Supplemental Figure S1: Modified Bell’s criteria

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| **Classification** | **Stage** | **Systemic Signs** | **Intestinal Signs** | **Radiographic Signs** |
| **Suspected necrotizing enterocolitis** | IA | Temperature instability, apnea, bradycardia, lethargy | Elevated residuals, abdominal distension, emesis, guiac-positive stools | Normal abdominal radiographs or evidence of mild ileus |
| IB | Same as IA | Bright red blood from rectum | Same as IA |
| **Confirmed necrotizing enterocolitis** | IIA | Same as IA | Above findings plus diminished bowel sounds, ± abdominal tenderness | Intestinal dilation, ileus, pneumatosis intestinalis |
| IIB | Above findings plus metabolic acidosis, mild thrombocytopenia | Above findings plus definite abdominal tenderness, ± abdominal cellulitis, ± right lower quadrant mass, ± absent bowel sounds. | Same as stage IIA ± portal venous gas, ± ascites. |
| **Advanced necrotizing enterocolitis** | IIIA | Above findings plus hypotension, bradycardia, severe apnea, combined acidosis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, neutropenia, anuria | Above findings plus peritoneal signs such as marked tenderness, distension, abdominal wall erythema | Above findings plus definite ascites |
| IIIB | Same as Stage IIIA | Same as Stage IIIA | Above findings plus pneumoperitoneum |