

PROF.
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Mark Thursz is professor of hepatology at Imperial College where he is head of the Digestive Diseases Division and also lead clinician for hepatology at St Mary's Hospital, London. His clinical interests are in viral hepatitis, alcoholic and fatty liver disease.

Professor Thursz' research interests are focussed on the natural history of viral hepatitis and fatty liver disease and the factors which determine chronic infection and progressive liver disease. He has a special interest in the genetic determinants of disease outcomes using genetic association and genome wide scanning to identify causative variants. Professor Thursz is chief investigator on two multi-centre trials: The warfarin anticoagulation for liver fibrosis in patients transplanted for hepatitis C (WAFT-C) trial and the steroids or pentoxifylline for alcoholic hepatitis (STOPAH) trial. He is chief investigator on the PROLIFICA programme (www.prolifica.eu) in West Africa.

Professor Thursz is a former secretary of the British Association for Study of the Liver (BASL) and has recently completed his term as Secretary-General of the European Association for Study of the Liver. He remains active in advocacy for treatment availability for patients with viral hepatitis and for government policy to reduce alcohol consumption. He is chair of the Hepatitis C Coalition, a group of professional and patient representative groups working together towards the elimination of HCV in the UK.