

# Prevalence and status of HCV infection among Japanese hemophiliacs

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## Introduction and Objectives:

The Research Committee for the National Surveillance of Coagulation Disorders in Japan has been collecting information regarding HCV infection since 2001. We summarize the results using the data collected up to the end of May 2012.

## Materials and Methods:

The study subjects included the total number of hemophiliacs on 31 May 2012 (hemophilia A, 4627; hemophilia B, 990). Number of patients with the report of recovery by the therapy for HCV infection was analyzed in the period from 2004 to 2012.

## Results:

Among patients on whom we had information, the percentage of patients with HCV infection was 53% in HIV-negative hemophiliacs and 98% in HIV-positive hemophiliacs. Among the HCV-positive patients, the age of the HIV-negative and HIV-positive patients was  $46.8 \pm 14.9$  and  $43.7 \pm 8.5$  years, respectively. The numbers of patients with critical liver disease were as follows: cirrhosis 53 (3.0%), hepatocellular carcinoma 48 (2.7%), liver failure 2 (0.1%) among HIV-negative patients; and cirrhosis 53 (8.1%), hepatocellular carcinoma 11 (1.7%), liver failure 1 (0.2%) among HIV-positive patients. In addition, six patients (3 HIV-negative and 3 HIV-positive) had undergone liver transplantation. The percentage of patients with critical liver disease was significantly higher among HIV-positive patients than among HIV-negative patients ( $P < 0.01$ ).

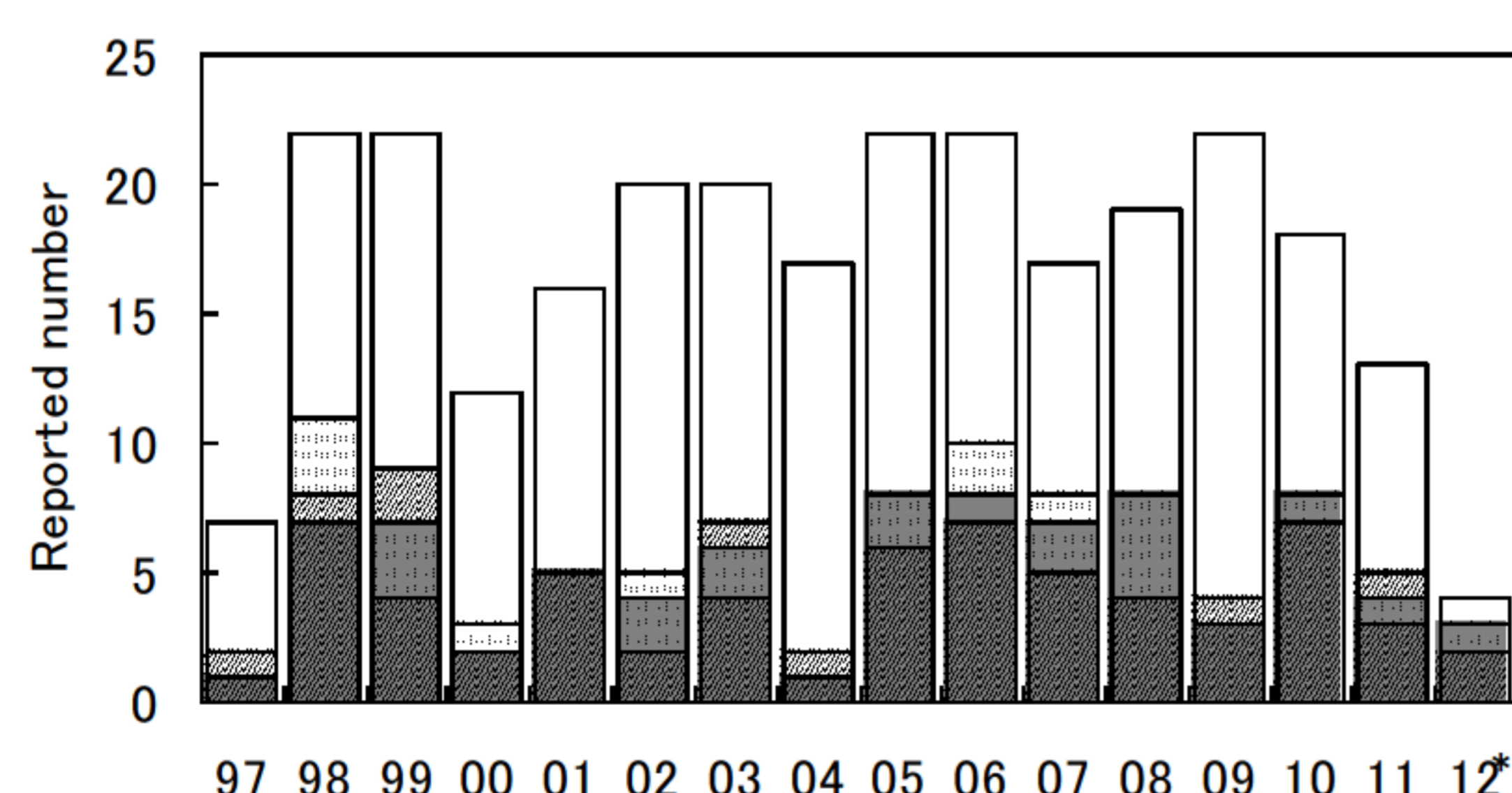
Regarding therapy for HCV infection, the number of patients who have report of recovered by therapy using interferon increased from 86 (62 in HIV-negative and 24 in HIV-positive) in 2004 to 367 (258 in HIV-negative and 109 in HIV-positive) in 2012.

HIV negative	No Hepatitis	Acute Hepatitis	Chronic Hepatitis	Cirrhosis	HCC	Liver Failure
Hemophilia A	258	4	842	43	40	2
Hemophilia B	37	1	167	10	8	0
Total	295	5	1009	53	48	2

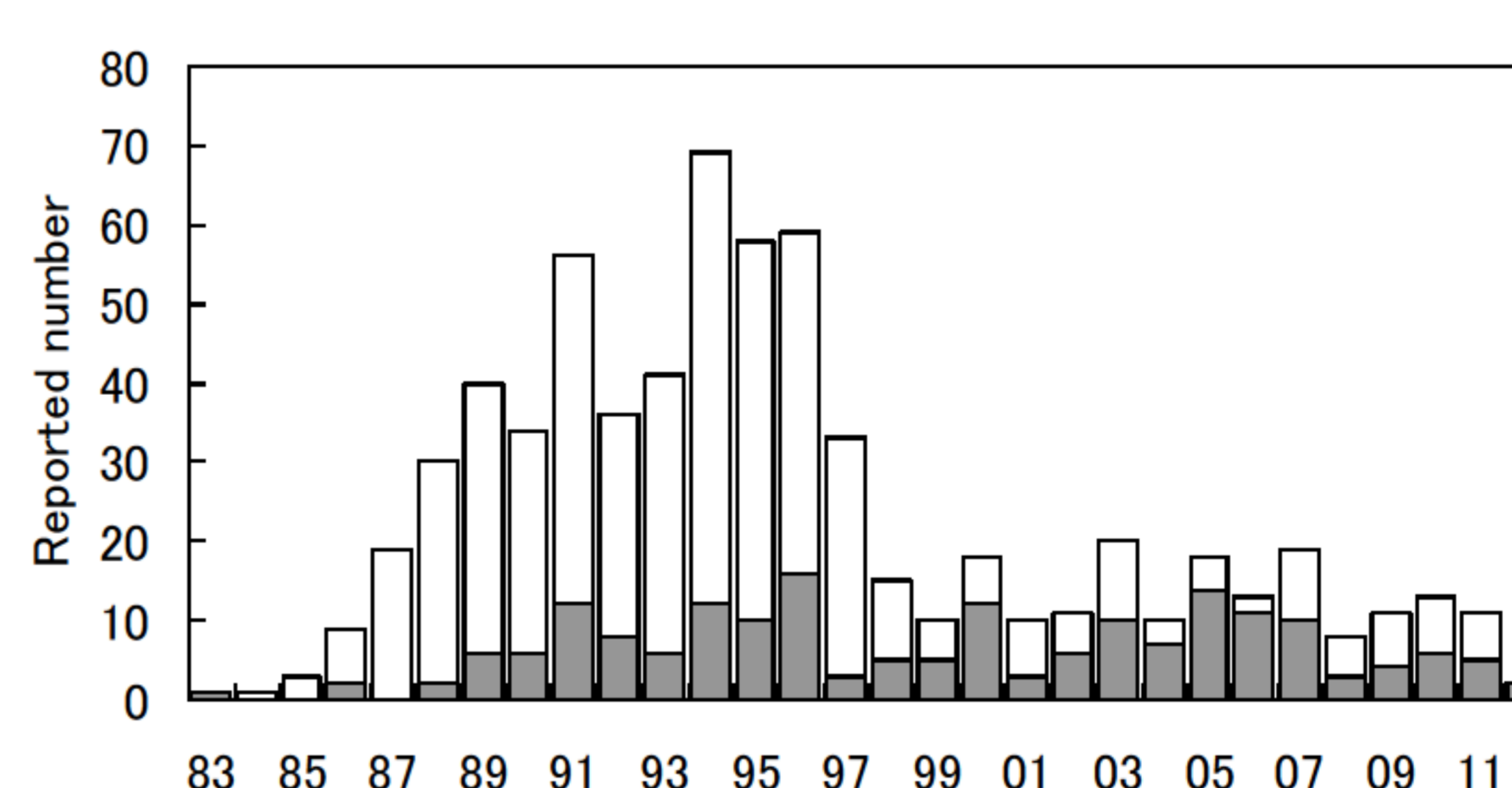
HIV positive	No Hepatitis	Acute Hepatitis	Chronic Hepatitis	Cirrhosis	HCC	Liver Failure
Hemophilia A	35	1	300	43	6	1
Hemophilia B	14	1	87	10	5	0
Total	49	2	387	53	11	1

Recovery by IFN	SR	Liver Transplantation	Total
216	103	2	1510
42	16	1	282
258	119	3	1792

Recovery by IFN	SR	Liver Transplantation	Total
83	33	1	503
26	5	2	150
109	38	3	653



\* (by the end of May)



■ Death with hepatic disease □ Death without hepatic disease

## Conclusion:

Although an interferon therapy against HCV infection is effective, the various adverse side effects arising from the therapy deter patients from starting therapy. The present results showed that the number of patients who recovered by therapy is still small. More than 20 years has passed since the termination of the possible period of infection with HCV through coagulation concentrates. A longer period since infection, especially a period longer than 20 years, is inevitably associated with a higher risk of critical liver disease onset. Therefore, early decision to start therapy is needed.

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## COI:

We have no conflict of interest regarding the content of this poster.

