Liver Specialist Kingston

Liver Specialist Kingston - The liver is an organ of the body which is necessary to perform various functions in the body, comprising detoxification, protein synthesis, and the production of biochemicals that are vital for digestion. The liver is required for the survival of the body. Liver dialysis can be used temporarily but there is no way to function for long term without a liver.

The jobs which the liver does, consists of plasma protein synthesis, glycogen storage, the decomposition of red blood cells, detoxification and hormone production. The liver sits below the diaphragm within the abdominal-pelvic part of the stomach. The liver is responsible for bile production. This is an alkaline compound that emulsifies lipids to aid in digestion. The tissues which make the liver are highly specialized. They regulate a large amount of high volume biochemical reactions, like for example the breakdown and synthesis of small and complex molecules.

Regeneration

The liver is rather unique in that it is capable of generating naturally. With as little as 25%, the liver can make a full regeneration into a whole liver. This is considered to be compensatory growth rather than true regeneration. Therefore, the liver's lobes which are taken out do not grow again, and the growth of the liver is a restoration of function and not original form. In true regeneration, both the original function and form are restored.

Diseases of the Liver

Since the liver supports practically every organ within the body and is vital to its survival, the liver is prone to different diseases, especially because of its multidimensional functions and its strategic location. Among the most common liver diseases consist of: cirrhosis, alcohol damage, fatty liver, hepatitis, A, B, C and E, cancer and tumors and damage due to heavy drug use, specially cancer drugs and acetaminophen, also called paracetamol.

Lots of sicknesses of the liver are accompanied by jaundice because the increased levels of bilirubin within the body will usually result from the breaking up of the haemoglobin of dead red blood cells. Normally, the liver gets rid of bilirubin from the blood and emits it through bile. Diseases which affect liver function will lead to derangement of these processes. Fortunately, the liver has a huge reserve capability and also a huge ability to regenerate. Normally, the liver just exhibits signs after extensive damage has happened.

Disease Symptoms

Classic liver damage symptoms include: dark urine when bilirubin mixes together with the urine, pale stools take place when the brown pigment stercobilin is absent from the stool. This pigment is derived from bilirubin metabolites that are produced in the liver. Jaundice is the yellow tinge on the skin or the white of the eyes which occurs where bilirubin deposits on the skin. This leads to an intense itching sensation which is the most common complaint by those suffering liver failure.

When there is a loss of nutrients, vitamins and minerals, excessive fatigue may happen. When the liver fails to produce albumin, swelling can occur in the abdomen, ankles and feet. Easy bleeding and bruising are other indications. Substances which help to prevent bleeding are produced in the liver, hence, when liver damage is present, these substances are no longer available and severe bleeding can result.