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Rising bilirubin requiring neonatal surveillance Neonatal jaundice

Child Health Nursing | Focused diagnosis-based template

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Fictional educational example. Individualize using verified patient findings, authorized treatment and current local protocols. No real patient record or observed outcome is claimed.

Clinical assessment

Subjective: Caregiver noticed increasing yellow skin and concerns about feeding.

Objective findings and required checks: Jaundice requires age-in-hours bilirubin assessment; feeding and hydration need review.

Physical examination and investigations: Assess bilirubin against the appropriate treatment chart, gestation, age in hours, feeding and indicated cause investigations.

Supply actual values, units, timing and trends during supervised application. Do not invent missing clinical data.

Clinical focus and pathophysiology

Neonatal jaundice: Bilirubin accumulation may be physiological or pathological; risk depends on age, gestation and clinical factors.

Medical / surgical management

Follow neonatal bilirubin thresholds and the prescribed phototherapy or other treatment plan; support feeding and monitoring.

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Illustrative drug and treatment study

Medicine / treatment	Purpose	Nursing checks
Phototherapy as prescribed	Reduce bilirubin through light-mediated conversion	Verify device setup, protection and monitoring
prescribed additional treatment	Manage identified severe or causal problems	Use specialist protocols.

Treatment examples are not a prescription. Verify the authorized product, dose, route, timing, contraindications and current local product information.

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Focused nursing-problem template

Nursing diagnoses use original clinical problem wording. They are not the licensed NANDA-I classification. Verify any formal label or code against your institution's licensed current edition; select actual or risk diagnoses only when supported by assessment.

Context task: Establish the immediate clinical priorities and verify the baseline before assuming a diagnosis.

Set individualized measurable targets and an exact review time. Select actual or risk statements only when supported by assessment.

Assessment: subjective / objective	Nursing diagnosis: original problem wording	Short- and longer-term goals	Nursing interventions with rationale	Evaluation
Ask: Ask about feeding, urine/stool pattern and caregiver observations of jaundice. Assess: Review bilirubin against age-in-hours and gestation-specific thresholds with neurological and hydration assessment.	Rising bilirubin requiring neonatal surveillance. Possible factors: bilirubin production or clearance exceeding current capacity. Validate against the patient's assessment.	Short-term: At the next patient-specific reassessment: Bilirubin is reviewed and treatment delivered according to the prescribed neonatal threshold pathway. Longer-term: Before the clinically approved transition or agreed follow-up: Caregiver explains feeding support, bilirubin follow-up and warning signs.	1. Verify age in hours, gestation, risk factors and the correct bilirubin treatment chart. Rationale: Treatment thresholds depend on these factors rather than appearance alone. 2. Deliver prescribed phototherapy using the correct device setup, protection and monitoring. Rationale: Effective and safely delivered light treatment supports bilirubin reduction. 3. Support the assessed feeding plan and urgently report poor responsiveness or abnormal neurological findings. Rationale: Intake affects clearance, while neurological changes may indicate serious bilirubin-related risk. 4. Follow neonatal bilirubin thresholds and the prescribed phototherapy or other treatment plan; support feeding and monitoring. Rationale: Bilirubin accumulation may be physiological or pathological; risk depends on age, gestation and clinical factors. The condition-specific plan addresses the	Record the baseline and reassessed finding, the time and whether this goal is met, partly met or not met. If not met, reassess causes and revise or escalate. Do not record an unobserved improvement.

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Assessment: subjective / objective	Nursing diagnosis: original problem wording	Short- and longer-term goals	Nursing interventions with rationale	Evaluation
			underlying problem while response is monitored.	

Apply this template

Complete with verified data: assessment cues; supported actual problem or risk; measurable outcome and review time; selected authorized interventions and rationale; observed response and next action.

Subjective / objective cues: _____

Patient-specific target and review time: _____

Evaluation evidence and next action: _____

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Health education and continuing care

Explain bilirubin review, feeding support and follow-up; sunlight is not a substitute for prescribed treatment.

Transition only after clinical readiness is confirmed. Reconcile medicines, check access and caregiver support, and document who will review the patient and when.

Urgent warning signs

Poor feeding, lethargy, abnormal cry, fever or rapidly worsening jaundice requires urgent neonatal review.

Evaluation and conclusion

For each goal, document met, partly met or not met using observed evidence and the review time. Reassess and revise if progress is inadequate. Individual assessment, prioritized care and coordinated review guide this topic.

Quick Revision

- Bilirubin accumulation may be physiological or pathological; risk depends on age, gestation and clinical factors.
- Priority concerns: Rising bilirubin requiring neonatal surveillance.
- Poor feeding, lethargy, abnormal cry, fever or rapidly worsening jaundice requires urgent neonatal review.
- Explain bilirubin review, feeding support and follow-up; sunlight is not a substitute for prescribed treatment.

Exam / viva: What assessment evidence supports this problem, and what measurable result would demonstrate improvement?

References

Nursing Fundamentals, 2e - Ernstmeyer & Christman (editors), Open RN / WisTech Open, 2024
https://wtcs.pressbooks.pub/nursingfundamentals/

Health conditions A to Z: external further reading - NHS
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/

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Nursing Pharmacology, 2e - Ernstmeyer & Christman (editors), Open RN / WisTech Open, 2023
https://wtcs.pressbooks.pub/pharmacology2e/

B.Sc. Nursing curriculum and regulatory notifications - Indian Nursing Council
https://www.indiannursingcouncil.org/gazette-notification

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