



СЕЧЕНОВСКИЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ



HBV TREATMENT GUIDELINES AND GUIDANCE

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HBV GUIDELINES AND GUIDANCE

- * Who needs to be treated and why?
- * How to treat and when to stop?

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Non-cirrhotic patients

* Elevated ALT levels

- [EASL, APASL]: >40 IU/ml;
- [AASLD]: >35 IU/ml (male) and >25 IU/ml (female);

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AASLD ALT value

For healthy persons:

- <31 IU/ml (for male)
- <19 IU (for female)

For treatment decisions:

- >35 IU/ml (for male)
- >25 (for female)

APASL ALT value definition

ULN is 40 IU/ml

- Low normal (≤ 0.5 ULN)
- High normal (> 0.5 and < 1 ULN)
- Minimally raised (> 1 and < 2 ULN)
- Raised (≥ 2 ULN)

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- [EASL, APASL]: >40 IU/ml;
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* HBV DNA levels

- [EASL]: >2000 IU/ml;
- [AASLD, APASL]:
 - >20000 IU/ml (for HBeAg-pos)
 - >2000 IU/ml (for HBeAg-neg);

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* Severe inflammation (A2 or A3) or significant fibrosis (\geq F2) [Liver biopsy by METAVIR]

- [EASL]: Liver stiffness **>9 kPa** (for normal ALT) or **>12 kPa** (for elevated ALT but below 5x ULN);
- [APASL]: Liver stiffness **\geq 8 kPa** or APRI \geq 1.5;
- [AASLD]: Liver stiffness cut-off value not indicated (F \geq 2)

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Patients with cirrhosis should be treated if any detectable HBV DNA, regardless of ALT level

Indications for treatment

Primarily based on the combination of 3 criteria

* *HBV DNA, serum ALT and severity of liver disease*

Recommendations	Grade of evidence	Grade of recommendation
Should be treated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients with HBeAg-positive or -negative chronic hepatitis B* Patients with cirrhosis, any detectable HBV DNA, regardless of ALT level Patients with HBV DNA >20,000 IU/mL and ALT >2x ULN, regardless of severity of histological lesions 	I I II-2	1 1 1
May be treated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients with HBeAg-positive chronic HBV infection[†] >30 years old, regardless of severity of liver histological lesions 	III	2
Can be treated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients with HBeAg-positive or -negative chronic HBV infection and family history of HCC or cirrhosis and extrahepatic manifestations[‡] 	III	2

*Defined by HBV DNA >2,000 IU/ml, ALT >ULN and/or at least moderate liver necroinflammation or fibrosis;

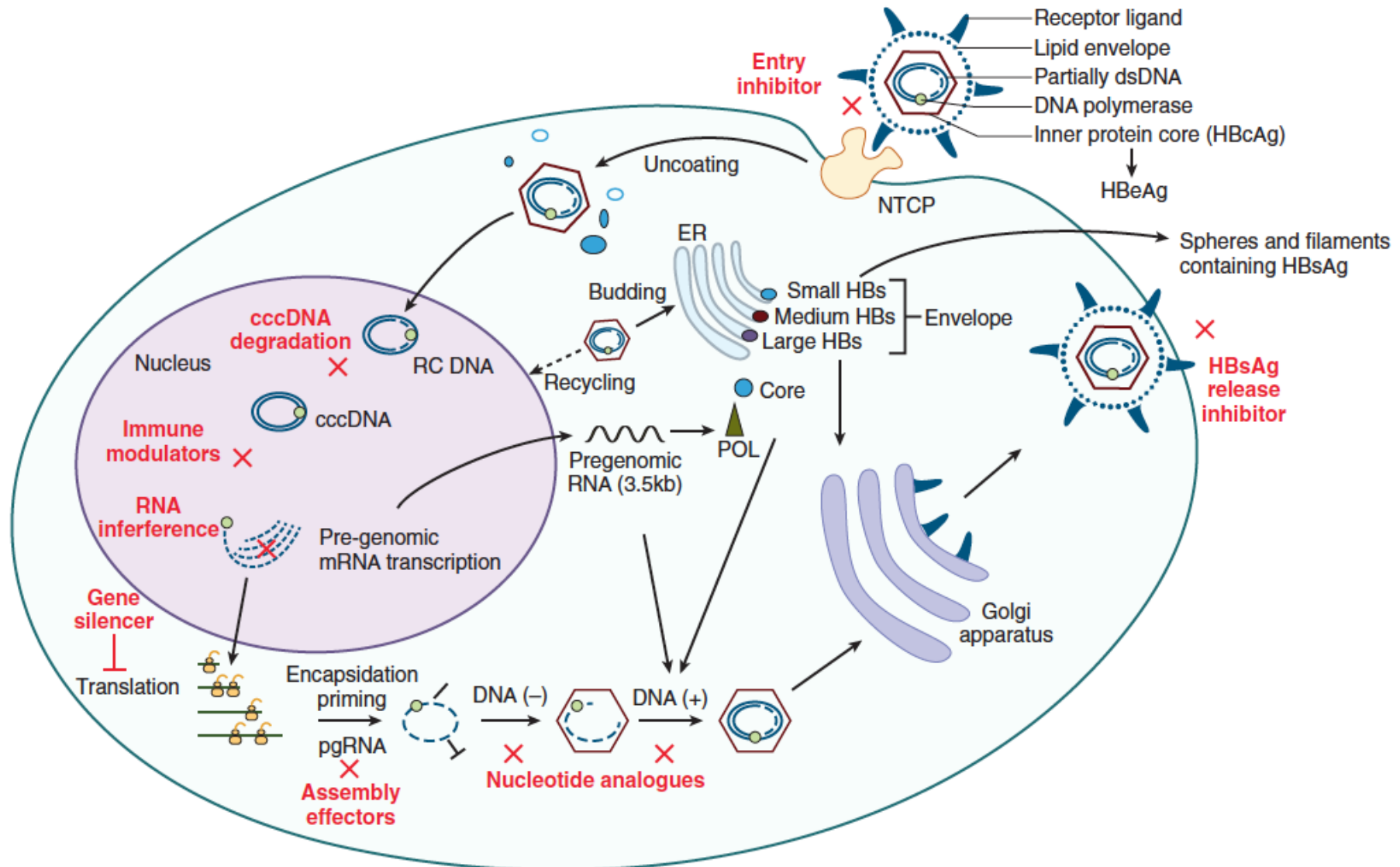
[†]Defined by persistently normal ALT and high HBV DNA levels;

[‡] Even if typical treatment indications are not fulfilled

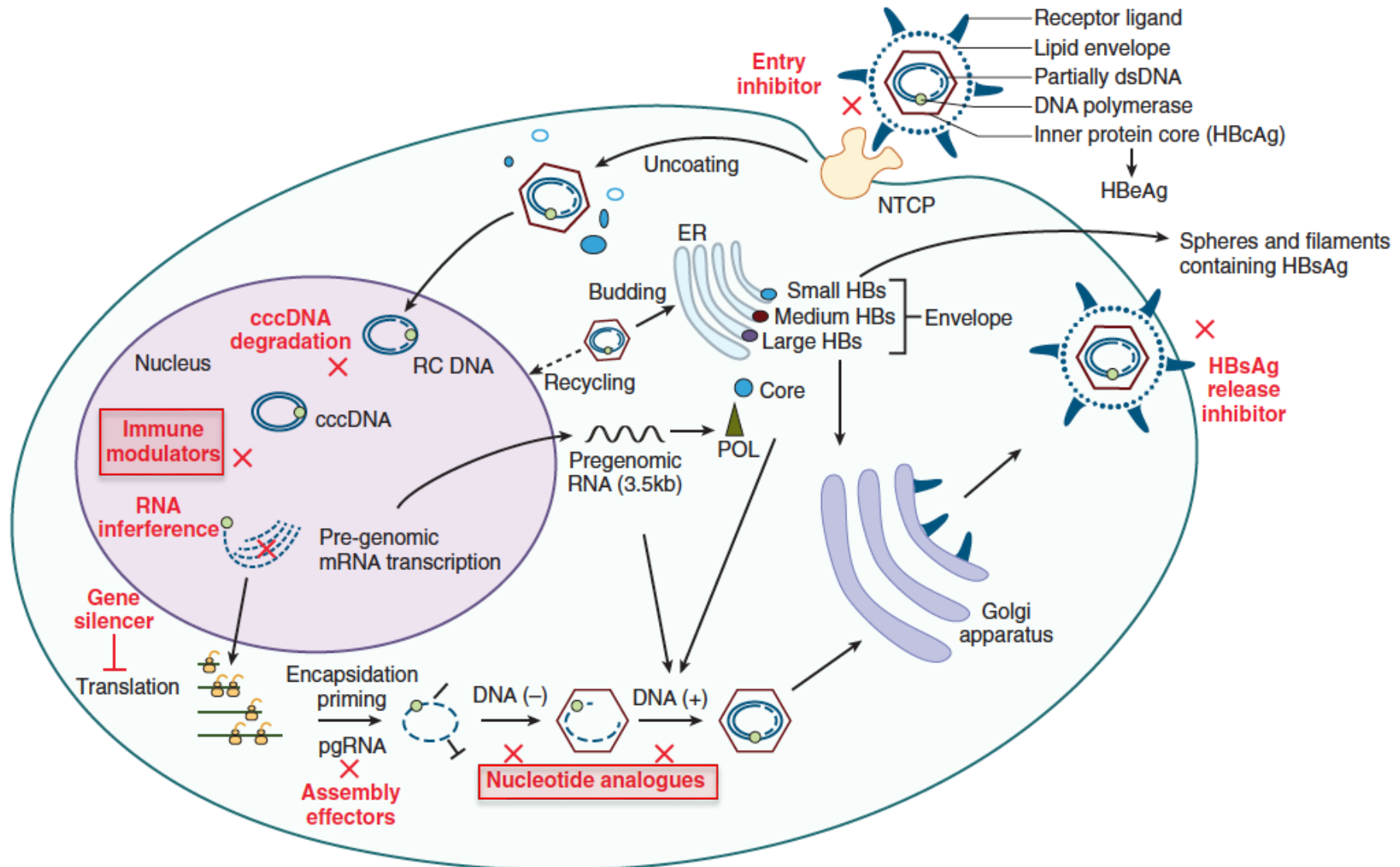
HBV GUIDELINES AND GUIDANCE

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HBV life cycle and therapeutic targets



HBV life cycle and therapeutic targets



First-Line Antiviral Therapies in Adults with Chronic Hepatitis B (Not Head-to-Head Comparisons)

HBeAg Positive	Peg-IFN*	Entecavir [†]	Tenofovir Disoproxil Fumarate [†]	Tenofovir Alafenamide [‡]
% HBV-DNA suppression (cutoff to define HBV-DNA suppression) [§]	30-42 (<2,000-40,000 IU/mL) 8-14 (<80 IU/mL)	61 (<50-60 IU/mL)	76 (<60 IU/mL)	73 (<29 IU/mL)
% HBeAg loss	32-36	22-25	—	22
% HBeAg seroconversion	29-36	21-22	21	18
% Normalization ALT	34-52	68-81	68	—
% HBsAg loss	2-7 11 (at 3 years posttreatment)	4-5	8	1
HBeAg Negative	Peg-IFN	Entecavir	Tenofovir Disoproxil Fumarate [†]	Tenofovir Alafenamide [‡]
% HBV-DNA suppression (cutoff to define HBV-DNA suppression)	43 (<4,000 IU/mL) 19 (<80 IU/mL)	90-91 (<50-60 IU/mL)	93 (<60 U/mL)	90 (<29 IU/mL)
% Normalization ALT [¶]	59	78-88	76	81
% HBsAg loss	4 6 (at 3 years posttreatment)	0-1	0	<1

References: (6-16).

*Assessed 6 months after completion of 12 months of therapy.

[†]Assessed after 3 years of continuous therapy.

[‡]Assessed after 2 years of continuous therapy.

[§]HBV DNA <2,000-40,000 IU/mL for peg-IFN; <60 IU/mL for entecavir and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate; <29 IU/mL for tenofovir alafenamide.

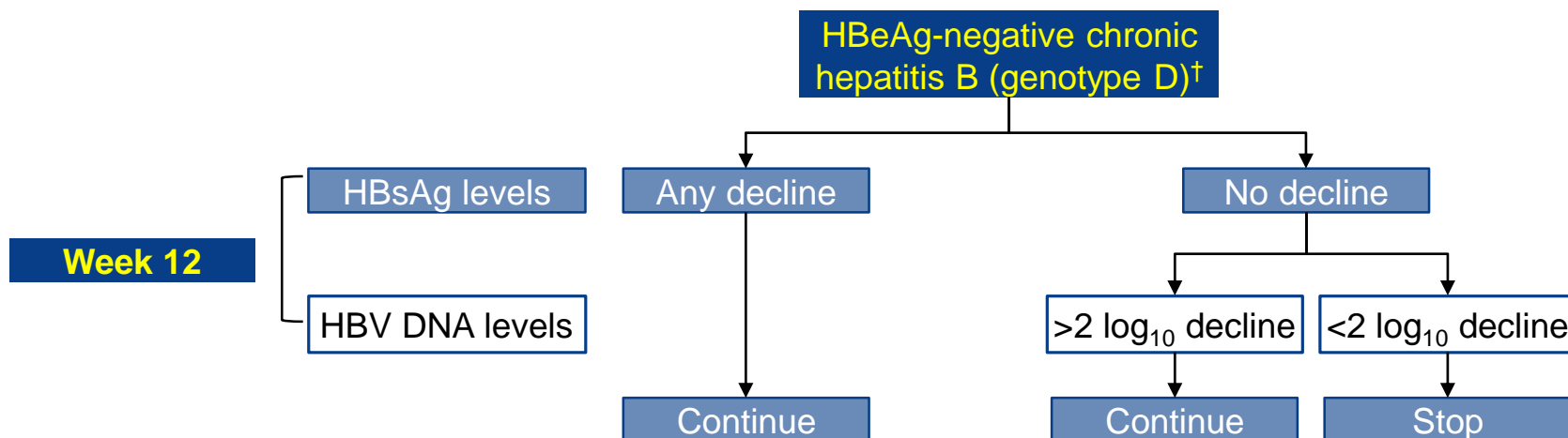
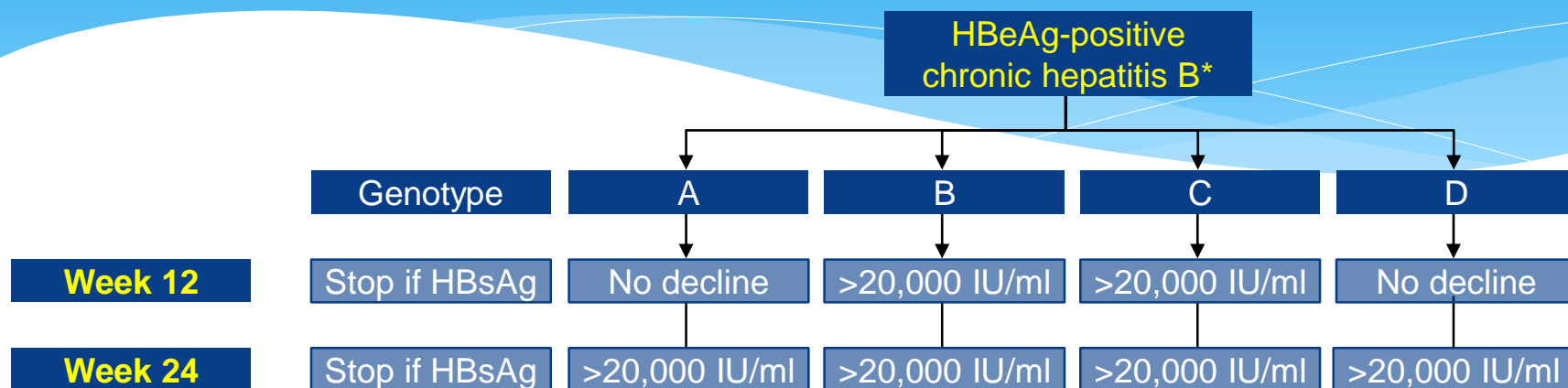
^{||}HBV DNA <20,000 IU/mL for peg-IFN; <60 IU/mL for entecavir and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate; <29 IU/mL for tenofovir alafenamide.

[¶]ALT normalization defined by laboratory normal rather than ≤ 35 and ≤ 25 U/L for males and females.

Baseline Predictors of Response to Treatment With Peg-IFN- α

HBeAg-Positive Patients	HBeAg-Negative Patients
Genotype A/B	Higher ALT
Higher ALT	Lower HBV DNA
Lower HBV DNA	Younger age
Older age	Female sex
Female sex	Lower HBsAg
Lower HBsAg	
Lower HBeAg	
Baseline parameters associated with higher response rates to 1 year of pegylated interferon- α therapy. Variables associated with response on a continuous scale are designated <i>higher</i> or <i>lower</i> if cutoff levels were not reported.	

Predictors of Peg-IFN α response and stopping rules



*Evidence level II-2, grade of recommendation 2; [†]Evidence level II-2, grade of recommendation 1

Indications for selecting ETV or TAF over TDF*

* *In some circumstances ETV or TAF may be a more appropriate treatment choice than TDF*

Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• >60 years
Bone disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chronic steroid use or use of other medications that worsen bone density• History of fragility fracture• Osteoporosis
Renal alteration†	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• eGFR <60 ml/min/1.73 m²• Albuminuria >30 mg/24 h or moderate dipstick proteinuria• Low phosphate (<2.5 mg/dl)• Haemodialysis

*TAF should be preferred to ETV in patients with previous exposure to NAs; †ETV dose needs to be adjusted if eGFR <50 ml/min; no dose adjustment of TAF is required in adults or adolescents (aged ≥12 years and ≥35 kg body weight) with estimated CrCl ≥15 ml/min or in patients with CrCl <15 ml/min who are receiving haemodialysis

EASL Recommendations for NAs cessation

1. NAs **should be discontinued after confirmed HBsAg loss**, with or without anti-HBs seroconversion (*Evidence level II-2, grade of recommendation 1*)
2. NAs **can be discontinued in non-cirrhotic HBeAg-positive CHB patients who achieve stable HBeAg seroconversion** and undetectable HBV DNA and who complete at least 12 months of consolidation therapy. Close post-NA monitoring is warranted (*Evidence level II-2, grade of recommendation 2*)
3. **Discontinuation of NAs in selected non-cirrhotic HBeAg-negative** patients who have achieved long-term (≥ 3 years) virological suppression under NA(s) **may be considered** if close post-NA monitoring can be guaranteed (*Evidence level II-2, grade of recommendation 2*)

Novel biomarkers to predict off-treatment response

* Viral markers to predict outcome after NAs cessation

- End of treatment qHBsAg level (cut-off have not yet been defined)
- HBsAg kinetics during treatment
- Quantification of serum Hepatitis B core-related antigen (HBcrAg) and/or of circulating viral RNAs appearing promising
- Need for assay standardization and evaluation in clinical trials

Outcome after long-term NAs treatment cessation

End of treatment qHBsAg level as a guide for safe NAs cessation?

36 patients treated with NAs
(mean duration - 77.4 ± 23.5 mo)

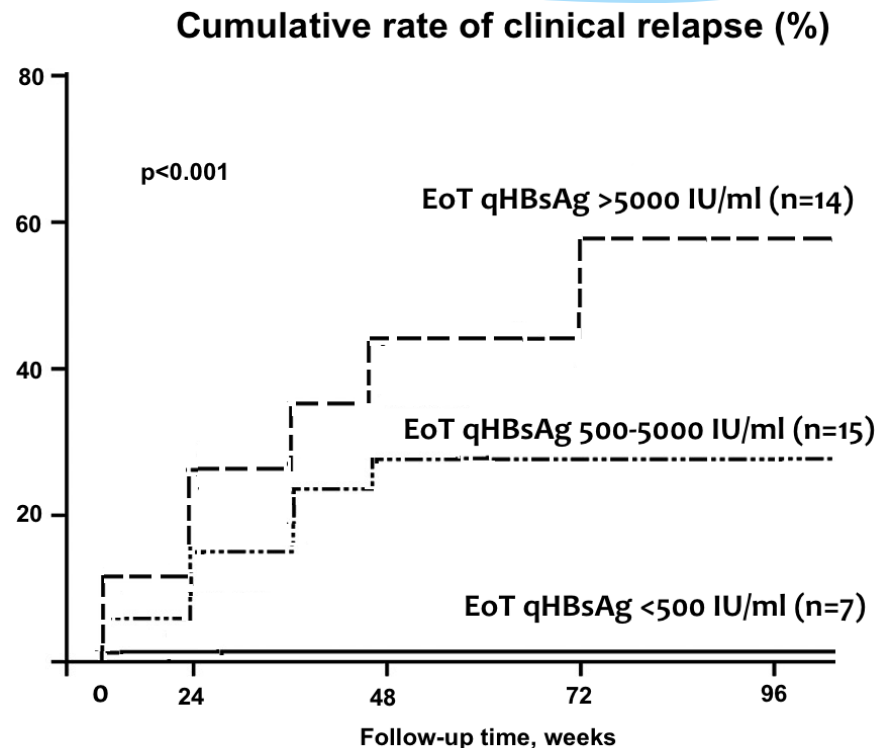
Before NAs therapy

- HBeAg-positive, n (%) - 5 (13.9%)
- HBV genotype D, n (%) - 21 (91.3%)

Type of NAs therapy, n (%)

- ETV - 26 (72.2%)
- TDF - 4 (11.1%)
- TBV - 6 (16.7%)

Off-treatment follow-up – 24 mo



HDV TREATMENT

* **CURRENT OPTIONS:**

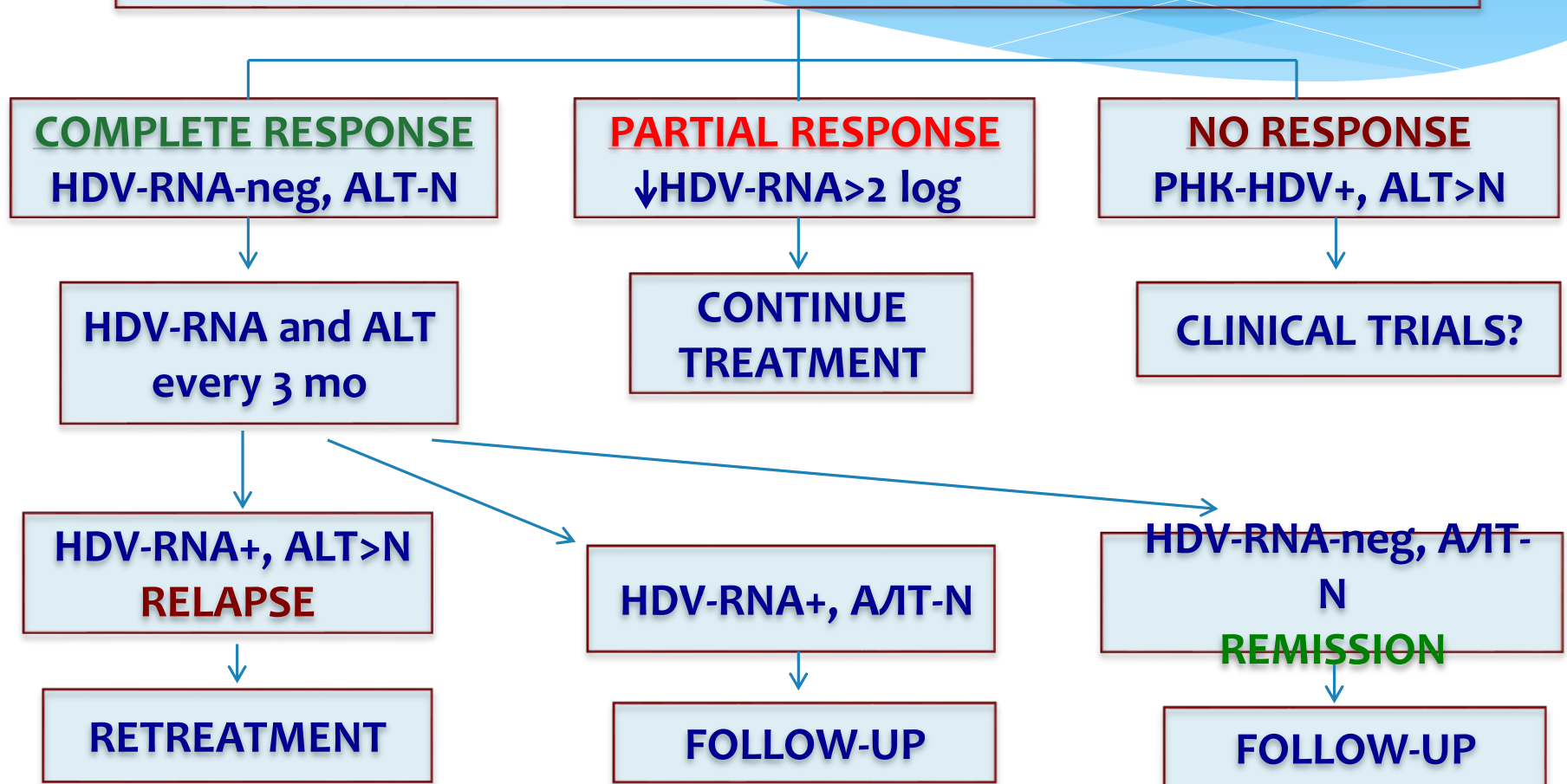
- *Peg-IFN-alfa (for 1 year) ± NAs (if HBV-DNA > 2000 IU/ml);*

* **FUTURE OPTIONS:**

- *Peg-IFN-λ*
- *Nuclear Acid Polymers*
- *Lonafarnib*
- *Myrcludex-B*

HDV treatment with Peg-IFN-alfa

Peg-IFN-alfa once a week during 1 year



HDV TREATMENT

* CURRENT OPTIONS:

- *Peg-IFN-alfa (for 1 year) ± NAs (if HBV-DNA > 2000 IU/ml);*

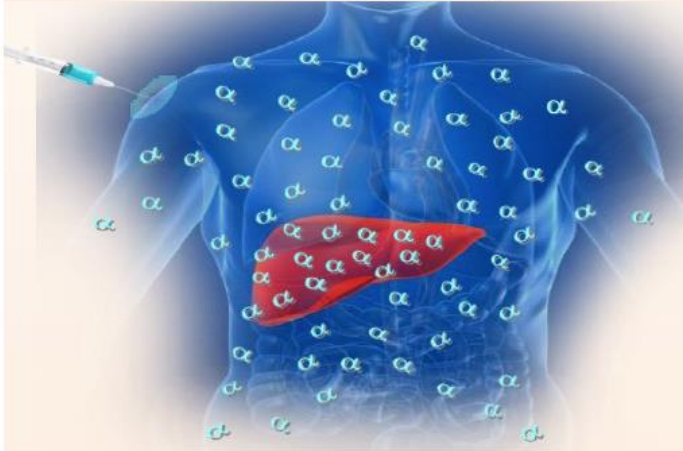
* FUTURE OPTIONS:

- *Peg-IFN-λ*
- *Nuclear Acid Polymers*
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Peg-IFN-lambda in HDV

Potential Impact of Lambda Receptor Distribution

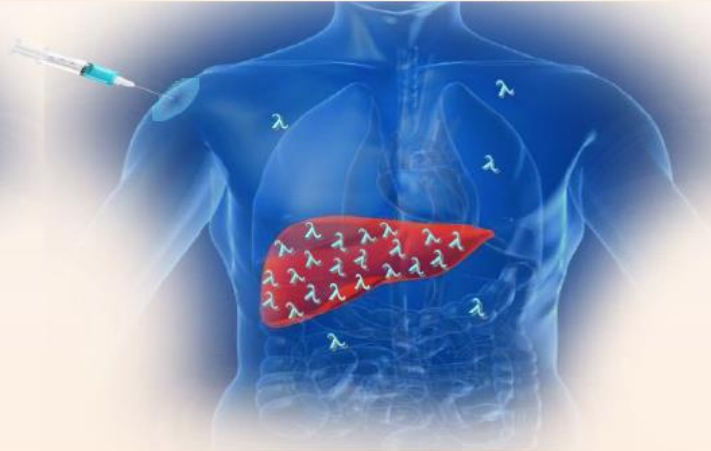
IFN alfa receptors widely distributed throughout body.



Potential for MORE IFN-associated abnormalities:

- ↑ Neutropenia
- ↑ Thrombocytopenia
- ↑ Flu-like Symptoms
- ↑ Musculoskeletal Symptoms

Lambda receptors NOT widely distributed throughout body.

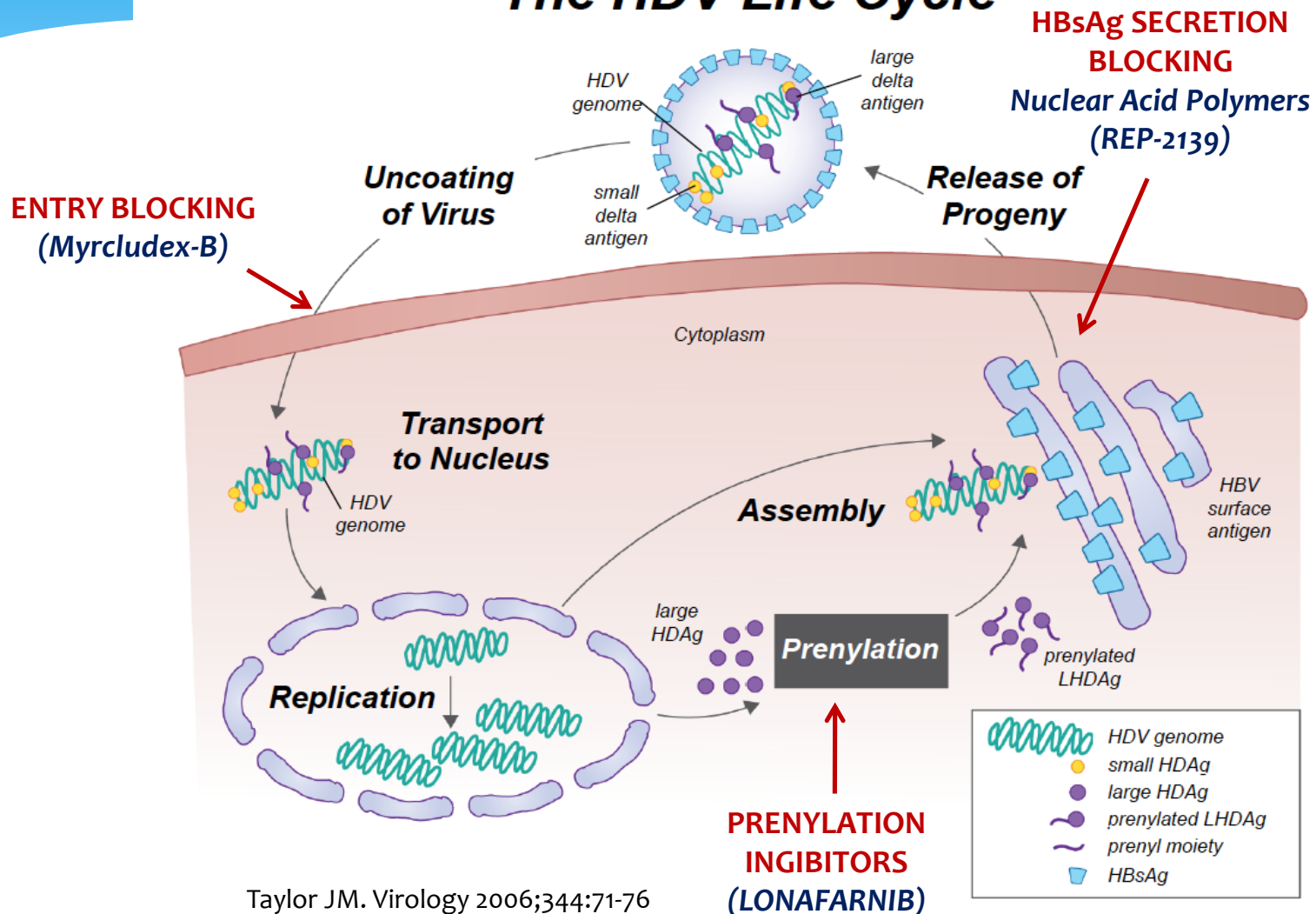


Potential for LESS IFN-associated abnormalities:

- ↓ Neutropenia
- ↓ Thrombocytopenia
- ↓ Flu-like Symptoms
- ↓ Musculoskeletal Symptoms

HDV life cycle and treatment targets

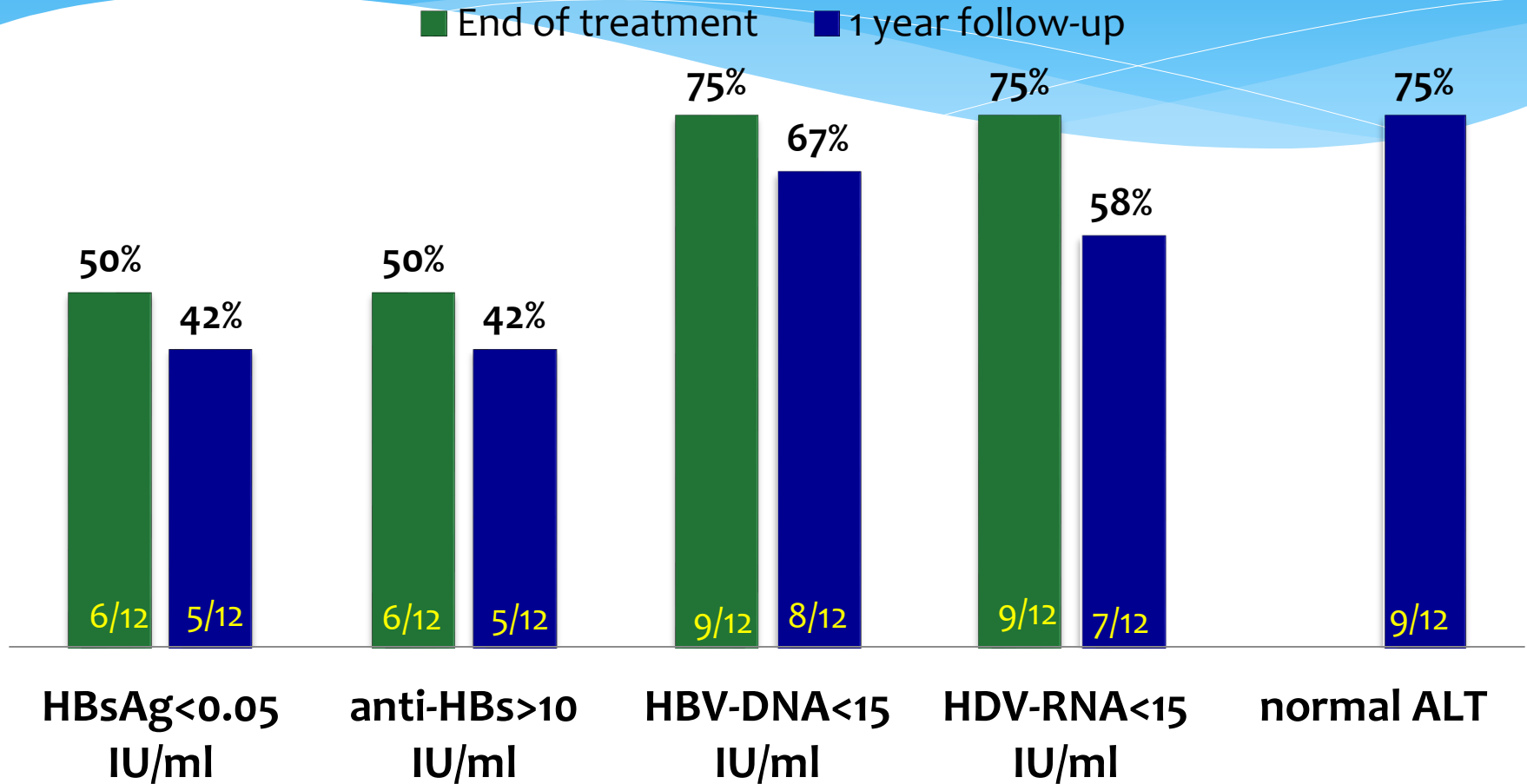
The HDV Life Cycle



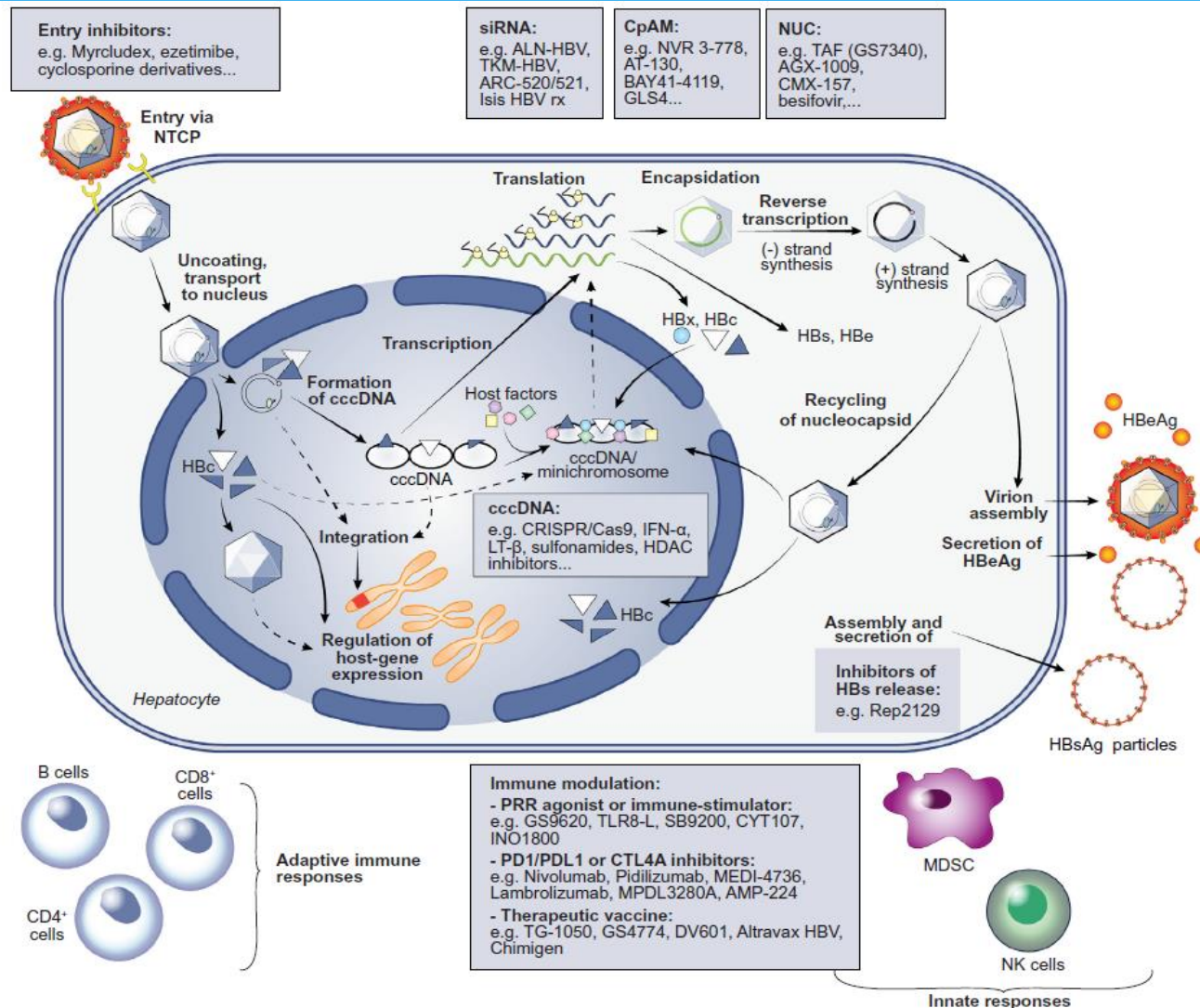
LONAFARNIB in HDV

<i>HDV Registration Options</i>	<i>Clinical Description</i>	<i>Treatment Option All Oral</i>	<i>Treatment Option Triple Combo</i>	<i>Treatment Option Mono</i>
Cure	<i>HDV RNA Negativity + ALT Normalization</i>	<i>Lonafarnib + Ritonavir</i>	<i>Lonafarnib + Ritonavir + Lambda</i>	<i>Lambda</i>
Chronic Treatment	<i>HDV RNA Reduction + ALT Normalization</i>	<i>Lonafarnib + Ritonavir</i>		

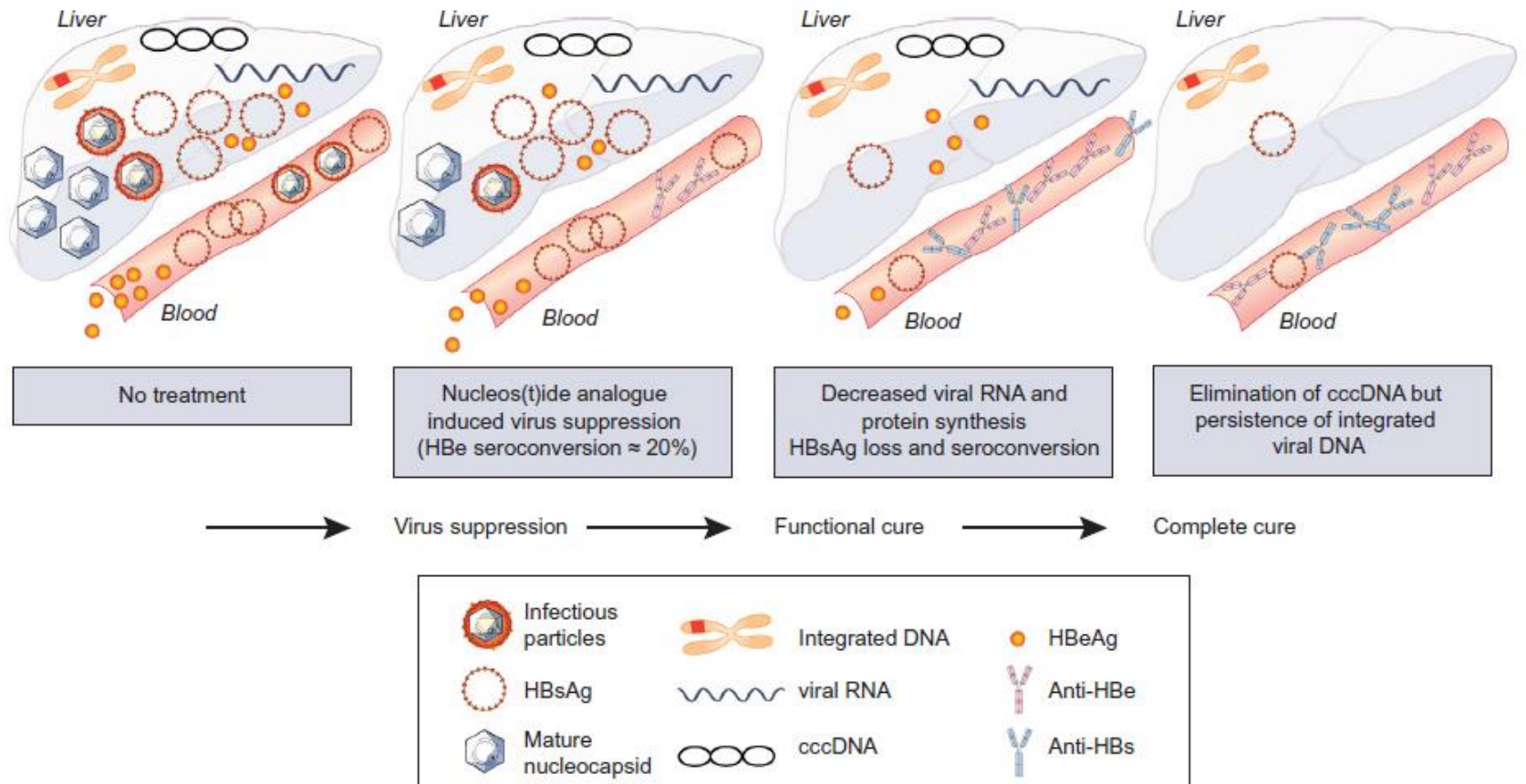
REP-2139+Peg-IFN-alfa in HDV (12 non-cirrhotic pts)



HBV life cycle and main classes of antivirals in development



Schematical representation of various types of “cure”



Unresolved issues and unmet needs

- * When to start antiviral therapy in patients with HBeAg-positive chronic HBV infection
- * Stopping rules for HBeAg-negative patients treated with an NA
- * Retreatment criteria after NA discontinuation
- * How to accelerate HBsAg decline in long-term NA-treated patients
- * Better baseline or on-treatment predictors of sustained response in patients treated with PegIFN α
- * Definition of the residual risk of HCC in patients on long-term NA therapy and impact on surveillance
- * Requirement for new treatments with finite duration and high cure rates
- * Novel endpoints to define a cure of HBV infection