HDV Screening Practices in Chronic Hepatitis B: Real-world Data From a Decision Support App in the Context of Global Guidance

Results from an interactive decision support app in alignment with APASL and WHO 2024 guidelines

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Background

- In people with chronic hepatitis B, **APASL guidelines** recommend that HCPs systematically look for coinfection with HDV.[1]
- Consistent with this, **updated WHO 2024 guidelines** recommend that people who are HBsAg positive undergo anti-HDV antibody testing, with reflex HDV RNA testing following a positive anti-HDV antibody result.[2]
- The **Hep B Consult** point-of-care application provides HCPs with patient-specific recommendations based on structured clinical data entry. Analyzing its data is one way to measure adherence to these guidelines.

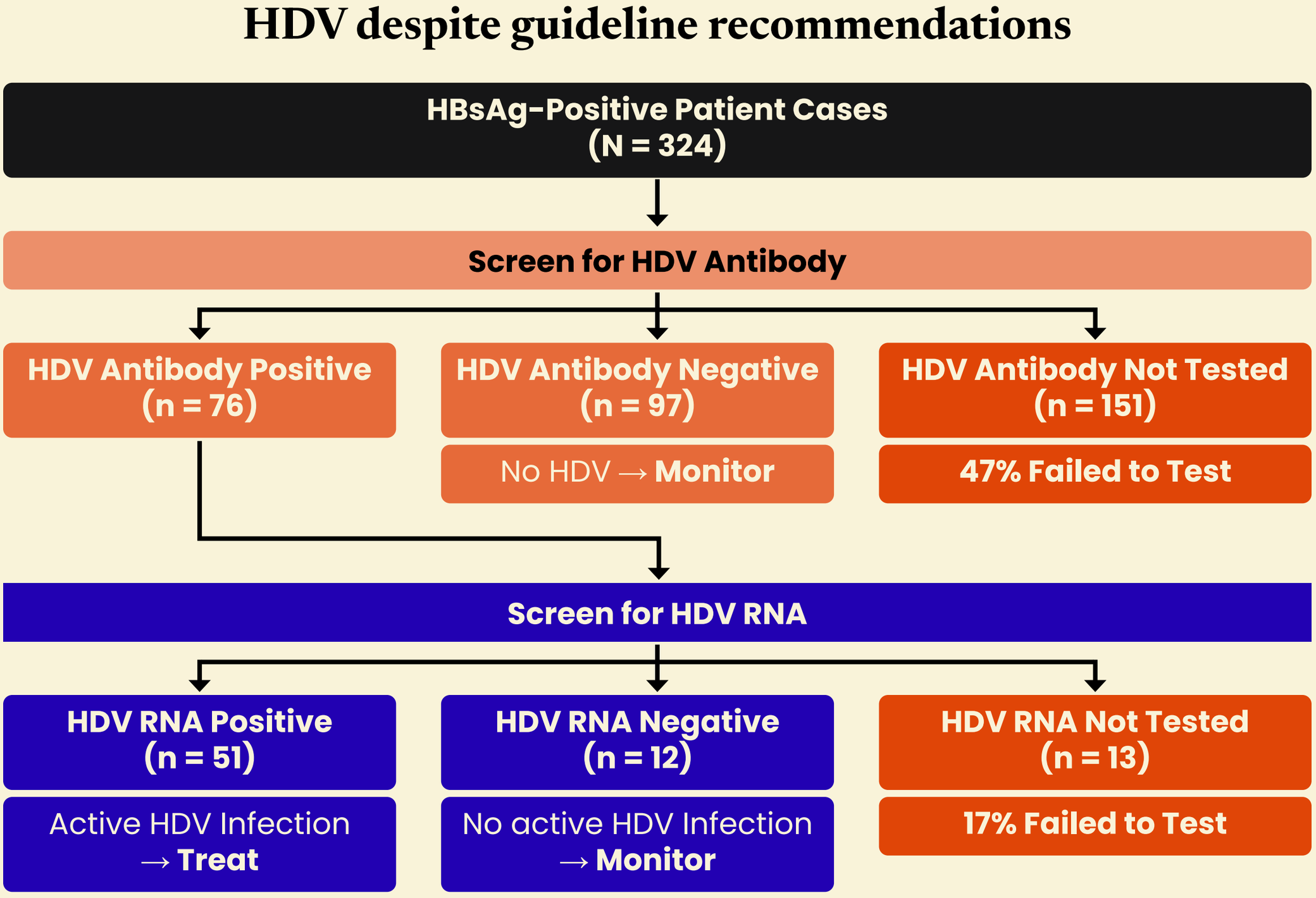
Aim

- To evaluate real-world adherence to **APASL and WHO 2024 guidelines** on HDV antibody and RNA testing among patients with chronic HBV using the Hep B Consult app.

Methods

- Patient cases entered in the Hep B Consult app between 2024-2025 were analyzed, focusing on chronic hepatitis B cases where HCPs selected **APASL** as their preferred guideline.
- Cases were reviewed to identify whether HCPs performed anti-HDV antibody testing and, where applicable, reflex HDV RNA testing.

Nearly 1 in 2 chronic hepatitis B patient cases was not screened for HDV despite guideline recommendations



Cases Entered

- Between April 2024 and October 2025, HCPs entered **324 HBsAg-positive patient cases** in the Hep B Consult app under the APASL guideline framework.

References

Sarin SK, Kumar M, Lau GK, et al. Asian-Pacific clinical practice guidelines on the management of hepatitis B: a 2015 update. Hepatol Int. 2015;10:1-98.

World Health Organization. Guidelines for the prevention, diagnosis, care and treatment for people with chronic hepatitis B infection: 2024 update. who.int/publications/i/item/9789240090903. Accessed March 24, 2026.

Conclusions

- Most HCPs adhered to **WHO 2024 and APASL guidelines** for HDV screening and reflex testing in patients with chronic hepatitis B when using the Hep B Consult app.
- However, in **47% of cases**, HCPs failed to screen for HDV antibody, and in **17% of cases**, they failed to perform reflex HDV RNA testing, highlighting an opportunity to strengthen adherence to guidelines recommending screening for all people with chronic hepatitis B.

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APASL, Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver; HBsAg, hepatitis B surface antigen; HBV, hepatitis B virus; HCP, healthcare professional; HDV, hepatitis delta virus.

Try the *Hep B Consult app*