Liver disease is one of the most common chronic medical conditions managed by general internists. With the rise of hepatitis C over the past 40 years, the increasing frequency of NASH, and the always prevalent alcoholic liver disease, chronic liver disease has become a very common medical problem. This issue of Medical Clinics of North America focuses on diagnosis and management of chronic liver disease. The goal of this issue is to give current information and updates on some of the common liver problems and what the state-of-the-art workup and treatments are for these conditions. Since the development of successful liver transplantation in the 1980s, the importance of high-quality management and recognition of chronic liver disease has taken greater importance. Dr Anne Larson, one of the leading hepatologists in the United States, has put together an issue that addresses the important questions that physicians have as they manage patients with chronic liver disease.

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