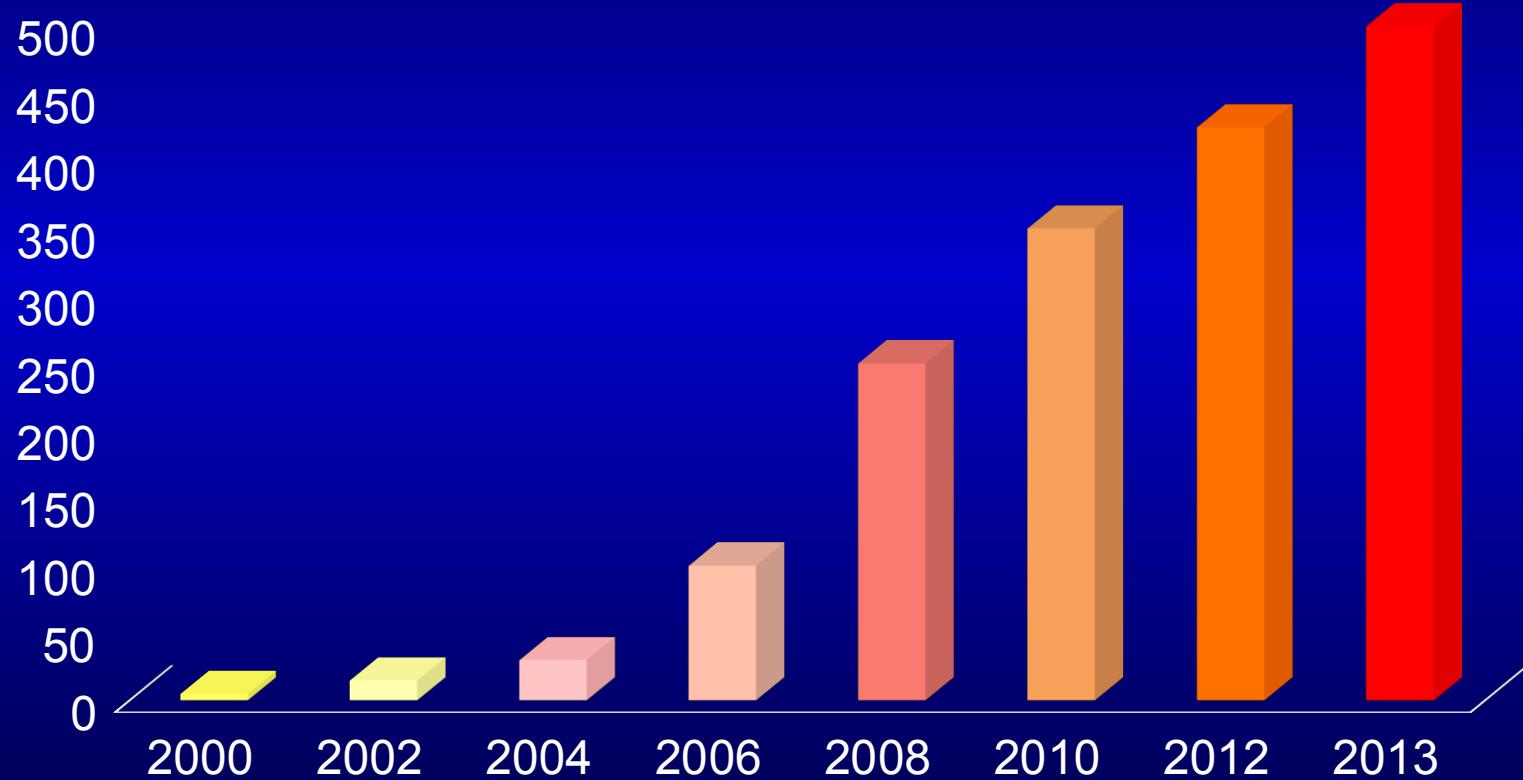


Are non-invasive markers of liver fibrosis reliable?

Laurent CASTERA, MD, PhD

Department of Hepatology, Hôpital Beaujon,
INSERM U 773, Université Paris-VII,
Clichy, France

Non invasive methods: An exponential increase in publications!



Source PubMed 2000-2013

Available non-invasive methods

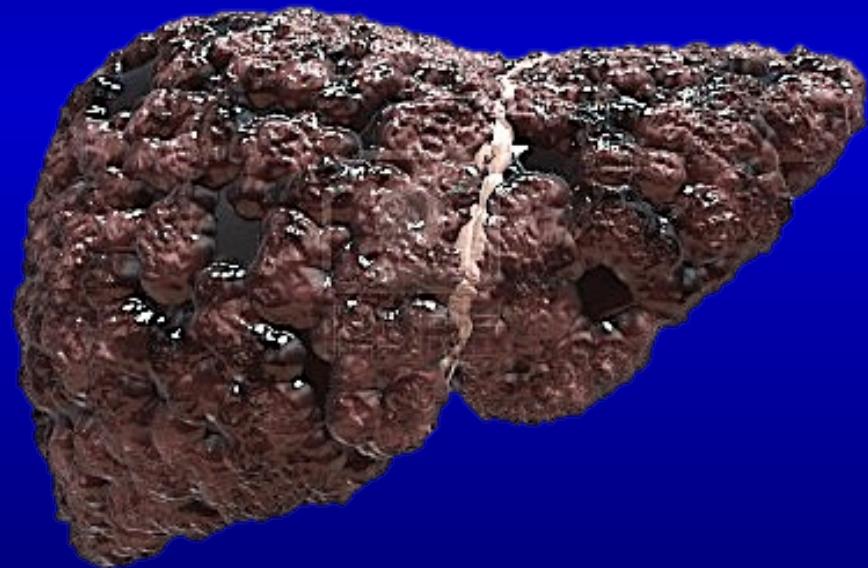
2 different but complementary approaches

« Biological » approach

« Physical » approach



Serum Biomarkers



Liver stiffness

Serum biomarkers

Non specific (HCV)

APRI

Forns Index

FibroSpect II®

ELF®

FibroTest®

Hepascore®

FibroMeters®

FIB-4

HBV specific

Zeng score

Hui Score



APRI and FibroTest® are the most validated

Non patented

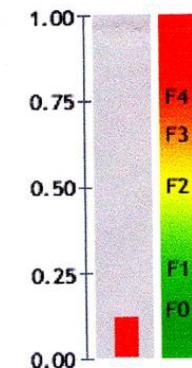
$$APRI = \frac{AST \times 100}{Platelet}$$

N=54 studies



Patented

FibroTest



Score : 0.12
(F0)

N=25 studies

Liver stiffness measurement



FibroScan



ARFI



SWE

The lessons from hepatitis C

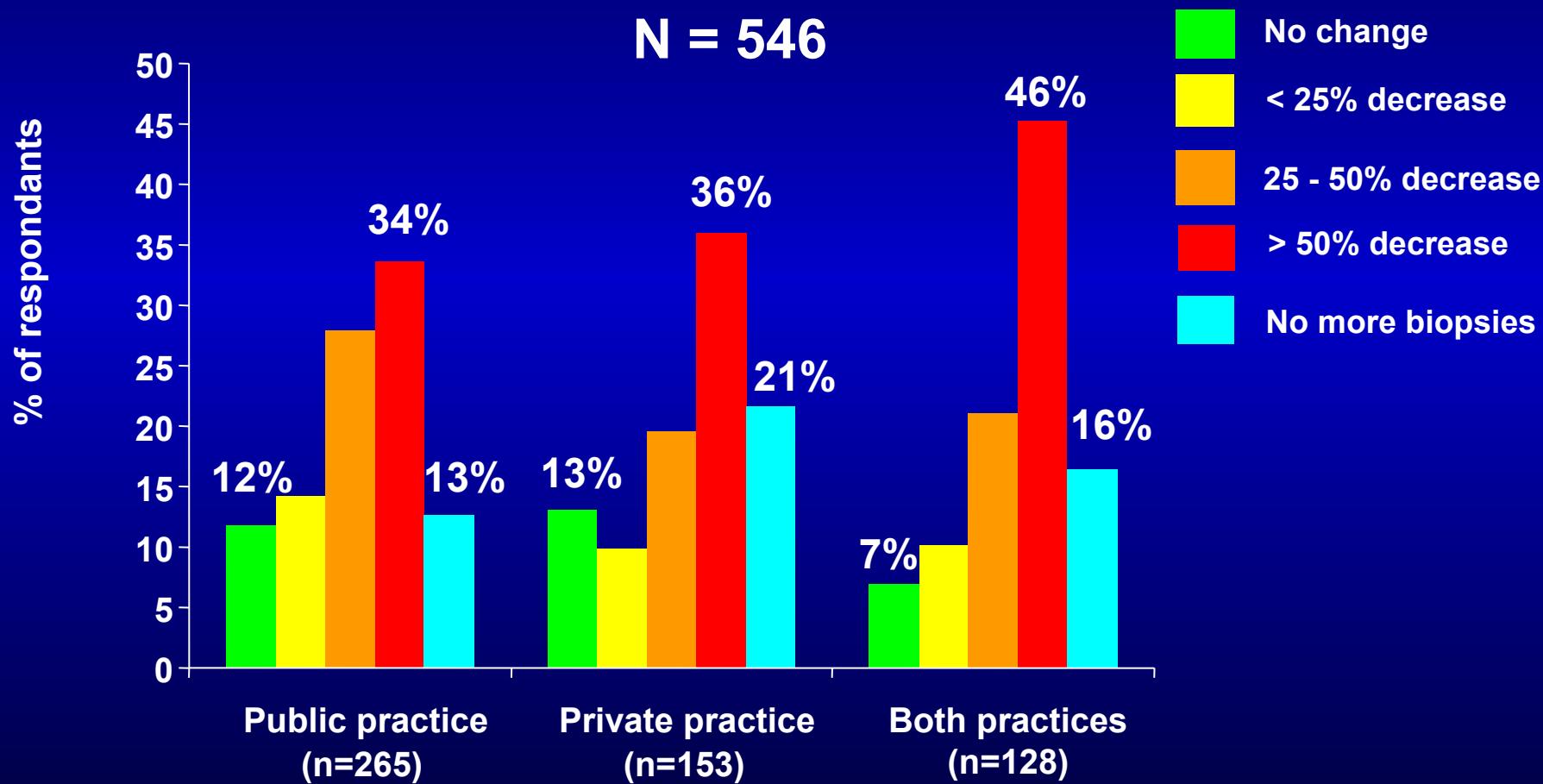
- Fibrosis stage can be assessed by non-invasive methods initially, with liver biopsy reserved for cases where there is uncertainty or potential additional etiologies
(recommendation B1)



EASL Clinical Practice Guidelines. J Hepatol 2011; 55: 245-64

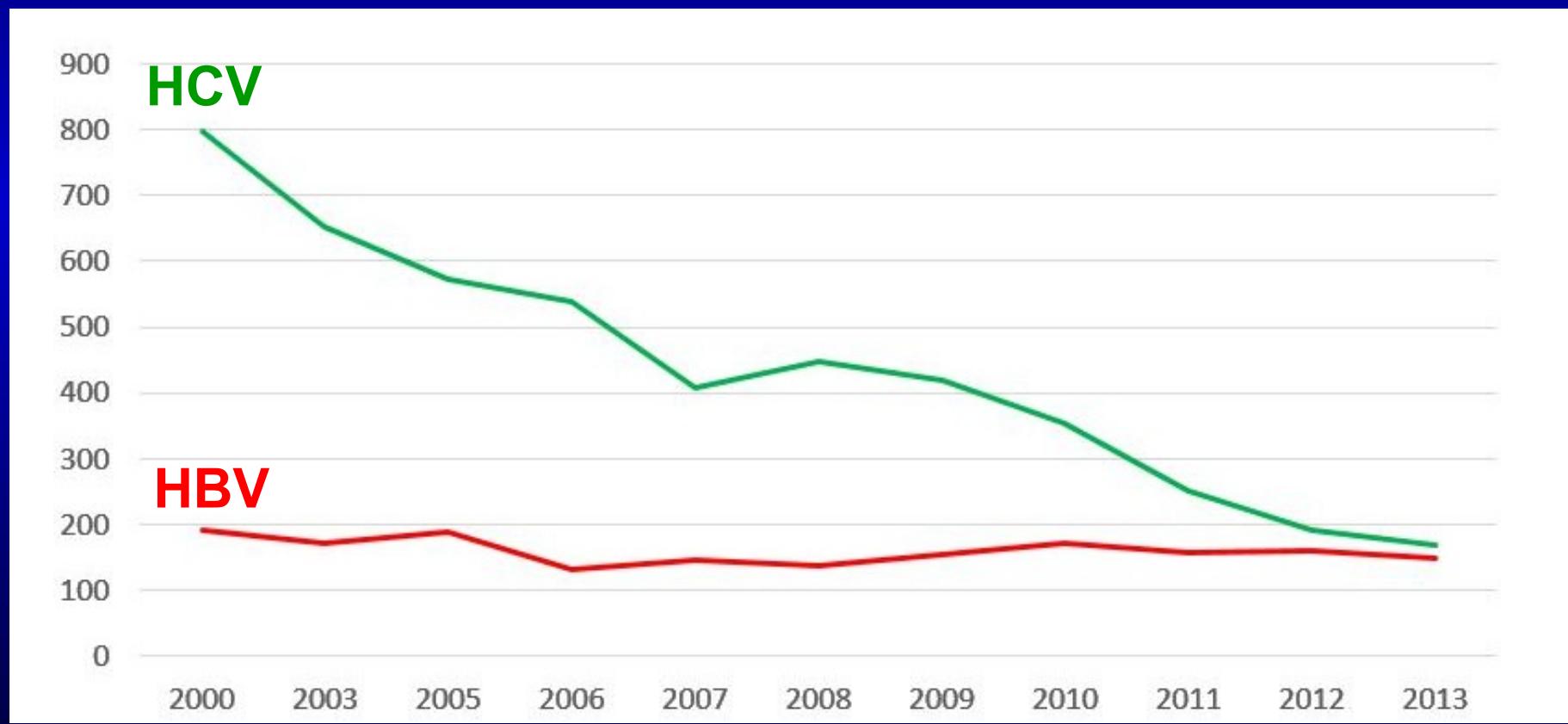
EASL Clinical Practice Guidelines. J Hepatol 2014; in press

Impact of the use of non-invasive tests on the need for liver biopsy in hepatitis C in France



Trends in Liver biopsy practice: HCV vs. HBV

The Beaujon experience 2000-2013



Courtesy of Pierre Bedossa

Assessing the stage of liver disease

End points in viral hepatitis

B

F0 F1

F2

F3

F4



Indication for antiviral treatment

Screening for Eosophageal varices

Screening for Hepatocellular carcinoma

Serum biomarkers

Comparative performance

	Number of patients	Cut-off	AUC	Cut-off	AUC
Significant Fibrosis					
Biomarkers ^{†‡}					
Fibrotest®	1197	5	0.48 (0.75-0.81)	0.74 (0.79-0.85) [†]	0.82 (0.79-0.85) [†]
Fibrometre®	1204				
APRI	1272	0.5	0.72 (0.69-0.75)	2.0	0.77 (0.73-0.81) [†]
Hepascore	1238	0.5	0.78 (0.75-0.80)	0.84	0.86 (0.83-0.88) [†]

N= 1307 patients; F2: 57%; F4: 14%

Degos et al. J Hepatol 2010; 53: 1013-21

Applicability of serum biomarkers

FibroTest-ActiTTest

Interpretable

342,346 (99.03%; 99.00-99.06)

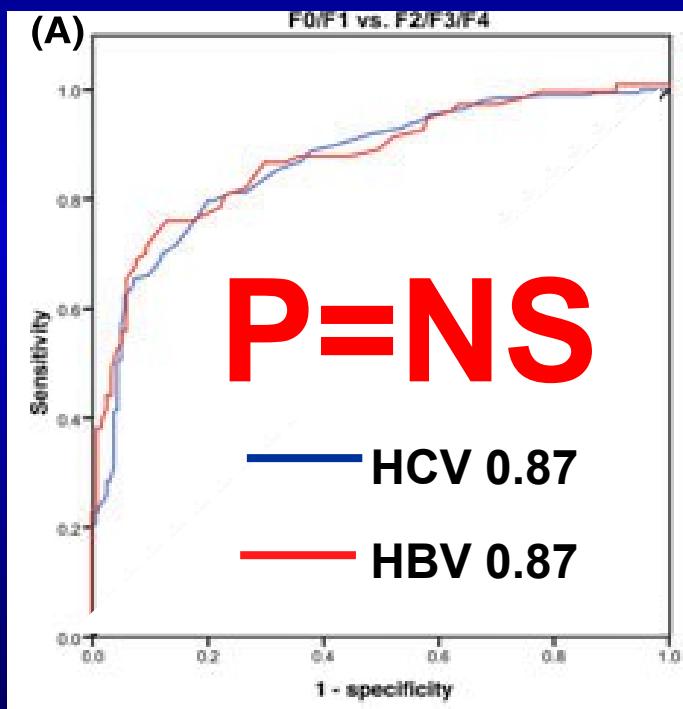
High risk False Positive/Negative
(95% CI)

3349 (0.97%; 0.94-1.00)

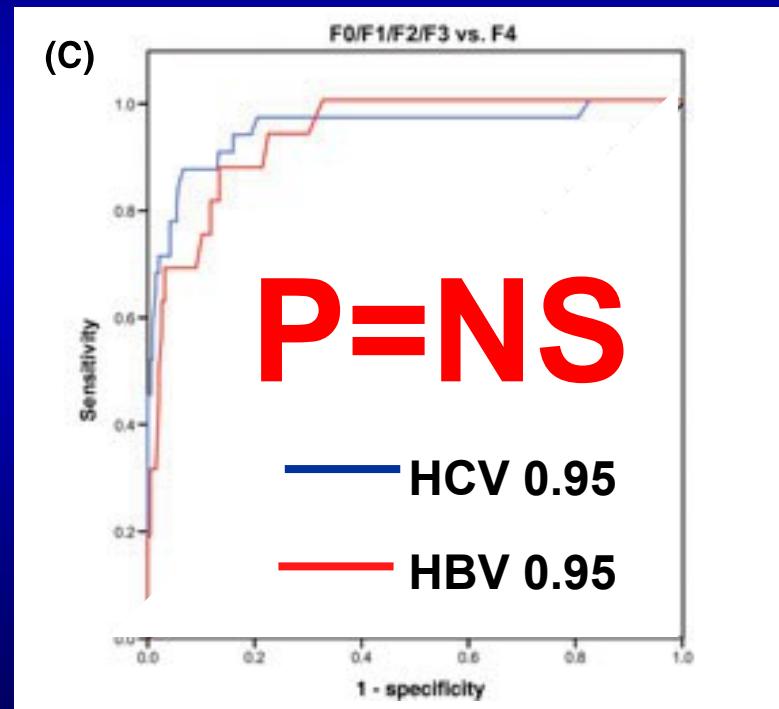
FibroScan

Hepatitis B vs. Hepatitis C

Significant fibrosis



Cirrhosis



N= 565 patients (202 HBV & 363 HCV)

FibroScan: meta-analyses

	<u>Number of included studies</u>	<u>Number of included subjects for analysis</u>	AUROC	
			$\geq F2$	F4
Talwalkar ¹⁵	<u>9</u>	<u>2,083</u>	0.870	0.957
Stebbing ¹⁶	<u>22</u>	<u>4,760</u>	0.84	0.94
Fredrich-rust et al ¹⁷	<u>50</u>	<u>8,206</u>	0.84	0.94
Tsochatzis et al ¹⁸	<u>40</u>	<u>7,723</u>	N/A	N/A
Chon et al	<u>18</u>	<u>2,772</u>	0.859	0.929

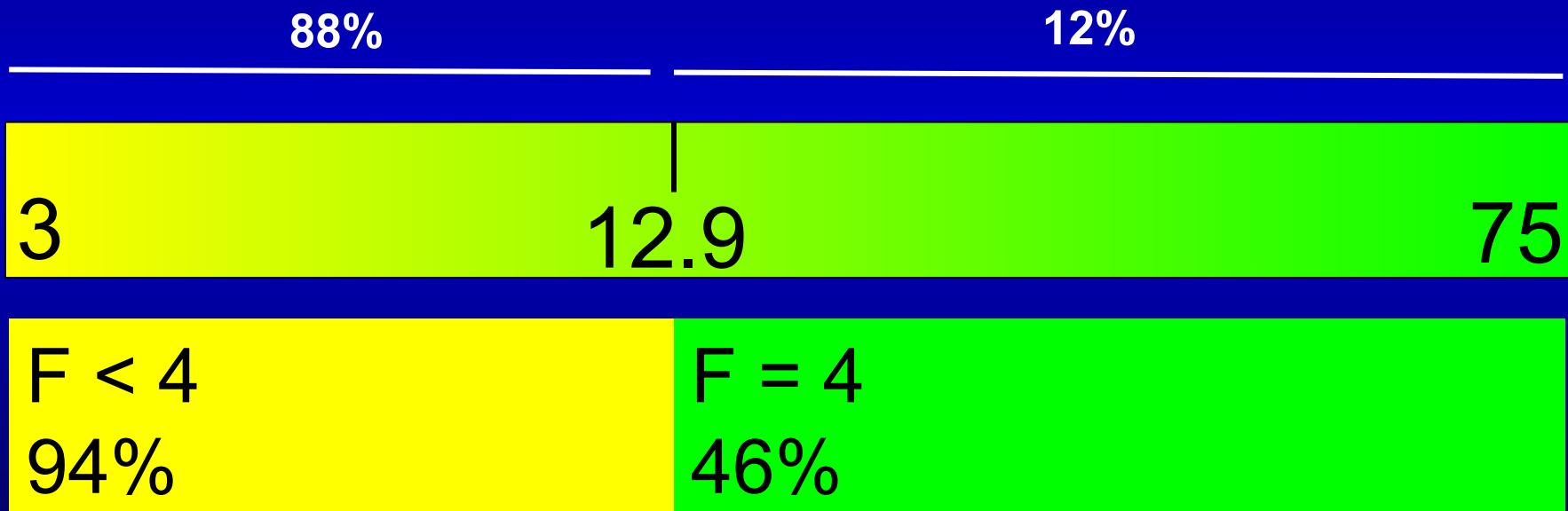
Cut-offs

Hepatitis C vs. hepatitis B

Authors	Etiologies	Year	Patient (n)	F ≥2 (%)	F4 (%)	Cut-offs AUROC				CC (%)
						(kPa)	Se (%)	Sp (%)		
Castera et al ⁶⁶	HCV	2005	183	74	25	7.1 12.5 8.6 14.6 7.8 14.8 7.4 11.9 5.2 12.9 5.2 12.9	0.83 0.95 0.79 0.87 0.91 0.98 0.86 0.94 0.75 0.90 0.82 0.93	67 87 56 86 83 94 76 87 90 72 97 77	89 91 91 96 82 92 84 91 32 89 35 90	73 90 68 94 83 92 79 90 57 87 64 88
Ziol et al ⁶⁷	HCV	2005	251	65	19	14.6 8.6 12.5	0.87 0.79 0.95	86 56 87	96 91 91	94
Arena et al ⁵³	HCV	2008	150	56	19	7.8 14.8 11.9 5.2 12.9 5.2 12.9	0.91 0.98 0.94 0.75 0.90 0.82 0.93	83 94 87 90 72 97 77	82 92 91 90 89 35 90	83 92 90 90 87 64 88
Lupsor et al ⁶⁸	HCV	2008	324	65	21	7.4 11.9 5.2 12.9 5.2 12.9	0.86 0.94 0.75 0.90 0.82 0.93	76 87 90 72 97 77	84 91 92 91 89 90	79 90 92 90 87 64 88
Degos et al ⁶⁴	HCV	2010	913	62	14	12.9 5.2 12.9 5.2 12.9	0.90 0.75 0.94 0.90 0.93	72 87 90 72 90	84 91 92 91 89	79 90 92 90 87
Zarski et al ⁶⁵	HCV	2012	382	47	14	12.9 5.2 12.9	0.82 0.93 0.93	97 77 90	35 35 90	64 64 88
Coco et al ⁶⁹	HBV (HCV)	2007	228	62	50 ^a	8.3 14.0 7.5 11.8 7.2 11.0	0.93 0.96 0.97 0.97 0.81 0.93	85 78 94 86 70 93	91 98 88 96 83 87	87 88 90 94 76 94
Oliveri et al ⁷⁰	HBV	2008	188	26	20 ^a	7.5 11.8 11.0	0.97 0.97 0.93	94 86 93	88 96 87	90 94 94
Marcellin et al ⁷¹	HBV	2009	173	50	8	7.2 11.0	0.81 0.93	70 93	83 87	76 94
Chan et al ⁷²	HBV	2009	161		25	12–13.4 ^b	0.93	98	75	85
Degos et al ⁶⁴	HBV	2010	284	42	10	5.2 12.9	0.78 0.85	89 52	38 93	59 89

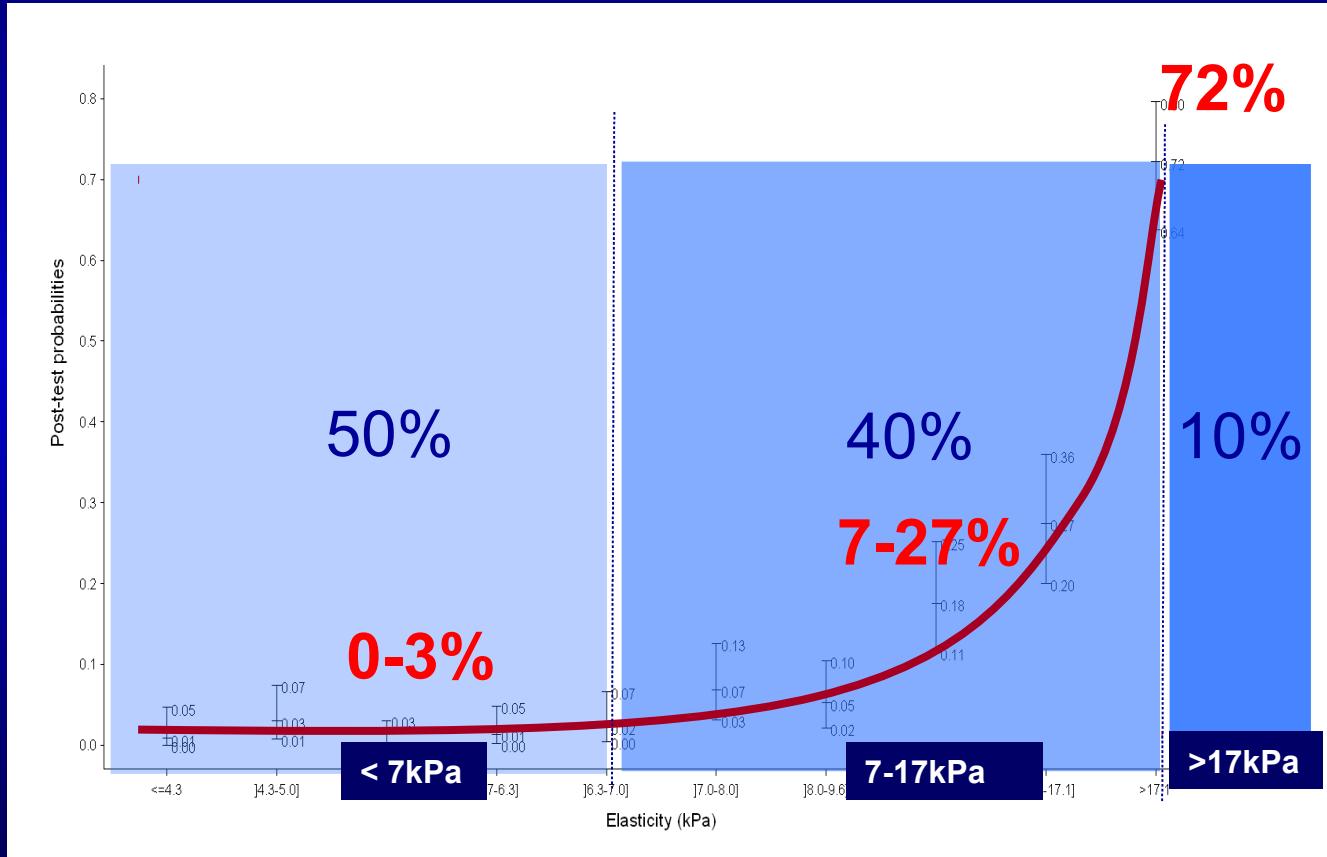
Detection of cirrhosis (n=284 HBV patients)

Correctly classified 89 %



Cirrhosis: Post-test probabilities (pre-test:14%)

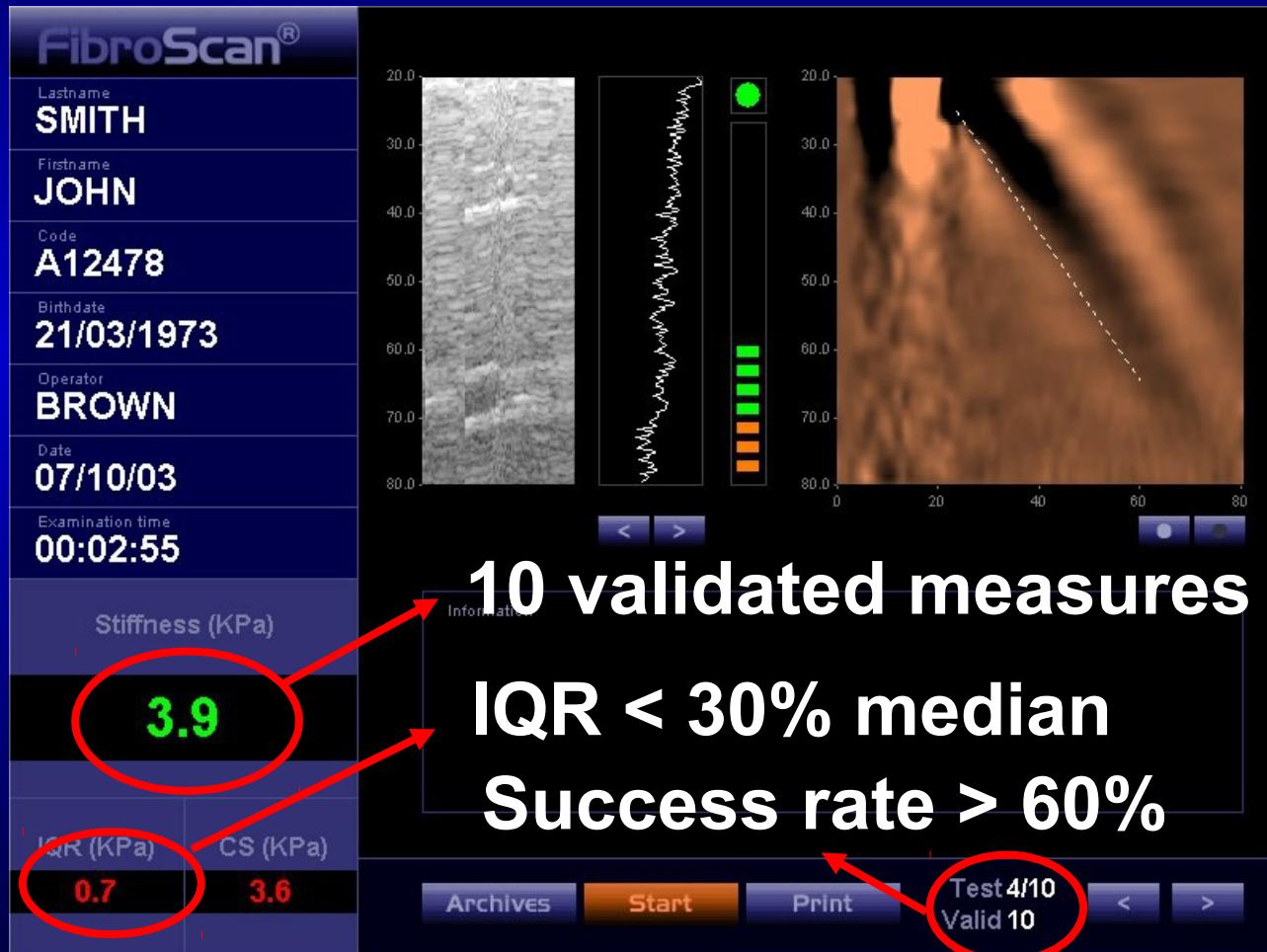
Post test probabilities of cirrhosis



N=1307 patients with viral hepatitis; 14% with cirrhosis

Degos et al. J Hepatol 2010; 53: 1013-21

How to interpret FibroScan results manufacturer's recommendations



Applicability of transient elastography

Obesity 3.1%



Unreliable

Operator experience

FibroScan
not applicable
in 20%
of cases

60%

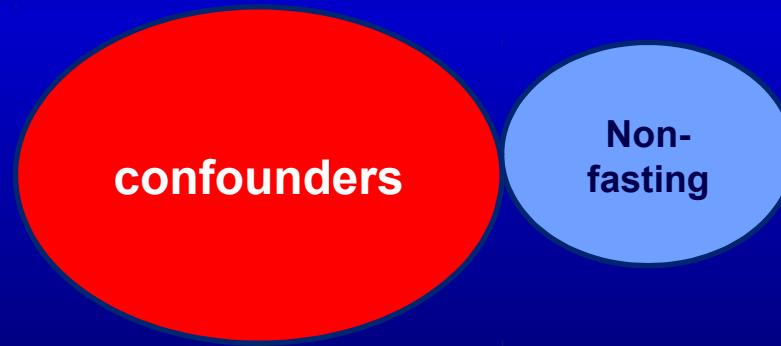
IQR/LSM > 30%
9.2%



N=13669 examinations

Castéra et al. Hepatology 2010; 51: 828-35

Confounders for liver stiffness



Influence of food intake

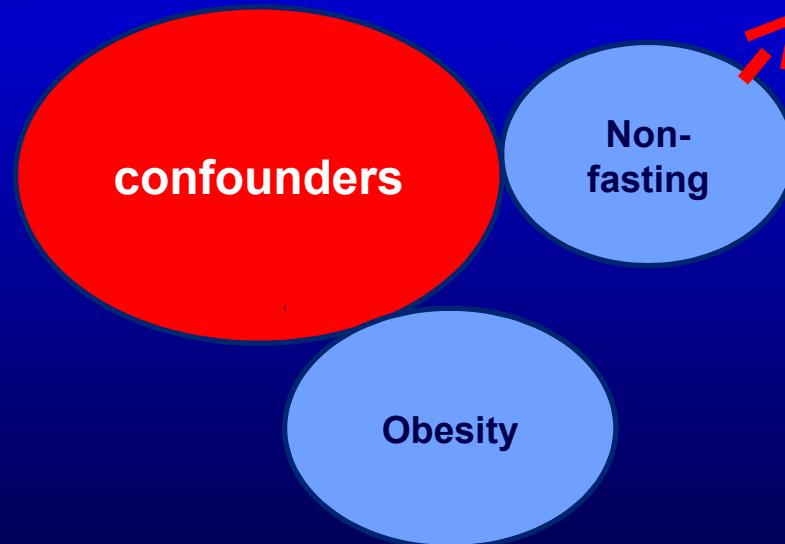
	F0-1 (n = 50)		F2-3 (n = 35)		F4 (n = 40)		JT test P Value
	Median	IQR	Median	IQR	Median	IQR	
S ₀ (kPa)	5.0	1.4	10.7	3.4	21.2	25.7	<0.001
S ₁₅ (kPa)	5.9	1.7	12.2	4.3	24.5	27.3	<0.001
S ₃₀ (kPa)							<0.001
S ₄₅ (kPa)							<0.001
S ₆₀ (kPa)							<0.001
S _{min} (kPa)							<0.001
S _{max} (kPa)	6.7	1.9	13.2	5.0	25.4	28.7	<0.001
S _{delta} (kPa)	1.9	0.9	2.7	0.8	4.7	2.8	<0.001
S _{delta} (%)	33.6	21.1	25.3	8.6	16.6	7.5	<0.001

TE should be performed
in fasting patients

Mederacke et al. Liver Int 2009; 29: 1500-6

Arena et al. Hepatology 2013; 58: 65-72

Confounders for liver stiffness



Have patients fast
for 6 hours prior

XL Probe: Does it really overcome the limitations of M probe ?

Failure

XL vs. M probe:
1% vs. 16%

Unreliable

SR < 60%

XL vs. M probe:
27% vs. 50%

IQR/LSM > 30%

N= 276 patients with BMI > 28 kg/m²

Confounding factors for liver stiffness

Use operators
with > 50 exams

Inexperience

Inflammation

Have patients fast
for 6 hours prior

confounders

Non-
fasting

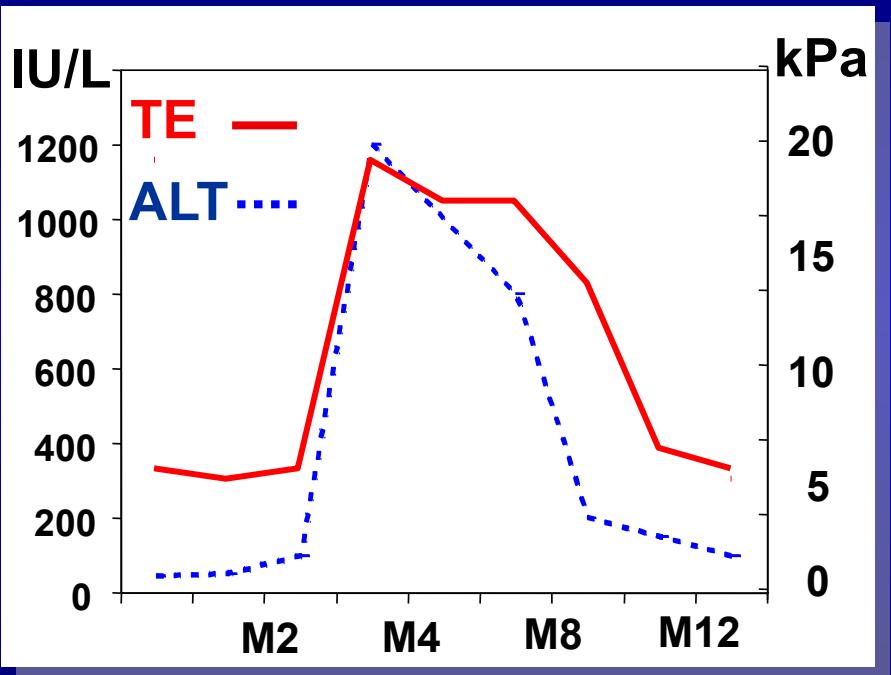
congestion

Obesity

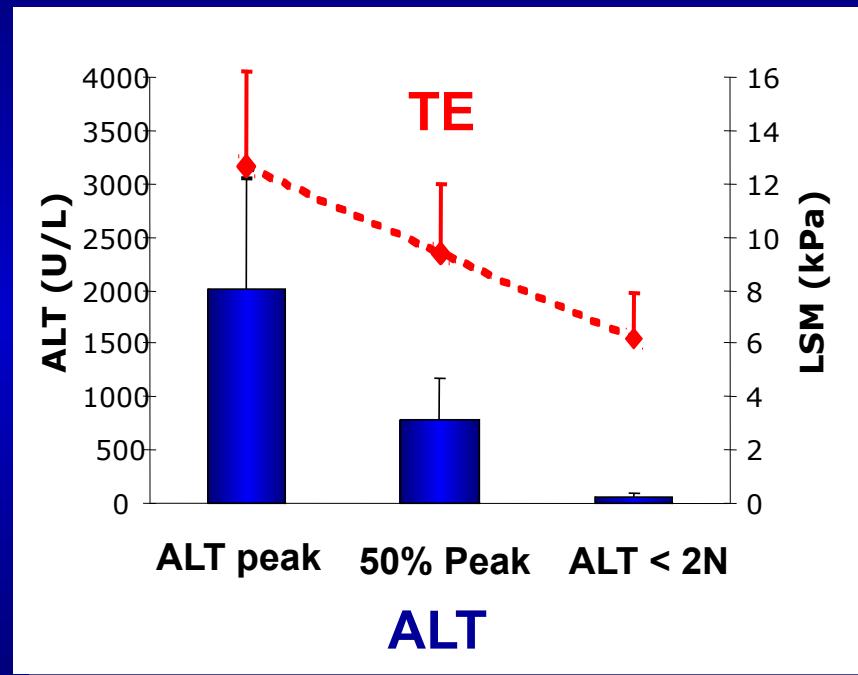
Examine for right
heart failure

Use an XL probe
at BMI ≥ 30

Influence of inflammation

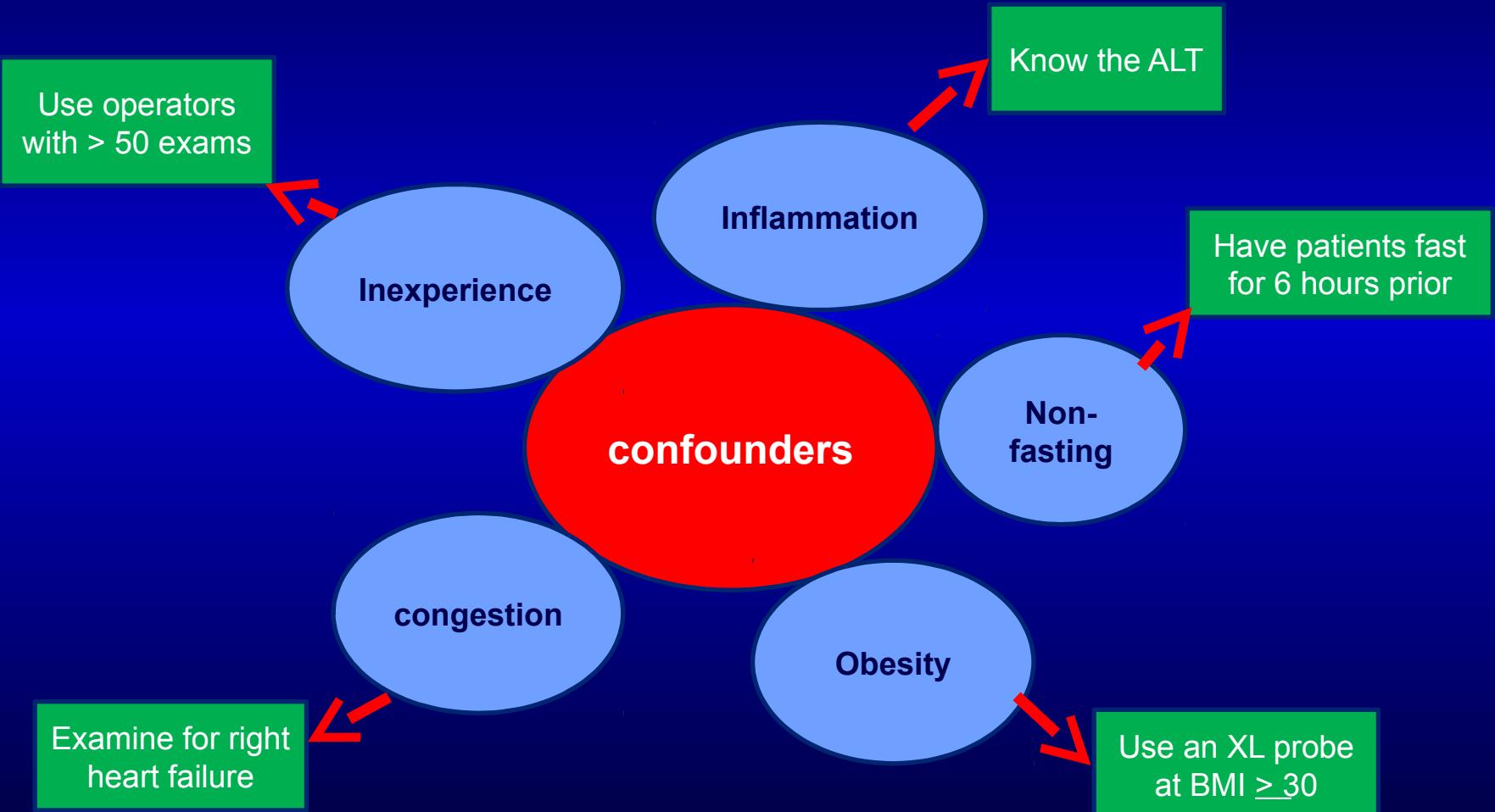


10 patients with ALT flares

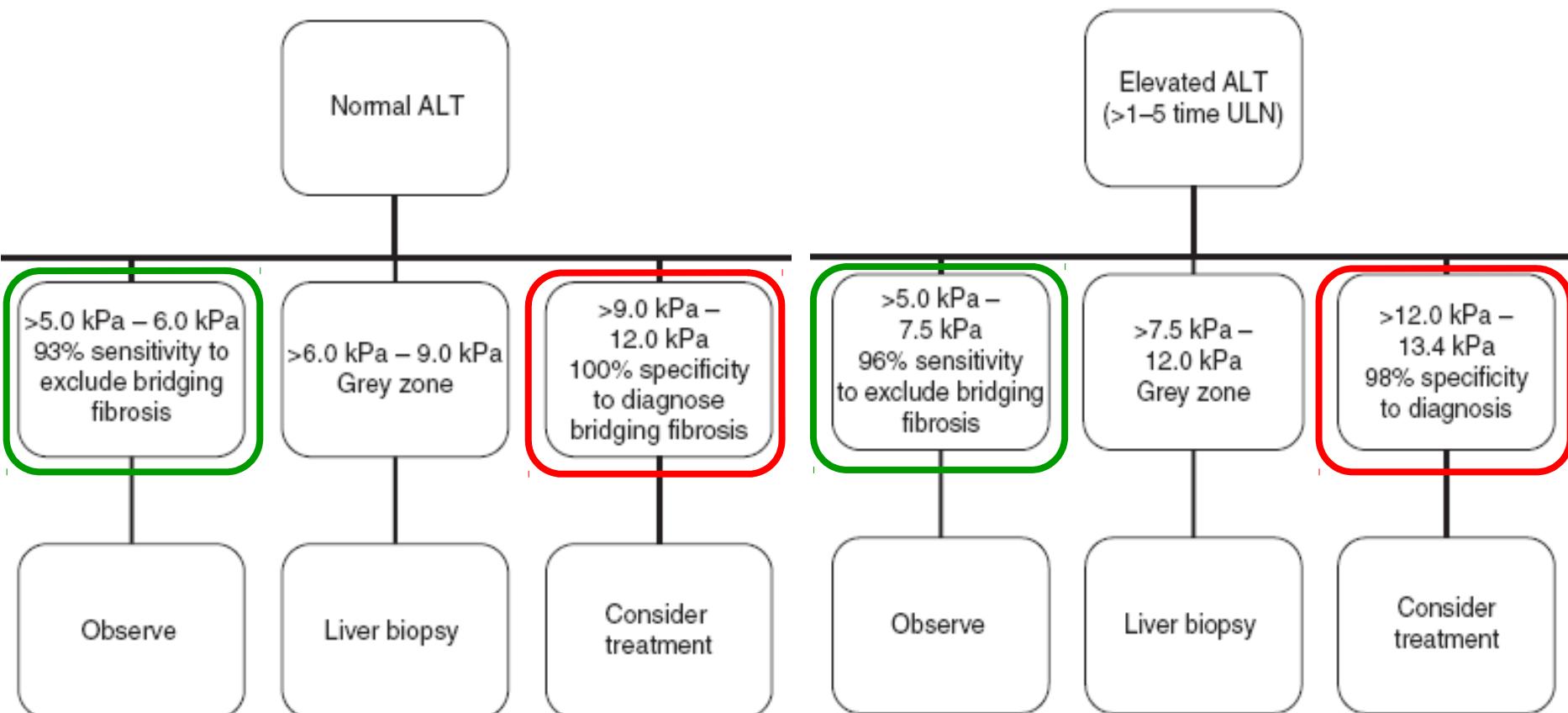


18 patients with acute viral hepatitis

Confounders of liver stiffness



Adapt cut-offs according to ALT levels



Available non-invasive methods

? *different but complementary approaches*

« Biological » approach

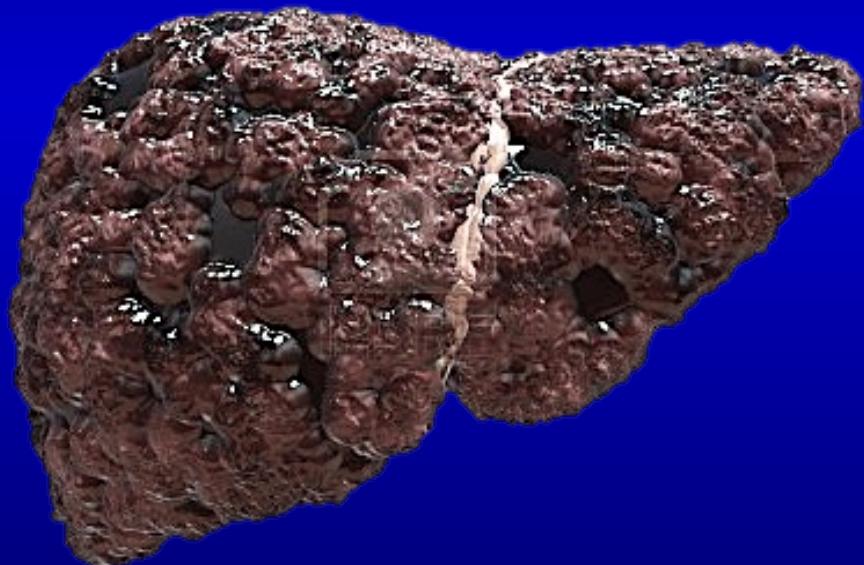
« Physical » approach



Serum Biomarkers

?

=



Liver stiffness

Comparative performance significant fibrosis

	Number of patients	Prevalence	Cutoff	AUC
FibroScan®	1307	57.1	7.1	0.76 (0.74-0.79)
Fibrotest®			0.48	0.78 (0.75-0.81)
Fibrometre®	---	---	0.41	0.79 (0.76-0.81)
APRI	1272	57.1	0.5	0.72 (0.69-0.75)
Hepascore	1238	57.1	0.5	0.78 (0.75-0.80)

P=NS

N= 1307 patients; F2: 56%

Degos et al. J Hepatol 2010; 53: 1013-21

Comparative performance cirrhosis

	Number of patients	Prevalence	Cut-off	AUC
FibroScan®*	1307	13.8	12.5	0.90 (0.87-0.92)
Fibrotest®				0.82 (0.79-0.85)
Fibrometre®	1204	13.6	0.442	0.86 (0.83-0.89)
APRI	1272	13.9	2.0	0.77 (0.73-0.81)
Hepascore	1238	14.0	0.84	0.86 (0.83-0.88)

P<0.0001

Biomarkers vs. FibroScan

summary

Biomarkers

- Advantages

- Good reproducibility
- High applicability (95%)
- Low cost & wide availability (non patented)

- Disadvantages

- Non specific of the liver
- Performance for cirrhosis
- Cost & time

(patented)

FibroScan

- Advantages

- Genuine property of the liver
- High performance for cirrhosis
- User-friendly

- Disadvantages

- Low applicability (80%)
- False positive (inflammation)
- Expensive

**What about combining
both methods?**

FibroScan



Biomarkers







Combining methods increases diagnostic accuracy



Combining methods increases diagnostic accuracy in hep C



Biomarkers

Correctly
classified F \geq 2:
75%



Liver stiffness

Hepatitis B

?



Serum markers



Transient elastography

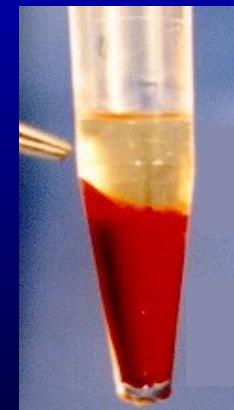
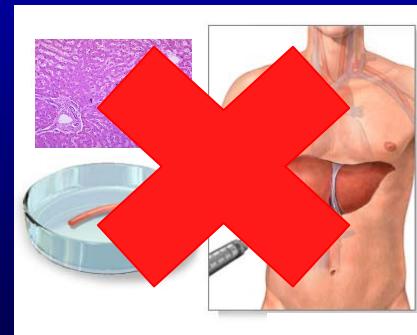
Use in clinical practice

Inactive carriers

HBe Ac +

ALT = N

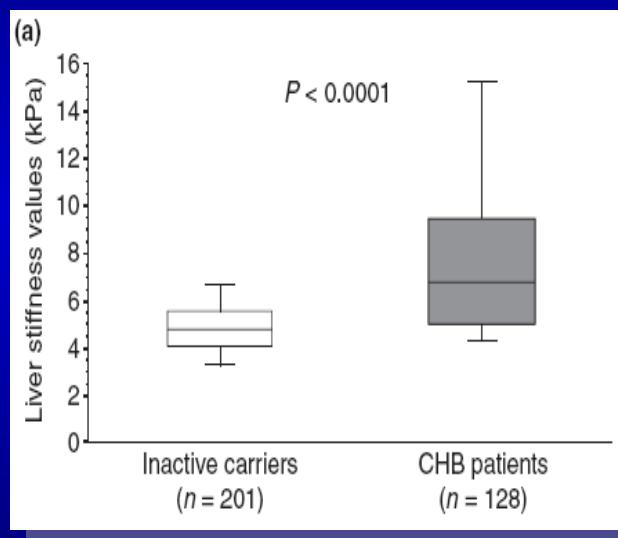
HBV DNA < 20000 UI/mL



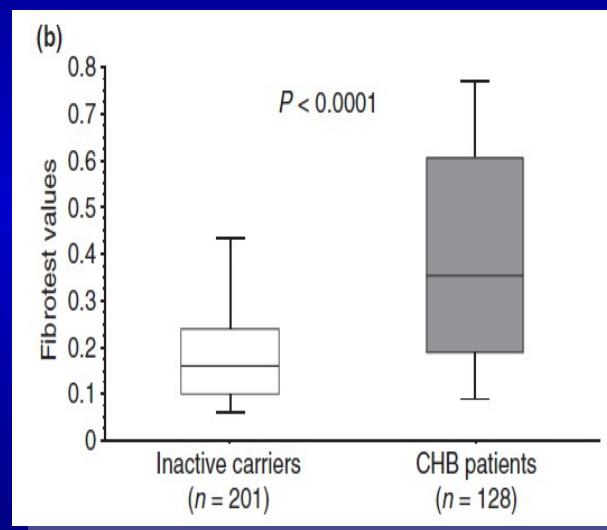
HBV inactive carriers

FibroScan & biomarkers

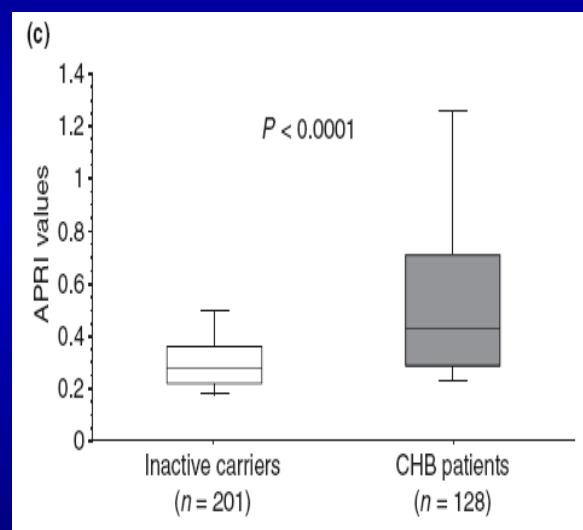
FibroScan



FibroTest

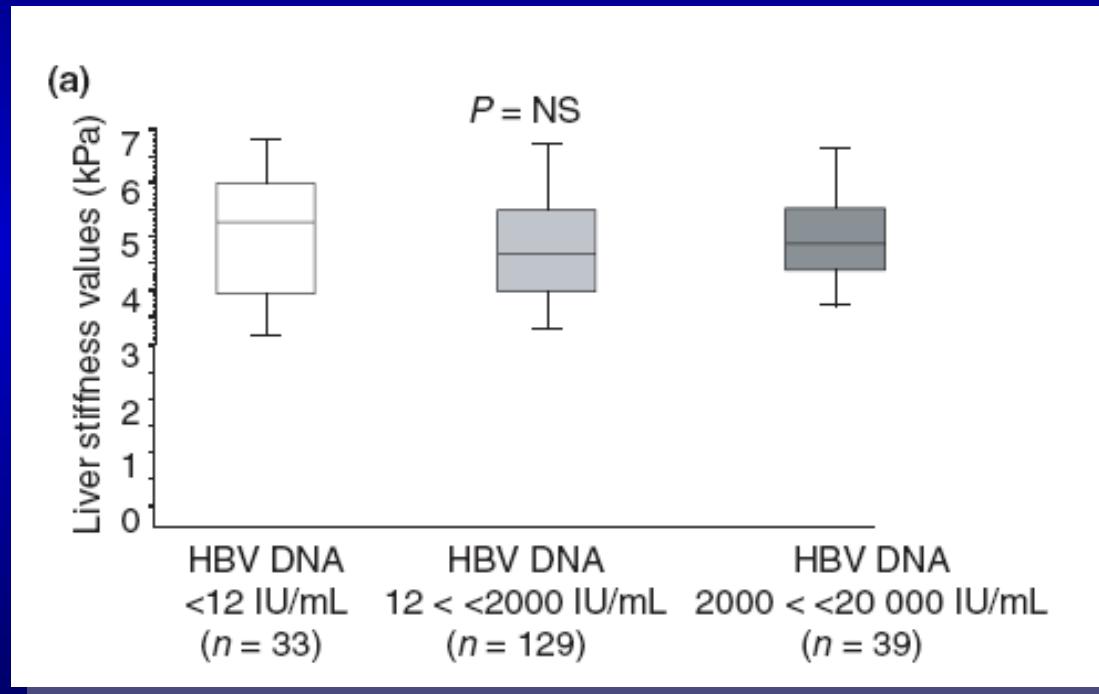


APRI



329 HBV HBeAg neg patients ; 201 inactive carriers

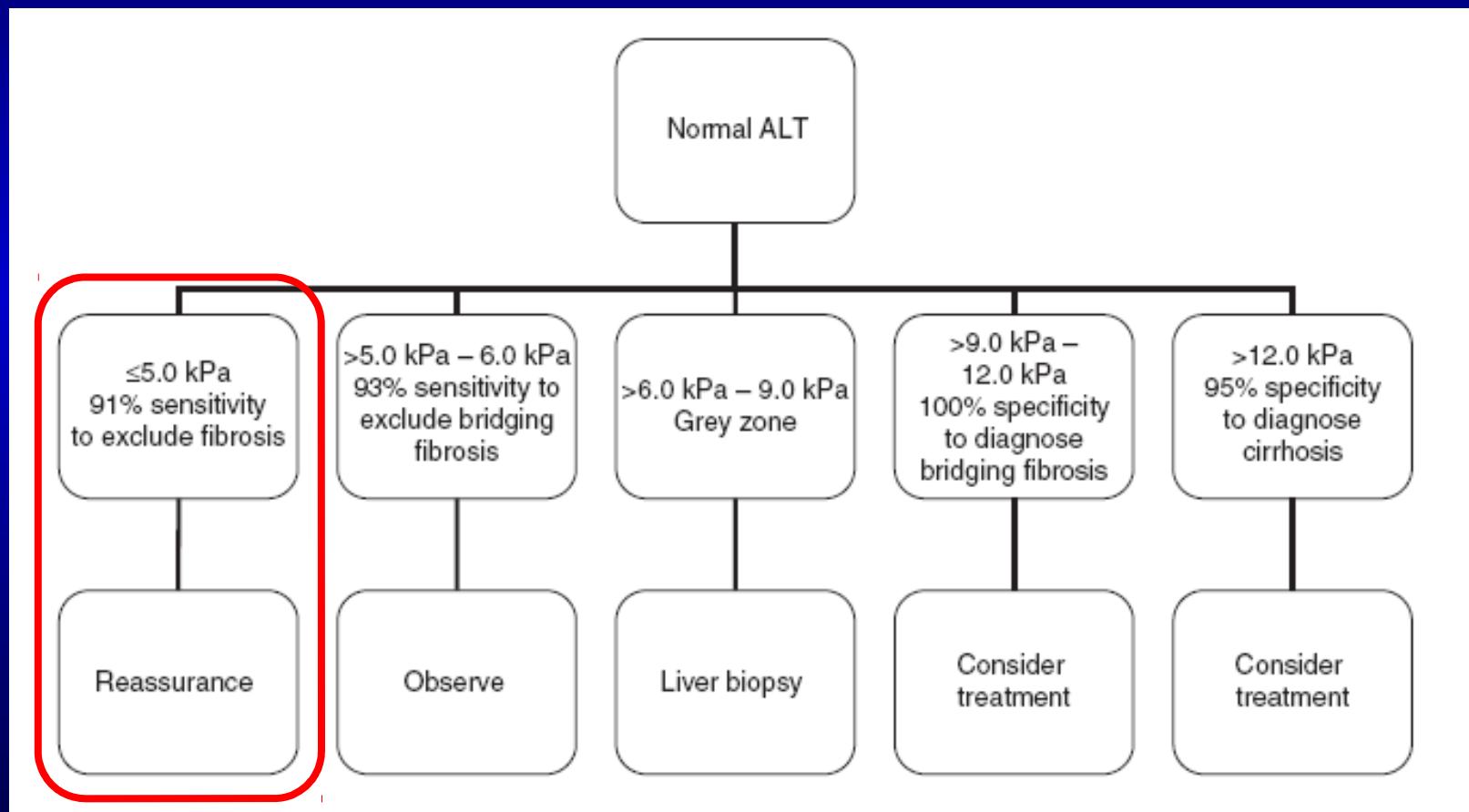
Inactive carriers relationship with HBV DNA



329 HBV AgHBe neg patients ; 201 inactive carriers

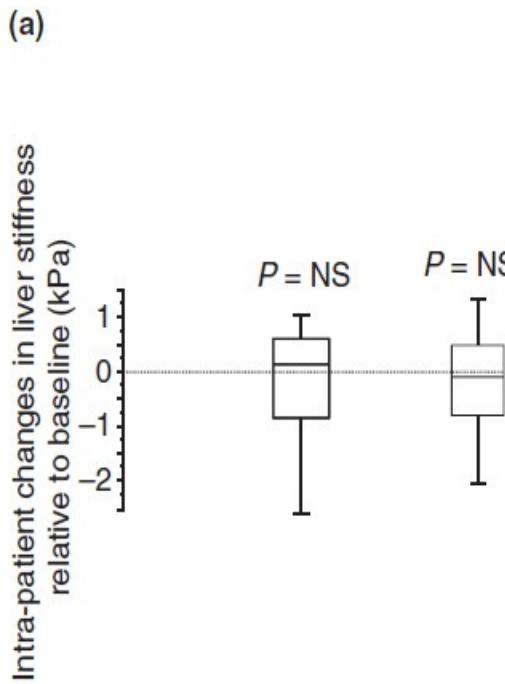
FibroScan

Performance in inactive carriers

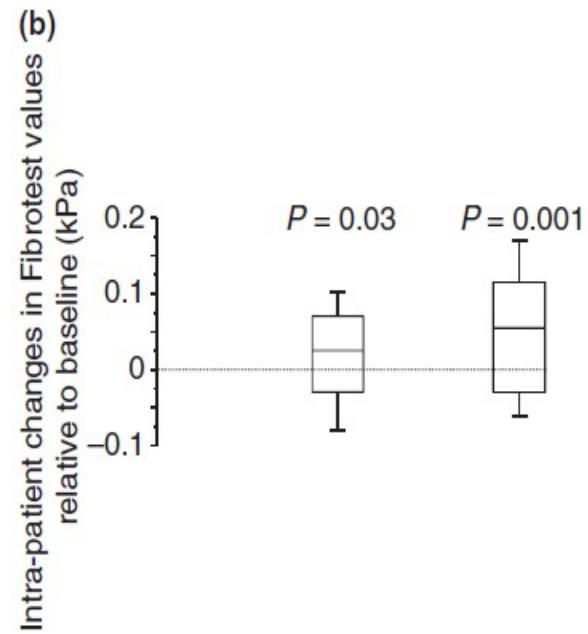


Follow-up of HBV inactive carriers

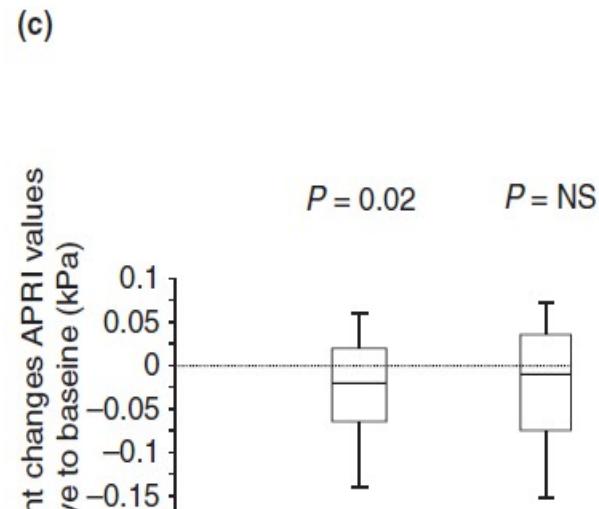
FibroScan



FibroTest



APRI



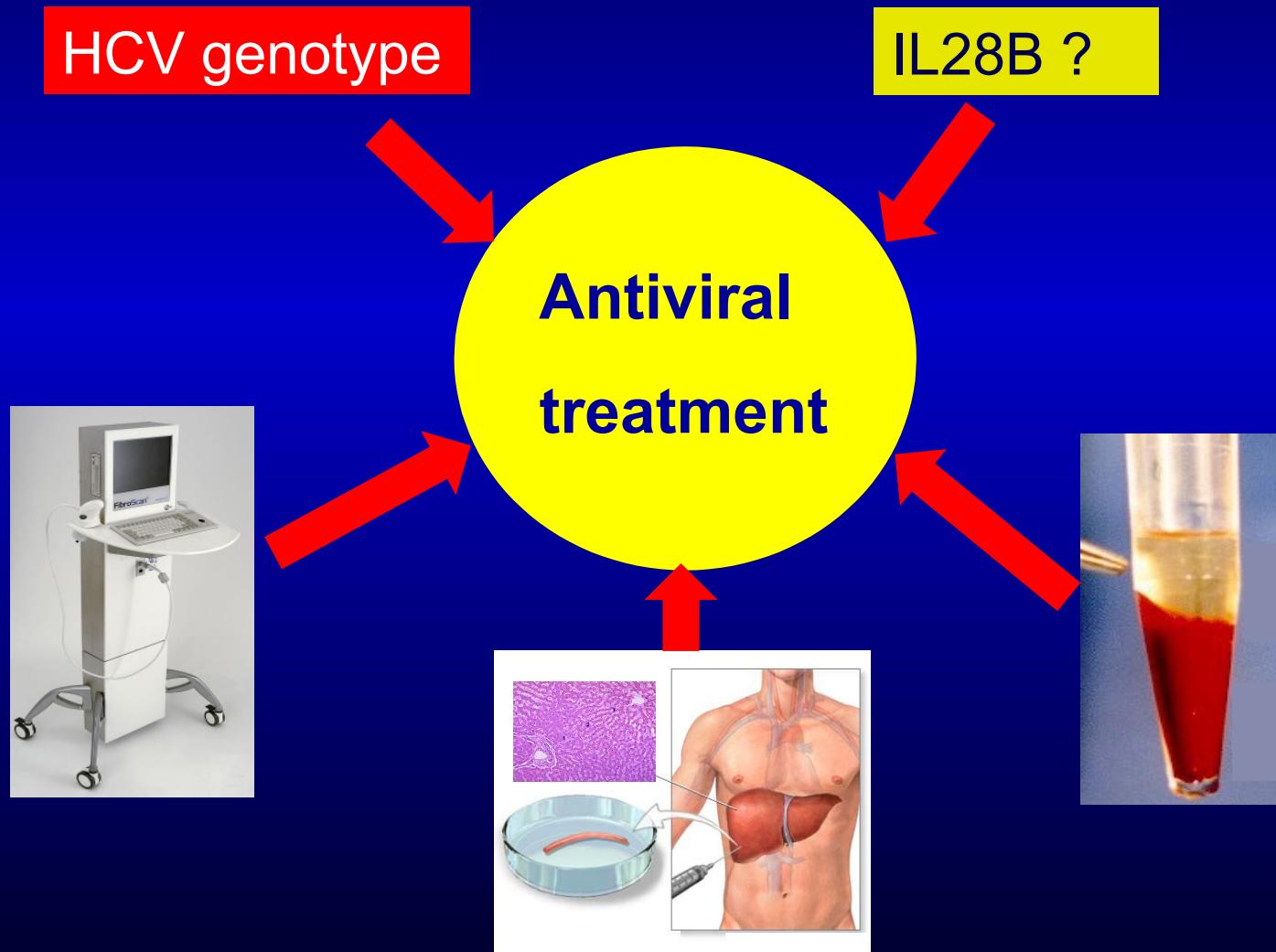
N=82 inactive carriers follow-up (median: 21.7 months)

Follow-up of HBV inactive carriers

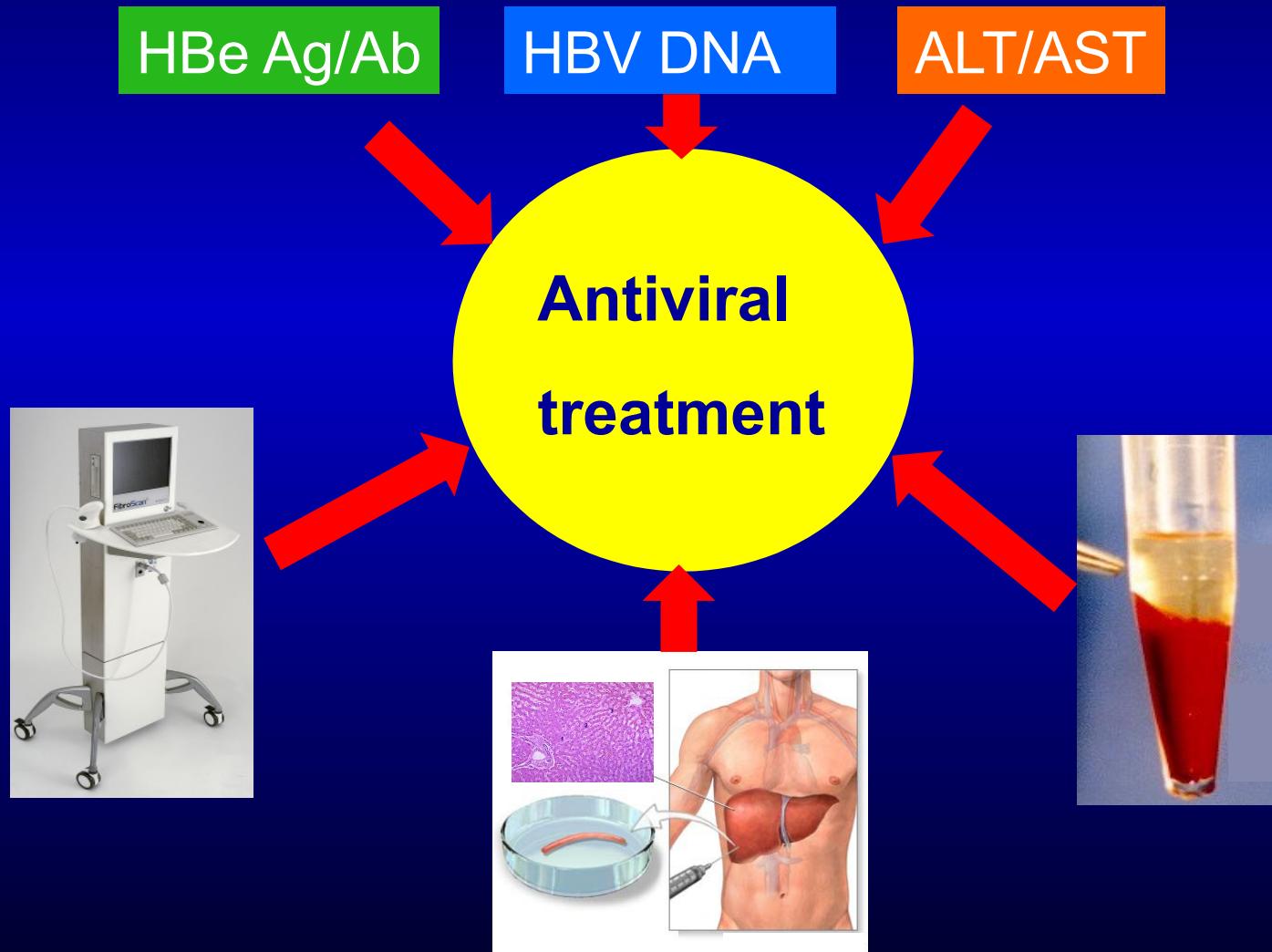
Patients	Gender/age	BMI (kg/m ²)	ALT B-line (IU/L)	HBV DNA (IU/mL)	LSM B-line (kPa)	Delay B-line and EOF (days)	LSM second (kPa)	LSM third (kPa)	LSM fourth (kPa)	ALT EOF (IU/L)	HBV DNA EOF (IU/mL)	LB
1	M/25	21.6	33	7536	7.4	460	7.3	6.5	7.8	35	7325	F2
2	F/25	19.7	24	<12	7.8	182	4.1	5.8	-	32	<12	No
3	M/49	27.1	35	<12	7.8	179	6.8	-	-	35	<12	No
4	M/31	20.5	18	315	7.9	253	5.9	-	-	23	<12	No
5	M/52	23.4	47	1600	8.0	236	5.4	4.8	-	34	973	No
6	M/18	21.8	24	662	8.2	395	9.8	9.5	12.7	21	372	F3
7	M/59	24.9	29	<12	8.6	247	6.3	-	-	20	<12	No
8	M/22	24.6	25	1782	8.8	100	5.9	-	-	29	1239	No
9	M/45	23.4	38	774	9.4	186	6.1	6.7	6.6	38	118	No
10	M/23	19.6	21	9380	9.5	416	6.9	6.8	-	9	9216	No
11	M/26	26.4	40	566	11.6	329	5.8	5.3	4.9	42	715	No

N=82 inactive carriers follow-up (median: 21.7 months)

Decision to treat: Hep C



Decision to treat: Hep B



Antiviral treatment

Hep. C vs. Hep. B

Hepatitis C

- Curative treatment
- Finite duration (6-12 mths)
- Side-effects



Hepatitis B

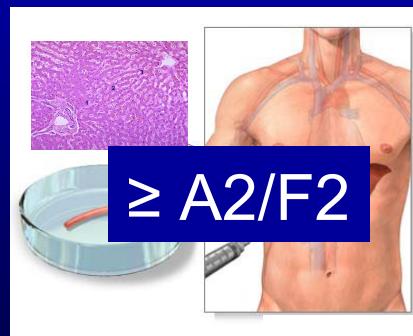
- Suppressive treatment
- Prolonged treatment
- Very few side effects
- Long-term side effects
- Inflammation imp...

Indication for antiviral treatment

HBe Ag +/-

ALT > ULN

HBV DNA > 2000 IU/mL



\geq A2/F2

Indication for antiviral treatment

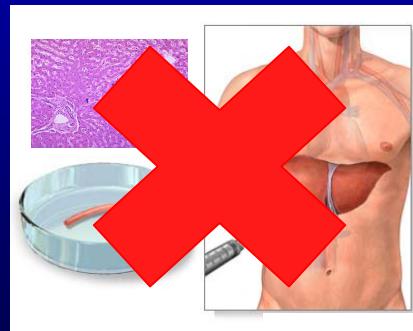
- If diagnosis of cirrhosis is clinically obvious or likely with FibroScan, liver biopsy is not needed.
- Antiviral treatment should be started and patients should be screened for esophageal varices and HCC.

Indication for antiviral treatment

Ag HBe +/-

ALAT > 2 x N

ADN VHB > 20000 UI/mL



Take Home messages

- Non invasive methods are reliable in Hepatitis B.
- Serum biomarkers have equivalent performance between patented and non patented and high applicability.
- TE is currently the most accurate method for detecting cirrhosis but cut-offs need to be adapted according to ALT levels and its applicability is limited in obesity.
- Strategy combining two unrelated methods (TE + serum markers) remains to be validated in hepatitis B.



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Radiology Unit: Marie-Pierre Vuillerme, Maxime Ronot, Valérie Vilgrain

Pathology Unit: Valérie Paradis, Pierre Bedossa