

family members, or ASHA

Can sepsis be prevented? Yes, if the following are observed carefully

- Good hygiene: frequent handwashing; clean instruments during delivery; clean clothes
- Keeping the baby warm during the cold season
- Breastfeeding (early initiation and on demand, and exclusive)
- Keeping the umbilical cord clean and dry

Information about danger signs to parents: You should teach the parents that if any of the following signs develop, you should be called immediately or the baby should be taken at once for referral.

- Limbs become limp
- Stops feeding
- Has chest indrawing
- Has fever
- Is cold to touch.



Management of sepsis

Sepsis treatment: Two antibiotics are used: Cotrimoxazole and Gentamicin

You can start the treatment of sepsis by giving Cotrimoxazole:

Cotrimoxazole syrup two times a day is to be given:

- ◆ ¼ teaspoon twice a day for seven days if baby is full term.
- ◆ ¼ teaspoon twice a day for ten days if baby is pre-term.
- Gentamicin injection is to be given once a day. You can refer the parents to the nearest PHC where there is a doctor available.
- If parents are reluctant or are unable to go, you can request the ANM to help them.

When to refer the baby

- Baby has breastfeeding problems and is not solved by ASHA's counselling and home management after 24 hours.
- Baby has danger signs:
 - ◆ Not responding – after antibiotic treatment for 24 hours.
 - ◆ Becomes yellow (jaundice) on first day or jaundice persists after 14 days.
 - ◆ Bleeding from nose, mouth or anus.
 - ◆ Convulsions.
 - ◆ Body temperature of baby continues to remain less than 95 degree F even after re-warming the baby for 24 hours.

