



How to Discriminate Between Primary Hepatic Lymphoma and Cholangiocarcinoma

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Dear Editor,

We read the report on ‘Primary Hepatic Lymphoma Mimicking Cholangiocarcinoma’ published in the July 2017 issue of the *Oman Medical Journal* with great interest.¹ In fact, both primary hepatic lymphoma and cholangiocarcinoma might result in highly similar clinical presentation and are sporadically mentioned in the literature.²⁻⁴ Here, we would like to discuss a possible way to differentiate between both disorders using serum alkaline phosphatase (ALP) isoenzyme electrophoresis, a simple laboratory test. Based on a previous report from Thailand, the significant elevation of specific fast liver isoenzyme of ALP can be observed in malignant tumors of the biliary tract.⁵ For primary hepatic lymphoma, additional atypical bone-like isoenzyme of ALP might be observed.⁶ Since the ALP isoenzyme test can be easily done and provide the result within a short time, it should be considered a tool to help confirm the diagnosis of cholangiocarcinoma.

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