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IN BRIEF

LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

New risk allele for graft steatosis after liver transplantation

According to new findings from 237 liver transplant recipients and 255 liver donors, liver transplant recipients who carry *PNPLA3* rs738409-G are at increased risk of hepatic triglyceride accumulation and steatosis at 1 year and 5 years after transplantation than those with the rs738409-CC genotype. Of note, this increased risk was independent of the graft *PNPLA3* genotype.

Original article Finkenstedt, A. *et al.* *PNPLA3* rs738409-G in recipients of liver transplants is a risk factor for graft steatosis. *Clin. Gastroenterol. Hepatol.* doi:10.1016/j.cgh.2013.06.025

INFECTION

Schistosomiasis mansoni infection is associated with reduced liver function and increased liver fibrosis

Infection with the parasite *Schistosomiasis mansoni* can lead to hepatic abnormalities, periportal fibrosis and, in severe cases, hepatosplenic schistosomiasis. Blood test results from 55 patients with hepatosplenic schistosomiasis has confirmed that abnormal blood coagulation and liver function tests (including increased levels of serum aminotransferases and reduced levels of albumin when compared with healthy individuals) are associated with periportal fibrosis.

Original article Leite, L. A. C. *et al.* Hemostatic dysfunction is increased in patients with hepatosplenic *Schistosomiasis mansoni* and advanced periportal fibrosis. *PLoS Negl. Trop. Dis.* doi:10.1371/journal.pntd.0002314

IMAGING

No success in initial attempt to generate classification criteria for colon adenomas using probe-based CLE

A preliminary study has evaluated the potential of probe-based confocal laser endomicroscopy (CLE) for distinguishing low-grade from advanced colon adenomas. An initial classification system was generated using 10 advanced and 10 nonadvanced adenomas; six observers then independently classified 127 adenomas using this system. Across all six observers, the sensitivity of identifying advanced adenomas was only 43% with a negative predictive value of 89%; the sensitivity was 71% and positive predictive value was 19%. The authors now plan to refine the classification scheme to improve its accuracy.

Original article Gómez, V. *et al.* Classification criteria for advanced adenomas of the colon by using probe-based confocal laser endomicroscopy: a preliminary study. *Dis. Colon Rectum* **56**, 967–973 (2013)

MOTILITY

Efficacy of oral ghrelin agonist in diabetic gastroparesis

The oral ghrelin agonist TZP-102 was tested in a phase IIb randomized trial in 201 patients with diabetic gastroparesis. TZP-102 administered at 10 mg or 20 mg daily for 12 weeks had no substantial effect on diabetic gastroparesis symptoms as determined using the Daily Diary of Gastroparesis Symptoms Questionnaire, when compared with patients given placebo. However, a marked symptom improvement was observed in all patients over the trial period.

Original article McCallum, R. W. *et al.* Phase 2b, randomized, double-blind 12-week studies of TZP-102, a ghrelin receptor agonist for diabetic gastroparesis. *Neurogastroenterol. Motil.* doi:10.1111/nmo.12184