

# *Optimal Therapy for HBeAg-positive Chronic Hepatitis B:*

## **Why Do I Treat My Patient with a NUC?**

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# Conflict of Interest Disclosure

- I was on advisory board of, and/or, received speaker fee from pharmaceutical companies including:  
*BMS, GSK, MSD, Novartis and Roche*
- I will not talk about off-label use of any drug

# Pros and cons of PEG-IFN vs NAs

## PEG-IFN

### *Pros*

Finite duration of therapy

Absence of viral resistance

Response durable post-therapy

Proven effect in general patient population

Increase in HBsAg seroconversion rate

### *Cons*

Frequent side effects

Weekly subcutaneous injection

Less effective HBV DNA suppression

Expensive

## Nucleos(t)ide analogues

### *Pros*

Daily oral dosing

Potent HBV DNA suppression

Minimal side effects in the short term

Proven effect in patients with advanced liver disease

Less expensive during first year, possibly equally or more costly after long-term therapy

### *Cons*

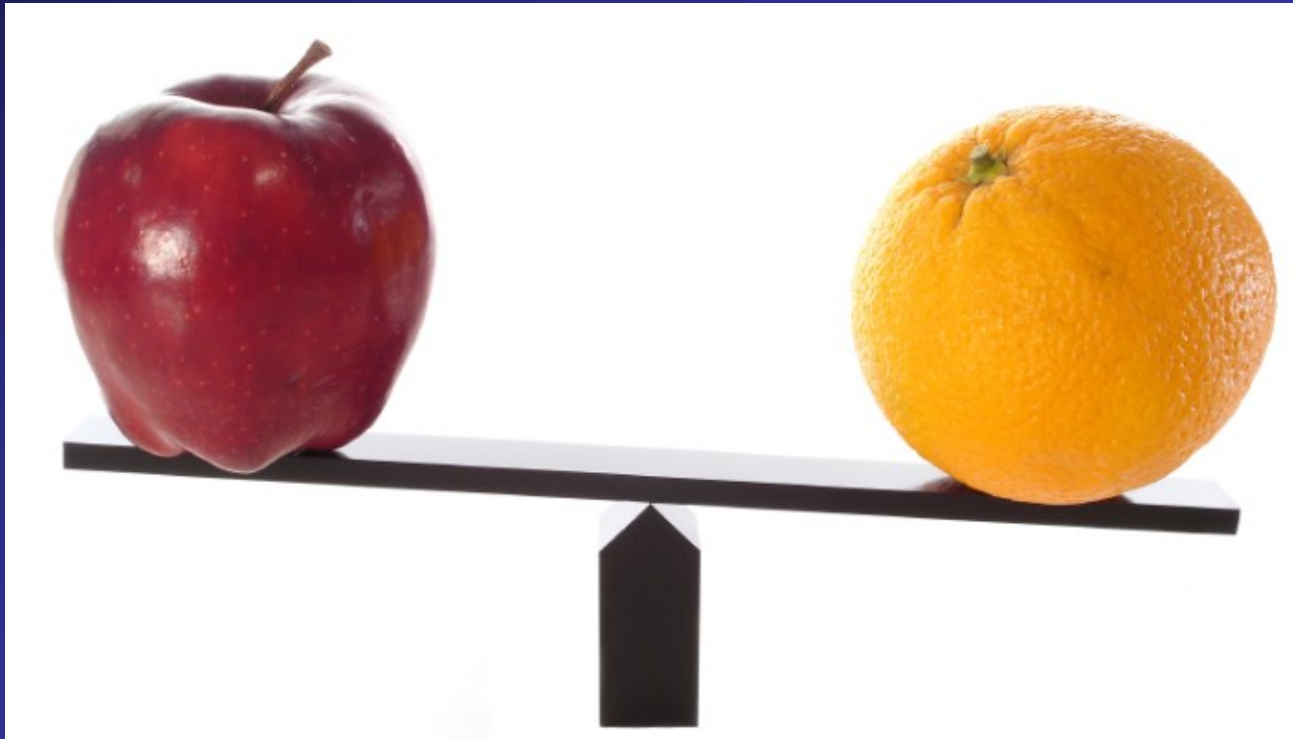
Risk of resistance

Limited increase in HBsAg seroconversion rate

Response less durable post-therapy

Long-term or indefinite therapy may be required

# Compare an Apple and an Orange



# Predicators for IFN therapy :

## Ideal

- Virus GT: A>B>C>D
- Low viral load
- High ALT
- High HAI
- Younger age
- Female
- Adult transmission

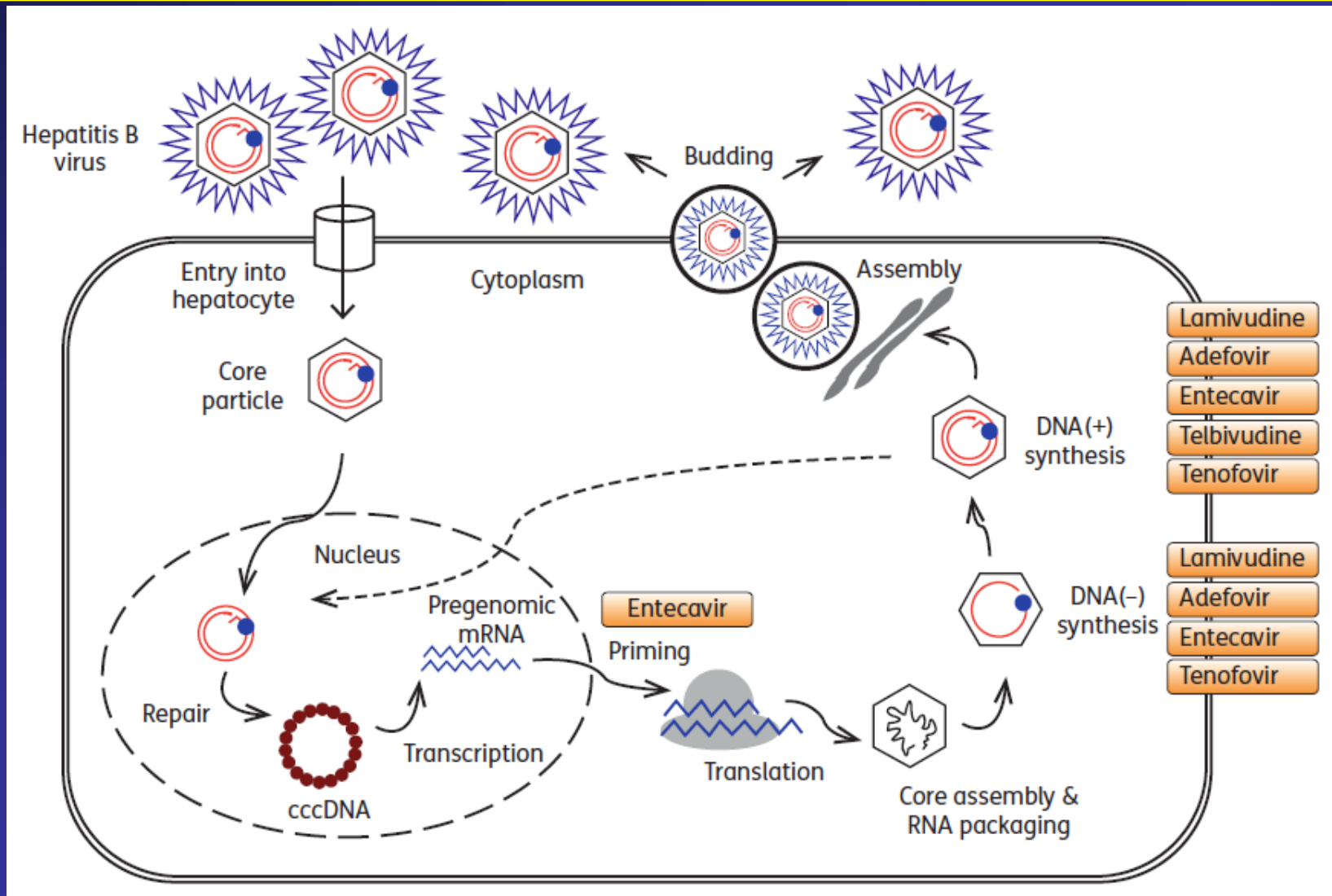
## Reality in China

- Virus GT: B & C predominant
- high viral load
- Low-moderate ALT
- Low-moderate HAI
- Older age
- Male predominant
- Perinatal/early childhood transmission

Wang Y, Jia J. *Expert Rev Anti Infect Ther* 2011; 9(1):21-5.

•Chan HL, Jia JJ. *Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2011; 26 (Suppl 1):131-7.

# The replication cycle of HBV and sites of action of NAs



# Outlines

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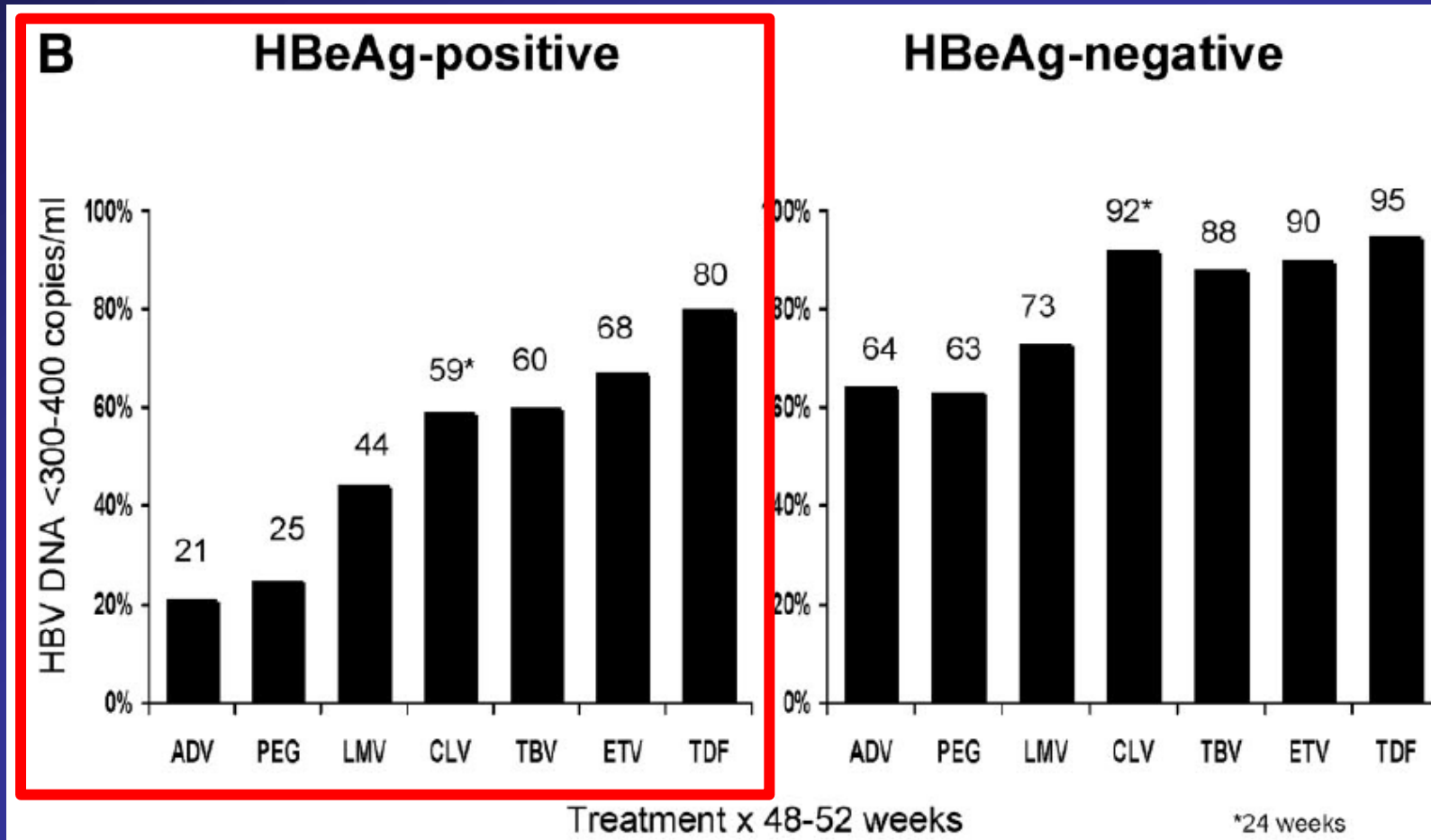
- **Potent viral suppression**
- **Histology improvement**
- **Effective for decompensated liver disease**
- **Resistance is manageable**

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**NAs show high anti-HBV potency  
not only in pivotal clinical trials but  
also in real-world practice**

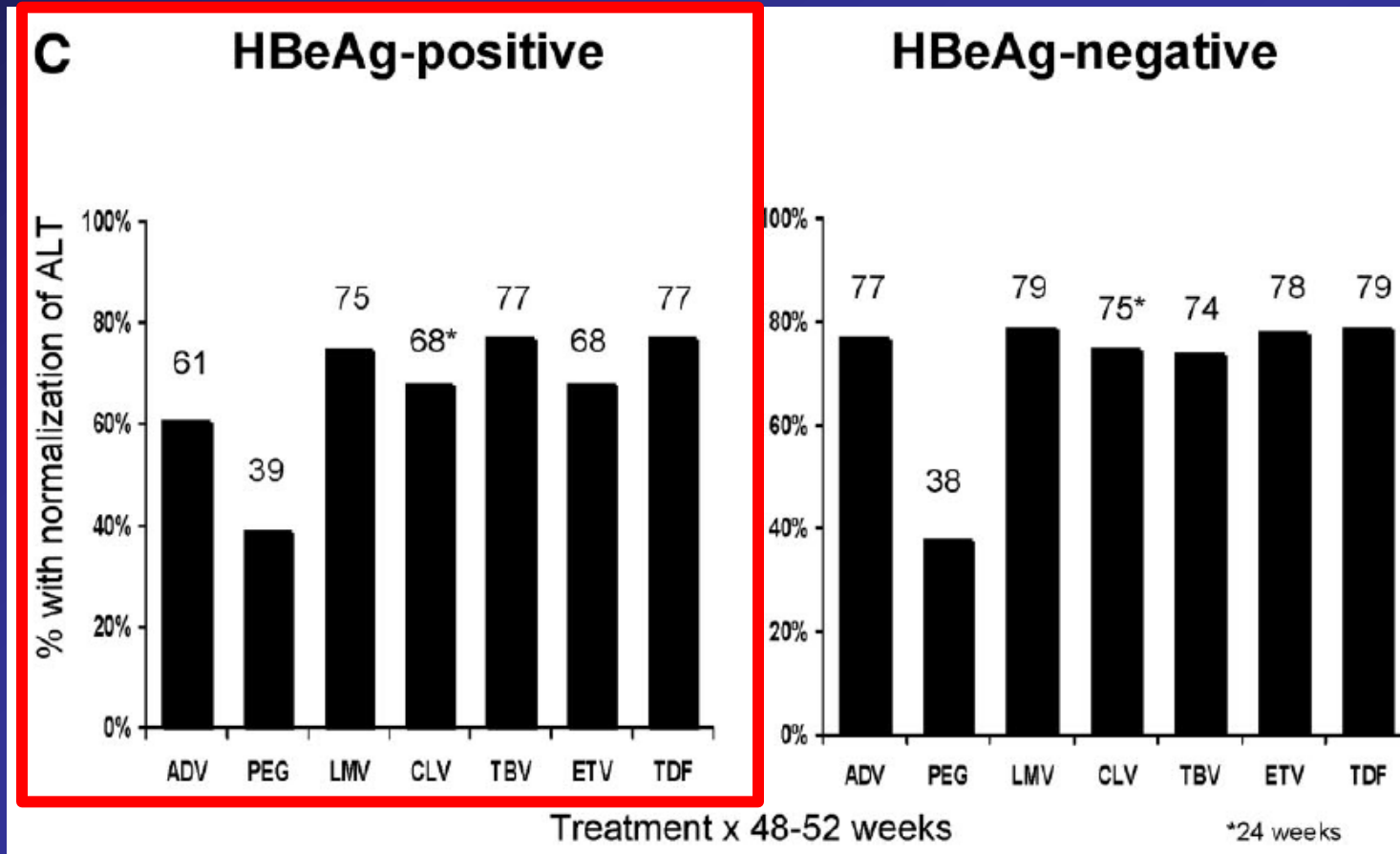


# Comparisons of the virological endpoints achieved during 1 year of antiviral therapy in patients CHB



*Dienstag, JL.HEPATOLOGY 2009;49: S112-S121.*

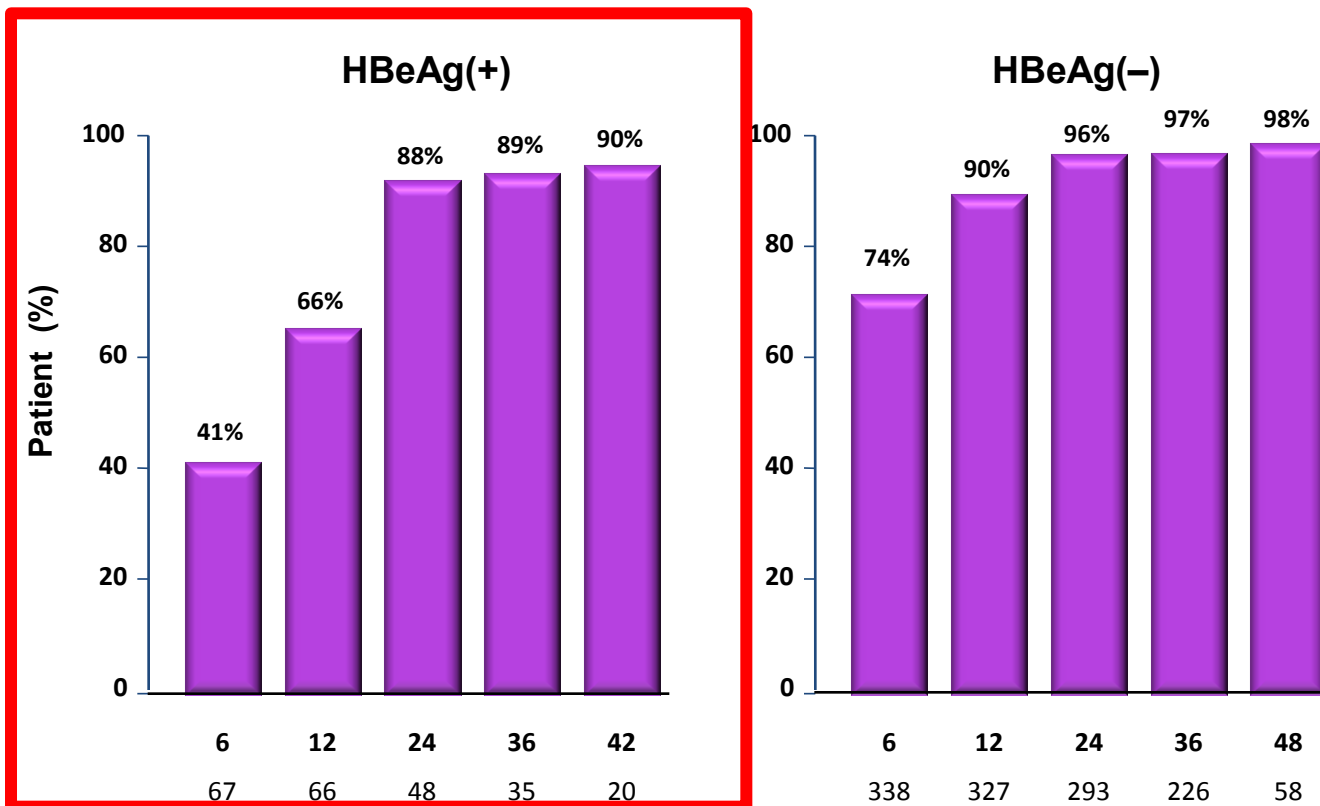
# Comparisons of the biochemical endpoints achieved during 1 year of antiviral therapy in patients with CHB



*Dienstag, JL.HEPATOLOGY 2009;49: S112-S121.*

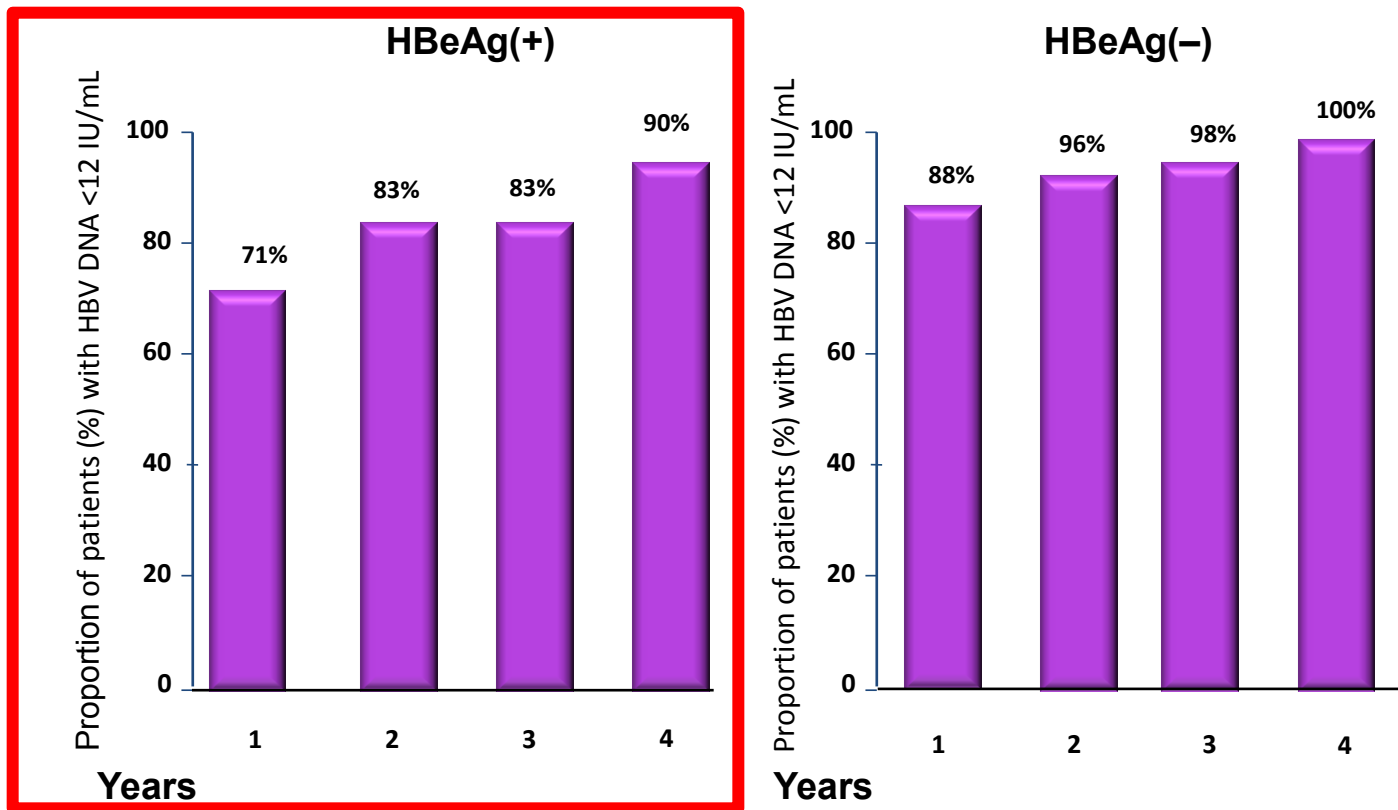
# ETV for NA-naïve CHB in an Italian cohort real-life study: **Virological response**

**Baseline(n=418): Median age: 58 (18–82), cirrhosis: 49%,HBeAg(-): 83%**



† Kaplan–Meier analysis

# Hong Kong cohort study: 4-yrs ETV for CHB: Undetectable HBV DNA

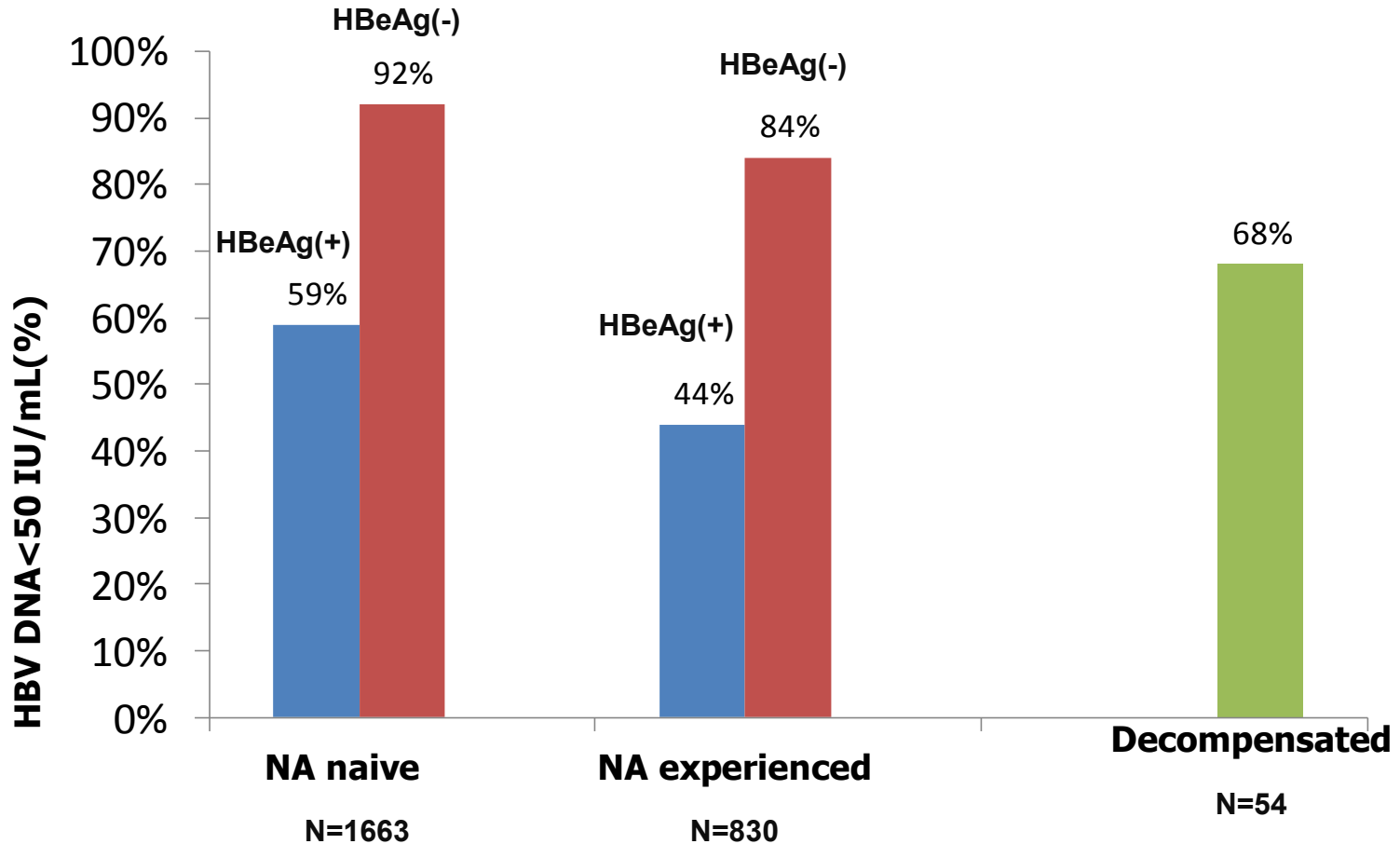


## Baseline (n=222):

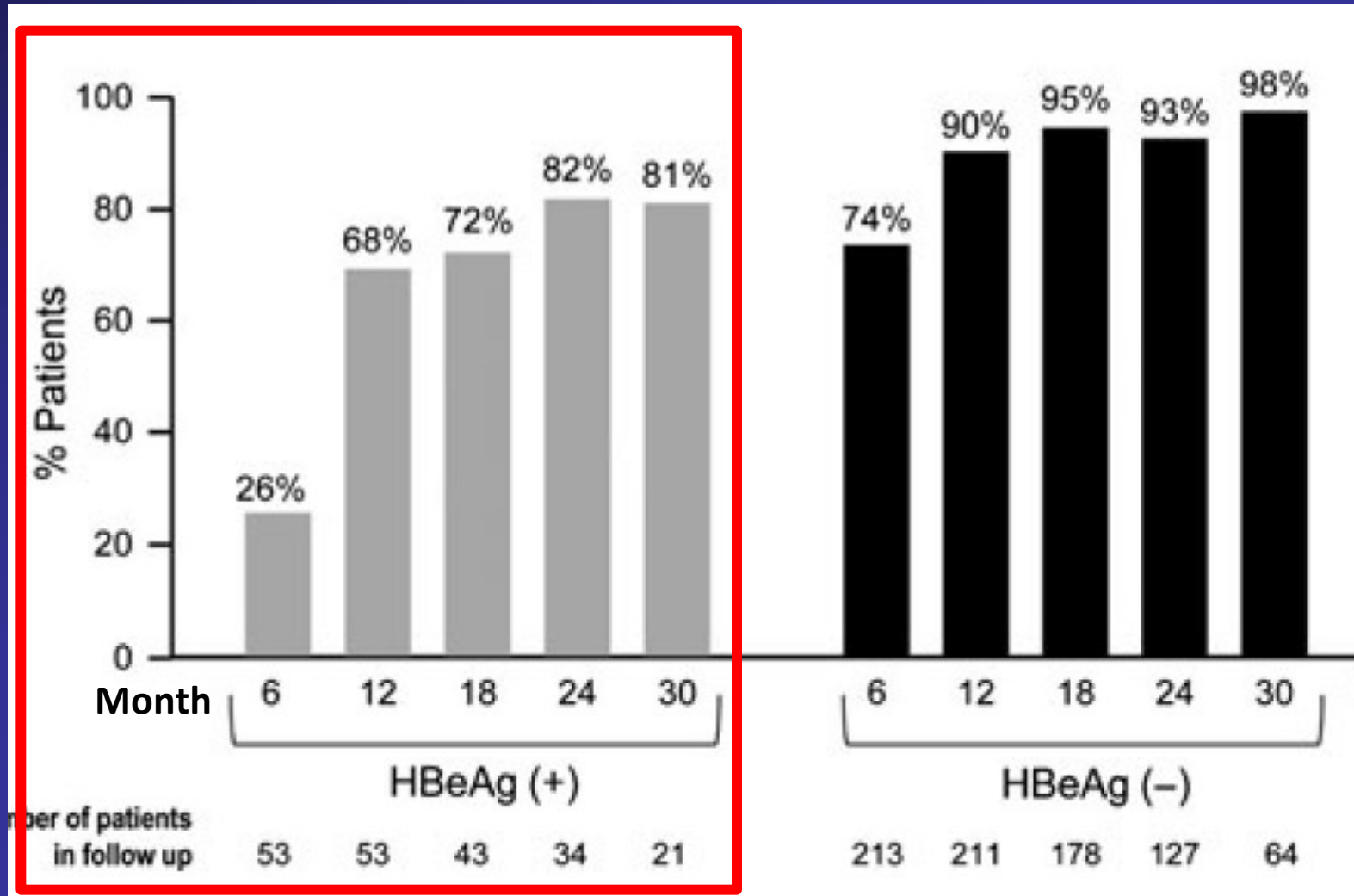
- age: 47 (21–77)
- HBV DNA: 7.1 (4.0 →8.8) log copies/mL
- HBeAg(-): 59.5%

*Seto WK, et al. J Hepatol 2011; 54: S301.*

# REALM China sub-study: ETV decreases HBV DNA in all patients with CHB

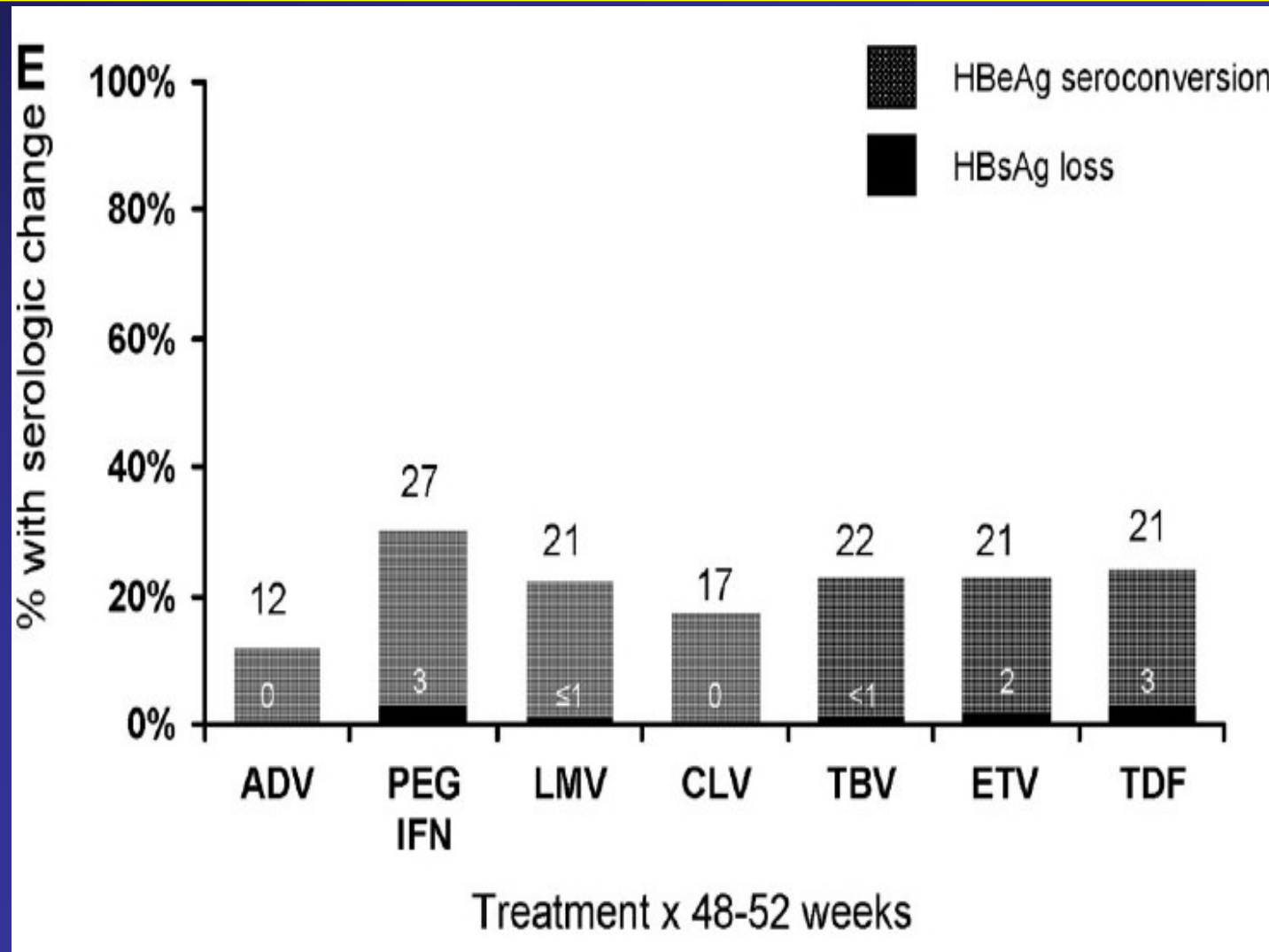


# TDF for NA-naïve CHB in an Europe cohort real-life study: Virologic response

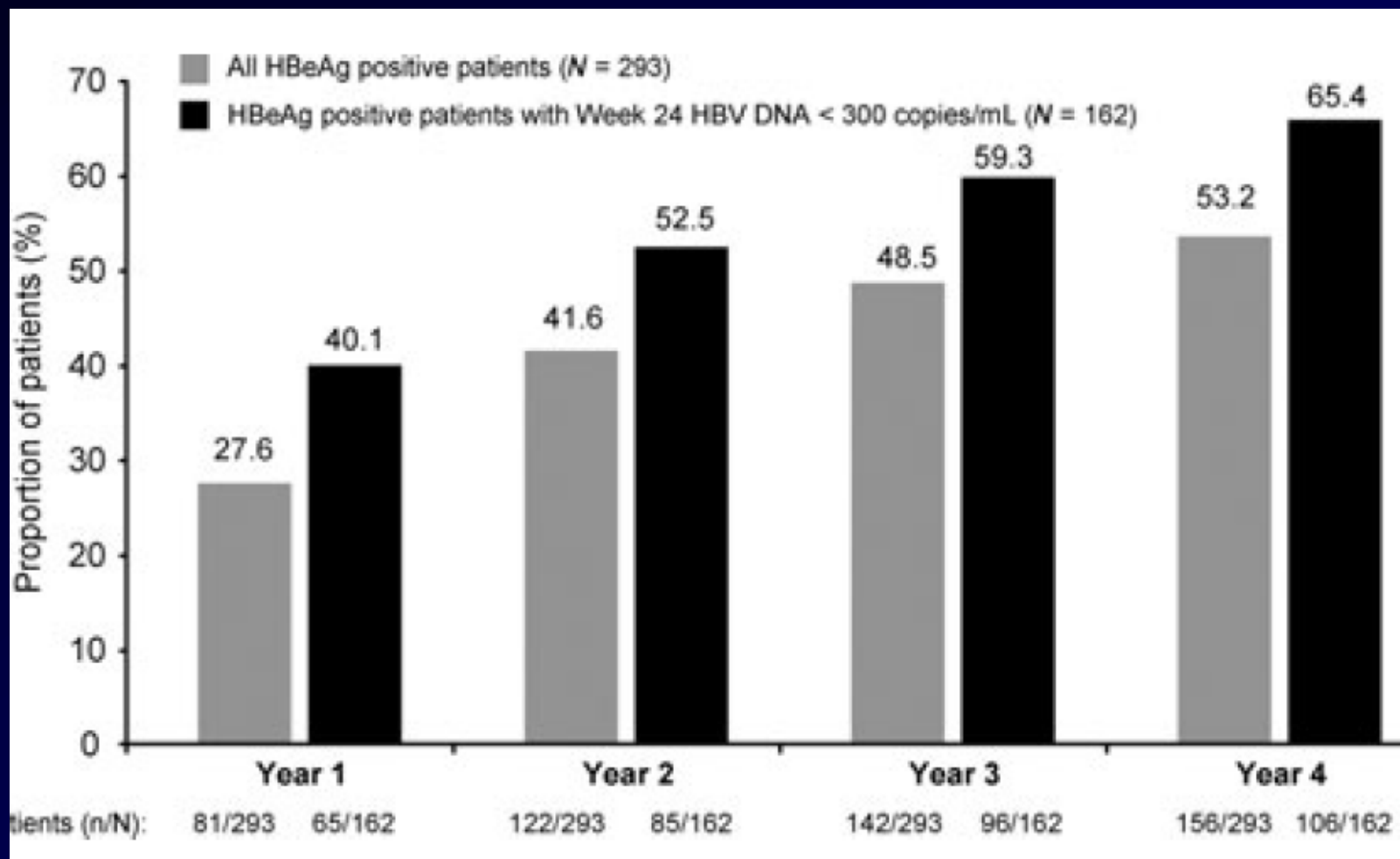


*Lampertico P, et al. Hepatology 2011; 54(Suppl 1): Abstract 1433.*

# Serological response on 1 yr NAs



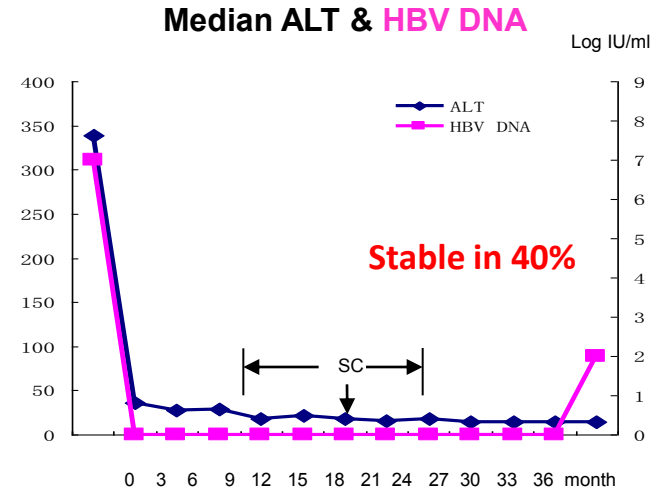
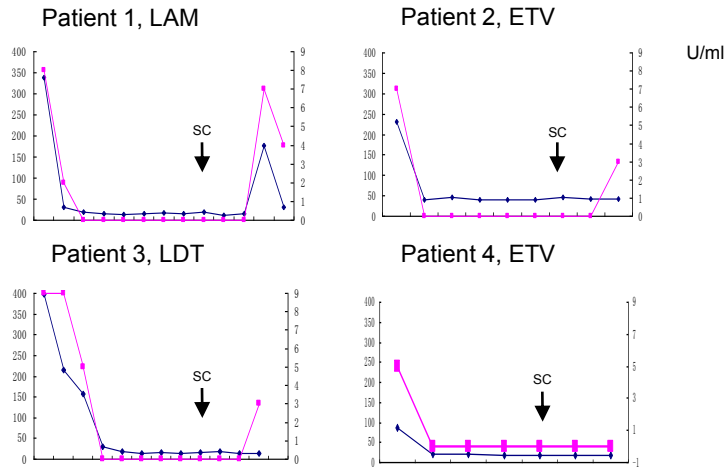
# Cumulative HBeAg seroconversion rates over time in telbivudine-treated HBeAg positive patients without genotypic resistance after Year 2



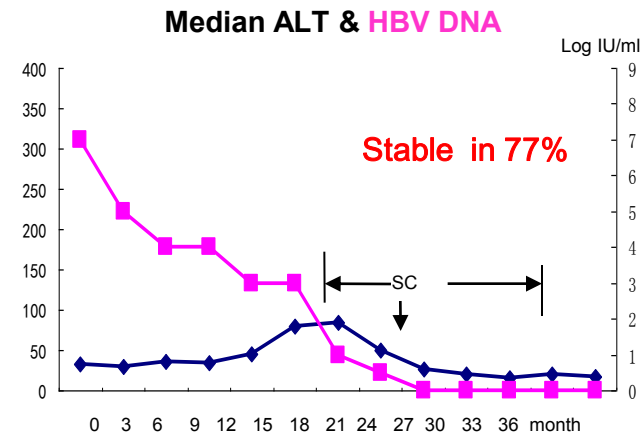
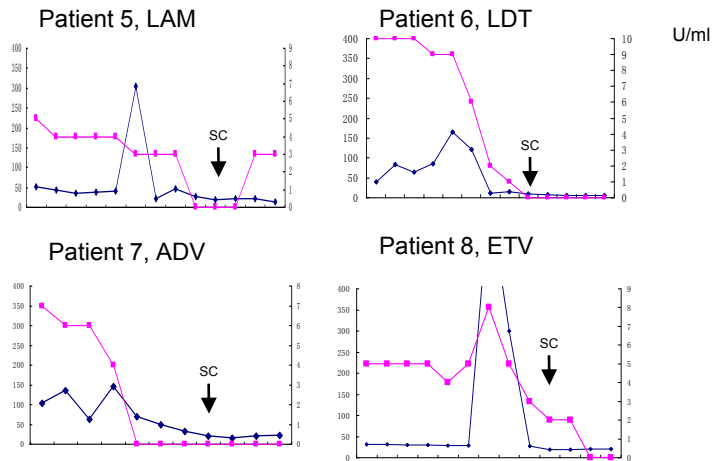


# Two patterns of HBeAg seroconversion during NA therapy

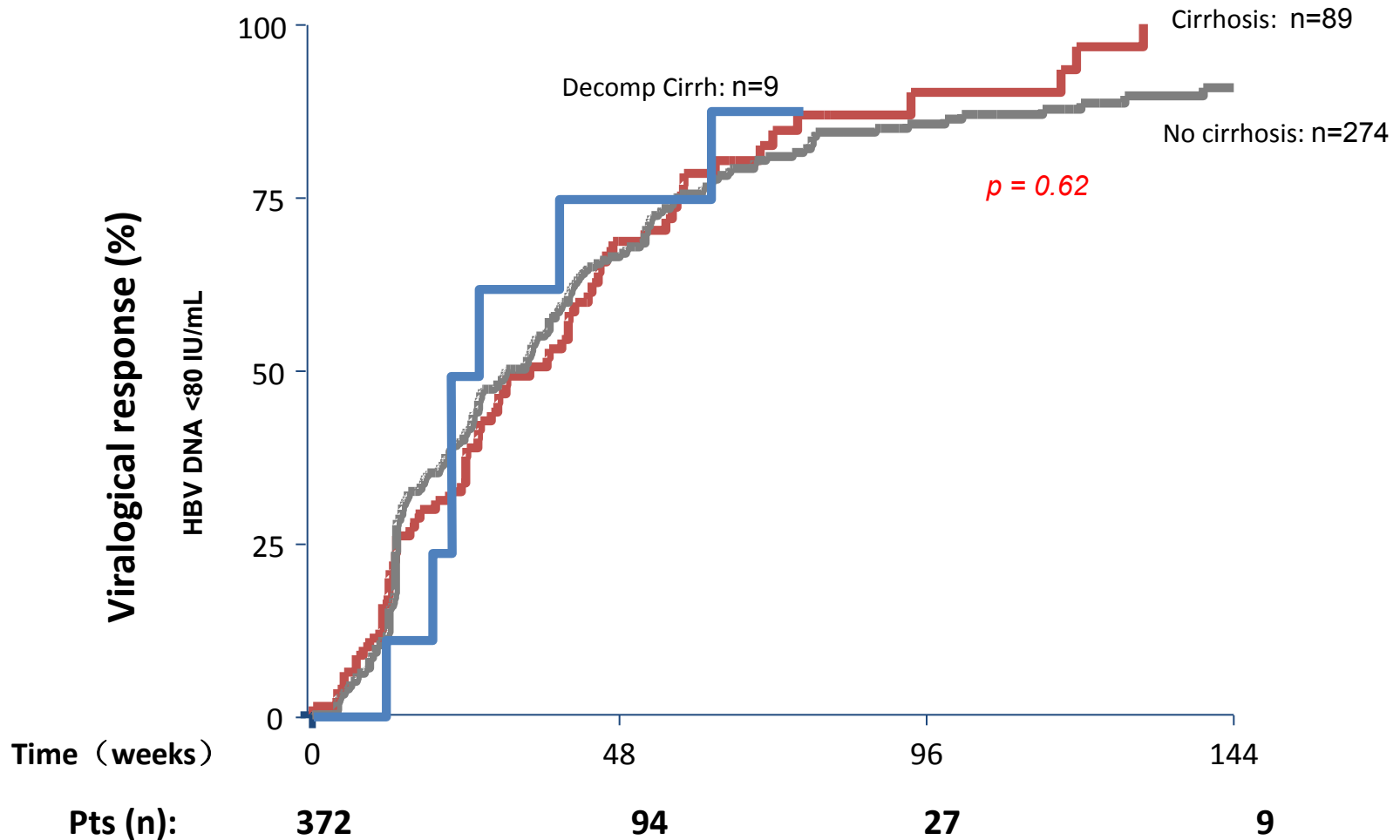
## A Seroconversion Type I



## B Seroconversion Type II



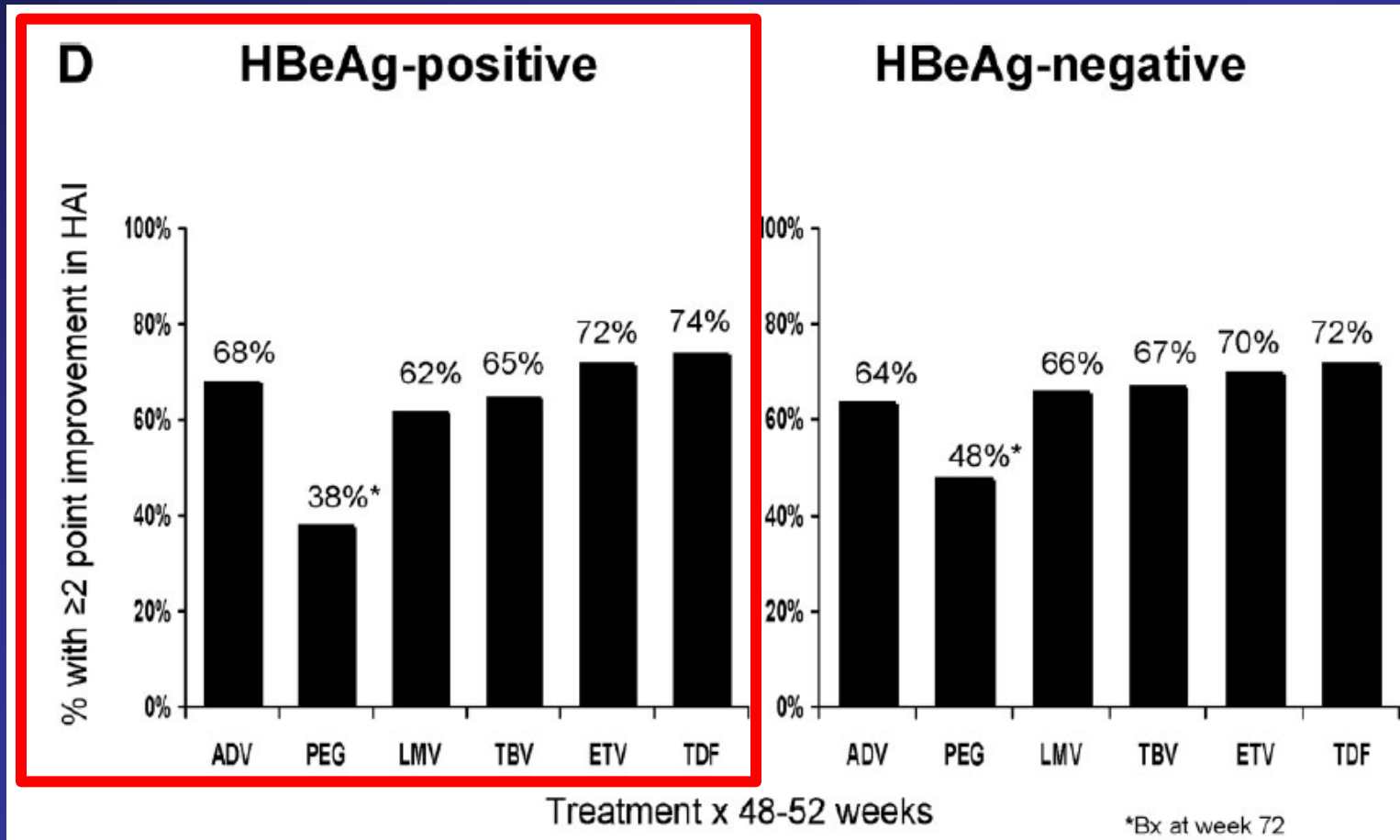
# VIRGIL Study: Liver disease severity not influence viralogical response to ETV



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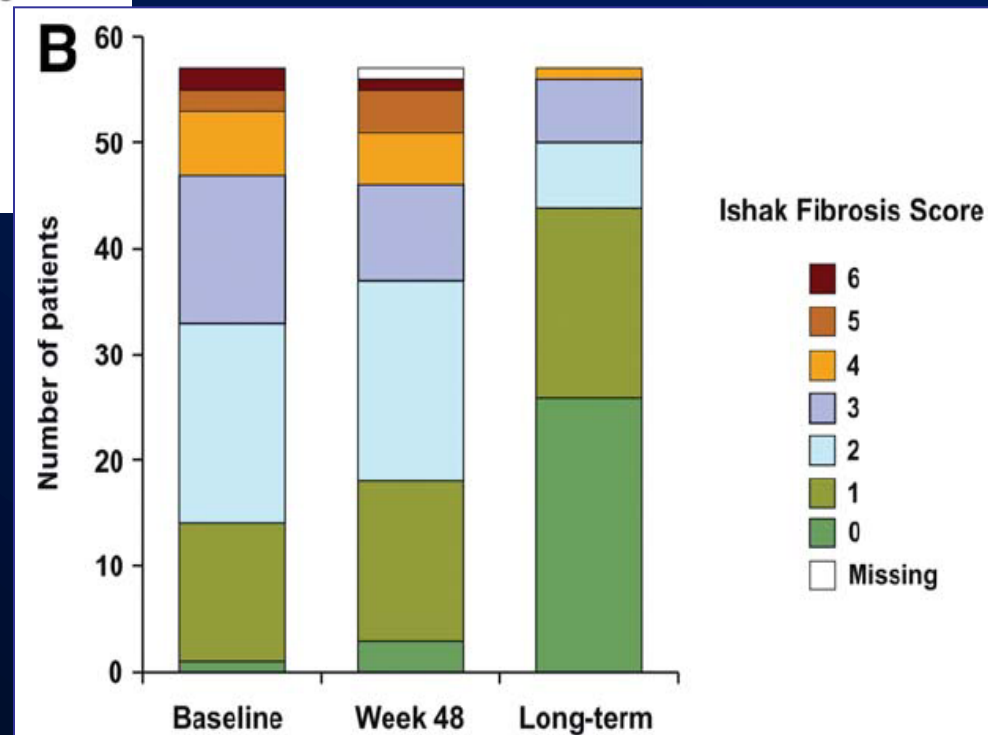
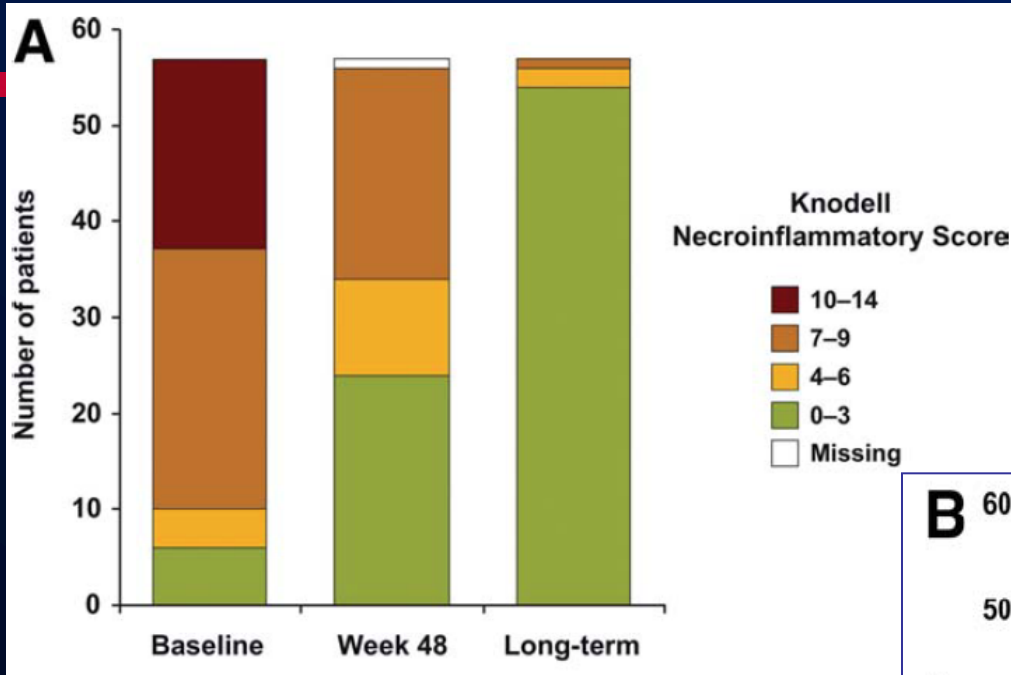
# Long-term NA therapy improves liver histology

## Comparisons of the histological endpoints achieved during 1 year of antiviral therapy in patients with CHB

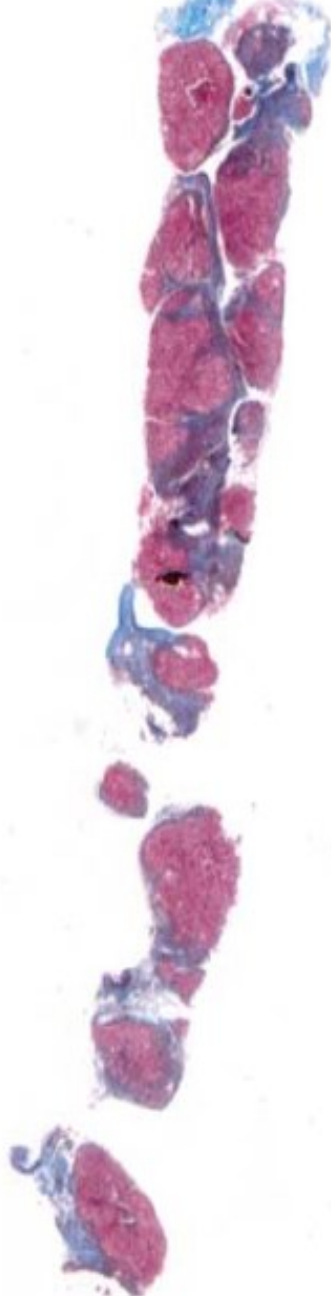


*Dienstag JL, et al. HEPATOLOGY 2009;49: S112-S121.*

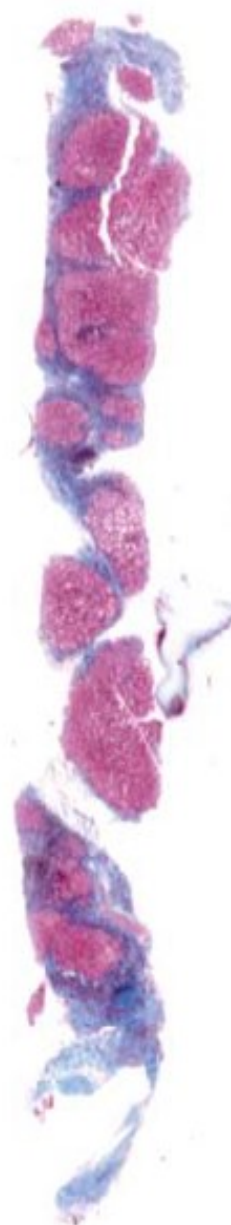
# Long-term ETV Improves Liver Histology in CHB (median: 5.6 yr, n=57)



**Baseline**



**wk 48**



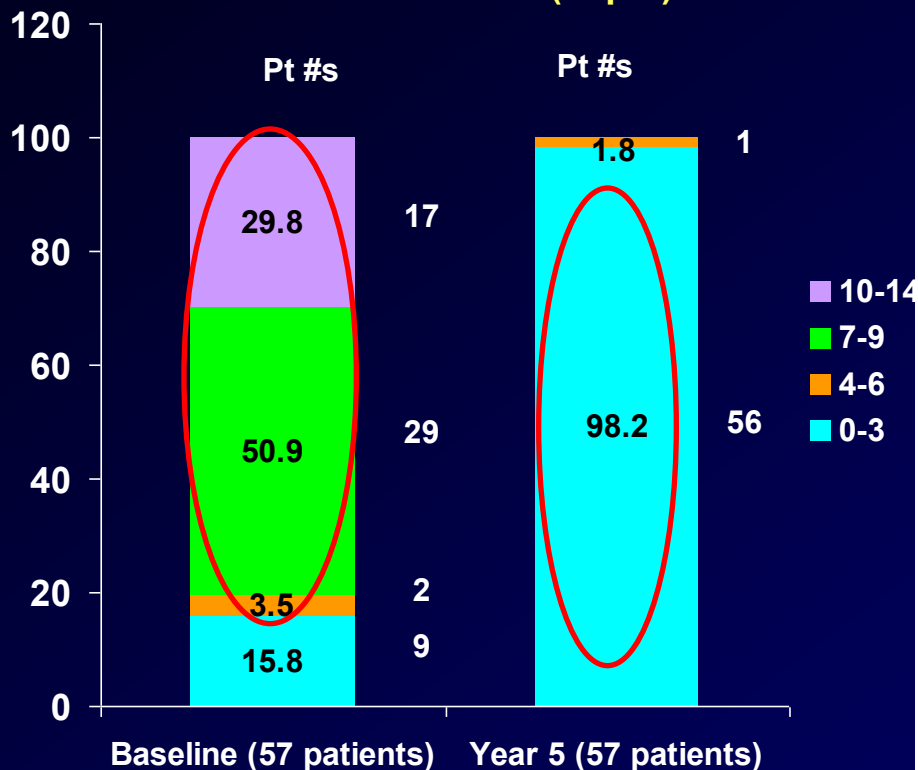
**wk 268**



**Chang TT, et al. HEPATOLOGY 2010;52:886-893**

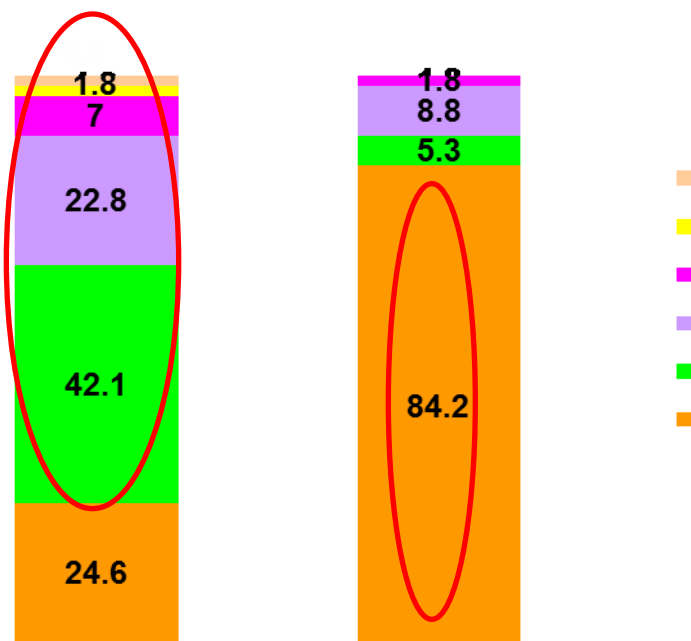
# 5 Years of LDT Treatment Results in Profound Regression in Liver Necroinflammation and Fibrosis in CHB Patients

**Knodell HAI Score (% pts)**



**Overall Change in Knodell HAI Score**

- Improvement: 94.7% (54/57)
- Unchanged: 3.5% (2/57) (BL score 0 or 1)
- Worsened: 1.8% (1/57) (BL score 1 to 3)



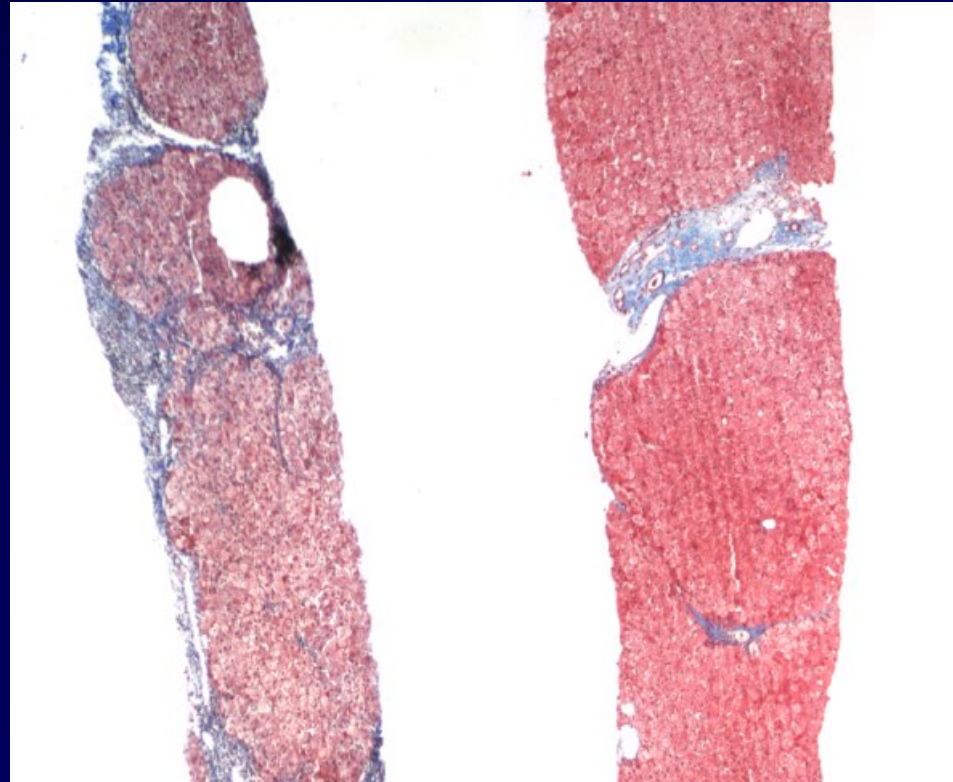
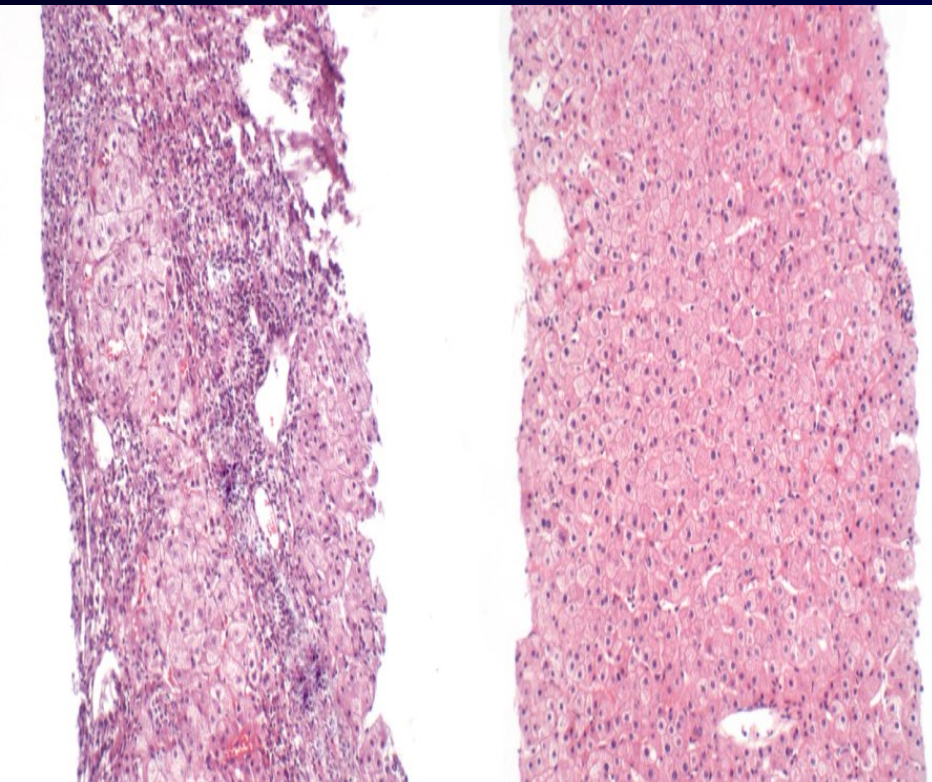
**Overall Change in Ishak Score**

- Improvement: 77.2% (44/57)
- Unchanged: 15.8% (9/57) (BL score ≤ 2)
- Worsened: 7% (4/57) (BL score ≤ 2)

# 5 Year LDT Treatment Exerts Significant Effect on Liver Histology

## *Summary of the available data*

- Profound and durable viral suppression with LDT over 5 years significantly improves liver histology along with a favorable safety and tolerability profile.
- Prolonged LDT treatment has the potential to achieve the long-term goals of therapy for chronic hepatitis B.

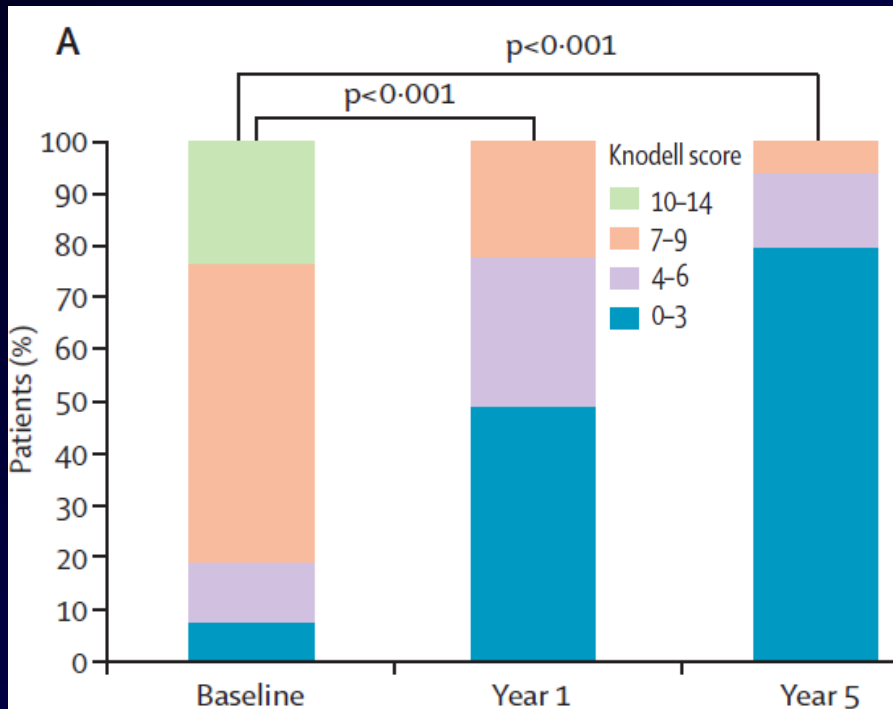




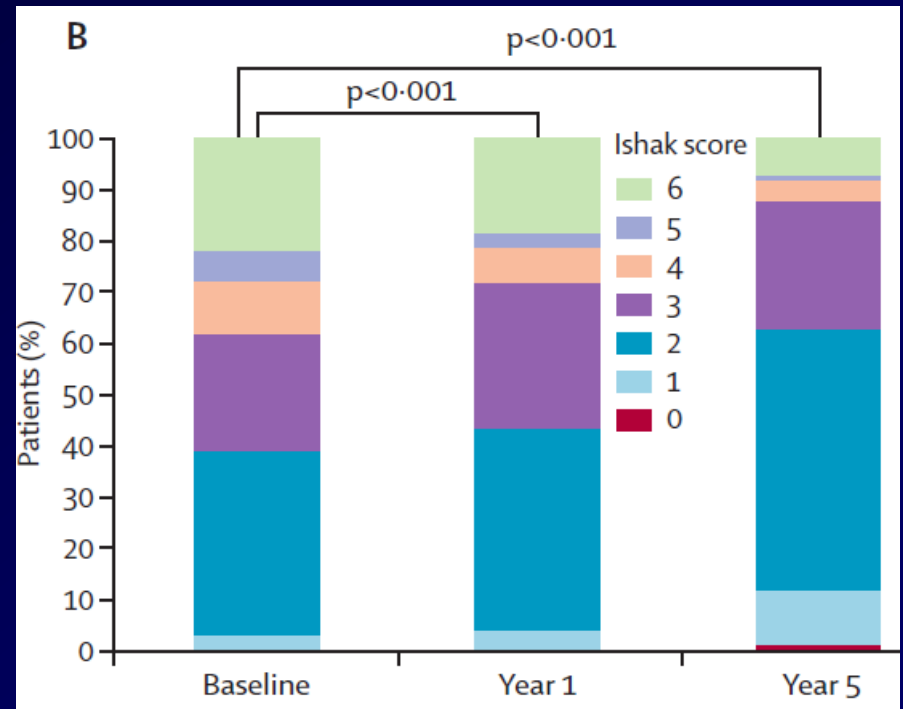
# Histology results over 5-year TDF treatment

348/641 (54%) with biopsy samples at year 5

## Knodell necroinflammatory scores



## Ishak fibrosis scores



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**NAs improve clinical outcome of  
decompensated liver disease**

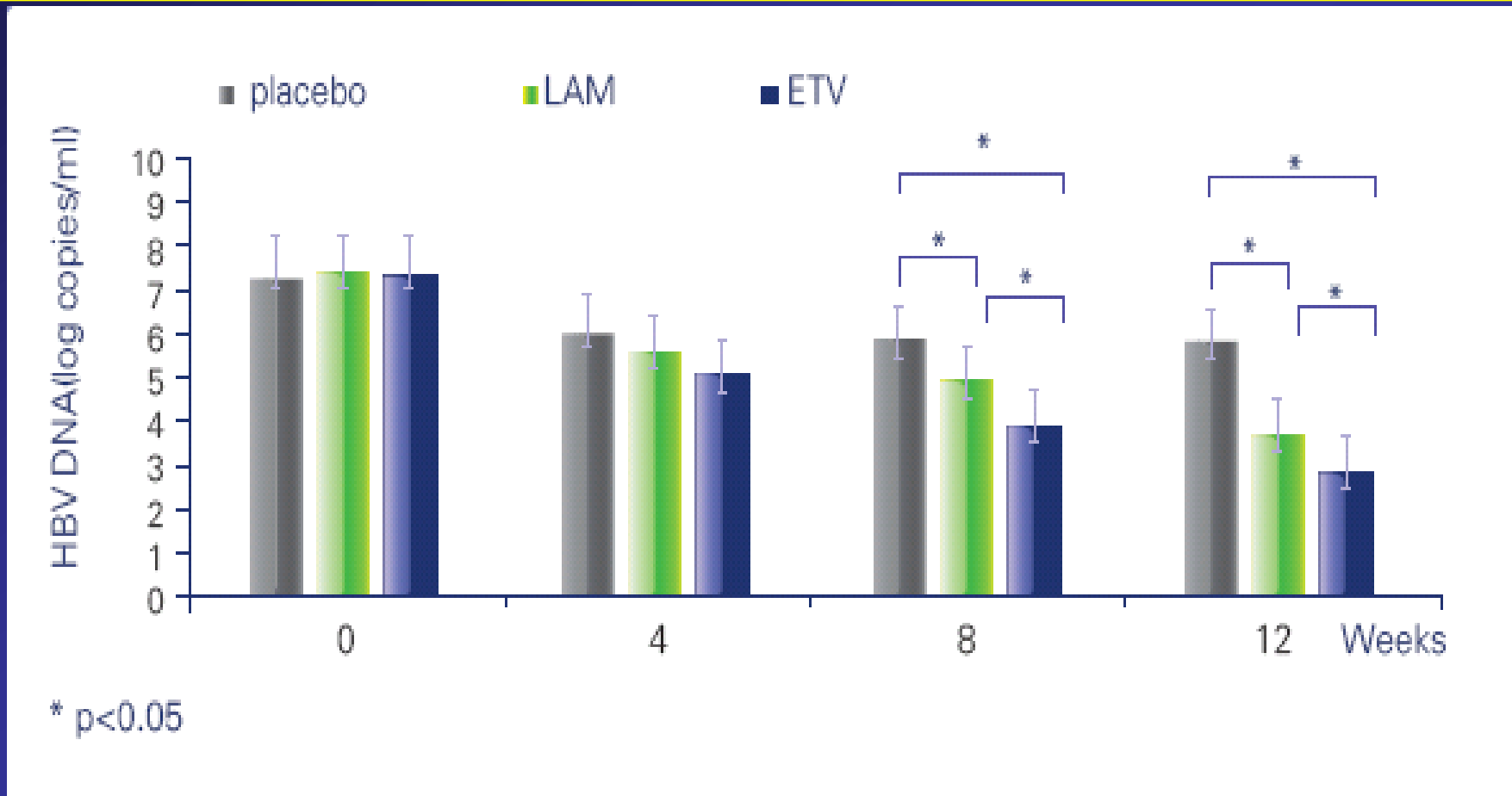
# TDF, FTC/TDF or ETV for Decompensated CHB: Efficacy Results at Week 48

	TDF (N=45)	FTC/TDF (N=45)	ETV (N=22)
HBV DNA < 400 copies/mL,* (69 IU/mL) n/N (%)†	31/44 (70.5%)	36/41 (87.8%)	16/22 (72.7%)
95% confidence interval	57.0%, 83.9%	77.8%, 97.8%	54.1%, 91.3%
Median (IQR) change from baseline in HBV DNA (log <sub>10</sub> copies/mL)*,‡	-3.11 (-4.1, -2.4)	-3.92 (-5.2, -2.2)	-3.40 (-5.0, -1.3)
Normal ALT§, n/N (%)†	25/44 (56.8%)	31/41 (75.6%)	12/22 (54.5%)
95% Confidence Interval	42.2%, 71.5%	62.5%, 88.8%	33.7%, 75.4%
Normalized ALT,§ n/N (%)†	12/26 (46.2%)	16/25 (64.0%)	7/17 (41.2%)
95% confidence interval	27.0%, 65.3%	45.2%, 82.8%	17.8%, 64.6%
Median (IQR) change from baseline in serum ALT (U/L)‡	-7.0 (-42.0, 1.0)	-16.5 (-64.5, -2.5)	-25.5 (-44.5, -5.5)
CTP Score† ≥ 2 point decrease <sup>  </sup> (n/N; %)	7/27 (25.9%)	12/25 (48.0%)	5/12 (41.7%)
95% confidence interval	9.4%, 42.5%	28.4%, 67.6%	13.8%, 69.6%
CTP Score† ≥ 2 point increase (n/N; %)	0/43	1/38 (2.6%)	0/22
95% confidence interval		0.0%, 7.7%	
Median (IQR) change from baseline in MELD score‡	-2.0 (-12, 3)	-2.0 (-18, 4)	-2.0 (-10, 1)
HBeAg loss,¶ n/N (%)†	3/14 (21.4%)	4/15 (26.7%)	0/7
95% confidence interval	(0.0%, 42.9%)	(4.3%, 49.0%)	
HbeAg seroconversion,¶ n/N (%)†	3/ 14 (21.4%)	2/ 15 (13.3%)	0/7
95% confidence interval	(0.0%, 42.9%)	(0.0%, 30.5%)	
HBV recurrence after liver transplantation	0/2	0/4	-

# Lamivudine and entecavir treatment in patients with chronic hepatitis B liver failure: a large, multicenter, placebo controlled, prospective study in China

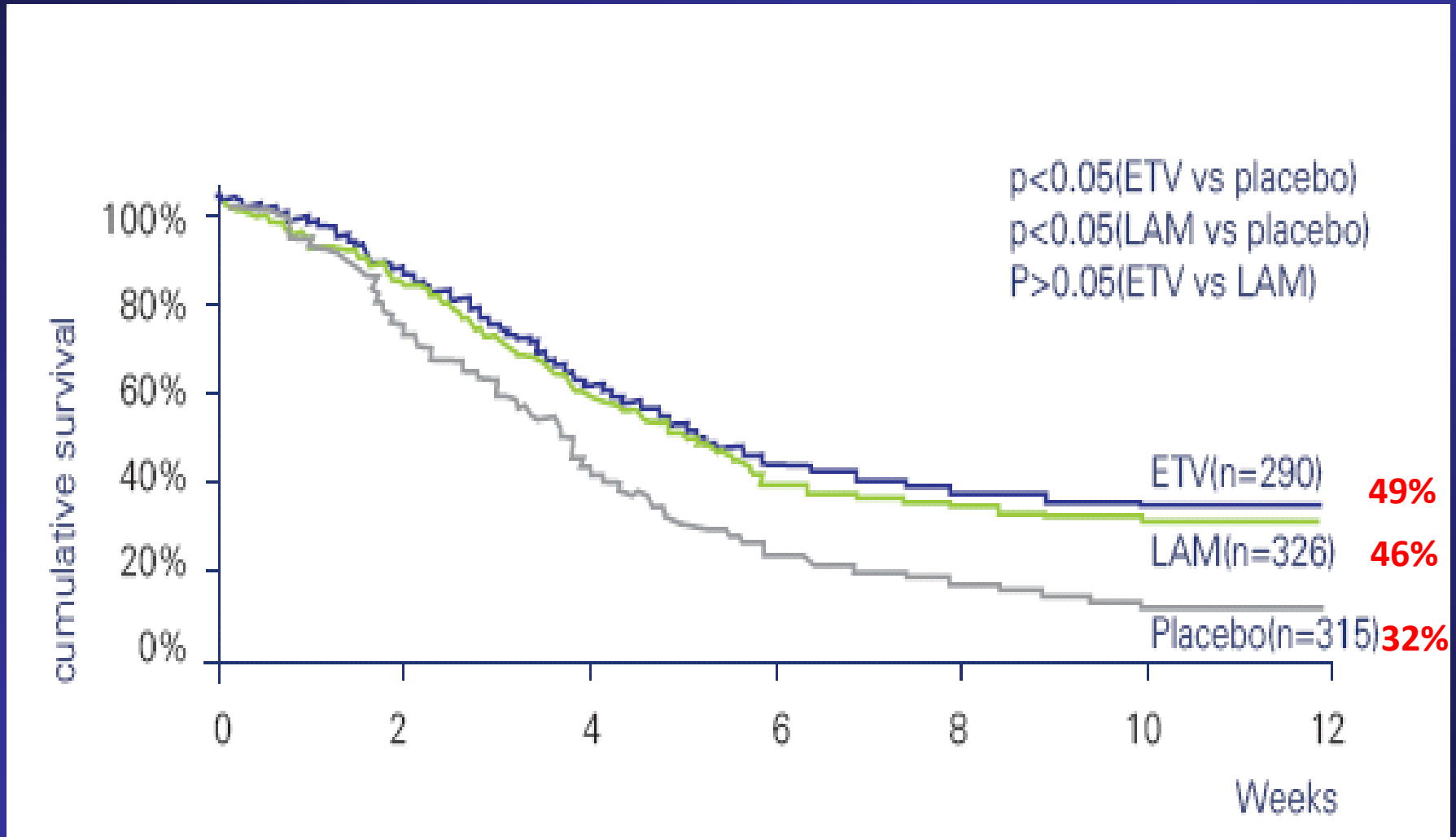
Yida Yang<sup>1</sup>, Jianrong Huang<sup>1</sup>, Jifeng Sheng<sup>1</sup>, Hongyu Jia<sup>1</sup>, Dong Yan<sup>1</sup>, Jun Li<sup>1</sup>,  
Qing Xie<sup>2</sup>, Zhi-liang Gao<sup>3</sup>, Yuming Wang<sup>4</sup>, Zhongping Duan<sup>5</sup>, Huifen Wang<sup>6</sup>,  
Linshumei Lan<sup>7</sup>, Tao Hao<sup>8</sup>, Jianhe Gan<sup>9</sup>, Chen Pan<sup>10</sup>, Lanjun Li

# Mean change of HBV DNA from baseline through 12 weeks



Both LAM and ETV treatment vs placebo group from week 8 ( $P < 0.05$ ).  
 Also the ETV group vs LAM group from week 8 ( $P < 0.05$ )

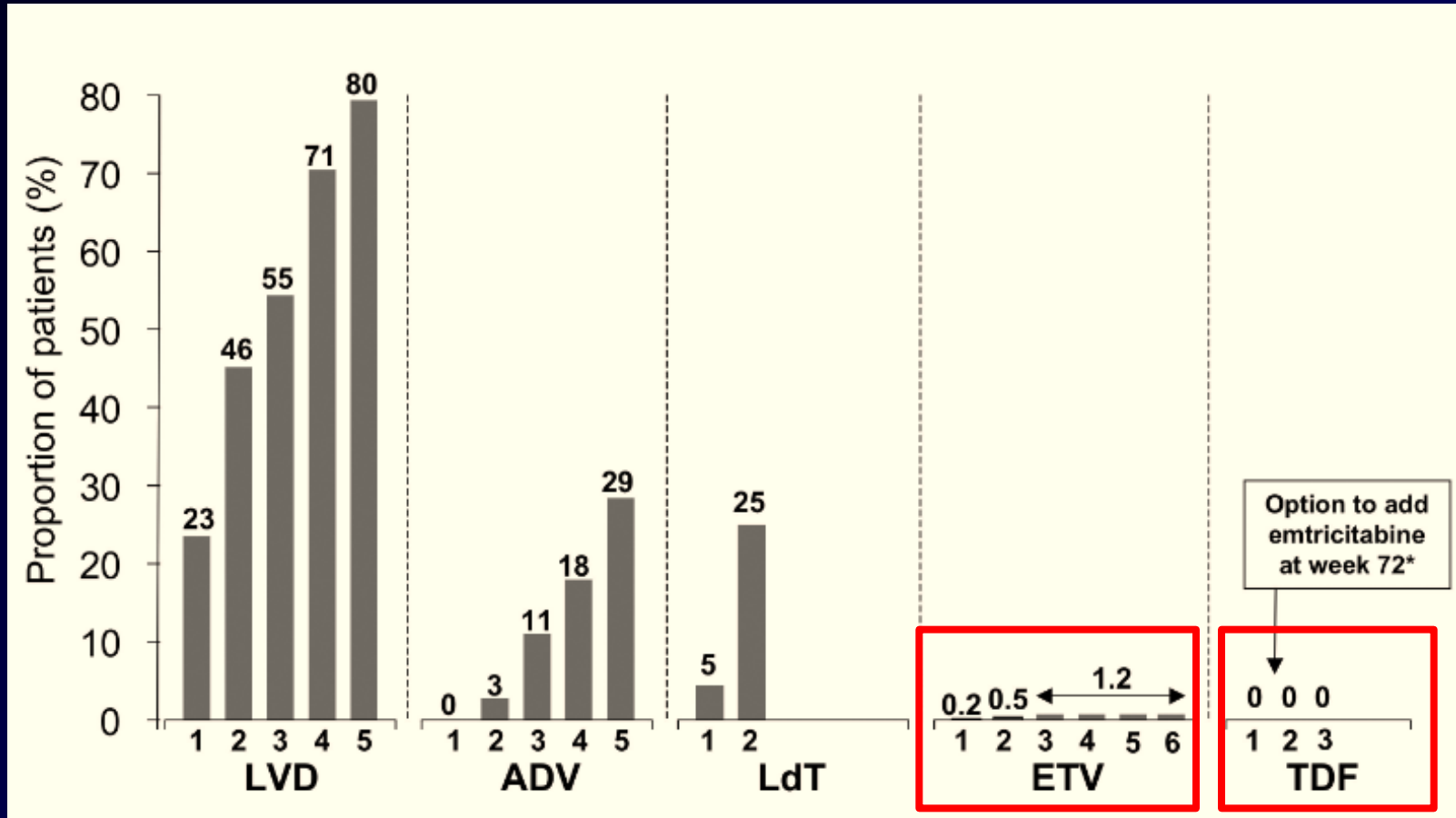
# Kaplan-Meier estimate of the cumulative survival rate in the three groups



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**Resistance is preventable and manageable**

# Cumulative incidence of HBV resistance to LAM, ADV, ETV, LdT and TDF in pivotal trials in NUC-naive patients(not head-to-head comparison)





# Choice of Agents for Naive CHB in US & Europe

<b>AASLD (2009)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PegIFN-<math>\alpha</math>, TDF, ETV, LdT, LVD (ADV, LVD &amp; LdT not preferred)</li><li>• Retreat with NA if failed (Peg) IFN<math>\alpha</math></li></ul>
<b>EASL (2012)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PegIFN-<math>\alpha</math> (mainly for HBeAg[+]) , or ETV/TDF</li></ul>

# **No Resistance to Tenofovir Disoproxil Fumarate Detected After up to 144 Weeks of Therapy in Patients Monoinfected With Chronic Hepatitis B Virus**

Andrea Snow-Lampart,<sup>1</sup> Brandi Chappell,<sup>1</sup> Maria Curtis,<sup>1</sup> Yuao Zhu,<sup>1</sup> Florence Myrick,<sup>1</sup> James Schawalder,<sup>1</sup> Kathryn Kitrinis,<sup>1</sup> Evguenia S. Svarovskaia,<sup>1</sup> Michael D. Miller,<sup>2</sup> Jeff Sorbel,<sup>1</sup> Jenny Heathcote,<sup>3</sup> Patrick Marcellin,<sup>4</sup> and Katyna Borroto-Esoda<sup>1</sup>

***No patient developed amino acid substitutions associated with resistance to TDF.***

***Virological breakthrough on TDF monotherapy was infrequent over 144 weeks (13/426, 3%) and was attributed to documented nonadherence in most cases (11/13, 85%).***

***Persistent viremia (400 copies/mL) through week 144 was rare (5/641, 0.8%) and was not associated with virological resistance to TDF by population or clonal analyses.***

***(HEPATOLOGY 2011;53:763-773)***

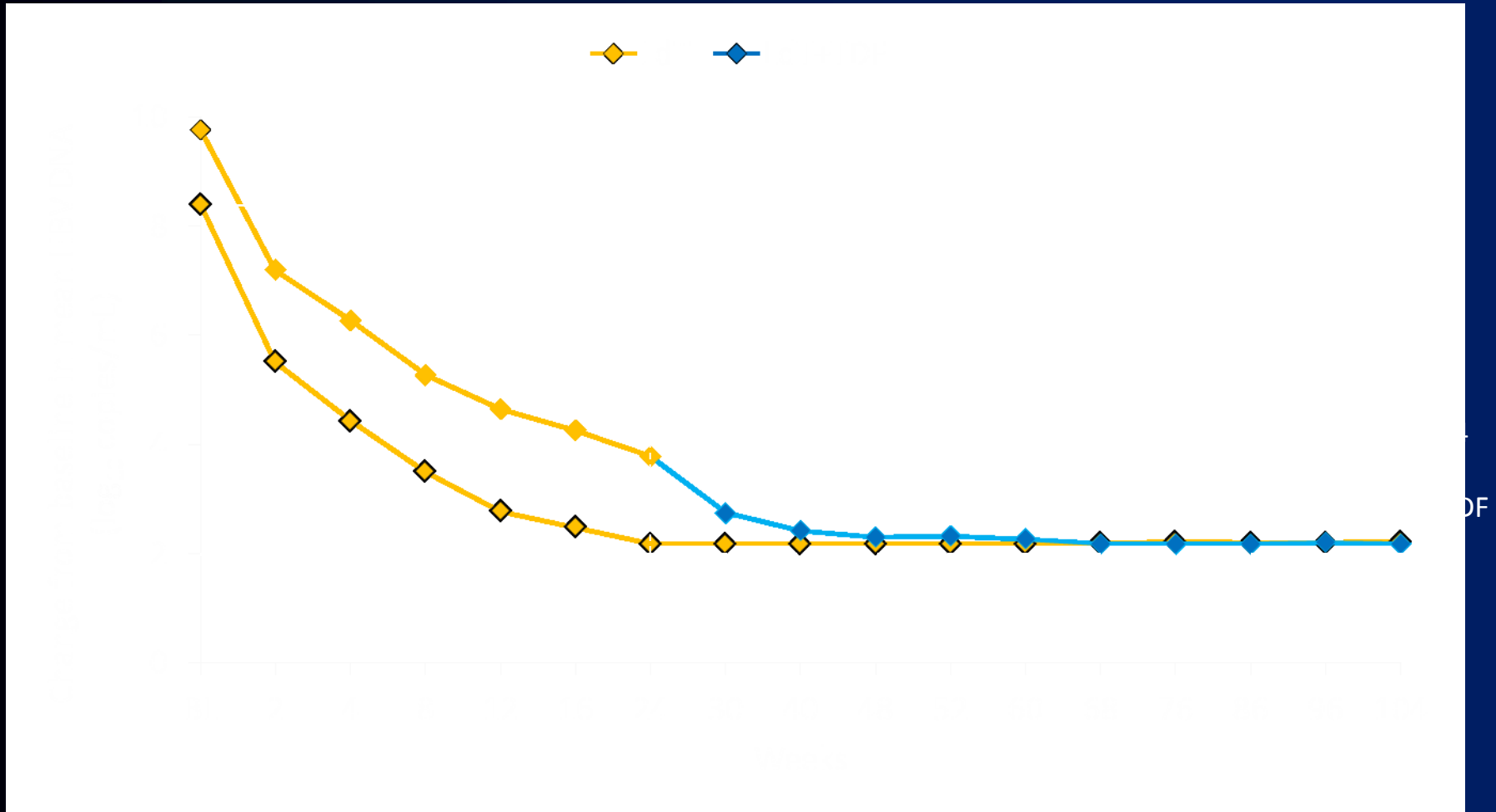
# Choice of Agents for Naive CHB in Asia

<b>CSH (2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IFN / PegIFNs, LVD,ADV,ETV, LdT (high potent/low resistant agents are preferred if it is feasible)</li><li>• Thymosin <math>\alpha</math>-1 may be used</li></ul>
<b>APASL (2012)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IFN, PEG-IFN-<math>\alpha</math></li><li>• ETV &amp; TDF(preferred), ADV, LdT &amp;LVD can also be used</li><li>• Thymosin <math>\alpha</math>-1 may be used</li></ul>

## 2-Year Results of Telbivudine (LdT) Roadmap Study Verify Optimal Efficacy and Safety Results in HBeAg-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B Patients

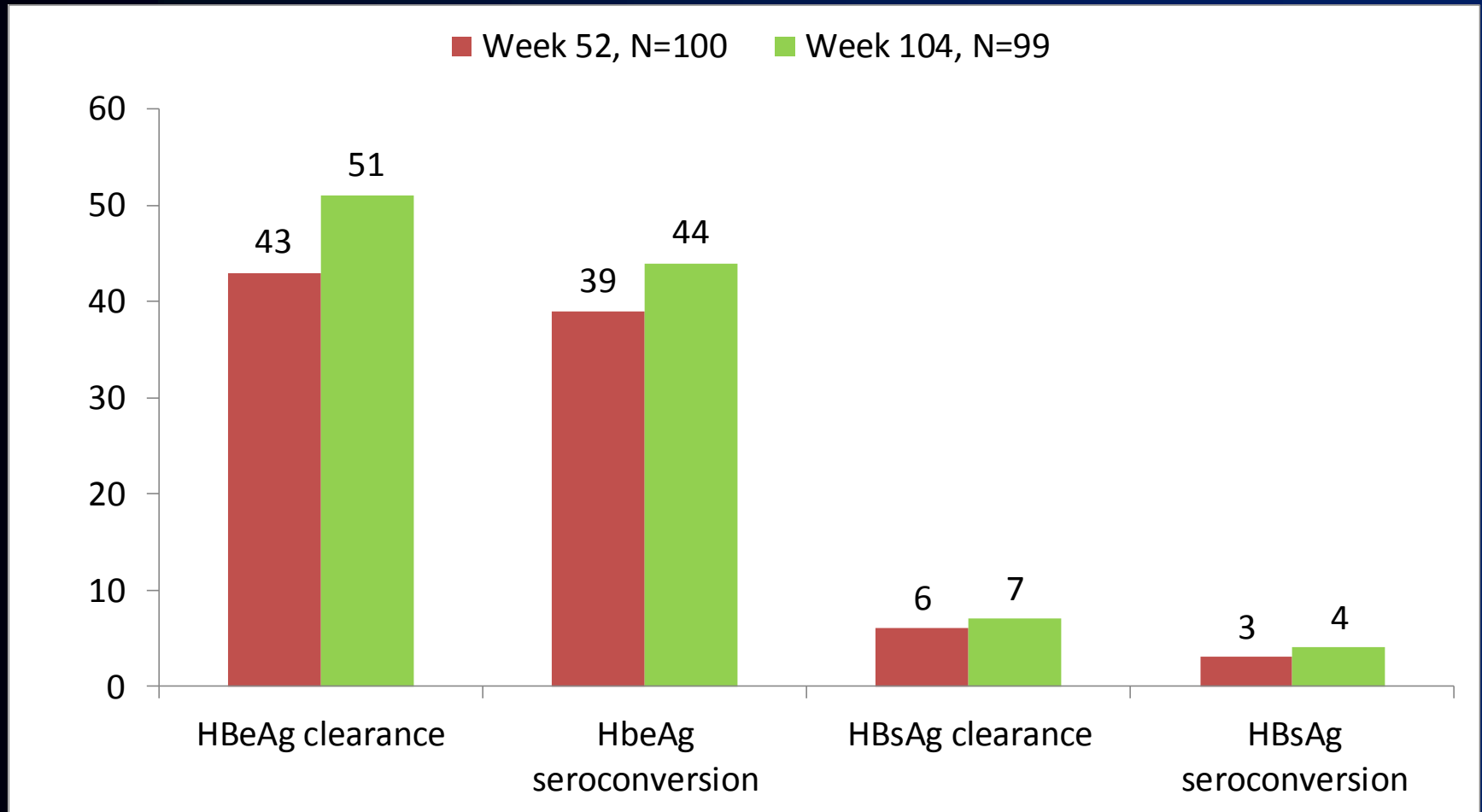
T. Piratvisuth, P. Komolmit, T. Tanwandee, W.  
Sukeepaisarnjaroen, H.L.-Y. Chan, M. Pessoa, E.  
Fassio, S. Ono-Nita, F. Bessone, J. Daruich, S.  
Zeuzem, H. Cheinquer, R. Pathan, Y. Dong, A.  
Trylesinski

# Treatment Modification Based on Week 24 HBV DNA Result Was Prospectively Validated in HBeAg Positive Patients (Study 2410)



HBV DNA reductions at all visits  $P < 0.0001$  vs. baseline

# Impressive HBeAg/HBsAg Response Rates at Weeks 52 and 104 (start with LdT)

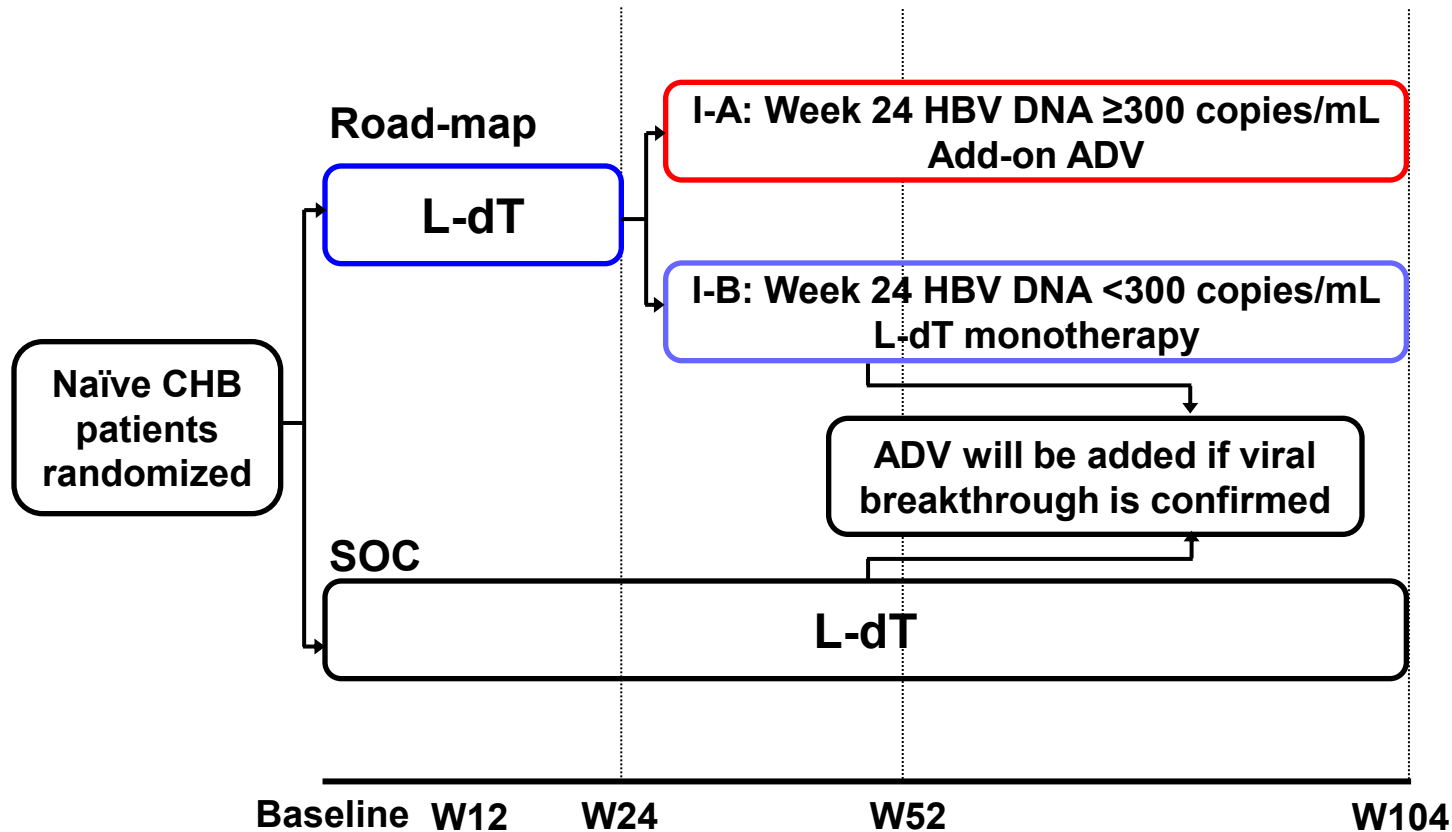


Note:

One patient (251-018) discontinued from the study before Week 52 due to lost to follow-up.

No Week 52 or 104 HBeAg/HBsAg responses data collected.

# EFFORT STUDY: a multicenter, randomized, controlled, 2-year study in China



# Efficacy at W104: LdT-based Road-map vs SOC

Variable	Road-map (N=300)	SOC (N=299)	P value
<b>Virological response (%)*</b>	76.7 (230/300)	61.2 (183/299)	<0.001
Serum HBV DNA >4 log <sub>10</sub> copies/ml (%)	6.0 (18/300)	18.1 (54/299)	<0.001
Serum HBV DNA (median change in log <sub>10</sub> copies/ml from baseline)	-6.30	-6.10	0.009
ALT normalization (%)†	80.7 (234/290)	79.2 (232/293)	0.680
HBeAg loss (%)	29.0 (87/300)	31.1 (93/299)	0.574
HBeAg seroconversion (%)	23.7 (71/300)	22.1 (66/299)	0.697
HBsAg loss (%)	0.7 (2/300)	0.7 (2/299)	1.000
HBsAg seroconversion (%)	0.3 (1/300)	0.3 (1/299)	1.000
<b>Virological Breakthrough (%)‡</b>	6.0 (18/300)	30.1 (90/299)	<0.001
<b>Genotypic Resistance (%)‡</b>	2.7 (8/300)	25.8% (77/299)	<0.001



# Summary: the rationale for choosing NAs for CHB

- High anti-HBV potency not only in pivotal clinical trials but also in real-world practice
- Long-term NA therapy improves liver
- Improve clinical outcome of liver decompensation
- Resistance is preventable and manageable
- Prevent HBV reactivation in immune compromised setting
- Prevent mother-infant transmission in pregnancy
- Reduce HCC development
- Decrease HCC recurrence
- Excellent safety profile



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