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Lower GI bleeding in patients with cirrhosis

Lower gastrointestinal bleeding (LGIB) is an important cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with cirrhosis. LGIB occurs in approximately 20% of all patients with cirrhosis who present with gastrointestinal bleeding (GIB). The incidence and severity of LGIB in patients with cirrhosis depends upon the incidence of specific gastrointestinal diseases, coagulopathy, comorbid diseases and polypharmacy. The evaluation and treatment of patients is adjusted to the rate and severity of hemorrhage and the clinical status of the patient and may be complicated by the presence of visual, auditory and cognitive impairment due to hepatic encephalopathy. Bleeding may be chronic and mild or severe and life threatening, requiring endoscopic, radiologic or surgical intervention and methods to reduce portal hypertension.

Biography

Maxwell M Chait completed his MD degree from the University of California School of Medicine at San Francisco. He is a Fellow of several prestigious organizations, including the American College of Physicians, American College of Gastroenterology, American Gastroenterological Association and the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. He is a practicing gastroenterologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In New York City, he has authored numerous publications in reputed journals. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Liver Disease and Transplantation* and serves on the editorial board of the *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

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