Mental Health Readmissions Are Increased in Transplant-Free Survivors of Acute Liver Failure

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Introduction Patients surviving acute liver failure (ALF) without transplantation (spontaneous survivors; SS) are at increased risk of later death and readmission to hospital. Most cases of ALF in Scotland are managed in the Scottish Liver Transplant Unit (SLTU) and are due to paracetamol overdose (POD). The aim of this work was to analyse mental health readmissions in Scottish ALF SS, compared with comparator cohorts.

Methods The index cohort (SLTU SS) consisted of patients admitted with severe acute liver injury or failure between 01/11/1992 and 31/12/2014 who survived to hospital discharge without transplantation. Patients were identified from the SLTU ALF database. Control cohorts were: age, sex and post-code sector matched general population controls, patients admitted to Scottish intensive care units as non-surgical emergency admissions (SICSAG cohort) and patients surviving ALF with transplantation. Data related to mental health readmissions following discharge from the index admission were derived from the SMR04 database.

Results The SLTU SS cohort consisted of 708 patients (80.2% POD). 25.6% of the SLTU SS had at least one mental health readmission (29.5% of POD SS versus 10.0% of non-POD SS).

Conclusions Scottish ALF SS are at increased risk of mental health readmissions following discharge. The risk of readmission is higher in those with POD ALF compared with POD without ALF. Patients surviving ALF without transplant are currently discharged without follow up. This work suggests that psychiatric follow up –particularly in those with POD ALF – is warranted to reduce the burden of mental health readmissions.

SARS-CoV-2 One Year On – The Worrying Impact on Early Detection of Liver Cancers

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Background In Northern England new primary liver cancer (PLC) diagnoses have increased by 10-15% year on year. We evaluated the impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

Method In this retrospective, observational, regional study we evaluated 455 new PLC patients referred to the Newcastle-