

Septicemia

The presence of infective agents or their toxins in the bloodstream, popularly known as blood poisoning. It is characterized by elevated body temperature, chills, and weakness. Small abscesses may form on the surface of the body and red and blue streaks become apparent along the pathway of surface blood vessels leading to and from the site of the primary infection. A blood culture confirms the diagnosis and helps identify the most effective anti-infective drug for therapy. This is a serious condition that must be treated promptly; otherwise the process of infection leads to circulatory collapse, profound shock, and death.

Septicemia pose a significant burden for neurosurgery **intensive care unit** patients, and increased duration of **central venous catheter** insertion is a significant risk factor ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Mehndiratta MM, Nayak R, Ali S, Sharma A. Bloodstream infections in NNICU: Blight on ICU stay. Ann Indian Acad Neurol. 2016 Jul-Sep;19(3):327-31. doi: 10.4103/0972-2327.179983. PubMed PMID: 27570383; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4980954.

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