

## Evaluation of Jaundice (cholestatic)

(ALT < 400 U/L; ALP > 350 U/L;

Bilirubin > 50 umol/L; GGT > 100 U/L)

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### Predominant Cholestatic Pathology

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#### Extrahepatic Obstruction

Stones, stricture

Pancreatitis

Malignancy

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#### Intrahepatic Obstruction (acute)

Viral hepatitis

Alcoholic hepatitis

Ascending cholangitis

Drugs (*see below*)

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#### Intrahepatic Obstruction (chronic)

Primary biliary cirrhosis

Sclerosing cholangitis

Chronic active hepatitis

Drugs (*see below*)

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#### Intrahepatic Obstruction (minimal liver disease)

Pregnancy

Post-operative cholestasis

Benign recurrent cholestasis

Gram negative bacteraemia

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#### Drugs

The most common agents are:

- Amoxicillin with clavulanic acid
- Anabolic steroids
- Clopidogrel
- Chlorpromazine
- Erythromycin
- Irbesartan
- Mirtazapine
- Oestrogens
- Oral contraceptives
- Terbinafine
- Tricyclic antidepressants

but this list is not comprehensive.

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### Evaluation

Reassess clinically.

Exclude viral hepatitis by serological investigations.

Ultrasound and radiological studies (e.g. ERCP, PTC), as necessary.

If you suspect primary biliary cirrhosis, evaluate serum lipids and antimitochondrial antibody.