

*Streptococcus agalactiae* does not have activity of the enzyme pyrrolidonyl arylamidase. Thus, it produces a negative test that results in an orange or yellow color of the reagent. *Streptococcus agalactiae* is known to be pyrrolidonyl arylamidase-negative and serves as a negative control in this test.

## Polysaccharide Capsule

### Polly-sack Capsule

An important virulence factor of this organism is its capsule, composed of polysaccharides. These bacterial capsules surround the bacterial cell and enhance the bacteria's ability to cause disease.

## Hippurate Positive (+)

### Positive Hippie-pirate

The hippurate hydrolysis test is used to detect a bacteria's ability to hydrolyze hippurate into glycine and benzoic acid. This test serves as a presumptive identification test for *Gardnerella vaginalis*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and group B streptococci.

## Produces CAMP Factor

### Camping-tent

A CAMP test is frequently used to identify group B streptococci based on their formation of CAMP factor. CAMP factor enlarges the area of hemolysis formed by beta-hemolysin from *Staphylococcus aureus*.

## Enlarges Area of Hemolysis by *S. aureus*

### Staff of Oreos

A CAMP test is frequently used to identify group B streptococci based on their formation of CAMP factor. CAMP factor enlarges the area of hemolysis formed by beta-hemolysin from *Staphylococcus aureus*.

## Disease

### Mainly in Babies

#### Baby

*S. agalactiae* is commonly transferred to neonates during passage through the birth canal and can cause serious infections in infants, including pneumonia, meningitis, and sepsis.

### Meningitis

#### Men-in-tights

GBS infection in newborns can cause inflammation of the meninges. However, *S. agalactiae* neonatal meningitis typically does not present with the characteristic sign of a stiff neck. Instead, infants typically present with nonspecific symptoms of fever, vomiting, and irritability. Hearing loss can be a long-term sequela.

### Pneumonia

#### Nude-Mona

This organism can invade the alveolar and pulmonary epithelial cells of infants when inhaled during vaginal delivery. Newborns are especially susceptible to infection due to the lack of alveolar macrophages.

### Sepsis

#### Sepsis-snake

This organism is a major cause of bacterial sepsis in newborns. Early onset sepsis is typically accompanied by pneumonia, while onset after seven days is accompanied more often by meningitis.

### Colonizes Vagina

#### Vagina-violet

*S. agalactiae* is a member of the GI normal flora in some people and can spread to secondary sites, including the vagina in approximately 20% of individuals. Colonization of the vagina is important clinically because it can be transferred to neonates during passage through the birth canal and cause serious infections.

## Treatment

### Screen Pregnant Women at 35-37 Weeks

#### [Screen-door and Pregnant-woman with 35 -37](#)

Pregnant individuals are routinely screened for the presence of *S. agalactiae* (GBS) in the vagina at 35-37 weeks. Individuals with positive cultures can receive intrapartum prophylactic treatment with IV penicillin during delivery.

### Penicillin

#### [Pencil-villain](#)

Individuals with positive cultures can receive intrapartum prophylactic treatment with IV penicillin during delivery.