

# Introduction to Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis

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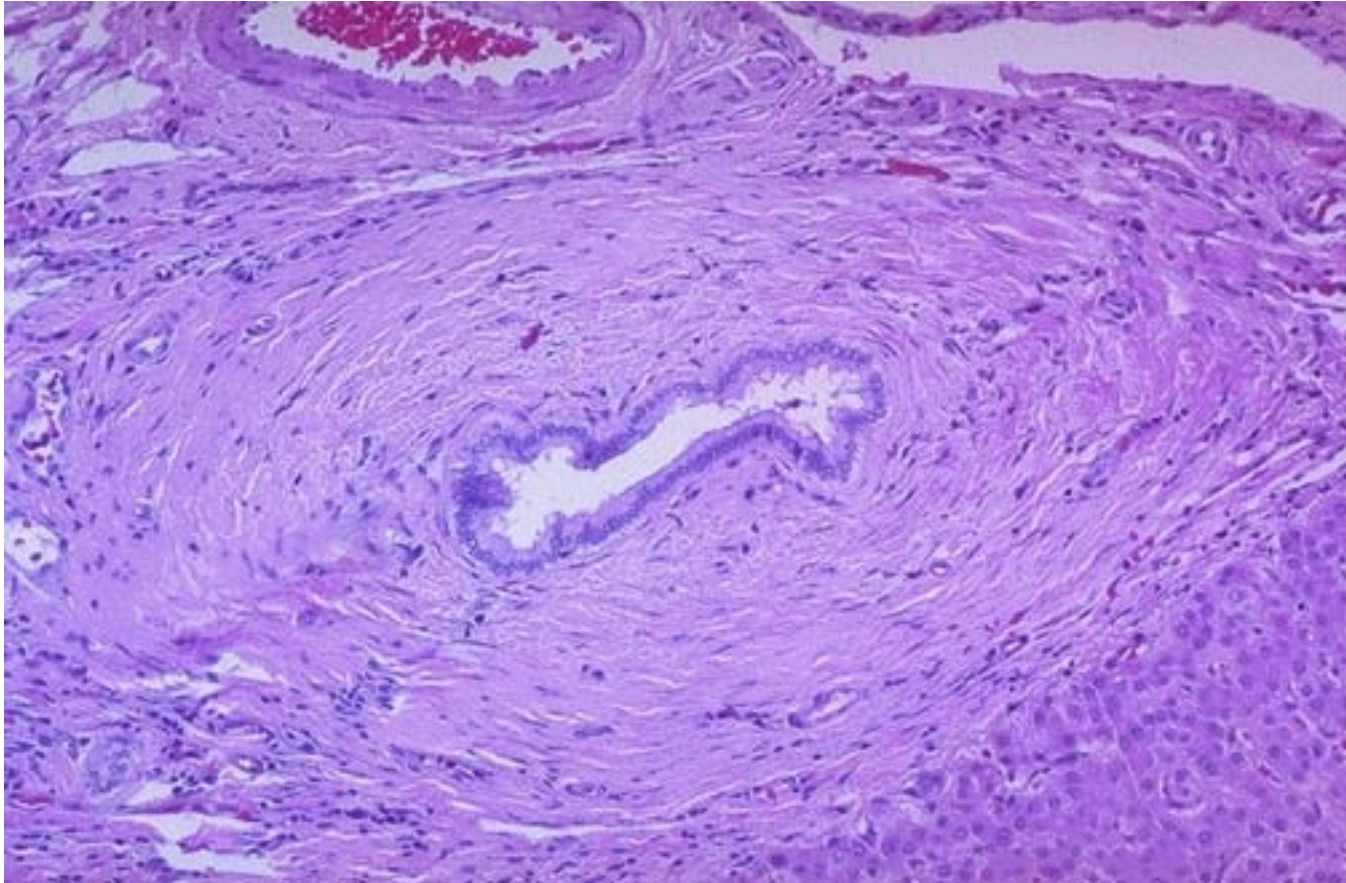
# Questions

- What is Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis?
- How will PSC affect me?
- What can I do about my PSC?
- Why did I get PSC?
- Will there ever be a cure for PSC?

# What is PSC?

- **P**rimary
  - Not secondary to another cause
- **S**clerosing
  - Stiffening with connective tissue (scarring)
- **C**holangitis
  - Inflammation of the bile ducts

# What is PSC?



# What is PSC?

Normal ERC



PSC MRC



# What is PSC?

## Top 3 Facts about PSC:

1. Men are affected more than women
2. Most PSC patients have colitis (IBD)  
All PSCers should have a colonoscopy
3. Small duct PSC  
Abnormal biopsy but normal ERC/MRC

# How will PSC affect me?

- The course of PSC is unpredictable
  - Varies from individual to individual
  - Varies over time in the same individual
- Average time from diagnosis to liver transplant is 12 -15 years.

# How will PSC affect me?

## THE LIVER

- Bile duct obstruction
  - Ascending Cholangitis
    - RUQ pain, fever, jaundice
  - Jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes)
  
- Cirrhosis



# How will PSC affect me?

## CANCER

- Most PSCers do NOT get cancer
- Risk of bile duct cancer (cholangiocarcinoma)
- Risk of colon cancer with colitis
  - Yearly colonoscopy

# How will PSC affect me?

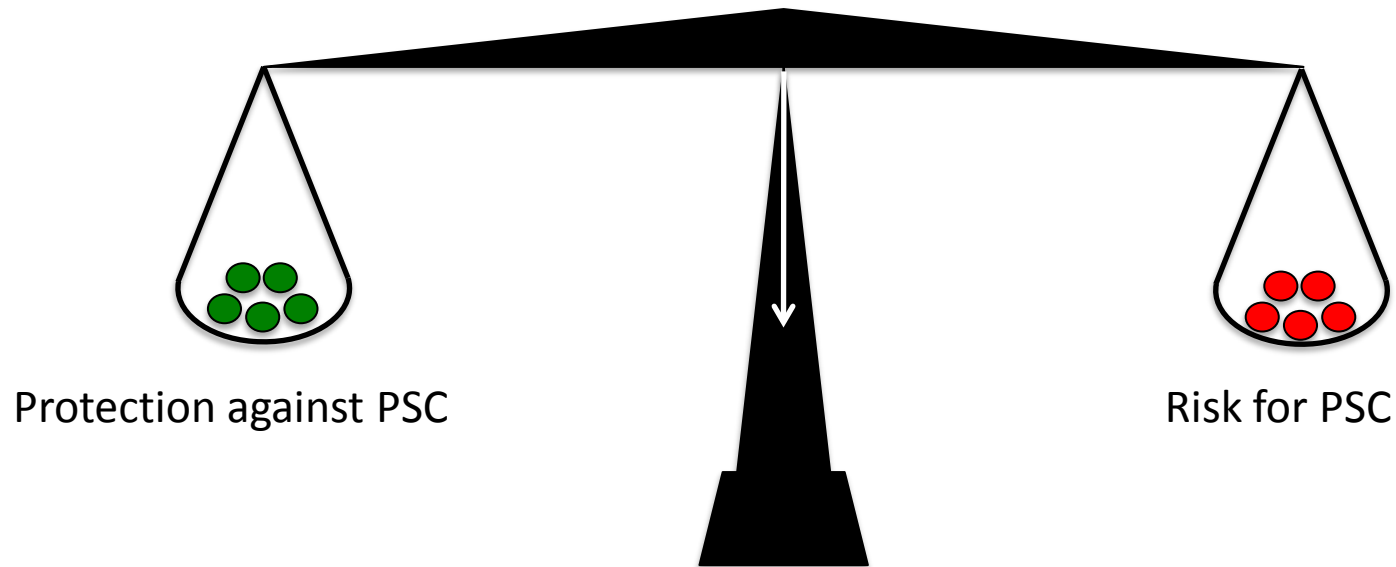
## SYMPTOMS

- Abdominal Pain
- Fatigue
- Itching
- Stress of the unknown

# What can I do about my PSC?

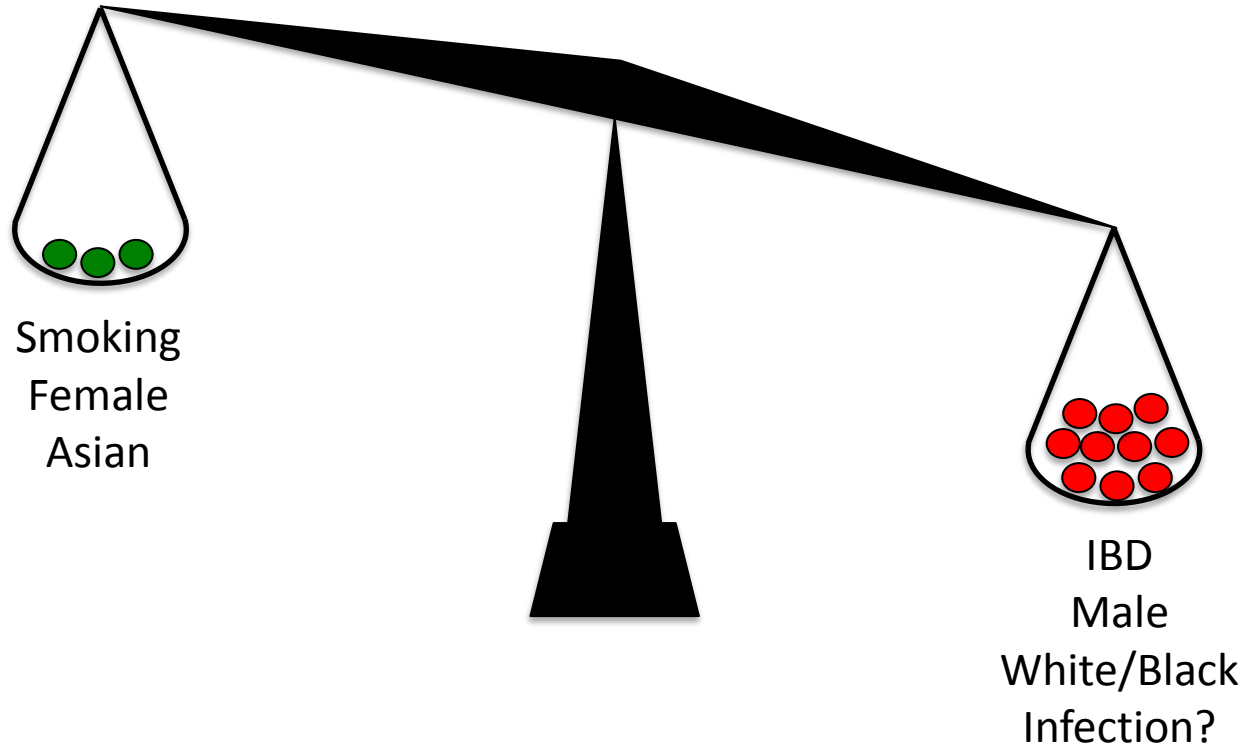
- Urso
- ERC
- Liver Transplantation
- Diet and Nutrition
- Coping

# Why did I get PSC?



Genes and Environment

# Why did I get PSC?



# Will there ever be a cure for PSC?



TREATMENT

# Will there ever be a cure for PSC?

## Old Drugs

- Antibiotics
- Fenofibrate
- DHA
- “Probiotics”
- Thalidomide
- Budesonide

## New Drugs

- INT-747
- Stem cells
- New IBD Drugs
- PSC-specific drugs?

# Will there ever be a cure for PSC?



"The research proves tall rats are more confident than short rats. At least I think it does. I've never been good at this."





