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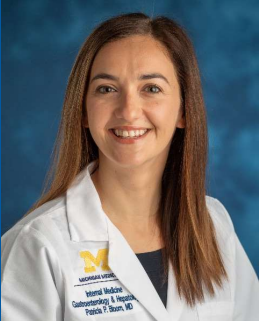
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Patricia L. Bloom, MD

All attendees will be muted and will remain in "Listen Only Mode"

Type your questions here so that the moderator can see them.  
Not all questions will be answered but we will get to as many as possible.

A handout with the slides and room to take notes can be downloaded from your control panel.





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 American College of Gastroenterology Guidelines Update:  
 Diagnosis and Management of Celiac Disease  
 Faculty: Benjamin Lebwohl, MD, MS  
 Moderator: Carol E. Semrad, MD, FACC  
**At Noon and 8pm Eastern**

**Week 32 – Thursday, August 10, 2023**  
 Unleashing the Power of AI in Gastroenterology: Going Beyond Lesion Detection to Transform  
 Clinical Tasks and Everyday Practice  
 Faculty: Sravanthi Parasa, MD  
 Moderator: Vladimir Kushnir, MD, FACC  
**At Noon and 8pm Eastern**

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# ACG

# 2023

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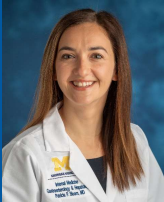
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Patricia L. Bloom, MD  
Vedanta: Grant/Research Support



Uchenna A. Agbim, MD  
Dr. Agbim has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies.




Arnab Mitra, MD  
Dr. Mitra has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies.

*\*All of the relevant financial relationships listed for these individuals have been mitigated*

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# Recent Updates in the Management of Varices



Uchenna Agbim, MD  
Assistant Professor  
Saint Louis University

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## Objectives

- Understand the development of portal hypertension and development of varices
- Highlight changes from the Baveno VII consensus conference regarding variceal and portal hypertensive bleeding
- Identify appropriate treatment for patients with variceal bleeding

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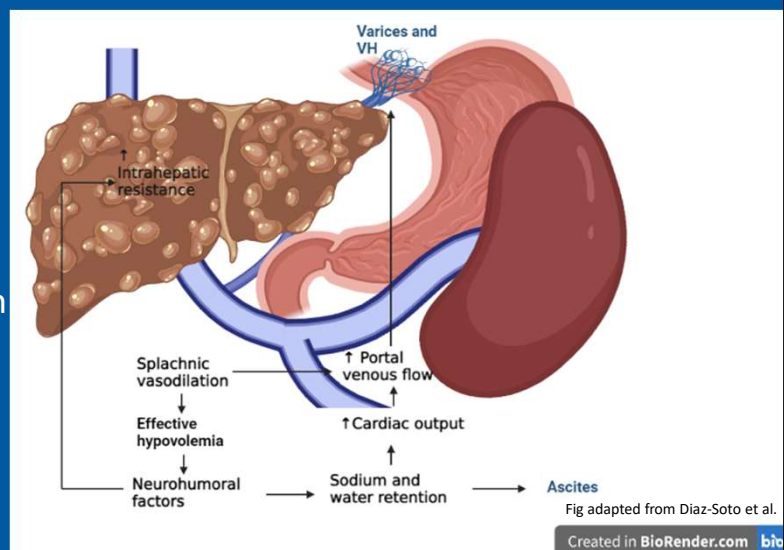
## Outline

- Pathophysiology of Varices
- Prevention of Variceal Bleed
- Active/Acute Variceal Bleed
- Preventing Subsequent Variceal Bleeds
- Take-Home Points

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## Pathophysiology

- Intrahepatic resistance
- Portal venous blood flow
- HVP  $> 5$  portal hypertension
- HVP  $> 10$ mmHg = Clinically significant portal hypertension



Diaz-Soto M &amp; Garci-Tsao G. Therap Adv Gastroenterol. 2022 Jun 20;15: 17562848221101712

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## Pathophysiology

The diagram illustrates the pathophysiology of liver disease. It shows a liver with increased intrahepatic resistance, which leads to portal hypertension. This is associated with varices and variceal hemorrhage (VH). The diagram also shows the effects of treatments like Carvedilol and TIPS on intrahepatic resistance. Portal hypertension leads to splenic vasodilation, which causes effective hypovolemia. This triggers neurohumoral factors, leading to sodium and water retention, which results in ascites. The diagram also shows the effects of Octreotide and Vasopressin/terlipressin on splenic vasodilation, and the effects of NSBB and B1 effect on portal venous flow and cardiac output. EVL (endoscopic variceal ligation) is shown as a treatment for varices.

Fig adapted from Diaz-Soto et al.  
Created in BioRender.com

Diaz-Soto M & Garcí-Tsao G. Therap Adv Gastroenterol. 2022 Jun 20;15: 17562848221101712

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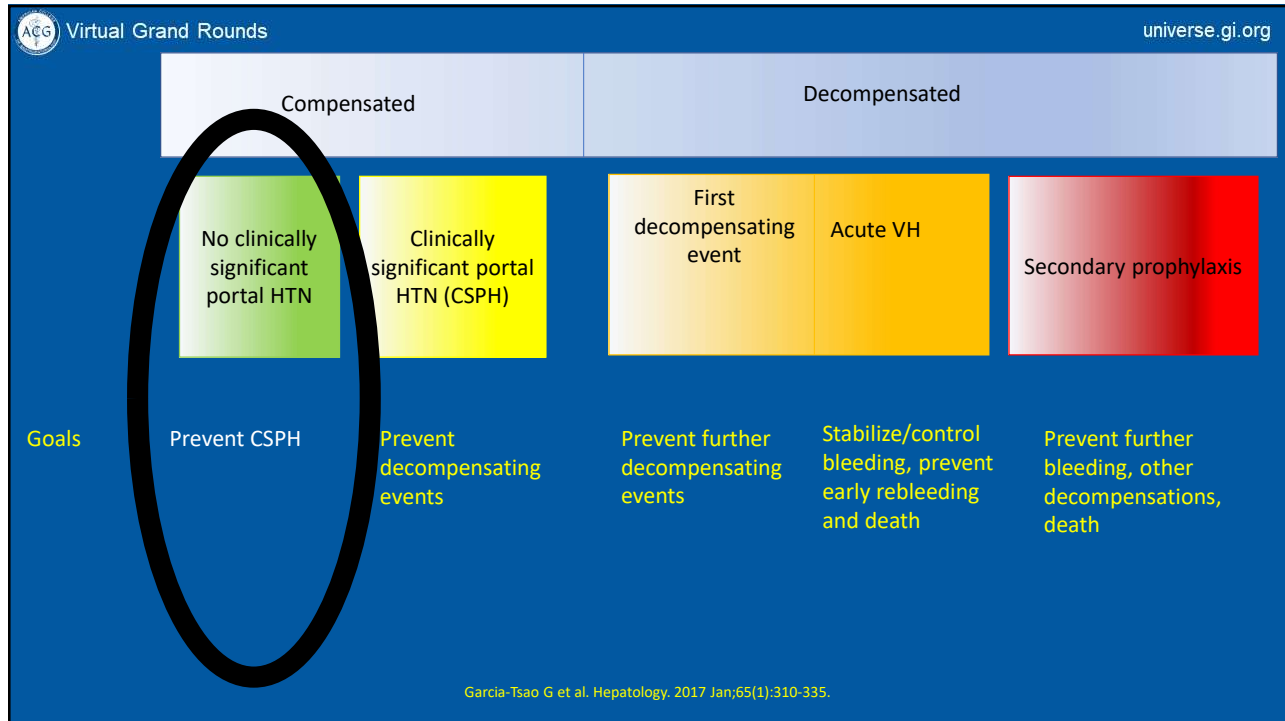
## Pathophysiology and Natural History

	Compensated		Decompensated		
	No clinically significant portal HTN	Clinically significant portal HTN (CSPH)	First decompensating event	Acute VH	Secondary prophylaxis
Goals	Prevent CSPH	Prevent decompensating events	Prevent further decompensating events	Stabilize/control bleeding, prevent early rebleeding and death	Prevent further bleeding, other decompensations, death

García-Tsao G et al. Hepatology. 2017 Jan;65(1):310-335.

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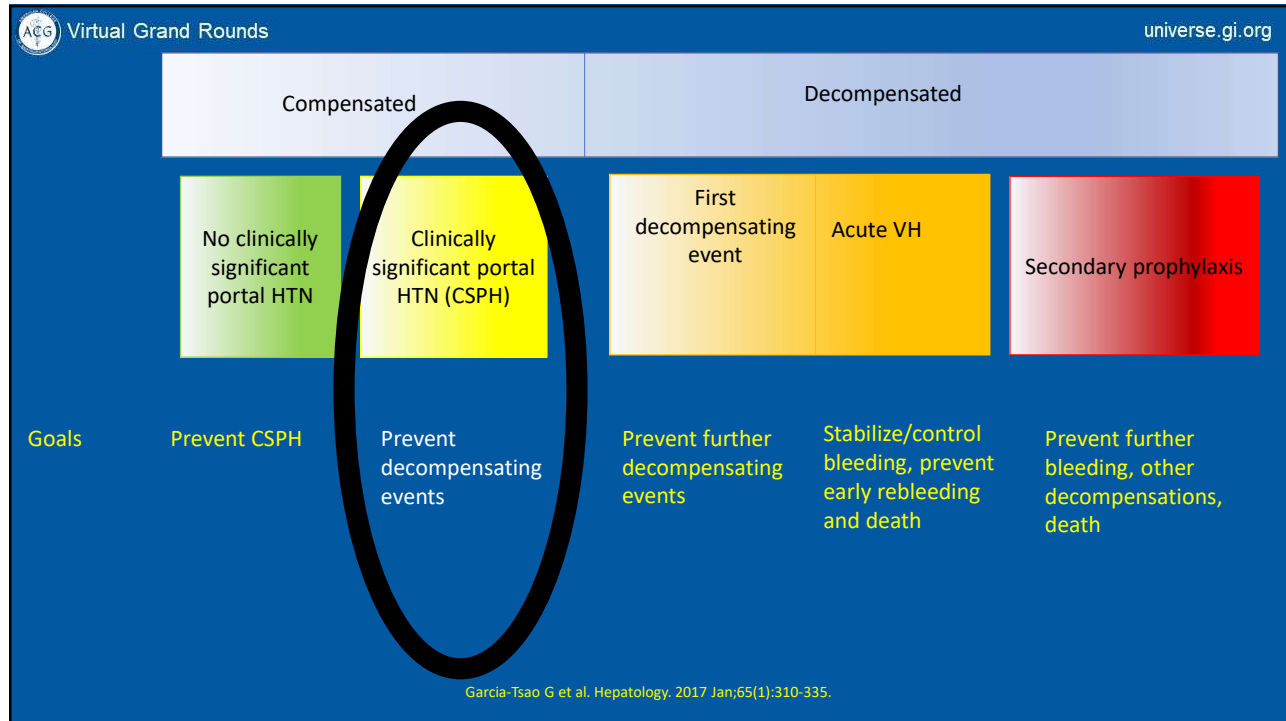
## Prevention of Variceal Bleed: Compensated Patients with Cirrhosis and Unclear If They Have CSPH

Yearly LSM and platelet count

If LSM  $\geq$  20 kPa or platelet count  $\leq$   $150 \times 10^9$  and cannot initiate NSBB ➔ **Screening EGD**

de Franchis et al. J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974

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## Prevention of Variceal Bleed in Compensated Patients with CSPH

### NSBB

- ★ Consider using NSBB to prevent decompensation
  - Any liver decompensation
- Large type 2 gastroesophageal or isolated type 2 gastroesophageal varices
- Carvedilol
  - Preferred NSBB in compensated cirrhosis
  - Anti  $\alpha$  adrenergic vasodilatory effects  $\rightarrow$  greater portal pressure reducing effect
- Nadolol and propranolol

### OR

### Endoscopic Interventions

- Endoscopic Variceal Ligation
  - Varices and intolerance to NSBB
  - EVL in compensated patients with high risk-stigmata
- Cyanoacrylate
  - Large type 2 gastroesophageal or isolated type 2 gastroesophageal varices
    - Use NSBB
    - Cyanoacrylate vs NSBB: No difference in survival, but cyanoacrylate may be more effective

1. de Franchis J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974  
 2. Diaz-Soto M & Garcí-Tsao G. Therap Adv Gastroenterol. 2022 Jun 20;15: 17562848221101712

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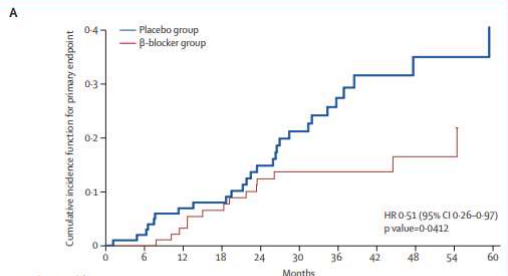
# Prevention of Variceal Bleed in Compensated Patients with CSPH

## Why use NSBB to prevent any Decompensation?

**β blockers to prevent decompensation of cirrhosis in patients with clinically significant portal hypertension (PREDESCI): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial**

Cándid Villanueva\*, Agustín Albaladejo, Joan Genescà, Joan C Garcia-Pagan, José L Calleja, Carlos Aracil, Rafael Bañares, Rosa M Morillas, María Poca, Beatriz Peña, Salvador Augustin, Juan G Abrolades, Edilmar Alvarado, Ferran Torres, Jaume Bosch††

Decompensation or death  
17% in BB group vs 27% in placebo



		Months										
		0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Patients at risk	β blockers	100	96	87	80	69	60	48	31	20	15	7
	Placebo	101	99	94	86	72	59	42	26	19	13	6
Primary outcome (deaths)	β blockers		1 (1)	3 (1)	4 (2)	5 (2)	1 (1)	0	0	1 (1)	0	1
	Placebo		2 (2)	5 (1)	1	6 (2)	5 (1)	4 (3)	2 (1)	1 (1)	0	1
Censoring events	β blockers		3	6	3	6	8	12	17	10	5	7
	Placebo		0	0	7	8	8	13	14	6	6	6

Villanueva C et al. Lancet. 2019. Apr 20;393(10181): 1597-1608.

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	Compensated		Decompensated		
	No clinically significant portal HTN	Clinically significant portal HTN (CSPH)	First decompensating event	Acute VH	Secondary prophylaxis
Goals	Prevent CSPH	Prevent decompensating events	Prevent further decompensating events	Stabilize/control bleeding, prevent early rebleeding and death	Prevent further bleeding, other decompensations, death

Garcia-Tsao G et al. Hepatology. 2017 Jan;65(1):310-335.

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## Prevention of Variceal Bleed in Decompensated Patients (who haven't bled)

- Need screening EGD if not on NSBB
- Ascites + low-risk varices (<5mm, no red wale signs) NSBB can be utilized for prevention
- Ascites + high-risk varices (≥ 5mm, red wale signs) NEED prevention
  - NSBB preferred over EVL
- Dose reduce or d/c NSBB
  - in those with ascites and hypotension (SBP <90 mmHg)
  - ascites + AKI/HRS

de Franchis et al. J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974

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	Compensated		Decompensated		
	No clinically significant portal HTN	Clinically significant portal HTN (CSPH)	First decompensating event	Acute VH	Secondary prophylaxis
<b>Goals</b>	Prevent CSPH	Prevent decompensating events	Prevent further decompensating events	Stabilize/control bleeding, prevent early rebleeding and death	Prevent further bleeding, other decompensations, death

Garcia-Tsao G et al. Hepatology. 2017 Jan;65(1):310-335.

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## Active Variceal Bleeding

- Resuscitation
  - Target hemoglobin between **7-8 g/dl**
  - ★ • Transfusion of FFP not recommended ★
- Aim of treatment = lowering portal pressure not correcting coagulation abnormalities
- ★ • Recombinant Factor VIIa and TXA not recommended ★
- Ceftriaxone 1 g/24 hour
- Vasoactive drugs for 2-5 days, then NSBB titrated to HR 55-60

de Franchis et al. J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974

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## Active Variceal Bleeding

- EGD within 12 hours of presentation
  - EVL preferred for esophageal varices
  - EVL or cyanoacrylate for GOV1
  - Cyanoacrylate for GOV2
- ★ • **NO** hemostatic powder ★
- Start oral nutrition ASAP
- Caution with airway manipulation (NG Tubes)
- PHG and GAVE can be treated with APC, RFA, or band ligation
- ★ • All patients should undergo imaging ★

de Franchis et al. J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974

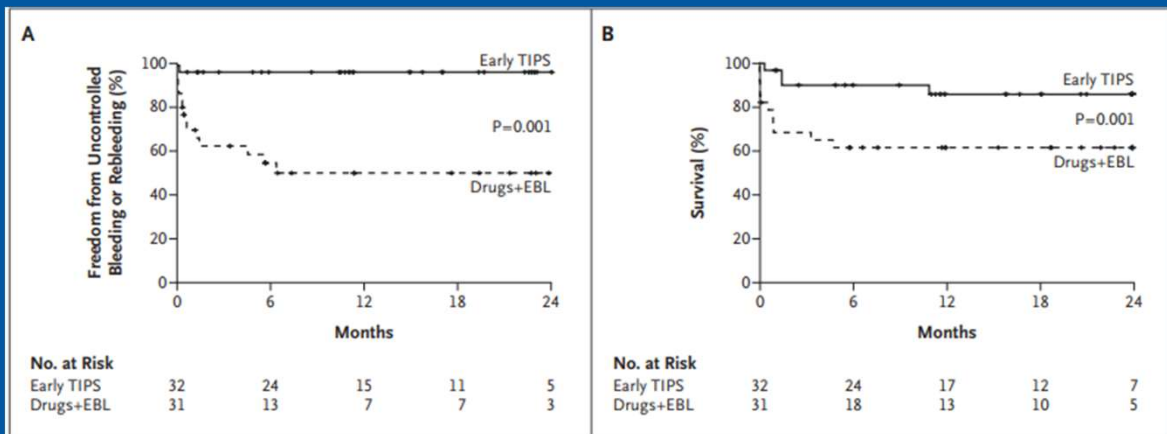
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# Acute Variceal Bleeding

- Refractory bleeding? SEMS or balloon tamponade as bridge to TIPS
- ★ • PFTE-covered TIPS goal
  - Target portal pressure gradient < 12 mmHg OR
  - A reduction of pre-TIPS gradient by 50%
- ★ • GOV2/IGV1/IGV2 can consider BRTO
- TIPS + embolization
- Preemptive TIPS for EV and GOV1/GOV2 AND
  - CPT C
  - CPT B with active bleeding at initial EGD
  - HVPG ≥20 mmHg at time of bleeding

de Franchis et al. J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974

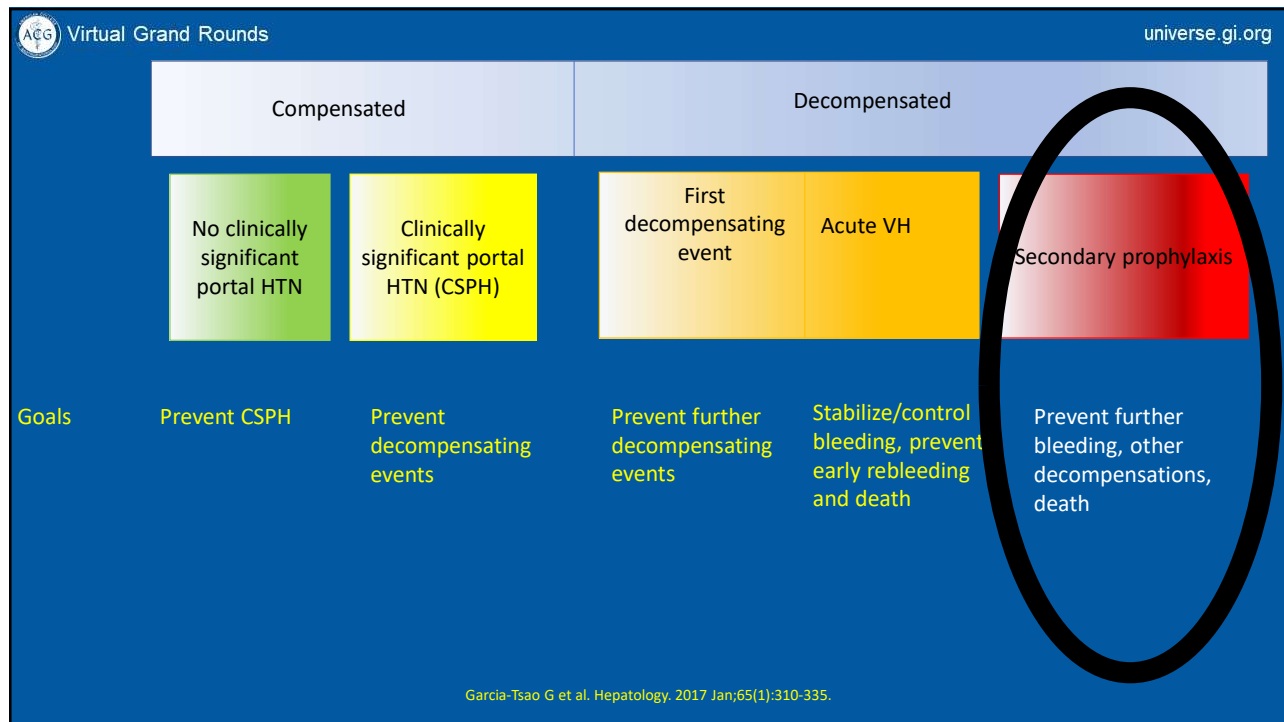
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**Figure 2. Actuarial Probability of the Primary Composite End Point and of Survival, According to Treatment Group.** The probability of remaining free from uncontrolled variceal bleeding or variceal rebleeding is shown in Panel A, and the probability of survival is shown in Panel B. EBL denotes endoscopic band ligation, and TIPS transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt.

García-Pagán et al. N Engl J Med. 2010 Jun 24;362(25):2370-9

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## Preventing Recurrent Variceal Hemorrhage (Secondary Prophylaxis)

- First line management: EVL + NSBB
- If rebleed on first-line management, then consider TIPS
- Intolerance to EVL or NSBB → use either one alone OR consider TIPS if ascites
- NSBB are first-line for PHG

de Franchis et al. J Hepatol. 2022 Apr;76(4): 959-974

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## Other Interventions




- Interventional Radiology
  - TIPS
  - DIPS
  - BRTO
  - PARTO
  - CARTO
  - BATO
- Advanced Endoscopy
  - EUS-guided injection of coils and cyanoacrylate for gastric varices

Bhat Y et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2016 Jun;83(6):1164-72

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## Bleeding from Other Varices

- Proximal esophageal varices
  -  • Relieve SVC obstruction
- Gastric varices due to splenic vein thrombosis
  -  • Splenectomy
- Rectal Varices
  -  • TIPS

Rhoades DP et al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2016. Sep;14(9):e105-6

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## Take-Home Points

- Goal for patients with cirrhosis is to prevent any decompensation
- Use TE and/or platelet count to rule out CSPH
- For patients with cirrhosis and signs of CSPH use of a NSBB is recommended to prevent ANY decompensation
- No need to perform EGD in compensated patient with cirrhosis on NSBB
- Goal hemoglobin for variceal bleed is between 7-8 g/dL.
- Perform EGD within 12 hours

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## Take-Home Points

- Consider preemptive TIPS in patients at high-risk for failure of endoscopic therapy
  - CPT C
  - CPT B with active bleeding at initial EGD
  - HVP  $\geq 20$  mmHg at time of bleeding

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# Portal Vein Thrombosis & Hepatic Vein Thrombosis



Arnab Mitra, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Division of Gastroenterology and  
Hepatology, School of Medicine  
Oregon Health & Science University



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*LO-* “Recognize **diagnostic**, **surveillance**, and **treatment** strategies for portal and hepatic vein thrombosis...”

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Why?

**Evolving Understanding of  
Liver & Coagulation**

**PVT- Challenging Clinical Conundrum**

**BCS- ALF, Easy to Miss**

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Evolving Appreciations of Liver & Coagulation

**Increasing Data that Liver Disease is a  
Thrombotic Risk Factor**

**Cirrhosis= RF for  
Venous Thrombosis**      **Liver Disease Patients are  
NOT "Auto-Anticoagulated"**

**Rebalanced Hemostasis: More Vulnerable to  
External Factors, esp. with Decompensation**

Garbuzenko- WJH 2017;9:1197

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## Liver Disease associated with VTE

- **Meta-Analysis**

- 11 studies
- N= 695,000 vs. 1,494,660 controls
- RR= 1.7
  - DVT 2.0
  - PE 1.65

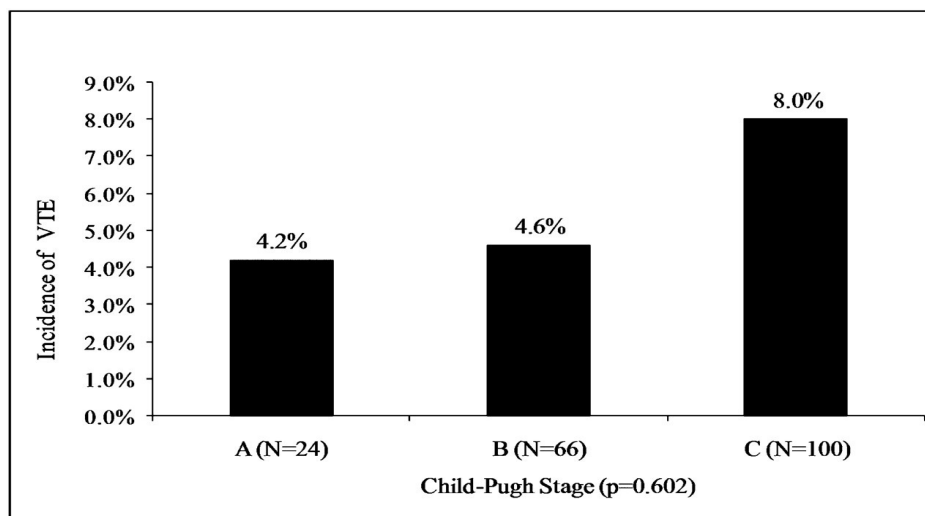
- **Danish Population Case-Control study**

- RR of DVT doubled with cirrhosis and with non-cirrhotic liver disease

Throm Hae 2017;117:139

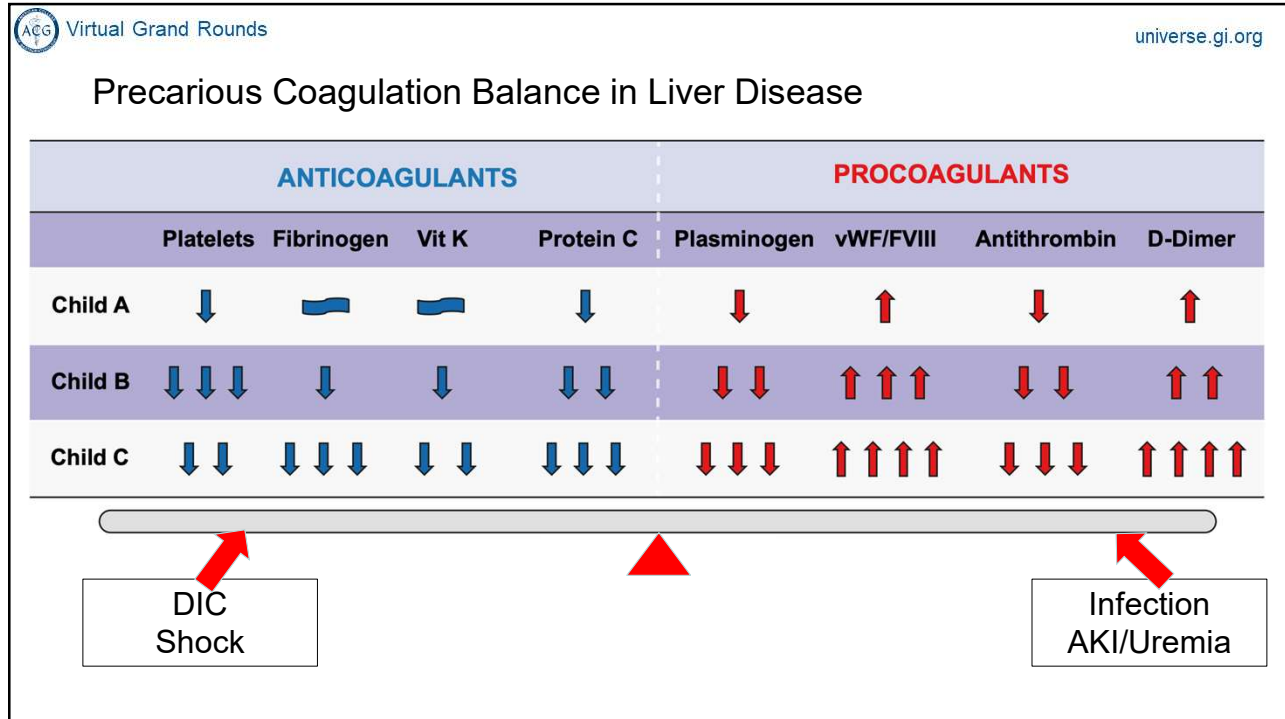
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## Cirrhosis = Risk for VTE based on Child-Pugh Stage

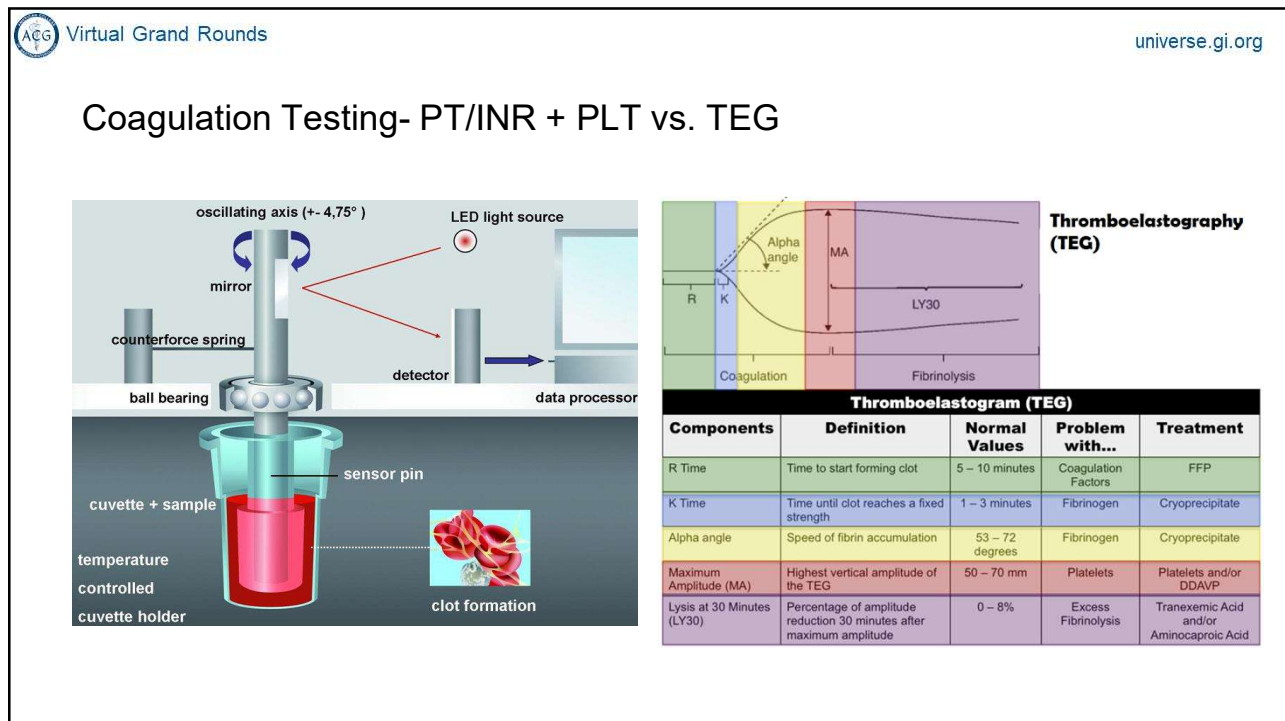


Dabbagh, Chest 2010;137:1145

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## Observations

Bleeding- more often due to mechanical injury and portal HTN than coagulation status

**Systemic Bleeding is Rare (ie. CNS)**

Limited Data → Expert Opinion PG

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## Anticoagulation Options

### Antiplatelet

- To be avoided
- Raised risk of GIB

### Warfarin

- Old favorite
- Difficult to control
- Slow onset/offset
- Monitoring challenges with INR

### LMWH

- No monitoring
- Stable dosing
- Quick on/off

### DOAC

- Stable Dosing
- No monitoring
- Few DDI
- Can Reverse
- Many have liver metabolism

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### DOAC & Liver Disease

## Growing Safety, Efficacy Data

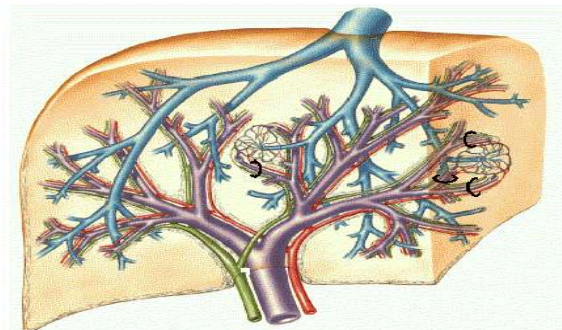
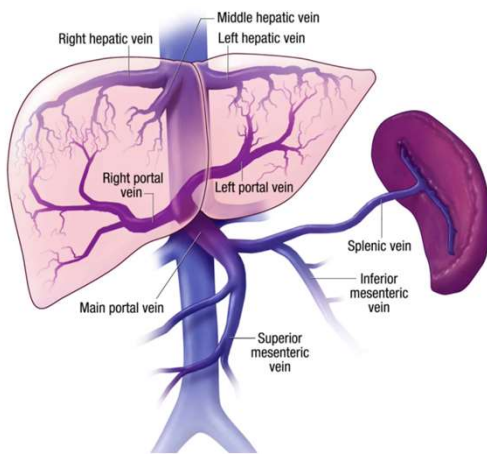
Dabigatran- CPT A  
Apixaban- CPT A, B  
Rivaroxaban- CPT A

CPT C  
- Case by Case

Hematology Consultation  
Helpful

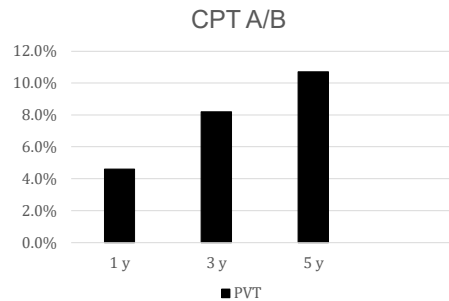
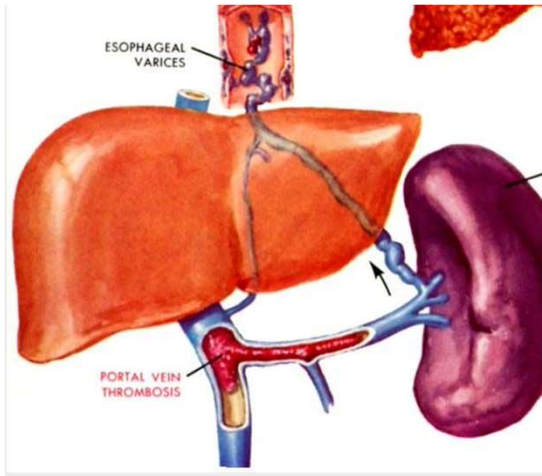
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### Anatomy



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## Portal Vein Thrombosis (PVT)



- Virchow's Triad
  - Inc c severity of PHTN
- Variable prevalence reported
  - 5% of LTx candidates at listing

Nery, Hep 2015;61:660  
 Violi, Int Emerg Med 2016;11:1059  
 Saidi, Int J Org Tx 2012;3:105

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## PVT- What Not to Miss

**Life Threatening:  
 Mesenteric Vein Thrombosis ~ Ischemia**

**Poor prognosis:  
 HCC extension into PV**

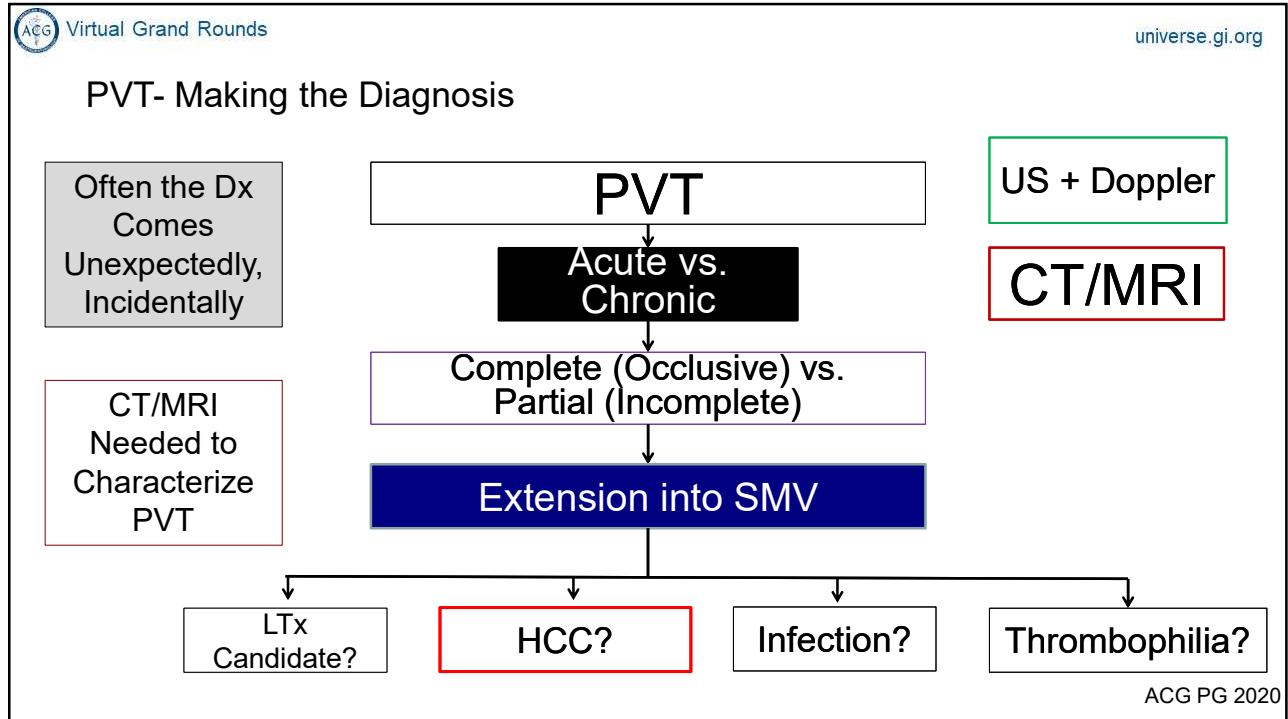
**Impact on Transplant  
 Candidacy**

**Prothrombotic State**

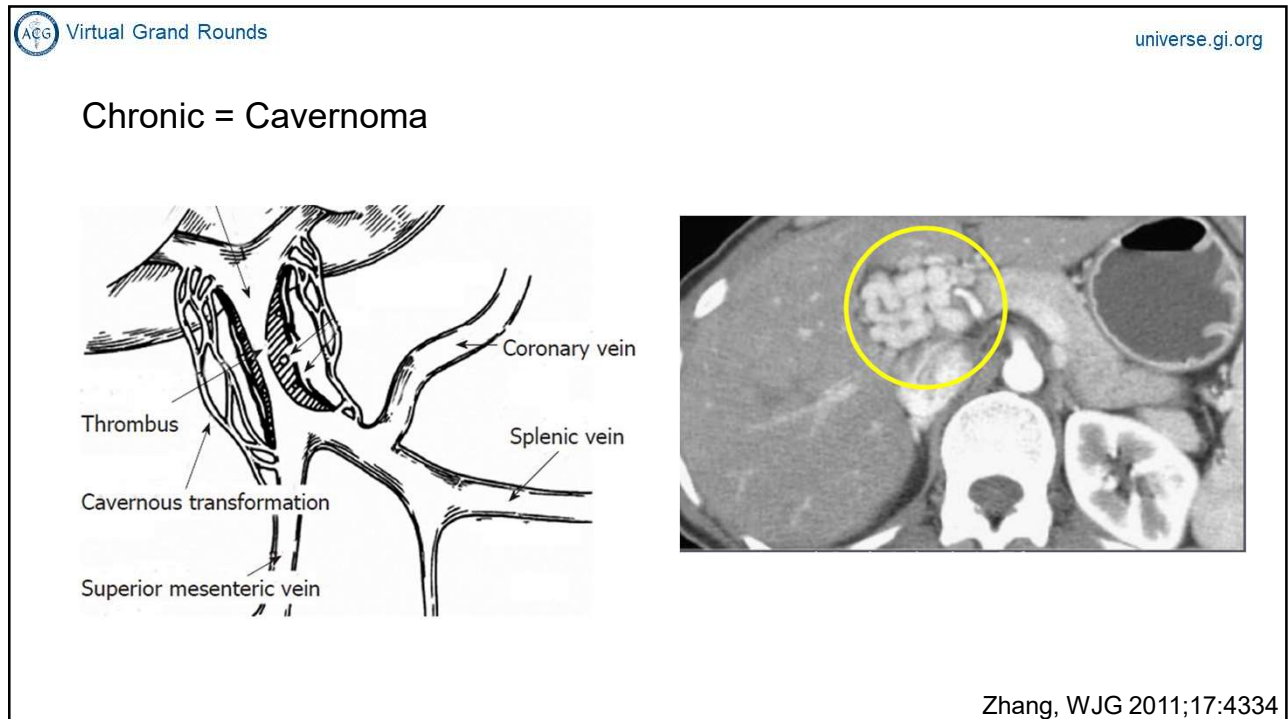
ACG PG 2020  
 EASL PG 2016  
 Intagliata, Thromb Haemost 2018;118:1491

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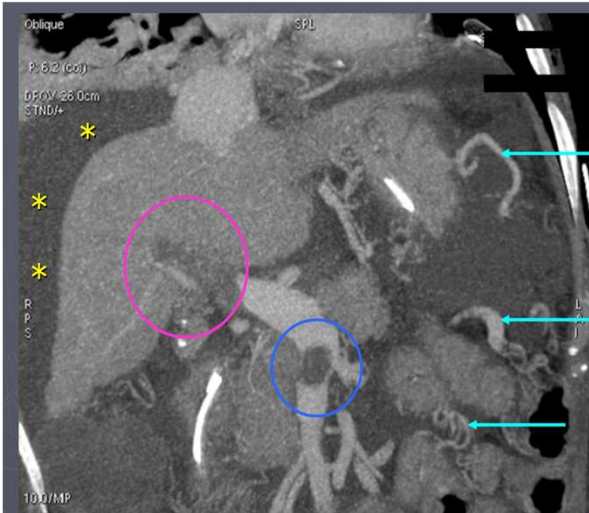
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## PVT + SMVT



- Thrombus in main portal vein
- Thrombus in SMV
- Ascites
- Multiple collateral vessels

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## PVT Challenge

Limited Studies  
Multiple Guidelines- ACG, AASLD, EASL

Determining Acute vs. Chronic

Perceived Risk of Anticoagulation

ACG PG 2020  
EASL PG 2016  
Intagliata, Thromb Haemost 2018;118:1491

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## PVT- Management Goals

### Reverse Thrombosis

- Prevent progression to SMVT, ischemia
- Achieve PV recanalization
- Maintain Tx candidacy

### Prevent

#### Complications:

- Variceal bleeding
- Portal Cholangiopathy
- Recurrent thrombosis

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## PVT- Who to Anticoagulate?

### **Yes**

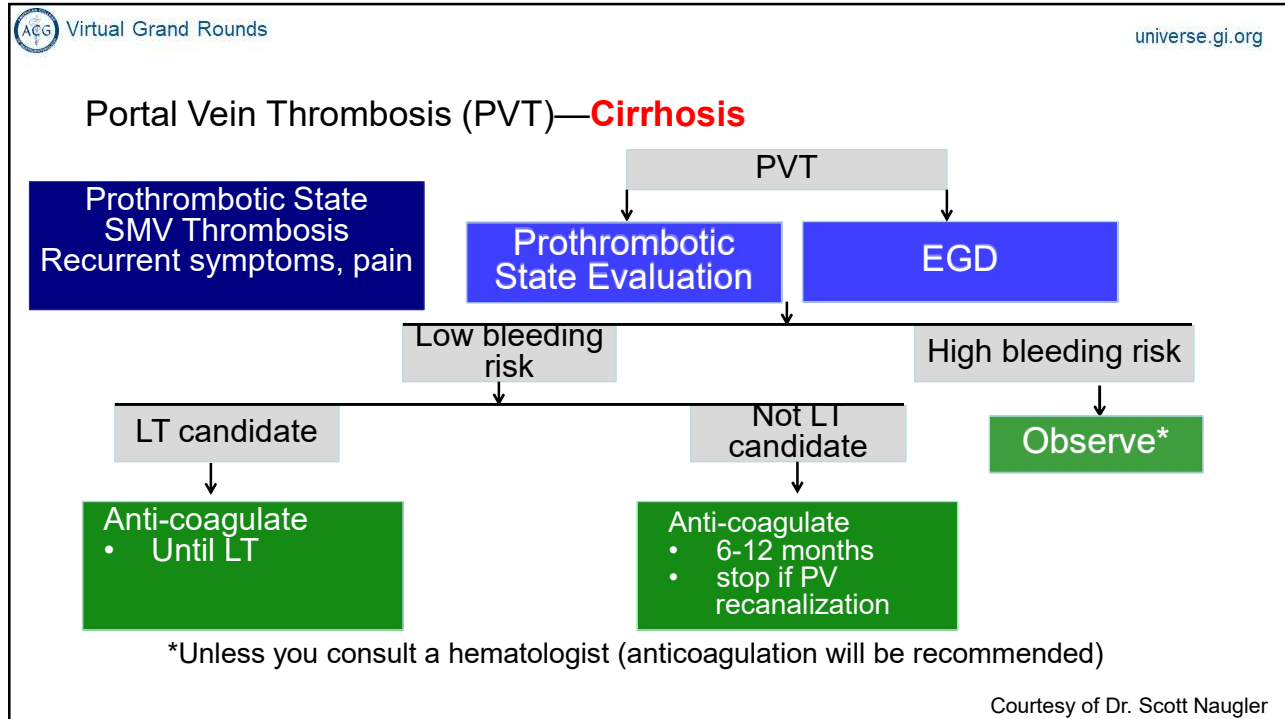
- Noncirrhotic
- Acute
- Symptomatic
- Occlusive, Main
- SMVT
- Thrombophilia
- LTx Candidate

### **No**

- High risk of bleeding~ Large varices that have not been Rx
- Nonadherence
- Underlying poor prognosis
- Poor functional status, comorbidities

**? Chronic PVT with cavernous transformation-  
Case by Case**

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### Anticoagulation

Duration- 3-6 mo (until recanalization or LT)  
Indefinite- thrombophilia, SMVT, recurrent thrombosis, ischemia

**No INCREASE risk of bleeding on AC**

- Meta-analysis
- ACG PG 2020

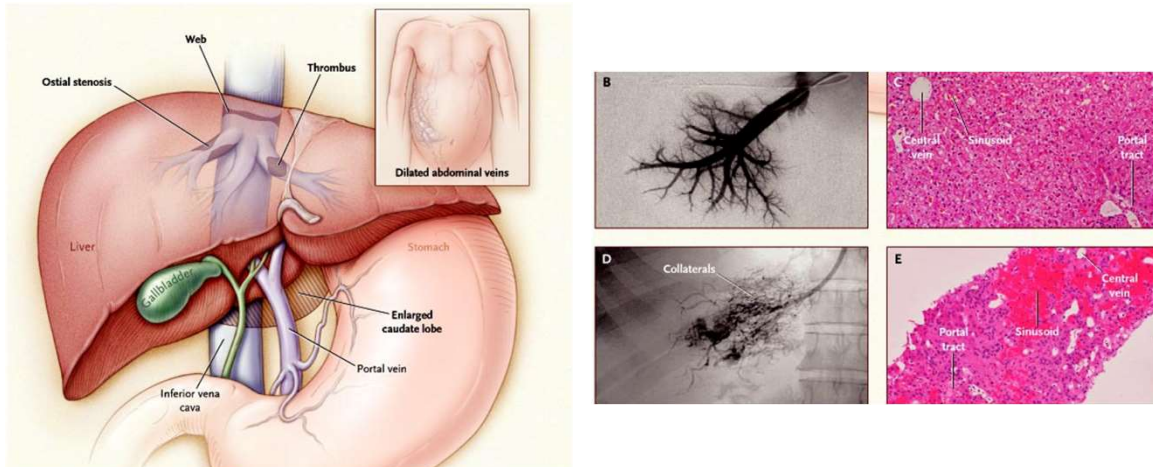
Prognosis,  
Natural History  
Unclear

AC → TIPS- rescue option

Loffredo, Gastro 2017;153:480

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## Hepatic Vein Thrombosis (HVT) ~ Budd Chiari Syndrome (BCS)



Menon, NEJM 2004, 350:578

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## BCS

Hepatic Vein outflow obstruction @ HV, IVC or RA  
excluding SOS/VOD, cardiac disorders

- Primary
  - Originates from endoluminal venous lesion
    - Thrombosis
    - Webs

- Secondary
  - Originates from lesion outside the venous system
    - HCC, tumors, Cyst
    - Abscess
    - NRH- large nodules
    - Trauma → hematoma

Janssen, J Hep 2003  
Menon, NEJM 2004

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## BCS- Variable Presentation

1	Acute Liver Failure
2	Abnormal Liver Enzymes
3	Acute on Chronic Liver Failure
4	ESLD

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## BCS- Risk Factors

Underlying thrombophilia  
disorder in > 75%

Multiple Risk Factors  
in > 25%

OCPs, Pregnancy

**Table 1. Causes of the Budd-Chiari Syndrome.**

**Common causes**

- Hypercoagulable states
  - Inherited
    - Antithrombin III deficiency
    - Protein C deficiency
    - Protein S deficiency
    - Factor V Leiden mutation
    - Prothrombin mutation
  - Acquired
    - Myeloproliferative disorders
    - Paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria
    - Antiphospholipid syndrome
    - Cancer
    - Pregnancy
    - Use of oral contraceptives

**Uncommon causes**

- Tumoral invasion
  - Hepatocellular carcinoma
  - Renal-cell carcinoma
  - Adrenal carcinoma
- Miscellaneous
  - Aspergillosis
  - Behçet's syndrome
  - Inferior vena caval webs
  - Trauma
  - Inflammatory bowel disease
  - Dacarbazine therapy
- Idiopathic

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EASL PG 2016

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## BCS- Diagnosis

- US**
  - First Line
  - Caudate lobe enlargement, narrowing/lack of visualization of HV, Collaterals
- CT/MRI**
  - Confirmatory
  - Evaluate for features of cirrhosis, masses
- Venogram**
  - Pursue if clinical suspicion remains
  - Concomitant liver biopsy can be considered but rarely needed

ACG PG 2020  
EASL PG 2016

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## BCS- Management Goals

**Reverse Thrombosis**

- Prevent progression
- Decompress liver
- Achieve recanalization
- Maintain Tx candidacy

**Treatment Duration-  
Indefinite**

**Prevent  
Complications:**

- Variceal bleeding
- Recurrent thrombosis

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## BCS- Management

Medical treatment

- Anticoagulate ASAP
  - Bleeding risk stratification: EGD
- Rx underlying condition
- Rx complications of portal HTN
- Assess for potential IR candidacy

ACG PG 2020  
EASL PG 2016

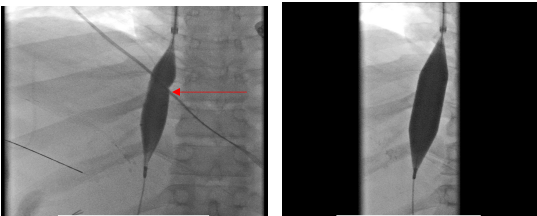
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## BCS- Management

Medical treatment

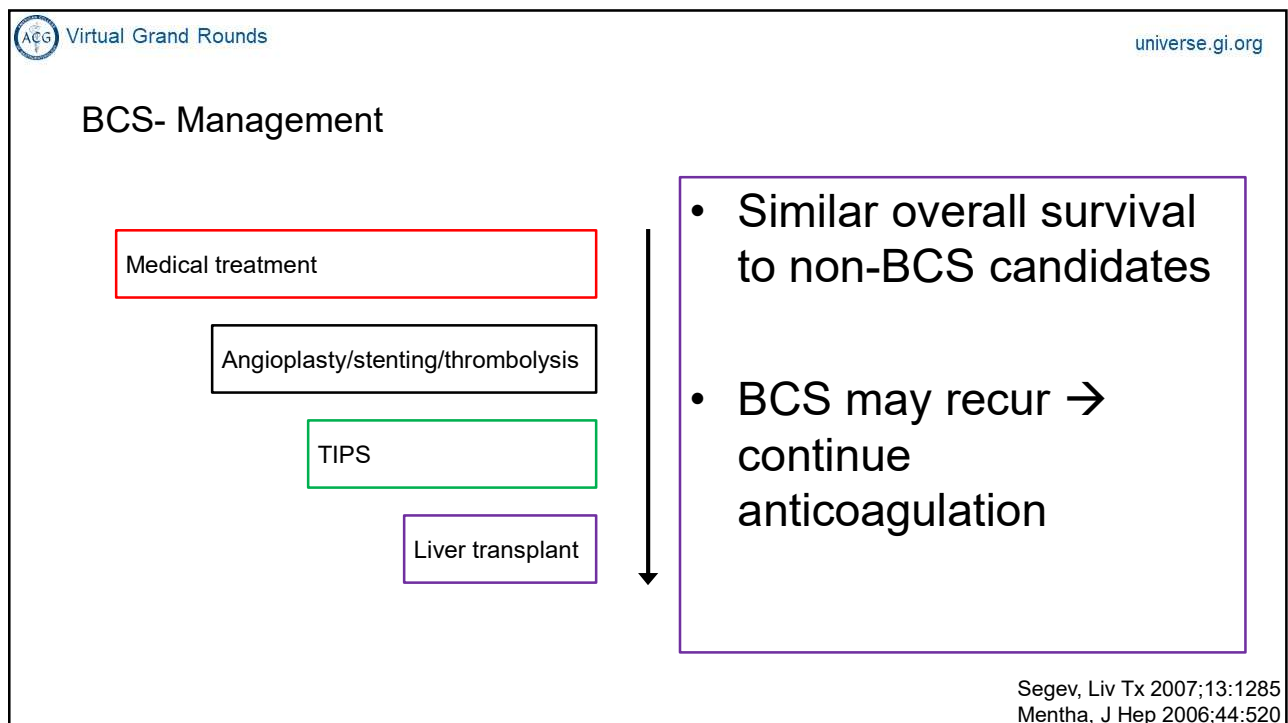
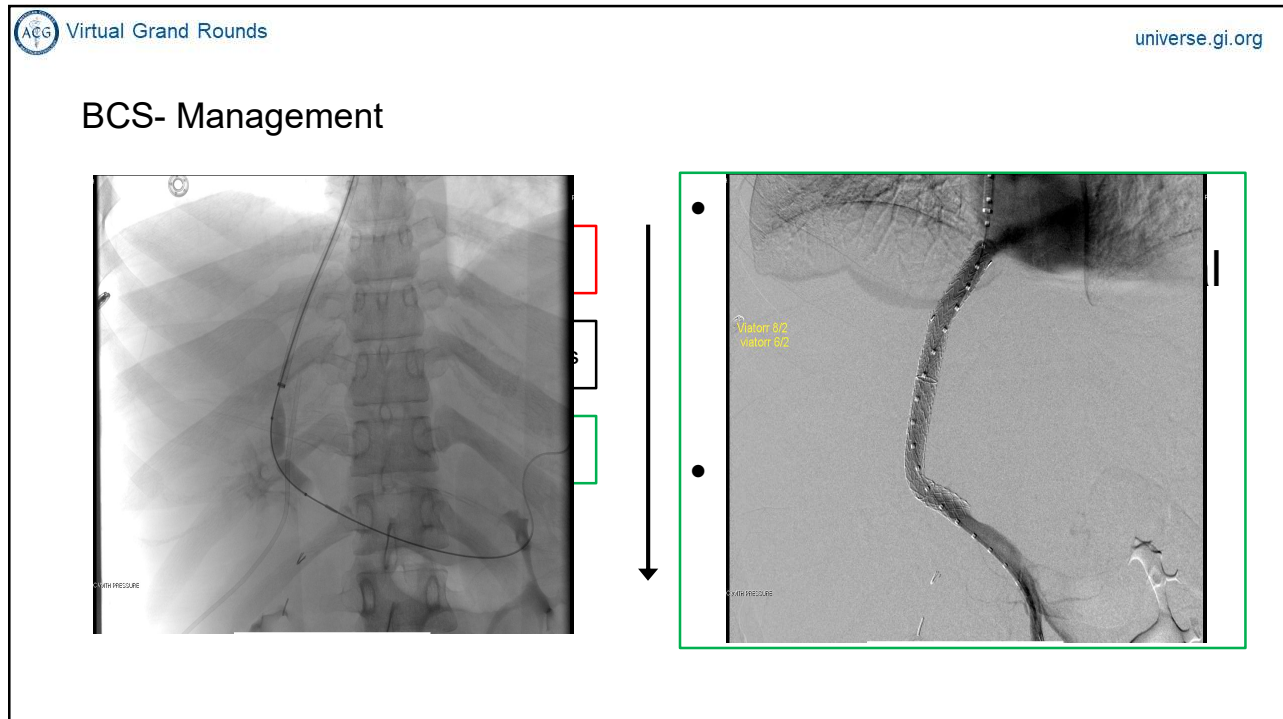
Angioplasty/stenting/thrombolysis



- Thrombolysis experience limited
- Angioplasty/stents for discrete, focal lesions or short-length stenosis  
~ < 10% in US are candidates

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# Take Aways

- Cirrhosis is a Thrombotic Risk Factor
- PVT- Don't Miss SMVT, HCC
- BCS- Variable Presentation- Easy to Miss
- Stepwise BCS Rx

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Give thanks. Give life.

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# Acute Kidney Injury in Cirrhosis: Everything is not Hepatorenal Syndrome



Patricia Bloom MD  
Assistant Professor  
University of Michigan

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- **Objective:** Identify and differentiate types of acute kidney injury in patients with cirrhosis

## Agenda

- Why does type of acute kidney injury matter?
- What is hepatorenal syndrome?
- Can hepatorenal syndrome overlap with other etiologies?
- How to differentiate types of acute kidney injury in cirrhosis?
- How to manage acute kidney injury in cirrhosis?

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## Acute Kidney Injury Carries a Poor Prognosis

- 20-50% of inpatients have acute kidney injury
- Kidney injury in cirrhosis → 7-fold increase in mortality
- Prevalence of acute kidney injury in cirrhosis is increasing
- Type of acute kidney injury has a **BIG** impact on management

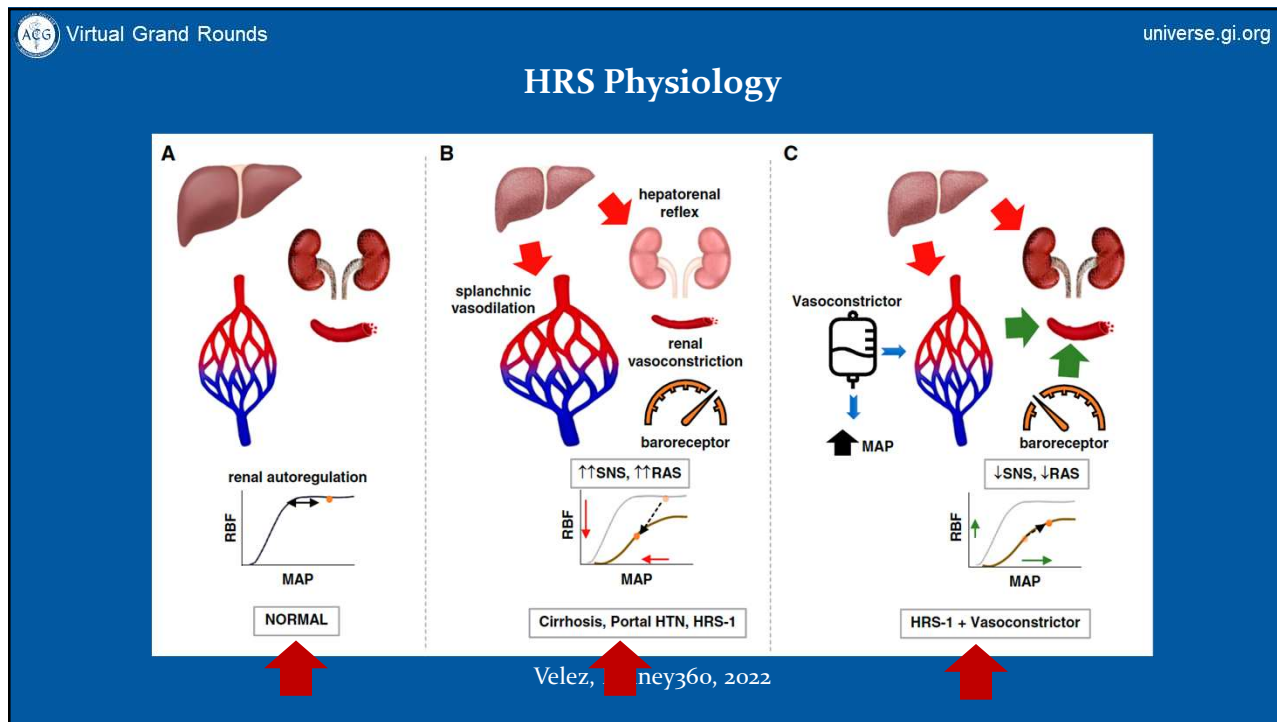
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## Definition of Acute Kidney Injury

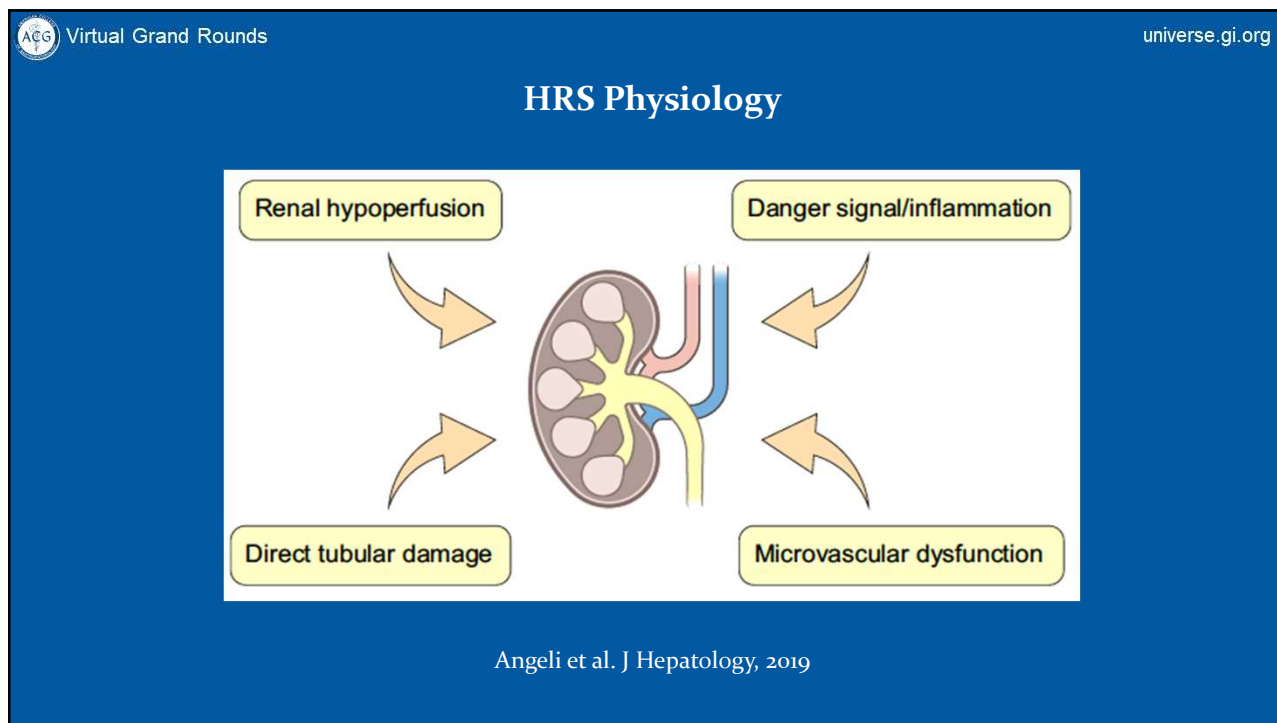
- **Modified KDIGO Definition of AKI:**
  - ↑ serum creatinine  $\geq 0.3$  mg/dL within 48 hours
  - **OR** ↑ serum creatinine  $\geq 1.5$  times baseline (from prior 3 months)
- **Stages:**
  - **1:** ↑ creatinine  $\geq 0.3$  mg/dL **OR** ↑ creatinine 1.5-2 times baseline
  - **2:** ↑ creatinine 2-3 times baseline
  - **3:** ↑ creatinine  $>3$  times baseline **OR** creatinine  $\geq 4$  mg/dL **OR** renal replacement therapy

Angeli et al, J Hepatology, 2015

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## Definition of Hepatorenal Syndrome

**Diagnostic criteria**

- Cirrhosis; acute liver failure; acute-on-chronic liver failure
- Increase in serum creatinine  $\geq 0.3$  mg/dl within 48 h or  $\geq 50\%$  from baseline value according to ICA consensus document  
*and/or*  
Urinary output  $\leq 0.5$  ml/kg B.W.  $\geq 6$  h\*
- No full or partial response, according to the ICA consensus document<sup>20</sup>, after at least 2 days of diuretic withdrawal and volume expansion with albumin. The recommended dose of albumin is 1 g/kg of body weight per day to a maximum of 100 g/day
- Absence of shock
- No current or recent treatment with nephrotoxic drugs
- Absence of parenchymal disease as indicated by proteinuria  $> 500$  mg/day, microhaematuria ( $> 50$  red blood cells per high power field), urinary injury biomarkers (if available) and/or abnormal renal ultrasonography\*\*.

Suggestion of renal vasoconstriction with FENa of  $< 0.2\%$  (with levels  $< 0.1\%$  being highly predictive)

**Issues**

- ➔ Risk of pulmonary edema  
Delays HRS treatment
- ➔ RBC  $> 50$  not highly sensitive or specific  
Most have low MAP  
Without biopsy, hard to tell if antibiotic is cause
- ➔ Chronic proteinuria doesn't necessarily exclude HRS
- ➔ Renal imaging challenging with ascites

No urine microscopy!

Angeli et al, J Hepatology, 2019

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## HRS Can Overlap with Other Etiologies

Conventional, limited

Non-conventional, comprehensive

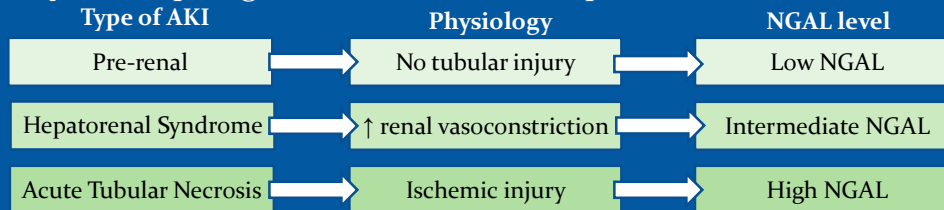
Velez, Kidney360, 2022

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## No Excellent Biomarkers to Differentiate AKI Types

(not talking about biomarkers to identify AKI, like Cystatin C)

- Major Issue: Lack of gold standard
- Urinary neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin (NGAL)



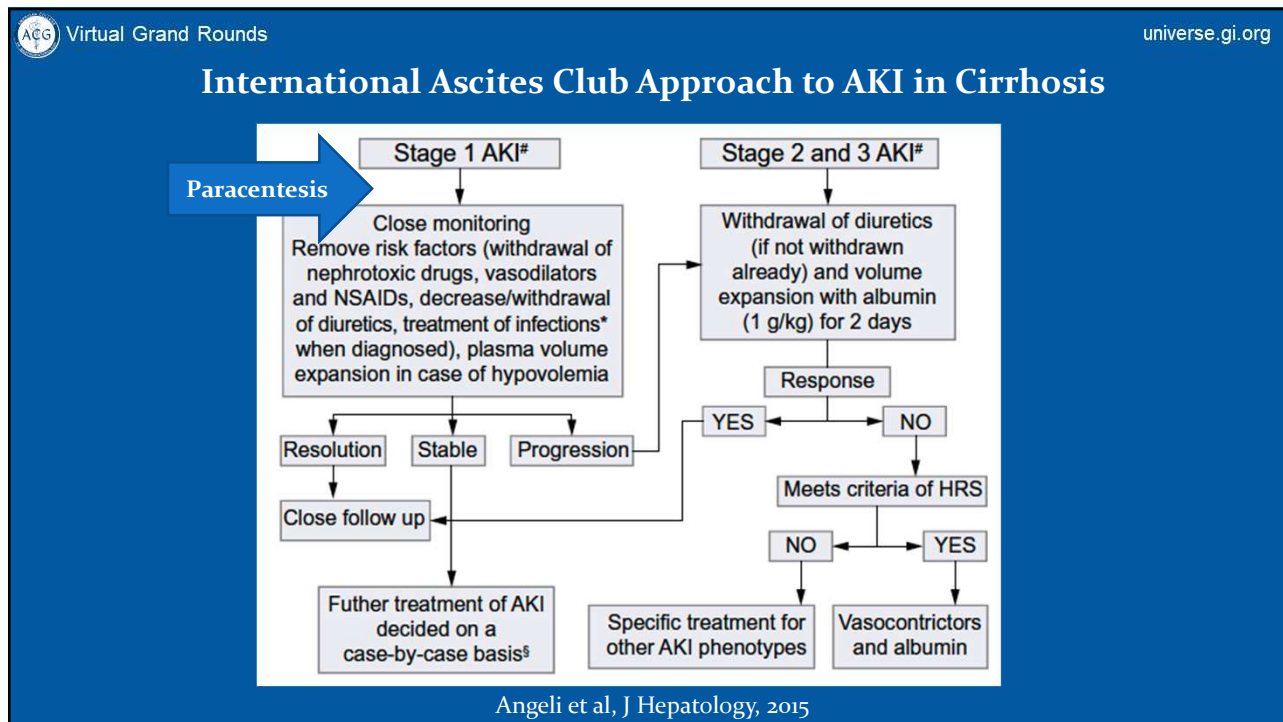
- NGAL cut-off discriminated ATN vs. non-ATN (multiple studies)
- NGAL predicts response to HRS therapy (1 abstract)
- NGAL improves MELD accuracy of mortality prediction in decompensation

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## No Excellent Biomarkers to Differentiate AKI Types

- **Fractional excretion of sodium (FENa)**
  - Most decompensated cirrhosis: FENa < 1% (even in ATN)
  - FENa cut-off of 0.1 or 0.2% better in cirrhosis (below = HRS; above = ATN)
- **Fractional excretion of urea (FEUrea)**
  - Single center: FEUrea >28.1% has positive predictive value of 89% for exclusion of HRS-1
  - Needs further research

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## Large Volume Paracentesis in Acute Kidney Injury

- Paracentesis-induced circulatory dysfunction is ↓ with albumin
- High intra-abdominal pressure ( $\geq 20$  mmHg) can compress renal vein
- Some studies have shown rise in GFR and urine output after large volume paracentesis

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## Key Points

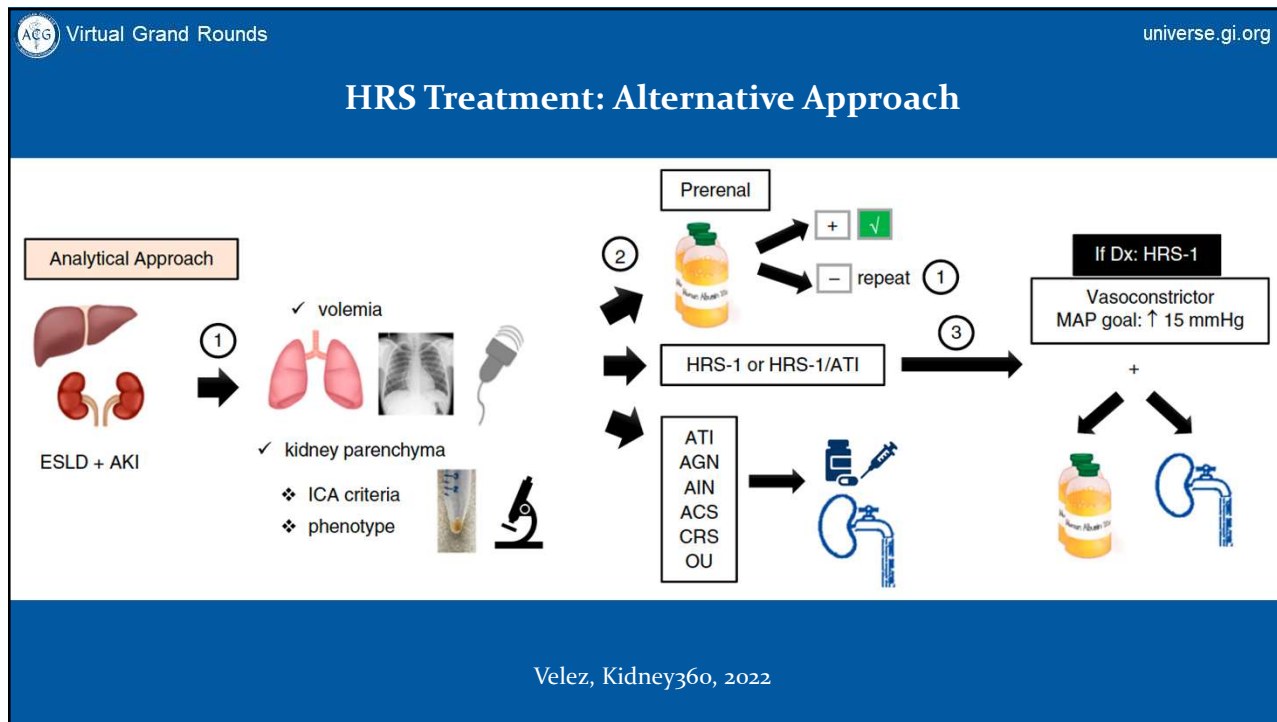
- Critical to identify and treat acute kidney injury in cirrhosis
- Important to attempt identifying etiology, as treatment varies
- However, can have more than 1 cause, and complicated to disentangle
- Hepatorenal syndrome is treated with albumin and vasoconstrictors

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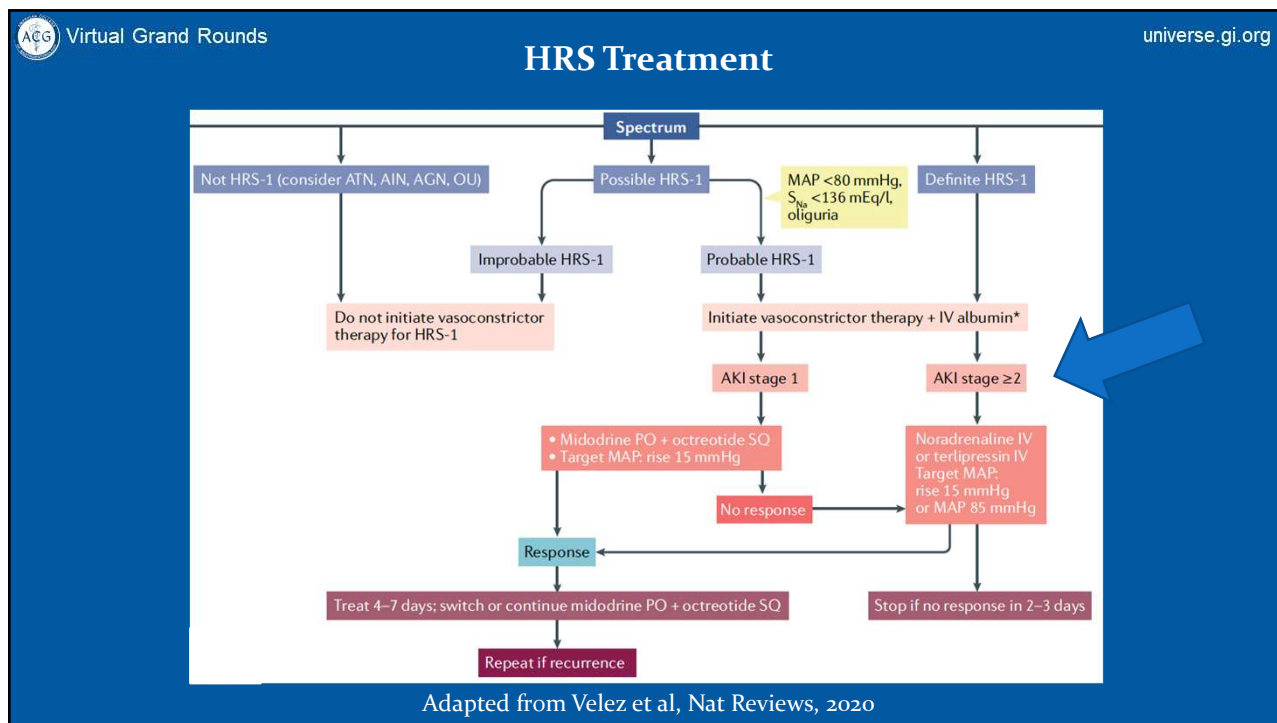
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# EXTRA SLIDES

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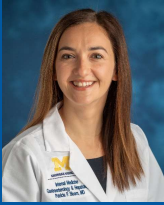


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## Questions

Patricia L. Bloom, MD

Uchenna A. Agbim, MD

Arnab Mitra, MD

*\*All of the relevant financial relationships listed for these individuals have been mitigated*

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