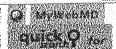


# investigational Therapy For Metastatic Melanoma

# WebMD Health









Q MyHealthRecord

60

#### **WebMD Today**

Home and News
Today's Live Events
Health TV
MyHealthRecord

#### **Medical Info**

Diseases and Conditions
Family Genetics
Self-Care
Drugs and Herbs
Medical Library
Clinical Trials

#### Health and Wellness

Living Better
Parenting and Pregnancy
Food and Nutrition
Dean Omish, MD Lifestyle
Sports and Fitness
Health-E-Tools
Shopping on WebMD

#### WebMD Member Services

Member Communities WebMD Live Events Health Risk Appraisal Edit My Profile

#### My Healthcare

Find a Doctor, Clinic... Find Health Insurance Healthcare News & Info My Health Plan

#### **About WebMD**

Our Credentials
Privacy, Ethics & You
Our Partners
Our Sponsors
Our Content Affiliates
Site Map

#### You are in Medical Library . Topics include:

<u>Diseases Injuries Nutrition Poisons</u> <u>Surgery Symptoms Tests</u>

# Septic shock

<u>doc</u> Prir

adam.com

Em arti frie

frie

Rel

#### Alternative Names

bacteremic shock

#### Definition

A serious, abnormal condition that occurs when blood flow through the body is insufficient resulting in low blood pressure and decreased urine output. It is caused by an overwhelming infection.

[Alternative Names] [Definition] [Causes, Incidence and Risk Factors]

[Symptoms] [Signs And Tests] [Treatment] [Expectations (Prognosis)]

[Complications] [Calling Your Health Care Provider] [Prevention]

#### Causes, Incidence and Risk Factors

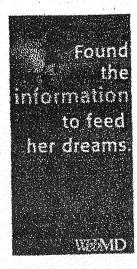
Septic shock occurs more often in the very old and the very young and in people with other underlying illnesses. Many bacterial organisms can cause septic shock. <u>Toxins</u> released by bacteria can cause tissue damage and interfere with normal blood circulation.

The risk factors include underlying illnesses such as <u>diabetes</u>; hematologic cancers; and diseases of the genitourinary system, liver or <u>biliary system</u>, and intestinal system. Other risk factors are recent infection, prolonged antibiotic therapy, and a recent surgery or procedure. The <u>incidence</u> is approximately 3 out of 1,000,000 people annually.

See also

- meningococcemia
- Waterhouse-Friderichsen syndrome
- DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation)

Benefit Central go







- -Entertainment -Love & Dating
- -Women

- low blood pressure, systolic usually less than 90
- drop in blood pressure when sitting or standing All in G.W.H NOTES
- rapid heart rate (tachycardia)

cool, <u>pale</u> extremities

elevated temperature

- restlessness, agitation, or confusion
- low urine output
- chills

Additional symptoms that may be associated with this disease:

- swelling, overall
- · joint pain

#### Signs And Tests

- blood gases that reveal low oxygen concentration
- blood cultures to detect infection
- cardiac monitoring is consistent with high output

#### Treatment

Septic shock is a medical emergency; people are admitted to intensive care.

The objective of treatment is to:

- provide oxygen and treat respiratory distress if present
- elevate the legs to maximize blood flow to the brain
- administer intravenous fluids to restore blood volume and vasoactive drugs to treat low blood pressure
- treat underlying infections with antibiotics

Hemodynamic monitoring to evaluate the pressures in the heart and lungs in treatment of shack requires specialized equipment and intensive care nursing.

### **Expectations (Prognosis)**

Septic shock has a high death rate, exceeding 50%, depending on the type of organism involved. The organism involved and the immediacy hospitalization will determine the outcome.

#### Complications

Respiratory or cardiac failure can occur.

# Calling Your Health Care Provider

Go to the emergency room if symptoms of septic shock are present. You may need to call an ambulance if you have no means of transportaion or if you feel like you are unable to drive.

#### Prevention

Prompt treatment of infections caused by bacteria is helpful. However, many cases cannot be prevented.

The information provided herein should not be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. A licensed physician should be consulted for diagnosis and treatment of any and all medical conditions. (See disclaimer). Copyright 1999 adam.com, Inc. Any duplication or distribution of the information contained herein is strictly prohibited.

adam.com

Copyright ® 1999 adam.com

Physician | Corporate

Contact Us | Terms and Conditions | Privacy Policy and Agreement

© 1996-2000 WebMD Corporation. All rights reserved.

WebMD is a licensee of the TRUSTe Privacy Program an subscribes to the HONcode principles of the Health On the Foundation