

Primary biliary cholangitis (PBC)

Glossary of terms

This material has been given to you as you have been prescribed IQIRVO[®] ▼ (elafibranor) by your doctor. This alphabetical list provides explanations of medical terms you may come across at some point during your life (or experience) with PBC. If you have any questions or can't find what you are looking for, always refer to your doctor.



Term	Definition
Alanine transaminase (ALT) ¹	An enzyme that can be detected in the blood if liver cells become leaky due to damage.
Alkaline phosphatase (ALP) ^{1,2}	An enzyme that is released into the blood when bile ducts are damaged. Levels of ALP in the blood are elevated in people with PBC .
Anaemia ³	A medical condition characterised by low levels of red blood cells or haemoglobin (the iron-rich protein found in red blood cells that is responsible for transporting oxygen). Haemoglobin and red blood cells are needed to carry oxygen from the lungs to different parts of the body, and symptoms of anaemia include weakness, tiredness, and shortness of breath.
Aspartate transaminase (AST) ¹	An enzyme that can be detected in the blood if liver cells become leaky due to damage.
Antibody (Ab) ^{4,5}	A protein produced by the immune system to remove unwanted substances, such as bacteria, from the body. In an autoimmune disease, the immune system may mistakenly produce antibodies against body cells. See ' Autoantibody '.
Antimitochondrial antibody (AMA) ⁶	A molecule produced by the immune system that is detectable in 90–95% of people with PBC and is used to diagnose the condition. The amount of AMA does not indicate how severe the PBC is, and it is not necessary to test for AMA regularly after diagnosis.
Ascites ⁷	A build-up of fluid around the abdomen that is sometimes experienced in the later stages of PBC .



Term	Definition
Autoantibody ⁵	An antibody that targets the body's own cells, tissues, or organs instead of harmful substances. Autoantibodies are markers of autoimmune disease .
Autoimmune disease ⁸	Health conditions that occur when the immune system mistakes healthy cells, tissues, or organs for something harmful.
Bile ^{9,10}	A fluid produced by the liver that is involved in digestion and waste elimination.
Bile ducts ^{2,9}	Small tubes that connect organs within the digestive system and carry bile from one organ to another. Bile ducts are affected in people with PBC.
Bilirubin ¹⁰	Yellow pigment found in bile . Testing for bilirubin in the blood is used to evaluate liver health. Bilirubin levels might be higher than normal if the liver has trouble processing it, or if the bile ducts are blocked.
Cholestasis ¹¹	Reduced flow of bile from the liver.
Cholangitis ¹²	Inflammation of the bile ducts .
Chronic disease ¹³	A medical condition lasting for an extended period of time (longer than one year).
Cirrhosis (liver) ^{2,14}	Severe scarring that impairs organ function and can develop into health complications. Cirrhosis occurs if fibrosis progresses and worsens. There are different levels of liver cirrhosis. In people with compensated cirrhosis, the liver can function almost as normal, whereas decompensated cirrhosis indicates that the liver is failing.

This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the package leaflet.

You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. See www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard/ for how to report side effects.

Side effects should also be reported to Ipsen via email at pharmacovigilance.uk-ie@ipsen.com or phone on 01753 627777.



Term

Definition

Enzyme¹⁵

Proteins that facilitate chemical reactions in the body.

Fatigue¹⁶

Extreme tiredness that may interfere with day-to-day life.

Fibrosis (liver)¹⁴

Scarring of the liver that can lead to liver **cirrhosis**.

Gamma-glutamyl transferase (GGT)¹⁷

An **enzyme** that is mainly found in the liver but may be detected in the blood if the liver or bile ducts are damaged.

Gastroenterologist¹⁸

A medical professional who treats conditions related to the digestive system (oesophagus, stomach, intestines, liver, **bile ducts**, pancreas, and gallbladder).

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)^{19,20}

A type of liver cancer that can be a complication of liver **cirrhosis**.

Hepatologist²¹

A medical professional who treats conditions related to the liver, gallbladder, **bile ducts**, and pancreas.

Jaundice²²

A build-up of **bilirubin** that causes a yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Liver function test (LFT)²³

A blood test that evaluates how well the liver is working and/or whether the liver is damaged by measuring levels of certain **proteins** and **enzymes** in the blood.

For more information on LFTs, please refer to the Liver Testing Guide

Osteoporosis⁷

Weakening of the bones that is sometimes experienced in later phases of **PBC**.

Primary biliary cholangitis (PBC)²

A long-term, **autoimmune** liver condition affecting **bile ducts**. The destruction of bile ducts in PBC causes **cholestasis**, and bile builds up in the liver. This can lead to liver damage and cirrhosis if left untreated.

Protein¹⁵

Large molecules that carry out essential functions in the body.



Term

Definition

Pruritus²⁴

Itching/the sensation of needing to scratch.

Sicca syndrome²⁵

A condition that affects the parts of the body that produce fluids (eyes, mouth, skin), causing dryness.

Sleep apnoea ²⁶

A potentially serious sleep disorder in which breathing repeatedly stops and starts.

Transient elastography (TE)²⁷

A non-invasive procedure that is used to measure the stiffness of the liver. TE may also be referred to by the brand name 'FibroScan®'. Liver stiffness measurements can be used to inform on the stage of **PBC**.

Ultrasound²⁸

Ultrasound scans use high-frequency sound waves to capture images of internal organs, such as the liver. A small probe will be moved over your skin close to the area being examined.

Varices²⁹

Enlarged veins in the digestive system that are prone to bursting, causing internal bleeding. Varices can be caused by liver **cirrhosis**.

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