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Diagnosis



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Exploring primary biliary cholangitis

October 27, 2025 1 min read

While [PBC progresses slowly](#) and many patients do not experience symptoms during the early stages of disease, there are many symptoms to look out for. In later stages of disease, patients may experience symptoms of cirrhosis. See below for the breakdown of potential early-stage and [late-stage PBC symptoms](#).

Signs and symptoms of PBC

Early-stage PBC

- Fatigue
- Pruritus
- Abdominal pain
- Skin darkening
- Yellow or white bumps under the skin or around the eyes
- Dry mouth or eyes
- Bone, muscle and joint pain

Late-stage PBC after development of cirrhosis

- Jaundice
- Swelling of the legs and feet
- Ascites
- Varices
- Osteoporosis that may cause fractures
- Increased risk for hepatocellular carcinoma

New!



- Primary Biliary Cholangitis (PBC). <https://liverfoundation.org/liver-diseases/autoimmune-liver-diseases/primary-biliary-cholangitis-pbc/>. Accessed Sept. 22, 2025.

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In these videos, **Gideon Hirschfield, PhD, MB BChir**, the Lily and Terry Horner Chair in Autoimmune Liver Disease Research discusses the latest treatment options for biliary diseases and more.

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