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ASSIGNMENT.

1. Why do we have the portal vein or the liver receiving more blood from the vein than it receives from the artery:

ANS: The liver receives more blood from the vein than it receives from the artery because it contains nutrient-rich blood, it contains deoxygenated blood from the small intestine containing the digested nutrients from the gastrointestinal tract, and also from the spleen and pancreas.

2. Discuss 5 disease conditions of the liver:

a. HEPATITIS: It is a viral infection of your liver that causes inflammation and liver damage, making it difficult for your liver to function as it should. All types of hepatitis are contagious but you can reduce the risk by getting vaccinated for types A and B or taking other preventive steps.

There are 5 types of hepatitis:

Hepatitis A which is typically spread through contact with contaminated food or water. Symptoms may clear up without treatment, but recovery can take a few weeks.

Hepatitis B can be acute or chronic. It spreads through bodily fluids, such as blood and semen. While hepatitis B is treatable, there is no cure for it.

Hepatitis C can also be acute or chronic. It spreads through contact with blood from someone with hepatitis C. While it does not cause symptoms in its early stages, it can lead to permanent liver damage in its later stages.

Hepatitis D is a serious form of hepatitis that only develops in people with hepatitis B. It can also be contracted on its own and can be either acute or chronic.

Hepatitis E is usually caused by drinking contaminated water and it clears up on its own within a few weeks without any lasting complications.

b. FATTY LIVER DISEASE: Fat buildup in the liver can lead to fatty liver disease. There are two types of fatty liver disease:

1. **Alcoholic fatty liver disease**, which is caused by heavy alcohol consumption.

2. **Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease**, which is caused by other factors experts are still trying to understand and when left unmanaged, both types of fatty liver disease can cause liver damage leading to CIRRHOSIS and liver failure. Diet and other lifestyle changes can often improve symptoms and reduce your risk of complications.

c. AUTOIMMUNE CONDITIONS: Involves your Immune system mistakenly attacking healthy cells and liver in your body. These include:

1. **AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS:** This condition causes your immune system to attack your liver, resulting in inflammation. Left untreated, it can lead to cirrhosis and liver failure.

2. **PRIMARY BILIARY CIRRHOSIS (PBC):** This results from damage to the bile ducts in your liver, causing a buildup of bile. PBC can lead to eventual cirrhosis and liver failure.

3. **PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS:** This inflammatory condition causes gradual damage to your bile ducts. They eventually become blocked, causing bile to build up in your liver. This can lead to cirrhosis or liver failure.

d. **CIRRHOSIS:** Refers to scarring that results from liver diseases and other causes of liver damage, such as alcohol use disorder. Cystic fibrosis and syphilis may also lead to liver damage and eventually, cirrhosis. In its early stages, cirrhosis is often treatable by addressing the underlying cause. But left unmanaged, it can lead to other complications and become life threatening. Your liver can regenerate in response to damage, but this process usually results in the development of scar tissue. The more scar tissue that develops, the harder it is for your liver to function properly.

e. **GENETIC CONDITIONS:** Several genetic conditions, which you inherit from one of your parents, can also affect your liver:

1. **HEMOCHROMATOSIS:** Causes your body to store more iron than it needs. This iron remains in your organs, including your liver. This can lead to damage over a long period of time if not managed.

2. **WILSONS DISEASE:** Causes your liver to absorb copper instead of releasing it into your bile ducts. Eventually, your liver may become too damaged to store more copper, allowing it to travel through your bloodstream and damage other parts of your body, including your brain.

3. **ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN (AT) DEFICIENCY:** It occurs when your liver cannot make enough alpha-1 antitrypsin, a protein that prevent enzyme breakdowns throughout your body. This condition can cause lung disease as well as liver disease. There is no cure, but treatment can help.