Congratulations on your new baby!

It is important to observe your baby’s stool color for the first two months after discharge from the nursery. If the stool color resembles the number 1, 2 or 3 (white, clay-colored or light yellow) on this guide, it may be an indication of a possible liver condition that should be brought to your health care provider’s attention. In this case, contact your baby’s health care provider as soon as possible. Please take this guide with you when you bring your baby to the office for further evaluation.
To learn more, please visit Johns Hopkins Children’s Center at: www.hopkinschildrens.org/stoolcolorguide/

You may also download a mobile app, PoopMD, for your Apple and Android smartphone. PoopMD can analyze your infant’s stool color to help you determine if the color requires additional medical evaluation.

For your baby’s health care provider:

The parent/guardian is bringing this guide to you because of concern that the baby’s stool color is unusually pale. This can be a sign of cholestasis. Earlier detection for causes of neonatal cholestasis can improve outcomes for children with these conditions.

If you suspect your patient has neonatal cholestasis, you may wish to contact your local pediatric gastroenterologist to learn more about new research and additional steps in the evaluation of neonatal cholestasis. Guidelines for the evaluation of the cholestatic infant, as well as the name of your nearest pediatric gastroenterologist, can be found on the website for the National Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition: www.naspghan.org.