

Dr Gideon Hirschfield MA MB BChir MRCP PhD

Senior Lecturer/Honorary Consultant Hepatologist

School of Immunity and Infection

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About

Gideon Hirschfield is a clinician and academic with a special interest in Hepatology, and in particular autoimmune liver disease. He is well published scientifically and clinically in his field having made important contributions to the understanding and clinical management of diseases such as primary biliary cirrhosis, primary sclerosing cholangitis and autoimmune hepatitis. He joined Birmingham in 2012 after just over 4 years in Toronto where he focussed heavily on the genetics of autoimmune liver disease. His goal in Birmingham is to continue the translation of scientific advances towards new rational patient therapies for patients with autoimmune liver disease.

Qualifications

- Senior Lecturer
- MB BChir 1996
- MRCP 1999
- PhD 2006

Biography

Gideon Hirschfield graduated with the Highest First in his year from Trinity College Oxford in 1994, and subsequently was awarded a double distinction during his clinical training in Cambridge. He undertook junior medical posts at the Hammersmith and Royal Brompton hospitals before moving to a MRC Clinical Research Fellowship at UCL. There he worked within the uniquely translational National Amyloidosis Centre/Centre for Acute Phase Proteins, with Sir Mark Pepys FRS as his supervisor. His PhD was focussed on the development of inhibitors of C-reactive protein. He completed his advanced Gastroenterology and Hepatology training in Cambridge, and was awarded Specialist status in 2007. Until January 2012 he worked in Toronto, Canada, where he was a Staff Physician and Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University Health Network and University of Toronto. During this time he managed one of the largest autoimmune liver disease cohorts in North America, and with his colleague Prof Kathy Siminovitch published the seminal genetic observations underpinning the IL-12 signalling axis as critical to the pathophysiology of primary biliary cirrhosis. He now divides his time between academic translational research in autoimmune liver disease, with a focus towards cholestatic diseases, and his clinical practice at the QE hospital

Teaching

- [Medicine and Surgery MBChB \(/undergraduate/courses/med/medicine.aspx\)](#)

Postgraduate supervision

Gideon is interested in supervising doctoral research students in the following areas:

- The pathophysiology and clinical management of autoimmune liver disease.

If you are interesting in studying any of these subject areas please contact Gideon on the contact details above.

Research

RESEARCH THEMES

Autoimmune liver disease, Genomics, Clinical Trials, Immunology

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Translational research looking to understand how the pathophysiologic basis of autoimmune liver disease can be better understood to the benefit of patients requiring more rational therapy.

Other activities

- Medical Advisor PSC and PBC patient support groups

- Consultant QE Hospital (Hepatology/Liver Transplantation)
- Consultancy to Pharma on design and conduct of clinical trials in autoimmune liver disease

Publications

Hirschfield GM, Xie G, Lu E, Sun Y, Juran BD, Chellappa V, Coltescu C, Mason AL, Milkiewicz P, Myers RP, Odin JA, Luketic VA, Bacon B, Bodenheimer H, Liakina V, Vincent C, Levy C, Pillai S, Lazaridis KN, Amos CI, Siminovitch KA. Association of primary biliary cirrhosis with variants in the CLEC16A, SOCS1, SPIB and SIAE immunomodulatory genes. *Genes Immun*. 2012 Jan 19. doi: 10.1038/gene.2011.89.

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Hirschfield GM, Heathcote EJ, Gershwin ME. Pathogenesis of cholestatic liver disease and therapeutic approaches. *Gastroenterology*. 2010 Nov;139(5):1481-96

Al-Harthy N, Kumagi T, Coltescu C, Hirschfield GM. The specificity of fatigue in primary biliary cirrhosis: evaluation of a large clinic practice. *Hepatology*. 2010 Aug;52(2):562-70.

Liu X, Invernizzi P, Lu Y, Kosoy R, Lu Y, Bianchi I, Podda M, Xu C, Xie G, Macciardi F, Selmi C, Lupoli S, Shigeta R, Ransom M, Lleo A, Lee AT, Mason AL, Myers RP, Peltekian KM, Ghent CN, Bernuzzi F, Zuin M, Rosina F, Borghesio E, Floreani A, Lazzari R, Niro G, Andriulli A, Muratori L, Muratori P, Almasio PL, Andreone P, Margotti M, Brunetto M, Coco B, Alvaro D, Bragazzi MC, Marra F, Pisano A, Rigamonti C, Colombo M, Marziani M, Benedetti A, Fabris L, Strazzabosco M, Portincasa P, Palmieri VO, Tiribelli C, Croce L, Bruno S, Rossi S, Vinci M, Prisco C, Mattalia A, Toniutto P, Picciotto A, Galli A, Ferrari C, Colombo S, Casella G, Morini L, Caporaso N, Colli A, Spinzi G, Montanari R, Gregersen PK, Heathcote EJ, Hirschfield GM, Siminovitch KA, Amos CI, Gershwin ME, Seldin MF. Genome-wide meta-analyses identify three loci associated with primary biliary cirrhosis. *Nat Genet*. 2010 Aug;42(8):658-60.

Hirschfield GM, Liu X, Han Y, Gorlov IP, Lu Y, Xu C, Lu Y, Chen W, Juran BD, Coltescu C, Mason AL, Milkiewicz P, Myers RP, Odin JA, Luketic VA, Speiciene D, Vincent C, Levy C, Gregersen PK, Zhang J, Heathcote EJ, Lazaridis KN, Amos CI, Siminovitch KA. Variants at IRF5-TNPO3, 17q12-21 and MMEL1 are associated with primary biliary cirrhosis. *Nat Genet*. 2010 Aug;42(8):655-7.

Hirschfield GM, Liu X, Xu C, Lu Y, Xie G, Lu Y, Gu X, Walker EJ, Jing K, Juran BD, Mason AL, Myers RP, Peltekian KM, Ghent CN, Coltescu C, Atkinson EJ, Heathcote EJ, Lazaridis KN, Amos CI, Siminovitch KA. Primary biliary cirrhosis associated with HLA, IL12A, and IL12RB2 variants. *N Engl J Med*. 2009 Jun 11;360(24):2544-55.

Expertise

Gideon Hirschfield is an expert in the management of advanced liver disease and liver transplantation. In particular he has a global recognition and expertise in autoimmune liver disease (primary biliary cirrhosis, primary sclerosing cholangitis, autoimmune hepatitis) including the development of new therapies for patients.

Media experience

He has contributed expert opinion and advice to the media previously including the BBC, as well as contributing to video promotion of the Liver Biomedical Research Unit at the University.

