The Centre for International Child Health and WFPICCS announce partnership to address pediatric sepsis mortality and morbidity through a new international data sharing network

Vancouver, Canada and Geneva, Switzerland | 13 June, 2018. The Centre for International Child Health, BC Children’s Hospital and the World Federation of Pediatric Intensive & Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS) entered a partnership in support of WHO’s resolution to improve the prevention, diagnosis and clinical management of sepsis.

The partnership, the Pediatric Sepsis Data CoLaboratory (Sepsis CoLab) was formally launched during the 9th WFPICCS Congress held in Singapore from 9-13 June, 2018 and kick-started with a special session to establish collaborative efforts in the fight against sepsis.

The Sepsis CoLab is a new international data sharing network to address pediatric sepsis mortality and morbidity. The network’s main aim is to develop and validate tools for data collection, and data sharing, enabling continuous quality improvement of care in secondary level health facilities, initially in low-resource settings, and ultimately, across the world.

The vision for the Sepsis CoLab arose out of the recognition that despite important milestones recently achieved in the fight against sepsis, lack of routinely collected data and coordination is hampering progress. The Sepsis CoLab brings together active local experts in low and middle-income countries, as well as in high-income countries. It incorporates and builds on the work of international coalitions and networks.

“The efforts to address pediatric sepsis are greater than all of us and requires a concerted effort – no organization can this alone and we are pleased to enter into a partnership with WFPICCS whose outreach includes over 45 pediatric related societies globally” says Tex Kissoon, Vice-President, Medical Affairs at BC Children’s Hospital, Canada and a former WFPICCS President.

“Sepsis in children is a complex syndrome that develops from various infections and results in 15–30% mortality in high-income countries and up to 50% or higher in low-income countries. ‘Mobilizing our members and partnering with key stakeholders will be key to our success in addressing this urgent need” says WFPICCS’ Immediate Past President, Paolo Biban.

The Pediatric Sepsis CoLab’s Focus Areas

- Patient and facility data – develop tools to enhance the collection of relevant, accurate data for research and quality improvement.
- Mobile and web applications – develop tools to inform, diagnose, advise and plan for improved outcomes using low-cost mobile technologies.
- Modelling and analytics – share and use information and data to draw conclusions about best courses of action
- Advocacy and prevention – advocate on a facility, national, and global scale for improved guidelines and practices for improved early recognition of sepsis.
About WFPICCS

The World Federation of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS) was established in Paris, in September 1997. WFPICCS’ objectives include to:

- Encourage the development of new clinical treatments and appropriate application of new and existing critical care technologies and treatments to infants, children and adolescents with life threatening illness.
- Promote education programs and the dissemination of scientific information relevant to the specialty.
- Recommend desirable standards and guidelines for the training of Pediatric Intensive (and Critical Care) practitioners.
- Provide information regarding opportunities for postgraduate clinical and research training worldwide.
- Encourage research into all aspects of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care.
- Promote multidisciplinary collaboration between Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care specialist by supporting education and professional developments of all health professional involved in Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care.
- Arrange at regular intervals a World Congress of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care and promote regional congresses: to encourage meetings in special groups within the specialty and make provision for them to meet where appropriate at the above World Congress.
- Assist and encourage the development and formation of national and regional organizations dedicated to Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care.

About The Centre for International Child Health

The Centre for International Child Health is led by a team of experienced, passionate people with a diverse range of knowledge in global health.

We also benefit from the guidance of expert clinicians, researchers, nurses, allied health professionals, and administrators at BC Children’s and BC Women’s Hospital + Health Centre. All share our goal of advancing the health of children from birth to adolescence.

1 https://www.journalofinfection.com/article/S0163-4453(17)30193-7/abstract