

Term, healthy 22 to 28 day old infant without identifiable source of infection and temperature  $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$

**Abbreviations (laboratory & radiology excluded):**  
CSF - Cerebrospinal Fluid  
EGA - Estimated Gestational Age  
HSV - Herpes Simplex Virus

**Lab Reference**  
**Positive urinalysis:**  
• Positive leukocyte esterase or  $>5$  WBC per hpf  
**Abnormal Inflammatory Marker:**  
• Procalcitonin  $\geq 0.5$  ng/mL  
• CRP  $\geq 2$  mg/dL  
• ANC  $> 4000$  per  $\text{mm}^3$   
**CSF pleocytosis:**  
•  $> 15$  WBC per  $\text{mm}^3$

Patient off guideline, patient requires:  
• Full septic work up (refer to [Sepsis Clinical Pathway](#))  
• Consider non-infectious etiologies

Is patient well appearing?  
Yes  
Obtain the following:  
• CBC with differential  
• Procalcitonin **OR** CRP ([Procal is preferred if available](#))  
• Blood culture  
• Urinalysis

Positive Urinalysis  
Yes -> Send bladder catheterization urine culture  
No -> HSV risk?

Send HSV studies

HSV risk?  
Yes -> Send HSV studies  
No -> Abnormal Inflammatory Markers OR Temp  $>38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

Perform LP (CSF Studies)

Abnormal Inflammatory Markers OR Temp  $>38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$   
Yes -> Perform LP (CSF Studies)  
No -> May perform LP

May perform LP

LP performed? (CSF Studies)  
Yes -> Unsuccessful LP OR CSF pleocytosis uninterpretable?  
No -> Will observation be at home?

Unsuccessful LP OR CSF pleocytosis uninterpretable?  
Yes -> Administer parenteral antimicrobial(s), Treat suspected UTI if positive urinalysis, Admit to hospital  
No -> Positive Urinalysis

Positive Urinalysis  
Yes -> Administer parenteral antimicrobial(s), Treat suspected UTI if positive urinalysis, Admit to hospital  
No -> Will observation be at home?

Will observation be at home?  
Yes -> Administer parenteral antimicrobial(s), Observe at home, Reassess within 24 hours  
No -> 1. May observe off antibiotics OR administer parenteral antimicrobial(s), 2. Treat suspected UTI if positive, 3. Admit to hospital

1. Administer parenteral antimicrobial(s)  
2. Treat suspected UTI if positive urinalysis  
3. Admit to hospital

1. Administer parenteral antimicrobial(s)  
2. Observe at home  
3. Reassess within 24 hours

1. May observe off antibiotics OR administer parenteral antimicrobial(s)  
2. Treat suspected UTI if positive  
3. Admit to hospital

Treat Infection

Pathogen or source identified?  
Yes -> Treat Infection  
No -> Discontinue antimicrobial(s) and may discharge hospitalized infant if all cultures are negative at 24 to 36 hours and HSV PCR is negative (if sent), Ensure PCP follow-up

Discontinue antimicrobial(s) and may discharge hospitalized infant if all cultures are negative at 24 to 36 hours and HSV PCR is negative (if sent)  
Ensure PCP follow-up

[Febrile Infant Quick Guide](#)

[Febrile Infants: 8 to 21 days old](#)

[Febrile Infants: 29 to 60 days old](#)