



## **In-Home Phototherapy FAQs for PCPs**

Cincinnati Children's Home Care now offers support for newborn infants meeting criteria for in-home phototherapy. Phototherapy blankets can be delivered through Children's Home Care, Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Department. Parent education is provided via a telehealth visit with a Home Care nurse.

### **How is the bilirubin monitored after in-home phototherapy begins?**

Infants will require PCP referral to a testing center for repeat levels. PCP's will monitor and manage the therapy.

### **How do I make a referral for in-home Bili-blankets from Home Care?**

Call Home Care at (513) 636-8121 Mon-Fri between 8:30am to 5:00pm.  
Call the Hospital Operator at (513) 636-4200 on weekends/holidays and ask to speak to the Home Care Agency Coordinator on call.

### **What geographic areas does Children's Home care serve? (how far can DME deliver the blankets)?**

DME can deliver within a radius of 55 miles from Burnet Campus in Ohio and in Kentucky. Delivery needs to occur by 8 pm.

### **Which babies are candidates for home phototherapy?**

Cincinnati Children's Home Health follows the August 2022 AAP Hyperbilirubinemia guidelines with a few modifications for our specific population.

- Total Serum Bilirubin level must be obtained no more than 8 hours prior to the time of the referral.
- Patient's total serum Bilirubin level falls within recommended range for home phototherapy (no more than 1 point above phototherapy threshold), based on hours of age and gestational age.
- Infant is 36 weeks gestation or greater and is between 24 hours and 7 days of age.
- Infant shows no signs/symptoms of dehydration, significant lethargy, or temperature instability.
- Infant shows no signs/symptoms of sepsis or acidosis.
- If the infant is exclusively breast feeding, there are no signs/symptoms of poor nursing and weight loss is less than 10%.
- There is no evidence of active hemolysis.



- No previous phototherapy (unless continuous from birth hospital).
- Albumin if measured is less than 3.0.
- Infant will be able to have labs checked daily or as ordered by the prescribing physician.

**Who should I contact if a baby needs inpatient treatment for jaundice?**

Contact the Admission & Transfer Center (ATC) at 513-636-XFER to discuss direct admission with Hospital Medicine or the NICU depending upon clinical risk factors and bilirubin levels.

Readmission to a birth hospital may also be an option. The Newborn Care Associates (NCA) nurses can be reached at (513) 803-2681 from 8am-5pm, 7 days/week to discuss admissions.