

Pregnancy related liver disease

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DISCLOSURES

No financial disclosures relevant to this presentation

QUESTION 1

In which trimester an acute fatty liver disease of pregnancy occurs

- a. Second trimester
- b. Third trimester

QUESTION 2

What is an additional therapy in intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy

- a. Cholestyramine
- b. Rifampicine

PREGNANCY RELATED LIVER DISEASE

Laboratory	Pregnancy
Hemoglobin	↓ (2nd trimester)
Leucocytes	↑
Thrombocytes	None
Bilirubin	None
Alkaline phosphatase	↑ (placenta, bone)
ALAT	None
ASAT	None
Albumin (g/L)	↓
GGT	None
Prothrombin time	None
Alpha-fetoprotein	↑

PREGNANCY RELATED LIVER DISEASE

- Hyperemesis gravidarum
- Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy
- Pre-eclampsia
- HELLP
- Acute fatty liver disease of pregnancy

CASE

A 28 year old female, G2P1, 29+4 weeks of gestation, referred for itch, fluctuating abdominal pain and elevated liver function tests.

Medical history: Cholecystolithiasis

Physical examination:

RR 138/ 88, Pulse 84, T 37.2

Scratch marks on her skin and little jaundice

Laboratory results (GP):

Bilirubin 29 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, ALAT 102 U/L, ASAT 66 U/L, Alkaline phosphatase 136 IU/L, γ GT 56 U/L, Hemoglobin 7.3 mmol/L, Thrombocytes $140 \times 10^9/\text{L}$

Urine screening: protein +

LIVER DISEASE

- Pruritis gravidarum
- Hyperemesis gravidarum
- Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy
- Pre-eclampsia
- HELLP
- Acute fatty liver disease of pregnancy
- Choledocholithiasis

CASE

Ultrasound

Normal homogenous liver, no dilatated bile ducts.
Gallbladder: no evident stones. Normal vasculature with normal flow.

Laboratory results

Bilirubin 37 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, ALAT 139 U/L, ASAT 80 U/L, Alkaline phosphatase 230 IU/L, γ GT 99 U/L

Virology & immune serology negative.

CASE

Ultrasound

Normal homogenous liver, no dilatated bile ducts. Gallbladder: no evident stones. Normal vasculature with normal flow.

Laboratory results

Bilirubin 30 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, ALAT 139 U/L, ASAT 80 U/L, Alkaline phosphatase 230 IU/L, γ GT 99 U/L

Virology & immune serology negative.

Bile acids: 43 $\mu\text{mol/L}$

=> Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy

INTRAHEPATIC CHOLESTASIS OF PREGNANCY

0,1% - 1.5% of pregnancies

Second-third trimester (25-32 weeks)

Clinical features

Generalised pruritis (palms, soles)

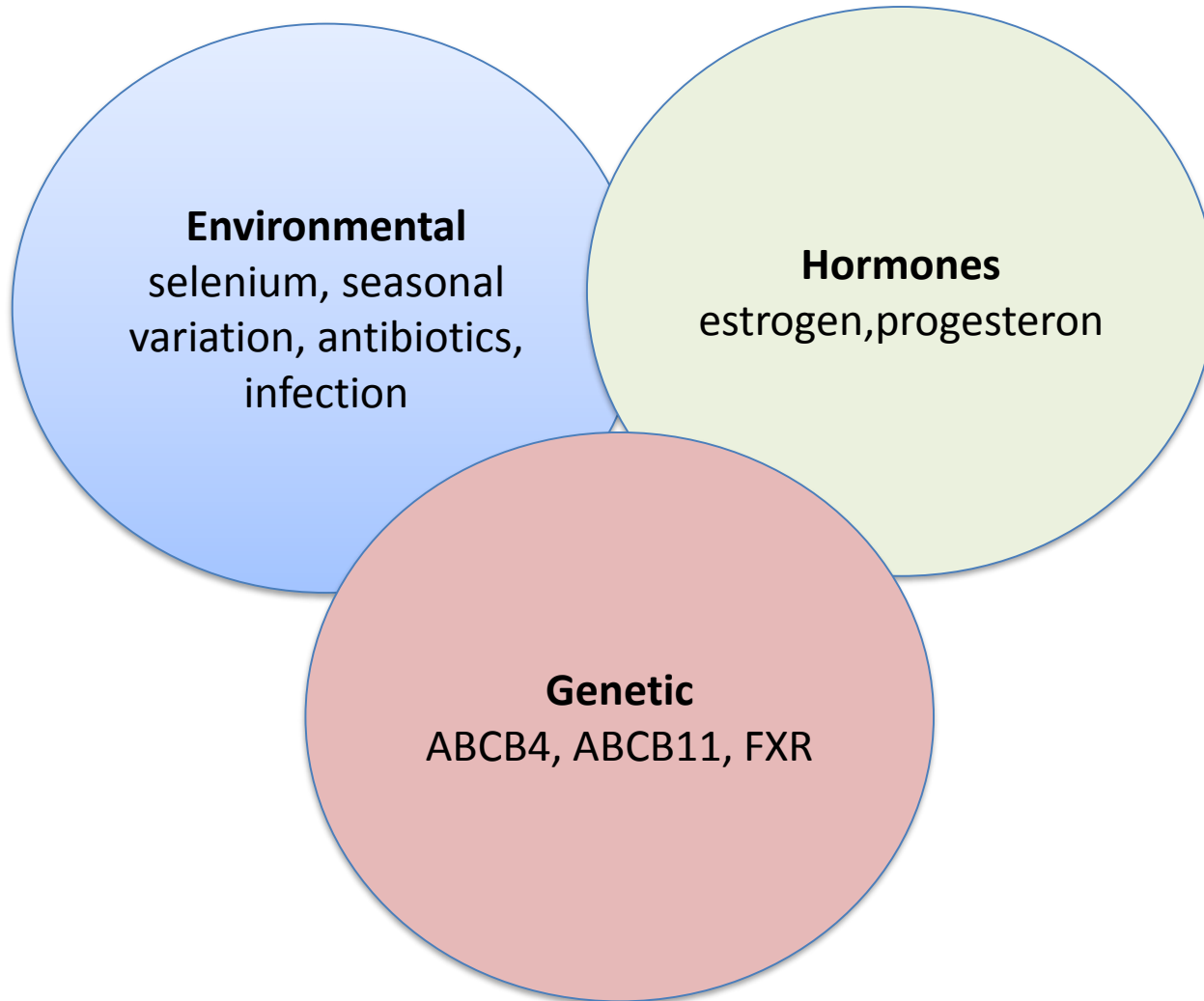
Jaundice (15%), steatorrhoe

Labatory findings

Serum bile acid ↑

Liverfunction tests ↑ (Transaminases, Alk phosphatase)

PATHOGENESIS



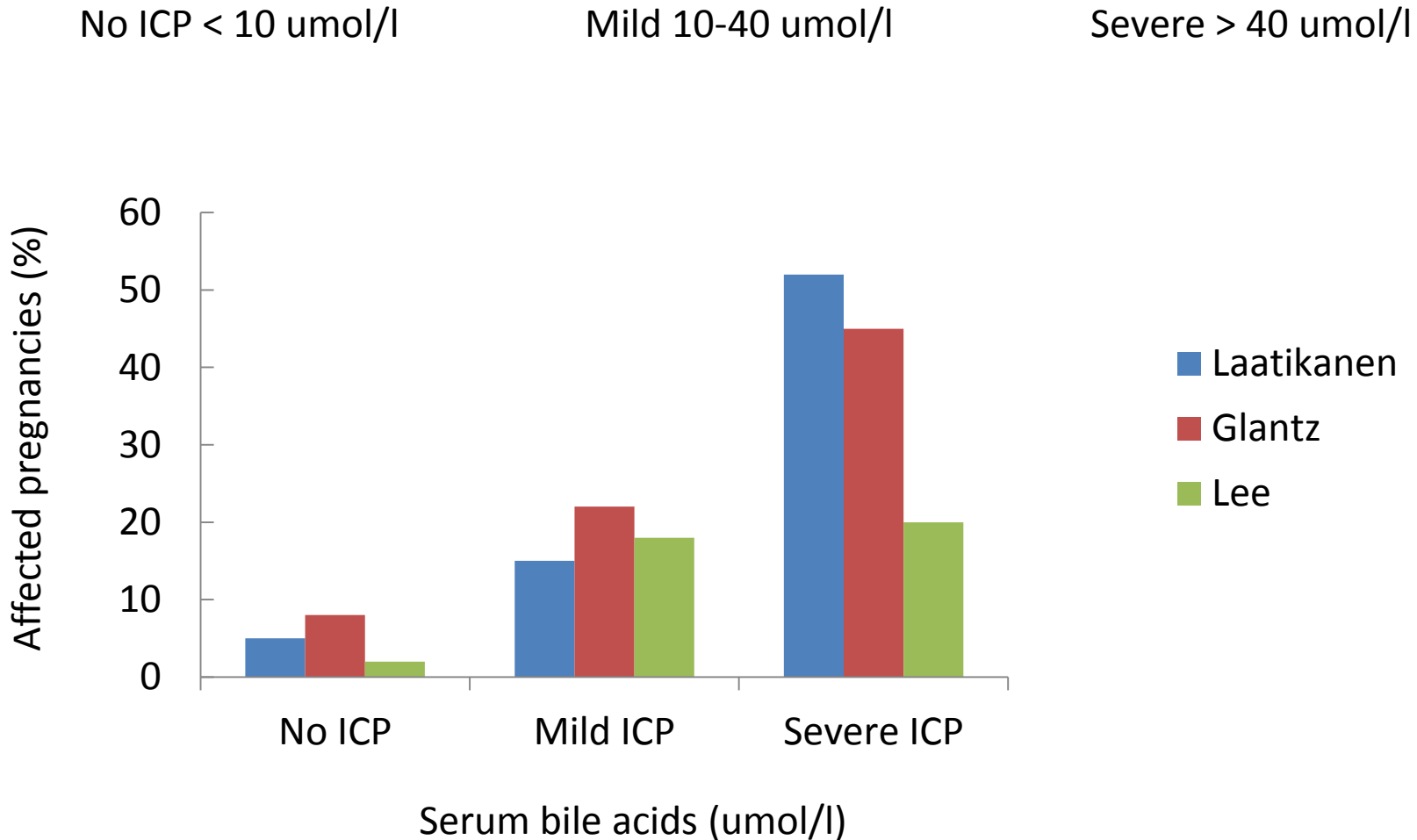
CASE

Risk of complications?

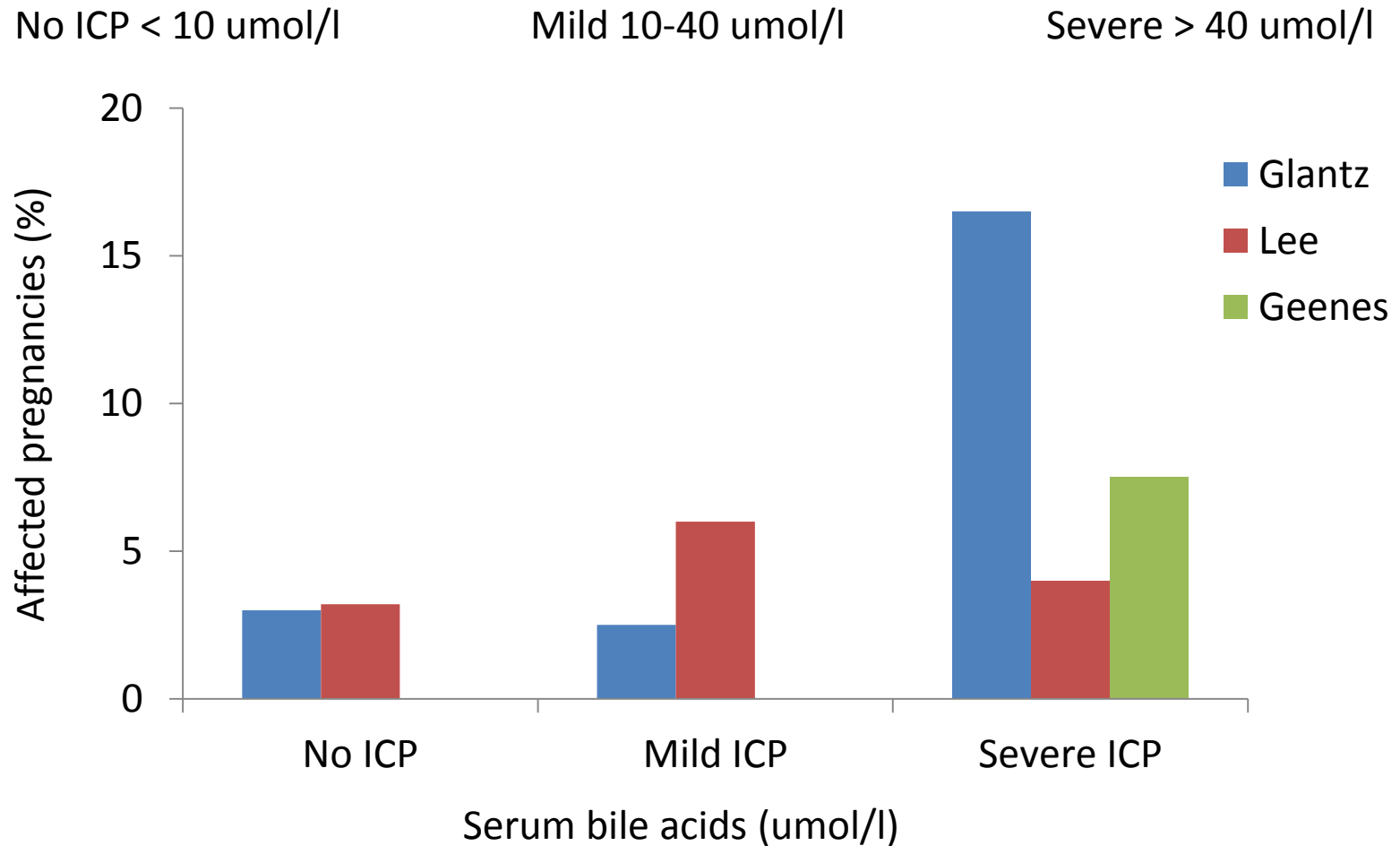
FETAL COMPLICATIONS

- CTG abnormalities
- Meconium: 16-58%
- Spontaneous preterm labour: 30-40%
- Sudden Intra Uterine Death: 3.5%

FETAL COMPLICATIONS: MECONIUM



FETAL COMPLICATIONS: PRETERM LABOUR



MANAGEMENT

- Fetal monitoring
- Nutritional support, vitamin K
- Drugs
 - Ursodeoxycholic acid 10-20 mg/kg
- Elective delivery at 37 weeks

CASE

Started with Ursodeoxycholic acid

34+6 weeks of gestation

Ursodeoxycholic acid dose up to 20 mg/kg/day

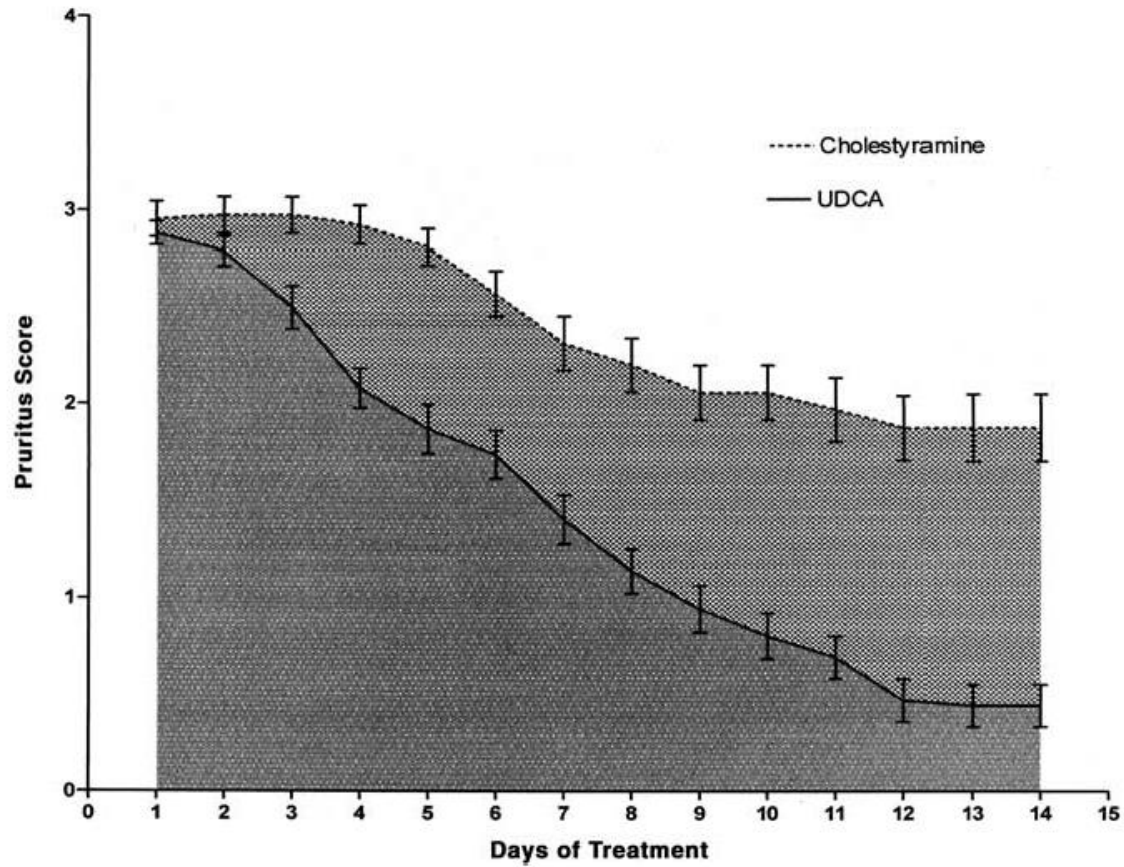
Laboratory results

Bilirubin 28 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, ALAT 156 U/L, ASAT 99 U/L, Alkaline phosphatase 278 IU/L, γ GT 104 U/L

Bile acids: 83 $\mu\text{mol/L}$

Onbearable pruritus

MANAGEMENT: CHOLESTYRAMINE



MANAGEMENT: RIFAMPICINE

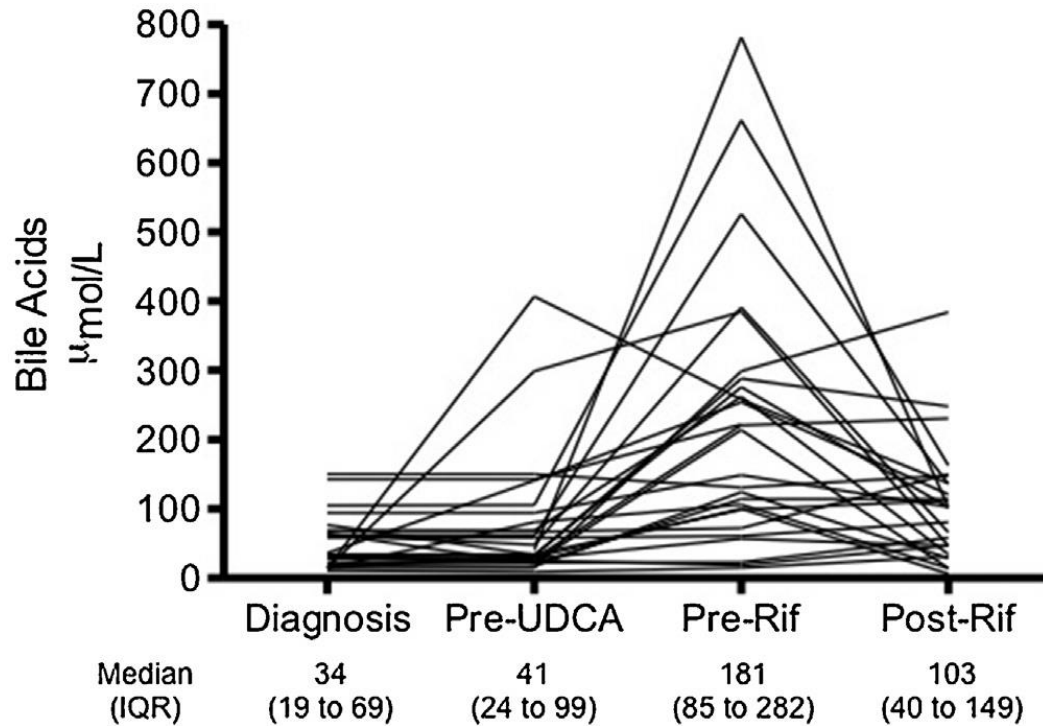
Retrospective cohort, 28 pregnancies in 27 women

Add-on rifampicine 3rd trimester

Dosage: UDCA 500-1500 mg, rifampicine 300-1200 mg

Mean duration treatment rifampicine 2 weeks

MANAGEMENT



MANAGEMENT: RIFAMPICINE

14 (54%) reduction in bile acids

10 (38%) > 50% reduction in bile acids

4 (15%) > 50% reduction in ALT

3 (12%) > 50% reduction in bilirubin

10 (37%) reduction of pruritis

No predictors of respons on rifampicine

MANAGEMENT

- Fetal monitoring
- Nutritional support, vitamin K
- Elective delivery at 37 weeks
- Drugs
 - Ursodeoxycholic acid 10-20 mg/kg
 - Rifampicine (3rd trimester)
 - Cholestyramine: questionable
 - ~~Dexamethason / s-adenosyl methionine: no role~~

CASE

37+1 weeks of gestation delivery

Healthy girl, weight 2610 gram

APGAR score 9

Laboratory results normalised

PROGNOSIS

- Postnatal recovery (< 2 weeks)
- Recurrence subsequent pregnancy
- Increased risk hepatobiliary disease

HYPEREMESIS GRAVIDARUM

Excess vomiting, occurring in 0.3% of pregnancies

First trimester (4-10 weeks)

Pathogenesis: unknown

Hyperthyroidism, DM, cultural background, psychiatric

15-25% increased transaminases (up to 4x ULN)

Supportive therapy



PRE-ECLAMPSIA

De novo hypertension ($\geq 140/90$) & Proteinuria (≥ 300 mg/day)

Multisystem disorder, occurs in 3-5% of pregnancies

2nd-3rd trimester (20 weeks, 4 weeks postpartum)

Riskfactors:

- Previous pre-eclampsia

- Hypertension

- Diabetes

- Kidney or auto immune disease

PATHOGENESIS

Abnormal placentation



Placental hypoperfusion



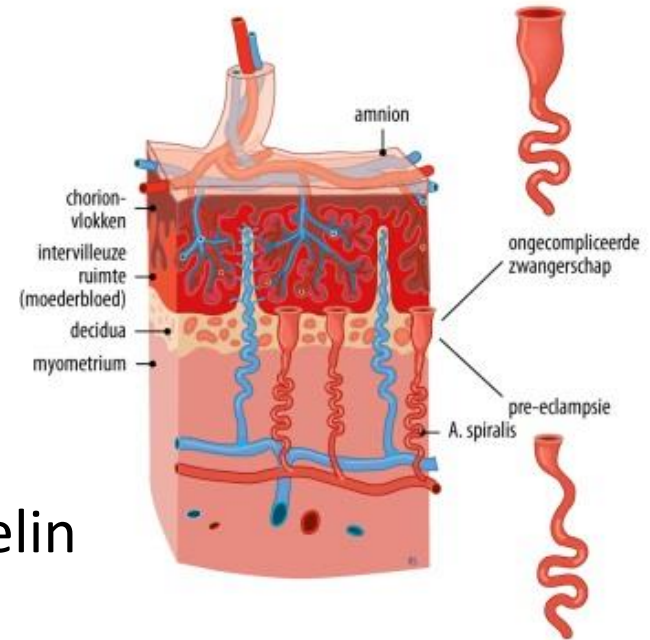
Release of NO, prostaglandines, endothelin



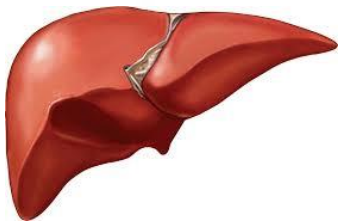
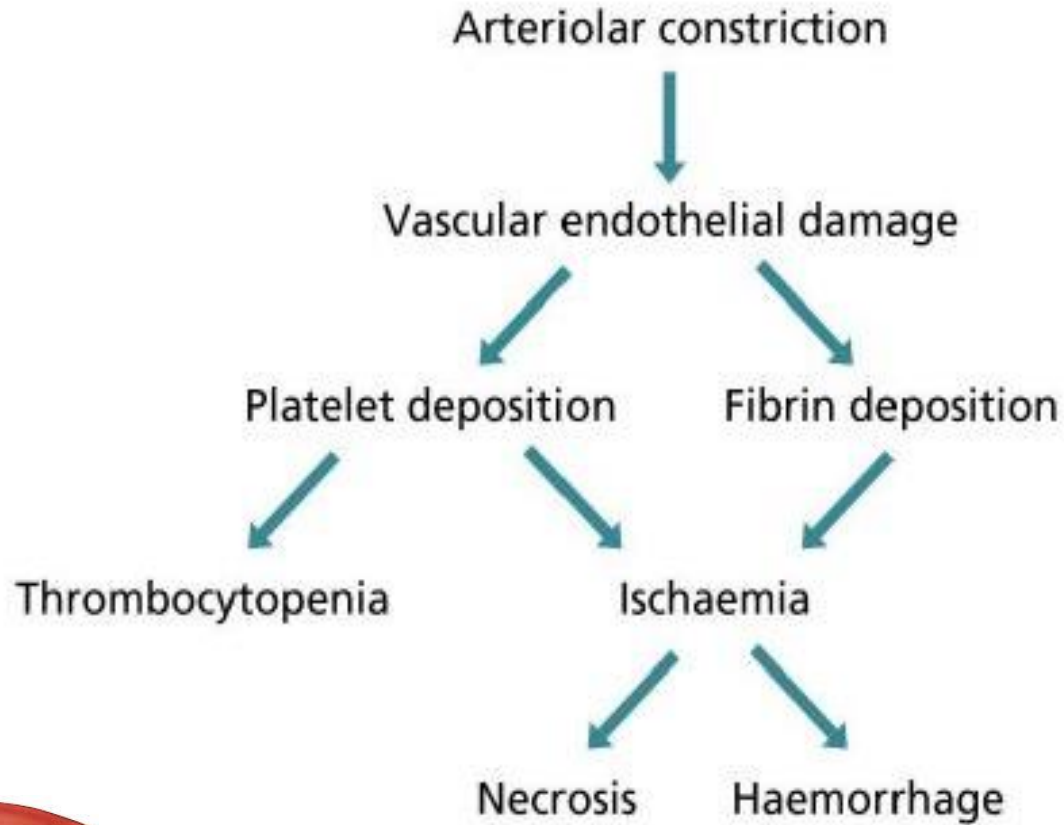
Endothelial dysfunction, Platelet aggregation



Release fibrin: Fibrin deposition in small blood vessels



PATHOGENESIS LIVER



CLINICAL FEATURES

Mostly absent

Nausea, vomiting, headache

Right upper quadrant abdominal pain

Oedema

Liver involvement 30%

 elevated transaminases (5x ULN)

 severe disease

HELLP SYNDROME

Haemolysis Elevated Liver enzymes Low Platelets

Severe form of pre-eclampsia, occurring in 10%

2nd – 3rd trimester (week 27-36)

Riskfactors: advanced maternal age, multiparity, Caucasian

Pathogenesis: unknown, imbalance pro / antiangiogenic factors & proinflammatory cytokines

CLINICAL FEATURES

Significant number asymptomatic

RUQ or epigastric pain 65%

Nausea & vomiting 35%

Headache 30%

Bleeding & jaundice

Laboratory analysis

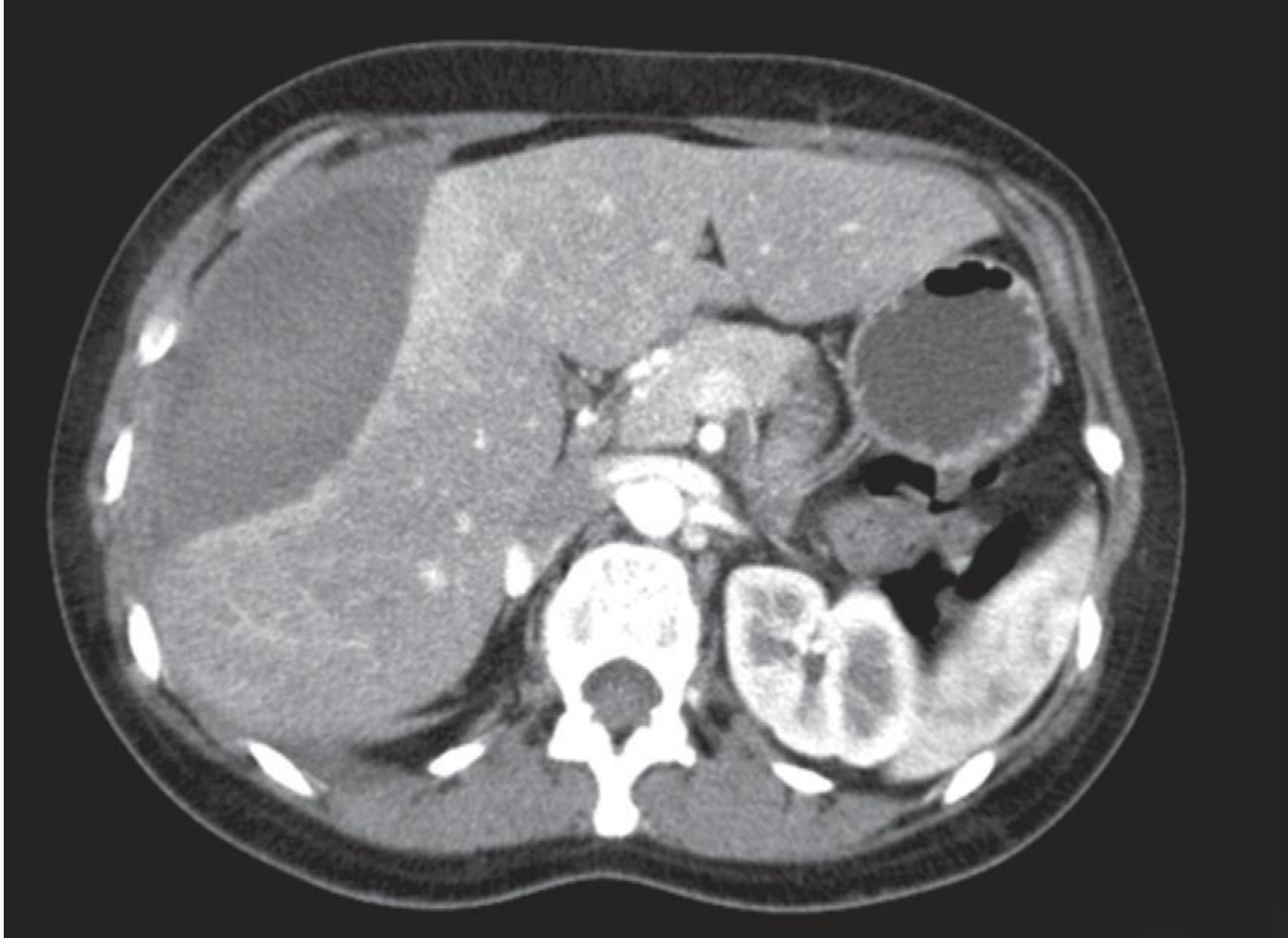
Elevated transaminases (2-30 fold) & hyperbilirubinemia

Hemolysis parameters

DIC, PT

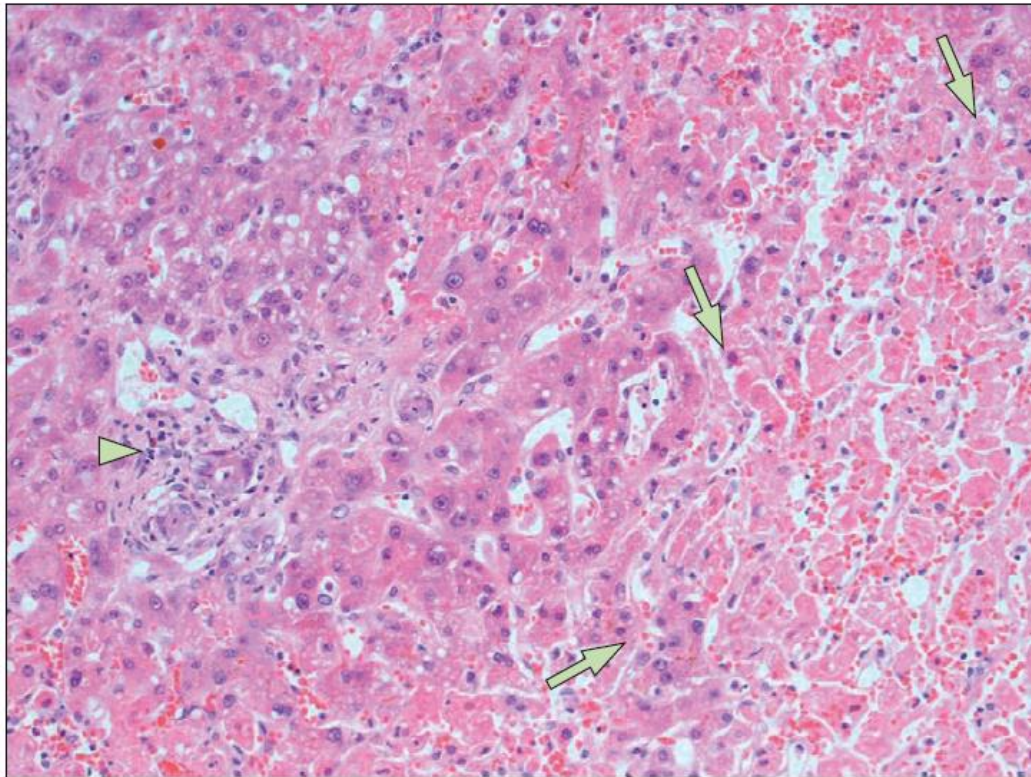
Imaging: abdominal pain, shoulder tip pain, hypotension

COMPLICATION



DIAGNOSIS

Biopsy not indicated



Periportal changes with haemorrhage, sinusoidal fibril deposition and necrosis

CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

Tennessee system

AST >70 IU/L

LDH >600 IU/L

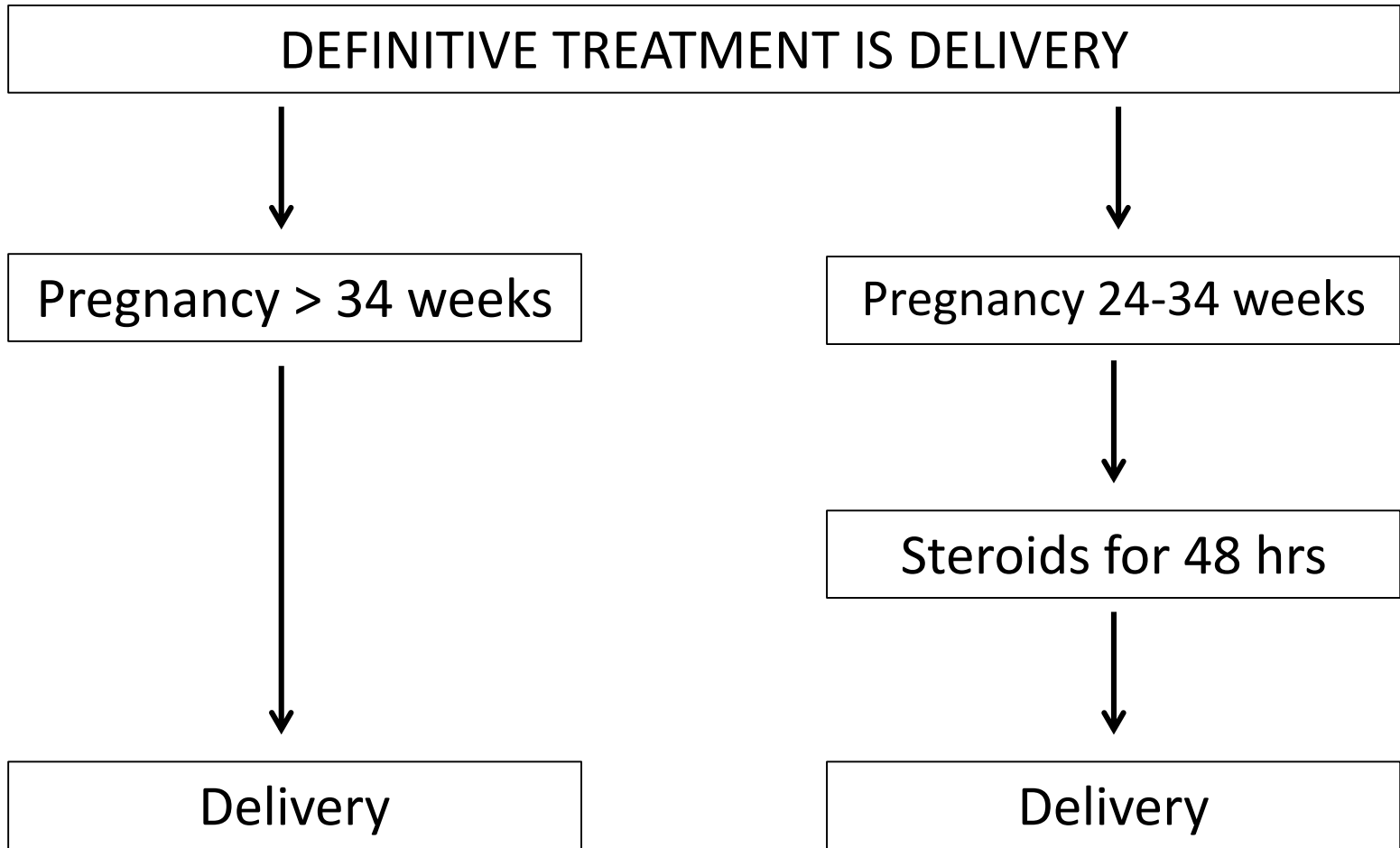
Thrombocytes <100×10⁹/L

Mississippi system

AST >40 IU/L and LDH >600 IU/L and:

- Class I: platelets <50×10⁹/L
- Class II: platelets 50–100×10⁹/L
- Class III: platelets 100–150×10⁹/L

MANAGEMENT



MANAGEMENT

Steroids: promote fetal lung maturity

Cochrane review:

Maternal effects

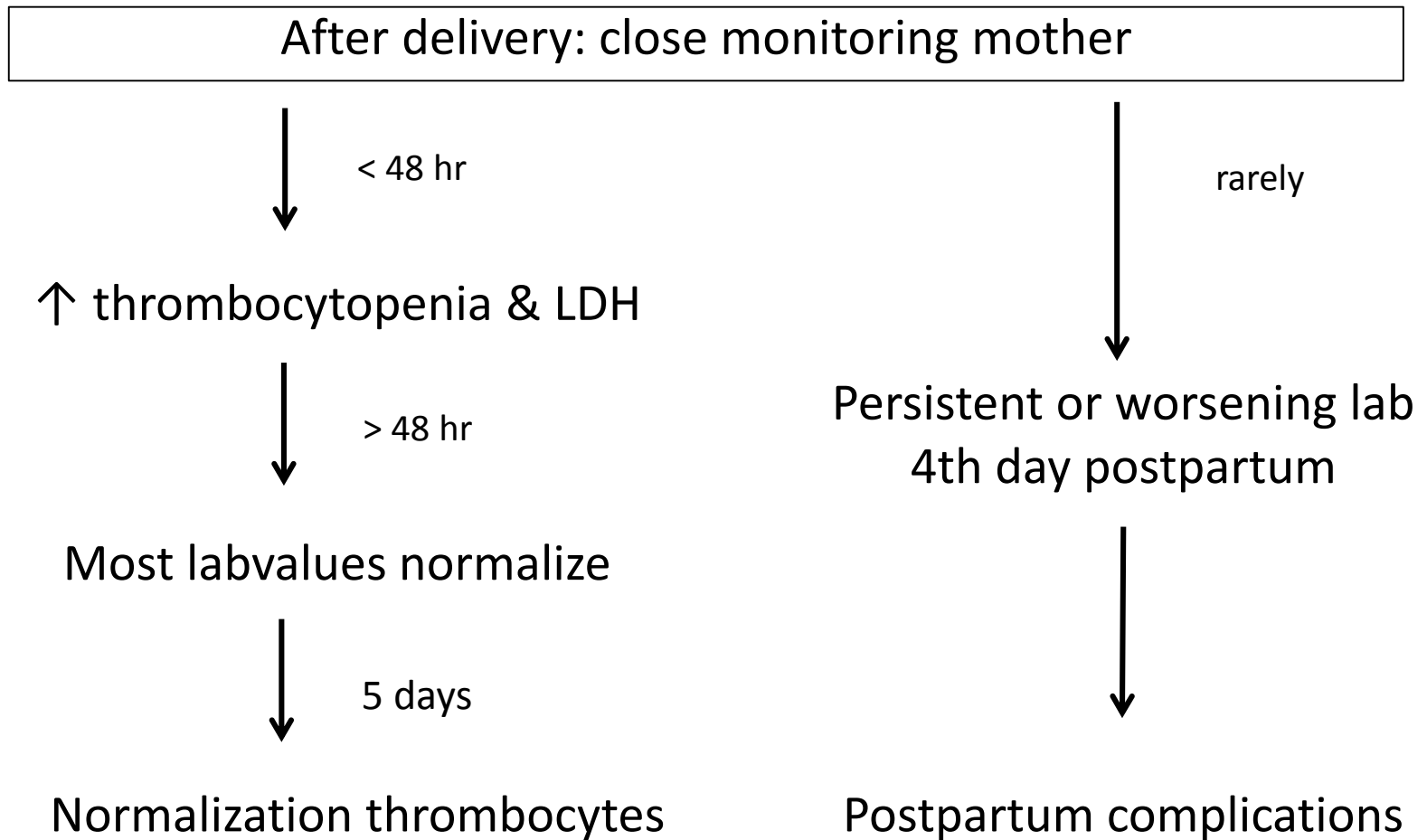
Improved platelet count & transaminases

No difference in mortality: RR 0.95, CI 0.28-3.21

No difference in morbidity: RR 0.27, CI 0.03-2.12

No evidence for other therapies: plasmaferesis, dialysis

PROGNOSIS



ACUTE FATTY LIVER OF PREGNANCY

Rare, but serious complication of pregnancy

3rd trimester

Incidence 1: 20 000

High mortality

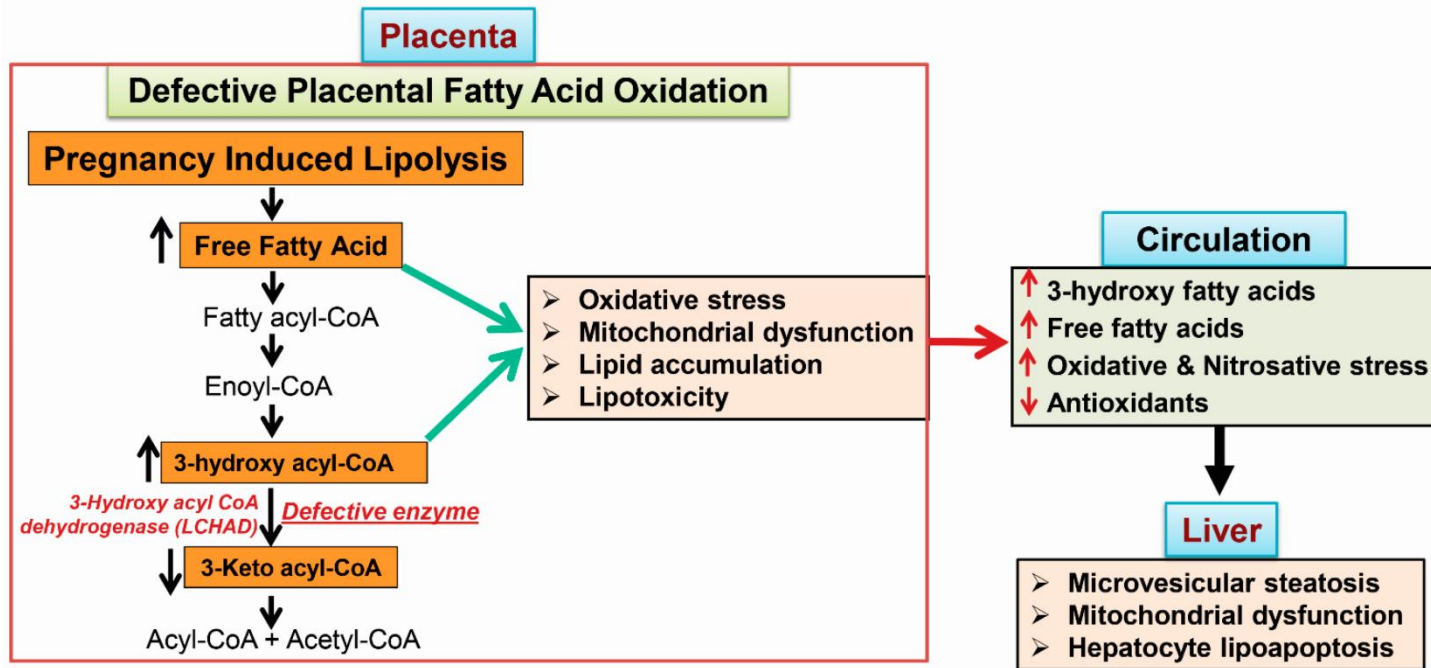
maternal: 18%

fetal: 23%

More common in nullparous, twin pregnancies, male infants

PATHOGENESIS

Fetal homozygous mutation (1528G>C) in the gene for mitochondrial long-chain hydroxy acyl-CoA dehydrogenase (LCHAD).



CLINICAL FEATURES

Usually after week 30 of gestation (35-36 week)

Gradual onset with nausea, vomiting, fatigue

Abdominal pain

Co-existing factors

Pre eclampsia (mild hypertension and mild proteinuria)

Signs of acute liver failure

- Jaundice

- Hypoglycemia

- Hepatic encephalopathy

- Coagulopathy

LABORATORY FINDINGS

Hyperbilirubinemia ($> 85 \text{ umol/l}$)

Elevated transaminases (variable, usually 300-500)

Anemie, thrombocytopenia and leucocytosis

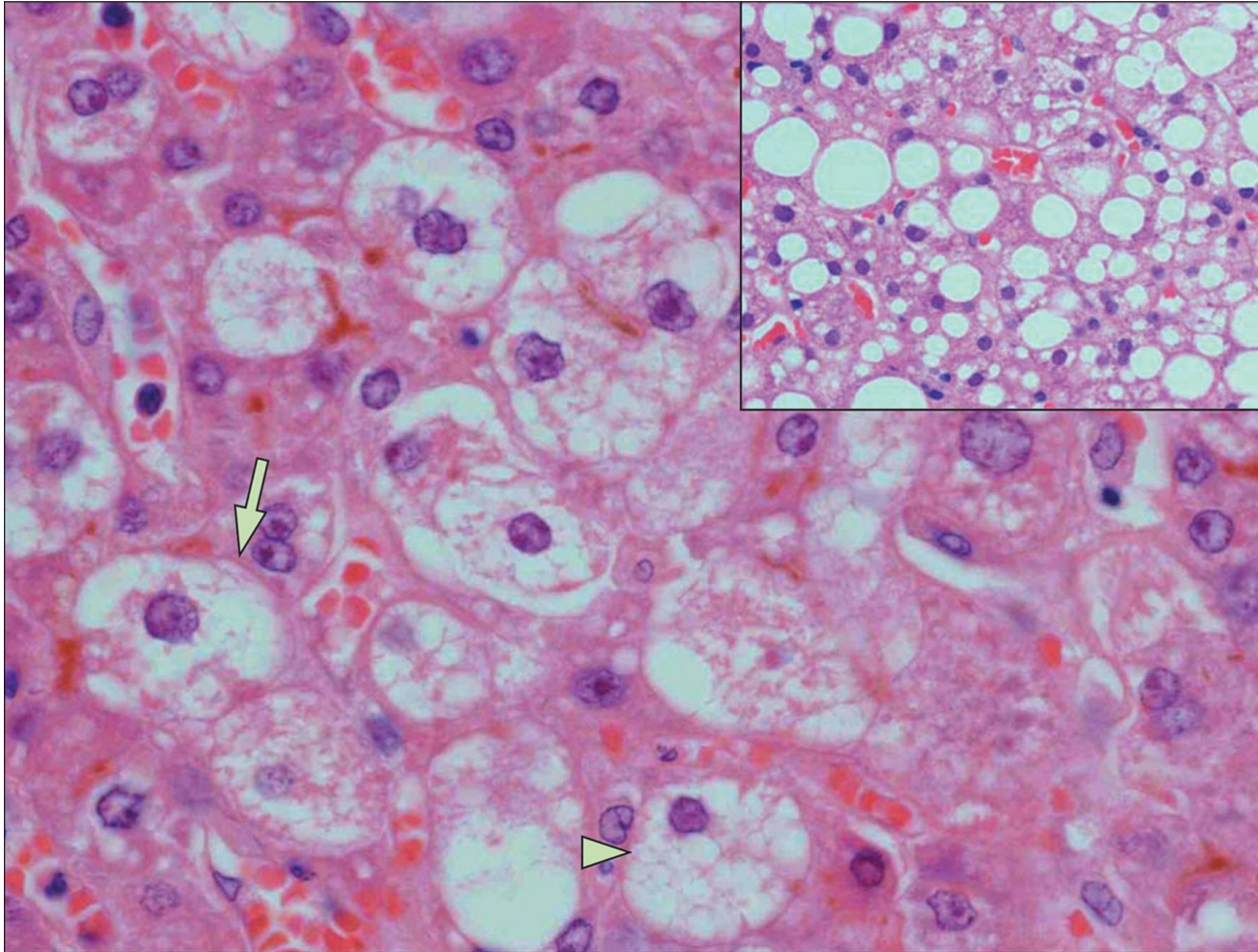
DIC, hypo albuminemia

Signs of mitochondrial failure (ammonia, lactate acid)

Complications

Ascites, renal dysfunction, respiratory failure, acute pancreatitis

LIVERBIOPSY



SWANSEA DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

Six or more features below in the absence of other aetiology

Vomiting

Abdominal pain

Polydipsia/polyuria

Encephalopathy

Bilirubin ($> 14 \mu\text{mol/L}$)

Hypoglycaemia (4 mmol/L)

Leucocytosis ($> 11 \times 10^6/\text{L}$)

Elevated uric acid ($> 340 \mu\text{mol/L}$)

Elevated ammonia ($> 42 \text{ IU/L}$)

Ascites or bright liver on USS

Elevated transaminases ($> 42 \text{ IU/L}$)

Renal impairment (creatinine $> 150 \mu\text{mol/L}$)

Coagulopathy (PT $> 14 \text{ s}$ or APTT $> 34 \text{ s}$)

Microvesicular steatosis on biopsy

MANAGEMENT

Early recognition & diagnosis + Rapid delivery fetus

- Majority → 2-3 days postpartum
Improvement liver function
- Sometimes → Persistent lab abnormalities &
May initially worsen 1st postpartum week
- Rarely → Progress to fulminant hepatic failure

Most patients improve 1 to 4 weeks postpartum

AFLP

Dutch data, 3 transplant centers, period 1979-2012

Ltx in 2 of 2445 (<0.1%) with AFLP

Aug 2004- aug 2006: 12 cases liver morbidity, no deaths

Incidence 3.2 / 10 000 deliveries

UK data, 229 hospitals, period feb 2005- aug 2006

57 women AFLP

1 LTX, 1 death

PREGNANCY RELATED LIVER DISEASE

	Trimester (week)	% Pregnancy	Liverfunction pattern	Histology	Therapy
Hyperemesis gravidarum	1 (4-10)	0.3	↑ ALT (2-5x)	-	Supportive
Intrahepatic cholestasis	2-3 (25-32)	0.1-1.5	↑ ALT (1.5-8x) ↑ bile acid (1.5-15x)	Cholestasis	Ursochol (Rifampicin)
Pre-eclampsia	2-3 (20->)	1-1.5	↑ ALT (2-5x)	Necrosis, bleeding	Delivery
HELLP	2-3 (27-36)	0.2-0.6	↑ ALT (2-30x) ↑ bili (1.5-10x)	Necrosis, bleeding	Delivery
AFLP	3 (35-36)	0.005-0.01	↑ ALT (3-15x) ↑ bili (4-15x)	Microvesiculair fatdeposition	Delivery

QUESTION 1

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QUESTION 2

What is an additional therapy in intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy

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