

Sepsis has turned into a serious health care issue all over the world. As many as 30 million cases of sepsis occur globally in a year and many of them result in death (Martischang, Pires, Masson-Roy, Saito & Pittet, 2018). Sepsis is an illness that results from an infection on a localized area that eventually spreads throughout the body systematically (Schell-Chaple & Lee, 2014). Sepsis is displayed by multiple signs and symptoms such as, tachycardia, increased white blood cell count, and changes in blood pressure and body temperature (Schell-Chaple & Lee, 2014). Prompt detection of sepsis by healthcare providers increases the chances of a positive outcome by starting adequate treatment as soon as possible (Vandijck & Decruyenaere, 2008). Certain practices such as, handwashing, prophylactic antibiotics, and isolation may even help prevent occurrences of sepsis (Vandijck & Decruyenaere, 2008).

Search Methodology

Results of research were obtained using library resource databases. The databases that were used to perform the search were CINAHL, Ovid, and Medline. Optimum results were obtained using the key words: "sepsis", "screening", "detection", and "prevention". Within the Medline database 339 articles were found. In the CINAHL database 160 articles were found. In the Ovid database a total of 396 results were found. The first ten articles that matched the key words in each database were read in full-text format to ensure that they had the appropriate content. The articles were screened to include an overview of the disease process, how to assess signs and symptoms, treatment and prevention of sepsis. A total of four articles that were published in nursing related journals were selected to compose the literature review.

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