



## Noninvasive Tests of Liver Fibrosis and Their Combination in NAFLD: From Selected Patients to Real-Life Populations

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Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) has become extremely common, now affecting 25% of the worldwide population. All physicians, regardless of their specialty, are seeing NAFLD patients in their daily clinical practice, and all are challenged by the identification of the small subgroup having an advanced form of the disease. As with the other causes of chronic liver disease, it is now well established that liver fibrosis is the main predictor of the prognosis in NAFLD, justifying the interest in diagnosing fibrosis. Because it is not conceivable to perform liver biopsy (currently the best reference, albeit imperfect, for liver fibrosis evaluation) in large populations, noninvasive testing represents an attractive option for the diagnosis and screening of NAFLD patients with advanced liver disease in need of specialized management. The noninvasive tests currently available are mainly represented by blood tests, either simple blood tests combining common indirect markers of liver fibrosis or specialized blood tests, including direct markers of liver fibrogenesis and fibrolysis, and elastography devices. This article is protected by copyright. All rights reserved.

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