

ADVANCING TREATMENTS FOR NON-ALCOHOLIC STEATOHEPATITIS (NASH) AND NON-ALCOHOLIC FATTY LIVER DISEASE (NAFLD): TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

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UEG Week Copenhagen 2023

Poster

October 15, 2023

An analysis of ClinicalTrials.gov metadata from 2013-2022 shows that clinical research activity in NASH and NAFLD doubled in the most recent five years, with particularly strong growth in early phase drug studies and non-invasive diagnostic methods for fibrosis staging.

KEY POINTS

- Studies increased 100% in 2018-2022 compared to 2013-2017, with early phase studies showing the largest increase at 108%.
- Interventional studies comprised 75% of all studies and increased by 91%, while observational studies increased by 131%.
- Diagnostic studies increased by 871%, with the majority focused on non-invasive methods for staging liver fibrosis as alternatives to biopsy.
- Drugs were the most common intervention at 39% of studies and increased by 98% in the recent period.
- Industry-funded studies increased by 140% with biotech sector funding rising by 174%, while non-industry funded studies (64% of total) increased by 82%, suggesting growth in basic science may drive future industry research.

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