

REDEFINING MASLD/MASH CARE:

Personalized Strategies for Assessment, Diagnosis and Management



Biomarkers & Noninvasive Tests: Utility and Implications for Treatment

NITs are used to exclude advanced disease and assess the likelihood of significant fibrosis, predict risk of disease progression and decompensation, make treatment decisions, and assess response to treatment.

Liver Biopsy and Histology

- Definitive diagnosis and reference standard for grading & staging MASLD/MASH
- Limitations in risk, cost, & resource utilization
- Should be reserved for specific clinical scenarios in GI/ hepatology care setting

Key Biomarkers and NITs

- FIB-4: Validated and recommended as first-line assessment for endocrinologists (and general practice) based on its simplicity and minimal cost
 - Based on age, ALT, AST, platelet count
 - FIB-4 = (Age × AST) / (Platelet Count × \sqrt{ALT})
- VCTE (eg, FibroScan[®]): Transient elastography, ultrasound to measure liver stiffness via use of a probe placed between ribs over the liver
- ELF: Proprietary blood test to identify patients with MASLD at increased risk of progression

Primary Risk Assessment

FIB-4 < 1.3	FIB-4 1.3 – 2.67	FIB-4 > 2.67	
Low Risk	Indeterminant Risk	High Risk	
Can be managed in the endocrinology (or primary care) settings	Undergo Secondary Risk Assessment	Refer to GI/Hepatology Care	

FIB-4 should not be used in acutely ill patients

In patients >65, a lower FIB-4 cutoff of >2.0 should be used instead of 1.3

In patients <35, a secondary assessment should be considered among those with increased metabolic risks or elevated liver chemistries

Secondary Risk Assessment

ELF <7.7	ELF 7.7-9.8	ELF >9.8		VCTE <8.0	VCTE 8-12	VCTE >12.0
Low	Intermediate	High		Low	Intermediate	High
Can be managed in the endo- crinology (or primary care) settings	Refer to GI/ Hepatology Care	Refer to GI/ Hepatology Care	or	Can be managed in the endo- crinology (or primary care) settings	Refer to GI/ Hepatology Care	Refer to GI/ Hepatology Care

ELF, enhanced liver fibrosis; FIB-4; fibrosis-4 index; MASH, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis; MASLD, Metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease; NIT, noninvasive test; T2D, Type 2 Diabetes; VCTE, vibration-controlled transient elastography

Clark JM, Cryer DRH, Morton M, Shubrook JH. Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease from a primary care perspective. Diabetes Obes Metab. 2023;25(6):1421-1433. doi:10.1111/dom.15016; ElSayed NA, Aleppo G, Aroda VR, et al., American Diabetes Association. 4. Comprehensive medical evaluation and assessment of comorbidities: Standards of Care in Diabetes—2023. Diabetes Care 2023;46(Suppl. 1): 549–567.2; Rinella ME, Neuschwander-Tetri BA, Siddiqui MS, et al. AASLD Practice Guidance on the clinical assessment and management of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. Hepatology. 2023;77(5):1797-1835. doi:10.1077/HEP.000000000000323