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Review of liver physiology: Structure-function relationship.

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Required Reading:

Review liver anatomy and physiology in syllabus from M1 year, including sections on Functions of the liver, Bile production, secretion and storage, Bile acids, Liver synthesis of plasma protein, Liver as a metabolic organ, Liver and foreign molecules and Liver metabolism.

Cecil's Essentials of Medicine: 8th edition, 2010: Chapters 41-42 (Laboratory tests in liver disease and Jaundice) (7th edition, 2007: Chapter 40-41)

Learning Objectives:

To review the structural and functional organization of the liver.

To review the major aspects of liver physiology as a background for the remaining presentations on liver disease.

At the end of this presentation students should be able to:

- 1. Describe the basic organization of the liver cell plate and its functional consequences:
 - a. Blood supply
 - b. Configuration of hepatocytes
 - c. Configuration of other liver cells
 - d. Concentration gradients in sinusoidal blood.
- 2. Describe the basic physiological processes the liver utilizes to accomplish function:
 - a. transport
 - b. metabolism
 - c. biotransformation
 - d. synthesis
 - e. secretion
- 3. Be able to give examples of the consequences of liver damage on above processes.

4. Be able to give examples of possible consequences of liver disease/injury on liver barrier function and hepatic regeneration.

Key Words: Liver sinusoids, function, injury, portal vein, biotransformation, albumin

FYI:

Maisels and McDonagh: Phototherapy for Neonatal Jaundice. New England Journal of Medicine, 358:920-929, 2008.