

Louth: Antimicrobial Guidelines - Louth Hospitals: Antimicrobial Guidelines: Neonatal Empiric Treatment Guidelines

Infection
Neonatal - Invasive Candida Infection
Likely Organisms
Candida albicans or other Candida species
Empiric Antimicrobial Treatment
AmBisome®
Medication Safety: AmBisome® should be prescribed by brand name only.
No other amphotericin product other than AmBisome® should be used.
Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N.B. Always review empiric therapy after 48 hours in conjunction with C&S results. • N.B. If the baby does not respond to initial empiric treatment, contact Consultant Microbiologist for advice. • Meningitis or arthritis may present in 50% of cases and endophthalmitis may present in 20% of cases of systemic candidosis in the neonate.
Duration of Treatment
Minimum 14 days, discuss with Consultant Microbiologist
Infection
Neonatal - Conjunctivitis
Likely Organisms
Mild: S. aureus, S. pneumoniae, H. influenzae
Severe: S. aureus, Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae
Empiric Antimicrobial Treatment
Mild cases:
Topical chloramphenicol eye drops, continue for 48 hours after healing.
Note - the previous warning associated with use of chloramphenicol eye drops in patients under 2 years of age has been reviewed and removed.
Severe cases/purulent eye discharge:
Cef-O-taxime IV STAT
AND
Azithromycin PO 20mg/kg/day, 1 dose daily for 3 days (unlicensed indication)
AND
Azithromycin eye drops, apply twice daily for 3 days
AND
If signs of sepsis, ADD Amoxicillin AND Gentamicin
Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In severe cases, send eye swabs for bacterial culture, viral PCR and PCR for GC. • "Sticky eye" without inflammation is common and does not require antibiotic treatment. Regular cleaning with cooled boiled water should suffice. • Seek advice if Group B haemolytic streptococcus is isolated. • If the causative agent is Chlamydia trachomatis or Neisseria gonorrhoea, STI screen recommended for mother and partner - refer to Genitourinary Medicine Clinic.
Duration of Treatment
See above.
Infection
Neonatal - Meningitis
Likely Organisms
Group B Streptococcus, E. coli, Listeria spp., other Gram-negatives, S. pneumoniae, Enterococcus spp., other Gram-positives
Empiric Antimicrobial Treatment
ICU Setting:
See guidelines for early-onset sepsis or late-onset sepsis as indicated
Community-Acquired Setting (applicable to ED5th Floor):
See guidelines for Paediatrics - community acquired sepsis in babies < 8 weeks old
Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N.B. Always review empiric therapy after 48 hours in conjunction with C&S results. • N.B. If the baby does not respond to initial empiric treatment, contact Consultant Microbiologist for advice.
Duration of Treatment
Duration of treatment depends on causative organism:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group B Streptococcus: Minimum 14 to 21 days • Listeria: Minimum 21 days • Aerobic gram negative infection: Minimum 21 days or 14 days post-sterilisation of CSF, whichever is longer • Uncomplicated pneumococcal infection: Minimum 14 days • Uncomplicated Haemophilus infection: Minimum 10 days • Uncomplicated meningococcal infection: Minimum 7 days • Other gram positive organism: Contact Consultant Microbiologist for advice.