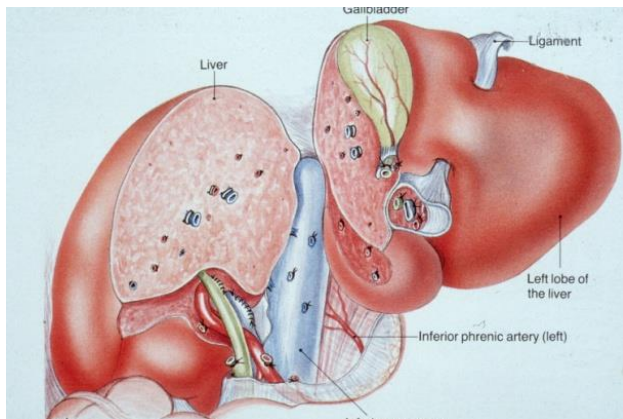


# 1<sup>st</sup> Maastricht E-AHPBA Post-Graduate HPB Course

## Assessment of Hepatic Volume and Function



Thomas van Gulik  
Dept. of Surgery  
Academic Medical Center  
University of Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

Disclosure of speaker's interests	
<b>(Potential) conflict of interest</b>	<b><span style="border: 1px solid red;">None</span>/See below</b>
<b>Potentially relevant company relationships in connection with event<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Company names</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsorship or research funding<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Fee or other (financial) payment<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Shareholder<sup>4</sup></li> <li>• Other relationship, i.e. ...<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>

# Assessment of hepatic volume and function

- The single most important determinant of mortality after liver resection is postresectional liver failure (Reported mortality up to 90%)

*Van den Broek et al, Liv Int 2008*

*Kauffmann R, Fong Y, Hepatobiliary Surg Nutr 2014*



# Assessment of hepatic volume and function

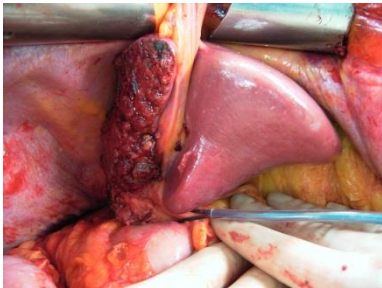
- The single most important determinant of mortality after liver resection is postresectional liver failure (Reported mortality up to 90%)
- Too small liver remnant  
Too little volume (= function?)

HOW TO ASSESS?

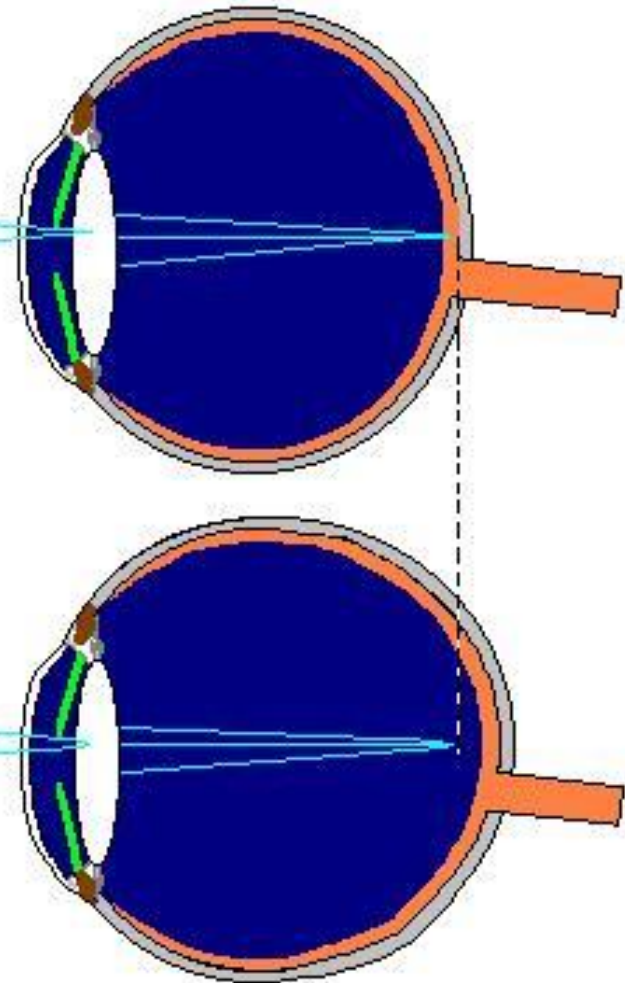
# Eyeball assessment



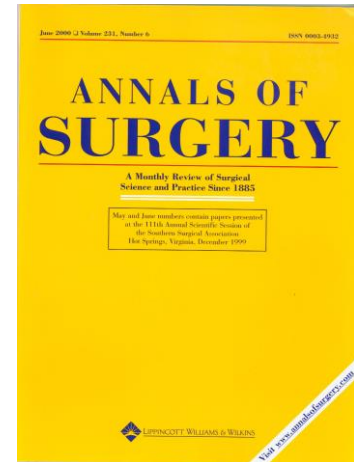
Liver remnant on CT



Liver remnant after resection



*Annals of Surgery* **2002**; 236(4):397-407



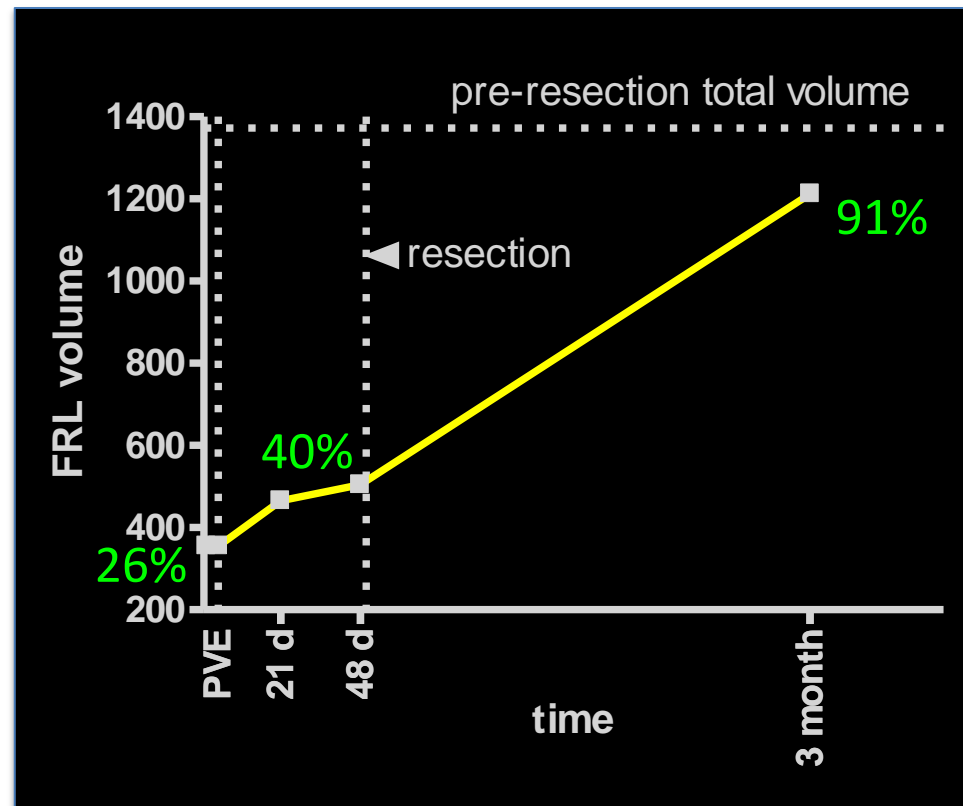
## Improvement in Perioperative Outcome After Hepatic Resection Analysis of **1,803** Consecutive Cases Over the Past Decade

*William R. Jarnagin, Mithat Gonen, Yuman Fong, Ronald P. DeMatteo, Leah Ben-Porat, Sarah Little, Carlos Corvera, Sharon Weber, Leslie H. Blumgart.*

*The number of hepatic segments resected and operative blood loss were the only predictors of both perioperative **morbidity (45%)** and **mortality (3.1%)***

# Volumetric studies

- CT-volumetry (FRLV)
- Standardized FRLV (BSA)
- FRL/body weight ratio (0.5%)



Remnant liver volume 1240cc

*Truant et al, J Am Coll Surg 2007*

*Kishi et al, Ann Surg 2009*

*vd Esschert et al, J Gastrointest Surg 2009*

# Standardized FRL volume

RLV (measured by CT volumetry)

---

TLV (based on BSA or body weight)

$TLV = -794.41 + 1,267.28 \times BSA \text{ (square meters)}$

$TLV = 191.80 + 18.51 \times \text{weight (kilograms)}$

*Vauthey et al, Surgery, 2000*

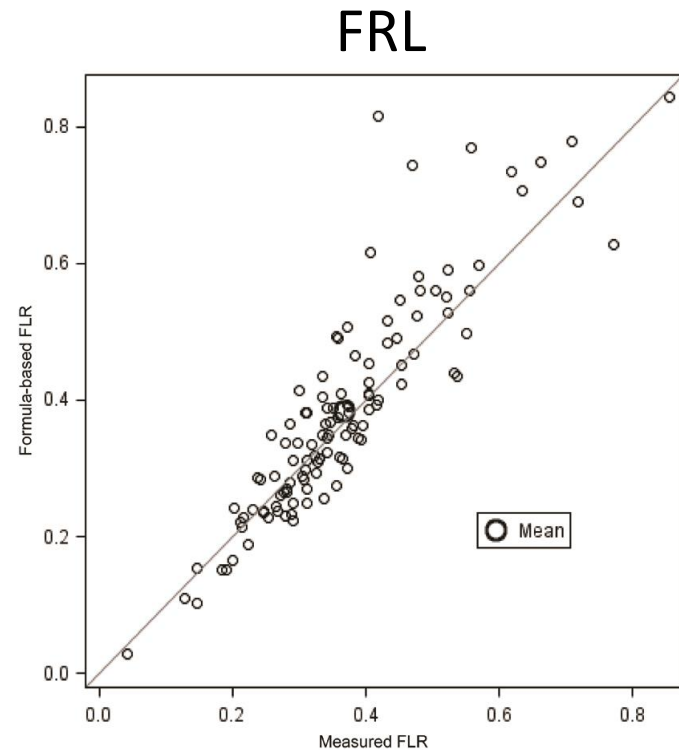
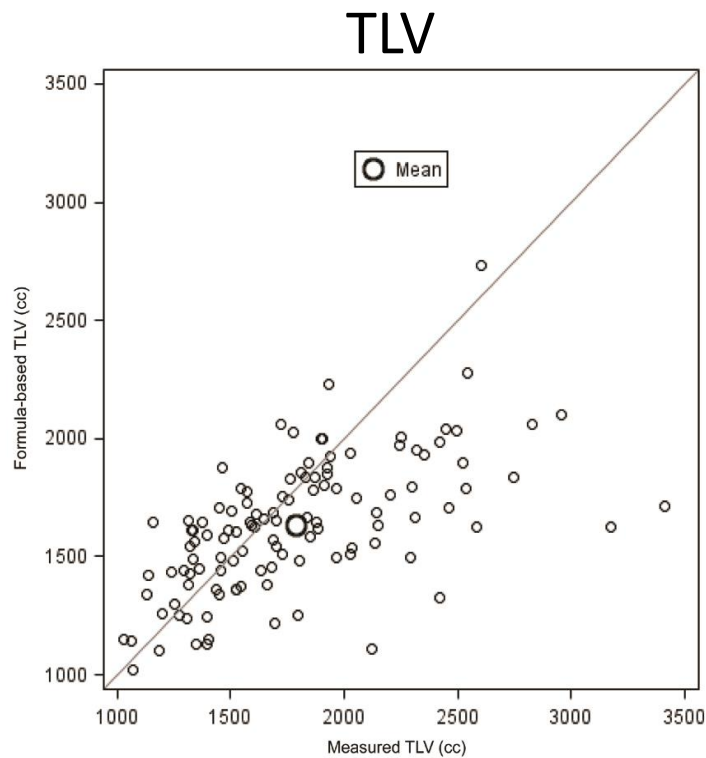
*Vauthey et al, Liver Transplantation, 2002*

*Abdalla, Arch Surg, 2002*

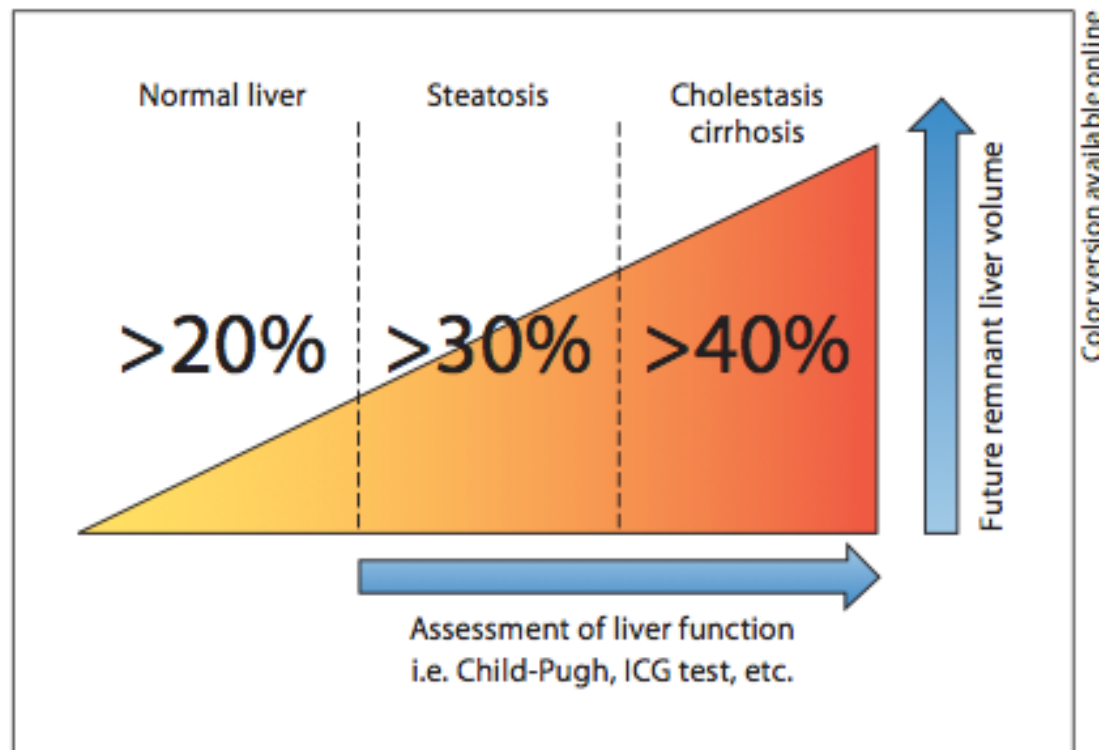


# Measured vs standardized FRL volume

116 patients

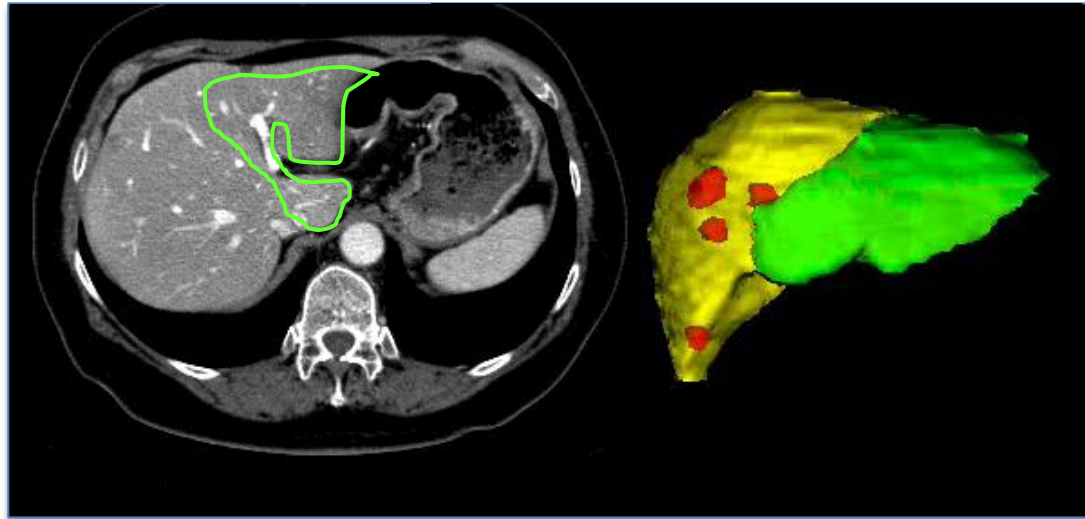


# Volumetric studies



HOW MUCH DO WE NEED? > 20-30%?

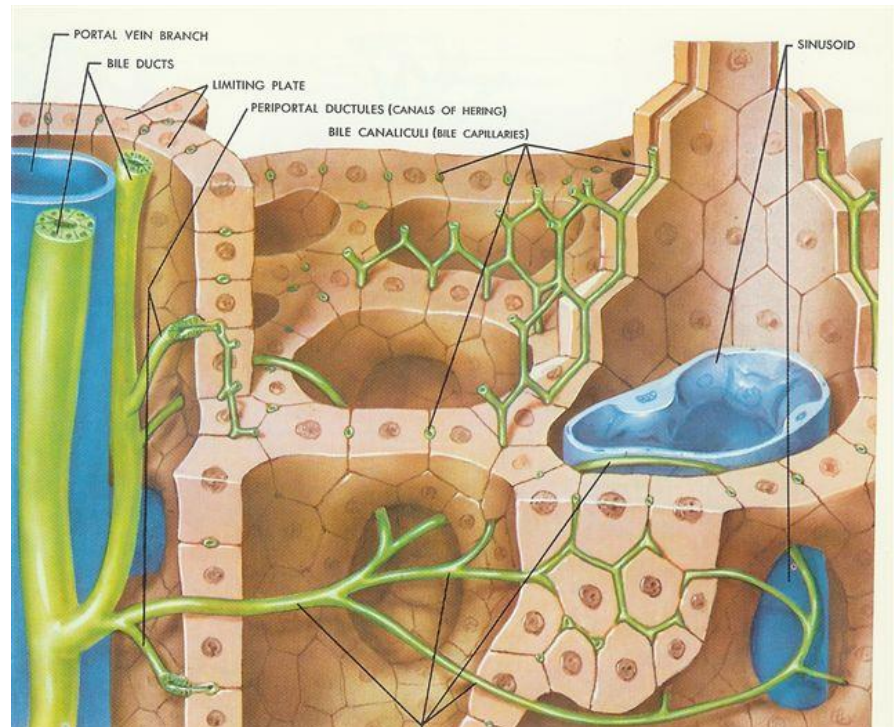
# Assessment of hepatic volume and function



Volume  $\neq$  Function

# Liver function

- | Uptake
- | Synthesis
- | Biotransformation
- | Excretion



*Hoekstra et al, Ann Surg 2012*  
*Cieslak et al, DigSurg 2014*

# Assessment of hepatic volume and function

- There is not one single test that can predict all liver functions

Conventional tests	Function and/or event measured
Serum bilirubin	Uptake, conjugation, excretion
Serum bile acids	Excretion, shunting
Alkaline phosphatase	Cholestasis
Gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase	Cholestasis, enzyme induction, alcohol abuse
Transaminases	Necrosis
Coagulation factors, prothrombin time	Synthesis
Albumin	Synthesis, loss
Quantitative tests	Function tested
Aminopyrine breath test	Microsomal function
Antipyrine clearance	Microsomal function
Caffeine clearance	Microsomal function
Lidocaine clearance (MEGX)	Microsomal function
Methacetin breath test	Microsomal function
Galactose elimination capacity (GEC)	Cytosolic function
Low-dose galactose clearance	Hepatic perfusion (liver blood flow)
Sorbitol clearance	Hepatic perfusion (liver blood flow)
Indocyanine green disappearance	Hepatic perfusion, anion excretion
Albumin synthesis	Synthetic function
Urea synthesis	Synthetic function
<sup>99m</sup> Tc-GSA	Functional hepatocyte mass

*Hoekstra et al, Ann Surg 2012*

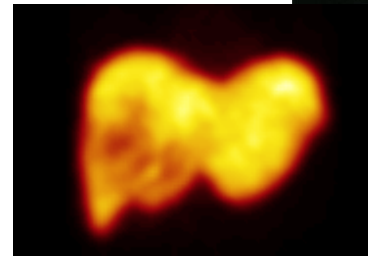
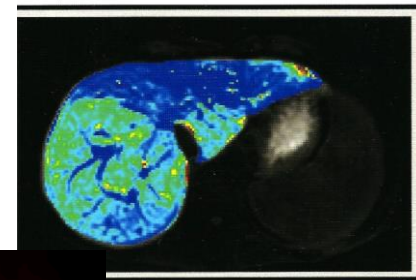
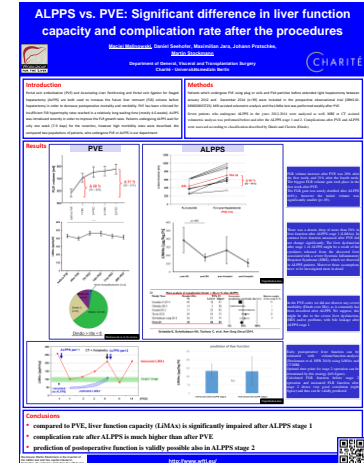
*Cieslak et al, DigSurg 2014*

# Quantitative biochemical tests

- | ICG clearance test (hepatic perfusion)
- | Galactose elimination test (hepatic cell mass)
- | Caffeine elimination test (cytochrome P450 activity)
- | Amino acid clearance (protein synthesis)
- | Aminopyrine breath test (cytochrome P450 activity)
- | Lidocaine elimination test (MEGX test)

# Quantitative liver function tests

- ICG clearance test  
*Lau et al, BJS 97*
- Limax test (Aminopyrine breath test)  
*Stockmann et al, HPB 2010*
- Functional imaging using MRI  
*Nilsson, B J Rad 2013*
- Scintigraphic methods  
*De Graaf et al, J Nucl Med 2010*



# Indocyanine green (ICG) clearance test

- | ICG tricarbocyanine dye that binds to albumin and alpha-1-lipoproteins
- | Uptake by OATP:  
organic anion transporting polypeptide
- | Excretion through MRP2:  
multidrug resistance related protein
- | Determined by blood sampling or  
pulsed spectrophotometry
- | Safe clearance values: ICG C-15 > 86%



The ICG clearance test is the best discriminating preoperative test for evaluating hepatic functional reserve in patients with HCC

*H Lau et al, BJS, 1997*

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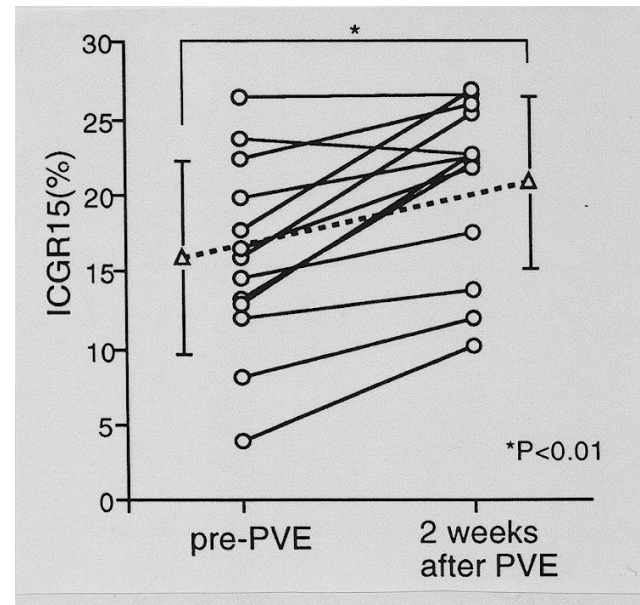
### Drawbacks:

- | Influence of hepatic bloodflow
- | Regional variations within the liver are not detected
- | Influence of hyperbilirubinemia

# Influence of hepatic bloodflow on ICG clearance

- | ICG-15 clearance test worsened at 2 weeks after portal vein embolization (PVE)

*Wakabayashi H, Jpn J Surg, 1997*



- | Return to baseline values 6-8 weeks after PVE

# Scintigraphic imaging studies

- | Provides simultaneous morphologic (visual) and physiologic (functional) information
- | Defines regional hepatic function
- | Dynamic SPECT allows measurement of functional volume of the liver
- | Two phases: hepatic uptake and excretion

# Liver scintigraphic studies

- | Tc-99m-galactosyl serum albumin (GSA)  
binds to asialoglycoprotein receptors
  - relation with hepatocyte cell mass?
  - influence of hepatic bloodflow?
  - no biliary excretion phase
  - availability of radiopharmaceutical?
- | Tc-99m-colloid Kupffer cell mass
- | Tc-99m-IDA (Mebrofenin)

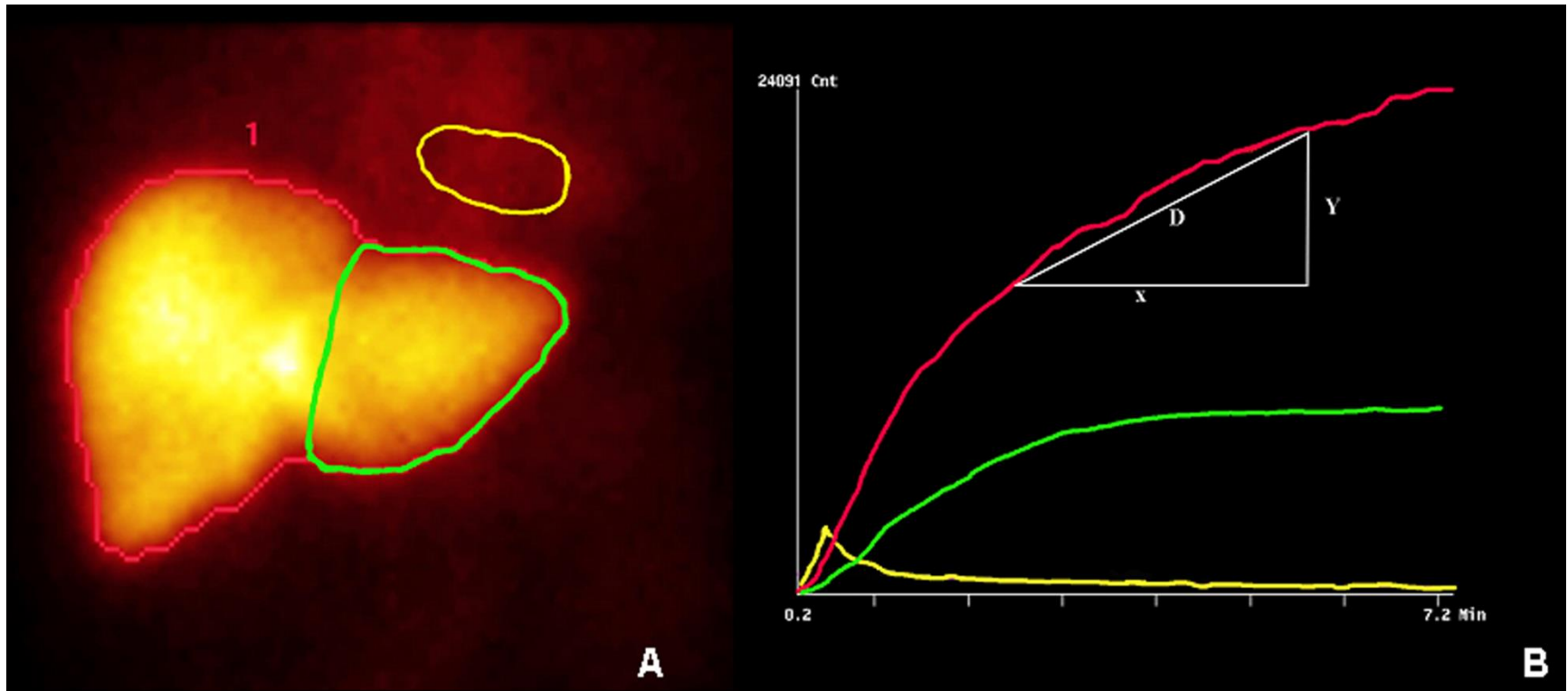
# $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin HBS

## Mebrofenin

- Iminodiacetic acid (IDA) analogue
- Uptake exclusively in the liver
- Hepatic transport similar to organic anions and to ICG
- Mebrofenin is excreted in the bile canaliculi

# Functional hepato-biliary scintigraphy

## $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin



Liver uptake:  
% Tc-mebrofenin/min  
*Hoekstra et al, Ann Surg 2012*

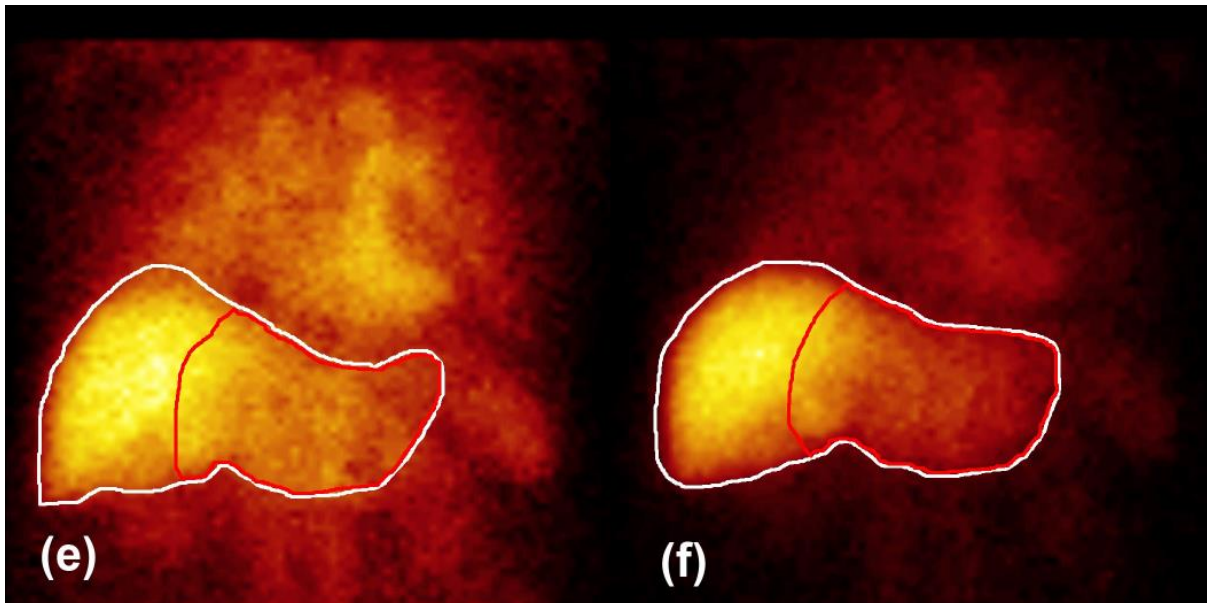
Parameters:

- total liver function
- FRL function

# Functional hepato-biliary scintigraphy

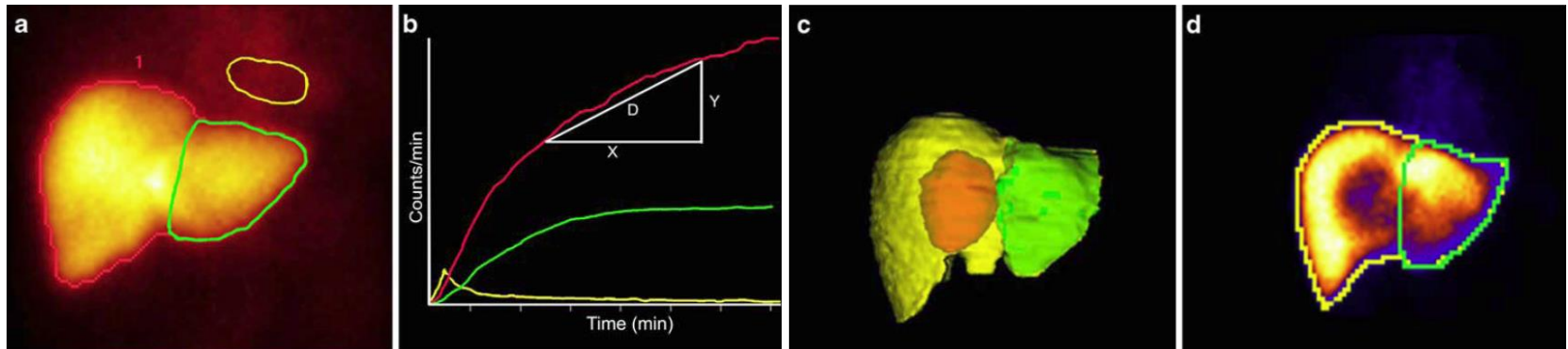
## $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin

Biliary excretion phase represents  
the run-off of bile to the gut



# Hepatobiliary scintigraphy

- | In the uptake phase:  
provides simultaneous regional and functional information
- | In the excretion phase:  
defines the quality of biliary drainage

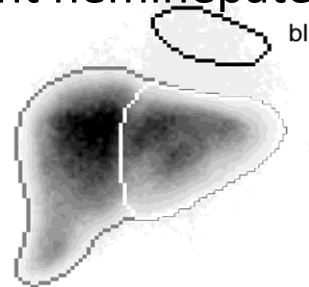




n=15

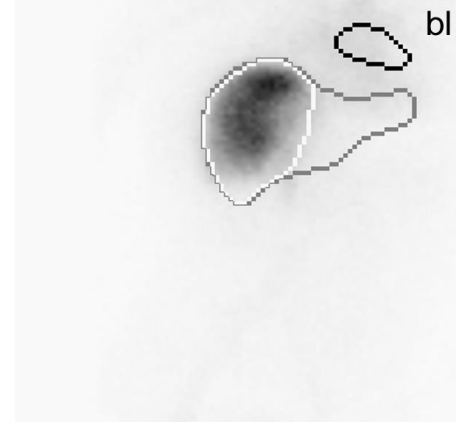
Pre-operative

A Right hemihepatectomy



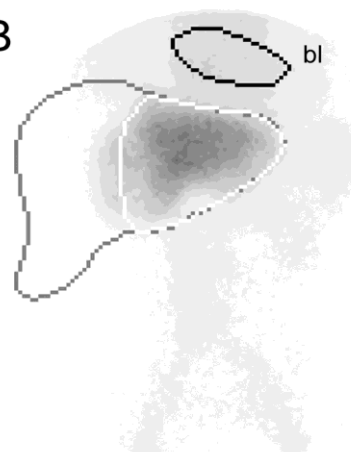
Left hemihepatectomy

B



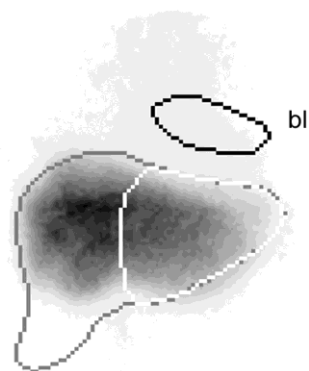
Post-operative day1

B

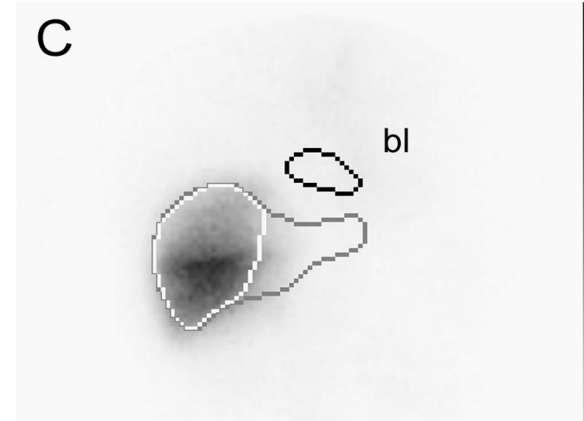


Post-operative month 3

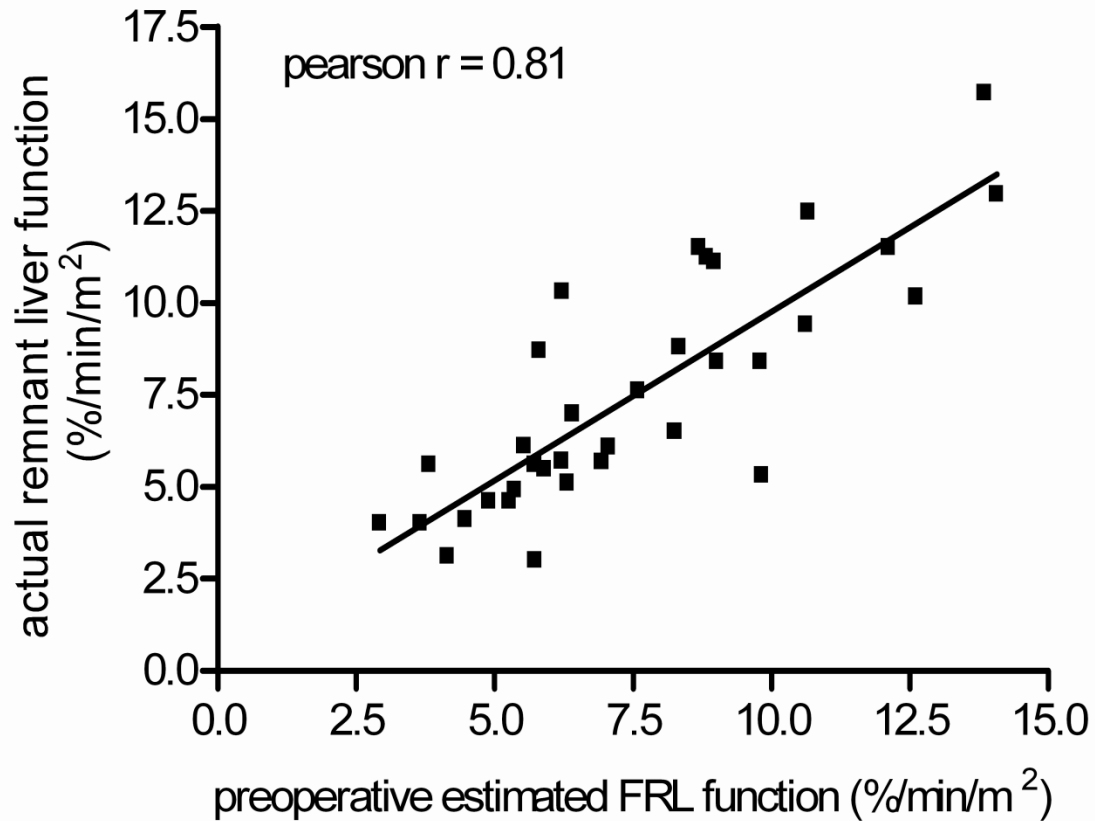
C



C



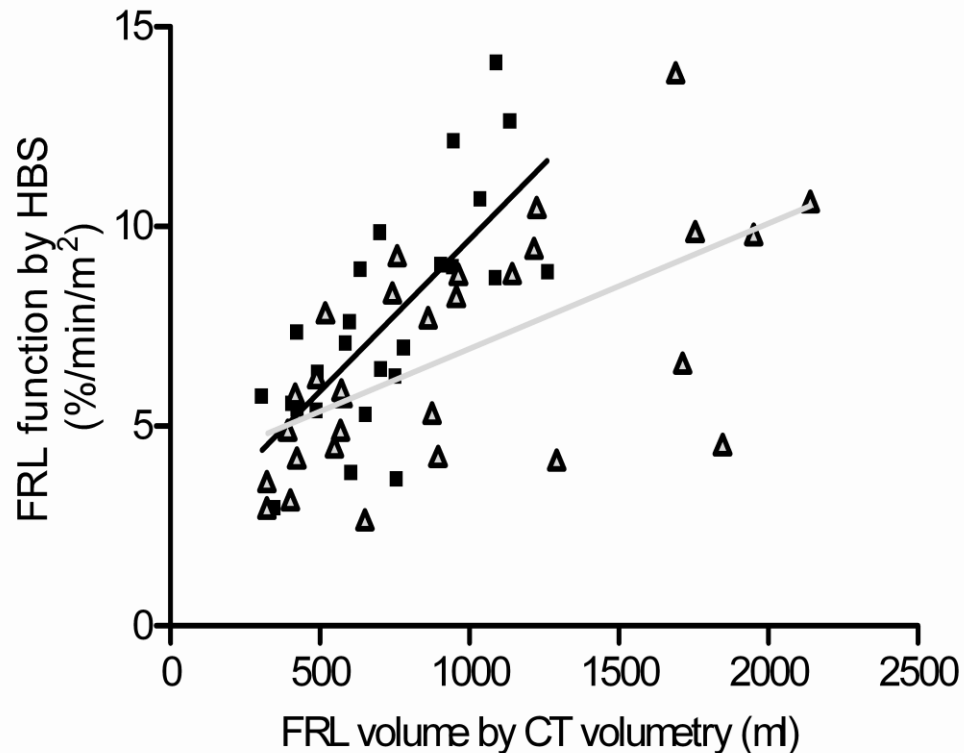
# Dynamic $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin HBS



Pearson  $r=0.81$ ,  $p<0.0001$ ,  $n=33$ )

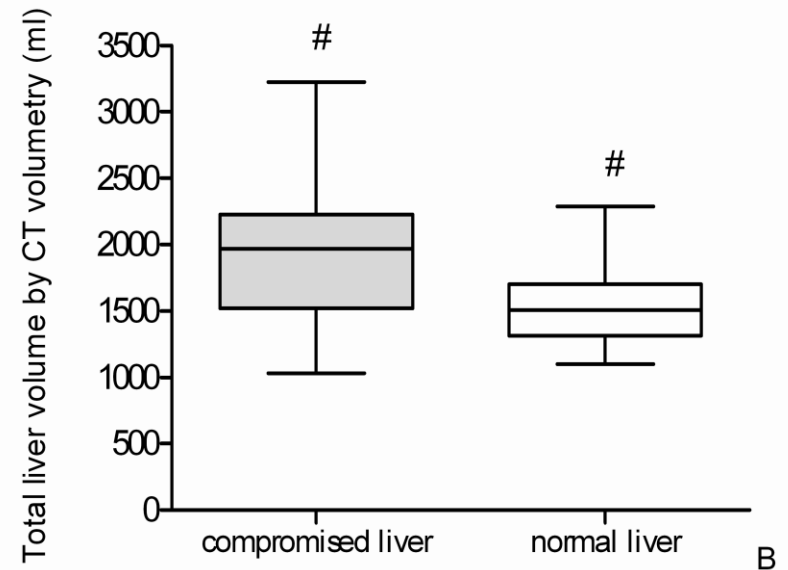
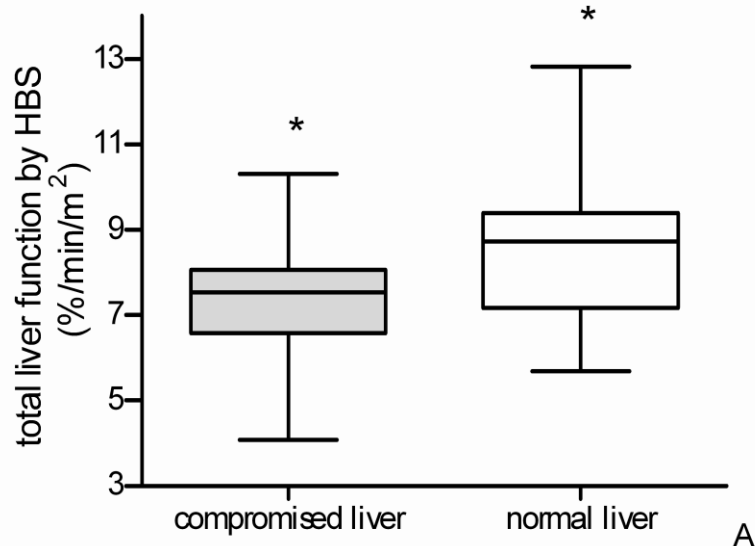
*Bennink et al, J Nucl Med 2004*

# FRL function vs FRL volume



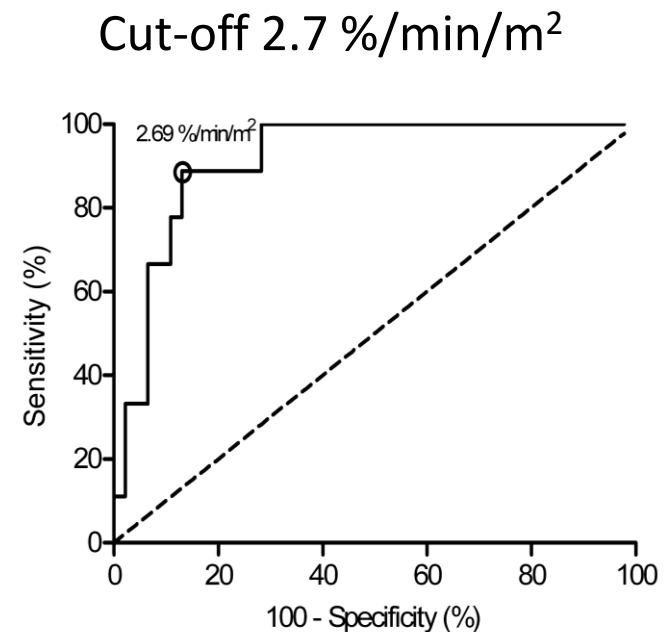
Normal patients (black line): Pearson  $r = 0.71$ ,  $p = 0.0001$   
Compromised patients (grey line): Pearson  $r = 0.61$ ,  $p < 0.0003$

# Dynamic $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin HBS



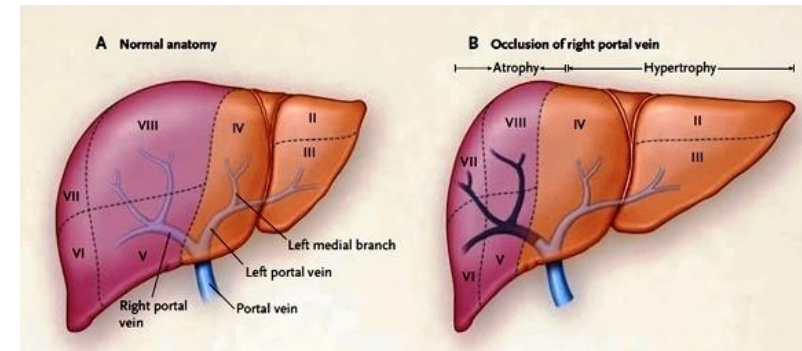
# Preoperative prediction of postoperative liver failure in 55 patients undergoing major liver resection

Outcome parameter	FRL function	FRL/TLV ratio	Standardized FRL
Cut-off value	2.69 %/min/m <sup>2</sup>	Normal liver < 30% Compromised liver < 40%	Normal liver < 30% Compromised liver < 40%
Sensitivity	89%	78%	67 %
Specificity	87%	80%	87 %
PPV	57%	44%	50 %
NPV	98%	95%	93 %
LR+	6.8	4.0	5.1
LR-	0.12	0.19	0.38



# Modulation of future remnant liver (FRL)

- Portal vein embolization (PVE)
- Portal vein ligation (PVL)
- PVL in combination with two-stage procedure
- PVL in combination with *in situ* liver split – ALPPS (Associating liver partition with portal vein ligation for staged hepatectomy)

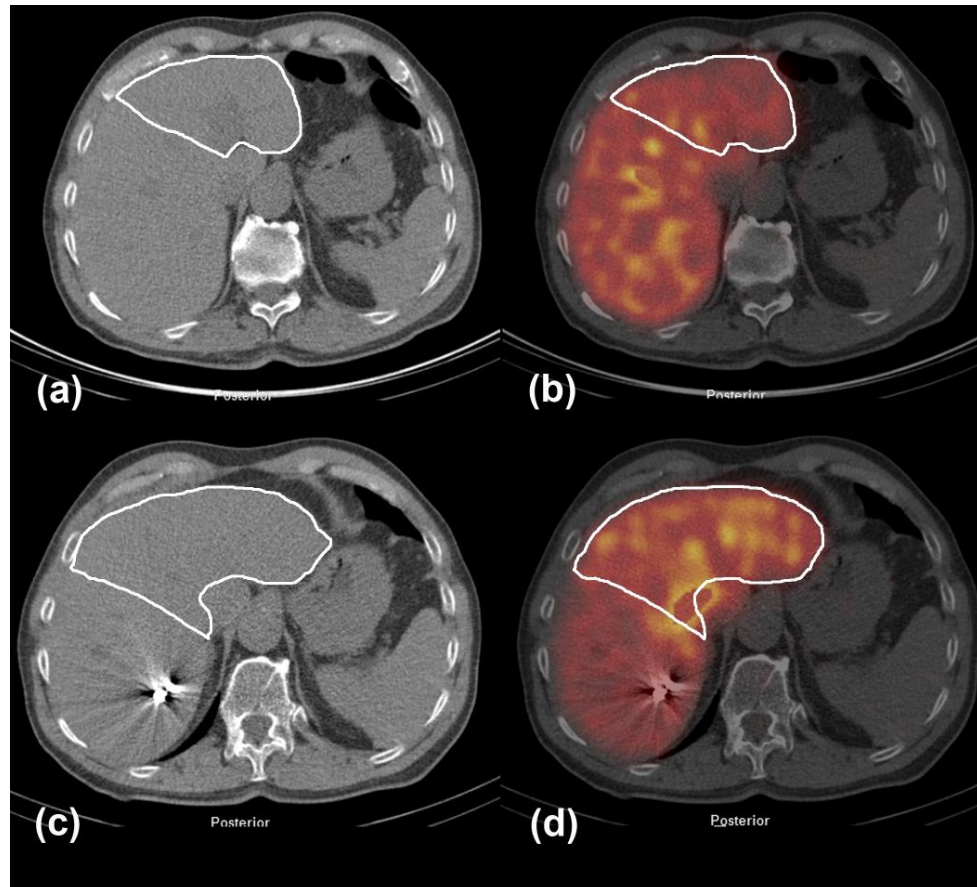


# Hepatic volume and function in PVE

**Table 2** Results of the (first) preoperative FRL assessment using CT-volumetry and  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin hepatobiliary scintigraphy with SPECT-CT **163 patients undergoing major liver resection (>3 segments)**

	<b>FRL-volume, % (IQR 25-75)</b>	<b>FRL-function, %/min/m<sup>2</sup> (IQR 25-75)</b>	<b>Standardized FRL- volume, % (IQR 25-75)</b>	<b>FRL-BWR <math>\geq 0.5\%</math> weight, <i>n</i> (%)</b>
All patients, ( <i>n</i> = 163)	49.3 (37.3 – 70.1)	4.6 (3.3 – 6.39)	54.3 (38.9 – 77.9)	161 (98.8)
PVE patients, ( <i>n</i> = 29)	23.7 (18.7 – 27.8) <b>21 pts</b>	1.93 (1.5 – 2.36) <b>29 pts</b>	24.5 (18.3 – 29.4) <b>18 pts</b>	16 (55.2) <b>13 pts</b>
Non-PVE patients, ( <i>n</i> = 134)	53.9 (37.4 – 73.5)	5.00 (3.49 – 7.10)	57.2 (41.6 – 79.7)	133 (99.3)
FRL, future remnant liver; FRL-volume, percentage FRL of the total liver volume; FRL-BWR, future remnant liver/body weight ratio; PVE, portal vein embolization; IQR, interquartile range.				

# Hepatic volume and function in PVE

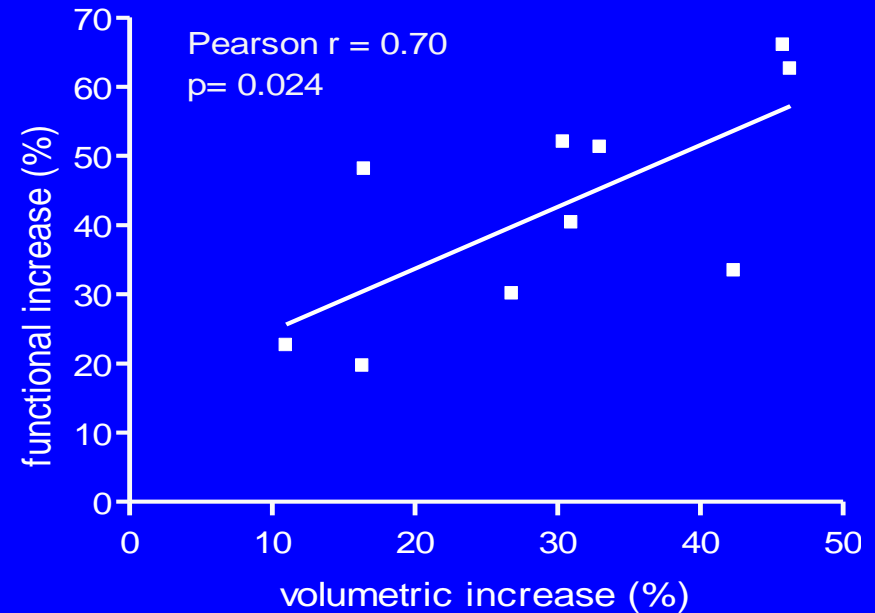
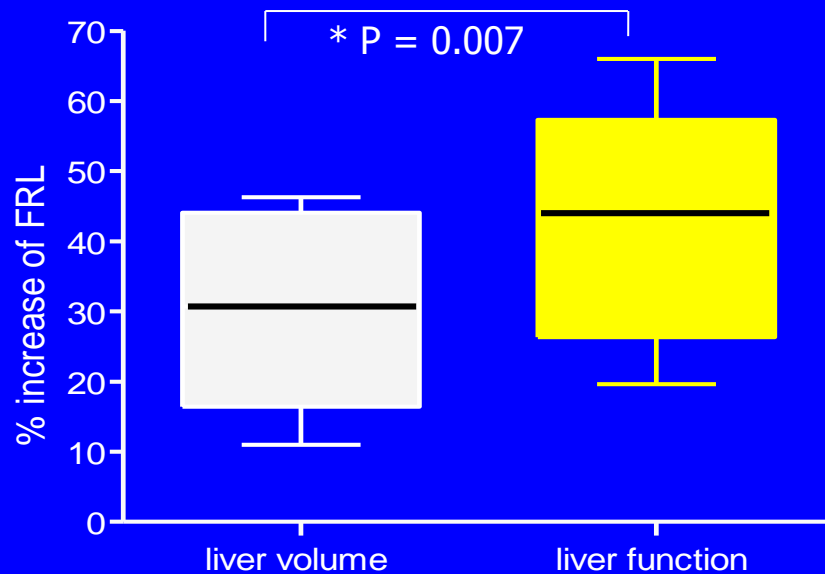


T=0

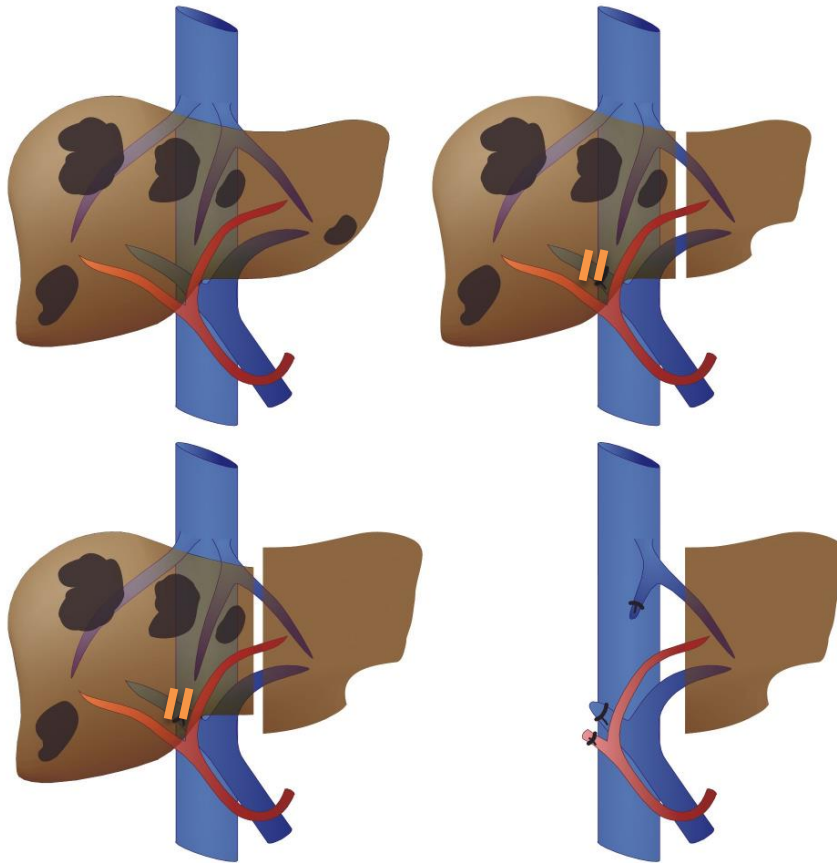
T=21d



# Increase of liver function ( $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -mebrofenin uptake) exceeds liver volume (CT) after PVE



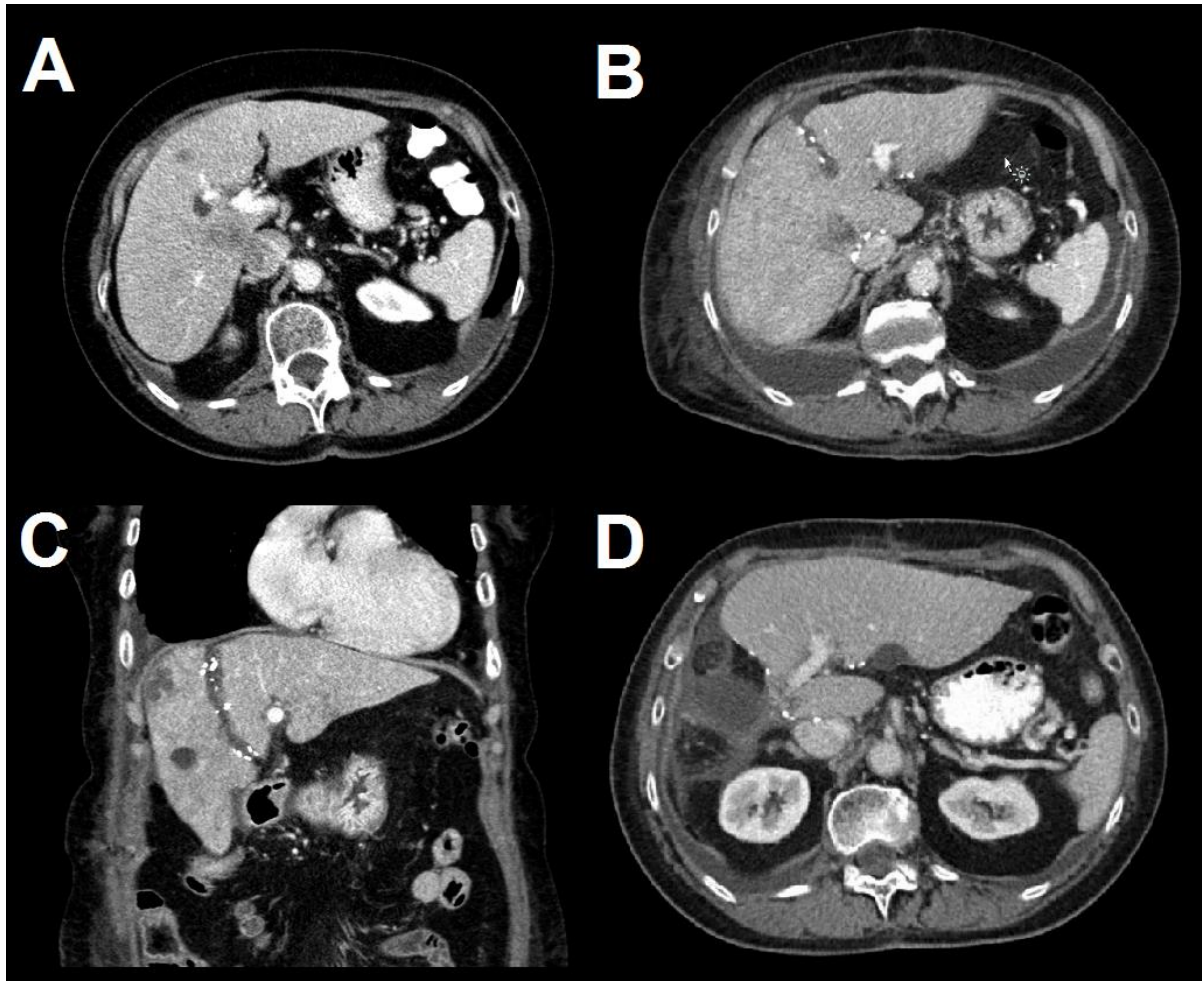
# Hepatic volume and function in ALPPS



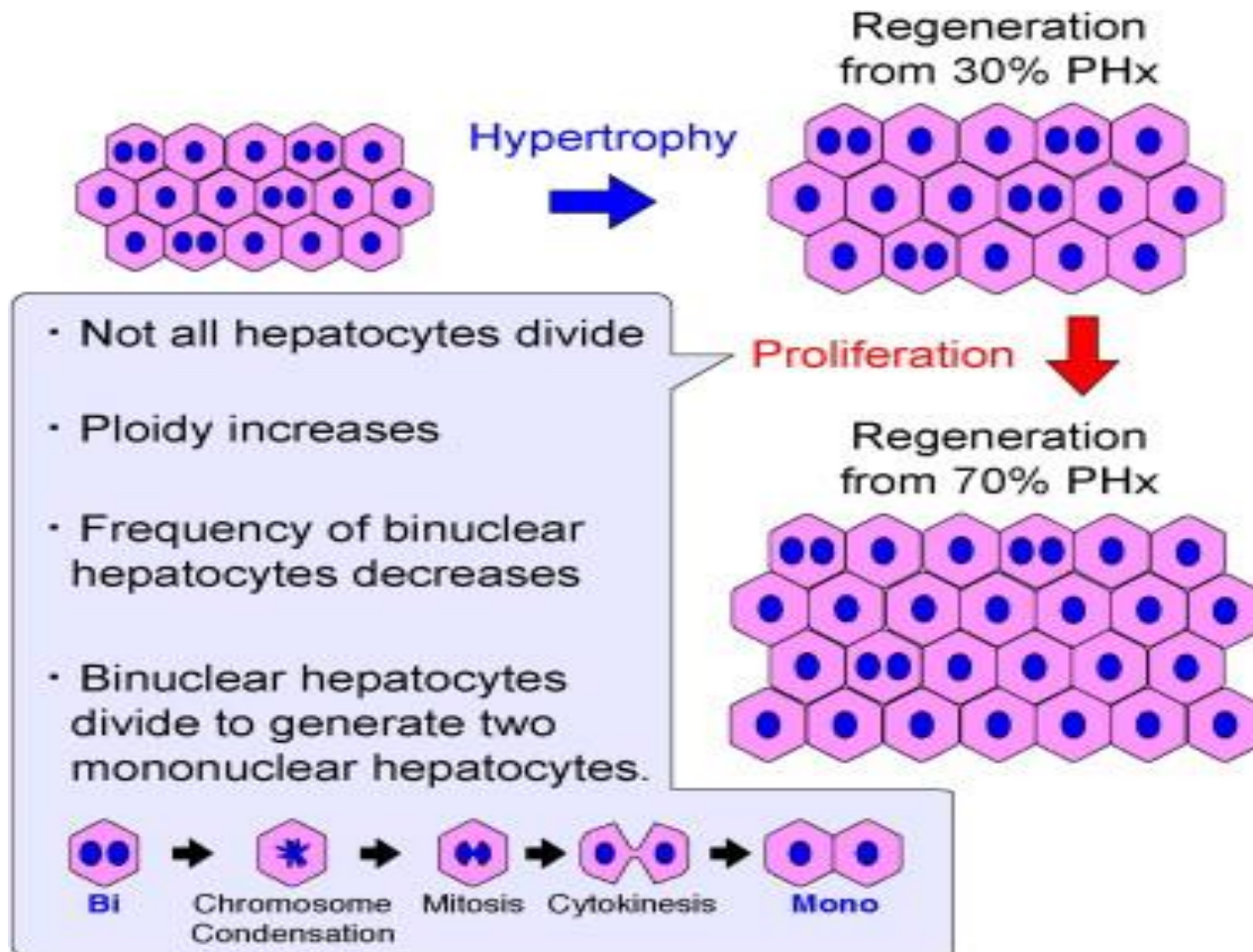
Association of Liver Partition  
and Portal vein ligation  
for Staged hepatectomy

*Schnitzbauer et al, Ann Surg 2012*

# In situ split-technique

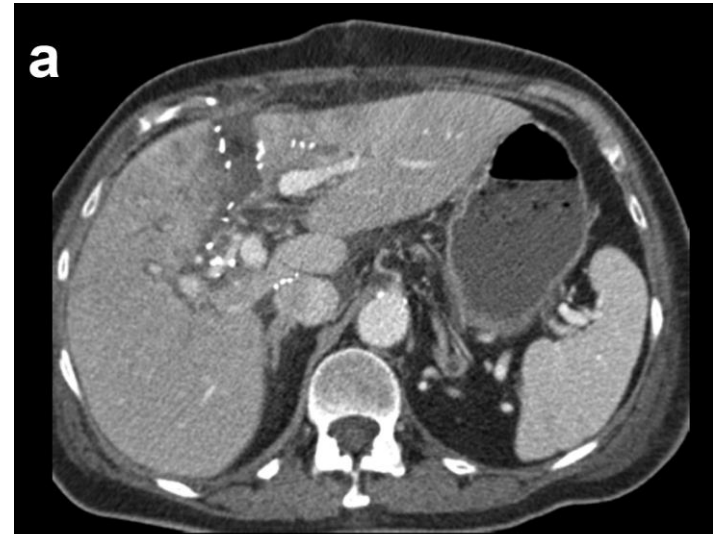


Hepatocellular hypertrophy → Hyperplasia → FRL hypertrophy



79-year-old patient with CLM  
ALPPS/ext right hemihepatectomy

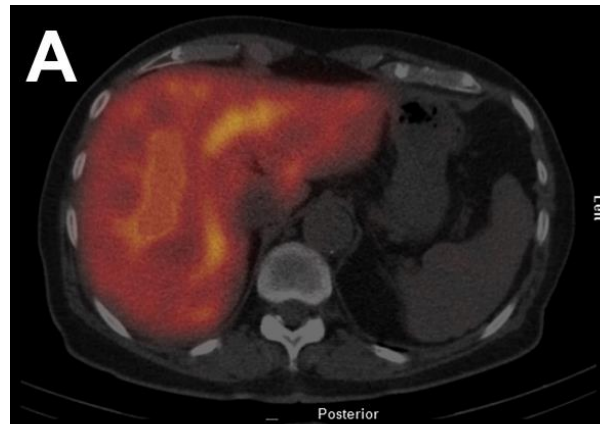
Stage I  
CT POD 3



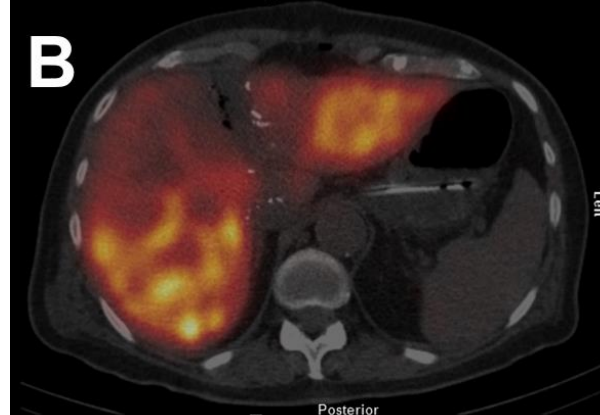
Stage II undertaken on POD 8  
CT POD 20



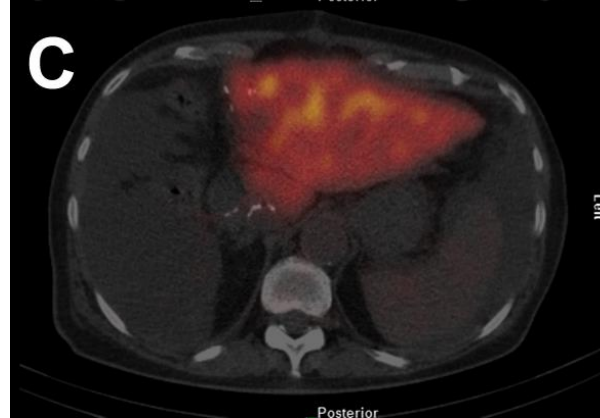
Baseline



Stage I POD 3



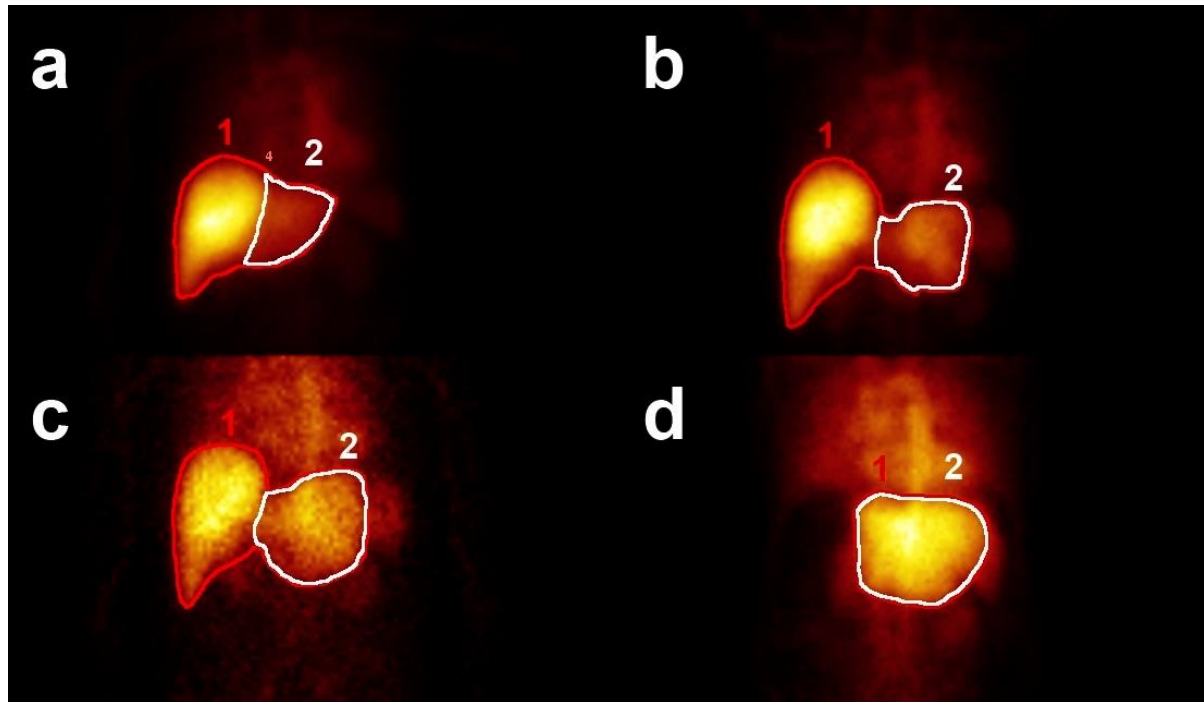
Stage II POD 8  
HBS POD 20





Baseline

Stage I POD 3



Stage I POD 8

Stage II POD 20

HBS  
Cut-off 2.7 %/min/m<sup>2</sup>

**TABLE 1.** Scintigraphic and volumetric measurements of the FRL in a patient who underwent ALPSS

Event	Total liver function [%/min]	FRL function [%/min]	Total liver volume [cm <sup>3</sup> ]	FRL volume [cm <sup>3</sup> ]	FRL volume [% of total liver volume]
Preoperative assessment	12.2	1.5	1204	236	19.6
1 <sup>st</sup> stage of ALPSS					
POD 3	13.3	2.0	1462	383	26.2
POD 8/POD 6	11.9	2.9	1554	412	26.5
2 <sup>nd</sup> stage of ALPSS					
POD 20	6.25	3.4		759	63.0*
ALPSS Associating Liver Partition and Portal vein Ligation for Staged hepatectomy, FRL future remnant liver, POD postoperative day; * expressed as percentage of the preoperative total liver volume					



# CONCLUSIONS (I)

- | CT volumetry is useful in patients with normal liver parenchyma
- | In compromised patients measurement of liver volume is preferably combined with a quantitative liver function test
- | The value of standardized CT volumetry (FRLV) and FRL/body weight ratio ( $>0.5\%$ ) needs further clinical assessment

## CONCLUSIONS (II)

- | ICG-15 clearance is the most widely used quantitative test but variability and discrepancies with clinical outcome have been reported
- | Hepatobiliary scintigraphy (HBS) enables “Functional imaging” providing simultaneous morphological and physiological information
- | Hepatobiliary scintigraphy shows regional (segmental) functional differences in the liver
- | Hepatobiliary scintigraphy provides information on quality of biliary drainage

# CONCLUSIONS (III)

- Hepatobiliary scintigraphic methods are particularly useful in timing of resection after PVE or ALPPS stage 1
  - earlier resection after PVE (3 weeks)
  - more reliable timing of ALPPS stage II (8-10 days)