

and compared to their histologic fibrosis stage. **Results:** We identified 137 pediatric patients (33% female; 45% Hispanic/Latinx, 11% Non-Hispanic Blacks, and 29% White) who fulfilled our criteria. NFS showed 0 patients meeting the upper cut-off, which would predict severe fibrosis. The lower cut-off predicted mild fibrosis with a sensitivity 98%, specificity 0%, positive predictive value 88%, and negative predictive value 0%; there were 0 true negatives. PNFS, with a cut-off of 26, predicted mild fibrosis with a sensitivity 74% and specificity 28%. Using a PNFS cut-off of 8, it showed sensitivity 52% and specificity 67%. **Conclusion:** The NFS and PNFS do not perform well enough to negate liver biopsy in pediatric patients. Despite the high sensitivity of NFS lower cut-off, the negative predictive value suggests a result above this cut-off lacks utility. The PNFS performed better than the NFS but not well enough to be used as an isolated screening tool. We continue to need non-invasive methods to reliably predict fibrosis in pediatric populations.

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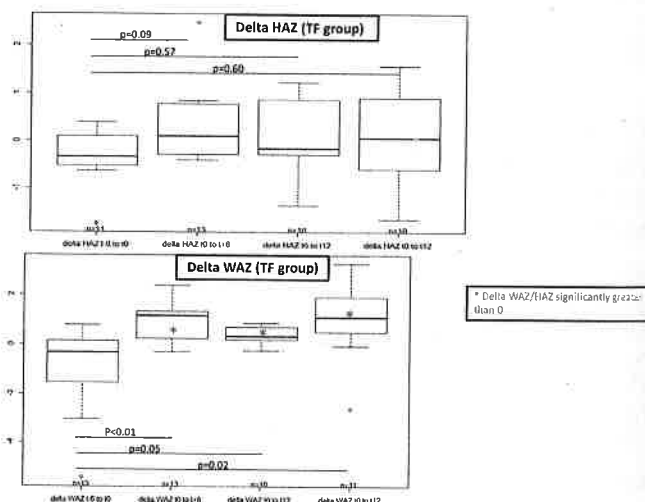
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LONG TERM TUBE FEEDING IN YOUNG CHILDREN WITH ALAGILLE SYNDROME: DOES IT IMPACT HEIGHT?

Koen Huysentruyt^{1,2}, Shannon Vandriel², Ahmad Bakhsh², Gal Armon², Ibrahim Shamahsneh² and Binita M Kamath², (1)Department of Pediatric Gastro-Enterology, Universitair Ziekenhuis Brussel, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), (2) Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto

Background: The effect of nutritional intervention on growth in children with Alagille syndrome (ALGS) has not been studied. We aimed to describe nutritional management of ALGS children (≤ 5 years) in a large pediatric liver center and examine differences in growth before and after the initiation of tube feeding (TF). **Methods:** Retrospective study of children with clinically and/or genetically defined ALGS who received long term (≥ 1 year) TF. ALGS children without nutrition intervention (CG) were matched for age at time of TF initiation, sex and gestational age (GA). Z-scores of weight (WAZ) and height (HAZ) were grouped at: initiation of TF/control date (T_0); 1, 2, 3 and 6 months prior to TF (T_{-1} - T_{-6}); 1, 2, 3, 6 and 12 months (T_1 - T_5) post TF. Statistical analyses were performed using R. **Results:** Nutritional interventions were initiated in 29/80 (36.2%) ALGS children: 23 TF, 2 TPN and 4 a combination of both. Of the 27 children that received TF, 13 (61.5% male) had sufficient data and received TF for ≥ 1 year; they were matched with 10 ALGS controls. Median (Q1;Q3) birth WAZ and GA were -1.2 (-1.6;-0.7) and 38 (37;39) weeks (TF vs CG: p-values ≥ 0.11). TF was initiated at a median age of 0.8 (0.6;0.9) years. Conjugated bilirubin, ALT, AST, GGT, and platelets at T_0 for TFG were not significantly different from the CG (all p-values ≥ 0.16). 3 children from each group were transplanted at a median age of 3.1 (2.8;4.3) years. Extrahepatic involvement including cardiac anomalies was comparable for both groups. Mean (SD) WAZ at T_0 were -3.8 (1.6) and -1.1 (1.5) for TFG and CG (p<0.001); HAZ at T_0 was significantly lower in TF than CG (-3.4 (-5.1;-2.7) vs -1.5 (-2.2;-1.0), p=0.01). Figure 1 shows that median delta WAZ, but not delta HAZ was significantly greater than 0 after

initiation of TF. A generalized estimating equation including prematurity, age at initiation and group showed a significantly higher WAZ growth rate in the first six months and no difference for HAZ growth rate. **Conclusion:** One third of this ALGS cohort received tube feeding and/or TPN; no laboratory or phenotypic differences were identified between ALGS children who did or did not receive TF. Long term (≥ 1 year) TF leads to a sustained increase in WAZ, but no changes were seen in HAZ in the first year after TF initiation. This implies that weight is modifiable in ALGS in early childhood but that height may be determined by intrinsic genetic factors and/or cholestasis, as all grew well below WHO references.



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NATIVE LIVER SURVIVAL IN PATIENTS WITH FIC1 DEFICIENCY: IMPACT OF GENOTYPE, SERUM BILE ACID CONCENTRATIONS AND SURGICAL BILIARY DIVERSION.

Daan van Wessel¹, Richard J. Thompson², Emmanuel M. Gonzales³, Irena Jankowska⁴, Benjamin L. Shneider⁵, Etienne Sokal⁶, Tassos Grammatikopoulos⁷, Agustina Kadaristiana⁷, Emmanuel Jacquemin⁸, Anne Spraul⁹, Patryk Lipiński¹⁰, Piotr Czubkowski⁴, Nathalie Rock¹¹, Mohammad Shagrani¹², Dieter Broering¹³, Talal Algoufi¹², Nejat Mazhar¹⁴, Emanuele Nicastro¹⁵, Deirdre Kelly¹⁶, Gabriela Nebbia¹⁷, Henrik Arnell¹⁶, Bjorn Fischler¹⁹, Jan Hulscher²⁰, Daniele Serranti²¹, Cigdem Arkan²², Esra Polat²³, Dominique Debray²⁴, Florence Lacaille²⁴, Cristina Gonçalves²⁵, Loreto Hierro²⁶, Gema Muñoz Bartolo²⁶, Yael Mozer-Glassberg²⁷, Amer Azaz²⁸, Jernej Breclj²⁹, Antal Dezsöfi³⁰, Pier Luigi Calvo³¹, Enke Grabhorn Jr.³², Steffen Hartleif³³, Wendy Van Der Woerd³⁴, Jian-She Wang³⁵, Liting Li³⁶, Ozlem Durmaz³⁶, Nanda Kerkar³⁷, Marianne Hørby Jørgensen³⁸, Ryan T. Fischer³⁹, Carolina Jimenez-Rivera⁴⁰, Seema Alam⁴¹, Mara Cananzi⁴², Noémie Laverdure⁴³, Cristina Targa Ferreira⁴⁴, Felipe Ordoñez Ferrero⁴⁵, Heng Wang⁴⁶, Valerie Sency⁴⁶, Kyung Mo Kim⁴⁷, Huey-Ling Chen⁴⁸, Elisa Carvalho⁴⁹, Alexandre Fabre⁵⁰, Jesus Quintero Bernabeu⁵¹, Estella M Alonso⁵², Ronald J Soko⁵³, Frederick J Suchy⁵⁴, Kathleen M. Loomes⁵⁵, Patrick James McKiernan⁵⁶, Philip Rosenthal⁵⁷, Yumirle Padron Turmelle⁵⁸, Girish S. Rao⁵⁹, Simon P. Horslen⁶⁰, Binita M Kamath⁶¹,

Maria Rogalidou⁶², Wikrom Karnsakul⁶³, Bettina E. Hansen⁶⁴, Henkjan J. Verkade⁶⁵ and NATURAL course and Prognosis of PFIC and Effect of biliary Diversion (NAPPED) consortium, (1)Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University Medical Center Groningen, (2)Institute of Liver Studies, King's College London, (3)Hépatologie Pédiatrique and Centre De Référence National De L'atrésie Des Voies Biliaires, Hôpital Bicêtre, AP-HP and Université Paris-Sud, (4)Department of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Nutrition Disturbances and Pediatrics, The Children's Memorial Health Institute, (5)Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine, (6)Gastropédiatrie, Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, (7) King's College London, (8)Service D'hépatologie Et De Transplantation Hépatique Pédiatriques, Bicêtre Hôpital, (9) Hopital Bicetre, (10)Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Nutritional Disorders and Pediatrics, The Children's Memorial Health Institute, (11)Swiss Pediatric Liver Center, University Hospitals Geneva, (12)Liver & SB Transplant & Hepatobiliary-Pancreatic Surgery, King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center, (13)King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center, (14)Ing Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center, (15) Pediatric Hepatology, Gastroenterology and Transplantation, Ospedale Papa Giovanni XXIII, (16)Liver Unit, Birmingham Women's & Children's Hospital and University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK, (17)Servizio Di Epatologia e Nutrizione Pediatrica, Fondazione Irccs Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, (18)Paediatric Digestive Diseases, Astrid Lindgren Children's Hospital, Karolinska University Hospital and Karolinska Institutet, (19)Karolinska Institutet and Karolinska University Hospital, (20)Pediatric Surgery, University Medical Center Groningen, (21)Department of Health Sciences, University of Florence, (22)Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Organ Transplant, Koç University School of Medicine, (23)Sancaktepe Training and Research Hospital, (24)Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital, University of Paris, (25)Coimbra University Hospital Center, (26)Pediatric Liver Service, La Paz University Hospital, (27)Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Institute, Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel, (28) Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, (29)Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, and Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University Medical Center Ljubljana, (30) Semmelweis University, (31)Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit, Azienda Ospedaliera-Universitaria Città Della Salute e Della Scienza, (32)Universitätsklinikum Hamburg Eppendorf, (33) University Hospital of Tuebingen, (34)Wilhelmina Children's Hospital, University Medical Center Utrecht, (35)The Center for Pediatric Liver Diseases, Children's Hospital of Fudan University, (36)Istanbul University-Istanbul Medical Faculty, (37)Department of Pediatrics, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Golisano Childrens Hospital, University of Rochester Medical Center, (38)Rigshospitalet Copenhagen, (39)Department of Gastroenterology, Section of Hepatology, Children's Mercy Kansas City, (40)Department of Pediatrics, The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, (41) Department of Pediatric Hepatology, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, (42)Department of Pediatrics, University Hospital of Padova, (43)Hospices Civils De Lyon, (44) Department of Pediatrics and Gastroenterology Unit, Hospital De Clinicas De Porto Alegre, (45)Fundación Cardioinfantil Instituto De Cardiología, (46)Ddc Clinic - Center for Special Needs Children, (47)Asan Medical Center Children's Hospital, Ulsan College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea, (48) Pediatrics, National Taiwan University, (49)Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Brasília Children's Hospital, (50)Service

De Pédiatrie Multidisciplinaire, Hôpital De La Timone, (51) Pediatric Hepatology and Liver Transplant Department, Hospital Universitari Vall D'hebron, (52)Department of Pediatrics, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, (53) Children's Hospital Colorado and University of Colorado School of Medicine, Section of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, (54)Children's Hospital Colorado, (55)Pediatrics Gastroenterology, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, (56)UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, (57)University of California San Francisco, (58)St. Louis Children's Hospital, Washington University School of Medicine, (59)Indiana University, Indianapolis, in, (60)University of Washington, Seattle, WA, (61)Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, (62)Children's Hospital Agia Sofia, (63)Department of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, (64)Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, (65)Department of Pediatrics, Center for Liver, Digestive, and Metabolic Diseases, University Medical Center Groningen

Background: Mutations in *ATP8B1* can lead to persistent cholestatic disease, also known as familial intrahepatic cholestasis protein type 1 (FIC1) deficiency or PFIC1. Apart from cholestasis and end-stage liver disease, patients may develop diarrhea, hearing loss, pancreatitis and allograft steatohepatitis. We analyzed factors associated with its prognosis, including the presence of predicted protein truncating mutations (PPTMs), serum bile acid concentrations (sBA) and surgical biliary diversion (SBD), using the largest genetically defined cohort of FIC1 disease to date. **Methods:** Our multicenter, retrospective cohort study included 130 patients with compound heterozygous or homozygous predicted pathological mutations in *ATP8B1*. Patients were categorized according to the number of PPTMs (defined as splice site, frameshift due to deletion or insertion, nonsense, duplication); FIC1-A (n=63, no PPTM), FIC1-B (n=30, one PPTM) or FIC1-C (n=37, two PPTMs). Cut-offs for sBA were based on ROC analyses. **Results:** Overall, serum bile acids concentration (sBA) at first presentation (below age 1y) was negatively associated with NLS during follow-up (%NLS at 10y: sBA<194 $\mu\text{mol/L}$, 57% vs. sBA $\geq$ 194 $\mu\text{mol/L}$, 31%; $P=0.03$, left figure). The proportion of patients with sBA at presentation <194 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ was 45%, 60% and 68% in FIC1-A, FIC1-B and FIC1-C patients, respectively ($P=0.09$). Survival analysis showed that at age 18y, 44% of all patients were alive with native liver. Native liver survival (NLS) was comparable between the three groups (%NLS at 10y: FIC1-A, 67%; FIC1-B, 43%; and FIC1-C 58%, $P=0.15$). A lower fraction of FIC1-C patients underwent SBD (%SBD at 10y: FIC1-A, 66%; FIC1-B, 60%; and FIC1-C, 43%; $P=0.02$). Overall, undergoing SBD was associated with a decrease in sBA (pre-SBD 230 $\mu\text{mol/L}$, post-SBD 74 $\mu\text{mol/L}$; $P=0.005$). SBD tended to be associated with prolonged NLS (HR 0.53, 95%CI 0.28-1.01, $P=0.05$), as with a post-SBD sBA concentration <65 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ($P=0.05$, right figure). The proportion of patients achieving a post-SBD sBA concentration <65 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ was comparable among FIC1-A, FIC1-B and FIC1-C patients (50; 40; and 63%, resp.; $P=0.63$), as was NLS at 10 years post-SBD (69; 45, 66%; resp. $P=0.31$). **Conclusion:** Patients with one or two predicted protein-truncating *ATP8B1* mutations do not differ in natural history from patients with other *ATP8B1* mutations. Irrespective of the type of *ATP8B1* mutations, serum bile acid concentration at initial presentation and surgical biliary diversion are associated with native liver survival in patients with FIC1 deficiency.

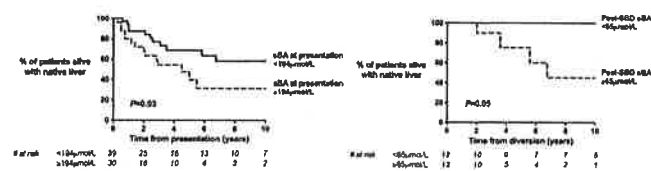


Figure. Proportion of patients with FIC1 deficiency that is alive with native liver, with a serum bile acid concentration at presentation $\leq 194 \mu\text{mol/L}$ or $>194 \mu\text{mol/L}$ (left figure); and with a post-surgical serum bile acid concentration $\leq 65 \mu\text{mol/L}$ or $>65 \mu\text{mol/L}$ (right figure). Log-rank test.

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Etienne Sokal – Promethera Biosciences: Advisory Committee or Review Panel; Promethera Biosciences: Board Membership; for AbbVie, Alexion, Roche, Gilead, Takeda: Independent Contractor

Nanda Kerkar – High Tide: Advisory Committee or Review Panel

Jesus Quintero Bernabeu – Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.: Consulting

Ronald J Sokol – Albireo: Consulting; Mirum: Advisory Committee or Review Panel; Retrophin: Advisory Committee or Review Panel

Patrick James McKiernan – SOBI AB: Consulting; Albireo: Consulting

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NEUROPSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITIES IN CHILDREN WITH NON-ALCOHOLIC FATTY LIVER DISEASE

Katherine Sweeny¹, Christine K Lee¹, Paul D. Mitchell², Shavonne Osiakwan¹, Cosette Scott¹ and Maureen M. Jonas³, (1)Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA, (2) Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA, (3)Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition, Boston's Children's Hospital and Department of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Background: There is a higher prevalence of depression in adults with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) compared to adults without NAFLD. There are no reports on the prevalence of specific neuropsychiatric (NP) disorders

in children with NAFLD. We hypothesized that among pediatric patients with NAFLD, there is a higher prevalence of NP disorders compared to a general pediatric population. **Methods:** This was a single-center cross-sectional retrospective chart review of children with NAFLD evaluated at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) from 1995 - 2019. The prevalence rate of NP disorders was determined from patient and clinician report at the first NAFLD evaluation visit. BCH NP prevalence rates were compared to those in the general pediatric population of the 2016 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) survey. Prevalence and relative risk (RR) was estimated from a general estimating equation with a log link, adjusted for age and sex and accounting for the complex survey sampling design to calculate the variance. Age is reported as median (interquartile range; IQR). **Results:** The BCH sample consisted of 370 children (30.5% female) with median age 13.0 (IQR 10.8-15.8) years, while the NSCH included 50,212 children (48.9% female) with median age 8.1 (IQR 3.6-12.6) years. After adjustment for sex and age, 25.3% of BCH children with NAFLD were reported to have at least one NP disorder compared to 16.9% of NSCH children (RR=1.50; $P<0.0001$). There were statistically more children with depression (4.0% vs 2.2%; RR=1.85, $P<0.0001$), ASD (3.3% vs 2.0%; RR=1.66, $P=0.02$), and intellectual disability (4.1% vs 0.8%; RR=4.92, $P<0.0001$) in the BCH children. There were no significant differences in prevalence rates of developmental delay, ADD/ADHD, or anxiety between the groups. Restricting the data to 370 BCH and 6575 NSCH overweight and obese children (BMI $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$ percentile), the BCH prevalence of at least one NP disorder was 38.4% compared to 28.2% for NSCH children (adjusted RR=1.36; $P<0.0001$), with the greatest disparity between populations due to intellectual disability (7.5% vs 2.2%; RR=3.39, $P<0.0001$). **Conclusion:** The prevalence of several neuropsychiatric disorders was higher among a cohort of children with NAFLD compared to that of a general pediatric population. Overweight and obese children with NAFLD were more likely to have at least one neuropsychiatric disorder compared to overweight and obese children without NAFLD. Further study to determine the significance of neuropsychiatric comorbidity in the prognosis and management of this population is warranted.

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NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN CHILDHOOD CIRRHOSIS: IDENTIFYING FACTORS FOR DISEASE PROGRESSION

Leticia Khendek¹, Fernando Alvarez¹, Mona Beaunoyer², Eric Drouin¹, Michel Lallier² and Massimiliano Paganelli^{1,3}, (1) Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, CHU Sainte-Justine, (2) Pediatric Surgery, CHU Sainte-Justine, (3) Liver Tissue Engineering and Cell Therapy Lab, CHU Sainte-Justine

Background: The Cree-Ojibway First Nations of Northern Quebec are the only group found to date to develop a disease historically named North American Indian Childhood Cirrhosis (NAIC). NAIC presents with neonatal jaundice and progresses to cirrhosis often requiring liver transplantation (LT) in childhood. Only 33 patients have been described so far, with significant phenotype variability. Biochemical character