

NEW-BORN BILIARY ATRESIA

Biliary Atresia (BA) is a serious liver disorder in young infants in which bile ducts are absent or obstructed resulting in a compromised and diseased liver.

- There are 3-5 babies with BA born in Ireland annually.
- These cases are time sensitive.
- Early diagnosis is pivotal as the biliary drainage operation (Kasai) is less successful when undertaken after 60 days old.
- Symptoms of BA include:
 - Prolonged Jaundice.
 - Pale or clay-coloured (acholic) stools, an indication that very little or no bile (which gives bowel movements their normal colour) is reaching the intestine.

FLOW CHART FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SUSPECTED BILIARY ATRESIA

