

## **Administering Oral Azithromycin during Labour Decreases Bacterial Carriage in Mother and Newborn.**

Roca A, et al. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2016; 22(6):565.e1-9.

- Bacterial sepsis remains a leading cause of death among neonates. *Staphylococci* and *Streptococci* are the most common causative pathogens.
- A placebo-controlled trial (829 women who delivered 843 babies) has demonstrated that a single oral dose of azithromycin decreased prevalence of nasopharyngeal bacterial carriage in the newborns at day 6 post-partum. At the same time-point, prevalence of any bacteria in the mother (nasopharynx, breast milk, genitourinary tract) was also lower in the azithromycin group.

**Oral azithromycin given to women in labour decreased the carriage of pathogenic bacteria in mother and newborn and may lower the risk of neonatal sepsis.**