



Socratic Room ABX2018

Clinical Scenario

13 day old M infant– ex 33w admitted to NICU for respiratory distress, currently stable on RA – now with progressively increasing residuals.

T	HR	RR	BP	SpO ₂
37.1	161	44	62/37	99%

Physical Exam

Infant lying supine in isolette with dusky, distended abdomen

Workup

KUB: distended bowel loops, no obvious pneumatosis

The NICU attending suspects NEC. Of the following, the most appropriate management plan for this patient is:

- A. Consult pediatric surgery for immediate exploratory laparoscopy
- B. Start empiric vancomycin and cefotaxime, with consideration of adding metronidazole
- C. Start empiric ampicillin and gentamicin, with consideration of adding metronidazole
- D. Observation only as absence of pneumatosis rules out NEC



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The NICU attending suspects NEC. Of the following, the most appropriate management plan for this patient is:

A. ~~Invasive surgical intervention not indicated~~
~~Consult pediatric surgery for immediate exploratory laparoscopy~~

B. ~~overly broad~~
~~Start empiric vancomycin and cefotaxime, with consideration of adding metronidazole~~

Gent provides GNR coverage while amp provides adequate GPC and some anaerobic coverage. Flagyl may be indicated in

C. ~~Start empiric ampicillin and gentamicin, with consideration of adding metronidazole~~
certain clinical situations to confer more anaerobic activity.

D. ~~Observation only as absence of pneumatosis rules out NEC~~

Radiologic evidence of NEC is often absent in the early stages; and present in <30% of confirmed cases. Empiric abx can significantly decrease NEC morbidity/mortality.



Bugs & Drugs Rapid Review

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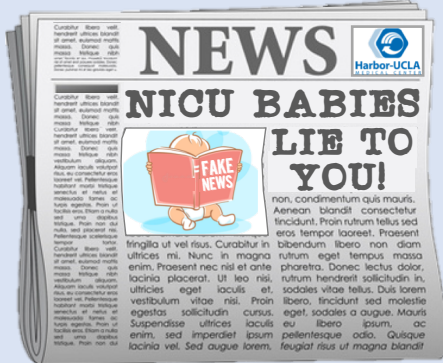
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R_x **NEC empiric regimen = ampicillin + gentamicin ± metronidazole**

Most common bugs associated with NEC* include E. coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Proteus mirabilis, Enterobacter cloacae, Clostridium perfringens, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Gent takes care of the GNRs while metronidazole takes care of the anaerobes.



- Radiologic evidence of NEC is often absent in the early stages; and present in less than 30% of confirmed cases
- Empiric antibiotics can significantly decrease neonatal morbidity & mortality
- Ampicillin lacks activity against the organisms listed above but remains part of empiric recommendations given neonates' propensity for vague presentations, thus necessitating the addition of empiric gram-positive coverage

antibiotic ear

SIGNATURE

06-01-2018

DATE