Direct Hyperbilirubinemia of Infancy

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Direct hyperbilirubinemia of infancy is a commonly encountered disease in pediatric practice. The disease can be due to various causes including giant cell hepatitis, galactosmia, hereditary fructose intolerance, cystic fibrosis, infection (viral, bacterial), hereditary tyrosinemia, intra-hepatic biliary atresia and extrahepatic biliary atresia. In this article, the current knowledge on the subject is reviewed, the various causes are discussed, and a systematic approach using the relevant investigations including nuclear scanning and percutaneous liver biopsy, is formulated.