Aortic screening

Newsletter Peel Park Surgery November

**An abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) is a bulge or swelling in the aorta, the main blood vessel that runs from the heart down through the chest and tummy.** An AAA can be dangerous if it isn't spotted early on. It can get bigger over time and could burst (rupture), causing life-threatening bleeding.

Men aged 65 and over are most at risk of AAAs. This is why men are invited for screening to check for an AAA when they're 65. **Symptoms of an AAA,** a pulsing sensation in the tummy (like a heartbeat), [tummy pain](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stomach-ache/) that doe,sn't go away, lower [back pain](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/back-pain/) that doesn't go away

Treatment for a: ultrasound scans are recommended every year to check if it's getting bigger; you'll be advised about healthy lifestyle changes to help stop it growing surgery is another option.

Sepsis

Sepsis is a serious complication of an infection**.** Without quick treatment, sepsis can lead to multiple organ failure and death.. Go straight to A&E or call 999 if your child has any of these symptoms**:** **looks mottled, bluish or pale, is very lethargic or difficult to wake, feels abnormally cold to touch, is breathing very fast, has a rash that does not fade when you press it, has a fit or convulsion.**

**S**[**eptic shock**](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/septic-shock/) (when your blood pressure drops to a dangerously low level) develop soon after.

Sepsis is often diagnosed based on simple measurements such as your temperature, heart rate and breathing rate. You may need to give a [blood test](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/blood-tests/).

If sepsis is detected early and hasn't affected vital organs yet, it may be possible to treat the infection at home with [antibiotics](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/antibiotics/). Most people who have sepsis detected at this stage make a full recovery.