

The background of the image is a complex, layered graphic. It features a central image of hands interacting with a tablet, overlaid with various scientific and medical motifs. These include chemical structures (like NH_2 and HN), molecular models, a brain diagram, a hexagonal grid of icons (such as a clipboard, ECG, pills, and a first aid kit), and abstract geometric patterns like concentric circles and lines. The overall color palette is dominated by reds, oranges, and greys, with white text and icons.

HBV-TAG

2021 CONFERENCE

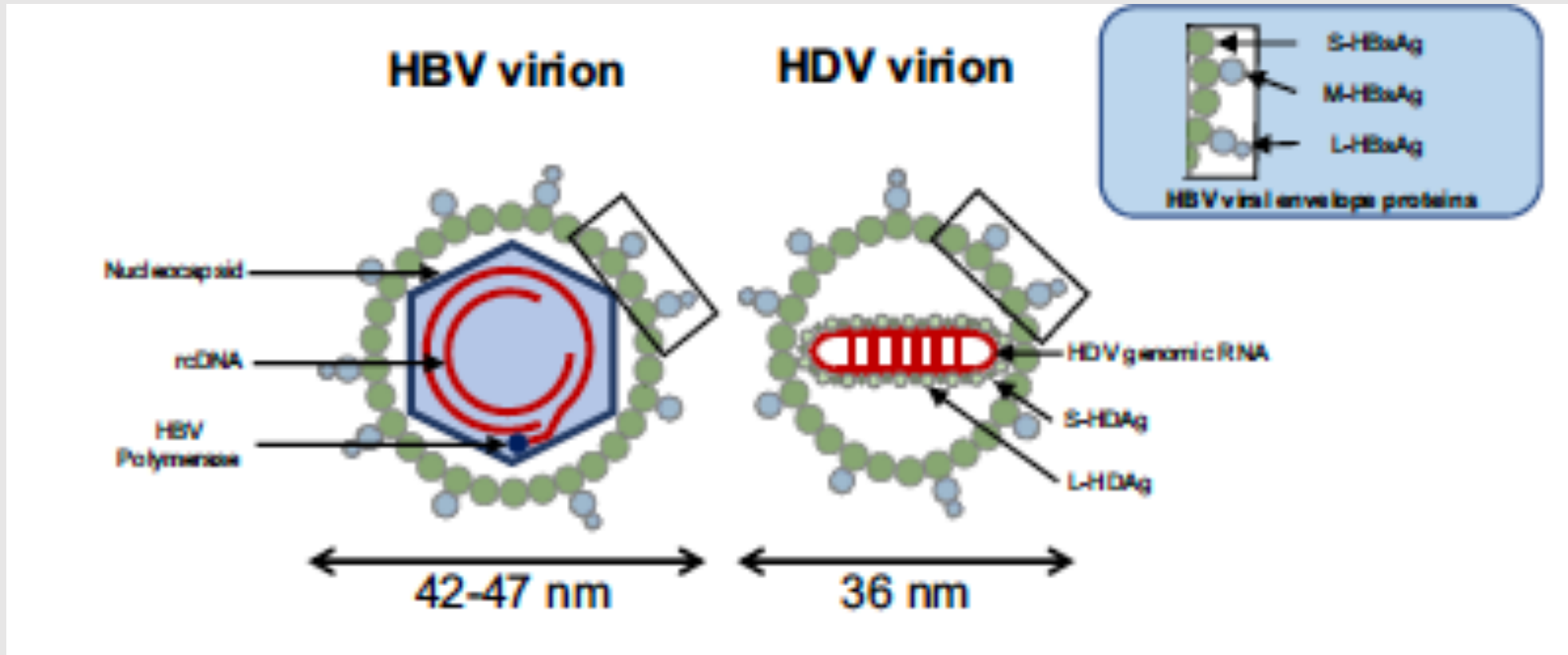
HBV (sAg) Targets that affect HDV

- Briefly review the most advanced experimental HDV antivirals
- Bring your attention to a new therapeutic approach in development

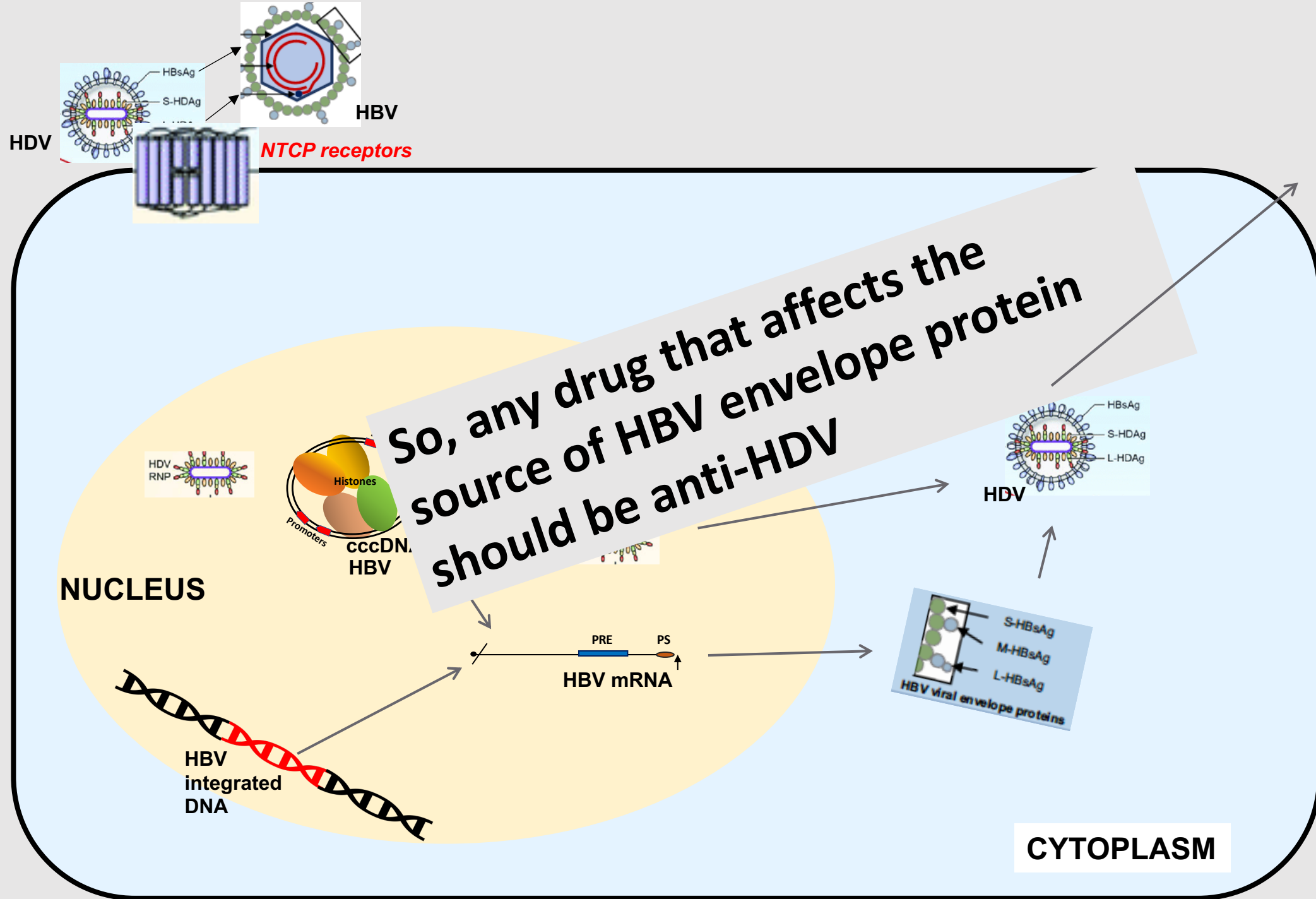
Conflicts:

- Hepion (Board Member)
- Antegene (SAB Member)
- Co-Inventor (DHQ-E, several other experimental HBV drugs)
- President and Board Member:
Hepatitis B Foundation and its Baruch S Blumberg Institute/Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center

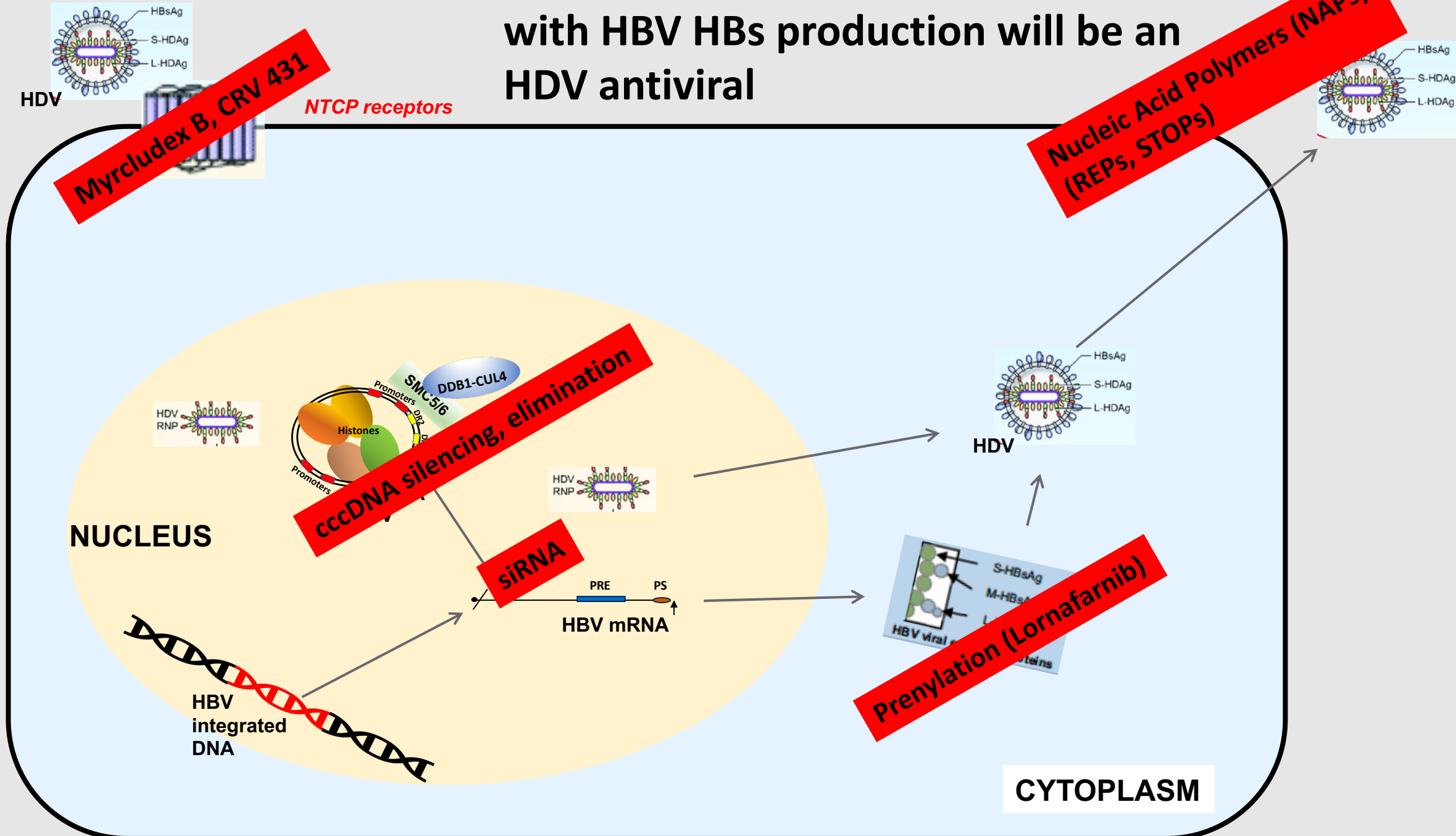
HDV depends on HBV envelope polypeptides (SHBs, LHBs) to complete its replication cycle

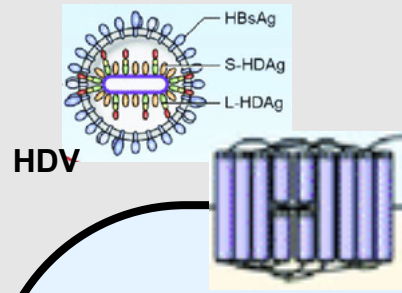


Asselah, T., Loureiro, D., Tout, I., Castelnau, C., Boyer, N., Marcellin, P. and Mansouri, A., 2020. Future treatments for hepatitis delta virus infection. *Liver International*, 40, pp.54-60.



In principle: anything that interferes with HBV HBs production will be an HDV antiviral

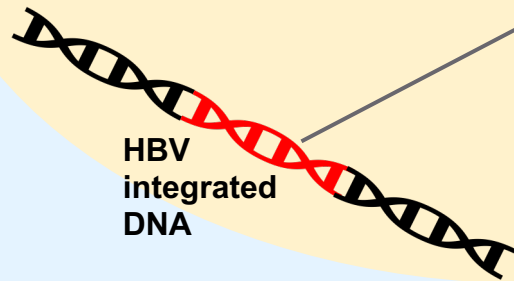
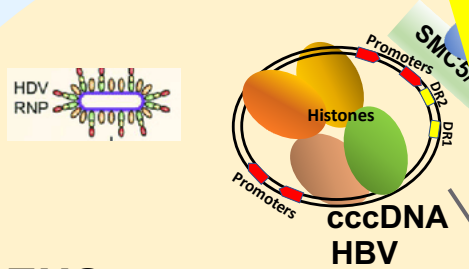




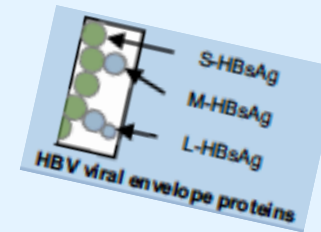
NTCP receptors

But: HBs products continue to be made from long term cccDNA and integrated HBV DNA... especially in HBeAg neg patients. So, conventional antiviral targets might be of limited value

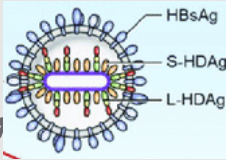
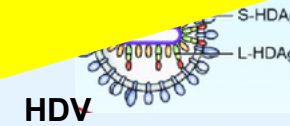
NUCLEUS



HBV mRNA



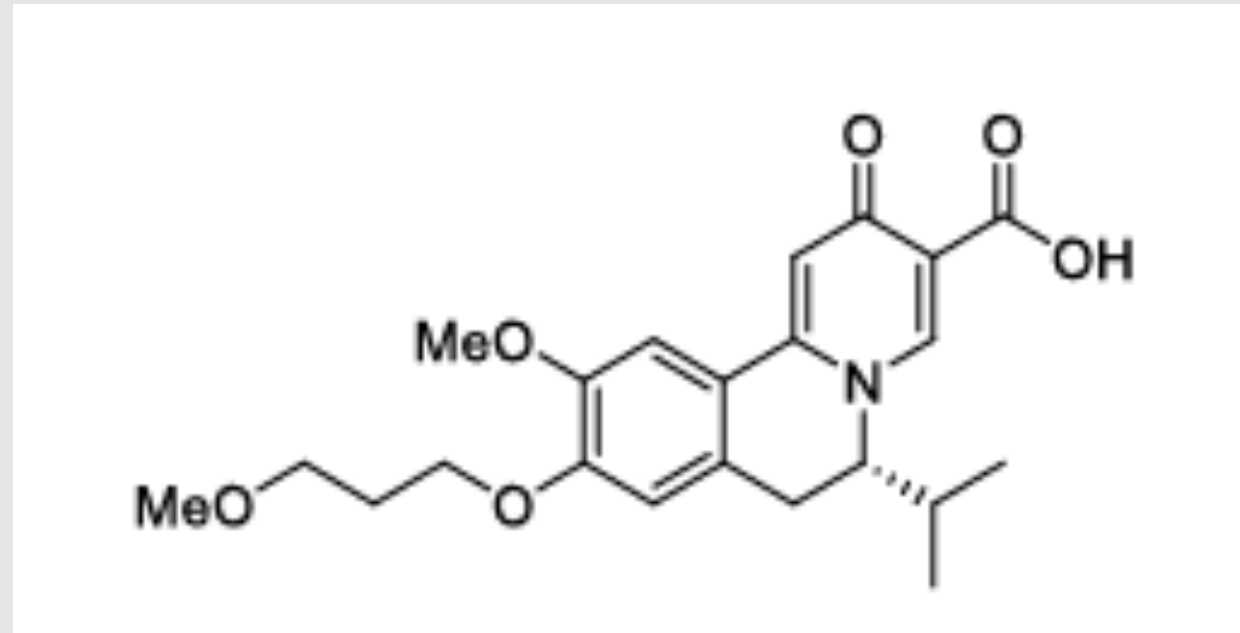
CYTOPLASM



Attention turning to drugs that

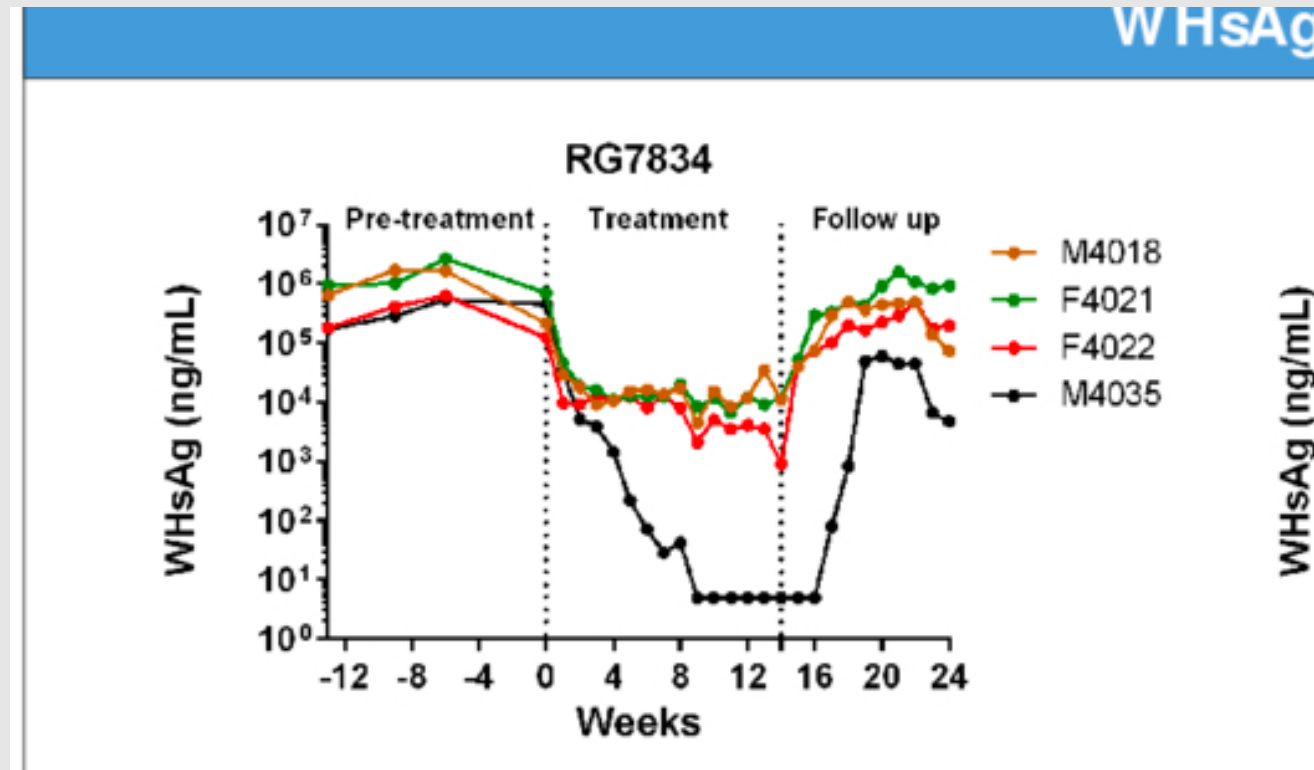
- Kill or eliminate HBV infected cells by immuno-stimulation or other means (i.e. Therapeutic vaccine combinations)
- Target HBs directly (i.e. NAPs, siRNA)
- But, there is another possibility...

2017: Mueller et al (Roche) report a small molecule that selectively reduced HBs



Dihydroxyquinoline DHQ (RG7834)

In animals (mice, woodchucks) dramatic HBs reductions

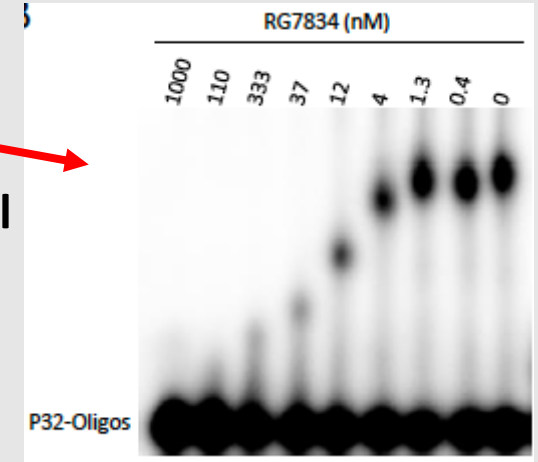
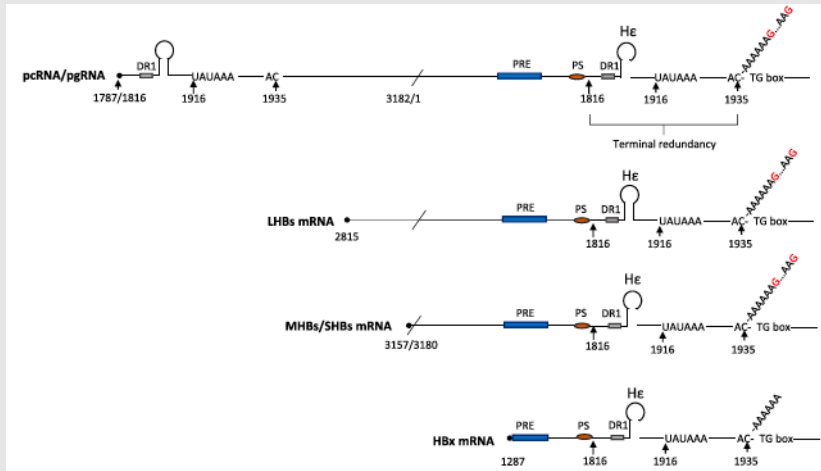


Mueller H, Wildum S, Luangsay S, Walther J, Lopez A, Tropberger P, Ottaviani G, Lu W, Parrott NJ, Zhang JD, Schmucki R. A novel orally available small molecule that inhibits hepatitis B virus expression. *Journal of hepatology*. 2018 Mar 1;68(3):412-20.

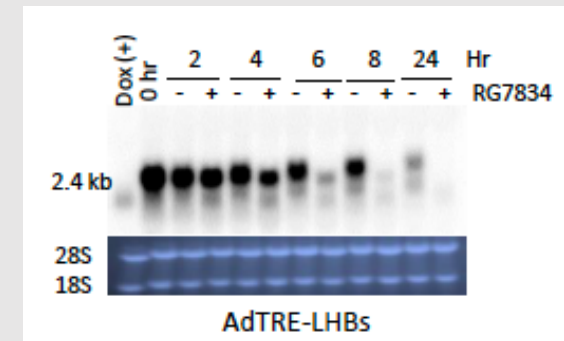
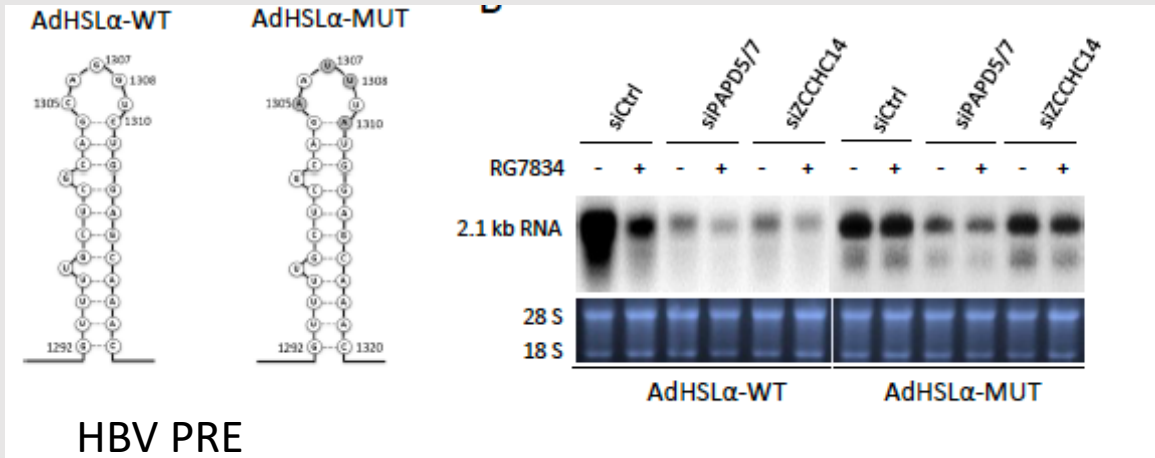
DHQ works by:

(an RNA De-stabilizer")

- Roche: Targeting a host enzyme, PAPD5 / 7 (Mueller et al 2018)
- Blumberg: Works through "De-stabilizing" HBV mRNA "PRE" sequence (Sun et al, et al 2018, 20)



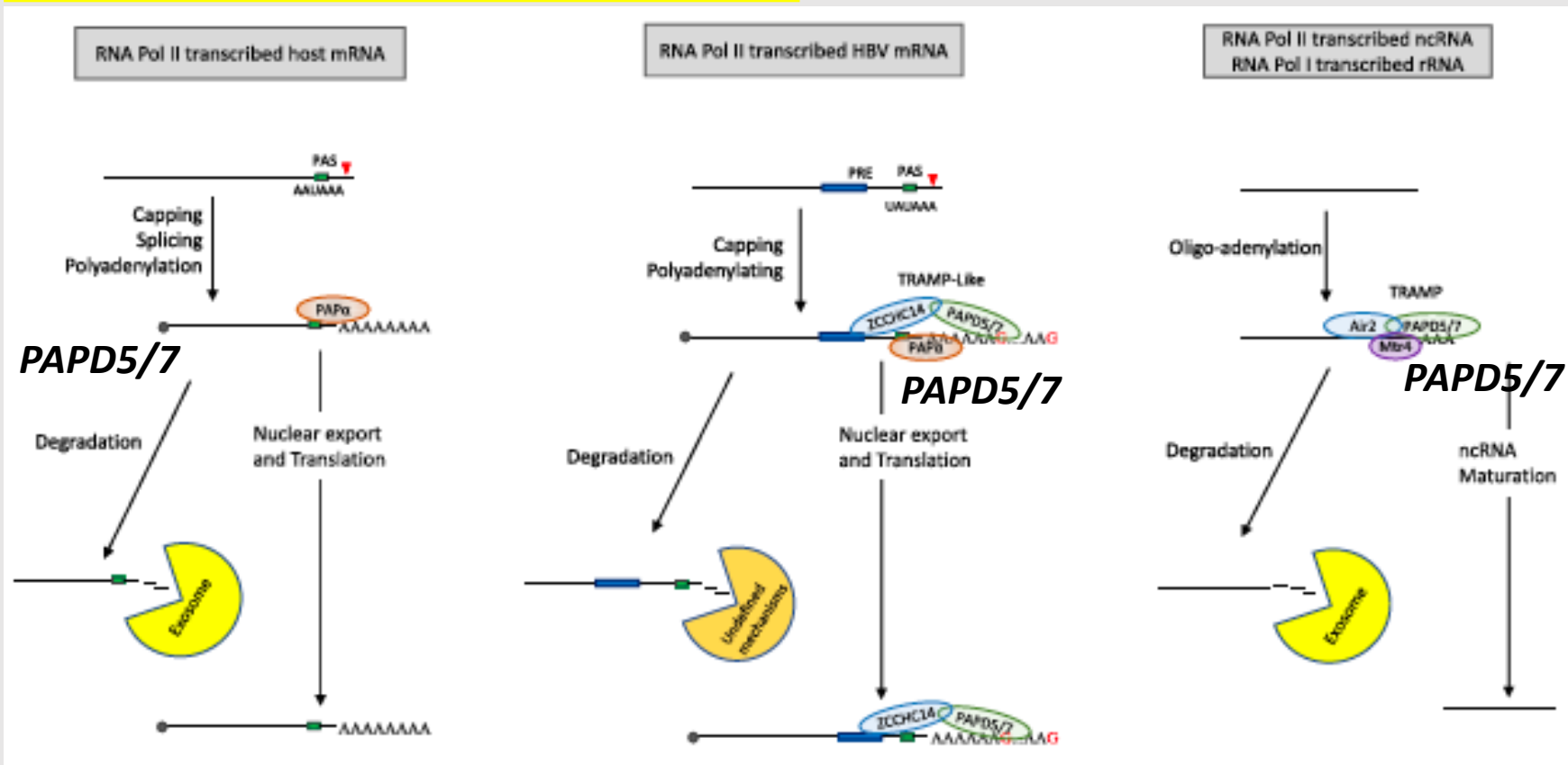
PAPD5 enzyme assay (Sun et al, 2020)



Northern blot: (Sun et al, 2018)

But: Almost all cell /defective host mRNA is degraded by the PAPD5/7 pathway:
HBV does the opposite.

So exciting: suggests HBV behaves more like a non coding RNA! All new strategy for antivirals



DHQs/HBV RNA Destabilizers: Extremely promising, first in class, new approach

- But then, development abruptly stops...
- ?Neuro toxicity

DHQ may have toxicity

| | | |
|--|--|--|
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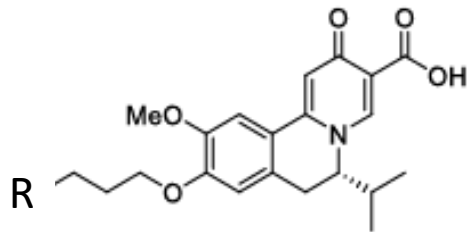
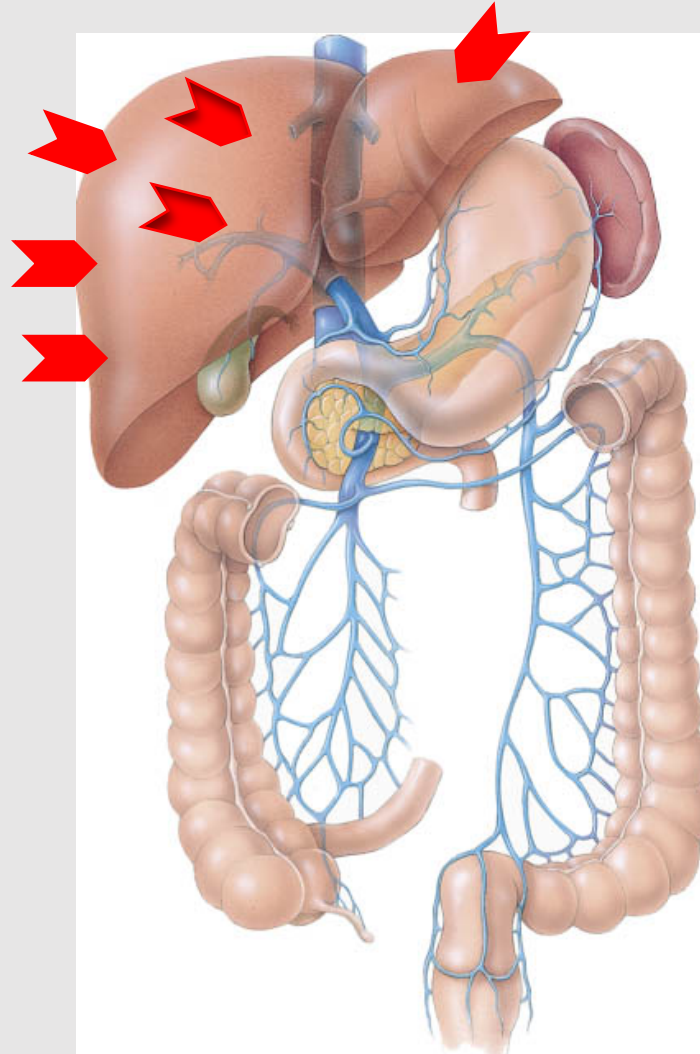
| Decreased Neurite Length SSMD Values | 0.001 μ M | 0.01 μ M | 0.1 μ M | 1 μ M | 10 μ M | 100 μ M |
|---|---------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| RG7834/ R07020322 | NS | NS | NS | -3.4 | -5.9 | -4.5 |
| 24 hr | NS | NS | NS | NS | -3.8 | -4.0 |
| 4 hr | NS | NS | NS | NS | -3.8 | -4.0 |
| Vincristine | NS | NS | NS | -4.9 | -5.4 | -6.6 |
| 24 hr | NS | NS | NS | -4.9 | -5.4 | -6.6 |
| 4 hr | NS | NS | NS | -7.3 | -5.7 | -10 |
| NS = no significant effect and > -3 SSMD Value. Values of \leq -3 values are significant for decreased length | | | | | | |

From: Aktoudiannakis, 2018, p.226

Aktoudianakis, E.; Canales, E.; Currie, K. S.; Kato, D.; Li, J.; Link, J. O.; Metobo, S. E.; Saito, R. D.; Schroeder, S. D.; Shapiro, N.; Tse, W. C.; Wu, Q.; Hu, Y. E. Patent: Compounds for the treatment of hepatitis B... WO2018144605 A1

Avoid neuro, off liver toxicity
Produce a liver targeted DHQ (DHQ-E)

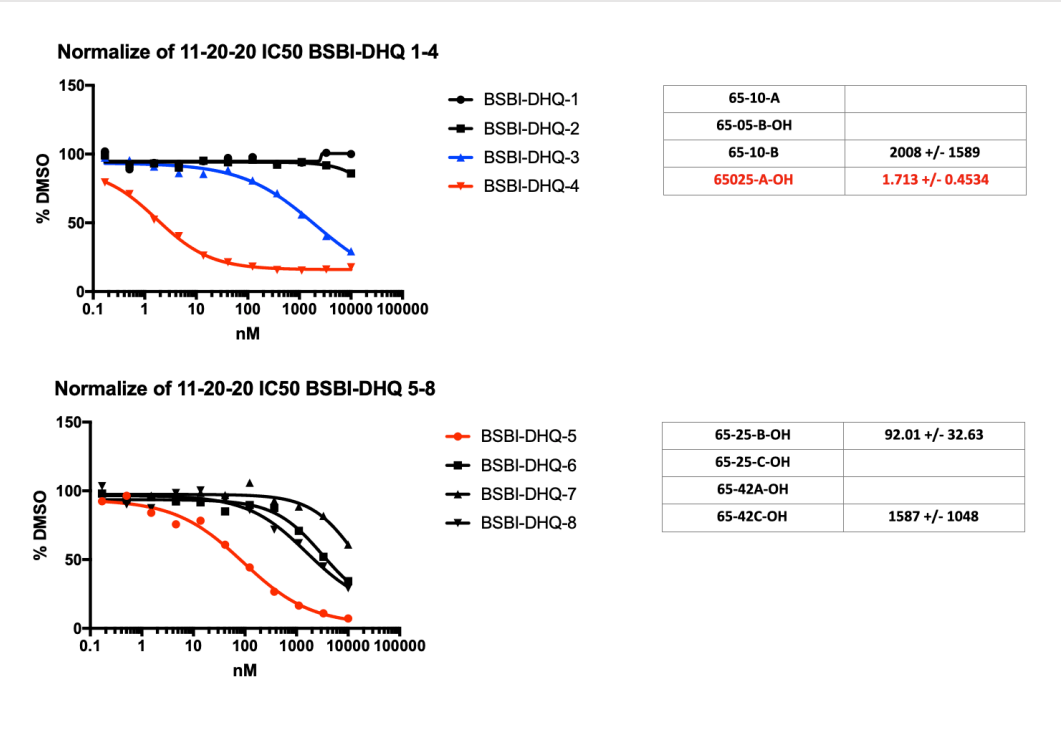
OAT B receptor



DHQ-E

DHQ-E retains excellent nano molar anti-PAPD 5 activity

DHQ-E uses the OAT P1 receptor



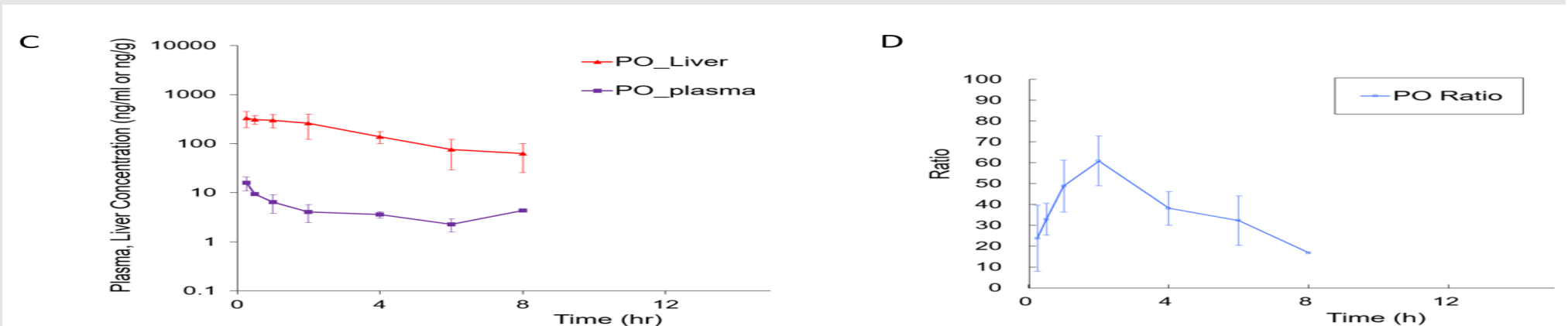
OATP1B1 and 1B3 Transporter Substrate

| Table 1. Substrate of OATP1B1 in OATP1B1 -HEK293 Cells | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Compound Number | Compound ID | Test Concentration (μM) | Uptake Ratio (-/+Inhibitor) | Uptake Ratio (Transporter (-inhibitor)/Mock(-inhibitor)) | Comment |
| Inhibitor | Rifamycin SV | 100 | - | - | - |
| Positive Control | Estradiol 17-β Glucuronide | 10 | 81.84 | 48.70 | - |
| 1 | BSBI-65042-E-OH | 1 | 11.17 | 18.99 | A potential in vitro substrate for OATP1B1 |
| 2 | DHQ-1 | 1 | 0.38 | 0.71 | Not an in vitro substrate for OATP1B1 |

| Table 1. Substrate of OATP1B3 in OATP1B3 -HEK293 Cells | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Compound Number | Compound ID | Test Concentration (μM) | Uptake Ratio (-/+Inhibitor) | Uptake Ratio (Transporter (-inhibitor)/Mock(-inhibitor)) | Comment |
| Inhibitor | Rifamycin SV | 100 | - | - | - |
| Positive Control | Estradiol 17-β Glucuronide | 10 | 86.15 | 98.86 | - |
| 1 | BSBI-65042-E-OH | 1 | 11.57 | 24.80 | A potential in vitro substrate for OATP1B3 |
| 2 | DHQ-1 | 1 | 0.42 | 0.56 | Not an in vitro substrate for OATP1B3 |

A compound is considered as a potential substrate of particular transporter when both the **Uptake ratio 1** and **Uptake ratio 2** are greater than 2

DHQ-E accumulates in the liver (in vivo), doesn't cross the blood brain barrier (in vitro)



Summary

- Any drug that interferes with HBV envelope (S,L) production or function should have anti-HDV activity
- Drugs that Kill or eliminate HBV infected cells by:
 - ❖ *immuno-stimulation or other means (Therapeutic vaccine combinations)*
 - ❖ *Target HBs directly (NAPs) or HBs mRNA (siRNA, antisense)*

Are getting new attention
- A new strategy that targets HBV mRNA for degradation (HBV PRE, host quality control)
 - Liver targeting of this drug is hoped to reduce toxicity and make it viable