



THE FORUM
For Collaborative ResearchSM

Management of Finite Treatment for CHB: similar and different concerns with new drug classes Working Group Update

HBV Forum 9

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Washington DC

Marion Peters MD

Background



- Functional cure:
 - Negative HBsAg, HBV DNA neg, normal ALT +/- HBsAb off-treatment
 - Requires stopping treatment to test
- Data on stopping NrtI: mixed
- Dearth of data on stopping all treatments with new agents
 - Different MOAs of new drugs
 - Assessment of functional cure during and/or after treatment
 - Role of cccDNA and iDNA for HBsAg

Importance



- Finite treatment requires treatment discontinuation
- Consensus needed among clinical researchers, patients, pharmaceutical/diagnostic companies and regulatory agencies to inform clinical research programs
- *Safety and Efficacy*

Working Group Objective



- Review and identify areas of consensus among stakeholders
- Identify gaps and recommend steps to fill these gaps
- Recognizing “dearth of data” on treatment discontinuation
 - Base discussions on science wrt MOA, virology, existing clinical data
 - Evolve recommendations as more data and diagnostic tools become available

Working Group Members



Academia

Marion Peters
MF Yuen
Norah Terrault
Mala Maini
Pietro Lampertico
Harry Janssen
Ed Gane
Thomas Berg
Kosh Agarwal

Industry Partners

Oliver Lenz
Luisa Stamm
Patricia Mendez
Isabelle Lonjon-Domanec
Carey Hwang
Anna-Maria Geretti
John Fry

Regulatory Agencies

Poonam Mishra
Stephanie Buchholz

Patient Advocate

Su Wang

HBV Forum

Veronica Miller
Mitchell Leus

SFT working group



- Project initiated December 2021 with zoom calls
- Bullet points assigned February 2022
- Manuscript prepared by writing team–August 2022

Some Consensus



- Designing new finite duration therapeutic regimens to achieve function cure complex (differing MOA, different disease stage, no “one size fits all” approach)
- The duration and complexity of treatment regimens should be acceptable to the patient population
- New treatment regimens should achieve HBV DNA and RNA suppression, ALT normalization and significant reductions in HBsAg so that after stopping therapy there is a reasonable chance of achieving or sustaining functional cure
- No consistent predictors of response have yet been identified with therapies currently in development
- Immunological biomarkers are currently speculative
- Initial studies of finite and curative investigational therapies should focus on enrollment of patients without cirrhosis with minimal fibrosis for safety
- Different stopping criteria may need to be developed for regimens depending on whether virologic and/or immune modulators are incorporated in a treatment regimen

Future needs



- The threshold for retreatment patients/study participant needs to be carefully pre-defined in the protocol based on latest data to allow adequate time to see an off-treatment response and to ensure participant safety
 - Close follow up and rapid turn around required
- Predictors of success seen with NrtI discontinuation should be evaluated in all trials
- There is a major need to be able to differentiate the source of HBsAg between iDNA and cccDNA
- All trials should include banked serum, PBMCs, RNA and DNA at baseline and end of therapy
- Pathogenesis focused trials should include FNA and liver biopsy in addition.
- New methods for measuring restoration of HBV-specific immune control are needed

Next steps

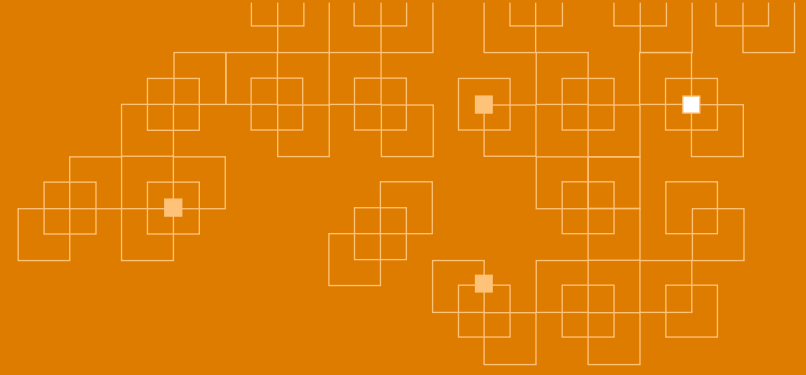


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- Bullet points February 2022
- Manuscript collated from writing team– August 2022
 - To Regulatory and Patient Advocate October 2022
- Submit by end of 2022

Special thanks > WG Coordination End note



- Mitchell Leus



Thank You!