

**OB/GYN Division
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GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS AND PREGNANCY

GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS (GBS) IS A TYPE OF BACTERIA THAT CAN BE FOUND IN AS MANY AS 40% OF ALL PREGNANT WOMEN. THIS BACTERIA CAN BE FOUND IN THE DIGESTIVE, URINARY AND REPRODUCTIVE TRACTS. MOST OFTEN, IT IS FOUND IN THE VAGINA AND RECTUM. GBS IS NOT A SEXUALLY TRANSMISSIBLE INFECTION. BABIES CAN GET GBS FROM THEIR MOTHERS AND MOST DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS. SOME, HOWEVER, WILL BECOME SICK. BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF PROBLEMS, YOUR DOCTOR WILL TEST YOU FOR GBS AT 35-37 WEEKS. YOUR DOCTOR WILL DO A NON-INVASIVE CULTURE OF THE VAGINA, PERINEUM AND RECTUM AT THIS VISIT. IF YOUR CULTURE IS POSITIVE FOR GBS YOU WILL BE TREATED WITH ANTIBIOTICS DURING LABOR. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF POSITIVE TEST RESULTS. PLEASE ASK YOUR NURSE OR DOCTOR IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS.

Sincerely,

The OB/GYN Division
Wilmington Health