

1 **Supplemental Material**

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3 **Title:** Preclinical Profile and Characterization of the HBV Core Protein Inhibitor ABI-H0731

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5 **Running title:** Preclinical Profile of ABI-H0731

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15 **KEYWORDS:** Core Protein (Cp), Core inhibitor, cccDNA, hepatitis B virus, pregenomic RNA (pgRNA)

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Supplementary Tables

Table S1. GLS4, NVR 3-778 and ETV potency in HBV expression/infection models

Marker	EC ₅₀ (nM) ± SD								
	GLS4			NVR 3-778			ETV		
	HepAD38	HepG2-NTCP	PHH	HepAD38	HepG2-NTCP	PHH	HepAD38	HepG2-NTCP	PHH
Viral DNA	29 ± 9	58 ± 6	1,940 ± 40	238 ± 33	590 ± 71	1,683 ± 113	1.2 ± 0.3	0.8 ± 0.2	<0.1
HBeAg	n/a	549 ± 48	1,480 ± 170	n/a	8,364 ± 308	4,010 ± 7	n/a	>>100	>>100*
HBsAg	n/a	673 ± 41	1,860 ± 430	n/a	9,258 ± 1050	5,040 ± 1474	n/a	>>100	>>100*
pgRNA	n/a	279 ± 43	1,930 ± 30	n/a	7,605 ± 771	4,204 ± 101	n/a	>>100	>>100*

n/a = not applicable

*incomplete inhibition

Table S2. Effect of Serum Proteins on ABI-H0731 Activity in HepAD38 Cells

EC ₅₀ (nM) ± SD		Fold Shift
2% HPL	20% HPL	
200 ± 5	522 ± 40	2.6

Supplementary Figures

Figure S1

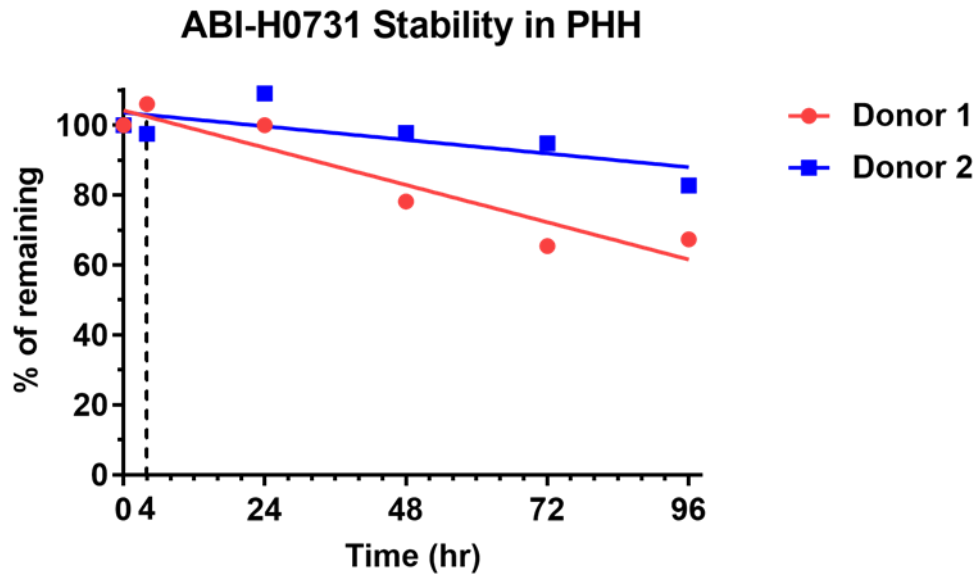
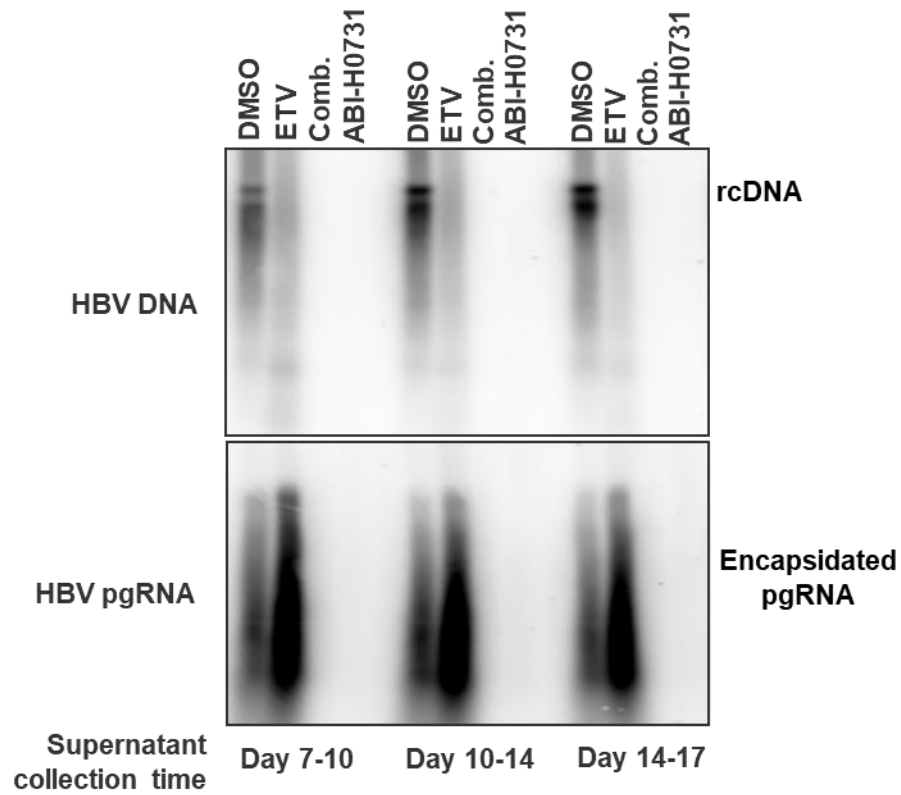


Figure S1 Legend: ABI-H0731 stability in Human Primary Hepatocyte (PHH). PHHs which derived from two different donors were incubated with 10 μ M ABI-H0731 and supernatant was collected at 4, 24, 48, 72 or 96 hours post treatment. The remaining ABI-H0731 was measured by Mass Spectrometry.

52 **Figure S2**

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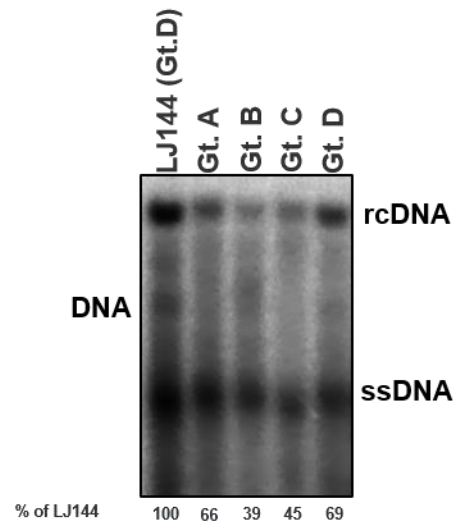


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Figure S2 Legend: HepAD38 cells were induced by removal of tet and treated with ETV (100 nM), ABI-H0731 (10 μ M) or combination simultaneously. The treatment was repeated every 3 to 4 days and the supernatant was collect at the same time. Viral DNA and RNA were co-purified from the cell supernatant collected on day 10, day 14 and day 17 and viral DNA was analyzed by Southern analysis directly (top panel). After removal of viral DNA by dsDNase, viral encapsidated RNA was detected by Northern blot analysis (bottom panel). rcDNA: relaxed circular DNA.

66 **Figure S3**

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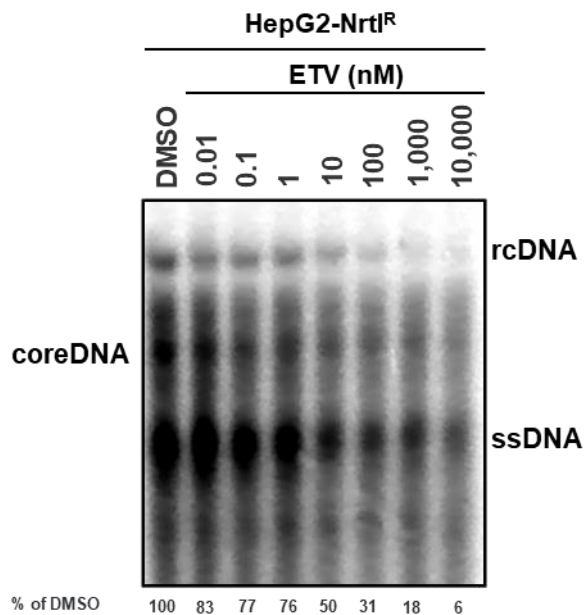
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71 **Figure S3 Legend:** Replicative fitness of HBV genotype A, B, C and D stains. Lab strain HBV expression
72 vector (LJ144, genotype D, serotype *ayw*) and its derived genotype A, B, C and D stain expression
73 constructs were transfected into HepG2 cells, intracellular viral core DNA were extracted 6 days post
74 transfection and detected by Southern blot analysis. Band density was quantified by ImageJ software.
75 rcDNA: relaxed circular DNA; ssDNA: single-stranded DNA.

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82 **Figure S4 Legend:** Characterization of HepG2-NrtI^R cell line. Tetracycline inducible HepG2-NrtI^R cell line
83 which supports NrtI^R HBV (rtL180M/M204V) replication was generated as described in material and
84 methods section. HepG2-NrtI^R cells were induced by removal of tet and treated with the indicated
85 concentration of ETV or left as DMSO control simultaneously. Intracellular viral core DNA were extracted
86 7 days post induction and detected by southern blot analysis. Band density was quantified by ImageJ
87 software. The EC₅₀ of ETV against this NrtI^R HBV is about 10 nM, which is 10 x higher than ETV against a
88 wild-type strain (EC₅₀ = 1nM). rcDNA: relaxed circular DNA; ssDNA: single-stranded DNA.