



# Managing abnormal LFTs

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It depends ...

Short  
term  
PN

Long  
term  
PN

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# Questions



How common are abnormal LFTs in patients on IVN?

Is it the parenteral nutrition?

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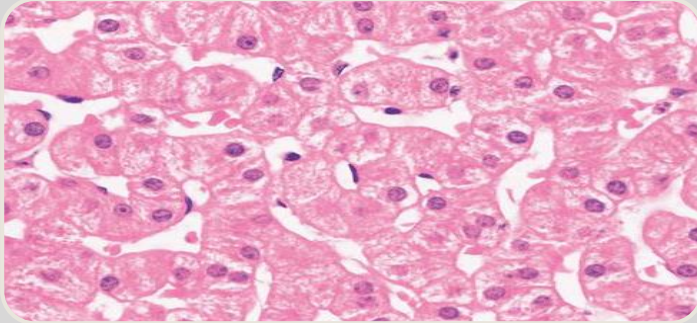
## Abnormal LFTs

| Author             | Study                                   | % Elevated |          |     |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------|----------|-----|
|                    |                                         | AST        | Alk Phos | Bil |
| Lindor et al. 1979 | 2 weeks PN<br>(high glucose & no lipid) | 68%        | 54%      | 21% |
| Clarke et al. 1991 | 4 weeks PN<br>(more balanced PN)        | 27%        | 32%      | 31% |

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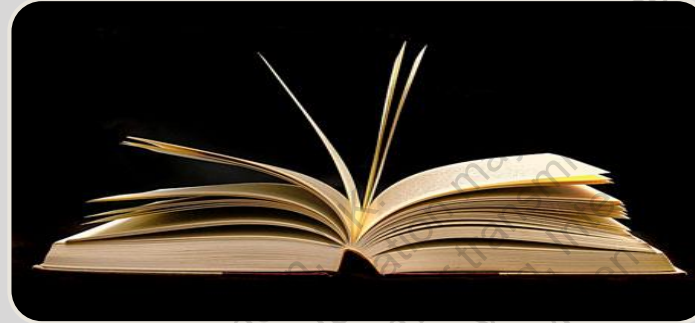
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# Is it the parenteral nutrition?



## Liver biopsies

- 93 patients on TPN
- 35 matched controls



## Assessment

- 19 histological grades
- 27 clinical variables



## Results: abnormal hepatic histology correlated with

- Pre-existing liver disease
- Abdominal sepsis
- Renal failure
- Blood transfusion

Histology DID NOT correlate with TPN administration



# Abnormal LFTs & short term PN

- 58 patients receiving PN (M:F 36:22)
- 48 (83%) fistula, obstruction, ileus, failed EN

## Abnormal LFTs before PN started (34% patients)

- 60% LFTs worsened on PN
- 30% LFTs resolved on PN

## Abnormal LFTs while on PN (9% patients)

- 46% sepsis
- 24% underlying liver disease

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## Abnormal LFTs & long term PN

| Author              | No. HPN patients | Abn LFTs | Severe liver disease             |
|---------------------|------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Luman et al, 2002   | 107              | 48%      | 0%                               |
| Salvino et al, 2006 | 162              | 95%      | 4%                               |
| Lloyd et al, 2008   | 113              | 24% CC   |                                  |
| Cavicci et al, 2000 | 90               | 65% CC   | 26% at 2 years<br>50% at 5 years |
| Chan et al, 1999    | 42               |          | 14%                              |
| Ito & Shills, 1991  | 16               |          | 19%                              |

CC = chronic cholestasis

# Questions



What are the causes of abnormal liver function?

What can to do to change this?

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# Abnormal LFTs on parenteral nutrition support

Sepsis

Medications

Pre-existing liver disease

Underlying disease

Acalculus cholecystitis

Gallstones

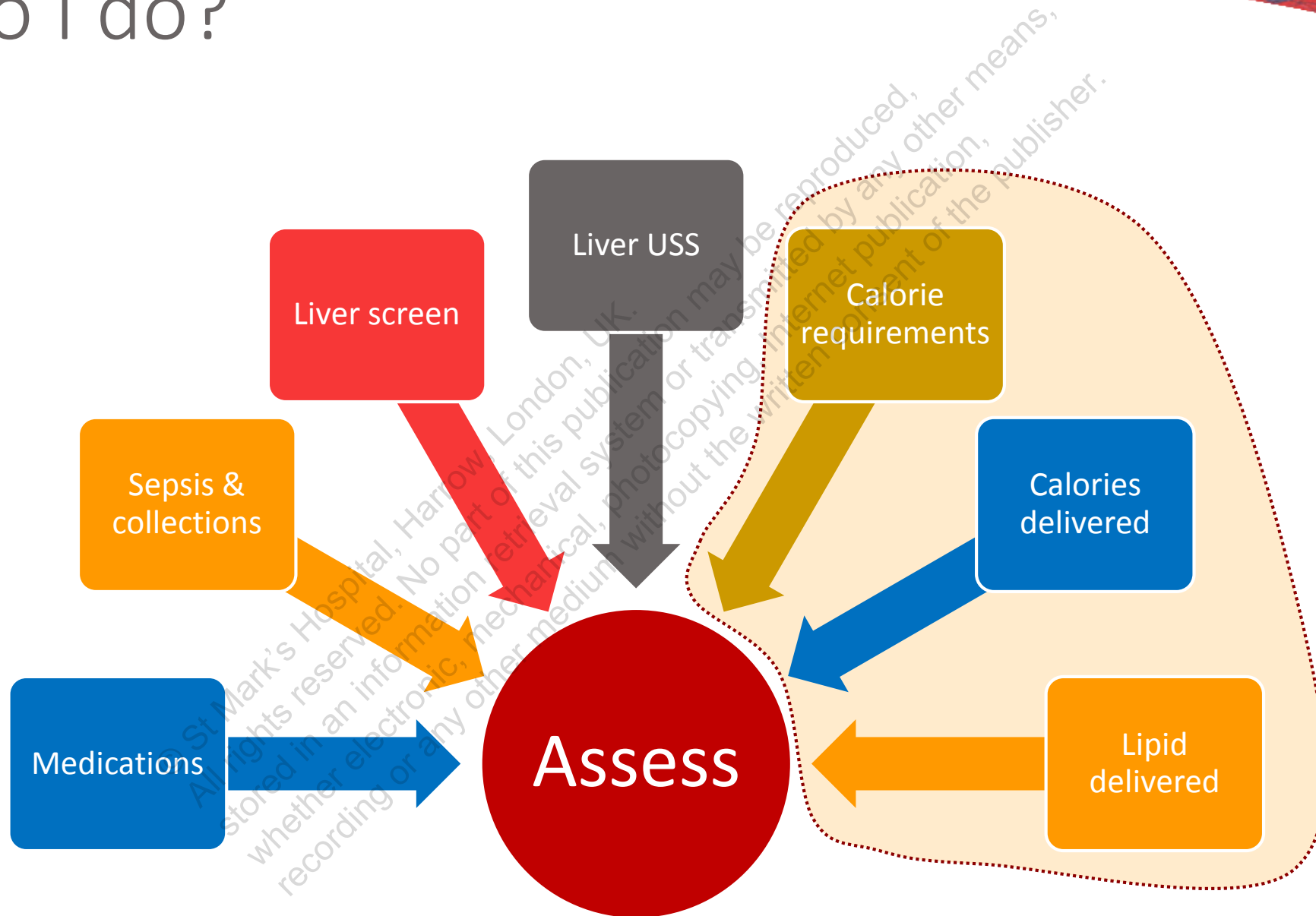
IFALD

Short term PN

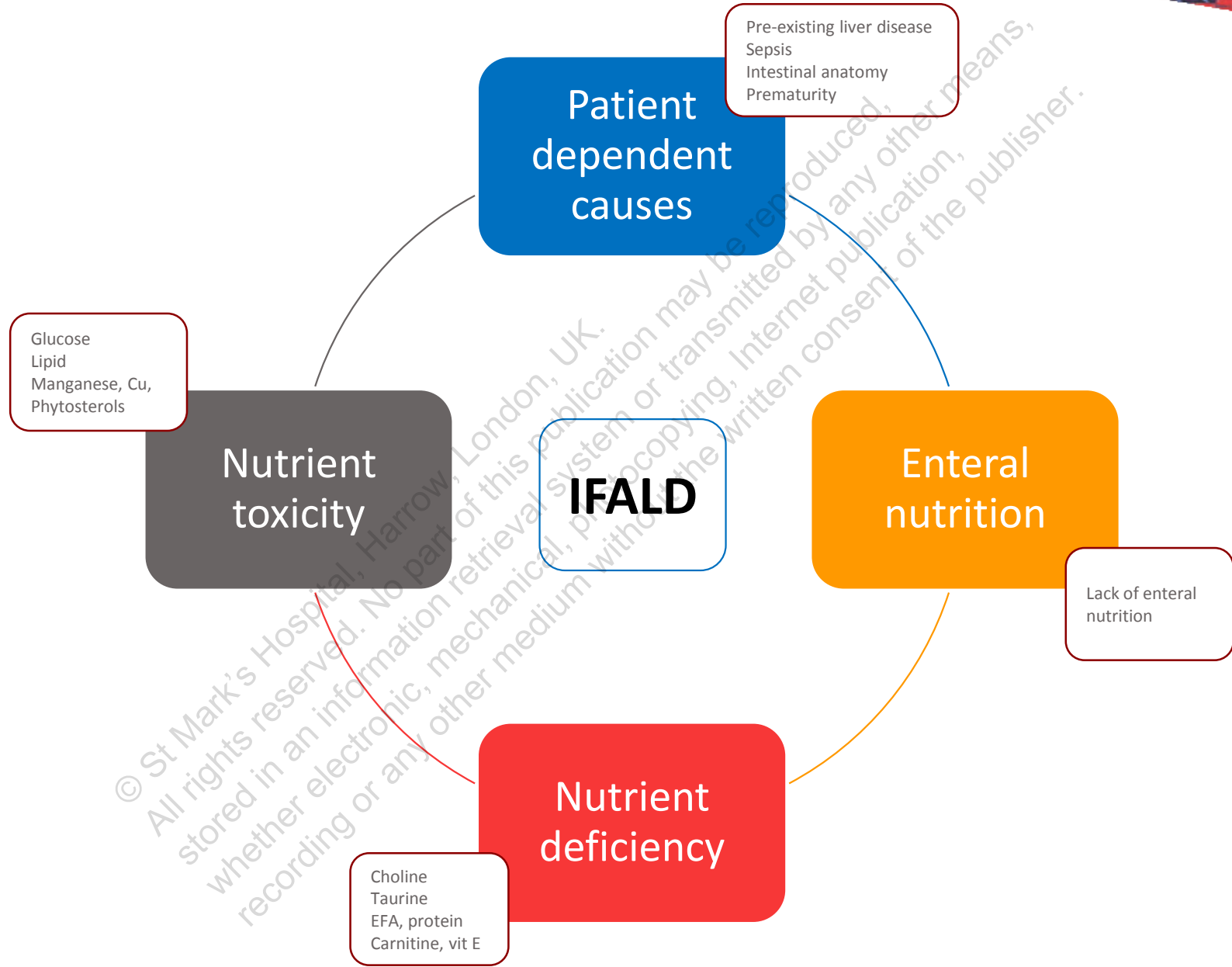
Long term PN

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# What do I do?



Long term PN



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# Intestinal anatomy

SB length  
important

SB length not  
important

Fibrosis associated with  
ultra SB (<20cm)

Cazals-Hatem  
et al, 2017

Abnormal LFTs associated  
with SB length <100cm

Luman &  
Shaffer, 2002

Chronic cholestasis associated  
with SB length <50cm

Cavicci et al,  
2000

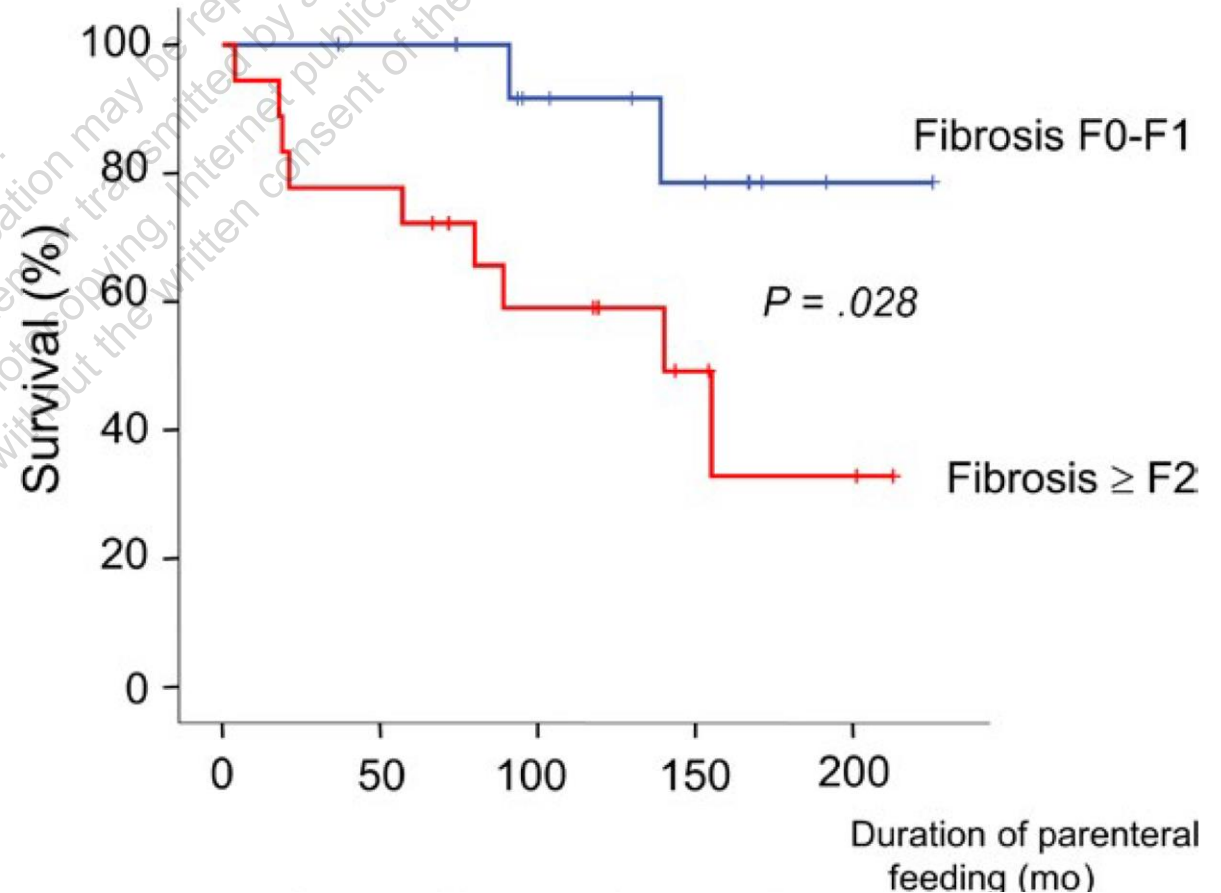
Lloyd et al,  
2008

Chronic cholestasis not  
associated with SB length

Mechanism?

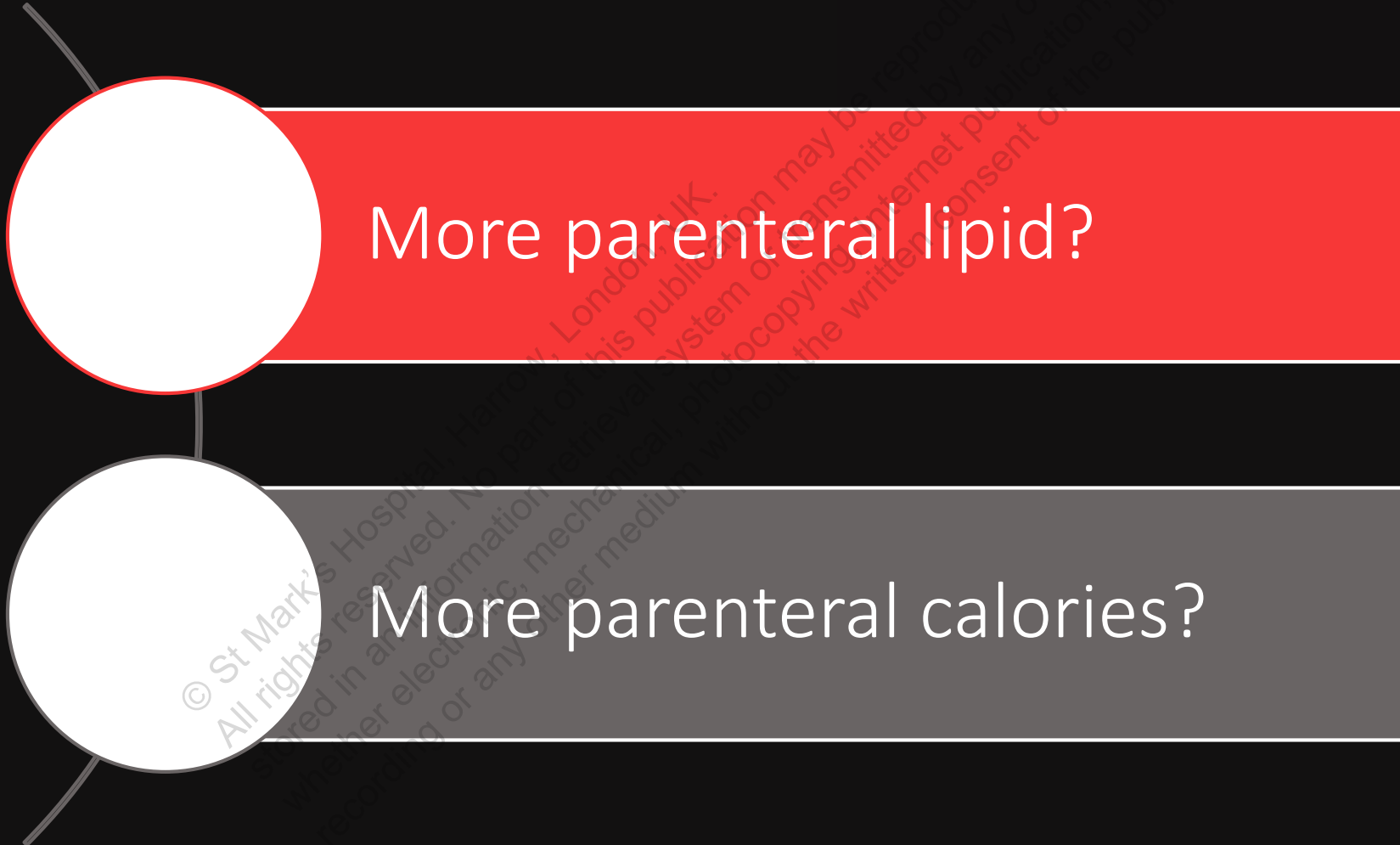
# Ultra-short bowel, alcohol & liver fibrosis

- 32 patients had a liver biopsy 55 months (9-201) after starting PN
  - 81% had a short bowel (gut < 200 cm)
  - 37% had an ultra-short bowel (gut < 20 cm)
- Liver fibrosis associated with
  - Ultra-short bowel (risk ratio 12.4)
  - Alcohol consumption (risk ratio 7.4)





What is evil .....



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# Parenteral glucose

Glucose



Fast or  
excessive  
infusion



Steatosis



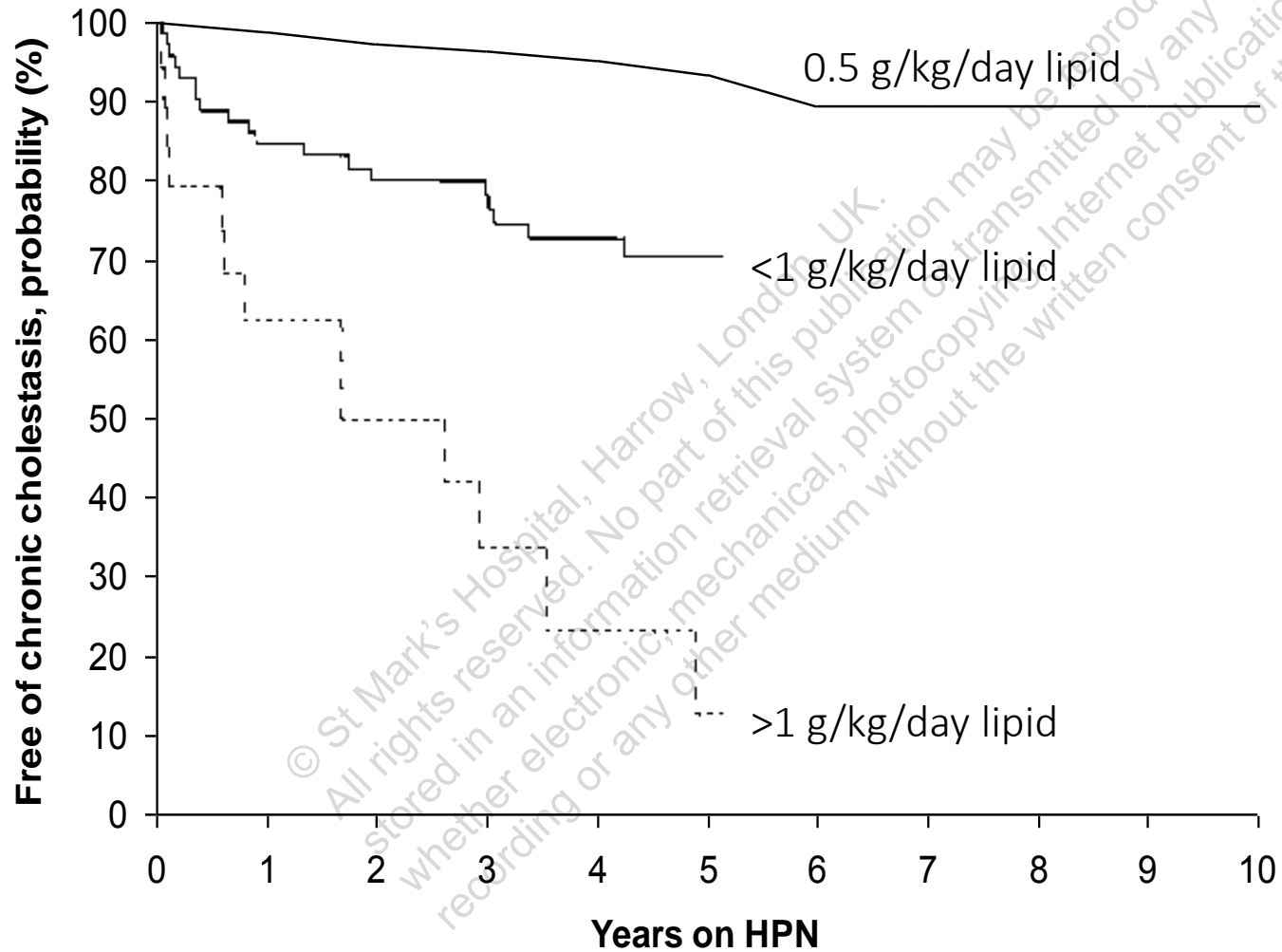
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Lindor *et al*, 1979

Large amount of energy supplied as glucose (>GOR)  
Associated with steatosis

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# Soybean oil



Vega *et al.*  
Clin Nutr 2004  
23:865-6

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# Parenteral lipid emulsions

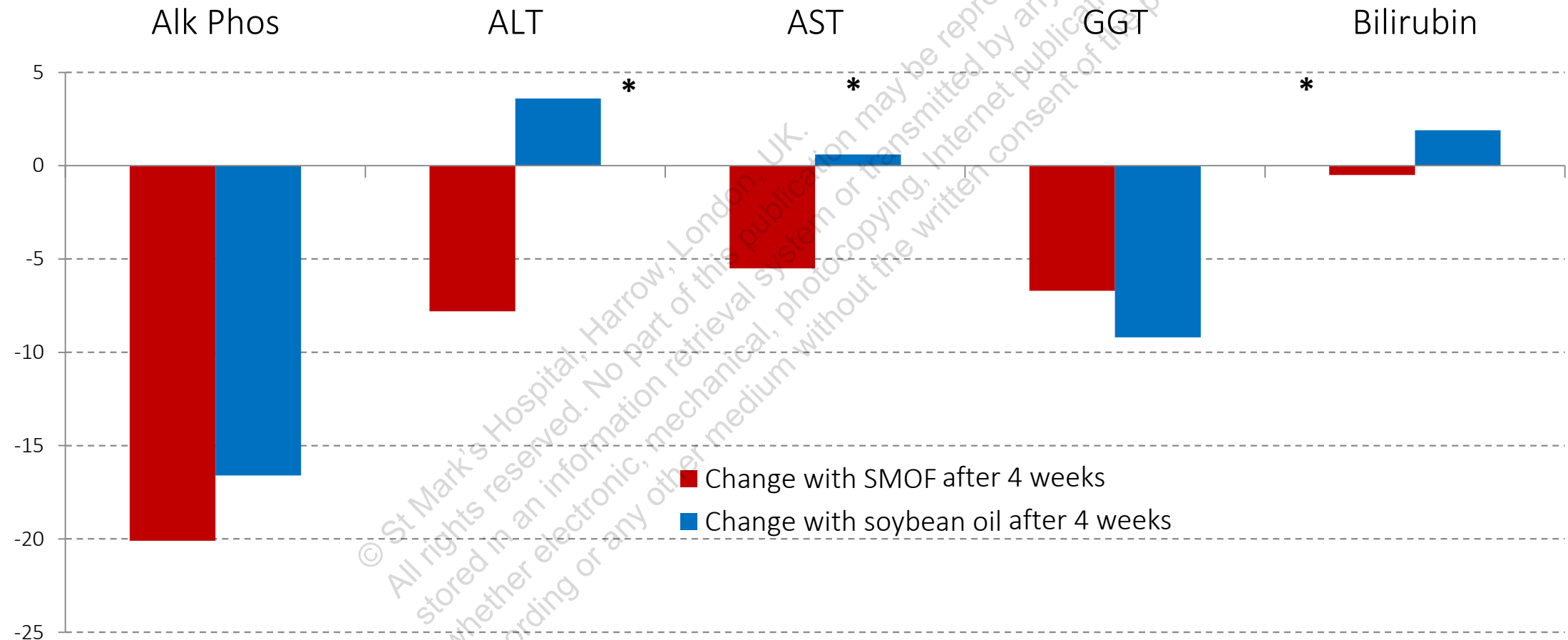
| Generation      | Description                                                                     | Lipid types                                             | Brands                    |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Conventional lipid                                                              | LCT (soybean oil)<br>LCT (soy/safflower oil)            | Intralipid                |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Lipid emulsions with reduced PUFA                                               | Structured lipids (MCT/LCT)<br>Olive oil based emulsion | Structolipid<br>Clinoleic |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Lipid emulsions with reduced PUFA<br>& specific $\omega$ 6/ $\omega$ 3 FA ratio | Fish oil<br>Soy/MCT/olive oil/fish oil                  | Omegaven<br>SMOF          |

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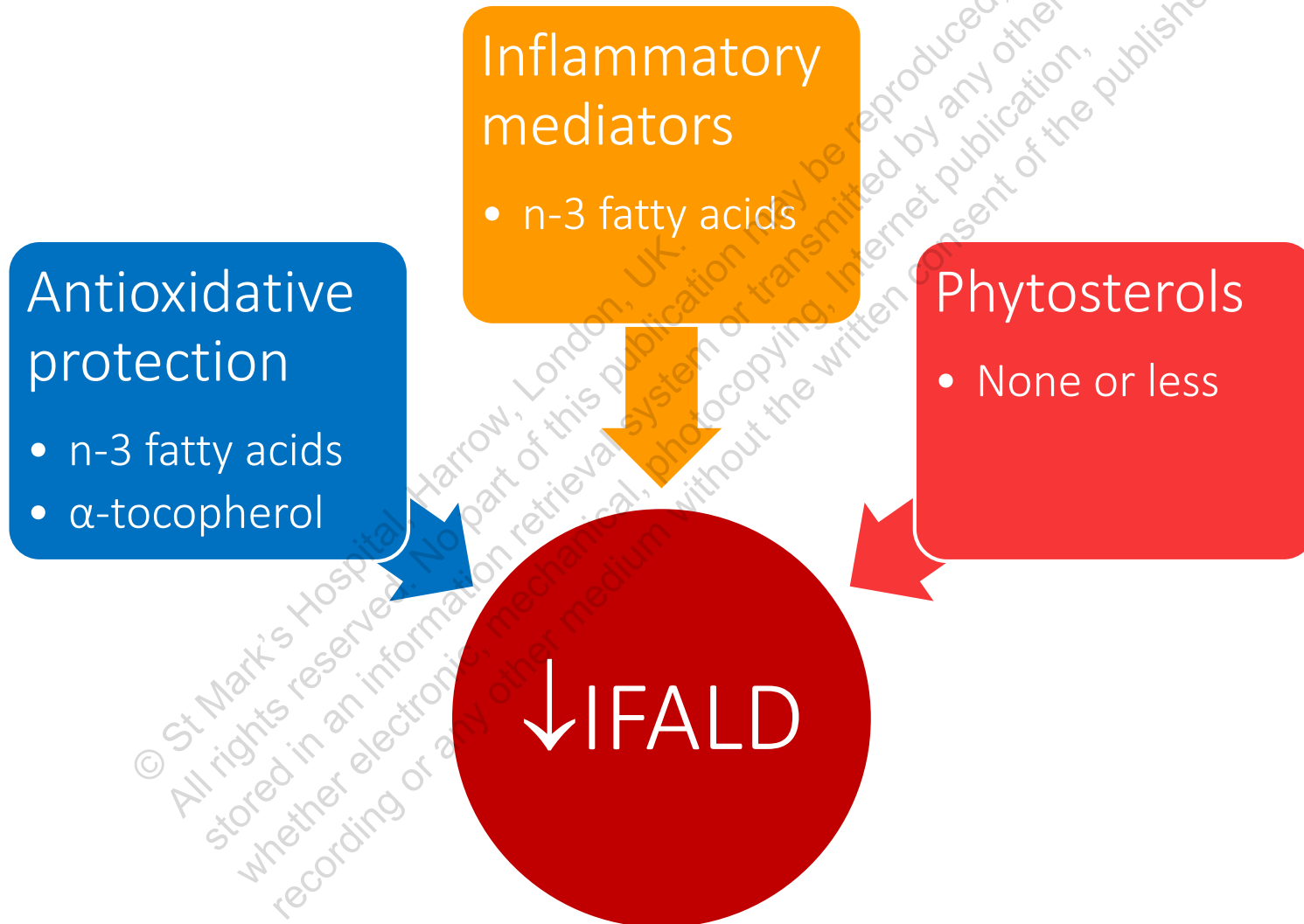
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# RCT: SMOF v soybean oil



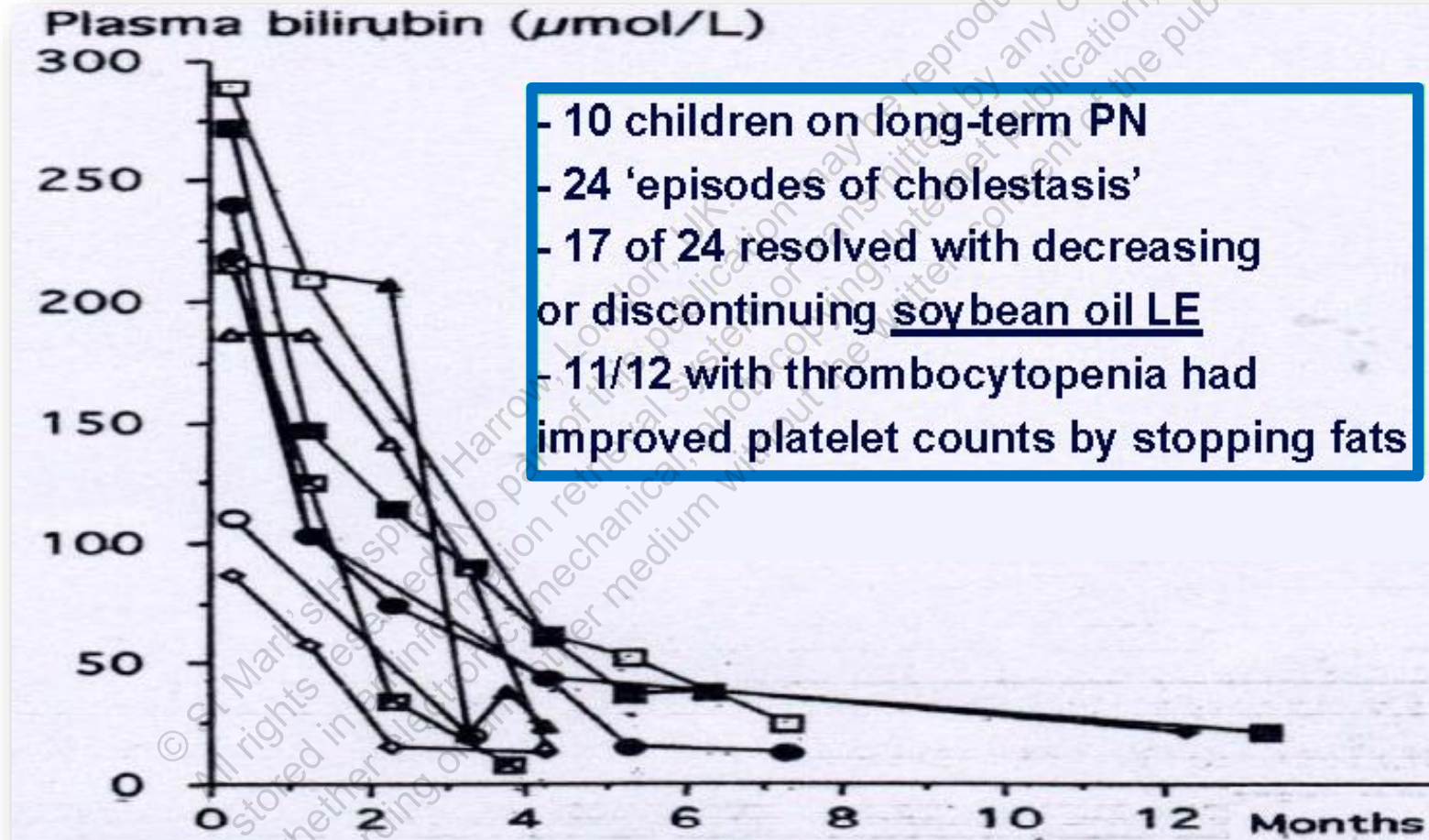


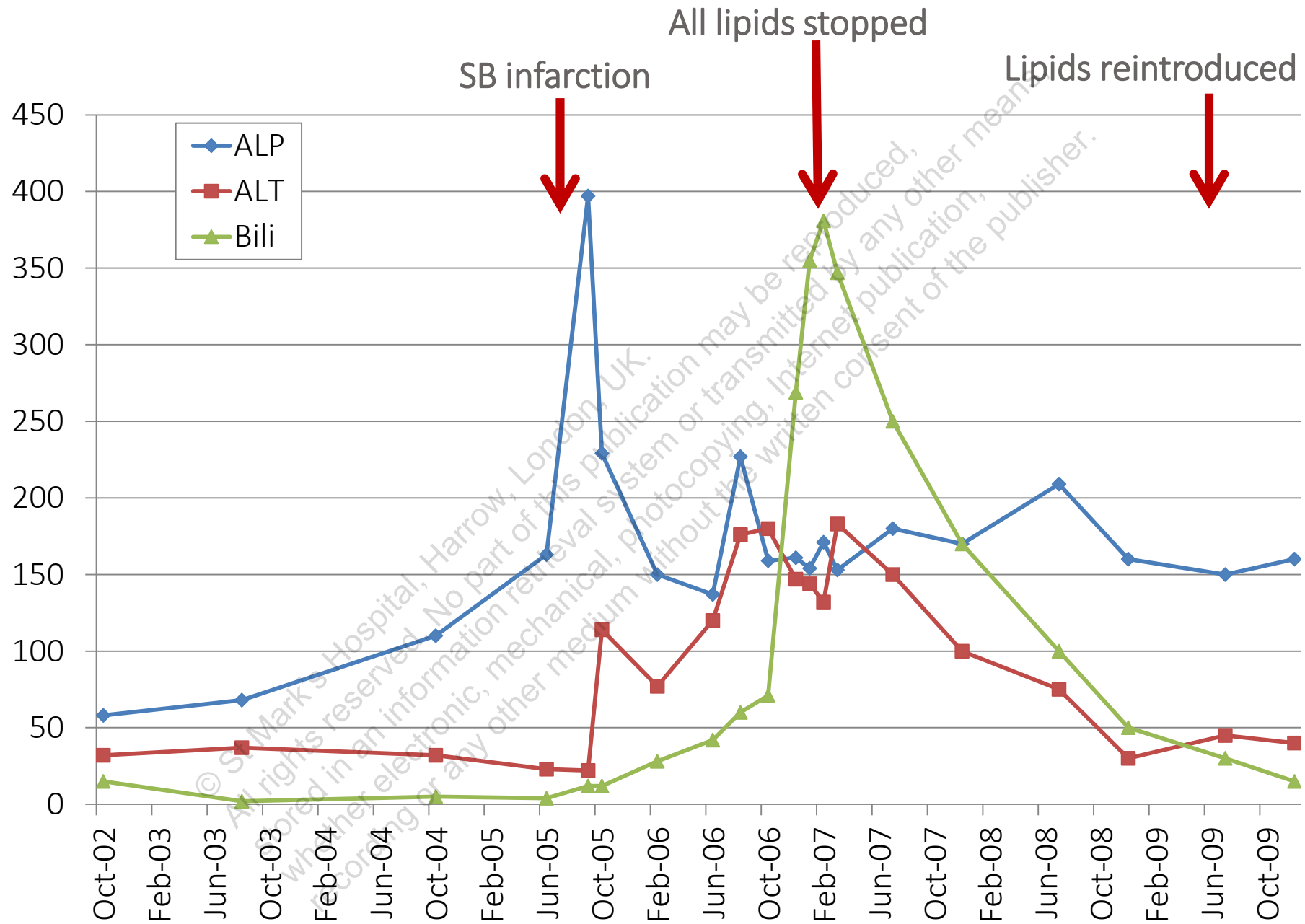
# Fish oil effect: >1 mechanism



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# Reversal of cholestasis





<1g/kg/day  
(60kg patient)

<60g

0.11g/kg/h  
(60kg patient &  
12h infusion)

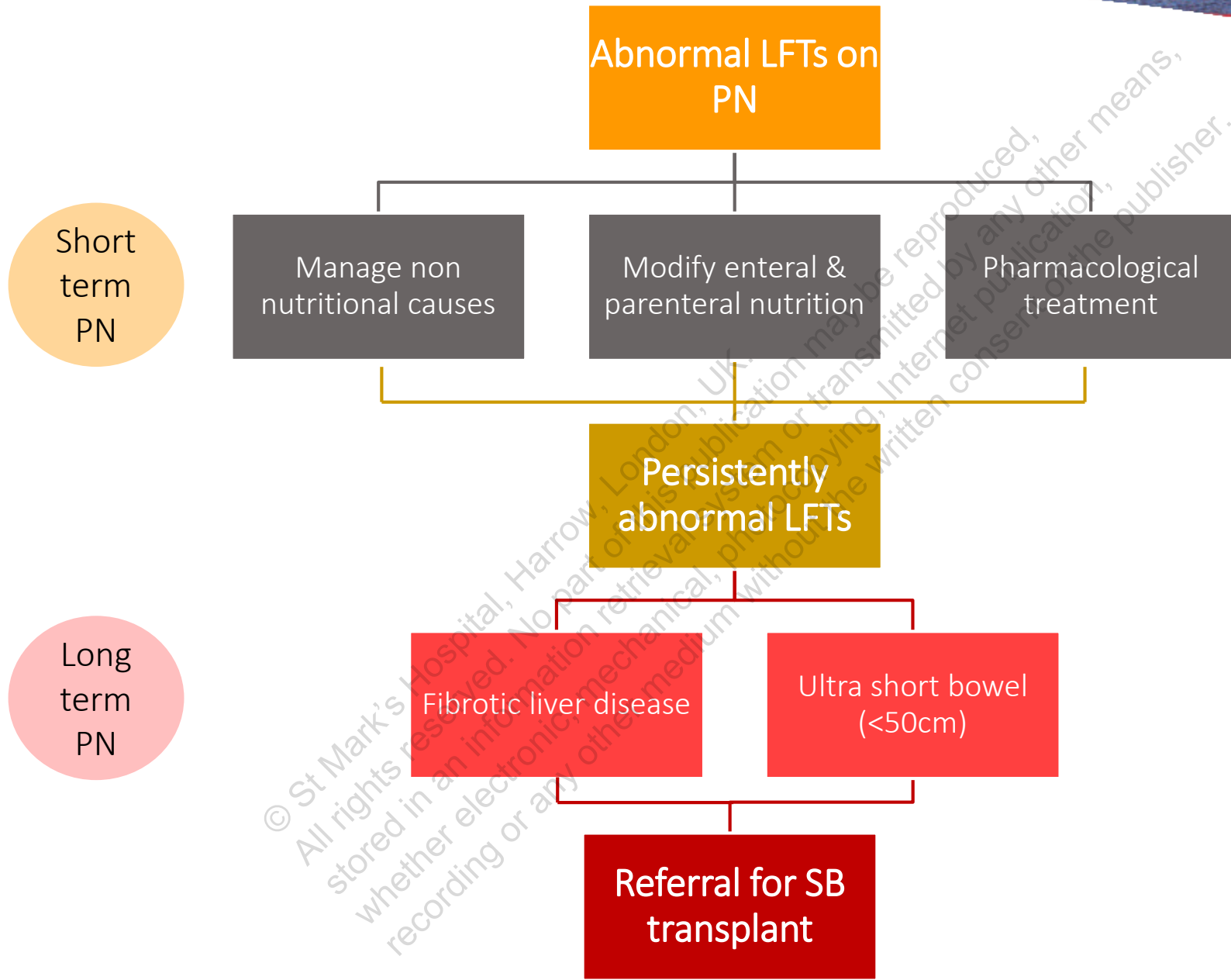
80g

500ml 20% lipid  
emulsion

100g

- Best way to achieve <1g/kg/day is **NO DAILY LIPIDS**
- Could use
  - ▣ 10% lipid emulsion
  - ▣ Less 20% lipid } but bag is less stable





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# Questions



Do you give cyclical parenteral nutrition?

Fibroscan or liver biopsy?

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# PN: continuous vs cyclical

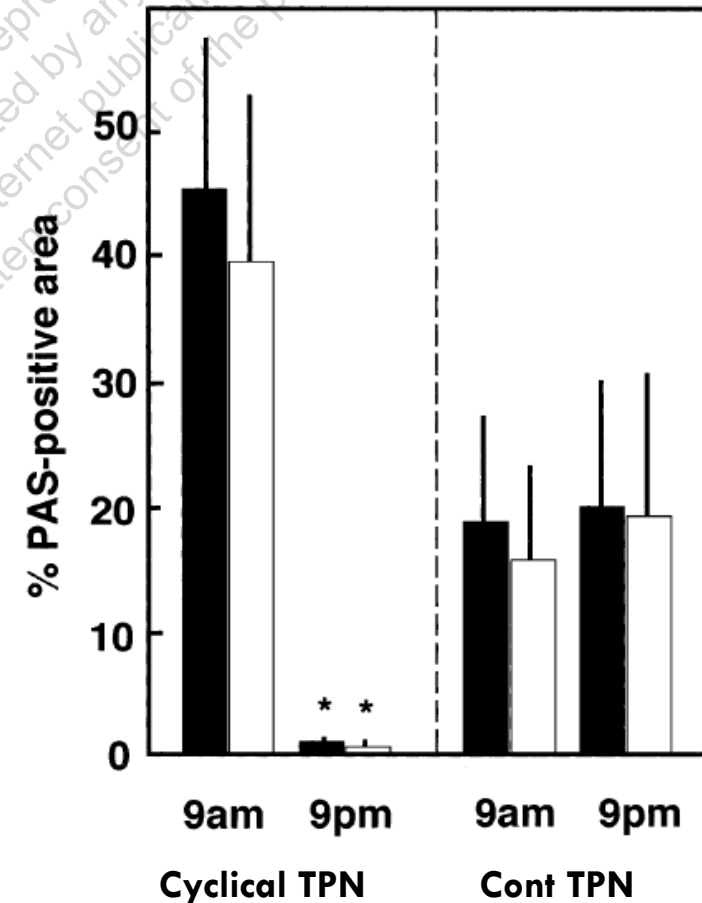
## Continuous PN

- Jeopardizes hepatic mitochondrial re-energization
- ↑ Liver glycogen deposition when given PN for 5 days

## Circadian PN pattern

- May reduce the risk of post-ischaemic mitochondrial liver dysfunction

Liver glycogen after 5 days TPN



Which one?

Liver biopsy

Elastography

Higher risk  
procedure

Interpretation  
difficult

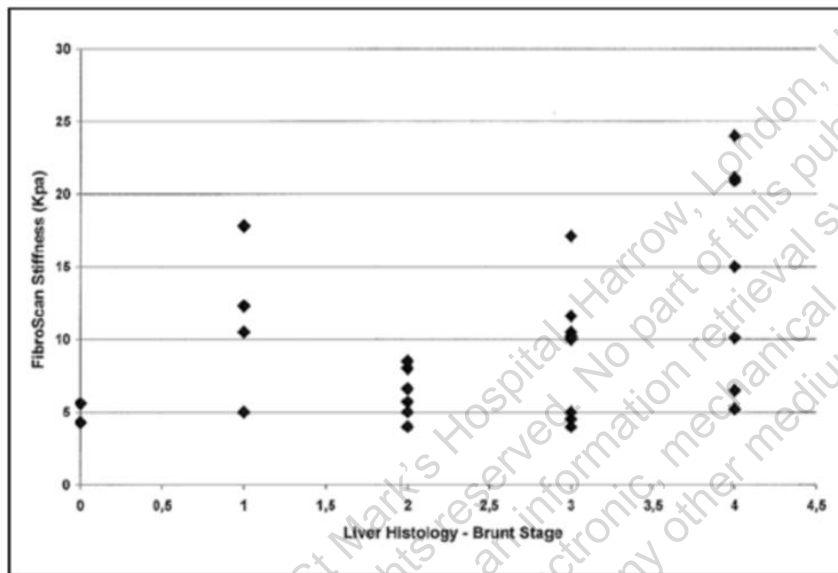
More  
definitive  
diagnosis

Not invasive

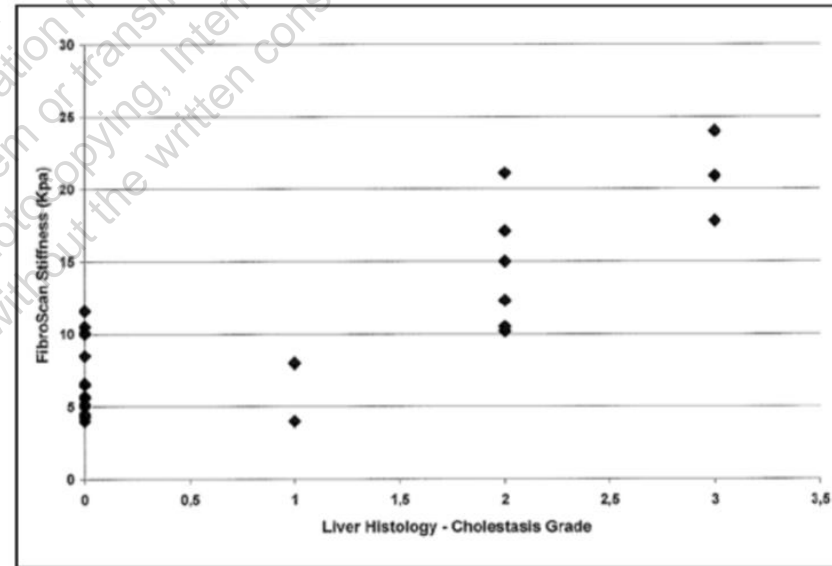
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# FibroScan stiffness

- Significant correlation with bilirubin & histological cholestasis
- No correlation with histologic fibrosis



Fibroscan value and Brunt stage  
(histological fibrosis score)



Fibroscan value and histological cholestasis grade



# How can this affect your practice?



## Acute IF (Type 1)

- Look for causes other than the IV nutrition
- Reasonable to give daily lipid
- Do not overfeed
- Best type of lipid?
  - Need more comparative studies
  - Anti-inflammatory & anti-oxidative properties of fish oil is attractive

## Chronic IF (Type 2-3)

- Key message is to give lipid according to EFA requirements (<1g/kg/day)
- **Do not** increase glucose calories as a result
- IFALD patients
  - Decrease further/stop lipid
  - Use 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> generation lipid but stability issues may mean that the lipid is given separately

