

CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA FOR HEPATIC AMOEBIASIS

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The diagnosis of hepatic amoebiasis is based in clinical practice on the use of varying and non uniform clinical criteria. We present an objective set of diagnostic criteria based on a retrospective analysis of patients admitted to our Unit.

(I) Hepatic Criteria	Points
(i) Right hypochondrial pain	1
(ii) Enlarged tender liver	3
or	
tender epigastric lump	5
(iii) Right intercostal space—	
tender and full	5
definite tenderness	4
ill defined tenderness	1

SECTION A

(I) Hepatic Criteria <i>(cont.)</i>	<i>Points</i>
(iv) Elevation of right dome of diaphragm (over 2.5 cm)	3
(v) Aspiration of Amoebic pus.	10
(vi) SGPT— Normal	1
Mild elevation	½
Over 60 I.U.	(-) 1
(vii) Definite clinical jaundice	(-) 1
 (II) Extra Hepatic Criteria	
(A) (i) Fever— Less than 100°F	1
Over 100°F	2
(ii) Neutrophil count— 7000-10,000/cu mm	1
Over 10,000/cu mm	2
(B) (i) Definite alcoholic history	1
(ii) Blood and mucus diarrhoea within 6 months	1
(iii) Right basal lung signs	1
(iv) Right shoulder tip pain	1
(v) ESR— Over 100 mm/hr	2
50-100 mm/hr	1

A diagnosis of Hepatic Amoebiasis could be made with

- a. 10 points from (I).
- or b. 10 points overall with at least
 - 5 points from (I)
 - and 2 points from II A or 1 point each from II A and II B.