Healthy Stools

A healthy baby’s stools can be any of these colours. Do not worry about green stools. Breast fed babies often pass watery stools. A sudden change to frequent watery stools of any colour may mean the baby is unwell.

- Breast-fed babies – often the stool colour is daffodil yellow
- Bottle-fed babies – often the stool colour is English mustard yellow

Suspect Stools

In babies with liver disease the stools may be one of the colours below. Do not worry about one or two stools that look unusual. Don’t forget to look at the urine colour – in a new born baby it should be colourless.

Any baby with stools the colour below – whatever the age, should be investigated for liver disease.

Note: Digital printing or photocopying of these colours will alter them. Use only items supplied by CLDF.
Prolonged jaundice = jaundice persisting beyond 2 weeks of age in term babies & 3 weeks in pre-term babies

• Persistently yellow urine staining the nappy can be a sign of liver disease

• Persistently pale coloured stools may indicate liver disease

• All babies with pale stools and yellow urine should be referred to a paediatrician for investigation

• All babies with prolonged jaundice should have a split bilirubin test

Children’s Liver Disease Foundation
36 Great Charles Street
Birmingham
B3 3JY

Tel: 0121 212 3839
Fax: 0121 212 4300
Email: info@childliverdisease.org
www.childliverdisease.org

© CLDF Jan 2006