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Īsziņas

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⑦3 Īpašnieks(i):  
CHIRON CORPORATION;  
4560 Horton Street, Emeryville,  
CA 94608-2916, US

⑦2 Izgudrotājs(i):  
Michael HOUGHTON (US),  
Qui-Lim CHOO (US),  
George KUO (US),  
Jang HAN (US),  
Michael S. URDEA (US),  
Amy J. WEINER (US)

⑦4 Pilnvarotais vai pārstāvis:  
Ābrams FOGELS,  
Patentu birojs "ALFA-PATENTS",  
Mārstaļu iela 2/4, Rīga LV-1050, LV

⑤4 Virsraksts: **Hepatīta C vīrusa identifikācijai lietojami polinukleotīdi**

⑤7 Kopsavilkums: Hepatīta C vīruss (HCV) ir jaunatklāts vīruss, kas ir galvenais etioloģiskais aģents ne-A, ne-B hepatīta slimnieku asinīs. Izgudrojums attiecas uz reaģentiem HCV polinukleotīdu izdalīšanai, identificēšanai un pavairošanai. Šie reaģenti ir oligomēri, kas satur polinukleotīdu secības, kuras var izveidot hibridizētas struktūras ar HCBV polinukleotīdu mērķa secību.

\* pieteikums pieņemts ievērojot LR Ministru Padomes 1992.gada 28.februāra lēmumu Nr.72(PSRS ir norādītā valsts PCT pieteikumā)

## Izgudrojuma formula

1. Oligomērs, kas spēj hibridizēties ar analizējamā parauga polinukleotīdu ķēdes HCV secību, *atšķiras* ar to, ka tas satur HCV saistošu mērķa secību, komplementāru vismaz 4 secīgiem cDNS nukleotīdiem, pie kam HCV cDNS secība atbilst secībām no -340 līdz -320 vai no 8867 līdz 9060 pēc 18. zīm., vai tām komplementārām secībām.

2. Oligomērs pēc 1. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka saistošā mērķa secība sastāv no nukleotīdiem, kas ir komplementāri nukleotīdiem, kuri ņemti no šādiem HCV cDNS nukleotīdiem pēc 18. zīm., pie tam  $nn_x$ - $nn_y$  apzīmē nukleotīdu secību no nukleotīda x līdz nukleotīdam y:  $nn_{-340}$ - $nn_{-330}$ ;  $nn_{-330}$ - $nn_{-320}$ ;  $nn_{-320}$ - $nn_{-310}$ ;  $nn_{-310}$ - $nn_{-300}$ ;  $nn_{-300}$ - $nn_{-290}$ ;  $nn_{-290}$ - $nn_{-280}$ ;  $nn_{-280}$ - $nn_{-270}$ ;  $nn_{-270}$ - $nn_{-260}$ ;  $nn_{-260}$ - $nn_{-250}$ ;  $nn_{-250}$ - $nn_{-240}$ ;  $nn_{-240}$ - $nn_{-230}$ ;  $nn_{-230}$ - $nn_{-220}$ ;  $nn_{-220}$ - $nn_{-210}$ ;  $nn_{-210}$ - $nn_{-200}$ ;  $nn_{-200}$ - $nn_{-190}$ ;  $nn_{-190}$ - $nn_{-180}$ ;  $nn_{-180}$ - $nn_{-170}$ ;  $nn_{-170}$ - $nn_{-160}$ ;  $nn_{-160}$ - $nn_{-150}$ ;  $nn_{-150}$ - $nn_{-140}$ ;  $nn_{-140}$ - $nn_{-130}$ ;  $nn_{-130}$ - $nn_{-120}$ ;  $nn_{-120}$ - $nn_{-110}$ ;  $nn_{-110}$ - $nn_{-100}$ ;  $nn_{-100}$ - $nn_{-90}$ ;  $nn_{-90}$ - $nn_{-80}$ ;  $nn_{-80}$ - $nn_{-70}$ ;  $nn_{-70}$ - $nn_{-60}$ ;  $nn_{-60}$ - $nn_{-50}$ ;  $nn_{-50}$ - $nn_{-40}$ ;  $nn_{-40}$ - $nn_{-30}$ ;  $nn_{-30}$ - $nn_{-20}$ ;  $nn_{-20}$ - $nn_{-10}$ ;  $nn_{-10}$ - $nn_1$ ;  $nn_1$ - $nn_{10}$ ;  $nn_{10}$ - $nn_{20}$ ;  $nn_{20}$ - $nn_{30}$ ;  $nn_{30}$ - $nn_{40}$ ;  $nn_{40}$ - $nn_{50}$ ;  $nn_{50}$ - $nn_{60}$ ;  $nn_{60}$ - $nn_{70}$ ;  $nn_{70}$ - $nn_{80}$ ;  $nn_{80}$ - $nn_{90}$ ;  $nn_{90}$ - $nn_{100}$ ;  $nn_{100}$ - $nn_{110}$ ;  $nn_{110}$ - $nn_{120}$ ;  $nn_{120}$ - $nn_{130}$ ;  $nn_{130}$ - $nn_{140}$ ;  $nn_{140}$ - $nn_{150}$ ;  $nn_{150}$ - $nn_{160}$ ;  $nn_{160}$ - $nn_{170}$ ;  $nn_{170}$ - $nn_{180}$ ;  $nn_{180}$ - $nn_{190}$ ;  $nn_{190}$ - $nn_{200}$ ;  $nn_{200}$ - $nn_{210}$ ;  $nn_{210}$ - $nn_{220}$ ;  $nn_{220}$ - $nn_{230}$ ;  $nn_{230}$ - $nn_{240}$ ;  $nn_{240}$ - $nn_{250}$ ;  $nn_{250}$ - $nn_{260}$ ;  $nn_{260}$ - $nn_{270}$ ;  $nn_{270}$ - $nn_{280}$ ;  $nn_{280}$ - $nn_{290}$ ;  $nn_{290}$ - $nn_{300}$ ;  $nn_{300}$ - $nn_{310}$ ;  $nn_{310}$ - $nn_{320}$ ;  $nn_{320}$ - $nn_{330}$ ;  $nn_{330}$ - $nn_{340}$ ;  $nn_{340}$ - $nn_{350}$ ;  $nn_{350}$ - $nn_{360}$ ;  $nn_{360}$ - $nn_{370}$ ;  $nn_{370}$ - $nn_{380}$ ;  $nn_{380}$ - $nn_{390}$ ;  $nn_{390}$ - $nn_{400}$ ;  $nn_{400}$ - $nn_{410}$ ;  $nn_{410}$ - $nn_{420}$ ;  $nn_{420}$ - $nn_{430}$ ;  $nn_{430}$ - $nn_{440}$ ;  $nn_{440}$ - $nn_{450}$ ;  $nn_{450}$ - $nn_{460}$ ;  $nn_{460}$ - $nn_{470}$ ;  $nn_{470}$ - $nn_{480}$ ;  $nn_{480}$ - $nn_{490}$ ;  $nn_{490}$ - $nn_{500}$ ;  $nn_{500}$ - $nn_{510}$ ;  $nn_{510}$ - $nn_{520}$ ;  $nn_{520}$ - $nn_{530}$ ;  $nn_{530}$ - $nn_{540}$ ;  $nn_{540}$ - $nn_{550}$ ;  $nn_{550}$ - $nn_{560}$ ;  $nn_{560}$ - $nn_{570}$ ;  $nn_{570}$ - $nn_{580}$ ;  $nn_{580}$ - $nn_{590}$ ;  $nn_{590}$ - $nn_{600}$ ;  $nn_{600}$ - $nn_{610}$ ;  $nn_{610}$ - $nn_{620}$ ;  $nn_{620}$ - $nn_{630}$ ;  $nn_{630}$ - $nn_{640}$ ;  $nn_{640}$ - $nn_{650}$ ;  $nn_{650}$ - $nn_{660}$ ;  $nn_{660}$ - $nn_{670}$ ;  $nn_{670}$ - $nn_{680}$ ;  $nn_{680}$ - $nn_{690}$ ;  $nn_{690}$ - $nn_{700}$ ;  $nn_{700}$ - $nn_{710}$ ;  $nn_{710}$ - $nn_{720}$ ;  $nn_{720}$ - $nn_{730}$ ;  $nn_{730}$ - $nn_{740}$ ;  $nn_{740}$ - $nn_{750}$ ;  $nn_{750}$ - $nn_{760}$ ;  $nn_{760}$ - $nn_{770}$ ;  $nn_{770}$ - $nn_{780}$ ;  $nn_{780}$ - $nn_{790}$ ;  $nn_{790}$ - $nn_{800}$ ;  $nn_{800}$ - $nn_{810}$ ;  $nn_{810}$ - $nn_{820}$ ;  $nn_{820}$ - $nn_{830}$ ;  $nn_{830}$ - $nn_{840}$ ;  $nn_{840}$ - $nn_{850}$ ;  $nn_{850}$ - $nn_{860}$ ;  $nn_{860}$ - $nn_{870}$ ;  $nn_{870}$ - $nn_{880}$ ;  $nn_{880}$ - $nn_{890}$ ;  $nn_{890}$ - $nn_{900}$ ;  $nn_{900}$ - $nn_{910}$ ;

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nn7380; nn7380-nn7390; nn7390-nn7400; nn7400-nn7410; nn7410-nn7420; nn7420-nn7430;  
nn7430-nn7440; nn7440-nn7450; nn7450-nn7460; nn7460-nn7470; nn7470-nn7480; nn7480-  
nn7490; nn7490-nn7500; nn7500-nn7510; nn7510-nn7520; nn7520-nn7530; nn7530-nn7540;  
nn7540-nn7550; nn7550-nn7560; nn7560-nn7570; nn7570-nn7580; nn7580-nn7590; nn7590-  
nn7600; nn7600-nn7610; nn7610-nn7620; nn7620-nn7630; nn7630-nn7640; nn7640-nn7650;  
nn7650-nn7660; nn7660-nn7670; nn7670-nn7680; nn7680-nn7690; nn7690-nn7700; nn7700-  
nn7710; nn7710-nn7720; nn7720-nn7730; nn7730-nn7740; nn7740-nn7750; nn7750-nn7760;  
nn7760-nn7770; nn7770-nn7780; nn7780-nn7790; nn7790-nn7800; nn7800-nn7810; nn7810-  
nn7820; nn7820-nn7830; nn7830-nn7840; nn7840-nn7850; nn7850-nn7860; nn7860-nn7870;  
nn7870-nn7880; nn7880-nn7890; nn7890-nn7900; nn7900-nn7910; nn7910-nn7920; nn7920-  
nn7930; nn7930-nn7940; nn7940-nn7950; nn7950-nn7960; nn7960-nn7970; nn7970-nn7980;  
nn7980-nn7990; nn7990-nn8000; nn8000-nn8010; nn8010-nn8020; nn8020-nn8030; nn8030-  
nn8040; nn8040-nn8050; nn8050-nn8060; nn8060-nn8070; nn8070-nn8080; nn8080-nn8090;  
nn8090-nn8100; nn8100-nn8110; nn8110-nn8120; nn8120-nn8130; nn8130-nn8140; nn8140-  
nn8150; nn8150-nn8160; nn8160-nn8170; nn8170-nn8180; nn8180-nn8190; nn8190-nn8200;  
nn8200-nn8210; nn8210-nn8220; nn8220-nn8230; nn8230-nn8240; nn8240-nn8250; nn8250-  
nn8260; nn8260-nn8270; nn8270-nn8280; nn8280-nn8290; nn8290-nn8300; nn8300-nn8310;  
nn8310-nn8320; nn8320-nn8330; nn8330-nn8340; nn8340-nn8350; nn8350-nn8360; nn8360-  
nn8370; nn8370-nn8380; nn8380-nn8390; nn8390-nn8400; nn8400-nn8410; nn8410-nn8420;  
nn8420-nn8430; nn8430-nn8440; nn8440-nn8450; nn8450-nn8460; nn8460-nn8470; nn8470-  
nn8480; nn8480-nn8490; nn8490-nn8500; nn8500-nn8510; nn8510-nn8520; nn8520-nn8530;  
nn8530-nn8540; nn8540-nn8550; nn8550-nn8560; nn8560-nn8570; nn8570-nn8580; nn8580-  
nn8590; nn8590-nn8600; nn8600-nn8610; nn8610-nn8620; nn8620-nn8630; nn8630-nn8640;  
nn8640-nn8650; nn8650-nn8660; nn8660-nn8670; nn8670-nn8680; nn8680-nn8690; nn8690-  
nn8700; nn8700-nn8710; nn8710-nn8720; nn8720-nn8730; nn8730-nn8740; nn8740-nn8750;  
nn8750-nn8760; nn8760-nn8770; nn8770-nn8780; nn8780-nn8790; nn8790-nn8800; nn8800-  
nn8810; nn8810-nn8820; nn8820-nn8830; nn8830-nn8840; nn8840-nn8850; nn8850-nn8860;

nn<sub>8860</sub>-nn<sub>8870</sub>; nn<sub>8870</sub>-nn<sub>8880</sub>; nn<sub>8880</sub>-nn<sub>8890</sub>; nn<sub>8890</sub>-nn<sub>8900</sub>; nn<sub>8900</sub>-nn<sub>8910</sub>; nn<sub>8910</sub>-  
nn<sub>8920</sub>; nn<sub>8920</sub>-nn<sub>8930</sub>; nn<sub>8930</sub>-nn<sub>8970</sub>; nn<sub>8970</sub>-nn<sub>8950</sub>; nn<sub>8950</sub>-nn<sub>8960</sub>; nn<sub>8960</sub>-nn<sub>8970</sub>;  
nn<sub>8970</sub>-nn<sub>8980</sub>; nn<sub>8980</sub>-nn<sub>8990</sub>; nn<sub>8990</sub>-nn<sub>9000</sub>; nn<sub>9000</sub>-nn<sub>9010</sub>; nn<sub>9010</sub>-nn<sub>9020</sub>; nn<sub>9020</sub>-  
nn<sub>9030</sub>; nn<sub>9030</sub>-nn<sub>9040</sub>; nn<sub>9040</sub>-nn<sub>9050</sub>; nn<sub>9050</sub>-nn<sub>9060</sub>.

3. Oligomērs pēc 1. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka mērķa secība veidota no secības, kas ir komplementāra vismaz 8 nukleotīdu secībai konservatīvajā HCV nukleotīdu secībā HCV RNS.

4. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā ap 200. vietu no 5' gala 18. zīm.

5. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 4000. vietas līdz 5000. vietai 18. zīm.

6. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 8000. vietai līdz 9040. vietai 18. zīm.

7. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram -318. vietas līdz apmēram 174. vietai 18. zīm.

8. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 4056. vietas līdz 4448. vietai.

9. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 44378. vietas līdz 4902. vietai.

10. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 4042. vietas līdz 4059. vietai.

11. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 4456. vietas līdz 4470. vietai.

12. Oligomērs pēc 3. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka konservatīvā secība atrodas nukleotīdu secībā no apmēram 8209. vietas līdz 8217. vietai.

13. Oligomērs pēc jebkura no 3.-12. punktiem, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka tas ir saistišanās zonde.

14. Oligomērs pēc jebkura no 3.-12. punktiem, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka tas ir iezīmēšanas zonde.

15. Oligomērs pēc jebkura no 3.-12. punktiem, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka tas ir praimers.

16. Paņēmiens HCV secības identificēšanai paraugā, kurā var sagaidīt HCV secības esamību, pie kam HCV secība satur izvēlētu mērķa secību, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka:

- (a) sagatavo oligomēru, kas spēj hibridizēties ar HCV secību parauga polinukleotīdu ķēdē, pie kam oligomērs satur HCV saistošo mērķa secību atbistoši jebkuram no iepriekšējiem punktiem;
- (b) inkubē parauga ķēdi ar posmā (a) minēto oligomēru, ļaujot veidoties specifiskiem hibridizācijas duplesiem starp saistošo mērķa secību un mērķa secību; un
- (c) nosaka hibridus, kas izveidojušies starp oligomēru un mērķa secību, ja paraugs tādu ir saturējis.

17. Paņēmieni pēc 16. punkta, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka papildus paredz to, ka:

- (a) pagatavo oligomēru komplektu, kuri kalpo par praimeriem polimerāzes ķēdes reakcijai un kuri atrodas blakus mērķa rajonam;
- (b) pavairo mērķa rajonu ar polimerāzes ķēdes reakciju.

18. Reaģents HCV mērķa secības identificēšanai parauga ķēdē, kas satur oligomēru pēc jebkura no 1.-15. punktiem piemērotā iesaiņojumā.

19. Paņēmieni no HCV brīvu asiņu sagatavošanai, kas *atšķiras* ar to, ka tas ietver:

- (a) nukleīnskābju parauga sagatavošanu no asiņu krājuma, kurā var sagaidīt HCV mērķa secību;
- (b) oligomēra pagatavošanu, kurš spēj hibridizēties ar HCV secību parauga polinukleotīda ķēdē, ja tāda secība paraugā atrodama, pie kam oligomērs satur HCV mērķa saistišanas secību pēc jebkura no 3.-15. punktiem;
- (c) posmos (a) un (b) sagatavoto sastāvdaļu savienošanu tādos apstākļos, kas ļauj veidoties polinukleotīdu duplesam starp mērķa saistišanas secību un mērķa secību, ja tāda ir paraugā;
- (d) dupleska detektēšanu, ja tāds izveidojies posmā (c); un
- (e) asiņu krājuma saglabāšanu, ja posmā (d) nedetektē kompleksa veidošanos.

5

NANBV DIAGNOSTICS: POLYNUCLEOTIDES USEFUL  
FOR SCREENING FOR HEPATITIS C VIRUS

10

Technical Field

The invention relates to materials and methodologies for managing the spread of non-A, non-B hepatitis virus (NANBV) infection. More specifically, it relates to an etiologic agent of non-A, non-B hepatitis (NANBH), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and to polynucleotides and analogs thereof, which are useful in assays for the detection of HCV in biological samples.

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- U.S. Patent No. 4,466,917
- U.S. Patent No. 4,472,500
- 20 U.S. Patent No. 4,491,632
- U.S. Patent No. 4,493,890
- U.S. Patent No. 4,683,202
- U.S. Patent No. 4,458,066
- U.S. Patent No. 4,868,105

25

#### Background Art

- Non-A, Non-B hepatitis (NANBH) is a  
 transmissible disease or family of diseases that are  
 believed to be viral-induced, and that are distinguishable  
 30 from other forms of viral-associated liver diseases,  
 including that caused by the known hepatitis viruses,  
 i.e., hepatitis A virus (HAV), hepatitis B virus (HBV),  
 and delta hepatitis virus (HDV), as well as the hepatitis  
 induced by cytomegalovirus (CMV) or Epstein-Barr virus  
 35 (EBV). NANBH was first identified in transfused  
 individuals. Transmission from man to chimpanzee and se-

rial passage in chimpanzees provided evidence that NANBH is due to a transmissible infectious agent or agents.

Epidemiologic evidence is suggestive that there may be three types of NANBH: the water-borne epidemic type; the blood or needle associated type; and the sporadically occurring (community acquired) type. However, the number of agents which may be the causative of NANBH are unknown.

There have been a number of candidate NANBV. See, for example the reviews by Prince (1983), Feinstone and Hoofnagle (1984), and Overby (1985, 1986, 1987) and the article by Iwarson (1987). However, there is no proof that any of these candidates represent the etiological agent of NANBH.

The demand for sensitive, specific methods for screening and identifying carriers of NANBV and NANBH contaminated blood or blood products is significant. Post-transfusion hepatitis (PTH) occurs in approximately 10% of transfused patients, and NANBH accounts for up to 90% of these cases. The major problem in this disease is the frequent progression to chronic liver damage (25-55%).

Patient care as well as the prevention of transmission of NANBH by blood and blood products or by close personal contact require reliable screening, diagnostic and prognostic tools to detect nucleic acids, antigens and antibodies related to NANBV.

Methods for detecting specific polynucleotides by hybridization assays are known in the art. See, for example, Matthews and Kricka (1988), Analytical Biochemistry 169:1; Landegren et al. (1988), Science 242:229; and Mittlin (1989), Clinical chem. 35:1819. U.S. Patent No. 4,868,105, issued Sept. 9, 1989, and in E.P.O. Publication No. 225,807 (published June 16, 1987).

Applicant discovered a new virus, the Hepatitis C virus (HCV), which has proven to be the major etiologic agent of blood-borne NANBH (BB-NANBH). Applicant's

-7-

initial work, including a partial genomic sequence of the prototype HCV isolate, CDC/HCV1 (also called HCV1), is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 (published 31 May 1989) and PCT Pub. No. WO 89/04669 (published 1 June 5 1989). The disclosures of these patent applications, as well as any corresponding national patent applications, are incorporated herein by reference. These applications teach, inter alia, recombinant DNA methods of cloning HCV sequences, HCV probe diagnostic techniques, anti-HCV anti-10 bodies, and methods of isolating new HCV sequences.

#### Disclosure of the Invention

The present invention is based on HCV sequences described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 and in PCT 15 Pub. No. WO 89/04669, as well as other HCV sequences that are described herein. Methods for isolating and/or detecting specific polynucleotides by hybridization could not be used for screening for HCV until Applicants' discovery of HCV. Accordingly, one aspect of the inven-20 tion is an oligomer capable of hybridizing to an HCV sequence in an analyte polynucleotide strand, wherein the oligomer is comprised of an HCV targeting sequence complementary to at least 4 contiguous nucleotides of HCV cDNA shown in Fig. 18.

25 Another aspect of the invention is a process for detecting an HCV sequence in an analyte strand suspected of containing an HCV polynucleotide, wherein the HCV polynucleotide comprises a selected target region, said process comprising:

30 (a) providing an oligomer capable of hybridizing to an HCV sequence in an analyte polynucleotide strand, wherein the oligomer is comprised of an HCV targeting sequence complementary to at least 4 contiguous nucleotides of HCV cDNA shown in Fig. 18

35 (b) incubating the analyte strand with the oligomer of (a) which allow specific hybrid duplexes to

form between the targeting sequence and the target sequence; and

(d) detecting hybrids formed between target region, if any, and the oligomer.

5 Yet another aspect of the invention is a method for preparing blood free of HCV comprising:

(a) providing analyte nucleic acids from a sample of blood suspected of containing an HCV target sequence;

10 (b) providing an oligomer capable of hybridizing to the HCV sequence in an analyte polynucleotide strand, if any, wherein the oligomer is comprised of an HCV targeting sequence complementary to a sequence of at least 8 nucleotides present in a conserved HCV nucleotide  
15 sequence in HCV RNA;

(c) reacting (a) with (b) under conditions which allow the formation of a polynucleotide duplex between the targeting sequence and the target sequence, if any;

20 (d) detecting a duplex formed in (c), if any; and

(e) saving the blood from which complexes were not detected in (d).

## 25 Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 shows the sequence of the HCV cDNA in clone 12f, and the amino acids encoded therein.

Fig. 2 shows the HCV cDNA sequence in clone k9-1, and the amino acids encoded therein.

30 Fig. 3 shows the sequence of clone 15e, and the amino acids encoded therein.

Fig. 4 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone 13i, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap with clone 12f.

Fig. 5 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone 26j, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap clone 13i.

Fig. 6 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA59a, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap with clones 26j and K9-1.

Fig. 7 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA84a, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap with clone CA59a.

Fig. 8 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA156e, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap with CA84a.

Fig. 9 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA167b, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap CA156e.

Fig. 10 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA216a, the amino acids encoded therein, and the overlap with clone CA167b.

Fig. 11 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA290a, the amino acids encoded therein, and the overlap with clone CA216a.

Fig. 12 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone ag30a and the overlap with clone CA290a.

Fig. 13 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone CA205a, and the overlap with the HCV cDNA sequence in clone CA290a.

Fig. 14 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone 18g, and the overlap with the HCV cDNA sequence in clone ag30a.

Fig. 15 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone 16jh, the amino acids encoded therein, and the overlap of nucleotides with the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 15e.

Fig. 16 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone 6k, the amino acids encoded therein, and the



overlap of nucleotides with the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 16jh.

Fig. 17 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone p131jh, the amino acids encoded therein, and the overlap of nucleotides with the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 6k.

Fig. 18 shows the the compiled HCV cDNA sequence derived from the clones described herein and from the compiled HCV cDNA sequence presented in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216. The clones from which the sequence was derived are 5'-clone32, b114a, 18g, ag30a, CA205a, CA290a, CA216a, p114a, CA167b, CA156e, CA84a, CA59a, K9-1 (also called k9-1), 26j, 13i, 12f, 14i, 11b, 7f, 7e, 8h, 33c, 40b, 37b, 35, 36, 81, 32, 33b, 25c, 14c, 8f, 33f, 33g, 39c, 35f, 19g, 26g, 15e, b5a, 16jh, 6k, and p131jh. In the figure the three horizontal dashes above the sequence indicate the position of the putative initiator methionine codon. Also shown in the figure is the amino acid sequence of the putative polyprotein encoded in the HCV cDNA. Heterogeneities in cloned DNAs of HCV1 are indicated by the amino acids indicated above the putatively encoded sequence of the large ORF; the parentheses indicate that the heterogeneity was detected at or near to the 5'- or 3'- end of the HCV cDNA in the clone.

Fig. 19 shows the sequences of capture and label probes for the detection of HCV RNA in biological samples.

Fig. 20 shows schematic alignment of a flaviviral polyprotein and a putative HCV polyprotein encoded in the major ORF of the HCV genome. Also indicated in the figure are the possible functions of the flaviviral polypeptides cleaved from the flaviral polyprotein. In addition, the relative placements of the HCV polypeptides, NANB<sub>5-1-1</sub> and C100, with respect to the putative HCV polyprotein are indicated.

Fig. 22 shows the double-stranded nucleotide sequence of the HCV cDNA insert in clone 81, and the putative amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded therein.

5 Fig. 23 shows the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 36, the segment which overlaps the NANBV cDNA of clone 81, and the polypeptide sequence encoded within clone 36.

Fig. 24 shows the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 37b, the segment which overlaps clone 35, and the  
10 polypeptide encoded therein.

Fig. 25 shows autoradiographs of the HCV cPCR assay on RNA derived from liver samples of chimpanzees with NANBH (Fig. 25A) and on Italian patients with NANBH (Fig. 25B).

15 Fig. 26A and 26B are graphs showing the temporal relationship between the display of liver damage, the presence of HCV RNA, and the presence of anti-HCV antibodies for two chimpanzees with NANBH.

Fig. 27 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV  
20 cDNA in clone CA84a, the amino acids encoded therein, and the sequences which overlap with clone CA59a.

Fig. 28 shows the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 40b, the segment which overlaps clone 37b, and the polypeptide encoded therein.

25 Fig. 29 is an autoradiograph showing the labeled amplified products of approximately 300, 30, and 3 CID of HCV genomes.

Fig. 32 shows the nucleotide sequence of HCV cDNA in clone 40a.

30 Fig. 33 is an autoradiograph showing amplified products extended from primers derived from conserved regions of the HCV genome.

Fig. 34 shows the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 35, the segment which overlaps clone 36, and the polypeptide  
35 encoded therein.

Fig. 37 is a diagram showing the relationship of probes and primers derived from the 5'-region of HCV RNA, from which the HCV cDNAs in clones ag30a and k9-1 are derived.

5 Fig. 38 is an autoradiograph of amplified products extended from sets of primers derived from ag30a and k9-1.

Fig. 39 shows the aligned nucleotide sequences of human isolates 23 and 27 and of HCV1. Homologous sequences are indicated by the symbol (\*). Non homologous sequences are in small letters.

10 Fig. 40 shows the aligned amino acid sequences of human isolates 23 and 27 and of HCV1. Homologous sequences are indicated by the symbol (\*). Non homologous sequences are in small letters.

15 Fig. 41 shows a half-tone reproduction of an autoradiograph of a Northern blot of RNA isolated from the liver of a BB-NANBV infected chimpanzee, probed with BB-NANBV cDNA of clone 81.

20 Fig. 43 shows a half-tone reproduction of an autoradiograph of nucleic acids extracted from NANBV particles captured from infected plasma with anti-NANB<sub>5-1-1</sub>, and probed with <sup>32</sup>P-labeled NANBV cDNA from clone 81.

25 Fig. 44 shows reproductions of autoradiographs of filters containing isolated NANBV nucleic acids, probed with <sup>32</sup>P-labeled plus and minus strand DNA probes derived from NANBV cDNA in clone 81.

30 Fig. 46 shows the nucleotide consensus sequence of human isolate 23, variant sequences are shown below the sequence line. The amino acids encoded in the consensus sequence are also shown.

35 Fig. 47 shows the nucleotide consensus sequence of human isolate 27, variant sequences are shown below the sequence line. The amino acids encoded in the consensus sequence are also shown.

-13-

Fig. 48 is a graph showing the relationship of the EnvL and EnvR primers to the model flavivirus polyprotein and putative HCV polyprotein.

Fig. 49 shows a comparison of the composite  
5 aligned nucleotide sequences of isolates Thorn, EC1, HCT #18, and HCV1.

Fig. 50 shows a comparison of the nucleotide sequences of EC10 and a composite of the HCV1 sequence; the EC10 sequence is on the line above the dots, and the  
10 HCV1 sequence is on the line below the dots.

Fig. 51 shows a comparison of the amino acid sequences 117-308 (relative to HCV1) encoded in the "EnvL" regions of the consensus sequences of human isolates HCT #18, JH23, JH 27, Thorne, EC1, and of HCV1.

Fig. 52 shows a comparison of the amino acid  
15 sequences 330-360 (relative to HCV1) encoded in the "EnvR" regions of the consensus sequences of human isolates HCT #18, JH23, JH 27, Thorne, EC1, and of HCV1.

Fig. 53 shows the nucleotide sequences of  
20 individual primers in primer mixture 5'-3.

#### Modes for Carrying Out the Invention

The term "hepatitis C virus" (HCV) has been reserved by workers in the field for an heretofore unknown  
25 etiologic agent of NANBH. The prototype isolate of HCV has been identified in U.S.S.N. 122,714 (See also E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216). The term HCV also includes new isolates of the same viral species. As an extension of this terminology, the disease caused by HCV, formerly  
30 called blood-borne NANB hepatitis (BB-NANBH), is called hepatitis C. The terms NANBH and hepatitis C may be used interchangeably herein.

HCV is a viral species of which pathogenic strains cause BB-NANBH. There may also be attenuated  
35 strains or defective interfering particles derived therefrom. As shown infra, the HCV genome is comprised of

RNA. It is known that RNA containing viruses have relatively high rates of spontaneous mutation, i.e., reportedly on the order of  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-4}$  per incorporated nucleotide (Fields & Knipe (1986)). Therefore, since  
5 heterogeneity and fluidity of genotype are inherent in RNA viruses, there are multiple strains/isolates, which may be virulent or avirulent, within the HCV species. The compositions and methods described herein, enable the propagation, identification, detection, and isolation of  
10 the various HCV strains or isolates.

Several different strains/isolates of HCV have been identified. (See *infra*). One such strain or isolate, which is a prototype, is named CDC/HCV1 (also called HCV1). Information from one strain or isolate,  
15 such as a partial genomic sequence, is sufficient to allow those skilled in the art using standard techniques to isolate new strains/isolates and to identify whether such new strains/isolates are HCV. For example, several different strains/isolates are described *infra*. These  
20 strains, which were obtained from a number of human sera (and from different geographical areas), were isolated utilizing the information from the genomic sequence of HCV1.

Using the techniques described in E.P.O.  
25 Publication No. 318,216 and *infra*, the genomic structure and the nucleotide sequence of HCV1 genomic RNA has been deduced. The genome appears to be single-stranded RNA containing ~10,000 nucleotides. The genome is positive-stranded, and possesses a continuous, translational open  
30 reading frame (ORF) that encodes a polyprotein of about 3,000 amino acids. In the ORF, the structural protein(s) appear to be encoded in approximately the first quarter of the N-terminus region, with the majority of the polyprotein responsible for non-structural proteins. When  
35 compared with all known viral sequences, small but significant co-linear homologies are observed with the

-15-

non-structural proteins of the flavivirus family, and with the pestiviruses (which are now also considered to be part of the Flavivirus family).

A schematic alignment of possible regions of a  
5 flaviviral polyprotein (using Yellow Fever Virus as an  
example), and of a putative polyprotein encoded in the  
major ORF of the HCV genome, is shown in Fig. 20. In the  
figure the possible domains of the HCV polyprotein are  
indicated. The flavivirus polyprotein contains, from the  
10 amino terminus to the carboxy terminus, the nucleocapsid  
protein (C), the matrix protein (M), the envelope protein  
(E), and the non-structural proteins (NS) 1, 2 (a+b), 3, 4  
(a+b), and 5. Based upon the putative amino acids encoded  
in the nucleotide sequence of HCV1, a small domain at the  
15 extreme N-terminus of the HCV polyprotein appears similar  
both in size and high content of basic residues to the  
nucleocapsid protein (C) found at the N-terminus of  
flaviviral polyproteins. The non-structural proteins  
2,3,4, and 5 (NS2-5) of HCV and of yellow fever virus  
20 (YFV) appear to have counter parts of similar size and  
hydropathicity, although there is divergence of the amino  
acid sequences. However, the region of HCV which would  
correspond to the regions of YFV polyprotein which  
contains the M, E, and NS1 protein not only differs in  
25 sequence, but also appears to be quite different both in  
size and hydropathicity. Thus, while certain domains of  
the HCV genome may be referred to herein as, for example,  
NS1, or NS2, it should be borne in mind that these  
designations are speculative; there may be considerable  
30 differences between the HCV family and flaviviruses that  
have yet to be appreciated.

Different strains, isolates or subtypes of HCV  
are expected to contain variations at the amino acid and  
nucleic acids compared with HCV1. Many isolates are  
35 expected to show much (i.e., more than about 40%) homology  
in the total amino acid sequence compared with HCV1.

However, it may also be found that there are other less homologous HCV isolates. These would be defined as HCV according to various criteria such as, for example, an ORF of approximately 9,000 nucleotides to approximately 12,000  
5 nucleotides, encoding a polyprotein similar in size to that of HCV1, an encoded polyprotein of similar hydrophobic and/or antigenic character to that of HCV1, and the presence of co-linear peptide sequences that are conserved with HCV1. In addition, it is believed that the genome  
10 would be a positive-stranded RNA.

All HCV isolates encode at least one epitope which is immunologically identifiable (i.e., immunologically cross-reactive) with an epitope encoded in the HCV cDNAs described herein. Preferably the epitope is  
15 contained in an amino acid sequence described herein and is unique to HCV when compared to previously known pathogens. The uniqueness of the epitope may be determined by its immunological reactivity with anti-HCV antibodies and lack of immunological reactivity with anti-  
20 bodies to known pathogens.

HCV strains and isolates are evolutionarily related. Therefore, it is expected that the overall homology of the genomes at the nucleotide level may be about 40% or greater, probably will be about 50% or  
25 greater, probably about 60% or greater, and even more probably about 80% or greater; and in addition that there will be corresponding contiguous sequences of at least about 13 nucleotides. It should be noted, as shown infra, that there are variable and hypervariable regions within  
30 the HCV genome; therefore, the homology in these regions is expected to be significantly less than that in the overall genome. The correspondence between the putative HCV strain genomic sequence and, for example, the CDC/HCV1 cDNA sequence can be determined by techniques known in the  
35 art. For example, they can be determined by a direct comparison of the sequence information of the

-17-

polynucleotide from the putative HCV, and the HCV cDNA sequence(s) described herein. They also can be determined by hybridization of the polynucleotides under conditions which form stable duplexes between homologous regions (for example, those which would be used prior to S<sub>1</sub> digestion), followed by digestion with single stranded specific nuclease(s), followed by size determination of the digested fragments.

Because of the evolutionary relationship of the strains or isolates of HCV, putative HCV strains or isolates are identifiable by their homology at the polypeptide level. Generally, HCV strains or isolates are expected to be at least 40% homologous, more than about 50% homologous, probably more than about 70% homologous, and even more probably more than about 80% homologous, and some may even be more than about 90% homologous at the polypeptide level. The techniques for determining amino acid sequence homology are known in the art. For example, the amino acid sequence may be determined directly and compared to the sequences provided herein. Alternatively the nucleotide sequence of the genomic material of the putative HCV may be determined (usually via a cDNA intermediate), the putative amino acid sequence encoded therein can be determined, and the corresponding regions compared.

As used herein, a polynucleotide "derived from" a designated sequence refers to a polynucleotide sequence which is comprised of a sequence of approximately at least about 6 nucleotides, preferably at least about 8 nucleotides, more preferably at least about 10-12 nucleotides, and even more preferably at least about 15-20 nucleotides corresponding to a region of the designated nucleotide sequence. "Corresponding" means homologous to or complementary to the designated sequence. Preferably, the sequence of the region from which the polynucleotide is derived is homologous to or complementary to a sequence which is unique to an HCV genome. More preferably, the



derived sequence is homologous or complementary to a sequence that is unique to all or to a majority of HCV isolates. Whether or not a sequence is unique to the HCV genome can be determined by techniques known to those of skill in the art. For example, the sequence can be compared to sequences in databanks, e.g., Genbank, to determine whether it is present in the uninfected host or other organisms. The sequence can also be compared to the known sequences of other viral agents, including those which are known to induce hepatitis, e.g., HAV, HBV, and HDV, and to members of the Flaviviridae. The correspondence or non-correspondence of the derived sequence to other sequences can also be determined by hybridization under the appropriate stringency conditions. Hybridization techniques for determining the complementarity of nucleic acid sequences are known in the art, and are discussed infra. See also, for example, Maniatis et al. (1982). In addition, mismatches of duplex polynucleotides formed by hybridization can be determined by known techniques, including for example, digestion with a nuclease such as S1 that specifically digests single-stranded areas in duplex polynucleotides. Regions from which typical DNA sequences may be "derived" include but are not limited to, for example, regions encoding specific epitopes, as well as non-transcribed and/or non-translated regions.

The derived polynucleotide is not necessarily physically derived from the nucleotide sequence shown, but may be generated in any manner, including for example, chemical synthesis or DNA replication or reverse transcription or transcription. In addition, combinations of regions corresponding to that of the designated sequence may be modified in ways known in the art to be consistent with an intended use.

The term "recombinant polynucleotide" as used herein intends a polynucleotide of genomic, cDNA,

-19-

semisynthetic, or synthetic origin which, by virtue of its origin or manipulation: (1) is not associated with all or a portion of a polynucleotide with which it is associated in nature, (2) is linked to a polynucleotide other than that to which it is linked in nature, or (3) does not occur in nature.

The term "polynucleotide" as used herein refers to a polymeric form of nucleotides of any length, either ribonucleotides or deoxyribonucleotides. This term refers only to the primary structure of the molecule. Thus, this term includes double- and single-stranded DNA and RNA. It also includes known types of modifications, for example, labels which are known in the art, methylation, "caps", substitution of one or more of the naturally occurring nucleotides with an analog, internucleotide modifications such as, for example, those with uncharged linkages (e.g., methyl phosphonates, phosphotriesters, phosphoamidates, carbamates, etc.) and with charged linkages (e.g., phosphorothioates, phosphorodithioates, etc.), those containing pendant moieties, such as, for example proteins (including for e.g., nucleases, toxins, antibodies, signal peptides, poly-L-lysine, etc.), those with intercalators (e.g., acridine, psoralen; etc.), those containing chelators (e.g., metals, radioactive metals, boron, oxidative metals, etc.), those containing alkylators, those with modified linkages (e.g., alpha anomeric nucleic acids, etc.), as well as unmodified forms of the polynucleotide.

As used herein, the "sense strand" of a nucleic acid contains the sequence that has sequence homology to that of mRNA. The "anti-sense strand" contains a sequence which is complementary to that of the "sense strand".

As used herein, a "positive stranded genome" of a virus is one in which the genome, whether RNA or DNA, is single-stranded and which encodes a viral polypeptide(s). Examples of positive stranded RNA viruses include

Togaviridae, Coronaviridae, Retroviridae, Picornaviridae, and Caliciviridae. Included also, are the Flaviviridae, which were formerly classified as Togaviridae. See Fields & Knipe (1986).

5           The term "primer" as used herein refers to an oligomer which is capable of acting as a point of initiation of synthesis of a polynucleotide strand when placed under appropriate conditions. The primer will be completely or substantially complementary to a region of  
10 the polynucleotide strand to be copied. Thus, under conditions conducive to hybridization, the primer will anneal to the complementary region of the analyte strand. Upon addition of suitable reactants, (e.g., a polymerase, nucleotide triphosphates, and the like), the primer is  
15 extended by the polymerizing agent to form a copy of the analyte strand. The primer may be single-stranded, or alternatively may be partially or fully double-stranded.

          The terms "analyte polynucleotide" and "analyte strand" refer to a single- or double-stranded nucleic acid  
20 molecule which is suspected of containing a target sequence, and which may be present in a biological sample.

          As used herein, the term "oligomer" refers to primers and to probes. The term oligomer does not connote the size of the molecule. However, typically oligomers  
25 are no greater than 1000 nucleotides, more typically are no greater than 500 nucleotides, even more typically are no greater than 250 nucleotides; they may be no greater than 100 nucleotides, and may be no greater than 75  
30 nucleotides, and also may be no greater than 50 nucleotides in length.

          As used herein, the term "probe" refers to a structure comprised of a polynucleotide which forms a hybrid structure with a target sequence, due to  
complementarity of at least one sequence in the probe with  
35 a sequence in the target region. The polynucleotide regions of probes may be composed of DNA, and/or RNA, and/

-21-

or synthetic nucleotide analogs. Included within probes are "capture probes" and "label probes". Preferably the probe does not contain a sequence complementary to sequence(s) used to prime the polymerase chain reaction  
5 (PCR).

As used herein, the term "target region" refers to a region of the nucleic acid which is to be amplified and/or detected. The term "target sequence" refers to a sequence with which a probe or primer will form a stable  
10 hybrid under desired conditions.

The term "capture probe" as used herein refers to a polynucleotide comprised of a single-stranded polynucleotide coupled to a binding partner. The single-stranded polynucleotide is comprised of a targeting  
15 polynucleotide sequence, which is complementary to a target sequence in a target region to be detected in the analyte polynucleotide. This complementary region is of sufficient length and complementarity to the target sequence to afford a duplex of stability which is suf-  
20 ficient to immobilize the analyte polynucleotide to a solid surface (via the binding partners). The binding partner is specific for a second binding partner; the second binding partner can be bound to the surface of a solid support, or may be linked indirectly via other  
25 structures or binding partners to a solid support.

The term "targeting polynucleotide sequence" as used herein, refers to a polynucleotide sequence which is comprised of nucleotides which are complementary to a target nucleotide sequence; the sequence is of sufficient  
30 length and complementarity with the target sequence to form a duplex which has sufficient stability for the purpose intended.

The term "binding partner" as used herein refers to a molecule capable of binding a ligand molecule with  
35 high specificity, as for example an antigen and an antibody specific therefor. In general, the specific binding

partners must bind with sufficient affinity to immobilize the analyte copy/complementary strand duplex (in the case of capture probes) under the isolation conditions.

Specific binding partners are known in the art, and  
5 include, for example, biotin and avidin or streptavidin, IgG and protein A, the numerous known receptor-ligand couples, and complementary polynucleotide strands. In the case of complementary polynucleotide binding partners, the partners are normally at least about 15 bases in length,  
10 and may be at least 40 bases in length; in addition, they have a content of Gs and Cs of at least about 40% and as much as about 60%. The polynucleotides may be composed of DNA, RNA, or synthetic nucleotide analogs.

The term "coupled" as used herein refers to at-  
15 tachment by covalent bonds or by strong non-covalent interactions (e.g., hydrophobic interactions, hydrogen bonds, etc.). Covalent bonds may be, for example, ester, ether, phosphoester, amide, peptide, imide, carbon-sulfur bonds, carbon-phosphorus bonds, and the like.

20 The term "support" refers to any solid or semi-solid surface to which a desired binding partner may be anchored. Suitable supports include glass, plastic, metal, polymer gels, and the like, and may take the form of beads, wells, dipstics, membranes, and the like.

25 The term "label" as used herein refers to any atom or moiety which can be used to provide a detectable (preferably quantifiable) signal, and which can be attached to a polynucleotide or polypeptide.

As used herein, the term "label probe" refers to  
30 an oligomer which is comprised of targeting polynucleotide sequence, which is complementary to a target sequence to be detected in the analyte polynucleotide. This complementary region is of sufficient length and complementarity to the target sequence to afford a duplex  
35 comprised of the "label probe" and the "target sequence" to be detected by the label. The oligomer is coupled to a

-23-

label either directly, or indirectly via a set of ligand molecules with high specificity for each other. Sets of ligand molecules with high specificity are described supra., and also includes multimers.

5           The term "multimer", as used herein, refers to linear or branched polymers of the same repeating single-stranded polynucleotide unit or different single-stranded polynucleotide units. At least one of the units has a sequence, length, and composition that permits it to  
10 hybridize specifically to a first single-stranded nucleotide sequence of interest, typically an analyte or an oligomer (e.g., a label probe) bound to an analyte. In order to achieve such specificity and stability, this unit will normally be at least about 15 nucleotides in length,  
15 typically no more than about 50 nucleotides in length, and preferably about 30 nucleotides in length; moreover, the content of Gs and Cs will normally be at least about 40%, and at most about 60%. In addition to such unit(s), the multimer includes a multiplicity of units that are capable  
20 of hybridizing specifically and stably to a second single-stranded nucleotide of interest, typically a labeled polynucleotide or another multimer. These units are generally about the same size and composition as the multimers discussed above. When a multimer is designed to  
25 be hybridized to another multimer, the first and second oligonucleotide units are heterogeneous (different), and do not hybridize with each other under the conditions of the selected assay. Thus, multimers may be label probes, or may be ligands which couple the label to the probe.

30           As used herein, the term "viral RNA", which includes HCV RNA, refers to RNA from the viral genome, fragments thereof; transcripts thereof, and mutant sequences derived therefrom.

          As used herein, a "biological sample" refers to  
35 a sample of tissue or fluid isolated from an individual, including but not limited to, for example, plasma, serum,

spinal fluid, lymph fluid, the external sections of the skin, respiratory, intestinal, and genitourinary tracts, tears, saliva, milk, blood cells, tumors, organs, and also samples of in vitro cell culture constituents (including  
5 but not limited to conditioned medium resulting from the growth of cells in cell culture medium, putatively virally infected cells, recombinant cells, and cell components).

Description of the Invention

10 The practice of the present invention will employ, unless otherwise indicated, conventional techniques of chemistry, molecular biology, microbiology, recombinant DNA, and immunology, which are within the skill of the art. Such techniques are explained fully in  
15 the literature. See e.g., Maniatis, Fitsch & Sambrook, MOLECULAR CLONING; A LABORATORY MANUAL (1982); DNA CLONING, VOLUMES I AND II (D.N Glover ed. 1985); OLIGONUCLEOTIDE SYNTHESIS (M.J. Gait ed, 1984); NUCLEIC ACID HYBRIDIZATION (B.D. Hames & S.J. Higgins eds. 1984);  
20 the series, METHODS IN ENZYMOLOGY (Academic Press, Inc.), particularly Vol. 154 and Vol. 155 (Wu and Grossman, and Wu, eds., respectively). All patents, patent applications, and publications mentioned herein, both supra and infra, are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

25 The useful materials and processes of the present invention are made possible by the identification of HCV as the etiologic agent of BB-NANBV, and by the provision of a family of nucleotide sequences isolated from cDNA libraries which contain HCV cDNA sequences.  
30 These cDNA libraries were derived from nucleic acid sequences present in the plasma of an HCV-infected chimpanzee. The construction of one of these libraries, the "c" library (ATCC No. 40394), is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216.

35 Utilizing the above-described HCV cDNA sequences, as well as that described herein, oligomers can

-25-

be constructed which are useful as reagents for detecting viral polynucleotides in biological samples. For example, from the sequences it is possible to synthesize DNA oligomers of about 8-10 nucleotides, or larger, which are useful as hybridization probes to detect the presence of HCV RNA in, for example, donated blood, blood fractions, sera of subjects suspected of harboring the virus, or cell culture systems in which the virus is replicating. In addition, the novel oligomers described herein enable further characterization of the HCV genome.

Polynucleotide probes and primers derived from these sequences may be used to amplify sequences present in cDNA libraries, and/or to screen cDNA libraries for additional overlapping cDNA sequences, which, in turn, may be used to obtain more overlapping sequences. As indicated infra. and in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, the genome of HCV appears to be RNA comprised primarily of a large open reading frame (ORF) which encodes a large polyprotein.

In addition to the above, the information provided infra allows the identification of additional HCV strains or isolates. The isolation and characterization of the additional HCV strains or isolates may be accomplished utilizing techniques known to those of skill in the art, for example, by isolating the nucleic acids from body components which contain viral particles and/or viral RNA, creating cDNA libraries using the oligomers described infra., for screening the libraries for clones containing HCV cDNA sequences described infra., and comparing the HCV cDNAs from the new isolates with the cDNAs described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 and infra. Strains or isolates which fit within the parameters of HCV, as described in the Definitions section, supra., are readily identifiable. Other methods for identifying HCV strains will be obvious to those of skill in the art, based upon the information provided herein.



Isolation of the HCV cDNA Sequences

The oligomers of the invention contain regions which form hybrid duplex structures with targeted  
5 sequences in HCV polynucleotides. The HCV polynucleotide hybridizing regions of the oligomers may be ascertained from the HCV cDNA sequence(s) provided herein, and described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216. A composite of HCV cDNA from HCV1, a prototypic HCV, is shown in Fig.  
10 18. The composite sequence is based upon sequence information derived from a number of HCV cDNA clones, which were isolated from a number of HCV cDNA libraries, including the "c" library present in lambda gt11 (ATCC No. 40394), and from human serum. The HCV cDNA clones were  
15 isolated by methods described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216. Briefly, the majority of clones which were isolated contained sequences from the HCV cDNA "c" library which was constructed using pooled serum from a chimpanzee with chronic HCV infection and containing a high titer of  
20 the virus, i.e., at least  $10^6$  chimp infectious doses/ml (CID/ml). The pooled serum was used to isolate viral particles; nucleic acids isolated from these particles was used as the template in the construction of cDNA libraries to the viral genome. The initial clone, 5-1-1, was  
25 obtained by screening the "c" library with serum from infected individuals. After the isolation of the initial clone, the remainder of the sequence was obtained by screening with synthetic polynucleotide probes, the sequences of which were derived from the 5'-region and the  
30 3'-region of the known HCV cDNA sequence(s).

The description of the methods to retrieve the cDNA sequences is mostly of historical interest. The resultant sequences (and their complements) are provided herein, and the sequences, or any portion thereof, could  
35 be prepared using synthetic methods, or by a combination of synthetic methods with retrieval of partial sequences

-27-

using methods similar to those described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216.

#### Oligomer Probes and Primers

5                   Using as a basis the HCV genome (as illustrated in Fig. 18), and/or preferably conserved regions of the HCV genome, oligomers of approximately 8 nucleotides or more can be prepared which hybridize with the positive strand(s) of HCV RNA or its complement, as well as to HCV  
10 cDNAs. These oligomers can serve as probes for the detection (including isolation and/or labeling) of polynucleotides which contain HCV nucleotide sequences, and/or as primers for the transcription and/or replication of targeted HCV sequences. The oligomers contain a  
15 targeting polynucleotide sequence, which is comprised of nucleotides which are complementary to a target HCV nucleotide sequence; the sequence is of sufficient length and complementarity with the HCV sequence to form a duplex which has sufficient stability for the purpose intended.  
20 For example, if the purpose is the isolation, via immobilization, of an analyte containing a target HCV sequence, the oligomers would contain a polynucleotide region which is of sufficient length and complementarity to the targeted HCV sequence to afford sufficient duplex  
25 stability to immobilize the analyte on a solid surface, via its binding to the oligomers, under the isolation conditions. For example, also, if the oligomers are to serve as primers for the transcription and/or replication of target HCV sequences in an analyte polynucleotide, the  
30 oligomers would contain a polynucleotide region of sufficient length and complementarity to the targeted HCV sequence to allow the polymerizing agent to continue replication from the primers which are in stable duplex form with the target sequence, under the polymerizing  
35 conditions. For example, also, if the oligomers are to be used as label probes, or are to bind to multimers, the

targeting polynucleotide region would be of sufficient length and complementarity to form stable hybrid duplex structures with the label probes and/or multimers to allow detection of the duplex. The oligomers may contain a  
5 minimum of about 4 contiguous nucleotides which are complementary to targeted HCV sequence; usually the oligomers will contain a minimum of about 8 contiguous nucleotides which are complementary to the targeted HCV sequence, and  
10 preferably will contain a minimum of about 14 contiguous nucleotides which are complementary to the targeted HCV sequence.

Suitable HCV nucleotide targeting sequences may be comprised of nucleotides which are complementary nucleotides selected from the following HCV cDNA  
15 nucleotides, which are shown in Fig. 18, (nn<sub>x</sub> - nn<sub>y</sub> denotes from about nucleotide number x to about nucleotide number y):

nn<sub>-340</sub> - nn<sub>-330</sub>; nn<sub>-330</sub> - nn<sub>-320</sub>; nn<sub>-320</sub> - nn<sub>-310</sub>;  
20 nn<sub>-310</sub> - nn<sub>-300</sub>; nn<sub>-300</sub> - nn<sub>-290</sub>; nn<sub>-290</sub> - nn<sub>-280</sub>;  
nn<sub>-280</sub> - nn<sub>-270</sub>; nn<sub>-270</sub> - nn<sub>-260</sub>; nn<sub>-260</sub> - nn<sub>-250</sub>;  
nn<sub>-250</sub> - nn<sub>-240</sub>; nn<sub>-240</sub> - nn<sub>-230</sub>; nn<sub>-230</sub> - nn<sub>-220</sub>;  
nn<sub>-220</sub> - nn<sub>-210</sub>; nn<sub>-210</sub> - nn<sub>-200</sub>; nn<sub>-200</sub> - nn<sub>-190</sub>;  
nn<sub>-190</sub> - nn<sub>-180</sub>; nn<sub>-180</sub> - nn<sub>-170</sub>; nn<sub>-170</sub> - nn<sub>-160</sub>;  
25 nn<sub>-160</sub> - nn<sub>-150</sub>; nn<sub>-150</sub> - nn<sub>-140</sub>; nn<sub>-140</sub> - nn<sub>-130</sub>;  
nn<sub>-130</sub> - nn<sub>-120</sub>; nn<sub>-120</sub> - nn<sub>-110</sub>; nn<sub>-110</sub> - nn<sub>-100</sub>;  
nn<sub>-100</sub> - nn<sub>-90</sub>; nn<sub>-90</sub> - nn<sub>-80</sub>; nn<sub>-80</sub> - nn<sub>-70</sub>;  
nn<sub>-70</sub> - nn<sub>-60</sub>; nn<sub>-60</sub> - nn<sub>-50</sub>; nn<sub>-50</sub> - nn<sub>-40</sub>;  
nn<sub>-40</sub> - nn<sub>-30</sub>; nn<sub>-30</sub> - nn<sub>-20</sub>; nn<sub>-20</sub> - nn<sub>-10</sub>;  
30 nn<sub>-10</sub> - nn<sub>1</sub>; nn<sub>1</sub> - nn<sub>10</sub>; nn<sub>10</sub> - nn<sub>20</sub>; nn<sub>20</sub> - nn<sub>30</sub>;  
nn<sub>30</sub> - nn<sub>40</sub>; nn<sub>40</sub> - nn<sub>50</sub>; nn<sub>50</sub> - nn<sub>60</sub>; nn<sub>60</sub> - nn<sub>70</sub>;  
nn<sub>70</sub> - nn<sub>80</sub>; nn<sub>80</sub> - nn<sub>90</sub>; nn<sub>90</sub> - nn<sub>100</sub>; nn<sub>100</sub> - nn<sub>110</sub>;  
nn<sub>110</sub> - nn<sub>120</sub>; nn<sub>120</sub> - nn<sub>130</sub>; nn<sub>130</sub> - nn<sub>140</sub>;  
nn<sub>140</sub> - nn<sub>150</sub>; nn<sub>150</sub> - nn<sub>160</sub>; nn<sub>160</sub> - nn<sub>170</sub>;  
35 nn<sub>170</sub> - nn<sub>180</sub>; nn<sub>180</sub> - nn<sub>190</sub>; nn<sub>190</sub> - nn<sub>200</sub>;  
nn<sub>200</sub> - nn<sub>210</sub>; nn<sub>210</sub> - nn<sub>220</sub>; nn<sub>220</sub> - nn<sub>230</sub>;

nn230 - nn240; nn240 - nn250; nn250 - nn260;  
 nn260 - nn270; nn270 - nn280; nn280 - nn290;  
 nn290 - nn300; nn300 - nn310; nn310 - nn320;  
 nn320 - nn330; nn330 - nn340; nn340 - nn350;  
 5 nn350 - nn360; nn360 - nn370; nn370 - nn380;  
 nn380 - nn390; nn390 - nn400; nn400 - nn410;  
 nn410 - nn420; nn420 - nn430; nn430 - nn440;  
 nn440 - nn450; nn450 - nn460; nn460 - nn470;  
 nn470 - nn480; nn480 - nn490; nn490 - nn500;  
 10 nn500 - nn510; nn510 - nn520; nn520 - nn530;  
 nn530 - nn540; nn540 - nn550; nn550 - nn560;  
 nn560 - nn570; nn570 - nn580; nn580 - nn590;  
 nn590 - nn600; nn600 - nn610; nn610 - nn620;  
 nn620 - nn630; nn630 - nn640; nn640 - nn650;  
 15 nn650 - nn660; nn660 - nn670; nn670 - nn680;  
 nn680 - nn690; nn690 - nn700; nn700 - nn710;  
 nn710 - nn720; nn720 - nn730; nn730 - nn740;  
 nn740 - nn750; nn750 - nn760; nn760 - nn770;  
 nn770 - nn780; nn780 - nn790; nn790 - nn800;  
 20 nn800 - nn810; nn810 - nn820; nn820 - nn830;  
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 nn860 - nn870; nn870 - nn880; nn880 - nn890;  
 nn890 - nn900; nn900 - nn910; nn910 - nn920;  
 nn920 - nn930; nn930 - nn940; nn940 - nn950;  
 25 nn950 - nn960; nn960 - nn970; nn970 - nn980;  
 nn980 - nn990; nn990 - nn1000; nn1000 - nn1010;  
 nn1010 - nn1020; nn1020 - nn1030; nn1030 - nn1040;  
 nn1040 - nn1050; nn1050 - nn1060; nn1060 - nn1070;  
 nn1070 - nn1080; nn1080 - nn1090; nn1090 - nn1100;  
 30 nn1100 - nn1110; nn1110 - nn1120; nn1120 - nn1130;  
 nn1130 - nn1140; nn1140 - nn1150; nn1150 - nn1160;  
 nn1160 - nn1170; nn1170 - nn1180; nn1180 - nn1190;  
 nn1190 - nn1200; nn1200 - nn1210; nn1210 - nn1220;  
 nn1220 - nn1230; nn1230 - nn1240; nn1240 - nn1250;  
 35 nn1250 - nn1260; nn1260 - nn1270; nn1270 - nn1280;  
 nn1280 - nn1290; nn1290 - nn1300; nn1300 - nn1310;

nn<sub>1310</sub> - nn<sub>1320</sub>; nn<sub>1320</sub> - nn<sub>1330</sub>; nn<sub>1330</sub> - nn<sub>1340</sub>;  
nn<sub>1340</sub> - nn<sub>1350</sub>; nn<sub>1350</sub> - nn<sub>1360</sub>; nn<sub>1360</sub> - nn<sub>1370</sub>;  
nn<sub>1370</sub> - nn<sub>1380</sub>; nn<sub>1380</sub> - nn<sub>1390</sub>; nn<sub>1390</sub> - nn<sub>1400</sub>;  
nn<sub>1400</sub> - nn<sub>1410</sub>; nn<sub>1410</sub> - nn<sub>1420</sub>; nn<sub>1420</sub> - nn<sub>1430</sub>;  
5 nn<sub>1430</sub> - nn<sub>1440</sub>; nn<sub>1440</sub> - nn<sub>1450</sub>; nn<sub>1450</sub> - nn<sub>1460</sub>;  
nn<sub>1460</sub> - nn<sub>1470</sub>; nn<sub>1470</sub> - nn<sub>1480</sub>; nn<sub>1480</sub> - nn<sub>1490</sub>;  
nn<sub>1490</sub> - nn<sub>1500</sub>; nn<sub>1500</sub> - nn<sub>1510</sub>; nn<sub>1510</sub> - nn<sub>1520</sub>;  
nn<sub>1520</sub> - nn<sub>1530</sub>; nn<sub>1530</sub> - nn<sub>1540</sub>; nn<sub>1540</sub> - nn<sub>1550</sub>;  
nn<sub>1550</sub> - nn<sub>1560</sub>; nn<sub>1560</sub> - nn<sub>1570</sub>; nn<sub>1570</sub> - nn<sub>1580</sub>;  
10 nn<sub>1580</sub> - nn<sub>1590</sub>; nn<sub>1590</sub> - nn<sub>1600</sub>; nn<sub>1600</sub> - nn<sub>1610</sub>;  
nn<sub>1610</sub> - nn<sub>1620</sub>; nn<sub>1620</sub> - nn<sub>1630</sub>; nn<sub>1630</sub> - nn<sub>1640</sub>;  
nn<sub>1640</sub> - nn<sub>1650</sub>; nn<sub>1650</sub> - nn<sub>1660</sub>; nn<sub>1660</sub> - nn<sub>1670</sub>;  
nn<sub>1670</sub> - nn<sub>1680</sub>; nn<sub>1680</sub> - nn<sub>1690</sub>; nn<sub>1690</sub> - nn<sub>1700</sub>;  
nn<sub>1700</sub> - nn<sub>1710</sub>; nn<sub>1710</sub> - nn<sub>1720</sub>; nn<sub>1720</sub> - nn<sub>1730</sub>;  
15 nn<sub>1730</sub> - nn<sub>1740</sub>; nn<sub>1740</sub> - nn<sub>1750</sub>; nn<sub>1750</sub> - nn<sub>1760</sub>;  
nn<sub>1760</sub> - nn<sub>1770</sub>; nn<sub>1770</sub> - nn<sub>1780</sub>; nn<sub>1780</sub> - nn<sub>1790</sub>;  
nn<sub>1790</sub> - nn<sub>1800</sub>; nn<sub>1800</sub> - nn<sub>1810</sub>; nn<sub>1810</sub> - nn<sub>1820</sub>;  
nn<sub>1820</sub> - nn<sub>1830</sub>; nn<sub>1830</sub> - nn<sub>1840</sub>; nn<sub>1840</sub> - nn<sub>1850</sub>;  
nn<sub>1850</sub> - nn<sub>1860</sub>; nn<sub>1860</sub> - nn<sub>1870</sub>; nn<sub>1870</sub> - nn<sub>1880</sub>;  
20 nn<sub>1880</sub> - nn<sub>1890</sub>; nn<sub>1890</sub> - nn<sub>1900</sub>; nn<sub>1900</sub> - nn<sub>1910</sub>;  
nn<sub>1910</sub> - nn<sub>1920</sub>; nn<sub>1920</sub> - nn<sub>1930</sub>; nn<sub>1930</sub> - nn<sub>1940</sub>;  
nn<sub>1940</sub> - nn<sub>1950</sub>; nn<sub>1950</sub> - nn<sub>1960</sub>; nn<sub>1960</sub> - nn<sub>1970</sub>;  
nn<sub>1970</sub> - nn<sub>1980</sub>; nn<sub>1980</sub> - nn<sub>1990</sub>; nn<sub>1990</sub> - nn<sub>2000</sub>;  
nn<sub>2000</sub> - nn<sub>2010</sub>; nn<sub>2010</sub> - nn<sub>2020</sub>; nn<sub>2020</sub> - nn<sub>2030</sub>;  
25 nn<sub>2030</sub> - nn<sub>2040</sub>; nn<sub>2040</sub> - nn<sub>2050</sub>; nn<sub>2050</sub> - nn<sub>2060</sub>;  
nn<sub>2060</sub> - nn<sub>2070</sub>; nn<sub>2070</sub> - nn<sub>2080</sub>; nn<sub>2080</sub> - nn<sub>2090</sub>;  
nn<sub>2090</sub> - nn<sub>2100</sub>; nn<sub>2100</sub> - nn<sub>2110</sub>; nn<sub>2110</sub> - nn<sub>2120</sub>;  
nn<sub>2120</sub> - nn<sub>2130</sub>; nn<sub>2130</sub> - nn<sub>2140</sub>; nn<sub>2140</sub> - nn<sub>2150</sub>;  
nn<sub>2150</sub> - nn<sub>2160</sub>; nn<sub>2160</sub> - nn<sub>2170</sub>; nn<sub>2170</sub> - nn<sub>2180</sub>;  
30 nn<sub>2180</sub> - nn<sub>2190</sub>; nn<sub>2190</sub> - nn<sub>2200</sub>; nn<sub>2200</sub> - nn<sub>2210</sub>;  
nn<sub>2210</sub> - nn<sub>2220</sub>; nn<sub>2220</sub> - nn<sub>2230</sub>; nn<sub>2230</sub> - nn<sub>2240</sub>;  
nn<sub>2240</sub> - nn<sub>2250</sub>; nn<sub>2250</sub> - nn<sub>2260</sub>; nn<sub>2260</sub> - nn<sub>2270</sub>;  
nn<sub>2270</sub> - nn<sub>2280</sub>; nn<sub>2280</sub> - nn<sub>2290</sub>; nn<sub>2290</sub> - nn<sub>2300</sub>;  
nn<sub>2300</sub> - nn<sub>2310</sub>; nn<sub>2310</sub> - nn<sub>2320</sub>; nn<sub>2320</sub> - nn<sub>2330</sub>;  
35 nn<sub>2330</sub> - nn<sub>2340</sub>; nn<sub>2340</sub> - nn<sub>2350</sub>; nn<sub>2350</sub> - nn<sub>2360</sub>;  
nn<sub>2360</sub> - nn<sub>2370</sub>; nn<sub>2370</sub> - nn<sub>2380</sub>; nn<sub>2380</sub> - nn<sub>2390</sub>;

-31-

nn2390 - nn2400; nn2400 - nn2410; nn2410 - nn2420;  
 nn2420 - nn2430; nn2430 - nn2440; nn2440 - nn2450;  
 nn2450 - nn2460; nn2460 - nn2470; nn2470 - nn2480;  
 nn2480 - nn2490; nn2490 - nn2500; nn2500 - nn2510;  
 5 nn2510 - nn2520; nn2520 - nn2530; nn2530 - nn2540;  
 nn2540 - nn2550; nn2550 - nn2560; nn2560 - nn2570;  
 nn2570 - nn2580; nn2580 - nn2590; nn2590 - nn2600;  
 nn2600 - nn2610; nn2610 - nn2620; nn2620 - nn2630;  
 nn2630 - nn2640; nn2640 - nn2650; nn2650 - nn2660;  
 10 nn2660 - nn2670; nn2670 - nn2680; nn2680 - nn2690;  
 nn2690 - nn2700; nn2700 - nn2710; nn2710 - nn2720;  
 nn2720 - nn2730; nn2730 - nn2740; nn2740 - nn2750;  
 nn2750 - nn2760; nn2760 - nn2770; nn2770 - nn2780;  
 nn2780 - nn2790; nn2790 - nn2800; nn2800 - nn2810;  
 15 nn2810 - nn2820; nn2820 - nn2830; nn2830 - nn2840;  
 nn2840 - nn2850; nn2850 - nn2860; nn2860 - nn2870;  
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 20 nn2960 - nn2970; nn2970 - nn2980; nn2980 - nn2990;  
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 30 nn3260 - nn3270; nn3270 - nn3280; nn3280 - nn3290;  
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 35 nn3410 - nn3420; nn3420 - nn3430; nn3430 - nn3440;  
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nn3470 - nn3480; nn3480 - nn3490; nn3490 - nn3500;  
nn3500 - nn3510; nn3510 - nn3520; nn3520 - nn3530;  
nn3530 - nn3540; nn3540 - nn3550; nn3550 - nn3560;  
nn3560 - nn3570; nn3570 - nn3580; nn3580 - nn3590;  
5 nn3590 - nn3600; nn3600 - nn3610; nn3610 - nn3620;  
nn3620 - nn3630; nn3630 - nn3640; nn3640 - nn3650;  
nn3650 - nn3660; nn3660 - nn3670; nn3670 - nn3680;  
nn3680 - nn3690; nn3690 - nn3700; nn3700 - nn3710;  
nn3710 - nn3720; nn3720 - nn3730; nn3730 - nn3740;  
10 nn3740 - nn3750; nn3750 - nn3760; nn3760 - nn3770;  
nn3770 - nn3780; nn3780 - nn3790; nn3790 - nn3800;  
nn3800 - nn3810; nn3810 - nn3820; nn3820 - nn3830;  
nn3830 - nn3840; nn3840 - nn3850; nn3850 - nn3860;  
nn3860 - nn3870; nn3870 - nn3880; nn3880 - nn3890;  
15 nn3890 - nn3900; nn3900 - nn3910; nn3910 - nn3920;  
nn3920 - nn3930; nn3930 - nn3940; nn3940 - nn3950;  
nn3950 - nn3960; nn3960 - nn3970; nn3970 - nn3980;  
nn3980 - nn3990; nn3990 - nn4000; nn4000 - nn4010;  
nn4010 - nn4020; nn4020 - nn4030; nn4030 - nn4040;  
20 nn4040 - nn4050; nn4050 - nn4060; nn4060 - nn4070;  
nn4070 - nn4080; nn4080 - nn4090; nn4090 - nn4100;  
nn4100 - nn4110; nn4110 - nn4120; nn4120 - nn4130;  
nn4130 - nn4140; nn4140 - nn4150; nn4150 - nn4160;  
nn4160 - nn4170; nn4170 - nn4180; nn4180 - nn4190;  
25 nn4190 - nn4200; nn4200 - nn4210; nn4210 - nn4220;  
nn4220 - nn4230; nn4230 - nn4240; nn4240 - nn4250;  
nn4250 - nn4260; nn4260 - nn4270; nn4270 - nn4280;  
nn4280 - nn4290; nn4290 - nn4300; nn4300 - nn4310;  
nn4310 - nn4320; nn4320 - nn4330; nn4330 - nn4340;  
30 nn4340 - nn4350; nn4350 - nn4360; nn4360 - nn4370;  
nn4370 - nn4380; nn4380 - nn4390; nn4390 - nn4400;  
nn4400 - nn4410; nn4410 - nn4420; nn4420 - nn4430;  
nn4430 - nn4440; nn4440 - nn4450; nn4450 - nn4460;  
nn4460 - nn4470; nn4470 - nn4480; nn4480 - nn4490;  
35 nn4490 - nn4500; nn4500 - nn4510; nn4510 - nn4520;  
nn4520 - nn4530; nn4530 - nn4540; nn4540 - nn4550;

-33-

nn4550 - nn4560; nn4560 - nn4570; nn4570 - nn4580;  
 nn4580 - nn4590; nn4590 - nn4600; nn4600 - nn4610;  
 nn4610 - nn4620; nn4620 - nn4630; nn4630 - nn4640;  
 nn4640 - nn4650; nn4650 - nn4660; nn4660 - nn4670;  
 5 nn4670 - nn4680; nn4680 - nn4690; nn4690 - nn4700;  
 nn4700 - nn4710; nn4710 - nn4720; nn4720 - nn4730;  
 nn4730 - nn4740; nn4740 - nn4750; nn4750 - nn4760;  
 nn4760 - nn4770; nn4770 - nn4780; nn4780 - nn4790;  
 nn4790 - nn4800; nn4800 - nn4810; nn4810 - nn4820;  
 10 nn4820 - nn4830; nn4830 - nn4840; nn4840 - nn4850;  
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 15 nn4970 - nn4980; nn4980 - nn4990; nn4990 - nn5000;  
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 20 nn5120 - nn5130; nn5130 - nn5140; nn5140 - nn5150;  
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 25 nn5270 - nn5280; nn5280 - nn5290; nn5290 - nn5300;  
 nn5300 - nn5310; nn5310 - nn5320; nn5320 - nn5330;  
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 nn5390 - nn5400; nn5400 - nn5410; nn5410 - nn5420;  
 30 nn5420 - nn5430; nn5430 - nn5440; nn5440 - nn5450;  
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 35 nn5570 - nn5580; nn5580 - nn5590; nn5590 - nn5600;  
 nn5600 - nn5610; nn5610 - nn5620; nn5620 - nn5630;



nn5630 - nn5640; nn5640 - nn5650; nn5650 - nn5660;  
nn5660 - nn5670; nn5670 - nn5680; nn5680 - nn5690;  
nn5690 - nn5700; nn5700 - nn5710; nn5710 - nn5720;  
nn5720 - nn5730; nn5730 - nn5740; nn5740 - nn5750;  
5 nn5750 - nn5760; nn5760 - nn5770; nn5770 - nn5780;  
nn5780 - nn5790; nn5790 - nn5800; nn5800 - nn5810;  
nn5810 - nn5820; nn5820 - nn5830; nn5830 - nn5840;  
nn5840 - nn5850; nn5850 - nn5860; nn5860 - nn5870;  
nn5870 - nn5880; nn5880 - nn5890; nn5890 - nn5900;  
10 nn5900 - nn5910; nn5910 - nn5920; nn5920 - nn5930;  
nn5930 - nn5940; nn5940 - nn5950; nn5950 - nn5960;  
nn5960 - nn5970; nn5970 - nn5980; nn5980 - nn5990;  
nn5990 - nn6000; nn6000 - nn6010; nn6010 - nn6020;  
nn6020 - nn6030; nn6030 - nn6040; nn6040 - nn6050;  
15 nn6050 - nn6060; nn6060 - nn6070; nn6070 - nn6080;  
nn6080 - nn6090; nn6090 - nn6100; nn6100 - nn6110;  
nn6110 - nn6120; nn6120 - nn6130; nn6130 - nn6140;  
nn6140 - nn6150; nn6150 - nn6160; nn6160 - nn6170;  
nn6170 - nn6180; nn6180 - nn6190; nn6190 - nn6200;  
20 nn6200 - nn6210; nn6210 - nn6220; nn6220 - nn6230;  
nn6230 - nn6240; nn6240 - nn6250; nn6250 - nn6260;  
nn6260 - nn6270; nn6270 - nn6280; nn6280 - nn6290;  
nn6290 - nn6300; nn6300 - nn6310; nn6310 - nn6320;  
nn6320 - nn6330; nn6330 - nn6340; nn6340 - nn6350;  
25 nn6350 - nn6360; nn6360 - nn6370; nn6370 - nn6380;  
nn6380 - nn6390; nn6390 - nn6400; nn6400 - nn6410;  
nn6410 - nn6420; nn6420 - nn6430; nn6430 - nn6440;  
nn6440 - nn6450; nn6450 - nn6460; nn6460 - nn6470;  
nn6470 - nn6480; nn6480 - nn6490; nn6490 - nn6500;  
30 nn6500 - nn6510; nn6510 - nn6520; nn6520 - nn6530;  
nn6530 - nn6540; nn6540 - nn6550; nn6550 - nn6560;  
nn6560 - nn6570; nn6570 - nn6580; nn6580 - nn6590;  
nn6590 - nn6600; nn6600 - nn6610; nn6610 - nn6620;  
nn6620 - nn6630; nn6630 - nn6640; nn6640 - nn6650;  
35 nn6650 - nn6660; nn6660 - nn6670; nn6670 - nn6680;  
nn6680 - nn6690; nn6690 - nn6700; nn6700 - nn6710;

nn<sub>6710</sub> - nn<sub>6720</sub>; nn<sub>6720</sub> - nn<sub>6730</sub>; nn<sub>6730</sub> - nn<sub>6740</sub>;  
 nn<sub>6740</sub> - nn<sub>6750</sub>; nn<sub>6750</sub> - nn<sub>6760</sub>; nn<sub>6760</sub> - nn<sub>6770</sub>;  
 nn<sub>6770</sub> - nn<sub>6780</sub>; nn<sub>6780</sub> - nn<sub>6790</sub>; nn<sub>6790</sub> - nn<sub>6800</sub>;  
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-37-

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nn9050 - nn9060.

The oligomer, however, need not consist only of  
10 the sequence which is complementary to the targeted HCV  
sequence. It may contain in addition, nucleotide  
sequences or other moieties which are suitable for the  
purposes for which the oligomers are used. For example,  
if the oligomers are used as primers for the amplification  
15 of HCV sequences via PCR, they may contain sequences  
which, when in duplex, form restriction enzyme sites which  
facilitate the cloning of the amplified sequences. For  
example, also, if the oligomers are to be used as "capture  
20 probes" in hybridization assays (described infra), they  
would contain in addition a binding partner which is  
coupled to the oligomer containing the nucleotide sequence  
which is complementary to the targeted HCV sequence.  
Other types of moieties or sequences which are useful of  
which the oligomers may be comprised or coupled to, are  
25 those which are known in the art to be suitable for a  
variety of purposes, including the labeling of nucleotide  
probes.

The preparation of the oligomers is by means  
known in the art, including, for example, by methods which  
30 include excision, transcription, or chemical synthesis.  
The target sequences and/or regions of the genome which  
are selected to which the targeting polynucleotides of the  
oligomers are complementary depend upon the purpose. For  
example, if the goal is to screen for the presence of HCV  
35 in biological samples (e.g. blood), the preferred  
oligomers would be used as probes and/or primers, and

would hybridize to conserved regions of the HCV genome. Some of the conserved regions of the HCV genome to which the oligomers may bind are described herein, for example, the regions which include nucleotide numbers from about  
5 the 5-terminus to about 200, or from about 4000 to about 5000, or from about 8000 to about 9040 as shown in Fig. 18, or preferably nucleotides -318 to 174, 4056 to 4448, and 4378 to 4902. Other regions of the genome which are conserved are readily ascertainable by comparison of the  
10 nucleotide sequences of various isolates of HCV, including the prototype HCV, HCV1. Methods for conducting comparisons between genotypes to determine conserved and nonconserved regions are known in the art, and examples of these methods are disclosed herein.

15 In the basic nucleic acid hybridization assay, single-stranded analyte nucleic acid (either DNA or RNA) is hybridized to a nucleic acid probe, and resulting duplexes are detected. The probes for HCV polynucleotides (natural or derived) are a length which allows the detec-  
20 tion of unique viral sequences by hybridization. While 6-8 nucleotides may be a workable length, sequences of 10-12 nucleotides are preferred, and about 20 nucleotides or more appears optimal. Preferably, these sequences will derive from regions which lack heterogeneity. These  
25 probes can be prepared using routine methods, including automated oligonucleotide synthetic methods. Among useful probes, for example, are those derived from the newly isolated clones disclosed herein, as well as the various oligomers useful in probing cDNA libraries, set forth  
30 below. A complement to any unique portion of the HCV genome will be satisfactory. For use as probes, complete complementarity is desirable, though it may be unnecessary as the length of the fragment is increased.

35 For use of such probes as agents to detect the presence of HCV polynucleotides (for example in screening for contaminated blood), the biological sample to be

-39-

analyzed, such as blood or serum, may be treated, if desired, to extract the nucleic acids contained therein. The resulting nucleic acid from the sample may be subjected to gel electrophoresis or other size separation techniques; alternatively, the nucleic acid sample may be dot blotted without size separation. In order to form hybrid duplexes with the targeting sequence of the probe, the targeted region of the analyte nucleic acid must be in single stranded form. Where the sequence is naturally present in single stranded form, denaturation will not be required. However, where the sequence is present in double stranded form, the sequence will be denatured. Denaturation can be carried out by various techniques known in the art. Subsequent to denaturation, the analyte nucleic acid and probe are incubated under conditions which promote stable hybrid formation of the target sequence in the probe with the putative targeted sequence in the analyte, and the resulting duplexes containing the probe(s) are detected.

Detection of the resulting duplex, if any, is usually accomplished by the use of labeled probes; alternatively, the probe may be unlabeled, but may be detectable by specific binding with a ligand which is labeled, either directly or indirectly. Suitable labels, and methods for labeling probes and ligands are known in the art, and include, for example, radioactive labels which may be incorporated by known methods (e.g., nick translation or kinasing), biotin, fluorescent groups, chemiluminescent groups (e.g., dioxetanes, particularly triggered dioxetanes), enzymes, antibodies, and the like.

The region of the probes which are used to bind to the analyte can be made completely complementary to the HCV genome. Therefore, usually high stringency conditions are desirable in order to prevent false positives. However, conditions of high stringency should only be used if the probes are complementary to regions of the viral

genome which lack heterogeneity. The stringency of hybridization is determined by a number of factors during hybridization and during the washing procedure, including temperature, ionic strength, length of time, and  
5 concentration of formamide. These factors are outlined in, for example, Maniatis, T. (1982).

Variations of this basic scheme which are known in the art, including those which facilitate separation of the duplexes to be detected from extraneous materials and/  
10 or which amplify the signal from the labeled moiety, may also be used. A number of these variations are reviewed in, for example: Matthews and Kricka (1988), Analytical Biochemistry 169:1; Landegren et al. (1988), Science 242:229; and Mittlin (1989), Clinical chem. 35:1819.  
15 These and the following publications describing assay formats are hereby incorporated by reference herein. Probes suitable for detecting HCV in these assays are comprised of sequences which hybridize with target HCV polynucleotide sequences to form duplexes with the analyte  
20 strand, wherein the duplexes are of sufficient stability for detection in the specified assay system.

A suitable variation is, for example, one which is described in U.S. Patent No. 4,868,105, issued Sept. 9, 1989, and in E.P.O. Publication No. 225,807 (published  
25 June 16, 1987). These publications describe a solution phase nucleic acid hybridization assay in which the analyte nucleic acid is hybridized to a labeling probe set and to a capturing probe set. The probe-analyte complex is coupled by hybridization with a solid-supported capture  
30 probe that is complementary to the capture probe set. This permits the analyte nucleic acid to be removed from solution as a solid phase complex. Having the analyte in the form of a solid phase complex facilitates subsequent separation steps in the assay. The labeling probe set is  
35 complementary to a labeled probe that is bound through hybridization to the solid phase/analyte complex.

-41-

Generally, it is expected that the HCV genome sequences will be present in serum of infected individuals at relatively low levels, i.e., at approximately  $10^2$ - $10^3$  chimp infectious doses (CID) per ml. This level may  
5 require that amplification techniques be used in hybridization assays. Such techniques are known in the art. For example, the Enzo Biochemical Corporation "Bio-Bridge" system uses terminal deoxynucleotide transferase to add unmodified 3'-poly-dT-tails to a DNA probe. The  
10 poly dT-tailed probe is hybridized to the target nucleotide sequence, and then to a biotin-modified poly-A. PCT Publication 84/03520 and EP Publication No. 124221 describe a DNA hybridization assay in which: (1) analyte is annealed to a single-stranded DNA probe that is com-  
15 plementary to an enzyme-labeled oligonucleotide; and (2) the resulting tailed duplex is hybridized to an enzyme-labeled oligonucleotide. EPA 204510 describes a DNA hybridization assay in which analyte DNA is contacted with a probe that has a tail, such as a poly-dT tail, an ampli-  
20 fier strand that has a sequence that hybridizes to the tail of the probe, such as a poly-A sequence, and which is capable of binding a plurality of labeled strands. A type of hybridization assay which is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 317,077 (published May 24, 1989), which  
25 should detect sequences at the level of approximately  $10^6$ /ml, utilizes nucleic acid multimers which bind to single-stranded analyte nucleic acid, and which also bind to a multiplicity of single-stranded labeled oligonucleotides. A particularly desirable technique may involve amplifica-  
30 tion of the target HCV sequences in sera approximately 10,000 fold (i.e., to approximately  $10^6$  sequences/ml), as part of the hybridization system. The amplification may be accomplished, for example, by the polymerase chain re-  
actions (PCR) technique described by Saiki et al. (1986),  
35 by Mullis, U.S. Patent No. 4,683,195, and by Mullis et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,683,202. Amplification may be prior to,



or preferably subsequent to purification of the HCV target sequence. For example, amplification may be utilized in conjunction with the assay methods described in U.S. Patent No. 4,868,105, or if even further amplification is  
5 desired, in conjunction with the hybridization system described in E.P.O. Publication No. 317,077.

Preferred methods for detecting HCV sequences in an analyte polynucleotide strand are based upon the hybridization detection methods described in U.S. Patent  
10 No. 4,868,105 and in E.P.O. Publication No. 317,077.

These methods are solution-phase sandwich hybridization assays which utilize both capture and label probes which hybridize to target sequences in an analyte nucleic acid. In the use of these assays to screen biological samples  
15 for HCV, the probes used would bind to conserved regions of the HCV genome. The capture and label probes may be interspersed in their binding to the target sequence. Alternatively, in a preferred mode the capture and label probes are in sets, and the probes of one set do not  
20 intersperse with the probes of another set. In the latter mode, preferably the set(s) of multiple capture probes hybridize to the most conserved regions of the genome, while the set(s) of multiple label probes may hybridize to regions which exhibit small amounts of divergence. For  
25 example, using the prototype HCV1 cDNA sequence shown in Fig. 18, probes could be used which hybridize to sequences in the region of nucleotides from about -318 to about 174, and/or nucleotides in the region of about 4378 to about 4902, and/or nucleotides in the region of from about 4056  
30 to about 4448. The preferred probes would hybridize to sequences in the 5'-region of the HCV genome, since, as shown infra., this region appears to be highly conserved. Thus, preferred probes may hybridize to, for example, nucleotides from about -318 to about 174 as shown in Fig.  
35 18. Probes could be used which hybridize to either the positive strand in conserved regions, and/or its comple-

-43-

ment, depending upon the purpose, for example, to detect viral genomic sequences, or to detect HCV cDNA sequences resulting from PCR amplification, or to detect replicative intermediates to the positive HCV RNA strand.

5

Detection of HCV RNA and Polynucleotides Derived Therefrom Using an HCV/cPCR Method

A particularly useful method for detecting HCV RNA or polynucleotides derived from HCV RNA is the HCV/cPCR method, which is a subject of the herein application, and which utilizes the polymerase chain reaction technique (PCR) which is described by Saiki et al. (1986), by Mullis in U.S. Pat. No. 4,683,195, and by Mullis et al. in U.S. Patent No. 4,683,202. The HCV/cPCR method utilizes primers and probes derived from the information provided herein concerning the nature of the HCV genome.

Generally, in the PCR technique, short oligonucleotide primers are prepared which match opposite ends of a desired sequence. The sequence between the primers need not be known. A sample of polynucleotide is extracted and denatured, preferably by heat, and hybridized with oligonucleotide primers which are present in molar excess. Polymerization is catalyzed by a template- and primer-dependent polymerase in the presence of deoxynucleotide triphosphates or nucleotide analogs (dNTPs). This results in two "long products" which contain the respective primers at their 5'-termini, covalently linked to the newly synthesized complements of the original strands. The replicated DNA is again denatured, hybridized with oligonucleotide primers, returned to polymerizing conditions, and a second cycle of replication is initiated. The second cycle provides the two original strands, the two long products from cycle 1, and two "short products" replicated from the long products. The short products contain sequences (sense or antisense) derived from the target sequence, flanked at the 5'- and

3'-termini with primer sequences. On each additional cycle, the number of short products is replicated exponentially. Thus, this process causes the amplification of a specific target sequence.

5 In the method, a sample is provided which is suspected of containing HCV RNA, or a fragment thereof. The sample is usually taken from an individual suspected of having NANBH; however, other sources of the sample are included, e.g., conditioned medium or cells from in vitro  
10 systems in which the virus has been replicated. The sample, however, must contain the target nucleic acid sequence(s).

The sample is then subjected to conditions which allow reverse transcription of HCV RNA into HCV cDNA.  
15 Conditions for reverse transcribing RNA are known to those of skill in the art, and are described in, for example, Maniatis et al. (1982), and in Methods in Enzymology. A preferred method of reverse transcription utilizes reverse transcriptase from a variety of sources, including re-  
20 combinant molecules, and isolated from, for example, a retrovirus, preferably from avian myeloblastosis virus (AMV), and suitable conditions for the transcription. The HCV cDNA product of reverse transcription is in a RNA:DNA hybrid, which results from the first round of reverse  
25 transcription; subsequently, DNA:DNA hybrids result from two or more rounds of transcription.

The HCV cDNA resulting from reverse transcription is then subjected to PCR to amplify the target sequence. In order to accomplish this, the HCV cDNA is  
30 denatured, and the separated strands are hybridized with primers which flank the target sequence.

Strand separation may be accomplished by any suitable denaturing method, including physical, chemical, or enzymatic means, which are known to those of skill in  
35 the art. A preferred method, which is physical, involves heating the nucleic acid until it is completely (>99%)

-45-

denatured. Typical heat denaturation involves temperatures ranging from about 80°C to about 105°C, for times ranging from about 1 to 10 minutes.

5 After hybridization of the HCV cDNA with the primers, the target HCV sequences are replicated by a polymerizing means which utilizes a primer oligonucleotide to initiate the synthesis of the replicate chain. The primers are selected so that they are complementary to sequences of the HCV genome. Oligomeric primers which are  
10 complementary to regions of the sense and antisense strands of HCV cDNA can be designed from the HCV cDNA sequences from the composite cDNA sequence provided in Fig. 18.

15 The primers are selected so that their relative positions along a duplex sequence are such that an extension product synthesized from one primer, when it is separated from its template (complement), serves as a template for the extension of the other primer to yield a replicate chain of defined length.

20 The primer is preferably single stranded for maximum efficiency in amplification, but may alternatively be double stranded. If double stranded, the primer is first treated to separate its strands before being used to prepare extension products. Preferably, the primer is an  
25 oligodeoxyribonucleotide. The primer must be sufficiently long to prime the synthesis of extension products in the presence of the agent for polymerization. The exact lengths of the primers will depend on many factors, including temperature and source of the primer and use of  
30 the method. For example, depending on the complexity of the target sequence, the oligonucleotide primer typically contains about 15-45 nucleotides, although it may contain more or fewer nucleotides. Short primer molecules generally require cooler temperatures to form sufficiently  
35 stable hybrid complexes with the template.

The primers used herein are selected to be "substantially" complementary to the different strands of each specific sequence to be amplified. Therefore, the primers need not reflect the exact sequence of the template, but must be sufficiently complementary to selectively hybridize with their respective strands. For example, a non-complementary nucleotide fragment may be attached to the 5'-end of the primer, with the remainder of the primer sequence being complementary to the strand. Alternatively, non-complementary bases or longer sequences can be interspersed into the primer, provided that the primer has sufficient complementarity with the sequence of one of the strands to be amplified to hybridize therewith, and to thereby form a duplex structure which can be extended by the polymerizing means. The non-complementary nucleotide sequences of the primers may include restriction enzyme sites. Appending a restriction enzyme site to the end(s) of the target sequence would be particularly helpful for cloning of the target sequence.

It will be understood that "primer", as used herein, may refer to more than one primer, particularly in the case where there is some ambiguity in the information regarding the terminal sequence(s) of the target region to be amplified. Hence, a "primer" includes a collection of primer oligonucleotides containing sequences representing the possible variations in the sequence or includes nucleotides which allow a typical basepairing. One of the primer oligonucleotides in this collection will be homologous with the end of the target sequence. A specific case is shown in the Examples, where oligomer sets of 44-mers and 45-mers were utilized to prime the amplification of a potentially variant region of the HCV genome.

It is anticipated that there will be a variety of strains or isolates of HCV with sequences which deviate from HCV1, the prototype strain. Therefore, in order to

-47-

detect variant strains it is preferable to construct primers which hybridize to conserved regions of the HCV genome. The conserved regions may be determined by comparing the nucleotide or amino acid sequences of several HCV strains/isolates. There appear to be at least three regions of conserved amino acid in the HCV genome, described supra., from which primers may be derived. These regions are believed to be. The primers described infra., in the Examples, are derived from what are believed to be conserved regions of HCV, based upon sequence homology to that of the Flaviviruses.

The oligonucleotide primers may be prepared by any suitable method. Methods for preparing oligonucleotides of specific sequence are known in the art, and include, for example, cloning and restriction of appropriate sequences, and direct chemical synthesis. Chemical synthesis methods may include, for example, the phosphotriester method described by Narang et al. (1979), the phosphodiester method disclosed by Brown et al. (1979), the diethylphosphoramidate method disclosed in Beaucage et al. (1981), and the solid support method in U.S. Patent No. 4,458,066.

The primers may be labeled, if desired, by incorporating means detectable by spectroscopic, photochemical, biochemical, immunochemical, or chemical means.

Template-dependent extension of the oligonucleotide primer(s) is catalyzed by a polymerizing agent in the presence of adequate amounts of the four deoxyribonucleotide triphosphates (dATP, dGTP, dCTP and dTTP) or analogs, in a reaction medium which is comprised of the appropriate salts, metal cations, and pH buffering system. Suitable polymerizing agents are enzymes known to catalyze primer- and template-dependent DNA synthesis. Known DNA polymerases include, for example, *E. coli* DNA polymerase I or its Klenow fragment, T<sub>4</sub> DNA polymerase, and Taq DNA polymerase. The reaction conditions for

catalyzing DNA synthesis with these DNA polymerases are known in the art.

The products of the synthesis are duplex molecules consisting of the template strands and the primer extension strands, which include the target sequence. These products, in turn, serve as template for another round of replication. In the second round of replication, the primer extension strand of the first cycle is annealed with its complementary primer; synthesis yields a "short" product which is bounded on both the 5'- and the 3'-ends by primer sequences or their complements. Repeated cycles of denaturation, primer annealing, and extension result in the exponential accumulation of the target region defined by the primers. Sufficient cycles are run to achieve the desired amount of polynucleotide containing the target region of nucleic acid. The desired amount may vary, and is determined by the function which the product polynucleotide is to serve.

The PCR method can be performed in a number of temporal sequences. For example, it can be performed step-wise, where after each step new reagents are added, or in a fashion where all of the reagents are added simultaneously, or in a partial step-wise fashion, where fresh reagents are added after a given number of steps.

In a preferred method, the PCR reaction is carried out as an automated process which utilizes a thermostable enzyme. In this process the reaction mixture is cycled through a denaturing region, a primer annealing region, and a reaction region. A machine may be employed which is specifically adapted for use with a thermostable enzyme, which utilizes temperature cycling without a liquid handling system, since the enzyme need not be added at every cycle. This type of machine is commercially available from Perkin Elmer Cetus Corp.

After amplification by PCR, the target polynucleotides are detected by hybridization with a probe

-49-

polynucleotide which forms a stable hybrid with that of the target sequence under stringent to moderately stringent hybridization and wash conditions. If it is expected that the probes will be completely complementary (i.e., about 99% or greater) to the target sequence, stringent conditions will be used. If some mismatching is expected, for example if variant strains are expected with the result that the probe will not be completely complementary, the stringency of hybridization may be lessened. However, conditions are chosen which rule out nonspecific/adventitious binding. Conditions which affect hybridization, and which select against nonspecific binding are known in the art, and are described in, for example, Maniatis et al. (1982). Generally, lower salt concentration and higher temperature increase the stringency of binding. For example, it is usually considered that stringent conditions are incubation in solutions which contain approximately 0.1 X SSC, 0.1% SDS, at about 65°C incubation/wash temperature, and moderately stringent conditions are incubation in solutions which contain approximately 1-2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS and about 50°-65°C incubation/wash temperature. Low stringency conditions are 2 X SSC and about 30°-50°C.

Probes for HCV target sequences may be derived from the HCV cDNA sequence shown in Fig. 18, or from new HCV isolates. The HCV probes may be of any suitable length which span the target region, but which exclude the primers, and which allow specific hybridization to the target region. If there is to be complete complementarity, i.e., if the strain contains a sequence identical to that of the probe, since the duplex will be relatively stable under even stringent conditions, the probes may be short, i.e., in the range of about 10-30 base pairs. If some degree of mismatch is expected with the probe, i.e., if it is suspected that the probe will hybridize to a variant region, the probe may be of greater



length, since length seems to counterbalance some of the effect of the mismatch(es). An example of this is found in the Examples, where the probe was designed to bind to potential variants of HCV1. In this case, the primers  
5 were designed to bind to HCV cDNA derived from a hypothetical conserved region of the HCV genome, and the target region was one which potentially contained variations (based upon the Flavivirus model). The probe used to detect the HCV target sequences contained approximately  
10 268 base pairs.

The probe nucleic acid having a sequence complementary to the target sequence may be synthesized using similar techniques described supra. for the synthesis of primer sequences. If desired, the probe may be labeled.  
15 Appropriate labels are described supra.

In some cases, it may be desirable to determine the length of the PCR product detected by the probe. This may be particularly true if it is suspected that variant HCV strains may contain deletions within the target  
20 region, or if one wishes to confirm the length of the PCR product. In such cases it is preferable to subject the products to size analysis as well as hybridization with the probe. Methods for determining the size of nucleic acids are known in the art, and include, for example, gel  
25 electrophoresis, sedimentation in gradients, and gel exclusion chromatography.

The presence of the target sequence in a biological sample is detected by determining whether a hybrid has been formed between the HCV polynucleotide probe and  
30 the nucleic acid subjected to the PCR amplification technique. Methods to detect hybrids formed between a probe and a nucleic acid sequence are known in the art. For example, for convenience, an unlabeled sample may be transferred to a solid matrix to which it binds, and the  
35 bound sample subjected to conditions which allow specific hybridization with a labeled probe; the solid matrix is

-51-

than examined for the presence of the labeled probe. Alternatively, if the sample is labeled, the unlabeled probe is bound to the matrix, and after the exposure to the appropriate hybridization conditions, the matrix is  
5 examined for the presence of label. Other suitable hybridization assays are described supra.

#### Determination of Variant HCV Sequences Using PCR

In order to identify variant HCV strains, and  
10 thereby to design probes for those variants, the above described HCV/cPCR method is utilized to amplify variant regions of the HCV genome, so that the nucleotide sequences of these variant target regions can be determined. Generally, variant types of HCV might be  
15 expected to occur in different geographic locations than that in which the HCV1 strain is predominant, for example, Japan, Africa, etc.; or in different vertebrate species which are also infected with the virus. Variant HCV may also arise during passage in tissue culture systems, or be  
20 the result of spontaneous or induced mutations.

In order to amplify the variant target region, primers are designed to flank the suspect region, and preferably are complementary to conserved regions. Primers to two regions of HCV which are probably conserved,  
25 based upon the Flavivirus model, are described in the Examples. These primers and probes may be designed utilizing the sequence information for the HCV1 strain provided in Fig. 18.

Analysis of the nucleotide sequence of the  
30 target region(s) may be by direct analysis of the PCR amplified products. A process for direct sequence analysis of PCR amplified products is described in Saiki et al. (1988).

Alternatively, the amplified target sequence(s)  
35 may be cloned prior to sequence analysis. A method for the direct cloning and sequence analysis of enzymatically

amplified genomic segments has been described by Scharf (1986). In the method, the primers used in the PCR technique are modified near their 5'-ends to produce convenient restriction sites for cloning directly into, for example, an M13 sequencing vector. After amplification, the PCR products are cleaved with the appropriate restriction enzymes. The restriction fragments are ligated into the M13 vector, and transformed into, for example, a JM 103 host, plated out, and the resulting plaques are screened by hybridization with a labeled oligonucleotide probe. Other methods for cloning and sequence analysis are known in the art.

Universal Primers for Flaviviruses and for HCV

Studies of the nature of the genome of the HCV, utilizing probes derived from the HCV cDNA, as well as sequence information contained within the HCV cDNA, are suggestive that HCV is a Flavi-like virus. These studies are described in E.P.O. publication No. 318,216 owned by the herein assignee, and which is incorporated herein in its entirety. A comparison of the HCV cDNA sequence derived from the HCV cDNA clones with known sequences of a number of Flaviviruses show that HCV contains sequences which are homologous to conserved sequences in the Flaviviruses. These conserved sequences may allow the creation of primers which may be universal in their application for amplification of target regions of Flaviviruses, and for HCV. These sequences are the 16-mer or smaller sequences from the 3'-termini of the primers described in the Examples. Identification of the species is then accomplished utilizing a probe specific for the species. The genomes of a number of Flaviviruses are known in the art, and include, for example, Japanese Encephalitis Virus (Sumiyoshi et al. (1987)), Yellow Fever Virus (Rice et al. (1985)), Dengue Type 2 Virus (Hahn et al. (1988)), Dengue Type 4 Virus (Mackow (1987)), and West

-53-

Nile Virus (Castle et al. (1986)). Identification of HCV RNA is accomplished utilizing a probe specific for HCV, the sequence of which can be determined the HCV cDNA sequences provided herein.

5                   Alternatively, utilization of sets of probe(s) designed to account for codon degeneracy and therefore contain common sequences to the Flaviviruses and to HCV, as determined by a comparison of HCV amino acid sequences with the known sequences of the Flaviviruses, allows a  
10 general detection system for these viruses.

#### Construction of Desired DNA Sequences

                  Synthetic oligonucleotides may be prepared using an automated oligonucleotide synthesizer as described by  
15 Warner (1984). If desired the synthetic strands may be labeled with  $^{32}\text{P}$  by treatment with polynucleotide kinase in the presence of  $^{32}\text{P}$ -ATP, using standard conditions for the reaction.

                  DNA sequences, including those isolated from  
20 cDNA libraries, may be modified by known techniques, including, for example site directed mutagenesis, as described by Zoller (1982). Briefly, the DNA to be modified is packaged into phage as a single stranded sequence, and converted to a double stranded DNA with DNA  
25 polymerase using, as a primer, a synthetic oligonucleotide complementary to the portion of the DNA to be modified, and having the desired modification included in its own sequence. The resulting double stranded DNA is transformed into a phage supporting host bacterium.  
30 Cultures of the transformed bacteria, which contain replications of each strand of the phage, are plated in agar to obtain plaques. Theoretically, 50% of the new plaques contain phage having the mutated sequence, and the remaining 50% have the original sequence. Replicates of  
35 the plaques are hybridized to labeled synthetic probe at temperatures and conditions which permit hybridization

with the correct strand, but not with the unmodified sequence. The sequences which have been identified by hybridization are recovered and cloned.

5 Kits for Screening for HCV Derived Polynucleotides

Oligomers which are probes and/or primers for amplification and/or screening of samples for HCV can be packaged into kits. Kits for screening for HCV sequences include the oligomeric probe DNAs. Kits for amplification  
10 of HCV sequences may include the oligomeric primers used in the amplification. The kits usually contain the probes or primers in a premeasured or predetermined amount, as well as other suitably packaged reagents and materials, in  
15 separate suitable containers, needed for the particular hybridization and/or amplification protocol(s). For example, the kit may contain standards, buffers, supports, enzymes, substrates, label probes, binding partners, and/or instructions for conducting the test.

20 Examples

Described below are examples of the present invention which are provided only for illustrative purposes, and not to limit the scope of the present invention.

25

Isolation and Sequence of Overlapping

HCV cDNA Clones 13i, 26j, CA59a, CA84a, CA156e and CA167b

The clones 13i, 26j, CA59a, CA84a, CA156e and CA167b were isolated from the lambda-gt11 library which  
30 contains HCV cDNA (ATCC No. 40394), the preparation of which is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 (published 31 May 1989), and WO 89/04669 (published 1 June 1989). Screening of the library was with the probes described infra., using the method described in Huynh  
35 (1985). The frequencies with which positive clones appeared with the respective probes was about 1 in 50,000.

-55-

The isolation of clone 13i was accomplished using a synthetic probe derived from the sequence of clone 12f. The sequence of the probe was:

5           5' GAA CGT TGC GAT CTG GAA GAC AGG GAC AGG 3'.

The isolation of clone 26j was accomplished using a probe derived from the 5'-region of clone K9-1. The sequence of the probe was:

10

5' TAT CAG TTA TGC CAA CGG AAG CGG CCC CGA 3'.

The isolation procedures for clone 12f and for clone k9-1 (also called K9-1) are described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, and their sequences are shown in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively. The HCV cDNA sequences of clones 13i and 26j, are shown in Figs. 4 and 5, respectively. Also shown are the amino acids encoded therein, as well as the overlap of clone 13i with clone 12f, and the overlap of clone 26j with clone 13i. The sequences for these clones confirmed the sequence of clone K9-1. Clone K9-1 had been isolated from a different HCV cDNA library (See E.P.O. Publication No. 218,316).

Clone CA59a was isolated utilizing a probe based upon the sequence of the 5'-region of clone 26j. The sequence of this probe was:

5' CTG GTT AGC AGG GCT TTT CTA TCA CCA CAA 3'.

30           A probe derived from the sequence of clone CA59a was used to isolate clone CA84a. The sequence of the probe used for this isolation was:

5' AAG GTC CTG GTA GTG CTG CTG CTA TTT GCC 3'.

35

Clone CA156e was isolated using a probe derived from the sequence of clone CA84a. The sequence of the probe was:

5 5' ACT GGA CGA CGC AAG GTT GCA ATT GCT CTA 3'.

Clone CA167b was isolated using a probe derived from the sequence of clone CA 156e. The sequence of the probe was:

10

5' TTC GAC GTC ACA TCG ATC TGC TTG TCG GGA 3'.

The nucleotide sequences of the HCV cDNAs in clones CA59a, CA84a, CA156e, and CA167b, are shown Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9, respectively. The amino acids encoded therein, as well as the overlap with the sequences of relevant clones, are also shown in the figures.

#### Creation of "pi" HCV cDNA Library

20

A library of HCV cDNA, the "pi" library, was constructed from the same batch of infectious chimpanzee plasma used to construct the lambda-gt11 HCV cDNA library (ATCC No. 40394) described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, and utilizing essentially the same techniques.

25

However, construction of the pi library utilized a primer-extension method, in which the primer for reverse transcriptase was based on the sequence of clone CA59a. The sequence of the primer was:

30

5' GGT GAC GTG GGT TTC 3'.

#### Isolation and Sequence of Clone pil4a

Screening of the "pi" HCV cDNA library described supra., with the probe used to isolate clone CA167b (See 35 supra.) yielded clone pil4a. The clone contains about 800 base pairs of cDNA which overlaps clones CA167b, CA156e,

-57-

CA84a and CA59a, which were isolated from the lambda gt-11 HCV cDNA library (ATCC No. 40394). In addition, pil4a also contains about 250 base pairs of DNA which are upstream of the HCV cDNA in clone CA167b.

5

Isolation and Sequence of Clones CA216a, CA290a and aq30a

Based on the sequence of clone CA167b a synthetic probe was made having the following sequence:

10                   5' GGC TTT ACC ACG TCA CCA ATG ATT GCC CTA 3'

The above probe was used to screen the , which yielded clone CA216a, whose HCV sequences are shown in Fig. 10.

Another probe was made based on the sequence of  
15 clone CA216a having the following sequence:

5' TTT GGG TAA GGT CAT CGA TAC CCT TAC GTG 3'

Screening the lambda-gt11 library (ATCC No. 40394) with  
20 this probe yielded clone CA290a, the HCV sequences therein being shown in Fig. 11.

In a parallel approach, a primer-extension cDNA library was made using nucleic acid extracted from the same infectious plasma used in the original lambda-gt11  
25 cDNA library described above. The primer used was based on the sequence of clones CA216a and CA290a:

5' GAA GCC GCA CGT AAG 3'

30 The cDNA library was made using methods similar to those described previously for libraries used in the isolation of clones pil4a and k9-1. The probe used to screen this library was based on the sequence of clone CA290a:

35                   5' CCG GCG TAG GTC GCG CAA TTT GGG TAA 3'



Clone ag30a was isolated from the new library with the above probe, and contained about 670 basepairs of HCV sequence. See Fig. 12. Part of this sequence overlaps the HCV sequence of clones CA216a and CA290a. About 300  
5 base-pairs of the ag30a sequence, however, is upstream of the sequence from clone CA290a. The non-overlapping sequence shows a start codon (\*) and stop codons that may indicate the start of the HCV ORF. Also indicated in Fig. 12 are putative small encoded peptides (#) which may play  
10 a role in regulating translation, as well as the putative first amino acid of the putative polypeptide (/), and downstream amino acids encoded therein.

Isolation and Sequence of Clone CA205a

15 Clone CA205a was isolated from the original lambda gt-11 library (ATCC No. 40394), using a synthetic probe derived from the HCV sequence in clone CA290a (Fig. 11). The sequence of the probe was:

20 5' TCA GAT CGT TGG TGG AGT TTA CTT GTT GCC 3'.

The sequence of the HCV cDNA in CA205a, shown in Fig. 13, overlaps with the cDNA sequences in both clones ag30a and CA290a. The overlap of the sequence with that of CA290a  
25 is shown by the dotted line above the sequence (the figure also shows the putative amino acids encoded in this fragment).

As observed from the HCV cDNA sequences in clones CA205a and ag30a, the putative HCV polyprotein appears to begin at the ATG start codon; the HCV sequences  
30 in both clones contain an in-frame, contiguous double stop codon (TGATAG) forty two nucleotides upstream from this ATG. The HCV ORF appears to begin after these stop codons, and to extend for at least 8907 nucleotides (See  
35 the composite HCV cDNA shown in Fig. 18).

Isolation and Sequence of Clone 18g

Based on the sequence of clone ag30a (See Fig. 12) and of an overlapping clone from the original lambda gt-11 library (ATCC No. 40394), CA230a, a synthetic probe was made having the following sequence:

5' CCA TAG TGG TCT GCG GAA CCG GTG AGT ACA 3'.

10 Screening of the original lambda-gt11 HCV cDNA library with the probe yielded clone 18g, the HCV cDNA sequence of which is shown in Fig. 14. Also shown in the figure are the overlap with clone ag30a, and putative polypeptides encoded within the HCV cDNA.

15           The cDNA in clone 18g (C18g or 18g) overlaps that in clones ag30a and CA205a, described supra. The sequence of C18g also contains the double stop codon region observed in clone ag30a. The polynucleotide region upstream of these stop codons presumably represents part  
20 of the 5'-region of the HCV genome, which may contain short ORFs, and which can be confirmed by direct sequencing of the purified HCV genome. These putative small encoded peptides may play a regulatory role in translation. The region of the HCV genome upstream of that  
25 represented by C18g can be isolated for sequence analysis using essentially the technique described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 for isolating cDNA sequences upstream of the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 12f. Essentially, small synthetic oligonucleotide primers of  
30 reverse transcriptase, which are based upon the sequence of C18g, are synthesized and used to bind to the corresponding sequence in HCV genomic RNA. The primer sequences are proximal to the known 5'-terminal of C18g, but sufficiently downstream to allow the design of probe  
35 sequences upstream of the primer sequences. Known standard methods of priming and cloning are used. The

resulting cDNA libraries are screened with sequences upstream of the priming sites (as deduced from the elucidated sequence of C18g). The HCV genomic RNA is obtained from either plasma or liver samples from  
5 individuals with NANBH. Since HCV appears to be a Flavi-like virus, the 5'-terminus of the genome may be modified with a "cap" structure. It is known that Flavivirus genomes contain 5'-terminal "cap" structures. (Yellow  
10 Fever virus, Rice et al. (1988); Dengue virus, Hahn et al (1988); Japanese Encephalitis Virus (1987)).

Isolation and Sequence of Clones from  
the beta-HCV cDNA library

Clones containing cDNA representative of the 3'-  
15 terminal region of the HCV genome were isolated from a cDNA library constructed from the original infectious chimpanzee plasma pool which was used for the creation of the HCV cDNA lambda-gt11 library (ATCC No. 40394), described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216. In order to  
20 create the DNA library, RNA extracted from the plasma was "tailed" with poly rA using poly (rA) polymerase, and cDNA was synthesized using oligo(dT)<sub>12-18</sub> as a primer for reverse transcriptase. The resulting RNA:cDNA hybrid was digested with RNAase H, and converted to double stranded  
25 HCV cDNA. The resulting HCV cDNA was cloned into lambda-gt10, using essentially the technique described in Huynh (1985), yielding the beta (or b) HCV cDNA library. The procedures used were as follows.

An aliquot (12ml) of the plasma was treated with  
30 proteinase K, and extracted with an equal volume of phenol saturated with 0.05M Tris-Cl, pH 7.5, 0.05% (v/v) beta-mercaptoethanol, 0.1% (w/v) hydroxyquinolone, 1 mM EDTA. The resulting aqueous phase was re-extracted with the phenol mixture, followed by 3 extractions with a 1:1  
35 mixture containing phenol and chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (24:1), followed by 2 extractions with a mixture of

-61-

chloroform and isoamyl alcohol (1:1). Subsequent to adjustment of the aqueous phase to 200 mM with respect to NaCl, nucleic acids in the aqueous phase were precipitated overnight at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , with 2.5 volumes of cold absolute ethanol. The precipitates were collected by centrifugation at 10,000 RPM for 40 min., washed with 70% ethanol containing 20 mM NaCl, and with 100% cold ethanol, dried for 5 min. in a dessicator, and dissolved in water.

The isolated nucleic acids from the infectious chimpanzee plasma pool were tailed with poly rA utilizing poly-A polymerase in the presence of human placenta ribonuclease inhibitor (HPRI) (purchased from Amersham Corp.), utilizing MS2 RNA as carrier. Isolated nucleic acids equivalent to that in 2 ml of plasma were incubated in a solution containing TMN (50 mM Tris HCl, pH 7.9, 10 mM  $\text{MgCl}_2$ , 250 mM NaCl, 2.5 mM  $\text{MnCl}_2$ , 2 mM dithiothreitol (DTT)), 40 micromolar alpha- $^{32}\text{P}$  ATP, 20 units HPRI (Amersham Corp.), and about 9 to 10 units of RNase free poly-A polymerase (BRL). Incubation was for 10 min. at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and the reactions were stopped with EDTA (final concentration about 250 mM). The solution was extracted with an equal volume of phenol-chloroform, and with an equal volume of chloroform, and nucleic acids were precipitated overnight at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  with 2.5 volumes of ethanol in the presence of 200 mM NaCl.

#### Isolation of Clone b5a

The beta HCV cDNA library was screened by hybridization using a synthetic probe, which had a sequence based upon the HCV cDNA sequence in clone 15e. The isolation of clone 15e is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, and its sequence is shown in Fig. 3. The sequence of the synthetic probe was:

5' ATT GCG AGA TCT ACG GGG CCT GCT ACT CCA 3'.

Screening of the library yielded clone beta-5a (b5a), which contains an HCV cDNA region of approximately 1000 base pairs. The 5'-region of this cDNA overlaps clones 35f, 19g, 26g, and 15e (these clones are described supra).  
5 The region between the 3'-terminal poly-A sequence and the 3'-sequence which overlaps clone 15e, contains approximately 200 base pairs. This clone allows the identification of a region of the 3'-terminal sequence the HCV genome.

10 The sequence of b5a is contained within the sequence of the HCV cDNA in clone 16jh (described infra). Moreover, the sequence is also present in CC34a, isolated from the original lambda-gt11 library (ATCC No. 40394). (The original lambda-gt11 library is referred to herein as  
15 the "C" library).

Isolation and Sequence of Clones Generated by PCR  
Amplification of the 3'-Region of the HCV Genome

Multiple cDNA clones have been generated which  
20 contain nucleotide sequences derived from the 3'-region of the HCV genome. This was accomplished by amplifying a targeted region of the genome by a polymerase chain reaction technique described in Saiki et al. (1986), and in Saiki et al. (1988), which was modified as described  
25 below. The HCV RNA which was amplified was obtained from the original infectious chimpanzee plasma pool which was used for the creation of the HCV cDNA lambda-gt11 library (ATCC No. 40394) described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216. Isolation of the HCV RNA was as described supra.  
30 The isolated RNA was tailed at the 3'-end with ATP by E. coli poly-A polymerase as described in Sippel (1973), except that the nucleic acids isolated from chimp serum were substituted for the nucleic acid substrate. The tailed RNA was then reverse transcribed into cDNA by  
35 reverse transcriptase, using an oligo dT-primer adapter,

-63-

essentially as described by Han (1987), except that the components and sequence of the primer-adaptor were:

	<u>Stuffer</u>	<u>NotI</u>	<u>SP6 Promoter</u>	<u>Primer</u>
5	AATTC	GCGGCCGC	CATACGATTTAGGTGACACTATAGAA	T <sub>15</sub>

The resultant cDNA was subjected to amplification by PCR using two primers:

10	<u>Primer</u>	<u>Sequence</u>
	JH32 (30mer)	ATAGCGGCCCGCCCTCGATTGCGAGATCTAC
	JH11 (20mer)	AATTCGGGCGGCCGCATACGA

The JH32 primer contained 20 nucleotide sequences hybridizable to the 5'-end of the target region in the cDNA, with an estimated  $T_m$  of 66°C. The JH11 was derived from a portion of the oligo dT-primer adaptor; thus, it is specific to the 3'-end of the cDNA with a  $T_m$  of 64°C. Both primers were designed to have a recognition site for the restriction enzyme, NotI, at the 5'-end, for use in subsequent cloning of the amplified HCV cDNA.

The PCR reaction was carried out by suspending the cDNA and the primers in 100 microliters of reaction mixture containing the four deoxynucleoside triphosphates, buffer salts and metal ions, and a thermostable DNA polymerase isolated from Thermus aquaticus (Taq polymerase), which are in a Perkin Elmer Cetus PCR kit (N801-0043 or N801-0055). The PCR reaction was performed for 35 cycles in a Perkin Elmer Cetus DNA thermal cycler. Each cycle consisted of a 1.5 min denaturation step at 94°C, an annealing step at 60°C for 2 min, and a primer extension step at 72°C for 3 min. The PCR products were subjected to Southern blot analysis using a 30 nucleotide probe, JH34, the sequence of which was based upon that of the 3'-terminal region of clone 15e. The sequence of JH34 is:

5' CTT GAT CTA CCT CCA ATC ATT CAA AGA CTC 3'.

The PCR products detected by the HCV cDNA probe ranged in size from about 50 to about 400 base pairs.

In order to clone the amplified HCV cDNA, the PCR products were cleaved with NotI and size selected by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. DNA larger than 300 base pairs was cloned into the NotI site of pUC18S. The vector pUC18S is constructed by including a NotI polylinker cloned between the EcoRI and Sali sites of pUC18. The clones were screened for HCV cDNA using the JH34 probe. A number of positive clones were obtained and sequenced. The nucleotide sequence of the HCV cDNA insert in one of these clones, 16jh, and the amino acids encoded therein, are shown in Fig. 15. A nucleotide heterogeneity, detected in the sequence of the HCV cDNA in clone 16jh as compared to another clone of this region, is indicated in the figure.

Isolation and Sequence of Clone 6k

Based on the sequence of clone 16jh and clone b5a (see supra), a synthetic probe was made having the following sequence:

5' TCT TCA ACT GGG CAG TAA GAA CAA AGC TCA 3'.

Screening of the original lambda-gt11 HCV cDNA library (described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216) with the probe yielded clones with a frequency of approximately 1 in  $10^6$ ; one of these was called clone 6k (also called C6k), the HCV cDNA sequence of which is shown in Fig. 16. Also shown in the figure are the overlap with clone 16jh, and putative polypeptides encoded within the HCV cDNA. Sequence information on the HCV cDNA in clone 6k was obtained from only one strand. Information on the deposit

-65-

of this clone is provided infra, wherein the clone is listed as Lambda gt11 C6k. Confirmation of the C6K sequence as part of an ORF encoding HCV1 polypeptide has been obtained by sequencing other overlapping clones.

5

Isolation and Sequence of Clone p131jh

A clone containing sequence from the 3'-region of the HCV genome, and which contains an in-frame stop codon, was isolated essentially as described supra., for the isolation of clones generated by PCR amplification of the 3' region of the genome, except that HCV1 RNA was converted to cDNA using the oligonucleotide

15                   5' AAT TCG CGG CCG CCA TAC GAT TTA GGT GAC  
                                  ACT ATA GAA T<sub>15</sub> 3'.

The cDNA was then amplified by the PCR reaction using the primers:

20                   5' TTC GCG GCC GCT ACA GCG GGG GAG ACA T 3'

and

25                   5' AAT TCG CGG CCG CCA TAC GA 3'.

After amplification, the PCR products were precipitated with spermine, digested with NotI, and extracted with phenol. The purified products were cloned into the NotI site of pUC18S, and HCV positive clones were selected using the oligonucleotide:

5' CGA TGA AGG TTG GGG TAA ACA CTC CGG CCT 3'.

The HCV cDNA in one clone, designated p131jh, is shown in Fig. 17. This clone contains an in-frame stop codon for the large ORF contained in the HCV genome.

35



Isolation and Sequence of Clone 5'-clone32

A clone containing sequence from the 5'-region of the HCV genome, upstream of the sequence in clone  
5 b114a, was isolated and the nucleotide sequence determined  
by a modification of the method for the isolation and  
sequence of clones generated by PCR amplification of the  
3'-region of the genome, described in U.S.S.N. 456,637,  
which is incorporated by reference. Generally, a target  
10 region of the genome was amplified by the PCR technique  
described in Saiki et al. (1986), and in Saiki et al  
(1988). The HCV RNA which was amplified was obtained by  
extracting human serum (U.S. clinical isolate, HCV27)  
using a cold guanidinium thiocyanate method described by  
15 Han et al. (1987). The extracted RNA was converted into  
single stranded cDNA with reverse transcriptase, using a  
primer, JH94, which is complementary to nucleotides -250  
to -223 of the HCV genome (see Fig. 18). The sequence of  
JH94 is:

20

5' CCT GCG GCC GCA CGA CAC TCA TAC TAA 3'.

Conversion of single- to double-stranded HCV cDNA was ac-  
complished by tailing the DNA with approximately 20 to 50  
25 dA residues using terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase  
(Sambrook et al. (1989), MOLECULAR CLONING), and replicat-  
ing the tailed molecule using the following oligo-dT  
primer-adapter, which contains a NotI site, and an sp6  
promoter:

30

<u>Stuffer</u>	<u>NotI</u>	<u>SP6 Promoter</u>	<u>Primer</u>
AATTC	GCGGCCGC	CATACGATTTAGGTGACACTATAGAA	T <sub>15</sub>

The resultant cDNA was subjected to amplification by PCR  
35 using two primers, JH94 (described supra.) and JH11, which  
has the following sequence.

-67-

<u>Primer</u>	<u>Sequence</u>
JH11 (20mer)	AATTCGGGCGGCCCATACGA

5           The PCR reaction was carried out by suspending  
the cDNA and the primers in 100 microliters of reaction  
mixture containing the four deoxynucleoside triphosphates,  
buffer salts and metal ions, and a thermostable DNA  
polymerase isolated from Thermus aquaticus (Taq  
10 polymerase), which are in a Perkin Elmer Cetus PCR kit  
(N801-0043 or N801-0055). The PCR reaction was performed  
for 35 cycles in a Perkin Elmer Cetus DNA thermal cycler.  
Each cycle consisted of a 1.5 min denaturation step at  
94°C, an annealing step at 60°C for 2 min, and a primer  
15 extension step at 72°C for 3 min.

The PCR products were digested with NotI, and  
cloned into pUC18S. Clones containing HCV nucleotide  
sequences were obtained by screening with a probe, Alex90,  
which is derived from nucleotides -312 to -283 of the HCV1  
20 genome, and which has the sequence:

5' ACC ATG AAT CAC TCC CCT GTG AGG AAC TAC 3'.

The HCV cDNAs in the isolated clones were sequenced by the  
25 dideoxy chain termination method (Sanger et al. (1977)).  
The sequence of HCV cDNA in one of the isolated clones,  
5'-clone32, spans the region of nucleotides -224 to -341  
in Fig. 18.

30 An analysis of the nucleotide sequence of the  
HCV cDNA showed that the replicate of the HCV RNA strand  
contains a GC-rich stretch which may be capable of forming  
a stable hairpin structure:

35

G-T

A

A C-C-C-C-C-G C-C-G 5'

5

T-G-G-G-G-G-C-G-A-C 3'.

In the structure, the dashed lines indicate possible hydrogen bonds between complementary nucleotides.

10 A search in the computer database, Genebank, revealed that homologous sequences were absent from known viral sequences. Thus, this sequence may be unique to the 5'-terminus of the HCV genome.

15 A hairpin structure may serve as a recognition signal for a transcriptase and/or it may contribute to the stability of the RNA at the 5'-terminus.

#### Compiled HCV cDNA Sequences

An HCV cDNA sequence has been compiled from a series of overlapping clones derived from various HCV cDNA libraries described herein, and in E.P.O. Publication No. 20 318,216. The clones from which Fig. 18 has been derived are clone 5'-32, b114a, 18g, ag30a, CA205a, CA290a, CA216a, pi14a, CA167b, CA156e, CA84a, CA59a, K9-1 (also 25 called k9-1), 26j, 13i, 12f, 14i, 11b, 7f, 7e, 8h, 33c, 40b, 37b, 35, 36, 81, 32, 33b, 25c, 14c, 8f, 33f, 33g, 39c, 35f, 19g, 26g, 15e, b5a, 16jh, C6k and p131jh. The methods for isolation of these clones, as well as their sequences, are discussed herein, and in E.P.O. Publication 30 No. 318,216, which is incorporated herein by reference. In Fig. 18, the three dashes above the sequence indicate the position of the putative initiator methionine codon.

Clone b114a overlaps with clones 18g, ag30a, and CA205a, except that clone b114a contains an extra two 35 nucleotides upstream of the sequence in clone 18g (i.e.,

-69-

5'-CA). These extra two nucleotides have been included in the HCV genomic sequence shown in Fig. 18.

It should be noted that although several of the clones described supra. have been obtained from libraries other than the original HCV cDNA lambda-gt11 C library (ATCC No. 40394), these clones contain HCV cDNA sequences which overlap HCV cDNA sequences in the original library. Thus, essentially all of the HCV sequence is derivable from the original lambda-gt11 C library (ATCC No. 40394) which was used to isolate the first HCV cDNA clone (5-1-1). The isolation of clone 5-1-1 is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The putative sequence of the major HCV polyprotein encoded in the composite of HCV1 cDNA is also shown. The first amino acid in the sequence is the putative initiator methionine of the large ORF. The variant amino acids, due to the clonal heterogeneities, are indicated above the sequence. Since the lambda gt11 library was created from serum obtained from one individual (see E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216), the results suggest that variant viral sequences (both nucleotide and amino acid) are present in that individual.

An examination of the composite HCV cDNA sequence shows that besides the large ORF, there are a number of ORFs upstream of that encoding the polyprotein, and within the sequence encoding the polyprotein there are a large number of smaller ORFs in the other two translational frames. The ORFs upstream of the HCV polyprotein are shown in the Table immediately below.

Table  
ORFs Upstream of that Encoding the Large  
HCV Polyprotein

5

<u>Nucl. #</u>	<u>Translation Frame</u>	<u>Amino Acid Sequence</u>
-310	1	MNHSPVRNYCLHAESV
-329	3	MGATLHHESLPCEELL SSRRKRLAMALV
10 -246	2	MSVVQPPGPPLPGEF
-127	1	MPGDLGVPPQDC

The reading frame, position, and size of the ORFs downstream of the sequence encoding the putative initiator MET of the polyprotein are shown in the Table below. The major polyprotein is that translated from reading frame 2.

Table  
ORFs Downstream of the Putative Initiator MET  
Encoding Sequence

20

<u>Reading Frame</u>	<u>Size(aa)</u>	<u>Position(bp)</u>
1	168	696
1	105	2343
25 1	119	5616
2	3025	-42
3	160	5
3	111	1667
3	148	6893

30

In addition to the above, an examination of the sequence which is complementary to the genomic strand of HCV RNA also contains several small ORFs. One of these ORFs, which is complementary to nucleotides -341 to +837 in the HCV RNA sequence, encodes a polypeptide of 385 amino acids.

35

Comparison of the Sequences of 5'-Regions  
Obtained from HCV Isolates from Different  
Geographical Locations

5 Nucleotide sequences from the 5'- regions of HCV isolates from the U.S.A. (HCV18, HCV27), from Italy (HCV11, HCV124), and from Korea (HCVK1) were compared.

10 Isolation of the HCV cDNA sequences was essentially as described supra., for the isolation of 5'- clone32, except for the following. The extracted RNA was reverse-transcribed into cDNA using as primers either JH51 or r16, which are complementary to HCV nucleotides -90 to -73 and 366 to 383, respectively. The sequences of these primers are as follows.

15

<u>Primer</u>	<u>Sequence</u>
JH51	5' CCC AAC ACT ACT CGG CTA 3'
r16	5' CAC GTA AGG GTA TCG ATG 3'

20 Amplification of the HCV dsDNA was by the PCR method using JH93 and JH52 as 5'- and 3'- primers, respectively. The HCV sequence in JH93 is derived from HCV nucleotides -317 to -296, that in JH52 is from HCV nucleotides -93 to -117; the nucleotide numbers are indicated in parentheses below

25 the sequences. In JH52 the underlined dinucleotide has been mutated to create the NotI site. The sequences of these primers are the following.

<u>(Primer)</u>	<u>Stuffer</u>	<u>NotI</u>	<u>HCV sequence</u>
30 (JH93)	5' TTC	GCGGCCGC	ACTCCATGAATCACTCCCC 3'
		(-317)	(-296)
(JH52)	5' AGTCTT	GCGGCCGC	ACGCCCAAATC 3'
	(-93)		(-117)

35

After amplification, the PCR products were cleaved by NotI, and cloned into pUC18S. The HCV cDNAs were sequenced either by direct sequencing after amplification by PCR, or alternatively, the cloned HCV cDNAs were  
5 sequenced by the primer extension and the dideoxy method. Primer extension and the dideoxy method of sequencing were performed as described supra., for the sequence of 5'-clone32.

The PCR method for direct sequencing used Alex90  
10 (see supra. for the sequence) as the 5'-primer, and r25 as the 3'-primer. Alex90 is derived from HCV nucleotides -312 to -283, and r25 is derived from nucleotides 365 to 342 (See Fig. 18). The sequence of r25 is:

15 5' ACC TTA CCC AAA TTG CGC GAC CTA 3'.

A comparison of the sequences of the 5'-region of HCV27, HCVK1, HCVI1, HCVI24, and HCV18 with the sequence of the prototype HCV, HCV1, showed the following.  
20 The examined 5'- region is highly conserved amongst the 5 HCV isolates. The sequences appeared to be identical except for one nucleotide which was deleted at position -171 in HCVI24, and for the ambiguity in four nucleotides at positions -222 to -219 in isolate HCVK1.

25 The high levels of sequence conservation in this region may reflect the role of this region in viral replication, and/or transcription, and/or translation.

Sequence Variations in HCV Isolates  
30 from Different Individuals

Isolates of HCV which contain sequences which deviate from CDC/HCV1 were identified in human individuals, some of whom were serologically positive for anti-C100-3 antibodies (EC10 was antibody negative).  
35 Identification of these new isolates was accomplished by cloning and sequencing segments of the HCV genome which

-73-

had been amplified by the PCR technique using CDC/HCl sequences. Amplification was accomplished essentially based on an HCV/cPCR method. The method utilizes primers and probes based upon the HCV cDNA sequences described  
5 herein. The first step in the method is the synthesis of a cDNA to either the HCV genome, or its replicative intermediate, using reverse transcriptase. After synthesis of the HCV cDNA, and prior to amplification, the RNA in the sample is degraded by techniques known in the art. A  
10 designated segment of the HCV cDNA is then amplified by the use of the appropriate primers. The amplified sequences are cloned, and clones containing the amplified sequences are detected by a probe which is complementary to a sequence lying between the primers, but which does  
15 not overlap the primers.

#### HCV Isolates Isolated from Humans in the U.S.

Blood samples which were used as a source of HCV virions were obtained from the American Red Cross in  
20 Charlotte, North Carolina, and from the Community Blood Center of Kansas, Kansas City, Missouri. The samples were screened for antibodies to the HCV C100-3 antigen using an ELISA assay as described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, and subjected to supplemental Western blot  
25 analysis using a polyclonal goat anti-human HRP to measure anti-HCV antibodies. Two samples, #23 and #27, from the American Red Cross and from the Community Blood Center of Kansas, respectively, were determined to be HCV positive by these assays.

30 Viral particles present in the serum of these samples were isolated by ultracentrifugation under the conditions described by Bradley et al. (1985). RNA was extracted from the particles by digestion with proteinase K and SDS at final concentrations of 10 micrograms/ml  
35 proteinase K, and 0.1% SDS; digestion was for 1 hour at 37°C. Viral RNA was further purified by extraction with



chloroform-phenol, as described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216.

HCV RNA in the preparation of RNA was reverse transcribed into cDNA essentially as described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, except that the oligonucleotide JHC 7, which corresponds to the cDNA sequence 1958-1939, and which has the following sequence, was used as primer for the reverse transcriptase reaction.

10 JHC 7: CCA GCG GTG GCC TGG TAT TG.

After both strands of the cDNA were synthesized, the resulting cDNA was then amplified by the PCR method essentially as described supra. for the isolation of clones generated by PCR amplification, except that the oligonucleotide primers used, i.e., JHC 6 and ALX 80, were designed to amplify a 1080 nucleotide segment of the HCV genome from CDC/HCV1 nucleotides 673 to 1751. The primers, in addition, are designed to incorporate a NOT I restriction site at the 3'-end of the PCR product, and a blunt end at the 5'-terminus. The sequences of the primers is:

25 ALX 80: TTT GGG TAA GGT CAT CGA TAC CCT TAC GTG;

and

JHC 6: ATA TGC GGC CGC CTT CCG TTG GCA TAA.

30 ALX 80 corresponds to nucleotides 673-702 of the CDC/HCV1 sequence; JHC 6 corresponds to nucleotides 1752-1738 of the HCV1 (in addition there are 12 extra nucleotides which encode a NotI site). The designation of nucleotides in JHC 6, i.e., a declining number, indicates the placement  
35 in the anti-sense strand.

-75-

After PCR amplification with the above described primers, the blunt end terminus was converted into a NOT I site as follows. A homopolymer tail of 15 dGs was attached to the PCR product using terminal deoxynucleotide transferase, and the products were again subjected to amplification by PCR using as primers JHC 6 and JHC 13. The latter primer, JHC 13, the sequence of which follows, is designed to contain a NOT I site in addition to an SP6 phage promoter. (The SP6 promoter is described in GENETIC ENGINEERING, J. Setlow Ed. (1988).

JHC 13: AAT TCG CGG CCG CCA TAC GAT TTA GGT GAC  
ACT ATA GAA CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC.

In order to clone the amplified HCV cDNA, the PCR products were cleaved with NotI, precipitated with spermine to remove free oligonucleotides (Hoopes et al. (1981)), and cloned into the NotI site of pUC18S (see Section IV.A.34.). The HCV cDNAs in three clones derived from each HCV isolate, were subjected to sequence analysis. Analysis was essentially by the method described in Chen and Seeburg (1985).

Consensus sequences of the clones derived from HCV in samples 23 and 27 are shown in Fig. 46 and Fig. 47, respectively. The variable sequences are also shown in these figures, as are the amino acids encoded in the consensus sequences.

Fig. 39 and Fig. 40 show comparisons of the aligned positive strand nucleotide sequences (Fig. 39) and putative amino acid sequences (Fig. 40) of samples 23, 27, and HCV1. The amino acid sequence of HCV1 in Fig. 39 represents amino acid numbers 129-467 of the HCV polyprotein encoded by the large ORF in the HCV genomic RNA. An examination of Fig. 46 and Fig. 47 show that there are variations in the sequences of the three isolated clones. The sequence variations at the

nucleotide level and the amino acid level are summarized in the table immediately below. In the table, the polypeptides designated S and NS1 represent amino acid numbers 130 to ~380, and 380 to ~470, respectively. The numbering is from the putative initiator methionine. The terminology S and NS1 is based upon the positioning of the sequences encoding the polypeptides using the Flavivirus model. As discussed above, however, recent evidence suggests that there is not total correlation between HCV and the Flaviviruses with regard to viral polypeptide domains, particularly in the putative E/NS1 domains. Indeed, HCV polypeptides and their coding domains may exhibit substantial deviation from the Flavivirus model.

Table  
Sequence Homology

	Nucleotide Encoding			Amino Acid Encoded		
	overall	S	NS1	overall	S	NS1
	%	%	%	%	%	%
HCV1/HCV23	93	95	91	92	95	87
HCV1/HCV27	89	93	84	89	95	82
HCV23/HCV27	89	93	85	90	93	84

Although there are variations in the newly isolated HCV sequences, the cloned sequences from samples 23 and 27 (called HCV23 and HCV27) each contain 1019 nucleotides, indicating a lack of deletion and addition mutants in this region in the selected clones. The sequences in Figs. 39 and 40 also show that the isolated sequences are not rearranged in this region.

A comparison of the consensus sequences for HCV1 and for the other isolates of HCV is summarized in the Table, supra. The sequence variations between the chimpanzee isolate HCV1, and the HCVs isolated from humans

-77-

are about the same as that seen between the HCVs of human origin.

It is of interest that the sequence variations in two of the putative domains is not uniform. The  
5 sequence in a putative S region appears to be relatively constant, and randomly scattered throughout the region. In contrast, a putative NS1 region has a higher degree of variability than the overall sequence, and the variation appears to be in a hypervariable pocket of about 28 amino  
10 acids which is located about 70 amino acids downstream from the putative N-terminus of the putative polyprotein.

Although it may be argued that the detected variations were introduced during the amplification process, it is unlikely that all of the variations are from  
15 this result. It has been estimated that Taq polymerase introduces errors into a sequence at approximately one base per 10 kilobases of DNA template per cycle (Saiki et al. (1988)). Based upon this estimate, up to 7 errors may have been introduced during the PCR amplification of the  
20 1019 bp DNA fragment. However, the three subclones of HCV-23 and HCV-27 yielded 29 and 14 base variations, respectively. The following suggest that these variations are naturally occurring. About 60% of the base changes are silent mutations which do not change the amino acid  
25 sequence. Variations introduced by the Taq polymerase during PCR amplification would be expected to occur randomly; however, the results show that the variant sequences are clustered in at least one specific region. Moreover, a consensus sequence was derived by sequencing  
30 multiple different clones derived from the PCR amplified products.

HCV Isolates from Humans in  
Italy and in the U.S.

35 Segments of HCV RNA present in different isolates were amplified by the HCV/cPCR method. These

segments span a region of ~0.6Kb to ~1.6Kb downstream from the methionine encoding start codon of the putative HCV polyprotein. The isolates are from biological specimens obtained from HCV infected individuals. More  
5 specifically, isolate HCT #18 is from human plasma from an individual in the U.S.A., EC1 and EC10 are from a liver biopsy of an Italian patient, and Th is from a peripheral blood mononucleocyte fraction of an American patient. Comparable segments of HCV RNA have been isolated from a  
10 chimpanzee.

RNA was extracted from the human plasma specimens using phenol:CHCl<sub>3</sub>:isoamyl alcohol extraction. Either 0.1 ml or 0.01 ml of plasma was diluted to a final volume of 1.0 ml, with a TENB/proteinase K/SDS solution  
15 (0.05 M Tris-HCL, pH 8.0, 0.001 M EDTA, 0.1 M NaCl, 1 mg/ml Proteinase K, and 0.5% SDS) containing 10 to 40 micrograms/ml polyadenylic acid, and incubated at 37°C for 60 minutes. After this proteinase K digestion, the resultant plasma fractions were deproteinized by extrac-  
20 tion with TE (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA) saturated phenol, pH 6.5. The phenol phase was separated by centrifugation, and was reextracted with TENB containing 0.1% SDS. The resulting aqueous phases from each extrac-  
25 tion were pooled, and extracted twice with an equal volume of phenol/chloroform/isoamyl alcohol [1:1(99:1)], and then twice with an equal volume of a 99:1 mixture of chloroform/isoamyl alcohol. Following phase separation by centrifugation, the aqueous phase was brought to a final concentration of 0.2 M Na Acetate, and the nucleic acids  
30 were precipitated by the addition of two volumes of ethanol. The precipitated nucleic acids were recovered by ultracentrifugation in a SW 41 rotor at 38 K, for 60 minutes at 4°C, or in a microfuge for 10 minutes at 10K, 4°C.

-79-

RNA extracted from the liver biopsy was provided by Dr. F. Bonino, Ospedale Maggiore di S. Giovanni Battista, Torino, Italy.

The mononucleocyte fraction was obtained by sedimentation of the individual's aliquot of blood through Ficoll-Paque® (Pharmacia Corp), using the manufacturer's directions. Total RNA was extracted from the fraction using the guanidinium thiocyanate procedure described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 (See also Choo et al (1989)).

Synthesis of HCV cDNA from the samples was accomplished using reverse transcriptase, and primers derived from clone 156e and from clone K91. These primers, which are anti-sense relative to the genomic RNA, have the following sequences.

156e16B:           5' CGA CAA GAA AGA CAG A 3',

and

K91/16B           5' CGT TGG CAT AAC TGA T 3'.

20

Following ethanol precipitation, the precipitated RNA or nucleic acid fraction was dried, and resuspended in DEPC treated distilled water. Secondary structures in the nucleic acids were disrupted by heating at 65°C for 10 minutes, and the samples were immediately cooled on ice. cDNA was synthesized using 1 to 3 micrograms of total RNA from liver, or from nucleic acids (or RNA) extracted from 10 to 100 microliters of plasma. The synthesis utilized reverse transcriptase, and was in a 25 microliter reaction, using the protocol specified by the manufacturer, BRL. All reaction mixtures for cDNA synthesis contained 23 units of the RNAase inhibitor, RNASIN™ (Fisher/Promega). Following cDNA synthesis, the reaction mixtures were diluted with water, boiled for 10 minutes, and quickly chilled on ice.

Each set of samples was subjected to two rounds of PCR amplification. The primers for the reactions were selected to amplify regions designated "EnvL" and EnvR". The "EnvL" region encompasses nucleotides 669-1243, and putative amino acids 117 to 308; the "EnvR" region encompasses nucleotides 1215-1629, and encodes putative amino acids 300-408 (the putative amino acids are numbered starting from the putative methionine initiation codon). The relationship of these regions relative to the putative polyprotein encoded in the HCV cDNA, and to the polypeptides encoded in the Flavivirus model is shown in Fig. 48.

The primers for the first round of PCR reactions were derived from the HCV cDNA sequences in either clone ag30a, clone 156e, or clone k9-1. The primers used for the amplification of the EnvL region were 156e16B (shown supra), and ag30a16A for the sense strand; the amplification of the EnvR region utilized the primer K91/16B (shown supra), and 156e16a for the sense strand. The sequences of the sense strand primers are the following.

For EnvL, ag30a16A: 5' CTC TAT GGC AAT GAG G 3',

and

For EnvR, 156e16A: 5' AGC TTC GAC GTC ACA T 3' .

The PCR reactions were performed essentially according to the manufacturer's directions (Cetus-Perkin-Elmer), except for the addition of 1 microgram of RNase A. The reactions were carried out in a final volume of 100 microliters. The PCR was performed for 30 cycles, utilizing a regimen of 94°C (1 min), 37°C (2 min), and 72°C (3 min), with a 7 minute extension at 72°C for the last cycle. The samples were then extracted with phenol:CHCl<sub>3</sub>, ethanol precipitated two times, resuspended in 10 mM Tris

-81-

HCl, pH 8.0, and concentrated using Centricon-30 (Amicon) filtration. This procedure efficiently removes oligonucleotides less than 30 nucleotides in size; thus, the primers from the first round of PCR amplification are removed.

The Centricon-30 concentrated samples were then subjected to a second round of PCR amplification using probes designed from clones 202a and 156e for the EnvL region, and from 156e and 59a for the EnvR region. The primers for amplification of the EnvL region have the following sequences.

202aEnv41a:     5'   CTT GAA TTC GCA ATT TGG GTA  
                                  AGG TCA TCG ATA CCC TTA CG   3'

15

and

156e38B':     5'   CTT GAA TTC GAT AGA GCA ATT  
                                  GCA ACC TTG CGT CGT CC   3'.

20

The primers for amplification of the EnvR region in RNAs derived from humans have the following sequences.

156e38A':     5'   CTT GAA TTC GGA CGA CGC AAG  
                                  GTT GCA ATT GCT CTA TC 3'

25

and

59aEnv39C:     5'   CTT GAA TTC CAG CCG GTG TTG  
                                  AGG CTA TCA TTG CAG TTC   3'.

30

Amplification by PCR was for 35 cycles utilizing a regimen of 94°C (1 min), 60°C (1 min), and 72°C (2 min), with a 7 minute extension at 72°C for the last cycle. The samples were then extracted with phenol:CHCl<sub>3</sub>, precipitated two times, and digested with EcoRI. The PCR reaction products

35



were analyzed by separation of the products by electrophoresis on 6% polyacrylamide gels. DNA of approximately the estimated size of the expected PCR product was electroeluted from the gels, and subcloned into either  
5 a pGEM-4 plasmid vector or into lambda gt11. The expected product sizes for the EnvL and EnvR after the first round of amplification are 615 bp and 683 bp, respectively; after the second round of amplification the expected product sizes for EnvL and EnvR are 414 bp and 575 bp,  
10 respectively. The plasmids containing the amplified products were used to transform host cells; the pGEM-4 plasmid was used to transform DH5-alpha, and lambda gt11 was used to transform C600 delta-HFL. Clones of the transformed cells which either hybridized to the appropri-  
15 ate HCV probes (described below), or those which had inserts of the correct size were selected. The inserts were then cloned in M13 and sequenced.

The probes for all of the HCV/cPCR products consisted of <sup>32</sup>P labeled sections of HCV cDNA which had  
20 been prepared by PCR amplification of a region of clone 216 (using CA216a16A and 216a16B as primers), and of clone 84 (using CA84a16A and CA84a16B or CA84a16C as primers); <sup>32</sup>P was introduced into the PCR products by nick translation. The probes for the first and second round of EnvL  
25 amplification were from clone 216. Those for the first round of EnvR amplification were from 84 (i.e., CA84a16A and CA84a16B), for the second round of EnvL amplification were CA84a16A and CA84a16C. These probes did not overlap the primers used in the HCV/cPCR reactions. The sequence  
30 of the primers for the PCR amplification of the probes is in the following table.

Table

	<u>Primer</u>	<u>Clone</u>	<u>Sequence</u>
5	CA216a16A	216	5' TGA ACT ATG CAA CAG G 3'
	CA216a16B	216	5' GGA GTG TGC AGG ATG G 3'
	CA84a16A	84	5' AAG GTT GCA ATT GCT C 3'
	CA84a16B	84	5' ACT AAC AGG ACC TTC G 3'
	CA84a16C	84	5' TAA CGG GTC ACC GCA T 3'

10

Sequence information on variants in the EnvL region was obtained from 3 clones from HCT #18, 2 clones from TH, 3 clones from EC1, and from the HCV1 clones described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, and supra. A comparison of the composite nucleotide sequence of each isolate derived from these clones is shown in Fig. 49. In the figure, each sequence is shown 5' to 3' for the sense strand for the EnvL region, and the sequences have been aligned. The vertical lines and capital letters indicate sequence homology, the absence of a line and an uncapitalized letter indicates a lack of homology. The sequences shown in the lines are as follows: line 1, Thorn; line 2, EC1; line 3, HCT #18; line 4, HCV1.

Sequence information on variants in the EnvR region was obtained from two clones of EC10, and from the HCV1 clones described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216 and supra.. The two EC10 clones differed by only one nucleotide. A comparison of the nucleotide sequences of EC10(clone 2) and a composite of the HCV1 sequences is shown in Fig. 50; each sequence is shown 5' to 3' for the sense strand of the EnvR region, and the sequences have been aligned. The double dots between the sequences indicate sequence homology.

A comparison of the amino acid sequences encoded in the EnvL (amino acids #117-308) and EnvR region (amino acids #300-438) for each of the isolates is shown in Fig.

35

51 and Fig. 52, respectively. Included in the Figures are sequences for the isolates JH23 and JH27, described supra. Also indicated are sequences from a Japanese isolate; these sequences were provided by Dr. T. Miyamura, Japan. 5 In the figures, the amino acid sequence for the region is given in its entirety for HCV1, and the non-homologous amino acids in the various isolates are indicated.

As seen in Fig. 51, In the EnvL region there is overall about a 93% homology between HCV1 and the other 10 isolates. HCT18, Th, and EC1 have about a 97% homology with HCV1; JH23 and JH27 have about 96% and about 95% homology, respectively, with HCV1. Fig. 52 shows that the homologies in the EnvR region are significantly less than in the EnvL region; moreover, one subregion appears to be 15 hypervariable (i.e., from amino acid 383-405). This data is summarized in the Table immediately below.

Table  
Homology of EnvR Region

20

Isolate	Percent Homology with HCV1	
	AA330-AA438	AA383-AA405
JH23(U.S.)	83	57
JH27(U.S.)	80	39
25 Japanese	73	48
EC10 (Italy)	84	48

Detection of Positive and Negative Strand  
5'-HCV RNA in Serum

30 The RNA in HCV27, isolated from serum, was analyzed for the presence of positive and negative strands using the PCR method. The PCR method was performed essentially as described above, except for the following. The extracted HCV27 RNA was reverse transcribed into 35 single-stranded cDNA using as a primer either Alex90 or JH52 (see supra. for the sequences). The sequence of

-85-

Alex90 matches that in nucleotides -312 to -283 of the positive strand of HCV RNA, whereas JH52 matches that of nucleotides -117 to -93 of the negative strand. the resulting single-stranded HCV cDNAs were each separately amplified by PCR using Alex90 and JH52. Detection of the amplified products was accomplished by Southern blotting, using Alex89 as the probe. Alex89 matches nucleotide numbers -203 to -175 of HCV RNA. The sequence of Alex89 is:

10

5' CCA TAG TGG TCT GCG GAA CCG GTG AGT ACA 3'.

The analysis indicated that, by this method, the signals of the amplified products of both RNA strands were of equal intensity. These results are suggestive that HCV RNA in the 5'-region may exist as double-stranded RNA.

#### Probes for Sandwich Hybridization for HCV

This example exemplifies the sets of label and capture probes useful to detect HCV RNA in biological samples, using essentially the assay described in U.S. Patent No. 4,868,105. The method is a solution-phase sandwich hybridization assay which utilizes both capture and label probes which hybridize to target sequences in an analyte nucleic acid. In the screening of biological samples for HCV, the probes used bind to conserved regions of the HCV genome, and the HCV binding regions are selected for their uniqueness to the HCV genome. The regions which bind to the binding partner of the capture probe, or the portion of the label probe which binds to the labeling moiety (or to an amplifying multimer if the method described in E.P.O. Publication No. 317,077 is used), are selected such that they do not bind to any of the known sequences in the databank or in HCV, and which have the appropriate content of Gs and Cs to allow stable duplex formation with their complements under the selec-

tion conditions. The capture and label probes are in sets, and the probes of one set do not intersperse with the probes of another set. These probes are comprised of sequences which are complementary to the following 5 nucleotide sequences in the coding strand of the prototype HCV cDNA sequence shown in Fig. 18.

Set 1

<u>10</u>	<u>Probe type</u>	<u>Probe Number</u>	<u>Complement of Nucleotide Numbers</u>
	Capture	42.XT1.1	-318 to -289 -
	Capture	42.XT1.2	-285 to -256
	Capture	42.XT1.3	-252 to -223
15	Capture	42.XT1.4	-219 to -190
	Label	42.LLA2C.5	-186 to -157
	Label	42.LLA2C.6	-153 to -124
	Label	42.LLA2C.7	-120 to -91
	Label	42.LLA2C.8	-87 to -58
20	Label	42.LLA2C.9	-54 to -25
	Label	42.LLA2C.10	-21 to 9
	Label	42.LLA2C.11	13 to 42
	Label	42.LLA2C.12	46 to 75
	Label	42.LLA2C.13	79 to 108
25	Label	42.LLA2C.14	112 to 141
	Label	42.LLA2C.15	145 to 174

30

35

-87-

Set 2

	<u>Probe type</u>	<u>Probe Number</u>	<u>Complement of Nucleotide Numbers</u>
5	Capture	42.16.XT1	4378 to 4407
	Capture	42.17.XT1	4411 to 4440
	Capture	42.18.XT1	4444 to 4473
	Capture	42.19.XT1	4477 to 4506
10	Capture	42.20.XT1	4510 to 4539
	Label	42.21.LLA2C	4543 to 4572
	Label	42.22.LLA2C	4576 to 4605
	Label	42.23.LLA2C	4609 to 4638
	Label	42.24.LLA2C	4642 to 4671
	Label	42.25.LLA2C	4675 to 4704
	Label	42.26.LLA2C	4708 to 4737
	Label	42.27.LLA2C	4741 to 4770
	Label	42.28.LLA2C	4774 to 4803
	Label	42.29.LLA2C	4807 to 4836
20	Label	42.30.LLA2C	4840 to 4869
	Label	42.31.LLA2C	4873 to 4902

25

30

35

Set 3

5	<u>Probe type</u>	<u>Probe Number</u>	<u>Complement of Nucleotide Numbers</u>
	Capture	42.32.XT1	4056 to 4085
	Capture	42.33.XT1	4089 to 4118
	Capture	42.34.XT1	4122 to 4151
10	Capture	42.35.XT1	4155 to 4184
	Label	42.36.LLA2C	4188 to 4217
	Label	42.37.LLA2C	4221 to 4250
	Label	42.38.LLA2C	4254 to 4283
	Label	42.39.LLA2C	4287 to 4316
15	Label	42.40.LLA2C	4230 to 4349
	Label	42.41.LLA2C	4353 to 4382
	Label	42.42.LLA2C	4386 to 4415
	Label	42.43.LLA2C	4419 to 4448

20 In the above sets, each capture probe contains, in addition to the sequences complementary to the HCV sequences, the following sequence downstream of the HCV sequence (i.e., at the 3'-end):

25                   5' CTT CTT TGG AGA AAG TGG TG 3'.

The sequence common to each capture probe is complementary to a sequence in the binding partner(s), so that after hybridization, the duplex can be captured via affixation to the solid phase.

30                   Also, in each set, each label probe contains, in addition to the sequences complementary to the HCV sequences, the following sequence downstream of the HCV sequence:

35

5' TTA GGC ATA GGA CCC GTG TC 3'.

-89-

If the method described in E.P.O. Publication No. 317,077 is used, the sequence common to each label probe is complementary to a sequence in a multimer, to allow hybrid duplex formation with that multimer.

The sequences of the probes in the above sets are shown in Fig. 19.

### Detection of HCV Polynucleotide Sequences

10

#### Using PCR Amplification

In the generalized method for amplification of HCV RNA by cPCR it is contemplated that the RNA strand is a virion or mRNA strand, which is a "sense" strand. However, it is also possible that replicative intermediate forms may also be detected which would be "anti-sense"; in this case the primer would be "sense". An RNA sense strand containing the target region is hybridized with an anti-sense primer which primes the synthesis of the replicate strand containing the target. cDNA to the RNA template is synthesized with a primer- and template-dependent reverse transcriptase. The cDNA in the resulting RNA:cDNA hybrid is released by denaturation and treatment with RNase. Primers are annealed to the cDNA, and extended with a primer- and template-dependent DNA polymerase. The products are denatured, re-annealed to primers, and a second round of synthesis is conducted. A number of cycles are run until the amplified product containing the target region is in a desired amount, which is at least a detectable level.

30

### Detection of Amplified HCV Nucleic Acid Sequences derived from HCV Nucleic Acid Sequences in Liver and Plasma Specimens from Chimpanzees with NANBH

HCV nucleic acids present in liver and plasma of chimpanzees with NANBH, and not in control chimpanzees, were amplified using essentially the polymerase chain re-

35



action (PCR) technique described by Saiki et al. (1986). The primer oligonucleotides were derived from the HCV cDNA sequences in clone 81 (Fig. 22), or clones 36 (Fig. 23) and 37b (Fig. 24). The amplified sequences were detected  
5 by gel electrophoresis and a modified Southern blotting method, using as probes the appropriate cDNA oligomer or nick-translated cDNA sequence with a sequence from the region between, but not including, the two primers.

Samples of RNA containing HCV sequences to be  
10 examined by the amplification system were isolated from liver biopsies of three chimpanzees with NANBH, and from two control chimpanzees. The isolation of the poly A<sup>+</sup> RNA fraction was by the guanidinium thiocyanate procedure described in Maniatis et al. (1982).

15 Samples of RNA which were to be examined by the amplification system were also isolated from the plasmas of two chimpanzees with NANBH, and from one control chimpanzee, as well as from a pool of plasmas from control chimpanzees. One infected chimpanzee had a titer equal to  
20 or greater than 10<sup>6</sup> CID/ml, and the other infected chimpanzee had a titer equal to or greater than 10<sup>5</sup> CID/ml.

The nucleic acids were extracted from the plasma as follows. Either 0.1 ml or 0.01 ml of plasma was  
25 diluted to a final volume of 1.0 ml, with a TENB/proteinase K/SDS solution (0.05 M Tris-HCL, pH 8.0, 0.001 M EDTA, 0.1 M NaCl, 1 mg/ml Proteinase K, and 0.5% SDS) containing 10 micrograms/ml polyadenylic acid, and incubated at 37°C for 60 minutes. After this proteinase K  
30 digestion, the resultant plasma fractions were deproteinized by extraction with TE (10.0 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA) saturated phenol. The phenol phase was separated by centrifugation, and was reextracted with TENB containing 0.1% SDS. The resulting aqueous phases from  
35 each extraction were pooled, and extracted twice with an equal volume of phenol/chloroform/isoamyl alcohol

-91-

[1:1(99:1)], and then twice with an equal volume of a 99:1 mixture of chloroform/isoamyl alcohol. Following phase separation by centrifugation, the aqueous phase was brought to a final concentration of 0.2 M Na Acetate, and the nucleic acids were precipitated by the addition of two volumes of ethanol. The precipitated nucleic acids were recovered by ultracentrifugation in a SW 41 rotor at 38 K, for 60 minutes at 4°C.

In addition to the above, the high titer chimpanzee plasma and the pooled control plasma alternatively were extracted with 50 micrograms of poly A carrier by the procedure of Chomczynski and Sacchi (1987). This procedure uses an acid guanidinium thiocyanate extraction. RNA was recovered by centrifugation at 10,000 RPM for 10 minutes at 4°C in an Eppendorf microfuge.

On two occasions, prior to the synthesis of cDNA in the PCR reaction, the nucleic acids extracted from plasma by the proteinase K/SDS/phenol method were further purified by binding to and elution from S and S Elutip-R Columns. The procedure followed was according to the manufacturer's directions.

The cDNA used as a template for the PCR reaction was derived from the nucleic acids (either total nucleic acids or RNA) prepared as described above. Following ethanol precipitation, the precipitated nucleic acids were dried, and resuspended in DEPC treated distilled water. Secondary structures in the nucleic acids were disrupted by heating at 65°C for 10 minutes, and the samples were immediately cooled on ice. cDNA was synthesized using 1 to 3 micrograms of total chimpanzee RNA from liver, or from nucleic acids (or RNA) extracted from 10 to 100 microliters of plasma. The synthesis utilized reverse transcriptase, and was in a 25 microliter reaction, using the protocol specified by the manufacturer, BRL. The primers for cDNA synthesis were those also utilized in the PCR reaction, described below. All reaction mixtures for



-93-

tion of the amplified HCV-cDNA sequences with a  $^{32}\text{P}$ -labeled internal oligonucleotide probe derived from a region of the HCV cDNA which does not overlap the primers. The PCR reaction mixtures were extracted with phenol/  
5 chloroform, and the nucleic acids precipitated from the aqueous phase with salt and ethanol. The precipitated nucleic acids were collected by centrifugation, and dissolved in distilled water. Aliquots of the samples were subjected to electrophoresis on 1.8% alkaline agarose  
10 gels. Single stranded DNA of 60, 108, and 161 nucleotide lengths were co-electrophoresed on the gels as molecular weight markers. After electrophoresis, the DNAs in the gel were transferred onto Biorad Zeta Probe<sup>®</sup> paper. Prehybridization and hybridization, and wash conditions  
15 were those specified by the manufacturer (Biorad).

The probes used for the hybridization-detection of amplified HCV cDNA sequences were the following. When the pair of PCR primers were derived from clone 81, the probe was an 108-mer with a sequence corresponding to that  
20 which is located in the region between the sequences of the two primers. When the pair of PCR primers were derived from clones 36 and 37b, the probe was the nick-translated HCV cDNA insert derived from clone 35, the nucleotide sequence of which is shown in Fig. 34. The  
25 primers are derived from nucleotides 155-170 of the clone 37b insert, and 206-268 of the clone 36 insert. The 3'-end of the HCV cDNA insert in clone 35 overlaps nucleotides 1-186 of the insert in clone 36; and the 5'-end of clone 35 insert overlaps nucleotides 207-269 of the  
30 insert in clone 37b. (Compare Figs. 23, 34 and 24.) Thus, the cDNA insert in clone 35 spans part of the region between the sequences of the clone 36 and 37b derived primers, and is useful as a probe for the amplified sequences which include these primers.

35 Analysis of the RNA from the liver specimens was according to the above procedure utilizing both sets of

primers and probes. The RNA from the liver of the three chimpanzees with NANBH yielded positive hybridization results for amplification sequences of the expected size (161 and 586 nucleotides for 81 and 36 and 37b, 5 respectively), while the control chimpanzees yielded negative hybridization results. The same results were achieved when the experiment was repeated three times.

Analysis of the nucleic acids and RNA from plasma was also according to the above procedure utilizing 10 the primers and probe from clone 81. The plasmas were from two chimpanzees with NANBH, from a control chimpanzee, and pooled plasmas from control chimpanzees. Both of the NANBH plasmas contained nucleic acids/RNA which yielded positive results in the PCR amplified assay, 15 while both of the control plasmas yielded negative results. These results have been repeatedly obtained several times.

Defective viruses have been known to occur in RNA viruses. By using PCR technology it is possible to 20 design primers to amplify sequences of the HCV genome. By analysis of the amplified products, it is expected to be able to identify both defective versions of the viral genome as well as wild-type viral species. Accordingly, using two primers based on known HCV sequence, one can 25 predict accurately the expected size of the PCR product. Any larger species observed by gel electrophoresis and hybridization analysis could represent potential variant genomes. Alternatively, any smaller species observed in this fashion might represent defective agents. Analyses 30 of these types would be useful in confirming the exact origin of the known HCV sequence, whether it is indeed a wild-type viral sequence or a defective genome.

Techniques and methods for these analyses are well known in the art and have been previously described. This 35 methodology will enable one skilled in the art to obtain

-95-

related (wild-type or defective) forms of the viral genome.

Detection of Sequences in Captured Particles

5

Which When Amplified by PCR

Hybridize to HCV cDNA Derived from Clone 81

The RNA in captured particles was obtained as described below. The analysis for sequences which hybridize to the HCV cDNA derived from clone 81 was carried out  
10 utilizing the PCR amplification procedure, as described supra., except that the hybridization probe was a kinased oligonucleotide derived from the clone 81 cDNA sequence. The results showed that the amplified sequences hybridized with the HCV cDNA probe.

15

Particles were captured from HCV infected chimpanzee plasma using polystyrene beads coated with an immunopurified antibody directed against the polypeptide encoded in clone 5-1-1. The procedure for producing the immunopurified antibody preparation is described in E.P.O.  
20 Publication No. 318,216, which is commonly owned by the herein assignee, and which is incorporated herein by reference. Briefly, the HCV polypeptide encoded within clone 5-1-1 was expressed as a fusion polypeptide with superoxide dismutase (SOD). This was accomplished by  
25 subcloning the clone 5-1-1 cDNA insert into the expression vector pSODcfl (Steimer et al. (1986)). DNA isolated from pSODcfl was treated with BamHI and EcoRI, and the following linker was ligated into the linear DNA created by the restriction enzymes:

30

5' GAT CCT GGA ATT CTG ATA AGA  
CCT TAA GAC TAT TTT AA 3'

After cloning, the plasmid containing the insert was  
35 isolated. Plasmid containing the insert was restricted with EcoRI. The HCV cDNA insert in clone 5-1-1 was

excised with EcoRI, and ligated into this EcoRI linearized plasmid DNA. The DNA mixture was used to transform E. coli strain D1210 (Sadler et al. (1980)). Recombinants with the 5-1-1 cDNA in the correct orientation for expression of the ORF were identified by restriction mapping and nucleotide sequencing. Recombinant bacteria from one clone were induced to express the SOD-NANB<sub>5-1-1</sub> polypeptide by growing the bacteria in the presence of IPTG. The fusion polypeptide was purified from the recombinant E. coli by differential extraction of the cell extracts with urea, followed by chromatography on anion and cation exchange columns. The purified SOD-NANB<sub>5-1-1</sub> polypeptide was attached to a nitrocellulose membrane. Antibody in samples of HCV infected serum was absorbed to the matrix-bound polypeptide. After washing to remove non-specifically bound materials and unbound materials, the bound antibody was released from the bound polypeptide.

20                    cPCR Method to Detect HCV RNA in Liver  
                         and in Serum from Individuals with NANBH.

The reliability and utility of a modified form of the PCR assay, i.e., a cPCR assay, for detecting HCV infection was determined by performing the assay on total liver RNA and on serum from infected individuals. In the cPCR assay, putative viral RNA in the sample is reverse transcribed into cDNA with reverse transcriptase; a segment of the resulting cDNA is then amplified utilizing a modified version of the PCR technique described by Saiki et al. (1986). The primers for the cPCR technique are derived from HCV RNA, which can be identified by the family of HCV cDNAs provided herein. Amplified product corresponding to the HCV-RNA is detected utilizing a probe derived from the family of HCV cDNAs provided herein.

35                    The cPCR/HCV assay used in these studies were performed utilizing the following methods for the prepara-

-97-

tion of RNA, the reverse transcription of the RNA into cDNA, the amplification of specific segments of the cDNA by PCR, and the analysis of the PCR products.

RNA was extracted from liver utilizing the  
5 guanidium isothiocyanate method for preparing total RNA described in Maniatis et al. (1982).

In order to isolate total RNA from plasma, the plasma was diluted five- to ten-fold with TENB (0.1 M NaCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA) and incubated in  
10 a Proteinase K/SDS solution (0.5% SDS, 1 mg/ml Proteinase K, 20 micrograms/ml Poly A carrier) for 60 to 90 minutes at 37°C. The samples were extracted once with phenol (pH 6.5), the resulting organic phase was re-extracted once with TENB containing 0.1% SDS, and the aqueous phases of  
15 both extractions were pooled and extracted twice with an equal volume of phenol/CHCl<sub>3</sub>/isoamyl alcohol [1:1(99:1)]. The resulting aqueous phases were extracted with an equal volume of CHCl<sub>3</sub>/isoamyl alcohol (99:1) twice, and ethanol precipitated using 0.2 M sodium acetate, pH 6.5, and 2.5  
20 volumes of 100% ethanol; precipitation was overnight at -20°C.

The cDNA used as a template for the PCR reaction was prepared utilizing the designated samples for preparation of the corresponding cDNAs. Each RNA sample  
25 (containing either 2 micrograms of heat denatured total chimpanzee liver RNA, RNA from 2 microliters of plasma, or 10% of the RNA extracted from 10mm X 4 mm cylindrical human liver biopsies) was incubated in a 25 microliter reaction containing 1 micromolar of each primer, 1  
30 millimolar of each deoxyribonucleotide triphosphate (dNTP), 50 millimolar Tris-HCL, pH 8.3, 5 millimolar MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 5 millimolar dithiothreitol (DTT), 73 millimolar KCl, 40 units of RNase inhibitor (RNASIN), and 5 units of AMV reverse transcriptase. The incubation was for 60  
35 minutes at 37°C. Following cDNA synthesis, the reactions



were diluted with 50 microliters of deionized water (DIW), boiled for 10 minutes, and cooled on ice.

Amplification of a segment of the HCV cDNA was performed utilizing two synthetic oligomer 16-mer primers whose sequences were derived from HCV cDNA clones 36 (anti-sense) and 37b (sense). The sequence of the primer from clone 36 was:

5' GCA TGT CAT GAT GTA T 3'.

10

The sequence of the primer from clone 37b was:

5' ACA ATA CGT GTG TCA C 3'.

15 The primers were used at a final concentration of 1 micromolar each. In order to amplify the segment of HCV cDNA which is flanked by the primers, the cDNA samples were incubated with 0.1 microgram of RNase A and the PCR reactants of the Perkin Elmer Cetus PCR kit (N801-0043 or  
20 N801-0055) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The PCR reaction was performed for either 30 cycles or 60 cycles in a Perkin Elmer Cetus DNA thermal cycler. Each cycle consisted of a 1 minute denaturation step at 94°C, an annealing step of 2 minutes at 37°C, and an extension  
25 step of 3 minutes at 72°C. However, the extension step in the final cycle (30 or 60) was 7 minutes rather than 3 minutes. After amplification the samples were extracted with an equal volume of phenol: chloroform (1:1), followed by extraction with an equal volume of chloroform, and then  
30 the samples were precipitated with ethanol containing 0.2 M sodium acetate.

The cPCR products were analyzed as follows. The products were subjected to electrophoresis on 1.8% alkaline agarose gels according to Murakawa et al. (1988),  
35 and transferred onto Zeta™ Probe paper (BioRad Corp.) by blotting gels overnight in 0.4 M NaOH. The blots were

-99-

neutralized in 2 X SSC (1 X SSC contains 0.15 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate), prehybridized in 0.3 M NaCl, 15 mM sodium phosphate buffer, pH 6.8, 15 mM EDTA, 1.0% SDS, 0.5% nonfat milk (Carnation Co.), and 0.5 mg/ml sonicated  
5 denatured salmon sperm DNA. The blots to be analyzed for HCV cDNA fragments were hybridized to a <sup>32</sup>P-labeled probe generated by nick translation of the HCV cDNA insert sequence in clone 35, described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216. After hybridization, the blots were washed in  
10 0.1 X SSC (1 X SSC contains 0.15M NaCl, 0.01M Na citrate) at 65°C, dried, and autoradiographed. The expected product size is 586 nucleotides in length; products which hybridized with the probe and migrated in the gels in this size range were scored as positive for viral RNA.

15 As a control, cPCR primers designed to amplify alpha-1 anti-trypsin mRNA was performed to verify the presence of RNA in each sample analyzed. The coding region of the alpha-1 anti-trypsin gene is described in Rosenberg et al. (1984). Synthetic oligomer 16-mer primers  
20 designed to amplify a 365 nucleotide fragment of the coding region of the alpha-1 antitrypsin gene were derived from nucleotides 22-37 (sense) and nucleotides 372-387 (antisense). The PCR products were detected using a <sup>32</sup>P nick-translated probe which lies between, and not including,  
25 the cDNA/PCR primer sequences.

Due to the extreme sensitivity of the PCR reaction, all samples were run a minimum of three times. All false positive signals were eliminated when the following precautions were taken: 1) eliminating aerosols by  
30 using screw capped tubes with rubber O-ring seals; 2) pipetting with Ranin Microman positive displacement pipettors with disposable pistons/capillaries; and 3) selecting the oligonucleotide sequences for the cDNA and PCR primers from two non-contiguous cDNA clones.

35

Detection of HCV RNA in Liver Samples by a cPCR Method

The cPCR assay was performed on total RNA isolated from livers of three chimpanzees experimentally infected with a NANBH agent, and from liver biopsies of Italian patients diagnosed as having chronic NANBH.

Fig. 25A shows the results of the cPCR assay using 1 microgram of each preparation of total liver RNA. The RNA was isolated from liver samples of a chimpanzee in the chronic phase of NANBH (910)(lane 1), two chimpanzees in the acute phase of infection (1028 and 508)(lanes 2 and 3, respectively). PCR was performed on the samples in lanes 1-3 for 30 cycles and the autoradiogram of the blot containing those lanes was exposed for 5 hours. cDNA from 1 microgram of total RNA from acutely infected animal 1028 (lane 4), and three uninfected chimpanzees (lanes 5-7), were amplified for 60 cycles and the autoradiograms containing those lanes were exposed for 7 days. <sup>32</sup>P labeled MspI-digested pBR322 DNA served as markers on all the autoradiograms. It may be seen from the results that cDNA corresponding to HCV RNA was seen only in the samples from chimpanzees with NANBH, whether acute or chronic (lanes 1, 3, and 4). The cPCR products in these lanes migrated between marker fragments of 527 and 622 nucleotides (not shown).

Fig. 25B shows the results of the cPCR assay using 10% of the RNA extracted from 10mm X 4mm liver biopsy cylinders from 15 chronic NANB patients (lanes 1-15), one patient with cryptogenic liver disease (lane 16) and one control sample from a patient with chronic Hepatitis B (lane 17). Amplification by PCR was for 30 cycles and the autoradiogram for the blots were exposed for 4 days, except that lane 1 was exposed for 15 hours. As seen from the results, 9/15 (60%) of the human samples were positive for HCV RNA (lanes 1,2,4,6,7,10-13). One patient diagnosed with cryptogenic liver disease (lane 16)

-101-

and one patient with a chronic HBV infection (lane 17) were repeatedly negative in the cPCR assay.

Comparison of the HCV/cPCR Assay on Human Liver Biopsies  
5        and RIA of Serum Using HCV C100-3 Polypeptide

SOD/HCV C100-3 polypeptide (also called C100) is a recombinant fusion polypeptide which contains 363 viral amino acids. The polypeptide is useful for detecting antibodies to HCV (See Kuo et al. (1989)). The method for  
10 preparing C100 is described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216.

Radioimmune assay using C100 was performed on the sera collected from the same 17 human patients whose liver samples were subjected to HCV/cPCR assay as  
15 described supra. The sera was collected on the same day as the liver biopsies. The assay was performed essentially as described in E.P.O. Publication No. 318,216, which is commonly owned and incorporated herein by refer-  
20 ence. Briefly, Microtiter plates (Immulon 2, Removeawell strips) were coated with 0.1 microgram of purified C100. The coated plates were incubated for 1 hour at 37°C with the serum samples (100 microliters of a 1:100 dilution) or appropriate controls. After incubation, the unbound  
25 material was removed, the plates were washed, and complexes of human antibody-C100 were detected by incubation with <sup>125</sup>I-labeled sheep anti-human immunoglobulin. Unbound labeled antibody was removed by aspiration, and the plates were washed. The radioactivity in individual  
wells was determined.

30        The results of the RIA showed that sixty-seven percent of these samples were positive for anti-C100 antibodies. Sera from the patient diagnosed with cryptogenic liver disease was positive for anti-C100 antibodies, although the levels of viral RNA were undetectable in the  
35 patient's liver in this sample. The level of correlation between the presence of anti-C100 antibodies and HCV RNA

was seventy percent; two patients who were negative for antibodies by RIA had significant levels of HCV RNA in their livers (data not shown).

The results indicate that virus is frequently present in the liver of patients with circulating anti-C100 antibodies, and confirms claims that the presence of anti-C100 antibodies accurately reflects exposure to HCV. Moreover, taken together, these results indicate that HCV of this type accounts for NANBH in at least 75% of the patients in this study, and that the predominant strain of HCV in Italy appears to be closely related to the strain of HCV prevalent in the United States.

HCV/cPCR Assay of Sera: Detection of Viral RNA  
in Acute Phase Infection in Chimpanzees

15

The temporal relationship between the display of liver damage, the presence of HCV RNA, and the presence of anti-HCV antibodies was monitored in serum from two experimentally infected chimpanzees with NANBH (nos. 771 and 910). Liver damage was determined by alanine amino transferase (ALT) levels; the presence of HCV RNA was determined by the HCV cPCR assay described above; anti-HCV antibodies were detected utilizing the C100 RIA.

20

The HCV/cPCR analysis was performed on RNA extracted from 1 microliter of chimpanzee plasma. Serum was taken from chimpanzee 771 on days 25, 32, 70 and 88 post-infection; cPCR was performed for 30 cycles and the autoradiogram was exposed for 18 days. Serum was taken from chimpanzee 910 on days 11, 28, and 67 post-infection; cPCR was performed for 60 cycles and the autoradiogram was exposed for 5 days.

25

30

The results of the assays are shown in Fig. 26A for chimpanzee 771, and Fig. 26B for chimpanzee 910. From a comparison of Figs. 26A and 26B, it appears that an early, well defined peak of ALT values during acute

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-103-

hepatitis correlates with the presence of viral RNA in the infected individual.

The data also indicate that the presence of HCV RNA, which is indicative of a state of viremia, precedes the presence of anti-HCV antibodies. Chimpanzee 771 (Fig. 26A) exhibited a clearly defined acute episode of post-transfusion NANBH at 28 days, as characterized by an initial peak of ALT levels. HCV RNA was detected in the serum collected at day 25, and at day 32. However, during this acute phase, anti-HCV antibodies were absent. In contrast, at day 70 HCV RNA was below the experimental level of detection, and anti-HCV antibodies were rising. At day 88, HCV RNA remained undetectable, while anti-HCV antibodies were significantly increased over that of day 70.

The results obtained from the sera of chimpanzee 910 were somewhat similar in pattern, although the time of HCV antibodies induced by the infection were not detected during the acute phase of the disease, which extended to at least day 67; the anti-HCV antibodies detected by RIA at day 11 were due to passive immunization of animal 910 with antibodies from the plasma used to inoculate the animal. Anti-HCV antibodies were found in chimpanzee 910 serum during the later, chronic phase of the infection (data not shown).

It should be noted that low ALT values in plasma from individuals with chronic NANBH do not necessarily correlate with weak virus production. A pool of 17 different plasma samples taken from chimpanzee 910 over a period of two to three and one-half years post inoculation was monitored for ALT levels and for HCV RNA. The ALT values of the samples did not exceed 45 mU/ml; nevertheless, titration studies indicated high titers of HCV ( $3 \times 10^6$  CID/ml). cPCR was carried out for 30 cycles, and the autoradiogram was exposed for 15 hours; the cPCR analysis clearly showed the presence of viral RNA (data not shown).

HCV/cPCR Assay of Sera: Detection of Viral RNA  
in Acute Phase Infection in Humans

Plasma from a human surgical patient collected  
5 during early acute NANBH was examined for HCV RNA and for  
anti-HCV antibodies, utilizing the HCV/cPCR assay and  
C100-RIA, respectively. The HCV/cPCR assay was conducted  
utilizing 1 microliter of plasma from the patient, and  
from four human controls with known pedigrees; cPCR was  
10 performed for thirty cycles, and after hybridization and  
washing the autoradiogram was exposed for eight hours.

The results showed that the serum collected from  
the surgical patient during the acute phase of infection  
contained a high level of viral RNA, and that anti-HCV  
15 antibodies were not detectable by the C100-RIA (data now  
shown). (The acute phase plasma from the surgical patient  
was known to have a high titer of NANBH infectious agent  
[ $10^{6.5}$  CID/ml, as determined by Feinstone et al. (1981);  
Feinstone et al. (1983)]). It should be noted, however,  
20 that this patient did sero-convert to anti-HCV antibodies  
by the C100-RIA approximately 9 months after infection.  
The serum from the pedigreed human control plasmas were  
negative in both the HCV/cPCR assay and C100-RIA.

25 Sensitivity of HCV/cPCR Assay

The sensitivity of the HCV/cPCR assay was  
determined by analyzing ten-fold serial dilutions of a  
plasma pool of known titer. The chimpanzee plasma had a  
titer of  $\sim 3 \times 10^5$  CID/ml, and RNA was extracted from ten-  
30 fold dilutions of 1 microliter of the plasma. cPCR was  
performed for 30 cycles, and after hybridization and wash-  
ing, the autoradiogram was exposed for 15 hours. The cPCR  
products resulting from amplification of  $\sim 300$ ,  $\sim 30$ , and  $\sim 3$   
CID of HCV genomes are shown in lanes 1-3, respectively of  
35 Fig. 29. The samples in lanes 1 and 2 were detectable on  
autoradiograms exposed for 2 hours.

-105-

Since the average titer of HCV in infected individuals is believed to be between approximately 100 to 10,000 CID/ml of plasma, this data suggests that the HCV/cPCR assay may be clinically useful.

5

#### HCV/cPCR Assay for Variant HCV Strains

Primers, consisting of a set of oligomer 44-mers and a set of oligomer 45-mers, were designed to amplify strains of HCV which are similar or identical to the HCV isolate from which the cDNA sequence in Fig. 18 is derived. The premise underlying the design of these primers is our discovery that HCV is a Flavi-like virus. Members of the Flaviviridae family, when compared to HCV, have two major conserved sets of amino acid sequences, 15 TATPPG and QRRGR, in the putative NS3 region of these viruses. Several other smaller sets may be seen, for example, GDD in the putative NS5 region. Other sets are determinable by comparison of the known amino acid sequences with that of HCV. This information was deduced 20 from the sequences for several members of Flaviviridae which have been described, including Japanese Encephalitis Virus (Sumiyoshi et al. (1987)), Yellow Fever Virus (Rice et al. (1985)), Dengue Type 2 Virus (Hahn et al. (1988)), Dengue Type 4 Virus (Mackow (1987)), and West Nile Virus 25 (Castle et al. (1986)). The conserved amino acid sequences and codon utilization are in the table immediately following.

30

35



Conserved Amino Acid (A.A.) Sequences  
Among Flaviviruses and HCV

5	<u>Virus</u>	# of <u>first A.A.</u>	<u>A.A.</u>					
			<u>T</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>G</u>
	HCV	1348	5' ACC	GCC	ACC	CCT	CCG	GCC 3'
	Yellow Fever	1805	ACA	GCC	ACA	CCG	CCT	GGG
	West Nile	1818	ACG	GCA	ACG	CCA	CCC	GGG
	Dengue-4	1788	ACC	GCA	ACC	CCT	CCC	GGA
	JEV	1957	ACA	GCG	ACC	CCG	CCT	GGA

10 HCV sense primer (44mer)=  
5' ACC GCC ACC CCX CC 3'  
(X = A, T, C, or G)

15	<u>Virus</u>	# of <u>first A.A.</u>	<u>A.A.</u>				
			<u>Q</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>R</u>
	HCV	1486	5' CAA	CGT	CGG	GGC	AGG 3'
	Yellow Fever	1946	CAA	AGG	AGG	GGG	CGC
	West Nile	1959	CAG	CGG	AGA	GGA	CGC
	Dengue-4	1929	CAG	AGA	AGA	GGG	CGA
	JEV	1820	CAA	CGG	AGG	GGC	AGA

20 HCV antisense primer (45mer)=  
3' GTX GCA GCC CCG TCC 5'  
(X = T or C)

25 Note: the primer sequence was chosen to minimize the number of nucleotide degeneracies at the 3'-end of the primer sequence and to maximize the number of nucleotides at the 3'-end of each primer which exactly match any of the possible nucleotide sequences, or the complement thereof, encoding the conserved amino acids indicated above.

30 The 44-mer and 45-mer oligomer primers were designed so that the sequences encoding these amino acids were incorporated within the primer. Moreover, they contain degeneracies at the 3'-end of each primer, and are derived from two different regions of the HCV genome which are present in clone 40b (See Fig. 28), and which are derived from the region encoding putative NS3 of HCV. The formulae for the oligonucleotide primers in the sets are:

35

-107-

5' GAC TGC GGG GGC GAG ACT GGT TGT GCT CGC  
ACC GCC ACC CCX CC 3'

5 where X is A,T,G, or C; and

5' TCT GTA GAT GCC TGG CTT CCC CCT GCC AGT  
CCT GCC CCG ACT YTG 3'

10 where Y is T or C.

The HCV/cPCR assay was carried out utilizing these primers to amplify HCV RNA in chimpanzee 910 plasma. The assay method was essentially as described in Section supra., except that the 44-mer and 45-mer sets of oligomer  
15 primers were substituted for the primers derived from clone 36 and clone 37b. In addition, detection of amplified HCV cDNA was by hybridization with a probe derived from clone 40a, the sequence of which is shown in Fig. 32.

The probe was prepared by amplifying a segment  
20 of clone 40a utilizing the PCR method described supra., and 18-mer primers containing the following sequences:

5' GAG ACA TCT CAT CTT CTG 3'

25 and

5' GAG CGT GAT TGT CTC AAT 3'.

After amplification, the probe preparation was labeled  
30 with <sup>32</sup>P by nick translation.

Fig. 33 shows an autoradiograph of the Southern blots probed with the sequence derived from Clone 40a. <sup>32</sup>P labeled MspI digested pBR322 DNA fragments served as markers (lane 1). The predicted size of the PCR product  
35 resulting from amplification using these primers is 490

nucleotides (nt). Duplicate reactions are shown in lanes 2 and 3.

Analysis for Variants of the 5'-Region of HCV

5                   Based upon the Flavivirus model, the 5'-region  
HCV cDNA which is flanked by the regions represented in  
clones ag30a and k9-1 encodes a segment of putative  
envelope and/or matrix protein(s) (E/M). Serum obtained  
from the chimpanzee from which the HCV cDNA "c" library,  
10 was constructed was analyzed by HCV/cPCR to determine  
whether variants within this target region were present.

The HCV/cPCR assay was performed essentially as  
described supra., for the isolation of clone 5'-32, except  
for the primers and probes used. Fig. 37 shows the  
15 relationship of the primers and probes (and the clones  
from which they were derived) to that of the target region  
of HCV cDNA. One set of PCR primers, ag30a16A and  
K91Env16B, were derived from clones ag30a and k9-1, which  
are upstream and downstream, respectively, of the target  
20 sequence. The expected size of the cPCR product primed by  
ag30a16A and K91Env16B is 1.145 kb based upon the  
confirmed sequence of HCV cDNA. Two other sets of PCR  
primers covering the region amplified using ag30a16A and  
K91Env16B, and overlapping each other were also used for  
25 PCR amplification of HCV RNA in the serum. Thus, in this  
case the PCR reactions were run using as one set of prim-  
ers ag30a16A and CA156e16B, and as the second set of prim-  
ers CA156e16A and k91Env16B. The expected PCR product  
sizes for these pairs were 615 nucleotides (NT) and 683  
30 NT, respectively. The table immediately following lists  
the primer, the clone from which it was derived, and the  
primer sequence.

Table

	Primer	Clone	Sequence
5	ag30a16A	ag30a	5' CTC TAT GGC AAT GAG G 3'
	K91Env16B	k9-1	5' CGT TGG CAT AAC TGA T 3'
	CA156e16B	156	5' CGA CAA GAA AGA CAG A 3'
	CA156e16A	156	5' AGC TTC GAC GTC ACA T 3'
	CA216a16A	216	5' TGA ACT ATG CAA CAG G 3'
10	CA216a16B	216	5' GGA GTG TGC AGG ATG G 3'
	CA84a16A	84	5' AAG GTT GCA ATT GCT C 3'
	CA84a16B	84	5' ACT AAC AGG ACC TTC G 3'

The probes for all of the HCV/cPCR products consisted of  
 15 <sup>32</sup>P labeled sections of HCV cDNA which had been prepared  
 by PCR amplification of a region of clone 216 (using  
 CA216a16A and 216a16B as primers), and of clone 84 (using  
 CA84a16A and CA84a16B as primers); <sup>32</sup>P was introduced into  
 the PCR products by nick translation. These probes did  
 20 not overlap the primers used in the HCV/cPCR reactions.

Fig. 38 shows an autoradiograph of a Southern  
 blot in which the HCV/cPCR products were hybridized with  
 the <sup>32</sup>P-labeled probes. The HCV/cPCR product extended  
 from primers ag30a16A and K91Env16B (lane 1) was ap-  
 25 proximately 1.1Kb; no other PCR products were observed in  
 a 15 hour exposure. The HCV products extended from the  
 primer sets ag30a15A/CA156e16B (lane 2) and CA156e16A/  
 K91Env16B (lane 3) were approximately 625NT and ap-  
 proximately 700 NT, respectively. The size of the PCR  
 30 products were determined by comparison with the relative  
 migrations of fragments resulting from the digestion of  
 pBR322 with MspI and of PhiX 174 digested with HaeIII  
 (lane 5).

The above study will detect insertions or  
 35 deletions as small as approximately 20NT to 50NT and DNA  
 rearrangements altering the size of the target DNA. The

results in Fig. 38 confirm that there is only 1 major species of cDNA derived from the E/M region of the HCV in the chimpanzee serum.

5        Amplification for Cloning of HCV cDNA Sequences  
          Utilizing the PCR and Primers Derived from  
          Conserved Regions of Flavivirus Genomic Sequences

          Our discovery that HCV is a flavi-like virus, allows a strategy for cloning uncharacterized HCV cDNA  
10 sequences utilizing the PCR technique, and primers derived from the regions encoding conserved amino acid sequences in flaviviruses. Generally, one of the primers is derived from a defined HCV genomic sequence, and the other primer which flanks a region of unsequenced HCV polynucleotide is  
15 derived from a conserved region of the flavivirus genome. The flavivirus genomes are known to contain conserved sequences within the NS1, and E polypeptides, which are encoded in the 5'-region of the flavivirus genome. Thus, to isolate cDNA sequences derived from putatively  
20 comparable regions of the HCV genome, upstream primers are designed which are derived from the conserved sequences within these flavivirus polypeptides. The downstream primers are derived from an upstream end of the known portion of the HCV cDNA.

25           Because of the degeneracy of the code, it is probable that there will be mismatches between the flavivirus probes and the corresponding HCV genomic sequence. Therefore a strategy which is similar to the one described by Lee (1988) is used. The Lee procedure  
30 utilizes mixed oligonucleotide primers complementary to the reverse translation products of an amino acid sequence; the sequences in the mixed primers takes into account every codon degeneracy for the conserved amino acid sequence.

35           Three sets of primer mixes are generated, based on the amino acid homologies found in several

-111-

flaviviruses, including Dengue-2,4 (D-2,4), Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV), Yellow Fever (YF), and West Nile Virus (WN). The primer mixture derived from the most upstream conserved sequence (5'-1), is based upon the amino acid sequence gly-trp-gly, which is part of the conserved sequence asp-arg-gly-trp-gly-asp<sub>N</sub> found in the E protein of D-2, JEV, YF, and WN. The next primer mixture (5'-2) is based upon a downstream conserved sequence in E protein, phe-asp-gly-asp-ser-tyr-ileu-phe-gly-asp-ser-tyr-ileu, and is derived from phe-gly-asp; the conserved sequence is present in D-2, JEV, YF, and WN. The third primer mixture (5'-3), is based on the amino acid sequence arg-ser-cys, which is part of the conserved sequence cys-cys-arg-ser-cys in the NS1 protein of D-2, D-4, JEV, YF, and WN. The individual primers which form the mixture in 5'-3 are shown in Fig. 53. In addition to the varied sequences derived from conserved region, each primer in each mixture also contains a constant region at the 5'-end which contains a sequence encoding sites for restriction enzymes, HindIII, MboI, and EcoRI.

The downstream primer, ssc5h20A, is derived from a nucleotide sequence in clone 5h, which contains HCV cDNA with sequences with overlap those in clones 14i and 11b. The sequence of ssc5h20A is

5' GTA ATA TGG TGA CAG AGT CA 3'.

An alternative primer, ssc5h34A, may also be used. This primer is derived from a sequence in clone 5h, and in addition contains nucleotides at the 5'-end which create a restriction enzyme site, thus facilitating cloning. The sequence of ssc5h34A is

5' GAT CTC TAG AGA AAT CAA TAT GGT GAC AGA GTC A 3'.

The PCR reaction, which was initially described by Saiki et al. (1986), is carried out essentially as described in Lee et al. (1988), except that the template for the cDNA is RNA isolated from HCV infected chimpanzee liver, or from viral particles isolated from HCV infected chimpanzee serum. In addition, the annealing conditions are less stringent in the first round of amplification (0.6M NaCl, and 25°C), since the part of the primer which will anneal to the HCV sequence is only 9 nucleotides, and there could be mismatches. Moreover, if ssc5h34A is used, the additional sequences not derived from the HCV genome tend to destabilize the primer-template hybrid. After the first round of amplification, the annealing conditions can be more stringent (0.066M NaCl, and 32°C-37°C), since the amplified sequences now contain regions which are complementary to, or duplicates of the primers. In addition, the first 10 cycles of amplification are run with Klenow enzyme I, under appropriate PCR conditions for that enzyme. After the completion of these cycles, the samples are extracted, and run with Taq polymerase, according to kit directions, as furnished by Cetus/Perkin-Elmer.

After the amplification, the amplified HCV cDNA sequences are detected by hybridization using a probe derived from clone 5h. This probe is derived from sequences upstream of those used to derive the primer, and does not overlap the sequences of the clone 5h derived primers. The sequence of the probe is

5' CCC AGC GGC GTA CGC GCT GGA CAC GGA GGT GGC CGC GTC  
30 GTG TGG CGG TGT TGT TCT CGT CGG GTT GAT GGC GC 3'.

### Industrial Applicability

The methods described herein, as well as the oligomers, both probes and primers, derived from HCV cDNA, and kits containing them, are useful for the accurate, relatively simple, and economic determination of the presence of HCV in biological samples, more particularly in blood which may be used for transfusions, and in individuals suspected of having HCV an infection. Moreover, these methods and oligomers may be useful for detecting an earlier stage of HCV infection than are immunological assays based upon the use of a recombinant HCV polypeptides. Also, an amplified polynucleotide hybridization assay detects HCV RNA in occasional samples which are anti-HCV antibody negative. Thus, the probes and primers described herein may be used amplified hybridization assays, in conjunction with an immunoassays based on HCV polypeptides to more completely identify infections due to HCV, and HCV-infected biological specimens, including blood.

The information provided herein allows the design of primers and/or probes which are derived from conserved regions of the HCV genome. The provision of these primers and probes makes available a general method which will detect variant HCV strains, and which will be of use in the screening of blood and blood products.

If the primers used in the method are derived from conserved regions of the HCV genome, the method should aid in the detection and/or identification of variant strains of HCV. This, in turn, should lead to the development of additional immunological reagents for the detection and diagnosis of HCV, as well as the development of additional polynucleotide reagents, for detection and or treatment of HCV.

In addition, sets of primers and probes designed from the conserved amino acid sequences of Flaviviruses



and HCV allow for a universal detection method for these infectious agents.

The following listed materials are on deposit under the terms of the Budapest Treaty with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), 12301 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, Maryland 20852, and have been assigned the following Accession Numbers.

	<u>lambda-qt11</u>	<u>ATCC No.</u>	<u>Deposit Date</u>
10	HCV cDNA library	40394	1 Dec. 1987
	clone 81	40388	17 Nov. 1987
	clone 91	40389	17 Nov. 1987
	clone 1-2	40390	17 Nov. 1987
	clone 5-1-1	40391	18 Nov. 1987
15	clone 12f	40514	10 Nov. 1988
	clone 35f	40511	10 Nov. 1988
	clone 15e	40513	10 Nov. 1988
	clone K9-1	40512	10 Nov. 1988
	JSC 308	20879	5 May 1988
20	pS356	67683	29 April 1988

In addition, the following deposits were made on 11 May 1989.

	<u>Strain</u>	<u>Linkers</u>	<u>ATCC No.</u>
25	D1210 (Cf1/5-1-1)	EF	67967
	D1210 (Cf1/81)	EF	67968
	D1210 (Cf1/CA74a)	EF	67969
	D1210 (Cf1/35f)	AB	67970
30	D1210 (Cf1/279a)	EF	67971
	D1210 (Cf1/C36)	CD	67972
	D1210 (Cf1/13i)	AB	67973
	D1210 (Cf1/C33b)	EF	67974
	D1210 (Cf1/CA290a)	AB	67975
35	HB101 (AB24/C100 #3R)		67976

-115-

The following derivatives of strain D1210 were deposited on 3 May 1989.

	<u>Strain Derivative</u>	<u>ATCC No.</u>
5	pCF1CS/C8f	67956
	pCF1AB/C12f	67952
	pCF1EF/14c	67949
	pCF1EF/15e	67954
	pCF1AB/C25c	67958
10	pCF1EF/C33c	67953
	pCF1EF/C33f	67950
	pCF1CD/33g	67951
	pCF1CD/C39c	67955
	pCF1EF/C40b	67957
15	pCF1EF/CA167b	67959

The following strains were deposited on May 12, 1989.

	<u>Strain</u>	<u>ATCC No.</u>
20	Lambda gt11(C35)	40603
	Lambda gt10(beta-5a)	40602
	D1210 (C40b)	67980
	D1210 (M16)	67981

25 The following biological materials were deposited on March 23, 1990.

	<u>Material</u>	<u>ATCC No.</u>
30	5'-clone32 (in pUC18S)	68276

35

FIG. 1 Translation of DNA 12f

IlePheLysIleArgMetTyrValGlyGlyValGluHisArgLeuGluAlaAlaCysAsn  
1 CCATATTTAAAATCAGGATGTACGTGGGAGGGGTCGAACACAGGCTGGAAGCTGCCTGCA  
GGTATAAATTTTAGTCCTACATGCACCCTCCCAGCTTGTGTCCGACCTTCGACGGACGT

TrpThrArgGlyGluArgCysAspLeuGluAspArgAspArgSerGluLeuSerProLeu  
61 ACTGGACGCGGGCGAACGTTGCGATCTGGAAGACAGGGACAGGTCCGAGCTCAGCCCGT  
TGACCTGCGCCCCGCTTGCAACGCTAGACCTTCTGTCCCTGTCCAGGCTCGAGTCGGGCA

LeuLeuThrThrThrGlnTrpGlnValLeuProCysSerPheThrThrLeuProAlaLeu  
121 TACTGCTGACCACTACACAGTGGCAGGTCCCTCCCGTGTTCCTTCACAACCCTACCAGCCT  
ATGACGACTGGTGTGTGTCACCGTCCAGGAGGGCACAAGGAAGTGTGGGATGGTTCGGA

SerThrGlyLeuIleHisLeuHisGlnAsnIleValAspValGlnTyrLeuTyrGlyVal  
181 TGTCCACCGGCCTCATCCACCTCCACCAGAACATTGTGGACGTGCAGTACTTGTACGGGG  
ACAGGTGGCCGGAGTAGGTGGAGGTGGTCTTGTAACACCTGCACGTCATGAACATGCCCC

-----  
GlySerSerIleAlaSerTrpAlaIleLysTrpGluTyrValValLeuLeuPheLeuLeu  
241 TGGGGTCAAGCATCGCGTCCTGGGCCATTAAGTGGGAGTACGTCGTTCTCCTGTTCCCTTC  
ACCCAGTTTCGTAGCGCAGGACCCGGTAATTCACCCTCATGCAGCAAGAGGACAAGGAAG

-----  
LeuAlaAspAlaArgValCysSerCysLeuTrpMetMetLeuLeuIleSerGlnAlaGlu  
301 TGCTTGCAGACGCGCGCGTCTGCTCCTGCTTGTGGATGATGCTACTCATATCCCAAGCGC  
ACGAACGTCTGCGCGCGCAGACGAGGACGAACACCTACTACGATGAGTATAGGGTTCGCC

-----Overlap with 141-----  
AlaAlaLeuGluAsnLeuValIleLeuAsnAlaAlaSerLeuAlaGlyThrHisGlyLeu  
361 AGGCGGCTTTGGAGAACCTCGTAATACTTAATGCAGCATCCCTGGCCGGGACGCACGGTC  
TCCGCCGAAACCTCTTGGAGCATTATGAATTACGTCGTAGGGACCGGCCCTGCGTGCCAG

-----  
Val  
421 TTGTATC  
AACATAG

FIG. 2-1 Translation of DNA k9-1

GlyCysProGluArgLeuAlaSerCysArgProLeuThrAspPheAspGlnGlyTrpGly  
 1 CAGGCTGTCTGAGAGGCTAGCCAGCTGCCGACCCCTTACCGATTTTGACCAGGGCTGGG  
 GTCCGACAGGACTCTCCGATCGGTGCGACGGCTGGGGAATGGCTAAACTGGTCCCCGACC

ProIleSerTyrAlaAsnGlySerGlyProAspGlnArgProTyrCysTrpHisTyrPro  
 61 GCCCTATCAGTTATGCCAACGGAAGCGGCCCGACCAGCGCCCCTACTGCTGGCACTACC  
 CGGGATAGTCAATACGGTTGCCTTCGCCGGGGCTGGTGCGGGGATGACGACCGTGATGG

ProLysProCysGlyIleValProAlaLysSerValCysGlyProValTyrCysPheThr  
 121 CCCCAAACCTTGC GG TATTGTGCCCGCAAGAGTGTGTGTGGTCCGGTATATTGCTTCA  
 GGGGTTTTGGAACGCCATAACACGGGCGCTTCTCACACACACCAGGCCATATAACGAAGT

ProSerProValValValGlyThrThrAspArgSerGlyAlaProThrTyrSerTrpGly  
 181 CTCCCAGCCCCGTGGTGGTGGGAACGACCGACAGGTCCGGGCGCGCCACCTACAGCTGGG  
 GAGGGTCGGGGCACCACCACCTTGCTGGCTGTCCAGCCC CGCGGGTGGATGTGACCC

GluAsnAspThrAspValPheValLeuAsnAsnThrArgProProLeuGlyAsnTrpPhe  
 241 GTGAAATGATACGGACGTCTTCGTCTTAACAATACCAGGCCACCGCTGGGCAATTGGT  
 CACTTTTACTATGCCTGCAGAAGCAGGAATTGTTATGGTCCGGTGGCGACCCGTTAACCA

GlyCysThrTrpMetAsnSerThrGlyPheThrLysValCysGlyAlaProProCysVal  
 301 TCGGTTGTACCTGGATGAACTCAACTGGATTCACCAAAGTGTGCGGAGCGCTCCTTGTG  
 AGCCAACATGGACCTACTTGAGTTGACCTAAGTGGTTTCACACGCCTCGCGGAGGAACAC

IleGlyGlyAlaGlyAsnAsnThrLeuHisCysProThrAspCysPheArgLysHisPro  
 361 TCATCGGAGGGGCGGGCAACAACACCTGCACTGCCCCACTGATTGCTTCCGCAAGCATC  
 AGTAGCCTCCCCGCCC GTTGTGTTGGGACGTGACGGGGTACTAACGAAGGCGTTCGTAG

AspAlaThrTyrSerArgCysGlySerGlyProTrpIleThrProArgCysLeuValAsp  
 421 CGGACGCCACATACTCTCGGTGCGGCTCCGGTCCCTGGATCACACCAGGTGCCTGGTGC  
 GCCTGCGGTGTATGAGAGCCACGCCGAGGCCAGGGACCTAGTGTGGGTCCACGGACCAGC

-----  
 TyrProTyrArgLeuTrpHisTyrProCysThrIleAsnTyrThrIlePheLysIleArg  
 481 ACTACCCGTATAGGCTTTGGCATTATCCTTGTACCATCAACTACACTATATTTAAATCA  
 TGATGGGCATATCCGAAACCGTAATAGGAACATGGTAGTTGATGTGATATAAATTTAGT

-----  
 MetTyrValGlyGlyValGluHisArgLeuGluAlaAlaCysAsnTrpThrArgGlyGlu  
 541 GGATGTACGTGGGAGGGTTCGAGCACAGGCTGGAAGCTGCCTGCAACTGGACGCGGGGCG  
 CCTACATGCACCCTCCCCAGCTCGTGTCCGACCTTCGACGGACGTTGACCTGCGCCCCGC

-----  
 ArgCysAspLeuGluAspArgAspArgSerGluLeuSerProLeuLeuLeuThrThrThr  
 601 AACGTTGCGATCTGGAAGATAGGGACAGGTCCGAGCTCAGCCC GTTACTGCTGACCACTA  
 TTGCAACGCTAGACCTTCTATCCCTGTCCAGGCTCGAGTCGGGCAATGACGACTGGTGAT

-----  
 GlnTrpGlnValLeuProCysSerPheThrThrLeuProAlaLeuSerThrGlyLeuIle  
 661 CACAGTGGCAGGTCCTCCCGTTCCTTACAAACCCTGCCAGCCTTGTCCACCGGCCTCA  
 GTGTCACCGTCCAGGAGGGCACAAGGAAGTGTGGGACGGTCCGGAACAGGTGGCCGGAGT

-----Overlap with Combined ORF of DNAs 12f through 15e-----  
 HisLeuHisGlnAsnIleValAspValGlnTyrLeuTyrGlyValGlySerSerIleAla  
 721 TCCACCTCCACCAGAACATTGTGGACGTGCAGTACTTGTACGGGGTGGGGTCAAGCATCG  
 AGGTGGAGGTGGTCTTGTAACACCTGCACGTCATGAACATGCCCCACCCAGTTCGTAGC

-----  
 SerTrpAlaIleLysTrpGluTyrValValLeuLeuPheLeuLeuLeuAlaAspAlaArg  
 781 CGTCCTGGGCCATTAAGTGGGAGTACGTGCTCCTCCTGTTCTTCTGCTTGCAGACGCGC  
 GCAGGACCCGGTAATTCACCTCATGCAGCAGGAGGACAAGGAAGACGAACGTCTGCGCG

-----  
 ValCysSerCysLeuTrpMetMetLeuLeuIleSerGlnAlaGluAlaAlaLeuGluAsn  
 841 GCGTCTGCTCCTGCTTGTGGATGATGCTACTCATATCCCAAGCGGAAGCGGCTTTGGAGA  
 CGCAGACGAGGACGAACACCTACTACGATGAGTATAGGGTTCGCCTTCGCCGAAACCTCT

-----  
 LeuValIleLeuAsnAlaAlaSerLeuAlaGlyThrHisGlyLeuValSerPheLeuVal  
 901 ACCTCGTAATACTTAATGCAGCATCCCTGGCCGGGACGCACGGTCTTGTATCCTTCCCTCG  
 TGGAGCATTATGAATTACGTCGTAGGGACCGGCCCTGCGTGCCAGAACATAGGAAGGAGC

-----  
 PhePheCysPheAlaTrpTyrLeuLysGlyLysTrpValProGlyAlaValTyrThrPhe  
 961 TGTTCCTCTGCTTTGCATGGTATCTGAAGGGTAAGTGGGTGCCCGGAGCGGTCTACACCT  
 ACAAGAAGACGAAACGTACCATAGACTTCCATTACCCACGGGCCTCGCCAGATGTGGA

-----  
 TyrGlyMetTrpProLeuLeuLeuLeuLeuLeuAlaLeuProGlnArgAlaTyrAlaLeu  
 1021 TCTACGGGATGTGGCCTCTCCTCCTGCTCCTGTTGGCGTTGCCCCAGCGGGCGTACGCGC  
 AGATGCCCTACACCGGAGAGGAGGACGAGGACAACCGCAACGGGGTTCGCCCGCATGCGCG

-----  
 AspThrGluValAlaAlaSerCysGlyGlyValValLeuValGlyLeuMetAlaLeuThr  
 1081 TGGACACGGAGGTGGCCGCGTCGTGTGGCGGTGTTGTTCTCGTCGGGTGATGGCGCTAA  
 ACCTGTGCCTCCACCGGCGCAGCACACCGCCACAACAAGAGCAGCCCAACTACCGCGATT

-----  
 LeuSerProTyrTyrLysArgTyrIleSerTrpCysLeuTrpTrpLeuGlnTyrPheLeu  
 1141 CTCTGTCACCATATTACAAGCGCTATATCAGCTGGTGCTTGTGGTGGCTTCAGTATTTTC  
 GAGACAGTGGTATAATGTTTCGCGATATAGTCGACCACGAACACCACCGAAGTCATAAAAG

-----  
 ThrArgValGluAlaGlnLeuHisValTrpIleProProLeuAsnValArgGlyGlyArg  
 1201 TGACCAGAGTGGGAAGCGCAACTGCACGTGTGGATTCCCCCCTCAACGTCCGAGGGGGGC  
 ACTGGTCTCACCTTCGCGTTGACGTGCACACCTAAGGGGGGGAGTGCAGGCTCCCCCG

-----  
 AspAlaValIleLeuLeuMetCysAlaValHisProThrLeuValPheAspIleThrLys  
 1261 GCGACGCTGTCATCTTACTCATGTGTGCTGTACACCCGACTCTGGTATTTGACATACCA  
 CGCTGCGACAGTAGAATGAGTACACACGACATGTGGGCTGAGACCATAAACTGTAGTGGT

-----  
 LeuLeuLeuAlaValPheGlyProLeuTrpIleLeuGlnAla  
 1321 AATTGCTGCTGGCCGTCTTCGGACCCCTTTGGATTCTTCAAGCCAG  
 TTAACGACGACCGGCAGAAGCCTGGGGAAACCTAAGAAGTTCGGTC

FIG. 2-2

### FIG. 3 Translation of DNA 15e

-----

1 GlyAlaGlyLysArgValTyrTyrLeuThrArgAspProThrThrProLeuAlaArgAla  
 CGGCGCTGGAAAGAGGGTCTACTACCTCACCCGTGACCCTACAACCCCTCGCGAGAGC  
 GCCGCGACCTTTCTCCAGATGATGGAGTGGGCACTGGGATGTTGGGGGGAGCGCTCTCG

-----Overlap with 26g-----

61 AlaTrpGluThrAlaArgHisThrProValAsnSerTrpLeuGlyAsnIleIleMetPhe  
 TGCGTGGGAGACAGCAAGACACACTCCAGTCAATTCCTGGCTAGGCAACATAATCATGTT  
 ACGCACCTCTGTTCGTTCTGTGTGAGGTCAGTTAAGGACCGATCCGTTGTATTAGTACAA

-----

121 AlaProThrLeuTrpAlaArgMetIleLeuMetThrHisPhePheSerValLeuIleAla  
 TGCCCCACACTGTGGGCGAGGATGATACTGATGACCCATTTCTTTAGCGTCCTTATAGC  
 ACGGGGGTGTGACACCCGCTCCTACTATGACTACTGGGTAAAGAAATCGCAGGAATATCG

181 ArgAspGlnLeuGluGlnAlaLeuAspCysGluIleTyrGlyAlaCysTyrSerIleGlu  
 CAGGGACCAGCTTGAACAGGCCCTCGATTGCGAGATCTACGGGGCCTGCTACTCCATAGA  
 GTCCCTGGTTCGAACCTGTCCGGGAGCTAACGCTCTAGATGCCCGGACGATGAGGTATCT

241 ProLeuAspLeuProProIleIleGlnArgLeu  
 ACCACTTGATCTACCTCCAATCATTCAAAGACTC  
 TGGTGAAGTAGATGGAGGTTAGTAAGTTTCTGAG

# FIG. 4

Translation of DNA 131

ProSerProValValValGlyThrThrAspArgSerGlyAlaProThrTyrSerTrpGly  
1 CTCCCAGCCCCGTGGTGGTGGGAACGACCGACAGGTCCGGCGCGCCTACCTACAGCTGGG  
GAGGGTCGGGGCACCACCACCCTTGCTGGCTGTCCAGCCCCGCGCGGATGGATGTCGACCC

GluAsnAspThrAspValPheValLeuAsnAsnThrArgProProLeuGlyAsnTrpPhe  
61 GTGAAAATGATACGGACGTCTTCGTCCTTAACAATACCAGGCCACCGCTGGGCAATTGGT  
CACTTTTACTATGCCTGCAGAAGCAGGAATTGTTATGGTCCGGTGGCGACCCGTTAACCA

GlyCysThrTrpMetAsnSerThrGlyPheThrLysValCysGlyAlaProProCysVal  
121 TCGGTTGTACCTGGATGAACCTCAACTGGATTCACCAAAGTGTGCGGAGCGCCTCCTTGTG  
AGCCAACATGGACCTACTTGAGTTGACCTAAGTGGTTTCACACGCCTCGCGGAGGAACAC

IleGlyGlyAlaGlyAsnAsnThrLeuHisCysProThrAspCysPheArgLysHisPro  
181 TCATCGGAGGGGCGGGCAACAACACCCTGCACTGCCCACTGATTGCTTCCGCAAGCATC  
AGTAGCTCCCCGCCGTTGTTGTGGGACGTGACGGGGTGACTAACGAAGGCGTTCGTAG

AspAlaThrTyrSerArgCysGlySerGlyProTrpLeuThrProArgCysLeuValAsp  
241 CGGACGCCACATACTCTCGGTGCGGCTCCGGTCCCTGGCTCACACCCAGGTGCCTGGTGC  
GCCTGCGGTGTATGAGAGCCACGCCGAGGCCAGGGACCGAGTGTGGGTCCACGGACCAGC

-----  
TyrProTyrArgLeuTrpHisTyrProCysThrIleAsnTyrThrIlePheLysIleArg  
301 ACTACCCGTATAGGCTTTGGCATTATCCTTGTACCATCAACTACCCATATTTAAAATCA  
TGATGGGCATATCCGAAACCGTAATAGGAACATGGTAGTTGATGTGGTATAAATTTTAGT

-----  
MetTyrValGlyGlyValGluHisArgLeuGluAlaAlaCysAsnTrpThrArgGlyGlu  
361 GGATGTACGTGGGAGGGGTCGAGCACAGGCTGGAAGCTGCCTGCAACTGGACGCGGGGCG  
CCTACATGCACCCTCCCCAGCTCGTGTCCGACCTTCGACGGACGTTGACCTGCGCCCCGC

-----Overlap with 12f-----  
ArgCysAspLeuGluAspArgAspArgSerGluLeuSerProLeuLeuLeuThrThrThr  
421 AACGTTGCGATCTGGAAGACAGGGACAGGTCCGAGCTCAGCCCGTTACTGCTGACCACTA  
TTGCAACGCTAGACCTTCTGTCCCTGTCCAGGCTCGAGTCGGGCAATGACGACTGGTGAT

-----  
GlnTrpGlnValLeuProCysSerPheThrThrLeuProAlaLeuSerThrGlyLeu  
481 CACAGTGGCAGGTCTCCCGTGTTCCTTCACAACCCTGCCAGCCTTGTCCACCGGCCTCA  
GTGTCACCGTCCAGGAGGGCACAAGGAAGTGTGGGACGGTCGGAACAGGTGGCCGGAGT

Translation of DNA 26j **FIG. 5**

LeuPheTyrHisHisLysPheAsnSerSerGlyCysProGluArgLeuAlaSerCysArg  
 1 GCTTTTCTATCACCACAAGTTCAACTCTTCAGGCTGTCCTGAGAGGCTAGCCAGCTGCCG  
 CGAAAAGATAGTGGTGTTC AAGTTGAGAAGTCCGACAGGACTCTCCGATCGGTCGACGGC

ProLeuThrAspPheAspGlnGlyTrpGlyProIleSerTyrAlaAsnGlySerGlyPro  
 61 ACCCCTTACCGATTTTGACCAGGGCTGGGGCCCTATCAGTTATGCCAACGGAAGCGGCC  
 TGGGAATGGCTAAACTGGTCCCGACCCCGGGATAGTCAATACGGTTGCCTTCGCCGG

AspGlnArgProTyrCysTrpHisTyrProProLysProCysGlyIleValProAlaLys  
 121 CGACCAGCGCCCCTACTGCTGGCACTACCCCCAAAACCTTGCGGTATTGTGCCCGCGAA  
 GCTGGTCGCGGGGATGACGACCGTGATGGGGGGTTTGGAACGCCATAACACGGGCGCTT

---Overlap with 13i---  
 SerValCysGlyProValTyrCysPheThrProSerProValValVal  
 181 GAGTGTGTGTGGTCCGGTATATTGCTTCACTCCCAGCCCCGTGGTGGTGGG  
 CTCACACACACCAGGCCATATAACGAAGTGAGGGTCGGGGCACCACCACC

Translation of DNA CA59a **FIG. 6**

LeuValMetAlaGlnLeuLeuArgIleProGlnAlaIleLeuAspMetIleAlaGlyAla  
 1 TTGGTAATGGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATCCCACAAGCCATCTTGACATGATCGCTGGTGCT  
 AACCATTACCGAGTCGACGAGGCCTAGGGTGTTCGGTAGAACCTGTACTAGCGACCACGA

HisTrpGlyValLeuAlaGlyIleAlaTyrPheSerMetValGlyAsnTrpAlaLysVal  
 61 CACTGGGGAGTCTGGCGGGCATAGCGTATTTCTCCATGGTGGGGAACCTGGGCGAAGGTC  
 GTGACCCCTCAGGACCGCCCGTATCGCATAAAGAGGTACCACCCCTTGACCCGCTTCCAG

LeuValValLeuLeuLeuPheAlaGlyValAspAlaGluThrHisValThrGlyGlySer  
 121 CTGGTAGTGCTGCTGCTATTTGCCGGCGTCGACGCGGAAACCCACGTCACCGGGGGAAGT  
 GACCATCAGGACGACGATAAACGGCCGCACTGCGCCTTTGGGTGCAGTGGCCCCCTTCA

AlaGlyHisThrValSerGlyPheValSerLeuLeuAlaProGlyAlaLysGlnAsnVal  
 181 GCCGGCCACACTGTGTCTGGATTTGTTAGCCTCCTCGCACCAGGCGCCAAGCAGAACGTC  
 CGGCCGGTGTGACACAGACCTAAACAATCGGAGGAGCGTGGTCCGCGGTTTCGTCTGCGAG

GlnLeuIleAsnThrAsnGlySerTrpHisLeuAsnSerThrAlaLeuAsnCysAsnAsp  
 241 CAGCTGATCAACACCAACGGCAGTTGGCACCTCAATAGCACGGCCCTGAACTGCAATGAT  
 GTCGACTAGTTGTGGTTGCCGTCAACCGTGGAGTTATCGTGCCGGGACTTGACGTTACTA

-----  
 SerLeuAsnThrGlyTrpLeuAlaGlyLeuPheTyrHisHisLysPheAsnSerSerGly  
 301 AGCCTCAACACCGGCTGGTTGGCAGGGCTTTTCTATCACCACAAGTTCAACTCTTCAGGC  
 TCGGAGTTGTGGCCGACCAACCGTCCCGAAAAGATAGTGGTGTTC AAGTTGAGAAGTCCG  
 -----Overlap with 26j-----

-----Overlap with K9-1-----  
 CysProGluArgLeuAlaSerCysArgPro  
 361 TGTCCTGAGAGGCTAGCCAGCTGCCGACCCC  
 ACAGGACTCTCCGATCGGTTCGACGGCTGGGG  
 -----



Translation of DNA CA84a

FIG. 7

GlnGlyCysAsnCysSerIleTyrProGlyHisIleThrGlyHisArgMetAlaTrpAsp  
 1CGCAAGGTTGCAATTGCTCTATCTATCCCCGGCCATATAACGGGTCACCGCATGGCATGGG  
 GCGTTCCAACGTTAACGAGATAGATAGGGCCGGTATATTGCCAGTGGCGTACCGTACCC

MetMetMetAsnTrpSerProThrThrAlaLeuValMetAlaGlnLeuLeuArgIlePro  
 61ATATGATGATGAACTGGTCCCCTACGACGGCGTTGGTAATGGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATCC  
 TATACTACTACTTGACCAGGGGATGCTGCCGCAACCATTACCGAGTCGACGAGGCCTAGG

GlnAlaIleLeuAspMetIleAlaGlyAlaHisTrpGlyValLeuAlaGlyIleAlaTyr  
 121CACAAGCCATCTTGGACATGATCGCTGGTGTCACTGGGGAGTCCTGGCGGGCATAGCGT  
 GTGTTCCGGTAGAACCTGTACTAGCGACCACGAGTGACCCCTCAGGACCGCCCGTATCGCA

-----Overlap with CA59a-----

PheSerMetValGlyAsnTrpAlaLysValLeuValValLeuLeuLeuPheAlaGlyVal  
 181ATTTCTCCATGGTGGGGAAGTGGCGAAGGTCCTGGTAGTGCTGCTGCTATTTGCCGGCG  
 TAAAGAGGTACCACCCCTTGACCCGCTCCAGGACCATCACGACGACGATAAACGGCCCG

AspAlaGluThrHisValThrGly  
 241TCGACGCGGAAACCCACGTCACCGGGG  
 AGCTGCGCCTTTGGGTGCAGTGGCCCC

Translation of DNA CA156e

FIG. 8

CysTrpValAlaMetThrProThrValAlaThrArgAspGlyLysLeuProAlaThrGln  
 1GTGTTGGGTGGCGATGACCCCTACGGTGGCCACCAGGGATGGCAAACCTCCCCGCGACGCA  
 CACAACCCACCGCTACTGGGGATGCCACCGGTGGTCCCTACCGTTTGAGGGGCGCTGCGT

LeuArgArgHisIleAspLeuLeuValGlySerAlaThrLeuCysSerAlaLeuTyrVal  
 61GCTTCGACGTCACATCGATCTGCTTGTCGGGAGCGCCACCCTCTGTTTCGGCCCTCTACGT  
 CGAAGCTGCAGTGTAGCTAGACGAACAGCCCTCGCGGTGGGAGACAAGCCGGGAGATGCA

GlyAspLeuCysGlySerValPheLeuValGlyGlnLeuPheThrPheSerProArgArg  
 121GGGGGACCTATGEGGGTCTGTCTTTCTTGTGCGGCCAACTGTTACCTTCTCTCCCAGGCG  
 CCCCCTGGATACGCCCAGACAGAAAGAACAGCCGGTTGACAAGTGGAAGAGAGGGTCCGC

HisTrpThrThrGlnGlyCysAsnCysSerIleTyrProGlyHisIleThrGlyHisArg  
 181CCACTGGACGACGCAAGGTTGCAATTGCTCTATCTATCCCCGGCCATATAACGGGTCACCG  
 GGTGACCTGCTGCGTTCCAACGTTAACGAGATAGATAGGGCCGGTATATTGCCAGTGGC

-----Overlap with CA84a-----

MetAlaTrpAspMetMetMetAsnTrpSerProThrThrAlaLeuValValAlaGlnLeu  
 241CATGGCATGGGATATGATGATGAACTGGTCCCCTACGACGGCGTTGGTAGTGGCTCAGCT  
 GTACCGTACCCTATACTACTACTTGACCAGGGGATGCTGCCGCAACCATCACCGAGTCGA

LeuArgIleProGlnAla  
 301GCTCCGGATCCCACAAGCC  
 CGAGGCCTAGGGTGTTCGG

## FIG. 9

## Translation of DNA CA167b

SerThrGlyLeuTyrHisValThrAsnAspCysProAsnSerSerIleValTyrGluAla  
 1 CTCCACGGGGCTTTACCACGTCACCAATGATTGCCCTAACTCGAGTATTGTGTACGAGGC  
 GAGGTGCCCCGAAATGGTGCAGTGGTTACTAACGGGATTGAGCTCATAACACATGCTCCG

AlaAspAlaIleLeuHisThrProGlyCysValProCysValArgGluGlyAsnAlaSer  
 61 GGCCGATGCCATCCTGCACACTCCGGGGTGGCCTCCCTGCGTTCGTGAGGGCAACGCCTC  
 CCGGCTACGGTAGGACGTGTGAGGCCCCACGCAGGGAACGCAAGCACTCCCGTTGCGGAG

-----  
 ArgCysTrpValAlaMetThrProThrValAlaThrArgAspGlyLysLeuProAlaThr  
 121 GAGGTGTTGGGTGGCGATGACCCCTACGGTGGCCACCAGGGATGGCAAACCTCCCCGCGAC  
 CTCCACAACCCACCGCTACTGGGGATGCCACCGGTGGTCCCTACCGTTTGAGGGGCGCTG

-----Overlap with CA156-----  
 GlnLeuArgArgHisIleAspLeuLeuValGlySerAlaThrLeuCysSerAlaLeuTyr  
 181 GCAGCTTCGACGTCACATCGATCTGCTTGTGCGGAGCGCTACCCTCTGTTGCGCCCTCTA  
 CGTCGAAGCTGCAGTGTAGCTAGACGAACAGCCCTCGCGATGGGAGACAAGCCGGGAGAT

-----  
 ValGlyAspLeuCysGlySerValPheLeu  
 241 CGTGGGGGACTTGTGCGGGTCTGTCTTTCTTG  
 GCACCCCTGAACACGCCCGACAGAAAGAAC

# FIG. 10

## Translation of DNA ssCA216a

ArgArgArgSerArgAsnLeuGlyLysValIleAspThrLeuThrCysGlyPheAlaAsp  
1 CCCGGCGTAGGTCGCGCAATTTGGGTAAGGTCATCGATACCCCTACGTGCGGCTTCGCCG  
GGGCCGCATCCAGCGCGTTAAACCCATTCCAGTAGCTATGGGAATGCACGCCGAAGCGGC

LeuMetGlyTyrIleProLeuValGlyAlaProLeuGlyGlyAlaAlaArgAlaLeuAla  
61 ACCTCATGGGGTACATACCGCTCGTCGGCGCCCCTCTTGGAGGCGCTGCCAGGGCCCTGG  
TGGAGTACCCCATGTATGGCGAGCAGCCCGGGGAGAACCTCCGCGACGGTCCCGGGACC

HisGlyValArgValLeuGluAspGlyValAsnTyrAlaThrGlyAsnLeuProGlyCys  
121 CGCATGGCGTCCGGGTTCTGGAAGACGGCGTGAACATGCAACAGGGAACCTTCCTGGTT  
CGGTACCGCAGGCCCAAGACCTTCTGCCCACTTGATACGTTGTCCCTTGAAGGACCAA

SerPheSerIlePheLeuLeuAlaLeuLeuSerCysLeuThrValProAlaSerAlaTyr  
181 GCTCTTCTCTATCTCCTTCTGGCCCTGCTCTCTTGCTTGACTGTGCCCGCTTCGGCCT  
CGAGAAAGAGATAGAAGGAAGACCGGGACGAGAGAACGAACACTGACACGGGCGAAGCCGGA

-----  
GlnValArgAsnSerThrGlyLeuTyrHisValThrAsnAspCysProAsnSerSerIle  
241 ACCAAGTGCGCAACTCCACGGGGCTTTACCACGTCACCAATGATTGCCCTAACTCGAGTA  
TGGTTCACGCGTTGAGGTGCCCGAAATGGTGCAGTGGTTACTAACGGGATTGAGCTCAT

-----overlap with CA167b-----  
ValTyrGluAlaAlaAspAlaIleLeuHisThrProGlyCysValProCysValArgGlu  
301 TTGTGTACGAAGCGGCCGATGCCATCCTGCACACTCCGGGGTGGCTCCCTTGGCTTCGTG  
AACACATGCTTCGCCGGCTACGGTAGGACGTGTGAGGCCCCACGCAGGGAACGCAAGCAC

-----  
GlyAsnAlaSerArgCysTrpValAlaMetThrProThrValAla  
361 AGGGCAACGCCTCGAGGTGTTGGGTGGCGATGACCCCTACGGTGGCC  
TCCCGTTGCGGAGCTCCACAACCCACCGCTACTGGGGATGCCACCGG

## FIG. 11

## Translation of DNA ssCA290a

1 LysLysAsnLysArgAsnThrAsnArgArgProGlnAspValLysPheProGlyGlyGly  
 AAAAAAAAAACAAACGTAACACCAACCGTCGCCACAGGACGTCAAGTTCCCGGGTGGCG  
 TTTTTTTTTGTTTGCATTGTGGTTGGCAGCGGGTGTCTGCAGTTCAAGGGCCCACCGC

61 GlnIleValGlyGlyValTyrLeuLeuProArgArgGlyProArgLeuGlyValArgAla  
 GTCAGATCGTTGGTGGAGTTTACTTGTTCGCCGCGCAGGGGCCCTAGATTGGGTGTGCGCG  
 CAGTCTAGCAACCACCTCAAATGAACAACGGCGCGTCCCCGGGATCTAACCCACACGCGC

121 ThrArgLysThrSerGluArgSerGlnProArgGlyArgArgGlnProIleProLysAla  
 CGACGAGAAAGACTTCCGAGCGGTCCGAACCTCGAGGTAGACGCCAGCCTATCCCCAAGG  
 GCTGCTCTTTCTGAAGGCTCGCCAGCGTTGGAGCTCCATCTGCGGTCCGATAGGGGTTCC

181 ArgArgProGluGlyArgThrTrpAlaGlnProGlyTyrProTrpProLeuTyrGlyAsn  
 CTCGTCCGCCCCGAGGGCAGGACCTGGGCTCAGCCCGGGTACCCTTGCCCCCTCTATGGCA  
 GAGCAGCCGGGCTCCCGTCTGGACCCGAGTCGGGCCCATGGGAACCGGGGAGATACCGT

241 GluGlyCysGlyTrpAlaGlyTrpLeuLeuSerProArgGlySerArgProSerTrpGly  
 ATGAGGGCTGCGGGTGGGCGGGATGGCTCCTGTCTCCCCGTGGCTCTCGGCCTAGCTGGG  
 TACTCCCCAGCCCCACCCGCCCTACCGAGGACAGAGGGGCACCGAGAGCCGGATCGACCC

-----

301 ProThrAspProArgArgArgSerArgAsnLeuGlyLysValIleAspThrLeuThrCys  
 GCCCCACAGACCCCCGGCGTAGGTTCGCGCAATTTGGGTAAGGTCATCGATACCCTTACGT  
 CGGGGTGTCTGGGGGCCGCATCCAGCGCGTTAAACCCATTCCAGTAGCTATGGGAATGCA

-----

361 GlyPheAlaAspLeuMetGlyTyrIleProLeuValGlyAlaProLeuGlyGlyAlaAla  
 GCGGCTTCGCCGACCTCATGGGGTACATACCGCTCGTCGGCGCCCTCTTGAGGGCGCTG  
 CGCCGAAGCGGCTGGAGTACCCCATGTATGGCGAGCAGCCGCGGGGAGAACCCTCCGCGAC

-----overlap with CA216a-----

421 ArgAlaLeuAlaHisGlyValArgValLeuGluAspGlyValAsnTyrAlaThrGlyAsn  
 CCAGGGCCCTGGCGCATGGCGTCCGGGTTCTGGAAGACGGCGTGAACCTATGCAACAGGGA  
 GTCCCCGGGACCGCGTACCGCAGGCCCAAGACCTTCTGCCGCACTTGATACGTTGTCCCT

-----

481 LeuProGlyCysSerPheSerThrPhe  
 ACCTTCCTGGTTGCTCTTTCTCTACCTTC  
 TGAAGGACCAACGAGAAAGAGATGGAAG

Translation of DNA ag30a

FIG. 12-1

#MetSerValValGlnProProGlyProProLeu

#MetAlaLeuValOP

1 CGCAGAAAGCGTCTAGCCATGGCGTTAGTATGAGTGTTCGTGCAGCCTCCAGGACCCCCC  
GCGTCTTTCGCAGATCGGTACCGCAATCATACTCACAGCACGTCCGGAGGTCTGGGGGG

ProGlyGluProAM

61 TCCCGGGAGAGCCATAGTGGTCTGCGGAACCGGTGAGTACACCGGAATTGCCAGGACGAC  
AGGGCCCTCTCGGTATCACCAGACGCCTTGCCACTCATGTGGCCTAACGGTCCTGCTG

#MetProGlyAspLeuGlyValProProGlnAsp

121 CGGGTCTTTCTTGGATCAACCCGCTCAATGCCTGGAGATTTGGGCGTGCCCCGCAAGA  
GCCAGGAAAGAACCTAGTTGGGCGAGTTACGGACCTCTAAACCCGCACGGGGGCGTTCT

CysAM

OP AM GlyAlaCys  
\*

181 CTGCTAGCCGAGTAGTGTGGGTCGCGAAAGGCCTTGTGGTACTGCCTGATAGGGTGCTT  
GACGATCGGCTCATCACAACCCAGCGCTTTCGGAACACCATGACGGACTATCCCACGAA

GluCysProGlyArgSerArgArgProCysThrMetSerThrAsnProLysProGlnLys

241 GCGAGTCCCCGGGAGGTCTCGTAGACCGTGCACCATGAGCACGAATCCTAAACCTCAA  
CGCTCACGGGGCCCTCCAGAGCATCTGGCACGTGGTACTCGTGCTTAGGATTTGGAGTTT

LysAsnLysArgAsnThrAsnArgArgProGlnAspValLysPheProGlyGlyGlyGln

-----  
301 AAAAAACAAACGTAACACCAACCGTCGCCACAGGACGTCAAGTTCGCGGTGGCGGTC  
TTTTTTGTTGTCATTGTGGTTGGCAGCGGTGTCCTGCAGTTCAAGGGCCCACCGCCAG

IleValGlyGlyValTyrLeuLeuProArgArgGlyProArgLeuGlyValArgAlaThr

-----  
361 AGATCGTTGGTGGAGTTTACTTGTGCGCGCAGGGGCCCTAGATTGGGTGTGCGCGCGA  
TCTAGCAACCACCTCAAATGAACAACGGCGCGTCCCCGGGATCTAACCACACGCGCGCT

ArgLysThrSerGluArgSerGlnProArgGlyArgArgGlnProIleProLysAlaArg

-----  
421 CGAGAAAGACTTCCGAGCGGTCCGAACCTCGAGGTAGACGTCAGCCTATCCCCAAGGCTC  
GCTCTTTCTGAAGGCTCGCCAGCGTTGGAGCTCCATCTGCAGTCGGATAGGGGTCCGAG

ArgProGluGlyArgThrTrpAlaGlnProGlyTyrProTrpProLeuTyrGlyAsnGlu

-----overlap with CA290a-----  
481 GTCGGCCCCGAGGGCAGGACCTGGGCTCAGCCGGGTACCCTTGGCCCCCTCTATGGCAATG  
CAGCCGGGCTCCCGTCTGGACCCGAGTCGGGCCCATGGGAACCGGGAGATAACCGTTAC

GlyCysGlyTrpAlaGlyTrpLeuLeuSerProArgGlySerArgProSerTrpGlyPro

-----  
541 AGGGCTGCGGGTGGGCGGGATGGCTCCTGTCTCCCCGTGGCTCTCGGCCTAGCTGGGGCC  
TCCCGACGCCACCCGCCCTACCGAGGACAGAGGGGCACCGAGAGCCGGATCGACCCCGG

ThrAspProArgArgArgSerArgAsnLeuGlyLysValIleAspThrLeuThrCysGly

601 CCACAGACCCCGGCGTAGGTCGCGCAATTTGGGTAAGGTCATCGATACCCTTACGTGCG  
GGTGTCTGGGGCCGCATCCAGCGCGTTAAACCCATTCCAGTAGCTATGGGAATGCACGC

Phe

661 GCTTC  
CGAAG

- \* - Start of long HCV ORF
- | - Putative first amino acid of large HCV polyprotein
- # - Putative small encoded peptides (that may play a translational regulatory role)

FIG. 12-2

# FIG. 13

## Translation of DNA CA205a

1 ValLeuGlyArgGluArgProCysGlyThrAlaOP AM GlyAlaCysGluCysProGly  
GTCTTGGGTCGCGAAAGGCCTTGTGGTACTGCCTGATAGGGTGCTTGCGAGTGCCCCGGG  
CAGAACCAGCGCTTCCGGAACACCATGACGGACTATCCCACGAACGCTCACGGGGCCC

\*

61 ArgSerArgArgProCysThrMetSerThrAsnProLysProGlnArgLysThrLysArg  
AGGTCTCGTAGACCGTGCACCATGAGCACGAATCCTAAACCTCAAAGAAAACCAAACGT  
TCCAGAGCATCTGGCACGTGGTACTCGTGCTTAGGATTGGAGTTTCTTTTTGGTTGCA

-----

121 AsnThrAsnArgArgProGlnAspValLysPheProGlyGlyGlyGlnIleValGlyGly  
AACACCAACCGTCGCCACAGGACGTCAAGTCCCGGGTGGCGGTCAGATCGTTGGTGG  
TTGTGGTTGGCAGCGGGTGTCTGCAGTTCAAGGGCCACCGCCAGTCTAGCAACCACCT

-----

181 ValTyrLeuLeuProArgArgGlyProArgLeuGlyValArgAlaThrArgLysThrSer  
GTTTACTTGTTGCCGCGCAGGGGCCCTAGATTGGGTGTGCGCGCGACGAGAAAGACTTCC  
CAAATGAACAACGGCGCGTCCCGGGATCTAACCACACGGCGCGCTGCTCTTTCTGAAG

-----

241 -----overlap with CA290a-----  
GluArgSerGlnProArgGlyArgArgGlnProIleProLysAlaArgArgProGluGly  
GAGCGGTCGCAACCTCGAGGTAGACGTACGCTATCCCCAAGGCTCGTCGGCCCGAGGGC  
CTCGCCAGCGTTGGAGCTCCATCTGCAGTCGGATAGGGGTCCGAGCAGCCGGGCTCCCC

-----

301 ArgThrTrpAlaGlnProGlyTyrProTrpProLeuTyrGlyAsnGluGlyCys  
AGGACCTGGGCTCAGCCCGGGTACCCTTGGCCCCTCTATGGCAATGAGGGCTGCG  
TCCTGGACCCGAGTCGGGCCCATGGGAACCGGGGAGATAACCGTTACTCCCGACGC

\* - putative initiator methionine codon

## FIG. 14

Translation of DNA 18g

```

-----
#ProProOP
#SerThrMetAsnHisSerProValArgAsnTyrCysLeuHisAlaGluSerValAM Pro
#LeuHisHisGluSerLeuProCysGluGluLeuLeuSerSerArgArgLysArgLeuAla
1 CTCCACCATGAATCACTCCCCTGTGAGGAACTACTGTCTTCACGCAGAAAGCGTCTAGCC
GAGGTGGTACTTAGTGAGGGGACACTCCTTGATGACAGAAGTGCGTCTTTTCGCAGATCGG
-----
#MetSerValValGlnProProGlyProProLeuProGlyGluProAM
MetAlaLeuValOP
61 ATGGCGTTAGTATGAGTGTGCGTGCAGCCTCCAGGACCCCCCTCCCGGGAGAGCCATAGT
TACCGCAATCATACTCACAGCACGTGCGGAGGTCCTGGGGGGGAGGGCCCTCTCGGTATCA
-----
121 GGTCTGCGGAACCGGTGAGTACACCGGAATTGCCAGGACGACCGGGTCCTTTCTTGGATC
CCAGACGCCTTGGCCACTCATGTGGCCTTAACGGTCCTGCTGGCCCAGGAAAGAACCTAG
-----overlap with ag30a-----
#MetProGlyAspLeuGlyValProProGlnAspCysAM
181 AACCCGCTCAATGCCTGGAGATTTGGGCGTGCCCCGCAAGACTGCTAGCCGAGTAGTGT
TTGGGCGAGTTACGGACCTCTAAACCCGCACGGGGCGTTCTGACGATCGGCTCATCACA
-----
OP AM GlyAlaCysGluCysProGlyArgSer
*
241 TGGGTCGCGAAAGGCCTTGTGGTACTGCCTGATAGGGTGCTTGCGAGTGCCCCGGGAGGT
ACCCAGCGCTTTCGGAAACACCATGACGGACTATCCCACGAACGCTCACGGGGCCCTCCA
-----
ArgArg
301 CTCGTAGA
GAGCATCT

```

\* - Start of long HCV ORF

# - Putative small encoded peptides (that may play a translational regulatory role)



# FIG. 15

## Translation of DNA 16jh

-----Overlap with 15e -----

GlyAlaCysTyrSerIleGluProLeuAspLeuProProIleIleGlnArgLeuHisGly  
1 GGGGCCTGCTACTCCATAGAACCACTGGATCTACCTCCAATCATTCAAAGACTCCATGGC  
CCCCGGACGATGAGGTATCTTGGTGACCTAGATGGAGGTTAGTAAGTTTCTGAGGTACCG

LeuSerAlaPheSerLeuHisSerTyrSerProGlyGluIleAsnArgValAlaAlaCys  
61 CTCAGCGCATTTCCTCACTCCACAGTTACTCTCCAGGTGAAATTAATAGGGTGGCCGCATGC  
GAGTCGCGTAAAAGTGAGGTGTCAATGAGAGGTCCACTTTAATTATCCCACCGGCGTACG

Gly\*  
G

LeuArgLysLeuGlyValProProLeuArgAlaTrpArgHisArgAlaArgSerValArg  
121 CTCAGAAAACCTTGGGGTACCGCCCTTGGGAGCTTGGAGACACCGGGCCCGGAGCGTCCGC  
GAGTCTTTTGAACCCCATGGCGGGAACGCTCGAACCTCTGTGGCCCGGCGCTCGCAGGCG

AlaArgLeuLeuAlaArgGlyGlyArgAlaAlaIleCysGlyLysTyrLeuPheAsnTrp  
181 GCTAGGCTTCTGGCCAGAGGAGGCAGGGCTGCCATATGTGGCAAGTACCTCTTCAACTGG  
CGATCCGAAGACCGGTCTCCTCCGTCCCGACGGTATACACCGTTCATGGAGAAGTTGACC

AlaValArgThrLysLeuLys  
241 GCAGTAAGAACAAAGCTCAAAC  
CGTCATTCTTGTTTCGAGTTTG

\* - nucleotide heterogeneity

## Translation of DNA 6k

-----Overlap with 16jh-----  
 1 GlyArgAlaAlaIleCysGlyLysTyrLeuPheAsnTrpAlaValArgThrLysLeuLys  
 GGCAGGGCTGCCATATGTGGCAAGTACCTCTTCAACTGGGCAGTAAGAACAAAGCTCAA  
 CCGTCCCGACGGTATACACCGTTCATGGAGAAGTTGACCCGTCATTCTTGTTTCGAGTTT  
 -  
 61 LeuThrProIleAlaAlaAlaGlyGlnLeuAspLeuSerGlyTrpPheThrAlaGlyTyr  
 CTCACTCCAATAGCGGCCGCTGGCCAGCTGGACTTGTCCGGCTGGTTCACGGCTGGCTAC  
 GAGTGAGGTTATCGCCGGCGACCGGTCGACCTGAACAGGCCGACCAAGTGCCGACCGATG  
 SerGlyGlyAspIleTyrHisSerValSerHisAlaArgProArgTrpIleTrpPheCys  
 121 AGCGGGGGAGACATTTATCACAGCGTGTCTCATGCCCGGCCCGCTGGATCTGGTTTTGC  
 TCGCCCCCTCTGTAATAGTGTGCGCACAGAGTACGGGCCGGGGCGACCTAGACCAAACG  
 181 CC  
 GG

FIG.16

Translation of DNA p131jh

-----Overlap with 6k-----  
1 TyrHisSerValSerHisAlaArgProArgTrpIleTrpPheCysLeuLeuLeuAla  
TTATCACAGCGTGTCTCATGCCCGCCCGCTGGATCTGGTTTGCCCTACTCCTGCTTGC  
AATAGTGTCCACACAGAGTACGGCCGGCCGGACCTAGACCCAAACGGATGAGGACGAAACG  
61 AlaGlyValGlyIleTyrLeuLeuProAsnArgOP  
TGCAGGGGTAGGCATCTACCTCCTCCCAACCGATGAAGGTGGGGTAAACACTCCGGCC  
ACGTCCCATCCGTAGATGGAGGAGGGTTGGCTACTTCCACCCCCCATTTGTGAGGCCGG  
121 T  
A

FIG.17

## FIG. 18-1

-341 GCCAGCCCCCTGATGGGGGCGA  
CGGTGGGGGACTACCCCCGCT

-319 CACTCCACCATGAATCACTCCCTGTGAGGA<sup>ACTACT</sup>TGTCTTCACGCAGAAAGCGTCTAG  
GTGAGGTGGTACTTAGTGAGGGGACACTCCTTGATGACAGAAGTGCCTTTTCGCAGATC

-259 CCATGGCGTTAGTATGAGTGTTCGTGCAGCCTCCAGGACCCCCCTCCCGGGAGAGCCATA  
GGTACCGCAATCATACTCACAGCACGTCGGAGGTCCTGGGGGGGAGGGCCCTCTCGGTAT

-199 GTGGTCTGCGGAACCGGTGAGTACACCGGAATTGCCAGGACGACCGGGTCCTTTCTTGA  
CACCAGACGCCTTGGCCACTCATGTGGCCTTAACGGTCTCTGCTGGCCAGGAAAGAACCT

-139 TCAACCCGCTCAATGCCTGGAGATTGGGGCGTGCCCCGCAAGACTGCTAGCCGAGTAGT  
AGTTGGGCGAGTTACGGACCTCTAAACCCGCACGGGGCGTTCTGACGATCGGCTCATCA

- 79 GTTGGGTGCGGAAAGGCCTTGTGGTACTGCCTGATAGGGTGCTGCGAGTGCCCCGGGAG  
CAACCCAGCGCTTCCGGAACACCATGACGGACTATCCACGAACGCTCACGGGGCCCTC

- 19 GTCTCGTAGACCGTGCACC  
CAGAGCATCTGGCACGTGG

Arg Thr

1 MetSerThrAsnProLysProGlnLysLysAsnLysArgAsnThrAsnArgArgProGln  
ATGAGCACGAATCCTAAACCTCAAAAAAAAAACAAACGTAACACCAACCGTCGCCACAG  
TACTCGTGCTTAGGATTTGGAGTTTTTTTTTTGTTGCATTGTGGTTGGCAGCGGGTGC

61 AspValLysPheProGlyGlyGlyGlnIleValGlyGlyValTyrLeuLeuProArgArg  
GACGTCAAGTTCCCGGTGGCGGTGAGATCGTTGGTGGAGTTTACTTGTGCCGCGCAGG  
CTGCAGTTC AAGGGCCACCGCCAGTCTAGCAACCACCTCAAATGAACAACGGCGCGTCC

121 GlyProArgLeuGlyValArgAlaThrArgLysThrSerGluArgSerGlnProArgGly  
GGCCCTAGATTGGGTGTGCGCGCAGCAGAAAGACTTCCGAGCGGTGCGAACCTCGAGGT  
CCGGGATCTAACCACACGCGCGCTGCTCTTTCTGAAGGCTCGCCAGCGTTGGAGCTCCA

181 ArgArgGlnProIleProLysAlaArgArgProGluGlyArgThrTrpAlaGlnProGly  
AGACGTCAGCCTATCCCAAGGCTCGTCGGCCCCGAGGGCAGGACCTGGGCTCAGCCCCGG  
TCTGCAGTCGGATAGGGGTTCCGAGCAGCCGGGCTCCCGTCTGGACCCGAGTCGGGCC

241 TyrProTrpProLeuTyrGlyAsnGluGlyCysGlyTrpAlaGlyTrpLeuLeuSerPro  
TACCCTTGCCCCCTCTATGGCAATGAGGGCTGCGGGTGGGCGGGATGGCTCCTGTCTCCC  
ATGGGAACCGGGGAGATACCGTTACTCCCGACGCCACCCGCCCTACCGAGGACAGAGGG

301 ArgGlySerArgProSerTrpGlyProThrAspProArgArgArgSerArgAsnLeuGly  
CGTGGCTCTCGGCCTAGCTGGGGCCCCACAGACCCCCGCGTAGGTGCGCAATTTGGGT  
GCACCGAGAGCCGATCGACCCCGGGGTGTCTGGGGGCCGATCCAGCGCGTTAAACCCA

361 LysValIleAspThrLeuThrCysGlyPheAlaAspLeuMetGlyTyrIleProLeuVal  
AAGGTCATCGATAACCCTTACGTGCGGCTTCGCCGACCTCATGGGGTACATAACCGCTCGTC  
TTCCAGTAGCTATGGGAATGCACGCCGAAGCGGCTGGAGTACCCATGTATGGCGAGCAG

421 GlyAlaProLeuGlyGlyAlaAlaArgAlaLeuAlaHisGlyValArgValLeuGluAsp  
GGCGCCCCCTTGGAGGCGCTGCCAGGGCCCTGGCGCATGGCGTCCGGGTTCTGGAAGAC  
CCGCGGGGAGAACCTCCGCGACGGTCCCGGGACCGGTACCGCAGGCCCAAGACCTTCTG

481 GlyValAsnTyrAlaThrGlyAsnLeuProGlyCysSerPheSerIlePheLeuLeuAla  
GGCGTGAACCTATGCAACAGGGAACCTTCCCTGGTTGCTCTTTCTCTATCTTCCCTTCTGGCC  
CCGCACTTGATACGTTGTCCCTTGAAGGACCAACGAGAAAGAGATAGAAGGAAGACCGG

541 LeuLeuSerCysLeuThrValProAlaSerAlaTyrGlnValArgAsnSerThrGlyLeu  
CTGCTCTCTTGCTTGACTGTGCCCGCTTCGGCCTACCAAGTGCGCAACTCCACGGGGCTT  
GACGAGAGAACGAACTGACACGGGCGAAGCCGGATGGTTCACGCGTTGAGGTGCCCCGAA

## FIG. 18-2

601 TyrHisValThrAsnAspCysProAsnSerSerIleValTyrGluAlaAlaAspAlaIle  
 TACCACGTCACCAATGATTGCCCTAACTCGAGTATTGTGTACGAGGCGGCCGATGCCATC  
 ATGGTGCAGTGGTTACTAACGGGATTGAGCTCATAACACATGCTCCGCCGGCTACGGTAG

661 LeuHisThrProGlyCysValProCysValArgGluGlyAsnAlaSerArgCysTrpVal  
 CTGCACACTCCGGGGTGCCTCCCTGCGTTCGTGAGGGCAACGCCTCGAGGTGTTGGGTG  
 GACGTGTGAGGCCCCACGCAGGAACGCAAGCACTCCCGTTGCGGAGCTCCACAACCCAC

721 AlaMetThrProThrValAlaThrArgAspGlyLysLeuProAlaThrGlnLeuArgArg  
 GCGATGACCCCTACGGTGGCCACCAGGGATGGCAAACCTCCCGCGACGCAGCTTCGACGT  
 CGCTACTGGGGATGCCACCGGTGGTCCCTACCGTTTGAGGGGCGCTGCGTGAAGCTGCA

781 HisIleAspLeuLeuValGlySerAlaThrLeuCysSerAlaLeuTyrValGlyAspLeu  
 CACATCGATCTGCTTGTGCGGAGCGCCACCCTCTGTTGCGCCCTCTACGTGGGGGACCTA  
 GTGTAGCTAGACGAACAGCCCTCGCGGTGGGAGACAAGCCGGGAGATGCACCCCTGGAT

841 CysGlySerValPheLeuValGlyGlnLeuPheThrPheSerProArgArgHisTrpThr  
 TGCGGGTCTGTCTTTCTTGTGCGCCAACCTGTTACCTTCTCTCCAGGCGCCACTGGACG  
 ACGCCCAGACAGAAAGAACAGCCGTTGACAAGTGAAGAGAGGGTCCGCGGTGACCTGC

901 ThrGlnGlyCysAsnCysSerIleTyrProGlyHisIleThrGlyHisArgMetAlaTrp  
 ACGCAAGGTGCAATTGCTCTATCTATCCCGGCCATATAACGGGTACCGCATGGCATGG  
 TCGTTCACACGTTAACGAGATAGATAGGGCCGGTATATTGCCAGTGGCGTACCGTACC

Val

961 AspMetMetMetAsnTrpSerProThrThrAlaLeuValMetAlaGlnLeuLeuArgIle  
 GATATGATGATGAACCTGGTCCCTACGACGGCGTTGGTAATGGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATC  
 CTATACTACTACTTGACCAGGGGATGCTGCCGCAACCATTACCGAGTCGACGAGGCCTAG

1021 ProGlnAlaIleLeuAspMetIleAlaGlyAlaHisTrpGlyValLeuAlaGlyIleAla  
 CCACAAGCCATCTTGGACATGATCGCTGGTGTCTACTGGGGAGTCCCTGGCGGGCATAGCG  
 GGTGTTCCGGTAGAACCTGTACTAGCGACCACGAGTGACCCCTCAGGACCGCCCGTATCGC

1081 TyrPheSerMetValGlyAsnTrpAlaLysValLeuValValLeuLeuLeuPheAlaGly  
 TATTTCTCCATGGTGGGGAACCTGGGCGAAGGTCCCTGGTAGTGTGCTGCTATTTGCCGGC  
 ATAAAGAGGTACCACCCCTGACCCGCTTCCAGGACCATCACGACGACGATAAACGGCCG

1141 ValAspAlaGluThrHisValThrGlyGlySerAlaGlyHisThrValSerGlyPheVal  
 GTCGACGCGGAAACCCACGTACCCGGGGGAAGTGCCGGCCACACTGTGTCTGGATTTGTT  
 CAGCTGCGCCTTTGGGTGCAGTGGCCCCCTTACGGCCGGTGTGACACAGACCTAAACAA

1201 SerLeuLeuAlaProGlyAlaLysGlnAsnValGlnLeuIleAsnThrAsnGlySerTrp  
 AGCCTCCTCGCACCAGGCGCCAAGCAGAACGTCCAGCTGATCAACACCAACGGCAGTTGG  
 TCGGAGGAGCGTGGTCCGCGGTTCTGCTTGCAGGTGACTAGTTGTGGTTGCCGTCAACC

1261 HisLeuAsnSerThrAlaLeuAsnCysAsnAspSerLeuAsnThrGlyTrpLeuAlaGly  
 CACCTCAATAGCACGGCCCTGAACTGCAATGATAGCCTCAACACCGGCTGGTTGGCAGGG  
 GTGGAGTTATCGTGCCGGGACTTGACGTTACTATCGGAGTTGTGGCCGACCAACCGTCCC

1321 LeuPheTyrHisHisLysPheAsnSerSerGlyCysProGluArgLeuAlaSerCysArg  
 CTTTTCTATCACCACAAGTTCAACTCTTCCAGGCTGTCTGAGAGGCTAGCCAGCTGCCGA  
 GAAAAGATAGTGGTGTCAAGTTGAGAAGTCCGACAGGACTCTCCGATCGGTGACGGCT

1381 ProLeuThrAspPheAspGlnGlyTrpGlyProIleSerTyrAlaAsnGlySerGlyPro  
 CCCCTTACCGATTTTGACCAGGGCTGGGGCCCTATCAGTTATGCCAACGGAAGCGGCCCC  
 GGGGAATGGCTAAACTGGTCCCGACCCCGGGATAGTCAATACGGTTGCCTTCGCCGGGG

1441 AspGlnArgProTyrCysTrpHisTyrProProLysProCysGlyIleValProAlaLys  
 GACCAGCGCCCTACTGCTGGCACTACCCCCAAAACCTTGGCGGTATTGTGCCCGCGAAG  
 CTGGTCCGCGGGGATGACGACCGTGATGGGGGGTTTTGGAACGCCATAACACGGGCGCTTC

## FIG. 18-3

- 1501 SerValCysGlyProValTyrCysPheThrProSerProValValValGlyThrThrAsp  
 AGTGTGTGTGGTCCGGTATATTGCTTCACTCCCAGCCCCGTGGTGGTGGGAACGACCGAC  
 TCACACACACCAGGCCATATAACGAAGTGAGGGTCGGGGCACCACCACCCTTGCTGGCTG
- 1561 ArgSerGlyAlaProThrTyrSerTrpGlyGluAsnAspThrAspValPheValLeuAsn  
 AGGTCGGGCGCGCCACCTACAGCTGGGGTGAAAATGATACGGACGTCTTCGTCTTAAC  
 TCCAGCCCCGCGGGTGGATGTCGACCCCACTTTTACTATGCCTGCAGAAGCAGGAATTG  
 AsnThrArgProProLeuGlyAsnTrpPheGlyCysThrTrpMetAsnSerThrGlyPhe
- 1621 AATACCAGGCCACCGCTGGGCAATTGGTTCGGTTGTACCTGGATGAACTCAACTGGATTG  
 TTATGGTCCGGTGGCGACCCGTTAACCAAGCCAACATGGACCTACTTGAGTTGACCTAAG
- 1681 ThrLysValCysGlyAlaProProCysValIleGlyGlyAlaGlyAsnAsnThrLeuHis  
 ACCAAAGTGTGCGGAGCGCCTCCTTGTGTCATCGGAGGGGCGGGCAACAACACCCTGCAC  
 TGGTTTCACACGCCTCGCGGAGGAACACAGTAGCCTCCCCGCCCGTTGTTGTGGGACGTG
- 1741 CysProThrAspCysPheArgLysHisProAspAlaThrTyrSerArgCysGlySerGly  
 TGCCCCACTGATTGCTTCCGCAAGCATCCGGACGCCACATACTCTCGGTGCGGCTCCGGT  
 ACGGGGTGACTAACGAAGGCGTTCGTAGGCCTGCGGTGTATGAGAGCCACGCCGAGGCCA
- Ile
- 1801 ProTrpLeuThrProArgCysLeuValAspTyrProTyrArgLeuTrpHisTyrProCys  
 CCCTGGATCACACCCAGGTGCCTGGTCGACTACCCGTATAGGCTTTGGCATTATCCTTGT  
 GGGACCTAGTGTGGGTCCACGGACCAGCTGATGGGCATATCCGAAACCGTAATAGGAACA
- 1861 ThrIleAsnTyrThrIlePheLysIleArgMetTyrValGlyGlyValGluHisArgLeu  
 ACCATCAACTACCCATATTTAAATCAGGATGTACGTGGGAGGGGTGCAACACAGGCTG  
 TGGTAGTTGATGTGGTATAAATTTTAGTCTACATGCACCCTCCCCAGCTTGTGTCCGAC
- 1921 GluAlaAlaCysAsnTrpThrArgGlyGluArgCysAspLeuGluAspArgAspArgSer  
 GAAGCTGCCTGCAACTGGACGCGGGCGAACGTTGCGATCTGGAAGACAGGGACAGGTCC  
 CTCGACGGACGTTGACCTGCGCCCCGCTTGCAACGCTAGACCTTCTGTCCCTGTCCAGG
- 1981 GluLeuSerProLeuLeuLeuThrThrThrGlnTrpGlnValLeuProCysSerPheThr  
 GAGCTCAGCCCGTTACTGCTGACCACTACACAGTGGCAGGTCTCCCGTGTTCCTTACAC  
 CTCGAGTCGGGCAATGACGACTGGTGTGTGTACCCTCCAGGAGGGCACAAGGAAGTGT
- 2041 ThrLeuProAlaLeuSerThrGlyLeuIleHisLeuHisGlnAsnIleValAspValGln  
 ACCCTACCAGCCTTGTCCACCGGCCTCATCCACCTCCACCAGAACATTGTGGACGTGCAG  
 TGGGATGGTCCGAACAGGTGGCCGGAGTAGGTGGAGGTGGTCTTGTAACACCTGCACGTC
- 2101 TyrLeuTyrGlyValGlySerSerIleAlaSerTrpAlaIleLysTrpGluTyrValVal  
 TACTTGTACGGGTGGGGTCAAGCATCGCGTCTGGGCCATTAAGTGGGAGTACGTGCTT  
 ATGAACATGCCCCACCCAGTTCGTAGCGCAGGACCCGGTAATTCACCCTCATGCAGCAA
- 2161 LeuLeuPheLeuLeuLeuAlaAspAlaArgValCysSerCysLeuTrpMetMetLeuLeu  
 CTCCTGTTCTTCTGCTTGCAGACGCGCGCTCTGCTCCTGCTTGTGGATGATGCTACTC  
 GAGGACAAGGAAGACGAACGCTGCGCGCGCAGACGAGGACGAACACCTACTACGATGAG
- 2221 IleSerGlnAlaGluAlaAlaLeuGluAsnLeuValIleLeuAsnAlaAlaSerLeuAla  
 ATATCCCAAGCGGAGGCGGCTTTGGAGAACCCTCGTAATACTTAATGCAGCATCCCTGGCC  
 TATAGGGTTCGCCTCCGCCGAAACCTCTTGAGCATTATGAATTACGTCTGATAGGACCGG
- 2281 GlyThrHisGlyLeuValSerPheLeuValPhePheCysPheAlaTrpTyrLeuLysGly  
 GGGACGCACGGTCTTGTATCCTTCTCGTGTCTTCTGCTTTGCATGGTATTTGAAGGGT  
 CCCTGCGTGCCAGAACATAGGAAGGAGCACAAGAAGACGAACGTACCATAAACTTCCCA
- 2341 LysTrpValProGlyAlaValTyrThrPheTyrGlyMetTrpProLeuLeuLeuLeuLeu  
 AAGTGGGTGCCCCGAGCGGTCTACACCTTCTACGGGATGTGGCCTCTCCTCCTGCTCCTG  
 TTCACCCACGGGCTCGCCAGATGTGGAAGATGCCCTACACCGGAGAGGAGGACGAGGAC

# FIG. 18-4

2401 LeuAlaLeuProGlnArgAlaTyrAlaLeuAspThrGluValAlaAlaSerCysGlyGly  
 TTGGCGTTGCCCCAGCGGGCGTACGCGCTGGACACGGAGGTGGCCGCGTCTGTGGCGGT  
 AACCGCAACGGGGTCGCCCGCATGCGCGACCTGTGCTCCACCGGGCGAGCACACCGCCA

2461 ValValLeuValGlyLeuMetAlaLeuThrLeuSerProTyrTyrLysArgTyrIleSer  
 GTTGTTCGTCGGGTTGATGGCGCTGACTCTGTACCATATTACAAGCGCTATATCAGC  
 CAACAAGAGCAGCCCACTACCGGACTGAGACAGTGGTATAATGTTCGGGATATAGTCG

(Asn)

2521 TrpCysLeuTrpTrpLeuGlnTyrPheLeuThrArgValGluAlaGlnLeuHisValTrp  
 TGGTGCTTGTGGTGGCTTCAGTATTTTCTGACCAGAGTGGAAAGCGCAACTGCACGTGTGG  
 ACCACGAACACCACCGAAGTCATAAAAGACTGGTCTCACCTTCGCGTTGACGTGCACACC

2581 IleProProLeuAsnValArgGlyGlyArgAspAlaValIleLeuLeuMetCysAlaVal  
 ATTCCCCCCTCAACGTCCGAGGGGGGCGCGACGCCGTCATCTTACTCATGTGTGCTGTA  
 TAAGGGGGGAGTTGCAGGCTCCCCCGCGCTGCGGCAGTAGAATGAGTACACACGACAT

2641 HisProThrLeuValPheAspIleThrLysLeuLeuLeuAlaValPheGlyProLeuTrp  
 CACCCGACTCTGGTATTTGACATCACCAAATTGCTGCTGGCCGTCTTCGGACCCCTTTGG  
 GTGGGCTGAGACCATAAACTGTAGTGGTTAAACGACGACCGGCAGAAGCCTGGGGAAACC

2701 IleLeuGlnAlaSerLeuLeuLysValProTyrPheValArgValGlnGlyLeuLeuArg  
 ATTCTTCAAGCCAGTTTGCTTAAAGTACCCTACTTTGTGCGCGTCCAAGGCCTTCTCCGG  
 TAAGAAGTTCGGTCAAACGAATTTTCATGGGATGAAACACGCGCAGGTTCCGGGAAGAGGCC

2761 PheCysAlaLeuAlaArgLysMetIleGlyGlyHisTyrValGlnMetValIleIleLys  
 TTCTGCGCGTTAGCGCGGAAGATGATCGGAGGCCATTACGTGCAAATGGTTCATCATTAAG  
 AAGACGCGCAATCGCGCCTTCTACTAGCCTCCGGTAATGCACGTTTACCAGTAGTAATTC

2821 LeuGlyAlaLeuThrGlyThrTyrValTyrAsnHisLeuThrProLeuArgAspTrpAla  
 TTAGGGGCGCTTACTGGCACCTATGTTTATAACCATCTCACTCCTCTTCGGGACTGGGCG  
 AATCCCCGGAATGACCGTGATACAAATATTGGTAGAGTGAGGAGAAGCCCTGACCCCG

2881 HisAsnGlyLeuArgAspLeuAlaValAlaValGluProValValPheSerGlnMetGlu  
 CACAACGGCTTGGGAGATCTGGCCGTGGCTGTAGAGCCAGTCGTCTTCTCCCAAATGGAG  
 GTGTTGCCGAACGCTCTAGACCGGCACCGACATCTCGGTCAGCAGAAGAGGGTTACCTC

2941 ThrLysLeuIleThrTrpGlyAlaAspThrAlaAlaCysGlyAspIleIleAsnGlyLeu  
 ACCAAGCTCATCACGTGGGGGGCAGATACCGCCGCGTGCGGTGACATCATCAACGGCTTG  
 TGGTTCGAGTAGTGCACCCCCGCTATGGCGGCGCACGCCACTGTAGTAGTTGCCGAAC

3001 ProValSerAlaArgArgGlyArgGluIleLeuLeuGlyProAlaAspGlyMetValSer  
 CCTGTTCCGCCCCGAGGGGGCGGGAGATACTGCTCGGGCCAGCCGATGGAATGGTCTCC  
 GGACAAAGGCGGGCGTCCCCGGCCCTCTATGACGAGCCCGGTGCGCTACCTTACCAGAGG

3061 LysGlyTrpArgLeuLeuAlaProIleThrAlaTyrAlaGlnGlnThrArgGlyLeuLeu  
 AAGGGGTGGAGGTTGCTGGCGCCCATCACGGCGTACGCCAGCAGACAAGGGGCTCCTA  
 TTCCCCACCTCCAACGACCGGGGTAGTGCCGATGCGGGTTCGTCTGTTCCCCGGAGGAT

3121 GlyCysIleIleThrSerLeuThrGlyArgAspLysAsnGlnValGluGlyGluValGln  
 GGGTGCATAATCACCAGCCTAACTGGCCGGGACAAAACCAAGTGGAGGGTGAGGTCCAG  
 CCCACGTATTAGTGGTTCGGATTGACCGGCCCTGTTTTTGGTTACCTCCCACTCCAGTCC

3181 IleValSerThrAlaAlaGlnThrPheLeuAlaThrCysIleAsnGlyValCysTrpThr  
 ATTGTGTCAACTGCTGCCCAAACCTTCTGGCAACGTGCATCAATGGGGTGTGCTGGACT  
 TAACACAGTTGACGACGGGTTTGAAGGACCGTTGCACGTAGTTACCCACACGACCTGA

3241 ValTyrHisGlyAlaGlyThrArgThrIleAlaSerProLysGlyProValIleGlnMet  
 GTCTACCACGGGGCCGGAACGAGGACCATCGCGTCAACCAAGGGTCTGTCCATCCAGATG  
 CAGATGGTGGCCCCGGCCTTGCTCCTGGTAGCGCAGTGGGTTCCAGGACAGTAGGTCTAC

## FIG. 18-5

- Ser      Thr
- 3301 TyrThrAsnValAspGlnAspLeuValGlyTrpProAlaProGlnGlySerArgSerLeu  
TATACCAATGTAGACCAAGACCTTGTGGGCTGGCCCCGCTCCGCAAGGTAGCCGCTCATTG  
ATATGGTTACATCTGGTTCTGGAACACCCGACCGGGCGAGGCGTTCATCGGCGAGTAAC
- 3361 ThrProCysThrCysGlySerSerAspLeuTyrLeuValThrArgHisAlaAspValIle  
ACACCCTGCACTTGC GGCTCCTCGGACCTTTACCTGGTCACGAGGCACGCCGATGTCATT  
TGTGGGACGTGAACGCCGAGGAGCCTGGAAATGGACCAGTGCTCCGTGCGGCTACAGTAA
- 3421 ProValArgArgArgGlyAspSerArgGlySerLeuLeuSerProArgProIleSerTyr  
CCCGTGC GCCGGGGGTGATAGCAGGGGCGACCTGCTGTCGCCCGGCCATTTCCTAC  
GGGCACGCCGCCGCCACTATCGTCCCGTCCGACGACAGCGGGGCCGGTAAAGGATG
- 3481 LeuLysGlySerSerGlyGlyProLeuLeuCysProAlaGlyHisAlaValGlyIlePhe  
TTGAAAGGCTCCTCGGGGGTCCGCTGTTGTGCCCGCGGGGCACGCCGTGGGCATATTT  
AACTTCCGAGGAGCCCCCAGGCGACAACACGGGGCGCCCCGTGCGGCACCCGTATAAA
- 3541 ArgAlaAlaValCysThrArgGlyValAlaLysAlaValAspPheIleProValGluAsn  
AGGGCCGCGGTGTGCACCCGTGGAGTGGCTAAGGCGGTGGACTTTATCCCTGTGGAGAAC  
TCCCGGCCACACAGTGGGCACCTCACCGATTCCGCCACCTGAAATAGGGACACCTCTTG
- 3601 LeuGluThrThrMetArgSerProValPheThrAspAsnSerSerProProValValPro  
CTAGAGACAACCATGAGGTCCCCGGTGTTCACGGATAACTCCTCTCCACCAGTAGTGCCC  
GATCTCTGTTGGTACTCCAGGGGCCACAAGTGCCCTATTGAGGAGAGGTGGTCATCACGGG
- 3661 GlnSerPheGlnValAlaHisLeuHisAlaProThrGlySerGlyLysSerThrLysVal  
CAGAGCTTCCAGGTGGCTCACCTCCATGCTCCCACAGGCAGCGGCAAAGCACCAAGGTC  
GTCTCGAAGGTCCACCGAGTGGAGGTACGAGGGTGTCCGTGCGCGTTTTTCGTGGTTCCAG
- 3721 ProAlaAlaTyrAlaAlaGlnGlyTyrLysValLeuValLeuAsnProSerValAlaAla  
CCGGCTGCATATGCAGCTCAGGGCTATAAGGTGCTAGTACTCAACCCTCTGTTGCTGCA  
GGCCGACGTATACGTGAGTCCCGATATTCCAGGATCATGAGTTGGGGAGACAACGACGT
- Leu
- 3781 ThrLeuGlyPheGlyAlaTyrMetSerLysAlaHisGlyIleAspProAsnIleArgThr  
ACACTGGGCTTTGGTGCTTACATGTCCAAGGCTCATGGGATCGATCCTAACATCAGGACC  
TGFGACCCGAAACCACGAATGTACAGGTTCCGAGTACCCTAGCTAGGATTGTAGTCTCTGG
- 3841 GlyValArgThrIleThrThrGlySerProIleThrTyrSerThrTyrGlyLysPheLeu  
GGGGTGAGAACAATTACCACTGGCAGCCCCATCACGTACTCCACCTACGGCAAGTTCCTT  
CCCCACTCTTGTAAATGGTGACCGTCCGGGTAGTGATGAGGTGGATGCCGTTCAAGGAA
- 3901 AlaAspGlyGlyCysSerGlyGlyAlaTyrAspIleIleIleCysAspGluCysHisSer  
GCCGACGGCGGGTGCTCGGGGGCGCTTATGACATAATAATTTGTGACGAGTGCCACTCC  
CGGCTGCCGCCACGAGCCCCCGGAATACTGTATTATTAAACTGCTCACGGTGAGG
- (Val)
- 3961 ThrAspAlaThrSerIleLeuGlyIleGlyThrValLeuAspGlnAlaGluThrAlaGly  
ACGGATGCCACATCCATCTTGGGCATCGGCACTGTCCTTGACCAAGCAGAGACTGCCGGG  
TGCTACGGTGTAGGTAGAACCCGTAGCCGTGACAGGAAGTGGTTCGTCTCTGACGCCCC
- 4021 AlaArgLeuValValLeuAlaThrAlaThrProProGlySerValThrValProHisPro  
GCGAGACTGGTTGTGCTCGCCACCGCCACCCCTCCGGGCTCCGTCACCTGTGCCCATCCC  
CGCTCTGACCAACACGAGCGGTGGCGGTGGGGAGGCCCGAGGCACTGACACGGGGTAGGG
- 4081 AsnIleGluGluValAlaLeuSerThrThrGlyGluIleProPheTyrGlyLysAlaIle  
AACATCGAGGAGGTGCTCTGTCCACCACCGGAGAGATCCCTTTTTACGGCAAGGCTATC  
TTGTAGCTCCTCCAACGAGACAGGTGGTGGCCTCTCTAGGGAAAAATGCCGTTCCGATAG
- 4141 ProLeuGluValIleLysGlyGlyArgHisLeuIlePheCysHisSerLysLysLysCys  
CCCCTCGAAGTAATCAAGGGGGGAGACATCTCATCTTCTGTCATTCAAAGAAGAAGTGC  
GGGAGCTTCATTAGTTCCCCCCTCTGTAGAGTAGAAGACAGTAAGTTTCTTCTTCACG



# FIG. 18-6

- 4201 AspGluLeuAlaAlaLysLeuValAlaLeuGlyIleAsnAlaValAlaTyrTyrArgGly  
 GACGAACTCGCCGCAAAGCTGGTCGCATTGGGCATCAATGCCGTGGCCTACTACCGCGGT  
 CTGCTTGAGCGGCGTTTCGACCAGCGTAACCCGTAGTTACGGCACCGGATGATGGCGCCA
- 4261 LeuAspValSerValIleProThrSerGlyAspValValValAlaThrAspAlaLeu  
 CTTGACGTGTCCGTCATCCCACCAGCGGCGATGTTGTGTCGTGGCAACCGATGCCCTC  
 GAACTGCACAGGCAGTAGGGCTGGTCGCCGCTACAACAGCAGCACCGTTGGCTACGGGAG
- Tyr
- 4321 MetThrGlyTyrThrGlyAspPheAspSerValIleAspCysAsnThrCysValThrGln  
 ATGACCGGCTATACCGGCGACTTCGACTCGGTGATAGACTGCAATACGTGTGTACCCAG  
 TACTGGCCGATATGGCCGCTGAAGCTGAGCCACTATCTGACGTTATGCACACAGTGGGTC
- (Ser)
- 4381 ThrValAspPheSerLeuAspProThrPheThrIleGluThrIleThrLeuProGlnAsp  
 ACAGTCGATTTTCAGCCTTGACCCTACCTTCACCATTGAGACAATCACGCTCCCCCAGGAT  
 TGTCAGCTAAAGTCGGAAGTGGGATGGAAGTGGTAACTCTGTTAGTGCAGGGGGTCTTA
- 4441 AlaValSerArgThrGlnArgArgGlyArgThrGlyArgGlyLysProGlyIleTyrArg  
 GCTGTCTCCCGCACTCAACGTCGGGGCAGGACTGGCAGGGGGAAGCCAGGCATCTACAGA  
 CGACAGAGGGCGTGAGTTGCAGCCCCGTCCTGACCGTCCCCCTTCGGTCCGTAGATGTCT
- 4501 PheValAlaProGlyGluArgProSerGlyMetPheAspSerSerValLeuCysGluCys  
 TTTGTGGCACCAGGGGAGCGCCCTCCGGCATGTTCCGACTCGTCCGTCCTCTGTGAGTGC  
 AAACACCGTGGCCCCCTCGCGGGGAGGCCGTACAAGCTGAGCAGGCAGGAGACTCACC
- 4561 TyrAspAlaGlyCysAlaTrpTyrGluLeuThrProAlaGluThrThrValArgLeuArg  
 TATGACGCAGGCTGTGCTTGGTATGAGCTCACGCCCGCCGAGACTACAGTTAGGCTACGA  
 ATACTGCGTCCGACACGAACATACTCGAGTGCGGGCGGCTCTGATGTCAATCCGATGCT
- 4621 AlaTyrMetAsnThrProGlyLeuProValCysGlnAspHisLeuGluPheTrpGluGly  
 GCGTACATGAACACCCCGGGGCTTCCCGTGTGCCAGGACCATCTTGAATTTTGGGAGGGC  
 CGCATGTACTTGTGGGGCCCCGAAGGGCACACGGTCCTGGTAGAACTTAAACCCCTCCC
- 4681 ValPheThrGlyLeuThrHisIleAspAlaHisPheLeuSerGlnThrLysGlnSerGly  
 GTCTTTACAGGCCTCACTCATATAGATGCCCACTTTCTATCCAGACAAAGCAGAGTGGG  
 CAGAAATGTCCGGAGTGAGTATATCTACGGGTGAAAGATAGGGTCTGTTTCGTCTCACC
- 4741 GluAsnLeuProTyrLeuValAlaTyrGlnAlaThrValCysAlaArgAlaGlnAlaPro  
 GAGAACCTTCCTTACCTGGTAGCGTACCAAGCCACCGTGTGCGCTAGGGCTCAAGCCCT  
 CTCTTGAAGGAATGGACCATCGCATGGTTCGGTGGCACACCGGATCCCGAGTTCGGGGA
- 4801 ProProSerTrpAspGlnMetTrpLysCysLeuIleArgLeuLysProThrLeuHisGly  
 CCCCATCGTGGGACCAGATGTGGAAGTGTGTTGATTCCGCTCAAGCCCACCCCTCCATGGG  
 GGGGTAGCACCCCTGGTCTACACCTTCAAACTAAGCGGAGTTCGGGTGGGAGGTACCC
- 4861 ProThrProLeuLeuTyrArgLeuGlyAlaValGlnAsnGluIleThrLeuThrHisPro  
 CCAACACCCCTGCTATACAGACTGGGCGCTGTTTCAAGTAAATCACCCCTGACGCACCCA  
 GGTGTTGGGGACGATATGTCTGACCCGCGACAAGTCTTACTTTAGTGGGACTGCGTGGGT
- 4921 ValThrLysTyrIleMetThrCysMetSerAlaAspLeuGluValValThrSerThrTrp  
 GTCACCAAATACATCATGACATGCATGTCGGCCGACCTGGAGGTCGTACAGCAGCCTGG  
 CAGTGGTTTATGTAGTACTGTACGTACAGCCGGCTGGACCTCCAGCAGTGCTCGTGGACC
- 4981 ValLeuValGlyGlyValLeuAlaAlaLeuAlaAlaTyrCysLeuSerThrGlyCysVal  
 GTGCTCGTTGGCGGCGTCCTGGCTGCTTTGGCCGCGTATTGCCTGTCAACAGGCTGCGTG  
 CACGAGCAACCGCCGAGGACCGACGAAACCGGCGCATAACGGACAGTTGTCCGACGCAC
- 5041 ValIleValGlyArgValValLeuSerGlyLysProAlaIleIleProAspArgGluVal  
 GTCATAGTGGGCAGGGTCGTCTTGTCCGGGAAGCCGGCAATCATACCTGACAGGGAAGTC  
 CAGTATACCCGTCACGACGAGAACAGGCCCTTCGGCCGTTAGTATGGACTGTCCCTTCAG

## FIG. 18-7

- 5101 LeuTyrArgGluPheAspGluMetGluGluCysSerGlnHisLeuProTyrIleGluGln  
CTCTACCGAGAGTTCGATGAGATGGAAGAGTGCTCTCAGCACTTACCGTACATCGAGCAA  
GAGATGGCTCTCAAGCTACTCTACCTTCTCAGAGAGTCGTGAATGGCATGTAGCTCGTT
- 5161 GlyMetMetLeuAlaGluGlnPheLysGlnLysAlaLeuGlyLeuLeuGlnThrAlaSer  
GGGATGATGCTCGCCGAGCAGTTCAAGCAGAAGGCCCTCGGCCTCCTGCAGACCGCGTCC  
CCCTACTACGAGCGGCTCGTCAAGTTCGTCTTCCGGGAGCCGGAGGACGTCTGGCGCAGG
- 5221 ArgGlnAlaGluValIleAlaProAlaValGlnThrAsnTrpGlnLysLeuGluThrPhe  
CGTCAGGCAGAGGTTATCGCCCCTGCTGTCCAGACCAACTGGCAAAAACCTCGAGACCTTC  
GCAGTCCGTCTCCAATAGCGGGGACGACAGGTCTGGTTGACCGTTTTTGGAGCTCTGGAAG
- 5281 TrpAlaLysHisMetTrpAsnPheIleSerGlyIleGlnTyrLeuAlaGlyLeuSerThr  
TGGGCGAAGCATATGTGGAACCTCATCAGTGGGATACAATACTTGGCGGGCTTGTC AACG  
ACCCGCTTCGTATACACCTTGAAGTAGTACCCTATGTTATGAACCGCCCGAACAGTTGC
- 5341 LeuProGlyAsnProAlaIleAlaSerLeuMetAlaPheThrAlaAlaValThrSerPro  
CTGCCTGGTAACCCCGCCATTGCTTCATTGATGGCTTTTACAGCTGCTGTCCAGCCCA  
GACGGACCATTGGGGCGGTAACGAAGTAACTACCGAAAATGTCGACGACAGTGGTCGGGT
- 5401 LeuThrThrSerGlnThrLeuLeuPheAsnIleLeuGlyGlyTrpValAlaAlaGlnLeu  
CTAACCACTAGCCAAACCCTCCTCTTCAACATATTGGGGGGGTGGGTGGCTGCCAGCTC  
GATTGGTGATCGGTTTGGGAGGAGAAGTTGTATAACCCCCCACCACCGACGGGTCGAG
- 5461 AlaAlaProGlyAlaAlaThrAlaPheValGlyAlaGlyLeuAlaGlyAlaAlaIleGly  
GCCGCCCCCGGTGCCGCTACTGCCTTTGTGGGCGCTGGCTTAGCTGGCGCCGCCATCGGC  
CGGCGGGGGCCACGGCGATGACGGAAACACCCGCGACCGAATCGACCGCGGCGGTAGCCG
- 5521 SerValGlyLeuGlyLysValLeuIleAspIleLeuAlaGlyTyrGlyAlaGlyValAla  
AGTGTGGACTGGGGAAGGTCCATAGACATCCTTGCAGGGTATGGCGCGGGCGTGGCG  
TCACAACCTGACCCCTTCCAGGAGTATCTGTAGGAACGTCCATAACCGCGCCCGCACCCG
- (Gly)
- 5581 GlyAlaLeuValAlaPheLysIleMetSerGlyGluValProSerThrGluAspLeuVal  
GGAGCTCTTGTGGCATTCAAGATCATGAGCGGTGAGGTCCCCTCCACGGAGGACCTGGTC  
CCTCGAGAACACCGTAAGTCTTAGTACTCGCCACTCCAGGGGAGGTGCCTCCTGGACCAG
- 5641 AsnLeuLeuProAlaIleLeuSerProGlyAlaLeuValValGlyValValCysAlaAla  
AATCTACTGCCCGCCATCCTCTCGCCCGGAGCCCTCGTAGTCGGCGTGGTCTGTGCAGCA  
TTAGATGACGGGCGGTAGGAGAGCGGGCCTCGGGAGCATCAGCCGCACCAGACACGTCGT
- 5701 IleLeuArgArgHisValGlyProGlyGluGlyAlaValGlnTrpMetAsnArgLeuIle  
ATACTGCGCCGGCACGTTGGCCCCGGGCGAGGGGGCAGTGCAGTGGATGAACCGGCTGATA  
TATGACGCGGCCGTGCAACCGGGCCCGCTCCCCCGTCACGTCACCTACTTGGCCGACTAT
- 5761 AlaPheAlaSerArgGlyAsnHisValSerProThrHisTyrValProGluSerAspAla  
GCCTTCGCCTCCCGGGGAACCATGTTTCCCCACGCACTACGTGCCGGAGAGCGATGCA  
CGGAAGCGGAGGGCCCCCTTGGTACAAAGGGGGTGGTGTATGCACGGCCTCTCGCTACGT
- (HisCys)
- 5821 AlaAlaArgValThrAlaIleLeuSerSerLeuThrValThrGlnLeuLeuArgArgLeu  
GCTGCCCCGCTCACTGCCATACTCAGCAGCCTCACTGTAACCCAGCTCCTGAGGCGACTG  
CGACGGGCGCAGTGACGGTATGAGTCGTGCGAGTGACATTGGGTGAGGACTCCGCTGAC
- 5881 HisGlnTrpIleSerSerGluCysThrThrProCysSerGlySerTrpLeuArgAspIle  
CACCAGTGGATAAGCTCGGAGTGTACCACTCCATGCTCCGGTTCTGGCTAAGGGACATC  
GTGGTCACCTATTCGAGCCTCACATGGTGAGGTACGAGGCCAAGGACCGATTCCCTGTAG
- 5941 TrpAspTrpIleCysGluValLeuSerAspPheLysThrTrpLeuLysAlaLysLeuMet  
TGGGACTGGATATGCGAGGTGTTGAGCGACTTTAAGACCTGGCTAAAAGCTAAGCTCATG  
ACCCTGACCTATACGCTCCACAACCTCGCTGAAATTCTGGACCGATTTTCGATTGAGTAC

# FIG. 18-8

6001 ProGlnLeuProGlyIleProPheValSerCysGlnArgGlyTyrLysGlyValTrpArg  
 CCACAGCTGCCTGGGATCCCCTTTGTGTCTGCGCAGCGGGGTATAAGGGGGTCTGGCGA  
 GGTGTGACGGACCCTAGGGGAAACACAGGACGGTTCGCGCCCATATCCCCAGACCGCT  
 (Val)  
 6061 GlyAspGlyIleMetHisThrArgCysHisCysGlyAlaGluIleThrGlyHisValLys  
 GTGGACGGCATCATGCACACTCGCTGCCACTGTGGAGCTGAGATCACTGGACATGTCAA  
 CACCTGCCGTAGTACGTGTGAGCGACGGTGACACCTCGACTCTAGTGACCTGTACAGTTT  
 6121 AsnGlyThrMetArgIleValGlyProArgThrCysArgAsnMetTrpSerGlyThrPhe  
 AACGGGACGATGAGGATCGTCGGTCTAGGACCTGCAGGAACATGTGGAGTGGGACCTTC  
 TTGCCCTGCTACTCCTAGCAGCCAGGATCCTGGACGTCCTTGACACCTCACCTGGAAG  
 6181 ProIleAsnAlaTyrThrThrGlyProCysThrProLeuProAlaProAsnTyrThrPhe  
 CCCATTAATGCCTACACCACGGGCCCTGTACCCCCCTTCCTGCGCCGAACACTACAGTTC  
 GGGTAATTACGGATGTGGTGCCTGGGACATGGGGGAAGGACGCGGCTTGATGTGCAAG  
 6241 AlaLeuTrpArgValSerAlaGluGluTyrValGluIleArgGlnValGlyAspPheHis  
 GCGCTATGGAGGGTGTCTGCAGAGGAATATGTGGAGATAAGGCAGGTGGGGGACTCCAC  
 CGCGATACCTCCCACAGACGTCTCCTTATACACCTCTATTCCGTCCACCCCTGAAGGTG  
 6301 TyrValThrGlyMetThrThrAspAsnLeuLysCysProCysGlnValProSerProGlu  
 TACGTGACGGGTATGACTACTGACAATCTCAAATGCCCGTCCAGGTCCCATCGCCCGAA  
 ATGCACTGCCCATACTGATGACTGTTAGAGTTTACGGGCACGGTCCAGGGTAGCGGGCTT  
 6361 PhePheThrGluLeuAspGlyValArgLeuHisArgPheAlaProProCysLysProLeu  
 TTTTTCACAGAATTGGACGGGGTGCGCCTACATAGGTTTGCGCCCCCTGCAAGCCCTTG  
 AAAAGTGTCTTAACCTGCCCCACGCGGATGTATCAAACGCGGGGGGACGTTCCGGGAAC  
 LeuArgGluGluValSerPheArgValGlyLeuHisGluTyrProValGlySerGlnLeu  
 6421 CTGCGGGAGGAGGTATCATTACAGAGTAGGACTCCACGAATACCCGGTAGGGTTCGAATTA  
 GACGCCCTCCTCCATAGTAAGTCTCATCCTGAGGTGCTTATGGGCCATCCAGCGTTAAT  
 6481 ProCysGluProGluProAspValAlaValLeuThrSerMetLeuThrAspProSerHis  
 CCTTGCAGCCCGAACCAGGACGTGGCCGTGTGACGTCCATGCTCACTGATCCCTCCCAT  
 GGAACGCTCGGGCTTGGCCTGCACCGGCACAACACTGCAGGTACGAGTGACTAGGGAGGGTA  
 6541 IleThrAlaGluAlaAlaGlyArgArgLeuAlaArgGlySerProProSerValAlaSer  
 ATAACAGCAGAGGCGGCCGGCGAAGGTTGGCGAGGGGATCACCCCTCTGTGGCCAGC  
 TATTGTCGTCTCCGCCGGCCGCTTCCAACCGCTCCCTAGTGGGGGGAGACACCGGTGCG  
 6601 SerSerAlaSerGlnLeuSerAlaProSerLeuLysAlaThrCysThrAlaAsnHisAsp  
 TCCTCGGCTAGCCAGCTATCCGCTCCATCTCTCAAGGCAACTTGCACCGCTAACCATGAC  
 AGGAGCCGATCGGTTCGATAGCCGAGGTAGAGAGTTCGGTTGAACGTGGCGATTGGTACTG  
 6661 SerProAspAlaGluLeuIleGluAlaAsnLeuLeuTrpArgGlnGluMetGlyGlyAsn  
 TCCCCTGATGCTGAGCTCATAGAGGCCAACCTCCTATGGAGGCAGGAGATGGGCGGCAAC  
 AGGGGACTACGACTCGAGTATCTCCGGTTGGAGGATACCTCCGTCTCTACCCGCGGTTG  
 6721 IleThrArgValGluSerGluAsnLysValValIleLeuAspSerPheAspProLeuVal  
 ATCACCAGGGTTGAGTCAGAAAACAAAGTGGTGATTCTGGACTCCTTCGATCCGCTTGTG  
 TAGTGGTCCCAACTCAGTCTTTTGTTCACCACTAAGACCTGAGGAAGCTAGGCGAACAC  
 6781 AlaGluGluAspGluArgGluIleSerValProAlaGluIleLeuArgLysSerArgArg  
 GCGGAGGAGGACGAGCGGGAGATCTCCGTACCCGAGAAATCCTGCGGAAGTCTCGGAGA  
 CGCCTCCTCCTGCTCGCCCTCTAGAGGCATGGGCGTCTTTAGGACGCCTTCAGAGCCTCT  
 6841 PheAlaGlnAlaLeuProValTrpAlaArgProAspTyrAsnProProLeuValGluThr  
 TTCGCCCAGGCCCTGCCGTTTGGGCGCGCCGGACTATAACCCCCCGTAGTGGAGACG  
 AAGCGGGTCCGGGACGGGCAAACCCGCGCCGCTGATATTGGGGGGGATCACCTCTGC

## FIG. 18-9

6901 TrpLysLysProAspTyrGluProProValValHisGlyCysProLeuProProProLys  
TGGAAAAGCCCGACTACGAACCACCTGTGGTCCATGGCTGTCCGCTTCCACCTCCAAAG  
ACCTTTTTTCGGGCTGATGCTTGGTGGACACCAGGTACCGACAGGCGAAGGTGGAGGTTTC

6961 SerProProValProProProArgLysLysArgThrValValLeuThrGluSerThrLeu  
TCCCCTCCTGTGCCTCCGCCTCGGAAGAAGCGGACGGTGGTCCTCACTGAATCAACCCTA  
AGGGGAGGACACGGAGGCGGAGCCTTCTTCGCCTGCCACCAGGAGTGACTTAGTTGGGAT

(Ser)

7021 SerThrAlaLeuAlaGluLeuAlaThrArgSerPheGlySerSerSerThrSerGlyIle  
TCTACTGCCTTGGCCGAGCTCGCCACCAGAAGCTTGGCAGCTCCTCAACTTCCGGCATT  
AGATGACCGAACC GGCTCGAGCGGTGGTCTTCGAAACCGTCGAGGAGTTGAAGGCCGTAA

7081 ThrGlyAspAsnThrThrThrSerSerGluProAlaProSerGlyCysProProAspSer  
ACGGGCGACAATACGACAACATCCTCTGAGCCCGCCCCTTCTGGCTGCCCCCCGACTCC  
TGCCCGCTGTTATGCTGTTGTAGGAGACTCGGGCGGGGAAGACCGACGGGGGGGCTGAGG

(PheAla)

7141 AspAlaGluSerTyrSerSerMetProProLeuGluGlyGluProGlyAspProAspLeu  
GACGCTGAGTCCTATTCTCCATGCCCCCTGGAGGGGGAGCCTGGGGATCCGGATCTT  
CTGCGACTCAGGATAAGGAGGTACGGGGGGGACCTCCCCCTCGGACCCCTAGGCCTAGAA

7201 SerAspGlySerTrpSerThrValSerSerGluAlaAsnAlaGluAspValValCysCys  
AGCGACGGGTCATGGTCAACGGTCAGTAGTGAGGCCAACGCGGAGGATGTCGTGTGCTGC  
TCGCTGCCAGTACCAGTTGCCAGTCATCACTCCGGTTGCGCCTCCTACAGCACACGACG

7261 SerMetSerTyrSerTrpThrGlyAlaLeuValThrProCysAlaAlaGluGluGlnLys  
TCAATGTCTTACTCTTGGACAGGCGCACTCGTCACCCCGTGCGCCGCGGAAGAACAGAAA  
AGTTACAGAATGAGAACCTGTCCGCGTGAGCAGTGGGGCACGCGGCGCCTTCTTGTCTTT

7321 LeuProIleAsnAlaLeuSerAsnSerLeuLeuArgHisHisAsnLeuValTyrSerThr  
CTGCCCATCAATGCACTAAGCAACTCGTTGCTACGTCACCACAATTTGGTGTATTCCACC  
GACGGGTAGTTACGTGATTCGTTGAGCAACGATGCAGTGGTGTAAACCACATAAGGTGG

7381 ThrSerArgSerAlaCysGlnArgGlnLysLysValThrPheAspArgLeuGlnValLeu  
ACCTCACGCAGTGCTTGCCAAAGGCAGAAGAAAGTCACATTTGACAGACTGCAAGTTCTG  
TGGAGTGCGTCACGAACGGTTTCCGTCTTCTTTCAGTGTAACCTGTCTGACGTTCAAGAC

7441 AspSerHisTyrGlnAspValLeuLysGluValLysAlaAlaAlaSerLysValLysAla  
GACAGCCATTACCAGGACGTACTCAAGGAGGTTAAAGCAGCGGCGTCAAAAGTGAAGGCT  
CTGTCCGTAATGGTCCCTGCATGAGTTCCTCCAATTCGTCCGCCGAGTTTTCACTCCGA

(Phe)

7501 AsnLeuLeuSerValGluGluAlaCysSerLeuThrProProHisSerAlaLysSerLys  
AACTTGCTATCCGTAGAGGAAGCTTGCAGCCTGACGCCCCCACTCAGCCAAATCCAAG  
TTGAACGATAGGCATCTCCTTCGAACGTCGGACTGCGGGGGTGTGAGTCGGTTTAGGTTT

7561 PheGlyTyrGlyAlaLysAspValArgCysHisAlaArgLysAlaValThrHisIleAsn  
TTTGGTTATGGGGCAAAGACGTCCGTTGCCATGCCAGAAAGGCCGTAACCCACATCAAC  
AAACCAATACCCCGTTTTCTGCAGGCAACGGTACGGTCTTTCGGCATTGGGTGTAGTTG

7621 SerValTrpLysAspLeuLeuGluAspAsnValThrProIleAspThrThrIleMetAla  
TCCGTGTGGAAAGACCTTCTGGAAGACAATGTAACACCAATAGACACTACCATCATGGCT  
AGGCACACCTTCTGGAAGACCTTCTGTTACATTGTGGTTATCTGTGATGGTAGTACCGA

7681 LysAsnGluValPheCysValGlnProGluLysGlyGlyArgLysProAlaArgLeuIle  
AAGAACGAGGTTTTCTGCGTTCAGCCTGAGAAGGGGGGTCGTAAGCCAGCTCGTCTCATC  
TTCTTGCTCCAAAAGACGCAAGTCGGACTCTTCCCCCAGCATTCGGTCGAGCAGAGTAG

# FIG. 18-10

7741 ValPheProAspLeuGlyValArgValCysGluLysMetAlaLeuTyrAspValValThr  
 GTGTTCCCGATCTGGGCGTGCGCGTGTGCGAAAAGATGGCTTTGTACGACGTGGTTACA  
 CACAAGGGGCTAGACCCGCACGCGCACACGCTTTTCTACCGAAACATGCTGCACCAATGT

7801 LysLeuProLeuAlaValMetGlySerSerTyrGlyPheGlnTyrSerProGlyGlnArg  
 AAGCTCCCTTGGCCGTGATGGGAAGCTCCTACGGATTCCAATACTCACCAGGACAGCGG  
 TTCGAGGGGAACCGGCACTACCCTTCGAGGATGCCTAAGGTTATGAGTGGTCCCTGTCGCC

7861 ValGluPheLeuValGlnAlaTrpLysSerLysLysThrProMetGlyPheSerTyrAsp  
 GTTGAATTCCTCGTGCAAGCGTGAAGTCCAAGAAAACCCCAATGGGGTTCTCGTATGAT  
 CAACTAAGGAGCACGTTTCGCACCTTCAGGTTCTTTTGGGGTTACCCCAAGAGCATACTA

7921 ThrArgCysPheAspSerThrValThrGluSerAspIleArgThrGluGluAlaIleTyr  
 ACCCGCTGCTTTGACTCCACAGTCACTGAGAGCGACATCCGTACGGAGGAGGCAATCTAC  
 TGGGCGACGAAACTGAGGTGTCAGTCACTCTCGCTGTAGGCATGCCTCCTCCGTTAGATG

7981 GlnCysCysAspLeuAspProGlnAlaArgValAlaIleLysSerLeuThrGluArgLeu  
 CAATGTTGTGACCTCGACCCCAAGCCCGCGTGGCCATCAAGTCCCTCACCAGAGGCTT  
 GTTACAACACTGGAGCTGGGGGTTTCGGGCGCACCGGTAGTTCAGGGAGTGGCTCTCCGAA

(Gly)

8041 TyrValGlyGlyProLeuThrAsnSerArgGlyGluAsnCysGlyTyrArgArgCysArg  
 TATGTTGGGGGCCCTCTTACCAATTCAAGGGGGGAGAAGTGCAGGCTATCGCAGGTGCCGC  
 ATACAACCCCGGGAGAATGGTTAAGTTCCTCCCTCTTGACGCCGATAGCGTCCACGGCG

8101 AlaSerGlyValLeuThrThrSerCysGlyAsnThrLeuThrCysTyrIleLysAlaArg  
 GCGAGCGGCGTACTGACAACCTAGCTGTGGTAACACCCTCACTTGCTACATCAAGGCCCGG  
 CGCTCGCCGCATGACTGTTGATCGACACCATTGTGGGAGTGAACGATGTAGTTCGGGGCC

8161 AlaAlaCysArgAlaAlaGlyLeuGlnAspCysThrMetLeuValCysGlyAspAspLeu  
 GCAGCCTGTCGAGCCGCAGGGCTCCAGGACTGCACCATGCTCGTGTGTGGCGACGACTTA  
 CGTCGGACAGCTCGGCGTCCCGAGGTCTGACGTGGTACGAGCACACACCCTGCTGAAT

8221 ValValIleCysGluSerAlaGlyValGlnGluAspAlaAlaSerLeuArgAlaPheThr  
 GTCGTTATCTGTGAAAGCGCGGGGGTCCAGGAGGACGCGGCGAGCCTGAGAGCCTTCACG  
 CAGCAATAGACACTTTCGCGCCCCCAGGTCCTCCTGCGCCGCTCGGACTCTCGGAAGTGC

8281 GluAlaMetThrArgTyrSerAlaProProGlyAspProProGlnProGluTyrAspLeu  
 GAGGCTATGACCAGGTACTCCGCCCCCCTGGGGACCCCCACAACCAGAATACGACTTG  
 CTCCGATACTGGTCCATGAGGCGGGGGGACCCCTGGGGGGTGTGTTGCTTTATGCTGAAC

8341 GluLeuIleThrSerCysSerSerAsnValSerValAlaHisAspGlyAlaGlyLysArg  
 GAGCTCATAACATCATGCTCCTCCAACGTGTCAGTCGCCCACGACGGCGCTGGAAAGAGG  
 CTCGAGTATTGTAGTACGAGGAGGTTGCACAGTCAGCGGGTGTGCGCGACCTTTCTCC

8401 ValTyrTyrLeuThrArgAspProThrThrProLeuAlaArgAlaAlaTrpGluThrAla  
 GTCTACTACCTCACCCGTGACCCTACAACCCCTCGCGAGAGCTGCGTGGGAGACAGCA  
 CAGATGATGGAGTGGCACTGGGATGTTGGGGGAGCGCTCTCGACGCACCCTCTGTGCT

8461 ArgHisThrProValAsnSerTrpLeuGlyAsnIleIleMetPheAlaProThrLeuTrp  
 AGACACACTCCAGTCAATTCTGGCTAGGCAACATAATCATGTTTGGCCCCACACTGTGG  
 TCTGTGTGAGGTCAGTTAAGGACCGATCCGTTGTATTAGTACAAACGGGGGTGTGACACC

8521 AlaArgMetIleLeuMetThrHisPhePheSerValLeuIleAlaArgAspGlnLeuGlu  
 GCGAGGATGATACTGATGACCCATTTCTTTAGCGTCTTATAGCCAGGGACCAGCTTGAA  
 CGTCCTACTATGACTACTGGGTAAAGAAATCGCAGGAATATCGGTCCCTGGTCAACTT

8581 GlnAlaLeuAspCysGluIleTyrGlyAlaCysTyrSerIleGluProLeuAspLeuPro  
 CAGGCCCTCGATTGCGAGATCTACGGGGCCTGCTACTCCATAGAACCCTTGATCTACCT  
 GTCCGGGAGCTAACGCTCTAGATGCCCGGACGATGAGGTATCTTGGTGAACCTAGATGGA

8641 ProIleIleGlnArgLeuHisGlyLeuSerAlaPheSerLeuHisSerTyrSerProGly  
 CCAATCATTCAAAGACTCCATGGCCTCAGCGCATTTTCACTCCACAGTTACTCTCCAGGT  
 GGTTAGTAAGTTTCTGAGGTACCGGAGTCGCGTAAAAGTGAGGTGTCAATGAGAGGTCCA

8701 GluIleAsnArgValAlaAlaCysLeuArgLysLeuGlyValProProLeuArgAlaTrp  
 GAAATTAATAGGGTGGCCGCATGCCTCAGAAAACCTGGGGTACCGCCCTTGCGAGCTTGG  
 CTTTAATTATCCCACCGGCGTACGGAGTCTTTTGAACCCCATGGCGGGAACGCTCGAACC

Gly  
 8761 ArgHisArgAlaArgSerValArgAlaArgLeuLeuAlaArgGlyGlyArgAlaAlaIle  
 AGACACCGGGCCCGGAGCGTCCGCGCTAGGCTTCTGGCCAGAGGAGGCAGGGCTGCCATA  
 TCTGTGGCCCGGGCCTCGCAGGCGGATCCGAAGACCGGTCTCCTCCGTCCCGACGGTAT

8821 CysGlyLysTyrLeuPheAsnTrpAlaValArgThrLysLeuLysLeuThrProIleAla  
 TGTGGCAAGTACCTCTTCAACTGGGCAGTAAGAACAAGCTCAAACCTCACTCCAATAGCG  
 ACACCGTTCATGGAGAAGTTGACCCGTCATTCTTGTTTTCGAGTTTGAGTGAGGTTATCGC

8881 AlaAlaGlyGlnLeuAspLeuSerGlyTrpPheThrAlaGlyTyrSerGlyGlyAspIle  
 GCCGCTGGCCAGCTGGACTTGTCCGGCTGGTTCACGGCTGGCTACAGCGGGGGAGACATT  
 CGGCGACCGGTCGACCTGAACAGGCCGACCAAGTGCCGACCGATGTCGCCCCCTCTGTAA

(Pro)  
 8941 TyrHisSerValSerHisAlaArgProArgTrpIleTrpPheCysLeuLeuLeuAla  
 TATCACAGCGTGTCTCATGCCCGGCCCGCTGGATCTGGTTTTGCCTACTCCTGCTTGCT  
 ATAGTGTGCGCACAGAGTACGGGCCGGGGCGACCTAGACCAAACGGATGAGGACGAACGA

9001 AlaGlyValGlyIleTyrLeuLeuProAsnArgOP  
 GCAGGGGTAGGCATCTACCTCCTCCCAACCGATGAAGGTTGGGGTAAACACTCCGGCCT  
 CGTCCCCATCCGTAGATGGAGGAGGGGTTGGCTACTTCCAACCCCATTTGTGAGGCCGGA

FIG. 18-11

:42.16.XT1  
GGTAGGGTCAAGGCTGAAATCGACTGTCTGCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.17.XT1  
ATCCTGGGGGAGCGTGATTGTCTCAATGGTCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.18.XT1  
AGTCCTGCCCCGACGTTGAGTGCGGGAGACCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.19.XT1  
CACAAATCTGTAGATGCCTGGCTTCCCCCTCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.20.XT1  
GTCGAACATGCCGGAGGGGCGCTCCCCCGCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.21.LLA2C  
GCCTGCGTCATAGCACTCACAGAGGACGGATTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.22.LLA2C  
AGTCTCGGCGGGCGTGAGCTCATACCAAGCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.23.LLA2C  
CGGGGTGTTTCATGTACGCTCGTAGCCTAACTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.24.LLA2C  
AAATTCAAGATGGTCCTGGCACACGGGAAGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.25.LLA2C  
TATATGAGTGAGGCCTGTAAAGACGCCCTCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.26.LLA2C  
ACTCTGCTTTGTCTGGGATAGAAAGTGGGCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.27.LLA2C  
TTGGTACGCTACCAGGTAAGGAAGGTTCTCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.28.LLA2C  
GGGAGGGGCTTGAGCCCTAGCGCACACGGTTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.29.LLA2C  
AATCAAACACTTCCACATCTGGTCCCACGATTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.30.LLA2C  
GGGTGTTGGCCCATGGAGGGTGGGCTTGAGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.31.LLA2C  
TTCATTCTGAACAGCGCCAGTCTGTATAGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

FIG. 19-1

:42.XT1.1  
TCCTCACAGGGGAGTGATTCATGGTGGAGTCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.XT1.2  
ATGGCTAGACGCTTCTGCGTGAAGACAGTCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.XT1.3  
TCCTGGAGGCTGCACGACACTCATACTAACCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.XT1.4  
CGCAGACCACTATGGCTCTCCCGGGAGGGGCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.XT1.5  
TCGTCTGGCAATTCCGGTGTACTCACCGGCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.LLA2C.6  
GCATTGAGCGGGTTGATCCAAGAAAGGACCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.7  
AGCAGTCTGCGGGGGCACGCCCAAATCTCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.8  
ACAAGGCCTTTCGCGACCCAACACTACTCGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.9  
GGGGCACTCGCAAGCACCCCTATCAGGCAGTTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2.10  
CGTGCTCATGGTGCACGGTCTACGAGACCTTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.11  
GTTACGTTTGTTTTTTTTTTTGAGGTTAGGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.12  
CGGGAACCTGACGTCCTGTGGGCGACGGTTTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.13  
CAAGTAACTCCACCAACGATCTGACCGCCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.14  
GCGCACACCCAATCTAGGGCCCCTGCGCGGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.LLA2C.15  
AGGTTGCGACCGCTCGGAAGTCTTCTCGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

FIG. 19-2



:42.32.XT1  
ATGTTGGGATGGGGCACAGTGACGGAGCCCCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.33.XT1  
ATCTCTCCGGTGGTGGACAGAGCAACCTCCCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.34.XT1  
ACTTCGAGGGGGATAGCCTTGCCGTAAAACTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.35.XT1  
TGACAGAAGATGAGATGTCTCCCCCCTTGCTTCTTTGGAGAAAGTGGTG

:42.36.LLA2C  
TTTGCGGCGAGTTCGTGCACTTCTTCTTTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.37.LLA2C  
TAGGCCACGGCATTGATGCCCAATGCGACCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.38.LLA2C  
GTCGGGATGACGGACACGTCAAGACCGCGGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.39.LLA2C  
GCATCGGTTGCCACGACGACAACATCGCCGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.40.LLA2C  
GAGTCGAAGTCGCCGGTATAGCCGGTCATGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.41.LLA2C  
GTCTGGGTGACACACGTATTGCAGTCTATCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.42.LLA2C  
ATGGTGAAGGTAGGGTCAAGGCTGAAATCGTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

:42.43.LLA2C  
GAGACAGCATCCTGGGGGAGCGTGATTGTCTTAGGCATAGGACCCGTGTC

FIG. 19-3

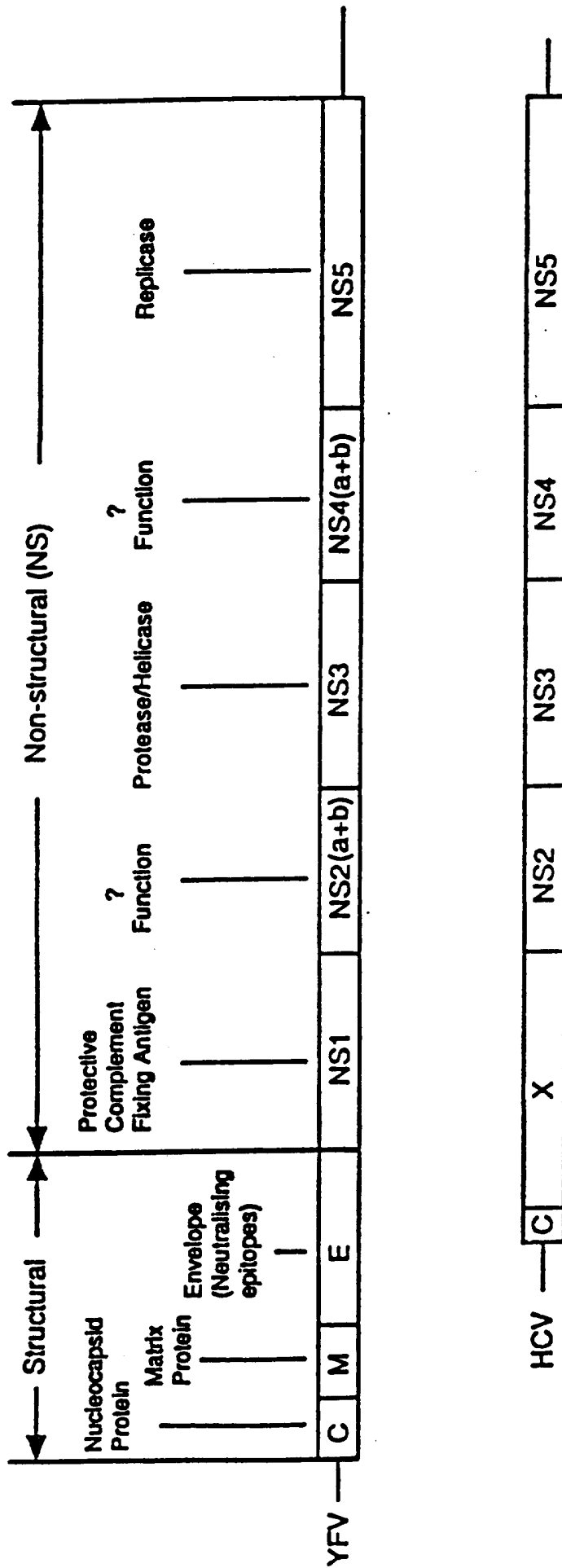


FIG. 20

FIG. 22 Translation of DNA 81

SerGlyLysProAlaIleIleProAspArgGluValLeuTyrArgGluPheAspGluMet  
1 GTCCGGGAAGCCGGCAATCATACCTGACAGGGAAGTCCTCTACCGAGAGTTTCGATGAGAT  
CAGGCCCTTCGGCCGTTAGTATGGACTGTCCCTTCAGGAGATGGCTCTCAAGCTACTCTA

GluGluCysSerGlnHisLeuProTyrIleGluGlnGlyMetMetLeuAlaGluGlnPhe  
61 GGAAGAGTGCTCTCAGCACTTACCGTACATCGAGCAAGGGATGATGCTCGCCGAGCAGTT  
CCTTCTCACGAGAGTCGTGAATGGCATGTAGCTCGTTCCTACTACGAGCGGCTCGTCAA

LysGlnLysAlaLeuGlyLeuLeuGlnThrAlaSerArgGlnAlaGluValIleAlaPro  
121 CAAGCAGAAGGCCCTCGGCCTCCTGCAGACCGCGTCCCGTCAGGCAGAGGTTATCGCCCC  
GTTTCGTCTTCGGGAGCCGGAGGACGTCTGGCGCAGGGCAGTCCGTCTCCAATAGCGGGG

AlaValGlnThrAsnTrpGlnLysLeuGluThrPheTrpAlaLysHisMetTrpAsnPhe  
181 TGCTGTCCAGACCAACTGGCAAAACTCGAGACCTTCTGGGCGAAGCATATGTGGAACCT  
ACGACAGGTCTGGTTGACCGTTTTTGGAGCTCTGGAAGACCCGCTTCGTATACACCTTGAA

IleSerGlyIleGlnTyrLeuAlaGlyLeuSerThrLeuProGlyAsnProAlaIleAla  
241 CATCAGTGGGATACAATACTTGGCGGGCTTGTCAACGCTGCCTGGTAACCCCGCCATTGC  
GTAGTCACCCTATGTTATGAACCGCCCGAACAGTTGCGACGGACCATTGGGGCGGTAACG

SerLeuMetAlaPheThrAlaAlaValThrSerProLeuThrThrSerGln  
301 TTCATTGATGGCTTTTACAGCTGCTGTCACCAGCCACTAACCCTAGCCAAA  
AAGTAACTACCGAAAATGTCGACGACAGTGGTTCGGGTGATTGGTGATCGGTTT

FIG. 23 Translation of DNA 36

AspAlaHisPheLeuSerGlnThrLysGlnSerGlyGluAsnLeuProTyrLeuValAla  
1 GATGCCCACTTTCTATCCAGACAAAGCAGAGTGGGGAGAACCTTCTTACCTGGTAGCG  
CTACGGGTGAAAGATAGGGTCTGTTTCGTCTCACCCCTCTTGGAAGGAATGGACCATCGC

TyrGlnAlaThrValCysAlaArgAlaGlnAlaProProProSerTrpAspGlnMetTrp  
61 TACCAAGCCACCGTGTGCGCTAGGGCTCAAGCCCTCCCCATCGTGGGACCAGATGTGG  
ATGTTTCGGTGGCACACGCGATCCCGAGTTCGGGGAGGGGGTAGCACCCCTGGTCTACACC

LysCysLeuIleArgLeuLysProThrLeuHisGlyProThrProLeuLeuTyrArgLeu  
121 AAGTGTGTTGATTTCGCCTCAAGCCACCCTCCATGGGCCAACACCCCTGCTATACAGACTG  
TTCACAAACTAAGCGGAGTTCGGGTGGGAGGTACCCGTTGTGGGGACGATATGTCTGAC

GlyAlaValGlnAsnGluIleThrLeuThrHisProValThrLysTyrIleMetThrCys  
181 GCGCTGTTTCAGAATGAAATCACCCCTGACGCACCCAGTCACCAAATACATCATGACATGC  
CCGCGACAAGTCTTACTTTAGTGGGACTGCGTGGGTGAGTGGTATTATGTAGTACTGTACG

MetSerAlaAspLeuGluValValThrSerThrTrpValLeuValGlyGlyValLeuAla  
241 ATGTCGGCCGACCTGGAGGTCGTCACGAGCACCTGGGTGCTCGTTGGCGGCGTCTGGCT  
TACAGCCGGCTGGACCTCCAGCAGTGTCTGTGGACCCACGAGCAACCCGCGCAGGACCGA

AlaLeuAlaAlaTyrCysLeuSerThrGlyCysValValIleValGlyArgValValLeu  
301 GCTTGGCCGCGTATTGCCTGTCAACAGGCTGCGTGGTCATAGTGGGCAGGGTTCGTCTTG  
CGAAACCGGCGCATAACGGACAGTTGTCCGACGCACCAGTATCACCCGTCCAGCAGAAC

-----Overlap with 81-----  
SerGlyLysProAlaIleIleProAspArgGluValLeuTyrArg  
361 TCCGGGAAGCCGGCAATCATACCTGACAGGGAAGTCCTCTACCGAG  
AGGCCCTTCGGCCGTTAGTATGGACTGTCCCTTCAGGAGATGGCTC

## FIG. 24

Translation of DNA 37b

LeuAlaAlaLysLeuValAlaLeuGlyIleAsnAlaValAlaTyrTyrArgGlyLeuAsp  
 1 CTCGCCGCAAAGCTGGTTCGCATTGGGCATCAATGCCGTGGCCTACTACCGCGGTCTTGAC  
 GAGCGCGTTCGACCAGCGTAACCCGTAGTTACGGCACC GGATGATGGCGCCAGA ACTG

ValSerValIleProThrSerGlyAspValValValValAlaThrAspAlaLeuMetThr  
 61 GTGTCCGTCATCCCGACCAGCGGCGATGTTGTCGTCGTGGCAACCGATGCCCTCATGACC  
 CACAGGCAGTAGGGCTGGTCGCCGCTACAACAGCAGCACC GTTGGCTACGGGAGTACTGG

GlyTyrThrGlyAspPheAspSerValIleAspTyrAsnThrCysValThrGlnThrVal  
 121 GGCTATACCGCGCACTTCGACTCGGTGATAGACTACAATACGTGTGTCACCCAGACAGTC  
 CCGATATGGCCGCTGAAGCTGAGCCACTATCTGATGTTATGCACACAGTGGGTCTGTGACG

-----Overlap with  
 AspPheSerLeuAspProThrPheThrIleGluThrIleThrLeuProGlnAspAlaVal  
 181 GATTCAGCCTTGACCCTACCTTCACCATTGAGACAATCACGCTCCCCCAGGATGCTGTC  
 CTAAAGTCGGA ACTGGGATGGAAGTGTA ACTCTGTTAGTGCAGGGGGT CCTACGACAG

clone 35-----  
 SerArgThrGlnArgArgGlyArgThr  
 241 TCCCGCACTCAACGTCGGGGCAGGACTG  
 AGGGCGTGAGTTGCAGCCCCGTCCTGAC

FIG. 25A

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

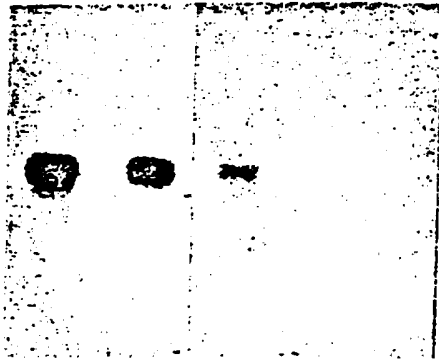


FIG. 25B

+ + - + + + + + - + - + - - +  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

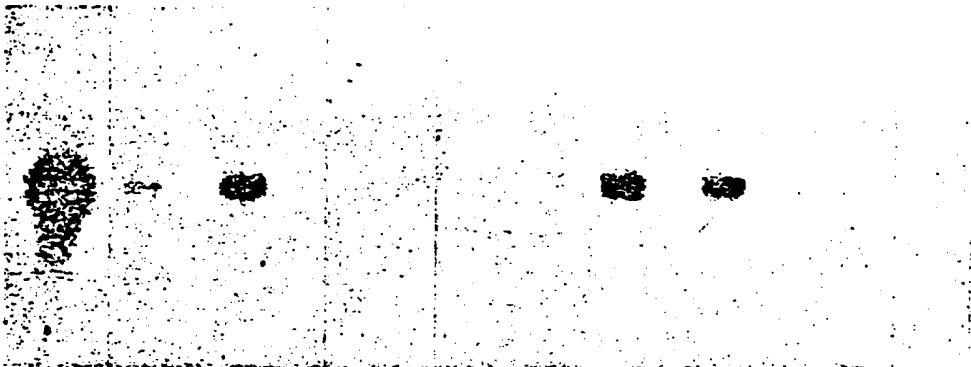


FIG. 26A

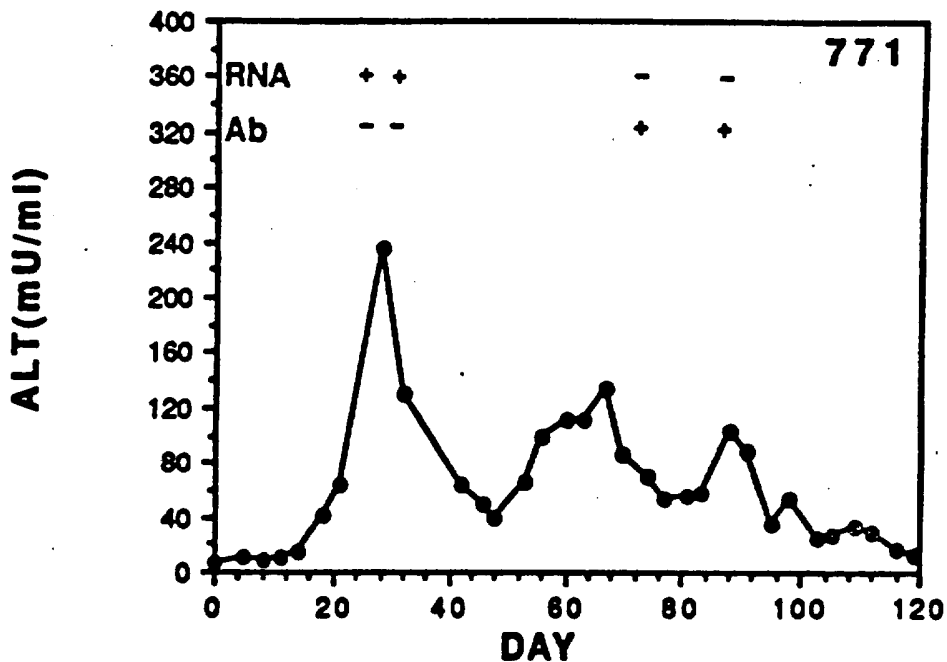


FIG. 26B

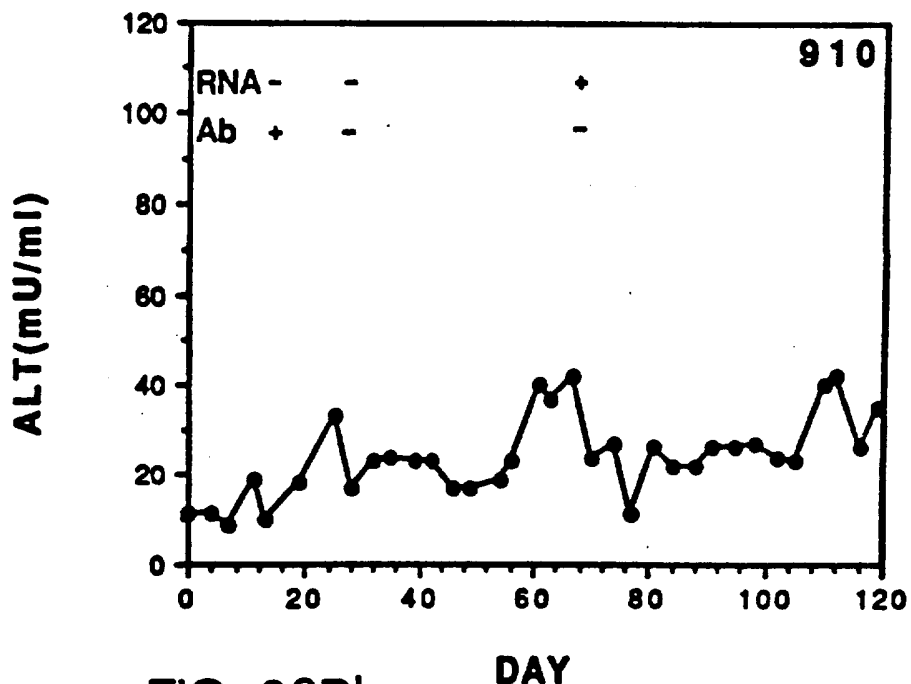
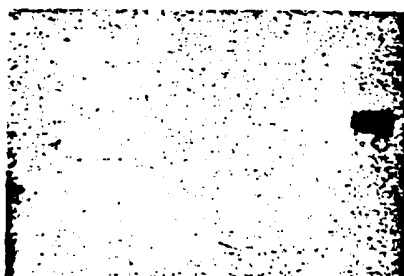


FIG. 26B'

1 2 3 4 a b c



Translation of DNA CA84a

1 GlnGlyCysAsnCysSerIleTyrProGlyHisIleThrGlyHisArgMetAlaTrpAsp  
CGCAAGGTTGCAATTGCTCTATCTATCCCGGCCATATAACGGGTCACCGCATGGCATGGG  
GCGTCCAACGTTAACGAGATAGATAGGGCCGGTATATTGCCAGTGGCGTACCGTACCC

-----

61 MetMetMetAsnTrpSerProThrThrAlaLeuValMetAlaGlnLeuLeuArgIlePro  
ATATGATGATGAACCTGGTCCCCTACGACGGCGTTGGTAATGGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATCC  
TATACTACTACTTGACCAGGGGATGCTGCCGCAACCATTACCGAGTCGACGAGGCCTAGG

-----

121 GlnAlaIleLeuAspMetIleAlaGlyAlaHisTrpGlyValLeuAlaGlyIleAlaTyr  
CACAAAGCCATCTTGGACATGATCGCTGGTGCTCACTGGGGAGTCCTGGCGGGCATAGCGT  
GTGTTCCGGTAGAACCTGTACTAGCGACCACGAGTGACCCCTCAGGACCGCCCGTATCGCA

-----Overlap with CA59a-----

181 PheSerMetValGlyAsnTrpAlaLysValLeuValValLeuLeuLeuPheAlaGlyVal  
ATTTCTCCATGGTGGGAACTGGGCGAAGTCTGGTAGTGCTGCTGCTATTTGCCGGCG  
TAAAGAGGTACCACCCCTTGACCCGCTTCCAGGACCATCACGACGACGATAAACGGCCCG

-----

241 AspAlaGluThrHisValThrGly  
TCGACGCGGAAACCCACGTCACCGGGG  
AGCTGCGCCTTTGGGTGCAGTGGCCCC

FIG. 27

## Translation of DNA 40b

AlaTyrMetSerLysAlaHisGlyIleAspProAsnIleArgThrGlyValArgThrIle  
 1 GGCTTACATGTCCAAGGCTCATGGGATCGATCCTAACATCAGGACCGGGGTGAGAACAAAT  
 CCGAATGTACAGGTTCCGAGTACCCTAGCTAGGATTGTAGTCCTGGCCCCACTCTTGTTA

ThrThrGlySerProIleThrTyrSerThrTyrGlyLysPheLeuAlaAspGlyGlyCys  
 61 TACCACTGGCAGCCCCATCACGTACTCCACCTACGGCAAGTTCCTTGCCGACGGCGGGTG  
 ATGGTGACCGTCGGGGTAGTGCATGAGGTGGATGCCGTCAAGGAACGGCTGCCGCCAC

SerGlyGlyAlaTyrAspIleIleIleCysAspGluCysHisSerThrAspAlaThrSer  
 121 CTCGGGGGGCGCTTATGACATAATAATTTGTGACGAGTGCCACTCCACGGATGCCACATC  
 GAGCCCCCGCGAATACTGTATTATTAACACTGCTCACGGTGAGGTGCCTACGGTGTAG

IleLeuGlyIleGlyThrValLeuAspGlnAlaGluThrAlaGlyAlaArgLeuValVal  
 181 CATCTTGGGCATCGGCACCTGTCTTGACCAAGCAGAGACTGCCGGGGCGAGACTGGTTGT  
 GTAGAACCCTAGCCGTGACAGGAACGGTTCGTCTCTGACGCCCCCGCTCTGACCAACA

LeuAlaThrAlaThrProProGlySerValThrValProHisProAsnIleGluGluVal  
 241 GCTCGCCACCGCCACCCCTCCGGGCTCCGTCACCTGTGCCCCATCCCAACATCGAGGAGGT  
 CGAGCGGTGGCGGTGGGGAGGCCCGAGGCAGTGACACGGGGTAGGGTTGTAGCTCCTCCA

AlaLeuSerThrThrGlyGluIleProPheTyrGlyLysAlaIleProLeuGluValIle  
 301 TGCTCTGTCCACCACCGGAGAGATCCCTTTTTACGGCAAGGCTATCCCCCTCGAAGTAAT  
 ACGAGACAGGTGGTGGCCTCTCTAGGGAAAAATGCCGTTCGGATAGGGGGAGCTTCATTA

LysGlyGlyArgHisLeuIlePheCysHisSerLysLysLysCysAspGluLeuAlaAla  
 361 CAAGGGGGGGAGACATCTCATCTTCTGTCAATCAAAGAAGAAGTGCGACGAACCTCGCCCG  
 GTTCCCCCCTCTGTAGAGTAGAAGACAGTAAGTTTCTTCTCACGCTGCTTGAGCGGGC

-----Overlap with 37b-----

LysLeuValAlaLeuGlyIleAsnAlaValAlaTyrTyrArgGlyLeuAspValSerVal  
 421 AAAGCTGGTCGCATTGGGCATCAATGCCGTGGCCTACTACCGCGGTCTTGACGTGTCCGT  
 TTTCGACCAGCGTAACCCGTAGTTACGGCACCGGATGATGGCGCCAGAAGTGCACAGGCA

-----

IleProThr  
 481 CATCCCGACCAG  
 GTAGGGCTGGTC

FIG. 28



**1      2      3**



**FIG. 29**

## HCV cDNA OF CLONE 40a

1    GluPheGlyAlaIleProLeuGluValIleLysGlyGlyArgHisLeuIlePheCysHis  
GAATTCGGGGCTATCCCCCTCGAAGTAATCAAGGGGGGAGACATCTCATCTTCTGTCAT  
CTTAAGCCCCGATAGGGGAGCTTCATTAGTTCCCCCCTCTGTAGAGTAGAAGACAGTA

61    TCAAAGAAGAAGTGCGACGAACTCGCCGCAAAGCTGGTTCGCATTGGGCATCAATGCCGTG  
AGTTTCTTCTTCACGCTGCTTGAGCGCGTTTCGACCAGCGTAACCCGTAGTTACGGCAC

121    GCCTACTACCGCGGTCTTGACGTGTCCGTCATCCCGACCAGCGGTGATGTTGTCGTCGTG  
CGGATGATGGCGCCAGAAGTGCACAGGCAGTAGGGCTGGTCGCCACTACAACAGCAGCAC

181    GCAACCGATGCCCTCATGACCGGCTATACCGGGGACTTCGACTCGGTGATAGACTGCAAT  
CGTTGGCTACGGGAGTACTGGCCGATATGGCCGCTGAAGCTGAGCCACTATCTGACGTTA

241    ACGTGTGTCACCCAGACAGTCGATTTGAGCCTTGACCCTACCTTCACTATTGAGACAATC  
TGCACACAGTGGGTCTGTCAGCTAAAGTCGGAAGTGGGATGGAAGTGATAACTCTGTTAG

301    ACGCTCCCCCAAGATGCTCCGAATTC  
TGCAGGGGGTCTACGAGGCTTAAG

FIG. 32

FIG. 33

1 2 3

nt  
622 -  
527 -  
404 -

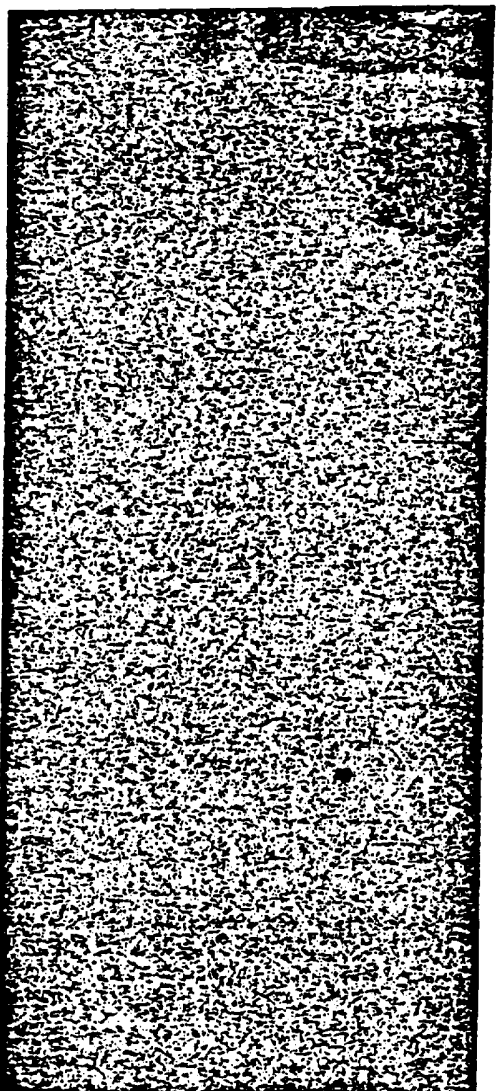


FIG. 34 Translation of DNA 35

SerIleGluThrIleThrLeuProGlnAspAlaValSerArgThrGlnArgArgGlyArg  
 1 TCCATTGAGACAATCACGCTCCCCCAGGATGCTGTCTCCCGCACTCAACGTCGGGGCAGG  
 AGGTAACCTCTGTTAGTGCGAGGGGGTCTACGACAGAGGGCGTGAGTTGCAGCCCCGTCC

ThrGlyArgGlyLysProGlyIleTyrArgPheValAlaProGlyGluArgProSerGly  
 61 ACTGGCAGGGGAAGCCAGGCATCTACAGATTTGTGGCACCGGGGGAGCGCCCCCTCCGGC  
 TGACCGTCCCCCTTCGGTCCGTAGATGTCTAAACACCGTGGCCCCCTCGCGGGGAGGCCG

MetPheAspSerSerValLeuCysGluCysTyrAspAlaGlyCysAlaTrpTyrGluLeu  
 121 ATGTTTCGACTCGTCCGTCCCTCTGTGAGTGCTATGACGCAGGCTGTGCTTGGTATGAGCTC  
 TACAAGCTGAGCAGGCAGGAGACACTCACGATACTGCGTCCGACACGAACCATACTCGAG

ThrProAlaGluThrThrValArgLeuArgAlaTyrMetAsnThrProGlyLeuProVal  
 181 ACGCCCGCCGAGACTACAGTTAGGCTACGAGCGTACATGAACACCCCGGGGCTTCCCGTG  
 TGCGGGCGGCTCTGATGTCAATCCGATGCTCGCATGTACTIONTGTGGGGCCCCGAAGGGCAC

-----  
 CysGlnAspHisLeuGluPheTrpGluGlyValPheThrGlyLeuThrHisIleAspAla  
 241 TGCCAGGACCATCTTGAATTTTGGGAGGGCGTCTTTACAGGCCTCACTCATATAGATGCC  
 ACGGTCCTGGTAGAACTTAAAACCCTCCCGCAGAAATGTCCGGAGTGAGTATATCTACGG

-----  
 HisPheLeuSerGlnThrLysGlnSerGlyGluAsnLeuProTyrLeuValAlaTyrGln  
 301 CACTTCTATCCCAGACAAAGCAGAGTGGGGAGAACCTTCCCTTACCTGGTAGCGTACCAA  
 GTGAAAGATAGGGTCTGTTTCGTCTCACCCCTCTTGAAGGAATGGACCATCGCATGGTT

-----Overlap with 36-----  
 AlaThrValCysAlaArgAlaGlnAlaProProSerTrpAspGlnMetTrpLysCys  
 361 GCCACCGTGTGCGCTAGGGCTCAAGCCCCTCCCCATCGTGGGACCAGATGTGGAAGTGT  
 CGGTGGCACACGCGATCCCGAGTTCGGGGAGGGGGTAGCACCCCTGGTCTACACCTTACA

-----  
 LeuIleArgLeuLysProThrLeuHisGlyProThrProLeuLeuTyrArgLeuGlyAla  
 421 TTGATTCGCTCAAGCCCACCCTCCATGGGCCAACACCCCTGCTATACAGACTGGGCGCT  
 AACTAAGCGGAGTTCGGGTGGGAGGTACCCGGTGTGGGGACGATATGTCTGACCCGCA

| Lane Number | Patient Reference Number | Diagnosis        | ALT Level ( $\mu\text{m}/\text{ml}$ ) |
|-------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1           | 11                       | NANB             | 1354                                  |
| 2           | 11                       | NANB             | 31                                    |
| 3           | 21                       | NANB             | 14                                    |
| 4           | 21                       | NANB             | 79                                    |
| 5           | 21                       | NANB             | 26                                    |
| 6           | 31                       | NANB             | 78                                    |
| 7           | 31                       | NANB             | 87                                    |
| 8           | 31                       | NANB             | 25                                    |
| 9           | 41                       | NANB             | 60                                    |
| 10          | 41                       | NANB             | 13                                    |
| 11          | 51                       | NANB             | 298                                   |
| 12          | 51                       | NANB             | 101                                   |
| 13          | 61                       | NANB             | 474                                   |
| 14          | 61                       | NANB             | 318                                   |
| 15          | 71                       | NANB             | 20                                    |
| 16          | 71                       | NANB             | 163                                   |
| 17          | 81                       | NANB             | 44                                    |
| 18          | 81                       | NANB             | 50                                    |
| 19          | 9                        | NANB             | N/A                                   |
| 20          | 10                       | NANB             | N/A                                   |
| 21          | 11                       | NANB             | N/A                                   |
| 22          | 12                       | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 23          | 13                       | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 24          | 14                       | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 26          | 30174                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 27          | 30105                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 28          | 30072                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 29          | 30026                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 30          | 30146                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 31          | 30250                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 32          | 30071                    | Normal           | N/A                                   |
| 33          | 15                       | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 34          | 16                       | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 35          | 17                       | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 36          | 18                       | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 37          | 48088                    | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 38          | 47288                    | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 39          | 47050                    | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 40          | 46997                    | AcuteHAV         | N/A                                   |
| 41          | 19                       | Convalescent HBV | N/A                                   |
| 42          | 20                       | (anti-HBSag+ve;  | N/A                                   |
| 43          | 21                       | anti-HBCag+ve)   | N/A                                   |
| 44          | 22                       | (anti-HBSag+ve;  | N/A                                   |
| 45          | 23                       | anti-HBCag+ve)   | N/A                                   |
| 46          | 24                       | (anti-HBSag+ve;  | N/A                                   |
| 47          | 25                       | anti-HBCag+ve)   | N/A                                   |
| 48          | 26                       | (anti-HBSag+ve;  | N/A                                   |
| 49          | 27                       | anti-HBSag+ve)   | N/A                                   |

<sup>1</sup>Sequential serum samples were assayed from these patients

FIG. 35-1

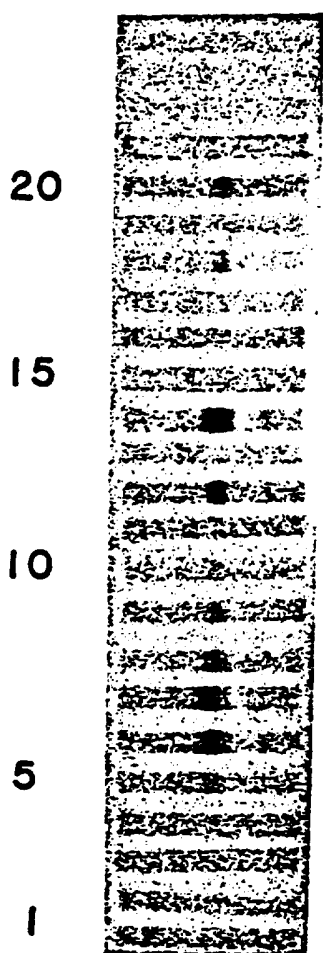


FIG. 35-2

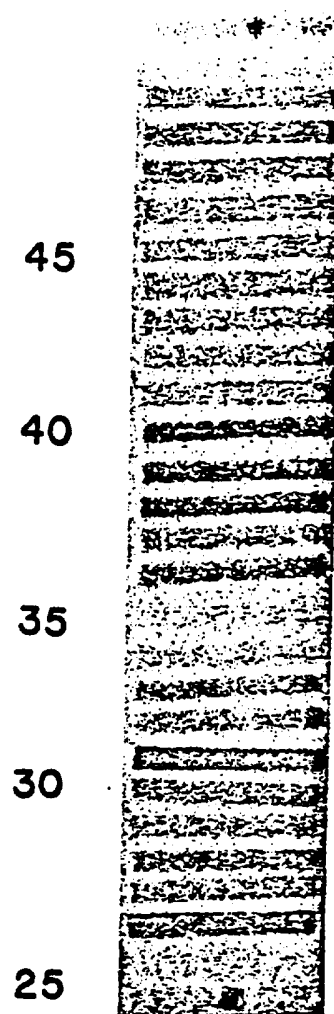


FIG. 37

PCR/HCV ENV Region

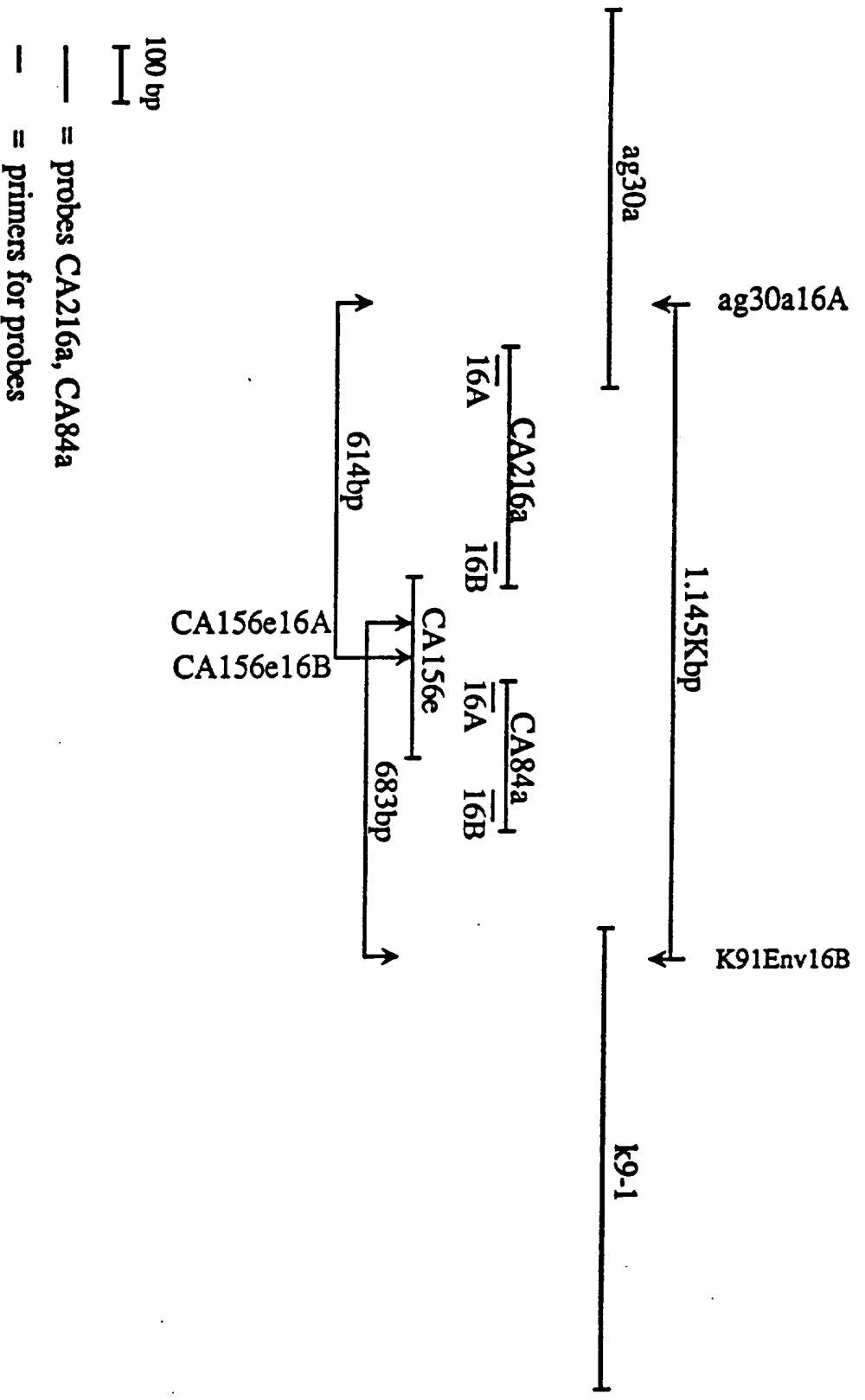
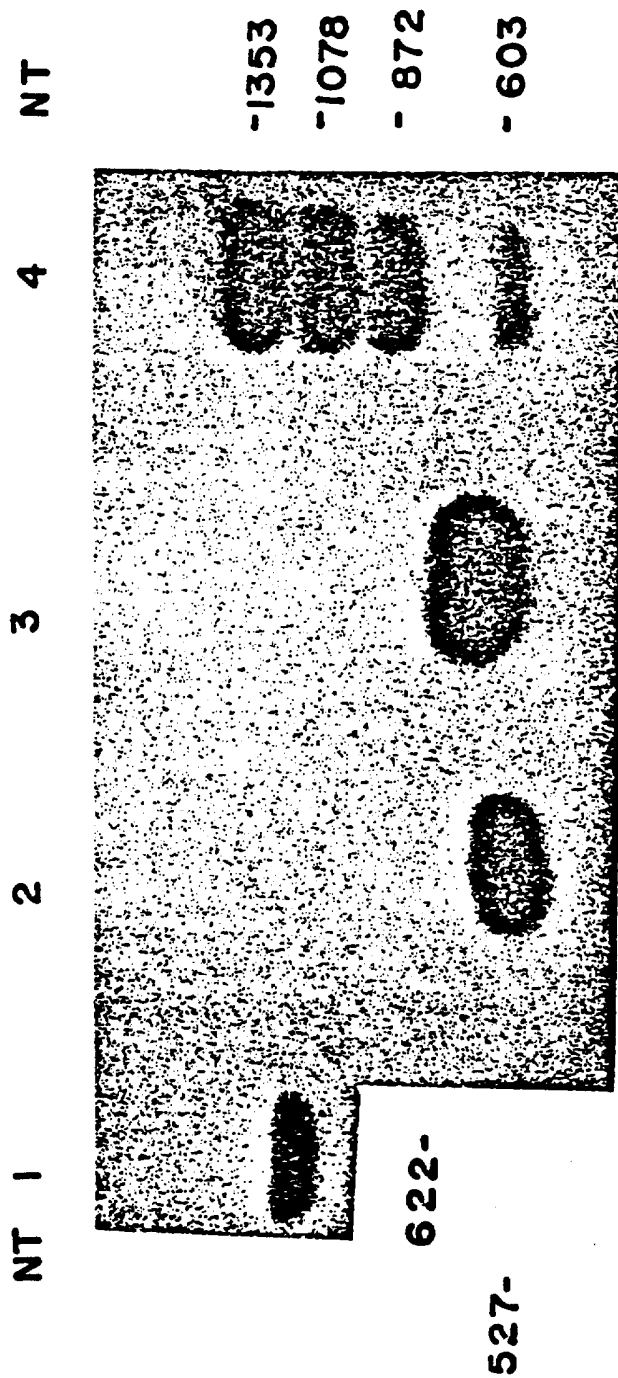


FIG. 38





1. human 27
2. HCV 1
3. human 23

FIG. 39-1

```

1 CGGCTTCGCCCGACCTCATGGGGTACATCCGCTCGTCGGCGCtCCTCTTGGgGGCGCTGCCAGGGCCCTGGC
  *****
1 CGGCTTCGCCCGACCTCATGGGGTACATACCGCTCGTCGGCGCCCTCTTGGAGSGCGCTGCCAGGGCCCTGGC
  *****
1 CGGCTTCGCCCGACCTCATGGGGTACATACCGCTCGTCGGCGCCCTCTTGGAGGCGgTGCAGGGCCCTGGC
  *****

73 GCATGGCGTCCGGGTTCTGGAAGACGGCGTGAACATATGCAACAGGGAACCTTCCTGGTGTGCTCTTTCICTAT
  *****
73 GCATGGCGTCCGGGTTCTGGAAGACGGCGTGAACATATGCAACAGGGAACCTTCCTGGTGTGCTCTTTCICTAT
  *****
73 GCAGGGCGTCCGGGTTtTGGAAAGACGGCGTGAACATATGCAACAGGGAACCTTCCTGGTGTGCTCTTTCICTAT
  *****

145 CTTCCCTTCTGGCtCTGCTCTTGTGcCTGACcGTGCCGCaTGGCCtACCAAGTaGCAACTCCtCGGGCaT
  *****
145 CTTCCCTTCTGGCCCTGCTCTTGTGcCTGACTGTGCCGTACCAAGTGGCAACTCCACGGGGCT
  *****
145 CTTCCCTTCTGGCCCTaCTCTCTTGCcTGACcGTGCCGCTTCaGCCtACCAAGTGGCAACTcLACGGGGCT
  *****

217 TTACCAtGTCACCAATGATGGCCCTAAAtTCGAGTATTGTGTACGAGaGGCCGAGaCCATCCTaCACtCTCC
  *****
217 TTACCAgTCAcCAATGATGGCCCTAACTCGAGTATTGTGTACGAGGGCCGATGCCATCTGTGCACaCTCC
  *****
217 TTACCAtGTCACCAATGATGGCCCTAACTCGAGTATTGTGTACGAGGGCCGATGCCATCTGTGCACgCTCC
  *****

289 GGGGTGtGTCCCTTGGCTTGGcGAGGGtAAGCCCTCGAaaTGTGGGTGcCGgTagCCCCcACaGTGGCCAC
  *****
289 GGGGTGcGTCCCTTGGCTTGGtGAGGGcAACCCCTCGAGgTGTGGGTGGCgaTGCACCCcTACGGTGGCCAC
  *****
289 GGGGTGtGTCCCTTGGCTTGGGAGGgataACGctTCGAGaTGTGGGTGGCGgTGCACCCcACGGTGGCCAC
  *****

```

FIG. 39-2

361 CAGGGACGGCAAcTCCCGCaACGCAGCTTCGACGTCCACATCGATCTGCTGTGTCGGAGtGCCACCCtTtTG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 361 CAGGGATGGCAAACTCCCGGACGCAGCTTCGACGTCCACATCGATCTGCTGTGTCGGAGGCGCACCCtCTG  
 \*\*  
 361 CAaGGAcGGCAAACTCCCaCaACGCAGCTTCGACGTCCACATCGATCTGCTGTGTCGGAGGCGCACCCtCTG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 433 cTCGGCCCTcTAtGTGGGGGACTtGTGGGGGTCTGTCTTCTGTGGGtCAACTGtTcAcTtTcTcCCCCAG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 433 tTCGGCCCTcTAcGTGGGGACCTGTGGGGTCTGTCTTCTGTGGGcCAACTGtTcAcTtTcTcTcCCCCAG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 433 cTCGGCCCTcTAcGTGGGGACCTtTGGGGTCCaTCTTCTGTGGGtCAACTGtTtAcTtTcTcTcCCCCAG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 505 GCGCCACTGGACaACGCAAGaITGCAAcTGTCTATCTACCCCGCCATATAAcGGGgCaCCCGCATGGCATG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 505 GCGCCACTGGACGCAAGtTTCaAtTGTCTATCTATCCCGCCATATAAcGGGtCaCCCGCATGGCATG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 505 GCGCCACTGGACCGCaGAcTGTCTATCTATCCCGCCATATAAcGGGtCaCCCGCATGGCATG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 577 GGATATGATGATGACTGGTCCCTACaGCaGGGTGGTAATGGCTCAGCTGTCTCaGGATCCcGCAAGCCAT  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 577 GGATATGATGATGACTGGTCCCTACGaCGGGTGGTAATGGCTCAGCTGTCTCCGGATCCCaCAAGCCAT  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 577 GGATATGATGATGACTGGTCCCTACGgCGGCaTGGTAgTaGCTCAGCTGTCCCGATCCCaCAAGCCAT  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 649 CTtGGACATGATCGCTGGTCTcACTGGGGAGTCCTaGCGGGCATAGCGTATtTCTCCATGGTGGGAACTG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 649 CTtGGACATGATCGCTGGTCTcACTGGGGAGTCCtGGGGATAGCGTATtTCTCCATGGTGGGAACTG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 649 CTtGGACATGATCGCTGGTCTCaCTGGGGAGTCCtGGGGCATgGCGTATtTCTCCATGGTGGGAACTG  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 721 GCGGAAGGTCCtGGTgGTGCTGTGTgTtTTCGGGGTGGATGGaCaACCCtAtAcCaCCGGGGGgAaTGC  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 721 GCGGAAGGTCCtGGTAGTGTCTGTCTATtTTCGGGGTGGACCGGGAAACCCAcgtCACCCGGGGAAgTGC  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 721 GCGGAAGGTCCtGGTAGTGTCTtCTATtTTCGGGGTGGACCGGGAAACCCACcgtLACCCGGGGAAgTGC  
 \*\*\*\*\*

FIG.39-3

793 tGcCagGACcaccGcagGggtcaccAGttTttTcagCCAGGGCCAAAGCAGgAtaTCCAGCTGATCAACAC  
\* \* \* \* \*  
793 CGgCCaCACtgtGtCTGGATTTGtTAGcCTCtCgCACcAGGGCCAAAGCAGAAcGtTCCAGCTGATCAACAC  
\* \* \* \* \*  
793 CGcCCgCAGcaccGgCTGGAgTTGctAGtCTCtTcCaCACcAGGGcGctAgGCAGAAcAtCCcNGCTGATCAACAC  
\* \* \* \* \*  
865 CAACGGCAGTTGGCACaTCAATgGCACGGCCtTGAACtGtAAATGcgAGCCtCgACACtGGCTGGgTaGCgGG  
\* \* \* \* \*  
865 CAACGGCAGTTGGCACcTCAATAGCACGGCCcTGAACtGCAATGAtAGCCtCAACACCCGGCTGGTTgCaGG  
\* \* \* \* \*  
865 CAACGGCAGTTGGCACaTCAATAGtACGGCCcTGAACtGCAATGACAGCCtTAcCACCCGGCTGGTTaGCgGG  
\* \* \* \* \*  
937 GCTcTTCTATtACCACAaTTCAACTCTTCAGGCTGcCCcGAGAGGaTgGCCAGCTGstaGgCCCCTTgCCGA  
\* \* \* \* \*  
937 GCTTTCTATCACCACAAGTTCAACTCTTCAGGCTGTCCtGAGAGGctAgCCAGCTGCCGACCCCTTACCgA  
\* \* \* \* \*  
937 GCTTTCTATCACCALAAaTTCAACTCTTCAGGCTGTCCcGAGAGGtTgGCCAGCTGCCGACCCCTcACCgA  
\* \* \* \* \*  
1009 TTTGACCAGG  
\* \* \* \* \*  
1009 TTTGACCAGG  
\* \* \* \* \*  
1009 TTTGcCCAGG

FIG. 40

- 1. human 27
- 2. HCV 1
- 3. human 23

```

1 GFADLMGYIPLVGAPLGGAAARALAHGVRVLEdGVNYATGNLPGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTVPASAYQVRNSGG1
  *
1 GFADLMGYIPLVGAPLGGAAARALAHGVRVLEdGVNYATGNLPGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTVPASAYQVRNSTGL
  *
1 GFADLMGYIPLVGAPLGGIARALAHGVRVLEdGVNYATGNLPGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTVPASAYQVRNSTGL

73 YHVTNDCPNSSIVYETADtILHsPGCVPCVREGNASKCWpvaPTVATRdGnLPATQlRRHIDLLVGSATLC
  *
73 YHVTNDCPNSSIVYEADAAILHtPGCVPCVREGNAsRCWAmTPTVATRdGKLPATQlRRHIDLLVGSATLC
  *
73 YHVTNDCPNSSIVYEADAAILHaPGCVPCVREGNvSRcWAVTPTVATkdGKLPtTQlRRHIDLLVGSATLC

145 SALYVGDLcGSVFLVgOLFtFSPrRHwTtQdCNCSiYPGHITGHRMAWdMMNWSPTaALVMAQLLRIPQAI
  *
145 SALYVGDLcGSVFLVgOLFtFSPrRHwTtQcCNCSiYPGHITGHRMAWdMMNWSPTtALVMAQLLRIPQAI
  *
145 SALYVGDLcGSiFLVgOLFtFSPrRHwTtQdCNCSiYPGHITGHRMAWdMMNWSPTaALVVAQLLRIPQAI

217 LDMIAGAHwGVLAGIAYfSMVGNWAKVLVLLfAGVDAtYtTGgNaAiTtqaltSfSPGAKQdIQLINT
  *
217 LDMIAGAHwGVLAGIAYfSMVGNWAKVLVLLfAGVDAETHVtGGSAGhTvSgfvSllaPGAKONVQLINT
  *
217 LDMIAGAHwGVLAGmAYfSMVGNWAKVLVLLfAGVDAETHITGGSAAiStaGvaSLftPGAFONiQLINT

289 NGSWHINiRTALNCNaSLdTGwvAGLfyHkFNSSGcPERmASCRPLaDFDQ
  *
289 NGSWHINStALNCNDsLlTGwLAGLfyHkFNSSGcPERLASCRPLtDFDQ
  *
289 NGSWHINStALNCNDsLlTGwLAGLfyHkFNSSGcPERLASCRPLtDFaQ
  
```

1 2 3 4

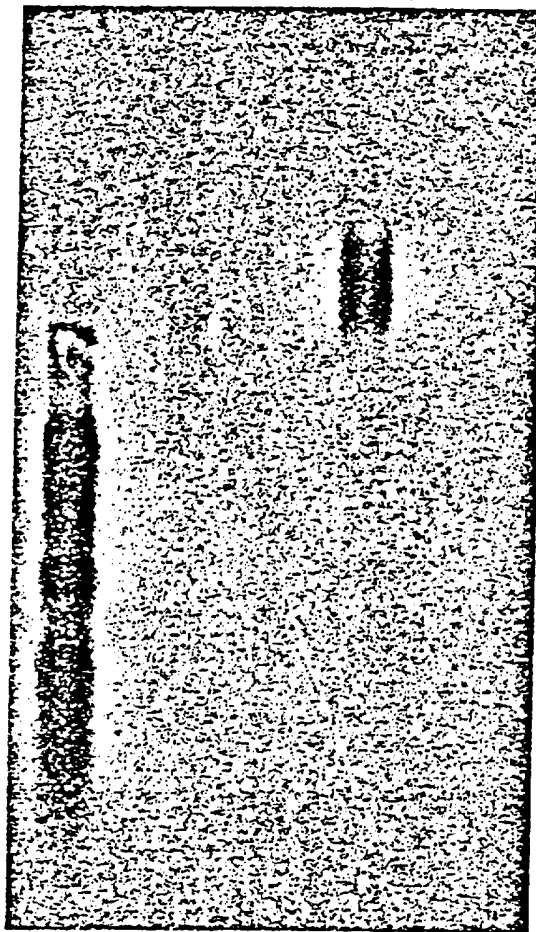


FIG. 41

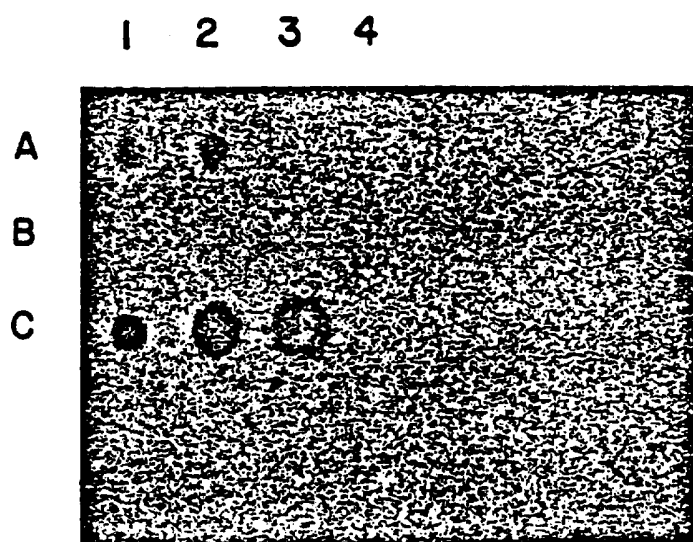


FIG. 43

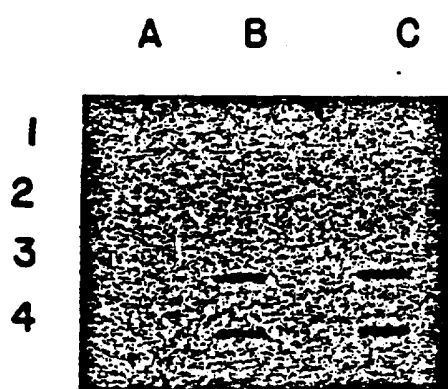


FIG. 44A

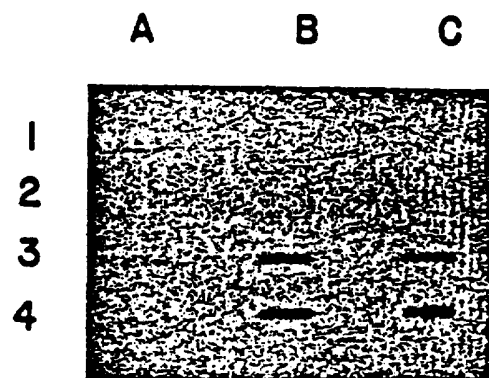


FIG. 44B

1 GlyPheAlaAspLeuMetGlyTyrIleProLeuValGlyAlaProLeuGlyGlyArgAla  
 GGCTTCGCCGACCTCATGGGTACATACCGCTCGTCGGCGCCCTCTTGGAGGCCGTGCC

61 ArgAlaLeuAlaHisGlyValArgValLeuGluAspGlyValAsnTyrAlaThrGlyAsn  
 AGGGCCCTGGCGCACGGCGTCCGGGTTTTGGAAGACGGCGTGAACCTATGCAACAGGGAAC  
 CG A

121 LeuProGlyCysSerPheSerIlePheLeuLeuAlaLeuLeuSerCysLeuThrValPro  
 CTTCCTGGTTGCTCCTTTTCTATCTTCTTCTGGCCCTACTCTCTTGCTGACCCTGCC  
 GA T

181 AlaSerAlaTyrGlnValArgAsnSerThrGlyLeuTyrHisValThrAsnAspCysPro  
 GCTTCAGCCTACCAAGTGCACACTCTACGGGGCTTACCATGTCACCAATGATTGCCCT

241 AsnSerSerIleValTyrGluAlaAlaAspAlaIleLeuHisAlaProGlyCysValPro  
 AACTCGAGTATTGTGTACGAGGCGGCCGATGCCATCCTGCACGCTCCGGGGTGTGCCCT  
 T C

301 CysValArgGluAspAsnValSerArgCysTrpValAlaValThrProThrValAlaThr  
 TCGTTTCGCGAGGATAACGTCTCGAGATGTTGGGTGGCGGTGACCCCCACGGTGGCCACC  
 G T

361 LysAspGlyLysLeuProThrThrGlnLeuArgArgHisIleAspLeuLeuValGlySer  
 AAGGACGGCAAACCTCCCCACAACGCAGCTTCGACGTCACATCGATCTGCTTGTGGGAGC  
 C A

421 AlaThrLeuCysSerAlaLeuTyrValGlyAspLeuCysGlySerIlePheLeuValGly  
 GCCACCCTCTGCTCGGCCCTCTACGTGGGGGACCTTTCGGGGTCCATCTTTCTGTCCGT  
 T

481 GlnLeuPheThrPheSerProArgArgHisTrpThrThrGlnAspCysAsnCysSerIle  
 CAACTGTTTACCTTCTCTCCAGCGCCACTGGACGACGCAGGACTGCAACTGTTCTATC  
 C

541 TyrProGlyHisIleThrGlyHisArgMetAlaTrpAspMetMetMetAsnTrpSerPro  
 TATCCCGCCATATAACGGGTCACCGCATGGCATGGGATATGATGATGAACCTGGTCCCT  
 G

601 ThrAlaAlaLeuValValAlaGlnLeuLeuArgIleProGlnAlaIleLeuAspMetIle  
 ACGGCGGCATTGGTAGTAGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATCCACAAGCCATCTTGGACATGATC  
 G AG

661 AlaGlyAlaHisTrpGlyValLeuAlaGlyMetAlaTyrPheSerMetValGlyAsnTrp  
 GCTGGTGTCTCACTGGGGAGTCTGGCGGGCATGGCGTATTTCTCCATGGTGGGGAACCTGG  
 G

721 AlaLysValLeuValValLeuLeuLeuPheAlaGlyValAspAlaGluThrHisArgThr  
 GCGAAGGTCCTGGTAGTGCTGCTTCTATTTGCCGGCGTCGACGGGAAACCCACCGTACC  
 G

781 GlyGlySerAlaAlaArgSerThrAlaGlyValAlaSerLeuPheThrProGlyAlaArg  
 GGGGGAAGTGCCGCCCGCAGCACGGCTGGAGTTGCTAGTCTTCTCACACCAGGCGCTAGG  
 C T A

841 GlnAsnIleGlnLeuIleAsnThrAsnGlySerTrpHisIleAsnSerThrAlaLeuAsn  
 CAGAACATCCAGCTGATCAACACCAACGGCAGTTGGCACATCAATAGTACGGCCTTGAAC  
 AT

901 CysAsnAspSerLeuThrThrGlyTrpLeuAlaGlyLeuPheTyrHisHisLysPheAsn  
 TGCAATGACAGCCTTACCACCGGCTGGTTAGCGGGCTTTTCTATCACCATAAATTCAAC  
 A A

961 SerSerGlyCysProGluArgLeuAlaSerCysArgProLeuThrAspPheAlaGln  
 TCTTCAGGCTGTCCCAGAGGTTGGCCAGCTGCCGACCCCTCACCGATTTTGGCCAGG  
 G A G





FIG. 48

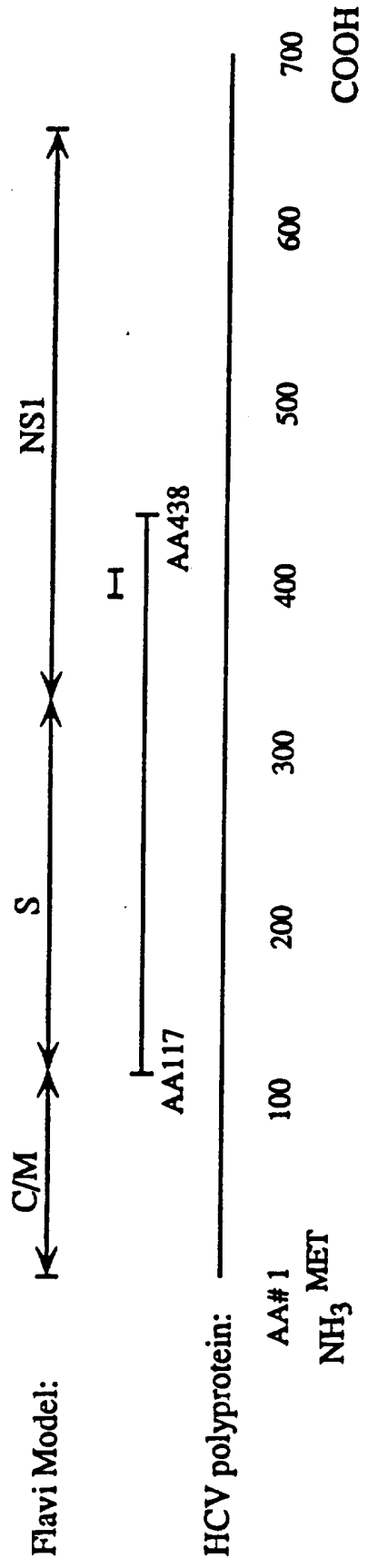






FIG.49-3

435 CGTCACATCGATCTGCTTTGTCGGGAGCGCCACCCTCTGCTCGGCCCTCTACGTGGGGGACCTGTGCGGGTCC  
 |||||  
 435 CGTCACATCGATCTGCTTTGTCGGGAGCGCTACCCTCTGCTCGGCCCTCTACGTGGGGGACCTGTGCGGGTCT  
 |||||  
 435 CGTCACATCGATCTGCTTTGTCGGGAGCGCCACCCTCTGCTCGGCCCTCTATGTTGGGGACCTGTGCGGGTCT  
 |||||  
 793 CGTCACATCGATCTGCTTTGTCGGGAGCGCCACCCTCTGCTCGGCCCTCTACGTGGGGGACCTATGCGGGTCT  
 |||||

507 aTCTTtCTTTGTCGGTCAACtGTTcACCTTtCTCTCCcAGGGCCcACTGGACGCAAGGTtGCAAttGCTCT  
 |||||  
 507 GTCtTcCTTTGTCGGTCAACtGTTtPACCTTtCTCTCCcAGGGCCcACTGGACGCAAGGTtGCAAttGCTCT  
 |||||  
 507 GTCtTtCTTTGTCGGCCAACTGTTtPACCTTtCTCTCCcAGGGCCcACTGGACGCAAGGTtGCAAttGCTCT  
 |||||  
 865 GTCtTtCTTTGTCGGCCAACTGTTcACCTTtCTCTCCcAGGGCCcACTGGACGCAAGGTtGCAAttGCTCT  
 |||||

579 ATCGAAttC  
 |||||  
 579 ATCGAAttC  
 |||||  
 579 ATCGAAttC  
 |||||  
 937 ATCtAtccc  
 |||||

```

          10          20          30          40
EC10      GAATTCGGACGACGCAAGGTTGCAATTGCTCTATCTATCCCGGCCATAT
          X::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::
HCV1      CTCTCCCAGGCGCCACTGGACGACGCAAGGTTGCAATTGCTCTATCTATCCCGGCCATAT
          550          560          570          580          590          600

          50          60          70          80 A          90          100
AACAGGTCACCGCATGGCATGGGATATGATGATGAACTGGTCCCCTACGACGGCGTTAGT
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
AACGGGTCACCGCATGGCATGGGATATGATGATGAACTGGTCCCCTACGACGGCGTTGGT
          610          620          630          640          650          660

110      120          130          140          150          160
GGTAGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATCCCACAAGCCATCTTGGACATGATCGCTGGTGCTCACTG
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
AATGGCTCAGCTGCTCCGGATCCCACAAGCCATCTTGGACATGATCGCTGGTGCTCACTG
          670          680          690          700          710          720

170      180          190          200          210          220
GGGAGTCTGGCGGGCATAGCGTATTTCTCCATGGTGGGGAAGTGGGCGAAGGTCTTGGC
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
GGGAGTCTGGCGGGCATAGCGTATTTCTCCATGGTGGGGAAGTGGGCGAAGGTCTTGGT
          730          740          750          760          770          780

230      240          250          260          270          280
AGTGCTGCTGCTATTTGCCGGCGTTCGACGCGGAAACCCACGTCACCTGGGGGGATCGCCGC
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
AGTGCTGCTGCTATTTGCCGGCGTTCGACGCGGAAACCCACGTCACCGGGGGAAGTGCCGG
          790          800          810          820          830          840

290      300          310          320          330          340
CAAACACTACGGCTAGCCTTACTGGTCTCTTCAATTTAGGTGCCAAGCAGAACATCCAGCT
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
CCACACTGTGTCTGGATTGTAGCCTCCTCGCACCAGGCGCCAAGCAGAACGTCCAGCT
          850          860          870          880          890          900

350      360          370          380          390          400
GATCAACACCAACGGCAGTTGGCACATCAACAGGACGGCCTTGAAGTGAATGATAGCCT
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
GATCAACACCAACGGCAGTTGGCACCTCAATAGCACGGCCCTGAAGTGAATGATAGCCT
          910          920          930          940          950          960

410      420
CAACACCGGCTGGAATTC
: : : : : : : : : : X
CAACACCGGCTGGTTGGCAGGGCTTTTCTATCACCACAAGTTCAACTCTTCAGGCTGTCC
          970          980          990          1000          1010          1020

```

FIG. 50-1

AA #117-308 (putative envelope region)

FIG. 51

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1) HCT #18 (USA)      | 3 clones sequenced |
| 2) JH23 (USA)         | ?                  |
| 3) JH 27 (USA)        | ?                  |
| 4) PBL-Th (USA)       | 2 clones sequenced |
| 5) EC1 (Italy)        | 3 clones sequenced |
| 6) HCV-1 (chimpanzee) | multiple           |

C/M ← T → S

- 1) (P)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6) RNLGKVIDTLTCGFADLMGYIPLVGAPLGGAARALAHGVRVLEDGVNYATGNL

- 1) H
- 2)
- 3) S T T
- 4) L
- 5) (F) S
- 6) PGCSFSIFLLALLSCLTVPASAYQVRNSTGLYHVTNDPCPNSSIVYEAADAILH

- 1) (H) V V T
- 2) A D V V K T
- 3) S PVA N
- 4) A A R T
- 5) H V T
- 6) TPGCVPCVREGNASRCWVAMTPTVATRDGKLPATQLRRHIDLLVGSATLCS

- 1)
- 2) I D
- 3) D
- 4)
- 5) I
- 6) ALYVGDLCGSVFLVGQLFTFSPRRHWTTQGCNCSI

SUMMARY: "S" AA117-308 (93%)

HCT#18, PBL-Th, EC1(Italy) have 97% homology with HCV-1

JH23 and JH 27 have 96% and 95% homology with HCV-1, respectively

AA#300-438 ( C-terminal region of the putative envelope region and amino ~1/3 of NSI)

- 1) JH23 ?
- 2) JH27 ?
- 3) Japanese isolate (T. Miyamura) ?
- 4) EC10 (Italy) 2 clones sequenced  
(one nt difference, which did not result in an amino acid change)
- 5) HCV-1 (chimpanzee) multiple

S ← T → NSI

- 1) D A V
- 2) D A
- 3) VS VM V
- 4)

5) TTQGCNCSIYPGHITGHRMAWDMMMNWSPTTALVMAQLLRIPQAILDMIAGA

- 1) M R ARSTA VA
- 2) T YT N AR TQALT F
- 3) L Y I M GH R VQ VT TLT
- 4) A I AK TASLTA
- 5) HWGVLGAIAYFSMVGNWAKVLVLLLFAGVDAETHVTGGSAGHTVSGFVSL

- 1) FS R I I T V
- 2) FT DI I R A D
- 3) FR S KI V I R Q F
- 4) FNL I I R N
- 5) LAPGAKQNVQLINTNGSWHLNSTALNCNDSLNTGWL

SUMMARY: NS 1 AA 330-660

| "Isolate"    | %Homology (AA330-438) | %Homology (AA383-405) |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| JH23         | 83                    | 57                    |
| JH27         | 80                    | 39                    |
| Japanese     | 73                    | 48                    |
| EC10 (Italy) | 84                    | 48                    |

FIG. 52

## FIG. 53

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Common Sequence</u> | <u>Variable Sequence</u> |
|-------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5'-3-1      | AAGCTTGATCGAATTC       | CGATCTTGC                |
| -2          |                        | CGATCCTGC                |
| -3          |                        | CGATCATGC                |
| -4          |                        | CGATCGTGC                |
| -5          |                        | CGAAGTTGC                |
| -6          |                        | CGAAGCTGC                |
| -7          |                        | AGATCTTGC                |
| -8          |                        | AGATCCTGC                |
| -9          |                        | AGATCATGC                |
| -10         |                        | AGATCGTGC                |
| -11         |                        | AGAAGTTGC                |
| -12         |                        | AGAAGCTGC                |
| -13         |                        | CGATCTTGT                |
| -14         |                        | CGATCCTGT                |
| -15         |                        | CGATCATGT                |
| -16         |                        | CGATCGTGT                |
| -17         |                        | CGAAGTTGT                |
| -18         |                        | CGAAGCTGT                |
| -19         |                        | AGATCTTGT                |
| -20         |                        | AGATCCTGT                |
| -21         |                        | AGATCATGT                |
| -22         |                        | AGATCGTGT                |
| -23         |                        | AGAAGTTGT                |
| -24         |                        | AGAAGCTGT                |
| -25         |                        | CGCTCTTGC                |
| -26         |                        | CGCTCCTGC                |
| -27         |                        | CGCTCATGC                |
| -28         |                        | CGCTCGTGC                |
| -29         |                        | CGCAGTTGC                |
| -30         |                        | CGCAGCTGC                |
| -31         |                        | CGCTCTTGT                |
| -32         |                        | CGCTCCTGT                |
| -33         |                        | CGCTCATGT                |
| -34         |                        | CGCTCGTGT                |
| -35         |                        | CGCAGTTGT                |
| -36         |                        | CGCAGCTGT                |



CLAIMS

1. An oligomer capable of hybridizing to an HCV  
5 sequence in an analyte polynucleotide strand, wherein the  
oligomer is comprised of an HCV targeting sequence com-  
plementary to at least 4 contiguous nucleotides of HCV  
cDNA shown in Fig. 18.

10 2. The oligomer of claim 1, wherein the target-  
ing sequence is comprised of nucleotides which are com-  
plementary to nucleotides selected from the following HCV  
cDNA nucleotides shown in Fig. 18, (nn<sub>x</sub> - nn<sub>y</sub> denotes  
nucleotide number x to nucleotide number y):

15

nn<sub>340</sub> - nn<sub>330</sub>; nn<sub>330</sub> - nn<sub>320</sub>; nn<sub>320</sub> - nn<sub>310</sub>;  
nn<sub>310</sub> - nn<sub>300</sub>; nn<sub>300</sub> - nn<sub>290</sub>; nn<sub>290</sub> - nn<sub>280</sub>;  
nn<sub>280</sub> - nn<sub>270</sub>; nn<sub>270</sub> - nn<sub>260</sub>; nn<sub>260</sub> - nn<sub>250</sub>;  
nn<sub>250</sub> - nn<sub>240</sub>; nn<sub>240</sub> - nn<sub>230</sub>; nn<sub>230</sub> - nn<sub>220</sub>;  
20 nn<sub>220</sub> - nn<sub>210</sub>; nn<sub>210</sub> - nn<sub>200</sub>; nn<sub>200</sub> - nn<sub>190</sub>;  
nn<sub>190</sub> - nn<sub>180</sub>; nn<sub>180</sub> - nn<sub>170</sub>; nn<sub>170</sub> - nn<sub>160</sub>;  
nn<sub>160</sub> - nn<sub>150</sub>; nn<sub>150</sub> - nn<sub>140</sub>; nn<sub>140</sub> - nn<sub>130</sub>;  
nn<sub>130</sub> - nn<sub>120</sub>; nn<sub>120</sub> - nn<sub>110</sub>; nn<sub>110</sub> - nn<sub>100</sub>;  
nn<sub>100</sub> - nn<sub>90</sub>; nn<sub>90</sub> - nn<sub>80</sub>; nn<sub>80</sub> - nn<sub>70</sub>;

25

nn<sub>70</sub> - nn<sub>60</sub>; nn<sub>60</sub> - nn<sub>50</sub>; nn<sub>50</sub> - nn<sub>40</sub>;  
nn<sub>40</sub> - nn<sub>30</sub>; nn<sub>30</sub> - nn<sub>20</sub>; nn<sub>20</sub> - nn<sub>10</sub>;  
nn<sub>10</sub> - nn<sub>1</sub>; nn<sub>1</sub> - nn<sub>10</sub>; nn<sub>10</sub> - nn<sub>20</sub>; nn<sub>20</sub> - nn<sub>30</sub>;  
nn<sub>30</sub> - nn<sub>40</sub>; nn<sub>40</sub> - nn<sub>50</sub>; nn<sub>50</sub> - nn<sub>60</sub>; nn<sub>60</sub> - nn<sub>70</sub>;  
nn<sub>70</sub> - nn<sub>80</sub>; nn<sub>80</sub> - nn<sub>90</sub>; nn<sub>90</sub> - nn<sub>100</sub>; nn<sub>100</sub> - nn<sub>110</sub>;

30

nn<sub>110</sub> - nn<sub>120</sub>; nn<sub>120</sub> - nn<sub>130</sub>; nn<sub>130</sub> - nn<sub>140</sub>;  
nn<sub>140</sub> - nn<sub>150</sub>; nn<sub>150</sub> - nn<sub>160</sub>; nn<sub>160</sub> - nn<sub>170</sub>;  
nn<sub>170</sub> - nn<sub>180</sub>; nn<sub>180</sub> - nn<sub>190</sub>; nn<sub>190</sub> - nn<sub>200</sub>;  
nn<sub>200</sub> - nn<sub>210</sub>; nn<sub>210</sub> - nn<sub>220</sub>; nn<sub>220</sub> - nn<sub>230</sub>;  
nn<sub>230</sub> - nn<sub>240</sub>; nn<sub>240</sub> - nn<sub>250</sub>; nn<sub>250</sub> - nn<sub>260</sub>;

35

nn<sub>260</sub> - nn<sub>270</sub>; nn<sub>270</sub> - nn<sub>280</sub>; nn<sub>280</sub> - nn<sub>290</sub>;  
nn<sub>290</sub> - nn<sub>300</sub>; nn<sub>300</sub> - nn<sub>310</sub>; nn<sub>310</sub> - nn<sub>320</sub>;

nn320 - nn330; nn330 - nn340; nn340 - nn350;  
nn350 - nn360; nn360 - nn370; nn370 - nn380;  
nn380 - nn390; nn390 - nn400; nn400 - nn410;  
nn410 - nn420; nn420 - nn430; nn430 - nn440;  
5 nn440 - nn450; nn450 - nn460; nn460 - nn470;  
nn470 - nn480; nn480 - nn490; nn490 - nn500;  
nn500 - nn510; nn510 - nn520; nn520 - nn530;  
nn530 - nn540; nn540 - nn550; nn550 - nn560;  
nn560 - nn570; nn570 - nn580; nn580 - nn590;  
10 nn590 - nn600; nn600 - nn610; nn610 - nn620;  
nn620 - nn630; nn630 - nn640; nn640 - nn650;  
nn650 - nn660; nn660 - nn670; nn670 - nn680;  
nn680 - nn690; nn690 - nn700; nn700 - nn710;  
nn710 - nn720; nn720 - nn730; nn730 - nn740;  
15 nn740 - nn750; nn750 - nn760; nn760 - nn770;  
nn770 - nn780; nn780 - nn790; nn790 - nn800;  
nn800 - nn810; nn810 - nn820; nn820 - nn830;  
nn830 - nn840; nn840 - nn850; nn850 - nn860;  
nn860 - nn870; nn870 - nn880; nn880 - nn890;  
20 nn890 - nn900; nn900 - nn910; nn910 - nn920;  
nn920 - nn930; nn930 - nn940; nn940 - nn950;  
nn950 - nn960; nn960 - nn970; nn970 - nn980;  
nn980 - nn990; nn990 - nn1000; nn1000 - nn1010;  
nn1010 - nn1020; nn1020 - nn1030; nn1030 - nn1040;  
25 nn1040 - nn1050; nn1050 - nn1060; nn1060 - nn1070;  
nn1070 - nn1080; nn1080 - nn1090; nn1090 - nn1100;  
nn1100 - nn1110; nn1110 - nn1120; nn1120 - nn1130;  
nn1130 - nn1140; nn1140 - nn1150; nn1150 - nn1160;  
nn1160 - nn1170; nn1170 - nn1180; nn1180 - nn1190;  
30 nn1190 - nn1200; nn1200 - nn1210; nn1210 - nn1220;  
nn1220 - nn1230; nn1230 - nn1240; nn1240 - nn1250;  
nn1250 - nn1260; nn1260 - nn1270; nn1270 - nn1280;  
nn1280 - nn1290; nn1290 - nn1300; nn1300 - nn1310;  
nn1310 - nn1320; nn1320 - nn1330; nn1330 - nn1340;  
35 nn1340 - nn1350; nn1350 - nn1360; nn1360 - nn1370;  
nn1370 - nn1380; nn1380 - nn1390; nn1390 - nn1400;

-118-

nn<sub>1400</sub> - nn<sub>1410</sub>; nn<sub>1410</sub> - nn<sub>1420</sub>; nn<sub>1420</sub> - nn<sub>1430</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1430</sub> - nn<sub>1440</sub>; nn<sub>1440</sub> - nn<sub>1450</sub>; nn<sub>1450</sub> - nn<sub>1460</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1460</sub> - nn<sub>1470</sub>; nn<sub>1470</sub> - nn<sub>1480</sub>; nn<sub>1480</sub> - nn<sub>1490</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1490</sub> - nn<sub>1500</sub>; nn<sub>1500</sub> - nn<sub>1510</sub>; nn<sub>1510</sub> - nn<sub>1520</sub>;  
 5 nn<sub>1520</sub> - nn<sub>1530</sub>; nn<sub>1530</sub> - nn<sub>1540</sub>; nn<sub>1540</sub> - nn<sub>1550</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1550</sub> - nn<sub>1560</sub>; nn<sub>1560</sub> - nn<sub>1570</sub>; nn<sub>1570</sub> - nn<sub>1580</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1580</sub> - nn<sub>1590</sub>; nn<sub>1590</sub> - nn<sub>1600</sub>; nn<sub>1600</sub> - nn<sub>1610</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1610</sub> - nn<sub>1620</sub>; nn<sub>1620</sub> - nn<sub>1630</sub>; nn<sub>1630</sub> - nn<sub>1640</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1640</sub> - nn<sub>1650</sub>; nn<sub>1650</sub> - nn<sub>1660</sub>; nn<sub>1660</sub> - nn<sub>1670</sub>;  
 10 nn<sub>1670</sub> - nn<sub>1680</sub>; nn<sub>1680</sub> - nn<sub>1690</sub>; nn<sub>1690</sub> - nn<sub>1700</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1700</sub> - nn<sub>1710</sub>; nn<sub>1710</sub> - nn<sub>1720</sub>; nn<sub>1720</sub> - nn<sub>1730</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1730</sub> - nn<sub>1740</sub>; nn<sub>1740</sub> - nn<sub>1750</sub>; nn<sub>1750</sub> - nn<sub>1760</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1760</sub> - nn<sub>1770</sub>; nn<sub>1770</sub> - nn<sub>1780</sub>; nn<sub>1780</sub> - nn<sub>1790</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1790</sub> - nn<sub>1800</sub>; nn<sub>1800</sub> - nn<sub>1810</sub>; nn<sub>1810</sub> - nn<sub>1820</sub>;  
 15 nn<sub>1820</sub> - nn<sub>1830</sub>; nn<sub>1830</sub> - nn<sub>1840</sub>; nn<sub>1840</sub> - nn<sub>1850</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1850</sub> - nn<sub>1860</sub>; nn<sub>1860</sub> - nn<sub>1870</sub>; nn<sub>1870</sub> - nn<sub>1880</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1880</sub> - nn<sub>1890</sub>; nn<sub>1890</sub> - nn<sub>1900</sub>; nn<sub>1900</sub> - nn<sub>1910</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1910</sub> - nn<sub>1920</sub>; nn<sub>1920</sub> - nn<sub>1930</sub>; nn<sub>1930</sub> - nn<sub>1940</sub>;  
 nn<sub>1940</sub> - nn<sub>1950</sub>; nn<sub>1950</sub> - nn<sub>1960</sub>; nn<sub>1960</sub> - nn<sub>1970</sub>;  
 20 nn<sub>1970</sub> - nn<sub>1980</sub>; nn<sub>1980</sub> - nn<sub>1990</sub>; nn<sub>1990</sub> - nn<sub>2000</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2000</sub> - nn<sub>2010</sub>; nn<sub>2010</sub> - nn<sub>2020</sub>; nn<sub>2020</sub> - nn<sub>2030</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2030</sub> - nn<sub>2040</sub>; nn<sub>2040</sub> - nn<sub>2050</sub>; nn<sub>2050</sub> - nn<sub>2060</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2060</sub> - nn<sub>2070</sub>; nn<sub>2070</sub> - nn<sub>2080</sub>; nn<sub>2080</sub> - nn<sub>2090</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2090</sub> - nn<sub>2100</sub>; nn<sub>2100</sub> - nn<sub>2110</sub>; nn<sub>2110</sub> - nn<sub>2120</sub>;  
 25 nn<sub>2120</sub> - nn<sub>2130</sub>; nn<sub>2130</sub> - nn<sub>2140</sub>; nn<sub>2140</sub> - nn<sub>2150</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2150</sub> - nn<sub>2160</sub>; nn<sub>2160</sub> - nn<sub>2170</sub>; nn<sub>2170</sub> - nn<sub>2180</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2180</sub> - nn<sub>2190</sub>; nn<sub>2190</sub> - nn<sub>2200</sub>; nn<sub>2200</sub> - nn<sub>2210</sub>;  
 nn<sub>2210</sub> - nn<sub>2220</sub>; nn<sub>2220</sub> - nn<sub>2230</sub>; nn<sub>2230</sub> - nn<sub>2240</sub>;  
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 30 nn<sub>2270</sub> - nn<sub>2280</sub>; nn<sub>2280</sub> - nn<sub>2290</sub>; nn<sub>2290</sub> - nn<sub>2300</sub>;  
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-122-

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-124-

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nn9050 - nn9060.

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3. The oligomer of claim 1, wherein the targeting sequence is comprised of a sequence which is complementary to a sequence of at least 8 nucleotides present in a conserved HCV nucleotide sequence in HCV RNA.

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4. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from the 5'-terminus to about 200 in Fig. 18.

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5. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about 4000 to about 5000 in Fig. 18.

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6. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about 8000 to about 9040 as shown in Fig. 18.

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7. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about -318 to about 174 as shown in Fig. 18.

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8. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about or from about 4056 to about 4448 as shown in Fig. 18.

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-126-

9. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about 4378 to about 4902 as shown in Fig. 13.

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10. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about 4042 to about 4059 as shown in Fig. 18.

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11. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about 4456 to about 4470 as shown in Fig. 18.

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12. The oligomer of claim 3, wherein the conserved sequence is located in the sequence of nucleotide numbers from about 8209 to about 8217 as shown in Fig. 18.

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13. The oligomer of any one of claim 3-12, which is a capture probe.

14. The oligomer of any one of claim 3-12, which is a label probe.

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15. The oligomer of any one of claim 3-12, which is a primer.

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16. A process for detecting an HCV sequence in an analyte strand suspected of containing an HCV polynucleotide, wherein the HCV polynucleotide comprises a selected target region, said process comprising:

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(a) providing an oligomer capable of hybridizing to an HCV sequence in an analyte polynucleotide strand, wherein the oligomer is comprised of an HCV targeting sequence according to any one of the preceding claims.

5 (b) incubating the analyte strand with the oligomer of (a) which allow specific hybrid duplexes to form between the targeting sequence and the target sequence; and

(d) detecting hybrid formed between target region, if any, and the oligomer.

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17. The process of claim 16 which further comprises:

(a) providing a set oligomers which are primers for the polymerase chain reaction method and which flank the target region; and

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(b) amplifying the target region via a polymerase chain reaction method.

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18. A kit for detecting an HCV target sequence in an analyte strand, comprising the oligomer according to any one of claims 1-15 packaged in a suitable container.

19. A method for preparing blood free of HCV comprising:

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(a) providing analyte nucleic acids from a sample of blood suspected of containing an HCV target sequence;

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(b) providing an oligomer capable of hybridizing to the HCV sequence in an analyte polynucleotide strand, if any, wherein the oligomer is comprised of an HCV targeting sequence according to any one of claims 3-15;

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(c) reacting (a) with (b) under conditions which allow the formation of a polynucleotide duplex

-128-

between the targeting sequence and the target sequence, if any;

(d) detecting a duplex formed in (c), if any;

and

5 (e) saving the blood from which complexes were not detected in (d).

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-129-

ABSTRACT

5 A new virus, Hepatitis C virus (HCV), which has  
proven to be the major etiologic agent of blood-borne  
NANBH, was discovered by Applicant. Reagents for isolat-  
ing, amplifying, and detecting HCV polynucleotides are  
provided. These reagents are oligomers comprised of  
10 polynucleotide sequences which are capable of forming  
hybrid structures with HCV target polynucleotide  
sequences.

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