

META-ANALYSIS OF THE EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF NOVEL ORAL ANTI-CHOLESTATIC AGENTS FOR PRIMARY BILIARY CHOLANGITIS

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Poster

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A meta-analysis of ten studies involving 878 patients demonstrates that novel oral anti-cholestatic agents significantly reduce alkaline phosphatase and other liver markers in primary biliary cholangitis patients with suboptimal ursodeoxycholic acid response, with comparable safety to controls.

KEY POINTS

- Novel anti-cholestatic agents significantly lowered alkaline phosphatase levels compared to controls (SMD -2.80; 95% CI [-3.56, -2.03]; $p < 0.00001$), with saroglitazar showing the largest effect (SMD -4.62).
- Fibrates including fenofibrate, bezafibrate, and saroglitazar demonstrated the most consistent alkaline phosphatase reduction across studies (SMD -3.15; 95% CI [-3.89, -2.41]; $p < 0.00001$).
- Significant reductions were observed in bilirubin (MD -0.22 mg/dL; $p = 0.001$) and gamma-glutamyl transferase (SMD -1.98; $p < 0.00001$).
- Bezafibrate and seladelpar showed mean reductions in pruritus visual analog scale scores of 30% and 35% respectively; fatigue scores also improved (SMD -0.42; $p = 0.002$).
- Safety profiles were comparable to controls with no significant increase in serious adverse events; most common adverse events were mild gastrointestinal symptoms (10-15%) and transient creatinine elevations (5-8%).

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