

How to Screen for CONGENITAL CYTOMEGALOVIRUS (CMV)



LOOK for risk factors at birth:

1. Did not pass the newborn hearing screen (one or both ears)
2. Small for gestational age: birth weight less than 10th percentile
3. Microcephaly: head circumference less than 10th percentile
4. Thrombocytopenia, petechial rash
5. Hepatosplenomegaly
6. Conjugated hyperbilirubinemia, elevated liver function tests
7. Abnormal brain imaging
8. Abnormalities on fetal US: ascites, calcifications, echogenic bowel
9. Mother diagnosed with CMV during pregnancy or history of HIV



SCREEN if any risk factors are identified:

1. Order CMV PCR on urine or saliva.
2. If saliva PCR is positive, order urine PCR to confirm.
3. Give the family handout:
 - CMV Fact Sheet for Pregnant Women and Parents [English](#) | [Spanish](#)



If any CMV PCR test is positive:

1. **Report** Congenital CMV within 7 days of diagnosis
2. Add Congenital CMV Infection to the Problem List
3. Order a complete blood count and liver function tests including direct bilirubin
4. Order brain imaging - head ultrasound or brain MRI
5. Discuss the case with an Infectious Disease specialist
6. Refer to Pediatric Audiology for repeated hearing test
7. Refer to a Pediatric Ophthalmologist
8. Refer to a [Regional Center](#) for early intervention