



**PHC 2019**  
14 & 15 January 2019  
PARIS - Palais des Congrès

# Treatment of Delta Hepatitis

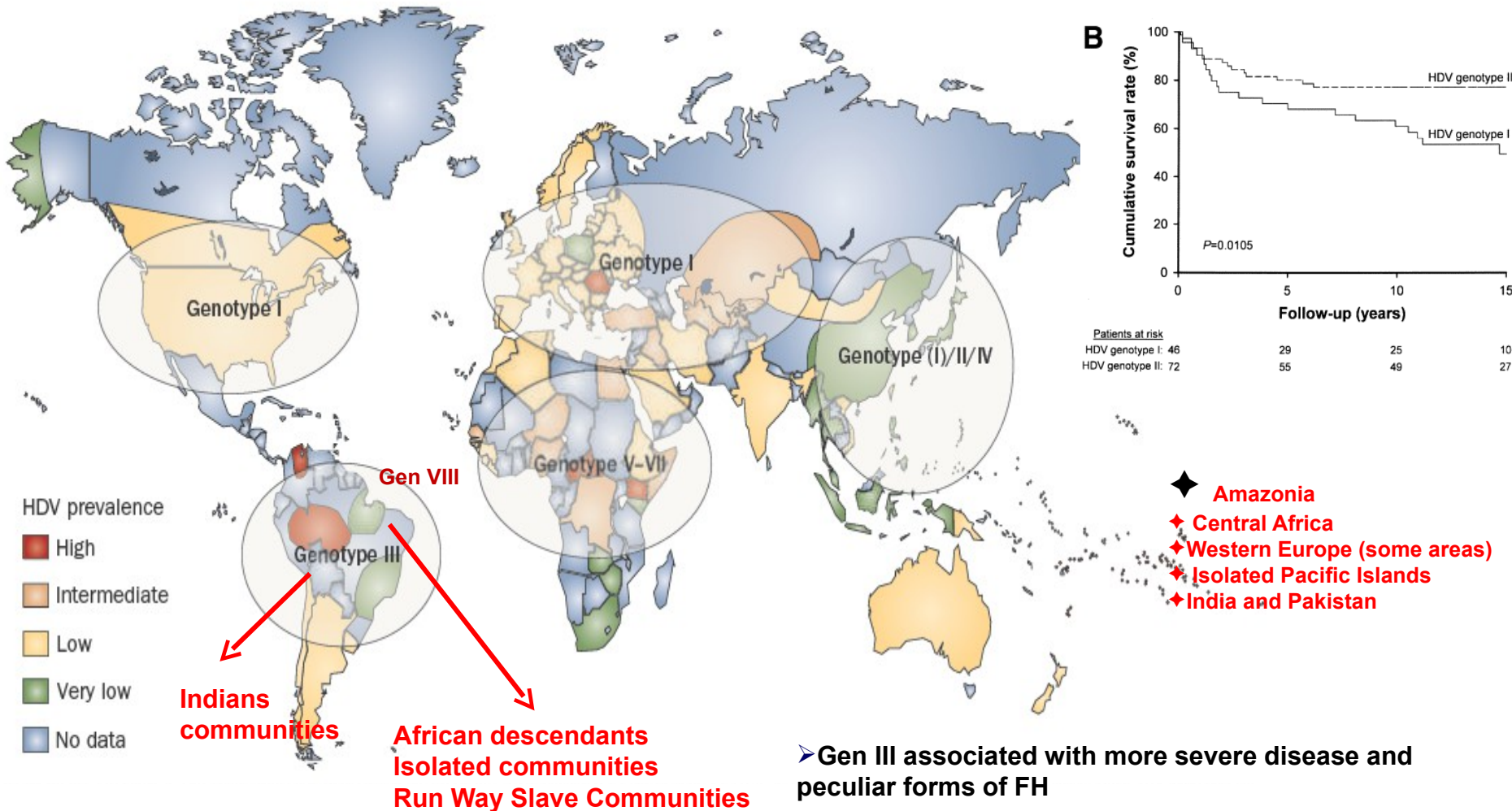
More questions than answers



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Gastro-Hepatology Unit



# Emerging HDV Epidemiology

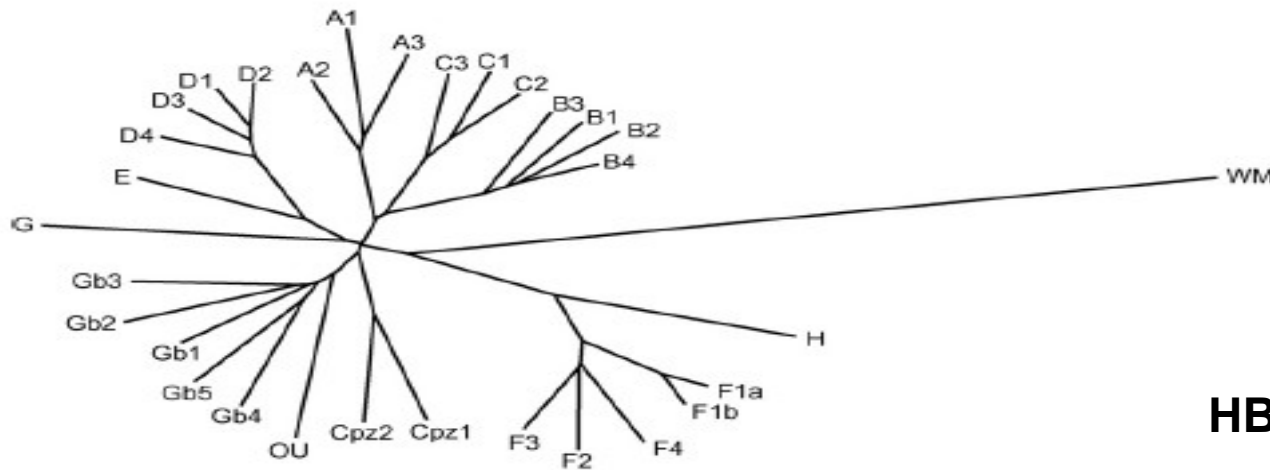


Ferreira et al, 2011  
Paraná et al, 2014, in abstract

➤ Gen III associated with more severe disease and peculiar forms of FH

Casey et al., J Infect Diseases 1996, Bensabath et al 1986, Parana et al, 2006

# Phylogeny of HBV/HDV genotypes/subtypes



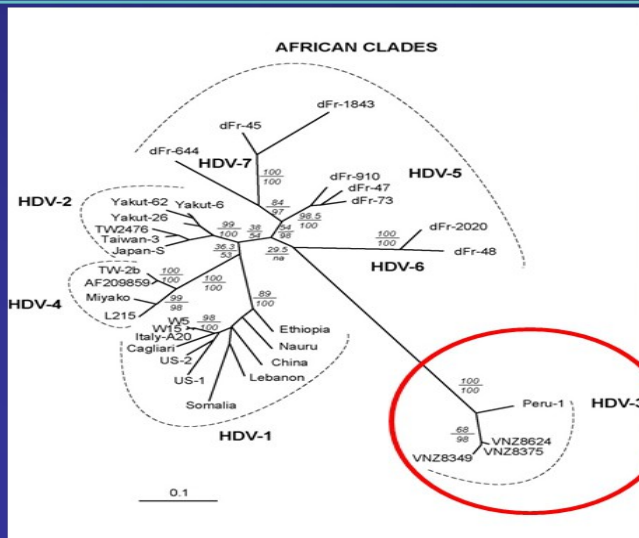
Amazon Basin

HBV -C > HBV-A

Kay & Zoulim, *Virus Res*,  
127, 164-176 (2007)

Su et al, *gastroenterol* 2006

South America: Could the Severity of the disease be explained by phylogeny of HDV genotypes ?



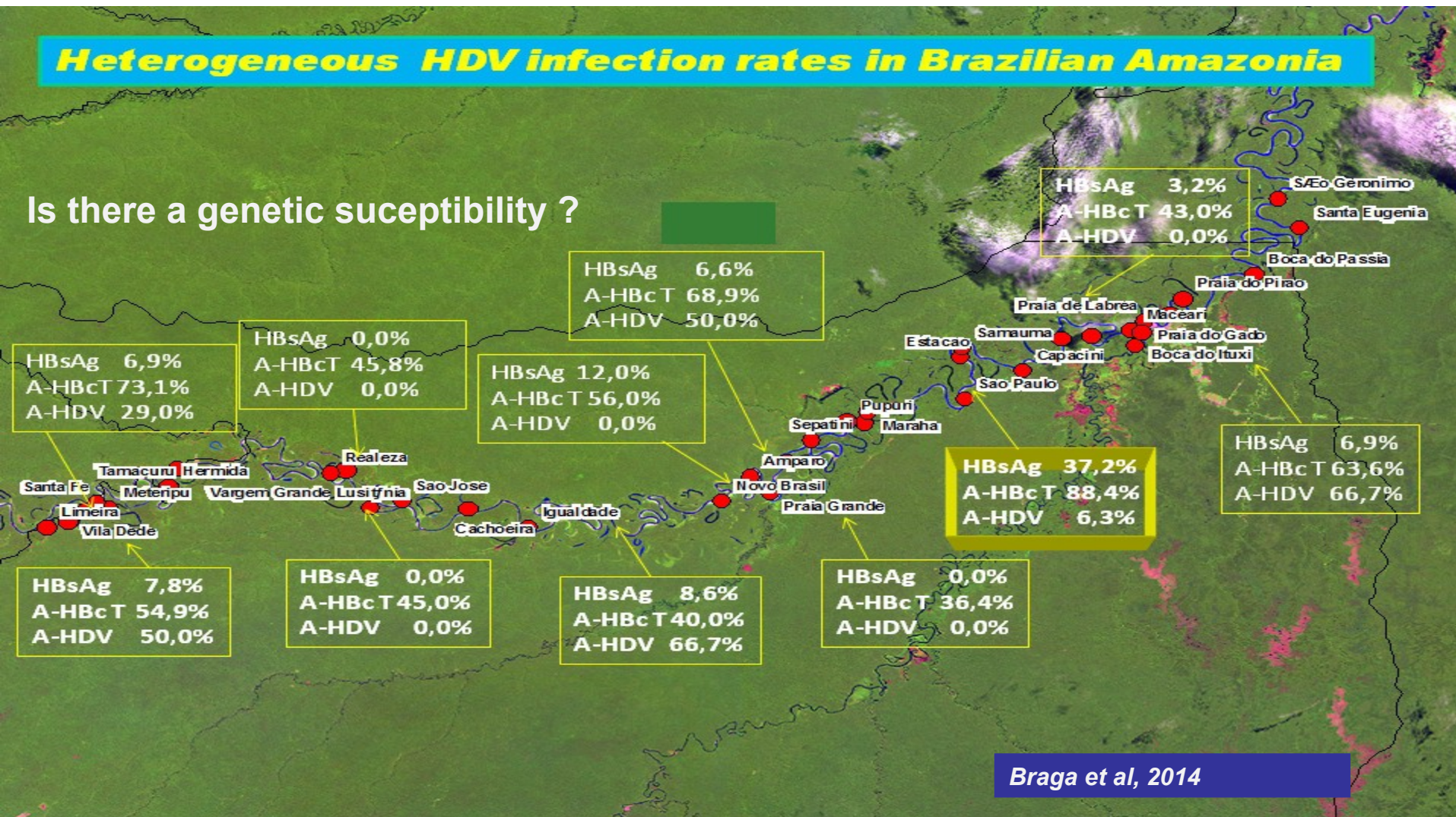
Genotype III (3) is the most divergent



# Heterogeneity of HDV Distribution in Highly Endemic Regions

## Heterogeneous HDV infection rates in Brazilian Amazonia

Is there a genetic susceptibility ?



Is there a genetic of susceptibility to HDV infection? Rizzetto and Alavian 2013

# Delta Hepatitis D are different Diseases

## Europe/US (Low endemicity)

- Almost restricted to group of Risk (IVDU)
- Immigrants from Endemic areas
- Vanishing Disease
- Gen I prevail
- Few patients with HBeAg pos status
- HBV-DNA inhibited by HDV

## Amazon (High endemicity/Epidemic)

- **Autochthon cases, Not restricted to group of risk**
- **younger patients**
- **Gen III prevail mainly with HBV-F gen**
- **More severe chronic cases and peculiar forms**
- **Intrafamilial transmission**
- Probably adaptative mutations
- Peculiar Fulminant Hepatitis
- Severe Disease with encephalopathy

# Fluctuating Patterns of Viral Dominance in Hepatitis D

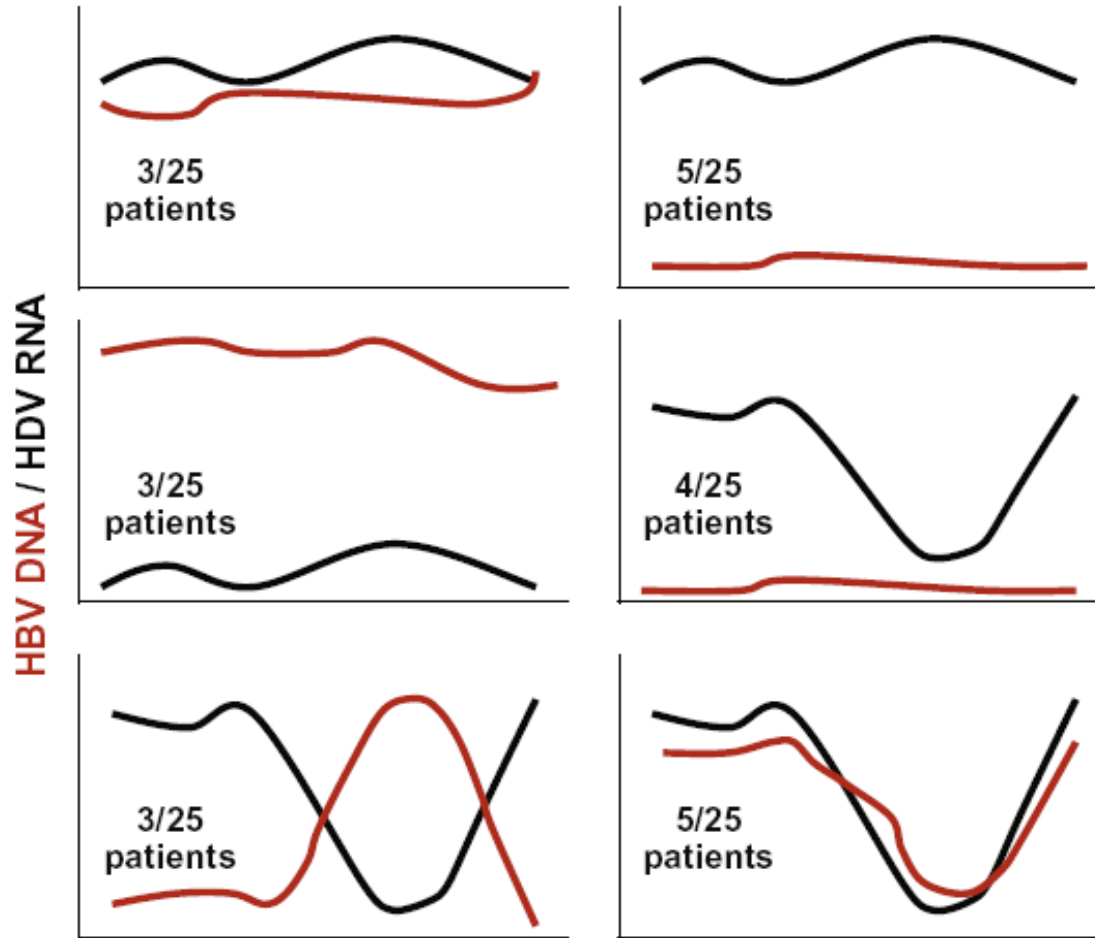


Fig. 1. Schematic representation of HBV DNA and HDV RNA patterns over time observed in the study by Schaper et al. [19].

## MSO

Sexo: Male

Age: 25

From: Acre (Amazonia)

Chronic Hep B / Delta from *Jiminawa tribus*, Purus River, Amazonia.  
He was referred to Rio Branco center of viral hepatitis

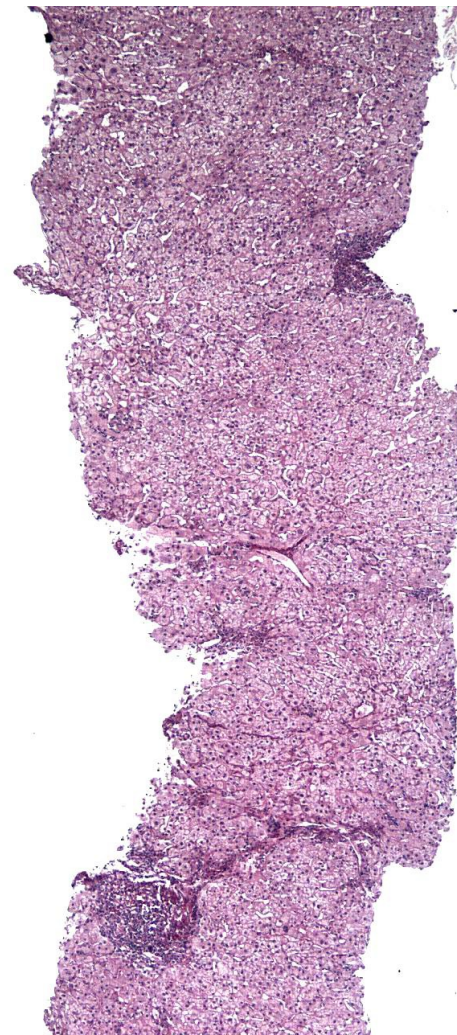
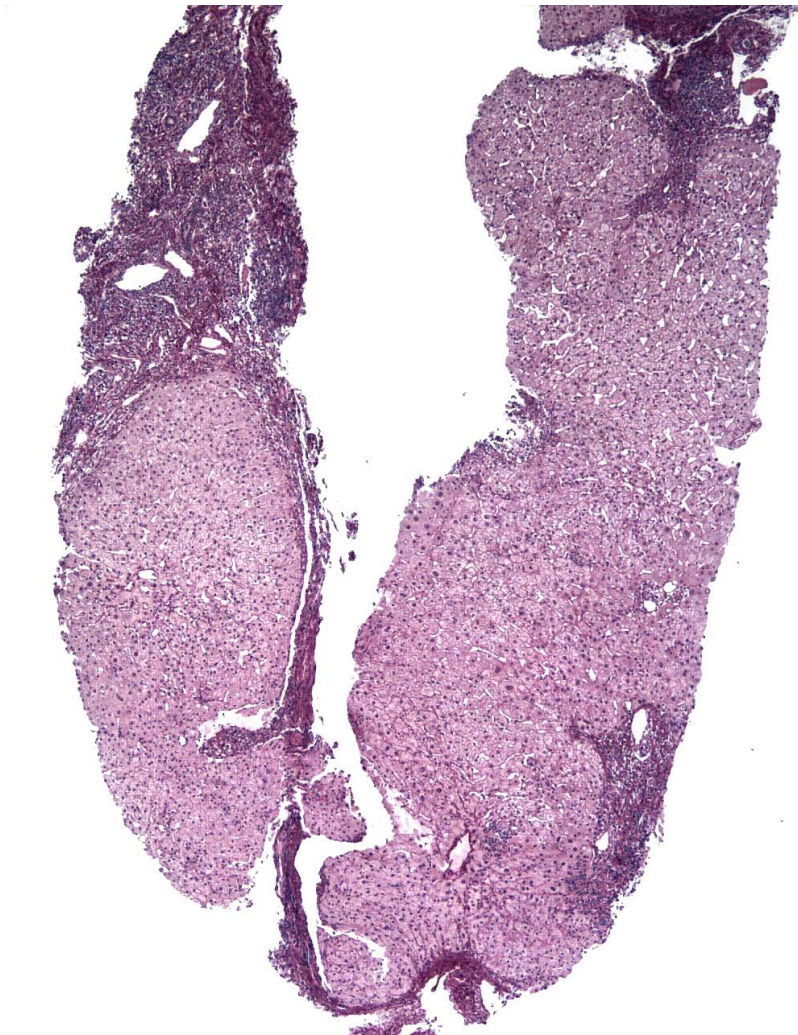
Two Brothers aged 18 and 17 yo died with liver Cirrhosis two years ago  
Mother has been treated for Hep B with Tenofovir  
Physical Exam: No stigma of CLD  
Splenomegaly  
Abdominal Echography: Moderate splenomegaly

US de abd: Normal, excepting Splenomegaly

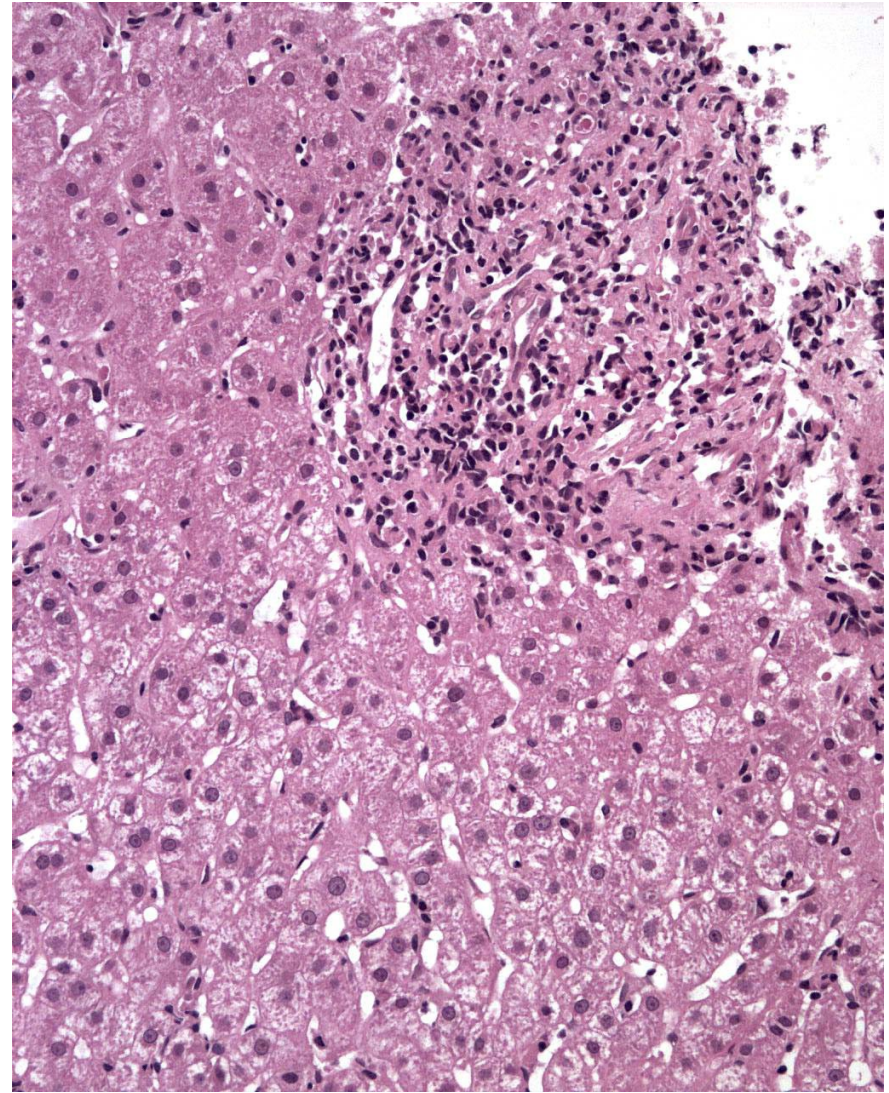
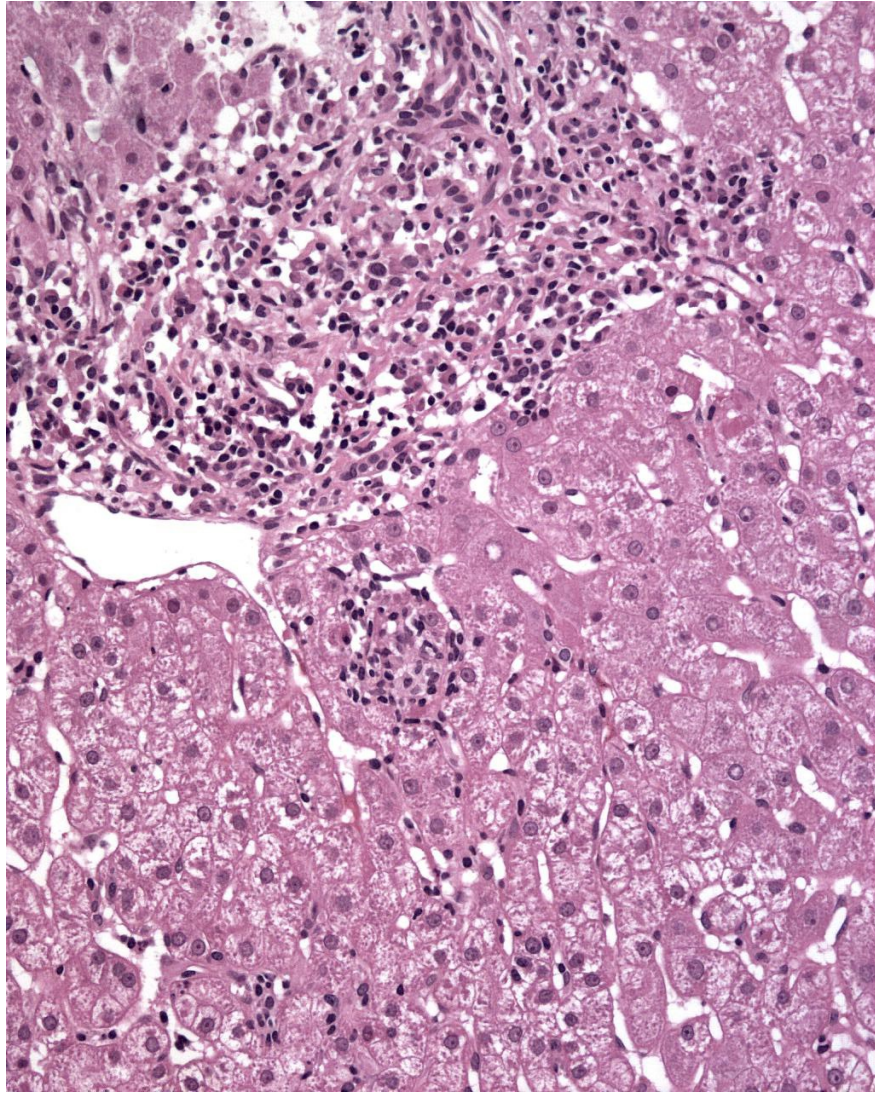
HBeAg positive  
HDV-RNA Pos (no quantitation)  
HBV-DNA 280000ui/ml  
AST 3x/UNL AST 2x GGT: 2x AP: 1,4 x  
Bil: 1.1 PT (RNI) 11 Creat: 0.9 Alb: 4.2  
**HBV Gen F and HDV Gen III**  
Endoscopy: No varices

Proceed to Liver Biopsy

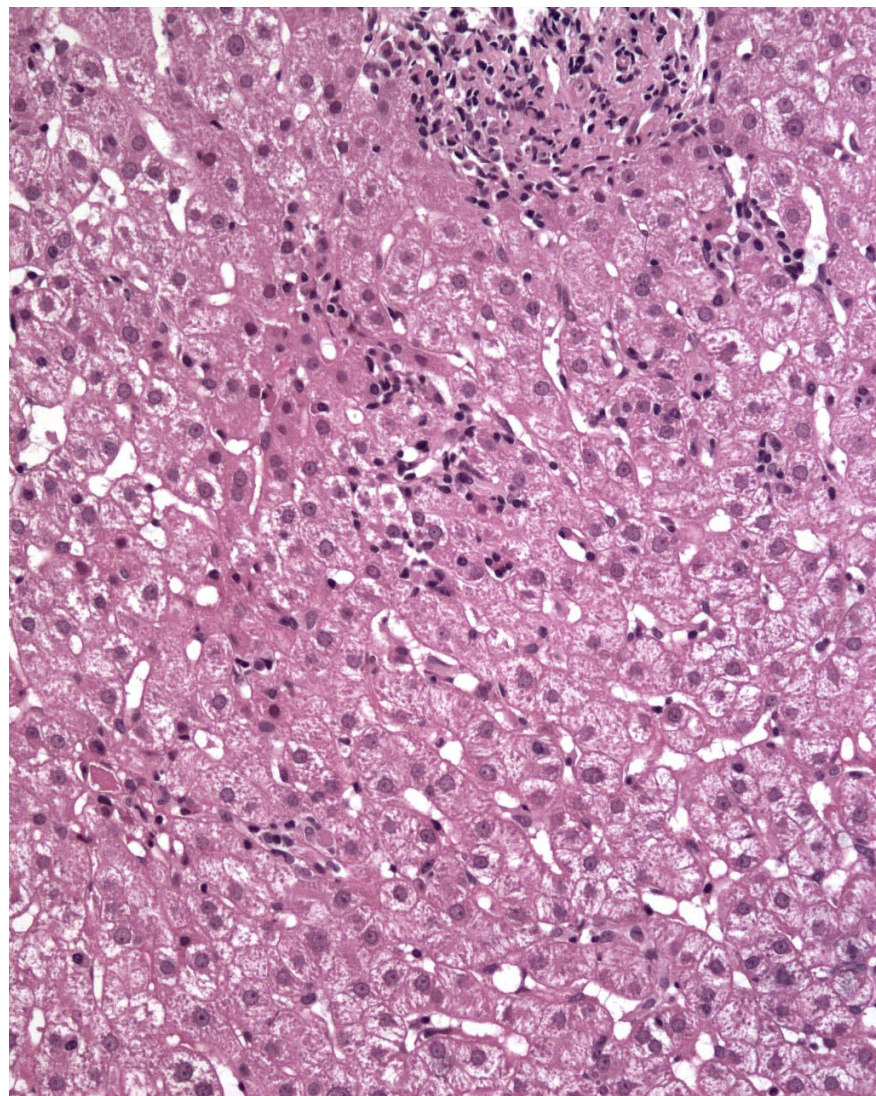
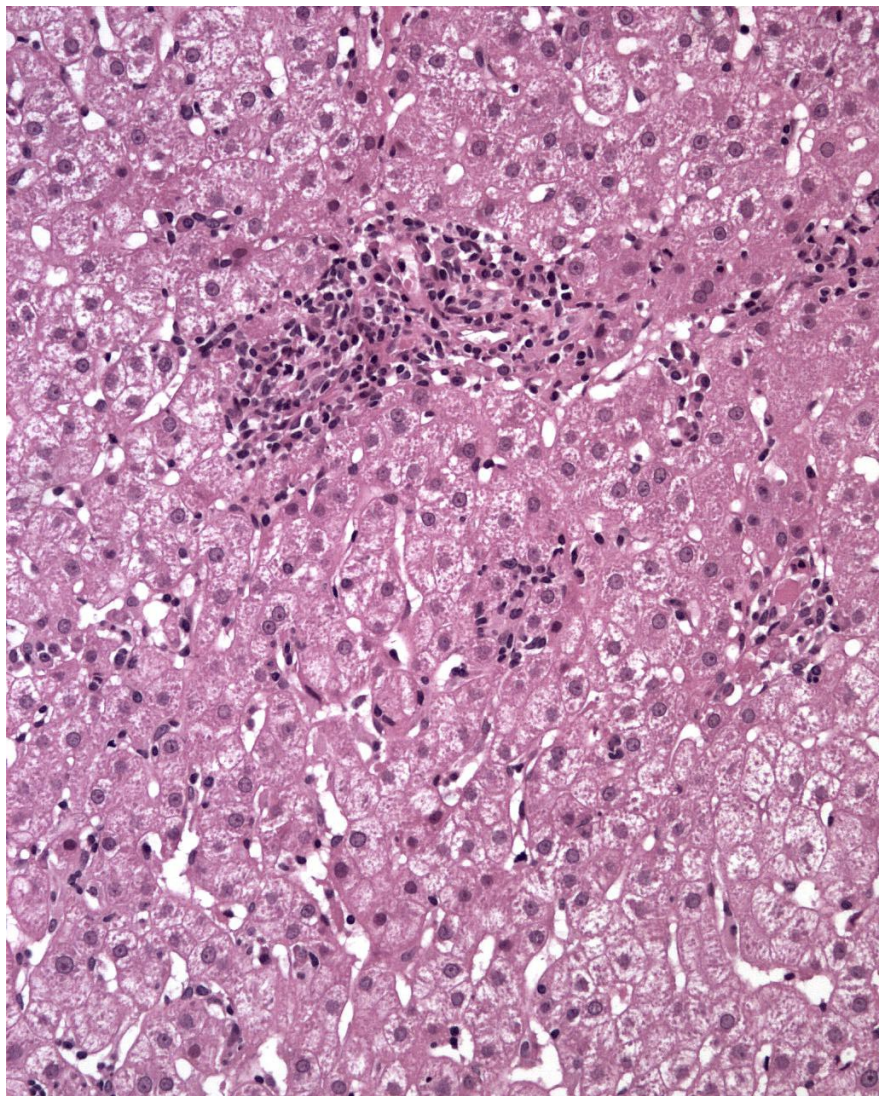




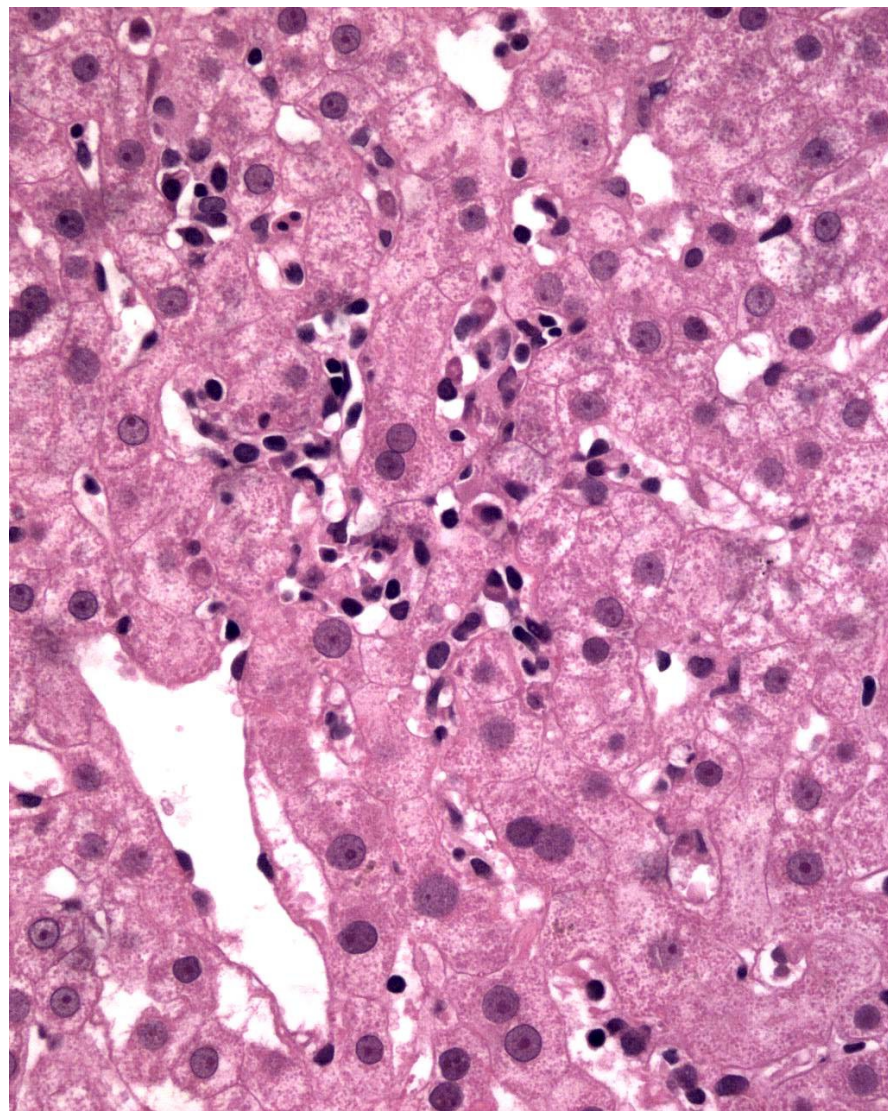
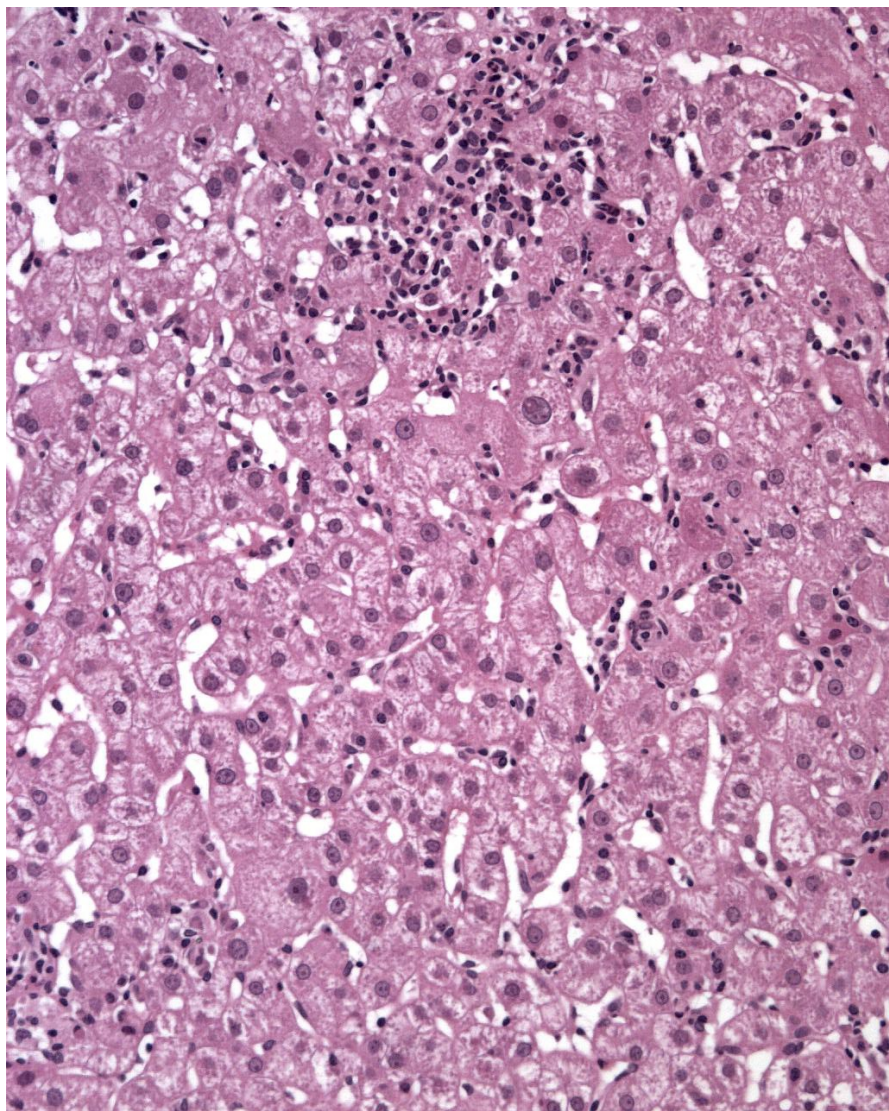




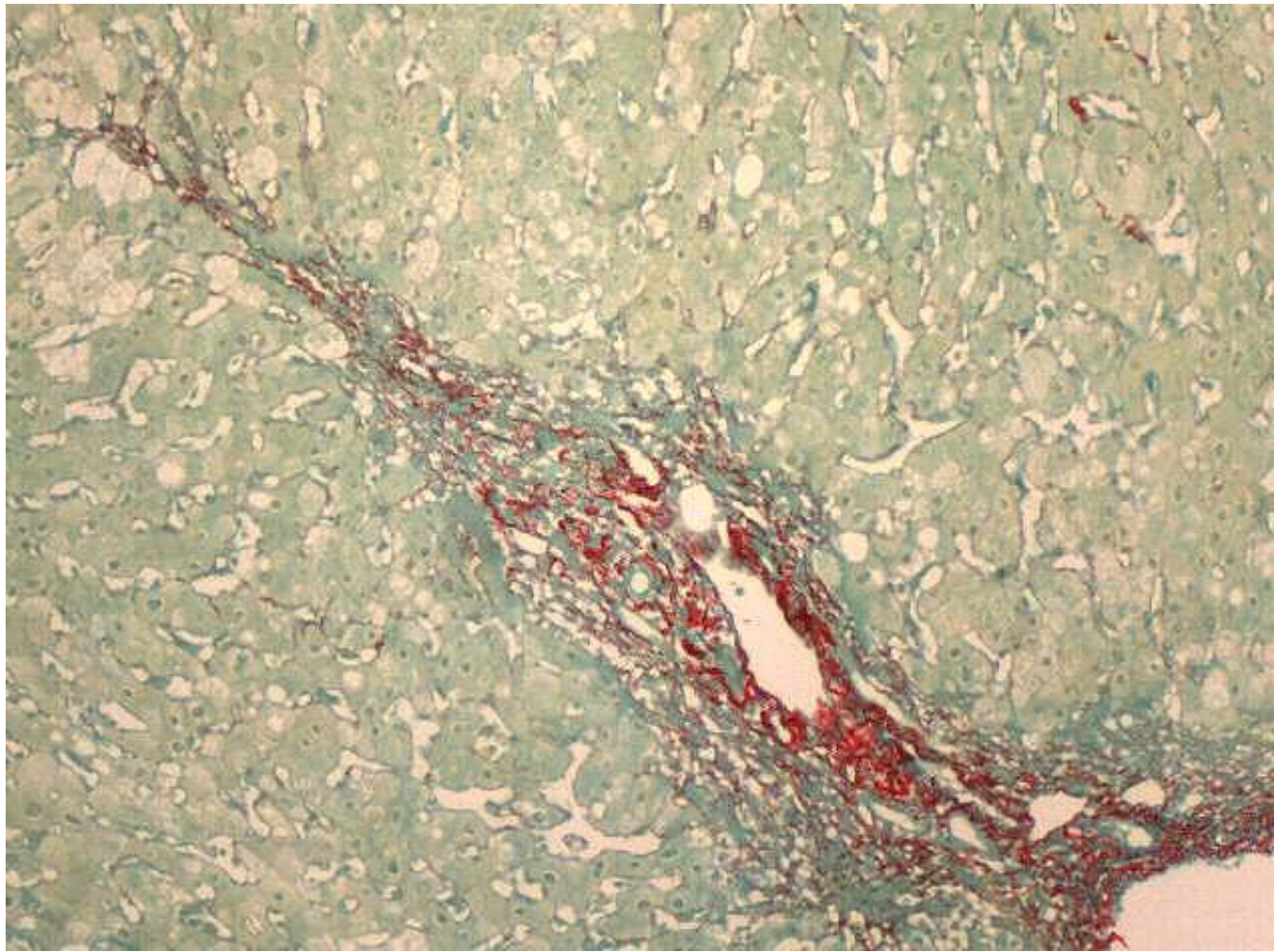








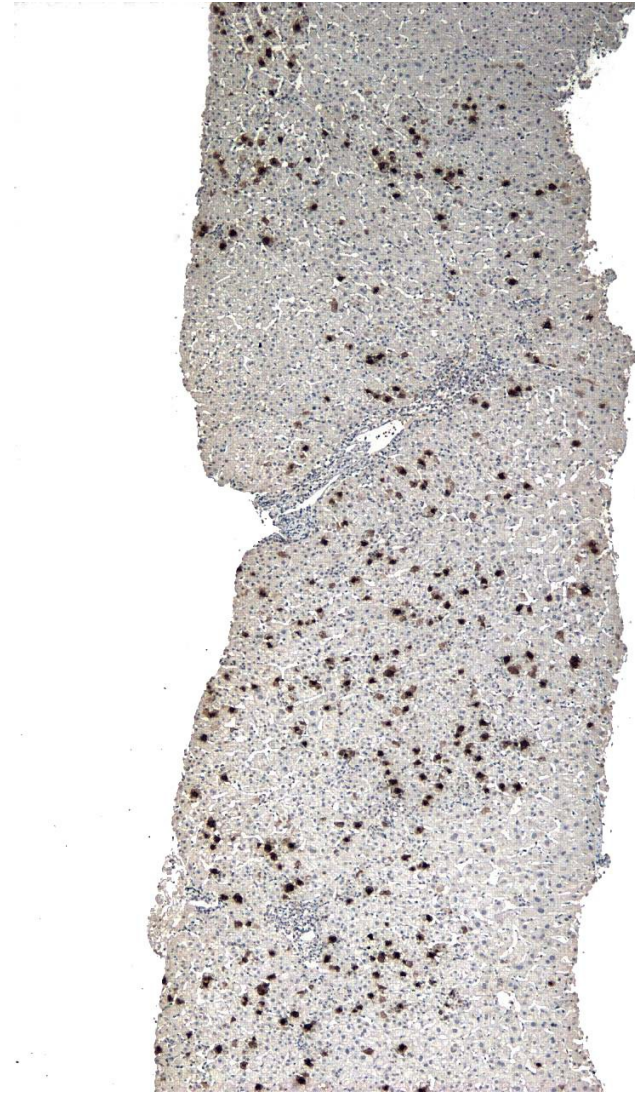
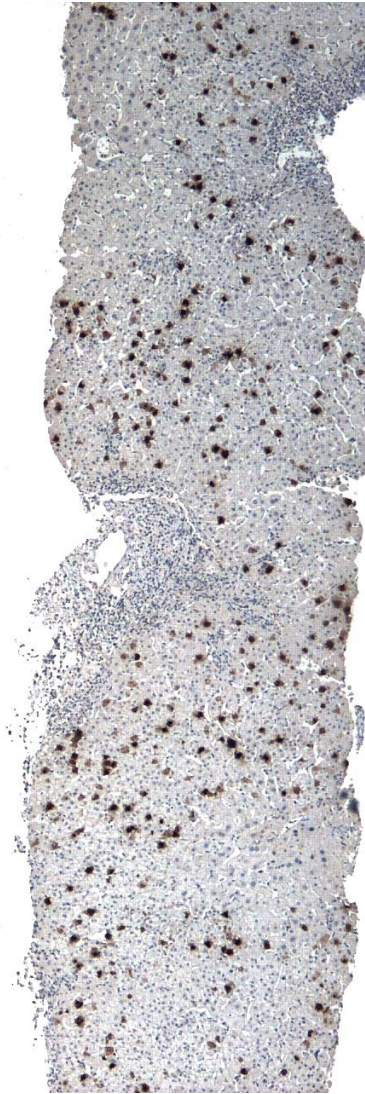
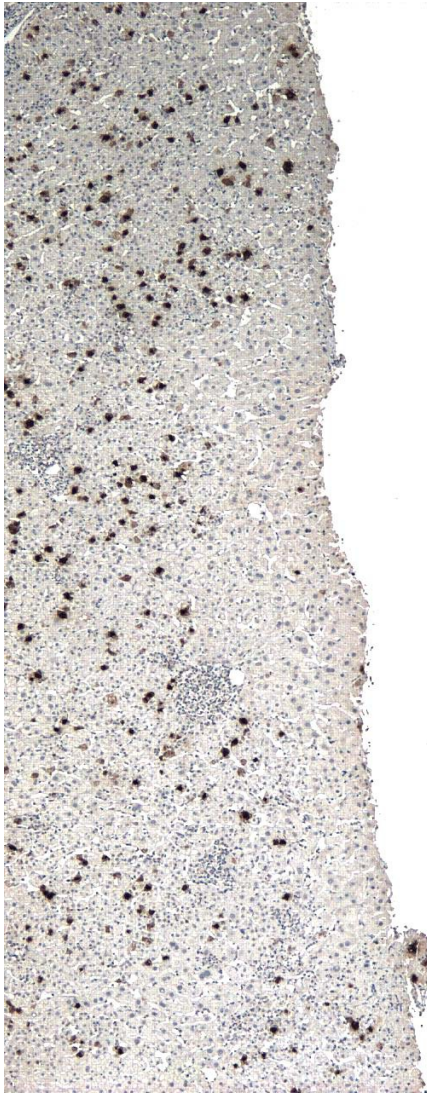






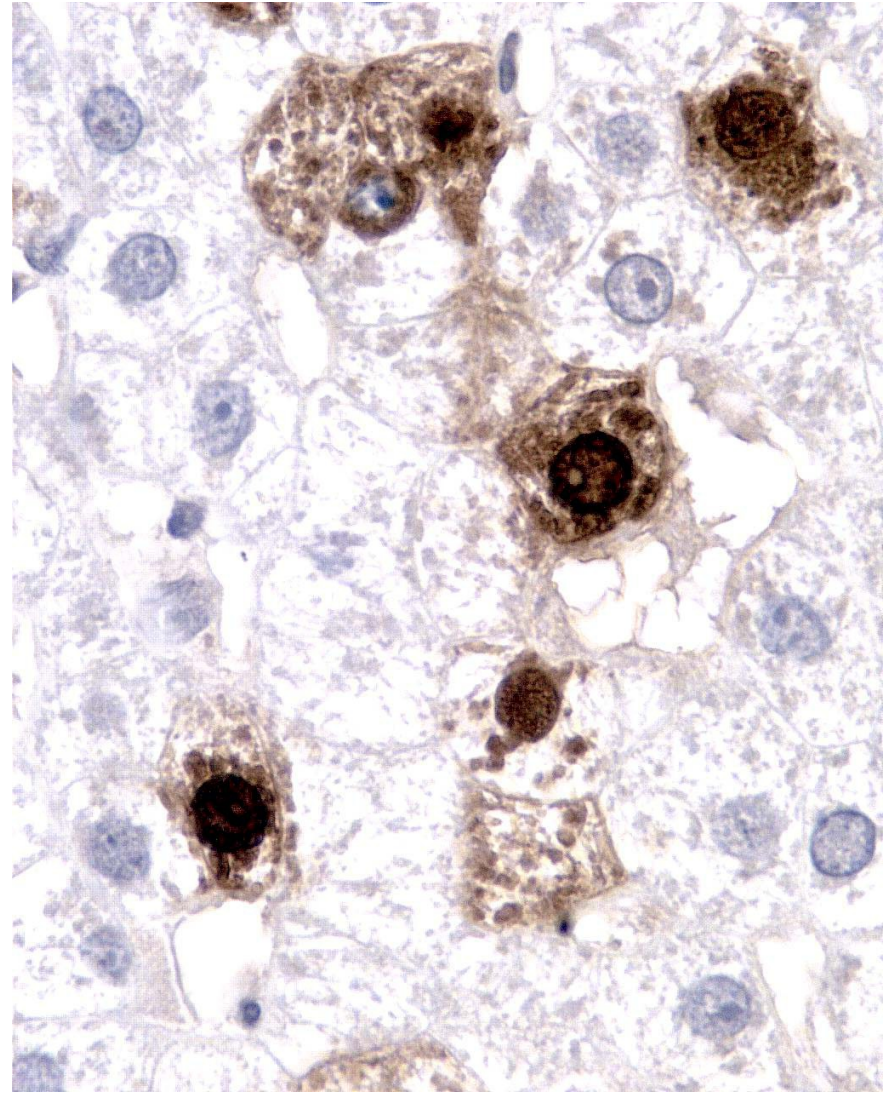
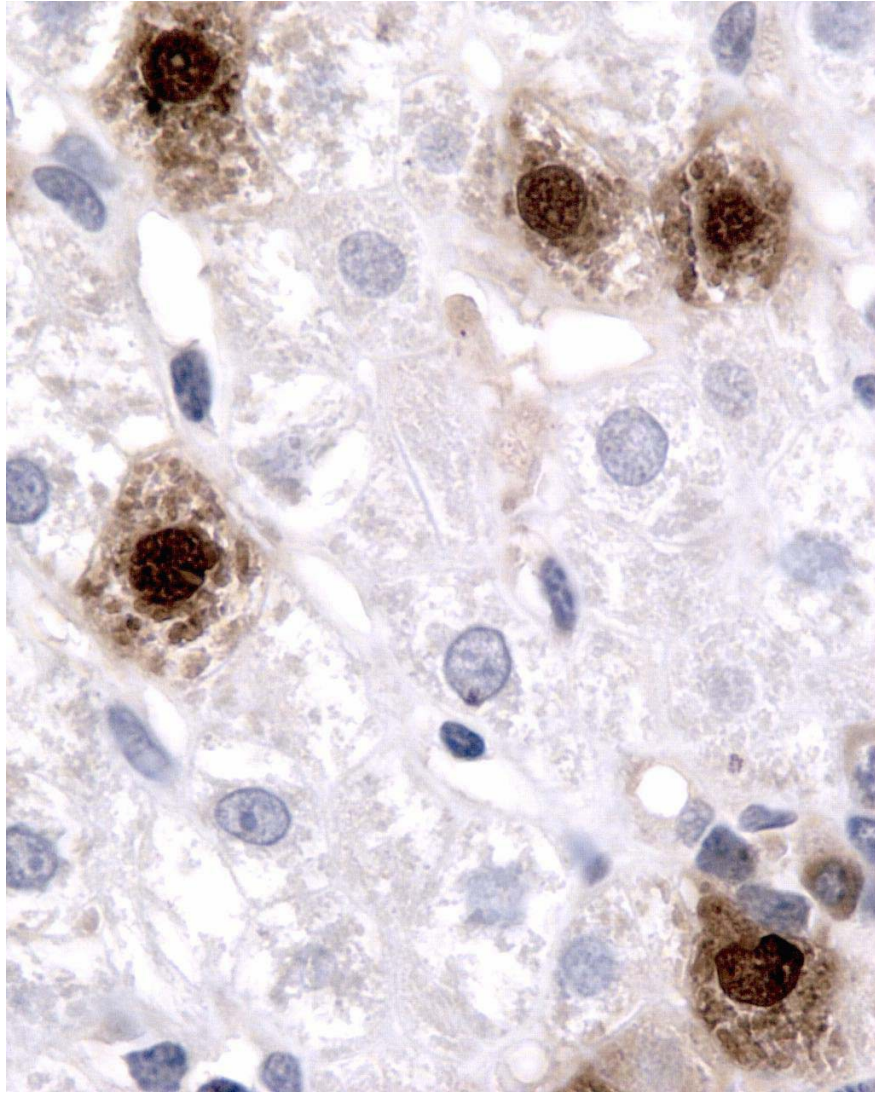
Chronic Hepatitis A2F2

HBcAg





HDV Ag



1. Which virus predominate ?
2. Could we use non invasive fibrose stage in this case ?
3. Is there any role of Immunohistochemistry for HDV/HBV infection ?



## **What would be your conduct**

1. Inf Conventional monotherapy (Long Duration) ?
2. Inf Convencional + NA ?
3. Interferon – Peg monotherapy ?
4. Interferon – Peg + NA ?
5. Only NUCs
6. No treatment at all

Which would be your aims

1. Normalize ALT and AST ?
2. HBV-DNA Negativation ?
3. HDV-RNA (negativation) ?
4. HBsAg loss?
5. Others

Possible scenarios among many others

1. ALT/AST Normalized, but HBV-DNA and HDV-DNA remained positive < 2000ui.

Would you stop INF or Keep INF for long duration treatment

In this case replace Peg-INF for Conventional INF?

2. AST/ALT Normalized, HDV-RNA detectable and HBV-DNA > 2000ui, No HBeAg seroconversion,

Keep INF? How long?

Add NUCs or keep on NUCs?

3. AST/ALT remain elevated, But HBV-DNA is now < 2000 ui , AgHBe negative/ Anti HBe Positive and HDV-RNA Positive

Keep INF? How Long

4. AST/ALT 2x, HBV-DNA < 20.000ui HBeAg positive, HDV-RNA undetectable

No access to qHBsAg

Keep INF?

Replace Peg-INF for NUCs

According to the Brazilian Guidelines for HBV/HDV treatment, if HBV-DNA > 2000ui at baseline

Peg Inf + NUCs

Events during treatment

At 12 weeks ALT Normalized

At 24 weeks HBV-DNA Undetectable and seroconversion HBeAg/Anti Hbe

At week 48 HBV-DNA undetectable and HDV-RNA undetectable

Stop treatment ?

Keep on NuCs?

Keep on Peg-INF?

Keep on NuCs and Peg-INF?



According to the Brazilian Guidelines

Treatment was stopped and the patient were Monitored

Splenomegaly persisted but less pronounced .

At week 108 of Follow up

HBsAg clearance

## **Hepatotropic Viruses in the Brazilian Amazon: A Health Threat**

**Raymundo Paraná<sup>1</sup>, Ludmila Vitvitski<sup>2</sup> and Joao Eduardo Pereira<sup>3</sup>**

*<sup>1</sup>Gastro-Hepatology Unit, University Hospital, Federal University of Bahia, Salvador, BA; <sup>2</sup>INSERM, U 271, Lyon-France; <sup>3</sup>Department of Health – State University of Feira de Santana, Feira de Santana, BA, Brazil*

Viral Hepatitis B, C and D are a serious public health problem in Brazil and other South American countries, mainly in the Amazonian region. Despite the paucity of clinical and epidemiological studies, a high prevalence of Hepatitis viruses has often been described in this area. Genotype F of Hepatitis B and Genotype III of Hepatitis D have been found to be quite prevalent in this area and preliminary studies have implicated both genotypes in carcinogenesis and peculiar pathogenic liver mechanisms. Initial epidemiological studies have further demonstrated a high prevalence of Hepatitis C in the western Brazilian Amazon. The geographic, cultural, ethnic and environmental aspects of this region may favor hepatotropic virus dissemination, as well as rendering difficult the implementation of governmental programs in the treatment of patients and prevention of disease dissemination.

## **Hepatitis D virus infection in the Western Brazilian Amazon - far from a vanishing disease**

**Wornei Silva Miranda Braga<sup>[1],[2]</sup>, Márcia da Costa Castilho<sup>[1],[2]</sup>, Fabiane Giovanella Borges<sup>[1]</sup>,  
Jorge Roberto Di Tommaso Leão<sup>[2]</sup>, Ana Cristina de Souza Martinho<sup>[1]</sup>, Ivo Seixas Rodrigues<sup>[1]</sup>,  
Eliete Pereira de Azevedo<sup>[1]</sup>, Gildo Maia de Barros Júnior<sup>[1]</sup> and Raymundo Paraná<sup>[3]</sup>**

*Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg.*, 75(3), 2006, pp. 475–479

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**HDV GENOTYPES IN THE WESTERN BRAZILIAN AMAZON REGION:  
A PRELIMINARY REPORT**

# Treatment of hepatitis delta virus genotype 3 infection with peg-interferon and entecavir

Lourdes Maria Pinheiro Borzacov<sup>a</sup>, Larissa Deadame de Figueiredo Nicolete<sup>a</sup>,  
Luan Felipe Botelho Souza, Alcione Oliveira dos Santos, Deusilene Souza Vieira,  
Juan Miguel Villalobos Salcedo<sup>\*</sup>

*Research Center for Tropical Medicine of Rondônia – CEPEM/SESAU, and Federal University of Rondônia – UNIR, Rua da Beira, 7671 -BR364, Km 3,5 Bairro Lagoa, Porto Velho, Rondônia, Brazil*

## S U M M A R Y

**Objectives:** Hepatitis delta virus (HDV) is recognized as the most pathogenic and infectious among the hepatotropic viruses. Studies on the treatment of HDV have predominantly included European patients and carriers of genotype 1 (HDV-1) in their clinical protocols. For the Amazon region, data show that infected individuals have mainly Native American ancestry and that >90% of HDV carriers have the genotype 3 (HDV-3). Thus combined therapy clinical protocols do not adequately address the treatment of these patients.

**Methods:** A prospective, non-randomized study was conducted in which 22 patients received 180 µg of pegylated interferon alpha 2a (PEG-IFN) plus entecavir at a dose of 0.5 mg for 48 weeks, with a subsequent 24-week follow-up. Throughout treatment, the patients were monitored for biochemical responses and the kinetics of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and HDV viral loads.

**Results:** Of the 22 patients treated, 15 presented normal alanine aminotransferase values at the end of treatment ( $p = 0.002$ ). At week 24 of treatment, 86.4% of the patients did not present detectable HDV-RNA; at week 48, the rate of negative patients increased to >95% and remained the same after 6 months. With regard to HBV, only two patients (9%) still presented detectable HBV genetic material at the end of treatment, suggesting the effectiveness of combined therapy in combating the two viruses.

**Conclusions:** These findings support the use of this effective therapeutic protocol for HDV-3 in patients of non-European ethnicity and suggest a possible 'easy to treat' variant when compared to HDV-1.

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# What happened with this real patient?

**AgHBs Neg**

**HBV-DNA  
undetectable**

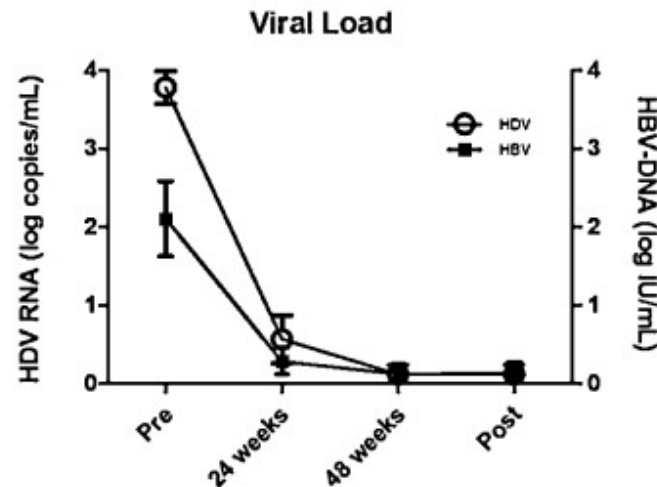
**HDV-RNA  
undetectable**

*Best scenario  
But very rare*

Treatment of hepatitis delta virus genotype 3 infection  
with peg-interferon and entecavir

*Lourdes Maria Pinheiro et al Int J Inf Dis 2016*

Real life study with 22 pts using Peg-INF + ETV , all Gen III



Only 9% of patientes  
With HBV-DNA detected  
at week 48 and the FU

6 Ptes became HBsAg Neg

Is Peg-INF + Nuc the best HDV therapy for Gen III pts?





Salvador, Bahia



Amazonia

**OBRIGADO  
THANK YOU  
MERCI**