

## — Liver Health

The liver is one of the largest internal organs and is an important in your health. It is part of the digestive system and is connected to the small intestine by the bile duct. The liver is a multitasking organ, with many functions. Nearly all the blood that leaves the stomach and intestines passes through the liver for processing.

The liver is involved in these a group of body functions that include:

- Production of clotting factors, blood, proteins, bile, and greater than a thousand enzymes.
- Storage of energy from the food to provide fuel for muscles.
- Uses the cholesterol in the blood.
- Regulates the level of blood sugar and hormones in the body.
- Removes poisons such as drugs and alcohol from the blood.

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## Liver Enzymes and Function Tests

Liver Enzymes and Function tests are used to see how well your liver is working. Your liver is the largest organ inside your body and it helps your body digest food, store energy, and remove poisons.

There are many kinds of liver diseases. Viruses cause some of them, like hepatitis A, hepatitis B and hepatitis C. Others can be the result of drugs, poisons or drinking too much alcohol. If the liver forms scar tissue because of an illness, it's called cirrhosis. Jaundice, or yellowing of the skin, can be one sign of liver disease. Cancer can also affect the liver. You could also inherit a liver disease such as hemochromatosis.

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