

# Non-Invasive Evaluation of Liver Fibrosis in Patients with Chronic Liver Diseases

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Abstract : We recently evaluated the use of transient elastography( FibroScan )to measure liver stiffness. In this study, 93 patients with chronic liver diseases were examined by transient elastography, and we compared their liver stiffness to the results obtained using several other evaluation methods for liver fibrosis based on a simple blood test. Liver stiffness was significantly correlated with FIB-4, which is calculated by  $\text{age} \times \text{AST [ IU/l ]} / (\text{platelet count [ } 10^9/\text{l ]} \times \text{ALT [ IU/l ]}^{0.5})$ . Thus, we speculated that FIB-4 is a useful non-invasive method for diagnosing liver fibrosis. However, in three cases, there was no association between the results of FIB-4 and liver stiffness which appeared to be due to thrombocytopenia. In these patients, the performance of transient elastography is therefore necessary to evaluate the extent of liver fibrosis.

Key words : Transient elastography( FibroScan ), Liver stiffness, FIB-4, Chronic liver diseases