

## NICU Disease Process Map

D.O.B. \_04/25/2025\_\_\_\_\_ APGAR at birth: \_\_8\_\_\_\_\_  
Gestational Age \_34.2\_\_\_\_\_ Adjusted Gestational Age \_\_35.0\_\_\_\_\_  
Birthweight \_6\_lbs.\_1.4\_oz./\_\_2760\_\_\_\_\_grams  
Current weight \_5\_lbs.\_0.8\_oz./\_\_2290\_\_\_\_\_grams

Disease Name:

What is happening in the body?

Hyperbilirubinemia: the baby's limited ability to excrete bilirubin in the first days of life due to the immaturity of the liver, also known as Physiologic jaundice.



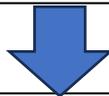
What am I going to see during my assessment?

Possibly baby's skin, eyes, and other tissues turn jaundice. Serum Bilirubin Total and/or transcutaneous Bilirubin will be elevated.



What tests and labs will be ordered?

Bilirubin Total and/or Transcutaneous Bilirubin



What trends and findings are expected?

Elevated Bilirubin Total - Wanting serum levels to be between 1.0-10.5 mg/dL

This newborns bilirubin that started phototherapy was 15.9 on 04/28/25



What medications and nursing interventions/treatments will you anticipate?

Phototherapy would be expected and is what this newborn received as treatment. Nursing interventions would be to ensure the blue spectrum lights are in use with the correct prescribed level.



How will you know your patient is improving?

Total Bilirubin levels will begin to trend down, back to desired ranges.



What are risk factors for the diagnosis?

Prematurity- 80% of premature babies get jaundice. The liver is still developing, which affects its ability to process bilirubin.



What are the long-term complications?

High levels of bilirubin can travel to baby's brain. This can cause seizures and brain damage.



What patient teaching for management and/or prevention can the nurse do?

It would be important to teach parents for all babies, premature or not that spotting jaundice early and getting treatment right away are key. Teach parents to watch for yellowing of baby's skin and the whites of his or her eyes. This often starts on a baby's face and moves down his or her body.

