Time to Disease Progression and All-Cause Mortality in Adult MASH Patients in Real-World US Cohort

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Background

- Metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) burden is increasing, with approximately one-third of MASL patients progressing into MASH¹
- Time to disease progression and incidence rates of liver related events outside of clinical trials and in real world clinical practice is unclear

Objective:

 To assess the time to disease progression for patients with MASH without cirrhosis, MASH with compensated cirrhosis and MASH with decompensated cirrhosis in a real-world setting

Methods:

Study Design and Data Source:

- A retrospective cohort study was conducted using the TARGET-NASH database - a real-world longitudinal observational cohort following >6000 patients enrolled across academic and community sites in the US
- Patients are enrolled in TARGET-NASH upon a diagnosis of MASLD by a treating physician in routine care
- Data was used from 08/01/2016 through 01/26/2024 (study period)
- Baseline demographics and clinical characteristics were assessed in the 36 months prior to the index date (defined as the date of enrollment in TARGET-NASH)
- Eligible patients were grouped into three subgroups for this study:
- MASH without cirrhosis (MASH)
- MASH with compensated cirrhosis (CC)
- MASH with decompensated cirrhosis (DCC)

Statistical Analysis:

 Time-to-event analysis² from enrollment was used to assess the following outcomes: 1) time to MASH with compensated cirrhosis, 2) time to the first decompensation event in patients with compensated cirrhosis and 3) time to all-cause mortality in each of the 3 sub-cohorts

References: ¹ Singh, S., et al., *Fibrosis progression in nonalcoholic fatty liver vs nonalcoholic steatohepatitis: a systematic review and meta-analysis of paired-biopsy studies.* Clinical gastroenterology and hepatology, 2015. **13**(4): p. 643-654. e9. ² Kim HT. Cumulative incidence in competing risks data and competing risks regression analysis. *Clin Cancer Res* 2007;13:559-565.

Figure 1. Cumulative Incidence of Disease Progression and All-Cause Mortality

a. MASH progression to cirrhosis



b. Compensated cirrhosis

c. All-cause mortality



Note: Patients were censored at the time of follow-up if they did not have the event of interest. CIF=Cumulative Incidence Function

Results

 1,949 participants enrolled in TARGET-NASH met the inclusion criteria for the analysis and were categorized into 3 subgroups (Table 1)

Table 1. Patient Demographics at Enrollment

	MASH (n=1084)	Compensated Cirrhosis (n=495)	Decompensated Cirrhosis (n=370)
Median Age (years)	55	62	63
Female, n(%)	689 (64)	297 (60)	205 (55)
Non-Hispanic White, n(%)	720 (66)	387 (78)	303 (82)
Academic Setting, n(%)	688 (64)	387 (78)	304 (82)
Private Insurance, n(%)	717 (66)	250 (51)	145 (39)
FIB-4 category ^{1,} n(%) Low Indeterminate High	588 (66) 254 (28) 56 (6)	82 (19) 132 (30) 227 (52)	14 (4) 60 (17) 290 (80)
Hypertension, n(%)	659 (61)	397 (80)	352 (95)
Type 2 Diabetes, n(%)	496 (46)	321 (65)	266 (72)
Obesity, n(%)	698 (64)	357 (72)	269 (73)
CYP3A Inhibitors, n(%)	106 (10)	67 (14)	66 (18)

- Incidence rates of MASH progression to CC and compensated to DCC were 1.39 and 3.53 per 100-person year, respectively
- Among patients with MASH, 6% progressed to compensated cirrhosis within 72 months (Figure 1a)
- Among patients with CC, 14% had a decompensation event within 72 months (Figure 1b)
- Incidence rates for mortality were 0.14, 2.04, and 8.45 per 100-person year for MASH, CC and DCC, respectively
- MASH patients with CC and DCC had ~10% and 30% risk of death within 72 months, respectively
- Patients with DCC were at an increased risk of all-cause mortality (HR 52.24, 95% CI 24.28, 112.40) followed by CC (HR 13.62, 95% CI 6.13, 20.39) compared to patients with MASH (Figure 1c)

Limitations: Real-world databases are subject to potential missingness, limited generalizability and surveillance bias.

Conclusions

- Overall, we observed an increasing risk of mortality with greater disease severity
- In a cohort of MASH patients followed in routine clinical practice, those with compensated cirrhosis had a 10% probability of mortality within 72 months
- These results demonstrate the need for new therapies for patients with MASH cirrhosis.

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