Surveillance of invasive Group B Streptococcal (iGBS) disease in infants

Commences Autumn 2026

This research study will collect information about all babies less than 90 days old with iGBS disease in the UK and Ireland.
It is run by City St George's, University of London, in collaboration with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU).

About the study

Duration: 13 months, starting Autumn 2026

Patient information will be collected about the pregnancy, the age and symptoms of illness at time of diagnosis, along with the treatment and outcome of the episode of iGBS disease.

The information collected for this study will be used to understand how many babies become unwell with iGBS every year, which babies are most frequently affected, and what the outcomes are for these babies.

The information that is collected is kept securely at the UKHSA as a data processor on behalf of CSGUL and not shared with anyone else.

Funding & Approval

Supported by: Group B Strep Support (GBSS)

This study has approval from the Health Research Authority and is supported by Section 251 of the NHS Act 2006 (Regulation 5 of the Control of Patient Information regulations), following advice from the Confidentiality Advisory Group, including permission to collect patient data without asking consent. This is necessary to ensure all cases are included so the results are accurate and help improve care for babies

For further information

BPSU: https://www.bpsu.org.uk/
GBSS: www.gbss.org.uk
CSGUL: https://cnpi.org.uk/research/
UKHSA Privacy Notice:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukhsa-privacy-notice/ukhsa-privacy-notice

Patient information leaflet:

Opt out

You do not have to take part. If you do not want your child's information to be used, you can opt outby telling your child's healthcare team or, in England, using the NHS National Data Opt-Out. If you opt out, a minimal identifier will be retained to ensure no further data are collected.