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Supplemental Material

2 Supplemental Figures

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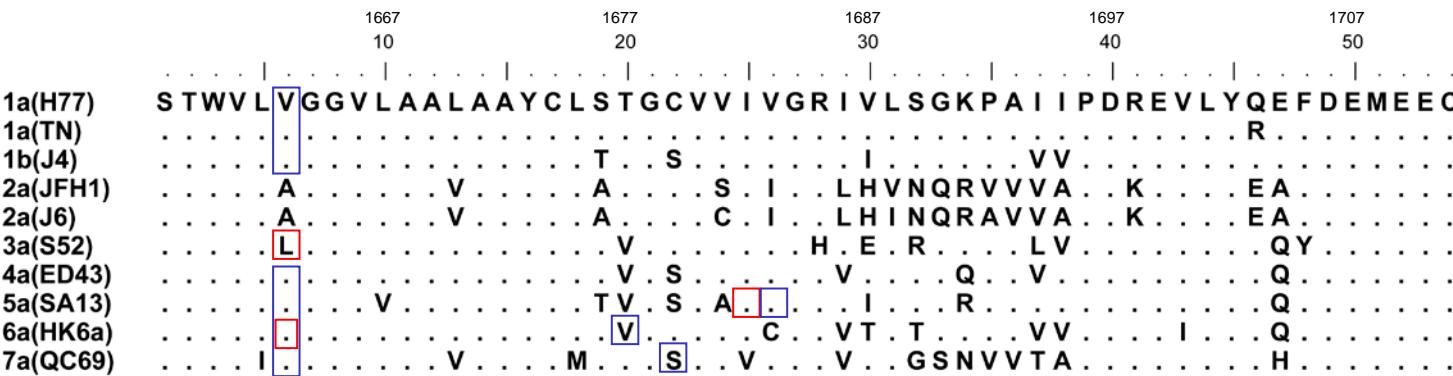
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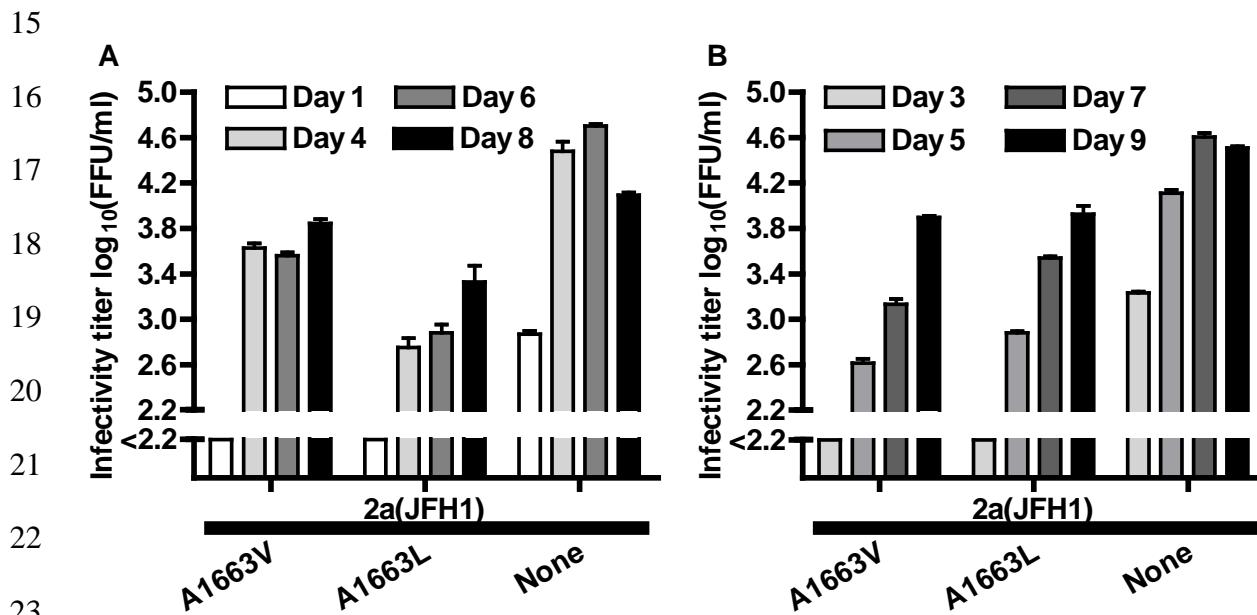
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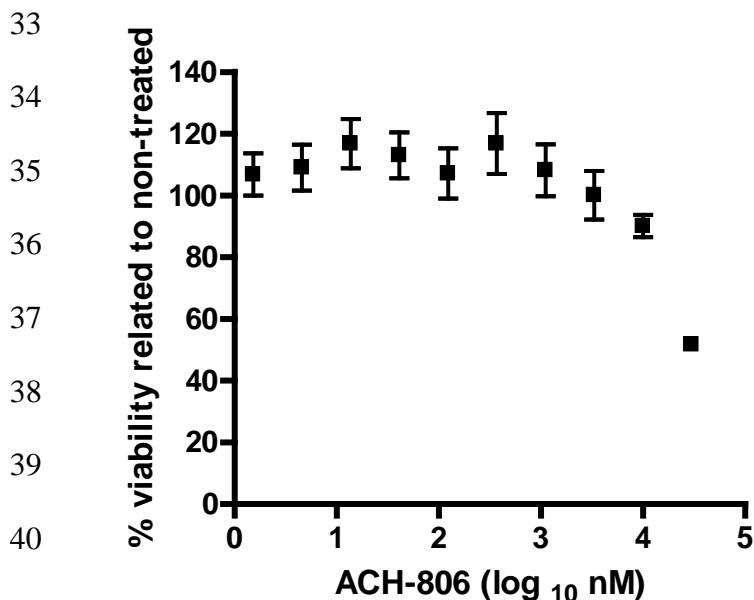
10 **Supplemental Figure 1. Alignment of NS4A genotype (isolate) sequences used in this study.** H77 (AF009606) absolute and relative
11 reference numbers are given. Red box; position, at which J6/JFH1-based recombinants with NS3P/NS4A of the respective genotype
12 (isolate) acquired cell culture adaptive amino acid substitutions (1). Blue box; position, at which J6/JFH1-based recombinants with NS4A
13 of the respective genotype (isolate) acquired cell culture adaptive amino acid substitutions.

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Supplemental Figure 2. Substitution of genotype 2 specific alanine at aa position 1663 led to attenuation of J6/JFH1. (A) Shown are supernatant infectivity titers of cultures transfected with RNA transcripts of 2a(JFH1) and 2a(JFH1) recombinants with valine or leucine at aa position 1663 (V is found for most genotype 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7 isolates; L is found for most genotype 3 isolates) (Supplemental Figure 1). Titters are means of 3 replicates with SEM; lower cut-off $2.2 \log_{10}$ FFU/ml, indicated by column brake. (B) Supernatant infectivity titers of a subsequent 2nd passage kinetic experiment inoculated at an MOI of 0.01. Titters are means of 3 replicates with SEM; lower cut-off $2.2 \log_{10}$ FFU/ml. 2a(JFH1)A1663V was genetically stable, while for 2a(JFH1)A1663L, L had reverted to A. All aa positions are annotated with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference numbers.



Supplemental Figure 3. Cytotoxicity profile of NS4A inhibitor ACH-806. 5000 Huh7.5 cells were plated per well of 96 well plates. After 1 day incubation, culture medium was exchanged. 24 and 48 hrs thereafter, ACH-806 at the indicated doses was administered; each dose was tested in triplicate. 24 hrs thereafter, CellTiter 96 AQueous One Solution Cell Proliferation Assay (Promega) was used to evaluate cytotoxic effects (see Materials and Methods). Percentages of viability were calculated by comparison of optical density (490 nm) values of treated cultures to the mean value of six non-treated cultures. Error bars indicate SEM.

49 **Supplemental Tables**50 **Supplemental Table 1.** Coding nucleotide changes of J6/JFH1-J6(NS4A) recombinant in Huh7.5 cells

51

HCV gene	NS5B	NS5B
Nucleotide position †		
J6/JFH1-J6(NS4A)	8369	9066
H77 abs ref	8304	9001
pJ6JFH-J6(NS4A)	A	A
<i>ORIGINAL CONSTRUCT</i>	Passage (Day)	Infectivity Titer Log10 (FFU/ml)
<i>1st Transfection</i>	1st (3)	4.3
<i>2nd Transfection</i>	1st (7)	4.6
Amino acid position †		
J6/JFH1-J6(NS4A)	2677	2909
H77 abs ref	2655	2887
Amino acid change	T→A	H→R

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59 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-J6(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference numbers.

60 H77 absolute nt or aa reference numbers were determined by entering the plasmid nt sequence or the derived polyprotein sequence in the
 61 eu HCV database number tool (2). Positions with quasispecies are written with two capital letters in case of a 50/50 quasispecies and with
 62 capital letter/lower case letter in case of a dominant and a minor sequence. Positions were included, at which coding nucleotide changes
 63 occurred at least as a 50/50 quasispecies in at least one ORF. Dots indicate identity with the original plasmid sequence. Highlighted
 64 positions are mutations engineered into the original construct. Indicated are number of viral passage (day of the passage experiment, at

65 which supernatant was obtained) as well as the peak infectivity titer recorded in the respective passage experiment. NS, non-structural
66 protein. NS3P, NS3 protease domain. NS3H, NS3 helicase domain.

67

68 **Supplemental Table 2.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-H77(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

HCV gene	E2	p7	NS3H	NS4A	NS5A	NS5A	NS5B		
Nucleotide position †									
J6/JFH1-H77(NS4A)	1679	2667	4458	5340	6284	6677	8970		
H77 abs ref	1680	2656	4447	5329	6273	6666	8905		
pJ6/JFH1-H77(NS4A)	T	T	G	T	C	A	T		
ORIGINAL CONSTRUCT Passage Infectivity Titer									
	(Day)	Log10 (FFU/ml)							
1st Transfection	1st (6)	4.1	•	C/t	•	C	•	•	
2nd Transfection	1st (4)	4.2	C/t	C	A	C	T/C	•	C/t
CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED AMINO ACID CHANGES									
F772S	1st (6)	4.7	•	C	A/g	C	•	G/A	•
F772S,V1663A	1st (6)	3.5	•	C	•	C	•	•	•
Amino acid position †									
J6/JFH1-H77(NS4A)	447	776	1373	1667	1982	2113	2877		
H77 abs ref	447	772	1369	1663	1978	2109	2855		
Amino acid change	F→L	F→S	R→Q	V→A	R→C	N→D	V→A		

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78 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-H77(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference numbers.

79 For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.

80

81 **Supplemental Table 3.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-TN(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

82 HCV gene	p7	p7	NS2	NS3P	NS3H	NS3H	NS3H	NS4A	NS5A	NS5A	NS5A	NS5A	NS5B				
83 Nucleotide position †	2667	2668	2835	3533	4286	4613	4626	4982	5340	6683	6948	7035	7402	7652	7919		
84 J6/JFH1-TN(NS4A)	2656	2657	2824	3522	4275	4602	4615	4971	5329	6672	6937	7024	7402	7590	7854		
85 ORIGINAL CONSTRUCT	Passage	Infectivity	Titer														
	(Day)		Log10 (FFU/ml)														
<i>1st Transfection</i>	1st (4)	3.6	C	•	•	•	A	C	•	C	•	•	•	C	G	•	
<i>2nd Transfection</i>	1st (4)	4.2	C	T	A	G	G	•	•	•	C	•	•	T	•	•	G
86 CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED AMINO ACID CHANGES																	
F772S	1st (6)	4.3	C	•	•	•	G/A	•	•	G/A	C	G/A	T/C	•	•	•	•
F772S,V1663A	1st (10)	3.4	C	•	•	•	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
87 Amino acid position †																	
J6/JFH1-TN(NS4A)		776	832	1065	1316	1425	1429	1548	1667	2115	2203	2232	2354	2438	2527		
H77 abs ref		772	828	1061	1312	1421	1425	1544	1663	2111	2199	2228	2354	2414	2505		
Amino acid change		F→S	L→H	I→V	I→V	L→M	I→T	N→D	V→A	K→E	A→V	D→V	Q→H	T→A	L→V		

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91 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-TN(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference numbers.
92 For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.

93

94 **Supplemental Table 4.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-J4(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

95	HCV gene	E1	p7	NS2	NS2	NS4A	NS5A
Nucleotide position †							
96	J6/JFH1-J4(NS4A)	962	2667	2948	2952	5340	6872
97	H77 abs ref	963	2656	2937	2941	5329	6861
98	pJ6/JFH1-J4(NS4A)	A	T	G	G	T	A
ORIGINAL CONSTRUCT							
99	Passage	Infectivity Titer (Day)	Log10 (FFU/ml)				
100	1st Transfection	1st (6)	4.2	G/A	•	A	• C C
101	2nd Transfection	1st (3)	4.3	•	C/t	•	T/G C •
CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED AMINO ACID CHANGES							
102	F772S	1st (6)	4.6	•	C	•	• C •
103	F772S,V1663A	1st (3)	4.0	•	C	•	• C •
Amino acid position †							
104	J6/JFH1-J4(NS4A)	208	776	870	871	1667	2178
105	H77 abs ref	208	772	866	867	1663	2174
106	Amino acid change	T→A	F→S	V→M	R→L	V→A	M→L

† Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-J4(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference numbers.

For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.

107 **Supplemental Table 5.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-ED43(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

HCV gene	p7	NS2	NS2	NS3P	NS4A	NS4A	NS4B	NS5A	NS5A	NS5A		
Nucleotide position †												
pJ6/JFH1-ED43(NS4A)	2667	2859	2988	3533	5340	5349	5856	7149	7164	7611		
H77 abs ref	2656	2848	2977	3522	5329	5338	5845	7150	7162	7559		
pJ6/JFH1-ED43(NS4A)	T	A	T	A	T	T	T	T	T	C		
<i>ORIGINAL CONSTRUCT</i>	<i>Passage</i>	<i>Infectivity Titer</i>										
		(Day)	Log10 (FFU/ml)									
<i>1st Transfection</i>	T (57)	2.8	C	G/A	•	G	•	C	C	•	A	T/C
	1st (10)	4.6	C	•	•	G	C/T	C/T	C	•	A	•
	3rd (6)	4.2	C	•	•	G	C	•	C/T	•	A	•
<i>2nd Transfection</i>	1st (4)	4.2	•	•	C	•	C	•	•	C/T	•	•
CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED AMINO ACID CHANGES												
F772S												
<i>1st Transfection</i>	1st (7)	4.0	C	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	•	
<i>2nd Transfection</i>	1st (6)	3.9	C	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	•	
V1663A	1st (18)	4.2	C	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	•	
F772S,V1663A	1st (6)	3.9	C	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	•	
I879T,V1663A	1st (9)	4.3	•	•	C	•	C	•	•	•	•	
<i>Amino acid position †</i>												
J6JFH-ED43(NS4A)		776	840	883	1065	1667	1670	1839	2270	2275	2424	
H77 abs ref		772	836	879	1061	1663	1666	1835	2270	2275	2402q	
<i>Amino acid change</i>		F→S	K→R	I→T	I→V	V→A	V→A	V→A	I→T	M→K	S→L	

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121 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-ED43(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference
122 numbers. T, indicates that viruses from transfection culture were analysed. For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.
123

124 **Supplemental Table 6.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-SA13(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

125	HCV gene	E2	p7	p7	NS3P	NS3H	NS3H	NS4A	NS4A	NS5A	NS5A	NS5A	
126	Nucleotide position †												
J6/JFH1-SA13(NS4A)		1554	2600	2667	3533	4431	4458	5340	5399	6558	6809	7150	
H77 abs ref		1555	2589	2656	3522	4420	4447	5329	5388	6547	6798	7151	
pJ6/JFH1-SA13(NS4A)		T	A	T	A	C	G	T	G	A	T	A	
127	ORIGINAL CONSTRUCT	Passage (Day)	Infectivity Log10 (FFU/ml)										
<i>1st Transfection</i>	1st (3)	3.6	C/t	G	C/t	•	•	•	C	T	•	•	G
128	CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED AMINO ACID CHANGES												
F772S,V1663A	1st (8)	4.3	T/c	•	C	G	T/C	T	C	•	G	A	•
F772S,V1663A,V1683F	1st (9)	3.7	•	•	C	•	•	•	C	T	•	•	•
129	Amino acid position †												
J6/JFH1-SA13(NS4A)		405	754	776	1065	1364	1373	1667	1687	2073	2157	2270	
H77 abs ref		405	750	772	1061	1360	1369	1663	1683	2069	2153	2270	
Amino acid change		M→T	K→E	F→S	I→V	P→L	R→L	V→A	V→F	Q→R	S→T	I→M	
130													
131													
132													

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134 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-SA13(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference numbers.

135 For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.

136

137 **Supplemental Table 7.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-HK6a(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

138	HCV gene	E2	p7	NS2	NS2	NS3P	NS3P	NS3P	NS3H	NS4A	NS4A	NS4A	NS5A	NS5A	NS5B	NS5B	NS5B	
Nucleotide position †																		
J6/JFH1-HK6a(NS4A)																		
139	J6/JFH1-HK6a(NS4A)	2291	2667	2843	3408	3630	3645	3666	4017	5340	5382	5412	6678	7142	8605	8751	8985	
H77 abs ref		2280	2656	2832	3397	3619	3634	3655	4006	5329	5371	5401	6667	7143	8540	8686	8920	
140	pJ6/JFH1-HK6a(NS4A)	A	T	C	C	T	C	A	C	T	T	C	A	C	G	T	A	
CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED Passage Infectivity Titer																		
AMINO ACID CHANGES																		
AMINO ACID CHANGES																		
F772S,V1663A																		
142	1st Transfection	1st (3)	4.0	•	C	•	•	•	•	C	•	C	•	G	T	A/G	C/T	G/A
2nd Transfection	1st (13)	4.0	T/A	C	A/C	T/C	C/T	T	•	T/c	C	C/T	•	•	•	•	•	•
F772S,E1105A,V1663A																		
143	F772S,V1663A,V1677A	1st (20)	3.7	•	C	•	•	•	•	C	•	C	T/c	•	•	•	•	•
F772S,E1105A,V1663A,V1677A	1st (15)	4.1	•	C	•	•	•	C/t	A/g	•	C	C	C/T	•	•	•	•	•
144	F772S,E1105A,V1663A,V1677A	1st (8)	3.6	•	C	•	•	•	•	C	•	C	•	•	•	•	•	•
Amino acid position †																		
J6JFH-HK6a(NS4A)																		
145	J6JFH-HK6a(NS4A)	651	776	835	1023	1097	1102	1109	1226	1667	1681	1691	2113	2268	2755	2804	2882	
H77 abs ref		647	772	831	1019	1093	1098	1105	1222	1663	1677	1687	2109	2268	2733	2782	2860	
Amino acid change																		
T→S F→S L→I T→I L→S T→M *																		

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147 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-HK6a(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference

148 numbers. For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.

149 *Amino acid change E→A/G encoded by nucleotide change A→C/G.

150

151 **Supplemental Table 8.** Coding nucleotide changes of original and adapted J6/JFH1-QC69(NS4A) recombinants in Huh7.5 cells

152 HCV gene	E1	E1	E2	p7	p7	NS2	NS2	NS2	NS3P	NS4A	NS4A	NS4B	NS5A	NS5B	NS5B
Nucleotide position †															
153 J6/JFH1-QC69(NS4A)	1124	1469	2512	2667	2700	2975	3062	3158	3533	5340	5387	6132	6390	8721	8722
H77 abs ref	1125	1470	2501	2656	2689	2964	3051	3147	3522	5329	5376	6121	6379	8656	8657
154 pJ6/JFH1-QC69(NS4A)	A	T	A	T	T	G	A	A	A	T	A	A	A	A	T
CONSTRUCTS WITH INDICATED AMINO ACID CHANGES		Passage	Infectivity Titer												
		(Day)	Log10 (FFU/ml)												
F772S,V1663A	1st (10)	3.7	•	•	G/A	C	•	•	A/G	G/A	G/A	C	T/a	•	•
F772S,V1663A,S1679C	1st (25)	3.6	C/a	•	•	C	C/T	•	•	•	G	C	T	•	G
F772S,V1663A,S1679C	1st (22)	3.8	•	G/T	•	C	•	C/T	•	•	•	C	T	G/A	•
F772S,I1061V,V1663A,S1679C	1st (13)	3.8	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	•	G	C	T	•	•
Amino acid position †															
J6JFH-QC69(NS4A)	262	377	724	776	787	879	908	940	1065	1667	1683	1931	2017	2794	
H77 abs ref	262	377	720	772	783	875	904	936	1061	1663	1679	1927	2013	2772	
Amino acid change	I→L	L→V	I→M	F→S	V→A	W→R	G→S	M→V	I→V	V→A	S→C	N→S	K→R	D→A	

159
160 † Positions are numbered according to the HCV sequence of J6/JFH1-QC69(NS4A) and with H77 (AF009606) absolute reference
161 numbers. For detailed description see Supplemental Table 1.

- 162
- 163 Reference List
- 164
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