When to consider a referral for Elective Liver Transplantation

The National Liver Transplant Selection Criteria from NHS Blood & Transplant can be found at; https://nhsbtde.blob.core.windows.net/umbraco-assets-corp/15904/020519_liver-selection-policy-pol195.pdf

Consider referral when the expected one year survival from chronic liver disease is clearly less than that for transplant (95%).

*It’s better to refer early than leave it too late*

1. **Hepatocellular carcinoma**
   - Single tumour < 5 cms
   - Up to 5 tumours all < 3 cms
   - Tumour 5-7cms and no progression over 6 months with down staging
   - Exclusions; AFP > 1000, tumour rupture, extra-hepatic spread
   All cases outside criteria should still be referred to the HCC MDT for consideration of a specific down-staging protocol.

2. **Chronic Liver disease**
   - At first decompensation – variceal haemorrhage, ascites, SBP, encephalopathy
   - When Childs-Pugh Grade B; https://www.thecalculator.co/health/Child-Pugh-Score-Calculator-for-prognosis-of-liver-disease-701.html

   ![Image of Survival by Childs-Pugh Grade and Survival with decompensated cirrhosis](image_url)

3. **Other less common indications**
   - Diuretic resistant ascites, even when UKELD is low
   - Chronic hepatic encephalopathy, even when UKELD is low
   - Porto-pulmonary hypertension; mean PAP >25 mmHg, <50 mmHg; PVR >120 dynes/s/cm$^5$; PCWP <15 mmHg.
   - Hepatopulmonary syndrome: Arterial pO2 <7.8, alveolar arterial oxygen gradient >20 mmHg, calculated shunt fraction >8%
• Persistent and intractable pruritus
• Amyloidosis
• Homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia
• Polycystic liver disease:
• Recurrent cholangitis
• Hepatic epithelioid haemangioendothelioma
• Glycogen storage disease
• Primary hyperoxaluria
• Ornithine transcarbamylase deficiency
• Maple syrup urine disease
• Porphyria

**Urgent referral for in-patient assessment**

Call on-call Consultant Hepatologist via switchboard – 01223 245 151

Liver Transplant Coordinators; 01223 216 672

**Referral for elective liver transplant assessment**

Letter or email to any Consultant Hepatologist at add-tr.Hepatology@nhs.net

Liver Transplant Coordinators; 01223 216 672

**Referral for Hepatocellular Carcinoma**

Please use referral proformas for the Addenbrookes HCC MDT; https://easternliver.net/guidelines/primary-liver-cancer/

HCC Clinical Nurse Specialists; 01223 596322