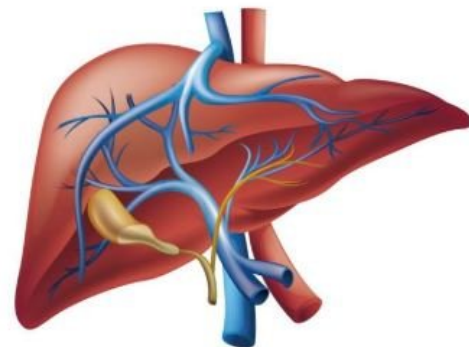


@Autoimmuneliver, how do you diagnose PBC?

PBC is diagnosed when:

- i) There is no extrahepatic biliary obstruction;
- ii) The clinical context doesn't suggest systemic or infiltrative disease and
- iii) The patient has at least two of the following:
 - a) persistent rise in ALP e.g. x 1.5 normal;
 - b) presence of anti-mitochondrial antibodies (AMA) at a titre of 1:40 or higher (or diagnostic anti-nuclear antibody reactivity by immunofluorescence);
 - c) A liver biopsy consistent with PBC.



Take home message

1 in 1000 women over the age of 40 live with PBC and for most diagnosis can confidently be made based on cholestatic blood tests and the presence of anti-mitochondrial antibodies



TORONTO CENTRE FOR
LIVER DISEASE

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