



IQWiG Reports – Commission No. S17-02

Screening for serological group B streptococci within the framework of the medical check-ups according to the maternity guidelines¹

Extract

¹ Translation of the key statement of the final report S17-02 *Screening auf Streptokokken der serologischen Gruppe B im Rahmen der Vorsorgeuntersuchungen gemäß Mutterschafts-Richtlinien* (Version 1.0; Status: 11 December 2018). Please note: This document was translated by an external translator and is provided as a service by IQWiG to English-language readers. However, solely the German original text is absolutely authoritative and legally binding.

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This report was prepared in collaboration with external experts.

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Key statement***Research question***

The aim of this report is to

- assess the benefit of universal screening for serological group B streptococci (GBS) as part of the medical check-ups according to maternity guidelines in comparison with the current standard procedure without universal screening for serological GBS

with regard to patient-relevant outcomes. Each of the outcomes pertains to the pregnant woman or mother as well as the unborn child or infant.

Conclusion

The benefit and harm of universal screening for serological GBS as part of the medical check-ups in accordance with maternity guidelines in comparison with the current standard procedure without universal screening for serological GBS are unclear; this is because neither comparative interventional studies on the screening chain nor treatment studies on pregnant women classified as having differing antibiotic prophylaxis needs have been found. Therefore, it remains unclear which of these two strategies is better suited for identifying the pregnant women who need antibiotic prophylaxis during labour to prevent GBS infection in their newborns.

The full report (German version) is published under

<https://www.iqwig.de/de/projekte-ergebnisse/projekte/nichtmedikamentoesse-verfahren/s-projekte/s17-02-screening-auf-streptokokken-der-serologischen-gruppe-b-im-rahmen-der-vorsorgeuntersuchungen-gemaess-mutterschafts-richtlinien.8017.html>