SystmOne template for the management of a feverish child aged under six years

The NICE traffic light system in CG160 ‘feverish child’, on which the SAM desktop is based, is a tool for “for identifying risk of serious illness”. It would therefore be perfectly reasonable to use this in an apyrexial child in whom you suspected sepsis.

This template was developed by Dr Paul Johnson of Cricketfield Practice, Newton Abbot
1 If you are consulting a feverish child under six, either face to face or remotely, type into your consultation ‘fch’. This will automatically launch the Feverish Child Protocol with a series of questions followed by the Feverish Child template. Alternatively, when you have a patient up, go to the search box at the bottom left of the screen and type ‘fever’. The first choice is most likely to be the template – click on it.
2 That should bring up the Feverish Child template, with a series of tick-boxes that run through the NICE guideline criteria for categorising a child’s clinical condition as either: Green, Amber or Red. Some boxes are a one-click tick...
3 Others have drop-down boxes...
And there are further boxes for entering numerical values.
5 Once all of the clinical criteria have been entered, the OK button leads to a screen with the traffic-light score and appropriate recommendations.
6. A list of the clinical findings and measurements is automatically entered into the patient notes.
7 If the score is “Amber”, then the NICE recommendations are displayed with an option to advise the parent and supply written safety-net information, with or without arranging follow-up.
8 The safety net: Various preset options can be selected or additional information free-texted on this page.
9 The “Red” traffic light suggests urgent paediatric referral. Once “Yes” has been selected, the clinical details are transferred to a pre-formatted referral letter which also includes significant past medical history, medication and allergies.