

Sclerosing diseases of the biliary tree



Reiner Wiest M.D.

IBD-PSC: epidemiology, incidence, prevalence....?

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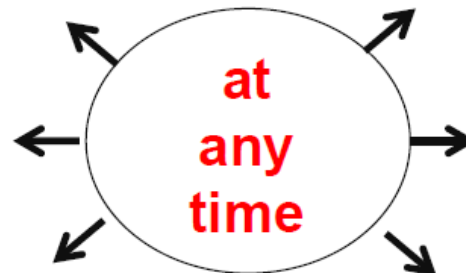
- Usually young (30-40 y) male (2:1)
- Incidence (northern europe): 1/100.000/year

IBD-patients

- UC: 2.4 – 7.5%
- MC: ~3.4 %
- develop PSC



Minority PSC



PSC-patients

- 60-80% in IBD pts
- in UC: 48%-86%
- in MC: up to 13%



Majority IBD

What can cause sclerosing of biliary tree ?

What can cause sclerosing of biliary tree ?

Sclerosing cholangitis of unknown origin

PSC: Primary sclerosing cholangitis

IgG4-SC: IgG4-related sclerosing cholangitis

Secondary sclerosing cholangitis

Infection: recurrent, chronic bacterial/parasitic/pyogenic cholangitis

Immunodeficiency: e.g. congenital, AIDS patients

Mechanical/toxic: stone, surgical, trauma, CTx, drug

Cholangiocarcinoma, diffuse metastasis

Ischemic: vascular trauma, arterial insuff., PNH

Pancreatobiliary disease: CF, CP, ABCB4-CP

Systemic inflammatory disease: Sarcoidosis, GvHD, Eosinophilic

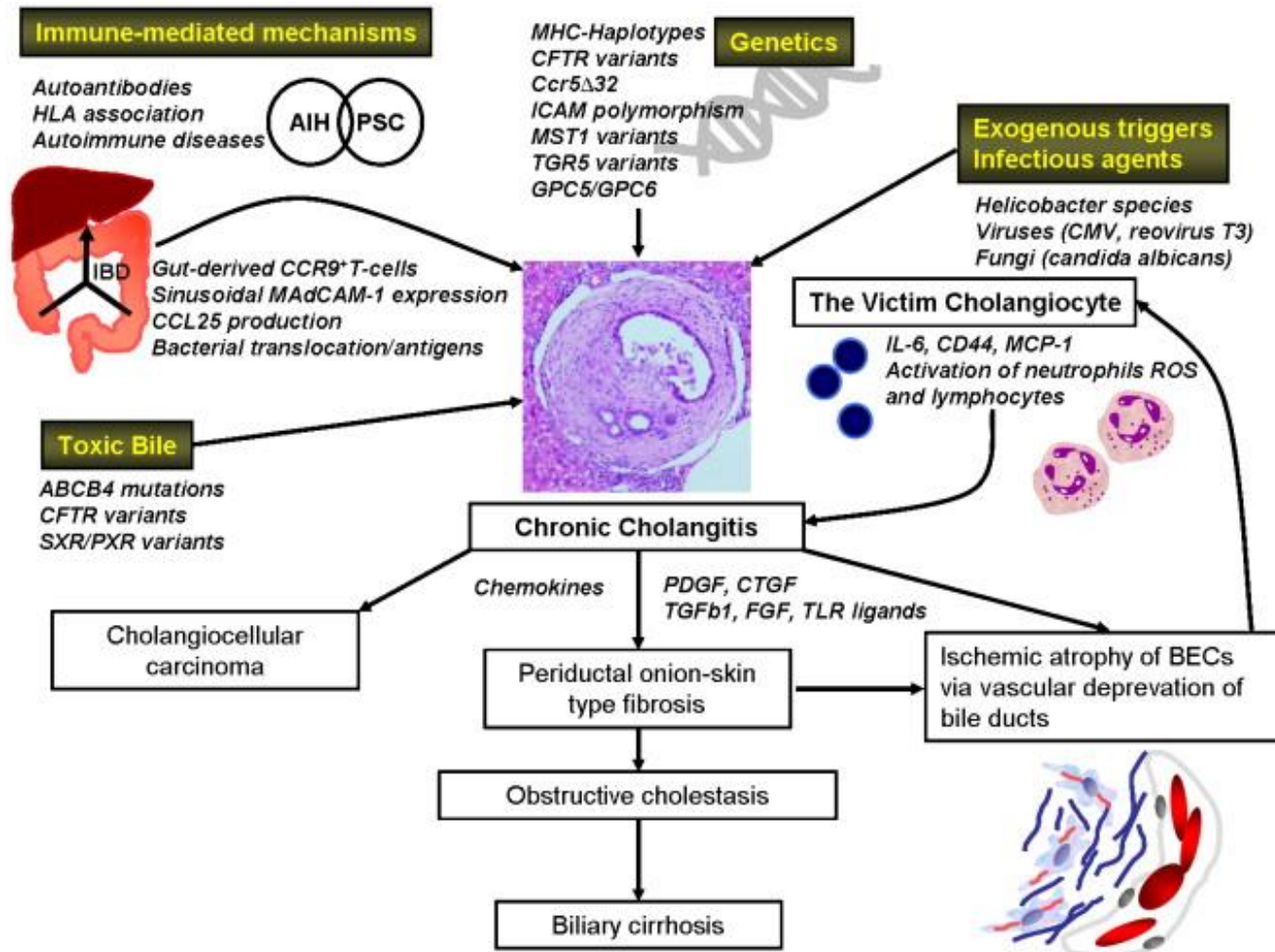
Others: Portal-hypertensive Biliopathy, Masto-, Histozytosis, Caroli,
.....mimicking: amyloidosis, allograft rejection, hodgkin`s disease.....

Pathogenesis of Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis ?

PSC

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**Most difficult questions
in the bible class history !**

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Which genes are shared between UC and PSC?



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IL2, CARD 9 and REL

Hanse et al. Hepatology 2011



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**Which cell-type is responsible for PSC development
after colectomy ?**



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Which genes are shared between UC and PSC?

IL2, CARD 9 and REL

Hanse et al. Hepatology 2011

**Which cell-type is responsible for PSC development
after colectomy ?**

Memory $\alpha 4\beta 7$ -CCR9+CD8+T-cells primed by retinoic dependent iDC

Eksteen B et al. Gastroenterology 2009

Factors modulating risk for **PSC** ?

PSC



Factors modulating risk for PSC ?



- **IBD**, mostly UC
 - 2-4% (max 8%) of IBD patients, in their lifetime
 - up to 88% of PSC-patients suffer IBD
- **male** predominance
- Sometimes **family** history of disease
- **smoking** protects against PSC

PSC

Symptoms in PSC ?

Prognosis in patient with and without symptoms ?



Symptoms in PSC ?

Prognosis in patient with and without symptoms ?

- often **asymptomatic** (about 50%)
- right upper quadrant pain, abdominal discomfort,
- fatigue, pruritus, fever/chills and weight loss
(malnutrition, malabsorption of fat-soluble vitamins with deficiencies in vitamin A, D, E; osteoporosis)
- **If symptoms:** time till death or transplantation reduced
9 years vs. 12-18 years



Mayo Risk Score for PSC?

PSC

Mayo Risk Score for PSC?

$$R = (0.0295 * (\text{age in years})) + (0.5373 * \text{LN}(\text{total bilirubin in mg/dL})) - (0.8389 * (\text{serum albumin in g/dL})) + (0.5380 * \text{LN}(\text{AST in IU/L})) + (1.2426 * (\text{points for variceal bleeding}))$$

Points for variceal bleeding: 0 if none, 1 if present.

Each unit increase in the Mayo Risk Score (R) is associated with a 2.5-fold increase in the risk of death. The score shows very slight upward slope over time in stable patients, but during the terminal phase it shows an acceleration in progression (<http://www.medal.org/>)

$R \leq 0$ = "low" risk
 $R = 0-2$ = "intermediate" risk
 $R > 2$ = "high" risk

Kim et al. Mayo Proc 2000

Mayo Risk Score for PSC?

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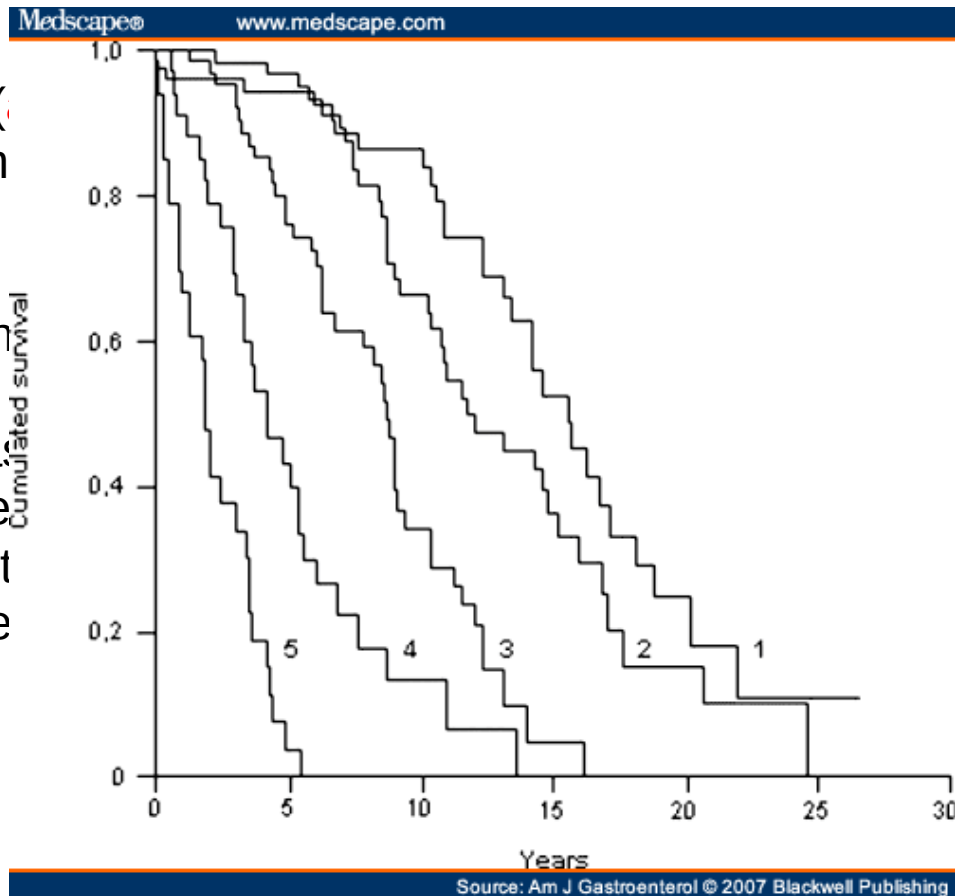
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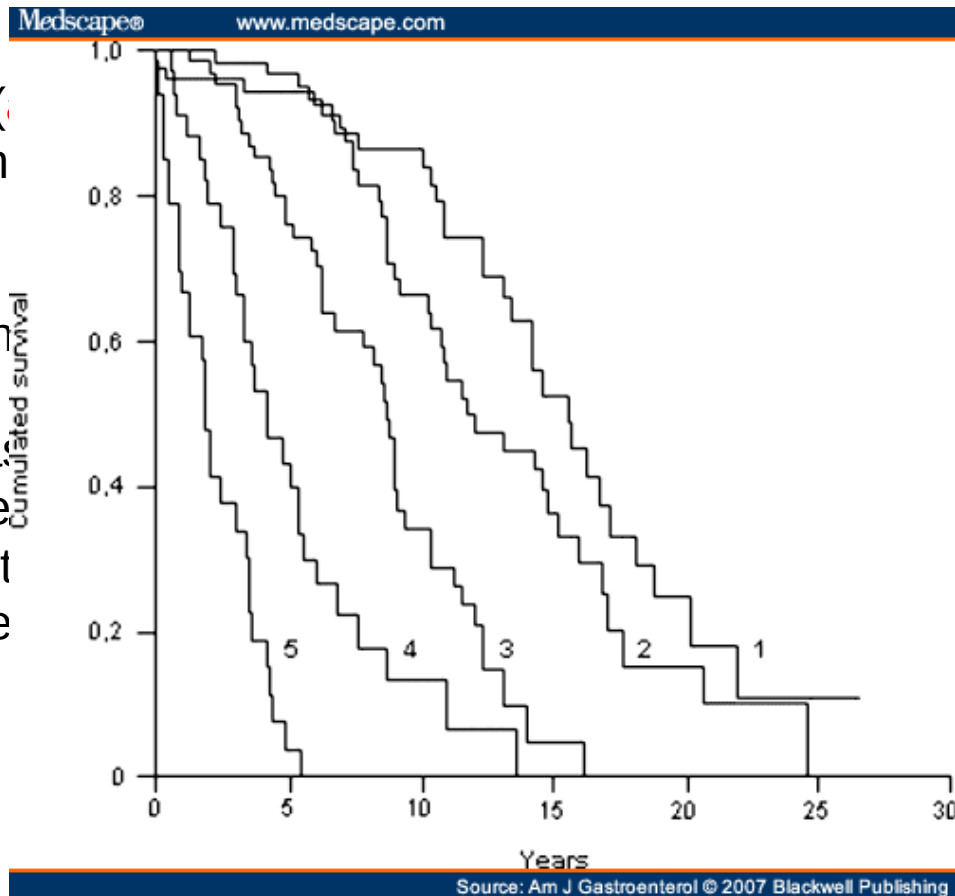
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- cholestatic (↑GGT, ↑ **AP**, bilirubin)
- + high transaminases (2-3x normal value) in a majority of patients

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Other lab tests?

-Serology : Antibodies

Antibody	Prevalence
<u>Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody</u>	50%-80%
Anti-nuclear antibody	7%-77%
Anti-smooth muscle antibody	13%-20%
Anti-endothelial cell antibody	35%
Anti-cardiolipin antibody	4%-66%
Thyroperoxidase	7%-16%
Thyroglobulin	4%
Rheumatoid factor	15% 9

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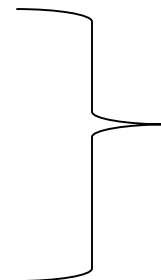
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- **MRC (P) Method of choice**
- ERC(P)

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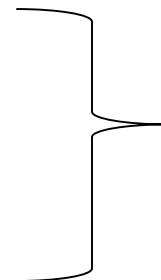
abnormal cholangiogram
(strictures / dilatations)

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What is small duct **PSC** ?

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What is small duct PSC ?

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- Disease variant which is characterized by typical cholestatic and **histological features** of PSC but normal bile ducts on cholangiography
- Survival is longer
- Lower risk for CCA
- 20% develop large duct diseases over 7-10 years

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Normal cholangiogram but high suspicion → perform ?

→ Liver Biopsies (small duct PSC and/or Overlap-Syndrom with AIH)



Validation of the Prognostic Value of Histologic Scoring Systems in Primary Biliary Cholangitis: An International Cohort Study



Elisabeth M. G. de Vries,^{1*} Manon de Krijger,^{1*} Martti Färkkilä,² Johanna Arola,³ Peter Schirmacher,⁴ Daniel Gotthardt,⁵

Nakanuma-Histo-Score with strongest predictive value

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Most common complications of PSC ?

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- **Cholangiocarcinoma = most common cause of death**
(0.6-1.5%/year and up to 20% life-time risk in PSC
up to 50% diagnosis in 1st year after PSC-diagnosis)
- **Biliary (secondary) Cirrhosis**
→ portal hypertension/ liver failure
→ hepatocellular carcinoma
(about 2% per year)
- **Colorectal Carcinoma**
5-10 fold increase

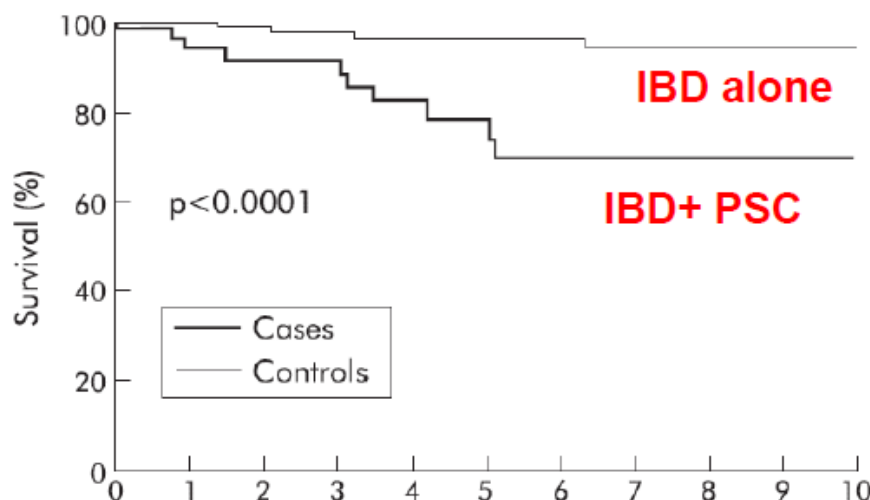
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Prognosis of IBD in dependency on PSC

- Medical records Mayo Clinic 1987-1992
- IBD + PSC (n=71) vs. IBD alone (n=142)



HR 9.7
(95% 2.3 – 41)

Adjusted
Age, duration,
rectal sparing etc.

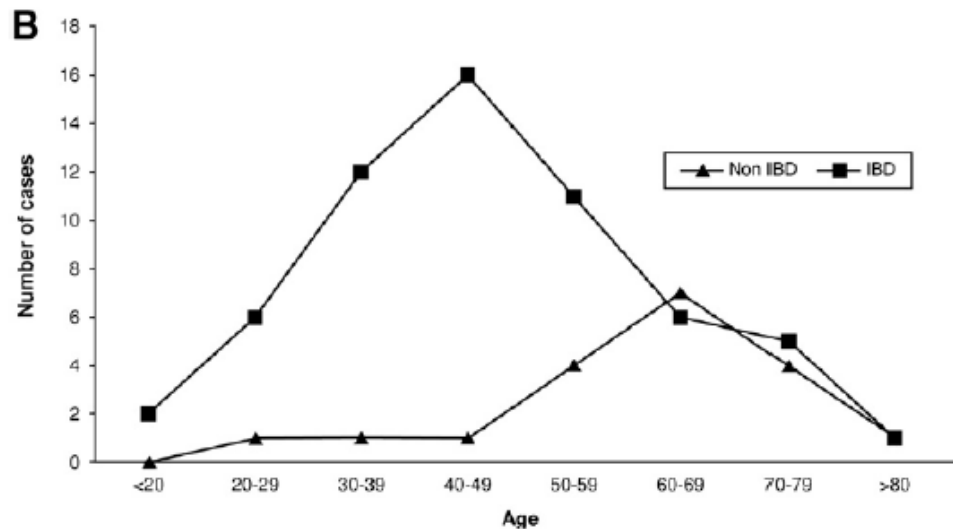
Prognosis in PSC:
65% survival at 10 years without OLT
median survival (or OLT) after diagnosis ~ 9 years

Prognosis of PSC in dependency on IBD



- 171 PSC pts. followed prospectively up to 20 years
- 97/171 dominant biliary stricture

➤ 79 PSC pts. Canterbury New Zealand

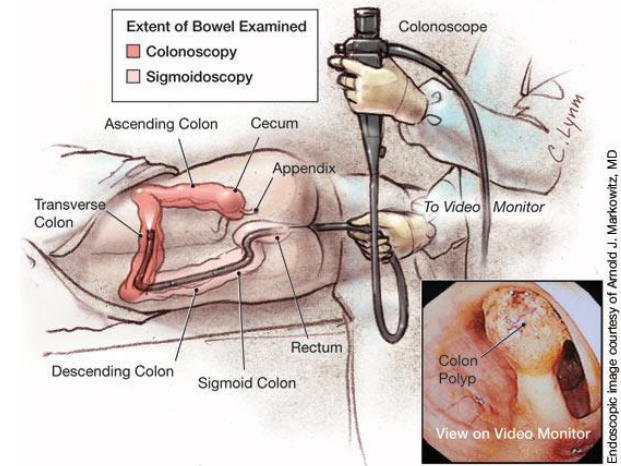


	Death/ OLT
PSC+ IBD	26/60 (43.3%)
PSC alone	3/19 (15.7%)

$p < 0.05$

Colon and PSC: When colonoscopy in PSC ?

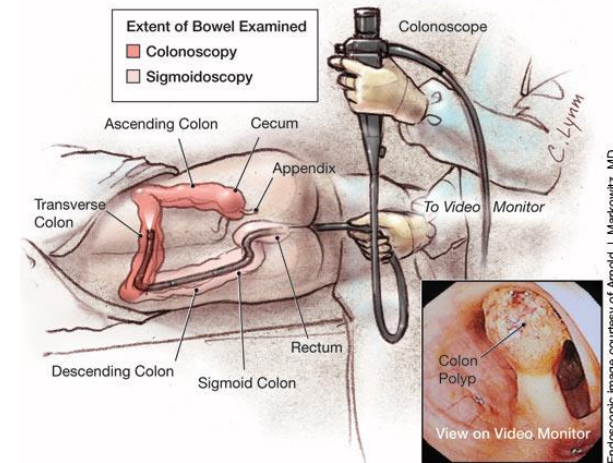
PSC



Colon and PSC: When colonoscopy in PSC ?

PSC

- **Every PSC** patient at least once,
at ED even asymptomatic patients
- **Plus Biopsy** even if macroscopically intact
(4 quadrant in each colon segment+Ileum)
- **Every (3-)5 year** after PSC diagnosis, if first
colposcopy is bland or when symptoms develop to seek IBD
- **IBD: annual** surveillance colonoscopy with chromoendoscopy
(also after LTx)



Characteristic features of IBD in PSC ?

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- **Rectal sparing**
- **Mild course**
- **Back-Wash-Ileitis**

Impact of PSC on Colorectal Cancer Risk in IBD ?

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**Cumulative risk (dysplasia and/or CRC): after 25 years
with PSC vs. Without PSC: 50% vs. 10%, $p < 0.01$
OR 5.1 (95% CI 3.58 -6.41)**

IBD and CRC (with vs. without PSC):

- 19 vs. 29 years of age , $p < 0.05$
- younger at onset of IBD

Predilection on prox. Colon (76% right-sided)

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**Cumulative risk (dysplasia and/or CRC): after 25 years
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**Surveillance colonoscopy at 1-2 years
interval in PSC with IBD**

- younger at onset of IBD

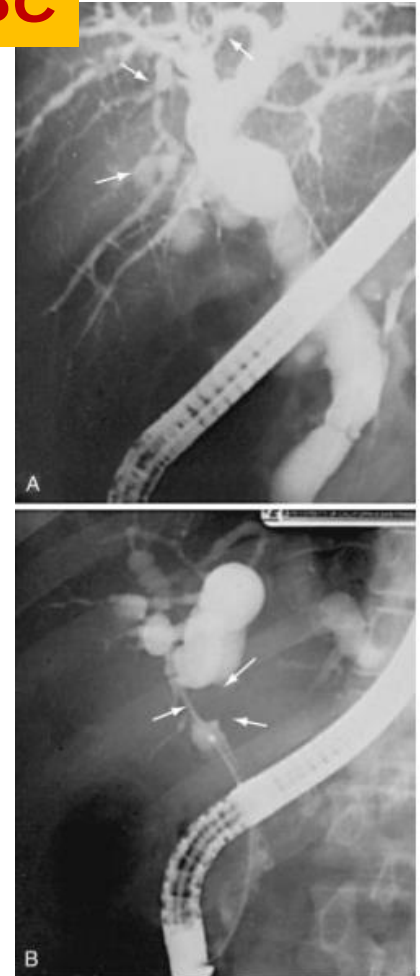
Predilection on prox. Colon (76% right-sided)

Brackmann S et al. Scand J Gastro 2008

Shetty Am J Gastroenterol 1999

When to go for ERCP ?

PSC



When to go for ERCP ?

➤ **Established PSC:**

i) therapeutic indication or ii) risk of CCA

-clinically relevant or worsening symptoms
jaundice, cholangitis, pruritus, weight loss

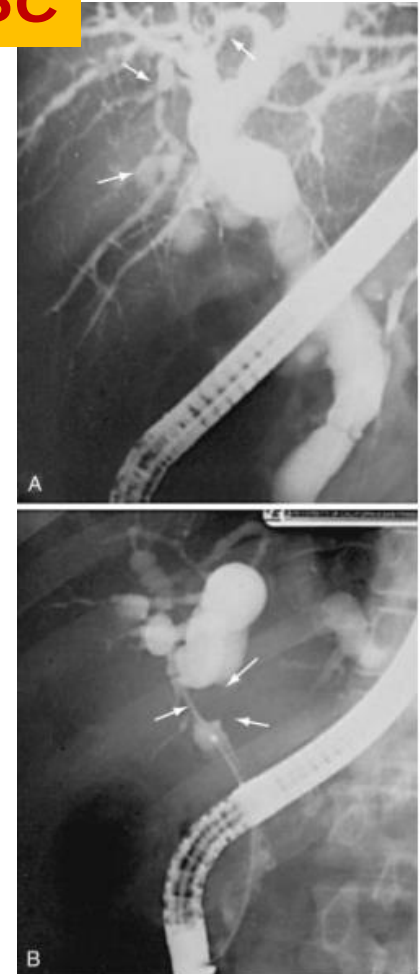
-rapid increase of AP and/or bilirubin

-new or progression of known dominant stricture (MR)

➤ **persistent PSC suspicion** despite normal high-quality MR/MRCP and normal liver biopsy

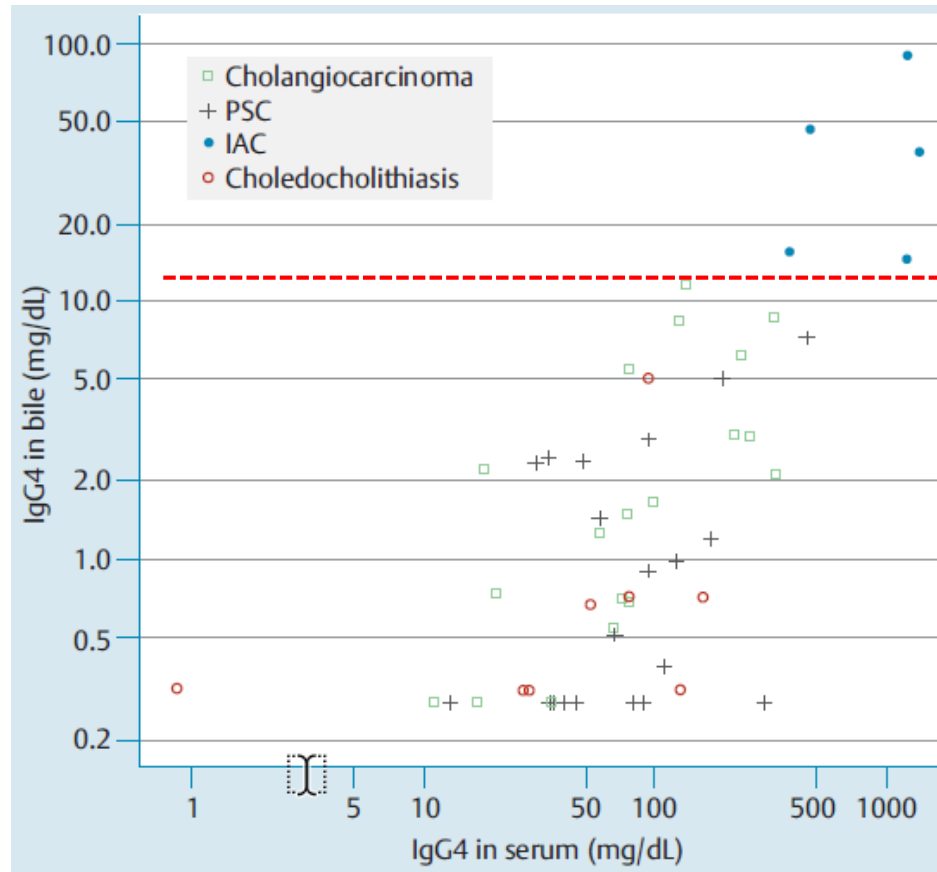
In advanced stage/cirrhosis: benefit maybe limited

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Besides Cholangiogramm, what to do in ERCP to assess/test for IgG4-Cholangiopathy ?

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IgG4-level in bile

PSC serum IgG4
can be elevated
but not
in bile (n=23/6)
AUC 0.99 (?)

Biopsy

papilla vateri

> 50%

IgG4 + in IAC/P

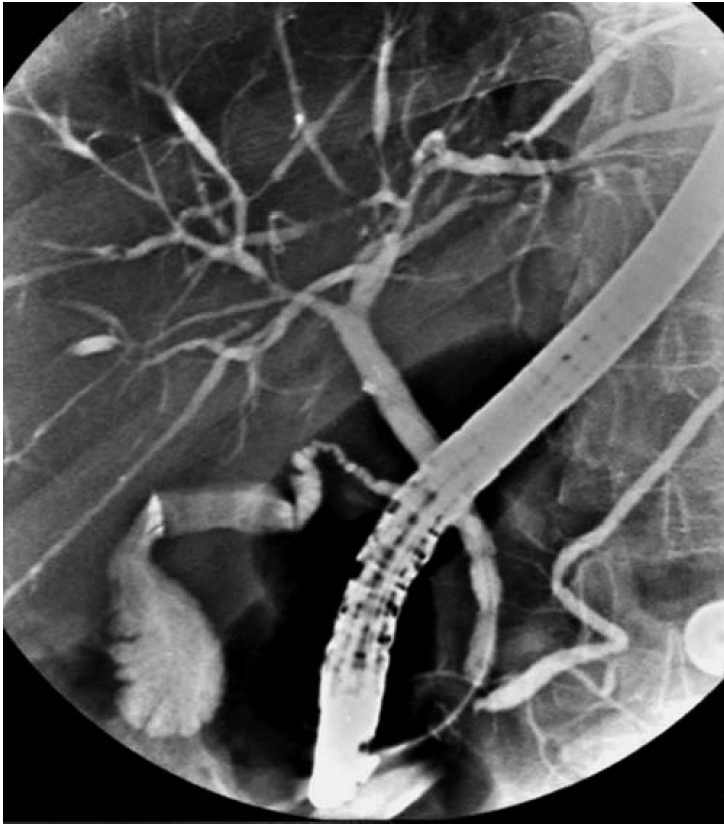
Vosskuhl, Lankisch et al. Endoscopy 2012

ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification

PSC

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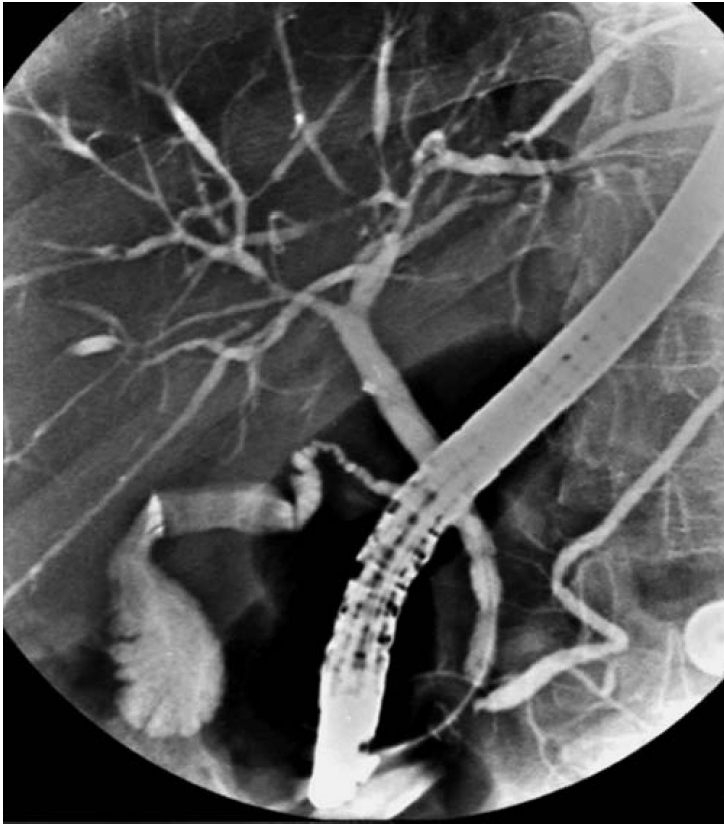
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ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification

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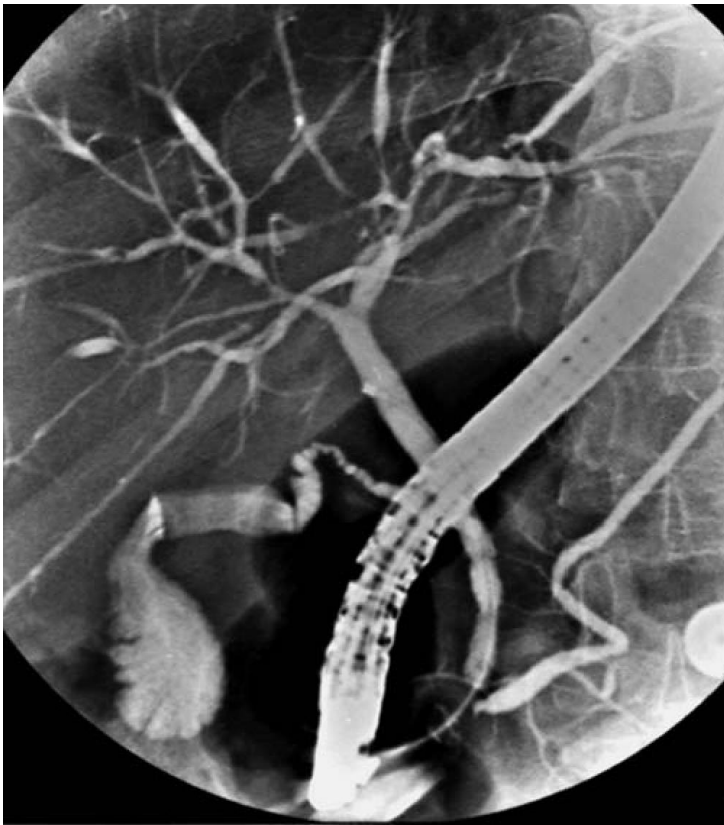
Full occlusion cholangiogram mandatory:
Type I (intra- and extrahepatic)



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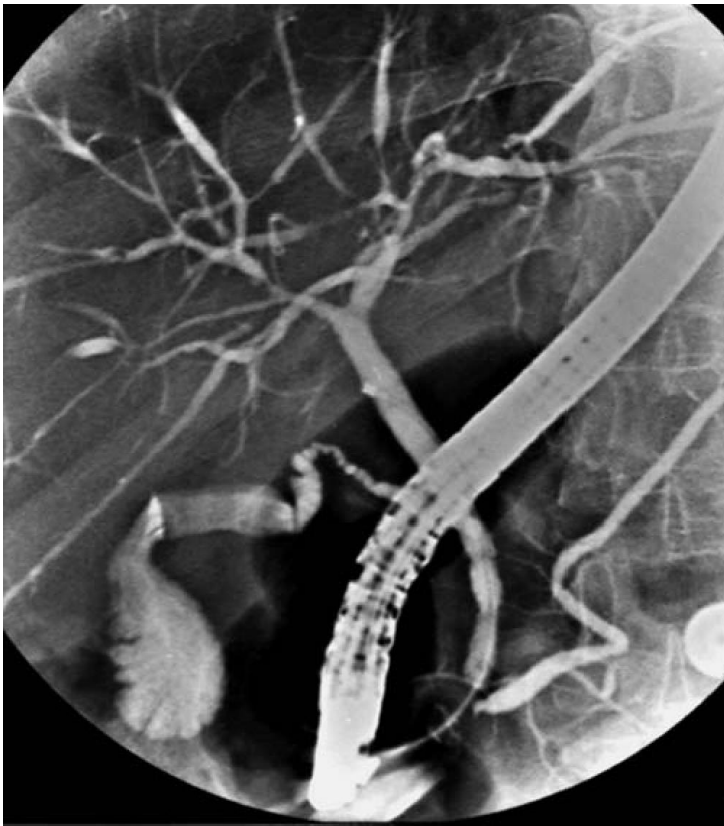
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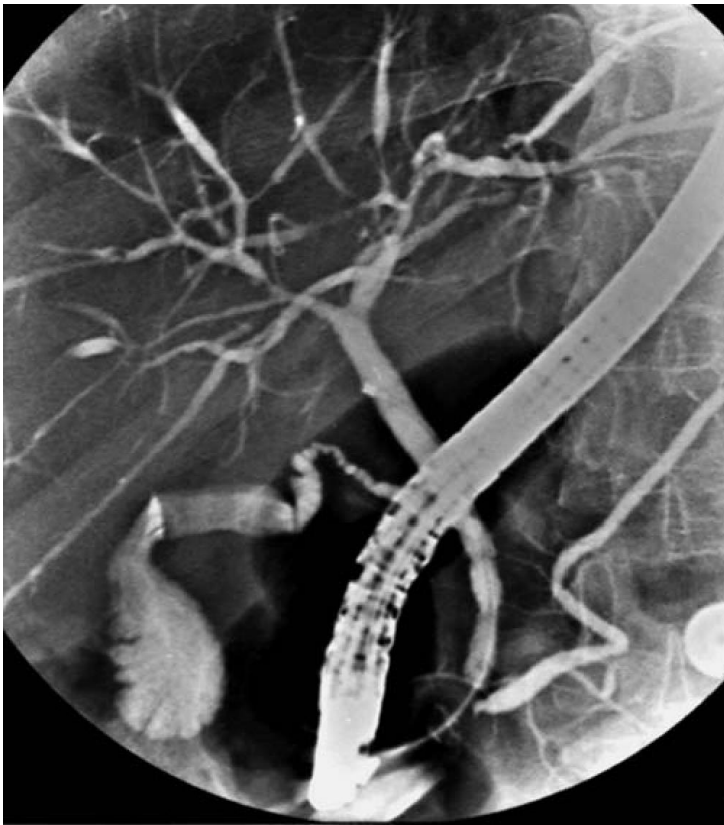
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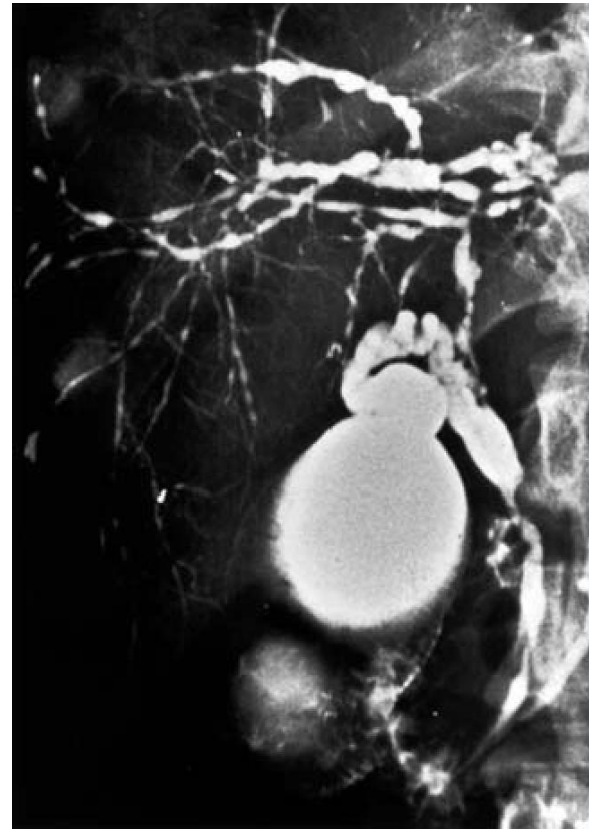
ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification

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Full occlusion cholangiogram mandatory:
Type I (intra- and extrahepatic)



Type II intra-
Type III extrahepatic



ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification

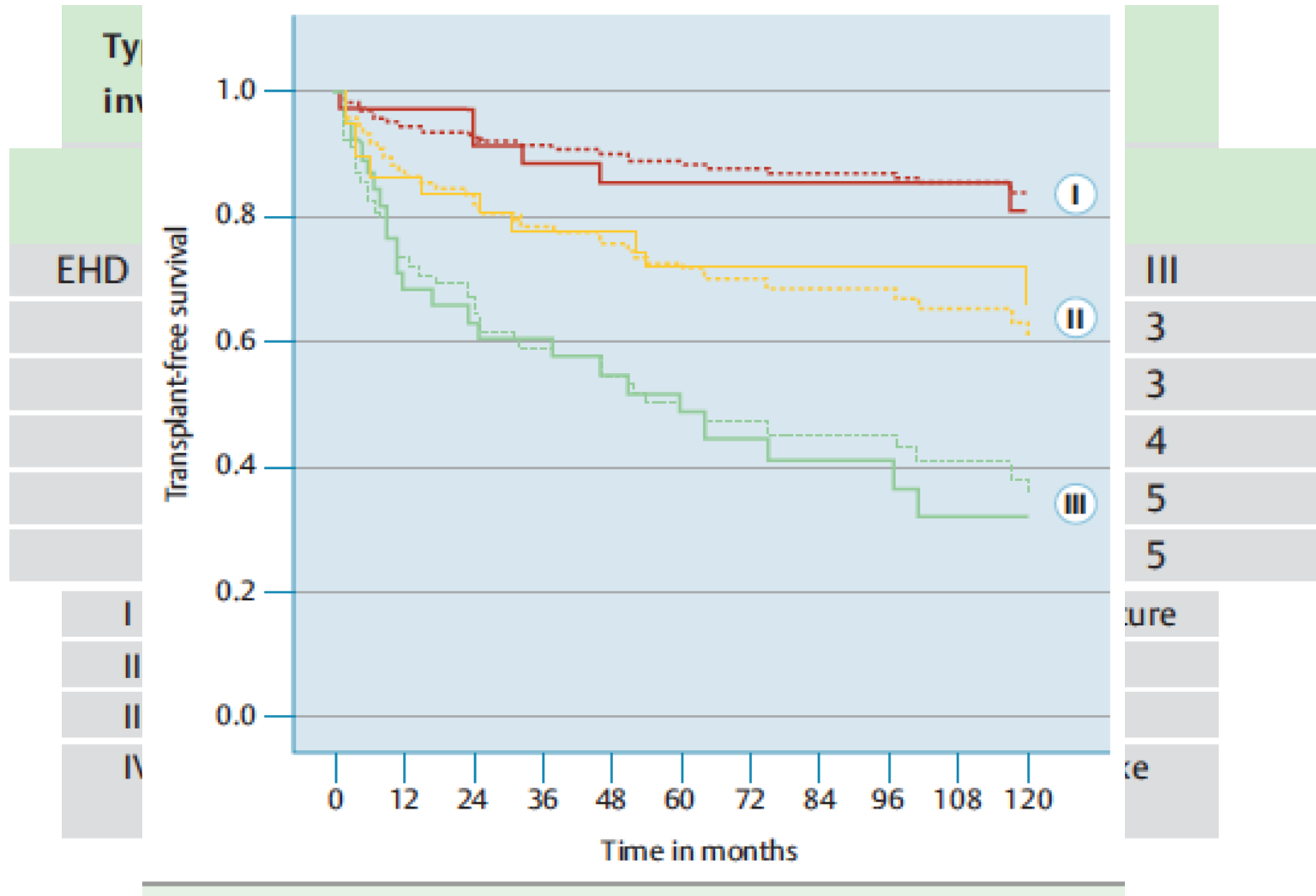
ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification

Type of duct involvement	Cholangiographic abnormalities
Intrahepatic	
0	No visible abnormalities
I	Multiple caliber changes; minimal dilatation
II	Multiple strictures; saccular dilatations, decreased arborization
III	Only central branches filled despite adequate filling pressure; severe pruning
Extrahepatic	
0	No visible abnormalities
I	Slight irregularities of duct contour; no stricture
II	Segmental strictures
III	Strictures of almost entire length of duct
IV	Extremely irregular margins; diverticulum-like outpouchings

ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification

Type of duct involvement		Cholangiographic abnormalities			
		IHD			
EHD		0	I	II	III
	0	–	2	3	3
	I	1	2	3	3
	II	2	3	3	4
	III	3	3	4	5
	IV	3	3	4	5
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ERCP-findings: Amsterdam-classification



Dominant stricture ?

- definition, frequency, risks

PSC

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Definition: stenosis with a diameter of

<1.5 mm in the CBD

< 1 mm in the right or left hepatic duct (within 2 cm to hilus)

Mostly associated with increased cholestasis and pruritus

Frequency: 45% to 58% of PSC patients during follow up.

Risks: CCA (about 5% in dominant stricture), cholangitis

ERCP: management of dominant stricture ?

PSC

ERCP: management of dominant stricture ?

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- Always use peri-interventional **antibiotics!**
- **Sphincterotomy** not routinely - only small if at all
done when difficult access and/or therapeutic interventions
- Before any endoscopic therapy: **brush cytology and/or biopsy**
- **Dilatation** preferred method because majority of studies only dilated
- significant improvement in LTx-free survival only shown for dilatation
scheme: repeat every 1-4 weeks, CBD 8mm, DHR/L 6 mm till success
- **Stenting**: Perforation rate higher and hence,
only in selected cases and only short-term (1-2 weeks)

PSC and CCA: epidemiology, risk, prognosis

PSC

PSC and CCA: epidemiology, risk, prognosis

PSC

- Life-time risk up to 15-20% (=400-fold increased)
- 10-year cumulative risk: 6-9%
- Up to 50% discovered at initial diagnosis of PSC (or < 1 year FU)
- Prognosis dismal: ≤ 2 years median overall survival

- **Risk factors for CCA:**
 - ✓ Presence and duration of IBD (but not PSC)
 - ✓ UC with colorectal cancer/ dysplasia
 - ✓ Elevated serum bilirubin, variceal bleeding
 - ✓ NKG2D gene polymorphism

Most common location of CCA in PSC ?

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- **50% perihilar**
- **42% CBD**
- **8% intrahepatic**

Stricture – diagnostics – Brush $\pm$ FISH $\pm$ Cholangioscopy ?

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Brush-cytology:

Sensitivity 43%; Specificity 97%, NPV 87%*

Chance of CCA in dominant stricture: ca. 5%

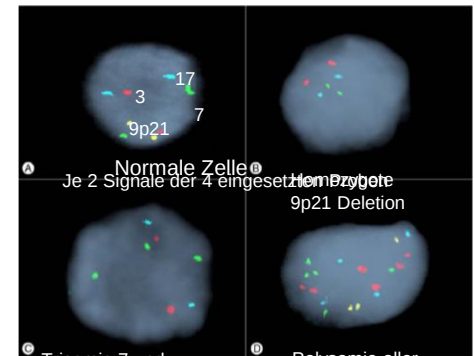
> 90% CBD or perihilar in location

Lack of dominant stricture does not rule out CCA $\rightarrow$ always do Brushing!



FISH/chromosomal assessment:

- Polysomy prognostic as relevant as proven CCA
- Dominant stricture: polysomy: 88% specificity for CCA
- Persistent polysomy $\rightarrow$ 69% develop CCA



Cholangioscopy with SpyBite-Biopsy

- Improves diagnostic yield
- Triple (Brush+Biopsy+FISH):
increased sensitivity to 82% (NPV 87%)



PSC and Gallbladder: Polyps and Cancer

PSC

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PSC

- 286 PSC patients: 18 (6%) GB mass lesion (21+9 mm)
- 10 cases (56%) GB cancer

Said K et al. J. Hepatol 2007

- 102 PSC patients undergoing cholecystectomy
- 8 GB adenocarcinoma

Buckles AJG 2002

- 72 PSC patients (66 removed at LTx)
- > 50% abnormal histology of GB:
- Dysplasia in 37% and adenocarcinoma 14%

Lewis JT Am J Surg Pathol 2007

PSC and Gallbladder: Polyps and Cancer

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- 286 PSC patients: 18 (6%) GB mass lesion (21+9 mm)
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Annual ultrasound recommended

Any mass lesion (> 10 mm): cholecystectomy

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No dominant stricture in MRCP

- Liver tests every 6 months
- annual CA 19-9 (cut-off-level?)
- MRCP if increasing AP/bilirubin

Dominant stricture in MRCP

- CA 19-9
- ERCP + Cytologie/ Biopsy
- MRT

Any doubts /suspect malignancy

- Cholangioscopy/Biopsy
- EUS/FNA

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- UDCA is also not recommended as chemopreventive agent (CRC)
- Corticosteroids, Immunosuppressants for AIH (overlap-patients)

Potential future Medical Treatment of PSC?

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- **New form of UDCA:** 24-norUrsodeoxycholic acid (norUDCA) is the C23 homologue of the 3a,7b-dihydroxy C24 bile acid UDCA hydrophilic, anti-fibrotic,-inflammatory, -proliferative
Fickert P et al. J.Hep 2017
Phase II – Phase III on-going
- **FxR-agonists: e.g. Obeticholic acid, INT-767 (Aesop-Phase II-trial)**
also choloretic, cholangiocyte modulator, gut-barriere etc.
- **Vedolizumab : $\alpha 4 \beta 7$ inhibitors / anti-Integrin (Trial ongoing)**
aberrant gut-homing lymphocyte hypothesis focuses on the relationship between PSC and IBD.

Traumer M et al. Dig Dis Sci 2016

Liver Transplantation in PSC: when, how...

PSC

Liver Transplantation in PSC: when, how...

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- One of the best indications per se: 5y survival > 80%
- Listed due to **complications of cirrhosis, portal hypertension**
- **Specific of PSC** (rarely): Recurrent/ refractory cholangitis, intractable pruritus

Liver Transplantation in PSC: when, how...

PSC

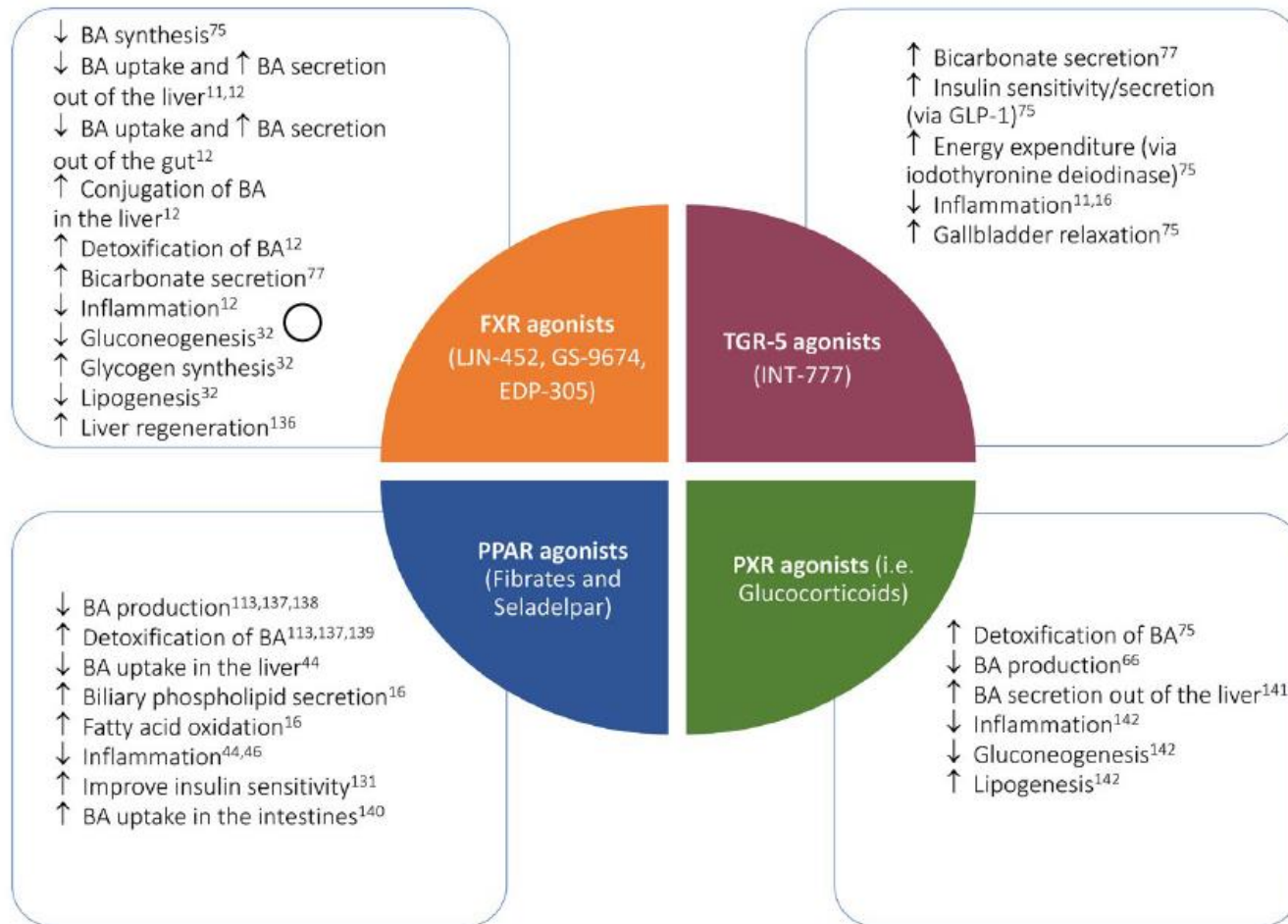
- One of the best indications per se: 5y survival > 80%
- Listed due to **complications of cirrhosis, portal hypertension**
- **Specific of PSC** (rarely): Recurrent/ refractory cholangitis, intractable pruritus
- **CCA:** perihilar and < 3 cm
- Mayo-Protocol: neoadjuvant radiation, radiation-sensitization chemotherapy, oral capecitabine, laparoscopy before LTx
- Re-PSC of graft: 20-25% in 5-10 years
- UC: Colectomy seems to protect from recurrence of PSC (controversial, selected cases, question when)

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Novel therapies in PSC - - - >



Goldstein et al. Liver International 2018

What about osteoporosis in PSC ?

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237 PSC patients (74% with IBD)

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Osteoporosis in 15% = **24-fold increased risk** vs. matched control

Risk factors for presence/development of osteoporosis in PSC ?

- ✓ Older age (> 54)
- ✓ Low BMI (< 24 kg/m²)
- ✓ Active IBD/inflammation and/or IBD > 19 y

Bone densitometry

In cirrhosis and/or cholestasis every 2 years

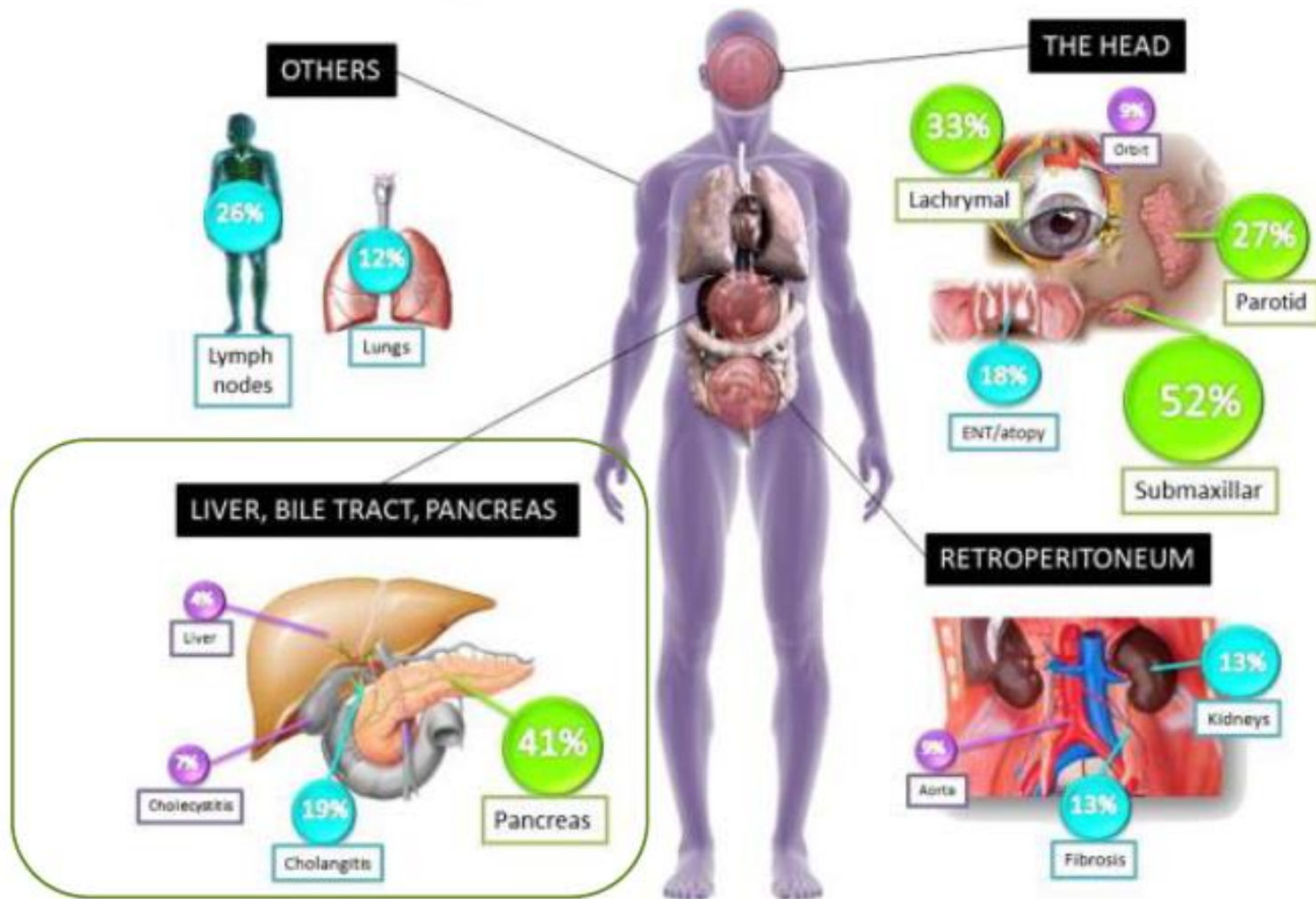
At first diagnosis of PSC when risk factors or corticosteroids/OLT planned

Prevalence:
all three vs. None
75% vs. 3%
1% loss in bone
mass/year

Angulo P et al. Gastro 2011, Younossi Z et al. AJG 2000

Frequencies and types of IgG4-related diseases

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Brito-Zeron et al. Autoimmunity Reviews 2014

IgG 4 and its specific features are...

Half-life in serum

% of total IgG normally

kDA size

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kDA size

IgG 4 and its specific features are...

Half-life in serum	21 days
% of total IgG normally	2-4%
kDA size	150 kDA

IgG4-hepatobiliary disease - definition

IgG4

(H) Histology suggestive of autoimmune pancreatitis
(I) Pancreatic imaging suggestive of autoimmune pancreatitis
(S) Serology (IgG4 ≥ 2 times the upper limit of normal)
(O) Other organ involvement
Biliary strictures, parotid/lacrimal gland involvement, mediastinal lymphadenopathy, retroperitoneal fibrosis
(Rt) Response to steroid treatment - Resolution/markd improvement of pancreatic and extrapancreatic manifestations

Adapted from: Chari ST, Takahashi N, Levy MJ, et al. A diagnostic strategy to distinguish autoimmune pancreatitis from pancreatic cancer. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2009; 7:1097.

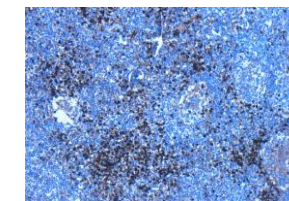
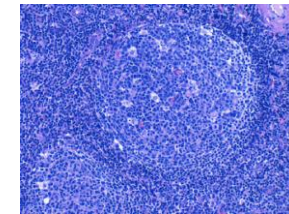
Microscopic characteristics in IgG4-hepatobiliary disease

IgG4

Microscopic characteristics in IgG4-hepatobiliary disease

IgG4

- lymphoplasmacytic infiltration
 - storiform pattern of fibrosis
 - obliterative phlebitis with a variable presence of eosinophils
-
- ✓ >10 IgG4+ plasma cells per HPF in a biopsy specimen
 - ✓ >50 IgG4+ plasma cells per HPF in a resection specimen
 - ✓ Plus an IgG4+:IgG+ plasma cell ratio of >40%



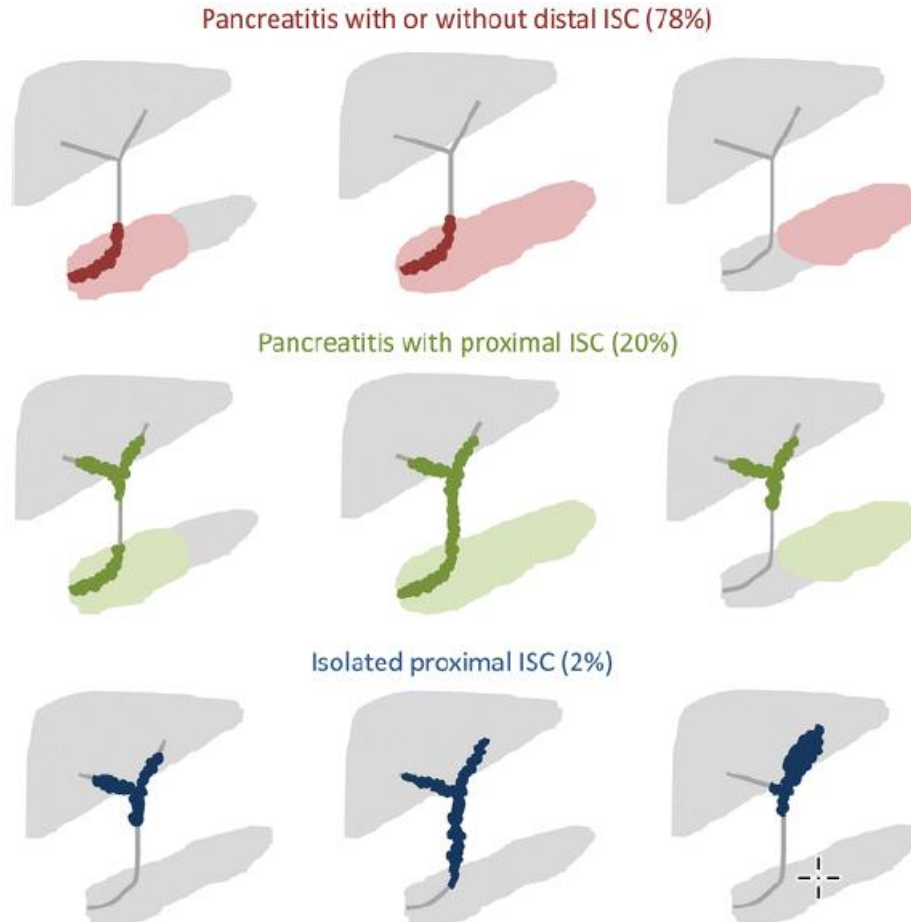
Brush cytology not sufficient

Biopsy to go for= cholangioscopy

Plus Biopsy of papilla: up to 52-72% positive in IgG4-RD

Distribution and frequency of biliary tree involvement in IgG4-related disease ?

Distribution and frequency of biliary tree involvement in IgG4-related disease ?



Zen et al. J Gastroenterol 2016
Briton-Zeron et al. Autoimmunity Review 2014

IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis: classification

IgG4

Distal CBD
Most frequent
Often with AIP

Type 1

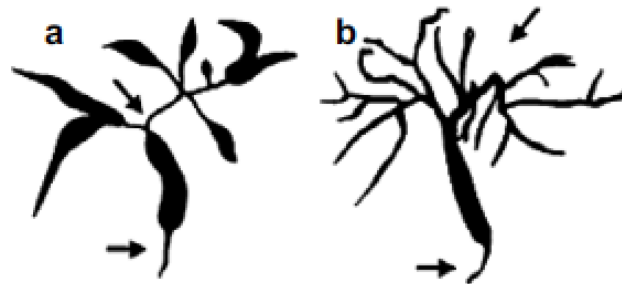


DD: pancreatic Ca,
Distal CCC, CP

A: with
Pre-stenotic
dilatation

B: without
Pre-stenotic
dilatation

Type 2



DD: PSC, SSC

Hilar + CBD

Type 3



DD: Hilar CCA

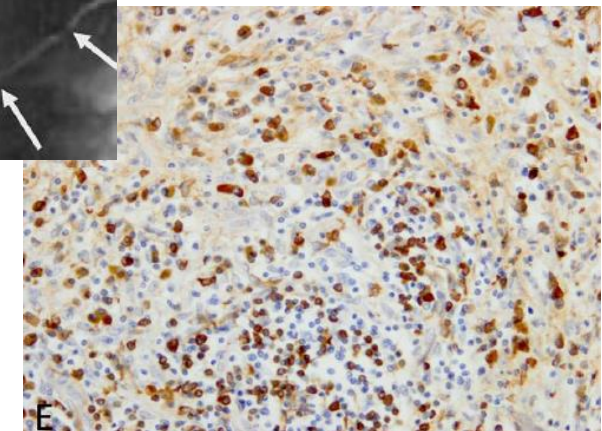
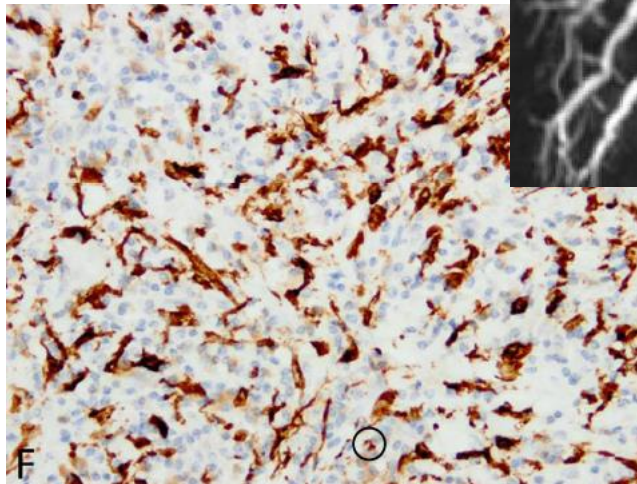
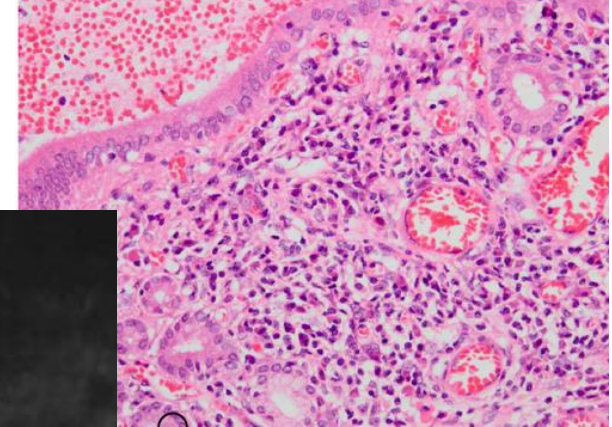
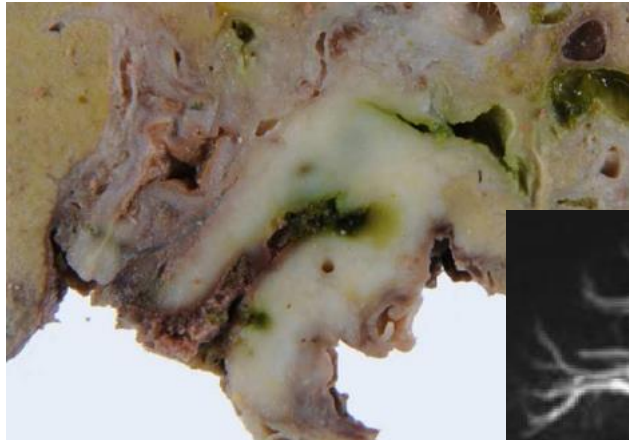
Hilar alone

Type 4



Okazaki et al. J.Hepatol 2014

Type 3 – IgG-SC mimicking central CCC/Klatskin IV



Zen et al.
J.Gastroenterol 2016

IgG4-hepatobiliary disease – epidemiology, risk factors

IgG4

- **Most frequent extra-pancreatic manifestation of IgG4-related diseases**

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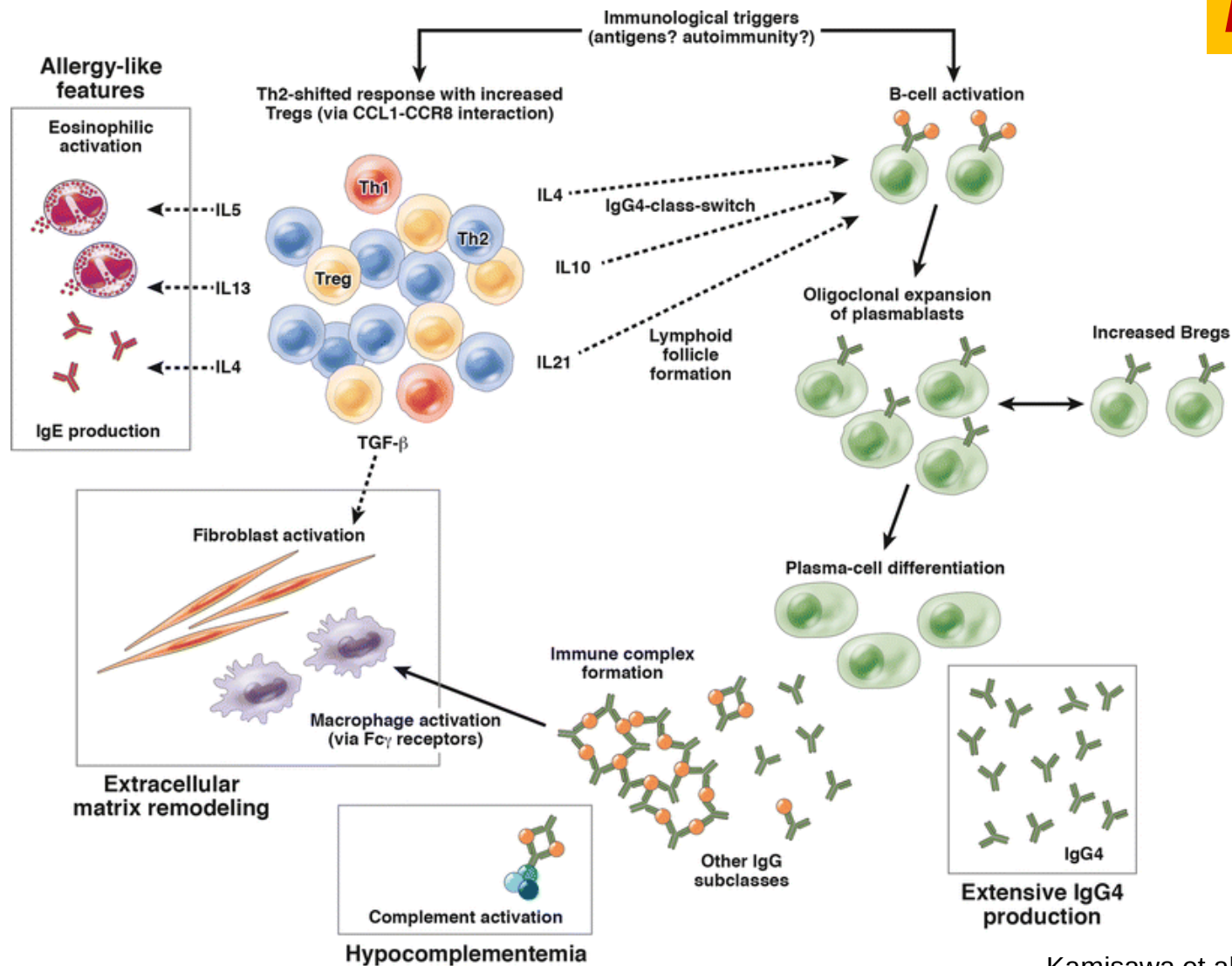
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- **Rarely (1-8%) hepatic involvement without AIP**
- **Male (7:1!), > 60 year of age,**
- **Risk factors: chemicals/toxins (blue-collar-worker),
allergy/atopy/eosinophilia, other autoimmune disease (thyroid, coeliac..)**

Pathogenesis of IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis

IgG4

Pathogenesis of IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis

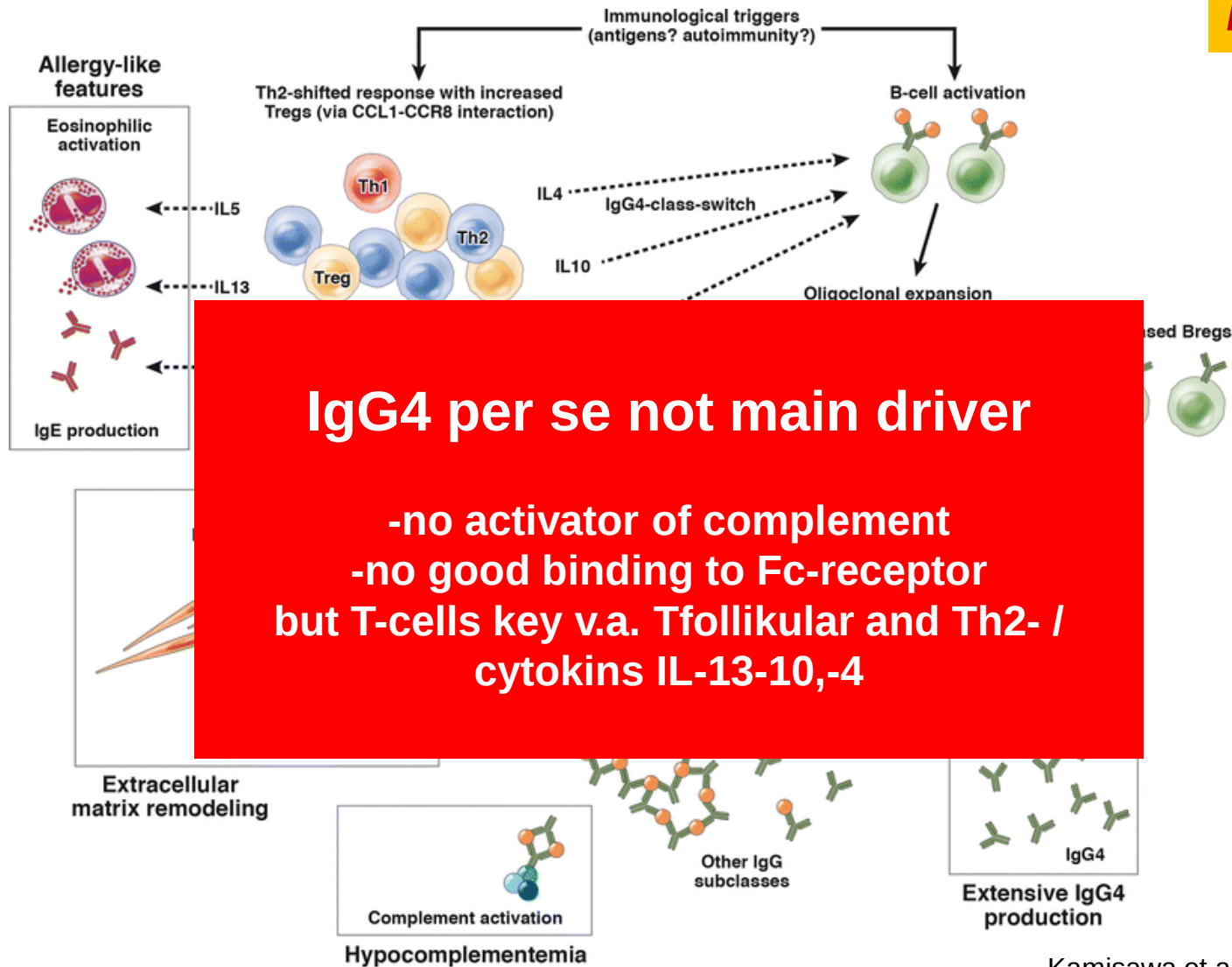
IgG4



Kamisawa et al. Lancet 2015

Pathogenesis of IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis

IgG4



IgG4 per se not main driver

**-no activator of complement
-no good binding to Fc-receptor
but T-cells key v.a. Tfollikular and Th2- /
cytokins IL-13-10,-4**

Kamisawa et al. Lancet 2015

IgG4-serum levels- how useful ? Differentiate PSC

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- **> 1.4g/l: 65-80% of IgG4-SC (but 20% normal levels)**
- **> 2.5 g/l: IgG4-SC vs. PSC: sensitivity 70-89%, specificity 95%**
- **1.4-2.8 g/l: ratio IgG1:IgG4 > 0.24: sensitivity 86%, specificity 95%, NPV 90%**
- **> 5.6 g/l: specificity and PPV 100% (?) vs. PSC (+ CCA)**

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PSC per se:

- > 20% liver explants present with IgG4+cell infiltrate (but **NOT** diffusely)
- > 10% present with increased serum IgG4 (> 1.4 g/l)
- both conditions associate with worse prognosis/= seek CCC
- + associates with: reduced HLA-B*08, increased –B*07, DR-B1*15 frequency

Typical ERCP-features in IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis ?

IgG4

Strictures in cholangiogramm:

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Sensitivity 45% = forget it !

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Malignancy must be excluded

Sensitivity 45% = forget it !

Diagnostic endoscopic optimized work-up ?

IgG4

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IgG4

Particularly isolated (biliary) IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis difficult to diagnose

All you can do:

- ERCP (plus cholangioscopy)
- Brush-cytology, biopsy
- Bile fluid
- EUS (plus FNA)
- Ampullary biopsy
- Liver biopsy

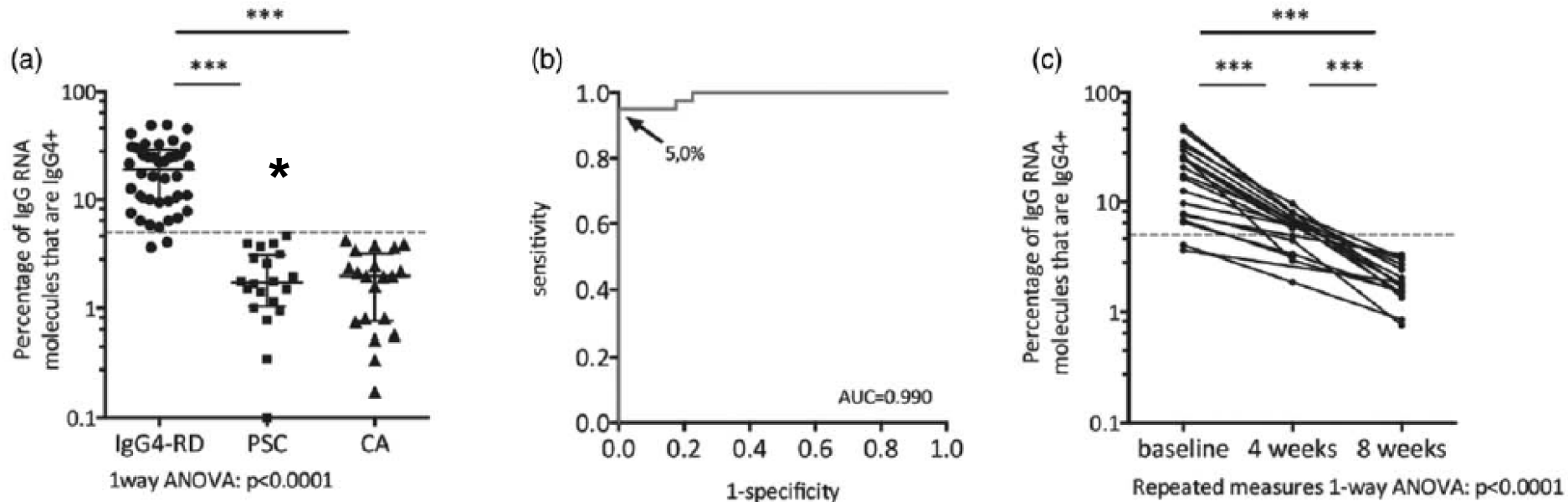
Caveats/problems:

- ✓ patchy disease
- ✓ insufficient tissue/cells
- ✓ reduced numbers IgG4-cells
E.g. in fibrotic stages
- ✓ IgG4-cells in other diseases
e.g. malignancy, inflammation

How to differentiate PSC/CCA from IgG4-SC ?

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NGS-> qPCR for expanded B-Cell-Clone and IgG4+-RNA



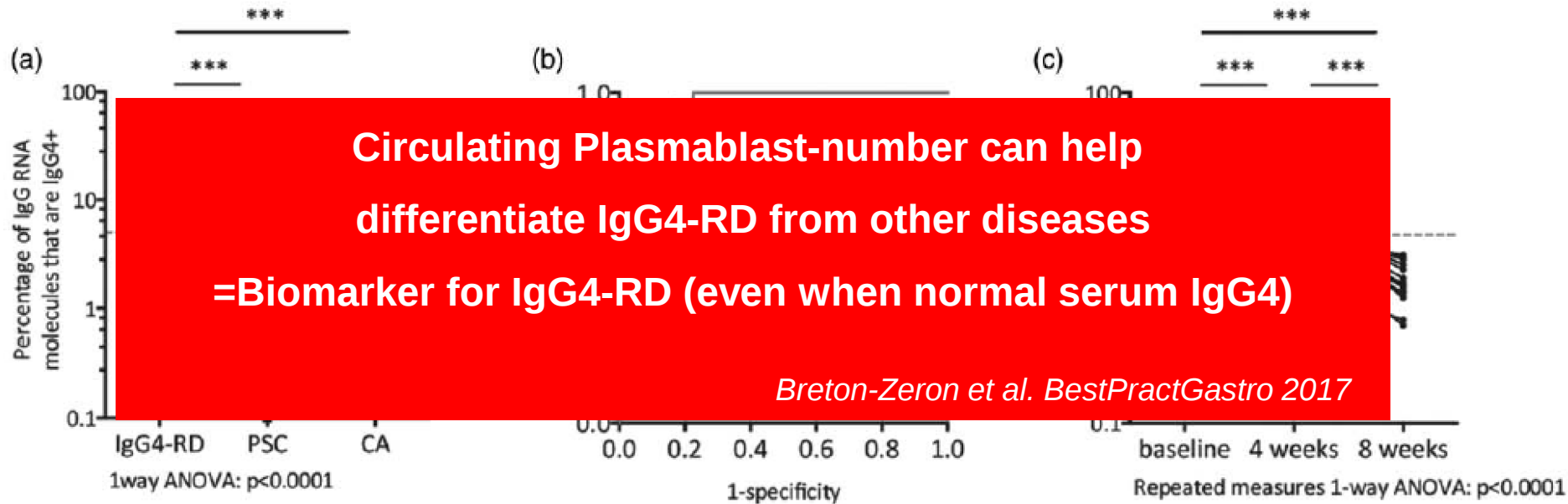
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Breuers et al. Curr Opin Gastroenterol 2017

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Treatment for IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis ?

IgG4

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IgG4

Corticosteroid 0.6 (-1) mg/kg KG

(30-40mg/Tag) for 4 weeks

Tapering: 5mg/week, ending at week 12

Maintenance therapy (2.5.-5 mg/d) for 3 years

reduces relapse rate compared to stop at 26 weeks (23% vs. 57%)

Treatment-success for IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis ?

IgG4

Treatment-success for IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis ?

IgG4

- Re-assess after 4-6 weeks
- Serum IgG4: only minority will normalize
- Complete resolution of strictures and liver tests = response
 - Achieved in about 2/3 of IgG4-SC

Recurrence/Refractory IgG4-sclerosing cholangitis

Risk ? Treatment-Options ?

- **Ca. 50% will show some recurrence (majority < 6 months after EOT)**
- **Risk-factors:**
 - high IgG4, multi-organ-involvement, prior recurrence
 - Typ 2-4 (hilar and intrahepatic disease manifestation)
- **Immunomodulators: best evaluated azathioprine**
- **Rescue: Rituximab (Anti-CD20-> killing expanded B-cell-clone)**

IgG4-SC differs from PSC in.....

IgG4-SC differs from PSC in.....

- **Rare disease**
- **Usually multi-organ-disease**
- **Histology needed to confirm diagnosis**
- **More benign disease**
less malignant development (2-fold*), infrequent end-stage cirrhosis
- **Good response to steroids**

*: presumably only if chronically active disease

Danke für die Aufmerksamkeit

