

Liver Specialist Timmins

Liver Specialist Timmins - The liver is a very important organ that does numerous functions within the body comprising: protein synthesis, detoxification, and the production of biochemicals which are vital for digestion. The liver is required for the body to survive. Liver dialysis can be used for short term but there is no way to function without a liver for long term.

The liver plays a major part in glycogen storage, plasma protein synthesis, the decomposition of red blood cells, detoxification, and hormone production. It is found in the abdominal-pelvic part of the abdomen, below the diaphragm. The liver is responsible for producing bile. This is an alkaline compound which emulsifies lipids to help in digestion. The tissues which make the liver are highly specialized. They regulate a large amount of high volume biochemical reactions, like for example the breakdown and synthesis of small and complex molecules.

Regeneration

The liver is an incredible organ in the way that it is the only internal human organ which is capable of natural regeneration. It just takes as little as 25% of a liver to regenerate into a whole liver. This is considered to be compensatory growth rather than true regeneration. Hence, the lobes of the liver which are taken out do not grow again, and the growth of the liver is a restoration of function and not original form. In true regeneration, both the original function and form are restored.

Diseases of the Liver

The liver in fact, supports almost every organ in the body and is very important for survival. Nevertheless, the liver is prone to numerous sicknesses because of its location within the body and its multidimensional functions that it carries out. Amongst the most common liver diseases include: alcohol damage, cirrhosis, fatty liver, hepatitis, A, B, C and E, tumours and cancer and damage due to heavy drug use, specially cancer medications and acetaminophen, also referred to as paracetamol.

A large number of liver sicknesses are accompanied by jaundice. This is caused by increased bilirubin levels within the body, resulting from the breakup of the haemoglobin of dead red blood cells. Usually, the liver removes bilirubin from the blood and emits it through bile. Sicknesses that affect liver function will lead to derangement of these processes. Fortunately, the liver has a huge reserve capacity and also a large capacity to regenerate. Usually, the liver just shows signs after extensive damage has happened.

Disease Symptoms

Classic liver damage symptoms include: dark urine when bilirubin mixes together with the urine, pale stools take place when the brown pigment stercobilin is absent from the stool. This pigment is derived from bilirubin metabolites which are made within the liver. Jaundice is the yellow tinge on the whites of the eyes or the skin that takes place where bilirubin deposits on the skin. This results in an intense itching sensation that is the most common complaint by individuals suffering liver failure.

When there is a loss of minerals, nutrients and vitamins, excessive fatigue can happen. When the liver fails to produce albumin, swelling may occur in the feet, abdomen and ankles. Easy bruising and bleeding are other indications. Substances that help to prevent bleeding are produced within the liver, therefore, when liver damage is present, these substances are no longer available and severe bleeding could result.