

- young injection drug users: relationships and risks. *J Infect Dis.* 2002;186:1558–64. <https://doi.org/10.1086/345554>
11. Frankel M, Forberg K, Collier KE, Berg MG, Hackett J Jr, Cloherty G, et al. Development of a high-throughput multiplexed real time RT-PCR assay for detection of human hepatitis B virus 1 and 2. *J Virol Methods.* 2017;241:34–40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jviromet.2016.12.013>
  12. Cox AL, Netski DM, Mosbrugger T, Sherman SG, Strathdee S, Ompad D, et al. Prospective evaluation of community-acquired acute-phase hepatitis C virus infection. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2005;40:951–8. <https://doi.org/10.1086/428578>
  13. Maheshwari A, Ray S, Thuluvath PJ. Acute hepatitis C. *Lancet.* 2008;372:321–32. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(08\)61116-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(08)61116-2)
  14. Glynn SA, Wright DJ, Kleinman SH, Hirschhorn D, Tu Y, Heldebrandt C, et al. Dynamics of viremia in early hepatitis C virus infection. *Transfusion.* 2005;45:994–1002. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1537-2995.2005.04390.x>
  15. Tanaka T, Hess G, Schlueter V, Zdunek D, Tanaka S, Kohara M. Correlation of interferon treatment response with GBV-C/HGV genomic RNA and anti-envelope 2 protein antibody. *J Med Virol.* 1999;57:370–5. [https://doi.org/10.1002/\(SICI\)1096-9071\(199904\)57:4<370::AID-JMV8>3.0.CO;2-K](https://doi.org/10.1002/(SICI)1096-9071(199904)57:4<370::AID-JMV8>3.0.CO;2-K)
  16. Gutierrez RA, Dawson GJ, Knigge MF, Melvin SL, Heynen CA, Kyrk CR, et al. Seroprevalence of GB virus C and persistence of RNA and antibody. *J Med Virol.* 1997;53:167–73. [https://doi.org/10.1002/\(SICI\)1096-9071\(199710\)53:2<167::AID-JMV10>3.0.CO;2-G](https://doi.org/10.1002/(SICI)1096-9071(199710)53:2<167::AID-JMV10>3.0.CO;2-G)
  17. Dille BJ, Surowy TK, Gutierrez RA, Coleman PF, Knigge MF, Carrick RJ, et al. An ELISA for detection of antibodies to the E2 protein of GB virus C. *J Infect Dis.* 1997;175:458–61. <https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/175.2.458>
  18. Lefrère JJ, Girot R, Lefrère F, Guillaume N, Lerable J, Marrec NL, et al. Complete or partial seroreversion in immunocompetent individuals after self-limited HCV infection: consequences for transfusion. *Transfusion.* 2004;44:343–8. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1537-2995.2004.00656.x>

Address for correspondence: Kelly E. Collier, Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Diagnostics Division, 100 Abbott Park Rd, Abbott Park, IL 60064-6400, USA; email: [kelly.collier@abbott.com](mailto:kelly.collier@abbott.com)

# etymologia

## Pegivirus [peg'i-vi'rəs]

Ronnie Henry

In 1967, researchers studying non-A, non-B hepatitis identified a transmissible agent in the serum of a surgeon (initials G.B.) with acute hepatitis and named it the GB agent. In the 1990s, researchers from Abbott Laboratories identified 3 GB viruses (A, B, and C) at the same time as a group at Genelabs isolated RNA from patients with non-A, non-B hepatitis and named it hepatitis G virus. Later research showed that GB virus C and hepatitis G virus were the same species.

Subsequent phylogenetic analysis showed that GB viruses A and C (and GB virus D, later identified in bats) should be classified under a new genus, *Pegivirus* (because they cause persistent infection and because of the historic association with hepatitis G), and GB virus B should be classified as a second species (with hepatitis C virus) in the genus *Hepacivirus*. As of 2016, 11 species of *Pegivirus* had been identified (*Pegivirus* A–K).

### Sources

1. Linnen J, Wages J Jr, Zhang-Keck ZY, Fry KE, Krawczynski KZ, Alter H, et al. Molecular cloning and disease association of hepatitis G virus: a transfusion-transmissible agent. *Science.* 1996;271:505–8. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.271.5248.505>
2. Simons JN, Leary TP, Dawson GJ, Pilot-Matias TJ, Muerhoff AS, Schlauder GG, et al. Isolation of novel virus-like sequences associated with human hepatitis. *Nat Med.* 1995;1:564–9. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nm0695-564>
3. Smith DB, Becher P, Bukh J, Gould EA, Meyers G, Monath T, et al. Proposed update to the taxonomy of the genera *Hepacivirus* and *Pegivirus* within the *Flaviviridae* family. *J Gen Virol.* 2016;97:2894–907. <https://doi.org/10.1099/jgv.0.000612>
4. Stapleton JT, Fong S, Muerhoff AS, Bukh J, Simmonds P. The GB viruses: a review and proposed classification of GBV-A, GBV-C (HGV), and GBV-D in genus *Pegivirus* within the family *Flaviviridae*. *J Gen Virol.* 2011;92:233–46. <https://doi.org/10.1099/vir.0.027490-0>

Address for correspondence: Ronnie Henry, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Rd NE, Mailstop E28, Atlanta, GA 30333, USA; email: [boq3@cdc.gov](mailto:boq3@cdc.gov)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3201/eid2602.ET2602>