



# Virushepatitis – Update - 2023

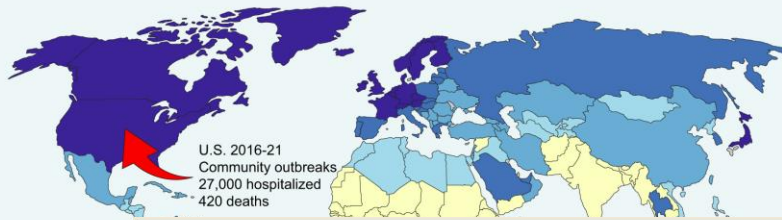
**Nektarios Dikopoulos**

Praxis Ludwig & Dikopoulos  
Zeppelinstrasse 16, 89160 Dornstadt

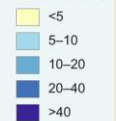
[www.praxis-endoskopie.de](http://www.praxis-endoskopie.de)

# Virushepatitis A

## Worldwide epidemiology

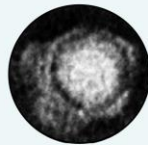


Age by which  
50% of persons  
are seropositive



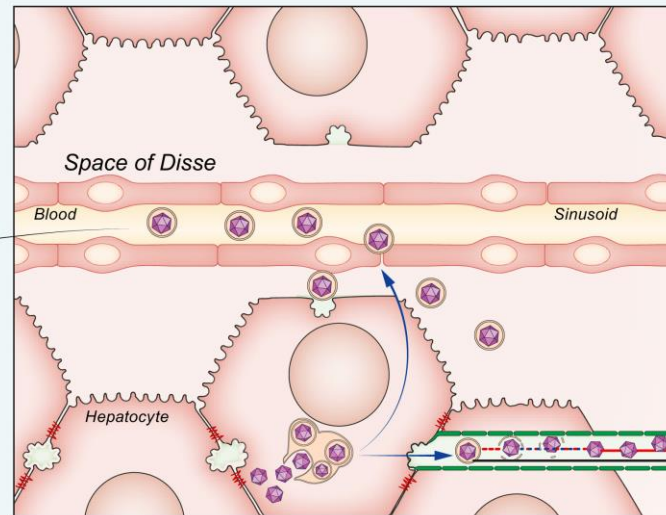
## Quasi-enveloped virus<sup>[6]</sup>

eHAV



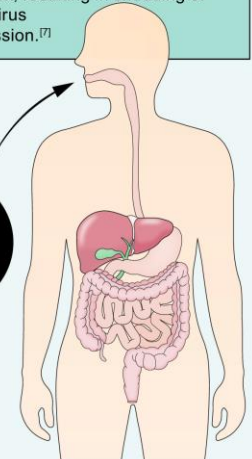
HAV capsids interact with ESCRT-related proteins, bud into multi-vesicular endosomes (MVE), and are released from hepatocytes wrapped in membranes. eHAV is resistant to neutralizing antibodies, providing for stealthy virus spread *in vivo*.<sup>[6]</sup> Endosomal gangliosides (GD1a) bind virus and are essential for viral entry into uninfected cells.<sup>[8]</sup>

## Life cycle



Fecally shed virus is produced in hepatocytes. Bile acids strip membranes from virus during passage through the biliary track, resulting in shedding of highly stable, naked virus optimized for transmission.<sup>[7]</sup>

Naked virus  
nHAV

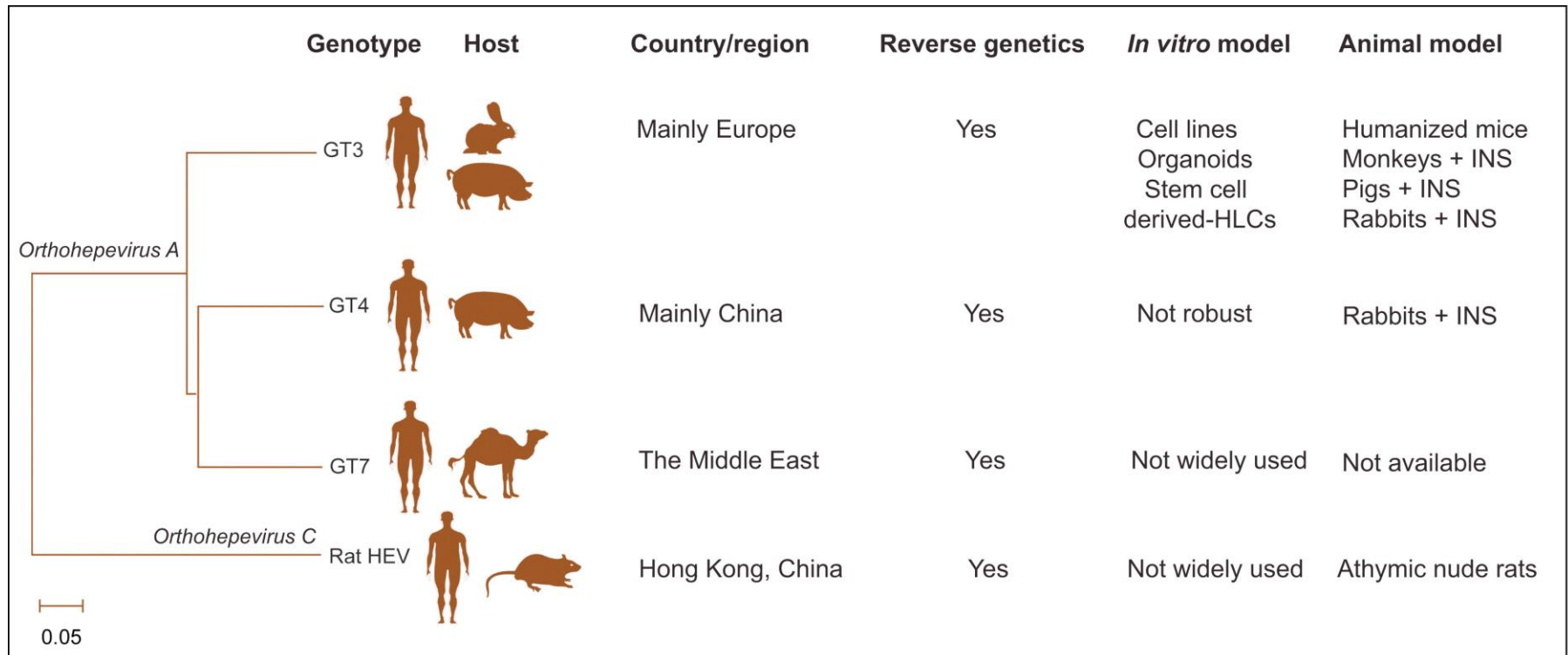




## Hepatitis A - Patientenfall

- 54 jähriger Mann (Informatiker)
- Grippale Beschwerden, Krankheitsgefühl, Durchfall, Abklärung erhöhter Leberwerte **und Ikterus**
- ALT 1.500 IU/l, AST 1.200 IU/l, Bilirubin 8 mg /dl, Quick-Wert 65%
- Anamnese: vor 2 Wochen Busreise mit Essen beim „Italiener“:  
**Meeresfrüchtesalat!!**
- Serologie: anti-HAV-IgG positiv und anti-HAV-IgM positiv
- **Diagnose: akute Hepatitis A**

# Virushepatitis E





## Hepatitis E – klinischer Verlauf

- meistens **asymptomatisch** oder als **leichte / milde selbstlimitierte Hepatitis** mit Ausheilung nach 3-6 Monaten
- Cave: **extrahepatische Manifestationen (GBS, GN, Arthralgien)**
- Bei **Immunsuppression - Z.n. Organ-Tx**: chronische Hepatitis (Leberzirrhose, HCC, usw..), Therapie mit Ribavirin wirksam
- Inzidenz bei **Blutspendern** in Europa bis zu 0,19% (Screening erforderlich!!!)



# Hepatitis E – der seltene Fall

- 63 jährige Patientin, **Z.n. Nieren-Tx** wegen Zystennieren
- **Immunsuppression** (MMF, Tacrolimus, Prednisolon)
- Abklärung erhöhter Leberwerte
- Anti-HEV IgG positiv / IgM negativ
- **HEV-RNA im Serum** positiv über 6 Monate
- **Chronische Hepatitis E**



# Chronische Hepatitis E – Therapie

- Reduktion der Immunsuppression so weit möglich
- **Ribavirin** für 6 Monate (Cave: GFR, Hb !!)
- 63 jährige Patientin: nach 6 Monaten Transaminasen normal, **HEV-RNA negativ**

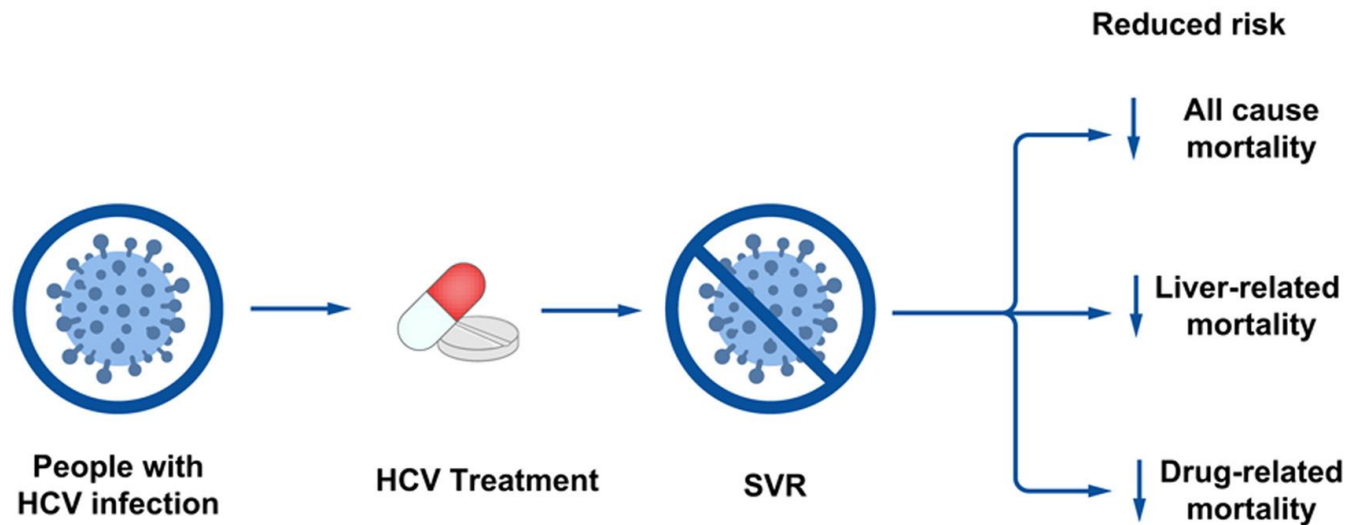


# Virushepatitis C



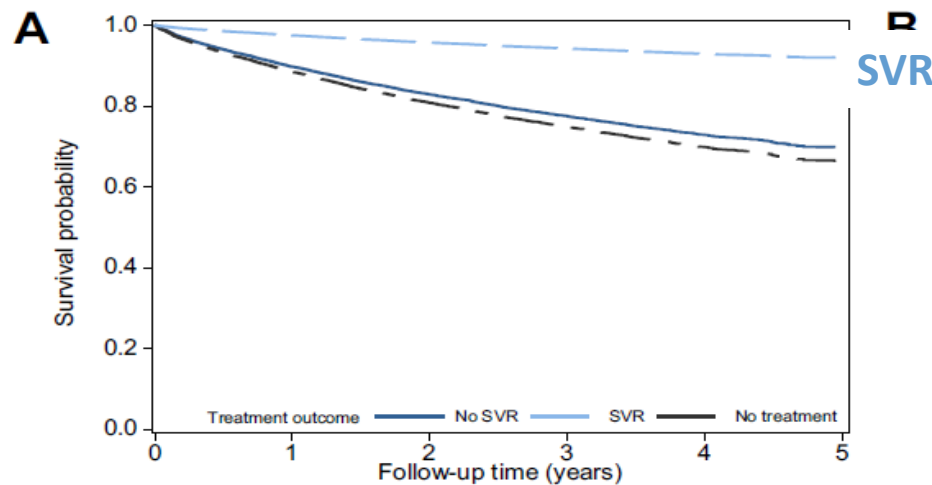


The impact of direct acting antiviral therapies for treatment of HCV on mortality  
in a large population-based cohort study

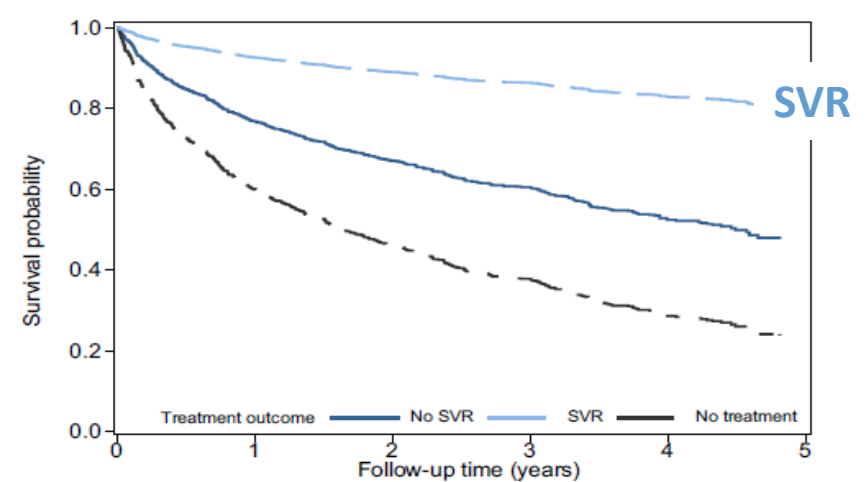




# Höhere Überlebensraten nach SVR



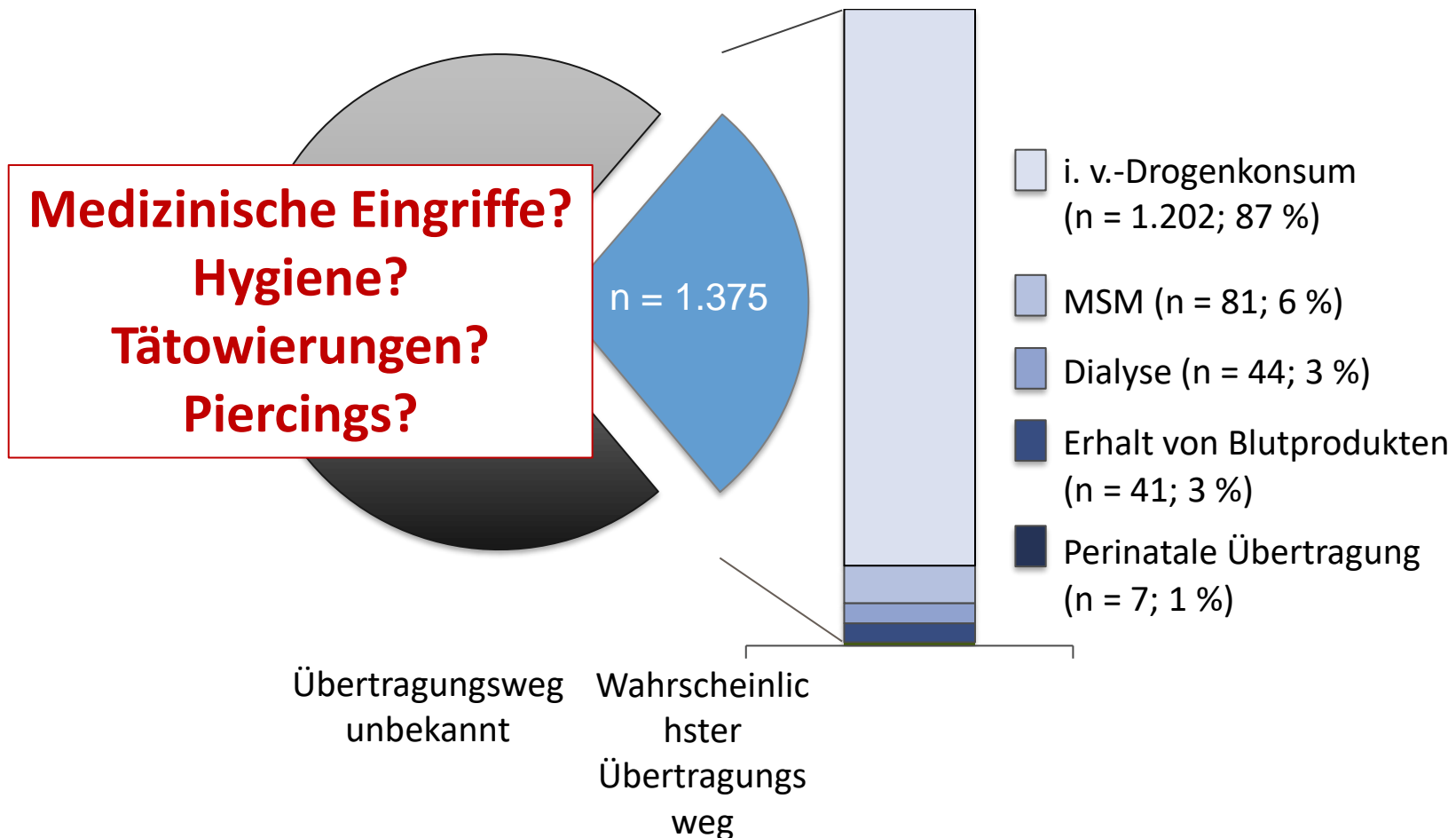
N° at risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
SVR	10,426	9,189	6,372	4,207	2,326	343
No SVR	425	322	198	117	66	12
No treatment	10,851	8,366	5,229	3,082	1,497	98



N° at risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
SVR	888	846	715	587	403	65
No SVR	59	50	34	26	15	3
No treatment	579	290	172	98	45	4



## HCV-Übertragungswege

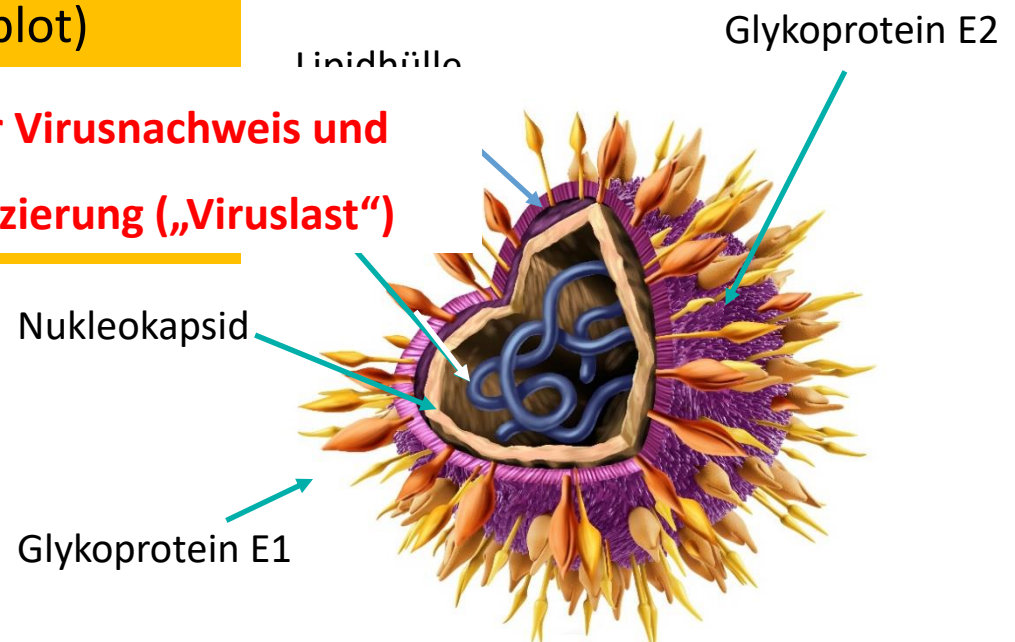


## HCV-Diagnostik

- Anti-HCV-AK Suchtest (ELISA)
- Anti-HCV-AK Bestätigungstest (Immunoblot)
- HCVcore-Ag (ELISA oder Immunoblot)
- **HCV-RNA (PCR)**
- **HCV-Genotyp (PCR)**

**Neu in der Ü-35**

**Direkter Virusnachweis und  
Quantifizierung („Viruslast“)**





## 62 jährige Patientin

„Ein erstaunlicher Fall!“

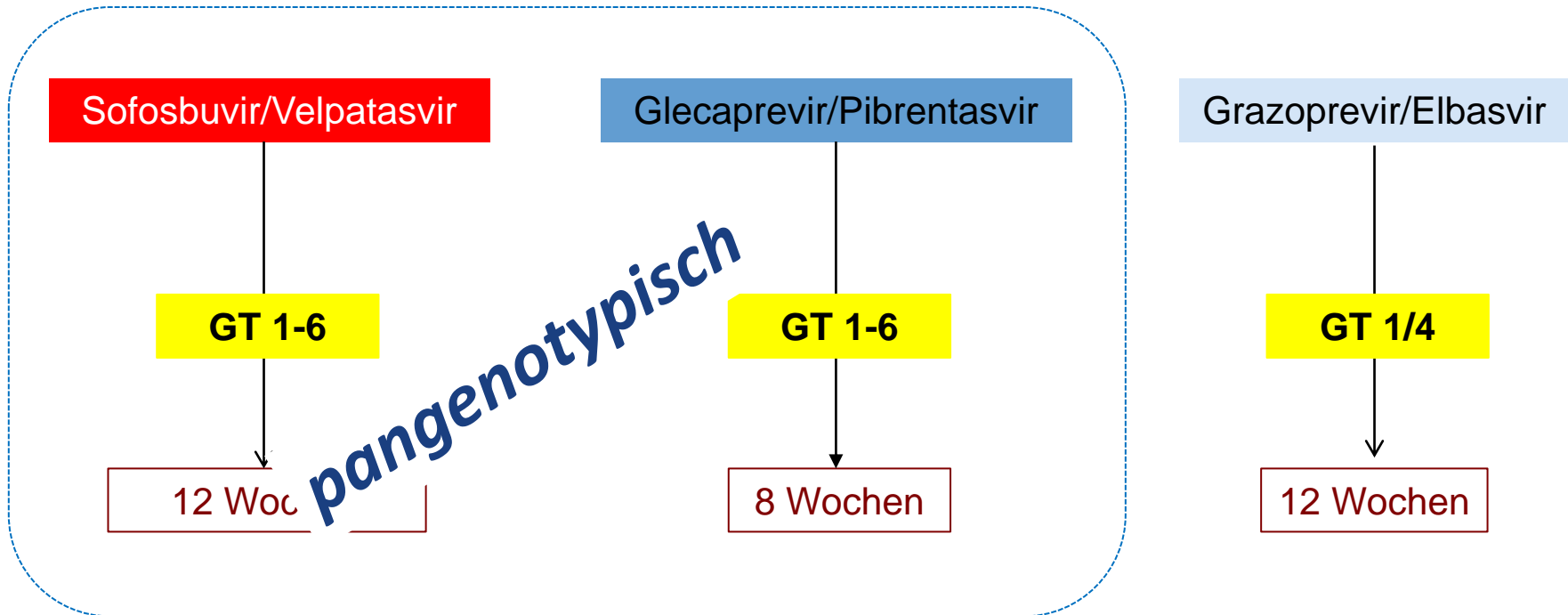
- Seit **über 10 Jahren** erhöhte Leberwerte: ALT 140 U/l, AST 85, gGT 90 U/l
- Sonographie: fortgeschrittene Fibrose/**beginnende Leberzirrhose**
- Anamnese: Z.n. Sectio mit Blutverlust/Blutübertragung in Russland
- ED chronische Hepatitis C im **Mai 2021**
- Antivirale Therapie (**DAA-Therapie für 3 Monate**)
- **Ausheilung der Virushepatitis C**
- Leberwerte wieder normal



## Wie behandeln wir aktuell die Hepatitis C?

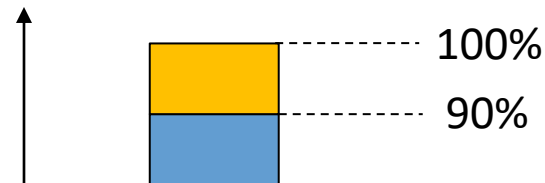


## Aktuelle DAA-Therapie





# Ergebnisse der neuen HCV Therapie



- 90-100% Heilungsrate bei allen Genotypen
- 8 – 12 Wochen Therapie
- Sehr gute Verträglichkeit
- Auch bei schwierigen Patienten: Zirrhose, Ko-Infektionen, Dialysepatienten, LTx Patienten, usw....

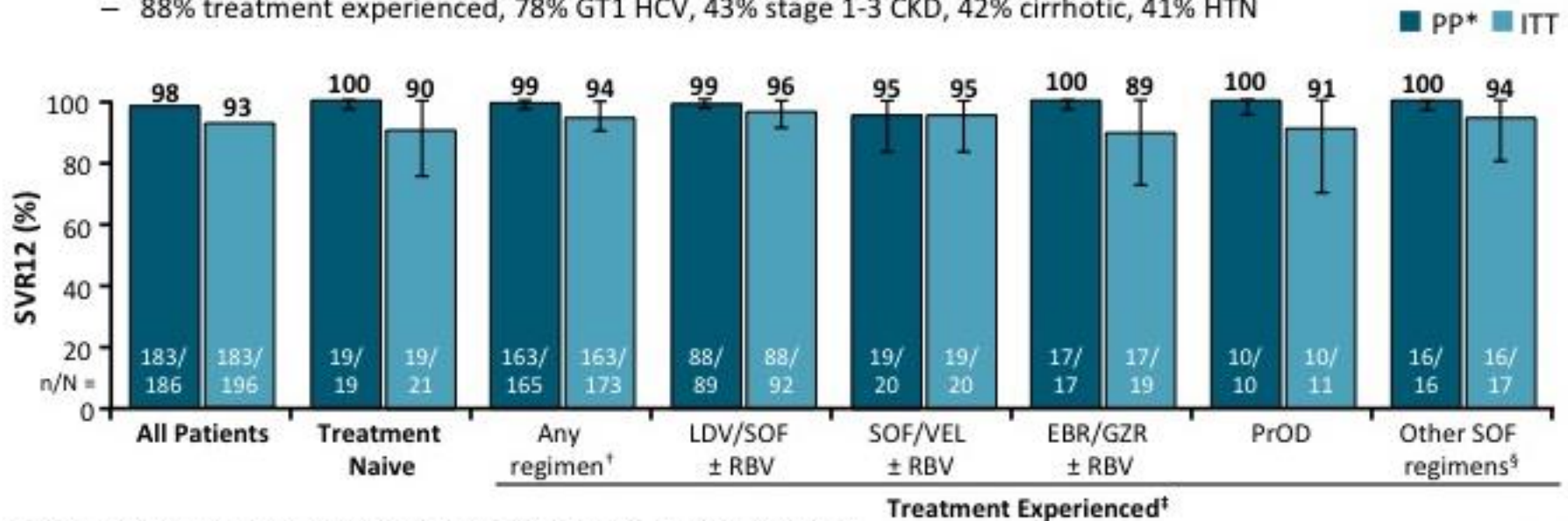






# “Registerdaten” verschiedener Zentren in den USA

- Real-world data from providers and specialty pharmacies in the TRIO Health disease management program on SOF/VEL/VOX for 12 wks initiated between July 2017 and April 2018 (N = 196)
  - 88% treatment experienced, 78% GT1 HCV, 43% stage 1-3 CKD, 42% cirrhotic, 41% HTN



\*Primary endpoint. <sup>†</sup>One patient with prior GLE/PIB achieved SVR. <sup>‡</sup>Regimens prior to SOF/VEL/VOX.

<sup>§</sup>Includes DCV + SOF (n = 10), SOF + RBV (n = 6), PegIFN + SOF + RBV (n = 1).

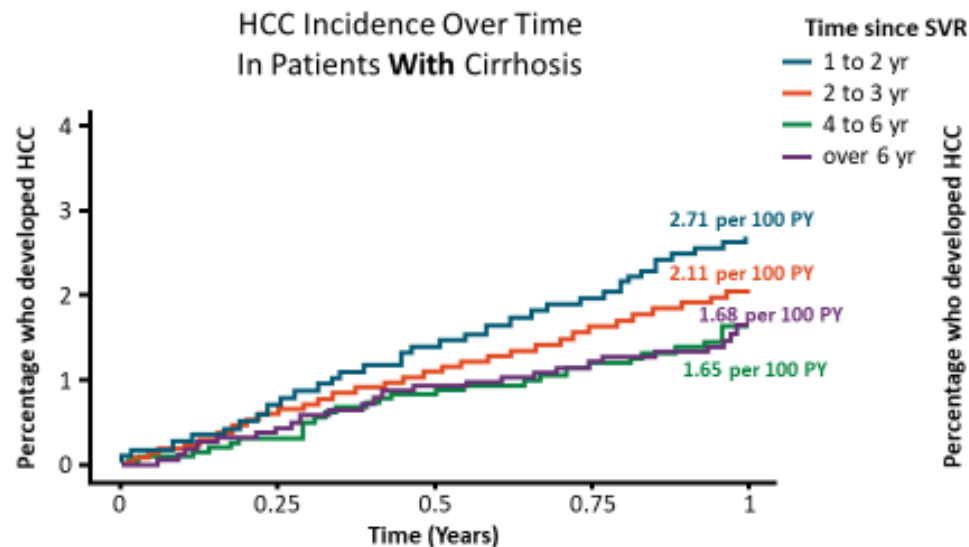
Bacon. EASL 2019. Abstr THU-116. Reproduced with permission.



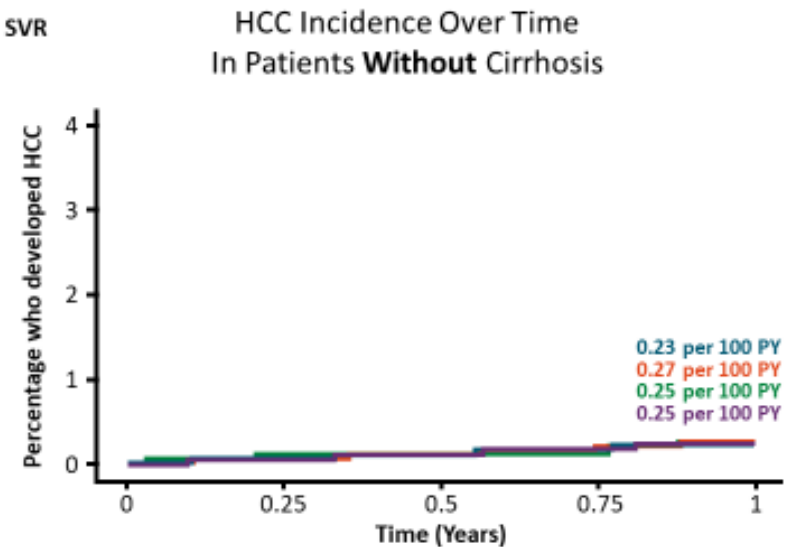
Slide credit: [clinicaloptions.com](http://clinicaloptions.com)



## Annual HCC Risk in Patients With and Without Cirrhosis, Stratified by Time Since SVR

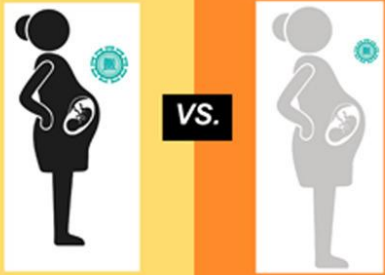



- In patients **with** cirrhosis, **HCC incidence decreased** from Yr 1 to Yr >6



- In patients **without** cirrhosis, HCC incidence was low across all time points and did not change with time

# HCV in der Schwangerschaft

STUDY DESIGN	OUTCOMES	FINDINGS
<p><b>Population-based retrospective study using ICES data (2000-2018)</b></p> <p><b>1,780 HCV RNA+ pregnancies</b>      <b>390 HCV Ab+/RNA- pregnancies</b></p>  <p><i>Pregnancy outcomes adjusted for: Age, parity, diabetes, multiple gestations, cirrhosis, alcohol and substance use, HIV co-infection</i></p>	<p><b>HCV screening performed in infants</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) HCV antibody test at 18 months of age or later <u>OR</u></li> <li>2) HCV RNA test within 2 to 24 months after delivery</li> </ol> <p><b>Mother-to-child transmission (MTCT)</b> in infants who were appropriately screened: HCV Ab+ or RNA+</p> <p><b>Adverse pregnancy outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gestational diabetes</li> <li>• Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy</li> <li>• Small for gestational age</li> <li>• Large for gestational age</li> <li>• Antepartum hemorrhage</li> <li>• Postpartum hemorrhage</li> <li>• Preterm delivery</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Appropriate HCV screening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29% (n = 511/1,780)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>MTCT (n = 18/511):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.5% (95% CI: 1.9-5.2)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>No MTCT if:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RNA &lt;3.5 log<sub>10</sub> IU/ml</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>If HCV RNA ≥6 log<sub>10</sub> IU/ml</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MTCT eOR 3.38, p = 0.04</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Pregnancy outcomes HCV RNA+ vs. HCV Ab+/RNA-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy: OR 4.55</li> <li>↑ Preterm delivery: OR 1.84</li> <li>↑ Postpartum hemorrhage: OR 1.78</li> <li>↓ Gestational diabetes: OR 0.71</li> </ul>



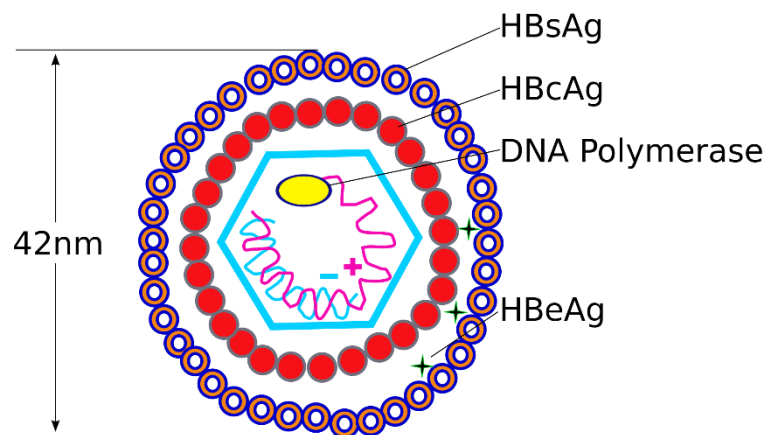
# Hepatitis C - Fazit

- HCV im **Ü-35-Screening** implementiert
- DAA-Therapie führt zu **Heilungsraten > 90%** („SVR12“)
- Therapiedauer 8-12 Wochen
- Bei allen HCV-Genotypen und **allen HCV-Patientengruppen** (Vorbehandlung, Niereninsuffizienz/Dialyse, HIV/HBV-Koinfektion, IVDU, Leberzirrhose, Immunsuppression, Chemotherapie, usw) sicher und effektiv
- Eindeutige Verbesserung der **Langzeitprognose !!**

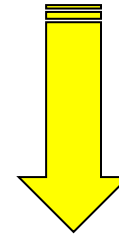


# Virushepatitis B und D

## Ü35-Screening einer Hepatitis B



HBsAg im Serum



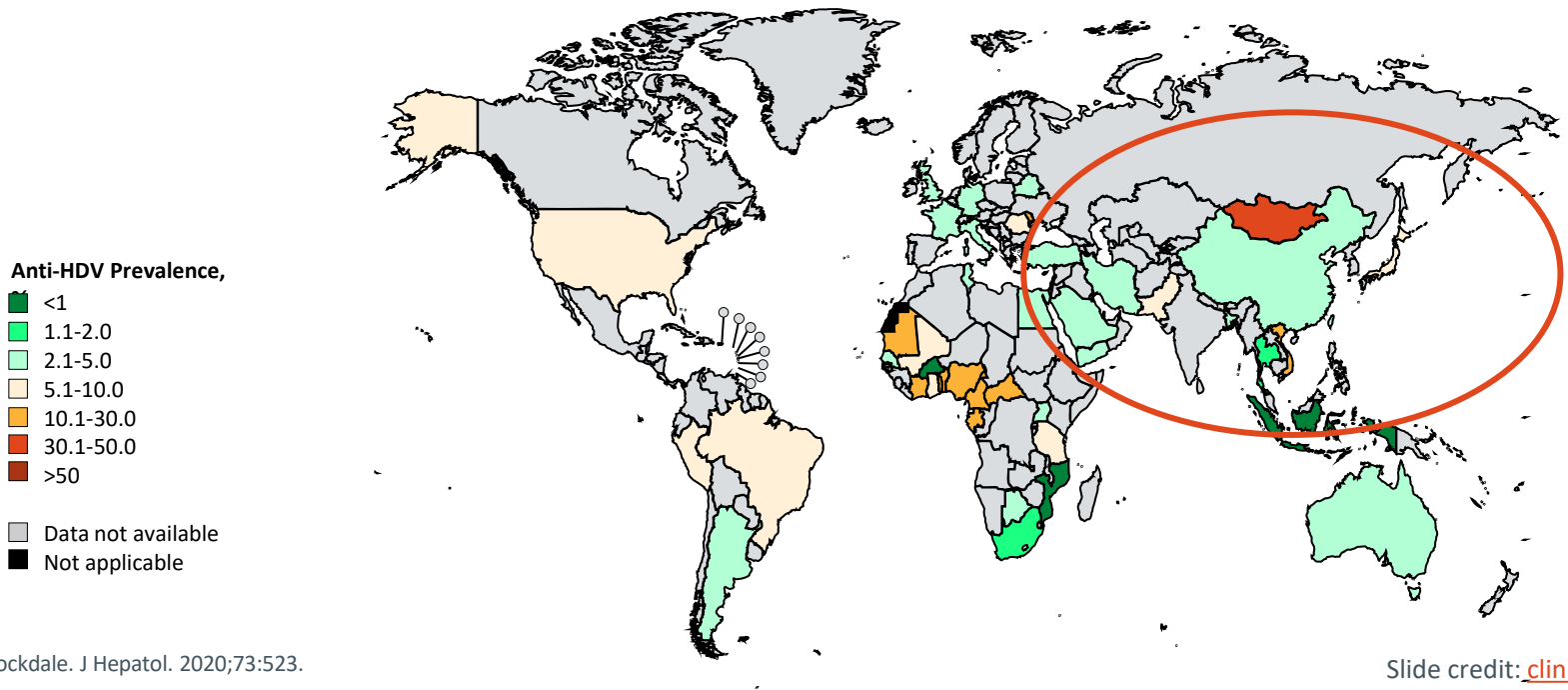
HBV-DNA im Serum

### Spezialdiagnostik:

HBeAg/anti-HBe, HBsAg quantitativ, HBV-Genotyp, anti-HDV/HDV-RNA

# Proportion of People With HBV Who Have HDV

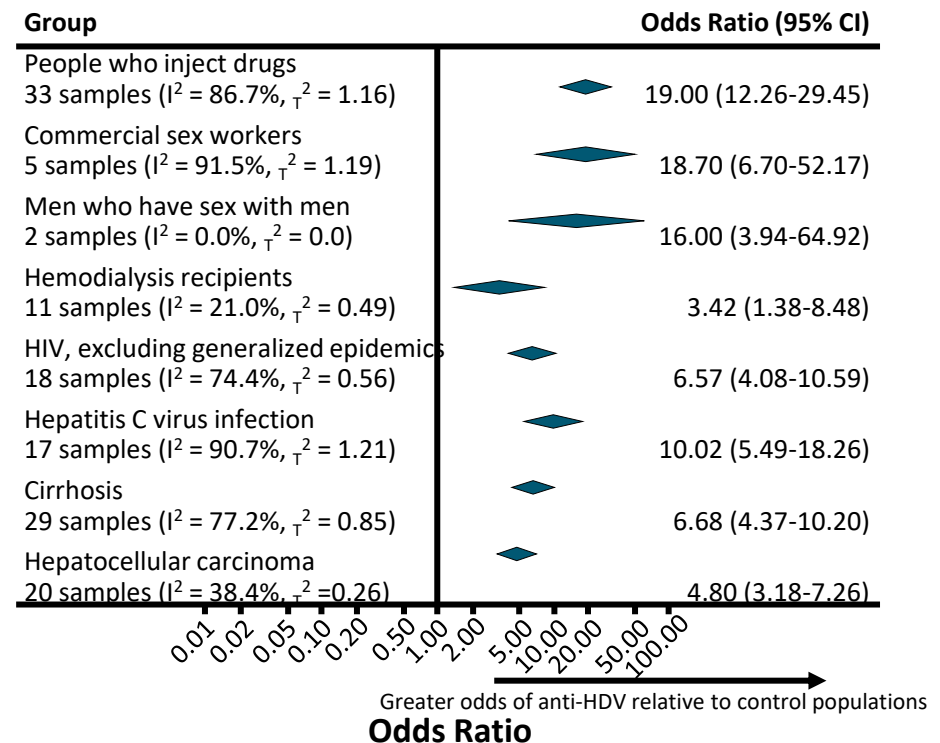
- Among HBsAg-positive people with HBV, the estimated prevalence of HDV is 4.5% (95% CI: 3.6-5.7)



# HDV Prevalence Among Selected Population Groups Across the Globe

- HDV seroprevalence among selected population groups relative to general populations or asymptomatic HBsAg-positive people from the same geographic region
- Population attributable fraction of HBsAg-positive patients suggested HDV accounted for:

- 18% of cirrhosis
- 20% of HCC





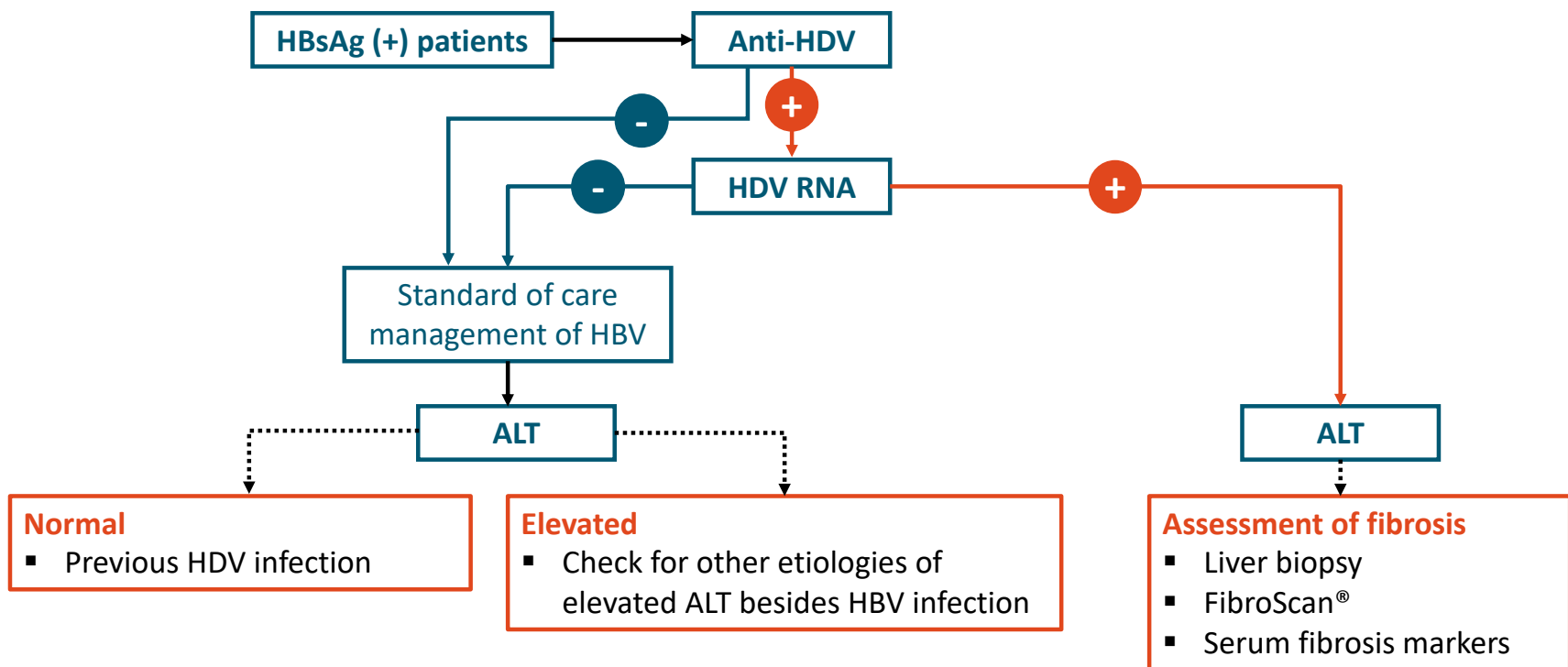


## HDV Prevalence in HBsAg Positive Populations by WHO Region and in General and Hepatology Clinics

WHO Region	General HBsAg+ Populations		HBsAg+ Populations in Hepatology Clinics	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
African region	5.97	4.98-7.24	12.26	10.13-14.70
Region of the Americas	5.91	3.02-9.71	3.34	2.58-4.21
Eastern Mediterranean region	3.54	2.10-6.28	17.36	11.15-26.34
European region	3.00	2.09-4.21	19.48	17.31-21.76
South-East Asian region	3.20	0.36-12.4	4.00	3.09-5.15
Western Pacific region	4.09	3.47-4.77	8.07	7.50-8.64
Global	4.49	3.57-5.68	16.42	14.58-18.56



## Algorithm for the Evaluation of HDV



Adapted from: Shah. Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf). 2019;7:396.

Slide credit: [clinicaloptions.com](https://clinicaloptions.com)



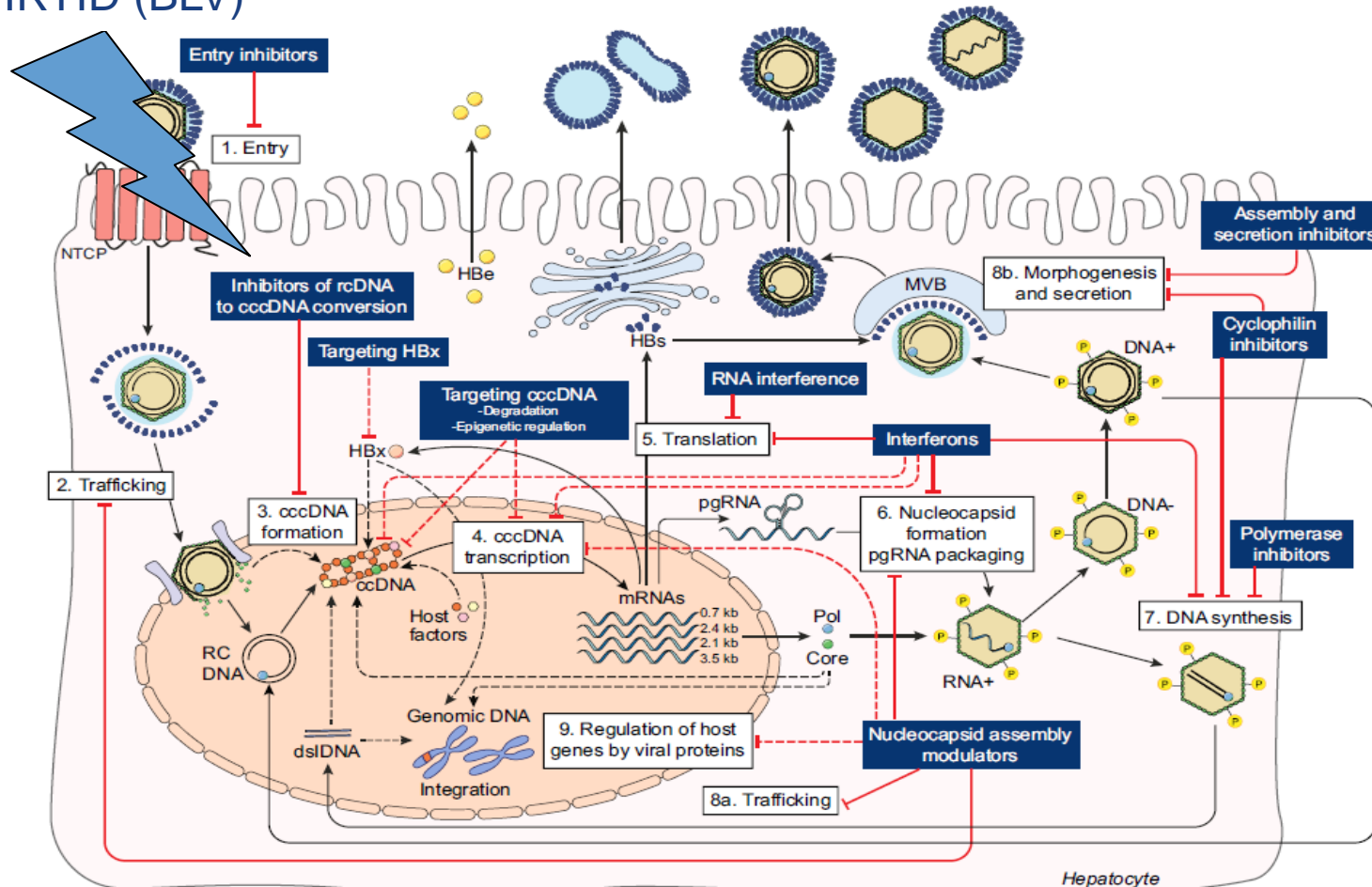


## 34 jährige Patientin mit HBV/HDV

- Chronische Hepatitis B/D
- HBV-DNA negativ, HBsAg positiv, HDV-RNA  $7 \times 10^5$  GÄ/ml
- AST 150 U/l, ALT 142 U/l, gGT 450 U/l, AP 180 U/l
- Bilirubin 4,5 mg/dl, Quick 63%, Thrombozyten 68.000 /  $\mu$ l
- **Leberzirrhose CHILD A, Z.n. Dekompensation mit Aszites**
- Wie würden Sie die Patientin behandeln ?

# Erster „Entry-Inhibitor“: Bulevirtid

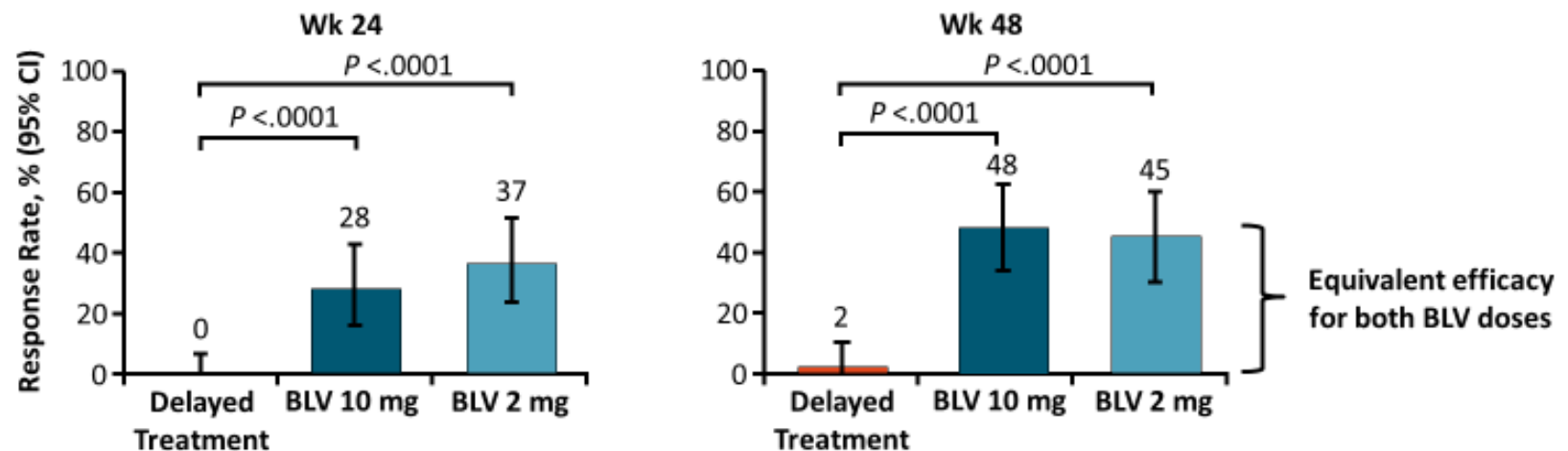
## BULEVIRTID (BLV)





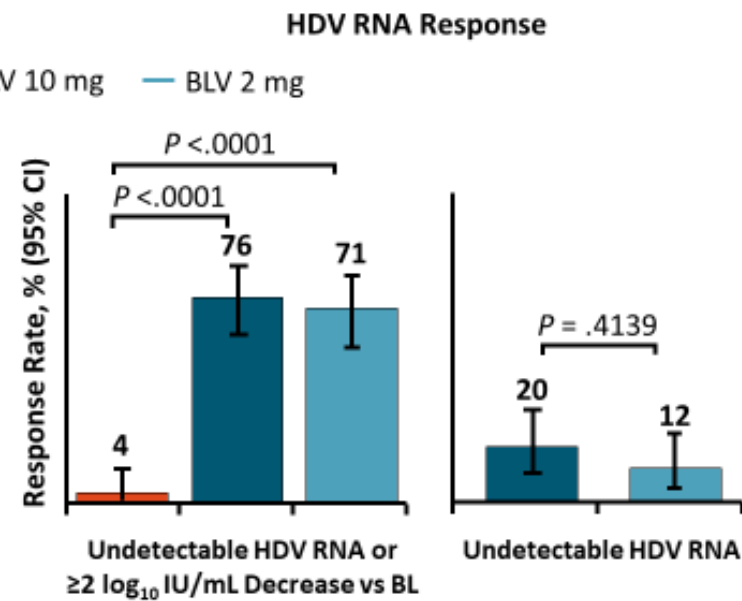
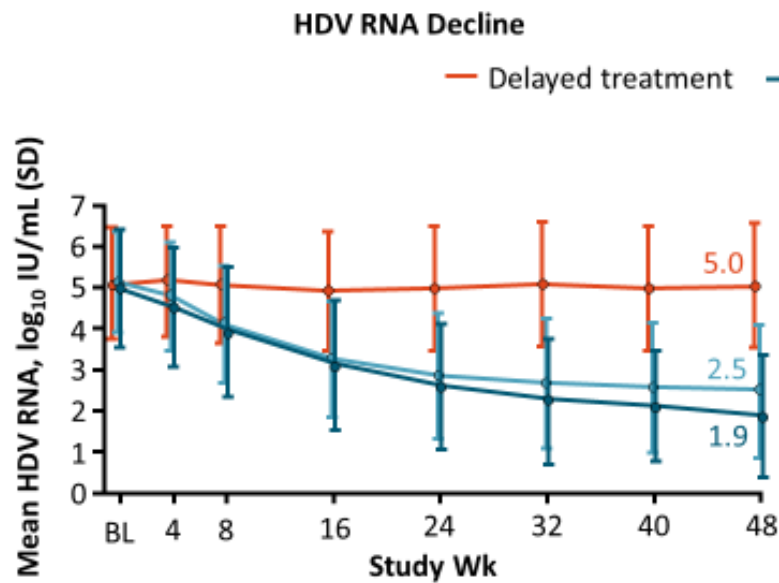
## MYR301: Immediate vs Delayed Bulevirtide Monotherapy for Chronic HDV

- Multicenter, randomized, phase III trial of BLV 2 mg or 10 mg SC QD for 48 wk vs delayed BLV treatment (10 mg SC QD beginning Wk 48) in patients with chronic HDV (N = 150)
  - Primary endpoint: combined response at Wk 48 (HDV RNA undetectable or  $\geq 2 \log_{10}$  copies/mL decrease vs baseline with ALT normalization)





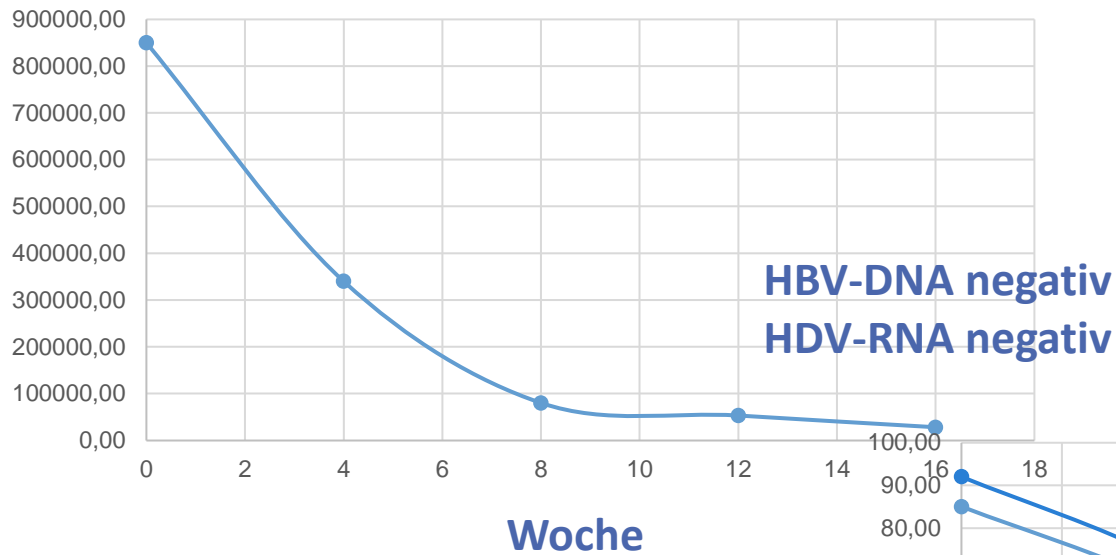
## MYR301: HDV RNA Response at Wk 48





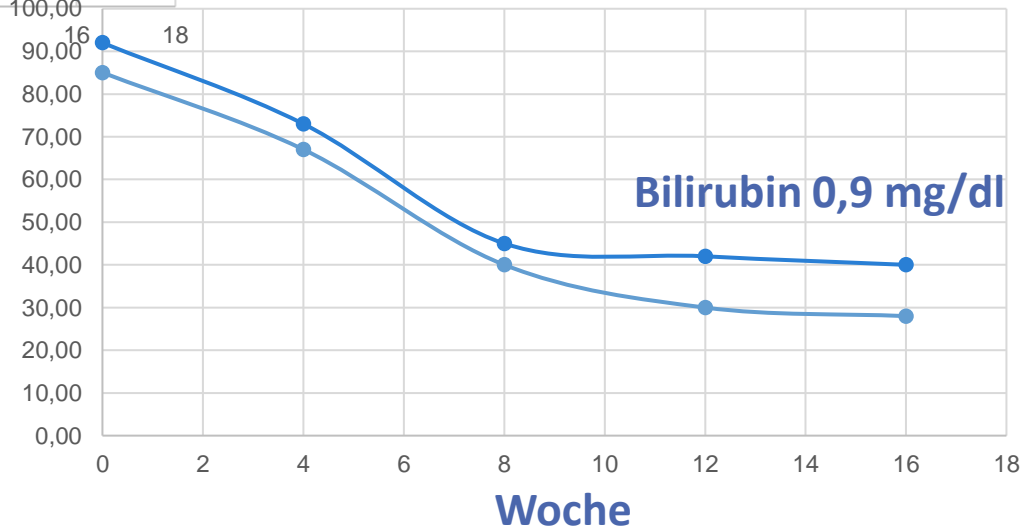
## 34 jährige Patientin mit HBV/HDV

HDV-RNA (GÄ/ml)



Bulevirtid 2 mg tgl. s.c.

ALT/AST





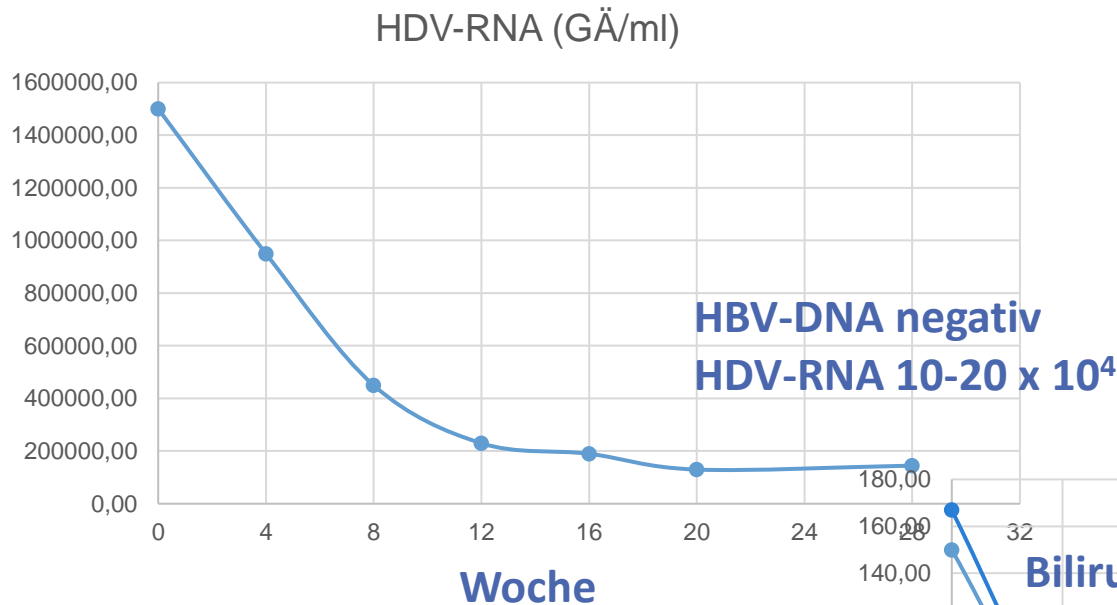
## 55 jähriger Patient mit HBV/HDV

- Chronische Hepatitis B/D-Infektion
- **Bekannte Leberzirrhose CHILD A**
- Z.n. Peg-Interferon für 36 Monate, Abbruch bei Non-Response
  
- HBV-DNA  $2 \times 10^6$  IU/ml, HDV-RNA  $6 \times 10^5$  GÄ/ml
- AST 150 U/l, ALT 180 U/l, Bilirubin 4,5 mg/dl, Quick 72%,  
Thrombozyten 95.000/ $\mu$ l
  
- Wie würden Sie den Patienten behandeln?

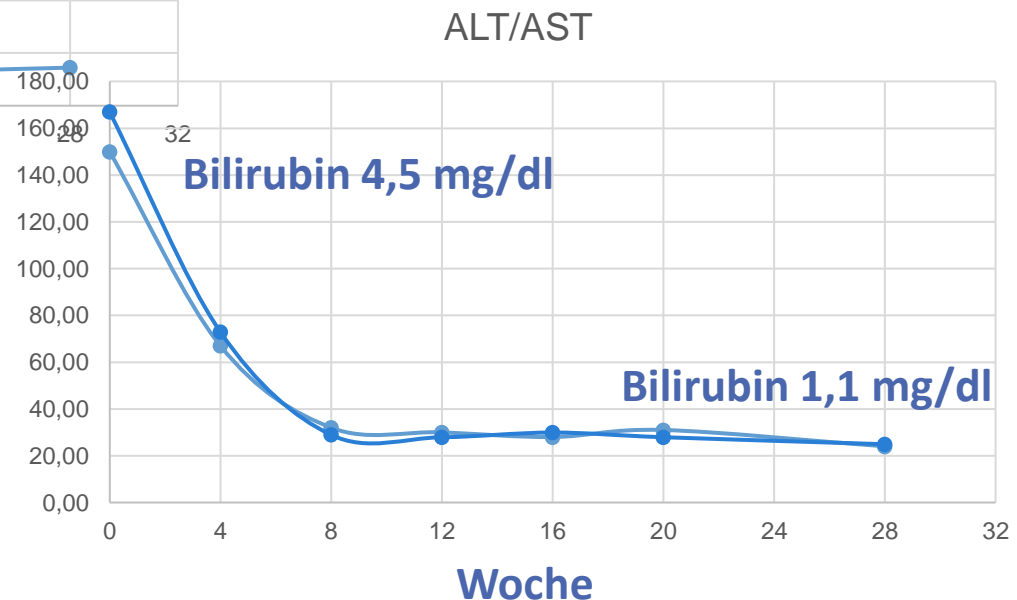




## 55 jähriger Patient mit HBV/HDV

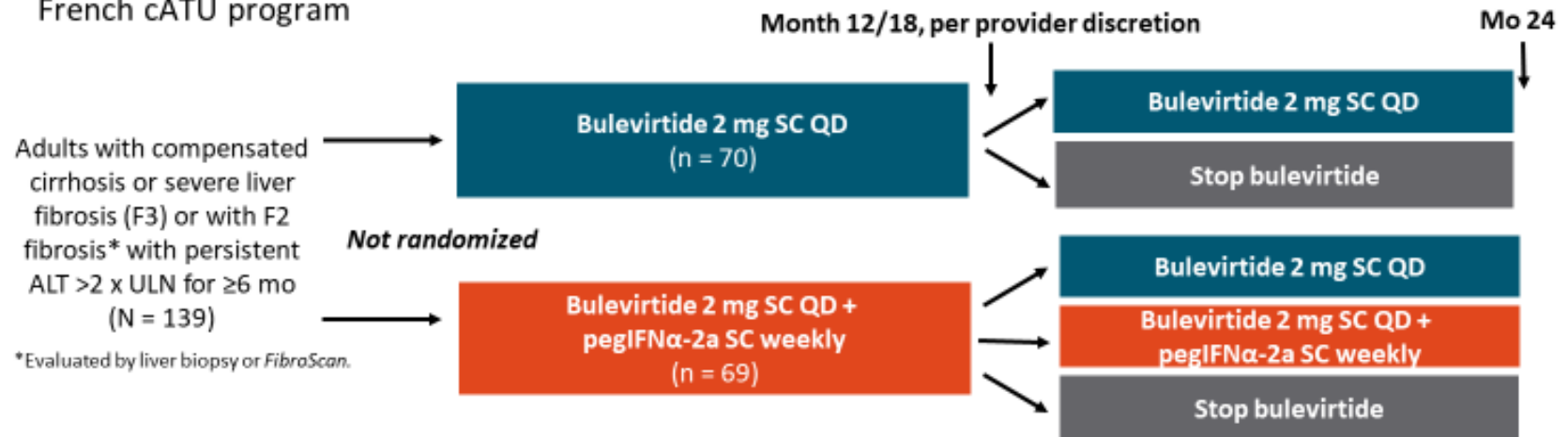


- Bulevirtid 2 mg tgl. s.c.
- Tenofovir 245 mg



## Bulevirtide ± PegIFN $\alpha$ -2a for Chronic HDV Infection: Study Design

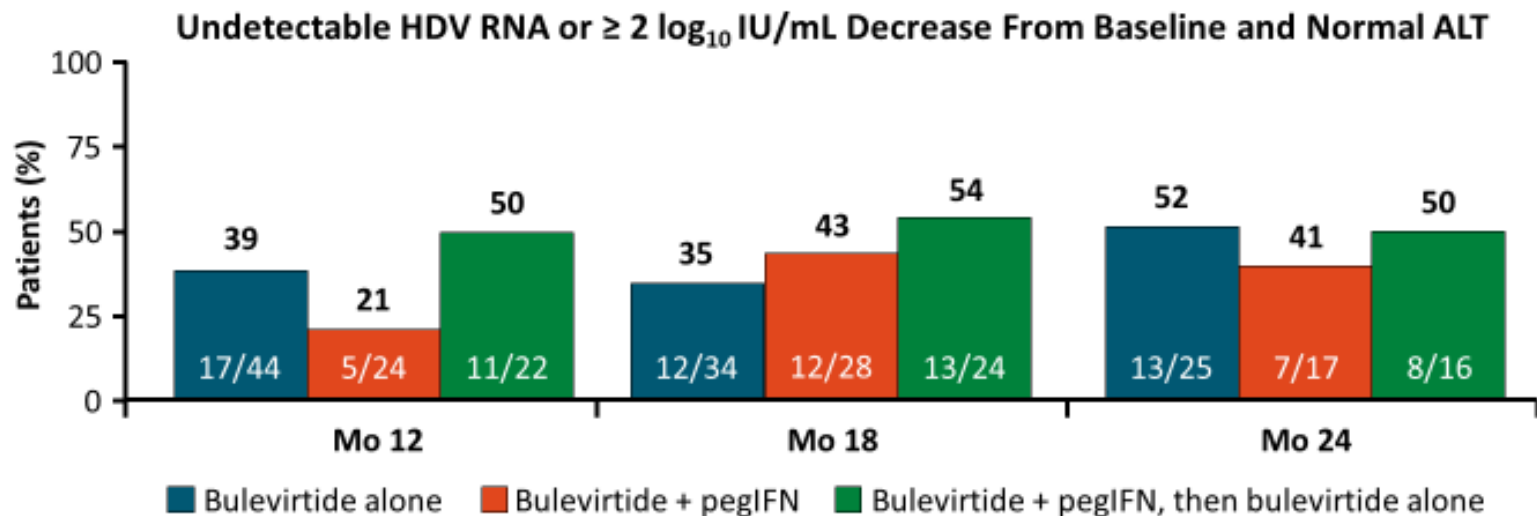
- Multicenter, prospective, retrospective, observational study in patients with chronic HDV from French cATU program



- Primary combined endpoint:** undetectable HDV RNA or decrease  $\geq 2 \log_{10}$  from baseline and normal ALT
- Secondary endpoints:** HDV RNA undetectable from baseline to Mo 12, 18, 24; normalization of ALT (ALT <40 IU/L); factors associated with virologic response at Mo 18, 24



## Bulevirtide ± PegIFN $\alpha$ -2a for Chronic HDV Infection: On-Treatment Primary Combined Endpoint



- 52% of patients receiving bulevirtide monotherapy achieved a combined response at Month 24
- Bulevirtide monotherapy did not perform differently than when combined with pegIFN



## Hepatitis B/D - Fazit

- HBV im **Ü-35-Screening** implementiert
- HDV-Screening bei allen HBV-Patienten **obligatorisch!**
- HBV/HDV-Koinfektion mit **schlechterer Prognose**, aggressiverer Verlauf, höhere Raten an Leberzirrhose und HCC
- Therapie der HBV-Infektion mit NUCs und Therapie der HDV-Infektion mit Peg-IFN
- **Bulevirtide (BLV)** bei fortgeschrittener Lebererkrankung erwägen
- BLV + Peg-IFN als **neue Therapieoption?**

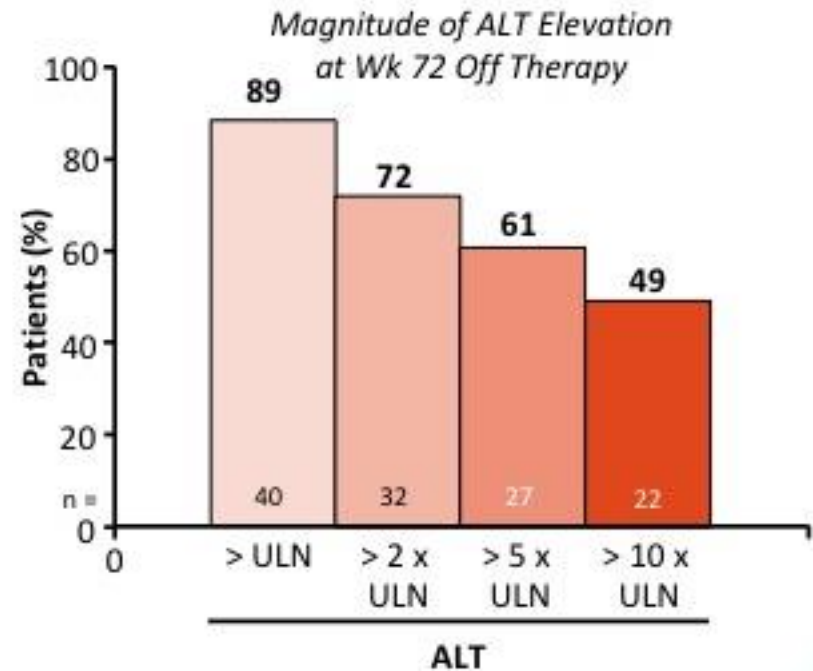
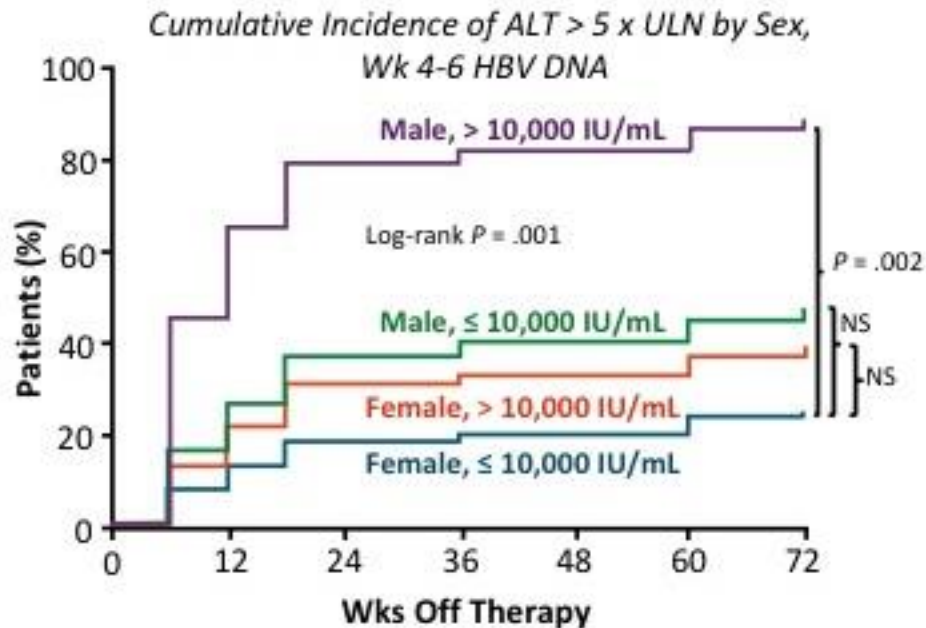


# NUC-STOP „Erfahrungen“



# STOP: Incidence, Magnitude of Off-Therapy ALT Flares

## Endpoint in Patients Discontinuing NA Therapy (n = 45)





## RETRACT-B: Outcomes After Therapy Cessation

Relapse Within 1 Yr of Therapy Cessation	Patients (N = 945)
Virologic relapse,* n (%)	542 (57)
▪ Median max HBV DNA, log <sub>10</sub> IU/mL (IQR)	4.4 (3.9-5.2)
Biochemical relapse, <sup>†</sup> n (%)	340 (36)
▪ Median max ALT x ULN (IQR)	2.8 (1.9-5.4)
Clinical relapse, <sup>‡</sup> n (%)	222 (24)
≥1 relapse, n (%)	621 (66)

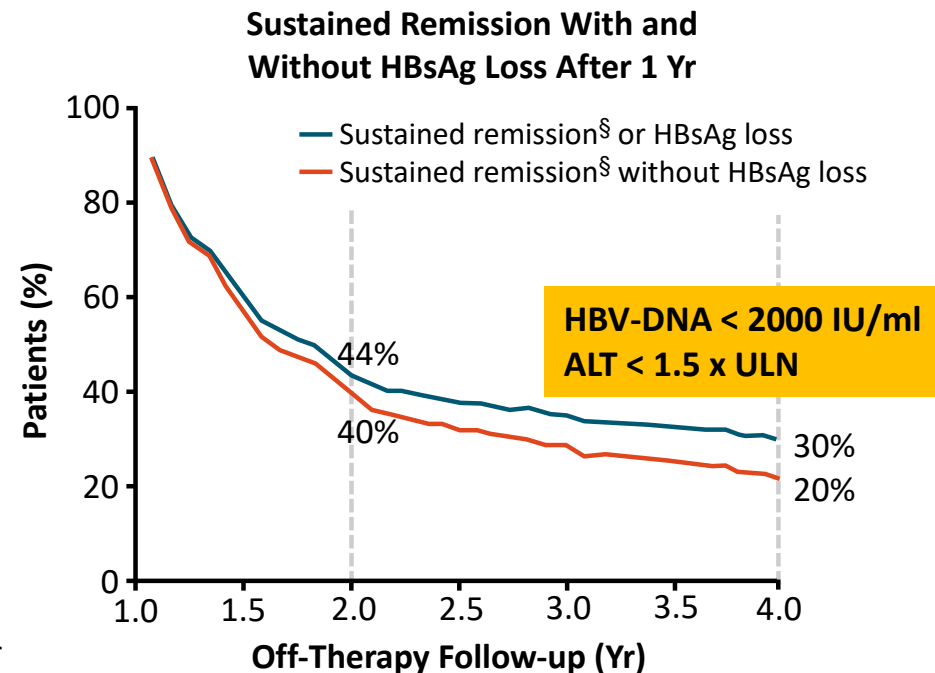
\*Virologic relapse: HBV DNA >2000 IU/mL.

<sup>†</sup>Biochemical relapse: ALT >1.5 x ULN.

<sup>‡</sup>Clinical relapse: HBV DNA >2000 IU/mL and ALT >1.5x ULN.

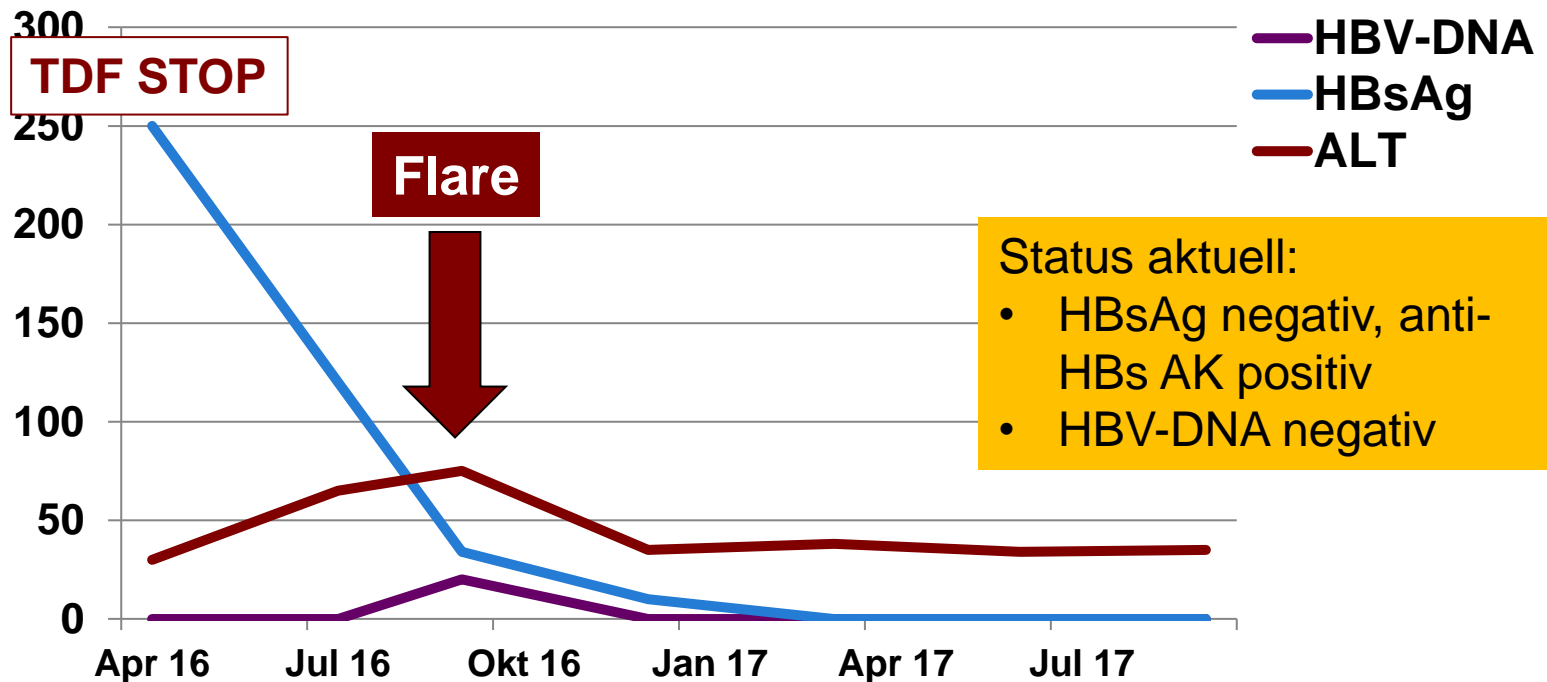
§Sustained remission: sustained HBV DNA ≤2000 IU/ml and ALT ≤1.5 x ULN.

- Only 30% had sustained remission or HBsAg loss at 4 yr
- 10% had HBsAg loss after 4 yr and only 20% had sustained remission without HBsAg loss at 4 yr



## Klinischer Fall 1: NUC-STOP

- 58 jähriger Mann unter TDF seit > 5 Jahren HBV-DNA negativ
- HBsAg niedrig: 250 IU/ml
- ALT normal
- Keine fortgeschrittene Fibrose/Zirrhose

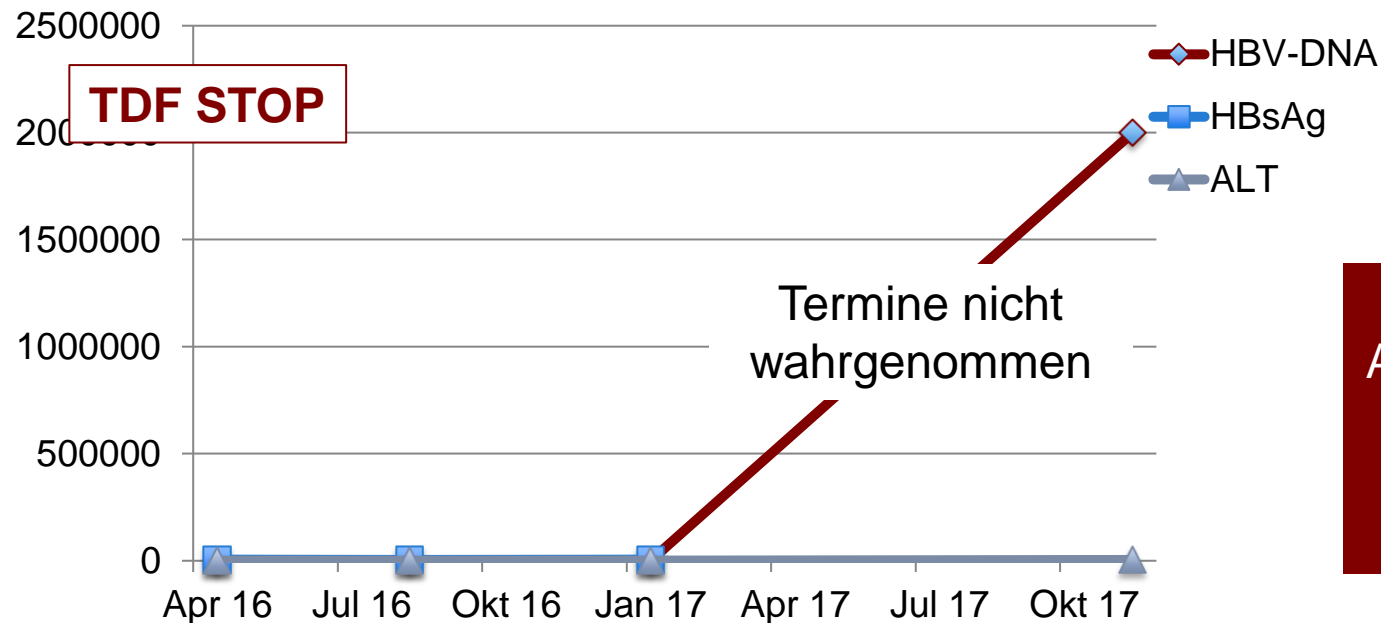






## Klinischer Fall 2: NUC-STOP

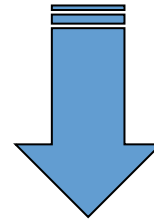
- 32 jähriger Mann unter TDF seit > 4 Jahren HBV-DNA negativ
- HBsAg mittelmäßig: 4.200 IU/ml
- ALT normal
- Keine fortgeschrittene Fibrose/Zirrhose
- Compliance „nicht ganz so wie gewünscht“



**BWK Ulm:**  
ALT 3.500 U/l  
Bili 9 mg/dl  
Quick 65%  
TDF + ETV

## Klinischer Fall 3: NUC-STOP

- 54 jähriger Mann unter TDF seit > 8 Jahren HBV-DNA negativ
- HBsAg mittelmäßig: 3.500 IU/ml
- ALT normal
- Keine fortgeschrittene Fibrose/Zirrhose
- Compliance „sehr gut“

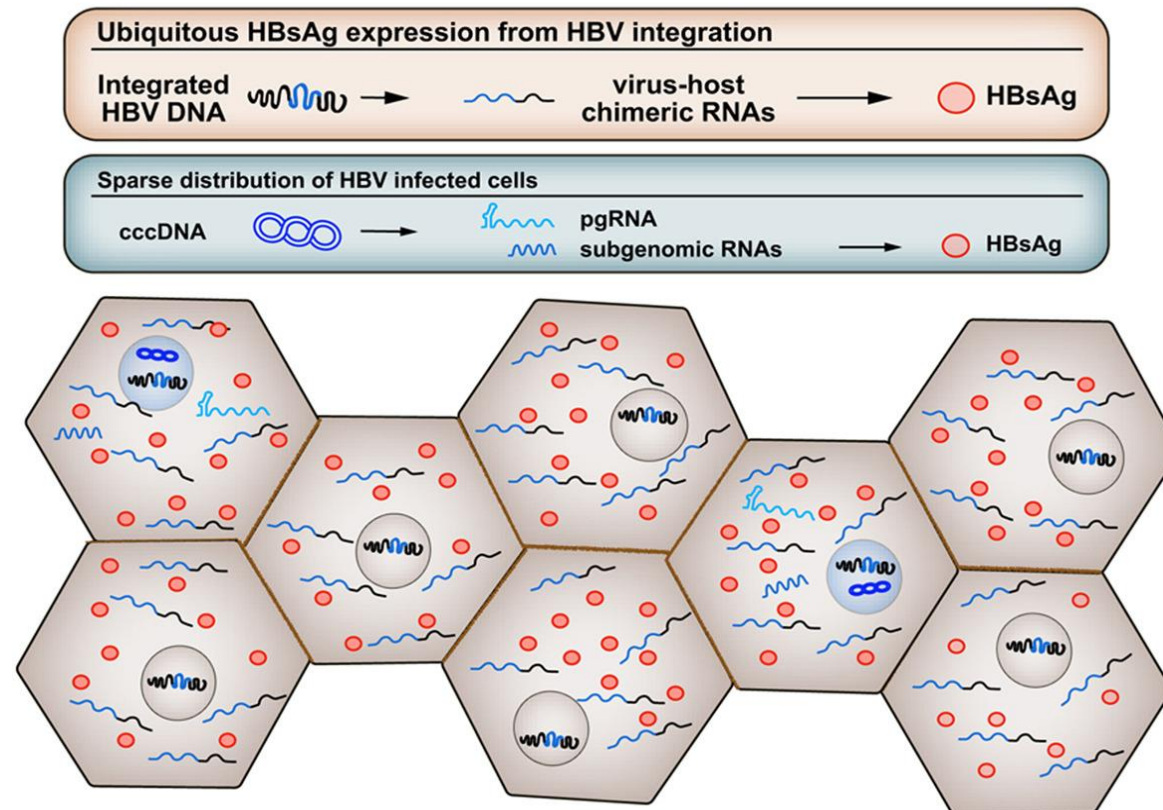


In den letzten 3 Jahren:

- HBV-DNA 500 bis 1500 IU/ml
- HBsAg 2.000 bis 3.400 IU/ml
- AST/ALT normal
- Sono: o.B.
- Elastographie: keine relevante Fibrose

# HBsAg-Verlust ist nicht immer erreichbar!

Ubiquitous expression of HBsAg from integrated HBV DNA in patients with low viral load



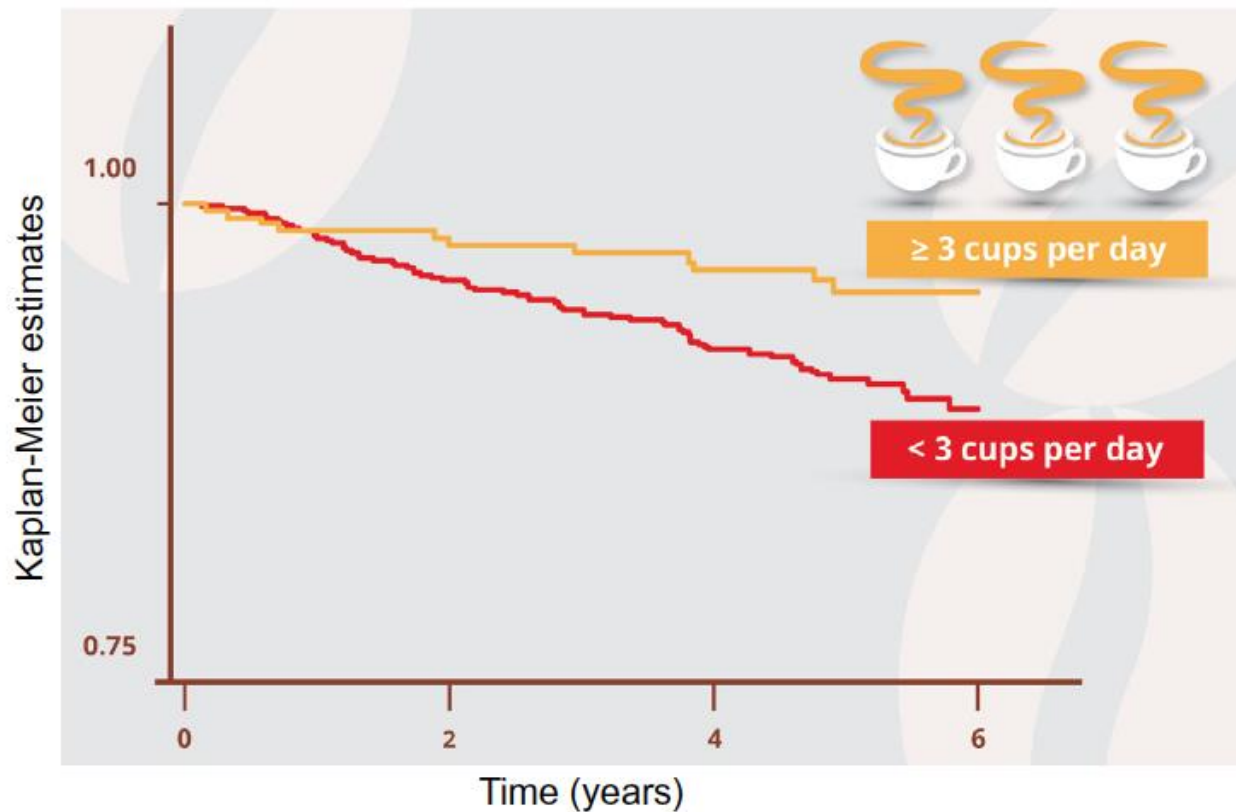


## „NUC-STOP“ - FAZIT

- HBV-Reaktivierung **nach DAA-Therapie** möglich, aber auch HBsAg-Verlust
- NUC-STOP nur bei Patienten **ohne fortgeschrittene Fibrose/Zirrhose**
- HBV-DNA sollte über mindestens 2-3 Jahre **negativ** sein
- Gute Prognose bei:
  - HBsAg < 1.000 IU/ml vor NUC-STOP
  - **HBV-DNA < 10.000 IU/l 4-6 Wochen nach NUC-STOP**



### Elevated coffee consumption decreases all-cause mortality risk in HIV-HCV co-infection



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