

**Umbilical** Cord Blood as an Alternative for Infant Blood in the Neonatal Sepsis Evaluation for Group B Streptococcus (GBS)

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# Objective

 The overall goal of this study is to evaluate reliability of umbilical cord blood sampling for CBC and blood cultures compared to the infant's blood from a peripheral site for the purpose of GBS sepsis screening.

- Persons of all ages can be colonized with GBS without having any symptoms
- Infants contract GBS infection from the mother during labor (Ohlsson & Shah, 2009).

- Early onset GBS sepsis is a leading cause of potentially preventable neonatal morbidity and mortality in the U.S.
- Early precise detection is an essential part of decreasing morbidity and mortality in newborns
- Long term sequelae are frequently encountered in survivors of GBS sepsis.
  (Polin et al, 1981).

- Sepsis evaluation has become the most common cause for triage admission to the nursery.
- Between 324,000 and 608,000 newborns require a sepsis evaluation in the U.S. annually.

(Hansen, Forbes & Buck, 2005)

- The incidence of early onset sepsis, particularly GBS , varies from 1 to 4 cases per 1,000 live births.
- Early onset GBS sepsis occurs in approximately one neonate per 100 to 200 GBS colonized women.

#### 2007 CDC Recommendations for GBS intrapartum chemoprophylaxis

- Culture based approach
- Risk factor based approach
  - Maternal Fever <u>></u>100.4 ° F.
  - Prolonged rupture of membranes  $\geq$  to 18 hours.
  - Premature labor or rupture of membranes at < 37 weeks.
  - History of an infant with GBS sepsis from a previous pregnancy.
  - Presence of positive urine or genital cultures for GBS during the present pregnancy.

(CDC, 2007)

#### 2007 CDC Recommendations for GBS management

- Two doses of penicillin intrapartum is considered adequate prophylaxis.
- Infants born at <35 weeks or > 35 weeks to at risk mothers who received <2 doses are considered "At Risk Infants" for GBS sepsis.
- As per CDC guidelines, CBC and blood culture should be obtained on "At Risk Infants".

(CDC, 2007)

#### **Optimal GBS management**

- Earliest possible identification of infants at risk for GBS
- Rapid and accurate detection
- Early initiation of antibiotic therapy (Awaiting clinical emergence of sepsis before beginning treatment diminishes successful outcome).
  (Polin et al, 1981)

# How many sepsis evaluations are done?

- During the years 1999-2007, approximately 250-300 infants a year had sepsis evaluations at Scott and White Hospital.
- These are the infants that can potentially benefit from umbilical cord blood sampling.

## Incidence

- Based on surveillance data by the Active Bacterial Core surveillance system, the annual incidence of early onset GBS disease in infants aged 0-6 days was 33% lower as a result of implementation of CDC guidelines
- Continued surveillance needed to guide further interventions

(CDC, 2007)

### Methods

- IRB approved prospective study.
- 200 "At Risk Infants" for GBS sepsis will be enrolled in this study.

# Methods: Blood sampling

- A CBC and 1 blood culture will be obtained from the umbilical cord of "At Risk Infants" in a sterile manner.
- A CBC and 1 blood culture will be obtained via peripheral blood from the "At Risk Infants" in a sterile manner.

# Methods: Data Collection

- Maternal history (risk factors/antibiotics)
- Birth weight, gestational age, gender
- Type of resuscitation required at delivery
- Time & site of neonatal blood sampling
- Time & site of umbilical blood sampling
- Blood volume of each sample
- CBC results
- Blood culture results

# Budget

Clinical	Cost per Unit	# of Units	Total Cost
CBC	\$97.00	200	\$19,400.00
Blood culture	\$261.00	200	\$52,200.00
Staff	Cost per Unit	# of Units	Total Cost
Statistician	\$55.00	8	\$440.00
APRN (1)	\$45.00	40	\$1800.00
Total Cost			\$73 840 00

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# Summary

- Neonatal group B streptococcus can be fatal if undetected and untreated.
- Reduction of painful procedures, inconveniences, and expenses for infants, parents, health care system is essential.
- Helps facilitate drive to improve efficiency and family-centered care.

# In Conclusion...

 Providing significant correlation of lab results between umbilical cord blood (UCB) and infant blood (IB) would allow use of UCB as an alternative to infant phlebotomy.,



## In Conclusion...

- Substitution of UCB for IB to detect neonatal bacteremia could:
  - avoid pain and trauma to the neonate
  - avoid anxiety for the family
  - save significant time of the skilled professionals
  - obtain larger volumes of blood from cord
  - save the costs of supplies



### Cord Blood vs. Infant Blood

#### Bonding





NICU

#### References:

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here are two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)