

INDICATION

The Child-Pugh score can be used to predict mortality in patients with chronic liver disease. It was originally designed to predict surgical mortality in this cohort.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ENCEPHALOPATHY GRADE	SYMPTOMS
0	normal consciousness, personality, neurological examination, electroencephalogram
1	restless, sleep disturbed, irritable/agitated, tremor, impaired handwriting, 5 cps waves
2	lethargic, time-disoriented, inappropriate, asterixis, ataxia, slow triphasic waves
3	somnolent, stuporous, place-disoriented, hyperactive reflexes, rigidity, slower waves
4	unrousable coma, no personality/behavior, decerebrate, slow 2-3 cps delta activity

Other scores with more accurate predictive ability are now more widely used.

For patients with unexpectedly high or low scores consider using other scoring system such as MELD or MELD-Na scoring systems.

INTERPRETATION

SCORE	CHILD CLASS	MORTALITY / TRANSPLANT
5-6	A	15-20 years life expectancy 10% Peri-operative mortality
7-9	B	Consider transplant 30% Peri-operative mortality
10-15	C	1-3 years life expectancy 82% Peri-operative mortality

CALCULATION

Total score = sum of scores for each question

Bilirubin (µmol/L total)	<34.2	+1
	34.2-51.3	+2
	>51.3	+3
Albumin	>35g/L	+1
	28-35g/L	+2
	<28g/L	+3
INR	<1.7	+1
	1.7-2.3	+2
	>2.3	+3
Ascites	Absent	+1
	Slight	+2
	Moderate	+3
Encephalopathy - see infor for grades	None	+1
	Grade 1-2	+2
	Grade 3-4	+3