

Symposium 1

Environmental factors in autoimmune liver disease (more specific but might appeal to people interested in immune

Environmental triggers (e.g. infections, xenobiotics etc) for liver disease have for a long time been suspected. The first such suggestion for an environmental trigger came from the work of Triger who identified a marked increase in the number of Primary biliary Cholestatic (PBC) patients in Sheffield (UK) if they lived in an area that received drinking water from one particular reservoir. More recent links have been made to the environment of the NE of the UK (a heavily coal mined area) and toxic waste sites in the New York area. Some of these effects may be modulated through autoimmune responses. This session will examine what is known and unknown in the area of environmental and autoimmune liver disease.

Title	Speaker	Institution
Introduction to Liver disease	Prof Fiona Oakley	University of Newcastle
Cell signalling in autoimmune liver disease	Dr Patricia Lalor	University of Birmingham
Immunological mechanisms underlying drug-induced liver diseases	Professor Guru Aithal	University of Nottingham
Environmental triggers of liver disease	Prof Matt Wright,	University of Newcastle