

My baby is on IV antibiotics

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

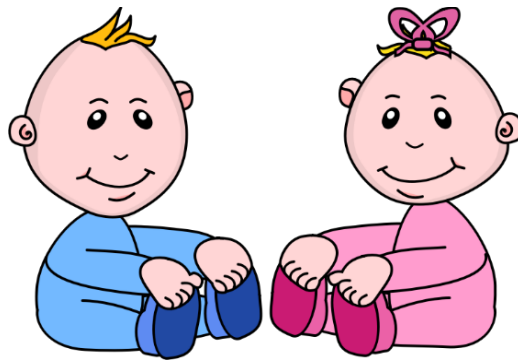
اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید، لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formacie, proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil, vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.



This information leaflet will give you a brief outline of why babies need antibiotics. If you require further assistance, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Why is my baby on antibiotics?

Babies are often on antibiotics due to suspected infection. This can be due to a number of reasons including respiratory problems, mum's infection status or length of time which your waters have been broken. Clinical signs and symptoms may also be taken into account.

How long will my baby be on antibiotics?

It depends on the results we receive. The shortest time is 36 hours – at 36 hours the Doctor will review the bloods taken and decide if a further course is required. The maximum dose is 7 days. This will be discussed during the process, and you will be kept up to date.

What tests are done?

Initially the doctor will take blood tests including blood cultures. A blood test called a Full Blood Count (FBC) can signal infection and other markers in the blood called CRP can also indicate infection if this is high. We will explain your babies' results to you.

Blood cultures are required to be incubated to see if any bugs grow in them – the results take 36 hours to process. FBC and CRP results can be read within a few hours

A chest x-ray may be done if we suspect a chest infection.

A further CRP will be done after the first 24 hours on antibiotics to check if the level is rising. If CRP is above 10, a lumbar puncture will be done – this is taking a sample of fluid from your babies back. This test result will also take 36 hours.

How is the medication given?

There will be a cannula inserted into your baby's vein so that the antibiotics can be given into the bloodstream – this is the best way to give antibiotics. The vein maybe in the hand, the foot or the arm.

Where will the baby need to be during this time?

You should be able to have your baby with you on the postnatal ward. However, if any levels are indicating infection which needs further treatment, they may need to go to Special Care Baby Unit. You can stay on the postnatal unit with your baby for 7 days if required.

This information is for generalised newborn infection. Other infections may require different treatment. This will be explained to you by your Midwife, Doctor or Nurse. Please ask a member of staff if you need any further information.





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