### Presentation - Hepatomegaly

**Causes of hepatomegaly**

- Hepatitis
  - Infections
    - Viral hepatitis (acute and chronic)
    - EBV and CMV
    - Malaria
    - Abscesses – Amoebic or Pyogenic
- Autoimmune hepatitis
- Alcoholic liver disease
- Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (previously known as NASH)
- Tumours
  - Metastases
  - Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
  - Hepatoma
- Haematological Disorders
  - Leukaemia (CML and CLL)
  - Lymphoma
  - Haemolytic anaemias
    - Thalassaemia; red cell defects; sickle cell anaemia
- Infiltration
  - Amyloidosis
  - Sarcoidosis
- Drugs
  - Statins
  - Amiodarone
  - Macrolides
- Metabolic
  - Haemochromatosis
  - Wilson’s disease
  - Glycogen storage disorders
  - Porphyria
- Biliary Disease
  - Extra-hepatic obstruction
    - Pancreatic cancer; cholangiocarcinoma
  - Primary Biliary Cirrhosis
  - Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis
- Congestive
  - Right ventricular failure
  - Congestive cardiac failure
  - Constrictive pericarditis
- Budd-Chiari

### History in hepatomegaly

- Presenting complaint – very varied and depends on cause
  - Abdominal distension
  - Nausea
  - Pruritus
  - Weight loss
  - Pyrexia
- Pale stool/dark urine
- Change in bowel habit

### Past medical history
- Autoimmune disease
- Inflammatory bowel disease

### Medications
- Statins
- Amiodarone
- Antibiotic use

### Family history
- Malignancy
- Chronic liver disease
- Sickle cell disease
- Autoimmune disease

### Social history
- Travel history
- Alcohol consumption
- Tattoos; blood transfusions; risky sexual behaviour

### Examination of hepatomegaly
- Signs of chronic liver disease (see chronic liver disease section)
- Hepatomegaly – smooth/tender/craggy
- Cachexia
- Abdominal scars
- Lymphadenopathy

### Initial investigations of hepatomegaly
- Blood tests:
  - Full blood count
  - Urea and electrolytes
  - Liver function tests
  - Clotting
  - Inflammatory markers
  - Blood film
  - Full liver screen (see chronic liver disease section)
- Ultrasound abdomen

### Further investigations and management of hepatomegaly
- Depends on cause (see other gastroenterology pages)

### Common questions concerning hepatomegaly?
- What are the commonest causes of hepatomegaly in the UK?
  - Alcoholic liver disease
  - Cancer (metastases are the commonest or HCC)
  - Congestive cardiac failure