



# PHARMACOLOGY

TEAM 432

## Hepatotoxic Drugs

### Objectives

- Clarify the role of liver in drug detoxification
- Elaborate types (patterns) of hepatotoxicity
- Classify hepatotoxins
- Explain how a drug can inflict hepatotoxicity
- Contrast the varied clinical presentation of hepatotoxicity
- Discuss possibilities of diagnosis
- Enlist the possible treatment

### Color Guide

Slides = Black  
Females notes= Green  
Female slides= purple  
Males slides= Blue  
Explanation= Orange

This lecture is also based on dr.Omnia's lecture.  
Cases, questions and important points that are mentioned by her are written

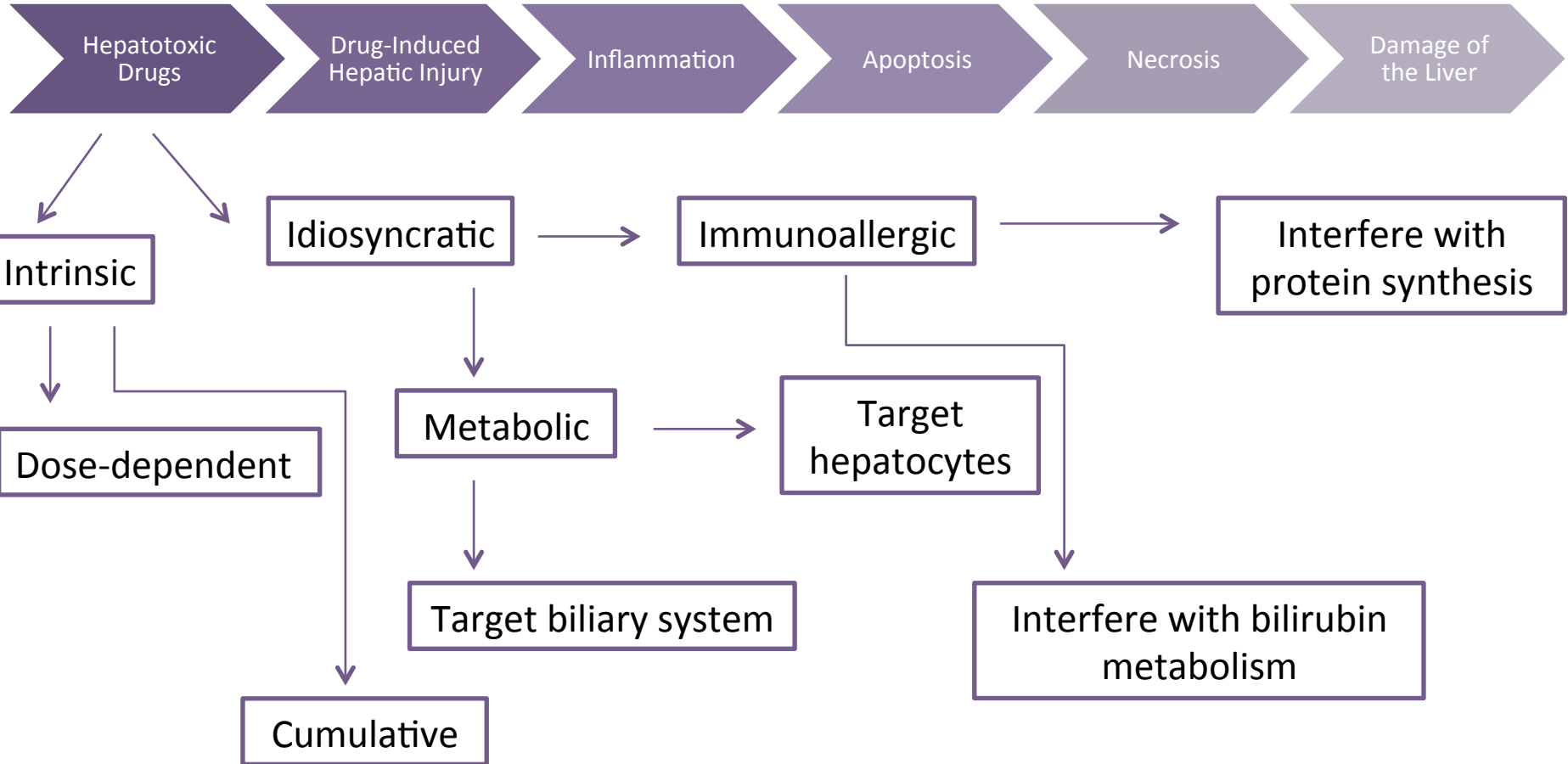
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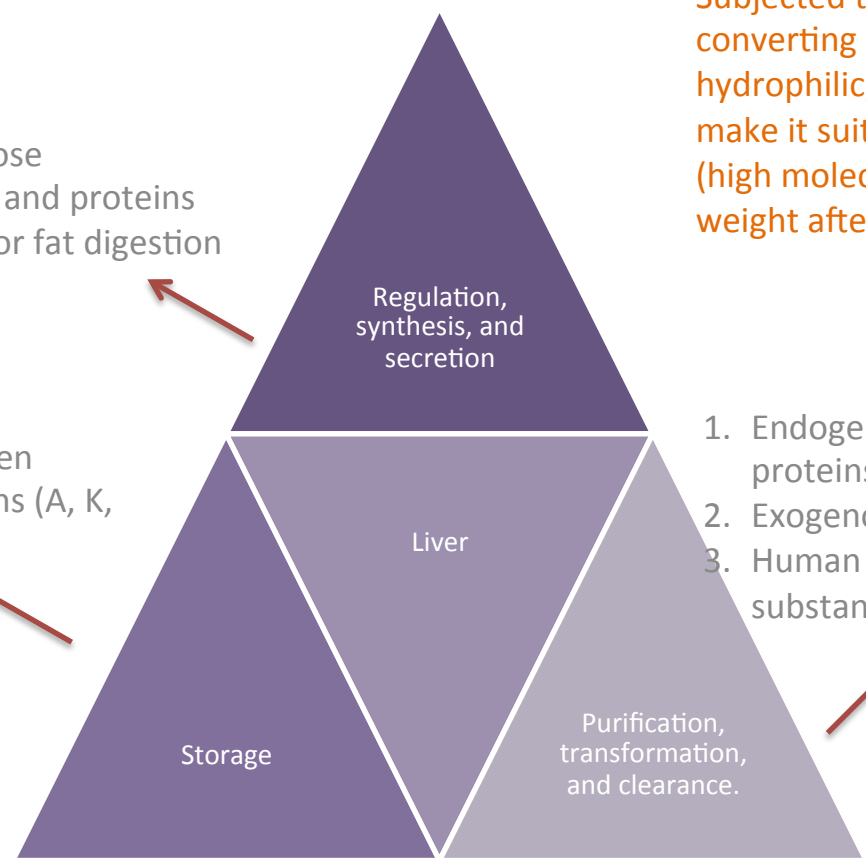
# Mind Map



# Functions of the Liver

- 1. Utilization of glucose
- 2. Synthesis of lipids and proteins
- 3. Secretion of bile for fat digestion

- 1. Glucose as Glycogen
- 2. Fat soluble vitamins (A, K, E, D)
- 3. Minerals



Regulation, synthesis, and secretion

Liver

Storage

Purification, transformation, and clearance.

- 1. Phase 1: Oxidation, reduction, hydrolysis, hydration. Catalyzed by CYT P450. This phase makes the drug ready to be conjugated and may yield intermediates that are toxic to the liver.

Subjected to Metablism. The net result is converting lipophilic drugs into the hydrophilic, inactive and easily excreted form to make it suitable for elimination through the bile (high molecular weight) or urine (low molecular weight after going through the blood circulation).

- 1. Endogenous substances (Steroids, Cholesterol, FA, proteins)
- 2. Exogenous substance (Drugs and toxins)
- 3. Human body indetifies it almost all drugs as a foreign substance (xenbiotic)

- 2. Phase 2: Conjugation with a moiety (Acetate, glutathione, Glucuronic acid..)

**Liver is the metabolic clearing house**

## Why is the liver the site of major ADR?

1. The liver is the organ that comes in contact with a drug after its absorption from the GIT.
2. It produces enzymes that can convert drugs (Protoxins) into intermediates (Toxins) before being conjugated for elimination.

**Example:** Paracetamol is metabolized by CYT P450 into an intermediate (NABQI) that causes centrilobular injury to the liver.

Not all drugs can cause injury to the liver but the ones that do are called hepatotoxins, the toxicity potential of the drug depends on:

- The chemical composition of the drug itself
- The nature of its reactive metabolite
- The conjugation reactions related to it
- Availability of the drug
- Mitochondrial effects of the drug
- Drug formulation

Not  
important

## How can a drug induce hepatotoxicity?

The drug or its reactive metabolite form either covalent bonds or non-covalent interactions with target molecules

Not  
important

Covalent interactions (Irreversible)	
Binding to protein →	Immunogenic reaction
Binding to DNA →	Carcinogenesis
Non-covalent interactions	
Lipid peroxidation →	Formation of cytotoxic oxygen radicals which impairs mitochondrial function
Depletion of GSH reactions →	Oxidative stress
Modification of Sulfhydryl groups →	Impair of Ca <sup>2+</sup> hemostasis which results in inhibition of protein synthesis

## Do Hepatotoxins cause liver disease in all persons?

For reasons not completely understood, they only cause liver disease in some persons. It is believed that the underlying metabolic state of the liver plays an important role. This metabolic state is a reflection of a person's environmental host factors and genetic makeup.

**Intrinsic Hepatotoxin:** Supertherapeutic dose, it inflicts direct dose dependent hepatotoxicity.

Belongs to Type A (Predictable/Direct) ADR.

Dr.Omnia said you have only to memorize **Drugs in Red**

Hepatotoxins		
Intrinsic		
Dose-dependent (Increased dose)	Cumulative	Mixed
Acetaminophens(paracetamol)	Amiodarone	Alcohol
Statins	Oral contraceptives	Methotrexate
Salicylates		

**Idiosyncratic Hepatotoxin:** Normal dose of the drug, inflicts indirect dose independent hepatotoxicity.  
 Belongs to type B (Unpredictable/Bizzar) ADR. **appear with a therapeutic dose**

Hepatotoxins			
Idiosyncratic			
Immunoallergic (Hypersensitivity)		Metabolic	
Target the biliary system which leads to the accumulation of bile in the liver	Target the hepatocytes causing viral hepatitis-like pattern	Interfere with bilirubin metabolism	Interfere with protein synthesis
Inflammatory Cholestasis	Viral hepatitis-like pattern		
Chlorpromazine	Isoniazide anti TB	Erythromycin	Corticosteroids
Chlorpropamide	Phenytoin anti epileptic	Rifampicin anti TB	Tetracycline
Erythromycin	Methyldopa anti hypertension		

**N.B. The bile itself is injurious to the liver in addition to the toxic effect of the drug itself.**

## INCIDENCE of DIHI:

10% of all cases of hepatitis → young adults  
40% of cases → older than 50.

People are divided according to their susceptibility to DIHI into:

- **Tolerators** → No injury
- **Adaptors** → Mild transient injury but adapt (slight increase in liver enzymes but no symptoms)
- **Susceptibles** → Develop overt symptoms depending on existing predisposing factors (can be managed)
- **In Threat**; DIHI accelerates beyond initial targets due to → loss of synthetic & clearance function of hepatocyte

Individual drugs tend to have CHARACTERISTIC SIGNATURE depending on 3 things:

1) A particular latency period

((Short {hrs-dys} ,,, Intermediate {1-8 wks} ,,, Long { 4-12 mths})))

2) A clinical pattern

(( Asymptomatic ,,, Symptomatic injury to {1-hepatocytes, 2- biliary, 3- both} )))

3) A particular histo-pathological pattern (not required - for further knowledge)



# 1) latency period

important

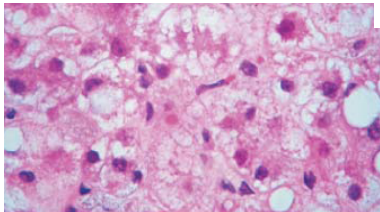
Latency period	How:		Examples
Short (hrs-dys)	Direct <u>dose-dependent</u> Hepatotoxicity	occurs after a threshold of toxicity is reached	<i>Acetaminophen, Paracetamol (toxic dose)</i>
Intermediate (1-8 wks)	Direct <u>cumulative</u> OR Indirect <u>Immunoallergic Idiosyncratic</u> Hepatotoxicity	may continue to evoke even after drug withdrawal	<i>amiodarone (cumulative) / phenytoin, isoniazid (idiosyncratic)</i>
Long (1-12 mths)	Indirect <u>Metabolic Idiosyncratic</u> Hepatotoxicity	Unpredictable most problematic	<i>tetracyclines, oral contraceptives</i>

# 2) histo-pathological pattern

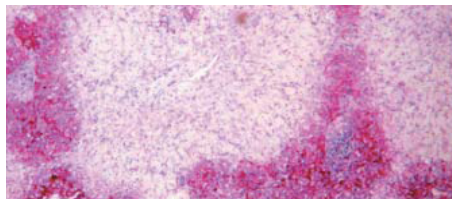
Not required

No universal histo-pathological pattern of DIHI exist. The commonest are: **Hepatocellular necrosis, Cholestasis & Steatosis** (Any one agent may produce different types of injury in different patients)

Ballooning & degeneration of hepatocyte



Centrilobular & midzonal necrosis



Cholstatic injury with damaged bile duct



Fatty accumulation



### 3) Clinical Patterns

important

The clinical presentation could be of variable intensity, ranging from asymptomatic ↑ of liver enzymes → fulminant hepatic failure

#### Some PATTERNS of **ASYMPTOMATIC** drug-induced liver disease

ALT(asymptomatic aminotranferases)

≥ 2 fold rise.

Examples:

**Phenytoin, Statins, Sulfonamides, Sulfonylureas**

#### Some PATTERNS of **SYMPTOMATIC** drug-induced liver disease

Hepatic injury

Hepatocellular(apoptosis or necrosis)>> cytotoxic

Cholestatic(canalicular or ductal)

Mixed

**Flu-like, malaise, anorexia** muscle aches weakness, **loss of appetite**, GIT symptoms, diarrhea, **jaundice**, urine discolored,

**Jaundice**. Yellowish discoloration of skin, dark urine, rash, **pruritus**, stool may be light. There is hyperbilirubinemia.

Target both hepatocytes and biliray system

ALT

≥ 3 fold rise

Normal or slight

≥ 3 fold rise

ALP

Normal

≥ 2 fold rise

≥ 2 fold rise

Examples

**Acetaminophen**  
**NSAIDs**  
**Isoniazid**  
**Amiodarone**

**Chlorpropamide**  
**Erythromycin**  
**Rifamycin**  
**Oral contraceptives**

**Phenytoin**  
**Carbamazepine**  
**Sulfonamides**  
**ACE Inhibitors**



**Case 2.** A hypercholesterolemic patient was received in E.R complaining of **yellowish discoloration of skin, change in color of urine & stools,** and **severe itching**

He has been for long receiving statins for the hypercholesterolemia. Three month ago he was diagnosed as being diabetic and hypertensive and since then he is receiving Chlorpropamide for the diabetes and nadolol for the hypertension. The last couple of days he had a flue; for which he was given acetaminophen for muscle aches and nasal drops for his nasal stuffiness.

Lab investigations shows severe **elevation in ALP and no significant elevation in ALT.**

= Cholestatic

Which one of the following drug is the likely cause of his symptoms?

- a. Nadolol   **b. Chlorpropamide** ( see schedule slide 4)   c. Acetaminophen   d. Statins

Which type of hepatotoxin it is considered?

Indirect hepatotoxin (immunoallergic idiosyncratic hepatotoxicity)

What is the hepatotoxic pattern inflicted by the drug?

Symptomatic pattern (Inflammatory Cholestasis )

# How is DILI diagnosed?

DILI is most often diagnosis by

*A] Thorough history*

Not  
important

*B] Exclusion of;*

- ✚ Viral hepatitis
- ✚ Autoimmune disorders
- ✚ Alcohol intake
- ✚ Metabolic and genetic disorders
- ✚ Hemodynamic dysfunction
- ✚ Billiary abnormalities.

*C] Perform of relevant investigations as;*

- ✚ Liver enzymes; **ALT, ALP**
- ✚ Ultrasonography, CT scan, MRI
- ✚ Biopsy.....etc

***N.B. Early recognition is essential to minimize injury***

**Case 2.** A hypercholesterolemic patient was received in E.R complaining of **yellowish discoloration of skin, change in color of urine & stools**, and He has been for long receiving **statins** for the hypercholesterolemia. Three month ago he was diagnosed as being diabetic and hypertensive and since then he is receiving **Chlorpropamide** for the diabetes and **nadolol** for the hypertension. The last couple of days he had a flue; for which he was given **acetaminophen** for muscle aches and nasal drops for his nasal stuffiness. Lab investigations shows severe **elevation in ALP and no significant elevation in ALT.**

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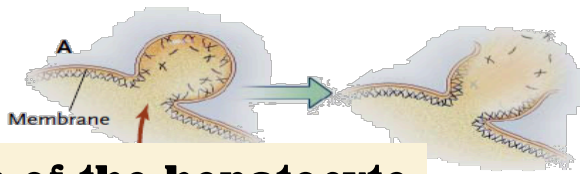
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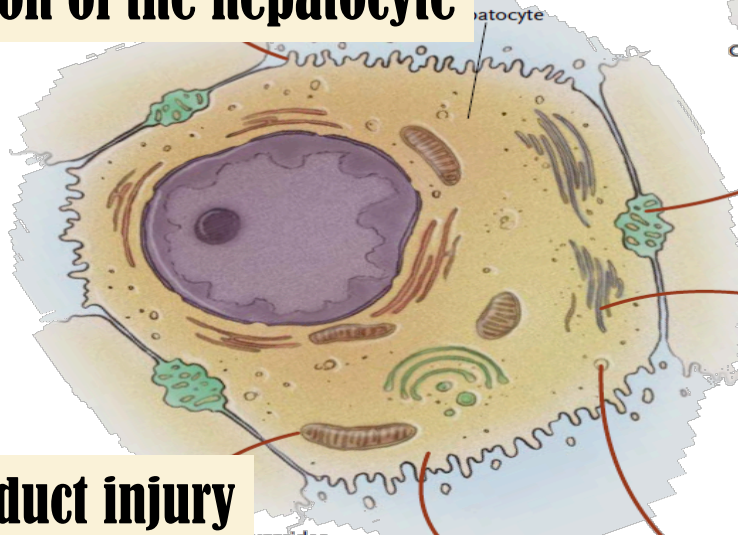
## lines of treatment

1) Immediate withdrawal	of any suspected drug		
2) No specific treatment	<u>Symptomatic</u>	If <u>severe allergic reaction</u>	Corticosteroids (in hepatotoxic)
		If <u>pruritus</u> → enhance bile acid excretion	Cholestyramine (anti histaminic wont work)
		If <u>cholestatic liver injury</u>	Ursodeoxycholic acid (Ursodiol) decreases inflam in bile duct
		If <u>coagulopathy or encephalopathy</u> develop	<u>treat accordingly</u>
	<u>Supportive</u>	High carbohydrate, moderate protein diet adequate in calories	
3) Specific antidotes	<u>N-acetylcysteine</u> →	<u>acetaminophen</u> toxicity (NABQI antidote)	
	<u>L-carnitine</u> →	<u>valproate</u> toxicity	
4) Emergency liver transplantation	for drug induced fulminant hepatic failure		

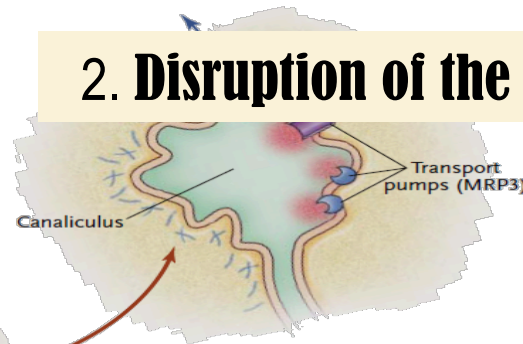
# What are the pathophysiological consequences of hepatotoxins?



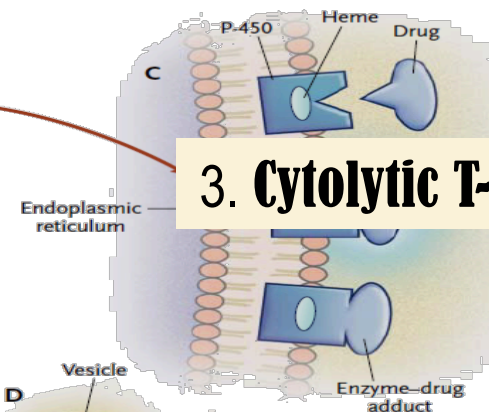
## 1. Disruption of the hepatocyte



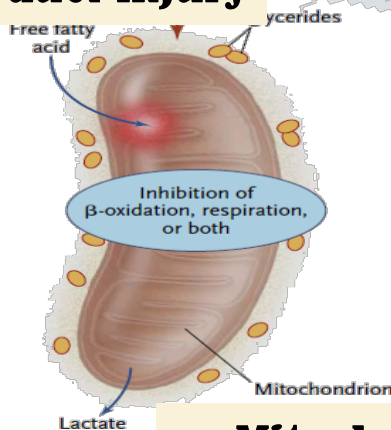
## 2. Disruption of the transport proteins



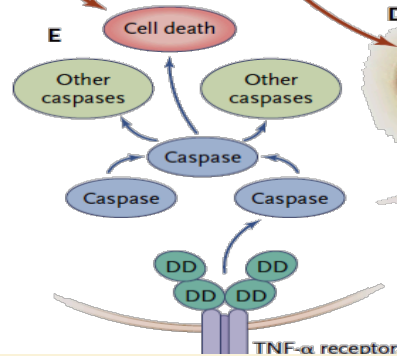
## 3. Cytolytic T-cell activation



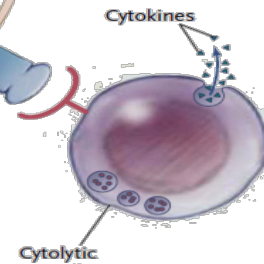
## 6. Bile duct injury



## 5. Mitochondrial disruption



## 4. Apoptosis of hepatocytes



Not important



# What are the pathophysiological consequences of hepatotoxins?

- 1. Disruption of the hepatocyte:** Binding → ↓ ATP & alter Ca homostasis → cytoskeletal disruption → membrane blebs & rupture → cell lysis
- 2. Disruption of transport :** Same changes → at canalicular membrane → alter transporter & pumps → interrupt bile flow → cholestasis.
- 3. Cytolytic T-cell activation:** Covalent binding of a drug to the P-450 enzyme acts as an immunogen, activating T cells and cytokines and stimulating a multifaceted immune response.
- 4. Apoptosis of hepatocytes:** Immune reaction → ↑ TNF- $\alpha$  → activate Fas apoptotic pathways → caspases → apoptosis
- 5. Mitochondrial disruption:** Binding → ↓  $\beta$ -oxidation or respiration → activate mitochondrial apoptotic cascade → apoptosis
- 6. Bile duct injury:** Toxic metabolites excreted in bile → injury of bile duct epithelium (cholangitis)

Not  
important

<b>SIGNATURE DISEASE</b>	<b>DRUGS CAUSING THE FEATURE</b>
<b>Zonal necrosis</b>	<b>Acetaminophen</b>
<b>Hepatitis; Viral-like (Immunoallergic) (Metabolic )  Focal  Chronic</b>	<b>Phenytoin, Sulfonamides, Halothane Isoniazid Salicylates &amp; NSAIDs <math>\alpha</math> - Methyldopa,</b>
<b>Cholestasis; Bland Cholestatic hepatitis Ductal</b>	<b>O. contraceptives, Androgens, Steroid Carbamazepine, Erythromycin Chlorpromazine, Chlorpromamide</b>
<b>Steatosis; Microvesicular steatosis Macrovesicular steatohepatitis Phospholipidosis</b>	<b>Valproic a., Tetracyclines, NSAIDs Acetaminophen, Methotrexate Amidarone, Tamoxifen</b>
<b>Granuloma formation</b>	<b>Sulfonylurea, Isoniazid, Phenytoin</b>
<b>Vascular; Veno-occlusive Hepatic vein thrombosis</b>	<b>Cyclophosphamide Oral contraceptive</b>
<b>Fibrosis/Chirrhosis</b>	<b>Methotrexate / Alcohol</b>
<b>Neoplasms</b>	<b>Oral contraceptive, Anabolic steroids</b>

<b>Drugs</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
<b>Phenytoin</b>	Asymptomatic in aminotransferases, Mixed symptomatic, inertmediate period
<b>Carbamazepine</b>	Mixed symptomatic
<b>Sulfonamides</b>	Mixed symptomatic
<b>ACE Inhibitors</b>	Mixed symptomatic
<b>Chlorpropamide</b>	Cholestatic symptomatic, immunoallergic idiosyncratic
<b>Erythromycin</b>	Cholestatic symptomatic, metabolic & immunoallergic idiosyncratic
<b>Rifamycin</b>	Cholestatic symptomatic, Metabolic idiosyncratic
<b>Oral contraceptives</b>	Cholestatic symptomatic, Direct cumulative dose, long period
<b>Acetaminophen</b>	Hepatocellular symptomatic, NABQI toxin, Direct increased dose, short period
<b>NSAIDs</b>	Hepatocellular symptomatic
<b>Isoniazid</b>	Hepatocellular symptomatic, immunoallergic idiosyncratic, inertmediate period
<b>Amiodarone</b>	Hepatocellular symptomatic, Direct cumulative dose, inertmediate period
<b>Statins</b>	Asymptomatic in aminotransferases, Direct increased dose
<b>Corticosteroids</b>	Symptomatic severe allergic reaction, Metabolic idiosyncratic

20 years old patient has joint pain one day he experienced severe pain and he took over dose from The prescribed drug , then he developed Diarrhea, janduce and malaise .. What's the causative drug?

- Phenyton
- Chlorpropamide
- Acetaminophen

Which drug can control the toxicity in the last question?

- L-cartinine
- N-acetylcysteine
- Cholestyramine

- 1/C
- 2/B
- 3/A
- 4/B

Patient came with hemoptysis, weight loss and fever, she was prescribed to take anti TB, but this drug interfered with the bilirubin metabolism and she developed janduce..Which drug is responsible of her symptoms?

- Rifampicin
- Isonazid
- Tetracycline

25 married female developed pruritis, yellowish discoloration of the skin.She said there is only one drug I've been taken for 5 year.. What's the causative drug?

- Amiodarone
- Oral contraceptives

# PHARMACOLOGY



TEAM<sub>432</sub>

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