

Table S4. Pre-analysis: Association of patients with versus without final study inclusion criteria with subsequent onset of severe sepsis and/or septic shock.

	Development of severe sepsis and/or septic shock	No development of severe sepsis and/or septic shock	Marginal Row Totals
SIRS or sepsis	19	58	77
neither SIRS nor sepsis	6	98	104
marginal column totals	25	156	181

*From May 2016 to December 2016 a total of 413 patients were rated daily by a senior intensivist according to sepsis-1/2 defined criteria to suffer from neither SIRS nor sepsis, SIRS, sepsis, severe sepsis, or septic shock. A chi-square test of independence was performed to examine the relation between the presence of SIRS or sepsis for two consecutive days and 24 hours, respectively upon ICU admission (=final study inclusion criteria) and subsequent development of severe sepsis and/or septic shock within the next five days. The relation was significant, $X^2 = 13.28$ $p < 0.001$. Following admission to the ICU, critically ill patients diagnosed with SIRS or sepsis for two consecutive days or 24 hours, respectively were more likely to develop severe sepsis and/or septic shock within the following five days than those without. In this pre-analysis 232 patients of the daily rated 413 patients were not included for the following reasons: duration of SIRS less than 48 hours, stay on ICU less than 5 days, initial presentation with severe sepsis or septic shock, no information available from the questionnaire or lack of the questionnaire.