

JULY IS GROUP B STREP AWARENESS MONTH

What is Group B Strep?

Group B Streptococcus is a type of bacteria that is found in the lower intestine and/or vagina of 10-35% of healthy adult women. Normally its presence causes no symptoms or problems, but during delivery the presence of this strain of streptococcus can infect the baby.

Can pregnant women be checked for Group B Strep?

Yes. Our doctors test for GBS at a patient's 35-37 week ob appointment. If the results are positive for Group B Strep bacteria the patient is given antibiotics at the hospital before delivery.

Is GBS a sexually transmitted disease?

No. Group B Strep is a naturally occurring bacterium in the human body of both women and men. About 1/3 of all pregnant women carry GBS bacteria and having a positive test with one pregnancy does not mean you will have a positive result with every pregnancy.

If you have any questions about Group B Streptococcus please feel free to ask your doctor or medical assistant.