SEPSIS What Is It?

Sepsis is a life-threatening condition, a medical emergency.

- It is frequently caused by an infection such as flu or pneumonia.
- Sepsis can also be caused by an infection that occurs after surgery or from an injury like a cut or scrape.
- Sepsis is deadly.
  - It kills 1 person every 2 minutes.
  - It is one of the most common causes of death in the U.S.
  - When sepsis is identified and treated early, the chances of survival improve.

Sepsis can happen very quickly.

- It develops when an infection has spread through the bloodstream.
- If the body overreacts while fighting an infection, it can damage its own tissues and organs—heart, lungs, kidneys and brain.
- Sepsis must be treated immediately with fluids and antibiotics.

Think Sepsis:

- If you have been sick recently and/or are recovering from surgery.
- If you are not feeling better—you just don't feel right, but can't quite say what it is. If you feel confused, start running a fever or have redness and drainage around your incision.

Do not try to wait it out thinking you'll feel better
Seek medical attention!