



# Mysterious Liver Disease

## Why in News?

Recently, some Cases of a **Mysterious Liver Disease** have been reported in Spain, Denmark and the Netherlands, besides the US and UK.

## What is this Mysterious Disease?

### ▪ About:

- Children between the **age of 1 to 6 years old** have been the target of the disease.
- According to reports, the disease might be related to **virus usually associated with colds**.
- The disease has been reported to be severe so far. Though **no children died** so far in the US, UK, six children needed liver transplants.

### ▪ Symptoms:

- The symptoms are general liver diseases like **hepatitis** or liver inflammation but the cause remains unknown.
- **Jaundice, diarrhoea** and **abdominal pain** has been reported.

### ▪ Probable Causes:

- Laboratory testing has ruled out the **hepatitis** type A, B, C and E viruses that usually cause such illnesses. The role of international travel, if any, is not yet known.
- Maybe a group of viruses called **adenoviruses, which cause common respiratory illnesses** such as the common cold.
  - Some of the European children tested positive for adenovirus, and some tested positive for **Covid-19**.
  - Adenoviruses are preferred for vaccines because their **DNA (DeoxyRiboNucleic Acid)** is double stranded which makes them genetically more stable and the chances of them changing after injection are lower.
- As per their analyses, **there could be a possible association of hepatitis with Adenovirus 41**.

[Source: IE](#)

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