



Summary of NICE Guidelines

Title	Neonatal Jaundice
NICE Reference	CG 98
Date of Review:	May 2013
Date of Publication	May 2010
Summary of Guidance (Max 250 words)	<p>Neonates should be considered as being at increased risk of clinically significant hyperbilirubinaemia if their gestational age is under 38 weeks, they have a previous sibling with neonatal jaundice that required phototherapy, or their mother intends to feed them exclusively by breast milk.</p> <p>These babies should be visibly examined for jaundice at every opportunity especially in their first 72 hours of life. If visible jaundice is present within the first 24 hours of life their serum bilirubin concentration should be measured by the clinical laboratory within 2 hours and every 6 hours thereafter, until their bilirubin concentration is below the age dependent cutoff in the treatment threshold graph (see full NICE guideline).</p> <p>If visible jaundice develops after the first 24 hours of life and the neonate has a gestational age of >35 weeks, the bilirubin should be measured with a transcutaneous Bilirubinometer within 6 hours. If the bilirubin is >250 $\mu\text{mol/L}$, or such an instrument is not available, a laboratory serum bilirubin measurement is required.</p> <p>Treatment of hyperbilirubinaemia should be by phototherapy or exchange transfusion according to the age dependent cut-offs displayed in the treatment threshold graphs. If the neonates at increased risk of hyperbilirubinaemia do not become visibly jaundiced within 72 hours of birth they can be given routine care.</p>
Impact on Lab (See below)	■ Moderate
Lab professionals to be made aware	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Chemical Pathologist✓ Clinical Scientist✓ Biomedical Scientist
Please detail the impact of this guideline (Max 150 words)	<p>Healthcare Scientists should be aware of the recommended testing intervals for bilirubin in neonates with jaundice and of the urgency of these requests. Additionally they should be aware when it is acceptable to measure bilirubin with a transcutaneous bilirubinometer and when the laboratory measurement of serum bilirubin is required.</p>

Impact on Lab

- **None:** This NICE guideline has no impact on the provision of laboratory services
- **Moderate:** This NICE guideline has information that is of relevance to our pathology service and may require review of our current service provision.
- **Important:** This NICE guideline is of direct relevance to our pathology service and will have a direct impact on one or more of the services that we currently offer.

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