SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Eligibility

Eligible patients were recruited from the First Hospital, Jilin University, China.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Male and female patients of minimum 16 years of age, with confirmed diagnosis of chronic HBV infection
- Patients may be HBV treatment-naive, or, may have previously received or could be receiving at enrollment one or more HBV therapies, other than ETV
- Patients may have previously been treated with IFN-alfa, or concurrently receiving IFN-alfa (pegylated formulation alfa-2a or alfa-2b). A total of 16 patients were treated with IFN-alfa; these patients stopped treatment with IFN-alfa 6 months before enrolling into the study
- HCV-co-infected patients were eligible to participate

Exclusion Criteria

- Patients who, in the opinion of the investigator, were virologically controlled on their current HBV treatment regimen and clinically responding to treatment, unless their HBV regimen needed modification for medication intolerance
- Patients who, in the opinion of the investigator, had an expected liver transplant-free survival of less than one year
- HIV co-infected patients
- Patients with a prior history of malignant neoplasm(s) (including carcinoma in situ but excluding non-melanoma skin cancer)
- Prisoners or patients who are compulsorily detained (involuntarily incarcerated) for treatment of either a psychiatric or physical (e.g., infectious disease) illness were excluded from the study