

## Early-onset neonatal infection overview

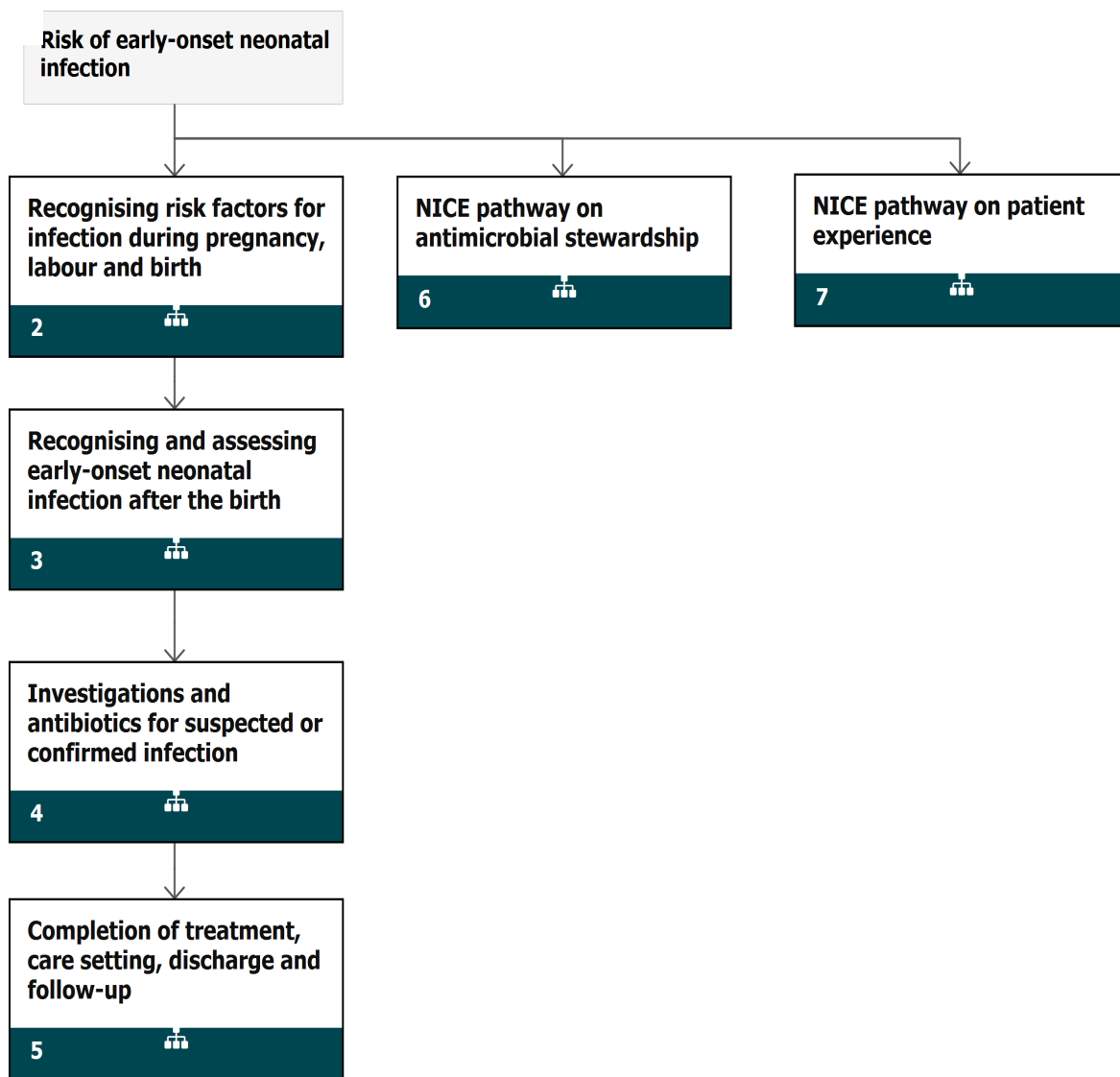
NICE Pathways bring together all NICE guidance, quality standards and other NICE information on a specific topic.

NICE Pathways are interactive and designed to be used online. They are updated regularly as new NICE guidance is published. To view the latest version of this pathway see:

<http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/early-onset-neonatal-infection>

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This document contains a single pathway diagram and uses numbering to link the boxes to the associated recommendations.



**1 Risk of early-onset neonatal infection**

No additional information

**2 Recognising risk factors for infection during pregnancy, labour and birth**

See [Early-onset neonatal infection / Recognising risk factors for infection during pregnancy, labour and birth](#)

**3 Recognising and assessing early-onset neonatal infection after the birth**

See [Early-onset neonatal infection / Recognising and assessing early-onset neonatal infection after the birth](#)

**4 Investigations and antibiotics for suspected or confirmed infection**

See [Early-onset neonatal infection / Investigations and antibiotics for suspected or confirmed early-onset neonatal infection](#)

**5 Completion of treatment, care setting, discharge and follow-up**

See [Early-onset neonatal infection / Completion of treatment, care setting, discharge and follow-up after early-onset neonatal infection](#)

**6 NICE pathway on antimicrobial stewardship**

See [Antimicrobial stewardship](#)

**7 NICE pathway on patient experience**

See [Patient experience in adult NHS services](#)

**Peak blood gentamicin concentration**

the level of gentamicin in the baby's bloodstream shortly after administration. The blood sample is usually taken about 1 hour after giving the drug. High peak concentrations of gentamicin are necessary to kill bacteria

**Therapeutic monitoring**

a process of measuring the concentration of a drug in the bloodstream, to avoid excessive levels that might be associated with adverse effects or to ensure adequate levels for therapeutic effect

**Trough blood gentamicin concentration**

the level of gentamicin in the baby's bloodstream shortly before a further dose is given. High trough gentamicin concentrations may be associated with an increased risk of adverse effects

**Your responsibility**

The guidance in this pathway represents the view of NICE, which was arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available. Those working in the NHS, local authorities, the wider public, voluntary and community sectors and the private sector should take it into account when carrying out their professional, managerial or voluntary duties. Implementation of this guidance is the responsibility of local commissioners and/or providers. Commissioners and providers are reminded that it is their responsibility to implement the guidance, in their local context, in light of their duties to avoid unlawful discrimination and to have regard to promoting equality of opportunity. Nothing in this guidance should be interpreted in a way which would be inconsistent with compliance with those duties.

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