

Autoimmune hepatitis diseases :

is liver inflammation that occurs when your body's immune system turns against liver cells. The exact cause of autoimmune hepatitis is unclear, but genetic and environmental factors appear to interact over time in triggering the disease.

Symptoms

- Fatigue
- Abdominal discomfort
- Yellowing of the skin
- An enlarged liver
- Abnormal blood vessels on the skin (spider angiomas)
- Skin rashes
- Joint pains

Causes

Autoimmune hepatitis occurs when the body's immune system, which ordinarily attacks viruses, bacteria and other pathogens, instead targets the liver. This attack on your liver can lead to chronic inflammation and serious damage to liver cells. Just why the body turns against itself is unclear, but researchers think autoimmune hepatitis could be caused by the interaction of genes controlling immune system function and exposure to particular viruses or drugs.

Types of autoimmune hepatitis

- **Type 1 autoimmune hepatitis.** This is the most common type of the disease. It can occur at any age. About half the people with type 1 autoimmune hepatitis have other autoimmune disorders, such as celiac disease, rheumatoid arthritis or ulcerative colitis.
- **Type 2 autoimmune hepatitis.** Although adults can develop type 2 autoimmune hepatitis, it's most common in children and people. Other

autoimmune diseases may accompany this type of autoimmune hepatitis

Risk factor

- **Being female.** Although both males and females can develop autoimmune hepatitis, the disease is more common in females.
- **A history of certain infections.** Autoimmune hepatitis may develop after you're infected with the measles, herpes simplex or Epstein-Barr virus. The disease is also linked to hepatitis A, B or C infection.
- **Heredity.** Evidence suggests that a predisposition to autoimmune hepatitis may run in families.
- **Having an autoimmune disease.** People who already have an autoimmune disease, such as celiac disease, rheumatoid arthritis or hyperthyroidism (Graves' disease or Hashimoto's thyroiditis), may be more likely to develop autoimmune hepatitis.