

Class Preparation (Newborn Hepatic):

A mother just delivered a healthy, full-term infant. The mother is concerned because her first child required phototherapy for jaundice. As the nurse, what education would you provide for the mother about jaundice? What instructions are important to explain if the infant requires phototherapy? Are there ways to prevent the infant from developing jaundice?

I would provide education on the characteristics, causes, signs and symptoms of jaundice. For phototherapy I would explain the purpose and process of the procedure as well as the home care required and the signs and symptoms to look out for. As well as operation of equipment if this is done at home at some point. Ways to prevent jaundice are frequent feedings, exposure to sunlight and monitoring for early detection.