JAUNDICE

Jaundice literally means "yellowness". It is seen in 50% of full term infants in the first few days of life. It is caused by a buildup in the blood and tissues of a yellow pigment called bilirubin. Bilirubin is formed when the baby disposes of its "worn-out" red blood cells.

If your baby becomes jaundiced in the nursery, we will discuss with you exactly what this means. In most instances it will cause no problems with your baby, but occasionally we will have to take special measures to help the baby eliminate the bilirubin from its body. Please call for an appointment if your notice that your baby has a deep yellow or orange color at home.