

Mistakes in decompensated liver cirrhosis and how to avoid them

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Mistakes In Articles

Hepatobiliary

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Early chronic liver disease and compensated cirrhosis can remain asymptomatic for years, but progression to decompensated cirrhosis drastically increases morbidity and mortality.

KEY POINTS

- Patients with early chronic liver disease and compensated cirrhosis can present without clinical symptoms, allowing liver disease and damage to remain unidentified for many years.
- Decompensated cirrhosis is defined by clinically overt signs of portal hypertension or impaired hepatic function, including variceal bleeding, ascites, or overt hepatic encephalopathy.
- Morbidity and mortality drastically increase once decompensated cirrhosis develops.
- The first hepatic decompensation event significantly increases the risk of further complications and decompensation episodes.
- Individuals with advanced liver cirrhosis are four times more susceptible to infection, which is the most frequent trigger of hepatic decompensation.

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