

# NICU First Dose Antibiotic Reminders



## OUR GOAL

**To administer NICU 1st dose  
antibiotics within 1 hour.**



## WHY IS IT IMPORANT?

### Timing is crucial!

With **each hour of delay**, there is an **8-9% increase of mortality** in the pediatric and adult population.

In the NICU, there is a **much higher risk** due to immaturity, immunosuppression, possible delay in diagnosis, and high risk of infection in the very low birth weight population.

## HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE TEAM



### NURSES

- **Be aware that the antibiotics must be administered within ONE hour of provider orders**
- Engage IV access protocol by escalating PIV insertion to CNCs after two attempts to obtain IV access more quickly
- Be prompt with sepsis workup and **send out Code Sepsis** alert on iMobile
  - Get blood culture before administering antibiotics
  - If urine and CSF cultures are **not** obtained within one hour, start antibiotics and then get cultures
- Release secured tube when alerted for STAT antibiotics and help deliver to bedside or stabilization area
- If the antibiotic has not been received **within 45 minutes** of start time, call/send MMM to pharmacy to collaborate on antibiotic whereabouts
- If baby is transferred from intermediate to advanced NICU, check for antibiotics prior to transfer
  - **Do NOT wait to start sepsis workup and antibiotics before transfer**
  - Please start as soon as they arrive on unit and after blood culture is obtained if able
- Start antibiotics in the **stabilization area**, when available
  - Bring antibiotics to stabilization area after delivery