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LIVER TRANSPLANTATION IN CHILDREN - ROLE OF PEDIATRICIANS***Akhil Raj MS******Naresh P Shanmugam**

Abstract: *Pediatricians play a vital role in managing children with liver diseases. With growing numbers of liver transplantations in India it has become imperative that pediatricians identify the need for liver transplantation in children, provide adequate counselling to the families, refer them to a liver transplant centre and provide community care after liver transplantation is done. This article deals with basic concepts of liver transplantation in children that will help pediatricians in their day to day practice.*

Keywords: *Liver transplantation, Indications, Counselling, Supportive care, Community care.*

Points to Remember

- *Pediatricians play a crucial role in the early identification and timely referral of children in need of liver transplants, which helps reduce post-transplant morbidity and mortality.*
- *Liver transplantation is indicated in ALF, CLD, metabolic liver disease and unresectable tumors. Amongst the CLDs, biliary atresia is the most common indication for liver transplantation.*
- *Pediatricians are involved in various aspects of pre-transplant care including monitoring, management of complications of liver disease (coagulopathy, encephalopathy, metabolic crises), essential guidance on nutrition and immunization.*

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