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اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

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यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

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Ashford Hospital
London Road
Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3AA
Tel: **01784 884488**

St. Peter's Hospital
Guildford Road
Chertsey, Surrey
KT16 0PZ.
Tel: **01932 872000**

Website: www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk

Neonatal Hyperthyroidism

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF NEWBORNS BORN TO MOTHERS WITH AN OVERACTIVE THYROID

Infants born to mothers with an overactive thyroid can rarely show signs and symptoms of an overactive thyroid themselves (also called hyperthyroidism or Graves' disease).

What is hyperthyroidism?

Hyperthyroidism means overactivity of the thyroid gland resulting in high levels of thyroid hormones in the bloodstream.

What causes hyperthyroidism of the newborn?

When a mother has hyperthyroidism, her immune system produces antibodies that keep stimulating her thyroid gland. These antibodies cross the placenta and can cause overactivity of the baby's thyroid gland.

Why do we need to look for it?

Normal levels of thyroid hormones are required to ensure optimal growth and neurological development of the newborn. If left untreated neonatal hyperthyroidism can be a serious illness. With prompt treatment babies usually recover completely within a few weeks.

What are the symptoms of hyperthyroidism in newborns?

Common symptoms include poor weight gain despite adequate feeding, difficulty settling, vomiting, diarrhoea, sweating and

flushing. Some babies may have a fast heartbeat, high blood pressure and rarely bulging eyes.

How is hyperthyroidism of the newborn diagnosed?

A combination of history, clinical examination and measurement of thyroid hormones in the bloodstream are usually required to make the diagnosis.

What can I do to help my baby?

There are many things you can do to help your baby.

- Your baby will be reviewed by the baby doctor prior to discharge from hospital. Some babies may also require observation for 24 hours.
- Familiarise yourself with the signs and symptoms of hyperthyroidism and inform your doctor or midwife should you have any concerns.
- Ensure your baby attends the follow up appointment in the hospital (day 10-14) if instructed by the doctors.

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01932 723553 or email pals@asph.nhs.uk. If you remain concerned, PALS can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

Author: Dr S Leontiadi

Department: Paediatrics

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