A Model of Cholestasis in the Rat, Using a Microsurgical Technique

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Aller MA, Lorente L, Alonso S, Arias J. A model of cholestasis in the rat, using a microsurgical technique. Scand J Gastroenterol 1993;28:10–14.

An experimental model of extrahepatic cholestasis in the rat, using a microsurgical technique, is described. Sixteen days postoperatively all of the animals ($n = 10$) were alive and had hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, jaundice, and hyperbilirubinemia. The use of this technique prevents the development of hepatic cysts and other complications inherent in the surgical techniques of cholestasis, such as hepatopneumonic abscesses.

Key words: Cholestasis; microsurgery; rat

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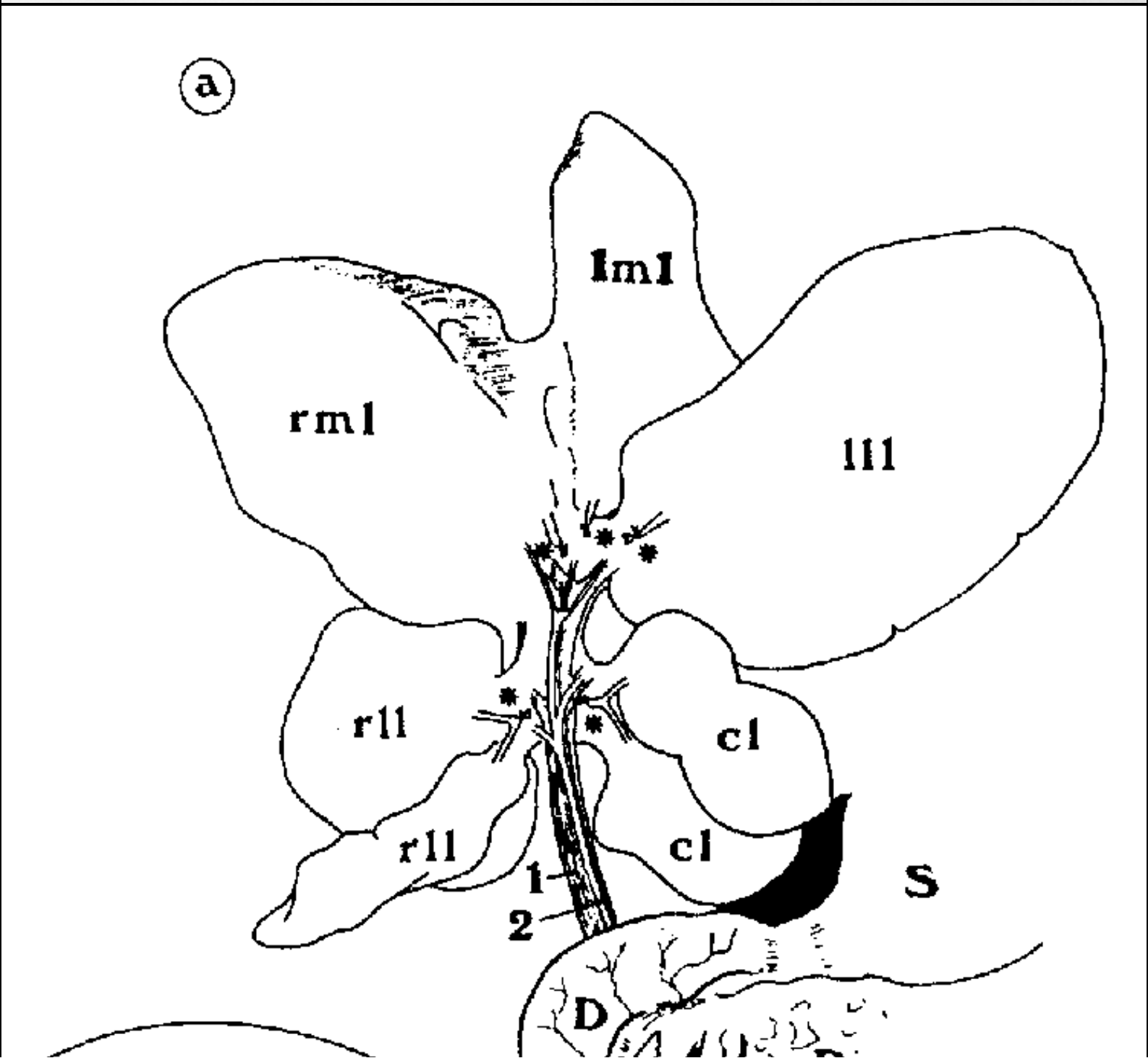

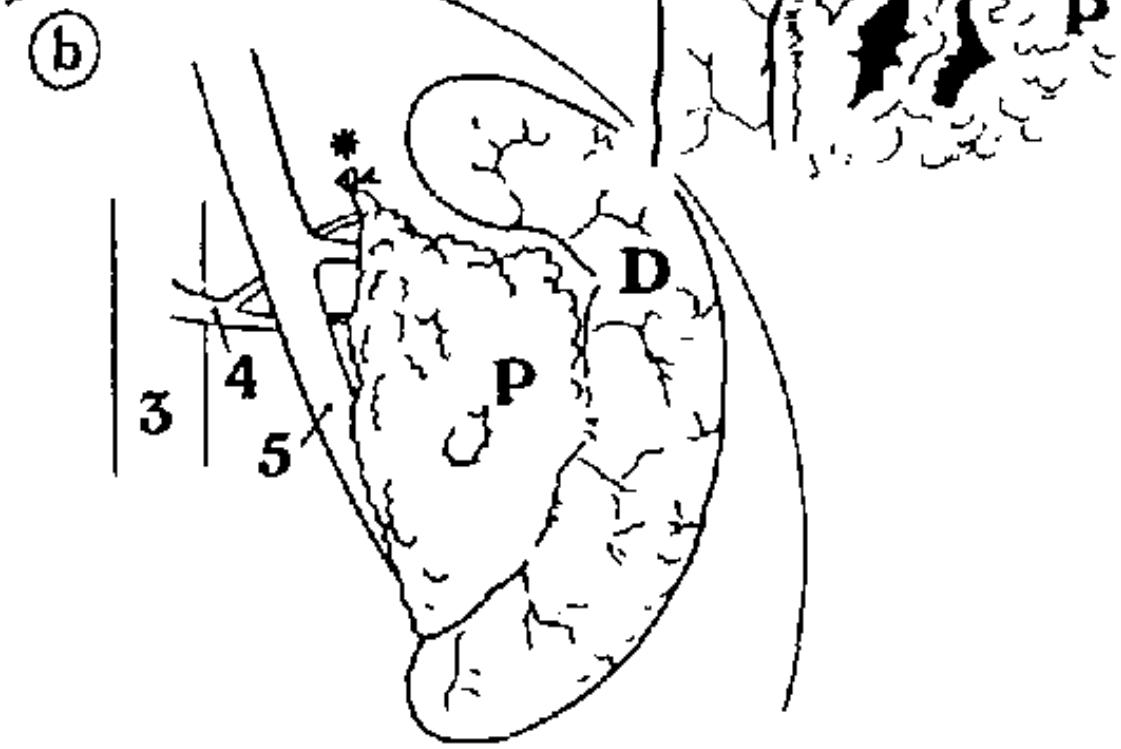

Fig. 1a. Representation of the hepatic hilus after the resection, following the ligature, of the biliary ducts (*), which drain the rat's liver lobules in continuity with the bile duct. rll = right lateral lobe; rml = right middle lobe; lml = left middle lobe; lll = left lateral lobe; cl = caudate lobe; S = stomach; D = duodenum; P = pancreas. 1 = portal vein and its hepatic lobular branches, 2 = hepatic artery and its hepatic lobular branches. Fig. 1b. Ligated and sectioned distal end (*) of the bile duct. D = duodenum; P = pancreas. 3 = aorta; 4 = celiac axis; 5 = portal vein.