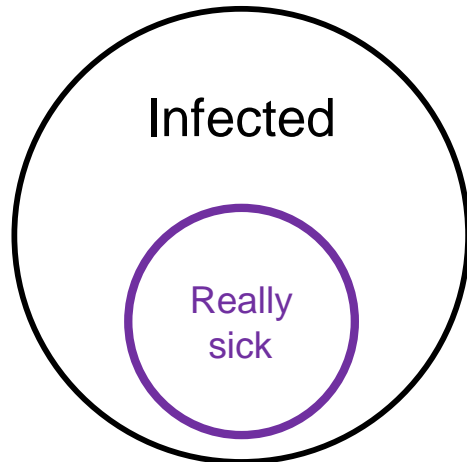
who is sick?

qSOFA = Identifies 'BAD'

qSOFA IS **NOT** Criteria for infection



- There are no gold standard test(s) for or clinical feature(s) of **sepsis**



- “Really sick” is a proxy
- More common among infected patients who are septic than those who are not
  - **Death in the hospital**
  - **Prolonged stay in the ICU >3 days**

# qSOFA = Identifies 'BAD'

- Studied 21 variables from Sepsis-2
- Multivariable logistic regression for in-hospital mortality



Respiratory rate  $\geq 22$  bpm



Altered mentation



Systolic blood pressure  $\leq 100$  mmHg

# Sepsis Biology

# Sepsis immunobiology

Avoidance

Resistance

- To reduce pathogen burden



Immune responses

Tolerance

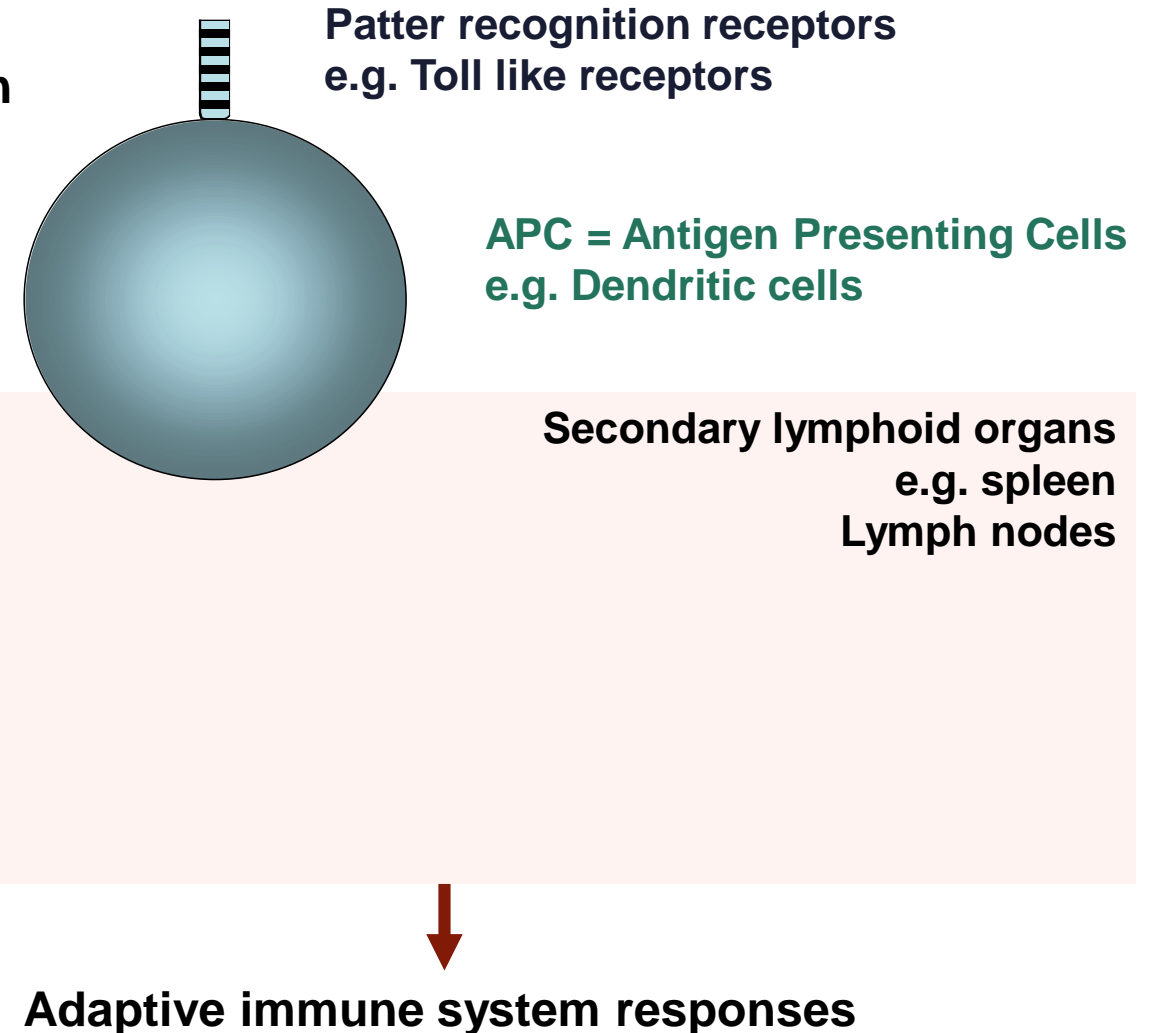
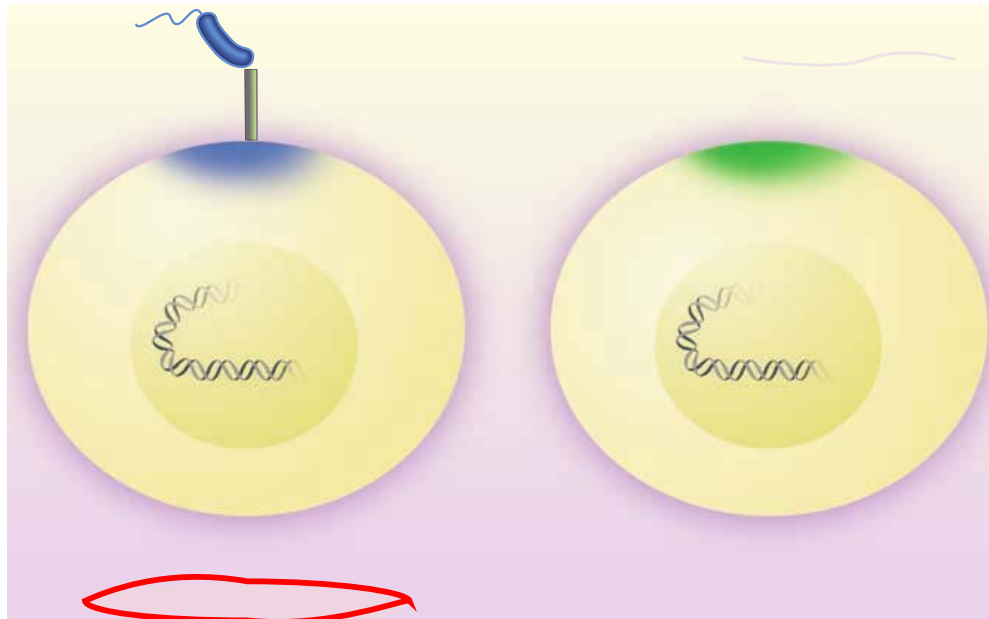
- To reduce negative impact of infection on host fitness



Minimise damage

- Pathogen-induced
- Immune response induced

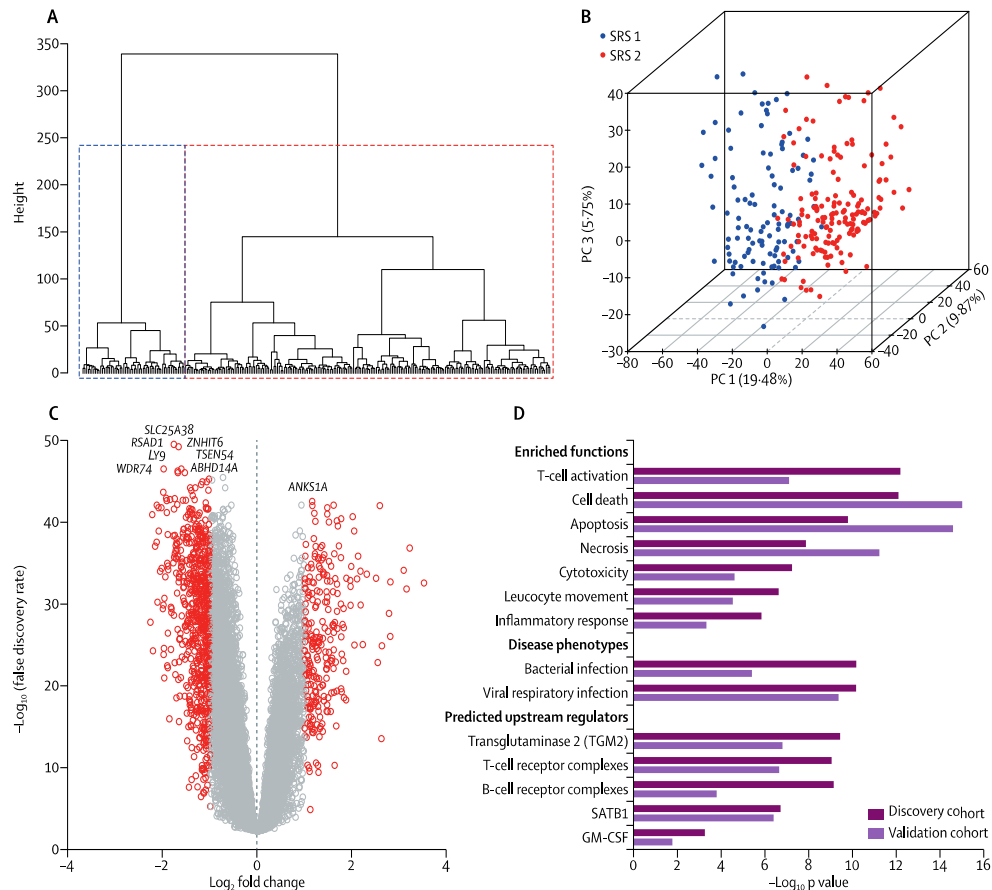
# Sepsis biology - resistance



# Immune responses in sepsis $\neq$ infection

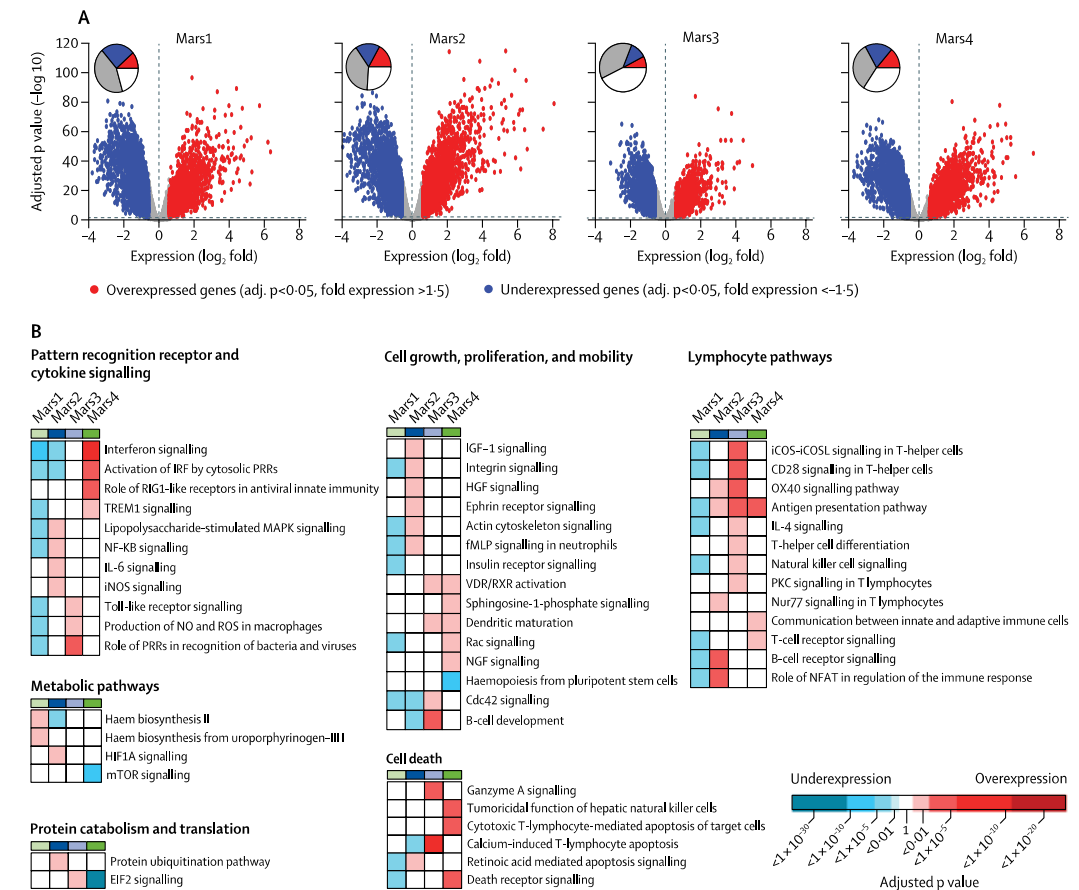
## Genomic landscape of the individual host response and outcomes in sepsis: a prospective cohort study

Emma E Davenport, Katie L Burnham\*, Jayachandran Radhakrishnan\*, Peter Humberg, Paula Hutton, Tara C Mills, Anna Rautanen, Anthony C Gordon, Christopher Garrard, Adrian V S Hill, Charles J Hinds, Julian C Knight

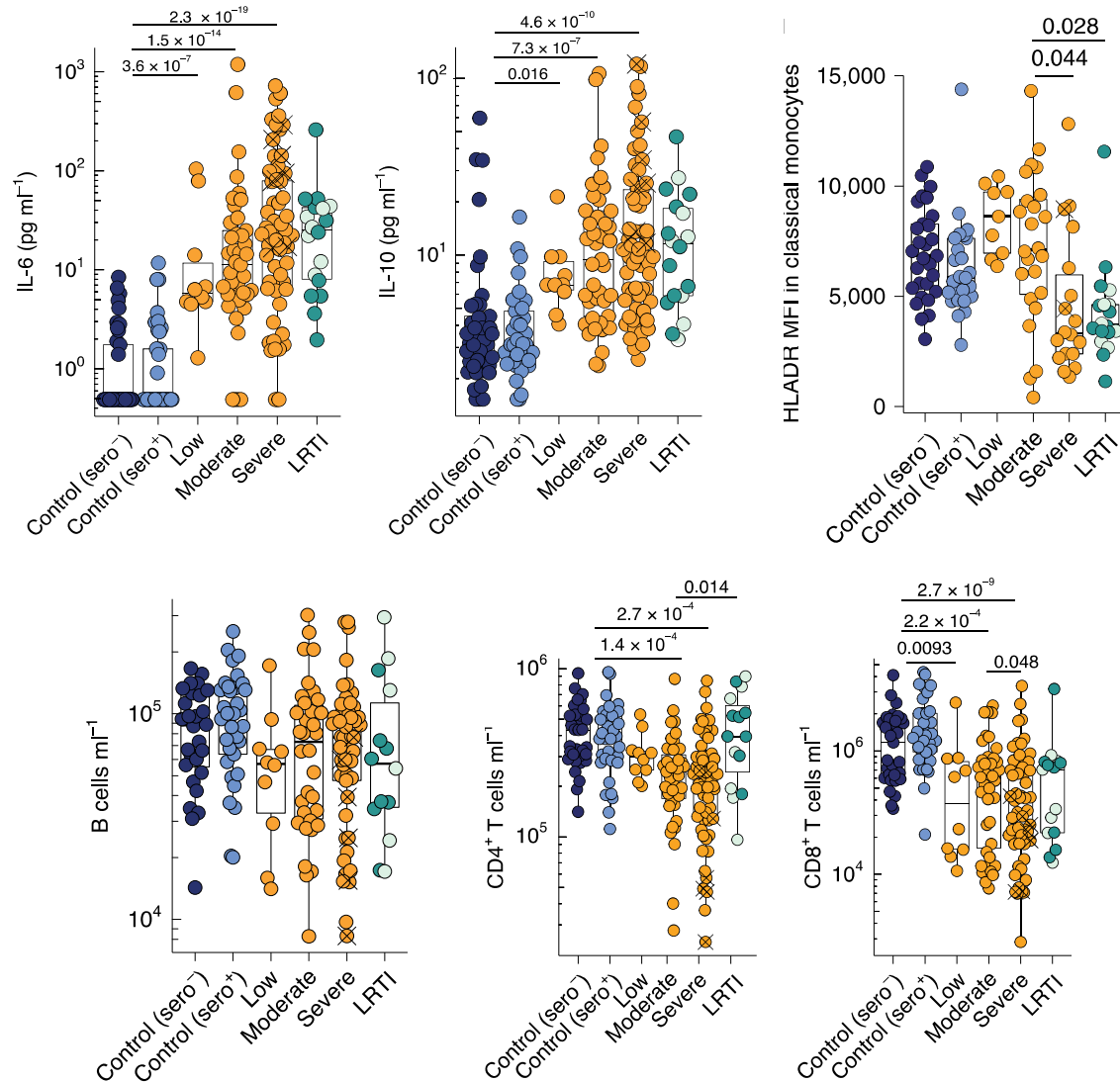


## Classification of patients with sepsis according to blood genomic endotype: a prospective cohort study

Brendon P Scicluna, Lonneke A van Vught, Aeilko H Zwinderman, Maryse A Wiewel, Emma E Davenport, Katie L Burnham, Peter Nürnberg, Marcus J Schultz, Janneke Horn, Olaf L Cremer, Marc J Bonten, Charles J Hinds, Hector R Wong, Julian C Knight, Tom van der Poll, on behalf of the MARS consortium\*



# Sepsis is not always 'bacterial' infection

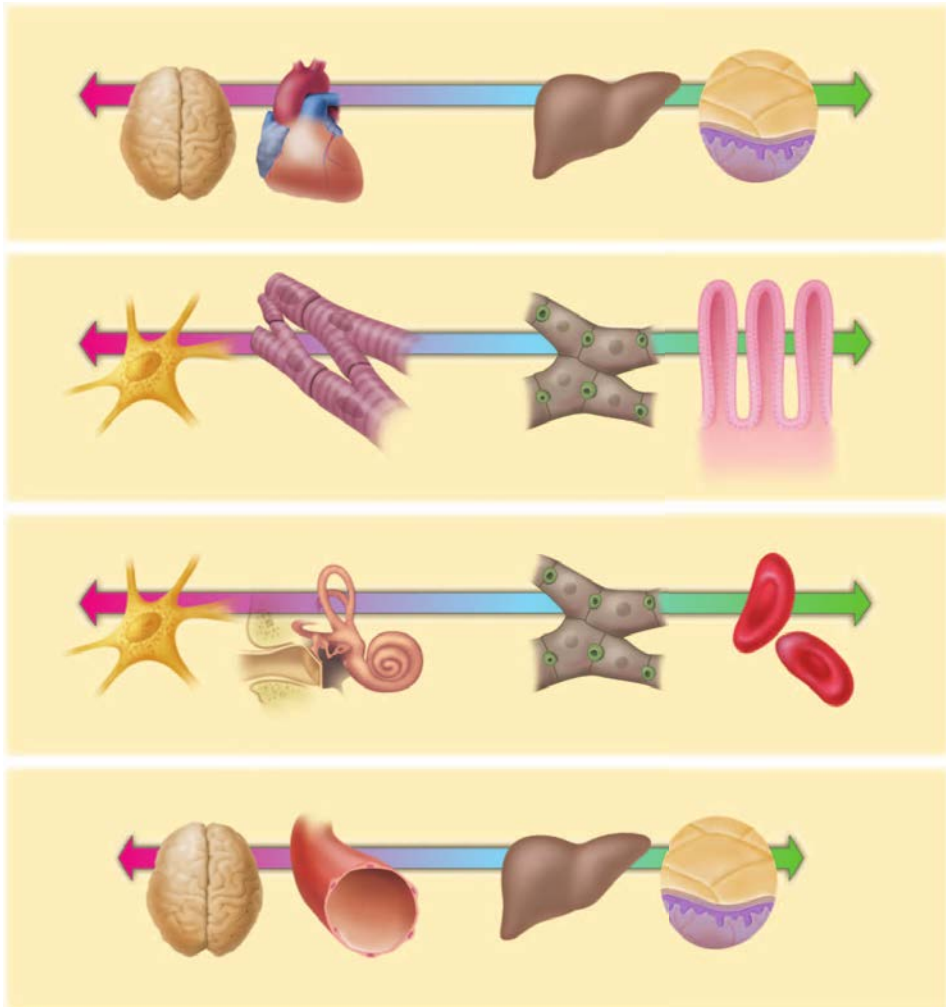


## A dynamic COVID-19 immune signature includes associations with poor prognosis

Adam G. Laing<sup>1,19</sup>, Anna Lorenc<sup>1,19</sup>, Irene del Molino del Barrio<sup>1,2,19</sup>, Abhishek Das<sup>1,3,19</sup>, Matthew Fish<sup>1,4,19</sup>, Leticia Monin<sup>5,19</sup>, Miguel Muñoz-Ruiz<sup>5,19</sup>, Duncan R. McKenzie<sup>5,19</sup>, Thomas S. Hayday<sup>1,19</sup>, Isaac Francos-Quijorna<sup>6,19</sup>, Shraddha Kamdar<sup>1,19</sup>, Magdalene Joseph<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Davies<sup>1,7</sup>, Richard Davis<sup>1</sup>, Aislinn Jennings<sup>1,4</sup>, Iva Zlatareva<sup>1</sup>, Pierre Vantourout<sup>1</sup>, Yin Wu<sup>1,2,5</sup>, Vasiliki Sofra<sup>1</sup>, Florencia Cano<sup>5</sup>, Maria Greco<sup>5</sup>, Efstathios Theodoridis<sup>1</sup>, Joshua Freedman<sup>1</sup>, Sarah Gee<sup>1</sup>, Julie Nuo En Chan<sup>8</sup>, Sarah Ryan<sup>9</sup>, Eva Bugallo-Blanco<sup>8</sup>, Pärt Peterson<sup>10</sup>, Kai Kisand<sup>10</sup>, Liis Haljasmägi<sup>10</sup>, Loubna Chadli<sup>11</sup>, Philippe Moingeon<sup>11</sup>, Lauren Martinez<sup>12</sup>, Blair Merrick<sup>13</sup>, Karen Bisnauthsing<sup>13</sup>, Kate Brooks<sup>12</sup>, Mohammad A. A. Ibrahim<sup>14</sup>, Jeremy Mason<sup>15</sup>, Federico Lopez Gomez<sup>15</sup>, Kola Babalola<sup>15</sup>, Sultan Abdul-Jawad<sup>8</sup>, John Cason<sup>16,17</sup>, Christine Mant<sup>16,17</sup>, Jeffrey Seow<sup>16</sup>, Carl Graham<sup>16</sup>, Katie J. Doores<sup>16</sup>, Francesca Di Rosa<sup>18</sup>, Jonathan Edgeworth<sup>13</sup>, Manu Shankar-Hari<sup>1,4</sup> ✉ and Adrian C. Hayday<sup>1,5</sup> ✉



# Sepsis biology - Tolerance



Although tissues generally tend to fall at the same ends of the four spectra, the four characteristics do not necessarily correlate with each other.

- Intrinsic damage susceptibility
- Renewal capacity
- Repair capacity
- Functional autonomy
- Damage sequelae

## Disease Tolerance as a Defense Strategy

Ruslan Medzhitov *et al.*  
*Science* **335**, 936 (2012);  
DOI: 10.1126/science.1214935

# Summary (Problems to tackle)

- Increase certainty of infection diagnosis
- Identify risk of
  - Infection
  - Sepsis in infected
- Ensure organ dysfunction is *caused* by infection

