

Liver Cancer: Symptoms, Treatments, and Prevention

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Purpose of Study

- The purpose of this study is to inform the public about prevention, symptoms and treatment. It is my goal to inform the public about this deadly topic, so lives can be saved

Introduction

Liver cancer is the growth and spread of unhealthy cells in the liver.

- Cancer that starts in the liver called primary liver cancer. Cancer that spreads to the liver from another organ is called metastatic liver cancer. Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is the most common type of primary cancer.
 - Liver cancer is important due to the numbers of lives impacted by this devastating disease. Liver cancer

Symptoms/ Treatments

- Most people don't have signs and symptoms in the early stages of primary liver cancer when signs and symptoms do appear, they may include:
 - Losing weight without trying
 - Loss of appetite
 - Upper abdominal pain/swelling
 - Nausea and vomiting
- Treatments
 - Chemotherapy
 - Surgery
 - Percutaneous ethanol injection
 - Injecting 100% alcohol into the tumor
 - SIR-Spheres
 - Radioactive micro-beads designed to eliminate cancer cells.

Contributing Factors

- Chronic infection with Hepatitis B or C.
- Inheriting genes that will increase chance of getting liver cancer.
- Diabetes
 - A blood sugar disorder that will increase your chance of getting liver cancer.
- Cirrhosis
 - Scar tissue in the area from pre-existing liver conditions will increase your chance of liver cancer.
- Excessive alcohol consumption.

Addressing the Disparity

- Liver cancer disproportionately affect African Americans. Among non-hispanic blacks chronic liver disease is a leading cause of death. Low rates of preventative care
- African Americans have the highest rates of HCC (hepatocellular carcinoma) incidences over another other racial/ethnic groups.
- Highest rates of infection due to chronic Hepatitis C virus.
- Environmental factors
 - Diabetes
 - Alcoholism

Data

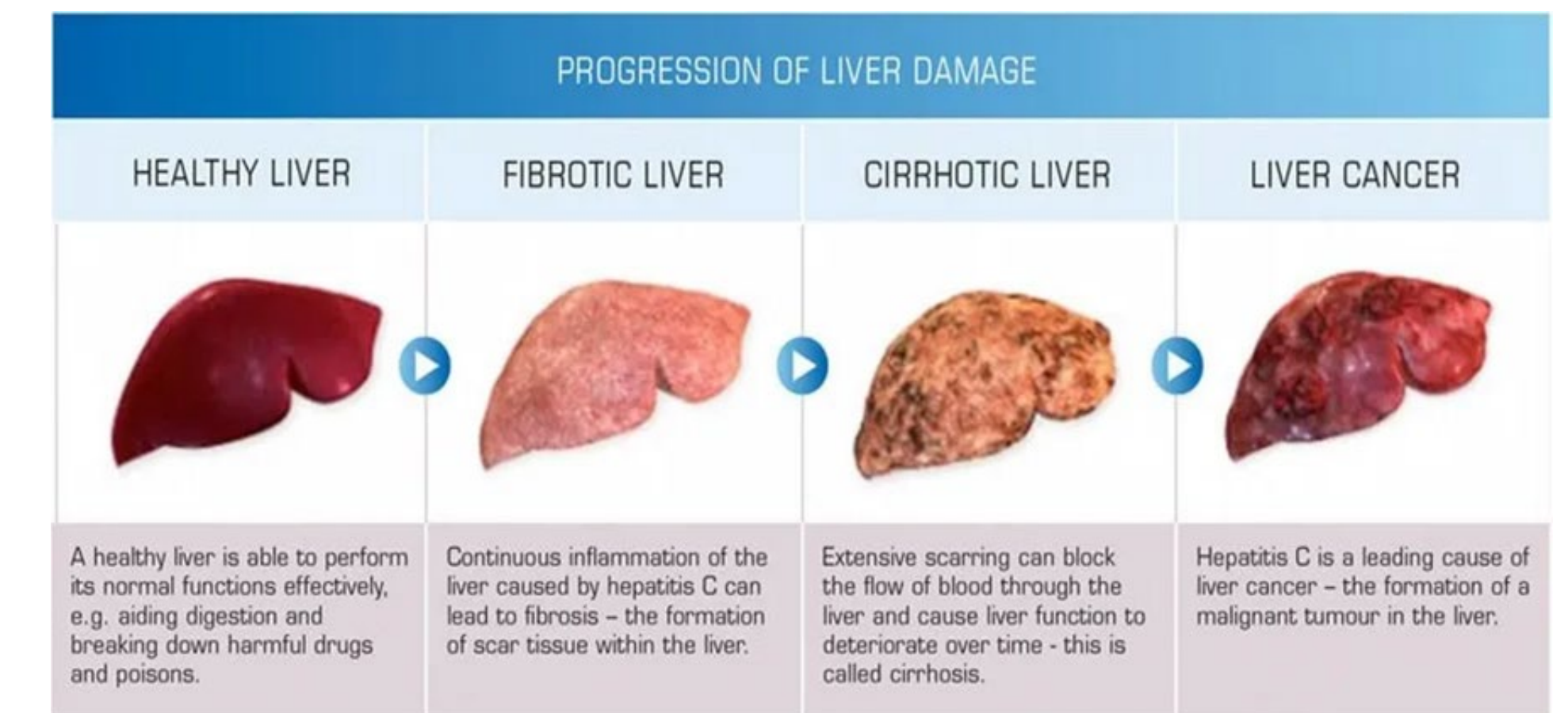


Figure 1: This image shows how hepatitis C and Cirrhosis both contribute to liver cancer

Conclusion

- Cirrhosis is major contributor to liver cancer to reduce risk it is important to drink alcohol less and eat healthy.
- To best prevent liver cancer it is important get vaccinated for hepatitis B, try to prevent hepatitis C.

References

- <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/liver-cancer/symptoms-causes/syc-20353659>
- <https://austinpublishinggroup.com/gastroenterology/fulltext/ajg-v4-id1079.php>
- <https://www.everydayhealth.com/liver-cancer/cirrhosis-and-liver-cancer.aspx>