INTERRELATION BETWEEN ANTENATAL VAGINAL COLONISATION FROM GROUP B STREPTOCOCCI (GBS) AND PREMATURE BIRTH (PB)

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OBJECTIVE: We sought to determine the relation of vaginal colonisation by GBS and its role in PB.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: This is a retrospective study of 638 pregnant women, followed in our clinic from 2004-2012. Risks for GBS colonisation were derived from medical records.

RESULTS: Of 638 women, 9.3% resulted positive for GBS colonisation. Multiple births and GBS correlation in both groups were respectively (2.1% vs 2.5%) (P=0.94). Women colonised with GBS were twice as likely for PB (OR) 2.43, 95% CI 1.39 to 4.23. Colonised women as expected were also more prone to be febrile during labour (OR 5.08, 95% CI 1.70-15.02).

CONCLUSION: There is strong evidence that relates GBS colonisation with PB as well as febrile status during labour. Therefore cultures should be routine protocol for all pregnant women.