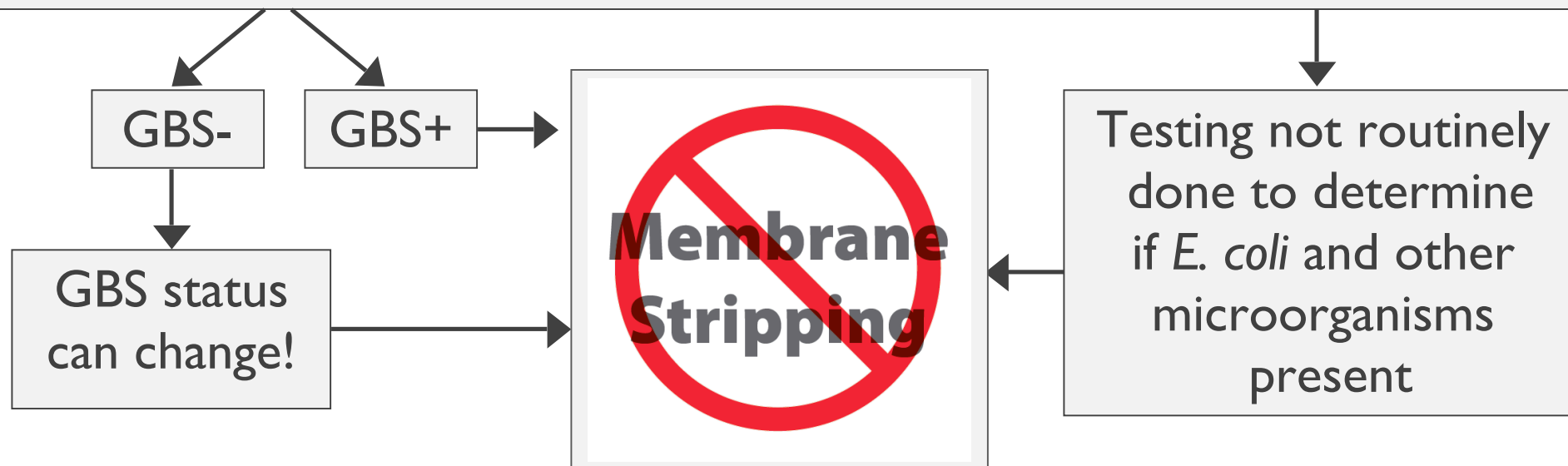


# Why membranes should *NOT* be stripped

GBS, *E. coli*, & other local microflora can be transported into the lower uterine segment

GBS, *E. coli*, & other local microflora can cross/weaken intact membranes

If present, GBS, *E. coli*, & other local microflora can cause stillbirth/damaged babies at birth



Note: Informed consent should be obtained and documented if membranes are to be stripped.