Newborn Screening Bulletin 2023-2

February 22, 2023

Screening for Biliary Atresia

In January 2023, Newborn Screening Ontario added biliary atresia to Ontario's newborn screening panel. In case you missed it, you can view January's Submitter Bulletin here.

For more information on screening for biliary atresia, please visit our website.

Thank you to the many organizations who have already started educating families about screening for biliary atresia and distributing infant stool colour cards. Through your efforts, we have already started receiving inquiries from parents and families!

What does this mean for you?

As you may recall, NSO shipped a launch kit which contained an initial supply of infant stool colour cards (ISCC) and educational materials to each birth hospital, midwifery practice, and birth centre in the province during the week of January 16, 2023.

- NSO submitters are responsible for distributing the infant stool colour cards to parents and families and provide a brief explanation about the importance of screening for biliary atresia.
- ISCCs are available, free of charge, for ordering via the same distributor used for newborn screening dried bloodspot collection cards. It is therefore important to also order an equivalent or higher number of ISCCs every time you place an order for DBS collection cards. For more information: <u>www.newbornscreening.on.ca/supplies</u>
- If you would like to order more educational resources (posters, education scripts) for your organization, please contact the biliary atresia screening team. You can also <u>access</u> <u>these resources on our website here</u>.



Please begin distributing infant stool colour cards to new parents and families as soon as

possible. We expect all hospitals and midwifery practices to be distributing infant stool colour cards to families no later than February 28, 2023. If you did not receive a launch kit or anticipate a delay distributing the cards beyond this date, please contact us.

Please send an email to <u>nsoba@cheo.on.ca</u> or reply to this submitter bulletin to let us know when you will be or have started distributing infant stool colour cards!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the information included in this bulletin. We thank you for your continued dedication to newborn screening and your efforts in making this new at-home screening program for biliary atresia a success.



