

### An English translation of the allowed claims

1. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a recombinant DNA or RNA comprising
  - (i) a full length HCV nucleotide sequence from an HCV isolate or an HCV replicon nucleotide sequence derived from said full length HCV nucleotide sequence, and
  - (ii) (a) an HCV 3' terminal sequence element attached to the 3' terminus of (i) and comprising the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4 or their complements or  
(b) a homologous nucleotide sequence of (a) having at least 90% identity with respect to the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4 or their complements.
2. An isolated nucleic acid according to Claim 1, which is a cDNA.
3. An isolated nucleic acid according to Claim 1 to Claim 2 further comprising an expression control sequence operably linked to the 5' terminal.
4. An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 1 which is RNA.
5. An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 1 or 3 which is DNA.
6. A host cell transformed or transfected with an isolated nucleic acid according to any one of Claims 1 to 5.
7. A host cell according to Claim 6 which is a mammalian host cell.
8. A host cell according to Claim 7 which is a human cell.
9. A host cell according to Claim 8 which is a hepatocyte.