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| Reference: | FOI.15907.24 |
| Subject: | Group B Strep (GBS) prevention |
| Date of Request: | 6 November 2024 |

Requested:

1. Please supply a copy of your guideline(s) relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies
2. Please provide the date when your guidelines relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies were last updated
3. Please provide the date when your guidelines relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies are due to be updated
4. Do you provide information materials about group B Strep to all pregnant women and people as a routine part of antenatal care? (Yes/No)
5. If you do not provide information materials about group B Strep to all pregnant women and people, do you provide them to any of the following groups during antenatal care? (Select all that apply) those who have previously had a baby who developed GBS infection those where GBS was detected before the current pregnancy (swab or urine) those where GBS was detected during the current pregnancy (swab or urine) those who are in preterm labour those with preterm rupture of membranes those with prolonged rupture of membranes those who request information
6. Please supply copies of the information materials (physical and/or digital) which are given to pregnant women and people about GBS as a routine part of antenatal care.
7. Do you offer testing specifically for maternal GBS carriage to any pregnant women or people in either late pregnancy or in labour? [By this we mean a test specifically intended to detect GBS carriage, rather than a general test for the presence of any microorganisms of interest] (Yes/No)
8. If you offer testing specifically for maternal GBS carriage in late pregnancy or in labour, do you offer: (Select all that apply) Testing late in pregnancy Testing in labour
9. Do you offer GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage to: (Select all that apply) All pregnant women and people Those who previously had a baby who developed GBS infection Those where GBS was detected in a previous pregnancy Those who request it Those in other circumstances (for example, for reasons such as PPRM or vaginal discharge) Other (please state)
10. If you undertake GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage, which of the following specimen types do you collect (Select all that apply):
 - Vaginal Swab alone
 - Rectal Swab alone
 - Both Vaginal and Rectal Swab(s)
 - Other (please state)

11. If you undertake GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage, which detection method is used by the Microbiology laboratory? (Select all that apply)
- Direct culture on non-selective, non-chromogenic media
 - Direct culture on selective &/or indicator media
 - Broth enrichment with subculture onto non-selective, non-chromogenic media
 - Broth enrichment with subculture onto selective &/or chromogenic media PCR (for example, Cepheid GeneXpert)
 - Other (Please state)
12. Does your lab offer any of the following (Select all that apply):
- Enriched Culture Medium (ECM) as part of the routine lab test repertoire ECM offered, with samples referred to another lab
 - PCR as part of the routine lab test repertoire PCR offered, with samples referred to another lab Other (please state)
13. Do you provide training on group B Strep in labour to (Select all that apply) Midwifery staff Obstetric staff Neonatal staff Laboratory staff Others (please state)
14. Do you use the Kaiser Permanente Neonatal Early-Onset Sepsis Calculator? (Yes/No)
- 14.a. If yes to Q14, is there a prospective audit in place? (Yes/No)
- 14.b. If yes to Q14, from what gestation do you use the calculator? Please specify weeks and days e.g. 34+0
15. Do you use digital platforms to analyse your Trust/Board's rates of GBS infection [invasive neonatal or maternal infections - not non-invasive infections, or infections that are not neonatal/pregnancy-related] (Yes/No)
16. If you use digital platforms to analyse your Trust/Board's rates of GBS infection as defined in Q15, do you use this for: (Select all that apply) Early-onset GBS infection Late-onset GBS infection Maternal GBS infection Others (please state)

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board provides a copy of its 'Prevention of Early – Onset Neonatal Group B Streptococcal Disease Guideline' at Attachment 1.
2. The UHB's guidelines relating to GBS were last updated on 31 July 2023.
3. The UHB's guidelines relating to GBS are due for their next review on 31 July 2026.
4. No, the UHB does not provide information on GBS to all individuals as part of antenatal care.
5. The UHB provides materials on GBS to the following groups:
 - Those who have previously had a baby who developed GBS infection
 - Those where GBS was detected before the current pregnancy (swab or urine)
 - Those where GBS was detected during the current pregnancy (swab or urine)
 - Those who are in pre-term labour or those with pre-term rupture of membranes
 - Those who request information

6. The UHB provides copies of the materials given to individuals as a routine part of antenatal care at Attachments 2 and 3.
7. Yes, the UHB offers GBS specific testing for women who have had GBS in a previous pregnancy; however, this is not via enriched culture medium. Individuals are informed of this and are also offered the option of prophylactic antibiotics.
8. The UHB offers testing in late pregnancy.
9. The UHB offers GBS specific testing for maternal group B Strep carriage to:
 - Those where GBS was detected in a previous pregnancy, and
 - Those who request it
10. The UHB collects its samples for GBS maternal carriage via:
 - Vaginal Swab alone
 - Rectal Swab alone
11. The UHB's laboratory does not offer any of the named tests; it only detects and reports GBS results but does not conduct specific screening.
12. The UHB's laboratory does not offer any of the named tests.
13. No, the UHB does not provide training on group B Strep in labour to its staff groups. However, training is delivered on identification and management of infection during labour.
14. Yes, the UHB does utilise the Kaiser Permanente Neonatal Early-Onset Sepsis Calculator.
- 14.a. No, the UHB does not have an audit planned.
- 14.b. The UHB utilises the calculator from 30+0 weeks' gestation.
15. No, the UHB does not utilise digital platforms to analyse its group B Strep rates of infection.
16. Not applicable.