

Clinical Summary: Ocular Prophylaxis for Gonococcal Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Population	Newborns
Recommendation	Provide prophylactic ocular topical medication to prevent gonococcal ophthalmia neonatorum. Grade: A

Preventive Medication	Erythromycin ophthalmic ointment is the only drug approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for the prophylaxis of gonococcal ophthalmia neonatorum. Ocular prophylaxis of newborns is mandated in most states and is considered standard neonatal care.
Relevant USPSTF Recommendations	The USPSTF recommends screening for gonorrhea in all sexually active women 24 years and younger and in older women at increased risk for infection, as well as pregnant women.

For a summary of the evidence systematically reviewed in making this recommendation, the full recommendation statement, and supporting documents, please go to <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org>.