



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

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Chief Nurse

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Ref: FOI/2024/10278

Date Received: 6th November 2024

Response Due: 4th December 2024

Date: 4th December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 6th November 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. Please supply a copy of your guideline(s) relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies**
Please see attached "Obs 047: Group B Streptococcal Neonatal Disease" document.
- 2. Please provide the date when your guidelines relating to group B Strep during pregnancy, labour, and in newborn babies were last updated**
October 2023.
- 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**
October 2026.
- 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)**
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

- 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.**
Please see attached “PI GBS Pregnancy document”.
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)**
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**
The Trust offers a routine LVS at 36 weeks, or a woman can opt out for routine antibiotics 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 PPROM or vaginal discharge) Other (please state)**
A routine LVS is offered to all these groups, but not “specific GBS testing”.
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
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)**
The Trust does not undertake GBS-specific testing for maternal GBS carriage.
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)
No.
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)**
Midwifery staff – yes, specific session annually.
Obstetric staff – no specific to GBS however they do have access to the guidelines (RCOG).
Neonatal staff – incorporated into sepsis training, twice yearly.
Laboratory staff – Yes.

14. Do you use the Kaiser Permanente Neonatal Early-Onset Sepsis Calculator? (Yes/No)

No.

14a. If yes to Q14, is there a prospective audit in place? (Yes/No) 14b. If yes to Q14, from what gestation do you use the calculator? Please specify weeks and days e.g. 34+0

N/A.

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)

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)

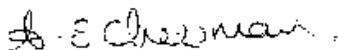
N/A.

17. Has your Trust adopted the NHS Complaint Standards as set out by the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman?

Yes, we were already doing the majority of the recommendations, and upon review we have agreed our policies.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Amanda Cheesman
Deputy Chief Nurse

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Helpline number: 0303 123 111