

QUESTION

1. A patient with a long history of alcohol abuse presents with a 2-week history of weight loss, weakness, and confusion. On physical examination, there is a 10% weight loss, jaundice, and a 30-degree angle of trunk flexion. Laboratory studies show a total bilirubin of 2.5 mg/dL, aspartate aminotransferase (AST) of 150 U/L, and alanine aminotransferase (ALT) of 100 U/L. The patient's prothrombin time (PT) is 18 seconds. The most likely diagnosis is:

- A. Acute alcoholic hepatitis
- B. Chronic alcoholic hepatitis
- C. Primary biliary cirrhosis
- D. Primary sclerosing cholangitis
- E. Wilson disease

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION



The patient's history of alcohol abuse, weight loss, weakness, and confusion are consistent with liver disease. The physical examination findings of jaundice and a 30-degree angle of trunk flexion are also consistent with liver disease. The laboratory studies show a total bilirubin of 2.5 mg/dL, aspartate aminotransferase (AST) of 150 U/L, and alanine aminotransferase (ALT) of 100 U/L. The patient's prothrombin time (PT) is 18 seconds. The most likely diagnosis is chronic alcoholic hepatitis.