

Help Protect Your Baby from Group B Strep

GBS is a very fast-acting type of bacteria and an otherwise healthy-appearing baby can become critically ill within a matter of hours. However, being able to recognize the signs of GBS infection in babies is imperative for prompt medical treatment for better outcomes.

Body temperature

- Fever or low or unstable temperature
- Hands and feet may still feel cold even with a fever



Sounds

- High-pitched cry
- Shrill moaning,
- Whimpering
- Inconsolable crying
- Constant grunting or moaning as if constipated or in distress



Eating Habits

- Feeds poorly or refuses to eat
- Not waking for feedings



Behavior

- Marked irritability
- Projectile vomiting
- Reacting as if skin is tender when touched
- Listless
- Floppy
- Not moving an arm or leg
- Blank stare
- Body stiffening
- Uncontrollable jerking



Sleeping Habits

- Sleeping too much
- Difficulty being aroused



Breathing

- Fast, slow, or difficult breathing

(Note: Being unable to latch can be a sign of breathing difficulties)



Appearance of skin

- Blue, gray, or pale skin due to lack of oxygen
- Blotchy or red skin
- Tense or bulgy spot on top of head (fontanel)
- Infection (pus and/or red skin) at base of umbilical cord or in puncture on head from an internal fetal monitor

