
Increased C D116-density on circulating phagocytes as an early sign of late onset sepsis in extremely low birth-weight infants

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Preterm birth continues to be one of the major challenges in perinatal medicine. Fortunately, advances in neonatal medicine have led to drastic improvements in survival as well as reductions in morbidity among infants born preterm. Practically speaking the incidence of preterm deliveries is difficult to assess, especially in the less developed communities. Neonatal sepsis, sepsis neonatorum, and neonatal septicemia are terms that have been used to describe the systemic response to infection in newborn infants, bacteria, viruses, fungi, and rarely protozoa may produce neonatal sepsis. Classically defined, neonatal sepsis is a clinical syndrome in the first month of life manifested by systemic sign of infection and isolation of a pathogen from the bloodstream. On earliest presentation, neonatal sepsis may be associated with any gradation of symptoms, from only subtle feeding disturbances to frank septic shock.