

# Follow-up of pediatric chronic liver disease

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# Chronic liver disease

- Cholestatic liver disease
- Viral liver disease
- Metabolic liver disease
- Jatrogenic liver disease
- Genetic liver disease
- Liver in systemic disease

# Pediatric liver disease: epidemiology

- 15000 children/yrs hospitalized
- 1:2500 live birth
- 12.5% of liver transplantation

# Pediatric liver disease

## Cholestatic liver disease

- Biliary atresia

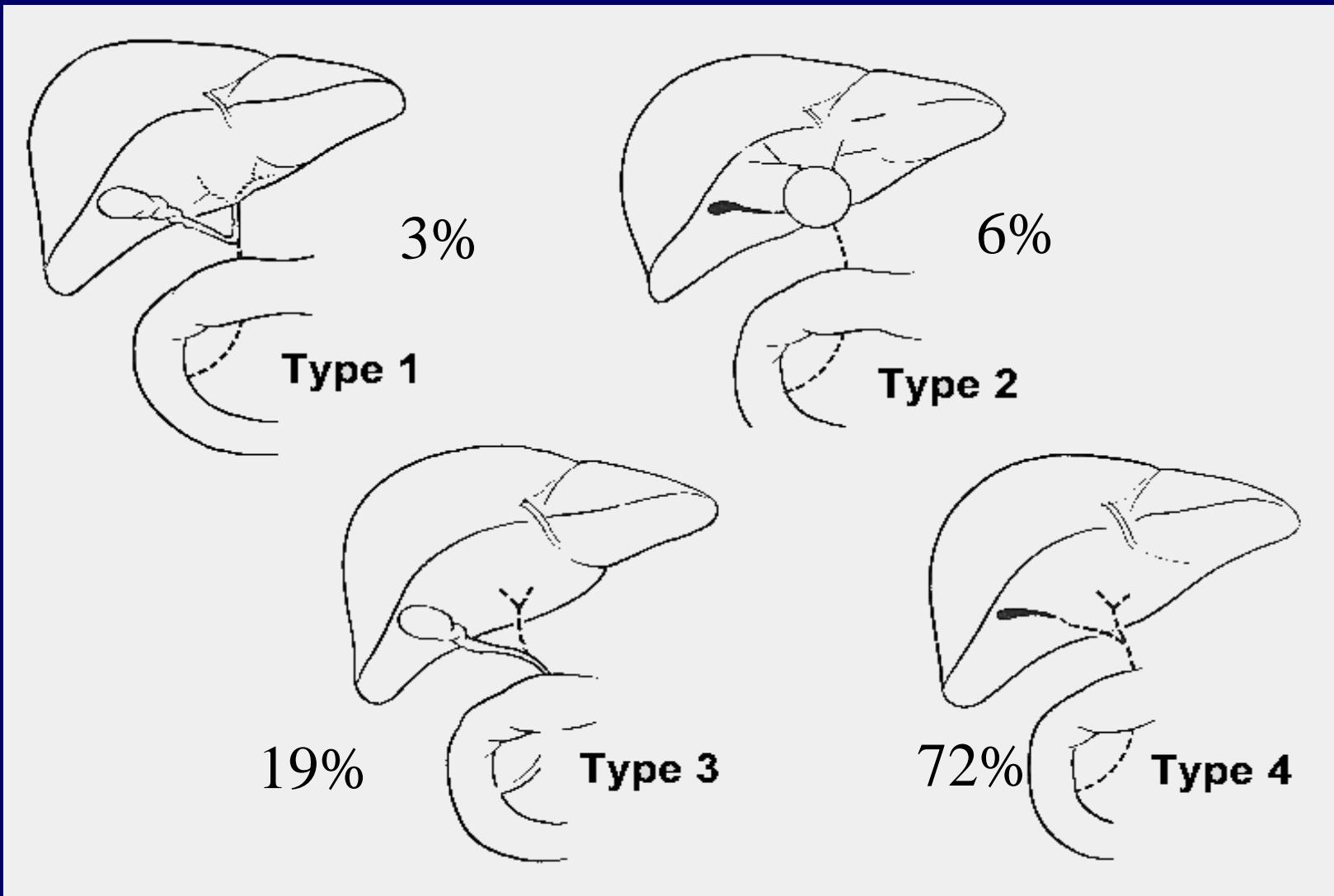
## Metabolic disease

- Non alcoholic fatty liver disease ( NAFLD)

# Biliary Atresia: Epidemiology

- The most common neonatal cholestasis disorder ( 1:18000 live birth)
- High morbidity and mortality with high health costs: ( 0.2% of total health care expenditure for 0.0006% of pediatric population in USA)

# Anatomical type of biliary atresia



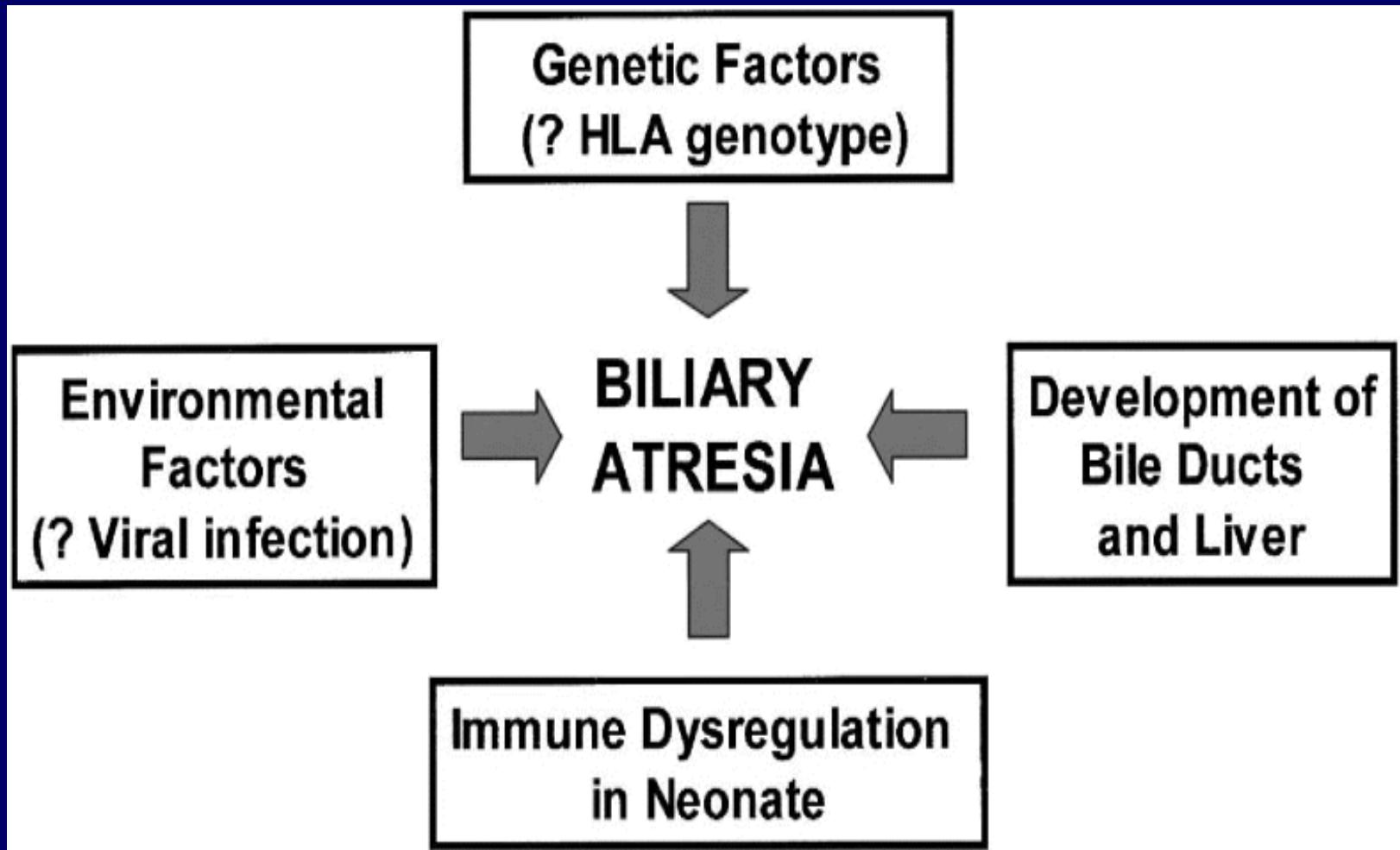
# **Forms of Biliary Atresia**

**Fetal or embryonic form (8-12%):**

hepatobiliary disease associated with polysplenia, cardiac defects, absence of retrohepatic inferior cava, situs inversus pre-duodenal portal vein, malrotation of the intestine

**Perinatal or acquired form (>80%)**

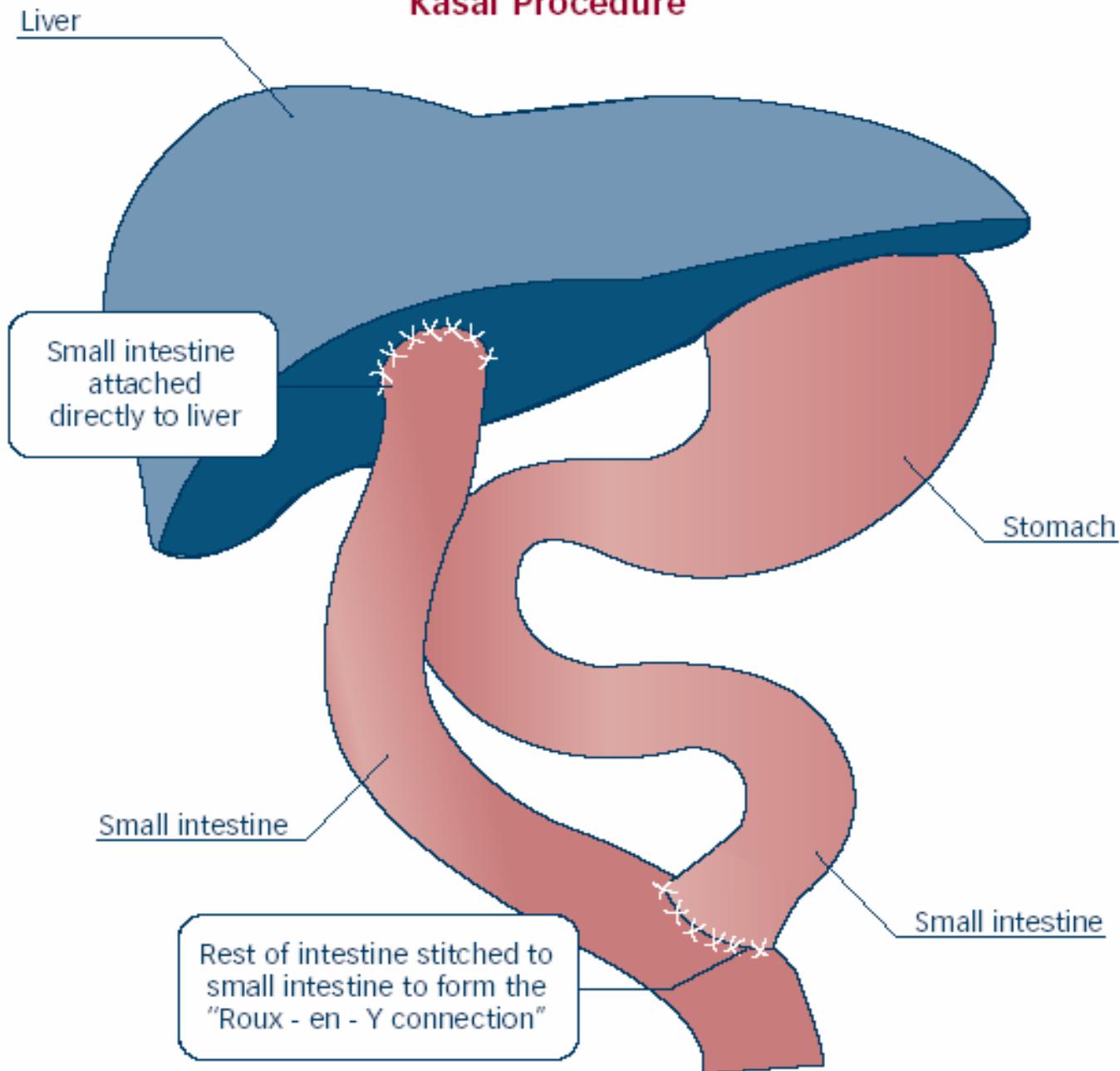
# Biliary Atresia:Pathogenetic aspects



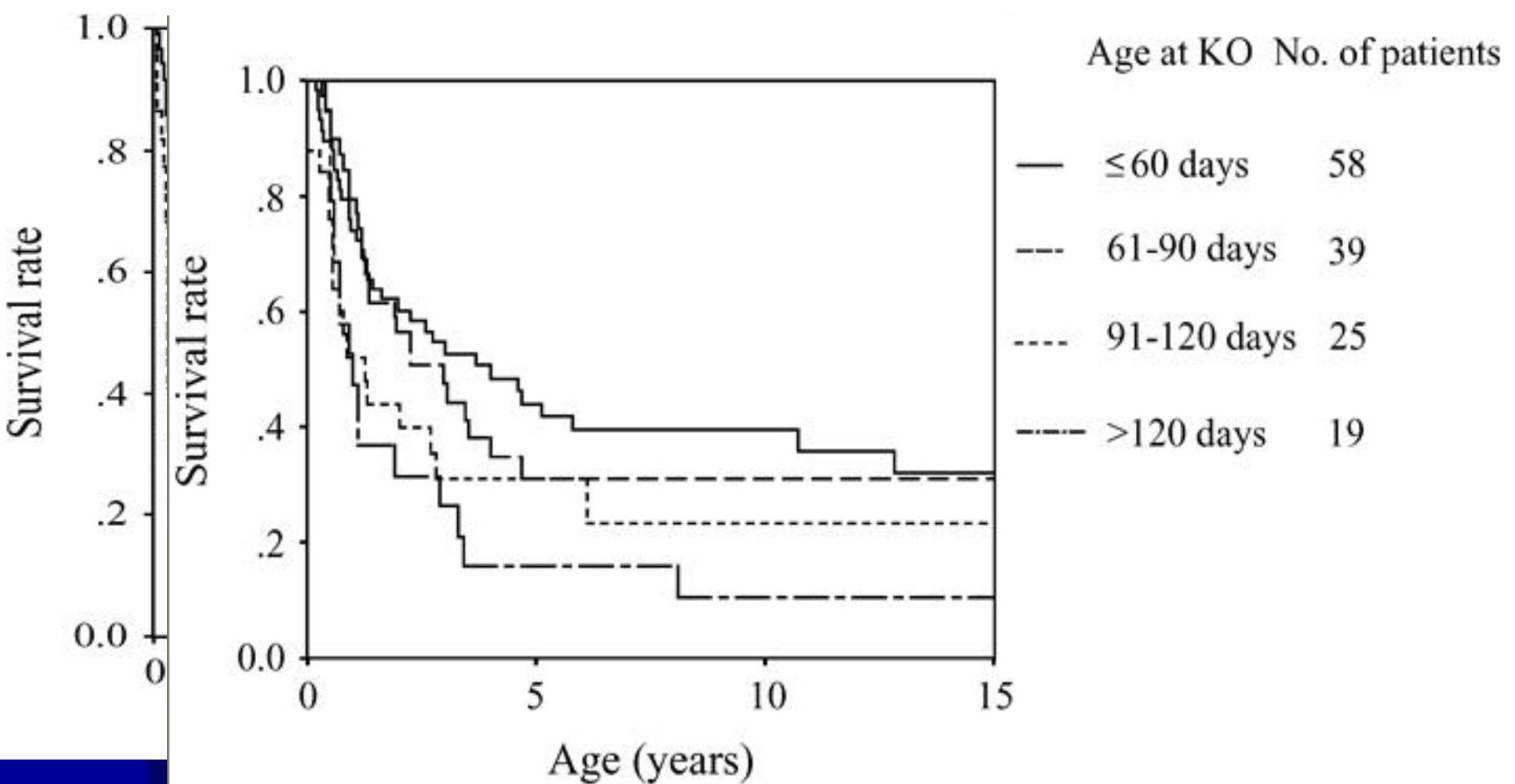
# Management of Biliary Atresia

- Medical treatment: no effective (UDCA only after surgery)
- Kasai operation
- Liver transplantation

## Kasai Procedure



# Biliary Atresia and Kasai operation: survival rate ( n=141)



# Biliary Atresia and Kasai operation: risk factors (n=141)

Variable	RR	CI 95%	P
Year of Kasai operation			
1976–1980	3.1	>(1.8; 5.3)	<0.005
≥1980	1	—	
Age at Kasai operation (days)			
≤120	1	—	0.608
>120	1.2	(0.7; 2.4)	
Jaundice free after Kasai operation			
Yes	1	—	<0.005
No	3.4	(2.2; 5.4)	
Repeated cholangitis			
No	1	—	0.039
Yes	1.6	(1.1; 2.6)	

RR, risk ratio; CI, confidence interval.

# Complications of Kasai operation

## Early:

bacterial cholangitis

obstruction of the intestinal loop

## Late:

portal hypertension

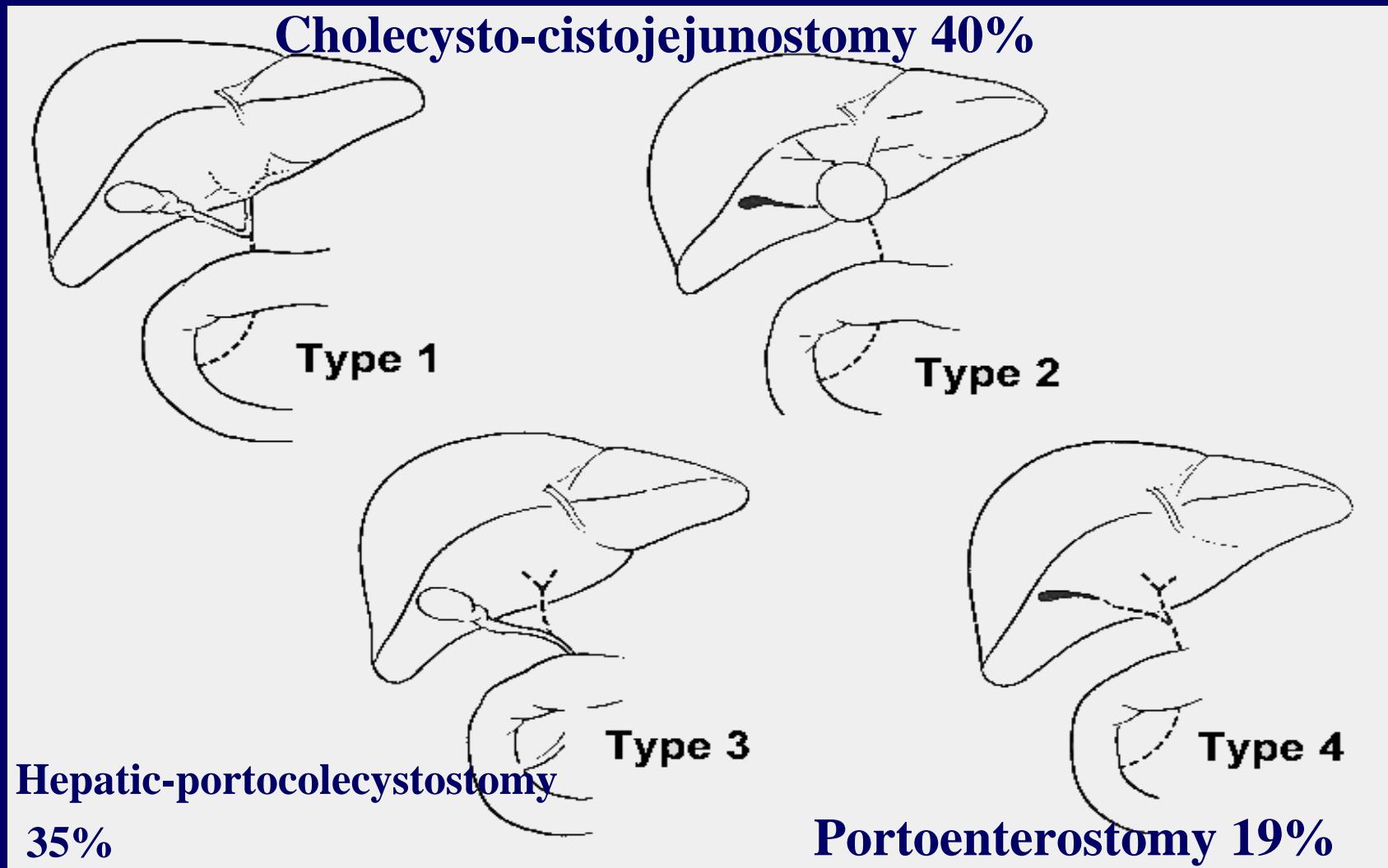
- variceal hemorrhage ( 40-60% at 5-10 yrs)
- ascites – SBP- pruritus

portosystemic encephalopathy

# Factors shown to predict outcome after kasai

- Age at operation
- Experience of the surgeon
- Site of atresia of the extrahepatic duct
- Number and severity of cholangitis

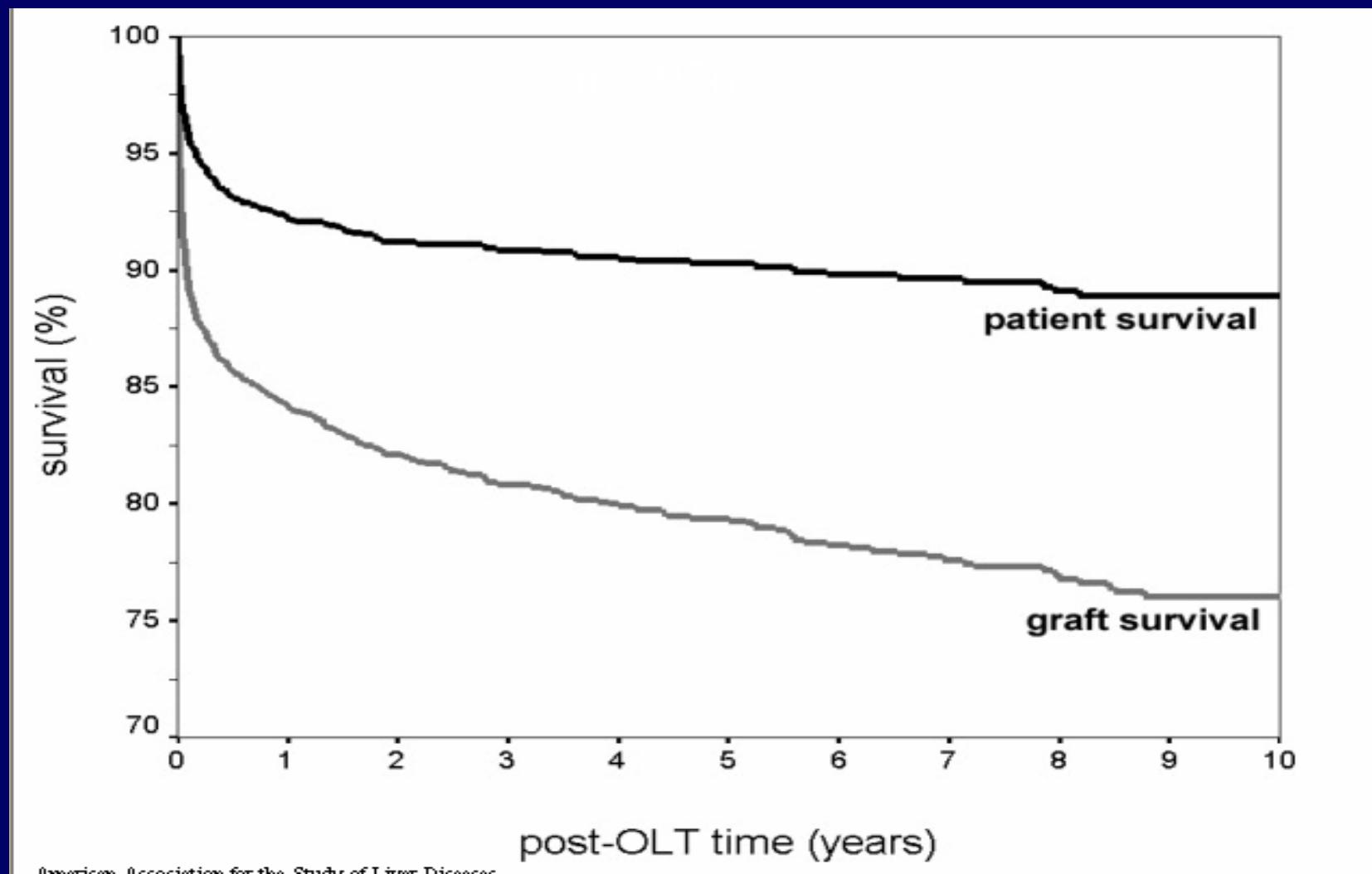
# 20 yrs survival after surgery with native liver according to type of biliary atresia (n=63)



# Biliary atresia: Indication for Liver Transplantation

- Poor bile drainage after kasai
- End stage liver disease
- Intractable biliary tract infections

# Biliary atresia: Actuarial survival rate after OLT ( n=1976) ( UNOS database)

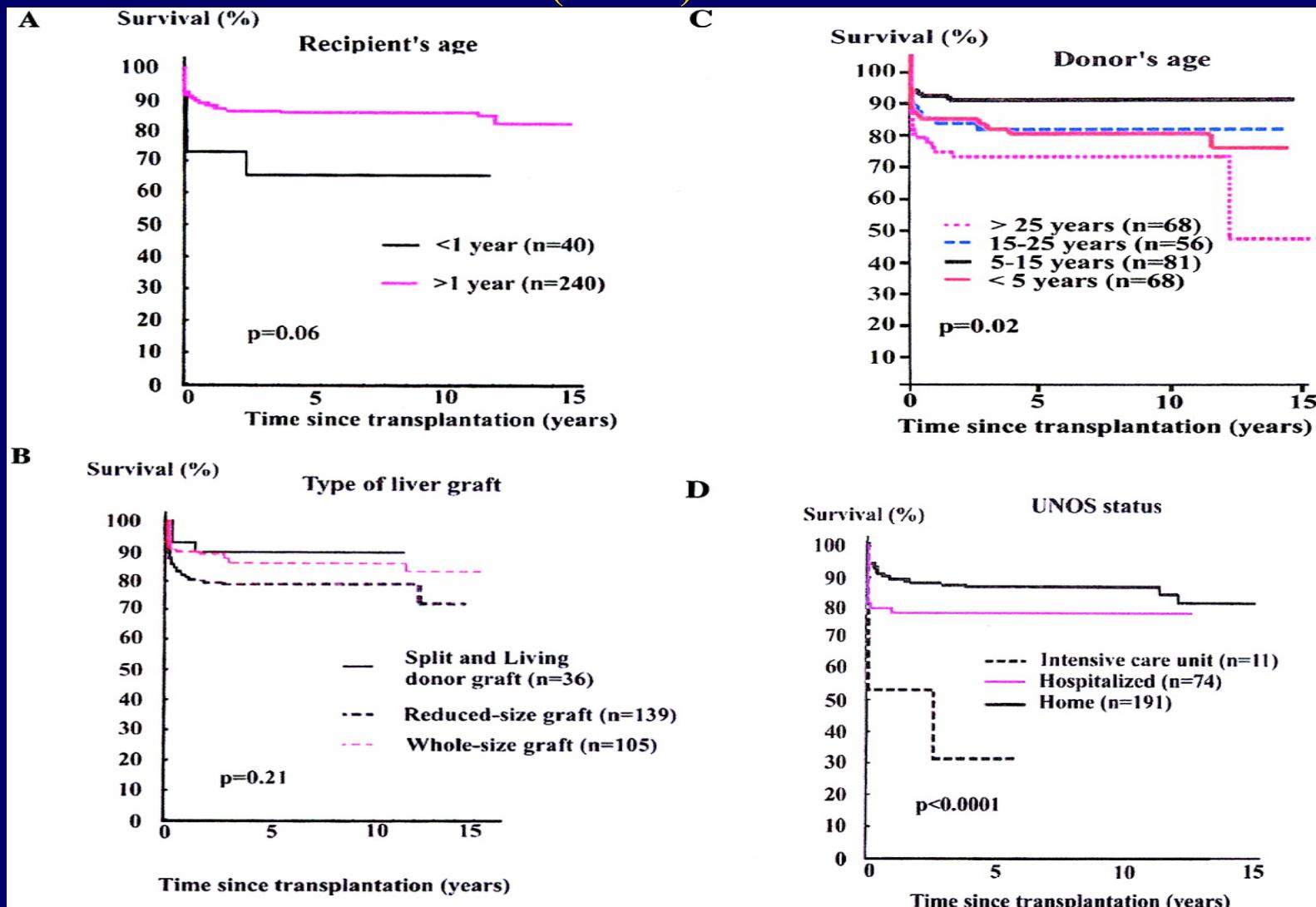


American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

Barshes, Liver Transpl. 2005

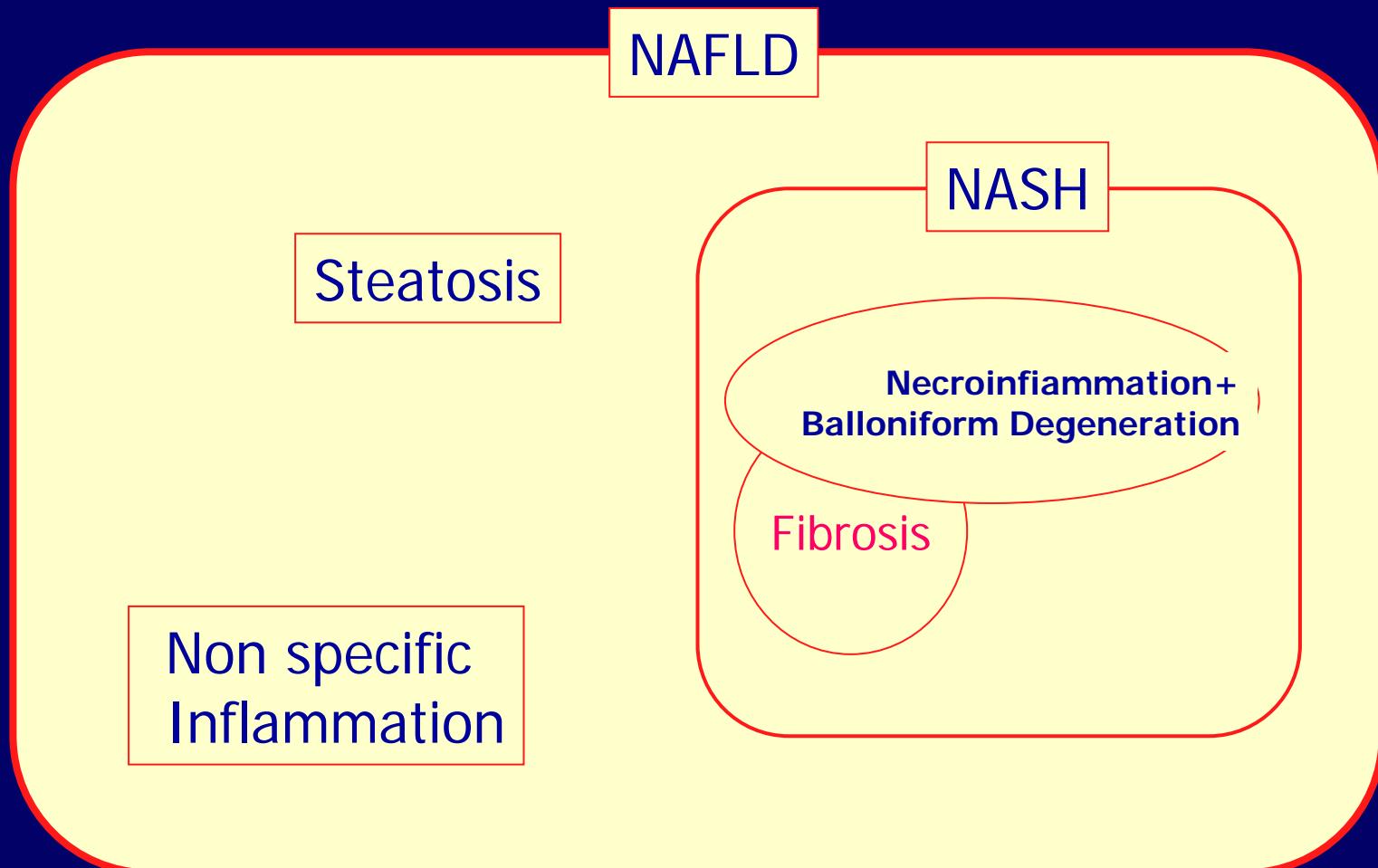
# Biliary atresia: survival rate after OLT

(n=280)





# NAFLD/NASH



# Prevalence of NAFLD in children

NAFLD is likely the most common cause of liver disease in children

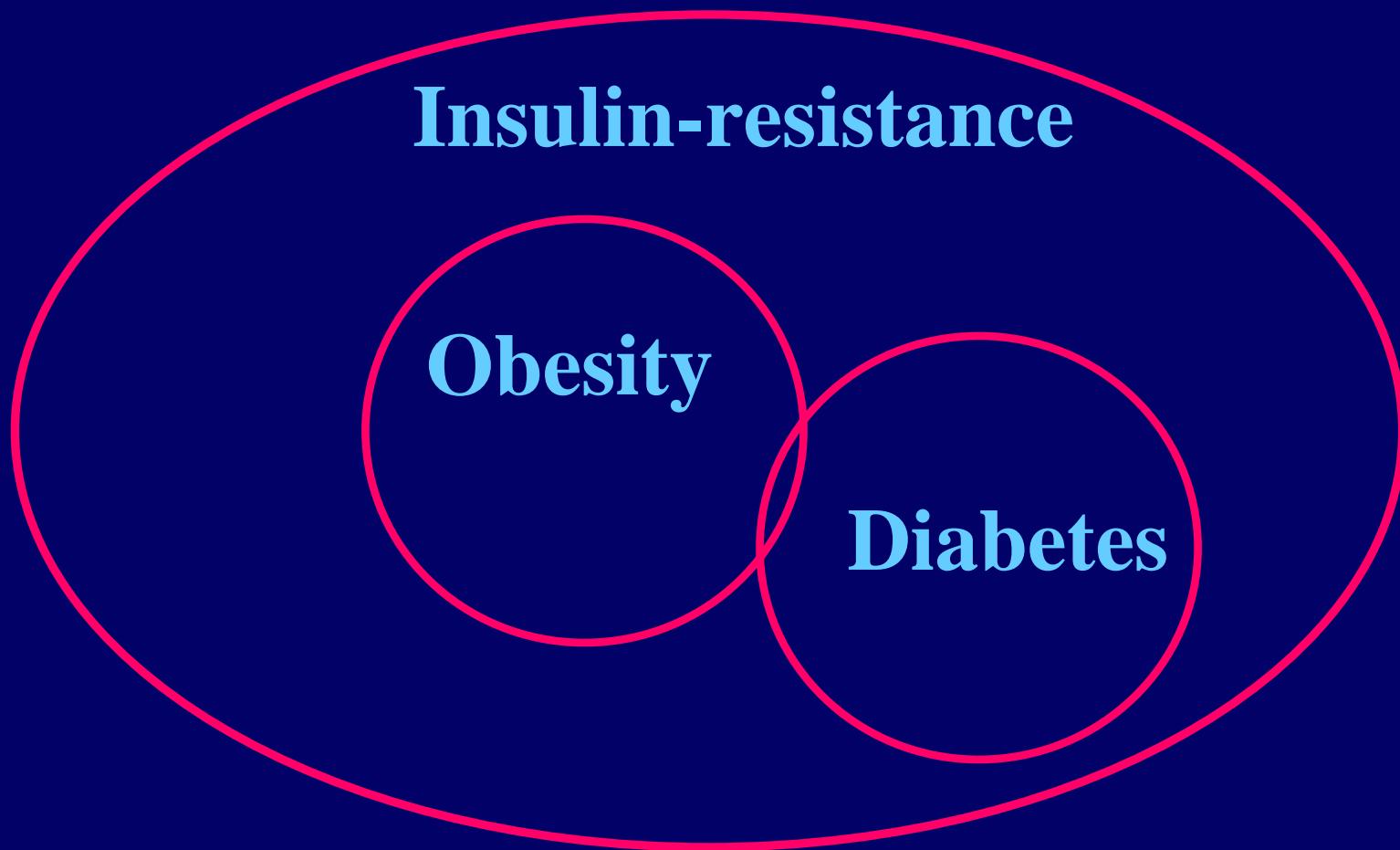
## Non selected children

- Ultrasound study (Japan) 2,6 %
- Necroscopy study (USA) 17 %

## Obese children

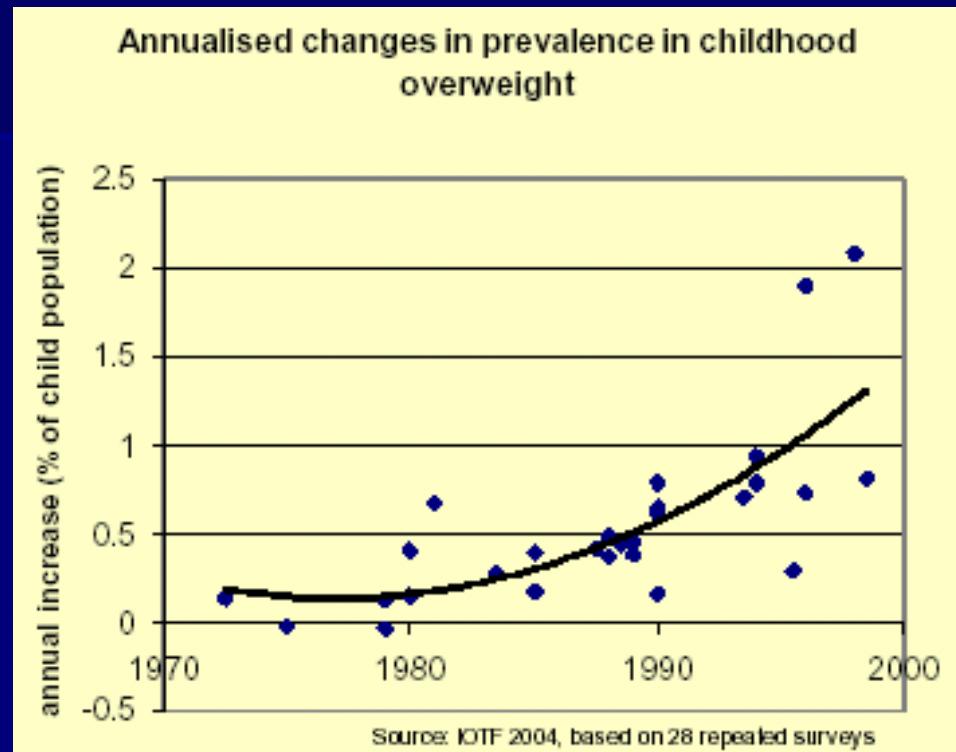
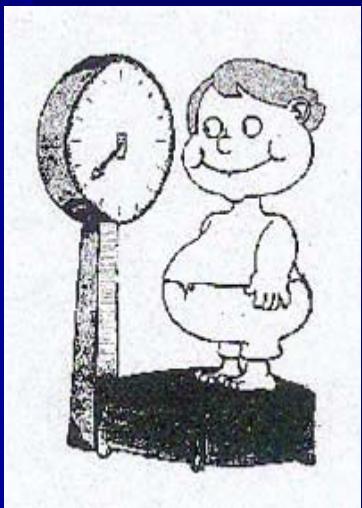
- Biochemical study ( ALT evaluation) 23-77%

# NAFLD: Causes



# OBESITA' IN ETA' PEDIATRICA

## Childhood obesity

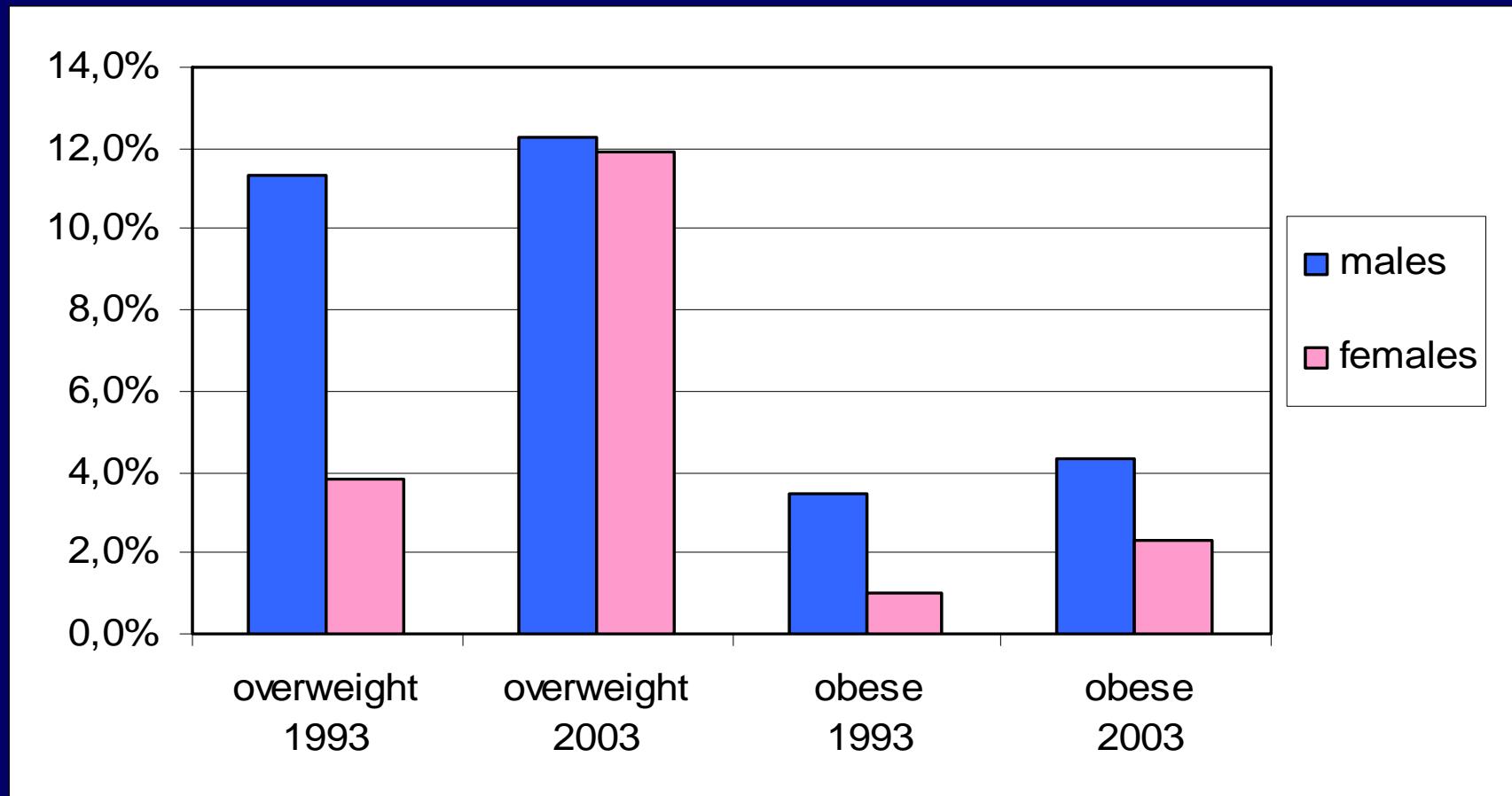


Obesity in Europe - 3 International Obesity TaskForce March 2005

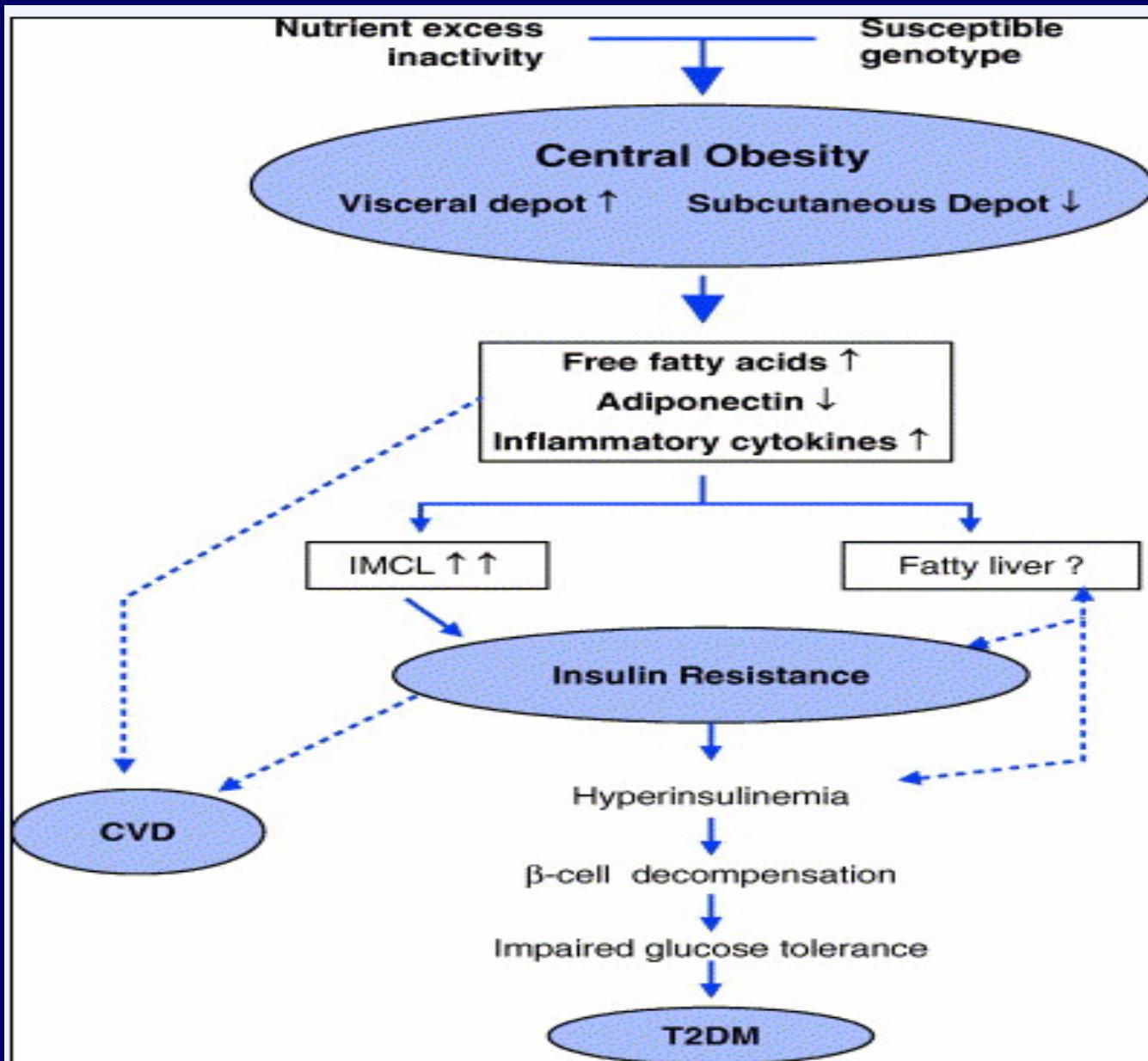
- Pandemia
- Tracking
- Morbidity

# OBESITA' IN ITALIA

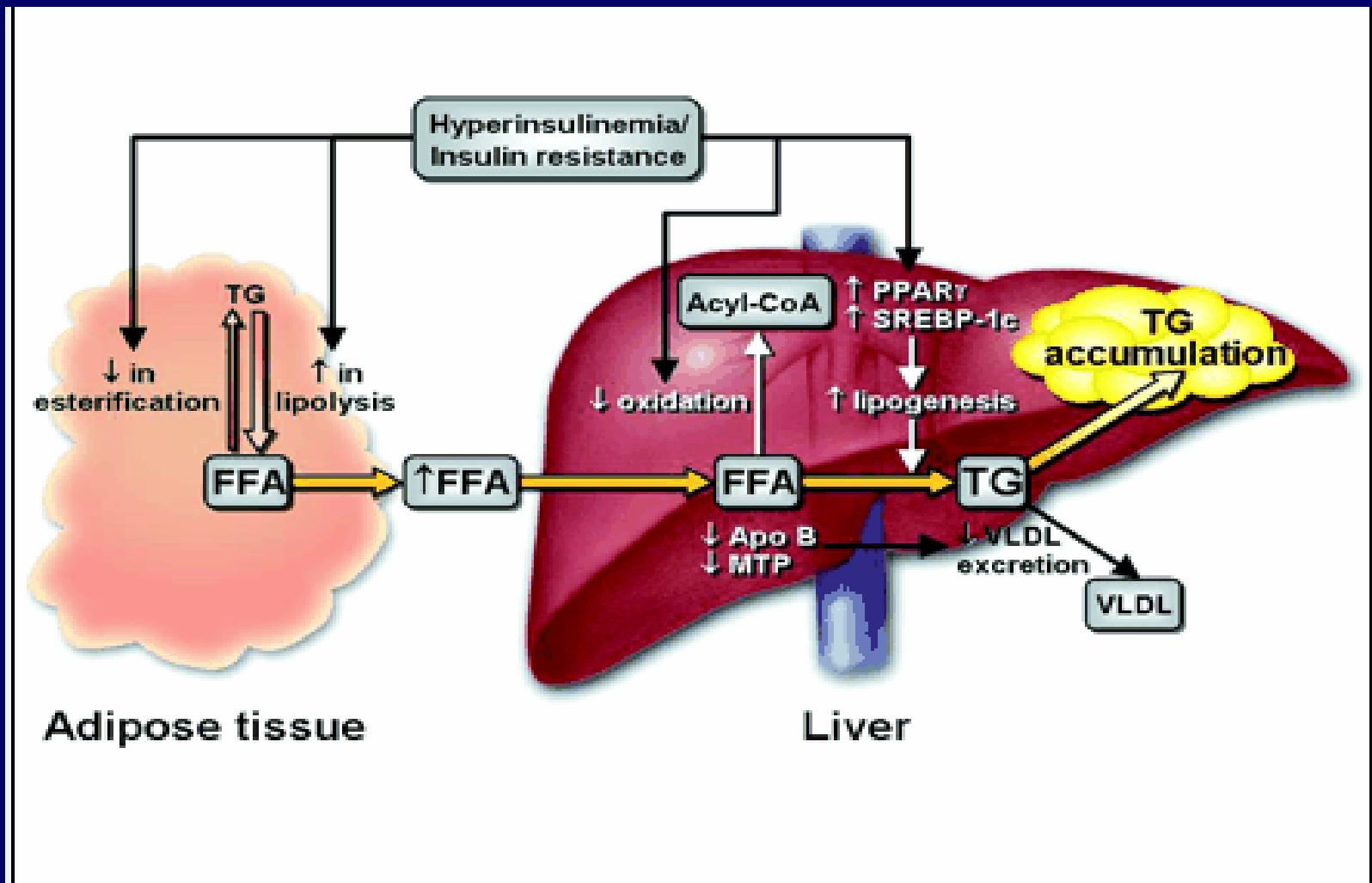
Prevalenza del sovrappeso e dell'obesità  
in bambini italiani dai 2 ai 6 anni.



# Mechanisms of obesity-related morbidities

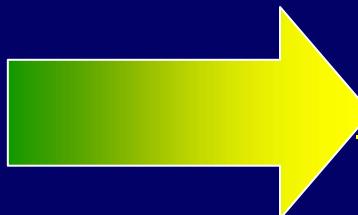


# NAFLD and Insulin Resistance

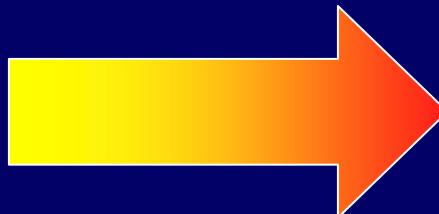


## Two hits theory"

Normal



Steatosis



Inflammation  
&  
Fibrosis

### 1° hit:

- hyperinsulinism
- ↑ FFA
- ↓ B-Oxidation FFA
- ↓ Export triglycerides

### 2° hit:

- ↑ Oxidative Stress (Fe, CYP2E1)
- ↑ Lipids Peroxidation
- ↑ TNFa
- ↑ TGFb
- ↑ Leptin

# Categories of NAFLD: from Steatosis to NASH

- Type 1: Simple steatosis
- Type 2: Steatosis plus lobular inflammation
- Type 3 : Steatosis,lobular inflammation,  
ballooning degeneration
- Type 4: Steatosis, ballooning degeneration,  
Mallory bodies and or fibrosis

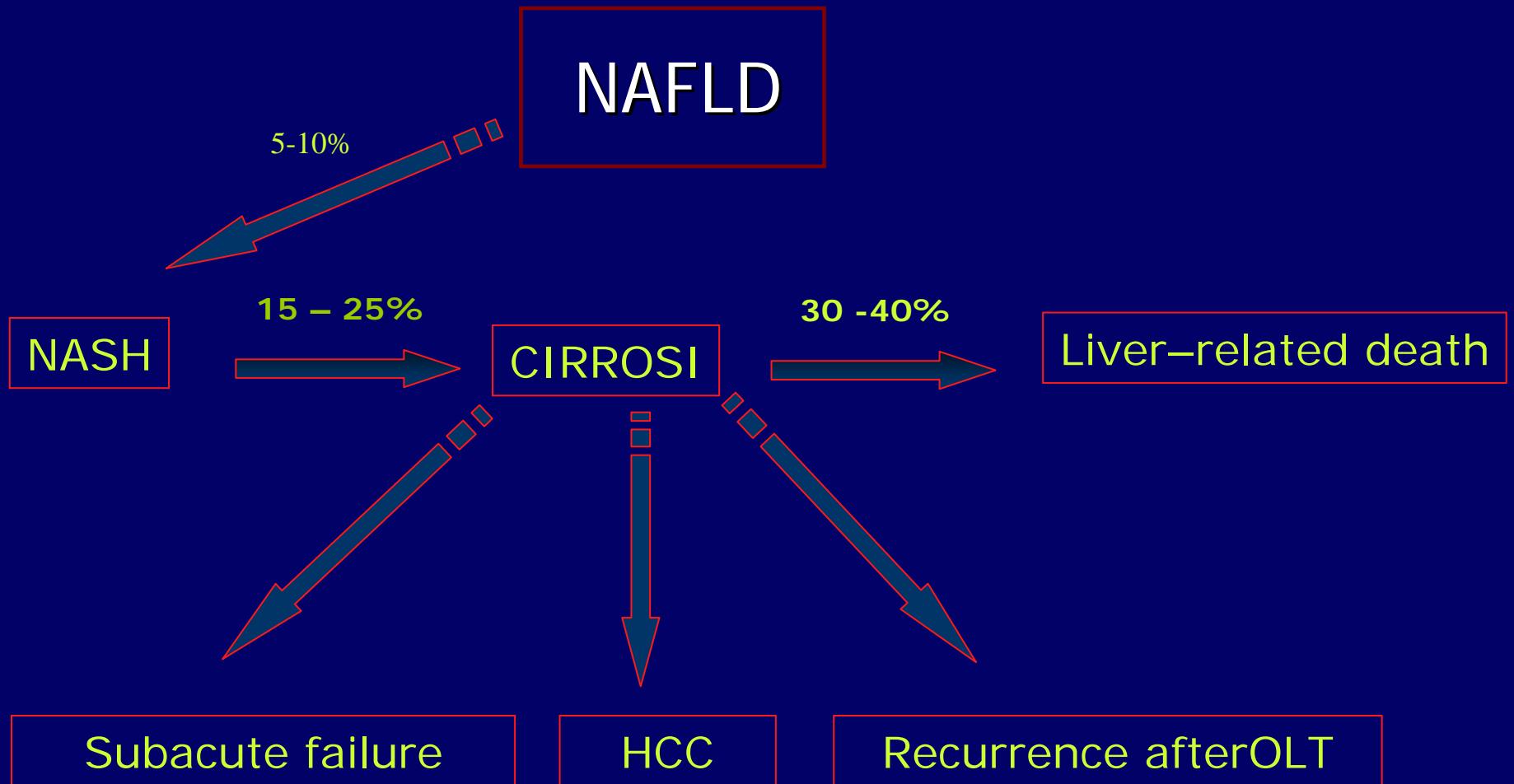
# NASH Type:Definition

Adult	Type 1	Type 2	
Ballooning degeneration	+	+	-
Perisinusoidal fibrosis	-	+	+
Steatosis		+	+
Portal inflammation	-	+	+
Portal fibrosis	-	-	+

Children

+, feature is present; -, feature is absent.

# Natural history of NAFLD



# NASH: predictors of fibrosis (n=144)

- Age > 45 anni
- BMI > 31,1 Kg/m<sup>2</sup> (M) e 32,3 Kg/m<sup>2</sup> (F)
- AST/ALT ratio > 1
- NIDDM

Indipendent  
predictors

# Predictors of liver pathology outcome ( Multivariate model) (n=43)

	Model	Variables	P value
Steatosis	< 0.0001	QUICKI	< .0001
		Age	< .0001
		Race	.0060
Inflammation, portal	0.0009	ALT	.0181
		Insulin	.0007
Fibrosis, perisinusoidal	< 0.0001	AST	.0003
		Insulin	.0003
		BMI Z score	.0004
Fibrosis, portal	0.0028	RUQ pain	.0031
		HOMA-IR	.0178

# Management NAFLD

NASH require two hits:- fat accumulation in liver

- increased oxidative stress

## Modify Lifestyle

- appropriate diet
- aerobic exercise

## Pharmacological treatment

## Fats, Oils & Sweets

**USE SPARINGLY**

### KEY

● Fat (naturally occurring and added)

■ Sugars (added)

These symbols show fats and added sugars in foods.

### Milk, Yogurt & Cheese Group

**2-3 SERVINGS**



### Meat, Poultry, Fish, Dry Beans, Eggs & Nuts Group

**2-3 SERVINGS**



### Vegetable Group

**3-5 SERVINGS**



### Fruit Group

**2-4 SERVINGS**



### Bread, Cereal, Rice & Pasta Group

**6-11 SERVINGS**



**PLAY  
EVERY  
DAY!**

**PLAY  
EVERY  
DAY!**

### CUT DOWN ON



- T.V. watching
- Video and computer games
- Sitting more than 30 minutes at a time

### 2-3 TIMES A WEEK



#### Leisure & Playtime

- Swinging
- Canoeing
- Tumbling
- Miniature golf



#### Strength & Flexibility

- Push-ups/pull-ups
- Martial arts
- Dancing
- Rope climbing

### 3-5 TIMES A WEEK



#### Aerobic Exercises (at least 20 minutes)

- Roller blading
- Biking
- Skateboarding
- Rope climbing
- Swimming
- Running



#### Recreational activities (at least 20 minutes)

- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Skiing
- Kickball
- Relay races

### EVERYDAY

(as often as possible)



- Play outside
- Take the stairs instead of the elevator
- Help around the house or yard



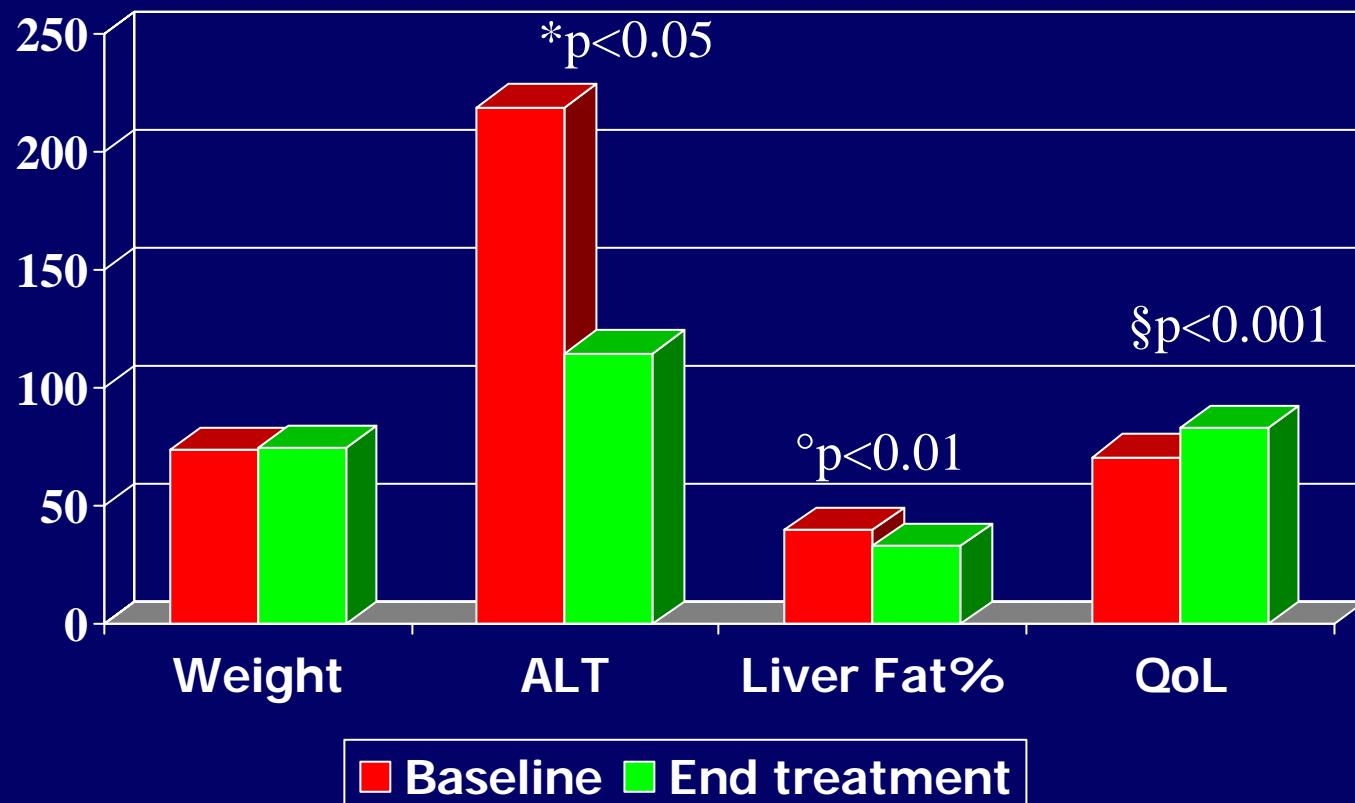
- Bathe your pet
- Pick up your toys
- Walk to the store
- Go for a walk

# Pediatric trial treatment in NAFLD

Intervention	n	Entry criteria	Duration tpx mo.	Outcome
Vit. E Levine 00	11	Obese, ALT	4-10	Normal ALT- same BMI
UDCA Vairo 00	7	Obese,ALT	4	↔ ALT,US
Weight loss Vairo 94	7	Obese,ALT	2-6	Normal ALT, ↓ US
Weight loss Franzese 97	28	Obese,US	3-6	↓ US

Lavine 2005

# Effect of 24 wks metformin ( 500 mg/bd) treatment for pediatric NASH ( n=8)



Quicki: before 0.294, after 0.310 p<0.05

Schwimmer APT,2005

# **TONIC Trial: Treatment of Nonalcoholic fatty Liver Disease in Children ( funded by NIDDKD)**

- Tonic trial will enroll 180 nondiabetic boys and girls ages 8 to 15 yrs with NAFLD
- TREATMENT Schedule:  
Metformin+ Vit E  
VS  
Placebo for 2 yrs