



**Hepatitis B Foundation**  
*Cause for a Cure*



# Understanding new medicines to treat chronic hepatitis B: toward a cure

October 26, 2016

# Define an HBV cure

## Functionally (practical):

- Sustained, off drug response (loss of viremia and antigenemia)

## Clinically:

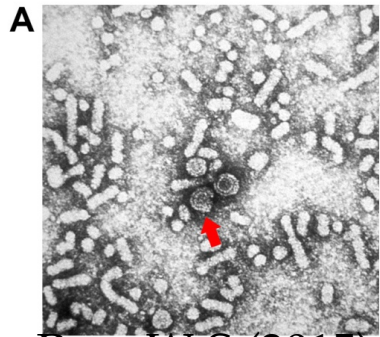
- Return an individual to the risk of death and disease due to liver disease to that of an age and gender adjusted uninfected individual
  - *Block, Gish et al, AVR, 2015*
  - *Liang, Block et al, Hepatology, 2016*



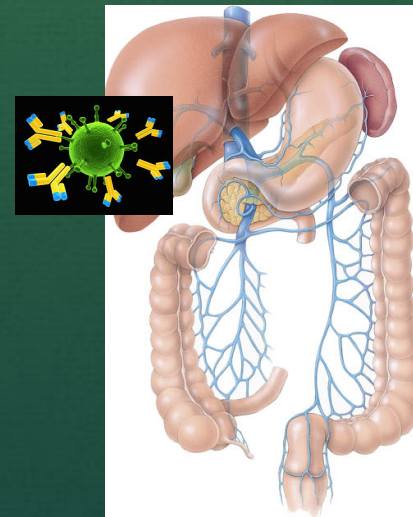
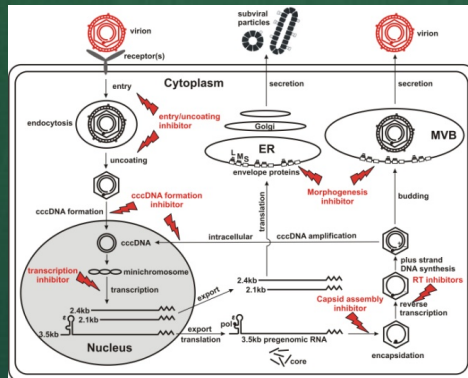
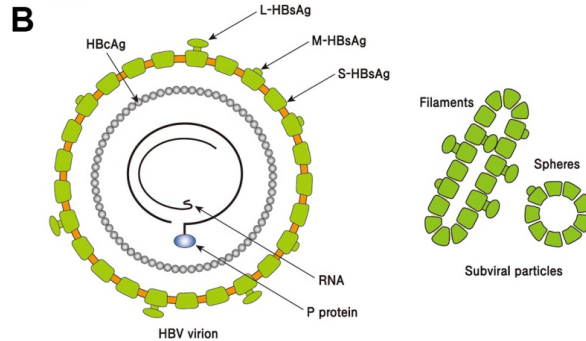
# Categories of HBV therapeutics

Direct Acting Antivirals (DAA)

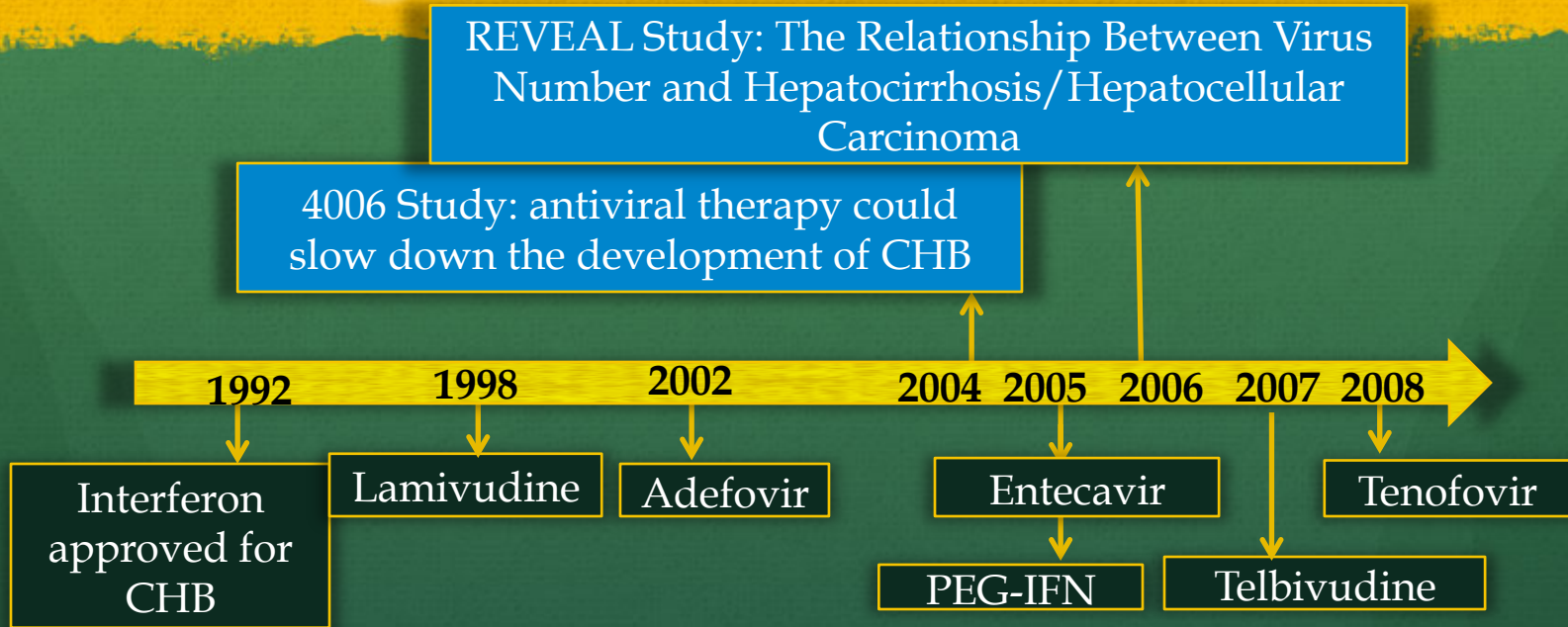
Indirect (Host) Acting Antivirals (Hos)



Ryu, W-S (2015)



# Timeline of Approved Drugs for Chronic HBV



Tenofovir approved in US for HBV, in 2008, but not yet approved in China for HBV

*All are Direct Acting Antivirals (DAA)*

# Functional cures do occur with current therapeutics, although rarely

## JOURNAL OF HEPATOLOGY

**Table 2. Results of main studies for the treatment of HBeAg-positive chronic hepatitis B at 6 months following 12 months (48 or 52 weeks) of pegylated interferon alpha (PEG-IFN) and at 12 months (48 or 52 weeks) of nucleos(t)ide analogue therapy.**

	PEG-IFN		Nucleoside analogues			Nucleotide analogues	
	PEG-IFN-2a	PEG-IFN-2b	Lamivudine	Telbivudine	Entecavir	Adefovir	Tenofovir
Dose*	180 µg	100 µg	100 mg	600 mg	0.5 mg	10 mg	245 mg
[Ref.]	[63]	[64]	[63, 65-68]	[68]	[67]	[69, 70]	[70]
Anti-HBe seroconversion (%)	32	29	16-18	22	21	12-18	21
HBV DNA <60-80 IU/ml (%)	14	7	36-44	60	67	13-21	76
ALT normalisation# (%)	41	32	41-72	77	68	48-54	68
HBsAg loss (%)	3	7	0-1	0.5	2	0	3

\*PEG-IFN were given as percutaneous injections once weekly and nucleos(t)ide analogues as oral tablets once daily.

#The definition of ALT normalisation varied among different trials (i.e. decrease of ALT to  $\leq 1.25$ -times the upper limit of normal (ULN) in the entecavir or  $\leq 1.3$ -times the ULN in the telbivudine trial).

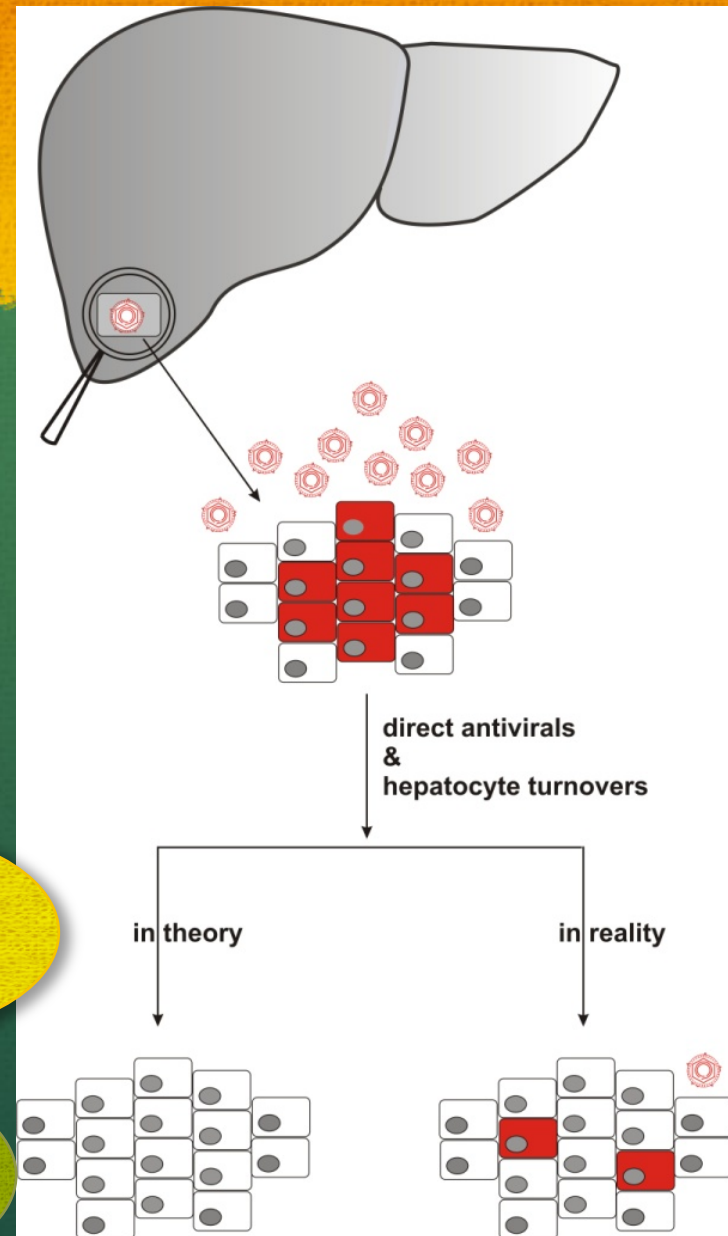


Failure to cure with NUCs is  
because

Nests of infected cells (cccDNA containing) remain;  
HBsAg continues to be made:  
T cells exhausted  
B cells: no detectable HBsAb

T cells  
(exhausted)

B cells (No  
detectable  
Antibody to  
HBs)



# Need

- Something new that complements current compounds
- *Different mechanism DAA*
- *+*
- *An immuno-enhancer*



# Categories of Anti-HBV Strategies

## Direct Acting Antivirals

- In Use
  - Polymerase
- Potential
  - RNaseH
  - RNAi
  - Capsid inhibitors
  - sAg
  - eAg
  - Virus attachment
  - CRISPR/CAS

## In-Direct Acting Antivirals

### Immuno-modulatory

- In Use
  - Interferons
- Potential
  - Therapeutic vaccines
  - PD-1 blockade
  - Toll R agonists
  - STING, other innate defense
  - Interleukins, other cytokines

### Essential host functions

- In Use
  - None for HBV
- Potential
  - Epigenetic modifiers
  - Entry
  - Morphogenesis
  - Exit
  - Glycan processing

# The HBV Therapeutic Development Landscape as of Jan, 2016

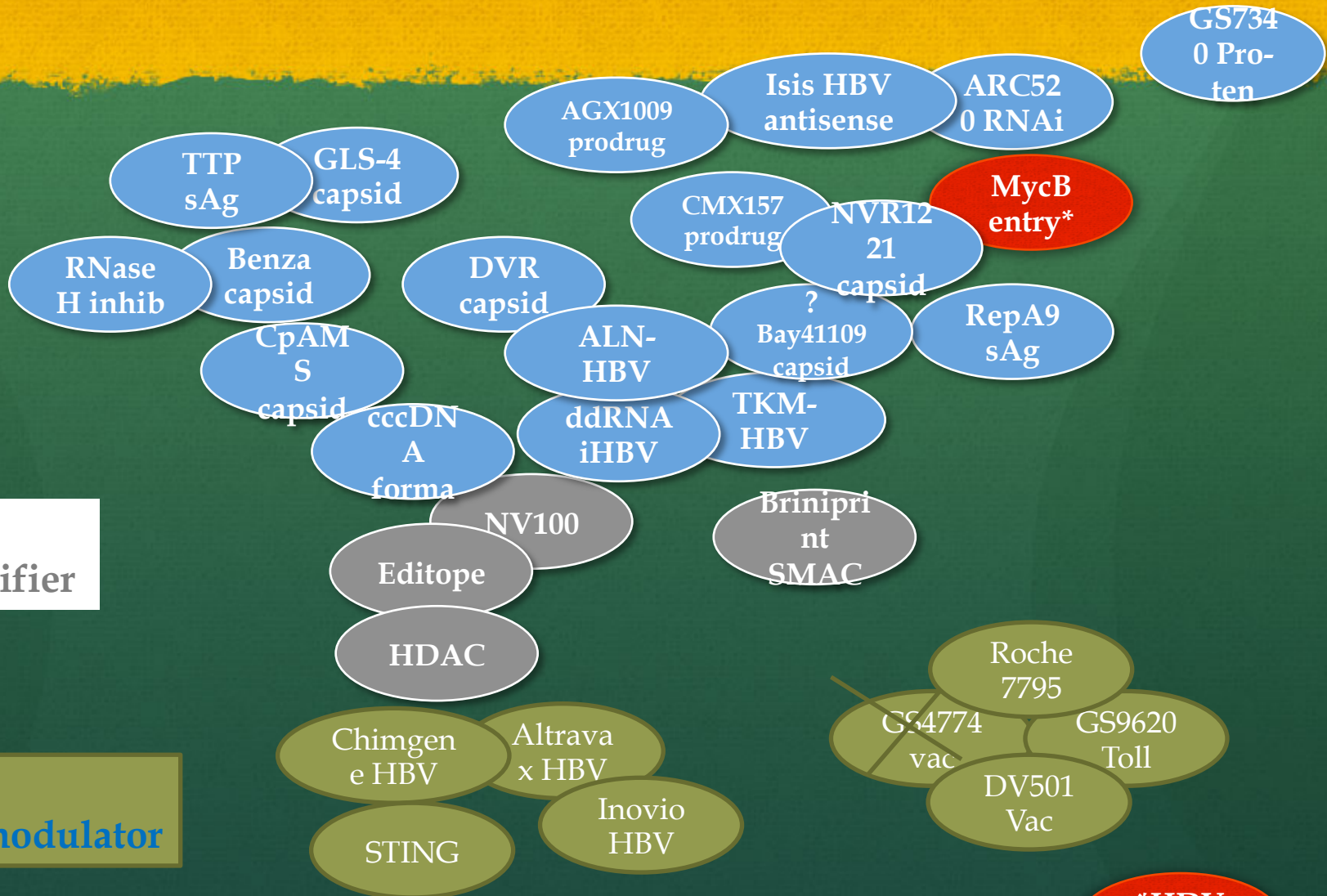
Pre-clinical

Human Phase Trials

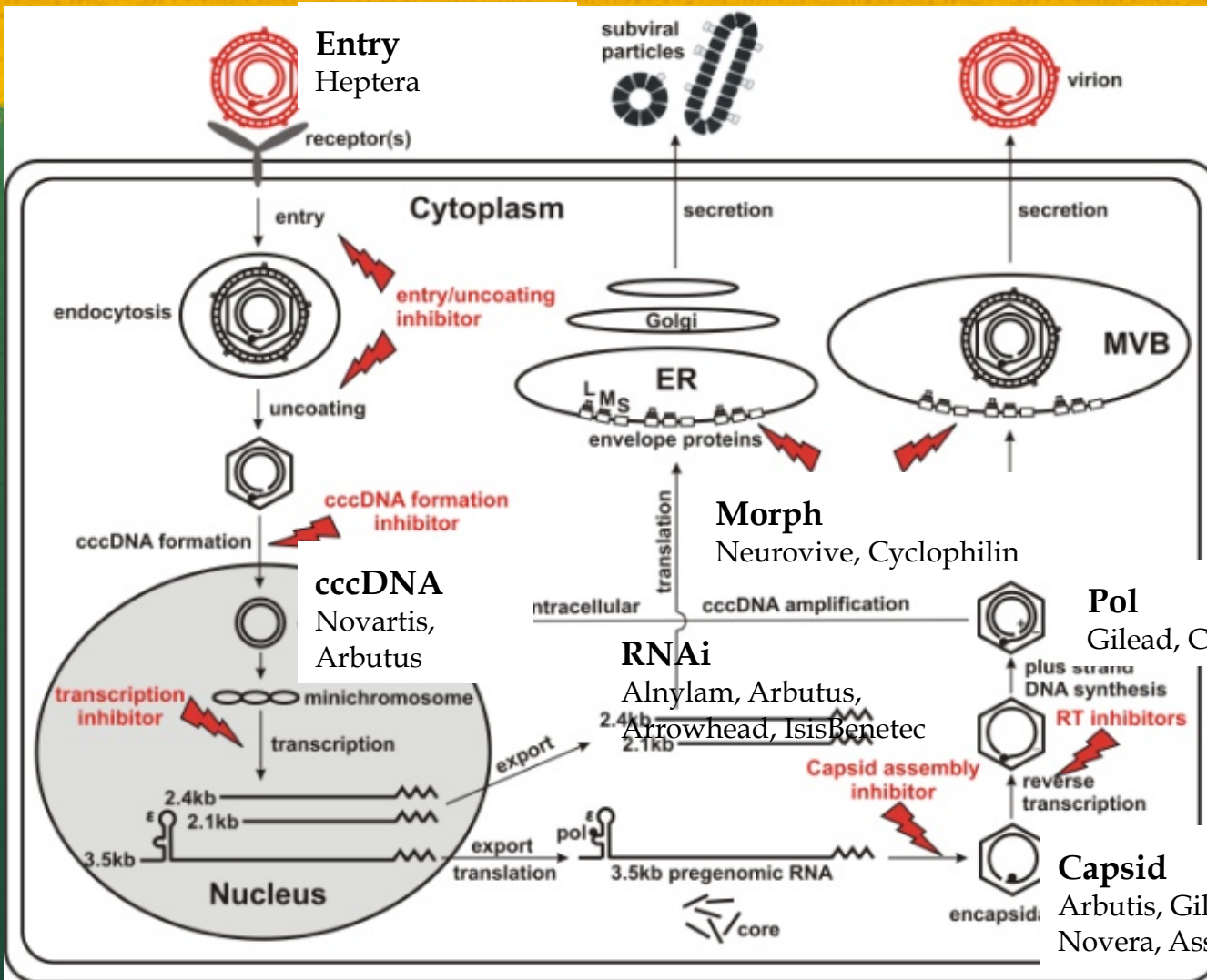
DA  
A

Indirect  
Host modifier

Indirect  
Immunomodulator



\*HDV active



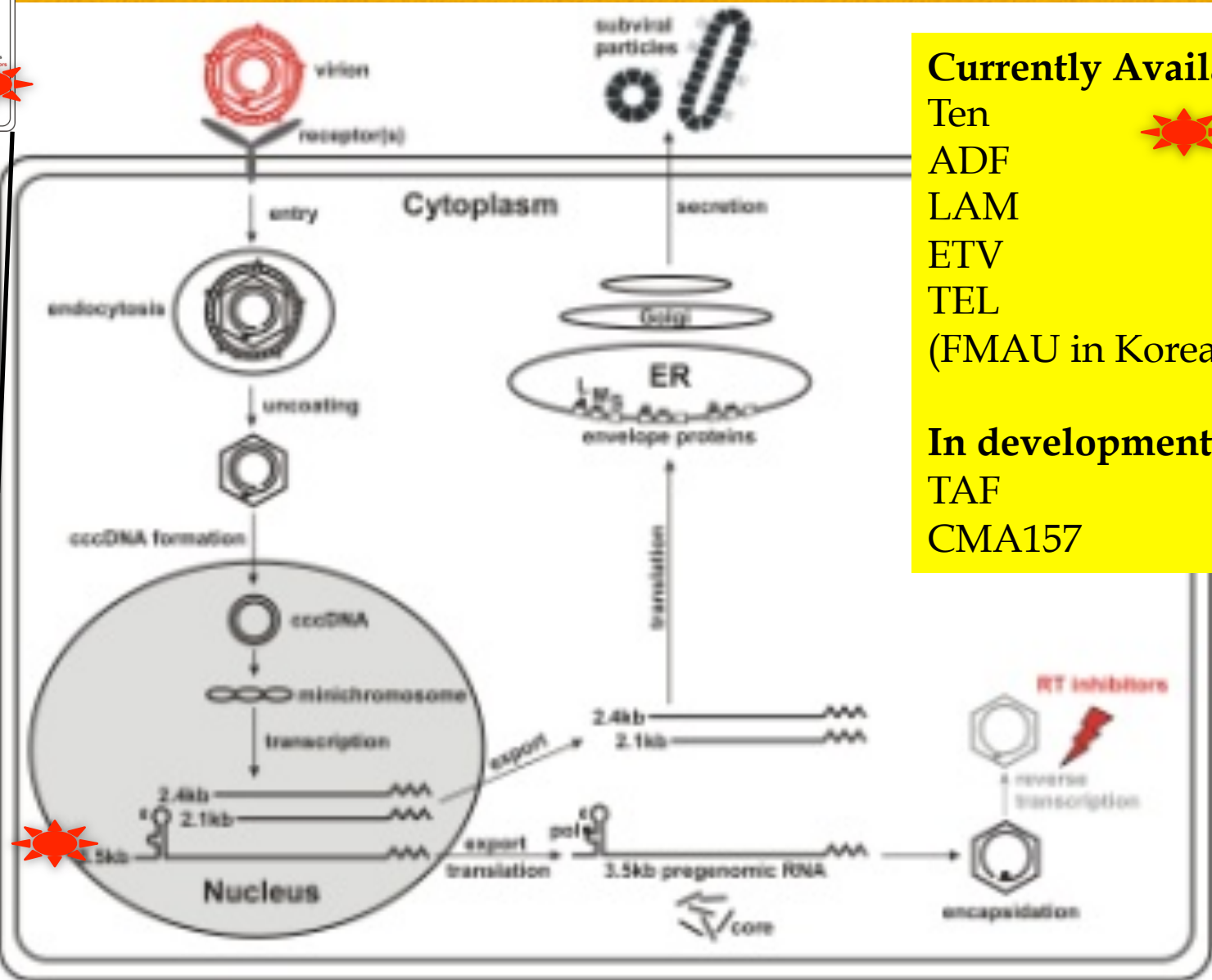
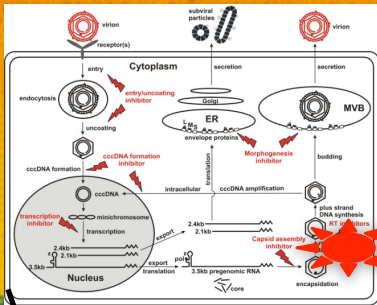
**Immuno**  
Gilead, Arbutus,  
Roche, Inovio,  
Akshaya, Springbank

**Pol**  
Gilead, Contravir

**Capsid**  
Arbutis, Gilead, Roche,  
Novera, Assembly, Jansen



# Pol inhibitors:



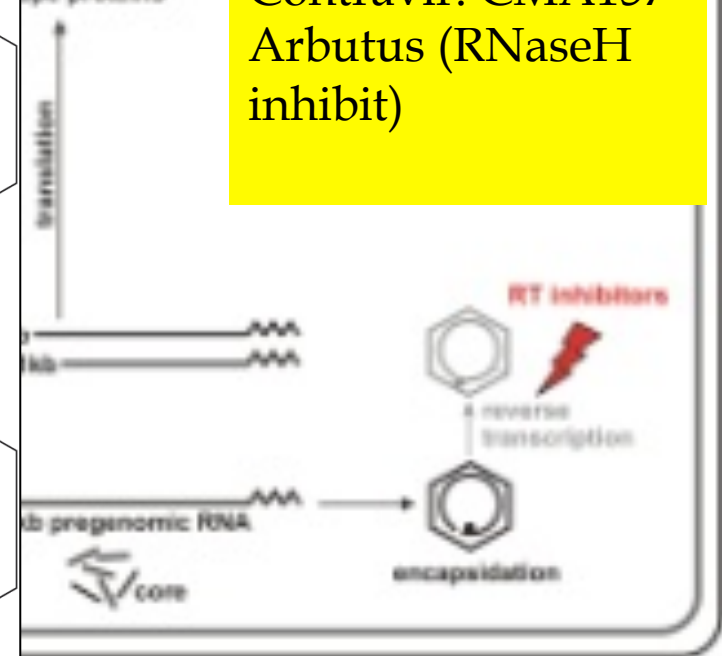
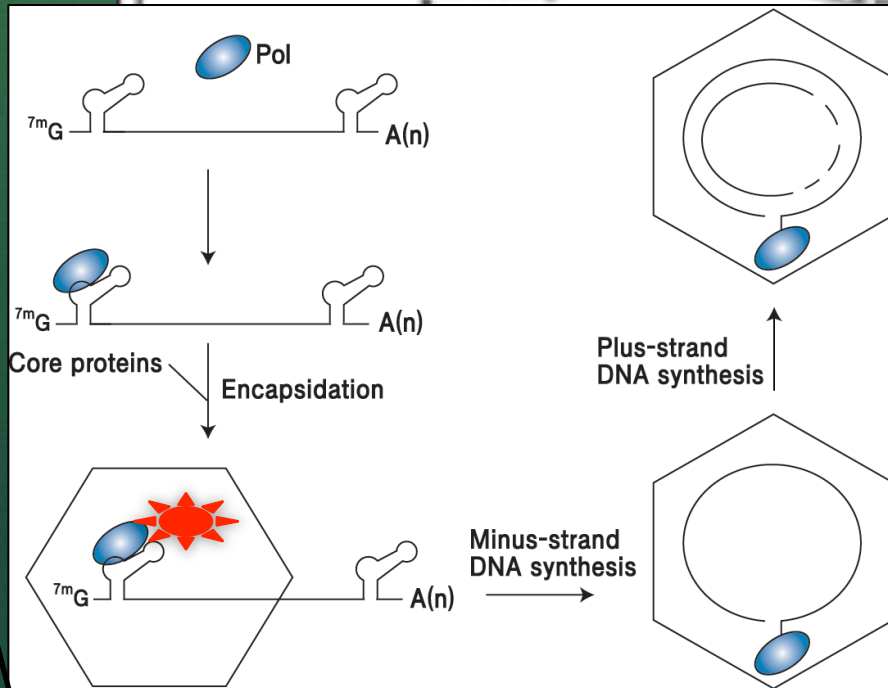
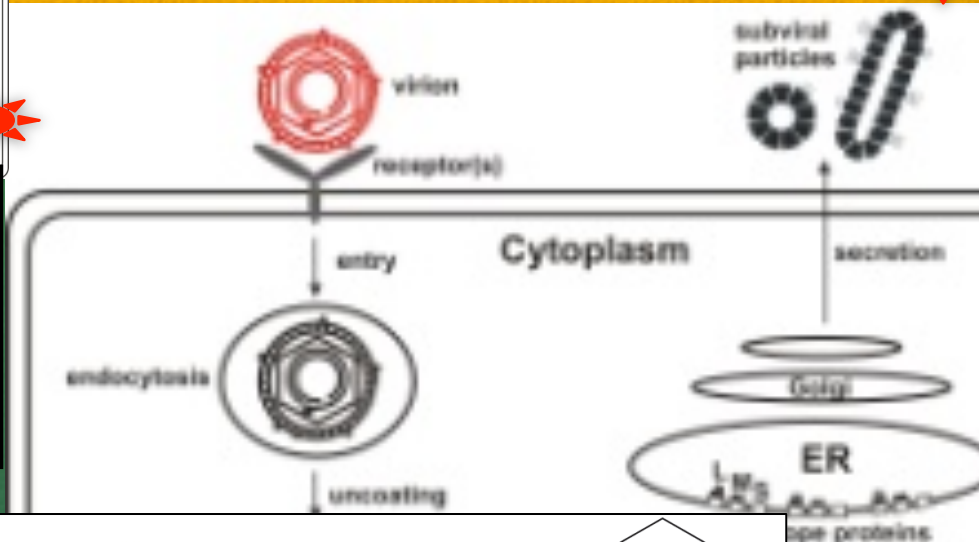
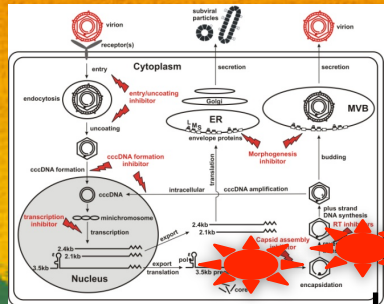
**Currently Available:**  
 Ten  
 ADF  
 LAM  
 ETV  
 TEL  
 (FMAU in Korea)

**In development:**  
 TAF  
 CMA157

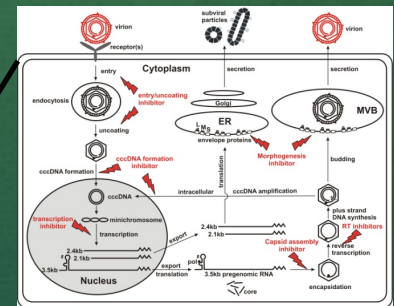
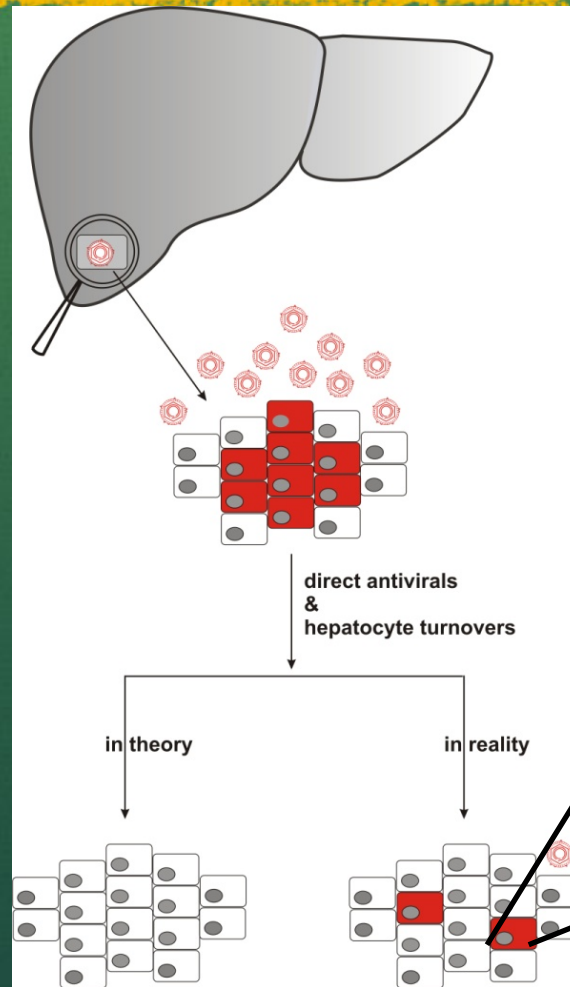
# Pol inhibitors:

Currently Available  
 Ten  
 ADF  
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 TEL  
 (FMAU in Korea)

In development:  
 Gilead: TAF  
 Contravir: CMA157  
 Arbutus (RNaseH  
 inhibit)

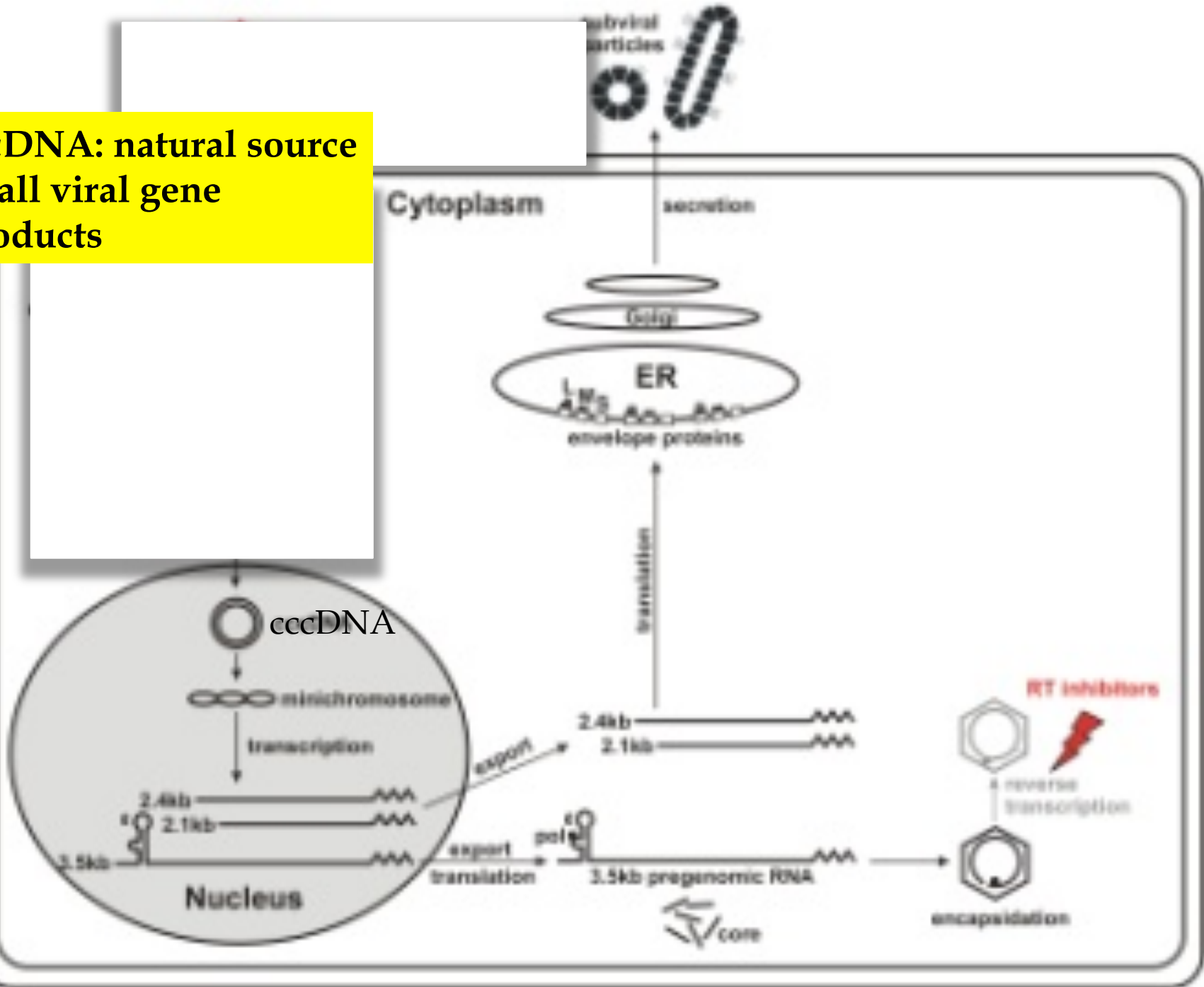


# cccDNA: “natural” source of all viral gene products

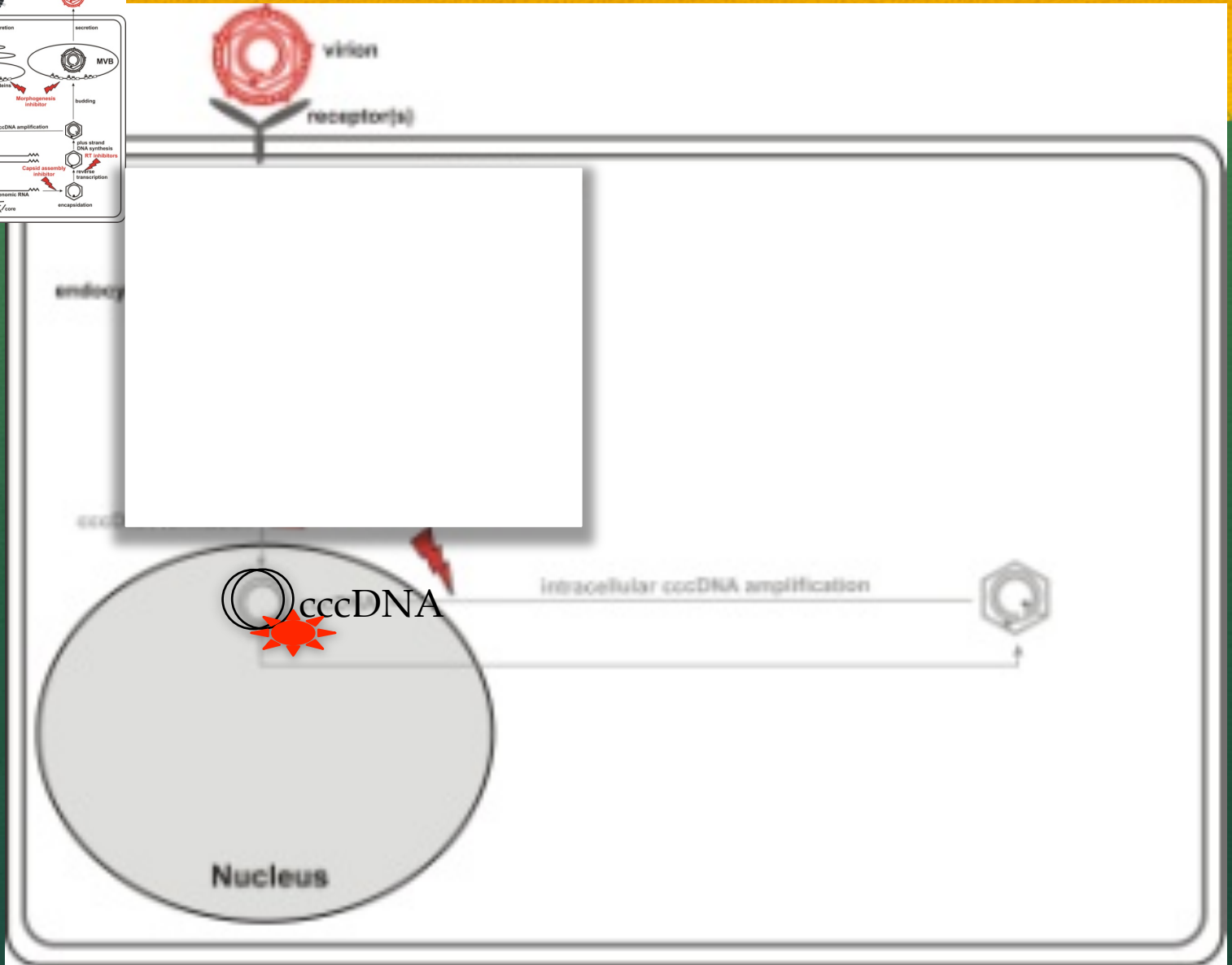
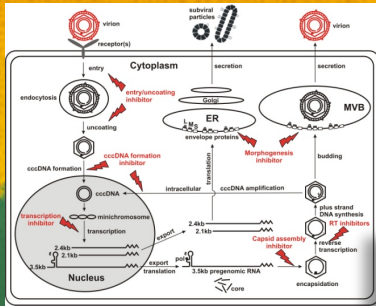




cccDNA: natural source of all viral gene products



# Repress cccDNA, and repress all natural gene product



# But cccDNA is a small, tough target

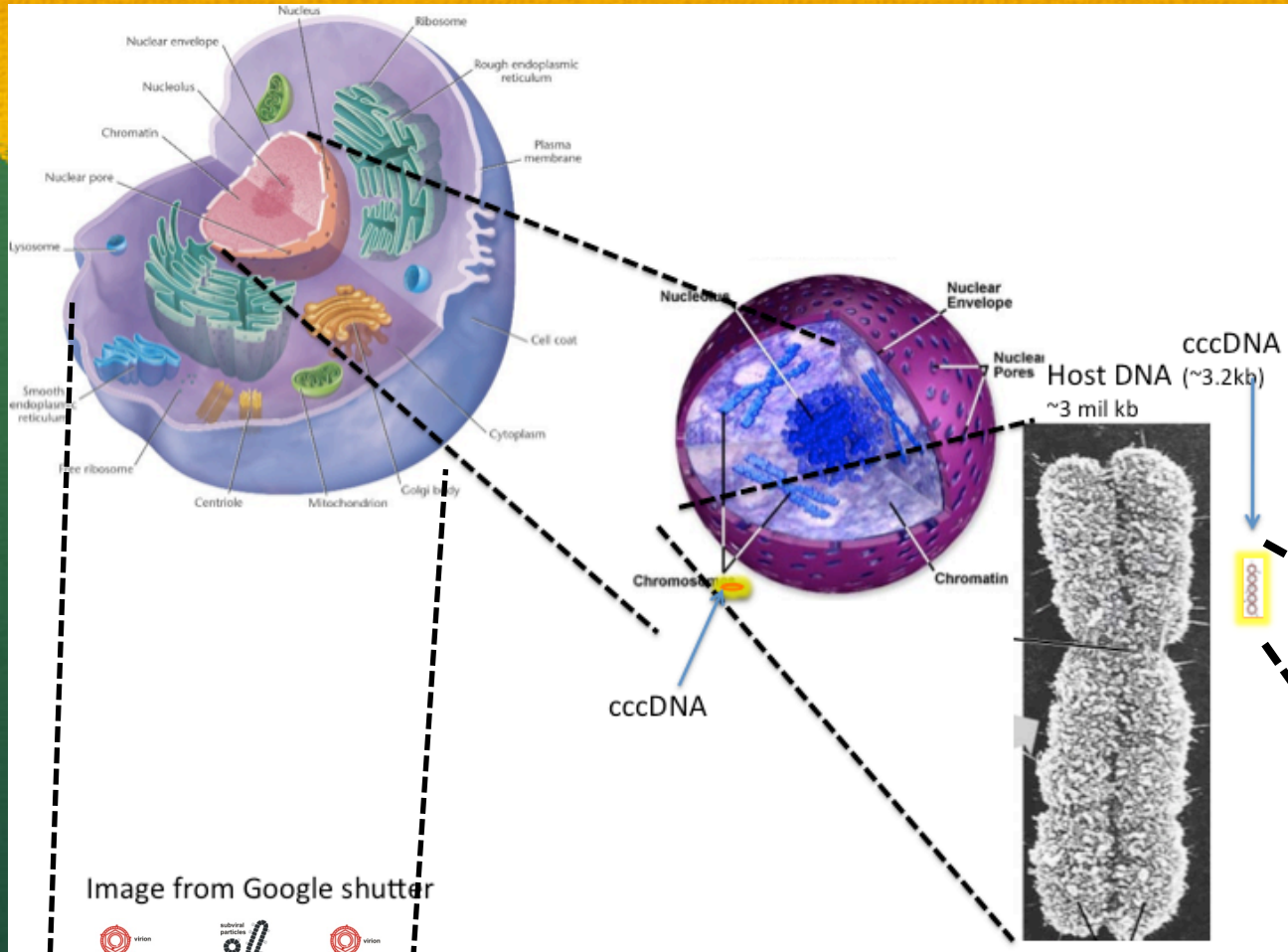
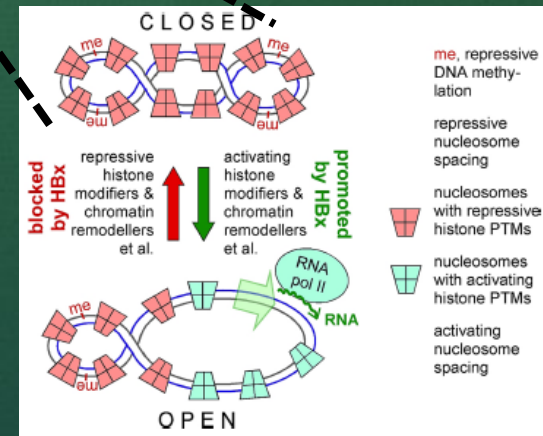
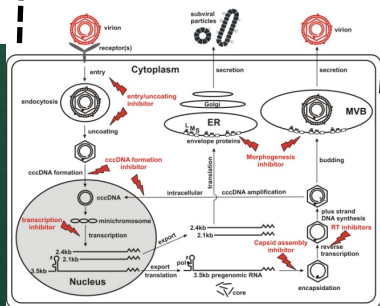
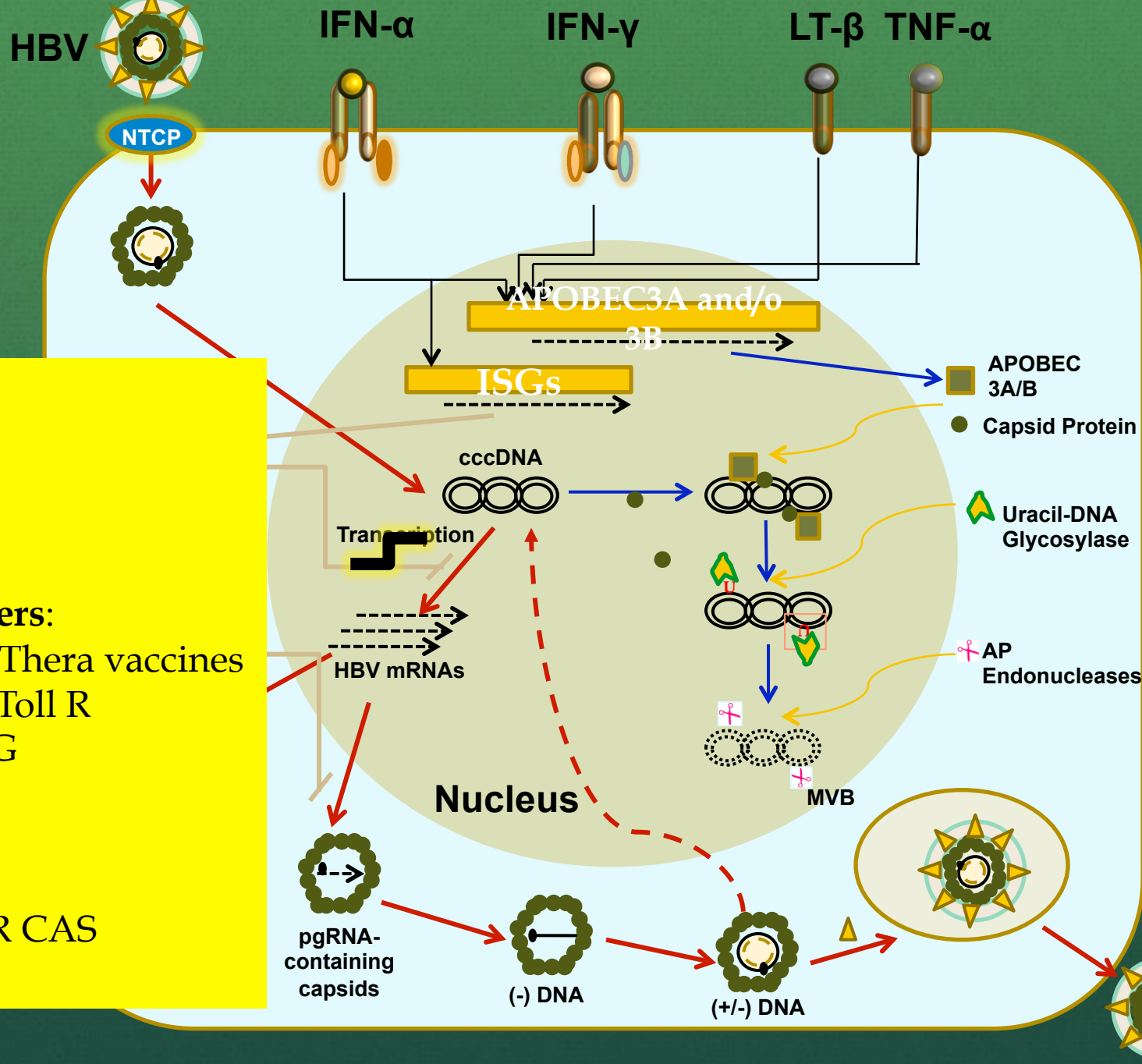


Image from Google shutter







**Biologicals''**

*Approved:*

IFNs

*New:*

**Immunenhancers:**

Inovia, Gilead: Thera vaccines

Gilead, Roche: Toll R

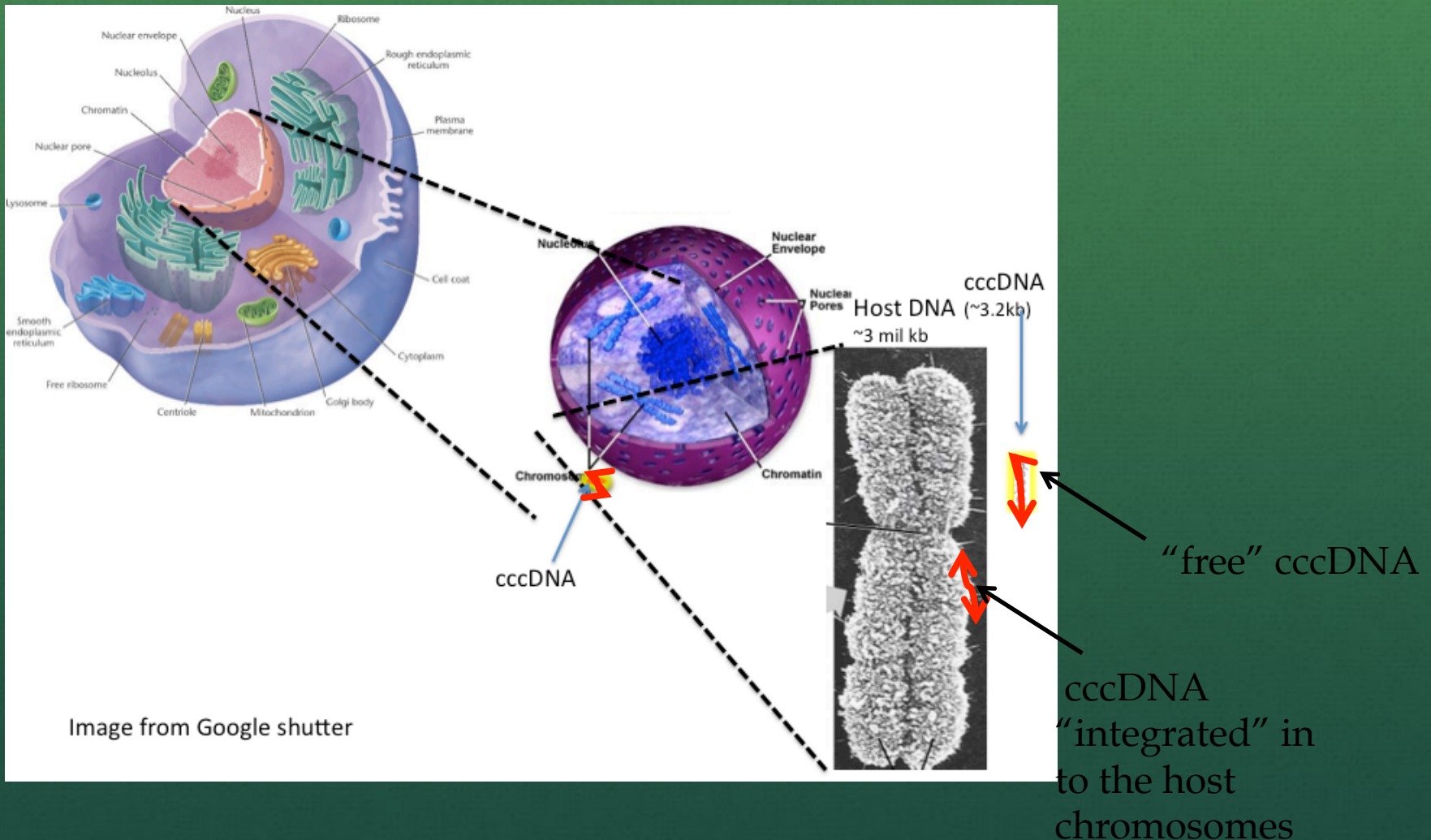
Arbutus: STING

**Other:**

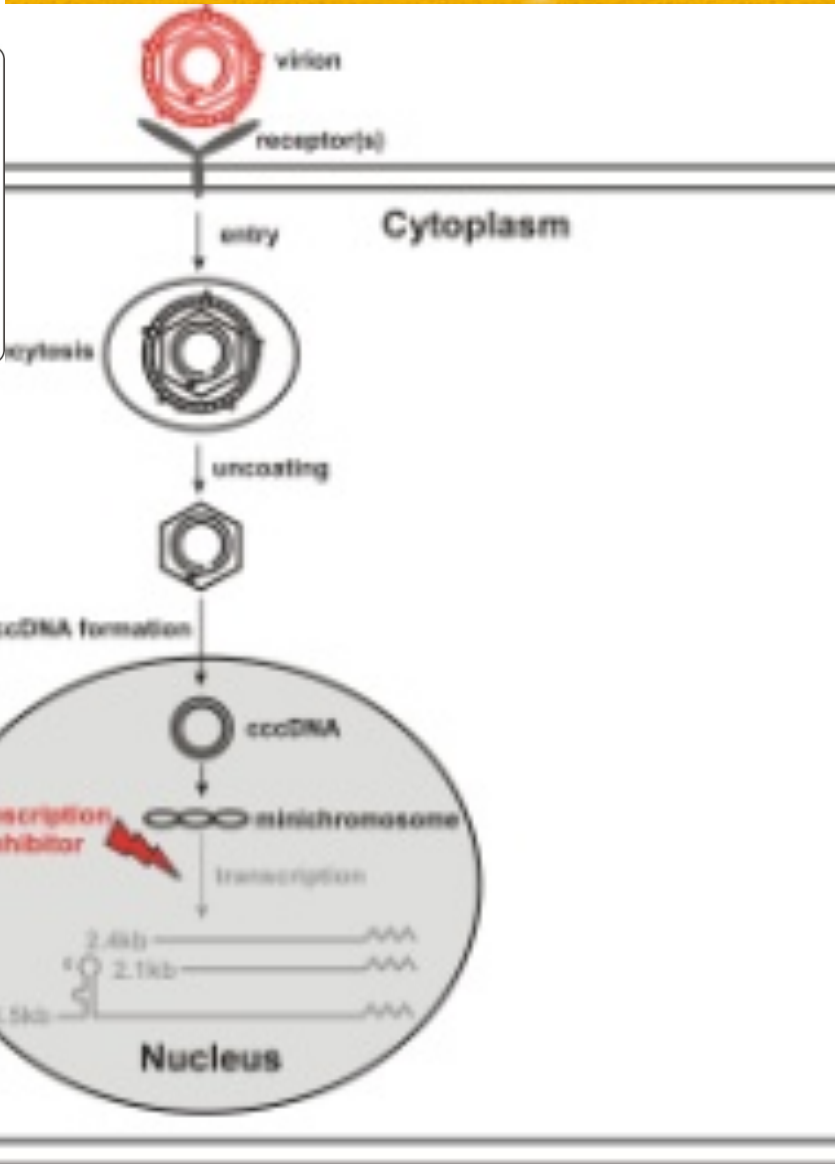
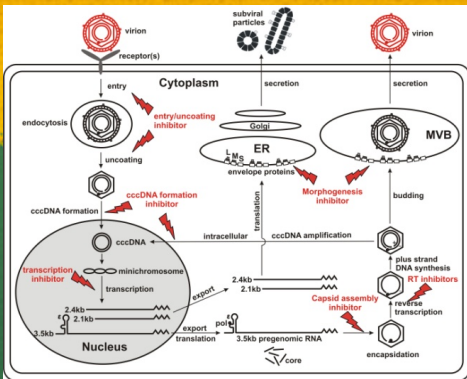
Arbutus (ARB)

Intellia: CRISPR CAS

But some HBV DNA is “integrated” and not free cccDNA, and thus might be missed by drugs acting on cccDNA



# RNAi transcript inhibition



**In development:**  
Antisense:  
 (Ionis/GSK3228836)\*

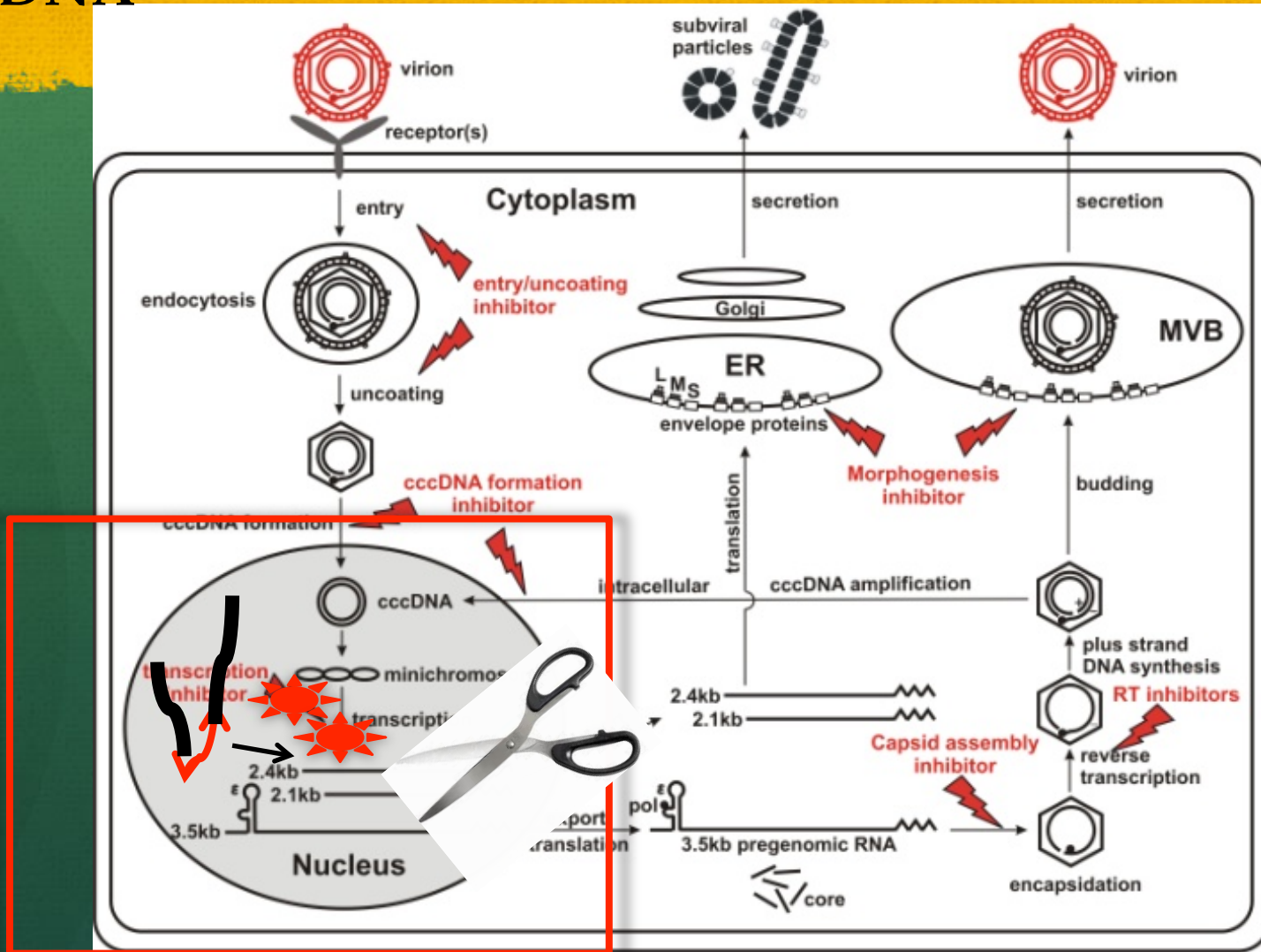


shRNA:  
 Alynlam (ALNHBV)\*  
 Arrowhead (ARC520,521)\*  
 Arbutus (ARB 1467,1740)\*  
 Benitec

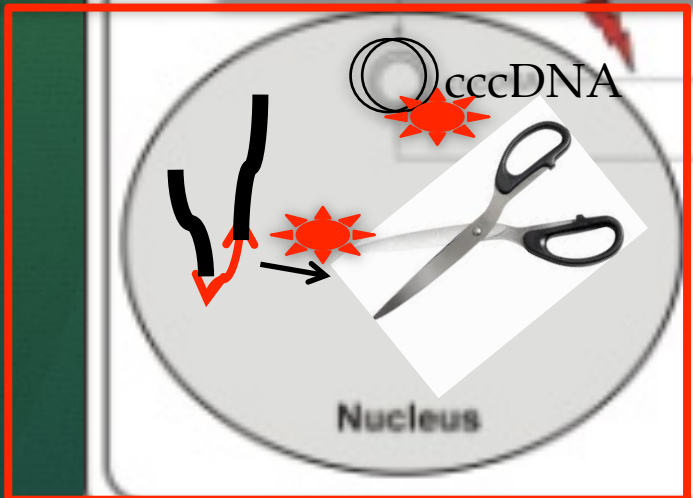
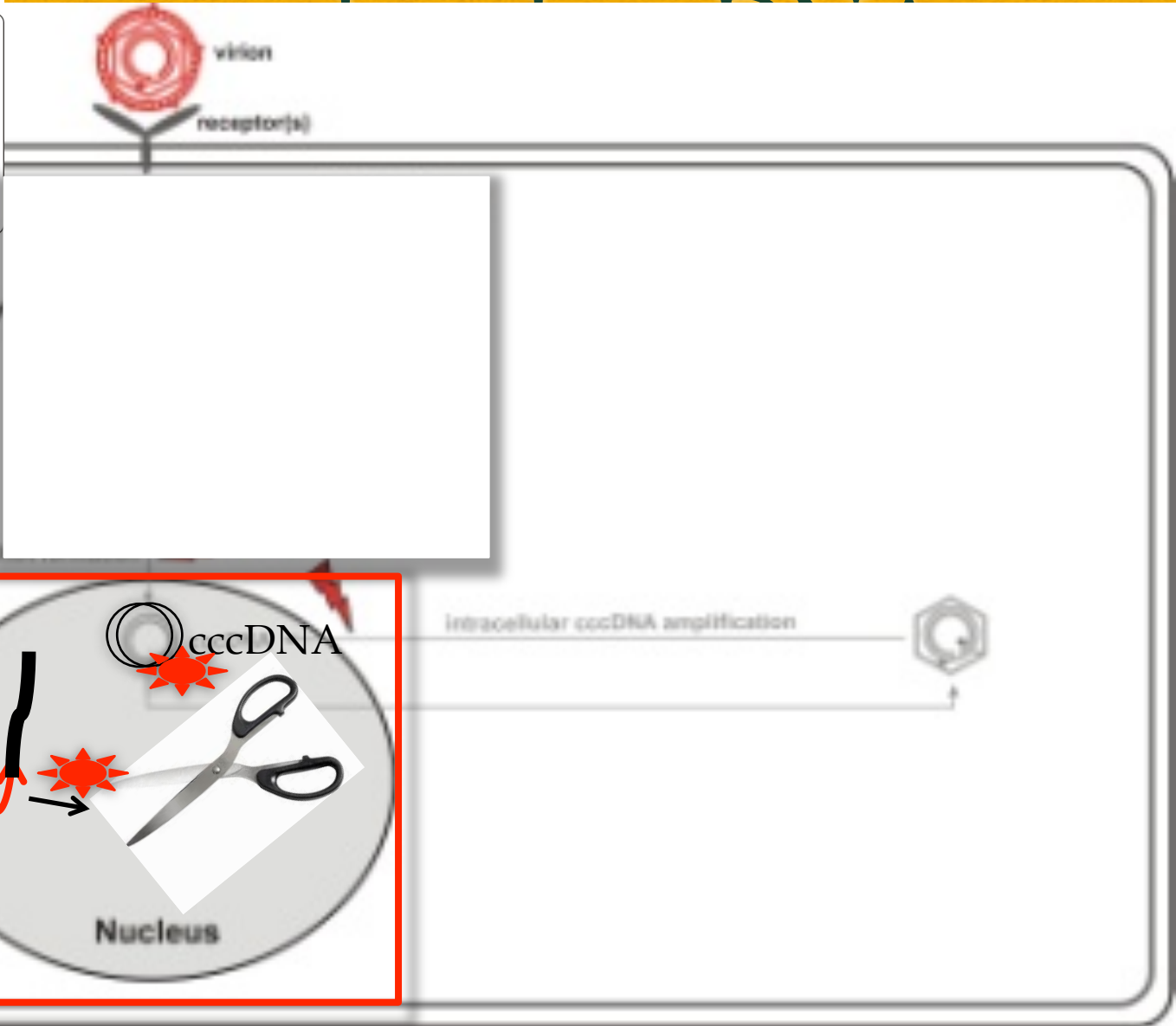
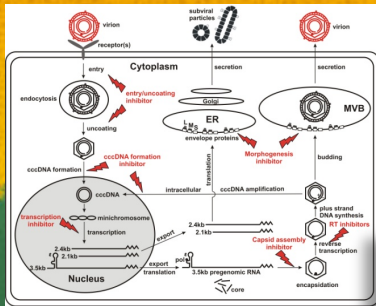
\*Human Trials



# RNAi / sh RNA leads to degradation of HBV RNA transcripts from cccDNA and integrated DNA

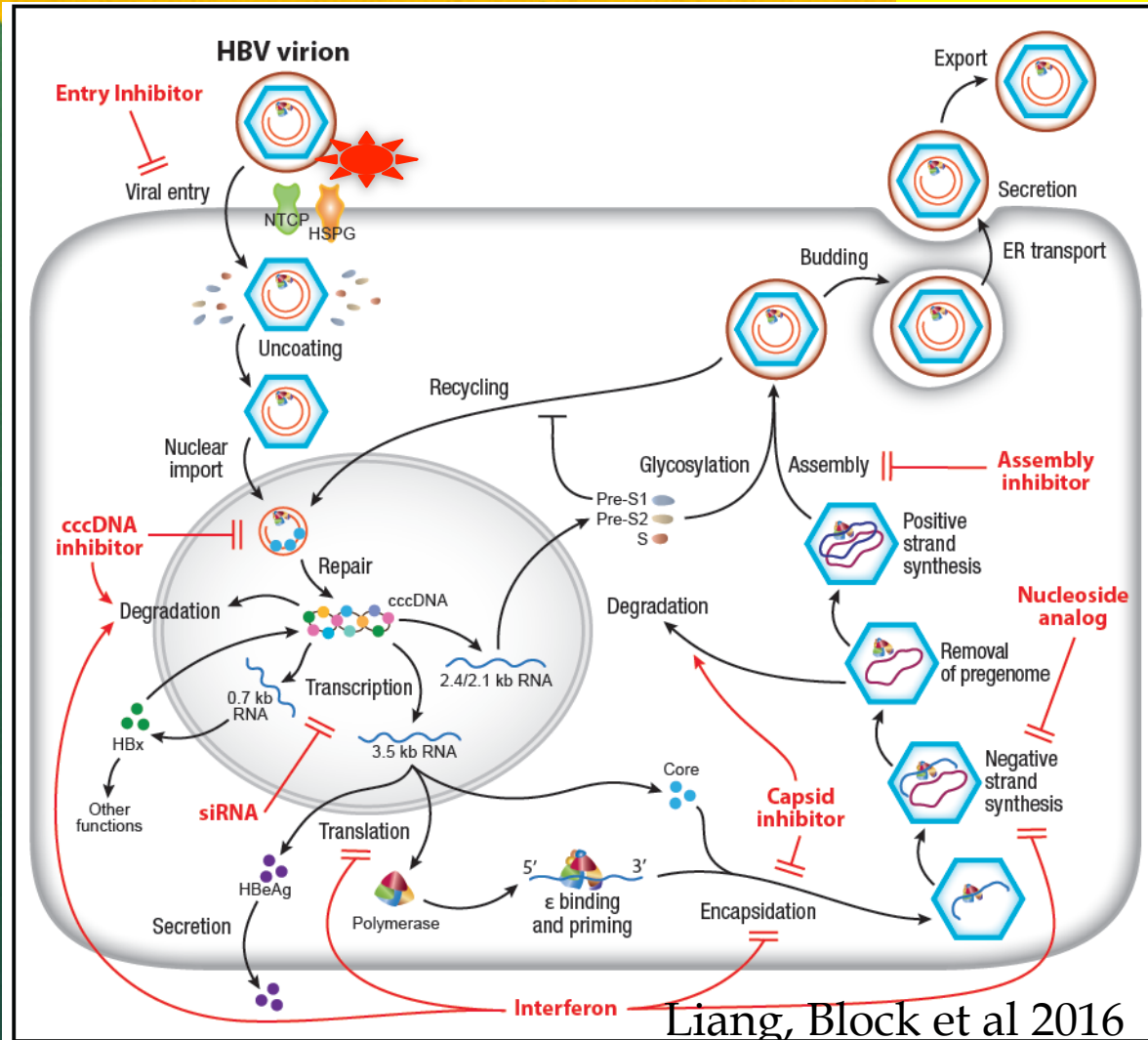


# RNAi: Complete shut down:



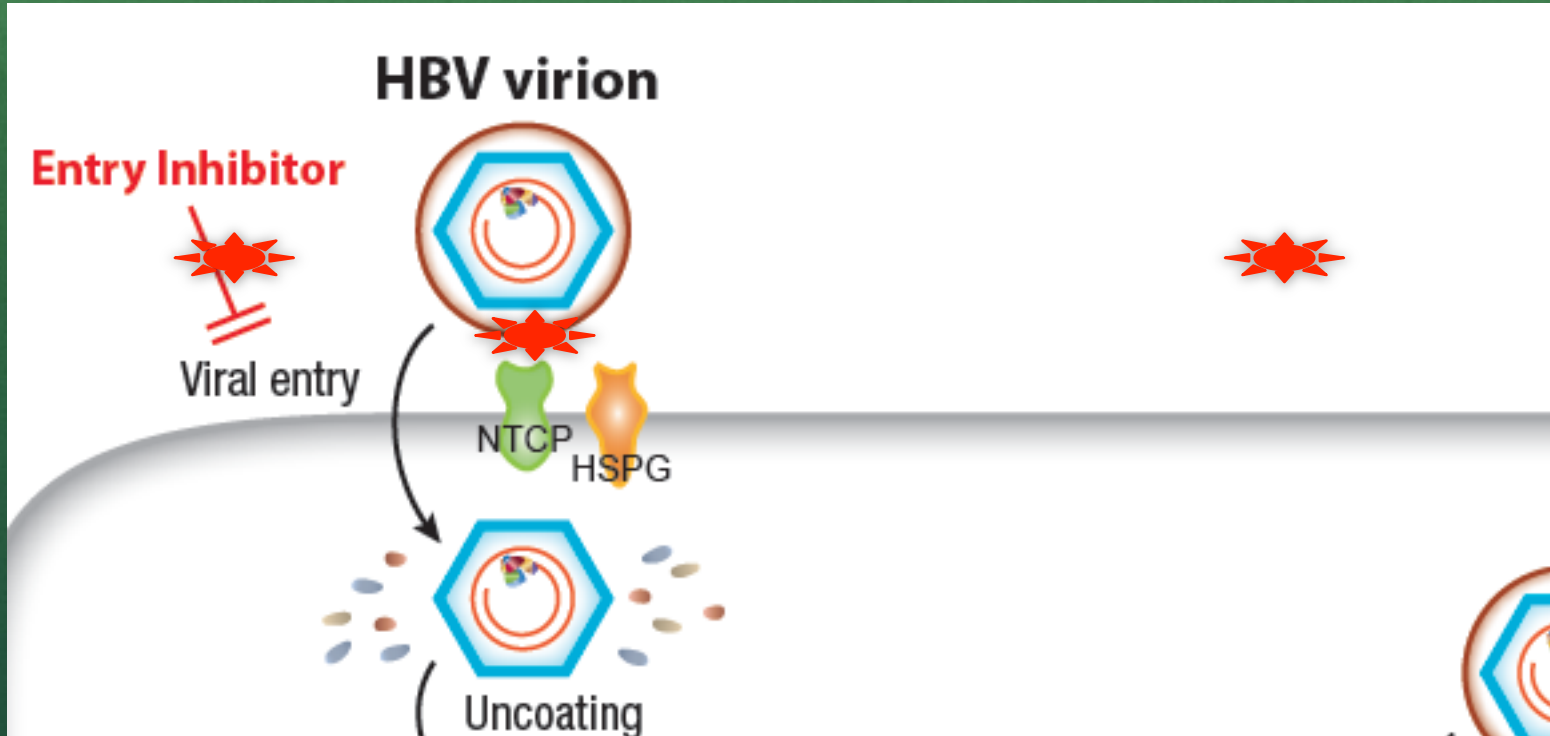
# Entry Inhibitors

Entry Inhibitor (oilgopeptide)  
MyrcludexB\*  
Human Trials





# Entry Inhibitors



# Capsid inhibition

## Capsid Inhibitors

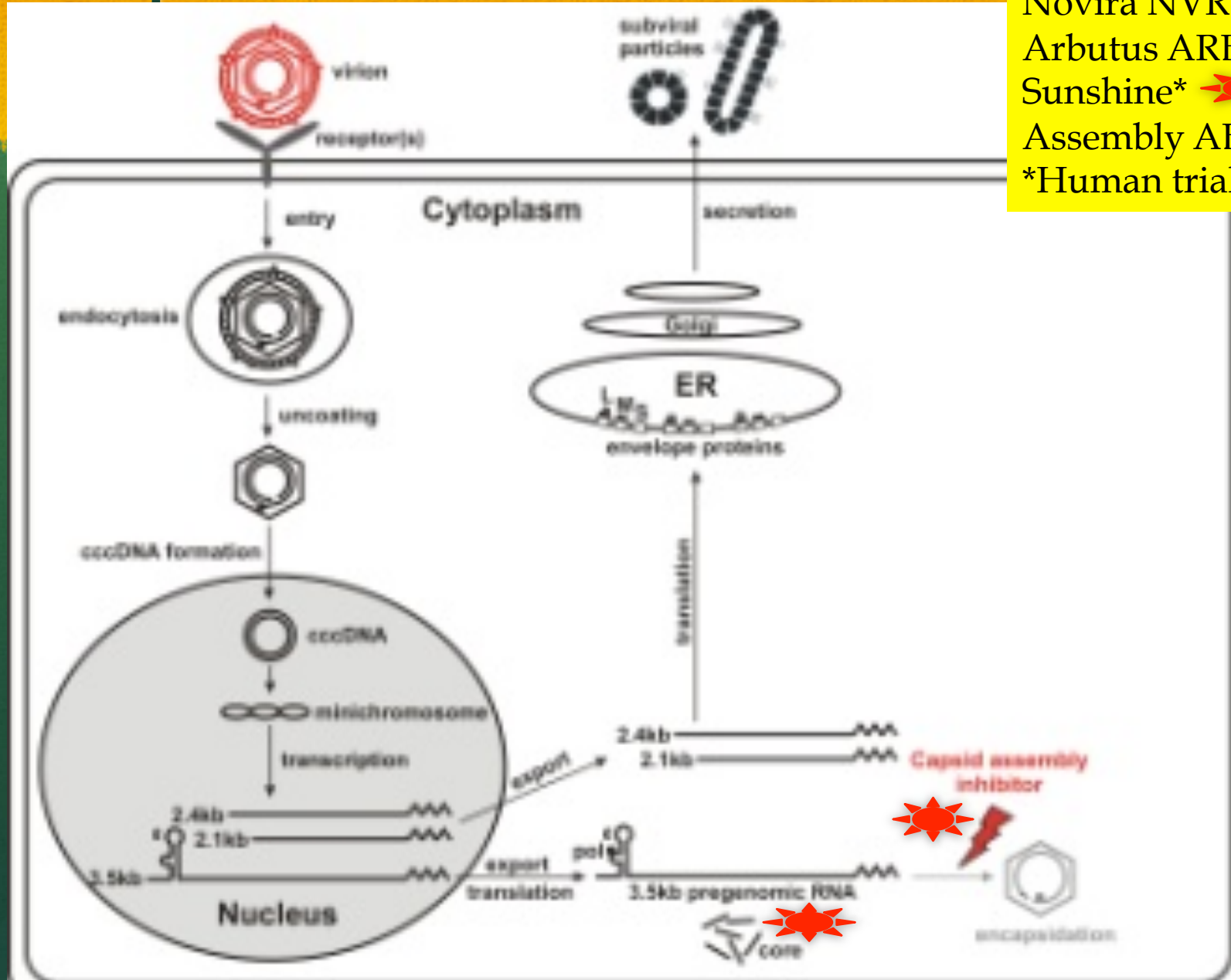
Novira NVR 778\*

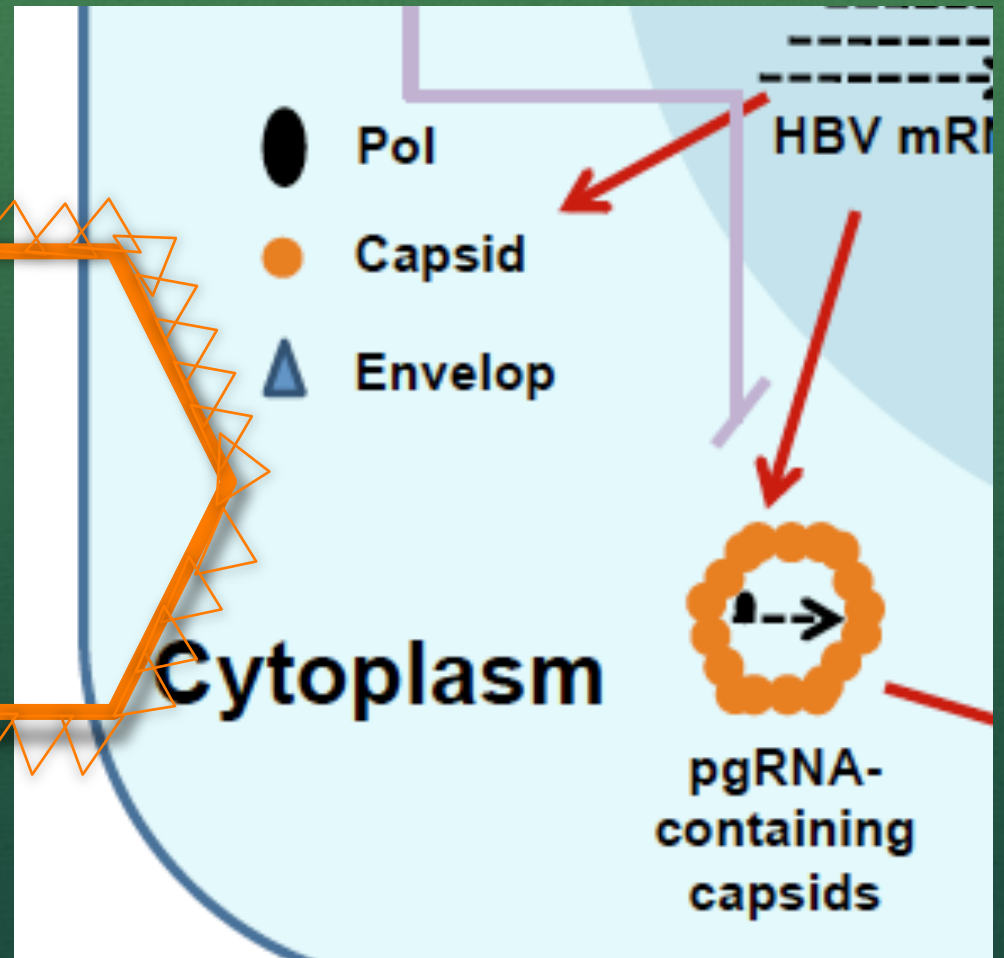
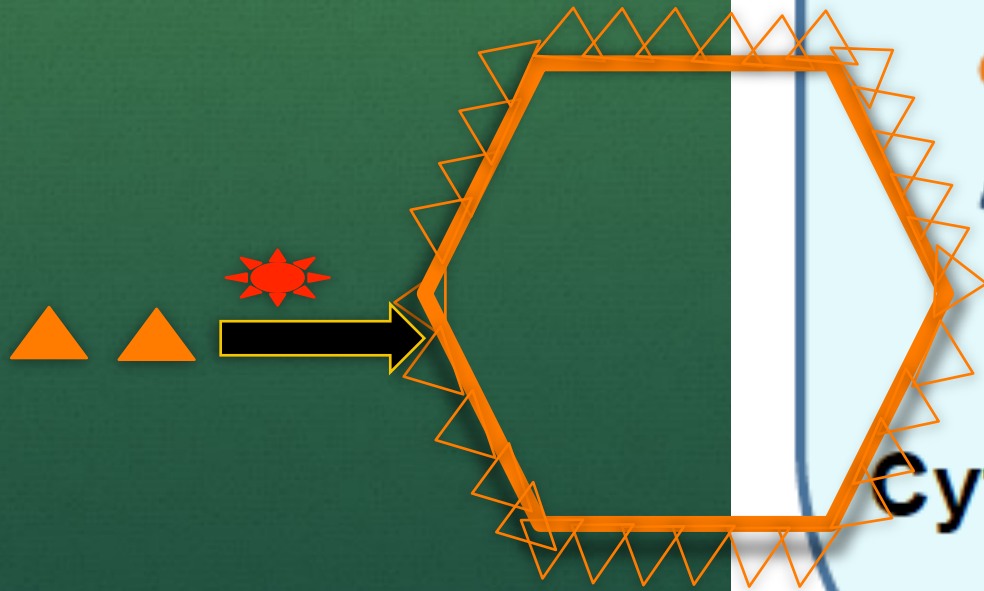
Arbutus ARB423

Sunshine\* 

Assembly ABI H101

\*Human trials

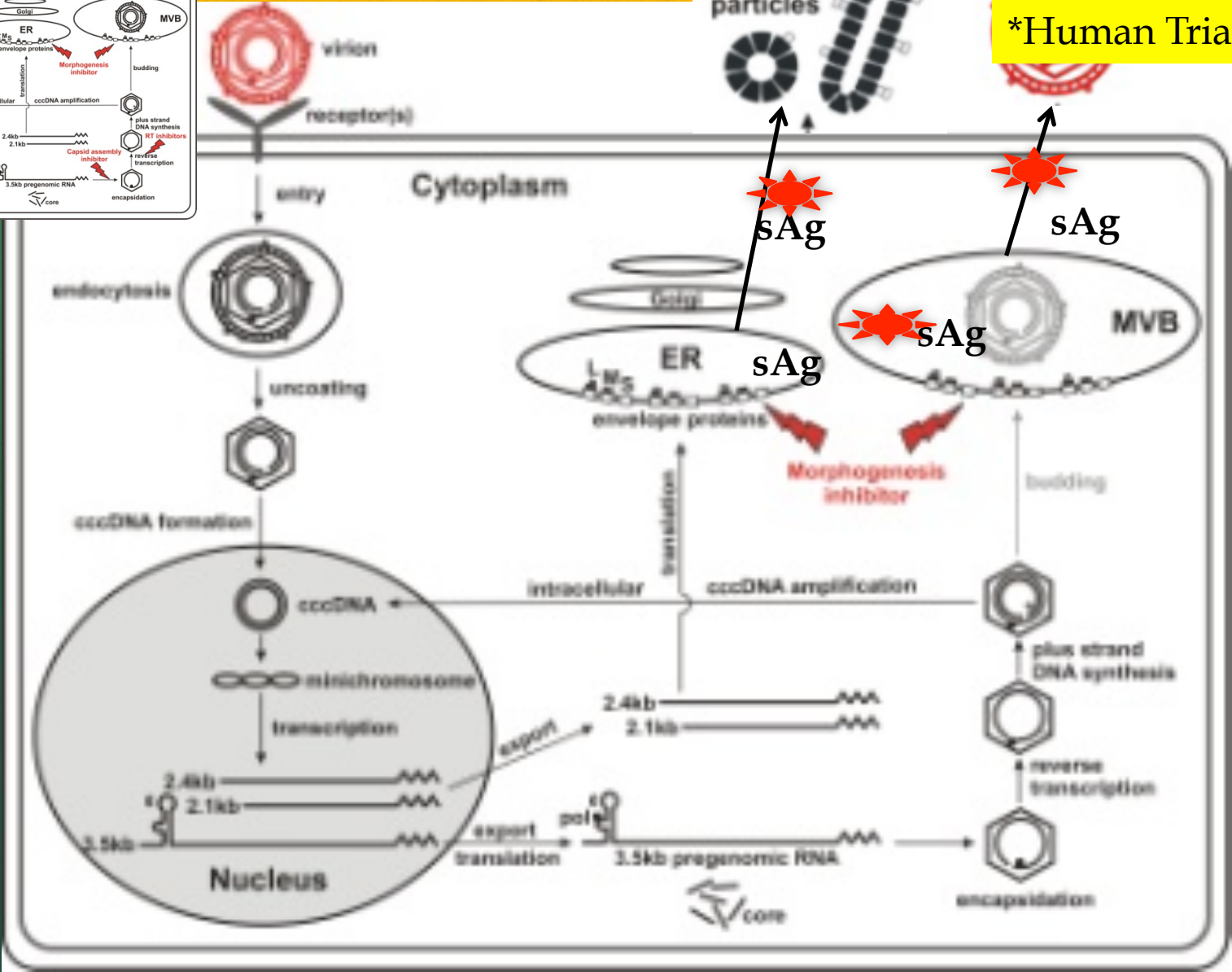
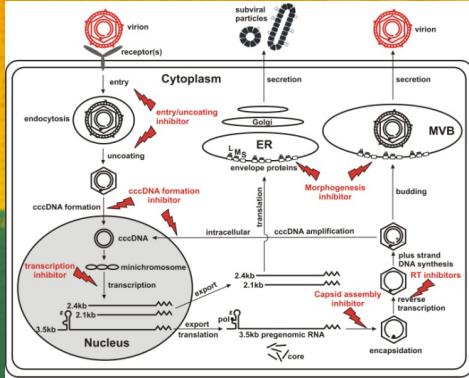




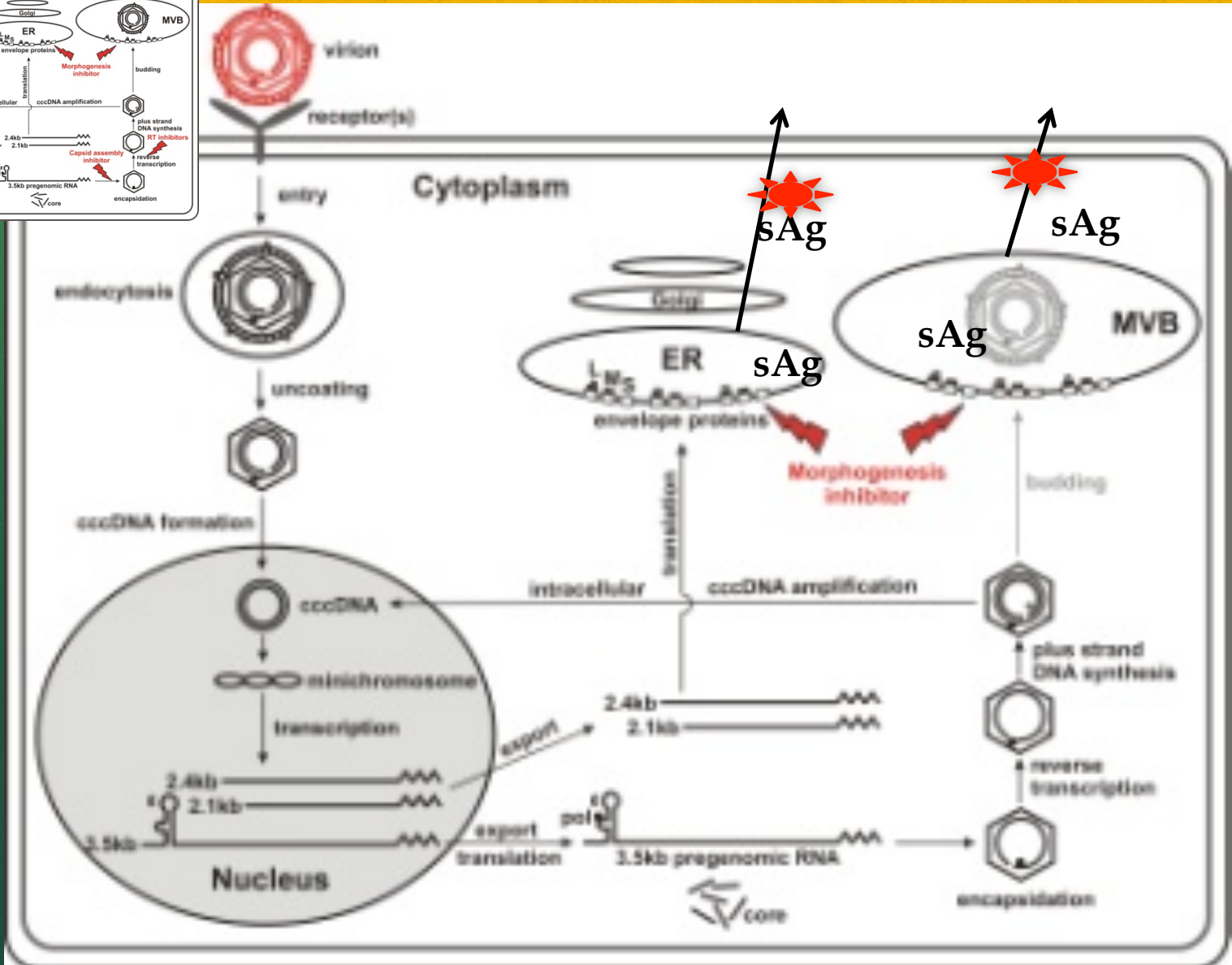
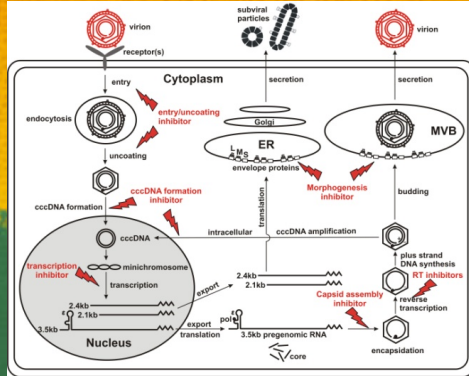


# sAg inhibition

sAg Inhibitor  
 Replicor Rep2165  
 Arbutus ARB  
 Roche\*  
 \*Human Trials



# sAg inhibition: antiviral, anti-antigenemic, and ?immuno restoration



# Hepatitis Delta Virus

- Needs co-infection with HBV
- Mycludex B and Eiger's Lornafarnib in human trials for HDV



# Adaptive & Innate host defense

## Adaptive

Gilead GS4774\*

Inovio Roche INO1800\*

Altimmune\*

Transgene TG1050\*



## Innate

Gilead Toll GS9620\*

Roche Toll RO6884018\*

SpringBank RIGI SB9200\*

Arbutus STING A

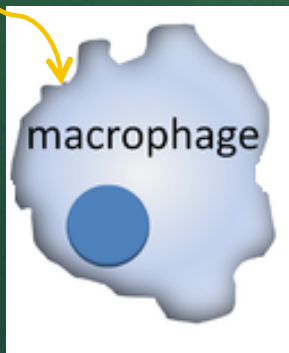
Contravir Cyclophil CPI421

\*Human Trials

T cells  
(exhausted)

B cells (No  
detectable  
Antibody to  
HBs)

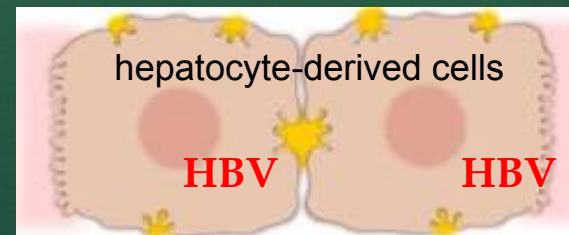
Indirect treatment



RAW 264.7 cells

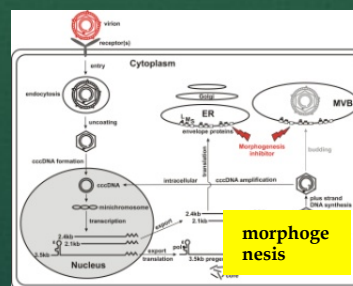
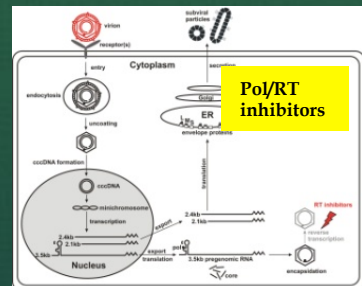
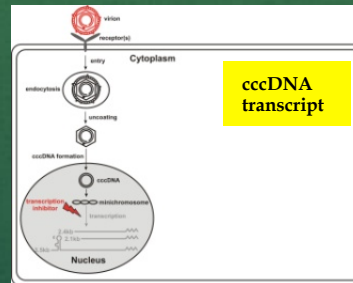
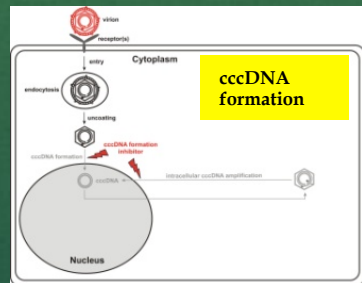
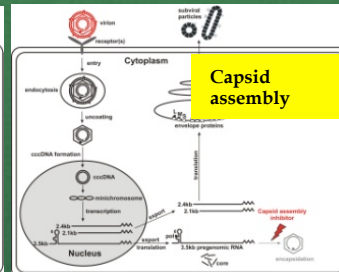
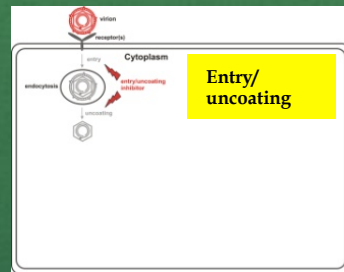
Two cell chamber transfer

Awaken, stimulate

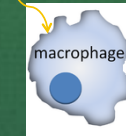


Inhibiting the virus life cycle at any step should be equal in eliminating infection

Break HBV down in to at least 12 different “assayable”, “targetable” steps  
Grouped in to 6, here...

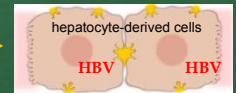


Indirect treatment



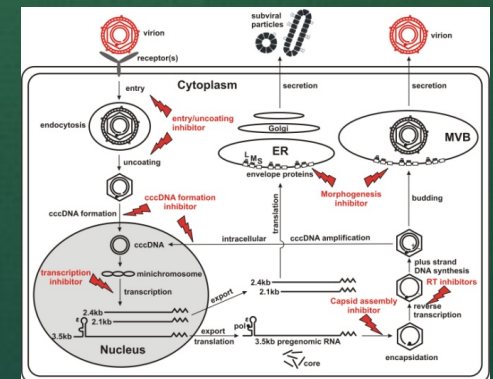
RAW 264.7 cells

Two cell chamber transfer

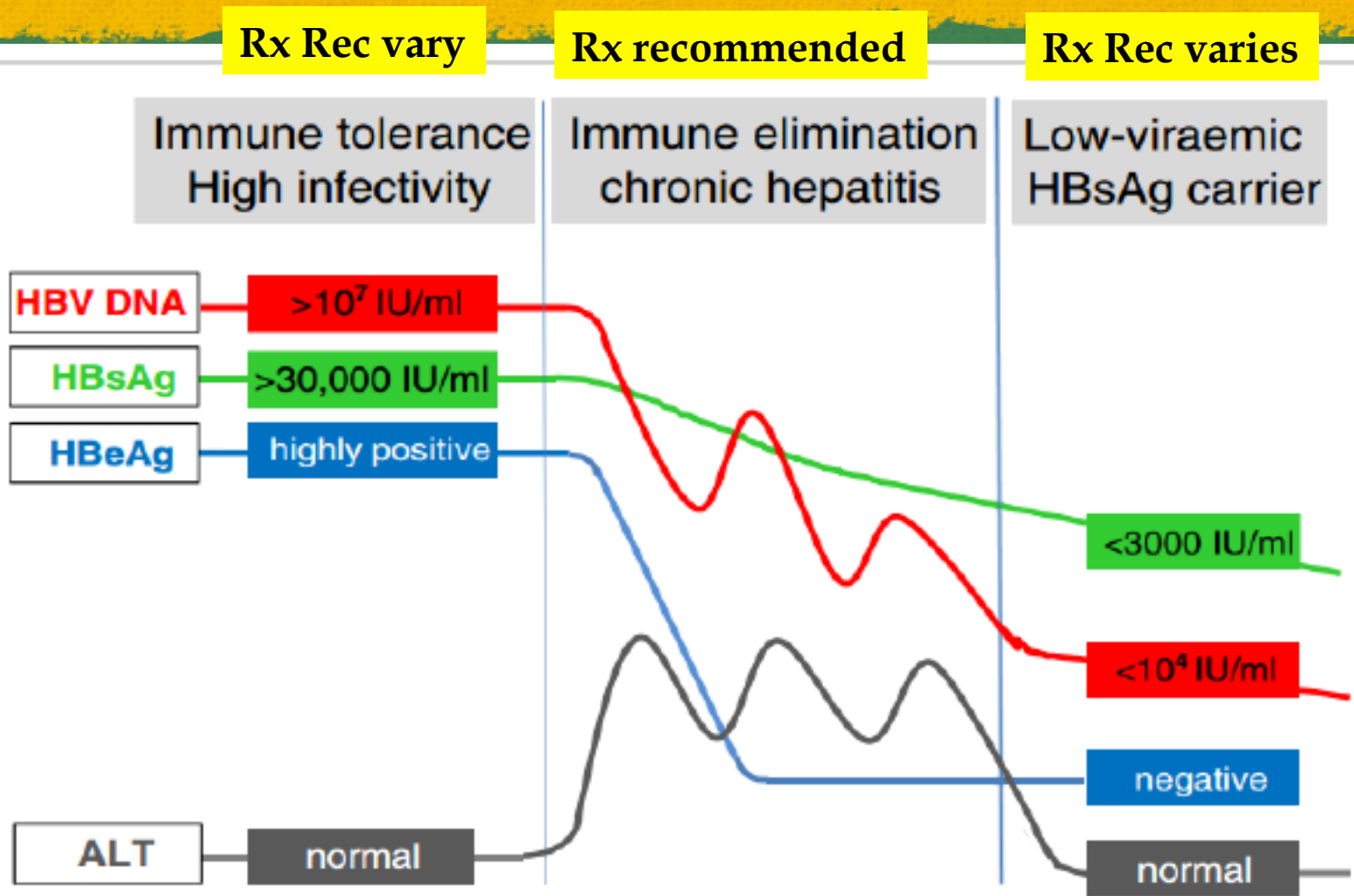


Innate host

Selective elimination



# Current Guidelines





# Hepatitis B Foundation Goal

- No one will die from HBV by 2030
- A cure is possible, necessary, and expected



**Hepatitis B Foundation**  
*Cause for a Cure*

