

BC INFANT STOOL COLOUR CARD[®] SCREENING PROGRAM FOR BILIARY ATRESIA



**CHECK YOUR BABY'S STOOL COLOUR EVERY DAY
FOR THE FIRST MONTH AFTER BIRTH TO SCREEN
FOR BILIARY ATRESIA**

If at any time during the first month you notice that your baby has an abnormal stool colour (see above colours #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6), please contact the BA screening program at:

Phone: Toll-free 1-877-5-TEST-4-BA (1-877-583-7842)

Email: biliary.atresia@cw.bc.ca

Include the following information:

- Your name and phone number
- Date of your baby's birth
- Name of hospital where your baby was born
- Mother's first name, last name and maiden name

If you also choose to go to your doctor, **take this card with you.** Ask the doctor to request a blood test for bilirubin if your baby is older than two weeks of age and is still jaundiced.

More information about biliary atresia is on the back of the card.

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What is biliary atresia?

Biliary atresia begins to affect newborns in the first month of life. It is a rare but serious liver disease resulting from a blockage in the bile duct. This prevents bile from leaving the liver. If not treated early, liver damage and scarring can lead to death by the age of two. Biliary atresia is the most common reason why children need a liver transplant.

What are the warning signs of biliary atresia?

It is very normal to see yellow colour of your baby's skin or eyes (a condition known as jaundice) in the first few days after birth. However, some babies may have jaundice that lasts longer than two weeks.

If your baby has jaundice for longer than two weeks and also has pale yellow, chalk white, or clay coloured stools, this is an indication that very little or no bile is reaching the intestine and it may mean that your baby has biliary atresia.

How can parents help screen for biliary atresia?

Check your baby's stool colour every day for the first month after birth using the colours and instructions on the front of this card. Consider keeping this card close to your change table area as a visual reminder to check your baby's stool colour. Contact the BA screening program (using the phone or email on the front of this card) or go to your doctor if you notice abnormal stool colour (#1–6).

Information on this card in other languages

The instructions on this card are available in Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Punjabi, Spanish and Vietnamese. Go to www.perinatalservicesbc.ca

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