

Management of the Well-appearing Febrile Infant Age 29-60 Days

Clinical Practice Guideline

Approved by SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Clinical
Practice Guideline Committee April 27, 2023

Box 1: Abnormal Inflammatory Markers
- Temperature > 38.5C (101.3F)
- Procalcitonin > 0.5ng/mL
- CRP > 2.0mg/dL
- ANC > 5200/mm³

Box 2: Cerebrospinal Fluid Studies
- Cell count, gram stain, glucose, protein, bacterial culture, enterovirus PCR
- Consider meningococcal PCR panel if available

Exclusion Criteria
• Patients not meeting inclusion criteria
• Evidence of focal infection (skin/soft tissue, omphalitis, septic arthritis, osteomyelitis)
• Clinical bronchiolitis

Inclusion Criteria
• Well-appearing
• Temperature < 36.0C or > 38.0C prior to arrival OR during visit
• Gestational Age at Birth ≥ 37 weeks
• Age 29-60 days
• No Obvious source of infection (see "Exclusion Criteria")

Obtain the following:
• Urinalysis (by catheterization or suprapubic aspiration)
• Blood culture
• CBC
• CRP and Procalcitonin

Abnormal Inflammatory Markers? (1 or more)
(see Box 1)

1. Consider LP if significantly abnormal or multiple abnormal inflammatory markers (see Box 2 for CSF studies)
2. Consider HSV testing (see Box 3)
3. Engage in shared decision making with family
4. If urinalysis positive, send catheter or SPA urine culture

Positive Urinalysis?
(≥10 WBC/hpf)

1. Need not perform LP
2. Need not administer antimicrobials
3. Assess discharge criteria
4. Discharge home if criteria met with close follow-up (within 24 hours)

Assess CSF Result
Positive (>9 WBC)
Negative
Not performed or uninterpretable

1. Send catheter or SPA urine culture
2. Need not obtain LP
3. Initiate oral antibiotics (see Box 4)
4. Assess discharge criteria
5. Discharge home if criteria met with close follow-up (within 24 hours)

1. Administer IV antibiotics (see Box 4)
2. Consider HSV testing (see Box 3)
2. Admit to hospital

1. May administer oral or IV antibiotics (see Box 4)
2. Assess discharge criteria, consider discharge if criteria met OR
3. Admit to Hospital

Box 3: HSV Studies
Consider in infants with vesicles, seizures, hypothermia, mucous membrane ulcers, CSF pleocytosis with negative gram stain, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, or elevated ALT

Send CSF PCR, HSV surface PCR swab (single swab from conjunctiva->nares->mouth->anus), ALT, blood PCR

Start empiric acyclovir if testing obtained (see Box 4)

Consider IV antimicrobial administration
(see Box 4)

1. Admit to hospital
2. Repeat LP and/or inflammatory markers as needed

1. Assess discharge criteria
2. Consider discharge home with close follow-up (within 24 hours) if criteria met
OR
3. Admit to hospital

Pathogen or source identified after 24 to 36 hours?

1. Discontinue any antimicrobials
2. Discharge hospitalized children
3. Manage for duration of illness

Source limited to urine?

1. Transition to or continue (if started) oral antibiotics and complete therapy (see Box 4)
2. Discharge hospitalized infants
3. Manage for duration of illness

Treat Infection

Box 4: Antimicrobials by suspected infection source
Empiric
Ceftriaxone IV/IM 50mg/kg q24h
UTI
Ceftriaxone IV/IM 50mg/kg q24h
Cephalexin PO 50-100mg/kg/day divided in 4 doses
Cefixime PO 8mg/kg every 24 hours
Meningitis
Ceftriaxone IV 50mg/kg every 12 hours OR Cefotaxime IV/IM 50mg/kg every 8 hours PLUS
Vancomycin IV 20mg/kg every 8 hours
HSV Infection
Acyclovir IV 20mg/kg q8h

Discharge Criteria
• Reliable phone and transportation
• Parental willingness and ability to observe, identify, and communicate condition changes to the care team (primary care physician)
• Agreement and ability to follow up within 24 hours with primary care physician