Additional file 6. Prevalence of keywords exceeding 20% based on mode of arrival and sepsis severity.

A comparison of prevalence of all keywords* exceeding 20% among septic patients presenting to the emergency department of Södersjukhuset during 2013, based on mode of arrival AND sepsis severity.

| Keyword*                                                                 | Severe sepsis | Non-severe sepsis | P-value** |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|
| ** EMS patients (n=218) vs non-EMS patients (n=30) **                   |               |                   |           |
| ** Abnormal, or suspected abnormal temperature **                       |               |                   |           |
| In turn including primary keywords shivering OR hypothermia OR the following combined keywords: Confirmed or suspected fever, Confirmed abnormal temperature **(confirmed fever or hypothermia)** | 138 (63.3)    | 23 (76.7)         | 0.150     |
| ** Pain **                                                              |               |                   |           |
| Abdominal, extremity, back, undefined, urinary tract, joint, chest, general, headache, throat, wound, painful muscle cramp, positive Pasternaty’s sign *(costovertebral angle tenderness)* | 75 (34.4)     | 21 (70.0)         | <0.001    |
| ** Risk factors for sepsis **                                           |               |                   |           |
| Known ongoing or recent infection, current antibiotic treatment, recent invasive procedures **(see Additional file 2), substance abuse **(see Additional file 2), compromised immune system **(see Additional file 2), chronically compromised breathing **(see Additional file 2) ** | 59 (27.1)     | 11 (36.7)         | 0.273     |
| ** Temporal deterioration **                                            |               |                   |           |
| Stated deterioration or expressions describing a temporal change **      | 67 (30.7)     | 7 (23.3)          | 0.406     |
| ** Gastrointestinal symptoms **                                         |               |                   |           |
| Vomiting, diarrhoea, reduced amount of stool, gastrointestinal bleeding, obstipation, pale faeces ** | 54 (24.8)     | 10 (33.3)         | 0.315     |
| Abnormal skin | 57 (26.1) | 6 (20.0) | 0.468 | 37 (28.9) | 21 (25.3) | 0.567 |
| Abnormal urination | 57 (26.1) | 7 (23.3) | 0.741 | 33 (25.8) | 19 (22.9) | 0.634 |
| Abnormal circulation | 115 (52.8) | 15 (50.0) | 0.777 | 19 (14.8) | 10 (12.0) | 0.565 |
| Abnormal breathing | 127 (58.3) | 8 (26.7) | 0.001 | 53 (41.4) | 16 (19.3) | 0.001 |
| Loss of energy | 58 (26.6) | 7 (23.3) | 0.702 | 30 (23.4) | 14 (16.9) | 0.251 |
| Acute altered mental status | 111 (50.9) | 16 (53.3) | 0.804 | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | - |
| Decreased mobility | 62 (28.4) | 3 (10.0) | 0.031 | 27 (21.1) | 9 (10.8) | 0.053 |

EMS= Emergency Medical Services. ED= Emergency Department.

*All keywords (combined or primary keywords) exceeding 20% prevalence in the entire sample of septic patients presenting to the ED.

**P-values are presented without adjustment for multiple comparisons. In total 26 tests were performed. Bonferroni-adjusted significance level is 0.05/26=0.0019. P-values indicating significant differences after adjustment for multiple comparisons by Bonferroni correction are bolded and considered significant in the current study.