What’s Normal for Newborns?

NORMAL TRAITS

☐ A misshapen head. The head will also have two soft spots—one on top and the other toward the back—that will disappear by 18 months.

☐ Bowed legs. Your baby just spent nine months in a cramped womb. His legs will straighten as they start to bear weight, when he learns to walk.

☐ Blemished skin. A scaly scalp (cradle cap) or small white bumps on the face (milia) are among skin conditions that should resolve within a few weeks.

☐ Unfocused eyes. Your baby will develop eye muscles and control.

☐ Sudden movements. As a reflex to sounds, smells and lights, the baby may throw his arms to his sides and quickly retract them.

REASONS TO SEE YOUR DOCTOR

☐ Fever greater than 100.4 degrees.

☐ Continuous crying, or hours of nonstop crying, not fussy periods.

☐ Trouble breathing, or taking more than 60 breaths per minute.

☐ Irregular diapers that aren’t wet or contain blood.

☐ Vomiting of blood or green fluid.

☐ Jaundiced skin that appears to be worsening.

*SCHEDULE A HOME VISIT*

Pediatricians at University of Utah Health Care’s South Jordan Health Center can answer questions during a home visit for your baby at 1–7 days of age. Learn more about the benefits of home visits, and call 801-213-4500 to schedule an appointment.

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