

# Making Sepsis a National and Global Health Priority

*Celebrating 10 Years of World Sepsis Day*

**September 16, 2022**

**Information, tickets, and registration:  
[10yearswsd.org](https://10yearswsd.org)**

## **Location**

Veranstaltungszentrum der Berliner Sparkasse  
Kronprinzessinnenweg 21  
14129 Berlin  
*and online*

## **Patronage**

WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
German Federal Minister of Health Prof. Dr. Karl Lauterbach

Organized by:



**Global  
Sepsis  
Alliance**

Welcome to

## **Making Sepsis a National and Global Health Priority – Celebrating 10 Years of World Sepsis Day**

It was exactly a decade ago that we organized the inaugural World Sepsis Day. Since then, we have made great progress in our fight against sepsis, and sepsis awareness has markedly risen around the globe. A milestone in this respect was the adoption of the World Health Assembly 70.7 Resolution in 2017. However, even today, only a few governments have followed the Resolution's call to action: Many nations still need to implement concrete measures in their healthcare systems to make sepsis a priority.

In response to this demand, the recent G7 Health Ministers' and Leaders' Communiqués urge governments to “boost the implementation of the WHA Resolution”. In particular, the Communiqué emphasizes the need to “intensify the efforts to strengthen early detection, diagnosis, and therapy of sepsis, and ensure synergy with antimicrobial stewardship and Infection Prevention and Control programs”.

Thus, while celebrating the remarkable progress of sepsis advocacy and clinical systems advancements over the past decade, this event aims to pave the way to make sepsis a global and national health priority. Despite all advances, sepsis still accounts for a staggering 11 million lives lost every year around the world, even without counting the millions of deaths by viral sepsis due to COVID-19. While sepsis causes enormous loss in high-income countries, it disproportionately affects vulnerable populations such as young children in resource-poor countries.


Making sepsis a priority on the global, national, and facility levels requires the engagement of high-level policymakers, representatives of health authorities, patient organizations, health care providers, science, industry, and civil society. We need to learn from each other by exchanging best practices from around the world. This event aims to spread this message on a global scale and accelerate the fight against sepsis.

Following the scientific symposium and the best practices panel, we will celebrate the achievements of the past 10 years, present the Global Sepsis Awards, and conclude this unique World Sepsis Day event with a fundraising dinner, featuring international artists who share our commitment to the vision of “A World Free of Sepsis”.

Please come and join us on-site or virtually.



Niranjan 'Tex' Kissoon  
President  
Global Sepsis Alliance



Konrad Reinhart  
Chair  
Sepsis Stiftung

## Welcome Remarks from Dr. Tedros, Director-General WHO, Patron of the Event



Sepsis kills 11 million people every year, disproportionately affecting young children and other vulnerable populations in low-income countries. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this burden through viral sepsis and underscored the vital importance of infection prevention and control, vaccination, and clean care to prevent the spread of disease and counter the threat of antimicrobial resistance.

The pandemic has also demonstrated the importance of health system readiness, the rapid response through effective policies, the ability to maintain essential health services, accurate and reliable information, and active community engagement.

In 2017, WHO Member States meeting at the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution committing to taking measures to prevent, diagnose and treat sepsis as part of efforts to strengthen national health systems. However, implementation of the resolution remains insufficient. WHO remains committed to supporting countries around the world to strengthen their health systems so as to better prevent, identify and manage sepsis, but greater political commitment and investment are needed. In that regard, we welcome the commitment of G7 Health Ministers, in their communique in May this year, to intensify efforts to combat sepsis at home, and support the implementation of the resolution in low- and middle-income countries.

As WHO Director-General, I am honored to be the patron of the event, celebrating 10 years of World Sepsis Day, to draw attention to this critical issue, to share best practices, and to support health and care workers, health facility managers, and policymakers globally to take steps to prevent sepsis and save lives.

<b>Part I</b> Symposium – Health Policy and Quality Improvement (5 Sessions) <b>11:00 - 17:15h</b>		<b>Part II</b> Learning from Successful National Sepsis Initiatives <b>18:00 - 19:30h</b>		<b>Part III</b> Celebration and Fundraising Dinner <b>20:00 - 22:30h</b>	
<b>Session 1:</b> Opening Session <b>11:00h</b>	<b>Session 2:</b> The Burden of Sepsis, COVID-19, and AMR <b>12:15h</b>	<b>Session 3:</b> Panel Discussion – How to Boost the Implementation of the WHA Sepsis Resolution <b>13:30h</b>	<b>Session 4:</b> Learning by Exchange on the Global, National, and Facility Level <b>14:25h</b>	<b>Session 5:</b> Panel Discussion – The Challenges of, and Lessons Learned from the Pandemic <b>15:55h</b>	

## Session 1: Opening Session

<b>Friday, September 16</b>	<b>Moderators:</b> <b>Niranjan ‘Tex’ Kisson, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada Konrad Reinhart, Global Sepsis Alliance, Germany</b>
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11:00h Berlin Time	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> Niranjan ‘Tex’ Kisson, President Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada Konrad Reinhart, Chair Sepsis Stiftung, Germany
.....	.....
11:05h Berlin Time	<b>Greeting</b> Dr. Tedros, Director-General World Health Organization, Switzerland
.....	.....
11:10h Berlin Time	<b>Greeting</b> Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, USA
.....	.....
11:15h Berlin Time	<b>Greeting</b> Ruth Hecker, Chair Coalition for Patient Safety, Germany
.....	.....
11:20h Berlin Time	<b>The German Strategy to Foster the Fight Against Pandemics, Sepsis, and AMR at a Global and National Level</b> Karl Lauterbach, Federal Minister of Health, Germany
.....	.....
11:30h Berlin Time	<b>The WHO Strategy to Fight Infection-Related Global Health Threats</b> Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General World Health Organization, Switzerland
.....	.....
11:40h Berlin Time	<b>A Husband and Father’s Perspective on Sepsis</b> Joachim Greuner, Germany
.....	.....
11:45h Berlin Time	<b>A Sepsis Survivor’s Perspective on Sepsis</b> Dennis Kredler, European Sepsis Alliance, Belgium
.....	.....
11:50h Berlin Time	<b>Keynote: Sepsis in the Context of Patient Safety</b> Ciaran Staunton, End Sepsis – The Legacy of Rory Staunton, USA
.....	.....

## Session 2: The Burden of Sepsis, COVID-19, and AMR

Friday, September 16	<b>Moderators:</b> Edmund Neugebauer, Brandenburg Medical School, Germany Emmanuel Nsutebu, African Sepsis Alliance, United Arab Emirates
12:15h Berlin Time	<b>The Global Burden of Sepsis and AMR</b> Mohsen Naghavi, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, USA
12:25h Berlin Time	<b>Addressing the Burden of Sepsis in Children Under Five</b> Niranjan 'Tex' Kisson, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada
12:35h Berlin Time	<b>The Burden of Sepsis and COVID-19 in Germany</b> Carolyn Fleischmann-Struzek, Jena University Hospital, Germany
12:45h Berlin Time	<b>Sepsis Knowledge – Results from a Representative Survey</b> Roman Marek, Sepsis Stiftung, Germany

12:55h Berlin Time: Lunch Break

## Session 3: How to Boost the Implementation of the WHA Sepsis Resolution

Friday, September 16	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>Moderators:</b> Abdulelah Alhawsawi, Eastern Mediterranean Sepsis Alliance, Saudi Arabia Ron Daniels, European Sepsis Alliance, United Kingdom
13:30h Berlin Time	<b>Synergies between Pandemic Preparedness, IPC, Sepsis, and AMR</b> Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland
13:33h Berlin Time	<b>Why Sepsis Needs to Be in the Public and Political Space</b> Keith Martin, Consortium of Universities for Global Health, USA
13:36h Berlin Time	<b>The Strategy of WHO Europe in the Fight Against Sepsis</b> João Breda, Special Adviser at WHO Regional Office for Europe, Greece
13:39h Berlin Time	<b>Lessons from the Pandemic to Fight Non-COVID Sepsis</b> Janet Diaz, World Health Organization, Switzerland
13:42h Berlin Time	<b>WHO HQ Efforts to Improve the Evidence-Based Management of Sepsis</b> Teri Reynolds, World Health Organization, Switzerland
13:45h Berlin Time	<b>Panel Discussion</b>

## Session 4: Learning by Exchange on the Global, National, and Facility Level

Friday,  
September 16

**Moderators:** Claudia Spies, Charité University Hospital, Germany  
Tobias Welte, Sepsis Stiftung, Germany

14:25h Berlin Time	<b>Challenges in Addressing Sepsis in Sub-Saharan Africa</b> Shevin Jacob, African Sepsis Alliance, Uganda
14:35h Berlin Time	<b>Australia's National Action Plan to Fight Sepsis, COVID-19, and AMR</b> Brett Abbenbroek, Asia Pacific Sepsis Alliance, Australia
14:45h Berlin Time	<b>Impact of Sepsis Mandates on Patient Outcomes</b> Marcus Friedrich, BIH/Charité Visiting Professor, USA
14:55h Berlin Time	<b>Using Synergies to Fight Pandemics, Sepsis, and AMR</b> Ron Daniels, European Sepsis Alliance, United Kingdom
15:05h Berlin Time	<b>Lessons Learned by the German Quality Network Sepsis</b> Daniel Schwarzkopf, Jena University Hospital, Germany
15:15h Berlin Time	Q&A

15:30h Berlin Time: Coffee Break

## Session 5: The Challenges of, and Lessons Learned from the Pandemic

Friday,  
September 16

**Panel Discussion**  
**Moderator:** Volkart Wildermuth, Deutschlandfunk, Germany

15:55h Berlin Time	<b>The Challenges and Lessons for a WHO Director</b> Rudi Eggers, Director Integrated Health Services, World Health Organization, Switzerland
15:58h Berlin Time	<b>The Perspective of a Dean and Scientist</b> Axel Pries, Charité University Hospital, Germany
16:01h Berlin Time	<b>The Perspective of a Science Editor</b> Joachim Müller-Jung, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Germany
16:04h Berlin Time	<b>The Perspective of a Vaccine Researcher and Developer</b> Stefan Kaufmann, Max Planck Institute, Germany
16:07h Berlin Time	<b>The Perspective from Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean Region</b> Emmanuel Nsutebu, Chair African Sepsis Alliance, United Arab Emirates
16:10h Berlin Time	<b>Novel Immunomodulatory and Biomarker Approaches in COVID-19 and Sepsis</b> Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis, Chair European Sepsis Alliance, Greece
16:13h Berlin Time	<b>On the Importance of and the Barriers to Clinical Research</b> Tobias Welte, Sepsis Stiftung, Germany
16:16h Berlin Time	<b>For Evaluating Novel Therapeutics – The Perspective of a Biotech CEO</b> Niels Riedemann, InflaRx, Germany
16:19h Berlin Time	<b>Panel Discussion</b>

17:10h Berlin Time: Closing Remarks

## Part II: Panel – Learning from Successful National Sepsis Initiatives

Friday, September 16	<b>Moderators:</b> Edmund Neugebauer, Brandenburg Medical School, Germany Daniel Schwarzkopf, Jena University Hospital, Germany
18:00h Berlin Time	<b>The Success Factors of the Surviving Sepsis Campaign on a Global Scale</b> Mitchell Levy, Brown University, USA
18:07h Berlin Time	<b>The Challenges and Successes in the Fight Against Sepsis in Latin America</b> Daniela Carla Souza, Sírío-Libanês Hospital, Brazil
18:14h Berlin Time	<b>Building a Successful National Sepsis Campaign in Japan</b> Naoyuki Matsuda, Japanese Sepsis Alliance, Japan
18:21h Berlin Time	<b>The History and Success Factors for the Sudanese National Sepsis Plan</b> Mohammed Elfatih Ahmed, Sudanese Sepsis Alliance, Sudan
18:28h Berlin Time	<b>Background and Impact of the National Clinical Programme on Sepsis Mortality</b> Michael O'Dwyer, Health Service Executive, Ireland
18:35h Berlin Time	<b>History, Achievements, and Future Strategy by Sepsis Alliance in the US</b> Thomas Heymann, Sepsis Alliance, USA
18:42h Berlin Time	<b>The Role of Nurses in the National Sepsis QI Initiative in Saudi Arabia</b> Maha Aljuaid, Global Sepsis Alliance, Saudi Arabia
18:49h Berlin Time	<b>The Strategy of the MoH-Funded "Germany Recognizes Sepsis"-Coalition</b> Ruth Hecker, Chair Coalition for Patient Safety, Germany
18:56h Berlin Time	<b>The SepWiss Project in Berlin and Brandenburg: Strategy and Lessons Learned</b> Wiltrud Abels, Sepsis Stiftung, Germany
19:03h Berlin Time	<b>Panel Discussion</b>

## Part III: Celebration and Fundraising Dinner

To mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Sepsis Day and to present the 2021 GSA Awards, we are hosting a festive evening program in front of the picturesque backdrop in the outdoor marquee at Berlin's Wannsee lake.

20:00h Berlin Time

Musical accompaniment will be provided by the Ole Boston Quartet with professional musicians from the Berlin jazz and rock music world. Diane Weigmann (Lemon Babies) and Momo Djender (on tour with Sting) will enrich the evening with their extraordinary voices.

You can look forward to numerous guests from culture, medicine, and health politics. Be curious about presentations, performances, and the announcements of projects to support the continuous efforts by our large and increasing global sepsis family for the improvement of awareness, prevention, early recognition, diagnosis, and clinical management of sepsis. Be prepared to be surprised...



The dress code for the evening is "Business Casual". Changing rooms and lockers are available at the venue. Please note that it can get a bit chilly in Berlin in the middle of September, please prepare accordingly.



We will oblige to follow all COVID-19 regulations by the state of Berlin that are in effect at the time of the event. Additionally, there will be voluntary and free testing provided by our sponsor Abionic via a saliva swab. Currently, no masks are required. Most of the event will take place outside, weather permitting.

## Supporters

The following entities are supporting us in promoting this event – thanks for their support. If you'd like to join the promotion and be featured below and in the program, please contact [Mariam](#).

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European Shock Society (ESS)  
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German Sepsis Society  
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Physician-Patient Alliance for Health & Safety (PPAHS)  
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Australian Sepsis Network (ASN)  
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## Sponsors

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