Evidence Table 6: Key Question 4a. Overall Quality Rating

| **Study, year** | **Representative spectrum** | **Random or consecutive sample** | **Test cutoffs predefined** | **Credible reference standard** | **Attempted to apply reference standard to all patients, or a random subset** | **Same reference standard applied to all patients** | **Reference standard interpreted independently from test under evaluation** |  **Overall Quality** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Adams, 2005 b 7 | Yes | Unclear | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Ahmad, 20118 | Yes | Unclear | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Alder, 200810 | Yes | Unclear | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Alsatie, 2007 9 | Yes | Unclear | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Anderson, 2000 11 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Becker, 2009 12 | Yes | Unclear | Unclear (for Hepascore) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Bejarano, 2009 13 | No (no grade 2 fibrosis) | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Ben Jazia, 2009 15 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Berg, 2004 143 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Boeker, 2002 16  | No (case-control design) | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Poor |
| Bonacini, 1997 17 | Yes | Unclear | No (for Cirrhosis Discriminant Score) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Borroni, 2006 18 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Bota, 201119 | No | Unclear | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Bourliere, 2008 20 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Bourliere, 2006 21 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Boursier, 201222 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Boursier, 2011 23 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Boursier, 2009 24 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Burton, 2011 25 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Cales, 201026 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Cales, 2008 144 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Castera, 2010 28 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Castera, 2009 29 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Castera, 2005 30  | Yes | Yes | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Cheong, 2011 31 | Yes | Yes | No (for Significant Fibrosis Index) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Cheung, 2008 33 | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Cheung, 2011 32 | Yes | Unclear | No (for Fibrosis-protein Index) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Chrysanthos, 2006 34 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Cobbold, 2009 145 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Colletta, 2005 36 | Yes | Yes | Yes (for Fibrotest) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Colli, 200537 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Crisan, 201238 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Cross, 2010 39 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Cross, 2009 40 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Ehsan, 2008 41 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Poor |
| El-Gindy, 2003 42 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| El-Sayed, 201143 | No | Unclear | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| El-Shorbagy, 2004 44 | Yes | Unclear | No | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Poor |
| Fabris, 2008 45 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Fontana, 2008 46 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Forns, 2002 47 | Yes | Yes | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Friedrich-Rust, 2010 48 | Yes | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Gabrielli, 1997 49 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Giannini, 2006 50 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Giannini, 2003a 51  | Yes | Unclear | Yes (for AST/ALT ratio) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Giannini, 2003b 52 | Yes | Unclear | Yes (for AST/ALT ratio) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Gomes da Silva, 2008 53 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Grigorescu, 200754 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Guechot, 2010 55 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Guechot, 1996 56 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Guechot, 1994 57 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Guzelbulut, 201158 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Halfon, 2007 59 | Yes | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Halfon, 2006 60 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Halfon, 2005 61 | Yes | Unclear | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Hsieh, 2009 62 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Iacobellis, 2005a 63 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Iacobellis, 2005b 64 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Imbert-Bismut, 2001 65 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Imperiale, 2000 68 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Islam, 2005 69 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Kaul, 2002 70 | Yes | Unclear (for validation sample) | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Khan, 2008 71 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Khokhar, 2003 72 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | YEs | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Koda, 2007 73 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Lackner, 2005 74 and 2006 75 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Leroy, 2008 76 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Leroy, 2007 77 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Leroy, 2004 78 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Liu, 2006 79 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Lo Iacono, 1998 81 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Loaeza-del-Castillo, 200880 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Lok, 2005 82 | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Luo, 2002 83 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Martinez, 2011 84 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| McHutchison, 2000 85 | No (no grade 2 fibrosis) | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Metwally, 2007 86 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Murawaki, 2001a 88 | Yes (except no F4) | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Murawaki, 2001b 87 | Yes (except no F4) | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Myers, 2003 146 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Myers, 2003 89 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Myers, 2002 90 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Obrador, 2006 91 | Yes | Yes | Yes (for derivation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Ohta, 200692 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Omran, 201193 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Paggi, 2008 94 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Parise, 2006 95 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Park, 2000 97 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Park, 201196 | Yes | Yes | Not Relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Parkes, 2011 147 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Patel, 2009 100 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Patel, 2004 101 | Yes | No | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Plevris, 2000 102 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Pohl, 2001 103 | Yes | Yes | No (for Pohl Index) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Poynard, 2003 104 | Yes | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Poynard, 2002 105 | Yes | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Pradat, 2002 106 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Reedy, 1998 107 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Renou, 2001 108 | Yes | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Romera, 2006 109 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Rosenberg, 2004? 110 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Rossi, 2003 111 | Yes | Yes | Yes (for Fibrotest) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Saadeh, 2001 112 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Said, 2010113 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Saitou, 2005 114 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | No | No | Unclear | Poor |
| Schneider, 2006 115 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Schneider, 2005 116 | Yes | Yes | No (for portal venous flow and spleen size) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Sebastiani, 2012117 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Sebastiani, 2011118 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |
| Sebastiani, 2009 119 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Sebastiani, 2008 120 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Sebastiani, 2006 121 | Yes | Yes | Unclear (for Fibrotest) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Sene, 2006 148 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Sheth, 1998 122 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Silva, 2004 123 | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Sirli, 2010124 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Snyder, 2007125 | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Snyder, 2006 126 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear (for retrospective sample) | Fair |
| Stibbe, 2011127 | Yes | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Sud, 2004 128  | Yes | Yes | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Testa, 2006 129 | Yes | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Trocme, 2006 130 | Yes (except no F0) | No | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Vallet-Pichard, 2007 131 | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Varaut, 2005 149  | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Viana, 2009 58  | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Wai, 2003 | Yes | Yes | Yes (for validation sample) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Good |
| Walsh, 2000 134 | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Walsh, 1999a 135 | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Walsh, 1999b 136 | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Williams, 1988 137 | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Wilson, 2006 138 | Yes | Unclear | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Wong, 1998 139 | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Yilmaz, 2011140 | Unclear | Unclear | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Fair |
| Zaman, 2007 141 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Unclear | Fair |
| Zarski, 2012142 | Yes | Yes | Not relevant (AUROC only) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Good |

Abbreviations: APRI, aspartate aminotransferase (AST) to platelets ratio; AST/ALT, aspartate aminotransferase–alanine aminotransferase; AUROC, area under the receiver operating characteristic.