

McPartland Jo

From: McPartland Jo
Sent: 15 September 2015 17:22
To: Davies Joanne (COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)
Subject: RE: ? re PROM

Dear Jo,

Pneumonia is diagnosed histologically by the presence of neutrophil polymorphs in the air spaces. As I said in my report, I think this could be a congenital pneumonia. Congenital pneumonia is usually caused by ascending genital tract infection. I have never seen a case arising without chorioamnionitis – usually inhaled infected amniotic fluid starts off the pneumonia.

Haematogenous infection can cause fetal infection, but this is more usually viral, eg CMV. I suppose it is theoretically possible that if the mother was septicaemic from a cause other than chorioamnionitis, bacteria could seed in the fetus and set up an infection in the lungs, but this would be very unusual. However I couldn't rule it out.

Therefore I think it is unlikely that a congenital pneumonia would have arisen without chorioamnionitis and gone on to cause PROM.

I hope this has answered your question!

Best wishes,
Jo

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