

Standard Operating Procedure: Assessment of splenectomised patients in departments of emergency medicine

Background

Overwhelming post-splenectomy infection (OPSI) is a life-threatening event. Therefore, splenectomised patients deserve special attention in departments of emergency medicine. In order to reduce the risk of OPSI, all recommended vaccinations (HIB, meningococcal, pneumococcal and influenza vaccination) need to be renewed regularly. The typical symptoms of OPSI are unspecific: flu like symptoms, fever, abdominal complaints, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. Note: elderly patients may not display typical symptoms of infection. These patients may only display an altered mental status.

First view

Immediate triage and information sent to the attending physician

Does the triage (blood pressure, heart rate, temperature, breathing rate, or pain), history or physical examination of the patient reveal any symptoms indicating an infection?

yes

No

Approach

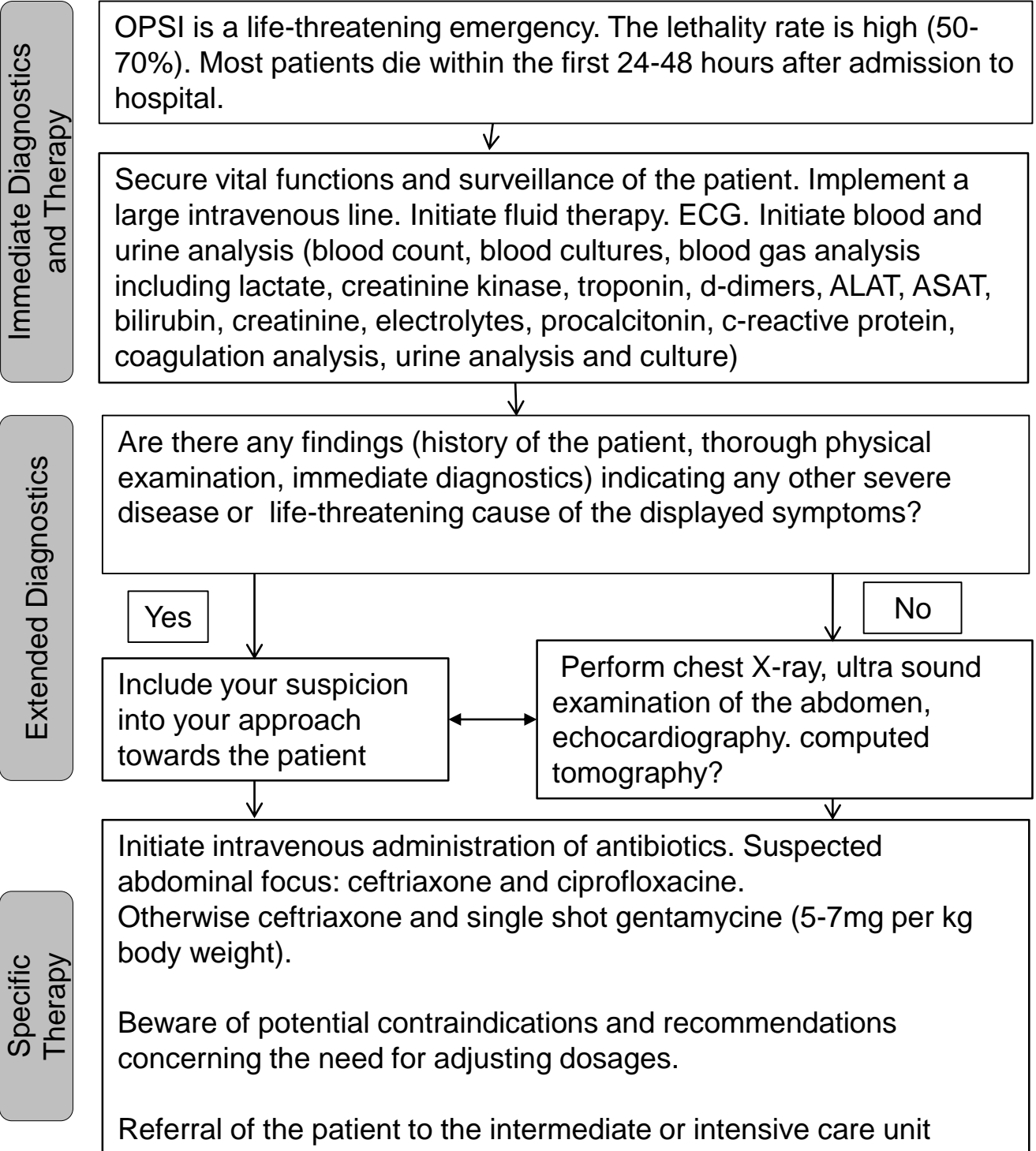
Proceed to page 2:
Assessment of
splenectomised patients with
suspicion of OPSI

Proceed to page 3:
Assessment of
splenectomised patients with
no suspicion of OPSI

Literature/Source

The recommendations of this SOP derive from: Engelhardt M et al. Prävention von Infektionen und Thrombosen nach Splenektomie oder funktioneller Asplenie. DGHO Onkopedia. Accessible online: <https://www.onkopedia.com/de/onkopedia/guidelines/praevention-von-infektionen-und-thrombosen-nach-splenektomie-oder-funktioneller-asplenie/@@view/html/index.html>

Standard Operating Procedure: Assessment of splenectomised patients with suspicion of OPSI in departments of emergency medicine



Standard Operating Procedure: Assessment of splenectomised patients with no suspicion of OPSI in departments of emergency medicine

