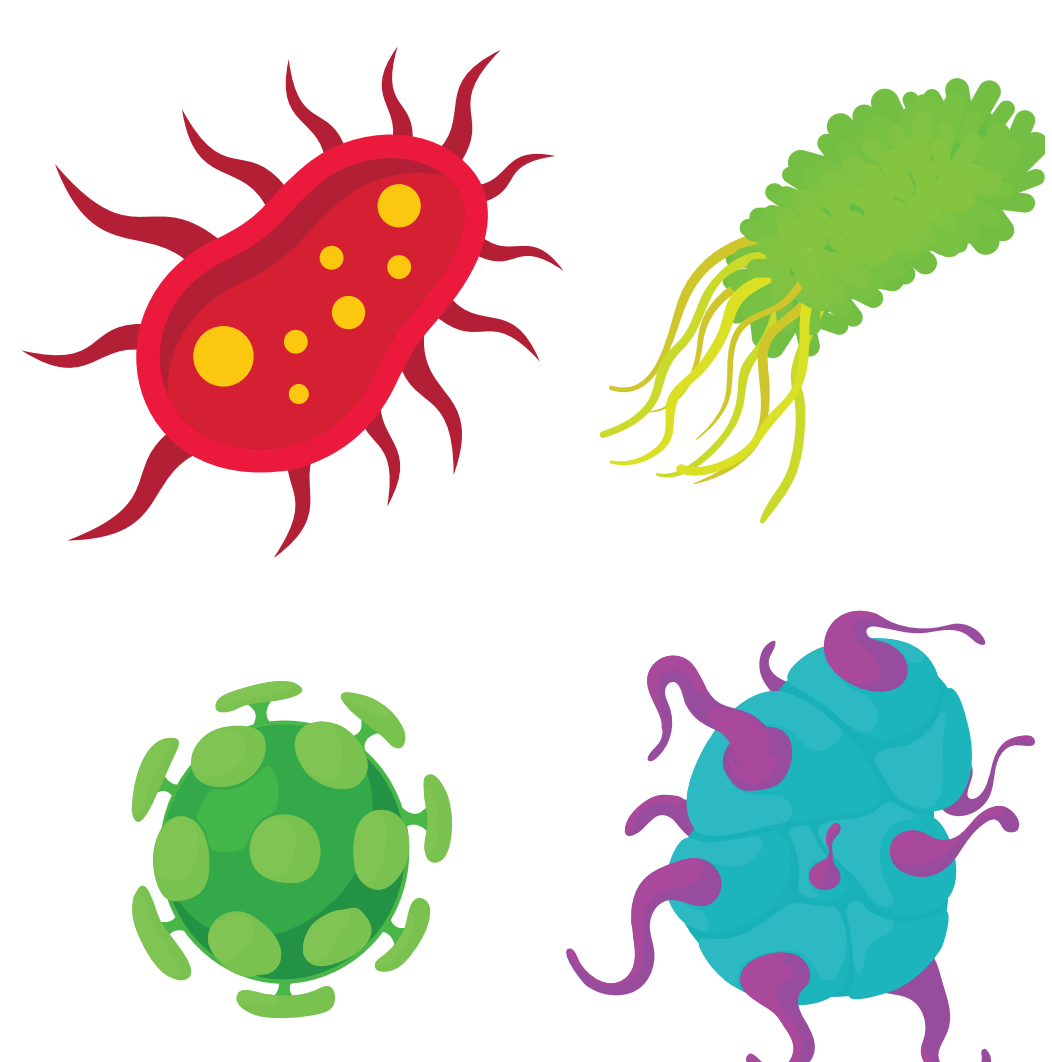


DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR

## COULD THIS BE SEPSIS?



## WHAT IS SEPSIS?

Sepsis occurs in children when they get an infection and their immune system doesn't respond as it should. The abnormal immune response can damage their organs which can be life threatening.

## WHO CAN IT AFFECT?

Sepsis can affect anyone but it is more likely to occur in older people or very young children because their immune systems are weaker.



## HOW DOES A CHILD GET SEPSIS?

We can treat and resolve most infections but any infection could become sepsis. Children with existing medical conditions are most at risk of getting sepsis. The most common infections are chest, urinary tract, tummy and after surgery.



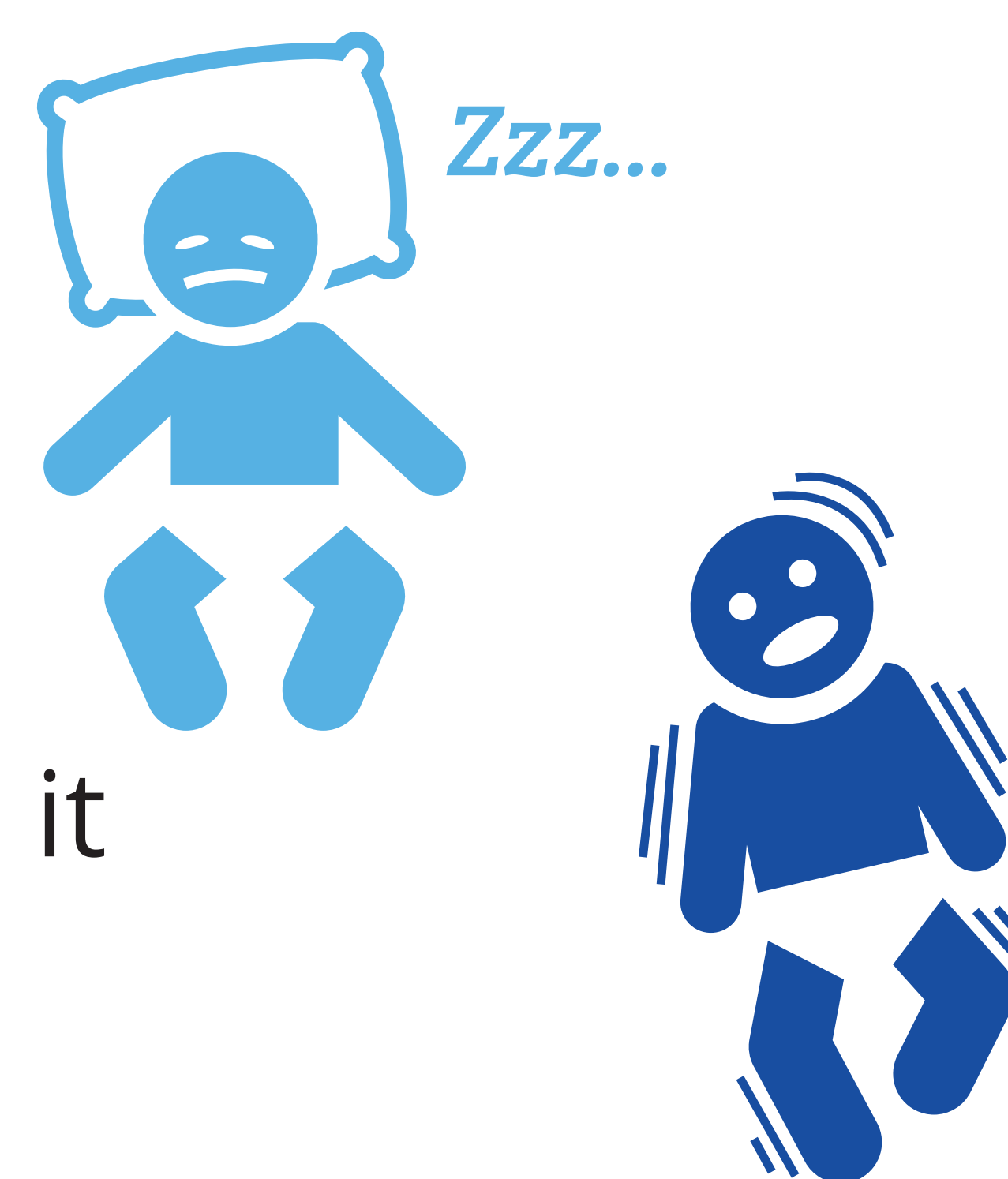
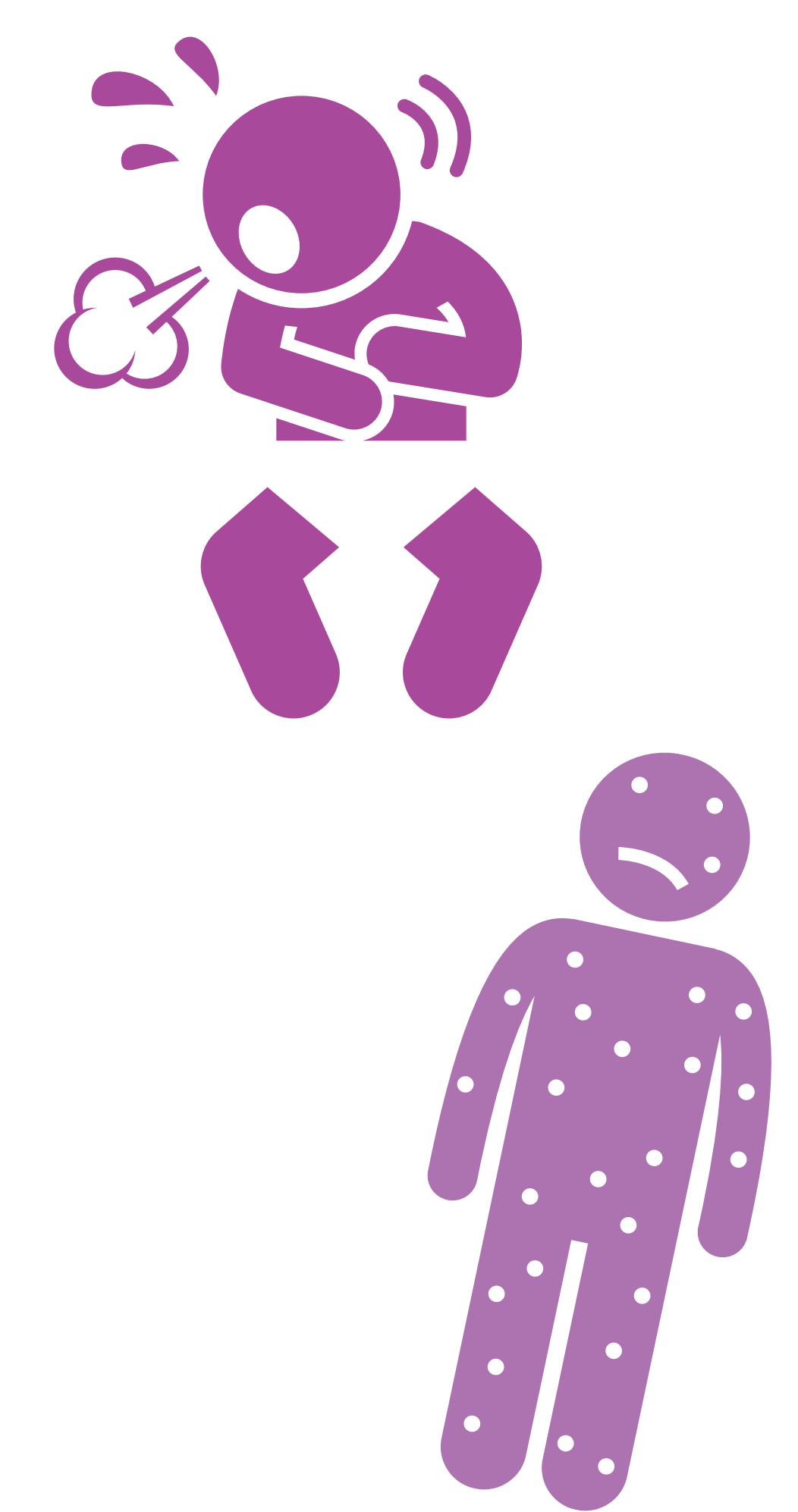
## HOW CAN I HELP PREVENT SEPSIS?

- Talk to your doctor to make sure your child has had all the recommended vaccinations
- Keep any cuts or scratches clean and covered
- Keep general areas and your child's bed or cot clean
- Children under 13 yrs do not usually need to wear a mask unless clinically advised



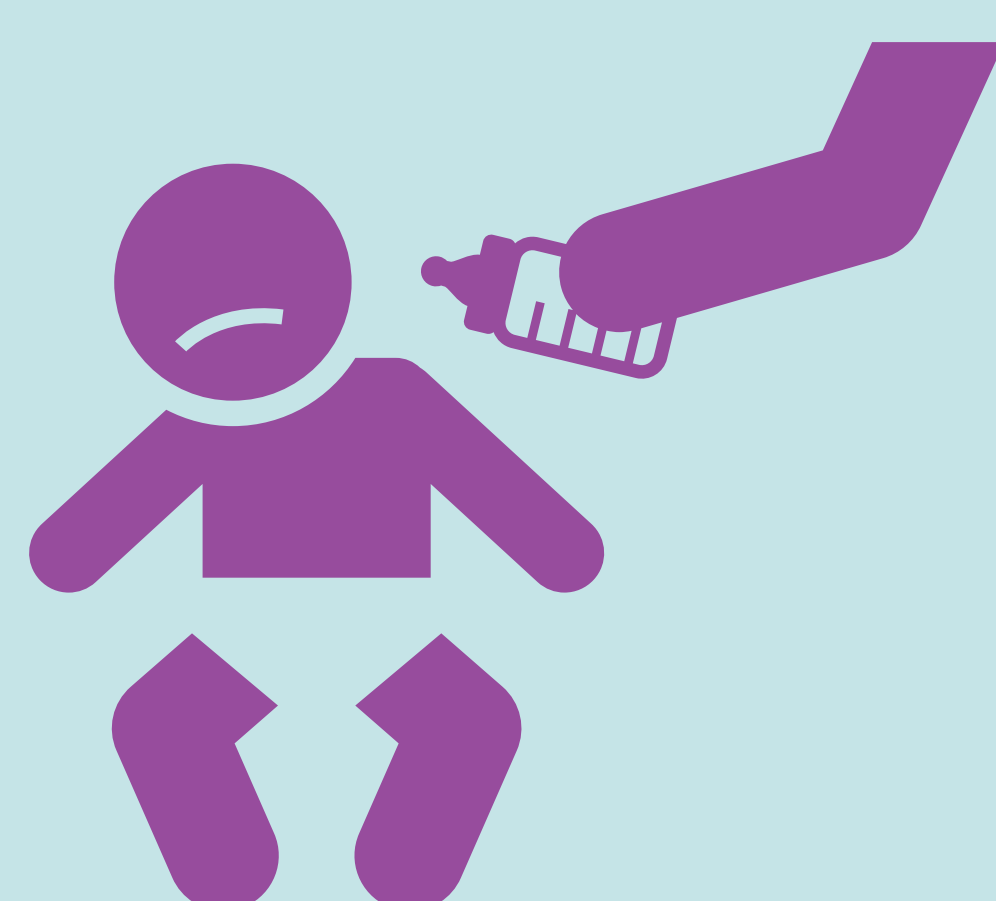
## WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS?

- Very fast breathing
- Having fits or convulsions
- Skin looks mottled or patchy, bluish or pale
- Has a rash that does not fade when you press it
- Is unusually sleepy and difficult to wake
- Feels unusually cold when you touch them



## THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR IF YOUR CHILD IS UNDER 5:

- not feeding
- vomiting repeatedly
- dry when you change them and have not had a wet nappy for the last 12 hours



IF YOU SEE ANY OF THE ABOVE SYMPTOMS IN YOUR CHILD  
DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR

## 'COULD THIS BE SEPSIS?'

Go to [www.hse.ie/sepsis](http://www.hse.ie/sepsis) for more information

