

LIVER

FAILURE / DISEASE

SYMPTOMS

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IMPORTANT

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The main symptoms of liver disease may include:

- **Jaundice** - This is the primary symptom of liver disease; and persistence of jaundice indicates that there is something wrong with the gall bladder or the liver. With jaundice, the colour of the skin turns pale yellow or orange. Additionally, the white part of the eye can also develop a yellow hue.
- **Digestion and Appetite** - One of the most common symptoms of liver disease is a serious reduction in appetite; which, in turn, results in weight loss. The situation can be exacerbated by incorrect metabolism of carbohydrates, proteins, and fats.
- **Light Coloration of Stools** - If the secretion of bile pigments is blocked because of an obstruction (e.g. gall stones, tumour, etc), the individual's stool reflects this as it becomes increasingly paler and lighter in colour. Irregular as well as irritable bowel movements also accompany liver or gall bladder disease.
- **Bloating and Distension** - The abdomen beneath the lower ribs on the right side may become distended because of the consequence of liver disease.
- **Polydypsia and Polyuria** - "Polydypsia" and "polyuria" respectively mean "excessive thirst" and "excessive and frequent urination". Although, these are common symptoms of many diseases, these are also indicators of liver disease.

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Other symptoms of liver disease may include:

- Headache
- Skin Problems
- Allergy
- Feeling of Dizziness
- Tinnitus
- Anaemia.
- Ticks, Spasms and Tremors
- Sudden Seizures
- Stroke
- Redness and itchiness of eyes
- Short temperedness and constant irritation
- Tension and pain in the back
- Hypochondriac pain
- Loss of flexibility of tendons and ligaments
- Depression
- Mood Swings

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Symptoms of actual liver failure Include:

Early symptoms of actual failure will depend on the underlying cause. However, the following symptoms are likely to be manifested:

- Jaundice.
- Brain disorders - because of waste products build up in the blood.
- Possible seizures.
- Drowsiness.
- Restlessness.
- Fatigue.
- Confusion.
- Impaired judgment.
- Disorientation.
- Inability to speak coherently.
- Pruritus - Severe itching, often of undamaged skin
- Easily bruised.
- Profuse bleeding when cut, and poor blood coagulation.
- Accumulation of large amounts of fluid in the [abdominal cavity](#)
- Coma.
- Death

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