

ALF Etiology	First-Tier/Screening Test(s)*	Second-Tier/Confirmatory Test(s)
Paracetamol	Serum paracetamol concentration ¹	Paracetamol-hepatocyte protein adducts ²
Ischemia	Blood pressure history, echocardiogram	Enzyme pattern, rapid recovery
HAV	IgM anti-HAV	
HBV	IgM anti-HBc, HBsAg, anti-HDV	HBV DNA, HDV RNA
HEV	IgM anti-HEV	HEV RNA
DILI	History of known hepatotoxin ingestion, exclude other causes	Liver biopsy
AI-ALF	ANA, ASMA, immunoglobulins	Liver biopsy
Wilson Disease	Slit-lamp exam of the eyes, hemoglobin ≤ 10 g/dl, Alk P/Bili ratio < 4	24 hr urinary copper; liver biopsy, quantitative liver copper
Budd-Chiari Syndrome	Doppler US of hepatic circulation	Hepatic venogram
Pregnancy (AFLP/HELLP)	Third trimester of pregnancy, pre-eclampsia, coagulopathy	Ultrasound
HSV	IgM anti-HSV 1/2	Blood HSV DNA PCR
Malignancy	CT or MRI (hepatomegaly)	Liver biopsy

Appendix Table 1. **Screening and confirmatory testing for patients presenting with ALF.**

*The critical importance of a detailed history and physical exam and standard biochemistries is implied for all etiologies.

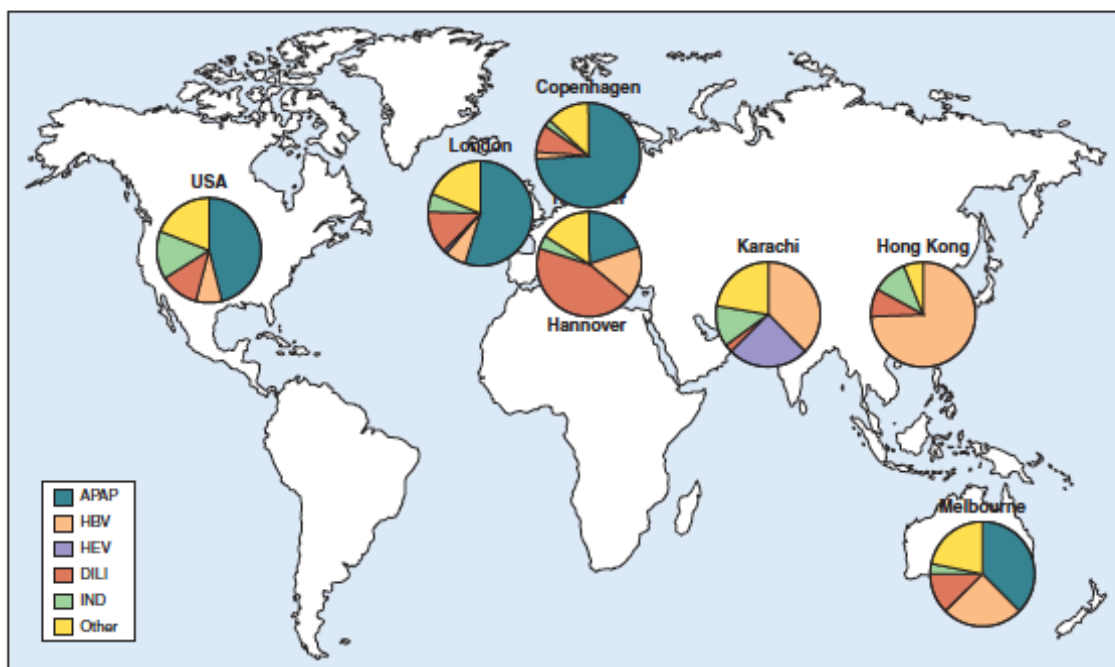
AFLP, acute fatty liver of pregnancy; ANA, antinuclear antibodies; ASMA, anti-smooth muscle antibodies; hGC, human chorionic gonadotropin; HELLP, hemolysis-elevated liver enzyme-low platelet syndrome; HEV, hepatitis E virus.

Etiology	Potential Treatment	Comments/References
Pregnancy-Associated ALF	Delivery	Generally effective but may progress to ALF after delivery ^{3,4,5}
Hepatitis B Virus	Lamivudine, other nucleos(t)ide analogues	Negative randomized, controlled study ⁶
Herpes Simplex Virus	Acyclovir	Anecdotal response, overall very poor prognosis ⁷
Amanita phalloides (mushrooms)	Silibinin, penicillin	Anecdotal responses ^{8,9}
Autoimmune-ALF	Corticosteroids	Anecdotal response, but series suggest limited benefit. ¹⁰ May increase peri-transplant sepsis. ¹¹

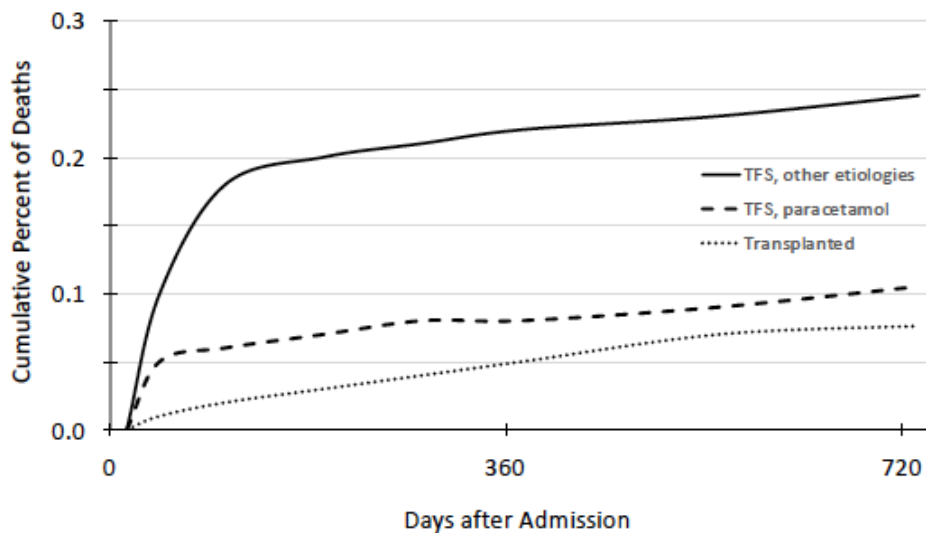
Appendix Table 2. **Etiology-specific treatments of non-paracetamol-induced ALF.** *N*-acetylcysteine may be used in adults for non-paracetamol ALF, based on at least one randomized trial.¹²

<p>Prophylaxis</p>	<p>Elevate head-of-bed 30°</p> <p>Maintain neck in neutral rotation</p> <p>Allow spontaneous hyperventilation (PCO₂ ~25mmHg)¹³</p> <p>Allow spontaneous hypothermia (34-36°C)</p> <p>Induce mild hypernatremia to [Na] 145-155 mEq/L¹⁴</p>
<p>Treatment: First-line therapy</p>	<p>Mannitol (0.5-1.0 gm/kg body weight IV)¹⁵</p> <p>Hypertonic saline boluses¹⁶</p> <p>Continuous renal replacement therapy¹⁷</p>
<p>Treatment: Rescue therapy</p>	<p>Additional mannitol boluses</p> <p>Deeper sedation/Barbiturate coma¹⁸</p> <p>Therapeutic hypothermia (32-34°C)¹⁹</p> <p>Indomethacin (25 mg bolus IV)²⁰</p>

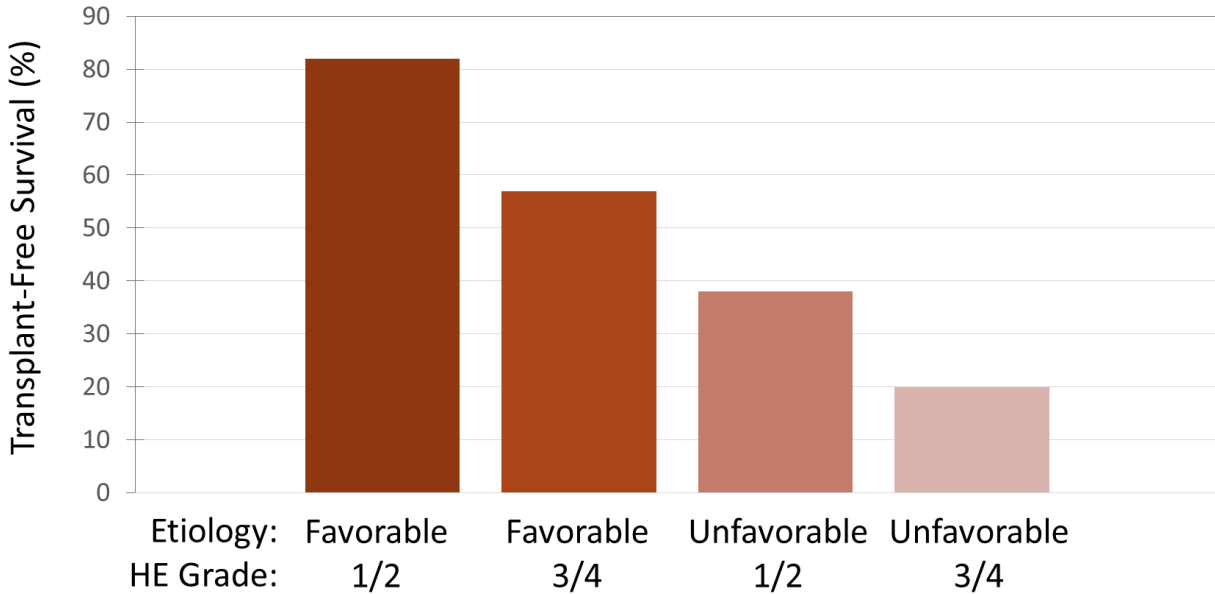
Appendix Table 3. **Prophylaxis against, and treatment of, cerebral edema in patients with ALF.** The use of intravenous indomethacin, which is not available in the US, is not discussed in the text.²⁰



Appendix Figure 1. **Differences in etiology of acute liver failure worldwide.** While DILI and paracetamol dominate in the West, hepatitis B and E are prevalent in South Asia, hepatitis B in Asia and a blend of East and West in Australia (Reprinted with permission from Appendix reference 21).



Appendix Figure 2. **Mortality in long-term follow-up of patients in the ALF Study Group Registry.** Actuarial 2-year mortality among 773 patients with acute liver failure who survived 21 days after admission to the ALF Study Group Registry. Liver transplant recipients (dotted line) had the lowest 2-year mortality (7.6%) compared to non-transplanted survivors of paracetamol overdose (dashed line; 10.5%) or non-transplanted survivors of non-paracetamol acute liver failure (solid line; 25.0%, $P < 0.0001$) (adapted from Appendix reference 22, with permission). (TFS, transplant-free survivors at 21 days of admission).



Appendix Figure 3. Transplant-free survival at 21 days after enrollment into the ALF Study Group Registry: Relationship of outcome to etiology of liver injury and grade of hepatic encephalopathy on admission. Data from the ALF Study Group Registry.²³

Favorable etiologies are those with higher spontaneous (transplant-free) survival, generally well above 50% and include paracetamol overdose, ischemia, hepatitis A, and pregnancy-associated acute liver failure. Unfavorable etiologies include acute liver failure due to all other causes and carry transplant-free survival rates < 25% (Table 1). HE, hepatic encephalopathy.



Appendix Figure 4. **Screen shot of the application for determining ALF Prognosis using the ALFSG Prognostic Index, predicting the likelihood of survival without transplantation, appendix reference 23.** The first three determinants are binary (yes/no) with the favorable and unfavorable etiologies listed on the pull-down menu. The last two are numerical values.



Appendix Figure 5. Screenshot of the application for determining ALF Prognosis using the ALFSG Prognostic Index,²³ predicting the likelihood of survival without transplantation. The calculations used and the reference is shown on the left and an example of use of the app is on the right.

Appendix References

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