REVIEW

Review of the Epidemiology, Molecular Characterization and Tropism of the Hepatitis G Virus / GBV-C

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SUMMARY

The hepatitis G virus and GBV-C are recently discovered variants of the same virus belonging to the family Flaviviridae (HGV/GBV-C). Although initially thought to be a hepatitis virus, it has been shown to have no association with liver disease. This paper reviews the data relating to the discovery, global prevalence, natural history, disease association, molecular features, replication and tissue tropism of HGV/GBV-C. (Clin. Lab. 2001;47:239-248)