

This proposed screening program is a novelty in the Western world and had to be adapted to our culture. It is at the same time simple as it is distinct.

This pilot project of a national BA screening will first evaluate the feasibility of the method in our country. Within 36 months time the methodology as well as sensitivity and specificity of the Stool Color Card should be confirmed in Switzerland. Thereafter, an established national screening program may be set up, working close together with the department for public health, and with the national insurance system. Eventually the Swiss project may be expanded to a European-wide program.

The pilot project of a national BA screening will

- (1) Proof the feasibility and efficacy of the BA screening with a Stool Color Card in Switzerland,
- (2) Help to early discover a devastating disease that, if not treated early in life, may lead to potentially hazardous, precocious need for early LT,
- (3) Increase the rate of survival with native liver of children with BA,
- (4) Reduce the need for a most precious organ, the donated liver, and thus reduce the waiting time on the list of patents waiting for a LT for other reasons, and hence
- (5) Save non-negligible resources of the national public health system.