

Differences matter – look beyond skin colour in jaundice assessment

Assessing jaundice in
babies with darker skin
tones can be difficult



IMPORTANT

DO NOT rely on
skin colour alone.

This can lead to
missed or delayed
diagnosis.



Always
assess in good
lighting.



Watch for:

- poor feeding
- lethargy or difficulty waking up
- fewer wet or dirty nappies
- pale stools.



Look at:

- whites of the eyes (sclera)
- gums and inside the mouth
- palms of the hands
- soles of the feet.



Listen to parents

They know their
baby best.



Act immediately

If you suspect jaundice, measure bilirubin.

