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<http://www.eclinpath.com/chemistry/liver/liver-function-tests/bile-acids/>
Chemistry » Liver » Liver function » Bile acids

Secondary bile acids are those made by bacteria in the gut, specifically by dehydroxylating primary bile acids. As a result, lithocholic acid (dehydroxylated chenodeoxycholic acid) and deoxycholic acid (dehydroxylated cholic acid) are secondary bile acids. These bile acids are poorly water soluble and toxic to cells.