



الجامعة السورية الخاصة
SYRIAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY

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First lecture

- ▣ Liver disease
 - Introduction
 - Anatomy & physiology
 - Prevalence of liver disease
 - Jaundice
 - LFTs

2/12



LIVE === LIVER

- It was at one time considered the seat of life hence its name ,
- liver the thing we live with

- Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914)

LIVER

- ▣ UNIQUE
- ▣ >500 vital function
- ▣ Holds one pint of blood supply at any given moment(13%)
- ▣ organ that can regenerate itself
- ▣ 1.2 – 1.5kg

Functional reserve

- ▣ Enormous functional reserve
Surgical removal of 60% of the liver of a normal person produces minimal and transient hepatic impairment
- ▣ Regeneration restores most of the liver mass within 4 to 6 weeks.

Regeneration

- ▣ *Regeneration.*
- ▣ Cell death or tissue resection (such as in living-donor transplantation) triggers hepatocyte replication, to compensate for the cell or tissue loss.
- ▣ *It is a normal compensatory response to cell death*

It is common

-1/3 OF THE WORLD POPULATION
EXPOSED TO VIRAL HEPATITIS B

-The global prevalence of HBV infection in the general population was estimated at 3.5% with about 257 million persons living with chronic HBV infection.

<http://www.who.int/wer>

Position paper WHO2017

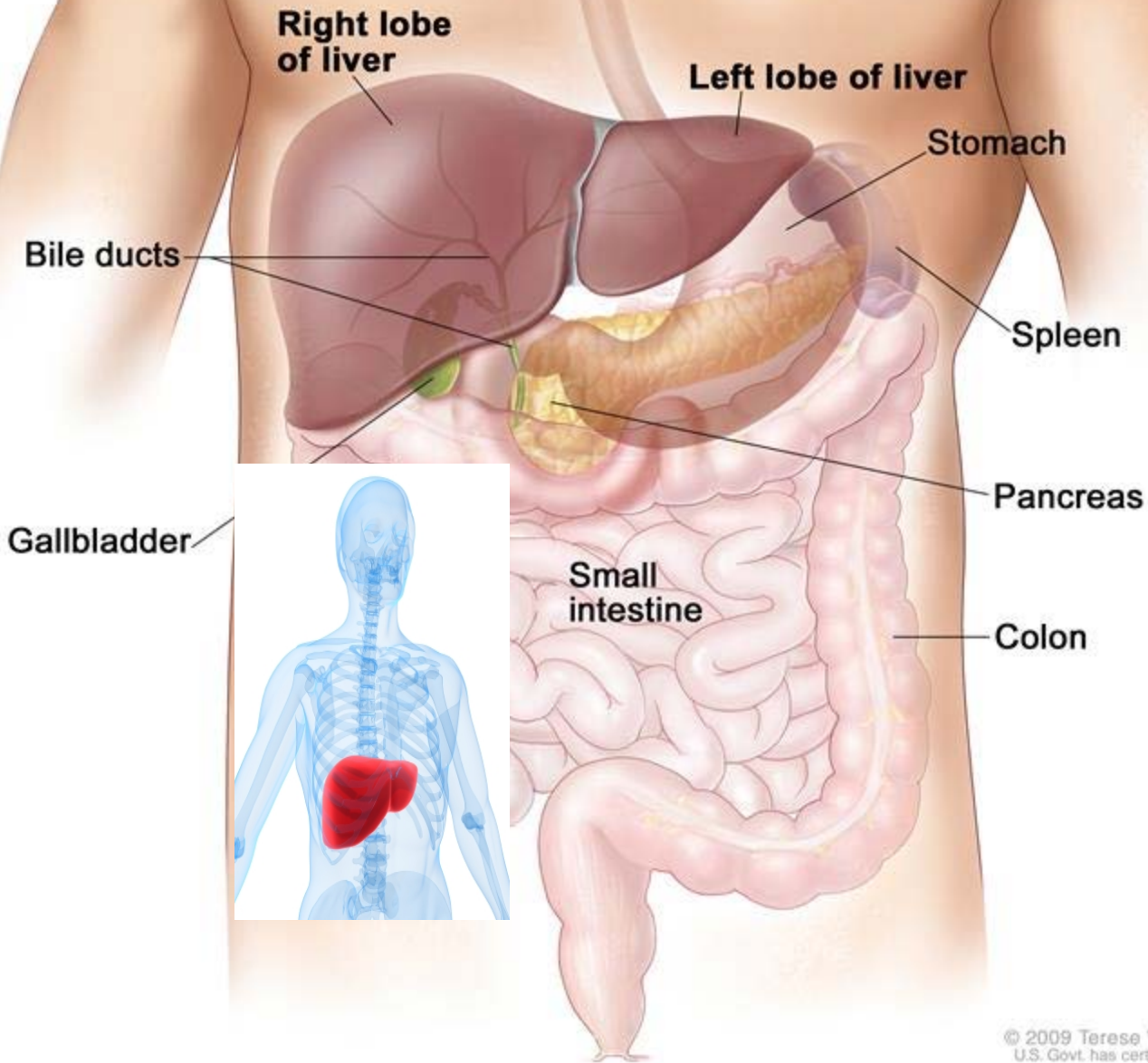
More than one million of Syrian population are infected by hepatitis B&C

Winning over ---

Therapeutic endoscopy

largely replaced surgery for

- Gastrointestinal bleeding
- Tumor palliation
- Biliary diseases.



4 ABDOMINAL EXAMINATION: POSSIBLE FINDINGS

Hepatomegaly
Palpable gallbladder

(Ch. 23)

Epigastric mass

Gastric cancer
Pancreatic cancer
Aortic aneurysm

Left upper quadrant mass

?*Spleen*

Edge
Can't get above it
Moves towards right
iliac fossa
Dull percussion note
Notch

?*Kidney*

Rounded
Can get above it
Moves down
Resonant to percussion
Ballotable

Tender to palpation

?*Peritonitis*

Guarding and rebound
Absent bowel sounds
Rigidity

?*Obstruction*

Distended
Tinkling bowel sounds
Visible peristalsis

Left iliac fossa mass

Sigmoid colon cancer
Constipation
Diverticular mass

Generalised distension

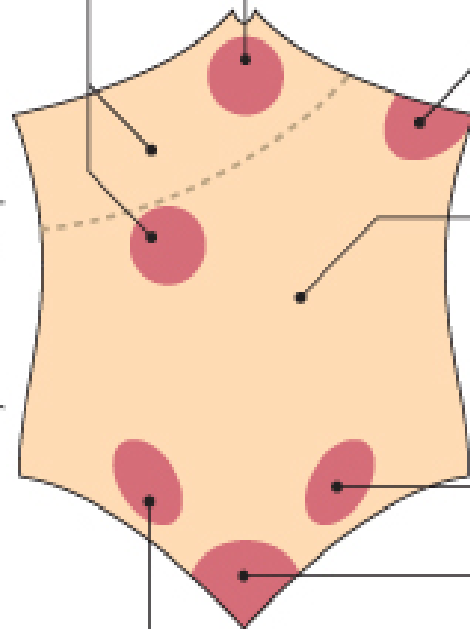
Fat (obesity)
Fluid (ascites)
Flatus (obstruction/ileus)
Faeces (constipation)
Fetus (pregnancy)

Right iliac fossa mass

Caecal carcinoma
Crohn's disease
Appendix abscess

Suprapubic mass

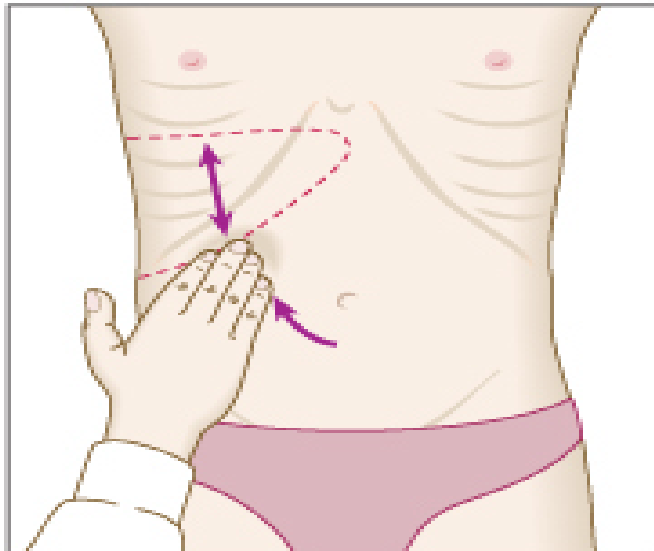
Bladder
Pregnancy
Fibroids/carcinoma



5 PALPATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Liver

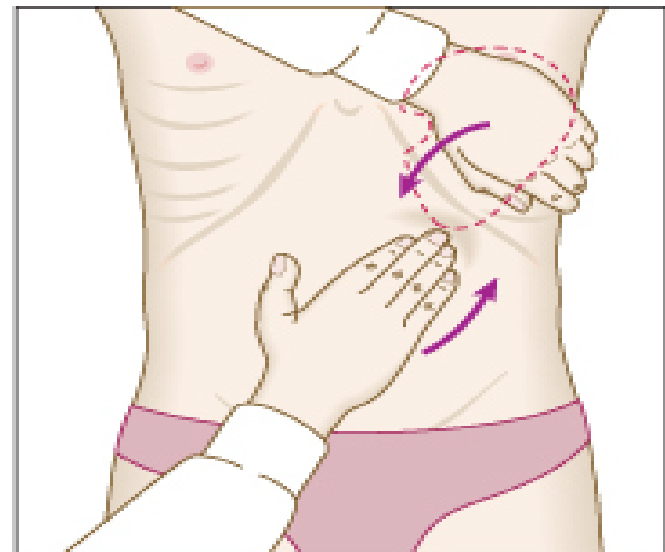
- Start in the right iliac fossa.
- Progress up the abdomen 2 cm with each breath (through open mouth)
- Confirm the lower border of the liver by percussion (see 6).



- Detect if smooth or irregular, tender or non-tender; ascertain shape.
- Identify the upper border by percussion (see 6).

Spleen

- Start again in the right iliac fossa.
- Progress towards the left upper quadrant at 2 cm intervals.
- Place the left hand around the lower lateral ribs as the costal margin is approached.



- Note the characteristics of the spleen
 - Notch
 - Superficial
 - Dull to percussion
 - Cannot get between ribs and spleen
 - Moves well with respiration.

Nutrient metabolism

Carbohydrate
Protein
Lipids

Protein synthesis

Albumin
Coagulation factors
Complement factors
Haptoglobin
Caeruloplasmin
Transferrin
Protease inhibitors

Storage

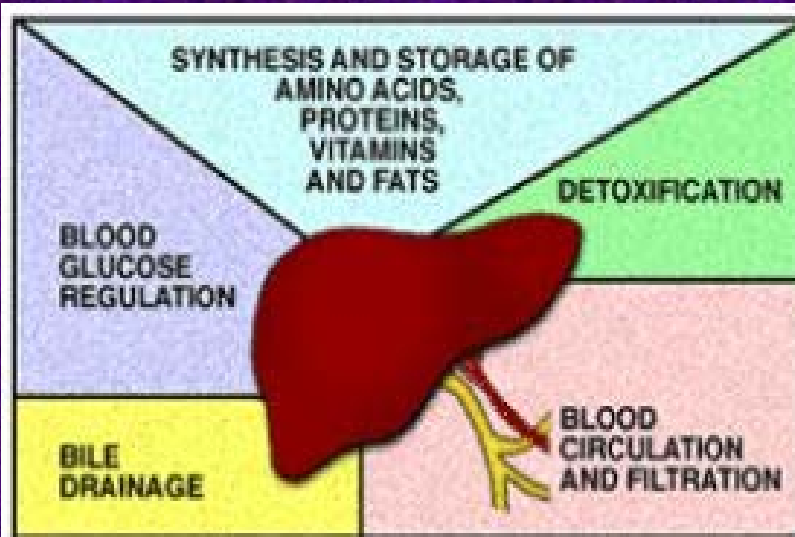
Iron
Copper
Vitamins A, D and B₁₂

Excretion

Bile salts
Bilirubin

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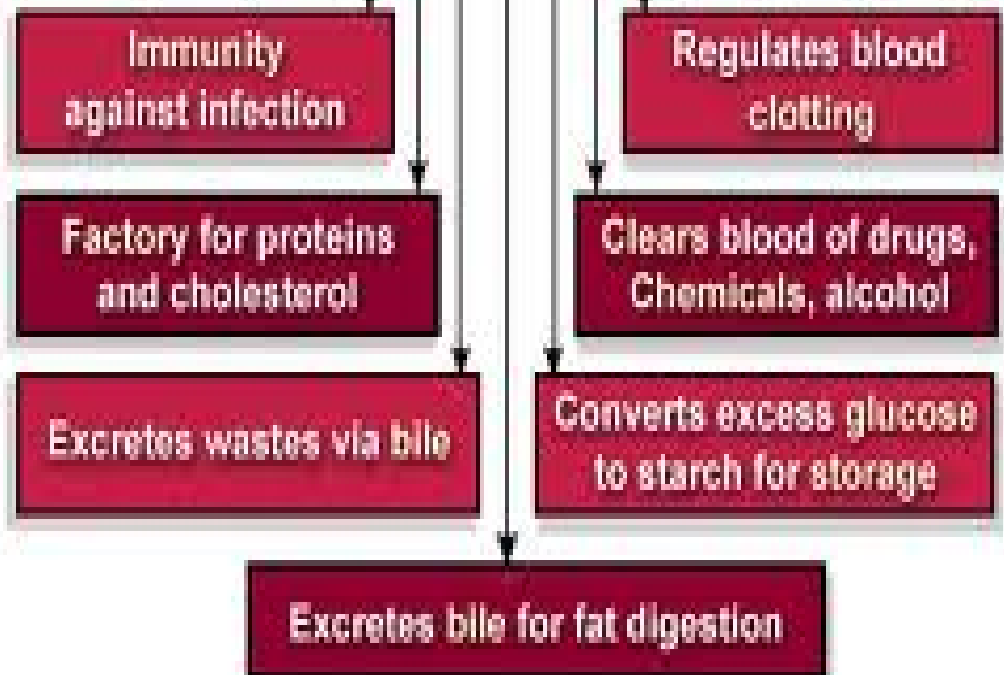
Main liver Functions



LIVER FUNCTIONS

What does the liver do?

500 VITAL FUNCTIONS



Metabolism & Production

A. Amino acids

1. Albumin 8-14 mg/day is
2. Clotting factors (II, VII, IX, X) which are in turn modified by vitamin K-dependent enzymes (Vit K is also stored in the liver)
3. Complement factors
4. Haptoglobin
5. Transferrin
6. Protease inhibitors: eg. alpha1-antitrypsin

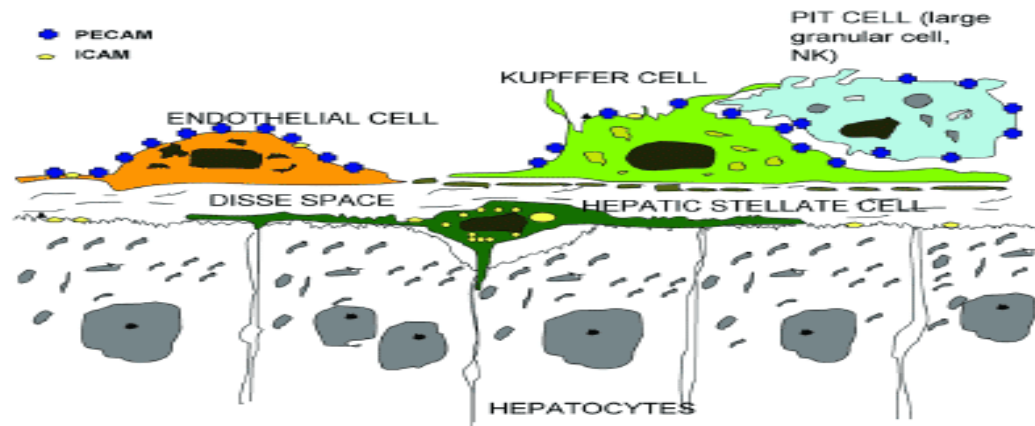
Storage

- ▣ 1. Vitamin A,D and B12 are stored in large amounts.
- ▣ 2. Vitamin K & folate in smaller amounts.
- ▣ 3. Iron within 2 compounds (ferritin&hemosiderin)
- ▣ 4.copper (also excreted in bile)

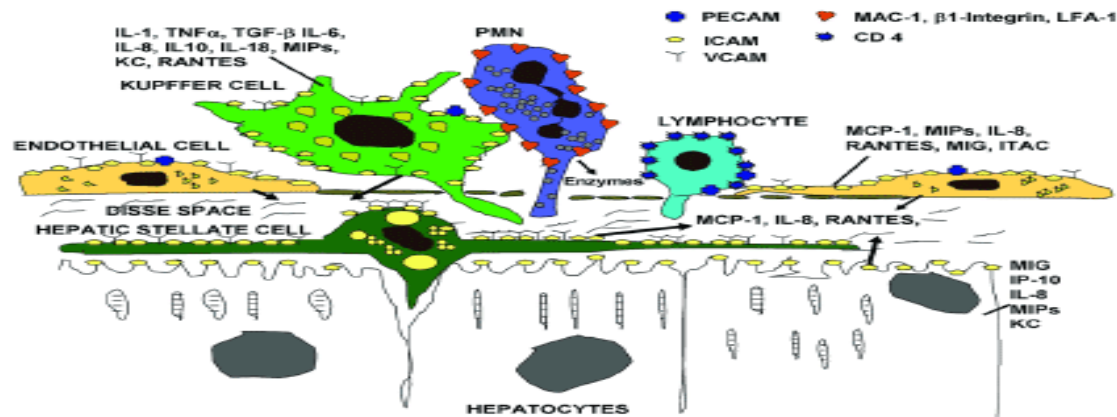
Excretion

- ▣ The main excreted product is the Bile which contains:
 1. Bile acids (from cholesterol)
 2. Bilirubin (conjugated)
 3. phospholipids
 4. cholesterol
 5. copper
 6. Drugs
 7. Nutrient metabolism waste products

Immune regulation



A: Sinusoidal structure in normal liver



B: Changes in liver inflammation

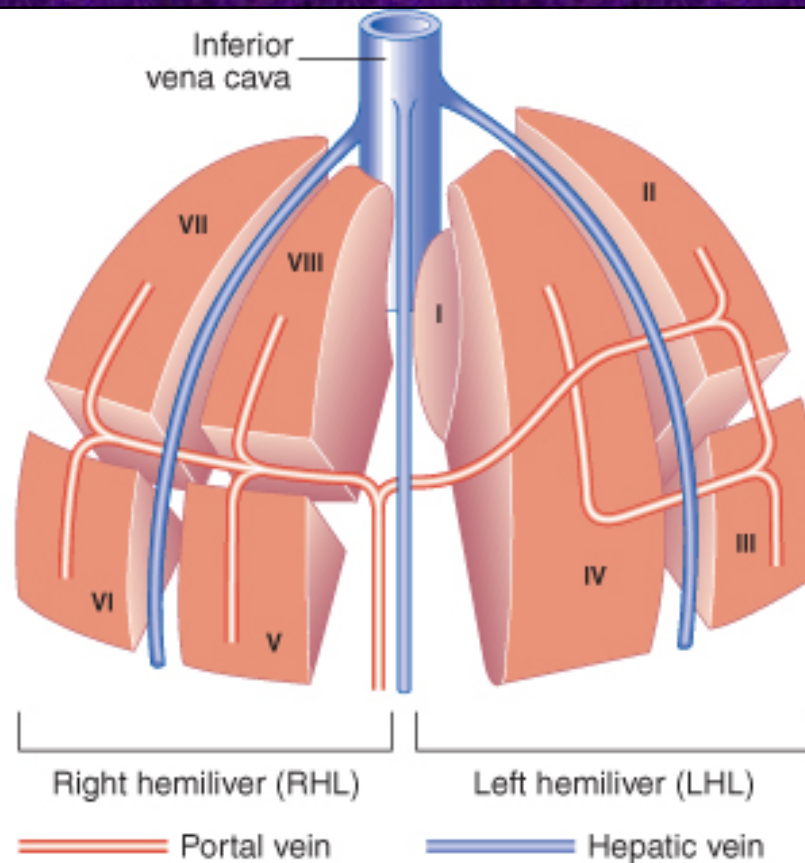
▣ 9% of normal liver is immune cells.

1. Cells for Innate immunity:

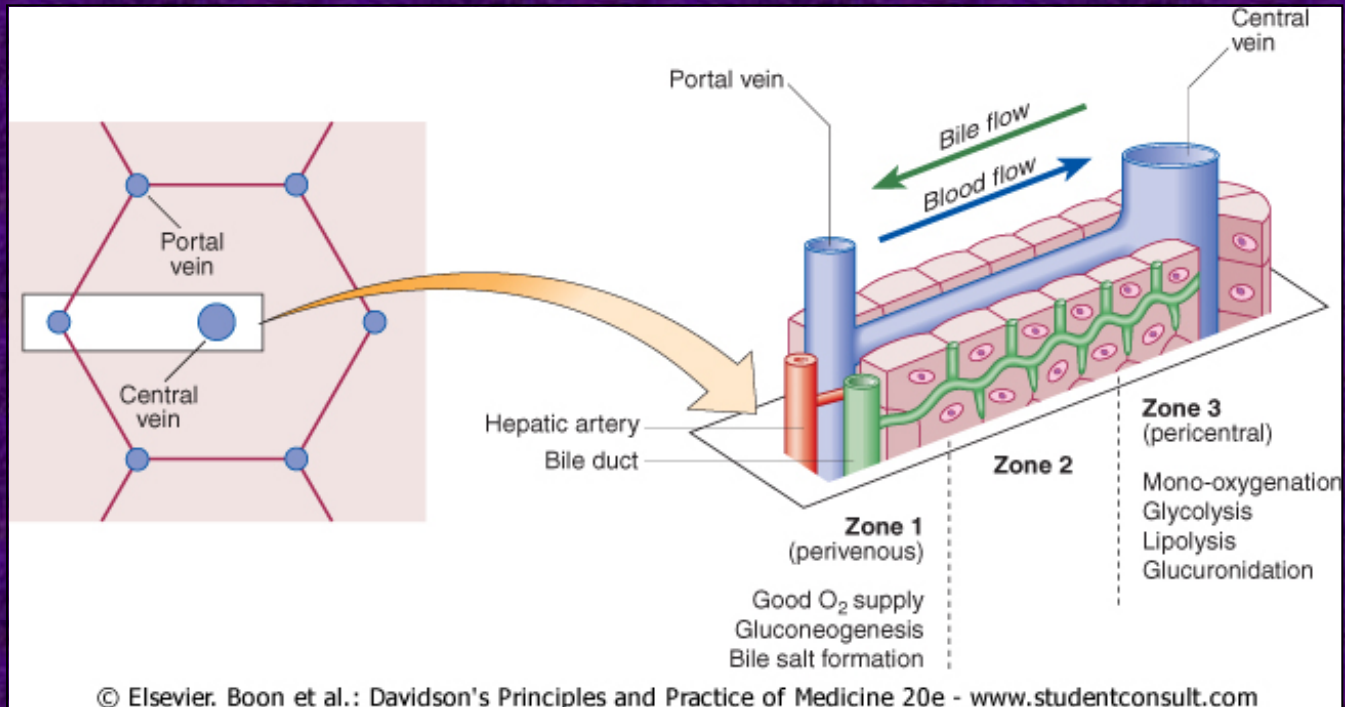
4% Kupffer cells (from blood monocytes)

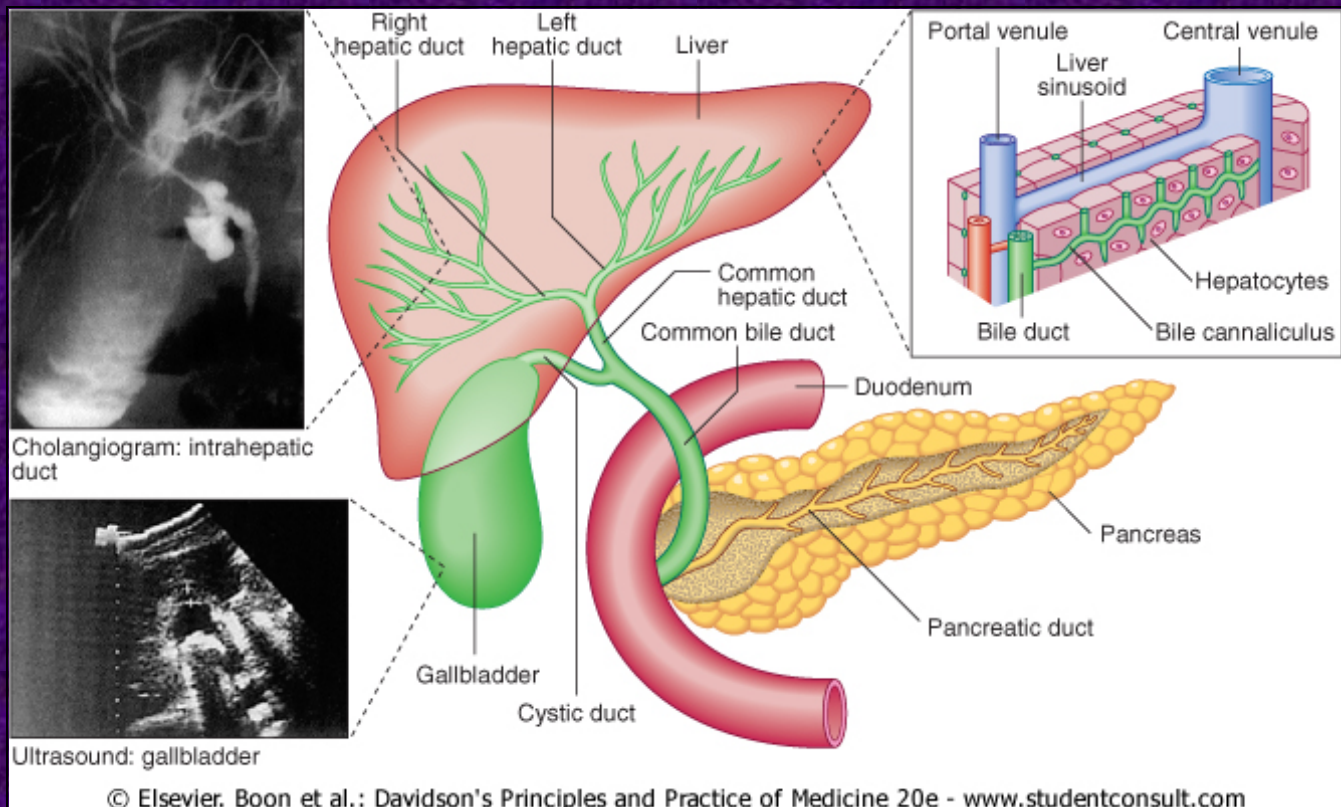
2.5% Macrophages & Natural killer cells

2. Cells for adaptive immunity: B&T lymphocytes



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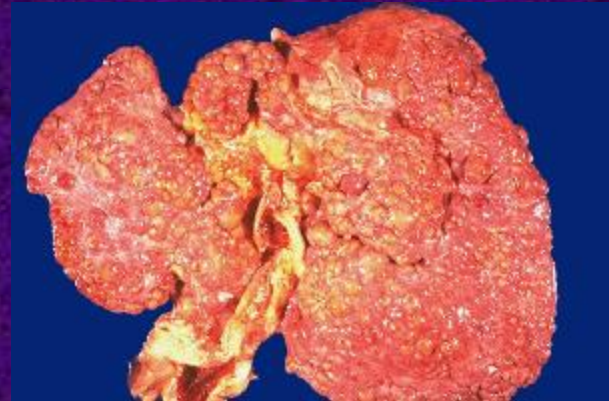


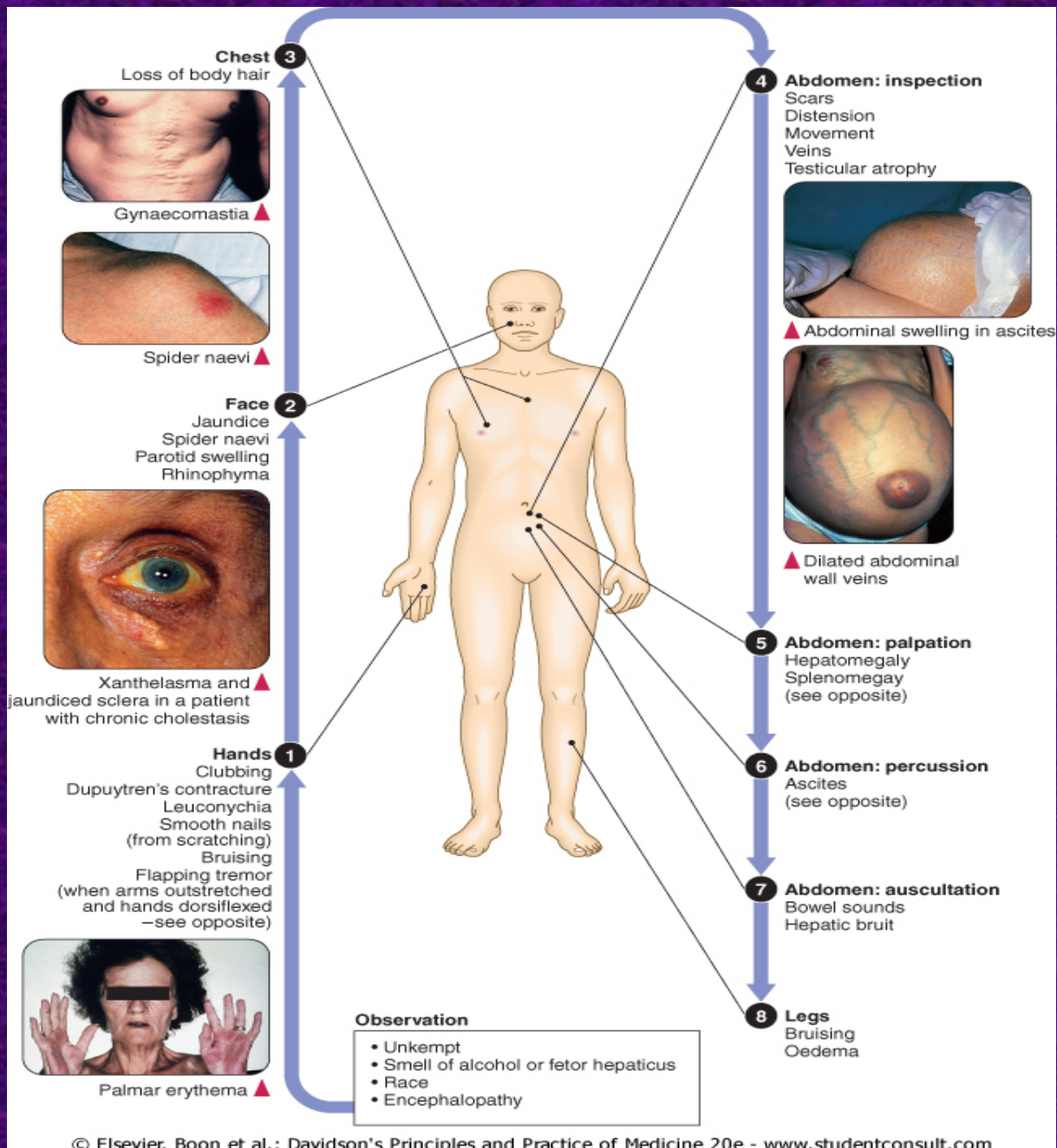
liver from to

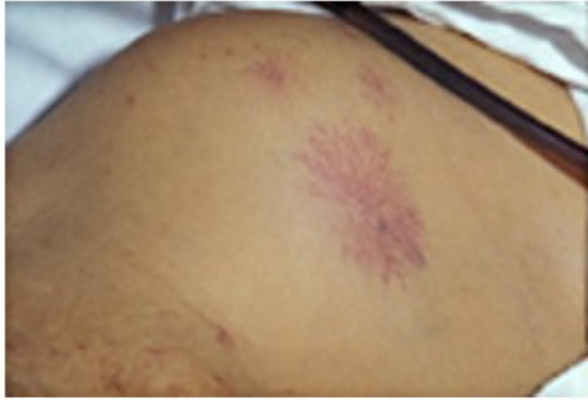
healthy



cirrhosis







Edema (swelling) of the ankles and feet

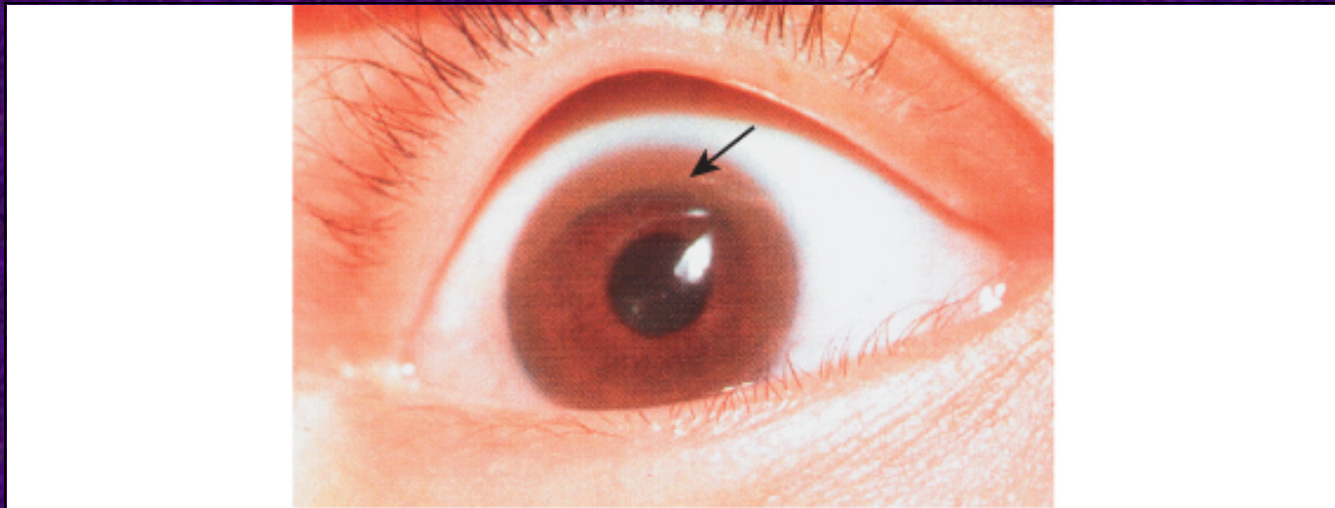


Figure 10. Photograph shows a caput medusae accentuated by a large amount of ascites in a patient being prepared for liver transplantation.



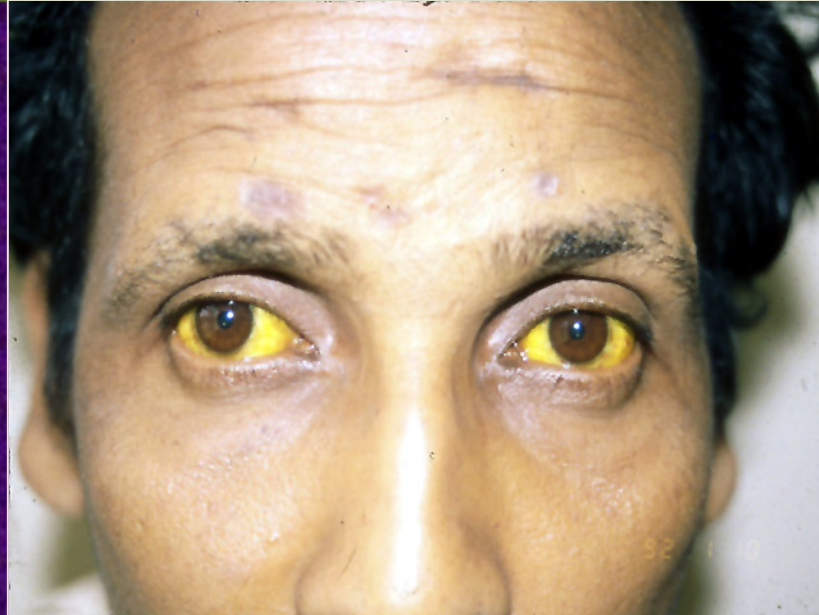
Henseler K P et al. Radiographics 2001;21:691-704

RadioGraphics



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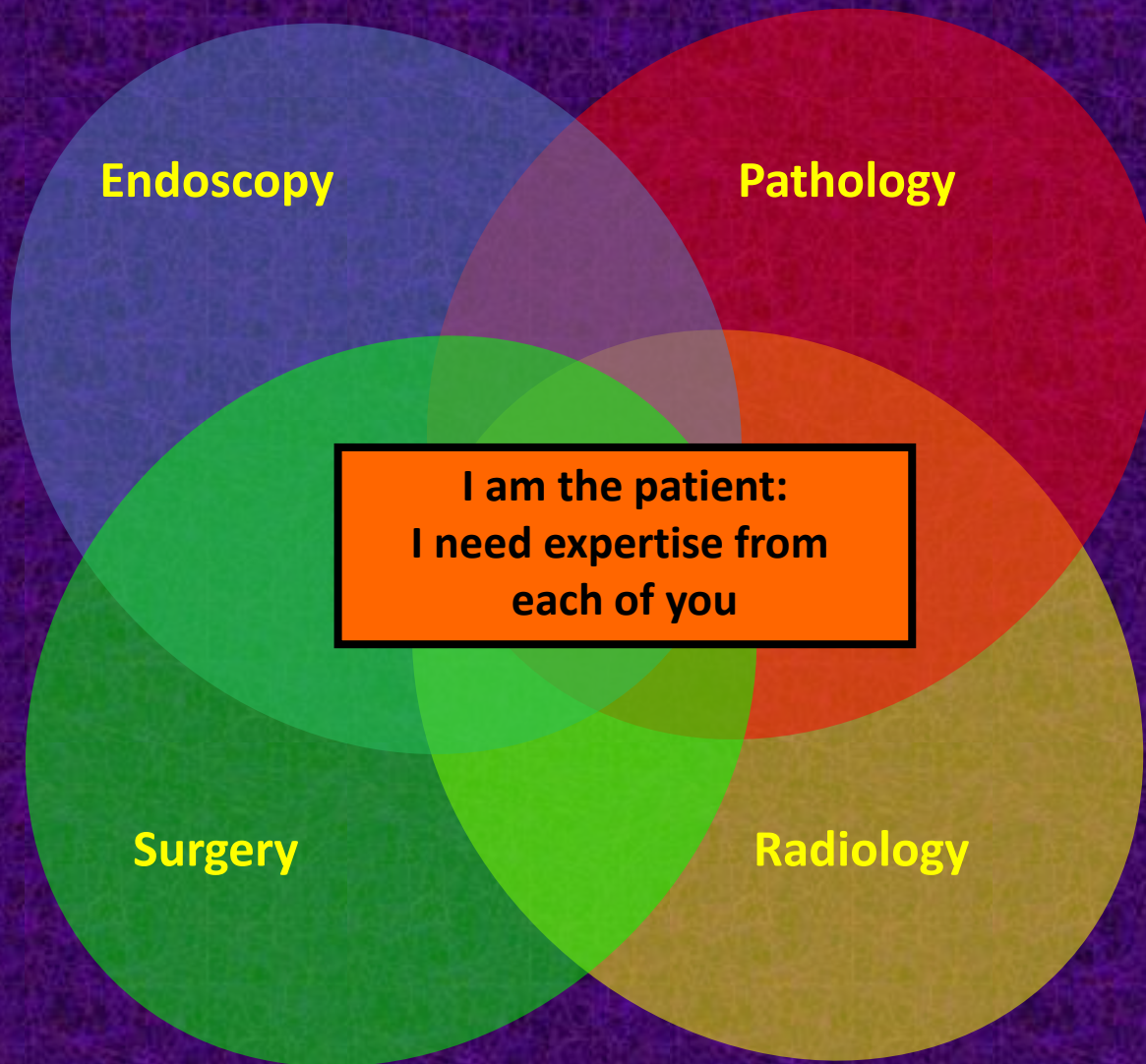
Jaundice



Jaundice is usually detectable clinically when the plasma bilirubin exceeds $40 \mu\text{mol/L}$ ($\sim 2.5 \text{ mg/dL}$).

Manifestations

- Liver injury and its manifestations tend to follow characteristic morphologic and clinical patterns, regardless of cause.



Endoscopy

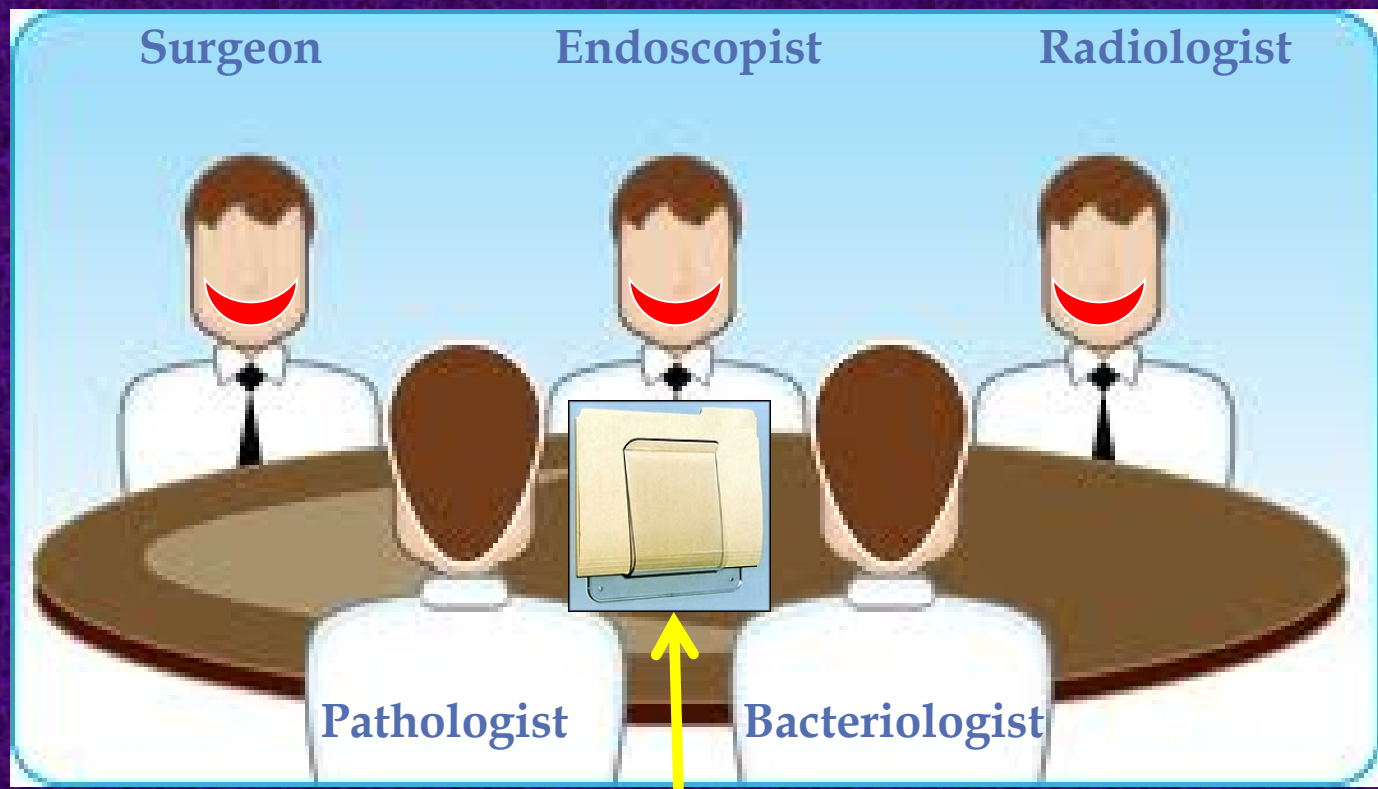
Pathology

**I am the patient:
I need expertise from
each of you**

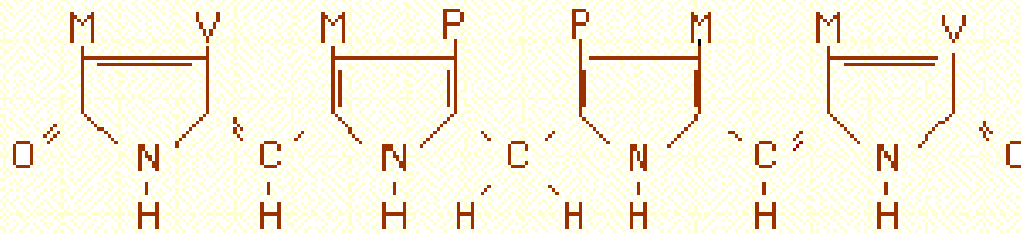
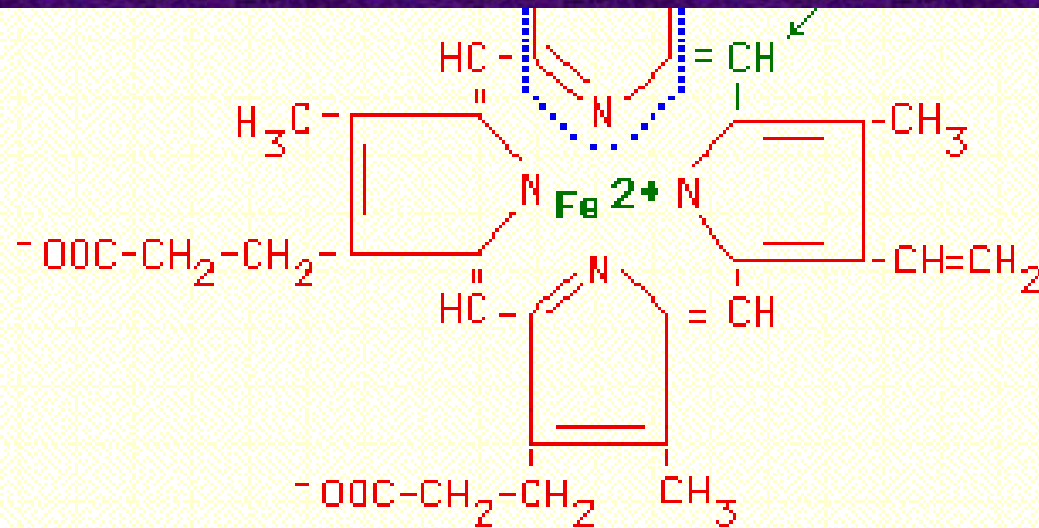
Surgery

Radiology

Multidisciplinary approach !



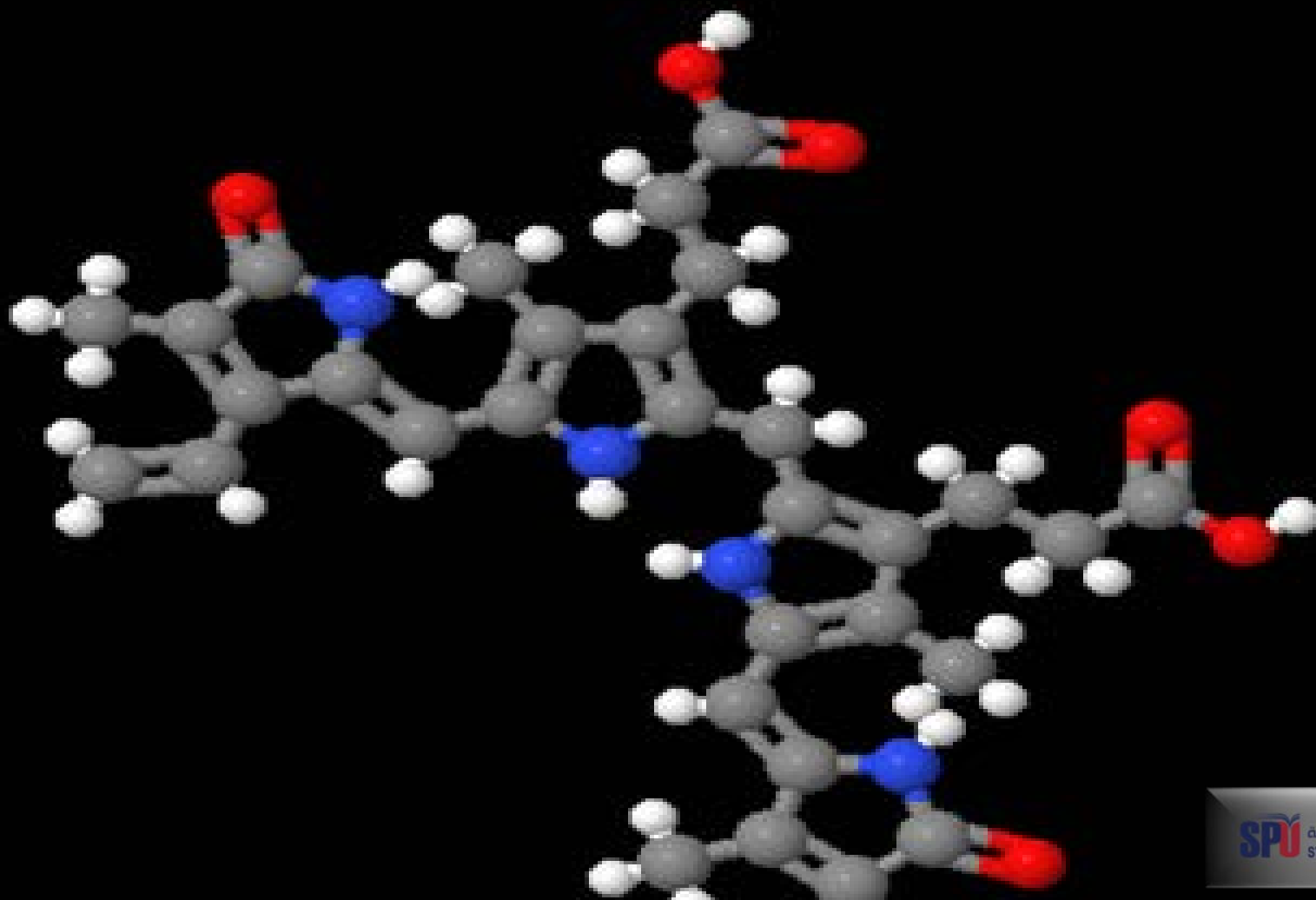
Patient Chart
& imaging



Bilirubin

The breakdown product of haem
 the body usually produces about 300mg of bilirubin
 Iron is removed from the haem molecule and the porphyrin ring is opened to form bilirubin

Bilirubin



Bilirubin

Direct: water soluble

Indirect: lipid soluble

Red blood cells

Ineffective erythropoiesis

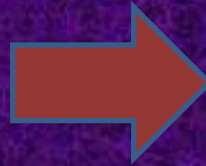
Other haem protein such as myoglobin and cytochromes

80%

20%

Transport in plasma and hepatic up take

In plasma
((bilirubin bound to albumin))



Not filtered at
the glomerulus
unless there is
glomerular proteinuria

On reaching the liver the bilirubin is taken
into the hepatocyte

unconjugated bilirubin

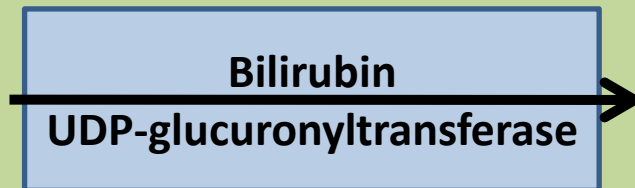
=

Most of Plasma bilirubin

Conjugation of bilirubin

Endoplasmic reticulum of hepatocyte

Bilirubin + glucuronic acid



bilirubin glucuronides
“conjugated bilirubin”
“Water soluble and readily
transported into bile”

Bilirubin glucuronides (CONJUGATED BILIRUBIN)
cant be reabsorbed from the gut

degraded by
bacterial action
mainly in the
colon

Urobilinogen
mixture of colorless,
water soluble
compounds

OXIDISE

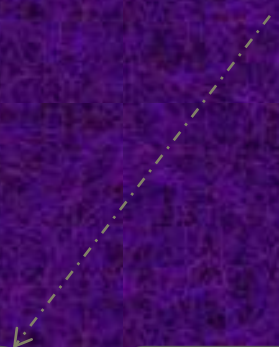
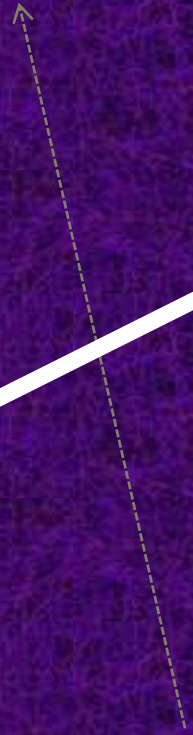
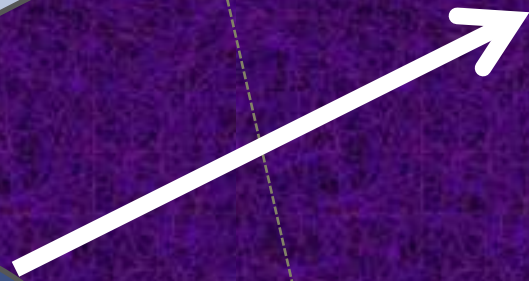
**UROBILINS
AND
STERCIBILINS**
"Brown"

Excreted in faeces

A small percentage
of urobilinogen
undergoes
enterohepatic
circulation

Most of it
is cleared
by the
liver

Proportion filtered at
the kidney and appears
in the urine



| | Urine tests | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Condition | Urobilinogen | bilirubin |
| Healthy individuals | Trace | Nil |
| Gilbert's syndrome | Trace | Nil |
| Haemolytic disease | Increased | Nil |
| Hepatitis •prodormal •icteric stage | Increased Undetectable | detectable present |
| Biliary obstruction | Undetectable | present |

| Syndrome | Inheritance | Abnormality | Clinical features/treatment |
|---|---------------------|--|--|
| Unconjugated hyperbilirubinaemia | | | |
| Gilbert's | Autosomal dominant | ↓ Glucuronyl transferase ↓ Bilirubin uptake | Mild jaundice, especially with fasting No treatment necessary |
| Crigler–Najjar | | | |
| Type I | Autosomal recessive | Absent glucuronyl transferase | Rapid death in neonate (kernicterus) |
| Type II | Autosomal dominant | ↓↓ Glucuronyl transferase | Presents in neonate Phenobarbital, ultraviolet light or liver transplant as treatment |
| Conjugated hyperbilirubinaemia | | | |
| Dubin–Johnson | Autosomal recessive | ↓ Canalicular excretion of organic anions, including bilirubin | Mild No treatment necessary |
| Rotor's | Autosomal recessive | ↓ Bilirubin uptake ↓ Intrahepatic binding | Mild No treatment necessary |

What is jaundice?

- ▶ yellowish pigmentation of the
- ▶ skin, the sclera, and other mucous membranes

- ▶ Jaundice is usually detectable clinically when the plasma bilirubin exceeds $50 \mu\text{mol/L}$



Hepatocellular jaundice

Both unconjugated and conjugated bilirubin ▶
in the blood increase!!!

Hepatocellular jaundice

results from an inability of the liver to transport bilirubin into the bile, as a consequence of parenchymal liver disease. ▶

INABILITY TO SECRETE BILE

CHOLESTASIS

Cholestatic jaundice may be caused by:

- Failure of hepatocytes to initiate bile flow.
- Obstruction of the bile ducts or portal tracts.
- Obstruction of bile flow in the extrahepatic bile ducts.

BILE

The only way in which we can get rid of cholesterol and copper from the body

Enterohepatic circulation 90% of bile is re absorbed

Causes of
jaundice

```
graph LR; A[Causes of jaundice] --- B[Pre-hepatic]; A --- C[hepatic]; A --- D[Post-hepatic]
```

Pre- hepatic

hepatic

Post-hepatic

PRE-HEPATIC JAUNDICE

This is caused either by ✕
1-Haemolysis or
2-congenital hyperbilirubinaemia,
and is characterised by an
isolated raised bilirubin level.

PRE-HEPATIC JAUNDICE

bilirubin load six times greater than normal before unconjugated bilirubin accumulates in the plasma.

- ▶ This does not apply to the newborn, who have a reduced capacity to metabolise bilirubin.

Liver function tests

serum bilirubin

Aminotransferases ALT/AST

Alkaline phosphatase

Gamma-glutamyl transferase GGT

Albumin

Prothrombin time (INR)

HEPATIC SYNTHETIC FUNCTION

PT

Albumin

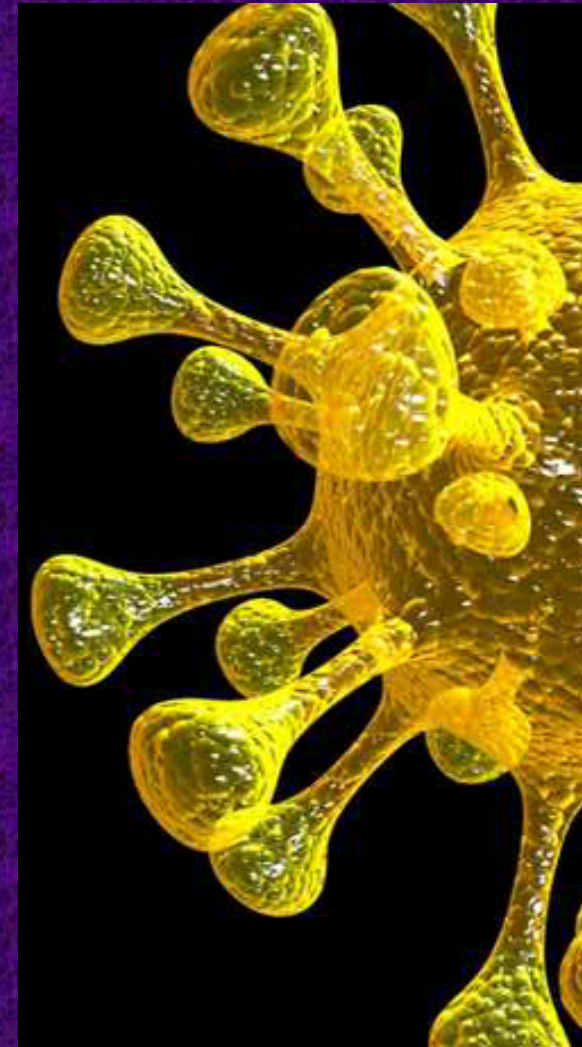
PT

Assess hepatic function

Involves factor II, V, VII, and X, synthesized by the liver

Albumin 8-14g/day

Half-life is 20 days



Aminotransferase

Amino transferase: -ALT ▶
-AST

Both transfer amino group from amino acid to ketoacid producing pyruvate and oxaloacetate

Tests of hepatic function

Serum albumin

Serum bilirubin

Prothrombin

Tests of hepatocellular injury or cholestasis

Aminotransferase

Alkaline phosphatase

Gama-glutamyl transferase

Common causes of elevated serum transaminases

Minor elevation (< 100 U/L)

- Chronic hepatitis C
- Chronic hepatitis B
- Haemochromatosis
- Fatty liver disease

Moderate elevation (100–300 U/L)

As above plus:

- Alcoholic hepatitis
- Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis
- Autoimmune hepatitis
- Wilson's disease

Major elevation (> 300 U/L)

- Drugs (e.g. paracetamol)
- Acute viral hepatitis
- Autoimmune liver disease
- Ischaemic liver
- Toxins (e.g. *Amanita phalloides* poisoning)
- Flare of chronic hepatitis B



تكشف اضطرابات الكبد عادة أثناء إجراء فحص دموي روتيني
(مثلاً: يظهر ارتفاع بخمائر الكبد لدى 3.5 % من المرضى الذين
يتحضرون لعمل جراحي).
يوجد مرض كبدي ما عند أغلب المرضى الذين لديهم ارتفاع مستمر بهذه
القيم

GGT:

Microsomal enzyme

transfer glutamyl groups from gamma-glutamyl peptides to other peptides and amino acid

GGT

Alcohol use

BMI

Anticonvulsant

Warfarin

Age gender

Smoking



Alkaline phosphatase

Enzymes Are capable of hydrolysing phosphatases at alkaline PH

Bilirubin glucuronides (CONJUGATED BILIRUBIN)

can't be reabsorbed from the gut

degraded by
bacterial
action
mainly in
the colon

OXIDISE

STERCOBILINS

Excreted in faeces
"Brown"

CHOLESTASIS

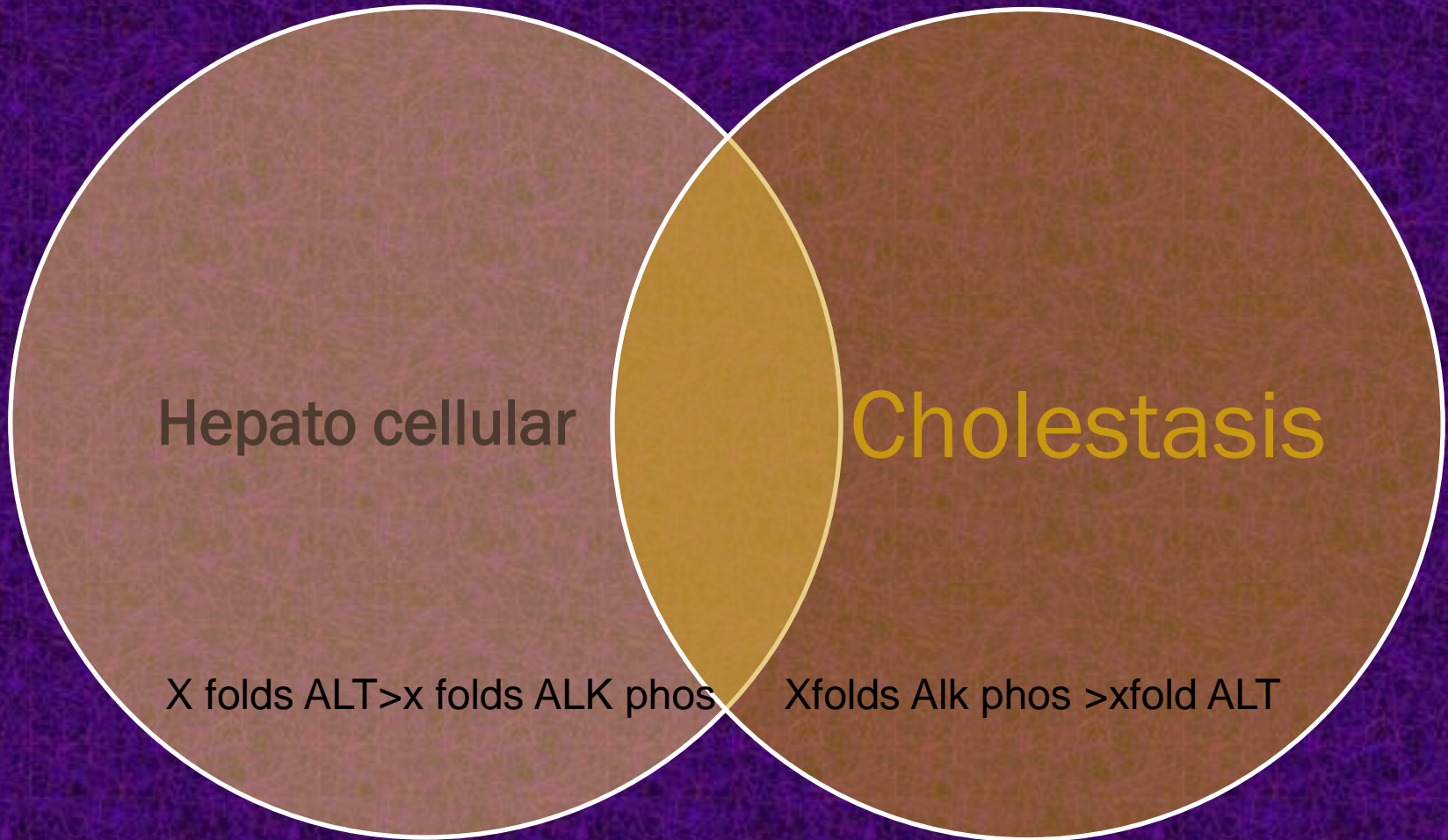
Early features

-
- Jaundice
- Dark urine
- **Pale stool**
- Itching

LATE FEATURES

- ✗ Xanthelasma and xanthomas
- ✗ Malabsorption
 - + Weight loss
 - + Steatorrhoea
 - + Osteomalacia
 - + Bleeding tendency

LIVER DISEASES



HEPATOCELLULAR JAUNDICE

BILIARY OBSTRUCTION

ALT/AST

> ×6 folds

< ×6folds

Alkaline
phosphatase

< ×2.5 folds

>×2.5 folds

Diagnostic
likelihood

90%

80%

CAUSES OF CHOLESTATIC JAUNDICE

Primary biliary cirrhosis

Primary sclerosing cholangitis

Benign recurrent intrahepatic cholestasis

Alcohol

Drugs

Viral hepatitis

Autoimmune hepatitis

Cystic fibrosis

Severe bacterial infections

Post-operative

Hodgkin lymphoma

Pregnancy

CHOLESTASIS

✘ Abdominal pain suggests

1-choledocholithiasis

2-pancreatitis

3-choledochal cyst. Jaundice is progressive in cancer, and fluctuating in sclerosing cholangitis, pancreatitis and stricture. Abdominal examination may reveal irregular hepatomegaly or masses in carcinoma. Faecal occult blood suggests an ampullary tumour

CHOLESTASIS

✘ . Jaundice is progressive in--- cancer, and fluctuating in

-Sclerosing cholangitis,

-Pancreatitis

3-Stricture. Abdominal examination may reveal irregular hepatomegaly or masses in carcinoma. Faecal occult blood suggests an ampullary tumour

CHOLESTASIS

- ✘ . Abdominal examination may reveal irregular hepatomegaly or masses in carcinoma.
- ✘ Faecal occult blood suggests an ampullary tumour

LIVER AND COAGULATION

| | clotting | Anti-clotting |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Vitamin k dependent | II VII IX X | Protein C protein S |
| independent of Vit K | I V Viii | Antithrombin III |

COAGULATION PROTEINS /BALANCING CF



IMPORTANT

the presence or absence of stigmata of chronic liver disease

does not reliably identify patients with significant chronic liver disease.

The absence of these stigmata should not therefore preclude further investigation

Clinical situation

action

management

Increased
bilirubin only

Recheck with
conjugated
bilirubin exclude
haemolysis

Reassure as likely
Gilbert syndrome

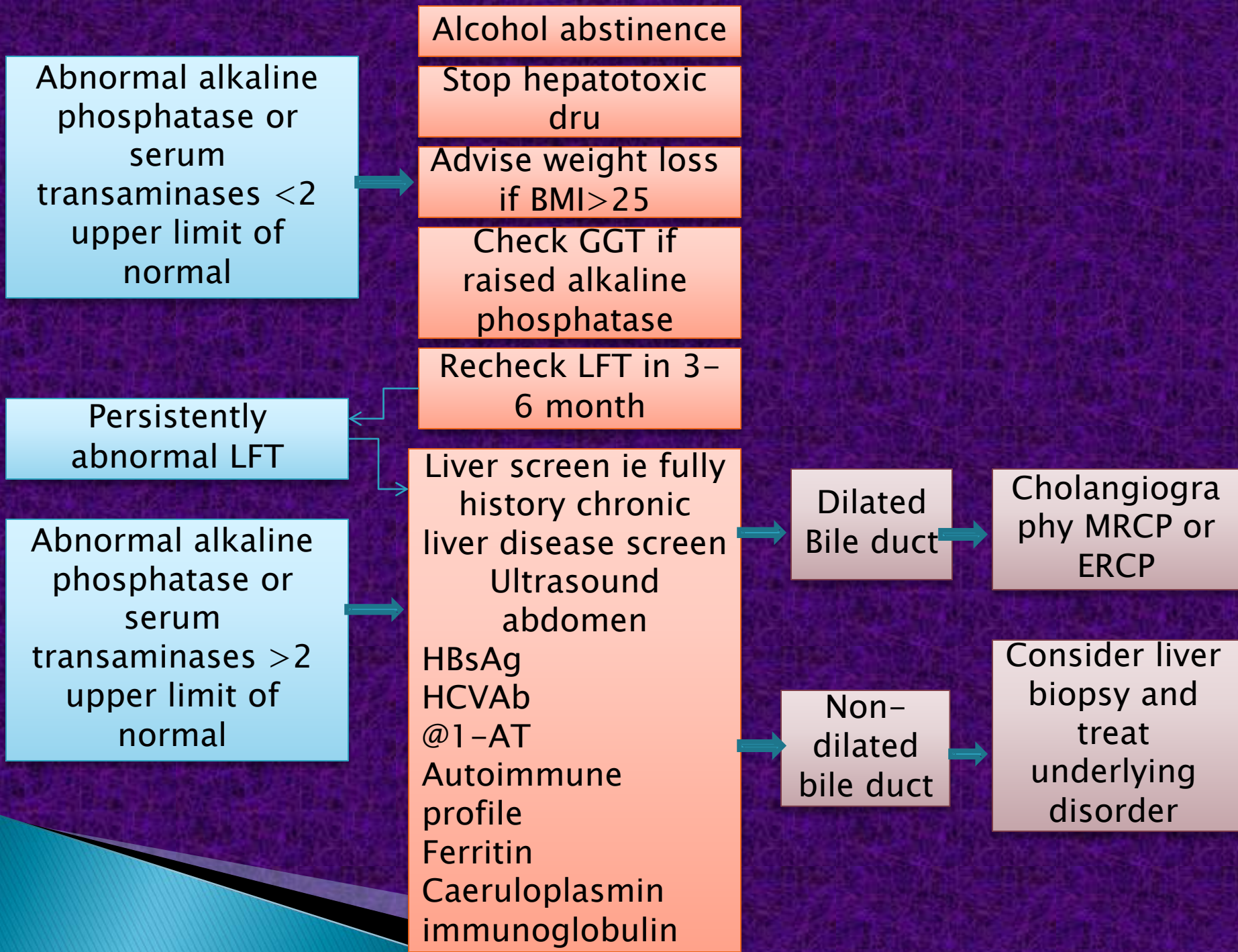
Increased GGT
only

Determine
whether:
Alcohol excess
Enzyme induction
from drug
High BMI

Alcohol abstinence

No action

Lose weight



Abnormal alkaline phosphatase or serum transaminases <2 upper limit of normal

- Alcohol abstinence
- Stop hepatotoxic dru
- Advise weight loss if BMI>25
- Check GGT if raised alkaline phosphatase
- Recheck LFT in 3-6 month

Persistently abnormal LFT

Abnormal alkaline phosphatase or serum transaminases >2 upper limit of normal

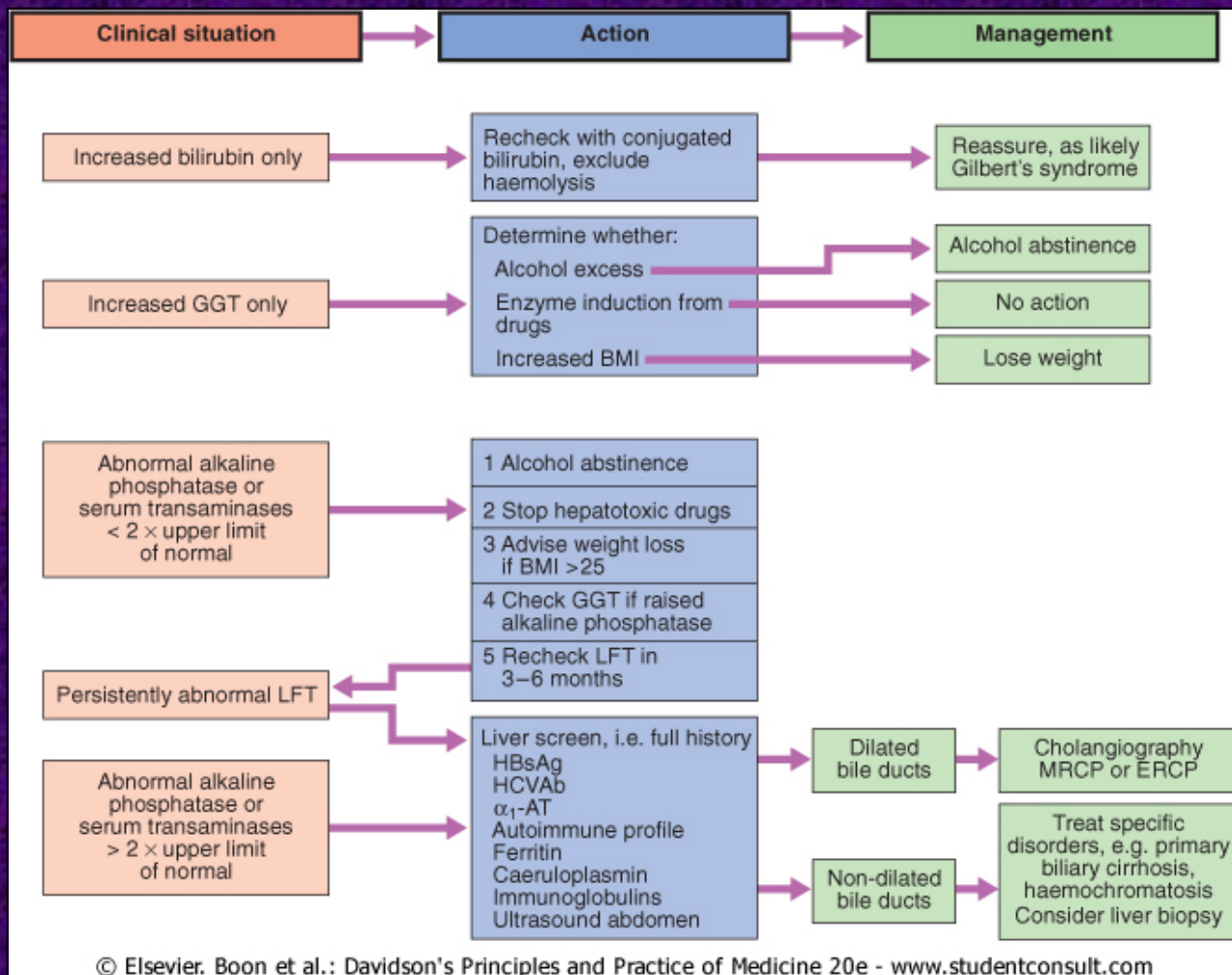
- Liver screen ie fully history chronic liver disease screen
- Ultrasound abdomen
- HBsAg
- HCVAb
- @1-AT
- Autoimmune profile
- Ferritin
- Caeruloplasmin
- immunoglobulin

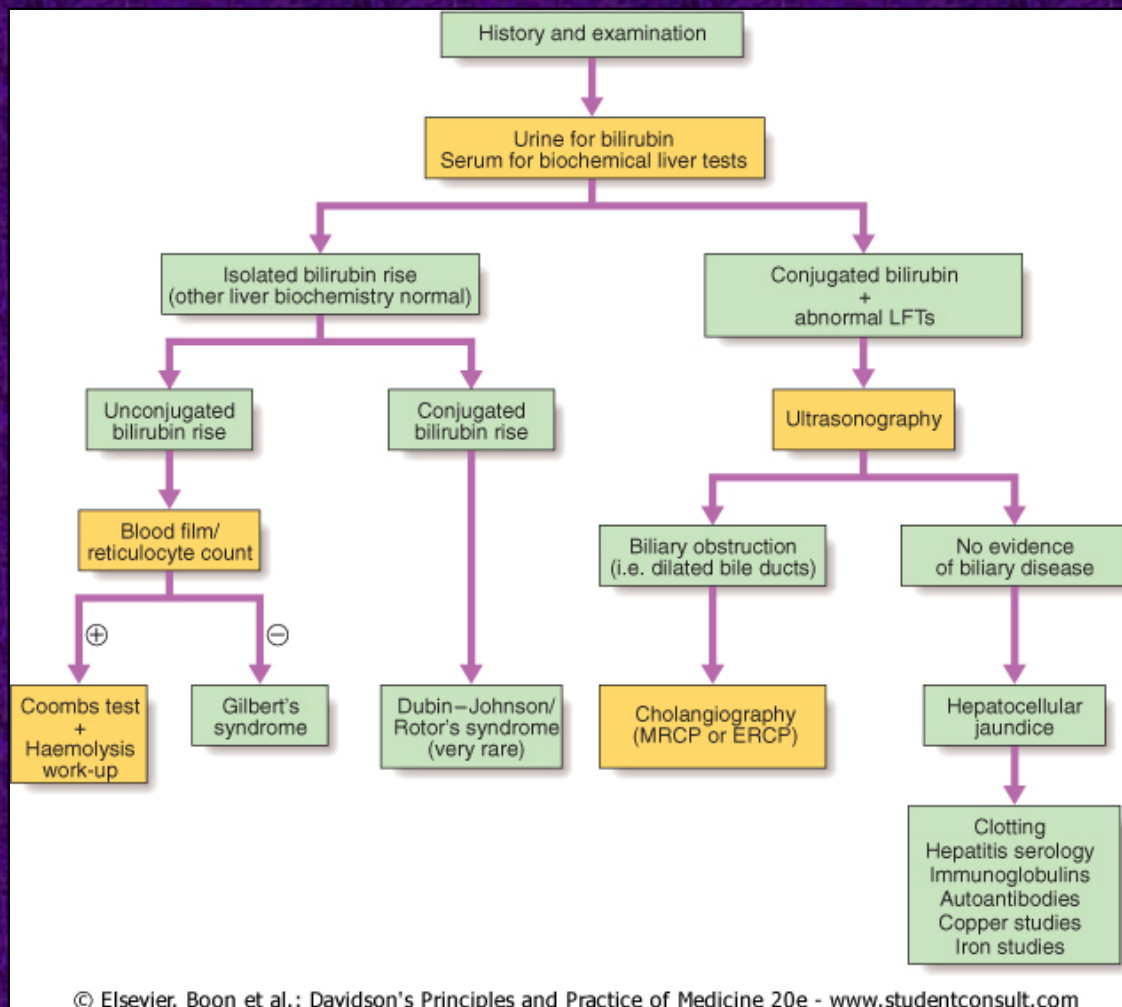
Dilated Bile duct

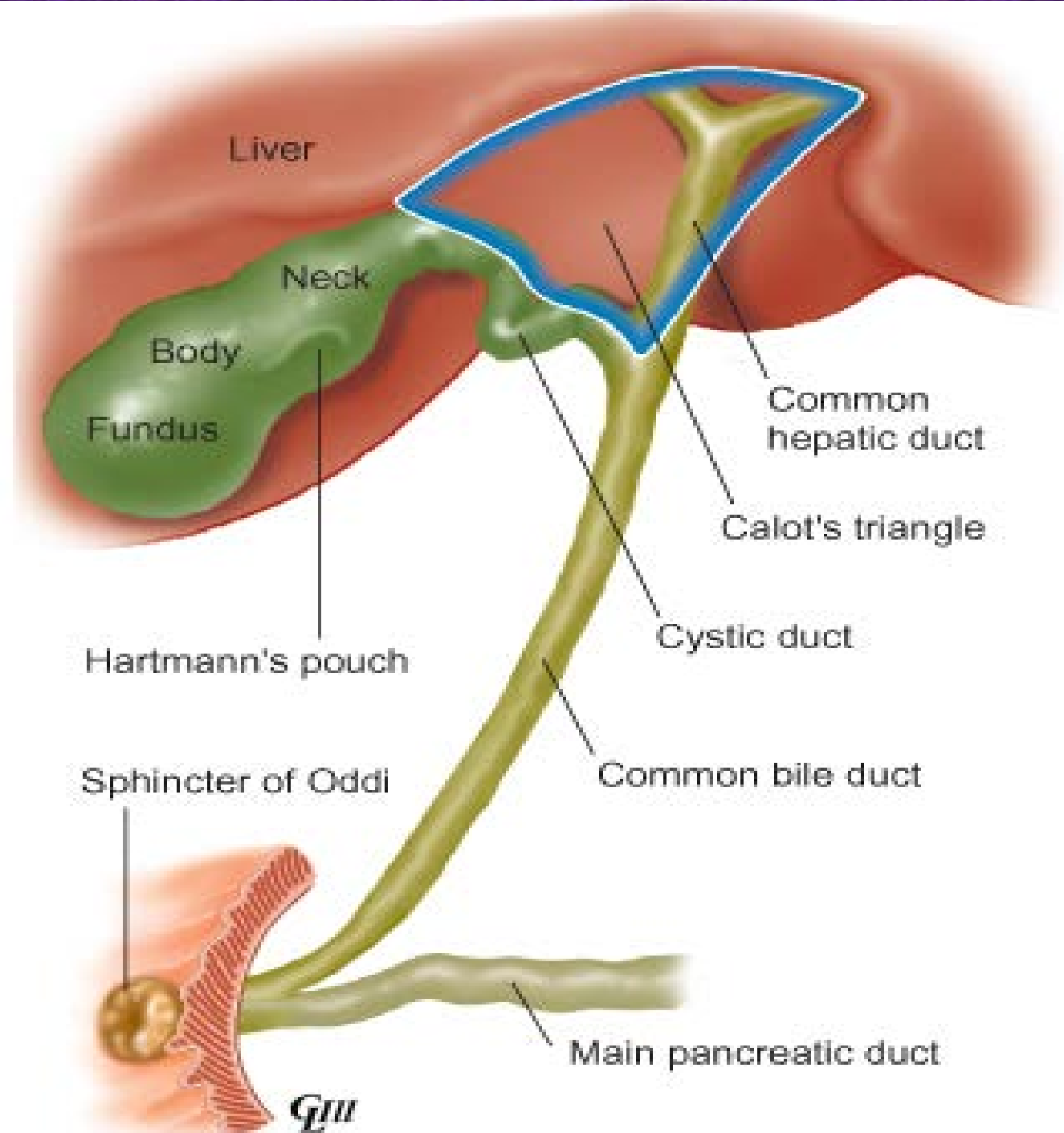
Cholangiography MRCP or ERCP

Non-dilated bile duct

Consider liver biopsy and treat underlying disorder

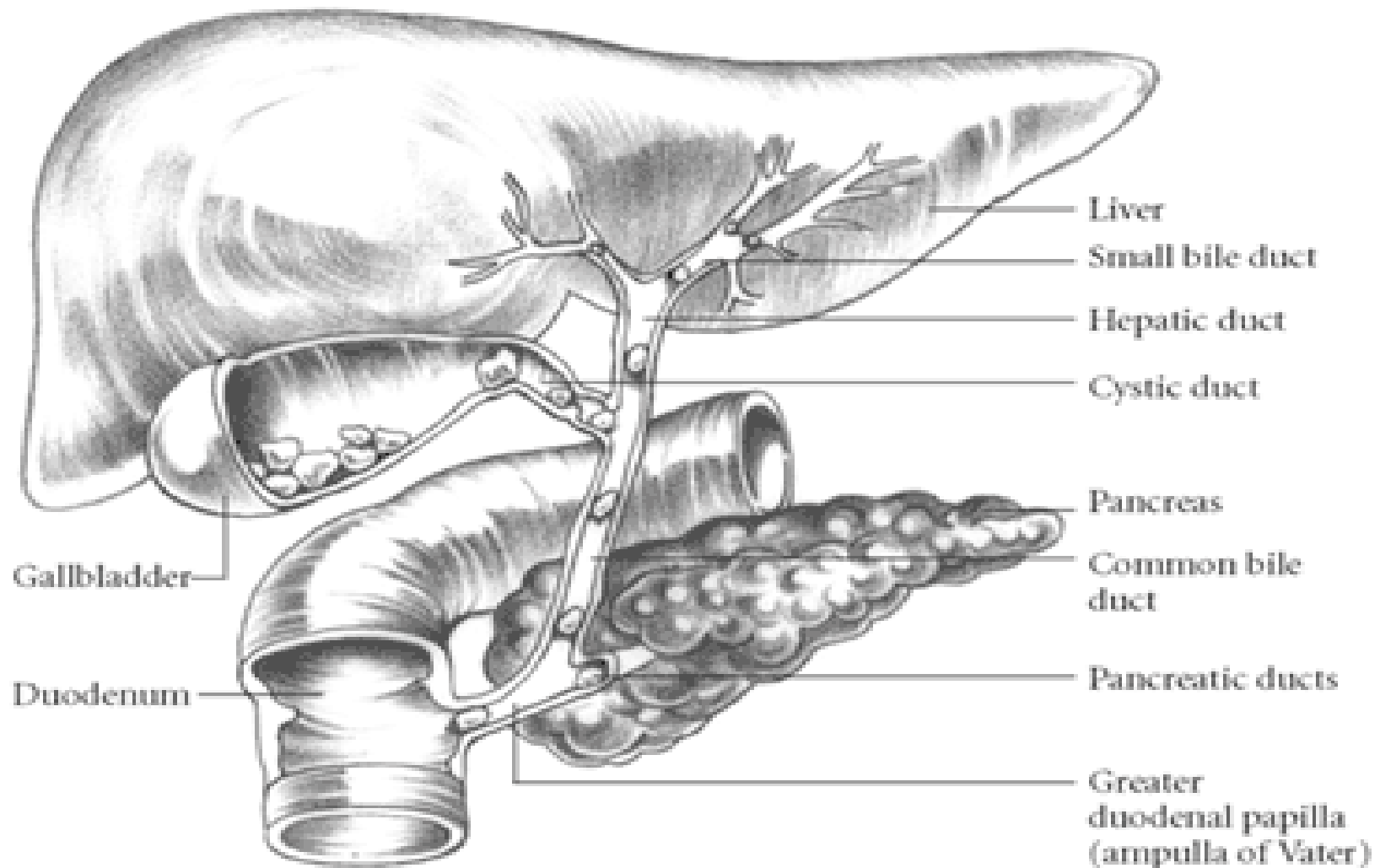


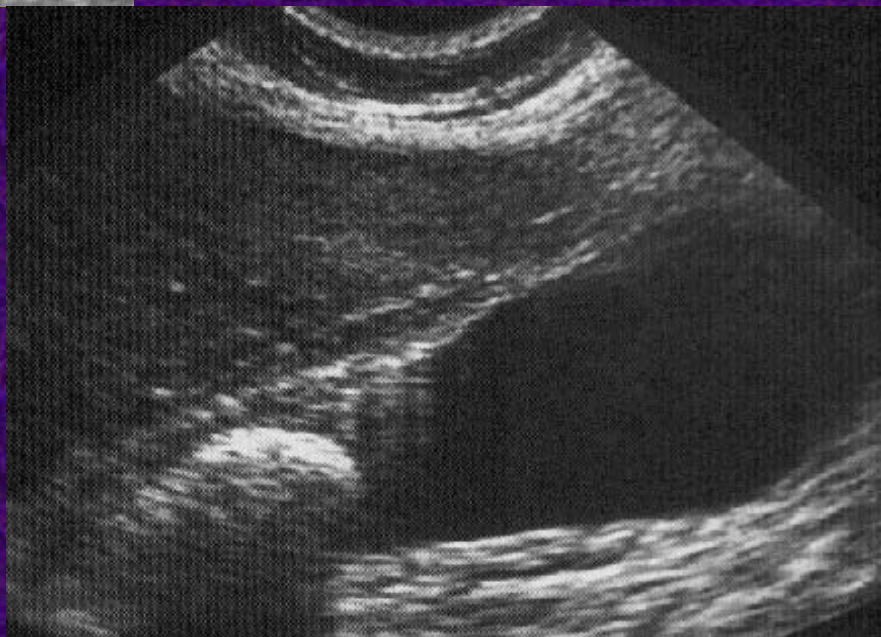
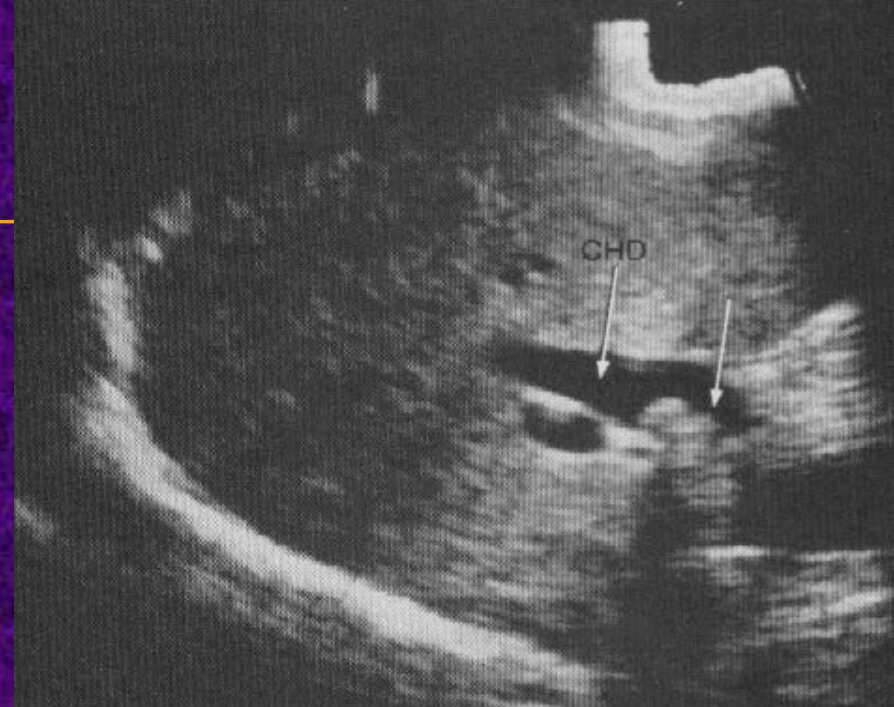




COMMON SITES OF CALCULI FORMATION

The illustration below shows sites where calculi typically collect. Calculi vary in sizes; small calculi may travel.





PLAIN -X-RAY OF ABDOMEN



Calcified gallstones

INCREASED ALP&GGT

ULTRASOUND

Dilated
bile duct

- cholangiography
- MRCP or ERCP

IN INCREASED ALP&GGT

ULTRASOUND EXAMINATION OF BILIARY
TREE MUST BE DONE

Normal
bile
duct

- Consider liver biopsy
- Treat underlying disorder

IN THE CASE OF INCREASED ALP&GGT ULTRASOUND EXAMINATION OF BILIARY TREE MUST BE DONE

Normal
bile duct

- Consider liver biopsy
- Treat underlying disorder

Dilated
bile duct

- cholangiography
- MRCP or ERCP

IMAGING

- Ultrasound
 - The state of biliary tree(dilated)and gallbladder(stones)
 - Presence of hepatic mass
- CT/MRCP
 - MRCP is superior for biliary tree
- Nuclear medicine: DISIDA scan/HIDA scan
 - Limited to patient with bilirubin of 20 mg/dL
 - Sensitive for the presence of acute cholecystitis
 - Presence of bile leak after surgery or ERCP.

CHOLANGIOGRAPHY

MRCP

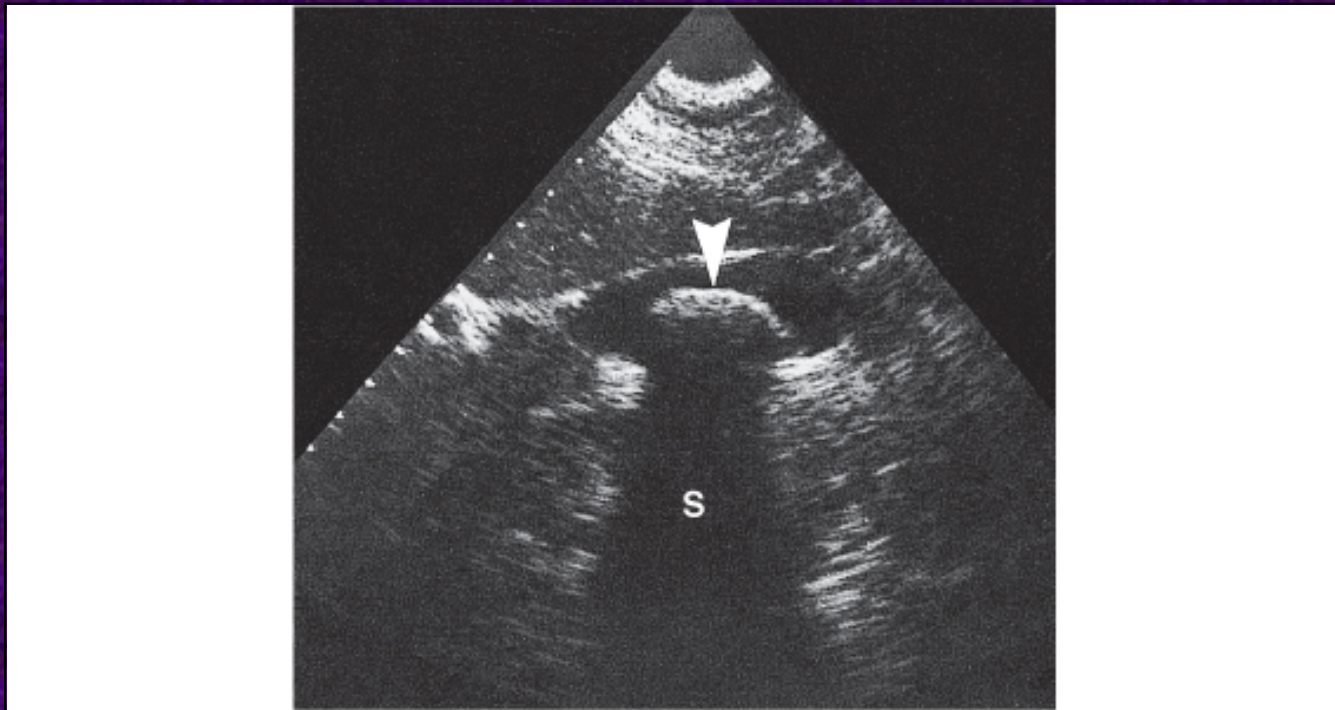
ERCP

PTC.

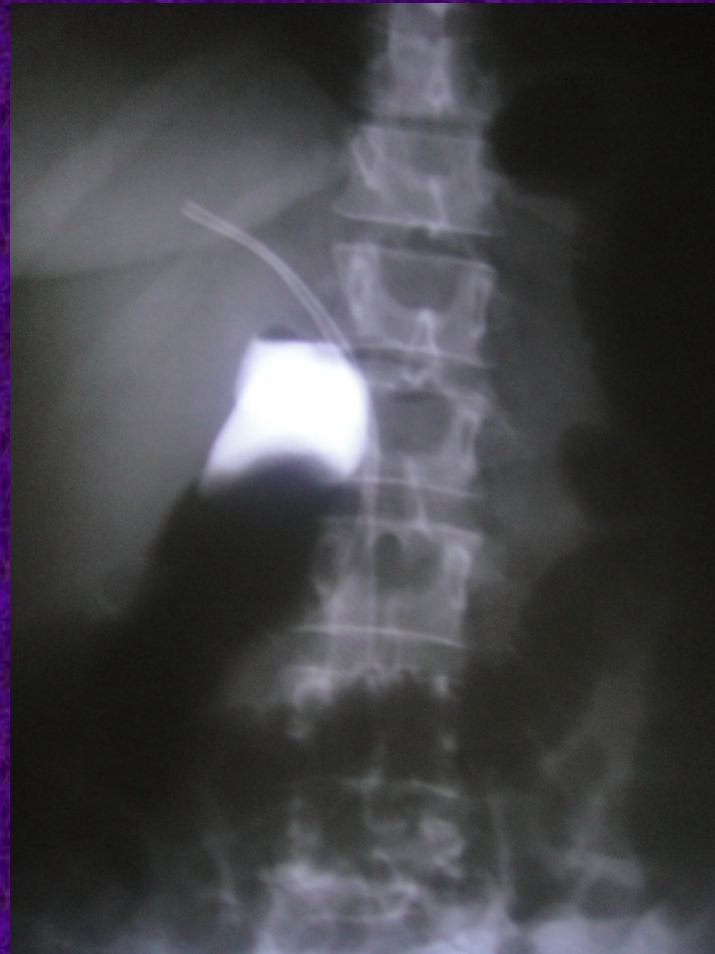
- ✘ PTC :does not allow the Ampulla of Vater or pancreatic duct to be imaged..

CHOLANGIOGRAPHY

- × MRCP is as good as ERCP at imaging the biliary tree and does not have the same complications (pancreatitis in 5% and 1% bleeding if a sphincterotomy is performed);
- ×
- × it is therefore the diagnostic test of choice.



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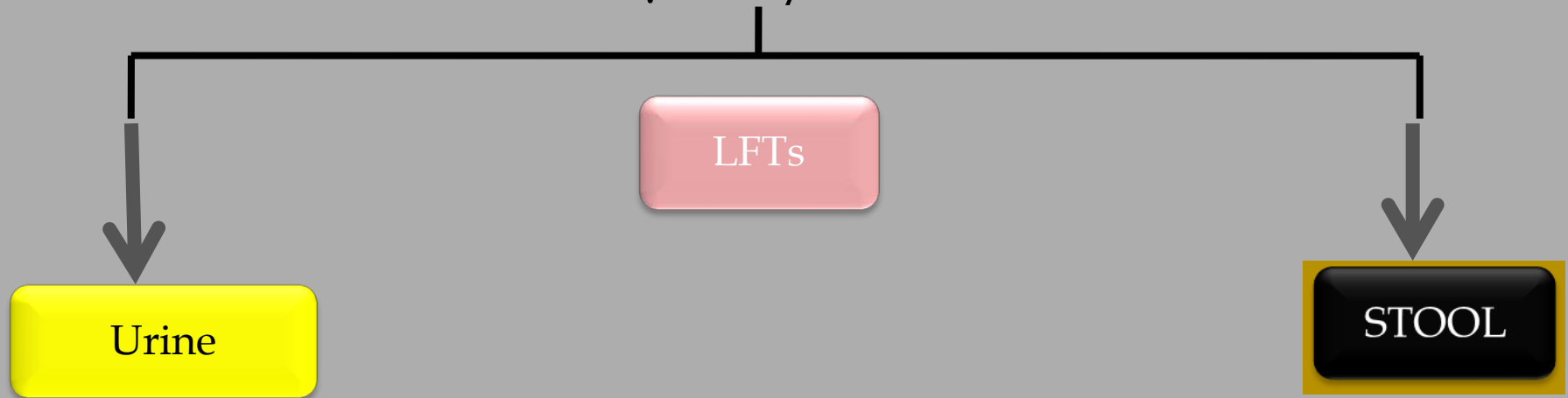


Approach to the Jaundiced Patient

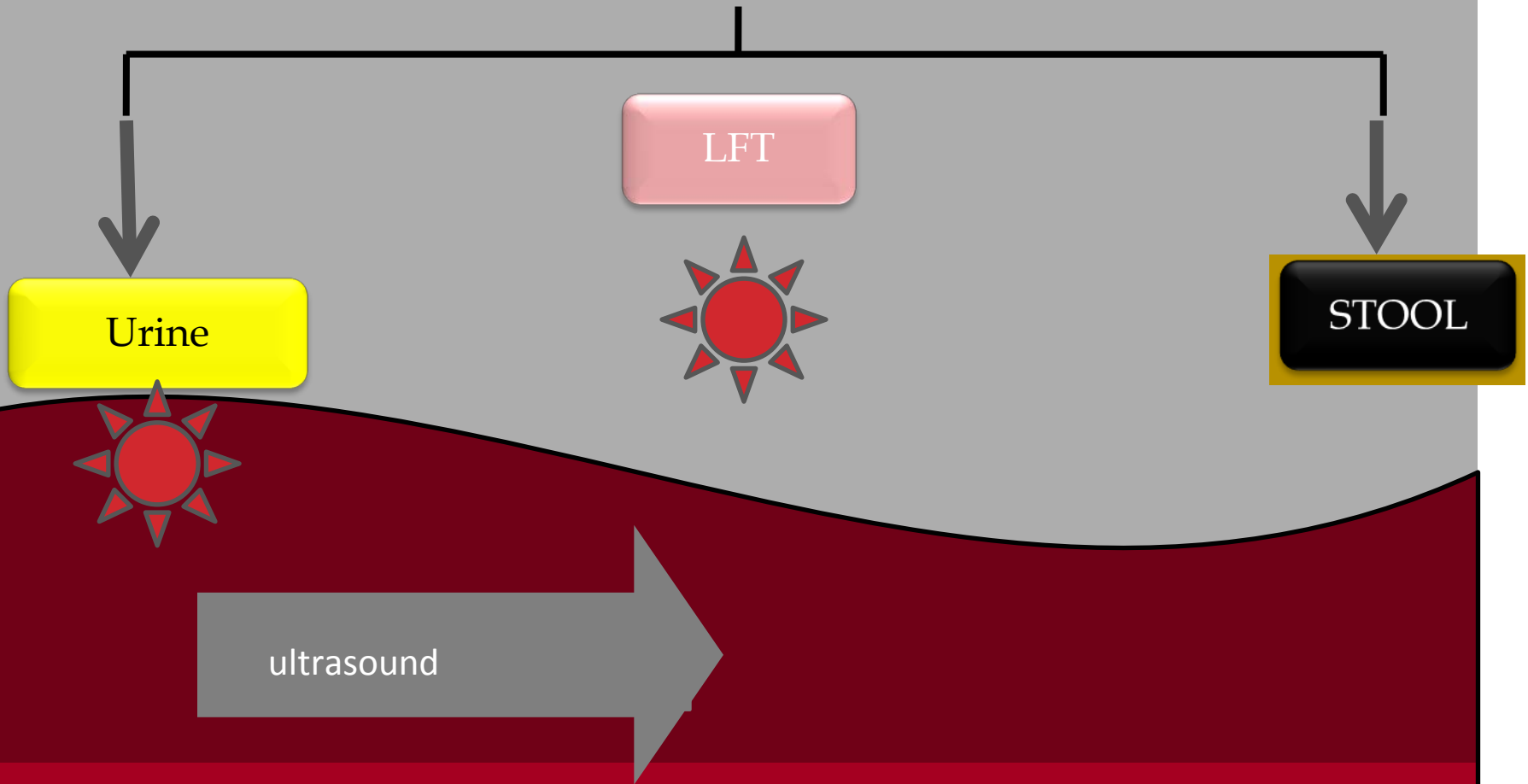


History and examination

Jaundice is usually detectable when the plasma bilirubin exceeds $50 \mu\text{mol/L}$



Conjugated bilirubin + abnormal LFTs



1

↑ Conjugated bilirubin + abnormal LFTs

US

A

B

1

A

Biliary obstruction (i.e. dilated bile ducts)

Obstructive jaundice

(Greater elevation of ALP and GGT than the aminotransferases)



Cholangiography
(MRCP or ERCP)

1

B

No evidence of Biliary disease

Hepatocellular jaundice

Acute jaundice + AST > 1000 highly suggestive of parenchymal liver disease due to :

Infection •

Drugs•

ischemia•

2

Urobilinogen present , Isolated bilirubin rise ,
and other liver biochemistry normal



Prehepatic jaundice



2

A

Unconjugated bilirubin



Blood film / reticulocyte count



Coombs test

+

haemolysis work – up
(Usually mild)

Gilbert's
Syndrome

(The most common form of
non-heamolytic
hyperbilirubinaemia)

2

B

conjugated bilirubin



Dubin – Johnson /
Rotor's syndrome
(very rare)

ETHIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

ETHIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION