

# **MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND EPIDEMIOLOGY OF HEPATITIS B AND C VIRUSES**

**By**

**Petros Karayiannis**

**Imperial College  
London**



Primate HBV

## Family: **HEPADNAVIRIDAE**



Duck hepatitis B virus

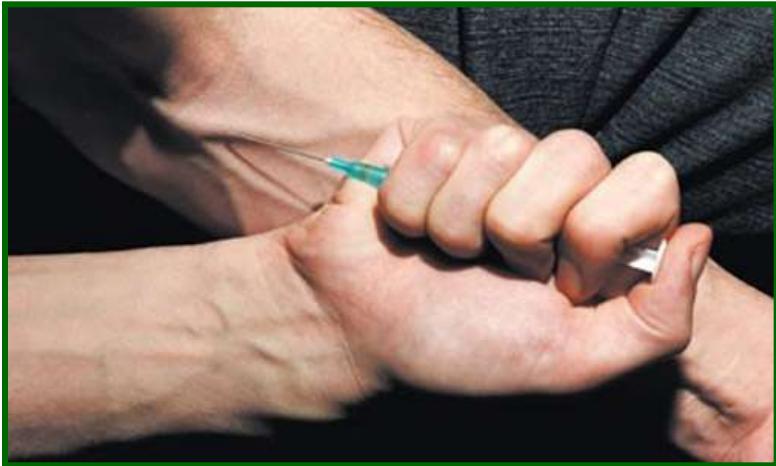


Ground squirrel hepatitis B



Woodchuck hepatitis Virus

# MAIN ROUTES OF HBV TRANSMISSION



DRUG ADDICTION



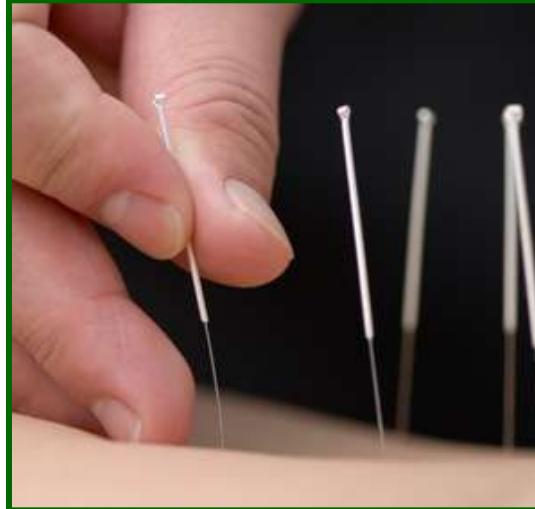
VERTICAL



SEX



TATTOOS



ACUPUNCTURE



BLOOD TRANSFUSION

## **Concentration of HBV in body fluids**

---

<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low/Not Detectable</b>
<b>blood</b>	semen	urine
<b>serum</b>	vaginal fluid	feces
<b>wound exudates</b>	saliva	sweat
		tears
		breast milk

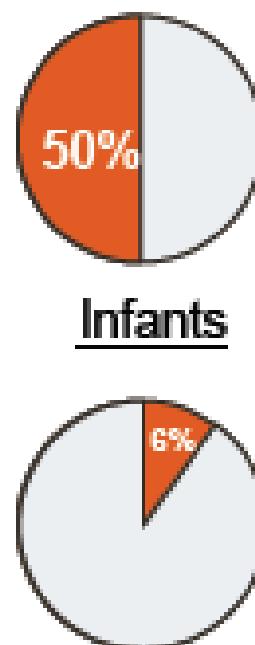
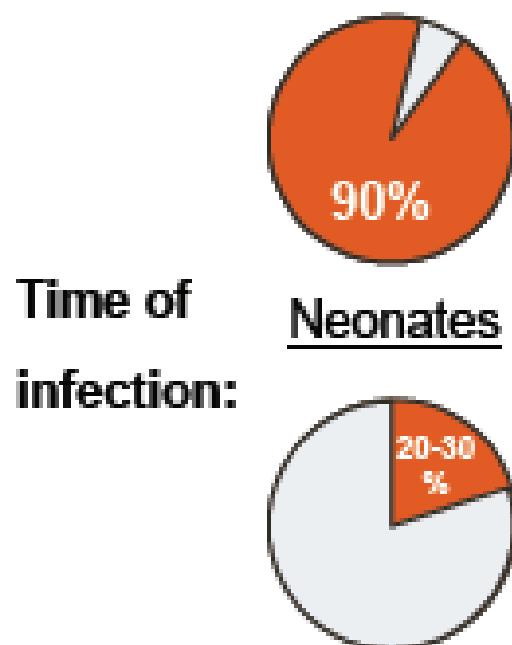
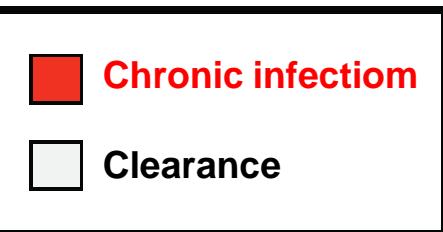
---

About 2 billion people worldwide have been infected with the virus.

About 350 million live with chronic infection.

About 600,000 persons die each year due to the acute or chronic consequences of hepatitis B.

# RISK OF CHRONIC HBV INFECTION

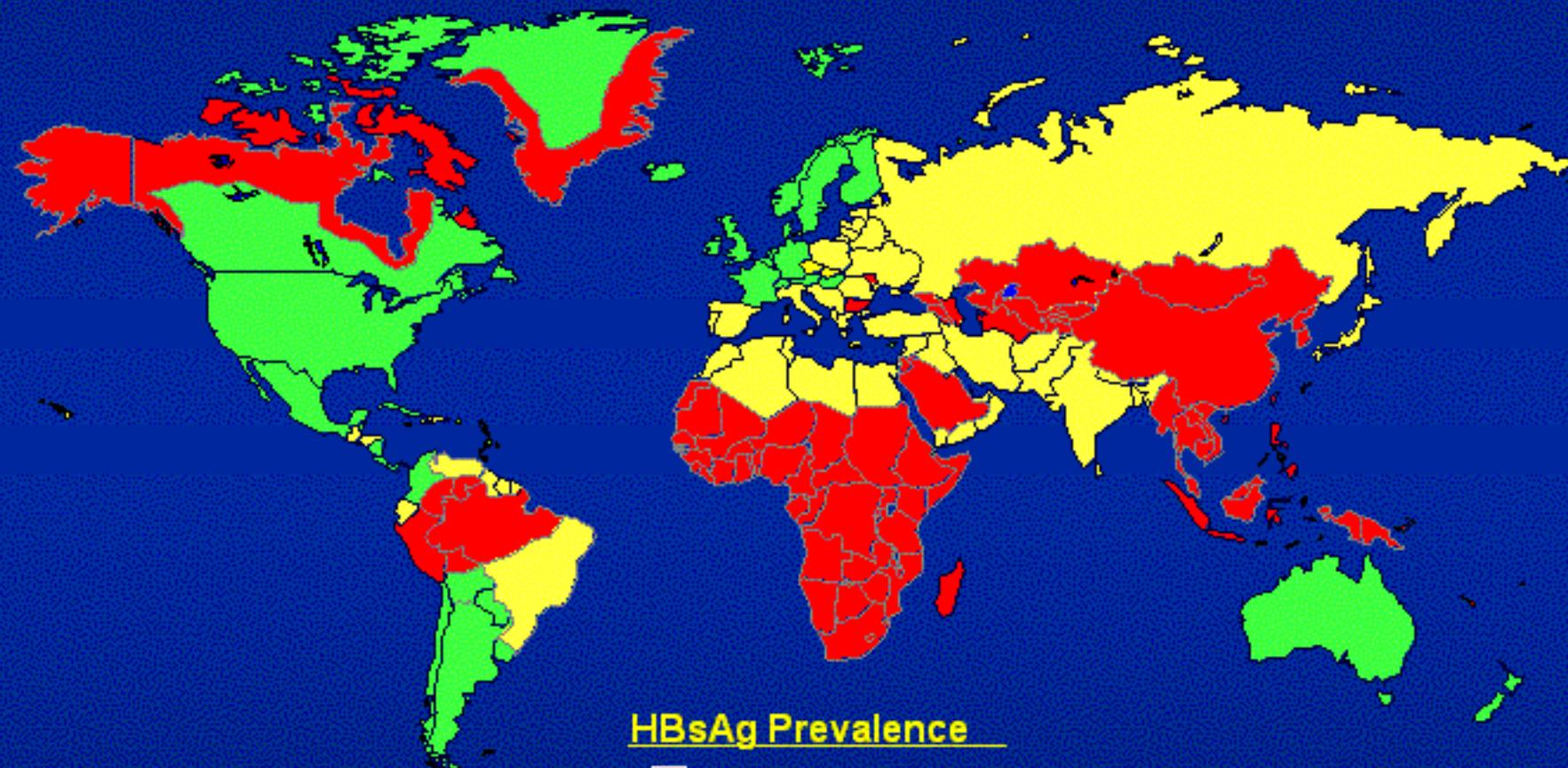


Death from chronic liver disease occurs in:

15 – 25% of chronically infected persons

recovery generally within 6 mos

# Geographic Distribution of Chronic HBV Infection



## HBsAg Prevalence

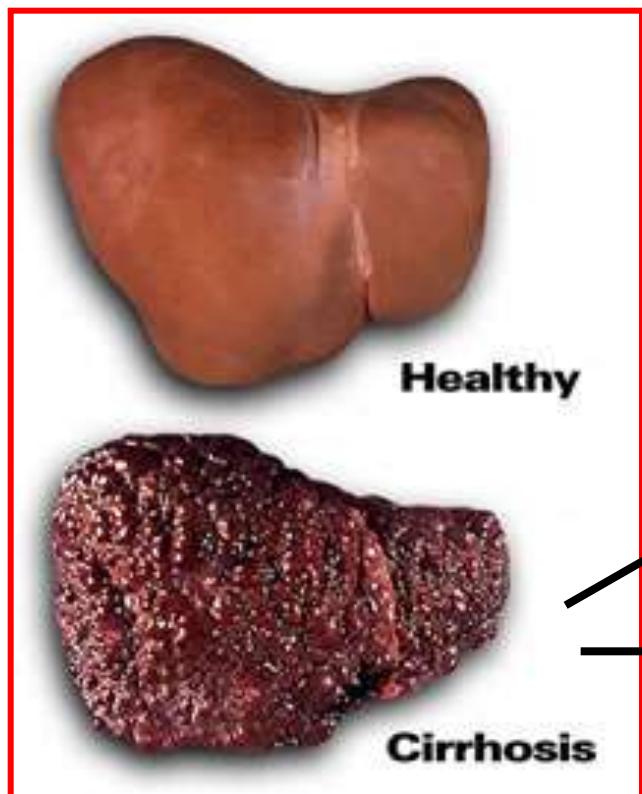
- ≥8% - High
- 2-7% - Intermediate
- <2% - Low

**HBV**

## **Incidence of Primary Hepatocellular Carcinoma**

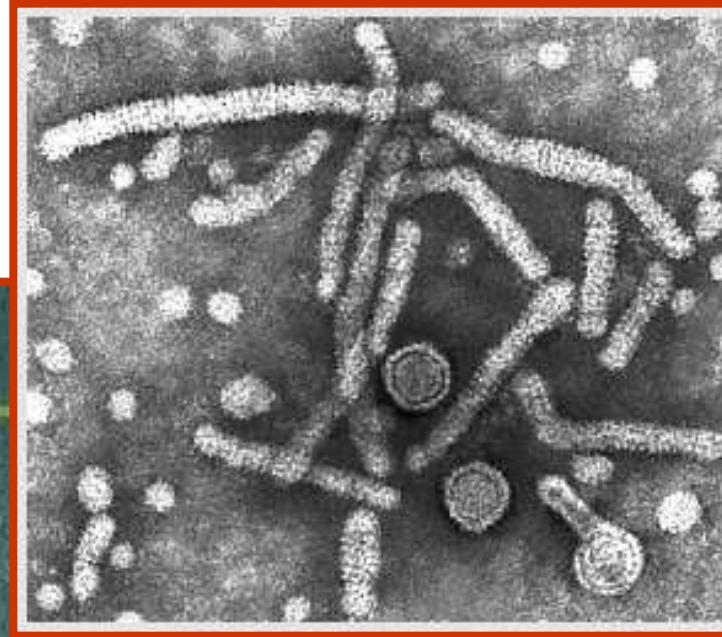
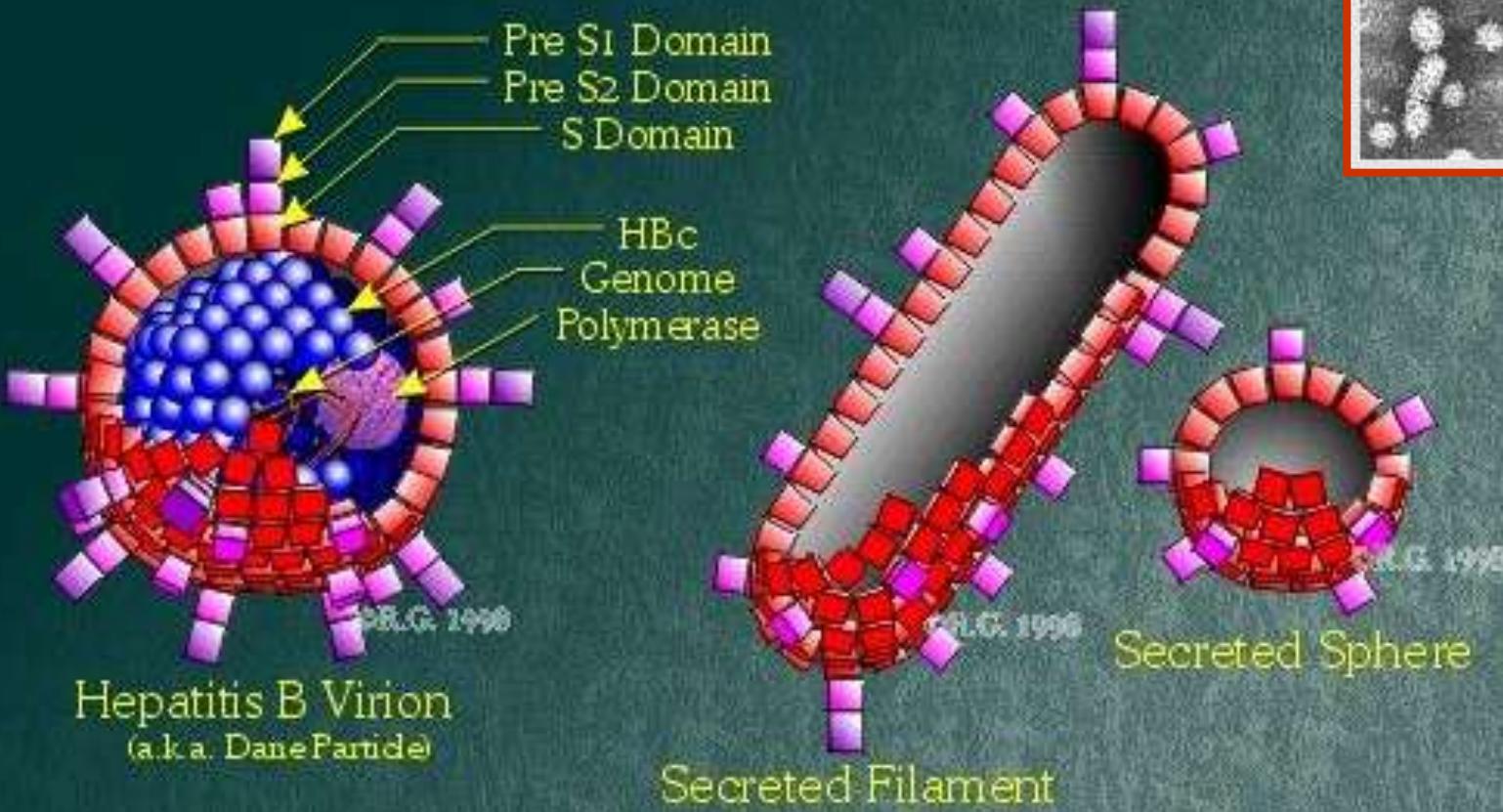


# SEQUELAE OF CHRONIC HBV INFECTION

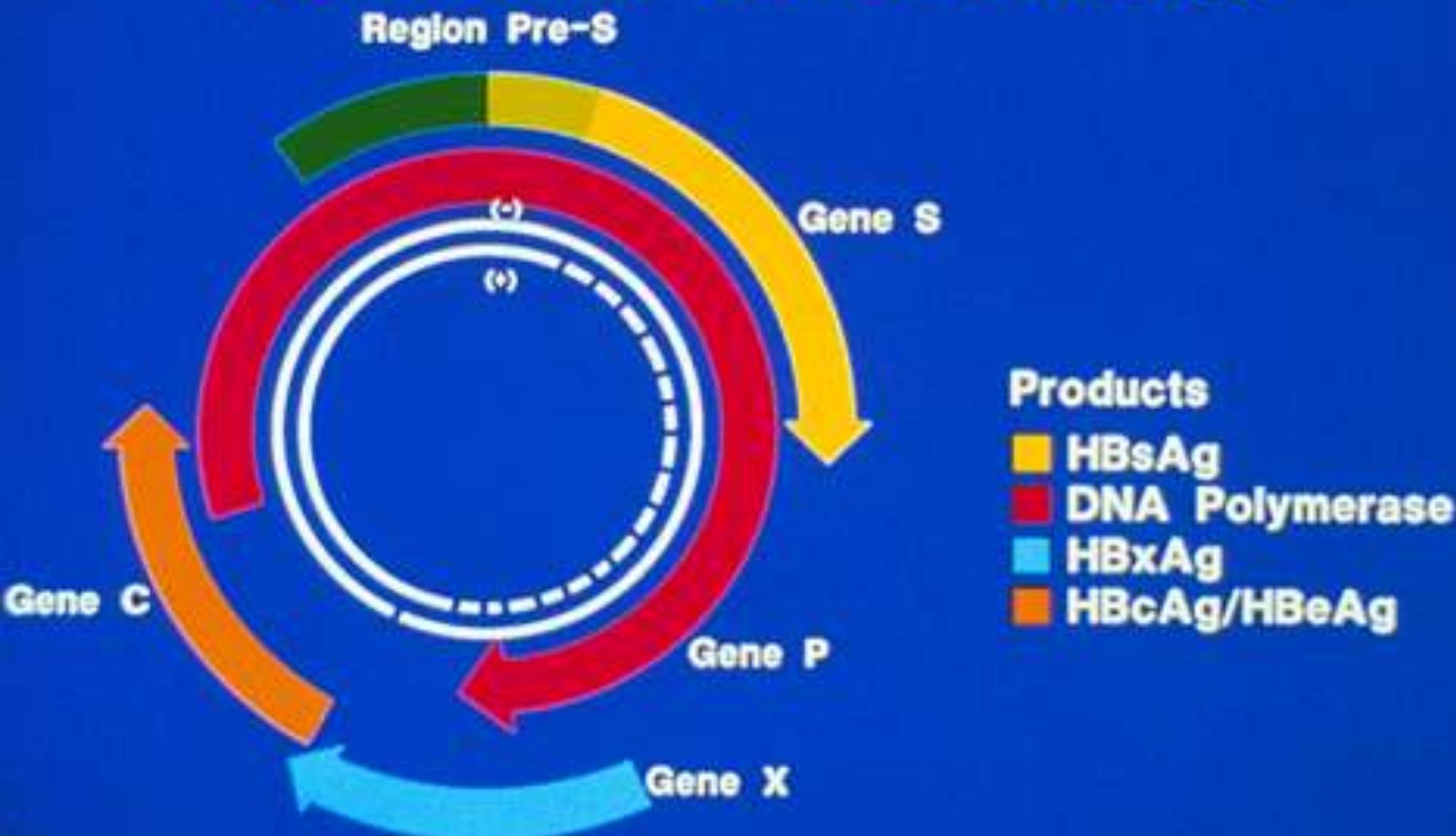


**LIVER CANCER**

# Hepatitis B Particle Types

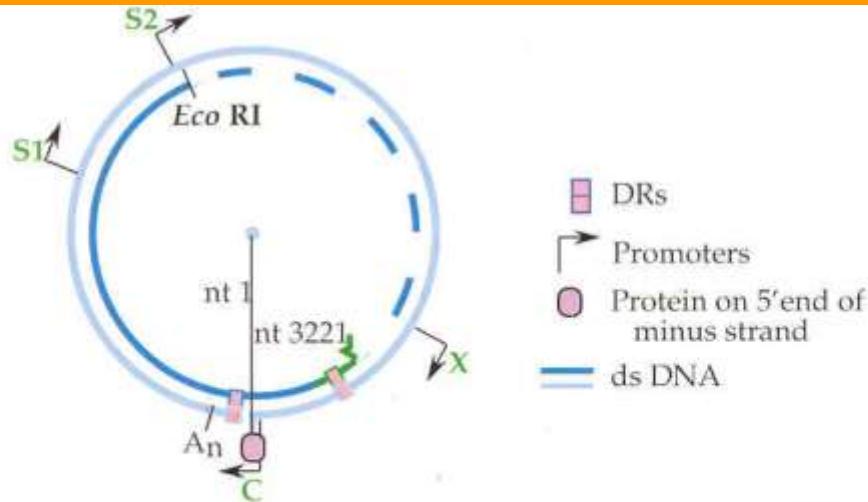


# Genes and Gene Products

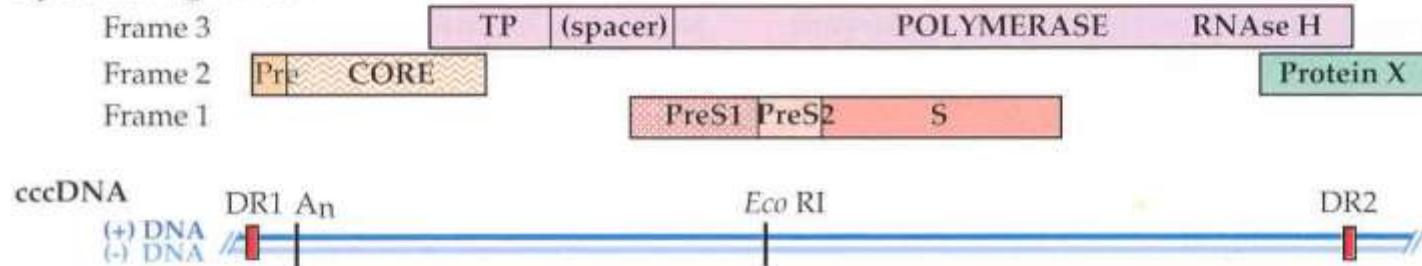


# HBV GENOME, ORFs AND TRANSCRIPTS

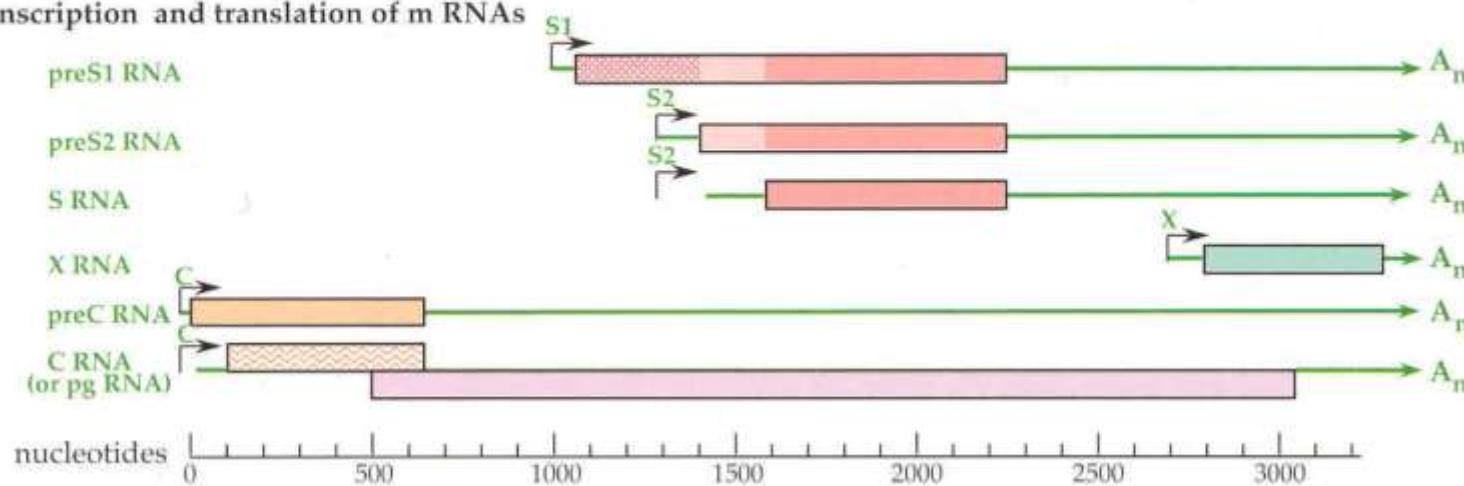
## A. Genome organization



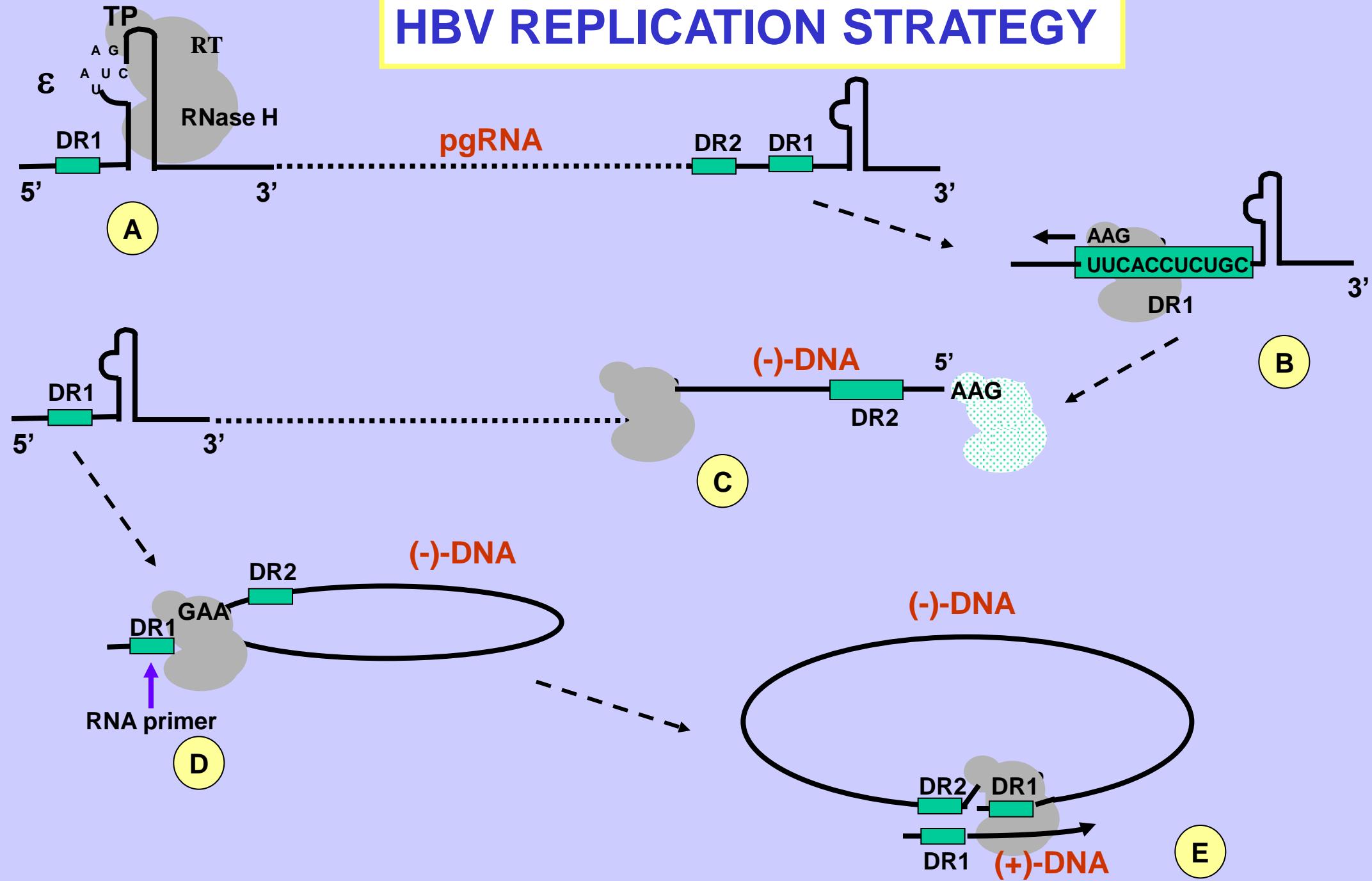
## B. Open reading frames



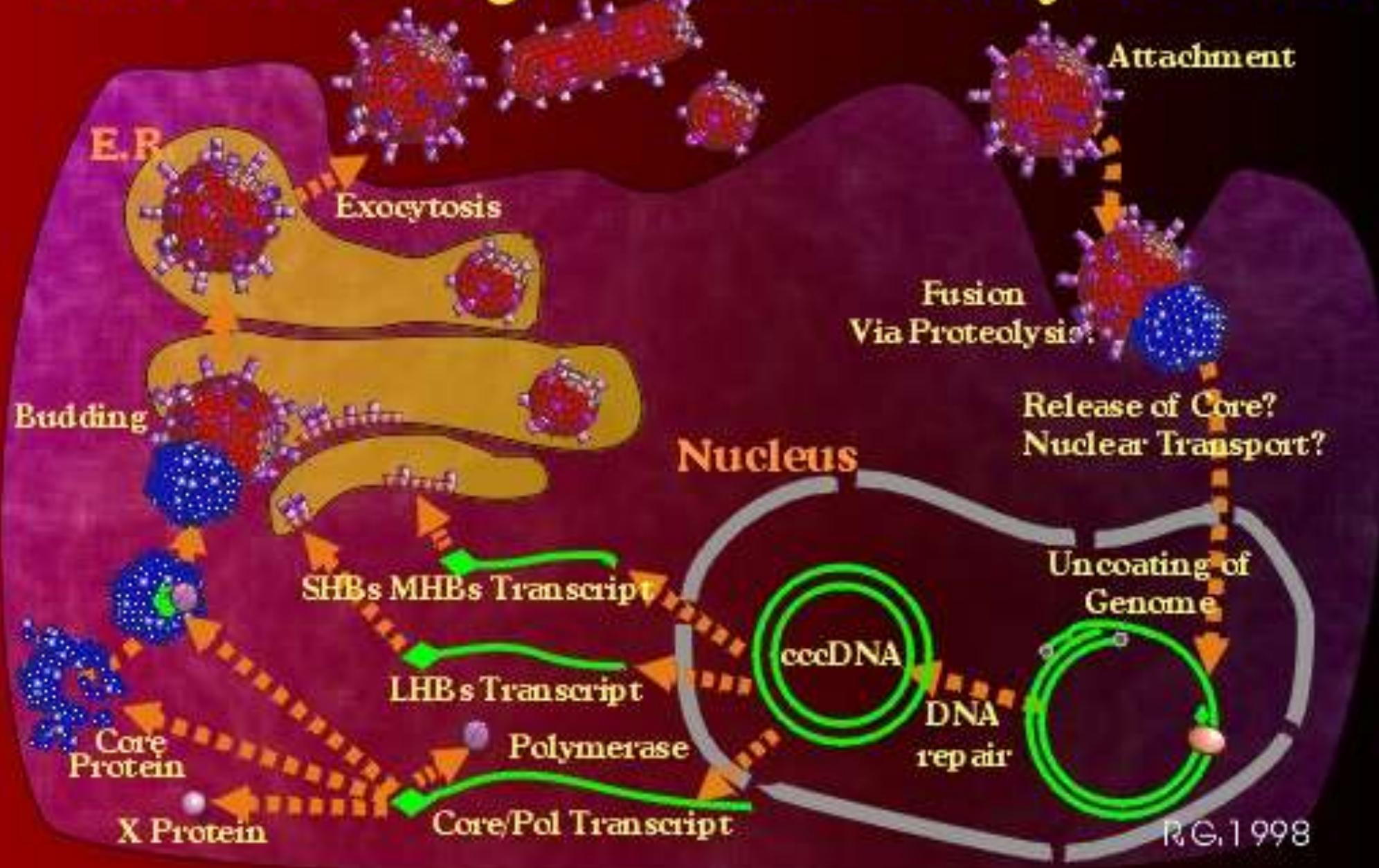
## Transcription and translation of m RNAs



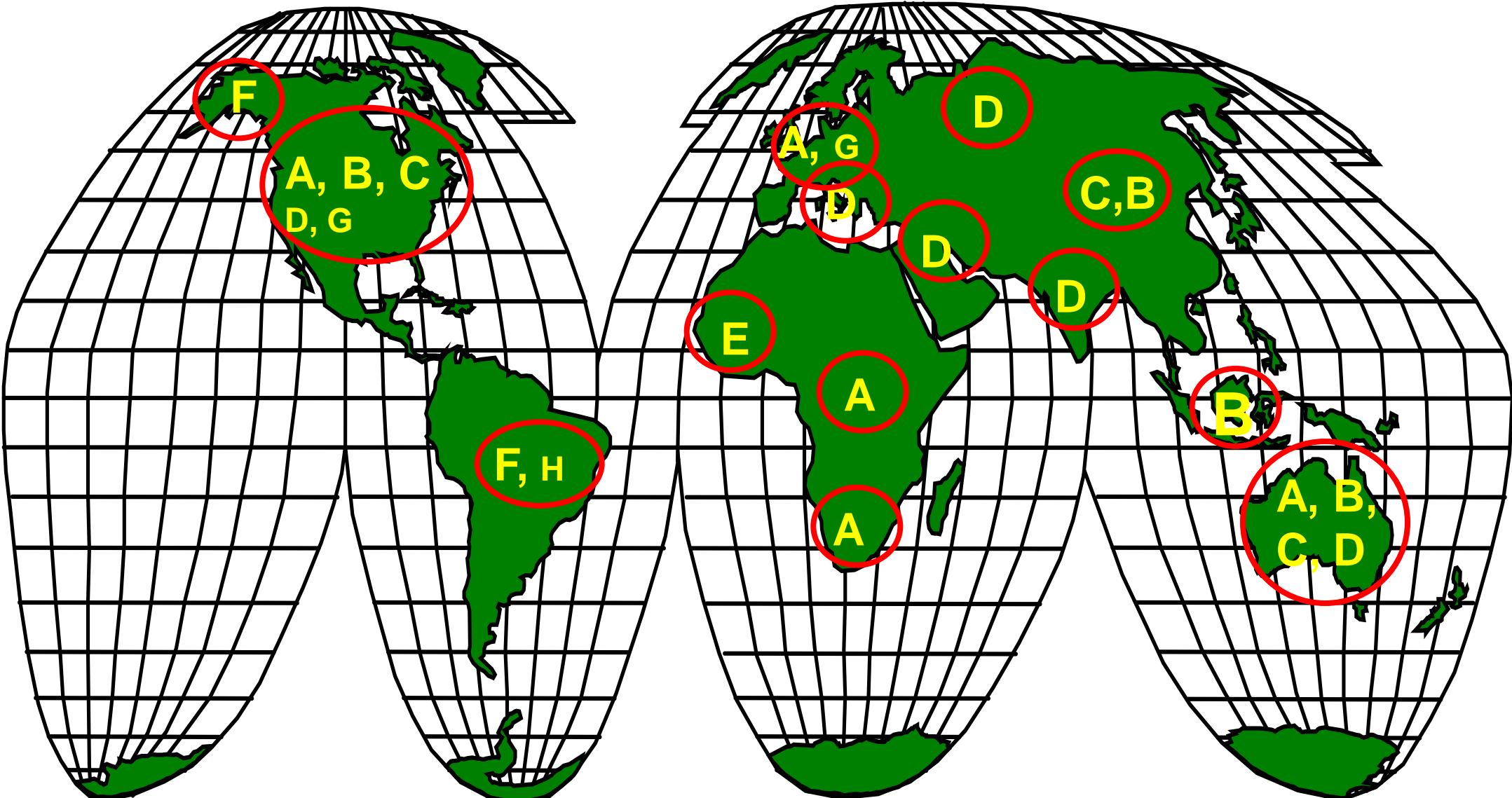
# HBV REPLICATION STRATEGY



# Schematic Diagram of the Life Cycle of HBV

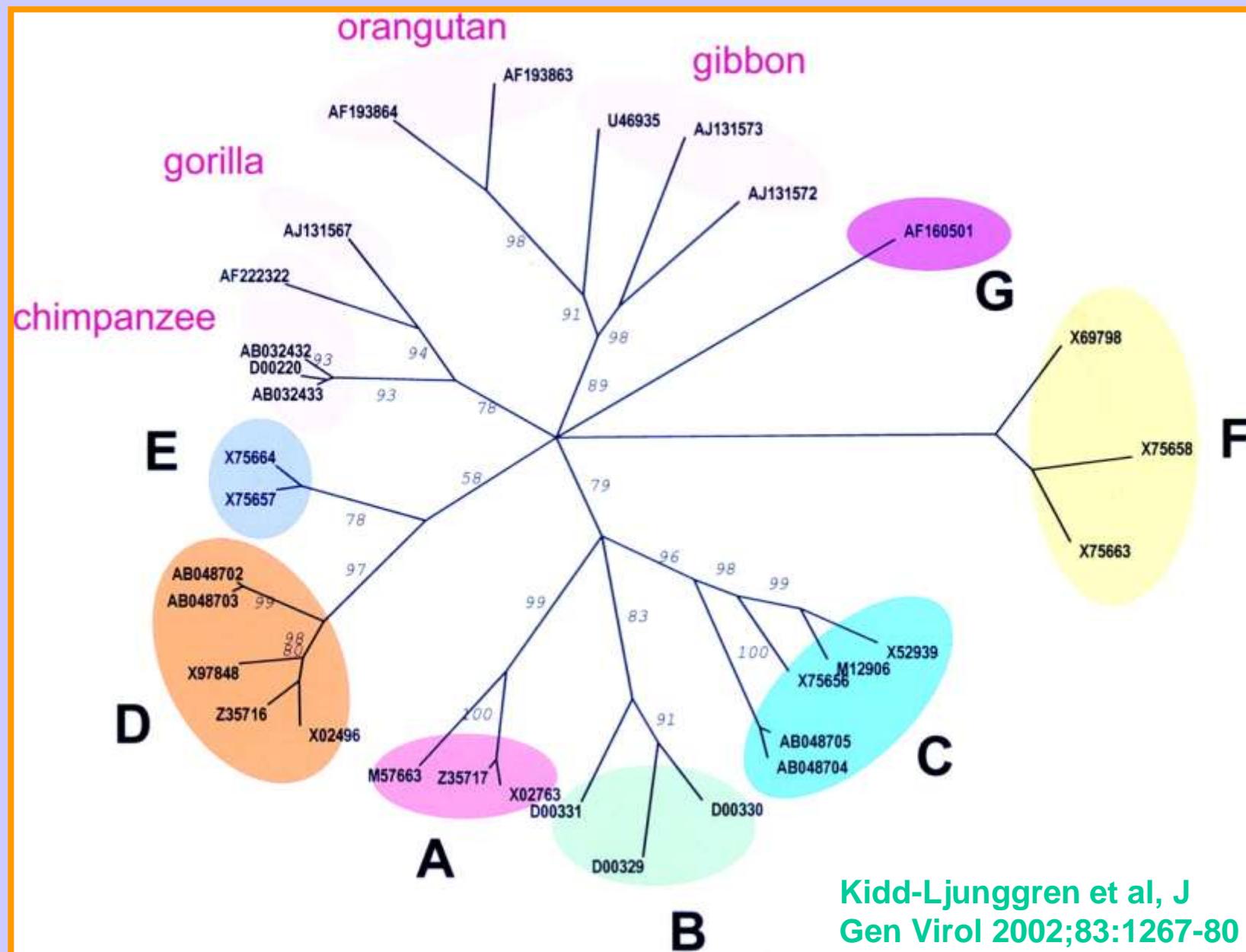


# GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF HEPATITIS B VIRUS GENOTYPES



Sub-genotypes: A1-3, B1-5, C1-5, D1-4, F1-4

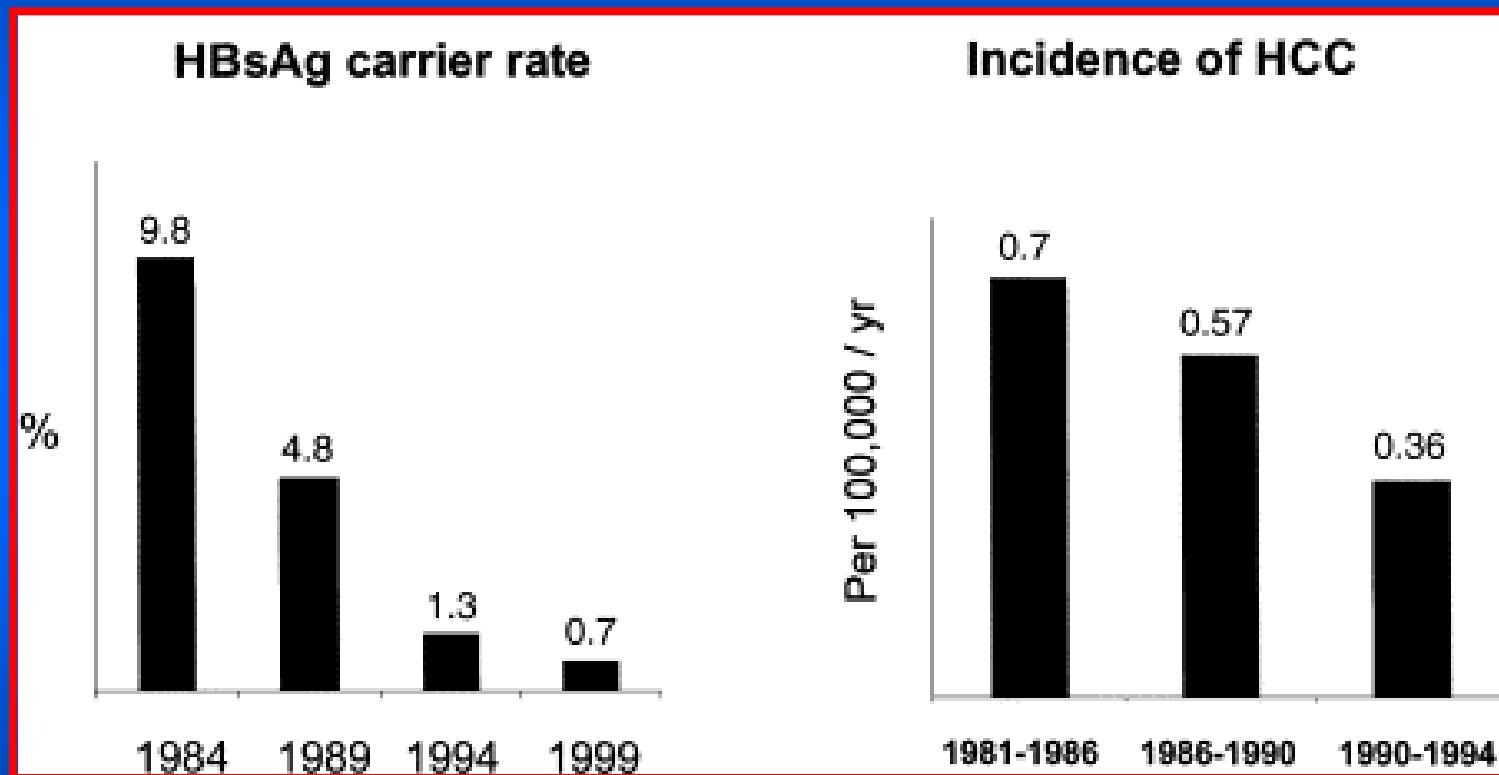
# UNROOTED PHYLOGENETIC TREE ANALYSIS OF SEQUENCES FROM HBV GENOTYPES AND HEPADNAVIRUSES FROM OTHER PRIMATES



# **HEPATITIS B VIRUS VACCINE**

- First introduced in 1982; plasma derived
- Subsequently produced in yeast by recombinant technology; HBsAg
- 3 Dose schedule: 0, 1 & 6 months
- Protection: 1<sup>st</sup> dose, ~30-50%, 2<sup>nd</sup> 75%, 3<sup>rd</sup> 95%
- 5% fail: risks are age, immunosuppression, obesity, smokers

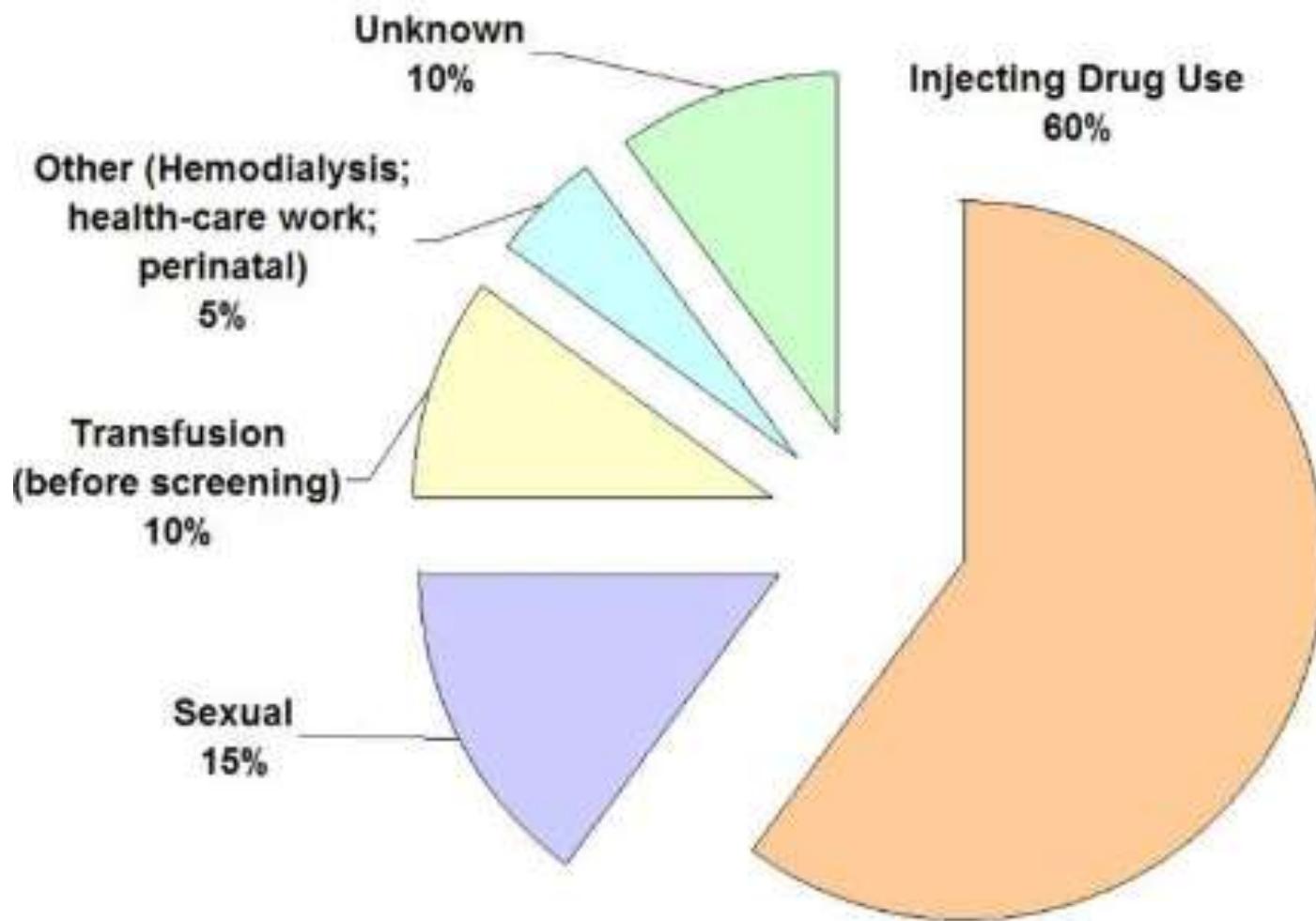
# Impact of Universal Vaccination on HBV Infection and HCC in Taiwanese Children



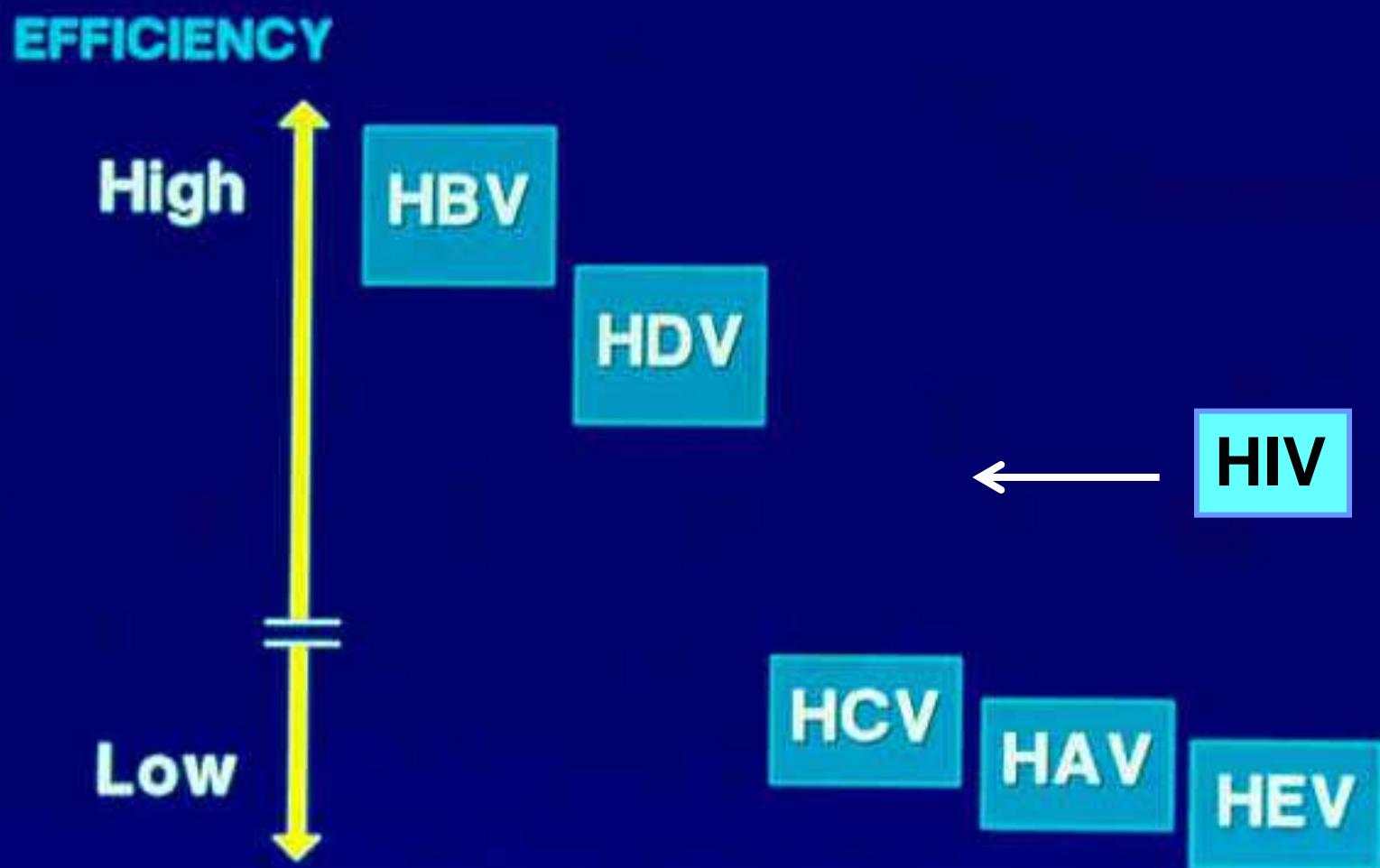
# Hepatitis C Virus

- 170 million HCV infected individuals worldwide
- Mostly subclinical
- High potential for chronic infection (> 70%)
- 50-70% of chronically infected individuals develop chronic liver disease
- Not a major cause of acute or Fulminant hepatitis
- Important cause for Primary Hepatocellular Carcinoma

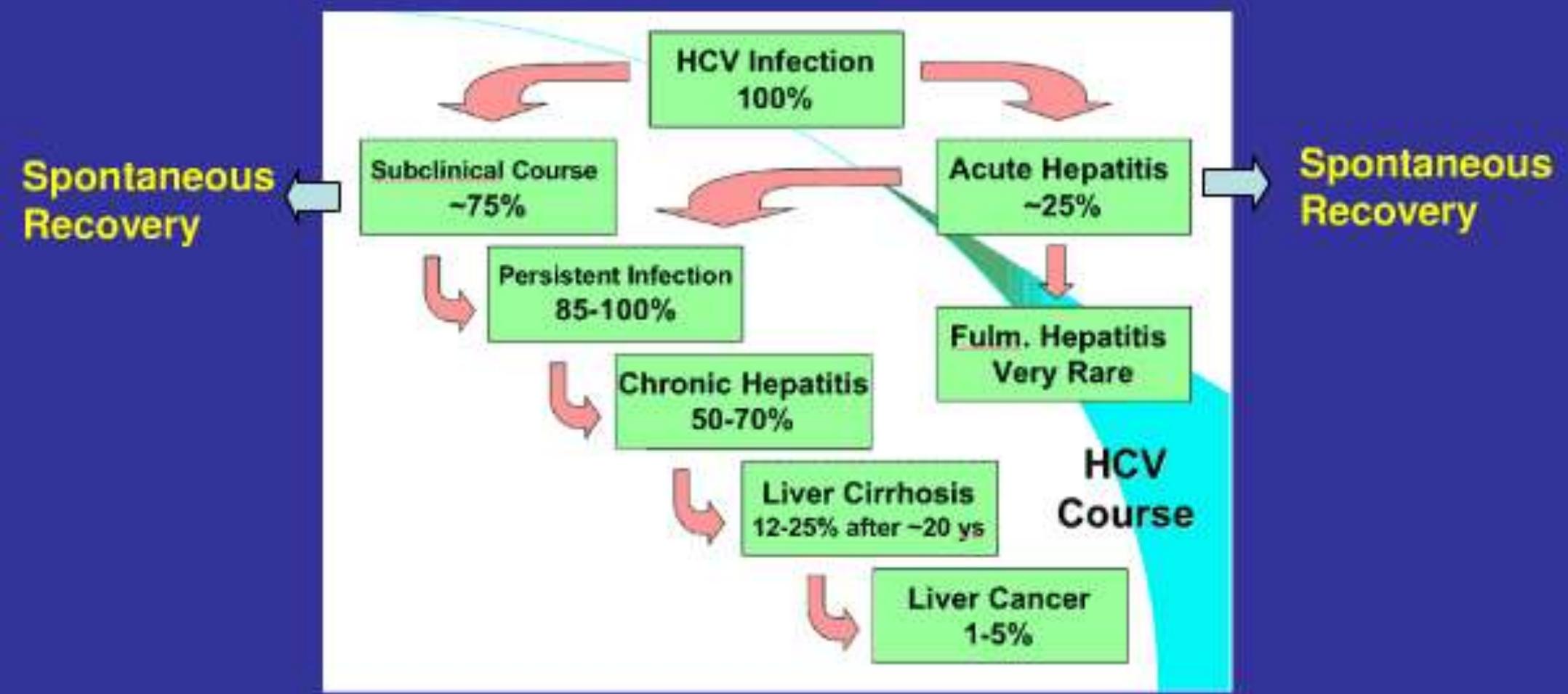
## Sources of Infection for Persons with Hepatitis C



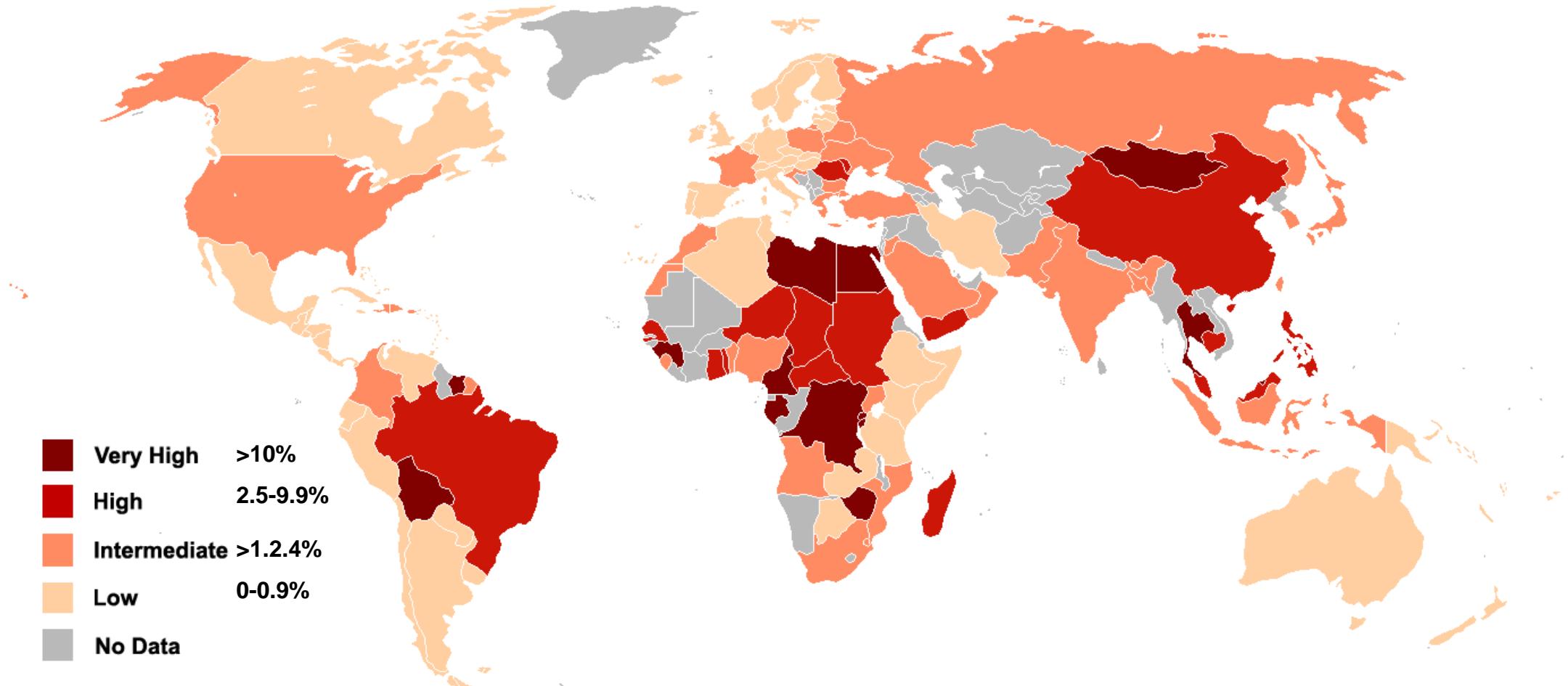
## Sexual Transmission



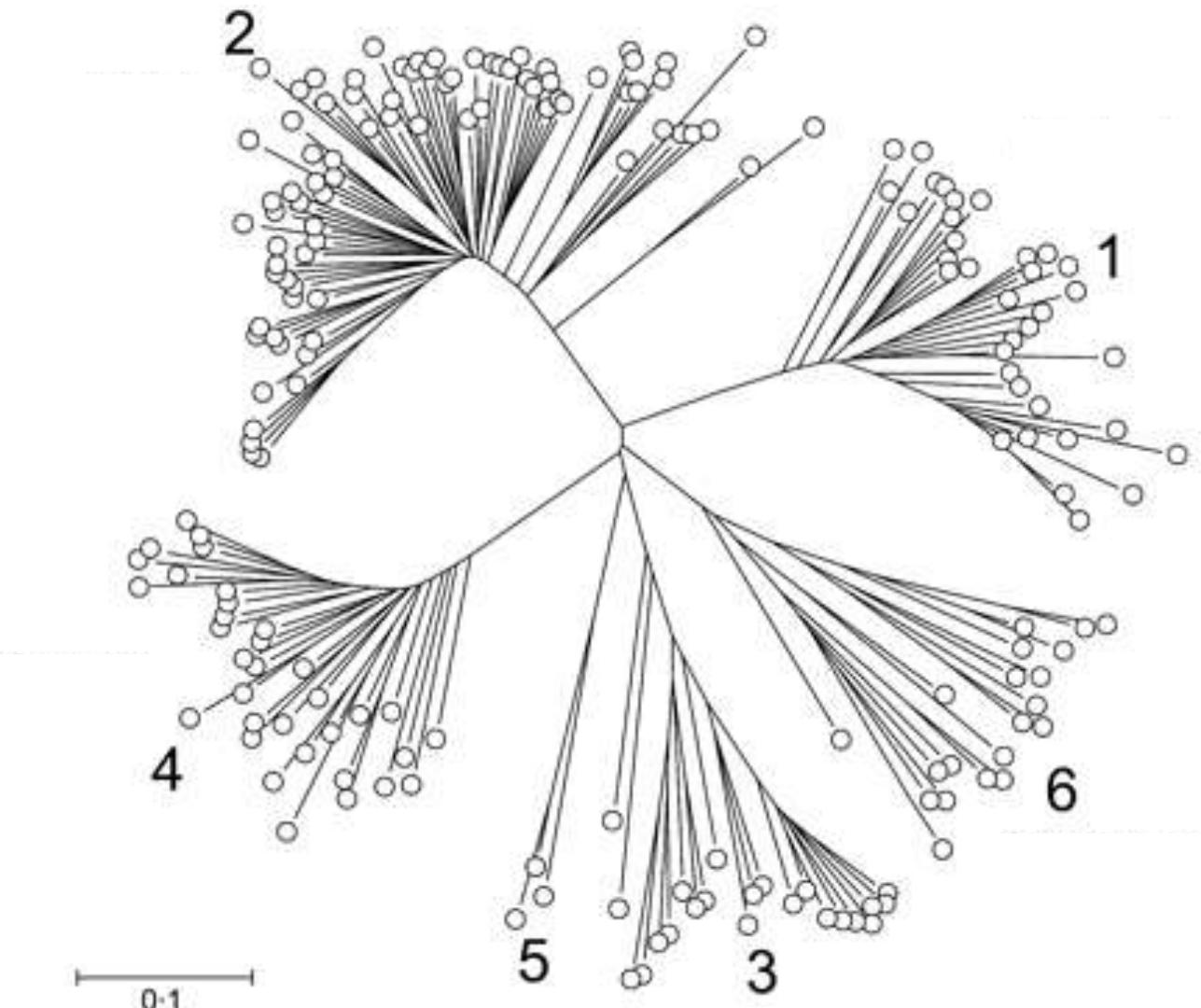
# Clinical Course of HCV Infection



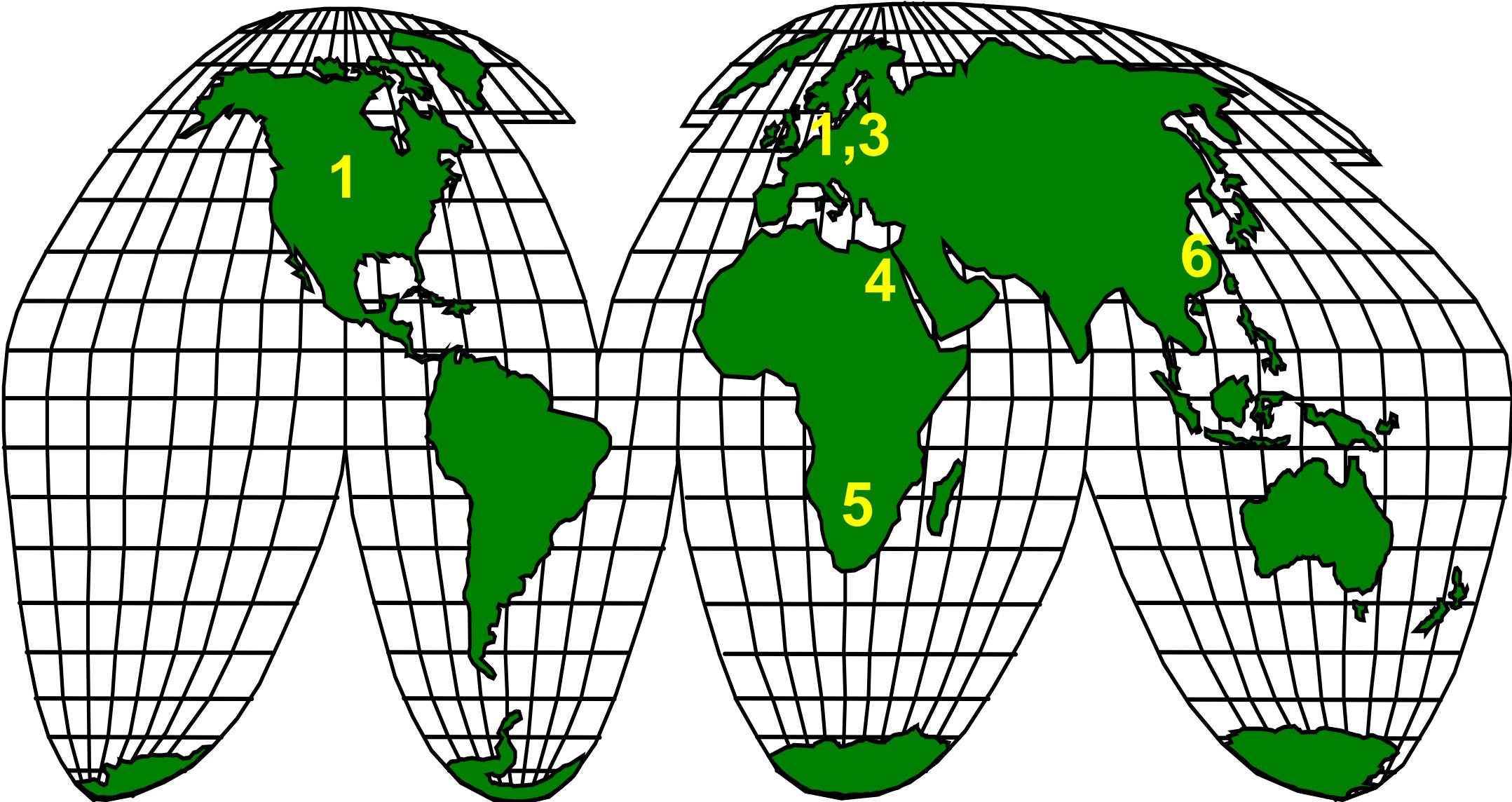
# HEPATITIS C VIRUS PREVALENCE



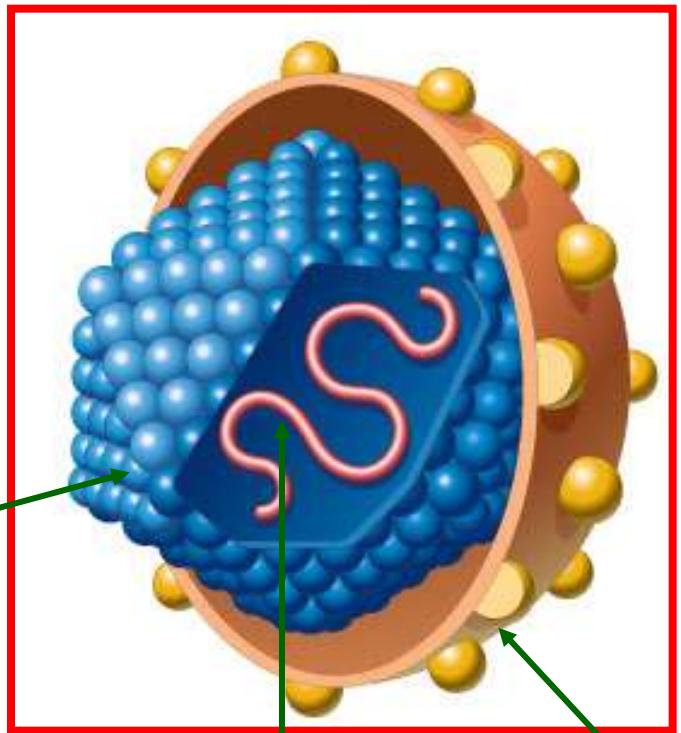
# PHYLOGENETIC TREE OF HCV SHOWING GENOTYPES AND SUBTYPES



# GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES



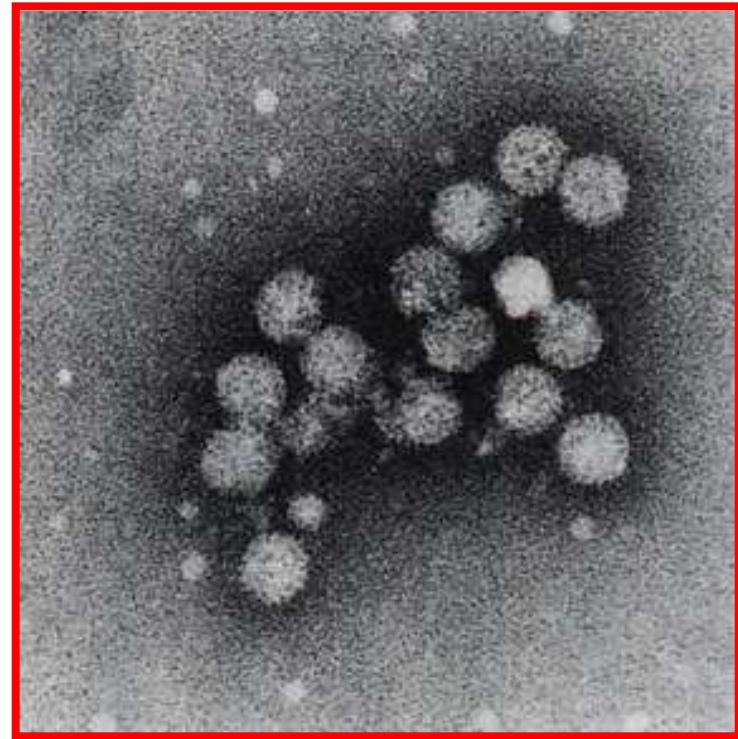
# HEPATITIS C VIRION STRUCTURE



Core

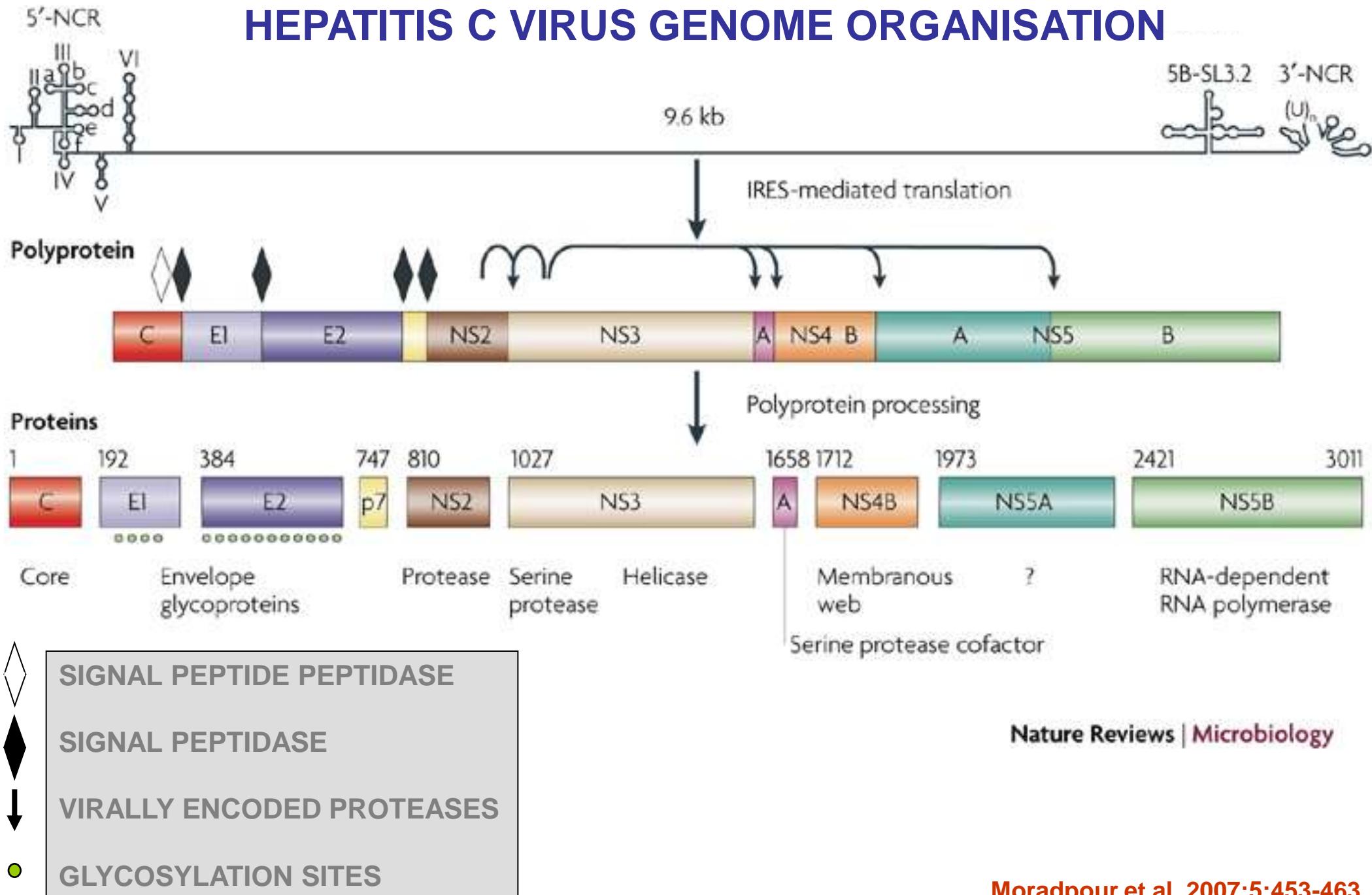
RNA

Envelope

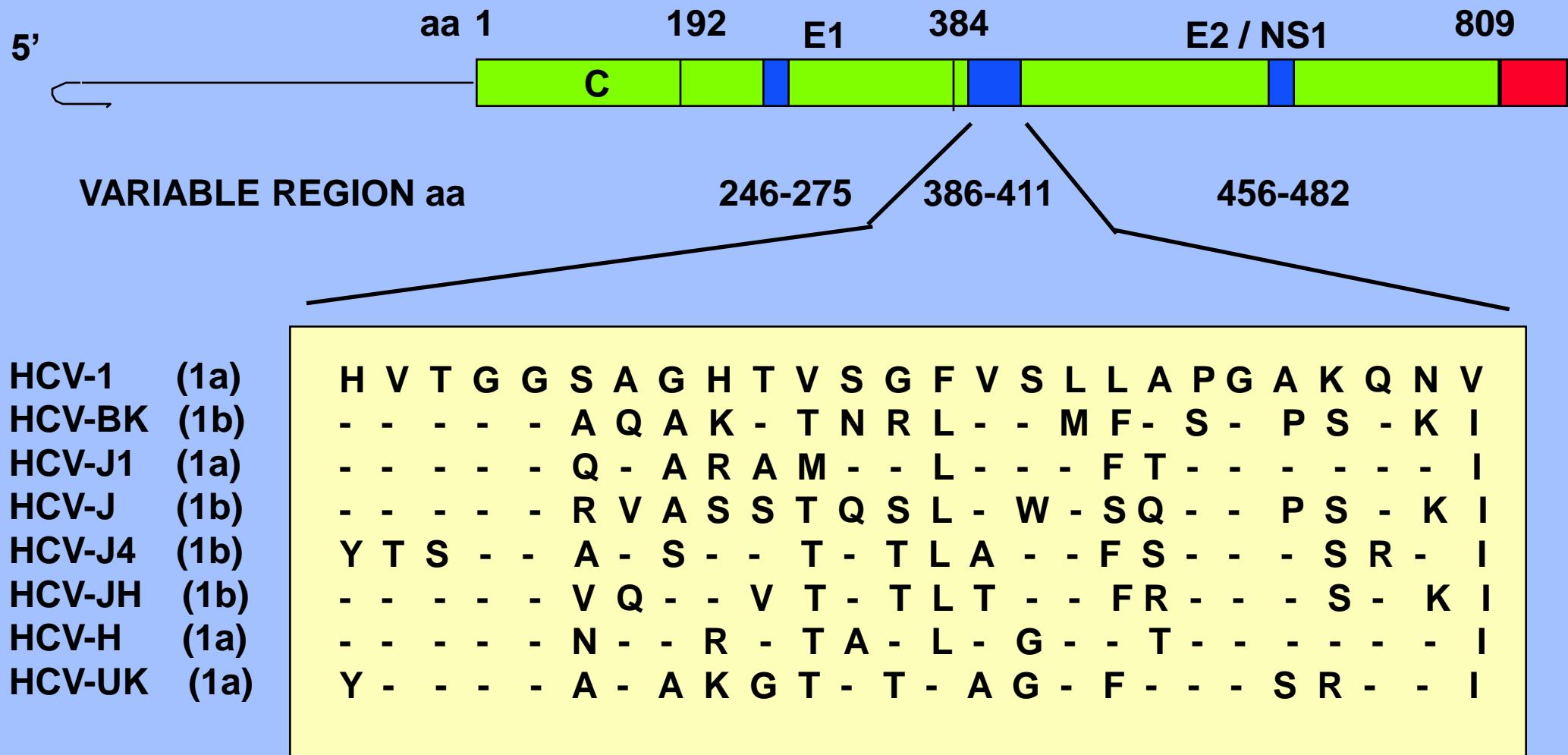


Electron micrograph

# HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOME ORGANISATION



# ANTIGENICALLY VARIABLE DOMAINS IN THE ENVELOPE GLYCOPROTEINS



# HCV QUASISPECIES: CHANGES IN THE HYPERVARIABLE REGION 1 OF THE E2/NS1 WITH TIME IN A CHRONIC CARRIER

Time 0

STRVTGGQQGRAVHGIASLFLSLGASQK  
-----  
----- Q - F - - R - - - E

8 months

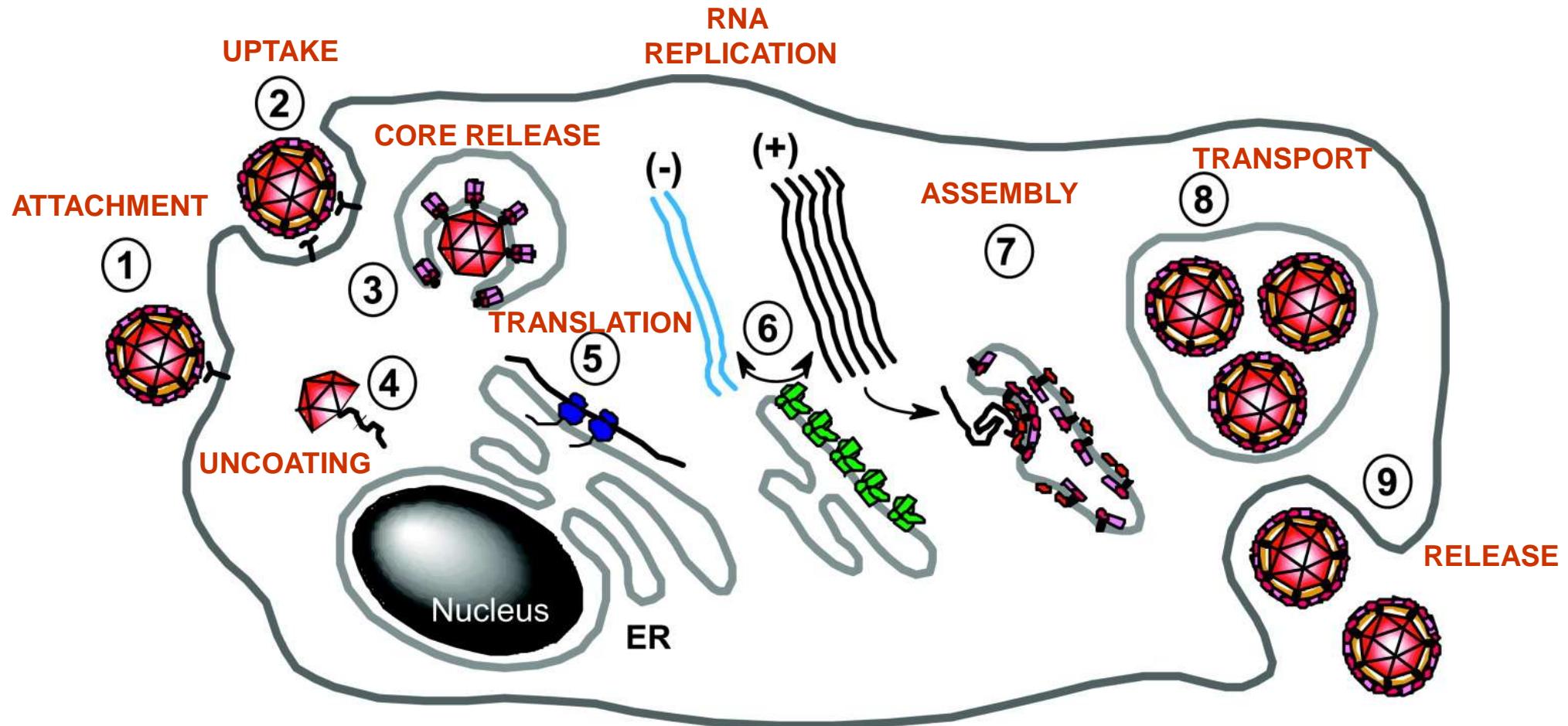
N ----- R ----- A - S L T - - P - - - N  
G ----- R ----- A - S L T - - P - - E N  
----- S - - - - A - S L T - - T - - - N  
- - H - - A L - - - A Y - - T - F L - H - P - - -

14 months

- - Q - M - - - - - A Y S L - - L - P - - N - -  
- - Q - M - - - - - A Y S L - - L G P - - - - -  
- - Q - M - - - - - A Y S L - - L - P - - - - -

Kato et al, 1992

# LIFE CYCLE OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS: POTENTIAL TARGETS FOR THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION



# TREATMENT OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS CARRIERS

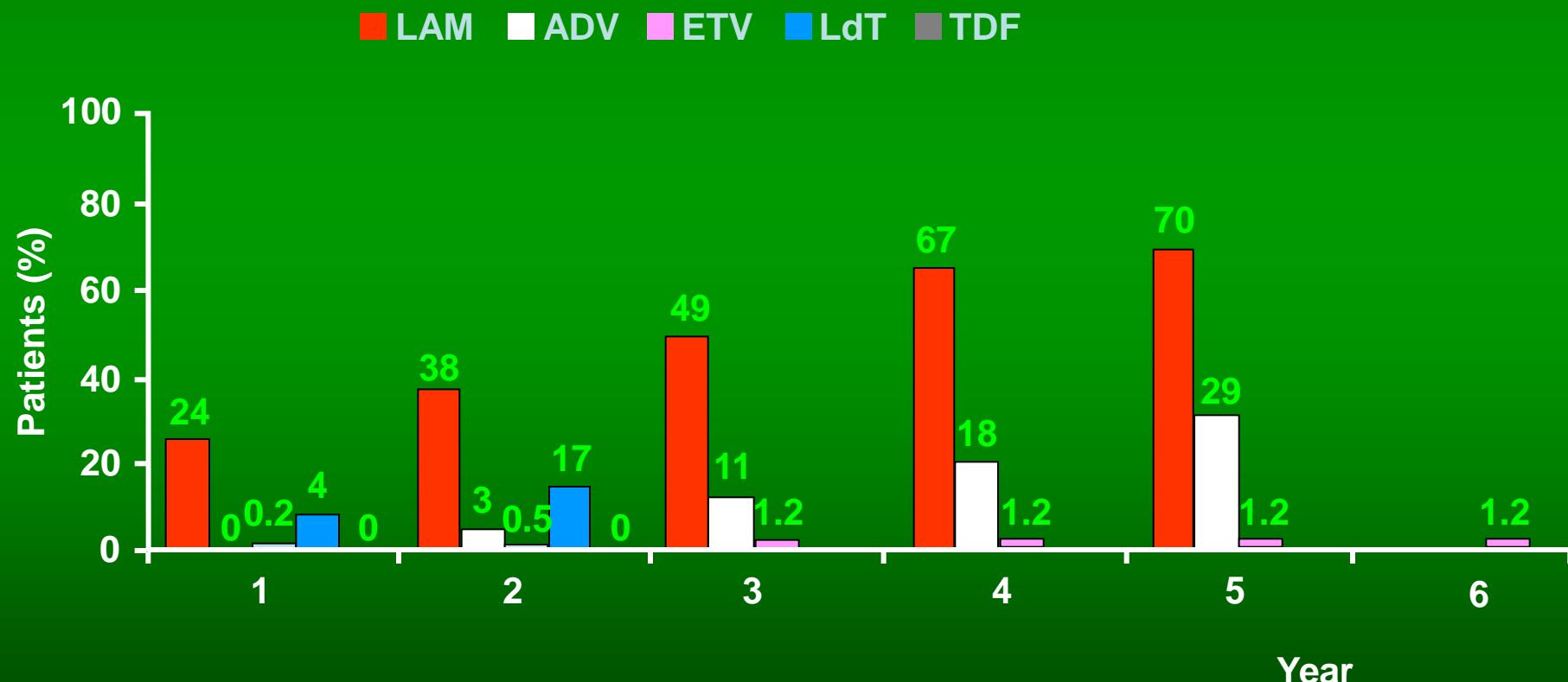
VIRUS	ANTIVIRAL AGENTS	LONG TERM RESPONSE
HBV - HBeAg - anti-HBe	Peg-Interferon $\alpha^*$ Peg-Interferon $\alpha$	40% 20%
HCV	Peg-Interferon + Ribavirin#	55-80%
HDV	Interferon $\alpha$	Not sustained

\* Peg = pegylated, addition of polyethylene glycol

# Trials using protease and polymerase inhibitors are in progress

# Cumulative Rates of Resistance With Oral Agents in Nucleos(t)ide-Naive Patients

*Not head-to-head trials; different patient populations and trial designs*



- Από την παρουσίαση στο 6<sup>ο</sup> συνέδριο του Συνδέσμου Βιολόγων Φυσιογνωστών (ΟΕΛΜΕΚ )
- Ινστιτούτο Νευρολογίας και Γενετικής Κύπρου  
20 Μαρτίου 2010
- Δρ. Πέτρος Καραγιάννης,  
Καθηγητής Μοριακης Ιολογίας  
Τμήμα Ιατρικής στο Imperial College London