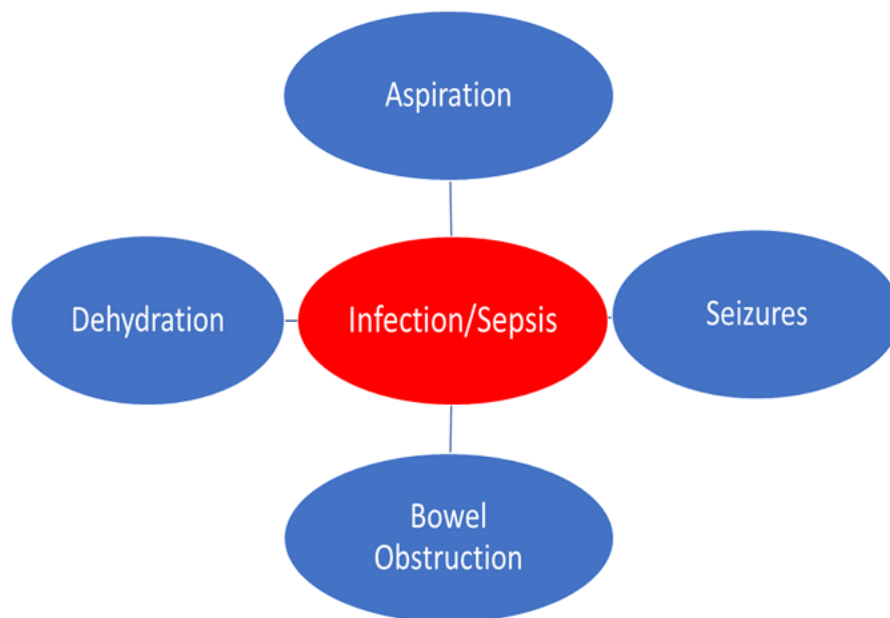




Preventable Deaths in Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The HCQU is committed to providing an increase in awareness and education surrounding health conditions most likely to result in death or health deterioration for persons with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities. In the past we have offered The Fatal 4 training focusing on aspiration, dehydration, constipation, and seizures. These health issues, often unrecognized, are linked to serious illness and preventable deaths in community-based settings.

Research has shown that there is a need to focus on an *additional* preventable health issue – INFECTION/SEPSIS. Sepsis is a medical emergency. To put it simply, sepsis is a term used to describe a serious illness characterized by a bacterial infection in the bloodstream. Sources of sepsis may be an infection of the kidney(s) or bladder and pneumonia. It is important to recognize the signs of these conditions and other infections and get them prompt treatment. Early intervention can prevent an individual from becoming septic.



As more individuals with IDD transition into community settings, caregivers play a vital role in the lives of the people they care for. Knowing how to prevent, recognize and seek treatment for select medical situations will not only improve the quality of their care, but will also save lives. Training and developing your staff to assist with recognizing and managing these fatal conditions is imperative.

The HCQU has a lengthy *overview* training that highlights all five medical conditions. Contact the HCQU to schedule a virtual instructor led Fatal 5 training. Further in-depth training on each specific medical condition can also be provided through virtual and online instruction, and self-study packets.