Supporting Information

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SI Materials and Methods

Primary Samples. Samples for prevalence studies were sera from an Alabama herd followed from 2008 to 2012, consisting of 18–29 animals, and plasma samples from 17 Louisiana horses. Additional samples were analyzed from New York horses previously identified as NPHV carriers. Ultrasound-guided percutaneous biopsies were taken from selected horses, using standard procedures at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University or College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University and adhered to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee protocol at these institutions. Standard commercial sera for cell culture were from the following companies: Life Technologies, Sigma, Lonza, Omega, Atlanta, ATCC, Fisher, and Jackson Immunoresearch.

Detection, Quantification, and Sequencing of Viral RNA and miRNA. RNA was purified from serum or plasma using the High Pure Viral Nucleic Acid Kit (Roche) or TRIzol (Life Technologies) and from tissues using the RNeasy mini kit (Qiagen) after disruption, using TissueLyser LT with a 5-mm metal bead (Qiagen). For viral RNA screening, cDNA was synthesized using Super-ScriptIII (Life Technologies) and random nonamers (Sigma) at 25 °C for 15 min followed by a gradient from 50 °C to 55 °C over 60 min. Samples were screened for NPHV using AmpliTaq Gold (Life Technologies) and primer set RU-O-17723/RU-O-17724 (5'-UTR) or RU-O-17951/RU-O-17953 (Core-E2) at 95 °C for 8 min and 10 cycles of 95 °C for 40 s, 59 °C (decreasing by 0.5 °C per cycle) for 45 s, and 72 °C for 30 s, followed by 30 cycles of 95 °C for 30 s, 56 °C for 40 s, and 72 °C for 30 s (primer sequences are in Table S2). Screening for TDAV and EPgV was carried out using similar conditions and primer sets RU-O-20000/RU-O-20001 (TDAV, annealing temperature 61 °C decreasing to 56 °C) and RU-O-19037/RU-O-19038 (EPgV, annealing temperature 67 °C decreasing to 62 °C). Viral sequences were determined directly from PCR amplicons or after TOPO-TA cloning (Life Technologies). A one-step NPHV qRT-PCR was established with primers RU-O-19381 and RU-O-19382, probe RU-O-19383, and TaqMan Fast Virus 1-Step Master Mix (Applied Bioscience) on a LightCycler 480 (Roche) at 50 °C for 30 min and 95 °C for 5 min, followed by 40 cycles of 95 °C for 15 s, 56 °C for 30 s, and 60 °C for 45 s. An NPHV standard curve was generated from in vitro transcribed RNA from the NZP1 consensus clone, which was quantified (Nanodrop) and diluted to cover the range of 5×10^8 – 5×10^1 GE/µL. The presence of negative strand RNA in liver biopsies was confirmed by 5'-RACE (Life Technologies) on (-)RNA as described below for determining the 3'-UTR.

To sequence the ORF, cDNA was synthesized using Super-ScriptIII in a gradient from 50 °C to 55 °C over 60 min, followed by treatment with RNase H and T1 for 20 min at 37 °C. The first and second PCRs were performed using Accuprime Pfx supermix (Life Technologies) with cycling parameters 95 °C for 5 min followed by 35 cycles of 95 °C for 20 s, 58 °C for 30 s, and 68 °C for 7 min (3 min in second PCR). Primers for this procedure are listed in Table S3.

miRNAs were quantified using the miScript II RT kit (Qiagen) and qPCR using SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems) and forward primers identical to the miRNA sequence on a LightCycler 480 at 95 °C for 10 min followed by 40 cycles of 95 °C for 15 s, 55 °C for 30 s, and 60 °C for 30 s. Standard curves were generated by diluting miRIDIAN miRNA mimic (Thermo Fisher) to the range of 1×10^8 – 1×10^1 copies per microliter.

Determination of the NPHV 5'- and 3'-UTR. The previously published sequence of the NPHV 5'-UTR (1) was confirmed using 5'-RACE on NZP1 serum RNA. Primer RU-O-17726 and Super-ScriptIII were used for cDNA synthesis in a gradient from 50 °C to 55 °C. TdT tailing was performed using either dCTP or dATP, first-round PCR primers were AAP/RU-O-18040 (dCTP) or RU-O-18177/RU-O-18040 (dATP), and second-round primers were AUAP/RU-O-17206 (dCTP) or RU-O-17918/RU-O-17206 (dATP). PCR products were generated using AmpliTaq Gold polymerase (Applied Biosystems) with cycling parameters 95 °C for 2 min followed by 30 cycles of 95 °C for 30 s, 55 °C for 40 s, and 72 °C for 1 min. The two tailing protocols uniquely identified the complete 5'-UTR.

To determine the 3'-UTR, RNA from NZP1 serum was used for linker ligation, using T4 RNA ligase 1 (Fermentas) and P-RL3.2 ssRNA linker (2) at 16 °C overnight. cDNA was synthesized using SuperScriptIII and primer RU-O-17918 in a gradient from 50 °C to 55 °C over 60 min. Alternatively, RNA was tailed with homopolymers of GTP, ATP, or UTP, using Yeast Poly(A) Polymerase (USB Affymetrix), and cDNA was synthesized as above using primers RU-O-18176, RU-O-18177, or RU-O-18329. A first-round PCR using Ex Taq DNA polymerase, Hot Start (Clontech) was run using primers RU-O-17670 and RU-O-17918. When necessary, a second-round PCR was run using primer RU-O-18168 and the corresponding cDNA primer. Cycling parameters were 94 °C for 2 min, followed by 40 cycles of 94 °C for 30 s, 55 °C for 30 s, and 72 °C for 30 s. Linker ligation exclusively identified genomes terminating in poly(A) tails immediately downstream of the stop codon. Because no tailing procedures had been used on NPHV samples at the time, they were unlikely to be contaminants. Poly(G) tailing led to amplification of the short poly(A) tract, the variable region, the poly(U/C) tract, and the partial conserved intermediate region until a G-rich stretch (nucleotides 9302–9308). Poly(A) and poly(U) tailing using forward primers in the 3'-variable region led to amplification of the entire conserved intermediate region. The terminal sequence, including the long poly(U) tract and conserved 3'X region, was amplified by 5'-RACE on (-)RNA from liver. For this, RNA was mixed with primer RU-O-18357 and dNTPs and incubated at 105 °C for 45 s to denature dsRNA and immediately transferred to 50 °C. Prewarmed SuperScriptIII master mix containing additional RU-O-18357 was added and incubated in a gradient from 50 °C to 60 °C over 60 min. RNA was then degraded by RNAseH and T1 for 20 min at 37 °C. Next, the 5'-RACE protocol was followed for cDNA purification and 5'-poly(dC) tailing. A first-round PCR using AmpliTaq Gold polymerase was run using primers RU-O-18358 and AAP. A second-round PCR was run using primers RU-O-18328 and AUAP. Cycling parameters were 95 $^\circ$ C for 2 min, followed by 40 cycles of 95 °C for 30 s, 55 °C for 40 s, and 72 °C for 1 min.

To amplify the 3'-UTR of other isolates, reverse transcription and PCR conditions were as described above. Primers were RU-O-18354 and RU-O-19846 for cDNA synthesis; RU-O-18357/RU-O-18354, RU-O-18328/RU-O-19847, or RU-O-19849/RU-O-19846 for first-round PCR (three overlapping fragments); and RU-O-18358/RU-O-18355, RU-O-19136/RU-O-19848, or RU-O-19849/RU-O-19846 for second-round PCR. Exact length determinations of the poly(U) tract using RT-PCR, as performed here, are difficult due to inaccuracy of reverse transcriptase in low-complexity sequences, and the determined length therefore might deviate from the most abundant length in the viral RNA.

To determine the 3' terminus of serum-derived RNA from the liver-inoculated horse, 3' G tailing of RNA was performed as above with forward PCR primers replaced by RU-O-19849 (first round) and RU-O-21833 (second round). The 5' terminus was determined as above.

Amplicons from all methods were TOPO-TA cloned and sequenced (Macrogen).

NPHV and HCV DNA Constructs. To obtain an NPHV consensus sequence, RNA from NZP1 serum was reverse transcribed using SuperScriptIII and primers RU-O-17037 and RU-O-17039 in a gradient from 50 °C to 55 °C over 60 min (primers RU-O-17174 and RU-O-17175 for fragment III). Fragment I (nucleotides 339-2,056) was amplified using Accuprime Pfx supermix and primers RU-O-17640 and RU-O-17036. Fragments II-IV (nucleotides 1,701-4,559, 4,289-7,107, and 6,753-9,147, respectively) were amplified in nested procedures, using first-round primers RU-O-17033/RU-O-17037 (II), RU-O-17152/RU-O-17174 (III), or RU-O-17035/RU-O-17039 (IV) and second-round primers RU-O-17070/RU-O-17073 (II), RU-O-17071/RU-O-17038 (III), or RU-O-17072/RU-O-17075 (IV). Cycling parameters were 95 °C for 5 min, followed by 35 cycles of 95 °C for 20 s, 58 °C for 30 s, and 68 °C for 3-6 min. Amplicons were TOPO-XL cloned and 7-10 clones per fragment were sequenced to determine the consensus.

A full-length consensus clone, pNZP1, was assembled in pCR-XL-TOPO, using standard PCR and restriction digest molecular biology from a 5'-UTR RACE clone, clones of fragments I-IV, and overlapping clones of the 3'-UTR. The T7 promoter present in the original plasmid was replaced by a T7 promoter and a single G immediately upstream of the NPHV sequence, and a BspEI site was engineered immediately downstream of the 3'-UTR for linearization. A replication-deficient clone, pNZP1-GNN, was constructed by mutating the NS5B active site, GDD, by site-directed mutagenesis. A fluorescent reporter construct, pNZP1-Ypet, was constructed from pJc1-5AB-Ypet (3) by duplication of the NPHV NS5A-5B cleavage site. As observed for other Flaviviridae, the NPHV sequence was slightly toxic to Escherichia coli. Thus, after transformation, bacteria were grown at 30 °C with kanamycin selection for an extended time (24–36 h). Endo-free maxipreps (Qiagen) were prepared for in vivo work.

The NPHV subgenomic replicon, pNZP1-SGR, was constructed in the Con1 replicon backbone (4), by replacing the HCV 5'-UTR and the first 45 nt of Core as well as the NS3-3'-UTR sequence by the corresponding sequence of NZP1. A single G was placed upstream of the NPHV sequence, and a BspEI site was placed immediately downstream of the 3'-UTR for linearization, adjacent to the SpeI site in the backbone. A replication-deficient clone, pNZP1-SGR-GNN, was constructed as above.

NPHV translation reporters were constructed in the pNZP1 background by replacing the NPHV sequence from nucleotide 412 to nucleotide 9,147 by *Renilla* luciferase and a stop codon, leaving the first 27 nt (9 aa) of Core as a translated N terminus as well as the last 66 nt of NS5B as an untranslated 5' extension of the 3'-UTR. In addition, the following variants were constructed: *(i)* deletion of the poly(U) and 3'X regions and *(ii)* replacement of the last stem loop of the intermediate region, the poly(U) and 3'X regions by the terminal stem loop of HCV (NZP1 nucleotides 9,326–9,538 replaced by nucleotides 9,598–9,646 of H77, AF009606). A variant with no 3'-UTR was generated by BamHI cleavage before transcription, leaving only 8 nt downstream of the *Renilla* luciferase stop codon.

For bacterial expression, the NPHV NS5A sequence devoid of the predicted amphipathic α -helix (5) (NS5A Δ AAH, NS5A amino acids 36–405, NZP1 nucleotides 6,334–7,443) was flanked by BamHI and NotI for cloning upstream of the C terminus of His6-tagged Smt3 (yeast small ubiquitin-like modifier protein) in a pET28a vector (Novagen). The HCV plasmids pJc1 (6), pJ6/JFH1-GNN (7), and pH-SG-Neo (L+8) (8) have been described.

Cell Culture and Preparation of EFLCs. Huh-7.5, Clone8 (9), MDCK, D-17, and HEK293 cells were maintained in DMEM supplemented with 10% (vol/vol) FBS; E.Derm and BHK-21 in MEM with 10% FBS; MDBK and BT in DMEM with 10% BVDV-free FBS, nonessential amino acids, and 0.1 mM sodium pyruvate; PK-15 in DMEM with 5% (vol/vol) horse serum; and Vero in serum-free Opti-Pro with 4 mM glutamine. MDCK and PK-15 cells were split using increased trypsin concentration (0.25%). Vero cells were split using TrypLE Express (Life Technologies).

To prepare EFLCs, an equine fetal liver (80 d of gestation) was placed in RPMI medium on ice, and EFLCs were isolated the same day as previously described (10). A total of 3.2×10^4 cells in W10 plating medium were plated per well of a 96-well plate. After attachment, EFLCs were cultivated in serum-free hepatocyte defined medium (HDM) (BD Biosciences). For visualization of hepatocytes and monitoring of hepacivirus NS3-4A expression, EFLCs were transduced with pTRIP-SV40-AlbtagRFP-nlsIPS as previously described (10).

Lentivirus Transduction for miR-122 Expression. For lentivirus production, 2.3×10^6 293T cells plated in a poly-D-lysine–coated 10-cm dish in DMEM with 3% FBS were transfected using Xtremegene-9 (Roche) with pVSV-G, pHIV-gag-pol, and pTrip-dU3-miR122-SV40-polyA-RSVp-Bsd-IRES-TagRFP expressing miR-122 under the CMV promoter and blasticidin and tagRFP under the RSV promoter bicistronically separated by the EMCV IRES. Supernatant was collected for 72 h. A pTrip-GFP vector was included as a control. For transduction, E.Derm, MDBK, MDCK, and PK-15 cells were spinoculated for 1 h at 1,000 × g at 37 °C in six-well format, with twofold dilutions of lentivirus in cell-type-specific media containing 20 mM Hepes and 4 µg/mL polybrene. From 2 d posttransduction, cells were kept under selection with 15 µg/mL blasticidin, and the completely selected cell lines were termed E.Derm/122, MDBK/122, MDCK/122, and PK-15/122.

NPHV Protein Expression, Purification of NS5A Antibodies, and Western Blotting. To obtain T7 expression in HEK293 and BHK-21 cells, cells growing in six-well plates were infected with vTF7-3 (11) in 400 μ L PBS with 1% FCS and 1 mM MgCl₂ at multiplicity of infection = 10 for 60 min. Immediately thereafter, cells were transfected for 3 h with 2.5 μ g pNZP1 or pJ6/JFH1-GNN DNA mixed with 5 μ L Lipofectamine 2000 (Life Technologies) in 500 μ L OptiMEM. Cells were used for WB or immunostaining at 24 h.

To generate recombinant NPHV NS5AAAH for antibody purification, the NPHV NS5AAAH plasmid was transformed into Rosetta 2 (DE3) cells (Novagen). After cell growth at 37 °C to OD₆₀₀, protein expression was induced for 0.5 h and 4 h at 25 °C in the presence of 0.5 mM isopropylthio-\beta-galactoside, and the cells were harvested and resuspended in 20% sucrose, 50 mM Tris, pH 8.5. The cells were then frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 °C. To purify NS5A, cells were next thawed and lysed by sonication in 500 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris (pH 8.5), 1 mM PMSF, 0.1% (vol/vol) IGEPAL, 10 mM imidazole, 1 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 50 µg/mL lysozyme, 5 µg/mL DNase I, and 2.5 µg/mL RNase A. The protein was sequentially purified through His₆-tag affinity, ionexchange, and gel-filtration columns (Ni-Sepharose 6 Fast Flow resin, HiTrap Q HP 5 mL, and Superdex 200 10/300 GL; GE Healthcare). The His₆-Smt3 tag was cleaved by the Ulp1 protease (12) after the protein was eluted from the Ni column. Pure protein fractions were pooled and concentrated to 20 mg/mL in 50 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris (pH 8.5), and 5 mM DTT. Aliquots were flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 °C.

To purify NPHV NS5A-specific antibodies, crude horse serum (lot 8211574) was precipitated by slow mixing with saturated ammonium sulfate (Pierce) and stirring for 1 h. The sample was centrifuged at 5,000 × g for 20 min, and the precipitate was dissolved in 15 mL PBS. Dissolved precipitated protein was dialyzed in a 20-kDa dialysis cassette (Pierce) against 1 L PBS overnight. The sample was then applied to a column loaded with purified NPHV NS5A Δ AAH crosslinked to UltraLink Biosupport (Thermo). NS5A-reactive antibody was eluted using 0.1 M glycine, 2% acetic acid, pH 2.2, into neutral pH buffer, and this sample was termed anti-NPHV NS5A₈₂₁₁₅₇₄.

For Western blots, cell pellets were lysed with 1 mL cold radioimmunoprecipitation assay buffer with cOmplete Mini Protease Inhibitor Mixture Tablets (Roche) and incubated for 5 min, shaking at 1,000 rpm at 37 °C with 30 µL of RQ1 DNase (Promega). Lysates were cleared at 14,000 × g, 4 °C for 15 min before incubation in NuPAGE sample buffer under reducing conditions at 70 °C for 10 min and loading on a NuPAGE 4–12% or 10% gel. As a primary antibody, crude commercial horse serum (1:500), anti-HCV NS5A_{9E10} (1:1,000) (7), anti-NPHV NS5A₈₂₁₁₅₇₄ (1:500), or β-actin peroxidase (Sigma; 1:100,000) was used. Secondary antibody was rabbit anti–mouse-HRP (Pierce; 1:1,000) or rabbit polyclonal secondary antibody to horse IgG-H&L (HRP) (Abcam; 1:20,000).

Albumin ELISA. The human albumin ELISA was previously described (10). The equine albumin ELISA was adapted from this protocol, using horse albumin cross adsorbed antibody (Bethyl A70-422A) for plate coating and horse albumin cross adsorbed antibody, HRP coupled (Bethyl A70-422P) for detection.

Translation Luciferase Assays. NPHV Renilla luciferase reporters were linearized with BspEI or BamHI and transcribed as described in In Vitro Transcription, Transfection, and Electroporation. A capped firefly luciferase reporter with a synthetic poly(A) tail was transcribed using T7 mMessage mMachine (Ambion). Twenty-four hours after plating, 2×10^4 cells per well in 48-well plates were transfected with miRIDIAN miR-122 mimic or LNA-122 (Exigon) at 3 nM and 30 nM final concentration, respectively, using Lipofectamine RNAiMAX. Fortyeight hours after plating, Huh-7.5, E.Derm, and E.Derm/122 cells were transfected with 1 µg/well NPHV Renilla RNA and 50 ng firefly control RNA, using Lipofectamine 2000. After another 24 h, the relative luciferase expression was measured using the Dual Luciferase Reporter Assay (Promega) on a FLUOstar Omega (BMG Labtech). Normalization for RNA amount was done by RNA extraction using RNeasy and cDNA synthesis, using SuperScript III and random nonamers as above; followed by qPCR using SYBR Green PCR Master Mix and primers RU-O-18876/RU-O-18877 (Renilla) or RU-O-18878/RU-O-18879 (firefly) on a LightCycler 480 at 95 °C for 10 min; followed by 40 cycles of 95 °C for 15 s, 55 °C for 30 s, and 60 °C for 30 s.

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In Vitro Transcription, Transfection, and Electroporation. NPHV RNA was in vitro transcribed from BspEI-linearized DNA plasmids, using the T7 RiboMAX Express Large Scale RNA Production System (Promega). RNA was treated with RQ1 DNase on ice for 30 min and purified on RNeasy columns.

For transfection into cell lines, 2.5 µg RNA was mixed with 5 µL Lipofectamine 2000 in 500 µL OptiMEM, incubated 20 min, and added to 4×10^5 cells in 2 mL media in six-well plates. Cells were split every 2–3 d, and supernatant and pelleted cell aliquots were stored at -80 °C for subsequent analysis by qRT-PCR. Infection was further monitored by immunostaining using anti-NPHV NS5A₈₂₁₁₅₇₄ (1:50) and rabbit polyclonal secondary antibody to horse IgG-H&L (FITC) (Abcam; 1:50) or by Ypet expression (NZP1-Ypet).

For transfection into EFLCs, 48 ng RNA was mixed with $0.8 \,\mu\text{L}$ DMRIE-C (Life Technologies) in 40 μL OptiMEM per well of a 96-well plate and incubated for 2 h at 37 °C.

For replicon experiments, RNA was produced as above from pNZP1-SGR and the corresponding GNN control or from the HCV-positive control, pH-SG-Neo (L+8), with additional RNeasy on-column DNase I treatment. In a 4-mm cuvette, 5 µg RNA was added to a 400- μ L suspension of 6 × 10⁶ Huh-7.5, E.Derm, E.Derm/122, MDCK, MDCK/122, PK-15, or PK-15/ 122 cells or 8×10^6 MDBK or MDBK/122 cells, before electroporation using five 100-µs square-wave pulses of 860 V (Huh-7.5), 750 V (E.Derm, E.Derm/122, MDCK, MDCK/122, PK-15, and PK-15/122), or 900 V (MDBK and MDBK/122) over 1.1 s. Starting from 48 h postelectroporation, cells were selected using 750 µg/mL (Huh-7.5, MDBK, MDBK/122, MDCK, MDCK/122, PK-15, and PK-15/122) or 500 µg/mL (E.Derm and E.Derm/122) G418. The presence of colonies was evaluated after 2–3 wk when massive cell death had occurred and defined colonies were visible for the HCV control in Huh-7.5 cells.

In Vivo RNA Inoculation and Monitoring of Infection. An NPHV, TDAV, and EPgV RNA-free and NPHV antibody-free Arabian gelding was identified and used for the RNA inoculation experiment. Procaine penicillin, gentamicin, and flunixin meglumine were administered just before the procedure, and the horse was sedated with detomidine. A laparoscopic cannula was inserted through an incision through the skin, allowing for internal video monitoring, and the abdomen was insufflated to 15 mmHg, using CO₂ gas. At that time, an 18-gauge needle was inserted and video guided to the liver. Seven batches of NZP1 in vitro transcribed NPHV RNA, a total of ~350 µg RNA, were then injected into seven different sites of the liver (Movie S1). Complete blood counts and clinical biochemical profiles were performed before and following the procedure. Sample preparation and RNA analysis from serum and liver and lymph node biopsies were as described above. NPHV reactive antibodies were measured using the luciferase immunoprecipitation system (LIPS) assay as described in ref. 1.

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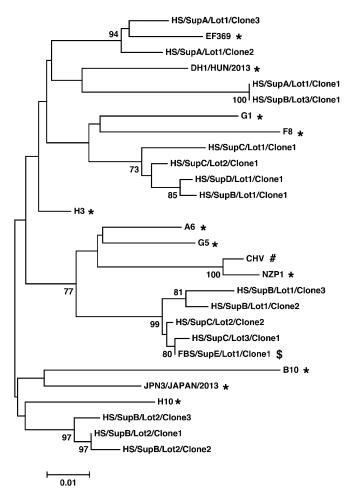


Fig. S1. The evolutionary history of the E1 and partial Core and E2 region (amino acid residues 176–479) from NPHV isolates from commercial horse sera and FBS (\$) and previously published isolates (*) (1–4) including NZP1 (1) and CHV (#) (5) was inferred using the neighbor-joining method. The percentages of replicate trees in which taxa clustered together are shown (when >70%). The evolutionary distances are in the units of the number of amino acid substitutions per site. Evolutionary analyses were done using MEGA5 (6).

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	stop	Poly(A) region	Variable region	Poly(U/C) region			
pNZP1 NZP1 M303 A108 A131 A132 B10	UAAAAAA UAAAAAA UAAAAAA UAAAAAA UAAAAAA UAAAAAA	АЛАЛАЛАЛА GAAAAA AAGGAAAAA AAAAGAAAAA AAGAAAA AGAAAA	UAA-UUAGCUCCUAAUUCAUU- UAAAUUUGCUUUCCUAAUUUACCA- UAAAUUUGCUUUCCUAAUUUACCA- UAAAUUUGCUUUCCUAAUUUACCA- UAAAUUUGCUUUCCUAAUUUACCA-	CTTTCTCTTCTTCCCTCTTTATTTCCTTTATT CUUUCUUUUCUUUUUUCCCUUUUUUUUCCUUUUUUU CUUUCCUUUCUCUCUUUUUUUU			
B10 AB863589 AB921150 AB921151	UAAGAAAGAAAAGAAAAAAAAAUAA-UUAAUAAAAUCUUUAUCUAAACUU-CCUUUCCCCUUUCCCCUUUCCCGUUUUCCUUUUUUUU						
pNZP1 NZP1 M303 A108 A131 A132 B10 AB863589 AB921150	Conserved intermediate regionPoly(U) tract9277GGTTACTTCCTATGGAAGAACAGGAGGGTGGGTG-ATGGGAGCCCTGTTCCGCCCCTATGGGGCGAAAATG (T) 96CTTTCTCTGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUCCGCCCCUAUGGGGCGAAAAUG (U) 81-86CCUUUCUUGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUCCGCCCUAUGGGGCGAAAAUG (U) 88-96CUUUUCUUGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUCCGCCCUAUGGGGCGAAAAUG (U) 86-90CUUUCUCUGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUCCGCCCGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUCCGCCGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUCCGCCGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUG-AUGGGAGCCCUGUUUGGCCCCUAUGGGGCCAAGUUGGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUGAUGGAGGCCUGUUUGGCCCCUAUGGGGCCAAGUUGGGUUACUUCCUAUGGAAGAACAGGAGGGUGGGUGGAUGAUGGAGCCCUGUUCUGCCCCUAUGGGGCC-AGUUUA						
	Conserved 3'X region						
pNZP1 NZP1	AUUGAUG	GGUGGCUCCCCUUAGCUCUAGU	CACGGCUAGCUUCUGAAGGCCCGUGAGCC	GCATGGTCCCGGGATATCCCGGGACTATGT/ccgga GCAUGG <mark>UC</mark> C			

M303 AUUGAUGGGUGGCUCCCCUUAGCUCUAGUCACGGCUAGCUUCUGAAGGCCCGUGAGCCGCAUGGUCCCGGGAUAUCCCGGGACUAUGU/.

A108 AUUGAUGGGUGGCUCCCCUUAGCUCUAGUCACGGCUAGCUUCUGAAGGCCCGUGAGCCGCAUGGUCC...

Fig. S2. Alignment of the NPHV 3'-UTR. Individual equine isolates for which the entire or partial 3'-UTR was determined were manually aligned and annotated. Previously published partial sequences were included for comparison (1). Red font indicates sequences with variation among individual clones of the given isolate. For length variations in homopolymer regions, the longest identified sequence is given. The slash indicates the 3' terminus (or BspEl site for pNZP1).

1. Tanaka T, et al. (2014) Hallmarks of hepatitis C virus in equine hepacivirus. J Virol 88(22):13352-13366.

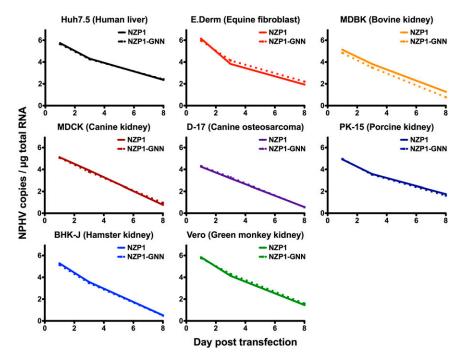
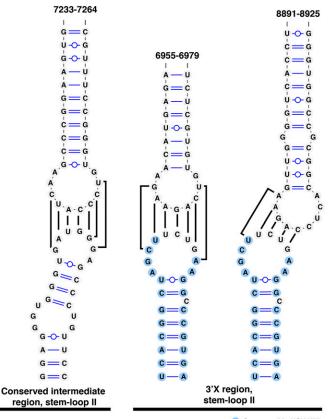


Fig. S3. Transfection of NZP1 consensus RNA into various cell lines. RNA transcripts from pNZP1 and pNZP1-GNN were transfected into indicated cell lines. Replication was assayed by qRT-PCR on intracellular NPHV RNA over time.



Conserved in HCV H77

Fig. 54. Putative kissing-loop interactions between the NPHV 3'-UTR and upstream sequences. Analogous to HCV kissing-loop structural RNA interactions, putative interactions with the NPHV 3'-UTR were predicted for the 3'X stem-loop II (analogous to HCV) and for the conserved intermediate region stem-loop II, which both contain reasonably large unpaired loops. Putative interactions were predicted by BLAST alignment of the loop sequences to the NPHV genome. Complementary motifs predicted to be located in loop structures by Mfold (1) and surrounding sequences are shown. Complementary motifs not located in loop structures by Mfold (1) and surrounding sequences are shown.

1. Zuker M (2003) Mfold web server for nucleic acid folding and hybridization prediction. Nucleic Acids Res 31(13):3406-3415.

Table S1. Sequence characteristics of pNZP1 and the NZP1 consensus sequence

Position, nt	Coding changes	Determined NZP1 consensus sequence (no. clones)	Published NZP1 sequence, JQ434001	pNZP1
584	T67I	C (6/7)	T	С
1,509	S.	T (5/7)	c	т
1,803	S.	T (9/15)	c	<u>C</u>
2,808	S.	C (5/7)	T	c
3,666	S.	C (7/7)	c	т
4,851	S.	T (9/10)	Т	c
5,829	S.	T (6/9)	С	T
6,096	S.	C (8/9)	c	T
6,255	S.	C (8/9)	С	Т
8,157	S.	T (6/10)	<u>c</u>	T
8,975	R2866K	G (6/10)	A	G

Differences from consensus sequence determined in this study are underlined. For pNZP1 3'-UTR sequence, see Fig. S2. In addition, the following residues known to be of critical importance to HCV replication were conserved in the pNZP1 clone: D1087 and S1145 in the NS3 protease (1); DECH (1,296–1,299) in the NS3 helicase (1); G1658 in NS4A (2); C1987, C2005, C2007, C2028, and W2274 in NS5A (3, 4); and GDD (2,669–2,671) in NS5B (5). s., synonymous.

1. Kolykhalov AA, Mihalik K, Feinstone SM, Rice CM (2000) Hepatitis C virus-encoded enzymatic activities and conserved RNA elements in the 3' nontranslated region are essential for virus replication in vivo. J Virol 74(4):2046–2051.

Brass V, et al. (2008) Structural determinants for membrane association and dynamic organization of the hepatitis C virus NS3-4A complex. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 105(38):14545–14550.
Tellinghuisen TL, Foss KL, Treadaway JC, Rice CM (2008) Identification of residues required for RNA replication in domains II and III of the hepatitis C virus NS5A protein. J Virol 82(3): 1073–1083.

4. Tellinghuisen TL, Marcotrigiano J, Gorbalenya AE, Rice CM (2004) The NS5A protein of hepatitis C virus is a zinc metalloprotein. J Biol Chem 279(47):48576-48587.

5. Krieger N, Lohmann V, Bartenschlager R (2001) Enhancement of hepatitis C virus RNA replication by cell culture-adaptive mutations. J Virol 75(10):4614–4624.

SANG SAL

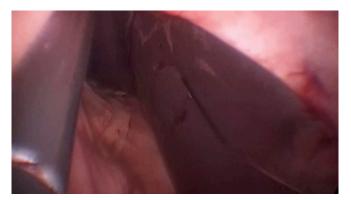
Table S2. Sequence of oligonucleotides

PNAS PNAS

Name	Position	Sequence
RU-O-17033	F1651	GGACAGAGGCTAAATTGCACTG
RU-O-17034	F4288	GACTCCACATCCGTACTAGGAATAG
RU-O-17035	F6748	GTGGTCCTAATTGGCAATCACAC
RU-O-17036	R2074	AATCGGTGGGGCAAACAAAAGGC
RU-O-17037	R4613	CCCTCATTCGGTATGACGGAAAC
RU-O-17038	R7125	CTCCCCCTCAGACCCAGAATTG
RU-O-17039	R9175	GCAAAAGGAGAAGAGGGATCCACCTC
RU-O-17070	F1719	TGTCACAACTGATCCGTACATTG
RU-O-17071	F4307	GAATAGGCTCCGTCCTTGATGG
RU-O-17072	F6771	CTACCCAGTCGGCGCGACACTTC
RU-O-17073	R4577	TAGTAGGTTACAGCATTAGCTCC
RU-O-17075	R9165	AAGAGGGATCCACCTCCCAGTGAC CAAGCTCCTAAGTCATCGG
RU-O-17148 RU-O-17152	F559 F3547	AAAGGTGTGCTGTGGTCG
RU-O-17152 RU-O-17159	F7885	TCGTCGCCAACTTCTCGC
RU-O-17163	R985	AAGATACAGCCGAGAAGAGAG
RU-O-17168	R3892	CCACCCCCTAGTAACCG
RU-O-17170	R5240	TGAGTAAAAGTAAGATCGTCGTG
RU-O-17171	R5692	CAAAACCCATTAGACAAGCTAC
RU-O-17172	R6027	GTATCTTTTTAGGATGAATGCG
RU-O-17174	R7392	AGGCTCTTCACCTTCGAG
RU-O-17175	R7956	CTTCTCACAGGCACGCAC
RU-O-17206	R262	CCGAAGGTCAAAGACGTTC
RU-O-17640	F357	CACCTGCCGGTCTCGTAGACC
RU-O-17670	F8999	TTGTCGCGGACTACCTTTTC
RU-O-17723	F86	CACCATGTGTCACTCCC
RU-O-17724	R387	CATGTCCTATGGTCTACGAG
RU-O-17725	F86	CACCATGTGTCACTCCCC
RU-O-17726	R387	CATGTCCTATGGTCTACGAGA
RU-O-17918	_	CCGCTGGAAGTGACTGACAC
RU-O-17951	F886	CTTGTRCGGTTTGTNGAGGACG
RU-O-17953	R1844	CCGAARCARGTNGGTTTGCCAC
RU-O-18040	R351	GCAAGCATCCTATCAGACCGT
RU-O-18168	F9222	AAATAATTAGCTCCTAATTCATTCTTTCT
RU-O-18176	_	CCGCTGGAAGTGACTGACACCCCCCC
RU-O-18177	_	CCGCTGGAAGTGACTGACACTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT
RU-O-18328	F9265	ATTTCCTTTATTGGTTACTTCCTATG
RU-O-18329	—	CCGCTGGAAGTGACTGACACAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
RU-O-18354	R9349	ACATGTTTTCGCCCCATAGG
RU-O-18355	R9349	ACATGTTTTCGCCCCATAGGG
RU-O-18357	F9006	GGACTACCTTTTCGGCTTCGC
RU-O-18358	F9012	CCTTTTCGGCTTCGCTTCTGC
RU-O-18876	—	GAAACGGATGATAACTGGTCCG
RU-O-18877	—	GCGCTACTGGCTCAATATGTGG
RU-O-18878	—	GAACCGCTGGAGAGCAACTG
RU-O-18879		CACTGCATACGACGATTCTGTG
RU-O-19037	F4535 (EPgV)	GGGACICAGAGCACICCNCA
RU-O-19038	R4791 (EPgV)	TCGGTGCTIACCACCACIAGRTC
RU-O-19136	F9273	TTTTGGTTACTTCCTATGGAAGAAC
RU-O-19381	F81	CACATCACCATGTGTCACTCC
RU-O-19382	R239	
RU-O-19383	196–214 89538	/56-FAM/TCACGAATT/ZEN/CCAGCTCCCT/3IABkFQ/ ACATAGTCCCGGGATATCCCG
RU-O-19846	R9538	CCTTCAGAAGCTAGCCGTGAC
RU-O-19847	R9498 R9472	CTAAGGGGAGCCACCCATC
RU-O-19848	F9445	TTCTCTATTGATGGGTGGCTC
RU-O-19849 RU-O-20000	F9445 F4076 (TDAV)	CAAGTCCACCCTTGTCCCTG
RU-O-20000 RU-O-20001	R4525 (TDAV)	TTCAAGTAGAAACCATAGAATGGAAT
RU-O-21833	F9447	CTCTATTGATGGGTGGCTCCC
RU-O-21835 RU-O-21834	F9447 F9455	ATGGGTGGCTCCCCTTAGCTC
RU-O-21834 RU-O-21876	F5191	CCTTTGTTGTACAGACTTGAG
	10101	

Product	Forward	Position	Reverse	Position
cDNA, primer mix	_	_	RU-O-17172	R6027
	_	_	RU-O-17039	R9175
First PCR				
I	RU-O-19381	F81	RU-O-17171	R5692
II	RU-O-21876	F5191	RU-O-17039	R9175
Second PCR, I				
1	RU-O-19381	F81	RU-O-17036	R2074
2	RU-O-17033	F1651	RU-O-17168	R3892
3	RU-O-17152	F3547	RU-O-17171	R5692
Second PCR, II				
4	RU-O-21876	F5191	RU-O-17038	R7125
5	RU-O-17035	F6748	RU-O-17175	R7956
6	RU-O-17159	F7885	RU-O-17075	R9165
Alternative second	PCR primer set	S		
1a	RU-O-17725	F86	RU-O-17163	R985
1b	RU-O-17148	F559	RU-O-17036	R2074
3a	RU-O-17152	F3547	RU-O-17037	R4613
3b	RU-O-17034	F4288	RU-O-17170	R5240

Table S3. Primers for NPHV ORF sequencing



Movie S1. Intrahepatic inoculation of RNA transcripts by laparoscopy. Inoculation of RNA through an 8-inch 18-gauge hypodermic needle inserted through the capsule and into the parenchyma of the liver (right) is shown. At 4 s, the needle is retracted from one site and is visualized free in the abdomen. A new syringe with the next 1-mL batch of RNA is loaded externally, and the needle is inserted into the next site (9 s), where it remains in place for 1 min to allow distribution of the NPHV RNA suspension. Red spots on the liver capsule are areas of prior inoculations. From the first injection until the seventh, 23 min elapsed. Bowel movements are observed to the left.

Movie S1

DNA C