

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

- Synonyms; Conjunctivitis of the new born baby
- Neonatal conjunctivitis
- **DEFINITION;** Any conjunctivitis with eye discharge occurring during the first 28 days of life.

COMMON CAUSES

- *Neisseria gonorrhoea*
- *Chlamydia trachomatis* type G, K
- Herpes simplex type 2
- Other bacteria eg staph strep
- chemicals

CLINICAL FEATURE

- It is usually bilateral
- Redness of eyes (conjunctiva)
- Swelling of eyelids
- Purulent discharge
- Occasionally conjunctiva chemosis on corneal ulcer infiltration.
- Gonococcal appears 1-13 days but usually by third day after birth.

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- Chlamydia appears between 5-14 days after birth and corneal usually not affected.

LAB DIAGNOSIS

- Smears and gram stain should be performed. Eg Gram stain will reveal gram negative intra cellular diplococci
- While Giemsa stain will reveal intracytoplasmic inclusions of chlamydia trachomatis in the epithelial cells.

MANAGEMENT

- Improve personal hygiene and clean the face of the neonate.
- Collect eye swab for M.C.S
- Give tetracycline eye ointment 2hrly, 4hrly or QID based on the severity of chlamydia.
- Freshly reconstituted Benzyl penicillin ratio of 1:9 (Benzyl penicillin and water for injection) -**OLD method**

CONT....

- Other bacteria can be treated with Chloramphenicol eye drop, Erythromycin eye ointment Chloramphenicol ointment etc.
- **N.B** Gonococcal and Chlamydia conjunctivitis requires systemic treatment for neonate and parents.

THANK YOU

