

# Post delivery antibiotics

## Abstract

The need to know which babies need antibiotics after delivery and which are not is the main goal of this lecture.

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## Neonatal sepsis

### Definition

It is a clinical syndrome of systemic illness accompanied by bactemia occurring in 1st month of life.

### Incidence

Range from 1-8/thousand & reaches 13-27/thousand for B.W < 1.5kg. The mortality rate is 13-25% & higher rates are seen in premature.

### Pathophysiology

- Early onset dis: Presents in 1st 5-7 days of life. Usually multisystem fulminant illness with prominent respiratory symptoms. Baby acquires infection during intrapartum period.
- Late onset dis: Presents after 5 days of life. Usually there is identifiable focus mostly meningitis in addition to sepsis. Source of organism are maternal genital tract & organisms acquired after birth from human contact & contaminated equipment.
- Nosocomial Sepsis: Seen in NICU sick babies with invasive technique & monitoring.

### Causative organism

- GBS most common
- E. Coli Others Listeria, Staph, other strept, klebsiella

### Risk factors

Prematurity & LBW: Most important factor L. B.W → increase risk of sepsis

- i. PROM >18 h.
- ii. Maternal Peripartum Fever >38 temp. Whatever its cause eg. UTI
- iii. Amniotic Fluid Problems a foul smelling, eg. MSAF
- iv. Resuscitation at birth esp. if need intubation
- v. Multiple gestation
- vi. Invasive Monitoring

Galactosemia → increase risk of E.coli sepsis.

Iron therapy → enhance growth of organism.

Others → eg. black>white

## Diagnosis

- a. Culture - esp. blood, urine, LP
- b. Gram stain of various fluids
- c. Others - CBC, CRP, Cytokine, IL6, surface neutrophil CD1(excellent early marker of sepsis)
- d. Radiological - as CXR, Renal US

## Treatment

- I. GBS Prophylaxis: Screening for GBS at 35-37 weeks gestation, usually done aiming to discover mother with GBS early & treating them.
- II. Initial Therapy: Usually Ampicillin + Aminoglycosides but in nosocomial sepsis Vancomycin + Aminoglycosides for staph coverage.
- III. Continuing Therapy: Based on C&S
- IV. Other treatment modalities: eg. Resp. support, BP support by blood or saline & dopamine, Vit.K and exchange transfusion to prevent &treat DIC. Also recomb. CSF for neutropenia.
- V. IgG is also used (although no benefit till now).
- VI. Vaginal and rectal screening cultures at 35-37 wk gestation for ALL pregnant women (unless patient had GBS bacteriuria during the current pregnancy or a previous infant with invasive GBS disease).

## Intrapartum prophylaxis indicated

**Patients meeting any of the following criteria should receive intrapartum prophylaxis:**

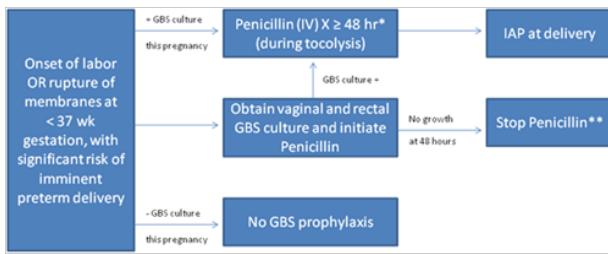
- Previous infant with invasive GBS disease, OR
- GBS bacteriuria during current pregnancy, OR
- Positive GBS screening culture during pregnancy (unless a planned cesarean delivery, in the absence of labor or amniotic membrane rupture, is performed), OR
- Unknown GBS status (culture not done, incomplete, or result unknown) AND
- Delivery at < 37 wk gestation, \*\* OR
- Amniotic membrane rupture ≥ 18 hours, OR
- Intrapartum temperature ≥ 100.4 °F (≥ 38.0 °C) \*

- If amnionitis is suspected, broad – spectrum antibiotic therapy that includes an agent known to be active against GBS should replace GBS prophylaxis.
- \*\* If onset of labor or rupture of amniotic membrane occurs at < 37 wk gestation AND there is a significant risk for preterm delivery (as assessed by the clinician), a suggested algorithm for GBS prophylaxis management is outlined below.

## Intrapartum prophylaxis NOT indicated

If patient meets none of stated criteria, intrapartum prophylaxis for GBS is NOT indicated. This includes the following circumstances

- Previous pregnancy with a positive GBS screening culture (unless a culture was ALSO positive during the current pregnancy)
- Planned cesarean delivery performed in the absence of labor or membrane rupture (regardless of maternal GBS culture status)
- Negative vaginal and rectal GBS screening culture during the current pregnancy, regardless of intrapartum risk factors.



\* Penicillin should be continued for a total of at least 48 hours, unless delivery occurs sooner. For women who are GBS culture positive, antibiotic.

\*\* If delivery has not occurred within 4 wk, a vaginal and rectal GBS screening culture should be repeated, and the patient should be managed as mentioned, based on the result of the repeat culture.

## Clinical presentation

The initial diagnosis of sepsis is a clinical one & we should start treatment before results of culture are available. Clinical signs & symptoms are non specific and D.D is broad including RDS, metabolic diseases, Blood diseases, CNS diseases, Cardiac disease & other infection eg. Torch.

### Sign and symptoms include

- Temp. irregularity: Low & high temp.
- Change in behavior: Lethargy, irritability & change in tone.
- Skin: Poor peripheral perfusion, cyanosis, mottling, pallor, petechiae, rashes & sclerema.
- Feeding Problems: Feeding intolerance, vomiting, diarrhea, & abdominal distention.
- Cardiopulmonary: Tachypnea, R.D, apnea in 1st 24hrs or new onset esp. >1week, Tachycardia or hypotension (late sign).
- Metabolic: Hypo or hyperglycemia or metabolic acidosis.

## Post delivery antibiotics

### Target audience

Pediatrics, Obstetrics, GP and other related health care professionals.

### Objectives

- To know the risk factors for neonatal sepsis.
- To know which baby needs work up and antibiotics.
- To know work up for neonatal sepsis.

### Before prescribing antibiotics to the newborn we have to ask ourselves some questions

**Are there any maternal risk factors for sepsis:** This include: African Race, Malnutrition, Maternal GBS colonization, history of STD, Age < 20 years, low socioeconomic status, asymptomatic bacteraemia and previous history of GBS infection.

**Are there intrapartum risk factors for sepsis:** This include: Prom>18h, chorioamnionitis (fetal tachycardia, uterine tenderness, purulent amniotic fluid, unexplained maternal temp.>38) maternal fever, Perinatal asphyxia (AP at 5 min<6) DDL.

**Are there neonatal risk factors for sepsis:** This include: Male sex, twin birth, prematurity, LBW and Galactosemia.

**When membranes ruptured:** Prom>18h → high risk.

**Fetal condition:** Fetal tachycardia>160 also intrauterine monitoring for prolonged time

↑ high risk of GBS infection.

**Did the mother has cerclage for cervical incompetence:** This ↑ high risk of sepsis

**Are there any sign of sepsis:** Signs of Neonatal Sepsis include Apnea, bradycardia, temp instability (high & low) Feeding intolerance, tachypnea, jaundice, cyanosis, poor peripheral perfusion, hypo Glycemia, lethargy, poor sucking, high gastric aspirate and irritability. Also tachycardia, shock, vomiting, rash, abdominal distension, seizures and hepatomegaly.

**Did the mother have epidural:** It ↑ intrapartum fever and the needs for investigations and treatment but not risk of infection.

**Did the mother tested for GBS and received antibiotics?:** D.D We classify neonates for those with ↑ risk of sepsis and those with low risk of sepsis.

### Differential diagnosis

#### Cardiac

- Congenital hypo plastic lateral heart syndrome, PPHN
- Acquired Myocarditis, shock.

#### GIT

- Neonatal Pneumonia Fulminans
- ITP
- Immune mediated neutropenia
- Severe anemia
- Congenital Leukemia
- Hereditary clotting disorders

#### Metabolic

- ICH

- HIE
- Neonatal seizures
- Infant Botulism

## Respiratory

- RDS
- Aspiration Pneumonia
- TQF
- TTN

## Database

- a. Complete Maternal, Perinatal and Birth History. PE
- b. The most important factors in neonates' sepsis are Affect, peripheral perfusion and respiratory status.
- c. Lab
  - i. 1.CBC
  - ii. Wbc values < 6000 or >30,000 in 1st 24 hours are abnormal. Band neutrophils > 20 is abnormal. A normal Wbc can not rule out sepsis.
  - iii. A single Wbc count is not helpful and need to be repeated in 4-6 hour I/T Ratio (Immature to Total Neutrophils) has a good negative predictive value And if normal the likelihood of infection is minimal.
  - iv. 2.CRP Normal if <1
  - v. It has good negative predictive value if repeated over 1-3 days.
- a. Blood Culture
  - i. Antibiotics removal device (ARD) bottles should be used of mother receiving antibiotics.
  - b. URINE ANALYSIS By suprapubic aspiration
  - c. LP Controversy
    - i. Maternal Lab Test
    - ii. Endocervical culture for GBS
  - iii. Endocervical culture for Chlamydia and gonorrhea -Urine Analysis and Culture -Other relevant lab value
  - d. Blood Glucose
  - e. ABG
  - f. AG Detection Assays: These include latex agglutination test for GBS, Counter immuno electrophoresis and bacteria Ag, all can done on serum, urine and csf
  - g. Gastric Aspiration Stain And Culture
- LAB TESTS are helpful in screening for neonatal sepsis but not done routinely because of availability are: Cytokinees ↑ TNF and ILG

- Fibrinogen ↑ with infect.
- Fibronectin low with infection (early marker)
- CXR - Especially if Respiratory problem to rule out pneumonia.

## Plan

Mostly we know which patient who needs sepsis work up and antibiotics but there are certain situations we will discuss it now.

## Start antibiotics

- If symptomatic
- If chorioamniotitis
- If risk factors and mother inadequately or not treated
- If GBS is positive at 36 weeks gestation and mother is inadequately or not treated.
- Inadequate treatment = < 2 doses of antibiotics
- Antibiotics given usually Ampicillin and Gentamycin till culture results are available.

## When to discontinue antibiotics

- If cultures are negative and infants has signs of sepsis à Continue antibiotic for 10 days.
- If positive culture à treat accordingly.
- If negative culture and baby is doing well à stop antibiotic after 48-72 hours.
- A normal IT ratio and serial negative CRP have negative predictive value.

## Summary

- If risk factor for neonatal sepsis and/or C/P
- Start antibiotics and work up
- Stop antibiotics
- If negative culture & baby is well
- If positive culture à treat all to C&S
- If negative culture but C/P of sepsis à 10 days antibiotics.

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## Conflicts of interest

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