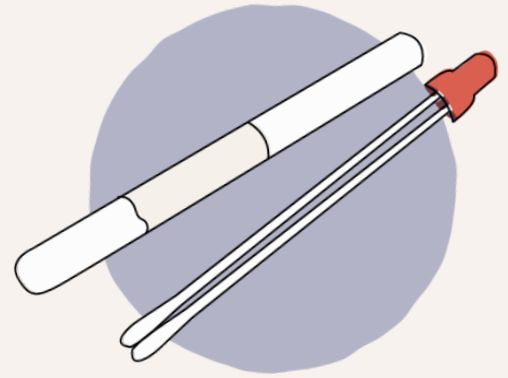


my birth

group b strep

What is Group B Strep?

Group B Strep (also called GBS for short) is a type of bacteria that is found in 1 in 4 vaginas.



Is it dangerous?

It is **not** dangerous for you, but it can give babies a dangerous infection during labor. Your midwife will recommend doing a vaginal-rectal swab between 36 and 37 weeks to check to see if you have it.

What is the treatment of GBS?

If your Group B Strep swab is positive, your midwife will recommend antibiotics when your labor starts or when your water breaks, whichever comes first. Typically, you get Penicillin through an IV.

What if treatment is not possible?

- If you're allergic to Penicillin, discuss this with your midwife; there are other medications that can be used instead.
- Often, labor is too fast, and there isn't time for antibiotics. If this happens, your pediatrician may recommend staying in the hospital a little longer to monitor your baby for infection.
- If your baby shows signs of infection, they can be treated with antibiotics.