Managing Infants who are unwell

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Overview

• What are the signs of being unwell

• How do you treat pneumonia and sepsis?
How do you know if an infant is unwell?
How do you know if an infant is unwell?

- Breathing fast
- Fever
- low temperature
- Poor feeding
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Sleepy/drowsy
- Convulsions
- Jaundice
- Low blood sugar
Breathing fast

- What is Fast?
Breathing Fast

• What is fast?
  – >60 breaths/minute

• What else might be present?
Breathing Fast

• What is fast?
  – >60 breaths/minute

• What else might be present?
  – Chest indrawing
  – Nasal flaring
  – Fever
Breathing Fast

• What is fast?
  – >60 breaths/minute

• What else might be present?
  – Chest indrawing
  – Fever

• What does this mean?
Breathing fast

PNEUMONIA

Or

SEPSIS
Treatment

• Refer to a healthcare facility that can provide:
  
  - Intravenous Antibiotics
  
  - Oxygen
  
  - Support with feeding/IV fluids
Problems with temperature

- Fever

- Hypothermia
Fever – temp >38 degrees

• Refer to a healthcare facility that can provide:

  • IV antibiotics
  • Oxygen
  • IV fluids
Hypothermia

• Temperature less than 36.5 degrees.

• But why?
Hypothermia - causes

- Sepsis
- Not properly dressed
  - No hat
  - Wet clothes
  - No blankets
- Premature and small babies at higher risk
Hypothermia - management

- Ensure well dressed
  - Hat, socks
  - Dry clean clothes and blankets
  - Kangaroo care

- IF ANY concerns about sepsis, baby needs IV antibiotics – refer to hospital
Hypoglycaemia

• Blood sugar < 2.6mmol/L

• What if there are no glucometers?

• **TREAT** any child who is
  • Feeding poorly
  • Has sepsis
  • Convulsions
  • Lethargic
Hypoglycaemia

• Some children are already at a high risk:
  – Infant of diabetic mother
  – Preterm or low birth weight (< 2.5kg)
  – Severe sepsis or meningitis
Hypoglycaemia treatment

• Immediate feed
  – Breast feed
  – Cup feed
  – Nasogastric tube

• IV 10% glucose 5mls/kg bolus
What is hypoglycaemia?

Low blood sugar

< 2.6mmol

Which babies are at high risk?

Infant of diabetic mother

Preterm or low birth weight

< 2.5kg

Severe sepsis or meningitis

TREATMENT

Immediate feed

(breast/cup/NG)

5ml/kg bolus 10% dextrose iv

Signs of hypoglycaemia

Baby unable to feed

Sleepy/ drowsy

Convulsions

Jitters- occasional shaking of limbs

HYPOGLYCAEMIA
What were the other signs?

• Vomiting
• Diarrhoea
• Convulsions
• Poor feeding
• Sleepy/drowsy

All signs of sepsis
Treatment of Sepsis

• Refer to a healthcare facility that can provide:
  
  • IV antibiotics
  
  • Oxygen
  
  • IV fluids
Summary

• All of the following are signs of infection in infants.

  • Breathing fast
  • Fever
  • hypothermia
  • Poor feeding
  • jaundice

  • Vomiting
  • Diarrhoea
  • Sleepy/drowsy
  • Convulsions
  • Hypoglycaemia
Summary

• An infant presents in many ways when unwell

• No matter the cause the treatment is the same
  – REFER EARLY
  – IV antibiotics
  – Oxygen
  – Feeding support/IV fluids
Summary

• Every **hour** that passes without antibiotics increases death by 6%.
Any questions