

AGA Clinical Care Pathway: Screening and Management of MASLD/MASH

Healthcare professionals should identify patients at risk for MASLD and assess fibrosis risk

Follow this algorithm to stratify MASLD by low, intermediate, or high risk for fibrosis

Step 1: Identify patients at risk

≥2 metabolic risk factors

Type 2 diabetes

Steatosis on any imaging modality
or elevated aminotransferases

Step 2: History and laboratory tests: Excessive alcohol intake, CBC, liver function tests

Step 3: Noninvasive testing for fibrosis

(FIB-4 is a calculated value based on age, AST, ALT, and platelet count)

FIB-4 <1.3

FIB-4 1.3 to 2.67

FIB-4 >2.67

INDETERMINATE RISK

Step 4: Liver stiffness measurement

LSM <8 kPa

LSM 8-12 kPa

LSM >12 kPa

LOW RISK

Repeat NIT in 2-3 yr unless clinical
circumstances change

INDETERMINATE RISK

Refer to hepatologist for liver biopsy
or MR elastography or monitoring
with re-eval of risk in 2-3 yr

HIGH RISK

Refer to hepatologist

Use fibrosis risk to design a patient-specific, evidence-based management plan

	LOW RISK FIB-4 <1.3 or LSM <8 kPa or liver biopsy F0-F1	INDETERMINATE RISK FIB-4 1.3-2.67 and/or LSM 8-12 kPa and liver biopsy not available	HIGH RISK FIB-4 >2.67 or LSM >12 kPa or liver biopsy F2-F4
	Management by PCP, dietitian, endocrinologist, cardiologist, others	Management by hepatologist with multidisciplinary team (PCP, dietitian, endocrinologist, cardiologist, others)	
Lifestyle intervention	Yes	Yes	Yes
Weight loss recommended if patient has overweight or obesity	Yes May benefit from structured weight loss programs, anti-obesity medications, bariatric surgery	Yes Greater need for structured weight loss programs, anti-obesity medications, bariatric surgery	Yes Strong need for structured weight loss programs, anti-obesity medications, bariatric surgery
Pharmacotherapy for MASH	Not recommended	Yes	Yes
CVD risk reduction	Yes	Yes	Yes
Diabetes care	Standard of care	Prefer medications with efficacy in MASH (pioglitazone, GLP-1 RA)	Prefer medications with efficacy in MASH (pioglitazone, GLP-1 RA)

