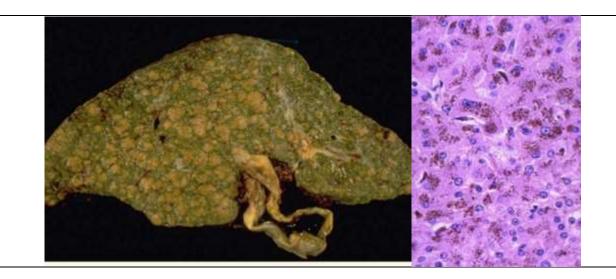
# 290 XVIII. Diseases of Liver, G. Bladder, Pancreas & Peritoneum Liver

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Pigmentary Cirrhosis (haemochromatosis)		
Liver:	Size:	• Is Increased
	Surface:	• Granular (or finely-nodular)
	Cut surface:	Rusty-brown or reddish-brown
		• Islets of variable size and shape (0.1–1 cm. in diameter)
		Occasional pale regenerated nodules
		Pale greyish-white fibrous bands
	Consistence:	• Firm



#### **N.B.:**

- This type of cirrhosis gives the picture of a mild case of portal cirrhosis.
- The liver becomes large, reddish brown, firm and finely-nodular.
- It is part of a disease called "bronze diabetes" which is due to a *disorder (inborn error) of iron metabolism.*
- The result is excessive accumulation of iron in various tissues specially the liver.
- Another factor may be **copper-poisoning** leading to slow, long-acting haemolysis of red blood cells.
- The condition is commoner in males at middle age.



#### Features:

#### 1. The pancreas:

• Becomes deep brown, firm, fibrosed and with degenerative changes in the parenchymatous tissue, and atrophic changes in the islets of Langerhans due *to deposition of iron and its pigment*.

### 2. The spleen:

- Becomes large, brown, firm, fibrosed and pigmented.
- 3. Pigmentation and some atrophic changes may appear in:
  - *Heart;*
  - Kidneys;
  - Adrenal glands;
  - *Pitui*tary gland;
  - Thyroid glands;
  - Testes;
  - Voluntary muscles;
  - Lymph nodes;
  - Skin.

## Sequels:

- **1.** Bronzed coloration of the skin.
- 2. Diabetes mellitus.
- **3.** *Pigmentary cirrhosis.*
- 4. Portal venous hypertension.
- 5. Liver cell failure.
- 6. Coronary artery disease.
- 7. Increased predisposition to carcinoma



