Accepted Manuscript

Hepatitis B virus infection and the immune response: The big questions

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PII:\$1521-6918(17)30041-0DOI:10.1016/j.bpg.2017.05.003

Reference: YBEGA 1513

To appear in: Best Practice & Research Clinical Gastroenterology

Received Date: 1 April 2017

Revised Date: 26 April 2017

Accepted Date: 13 May 2017

Please cite this article as: Boeijen LL, Hoogeveen RC, Boonstra A, Lauer GM, Hepatitis B virus infection and the immune response: The big questions, *Best Practice & Research Clinical Gastroenterology* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.bpg.2017.05.003.

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

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2	big questions
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14	Keywords: Hepatitis B; NK cell; B cell; T cell; Kupffer cell; adaptive; innate; immune response
15	······································
16	Word count:
17	Abstract: 150
18	Text (including references): 8127
19	Text (excluding references): 5173
20	
21	Practice Points
22	• Clinical events during the natural history of chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) are
23	intricately linked to the host immune system, but the details of host-virus interactions
24	remain insufficiently understood
25	• HBV is sensed by the immune system, but the ensuing antiviral responses are not
26	sufficient to prevent chronicity in most newborns and some adults
27	
28	Research Agenda
29	• To understand the basic mechanisms of HBV clearance, persistence and long lasting
30	HBV cure by using the most advanced and detailed biomedical techniques, down to
31	the single cell level.
32	• To gather more information on the intrahepatic, rather than the peripheral, immune
33	populations, as their phenotype and function are very different
34	• To focus on longitudinal assessment of immune parameters, thereby excluding
35	effects of cohort variation in HBV research

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