

Necrotizing Enterocolitis (Stage I, II, III)

Premature babies and sometime term neonates are at risk of developing NEC.

Signs:

- Feeding intolerance (emesis, increase residuals > 50%)
- Abdominal distension (fullness, discoloration)
- Blood in stool (red streaks)
- Abnormal x-ray (air pattern, pneumatosis)

Treatment (medical and surgical):

- Hold feeds
- Provide nutrition via intravenous catheter
- Treat with antibiotics
- Surgery consultation (stage III)

Outcome:

- Fair for stage IA and IIA
- Stage IIB and III- depends upon the complications