

Question 44 – June 8

Which of the following is true with regards to drug induced liver injury (DILI) in women?

- A. There is some support to suggest that women are slightly at a higher risk for DILI.
- B. The classic picture of DILI caused by certain medications such as minocycline and diclofenac is cholestatic-predominant hepatitis.
- C. Hepatotoxicity due to the antiviral nevirapine is more common in women, especially in those with lower CD4 counts.
- D. There is no evidence to suggest that pregnancy by itself increases the susceptibility to DILI.

Answer: D.

There is no evidence to suggest that women are at a higher risk for “ all-cause DILI ” (i.e., DILI caused by any type of agent), but they appear to be at a higher risk of liver injury caused by certain medications such as minocycline, methyldopa, diclofenac, nitrofurantoin, and nevirapine. The typical signature of DILI caused by minocycline, methyldopa, diclofenac, and nitrofurantoin is chronic hepatitis resembling autoimmune hepatitis with female preponderance. Hepatotoxicity due to nevirapine is also more common in women, especially those with higher CD4 + cell count. There is no evidence to suggest that pregnancy by itself increases the susceptibility to DILI to any agents other than tetracycline.