

Novel biomarkers for noninvasive diagnosis of NAFLD-related fibrosis

April 16 2019



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With an estimated 25% of people worldwide affected by nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), there is a large unmet need for accurate, noninvasive measures to enhance early diagnosis and screening of hepatic fibrosis. A new, comprehensive review of the latest research on novel biomarkers, biomarker panels, and advanced technology to detect fibrosis and predict the risk of NAFLD-related complications and mortality is published in *OMICS: A Journal of Integrative Biology*.

The article entitled <u>"Novel Serum Biomarkers for Noninvasive</u> <u>Diagnosis and Screening of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease-Related</u> <u>Hepatic Fibrosis</u>" reviews recent advances in new blood biomarkers such as WFA+-M2BP and type IV collagen 7S. The article also reports on the advantages of combination <u>biomarker</u> panels in development, including algorithms such as NIS4, ELF, Hepascore, FibroMeter, FibroTest, and FIBROSpect.

The corresponding author Prof. Biaoyang Lin, Ph.D., Zhejiang-California International Nanosystems Institute (ZCNI), Zhejiang University (Hangzhou, China), and University of Washington School of Medicine (Seattle), and coauthors, also review novel technologies such as tandem mass spectrometry, which can be used to assess the turnover of proteins involved in <u>liver</u> fibrosis.

"Early detection of liver fibrosis in patients with NAFLD is critical in reducing mortality associated with this highly common disease. The expert review published in OMICS by Prof. Lin and colleagues is exciting because they present innovative ideas that might lead to novel metrics to evaluate fibrosis biomarkers in the future," says Vural Özdemir, MD, Ph.D., DABCP, Editor-in-Chief of *OMICS: A Journal of Integrative Biology.* "They suggest, for example, that a time series dynamic measurement of fibrosis rate of progression might be a better way to monitor NAFLD complications, rather than a static staging of <u>fibrosis</u>. Noninvasive serum tests could also reduce the need for liver



biopsies or help identify patients who do not need biopsy."

More information: Biaoyang Lin et al, Novel Serum Biomarkers for Noninvasive Diagnosis and Screening of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease-Related Hepatic Fibrosis, *OMICS: A Journal of Integrative Biology* (2019). DOI: 10.1089/omi.2019.0035

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

Citation: Novel biomarkers for noninvasive diagnosis of NAFLD-related fibrosis (2019, April 16) retrieved 5 May 2024 from <u>https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-04-biomarkers-noninvasive-diagnosis-nafld-related-fibrosis.html</u>

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