



Differentiation between SIRS, sepsis, severe sepsis and septic shock by IL-6. Plasma levels in patients with SIRS (n = 18), sepsis (n = 14), severe sepsis (n = 21), and septic shock (n = 25). Data are presented as box plots with the line representing the median, the box limits the 25th and 75th percentiles, and the error bars the 10th and 90th percentiles.