## 2.15 SUSPECTED SEPSIS

### BLS Treatment
- Position of comfort.
- NPO
- **Oxygen** as indicated.

### ALS Treatment
- Establish IV/IO with Normal Saline TKO. Recommend 2 IV lines if possible.
- If blood glucose <60 mg/dl, unmeasurable or patient is a known diabetic: Dextrose
- For HR > 100 or BP <90 administer Normal Saline fluid bolus.

### SEPSIS SCREEN
For all patients with vital sign abnormalities, conduct the following screen (see COMMENTS):
1. Does patient have suspected or documented infection?
2. Does patient have 2 or more of the following vital sign abnormalities:
   - Temperature $> 38^\circ$ C or $< 36^\circ$ C
   - Heart Rate $> 90$
   - Respiratory Rate $> 20$

If answer to BOTH #1 and #2 is YES, continue with sepsis protocol. Otherwise go to other applicable protocol.

### Comments
- Sepsis is caused by a whole-body inflammatory response called, “Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome” characterized by a fever (not always present), tachycardia, tachypnea and hypotension. It is more common in the very young (newborns), the elderly, diabetics or those with compromised immune systems. Other risk factors include: cancer/malignancies, renal disease, alcoholism, drug abuse, malnutrition, hypothermia or recent surgical or other invasive procedures (e.g. long-term venous catheters placed). Field treatment is early recognition, fluid and notifying hospital staff about possible sepsis.

### Base Hospital Contact Criteria
Consultations as need for question about possible septic patient.