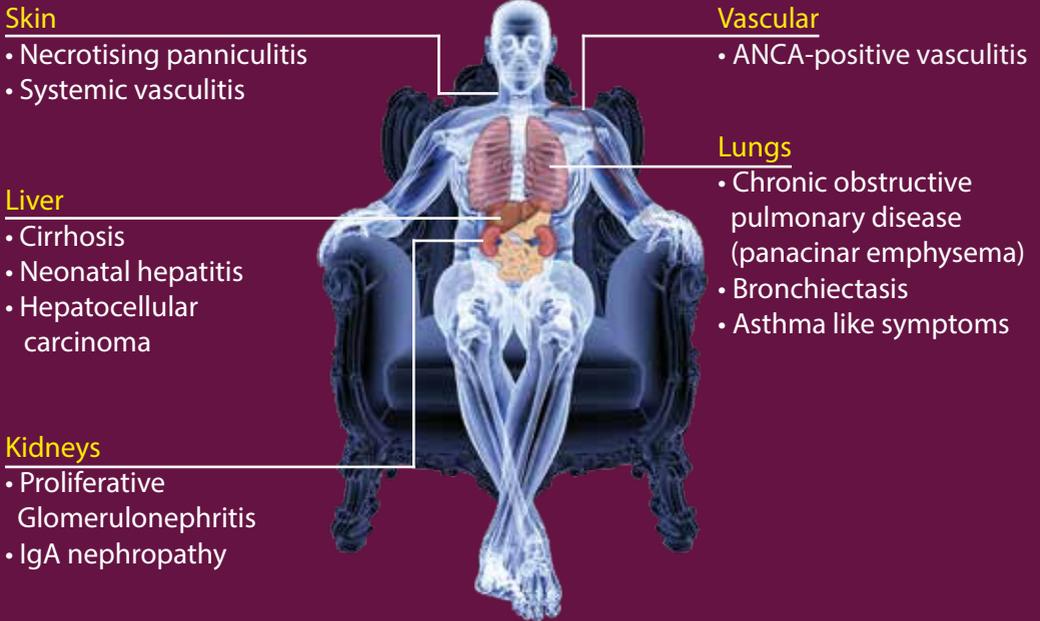


Could your patient be an **Alpha**?

If your patient has been diagnosed with any of the below, **alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency** may be the underlying cause.



Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (AATD) is a genetically inherited medical condition which has a number of well known, lesser known, and probably yet-to-be-discovered effects on the body. Liver and lung disease being the most common manifestations. **Alpha-1** is widely unrecognised, often misunderstood and largely misdiagnosed.

Yet for every 25 people, one of them could carry the defective 'Z' allele.

While there is **no cure for Alpha-1**, as yet, there are treatments for many of the ailments connected to it. Early diagnosis of AATD could help to predict the onset of COPD and/or liver disease.

In babies AATD often manifests as prolonged jaundice after birth with conjugated hyperbilirubinemia and abnormal liver enzymes

This poster indicates possible associations between alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency and medical symptoms based on 3rd party studies. It is not intended as a medical diagnosis.

AATD is sadly underdiagnosed and is therefore listed as a “rare disease” when it is easily diagnosed with a simple blood test.

AATD is the most common hereditary cause of liver disease in children. In adults AATD can lead to fibrosis of the liver and chronic lung damage (COPD).

If a family member has been diagnosed with AATD, all blood relations have the risk of also having the deficiency and should be tested if requested.

Misconceptions

There are a number of misconceptions about Alpha-1:

- It is **not rare**, it is estimated that 1 in 2,500 people are “PiZZ”.
- It does not just go down the maternal or paternal line.
- It does not just affect people over the age of 60.
- Because a sufferer is not showing symptoms now, does not mean they will not have symptoms later on.
- People diagnosed as “PiMZ” are **not “just carriers”** they are at increased risk of lung and/or liver related issues.

Who is Alpha-1 Awareness & what do we do?

- We are a registered charity in England/Wales and also in Scotland.
- We help support those affected with AATD, their families and carers.
- We produce booklets for sufferers including the newly diagnosed, parents with AATD children, teenagers, younger children, schools, carers, doctors, nurses and other medical professionals.
- We donate to the professionals doing the vital research into finding a cure.
- We strive to raise awareness of the condition with the wider public.

To find out more go to: www.alpha1.uk

We would like to thank **Alpha-1 Association of Australia** for allowing us to adapt and reproduce their leaflet.

Together we are strong, together we **will** fight Alpha-1



Registered Charity in England and Wales: 1125467, Scotland: SC041100