



Drug-Induced Liver Injury: Is Chronic Liver Disease a Risk Factor and a Clinical Issue?

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DESCRIPTION

It is located just below the ribcage on the right side and is about the size of a soccer ball. The liver separates nutrients and waste products as they move through the digestive system. It also produces bile, a substance that carries toxins out of the body and aids digestion. The term “liver disease” refers to any of several conditions that can affect and damage the liver. As more scar tissue is replaced by healthy liver tissue, the livers can no longer function properly. The liver has many important functions, such as digesting food, processing and distributing nutrients. Some, like hepatitis, are caused by viruses. Others can be the result of drugs or too much alcohol. Long-term damage or scar tissue in the liver can lead to cirrhosis. Jaundice, or yellowing of the skin, can be a sign of liver disease. Liver disease is abnormal liver function that causes disease. The liver is responsible for many important functions of the body, and loss of these functions can cause significant damage to the body when sick or injured. Liver disease is also called liver disease. Liver disease is a broad term encompassing potential problems that prevent the liver from performing its intended function. Typically, more than 75% or three-quarters of liver tissue must be affected before failure occurs. It is also considered a gland because, among other things, it produces and secretes bile. The liver is located in the upper right part of the abdomen and is protected by the ribcage. It has two main leaves consisting of small leaflets. Liver cells have two different blood supplies. The hepatic artery supplies oxygen-rich blood pumped by the heart and the portal vein supplies nutrients from the intestine and spleen. Veins normally carry blood from the body back to the heart, but the portal vein carries nutrients and chemicals from the digestive tract to the liver where they are processed

and filtered before entering systemic circulation. It efficiently supplies the chemicals and proteins necessary for liver cells to produce the protein, cholesterol, and glycogen needed for physical activity. Increased DNA damage, a common mechanism, is common to some of the major liver diseases such as hepatitis B and C virus infections, heavy alcohol consumption and obesity. Viral infection with hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C virus causes an increase in reactive oxygen species. Excessive alcohol consumption leads to accumulation of acetaldehyde. Acetaldehyde and free radicals generated from alcohol metabolism cause DNA damage and oxidative stress. Furthermore, neutrophil activation in alcoholic liver disease contributes to the pathogenesis of hepatocellular injury by releasing reactive oxygen species. The levels of oxidative stress and acetaldehyde-induced DNA adducts from alcohol consumption do not appear to be sufficient to cause increased mutagenesis. Alcohol-induced epigenetic changes in gene expression appear to lead to liver damage and ultimately cancer. Obesity is associated with an increased risk of primary liver cancer. As shown in mice, obese mice are predisposed to liver cancer, possibly due to two factors: Overweight mice have elevated levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines. Obese mice also have higher levels of deoxycholate, a product of bile acid alteration by certain gut microbes, and these microbes increase with obesity.

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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