

Antibiotic drink

for the newborn baby

Your newborn has been given antibiotics via IV in hospital after birth because of suspected infection. Newborn babies are more susceptible to infections because of low immunity. To make sure the infection is treated properly, your newborn should be given antibiotics for a total of 7 days. The doctors have monitored your newborn for a few days and see that it is doing well enough to go home. Therefore, your newborn may go home with antibiotic drink and the antibiotics no longer need to be given through the IV.

Administering antibiotics

Give the antibiotic drink to your newborn twice a day (in the morning and evening). Do this prior to feeding. Try to choose a fixed time, for example every day at 09:00 and 21:00. Keep a record of when you gave the antibiotics below.

Steps (scan QR code for video)

Step 1

Draw the right amount of medicine with a syringe from the bottle of antibiotics. You can find the amount of medicine to give on the bottle's label.

Step 2

You can now give the antibiotics to your newborn in two different ways:

1. you spray the antibiotics little by little in the back of your newborn's cheek pouch. In between, you let your newborn suck on a pacifier or your finger for a while
2. or give your newborn the teat of a bottle cap to suck on, and spray the antibiotics into this while your baby sucks on the teat. When the teat is completely emptied, the cap can be turned on the bottle and your newborn can be fed

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Precautions

- ensure that your newborn takes all antibiotics
- do not mix the antibiotic drink with milk. This way, you won't know how much antibiotics your newborn has ingested if it does not finish its bottle
- if your newborn vomits a lot within 30 minutes of giving the antibiotics, you should give the antibiotic drink again. Spitting up a small amount once or a few times is not a reason to do this

Contacting the hospital

If you have any doubts or questions, you may always call the hospital directly. The number of the paediatric ward is at the bottom of this leaflet. It is not necessary to call the midwife or GP first. It is important to keep a close eye on your baby.

In any case, contact the paediatrician immediately in the event of 1 or more of the following symptoms:

- if the newborns' temperature is above 38 degrees, or below 36 degrees
- if your newborn does not want to drink or take the antibiotic drink
- if increasing vomiting occurs
- if your newborn is constantly sleepy. A newborn usually sleeps a lot but needs to wake up well to drink around feeding times
- if you think your baby is having serious side effects from the antibiotics

Your newborn may have mild side effects from the antibiotics, such as diarrhoea and intestinal cramps. A young newborn's stools are generally still variable. It is not always clear whether diarrhoea and intestinal cramps are due to the antibiotics. These symptoms have no long-term consequence.

Contact

If you have questions, you can contact us

- location Alkmaar, phonenumber 072 - 548 2970
- location Den Helder, phonenumber 0223 - 69 6360