

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR BABY AND ANTIBIOTICS

Congratulations on the birth of your baby! The healthcare team is here to support you and your baby during these special first days and wants to provide important information about the use of antibiotics and how you can best advocate for your baby.

Your baby is receiving antibiotics because the healthcare team is concerned that your baby may have an infection. When a baby is at risk for an infection, the healthcare team may give antibiotics even before they can confirm an infection. It's safer to start antibiotics right away in these cases. Newborns can quickly become very sick if they have an infection, so the healthcare team is being very careful.

To find out if your baby has an infection, the healthcare team will:

- ▶ **look** for reasons your baby might be at risk
- ▶ **check** how your baby is doing
- ▶ **look** at results from blood tests if needed

Some questions to ask your healthcare team to better understand what is going on with your baby and why your baby is at risk for infection:

- ▶ Why is my baby at risk for infection?
- ▶ What kind of infection could my baby have?
- ▶ What symptoms could my baby have?
- ▶ How long will my baby have to take the antibiotics?



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