



Your doctor can advise you on the best approach to prevent GBS infection in your newborn.

Finally...

GBS is fairly common in pregnant women. Yet very few of their babies actually become sick from GBS infection. Treatment during labor and delivery may help prevent infection in your baby.

It is important to remember that no treatment offers perfect protection against GBS. Some infections, even fatal ones, will still occur despite treatment.

Glossary

Amniotic Sac: Fluid-filled sac in the mother's uterus in which the fetus develops.

Carriers: Persons who are infected with the organism of a disease without showing symptoms and who can transmit the disease to another person.

Colonized: Having a bacteria in your body that could cause illness, but having no symptoms of the disease.

Inflammation: Pain, swelling, redness, and irritation of tissues in the body.

Perineum: The area between the vagina and the rectum.

Sexually Transmissible Infection: An infection that is spread by sexual contact, including chlamydial infection, gonorrhea, genital warts, herpes, syphilis, and infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV, the cause of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome [AIDS]).

This Patient Education Pamphlet was developed under the direction of the Committee on Patient Education of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Designed as an aid to patients, it sets forth current information and opinions on subjects related to women's health. The information in this pamphlet does not dictate an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed and should not be construed as excluding other acceptable methods of practice. Variations taking into account the needs of the individual patient, resources, and limitations unique to the institution or type of practice may be appropriate.

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Group B Streptococcus and Pregnancy

