

Sepsis Risk in the Newborn (including GBS)

**Sepsis Risk Evaluation in Newborns
(Including GBS)**

Sepsis/Group B Strep Guidelines

Call the pediatrician on call for ill appearing infants (infants with abnormal vital signs or any concern that the baby is not acting normally). In addition, call the pediatrician for infants with these findings. The physician's management of these infants is contingent on additional history.

1. If an infant has a rectal temperature ≥ 100.4 (38C) after initial stabilization.
2. Deliveries of infants ≤ 35 weeks gestation.
3. Chorioamnionitis is suspected.
4. Mother known to be GBS positive at 35 to 37 weeks *or* had GBS bacteriuria this pregnancy *and did not get antibiotics at least 4 hours* before delivery.
5. Mother had a previous infant with GBS disease.
6. Rupture of membranes ≥ 18 hours and *mother did not receive antibiotics*.

Management for the healthy infant with risk factors whose mother received antibiotics:

1. Obstetrics will administer antibiotics to mothers that are Group B Strep carriers; or if not screened for GBS, mothers with risk factors for infant sepsis.

References: "Pediatrics, Vol 99, No. 3, March 1997"

MMWR Recommendations and Reports, August 16, 2002, 151, (RR11), 1-22

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