

Ambulance  
Victoria



# Pre Hospital IV Antibiotic Administration in Sepsis

A Future Ambulance Victoria Randomised Controlled Trial...

Daniel Cudini – Clinical Support Officer | Critical Care Paramedic  
BEx Sci, BEmergHlth (Paramedic), Grad Dip EmergHlth (ICP), MPA

Amb

CONFIDENTIAL

Amb  
to

nse  
00



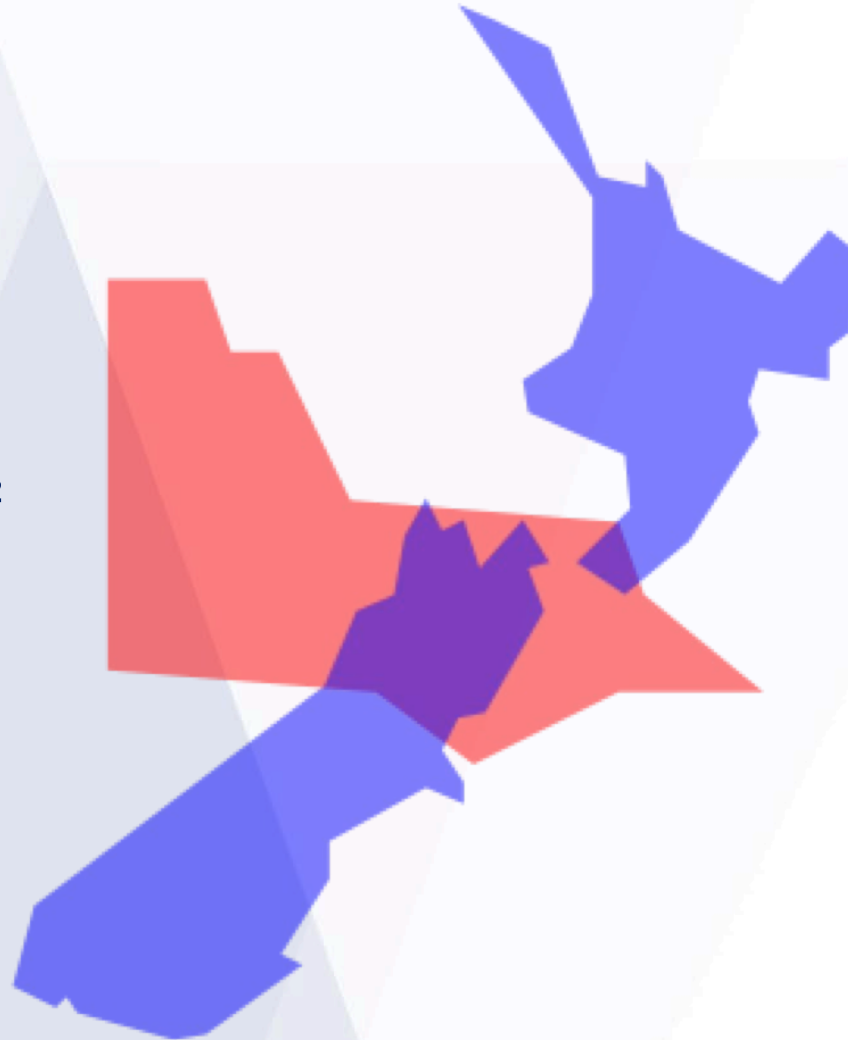
Melbourne

ence Victoria

# Ambulance Victoria

Victoria  
227,416 km<sup>2</sup>

New Zealand  
270,467 km<sup>2</sup>



## Quote

“Sepsis is like beauty,  
we know it when we see it,  
but we can’t actually define what it is”

Unknown Source, FOAM - 2017

# A Future Randomised Controlled Trial...

## The **PASS** Trial – Phase 2

PARAMEDIC ANTIBIOTICS FOR SEVERE SEPSIS



## A Future Randomised Controlled Trial...

Why is a trial such as this important?

# Pre Hospital IV Antibiotic Administration in Sepsis

The International Burden of Sepsis

Time To First Antibiotic Dose

Extending Point of Care (POC) Medicine into the  
Pre Hospital Setting

# The International Burden of Sepsis

- One of most **frequent causes of ED attendance worldwide**, with an **annual incidence in adults of up to 300 cases per 100,000 population**.<sup>1-4</sup>
- **Sepsis** is recognised by the **WHO** as a **global health priority**.<sup>5</sup>
- **Mortality** ↑↑↑ with **delays to treatment**.<sup>6,7</sup>
- ↑↑↑ **incidence** in the **elderly** and **chronically ill**.<sup>6,7</sup>



# Sepsis Facts!

Patients with **sepsis** have a hospital mortality rate **(20% – 50%)** that greatly exceeds that seen in **myocardial infarction, stroke and traumatic injury**.<sup>6,7</sup>



## Time to First Antibiotic Dose

Duration of hypotension before initiation of effective antimicrobial therapy is the critical determinant of survival in human septic shock\*

Anand Kumar, MD; Daniel Roberts, MD; Kenneth E. Wood, DO; Bruce Light, MD; Joseph E. Parrillo, MD; Satendra Sharma, MD; Robert Suppes, BSc; Daniel Feinstein, MD; Sergio Zanotti, MD; Leo Taiberg, MD; David Gurka, MD; Aseem Kumar, PhD; Mary Cheang, MSc

**Survival was 82.7% if effective antimicrobials were administered within 30 mins of initial evidence of hypotension 77.2% in the second half hour and 42.0% in the sixth hour.<sup>8</sup>**

## Time to First Antibiotic Dose

It has been shown that mortality increases by 7.6 % for every hour of delay in starting antibiotic therapy after the onset of hypotension.

Kumar et al, Crit Care Med; 2006

## Time to First Antibiotic Dose

### **The Impact of Timing of Antibiotics on Outcomes in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis**

**Sarah A. Sterling, MD, W. Ryan Miller, MD, Jason Pryor, MD, Michael A. Puskarich, MD, and Alan E. Jones, MD**

**Reviewed the Impact of Timing of Antibiotics on Outcomes in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock showed no significant mortality benefit of administering antibiotics within 3 hours of ED triage or within 1 hour of shock recognition.**

# Extending POC Medicine into the Pre Hospital Setting

**STEMI** – Pre Hospital 12 Lead ECG /  
Thrombolysis

**Trauma** – Pre Hospital Red Cell Concentrate

**Stroke** – Pre Hospital CT / Thrombolysis

**Sepsis** – ???

# Extending POC Medicine into the Pre Hospital Setting

## “The PHANTASi Trial”

### Pre Hospital ANTibiotics Against Sepsis

**Prehospital antibiotics in the ambulance for sepsis:  
a multicentre, open label, randomised trial**

*Nadia Alam, Erick Oskam, Patricia M Stassen, Pieter van der Exter, Peter M van de Ven, Harm R Haak, Frits Holleman, Arthur van Zanten, Hien van Leeuwen-Nguyen, Victor Bon, Bart A M Duineveld, Rishi S Nannan Panday, Mark H H Kramer, Prabath W B Nanayakkara, on behalf of the PHANTASi Trial Investigators and the ORCA (Onderzoeks Consortium Acute Geneeskunde) Research Consortium the Netherlands\**

Alam Nadia et al, Lancet; 2017

# Extending POC Medicine into the Pre Hospital Setting

## Pre Hospital ANTibiotics Against Sepsis

- Prospective non blinded RCT
- **28-day mortality**, hospital length of stay, admission to intensive or medium care unit (ICU/MC). Follow up of one year.
- **n = 2698 patients (1535 in the intervention group and 1137 in the usual care group).**
- **At day 28, 120 (8%) patients had died in the intervention group and 93 (8%) had died in the usual care group.**

# Extending POC Medicine into the Pre Hospital Setting

## Conclusion...

**Pre hospital antibiotics did not lead to improved survival, regardless of illness severity.**

Alam Nadia et al, Lancet; 2017



# The PASS Trial - Phase 2

## Primary Hypothesis:

In patients who have severe community-acquired sepsis when evaluated by paramedics, pre-hospital administration of 2 g IV ceftriaxone will result in a **significant reduction in time to appropriate antibiotic treatment, compared with standard care.**

## The PASS Trial - Phase 2

Propose that the initiation of **antibiotics pre-hospital will result in an absolute reduction in time to antibiotics of at least 60 minutes** (control: 120 minutes, intervention: 30 minutes, SD: 30 minutes).

# The PASS Trial - Phase 2

## Secondary Hypotheses:

- Paramedics will be able to accurately identify severe community-acquired sepsis
- Pre-hospital ceftriaxone administration will result in minimal adverse events, and cover the majority of bacterial pathogens.
- Administration of pre-hospital antibiotic therapy will not result in a significant increase in scene times.

# The PASS Trial - Phase 2

## Inclusions:

- Adults (age  $\geq 18$  years)
- History suggestive of infection
- **One Red Flag present:**
  - **Responds only to voice or pain/unresponsive;**
  - **Systolic BP  $\leq 90$  mmHg or drop  $> 40$  mmHg from normal;**
  - **HR  $> 130$  per minute; RR  $\geq 25$  per minute;**
  - **Needs oxygen to keep SpO<sub>2</sub>  $\geq 92\%$ ;**
  - **Non-blanching rash/mottled/ashen/cyanotic;**
  - **Not passed urine in last 18 hours;**
  - **Recent chemotherapy**
- Transport to a participating hospital

# The PASS Trial - Phase 2

## Exclusions:

- Female known to be pregnant
- Suspected allergy to cephalosporins
- Suspected meningococcal infection (will receive ceftriaxone as standard care)
- Deranged clinical parameters considered likely to be from a non-infective cause (such as dehydration, acute coronary syndrome, trauma, anaphylaxis)
- Already receiving IV antibiotics (“Hospital in the home” patients)
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Transplant recipient

## The PASS Trial - Phase 2

Eligible patients will be enrolled  
(Estimated sample size of 100 patients 50 in each arm,  
statistical power > 95%)



Peripheral blood culture drawn



Patient will be randomised to either paramedic  
administered 2g IV ceftriaxone or standard care.

# The PASS Trial - Phase 2

## **If the Phase 2 RCT demonstrates:**

- Paramedics can accurately identify sepsis
- Pre-hospital intervention results in a significant reduction in the time to appropriate antibiotic treatment

**Provide a robust rationale to undertake a larger interventional study exploring mortality and morbidity outcomes**

# Acknowledgements

## The **PASS** Trial Investigators:

- Professor Stephen Bernard CI
- Professor Karen Smith CI
- Professor Peter Cameron CI
- Professor Allen Cheng CI
- Associate Professor Andrew Udy CI
- Mr Daniel Cudini AI
- Associate Professor Michael Stephenson AI





# Acknowledgements

## Health Care Collaborators:



MONASH University



**theAlfred**  
Part of **AlfredHealth**



Peninsula  
Health

# References

1. Angus DC, Linde-Zwirble WT, Lidicker J, et al. Epidemiology of severe sepsis in the United States: analysis of incidence, outcome, and associated costs of care. *Crit Care Med* 2001;29(7):1303-1310.
2. Gaieski DF, Edwards JM, Kallan MJ, Carr BG. Benchmarking the incidence and mortality of severe sepsis in the United States. *Crit Care Med* 2013;41(5):1167-1174.
3. Jawad I, Luksic I, Rafnsson SB. Assessing available information on the burden of sepsis: global estimates of incidence, prevalence and mortality. *J Glob Health* 2012;2(1):010404.
4. Kaukonen KM, Bailey M, Suzuki S, Pilcher D, Bellomo R. Mortality related to severe sepsis and septic shock among critically ill patients in Australia and New Zealand, 2000-2012. *JAMA* 2014;311(13):1308-1316.
5. Reinhart, K., Daniels, R., Kisson, N., Machado, F.R., Schachter, R.D. and Finfer, S., 2017. Recognizing sepsis as a global health priority—A WHO resolution. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 377(5), pp.414-417.
6. Clinical Excellence Commission. Sepsis Kills Program [Online]. 2014 Jan [cited 2014 March 1st]; Available from: <http://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/programs/sepsis#sepsis-education>
7. Peake S, for the ARISE Investigators: The outcome of sepsis and septic shock presenting to the Emergency Department in Australia and New Zealand. *Critical Care* 2007,11 (Suppl 2):P73
8. Kumar A, Roberts D, Wood KE, et al. Duration of hypotension before initiation of effective antimicrobial therapy is the critical determinant of survival in human septic shock. *Critical Care Medicine* 2006; 34:1589-1596.

## Contact Details

Daniel Cudini – Clinical Support Officer | Critical Care Paramedic  
BEx Sci, BEmergHlth (Paramedic), Grad Dip EmergHlth (ICP), MPA

[daniel.cudini@ambulance.vic.gov.au](mailto:daniel.cudini@ambulance.vic.gov.au)

Phone: +61 409 186 795