

Syllabus	OB_IK_08
Topic	Obstetric sepsis

A 27 year old women who is 39 weeks pregnant is admitted to your labour ward with a temperature of 38.4C, a heart rate of 124 beats per minute and a respiratory rate of 30 breaths per minute.

**a)**

Name 4 obstetric and 4 non-obstetric factors for maternal sepsis. (8 marks)

Obstetric factors:

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....

Non-obstetric factors:

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....

**b)**

List the 3 most commonly implicated bacterial organisms that cause maternal morbidity due to sepsis in the UK. (3 marks)

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....

**c)**

Name 6 management priorities in this patient. (6 marks)

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....
6. ....

**d)**

List 3 potential risks of regional anaesthesia in a septic patient? (3 marks)

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....

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Q	Answer	Mark	Guidance
a)	<u>Obstetric</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prolonged rupture of membranes</li> <li>• Cervical suture</li> <li>• Instrumental birth</li> <li>• Caesarean birth</li> </ul> <u>Non-obstetric</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obesity</li> <li>• Diabetes</li> <li>• Immunosuppression</li> <li>• Anaemia</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max. 8)	
b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group A streptococcus</li> <li>• Group B streptococcus</li> <li>• E Coli</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max. 3)	
c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood cultures and microbiological samples to identify source</li> <li>• IV antibiotics</li> <li>• Fluid and oxygen resuscitation as required</li> <li>• Serial bloods including lactate</li> <li>• HDU monitoring with MEOWS chart</li> <li>• Consider source control including early delivery if indicated</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max. 6)	
d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiovascular – hypotensive, vasodilated patient may not tolerate</li> <li>• Coagulopathy</li> <li>• Sepsis and risk of epidural abscess</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max. 3)	

References:

1) Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths (2017) <https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrance-uk/reports/confidential-enquiry-into-maternal-deaths>

2) Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (RCOG). Bacterial sepsis in pregnancy (Green-top guideline 64a) (2012) [https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg\\_64a.pdf](https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg_64a.pdf)