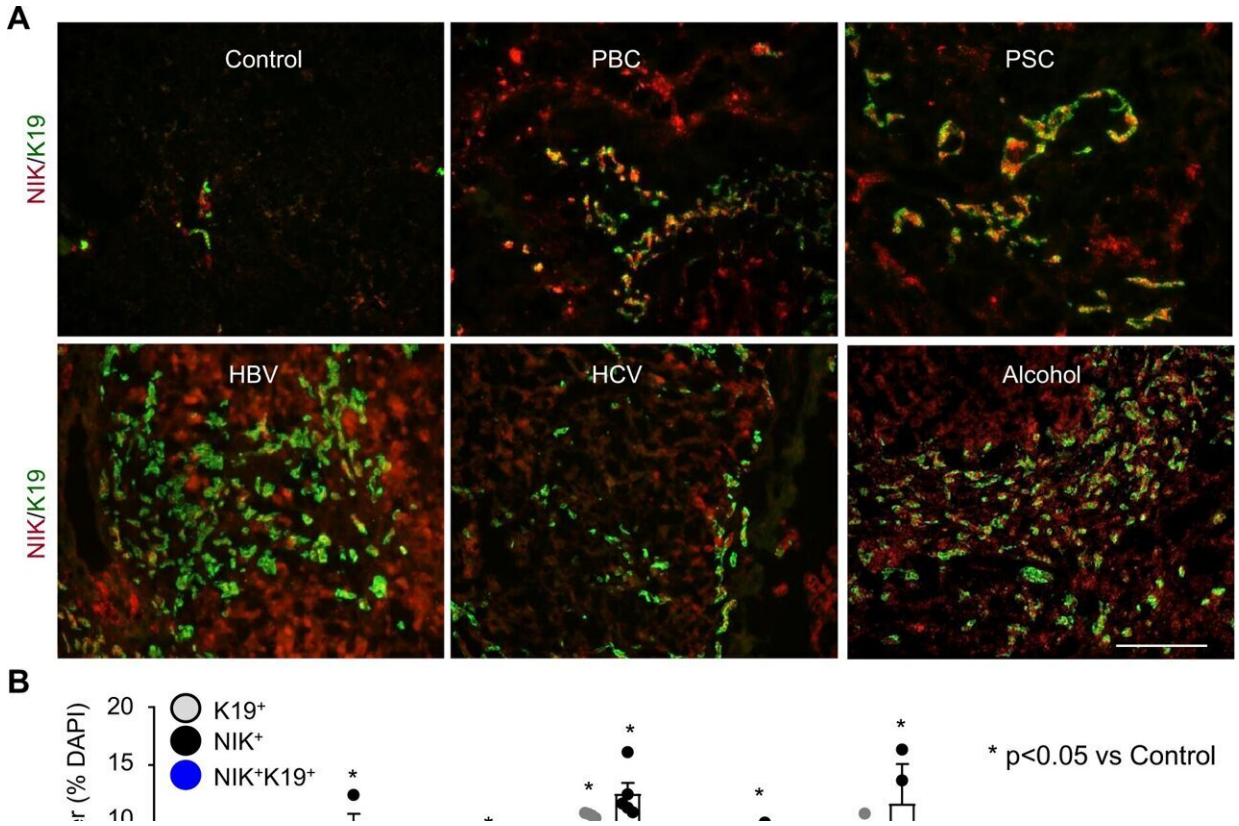
This molecule could be behind liver fibrosis

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 μm. **B** NIK^+, $K19^+$, and NIK^+K19^+ 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^+, $K19^+$, and NIK^+K19^+ cells were counted and normalized to total cells. Chow: $n = 3$ mice, DDC: $n = 3$ mice. Scale bar: 200 μm. **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^+, $K19^+$, and NIK^+K19^+ cells were counted and normalized to total cells (n = 3 mice per group). Scale bar: 200 μm. **F** Liver NIK expression was measured by qPCR (normalized to 36B4 levels, n = 4 mice per group). Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *p