

# How to prevent life-threatening sepsis?

## World Hand Hygiene Day focuses on bloodstream infection

Sepsis – also referred to as bloodstream infection – is a common complication of hospital-acquired infections. In Germany, sepsis is the third leading cause of death\*.

Every day, **185** people die from sepsis.

Comparison:

**140** people die from heart attack every day.

## In Germany, **280.000** cases of bloodstream infection occur every year.

Every infection can trigger a sepsis. The most frequent causes in adult patients:



**35 %**  
pneumonia



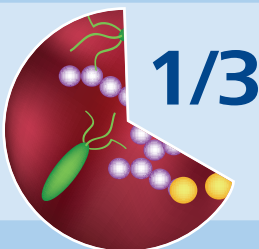
**25 %**  
urinary tract infection



**11 %**  
skin infection



**11 %**  
gastroenteritis



**1/3**

Every third nosocomial infection, which could lead to a sepsis, can be avoided by enhanced hand hygiene.



Sources:  
Deutsches Ärzteblatt Int., CDC, Global Sepsis Alliance, Destatis.  
\* Status as of 2016