

# Hepatitis for Life

**Dr Frank Weilert**

**Clinical Director Gastroenterology**

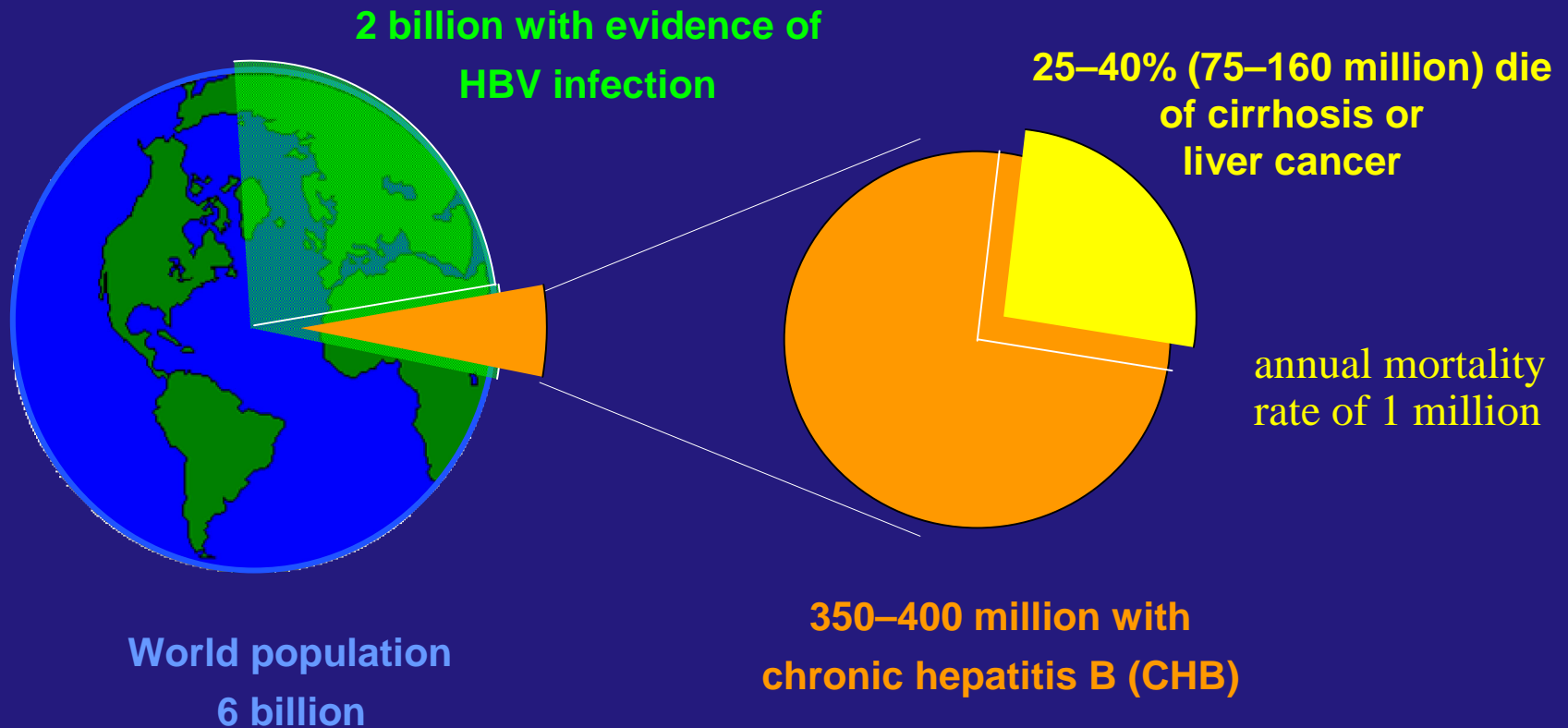
**Waikato Hospital**



**Is HBV a problem?**

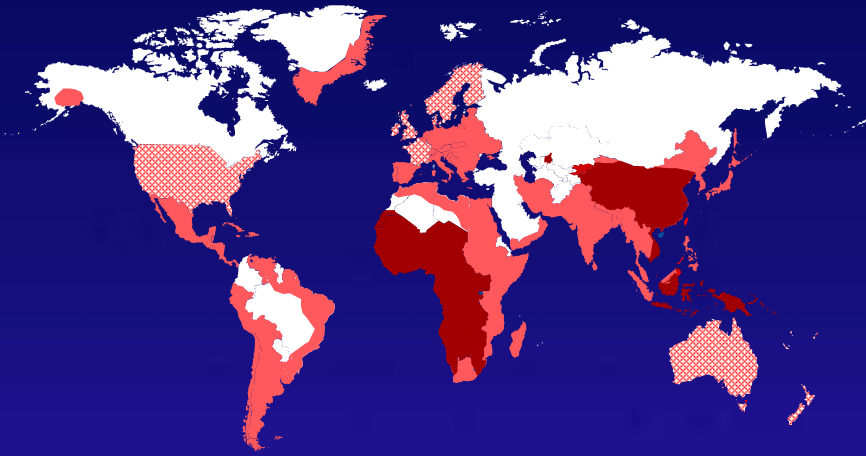


# Global impact of hepatitis B



1. WHO Fact Sheets, available at [www.who.int](http://www.who.int) Accessed September 24 2004
2. Conjeevaram et al. *J Hepatology* 2003;38:S90–S103
3. Lee. *N Engl J Med* 1997;337:1733–1745
4. Lok. *N Engl J Med* 2002;346:1682–1683

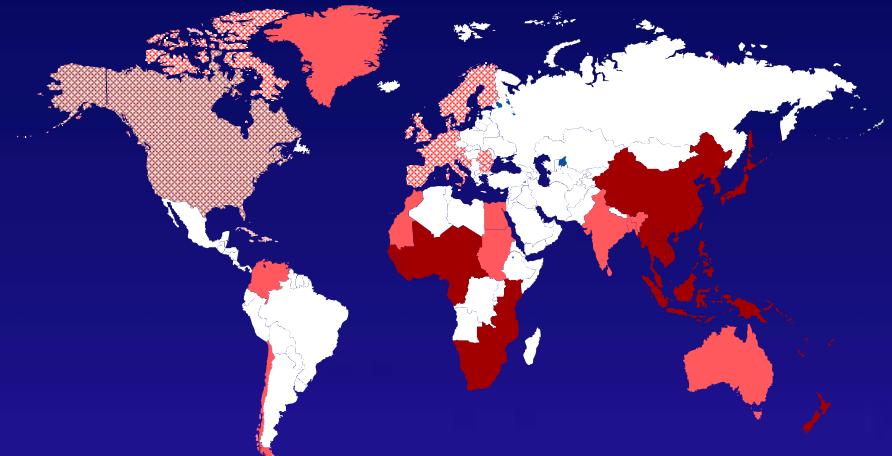
# Prevalence of HBV and Incidence of Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)



World prevalence of HBV carriers

## HBsAg carriers – prevalence

- <math><2\%</math>
- 2–7%
- >8%
- Poorly documented



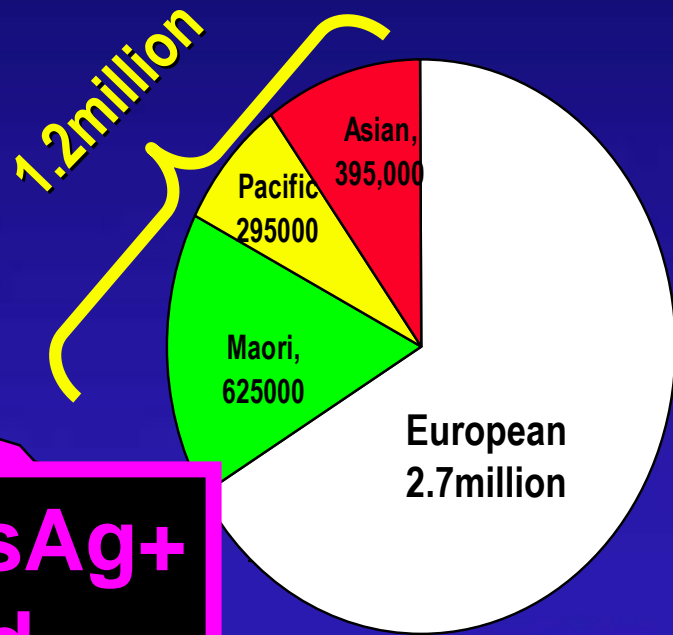
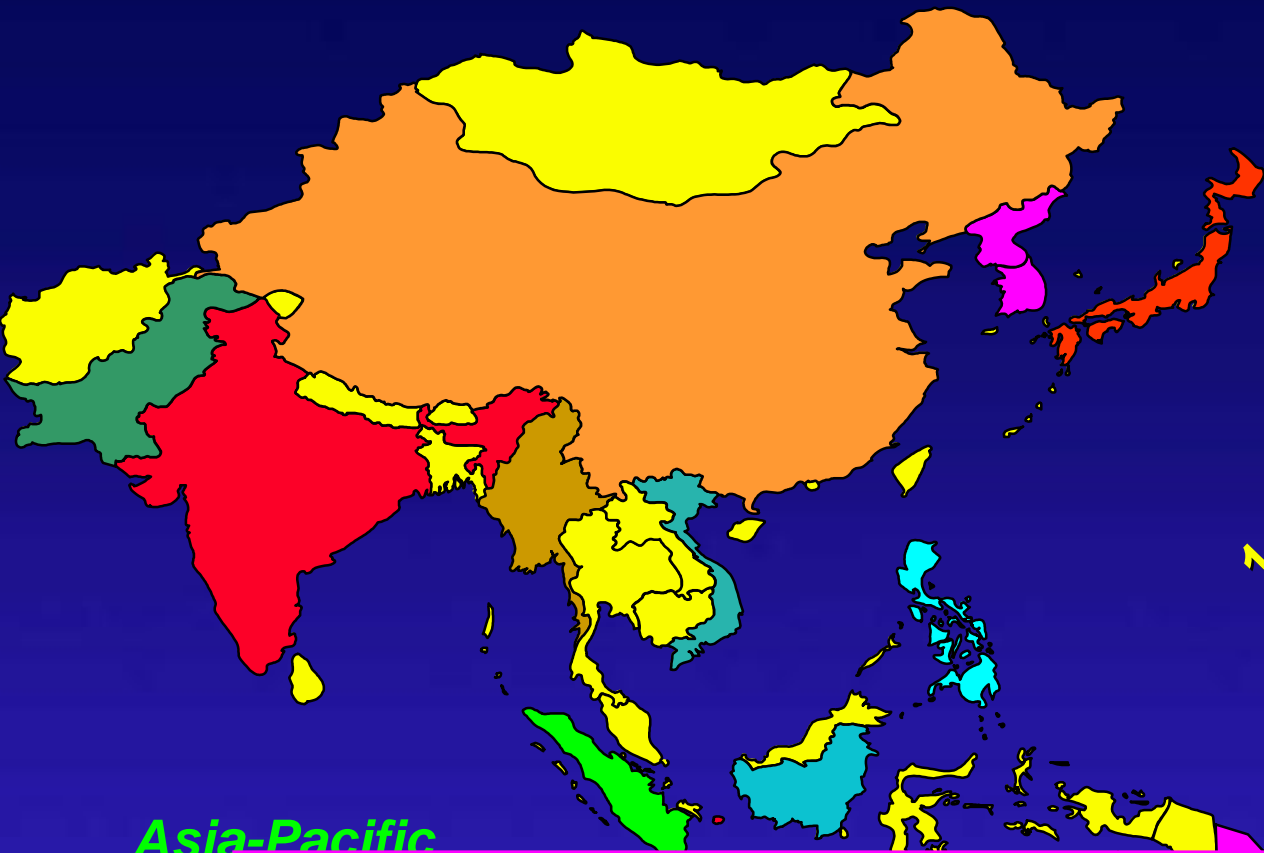
Annual incidence of primary HCC

## Cases/100,000 population

- 1–3
- 3–10
- 10–150
- Poorly documented

# NZ impact of HBV



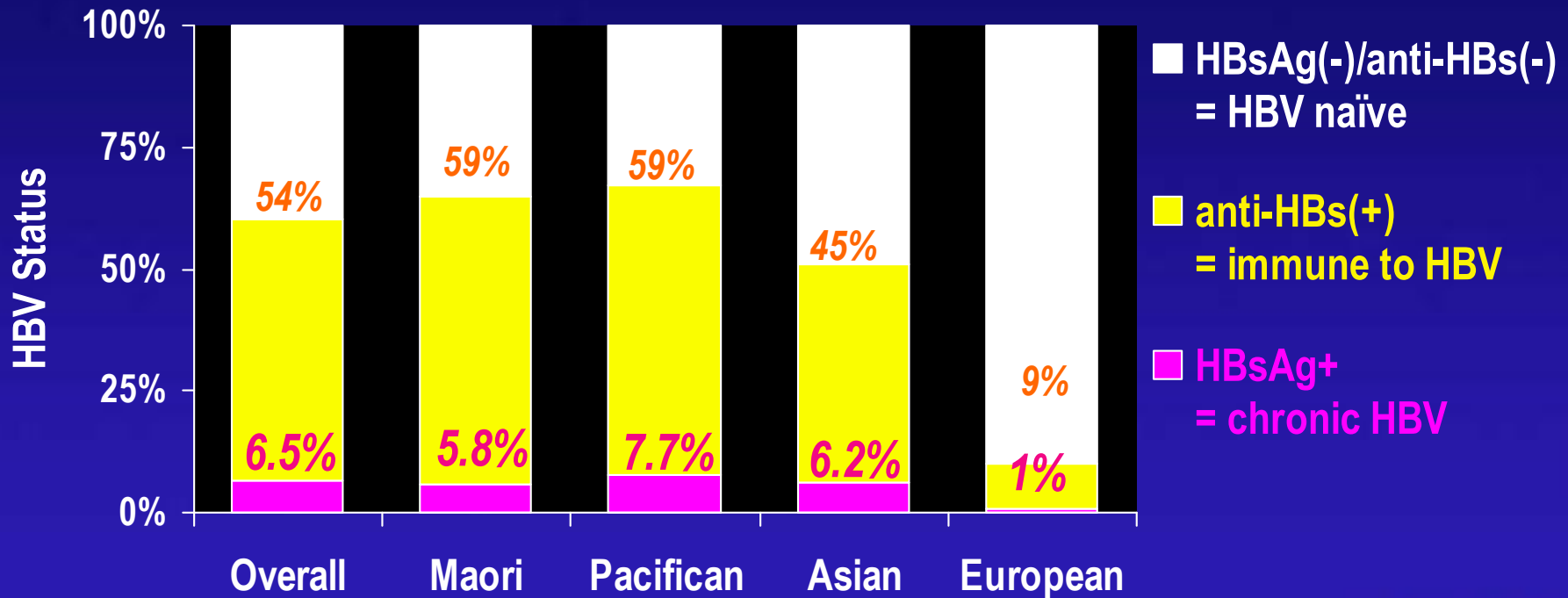


**Estimated >100,000 HBsAg+ living in New Zealand**

# National HBV Screening Programme

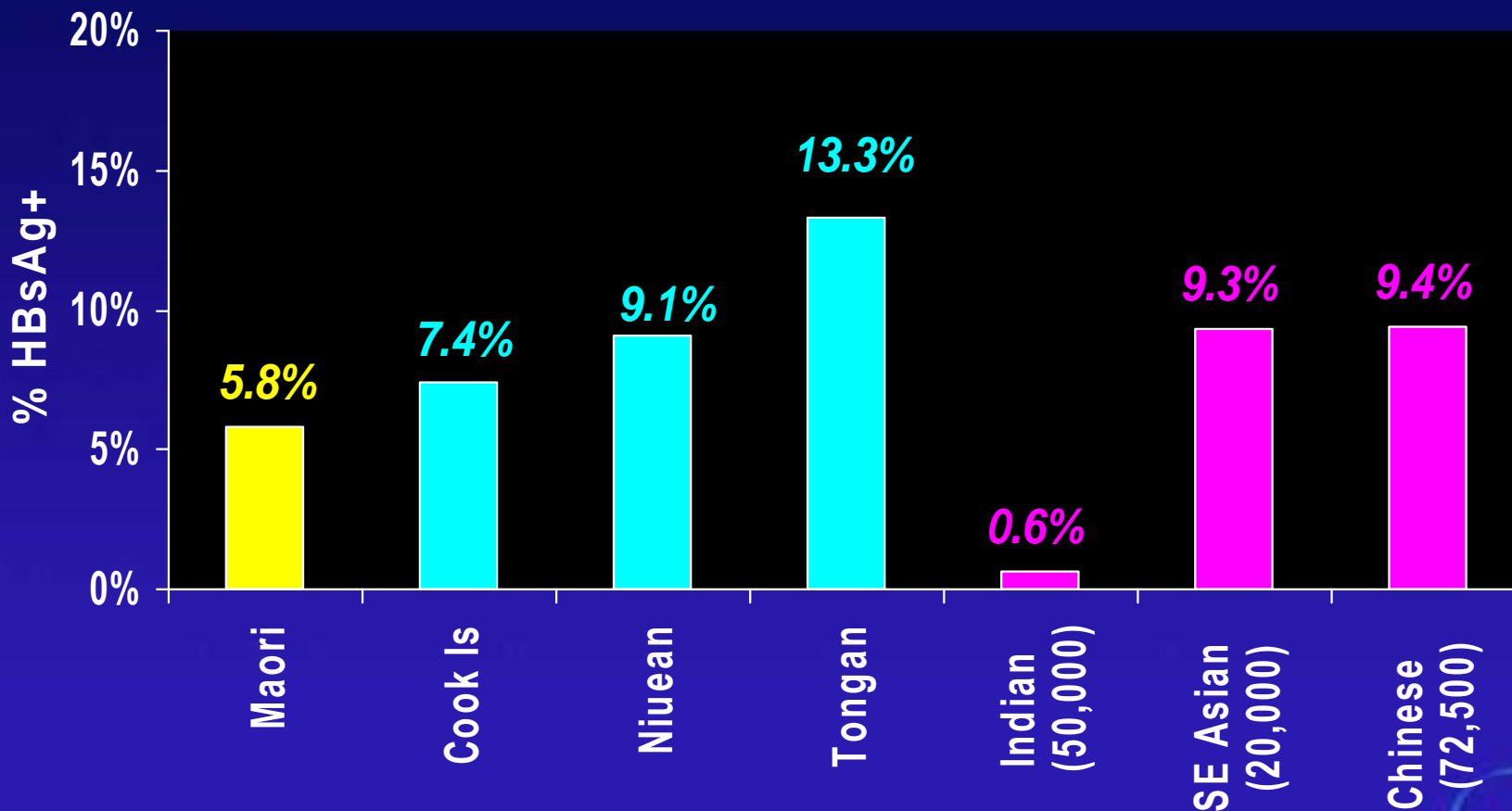
177,292 Screened (*July 1999 - July 2002*)

⇒ 11,300 HBsAg+ identified



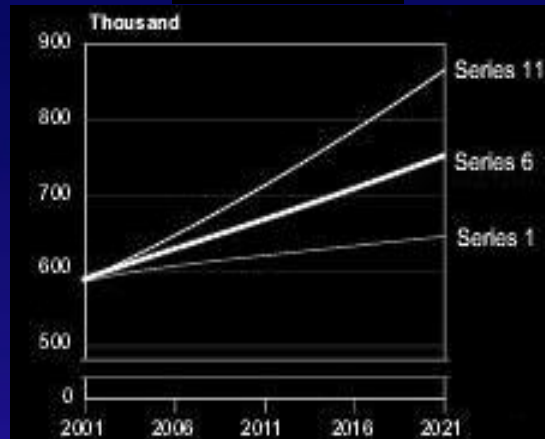
# National HBV Screening Programme

## Prevalence Rates according to Ethnicity

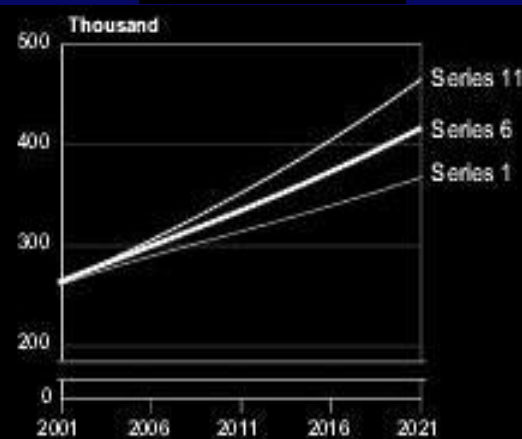


# Projected Ethnic Populations 2001-'21

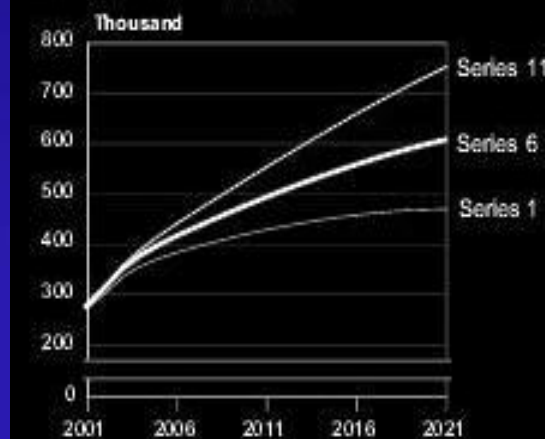
(i) Maori



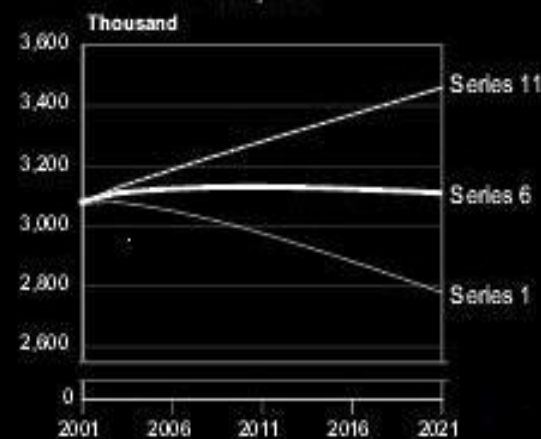
(ii) Pacific



(iii) Asian



(iv) European

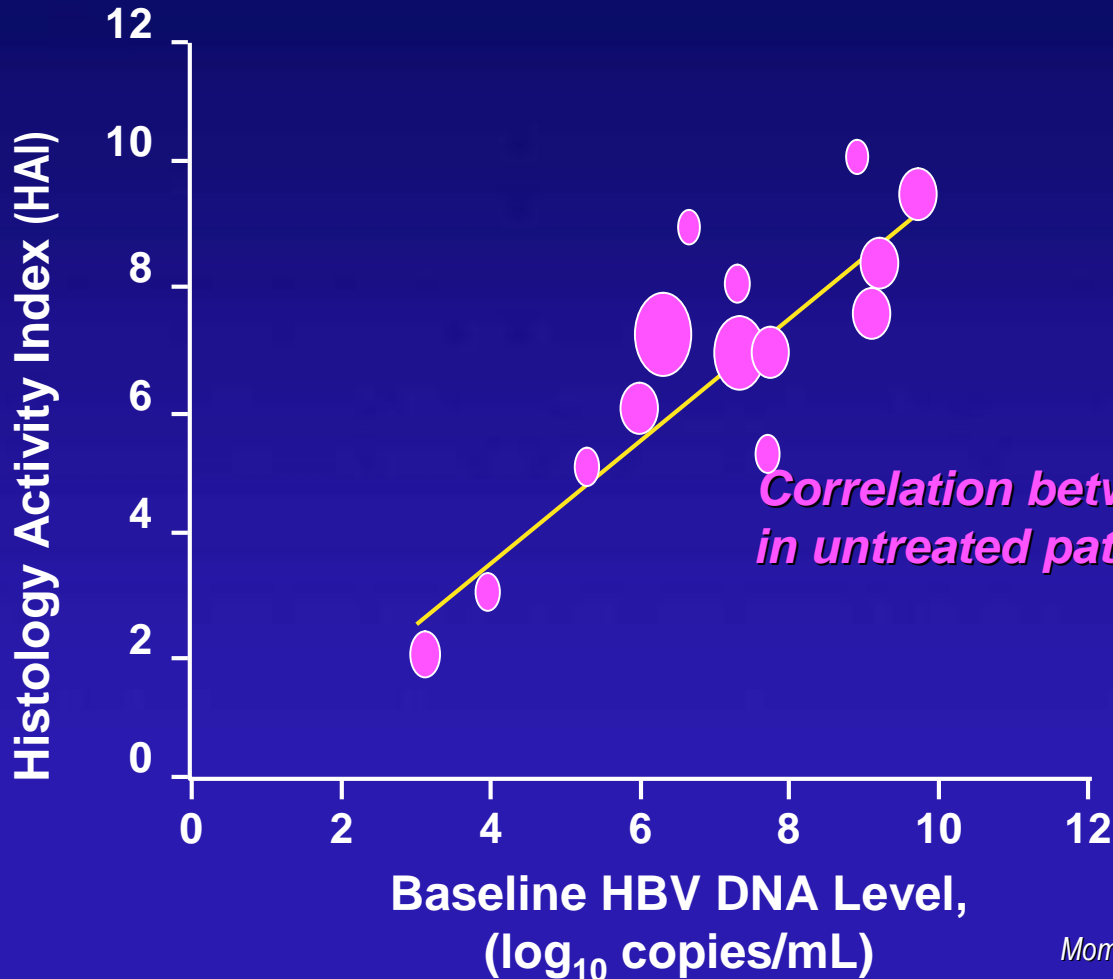


**They are all healthy carriers!**



# Viral Load determines Disease Activity

Review of 26 prospective studies (n=3428)



# Viral Load predicts Disease Progression

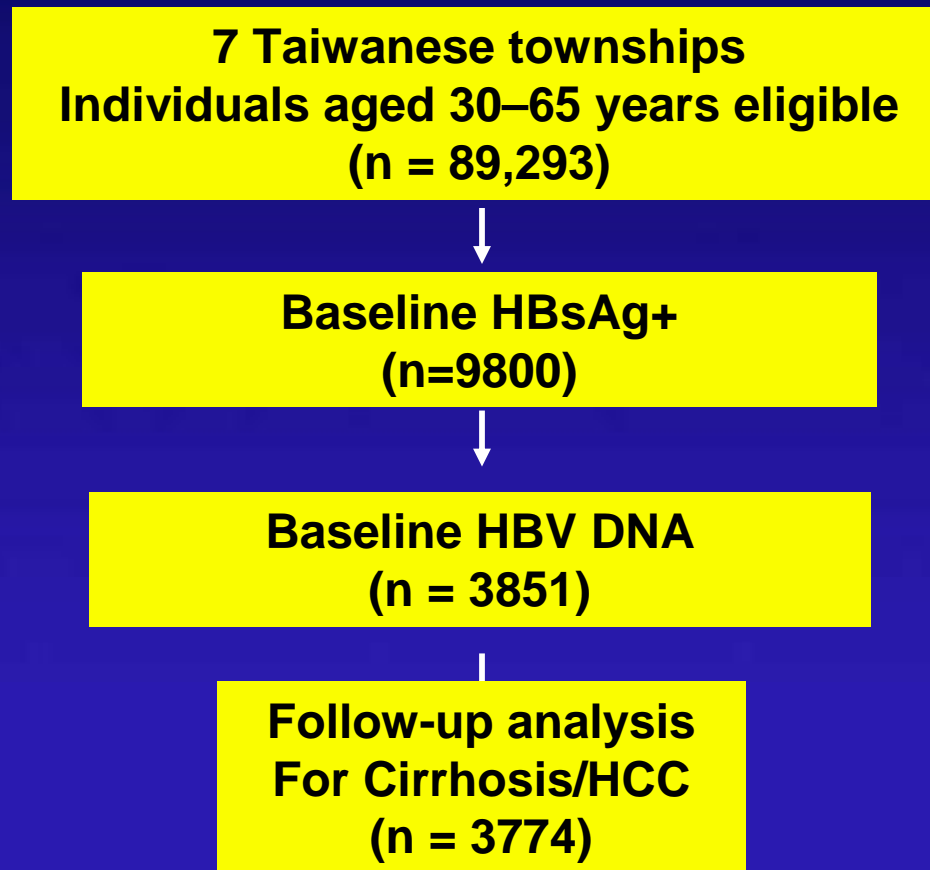
## Risk Evaluation of Viremia Elevation & Associated Liver Disease

- prospective, multicenter, observational cohort study (REVEAL)

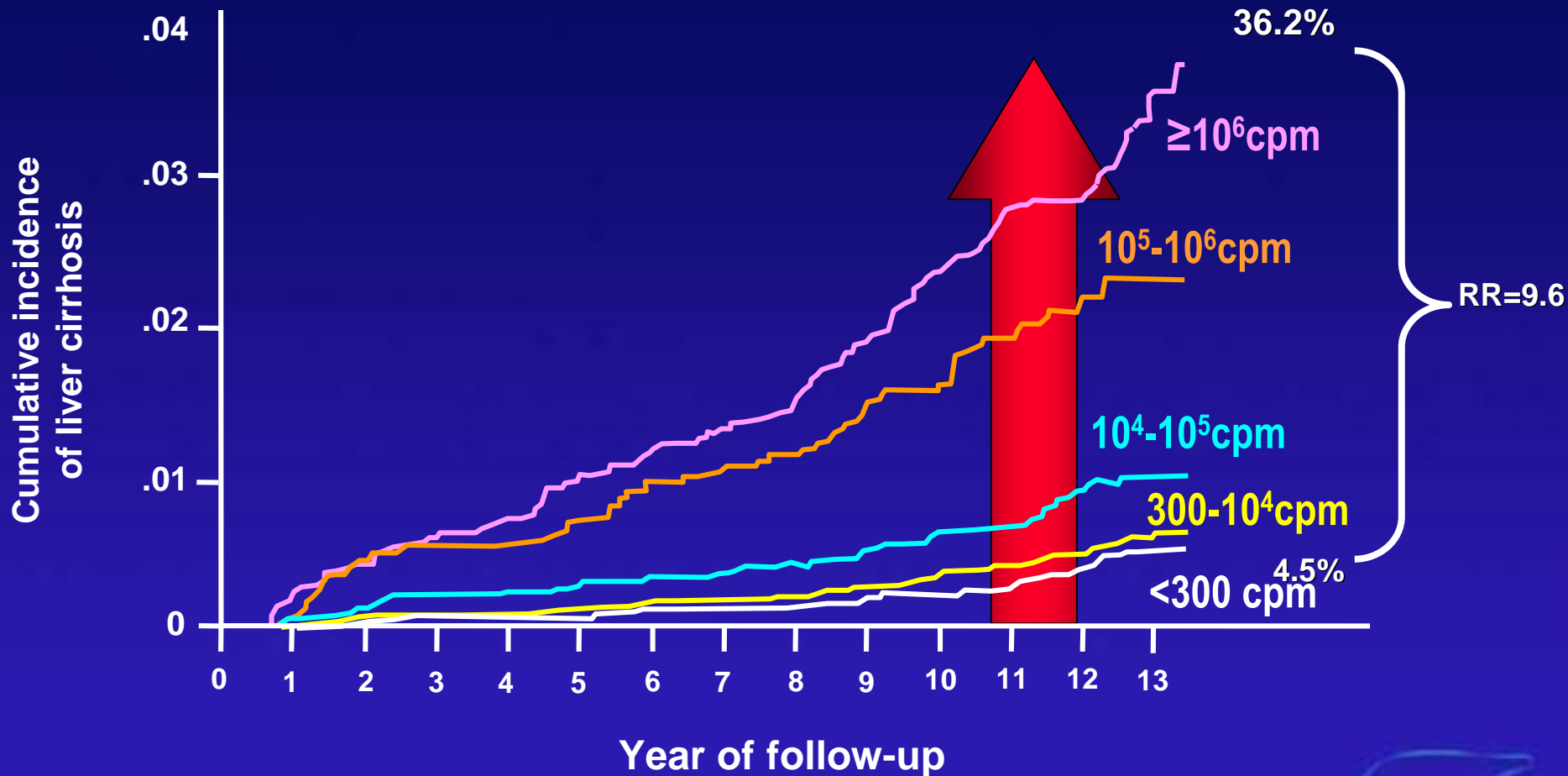
1991-1992: recruitment



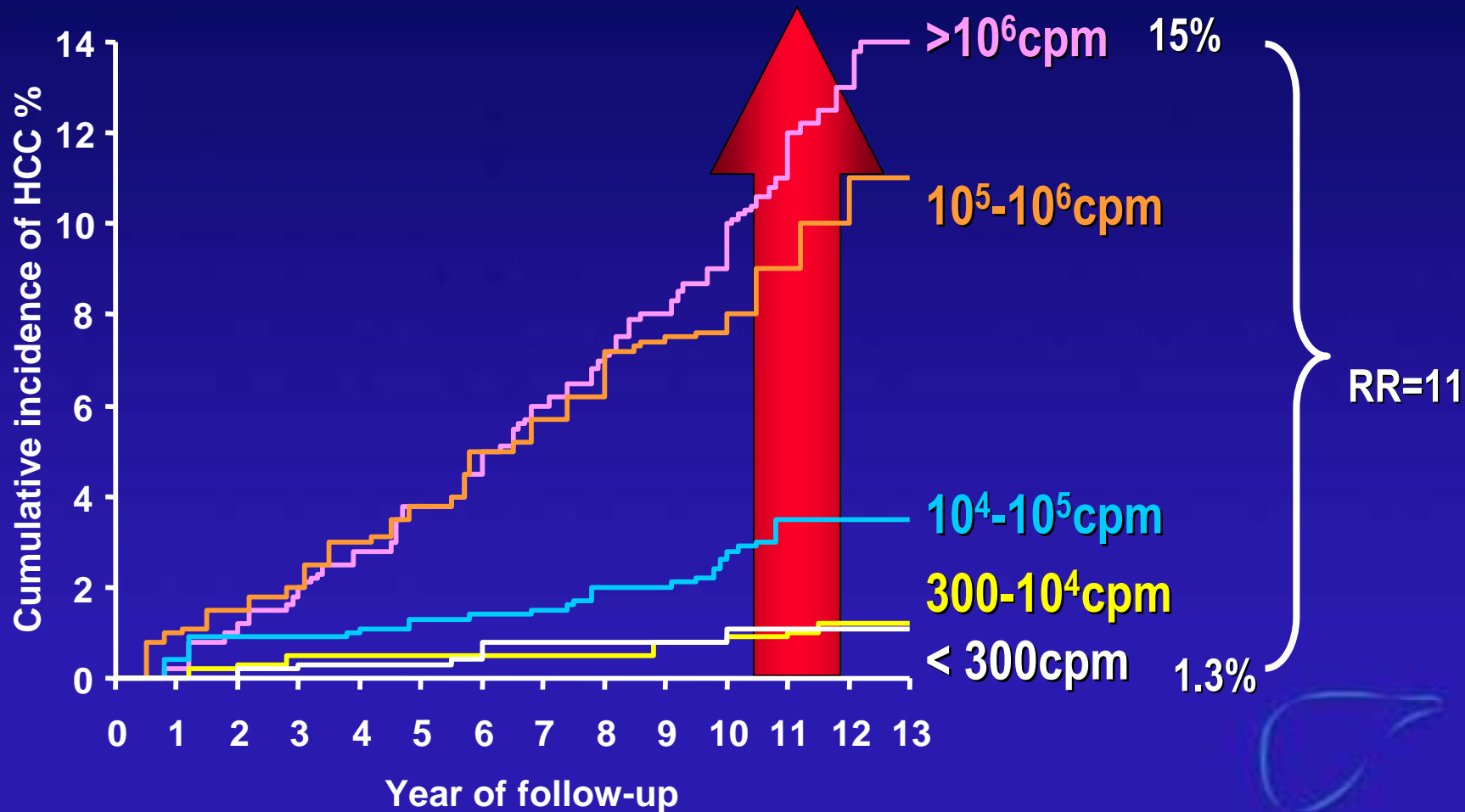
June 2004:  
43,993 PYs follow-up



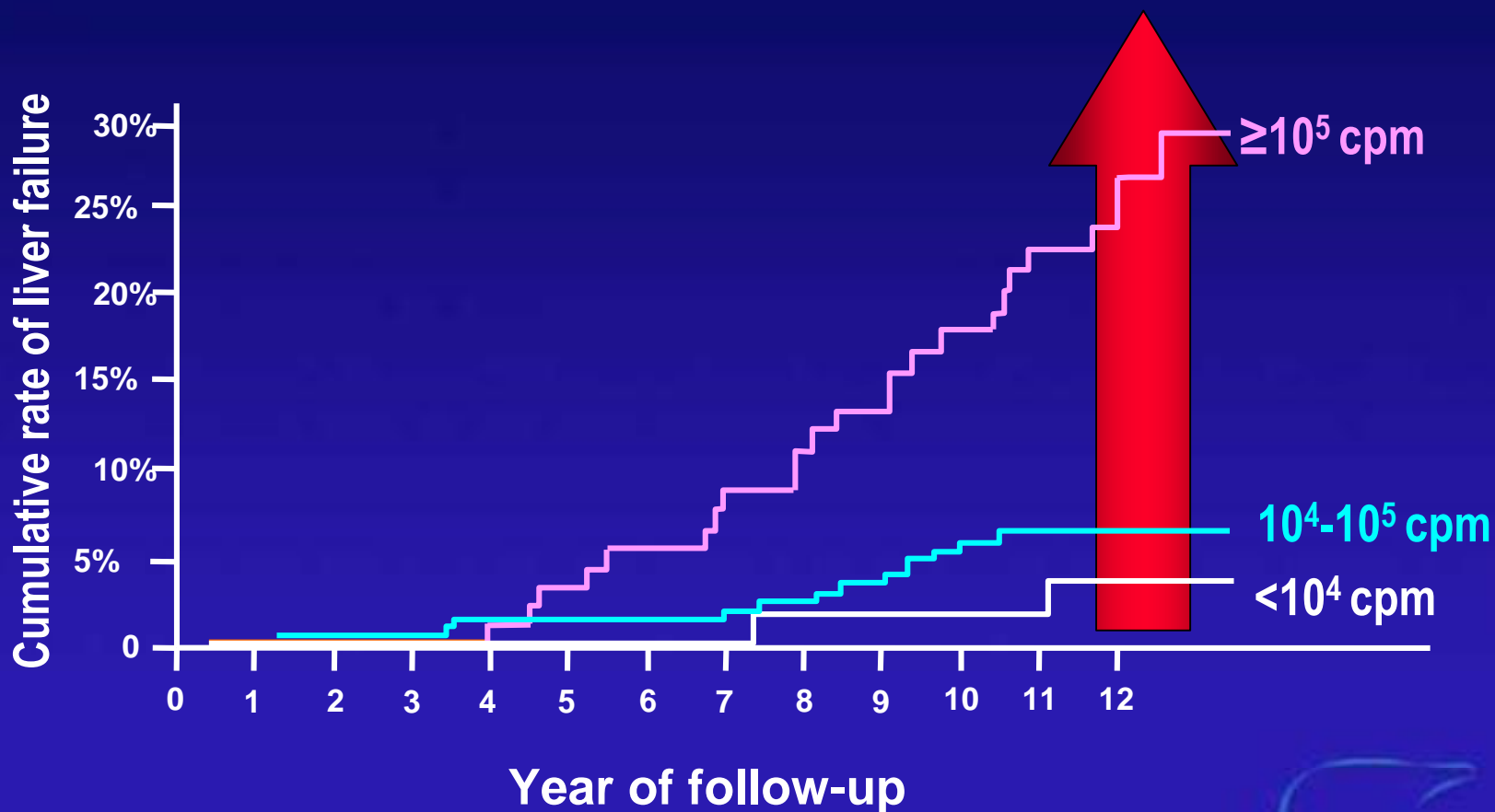
# Higher viral loads are associated with increased rate of cirrhosis



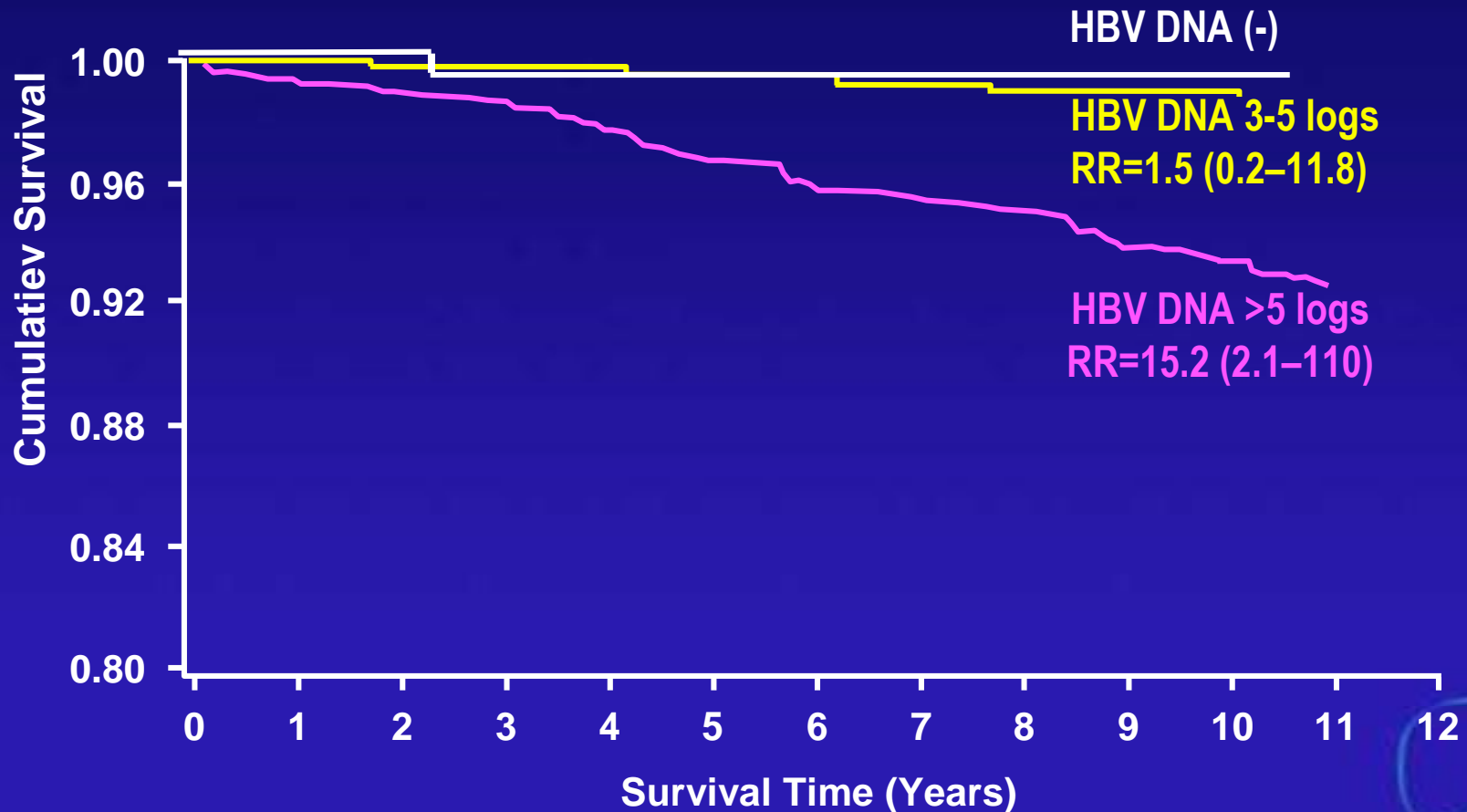
# Higher viral loads are associated with increased rate of Hepatoma



# Higher viral loads are associated with increased rate of decompensation

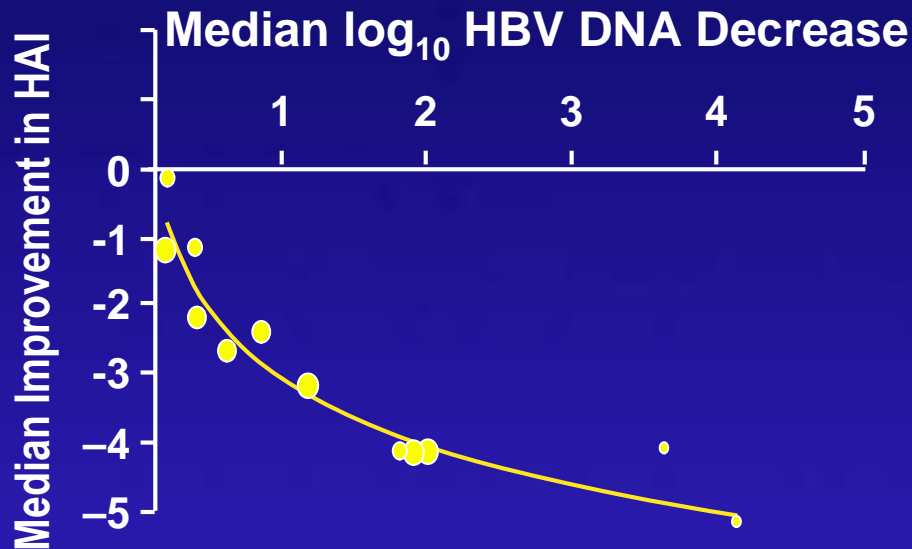


# Higher Viral Loads are associated with increased Liver-related Mortality



# Viral Suppression reduces Disease Activity

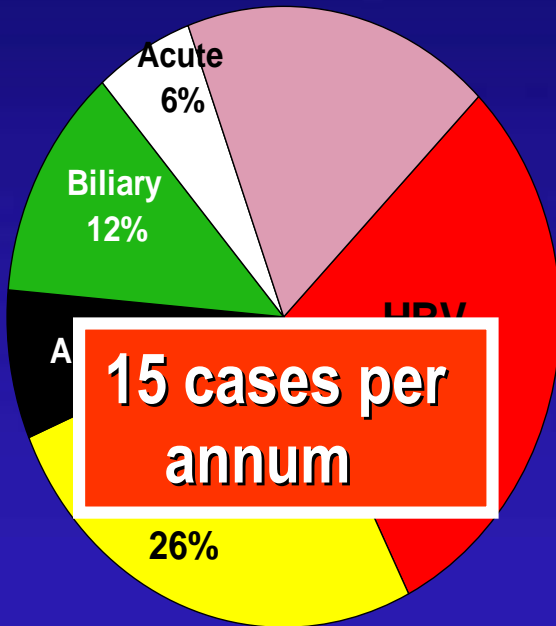
Review of 26 prospective studies



Correlation between change in HBV DNA and HAI with treatment ( $r=0.96$ ;  $P<3\times 10^{-6}$ )

# Impact of HBV Infection

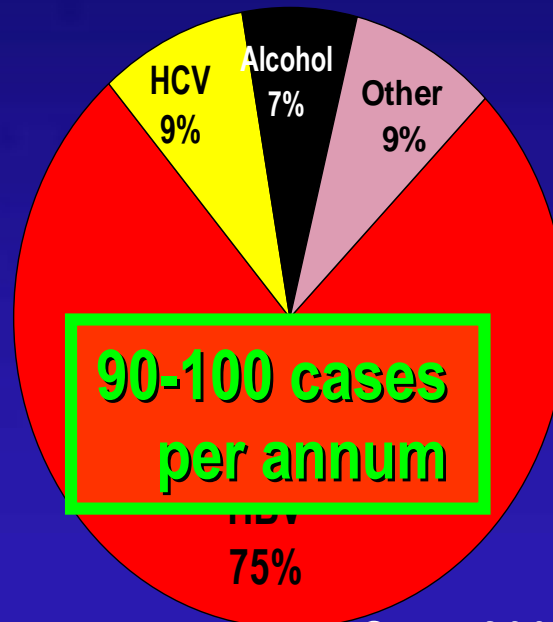
Liver Transplant  
1998-2006  
(n=290)



15 cases per annum

NZLTU, 2006

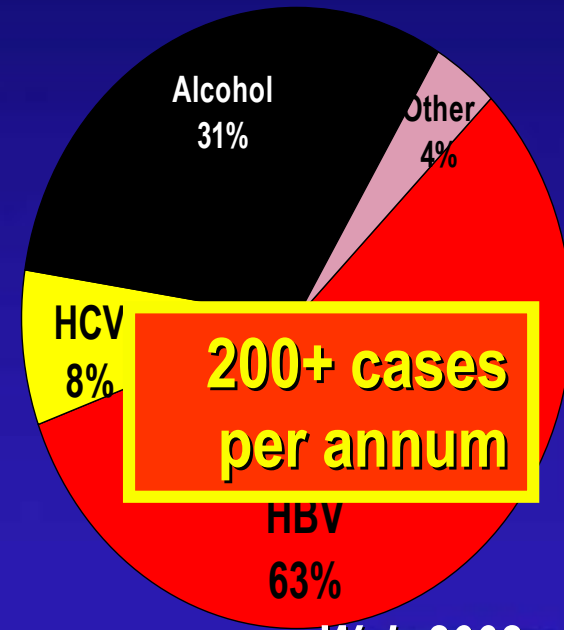
Hepatoma Clinic  
2000-2006  
(n=544)



90-100 cases per annum

Gane, 2006

Liver-related Mortality  
1999



200+ cases per annum

Weir, 2002

**Is HBV serology confusing**



# HBV serology

- **sAg determines carrier status**
- **eAg determines replication**
  - » (and infectivity)
- **cAb confirms natural infection**
- **HBV DNA measures infectivity**



# Case studies



# HBV

- **34 year old Maori woman**
  - » **HBsAg pos**
  - » **HBeAg neg**
  - » **ALT 150**
  - » **AFP 13.8**
- **Spider naevi**
- **Liver span normal**



# HBV

- **Next best investigation**

- » 1) Serum alcohol
- » 2) Liver biopsy
- » 3) HBV DNA
- » 4) U/S
- » 5) Triple phase CT scan

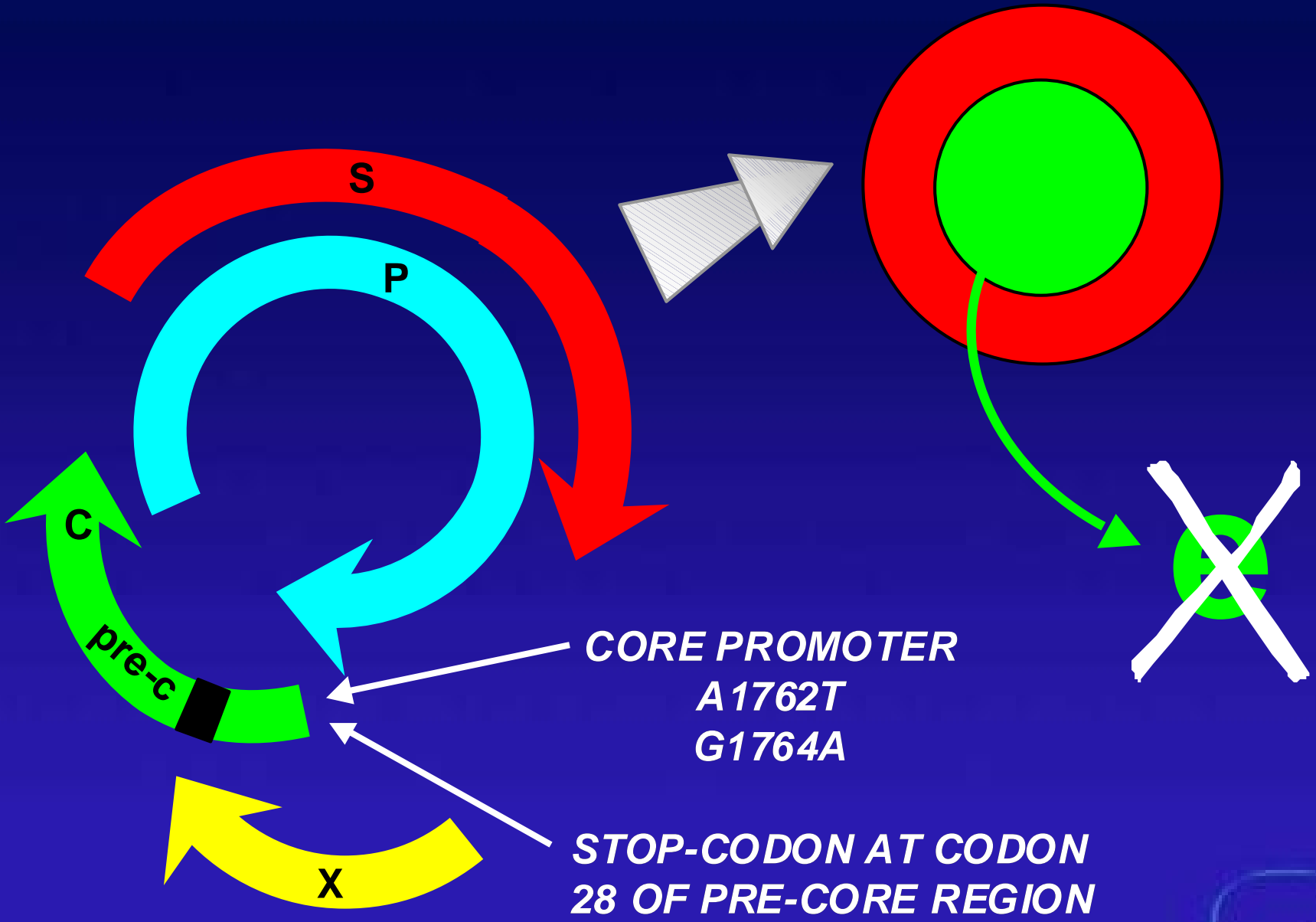


# HBV

- **Next best investigation**

- » 1) Serum alcohol
- » 2) Liver biopsy
- » 3) **HBV DNA**
- » 4) U/S
- » 5) Triple phase CT scan





*CORE PROMOTER  
A1762T  
G1764A*

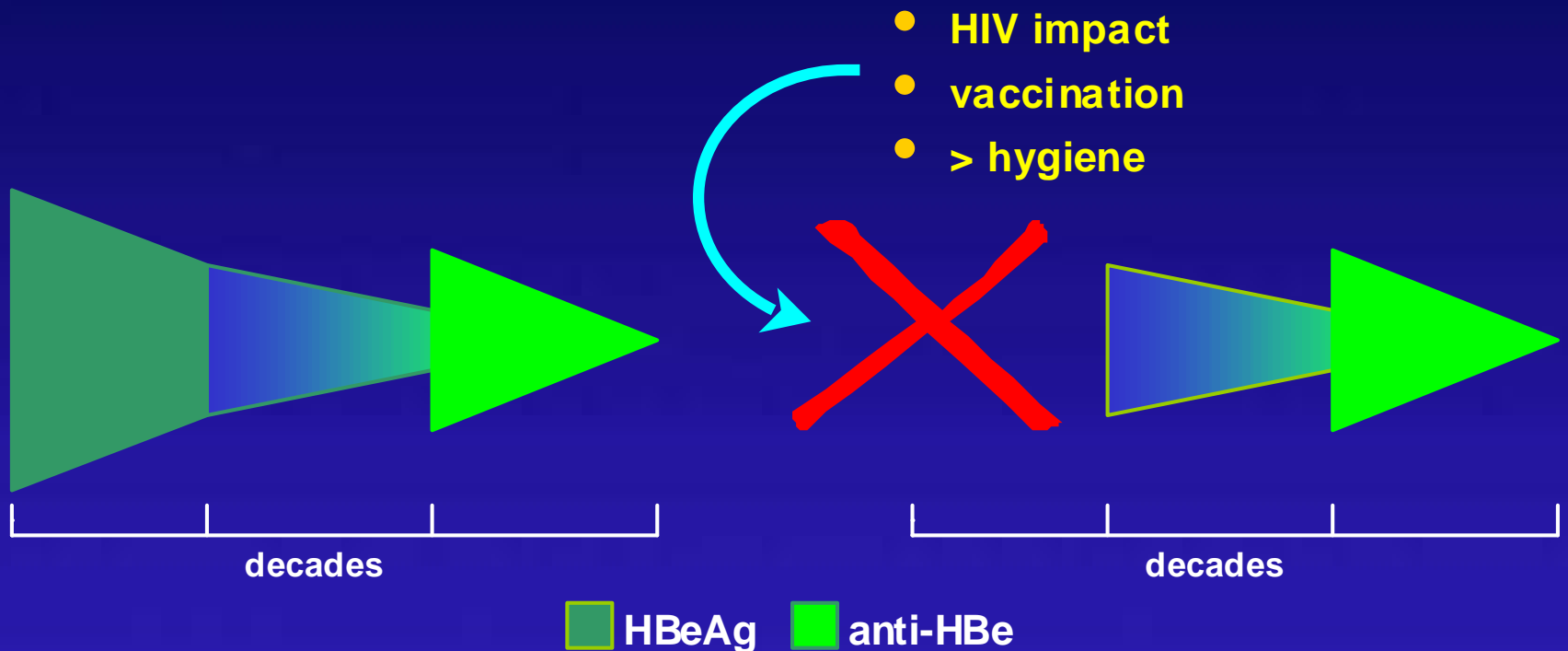
*STOP-CODON AT CODON  
28 OF PRE-CORE REGION*



# Selection of mutant HBV

1970–1985

1990s

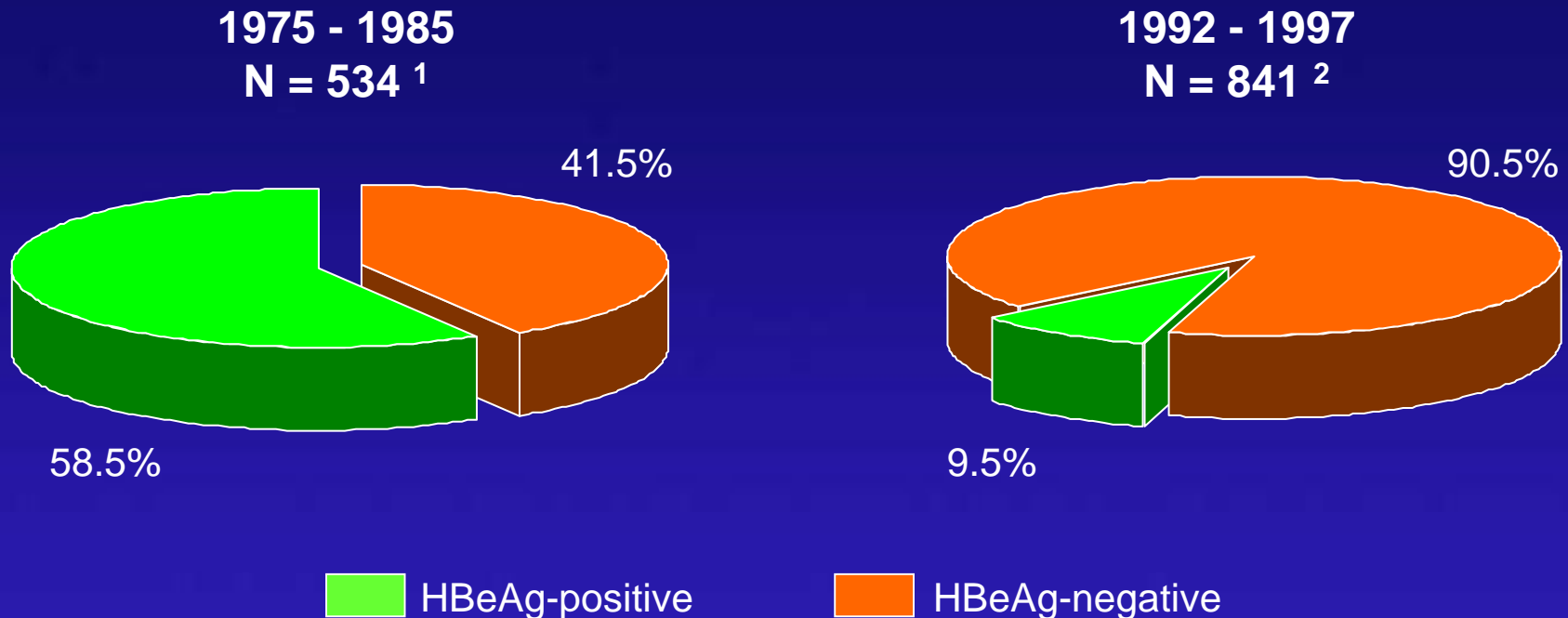


Okamoto 1990; Raimondo 1990; Uchida 1994; Lai 1994



# Increasing Prevalence of HBeAg-Negative Chronic HBV

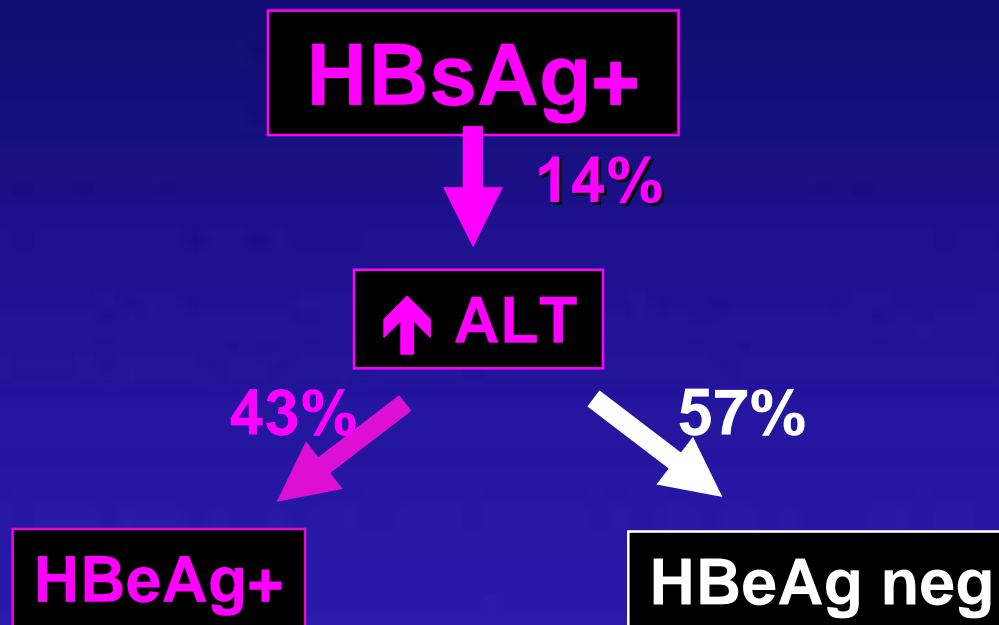
*HBsAg-positive Chronic hepatitis in Italy: HBeAg/anti-HBe status*



Rizzetto M, XI Triennial International Symposium on Viral Hepatitis and Liver Disease, 2003.

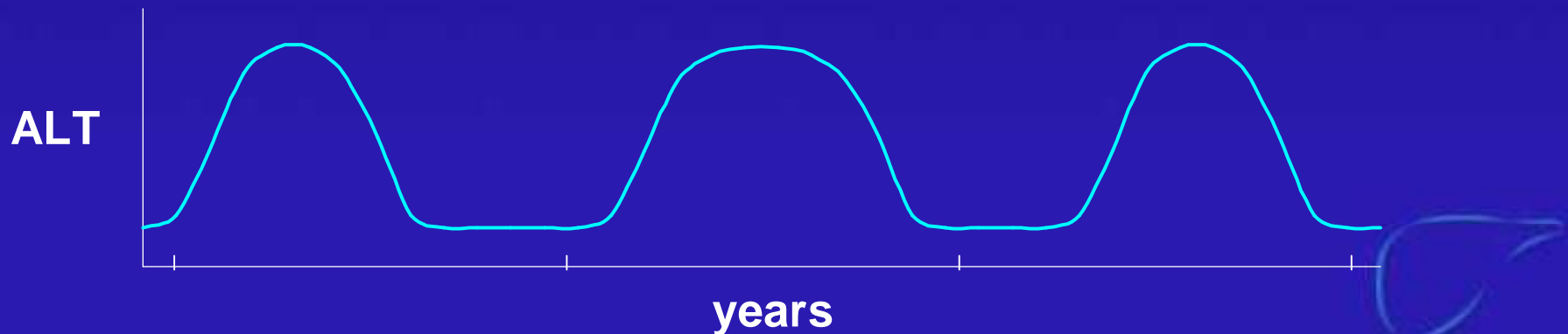
1. Giusti G, et al. *Ital. J. Gastroenterol.*, 1991; **23**:111-118; 2. Gaeta GB, et al. *J. Hepatol.*, 2003

# *National HBV Screening Programme* **Referred for Antiviral Therapy**



# Clinical and Virologic Course of HBeAg-ve Chronic HBV

Bilirubin (mg/100mL)	1.8	1.0	8.6	1.7	45
INR	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.3	3.7
Ascites	-	-	-	-	+
HBV-DNA	++	-	++	-	++
Anti-HBe	+	+	+	+	+



# Screening for HCC

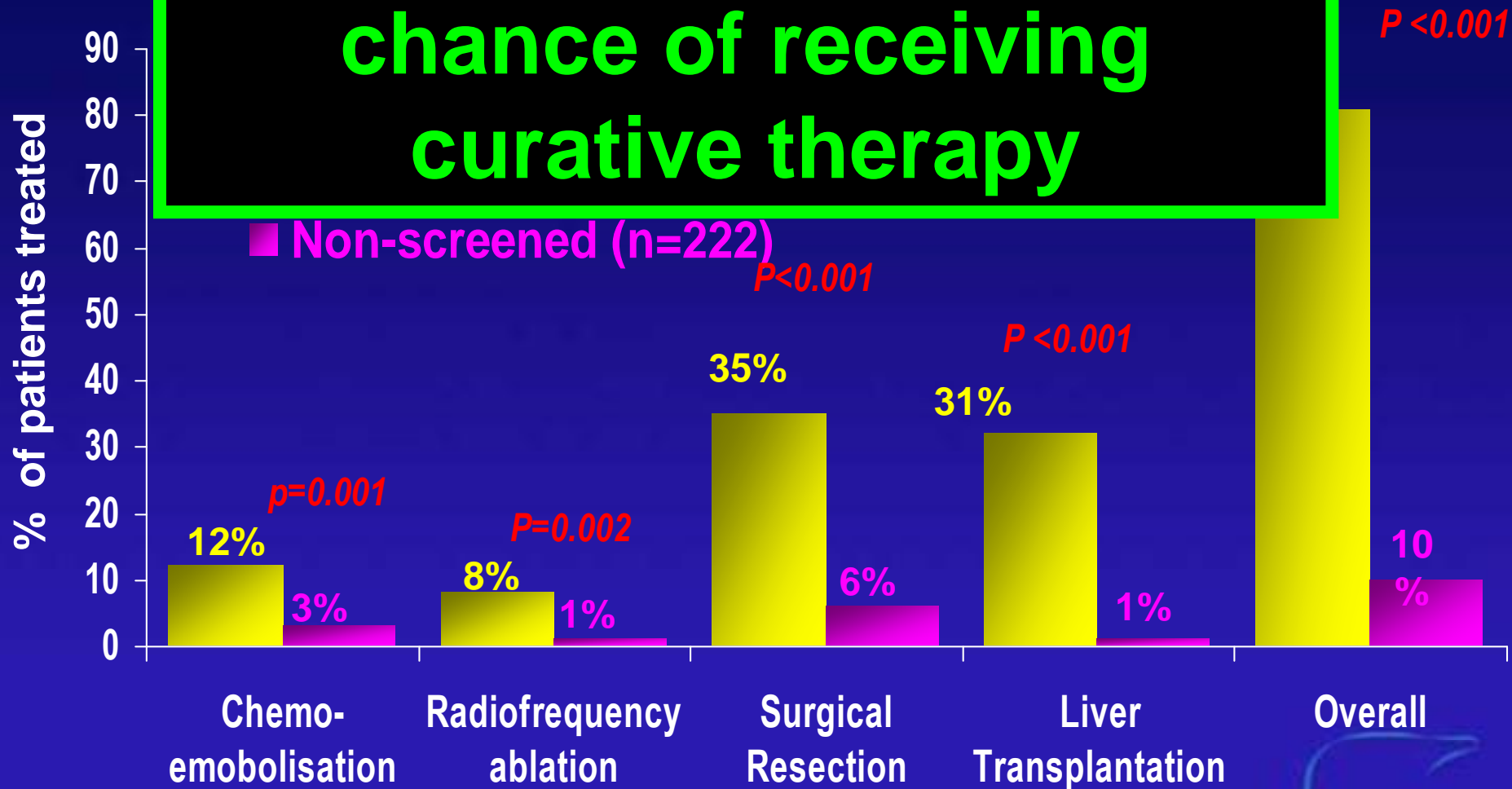
- **6 monthly AFP**
- **12 monthly U/S**
  
- **Controversial on population basis**
- **Accepted as targeted screening**



	Screen Detected (n=118)	Non-Screened (n=222)	p value
Male	82%	83%	NS
Age (median)	52 yrs	54 yrs	NS
Cirrhosis	76%	78%	NS
AFP Level	24%	24%	NS
<20 Median AFP	62 ng/ml	675 ng/ml	$p < 0.001$
Symptomatic	1%	87%	$p < 0.001$

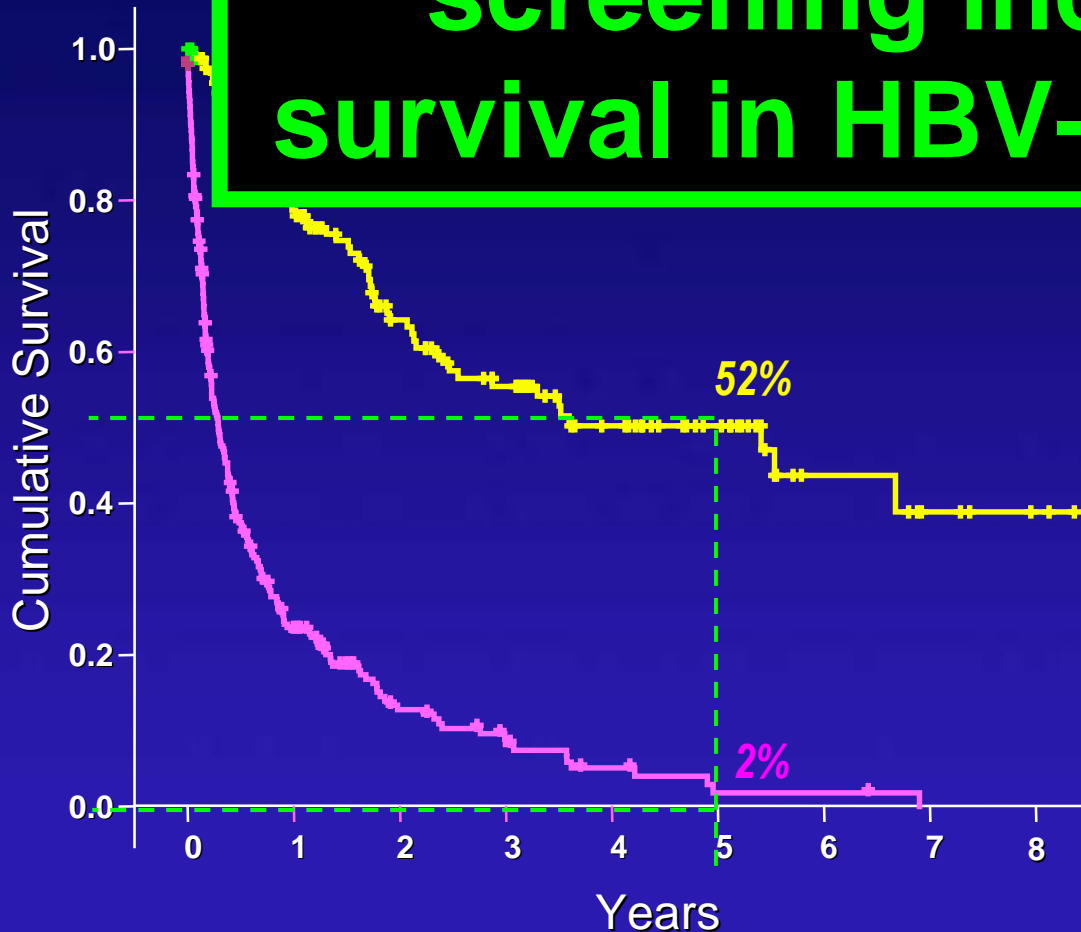
# Screened vs. Non-screened

**screening increases  
chance of receiving  
curative therapy**



# Screened vs Non-screened Survival in Hepatocellular Carcinoma

**screening increases  
survival in HBV-Hepatoma**



**$P < 0.0001$**

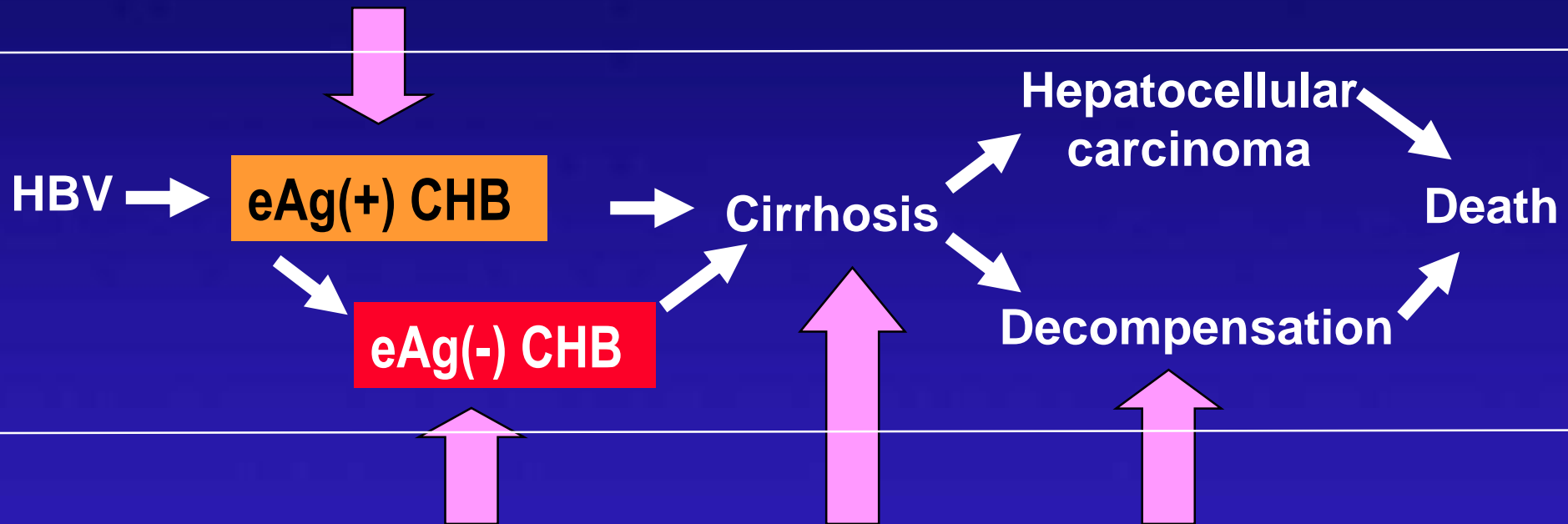
**Screened group (n=118)  
Median survival = 1974 days  
(66 months)**

**Non-screened group  
(n=222)  
Median survival = 107  
days (3 months)**

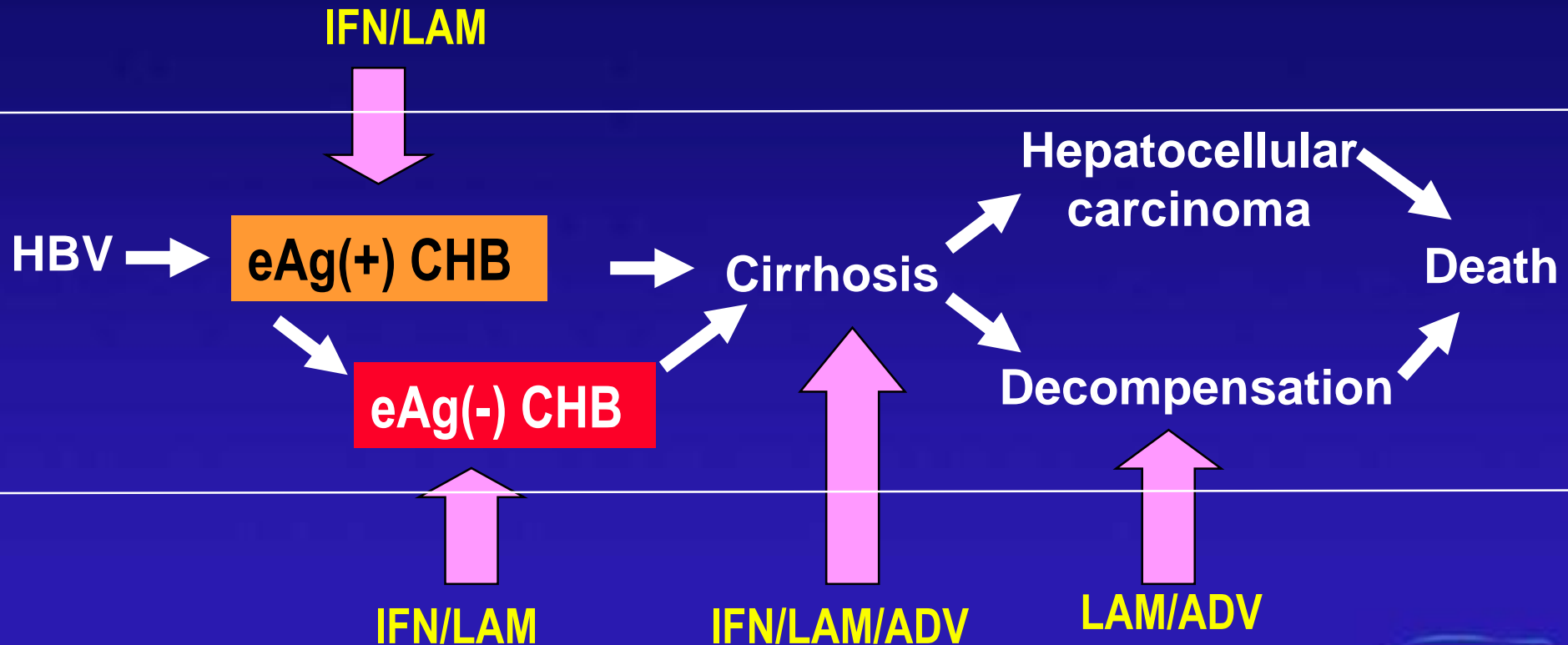
# Treatment options for CHB



# Treatment options for CHB



# Treatment options for CHB





BAR-ZB 76

Rikschataxi Berlin  
www.rikschataxi.de  
23.45.000  
messenger

➤ **Interferons**

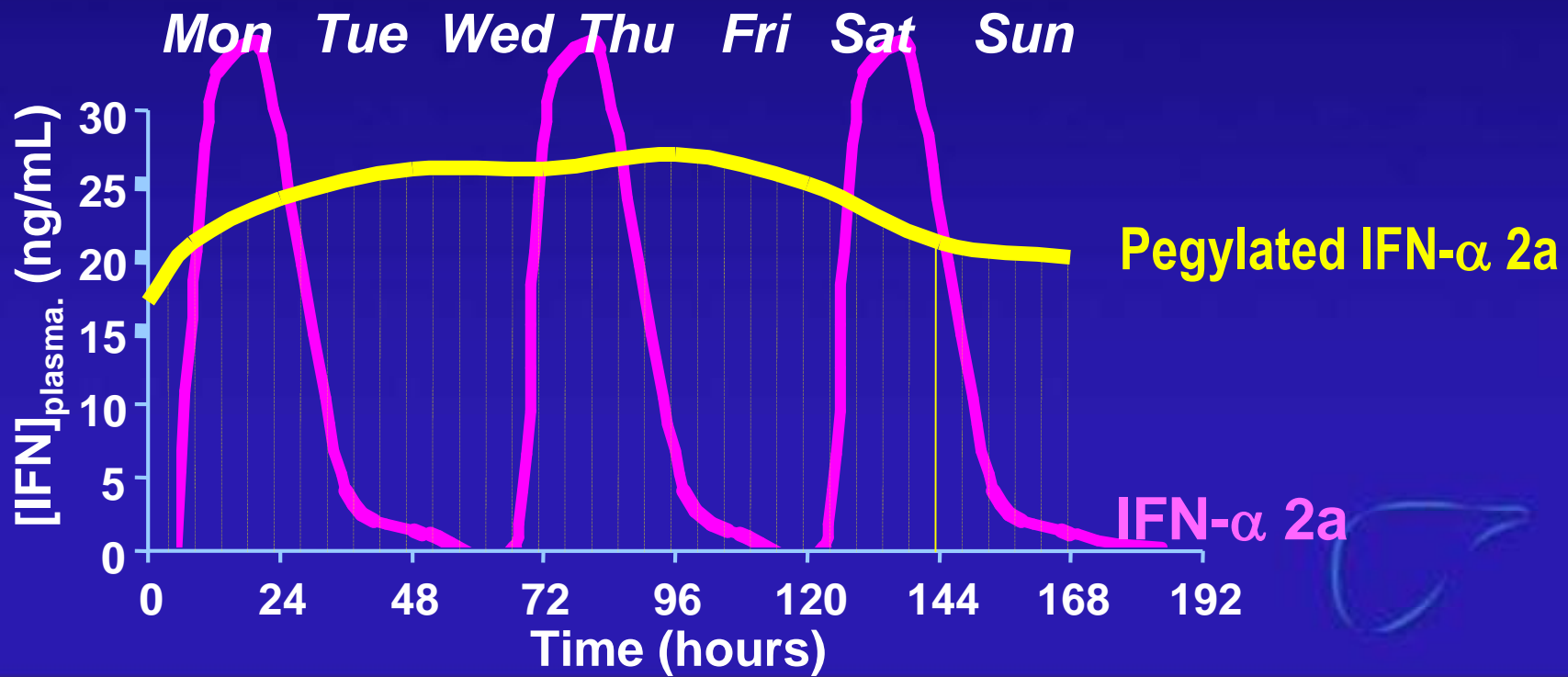
➤ **Nucleoside/Nucleotide Analogues**



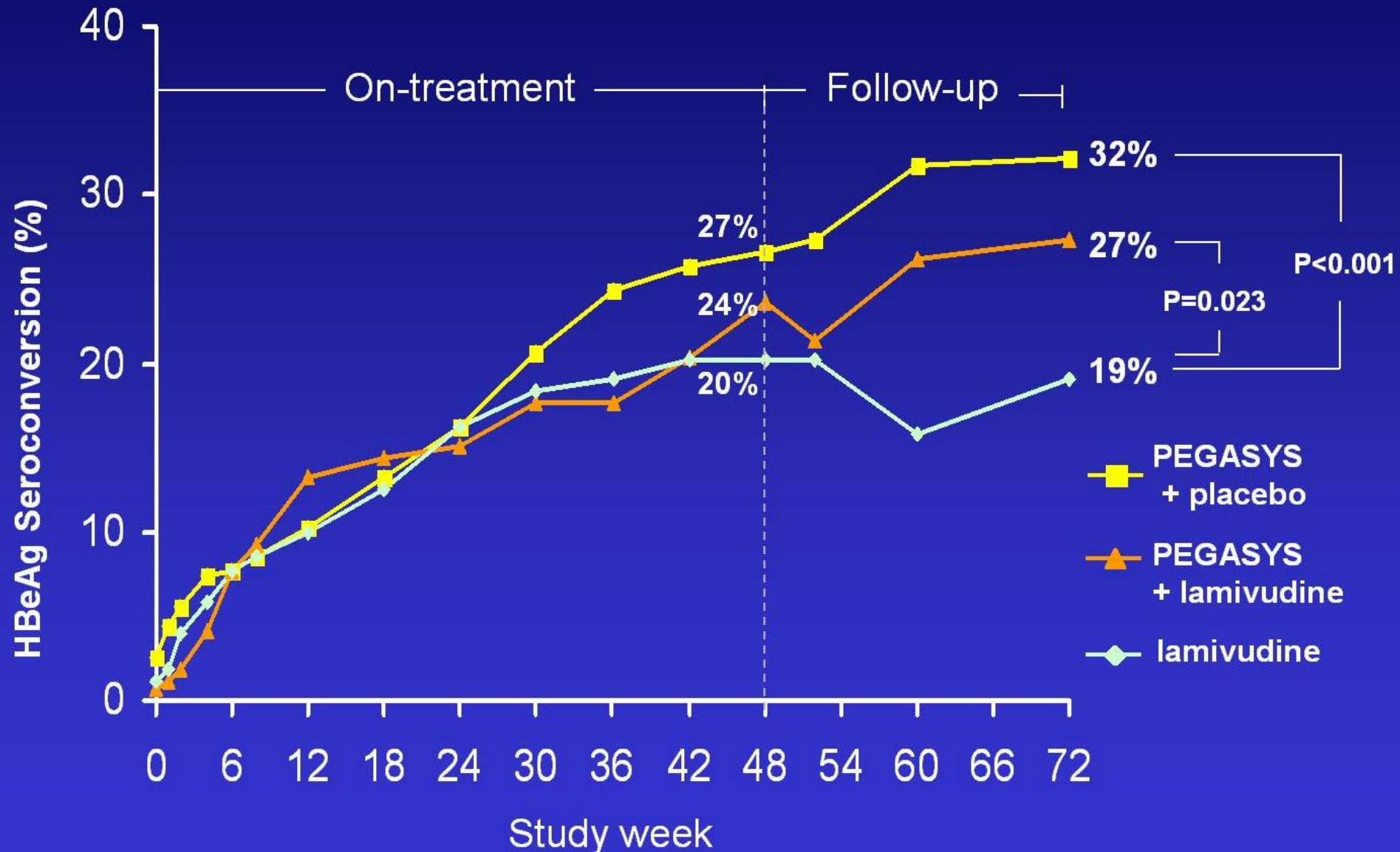
# IFN- $\alpha$ 2a



# Pegylated IFN- $\alpha$ 2a

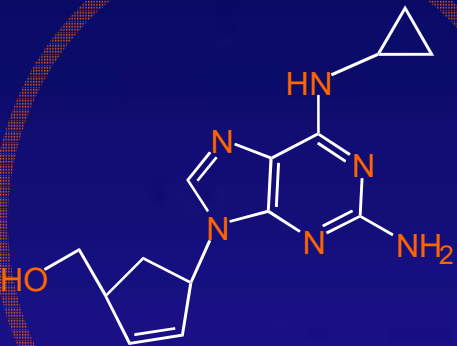


# HBeAg Seroconversion Rates Over Time



# Nucleoside/Nucleotide Analogues

## (a) Purine Analogues



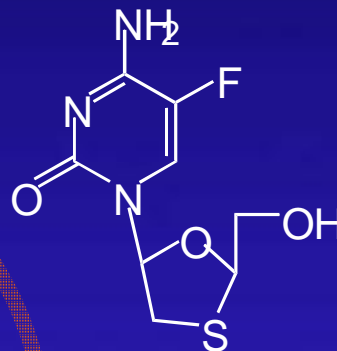
Entecavir



Adefovir

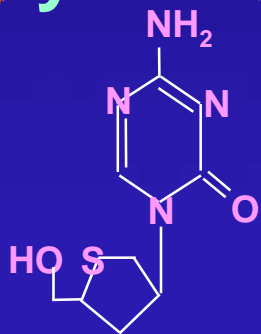


Tenofovir



Emtricitabine

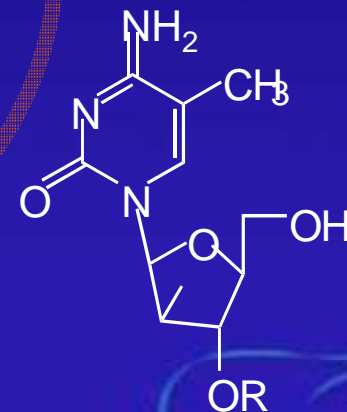
## (b) Pyrimidine Analogues



Lamivudine

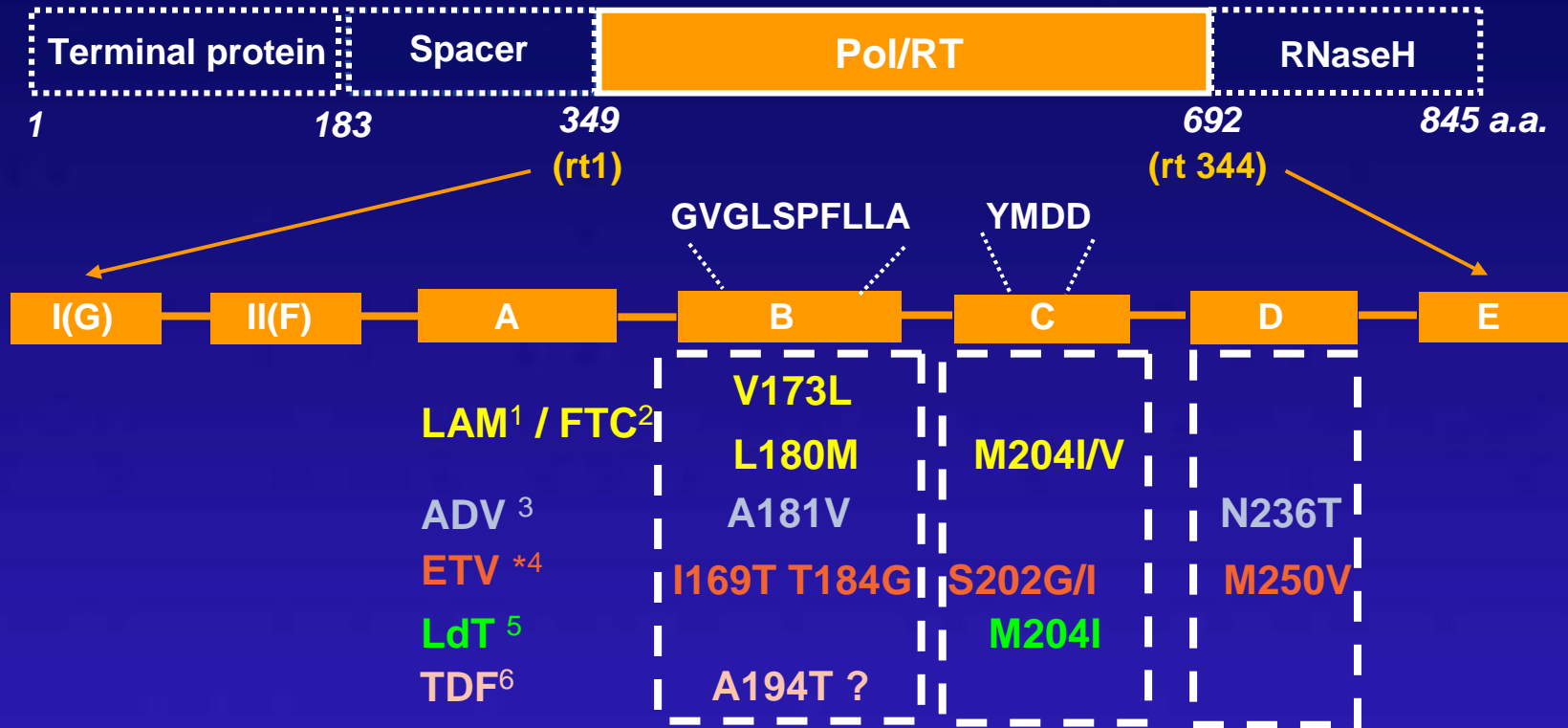


Telbivudine



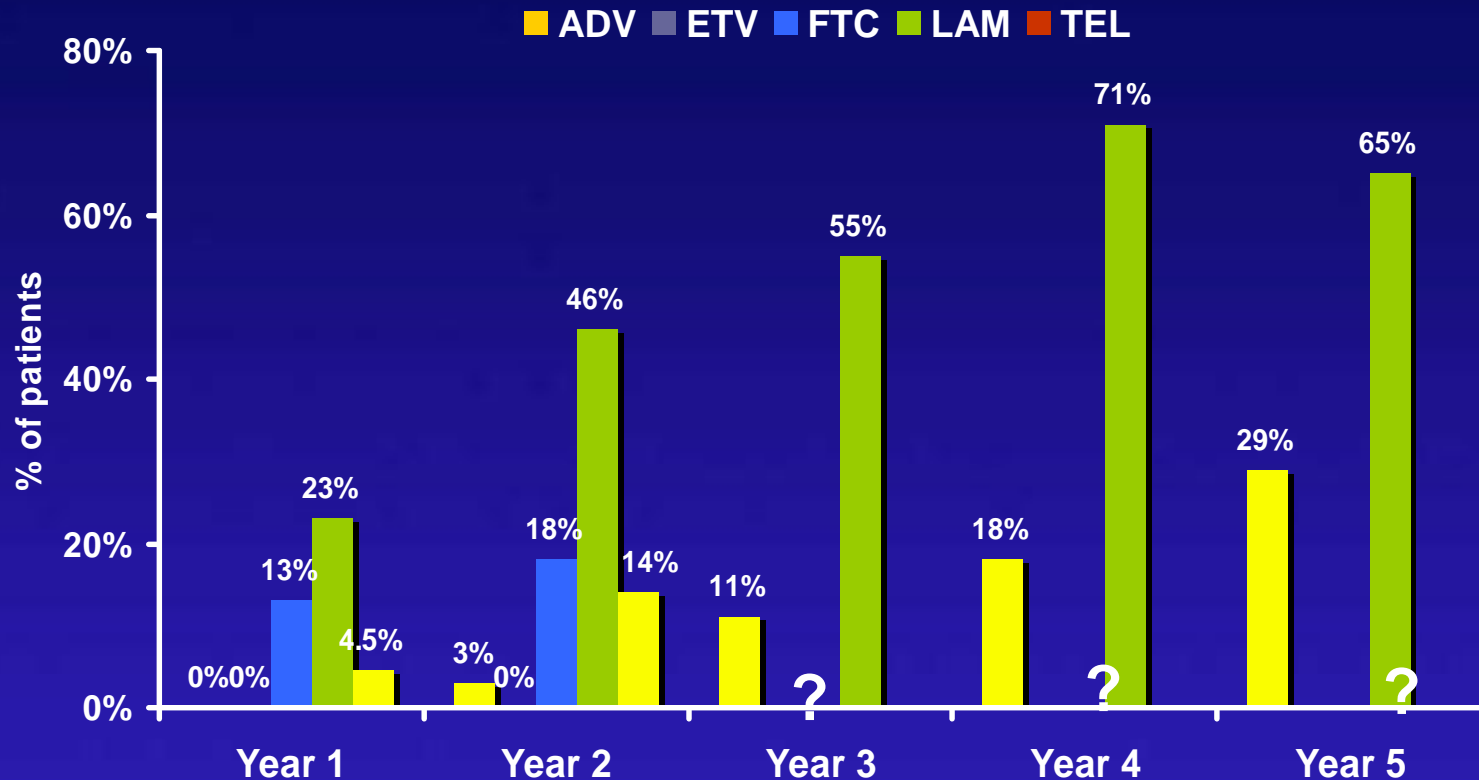
Valtorcitabine

# Identified mutations associated with drug resistance



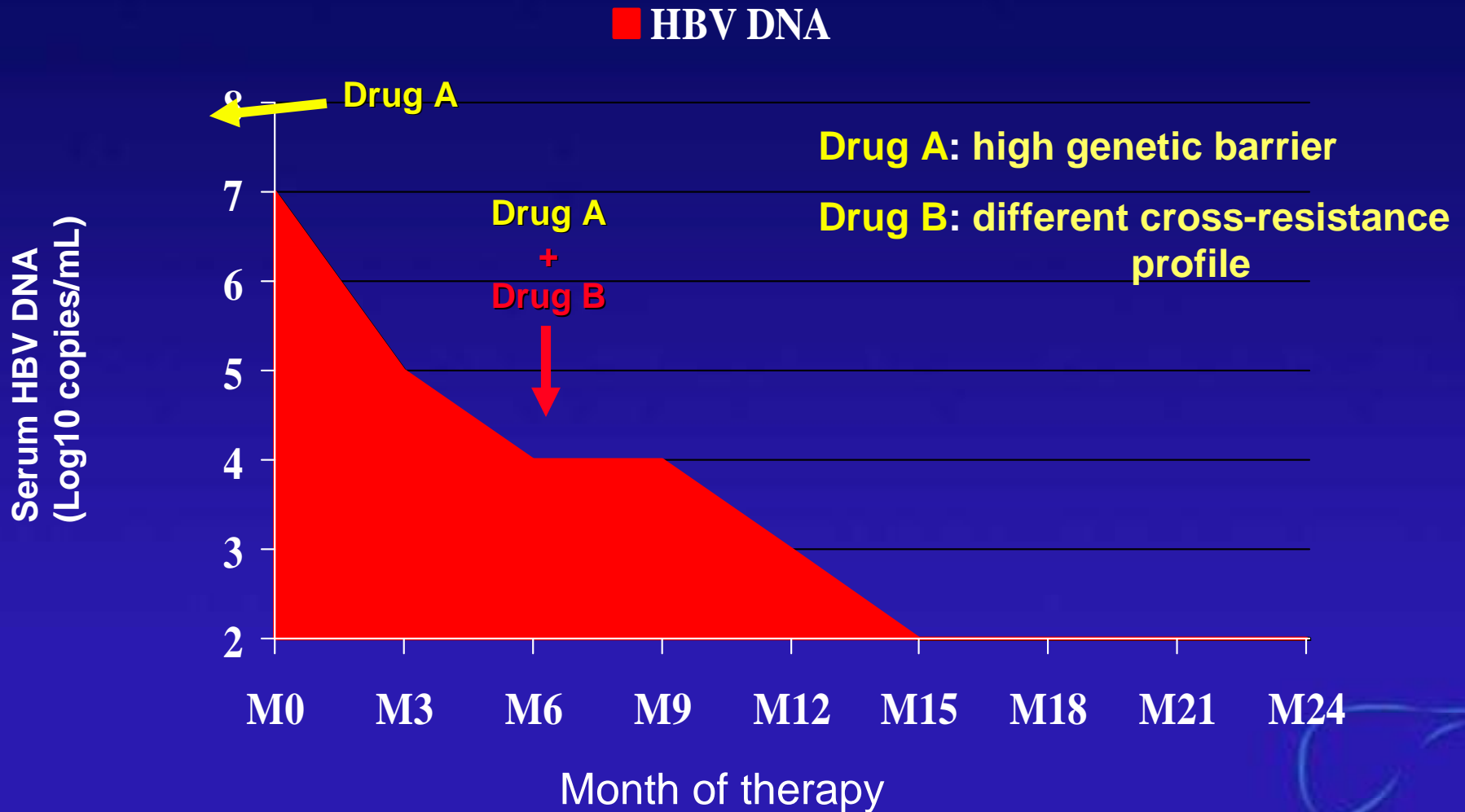
\* All ETV resistance requires background YMDD mutations

# Incidence of Resistance in Treatment-naïve Patients Over Time



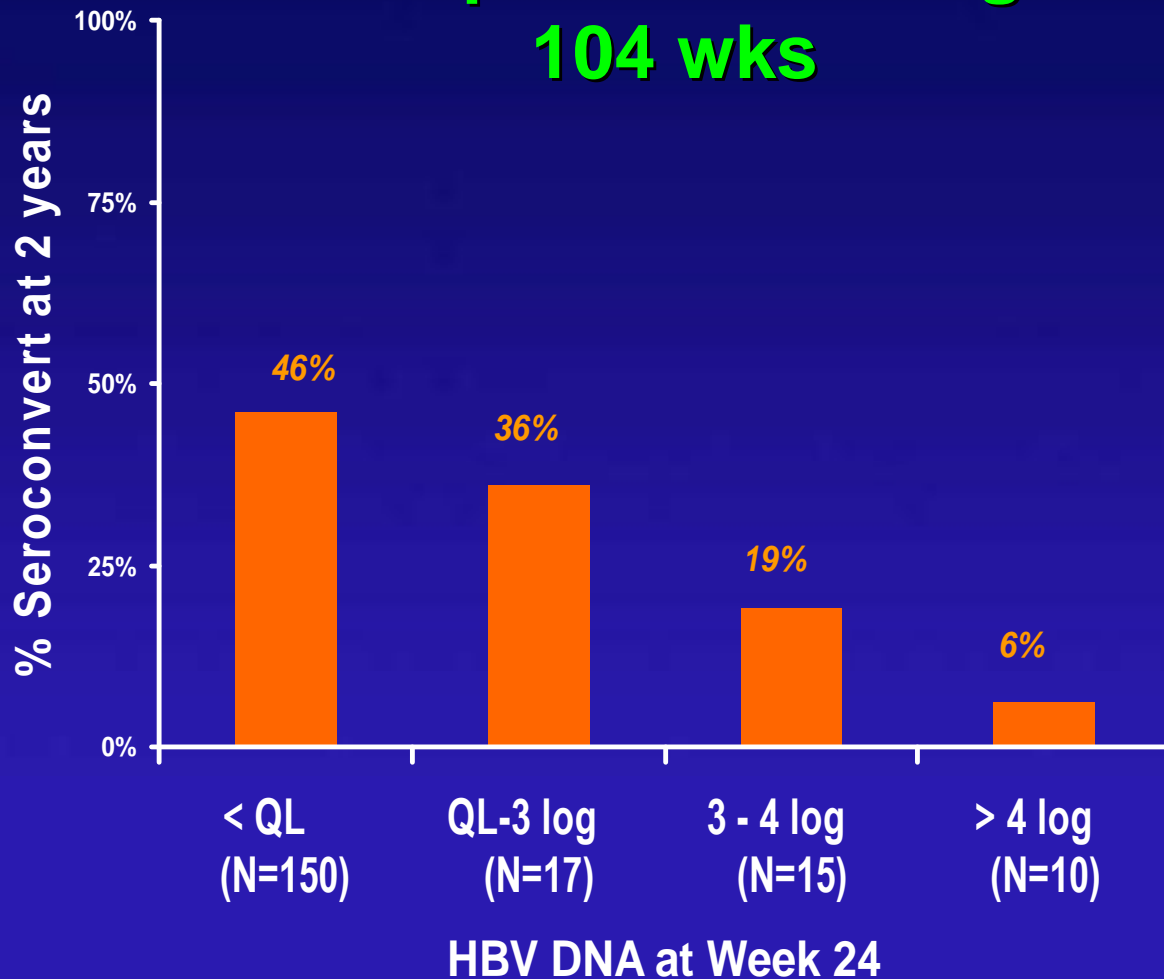
Lai et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2003;36:687-96; Lok et al Gastroenterology 2003; 125 : 1714-1722; Zoulim et al J Viral Hepatitis 2006;13:278-288; Hadziyiannis et al NEJM 2005; 352 : 2673-2681; Chang et al. NEJM 2006; 351: 1001-1010; Lai et al NEJM 2006; 354: 1011-1020; Lai et al Abstract # 91, AASLD 2006. Colonna R et al. Abstract #110, AASLD 2006.

# Very Early Add-on Therapy to Keep Viral Load as Low as Possible



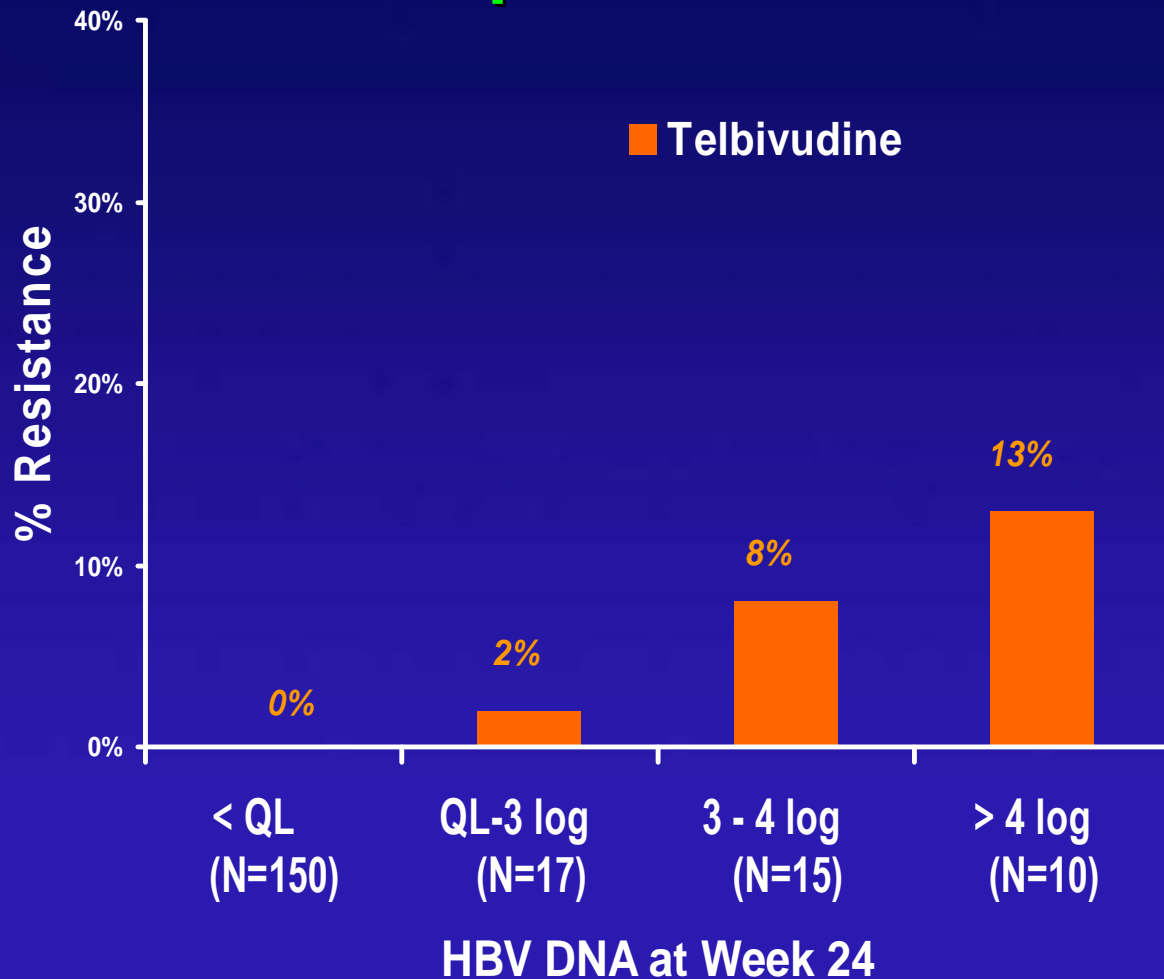
# Degree of Early Viral Suppression Predicts HBeAg seroconversion with Telbivudine

- Wk 24 viral load predicts HBeAg conversion at 104 wks



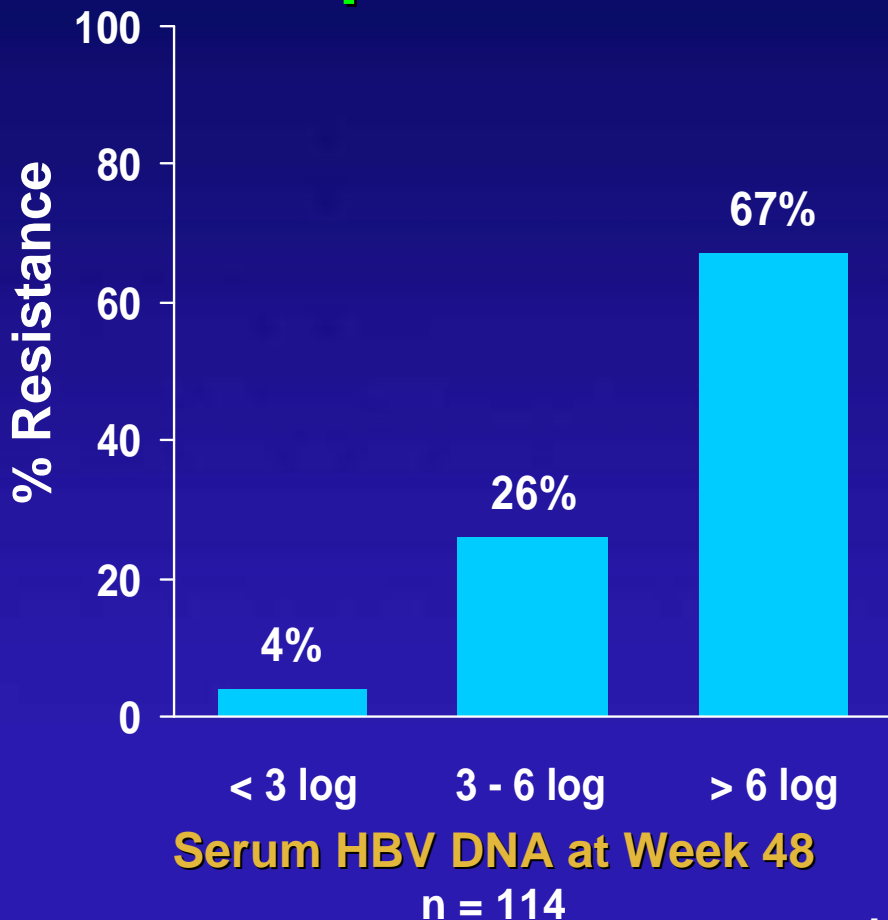
# Degree of Early Viral Suppression Predicts Virologic Breakthrough with Telbivudine

- Wk 24 viral load predicts resistance at 52wks



# Degree of Early Viral Suppression Predicts Virologic Breakthrough with Adefovir

- Wk 48 viral load predicts resistance at 144 wks



# Conclusion

- **HBV is a New Zealand Problem**
  - » Identifying all carriers
- **Refer patients with known HBV**
  - » Surveillance is necessary
- **Treatment is available**
  - » Prevents disease progression

