Situation/Background

Antimicrobial Dosing References:

- The 2019 Randall Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel Suspected Bacterial Sepsis and Meningitis guideline included recommendations for empiric therapy for sepsis and meningitis (non-NICU).
 - o This reference guideline is outdated.
 - The non-NICU versus NICU status caused confusion as the regimens in this guideline differed from empiric regimens in NICU order sets and other national recommendations.
- 2024 Sanford Guide, Lexicomp, Redbook, and AAP offer dosing/frequency recommendations for neonates and infants.
- NACS follows a Pediatric Fever Less than 60 days Guideline (in line with AAP) for management of infants 8-60 days with fever.

Neonatal/Pediatric Ampicillin Product Concentration:

- Ampicillin concentration of 100 mg/mL historically was offered to all NICU babies and those fluid restricted.
- Ampicillin 20 mg/mL was offered to all other pediatric patients.
- Ampicillin 100 mg/mL has a short expiration of 1 hour, which has operational limitations (e.g. expiration and drug delivery constraints).

Assessment/Recommendation **WHO** Pharmacists, Providers, Nurses WHEN **April 22, 2025 Antimicrobial Dosing References:** The 2019 RCH Suspected Bacterial Sepsis and Meningitis guideline will be **RETIRED**. Order sets which contain empiric antibiotic regimens for rule out sepsis (ROS) for a well appearing baby versus ROS with presumed meningitis will be updated to reflect recommendations provided by Sanford Guide, Lexicomp, Redbook, AAP, and Neofax. Doses and frequencies will **not** be defaulted in EPIC. Providers should refer to "order instructions" for dosing and frequency guidance based on indication and day of life (DOL). Order Instructions Example 34w6d PMA: ampicillin in sodium chloride 0.9 % 100 mL IVPB 33w6d GA <=34 weeks gestational age and 7 days or less: Order Instructions: R/O sepsis: 50 mg/kg IV q 12 hours Group B strep meningitis: 100 mg/kg/dose IV q 8 hours **WHAT** FormWeb Reference Links: DrugPoints O Dose: 50 mg/kg 100 mg/kg **Neonatal/Pediatric Ampicillin Product Concentration:** Standard ampicillin concentration will be as follows: Ampicillin 100 mg/mL concentration (1 hour expiration) will be reserved for babies < 1000 grams and those with fluid restrictions not meeting goals. Ampicillin 20 mg/mL concentration will be provided to all other neonatal & pediatric patients (48hour refrigeration expiration). No changes to nurses' process on Children's Transport Team; continue to dilute to 100mg/mL for patients cared for by our KIDS Team. **Antimicrobial Dosing References and EPIC changes:** Avoid having multiple documents that may contain differing or outdated recommendations. Streamline work with Order Set Council. WHY **Neonatal/Pediatric Ampicillin Product Concentration:** Concentration changes align with Standardize for Safety Guidelines. Use of ampicillin 20 mg/mL concentration will minimize operational limitations. Malaika Little, MD | Pediatric Infectious Diseases | Randall Children's Hospital | mlittle@lhs.org ONSITE **SUPPORT** Julianna Crain, PharmD, BCPPS | Pediatric Pharmacy Clinical Manager | Randall Children's Hospital | RESOURCES jccrain@lhs.org