

Customer Case Study



Implementation of the ELF Test at Nice University Hospitals for improved liver fibrosis care

Lack of access to blood testing for liver fibrosis at Nice University Hospitals was challenging for patient care

Nice University Hospitals



Nice, France



Hepatology Unit (Archet2)

- Treats patients with acute or chronic liver diseases (CLD), before and after liver transplantation
- Collaborates with Addictology Unit
- 14 beds (incl. 2 for patients hospitalized for alcohol withdrawal)

Clinical Laboratory (Pasteur)

- Automated Clinical Laboratory Unit
- 10 medical biologists and 47 laboratory technicians
- 2000 patient files/day
- Routine and specialized biochemistry
- Hormonology and tumor markers analyses



Challenges

Without a proprietary liver fibrosis blood test in house, patients were forced to seek blood draws and testing elsewhere, implying diminished patient experience.

Secondly, local experience indicated that in alcoholic populations, transient elastography (TE) values fluctuate* leading to cautious interpretation of results.¹⁻⁶



Risks

- Suboptimal patient care: patients had to find and visit another lab for testing, causing potential delays in results communication.
- Hindering the assessment of prognosis and the identification of patients who would benefit from complete alcohol abstinence over controlled consumption.⁷



Solution: Enhanced Liver Fibrosis (ELF) Test

- The Enhanced Liver Fibrosis (ELF) Test: a non-invasive simple blood test that measures three direct markers of fibrosis.
- ELF is featured in more than 200 peer-reviewed publications and clinical practice guidelines and has been evaluated in multiple forms of chronic liver disease, incl. alcoholic liver disease (ALD).
- Fully automated: ELF score is calculated and reported by the Atellica IM Analyzer.



[siemens-healthineers.com/benefits-of-elf-test](https://www.siemens-healthineers.com/benefits-of-elf-test)

*Values tend to be overestimated during periods of heavy drinking and quickly decrease once drinking stops.

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Outcomes

- ✓ Implementation of ELF test with ~ 450 tests done in 2024, primarily to baseline MASLD patients.
- ✓ Based on our experience, the ELF test appears to be a useful tool to assess liver fibrosis or cirrhosis after patients withdraw from alcohol use.

1

Streamlined patient care

2

Improved management of CLD patients

"Before having the ELF in our hospital, it was challenging to get patients tested with liver fibrosis blood tests. Now, we routinely use ELF alongside other tests to assess the severity of liver fibrosis in patients consulting our hepatology unit. Since we work with the Addictology unit, we also checked ELF performances in alcoholic patients and found it reliable for assessing liver fibrosis in those patients."



Prof. Rodolphe Anty
Hepatology Unit, Inserm U1065, Côte d'Azur University



Hepatology Unit (Archet2)



Clinical Laboratory (Pasteur)

"After we validated its performances, we added the ELF test to the Atellica Analyzer in our lab without needing extra training for our staff. The instrument automatically reports the score, so we can quickly send results to the hepatology department. Plus using the current Government reimbursement and funding, adding the ELF test didn't result in added costs for our patients or the hospital."



Prof. Giulia Chinetti and Dr. Charlotte Hinault-Boyer
Biochemistry Laboratory, Inserm U1065, Côte d'Azur University

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Product availability varies by country and is subject to varying regulatory requirements. Their future availability cannot be guaranteed. Please contact your local representative for availability.

Siemens Healthineers supported the study in ref. 7 by providing ELF reagents.

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