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TITLE

PREVALENCE OF ASYMPTOMATIC GROUP B STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION AND ANTIMICROBIAL SENSITIVITY PATTERN AMONGST PARTURIENTS IN ZARIA NIGERIA

AUTHOR/S

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Group B Streptococcal colonization (GBS) of the genitourinary and gastrointestinal systems of the pregnant women is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in newborn due to early and late onset neonatal sepsis. Identification and treatment would significantly have an impact in the reduction of high perinatal mortality rate obtainable in most developing countries.

OBJECTIVES : To determine the prevalence of asymptomatic GBS colonization and antimicrobial sensitivity pattern of GBS. To determine the rate of neonatal sepsis following treatment for GBS.

STUDY DESIGN : Prospective longitudinal study.

STUDY SETTING : Tertiary teaching hospital Zaria Nigeria .

PATIENTS : Pregnant women between 35 to 37 completed weeks of weeks of gestation.

INTERVENTIONS: Recto-vaginal culture and agglutination test for GBS . Antibiotic sensitivity test and administration of Penicillin G to patients that are positive for GBS.

RESULTS : Two hundred and twenty parturient enrolled and 19(8.6%) were diagnosed with GBS infection. Nulliparous women accounted for 10(52.6) of the 19 patients demonstrating a significant correlation of increase GBS infection and decreasing parity. There was no case of neonatal sepsis in babies of 19 women treated for GBS infection. Cultured GBS were all sensitive to Penicillin, Ampicillin and Cefazolin . However 6(31.6%) isolates of GBS were resistant to both Erythromycin and Clindamycin.

CONCLUSION : From this study routine screening of pregnant women for GBS infection is recommended due to high prevalence in asymptomatic pregnant women. However the prevalence is not high enough to advocate routine prophylactic therapy within 35 to 37 weeks of pregnancy

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