

Hybrid PHC 2024

March 18-19, 2024

Institut Pasteur - Paris

Controversy: treat everyone with detectable HBV DNA?

Yes!

Jidong Jia, MD, PhD

March 18, 2024

Beijing Friendship Hospital, Capital Medical University



Disclosure

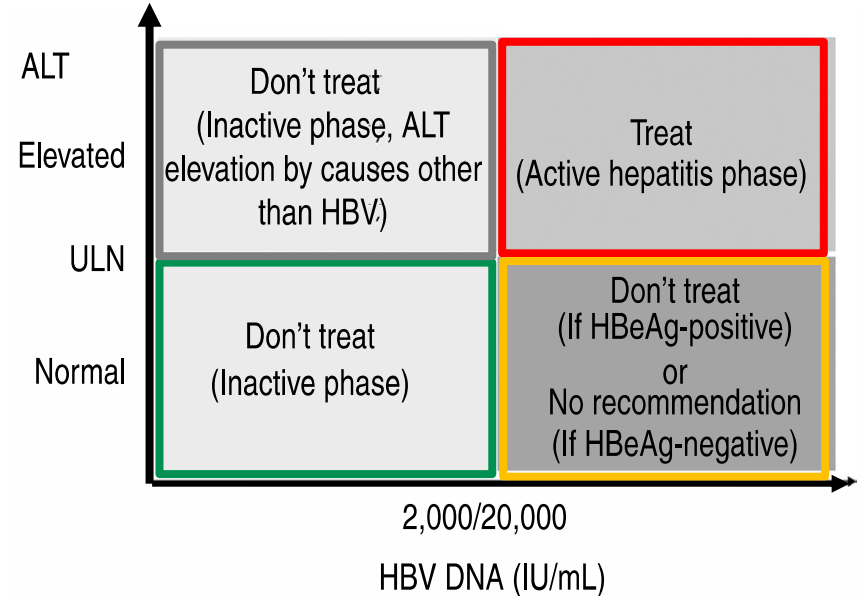
- **Investigator for clinical HBV trials of GSK, Gilead, BiiBiosciences and H&H pharmaceutical companies**

Outlines

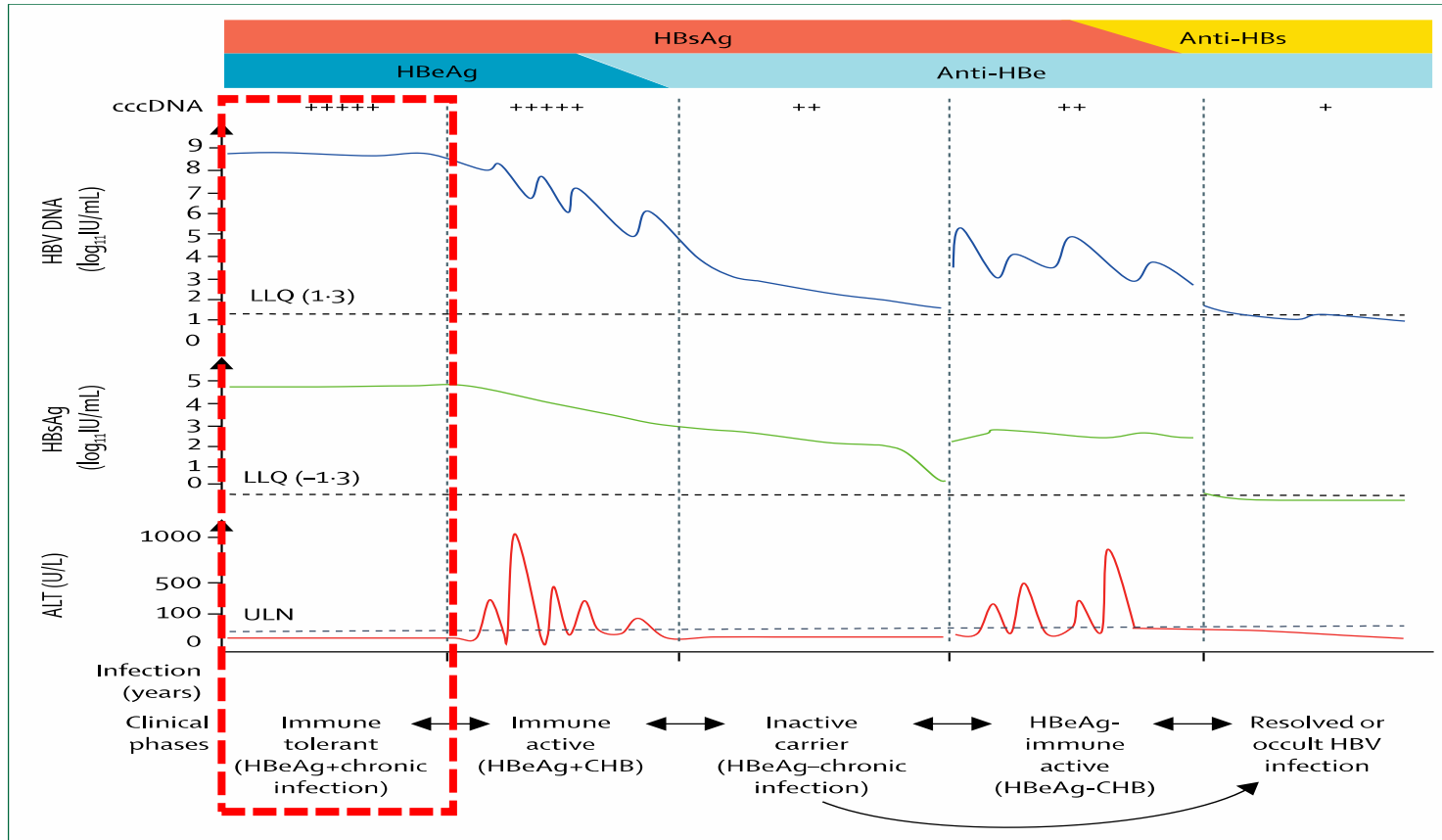
- **The rationale to treat patients in immune tolerant phase**
- **The rationale to treat patients in inactive phase**
- **The rationale to treat patients in indeterminate phase**

Rationale for not treating immune tolerant and inactive phases of CHB

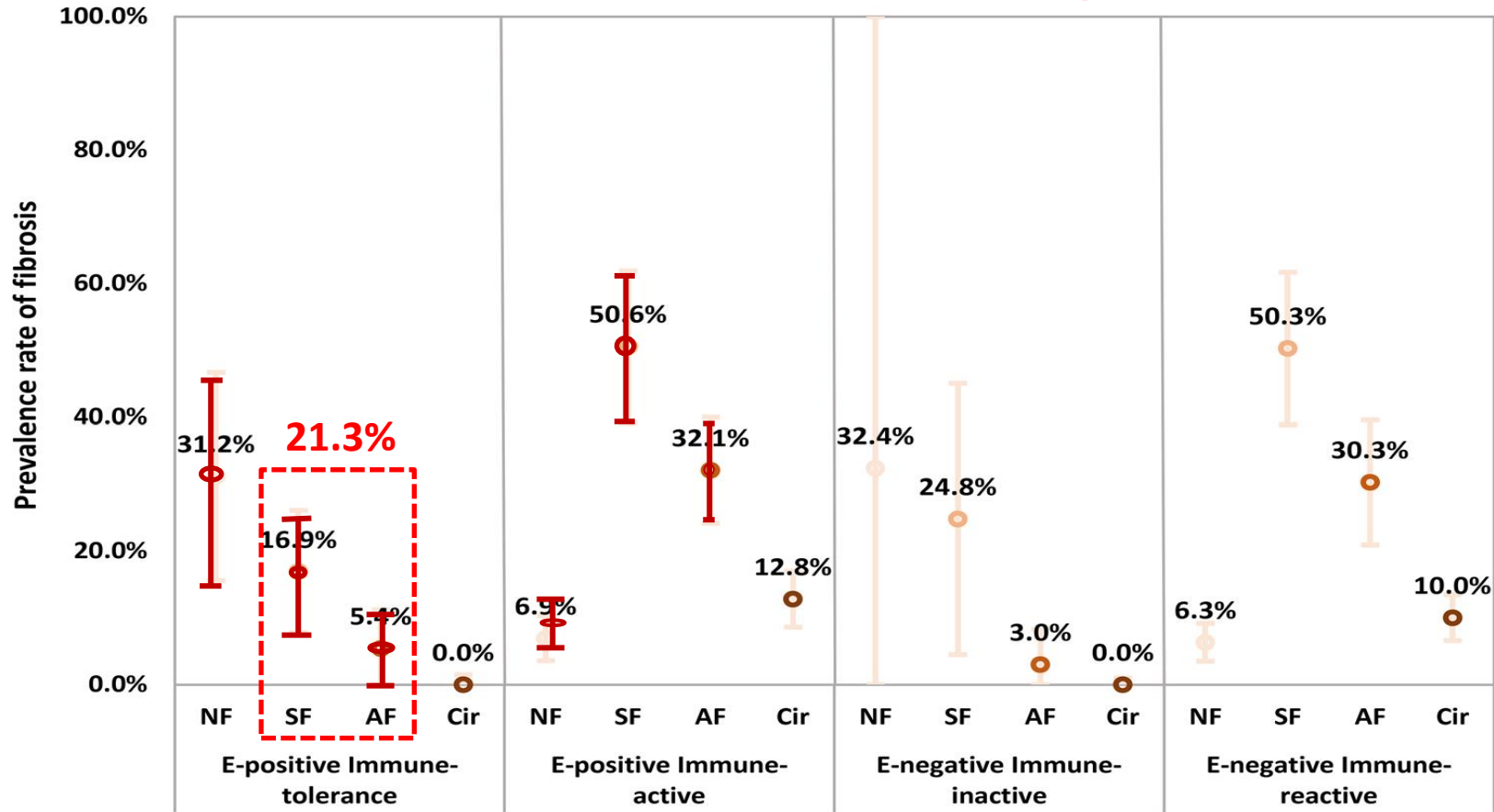
- For Immune tolerant phase CHB
 - Minimal necroinflammation/fibrosis
 - Slow disease progression
 - Low HBeAg & HBsAg seroconversion on current Tx
- For inactive phase CHB
 - Minimal necroinflammation/fibrosis
 - Minimal disease progression



Immune tolerant phase: high HBV DNA and normal ALT

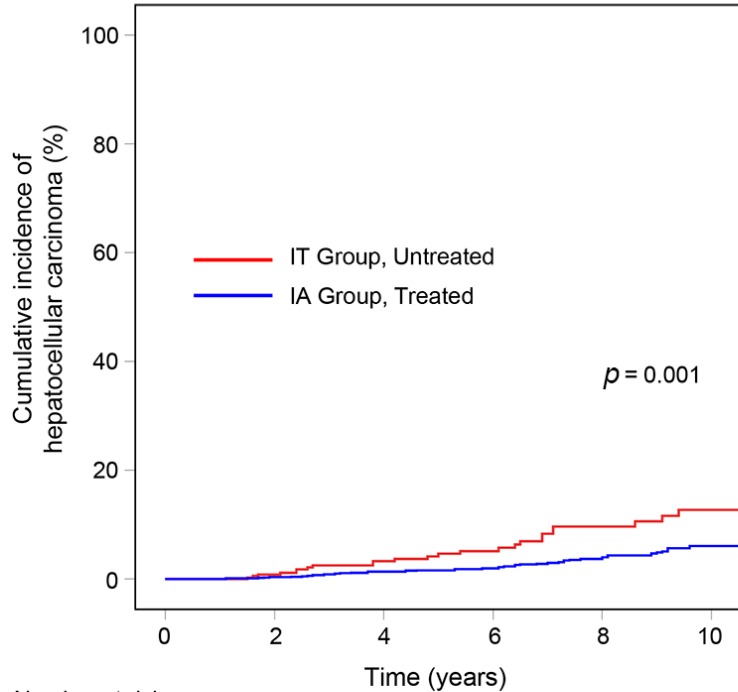


Immune tolerant phase is associated with significant fibrosis burden



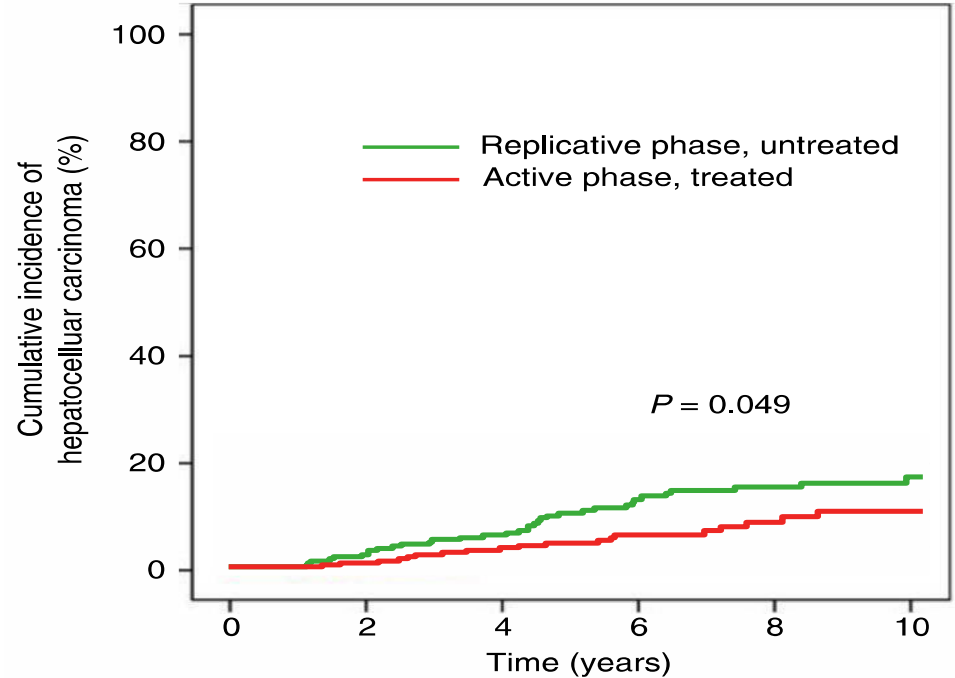
Higher risk of HCC in patients with untreated IT- than NA-treated IA-CHB

(A) HCC



Number at risk

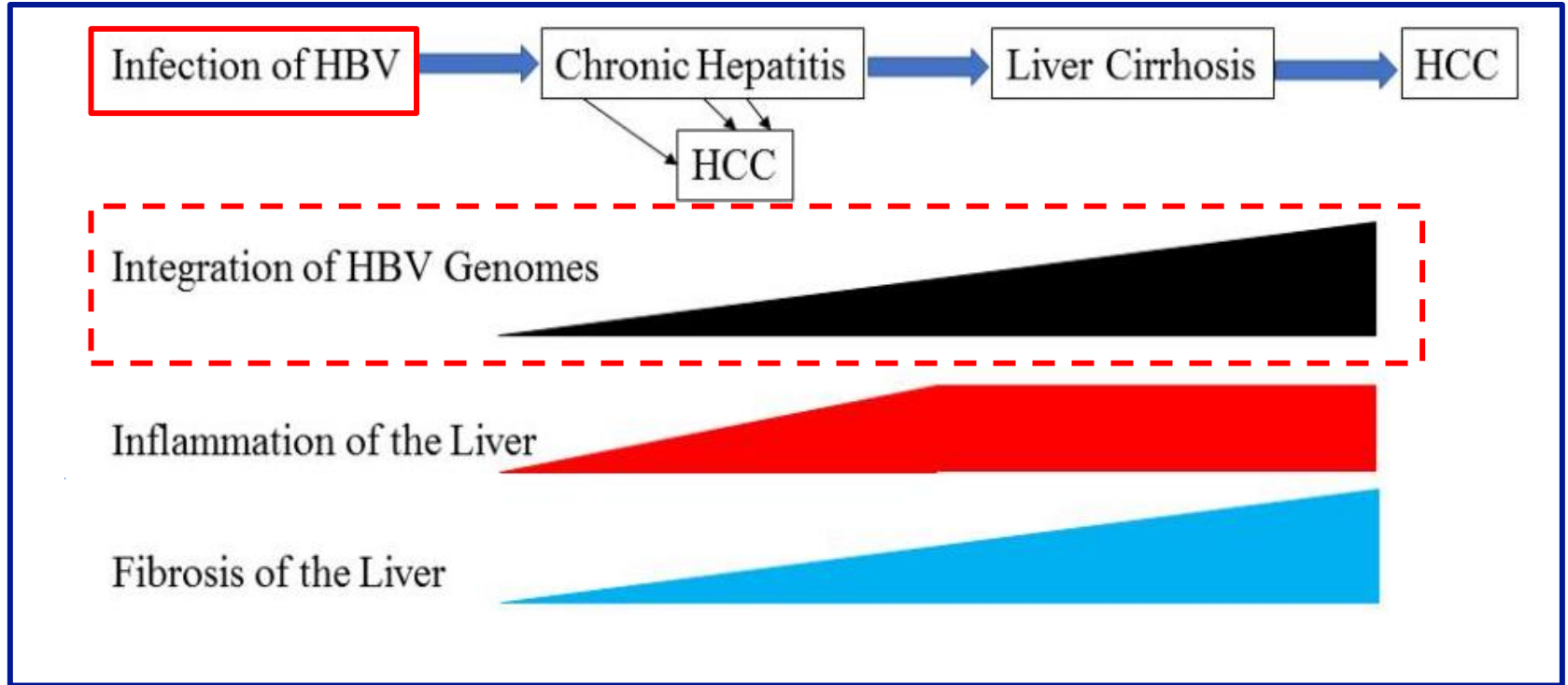
IT Group	413	331	233	169	111	58
IA Group	1497	1342	1075	823	605	408



Number at risk

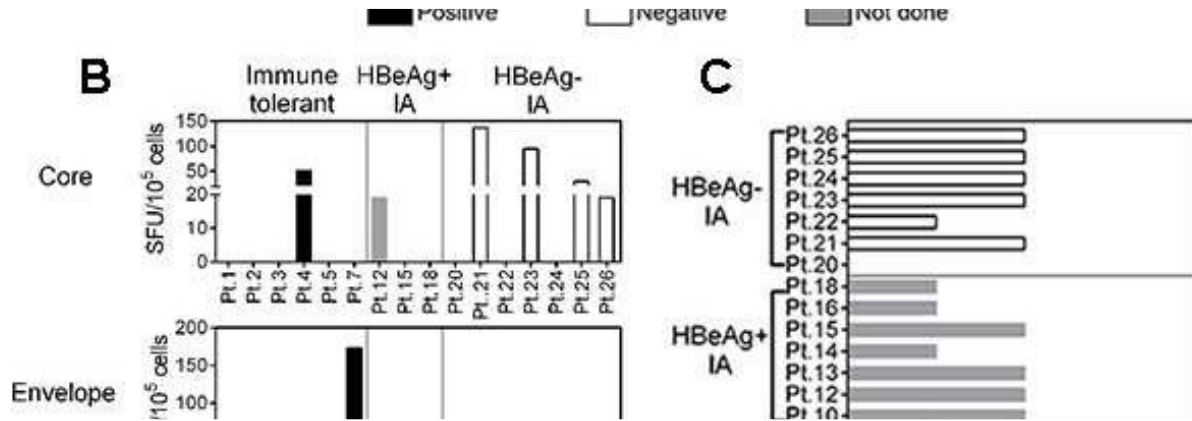
Replicative	273	266	236	195	153	85
Active	273	268	242	175	106	67

Integration of HBV genome is involved in the development of HCC

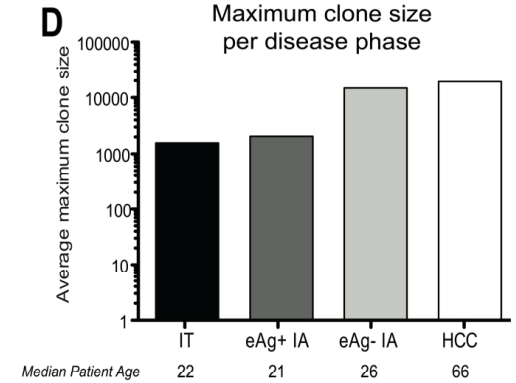


Similar HBV DNA integration & clonal hepatocyte expansion in IT & IA

HBV integration



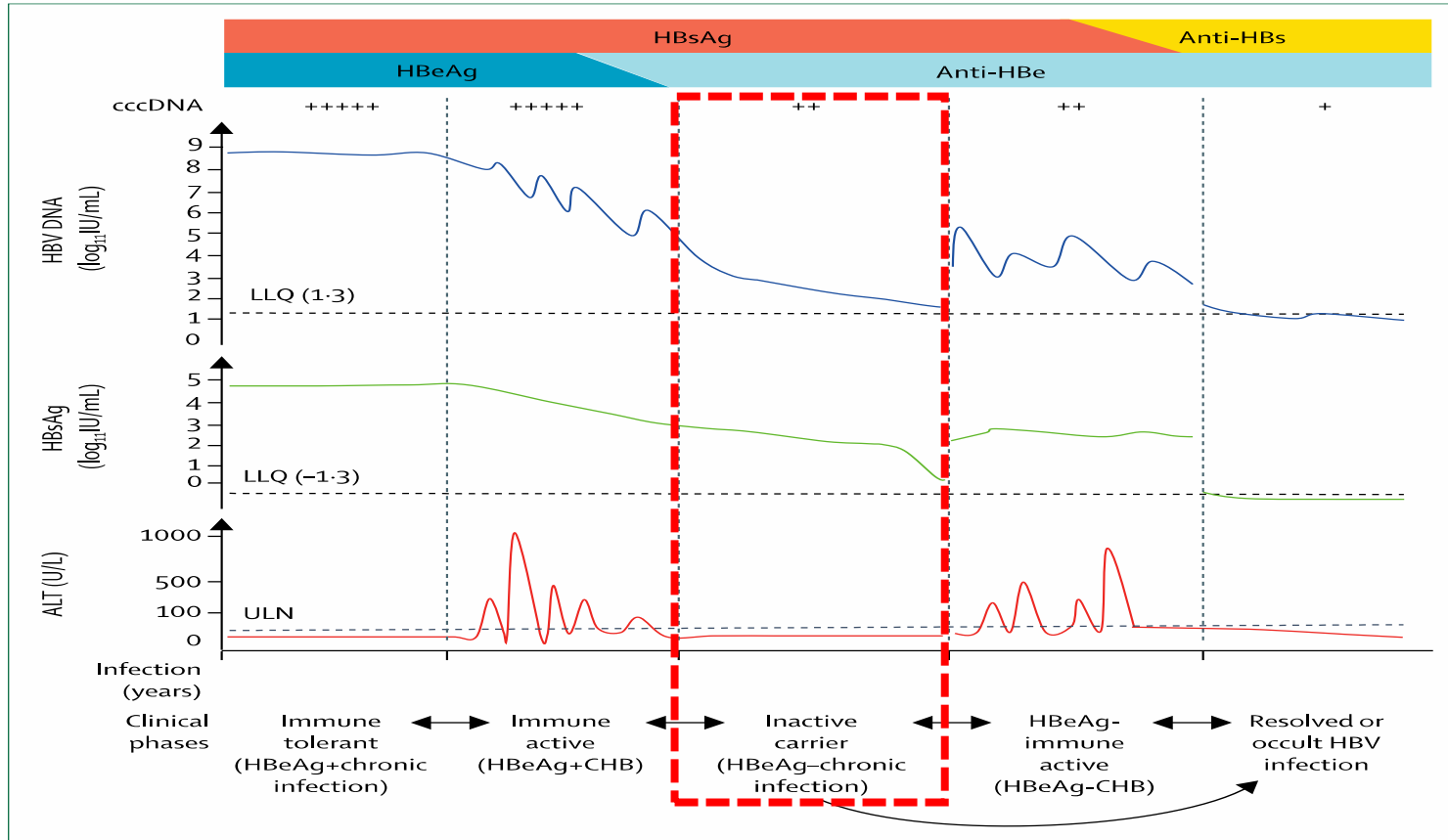
Hepatocyte expansion



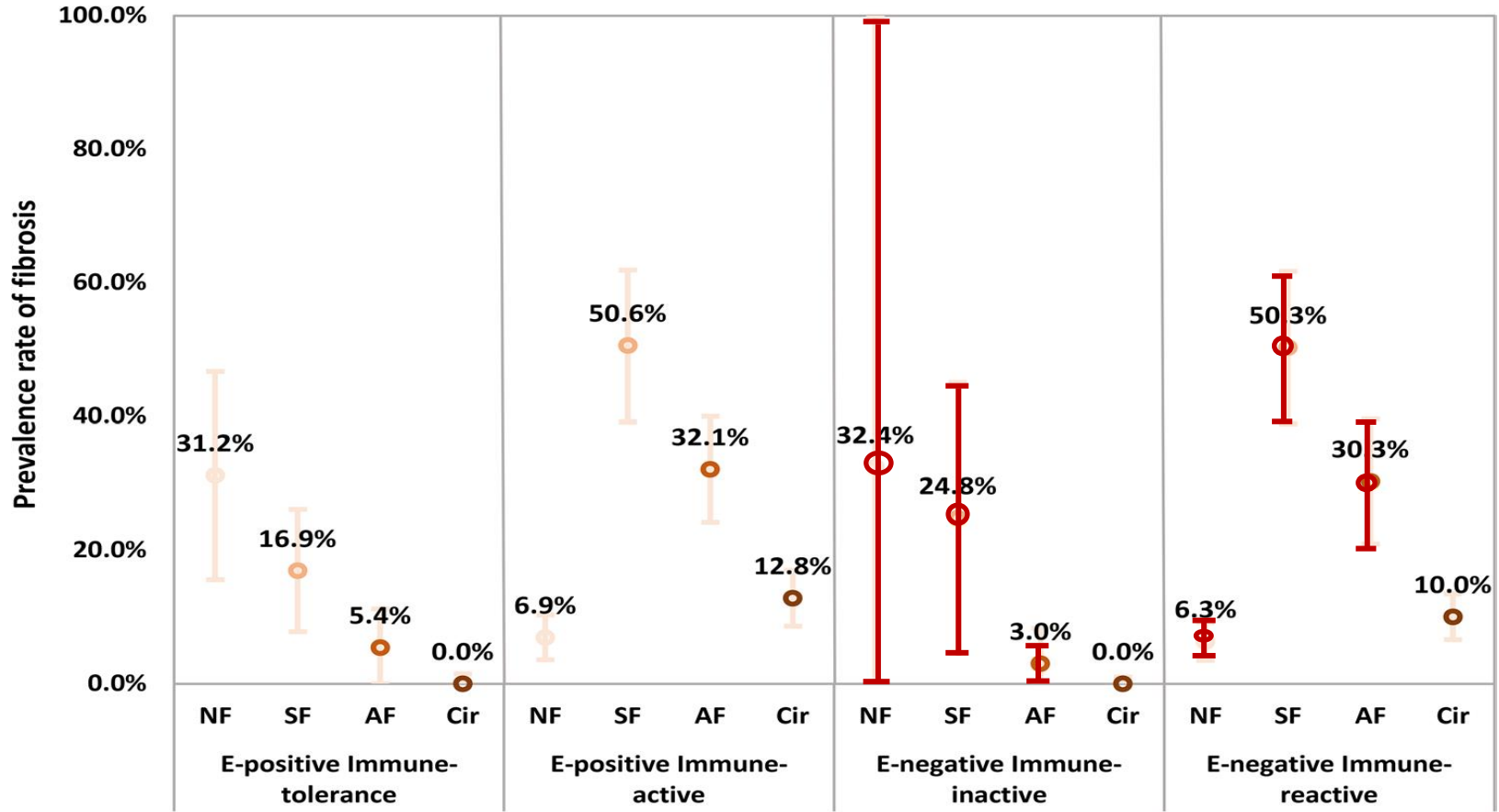
Outlines

- The rationale to treat patients in immune tolerant phase
- **The rationale to treat patients in inactive phase**
- The rationale to treat patients in indeterminate phase

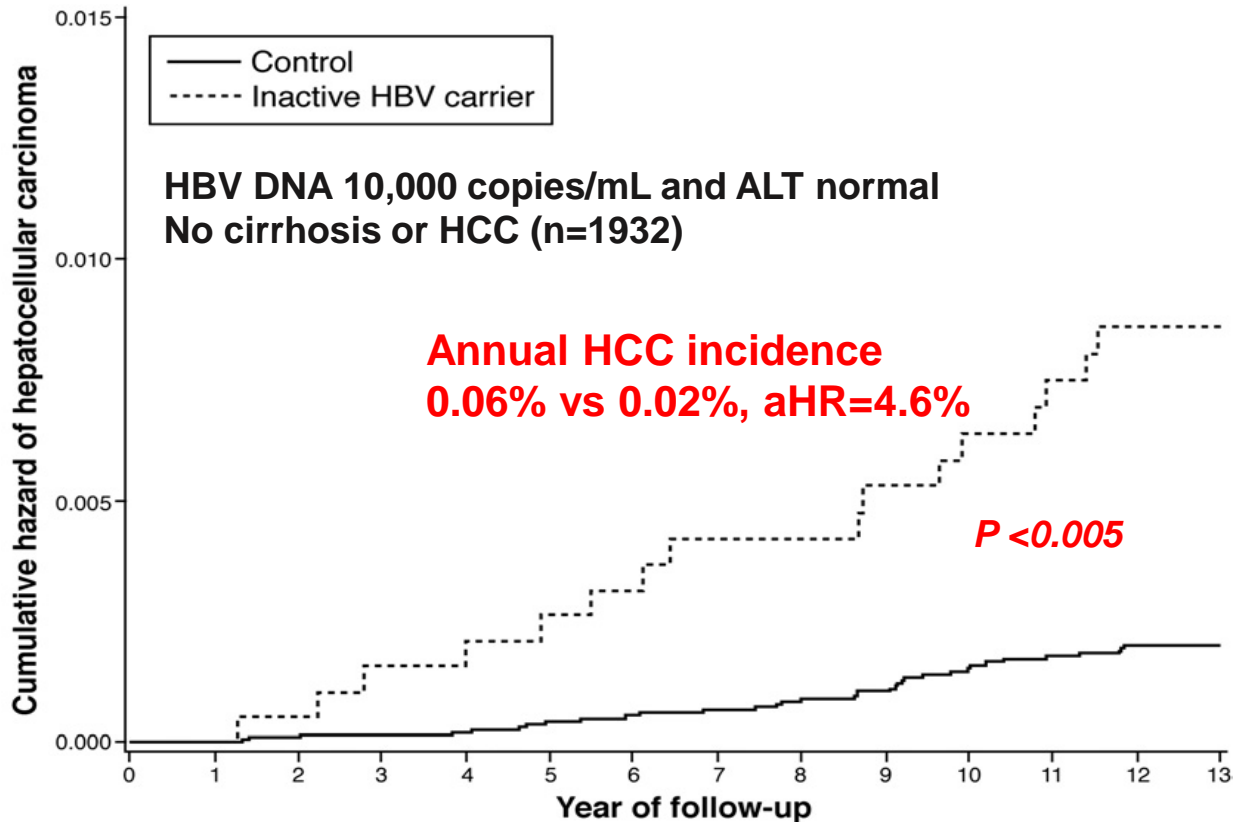
Inactive carriers phase-Low HBV DNA and normal ALT



Inactive phase also associated with fibrosis burden



REVEAL: inactive carriers have a higher HCC risk than those without HBV infection

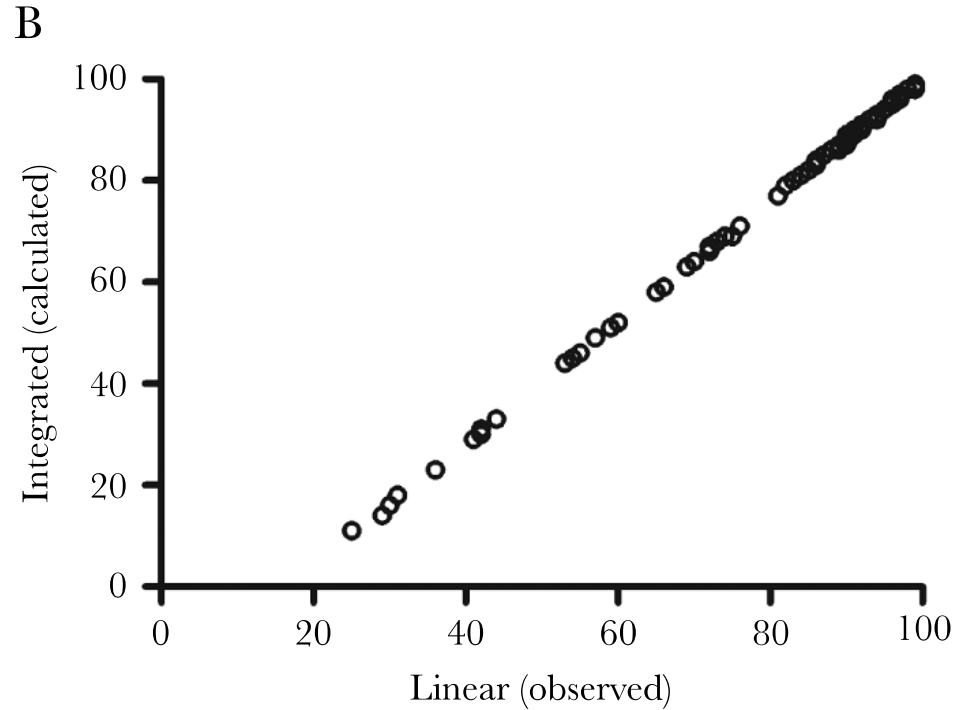
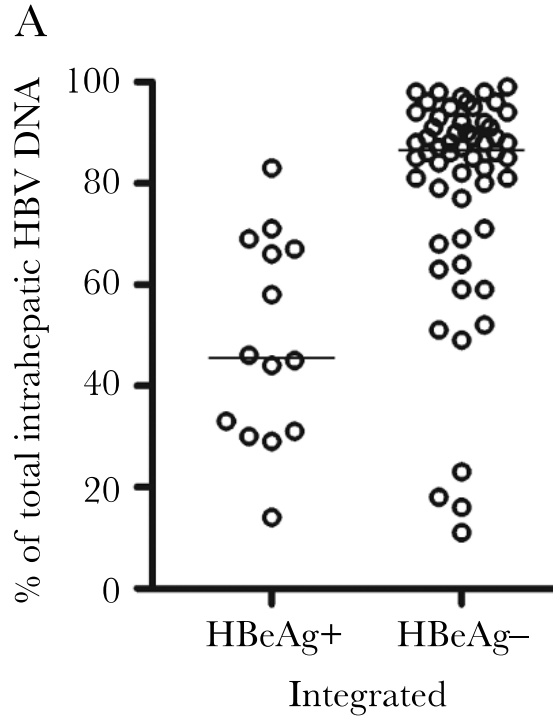


HCC occurred during long-term follow-up of inactive carriers

(HBeAg-, ALT <40 U/L, HBV DNA <10 000 copies/mL)

- **146 inactive carriers (mostly Asian) were followed up for 8±6.3 years**
 - ✓ 129 (88.4%) remained “inactive carriers”
 - ✓ 13 (8.9%) loss of HBsAg
 - ✓ 1 (0.7%) reactivation to HBeAg-negative CHB,
 - ✓ **2 (1.4%) developed HCC**

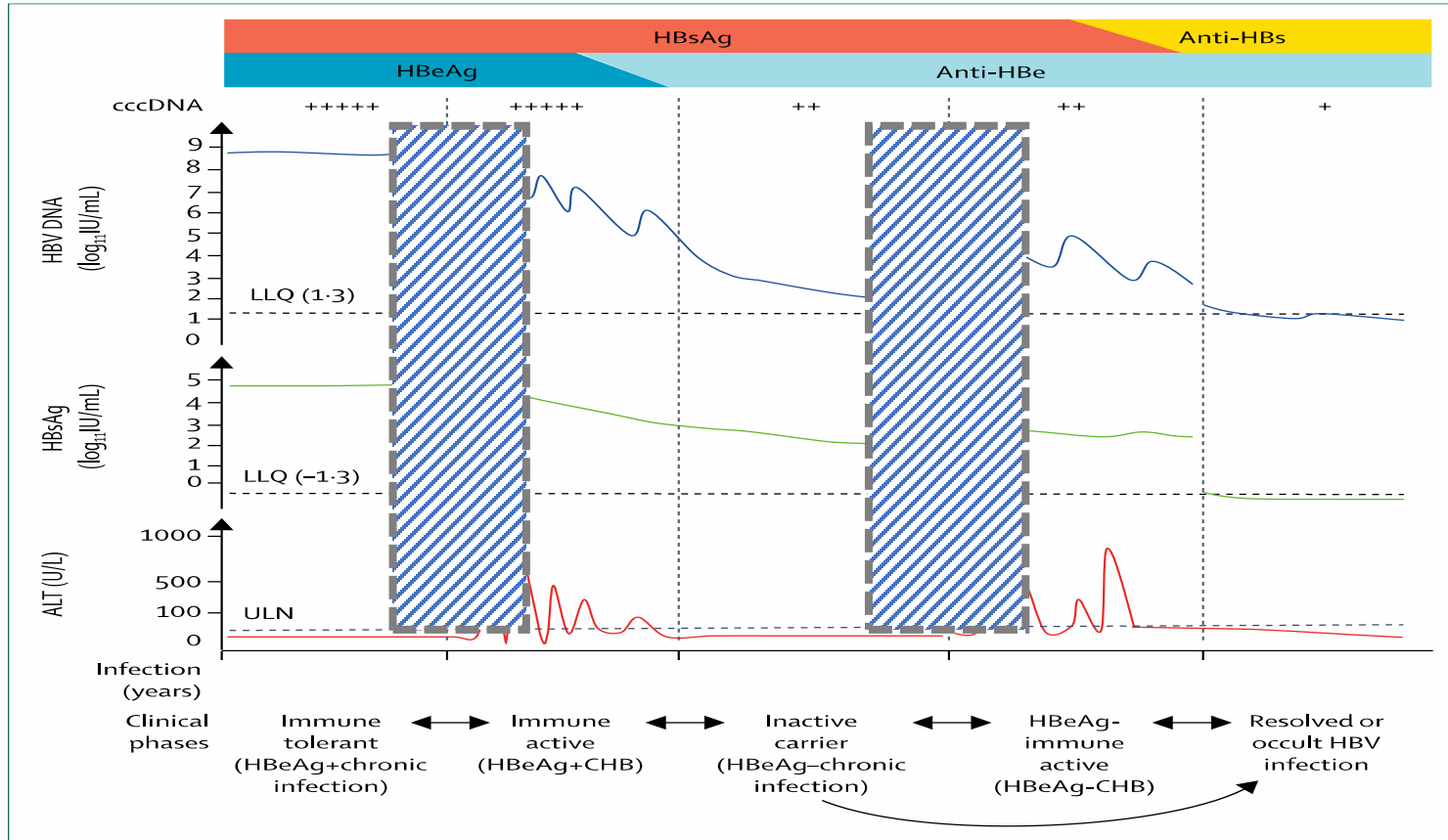
The degree of integration of HBV DNA in HBeA(-) stage may be higher than previously anticipated



Outlines

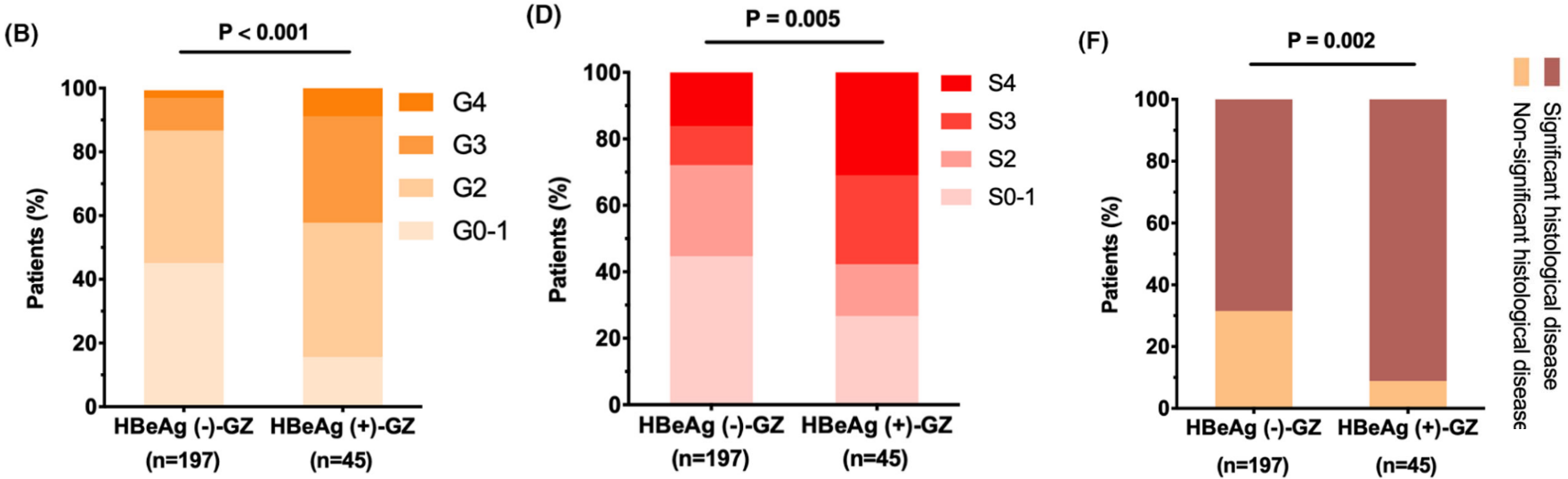
- **The rationale to treat patients in immune tolerant phase**
- **The rationale to treat patients in inactive phase**
- **The rationale to treat patients in indeterminate phase**

Grey-zone or Indeterminate phases of CHB



23.2% (242 /1043) CHB patients within grey zone

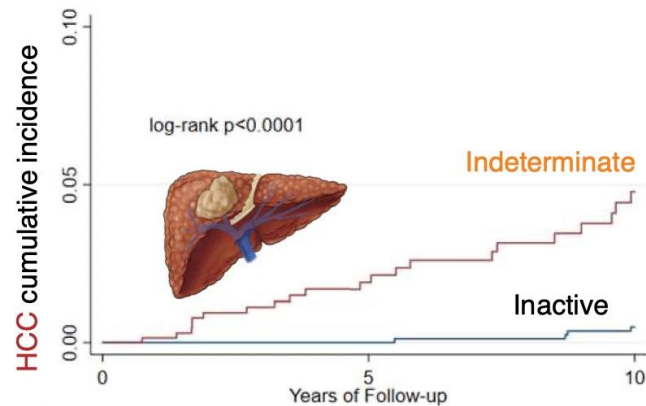
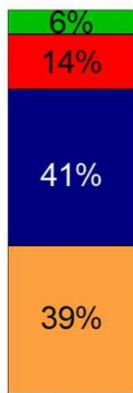
72.7%(176/242) of grey-zone pts had significant histological disease



Natural History and HCC Risk in Chronic Hepatitis B Indeterminate Phase

3,366 treatment naïve CHB patients

- ✓ 39% were in the **indeterminate** phase at baseline
- ✓ **HCC** risk among **indeterminate** patients was 14X that of inactive patients

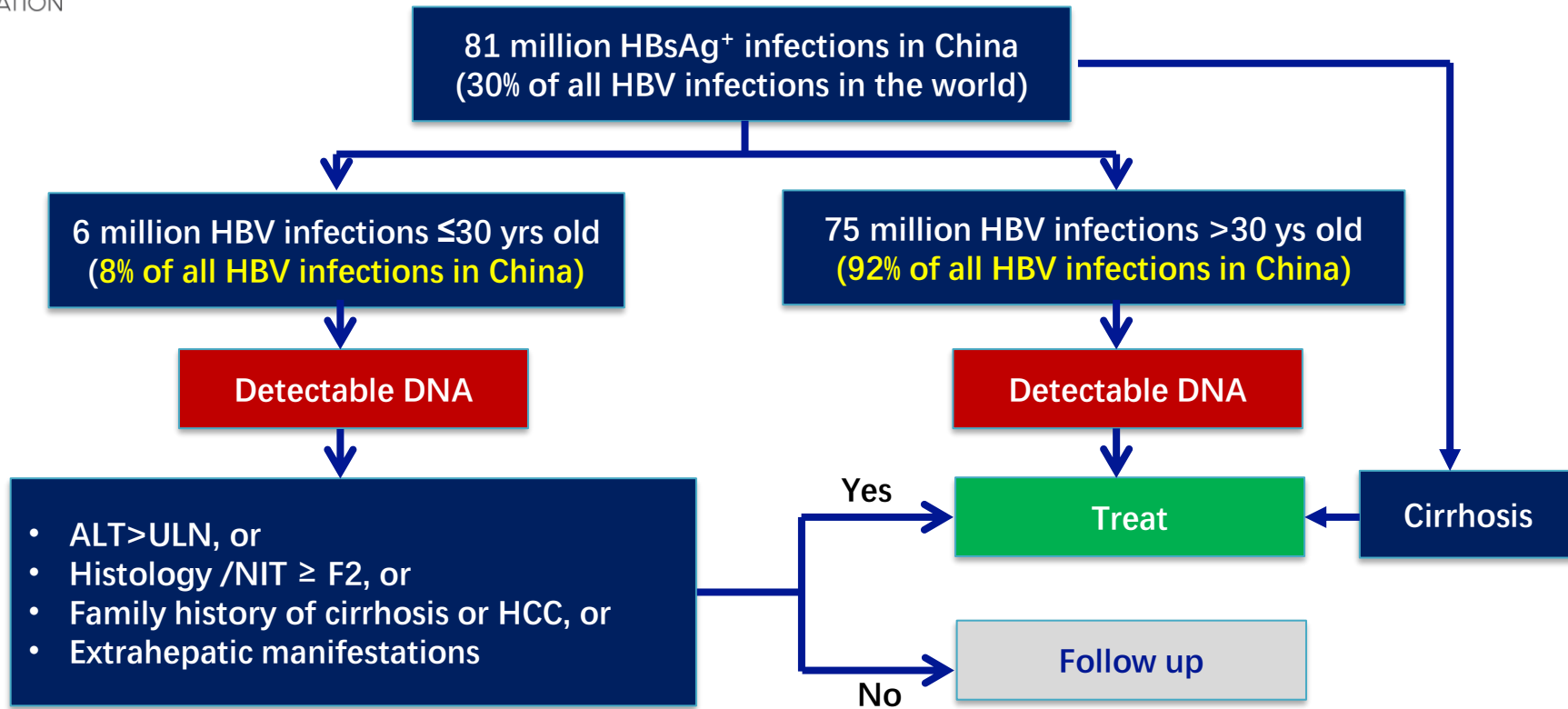


“Indeterminate phase”: patients with elevated ALT but low HBV DNA, or elevated HBV DNA but low ALT levels, fall outside any of the 4 phases

China HBV Treatment Guidelines(2022)



-Test more, treat more, treat earlier and treat longer!



Summary: the rationale for treating all with detectable HBV DNA

- Significant necroinflammation/fibrosis exists among a rather big proportion of patients with **immune tolerant , inactive, or indeterminate phase**
- **HBV genome integration and hepatocyte clonal expansion** occur during all these three **phases**
- Necroinflammation and fibrosis together with HBV genome integration pose a high risk of cirrhosis and HCC development
- Therefore, **treat everyone with detectable HBV DNA** would be critical to reduce the development of cirrhosis, HCC and the related deaths, which is the ultimate goal of antiviral therapy

Thanks for your attention !

