

# G6PD Deficiency: Signs and Symptoms

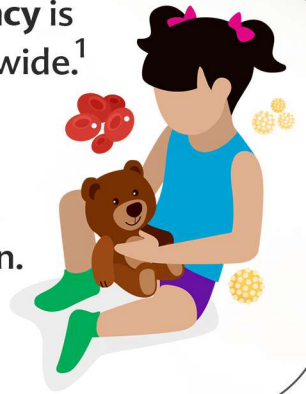


Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency is a genetic condition that affects almost 400 million worldwide.<sup>1</sup>

In the Philippines, the incidence of G6PD deficiency is 4.5 to 25.7%.<sup>2</sup>

A child with this condition lacks the G6PD enzyme that protects the red blood cells (RBCs) from early destruction.

The lack of it makes RBCs vulnerable to a breakdown which can lead to anemia.<sup>3</sup>



## When RBCs are destroyed, symptoms associated with G6PD deficiency include:<sup>4-6</sup>



**Lethargy:**  
Extreme tiredness



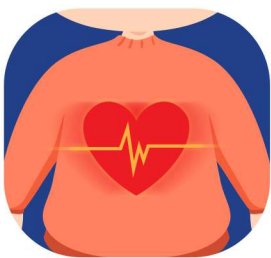
**Palor:**  
Deficiency of color



**Jaundice:** Yellow coloring of the skin and eyes



**Dark Urine**



**Fast heartbeat and breathing**



**High pitched cry**

The information included in this material is for informational purpose only. Always seek medical advice for any concerns about health and nutrition.

**References:**

1. World Health Organization (WHO). Updating the WHO G6PD classification of variants and the International Classification of Diseases, 11th Revision (ICD-11). WHO resource page. Available at: <https://www.who.int/malaria/mpac/mpac-october2019-session7-updating-G6PD-classification.pdf>. Accessed 13 July 2021.
2. Padilla C, et al. Screening for glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency using a modified formazan method: a pilot study on Filipino male newborns. *Pediatr Int* 2003;45:10-15.
3. The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne (RCH). G6PD deficiency. RCH resource page. Available at: [https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact\\_sheets/G6PD\\_deficiency/](https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/G6PD_deficiency/). Accessed 5 July 2021.
4. KidsHealth from Nemours. G6PD Deficiency. KidsHealth resource page. Available at: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/g6pd.html>. Accessed 5 July 2021.
5. Wolfe L. G6PD Deficiency in the Newborn Clinical Presentation. Medscape resource page. Available at: <https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/119184-clinical>. Accessed 13 July 2021.
6. Osuorah C, et al. Clinical evaluation of severe neonatal Hyperbilirubinaemia in a resource-limited setting: a 4-year longitudinal study in south-East Nigeria. *BMC Pediatr* 2018;18(1):202.



For more information on G6PD Deficiency, please scan the code