



Original article

Detection of Streptococcus Agalactiae (Group B) in the Third Trimester Of Pregnancy

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ABSTRACT

Group B Streptococcus (GBS) is the main bacterial agent in early neonatal sepsis. The infection is generally acquired during labor in children of colonized mothers. The reported prevalence of colonization is variable (2 to 34%), with the highest figures found when vaginal-perianal samples and selective culture media are used. The objectives of the study were to evaluate the prevalence of GBS in pregnancy, and to know the performance of selective culture versus culture in non-selective medium. In 2192 pregnant women of 35-37 weeks of gestation entered into the study, the prevalence found using selective medium was 19.8%, a percentage that drops to 12.7% if the data are analyzed only from non-selective medium. The high prevalence of colonization in this group of patients suggests the need to implement systematic culture for GBS in all pregnant women in our hospital, using the selective medium, which significantly improves their recovery.

Keywords: *Streptococcus agalactiae group B ; perinatal sepsis .*

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