

# Listerial infections

## Listeriosis

### A. Microbiological characteristics

#### 1. Cause

- *Listeria monocytogenes*
- G+ rod bacterium

#### 2. Transmission

- *vertical*: from mother to fetus during ante or intrapartum period
- *horizontal*: from cheese, meat

### B. Signs and Symptoms

#### 1. In immunocompetent people [IC]

- asymptomatic OR
- symptomatic: flu-like conditions, self limited

#### 2. In immunodeficient patients [ID]

- meningoencephalitis

#### 3. In pregnant women

- bacteremia and sepsis

#### 4. In neonates

- meningoencephalitis
- granulomatous infantisepsis (granulomas throughout the neonatal organs and tissues)

### C. Diagnosis

CSF examination  
CT/MRI scans

### D. Treatment

aminopenicillins  
tetracyclines