Prenatal-onset GBS Disease Prevention

- Avoid invasive procedures

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

- Have your patients notify you if they experience either:
  - Decreased or no fetal movement after their 20th week
  - Any unexplained fever

Early-onset GBS Disease Prevention

- Follow CDC, ACOG, and SOGC recommendations
- Make sure a mother’s GBS+ status is known
- Per the CDC, giving IV ABX during labor is the only proven strategy to prevent early-onset GBS disease – “alternative medicine” treatments should not be substituted!
- Negative maternal screening identified in >60% of early-onset GBS infections

Late-onset GBS Disease Prevention

- Tell your patients:
  - GBS can infect babies >1 week of age
  - The symptoms of infection
- Urge breastfeeding
- Vaccinate when available