

Fever in Newborn Guidelines

This Fever in Newborn Guidelines is based on the Clinical Practice Guideline: Evaluation and Management of Well-Appearing Febrile Infants 8 to 60 Days Old by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Inclusion criteria

The clinical practice guideline from the American Academy of Pediatrics on the evaluation and management of well-appearing febrile infants 8 to 60 days old includes the following criteria:

- Well-appearing infants
- Term infants (≥ 37 weeks estimated gestational age)
- 8 to 60 days of age
- Temperature $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (100.4°F) at home in the past 24 hours or determined in a clinical setting
- Without an identifiable source of infection

Exclusion criteria

The guideline excludes infants with the following characteristics:

- Preterm infants (< 37 weeks' gestation).
- Infants younger than 2 weeks of age whose perinatal courses were complicated by maternal fever, infection, and/or antimicrobial use.
- Febrile infants with high suspicion of herpes simplex virus (HSV) infection (eg, vesicles).
- Infants with a focal bacterial infection (eg, cellulitis, omphalitis, septic arthritis, osteomyelitis). These infections should be managed according to accepted standards.
- Infants with clinical bronchiolitis, with or without positive test results for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).
- Infants whose neonatal course was complicated by surgery or infection.
- Infants with congenital or chromosomal abnormalities.
- Medically fragile infants requiring some form of technology or ongoing therapeutic intervention to sustain life.
- Infants who have received immunizations within the last 48 hours. The incidence of postimmunization fevers $\geq 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ is estimated to be $> 40\%$ within the first 48 hours.

Figure 1

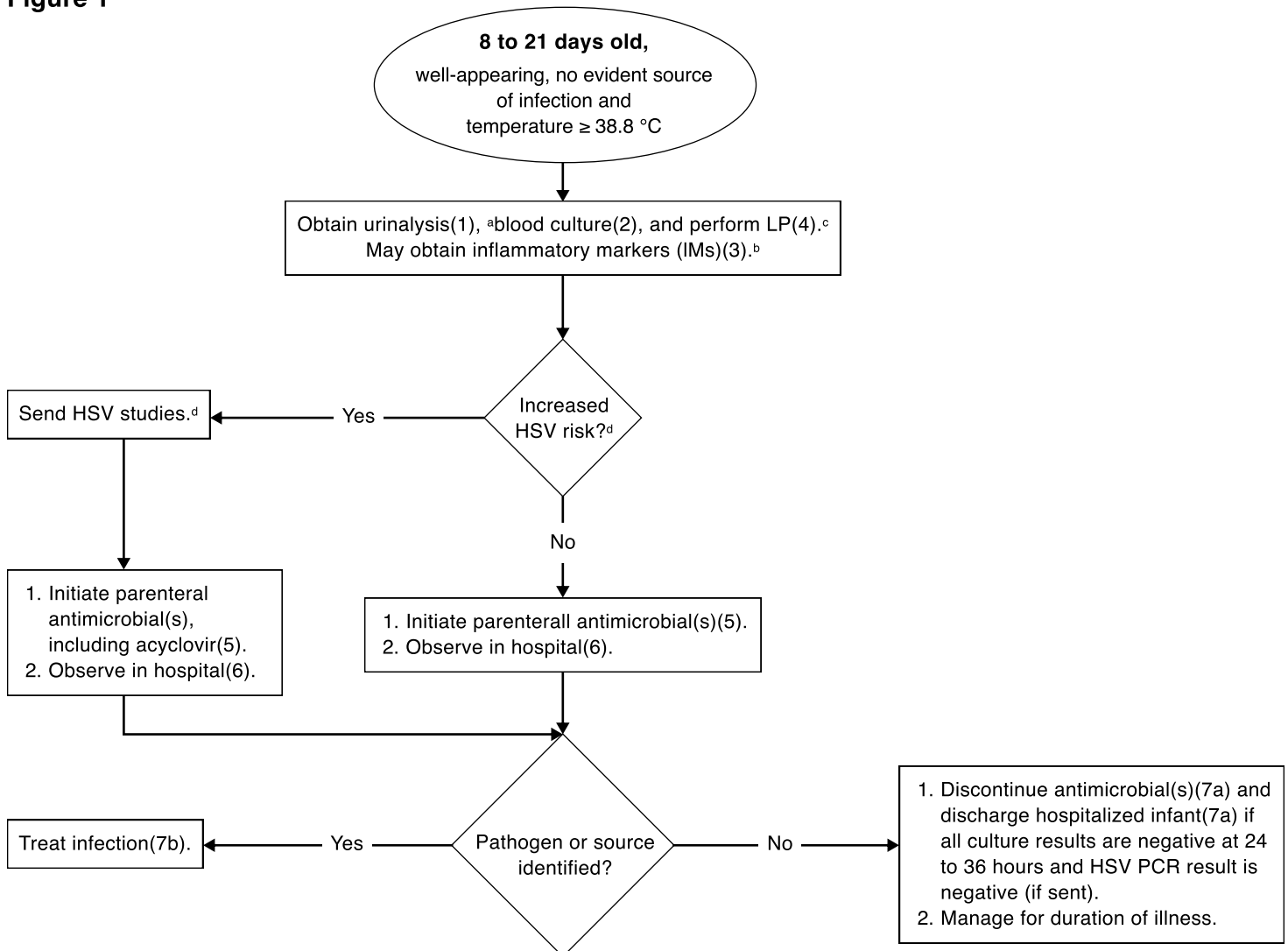


Figure 2

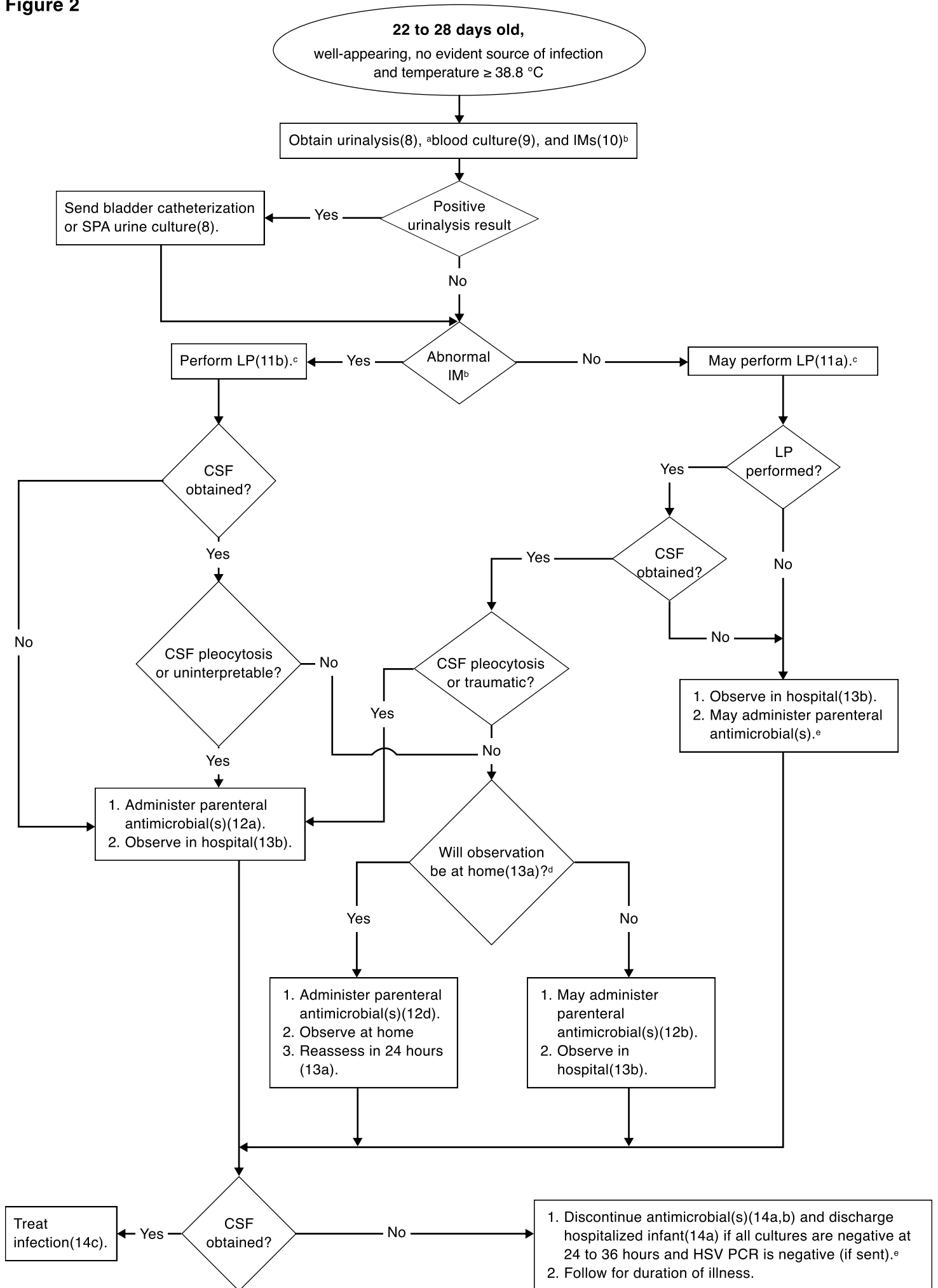
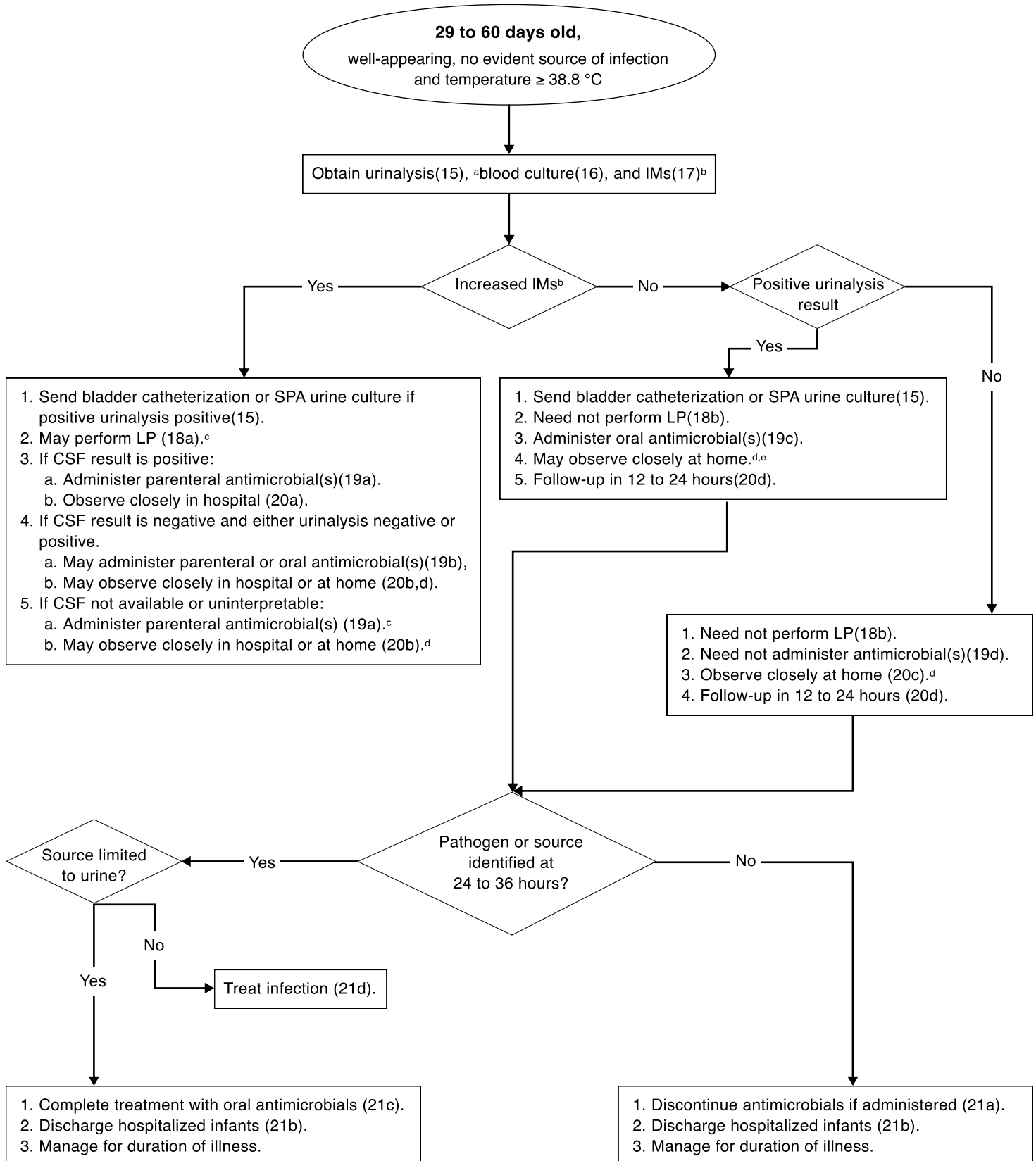


Figure 3



Reference

Pantell, R. H., Roberts, K. B., Adams, W. G., Dreyer, B. P., Kuppermann, N., O’Leary, S. T., Okechukwu, K., & Woods, C. R. (2021). Evaluation and management of well-appearing febrile infants 8 to 60 days old. *Pediatrics*, 148(2). <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-052228>