

Liver Specialist Kitchener

Liver Specialist Kitchener - The liver is a vital organ that performs various functions in the body including: detoxification, protein synthesis, and the production of biochemicals that are essential for digestion. The liver is needed for the survival of the body. Liver dialysis may be utilized temporarily but there is no way to function for long term without a liver.

The liver plays a major role in glycogen storage, plasma protein synthesis, the decomposition of red blood cells, detoxification, and hormone production. It is located within the abdominal-pelvic area of the stomach, below the diaphragm. The liver is responsible for producing bile. This is an alkaline compound which 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 for example the synthesis and breakdown of complex and small molecules.

Regeneration

The liver is quite unique in that it is capable of generating naturally. With as little as 25%, the liver can make a full regeneration into a whole liver. This is considered to be compensatory growth rather than true regeneration. Therefore, the liver's lobes which are taken out do not re-grow, and the growth of the liver is a restoration of function and not original form. In true regeneration, both the original function and form are restored.

Diseases of the Liver

The liver in fact, supports almost every organ in the body and is very important for survival. Then again, the liver is prone to many sicknesses due to its location in the body and its multidimensional functions which it performs. Some of the most common liver illnesses include: cirrhosis, alcohol damage, fatty liver, hepatitis, A, B, C and E, tumours and cancer and damage due to heavy use of drugs, especially cancer drugs and acetaminophen, likewise called paracetamol.

A large number of liver sicknesses are accompanied by jaundice. This is due to increased bilirubin levels within the body, resulting from the breakup of the haemoglobin of dead red blood cells. Usually, the liver removes bilirubin from the blood and excretes it through bile. Illnesses that affect liver function will cause derangement of these processes. Fortunately, the liver has a large ability to regenerate and likewise has a large reserve capability. Often, the liver only exhibits signs after extensive damage has happened.

Disease Symptoms

Classic liver damage symptoms consist of: dark urine when bilirubin mixes along with the urine, pale stools take place when the brown pigment stercobilin is absent from the stool. This pigment is derived from bilirubin metabolites which are produced within the liver. Jaundice is the yellow tinge on the whites of the eyes or the skin which takes place where bilirubin deposits on the skin. This results in an intense itching sensation that is the most common complaint by individuals suffering liver failure.

Excessive fatigue happens as a result of a generalized loss of minerals, nutrients and vitamins. Swelling in the feet, abdomen and ankles occurs because the liver fails to make albumin. Easy bleeding and bruising are other symptoms. Substances which help to prevent bleeding are produced in the liver, therefore, when liver damage is present, these substances are no longer available and severe bleeding could result.