

GP Education

Topic: Liver Lesions

Interviewer: Dr Leslie Borrill, Leicester City GP and a Lead Appraiser

Interviewee: Dr Allister Grant, Consultant Hepatologist

Time: 11 minutes 26 seconds

Notes to accompany podcast:

GPs are encouraged to look carefully at ultrasound reports to decipher when to refer incidental abnormalities in the liver to secondary care.

Isolated liver lesions come in several forms. The most common liver lesions are:

- **Simple liver cysts** – these do not require further investigation or intervention unless they are large i.e. 10-15cms as they can stretch the capsule of the liver and cause pain. There is also a risk of bleeding.
- **Hemangiomas** – again these do not require further investigation or intervention unless they are large i.e. 10-15cms as they can stretch the capsule of the liver and cause pain. There is also a risk of bleeding.

When to Refer

Ultrasound reports which show a solid lesion in the liver require further investigation to determine if the isolated lesion is malignant or benign. If the lesion is benign, a MRI scan can be organised through UHL. Isolated solid lesions in young people should be referred even if there are no concerns.

