

# Sepsis and Septic Shock



# Sepsis and Septic Shock Definitions

- Sepsis
- Septicemia
- SIRS
- Severe Sepsis
- Septic Shock
- MODS
- ARDS
- CARS





## Most common cause of death

- Human SMICU
- Large animal NICU

## Fatality rate

- Human medicine 20-80%
- NBC NICU - 137 cases
  - Sepsis without shock - 17%
  - Septic Shock - 90%

## Fatalities

- Refractory hypotension
- ARDS
- MODS

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Etiology

### Infectious causes

- Bacterial infections
  - Gram negative pathogens – 60%
  - Gram positive pathogens – 40%
- Viral pathogens
- Fungal pathogens

### Bacteremia detected in neonate

- Sepsis < 30%
- Septic Shock > 70%

### Localized infections

May never isolate causative agent

### Noninfectious causes

# Septic Shock Pathogenesis

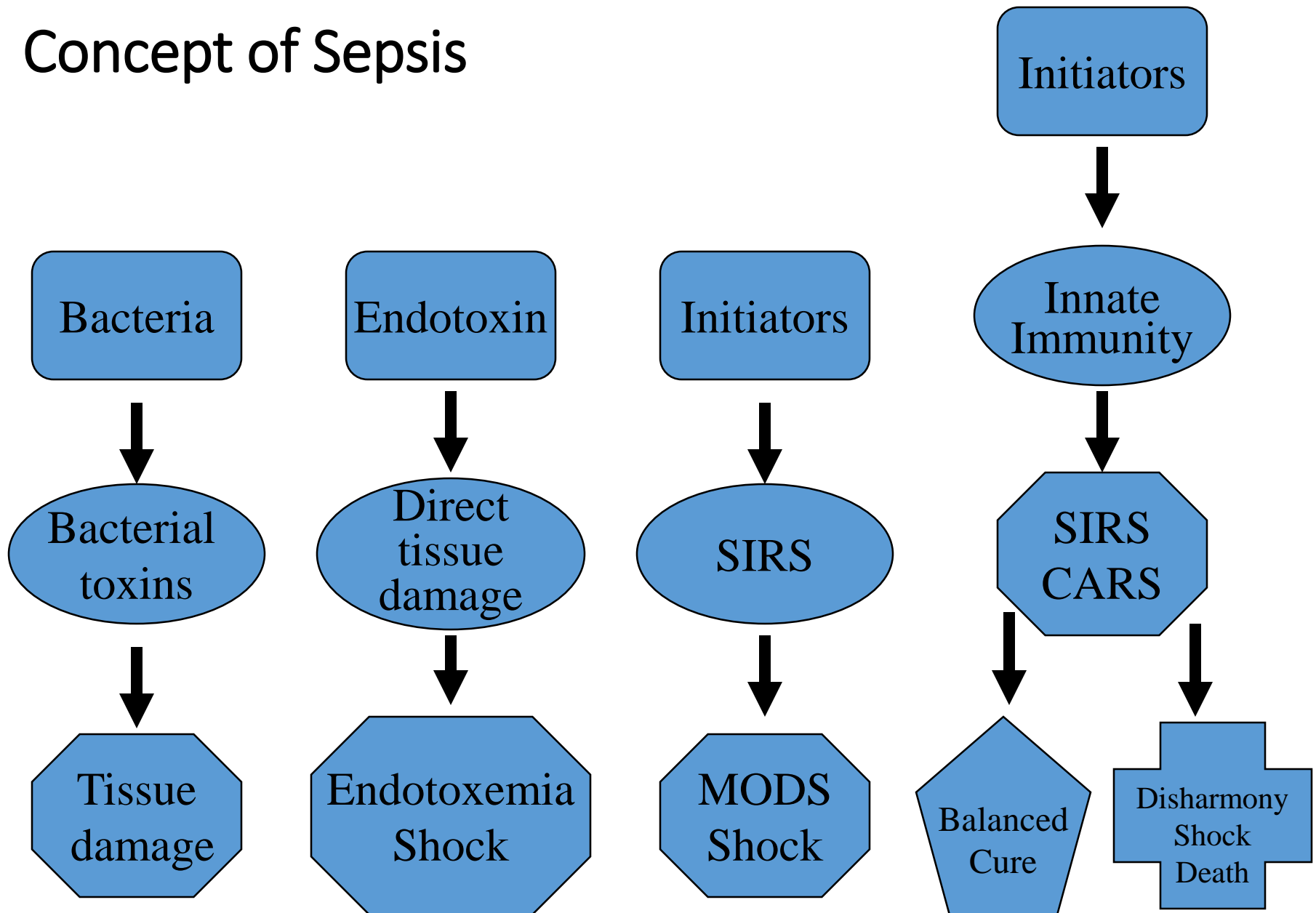
## **Septic shock**

Inflammatory response (SIRS)

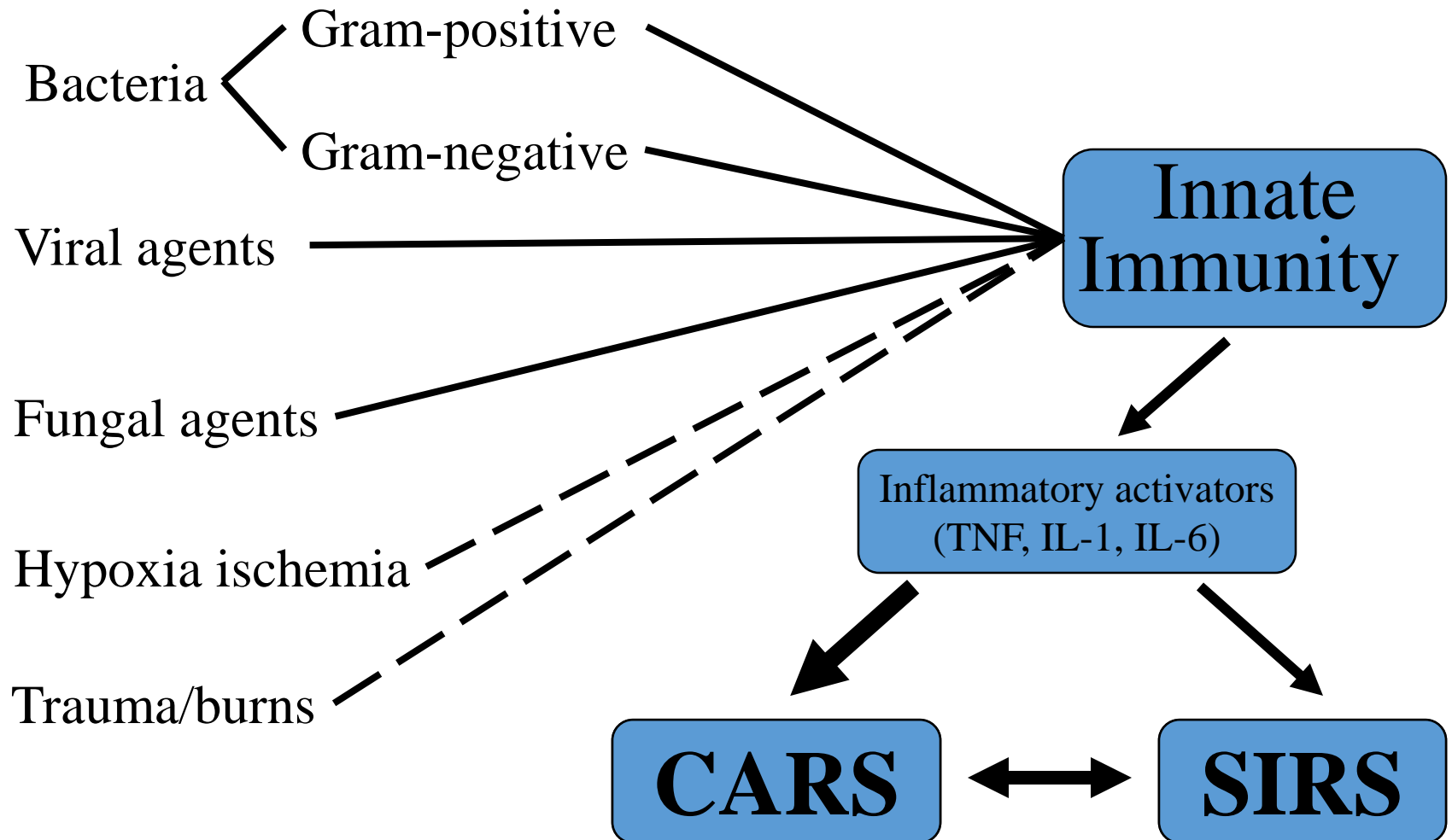
Immunosuppression (CARS)



# Concept of Sepsis



# Initiation of Inflammatory Reactions



# Septic Shock

## Initiators of mediator response

### Gram negative pathogens

- Endotoxin
- Formyl peptides
- Exotoxins
- Proteases

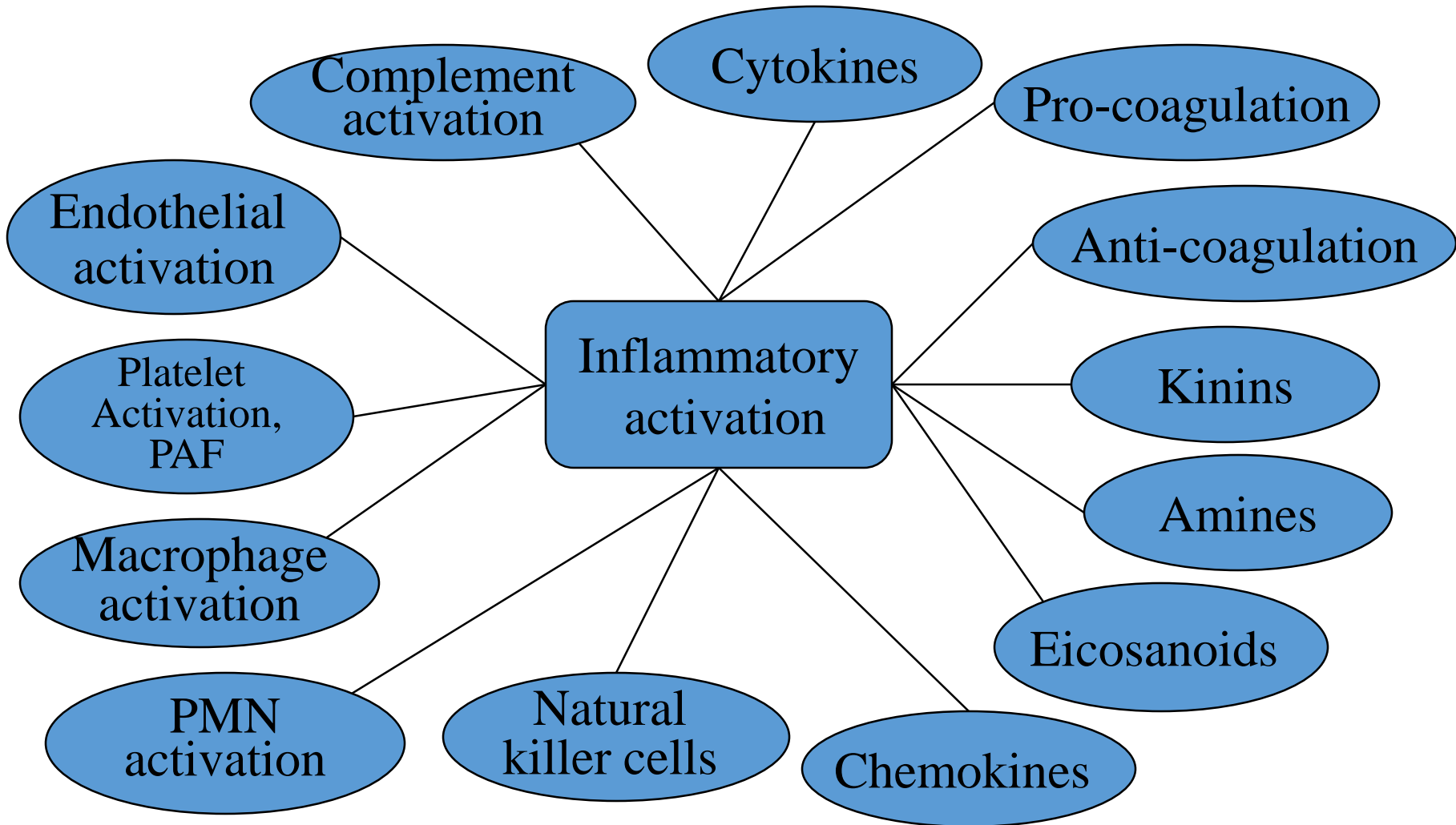
### Gram positive pathogens

- Exotoxins
- Enterotoxins
- Hemolysins
- Peptidoglycans
- Lipoteichoic acid





# Inflammatory Cascade



# Septic Shock

## Pathogenesis - Cardiovascular effects

- Heart rate increases
- Cardiac output increases
- Systemic vascular resistance low
  - Arteriolar tone is decreases - hypotension
  - Venus tone decreased - venous pooling
- Pulmonary vascular resistance is high
  - Right-to-left shunt
- Despite increase cardiac output
  - Tissue hypoperfusion - malperfusion
  - Increased lactate
  - Decreased oxygen utilization

# Septic Shock

## Pathogenesis - Cardiovascular effects

- **Decreased sensitivity to catecholamines**
  - Circulating vasodilator substances
  - Adrenergic receptor down-regulation
- **Loss of microvascular autoregulatory mechanisms**
  - Microvascular damage
- **Distributive shock**
  - Maldistribution of blood flow
  - Dilation of most vascular beds
  - Constriction of some

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Portals of Entry

- GI - Translocation
- Respiratory tract - Aspiration
- Placenta - *in utero*
- Umbilicus



# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Predisposing factors

- Placentitis – may be protected
- Prematurity
- Hypoxic-Ischemic disease
- Hypothermia
- FPT
- Stress
- Poor nutrition
- Poor husbandry



# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Localized Infections

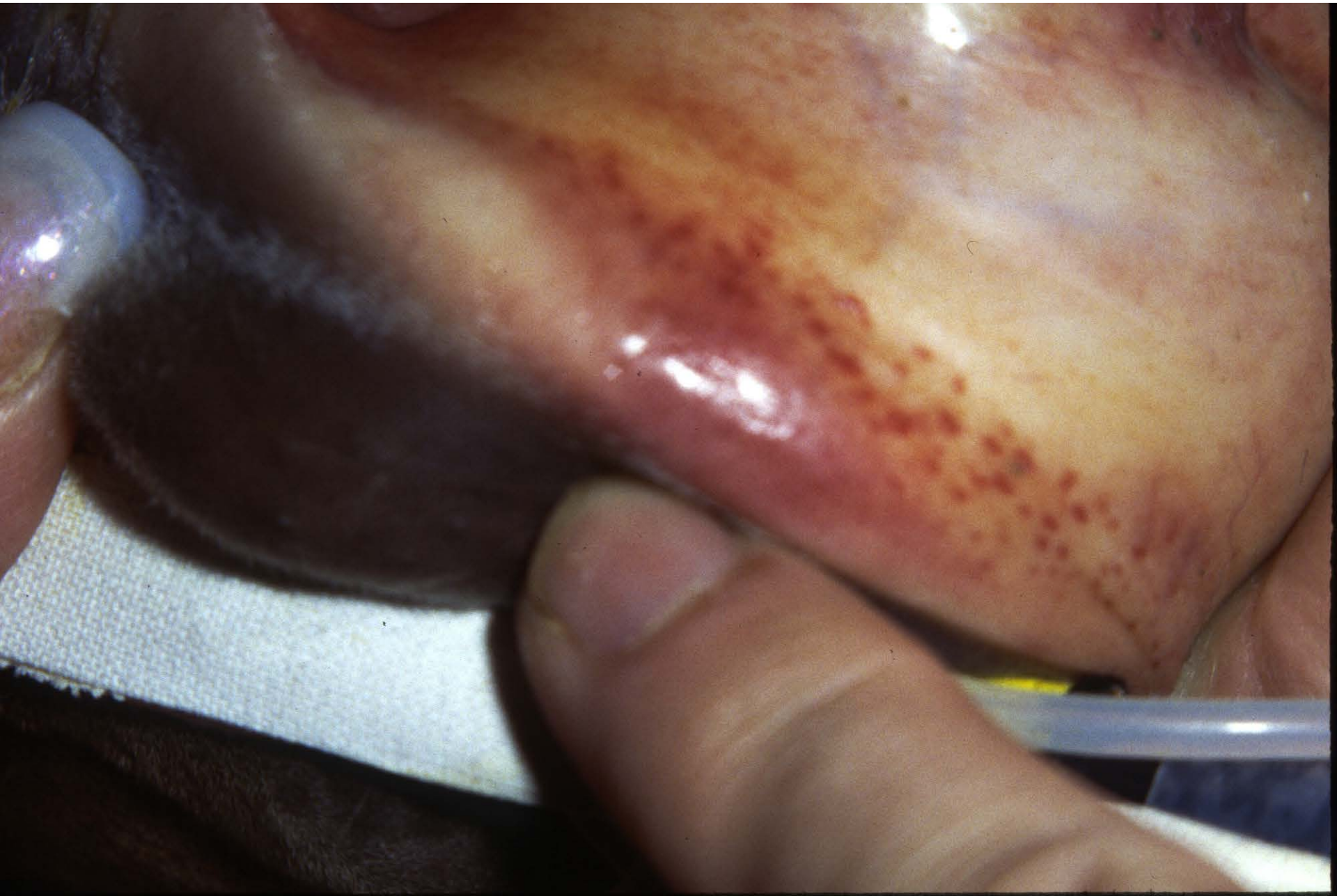


- Pneumonia
- Enteritis
- Arthritis
- Osteomyelitis
- Meningitis
- Omphalitis
- Uveitis

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

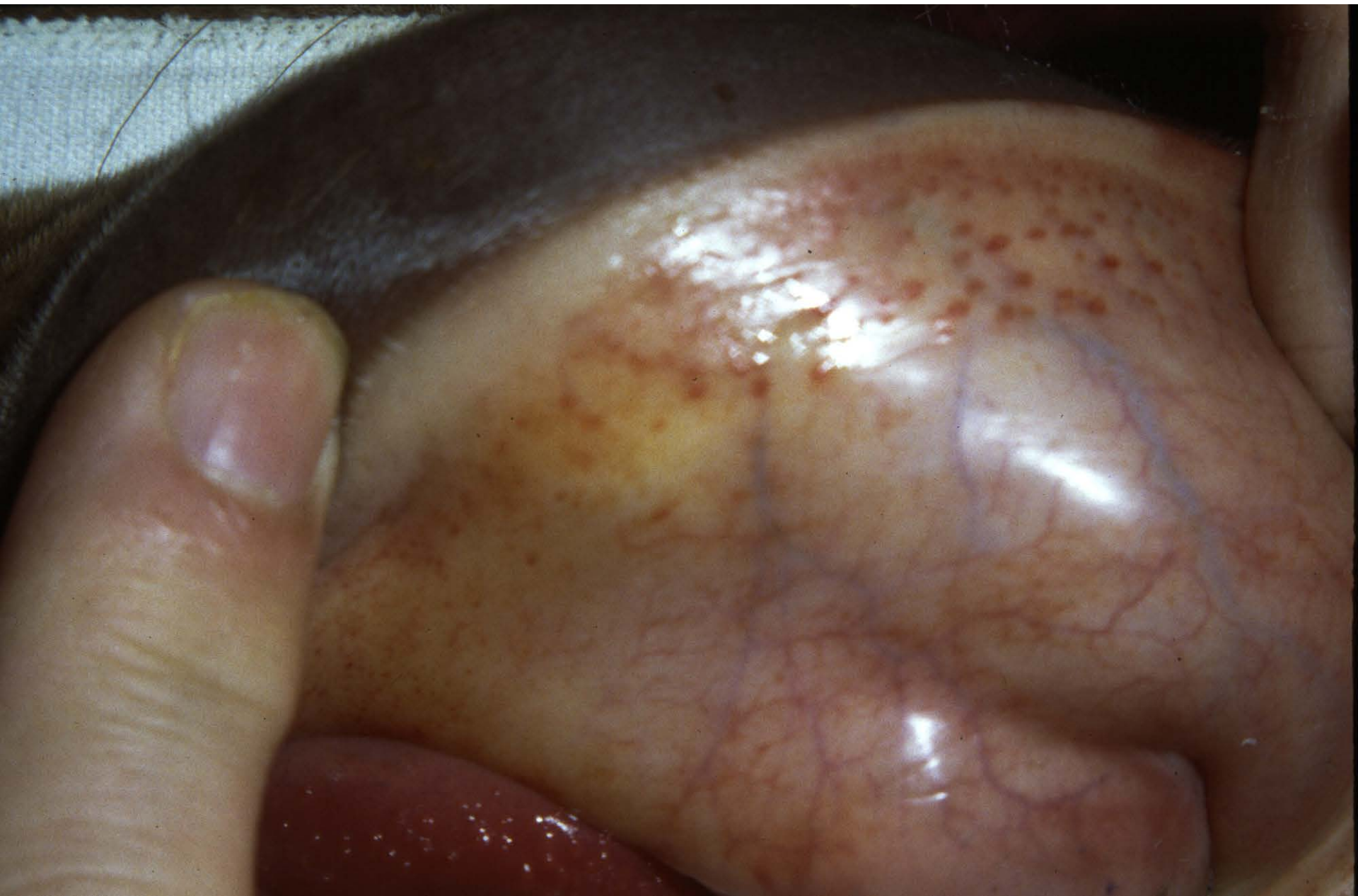
## Signs of Sepsis

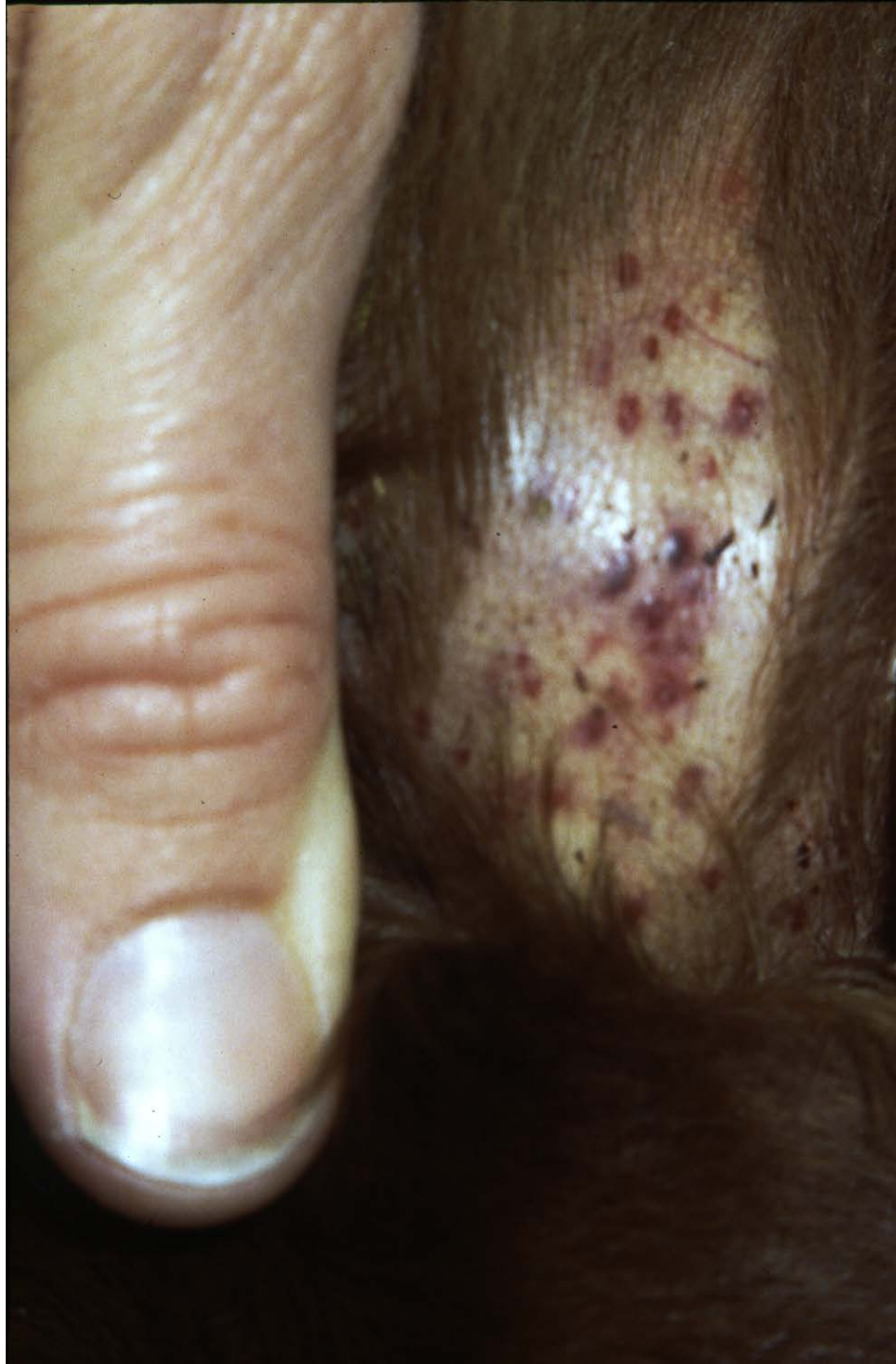
- Fever/hypothermia
- Loss of suckle, lethargy, weakness
- Tachycardia, tachypnea
- Injection, Icterus – oral, scleral
- Petechia - oral, scleral, aural
- Hyperemic coronary bands
- Linear dermal necrosis
- Increased/decreased CRT
- Shock



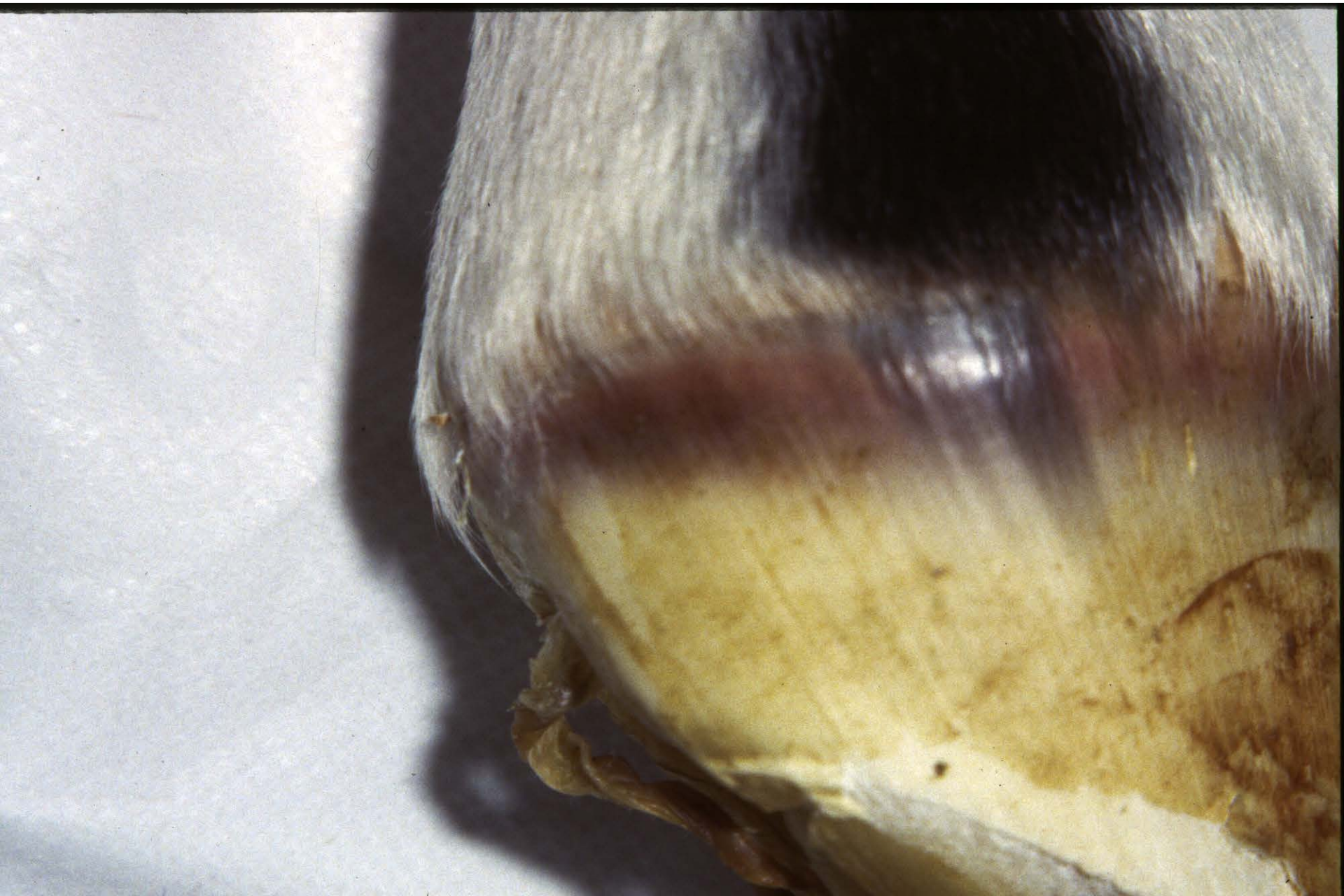














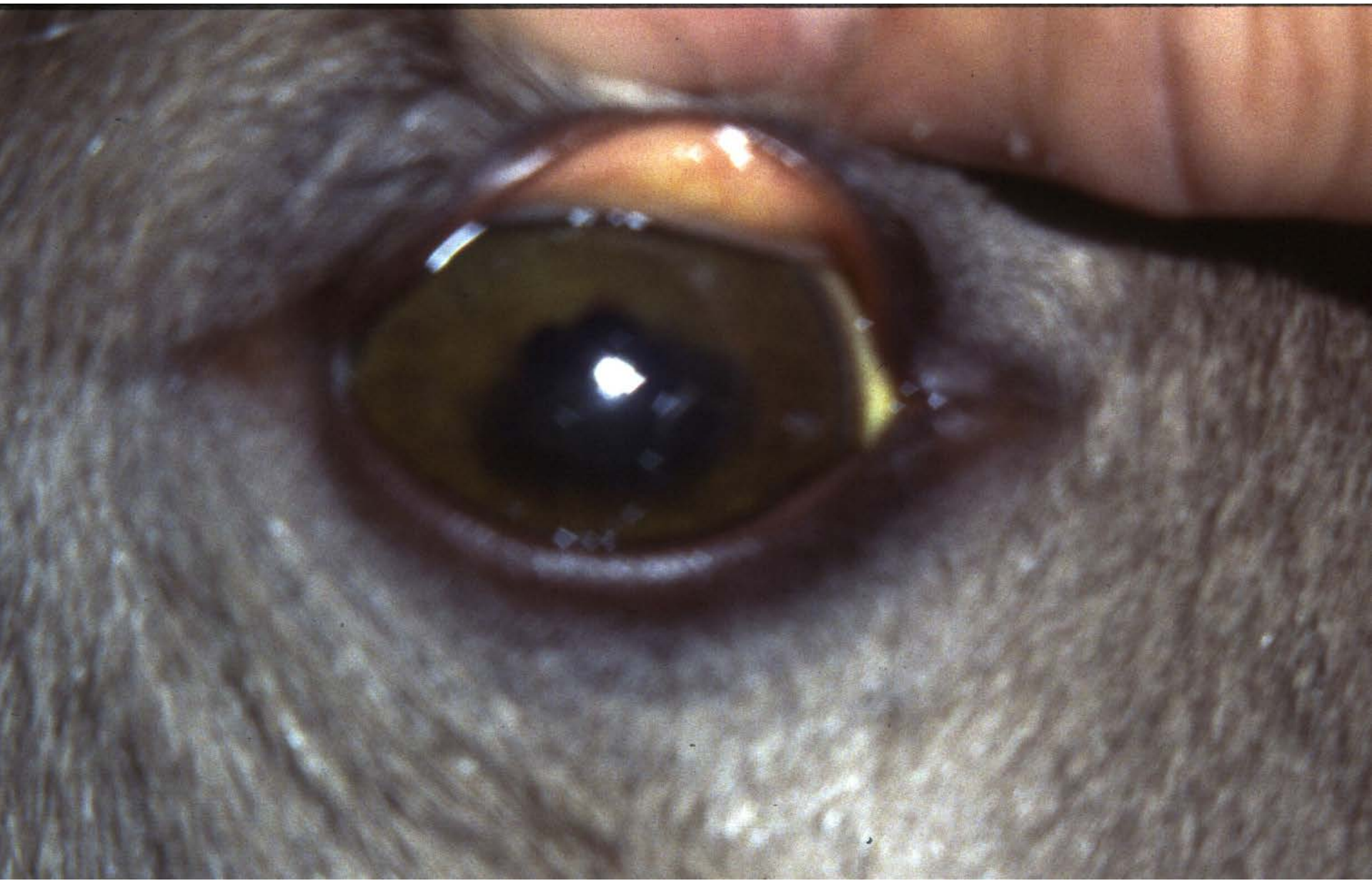














# SIRS damage

## MODS

### GI tract

- Breach of the intestinal barrier
- Translocation of bacteria

### Lungs

- Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)

### CNS

- Breakdown blood brain barrier
- Inflammatory mediators
- Neurosteroid balance

### Renal failure

- Decreased renal blood flow – vascular damage
- Acute tubular necrosis

# Recognition of SIRS

## Release of inflammatory mediators

- Fever
- Tachycardia
- Tachypnea
- Vasodilatation (warm skin)
- Mild controlled infection or systemic responses



# Recognition of SIRS/Septic Shock

## Bounding pulses

- Widen pulse pressure
- Increased cardiac output
- Increased systemic vascular resistance

## Hypoperfusion

- Somnolence
- Fall asleep on feet
- Decreased urine output

## Before endothelial damage/dysfunction

- Intervention is most dramatic

# Recognition of SIRS/Septic Shock

Shock progresses

Other signs of decreased perfusion

- Cool extremities

Secondary to increase vasomotor tone

Normal or high BP

Cold progressing to ice cold legs



# Recognition of SIRS/Septic Shock

- Homeostatic mechanisms fail
  - Hypotension occurs
  - Pulse pressure narrows
- Legs cold
- Tachycardia
- Tachypnea
- Recumbent and nonresponsive
- Decreased cardiac output
- Hypoxia and metabolic acidosis

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Therapeutic interventions

### Key interventions

- Treat underlying infection
- Provide hemodynamic support
- Support during MODS and metabolic crisis
- Block proinflammatory mediators

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Therapeutic interventions

- Treat underlying infection
- Anticipate bacteria infection
  - Antimicrobial therapy
- Viral infections
  - Acyclovir
- Hyperimmune plasma transfusion

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Antimicrobials

- Penicillin
- Amikacin
- Cephalosporins
- Ticarcillin/clavulanic acid
- Imipenim

# Septic Shock

## Hemodynamic support

### Goals

- Clear blood lactate
- Normalize perfusion
- Optimize cardiac output
- Increase systemic oxygen delivery

# Septic Shock

## Hemodynamic support - Fluid therapy

Crystalloids or colloids?

Crystalloid push

- Bolus 20 ml/kg over 10-20 minutes
- Reassess patient after every push
  - Blood pressure
  - Leg temperature
  - Peripheral pulse - arterial fill
  - Urine production
  - Mental status

Transfusions

- Plasma
- Whole blood

**Don't fluid overload**



# Septic Shock

## Pressors/Inotropes

- Therapeutic goal
  - Increase perfusion
  - Not “get good BP numbers”
- Inotropic effect most important
  - Increase cardiac output
- Pressor effect
  - Can negate inotropic effect
  - Hopefully will correct malperfusion
- Use a mix of inotropes and pressors
- Each patient - pharmacokinetic experiment
- Arrhythmias - tachycardia





# Septic Shock

## Pressors/Inotropes

- Dopamine
- Dobutamine
- Norepinephrine
- Epinephrine
- Vasopressin

# Septic Shock

## Oxygen therapy

Optimize O<sub>2</sub> availability

Internasal O<sub>2</sub> as soon as shock recognized

High flows 8-10 lpm

Utilize even if Pao<sub>2</sub> appears adequate

Ventilate early

Decrease work of breathing

25% of O<sub>2</sub> consumption to support respiration

Cardiovascular function improves

Make respiratory failure easier to manage

Modest PEEP

Decrease work of breathing, pulmonary resistance

Decrease hypoxia, need for high FIO<sub>2</sub>

Improve gas exchange with inhaled NO



# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Nutritional Support

### Sepsis is associated with

- Hypermetabolism
- Catabolism

### Hyperglycemia

- Catecholamine stimulated glycolysis
- Catecholamine mediated insulin resistance
- Insulin therapy
  - Strict glucose control

### Hypoglycemia

- Often profound, refractory hypoglycemia
- Monitor blood glucose levels frequently
- IV glucose therapy

# Sepsis and Septic Shock

## Inhibiting Toxic Mediators

Antitoxins - Antiendotoxin

Anti-interleukin-1 receptor

Antibradykinin, AntiPAF

AntiTNF, TNF antagonists, NSAIDs

Steroids, Interleukin-1 antagonists

Bradykinin antagonists, Modulate NO

Antiadhesion factors

Large clinical trials in man

- Not show improvement of survival
- Activated protein C (Xigris)

SIRS/Septic Shock  
Inhibiting toxic mediators

## Why the failures?

Interactions are very complex

Compensatory anti-inflammatory response syndrome (CARS)

Genetic variations in mediators

Timing – interactions

# SIRS/Septic Shock

## SIRS – CARS Balance

Effective therapy for septic shock await

- Understanding the interaction and balance
- Understanding the timing

