

HBV DNA PreS1-PreS2 amplification Version 2

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Abstract

This protocol aims to amplify the PreS1/PreS2 region of the Hepatitis B genome. It can be obtained from a single PCR giving an amplified product of 479 bp. However genotype D strains have typically a deletion in this region of 33 nucleotides, giving an amplified product of 446 bp. Furthermore, larger deletions may occur in rare HBV genotype D strains and the amplicon size may be as short as 263 bp. Used for phylogenetic analysis, this region has been shown to better fit with the full-length phylogenetic information of the HBV DNA, than the PreC/C region. However it may give ambiguous results with regards to recombinant strains.

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Protocol