

Treatment Liver damage from cirrhosis cannot be reversed, but treatment can stop or delay further progression and reduce complications. Treatment for hepatitis-related cirrhosis involves medications used to treat the different types of hepatitis, such as interferon for viral hepatitis and corticosteroids for autoimmune hepatitis. Survival rates have improved over the past several years because of drugs such as cyclosporine and tacrolimus, which suppress the immune system and keep it from attacking and damaging the new liver. Antibiotics will be prescribed for infections, and various medications can help with itching. Protein causes toxins to form in the digestive tract, so eating less protein will help decrease the buildup of toxins in the blood and brain. If varices bleed, the doctor may either inject them with a clotting agent or perform a so-called rubber-band ligation, which uses a special device to compress the varices and stop the bleeding. These are just a few examples-- treatment for cirrhosis resulting from other diseases depends on the underlying cause. The doctor may also prescribe laxatives to help absorb the toxins and remove them from the intestines.