Quick Reference Guide for the Management of the newborn at risk of neonatal sepsis

GBS positive mother on screening or bacteriuria

If chorioamnionitis, or suspected, or maternal temp ≥ 38°C, or previous baby with EOGBSD (regardless of GBS status, IAP, maternal antibiotic treatment) or previous NND GBS disease

GBS *1 negative mother

GBS *2 unknown mother

Signs of neonatal sepsis

Septic Screen and treatment with Penicillin & Gentamicin

Evaluation, includes:
- Clinical condition
- Laboratory
  • CRP – initial & 24h
  • FBC
- Observe for 48 hours
- Treatment if becomes unwell or CRP↑
- Discharge at 48 hours if well

Mother received IAP ≥ 4 hours before delivery

GBS positive mother

Gestational age >35 weeks

24 hours observation
If well can discharge at 24 hours
Need parental talk & consultant approval

Spontaneous preterm labour <37 wks
Or
ROM ≥ 24 hr *1
Or
Needs positive pressure ventilation at birth for > 30 seconds

If during period of observation baby becomes unwell, needs evaluation, septic screen and penicillin and gentamicin

24 hours observation
If well can discharge at 24 hours
Need parental talk & consultant approval

Routine neonatal care

SEPTIC SCREEN
Gastric aspirate
Ear swab
Blood culture
CRP serial
FBC
Consider CXR & LP

ABBREVIATIONS
GBS: Group B Streptococcus
EOGBSD: Early Onset Group B Streptococcus Disease
IAP: Intrapartum Antibiotic Prophylaxis
ROM: Rupture of Membranes
NND: Neonatal death

*1, *2, protocols for existing O&G guidelines

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