

Guideline updated for managing hyperbilirubinemia in newborns

5 August 2022



In a clinical practice guideline revision issued by the American Academy of Pediatrics and published online Aug. 5 in *Pediatrics*, updated recommendations are presented for the management of hyperbilirubinemia in newborn infants \geq 35 weeks of gestation.

In the updated guidance, Alex R. Kemper, M.D., M.P.H., from the Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, and colleagues note that an infant should have a direct antiglobulin test and the infant's blood type should be determined as soon as possible if the maternal antibody screen is positive or unknown. Oral supplementation with water or dextrose water is not recommended to prevent hyperbilirubinemia or decrease bilirubin concentrations. At least every 12 hours following [delivery](#) until discharge, all [infants](#) should be visually assessed for jaundice. For infants noted to be jaundiced

APA citation: Guideline updated for managing hyperbilirubinemia in newborns (2022, August 5) retrieved

30 September 2022 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-08-guideline-hyperbilirubinemia-newborns.html>

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