Assess and Manage Common Newborn Problems

Objectives

- Recognize the role played by fetal, maternal and extended family medical history in guiding assessment of the newborn.
- Describe the techniques used to obtain a fetal growth/gestational age assessment and physical examination of the newborn and list indications for further follow-up for deviations or abnormalities identified.
- Outline the recommended care of the well newborn including prophylactic interventions performed immediately following birth and pre-discharge screenings in addition to in-hospital care related to feeding, cord care and circumcision.
- Identify the most common problems presenting in the newborn period and summarize the management of problems related to jaundice, hypoglycemia, birth trauma, respiratory distress, the effects of maternal drug abuse and complications of multiple births.

Content Outline

1. Evaluation of the Newborn at Birth
   1.1 Medical history
   1.2 Physical growth & gestational age assessment
   1.3 Physical examination at birth & in the nursery

2. Routine Newborn Care
   2.1 Early prophylactic & screening interventions
   2.2 Feeding guidelines for successful breast feeding

3. Pre-Discharge Evaluation & Care
   3.1 Early discharge criteria
   3.2 Circumcision
   3.3 Hearing screening

4. Common Problems in the Newborn
   4.1 Jaundice
      4.1.1 Physiologic & pathologic unconjugated hyperbilirubinemia
      4.1.2 Bilirubin toxicity & stages of encephalopathy
      4.1.3 Evaluation & treatment of indirect hyperbilirubinemia
   4.2 Hypoglycemia
      4.2.1 Definitions & common risk groups
      4.2.2 Clinical findings & treatment
   4.3 Cardiopulmonary disorders
      4.3.1 Typical clinical findings of respiratory distress in the newborn
      4.3.2 Differential findings of common respiratory disorders in the newborn
      4.3.3 Treatment approaches and prognosis for respiratory disorders
      4.3.4 Evaluation of cardiac murmurs in the newborn nursery
   4.4 Birth trauma
      4.4.1 Description, treatment & outcome for common conditions
   4.5 Newborn effects of maternal drug abuse
      4.5.1 Characteristic findings & identification of abused agents
      4.5.2 Treatment options & prognosis
   4.6 Complications of multiple births
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Reading Material Resources

Module WB1730: Assess and Manage Common Newborn Problems is based on the resources listed below. A copy of the resources are included with the module.

The Newborn Infant, Rosenberg AA, Grover T., CURRENT Diagnosis & Treatment: Pediatrics 22e., McGraw-Hill Education; 2014, Chapter 2, pp. 1-33 of PDF.