

Pathophysiology Concept Map

Assigned Alteration: Liver Disease

Why Does it Happen? Risk Factors

Risk factors for liver disease include alcohol abuse, obesity, type 2 diabetes, tattoos or piercings, shared needle use, blood transfusion before 1992, bodily fluid exposure, unprotected sex, chemical exposure, or family history of liver disease.

What is Wrong? Pathophysiologic Alteration

When the liver is diseased, it can no longer function correctly. Complications can include bacterial and fungal infections, low blood sugar.

What Other Factors are Involved? Social Determinants of Health

Lack of access to a good diet, transportation, and education play the biggest role in liver disease.

How is it Diagnosed? Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests

Liver disease is diagnosed by lab testing (protime and platelet count). Ultrasound can measure the size of the liver, look for lesions, scar tissue, and or signs of liver disease. CT or MRI scans can show signs of liver damage.

How can This be Prevented? Disease Prevention

Prevention of liver disease involves drinking alcohol in moderation, avoiding shared needles and unprotected sex, getting vaccinated, avoid aerosols, protect skin from toxins.

What Cues Should the Person Have? Expected Findings

Signs include jaundice, feor hepaticus (bad breath), spider nevi, gynecomastia, ascites, loss of sexual hair, testicular atrophy, coarse hand tremor, bleeding tendency, anemia, and ankle edema.