with increased complications and healthcare costs. Optimising preventative care reduces readmissions but many patients are readmitted before their outpatient review by hepatologists. Consequently, we established a novel care pathway with a nurse-led, structured early post-discharge clinic. Patients are seen within 2 weeks of discharge, with specific interventions for ascites, encephalopathy, varices, alcohol misuse and nutrition. The aim of our study was to assess impact on readmission and mortality.

Methods Following an index admission with decompensated cirrhosis, patients were seen in the nurse-led, early post-discharge clinic (intervention cohort) or received standard hepatology physician-led outpatient follow up (controls). Clinical data including demographics, liver disease aetiology, reason for admission and stage of liver disease were analysed. Outcome measures included time to first readmission, rate of readmissions and mortality up to 12 months.

Results There were 91 control patients and 78 in the intervention cohort. There were no significant differences in age, gender or aetiology of liver disease at index admission and mean MELD-Na on discharge was 18.1 and 19.8 (p=NS) in control and intervention groups respectively. Ascites was the most common decompensating event in both groups. Median time to readmission was 51 days in the control group and 98 days in the intervention group (p<0.01). The intervention cohort had significantly fewer early readmissions at 30 days (12% versus 30%, p<0.01) and 90 days (27% versus 49%, p<0.01) but not significantly at 12 months (58% versus 68%, p=0.16) with an overall reduction in bed day usage of 33%. Mortality for the control group was 4% at 30 days with no deaths in the intervention group. There were fewer deaths in the intervention group at 90 days (5% versus 15%, p<0.05) and 12 months (22% versus 41%, p<0.01).

Conclusions Following an index hospitalisation with decompensated cirrhosis, goal-directed early post-discharge care can be effectively delivered by specialist nurses, prior to outpatient review by hepatologists. This model was associated with significantly fewer unplanned readmissions, lower bed day usage and a reduced mortality. Our data suggest such nurse-led models of care deserve wider implementation and further evaluation.

Immunoglobulin G4-related sclerosing cholangitis (IgG4-SC) is often difficult to distinguish from primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) in clinical practice. Accurate, non-invasive biomarkers for discriminating IgG4-SC from PSC are required, but the diagnostic utility of global serum nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)-based metabolomics is untested. We performed serum metabolomic profiling in patients with IgG4-SC and PSC to assess for evidence of a distinctive signature that could discriminate between these conditions, predict response to therapy and provide a biomarker for disease relapse.

Stored serum samples collected prospectively from patients with IgG4-related disease (IgG4-RD; n=39 at diagnosis prior to therapy), PSC (n=100; 81 large duct; 19 small duct) and healthy controls (HC; n=16) were prepared for NMR spectroscopy using a standardised protocol. Principal component analysis (PCA) and orthogonal partial-least squares discriminant analysis (OPLS-DA) were used to identify discriminatory serum metabolites. Clinical data was obtained from review of electronic databases for correlation with metabolomics data and to adjust for confounders.

The median (range) age and gender proportion were 65 (33–83) years and 85% male for IgG4-RD, and 45 (12–84) years and 63% male for PSC. Lactate, glucose, and glutamine were increased in IgG4-RD compared to PSC (p<0.0001), whereas -CH3 lipoprotein and beta-hydroxybutyric acid resonances were decreased (p<0.001). NMR-based metabolomic profiling discriminated IgG4-RD from PSC with greater accuracy (AUC 0.941, 95% CI 0.904–0.977) than upper limit normal of IgG4 titre (AUC 0.865, 95% CI 0.787–0.943).
Alcohol related liver disease (ALD) is common worldwide and a frequent cause of ill health and death, particularly amongst younger people. We have previously shown that histological progression is slow. We examined the clinical progression of ALD and how interventions following detection of liver disease could alter the natural history.

The electronic health records of patients with ALD were examined retrospectively to identify: time of first liver blood tests (LBT), first abnormal LBT, time of diagnosis of liver disease and first episode of decompensation of liver disease. Decompensated liver disease was defined as: ascites, variceal bleeding, hepatic encephalopathy, alcoholic hepatitis or hepatorenal syndrome. Attendance at alcohol services and/or hepatology services was noted. Baseline characteristics including laboratory and anthropometric data were recorded. Patient’s postcode was used as a measure of deprivation. Data were analysed with Kaplan Meier survival analysis and Cox proportional hazard analysis, using R. All patients gave informed consent for their records to be assessed as part of the ALLHEAL study.

Seventy-three patients with decompensated liver disease were analysed. The median delay from the detection of disease (i.e. first abnormal LBT) to decompensated ALD was 6.6 years (95% CI 4.7 – 10.1 years). In Cox proportional hazard analysis, independent factors that influenced time from detection to decompensation were: age, bilirubin, albumin, INR, platelets and mean cell volume. Engagement with alcohol services was the strongest predictor of time to decompensation: hazard ratio 0.50 (0.31 – 0.80, p=0.004). The median time to decompensation in patients who engaged with alcohol services was 10.3 years (8.6 – 12) versus 3.9 years (1.3 - 6.6) in those who did not (log rank p<0.001). Excluding patients with decompensation within 3 months of first abnormal LBT did not change the pattern of results but statistical significance was lost.

The natural history of ALD allows for a significant period of time between detection and liver-related morbidity.

Attendance at alcohol services is associated with a significant delay between detection to decompensation in this cohort of patients. These data can support efforts to detect liver disease amongst persons with alcohol use disorder.

**OPLS-DA modelling with an optimised threshold diagnosed IgG4-RD – as opposed to PSC – with an accuracy of 86%, sensitivity of 96%, and specificity of 70% (figure 1), adjusted for age, gender, comorbidities, serum IgG4 level and medications. Both IgG4-RD and PSC were independently distinguishable from HC with an accuracy of 96% and 91%, respectively. When only IgG4-SC patients (n=23) were included with large-duct PSC patients (n=81), the accuracy was 88%. When IBD was excluded as a comorbid condition (IgG4-SC n=20, PSC n=22), the diagnostic AUC was 0.998 (0.991–1.000).

The metabolomic signature determined by serum NMR in patients with IgG4-RD and more specifically IgG4-SC, is distinct from PSC and HC in our cohort. Metabolomic profiling has the potential to be incorporated as an additional criterion to improve the diagnosis of IgG4-RD and help distinguish IgG4-SC from PSC.

**006** AMINOBISPHONONATES ENHANCE LIVER-RESIDENT GAMMA DELTA T CELLS FOR EFFICIENT TARGETING OF HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA

**Background** More effective immunotherapeutic strategies are urgently needed for hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Gamma delta (γδ) T-cells are attractive candidates for cancer immunotherapy due to their potent cytotoxicity, tissue localisation and HLA-unrestricted tumour reactivity. We characterised liver and tumour infiltrating γδ T-cells in HCC, and explored whether modulating features of tissue-residency could provide a novel immunotherapeutic approach.

**Methods** Lymphocytes isolated from paired blood, liver, and tumoural tissue from patients with HCC (n=31) in comparison to colorectal cancer liver metastases (n=30) were analysed by multiparameter flow cytometry. γδ T-cell counts were determined by immunostaining. Long-lived persistence of intrahepatic γδ T-cells was examined using donor and recipient HLA-mismatched liver allografts (7–11 years post liver transplantation). Aminobisphosphonate (Zoledronic acid, ZOL) and IL-2 expanded blood V δ2 T-cells, intrahepatic lymphocytes, and tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes, were co-cultured with human hepatoma cell-lines (HepG2, HuH7) pre-treated with ZOL to promote tumour-cell phosphoantigens accumulation for V δ2 T-cell receptor activation.

**Results** Higher intratumoural γδ T-cell counts were associated with smaller HCC tumour size and greater 3-year patient survival (p<0.01). γδ T-cells exhibited a tissue-resident memory (TRM) phenotype (CD69+CD49a+) in human liver and HCC, with superior anti-tumour cytokine production and long-lived persistence in the liver (>10 years), an attractive profile to recapitulate with immunotherapy. A subset of γδ T-cells, V δ2 T-cells, were selectively depleted within HCC but displayed the highest γδ TRM phenotype. In vitro expansion of blood V δ2 T-cells using clinically approved ZOL and IL-2 induced a de novo TRM phenotype with improved cytotoxicity. Furthermore, direct sensitisation of hepatoma cell-lines with ZOL enhanced the anti-tumour function (IFNγ, TNFα) of co-cultured expanded V δ2 T-cells and V δ2 TRM cells isolated from HCC livers and tumours, with a significant increase in tumour-cell lysis.

**Conclusion** Liver-resident γδ T-cells possess beneficial and long-lived immunotherapeutic properties. Our findings indicate a novel immunotherapeutic strategy for HCC, combining the use of aminobisphosphonates to induce γδ TRM for potential adoptive cell transfer, with intra-tumoural delivery to sensitise HCC for more efficient γδ T-cell based targeting.