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Advances in research on HCV replication and virion formation

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Hepatitis C virus (HCV) establishes a persistent infection and is recognized as a major cause of chronic liver diseases worldwide. Although much work remains to be done regarding the viral life cycle, significant progress has been made with respect to the molecular biology of HCV, especially the viral genome replication and virion formation. A variety of host cell factors, which play roles in replication of the viral genome RNA, have been identified. Involvement of lipid droplet, lipid metabolism and the viral nonstructural proteins in the production of the infectious particles has also been revealed.

