GBS: Neonatal management

All newborn babies are at risk of infection irrespective of gestation, maternal risk factors or adequacy of IAP

Signs of neonatal infection at any time

Signs of infection
Respiratory distress, unexpected need for resuscitation, temperature instability, poor feeding, tachycardia, lethargy, apnoeic episodes, seizures

No signs of neonatal infection

GBS positive or GBS unknown with obstetric risk factors for EOGBS disease

GBS negative or GBS unknown without obstetric risk factors?

Maternal GBS intrapartum antibiotic prophylaxis (IAP)?

Adequate
1 or more doses ≥ 4hrs before birth

No extra treatment or observation above routine care required

None or inadequate
Single dose < 4hrs before birth

Risk factors for neonatal sepsis?

Yes

Observe in hospital 24–48 hrs

No extra treatment or observation above routine care required

No

Observe in hospital for at least 24 hours

Paediatric assessment, then consider FBE, blood cultures and antibiotics

Yes

Yes

No

No signs of neonatal infection

Observations: full set at birth, then hourly for a further 3 hours, then 4 hourly for 24hrs.
Document observations on a track and trigger chart, e.g. VICTOR birth suite/postnatal.

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