Table 3

Laboratory test findings for some of the common causes of cirrhosis

Aetiology	Laboratory test findings	Specific treatments
Alcohol	AST:ALT >2 Raised γGT Raised MCV	Abstinence
Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease	Low HDL cholesterol Raised glucose Raised triglycerides	Low calorie diet, diet and exercise
Hepatitis B	HBsAg (+ve) HBV-DNA (+ve)	Antivirals
Hepatitis C	Anti-HCV HCV–RNA (+ve)	Antivirals
Autoimmune hepatitis	ANA (+ve) ASMA (+ve)	Prednisolone, azathioprine
Primary biliary cirrhosis	Cholestatic LFTs AMA (+ve)	Ursodeoxycholic acid
Primary sclerosing cholangitis	Cholestatic LFTs	
Haemochromatosis	Raised ferritin Transferring saturation index (> 45%) Raised liver iron content HFE gene mutation	Phlebotomy, deferoxamine
Wilson's disease	Low ceruloplasmin Low serum copper Raised 24-hour urine copper excretion	Penicillamine, zinc