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A transgenic mouse model for studying HBV infection in neonate

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The human hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is always a worldwide problem, especially the high risk infection of the neonate by chronically HBV infected mother. McGrane et al. [1] have demonstrated that the gene which is driven by the promoter of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase (PEPCK) is mainly expressed in the mouse liver and immediately appears at parturition. We have constructed a transgenic mouse by using PEPCK promoter to drive the pre-S2 and S domain of HBV envelope protein to imitate HBV transmission from mother to child. We want to see whether hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) can persistently exist or be cleared by immune system from the newborn mice.

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Reference

1. McGrane MM, Yun JS, Moorman AF, *et al*: **Metabolic effects of developmental, tissue-, and cell-specific expression of a chimeric phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase (GTP)/bovine growth hormone gene in transgenic mice.** *J Biol Chem* 1990, **265**:22371-22379.

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