



# Manejo en vida real de la infección por Hepatitis Delta

XIX CURSO EN AVANCES EN INFECCION VIH Y HEPATITIS VIRALES 2024

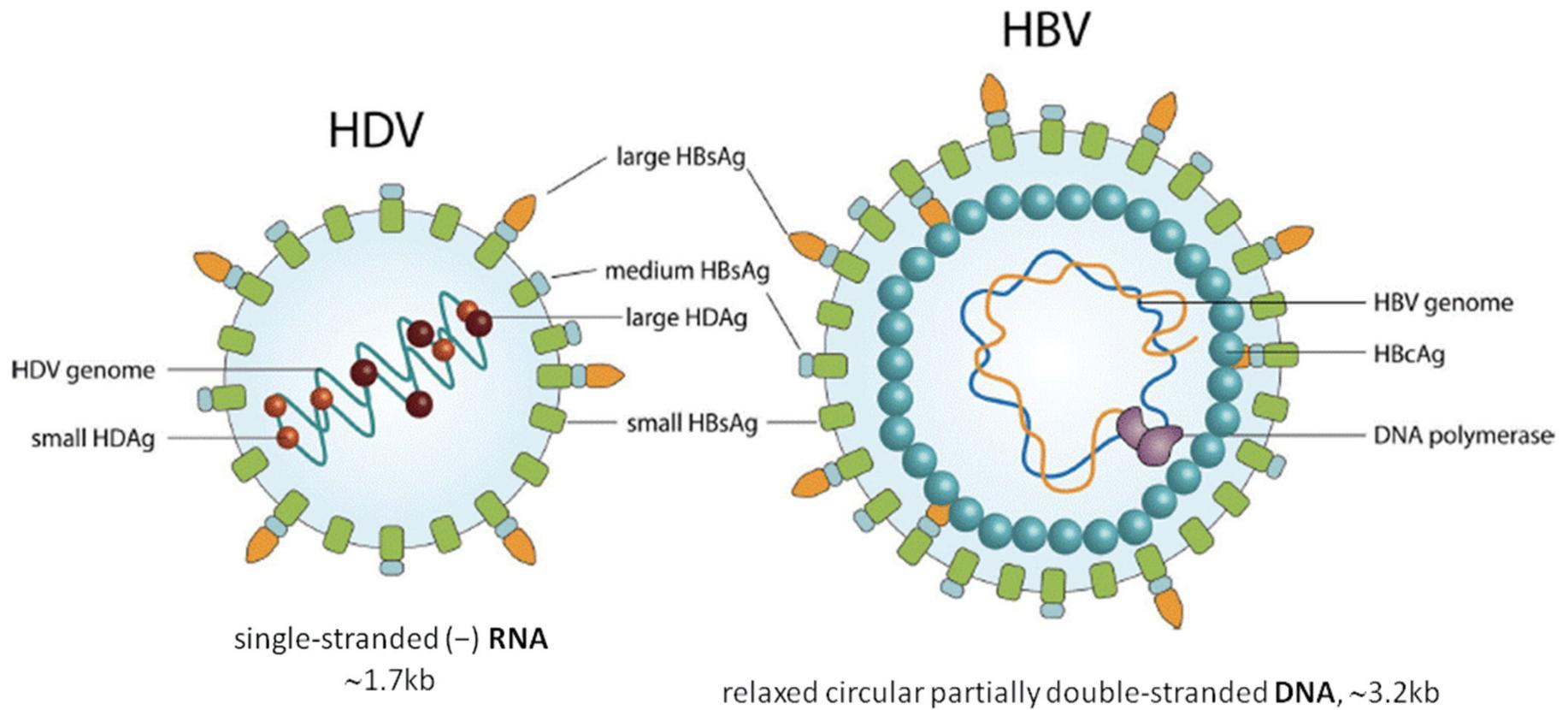
Vigo, 30 y 31 de mayo 2025

*Sabela Lens MD, PhD*

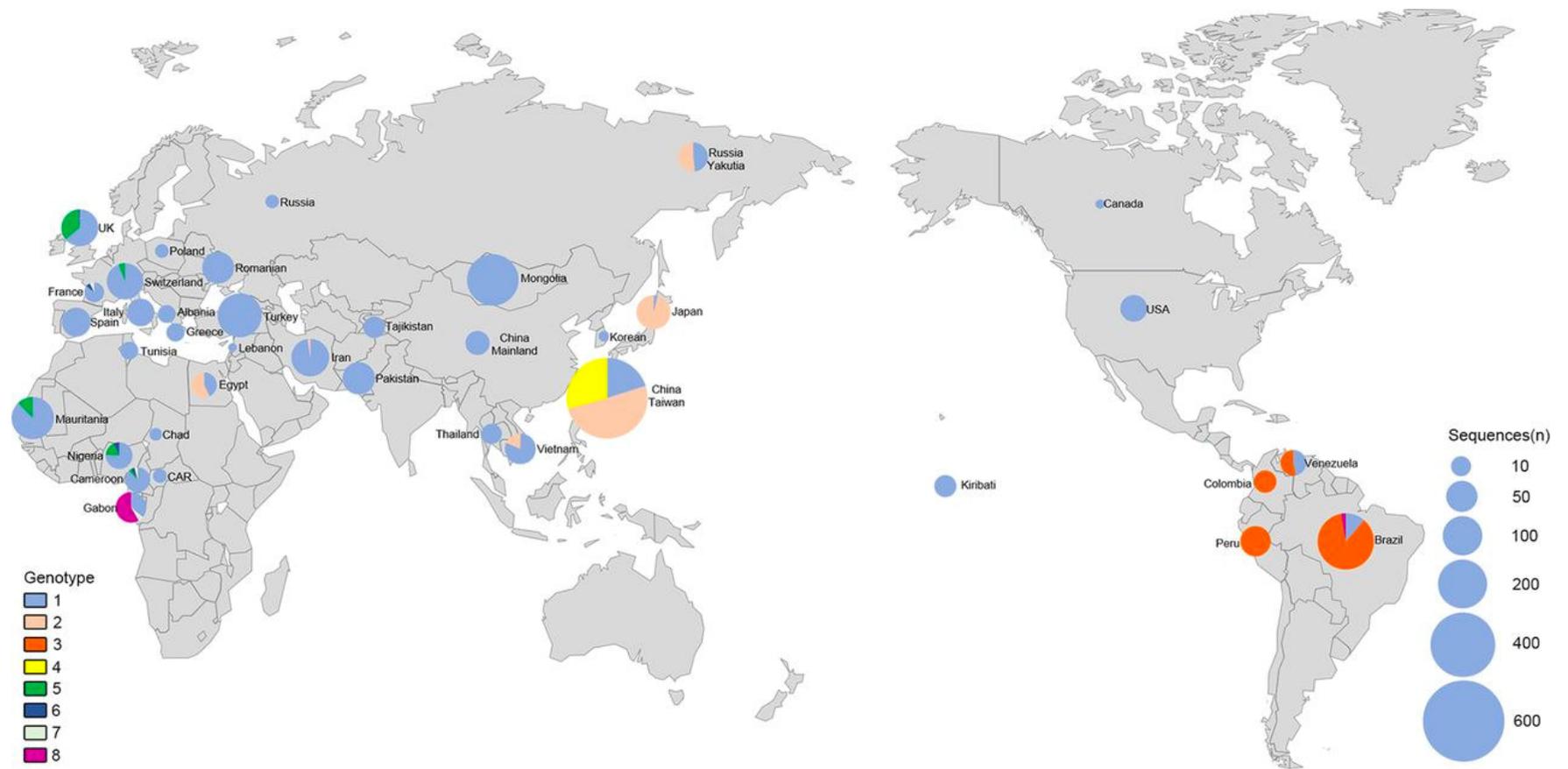
*Servicio de Hepatología, Hospital Clínic, Barcelona*

*FCRB/IDIBAPS, CIBERehd*

# Hepatitis Delta



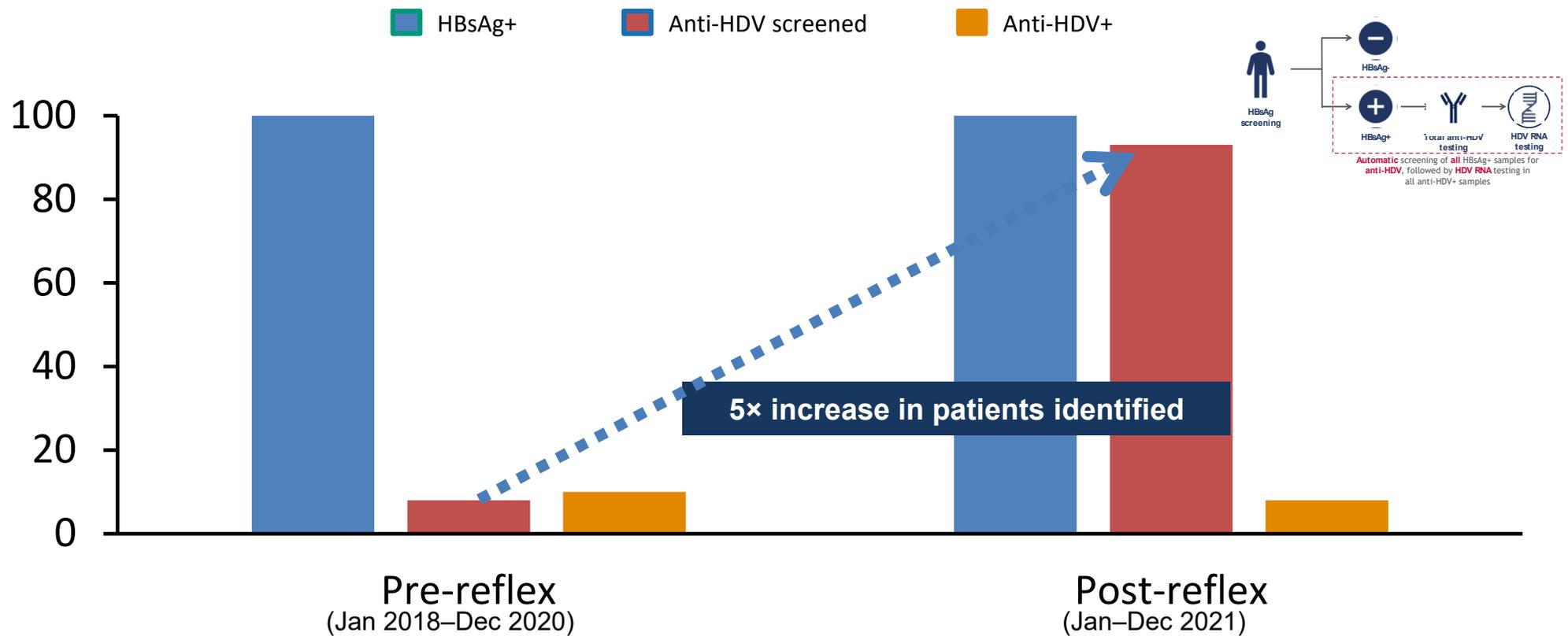
# Hepatitis Delta



Anti-VHD+ en 5% de HBsAg → Cribar VHD en todos los HBsAg+

# Hepatitis Delta: optimizando el cribado

## Analysis of HBsAg+ samples before and after anti-HDV reflex test implementation in an academic hospital and 17 primary care centres



# Hepatitis Delta: optimizando el cribado

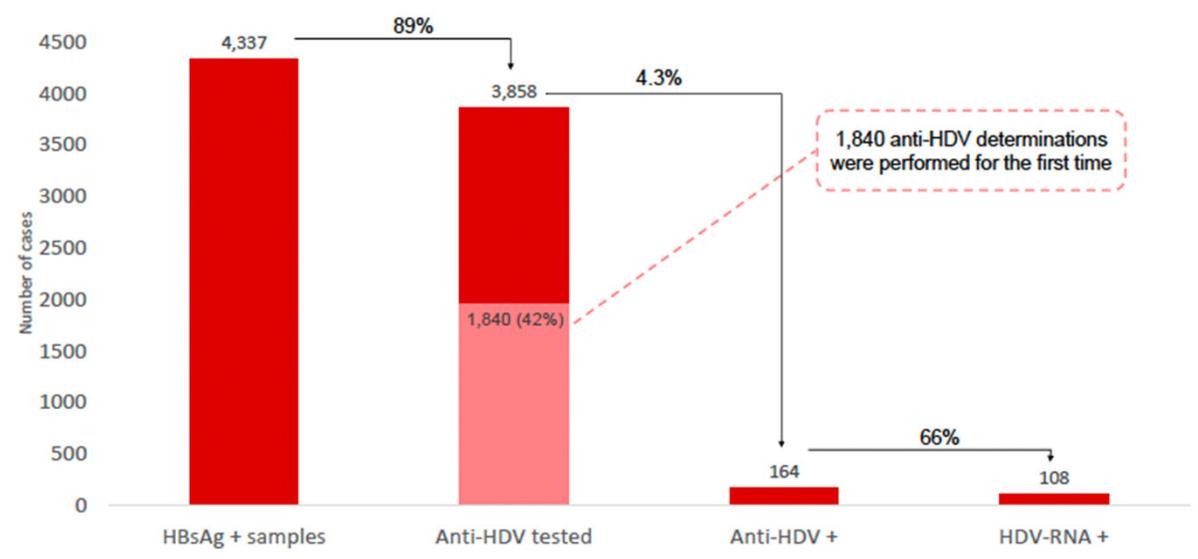
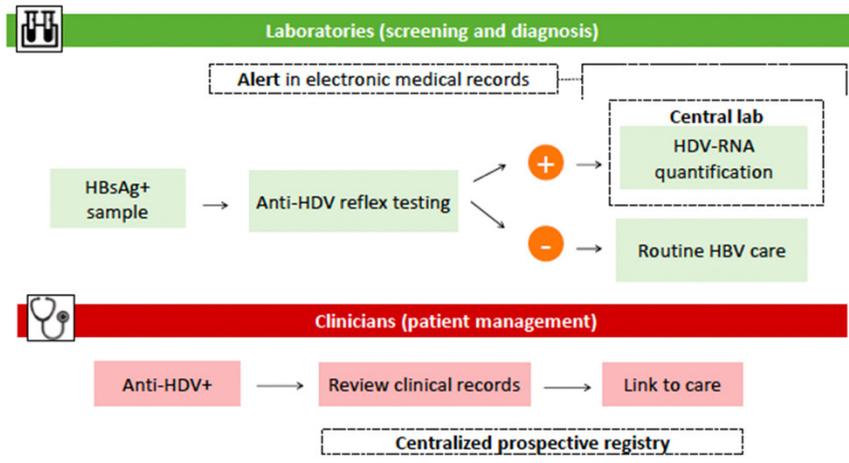


Fig 2. Cascade of samples tested on the program.

# Hepatitis Delta en España



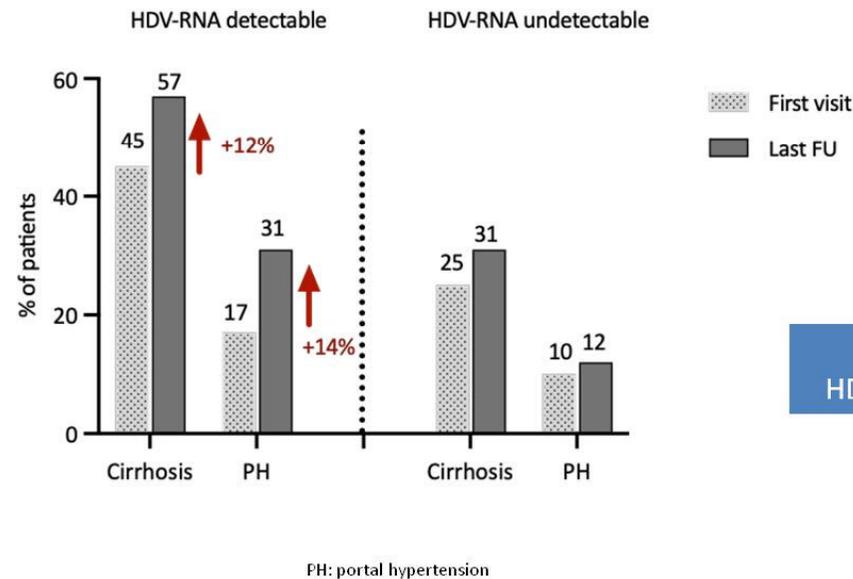
**Table 1** Baseline patients' characteristics of the overall cohort at first visit.

Variables	All n= 329
Sex (female), n (%)	135 (41)
Age (years), median (IQR)	51 (42-56)
<b>Age (years) categories, n (%)</b>	
<18	2 (0.6)
18-29	19 (5.8)
30-39	49 (15)
40-49	78 (24)
50-59	133 (41)
60-69	41 (12)
70-79	6 (1.8)
<b>Origin, n (%)</b>	
Spain	173 (53)
East Europe	79 (24)
Africa	48 (15)
Others	27 (8)
PWID, n (%)	48 (15)
HCV coinfection, n (%)	58 (18)
HIV coinfection, n (%)	30 (9)
<b>Virological markers</b>	
HDV-RNA positive <sup>a</sup> , n (%)	138 (62)
HBeAg positive, n (%)	54 (16)
HBV-DNA positive, n (%)	216 (70)
<b>Antiviral treatment</b>	
Interferon experienced, n (%)	94 (29)
Nucleos(t)ide analogs <sup>b</sup> , n (%)	191 (66)
<b>Liver disease</b>	
TE-LSM (kPa) <sup>c</sup> , median (IQR)	9.2 (6.1-14.3)
Cirrhosis, n (%)	108 (33)
Portal hypertension, n (% of cirrhosis)	44 (41)
Liver decompensation, n (% of cirrhosis)	15 (14)
Hepatocellular carcinoma, n (%)	4 (1.2)

n=329 patients with CHD and active follow-up

**33% had cirrhosis** at diagnosis

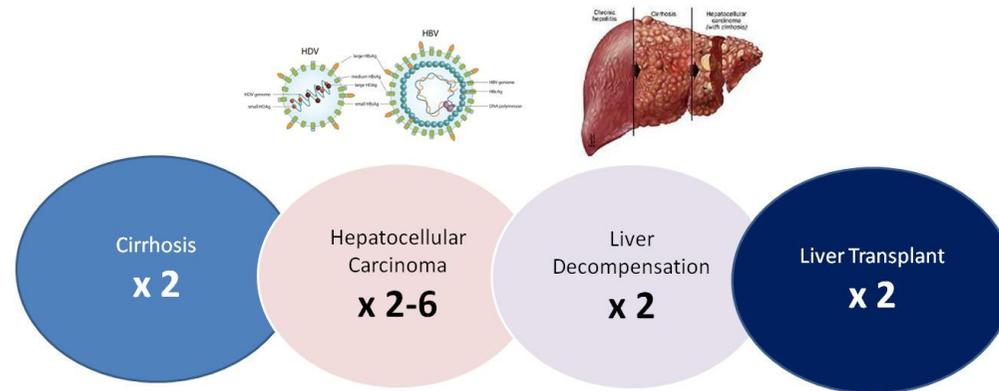
After a median FU of 6 years +12% of those **HDV RNA +** progressed to cirrhosis



1/3 of patients = late diagnosis  
HDV RNA is associated to disease progression

# A quién tratar?

- En todos los pacientes debería considerarse iniciar tratamiento antiviral



Kamal H et al. J Viral Hep 2021;28:1431-1442.

- Considerar el grado de la enfermedad hepática y potenciales contraindicaciones
- Análisis (parámetros función hepática, transaminasas, parámetros virológicos)
- Pruebas de imagen (elastografía, ecografía)

# Riesgo de progresión fibrosis hepática

Retrospective, multicenter\*, study of 177 F0–F2 patients with HDV

Table 1. Baseline characteristics

Variable	n=177
Sex (female)	84 (48%)
Age (years)	38 (31-45)
BMI > 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	18 (15%)
Diabetes Mellitus	6 (3%)
Anti-HIV	7 (4%)
Anti-HCV	16 (9%)
Liver Biopsy	81 (46%)
F0-1	41 (50%)
F2	40 (50%)
TE-LSM (Kpa) n=156	7.7 (6-9)

Liver tests	n=177
AST (IU/L)	48 (36-69)
ALT (IU/L)	67 (42-112)
GGT (IU/L)	34 (23-64)
INR	1.08 (1-1.1)
Albumin (g/dl)	4.1 (3.9-4.3)
Platelets (10 <sup>9</sup> /L)	192 (152-233)

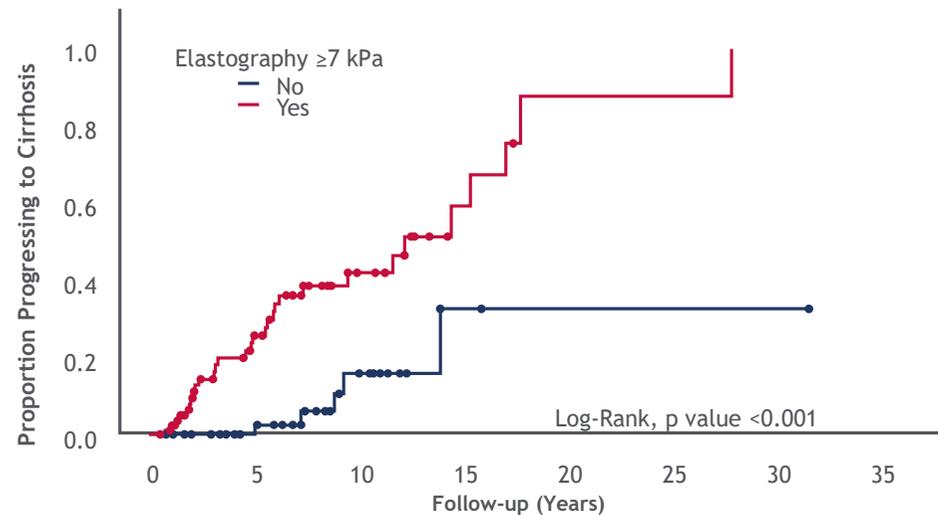
  

Viral parameters	
HBeAg+	20 (11%)
qHDV-RNA log <sup>10</sup> IU/mL	5.6 (4-7)

Antiviral Therapy	
Previous IFN therapy	22 (12%)

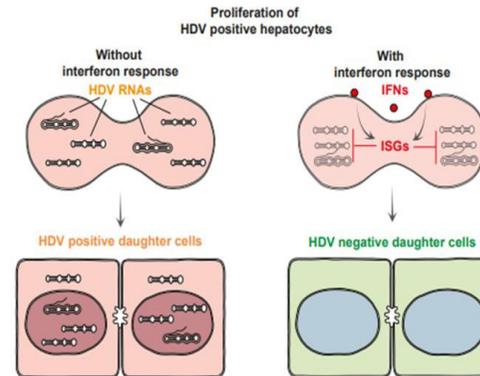
Survival curve for cirrhosis according to baseline LSM greater than (gt) 7 kPa or not



1 out of 5 HDV patients with mild-to-moderate fibrosis at BL are at high risk of progression to cirrhosis, with TE-LSM  $\geq$  7 kPa at BL being a significant predictor

# Opciones terapéuticas

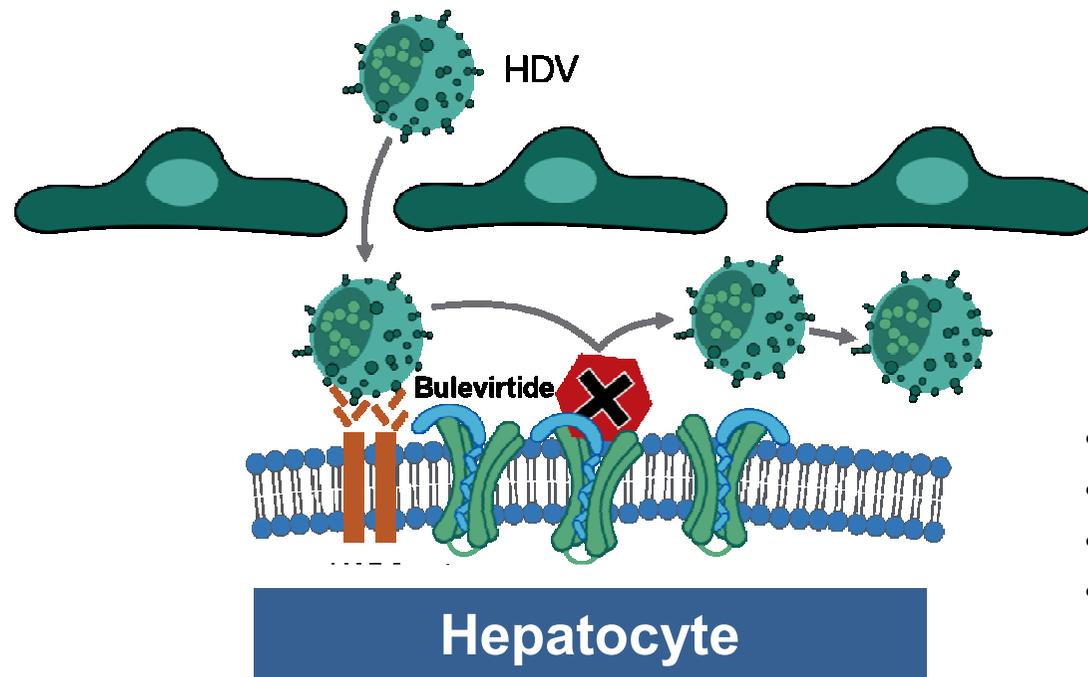
	Análogos nucleós(t)idos	Peg-IFN alfa
Recomendación	<p>ADN VHB &gt; 2000 IU/mL</p> <p>Fibrosis significativa</p> <p>Todos?</p>	<p>Pacientes ARN VHD+</p> <p>Revisar contraindicaciones</p> <p>Regular tolerancia</p>
Duración	<p>Hasta negativización HBsAg</p>	<p>48 semanas</p>
Limitaciones	<p>Sin eficacia directa contra VHD</p>	<p>Contraindicaciones: cirrosis avanzada, enf autoinmunes, psiquiátricas..</p> <p>Ef adversos hematológicos</p> <p>Recaídas tardías</p> <p>Eficacia limitada</p>



Effects of IFN in HDV infection:

- Viral entry
- Viral replication
- HDV spread
- Innate and adaptive immune responses

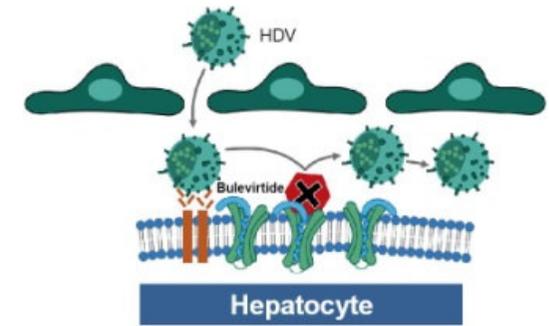
# Opciones terapéuticas



- Blocks NTCP receptor
- 2 mg, subcutaneous, daily injection
- Conditional approval by EMA in Jul/20
- Reimbursed in Spain since Feb/24

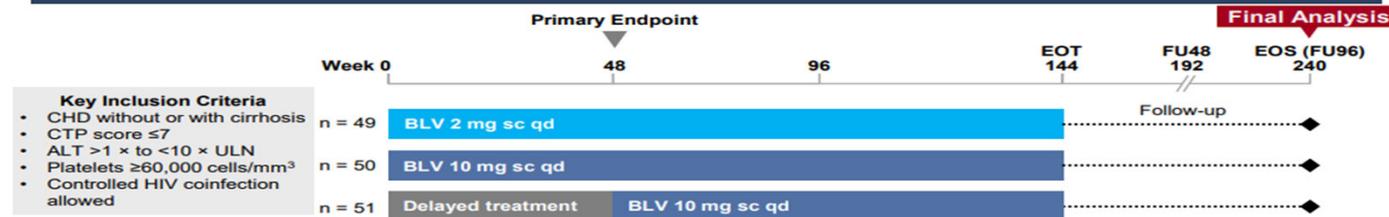
# Opciones terapéuticas

	Análogos nucleós(t)idos	Peg-IFN alfa	Bulevirtide
Recomendación	ADN VHB > 2000 IU/mL Fibrosis significativa	Pacientes ARN VHD+ Revisar potenciales contraindicaciones Regular tolerancia	Pacientes ARN VHD+ <b>F2 o más, NR o intolerantes a Peg-IFN</b> <b>Cirrosis compensada</b> Buena tolerancia Con/sin VIH+
Duración	Hasta negativización HBsAg	48 semanas	Mientras dure beneficio clínico? 3 años?
Limitaciones	Sin eficacia directa contra VHD	Contraindicaciones: cirrosis avanzada, enf autoinmunes, psiquiátricas.. Ef adversos Recaídas tardías Eficacia limitada	Sin efecto en HBsAg Reglas parada? Duración óptima? Elevación ARN VHD (y ALT) tras stop Combinación Peg-IFNa? 2mg o 10 mg?



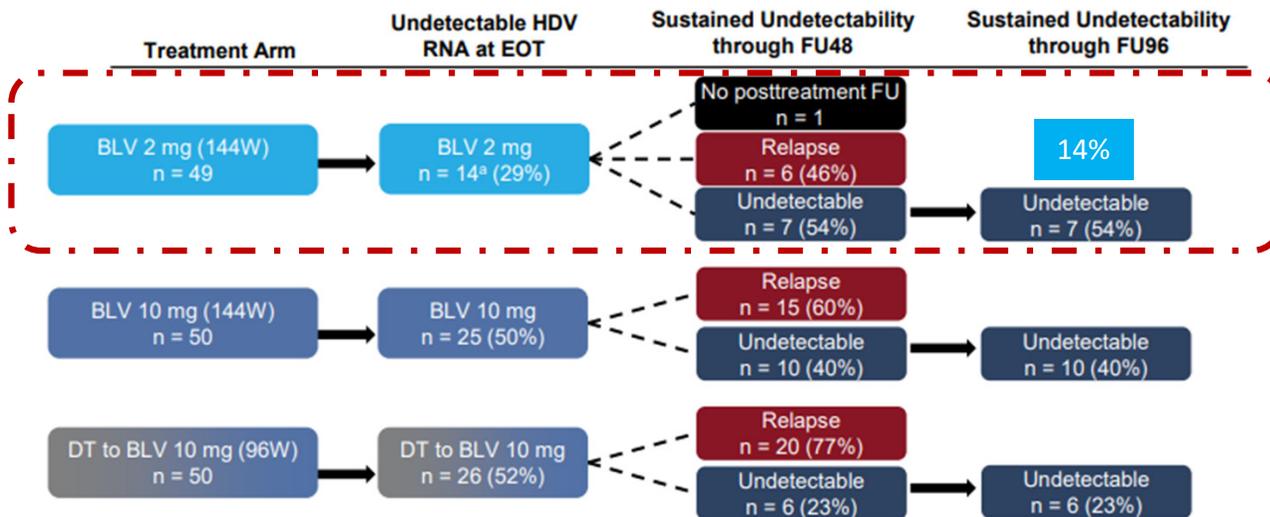
# BLV monoterapia

## MYR301 Study Design

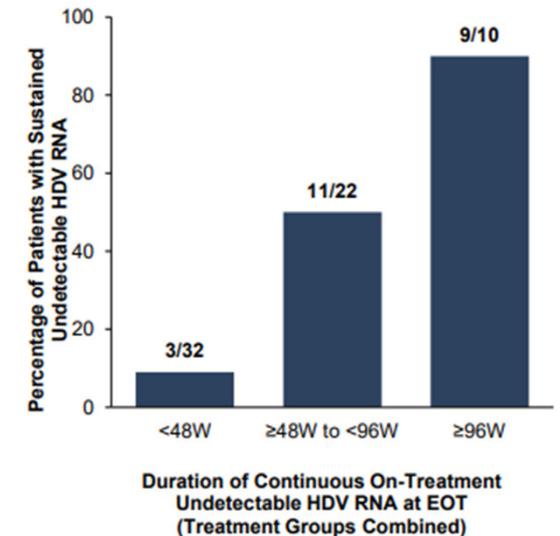


50% cirrosis, 50% NR a PegIFN

Respuesta combinada:  $\downarrow 2$ log ARN-VHD o UND & normalización ALT (50% a las 48 sem)

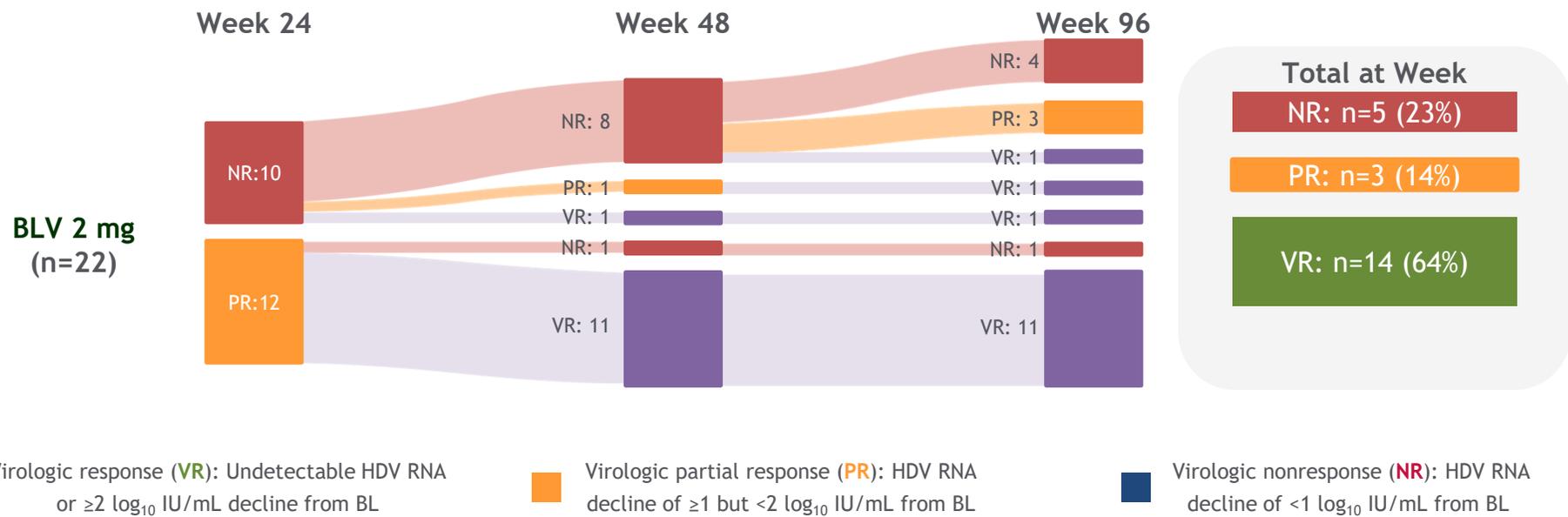


93% (38/41) of relapses occurred within 24 weeks after EOT



# BLV monoterapia

## Week 24 NR and PR treatment response through Week 96



Most early PR and NR at Week 24 experience virologic response with continued BLV therapy

Early suboptimal virologic response was defined as nonresponse or partial response at Week 24. BL, baseline; BLV, bulevirtide; NR, virologic nonresponder; PR, partial virologic responder; VR, virologic responder; W, week. Lampertico P, et al. AASLD 2023. Oral #63

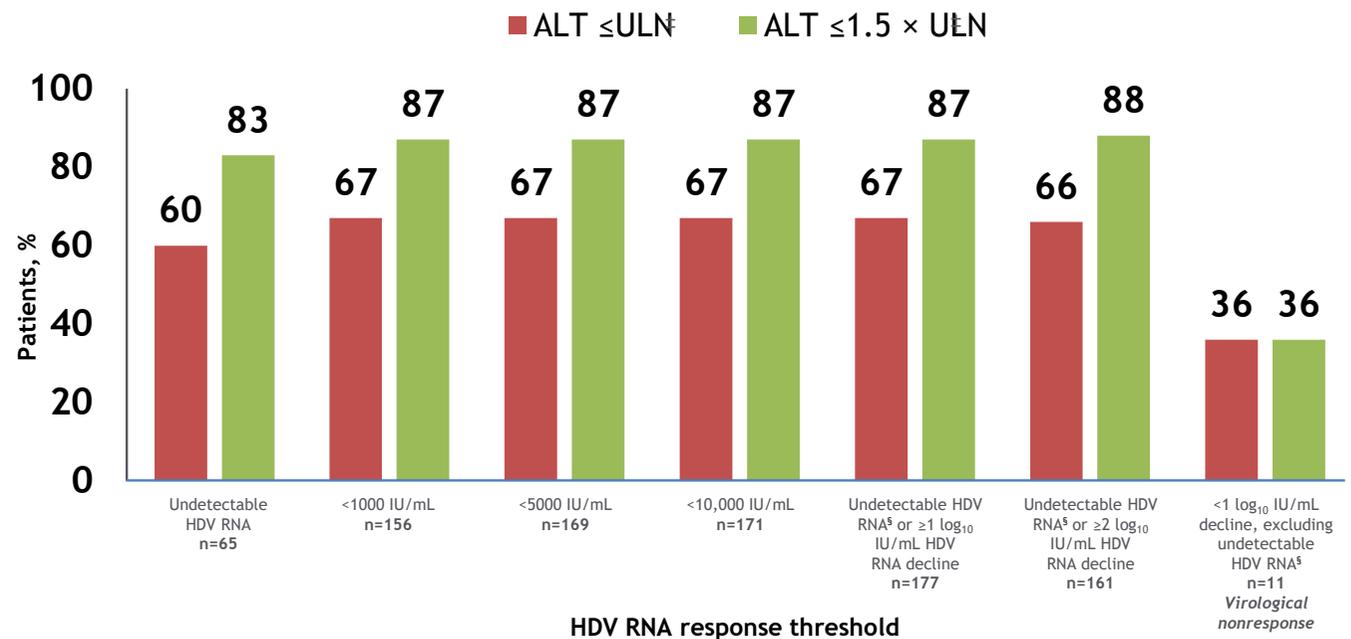
# BLV monoterapia

## Pooled analysis of patients with HDV from Phase 2 MYR204<sup>2</sup> and Phase 3 MYR301<sup>3,4</sup> trials

### Baseline characteristics

Variable	BLV 2 mg + 10 mg* n=190
Age, mean years (SD)	42 (8)
Male, n (%)	120 (63)
Cirrhosis, n (%)	84 (44)
HBeAg positive, n (%)	22 (12)
HDV RNA, log <sub>10</sub> mean IU/mL (SD)	5.2 (1.3)
Previous IFN therapy, n (%)	99 (52)
Concomitant HBV NA treatment, n (%)	110 (58)
ALT, mean U/L (SD)	109 (81)
Baseline ALT category, n (%) <sup>†</sup>	
≤ULN <sup>‡</sup>	14 (7)
>ULN <sup>‡</sup> to ≤1.5 × ULN <sup>‡</sup>	34 (18)
>1.5 × ULN <sup>‡</sup>	142 (75)

### ALT Improvement at W96 by virologic response<sup>†</sup>



### BLV treatment led to ALT improvement regardless of virologic response

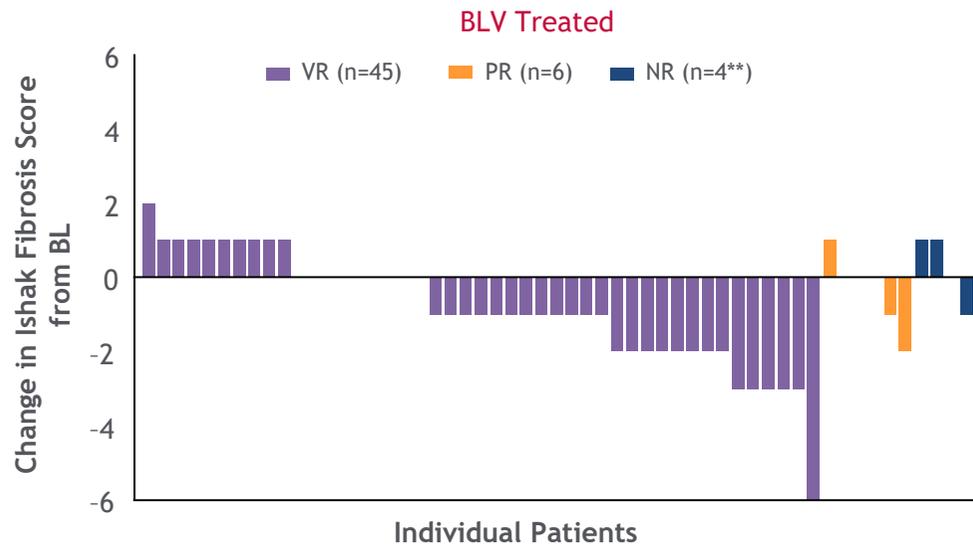
**BLV 2 mg is the only approved dose, BLV 10 mg is off-label.** \*BLV 2 mg (n=47), BLV 10 mg (n=143); <sup>†</sup>Key eligibility criteria included positive HDV RNA and ALT between 1 and 10 × ULN. Despite this criteria, some patients had ALT ≤ULN. Two patients did not have HDV RNA results at Week 96; <sup>‡</sup>ALT ULN: ≤31 U/L for females and ≤41 U/L for males (Russian sites) and ≤34 U/L for females and ≤49 U/L for males (all other sites); <sup>§</sup>Undetectable HDV RNA is defined as less than the LLOQ (50 IU/mL) with target not detected, LOD = 6 IU/mL. ALT, alanine aminotransferase; BLV, bulevirtide; HBsAg, hepatitis B surface antigen; IFN, interferon; LLOQ, lower limit of quantification; LOD, limit of detection; NA, nucleos(t)ide analogue; SD, standard deviation; ULN, upper limit of normal; W, week.

1. Lampertico P, et al. AASLD 2024. Poster #1172; 2. Asselah T, et al. N Engl J Med 2024;391:133–43. 3. Wedemeyer H, et al. N Engl J Med 2023;389:22–32; 4. Wedemeyer H, et al. J Hepatol 2024;81:621–29.

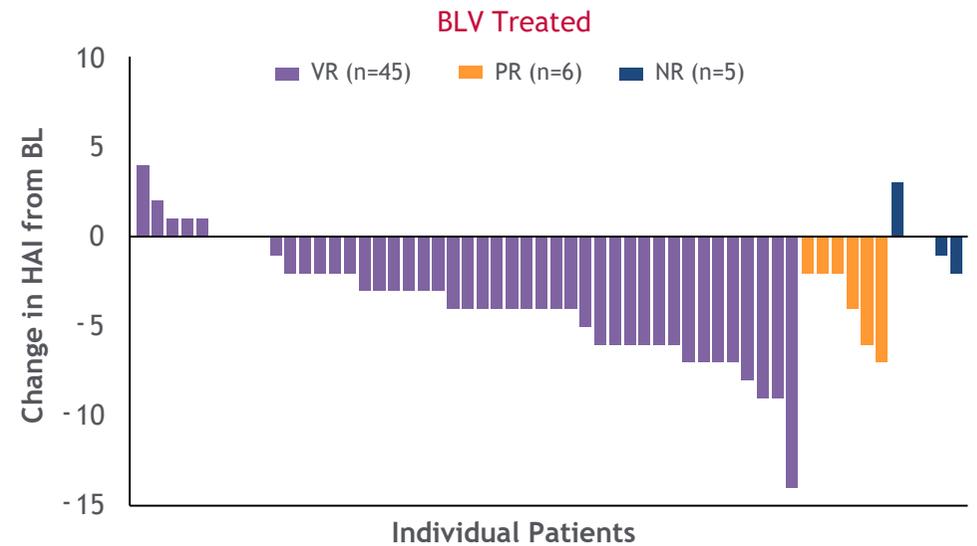
# BLV e impacto en fibrosis

Paired biopsy analysis of chronic HDV patients treated with BLV 2 mg or 10 mg (n=56\*) over 48 weeks

Change in Ishak Fibrosis Score by Viral Response at W48



Change in HAI by Viral Response at W48



■ Virologic response (VR): Undetectable HDV RNA or  $\geq 2 \log_{10}$  IU/mL decline from BL to W48

■ Virologic partial response (PR): HDV RNA decline of  $\geq 1$  but  $< 2 \log_{10}$  IU/mL from BL to W48

■ Virologic nonresponse (NR): HDV RNA decline of  $< 1 \log_{10}$  IU/mL from BL to W48

Treatment with BLV improved fibrosis score and histology

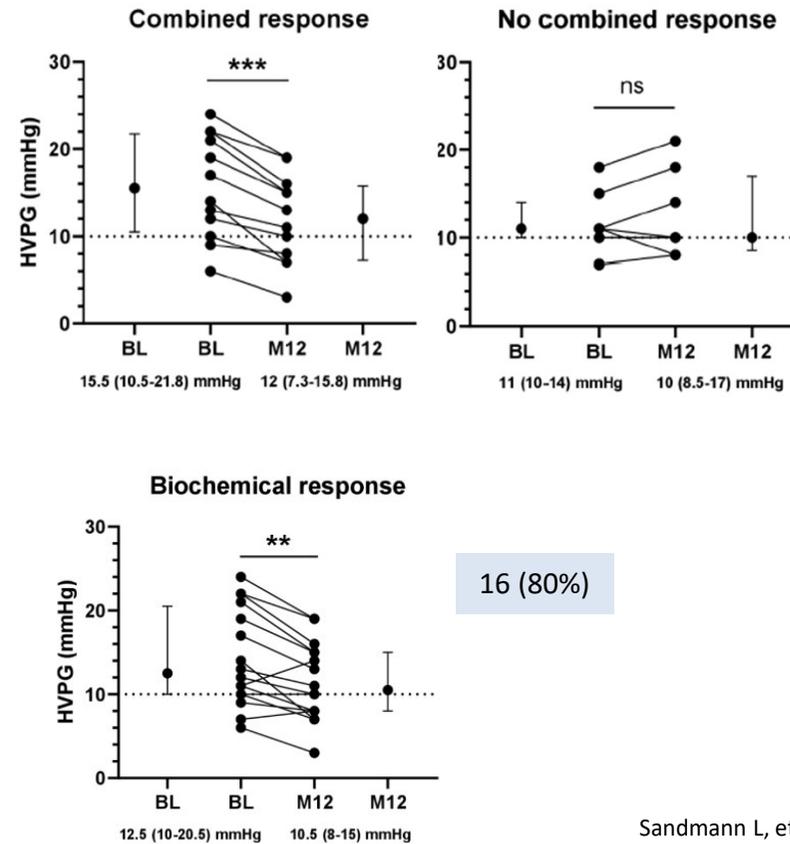
# Hipertensión Portal

N=20 HVPG pre- and 12Mo post-BLV

12 (60%)

HVPG response -2.5 (-4, 0) mmHg, 70% HVPG decline

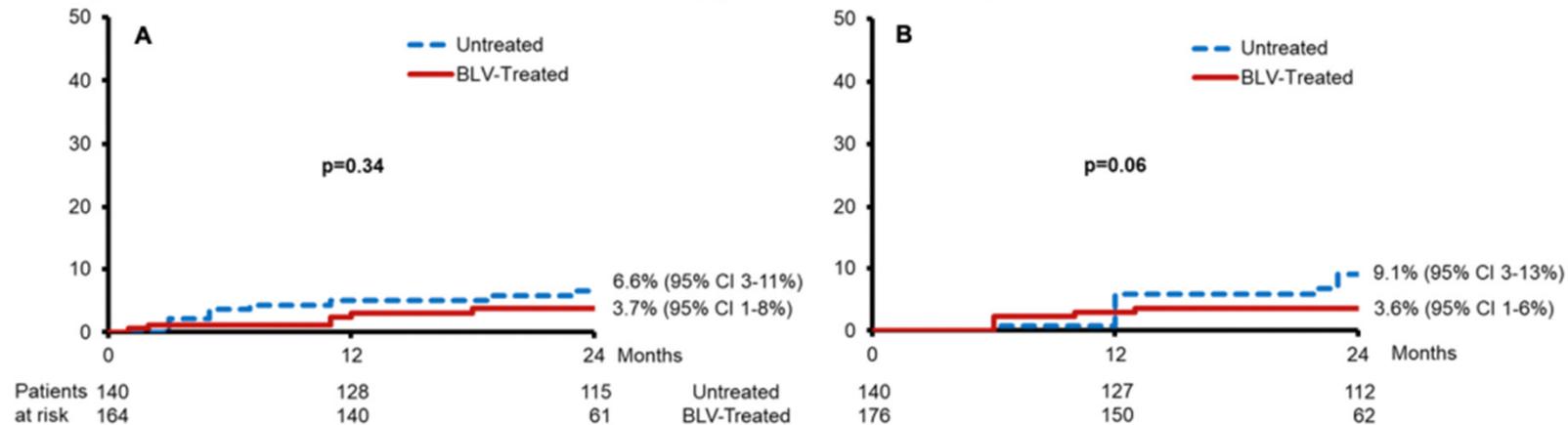
Total cohort (n=20)			
	Baseline	M12	p value
Male	13 (65)		
Age (years)	48 (41.3-57.0)		
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	25.8 (22.3-29.0)		
HDV RNA (log <sub>10</sub> IU/ml)	4.45 (3.35-5.57)	1.21 (0.21-2.21)	<0.001
HBV DNA (IU/ml)	10 (2.5-20)	0 (0-10)	0.015
HBsAg (IU/ml)	4.14 (3.67-4.33)	4.0 (3.57-4.19)	0.004
AST (U/L)	70 (47-148)	41 (30-62)	0.001
ALT (U/L)	72 (62-117)	33 (23-45)	<0.001
Bilirubin (µmol/L)	16 (13-23)	16 (9-28)	0.896
Creatinine (µmol/L)	66 (54-82)	71 (51-85)	0.401
Albumin (g/L)	36.9 (33-40)	37.5 (34.8-42)	0.064
gGT (U/L)	55 (34-91)	34 (19-51)	<0.001
Platelets (x1000/µl)	80 (39-109)	62 (39-125)	1.0
INR	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	0.900
Bile acids (µmol/L)	22 (6-46)	36 (20-61)	0.001
MELD	10 (9-12)	10 (9-13)	0.524
Child Pugh Score			1.0
A	17 (85)	17 (85)	
B	3 (15)	3 (15)	
LSM (kPa)	24 (13.5-28.5)	13.5 (9.0-22.7)	<0.001
HVPG (mmHg)	12.5 (10-18.8)	10.5 (8-15.8)	0.013
PH	20 (100)	19 (95)	1.0
CSPH	17 (85)	14 (70)	0.248



16 (80%)

# Prevención descompensación

Figure 1. 2-Year Cumulative Incidence of De-novo HCC (A) and Decompensation (B)



**No liver decompensations occurred among baseline CPT-A5 patients in the BLV-Treated cohort vs. 9.2% in the Untreated cohort (p=0.003)**

By inverse probability of treatment weighting analysis adjusted for confounding baseline factors and competing mortality risks, the BLV-treated cohort had a significantly decreased risk of all-type liver-related events (HR 0.38; 95% CI 0.23-0.62, p<0.0001) and decompensation (HR 0.32; 95% CI 0.16-0.63, p<0.0001) compared to untreated patients. Conversely, the HCC risk was similar in the two cohorts (HR 0.50; 95% CI 0.24-1.06, p=0.07) (Table 2).

Outcomes	Category	Unadjusted Cox Regression Analysis		IPTW-Adjusted Cox Regression Analysis		IPTW-Adjusted Competing Risk Regression Model	
		HR (95% CI)	p value	HR (95% CI)	p value	SHR (95% CI)	p value
Liver-related Events	Treated vs. Untreated	0.52 (0.25-1.05)	0.07	0.38 (0.23-0.62)	<0.0001	0.38 (0.23-0.61)	<0.0001
Decompensation	Treated vs. Untreated	0.48 (0.18-1.28)	0.14	0.32 (0.16-0.63)	0.001	0.32 (0.17-0.61)	0.001
De-novo HCC	Treated vs. Untreated	0.57 (0.20-1.62)	0.29	0.50 (0.24-1.06)	0.07	0.50 (0.24-1.04)	0.06

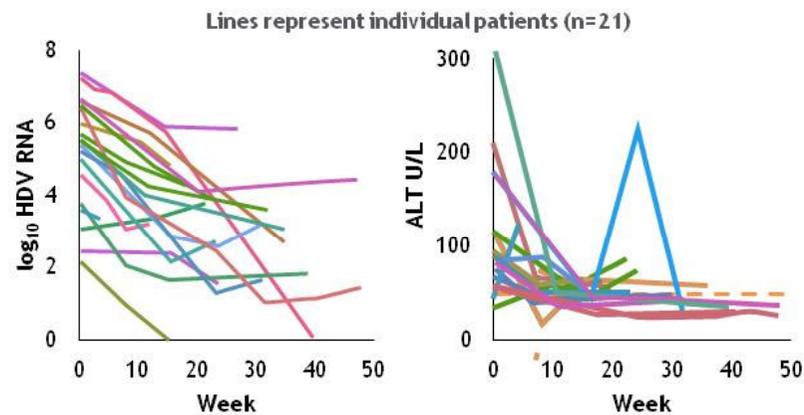
BLV: Bulevirtide; IPTW: Inverse Probability of Treatment Weighting; HR: Hazard Ratio; SHR: Sub-distribution Hazard Ratio; CI: Confidence Interval; HCC: Hepatocellular Carcinoma

# Cirrosis descompensada

Retrospective, multicenter\*, real-world analysis of BLV in 21 patients

Baseline Characteristic	Cohort (n=21)
Age (mean)	50.9 ± 9.6
Child-Pugh Stage, n (%)	
A	3 (14) <sup>†</sup>
B	17 (81)
C	1 (5)
Ascites, n (%)	12 (57)
Esophageal varices present, n (%)	15 (71)
Variceal bleeding history, n (%)	2 (10)
Bilirubin, median μmol/L (range)	30.8 (8.0–82.0)
Albumin, median g/L (range)	31 (28–51)
ALT median IU/L (range)	72 (31–307)

## Efficacy Responses

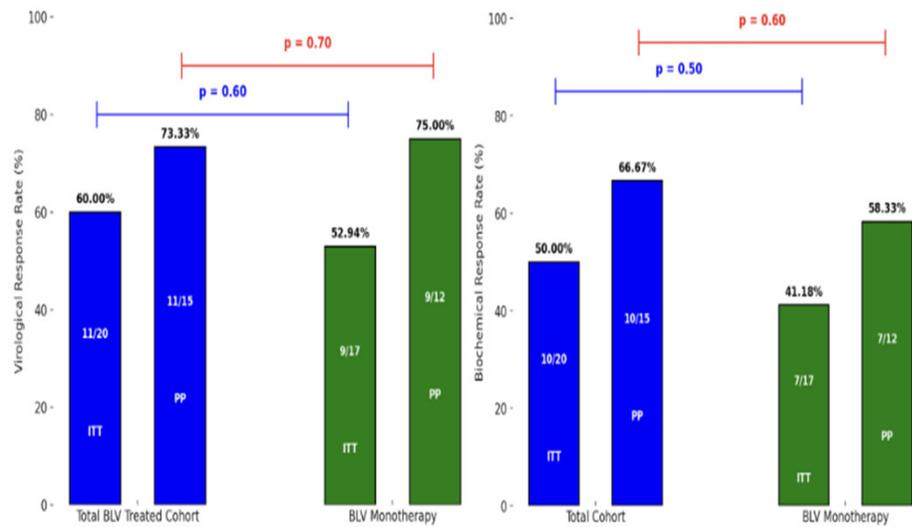


- 67%** 14 of 21 patients had virologic response\*\*
- 86%** 18 of 21 patients had normal ALT
- 41%** 7 of 17 patients improved from Child-Pugh B to A
- 50%** 6 of 12 patients had improvement of ascites

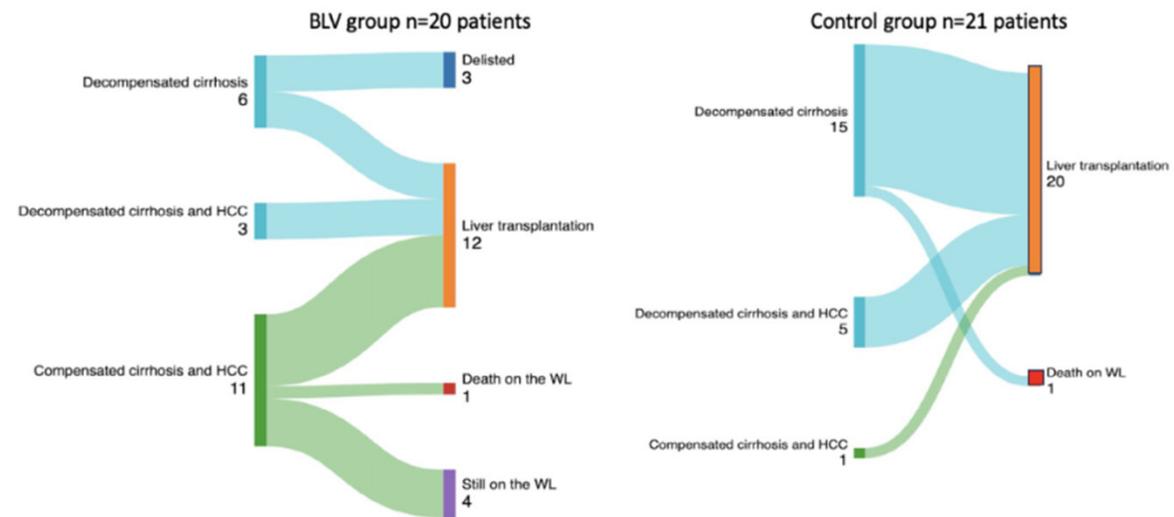
\*Centers in Austria, Italy, and Germany; \*\*HDV RNA decline of ≥2 log; <sup>†</sup>Given presence of ascites in previous months, the patients were considered as decompensated following the Baveno VII recommendations. ALT, alanine aminotransferase; BLV, bulevirtide; RWD, real-world data.

# Lista de espera de TH

**Efficacy while on the waiting list**



**Outcomes while on the waiting list**

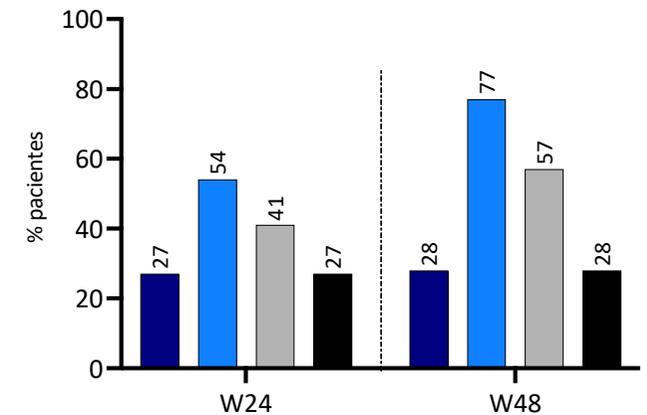


# BLV datos vida real España

Variable	Inicio BLV n=57
Edad (años)	53 (42-57)
Sexo (mujer)	14 (25%)
Origen (España)	23 (40%)
UDVP	8 (14%)
VHC, VIH	6 (10%), 3 (5%)
Elastografía Hepática (kPa)*	18 (11-22)
Cirrosis	42 (70%)
Varices Esofágicas	17/21 (80%)
Descompensación / HCC	Ascitis (2), HDA (2), HCC (1)
AST UI/L	60 (43-93)
ALT UI/L	69 (54-106)
ALT > 2 LSN	22 (39%)
Bi (mg/dl)	0.7 (0.6-1)
Albúmina (g/dl)	4.1 (3.7-4.4)
Plaquetas (x10 <sup>9</sup> )	143 (91-261)

Efectos Adversos
Eritema (2)
Cefalea (2)
Astenia (1)
Prurito (1)
HCC (1)
TOH (1)

■ ARN-VHD indetect  
■ Respuesta Viroológica  
■ Respuesta bioquímica  
■ Respuesta combinada



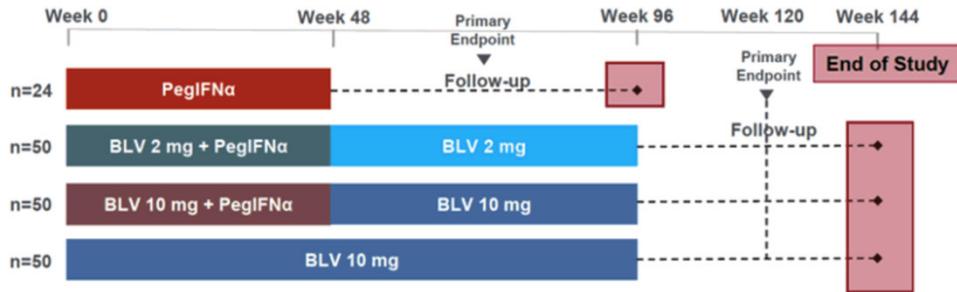
# BLV + PegIFN

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

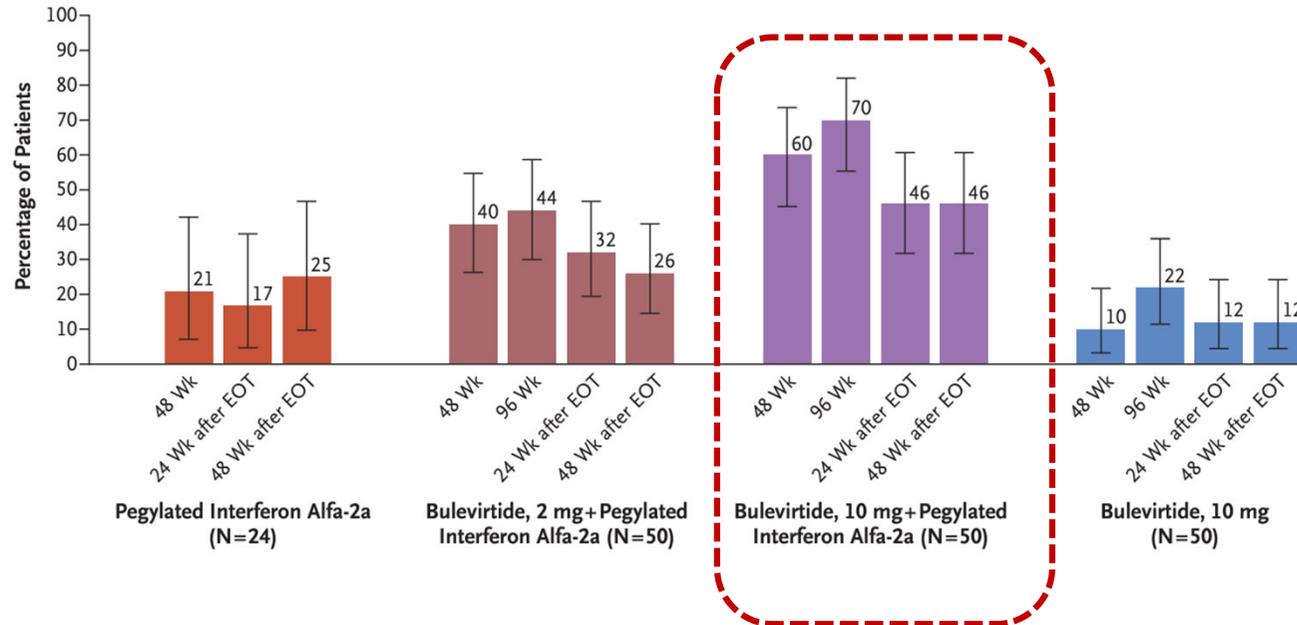
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Bulevirtide Combined with Pegylated Interferon for Chronic Hepatitis D

T. Asselah, V. Chulanov, P. Lampertico, H. Wedemeyer, A. Streinu-Cercel, V. Pântea, S. Lazar, G. Placinta, G.S. Gherlan, P. Bogomolov, T. Stepanova, V. Morozov, V. Syutkin, O. Sagalova, D. Manuilov, R.-C. Mercier, L. Ye, B.L. Da, G. Chee, A.H. Lau, A. Osinusi, M. Bourliere, V. Ratziu, S. Pol, M.-N. Hilleret, and F. Zoulim



Undetectable HDV RNA at 48 and 96 Weeks during Treatment and at 24 and 48 Weeks after End of Treatment



# BLV, PegIFN o ambos?

## Bulevirtide monoterapia

### Ventajas

- Autorizado por ficha técnica EMA (2mg/d sc)
- Buena tolerancia
- 50% respuesta combinada sem 48
- Bajo % ARN VHD UND post EOT

### Inconvenientes

- Administración diaria
- Preparación de la medicación
- Sin efecto en HBsAg
- Baja tasa ARN VHD neg
- Duración?



## Bulevirtide+ PegIFNa

- No autorizado por EMA
- Datos vida real en otros países
- Aumento posibilidad de ARN VHD neg y mayor efecto sobre VHB

- Predictores de respuesta, duración y dosis todavía en análisis
- Selección de pacientes
- Ef secundarios / Ajuste dosis PegIFN
- Inyecciones diarias y semanales
- Disponibilidad?

# Conclusiones

- Debemos cribar de Hepatitis Delta a todos las personas HBsAg+, el test reflejo es una herramienta eficaz para incrementar las tasas de cribado. En caso de factores de riesgo o incremento ALT repetir test.
- Todos los pacientes con infección activa (ARN-VHD+) son candidatos a recibir tratamiento antiviral. Debemos usar técnicas diagnósticas sensibles.
- El tratamiento con Bulevirtide monoterapia presenta un buen perfil de seguridad y tolerancia (incluso en caso de hepatopatía avanzada) y hasta un 50% respuesta combinada al año de tratamiento. Algunos pacientes logran la curación del VHD tras 3 años de tratamiento.
- Perspectivas futuras: duración óptima? Adición Peg-IFN? Impacto en la enfermedad hepática y QoL? Nuevas terapias contra VHD (y VHB)?

Muchas gracias!



Viral, Genetic and Immune-mediated Liver Diseases Group  
Liver Unit  
Hospital Clínic, IDIBAPS-FCRB  
Barcelona

Barcelona Clinic Viral Hepatitis Group  
[@BCVirHep](#)

