Vanderbilt Emergency Department Neonatal Jaundice Pathway

Inclusion Criteria

- Infant of 35 weeks or more gestation with jaundice or documented elevated unconjugated bilirubin
- > 24 hours of age and < 14-days-old

Exclusion Criteria

- Fever or hypothermia (follow febrile neonate pathway)
- Direct hyperbilirubinemia (> 1.5 mg/dL or > 20% TSB)

Patient meets inclusion criteria

↓

- Obtain heel-stick total serum bilirubin with conjugated fraction in triage
- Place patient under overhead phototherapy lights and blanket (if available) on arrival in room

↓

Consult BiliTool
TSB above phototherapy threshold?

Yes

Patient meets admission criteria but does NOT need NICU stay

↓

- Obtain CBC, retic, T&S, DAT
- Assess hydration status: is patient clinically dehydrated?

Yes

- Obtain BMP
- Initiate D10 ½ NS at maintenance

No

- Keep saline locked
- Encourage continued PO intake (duration not to exceed 20 min off lights)

Patient requires NICU stay (TSB within 2mg/dL of exchange transfusion threshold)

↓

- Place PIV, start D10 ½ NS at maintenance
- Obtain BMP, CBC, retic, T&S, DAT
- Start double light therapy with bili blanket and triple therapy if resources allow
- Contact NICU regarding further recs

No

↓

- Ensure good PO intake
- Establish appropriate follow-up with patient's PCP

↓

Discharge to home if discharge criteria met