

# Nurse-Led Prolonged Jaundice Screening

This leaflet explains more about the Nurse-led Prolonged Jaundice Screening service held in the Blue Sky Centre (Children's Ambulatory Unit), St. George's Hospital.

## What is Nurse-Led Prolonged Jaundice Screening?

This is an appointment only nurse-led service with Paediatric Consultant support held in The Blue Sky Centre (Children's Ambulatory) at St. George's Hospital. The aim is to streamline and improve the care of infants with prolonged neonatal jaundice and prevent this cohort of patients from attending the Emergency Department.

Neonatal jaundice is a common presentation in infants, especially breastfed infants. Although the most likely diagnosis in infants with prolonged jaundice is breast milk jaundice, early investigations are crucial to rule out biliary atresia and other less urgent causes of jaundice.

## Who can attend / receive the service?

Any health professional in the local area, e.g. Community Midwife, Health visitor or GP who recognises that an otherwise well infant is visibly jaundice after 14 days of age (21 if born before 37 completed weeks gestation) can refer the infant for Nurse-led screening in The Blue Sky Centre. Infants must be referred by a Health Professional before being reviewed in The Blue Sky Centre.

If you have concerns about poor feeding, growth, abnormal stools as well as prolonged jaundice, these infants can be discussed with The Blue Sky Centre Paediatric Consultant to determine the most appropriate time and place to assess the infant.

## How do Health Professionals refer?

To refer an infant, the relevant Health professional directly contacts the Blue Sky Centre on 020 8725 0650 / 0503. A Blue Sky Nurse will then ask a series of questions including the baby's age, gestation and if the baby is breast fed and gaining weight. Patient details including date of birth, gender, name at birth, NHS number are also required as well as a contact number of a parent.

## Where do patients need to go?

Once the referral has been accepted by Blue Sky Centre staff, the family will be contacted by telephone and offered an appointment, usually in the next two to three working days. Over the phone, Blue Sky staff will direct the family to where the unit is located within the hospital. It is not possible for the families to receive an appointment letter and nor a text message reminder prior to their appointment.

## Do the families need to bring anything?

It is helpful if the families can bring the baby's red book and mother's maternity notes if she still has them.

## Useful sources of information

St. George's Patient Information leaflet – Prolonged Neonatal jaundice:-

<https://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/patient-information>

Children's Liver Disease Foundation:

<http://childliverdisease.org/healthcare-professionals/yellow-alert/>

NICE Guidelines on Neonatal Jaundice in babies under 28 days of age.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg98>

## Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about Nurse-led Prolonged Jaundice screening please contact The Blue Sky Centre on 020 8725 0650/0503 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm).

**For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit [www.stgeorges.nhs.uk](http://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk)**

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## Additional services

### Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you on-the-spot advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or the care you have received. You can visit the PALS office between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday in the main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough Wing (near the lift foyer).

**Tel:** 020 8725 2453 **Email:** [pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

### NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health.

**Web:** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

### NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

**Tel:** 111



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