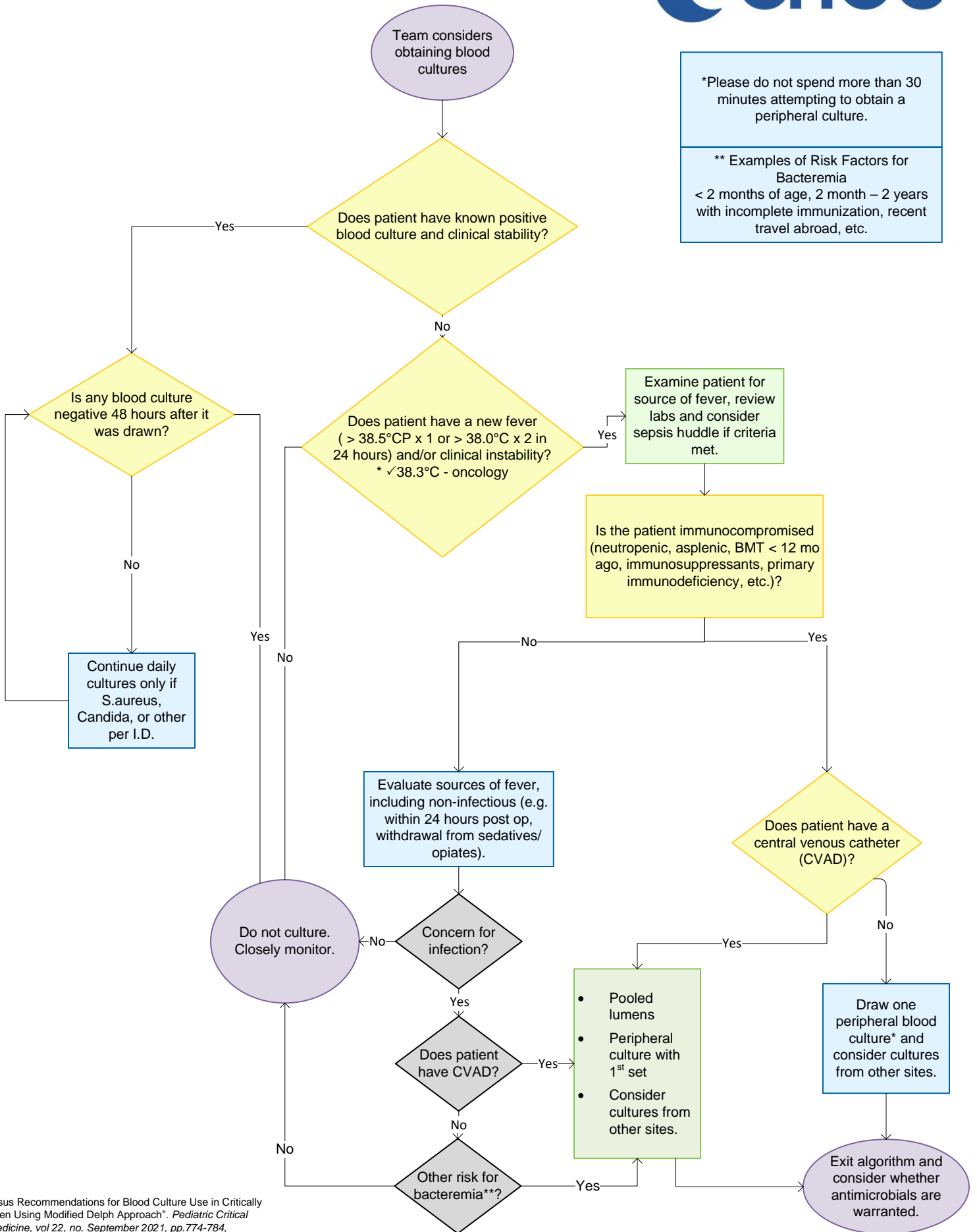


Blood Culture Algorithm



*Please do not spend more than 30 minutes attempting to obtain a peripheral culture.

** Examples of Risk Factors for Bacteremia
 < 2 months of age, 2 month – 2 years with incomplete immunization, recent travel abroad, etc.

Consensus Recommendations for Blood Culture Use in Critically Ill Children Using Modified Delphi Approach". *Pediatric Critical Care Medicine*, vol 22, no. September 2021, pp.774-784, DOI:10.1097/PCC.0000000000002749
 Boston Children's Hospital/Bright Star Collaborative

Blood Culture Algorithm



Recommendations for blood culture use in critically ill children without signs of sepsis

“To Do” before blood culture decision:

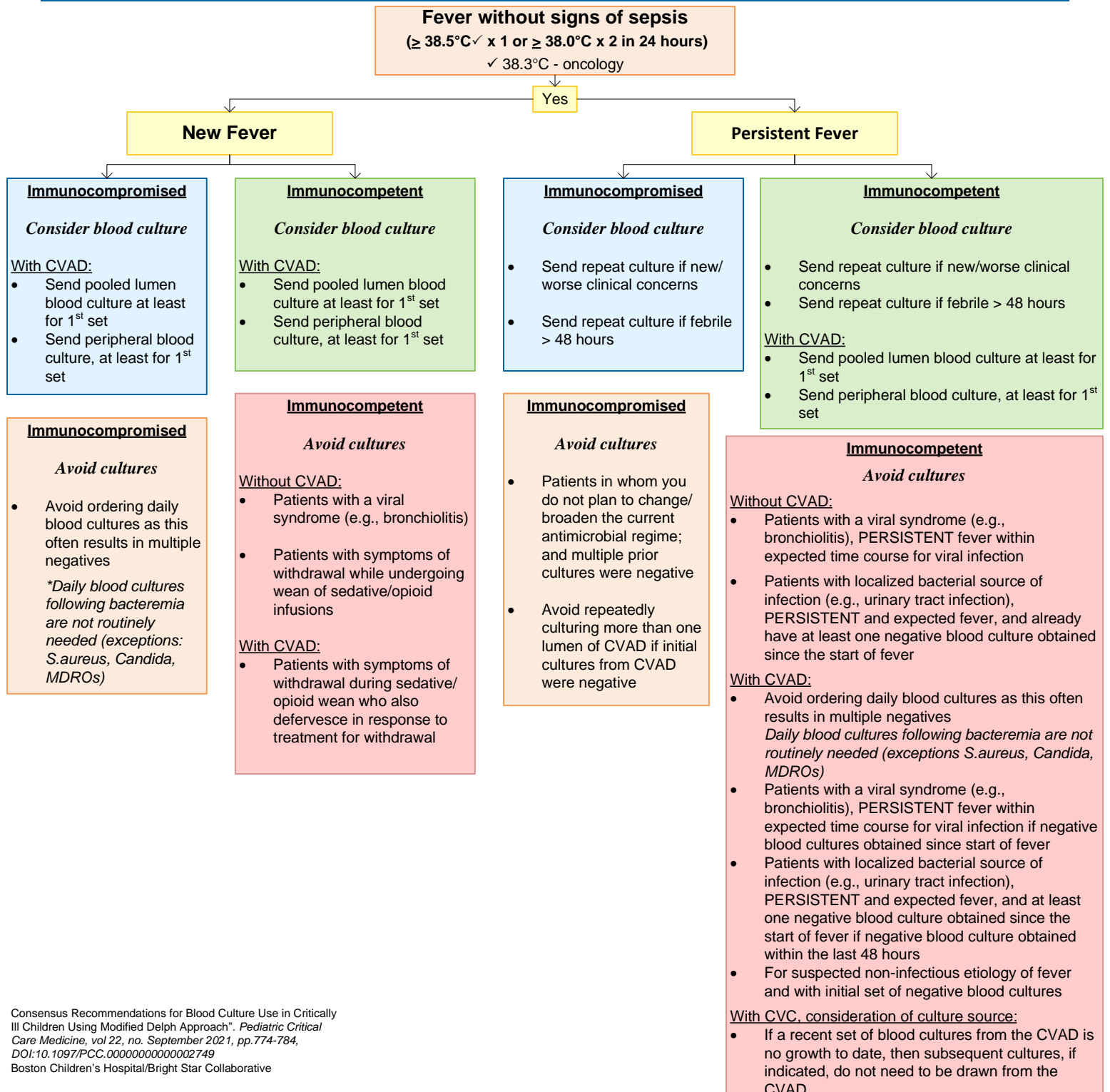
- Review the clinical data (e.g., vital signs, laboratory/imaging, urine output, recent cultures, antimicrobial therapy)
- Examine the patient
- Discuss the patient’s clinical status with the bedside nurse

Do NOT:

- Draw blood cultures from peripheral IVs
- Obtain blood culture for NEW fever within 24 hours of surgery and with no signs of sepsis; WITH or WITHOUT a CVAD in place

In ASYMPTOMATIC patients, avoid blood cultures:

- For surveillance (e.g., daily screening blood cultures). In particular:
 - on ECMO
 - on CRRT
 - in the immunocompromised WITH or WITHOUT CVAD
- In patients who have inadvertent CVAD disconnection
- In patients who have a broken or cracked CVAD



Blood Culture Algorithm References

1. Woods-Hill, Charlotte, MD, et al. "Consensus Recommendations for Blood Culture Use in Critically Ill Children Using Modified Delph Approach". *Pediatric Critical Care Medicine*, vol 22, no. September 2021, pp.774-784, DOI:10.1097/PCC.0000000000002749
2. Boston Children's Hospital /Bright Star collaborative