



ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Department of Nursing Policy (NRS)
Maternal Child Health (MCH) Policies and Procedures

Policy No. 5305 Issue 1
Page of 1 of 2

SECTION: PATIENT CARE

SUBJECT: SEPSIS: NEONATAL

APPROVED BY: _____

Nurse Manager

POLICY

Neonates greater than or equal to 35 weeks gestation are assessed for risk factors of neonatal sepsis.

PROCEDURE

- I. Risk factors that may indicate a need for septic screen:
 - A. Maternal risk factors may include the following, but are not limited to:
 1. Group B Strep (GBS) positive, unknown, or expired (previous GBS testing done more than 35 weeks to presentation of labor), and inadequate intrapartum antibiotic treatment.
 - a. Adequate GBS prophylaxis: Penicillin G, ampicillin, or cefazolin given greater than or equal to four (4) hours prior to delivery
 - b. Inadequate GBS prophylaxis: any antibiotic given less than four (4) hours prior to delivery OR any other antibiotic for any duration (e.g., vancomycin, clindamycin) regardless of sensitivities
 2. Maternal fever greater than or equal to 100.4°F during labor and up to 1 hour after delivery.
 3. Rupture of membranes greater than or equal to 18 hours
 4. Concurrent urinary tract infection (UTI) without treatment
 5. Chorioamnionitis
 6. No prenatal care
 7. Past history of infant with GBS disease
 - B. Neonates who present the following may require further evaluation
 1. Infant 35 0/7 to 36 6/7 weeks gestation
 2. Need for resuscitation at birth
- II. Neonatal assessment and reassessment
 - A. First hour for infants with risk factors
 - B. Reassess neonate within 1-4 hours as indicated
 - C. Practitioner notified of any changes in status
- III. Parents are educated on signs and symptoms of sepsis
- IV. Documentation
 - A. Document all education and assessment findings in the electronic health record (EHR)
 - B. Document potential or actual infection in the plan of care.

REFERENCE: American Academy of Pediatrics (2019). Management of Infants at Risk for Group B Streptococcal Disease. *Pediatrics*, 144 (2).

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. (2019). Prevention of Group B Streptococcal Early-Onset Disease in Newborns. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 134 (1).

[Infection Probability Calculator - Neonatal Sepsis Calculator](https://neonatalespsiscalculator.kaiserpermanente.org/)
<https://neonatalespsiscalculator.kaiserpermanente.org/>

Pediatric Newborn Medicine Clinical Practice Guidelines. Guideline for Management of Asymptomatic Infant Born at greater than or equal to 35 weeks Gestation at Risk of Early Onset Sepsis: Using the Sepsis Calculator. (2022). *Briugham and Women's Hospital*, 27.

DEFINITIONS: N/A

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

APPROVAL DATE: N/A

APPROVAL DATE:	<u>6/2/2025</u>	<u>Sheryl Wooldridge, Clinical Director II</u> Department/Service Director, Head or Manager
	<u>4/10/2025</u>	<u>Department of Pediatrics</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>8/28/2025</u>	<u>Nursing Standards Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>9/24/2025</u>	<u>Patient Safety and Quality Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>10/2/2025</u>	<u>Quality Management Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>10/23/2025</u>	<u>Medical Executive Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>1/13/2026</u>	<u>Board of Supervisors</u> Approved by the Governing Body

REPLACES: Mother Baby Unit Policy No. 219.01

EFFECTIVE: 1/1999

REVISED:

REVIEWED: