

This digital pack has been designed for use by clinicians working within Primary Care settings.

# SPOTTING THE SIGNS OF SEPSIS

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| [@NHSChoices](https://twitter.com/NHSChoices) |

| [@ASKSNIFF](https://twitter.com/ASKSNIFF) |

| [@UKSepsisTrust](https://twitter.com/UKSepsisTrust) |

# The Aims of the Film



**C** The Health Innovation Network (HIN) has worked in partnership with [NHS England](#) and the [ASK SNIFF Safety Netting Collaborative](#) to produce the “Spotting the Signs of Sepsis” film. The clinical content is based on the [Public Health England](#) parental awareness campaign materials that were developed in collaboration with the [UK Sepsis Trust](#) and launched in December 2016.

**U** The film is evidence-based, and co-designed with parents, to standardise the safety netting advice clinicians provide for parents of children under five with fever, or suspected infection, being discharged home from Primary Care settings. It is unique in not only informing parents of what signs and symptoms they should be looking out for at home whilst their child is unwell but also showing real life examples of these. It also provides practical tips on caring for children with fever at home.

**N**  
**3** Sepsis in children is fortunately rare, but is a disease entity that has the potential to develop over time and therefore it can be expected that there will be occasions when a clinician appropriately sends home a child who subsequently develops sepsis. It is therefore vital in these situations for parents to feel empowered with the knowledge and confidence to recognise concerning signs of serious illness in their child, and act on their instincts, to seek medical attention again, as early recognition and treatment of sepsis saves lives.

A study by the [RCPCH](#), published in 2010, showed that only 81% of parents contacting urgent and emergency care services for their child with fever received, or remembered, any safety netting advice. Parents who received this information were less likely to contact medical services again in that illness. The importance of providing safety netting advice to parents at risk of sepsis being discharged home was also highlighted in the [NCEPOD](#) report “Just Say Sepsis”.

The film will also be publicly available on the [NHS Choices website](#) to raise awareness of the presenting features of sepsis in children under five. This complements the written material already present on the website and will also enable you to signpost parents to the film to watch at home as part of your safety netting practice. Also available is our ‘[Caring for Children with Fever at Home](#)’ film, which supports parents with well children with fever to self-care at home.

An adapted version of the films will also be shown to parents being discharged home from Emergency Departments.



GO TO **A&E** OR CALL **999**

**NHS**

## Film

Watch the trailer for 'Spotting the Signs of Sepsis' on the Health Innovation Network's [Facebook page](#). Watch the full film on [nhs.uk/sepsis](https://www.nhs.uk/sepsis).

Watch 'Caring for Children with Fever at Home' film via [NHS choices 'Fever in Children' page](#).

## Waiting Room Versions

If you are interested in showing the films on your waiting room screens, we have subtitled the films in English. These are

**RASH DOESN'T FADE WITH PRESSURE**

**CALL 111**

**HARD TO  
BREATHE**

## Additional Resources

### The leaflet

You may already have your own local safety netting leaflet for parents, but we have included [the leaflet developed by the UK Sepsis Trust](#) that accompanies the film content that you may wish to you. You can download and print this locally to supplement the information clinicians provide verbally. It contains the links to the film on the NHS Choices website for parents to watch at home.

### Poster to promote safer discharge

We have designed a [poster](#) that you may wish to display in your surgery to prompt clinicians to remember to provide safety netting advice to parents.



GO TO **A&E** OR CALL **999**

**NHS**

## Top tips for how to use the film in your primary care setting

### Everyone watch

Show the films to the clinicians working in your setting so that they are familiar with its content. This will ensure that they are aware of the advice that is being recommended to parents to ensure a consistent message is spread. In parents who have represented this may help clarify the nature of the concerns that have prompted this repeat visit.

### Supplement with a leaflet

We recommend continuing to provide parents with a written safety netting leaflet. This is good practice as parents will not remember all the information clinicians have provided verbally or within the films. Ensure the links to the NHS Choices website is provided for parents so that they can easily access the film at home.

### Documentation

Encourage clinicians to document in the patient's notes the verbal safety netting advice, provided written information and have advised them to watch the films online once home.

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**CALL 111**

## Internal Communications Resource



This short summary can be amended and disseminated to those working within your practice (and beyond) to explain the role of the film.

**NOT RESPONDING  
FLOPPY / IRRITABLE**

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## Social Media

We have developed a short trailer to be shared via the [HIN](#) and [NHS Choices](#)' Facebook pages to promote public awareness of sepsis in children and to encourage parents to watch the full film on the NHS Choices website. Feel free to share!

We will also be using **#spotsepsis** to spread the word via Twitter, and have been working in partnership with [@NHSChoices](#), [@ASKSNIFF](#) and [@UKSepsisTrust](#). A selection of suggested tweets can be found [here](#).

Apply your local social media strategy to manage response rates and level of engagement around the **#spotsepsis** conversation via your own Twitter account.

Commissioned by



In partnership with



With special thanks to staff, families and volunteers at



We would like to thank the parents and children who kindly allowed us to film them during their time in the Emergency Department, without whom this project would not have been possible.

The partnership is very grateful to Dr Ranj Singh for kindly donating his time to present the films.

Many thanks to Dependable Productions - their professionalism whilst filming in the clinical setting, and deep understanding of what we were trying to achieve, has produced fantastic, high quality films.

Additional thanks to the 'Paediatrics - Recognising & Responding to Acute Patient Illness & Deterioration team' based at the University of Leeds for their kind permission to use their 'non-fading rash' film clip.

The ASK SNIFF Safety Netting Collaborative would like to acknowledge the support of WellChild in making collaboration in these films possible.