

# **A rare variation of hepatic artery arising from the left gastric artery in a Sri Lankan cadaver.**

Ranjan Mallawaarachchi, Saranga Wimalarathne, EDPS Fernando, LSS Salgado  
Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, P.O Box 6,  
Thalagolla road, Ragama.

---

## **ABSTRACT**

### **Introduction**

Anatomical variations of the arterial supply of the liver are frequently found. The normal hepatic arterial anatomy as described in classic text books is only found in 52-80% of cases. Knowledge of the hepatic arterial anatomical variations are important for those surgeons who perform liver transplant and hepatobiliary operations, to prevent vascular damage while performing surgery.

### **Objective**

To describe a rare variation of hepatic artery arising from the left gastric artery in a Sri Lankan cadaver.

### **Methodology**

This variation was found when a dissection was performed on a 65 year old male cadaver with a weight of 73kg, for demonstration of the celiac trunk and its branches, at the anatomy dissection hall, Faculty of Medicine, Ragama.

### **Results**

The hepatic artery was found to arise from the abnormally large left gastric artery of the celiac trunk and it was the only arterial supply of the liver.

The splenic, left gastric and the gastro duodenal arteries were found to arise from the celiac trunk.

### **Conclusion**

Knowledge of rare hepatic arterial variations is very important for hepatobiliary surgeons who perform frequent biliary tract operations and liver transplantations.