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(54) Title: HEPATITIS VIRUS SENTINEL VIRUS I (SVI)

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a new group of viruses, designated SVI. Isolated SVI viruses, polynucleotides and proteins from SVI viruses, and antibodies which bind SVI virus and SVI viral proteins are provided. The polynucleotides, proteins, and antibodies of the invention may be used to detect SVI virus or infection by SVI virus in a susceptible individual. Additionally, polynucleotides of the invention may be inserted into recombinant expression vectors recombinant production of viral proteins.