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Summary

Metabolic liver diseases: Today and tomorrow

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Mechanisms & Personalised Medicine | Immunology

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The speaker reviewed the global public health landscape for steatotic liver disease, highlighting the May 2024 WHO resolution on Masld/Mash and the challenge that two approved Mash-directed therapies in Europe remain unreimbursed by public health systems.

KEY POINTS

- The speaker stated that two Mash-directed therapies are approved in Europe but not reimbursed by public health systems in any EU country or the UK, leaving patients with Mash F2 or F3 fibrosis unable to access treatment unless they have diabetes and receive semaglutide for that indication.
- The speaker reported that the first World Health Assembly resolution on steatotic liver disease was adopted in May 2024, naming Masld and Mash to allow countries to act, though very few countries have action plans or strategies addressing these conditions.
- The speaker estimated global Masld prevalence at around one-third of adults and stated that more than 1 in 10 young people or children are estimated to have Masld.
- The speaker stated that the first Mash-directed therapy was approved by the FDA on March 14, 2024, and that the speaker's group is trialling prescribing a meal a day alongside resmetirom to assess real-world effectiveness.
- The speaker called for expanding the community of practice beyond hepatologists and gastroenterologists to include endocrinologists, cardiologists, nephrologists, obesity specialists, and others to address steatotic liver disease within a broader cardiometabolic framework.
- In the Q&A, the speaker expressed the view that multidisciplinary teams will be needed to manage cardiometabolic liver disease, with endocrinologists likely playing a bigger role, and emphasized the need for objective biomarkers like Peth to better address alcohol use.

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