

Jaundice in Newborns

Jaundice is a common condition in newborns, affecting 60 to 80% of babies. In a high percentage of newborns, the cause of jaundice is physiological and does not require any special treatment. However, in other cases, due to the deposition of bilirubin (a yellow pigment) in the brain cells, it poses risks. Therefore, to prevent it, the following points are essential:



Jaundice that requires treatment:

- Onset of jaundice on the first day of birth
- Bilirubin levels higher than 13 in term babies and higher than 10 in preterm babies
- Jaundice that lasts more than two or three weeks
- Jaundice that is accompanied by symptoms of poor feeding, pale skin, lethargy, restlessness, and severe crying

Cases where jaundice is more likely:

- Blood group incompatibility (mother is negative and baby is positive, or mother is O and baby is A or B)
- Cephalohematoma (bleeding under the scalp) and bruising of the skin
- History of hospitalization of the newborn
- Onset of jaundice on the first day of birth
- Prematurity and low birth weight
- Maternal age over 25 years
- Male baby
- Low milk intake by the baby
- Maternal diabetes during pregnancy