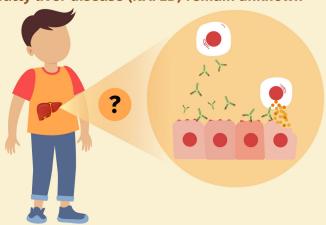
## Prevalence of Autoantibodies in Children with Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

The prevalence and clinical significance of autoantibodies in children with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) remain unknown



A single-center, retrospective study of clinical and laboratory data from 67 children ≤21 years of age (Median age = 14 years)



From 2014 to 2019



With biopsy-proven **NAFLD** 

Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody



Anti-F-actin antibody



Anti-liver kidney microsomal antibody



The following autoantibodies were found in children ഗ with NAFLD without autoimmune hepatitis (AIH):

\*of children



Anti-nuclear antibody (ANA)



Anti-smooth muscle antibody



Any combination of these antibodies

Children with biopsy-proven NAFLD frequently exhibit positive autoantibodies in the absence of AIH



Positive ANA and alanine aminotransferase (ALT) >80



**4.6** ↑ odds of NAFLD activity score ≥5



Serial monitoring → Autoantibody positivity resolution in 10-50% of children

## **Finer points:**

Future studies should assess:

- Serum immunoglobulin G and vitamin D levels
- The entire spectrum of children with NAFLD
- Clinical factors affecting antibody resolution

Among a cohort of children with suspected NAFLD, investigating ANA positivity with ALT levels may help to distinguish children who are at a greater risk of nonalcoholic steatohepatitis

Autoimmune Antibodies in Children and Adolescents with Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

Kohut et al. (2022)

