

**Supplementary table 1: Neonatal units' antimicrobial stewardship and infection management practices at study baseline**

	Hospital 1	Hospital 2	Hospital 3	Hospital 4	Hospital 5	Hospital 6	Hospital 7	Hospital 8	Hospital 9	Hospital 10	Hospital 11	Hospital 12	Hospital 13	Hospital 14
Province	Gauteng	Gauteng	Gauteng	Western Cape	Western Cape	Western Cape	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	Gauteng	Gauteng	Kwa-Zulu Natal	Northern Cape
Sector	Public	Public	Public	Public	Public	Public	Public	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private
Total neonatal beds	232	68	14	27	75	75	132	29	12	10	17	16	10	8
Antibiotic guidelines are available	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Antibiotic use reports are available	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Existing hospital AMS team (not NICU-specific)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Involvement of infectious disease specialist/s	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Institution-specific antibiotic restriction policies	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Use of dedicated antibiotic prescription charts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Sepsis work-up includes FBC, CRP and BC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Use of CRP to guide antibiotic cessation	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
CRP threshold for infection >10mg/L	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Procalcitonin used as a sepsis marker	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Policy on antibiotic LOT for EONS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Policy on antibiotic LOT for HAI	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

AMS = antimicrobial stewardship; BC = blood cultures; NICU = neonatal intensive care unit; FBC = full blood count; CRP = C-reactive protein; NNU = neonatal unit; LOT = length of therapy; EONS = early-onset neonatal sepsis; HAI = healthcare-associated infection.