Help Protect Your Baby from Group B Strep

GBS is a very fast-acting type of bacteria and an otherwise healthy-appearing baby can become critically ill within a matter of hours. However, being able to recognize the signs of GBS infection in babies is imperative for prompt medical treatment for better outcomes.

**Body temperature**
- Fever or low or unstable temperature
- Hands and feet may still feel cold even with a fever

**Sounds**
- High-pitched cry
- Shrill moaning
- Whimpering
- Inconsolable crying
- Constant grunting or moaning as if constipated or in distress

**Eating Habits**
- Feeds poorly or refuses to eat
- Not waking for feedings

**Behavior**
- Marked irritability
- Projectile vomiting
- Reacting as if skin is tender when touched
- Listless
- Floppy
- Not moving an arm or leg
- Blank stare
- Body stiffening
- Uncontrollable jerking

**Sleeping Habits**
- Sleeping too much
- Difficulty being aroused

**Breathing**
- Fast, slow, or difficult breathing
  (Note: Being unable to latch can be a sign of breathing difficulties)

**Appearance of skin**
- Blue, gray, or pale skin due to lack of oxygen
- Blotchy or red skin
- Tense or bulgy spot on top of head (fontanel)
- Infection (pus and/or red skin) at base of umbilical cord or in puncture on head from an internal fetal monitor

*Source* Group B Strep International (gbs-info.org)