

Liver Specialist Owen Sound

Liver Specialist Owen Sound - The liver is a body organ that is necessary so as to do many functions within the body, comprising protein synthesis, detoxification, and the production of biochemicals which are vital for digestion. The liver is needed for the survival of the body. Liver dialysis can be utilized for short term but there is no way to function for long term without a liver.

The liver plays a major part in plasma protein synthesis, glycogen storage, the decomposition of red blood cells, detoxification, and hormone production. It is located within the abdominal-pelvic region of the abdomen, below the diaphragm. The liver is responsible for bile production. This is an alkaline compound that emulsifies lipids to help in digestion. The tissues that make the liver are highly specialized. They regulate a large amount of high volume biochemical reactions, like the breakdown and synthesis of complex and small molecules.

Regeneration

The liver is an incredible organ in the way that it is the only internal human organ that is capable of natural regeneration. It just takes as little as 25% of a liver to regenerate into a whole liver. This is considered to be compensatory growth instead of true regeneration. Thus, the liver's lobes which are removed do not re-grow, and the liver growth is a restoration of function and not original form. In true regeneration, both the original form and function are restored.

Diseases of the Liver

The liver in fact, supports practically every organ in the body and is very important for survival. Nevertheless, the liver is prone to a lot of sicknesses due to its location in the body and its multidimensional functions which it carries out. Some of the most common liver sicknesses consist of: cirrhosis, alcohol damage, hepatitis A, B, C, and E, fatty liver, tumours and cancer and damage as a result of heavy drug use, particularly cancer drugs and acetaminophen, likewise called paracetamol.

A large number of liver sicknesses are accompanied by jaundice. This is caused by increased levels of bilirubin within the body, resulting from the breakup of the haemoglobin of dead red blood cells. Normally, the liver removes bilirubin from the blood and excretes it through bile. Diseases which affect liver function would result in derangement of these processes. Fortunately, the liver has a large capability to regenerate and likewise has a huge reserve capability. Often, the liver only shows symptoms after extensive damage has happened.

Disease Symptoms

The classic symptoms of liver damage consists of: dark urine when bilirubin mixes together with the urine, and pale stool when there is an absence of brown pigment stercobilin. The pigment also comes from bilirubin metabolites that are processes within the liver. Jaundice is the yellow tinge on the skin or the white of the eyes which occurs where bilirubin deposits on the skin. This leads to an intense itching sensation which is the most common complaint by people suffering liver failure.

When there is a loss of nutrients, vitamins and minerals, excessive fatigue may take place. When the liver fails to produce albumin, swelling may happen in the ankles, feet, and abdomen. Easy bruising and bleeding are other symptoms. Substances which help to prevent bleeding are produced in the liver, hence, when liver damage is present, these substances are no longer available and severe bleeding can result.