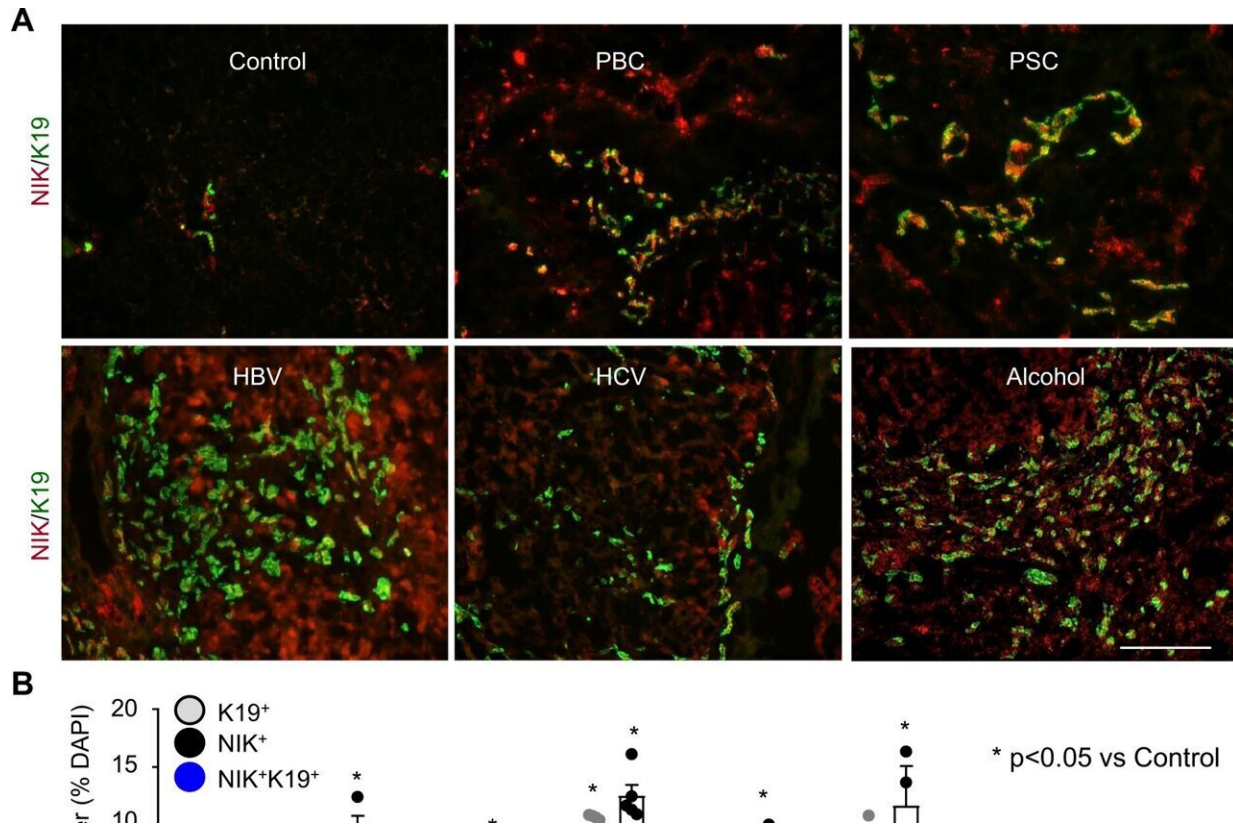


# This molecule could be behind liver fibrosis

September 26 2022, by Kelly Malcom



Chronic liver disease is associated with NIK upregulation in cholangiocytes. **A, B** Human liver sections were stained with antibodies to NIK and K19. **A** Representative images. Scale bar: 200  $\mu$ m. **B** NIK<sup>+</sup>, K19<sup>+</sup>, and NIK<sup>+</sup>K19<sup>+</sup> cells were counted and normalized to total cells. Control: *n* = 3 subjects, PBC: *n* = 3 subjects, PSC: *n* = 3 subjects, HBV: *n* = 5 subjects, HCV: *n* = 3 subjects, Alcohol: *n* = 3 subjects. **C, D** C57BL/6J male mice were fed a chow or DDC diet for 4 weeks. **C** Liver sections were stained with antibodies to NIK and K19. NIK<sup>+</sup>, K19<sup>+</sup>, and NIK<sup>+</sup>K19<sup>+</sup> cells were counted and normalized to total cells. Chow: *n* = 3 mice, DDC: *n* = 3 mice. Scale bar: 200  $\mu$ m. **D** Liver NIK expression was measured by qPCR (normalized to 18 S levels). Chow: *n* = 4 mice, DDC: *n*

= 6 mice. a.u. arbitrary units. **E**, **F** C57BL/6J males were treated with BDL or sham surgery for 7 days. **E** Liver sections were stained with antibodies to NIK and K19. NIK<sup>+</sup>, K19<sup>+</sup>, and NIK<sup>+</sup>K19<sup>+</sup> cells were counted and normalized to total cells ( $n = 3$  mice per group). Scale bar: 200  $\mu\text{m}$ . **F** Liver NIK expression was measured by qPCR (normalized to 36B4 levels,  $n = 4$  mice per group). Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SEM. \* $p$

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