

# Explanation page for lack G<sub>6</sub>PD enzyme

(הסבר להורים על חיסון G<sub>6</sub>PD)

## Dear parents

In the blood tests done to your son/daughter, a deficiency of the G<sub>6</sub>PD (glucose-6- phosphate hydrogenase) enzyme has been found. Overall, this deficiency will not affect the baby on a daily basis, apart from a couple of restrictions that must be considered:

- ◆ It is prohibited for your son/daughter to eat **broad/fava bean**- in the case that your child has eaten broad/fava bean, you must immediately seek out medical attention. It is recommended to avoid eating broad/fava beans in the house when there is a family member that has the G<sub>6</sub>PD deficiency.
- ◆ It is prohibited for your son/daughter to be exposed to naphthalene, a substance which prevents clothing moths.
- ◆ **There is a number of medications that your son/daughter can't consume:**
  1. **Dapsone (avlosulfon)** – rare medication for special infections.
  2. **Methayline blue** – a medication given after hospitalization in very special cases.
  3. **Nitrofurtoin (Uvamin and Macrochantin)** – antibiotics for bladder infection.
  4. **Phenazopyridine (Sedural)** – a medication given in case of bladder infection to relieve pain.
  5. **Primaquine** – medication given for prevention of malaria.
  6. **Rasbircase** – medication given after cancer treatment.
  7. **Toluidine blue** – medication given for examination of the pituitary gland.
- ◆ Sulfamethoxazole / Trimethoprim – (Sulfatrim, Diseptyl, Resprim, Septrim) – Antibiotics for different uses.
- ◆ There is no restriction in the use of Sulfamethoxazole / Trimethoprim in patients that lack the enzyme of G<sub>6</sub>PD, however, it is preferred to use alternative treatment.

## Is there a contraindication if the mother wants to breastfeed a child with a G<sub>6</sub>PD enzyme deficiency?

There are a few restrictions for the breastfeeding mother in this situation:

1. If your child lacks the G<sub>6</sub>PD enzyme - do not eat fava/broad beans during the entire breastfeeding period.
2. Do not breast-feed a baby with a G<sub>6</sub>PD enzyme deficiency if you are taking one of the medications mentioned above, because they can pass through the breastmilk and can be dangerous for the breastfed baby.
3. If your child lacks the G<sub>6</sub>PD enzyme it is recommended not to eat fava/broad beans in future pregnancies.

The child's physician should be informed of the enzyme deficiency before prescribing any medication.

It is important to pay attention to the active substance in a medication as trade names change and renew.

For any exposure to any of these factors consult your physician.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the medical or nursing staff of the Neonatal Department.

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**Congratulations,  
The Neonatal Department Staff**