

**“AN ANALYTICAL STUDY ON NONOPERATIVE
MANAGEMENT OF LIVER INJURY IN BLUNT TRAUMA TO
THE ABDOMEN-A PROSPECTIVE STUDY”**

DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO

THE TAMIL NADU DR.MGR MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, TAMILNADU

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE

DEGREE OF

MASTER OF SURGERY

IN

GENERAL SURGERY



DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SURGERY

GOVERNMENT MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM MEDICAL

COLLEGE HOSPITAL, SALEM

Year : 2017-2020

**GOVERNMENT MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM
MEDICAL COLLEGE, SALEM**



DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

I solemnly declare that this “AN ANALYTICAL STUDY ON NONOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT OF LIVER INJURY IN BLUNT TRAUMA TO THE ABDOMEN-A PROSPECTIVE STUDY” was prepared by me at Government Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College and Hospital, Salem-636030 under the guidance and supervision of **Prof.Dr.P.SUMATHI, M.S., DGO.**, Professor of General Surgery, Govt. Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College and Hospital, Salem. This dissertation is submitted to the Tamilnadu Dr.M.G.R Medical University, Chennai-38 in fulfilment of the University regulations for the award of the degree of M.S. General Surgery (Branch I).

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Signature of the Candidate

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Place : Salem

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ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

FINDINGS



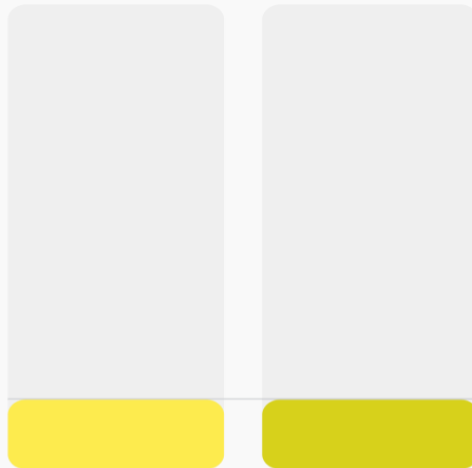
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I am extremely thankful to **Prof.Dr.THIRUMAL BABU, M.D.,DM.**, Dean, Govt. Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College and Hospital, Salem for allowing me to utilize the hospital facilities for doing this work.

I am also thankful to **Prof.Dr.P.V.DHANAPAL, M.S.**, Medical Superintendent, Govt.Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College Hospital, Salem for his whole hearted support and encouragement for the completion of this dissertation.

I express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to **Prof.Dr.C.RAJASEKARAN,M.S.**, Head of the Department of General Surgery and **Prof.Dr.P.SUMATHI,M.S.,DGO.**, Unit Chief, Guide for giving me inspiration, valuable guidance and his unstinting help in completing the course and preparing this dissertation.

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Prof.Dr.G.RAJASHOK,M.S., Prof.Dr.M.RAJASEKAR,,M.S., for their advice and kind help.

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Dr.GANGANESAMY,M.S., Dr.S.PRASAD,M.S., who helped and guided me in many aspects of this study.

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I cordinally thank my parents and wife who have always been there with me whenever I needed their help and cooperation.

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The second most common cause of hospital admission is attributed to trauma which is approximately 16% of the healthcare costs incurred globally. A rough estimates by the World Health Organisation, trauma would become the leading cause of loss of productive years by 2020¹. An estimate state that around 31% of the patients with poly trauma have abdominal injuries including 13% of spleen injuries and 16% of liver injuries^{2,3}. The most common cause of death in abdominal injuries is liver injury. Around 50%-80% of the liver bleeding cease spontaneously and with better non-management practices, diagnostic capabilities and emergency care management, the mortality rate has decreased^{4,5}.

Weighing an average of 1.5 kg, liver is the largest gland in the body and the second largest organ in the body. It is anatomically located under the diaphragm in the region of the right upper abdomen and mid abdomen extending up to the left upper abdomen. It is wedge shaped with the apex to the left and the base to the right, pinkish in colour and soft in consistency with high vascularity²⁴. The most commonly followed terminology for liver anatomy and resections is by the International Hepto-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA).

The liver has two lobes, the right and the left that is separated by the falciform ligament. But surgically, Cantlie's line divides the liver into right and left lobes of

almost equal sizes. This line runs from the gall bladder fossa to the IVC fossa. This division is by the arterial supply and the portal vein. The Cantlie's line contains the middle hepatic vein.

In the intrauterine life, at the junction of foregut and midgut, a ventral diverticulum grows out as the ventral mesogastrium. The caudal part of this mesogastrium forms the septum transversum while the cranial part forms the diaphragm. This diverticulum also forms the bile ducts and gall bladder. The obliterated umbilical vein forms the ligamentum teres hepatis that joins the left portal vein. The obliterated ductus venosus forms the ligamentum venosum that connects the left portal vein and left hepatic vein.

At the left fifth intercostal space, the upper surface of the liver can be percussed. The following surfaces are continuous; right, superior, posterior and anterior. These surfaces are in relation to the anterior abdominal wall and the diaphragm. The anterior surface is demarcated from the visceral surface by the presence of a sharp inferior border. This border is clinically palpable when the patient is in deep inspiration. The inferior surface is related to the following;

Hepatic flexure, Right kidney, Transverse colon, Duodenum and Stomach

The under surface of the liver is in relation to the gall bladder.

The inferior surface of the liver contains a fissure that is in the shape of H.

There is an H-shaped fissure on the inferior surface of the liver. The right vertical arm of the H is formed by the gallbladder anteriorly and the inferior vena cava (IVC) posteriorly; it is incomplete, with the caudate process between the two. The left vertical arm of the H is formed by the ligamentum teres hepatis in front and the ligamentum venosum behind.

The liver surface has the serosal covering and contains the Glisson capsule under it.

Liver contains large-diameter capillaries that contains the endothelial cells and hepatocytes. They contain the Kupffer cells of the RES (**reticuloendothelial system**).

An hexagonal lobule of the liver contains the following;

central portal tract, branches of the hepatic artery, the portal vein

bile ducts, and peripheral tributary of the hepatic vein

Bile canaliculi between hepatocytes drain into bile ductules in the portal triad. Bile ductules then form several orders of intrahepatic bile ducts, in an arrangement resembling the twigs and branches of a tree.

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The trend from operative management has shifted towards conservative management in liver injuries⁶⁻¹². Previous studies report the cessation of bleeding by the time of operation¹³. Non-therapeutic operative procedures are correlated with morbidity¹⁴. The utilisation of CT scan has enabled the improved selection of patients for non-operative management¹⁵. Today, the non-operative management has become the prime treatment of choice for blunt liver trauma.

The non-operative management is the opted only in hemodynamically stable patients who do not have any danger signs or any indications for laparotomy. Even

in case of laparotomy, the procedures have become less extensive¹⁶. In few cases, instead of surgery, selective embolization is preferred and experimented with success¹⁷.

The surgical management is reserved for patients where the injuries are extensive and non-operative management is not feasible^{18, 19}. If non-operative management fails in a small center, patients should be referred to higher centers^{20,21}.

There are not many reports from smaller centers on non-operative management of liver traumas. Sweden has a low incidence of abdominal trauma and has a high success rate of non-operative management of liver surgeries^{22,23}.

**REVIEW
OF LITERATURE**

Review of Literature

Weighing an average of 1.5 kg, liver is the largest gland in the body and the second largest organ in the body. It is anatomically located under the diaphragm in the region of the right upper abdomen and mid abdomen extending up to the left upper abdomen. It is wedge shaped with the apex to the left and the base to the right, pinkish in colour and soft in consistency with high vascularity²⁴. The most commonly followed terminology for liver anatomy and resections is by the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA).

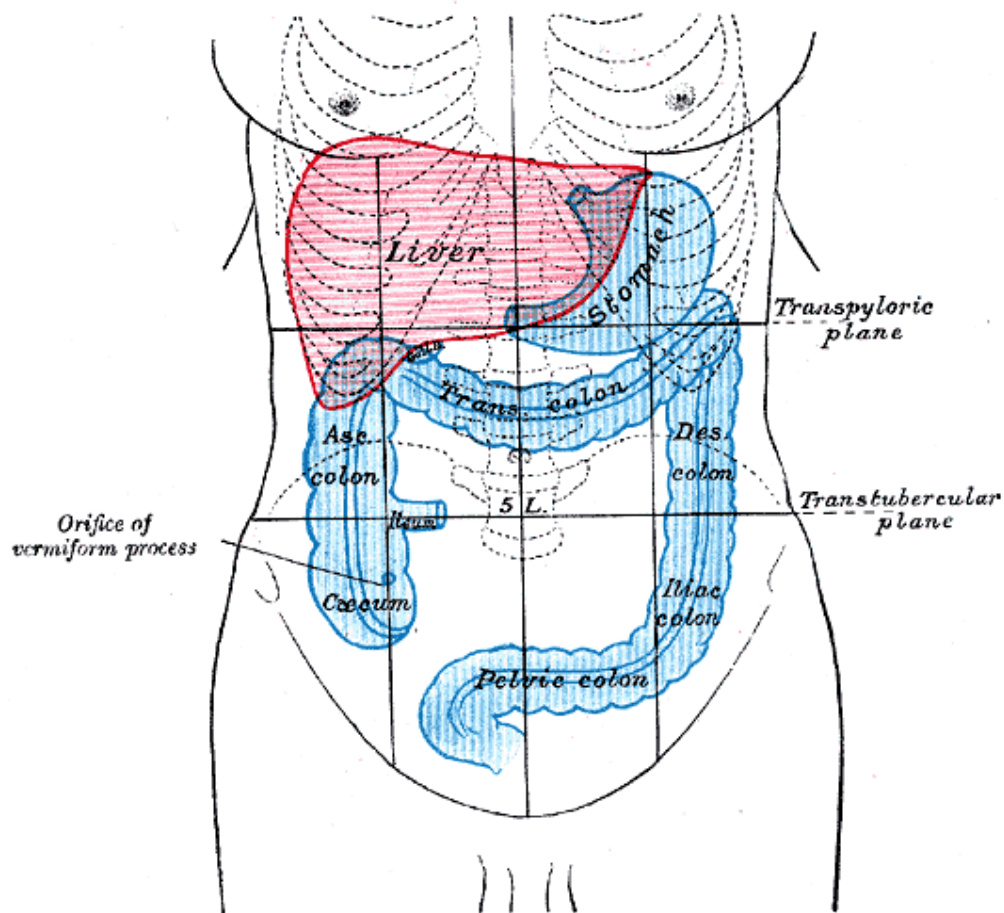


Image 1: Surface anatomy of liver

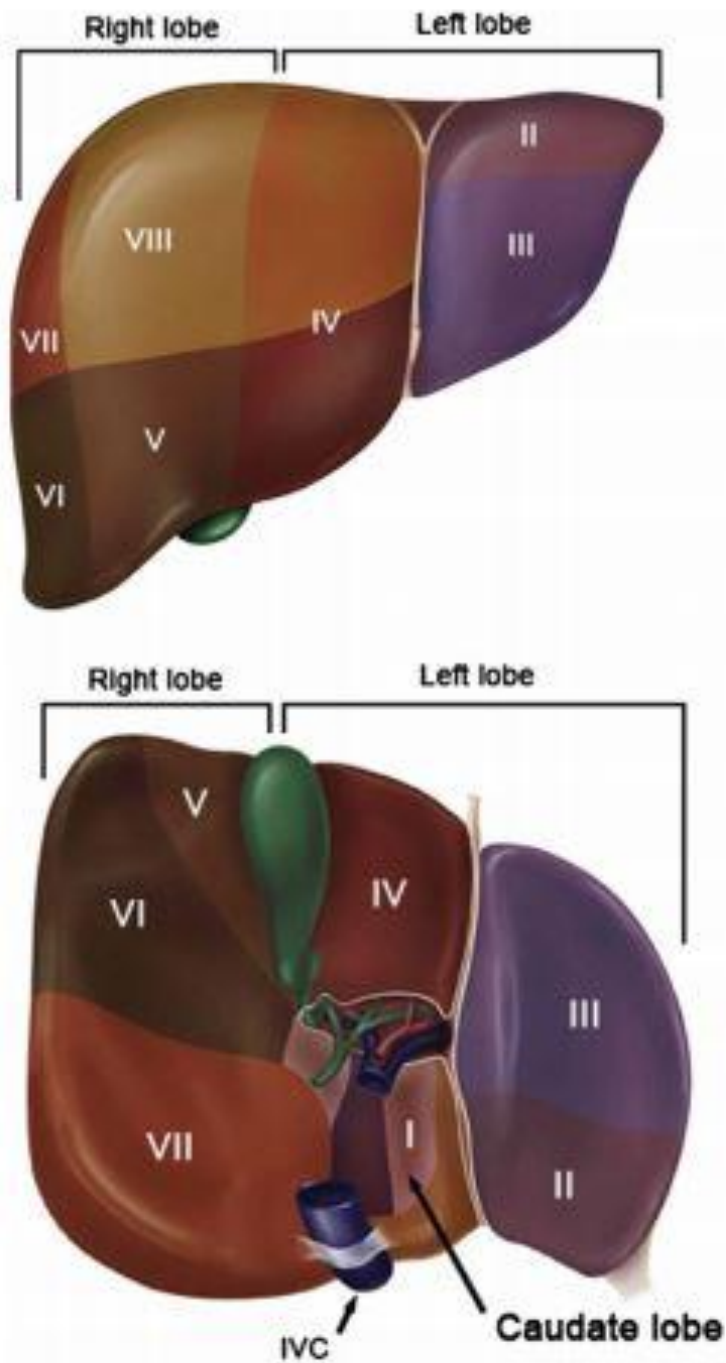


Fig. 1. Anterior and posterior surfaces of liver illustrating functional division of the liver into left and right hepatic lobes with Couinaud's segmental classification based on functional anatomy. *From Brunnicardi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, et al. Schwartz's principles of surgery. 9th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishing; 2010. p. 31-3; with permission.*

Gross anatomy of the liver²⁵

In the intrauterine life, at the junction of foregut and midgut, a ventral diverticulum grows out as the ventral mesogastrium. The caudal part of this mesogastrium forms the septum transversum while the cranial part forms the diaphragm. This diverticulum also forms the bile ducts and gall bladder. The obliterated umbilical vein forms the ligamentum teres hepatis that joins the left portal vein. The obliterated ductus venosus forms the ligamentum venosum that connects the left portal vein and left hepatic vein.

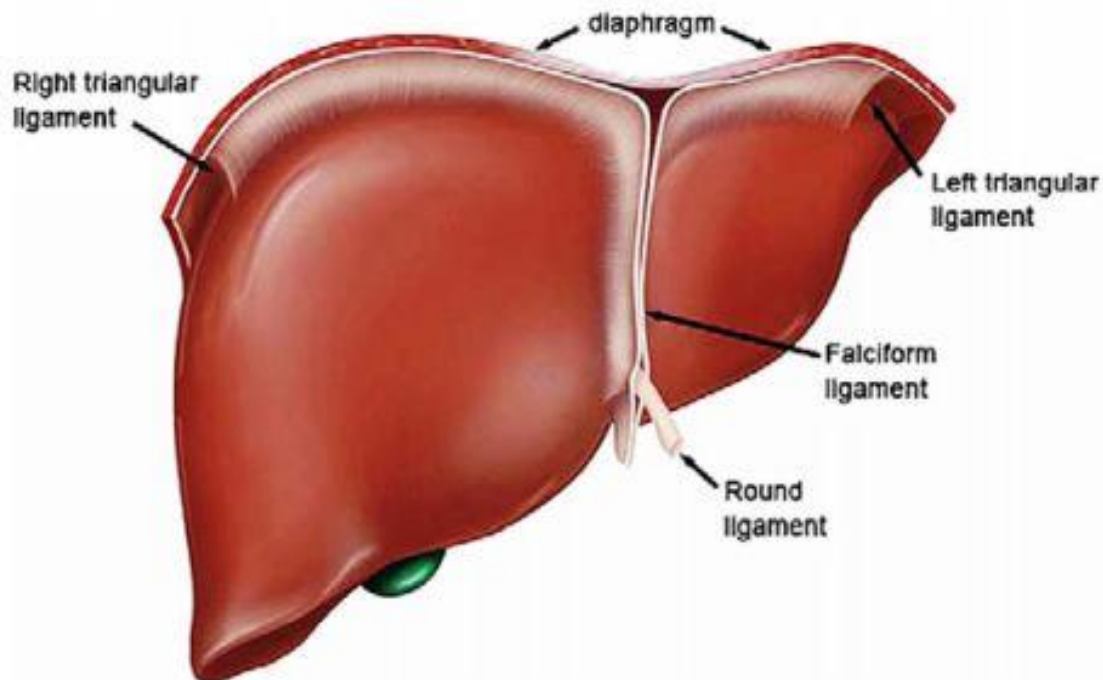


Fig. 2. Ligamentous attachments of the liver. *From Brunicaudi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, et al. Schwartz's principles of surgery. 9th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishing; 2010. p. 31-2; with permission.*

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- b) Right kidney
- c) Transverse colon
- d) Duodenum
- e) Stomach

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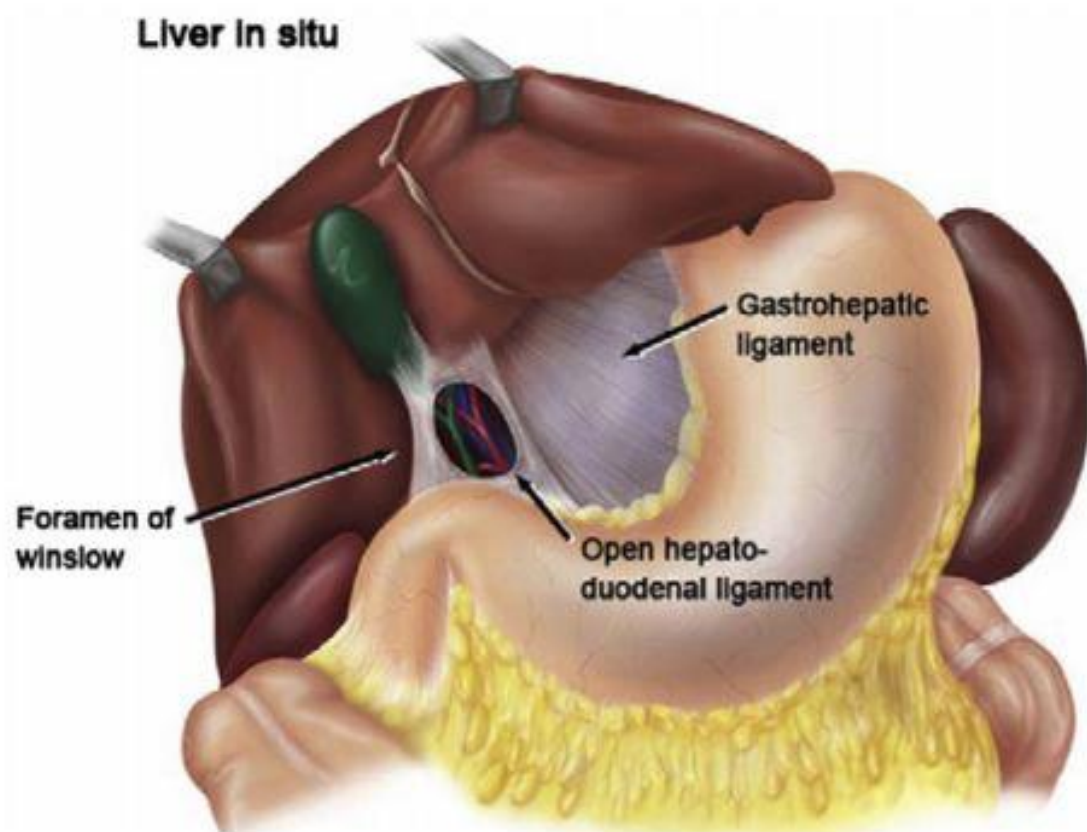


Fig. 3. Association of stomach, porta hepatis, and hepatic flexure to the Liver. *From Brunicaudi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, et al. Schwartz's principles of surgery. 9th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishing; 2010. p. 31-3; with permission.*

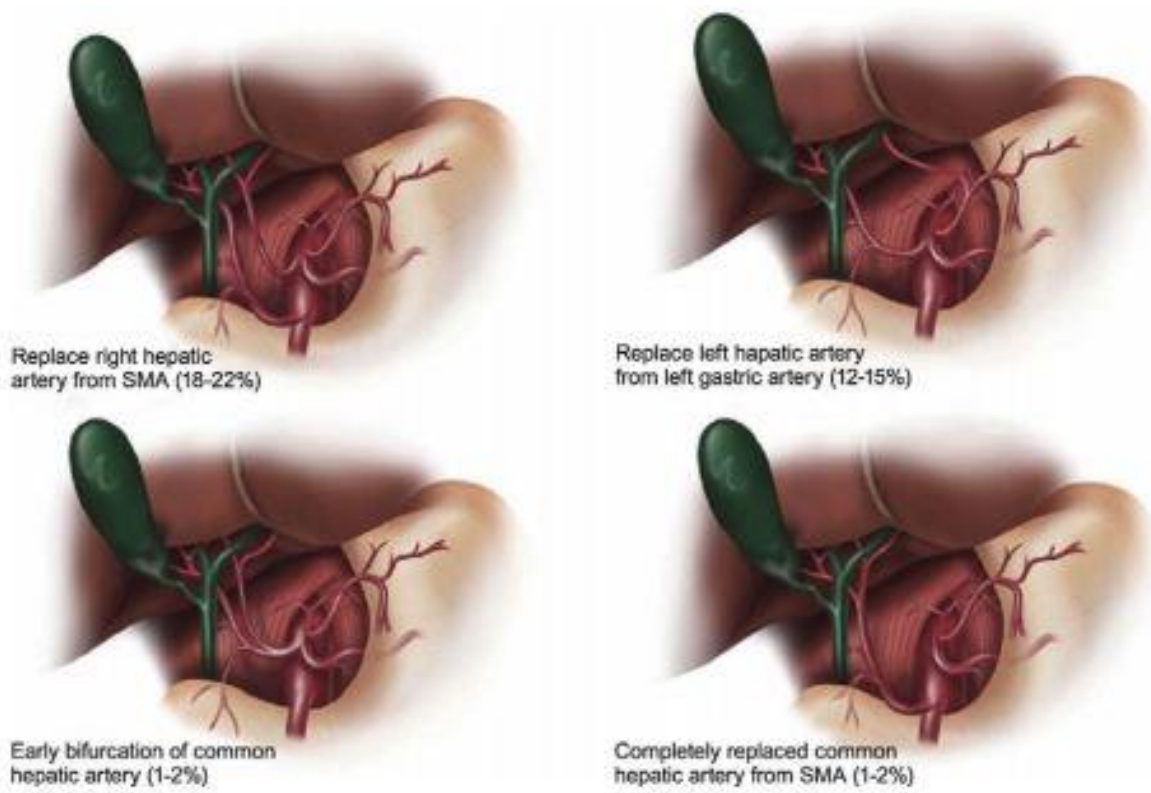


Fig. 5.
 Common variations of hepatic vasculature. *From Brunicaudi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, et al. Schwartz's principles of surgery. 9th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishing. p. 31-4; 2010.*

Anatomic Divisions

The liver has two lobes, the right and the left that is separated by the falciform ligament. But surgically, Cantlie's line divides the liver into right and left lobes of almost equal sizes. This line runs from the gall bladder fossa to the IVC fossa. This division is by the arterial supply and the portal vein. The Cantlie's line contains the middle hepatic vein.

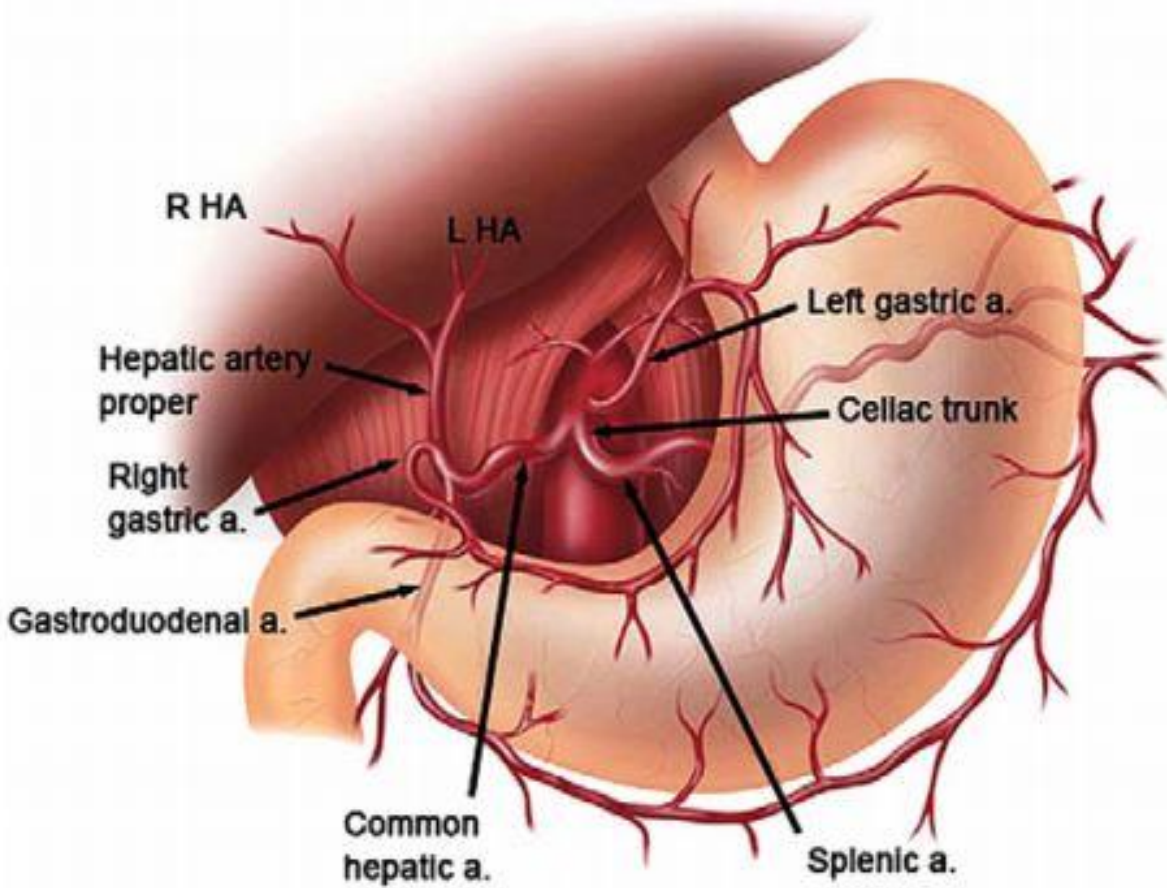


Fig. 4.
Common hepatic arterial configuration. HA, hepatic artery. *From Brunicaudi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, et al. Schwartz's principles of surgery. 9th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishing; 2010. p. 31-4; with permission.*

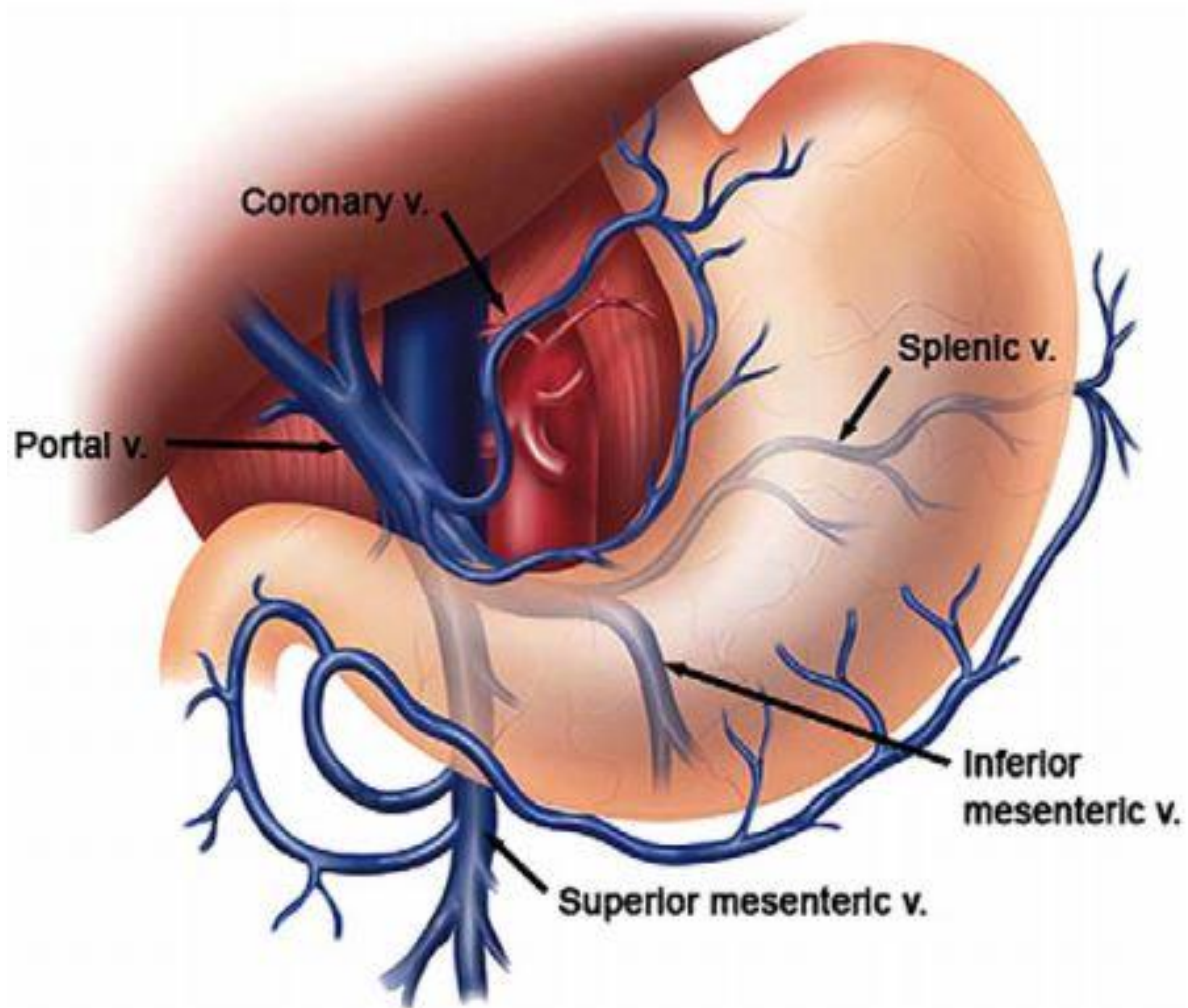


Fig. 6. Portal vein and the hepatic venous vasculature inflow. *From* Brunicaudi FC, Andersen DK, Billiar TR, et al. *Schwartz's principles of surgery*. 9th edition; McGraw-Hill Publishing. p. 31-5; 2010.

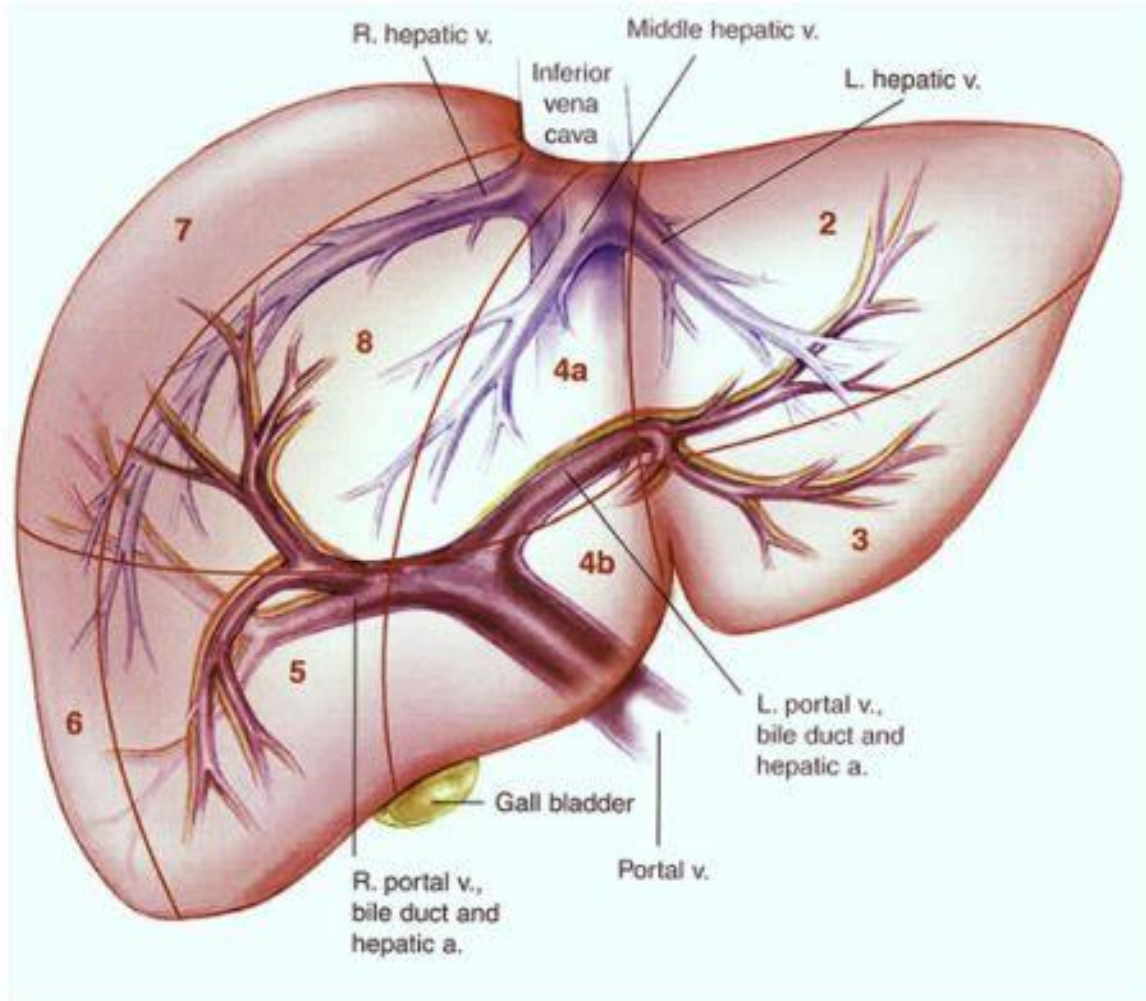


Fig. 7.
 Intrahepatic vascular and biliary anatomy, anterior view. Adapted from Cameron JL,
 Sandone C. Atlas of gastrointestinal surgery, vol. 1. 2nd edition. Hamilton (ON): BC
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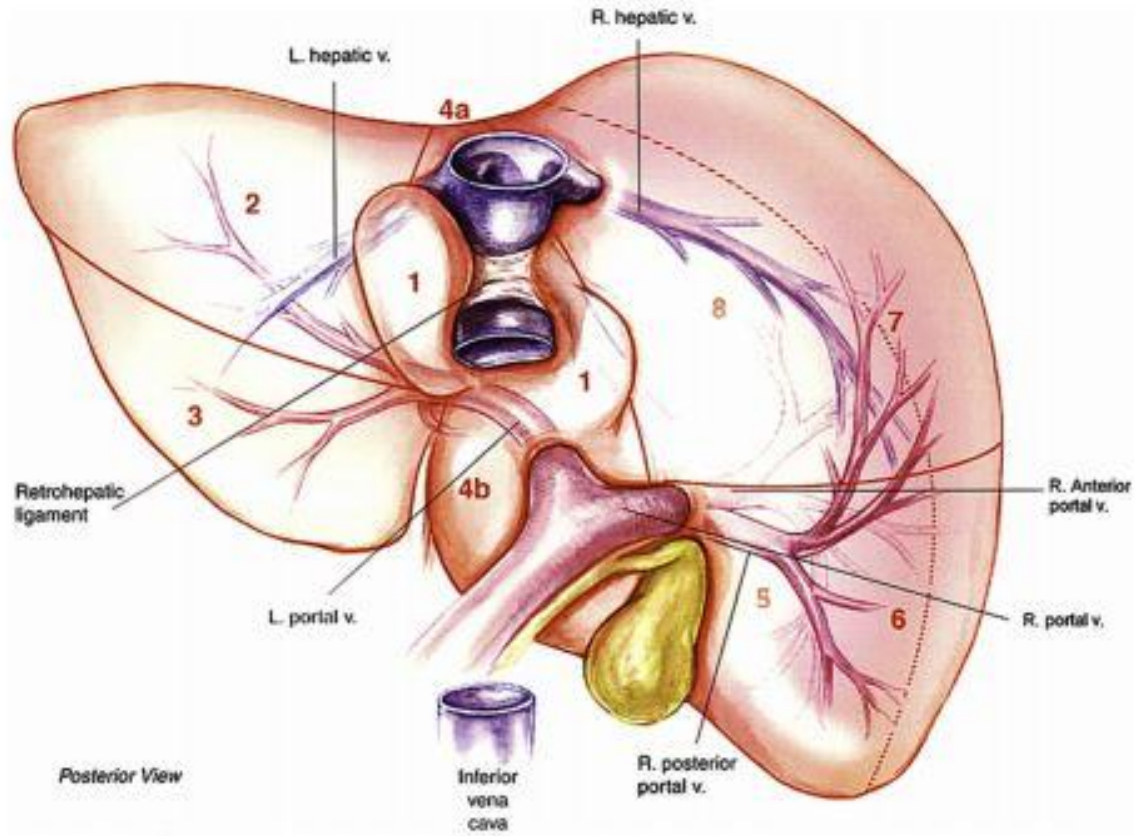


Fig. 8. Intrahepatic vascular and biliary anatomy, posterior view. Adapted from Cameron JL, Sandone C. Atlas of gastrointestinal surgery, vol. 1. 2nd edition. Hamilton (ON): BC Decker; 2007. p. 124 [Fig. 2]; the People's Medical Publishing House—USA, Shelton, CT; with permission.

Microscopic Anatomy

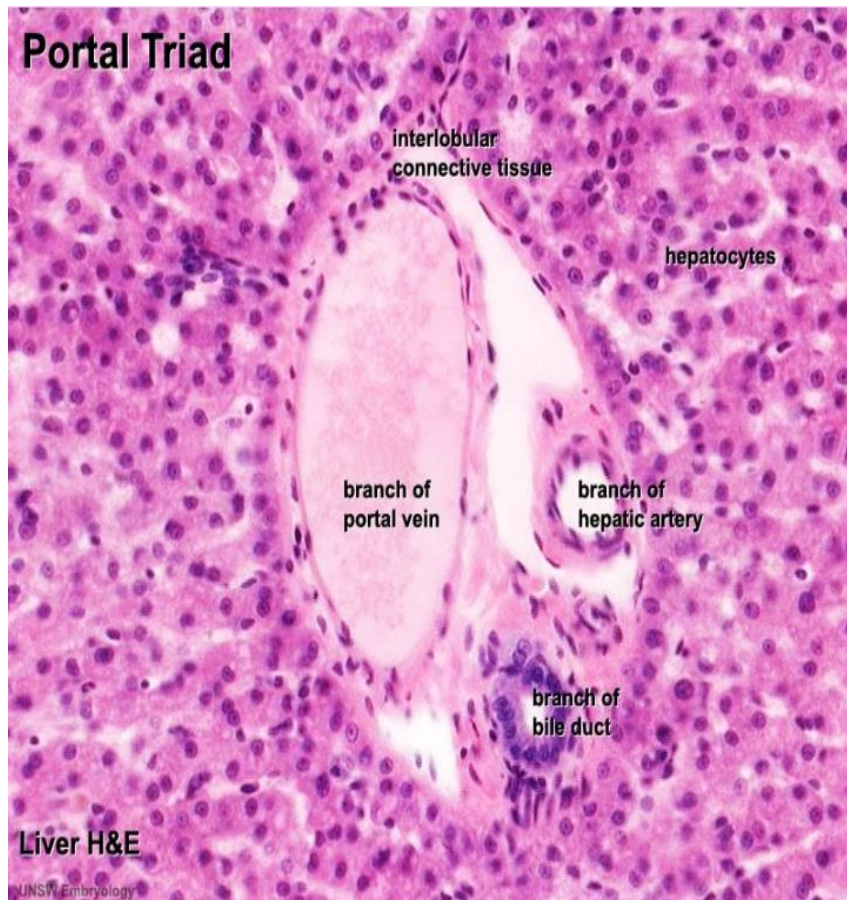
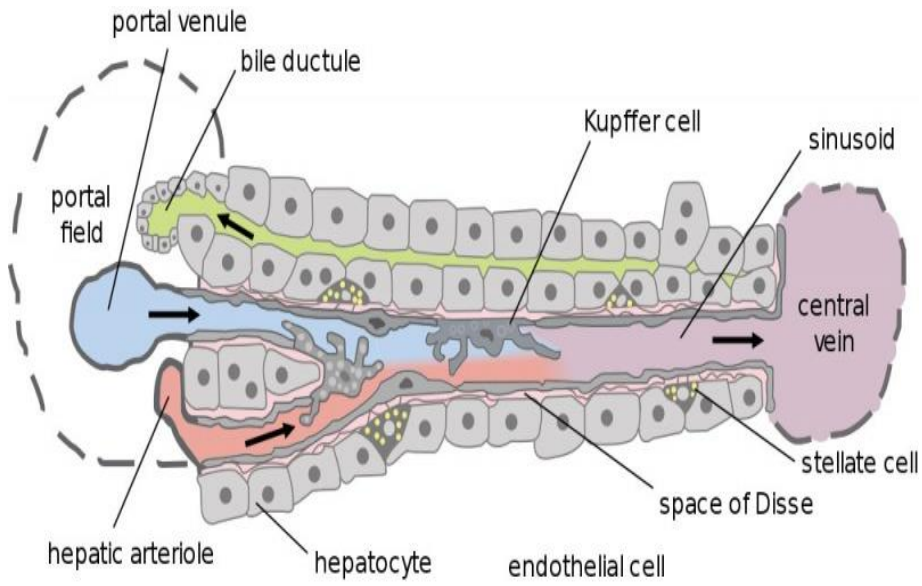
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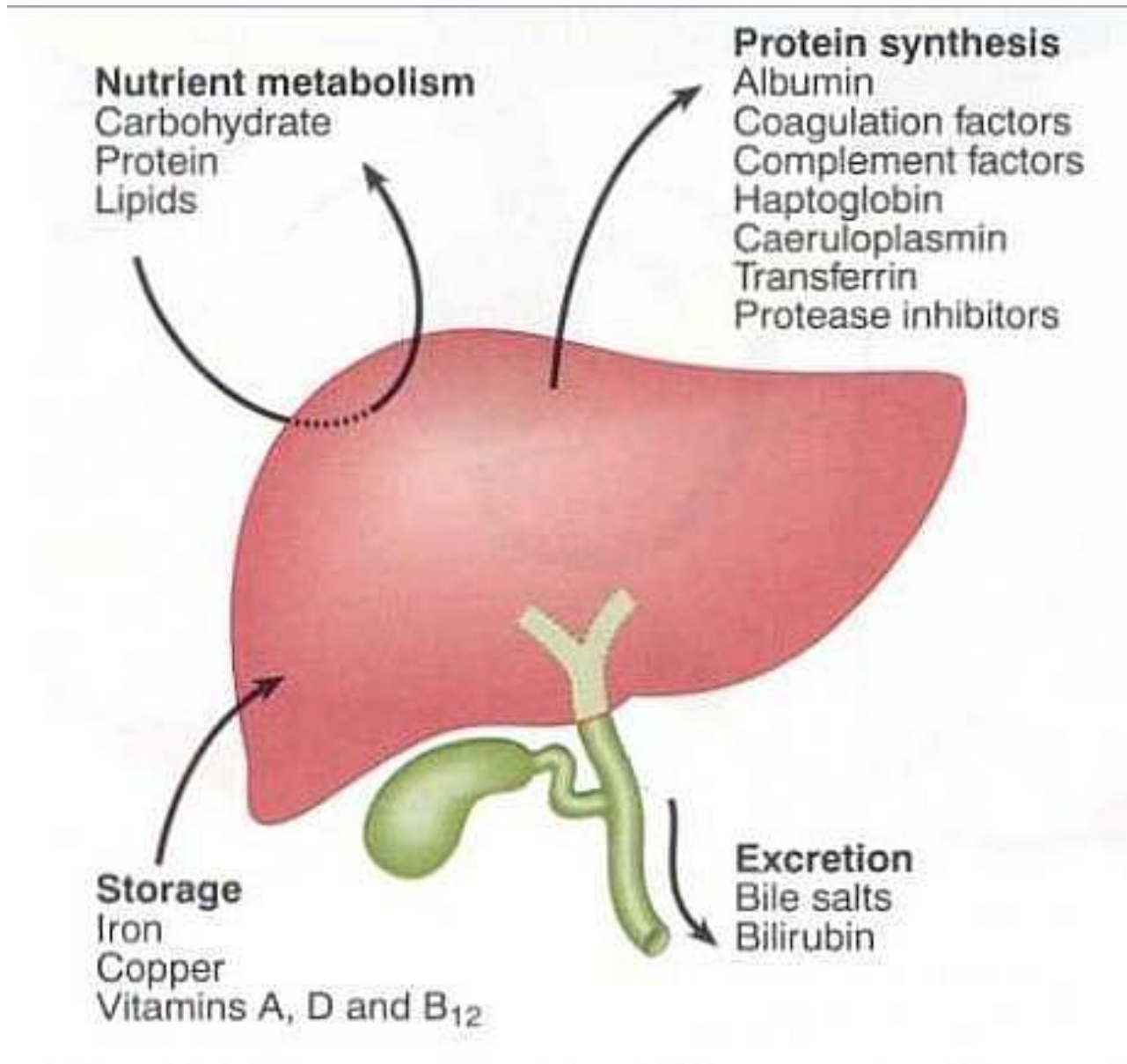
- central portal tract
- branches of the hepatic artery
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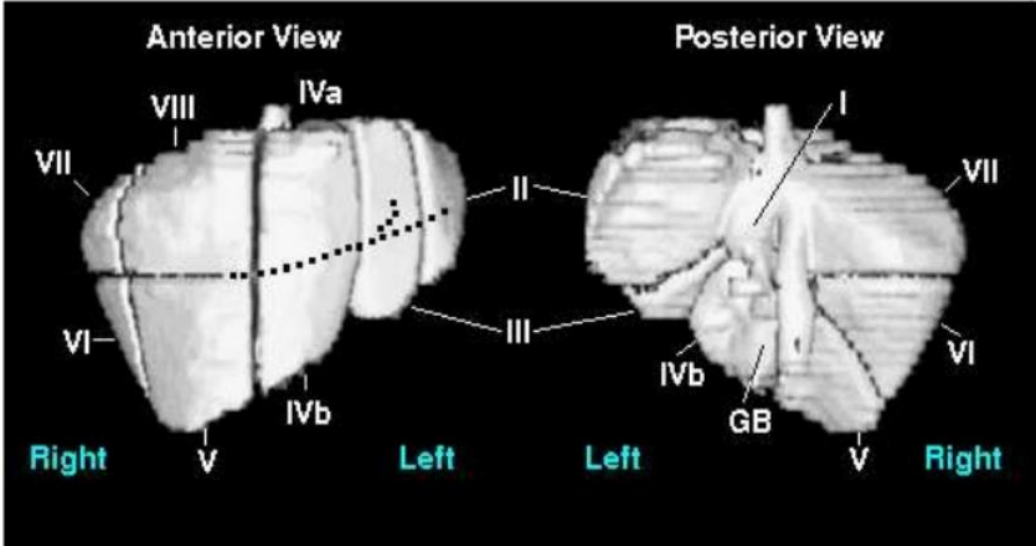
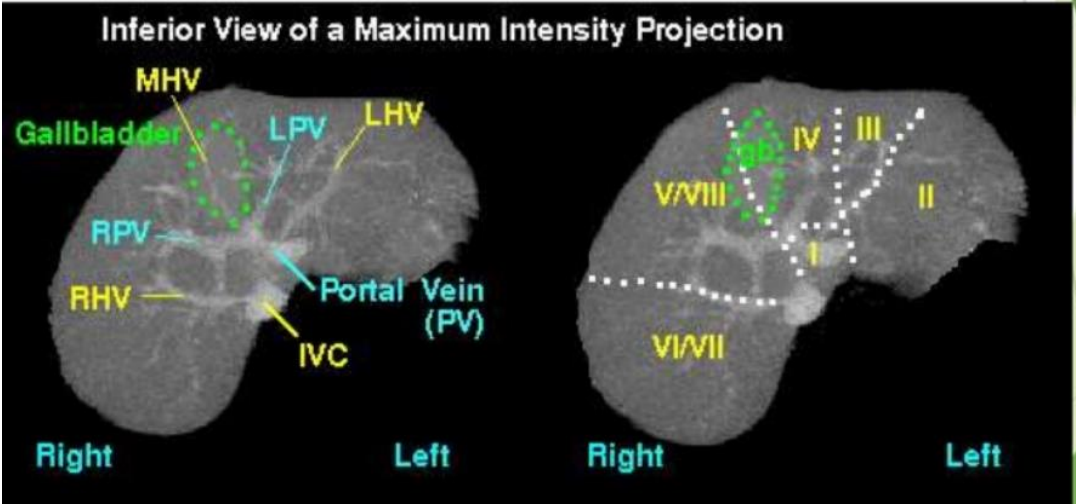


Physiology of the liver

The liver performs a range of functions that can be summarised under protein synthesis, nutrient metabolism, storage and excretion.



Radiological anatomy of the liver



Blunt injury of the abdomen²⁶⁻⁴³

The second most common cause of hospital admission is attributed to trauma which is approximately 16% of the healthcare costs incurred globally. A rough estimates by the World Health Organisation, trauma would become the leading cause of loss of productive years by 2020. An estimate state that around 31% of the patients with poly trauma have abdominal injuries including 13% of spleen injuries and 16% of liver injuries. The most common cause of death in abdominal injuries is liver injury. Around 50%-80% of the liver bleeding cease spontaneously and with better non-management practices, diagnostic capabilities and emergency care management, the mortality rate has decreased.

The trend from operative management has shifted towards conservative management in liver injuries. Previous studies report the cessation of bleeding by the time of operation. Non-therapeutic operative procedures are correlated with morbidity. The utilisation of CT scan has enabled the improved selection of patients for non-operative management. Today, the non-operative management has become the prime treatment of choice for blunt liver trauma.

The non-operative management is the opted only in hemodynamically stable patients who do not have any danger signs or any indications for laparotomy. Even in case of laparotomy, the procedures have become less extensive¹⁶. In few cases,

instead of surgery, selective embolization is preferred and experimented with success.

Grading of liver injuries

The following table shows the grading of liver injury⁴⁴.

Table 1

Grading of liver injury based on American Association of Surgery for trauma (AAST)[19]

Grade	Type	Injury description
I	Hematoma	Subcapsular, nonexpanding, <10 cm surface area
	Laceration	Capsular tear, nonbleeding, <1 cm parenchymal depth
II	Hematoma	Subcapsular, nonexpanding, 10–50% surface area; intraparenchymal nonexpanding <10 cm diameter
	Laceration	Capsular tear, active bleeding, 1–3 cm parenchymal depth <10 cm in length
III	Hematoma	Subcapsular, >50% surface area or expanding; ruptured subcapsular hematoma with active bleeding; intraparenchymal hematoma >10 cm or expanding
	Laceration	>3 cm parenchymal depth
IV	Hematoma	Ruptured intraparenchymal hematoma with active bleeding
	Laceration	Parenchymal disruption involving 25–75% of hepatic lobe or one to three Couinaud's segments within a single lobe
V	Laceration	Parenchymal disruption involving >75% of hepatic lobe or >3 Couinaud's segments within a single lobe
	Vascular	Juxtahepatic venous injuries (i.e., retrohepatic vena cava/central major hepatic veins)
VI	Vascular	Hepatic avulsion

The surgical management is reserved for patients where the injuries are extensive and non-operative management is not feasible. If non-operative management fails in a small center, patients should be referred to higher centers.

There are not many reports from smaller centers on non-operative management of liver traumas. Sweden has a low incidence of abdominal trauma and has a high success rate of non-operative management of liver surgeries.

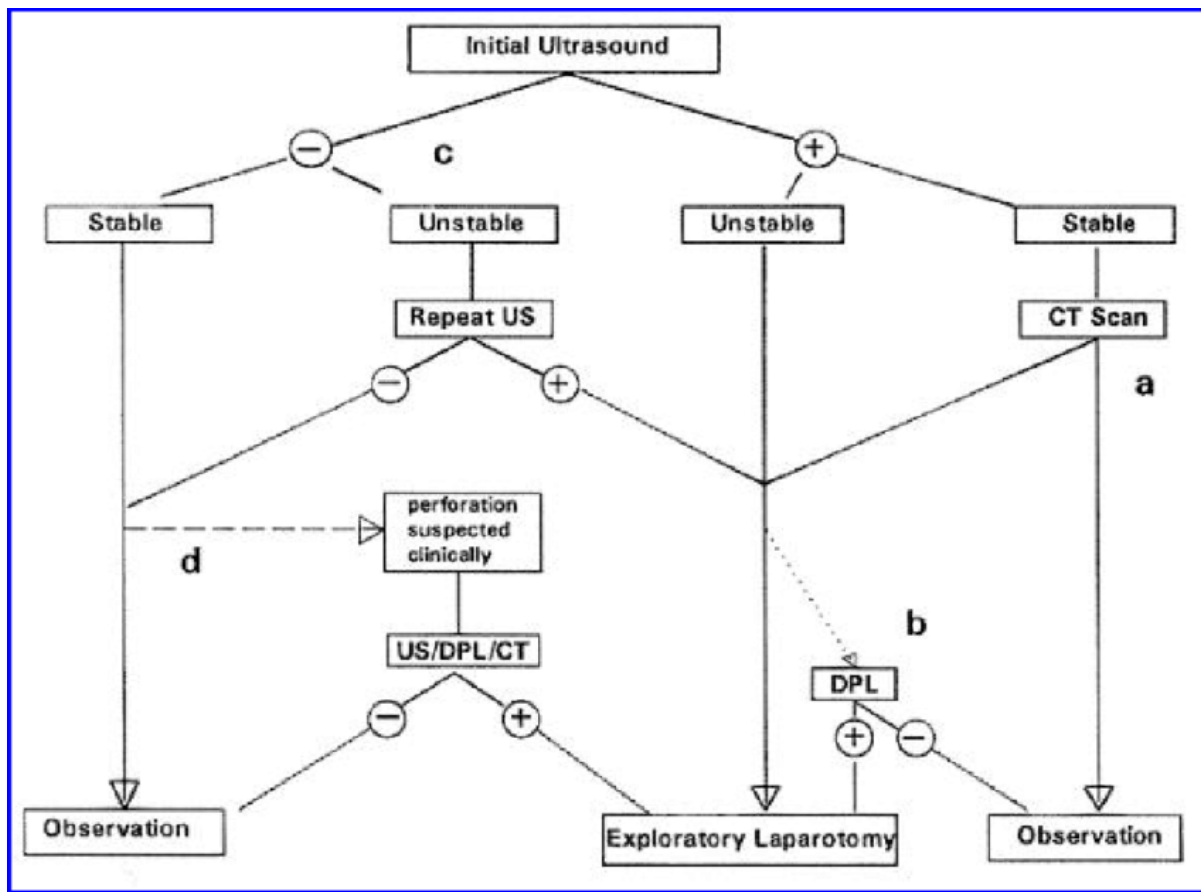
The anterior location of the liver in the abdominal cavity makes it vulnerable to injury. Also, the Glisson's capsule is easily breakable.

Diagnosis

In blunt injuries of the abdomen, imaging is the main modality for diagnosis.

Following modalities are used;

Ultrasonography



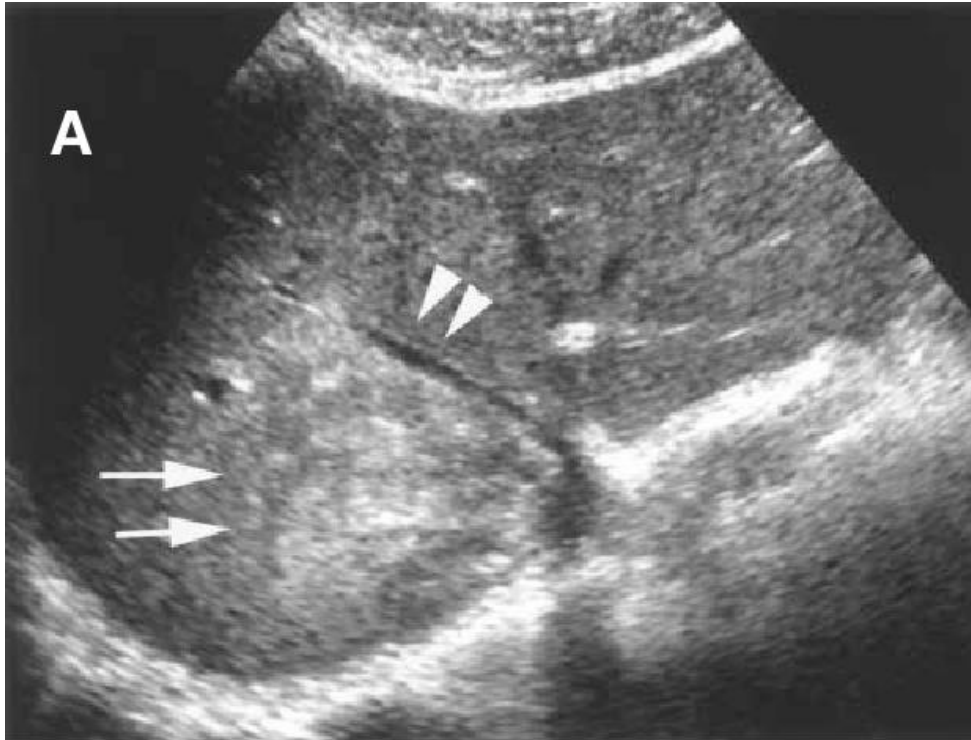


Fig 3. Injury without hemoperitoneum. (a) Transverse ultrasound image of the liver shows an irregular echogenic lesion (arrows) posterior to the middle hepatic vein (arrowheads). (b) Contrast-enhanced computerized tomography (CT) confirms laceration (arrows) posterior to the middle hepatic vein (arrowhead) extending to the inferior vena cava.

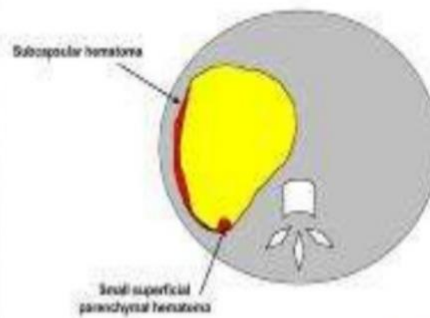
CT Scan

The following grading is made for blunt liver injury based on severity of findings on CT scan;

Grade 1

I-Subcapsular hematoma <1cm, superficial laceration <1cm deep.

A stabbing injury to the RUQ of the abdomen

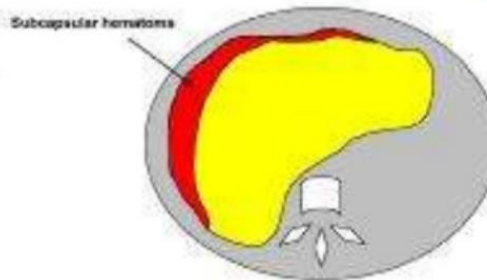


Contrast CT demonstrates a small, crescent-shaped subcapsular and parenchymal hematoma less than 1 cm thick.

Grade 2

II-Parenchymal laceration 1-3cm deep, subcapsular hematoma 1-3 cm thick.

A blunt abdominal trauma

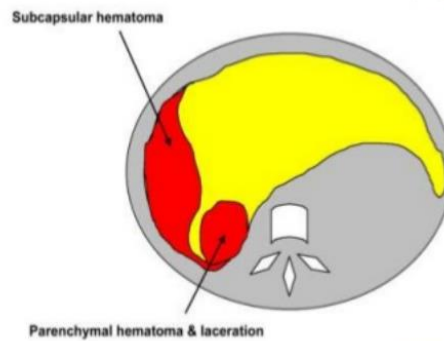


CT scan at the level of the hepatic veins shows a subcapsular hematoma 3 cm thick.

Grade 3

III-Parenchymal laceration > 3cm deep and subcapsular hematoma > 3cm diameter.

A blunt abdominal trauma

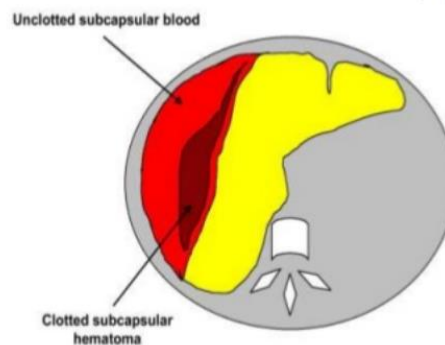


Contrast CT shows a 4-cm-thick subcapsular hematoma associated with parenchymal hematoma and laceration in segments 6 and 7 of the right lobe of the liver..

Grade 4

IV-Parenchymal/supcapsular hematoma > 10cm in diameter, lobar destruction

A blunt abdominal trauma

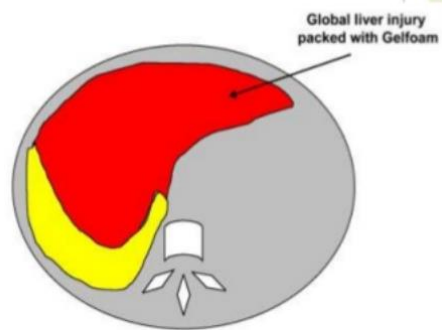
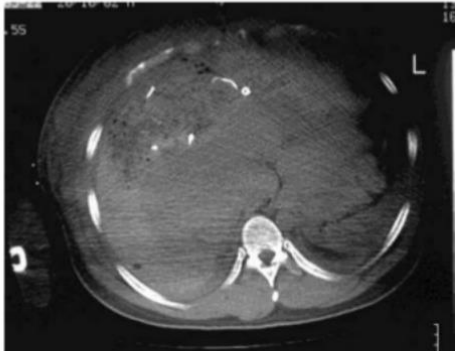


CT scan of the abdomen demonstrates a large subcapsular hematoma measuring more than 10 cm. The high-attenuating areas within the lesion represent clotted blood

Grade 5

V- Global destruction or devascularization of the liver.

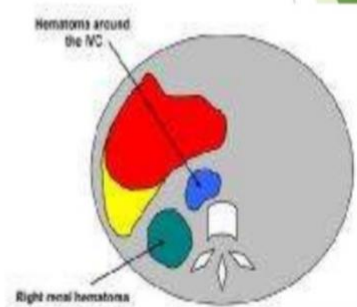
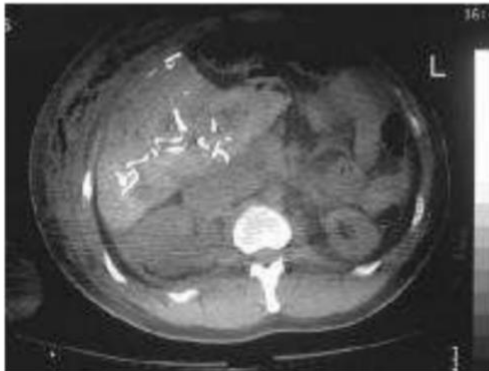
A motor vehicle accident



CT demonstrates global injury to the liver. Bleeding from the liver was controlled by using Gelfoam.

Grade 6

VI-Hepatic avulsion



Non-operative management

Around 50%-80% of the liver bleeding cease spontaneously and with better non-management practices, diagnostic capabilities and emergency care management, the mortality rate has decreased.

The trend from operative management has shifted towards conservative management in liver injuries. Previous studies report the cessation of bleeding by the time of operation. Non-therapeutic operative procedures are correlated with morbidity. The utilisation of CT scan has enabled the improved selection of patients for non-operative management. Today, the non-operative management has become the prime treatment of choice for blunt liver trauma.

The non-operative management is the opted only in hemodynamically stable patients who do not have any danger signs or any indications for laparotomy. Even in case of laparotomy, the procedures have become less extensive¹⁶. In few cases, instead of surgery, selective embolization is preferred and experimented with success.

Procedure

The cases admitted in the surgical ward and trauma ward of the Department of General Surgery who are diagnosed to have blunt injury abdomen with liver trauma were included in the study. A detailed history is taken about the incident of blunt injury abdomen. Systemic examination and basic investigations done.

The following data was extracted from the patient's history, clinical examination and follow up.

1. Patient selection
2. Nature and time of accident leading to injury
3. Clinical findings
4. Laboratory investigations
5. USG abdomen findings
6. Diagnostic tests
8. Complications during hospital stay and on subsequent follow up

Patients selected for non operative/conservative was given bed rest and subjected to clinical examination including hourly pulse rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate and serial clinical examination of abdomen. FAST was used when needed for follow up.

Patients were followed up till their discharge and at periodic intervals.

Investigations

- a. HB%, TC, DC, ESR.
- b. Blood urea, Serum creatinine, Blood sugar.
- c. Blood grouping and Rh typing.
- d. BT, CT.
- e. Urine routine examination.

- f. Screening for HIV, Hbs Ag and VDRL after informed consent
- g. Chest X-ray PA view.
- h. x ray abdomen erect
- i. Serial ultrasonography of abdomen
- j. CECT abdomen and pelvis
- k. Serial LFT, PT, a PTT, INR

MATERIALS
AND METHODS

Materials and Methods

Aims and objectives of the study:

1. To evaluate the efficacy of conservative management in patients with blunt trauma to abdomen with liver injury
2. To form a guideline to help decide when to abandon conservative line of treatment and opt for surgical intervention
3. To study the complications arising due to conservative management of blunt injury liver

Study design

Prospective Single Center Study

Place of study

GMKMC hospital

Study period

June 2017 to October 2019

Study population & Sampling Methodology

- Patients admitted to department of surgery GMKMCH, during study period June 2017 to October 2019, satisfying inclusion and exclusion criteria are considered into study.
- A detailed history and clinical examination of the cases are done.
- Routine preoperative investigations.

- Purpose sampling is used
- The results are analyzed statistically.

Inclusion criteria:

1. Patients of all age group with blunt abdominal trauma with documented radiographic evidence of injury to liver(USG/CT scan)
2. All grades of liver injury with Hemodynamically stable patients without features of peritonitis

Exclusion criteria:

1. Hemodynamically unstable
2. Blunt liver trauma associated with any other solid organ or peritonitis
3. Penetrating trauma to the abdomen.

Methodology

The material for the study is taken from the cases admitted in the surgical ward and trauma ward of the Department of General Surgery, GMK Medical College & Hospital, who are diagnosed to have blunt injury abdomen. Data will be collected with regards to age, demographic characteristics, socio economic status, detailed history and type of injuries including patient's complaints and duration of complaints. A detailed general examination is done and hemodynamic stability is ensured.

Procedure

The cases admitted in the surgical ward and trauma ward of the Department of General Surgery who are diagnosed to have blunt injury abdomen with liver trauma were included in the study. A detailed history is taken about the incident of blunt injury abdomen. Systemic examination and basic investigations done.

The following data was extracted from the patient's history, clinical examination and follow up.

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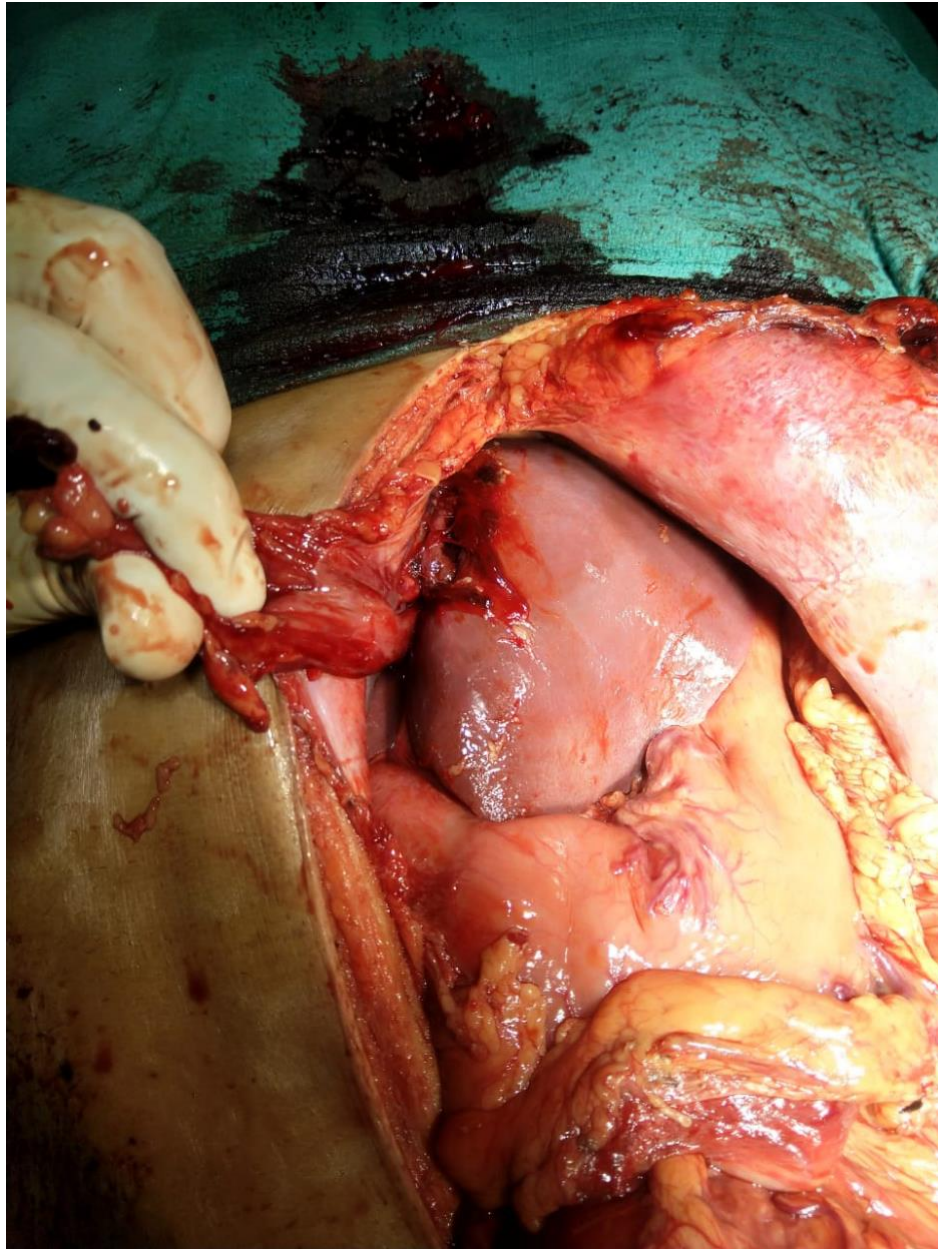
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- k. Serial LFT, PT, a PTT, INR

Statistical Analysis

Data were analyzed according to history, clinical examination and investigation. Data were entered in excel sheet and analyzed using SPSS v23. Frequencies and percentage analysis were done. Cross tabulation and Chi-square analyses were done to find the relationship and association between various variables.

Images from the study



Liver Laceration

RESULTS

RESULTS

The mean age of the patients was 35.80 years with a standard deviation of 12.06 years ranging between 11 to 62 years and a median of 36 years.

Out of 50 patients, the males were in majority (n=44, 88%) while females were only 12% (n=6).

Majority of the cases were due to road traffic accidents (62%,n=31) followed by self fall (26%, n=13), fall from height (8%,n=4) and assault (4%,n=2).

The mean latent period is 2.7 hours with a standard deviation of 1.093 hours ranging between one to five hours and a median of two hours.

The mean pulse rate reduced from 95.64/ minute on day of admission to 77.64/minute on 7th day.

The mean hemoglobin reduced from 95.64/ minute on day of admission to 77.64/minute on 7th day.

The liver function tests shows that on the day of admission, the liver function tests were within normal limits for all patients.

On 3rd day, the liver parameters were elevated for 10% (n=5) of the patients.

On 7th day, the liver parameters were elevated for 20% (n=10) of the patients.

The patients presented with mild hemoperitoneum in 60% (n=30) of the cases, moderate hemoperitoneum in 28% (n=14) of the cases and severe hemoperitoneum in 12% (n=6) of the cases.

The grading of liver injury shows that majority of them were in Grade I (n=17, 34%). Grade II (n=13, 26%), Grade III (n=12, 24%) and Grade IV (n=8, 16%).

Out of 50 patients, 48 (96%) of them were managed conservatively while two of them (4%) were chosen for emergency laparotomy.

Out of 48 patients in conservative group, three of them died while in the emergency laparotomy group, one of them died.

Age distribution of the patients

The mean age of the patients was 35.80 years with a standard deviation of 12.06 years ranging between 11 to 62 years and a median of 36 years.

Characteristic	Age in years
Mean	35.80
Median	36.00
Mode	27 ^a
Std. Deviation	12.058
Minimum	11
Maximum	62

Table 1: Age distribution of the participants

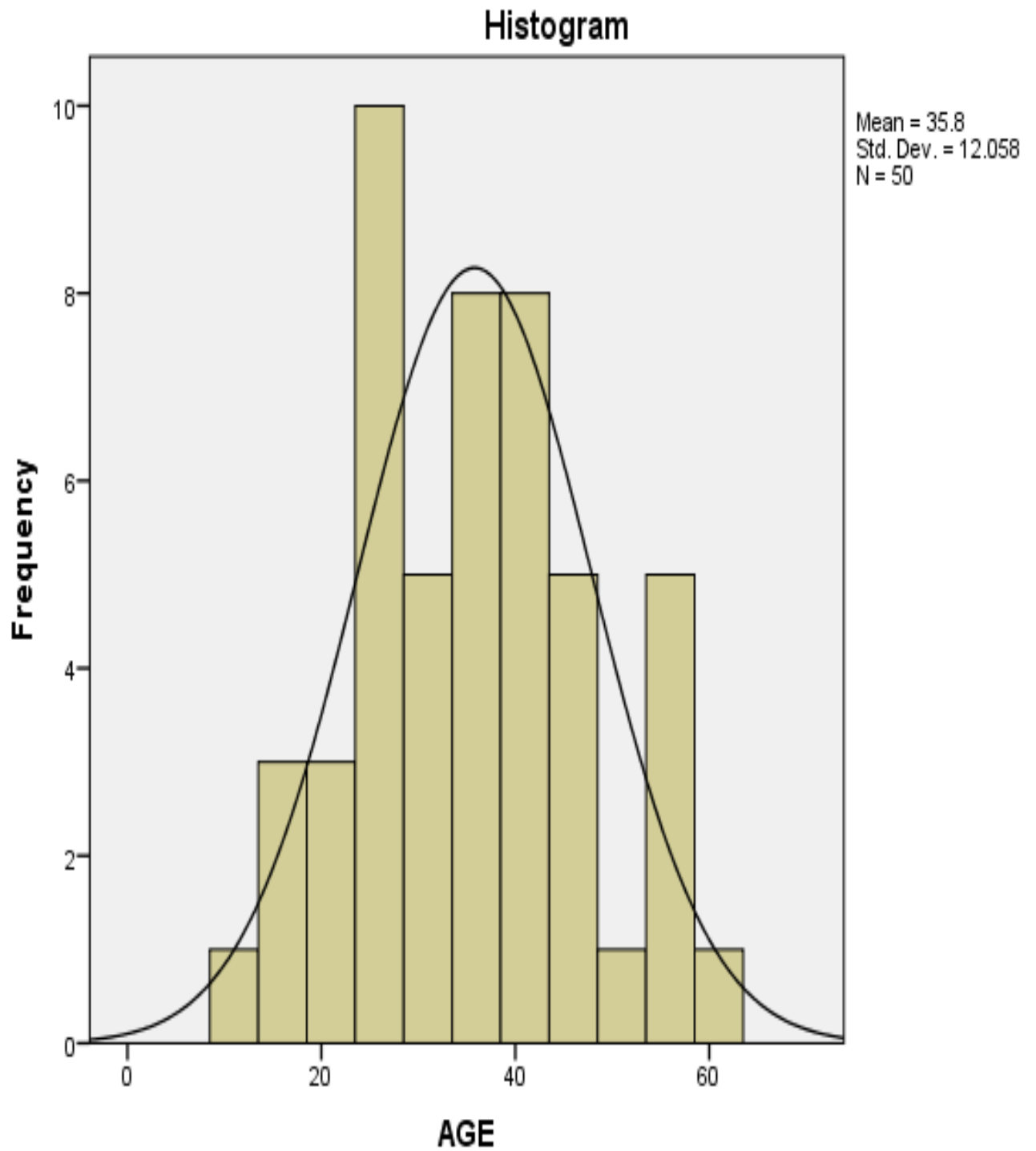


Figure 1: Age distribution of the participants

Gender distribution of the patients

Out of 50 patients, the males were in majority (n=44, 88%) while females were only 12% (n=6).

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Females	6	12.0
Males	44	88.0
Total	50	100.0

Table 2: Gender distribution of the participants

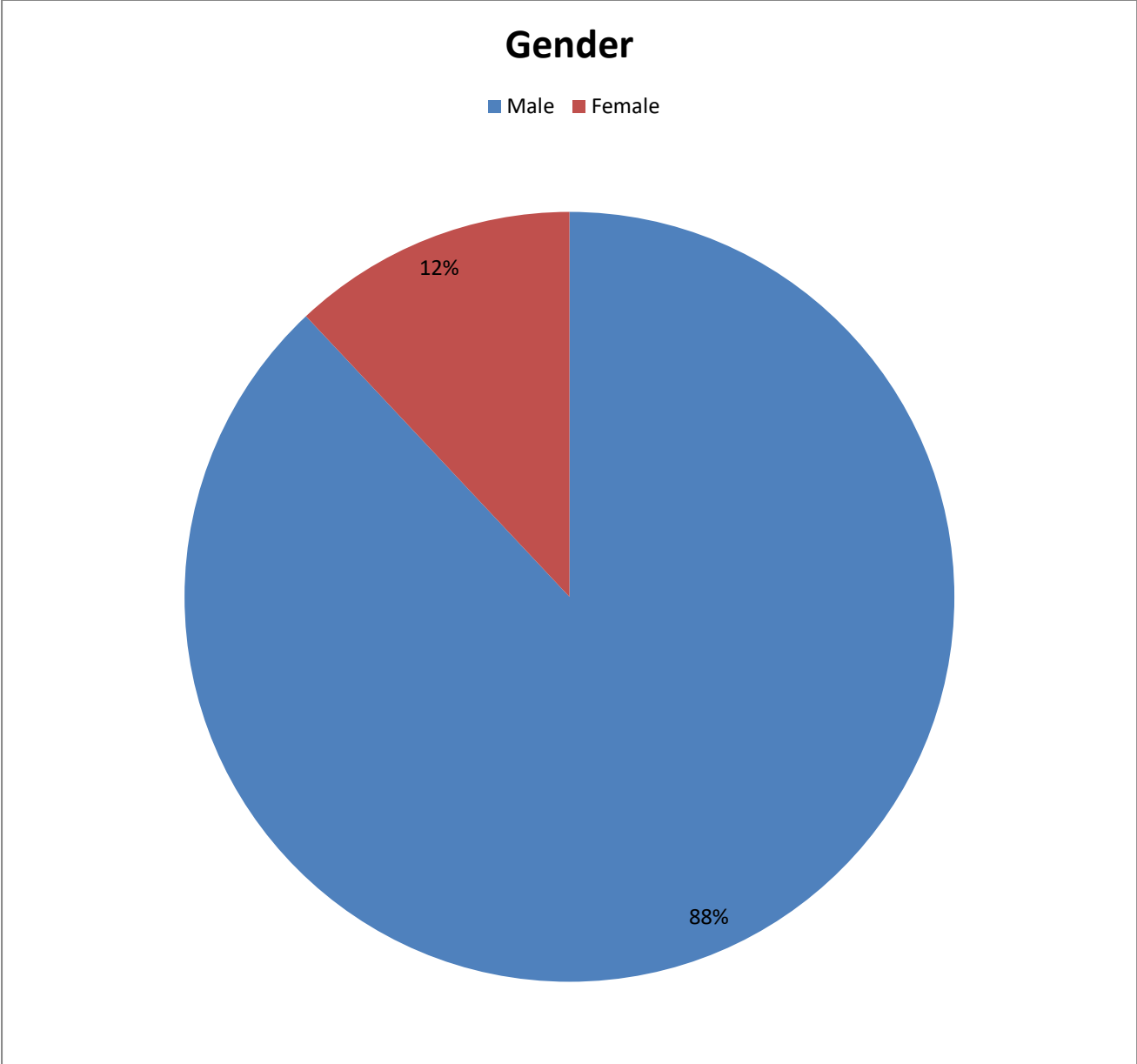


Figure 2: Gender distribution of the participants

Mode of Injury

Majority of the cases were due to road traffic accidents (62%,n=31) followed by self fall (26%, n=13), fall from height (8%,n=4) and assault (4%,n=2).

Mode of Injury	Frequency	Percent
Assault	2	4.0
Fall from height	4	8.0
Road Traffic Accidents	31	62.0
Self fall	13	26.0
Total	50	100.0

Table 3: Mode of injury

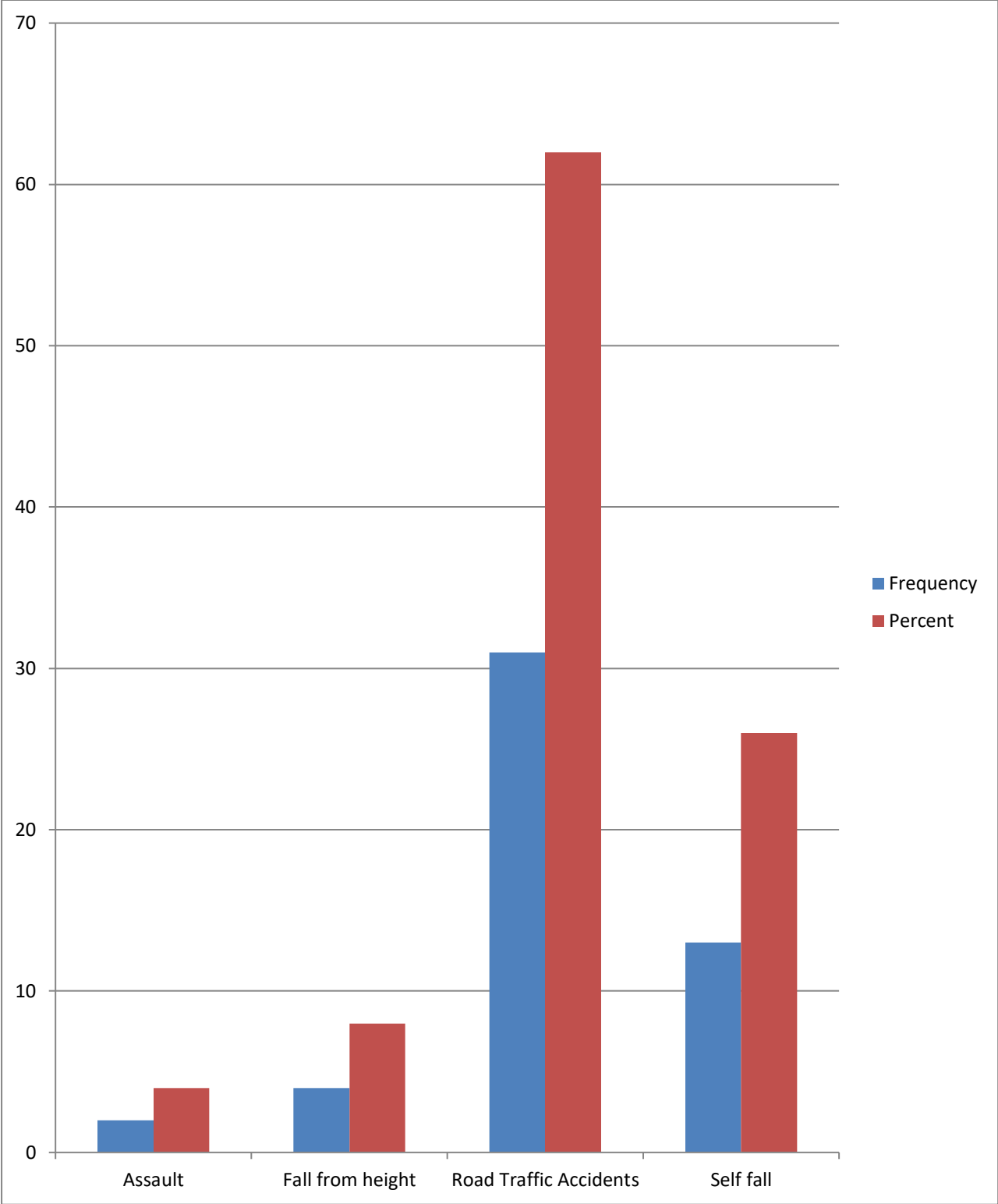


Figure 3: Mode of injury

Latent period in hours

The mean latent period is 2.7 hours with a standard deviation of 1.093 hours ranging between one to five hours and a median of two hours.

LATENT PERIOD(HRS)	
Mean	2.70
Median	2.00
Mode	2
Std. Deviation	1.093
Minimum	1
Maximum	5

Table 4: Latent Period

Latent period(hrs)	Frequency	Percent
1	2	4.0
2	28	56.0
3	8	16.0
4	7	14.0
5	5	10.0
Total	50	100.0

Table 5: Latent Period Category

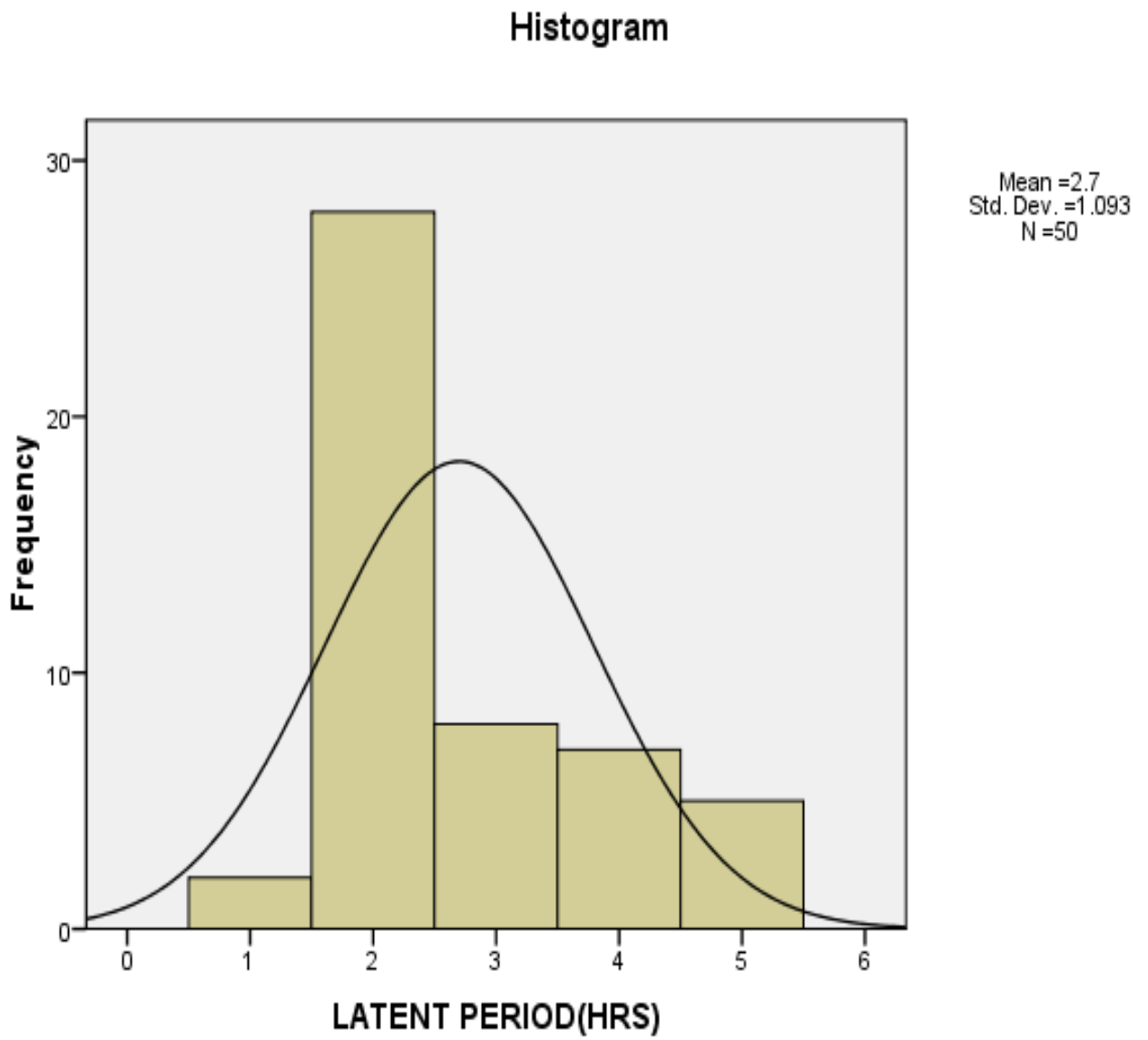


Figure 4: Latent Period Distribution

Vital Parameters

Pulse Rate

The mean pulse rate reduced from 95.64/ minute on day of admission to 77.64/minute on 7th day.

	Pulse/min	Admission	On Day 3	On Day 7
Mean		95.64	91.44	77.64
Median		94.00	87.00	80.00
Mode		82	78	78
Std. Deviation		12.718	20.504	22.193
Minimum		78	0	0
Maximum		118	124	118

Table 6: Pulse Rate

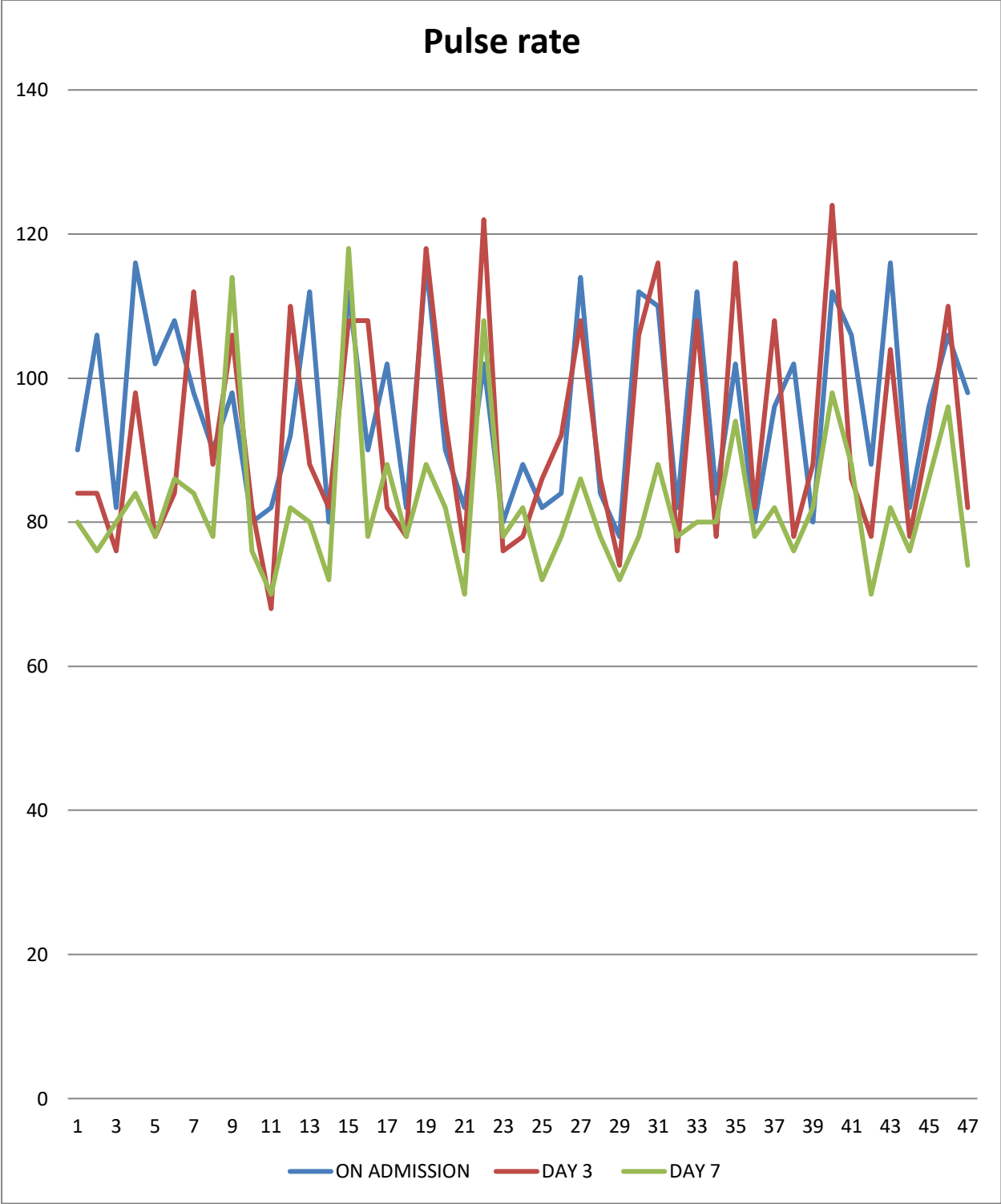


Figure 5: Pulse Rate

Hemoglobin

The mean hemoglobin reduced from 95.64/ minute on day of admission to 77.64/minute on 7th day.

Hemoglobin (mg/dl)	Admission	On Day 3	On Day 7
Mean	10.45	10.22	10.37
Median	10.95	10.50	11.00
Mode	11	9	10 ^a
Std. Deviation	1.191	2.036	2.861
Minimum	8	0	0
Maximum	15	13	14

Table 7: Hemoglobin

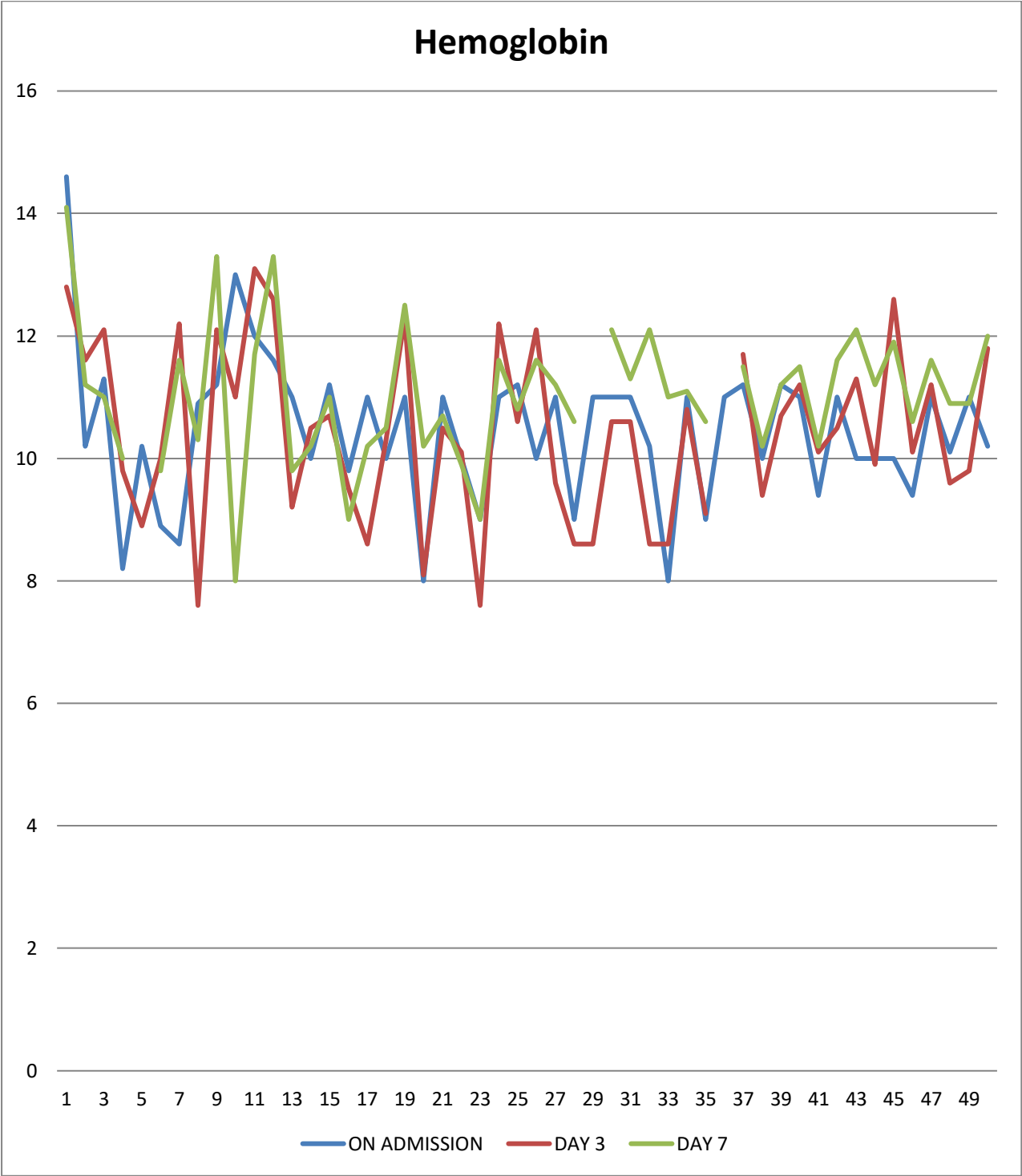


Figure 6: Hemoglobin

Liver function tests

The liver function tests shows that on the day of admission, the liver function tests were within normal limits for all patients.

On 3rd day, the liver parameters were elevated for 10% (n=5) of the patients.

On 7th day, the liver parameters were elevated for 20% (n=10) of the patients.

	Admission	Day 3	Day 7	Chi-square analysis p-value
Elevated	0	5 (10%)	10 (20%)	8.19 P<0.05
Within normal limits	50	45 (90%)	40 (80%)	

Table 8: Liver Function Tests

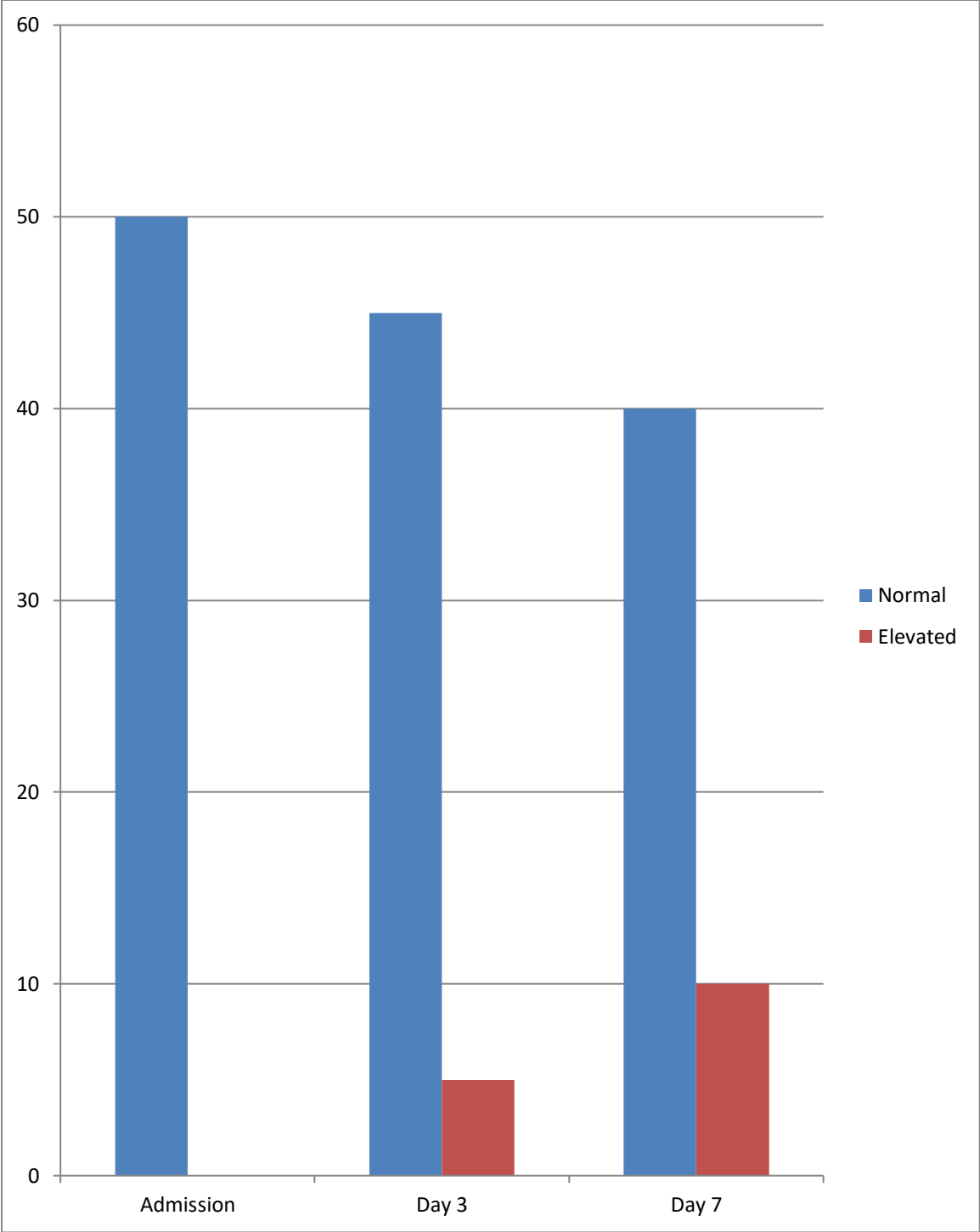


Figure 7: Liver Function Tests

Ultrasound findings

The patients presented with mild hemoperitoneum in 60% (n=30) of the cases, moderate hemoperitoneum in 28% (n=14) of the cases and severe hemoperitoneum in 12% (n=6) of the cases.

Hemoperitoneum	Frequency	Percent
Mild	30	60.0
moderate	14	28.0
Severe	6	12.0
Total	50	100.0

Table 9: Ultrasound findings

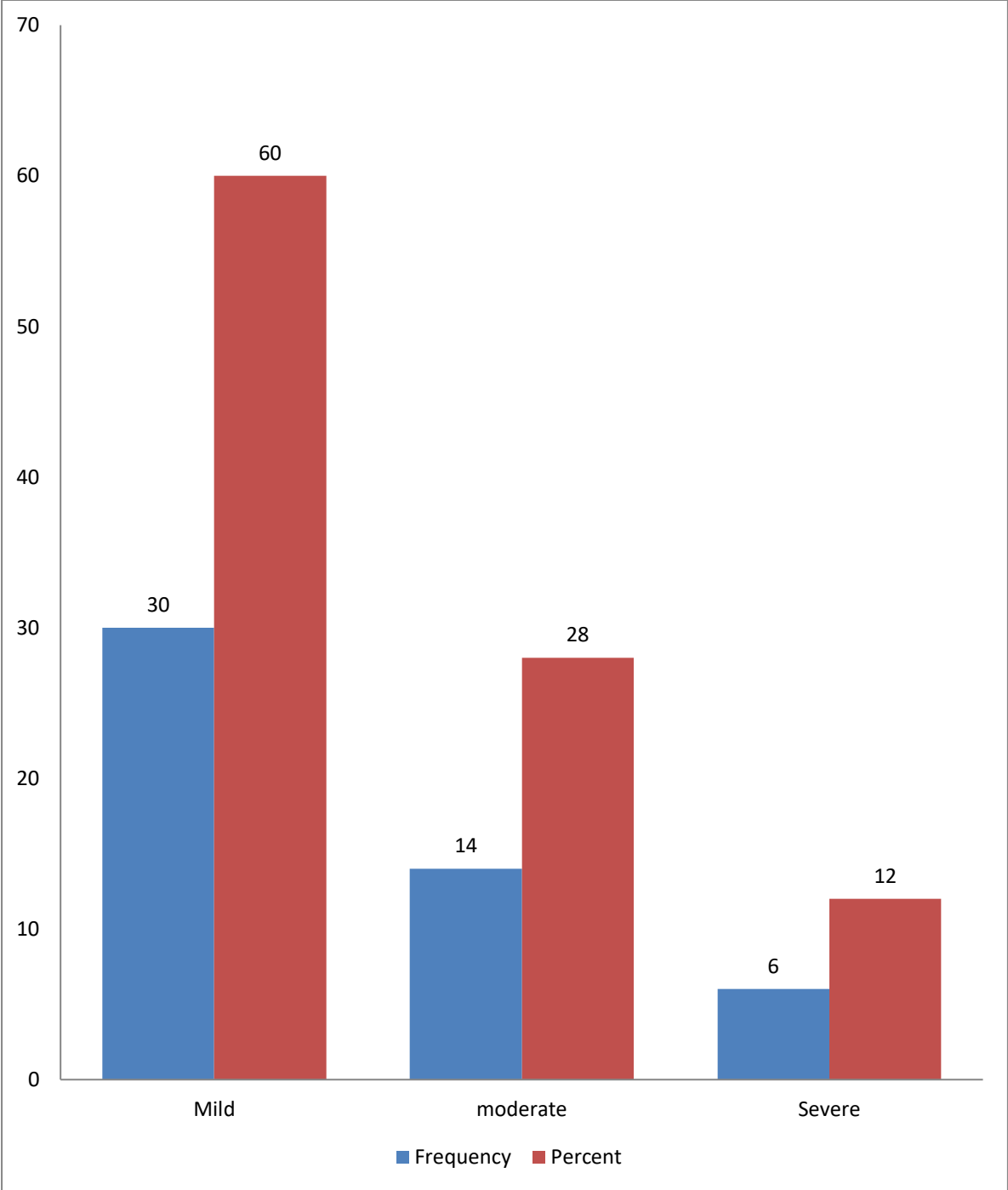


Figure 8: Ultrasound findings

Grading of liver Injury

The grading of liver injury shows that majority of them were in Grade I (n=17, 34%). Grade II (n=13, 26%), Grade III (n=12, 24%) and Grade IV (n=8, 16%).

CECT-GRADE OF LIVER INJURY	Frequency	Percent
I	17	34.0
II	13	26.0
III	12	24.0
IV	8	16.0
Total	50	100.0

Table 10: Grading of liver Injury

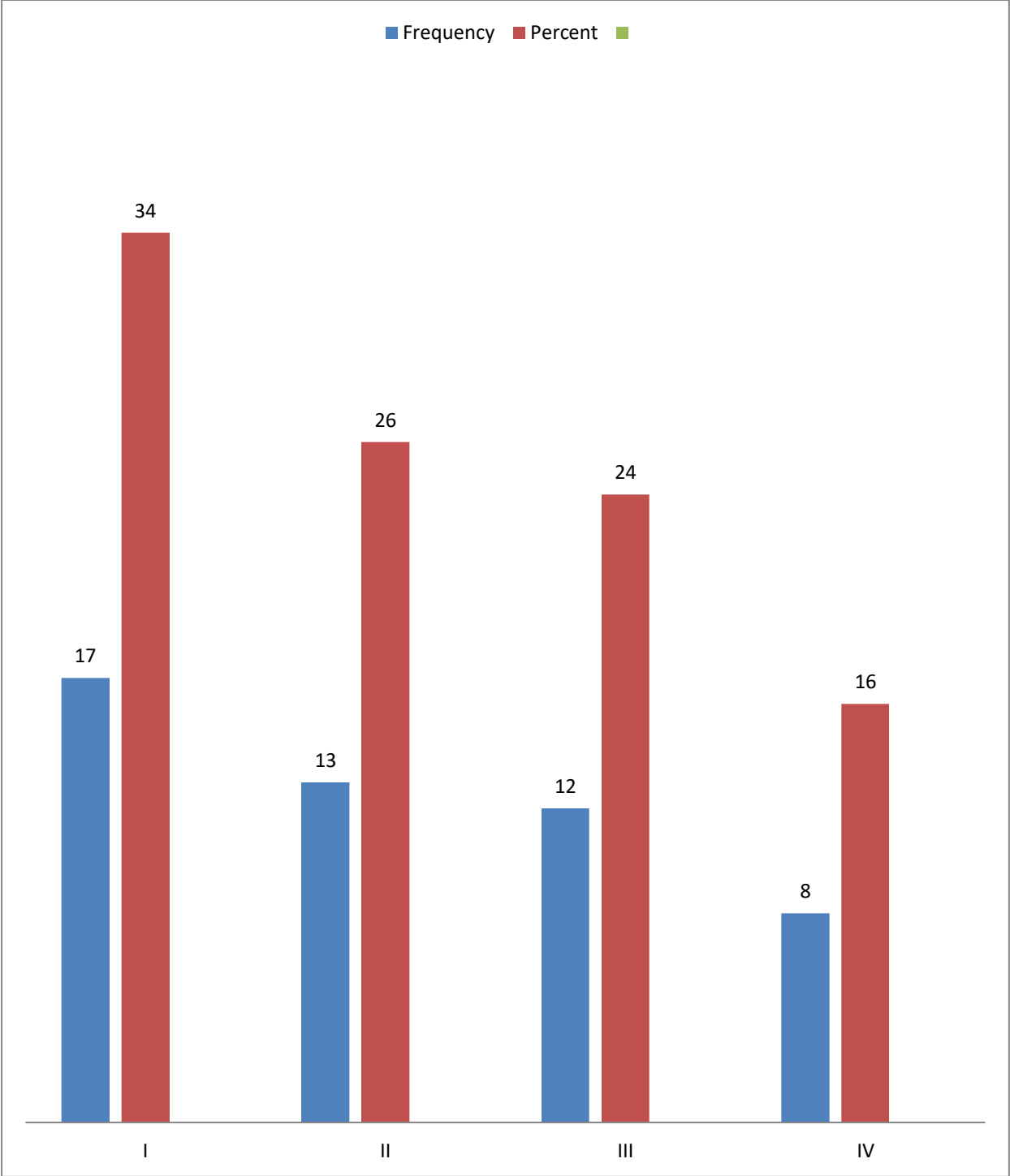


Figure 9: Grading of liver Injury

Management

Out of 50 patients, 48 (96%) of them were managed conservatively while two of them (4%) were chosen for emergency laparotomy.

Management	Frequency	Percent
EMERGENCY LAPAROTOMY	2	4.0
CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	48	96.0
Total	50	100.0

Table 11: Management

Management

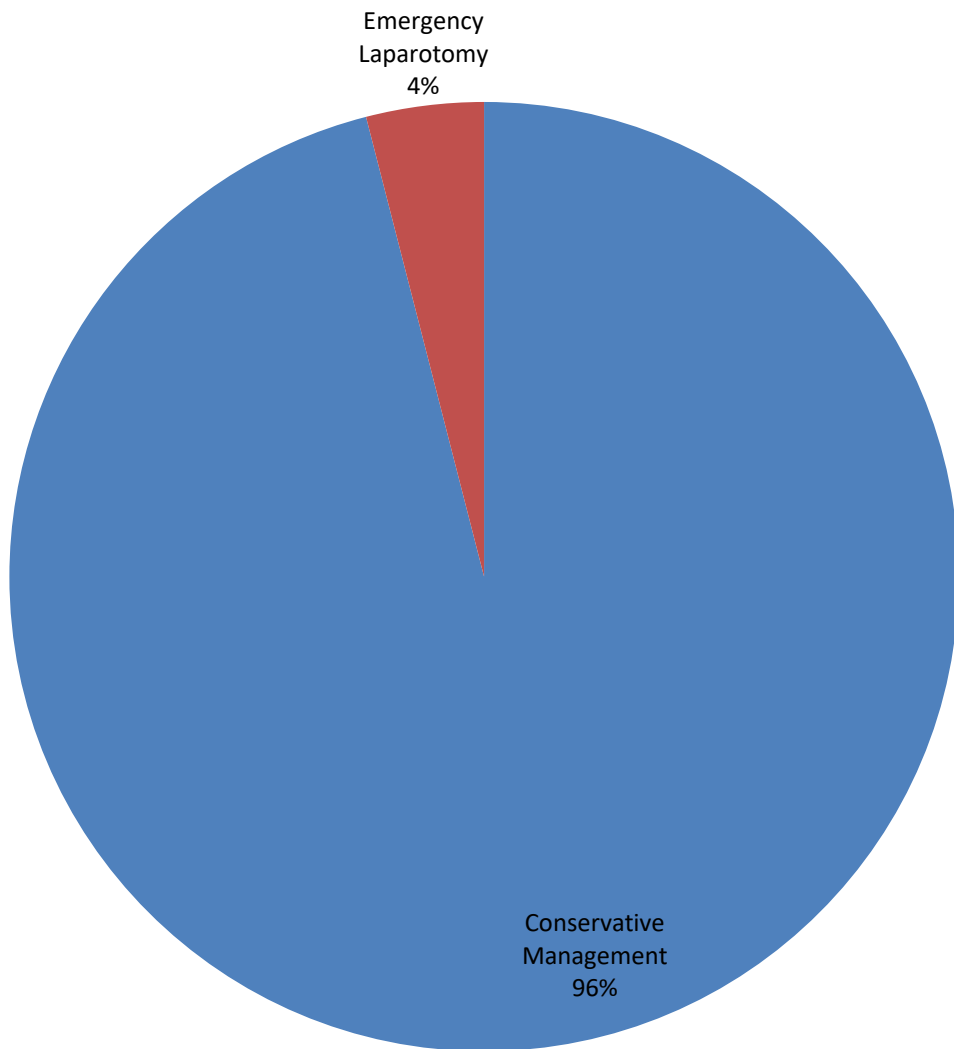


Figure 10: Management

Mortality

Out of 48 patients in conservative group, three of them died while in the emergency laparotomy group, one of them died.

Mortality	Frequency
Emergency Laparotomy	1 out of 2 patients
Conservative Group	3 out of 48 patients
Total	50

Table 12: Mortality

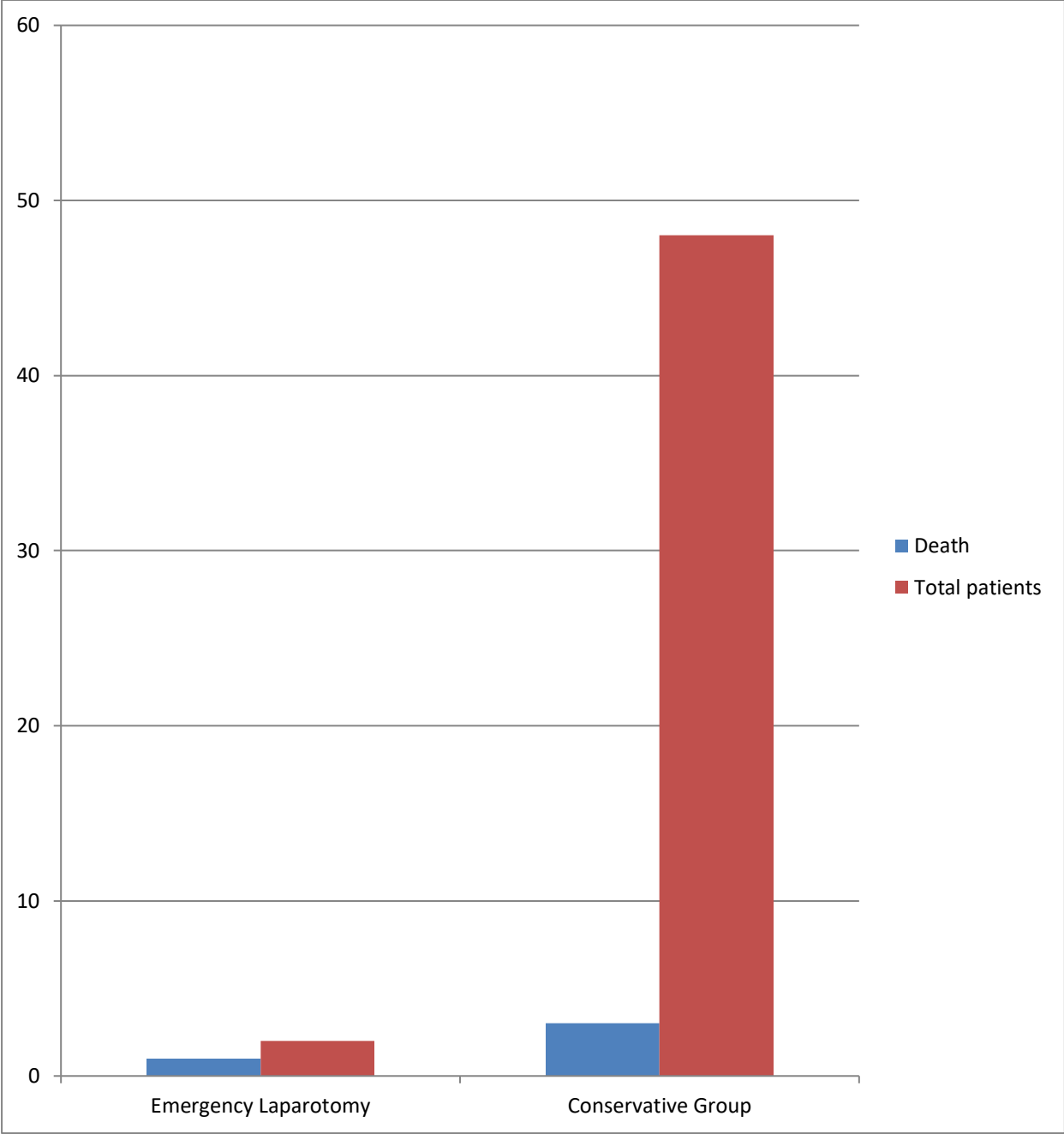


Figure 11: Mortality

DISCUSSION

Discussion

The second most common cause of hospital admission is attributed to trauma which is approximately 16% of the healthcare costs incurred globally. A rough estimates by the World Health Organisation, trauma would become the leading cause of loss of productive years by 2020¹. An estimate state that around 31% of the patients with poly trauma have abdominal injuries including 13% of spleen injuries and 16% of liver injuries^{2,3}. The most common cause of death in abdominal injuries is liver injury. Around 50%-80% of the liver bleeding cease spontaneously and with better non-management practices, diagnostic capabilities and emergency care management, the mortality rate has decreased^{4,5}.

Weighing an average of 1.5 kg, liver is the largest gland in the body and the second largest organ in the body. It is anatomically located under the diaphragm in the region of the right upper abdomen and mid abdomen extending up to the left upper abdomen. It is wedge shaped with the apex to the left and the base to the right, pinkish in colour and soft in consistency with high vascularity²⁴. The most commonly followed terminology for liver anatomy and resections is by the International Hepto-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA).

In the intrauterine life, at the junction of foregut and midgut, a ventral diverticulum grows out as the ventral mesogastrium. The caudal part of this mesogastrium forms the septum transversum while the cranial part forms the diaphragm. This

diverticulum also forms the bile ducts and gall bladder. The obliterated umbilical vein forms the ligamentum teres hepatis that joins the left portal vein. The obliterated ductus venosus forms the ligamentum venosum that connects the left portal vein and left hepatic vein.

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At the left fifth intercostal space, the upper surface of the liver can be percussed. The following surfaces are continuous; right, superior, posterior and anterior. These surfaces are in relation to the anterior abdominal wall and the diaphragm. The anterior surface is demarcated from the visceral surface by the presence of a

sharp inferior border. This border is clinically palpable when the patient is in deep inspiration. The inferior surface is related to the following;

Hepatic flexure, Right kidney, Transverse colon, Duodenum and Stomach

The under surface of the liver is in relation to the gall bladder.

The inferior surface of the liver contains a fissure that is in the shape of H.

There is an H-shaped fissure on the inferior surface of the liver. The right vertical arm of the H is formed by the gallbladder anteriorly and the inferior vena cava (IVC) posteriorly; it is incomplete, with the caudate process between the two. The left vertical arm of the H is formed by the ligamentum teres hepatis in front and the ligamentum venosum behind.

The liver surface has the serosal covering and contains the Glisson capsule under it.

Liver contains large-diameter capillaries that contains the endothelial cells and hepatocytes. They contain the Kupffer cells of the RES (**reticuloendothelial system**).

An hexagonal lobule of the liver contains the following;

central portal tract, branches of the hepatic artery, the portal vein

bile ducts, and peripheral tributary of the hepatic vein

The trend from operative management has shifted towards conservative management in liver injuries⁶⁻¹². Previous studies report the cessation of bleeding by the time of operation¹³. Non-therapeutic operative procedures are correlated with morbidity¹⁴. The utilisation of CT scan has enabled the improved selection of patients for non-operative management¹⁵. Today, the non-operative management has become the prime treatment of choice for blunt liver trauma.

The non-operative management is the opted only in hemodynamically stable patients who do not have any danger signs or any indications for laparotomy. Even in case of laparotomy, the procedures have become less extensive¹⁶. In few cases, instead of surgery, selective embolization is preferred and experimented with success¹⁷.

The surgical management is reserved for patients where the injuries are extensive and non-operative management is not feasible^{18, 19}. If non-operative management fails in a small center, patients should be referred to higher centers^{20,21}.

There are not many reports from smaller centers on non-operative management of liver traumas. Sweden has a low incidence of abdominal trauma and has a high success rate of non-operative management of liver surgeries^{22,23}.

The mean age of the patients was 35.80 years with a standard deviation of 12.06 years ranging between 11 to 62 years and a median of 36 years.

Out of 50 patients, the males were in majority (n=44, 88%) while females were only 12% (n=6).

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Summary and Conclusions

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Out of 48 patients in conservative group, three of them died while in the emergency laparotomy group, one of them died.

LIMITATIONS

Limitations

Following limitations were encountered in the study;

- 1) The sample size is small
- 2) The groups are unequal that affects the comparability
- 3) The study is short term
- 4) The study is single centric

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made;

- 1) A larger sample size should be studied
- 2) Multicentric studies should be done
- 3) Randomised trials are better for generalisability of the results
- 4) Long term cohort studies can be preferred over cross-sectional studies

PATIENT CONSENT FORM

STUDY TITLE:

**“AN ANALYTICAL STUDY ON NONOPERATIVE
MANAGEMENT OF LIVER INJURY IN BLUNT TRAUMA TO
THE ABDOMEN-- A PROSPECTIVE STUDY”**

Department of General surgery, GMKMCH

PARTICIPANT NAME : AGE : SEX:

I.P. NO :

I confirm that I have understood the purpose of surgical/invasive procedure for the above study. I have the opportunity to ask the question and all my questions and doubts have been answered to my satisfaction.

I have been explained about the possible complications that may occur during and after medical procedure. I understand that my participation in the study is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason.

I understand that investigator, regulatory authorities and the ethics committee will not need my permission to look at my health records both in respect to the current study and any further research that may be conducted in relation to it, even if I withdraw from the study. I understand that my identity will not be revealed in any information released to third parties or published, unless as required under the law. I agree not to restrict the use of any data or results that arise from the study.

I hereby consent to participate in this study.

Time :

Date :

Signature / Thumb Impression Of

Patient

Place :

Patient's name:

Signature of the investigator:

Name of the investigator : _____

PROFORMA

“AN ANALYTICAL STUDY ON NONOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT OF LIVER INJURY IN BLUNT TRAUMA TO THE ABDOMEN-- A PROSPECTIVE STUDY”

CASE OF BLUNT INJURY ABDOMEN

Name: Age/Sex:

Address: Occupation:

Religion: O.P No: I.P No:

Mode of injury: Date & time of injury:

Date & time of admission:

Time lapse from trauma to hospital:

B. CHIEF COMPLAINTS:

Duration of symptoms:

C.PAST HISTORY:

1. DM 2.TB 3.EPILEPSY

4.CARDIAC DISEASES 5.PREVIOUS SURGERY

6. HYPERTENSION 7.JAUNDICE/HEPATITIS

D.PERSONAL HISTORY:

SMOKER /ALCOHOLIC /TOBACCO CHEWER

E.INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF PATIENT

1.Vitals:

PR :

BP :

RR :

SPO2 :

Temperature :

2.GENERAL SIGNS:

General Condition: Peripheral Signs Of Shock:

Tongue

Skin

Icterus

Cyanosis

Lymphadenopathy:

Lungs:

Hematuria:

Oliguria:

K.SYSTEMIC EXAMINATION:

CVS

RS

CNS

ABDOMEN:-

EXTERNAL GENITALIA:

PER RECTAL EXAMINATION:

CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS

INVESTIGATIONS

A. HB%

B. GROUPING & TYPING

C. BT/CT

D. PCV

E. HBSAG HIV

F. ECG

G. URINE: Macro

Micro

Albumin

Sugar

H. BLOOD:

RBS

BLOOD UREA

SER.CREATININE

I. CHEST X RAY PA VIEW

J. X-RAY ABDOMEN ERECT

K. ABDOMEN & PELVIS USG:

L.CECT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS;

CONSERVATIVE MANAGEMENT:

1. Duration of hospital stay
2. Any complications
3. Serial USG/CT SCAN in follow up
4. Conservative to laparotomy

MASTER CHART

NO	NAME	AGE	SEX	IP NO	MODE OF INJURY	LATENT PERIOD (HRS)	BLOOD PRESSURE			PULSE RATE		
							ON ADMISSION	DAY 3	DAY 7	ON ADMISSION	DAY 3	DAY 7
1	BALAJI	23	M	83934	RTA	2	120/90	120/90	120/80	14.6	12.8	14.1
2	RAMESH	36	M	17355	SELF FALL	1	100/70	110/70	110/80	10.2	11.6	11.2
3	GUNASEKARAN	40	M	19484	RTA	3	120/80	120/80	120/80	11.3	12.1	11
4	KARTHI	16	M	14587	RTA	1	110/70	100/70	100/70	8.2	9.8	10
5	SENTHIL	54	M	11521	RTA	5	100/70	90/60	NIL	10.2	8.9	NIL
6	ANGAYEE	43	F	11125	RTA	2	110/70	120/70	120/70	8.9	10	9.8
7	MOORTHI	36	M	33650	FALL FROM HEIGHT	2	120/70	120/80	110/70	8.6	12.2	11.6
8	RAJA	26	M	36481	ASSAULT	4	130/80	110/60	120/80	10.9	7.6	10.3
9	CHINNAPILLAI	37	M	33400	RTA	5	110/70	110/70	120/70	11.2	12.1	13.3
10	UDHAYAKUMAR	27	M	33290	SELF FALL	4	120/70	100/70	90/60	13	11	8
11	SAKTHIVEL	43	M	5958	SELF FALL	2	120/70	120/70	120/70	12	13.1	11.7
12	SETHU	14	M	4431	RTA	3	130/80	130/80	130/80	11.6	12.6	13.3
13	CHANDRAMOHAN	58	M	38086	RTA	2	110/70	100/60	110/70	11	9.2	9.8
14	MICHAEL	29	M	3507	RTA	3	130/80	130/80	120/70	10	10.5	10.2
15	LOGESH	33	M	45791	RTA	2	110/70	100/70	110/70	11.2	10.7	11
16	GOVINDASAMY	39	M	33821	RTA	5	110/70	110/70	90/60	9.8	9.5	9
17	CHINNAGOUNDER	46	M	33720	RTA	2	130/70	100/70	110/70	11	8.6	10.2
18	KUMAR	23	M	31037	FALL FROM	2	120/70	110/70	110/70	10	10.3	10.5

					HEIGHT							
19	SANGEETHA	35	F	37255	RTA	4	110/70	120/80	120/80	11	12.3	12.5
20	SEKAR	27	M	58391	RTA	2	110/70	100/70	110/70	8	8.1	10.2
21	KARUPAIYA	57	M	61599	SELF FALL	2	110/70	100/70	110/70	11	10.5	10.7
22	KRISHNA	46	M	68262	SELF FALL	3	130/70	120/80	120/80	10	10.1	9.9
23	VENKATESH	26	M	64037	RTA	2	110/70	100/70	100/70	9	7.6	9
24	KANGATHARAN	35	M	23932	SELF FALL	4	110/70	110/70	110/70	11	12.2	11.6
25	RAMESH	39	M	28612	RTA	2	120/70	120/70	120/80	11.2	10.6	10.8
26	SATHISH KUMAR	27	M	31141	RTA	2	130/70	130/70	130/80	10	12.1	11.6
27	MUNIYAPPAN	24	M	36684	RTA	3	110/70	100/60	110/70	11	9.6	11.2
28	RAJAMANIKAM	46	M	22020	SELF FALL	2	100/60	100/60	110/70	9	8.6	10.6
29	PALANIYAMMAL	48	F	63795	FALL FROM HEIGHT	4	110/70	90/60	NIL	11	8.6	NIL
30	GANGATHARAN	33	M	2864	RTA	3	110/70	110/70	120/80	11	10.6	12.1
31	MOHAMMAD ISMAIL	41	M	1585	SELF FALL	2	120/70	110/70	120/80	11	10.6	11.3
32	AZHAR MAHAMMAD	58	M	27683	RTA	2	120/80	100/60	110/70	10.2	8.6	12.1
33	SATHISH KUMAR	42	M	27786	SELF FALL	2	120/70	100/70	110/70	8	8.6	11
34	KUMAR	46	M	28614	RTA	2	110/70	110/70	110/70	11	10.8	11.1
35	PERUMAL	33	M	27452	FALL FROM HEIGHT	4	120/70	100/70	110/80	9	9.1	10.6
36	KUMAR	25	M	23452	RTA	2	90/60			11		
37	SATHISH KUMAR	49	M	23932	RTA	2	130/80	130/80	130/80	11.2	11.7	11.5
38	SIVARAMAN	62	M	1288	RTA	3	110/70	100/60	110/70	10	9.4	10.2
39	MAYAKANNAN	55	M	14167	SELF FALL	2	130/80	120/80	120/80	11.2	10.7	11.2
40	RAMESH	25	M	10252	RTA	5	110/70	100/60	110/60	11	11.2	11.5

41	KAMAL	33	M	4981	SELF FALL	2	110/70	110/70	110/70	9.4	10.1	10.2
42	SAVITHRI	37	F	5299	RTA	2	130/70	120/80	120/80	11	10.5	11.6
43	DHAVAMANI	28	F	95004	RTA	2	110/70	100/60	110/70	10	11.3	12.1
44	RAJ KUMAR	23	M	9603	RTA	4	110/70	110/80	120/80	10	9.9	11.2
45	JAGANATHAN	39	M	91587	ASSAULT	2	120/70	120/70	120/70	10	12.6	11.9
46	MURUGAN	27	M	91133	SELF FALL	3	100/60	100/60	120/80	9.4	10.1	10.6
47	PERUMAL	36	M	88743	RTA	2	130/70	120/80	120/80	11	11.2	11.6
48	DHANAKODI	37	F	86607	RTA	5	100/60	100/60	110/60	10.1	9.6	10.9
49	SENTHIL	17	M	79419	RTA	2	110/60	110/60	110/80	11	9.8	10.9
50	VIGNESH	11	M	78456	SELF FALL	2	130/70	130/70	120/80	10.2	11.8	12

S. NO	NAME	HAEMOGLOBIN			USG	CECT- GRADE OF LIVER INJURY	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED WELL	SURGICAL INTERVENTION	DEATH
		ON ADMISSION	DAY 3	DAY 7					
1	BALAJI	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
2	RAMESH	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
3	GUNASEKARAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
4	KARTHI	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	

5	SENTHIL	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	3	IV		EMERGENCY LAPROTOMY	YES
6	ANGAYEE	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
7	MOORTHI	WNL	WNL	WNL	3	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
8	RAJA	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	WNL	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
9	CHINNAPIILLAI	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
10	UDHAYAKUMAR	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	1	IV	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	YES
11	SAKTHIVEL	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
12	SETHU	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
13	CHANDRAMOHAN	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
14	MICHAEL	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
15	LOGESH	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
16	GOVINDASAMY	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	3	IV	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	YES
17	CHINNAGOUNDER	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	MILD ELEVATED	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
18	KUMAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
19	SANGEETHA	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
20	SEKAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
21	KARUPAIYA	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
22	KRISHNA	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	I	CONSERVATIVELY	NIL	

							MANAGED		
23	VENKATESH	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	2	IV	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
24	KANGATHARAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
25	RAMESH	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
26	SATHISH KUMAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
27	MUNIYAPPAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
28	RAJAMANIKAM	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	WNL	2	IV	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
29	PALANIYAMMAL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	MILD ELEVATED	3	IV	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	YES
30	GANGATHARAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
31	MOHAMMAD ISMAIL	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
32	AZHAR MAHAMMAD	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
33	SATHISH KUMAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
34	KUMAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
35	PERUMAL	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
36	KUMAR	WNL			3	IV		EMERGENCY LAPROTOMY	
37	SATHISH KUMAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
38	SIVARAMAN	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	MILD ELEVATED	2	IV	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
39	MAYAKANNAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	

40	RAMESH	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
41	KAMAL	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
42	SAVITHRI	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
43	DHAVAMANI	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
44	RAJ KUMAR	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
45	JAGANATHAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
46	MURUGAN	WNL	WNL	WNL	2	II	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
47	PERUMAL	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
48	DHANAKODI	WNL	WNL	MILD ELEVATED	1	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
49	SENTHIL	WNL	WNL	WNL	3	III	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	
50	VIGNESH	WNL	WNL	WNL	1	I	CONSERVATIVELY MANAGED	NIL	

USG 1 – Mild,2-Moderate,3-Severe hemoperitoneum