CLAIMS

1. A method of predicting a likelihood of a liver disease in a subject, the method comprising detecting in an extracellular vesicle sample from the subject the expression of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L*, *LIMS1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*, wherein an increase in the level of expression of the one or more genes, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference indicates that the subject is likely to have a liver disease.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the liver disease is metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD), non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), non-alcoholic steatosis, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH), or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more genes is selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L* and *LIMS1*, and wherein the liver disease is non-alcoholic steatosis, or wherein the one or more genes is selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*, and wherein the liver disease is metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the extracellular vesicle sample is an exosome sample.

5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the method comprises detecting a polypeptide and/or RNA product of the gene, optionally wherein the method comprises detecting an mRNA product of the gene.

6. The method of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the extracellular vesicle sample is isolated from a biological fluid, optionally wherein the biological fluid is blood, plasma or serum and/or wherein the extracellular vesicle sample is isolated from at least 500 µl of the biological fluid.

7. The method of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the increase in gene expression is at least two-fold relative to the reference, wherein the method further comprises isolating the extracellular vesicle sample from the subject prior to detecting gene expression.

8. A method of detecting a liver disease in a subject, the method comprising detecting in an extracellular vesicle sample from the subject the expression of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L*, *LIMS1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*, wherein an increase in the level of expression of the one or more genes, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference indicates that the subject has a liver disease.

9. An NAFLD therapeutic agent for use in treating a liver disease in a subject, wherein the expression of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of CTXN1, CSNK1E, EEF1A, NRGN, CPE, KHDC3L, LIMS1, MADCAM1, CHCHD1, CLPS, HSD17B14, SLPI, CIDEB, NAGS, VIPR2 and GAS1 has been detected in an extracellular vesicle sample obtained from the subject, and wherein an increase in the level of expression of the one or more genes, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference, indicated that the subject has or is likely to have a liver disease.

10. A method of classifying a subject with NAFLD, comprising detecting in a sample from the subject the expression level of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L*, *LIMS1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*,

    wherein an increase in the level of expression of the one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L* and *LIMS1*, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference, indicates that the subject has non-alcoholic steatosis,

    and wherein an increase in the level of expression of the one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference, indicates that the subject has metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

11. A method of monitoring a liver disease in a subject, the method comprising detecting in a sample from the subject the expression level of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L*, *LIMS1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the subject is undergoing or has undergone treatment for the liver disease, and/or wherein the liver disease is metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

13. The method of claim 11, wherein an increase in the level of expression of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L* and *LIMS1*, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference, indicates that the subject has or is likely to have non-alcoholic steatosis, or wherein an increase in the level of expression of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*, or a value derived therefrom, as compared to a reference, indicates that the subject has or is likely to have metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

14. A kit for detecting a liver disease in a subject, comprising reagents for detecting in a sample from the subject the expression of one or more genes selected from the group consisting of *CTXN1*, *CSNK1E*, *EEF1A*, *NRGN*, *CPE*, *KHDC3L*, *LIMS1*, *MADCAM1*, *CHCHD1*, *CLPS*, *HSD17B14*, *SLPI*, *CIDEB*, *NAGS*, *VIPR2* and *GAS1*.

15. The kit of claim 14, wherein the reagents comprise nucleic acids for detecting an mRNA product of the one or more genes and/or optionally wherein the kit further comprises devices and reagents for isolating an exosome fraction from a biological fluid from a subject, and/or optionally wherein the kit further comprises devices and reagents for isolating mRNA from an exosome fraction.