Neonatal Hemochromatosis (NH) was originally described in 1957 and more than 100 cases had been reported.

The Cause
- NH is a rare condition which occurs while the baby is developing in the mother’s womb.
- Toxic levels of iron accumulate in the liver as well as extra hepatic sites in the unborn baby’s body.
- The risk of recurrence in subsequent offspring of a woman is greater than 80%.
- NH is usually deadly to the fetus, and if born alive kills the baby in the first weeks.
- Dr. Peter Whittington (Feinber School of Medicine of Northwestern University) proven Hypothesis indicates an alloimmune mechanism, as a cause of the disease.

Symptoms
- Accumulation of iron in fetal liver
- Accumulation of iron in fetal body tissues
- Fetal death
- Death within weeks of birth
- Small birth size
- Liver disease
- Liver failure
- Cardiac failure
- Respiratory failure
- Abdominal ascites
- Disseminated intravascular coagulation

Additional Info
- NH has been found in African American, Asian, and Caucasian infants
- If a Physician fails to diagnose Neonatal hemochromatosis (and the family has additional kids with the same disease); This could result in legal actions against the Physician.

Treatment
- Liver transplants.
- Antioxidant Chelation Cocktail
- New treatment – high doses of immunoglobulin to pregnant mothers with previous confirmed pregnancies of neonatal hemochromatosis.

Test and Diagnosis
- MRI is most helpful
- Liver Biopsy
- Punch Biopsy of the oral mucosa

References
Images, G. All images.