

#### LIVER FUNCTION TESTS



## WHAT IS LFT?



Blood tests that measure different enzymes, proteins, and other substances made by the liver.

#### WHY DO A LFT?

Can help to differentiate between:

Hepatocellular Injury (Hepatic jaundice)

VS

Cholestasis
(Post-hepatic or Jaundice)





### LET'S START TO INTERPRET LFTS!



#### **NOTE**

The values define the amount of liver damage, NOT the functionality of the liver!

Enzyme	Location of the Enzyme	If it's raised means?
ALT	Liver	Liver Damage
AST	Liver, Muscle (Mainly Skeletal & Cardiac)	Liver Damage / MI / Muscle Damage (Eg. Rhabdomyolysis)
ALP	Bile duct, Bone, Placenta	Cholestasis / High Bone Breakdown / Pregnancy
GGT	Bile Duct	Cholestasis / Recent Alcohol Use

### LFTS CONTINUED

These values determine the liver function.

PT	Normal value → 9.5s to 13.8s  If clotting time >13.8s → Lack of  clotting factors produced by the liver	
Bilirubin	Value increased = Liver unable to break down haemoglobin in RBC Other causes → Malaria, Haemolytic Anaemia	
Albumin	Value decrease = Liver unable to produce protein Other causes → Diabetes, Nephrotic Syndrome	

# COMMON CONDITIONS TO NOTE

**↑ALT** Predominant

- Acute or chronic viral hepatitis
- Haemochromatosis
- Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency

**↑AST** Predominant

- Alcohol-related
- Steatohepatitis
- Cirrhosis
- Non-hepatic
  - Haemolysis, myopathy, thyroid disease, exercise

AST/ALT Ratio > 2

Alcoholic hepatitis

## COMMON CONDITIONS (2)

↑ ↑ ↑ ALT (>1000 U/L)

↑ALP ↑GGT

**Isolated** ↑ALP

- Viral hepatitis
- Ischemic liver injury (prolonged hypotension or acute heart failure)
- Toxin- or drug-induced liver injury
- Bile duct obstruction
- Cystic fibrosis
- Bony metastases or primary bone tumours (e.g. Sarcoma)
- Vitamin D deficiency
- Recent bone fractures
- Renal osteodystrophy

- Isolated ↑GGT
- Recent alcohol use

# WE HOPE THIS HELPS!

- More to know via the fact sheet that will be launched soon!
- Bonuses and questions with answers will be provided in the fact sheet.
- All the best and enjoy your rotations!

#### FOLLOW US!

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