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Summary

CLINICALLY-MEANINGFUL RATES OF FUNCTIONAL CURE IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS B INFECTION TREATED WITH BEPIROVIRSEN: B-WELL PHASE 3 TRIALS

UEG Week Barcelona 2026 | Presentation

Hepatobiliary

October 18, 2026

The speaker reported that bepirovirsen, an antisense oligonucleotide targeting HBV transcripts, achieved functional cure in 19% of nucleoside analogue-suppressed chronic hepatitis B patients after 24 weeks of treatment in two identical phase 3 trials.

KEY POINTS

- The speaker stated that functional cure, defined as HBS antigen loss and HBV DNA below quantification limit 24 weeks after stopping all treatment, was achieved in 19% of patients with baseline HBS antigen below 3000 international units per mL, compared to none receiving placebo
- Among patients with baseline HBS antigen below 1000 international units per mL, the speaker reported a functional cure rate of 26%
- The speaker described the safety profile as acceptable, with injection site reactions being the most common adverse event, 22% experiencing transient ALT increases associated with HBS antigen reduction, and less than 1% discontinuing due to liver events
- The speaker noted that platelet and GFR declines resolved when treatment was paused or completed, with no clinically significant events related to these laboratory changes
- The speaker disclosed that the drug has been approved in Japan and stated it would probably be approved by the FDA within the next week

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