

## **NASH: Optimal Management**

### **Dr Raluca Pais**

Institute of Cardiometabolisme and Nutrition (ICAN) Hôpital Pitie Salpetrière, Paris







## **Clinical case**

57 years old female First addressed by the nutritionist for altered LFT (>2.5 N ) and high ferritin

Morbidly obese: **BMI - 47.83 kg/m**<sup>2</sup> (W = 133kg, T - 167 cm)

20 years 26 years 37 years 57 years



### MEDICAL HISTORY

- ✓ Arterial hypertension since 2000
- T2DM since 2010; no macro/microvascular complication
- ✓ OSA; AHI = 16/h
- ✓ Clinical significant knee osteoarthritis
- ✓ Hypothyroidia

Alcohol : 10 g/day (wine) Former tobacco use (10 PY) Retired Low physical activity level



## **Clinical case**



- ✓ Creatinin = 62  $\mu$ mol/l.
- ✓ Albumin = 36g/l
- ✓ Ferritine = 441  $\mu$ g/l; Sat Coef = 34%
- ✓ LDL = 1.46 g/L, CT = 2.25; TG = 2.09; HDL = 0.37



<u>TREATMENT :</u> METFORMIN 1000 mg, IRBESARTAN/HCT 150/12.5 mg, LTHYROXIN 75 μg

LIVER ULTRASOUND - Steatosis, no signs of PHT







### WHAT TEST WOULD YOU FURTHER PERFORM TO ASSESS THE SEVERITY OF THE LIVER DAMMAGE?

- A 2<sup>nd</sup> simple blood tests (APRI, BARD, NFS Fibrosis score)
- Second line blood tests (Fibrotest, FibroMeter, ELF)
- Transient Elastography (TE)
- Combination of second line blood test and TE



## First-line diagnostic tests in primary care settings

- Reduce unnecessary referral from primary to secondary care
- Detect significant fibrosis and cirrhosis





#### **Unnecessary referral – reduced by 81%**

Srivastava, J Hepatology 2019



### Refine the indication for liver biopsy



Boursier, J Hepatology 2019

PARIS HERATOLOGY CONFERENCE EASL GUIDELINE NAFLD fibrosis score or FIB4 NFS <-1.455\* NFS -1.455\* to 0.676 NFS >0.676 FIB4 <1.30# FIB4 1.30#-3.25 FIB4 >3.25 NON INVASIVE EVALUATION OF LIVER **FIBROSIS** Hiah risk Low risk Intermediate risk Exclude F≥3 Grey zone Diagnose F≥3 FIR4 = 1.83Fibrotest < 0.30 Fibrotest 0.30-0.70 Fibrotest >0.70 Hepascore < 0.37 Hepascore 0.37-0.70 Hepascore >0.70 NAFLD Fibrosis Score: 1.855 Fibroscan <7.9 Fibroscan 7.9-9.6 Fibroscan >9.6 Monitoring every 2 years Liver biopsy FT = 0.63Liver biopsy: FS XL= 9.5 kPa: 25 mm, 1 fragment, 11 PS **IQR = 13%:** Macrovesicular steatosis 90% TDR = 90% (10/11)Ultrasonic Moderate lobular inflammation (grade 2) transducer Explored volume Significant grade 2 ballooning Portal and perisinosoidal fibrosis with septa NAS = 7, **S3A4F3 ADVANCED FIBROSIS** 





- Screen for HCC?
- High risk for extra hepatic cancer?
- > Optimal management of comorbidities weight, T2DM, OSA etc
- Consider inclusion in a NASH clinical trial
- Patient's education program



HCC often occur in the absence of cirrhosis



Table 3. Recommendations for HCC surveillance: categories of adult patientsin whom surveillance is recommended.

- 1. Cirrhotic patients, Child-Pugh stage A and B\*
- 2. Cirrhotic patients, Child-Pugh stage C awaiting liver transplantation\*\*
- 3. Non-cirrhotic HBV carriers with active hepatitis or family history of HCC\*\*\*
- 4. Non-cirrhotic patients with chronic hepatitis C and advanced liver fibrosis F3\*\*\*\*

Pais, Alimentary Phramacol Therap 2018



N = 4722 individuals with NAFLD, Olmsted County Follow-up - 21 years



- NAFLD was associated with a higher risk of incident cancers (IRR = 2.0, 95% CI 1.5-2.9) vs. non obeses controlls;
- Obesity in the absence of NAFLD had minimal impact on malignancy risk (IRR = 1.0, 95% CI 0.8-1.4).



McAllen, J Hepatology 2019



### **COMORBIDITY MANAGEMENT/CONTROL**





#### Life style modifications

#### **1. Histological improvement**

293 patients; 89% with paired liver biopsy F/u: 52 weeks Low-fat hypocaloric diet (- 750 kcal)



#### 2. Fibrosis



Vilar Gomez, Gastroenterology 2015



### **MODERATE ALCOHOL USE - GOOD OR BAD?**

#### PROTECTIVE EFFECT OF MODEST ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION ON OVERALL MORTALITY

NAFLD with low fibrosis risk\* (n = 3,612)

NAFLD with high fibrosis risk\* (n = 328)

	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value
0.5-1.4 drinks/day <sup>†</sup>	0.46 (0.26-0.81)	0.007	0.64 (0.29-1.35)	0.241
≥1.5 drinks/day <sup>†</sup>	1.42 (0.92-2.18)	0.112	1.08 (0.51-2.28)	0.839
Age	1.09 (1.08-1.10)	< 0.001	1.11 (1.07-1.14)	<0.001
Male sex	1.72 (1.23-2.42)	0.002	1.23 (0.75-2.03)	0.419
Current smoking	2.35 (1.61-3.45)	<0.001	1.68 (0.70-4.05)	0.244

\*Low fibrosis risk defined as FIB-4 <1.79 and high fibrosis risk defined as FIB-4 >1.79.

<sup>†</sup>Compared with nondrinkers (average of <0.5 drink/day).

5

8-

>=1.5 drinks/day 376 236 121 5

2551 pts with NAFLD from NHANES DataBase 1988 - 2010

Hajifathalian, Hepatology 2019



Weighted relative risk of alcohol for all attributable causes, by standard drinks consumed per day



www.thelancet.com Vol 392 September 22, 2018

## Amount of alcohol consumption and risk of HCC



Ascha, Hepatology 2010



Alcohol as a source of calories ... And the prevalence of overweight and obesity according to the number of drinks/day

Calories	# drinks (1 unit=14 gm alcohol)	food
140	2	1 scoop ice cream
280	4	1 cheeseburger
420	6	1 large slice cheesecake
560	8	1 double cheese burger

- Alcohol (up to 4 drinks) increases appetite
- Alcohol increased high fat and high salt food intake
- Alcohol is oxidized preferentially
- This limits fat mobilization
- Clinical data on alcohol and weight gain are mixed





Tayie, Nutrition 2016

Traversy and Chaput, Curr Obes Reports 2015; 4(1): 122-130.



### **BARIATRIC SURGERY**



- ✓ NASH disappeared in 85.4% of cases
- ✓ Fibrosis improved in 46%.
- The rate of disappearance of NASH was higher in patients with mild NASH than in those with moderate or severe NASH
- ✓ 14.6% of patients had persistent NASH 1 year after bariatric surgery. These patients had significantly lower weight loss, higher NAS and refractory IR profile

Lassailly, Gastroenterology

#### PARIS **BARIATRIC SURGERY... IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED FIBROSIS** HEPATOLOGY CONFERENCE



Missing data - N = 24F0, N = 333 (A0/1/2 - 240/66/27) F1, N = 245 (A0/1/2 - 87/85/73)F2, N = 93(5A0/1/2 - 13/33/47)

Missing follow-up LB (N = 130)

Contraindication to LB

#### Metabolic and LFT improvement (Pts with advanced NASH, N = 66)





Pais, AASLD 2019

#### Histological evolution of patients with advanced fibrosis (F3/F4),



#### Changes in liver and metabolic parameters according to fibrosis

response

	Fibrosis responders	Fibrosis nonresponders	Р
ΔΒΜΙ	13 ± 6	10 ± 6	0.15
ΔΗΟΜΑ	6.6 ± 6.5	6.7 ± 7.5	0.96
Δ HbA1c	1.3 ± 1.13	0.8 ± 1.3	0.30
ΔALT	25 ± 23	30 ± 36	0.65
ΔGGT	51 ± 43	59 ± 63	0.67
ΔLDL	- 0.2 ± 0.9	- 0.15 ± 0.9	0.72
ΔTG	0.7 ± 0.6	0.6 ± 1.5	0.88
ΔHDL	-0.5 ±0.3	- 0.3 ± 0.6	0.26

Histological evolution of patients with high activity score at baseline without advanced fibrosis, A3A4/F0F2), N = 30



Independent predictors of persistent fibrosis

	OR, 95% CI	Р
Age	1.08 (1.001 - 1.17)	0.046
Sleeve	7.19 (2.17 - 23.8)	0.001
Sex	0.80 (0.26 - 2.45)	0.70
Baseline diabetes	0.41 (0.096 - 1.77)	0.236
ΔΒΜΙ	1.017 (0.94 - 1.10)	0.66

Pais, AASLD 2019



### **COMORBIDITY MANAGEMENT/CONTROL**





### **EVALUATION OF CV RISK**



#### **Risk categories:**

Low - < 1% Moderate – 1 – 5 % High – 5 – 10% Very high - > 10%

Patients with : documented CVD, type 2 diabetes, high level of individual risk factors or CKD, are already considered at very high risk for CVD and do not need the use of risk score

## Ten-year association of coronary artery calcium with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) events



Budoff, Eur Heart J 2018;39:2401-2408



#### **CORONARY CALCIUM SCORE = 581 AGATSTON UNITS**

Back to CAC Tools

			,	,				
1. Gender		Male I	Femaleo					
2. Age (45-85 years)		57	Years					
3. Coronary Artery Calcification		581	Agatston	Agatston				
4. Race/Ethnicity	C	noose One	1					
	Caucas	sian	0					
	Chines	e						
	Africar	American						
	Hispan	lic						
	mopul							
5. Diabetes		Yeso	No					
6. Currently Creaks		Vec	No					
6. Currently Smoke		les						
7. Family History of Heart (History in parents, siblings, or child	Attack	Yes	No 💿					
8. Total Cholesterol		225.4	mg/dL	or	5.83	mmol/L		
9. HDL Cholesterol		37	mg/dL	or	1.0	mmol/L		
10. Systolic Blood Pressure		150	mmHg	or	20.0	kPa		
11. Lipid Lowering Medication		Yes	No					
12. Hypertension Medication		Yeso	No					
		Ca	lculate 10-year CH	D risk				

MESA 10-Year CHD Risk with Coronary Artery Calcification

https://www.mesa-nhlbi.org/MESACHDRisk/MesaR <u>kScore/</u> Risk<u>Score.aspx</u>

- The estimated 10-year risk of a CHD including coronary calcium is 19.7%.
- The estimated 10-year risk of a CHD event if we did not factor in their coronary calcium score would be 7.9%.

## Control for CV risk factors (follow National/international Guidelines):

- $\diamond$  Physical activity/Weight control
- $\diamond$  Smoking cessation
- $\diamond$  Control for HBP
- $\diamond$  Lipids control

### **Classification of physical activity**

Absolute intensity				
Intensity	MET	Examples	%HRmax	
Light	1.1–2.9	Walking <4.7 km/h, light household work.	50–63	
Moderate	3–5.9	Walking briskly (4.8–6.5 km/h), slow cycling (15 km/h), painting/decorating, vacuuming, gardening (mowing lawn), golf (pulling clubs in trolley), tennis (doubles), ballroom dancing, water aerobics.	64–76	
Vigorous	≥6	Race-walking, jogging or running, bicycling >15 km/h, heavy gardening (continuous digging or hoeing), swimming laps, tennis (single).	77–93	

#### ESC Guideline for primary CV prevention

Smoking	No exposure to tobacco in any form.
Diet	Low in saturated fat with a focus on wholegrain products, vegetables, fruit and fish.
Physical activity	At least 150 minutes a week of moderate aerobic PA (30 minutes for 5 days/week) or 75 minutes a week of vigorous aerobic PA (15 minutes for 5 days/week) or a combination thereof.
Body weight	BMI 20–25 kg/m².Waist circumference <94 cm (men) or <80 cm (women).
Blood pressure	<140/90 mmHg <sup>a</sup>
Lipids <sup>ь</sup> LDL <sup>c</sup> is the primary target	<b>Very high-risk: &lt;1.8 mmol/L (&lt;70 mg/dL),</b> or a reduction of at least 50% if the baseline is between 1.8 and 3.5 mmol/L (70 and 135 mg/dL) <sup>4</sup>
	High-risk: <2.6mmol/L (<100 mg/dL), or a reduction of at least 50% if the baseline is between 2.6 and 5.1 mmol/L (100 and 200 mg/dL) Low to moderate risk: <3.0 mmol/L (<115 mg/dL).
HDL-C	No target but >1.0 mmol/L (>40mg/dL) in men and >1.2 mmol/L (>45 mg/dL) in women indicate lower risk.
Triglycerides	No target but <1.7 mmol/L (<150 mg/dL) indicates lower risk and higher levels indicate a need to look for other risk factors.
Diabetes	HbAIc <7%. (<53 mmol/mol)





- No, because of safety issues
- Yes for reducing CV risk
- YES to ameliorate liver histology?



### Statins use - protection from severe form of NAFLD





- ■3 ✓ Multicenter European cohort
   ■2 ✓ 1201 subjects
   ■407 (0%) taking stating for > (
  - ✓ 107 (9%) taking statins for ≥ 6 months; moderate intensity 73%





Dongiovani, J Hepatol 2015



### 346 pts with T2DM and histological proven NAFLD 57% had NASH, 48% had significant fibrosis; 45% were taking statins



Nascimbeni, BMJ Gastroenterol 2016



### Definition of High, Moderate and Low Intensity Statin Agents and Doses

	High-Intensity	Moderate-Intensity	Low-Intensity			
	Daily dose lowers LDL–C on average, by ~ ≥ 50%	Daily dose lowers LDL–C on average, by ~ 30 to <50%	Daily dose lowers LDL–C on average, by <30%			
6)	Atorvastatin (40)–80 mg Rosuvastatin 20 <i>(40)</i> mg	Atorvastatin 10 (20) mg Rosuvastatin (5) 10 mg Simvastatin 20–40 mg Pravastatin 40 (80) mg Lovastatin 40 mg Fluvastatin XL 80 mg Fluvastatin 40 mg bid Pitavastatin 2–4 mg	Simvastatin 10 mg <b>Pravastatin 10–20 mg Lovastatin 20 mg</b> Fluvastatin 20–40 mg Pitavastatin 1 mg			
	Specific statins and doses are noted in <b>bold</b> that were evaluated in randomized controlled trials. Statins and doses that are approved by the U.S. FDA but were not tested in the RCTs reviewed are listed in <i>italics</i> .					

Stone NJ, et al, J Amer Coll Card 2013, doi10.1016/jacc2013.11.002

#### **ATORVASTATIN 10 MG**

#### 2016 ESC/EAS Guidelines for the Management of Dyslipidaemias



### **COMORBIDITY MANAGEMENT/CONTROL**





### A requiem for Metformin....



Musso, Hepatology 2010

#### Paris Hepatology Conference

## ANTIDIABETIC MEDICATION AND THE RISK OF HCC

### MA of 10 studies reporting 22 650 cases of HCC among 334 307 patients with T2DM

Metformin and risk of hepatocellular cancer



Metformin: ↓50% Sulfonylureas: ↑ 61% Insuline: ↑ 161% TZD – no changes

Singh, Am J Gastroenterol 2013; 108:881-891;



#### GLP1 ANTAGONISTS AND NAFLD ....



Armstrong, The Lancet 2015

	Liraglutide	Placebo	Relative risks or mean changes (95% CI) from baseline to 48 weeks (liraglutide vs placebo)	p value*
Primary outcome				
Number of patients with paired liver biopsies	23	22		
Patients with resolution of non-alcoholic steatohepatitis	9 (39%)	2 (9%)	4·3 (1·0 to 17·7)	0.019
Changes from baseline in hist	opathological pa	rameters		
Total NAFLD activity score				
Change in score	–1·3 (1·6)	-0.8 (1.2)	–0·5 (–1·3 to 0·3)	0.24
Patients with improvement	17 (74%)	14 (64%)	1·2 (0·8 to 1·7)	0.46
Hepatocyte ballooning score				
Mean change	<del>-</del> 0·5 (0·7)	<u>-</u> 0·2 (0·6)	-0·3 (-0·7 to 0·1)	0.15
Patients with improvement	14 (61%)	7 (32%)	1·9 (1·0 to 3·8)	0.05
Steatosis				
Change in score	-0.7 (0.8)	-0.4 (0.8)	-0·2 (-0·6 to 0·2)	0.32
Patients with improvement	19 (83%)	10 (45%)	1·8 (1·1 to 3·0)	0.009
Lobular inflammation				
Change in score	<del>-</del> 0·2 (0·6)	<del>-</del> 0·2 (0·5)	-0.01 (-0.3 to 0.3)	0.97
Patients with improvement	11 (48%)	12 (55%)	0·9 (0·5 to 1·6)	0.65
Kleiner fibrosis stage				
Change in score	<del>-</del> 0·2 (0·8)	0.2 (1.0)	-0.4 (-0.8 to 0.1)	0.11
Patients with improvement	6 (26%)	3 (14%)	1·9 (0·5 to 6·7)	0.46†
Patients with worsening	2 (9%)	8 (36%)	0·2 (0·1 to 1·0)	0.04†

### Liver biopsy:

25 mmHg, 1 fragment, 11 PS Macrovesicular steatosis 90% Moderate lobular inflammation Significant grade 2 ballooning Portal and perisinosoidal fibrosis with septa NAS = 7, S3A4F3



### SIMTUZUMAB CLINICAL TRIAL

Primary objective:

F3: change in hepatic collagen

content and progression to

cirrhosis.

F4:  $\Delta$  HVPG ; the incidence of liverrelated clinical events. EOT LB 2016: HVPG = 18 mmHg ; 16 mm length, 12 fragments Regeneration nodules, annular fibrosis 50% steatosis; minimal lobular inflammation, no ballooning S2A1F4



#### Results: NASH CRN Fibrosis Stage (Week 96)



SIM had no effect on fibrosis stage through Week 96

Last observation carried forward if Week 96 biopsy missing. p-values for comparisons between SIM and placebo adjusted for stratification fac

### Results: Hepatic Collagen Content



SIM had no effect on hepatic collagen content

p-values for comparison of change from baseline (BL) at Week 96 (W96) between SIM vs placebo.

### Harrison, Gastroenterology 2018



✓ 20% of patients with bridging fibrosis progressed to cirrhosis during <u>a median 29 months fu</u>
 ✓ 21% of patients with bridging fibrosis had ≥ 1 stage fibrosis regression



### S3A4F3

MELD = 11

```
Plt = 175\ 000
Albumin = 36
Creatinin = 86µmol/l
HbA1c = 7.5 mmHg
BiliT = 29 \mumol/l
CT =4.01mmol/l ; TG =
1.70 mmol/l;
AST = 36 IU/I, ALT = 41
IU/I, GGT = 95 IU/I
LSM = 27kPA
CHILD = A5
```

#### SIMTUZUMAB CLINICAL TRIAL



EEC CARVEDILOL, ANTICOAGULANTS

### COMPENSATED CIRRHOSIS S2A1F4



### WOULD YOU PERFORM SCREENING FOR OESOPHAGEAL VARRICES ?



#### WOULD YOU PERFORM SCREENING FOR OESOPHAGEAL VARRICES ?



Band Ligation?
Switch to Propranolol?
Continue Carvedilol?



#### **BAVENO VI**

Patients with medium-large varices (unchanged)

- Either NSBB or endoscopic band ligation is recommended for the prevention of the first variceal bleeding of medium or large varices (1a;A).
- The choice of treatment should be based on local resources and expertise, patient preference and characteristics, contraindications and adverse events (5;D).

On intention-to-treat analysis, carvedilol had lower rates of the first variceal bleed (10% versus 23%; relative hazard 0.41; 95% confidence interval 0.19-0.96 [P 0.04]),



#### Tripathi, Hepatology 2009



### Carvedilol leads to a significantly greater decrease in HVPG than propranolol



	PROP	CARV	EBL	Р
Bleeding rate	11%	5%	25%	0.042
Hepatic decomp	38%	26%	55%	0.07
Mortality	14%	11%	31%	0.045

Reiberger, Gut 2013







<u>TREATMENT :</u> METFORMIN 1000 mg, IRBESARTAN/HCT 150/12.5 mg, LTHYROXIN 75 μg LIRAGLUTIDE ATORVASTATIN 10 MG/D PREVISCAN CARVEDILOL 12.5 MG/D VITAMIN E 500 IUX2/D

236 pts with F3F4 NASH FU – 5.6 years Vitamin E 800 IU/D ≥ 2 years



Vilar Gomez, Hepatology 2019



# Basic Patient Problems in NAFLD, NASH



- Who is my doctor?
  - Should I consult hepatologists?
  - Nutricionist?
  - Gastroenterologist?
- What drugs I need to take?
- Did I do it to myself?
- > You did it to your self!
- ➤ Where can I get more info?
- ➤ Where can I turn for help?

### CONFUSION

- > LACK OF CHOICES
- SELF-STIGMATIZATION
- STIGMATIZATION
- LACK OF RELIABLE INFORMATIONS
- > LACK OF PATIENT ORGANIZATIONS

### NASH CLINIC - MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

### PHRTAMACOLOGIC THERAPY/ CLINICAL TRIALS



### CARDIAC STRESS TESTING & ADAPTED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COUNSELING



#### **CV RISK EVALUATION**







**NUTRION COUNSELING** 







LIVER DAMAGE

