

Janssen Research & Development ***Clinical Protocol**

Intervention-specific Appendix 3 to Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001

A Phase 2, randomized, open-label, multicenter study to evaluate efficacy, pharmacokinetics, safety, and tolerability of treatment with JNJ-73763989, pegylated interferon alpha-2a, nucleos(t)ide analog with or without JNJ-56136379 in treatment-naïve patients with HBeAg positive chronic hepatitis B virus infection

The REEF-IT Study

**Protocol 73763989PAHPB2005; Phase 2
Amendment 7****JNJ-73763989 and JNJ-56136379**

*Janssen Research & Development is a global organization that operates through different legal entities in various countries. Therefore, the legal entity acting as the sponsor for Janssen Research & Development studies may vary, such as, but not limited to Janssen Biotech, Inc.; Janssen Products, LP; Janssen Biologics, BV; Janssen-Cilag International NV; Janssen, Inc; Janssen Pharmaceutica NV; Janssen Sciences Ireland UC; Janssen Biopharma Inc.; or Janssen Research & Development, LLC. The term “sponsor” is used throughout the protocol to represent these various legal entities; the sponsor is identified on the Contact Information page that accompanies the protocol.

United States (US) sites of this study will be conducted under US Food & Drug Administration Investigational New Drug (IND) regulations (21 CFR Part 312).

EudraCT NUMBER: 2019-004978-26

Status: Approved

Date: 25 November 2021

Prepared by: Janssen Research & Development, a division of Janssen Pharmaceutica NV

EDMS number: EDMS-ERI-204178715, 12.0

GCP Compliance: This study will be conducted in compliance with Good Clinical Practice, and applicable regulatory requirements.

Confidentiality Statement

The information in this document contains trade secrets, commercial information, or financial information that the Company customarily holds close and treats as confidential. The information is being provided under the assurance that the recipient will maintain the confidentiality of the information under applicable statutes, regulations, rules, protective orders or otherwise.

PROTOCOL AMENDMENT SUMMARY OF CHANGES TABLE

DOCUMENT HISTORY	
Document	Date
Amendment 7	This document
Amendment 6	30 September 2021
Amendment 5	30 July 2021
Amendment 4	30 April 2021
Amendment 3	26 January 2021
Amendment 2	08 July 2020
Amendment 1	24 April 2020
Original Protocol	19 February 2020

Amendment 7 (This document)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: The primary reason for this amendment is to update the criteria for post-treatment monitoring and for nucleos(t)ide analog (NA) re-treatment for participants who discontinued NA treatment during follow-up.

With Amendment 6, changes were introduced to the criteria for post-treatment monitoring and NA re-treatment for patients who discontinued NA treatment. These changes were triggered by a case of hepatitis B reactivation with subacute hepatic failure (initially reported as severe clinical ALT flare) following NA treatment cessation as per protocol in the REEF-2 (73763989PAHPB2002) study which led to listing of the patient for high urgency liver transplantation. The patient received a donor liver at Week 14 post-stopping NA and has since then showed an uneventful post-operative recovery.

To further protect the safety of study participants, the current amendment includes additional changes to the criteria for post-treatment monitoring and for NA re-treatment for participants who discontinued NA treatment.

These changes are based on additional follow-up information from participants in the REEF-2 study who stopped all treatment including NA per protocol and is incorporating recommendations from Health Authorities and the independent data monitoring committee.

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
Update of criteria for post-treatment monitoring and for NA re-treatment	In further off-treatment analysis of REEF-2 with all participants having reached at least 12 weeks of follow-up post stopping NA, some participants show a pattern of fast increase of HBV DNA followed by significant elevations of ALT that improved after re-starting of NA treatment. Based on these observations it was decided to implement more conservative rules for post-treatment monitoring and re-treatment criteria for all participants who met NA treatment completion criteria and stopped NA treatment.	1.1 Synopsis 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 2.3.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 6.6.2 NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA 10.16 Appendix 16: NA Re-treatment and Monitoring After Stopping of NA

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
Minor errors were corrected in the Schedule of Activities.	Correction.	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROTOCOL AMENDMENT SUMMARY OF CHANGES TABLE	2
TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
LIST OF IN-TEXT TABLES AND FIGURES	6
1. PROTOCOL SUMMARY	7
1.1. Synopsis	7
1.2. Schema	21
1.3. Schedule of Activities	24
1.3.1. Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase	24
1.3.2. Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase	30
2. INTRODUCTION.....	35
2.1. Study Rationale	36
2.2. Background	37
2.2.1. Nonclinical Studies	37
2.2.1.1. JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379	37
2.2.1.2. Combination of JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 with Tenofovir Disoproxil	42
2.2.1.3. Combination of JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a	43
2.2.1.3.1. Combination of JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a	43
2.2.1.3.2. Combination of JNJ-3989 with PegIFN-α2a	44
2.2.2. Clinical Studies	45
2.2.2.1. JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379	45
2.2.2.2. Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with Tenofovir Disoproxil	51
2.2.2.3. Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a	52
2.3. Benefit-Risk Assessment	52
2.3.1. Benefits for Study Participation	53
2.3.1.1. Known Benefits	53
2.3.1.2. Potential Benefits	53
2.3.2. Risks for Study Participation	54
2.3.2.1. Known Risks	54
2.3.2.2. Potential Risks	54
2.3.2.2.1. Potential Risks for JNJ-3989	55
2.3.2.2.2. Potential Risks for JNJ-6379	55
2.3.2.2.3. Potential Risks for Tenofovir Disoproxil and PegIFN-α2a	57
2.3.3. Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation	57
3. OBJECTIVES AND ENDPOINTS	59
4. STUDY DESIGN	62
4.1. Overall Design	62
4.2. Scientific Rationale for Study Design	66
4.2.1. Study-Specific Ethical Design Considerations	69
4.3. Justification for Dose	70
4.3.1. JNJ-3989	70
4.3.2. JNJ-6379	71
4.4. End-of-Study Definition	71
5. STUDY POPULATION	72
5.1. Inclusion Criteria	72
5.2. Exclusion Criteria	75
5.3. Lifestyle Considerations	80
5.4. Screen Failures	81
6. STUDY INTERVENTION	82
6.1. Study Intervention(s) Administered	82

6.2.	Preparation/Handling/Storage/Accountability	84
6.3.	Measures to Minimize Bias: Randomization and Blinding	85
6.4.	Study Intervention Compliance	85
6.5.	Concomitant Therapy	86
6.6.	Dose Modification	88
6.6.1.	Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12	88
6.6.2.	NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA	89
6.7.	Study Intervention After the End of the Study	90
7.	DISCONTINUATION OF STUDY INTERVENTION AND PARTICIPANT DISCONTINUATION/WITHDRAWAL	90
7.1.	Discontinuation of Study Intervention	90
7.2.	Participant Discontinuation/Withdrawal From the Study	93
7.2.1.	Withdrawal From the Use of Research Samples	93
7.3.	Lost to Follow-up	93
8.	STUDY ASSESSMENTS AND PROCEDURES	93
8.1.	Efficacy Assessments	94
8.1.1.	Sequencing	95
8.1.2.	Patient-reported Outcomes	95
8.2.	Safety Assessments	97
8.2.1.	Physical Examinations	97
8.2.2.	Vital Signs	97
8.2.3.	Electrocardiograms	97
8.2.4.	Clinical Safety Laboratory Assessments	97
8.3.	Adverse Events, Serious Adverse Events, and Other Safety Reporting	98
8.3.1.	Time Period and Frequency for Collecting Adverse Event and Serious Adverse Event Information	98
8.3.2.	Method of Detecting Adverse Events and Serious Adverse Events	98
8.3.3.	Follow-up of Adverse Events and Serious Adverse Events	98
8.3.4.	Regulatory Reporting Requirements for Serious Adverse Events	98
8.3.5.	Pregnancy	98
8.3.6.	Adverse Events of Special Interest	98
8.3.6.1.	Injection Site Reactions	99
8.3.6.2.	Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations	99
8.3.6.3.	Renal Complications	100
8.3.6.4.	Hematologic Abnormalities	101
8.3.7.	Other Toxicities	101
8.3.7.1.	Rash	102
8.3.7.2.	Acute Systemic Allergic Reactions	102
8.4.	Treatment of Overdose	103
8.5.	Pharmacokinetics	103
8.5.1.	Evaluations	103
8.5.2.	Analytical Procedures	104
8.5.3.	Pharmacokinetic Parameters and Evaluations	104
8.6.	Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Evaluations	104
8.7.	Immune Assessments	104
8.8.	Host Genetics	105
8.9.	Exploratory Host Biomarkers	105
8.10.	Medical Encounters	106
9.	STATISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS	106
9.1.	Statistical Hypotheses	106
9.2.	Sample Size Determination	106
9.3.	Populations for Analyses	107
9.4.	Statistical Analyses	107
9.4.1.	Efficacy Analyses	107

9.4.1.1.	Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment)	108
9.4.1.2.	Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints	108
9.4.1.3.	Resistance Analyses	109
9.4.1.4.	Patient-reported Outcomes	109
9.4.2.	Safety Analyses	110
9.4.3.	Other Analyses	110
9.5.	Interim Analyses.....	111
9.6.	Data Review Committee	112
9.7.	Independent Flare Expert Panel	112
10.	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS	113
10.1.	Appendix 1: Abbreviations and Definitions of Terms	113
10.2.	Appendix 2: Clinical Laboratory Tests	116
10.3.	Appendix 3: Regulatory, Ethical, and Study Oversight Considerations	117
10.4.	Appendix 4: Adverse Events: Definitions and Procedures for Recording, Evaluating, Follow-up, and Reporting	119
10.5.	Appendix 5: Rash Management.....	120
10.6.	Appendix 6: Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations	123
10.7.	Appendix 7: Cardiovascular Safety – Abnormalities.....	124
10.8.	Appendix 8: Contraceptive and Barrier Guidance and Collection of Pregnancy Information	125
10.9.	Appendix 9: DAIDS Table	127
10.10.	Appendix 10: Short Form 36 version 2 (SF-36v2) 2010 Questionnaire.....	149
10.11.	Appendix 11: Hepatitis B Quality of Life Instrument	160
10.12.	Appendix 12: 5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension Questionnaire (EQ-5D-5L)	166
10.13.	Appendix 13: Patient Global Impression of Change Scale	169
10.14.	Appendix 14: Protocol Amendment History	170
10.15.	Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX	182
10.16.	Appendix 16: NA Re-treatment and Monitoring After Stopping of NA	186
11.	REFERENCES.....	187
	INVESTIGATOR AGREEMENT	189

LIST OF IN-TEXT TABLES AND FIGURES

TABLES

Table 1:	Animal/Human Exposure Ratios at NOAEL for JNJ-3989.....	39
Table 2:	Animal/Human Ratios at the NOAEL in Rat and Dog (Human Exposure at 250 mg JNJ-6379 Once Daily for 28 Days [Study 56136379HPB1001])	40
Table 3:	Disallowed Medication	87
Table 4:	PegIFN-α2a Hematological Dose Modification Guidelines.....	88
Table 5:	Sample Size Determination	107
Table 6:	Management of Rash Events by Severity Grade	120

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Schematic Overview of Cohort 1 of the Study – Prior to Protocol Amendment 5	21
Figure 2:	Schematic Overview of the Study – Per Protocol Amendment 5	21
Figure 3:	Schematic Overview of Cohort 2 of the Study – As of Protocol Amendment 6.....	22

1. PROTOCOL SUMMARY

1.1. Synopsis

Clinical Protocol 73763989PAHPB2005: A Phase 2, randomized, open-label, multicenter study to evaluate efficacy, pharmacokinetics, safety, and tolerability of treatment with JNJ-73763989, pegylated interferon alpha-2a, nucleos(t)ide analog with or without JNJ-56136379 in treatment-naïve patients with HBeAg positive chronic hepatitis B virus infection. Protocol 73763989PAHPB2005 is an intervention-specific appendix (ISA) to Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

JNJ-73763989 (JNJ-3989) is a liver-targeted antiviral therapeutic for subcutaneous injection designed to treat chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection via a ribonucleic acid interference (RNAi) mechanism. Engagement of the cellular RNAi machinery by JNJ-3989 results in specific cleavage of HBV ribonucleic acid (RNA) transcripts, thereby reducing the levels of HBV proteins and the pre-genomic ribonucleic acid (pgRNA), the precursor of viral relaxed circular deoxyribonucleic acid (rcDNA). The RNAi triggers in JNJ-3989, JNJ-73763976 (JNJ-3976) and JNJ-73763924 (JNJ-3924), are designed to target all HBV RNA transcripts derived from covalently closed circular deoxyribonucleic acid (cccDNA), as well as transcripts derived from integrated viral deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). The latter has been suggested to be a significant source of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) in hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg)-negative patients or patients on long-term treatment with nucleos(t)ide analogues (NAs), the current standard of care.²⁹

JNJ-56136379 (JNJ-6379) is an orally administered capsid assembly modulator (CAM) that is being developed for the treatment of chronic HBV infection. JNJ-6379 binds to hepatitis B core protein (HBc) and interferes with the viral capsid assembly process, thereby preventing the polymerase-bound pgRNA encapsidation. This results in the formation of viral HBV capsids, devoid of HBV DNA or RNA (non-functional capsids), and ultimately in the inhibition of HBV replication. In addition, JNJ-6379 also acts at an early stage of the viral life cycle by inhibiting the de novo formation of cccDNA potentially by interfering with the capsid disassembly process. JNJ-6379 was initially part of the study intervention but has been removed as study intervention with the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6.

Study interventions:

- Prior to Protocol Amendment 6: The term “study intervention” throughout the protocol, refers to JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, NA and pegylated interferon alpha-2a (PegIFN- α 2a).
- As of Protocol Amendment 6: The term “study intervention” throughout the protocol, refers to JNJ-3989, NA and PegIFN- α 2a.

Study phases:

- Prior to Protocol Amendment 5: The term “induction phase” corresponds to the first treatment phase of the study which starts with enrollment and has a flexible duration of 36-60 weeks (inclusive) based on response-guided treatment (RGT). The term “consolidation phase” corresponds to the second treatment phase of the study which starts with the randomization to one of the 2 study intervention arms and has a fixed duration of 12 weeks.
- With Protocol Amendment 5: The term “induction phase” corresponds to the first treatment phase of the study which starts with the randomization to one of the 2 study intervention arms and has a fixed duration of 36 weeks for all participants. The term “consolidation phase” corresponds to the second treatment phase of the study which has a fixed duration of 12 weeks and includes the addition of PegIFN- α 2a to the study intervention regimens.

- As of Protocol Amendment 6: The term “induction phase” corresponds to the first treatment phase of the study which starts with enrollment to one arm and has a fixed duration of 36 weeks. The term “consolidation phase” corresponds to the second treatment phase of the study which has a fixed duration of 12 weeks and includes the addition of PegIFN- α 2a to the study intervention regimen.

Refer to the OVERALL DESIGN and Section 1.2, Schema, for details on the 2 treatment phases.

OBJECTIVES AND ENDPOINTS

Below is the list of objectives and endpoints that will be evaluated in this study, delineating the details in alignment with the general objectives listed in the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001. The details specific for this ISA are highlighted (colored fill).

Objectives	Endpoints
Primary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of a treatment regimen of JNJ-3989 + PegIFN-α2a + NA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment.
Secondary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the safety and tolerability of the study intervention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and tolerability including but not limited to the proportion of participants with (serious) adverse events (S)AEs and abnormalities in clinical laboratory tests (including hematology, blood biochemistry, blood coagulation, urinalysis, urine chemistry, and renal biomarkers), 12-lead electrocardiograms (ECGs), vital signs, and physical examinations throughout the study.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of the study intervention during the treatment period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants reaching HBsAg <10 IU/mL at the end of the induction phase (Week 36). Time to reach HBsAg <10 IU/mL. Proportion of participants meeting the NA treatment completion criteria at the end of the consolidation phase.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of the study intervention during the follow-up (FU) phase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance 48 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment. Proportion of participants with HBV DNA <LLOQ 48 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment. Frequency of viral and/or biochemical flares and/or clinical flares. Proportion of participants requiring NA re-treatment.

Objectives	Endpoints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate efficacy of the study intervention as measured by blood markers (such as HBsAg, HBeAg, HBV DNA, and alanine aminotransferase [ALT]) during study intervention and follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with (sustained) reduction, suppression, and/or seroclearance considering single and multiple markers (such as HBsAg, HBeAg, HBV DNA, and ALT). Proportion of participants with HBsAg and HBeAg seroconversion. Change from baseline over time in HBsAg, HBeAg, and HBV DNA. Time to achieve HBsAg seroclearance, HBeAg seroclearance, and/or HBV DNA <LLOQ. Proportion of participants with HBeAg, HBsAg, and HBV DNA levels and/or changes from baseline below/above different cut-offs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the frequency of virologic breakthrough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with virologic breakthrough.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of NA re-treatment in participants who meet the criteria for NA re-treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants who reach HBV DNA undetectability after re-start of NA treatment during follow-up.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the pharmacokinetics (PK) of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924) and optionally of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PK parameters of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924. Optionally, PK parameters of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a compared to historical data.
Exploratory	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify baseline and on-treatment markers associated with efficacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Association of baseline characteristics and baseline/on-treatment viral blood markers (such as age, and baseline/on-treatment HBsAg levels) with selected efficacy variables.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore changes in the severity of liver disease. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in fibrosis (according to Fibroscan liver stiffness measurements) at end-of-study intervention (EOSI) and end of follow-up versus baseline.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore efficacy of the study intervention in terms of changes in HBV RNA and HBcrAg levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes from baseline in HBV RNA and HBcrAg levels during the study intervention and follow-up.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the impact of study intervention on participants' physical and emotional functioning, and health-related quality of life using patient-reported outcomes (PROs) during study intervention and follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes over time in score on the Short Form 36 version 2 (SF-36v2). Changes over time in score on the Hepatitis B Quality of Life (HBQOL) Instrument. Changes over time in the 5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension (EQ-5D-5L) Visual Analog Scale (VAS) score and Index score.

Objectives	Endpoints
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes over time on the Patient Global Impression of Change (PGIC).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the relationship between plasma PK parameters (JNJ-3976, JNJ-3924, and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a) and selected pharmacodynamic (PD) parameters of efficacy and/or safety, as applicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between various plasma PK parameters (JNJ-3976, JNJ-3924, , and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a) and selected efficacy and/or safety endpoints, as applicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the effect of PegIFN-α2a coadministration on the PK of JNJ-3989 (optional PK substudy). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect of PegIFN-α2a coadministration on the PK of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the HBV genome sequence during study intervention and follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of intervention-associated mutations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore HBV-specific T-cell responses during study intervention and follow-up.* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes from baseline in HBV-specific peripheral blood T-cell responses.

* Peripheral blood mononuclear cell (PBMC) samples for immune analyses will be collected at selected sites only.

Hypothesis

As this is an exploratory proof of concept (PoC) study, no formal statistical hypothesis has been formulated.

OVERALL DESIGN

This ISA describes a Phase 2a study of JNJ-3989. Prior to Protocol Amendment 6, the study intervention also included JNJ-6379. This ISA is a companion document to the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001, which describes the common design elements of the Platform study in participants with chronic hepatitis B (CHB). This ISA describes specific and/or additional protocol elements applicable to this intervention cohort, in which participants will be allocated to the following study intervention:

- Prior to Protocol Amendment 5 (Cohort 1):

Arm 1: JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a

Arm 2: JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA

Note: Participants who were randomized to the group without PegIFN- α 2a prior to Protocol Amendment 5, will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen, for 12 weeks, at the next scheduled visit (see details below).

- Per Protocol Amendment 5 (Cohort 2):

Arm 3: JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a

Arm 4: JNJ-3989 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a

Note: Participants enrolled under Protocol Amendment 5 did not receive JNJ-6379 because of the immediate removal of JNJ-6379 as study intervention through an urgent safety measure (see details below).

- As of Protocol Amendment 6 (Cohort 2):

- Single-arm: JNJ-3989 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a

To distinguish between participants enrolled prior to or after Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect, the terms Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 will be used. All participants enrolled prior to the Protocol Amendment 5 will comprise Cohort 1. The participants enrolled after approval of Amendment 5 will comprise Cohort 2.

The study described in this ISA, as of Protocol Amendment 6, is a Phase 2a, single-arm, open-label, multicenter, interventional study to evaluate the efficacy, pharmacokinetics, safety, and tolerability of treatment with JNJ-3989+PegIFN- α 2a+NA in patients with HBeAg positive chronic HBV infection and ALT $\leq 2 \times$ ULN who are not currently being treated for their HBV infection (ie, who had <9 months of prior treatment which ended at least 12 months before screening, including treatment-naïve patients). After completing this study, participants may have the option to enroll into a long-term follow-up study.

The study will be conducted in 4 phases:

- A screening phase (4 weeks [if necessary, can be extended to a maximum of 6 weeks decided on a case-by-case basis and in agreement with the sponsor]).
- An induction phase:
 - Prior to Protocol Amendment 5: RGT of 36-60 weeks (inclusive)
Note: Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect, will enter the consolidation phase at the next scheduled visit.
 - As of Protocol Amendment 5: fixed duration of 36 weeks for all participants.
- A consolidation phase (12 weeks).
- A follow-up (FU) phase (48 weeks).

In total, approximately 60 participants will be enrolled in this study (including approximately 33 after implementation of Protocol Amendment 6).

The total duration of individual participation will be 100 to 102 weeks. Of note, participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect may have a longer induction phase and a total study duration up to 126 weeks.

The induction and consolidation phase have been updated with Protocol Amendment 5 and Protocol Amendment 6:

- Before Protocol Amendment 5, enrolled participants will enter an induction phase with triple treatment (JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA) for a response-guided treatment duration of ≥ 36 weeks to ≤ 60 weeks. End of the induction phase is defined by either meeting the study defined RGT criterion (HBsAg <10 IU/mL) or reaching study Week 60, whichever comes first. The RGT criterion will be assessed from Week 36 onwards at each study visit, and the assessment will always be based on lab results from the previous study visit. If the RGT criterion is met, the participant will complete the induction phase at that visit and will be randomized in a 1:1 ratio to one of the following intervention arms in the 12-week consolidation phase: JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA+PegIFN- α 2a (Cohort 1, Arm 1) or JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA (Cohort 1, Arm 2). At the time of writing Protocol Amendment 5, 22 participants were already enrolled in the study.

Note: Participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect will switch to the new study design as soon as Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect. Participants who did not yet reach the Week 36 visit at that time will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen at Week 36 for 12 weeks. Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit and/or were randomized to the group without

PegIFN- α 2a, will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen at the next scheduled visit. After 12 weeks, treatment with PegIFN- α 2a, JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 (if applicable) will be stopped.

- Per Protocol Amendment 5, based on the number of participants currently enrolled, it is estimated that approximately 50 participants will be randomized at baseline in a 1:1 ratio to one of the following intervention arms: JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA (Cohort 2, Arm 3) or JNJ-3989+NA (Cohort 2, Arm 4). Upon completion of the 36-week induction phase, all participants will enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

Note: With the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6, participants previously enrolled had to immediately switch to the new study design. Participants had to stop JNJ-6379 treatment immediately and continue with JNJ-3989+NA treatment up to the end of the induction phase and will then enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

- As of Protocol Amendment 6, the study will continue as a single-arm study (JNJ-3989+NA+PegIFN- α 2a). All newly enrolled participants will receive JNJ-3989+NA for 36 weeks (induction phase) and will then enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

At the end of the consolidation phase, all participants will enter the FU phase and stop treatment with JNJ-3989+PegIFN- α 2a. If NA treatment completion criteria (HBsAg <10 IU/mL, and HBeAg-negative, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and ALT <3x upper limit of normal [ULN]) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will also be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete FU phase. Participants will be monitored closely during the 48-week FU phase and should restart NA treatment in accordance with the NA re-treatment criteria.

As of Protocol Amendment 6, study intervention consists of:

- 200 mg JNJ-3989 (SC injection Q4W)
- 245 mg tenofovir disoproxil (tablets qd) – **Note:** tenofovir disoproxil may be supplied as fumarate or maleate
- 180 μ g PegIFN- α 2a (SC injection, QW)

Note: Most participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, also received 250 mg JNJ-6379 (tablets qd) as part of their study intervention.

All participants who consent to participate in the intensive PK substudy (optional) will undergo intensive PK sampling.

Participants will be considered to have completed the study if they have completed the assessments of the end-of-study (EOS) visit (ie, FU Week 48).

A data review committee (DRC) will be commissioned for this study. In addition, an Independent Flare Expert Panel (IFLEP) will be appointed.

NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA

Participants who meet the NA treatment completion criteria will be monitored closely during the follow-up phase.

After stopping NA treatment, participants should be monitored as follows:

- Regular monitoring visits will be every 4 weeks during the follow-up phase in accordance with the schedule of activities.

- A post-treatment HBV DNA value of $>20,000$ IU/mL should trigger re-testing of ALT/aspartate aminotransferase (AST), HBV DNA, and total and direct bilirubin within a maximum of 7 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, weekly until HBV DNA returns to $<20,000$ IU/mL).
- A post-treatment HBV DNA value of $>2,000$ IU/mL (but $<20,000$ IU/mL) should trigger a re-test within 14 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, every other week until HBV DNA returns to $<2,000$ IU/mL).
- A post-treatment ALT value of $>5\times$ ULN should trigger re-testing of ALT, AST, alkaline phosphatase (ALP), total and direct bilirubin, International Normalized Ratio (INR), albumin, and HBV DNA on a weekly basis until ALT and AST levels have returned to $<5\times$ ULN.

After stopping NA treatment, participants should re-start NA treatment:

- Immediately with signs of decreasing liver function based on laboratory findings (eg, INR, direct bilirubin) or clinical assessment (eg, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy).
- Immediately with an HBV DNA value of $>100,000$ IU/mL (irrespective of confirmation and/or ALT increase).
- With confirmed post-treatment HBeAg seroreversion (HBeAg positive after it was negative at NA completion).
- With confirmed* post-treatment increases in HBV DNA $>2,000$ IU/mL and ALT $>5\times$ ULN.
- With confirmed* post-treatment increases in HBV DNA $>20,000$ IU/mL.

* At least 4 weeks apart – frequency of visits as described above.

Note: Additional re-testing and/or earlier restarting of NA treatment is at the investigator's discretion, even if the above cut-offs are not yet met.

To avoid delays in decision making, sites are encouraged to run local re-testing in parallel with central re-testing in the situations described above that require more frequent re-testing. Local test results are to be recorded in the CRF and/or source documents, including information on the HBV DNA assay used. In addition, to avoid delays in NA re-treatment, it should be considered to dispense NA to participants who potentially met the NA re-treatment criteria (eg, pending confirmation) and who will not be available to come to the study site immediately at the time the confirmatory test results will become available. This should ensure that the participant can immediately re-start NA treatment if indicated, upon direct confirmation by the investigator.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

In total, a target of approximately 60 adult participants, 18-55 years (inclusive) of age (with a maximum of approximately 10 participants >45 to ≤ 55 years of age), with CHB who are HBeAg positive, who are not currently being treated for their HBV infection (ie, who had <9 months of prior treatment which ended at least 12 months before screening, including treatment-naïve patients), have HBV DNA $\geq 20,000$ IU/mL and have ALT $\leq 2\times$ ULN at screening will be enrolled in this study (including approximately 33 participants after implementation of Protocol Amendment 6). It is targeted to enroll at least 30% participants with HBV DNA $\geq 10^7$ IU/mL and normal ALT at screening in the study.

Description of Interventions

Intervention Name	JNJ-3989	JNJ-6379***	PegIFN-α2a	Tenofovir disoproxil	Tenofovir alafenamide*
Type	Drug	Drug	Drug	Drug	Drug
Dose Formulation	Solution for injection	Tablets	Solution for injection	Film coated tablets	Film coated tablets
Unit Dose Strength(s)	200 mg/mL	25 and 100 mg	180 µg/0.5 mL	245 mg	25 mg
Dosage Level(s)	200 mg once every 4 weeks (Q4W)	250 mg once daily (qd)	180 µg once weekly (QW)**	245 mg qd	25 mg qd
Route of Administration	Subcutaneous injection (preferably in the abdomen)	Oral	Subcutaneous injection (in the thigh or abdomen)	Oral	Oral
Use	Investigational intervention	Investigational intervention	Investigational intervention	Background intervention	Background intervention
Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) and Non-Investigational Medicinal Product (NIMP)	IMP	IMP	IMP	IMP	IMP
Sourcing	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the sponsor
Packaging and Labeling	Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number	Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number	Commercial supplies will be sourced. Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number.	Commercial supplies will be sourced. Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number.	Commercial supplies will be sourced. Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number.
		In child resistant packaging	In child resistant packaging	In child resistant packaging	In child resistant packaging
	<i>Labels will contain information to meet the applicable regulatory requirements.</i>				
Food/Fasting Instructions	Regardless of food intake	Regardless of food intake	Per the prescribing information	Per the prescribing information	Per the prescribing information

Q4W: once every 4 weeks; qd: once daily; QW: once weekly.

*In countries where tenofovir alafenamide is available, it may be used for participants who need to switch NA (refer to Section 8.3.6.3).

**For PegIFN-α2a, dose adjustment may be applicable for participants who develop laboratory abnormalities during PegIFN-α2a treatment (refer to Section 6.6).

*** Most participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, also received JNJ-6379 as part of their study intervention. As of Protocol Amendment 6: study intervention includes JNJ-3989, NA and PegIFN-α2a.

EFFICACY EVALUATIONS

All efficacy assessments will be performed at predefined time points as specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#).

Qualitative and quantitative HBsAg and HBeAg, and quantitative HBcrAg as well as anti-HBs and anti-hepatitis B e (anti-HBe) antibodies will be determined using validated serologic assays in a central laboratory. Samples for the determination of HBsAg and HBeAg will be processed in real-time. Samples for the determination of HBcrAg can be analyzed in batch and at the sponsor's request.

HBV DNA and HBV RNA will be quantified at central laboratories using validated assays for the quantification of HBV DNA and HBV RNA. Samples for the determination of HBV DNA will be processed in real-time. Samples for the determination of HBV RNA can be analyzed in batch and at the sponsor's request.

In participants enrolled at a site with an on-site Fibroscan device, Fibroscan assessments will be performed at different time points to determine changes in fibrosis levels.

Samples may be used by the sponsor for additional exploratory assessments analyzing the serologic and virologic characteristics of HBV infection and efficacy or safety of the study intervention.

Sequencing

Viral genome sequence analysis will be performed to evaluate mutations associated with the study intervention.

Patient-reported Outcomes

The impact of HBV treatment on participants will be assessed using PROs at predefined time points (see Schedule of Activities). The following 4 PRO instruments will be used: SF-36v2, HBQOL, EQ-5D-5L, and PGIC.

Safety Assessments

Safety and tolerability (AEs, clinical safety laboratory assessments, ECGs, vital signs and physical examinations) will be evaluated as described in Section 8.2 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 and at predefined time points as specified in the Schedule of Activities. In addition, urine samples for urine chemistry and renal biomarkers will be collected.

Specific toxicity management plans are in place for follow-up of rash, injection site reactions, acute systemic allergic reactions, ALT/aspartate aminotransferase elevations, and renal complications.

Pharmacokinetics

Plasma or serum (as applicable) samples will be used to evaluate the PK of the study intervention. Samples collected for analyses of the study intervention's concentrations may additionally be used to evaluate safety or efficacy aspects.

Venous blood samples will be collected for measurement of plasma or serum concentrations, as applicable, of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924), NA and PegIFN- α 2a, at time points specified in the Schedule of Activities. Bioanalysis of NA and PegIFN- α 2a is optional at the discretion of the sponsor. Bioanalysis of JNJ-6379 may also be done on samples collected from participants who received JNJ-6379 up to Protocol Amendment 5.

All participants will have sparse PK sampling. Participants who consent to participate in the intensive PK substudy (optional) will also undergo intensive PK sampling at time points specified in the Schedule of Activities.

Data from this study may be combined with other studies via population PK modeling to enable the calculation of the above PK parameters also in participants who only underwent sparse PK sampling.

Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Evaluations

Relationships of individual PK parameters for JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924), and, optionally, JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, with selected efficacy and/or with selected safety endpoints will be evaluated, if applicable.

Immune Assessments

At selected sites, PBMC samples for immune analyses will be collected during study intervention and follow-up and will be analyzed centrally for HBV-specific responses by enzyme-linked immunospot (ELISpot) and/or intracellular cytokine staining (ICS) after stimulation with HBV-specific antigens.

Additional experiments may be performed to further phenotypically and functionally characterize PBMCs using proliferation or cytotoxic assays or other methods such as cytometry by time of flight to evaluate innate and adaptive immune responses. Leftover PBMC samples may be used at the sponsor's discretion for additional exploratory research related to HBV infection or study intervention (safety/efficacy).

Additional PBMC samples may be taken in case of ALT flares, upon discussion with the sponsor, which may require an unscheduled visit.

Host Genetics

A mandatory sample for human leukocyte antigen (HLA) haplotyping will be collected from all participants.

An optional pharmacogenomic (host DNA) blood sample may be collected (preferably at baseline) to allow for host pharmacogenomic research, where local regulations permit. In addition, host DNA blood samples to allow for epigenetic analyses may be collected. These samples could for example be used to assess changes in frequencies of immune cells such as myeloid derived suppressor cells. These samples will only be collected from participants who consent separately to this component of the study.

In addition, other samples may be used for exploratory genetic or epigenetic research in participants consenting separately to this part of the study. No genetic research will be performed on any sample in participants who have not provided the additional separate consent for host genetic research. These samples can only be used to investigate the potential association of genetic or epigenetic factors with efficacy, safety, or PK of the study intervention, or HBV infection, or may be used to develop tests/assays related to the study intervention or HBV infection.

Exploratory Host Biomarkers

The study includes collection of blood samples for exploratory analysis of host blood biomarkers at the host RNA, protein, and cell level.

Samples can only be used for research related to study intervention or HBV infection or may be used to develop tests/assays related to study intervention or HBV infection.

Blood samples will be taken at the time points indicated in the Schedule of Activities which can be used to explore immunogenicity of JNJ-3989. The emergence of antibodies to JNJ-3989 (antidrug antibodies) might be analyzed using assays such as an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

STATISTICAL METHODS

Sample Size Determination

According to the initial study design, the plan was to enroll 80 participants in the study to achieve at least 70 participants to be randomized at the end of the induction phase. At the time of writing Protocol Amendment 6, 28 participants were already enrolled in the study. Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit and/or were randomized to the group without PegIFN- α 2a by the time Protocol Amendment 6 is in effect, will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen at the next scheduled visit and will enter the 12-week consolidation phase. For the purpose of the statistical analyses, all participants enrolled prior to Protocol Amendment 5 will comprise "Cohort 1". All participants enrolled after approval of Protocol Amendment 6 will comprise "Cohort 2".

With the introduction of the new study design in Protocol Amendment 6 (single-arm), no formal sample size re-calculation was performed. The targeted total sample size (Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 combined) was set to approximately 60 participants. With a sample size of 33 participants in Cohort 2 and assuming a 10% dropout rate, 30 participants in Cohort 2 would be expected to have data for the primary efficacy endpoint at 24 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment. If at least 15 (50%) participants are responders, this sample size will allow to conclude with 90% confidence that the true response rate is at least 0.34, with a confidence interval (CI) width of 0.322 (90% CI: 0.339 - 0.661).

Efficacy Analyses

The primary efficacy analysis will be performed when all participants have completed FU Week 24 or discontinued earlier. The final analysis will be performed when all participants have completed the last study visit (FU Week 48) or discontinued earlier.

To evaluate the efficacy, the primary analysis set will be the intent-to-treat (ITT) population of Cohort 2: all participants who were randomized or enrolled and who received at least 1 dose of consolidation phase study intervention within this ISA will be included in the ITT population. The efficacy for Cohort 1 will be evaluated on the treated population set. A secondary analysis of efficacy will be performed combining the data pre- and post-Amendment 6, i.e. combining the data from participants who received PegIFN- α 2a but not JNJ-6379 in Cohort 1 with data of Cohort 2. The approach to combine data from the 2 cohorts will be described in detail in the Statistical Analysis Plan.

The baseline measurements are defined as the measurements taken closest to but before the first administration of study intervention on Day 1, unless otherwise specified.

Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment)

The primary efficacy endpoint, the proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment, will be summarized with the point estimate and its 90% CI using the Clopper-Pearson exact method.

Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints

Descriptive statistics will be used for all efficacy endpoints which will be summarized by cohort and study phase. Specific key selected endpoints may be analyzed using suitable categorical data approaches (eg, Clopper-Pearson interval or logistic regression for proportions or other categorical type of endpoint), longitudinal repeated measures models (eg, for continuous types of variables), or survival analysis based

on the Kaplan-Meier estimates (for time-to-event variables), as appropriate. All efficacy analyses will be repeated combining the data from participants who received PegIFN- α 2a but not JNJ-6379 in Cohort 1 with data from Cohort 2. The approach to combine data from the 2 cohorts will be described in detail in the Statistical Analysis Plan.

Resistance Analyses

The results of HBV viral sequencing will be evaluated by the sponsor virologist. Relevant changes of amino acid and/or nucleic acid variations (eg, substitutions) in the HBV genome will be tabulated and described.

Additional exploratory characterization of the HBV viral sequence and phenotype may be performed and reported separately.

Patient-reported Outcomes

The PRO scores will be analyzed descriptively as mean scores over time, and (if applicable) evaluated based on the proportion of participants experiencing a clinically important improvement or worsening in PRO scores from baseline during study intervention and follow-up. Analyses will also be performed on PRO score changes from baseline at specific time points (Week 24, end of consolidation phase, end of induction phase, FU Week 24, and FU Week 48 [EOS]), and between end of the consolidation phase and FU Week 48 (EOS) for different subgroups: participants with HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks and 48 weeks after completion of consolidation phase treatment, in patients stopping NA (at FU Week 2) without restarting NA treatment, versus those without HBsAg seroclearance at those time points.

Safety Analyses

The safety analyses will be based on the safety population and are specified in Section 9.4.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001. All participants who received at least 1 dose of study intervention within this ISA will be included in the safety population. Participants will be analyzed according to the study intervention they actually received.

Safety will be evaluated by descriptive summaries of AEs including AEs of special interest and other toxicities to any of the study interventions, clinical laboratory tests, ECGs, vital signs, physical examinations, and eGFR based on serum creatinine (eGFR_{cr}) and cystatin C (eGFR_{cys}). The safety analysis will be done by study phase and cohort. Results will be presented in tabular format and/or graphically over time, as appropriate.

Other Analyses

Pharmacokinetic Analyses

Descriptive statistics (n, mean, standard deviation [SD], coefficient of variation [CV], geometric mean, median, minimum, and maximum) will be calculated for the plasma or serum concentrations of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924) and, optionally, JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, as applicable, and for the derived PK parameters for noncompartmental PK analysis.

For each participant with intensive PK sampling, concentration-time data of JNJ-3976, JNJ-3924, , and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a will be graphically presented as applicable. Similarly, graphs of the mean concentration-time profiles and overlay graphs with combined individual concentration-time profiles will be produced. PK parameters in participants undergoing intensive PK sampling will be calculated via noncompartmental methods for JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and, optionally, of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, as applicable. The PK parameters will be maximum concentration (C_{max}), concentration 24 hours after administration (C_{24h}), and area under the concentration-time curve from administration to 24

hours (AUC_{24h}). The PK parameters will be subjected to an exploratory graphical analysis, including various transformations, to get a general overview.

To assess the effect of PegIFN- α 2a on JNJ-3989, the PK parameters of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924 coadministered with PegIFN- α 2a in the consolidation phase will be compared to those of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924 in the induction phase as reference (timepoints as specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#)). The primary PK parameters are C_{max} and AUC_{24h} on the logarithmic scale. A mixed effects model will be fitted to log-transformed PK parameters with phase (induction or consolidation) as a fixed effect and subject as a random effect.

Special attention will be paid to the plasma or serum concentrations and PK parameters of those participants who discontinued the study for an AE, or who experienced an AE \geq grade 3 or an SAE.

Population PK analysis of concentration-time data of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and, optionally, of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a may be performed using non-linear mixed effects modeling. Data may be combined with selected Phase 1 and/or 2 studies to support a relevant structural model. Available participant characteristics (eg, demographics, laboratory variables, genotypes) will be included in the model as necessary. Details will be given in a population PK analysis plan and results of the population PK analysis, if applied, will be presented in a separate report.

Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Analyses

Relationships of PK parameters for JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and, optionally, of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a with selected efficacy and with selected safety endpoints will be evaluated and graphically displayed, if applicable.

Modeling of key PD parameters (eg, HBsAg, HBV DNA) may be performed using population PK/PD. If PK/PD modeling of key efficacy endpoints is performed, treatment effect and possible covariates may be investigated. Other biomarkers may be explored at the sponsor's discretion.

Immune Analyses

Descriptive statistics (n, mean, SD, CV, geometric mean, median, minimum, and maximum) will be used to describe the magnitude of the gamma interferon (IFN- γ) T-cell response or the CD4+ and CD8+ T-cell responses (expressing at least 1 cytokine such as interleukin [IL]-2, tumor necrosis factor [TNF]- α or IFN- γ specific to any HBV antigen) as defined by ELISpot and/or ICS, respectively. Changes from baseline (if present) will also be tabulated for PBMCs during study intervention and follow-up. The proportion (%) of CHB patients with positive responses based on the magnitude of the IFN- γ T-cell response or the CD4+ or CD8+ T-cells expressing at least 1 of the cytokines amongst IL-2, TNF- α or IFN- γ for 1 of the HBV antigens as defined by ELISpot and/or ICS, respectively, will be determined.

Pharmacogenomic Analyses

The statistical approach for analyzing the exploratory host DNA research, including epigenetic analyses, may depend on the objective of the analyses (eg, efficacy, safety, and/or PK) and possibly relevant genes at the time of analysis. Analyses will be conducted at the sponsor's discretion, will always be under the sponsor's supervision, and results will be presented either in the clinical study report or a separate report.

Host Biomarker Analyses

Statistical approaches to explore correlations between clinical outcome and blood biomarkers vary and depend on the different data types of the applied technology platforms, as well as on the extent of observed interindividual variability. Analyses will be conducted at the sponsor's discretion, will always be under the sponsor's supervision, and results will be presented either in the clinical study report or a separate report.

Interim Analyses

Two interim analyses (IAs) will be conducted to assess safety and evaluate the time course of different safety and efficacy markers to support the sponsor's interactions with health authorities, as well as to inform internal decisions about additional studies and/or investigation of other treatment combination regimens.

The first IA is planned when approximately 50% of the total number of participants enrolled have completed Week 24 of the induction phase or discontinued earlier.

The second IA is planned when all participants have completed Week 48 or discontinued earlier.

The study is open-label, and the Sponsor will conduct the pre-planned IA(s). Hence, the study team and the DRC will have access to the interim analysis results, while the investigators and patients will not.

Additional IAs may be performed by the sponsor before the final analysis, to support interactions with health authorities.

Both primary and interim analyses will be based on all data available at the predefined cut-off time points, and may include data at later time points for those participants who have reached subsequent visits.

Data Review Committee

A DRC will be established for continuous monitoring of SAEs, AEs leading to discontinuation, and ALT flares. This committee will consist of at least one medical expert in the relevant therapeutic area (hepatology) and at least one statistician; committee membership responsibilities, authorities, and procedures will be documented in its charter. The committee will meet periodically to review data of the efficacy parameters measured by different HBV disease blood markers (eg, HBV DNA, HBeAg, HBsAg, etc).

The DRC members will be appointed before the start of the study to review the interim data for both safety and efficacy and formulate recommendation(s) to the Sponsor Committee, who will make the final decision(s). The Sponsor Committee includes representatives from the sponsor's Clinical, Biostatistics, Global Medical Safety, and Virology departments. DRC and Sponsor Committee members will not be involved in the study conduct.

Details on the roles and responsibilities of the DRC and Sponsor Committee, as well as the flows of communication, will be documented in the DRC charter.

Independent Flare Expert Panel

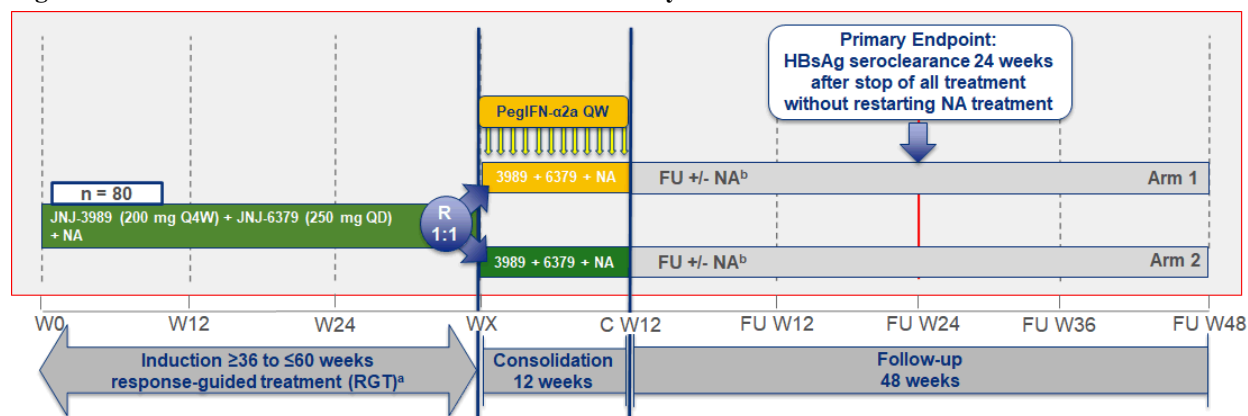
An IFLEP will be appointed. The IFLEP is composed of 3 independent medical experts with experience and expertise in hepatitis B and its treatment. The responsibilities of the IFLEP include: conduct regular review of all relevant and available individual participant study data related to ALT flares; determine and adjudicate each ALT flare; and provide documentation of the final decision to DRC. Adjudication review cycles will match DRC schedule and will be set up ideally 2 weeks before DRC.

In order to allow for an unbiased assessment, members of the committee will not serve as study investigators or as members of the DRC.

Further details on the IFLEP process will be included in the IFLEP charter.

1.2. Schema

Figure 1: Schematic Overview of Cohort 1 of the Study – Prior to Protocol Amendment 5



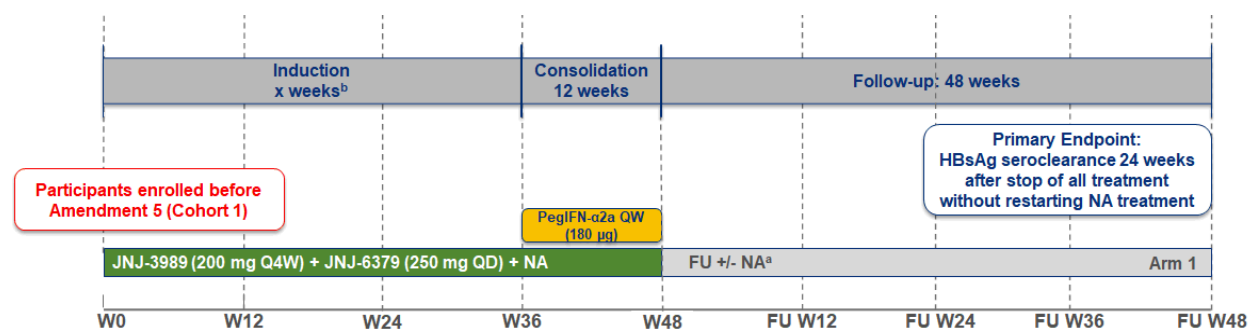
- ^a End of the induction phase is defined by either meeting the study defined RGT criterion (HBsAg <10 IU/mL) or reaching study Week 60, whichever comes first. The RGT criterion will be assessed from Week 36 onwards, and the assessment will always be based on lab results from the previous study visit (4 weeks earlier).
- ^b If NA treatment completion criteria (HBsAg <10 IU/mL, and HBeAg-negative, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and ALT <3x ULN) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete follow-up phase.

Figure 2: Schematic Overview of the Study – Per Protocol Amendment 5

Cohort 1: Participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect

Per Amendment 5, participants who did not yet reach the Week 36 visit will have PegIFN-α2a added to their treatment regimen at Week 36 for 12 weeks.

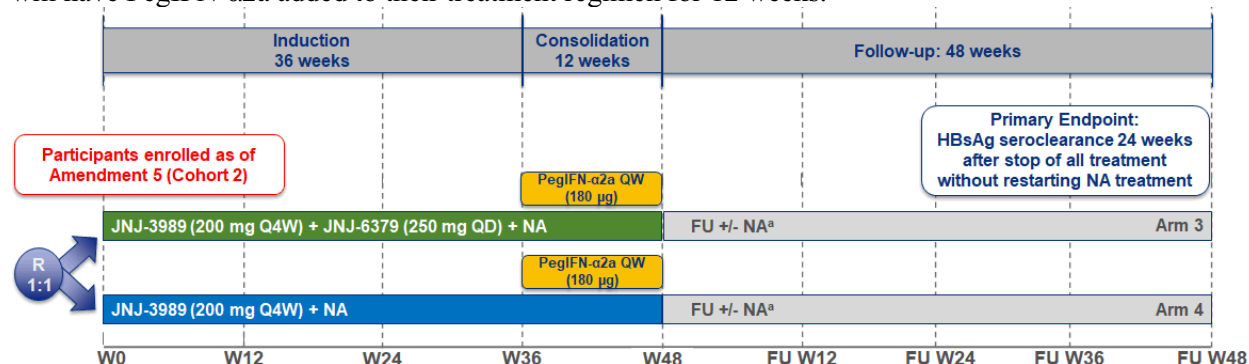
Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit and/or were randomized to the group without PegIFN-α2a, will have PegIFN-α2a added to their treatment regimen at the next scheduled visit. After 12 weeks, treatment with PegIFN-α2a, JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 will be stopped.



- ^a If NA treatment completion criteria (HBsAg <10 IU/mL, and HBeAg-negative, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and ALT <3x ULN) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete follow-up phase.
- ^b Depending on the approval date of Amendment 5, the induction phase can be longer than 36 weeks for some of these participants.

Cohort 2: Participants enrolled under Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect

Per Amendment 5, participants will be randomized in a 1:1 ratio at the start of the induction phase to either receive JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA or JNJ-3989 + NA for 36 weeks. At Week 36 all participants will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen for 12 weeks.

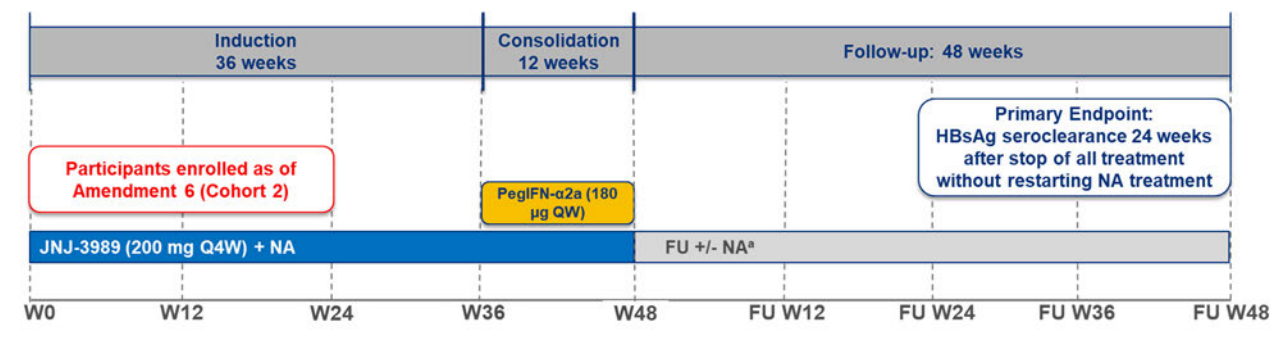


- ^a If NA treatment completion criteria (HBsAg <10 IU/mL, and HBeAg-negative, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and ALT <3x ULN) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete follow-up phase.

With the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6, participants previously enrolled had to immediately stop JNJ-6379 treatment, because of the removal of JNJ-6379 as study intervention. They were to continue with JNJ-3989+NA treatment up to the end of the induction phase and then enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which PegIFN- α 2a was added to their treatment regimen.

Because of the urgent removal of JNJ-6379 as study intervention, none of the participants enrolled under Protocol Amendment 5 did receive JNJ-6379.

Figure 3: Schematic Overview of Cohort 2 of the Study – As of Protocol Amendment 6



- ^a If NA treatment completion criteria (HBsAg <10 IU/mL, and HBeAg-negative, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and ALT <3x ULN) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete follow-up phase.

As of Protocol Amendment 6, the study will continue as a single-arm study (JNJ-3989+NA+PegIFN- α 2a). All newly enrolled participants will receive JNJ-3989+NA for 36 weeks (induction phase) and will then enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

Key: ALT: alanine aminotransferase; C: consolidation; DNA: deoxyribonucleic acid; FU: follow-up; HBeAg: hepatitis B e antigen; HBsAg: hepatitis B surface antigen; HBV: hepatitis B virus; JNJ-3989: JNJ-73763989; JNJ-6379: JNJ-56136379; n: number of participants; LLOQ: lower limit of quantification; NA: nucleos(t)ide analog; PegIFN- α 2a: pegylated interferon alpha-2a; R: randomization; RGT: response-guided treatment; ULN: upper limit of normal; Q4W: once every 4 weeks; qd: once daily; QW: once weekly; W: week; WX: last visit of the induction phase (\geq W36 and \leq W60) equivalent to Day 1 of the consolidation phase.

1.3. Schedule of Activities

Below are comprehensive schedules of activities that will be performed in this study, including those from the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001. All differences with the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 (including the ISA-specific activities) are highlighted (colored fill). Guidance in the event of disruption to the study conduct is provided in 10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX.

1.3.1. Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase

Study Phase	Screening	Study Intervention						Open-label Induction Phase ^a						End of induction phase (≥W36) ^b /C D1 ^e /WD ^f
Visit Day (D)/Week (W) ^b	W 4 to 0 ^c	D1 ^d	W2	W4	W6	W8	W12	W16	W20	W24	W28	W32		
Study Day (Window)	28 to 0	1	15 +/- 2d	29 +/- 2d	43 +/- 2d	57 +/- 2d	85 +/- 2d	113 +/- 3d	141 +/- 3d	169 +/- 3d	197 +/- 3d	225 +/- 3d	253 +/- 3d	
Screening/Administrative														
ICF ^g	X													
ICF for optional pharmacogenomic samples	X													
Inclusion/exclusion criteria	X ^h												X ⁿⁿ	
Prestudy therapy (including prior anti HBV therapy)	X													
Medical/surgical history and demographics ⁱ	X													
Preplanned surgery/procedure(s)	X													
Fibroscan or liver biopsy ^j	X													
Ultrasound ^k	X													
Serum IgM anti HBc antibody test	X													
HBV genotype ^l		X												
Study Intervention														
Enrollment without randomization ^{pp}		X												
Administer JNJ 3989		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X ^{e,m}	
Intake of NA ⁿ		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X ^{e,m}	
Intake of JNJ 6379 (stopped per Amendment 6) ^{rr}		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dispense NA		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X ^m	
Dispense JNJ 6379 (stopped per Amendment 6) ^{rr}		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Administer/dispense PegIFN α2a ⁿ													X ^{b,e,m}	
Study intervention accountability				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Safety Assessments														
Complete physical examination ^o	X									X			X	
Body weight and Symptom directed physical examination		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Ophthalmic examination ^p	X											(X) ^p	(X) ^p	

Study Phase	Screening	Study Intervention											Open-label Induction Phase ^a
Visit Day (D)/Week (W) ^b	W 4 to 0 ^c	D1 ^d	W2	W4	W6	W8	W12	W16	W20	W24	W28	W32	End of induction phase (≥W36) ^b /C D1 ^e /WD ^f
Study Day (Window)	28 to 0	1	15 +/ 2d	29 +/ 2d	43 +/ 2d	57 +/ 2d	85 +/ 2d	113 +/ 3d	141 +/ 3d	169 +/ 3d	197 +/ 3d	225 +/ 3d	253 +/- 3d
Vital signs ^q	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Triplicate 12 lead ECG ^r	X	X		X			X			X			X
Injection site reactions			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Liver ultrasound		(X) ^{oo}								X ^s			X ^s
Clinical Laboratory Tests													
Hematology ^u	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blood chemistry (including liver function tests) ^{lv,w}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blood coagulation	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Urinalysis ^x	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Urine chemistry ^y	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Renal biomarkers ^z		X					X			X			X
Testing for hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E virus, HIV 1 and 2 ^w	X												
FSH test (postmenopausal women only) ^{bb}	X												
AFP test ^{w,aa}	X									X			X
Hemoglobin A1c test	X												
Serum pregnancy test (women of childbearing potential only)	X												
Urine pregnancy test (women of childbearing potential)		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TSH and T4	X											X	
Efficacy Evaluations													
Fibroscan ^{cc}		(X)											(X)
HBV Virology													
Blood sampling for HBV DNA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blood sampling for HBV RNA ^{dd}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Sampling for viral genome sequencing ^{ee}	X	X		X			X		X			X	X
HBV Serology													
Blood sampling for:													
Anti HBs and anti HBe	X	X								X			X
HBsAg and HBeAg (qualitative)	X	X								X			X
HBsAg and HBeAg (quantitative)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HBcrAg ^{dd}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X
Exploratory serology ^{ff}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X

Study Phase	Screening	Study Intervention											Open-label Induction Phase ^a
Visit Day (D)/Week (W) ^b	W 4 to 0 ^c	D1 ^d	W2	W4	W6	W8	W12	W16	W20	W24	W28	W32	End of induction phase (≥W36) ^b /C D1 ^e /WD ^f
Study Day (Window)	28 to 0	1	15 +/ 2d	29 +/ 2d	43 +/ 2d	57 +/ 2d	85 +/ 2d	113 +/ 3d	141 +/ 3d	169 +/ 3d	197 +/ 3d	225 +/ 3d	253 +/- 3d
Clinical Pharmacology Assessments													
Blood sampling for sparse PK of JNJ 3989, NA and PegIFN α2a ^{gg}		X ^{hh}		X ^{hh}			X ^{hh}			X ^{hh,jj}			X ^{hh}
Blood sampling for intensive PK of JNJ 3989, NA and PegIFN α2a (PK substudy) ⁱⁱ										X			
Exploratory Host Biomarkers													
Whole blood RNA gene expression		X					X			X			X
Whole blood single cell profiling		X				X				X			X
Host serum proteins (eg, cytokines)		X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X
Antidrug antibodies (to JNJ 3989)		X				X		X		X		X	X
Immune Monitoring													
Immune cells (PBMCs) (selected sites only) ^{kk}		X								X			X
Pharmacogenomics (DNA)													
HLA typing		X											
Exploratory host genotyping (optional) ^{ll}		X											
Epigenetic research (optional) ^{ll}										X			X
PRO Evaluations													
SF 36v2		X								X			X
HBQOL		X								X			X
EQ 5D 5L		X								X			X
PGIC										X			X
Ongoing Participant Review													
Concomitant therapy ^{mm}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Adverse events ^{mm,qq}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

General Note: The PRO assessments and ECGs should be completed before any tests, procedures or other consultations for that visit.

AFP: Alpha fetoprotein; ALP: alkaline phosphatase; ALT: alanine aminotransferase; AST: aspartate aminotransferase; C: consolidation; CKD EPI: Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration; CRF: case report form; CT: computed tomography; D: days; DAIDS: Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome; DBP: diastolic blood pressure; DNA: deoxyribonucleic acid; ECG: electrocardiogram; eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate; EQ 5D 5L: 5 Level EuroQol 5 Dimension; FSH: follicle stimulating hormone; GI: giga; HBc: hepatitis B core protein; HBe(Ag): hepatitis B e (antigen); HBcrAg: hepatitis B core related antigen; HLA: human leukocyte antigen; HBQOL: Hepatitis B Quality of Life; HBs(Ag): hepatitis B surface (antigen); HBV: hepatitis B virus; HCC hepatocellular carcinoma; HIV 1 (2): human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (type 2); ICF: informed consent form; IgM: immunoglobulin M; ISA: intervention specific appendix; MRI: magnetic resonance imaging; NA: nucleos(t)ide analog; PBMC: peripheral blood mononuclear cells; PegIFN α2a: pegylated interferon alpha 2a; PGIC: Patient Global Impression of Change; PK: pharmacokinetic; PRO: patient reported outcome; RBC: red blood cell; RNA: ribonucleic acid; SBP: systolic blood pressure; SF 36v2: Short Form 36 version 2; T4: thyroxine; TSH: thyroid stimulating hormone; ULN: upper limit of normal; W: Week; WD: withdrawal.

a. All study visits are to be scheduled relative to the baseline (Day 1) visit date.

- b. All participants will have an end of induction phase visit at Week 36 (or later if they already passed the Week 36 visit at the time of Protocol Amendment 5) and enter the consolidation phase. Participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect will switch to the new study design as soon as Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect. Participants who did not yet reach the Week 36 visit at that time will have PegIFN α 2a added to their treatment regimen at Week 36 for 12 weeks. Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit and/or were randomized to the group without PegIFN α 2a, will have PegIFN α 2a added to their treatment regimen at the next scheduled visit.
- c. If necessary (eg, for operational reasons), the screening phase may be extended up to a maximum of 6 weeks in agreement with the sponsor.
- d. Day 1 samples are to be collected before the first dose of study intervention.
- e. The end of induction phase visit is equivalent to Day 1 of the consolidation phase (C D1). All assessments (with the exception of the sparse PK sample, which should be taken 2-8 hours after JNJ 3989 dosing) should be performed before administration/intake of JNJ 3989, PegIFN α 2a, and NA. PegIFN α 2a should be administered weekly, preferably in the evening by self injection. If desired, participants can also choose to have the administration of PegIFN α 2a performed on site irrespective of the time of day.
- f. Participants who discontinue study intervention early will have an early WD visit and will enter follow up (see the Schedule of Activities Follow up Phase) unless they withdraw consent. Participants who withdraw consent will be offered an optional safety follow up visit to occur on the day of consent withdrawal. For the optional safety follow up visit, assessments are at the investigator's discretion and could be similar to the early WD visit.
- g. Both the Platform Master ICF and the ISA ICF must be signed before the first study related activity.
- h. Minimum criteria for the availability of documentation supporting the eligibility criteria are described in the source documents section in Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001. Clinical status will be checked at screening and again before first dose of study intervention. If a participant's clinical status changes (including any available laboratory results or receipt of additional medical records) after screening but before the first dose of study intervention is given such that he or she no longer meets all eligibility criteria, then the participant should be excluded from participation in the study.
- i. Medical history also includes mode of HBV transmission, stage of liver fibrosis, and alcohol consumption. Historical HBV DNA, ALT, HBsAg, and HBeAg data if available, will be recorded in the CRF and/or source documents. Available historical data on previous HBV genotype assessments will also be collected in the CRF.
- j. Liver disease staging assessments will be performed based on Fibroscan or liver biopsy results, obtained within 6 months (in case of Fibroscan) or within 1 year (in case of liver biopsy) prior to screening or at the time of screening.
- k. Participants must have absence of signs of cirrhosis or portal hypertension (absence of nodules, smooth liver contour, normal portal vein, spleen size <12 cm) and absence of signs of HCC or clinically relevant renal abnormalities on an abdominal ultrasound performed within 6 months prior to screening or at the time of screening. In case of suspicious findings on conventional ultrasound the participant may still be eligible if HCC or clinically relevant renal abnormalities have been ruled out by a more specific imaging procedure (contrast enhanced ultrasound, CT or MRI).
- l. HBV genotype will be determined at baseline using a standard genotyping assay if HBV DNA levels are sufficiently high. In virologically suppressed participants, available historical data on a previous HBV genotype assessment will also be collected in the CRF. Exploratory genotyping may be performed.
- m. Not applicable for the WD visit.
- n. In between study visits, participants will take NA orally at home and will bring their NA with them to each study visit. At study visits, NA should be taken on site. PegIFN α 2a should be administered weekly, preferably in the evening by self injection. If desired, participants can also choose to have the weekly administration of PegIFN α 2a performed on site irrespective of the time of day.
- o. Complete physical examination, including height (only at screening), body weight, skin examination, and other body systems.
- p. For participants with a risk factor (eg, diabetes or hypertension), an ophthalmic examination at Week 32 of the induction phase should be considered. Any participant experiencing a decrease or loss of vision at any time point during study participation, must have a prompt ophthalmic examination.
- q. Vital signs include supine SBP, DBP, pulse rate, and body temperature.
- r. All ECGs will be read centrally. In addition, on Day 1, the ECG will be collected and assessed locally prior to dosing. ECGs should be completed before any tests, procedures or other consultations for that visit.
- s. A liver ultrasound is recommended every 6 months for HCC screening in high risk populations (ie, participants with a family history of HCC, Asian males >40 years, Asian females >50 years; or African/African American males >40 years).
- t. Biochemistry samples must be taken after fasting for at least 10 hours (6 hours for Week 2 and Week 6) for measurement of phosphate, calcium, creatinine, and lipids. If applicable, participants should bring their study intervention with them to each visit and have that day's intake at the site with food.
- u. The following criteria will trigger additional unscheduled visits: Platelet counts: <100,000 cells/mm³ or <100 GI/L or reduction from baseline by at least 50%; Hemoglobin: Decrease of at least 2 g/dL from baseline or at least Grade 2 (DAIDS); Reticulocytes: Reduction to <0.5% of the RBC count; Neutrophil count: Treatment emergent reduction to at least Grade 2 (DAIDS). (See also to Section 8.3.6.4, Hematologic Abnormalities).

In case any one of the above criteria are met, a confirmatory visit should be scheduled as soon as possible, preferably within 7 days of the receipt of the initial results. Confirmation of the results will trigger weekly or biweekly (every other week) unscheduled visits until improvement or stabilization of the respective parameter(s). Stabilization is defined as no further significant reduction over two consecutive visits

- v. Creatinine clearance ($eGFR_{cr}$ calculated by the CKD EPI formula) and $eGFR_{cys}$ calculated with the CKD EPI cystatin C formula will be assessed.
- w. Intervention emergent ALT/AST elevations (ie, ALT and/or AST $\geq 3 \times$ ULN and $\geq 3 \times$ nadir [ie, lowest value during study participation]), should trigger an assessment of confounding factors (alcohol intake, change in concomitant medication, and comorbidities) and a confirmatory visit, to be scheduled preferably within 7 days of the receipt of the initial ALT/AST results, to repeat laboratory testing of AFP, ALT, AST, ALP, bilirubin (total and direct), INR, albumin, and HBV DNA. Additional tests should be considered based on clinical judgement. For more details and further management guidance, refer to Section 10.6, Appendix 6, Intervention emergent ALT/AST Elevations.
- x. Urinalysis by dipstick: specific gravity, pH, glucose, protein, blood, ketones, bilirubin, urobilinogen, nitrite, leukocyte esterase, and microscopic analysis if needed. The dipstick reading should be done as soon as possible and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation. In case of a positive dipstick result, a urine sample will be set aside for additional examination of the positive parameter (eg, quantification as applicable).
- y. Urine chemistry sample (quantitative measurement): creatinine, sodium, phosphate, glucose, protein, and albumin.
- z. Urine sample for selected renal biomarkers including retinol binding protein and beta 2 microglobulin.
- aa. Additional samples may be collected for AFP testing in case of ALT flares.
- bb. For postmenopausal women only: an FSH level in the postmenopausal range may be used to confirm a postmenopausal state in women not using hormonal contraception or hormonal replacement therapy. However, in the absence of 12 months of amenorrhea, a single FSH measurement is insufficient to confirm a woman is not of childbearing potential (see Section 10.8, Appendix 8, Contraceptive and Barrier Guidance and Collection of Pregnancy Information).
- cc. Only applicable to participants who are enrolled at a site with an on site Fibroscan device. A Fibroscan assessment will only be done at baseline if it was not done at screening.
- dd. HBcrAg and HBV RNA samples may be batched and only selected samples may be tested at the sponsor's request. Samples can be used for assessment of other serologic/virologic markers of HBV.
- ee. Samples may be sequenced based on the sponsor virologist's request, considering the HBV DNA levels. In case of a virologic flare, additional samples for viral sequencing may be taken.
- ff. Exploratory serology samples may be analyzed at the sponsor's discretion. Samples may be used to assess virologic or serologic markers of HBV.
- gg. All participants will have sparse PK sampling for JNJ 3989, NA, and PegIFN $\alpha 2a$. Bioanalysis of NA and PegIFN $\alpha 2a$ is optional at the discretion of the sponsor. Bioanalysis of JNJ 6379 may also be done on samples collected from participants who received JNJ 6379 up to Protocol Amendment 5.
For all samples, the date and time of the preceding 2 intakes of NA, the date and time of the previous JNJ 3989 administration, the date and time of the previous PegIFN $\alpha 2a$ administration (if applicable), and the date and time of PK sampling should be recorded.
- hh. One sample at any time between 2 and 8 hours after JNJ 3989 dosing. Before leaving the study site, the participant's well being should be confirmed.
- ii. All participants who consent to participate in the intensive PK substudy (optional) will undergo intensive PK sampling at Week 24. If necessary (eg, for operational reasons), this visit may be scheduled at Week 28 or 32. The study intervention should be taken on site and time of dosing should be recorded. Pharmacokinetic samples will be taken predose and 15 minutes, 30 minutes, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, * 10, * and 24 hours post JNJ 3989 dose (*the 8 and 10 hours postdose samples are optional). All efforts will be made to obtain the PK samples at the exact nominal time relative to dosing. However, samples obtained within 20% of the nominal time from dosing (eg, +/- 12 minutes of a 60 minute time point) will not be captured as a protocol deviation if the exact time of the sample collection is noted on the source document and data collection record (eg, CRF).
- jj. Sparse PK sampling is not required for participant with intensive PK sampling at the same visit.
- kk. PBMC samples will be collected at selected sites only. Additional PBMC samples may be taken in case of ALT flares, upon discussion with the sponsor, and may require an unscheduled visit.
- ll. These samples are optional and will only be collected from participants who consent separately to this component of the study. The pharmacogenomic (DNA) sample should preferably be collected at baseline.
- mm. Adverse events and concomitant medications will be monitored from the time a signed and dated ISA ICF is obtained until completion of the participant's last ISA related procedure.
- nn. Exclusion criterion A25 regarding contraindications to the use of PegIFN $\alpha 2a$ needs to be checked again at the end of the induction phase prior to the first dose of PegIFN $\alpha 2a$. If a participant's clinical status changes (including any available laboratory results or receipt of additional medical records) after screening but before the first dose of PegIFN $\alpha 2a$ is given such that he or she meets exclusion criterion A25, then the participant should continue their study intervention until completion of the consolidation phase without the addition of PegIFN $\alpha 2a$.
- oo. The liver ultrasound does not need to be repeated at baseline if it was done at screening or within 6 months prior to screening.

- pp. As of Protocol Amendment 6, new participants will enroll without randomization to receive JNJ 3989+NA for 36 weeks (induction phase) and will then enter the 12 week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN α 2a added to their treatment regimen.
- qq. Includes close monitoring for neuropsychiatric adverse events during the PegIFN α 2a treatment period. Participants who develop a neuropsychiatric adverse event during PegIFN α 2a treatment, will be monitored closely until the neuropsychiatric adverse event resolves, with frequent (at least weekly) follow up phone calls.
- rr. Most participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, have received JNJ 6379 as part of their study intervention. Dispensation of JNJ 6379 stopped immediately with the removal of JNJ 6379 as study intervention through an urgent safety measure. Participants have to return JNJ 6379 tablets to the site at the next scheduled visit.

1.3.2. Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase

Note: The last visit of the induction phase is equivalent to Day 1 of the consolidation phase. Refer to Section 1.3.1 Schedule of Activities Screening Phase and Induction Phase.

Note: During the follow-up phase, participants who could not stop NA at follow-up Week 2 will have less frequent visits.

Study Phase	Open-label Consolidation Phase					Follow-up ^{a,b}												
Consolidation (C)/ Follow up (FU) Week (W)	C W2	C W4	C W6	C W8	C W12 / EOSI / WD ^c	FU W2	FU W4	FU W8 ^d	FU W12	FU W16 ^d	FU W20 ^d	FU W24	FU W28 ^d	FU W32 ^d	FU W36	FU W40 ^d	FU W44 ^d	FU W48 / EOS
C / FU Study Day (Window)	15 +/- 3d	29 +/- 3d	43 +/- 3d	57 +/- 3d	85 +/- 3d	15 +/- 4d	29 +/- 4d	57 +/- 4d	85 +/- 4d	113 +/- 4d	141 +/- 4d	169 +/- 4d	197 +/- 4d	225 +/- 4d	253 +/- 4d	281 +/- 4d	309 +/- 4d	337 +/- 4d
Study Intervention																		
Administer JNJ 3989		X		X														
Intake of JNJ 6379 (if applicable) ⁱⁱ	X	X	X	X														
Dispense of JNJ 6379 (if applicable) ⁱⁱ		X		X														
Administer PegIFN α2a ^e	Weekly																	
Dispense PegIFN α2a ^e		X		X														
Intake NA (as applicable) ^{e,f}	X	X	X	X	X	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Dispense NA (as applicable) ^{f,g}		X		X	X	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Study intervention accountability		X		X	X	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Assess NA re treatment criteria, as applicable ^g							(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Safety Assessments																		
Complete physical examination ^h					X													
Body weight and Symptom directed physical examination	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ophthalmic examination ⁱⁱ	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)													
Injection site reactions for JNJ 3989 and PegIFN α2a	X	X	X	X	X													
Vital signs ⁱ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Triplicate 12 lead ECG ^j					X		X											
Liver ultrasound					X ^k							X ^k						X
Clinical Laboratory Tests																		
Renal biomarkers ^l					X													
Hematology ^m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X
Blood chemistry (including liver function tests) ^{n,o,p}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X ^q	X	X ^q	X ^q	X	X ^q	X ^q	X	X	X	X
Blood coagulation		X		X	X	X	X		X			X			X		X	X

Study Phase	Open-label Consolidation Phase					Follow-up ^{a,b}												
Consolidation (C)/ Follow up (FU) Week (W)	C W2	C W4	C W6	C W8	C W12 / EOSI / WD ^c	FU W2	FU W4	FU W8 ^d	FU W12	FU W16 ^d	FU W20 ^d	FU W24	FU W28 ^d	FU W32 ^d	FU W36	FU W40 ^d	FU W44 ^d	FU W48 / EOS
C / FU Study Day (Window)	15 +/- 3d	29 +/- 3d	43 +/- 3d	57 +/- 3d	85 +/- 3d	15 +/- 4d	29 +/- 4d	57 +/- 4d	85 +/- 4d	113 +/- 4d	141 +/- 4d	169 +/- 4d	197 +/- 4d	225 +/- 4d	253 +/- 4d	281 +/- 4d	309 +/- 4d	337 +/- 4d
Urinalysis ^r		X		X	X	X ^t	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	X
Urine chemistry ^s		X		X	X	X ^t	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	X
Urine pregnancy test (women of childbearing potential only)		X		X	X		X ^v	X	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X ^v	X
AFP test ^{p,u}					X							X						X
TSH and T4					X													
<i>Efficacy Evaluations</i>																		
Fibroscan ^w					(X)							(X)						(X)
<i>HBV Virology</i>																		
Blood sampling for HBV DNA ^{kk}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blood sampling for HBV RNA ^x		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sampling for viral genome sequencing ^y		X			X		X		X		X		X	X		X		X
<i>HBV Serology</i>																		
Blood sampling for:																		
Anti HBs and anti HBe					X		X		X			X			X			X
HBsAg and HBeAg (qualitative)					X				X			X						X
HBsAg (quantitative)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HBeAg (quantitative)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HBcrAg ^x		X			X		X		X			X			X			X
Exploratory serology ^z		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X
<i>Clinical Pharmacology Assessments</i>																		
Blood sampling for sparse PK of JNJ 3989, PegIFN α2a and NA ^{aa}		X ^{bb}		X ^{bb,c} _e	(X) ^{cc}													
Blood sampling for intensive PK of JNJ 3989, PegIFN α2a and NA (PK substudy) ^{dd}				X														
<i>Exploratory Host Biomarkers</i>																		
Whole blood RNA gene expression		X			X							X						X
Whole blood single cell profiling		X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X			X
Host serum proteins (eg, cytokines)		X			X		X	X	X	X		X			X			X
Antidrug antibodies (to JNJ 3989 and PegIFN α2a)		X		X	X		X		X			X						X

Study Phase	Open-label Consolidation Phase					Follow-up ^{a,b}												
Consolidation (C)/ Follow up (FU) Week (W)	C W2	C W4	C W6	C W8	C W12 / EOSI / WD ^c	FU W2	FU W4	FU W8 ^d	FU W12	FU W16 ^d	FU W20 ^d	FU W24	FU W28 ^d	FU W32 ^d	FU W36	FU W40 ^d	FU W44 ^d	FU W48 / EOS
C / FU Study Day (Window)	15 +/- 3d	29 +/- 3d	43 +/- 3d	57 +/- 3d	85 +/- 3d	15 +/- 4d	29 +/- 4d	57 +/- 4d	85 +/- 4d	113 +/- 4d	141 +/- 4d	169 +/- 4d	197 +/- 4d	225 +/- 4d	253 +/- 4d	281 +/- 4d	309 +/- 4d	337 +/- 4d
Immune Monitoring																		
Immune cells (PBMCs) (selected sites only) ^{ff}					X	X		X	X			X						X
Pharmacogenomics (DNA)																		
Epigenetic research (optional) ^{gg}		X			X	X			X			X						X
PRO Evaluations																		
SF 36v2					X							X						X
HBQOL					X							X						X
EQ 5D 5L					X							X						X
PGIC					X							X						X
Ongoing Participant Review																		
Concomitant therapy ^{hh}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Adverse events ^{hh,ij}	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

General Note: The PRO assessments and ECGs should be completed before any tests, procedures or other consultations for that visit.

AFP: Alpha fetoprotein; ALP: alkaline phosphatase; ALT: alanine aminotransferase; AST: aspartate aminotransferase; C: consolidation; CKD EPI: Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration; d: days; CRF: case report form; DAIDS: Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome; DBP: diastolic blood pressure; DNA: deoxyribonucleic acid; ECG: electrocardiogram; eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate; EOS: end of study; EOSI: end of study intervention; EQ 5D 5L: 5 Level EuroQol 5 Dimension; FU: follow up; GI: giga; HBcrAg: hepatitis B core related antigen; HBe(Ag): hepatitis B e (antigen); HBQOL: Hepatitis B Quality of Life; HBs(Ag): hepatitis B surface (antigen); HBV: hepatitis B virus; HCC: hepatocellular carcinoma; ICF: informed consent form; ISA: intervention specific appendix; NA: nucleos(t)ide analog; PBMC: peripheral blood mononuclear cells; PegIFN α2a: pegylated interferon alpha 2a; PGIC: Patient Global Impression of Change; PK: pharmacokinetic; PRO: patient reported outcome; RNA: ribonucleic acid; SBP: systolic blood pressure; SF 36v2: Short Form 36 version 2; ULN: upper limit of normal; W: Week; WD: withdrawal.

- All follow up study visits are to be scheduled relative to the last dose of JNJ 3989/PegIFN α2a. An unscheduled visit can be performed upon the investigator's discretion, in case of HBV DNA elevations, ALT elevations, other signs of worsening of liver disease, or for any other reason during follow up.
- Participants who withdraw consent during follow up will be offered an optional safety follow up visit.
- Participants who discontinue study intervention early will have an early WD visit and will enter follow up unless they withdraw consent. Participants who withdraw consent during study intervention will be offered an optional safety follow up visit to occur on the day of consent withdrawal. For the optional safety follow up visit, assessments are at the investigator's discretion and could be similar to the early WD visit.
- Follow up Week 8, 16, 20, 28, 32, 40, and 44 visits are not required for participants who did not complete NA treatment at Follow up Week 2 and for participants who have restarted NA treatment during the follow up period, provided that their HBV DNA and ALT values are stable.
- In between study visits, participants will take NA orally at home and will bring their NA with them to each study visit. At study visits, NA should be taken on site. PegIFN α2a should be administered weekly, preferably in the evening by self injection. If desired, participants can also choose to have the weekly administration of PegIFN α2a performed on site irrespective of the time of day. PegIFN α2a should preferably be administered in the evening prior to the sparse PK visit, or alternatively in the morning of the visit on site.

- f. No JNJ 3989/PegIFN α 2a will be administered or dispensed during follow up. Administration/Dispensation of NA is only applicable for participants who could not stop NA treatment, or for those who met the NA re treatment criteria. In between study visits, participants will take NA at home and they will bring their NA treatment with them to each study visit. At study visits, the NA treatment should be taken on site.
- g. If the NA treatment completion criteria are met at consolidation Week 12, treatment with NA will be completed at FU Week 2.
- h. Complete physical examination, including body weight, skin examination, and other body systems.
- i. Vital signs include supine SBP, DBP, pulse rate, and body temperature.
- j. All ECGs will be read centrally. ECGs should be completed before any tests, procedures or other consultations for that visit.
- k. A liver ultrasound is recommended every 6 months for HCC screening in high risk populations (ie, participants with a family history of HCC, Asian males >40 years, Asian females >50 years; or African/African American males >40 years).
- l. Urine sample for selected renal biomarkers including retinol binding protein and beta 2 microglobulin.
- m. The following criteria will trigger additional unscheduled visits: Platelet counts: <100,000 cells/mm³ or <100 GI/L or reduction from baseline by at least 50%; Hemoglobin: Decrease of at least 2 g/dL from baseline or at least Grade 2 (DAIDS); Reticulocytes: Reduction to <0.5% of the RBC count; Neutrophil count: Treatment emergent reduction to at least Grade 2 (DAIDS). (See also to Section 8.3.6.4, Hematologic Abnormalities).
- n. Biochemistry samples must be taken after fasting for at least 10 hours (6 hours for Consolidation Week 2 and Week 6) for measurement of phosphate, calcium, creatinine, and lipids. If applicable, participants should bring their study intervention with them to each visit and have that day's intake at the site with food.
- o. Creatinine clearance (eGFR_{cr} calculated by the CKD EPI formula) and eGFR_{cys} calculated with the CKD EPI cystatin C formula will be assessed.
- p. Intervention emergent ALT/AST elevations (ie, ALT and/or AST $\geq 3\times$ ULN and $\geq 3\times$ nadir [ie, lowest value during study participation]), should trigger an assessment of confounding factors (alcohol intake, change in concomitant medication, and comorbidities) and a confirmatory visit, to be scheduled preferably within 7 days of the receipt of the initial ALT/AST results, to repeat laboratory testing of AFP, ALT, AST, ALP, bilirubin (total and direct), INR, albumin, and HBV DNA. Additional tests should be considered based on clinical judgement. For more details and further management guidance, refer to Section 10.6, Appendix 6, Intervention emergent ALT/AST Elevations.
- q. Liver function tests only.
- r. Urinalysis by dipstick: specific gravity, pH, glucose, protein, blood, ketones, bilirubin, urobilinogen, nitrite, leukocyte esterase, and microscopic analysis if needed. The dipstick reading should be done as soon as possible and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation. In case of a positive dipstick result, a urine sample will be set aside for additional examination of the positive parameter at the central laboratory (eg, quantification as applicable).
- s. Urine chemistry sample (quantitative measurement): creatinine, sodium, phosphate, glucose, protein, and albumin.
- t. A urinalysis and urine chemistry sample will be taken at FU Week 2. In case of abnormalities, the tests should be repeated at the following visits until resolution.
- u. Additional samples may be collected for AFP testing in case of ALT flares.
- v. Urine pregnancy tests will be provided to the participants for at home use as necessary to ensure urine pregnancy tests are performed at least every 4 weeks. Results will be reported at the next visit. If a urine pregnancy test is positive, the investigator needs to be informed immediately by the participant.
- w. Only applicable to participants who are enrolled at a site with an on site Fibroscan device.
- x. HBcrAg and HBV RNA samples may be batched and only selected samples may be tested at the sponsor's request. Samples can be used for assessment of other serologic/virologic markers of HBV.
- y. Samples may be sequenced based on the sponsor virologist's request, considering the HBV DNA levels. A sample for viral genome sequencing will be taken at an unscheduled visit for confirmation of virologic flare. In case of a virologic flare, additional samples for viral sequencing may be taken.
- z. Exploratory serology samples may be analyzed at the sponsor's discretion. Samples may be used to assess virologic or serologic markers of HBV.
- aa. All participants will have sparse PK sampling for JNJ 3989, NA, and PegIFN α 2a. Bioanalysis of NA and PegIFN α 2a is optional at the discretion of the sponsor. Bioanalysis of JNJ 6379 may also be done on samples collected from participants who received JNJ 6379 up to Protocol Amendment 5.
For all samples, the date and time of the preceding 2 intakes of NA, the date and time of the previous JNJ 3989 administration, the date and time of the previous PegIFN α 2a administration, and the date and time of PK sampling should be recorded. PegIFN α 2a should preferably be administered in the evening prior to the sparse PK visit, or alternatively in the morning of the visit on site.
- bb. One sample at any time between 2 and 8 hours after JNJ 3989 dosing. Before leaving the study site, the participant's well being should be confirmed.
- cc. Only applicable for the WD visit.
- dd. All participants who consent to participate in the intensive PK substudy (optional) will undergo intensive PK sampling at Consolidation Week 8. If necessary (eg, for operational reasons), this visit may be scheduled at Consolidation Week 4. The study intervention should be taken on site and time of dosing should be recorded. Pharmacokinetic samples will be taken predose and 15 minutes, 30 minutes, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, * 10, * and 24 hours post JNJ 3989 dose (*the 8 and 10 hours postdose samples are optional). All efforts will be made to

- obtain the PK samples at the exact nominal time relative to dosing. However, samples obtained within 20% of the nominal time from dosing (eg, +/- 12 minutes of a 60 minute time point) will not be captured as a protocol deviation if the exact time of the sample collection is noted on the source document and data collection record (eg, CRF).
- ee. Sparse PK sampling is not required for participant with intensive PK sampling at the same visit.
 - ff. PBMC samples will be collected at selected sites only. Additional PBMC samples may be taken in case of ALT flares, upon discussion with the sponsor, and may require an unscheduled visit.
 - gg. Epigenetic samples are optional and will only be collected from participants who consent separately to this component of the study.
 - hh. Adverse events and concomitant medications will be monitored from the time a signed and dated ISA ICF is obtained until completion of the participant's last ISA related procedure.
 - ii. Any participant experiencing a decrease or loss of vision at any time point during study participation, must have a prompt ophthalmic examination.
 - jj. Includes close monitoring for neuropsychiatric adverse events during the PegIFN α 2a treatment period. Participants who develop a neuropsychiatric adverse event during PegIFN α 2a treatment, will be monitored closely until the neuropsychiatric adverse event resolves, with frequent (at least weekly) follow up phone calls.
 - kk. NA treatment should be re started in accordance with the NA re treatment criteria (see Section 6.6.2, NA Re treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA and Section 10.16, Appendix 16, for guidance after stopping NA treatment).
 - ll. Most participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, have received JNJ 6379 as part of their study intervention.
 - mm. The investigator should consider to re start NA treatment per local standard of care at the EOS visit (Follow up Week 48) for participants who met the NA treatment completion criteria at Consolidation Week 12, who did not re start NA treatment during the follow up phase, and who did not achieve and maintain HBsAg seroclearance. NA will not be provided by the sponsor after the final study visit.

2. INTRODUCTION

This intervention-specific appendix (ISA) describes a Phase 2a study of JNJ-73763989 (JNJ-3989). Prior to Protocol Amendment 6, the study intervention also included JNJ-56136379 (JNJ-6379). This ISA is a companion document to the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001, which describes the common design elements of the Platform study in participants with chronic hepatitis B (CHB). This ISA describes specific and/or additional protocol elements applicable to this intervention cohort, in which participants will be treated with the study intervention, JNJ-3989, pegylated interferon alpha-2a (PegIFN- α 2a), and NA (tenofovir disoproxil will be used in this study) (see Section 2.2).

JNJ-3989 is a liver-targeted antiviral therapeutic for subcutaneous injection designed to treat chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection via a ribonucleic acid interference (RNAi) mechanism. Engagement of the cellular RNAi machinery by JNJ-3989 results in specific cleavage of HBV ribonucleic acid (RNA) transcripts, thereby reducing the levels of HBV proteins and the pre-genomic ribonucleic acid (pgRNA), the precursor of viral relaxed circular deoxyribonucleic acid (rcDNA). The RNAi triggers in JNJ-3989, JNJ-73763976 (JNJ-3976) and JNJ-73763924 (JNJ-3924), are designed to target all HBV RNA transcripts derived from covalently closed circular deoxyribonucleic acid (cccDNA), as well as transcripts derived from integrated viral deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). The latter has been suggested to be a significant source of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) in hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg)-negative patients or patients on long-term treatment with NAs, the current standard of care.²⁹

JNJ-6379 is an orally administered capsid assembly modulator (CAM) that is being developed for the treatment of chronic HBV infection. JNJ-6379 binds to hepatitis B core protein (HBc) and interferes with the viral capsid assembly process, thereby preventing the polymerase-bound pgRNA encapsidation. This results in the formation of viral HBV capsids, devoid of HBV DNA or RNA (non-functional capsids), and ultimately in the inhibition of HBV replication. In addition, JNJ-6379 also acts at an early stage of the viral life cycle by inhibiting the de novo formation of cccDNA potentially by interfering with the capsid disassembly process. JNJ-6379 was initially part of the study intervention but has been removed as study intervention with the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6.

For the most comprehensive nonclinical and clinical information regarding JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379, refer to the latest version of the Investigator's Brochures (IBs) and their Addenda.^{10,11,13,12}

Study interventions:

- Prior to Protocol Amendment 6: The term “study intervention” throughout the protocol, refers to JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, NA and PegIFN- α 2a.
- As of Protocol Amendment 6: The term “study intervention” throughout the protocol, refers to JNJ-3989, NA and PegIFN α 2a.

The term "sponsor" used throughout this document refers to the entities listed in the Contact Information page(s), which will be provided as a separate document.

The term "participant" throughout the protocol refers to the common term "subject".

2.1. Study Rationale

This study will be conducted in immune tolerant (IT) participants (IT corresponds to HBeAg positive chronic infection as per European Association for the Study of the Liver [EASL] 2017 guidelines).⁴

Recent studies have challenged the notion that the IT phase of chronic HBV infection lacks disease progression and that an immune response has not been initiated. Antigen-specific immune tolerance is believed to play a central role in chronification of an acute HBV infection as it prevents the clearance of infection. Studies have shown that early stages of fibrosis, reflecting hepatocyte damage, are often present along with clonal hepatocyte expansion, high levels of HBV DNA integration, and presence of HBV-specific T-cells in the so-called IT phase.^{17,20} High HBV DNA levels and persistence of HBeAg are associated with an increased risk of disease progression and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC).

Current EASL treatment guidelines proposed a new nomenclature for different disease stages of chronic hepatitis B virus infection.⁴ Patients with chronic HBeAg positive HBV infection are characterized by high HBV DNA and normal alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels and were referred to as IT in the past. Following this new nomenclature, the protocol is including patients that are truly IT (HBV DNA levels $\geq 10^7$ IU/mL), but also patients with lower HBV DNA levels ($\geq 20,000$ IU/mL) and ALT $\leq 2 \times$ ULN as long as they are HBeAg positive, treatment-naïve or having received NA for a short period of time (eg, < 9 months to prevent mother-to-child transmission during pregnancies).

Effectively treating patients with HBeAg positive infection would be desirable, but currently available treatment options have limited efficacy in this population. Although combination treatment of 2 NAs led to significantly more patients reaching viral suppression after 192 weeks than 1 NA alone, very few patients showed HBeAg seroconversion or HBsAg loss.² Treatment of IT patients with PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ in combination with an NA showed good efficacy in children, but limited efficacy in adult IT patients.^{6,25} Consequently, according to current clinical practice guidelines (EASL⁴ and American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases [AASLD]²⁸), there is no general recommendation for NA treatment in this population.

Combination treatment with JNJ-3989 and NA (with or without JNJ-6379) has the potential to specifically decrease viral antigen levels and to intensify inhibition of viral replication. Since an immune suppressive effect is described for HBsAg, the direct reduction of HBsAg levels by JNJ-3989 is anticipated to contribute to the reversal of the immune tolerance and to the control of the infection. The addition of short-term PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ to the regimen at a time when HBsAg is already significantly reduced or eliminated is expected to lead to reactivation of NK-cells. In addition, the reactivation of the innate immune system by PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ might lead to further activation of endogenous HBV-specific T-cells.

2.2. Background

For the most comprehensive nonclinical and clinical information regarding JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379, refer to the latest version of the Investigator's Brochures (IB)s and their Addenda. [10,11,13,12](#)

JNJ-6379 was initially part of the study intervention but has been removed as study intervention with the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6. For completeness, background information on JNJ-6379 is still included in this section.

2.2.1. Nonclinical Studies

2.2.1.1. JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379

Nonclinical assessments to support clinical development have been performed for the single agents JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379, and also for their combination (up to 3-month studies).

JNJ-3989

Little potential for off-target inhibition of human gene expression in participants is expected, based on in silico human genome database screening.

The nonclinical safety profile of JNJ-3989 has been evaluated through a series of in vitro and in vivo studies. Repeat-dose subcutaneous toxicity studies of 2 weeks up to 24 or 37 weeks were conducted in rat and monkey, respectively. In the 2-week studies, JNJ-3989 was administered once weekly via subcutaneous injection at 30 up to 300 mg/kg. In the 24- or 37-week studies, JNJ-3989 was administered once weekly for the first month, followed by once monthly thereafter at 30 up to 180 mg/kg. JNJ-3989 was well tolerated in these studies.

In the 2-week and the 24-week studies in rat, JNJ-3989-related target organs were the liver, the kidney, and the injection site. The mandibular and mesenteric lymph nodes were identified as target organ in the 24-week study only. In the liver, hepatocyte alteration and hepatocyte mitosis, accompanied by an increase in hepatocellular vacuoles, oval cell hyperplasia, Kupffer cell vacuolation and/or increased liver weights were observed. The hepatocyte findings correlated to increased alkaline phosphatase (ALP) activity levels seen in the 24-week study. Kidney findings were characterized by cytoplasmic alteration of the cortical tubule epithelium. At the injection site, mononuclear cell or vacuolated macrophage infiltrates, epidermal exudate, hemorrhages and/or interstitial granules were observed. Macrophage vacuolation was observed in the sinus spaces of the mandibular and mesenteric lymph nodes.

Liver findings persisted throughout the recovery period. Partial recovery was observed in the kidney. No findings were present anymore at the injection sites and the lymph nodes at the end of the recovery period.

All these changes likely represented the distribution, accumulation, and clearance of JNJ-3989 and were considered not to be adverse due to the nature of the findings and the low severity. These are commonly described findings for N-acetylgalactosamine-conjugated RNAi.¹⁵ The no observed

adverse effect level (NOAEL) was therefore considered to be the highest dose tested, ie, CCI in the 24-week study.

In the 2-week study in monkey, apart from a minimally increased ALP activity which was considered not adverse, no JNJ-3989-related effects were observed. In the 37-week study, JNJ-3989-related target organs were the liver, mandibular and/or mesenteric lymph nodes, and the subcutaneous injection site. Findings included Kupffer cell basophilia/hypertrophy in the liver, vacuolated macrophages in the lymph nodes, and macrophage infiltrates in the injection site. Partial reversibility was observed for these findings. This likely represented the distribution, accumulation, and clearance of JNJ-3989 and was considered not to be adverse due to the low severity and/or nature of the findings. These are commonly described findings for N-acetylgalactosamine-conjugated RNAi.¹⁵ A non-adverse minimally increased ALP activity was observed at 180 mg/kg without a microscopic correlate. The NOAEL in the monkey was considered to be the highest dose tested, ie, CCI in the 37-week study.

In the embryofetal development (EFD) studies, JNJ-3989 was not teratogenic in rats and rabbits.

The fertility study showed no effects on parental and reproductive parameters in male and female rats given JNJ-3989 up to a dose of 180 mg/kg/week.

JNJ-3989 was shown to be non-genotoxic when tested in the bacterial reverse mutation assay, and in vitro and in vivo micronucleus test.

Results of the non-Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) in vitro studies demonstrated there is no potential for induction of the innate immune system (cytokine and complement activation), mitochondrial toxicity/cytotoxicity, or platelet aggregation associated with JNJ-3989 exposure at concentrations up to 250 µg/mL.

The animal-to-human exposure ratios were calculated using rat and monkey exposures at NOAEL from the 24-week and 37-week studies, respectively, and human exposures after a single subcutaneous injection of 200 mg JNJ-3989 in human volunteers (Study AROHBV1001) (Table 1).

Table 1: Animal/Human Exposure Ratios at NOAEL for JNJ-3989

					Ratio Total Concentration	
	Sex	NOAEL (mg/kg)	C _{max} (ng/mL)	AUC ^b (ng.h/mL)	C _{max} A/H Ratio	AUC ^b A/H Ratio
JNJ-3976						
Human exposure ^a			1,315	20,136	-	-
24-week	M	CC	41,100	437,000	31.3	21.7
rat ^c	F	CC	43,100	270,000	32.8	13.4
37-week	M	CC	73,200	1,230,000	55.7	61.1
monkey ^d	F	CC	65,800	988,000	50.0	49.1
JNJ-3924						
Human exposure ^a			363	4,605		
24-week	M	CC	25,200	271,000	69.4	58.8
rat ^c	F	CC	26,200	163,000	72.2	35.4
37-week	M	CC	21,600	383,000	59.5	83.2
monkey ^d	F	CC	23,000	392,000	63.4	85.1

AUC: area under the plasma concentration time curve; AUC_{0-24h}: area under the plasma concentration time curve from administration to 24 h; AUC_{0-last}: area under the plasma concentration time curve from administration to last quantifiable sampling point; A/H: animal/human ratio; C_{max}: maximum plasma concentration; F: female; M: male; NOAEL: no observed adverse effect level.

^a Single dose of 200 mg JNJ 3989 in healthy volunteers via subcutaneous injection (Study AROHBV1001; based on recent clean dataset with data cutoff 29 October 2019. Clinical PK update will be included in next revision of the IB).

^b AUC_{0-last} for human exposure; AUC_{0-24h} for animal exposures

^c Once weekly dosing for 4 weeks, followed by once monthly dosing, up to a total of 24 weeks

^d Once weekly dosing for 5 weeks followed by once monthly dosing, up to a total of 37 weeks

JNJ-6379

Following 6 months of treatment in rats, the kidney and female reproductive tract (irregular estrous cycle) were identified as target organs. However, after further assessment of the kidney findings and their clinical relevance, it is deemed unlikely that the retrograde nephropathy seen in 1 out of 20 male rats following 6 months of dosing with JNJ-6379 at 100 mg eq./kg/day are relevant for the clinical studies. The retrograde nephropathy was partially recovered after a 9-week recovery period. In the 6-month rat study, female rats (at 200 mg eq./kg/day) showed an irregular estrous cycle, from which they recovered at the end of the 9-week treatment-free period. These irregular estrous cycles were also apparent in the female fertility studies (main and mechanistic). These changes were related to lowered hormone levels (luteinizing hormone, progesterone, estradiol). JNJ-6379, however, did not affect female fertility. The fetal loss seen during the early stages of pregnancy was considered to result from low hormone levels. In the dog study, no changes were observed in the reproductive tract at higher exposures in dogs.

In the 9-month dog study, the target organs identified were the adrenal glands and bone marrow. The adrenal glands did not show degenerative changes or loss of function and were therefore considered as non-adverse target organs. One female dog out of 4 dosed at 25 mg eq./kg/day (the highest dose) was sacrificed on Day 61, after showing poor health condition. A JNJ-6379 plasma level of 42,000 ng/mL was observed for this animal on Day 61, at approximately 24 hours after last dosing. Pronounced clinical pathologic changes including pancytopenia were noted. Marked increase in plasma cell-like cells was seen in the bone marrow during histopathologic examination, resulting in a marked reduction of hematopoietic tissue and extramedullary hematopoiesis in liver and spleen. The cause of the deteriorating condition was likely related to changes in the bone

marrow. A second dog in the same dose group with pancytopenia recovered after a drug holiday and was re-exposed uneventfully.

In the EFD studies, JNJ-6379 was not teratogenic in rats and rabbits.

JNJ-6379 was not genotoxic in the in vitro micronucleus and Ames tests, and in the in vivo micronucleus tests in rats.

Animal/human ratios at the NOAEL in rat and dog for human exposure at 250 mg JNJ-6379 once daily (qd) for 28 days are displayed in Table 2.

Table 2: Animal/Human Ratios at the NOAEL in Rat and Dog (Human Exposure at 250 mg JNJ-6379 Once Daily for 28 Days [Study 56136379HPB1001])

					Ratio Total Concentration		Ratio Concentration Corrected for Plasma Protein Binding ^b	
					C _{max}	AUC _{0-24h}	C _{max}	AUC _{0-24h}
					A/H Ratio	A/H Ratio	A/H Ratio	A/H Ratio
	Sex	NOAEL (CCI)	C _{max} (ng/mL)	AUC _{0-24h} (ng.h/mL)				
Human exposure ^a			13,798	267,180	-	-		
6M rat	M	C	7,540	93,100	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.6
	M	CCI	13,600 ^d	180,000 ^d	1.0	0.7	1.7	1.1
	F	CC	19,900	233,000	1.4	0.9	2.4	1.5
9M dog	M	C	30,000	606,000	2.2	2.3	3.3	3.4
	F	CCI	22,500	383,000	1.6	1.4	2.5	2.2

AUC: area under the plasma concentration time curve; AUC_{0-24h}: area under the plasma concentration time curve from administration to 24 h; A/H: animal/human ratio; C_{max}: maximum plasma concentration; F: female; M: male; NOAEL: no observed adverse effect level; qd: once daily.

^a 250 mg JNJ 6379 qd for 28 days (Study 56136379HPB1001).

^b Ratio of the total C_{max} or AUC corrected for species difference in plasma unbound fraction. Calculation: [animal C_{max} or AUC_{0-24h} x animal free fraction] / [human C_{max} or AUC_{0-24h} x human free fraction].

^c A dose of **CCI** in male rats is considered to be above the NOAEL due to kidney findings in male rats, which are likely not relevant for human.

^d The plasma C_{max} of 13,600 ng/mL and AUC_{0-24h} of 180,000 ng.h/mL in male rats at 100 mg eq./kg/day corresponds to an unbound C_{max} of 1,754 ng/mL and AUC_{0-24h} of 23,220 ng.h/mL (fraction unbound rat plasma 12.9%). This unbound plasma exposure will be achieved in humans at a total plasma C_{max} of 22,784 ng/mL and AUC_{0-24h} of 301,558 ng.h/mL (fraction unbound in human plasma 7.7%).

Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379

A 1-month repeat-dose combination toxicity study of JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989 was conducted in male and female Sprague-Dawley rats. JNJ-6379 (in PEG400 + 10% PVP-VA) was administered daily via oral gavage at 100 mg/kg, alone or in combination with JNJ-3989 (in phosphate-buffered saline) which was administered weekly via subcutaneous injections at 30 and 180 mg/kg. In addition, 180 mg/kg JNJ-3989 (subcutaneous, weekly) was dosed as well in a monotherapy group. Control animals received both vehicles via the respective routes.

The data showed that weekly subcutaneous injections with JNJ-3989 at 30 or 180 mg/kg in combination with daily administration of JNJ-6379 at 100 mg/kg (oral) for one month were well tolerated with no clinical signs or treatment-related mortality. Changes in clinical pathology and histopathology were mostly similar to the findings for the monotherapy groups dosed with

JNJ-6379 at 100 mg/kg (oral) alone or with JNJ-3989 at 180 mg/kg (subcutaneous) alone. The only synergistic changes included a slight decrease in body weight (gain) at $\geq 100/30$ mg/kg, in food consumption at 100/180 mg/kg, and a further decrease in lymphoid cellularity in the thymus of females at 100/180 mg/kg. These alterations were minor and non-adverse in nature. Based on these results, the NOAEL was considered to be CCI. C_{\max} and AUC_{0-24h} values for JNJ-6379 in males were 13,200 ng/mL and 181,000 ng·h/mL, and for females 15,500 ng/mL and 206,000 ng·h/mL, respectively, after 1 month of treatment. The mean C_{\max} and AUC_{0-24h} values for analyte JNJ-3924 in males were 20,900 ng/mL and 160,000 ng·h/mL, and for females 21,300 ng/mL and 125,000 ng·h/mL, respectively. For analyte JNJ-3976, the mean C_{\max} and AUC_{0-24h} values in males were 35,200 ng/mL and 258,000 ng·h/mL, and for females 35,300 ng/mL and 201,000 ng·h/mL, respectively.

A 3-month combination toxicity study of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 is ongoing, preliminary data is available. In this study, JNJ-3989 was initially administered weekly (ie, a total of 6 doses) and monthly thereafter, via subcutaneous injections at dose levels of 60 and 180 mg/kg when given in combination with JNJ-6379, and at 180 mg/kg for the monotherapy group. JNJ-6379 was administered daily via oral gavage at a dose level of 100 mg/kg in the monotherapy and combination groups. Control animals received both vehicles via the respective routes.

No test article-related mortalities were noted among animals dosed with JNJ-6379 alone, JNJ-3989 alone, or with JNJ-6379 + JNJ-3989 at 100/180 mg/kg. One male receiving JNJ-3989 alone at 180 mg/kg died on Day 45, after a rapid change in its clinical condition. The death of this animal was considered to reflect an acute stress response without a relationship to the test article. One accidental death due to a possible gavage error was noted among the toxicokinetic (TK) animals in the 100/60 mg/kg combination group. No bone marrow abnormalities were seen in these 2 animals.

One male rat dosed at 100/60 mg/kg JNJ-6379/JNJ-3989 was euthanized on Day 24 after showing severe clinical signs in the morning (decreased activity, erected fur, pallor, and cold to touch). No clinical signs were noted for this animal until Day 23, and body weight and weight gain were unaffected during the first 3 weeks of the study. The cause of moribundity was considered to be a markedly decreased hematopoietic cellularity of the bone marrow with pancytopenia including markedly reduced platelet counts and consequent hemorrhages and blood loss. A relation to the treatment with JNJ-6379 and/or JNJ-3989 cannot be excluded.

Clinical pathology analysis in this rat revealed a marked decrease in WBCs (neutrophil, lymphocyte, and monocyte counts), marked decreases in RBC mass parameters (hemoglobin, hematocrit, and RBC count) including reticulocyte count, and platelet count. There was a mildly increased fibrinogen concentration and mildly prolonged prothrombin time. Other clinical pathology findings were observed for this animal, but they are not related to the bad condition and euthanasia.

At necropsy, the rat showed dark red discoloration/dark red foci in a wide variety of organs and tissues, and dark red material in the abdominal cavity adhered to the spleen (freshly clotted blood). This correlated to minimal to marked hemorrhages in multiple tissues, including brain.

At microscopic examination, the bone marrow of this animal showed markedly decreased cellularity of hematopoietic tissue. Based on the morphology of the remaining hematopoietic tissue and the absence of necrosis, this bone marrow finding was considered not acute but rather subacute or subchronic in nature. In absence of pre-values or earlier timepoints for hematology, it was not possible to define the onset of the initiating event. Minimal to marked acute hemorrhages were noted in a wide range of tissues. Some other microscopic findings unrelated to the event were identified.

Altogether, the decreased cellularity of hematopoietic tissue in the bone marrow and the hematology/coagulation data indicate that reduced hematopoiesis resulted in decreases in WBC, reticulocyte and platelet counts. The hemorrhages were interpreted to be the result of a deficit in primary hemostasis, consistent with the markedly reduced platelet counts. None of the remaining animals of this study showed decreased cellularity of the bone marrow.

In addition to the changes described above, decreased platelet counts were seen in females at 100/60 and 100/180 mg/kg JNJ-6379/JNJ-3989. However, the decrease in platelet counts for these groups was mild, similar across animals within the groups and to those seen in a previous 1-month combination toxicity study with JNJ-6379/JNJ-3989, and not accompanied by other cytopenia nor bone marrow abnormalities. The decrease in platelet counts for these groups are likely caused by a different mechanism than for the male rat that was euthanized on Day 24, as described above.

No relevant changes on urinary biomarkers were detected in male and female rats given JNJ-6379 at 100 mg/kg/day (clusterin, albumin, β 2-microglobulin, Kidney Injury Molecule-1 [KIM-1], Neutrophil Gelatinase Associated Lipocalin [NGAL] and cystatin-C).

Based on the observation of pancytopenia in 1 rat and a mild platelet decrease in the combination groups in the 3-month combination toxicity study, the sponsor is implementing additional monitoring of significant on-treatment hematologic changes in clinical studies with dosing longer than 4 weeks (see Section 8.3.6.4). However, no significant abnormalities of hematologic parameters have been observed in clinical studies to date.

For further information, refer to the IB Addenda for JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379.^{10,11,13,12}

2.2.1.2. Combination of JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 with Tenofovir Disoproxil

The single common toxicity target organ between JNJ-6379, JNJ-3989, and tenofovir disoproxil is the kidney.

In the chronic rat studies with JNJ-3989, slight alteration of the renal tubular epithelium was characterized by basophilic stippling and/or microvacuolation of the cytoplasm of renal tubules in the outer cortex in rats. These findings were not considered toxicologically meaningful since they were related to compound accumulation, there was no evidence of cellular damage (degeneration/necrosis) and there were no correlated clinical pathology indicators of changes in renal function.^{8,15} These kidney findings have been observed in both the 2-week and 6-month studies and did not worsen over time. No kidney findings were observed in monkeys.

In the chronic rat study (6 months) with JNJ-6379, retrograde nephropathy, secondary to papillary or pelvic calculi/precipitates, was noted in male rats but not in dogs or female rats. This finding is mainly due to precipitation or calculi formation in distal parts of the kidney/lower urinary tract and is of limited relevance to man, due to differences in urinary composition and functional anatomy between (male) rats and humans. In general, compounds or metabolites of low solubility and high renal clearance may cause concretions in the kidneys/ urinary tract, especially at high doses, as the urine concentrates in the distal nephron and supersaturation of the compound can occur. Urinary pH, proteins and osmolality can also influence the formation of urinary concretions. Male rat urine normally has a high concentration of protein and high osmolality. In addition, rats may be predisposed to retrograde nephropathy because they are known to experience spontaneous urine reflux during micturition or urinary bladder contraction, and this reflux phenomenon can be increased or exacerbated by treatment induced obstructions. The retrograde nephropathy in male rats correlated with increased urea and creatinine in plasma and with urinary changes (red/brown discolored urine, increased volume, decreased pH, presence of blood and white and red blood cells in sediment).^{3,27} No kidney findings were observed in dogs.

Although both compounds (JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379) showed histological kidney findings in the rat, the primary anatomical location, mechanism and severity are different. For JNJ-3989 the renal findings are without anticipated clinical or clinicopathological consequences and located in the proximal part of the nephron (outer cortex) and intracellular (not in the tubular lumen). For JNJ-6379, the main findings are restricted to male rats and initiate in distal parts of the kidney (renal pelvis/ papilla) and/or in the lumen of the lower urinary tract with secondary more proximal changes due to reflux.

For tenofovir disoproxil, renal tubular epithelial karyomegaly was observed in rats, dogs, and monkeys.²¹ In dogs, the species most sensitive to tenofovir disoproxil-related effects on the kidney, additional microscopic alterations following chronic administration of tenofovir disoproxil (10 mg/kg/day for 42 weeks) included individual tubular cell necrosis, tubular dilatation, tubular degeneration/regeneration, pigment accumulation, and interstitial nephritis. This was associated with biochemical changes such as slight elevation in serum creatinine, glucosuria, proteinuria, and increased urine volume. The incidence and severity of nephrotoxicity was dose-related. Effects were reversible following cessation of treatment. In Rhesus monkeys, biochemical and/or histopathologic evidence of nephrotoxicity was observed at high doses. In rats, slight elevations in serum creatinine were observed without any histopathology correlation.

Based on the available toxicology data, there are no specific concerns about additive or synergistic toxicities in the kidney when JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989 are combined with tenofovir disoproxil.

2.2.1.3. Combination of JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a

2.2.1.3.1. Combination of JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a

As there is no appropriate species for studying the combination of JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a, an in vitro study on human bone marrow derived erythroid and myeloid progenitors using colony forming assays was done. JNJ-6379 (5-100 μM) and PegIFN-α2a (Pegasys®, 0.00005-0.1 μM)

were tested in combination in order to evaluate their potential additive or synergistic effects (study TOX14629).

The IC₅₀ values of the combination treatment were markedly lower compared to JNJ-6379 alone for all tested concentrations but similar to the values with PegIFN- α 2a alone. When the higher concentrations of PegIFN- α 2a were tested in combination with JNJ-6379, the reduction in colonies was mainly due to the strong toxicity of PegIFN- α 2a at these concentrations.

Comparing the predicted (adding the percent of reduction of JNJ-6379 and PegIFN- α 2a alone) and the actual percent reduction in colonies relative to the solvent control, it became clear that there were only minimal differences, pointing more to an additive effect and not a synergistic effect when JNJ-6379 and PegIFN- α 2a were combined.

2.2.1.3.2. Combination of JNJ-3989 with PegIFN- α 2a

The objective of study TOX14273 was to determine the potential additive or synergistic effects when combining JNJ-3989 (60 or 180 mg/kg, once monthly) with PegIFN- α 2a (Pegasys® 0.015 mg/kg twice weekly) given subcutaneously for 3 months to the Cynomolgus monkey (study TOX14273, preliminary data).

There were no JNJ-3989 related mortalities. JNJ-3989 (alone or combined with PegIFN- α 2a) was well tolerated and did not induce relevant effects on clinical signs, body weight, food consumption, ophthalmoscopic examination, electrocardiology evaluation, coagulation, clinical chemistry or urinalysis parameters, cytokines IP-10 and IFN α , as well as organ weight and macroscopic examination.

Transient local reactions (edema and erythema) were observed at the administration site at 60 and/or 180 mg/kg for JNJ-3989. These reactions were also observed with PegIFN- α 2a and incidentally in control females (erythema only). These reactions were not correlated with microscopic findings.

JNJ-3989 induced minimal to mild hematological changes starting at 60 mg/kg. These clinical pathology changes were limited to transient, non-dose-related increases in neutrophils and total white blood cells in males and females administered 180 mg/kg JNJ-3989 alone or in combination \geq 60/0.015 mg/kg JNJ-3989/PegIFN- α 2a on Day 30 only. In addition, comparable transient increases in neutrophils and total white blood cells were also observed in both males and females administered 0.015 mg/kg PegIFN- α 2a alone.

PegIFN- α 2a induced increases in IFN α and IP-10 after the first injection. Levels were at baseline values prior to dosing on Day 30 and no increases were observed after dosing as well as after dosing on Day 90. Combination of JNJ-3989 at 60 or 180 mg/kg with PegIFN- α 2a did not induce any further effects than the increases observed with PegIFN- α 2a given alone.

JNJ-3989 induced microscopic findings in the lymph nodes and liver. In the mesenteric, axillary, popliteal and/or other lymph nodes, minimal to mild vacuolation of macrophages were observed in both sexes administered \geq 60 mg/kg/0.015 mg/kg JNJ-3989/PegIFN- α 2a or 180 mg/kg JNJ-3989

alone. In the liver, minimal hypertrophy of Kupffer cells was observed in 1 female administered 180 mg/kg/0.015 mg/kg JNJ-3989/PegIFN- α 2a and 2 females administered 180 mg/kg JNJ-3989 alone. The microscopic changes were comparable between the animals administered with JNJ-3989 alone or in combination with PegIFN- α 2a indicating an absence of additive or synergistic effect.

Systemic exposure to JNJ-3924 and JNJ-3976 in plasma was similar after single and repeated dosing following administration of JNJ-73763989 alone or combined with reference item PegIFN- α 2a.

In conclusion, the intermittent subcutaneous administration of JNJ-3989 given alone or combined with PegIFN- α 2a for 3 months was well tolerated in Cynomolgus monkeys at levels of 60 and 180 mg/kg. Treatment only induced transient local reactions at the injection site, transient hematological changes and microscopic findings in liver and lymph nodes, all considered as non-adverse. The administration of JNJ-3989 in combination with PegIFN- α 2a did not amplify any toxicological effect. Based on these results, there were no additive or synergistic effects on the toxicity profile and no drug-drug interactions when JNJ-3989 is combined with PegIFN- α 2a.

2.2.2. Clinical Studies

2.2.2.1. JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379

Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379

Clinical data of triple combination treatment of JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, and NA are available from the ongoing Phase 1/2a AROHBV1001 study (Cohort 12). Twelve adult chronic HBV mono-infected participants have received 3 subcutaneous injections of JNJ-3989 (200 mg Q4W) in combination with oral JNJ-6379 (250 mg qd) and oral NA treatment (ETV or TDF).

Up to interim analysis cut-off date of 4 October 2019, no deaths, SAEs, or TEAEs leading to study drug discontinuation were reported. Two (16.7%) participants reported at least 1 TEAE during the treatment phase. The TEAEs (upper respiratory tract infection and hypertension) were of mild severity and considered not related to the study drug by the investigator.

The triple combination treatment of JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, and NA is currently being investigated in chronic HBV mono-infected participants in the ongoing Phase 2 clinical studies 73763989HPB2001 (REEF-1, 90 participants in triple combination Arm 1) and 73763989PAHPB2002 (REEF-2, 80 participants in triple combination Arm 1).

Since the initial protocol writing, interim results of the REEF-1 and REEF-2 studies had become available. In the primary REEF-1 analysis (Week 48, end of treatment) the mean reduction of HBsAg in the triple arm (JNJ-6379+JNJ-3989 100mg+NA) appeared to be less than in the dual arm (JNJ-3989 100mg+NA). More recent interim results of the REEF-2 study (Week 48, end of treatment) confirmed this observation when the effect of JNJ-6379+JNJ-3989 200mg+NA on mean HBsAg level reduction in REEF-2 study is compared to JNJ-3989 200mg+NA in the REEF-1 study. To match with the REEF-2 population, this cross-study comparison focused on the REEF-

1 subpopulation of HBeAg negative, virologically suppressed participants with chronic hepatitis B. PK-PD modelling analyses accounting for variability in baseline characteristics further support this observation. Therefore, a negative effect of JNJ-6379 on the HBsAg lowering effect of JNJ-3989+NA is suspected.

The following sections provide an overview of the current clinical background information for the 2 compounds separately.

JNJ-3989

Clinical data on PK, efficacy, and safety of JNJ-3989 are available from the ongoing Phase 1/2a AROHBV1001 study with a data cut-off date of 29 October 2019. All dosing with JNJ-3989 has been completed and ongoing participants are in the follow-up. Twenty adult healthy participants have received single subcutaneous injections of JNJ-3989 (35, 100, 200, 300, and 400 mg) and 84 adult chronic HBV-infected participants have received multiple doses of JNJ-3989 (25, 50, 100, 200, 300, and 400 mg), administered as 3 subcutaneous injections separated by either 7-day, 14-day, or 28-day intervals. All participants either continued or started entecavir (ETV) or tenofovir disoproxil on Day 1.

JNJ-3989 was generally safe and well tolerated with no deaths, serious adverse events (SAEs) considered at least possibly related to the study intervention, or adverse events (AEs) leading to study intervention discontinuation. All AEs were mild to moderate, with exception of 1 severe blood creatine phosphokinase increased in 1 chronic HBV-infected participant. All reported injection site reactions (ISRs) were mild. Adverse events and laboratory abnormalities were distributed across all dose levels and also occurred on placebo treatment, except for mild ISRs, which were only reported in participants on JNJ-3989 treatment. Most reported laboratory abnormalities were isolated incidences and resolved while on study treatment.

Up to 48-week hematology data from the ongoing Phase 2 clinical study REEF-1 (73763989HPB2001) are available and overall around 5% of the participants experienced AEs or laboratory abnormalities related to hematology, the majority of mild to moderate severity. The hematologic abnormalities resolved on continued JNJ-3989+NA treatment.¹²

Antiviral activity data were available for 56 chronic HBV-infected participants who received 3 subcutaneous injections of 25 to 400 mg JNJ-3989 every 4 weeks (Q4W).^{7,31} In general, mean HBsAg declines reached nadir at Day 113 (ie, 8 weeks after last JNJ-3989). Mean HBsAg levels remained suppressed (below baseline levels) at least until Day 392 (ie, 9 months after last dose) in a substantial proportion of patients.

JNJ-6379

At the time of protocol writing, 126 adult healthy and 41 chronic HBV-infected participants have been dosed with JNJ-6379 in 5 completed Phase 1 studies (56136379HPB1001, 56136379HPB1002, 56136379HPB1003, 56136379HPB1004, and 56136379HPB1005). In addition, data are available from 148 adult chronic HBV-infected participants in the ongoing Phase 2a study, 56136379HPB2001, also referred to as Jade.

Human Pharmacokinetics and Product Metabolism***Single Dose Studies in Healthy Participants***

In Study 56136379HPB1001, single ascending doses (25, 50, 150, 300, and 600 mg) of JNJ-6379 (or placebo) were administered under fasting conditions to healthy participants. No major differences were observed in the shape of the mean JNJ-6379 plasma concentration-time curves for the different dose levels. Mean and individual PK profiles showed minimal lag-time. A single rather flat concentration peak was observed in the PK profiles of most participants. Plasma concentrations in the terminal phase declined generally in parallel for all dose levels. The C_{\max} and AUC_{0-24h} increased proportionally with dose after single-dose administration of JNJ-6379 doses of 25 mg to 300 mg and less than dose proportionally at the dose of 600 mg. The AUC from administration to last quantifiable sampling point (AUC_{0-last}) and the AUC to last sampling point from time zero extrapolated to infinity (AUC_{∞}) increased proportionally between the JNJ-6379 25-mg and 600-mg dose levels. Mean values for terminal half-life ($t_{1/2term}$) were comparable for the 25-mg to 300-mg dose levels, and averaged between 93.3 hours and 110.5 hours. For the 600-mg dose group, the average $t_{1/2term}$ was 141.3 hours. Mean values for the total apparent oral clearance (CL/F) were comparable for the 25-mg, 50-mg and 150-mg dose level, and appeared to decrease at higher dose levels. Mean values of the apparent volume of distribution were generally comparable for the different dose groups.

In Study 56136379HPB1002, study drug exposure levels using a novel tablet formulation, containing hydroxypropylmethylcellulose E5 based spray-dried powder, were similar to exposure levels observed in study 56136379HPB1001 using the original formulation, both in fed conditions. The relative bioavailability of new 25-mg oral tablets of JNJ-6379 administered as a 150-mg dose under fasting and fed conditions, and of new 100-mg oral tablets of JNJ-6379 administered as a 300-mg dose under fasting conditions, was assessed in healthy adult participants. Assuming proportionality, based on the geometric mean ratios between the 3x 100-mg dose, fasting (test) and the 6x 25-mg dose, fasting (reference) of the dose-normalized PK parameters, C_{\max} was 21.56% lower for the 100-mg tablet strength compared to the 25-mg tablet strength, and AUC_{0-last} and AUC_{∞} were similar. The median time to reach C_{\max} (t_{\max}) was around 1.75 hours when 150 mg JNJ-6379 was dosed as 6x 25-mg oral tablets, and around 3.00 hours when 300 mg JNJ-6379 was dosed as 3x 100-mg oral tablets.

In Study 56136379HPB1005, the oral bioavailability of a single 300-mg dose of JNJ-6379 administered as a 100-mg tablet containing hydroxypropylmethylcellulose-acetate succinate based spray-dried powder (test tablet) was assessed. All 14 healthy adult participants received a 300-mg dose of JNJ-6379 under fasted conditions. Preliminary PK analysis was performed and mean C_{\max} was 3,105 ng/mL, mean AUC_{0-72h} was 111,286 ng.h/mL and mean AUC_{∞} was 280,926 ng.h/mL. The median t_{\max} was around 3.00 hours. These preliminary PK parameter values are comparable to the PK parameters obtained after administration of JNJ-6379 formulated as hydroxypropylmethylcellulose E5 based spray-dried powder tablet.

Multiple Dose Studies in Healthy Participants

In Session 7 of Study 56136379HPB1001, participants received 150 mg JNJ-6379 twice daily under fed conditions for the first 2 days of treatment, followed by 100 mg JNJ-6379 qd until Day 12. JNJ-6379 plasma concentrations accumulated during the study (accumulation ratio of approximately 6). The CL/F at steady-state and the $t_{1/2\text{term}}$ were similar to values observed after single dose administration, suggesting time-linear PK.

In Study 56136379HPB1004, participants received 250 mg of JNJ-6379 twice daily on Days 6 and 7 (fed conditions), followed by 170 mg qd on Day 8 to 25 in fed conditions (with exception of Day 21). On Day 21, a single dose of JNJ-6379 170 mg and a single dose of drospirenone/ethinylestradiol 3 mg/0.02 mg and a single dose of midazolam 2 mg were administered under fasted conditions. Mean JNJ-6379 C_{max} and area under the plasma analyte concentration-time curve over a dose interval (AUC_{τ}) increased between Day 6 (first dose of JNJ-6379) and Day 20 as JNJ-6379 plasma concentrations accumulated due to the multiple-dose regimen administered in this study. Steady-state was reached before Day 20. Plasma concentration-time profiles of JNJ-6379 were similar to those observed in Study 56136379HPB1001.

Multiple Dose Studies in chronic HBV-infected Participants

In Sessions 8, 9, 10, 11, and A of Study 56136379HPB1001, treatment-naïve chronic HBV-infected participants were administered multiple-dose regimens (25, 75, 150, and 250 mg) of JNJ-6379 for 28 days. Pharmacokinetics of JNJ-6379 were not markedly different between healthy participants and chronic HBV-infected participants. Mean JNJ-6379 exposures in chronic HBV-infected participants could be predicted from data in healthy participants. The PK data show that exposure of JNJ-6379 in chronic HBV-infected participants is dose proportional and CL/F is constant over time.

Food Interaction

Although Study 56136379HPB1001 suggested slightly higher exposure of JNJ-6379 in fed conditions, data from Study 56136379HBP1002 with a higher number of participants showed that there is no food effect on JNJ-6379 exposure, and a preliminary PK analysis from Study 56136379HBP1005 suggests the same.

Drug-drug Interaction

Oral contraceptives: When administered simultaneously with 3 mg drospirenone/0.02 mg ethinylestradiol in Study 56136379HPB1004, JNJ-6379 increases the extent of exposure and decreases the CL/F of ethinylestradiol while the peak plasma concentration decreased. In contrast, JNJ-6379 has no clear effect on the extent of exposure and CL/F of drospirenone, a cytochrome P450 (CYP)3A4 sensitive progestin: peak plasma concentration decreased while no change in exposure and apparent clearance was observed. Consequently, oral contraceptives are still considered to be effective when administered simultaneously with JNJ-6379. However, as a precaution to avoid high exposure to ethinylestradiol, ethinylestradiol-containing contraceptives are only allowed if the ethinylestradiol content is ≤ 20 μg .

Midazolam: In Study 56136379HPB1004, coadministration of 170 mg JNJ-6379 qd with oral midazolam as a CYP3A4 probe substrate showed a reduction of 41.7% in C_{max} and 53.9% in AUC of midazolam, implying that JNJ-6379 may induce the metabolism of CYP3A4 sensitive substrates.

Efficacy Studies

Antiviral activity data are available from Part II of Study 56136379HPB1001 (final analysis, 57 treatment-naïve participants treated with multiple-dose regimens of 25 to 250 mg JNJ-6379 qd for 28 days, unblinded). Available antiviral activity data for 4 weeks of treatment with JNJ-6379 in this study showed potent HBV DNA and RNA reductions but no changes in HBsAg, indicating that longer treatments are needed.

Interim efficacy data are available from the Phase 2a Jade study. Interim analysis (IA) 2 (cut-off date: 8 February 2019) includes Week 12 data from 64 chronic HBV-infected participants not treated at screening of whom 26 received 75 mg qd JNJ-6379 monotherapy (open-label) and 38 received 75 mg qd JNJ-6379 or placebo in addition to an NA (blinded). Interim analysis 2 also includes unblinded Week 24 data from 44 virologically suppressed chronic HBV-infected participants of whom 33 received 75 mg qd JNJ-6379 and 11 received placebo in addition to an NA. Interim analysis 3 (cut-off date: 7 March 2019) includes blinded Week 12 data from 40 virologically suppressed chronic HBV-infected participants who received 250 mg qd JNJ-6379 or placebo in addition to an NA.

The 12-week interim efficacy data in currently not treated participants on 75 mg JNJ-6379 monotherapy showed a mean reduction from baseline of HBV DNA of >3.5 \log_{10} IU/mL at Week 12. This decline was similar to the mean decline in participants treated with JNJ-6379 or placebo in combination with an NA (data still blinded).

The 24-week interim efficacy data in virologically suppressed participants on 75 mg JNJ-6379 showed that most participants had HBV DNA levels below the limit of quantification at baseline. At 24 weeks of treatment, 5 (23.8%) of 21 participants on JNJ-6379 experienced a mean reduction from baseline in HBV RNA of >2 \log_{10} IU/mL versus 1 (14.3%) of 7 participants on placebo. HBV RNA levels at Week 24 were undetectable for 21 (100.0%) of 21 participants on JNJ-6379 and

4 (57.1%) of 7 participants on placebo. No relevant mean changes from baseline in HBsAg and HBeAg were noted so far.

In the monotherapy arm with 75 mg JNJ-6379, 5 of 28 participants (status after IA2 cut-off date) experienced a virologic breakthrough defined as confirmed on-treatment HBV DNA increase by $>1 \log_{10}$ from nadir level or confirmed on-treatment HBV DNA level >200 IU/mL in participants who had HBV DNA level below the lower limit of quantification (LLOQ) of the HBV DNA assay. All 5 participants with virologic breakthrough had an emerging core amino acid mutation T33N, which is known to confer reduced JNJ-6379 activity in vitro. All 5 participants discontinued JNJ-6379 and started NA treatment. An urgent safety measure was implemented to discontinue JNJ-6379 treatment in all participants in this arm and offer NA treatment. No cases of virologic breakthrough were observed in any of the arms combining JNJ-6379/placebo with NA treatment. A futility rule was implemented in the 250 mg JNJ-6379 monotherapy arm (if ≥ 1 participant in the 250 mg monotherapy arm experiences virologic breakthrough during the first 24 weeks of treatment, NA treatment will be added to JNJ-6379 treatment as soon as possible for all remaining participants).

In the monotherapy arm with 250 mg JNJ-6379, 1 participant experienced virologic breakthrough (status after IA2 cut-off date). The participant discontinued JNJ-6379 treatment and started NA treatment at the withdrawal visit, due to meeting non-response criteria. NA treatment was added for all remaining participants in the JNJ-6379 250 mg monotherapy arm in accordance with the futility rule mentioned above.

Safety Studies

Data from 5 completed Phase 1 studies (56136379HPB1001, 56136379HPB1002, 56136379HPB1003, 56136379HPB1004, and 56136379HPB1005) in healthy and chronic HBV-infected participants (N 126 and 41, respectively), indicate that orally administered JNJ-6379 as single doses up to 600 mg or as multiple doses (250 mg twice daily for 2 days followed by 170 mg qd for 18 days or 150 mg twice daily for 2 days followed by 100 mg qd for 10 days) in healthy participants and as multiple doses up to 250 mg for 28 days in chronic HBV-infected participants was safe and well tolerated. No SAEs considered at least possibly related to the study intervention were reported. Most AEs were mild and not considered treatment-related, with no dose-related trends.

Safety data are also available from IAs 2 and 3 conducted for the Phase 2a Jade study, which were mentioned above. There were no deaths, SAEs considered at least possibly related to the study intervention, or AEs leading to discontinuation. Most AEs were grade 1 or 2 in severity. The majority of reported AEs were considered unrelated to JNJ-6379 by the investigator. Grade 2 to 4 AEs considered at least possibly related to JNJ-6379 by the investigator were grade 2 asthenia (3 participants), grade 4 ALT increased, grade 2 headache, grade 2 vertigo, grade 3 anemia (corrected to grade 2 by the investigator after the IA cut-off date), grade 2 hypertension, and grade 2 fatigue (all observed in 1 participant each).

Increased cholesterol is considered a laboratory abnormality of interest for JNJ-6379, based on safety review from nonclinical and clinical trials. Cholesterol increased was reported as an AE in

4 (4.1%) participants on JNJ-6379 for the pooled Phase 1 studies, in 1 (2.4%) participant on JNJ-6379 for the Phase 1 study 56136379HPB1005, and in none of the participants in the Phase 2a Jade study.

2.2.2.2. Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with Tenofovir Disoproxil

Tenofovir disoproxil (available in several salt forms including tenofovir disoproxil fumarate and tenofovir disoproxil maleate) is a first-generation oral prodrug of the NA tenofovir that is indicated for the treatment of chronic HBV infection in adult and pediatric patients at least 12 years of age. In addition, tenofovir disoproxil in combination with other antiretrovirals is indicated for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in adult and pediatric patients at least 2 years of age. The most common adverse reactions ($\geq 10\%$ of patients) are abdominal pain, nausea, insomnia, pruritus, vomiting, dizziness, and pyrexia.

For further information regarding tenofovir disoproxil, refer to the respective currently approved prescribing information.

Clinical data on dual combination treatment of JNJ-6379 and NA are available from the ongoing Phase 2a 56136379HPB2001 study (refer to the IB for JNJ-6379^{10,11}). In participants treated with TDF, C_{trough} concentrations of tenofovir at Week 12 were higher in participants receiving TDF in combination with JNJ-6379 than in participants receiving TDF as monotherapy (94.2 [30.0] and 115 [66.0] ng/mL for 75- and 250-mg JNJ-6379, respectively, vs 66.8 [37.0] ng/mL as TDF monotherapy).

Clinical data of triple combination treatment of JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, and NA are available from the ongoing Phase 1/2a AROHBV1001 study (see Section 2.2.2.1, JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379).

The single common toxicity target organ between JNJ-6379, JNJ-3989, and tenofovir disoproxil is the kidney (see Section 2.2.1.2). In clinic, dosing JNJ-6379 or JNJ-3989 with NA for 12 weeks, did not show any clinically relevant changes in kidney parameters/glomerular function.

Overall Assessment of the Combination Therapy

Based on the points listed below, no clinically relevant DDIs and no specific concerns about additive or synergistic toxicities in the kidney are expected when JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989 are combined with tenofovir disoproxil:

- Available toxicology data described in Section 2.2.1.2.
- In vitro drug transporters.
- Metabolic interaction data.
- Absence of relevant DDIs in the combination toxicity studies up to 3-month with JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989.
- Absence of synergistic or additive histology findings in the kidney observed in the combination toxicity studies up to 3-month with JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989.

- Available clinical data with JNJ-6379 (Jade study [56136379HPB2001]) up to 48 weeks treatment on the absence of changes in kidney parameters/glomerular function.
- Available clinical data of triple combination treatment of JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, and NA described in Section 2.2.2.1.

A mild platelet decrease was seen after 3-month dosing of rats given JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989.

2.2.2.3. Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a

PegIFN-α2a is a covalent conjugate of recombinant alfa-2a interferon that is indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis B in adult and pediatric patients at least 3 years of age. In addition, PegIFN-α2a in combination with other medicinal products is indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV)-infection in adult and pediatric patients at least 5 years of age and not treated before. The most common adverse reactions (≥10% of participants) are anorexia, anxiety, headache, concentration impairment, dyspnea, cough, alopecia, dermatitis, pruritis, dry skin, myalgia, arthralgia, asthenia, pyrexia, and fatigue. For further information regarding PegIFN-α2a, refer to the currently approved prescribing information.

Treatment with PegIFN-α2a has been associated with decreases in platelet count (common adverse reaction). In the ongoing Phase 1/2a AROHBV1001 study (see Section 2.2.2.1), no effect on platelet count has been observed in the triple combination treatment cohort 12 (JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, and NA). Of the 84 adult chronic HBV-infected participants that received 3 subcutaneous injections of JNJ-3989, 6 participants developed grade 1 platelet reduction with no general trend towards a continuous decline. For JNJ-6379, no effect on platelet count has been observed in ongoing Phase 2a HPB2001 study (Jade) for the 189 adult chronic HBV-infected participants that were dosed with JNJ-6379.

Based on preclinical data, a potential common toxicity target organ between JNJ-6379, JNJ-3989, and PegIFN-α2a is the bone marrow (see Section 2.2.1, Nonclinical Studies). Bone marrow suppression is a known side effect of PegIFN-α2a (rare).

No pharmacokinetic (PK) interaction is expected between JNJ-3989 and PegIFN-α2a based on the known pharmacologic profiles of JNJ-3989 and PegIFN-α2a.^{13,29}

At the time of protocol amendment 5 writing, no clinical data on the combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with PegIFN-α2a are available. Nonclinical studies to investigate the effect on platelet count decreases and on bone marrow in non-human primates (JNJ-3989) and bone marrow stem cells (JNJ-6379) were completed, and results are summarized in Section 2.2.1.3..

2.3. Benefit-Risk Assessment

More detailed information about the known and expected benefits and risks of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 may be found in the respective IBs and their Addenda.^{10,11,13,12}

For the benefit-risk evaluation of tenofovir disoproxil and PegIFN-α2a refer to the respective prescribing information and Summary of Product Characteristics.

JNJ-6379 was initially part of the study intervention but has been removed as study intervention with the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6. Emerging data from the REEF-1 and REEF-2 studies resulted in an unfavorable benefit-risk balance of JNJ-6379 in combination with JNJ-3989+NA, compared to JNJ-3989+NA alone. Therefore, the Sponsor decided to discontinue treatment with JNJ-6379 in all ongoing clinical studies effective immediately. Participants who were on treatment with JNJ-6379 were contacted and requested to stop taking JNJ-6379, while continuing treatment with NA, JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a (as applicable). For newly enrolled participants, JNJ-6379 was taken out of the treatment regimen. For completeness, the benefit-risk assessment for JNJ-6379 is still included in this section.

2.3.1. Benefits for Study Participation

2.3.1.1. Known Benefits

The clinical benefit of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 remains to be established.

2.3.1.2. Potential Benefits

Results from clinical studies with JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379, NAs, and PegIFN- α 2a may be useful for the development of a novel therapeutic approach for chronic HBV infection.

The combination of JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989 on a background of an NA would target different stages of the viral life cycle. While NA treatment reduces HBV DNA to levels close to or below the LLOQ of the HBV DNA assay, HBV replication is not completely inhibited, resulting in replenishment of the cccDNA pool. The addition of JNJ-6379, which targets the HBV capsid assembly (“primary” mode of action [MoA]) and the de novo cccDNA formation (“secondary” MoA), is expected to block HBV replication more profoundly by inhibiting formation of HBV RNA and DNA containing particles, and to inhibit de novo cccDNA formation, ultimately leading to reduction in cccDNA levels/transcriptional activity and HBsAg seroclearance (“intensified viral suppression”). The addition of JNJ-3989 to an NA, or to JNJ-6379 in combination with an NA, is expected to intensify viral suppression (further) by downregulating levels of the HBV DNA precursor pgRNA. In addition, JNJ-3989 reduces levels of all viral proteins including HBsAg, which is known to interfere with the host immune response.^{5,18,19} By acting on both viral replication and by reducing barriers to the host immune response, higher functional cure rates may be achieved.

The addition of short-term PegIFN- α 2a (12-week consolidation phase) to the regimen at a time when HBsAg is already significantly reduced or eliminated, which is assumed to be associated with potential restoration of the immune response, may lead to further improvement of the immune response (such as reactivation of NK-cells and further activation of endogenous HBV-specific T-cells) and ultimately could lead to immune control of HBV (ie, functional cure). In addition, PegIFN- α 2a has shown to have direct antiviral effects on HBV which could also contribute to the efficacy of the regimen. By adding short-term PegIFN- α 2a to the regimen, higher functional cure rates may be achieved.

Investigating the treatment regimen JNJ-3989 + PegIFN- α 2a + NAs with and without JNJ-6379 in this immune tolerant study population might be useful for the development of a treatment for this population that currently has no recommended treatment options.

2.3.2. Risks for Study Participation

2.3.2.1. Known Risks

No known risks associated with JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 have been identified from clinical observations so far in the Phase 1 and 2 studies. Injection site reactions were identified as adverse drug reactions for JNJ-3989.

Side effect profile of PegIFN- α 2a is well established and includes, but is not limited to, neuropsychiatric, autoimmune, ischemic, ophthalmologic, hematological, and infectious disorders. Exacerbations of hepatitis during hepatitis B therapy are common and characterized by transient and potentially severe increases in serum ALT. Marked increases in ALT were sometimes accompanied by bilirubin elevation and other liver test abnormalities. In many, but not all cases, these disorders resolve after stopping PegIFN- α 2a therapy. For a full list of known risks for PegIFN- α 2a refer to the respective prescribing information and Summary of Product Characteristics.

2.3.2.2. Potential Risks

All therapies have the potential to cause adverse experiences. In addition, the discontinuation of NA treatment bares a risk of hepatitis B flares.

Patients with positive HBV DNA and positive HBsAg can always experience increases in liver transaminases which may indicate immune activation and may result in the reduction of viral parameters such as HBV DNA and/or HBsAg/HBeAg. Whether this occurs at higher frequency during or after treatment with JNJ-6379 and JNJ-3989 is not known. In this context it is also possible that the interventional treatment lead to a transition of participants to a more “immune-active” disease stage. In this case long-term NA treatment after end of study participation may be needed.

This study will be conducted in a study population that according to current treatment guidelines (EASL)⁴ does not have a general treatment indication. As discussed in Section 2.1, Study Rationale, this is mainly driven by the limited efficacy of NA treatment in patients with HBeAg positive infection and by the fact that NA treatment, once initiated, usually has to be continued lifelong. The assumption to achieve functional cure with the investigated treatment regimen would change this benefit assessment, but clinical evidence is not yet available.

Please refer to Section 2.2, Background, for details on the safety results in the studies conducted to date.

2.3.2.2.1. Potential Risks for JNJ-3989

ALT Elevations

ALT elevations are considered an important potential risk for JNJ-3989. Two distinct patterns of ALT elevations have been observed in participants receiving JNJ-3989: a rapidly rising and resolving ALT elevation or a more sustained pattern of ALT elevation. The latter has been observed in HBV/HDV co-infected participants in study 73763989HPB2004 during double-blind treatment phase. A causal association of ALT elevations with JNJ-3989 has not been confirmed and the underlying mechanism for ALT elevations being more frequent in the context of HBV/HDV co-infection is not yet understood.¹²

Reproductive Risks and Pregnancy

In the EFD studies, JNJ-3989 was not teratogenic in rats and rabbits. The fertility in male and female rats is not impacted with JNJ-3989 up to a dose of 180 mg/kg/week.

Based on the difference in metabolic pathways and in vitro data indicating absence of impact of JNJ-3989 on CYP enzymes and transporters, no clinically relevant interactions are anticipated between JNJ-3989 and oral contraceptives.

Potential Genotoxicity

JNJ-3989 is considered to be devoid of genotoxic activity. Nonclinical carcinogenicity studies have not been conducted.

Other Potential Toxicity/Events of Special Interest

Hematologic abnormalities are an event of special interest for JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 based on animal studies (refer to 2.3.2.2.2 for further information).

JNJ-3989 is considered non-cytotoxic, did not activate human platelet aggregation, did not activate the innate immune system to a significant degree in vitro, and did not activate complement in vitro.

Viral Resistance

Treatment with JNJ-3989 may lead to viral resistance, but resistance to JNJ-3989 is not anticipated to impact treatment with other small interfering RNAs (siRNAs). Using these agents in combination, especially in combination with NAs, is expected to minimize the risk of emerging resistant viral variants.

2.3.2.2.2. Potential Risks for JNJ-6379

Since the initial protocol writing, interim results of the REEF-1 and REEF-2 studies had become available. The data suggested that JNJ-6379 has a negative impact on the HBsAg lowering effect of JNJ-3989+NA (see Section 2.2.2.1). In addition, there were new insights in the adverse renal profile of JNJ-6379 (see below). Taken together, it was concluded that JNJ-6379 had an unfavorable benefit-risk balance in combination with JNJ-3989+NA, compared to JNJ-3989+NA alone. Therefore, the Sponsor decided to discontinue treatment with JNJ-6379 in all ongoing

clinical studies effective immediately. For completeness, the potential risks for JNJ-6379 are still described in this section.

Reproductive Risks and Pregnancy

In the fertility study in females, early embryonic development was affected: an increase in pre- and post-implantation loss, reduction in implantation and live fetuses at 300 mg eq./kg/day. The fetal loss seen during the early stages of pregnancy was considered the result of low hormone levels (decreased luteinizing hormone, progesterone, estradiol) induced by treatment with JNJ-6379.

In the EFD studies, JNJ-6379 was not teratogenic in rats and rabbits.

In the EFD study in rats, fetal weights at 300 mg eq./kg/day were lowered, and there was retarded ossification from 100 mg eq./kg/day onwards. The NOAEL for EFD was considered to be CCI. At this dose, the AUC_{0-24h} was 84,000 ng.h/mL and the C_{max} was 5,190 ng/mL.

In the EFD study in rabbits, the NOAEL for EFD was considered to be the highest dose tested, ie, CCI. At this dose, the AUC_{0-24h} was 99,200 ng.h/mL and the C_{max} was 6,880 ng/mL.

Potential Genotoxicity

JNJ-6379 was not genotoxic in the in vitro and in vivo tests.

JNJ-6379 did not affect male or female fertility. Carcinogenicity studies are not yet conducted.

Other Potential Toxicity/Events of Special Interest

Based on nonclinical findings in rats and dogs and based on clinical findings, increased cholesterol was identified as a laboratory abnormality of interest.

Renal complications are considered an event of special interest for JNJ-6379. Immediate treatment-emergent decrease in mean eGFR_{cr}, which was initially observed in the JADE study, has also been observed in both JNJ-6379 treatment arms in the ongoing REEF-1 study. The eGFR_{cr} values remained reduced during treatment, with a fast rebound after end of treatment. The eGFR_{cr} decrease (calculated from serum creatinine) may be an anomaly due to JNJ-6379 possibly interfering with tubular excretion of creatinine via inhibition of MATE-1 transporter.¹¹ This hypothesis was supported by the absence of a pattern of increased biomarkers of proximal tubulotoxicity (the beta-2-microglobulin/creatinine and the retinol binding protein/creatinine ratios), suggesting that the eGFR_{cr} reduction was due to transporter inhibition at the level of creatinine excretion from the proximal tubule rather than renal toxicity.

Emerging data from the REEF-2 study confirmed the transient pattern of eGFR_{cr} declines but, in addition, showed an increase of the beta-2-microglobulin/creatinine and the retinol binding protein/creatinine ratios in some participants when TDF was continued and combined with JNJ-6379+JNJ-3989. These new data are suggesting that JNJ-6379 in combination with TDF may contribute to renal tubulo-toxicity.

Hematologic abnormalities are considered an event of special interest for JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6369. Mild thrombocytopenia was observed in recently conducted non-clinical toxicology studies with the combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379. In addition, in a 3-month combination study with 80 rats, 1 rat developed pancytopenia related to bone marrow depletion after 23 days of dosing. Previously, in a 9-month dog study in 24 dogs treated with JNJ-6379 alone, pancytopenia which correlated with a marked increase in plasma cell-like cells in the bone marrow was observed in 1 dog after 60 days of dosing. Refer to Section 8.3.6.4. A minor additive effect was observed in vitro in human bone marrow derived erythroid and myeloid progenitors when combining JNJ-6379 and Peg-IFN- α 2a.¹⁰

Viral Resistance

Treatment with JNJ-6379 may lead to emergence of viral variants with reduced susceptibility or resistance to JNJ-6379. Based on nonclinical data, these variants remain susceptible to tenofovir disoproxil and ETV but might affect treatment options with CAMs in the future. All 5 participants with virologic breakthrough in the Jade study who received 75 mg JNJ-6379 monotherapy, had an emerging core amino acid mutation T33N, which is known to confer reduced JNJ-6379 activity in vitro (see Section 2.2.1 for the results of the IAs).

Drug-drug Interactions

Based on results from DDI study 56136379HPB1004 investigating the potential effect of coadministration of JNJ-6379 with oral contraceptives, it is not anticipated that the efficacy of oral contraceptives will be impacted during coadministration with JNJ-6379 since the exposure of a progestin sensitive to CYP3A4 induction was not significantly affected by coadministration of JNJ-6379. In contrast, it is anticipated that coadministration with ethinylestradiol-containing contraceptives will result in an increased exposure to ethinylestradiol. Therefore, specific requirements on the use of ethinylestradiol-containing contraceptives are included in Section 6.5, Concomitant Therapy.

2.3.2.2.3. Potential Risks for Tenofovir Disoproxil and PegIFN- α 2a

For the general potential risks of tenofovir disoproxil and PegIFN- α 2a refer to the respective prescribing information and Summary of Product Characteristics.

Risks specific for this study design are listed below:

- PegIFN- α 2a might increase the immunogenicity of JNJ-3989.
- Combination of PegIFN- α 2a with JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 might increase the risk of hematologic abnormalities and/or of bone marrow suppression.
- JNJ-6379 might increase tenofovir plasma concentrations.

2.3.3. Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation

Based on the available data and taking into account the measures taken to minimize risk to participants of this study, the potential risks identified in association with the study treatment are

justified by the anticipated benefits that may be afforded to participants with HBeAg positive chronic hepatitis B virus infection and normal ALT for the following reasons:

- At the time of protocol writing, JNJ-3989 was generally safe and well tolerated during the ongoing Phase 1 Study AROHBV1001 (see Section 2.2.2, Clinical Studies). All but one AE were mild or moderate in severity. All ISRs, identified as adverse drug reactions for JNJ-3989, were mild in intensity.
- No clinically significant safety concerns had been raised for JNJ-6379 at the time of initial protocol writing, based on the safety information from studies in healthy adult participants and adult participants with chronic HBV infection. Most observed AEs at that time were mild in severity and considered not related to JNJ-6379 by the investigator (see Section 2.2.2, Clinical Studies). At the time of Protocol Amendment 6 writing, it was concluded that JNJ-6379 has an unfavorable benefit-risk balance in combination with JNJ-3989+NA, compared to JNJ-3989+NA alone (see Section 2.3.2.2.2). Therefore, the Sponsor decided to discontinue treatment with JNJ-6379 in all ongoing clinical studies effective immediately, as a measure to minimize risk to participants of this and other studies.
- Events of Special Interest are significant AEs that are judged to be of special interest because of clinical importance, known class effects or based on nonclinical signals. Events of Special Interest that will be carefully monitored during the study, include ISRs, ALT/aspartate aminotransferase (AST) elevations, renal complications, hematologic abnormalities, and events related to cholesterol increase (Section 8.3.6, Adverse Events of Special Interest and Section 8.2.4, Clinical Safety Laboratory Assessments). In addition, the following toxicities will also be carefully monitored: rash and acute systemic allergic reactions (Section 8.3.7, Other Toxicities).
- Continued careful assessment of the safety, efficacy, and PK during treatment is included in this study.
- To minimize potential risk and stress to participants, the following measures are in place:

Utilization of selection criteria which exclude participants who may potentially be at higher risk of an AE (see Section 5, Study Population).

Utilization of withdrawal criteria (see Section 7, Discontinuation of Study Intervention and Participant Discontinuation/Withdrawal). If a participant drops out due to withdrawal of consent, he/she retains the option to participate in the safety follow-up procedures.

At regular time points throughout the study (see [Schedule of Activities](#)), blood samples for biochemistry, blood coagulation, and hematology and urine samples for urinalysis, urine chemistry, and renal biomarkers will be collected. Vital signs (systolic and diastolic blood pressure, pulse rate, and body temperature), height (only at screening), body weight, and electrocardiograms (ECGs) will be recorded throughout the study. Physical examinations will be performed and AEs will be assessed (see Section 8.2, Safety Assessments). Events of Special Interest and other toxicities will be closely monitored (Section 8.3.6, Adverse Events of Special Interest and Section 8.3.7, Other Toxicities).

Based on pre-clinical and clinical data available today, the combination of JNJ-3989, tenofovir disoproxil, and short-term PegIFN- α 2a is considered safe. Data from nonclinical combination toxicity studies (Section 2.2.1.3) showed a minimal additive effect on myeloid and erythroid cells in vitro when combining JNJ-6379 and PegIFN- α 2a

and confirmed that combination of PegIFN- α 2a with JNJ-3989 did not induce any synergistic or additive effect in monkeys up to 3 months of treatment. Review of 48-week hematology data from the ongoing Phase 2 clinical study REEF-1 (Section 2.2.2.1) did not identify any safety concerns.

The impact of PegIFN- α 2a addition to JNJ-3989 on ALT elevations is not known. Strict rules for management of ALT elevation are in place (refer to Section 8.3.6.2, Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations).

A Data Review Committee (DRC) will be established for continuous monitoring of SAEs, AEs leading to discontinuation, and ALT flares to ensure the continuing safety of the participants enrolled in the current study (see Section 9.6, Data Review Committee). In addition, an Independent Flare Expert Panel (IFLEP) will be appointed to characterize and adjudicate each ALT flare (see Section 9.7, Independent Flare Expert Panel).

After stopping treatment with JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379 (if applicable), PegIFN- α 2a, and NA (if NA completion criteria are met at consolidation Week 12), participants will be monitored closely during the follow-up phase, with frequent follow-up visits and pre-defined NA re-treatment criteria in case of flares (Section 6.6.2, NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA).

The post-treatment monitoring and NA re-treatment criteria were further updated based on findings from a case of post-treatment HBV reactivation with subacute hepatic failure and assessment of additional REEF-2 study data (Section 6.6.2).

JNJ-3989 will be administered using a proper subcutaneous technique to decrease the risk of ISRs. ISRs will be managed as outlined in Section 8.3.6, Adverse Events of Special Interest.

Any clinically significant abnormalities persisting at the end of the study/early discontinuation will be followed up by the investigator until resolution (return to baseline) or until stabilization (to be agreed upon with the sponsor).

3. OBJECTIVES AND ENDPOINTS

Below is the list of objectives and endpoints that will be evaluated in this study, delineating the details in alignment with the general objectives listed in the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001. The details specific for this ISA are highlighted (colored fill).

Objectives	Endpoints
Primary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of a treatment regimen of JNJ-3989 + PegIFN-α2a + NA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment.
Secondary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the safety and tolerability of the study intervention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and tolerability including but not limited to the proportion of participants with (S)AEs and abnormalities in clinical laboratory tests (including hematology, blood biochemistry, blood coagulation, urinalysis, urine chemistry, and renal biomarkers),

Objectives	Endpoints
	12-lead ECGs, vital signs, and physical examinations throughout the study.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of the study intervention during the treatment period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants reaching HBsAg <10 IU/mL at the end of the induction phase (Week 36). Time to reach HBsAg <10 IU/mL. Proportion of participants meeting the NA treatment completion criteria at the end of the consolidation phase.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of the study intervention during the follow-up (FU) phase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance 48 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment. Proportion of participants with HBV DNA <LLOQ 48 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment. Frequency of viral and/or biochemical flares and/or clinical flares. Proportion of participants requiring NA re-treatment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate efficacy of the study intervention as measured by blood markers (such as HBsAg, HBeAg, HBV DNA, and ALT) during study intervention and follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with (sustained) reduction, suppression, and/or seroclearance considering single and multiple markers (such as HBsAg, HBeAg, HBV DNA, and ALT). Proportion of participants with HBsAg and HBeAg seroconversion. Change from baseline over time in HBsAg, HBeAg, and HBV DNA. Time to achieve HBsAg seroclearance, HBeAg seroclearance, and/or HBV DNA <LLOQ. Proportion of participants with HBeAg, HBsAg, and HBV DNA levels and/or changes from baseline below/above different cut-offs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the frequency of virologic breakthrough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants with virologic breakthrough.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the efficacy of NA re-treatment in participants who meet the criteria for NA re-treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of participants who reach HBV DNA undetectability after re-start of NA treatment during follow-up.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evaluate the PK of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924) and optionally of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PK parameters of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924.

Objectives	Endpoints
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optionally, PK parameters of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a compared to historical data.
Exploratory	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify baseline and on-treatment markers associated with efficacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Association of baseline characteristics and baseline/on-treatment viral blood markers (such as age, and baseline/on-treatment HBsAg levels) with selected efficacy variables.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore changes in the severity of liver disease. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in fibrosis (according to Fibroscan liver stiffness measurements) at end-of-study intervention (EOSI) and end of follow-up versus baseline.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore efficacy of the study intervention in terms of changes in HBV RNA and HBcrAg levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes from baseline in HBV RNA and HBcrAg levels during the study intervention and follow-up.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the impact of study intervention on participants' physical and emotional functioning, and health-related quality of life using patient-reported outcomes (PROs) during study intervention and follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes over time in score on the Short Form 36 version 2 (SF-36v2). Changes over time in score on the Hepatitis B Quality of Life (HBQOL) Instrument. Changes over time in the 5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension (EQ-5D-5L) Visual Analog Scale (VAS) score and Index score. Changes over time on the Patient Global Impression of Change (PGIC).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the relationship between plasma PK parameters (JNJ-3976, JNJ-3924, and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a) and selected pharmacodynamic (PD) parameters of efficacy and/or safety, as applicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between various plasma PK parameters (JNJ-3976, JNJ-3924, and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN-α2a) and selected efficacy and/or safety endpoints, as applicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the effect of PegIFN-α2a coadministration on the PK of JNJ-3989 (optional PK substudy). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect of PegIFN-α2a coadministration on the PK of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore the HBV genome sequence during study intervention and follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of intervention-associated mutations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore HBV-specific T-cell responses during study intervention and follow-up.* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes from baseline in HBV-specific peripheral blood T-cell responses.

* Peripheral blood mononuclear cell (PBMC) samples for immune analyses will be collected at selected sites only.

Refer to Section 8, Study Assessments and Procedures for evaluations related to endpoints.

For the definitions of terms, refer to Section 10.1, Appendix 1, Abbreviations and Definitions of Terms.

HYPOTHESIS

As this is an exploratory proof of concept (PoC) study, no formal statistical hypothesis has been formulated.

4. STUDY DESIGN

4.1. Overall Design

This ISA describes a Phase 2a study of JNJ-3989. Prior to Protocol Amendment 6, the study intervention also included JNJ-6379. This ISA is a companion document to the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001, which describes the common design elements of the Platform study in participants with CHB. This ISA describes specific and/or additional protocol elements applicable to this intervention cohort, in which participants will be allocated to the following study intervention:

- Prior to Protocol Amendment 5 (Cohort 1):
 - Arm 1: JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a
 - Arm 2: JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA

Note: Participants who were randomized to the group without PegIFN- α 2a prior to Protocol Amendment 5, will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen, for 12 weeks, at the next scheduled visit (see details below).

- Per Protocol Amendment 5 (Cohort 2):
 - Arm 3: JNJ-3989 + JNJ-6379 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a
 - Arm 4: JNJ-3989 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a

Note: Participants enrolled under Protocol Amendment 5 did not receive JNJ-6379 because of the immediate removal of JNJ-6379 as study intervention through an urgent safety measure (see details below).

- As of Protocol Amendment 6 (Cohort 2):
 - Single-arm: JNJ-3989 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a

To distinguish between participants enrolled prior to or after Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect, the terms Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 will be used. All participants enrolled prior to the Protocol Amendment 5 will comprise Cohort 1. The participants enrolled after approval of Amendment 5 will comprise Cohort 2.

The study described in this ISA, as of Protocol Amendment 6, is a Phase 2a, single-arm, open-label, multicenter, interventional study to evaluate the efficacy, pharmacokinetics, safety, and tolerability of treatment with JNJ-3989+PegIFN- α 2a+NA in patients with HBeAg positive chronic HBV infection and ALT ≤ 2 x ULN who are not currently being treated for their HBV infection (ie, who had <9 months of prior treatment which ended at least 12 months before screening, including treatment-naïve patients). After completing this study, participants may have the option to enroll into a long-term follow-up study.

In total, a target of approximately 60 adult participants, 18-55 years (inclusive) of age (with a maximum of approximately 10 participants >45 to ≤55 years of age), with CHB who are HBeAg positive, who are not currently being treated for their HBV infection (ie, who had <9 months of prior treatment which ended at least 12 months before screening, including treatment-naïve patients), have HBV DNA ≥20,000 IU/mL and have ALT ≤2x ULN at screening will be enrolled in this study (including approximately 33 participants after implementation of Protocol Amendment 6). It is targeted to enroll at least 30% participants with HBV DNA ≥10⁷ IU/mL and normal ALT at screening in the study.

The study will be conducted in 4 phases:

- A screening phase (4 weeks [if necessary, can be extended to a maximum of 6 weeks decided on a case-by-case basis and in agreement with the sponsor]).
- An induction phase:
 - Prior to Protocol Amendment 5: RGT of 36-60 weeks (inclusive)

Note: Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect, will enter the consolidation phase at the next scheduled visit.
 - As of Protocol Amendment 5: fixed duration of 36 weeks
- A consolidation phase (12 weeks).
- A follow-up (FU) phase (48 weeks).

The total duration of individual participation will be 100 to 102 weeks. Of note, participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect may have a longer induction phase and a total study duration up to 126 weeks.

The induction and consolidation phase have been updated with Protocol Amendment 5 and Protocol Amendment 6:

- Prior to Protocol Amendment 5, enrolled participants will enter an induction phase with triple treatment (JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA) for a response-guided treatment duration of ≥36 weeks to ≤60 weeks. End of the induction phase is defined by either meeting the study defined RGT criterion (HBsAg <10 IU/mL) or reaching study Week 60, whichever comes first. The RGT criterion will be assessed from Week 36 onwards at each study visit, and the assessment will always be based on lab results from the previous study visit. If the RGT criterion is met, the participant will complete the induction phase at that visit and will be randomized in a 1:1 ratio to one of the following intervention arms in the 12-week consolidation phase: JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA+PegIFN-α2a (Cohort 1, Arm 1) or JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA (Cohort 1, Arm 2). At the time of writing Protocol Amendment 5, 22 participants were already enrolled in the study.

Note: Participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect will switch to the new study design as soon as Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect. Participants who did not yet reach the Week 36 visit at that time will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen at Week 36 for 12 weeks. Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit and/or were randomized to the group without PegIFN- α 2a, will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen at the next scheduled visit. After 12 weeks, treatment with PegIFN- α 2a, JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 (if applicable) will be stopped.

- Per Protocol Amendment 5, based on the number of participants currently enrolled, it is estimated that approximately 50 participants will be randomized at baseline in a 1:1 ratio to one of the following intervention arms: JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA (Cohort 2, Arm 3) or JNJ-3989+NA (Cohort 2, Arm 4). Upon completion of the 36-week induction phase, all participants will enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

Note: With the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6, participants previously enrolled had to immediately switch to the new study design. Participants had to stop JNJ-6379 treatment immediately and continue with JNJ-3989+NA treatment up to the end of the induction phase and will then enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

- As of Protocol Amendment 6, the study will continue as a single-arm study (JNJ-3989+NA+PegIFN- α 2a). All newly enrolled participants will receive JNJ-3989+NA for 36 weeks (induction phase) and will then enter the 12-week consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen.

At the end of the consolidation phase, all participants will enter the FU phase and stop treatment with JNJ-3989+PegIFN- α 2a. If NA treatment completion criteria (HBsAg <10 IU/mL, and HBeAg-negative, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and ALT <3x upper limit of normal [ULN]) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will also be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete FU phase. Participants will be monitored closely during the 48-week FU phase and should restart NA treatment in accordance with the NA re-treatment criteria (see Section 6.6.2, NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA, for more details).

As of Protocol Amendment 6, study intervention consists of:

- 200 mg JNJ-3989 (SC injection Q4W)
- 245 mg tenofovir disoproxil (tablets qd) **Note:** tenofovir disoproxil may be supplied as fumarate or maleate
- 180 μ g PegIFN- α 2a (SC injection, QW)

Note: Most participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, also received 250 mg JNJ-6379 (tablets qd) as part of their study intervention.

Both the Platform Master informed consent form (ICF) and the ISA ICF must be signed before the first study-related activity.

Safety and tolerability, including AEs, laboratory assessments, ECGs, vital signs, and physical examination, will be assessed throughout the study from the time that the ISA ICF is signed until the completion of the last study-related activity (see Section 8.2, Safety Assessments, and Section 8.3, Adverse Events and Serious Adverse Events).

Efficacy will be evaluated using different parameters including HBsAg and HBeAg (see Section 8.1).

Samples for HBV genome sequencing will be taken at the time points indicated in the [Schedule of Activities](#) (see Section 8.1.1, Sequencing). Sequencing of samples obtained may be triggered by the sponsor's virologist based on changes in HBV DNA levels observed in each individual participant and the limits of the sequencing assay.

The study includes collection of blood samples for exploratory analysis of viral markers (see Section 8.1, Efficacy Assessments) and host blood biomarkers at the host RNA, protein, and cell level (see Section 8.9, Exploratory Host Biomarkers).

A population PK analysis may be performed based on the available data for JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924), and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, potentially in combination with data from a selection of Phase 1 and/or 2 studies. PK parameters in participants undergoing intensive PK sampling will be calculated via noncompartmental methods (see Section 8.5, Pharmacokinetics). To assess the effect of PegIFN- α 2a on JNJ-3989, the PK parameters of JNJ-3989 coadministered with PegIFN- α 2a at Week 8 (or 4) of the consolidation phase will be compared to those of JNJ-3989 at Week 24 (or 28 or 32) of the induction phase as reference. A similar analysis may be done for JNJ-6379.

PBMC samples for immune analyses will be collected at selected sites at the time points indicated in the [Schedule of Activities](#) (see Section 8.7, Immune Assessments).

A pharmacogenomic blood sample and samples for epigenetic testing will be collected from participants who consent separately to this component of the study (see Section 8.8, Host Genetics).

Four PRO instruments (SF-36v2, HBQOL, EQ-5D-5L, PGIC) will be used to explore the impact of HBV treatment on participants (see Section 8.1.2, Patient-reported Outcomes).

Participants will be considered to have completed the study if they have completed the assessments of the end-of-study (EOS) visit (ie, FU Week 48).

If a participant prematurely (before the end of the consolidation phase) discontinues JNJ-3989, the participant will enter the 48-week follow-up phase and complete the follow-up schedule as per the [Schedule of Activities](#), unless the participant withdraws consent. In this case, NA treatment may be continued or, in consultation with the sponsor, discontinued based on investigator judgement or completed based on the NA treatment completion criteria (see Section 6.6).

If a participant prematurely discontinues PegIFN- α 2a (before the end of the consolidation phase), treatment with JNJ-3989 and NA should be continued as planned.

If a participant withdraws prematurely, the reason for withdrawal (if known) is to be documented in the case report form (CRF) and in the source document. Participants who withdraw consent will be offered an optional safety follow-up visit (this visit should be performed within 2 month of withdrawal).

The [Schedule of Activities](#) summarizes the frequency and timing of efficacy, safety, and other assessments applicable to the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 and this ISA.

A DRC will be established for this study (Section 9.6, Data Review Committee). In addition, an IFLEP will be appointed (Section 9.7, Independent Flare Expert Panel).

A diagram of the study design is provided in Section 1.2, Schema.

4.2. Scientific Rationale for Study Design

Study Population

This study was initially designed to assess the combination treatment with JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 on top of NA and with or without PegIFN- α 2a in patients with HBeAg positive chronic infection. In Protocol Amendment 6, the study was redesigned to assess the combination treatment with JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a on top of NA in patients with HBeAg positive chronic infection. It includes patients that are believed to be truly “immune tolerant” (chronic HBV infection as per EASL 2017 guidelines)⁴ with very high HBV DNA levels and normal ALT, but also patients with lower HBV DNA and/or minimally elevated ALT (ALT \leq 2x ULN at screening). To ensure the group of “true immune tolerant” participants is well represented, it is targeted to enroll at least 30% participants with HBV DNA \geq 10⁷ IU/mL and normal ALT in the study.

Effective treatment options for the study population would have the potential to initiate treatment at an earlier disease stage to prevent disease progression and development of cancer at later ages. In addition, patients with HBeAg positive infection are believed to have the lowest level of T cell exhaustion and therefore might show a better capacity to mount an effective immune control following the study intervention.

Addition of PegIFN- α 2a to Treatment Regimen

The addition of short-term PegIFN- α 2a to the regimen at a time when HBsAg is already significantly reduced or eliminated is expected to lead to reactivation of NK-cells. In addition, the reactivation of the innate immune system by PegIFN- α 2a might lead to further activation of endogenous HBV-specific T-cells.

Study Design Change – Protocol Amendment 5

Based on preliminary 48-week treatment data from the REEF-1 study and insights from ILC (EASL) 2021, PegIFN- α 2a will be added to the treatment regimen for all participants, to increase

the potential of achieving functional cure. By adding JNJ-6379 to the treatment regimen, its potential benefit in currently not treated HBeAg positive participants can be properly evaluated. The presence of JNJ-6379 is expected to enhance the reduction of HBV DNA levels in currently not treated HBeAg positive participants. However, the benefit of adding JNJ-6379 to JNJ-3989+NA in terms of 1) on-treatment effect on other viral markers (eg, HBsAg and HBeAg) and 2) off-treatment responses is less clear.

The study design was updated such that participants will be randomized at baseline, in a 1:1 ratio to receive either JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA or JNJ-3989 + NA for a fixed duration of 36 weeks (induction phase) instead of a response-guided treatment duration. The induction phase will be followed by a 12-week consolidation phase during which PegIFN- α 2a will be added to the treatment regimen for all participants.

Study Design Change – Protocol Amendment 6

Based on emerging data from the REEF-1 (73763989HPB2001) and REEF-2 (73763989PAHPB2002) studies, the study design has been adapted through an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6.

In summary, the data from the REEF-1 and REEF-2 studies suggested that JNJ-6379 has a negative impact on the HBsAg lowering effect of JNJ-3989+NA (see details in Section 2.2.2.1) and that JNJ-6379 in combination with TDF may further contribute to renal tubulo-toxicity (see details in Section 2.3.2.2.2). Together, this led to a conclusion of an unfavorable benefit-risk balance of JNJ-6379 in combination with JNJ-3989+NA, compared to JNJ-3989+NA alone. Therefore, the Sponsor decided to discontinue treatment with JNJ-6379 in all ongoing clinical studies effective immediately. Participants currently on treatment with JNJ-6379 were contacted and requested to stop taking JNJ-6379, while continuing treatment with NA, JNJ-3989, and PegIFN- α 2a (as applicable). For newly enrolled participants, JNJ-6379 was taken out of the treatment regimen.

Furthermore, the sponsor decided to make additional changes to the study design because of a severe clinical ALT flare that was reported following discontinuation of NA treatment in a participant who was randomized to the control arm (placebo + placebo + NA) in the REEF-2 study. Discontinuation of NA treatment was following the protocol-defined criteria and was in line with recent EASL treatment guidelines.⁴ Flares following NA discontinuation are not unexpected, but the rapid evolution and clinical deterioration seen in this participant who was anti-HBe antibody positive at screening and had no history or evidence of liver cirrhosis was unforeseeable. Therefore, to protect the safety of participants, the protocol was amended: more frequent monitoring and a new NA re-treatment criterion were added for all participants who discontinued NA treatment during follow-up.

Randomization and Stratification

As of Protocol Amendment 6, randomization will no longer be used in this study. Prior to Protocol Amendment 6, randomization and stratification were performed as described below.

Randomization

Randomization occurred at the start of the induction phase. Randomization was used to minimize bias in the assignment of participants to intervention arms, to increase the likelihood that known and unknown participant attributes (eg, demographic and baseline characteristics) are evenly balanced across intervention arms, and to enhance the validity of statistical comparisons across intervention arms.

Stratification Factors

Randomization was stratified by HBV DNA level at screening ($\geq 10^7$ IU/mL OR $< 10^7$ IU/mL) and race (Asian versus non-Asian; for participants in Cohort 2), in order to provide a reasonably balanced representation of these factors across the 2 intervention arms.

Criteria for Completion of NA Treatment

At the end of the consolidation phase, all participants will enter the FU phase and stop treatment with JNJ-3989+PegIFN- α 2a. If NA treatment completion criteria (described in Section 6.6) have been met at consolidation Week 12, NA will also be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, at FU Week 2), otherwise NA treatment will continue during the complete FU duration. The treatment completion criteria which take ALT, HBV DNA, HBeAg, and HBsAg levels into consideration, have been selected to ensure that only participants with a chance of sustained off-treatment response are allowed to complete all study intervention. Across a range of studies, HBsAg levels below 100 IU/mL are consistently associated with favorable off-treatment response.^{16,22} The stringent HBsAg cut-off of 10 IU/mL for NA treatment completion was chosen to account for the direct effect of JNJ-3989 on HBsAg levels.

After stopping all study interventions, participants will be monitored closely during the 48-week follow-up phase and should restart NA treatment in accordance with the NA re-treatment criteria (see Section 6.6.2, NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA, for more details).

Follow-up Procedures and Criteria for Re-initiation of NA Treatment

To ensure safety of patients during the FU phase, an ALT flare management plan is in place, including an additional visit after completion of NA treatment (at FU Week 2), and weekly visits for patients with ALT/AST $\geq 3 \times$ ULN and $\geq 3 \times$ nadir (ie, lowest value during study participation) until stabilization.

Increases in ALT and HBV DNA are frequently seen in patients after discontinuation of NA treatment. These ALT elevations may be reflecting an activation of the host cellular immune response, which may contribute to achieving functional cure. Cases of fulminant HBV reactivation with fatal outcome were described after cessation of NA treatment, but the vast majority of such cases were described in patients with decompensated liver disease at the time of NA discontinuation. These patients are not eligible to participate in the study. Still, a vigilant follow-up of patients during this phase of the study is critical to ensure patient safety. Signs of decreased liver function, or an HBV DNA value of $> 100,000$ IU/mL (irrespective of confirmation and/or

ALT increase), will trigger immediate re-initiation of NA treatment based on protocol-defined NA re-treatment criteria (see Section 6.6.2, NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA).

Re-initiation of NA treatment is also required in case of confirmed HBeAg seroreversion (HBeAg positive after it was negative at NA completion), in case of confirmed* ALT increase ($>5\times$ ULN) in combination with increased HBV DNA replication ($>2,000$ IU/mL), and in case of confirmed* increased HBV DNA replication at higher levels ($>20,000$ IU/mL).

* *At least 4 weeks apart*

A post-treatment HBV DNA value of $>20,000$ IU/mL should trigger re-testing of ALT/AST, HBV DNA, and total and direct bilirubin within a maximum of 7 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, weekly until HBV DNA returns to $<20,000$ IU/mL). A post-treatment HBV DNA value of $>2,000$ IU/mL (but $<20,000$ IU/mL) should trigger a re-test within 14 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, every other week until HBV DNA returns to $<2,000$ IU/mL). A post-treatment ALT value of $>5\times$ ULN should trigger re-testing of ALT, AST, ALP, total and direct bilirubin, INR, albumin, and HBV DNA on a weekly basis until ALT and AST levels have returned to $<5\times$ ULN. Additional re-testing and/or earlier restarting of NA treatment is at the investigator's discretion, even if the above cut-offs are not yet met.

To avoid delays in decision making, sites are encouraged to run local re-testing in parallel with central re-testing in the situations described above that require more frequent re-testing. Local test results are to be recorded in the CRF and/or source documents, including information on the HBV DNA assay used. In addition, to avoid delays in NA re-treatment, it should be considered to dispense NA to participants who potentially met the NA re-treatment criteria (eg, pending confirmation) and who will not be available to come to the study site immediately at the time the confirmatory test results will become available. This should ensure that the participant can immediately restart NA treatment if indicated, upon direct confirmation by the investigator.

The decision to re-start NA treatment should take into consideration the dynamics of HBV DNA and/or ALT values and should be discussed with the sponsor.

NA re-treatment criteria and monitoring after stopping of NA are presented graphically in Section 10.16, Appendix 16.

Host DNA and Exploratory Host Biomarker Collection

Refer to Section 4.2 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

4.2.1. Study-Specific Ethical Design Considerations

Refer to Section 4.2.1 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

The total blood volume to be collected is considered to be an acceptable amount of blood to be collected over this time period from the population in this study.

4.3. Justification for Dose

The proposed dose and treatment duration are selected to maximize suppression of the virus including its antigen production to increase the chance for patients to achieve HBsAg seroclearance assessed 24 weeks after stop of all treatment (ie, functional cure) with a finite therapy. The selection is supported by scientific understanding of available data. For both agents, the highest doses are selected that are currently being tested in ongoing Phase 2b studies REEF-1 (73763989HPB2001) and REEF-2 (73763989PAHPB2002) (ie, 200 mg for JNJ-3989 and 250 mg for JNJ-6379).

Note: JNJ-6379 was initially part of the study intervention but has been removed as study intervention with the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6.

4.3.1. JNJ-3989

Clinical data on PK, efficacy, and safety of JNJ-3989 are available from the ongoing Phase 1/2a AROHBV1001 study with a data cut-off date of 29 October 2019. All dosing with JNJ-3989 has been completed and ongoing participants are in the follow-up phase. Twenty adult healthy participants have received single subcutaneous injections of JNJ-3989 (35, 100, 200, 300, and 400 mg) and 84 adult chronic HBV-infected participants have received multiple doses of JNJ-3989 (25, 50, 100, 200, 300, and 400 mg), administered as 3 subcutaneous injections separated by either 7-day, 14-day, or 28-day intervals. All participants either continued or started on ETV or tenofovir disoproxil on Day 1.

JNJ-3989 was generally safe and well tolerated at all doses. No clinically relevant safety signal was identified.

Antiviral activity data were available for 56 chronic HBV-infected participants who received 3 subcutaneous injections of 25 to 400 mg JNJ-3989 Q4W.^{7,31} In general, mean HBsAg declines reached nadir at Day 113 (ie, 8 weeks after last JNJ-3989). Mean HBsAg levels remained suppressed (below baseline levels) at least until Day 392 (ie, 9 months after last dose) in a substantial proportion of patients. The HBsAg levels at Day 392 were variable with some patients having HBsAg levels close to baseline levels while a substantial proportion of patients still had HBsAg levels >1 log₁₀ IU/mL lower than the baseline levels. JNJ-3989 showed activity on other serological markers (HBV DNA, HBV RNA, HBeAg and HBcrAg), frequently with sustained reduction at least until day 362. No apparent dose response was observed at doses between 100 mg and 400 mg JNJ-3989, a numerically smaller mean decline was observed at the lower doses of 25 mg and 50 mg, mainly apparent after end of JNJ-3989 dosing.

A dose of 200 mg JNJ-3989 Q4W is chosen based on the observed decline in HBsAg in Study AROHBV1001 at this dose over 3 injections, and the lack of a substantial incremental efficacy response at higher doses.

The Phase 2b study REEF-1 is designed to establish the optimal dose of JNJ-3989. Based on data from the Phase 1/2a study AROHBV1001 with limited treatment duration, 200 mg was selected

as the highest dose of JNJ-3989 tested in REEF-1. Until lower doses are proven equivalently effective in REEF-1, additional combination studies with JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 are conducted with 200 mg of JNJ-3989.

4.3.2. JNJ-6379

Note: JNJ-6379 was initially part of the study intervention but has been removed as study intervention with the implementation of an urgent safety measure, as described in Protocol Amendment 6.

At the time of initial protocol writing, a dose of 250 mg JNJ-6379 qd was chosen for this study.

A dose of 250 mg of JNJ-6379 was considered to ensure maximal viral inhibition via “primary” MoA (ie, interfering with the capsid assembly process). In addition, it ensured sufficient high exposures to engage the “secondary” MoA (ie, inhibition of de novo cccDNA formation). This dose selection was supported by translational PK/PD analyses and viral kinetic modeling. Analyses of the HBV DNA data from the 4-week 56136379HPB1001 study showed a profound but slightly less substantial reduction of plasma HBV DNA, as a measure of the “primary” MoA, in the 25 mg dose group compared to the 75 mg and higher dose groups, suggesting that for JNJ-6379 maximum effect (E_{max}) in terms of HBV DNA inhibition via primary MoA was approached starting from a dose of 75 mg onwards. Since it was not possible to derive the engagement of the “secondary” MoA from the available short-term data, the in vitro primary human hepatocyte 90% effective concentration values in the presence of serum proteins obtained for both MoAs were used to translate from the “primary” to the “secondary” MoA.

Participants were to be treated with JNJ-6379 for a minimum of 48 weeks to a maximum of 72 weeks. Based on the dual MoA of JNJ-6379, complete suppression of virus production and de novo cccDNA formation over many months could reduce the transcriptional activity of the cccDNA, both potentially contributing to HBsAg reduction and/or seroclearance.

Interim analysis data were at that time available from the ongoing Phase 2a Jade study in which the 250-mg dose was being tested for 48 weeks. Blinded Week 12 data from 40 virologically suppressed chronic HBV-infected participants who received 250 mg qd JNJ-6379 or placebo in addition to an NA showed that there were no deaths, grade 4 AEs, or AEs leading to discontinuation. Most AEs were mild or moderate in severity.

4.4. End-of-Study Definition

End-of-Study Definition

The EOS is considered as the last visit (FU Week 48 or early discontinuation) for the last participant in the study. The final data from the study site will be sent to the sponsor (or designee) after completion of the final participant visit at that study site, in the time frame specified in the Clinical Trial Agreement.

Study Completion Definition

A participant will be considered to have completed the study if he or she has completed assessments at the last visit (ie, FU Week 48).

5. STUDY POPULATION

Screening for eligible participants will be performed within 4 weeks before administration of the study intervention. If necessary, eg, for operational reasons, the screening phase may be extended up to a maximum of 6 weeks on a case-by-case basis and in agreement with the sponsor. Refer to Section 5.4, Screen Failures of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 for conditions under which the repeat of any screening procedures is allowed.

Note: Retesting to assess eligibility will be allowed once, using an unscheduled visit during the screening period.

The inclusion and exclusion criteria for enrolling participants in this study are described below. If there is a question about these criteria, the investigator must consult with the appropriate sponsor representative and resolve any issues before enrolling a participant in the study. Waivers are not allowed.

For a discussion of the statistical considerations of participant selection, refer to Section 9.2, Sample Size Determination.

Each potential participant must satisfy all inclusion and exclusion criteria from the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 (numbering prefixed by “M” in the list below if unchanged and by “A” if specified or more restricted in this ISA) and all additional intervention-specific inclusion and exclusion criteria (numbering prefixed by “A”). The latter inclusion and exclusion criteria as well as the additional text to criteria from the Master Protocol are highlighted (colored fill).

5.1. Inclusion Criteria

Each potential participant must satisfy all of the following criteria to be enrolled in the study:

A01 Criterion modified per Amendment 3
(M01)

A01.1 Male or female participants ≥ 18 years of age (or the legal age of consent in the jurisdiction in which the study is taking place) to ≤ 55 years of age with a maximum of approximately 10 participants > 45 to ≤ 55 years of age.

M02 Participants must be medically stable based on physical examination, medical history, vital signs, and 12-lead ECG performed at screening. If there are abnormalities, they must be consistent with the underlying illness in the study population. This determination must be recorded in the participant’s source documents and initialed by the investigator.

A03 Criterion modified per Amendment 3
(M03d)

A03.1 Criterion modified per Amendment 5

A03.2 Participants must have chronic HBeAg positive HBV infection documented by serum HBsAg positivity at screening. In addition, chronicity must be documented by any of the following at least 6 months prior to screening: serum HBsAg positivity, HBeAg positivity or HBV DNA positivity, documented transmission event. If none of the above are available, the following ways of documenting chronicity are acceptable at time of screening: liver biopsy with changes consistent with chronic HBV, or absence of marker for acute infection such as positive immunoglobulin M (IgM) anti-hepatitis B surface (HBs) and anti-HBc antibodies.

In addition, participants must:

- a. be not currently treated (defined as having received <9 months of NA treatment ≥ 12 months prior to screening) including treatment-naïve participants (defined as never having received treatment with HBV antiviral medicines, including NAs and IFN products), AND
- b. be HBeAg positive, AND
- c. have serum HBV DNA at screening $\geq 20,000$ IU/mL, AND
- d. have ALT $\leq 2 \times$ ULN at screening and at least once > 6 months prior to screening.

M04 Participants must have a body mass index (BMI; weight in kg divided by the square of height in meters) between 18.0 and 35.0 kg/m², extremes included.

A05 Participants (or their legally acceptable representative) must sign a Master ICF (specific for the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001) and must sign an ICF specific for this intervention cohort, indicating that he or she understands the purpose of, and procedures required for, the study and is willing to participate in the study.
(M05)

M06 Participants must sign a separate ICF if he or she agrees to provide an optional DNA sample for research (where local regulations permit). Refusal to give consent for the optional DNA research sample does not exclude a participant from participation in the study.

A07 Criterion modified per Amendment 6
(M07)

A07.1 Female participants must be (as defined in Section 10.8, Appendix 8, Contraceptive and Barrier Guidance and Collection of Pregnancy Information):

- a. Not of childbearing potential, OR
- b. Of childbearing potential and practicing a highly effective, preferably user-independent method of contraception (failure rate of <1% per year when used consistently and correctly) for at least 30 days prior to screening and agrees to remain on a highly effective method while receiving study intervention and until 90 days after last dose of study intervention. Examples of highly effective methods of contraception are provided in Section 10.8, Appendix 8, Contraceptive and Barrier Guidance and Collection of Pregnancy Information.

Note: Typical use failure rates may differ from those when used consistently and correctly. Use should be consistent with local regulations regarding the use of contraceptive methods for participants in clinical studies.

Note (no longer applicable as of Protocol Amendment 6, because of the removal of JNJ-6379 as study intervention): Female participants of childbearing potential who are on a stable treatment regimen with hormonal contraceptives (ie, same dose and not starting or stopping hormonal contraceptive use for at least 30 days prior to screening) should continue the same dose regimen until 90 days after the last dose of study intervention. Ethinylestradiol-containing contraceptives are only allowed if the ethinylestradiol content is ≤ 20 μg . Female participants stable on an ethinylestradiol-containing regimen with a dose > 20 μg who switch to an ethinylestradiol-containing regimen with a dose ≤ 20 μg , should be on that new regimen for at least 1 week before the first dose of study intervention. For female participants of childbearing potential who will start a hormonal contraceptive treatment during the study, ethinylestradiol-containing contraceptives are not allowed.

M08 Female participants of childbearing potential must have a negative highly sensitive serum pregnancy test (β -human chorionic gonadotropin) at screening and a negative urine pregnancy test on Day 1 before the first dose of study intervention.

M09 In the investigator's opinion, the participant is able to understand and comply with protocol requirements, instructions, and study restrictions and is likely to complete the study as planned per ISA (including the procedures outlined in the Master protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001).

A10 Male participants must agree to wear a condom when engaging in any activity that
(M10) allows for passage of ejaculate to another person during the study intervention period and until 90 days after last dose of study intervention.

- A11 Female participants must agree not to donate eggs (ova, oocytes) for the purposes of assisted reproduction during the study intervention period and until 90 days after last dose of study intervention.
- A12 Male participants must agree not to donate sperm for the purpose of reproduction during the study intervention period and until 90 days after last dose of study intervention.
- A13 Participants must have:
- a. Fibroscan liver stiffness measurement ≤ 9.0 kPa within 6 months prior to screening or at the time of screening, OR
 - b. If a Fibroscan result is not available: a liver biopsy result classified as Metavir F0-F2 within 1 year prior to screening or at the time of screening.
- Note:* Other radiologic liver staging modalities (eg, acoustic radiation force impulse) might be used if standard practice at the site or if otherwise validated and agreed with the sponsor. Results should be equivalent to Metavir F0-F2.
- Note:* Conventional imaging procedures (eg, conventional liver ultrasound, computed tomography [CT] or magnetic resonance imaging [MRI]) and serum marker panels are not allowed to rule out severe fibrosis or cirrhosis.
- A14 Participants must separately consent if he or she agrees to participate in the PK substudy. Refusal to give consent does not exclude from participation in the study.

5.2. Exclusion Criteria

Any potential participant who meets any of the following criteria will be excluded from participating in the study:

A01 Criterion modified per Amendment 5
(M01)

A01.1 Criterion modified per Amendment 6

A01.2 Participants with evidence of hepatitis A virus infection (hepatitis A antibody IgM), HCV infection (HCV antibody), hepatitis D virus (HDV) infection (HDV antibody), hepatitis E virus (HEV) infection (hepatitis E antibody IgM), or HIV-1 or HIV-2 infection (laboratory confirmed) at screening.

Note:

- Participants with a positive HCV antibody test can be enrolled if they have negative HCV RNA at screening and documented negative HCV RNA at least 6 months prior to screening.

- Participants with a positive HDV antibody test may be enrolled after discussion with the Sponsor if an active HDV co-infection can be ruled out by documentation of negative HDV RNA.
- Participants with a positive IgM antibody test for HEV infection may be enrolled after discussion with the Sponsor if an active HEV infection can be ruled out by documentation of negative anti-HEV IgG.^a
- Participants with a positive HIV-1 or HIV-2 antibody/antigen test at screening should have a confirmatory HIV RNA test, to rule out false positive results. They can be enrolled if they have a negative HIV RNA test at screening. Participants with evidence of HIV-1 or HIV-2 infection who are on antiretroviral treatment are excluded.

M02.1 Participants with evidence of hepatic decompensation at any time point prior to or at the time of screening:

- a. Total bilirubin $>1.5 \times \text{ULN}^b$, OR
- b. Direct bilirubin $>1.2 \times \text{ULN}^b$, OR
- c. Prothrombin time $>1.3 \times \text{ULN}$ (unless caused by anticoagulation therapy or vitamin K deficiency)^b, OR
- d. Serum albumin $<3.2 \text{ g/dL}^b$, OR
- e. History of clinical symptoms of hepatic decompensation (eg, ascites, jaundice, hepatic encephalopathy or coagulopathy, especially if resulting in a Child-Pugh classification B or C at the time clinical symptoms present or at screening).

M03 History or evidence of clinical signs or symptoms of hepatic decompensation, including but not limited to: portal hypertension, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy, esophageal varices.

M04 Participants with evidence of liver disease of non-HBV etiology. This includes but is not limited to hepatitis infections mentioned in exclusion criterion A01, drug- or alcohol-related liver disease, autoimmune hepatitis, hemochromatosis, Wilson's disease, α -1 antitrypsin deficiency, primary biliary cholangitis, primary sclerosing cholangitis, Gilbert's syndrome (mild cases are allowed, see exclusion criterion M02.1) or any other non-HBV liver disease considered clinically significant by the investigator.

M05 Participants with signs of HCC or clinically relevant renal abnormalities on an abdominal ultrasound performed within 6 months prior to screening or at the time of screening. In case of suspicious findings on conventional ultrasound the participant

^a Negative HEV RNA may also be acceptable to rule out active HEV infection depending on local standard practices.

^b Unless explained by a clinical setting that is not hepatic decompensation

may still be eligible if HCC or clinically relevant renal abnormalities have been ruled out by a more specific imaging procedure (contrast enhanced ultrasound, CT or MRI).

A06 Criterion modified per Amendment 5
(M06)

A06.1 Participants with one or more of the following laboratory abnormalities at screening as defined by the Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (DAIDS) Toxicity Grading Scale:

- a. Estimated glomerular filtration rate based on serum creatinine ($eGFR_{cr}$) <80 mL/min/1.73 m² at screening, calculated by the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration (CKD-EPI) formula;
- b. Pancreatic lipase elevation \geq grade 3;
- c. Pancreatic amylase elevation \geq grade 3;
- d. Hemoglobin ≤ 10.9 g/dL (males), ≤ 10.4 g/dL (females);
- e. Platelet count \leq lower limit of normal (LLN);
- f. Alpha-fetoprotein >100 ng/mL;

Note: Participants with alpha-fetoprotein $>ULN$ but ≤ 100 ng/mL may be eligible if HCC can be ruled out based on a sensitive imaging study (eg, contrast enhanced ultrasound, CT or MRI) during screening.

- g. Any other laboratory abnormality considered to be clinically significant by the investigator (also see inclusion criterion A03).

Note: Retesting of abnormal laboratory values that may lead to exclusion will be allowed once without prior approval from the sponsor. Retesting will take place at an unscheduled visit during the screening phase. Participants with a normal value at retest may be included.

M07 Participants with hemoglobin A1c $>8\%$ at screening.

M08 Participants with a history of malignancy within 5 years before screening (exceptions are squamous and basal cell carcinomas of the skin and carcinoma in situ of the cervix, or malignancy, which are considered cured with minimal risk of recurrence).

M09.1 Participants with abnormal sinus rhythm (heart rate <45 or >100 beats per minute [bpm]); QT interval corrected for heart rate according to Fridericia's formula (QTcF) >450 ms for males and >470 ms for females; QRS interval ≥ 120 ms; PR interval >220 ms; abnormal conduction; or any other clinically significant abnormalities on a 12-lead ECG at screening.

Note: Retesting of an abnormal ECG that may lead to exclusion will be allowed once without prior asking approval from the sponsor. Retesting will take place during an

- unscheduled visit in the screening phase. Participants not meeting the above exclusion criterion at retest may be included.
- M10 Participants with a history of or current cardiac arrhythmias (eg, extrasystole, tachycardia at rest), history of risk factors for Torsade de Pointes syndrome (eg, hypokalemia, family history of long QT Syndrome) or history or other clinical evidence of significant or unstable cardiac disease (eg, angina, congestive heart failure, myocardial infarction, diastolic dysfunction, significant arrhythmia and/or coronary heart disease), moderate to severe valvular disease, or uncontrolled hypertension at screening.
- M11 Participants with any current or previous illness for which, in the opinion of the investigator and/or sponsor, participation would not be in the best interest of the participant (eg, compromise the well-being) or that could prevent, limit, or confound the protocol-specified assessments. This may include but is not limited to significant vascular, pulmonary (eg, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), gastrointestinal (eg, significant diarrhea, gastric stasis, or constipation that in the investigator's opinion could influence drug absorption or bioavailability), endocrine (eg, thyroid disease), neurologic, hematologic, rheumatologic, psychiatric, neoplastic, or metabolic disturbances. Any condition possibly affecting drug absorption (eg, gastrectomy or other significant gastrointestinal tract surgery, such as gastroenterostomy, small bowel resection, or active enterostomy) will also lead to exclusion.
- M12 Participants who have received an organ transplant (except for skin, hair, or cornea transplants).
- M13 Participants with any history of or current clinically significant skin disease requiring regular or periodic treatment.
- M14 Participants with clinically relevant alcohol or drug abuse within 12 months of screening.
- M15 Participants with history of clinically relevant drug rash.
- A16 Participants who have taken any disallowed therapies as noted in Section 6.5,
(M16) Concomitant Therapy before the planned first dose of study intervention.
- M17 Participants having used any invasive investigational medical device within 3 months, or having received an investigational intervention or a biological product, immunoglobulin or other blood product not intended for the treatment of HBV within 6 months or 5 half-lives (whichever is longer), before the planned first dose of study intervention, or is currently enrolled in an interventional clinical study with an investigational product.

- A18 (M18) Female participants who are pregnant, or breast-feeding, or planning to become pregnant while enrolled in this study or within 90 days after the last dose of study intervention.
- A19 (M19) Male participants who plan to father a child while enrolled in this study or within 90 days after the last dose of study intervention.
- M20 Participants who had major surgery (eg, requiring general anesthesia), excluding diagnostic surgery, within 12 weeks before screening; or will not have fully recovered from surgery; or has surgery planned during the time of expected participation in the study.
- Note:** Participants with planned surgical procedures to be conducted under local anesthesia may participate.
- M21 Participant is an employee of the investigator or study site, with direct involvement in the proposed study or other studies under the direction of that investigator or study site, as well as family members of the employees or the investigator.
- M22.1 Vulnerable participants (eg, incarcerated individuals, individuals under a legal protection measure).
- A23 Criterion modified per Amendment 6
- A23.1 Participants with known allergies, hypersensitivity, or intolerance to JNJ-3989 or its excipients (refer to the IB). ^{13,12}
- A24 Participants with contraindications to the use of tenofovir disoproxil per local prescribing information.

A25 Criterion modified per Amendment 1

A25.1 Criterion modified per Amendment 3

A25.2 Criterion modified per Amendment 5

A25.3 Criterion modified per Amendment 6

A25.4 Participants with contraindications to the use of PegIFN- α 2a, such as, but not limited to (refer to the prescribing information for a complete list):

- a. Patients with signs or symptoms compatible with autoimmune disorders.
- b. Participants with bone marrow suppression.
- c. Patients with hypoglycaemia, hyperglycaemia, and/or diabetes mellitus, who cannot be effectively controlled by medication.
- d. Participants with pre-existing ophthalmologic disorders.
- e. Participants with one or more of the following laboratory abnormalities:
 - ANC $<1,500$ cells/mm³ ($<1,000$ cells/mm³ for black or African American participants).
 - Serum creatinine $>1.5 \times$ ULN.
 - Inadequately controlled thyroid function (TSH and T4).
- f. Participants with a history of a severe psychiatric disorder, including severe depression, suicidal ideation and attempted suicide, or a current depression or other psychiatric disorder that is not adequately controlled on a stable medication regimen.

Note: contraindications to the use of PegIFN- α 2a need to be checked at screening and again at the end of the induction phase prior to the start of PegIFN- α 2a treatment.

NOTE: Investigators should ensure that all study enrollment criteria have been met at screening. If a participant's clinical status changes (including any available laboratory results or receipt of additional medical records) after screening but before the first dose of study intervention is given such that he or she no longer meets all eligibility criteria, then the participant should be excluded from participation in the study. The required source documentation to support meeting the enrollment criteria are noted in Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

5.3. Lifestyle Considerations

Potential participants must be willing and able to adhere to the following lifestyle restrictions during the course of the study to be eligible for participation:

1. Agree to follow all requirements outlined in Section 6.5, Concomitant Therapy, regarding prohibited and restricted therapy during the study.

2. Agree to follow all requirements that must be met during the study as noted in the Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 and of this ISA (Section 5.1, Inclusion Criteria and 5.2, Exclusion Criteria in both documents) (eg, contraceptive requirements).

5.4. Screen Failures

Refer to Section 5.4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 for handling of screen failures.

6. STUDY INTERVENTION

6.1. Study Intervention(s) Administered

Description of Interventions

Intervention Name	JNJ-3989	JNJ-6379***	PegIFN-α2a	Tenofovir disoproxil	Tenofovir alafenamide*
Type	Drug	Drug	Drug	Drug	Drug
Dose Formulation	Solution for injection	Tablets	Solution for injection	Film coated tablets	Film coated tablets
Unit Dose Strength(s)	200 mg/mL	25 and 100 mg	180 µg/0.5 mL	245 mg	25 mg
Dosage Level(s)	200 mg once every 4 weeks (Q4W)	250 mg once daily (qd)	180 µg once weekly (QW)**	245 mg qd	25 mg qd
Route of Administration	Subcutaneous injection (preferably in the abdomen)	Oral	Subcutaneous injection (in the thigh or abdomen)	Oral	Oral
Use	Investigational intervention	Investigational intervention	Investigational intervention	Background intervention	Background intervention
Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) and Non-Investigational Medicinal Product (NIMP)	IMP	IMP	IMP	IMP	IMP
Sourcing	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the Sponsor	Provided centrally by the sponsor
Packaging and Labeling	Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number	Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number	Commercial supplies will be sourced. Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number.	Commercial supplies will be sourced. Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number.	Commercial supplies will be sourced. Each unit will be labeled with unique medication ID number.
		In child resistant packaging	In child resistant packaging	In child resistant packaging	In child resistant packaging
	<i>Labels will contain information to meet the applicable regulatory requirements.</i>				
Food/Fasting Instructions	Regardless of food intake	Regardless of food intake	Per the prescribing information	Per the prescribing information	Per the prescribing information

Q4W: once every 4 weeks; qd: once daily; QW: once weekly.

*In countries where tenofovir alafenamide is available, it may be used for participants who need to switch NA (refer to Section 8.3.6.3).

**For PegIFN-α2a, dose adjustment may be applicable for participants who develop laboratory abnormalities during PegIFN-α2a treatment (refer to Section 6.6).

*** Most participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, also received JNJ-6379 as part of their study intervention. As of Protocol Amendment 6: study intervention includes JNJ-3989, NA and PegIFN α2a.

Physical Description of Study Interventions

The JNJ-3989 supplied for this study will be provided as an aqueous clear, colorless to light yellow solution with 200 mg/mL of JNJ-3989 for subcutaneous injection, CCI [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

JNJ-3989 will be manufactured and provided under the responsibility of the sponsor. Refer to the IB for a list of excipients.^{13,12}

NA (tenofovir disoproxil) and PegIFN- α 2a treatment will be provided by the sponsor. Refer to the prescribing information for a list of excipients.

Tenofovir disoproxil is formulated as oral film-coated tablet of 245 mg strength.

PegIFN- α 2a formulated as solution for subcutaneous injection in a prefilled syringe with 180 μ g/0.5 mL of PegIFN- α 2a, will be provided by the sponsor. Refer to the prescribing information for a list of excipients.

Packaging and Labeling

All study interventions will be packaged with each unit labeled with a unique medication ID number. Commercial supplies of tenofovir disoproxil and PegIFN- α 2a will be sourced and a clinical study label will be applied. Study intervention labels will contain information to meet the applicable regulatory requirements.

NA (tenofovir disoproxil) and PegIFN- α 2a treatment may also be repackaged into child-resistant packaging if this is not already the case.

No study interventions can be repacked or relabeled without prior approval from the sponsor.

Study Intervention Administration

Study intervention administration must be captured in the source documents and the CRF.

JNJ-3989 injections will be administered subcutaneously (preferably in the abdomen) at the study site.

NA and PegIFN- α 2a treatment will be provided by the sponsor. Investigators should follow guidance detailed in the respective prescribing information, including special warnings and precaution for use.

In between study visits, participants will take their NA orally at home and they will bring their NA with them to each study visit. Study-site personnel will instruct participants on how to take their NA orally at home. At study visits, NA should be taken on site to allow biochemistry and renal biomarker samples to be taken in fasted conditions.

For PegIFN- α 2a, administration should be done SC in the thigh or abdomen, preferably in the evening by self-injection. Used PegIFN- α 2a syringes should be separated from the needle via the sharps container and then placed into their original box and returned to the site, if allowed per local guidelines and regulations. The used needles in the sharps container will be returned to the study site after completion of the consolidation phase or disposed of following local standard procedures. If desired, participants can also choose to have the weekly administration of PegIFN- α 2a performed at the study site irrespective of the time of day.

JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a should be injected subcutaneously into different areas of the abdomen and approximate location should be recorded.

For a definition of study intervention overdose, refer to Section 8.4, Treatment of Overdose.

6.2. Preparation/Handling/Storage/Accountability

Preparation/Handling/Storage

All study interventions must be stored as specified on the product specific labeling.

Study-site personnel will instruct participants on how to store study intervention for at home use as indicated for this protocol.

Refer to the pharmacy manual/study site investigational product and procedures manual for additional guidance on study intervention preparation, handling, and storage.

Accountability

The investigator is responsible for ensuring that all study intervention received at the site is inventoried and accounted for throughout the study. The dispensing of NA (tenofovir disoproxil) and PegIFN- α 2a (if applicable) to the participant, and the return of JNJ-6379, NA (tenofovir disoproxil), and PegIFN- α 2a from the participant (if applicable), must be documented on the intervention accountability form. Participants must be instructed to return all original containers, whether empty or containing study intervention. The JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a injections administered to the participant must be documented on the intervention accountability form. All study intervention will be stored and disposed of according to the sponsor's instructions. Study-site personnel must not combine contents of the study intervention containers.

Participants who stopped JNJ-6379 per Protocol Amendment 6, must return their JNJ-6379 supply at the next scheduled visit. The return of JNJ-6379 from the participant must be documented on the intervention accountability form.

Study intervention must be handled in strict accordance with the protocol and the container label, and must be stored at the study site in a limited-access area or in a locked cabinet under appropriate environmental conditions. Unused study intervention, and study intervention returned by the participant, must be available for verification by the sponsor's study site monitor during on-site monitoring visits. The return to the sponsor of unused study intervention, or used returned study intervention for destruction, will be documented on the intervention return form. When the study

site is an authorized destruction unit and study intervention supplies are destroyed on-site, this must also be documented on the intervention return form.

Potentially hazardous materials containing hazardous liquids, such as used ampules, needles, and vials, should be disposed of immediately in a safe manner and therefore will not be retained for intervention accountability purposes. Details on handling of used PegIFN- α 2a syringes are described in Section 6.1, Study Intervention(s) Administered.

Study intervention should be dispensed under the supervision of the investigator or a qualified member of the study-site personnel, or by a hospital/clinic pharmacist. Study intervention will be supplied only to participants participating in the study. Returned study intervention must not be dispensed again, even to the same participant. Whenever a participant brings his or her oral study intervention to the study site for pill count, this is not seen as a return of supplies. Study intervention may not be relabeled or reassigned for use by other participants. The investigator agrees neither to dispense the study intervention from, nor store it at, any site other than the study sites agreed upon with the sponsor. Further guidance and information for the final disposition of unused study interventions are provided in the Study Reference Manual.

6.3. Measures to Minimize Bias: Randomization and Blinding

Intervention Allocation

Procedures for Randomization and Stratification

As of Protocol Amendment 6, randomization will not be used in this study. All participants will be assigned to receive JNJ-3989 + NA + PegIFN- α 2a by the interactive web response system (IWRS).

Prior to Protocol Amendment 6, randomization and stratification were performed as described below.

Central randomization was implemented in this study. Participants were randomly assigned in a 1:1 ratio to 1 of 2 intervention arms based on a computer-generated randomization schedule prepared before the study by or under the supervision of the sponsor. The randomization was balanced by using randomly permuted blocks and was stratified by screening HBV DNA level ($\geq 10^7$ IU/mL OR $< 10^7$ IU/mL) and race (Asian versus non-Asian; for participants in Cohort 2).

For more information on the interactive web response system (IWRS), refer to Section 6.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

Blinding

As this is an open-label study, blinding procedures are not applicable.

6.4. Study Intervention Compliance

JNJ-3989 will be administered at the study site as a subcutaneous injection by qualified study-site personnel to assure compliance with study requirements.

The participants will be requested to bring unused study interventions and empty packaging to the study site at each visit.

Every effort should be made to have the participant take the study interventions as indicated in the [Schedule of Activities](#).

- If an injection of JNJ-3989 was missed, the injection should be given as soon as possible but within 3 weeks after the scheduled time. Otherwise, the injection should be skipped and the next injection should be given at the next scheduled time point per the initial injection schedule.
- If a dose of NA is missed, the participant should follow the guidelines in the prescribing information.
- If an injection of PegIFN- α 2a is missed, the participant should follow the guidelines in the prescribing information.

If a participant's study intervention intake is not according to the protocol, the investigator will take the necessary measures to ensure future adherence to the protocol.

An optional medication diary to document study intervention intake can be made available for participants with an observed or known risk for study intervention non-compliance. The completed diaries are reviewed by the site staff and discussed with the participants for compliance monitoring and counseling. Completed diaries will be returned to the site staff to add to the source documents.

6.5. Concomitant Therapy

Note: With the removal of JNJ-6379 as study intervention in Protocol Amendment 6, JNJ-6379-specific disallowed medications and concomitant medications to be used with caution are no longer applicable and have been removed.

An overview of ISA-specific disallowed medication is provided in [Table 3](#).

Local guidelines on the use of live vaccines in participants receiving PegIFN- α 2a should be followed, including for the second dose of Sputnik V (which contains rAd5, with a theoretical risk of replication competence). Sputnik Light, which is the first dose of Sputnik V (with rAd26) is not considered a live vaccine. See below for further guidance on the use of COVID-19 vaccines.

Note that locally approved COVID-19 vaccines (including those that received emergency use authorization or conditional marketing authorization) are allowed throughout the study. The following recommendations should be applied to accommodate COVID-19 vaccination during the consolidation phase:

- COVID-19 vaccine and PegIFN- α 2a should not be administered on the same day.
- If required, PegIFN- α 2a injection can be delayed with 2 days. The next PegIFN- α 2a injection should be performed at the scheduled time.

- If required, skipping a PegIFN- α 2a injection may be considered after consultation with the Sponsor.
- Vaccination with Sputnik V should take above-mentioned consideration about live vaccines into account.

All COVID-19 vaccination-related data (eg, COVID-19 vaccination, AEs, AE management) should be appropriately captured in the CRF and source documents. Refer to the COVID-19 vaccine and/or PegIFN- α 2a prescribing information for more details.

For general concomitant therapy considerations, refer to Section 6.5 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

Table 3: Disallowed Medication

Disallowed at any time prior to screening until end of follow-up:

- Any HBV antiviral medicines (including vaccines, NAs, and IFN products) other than the study intervention taken in the context of this study.
Note: Prior hepatic treatment with herbal or nutritional products is allowed but should be stopped at screening.
Note: <9 months of prior NA treatment is allowed but should have ended at least 12 months before screening.

Disallowed from 6 months prior to screening until end of follow-up:

- Any investigational agent, investigational vaccine, invasive investigational medical device, or investigational biological product (other than the study intervention taken in the context of this study).
Note: For investigational COVID-19 vaccines administered within 6 months prior to screening, an exception will be made as long as the vaccine has been approved (or received emergency use authorization or conditional marketing authorization) at the time of screening.

Disallowed from 6 months prior to baseline until end of follow-up:

- Any systemically (eg, intravenously, intramuscularly, orally, subcutaneously) administered medication that directly or indirectly interferes with immune responses (eg, cyclosporine, interleukins, programmed death-[ligand] 1 inhibitors, systemic corticosteroids exceeding 5 mg of prednisolone equivalent/day).

Disallowed from screening until end of follow-up:

- Biotin (>1 mg daily dose), either taken alone or as part of a multivitamin formulation.
Note: The use of other vitamins is allowed.
- Topical steroids (>7 days) under occlusive dressing.

Note: The list of disallowed concomitant medication is not exhaustive; for products falling in one of the categories and not mentioned by name, the sponsor should be contacted to determine whether the product can be allowed.

The prescribing information for tenofovir disoproxil and PegIFN- α 2a should be consulted for any additional prohibited medication. In case of flu-like symptoms after administration of PegIFN- α 2a, paracetamol up to a maximum of 2 g per 24 hours and a maximum of 6 g per week is allowed.

Medications requiring subcutaneous injection (other than JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a; eg, insulin) should be administered away from the JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a injection sites.

6.6. Dose Modification

Dose modifications of JNJ-3989 and NA (increase or decrease of dose level) are not permitted during the study.

For PegIFN- α 2a, dose adjustment guidelines are applicable for participants who develop laboratory abnormalities during PegIFN- α 2a treatment, as recommended in the locally approved prescribing information for PegIFN- α 2a and upon investigator's assessment. The guidance from the Pegasys USPI has been provided as an example (see [Table 4](#)).

Table 4: PegIFN- α 2a Hematological Dose Modification Guidelines

Laboratory Values	Recommended Dose
ANC <750 cells/mm ³	Reduce to 135 μ g
ANC <500 cells/mm ³	Discontinue treatment until ANC values return to more than 1,000 cells/mm ³ . Reinstitute at 90 μ g and monitor ANC.
Platelet <50,000 cells/mm ³	Reduce to 90 μ g
Platelet <25,000 cells/mm ³	Discontinue treatment

ANC: absolute neutrophil count

Source: Pegasys USPI

For participants who prematurely discontinue PegIFN- α 2a, treatment with PegIFN- α 2a may be restarted according to the recommendations from the locally approved prescribing information for PegIFN- α 2a.

6.6.1. Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12

With the implementation of Protocol Amendment 6, all participants had to stop JNJ-6379 treatment immediately.

Participants will complete treatment with JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a at the end of the consolidation phase (Consolidation Week 12). If all of the following NA treatment completion criteria are met at consolidation Week 12, NA will also be stopped at the next scheduled visit (ie, at FU Week 2):

- The participant has ALT <3x ULN, AND
- The participant has HBV DNA <LLOQ, AND
- The participant is HBeAg-negative, AND
- The participant has HBsAg <10 IU/mL.

Note: In case of ALT elevation ≥ 3 x ULN at consolidation Week 12, the investigator must consider different potential causes of increased ALT to ensure appropriate work up and management as needed. If the ALT elevation is unrelated to HBV activity and/or <3x ULN by FU Week 2, NA completion may be considered at the discretion of the investigator and in consultation with the sponsor.

Participants who do not meet the above criteria at consolidation Week 12 should continue NA treatment during the 48-week follow-up.

The investigator should consider to re-start NA treatment per local standard of care at the EOS visit (Follow-up Week 48) for participants who met the NA treatment completion criteria at Consolidation Week 12, who did not re-start NA treatment during the follow-up phase, and who did not achieve and maintain HBsAg seroclearance. NA will not be provided by the sponsor after the final study visit.

If a participant prematurely (before the end of the consolidation phase) discontinues JNJ-3989, follow-up assessments should be obtained as per the [Schedule of Activities](#) until 48 weeks after the end of investigational intervention unless the participant withdraws consent. If a participant prematurely discontinues PegIFN- α 2a (before the end of the consolidation phase), treatment with JNJ-3989 and NA should be continued as planned. In case the participant withdraws consent, NA treatment may be continued or, in consultation with the sponsor, discontinued, based on the above mentioned NA treatment completion criteria.

6.6.2. NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA

Participants who meet the NA treatment completion criteria outlined in Section [6.6.1](#), Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12, will be monitored closely during the follow-up phase.

After stopping NA treatment, participants should be monitored as follows:

- Regular monitoring visits will be every 4 weeks during the follow-up phase in accordance with the [Schedule of Activities](#).
- A post-treatment HBV DNA value of $>20,000$ IU/mL should trigger re-testing of ALT/AST, HBV DNA, and total and direct bilirubin within a maximum of 7 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, weekly until HBV DNA returns to $<20,000$ IU/mL).
- A post-treatment HBV DNA value of $>2,000$ IU/mL (but $<20,000$ IU/mL) should trigger a re-test within 14 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, every other week until HBV DNA returns to $<2,000$ IU/mL).
- A post-treatment ALT value of $>5x$ ULN should trigger re-testing of ALT, AST, ALP, total and direct bilirubin, INR, albumin, and HBV DNA on a weekly basis until ALT and AST levels have returned to $<5x$ ULN.

After stopping NA treatment, participants should re-start NA treatment:

- Immediately with signs of decreasing liver function based on laboratory findings (eg, International Normalized Ratio [INR], direct bilirubin) or clinical assessment (eg, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy).
- Immediately with an HBV DNA value of $>100,000$ IU/mL (irrespective of confirmation and/or ALT increase).
- With confirmed post-treatment HBeAg seroreversion (HBeAg positive after it was negative at NA completion).
- With confirmed* post-treatment increases in HBV DNA $>2,000$ IU/mL and ALT $>5x$ ULN.

- With confirmed* post-treatment increases in HBV DNA >20,000 IU/mL.

* *At least 4 weeks apart frequency of visits as described above*

Note: Additional re-testing and/or earlier restarting of NA treatment is at the investigator's discretion, even if the above cut-offs are not yet met.

To avoid delays in decision making, sites are encouraged to run local re-testing in parallel with central re-testing in the situations described above that require more frequent re-testing. Local test results are to be recorded in the CRF and/or source documents, including information on the HBV DNA assay used. In addition, to avoid delays in NA re-treatment, it should be considered to dispense NA to participants who potentially met the NA re-treatment criteria (eg, pending confirmation) and who will not be available to come to the study site immediately at the time the confirmatory test results will become available. This should ensure that the participant can immediately re-start NA treatment if indicated, upon direct confirmation by the investigator.

In case NA treatment is re-started, participants will be followed until the end of the study or until clinical stabilization, whichever comes later.

Refer to Appendix 16 in Section 10.16 for a graphical representation.

6.7. Study Intervention After the End of the Study

Refer to Section 6.7 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

The investigator should consider to re-start NA treatment per local standard of care at the EOS visit (Follow-up Week 48) for participants who met the NA treatment completion criteria at Consolidation Week 12, who did not re-start NA treatment during the follow-up phase, and who did not achieve and maintain HBsAg seroclearance. NA will not be provided by the sponsor after the final study visit.

7. DISCONTINUATION OF STUDY INTERVENTION AND PARTICIPANT DISCONTINUATION/WITHDRAWAL

If a participant discontinues study intervention for any reason before consolidation Week 12, the participant will have an early withdrawal visit and will enter follow-up unless he/she withdraws consent. If the reason for withdrawal from the study is withdrawal of consent, then the participant will be offered an optional safety follow-up visit. Study intervention assigned to the participant who discontinued study intervention may not be assigned to another participant.

7.1. Discontinuation of Study Intervention

With the implementation of Protocol Amendment 6, all participants had to stop JNJ-6379 treatment immediately.

Treatment with JNJ-3989 and PegIFN-α2a must be discontinued before consolidation Week 12 for all reasons listed in Section 7.1 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 and for all additional intervention-specific reasons. All the discontinuation criteria are listed below and the intervention-specific criteria are highlighted (colored fill). For the few criteria from the Master

Protocol that are specified or more restricted in this ISA, the changes compared to the Master Protocol are also highlighted (colored fill). If JNJ-3989 is discontinued, PegIFN- α 2a should also be discontinued. If PegIFN- α 2a is discontinued, JNJ-3989 should be continued. NA treatment may be continued or, in consultation with the sponsor, discontinued based on investigator judgement.

The discontinuation criteria are:

- The participant withdraws consent to receive study intervention.
- The investigator believes that for safety or tolerability reasons (eg, AE) it is in the best interest of the participant to discontinue JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a.
- The participant becomes pregnant.
- The participant has a \geq grade 3 rash or allergic reaction.
- The participant has signs of hepatic decompensation (ie, clinical evidence of ascites, bleeding varices, or hepatic encephalopathy) or an increase in direct bilirubin $>1.5\times$ ULN in combination with INR $\geq 1.5\times$ ULN or albumin <3.0 g/dL. Treatment with JNJ-3989 should be discontinued and alternative treatment options (outside the study) should be considered in discussion with the Sponsor.
- The participant has a confirmed \geq grade 3 eGFR_{cr} abnormality.

If eGFR_{cr} is not confirmed by eGFR_{cys}, or not considered at least possibly related to JNJ-3989 or PegIFN- α 2a, or resolved after changing tenofovir disoproxil to TAF (if the patient was receiving tenofovir disoproxil), treatment with JNJ-3989 or PegIFN- α 2a can be continued after discussion with the sponsor.

- The participant has a QTcF prolongation (defined as a QTcF value of >500 ms, or an increase from baseline of >60 ms) at any given time point.
- The participant requires ≥ 7 days of treatment with any of the disallowed medications listed in Section 6.5 and does not intend to discontinue treatment with the disallowed medication.
- The participant has confirmed HBV virologic breakthrough (ie, confirmed on-treatment HBV DNA increase by >1 log₁₀ IU/mL from nadir or confirmed on-treatment HBV DNA level >200 IU/mL in participants who had HBV DNA level $<$ LLOQ of the HBV DNA assay). In case of virologic breakthrough, the same assessments will be done at an unscheduled visit as will be done in case of an ALT flare, but no PBMC sample will be taken (see Section 8.3.6.2 and Schedule of Activities).

If virologic breakthrough occurs during JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a administration, this does not automatically lead to stop of JNJ-3989 and/or PegIFN- α 2a, but should be assessed/discussed with the Sponsor.

In case of virologic breakthrough, a viral sequencing sample will be collected at the next visit.

- The participant has ALT/AST elevations, as described in Section 8.3.6.2, Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations.
- The participant has confirmed \geq Grade 3 hematologic abnormalities as described in Section 8.3.6.4, Hematologic abnormalities.

Note: The grades are based on the DAIDS Toxicity Grading Scale (see Section 10.9, Appendix 9, DAIDS Table).

In addition, PegIFN- α 2a during consolidation phase must immediately be discontinued for any of the following reasons:

- Participant has platelet count $<25,000$ cells/mm³
- Participant has ANC <500 cells/mm³ **Note:** PegIFN- α 2a treatment can be restarted when ANC values return to more than 1,000 cells/mm³ (see details in Section 6.6, Dose Modification)
- Participant develops evidence of hepatic decompensation during treatment, or ALT increase clinically significant or accompanied by direct bilirubin increase
- Participant develops thyroid disorders or diabetes during treatment and cannot be controlled with medication
- Participant develops new or worsening ophthalmologic disorders
- Participant develops any deterioration of cardiovascular status
- Participant develops serious, acute hypersensitivity reaction (e.g., urticaria, angioedema, bronchoconstriction, anaphylaxis)
- Participant develops serious infection (bacterial, viral, fungal) and sepsis
- Participant develops persistent or unexplained pulmonary infiltrates or pulmonary function impairment
- Participant with onset or worsening of psoriatic lesion
- Participant develops moderate or severe depression, or other psychiatric symptoms (for mild depression, treatment discontinuation may be considered)

Note: Participants who develop a neuropsychiatric AE during PegIFN- α 2a treatment, will be monitored closely until the neuropsychiatric AE resolves, with frequent (at least weekly) follow-up phone calls.

- Participant develops colitis symptoms (such as but not limited to abdominal pain, bloody diarrhea, and fever)
- Participant develops symptoms or signs suggestive of pancreatitis

For participants who prematurely discontinue PegIFN- α 2a, treatment with PegIFN- α 2a may be restarted according to the recommendations from the locally approved prescribing information for PegIFN- α 2a.

If a participant prematurely (before the end of the consolidation phase) discontinues JNJ-3989, the participant will enter the 48-week follow-up phase and complete the follow-up schedule as per the [Schedule of Activities](#), unless the participant withdraws consent. If a participant prematurely discontinues PegIFN- α 2a (before the end of the consolidation phase), treatment with JNJ-3989 and NA should be continued as planned. In case the participant withdraws consent, NA treatment may be continued or, in consultation with the sponsor, discontinued based on investigator judgement or completed based on the NA treatment completion criteria (see Section 6.6).

7.2. Participant Discontinuation/Withdrawal From the Study

In case a participant is withdrawn from the study intervention cohort for any of the reasons listed in Section 7.2 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001, additional participants will not be entered.

Withdrawal of Consent

A participant declining to return for scheduled visits does not necessarily constitute withdrawal of consent. Alternate follow-up mechanisms that the participant agreed to when signing the consent form apply as local regulations permit.

7.2.1. Withdrawal From the Use of Research Samples

Refer to Section 7.2.1 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

7.3. Lost to Follow-up

Refer to Section 7.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8. STUDY ASSESSMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Overview

Refer to Section 8 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

If applicable, all PRO assessments and ECGs should be completed before any tests, procedures, or other consultations for that visit.

For participants enrolled prior to Protocol Amendment 5: The maximum amount of blood drawn from each participant in this study will not exceed 2100 mL. **Note:** The maximum amount will only be reached if patients are treated within the study for the maximal duration of 72 weeks plus 48 weeks of follow-up.

For participants enrolled as of Protocol Amendment 6: The maximum amount of blood drawn from each participant during planned assessments in this study will be approximately 1,885 mL.

Note: The total blood volume to be collected from each participant may vary, depending on several factors (eg, unscheduled re-tests, re-sampling, individual variations, follow-up visits that are not mandatory for participants who continue NA treatment or have restarted NA treatment during the follow-up period).

Repeat or unscheduled samples may be taken for safety reasons or for technical issues with the samples.

Sample Collection and Handling

Refer to Section 8 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

Study-Specific Materials

In addition to the items described in Section 8 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001, the investigator will be provided with the following supplies:

- A binder with the PRO instruments,
- Prescribing Information for tenofovir disoproxil and PegIFN- α 2a,
- Contact information page(s).

8.1. Efficacy Assessments

All efficacy assessments will be performed at predefined time points as specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#).

Qualitative and quantitative HBsAg and HBeAg, and quantitative HBcrAg as well as anti-HBs and anti-hepatitis B e (anti-HBe) antibodies will be determined using validated serologic assays in a central laboratory. Samples for the determination of HBsAg and HBeAg will be processed in real-time. Samples for the determination of HBcrAg can be analyzed in batch and at the sponsor's request.

HBV DNA and HBV RNA will be quantified at central laboratories using validated assays for the quantification of HBV DNA and HBV RNA. Samples for the determination of HBV DNA will be processed in real-time. Samples for the determination of HBV RNA can be analyzed in batch and at the sponsor's request.

Hepatitis B virus DNA, HBsAg, HBeAg, anti-HBs, and anti-HBe antibody testing results will be provided to the investigator and the sponsor from screening until the end of follow-up.

It is the responsibility of the investigator:

- To monitor HBV DNA results and ensure that JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a are discontinued in participants with confirmed virologic breakthrough (see Section 7.1, Discontinuation of Study Intervention),
- To assess if NA treatment completion criteria are met (see Section 6.6, Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12),
- To assess whether restart of NA treatment during follow-up is needed (see Section 6.6.2, NA Re-treatment Criteria and Monitoring After Stopping of NA).

In participants enrolled at a site with an on-site Fibroscan device, Fibroscan assessments will be performed at different time points to determine changes in fibrosis levels.

Samples may be used by the sponsor for additional exploratory assessments analyzing the serologic and virologic characteristics of HBV infection and efficacy or safety of the study intervention.

8.1.1. Sequencing

Viral genome sequence analysis will be performed to evaluate mutations associated with the study intervention.

Sequencing of the HBV genome will be performed to monitor HBV variants present at the time points indicated in the [Schedule of Activities](#). The sequencing of samples may be triggered by the sponsor virologist based on changes in HBV DNA levels observed in each individual participant and the limits of the sequencing assay.

Samples may be used by the sponsor for additional assessments analyzing the serologic and virologic characteristics of the HBV infection and efficacy of the study intervention, including viral genotypic and phenotypic assessments.

8.1.2. Patient-reported Outcomes

The impact of HBV treatment on participants will be assessed using PROs at predefined time points (see [Schedule of Activities](#)). The following 4 PRO instruments will be used: SF-36v2, HBQOL, EQ-5D-5L, and PGIC.

The PRO assessments will be performed by all participants. Participants should complete these assessments in their native language or if there is no version available in their native language, a version in a language in which the participant is fluent and literate. It is preferable that participants are able to read and write to complete the assessments by themselves. If a participant is unable to read or has visual or other physical limitations that make it difficult to read or complete the assessments, trained study-site personnel may read the questions and responses aloud exactly as they appear on the assessment and record the participant's responses.

Study-site personnel will record in the CRF whether the PRO assessments were performed during the study visit.

The participant should be provided a quiet place to complete the PRO assessments, and instructed how to complete the PRO assessments. When deciding which answer to report, participants should not receive any help from anyone accompanying them (such as family members and friends) or study-site personnel; the responses should reflect the participant's interpretation and response.

Participants' responses to the PRO questionnaires will not be reported as AEs or SAEs.

Short Form 36 version 2

SF-36v2 is a generic 36-item instrument designed to measure health status that can be interpreted using 2 summary scores – Physical Component Summary (PCS) and Mental Component Summary (MCS) – as well as domain subscales. The SF-36v2 consists of 8 subscales. Although SF-36v2 PCS and MCS scores include information from all 8 SF-36 domain subscales, the PCS score gives more weight to physical aspects of HRQoL as represented in the Physical functioning, Physical role limitations, Pain, and General health perception domain scores. The MCS score gives more weight to the emotional and social aspects of HRQoL as assessed by the Vitality, Social function,

Social role limitations, and Mental health domain scores. Participants self-report on items that have between 2-6 response options per item using Likert-type responses (eg, none of the time, some of the time, etc.). Summations of item scores of the same subscale give the subscale scores, which are transformed into a range from 0 to 100; 0 worst HRQoL, 100 best HRQoL. PCS and MCS scores are constructed as a T-score with a mean of 50 and SD of 10; higher scores indicate better health status. The 4-week recall version will be used.

It takes about 10 minutes to complete the SF-36v2 questionnaire. See Section 10.10, Appendix 10, Short Form 36 version 2 (SF-36v2) 2010 Questionnaire for a representative example of the SF-36v2.

Hepatitis B Quality of Life Instrument, Version 1.0

The HBQOL²⁶ version 1 is a 31-item disease-specific instrument designed to measure HRQoL for participants with CHB. The instrument includes 7 subscales/domains, including psychological well-being, anticipation anxiety, vitality, stigma, vulnerability, transmission, and viral response. Each of the 31 items is scored on a 5-level response scale. Each subscale score is simply calculated as the average score among the items included in that subscale. In addition to the 7 subscales, there is a single global score that reflects the results on all 31 items. The global score is the average score among all the items in the HBQOL. Responses are transformed along a 0 to 100-point scale, where lower scores denote less HRQoL impact, and higher scores denote more HRQoL impact (ie, 0 best score; 100 worst score).

It takes about 10 minutes to complete the HBQOL version 1.

See Section 10.11, Appendix 11, Hepatitis B Quality of Life Instrument for a representative example of the HBQOL version 1.

5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension Questionnaire

The EQ-5D-5L questionnaire is a brief, 2-page, generic health-related quality of life assessment that evaluates a participant's self-rated health state on 5 dimensions (mobility, self-care, usual activities, pain/discomfort, anxiety/depression). Additionally, a VAS records the participant's self-rated health on a vertical VAS where the endpoints are labelled 'best imaginable health state' (100) and 'worst imaginable health state' (0). This information can be used as a quantitative measure of health outcome as judged by the participant. EQ-5D scores include the following:

- EQ-5D Valuation Index score (a weighted scoring of the 5 dimension scores with a possible range from 0 to 1);
- EQ-5D VAS score (with a possible range from 0 [worst imaginable health] to 100 [best imaginable health]);
- EQ-5D descriptive system scores (5 scores reflecting each of the 5 dimensions ranging from 0 [no limitation] to 4 [incapacity]).

It takes about 2 minutes to complete the EQ-5D-5L questionnaire.

A representative example of the EQ-5D-5L questionnaire is provided in Section 10.12, Appendix 12, 5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension Questionnaire (EQ-5D-5L).

Patient Global Impression of Change Scale, Version 1.0

The PGIC scale^{9,14} is a single-item PRO scale aimed at assessing the participant's perceptions of change (improvement or worsening) in how they feel overall compared to the beginning of the study. Response options include: "Much better", "Better", "A little better", "No change", "A little worse", "Worse", "Much worse". It takes less than a minute to complete the scale. The PGIC responses will be used as anchors to perform responder analyses and to evaluate the ability to detect change for the HBQOL and the HBV-specific self-stigma PRO scale.

The PGIC scale version 1 is provided in Section 10.13, Appendix 13, Patient Global Impression of Change Scale.

8.2. Safety Assessments

Safety and tolerability (AEs, clinical safety laboratory assessments, ECGs, vital signs and physical examinations) will be evaluated as described in Section 8.2 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001 and at predefined time points as specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#).

Additional clinical safety laboratory assessments specific for this protocol are described in Section 10.2, Appendix 2, Clinical Laboratory Tests.

8.2.1. Physical Examinations

Refer to Section 8.2.1 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

In addition, a complete physical examination also includes examination of the head, neck, and thyroid.

8.2.2. Vital Signs

Refer to Section 8.2.2 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

Clinically relevant abnormalities in vital signs are defined in Section 10.7, Appendix 7, Cardiovascular Safety Abnormalities.

8.2.3. Electrocardiograms

Refer to Section 8.2.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

Clinically relevant abnormalities in ECG are defined in Section 10.7, Appendix 7, Cardiovascular Safety Abnormalities.

8.2.4. Clinical Safety Laboratory Assessments

Refer to Section 8.2.4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

In addition, urine samples for urine chemistry and renal biomarkers will be collected as noted in Section 10.2, Appendix 2, Clinical Laboratory Tests.

For this study, the laboratory abnormality of cholesterol increase is identified as laboratory abnormality of interest.

Note: cholesterol increase is a laboratory abnormality of interest specific for JNJ-6379, which was part of the study intervention up to Protocol Amendment 5. Because most participants who were enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, also received JNJ-6379 as part of their study intervention, monitoring of cholesterol increases will be continued.

8.3. Adverse Events, Serious Adverse Events, and Other Safety Reporting

Adverse events and SAEs will be evaluated as described in Section 8.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001, including handling of pregnancy described in Section 8.3.5.

For further details on AEs and SAEs (Definitions and Classifications; Attribution Definitions; Severity Criteria; Special Reporting Situations; Procedures) as well as product quality complaints, refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.3.1. Time Period and Frequency for Collecting Adverse Event and Serious Adverse Event Information

Refer to Section 8.3.1 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.3.2. Method of Detecting Adverse Events and Serious Adverse Events

Refer to Section 8.3.2 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.3.3. Follow-up of Adverse Events and Serious Adverse Events

Refer to Section 8.3.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.3.4. Regulatory Reporting Requirements for Serious Adverse Events

Refer to Section 8.3.4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.3.5. Pregnancy

Refer to Section 8.3.5 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.3.6. Adverse Events of Special Interest

Events of Special Interest are significant AEs that are judged to be of special interest because of clinical importance, known class effects or based on nonclinical signals. Events of Special Interest that will be carefully monitored during the study include ISRs, ALT/AST elevations, renal complications, hematologic abnormalities, and events related to cholesterol increase (Section 8.2.4, Clinical Safety Laboratory Assessments).

For participants reporting ISRs, ALT/AST elevations, renal complications, and hematologic abnormalities as specified in the DAIDS Toxicity Grading Scale (see Section 10.9, Appendix 9, DAIDS Table), the following should be done.

Note: renal complications and cholesterol increase are AESIs specific for JNJ-6379, which was part of the study intervention up to Protocol Amendment 5. Because most participants who were enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 was in effect, also received JNJ-6379 as part of their study intervention, the AESIs have not been revised with the removal of JNJ-6379.

8.3.6.1. Injection Site Reactions

At the time points specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#) or at an unscheduled visit if needed, an evaluation of the injection site will be performed based on participant's description and/or physical examination. Evaluation will include at a minimum the time of occurrence, time of resolution and a description of the abnormality including its maximal diameter. For each ISR, information on pain, erythema, induration and pruritus should be obtained as specified in the DAIDS scale (see Section 10.9, Appendix 9, DAIDS Table).

All ISRs (including ISRs below grade 1) will need to be recorded in the special events section of the CRF.

Digital pictures will be taken when considered appropriate; all efforts should be made to collect images in case of grade 3 and 4 ISRs. Digital pictures will only be taken and collected from participants who consent separately to this component of the study. If digital pictures are required, they should be de-identified and provided to the sponsor.

8.3.6.2. Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations

Elevated liver enzyme activity can be triggered by the underlying HBV disease as well as by the study intervention.

Management of intervention-emergent ALT/AST elevations is presented graphically in Section 10.6, Appendix 6, Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations and is described below.

Any intervention-emergent elevation of ALT and/or AST ≥ 3 x ULN and ≥ 3 x nadir (ie, lowest value during study participation) should trigger an assessment of confounding factors (alcohol intake, change in concomitant medication, and comorbidities) and should trigger a confirmatory study visit to repeat laboratory testing of AFP, ALT, AST, ALP, bilirubin (total and direct), INR, albumin, and HBV DNA. Additional tests should be considered based on clinical judgement (Refer to Section 10.6, Appendix 6, Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations). The confirmatory visit should be scheduled as soon as possible, preferably within 7 days of the receipt of the initial ALT/AST results. In case the repeat laboratory testing shows an isolated ALT/AST elevation (ie, with stable albumin, bilirubin [total and direct], and INR) the participant may continue study intervention. In case of confirmed ALT elevation $>1,000$ U/L and ≥ 3 x the baseline value, JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ should be discontinued unless dynamics of the ALT elevation are indicating improvement towards resolution of the flare. In both cases, NA treatment should be continued. The participant will be monitored (laboratory testing of ALT, AST, ALP, bilirubin [total and

direct], INR, albumin, and HBV DNA) on a weekly basis until ALT and AST levels have returned to $<5\times$ ULN and HBV DNA is $<20,000$ IU/mL.

If the ALT and/or AST level is $\geq 3\times$ ULN and $\geq 3\times$ nadir and is associated with any of the following laboratory results or clinical symptoms:

- INR ≥ 1.5 , OR
- direct bilirubin $>1.5\times$ ULN, OR
- serum albumin <3.0 g/dL, OR
- ascites, hepatic encephalopathy, or liver-related symptoms (eg, severe fatigue, nausea, vomiting, right upper quadrant pain in the absence of an alternative medical explanation), OR
- other indication of reduced liver function

the participant should discontinue JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ and should be monitored on a weekly basis or as per good clinical practice until ALT and AST levels have returned to $<5\times$ ULN, HBV DNA is $<20,000$ IU/mL, and, if present, liver-related symptoms have improved. NA treatment should be continued. Additional tests can be considered based on clinical judgement (Refer to Section 10.6, Appendix 6, Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations).

In case of prolonged ALT elevation $>3\times$ ULN AND $>2\times$ nadir, which lasts at least 12 weeks, the decision to continue JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ should be based upon virologic parameters (eg, HBsAg, HBV DNA) and should be made in consultation with the sponsor.

PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ may need to be discontinued in clinically significant cases of ALT increase or in combined increase of ALT and direct bilirubin. Refer to the prescribing information for PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$.^{23,24}

The NA re-treatment criteria and monitoring after stopping of NA are presented in Section 6.6.2.

8.3.6.3. Renal Complications

If renal complications develop, participants should be closely monitored for disturbances in creatinine clearance. Additional investigations can be performed at the investigator's discretion. Participants must be treated as clinically appropriate.

Participants who develop confirmed grade 3 or 4 eGFR_{cr} abnormalities that was confirmed by eGFR_{cys} will change their NA from tenofovir disoproxil to TAF (if the patient was receiving tenofovir disoproxil), according to the prescribing information. If the abnormality persists despite change of NA or if the patient is not receiving tenofovir disoproxil, he or she will permanently discontinue the intake of JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ if considered at least possibly related to JNJ-3989 or PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$, and should be followed appropriately until resolution of the AE or toxicity. Rechallenge is not allowed.

For all participants having received at least one dose of JNJ-6379, renal safety monitoring will be continued.

8.3.6.4. Hematologic Abnormalities

Mild thrombocytopenia was observed in recently conducted non-clinical toxicology studies with the combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379. In addition, in a 3-month combination study with 80 rats, 1 rat developed pancytopenia related to bone marrow depletion after 23 days of dosing. Previously, in a 9-month dog study in 24 dogs treated with JNJ-6379 alone, pancytopenia which correlated with a marked increase in plasma cell-like cells in the bone marrow was observed in 1 dog after 60 days of dosing.

No thrombocytopenia or pancytopenia has been observed in the ongoing Jade study (56136379HPB2001) investigating JNJ-6379/Placebo with or without NA treatment. All 232 participants have completed at least 24 weeks of study intervention. In the Phase 1/2a AROHBV1001 study with JNJ-3989, mild transient thrombocytopenia (Grade 1) was observed in 6 out of 84 participants receiving 3 SC injections of JNJ-3989 alone over a period of up to 12 weeks with background of NAs. The transient thrombocytopenia was not considered clinically significant. No thrombocytopenia or pancytopenia was observed in 12 participants when JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 were given in combination over a 12-week period.

Based on the non-clinical findings, any relevant abnormalities in hematologic parameters will be carefully monitored as described below:

- Platelet counts: $<100,000$ cells/mm³ or <100 GI/L or reduction from baseline by at least 50%
- Hemoglobin: Decrease of at least 2 g/dL from baseline or at least Grade 2 (DAIDS)
- Reticulocytes: Reduction to $<0.5\%$ of the RBC count
- Neutrophil count: Treatment emergent reduction to at least Grade 2 (DAIDS)

In case any one of the above criteria are met, a confirmatory visit should be scheduled as soon as possible, preferably within 7 days of the receipt of the initial results. Confirmation of the results will trigger weekly or biweekly (every other week) unscheduled visits until improvement or stabilization of the respective parameter(s). Stabilization is defined as no further significant reduction over two consecutive visits.

In case of confirmed Grade 3 or Grade 4 hematologic abnormalities, discontinuation of treatment with JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a should be considered. In case of discontinuation, NA treatment should be continued.

8.3.7. Other Toxicities

The following toxicities will be carefully monitored: rash and acute systemic allergic reactions.

For participants reporting rash or acute systemic allergic reactions as specified in the DAIDS Toxicity Grading Scale (see Section 10.9, Appendix 9, DAIDS Table), the following should be done.

8.3.7.1. Rash

Participants should be informed that they should contact their doctor immediately when they notice any generalized skin reaction. This skin reaction should be evaluated in the clinic the same day (if possible) or the next possible day.

All rash events should be captured in the AE section of the CRF. Separate Rash pages will be completed in case of a rash event.

Monitoring of the evolution of rash events will be performed as described in [Table 6](#) in [Section 10.5](#), Appendix 5, Rash Management.

When safety blood samples are drawn as per the rash management guidelines, these should be processed by the local laboratory. The following parameters will need to be tested: AST, ALT, sedimentation rate, complete blood cell count (including hemoglobin, hematocrit, RBC count, WBC count, differential count [neutrophils, lymphocytes, monocytes, eosinophils, and basophils], and platelet count), and creatinine. The values of the local laboratory assessments need to be transcribed in the CRF by the study site personnel.

The participant may be treated symptomatically until the rash resolves. Oral antihistamines (eg, cetirizine, levocetirizine) and/or topical corticosteroids may provide symptomatic relief but effectiveness of these measures has not been established. If systemic corticosteroids exceeding 5 mg of prednisolone equivalent/day are required for treatment of rash, JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a need to be permanently discontinued. NAs can be continued. If the rash is considered to be most likely due to concomitant illness or non-study drugs, standard management, including discontinuation of the likely causative agent, should be undertaken.

8.3.7.2. Acute Systemic Allergic Reactions

Grade 1 (Localized Urticaria [Wheals] With no Medical Intervention Indicated)

Participants may continue the intake of study interventions.

Cetirizine, levocetirizine, topical corticosteroids or antipruritic agents may be prescribed.

Participants should be advised to contact the investigator immediately if there is any worsening of the acute systemic allergic reaction.

Grade 2 (Localized Urticaria With Intervention Indicated, or Mild Angioedema With no Intervention Indicated)

Participants may continue the intake of study interventions.

Cetirizine, levocetirizine, topical corticosteroids or antipruritic agents may be prescribed.

Participants should be advised to contact the investigator immediately if there is any worsening of the acute systemic allergic reaction, in which case the participant will permanently discontinue the

intake of JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a. Rechallenge is not allowed. The participant's NA treatment may be discontinued based on investigator judgement in consultation with the sponsor.

Grade 3 (Generalized Urticaria, Angioedema With Intervention Indicated, or Symptoms of Mild Bronchospasm) and Grade 4 (Acute Anaphylaxis, Life-threatening Bronchospasm, or Laryngeal Edema)

Participants will permanently discontinue the intake of JNJ-3989 and PegIFN- α 2a. Rechallenge is not allowed. The participant's NA treatment may be discontinued based on investigator judgement in consultation with the sponsor.

Participants will be treated as clinically appropriate. Participants should be followed until resolution of the AE and standard management should be undertaken.

8.4. Treatment of Overdose

For this study, any dose of JNJ-3989 greater than the protocol-specified dose (refer to Section 6.1) will be considered an overdose; any dose of NA (tenofovir disoproxil) and PegIFN- α 2a greater than the prescribed dose will be considered an overdose. The sponsor does not recommend specific therapeutic intervention for an overdose.

In the event of an overdose, the investigator or treating physician should:

- Contact the Medical Monitor immediately.
- Closely monitor the participant for AE/SAE and laboratory abnormalities.
- Obtain a sample for PK analysis as soon as possible from the date of the last dose of study intervention if requested by the Medical Monitor (determined on a case-by-case basis).
- Document the quantity of the excess dose as well as the duration of the overdosing in the CRF.

Decisions regarding dose interruptions will be made by the investigator in consultation with the Medical Monitor based on the clinical evaluation of the participant.

8.5. Pharmacokinetics

Plasma or serum samples, as applicable, will be used to evaluate the PK of the study intervention. Samples collected for analyses of the study intervention's concentrations may additionally be used to evaluate safety or efficacy aspects.

8.5.1. Evaluations

Venous blood samples will be collected for measurement of plasma or serum (as applicable) concentrations of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924), NA and PegIFN- α 2a, at time points specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#). Bioanalysis of NA and PegIFN- α 2a is optional at the discretion of the sponsor. Bioanalysis of JNJ-6379 may also be done on samples collected from participants who received JNJ-6379 up to Protocol Amendment 5.

All participants will have sparse PK sampling. Participants who consent to participate in the intensive PK substudy (optional) will also undergo intensive PK sampling at time points specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#).

8.5.2. Analytical Procedures

Pharmacokinetics

At the sponsor's discretion, a selection of samples may be analyzed to determine concentrations of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924) and, optionally, JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a using a validated, specific, and sensitive liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry method or liquid chromatography fluorescence method, as applicable by or under the supervision of the sponsor.

PK samples may be stored for future exploratory analysis of protein binding or the metabolite profile. Genetic analyses will not be performed on these samples. Participant confidentiality will be maintained.

8.5.3. Pharmacokinetic Parameters and Evaluations

Concentration-time data for JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a will be analyzed via noncompartmental methods for all participants who underwent intensive PK sampling. The PK parameters will be C_{max} , C_{24h} , and AUC_{24h} . Additional exposure parameters may be calculated if applicable. To assess the effect of PegIFN- α 2a on JNJ-3989, the PK parameters of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924 coadministered with PegIFN- α 2a in the consolidation phase will be compared to those of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924 in the induction phase as reference (timepoints as specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#)).

Data from this study may be combined with other studies via population PK modeling to enable the calculation of the above PK parameters also in participants who only underwent sparse PK sampling.

8.6. Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Evaluations

Relationships of individual PK parameters for JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, with selected efficacy and/or with selected safety endpoints will be evaluated, if applicable.

8.7. Immune Assessments

At selected sites, PBMC samples for immune analyses will be collected during study intervention and follow-up and will be analyzed centrally for HBV-specific responses by enzyme-linked immunospot (ELISpot) and/or intracellular cytokine staining (ICS) after stimulation with HBV-specific antigens. ELISpot detects T-cells that secrete gamma interferon (IFN- γ) in response to a specific antigenic stimulation, whereas ICS determines the frequency of CD4+ and CD8+ T-cells secreting cytokines such as IFN- γ , interleukin (IL)-2 and tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- α in response to a specific antigenic stimulation.

Additional experiments may be performed to further phenotypically and functionally characterize PBMCs using proliferation or cytotoxic assays or other methods such as cytometry by time of flight to evaluate innate and adaptive immune responses. Leftover PBMC samples may be used at the sponsor's discretion for additional exploratory research related to HBV infection or study intervention (safety/efficacy).

Additional PBMC samples may be taken in case of ALT flares, upon discussion with the sponsor, which may require an unscheduled visit.

8.8. Host Genetics

A mandatory sample for human leukocyte antigen (HLA) haplotyping will be collected from all participants.

An optional pharmacogenomic (host DNA) blood sample may be collected (preferably at baseline) to allow for host pharmacogenomic research, where local regulations permit. In addition, host DNA blood samples to allow for epigenetic analyses may be collected. These samples could for example be used to assess changes in frequencies of immune cells such as myeloid derived suppressor cells. Complete host genomic testing may be done to search for links of specific genes to (HBV-related) liver disease or to the PK, PD, efficacy, safety, or tolerability of the study intervention. These samples will only be collected from participants who consent separately to this component of the study. Further, a participant may withdraw such consent at any time without affecting their participation in other aspects of the study, or their future participation in the Platform study (see Section 7.2.1 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001).

In addition, other samples may be used for exploratory genetic or epigenetic research in participants consenting separately to this part of the study. No genetic research will be performed on any sample in participants who have not provided the additional separate consent for host genetic research. These samples can only be used to investigate the potential association of genetic or epigenetic factors with efficacy, safety, or PK of the study intervention, or HBV infection, or may be used to develop tests/assays related to the study intervention or HBV infection.

These analyses will be performed at the sponsor's discretion, will always be under the sponsor's supervision, and may be reported separately.

8.9. Exploratory Host Biomarkers

The study includes collection of blood samples for exploratory analysis of host blood biomarkers at the host RNA, protein, and cell level. Sampling will be performed at the time points indicated in the [Schedule of Activities](#). Leftovers of other samples might also be used for exploratory research of host and viral markers.

Samples can only be used for research related to study intervention or HBV infection or may be used to develop tests/assays related to study intervention or HBV infection.

Blood samples will be taken at the time points indicated in the [Schedule of Activities](#) which can be used to explore immunogenicity of JNJ-3989. The emergence of antibodies to JNJ-3989

(antidrug antibodies) might be analyzed using assays such as an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

These analyses will be performed at the sponsor's discretion, will always be under the sponsor's supervision, and may be reported separately from the main study report.

More information is provided in Section 8.8 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

8.10. Medical Encounters

Eventual medical encounters will be collected in the CRF by the investigator and study site personnel for all participants throughout the study.

9. STATISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Statistical analysis will be done by the sponsor or under the authority of the sponsor. A general description of the statistical methods to be used to analyze the efficacy and safety data is outlined below. Specific details will be provided in the Statistical Analysis Plan (SAP).

9.1. Statistical Hypotheses

As this is an exploratory PoC study, no formal statistical hypothesis has been formulated.

9.2. Sample Size Determination

According to the initial study design, the plan was to enroll 80 participants in the study to achieve at least 70 participants to be randomized at the end of the induction phase. At the time of writing Protocol Amendment 6, 28 participants were already enrolled in the study. Participants who already passed the Week 36 visit and/or were randomized to the group without PegIFN- α 2a by the time Protocol Amendment 6 is in effect, will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen at the next scheduled visit and will enter the 12-week consolidation phase. For the purpose of the statistical analyses, all participants enrolled prior to the Protocol Amendment 5 will comprise "Cohort 1". All participants enrolled after approval of Amendment 6 will comprise "Cohort 2".

With the introduction of the new study design in Protocol Amendment 6 (single-arm), no formal sample size re-calculation was performed. The targeted total sample size (Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 combined) was set to approximately 60 participants. With a sample size of 33 participants in Cohort 2 and assuming a 10% dropout rate, 30 participants in Cohort 2 would be expected to have data for the primary efficacy endpoint at 24 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment. If at least 15 (50%) participants are responders, this sample size will allow to conclude with 90% confidence that the true response rate is at least 0.34, with a confidence interval (CI) width of 0.322 (90% CI: 0.339 - 0.661). [Table 5](#) shows the 90 % CI and the corresponding width for proportion of responders of 0.30, 0.50, 0.70, and 0.90.

Table 5: Sample Size Determination

N=30		
Proportion of responders	90% CI*	Width of CI
0.30	0.166-0.465	0.299
0.50	0.339-0.661	0.322
0.70	0.535-0.834	0.299
0.90	0.761-0.972	0.211

CI: confidence interval.

* Clopper-Pearson exact method is used.

9.3. Populations for Analyses

For purposes of analysis, the following populations are defined:

Population	Description
Screened	All participants who signed the ICF for the Master Protocol and an ICF specific for this ISA.
Treated	All participants who received at least 1 dose of study intervention within this ISA.
Intent-to-treat (ITT)	All participants who were randomized or enrolled and who received at least 1 dose of consolidation phase study intervention within this ISA.
Safety	All participants who received at least 1 dose of study intervention within this ISA. Participants will be analyzed according to the study intervention they actually received.

9.4. Statistical Analyses

9.4.1. Efficacy Analyses

The primary efficacy analysis will be performed when all participants have completed FU Week 24 or discontinued earlier. The final analysis will be performed when all participants have completed the last study visit (FU Week 48) or discontinued earlier.

To evaluate the efficacy, the primary analysis set will be the ITT population (ie, for Cohort 2, defined in Section 9.3). The efficacy for Cohort 1 will be evaluated on the treated population set. A secondary analysis of efficacy will be performed combining the data pre- and post-Amendment 6, i.e. combining the data from participants who received PegIFN- α 2a but not JNJ-6379 in Cohort 1 with data of Cohort 2. The approach to combine data from the 2 cohorts will be described in detail in the Statistical Analysis Plan.

All efficacy summaries will be presented with descriptive statistics by cohort. If the endpoint is continuous, the descriptive statistics will include the number of participants, mean, standard deviation (SD), median, and range. If the endpoint is binary or categorical, the frequency distribution with the number and percentage of participants in each category will be calculated. For time-to-event variables, a summary table including number of participants included in the analysis, number of participants censored, 25th and 75th percentiles and median time-to-event will be shown by cohort. Graphic displays will also be used to summarize the data.

The baseline measurements are defined as the measurements taken closest to but before the first administration of study intervention on Day 1, unless otherwise specified.

9.4.1.1. Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment)

The primary efficacy endpoint, the proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment, will be summarized with the point estimate and its 90% CI using the Clopper-Pearson exact method.

All participants who do not achieve HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks off-treatment post consolidation and/or require NA re-treatment within any time prior to FU Weeks 24 are considered treatment non-responders for the purpose of the primary endpoint analysis. If the HBsAg value at 24 weeks post consolidation is missing, the non-missing value closest to 24 weeks post consolidation within the window of 12 weeks prior/after will be used. In addition, participants who do not have data within the analysis window of ± 12 weeks around the Week 24 assessment will be defined as non-responder.

9.4.1.2. Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints

Descriptive statistics will be used for all efficacy endpoints which will be summarized by cohort and study phase. Specific key selected endpoints may be analyzed using suitable categorical data approaches (eg, Clopper-Pearson interval or logistic regression for proportions or other categorical type of endpoint), longitudinal repeated measures models (eg, for continuous types of variables), or survival analysis based on the Kaplan-Meier estimates (for time-to-event variables), as appropriate. All efficacy analyses will be repeated combining the data from participants who received PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ but not JNJ-6379 in Cohort 1 with data from Cohort 2. Details will be described in the SAP.

To evaluate the efficacy at the end of treatment, the proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance and the proportion of participants with HBV DNA <LLOQ at the end of consolidation treatment, respectively, will be tabulated by cohort.

The proportion of participants meeting the NA treatment completion criteria at the end of the consolidation phase will be analyzed and summarized.

The efficacy of the study intervention during the follow-up phase will also be evaluated. The proportion of participants with HBsAg seroclearance at 48 weeks after stopping all study interventions of the consolidation phase and without restarting NA treatment, the proportion of participants with HBV DNA <LLOQ at 48 weeks after completing all study interventions, the proportion of participants meeting the NA treatment completion criteria during follow-up, the proportion of participants achieving partial response (HBV DNA suppression without HBsAg seroclearance without restarting NA treatment) at different time points during follow-up, the proportion of participants with flares (virologic, biochemical, and clinical), and the proportion of participants requiring NA re-treatment during follow-up will be tabulated by cohort. For the estimation of binary endpoints and their CI, the Clopper-Pearson method will be used for a single sample proportion.

The proportion of participants who reach HBV DNA <LLOQ after restart of NA treatment during follow-up will also be tabulated by cohort with the point estimate with corresponding 90% CIs using the Clopper-Pearson exact method.

The blood markers (such as HBsAg, HBeAg, HBV DNA, and ALT) during study intervention and follow-up will also be summarized by cohort over time and plotted. The proportion of participants with virologic breakthrough (on-treatment) and the proportion of participants with (sustained) reduction, suppression, and/or seroclearance during follow-up considering single and multiple markers (such as HBsAg, HBeAg, HBV DNA, and ALT) and various thresholds for the viral biomarker levels and/or changes from baseline will be summarized by cohort. The proportion of participants with HBsAg and HBeAg seroconversion will be tabulated by cohort. Descriptive statistics on values and changes from baseline over time in HBsAg, HBeAg and HBV DNA will be summarized by cohort.

The time to achieve first HBsAg and HBeAg seroclearance post randomization will be summarized, respectively, based on Kaplan-Meier estimates in tables and graphs.

The proportion of participants with HBsAg, HBeAg, and HBV DNA levels and/or changes from baseline below/above different cut-offs, will be analyzed as appropriate by cohort and over time. The proportion of participants who reach HBV DNA undetectability after re-start of NA treatment will be summarized by cohort.

Graphic data displays will also be used to summarize the efficacy data by cohort and over time.

Missing data for secondary and exploratory endpoints may be handled with a similar approach as the primary endpoint, adjusting the analysis window (e.g., ± 12 weeks) for the specific time point as appropriate. If no data is available in the appropriate window for the given time point of interest then the imputation to non-response will be used in case of binary variables, and only observed cases for continuous variables.

9.4.1.3. Resistance Analyses

The results of HBV viral sequencing will be evaluated by the sponsor virologist. Relevant changes of amino acid and/or nucleic acid variations (eg, substitutions) in the HBV genome will be tabulated and described.

Additional exploratory characterization of the HBV viral sequence and phenotype may be performed and reported separately.

9.4.1.4. Patient-reported Outcomes

The PRO scores will be analyzed descriptively as mean scores over time, and (if applicable) evaluated based on the proportion of participants experiencing a clinically important improvement or worsening in PRO scores from baseline during study intervention and follow-up. Analyses will also be performed on PRO score changes from baseline at specific time points (Week 24, end of consolidation phase, end of induction phase, FU Week 24, and FU Week 48 [EOS]), and between end of the consolidation phase and FU Week 48 (EOS) for different subgroups: participants with

HBsAg seroclearance 24 weeks and 48 weeks after completion of consolidation phase treatment, in patients stopping NA (at FU Week 2) without restarting NA treatment, versus those without HBsAg seroclearance at those time points.

9.4.2. Safety Analyses

The safety analyses will be based on the safety population (defined in Section 9.3) and are specified in Section 9.4.3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

Safety will be evaluated by descriptive summaries of AEs including AEs of special interest and other toxicities to any of the study interventions, clinical laboratory tests, ECGs, vital signs, physical examinations, eGFR_{cr} and eGFR_{cys}. The safety analysis will be done by study phase and cohort. Results will be presented in tabular format and/or graphically over time, as appropriate.

9.4.3. Other Analyses

Pharmacokinetic Analyses

Descriptive statistics (n, mean, SD, coefficient of variation [CV], geometric mean, median, minimum, and maximum) will be calculated for the plasma or serum concentrations of JNJ-3989 (ie, JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924) and, optionally, JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, as applicable, and for the derived PK parameters for noncompartmental PK analysis.

For each participant with intensive PK sampling, concentration-time data of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and optionally JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a will be graphically presented. Similarly, graphs of the mean concentration-time profiles and overlay graphs with combined individual concentration-time profiles will be produced. PK parameters in participants undergoing intensive PK sampling will be calculated via noncompartmental methods for JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and optionally of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a, as applicable. The PK parameters will be C_{max}, C_{24h}, and AUC_{24h}. The PK parameters will be subjected to an exploratory graphical analysis, including various transformations, to get a general overview.

To assess the effect of PegIFN- α 2a on JNJ-3989, the PK parameters of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924 coadministered with PegIFN- α 2a at Week 8 (or 4) of the consolidation phase will be compared to those of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924 at Week 24 (or 28 or 32) of the induction phase as reference. The primary PK parameters are C_{max} and AUC_{24h} on the logarithmic scale. A mixed effects model will be fitted to log-transformed PK parameters with phase (induction or consolidation) as a fixed effect and subject as a random effect.

Special attention will be paid to the concentrations and PK parameters of those participants who discontinued the study for an AE, or who experienced an AE \geq grade 3 or an SAE.

Population PK analysis of concentration-time data of JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and, optionally, of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a may be performed using non-linear mixed effects modeling. Data may be combined with selected Phase 1 and/or 2 studies to support a relevant structural model. Available participant characteristics (eg, demographics, laboratory variables, genotypes)

will be included in the model as necessary. Details will be given in a population PK analysis plan and results of the population PK analysis, if applied, will be presented in a separate report.

Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Analyses

Relationships of PK parameters for JNJ-3976 and JNJ-3924, and, optionally, of JNJ-6379, NA and/or PegIFN- α 2a with selected efficacy and with selected safety endpoints will be evaluated and graphically displayed, if applicable.

Modeling of key PD parameters (eg, HBsAg, HBV DNA) may be performed using population PK/PD. If PK/PD modeling of key efficacy endpoints is performed, treatment effect and possible covariates may be investigated. Other biomarkers may be explored at the sponsor's discretion.

Immune Analyses

Descriptive statistics (n, mean, SD, CV, geometric mean, median, minimum, and maximum) will be used to describe the magnitude of the gamma interferon (IFN- γ) T-cell response or the CD4+ and CD8+ T-cell responses (expressing at least 1 cytokine such as interleukin [IL]-2, tumor necrosis factor [TNF]- α or IFN- γ specific to any HBV antigen) as defined by ELISpot and/or ICS, respectively. Changes from baseline (if present) will also be tabulated for PBMCs during study intervention and follow-up. The proportion (%) of CHB patients with positive responses based on the magnitude of the IFN- γ T-cell response or the CD4+ or CD8+ T-cells expressing at least 1 of the cytokines amongst IL-2, TNF- α or IFN- γ for 1 of the HBV antigens as defined by ELISpot and/or ICS, respectively, will be determined.

Pharmacogenomic Analyses

The statistical approach for analyzing the exploratory host DNA research, including epigenetic analyses, may depend on the objective of the analyses (eg, efficacy, safety, and/or PK) and possibly relevant genes at the time of analysis. Analyses will be conducted at the sponsor's discretion, will always be under the sponsor's supervision, and results will be presented either in the clinical study report or a separate report.

Host Biomarker Analyses

Statistical approaches to explore correlations between clinical outcome and blood biomarkers vary and depend on the different data types of the applied technology platforms, as well as on the extent of observed interindividual variability. Analyses will be conducted at the sponsor's discretion, will always be under the sponsor's supervision, and results will be presented either in the clinical study report or a separate report.

9.5. Interim Analyses

Two IAs will be conducted to assess safety and evaluate the time course of different safety and efficacy markers to support the sponsor's interactions with health authorities, as well as to inform internal decisions about additional studies and/or investigation of other treatment combination regimens.

The first IA is planned when approximately 50% of the total number of participants enrolled have completed Week 24 of the induction phase or discontinued earlier. The second IA is planned when all participants have completed Week 48 or discontinued earlier.

The study is open-label, and the Sponsor will conduct the pre-planned IA(s). Hence, the study team and the DRC will have access to the interim analysis results, while the investigators and patients will not.

Additional IAs may be performed by the sponsor before the final analysis, to support interactions with health authorities.

Both primary and interim analyses will be based on all data available at the predefined cut-off time points, and may include data at later time points for those participants who have reached subsequent visits.

More details are provided in Section 9.5 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

9.6. Data Review Committee

A DRC will be established as noted in Committees Structure in Appendix 10.3, Regulatory, Ethical, and Study Oversight Considerations.

The Sponsor Committee includes representatives from the sponsor's Clinical, Biostatistics, Global Medical Safety, and Virology departments. DRC and Sponsor Committee members will not be involved in the study conduct. The Sponsor Committee will review the time course of the different HBV disease blood markers to make internal decisions and prepare for interactions with Health Authorities. Details on the roles and responsibilities of the DRC and the Sponsor Committee will be described in the charter.

9.7. Independent Flare Expert Panel

An IFLEP will be appointed. The IFLEP is composed of 3 independent medical experts with experience and expertise in hepatitis B and its treatment. The IFLEP will monitor ALT flares and will make recommendations regarding flare management based on an analysis of aggregate data.

In order to allow for an unbiased assessment, members of the committee will not serve as study investigators or as members of the DRC. Further details on the IFLEP process will be included in the IFLEP charter.

10. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**10.1. Appendix 1: Abbreviations and Definitions of Terms****Abbreviations**

AASLD	American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
AE	adverse event
A/H	animal/human ratio
AFP	alpha-fetoprotein
ALP	alkaline phosphatase
ALT	alanine aminotransferase
APASL	Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver
AST	aspartate aminotransferase
AUC	area under the concentration-time curve
AUC _{0-xh}	area under the concentration-time curve from administration to x hours
AUC _{0-last}	area under the concentration-time curve from administration to last quantifiable sampling point
AUC _∞	area under the concentration-time curve to last sampling point from time zero extrapolated to infinity
AUC _τ	area under the concentration-time curve over the dosing interval (τ)
BCRP	breast cancer resistance protein
BMI	body mass index
bpm	beats per minute
C _{24h}	concentration 24 hours after administration
CAM	capsid assembly modulator
cccDNA	covalently closed circular deoxyribonucleic acid
CHB	chronic hepatitis B
CI	confidence interval
CKD-EPI	Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration
CL/F	total apparent oral clearance
CL _{int}	intrinsic clearance
C _{max}	maximum concentration
CRF	case report form
CT	computed tomography
C _τ	concentration at the end of the dosing interval (τ)
CV	coefficient of variation
CYP	cytochrome P450
DAIDS	Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
DBP	diastolic blood pressure
DDI	drug-drug interaction
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
DRC	Data review committee
EASL	European Association for the Study of the Liver
ECG	electrocardiogram
EFD	embryofetal development
eGFR _{cr}	estimated glomerular filtration rate based on serum creatinine
eGFR _{cys}	estimated glomerular filtration rate based on cystatin C
ELISpot	enzyme-linked immunospot
E _{max}	maximum effect
EOS	end-of-study
EOSI	end-of-study intervention
EQ-5D-5L	5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension
ETV	entecavir
FU	follow-up
FSH	follicle-stimulating hormone
GCP	Good Clinical Practice
GESA	Gastroenterological Society of Australia
GLP	Good Laboratory Practice

HBc	hepatitis B core protein
HBQOL	Hepatitis B Quality of Life
HBcrAg	hepatitis B core-related antigen
HBe(Ag)	hepatitis B e (antigen)
HBs(Ag)	hepatitis B surface (antigen)
HBV	hepatitis B virus
HCC	hepatocellular carcinoma
HCV	hepatitis C virus
HDV	hepatitis D virus
HEV	hepatitis E virus
HIV(-1/2)	human immunodeficiency virus (type 1/2)
HLA	human leukocyte antigen
IA	interim analysis
IB	Investigator's Brochure
ICF	informed consent form
ICH	International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use
ICS	intracellular cytokine staining
IFLEP	Independent Flare Expert Panel
IFN	interferon
IFN- γ	gamma interferon
IgG	immunoglobulin G
IgM	immunoglobulin M
IL	Interleukin
IND	Investigational New Drug
INR	International Normalized Ratio
ISA	intervention-specific appendix
ISR	injection site reaction
IT	immune tolerant
ITT	intent-to-treat
IWRS	interactive web response system
KIM-1	Kidney Injury Molecule-1
LLN	lower limit of normal
LLOQ	lower limit of quantification
MAV	minimum acceptable value
MCS	mental component summary
MoA	mode of action
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
NA	nucleos(t)ide analog
NGAL	Neutrophil Gelatinase Associated Lipocalin
NK cells	natural killer cells
NOAEL	no observed adverse effect level
PBMC	peripheral blood mononuclear cell
PCS	physical component summary
PD	pharmacodynamic(s)
PegIFN- α 2a	pegylated interferon alpha-2a
PGIC	Patient Global Impression of Change
pgRNA	pre-genomic ribonucleic acid
PK	pharmacokinetic(s)
PoC	proof of concept
PRO	patient-reported outcome(s)
Q4W	once every 4 weeks
qd	once daily
QTcF	QT interval corrected for heart rate according to Fridericia's formula
QW	once weekly
RBC	red blood cell
rcDNA	relaxed circular deoxyribonucleic acid
RGT	response-guided treatment

RNA	ribonucleic acid
RNAi	ribonucleic acid interference
SAE	serious adverse event
SAP	Statistical Analysis Plan
SBP	systolic blood pressure
SD	standard deviation
SF-36v2	Short Form 36 version 2
siRNA	small interfering ribonucleic acid
$t_{1/2\text{term}}$	terminal half-life
T4	thyroxine
TAF	tenofovir alafenamide
TDF	tenofovir disoproxil fumarate
TK	toxicokinetic
t_{max}	time to reach C_{max}
TNF	tumor necrosis factor
TSH	thyroid-stimulating hormone
TV	target value
ULN	upper limit of normal
US	United States
VAS	Visual Analog Scale
WBC	white blood cell

Definitions of Terms

ALT/AST nadir	Lowest ALT/AST value during study participation
End-of-study intervention (EOSI)	Time of the last administration of study intervention
HBsAg seroclearance	HBsAg negativity based on the assay used
HBsAg seroconversion	HBsAg negativity and anti-HBs antibody positivity
Intervention cohort	Cohorts of adult participants with chronic hepatitis B virus infection who receive a specific study intervention within this Platform study, and in whom the efficacy and safety of that intervention is evaluated
Study intervention	<u>Prior to Protocol Amendment 6:</u> JNJ-73763989, JNJ-56136379, NA (tenofovir disoproxil) and PegIFN- α 2a <u>As of Protocol Amendment 6:</u> JNJ-73763989, NA (tenofovir disoproxil) and PegIFN- α 2a
Study intervention phase	36-week induction phase plus 12-week consolidation phase
Virologic breakthrough	Confirmed on-treatment HBV DNA increase by $>1 \log_{10}$ IU/mL from nadir or confirmed on-treatment HBV DNA level >200 IU/mL in participants who had HBV DNA level $<\text{LLOQ}$ of the HBV DNA assay

10.2. Appendix 2: Clinical Laboratory Tests

The clinical laboratory tests will be performed by the selected laboratory according to the [Schedule of Activities](#). The tests to be performed are discussed in Section 8.2.4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

In addition, the following assessments will be performed specifically for this ISA:

Laboratory Assessments	Parameters	
Clinical Chemistry	Cystatin C	
Urine Chemistry (quantitative measurement)	Creatinine Sodium Phosphate	Glucose Protein Albumin
Renal Biomarkers	Retinol binding protein ^a Beta-2-microglobulin ^a	
Other optional tests in response to ALT flare (refer to Section 10.6, Appendix 6)	Testing for HIV-1 and -2, and hepatitis A, C, and E Testing for CMV, HSV, EBV infection Ig-Electrophoresis	
Thyroid function tests	TSH T4	

a Retinol binding protein and beta-2-microglobulin need to be assessed based on the same urine sample.

10.3. Appendix 3: Regulatory, Ethical, and Study Oversight Considerations

REGULATORY AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

INFORMED CONSENT PROCESS

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

DATA PROTECTION

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

LONG-TERM RETENTION OF SAMPLES FOR ADDITIONAL FUTURE RESEARCH

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

COMMITTEES STRUCTURE

Data Review Committee

A DRC will be established for continuous monitoring of SAEs, AEs leading to discontinuation, and ALT flares. This committee will consist of at least one medical expert in the relevant therapeutic area (hepatology) and at least one statistician; committee membership responsibilities, authorities, and procedures will be documented in its charter. The committee will meet periodically to review data of the efficacy parameters measured by different HBV disease blood markers (eg, HBV DNA, HBeAg, HBsAg, etc).

The DRC members will be appointed before the start of the study to review the interim data for both safety and efficacy and formulate recommendation(s) to the Sponsor Committee, who will make the final decision(s). The Sponsor Committee includes representatives from the sponsor's Clinical, Biostatistics, Global Medical Safety and Virology departments. DRC and Sponsor Committee members will not be involved in the study conduct.

Details on the roles and responsibilities of the DRC and Sponsor Committee, as well as the flows of communication, will be documented in the DRC charter.

Independent Flare Expert Panel

An IFLEP will be appointed. The IFLEP is composed of 3 independent medical experts with experience and expertise in HBV and its treatment. The responsibilities of the IFLEP include: conduct regular review of all relevant and available individual participant study data related to ALT flares; determine and adjudicate each ALT flare; and provide documentation of the final decision to DRC. Adjudication review cycles will match DRC schedule and will be set up ideally 2 weeks before DRC.

In order to allow for an unbiased assessment, members of the committee will not serve as study investigators or as members of the DRC.

Further details on the IFLEP process will be included in the IFLEP charter.

PUBLICATION POLICY/DISSEMINATION OF CLINICAL STUDY DATA

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

DATA QUALITY ASSURANCE

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

CASE REPORT FORM COMPLETION

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

MONITORING

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

ON-SITE AUDITS

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

RECORD RETENTION

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

STUDY AND SITE START AND CLOSURE

First Act of Recruitment

The first site open is considered the first act of recruitment and it becomes the study start date.

Study Termination

Refer to Attachment 3 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

10.4. Appendix 4: Adverse Events: Definitions and Procedures for Recording, Evaluating, Follow-up, and Reporting**ADVERSE EVENT DEFINITIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

ATTRIBUTION DEFINITIONS

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

SEVERITY CRITERIA

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

SPECIAL REPORTING SITUATIONS

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

PROCEDURES

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

CONTACTING SPONSOR REGARDING SAFETY

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

PRODUCT QUALITY COMPLAINT HANDLING

Refer to Attachment 4 of the Master Protocol PLATFORMPAHPB2001.

10.5. Appendix 5: Rash Management

Table 6: Management of Rash Events by Severity Grade

	Definition	Study Intervention Action	Activities by Day ^a	Referral to Dermatologist and Dermatology Activities
Grade 1 rash (with or without pruritus)^b	Erythema	Study intervention intake may be continued at the investigator's discretion	<p><u>Day 0</u>: optional on-site visit for initial rash evaluation may be performed at the investigator's discretion.</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments may be performed at the investigator's discretion (recommended if visit occurs).</p> <p>Digital pictures^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion.</p> <p>Determine if participant was adhering to the recommended sun-protective measures. If appropriate, provide sun protection counseling.</p> <p><u>Day 1 and thereafter</u>: appropriate follow-up visits at the investigator's discretion until resolution of rash.</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments and photography (digital pictures^c of skin lesions) may be performed at the investigator's discretion.</p>	Not required
Grade 2 rash (with or without pruritus)^b	Diffuse, maculopapular rash, or dry desquamation	Study intervention intake may be continued at the investigator's discretion	<p><u>Day 0</u>: required on-site visit (if a visit is not possible, telephone contact with the participant should take place to collect information and give advice on the necessary measures to be taken).</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments may be performed at the investigator's discretion (recommended).</p> <p>Digital pictures^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion. Digital pictures^c of skin lesions are recommended in case consultation of a dermatologist is required. Determine if participant was adhering to the recommended sun-protective measures. If appropriate, provide sun protection counseling.</p> <p><u>Day 1 and thereafter</u>: appropriate follow-up visits at the investigator's discretion until resolution of rash or until clinical stability is reached.</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments are required on Day 1 and are required thereafter only if the previous values were abnormal (but may be performed at the investigator's discretion). If the rash progresses to a</p>	<p>Referral to dermatologist at the discretion of the investigator^d</p> <p>Biopsy not required, but may be performed at the dermatologist's discretion</p>

Table 6: Management of Rash Events by Severity Grade

	Definition	Study Intervention Action	Activities by Day ^a	Referral to Dermatologist and Dermatology Activities
			higher grade, safety laboratory assessments of the higher grade should be followed. Digital pictures ^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion.	
Grade 3 rash^b	<p>Vesiculation, moist desquamation, or ulceration OR</p> <p>Any cutaneous event with 1 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elevations in AST/ALT >2×baseline value - Fever >38°C or 100°F - Eosinophils >1.00×10³/μL - Serum sickness-like reaction 	<p>Must permanently discontinue JNJ-3989 and PegIFN α2a; no rechallenge allowed</p> <p>NA treatment may be discontinued based on investigator judgement in consultation with the sponsor</p>	<p><u>Day 0</u>: required on-site visit.</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments required to be performed.</p> <p>Digital pictures^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion (recommended).</p> <p>Determine if participant was adhering to the recommended sun-protective measures. If appropriate, provide sun protection counseling.</p> <p><u>Day 1</u>: required on-site visit.</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments required to be performed.</p> <p>Digital pictures^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion (recommended).</p> <p><u>Further visit(s)</u>: appropriate follow-up required until resolution of rash or until clinical stability is reached.</p> <p>Safety laboratory assessments and photography (digital pictures^c of skin lesions) are recommended to be performed until the rash severity resolves to grade 2 or grade 1.</p>	<p>Required^d</p> <p>Biopsy not required, but may be performed at the dermatologist's discretion.</p>

Table 6: Management of Rash Events by Severity Grade

	Definition	Study Intervention Action	Activities by Day ^a	Referral to Dermatologist and Dermatology Activities
Grade 4 rash	Exfoliative dermatitis OR Mucous membrane involvement in at least 2 distinct sites OR Erythema multiforme major OR Stevens-Johnson syndrome OR Toxic epidermal necrolysis OR Necrosis requiring surgery	Must permanently discontinue JNJ-3989 and PegIFN α 2a; no rechallenge allowed NA treatment may be discontinued based on investigator judgement in consultation with the sponsor	<u>Day 0</u> : required on-site visit. Safety laboratory assessments required to be performed. Digital pictures ^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion (recommended). Determine if participant was adhering to the recommended sun-protective measures. If appropriate, provide sun protection counseling. <u>Day 1</u> : required on-site visit. Safety laboratory assessments required to be performed. Digital pictures ^c of skin lesions may be taken at the investigator's discretion (recommended). <u>Further visit(s)</u> : appropriate follow-up required until resolution of rash or until clinical stability is reached. Safety laboratory assessments and photography (digital pictures ^c of skin lesions) are recommended to be performed until the rash severity resolves to grade 2 or grade 1.	Required ^d Biopsy required and to be performed as soon as possible after the onset of the rash.

AE: adverse event; ALT: alanine aminotransferase; AST: aspartate aminotransferase; NA: nucleos(t)ide analog.

^a Day 0 of the rash is the first day of investigator assessment and not the first day of rash as reported by the participant. The initial visit should be conducted as soon as possible after the participant contacts the investigator to report the AE (ie, preferably on Day 0). The initial visit and subsequent visits to manage the rash may require unscheduled visit(s).

^b The participant should be advised to contact the investigator immediately if there is any worsening of the rash, if any systemic signs or symptoms appear, or if mucosal involvement develops. In case the rash evolves to a higher grade than that first observed, management of the rash should follow the guidelines indicated for the higher grade.

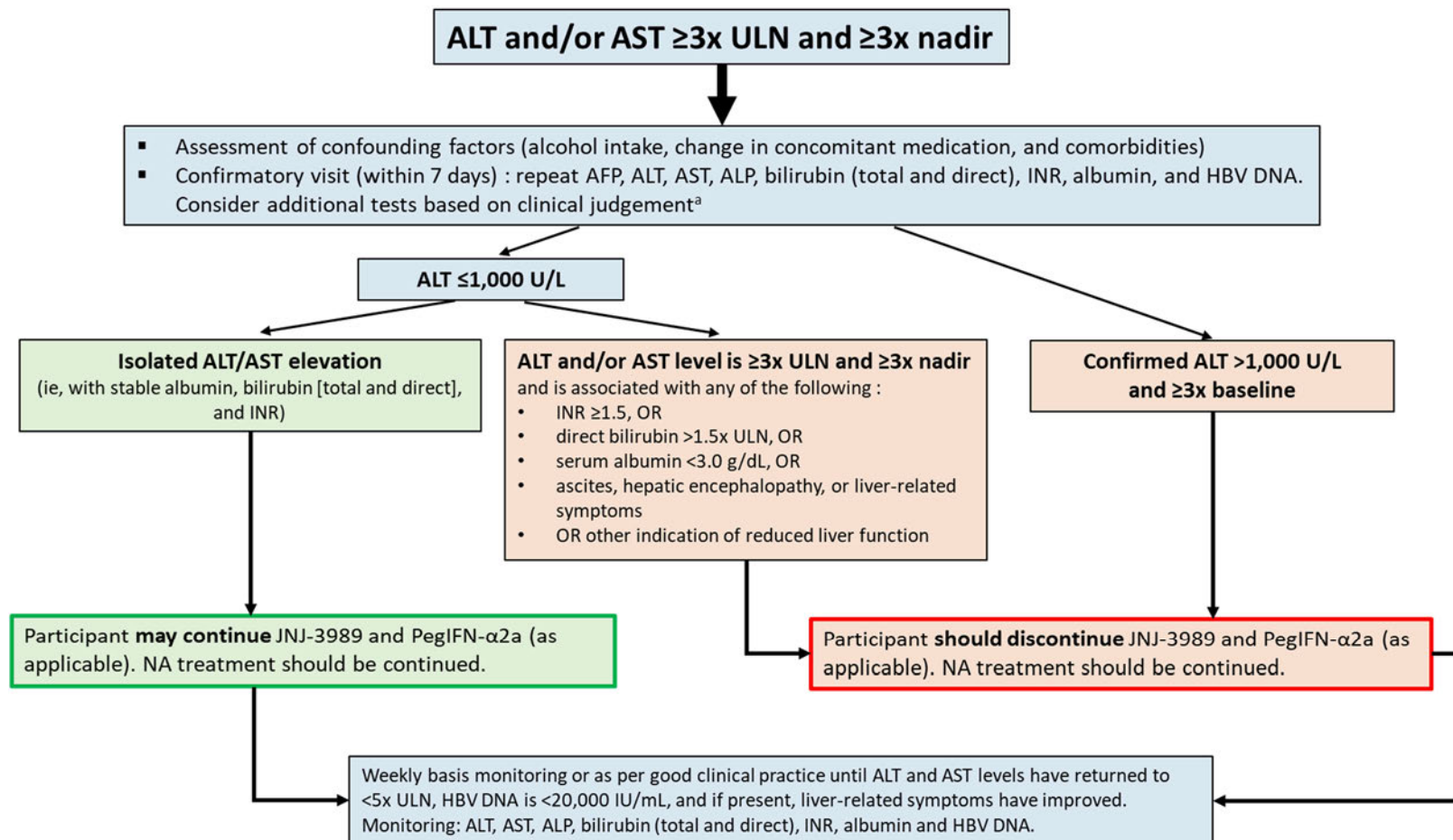
^c Digital pictures to be taken at the clinical site upon consent of the participant.

^d If applicable, dermatologist visit should occur preferably within 24 hours after onset of rash.

Notes:

- Local laboratory assessments are to be used for rash management. The values of the local laboratory assessments need to be transcribed in the CRF by the study site personnel.
- A copy of the dermatologist's report, biopsy, and/or digital pictures if performed, should be made anonymous and provided to the sponsor.

10.6. Appendix 6: Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations



^a Additional tests may be considered based on clinical judgement in case of confirmed ALT flares:

- Hepatitis A, Delta, C, E: IgM anti-HAV; delta IgM, IgG and PCR, HCV RNA, IgM and IgG anti-HEV, HEV RNA
- CMV, HSV, EBV infection: IgM and IgG anti-CMV, IgM and IgG anti-HSV; IgM and IgG anti-EBV, PCR
- HIV
- Ig-Electrophoresis

10.7. Appendix 7: Cardiovascular Safety – Abnormalities

ECG

All important abnormalities from the ECG readings will be listed.

Abnormality Code	ECG parameter			
	Heart Rate	PR	QRS	QT _{corrected}
Abnormalities on actual values				
Abnormally low	<45 bpm	NAP	-	-
Abnormally high	≥120 bpm	>220 ms	≥120 ms	-
Borderline prolonged QT	-	-	-	450 ms < QTc ≤480 ms
Prolonged QT	-	-	-	480 ms < QTc ≤500 ms
Pathologically prolonged QT	-	-	-	QTc >500 ms
Abnormalities on changes from baseline (ΔQTc)				
Normal QTc change	-	-	-	Δ QTc <30 ms
Borderline QTc change	-	-	-	30 ms ≤ Δ QTc ≤60 ms
Abnormally high QTc change	-	-	-	Δ QTc >60 ms

ECG: electrocardiogram; NAP = not applicable

For absolute QTc parameters the categories are defined based on the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) E14 Guidance^a

Vital Signs^b

The following abnormalities will be defined for vital signs:

Abnormality Code	Vital Signs parameter		
	Pulse	DBP	SBP
Abnormalities on actual values			
Abnormally low	≤45 bpm	≤50 mmHg	≤90 mmHg
Grade 1 or mild	-	>90 mmHg - <100 mmHg	>140 mmHg - <160 mmHg
Grade 2 or moderate	-	≥100 mmHg - <110 mmHg	≥160 mmHg - <180 mmHg
Grade 3 or severe	-	≥110 mmHg	≥180 mmHg
Abnormally high	≥120 bpm	-	-

DBP: diastolic blood pressure; SBP: systolic blood pressure

^a The clinical evaluation of QT/QTc interval prolongation and proarrhythmic potential for non-antiarrhythmic drugs CHMP/ICH/2/04, May 2005.

^b The classification of AEs related to hypotension and hypertension will be done according to the DAIDS grading scale.

10.8. Appendix 8: Contraceptive and Barrier Guidance and Collection of Pregnancy Information

Participants must follow contraceptive measures as outlined in Section 5.1. Pregnancy information will be collected and reported as noted in Section 8.3.5.

Definitions

Woman of Childbearing Potential (WOCBP)

A woman is considered fertile following menarche and until becoming postmenopausal unless permanently sterile (see below).

Woman Not of Childbearing Potential

- **premenarchal**
A premenarchal state is one in which menarche has not yet occurred.
- **postmenopausal**
A postmenopausal state is defined as no menses for 12 months without an alternative medical cause. A high follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) level (>40 IU/L or mIU/mL) in the postmenopausal range may be used to confirm a postmenopausal state in women not using hormonal contraception or hormonal replacement therapy (HRT). However, in the absence of 12 months of amenorrhea, a single FSH measurement is insufficient to confirm a woman is not of childbearing potential. If there is a question about menopausal status in women on HRT, the woman will be required to use one of the non-estrogen-containing hormonal highly effective contraceptive methods if she wishes to continue HRT during the study.
- **permanently sterile**
Permanent sterilization methods include hysterectomy, bilateral salpingectomy, or bilateral oophorectomy.

Note: If the childbearing potential changes after start of the study (eg, a premenarchal woman experiences menarche) or the risk of pregnancy changes (eg, a woman who is not heterosexually active becomes active), a woman must begin a highly effective method of contraception, as described throughout the inclusion criteria.

If reproductive status is questionable, additional evaluation should be considered.

Contraceptive (birth control) use by men or women should be consistent with local regulations regarding the acceptable methods of contraception for those participating in clinical studies.

Examples of Contraceptives

EXAMPLES OF CONTRACEPTIVES ^a ALLOWED DURING THE STUDY INCLUDE:
USER INDEPENDENT Highly Effective Methods That Are User Independent <i>Failure rate of $<1\%$ per year when used consistently and correctly.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implantable progestogen-only hormone contraception associated with inhibition of ovulation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intrauterine device (IUD)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intrauterine hormone-releasing system (IUS)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tubal closure (eg, bilateral tubal occlusion, bilateral tubal ligation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azoospermic partner (<i>vasectomized or due to medical cause</i>) (<i>Vasectomized partner is a highly effective contraceptive method provided that the partner is the sole sexual partner of the woman of childbearing potential and the absence of sperm has been confirmed. If not, additional highly effective method of contraception should be used. Spermatogenesis cycle is approximately 74 days.</i>)
USER DEPENDENT Highly Effective Methods That Are User Dependent <i>Failure rate of <1% per year when used consistently and correctly.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combined (estrogen- and progestogen-containing) hormonal contraception associated with inhibition of ovulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> oral intravaginal transdermal injectable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progestogen-only hormone contraception associated with inhibition of ovulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> oral injectable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual abstinence <i>(Sexual abstinence is considered a highly effective method only if defined as refraining from heterosexual intercourse during the entire period of risk associated with the study intervention. The reliability of sexual abstinence needs to be evaluated in relation to the duration of the study and the preferred and usual lifestyle of the participant.)</i>
<p>a) Typical use failure rates may differ from those when used consistently and correctly. Use should be consistent with local regulations regarding the use of contraceptive methods for participants in clinical studies.</p>

10.9. Appendix 9: DAIDS Table

DIVISION OF AIDS (DAIDS) TABLE FOR GRADING THE SEVERITY OF ADULT AND PEDIATRIC ADVERSE EVENTS, VERSION 2.1, PUBLISH DATE: JULY, 2017

The DAIDS grading table is a descriptive terminology to be utilized for AE reporting in this study. A grading (severity) scale is provided for each AE term.

General Instructions

Grading Adult and Pediatric Adverse Events

When a single parameter is not appropriate for grading an AE in both adult and pediatric populations, separate parameters with specified age ranges are provided. If there is no distinction between adult and pediatric populations, the listed parameter should be used for grading an AE in both populations.

Determining Severity Grade for Parameters Between Grades

If the severity of an AE could fall under either 1 of 2 grades (eg, the severity of an AE could be either grade 2 or grade 3), sites should select the higher of the 2 grades.

Laboratory normal ranges should be taken into consideration to assign gradings to a laboratory value.

Definitions

Basic self-care functions	<u>Adults</u> : activities such as bathing, dressing, toileting, transfer/movement, continence, and feeding <u>Young children</u> : activities that are age and culturally appropriate (eg, feeding self with culturally appropriate eating implements)
Usual social & functional activities	Activities which adults and children perform on a routine basis and those which are part of regular activities of daily living, for example: <u>Adults</u> : adaptive tasks and desirable activities, such as going to work, shopping, cooking, use of transportation, or pursuing a hobby <u>Young Children</u> : activities that are age and culturally appropriate (eg, social interactions, play activities, learning tasks)
Intervention	Medical, surgical, or other procedures recommended or provided by a healthcare professional for the treatment of an AE.

Estimating Severity Grade for Parameters not Identified in the Grading Table

The functional table below should be used to grade the severity of an AE that is not specifically identified in the grading table. In addition, all deaths related to an AE are to be classified as grade 5.

PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Clinical AE <u>NOT</u> identified elsewhere in the grading table	Mild symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities with intervention not indicated	Moderate symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities with intervention indicated	Severe symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities with intervention or hospitalization indicated	Potentially life threatening symptoms causing inability to perform basic self care functions with intervention indicated to prevent permanent impairment, persistent disability, or death

Note: Laboratory abnormalities may have their grading defined in the DAIDS table below, however, all laboratory abnormalities do not necessarily represent an AE. If a laboratory abnormality is considered an AE, the AE need not have the same grade as the laboratory abnormality itself. The AE grade for a laboratory abnormality should be defined by the table above.

MAJOR CLINICAL CONDITIONS				
CARDIOVASCULAR				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Arrhythmia (by ECG or physical examination) <i>Specify type, if applicable</i>	No symptoms AND No intervention indicated	No symptoms AND Non urgent intervention indicated	Non life threatening symptoms AND Non urgent intervention indicated	Life threatening arrhythmia OR Urgent intervention indicated
Blood Pressure Abnormalities^a <i>Hypertension (with the lowest reading taken after repeat testing during a visit) aged ≥18 years</i>	140 to <160 mmHg systolic OR 90 to <100 mmHg diastolic	≥160 to <180 mmHg systolic OR ≥100 to <110 mmHg diastolic	≥180 mmHg systolic OR ≥110 mmHg diastolic	Life threatening consequences in a participant not previously diagnosed with hypertension (eg, malignant hypertension) OR Hospitalization indicated
<i>aged <18 years</i>	>120/80 mmHg	≥95 th to <99 th percentile + 5 mmHg adjusted for age, height, and gender (systolic and/or diastolic)	≥99 th percentile + 5 mmHg adjusted for age, height, and gender (systolic and/or diastolic)	Life threatening consequences in a participant not previously diagnosed with hypertension (eg, malignant hypertension) OR Hospitalization indicated
Hypotension	No symptoms	Symptoms corrected with oral fluid replacement	Symptoms AND IV fluids indicated	Shock requiring use of vasopressors or mechanical assistance to maintain blood pressure
Cardiac Ischemia or Infarction <i>Report only 1</i>	NAP	NAP	New symptoms with ischemia (stable angina) OR New testing consistent with ischemia	Unstable angina OR Acute myocardial infarction

ECG: electrocardiogram; IV: intravenous; NAP: not applicable

^a Blood pressure norms for children aged <18 years can be found in: Expert Panel on Integrated Guidelines for Cardiovascular Health and Risk Reduction in Children and Adolescents. Pediatrics 2011;128;S213; originally published online November 14, 2011; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2009 2107C.

MAJOR CLINICAL CONDITIONS				
CARDIOVASCULAR				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Heart Failure	No symptoms AND Laboratory or cardiac imaging abnormalities	Symptoms with mild to moderate activity or exertion	Symptoms at rest or with minimal activity or exertion (eg, hypoxemia) OR Intervention indicated (eg, oxygen)	Life threatening consequences OR Urgent intervention indicated (eg, vasoactive medications, ventricular assist device, heart transplant)
Hemorrhage (with significant acute blood loss)	NAP	Symptoms AND No transfusion indicated	Symptoms AND Transfusion of ≤ 2 units packed RBCs indicated	Life threatening hypotension OR Transfusion of > 2 units packed RBCs (for children, packed RBCs > 10 cc/kg) indicated
Prolonged PR Interval or AV Block <i>Report only 1</i> <i>aged > 16 years</i>	PR interval 0.21 to < 0.25 seconds	PR interval ≥ 0.25 seconds OR Type I 2 nd degree AV block	Type II 2 nd degree AV block OR Ventricular pause ≥ 3.0 seconds	Complete AV block
<i>aged ≤ 16 years</i>	1 st degree AV block (PR interval $>$ normal for age and rate)	Type I 2 nd degree AV block	Type II 2 nd degree AV block OR Ventricular pause ≥ 3.0 seconds	Complete AV block
Prolonged QTc Interval as per Fridericia's formula^b	0.45 to 0.47 seconds	> 0.47 to 0.50 seconds	> 0.50 seconds OR ≥ 0.06 seconds above baseline	Life threatening consequences (eg, TdP, other associated serious ventricular dysrhythmia)
Thrombosis or Embolism <i>Report only 1</i>	NAP	Symptoms AND No intervention indicated	Symptoms AND Intervention indicated	Life threatening embolic event (eg, pulmonary embolism, thrombus)

AV: atrioventricular; NAP: not applicable; RBC: red blood cell; TdP: Torsades de Pointes

^b Modified by the sponsor.

DERMATOLOGIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Alopecia (scalp only)	Detectable by participant, representative, or physician AND Causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Obvious on visual inspection AND Causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	NAP	NAP
Bruising	Localized to 1 area	Localized to more than 1 area	Generalized	NAP
Cellulitis	NAP	Nonparenteral treatment indicated (eg, oral antibiotics, antifungals, antivirals)	IV treatment indicated (eg, IV antibiotics, antifungals, antivirals)	Life threatening consequences (eg, sepsis, tissue necrosis)
Hyperpigmentation	Slight or localized causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Marked or generalized causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	NAP	NAP
Hypopigmentation	Slight or localized causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Marked or generalized causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	NAP	NAP
Petechiae	Localized to 1 area	Localized to more than 1 area	Generalized	NAP
Pruritus^c (without skin lesions)	Itching causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Itching causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Itching causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	NAP
Rash <i>Specify type, if applicable</i>	Localized rash	Diffuse rash OR Target lesions	Diffuse rash AND Vesicles or limited number of bullae OR superficial ulcerations of mucous membrane limited to 1 site	Extensive or generalized bullous lesions OR Ulceration of mucous membrane involving 2 or more distinct mucosal sites OR Stevens Johnson syndrome OR Toxic epidermal necrolysis

IV: intravenous; NAP: not applicable

^c For pruritus associated with injections or infusions, refer to the [SITE REACTIONS TO INJECTIONS AND INFUSIONS](#) section.

ENDOCRINE AND METABOLIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Diabetes Mellitus	Controlled without medication	Controlled with medication OR Modification of current medication regimen	Uncontrolled despite treatment modification OR Hospitalization for immediate glucose control indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, ketoacidosis, hyperosmolar nonketotic coma, end organ failure)
Gynecomastia	Detectable by participant, representative, or physician AND Causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Obvious on visual inspection AND Causing pain with greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Disfiguring changes AND Symptoms requiring intervention or causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	NAP
Hyperthyroidism	No symptoms AND Abnormal laboratory value	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Thyroid suppression therapy indicated	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities OR Uncontrolled despite treatment modification	Life threatening consequences (eg, thyroid storm)
Hypothyroidism	No symptoms AND Abnormal laboratory value	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Thyroid replacement therapy indicated	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities OR Uncontrolled despite treatment modification	Life threatening consequences (eg, myxedema coma)
Lipoatrophy^d	Detectable by participant, representative, or physician AND Causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Obvious on visual inspection AND Causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Disfiguring changes	NAP
Lipohypertrophy^e	Detectable by participant, representative, or physician AND Causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Obvious on visual inspection AND Causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Disfiguring changes	NAP

NAP: not applicable

^d A disorder characterized by fat loss in the face, extremities, and buttocks.

^e A disorder characterized by abnormal fat accumulation on the back of the neck, breasts, and abdomen.

GASTROINTESTINAL				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Anorexia	Loss of appetite without decreased oral intake	Loss of appetite associated with decreased oral intake without significant weight loss	Loss of appetite associated with significant weight loss	Life threatening consequences OR Aggressive intervention indicated (eg, tube feeding, total parenteral nutrition)
Ascites	No symptoms	Symptoms AND Intervention indicated (eg, diuretics, therapeutic paracentesis)	Symptoms recur or persist despite intervention	Life threatening consequences
Bloating or Distension <i>Report only 1</i>	Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	NAP
Cholecystitis	NAP	Symptoms AND Medical intervention indicated	Radiologic, endoscopic, or operative intervention indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, sepsis, perforation)
Constipation	NAP	Persistent constipation requiring regular use of dietary modifications, laxatives, or enemas	Obstipation with manual evacuation indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, obstruction)
Diarrhea <i>aged ≥1 year</i>	Transient or intermittent episodes of unformed stools OR Increase of ≤3 stools over baseline per 24 hour period	Persistent episodes of unformed to watery stools OR Increase of 4 to 6 stools over baseline per 24 hour period	Increase of ≥7 stools per 24 hour period OR IV fluid replacement indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, hypotensive shock)
<i>aged <1 year</i>	Liquid stools (more unformed than usual) but usual number of stools	Liquid stools with increased number of stools OR Mild dehydration	Liquid stools with moderate dehydration	Life threatening consequences (eg, liquid stools resulting in severe dehydration, hypotensive shock)
Dysphagia or Odynophagia <i>Report only 1 and specify location</i>	Symptoms but able to eat usual diet	Symptoms causing altered dietary intake with no intervention indicated	Symptoms causing severely altered dietary intake with intervention indicated	Life threatening reduction in oral intake
Gastrointestinal Bleeding	Not requiring intervention other than iron supplement	Endoscopic intervention indicated	Transfusion indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, hypotensive shock)

IV: intravenous; NAP: not applicable

GASTROINTESTINAL				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Mucositis or Stomatitis <i>Report only 1 and specify location</i>	Mucosal erythema	Patchy pseudomembranes or ulcerations	Confluent pseudomembranes or ulcerations OR Mucosal bleeding with minor trauma	Life threatening consequences (eg, aspiration, choking) OR Tissue necrosis OR Diffuse spontaneous mucosal bleeding
Nausea	Transient (<24 hours) or intermittent AND No or minimal interference with oral intake	Persistent nausea resulting in decreased oral intake for 24 to 48 hours	Persistent nausea resulting in minimal oral intake for >48 hours OR Rehydration indicated (eg, IV fluids)	Life threatening consequences (eg, hypotensive shock)
Pancreatitis	NAP	Symptoms with hospitalization not indicated	Symptoms with hospitalization indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, circulatory failure, hemorrhage, sepsis)
Perforation (colon or rectum)	NAP	NAP	Intervention indicated	Life threatening consequences
Proctitis	Rectal discomfort with no intervention indicated	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Medical intervention indicated	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities OR Operative intervention indicated	Life threatening consequences (eg, perforation)
Rectal Discharge	Visible discharge	Discharge requiring the use of pads	NAP	NAP
Vomiting	Transient or intermittent AND No or minimal interference with oral intake	Frequent episodes with no or mild dehydration	Persistent vomiting resulting in orthostatic hypotension OR Aggressive rehydration indicated (eg, IV fluids)	Life threatening consequences (eg, hypotensive shock)

IV: intravenous; NAP: not applicable

MUSCULOSKELETAL				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Arthralgia	Joint pain causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Joint pain causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Joint pain causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling joint pain causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Arthritis	Stiffness or joint swelling causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Stiffness or joint swelling causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Stiffness or joint swelling causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling joint stiffness or swelling causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Myalgia (generalized)	Muscle pain causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Muscle pain causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Muscle pain causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling muscle pain causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Osteonecrosis	NAP	No symptoms but with radiographic findings AND No operative intervention indicated	Bone pain with radiographic findings OR Operative intervention indicated	Disabling bone pain with radiographic findings causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Osteopenia ^f <i>aged ≥30 years</i>	BMD t score 2.5 to 1	NAP	NAP	NAP
<i>aged <30 years</i>	BMD z score 2 to 1	NAP	NAP	NAP
Osteoporosis ^f <i>aged ≥30 years</i>	NAP	BMD t score < 2.5	Pathologic fracture (eg, compression fracture causing loss of vertebral height)	Pathologic fracture causing life threatening consequences
<i>aged <30 years</i>	NAP	BMD z score < 2	Pathologic fracture (eg, compression fracture causing loss of vertebral height)	Pathologic fracture causing life threatening consequences

BMD: bone mineral density; NAP: not applicable

^f Bone mineral density t and z scores can be found in: Kanis JA on behalf of the World Health Organization Scientific Group (2007). Assessment of osteoporosis at the primary health care level. Technical Report. World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Metabolic Bone Diseases, University of Sheffield, UK. 2007: Printed by the University of Sheffield.

NEUROLOGIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Acute CNS Ischemia	NAP	NAP	Transient ischemic attack	Cerebral vascular accident (eg, stroke with neurological deficit)
Altered Mental Status (for Dementia, refer to <i>Cognitive, Behavioral, or Attentional Disturbance</i> below)	Changes causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Mild lethargy or somnolence causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Confusion, memory impairment, lethargy, or somnolence causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Delirium OR Obtundation OR Coma
Ataxia	Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR No symptoms with ataxia detected on examination	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling symptoms causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Cognitive, Behavioral, or Attentional Disturbance (includes dementia and attention deficit disorder) <i>Specify type, if applicable</i>	Disability causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Specialized resources not indicated	Disability causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Specialized resources on part time basis indicated	Disability causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities OR Specialized resources on a full time basis indicated	Disability causing inability to perform basic self care functions OR Institutionalization indicated
Developmental Delay <i>Specify type, if applicable</i> <i>aged <18 years</i>	Mild developmental delay, either motor or cognitive, as determined by comparison with a developmental screening tool appropriate for the setting	Moderate developmental delay, either motor or cognitive, as determined by comparison with a developmental screening tool appropriate for the setting	Severe developmental delay, either motor or cognitive, as determined by comparison with a developmental screening tool appropriate for the setting	Developmental regression, either motor or cognitive, as determined by comparison with a developmental screening tool appropriate for the setting
Headache	Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing inability to perform basic self care functions OR Hospitalization indicated OR Headache with significant impairment of alertness or other neurologic function

CNS: central nervous system; NAP: not applicable

NEUROLOGIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Neuromuscular Weakness (includes myopathy and neuropathy) <i>Specify type, if applicable</i>	Minimal muscle weakness causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR No symptoms with decreased strength on examination	Muscle weakness causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Muscle weakness causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling muscle weakness causing inability to perform basic self care functions OR Respiratory muscle weakness impairing ventilation
Neurosensory Alteration (includes paresthesia and painful neuropathy) <i>Specify type, if applicable</i>	Minimal paresthesia causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR No symptoms with sensory alteration on examination	Sensory alteration or paresthesia causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Sensory alteration or paresthesia causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling sensory alteration or paresthesia causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Seizures <i>New Onset Seizure aged ≥ 18 years</i>	NAP	NAP	1 to 3 seizures	Prolonged and repetitive seizures (eg, status epilepticus) OR Difficult to control (eg, refractory epilepsy)
<i>aged <18 years (includes new or pre existing febrile seizures)</i>	Seizure lasting <5 minutes with <24 hours postictal state	Seizure lasting 5 to <20 minutes with <24 hours postictal state	Seizure lasting ≥ 20 minutes OR >24 hours postictal state	Prolonged and repetitive seizures (eg, status epilepticus) OR Difficult to control (eg, refractory epilepsy)
<i>Pre existing Seizure</i>	NAP	Increased frequency from previous level of control without change in seizure character	Change in seizure character either in duration or quality (eg, severity or focality)	Prolonged and repetitive seizures (eg, status epilepticus) OR Difficult to control (eg, refractory epilepsy)
Syncope	Near syncope without loss of consciousness (eg, pre syncope)	Loss of consciousness with no intervention indicated	Loss of consciousness AND Hospitalization or intervention required	NAP

NAP: not applicable

PREGNANCY, PUERPERIUM, AND PERINATAL				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Stillbirth (report using mother's participant ID) <i>Report only 1</i>	NAP	NAP	Fetal death occurring at ≥ 20 weeks gestation	NAP
Preterm Birth (report using mother's participant ID)	Live birth at 34 to <37 weeks gestational age	Live birth at 28 to <34 weeks gestational age	Live birth at 24 to <28 weeks gestational age	Live birth at <24 weeks gestational age
Spontaneous Abortion or Miscarriage^g (report using mother's participant ID) <i>Report only 1</i>	Chemical pregnancy	Uncomplicated spontaneous abortion or miscarriage	Complicated spontaneous abortion or miscarriage	NAP

ID: identity, NAP: not applicable

^g A pregnancy loss occurring at <20 weeks gestational age.

PSYCHIATRIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Insomnia	Mild difficulty falling asleep, staying asleep, or waking up early causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Moderate difficulty falling asleep, staying asleep, or waking up early causing more than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Severe difficulty falling asleep, staying asleep, or waking up early causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities requiring intervention or hospitalization	NAP
Psychiatric Disorders (includes anxiety, depression, mania, and psychosis) <i>Specify disorder</i>	Symptoms with intervention not indicated OR Behavior causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms with intervention indicated OR Behavior causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms with hospitalization indicated OR Behavior causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Threatens harm to self or others OR Acute psychosis OR Behavior causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Suicidal Ideation or Attempt <i>Report only 1</i>	Preoccupied with thoughts of death AND No wish to kill oneself	Preoccupied with thoughts of death AND Wish to kill oneself with no specific plan or intent	Thoughts of killing oneself with partial or complete plans but no attempt to do so OR Hospitalization indicated	Suicide attempted

NAP: not applicable

RESPIRATORY				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Acute Bronchospasm	Forced expiratory volume in 1 second or peak flow reduced to $\geq 70\%$ to $<80\%$ OR Mild symptoms with intervention not indicated	Forced expiratory volume in 1 second or peak flow 50% to $<70\%$ OR Symptoms with intervention indicated OR Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Forced expiratory volume in 1 second or peak flow 25% to $<50\%$ OR Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Forced expiratory volume in 1 second or peak flow $<25\%$ OR Life threatening respiratory or hemodynamic compromise OR Intubation
Dyspnea or Respiratory Distress <i>Report only 1</i>	Dyspnea on exertion with no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Wheezing OR Minimal increase in respiratory rate for age	Dyspnea on exertion causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities OR Nasal flaring OR Intercostal retractions OR Pulse oximetry 90% to $<95\%$	Dyspnea at rest causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities OR Pulse oximetry $<90\%$	Respiratory failure with ventilator support indicated (eg, CPAP, BPAP, intubation)

BPAP: biphasic positive airway pressure; CPAP: continuous positive airway pressure; NAP: not applicable

SENSORY				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Hearing Loss <i>aged ≥12 years</i>	NAP	Hearing aid or intervention not indicated	Hearing aid or intervention indicated	Profound bilateral hearing loss (>80 dB at 2 kHz and above) OR Nonserviceable hearing (ie, >50 dB audiogram and <50% speech discrimination)
<i>aged <12 years (based on a 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8 kHz audiogram)</i>	>20 dB hearing loss at ≤4 kHz	>20 dB hearing loss at >4 kHz	>20 dB hearing loss at ≥3 kHz in 1 ear with additional speech language related services indicated (where available) OR Hearing loss sufficient to indicate therapeutic intervention, including hearing aids	Audiologic indication for cochlear implant and additional speech language related services indicated (where available)
Tinnitus	Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities with intervention not indicated	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities with intervention indicated	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	NAP
Uveitis	No symptoms AND Detectable on examination	Anterior uveitis with symptoms OR Medical intervention indicated	Posterior or pan uveitis OR Operative intervention indicated	Disabling visual loss in affected eye(s)
Vertigo	Vertigo causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Vertigo causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Vertigo causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling vertigo causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Visual Changes (assessed from baseline)	Visual changes causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Visual changes causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Visual changes causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling visual loss in affected eye(s)

dB: decibel; kHz: kilohertz; NAP: not applicable

SYSTEMIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Acute Allergic Reaction	Localized urticaria (wheals) with no medical intervention indicated	Localized urticaria with intervention indicated OR Mild angioedema with no intervention indicated	Generalized urticaria OR Angioedema with intervention indicated OR Symptoms of mild bronchospasm	Acute anaphylaxis OR Life threatening bronchospasm OR Laryngeal edema
Chills	Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	NAP
Cytokine Release Syndrome^h	Mild signs and symptoms AND Therapy (ie, antibody infusion) interruption not indicated	Therapy (ie, antibody infusion) interruption indicated AND Responds promptly to symptomatic treatment OR Prophylactic medications indicated for ≤ 24 hours	Prolonged severe signs and symptoms OR Recurrence of symptoms following initial improvement	Life threatening consequences (eg, requiring pressor or ventilator support)
Fatigue or Malaise <i>Report only 1</i>	Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Incapacitating symptoms of fatigue or malaise causing inability to perform basic self care functions
Fever (non axillary temperatures only)	38.0°C to <38.6°C or 100.4°F to <101.5°F	$\geq 38.6^\circ\text{C}$ to <39.3°C or $\geq 101.5^\circ\text{F}$ to <102.7°F	$\geq 39.3^\circ\text{C}$ to <40.0°C or $\geq 102.7^\circ\text{F}$ to <104.0°F	$\geq 40.0^\circ\text{C}$ or $\geq 104.0^\circ\text{F}$
Painⁱ (not associated with study intervention injections and not specified elsewhere) <i>Specify location</i>	Pain causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Pain causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	Pain causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Disabling pain causing inability to perform basic self care functions OR Hospitalization indicated
Serum Sickness^j	Mild signs and symptoms	Moderate signs and symptoms AND Intervention indicated (eg, antihistamines)	Severe signs and symptoms AND Higher level intervention indicated (eg, steroids or IV fluids)	Life threatening consequences (eg, requiring pressor or ventilator support)

IV: intravenous; NAP: not applicable

^h A disorder characterized by nausea, headache, tachycardia, hypotension, rash, and/or shortness of breath.

ⁱ For pain associated with injections or infusions, refer to the [SITE REACTIONS TO INJECTIONS AND INFUSIONS](#) section.

^j A disorder characterized by fever, arthralgia, myalgia, skin eruptions, lymphadenopathy, marked discomfort, and/or dyspnea.

SYSTEMIC				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Underweight^k <i>aged >5 to 19 years</i>	WHO BMI z score < 1 to 2	WHO BMI z score < 2 to 3	WHO BMI z score < 3	WHO BMI z score < 3 with life threatening consequences
<i>aged 2 to 5 years</i>	WHO Weight for height z score < 1 to 2	WHO Weight for height z score < 2 to 3	WHO Weight for height z score < 3	WHO Weight for height z score < 3 with life threatening consequences
<i>aged <2 years</i>	WHO Weight for length z score < 1 to 2	WHO Weight for length z score < 2 to 3	WHO Weight for length z score < 3	WHO Weight for length z score < 3 with life threatening consequences
Unintentional Weight Loss (excludes postpartum weight loss)	NAP	5% to <9% loss in body weight from baseline	≥9% to <20% loss in body weight from baseline	≥20% loss in body weight from baseline OR Aggressive intervention indicated (eg, tube feeding, total parenteral nutrition)

BMI: body mass index; NAP: not applicable; WHO: World Health Organization

^k WHO reference tables may be accessed by clicking the desired age range or by accessing the following URLs:
http://www.who.int/growthref/who2007_bmi_for_age/en/ for participants aged >5 to 19 years and
http://www.who.int/childgrowth/standards/chart_catalogue/en/ for those aged ≤5 years.

URINARY				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Urinary Tract Obstruction	NAP	Signs or symptoms of urinary tract obstruction without hydronephrosis or renal dysfunction	Signs or symptoms of urinary tract obstruction with hydronephrosis or renal dysfunction	Obstruction causing life threatening consequences

NAP: not applicable

SITE REACTIONS TO INJECTIONS AND INFUSIONS				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Injection Site Pain or Tenderness <i>Report only 1</i>	Pain or tenderness causing no or minimal limitation of use of limb	Pain or tenderness causing greater than minimal limitation of use of limb	Pain or tenderness causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Pain or tenderness causing inability to perform basic self care function OR Hospitalization indicated
Injection Site Erythema or Redness¹ <i>Report only 1</i> <i>aged >15 years</i>	2.5 to <5 cm in diameter OR 6.25 to <25 cm ² surface area AND Symptoms causing no or minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	≥5 to <10 cm in diameter OR ≥25 to <100 cm ² surface area OR Symptoms causing greater than minimal interference with usual social & functional activities	≥10 cm in diameter OR ≥100 cm ² surface area OR Ulceration OR Secondary infection OR Phlebitis OR Sterile abscess OR Drainage OR Symptoms causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	Potentially life threatening consequences (eg, abscess, exfoliative dermatitis, necrosis involving dermis or deeper tissue)
<i>aged ≤15 years</i>	≤2.5 cm in diameter	>2.5 cm in diameter with <50% surface area of the extremity segment involved (eg, upper arm or thigh)	≥50% surface area of the extremity segment involved (eg, upper arm or thigh) OR Ulceration OR Secondary infection OR Phlebitis OR Sterile abscess OR Drainage	Potentially life threatening consequences (eg, abscess, exfoliative dermatitis, necrosis involving dermis or deeper tissue)
Injection Site Induration or Swelling <i>Report only 1</i> <i>aged >15 years</i>	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged >15 years	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged >15 years	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged >15 years	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged >15 years
<i>aged ≤15 years</i>	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged ≤15 years	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged ≤15 years	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged ≤15 years	Same as for Injection Site Erythema or Redness, aged ≤15 years
Injection Site Pruritus	Itching localized to the injection site that is relieved spontaneously or in <48 hours of treatment	Itching beyond the injection site that is not generalized OR Itching localized to the injection site requiring ≥48 hours treatment	Generalized itching causing inability to perform usual social & functional activities	NAP

NAP: not applicable

¹ Injection Site Erythema or Redness should be evaluated and graded using the greatest single diameter or measured surface area.

LABORATORY VALUES ^m				
CHEMISTRIES				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Acidosis	NAP	pH ≥ 7.3 to $<LLN$	pH < 7.3 without life threatening consequences	pH < 7.3 with life threatening consequences
Albumin, Low (g/dL; g/L)	3.0 to $<LLN$ 30 to $<LLN$	≥ 2.0 to < 3.0 ≥ 20 to < 30	< 2.0 < 20	NAP
ALP, High	1.25 to $< 2.5 \times ULN$	2.5 to $< 5.0 \times ULN$	5.0 to $< 10.0 \times ULN$	$\geq 10.0 \times ULN$
Alkalosis	NAP	pH $> ULN$ to ≤ 7.5	pH > 7.5 without life threatening consequences	pH > 7.5 with life threatening consequences
ALT or SGPT, High <i>Report only 1</i>	1.25 to $< 2.5 \times ULN$	2.5 to $< 5.0 \times ULN$	5.0 to $< 10.0 \times ULN$	$\geq 10.0 \times ULN$
Amylase (Pancreatic) or Amylase (Total), High <i>Report only 1</i>	1.1 to $< 1.5 \times ULN$	1.5 to $< 3.0 \times ULN$	3.0 to $< 5.0 \times ULN$	$\geq 5.0 \times ULN$
AST or SGOT, High <i>Report only 1</i>	1.25 to $< 2.5 \times ULN$	2.5 to $< 5.0 \times ULN$	5.0 to $< 10.0 \times ULN$	$\geq 10.0 \times ULN$
Bicarbonate, Low (mEq/L; mmol/L)	16.0 to $< LLN$ 16.0 to $< LLN$	11.0 to < 16.0 11.0 to < 16.0	8.0 to < 11.0 8.0 to < 11.0	< 8.0 < 8.0
Bilirubin Direct Bilirubin, ⁿ High <i>aged > 28 days</i>	NAP	NAP	$> ULN$ with other signs and symptoms of hepatotoxicity	$> ULN$ with life threatening consequences (eg, signs and symptoms of liver failure)
<i>aged ≤ 28 days</i>	ULN to ≤ 1 mg/dL	> 1 to ≤ 1.5 mg/dL	> 1.5 to ≤ 2 mg/dL	> 2 mg/dL
Total Bilirubin, High <i>aged > 28 days</i>	1.1 to $< 1.6 \times ULN$	1.6 to $< 2.6 \times ULN$	2.6 to $< 5.0 \times ULN$	$\geq 5.0 \times ULN$
<i>aged ≤ 28 days</i>	Refer to Appendix A ^o	Refer to Appendix A ^o	Refer to Appendix A ^o	Refer to Appendix A ^o

ALP: alkaline phosphatase; ALT: alanine aminotransferase; AST: aspartate aminotransferase; LLN: lower limit of normal; mEq: milliequivalent; NAP: not applicable; SGOT: serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase; SGPT: serum glutamate pyruvate transaminase; ULN: upper limit of normal

^m Reminder: An asymptomatic abnormal laboratory finding without an accompanying AE should not be reported to DAIDS in an expedited time frame unless it meets protocol specific reporting requirements.

ⁿ Direct bilirubin > 1.5 mg/dL in a participant aged < 28 days should be graded as grade 2, if $< 10\%$ of the total bilirubin.

^o Appendix A "Total Bilirubin Table for Term and Preterm Neonates" is provided together with the DAIDS table corrected version 2.1 at the following URL: <https://rsc.niaid.nih.gov/sites/default/files/daidsgradingcorrectedv21.pdf>. Appendix A is not applicable for this study.

LABORATORY VALUES				
CHEMISTRIES				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Calcium, High (mg/dL; mmol/L) <i>aged ≥7 days</i>	10.6 to <11.5 2.65 to <2.88	11.5 to <12.5 2.88 to <3.13	12.5 to <13.5 3.13 to <3.38	≥13.5 ≥3.38
<i>aged <7 days</i>	11.5 to <12.4 2.88 to <3.10	12.4 to <12.9 3.10 to <3.23	12.9 to <13.5 3.23 to <3.38	≥13.5 ≥3.38
Calcium (Ionized), High (mg/dL; mmol/L)	>ULN to <6.0 >ULN to <1.5	6.0 to <6.4 1.5 to <1.6	6.4 to <7.2 1.6 to <1.8	≥7.2 ≥1.8
Calcium, Low (mg/dL; mmol/L) <i>aged ≥7 days</i>	7.8 to <8.4 1.95 to <2.10	7.0 to <7.8 1.75 to <1.95	6.1 to <7.0 1.53 to <1.75	<6.1 <1.53
<i>aged <7 days</i>	6.5 to <7.5 1.63 to <1.88	6.0 to <6.5 1.50 to <1.63	5.50 to <6.0 1.38 to <1.50	<5.50 <1.38
Calcium (Ionized), Low (mg/dL; mmol/L)	<LLN to 4.0 <LLN to 1.0	3.6 to <4.0 0.9 to <1.0	3.2 to <3.6 0.8 to <0.9	<3.2 <0.8
Cardiac Troponin I, High	NAP	NAP	NAP	Levels consistent with myocardial infarction or unstable angina as defined by the local laboratory
Creatine Kinase, High	3 to <6×ULN	6 to <10×ULN	10 to <20×ULN	≥20×ULN
Creatinine, High <i>Report only 1^p</i>	1.1 to 1.3×ULN	>1.3 to 1.8×ULN OR Increase to 1.3 to <1.5×participant's baseline	>1.8 to <3.5×ULN OR Increase to 1.5 to <2.0×participant's baseline	≥3.5×ULN OR Increase of ≥2.0×participant's baseline
Creatinine Clearance^q or eGFR, Low <i>Report only 1^p</i>	NAP	<90 to 60 ml/min or ml/min/1.73 m ² OR 10% to <30% decrease from participant's baseline	<60 to 30 ml/min or ml/min/1.73 m ² OR 30% to <50% decrease from participant's baseline	<30 ml/min or ml/min/1.73 m ² OR ≥50% decrease from participant's baseline or dialysis needed
Glucose (mg/dL; mmol/L) <i>Fasting, High</i>	110 to <125 6.11 to <6.95	125 to <250 6.95 to <13.89	250 to <500 13.89 to <27.75	≥500 ≥27.75
<i>Nonfasting, High</i>	116 to <160 6.44 to <8.89	160 to <250 8.89 to <13.89	250 to <500 13.89 to <27.75	≥500 ≥27.75
Glucose, Low (mg/dL; mmol/L) <i>aged ≥1 month</i>	55 to 64 3.05 to <3.55	40 to <55 2.22 to <3.05	30 to <40 1.67 to <2.22	<30 <1.67
<i>aged <1 month</i>	50 to 54 2.78 to <3.00	40 to <50 2.22 to <2.78	30 to <40 1.67 to <2.22	<30 <1.67
Lactate, High	ULN to <2.0×ULN without acidosis	≥2.0×ULN without acidosis	Increased lactate with pH <7.3 without life threatening consequences	Increased lactate with pH <7.3 with life threatening consequences

eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate; LLN: lower limit of normal; NAP: not applicable; ULN: upper limit of normal

^p Reminder: Choose the method that selects for the higher grade.

^q Use the applicable formula (ie, Cockcroft Gault in mL/min or Schwartz, modification of diet in renal disease study [MDRD], or Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration [CKD EPI] in mL/min/1.73m²). Sites should choose the method defined in their study and when not specified, use the method most relevant to the study population.

LABORATORY VALUES				
CHEMISTRIES				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Lipase, High	1.1 to <1.5×ULN	1.5 to <3.0×ULN	3.0 to <5.0×ULN	≥5.0×ULN
Lipid Disorders (mg/dL; mmol/L) Cholesterol, Fasting, High <i>aged ≥18 years</i>	200 to <240 5.18 to <6.19	240 to <300 6.19 to <7.77	≥300 ≥7.77	NAP
<i>aged <18 years</i>	170 to <200 4.40 to <5.15	200 to <300 5.15 to <7.77	≥300 ≥7.77	NAP
LDL, Fasting, High <i>aged ≥18 years</i>	130 to <160 3.37 to <4.12	160 to <190 4.12 to <4.90	≥190 ≥4.90	NAP
<i>aged >2 to <18 years</i>	110 to <130 2.85 to <3.34	130 to <190 3.34 to <4.90	≥190 ≥4.90	NAP
Triglycerides, Fasting, High	150 to 300 1.71 to 3.42	>300 to 500 >3.42 to 5.7	>500 to 1,000 >5.7 to 11.4	>1,000 >11.4
Magnesium^r, Low (mEq/L; mmol/L)	1.2 to <1.4 0.60 to <0.70	0.9 to <1.2 0.45 to <0.60	0.6 to <0.9 0.30 to <0.45	<0.6 <0.30
Phosphate, Low (mg/dL; mmol/L) <i>aged >14 years</i>	2.0 to <LLN 0.65 to <LLN	1.4 to <2.0 0.45 to <0.65	1.0 to <1.4 0.32 to <0.45	<1.0 <0.32
<i>aged 1 to 14 years</i>	3.0 to <3.5 0.97 to <1.13	2.5 to <3.0 0.81 to <0.97	1.5 to <2.5 0.48 to <0.81	<1.5 <0.48
<i>aged <1 year</i>	3.5 to <4.5 1.13 to <1.45	2.5 to <3.5 0.81 to <1.13	1.5 to <2.5 0.48 to <0.81	<1.5 <0.48
Potassium, High (mEq/L; mmol/L)	5.6 to <6.0 5.6 to <6.0	6.0 to <6.5 6.0 to <6.5	6.5 to <7.0 6.5 to <7.0	≥7.0 ≥7.0
Potassium, Low (mEq/L; mmol/L)	3.0 to <3.4 3.0 to <3.4	2.5 to <3.0 2.5 to <3.0	2.0 to <2.5 2.0 to <2.5	<2.0 <2.0
Sodium, High (mEq/L; mmol/L)	146 to <150 146 to <150	150 to <154 150 to <154	154 to <160 154 to <160	≥160 ≥160
Sodium, Low (mEq/L; mmol/L)	130 to <135 130 to <135	125 to <130 125 to <130	120 to <125 120 to <125	<120 <120
Uric Acid, High (mg/dL; mmol/L)	7.5 to <10.0 0.45 to <0.59	10.0 to <12.0 0.59 to <0.71	12.0 to <15.0 0.71 to <0.89	≥15.0 ≥0.89

LDL: low density lipoprotein; LLN: lower limit of normal; mEq: milliequivalent; NAP: not applicable; ULN: upper limit of normal

^r To convert a magnesium value from mg/dL to mmol/L, laboratories should multiply by 0.4114.

LABORATORY VALUES				
HEMATOLOGY				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Absolute CD4⁺ Count, Low (cells/mm ³ ; cells/L) <i>aged >5 years (not HIV infected)</i>	300 to <400 0.300×10^9 to $<0.400 \times 10^9$ ^s	200 to <300 0.200×10^9 to $<0.300 \times 10^9$ ^s	100 to <200 0.100×10^9 to $<0.200 \times 10^9$ ^s	<100 $<0.100 \times 10^9$ ^s
Absolute Lymphocyte Count, Low (cells/mm ³ ; cells/L) <i>aged >5 years (not HIV infected)</i>	600 to <650 0.600×10^9 to $<0.650 \times 10^9$	500 to <600 0.500×10^9 to $<0.600 \times 10^9$	350 to <500 0.350×10^9 to $<0.500 \times 10^9$	<350 $<0.350 \times 10^9$
Absolute Neutrophil Count, Low (cells/mm ³ ; cells/L) <i>aged >7 days</i>	800 to 1,000 0.800×10^9 to 1.000×10^9	600 to 799 0.600×10^9 to 0.799×10^9	400 to 599 0.400×10^9 to 0.599×10^9	<400 $<0.400 \times 10^9$
<i>aged 2 to 7 days</i>	1,250 to 1,500 1.250×10^9 to 1.500×10^9	1,000 to 1,249 1.000×10^9 to 1.249×10^9	750 to 999 0.750×10^9 to 0.999×10^9	<750 $<0.750 \times 10^9$
<i>aged ≤1 day</i>	4,000 to 5,000 4.000×10^9 to 5.000×10^9	3,000 to 3,999 3.000×10^9 to 3.999×10^9	1,500 to 2,999 1.500×10^9 to 2.999×10^9	<1,500 $<1.500 \times 10^9$
Fibrinogen, Decreased (mg/dL; g/L)	100 to <200 1.00 to <2.00 OR 0.75 to $<1.00 \times \text{LLN}$	75 to <100 0.75 to <1.00 OR ≥ 0.50 to $<0.75 \times \text{LLN}$	50 to <75 0.50 to <0.75 OR 0.25 to $<0.50 \times \text{LLN}$	<50 <0.50 OR $<0.25 \times \text{LLN}$ OR Associated with gross bleeding
Hemoglobin^t, Low (g/dL; mmol/L) ^u <i>aged ≥13 years (male only)</i>	10.0 to 10.9 6.19 to 6.76	9.0 to <10.0 5.57 to <6.19	7.0 to <9.0 4.34 to <5.57	<7.0 <4.34
<i>aged ≥13 years (female only)</i>	9.5 to 10.4 5.88 to 6.48	8.5 to <9.5 5.25 to <5.88	6.5 to <8.5 4.03 to <5.25	<6.5 <4.03
<i>aged 57 days to <13 years (male and female)</i>	9.5 to 10.4 5.88 to 6.48	8.5 to <9.5 5.25 to <5.88	6.5 to <8.5 4.03 to <5.25	<6.5 <4.03
<i>aged 36 to 56 days (male and female)</i>	8.5 to 9.6 5.26 to 5.99	7.0 to <8.5 4.32 to <5.26	6.0 to <7.0 3.72 to <4.32	<6.0 <3.72
<i>aged 22 to 35 days (male and female)</i>	9.5 to 11.0 5.88 to 6.86	8.0 to <9.5 4.94 to <5.88	6.7 to <8.0 4.15 to <4.94	<6.7 <4.15
<i>aged 8 to ≤21 days (male and female)</i>	11.0 to 13.0 6.81 to 8.10	9.0 to <11.0 5.57 to <6.81	8.0 to <9.0 4.96 to <5.57	<8.0 <4.96
<i>aged ≤7 days (male and female)</i>	13.0 to 14.0 8.05 to 8.72	10.0 to <13.0 6.19 to <8.05	9.0 to <10.0 5.59 to <6.19	<9.0 <5.59

HIV: human immunodeficiency virus; LLN: lower limit of normal

^s Revised by the sponsor.

^t Male and female sex are defined as sex at birth. For transgender participants aged ≥13 years who have been on hormone therapy for more than 6 consecutive months, grade hemoglobin based on the gender with which they identify (ie, a transgender female should be graded using the female sex at birth hemoglobin laboratory values).

^u The most commonly used conversion factor to convert g/dL to mmol/L is 0.6206. For grading hemoglobin results obtained by an analytic method with a conversion factor other than 0.6206, the result must be converted to g/dL using the appropriate conversion factor for the particular laboratory.

LABORATORY VALUES				
HEMATOLOGY				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
INR, High (not on anticoagulation therapy)	1.1 to <1.5×ULN	1.5 to <2.0×ULN	2.0 to <3.0×ULN	≥3.0×ULN
Methemoglobin (% hemoglobin)	5.0% to <10.0%	10.0% to <15.0%	15.0% to <20.0%	≥20.0%
PTT, High (not on anticoagulation therapy)	1.1 to <1.66×ULN	1.66 to <2.33×ULN	2.33 to <3.00×ULN	≥3.00×ULN
Platelets, Decreased (cells/mm ³ ; cells/L)	100,000 to <125,000 <i>100,000×10⁹ to <125,000×10⁹</i>	50,000 to <100,000 <i>50,000×10⁹ to <100,000×10⁹</i>	25,000 to <50,000 <i>25,000×10⁹ to <50,000×10⁹</i>	<25,000 <i><25,000×10⁹</i>
PT, High (not on anticoagulation therapy)	1.1 to <1.25×ULN	1.25 to <1.50×ULN	1.50 to <3.00×ULN	≥3.00×ULN
WBC, Decreased (cells/mm ³ ; cells/L) <i>aged >7 days</i>	2,000 to 2,499 <i>2,000×10⁹ to 2,499×10⁹</i>	1,500 to 1,999 <i>1,500×10⁹ to 1,999×10⁹</i>	1,000 to 1,499 <i>1,000×10⁹ to 1,499×10⁹</i>	<1,000 <i><1,000×10⁹</i>
<i>aged ≤7 days</i>	5,500 to 6,999 <i>5,500×10⁹ to 6,999×10⁹</i>	4,000 to 5,499 <i>4,000×10⁹ to 5,499×10⁹</i>	2,500 to 3,999 <i>2,500×10⁹ to 3,999×10⁹</i>	<2,500 <i><2,500×10⁹</i>

INR: International Normalized Ratio; NAP: not applicable; PT: prothrombin time; PTT: partial thromboplastin time; ULN: upper limit of normal; WBC: white blood cell

LABORATORY VALUES				
URINALYSIS				
PARAMETER	GRADE 1 MILD	GRADE 2 MODERATE	GRADE 3 SEVERE	GRADE 4 POTENTIALLY LIFE- THREATENING
Glycosuria (random collection tested by dipstick)	Trace to 1+ or ≤250 mg	2+ or >250 to ≤500 mg	>2+ or >500 mg	NAP
Hematuria (not to be reported based on dipstick findings or on blood believed to be of menstrual origin)	6 to <10 RBCs per high power field	≥10 RBCs per high power field	Gross, with or without clots OR With RBC casts OR Intervention indicated	Life threatening consequences
Proteinuria (random collection tested by dipstick)	1+	2+	3+ or higher	NAP

NAP: not applicable; RBC: red blood cell

10.10. Appendix 10: Short Form 36 version 2 (SF-36v2) 2010 Questionnaire

SF-36v2® Health Survey © 1992, 1996, 2000, 2010
Medical Outcomes Trust and
QualityMetric Incorporated.

All Rights Reserved.

SF-36® is a registered trademark of
Medical Outcomes Trust.
(SF-36v2® Health Survey Standard,
United States (English))

CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



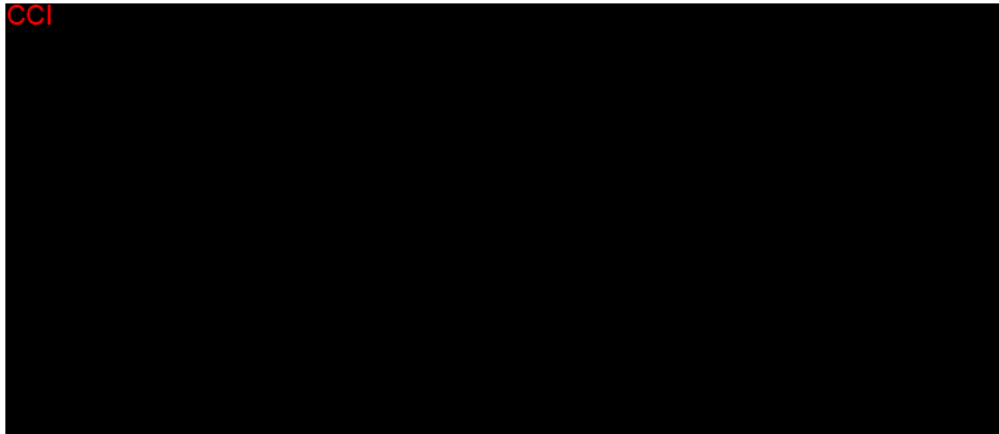
CCI



CCI



A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the page content. The text 'CCI' is visible in the top-left corner of this redacted area. Below the main redacted area, there is a small, empty rectangular box.



10.11. Appendix 11: Hepatitis B Quality of Life Instrument

CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI



CCI

A large rectangular area of the document is completely redacted with a solid black fill. The redaction covers the majority of the upper half of the page.

CCI

A large rectangular area of the document is completely redacted with a solid black fill. The redaction covers the majority of the middle section of the page.

CCI

A large rectangular area of the document is completely redacted with a solid black fill. The redaction covers the majority of the lower half of the page.

Scaling and Scoring Instructions

CCI



CCI

CCI



CCI



10.12. Appendix 12: 5-Level EuroQol 5-Dimension Questionnaire (EQ-5D-5L)

Note: This appendix provides a representative example of the questionnaire that will be used in this study. The site should always use the most recently provided version of the questionnaire.

**Health Questionnaire****English version for the UK**

UK (English) © 2009 EuroQol Group. EQ 5D™ is a trade mark of the EuroQol Group

CCI



CCI



UK (English) © 2009 EuroQol Group. EQ 5D™ is a trade mark of the EuroQol Group

CCI



CCI



10.13. Appendix 13: Patient Global Impression of Change Scale

Please select how you feel about yourself now in comparison to how you felt about yourself at the beginning of this study. (Select one response)

- ☐ Much better
- ☐ Better
- ☐ A little better
- ☐ No change
- ☐ A little worse
- ☐ Worse
- ☐ Much worse

10.14. Appendix 14: Protocol Amendment History

The Protocol Amendment Summary of Changes Table for the current amendment is located directly before the Table of Contents (TOC).

Amendment 6 (30 September 2021)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: The primary reasons for this amendment are to remove JNJ-6379 as study intervention, to add a new nucleos(t)ide analog (NA) re-treatment criterion for participants who discontinued NA treatment during follow-up, and to include more frequent monitoring for participants who discontinued NA treatment during follow-up.

Based on emerging data from recent interim analyses of the REEF-1 (73763989HPB2001) and REEF-2 (73763989PAHPB2002) studies, the benefit-risk profile of JNJ-6379 in combination with JNJ-3989+NA is unfavorable compared to JNJ-3989+NA.

In the primary REEF-1 analysis (Week 48, end of treatment) the mean reduction of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) in the triple arm (JNJ-6379+JNJ-3989 100mg+NA) appeared to be less than in the dual arm (JNJ-3989 100mg+NA). More recent interim results of the REEF-2 study (Week 48, end of treatment) confirmed this observation when the effect of JNJ-6379+JNJ-3989 200mg+NA on mean HBsAg level reduction in the REEF-2 study is compared to JNJ-3989 200mg+NA in the REEF-1 study. To match with the REEF-2 population, this cross-study comparison focused on the REEF-1 subpopulation of hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg) negative, virologically suppressed participants with chronic hepatitis B. Pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic modelling analyses accounting for variability in baseline characteristics further support this observation. Therefore, a negative impact of JNJ-6379 on the HBsAg lowering effect of JNJ-3989+NA is suspected.

From a safety perspective, transient reductions of estimated glomerular filtration rate based on creatinine (eGFR_{cr}) in JNJ-6379 containing treatment arms with fast recovery after end of treatment had been described in the Jade study (56136379HPB2001) and was confirmed in the REEF-1 study. In absence of a pattern of increased biomarkers of proximal tubulo-toxicity (the beta-2-microglobulin/creatinine and the retinol binding protein/creatinine ratios), the eGFR_{cr} reduction during treatment was interpreted as transporter inhibition at the level of creatinine excretion from the proximal tubule rather than renal toxicity.

Recent data from REEF-2 confirm the transient pattern of eGFR_{cr} declines but, in addition, show an increase of the beta-2-microglobulin/creatinine and the retinol binding protein/creatinine ratios in some participants when tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) treatment was continued and combined with JNJ-6379+JNJ-3989. These new data are suggesting that JNJ-6379 in combination with TDF may contribute to renal tubulo-toxicity. There was no apparent increase in the beta-2-microglobulin/creatinine or retinol binding protein/creatinine ratios in participants receiving entecavir (ETV; active or control arm), nor in participants receiving TDF+placebo.

The negative impact of JNJ-6379, when combined with JNJ-3989+NA, on HBsAg reduction, taken together with the adverse renal profile, leads to conclusion of an unfavorable benefit-risk balance of JNJ-6379 in combination with JNJ-3989+NA, compared to JNJ-3989+NA alone. Therefore, the Sponsor has decided to discontinue treatment with JNJ-6379 in all ongoing clinical studies effective immediately. Participants currently on treatment with JNJ-6379 will be contacted and requested to stop taking JNJ-6379, while continuing treatment with NA, JNJ-3989 and pegylated interferon alpha-2a (PegIFN- α 2a; as applicable). For newly enrolled participants, JNJ-6379 will no longer be included in the treatment regimen.

In addition, a new NA re-treatment criterion and more frequent monitoring for participants who discontinued NA treatment during follow-up were included. The reason for these changes is a severe clinical alanine aminotransferase (ALT) flare that was reported following discontinuation of NA treatment in a virologically suppressed HBeAg negative participant on long-term TDF treatment who was randomized to the control arm (placebo + placebo + NA) in the REEF-2 study. The participant presented with hepatitis

B virus (HBV) DNA levels that increased rapidly, before any relevant changes in liver markers were noted. Discontinuation of NA treatment followed the protocol-defined criteria and was in line with recent European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) treatment guidelines.⁴ Flares following NA discontinuation are not unexpected, but the rapid evolution and clinical deterioration seen in this participant who was anti-HBe antibody positive at screening and had no history or evidence of liver cirrhosis was unforeseeable. Therefore, to protect safety of participants, the protocol was amended as detailed below.

Furthermore, the PegIFN- α 2a eligibility criteria, the PegIFN- α 2a discontinuation criteria, and the monitoring of neuropsychiatric adverse events during PegIFN- α 2a treatment were amended to be consistent with the PegIFN- α 2a prescribing information.

Other changes, clarifications and corrections were also made as detailed below.

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
JNJ-6379 has been removed as study intervention. Participants enrolled before Protocol Amendment 6 had to stop JNJ-6379 treatment immediately. They will continue with JNJ-3989+NA treatment up to the end of the induction phase and will then enter the consolidation phase during which they will have PegIFN- α 2a added to their treatment regimen. Throughout the protocol, elements specific for JNJ-6379 have been modified.	Based on emerging data from recent interim analyses of the REEF-1 and REEF-2 studies, showing that the benefit-risk profile of JNJ-6379 in combination with JNJ-3989+NA is unfavorable compared to JNJ-3989+NA.	1.1 Synopsis 1.2 Schema 1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 2 INTRODUCTION 2.2 Background 2.2.2.1 JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 2.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment 2.3.2.2 Potential Risks for JNJ-6379 2.3.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation 3 OBJECTIVES AND ENDPOINTS 4.1 Overall Design 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 4.3 Justification for Dose 4.3.2 JNJ-6379 5.1 Inclusion Criteria 5.2 Exclusion Criteria 6.1 Study Intervention(s) Administered 6.2 Preparation/Handling/Storage/Accountability 6.3 Measures to Minimize Bias: Randomization and Blinding 6.4 Study Intervention Compliance 6.5 Concomitant Therapy 6.6 Dose Modification 6.6.1 Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12 7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention 8.1 Efficacy Assessments 8.2.4 Clinical Safety Laboratory Assessments 8.3.6 Adverse Events of Special Interest 8.3.7 Other Toxicities 8.4 Treatment of Overdose 8.5.2 Analytical Procedures 8.5.3 Pharmacokinetic Parameters and Evaluations 8.6 Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Evaluations 9.2 Sample Size Determination

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
		9.3 Populations for Analyses 9.4.1 Efficacy Analyses 9.4.2 Safety Analyses 9.4.3 Other Analyses 10.1 Appendix 1: Abbreviations and Definitions of Terms 10.5 Appendix 5: Rash Management 10.6 Appendix 6: Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations
A new NA re-treatment criterion was added for participants who discontinued NA treatment during follow-up.	To ensure that participants with significant HBV DNA increases during treatment free follow-up are monitored at least weekly and/or immediately re-start NA treatment irrespective of ALT levels.	1.1 Synopsis 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 2.3.2.2 Potential Risks 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 6.6.1 Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12 6.6.2 NA Re-treatment Criteria During Follow-up 6.7 Study Intervention After the End of the Study 8.3.6.2 Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations 10.6 Appendix 6: Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations 10.16 Appendix 16: NA Re-treatment During Follow-up
Participants who discontinue NA treatment during follow-up, will be monitored more frequently, with a study visit at least once every 4 weeks. The visit frequency for participants who continue NA treatment or have restarted NA treatment during the follow-up period and for whom the HBV DNA and ALT values are stable remains at least once every 12 weeks. For participants with increased follow-up, the total blood volume to be collected during the study will increase.	To further protect the safety of participants.	1.1 Synopsis 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 6.6.2 NA Re-treatment Criteria During Follow-up 8 STUDY ASSESSMENTS AND PROCEDURES
The PegIFN-α2a discontinuation criteria were updated to clarify that participants with moderate or severe depression or other psychiatric symptoms should immediately discontinue PegIFN-α2a treatment. In addition, participants will be closely monitored for	Upon Health Authority request and to be consistent with the PegIFN-α2a prescribing information	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 5.2 Exclusion Criteria 7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
<p>neuropsychiatric adverse events during the PegIFN-α2a treatment period. Participants who develop a neuropsychiatric adverse event during PegIFN-α2a treatment will be monitored closely until the neuropsychiatric adverse event resolves, by frequent (at least weekly) follow-up phone calls. Furthermore, exclusion criterion A25 was amended to exclude participants with a history of a severe psychiatric disorder.</p>		
<p>The contraceptive guidance from the Master Protocol was replaced by ISA-specific contraceptive guidance, which includes the following updates versus the Master Protocol version: the list of examples which are not allowed as sole method of contraception during the study and the footnote concerning possible interaction between hormonal contraception and the study intervention have been removed. Additional clarifications were also made.</p>	<p>Upon Health Authority request and to align with the latest version of the sponsor's protocol template.</p>	<p>1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 5.1 Inclusion Criteria 10.8 Appendix 8: Contraceptive and Barrier Guidance and Collection of Pregnancy Information</p>
<p>It was clarified that a participant who prematurely discontinues PegIFN-α2a (before the end of the consolidation phase) should continue treatment with JNJ-3989 and NA as planned.</p>	<p>Clarification</p>	<p>4.1 Overall Design 6.6.1 Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12 7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention</p>
<p>Recommendations regarding the use of live vaccines during the study were added.</p>	<p>Clarification regarding the use of live vaccines during the study</p>	<p>6.5 Concomitant Therapy 10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX</p>
<p>It was clarified that venous blood samples will be collected for measurement of JNJ-3989, NA, and PegIFN-α2a. Bioanalysis of NA and PegIFN-α2a is optional at the discretion of the sponsor. Bioanalysis of JNJ-6379 may also be done on samples collected from</p>	<p>Clarification</p>	<p>1.1 Synopsis 1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 3 OBJECTIVES AND ENDPOINTS 4.1 Overall Design 8.5.1 Evaluations</p>

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
participants who received JNJ-6379 up to Protocol Amendment 5.		
Exclusion criterion A01 was adapted to clarify that participants with a positive HIV-1 or HIV-2 antibody/antigen test at screening should have a confirmatory HIV RNA test, to rule out false positive results. They can be enrolled if they have a negative HIV RNA test at screening. It was also clarified that participants with evidence of HIV-1 or HIV-2 infection who are on antiretroviral treatment are excluded.	Clarification upon Health Authority request	5.2 Exclusion Criteria
It was clarified that a copy of the dermatologist's report, biopsy, and/or digital pictures if performed for rash management, should be made anonymous and provided to the sponsor.	Clarification	10.5 Appendix 5: Rash Management
Minor errors were corrected and minor clarifications were made.	Correction and clarification.	Throughout the protocol

Amendment 5 (30 July 2021)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: The primary reason for this amendment is a change in study treatment regimens, based on the availability of preliminary 48-week treatment data from the Phase 2b study REEF-1 (73763989HPB2001), and new data presented during the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) conference of 2021 showing that HBsAg declines with siRNA treatment can be increased when combined with PegIFN.³⁰

The REEF-1 study is evaluating the efficacy of 3 doses of JNJ-3989 (40, 100, or 200 mg Q4W) + NA, of JNJ-3989 100 mg Q4W + JNJ-6379 + NA, of JNJ-6379 + NA, and of NA alone. It was shown that all combination regimens were safe and well-tolerated through the end of treatment at Week 48. The JNJ-3989 200 mg dose achieved the highest response rate of 19.1% for the primary endpoint of meeting the NA treatment completion criteria at Week 48 (ie, ALT <3x ULN, and HBV DNA <LLOQ, and HBeAg-negative, and HBsAg <10 IU/mL). No participant in the JNJ-6379+NA arm and 1 participant in the NA alone arm achieved the primary endpoint. The largest mean (SD) decline at Week 48, of 3.56 (1.328) log₁₀ IU/mL, was observed in the JNJ-3989 200 mg + NA arm in currently not treated HBeAg positive participants. The mean HBsAg decline followed a biphasic pattern, with the steeper decline during the first 24 weeks followed by a more shallow decline between Week 24 and Week 48. At Week 48, a limited number of participants reached HBsAg seroclearance. The addition of JNJ-6379 to JNJ-3989+NA did not increase HBsAg

reduction, while mean change from baseline in HBV DNA at the end of treatment (Week 48) was largest for the currently not treated HBeAg positive participants in the treatment arms containing JNJ-6379. To assess the effect of JNJ-6379 in treatment-naïve patients with HBeAg positive chronic hepatitis B virus infection in this study, participants will be randomized to JNJ-3989+PegIFN- α 2a+NA, with or without JNJ-6379.

The updated study design takes into consideration the above-described elements for participants who are already enrolled and for all new participants who will be randomized under this amendment.

Additional changes were made as specified in the table below.

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
<p>The study design was updated such that participants (Cohort 2) will be randomized at baseline in a 1:1 ratio to receive either JNJ-3989+JNJ-6379+NA or JNJ-3989+NA for a fixed duration of 36 weeks (induction phase) instead of a response-guided treatment duration. The induction phase will be followed by a 12-week consolidation phase during which PegIFN-α2a will be added to the treatment regimen for all participants.</p> <p>Guidance to the investigator is provided for participants who were enrolled before Protocol Amendment 5 is in effect (Cohort 1).</p> <p>The statistical analyses were updated as well, to align with the new design. The sample size was adjusted for Cohort 2 to be randomized in a 1:1 ratio to 2 regimens, and the response-guided treatment criterion was removed from the stratification factors.</p>	<p>Based on preliminary 48-week treatment data from the REEF-1 study and insights from EASL 2021, PegIFN-α2a will be added to the treatment regimen for all participants, to increase the potential of achieving functional cure. In addition, the updated study design allows a better evaluation of the potential benefit of JNJ-6379 in currently not treated HBeAg positive participants.</p>	<p>1.1 Synopsis 1.2 Schema 1.3 Schedule of Activities 2 INTRODUCTION 2.1 Study Rationale 2.2 Clinical Studies 2.3.1.2 Potential Benefits 2.3.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation 3 OBJECTIVES AND ENDPOINTS 4.1 Overall Design 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 5.2 Exclusion Criteria 6.1 Study Intervention(s) Administered 6.2 Preparation/Handling/Storage/Accountability 6.3 Measures to Minimize Bias: Randomization and Blinding 6.6.1 Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12 7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention 8 STUDY ASSESSMENTS AND PROCEDURES 8.1 Efficacy Assessments 8.3.6 Adverse Events of Special Interest 8.5 Pharmacokinetics 8.6 Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Evaluations 9.2 Sample Size Determination 9.4.1 Efficacy Analyses 9.4.1.1 Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment) 9.4.1.2 Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints 9.4.3 Other Analyses 9.5 Interim Analyses</p>

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
		10.1 Appendix 1: Abbreviations and Definitions of Terms 10.5 Appendix 5: Rash Management 10.6 Appendix 6: Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations 10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
Race (Asian versus non-Asian) was included as a new stratification factor for participants in Cohort 2.	To provide a reasonably balanced representation of race and HBV genotypes across the 2 intervention arms of Cohort 2.	1.1 Synopsis 4.1 Overall Design 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 6.3 Measures to Minimize Bias: Randomization and Blinding 9.4.1 Efficacy Analyses 9.4.1.1 Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment) 9.4.1.2 Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints
The ALT cut off for inclusion (criterion A03) was updated from normal ALT to ALT $\leq 2x$ ULN.	As for some patients the reason for screen failure was a slight and transient elevation of ALT, experts in the field have recommended to include patients with ALT up to $\leq 2x$ ULN.	1.1 Synopsis 2.1 Study Rationale 4.1 Overall Design 4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 5.1 Inclusion Criteria
ALT elevations were added as a potential risk and the section on management of ALT elevations was updated.	To provide additional guidance on measures to further protect the safety of participants during treatment with JNJ-3989, based on emerging data from studies REEF-1 and REEF-D.	2.3.2.1 Known Risks 2.3.2.2.1 Potential Risks for JNJ-3989 2.3.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation 8.3.6.2 Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations 10.6 Appendix 6: Intervention-emergent ALT/AST Elevations
The nonclinical background was updated.	For completeness	2.2.1.3.2 Combination of JNJ-3989 with PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$ 2.3.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation
Text was added on dose modifications for PegIFN- $\alpha 2a$.	For completeness	1.1 Synopsis 6.1 Study Intervention(s) Administered 6.6 Dose Modification 7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention
Update of follow-up procedures and criteria for re-initiation of NA treatment.	For clarification	4.2 Scientific Rationale for Study Design 6.6.2 NA Re-treatment Criteria During Follow-up 10.16 Appendix 16: NA Re-treatment During Follow-up
A study intervention discontinuation criterion was added for participants who withdraw consent.	For completeness	7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention
Study intervention discontinuation criteria on	For clarification	7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention 8.3.6.3 Renal Complications

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
hepatic decompensation and eGFR _{cr} abnormality were updated.		
Guidance was included for participants with confirmed HBV virologic breakthrough, on continuation of study treatment and on additional sample collection for viral sequencing.	For completeness	7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention
Language was added on data collection for medical encounters.	For completeness	8.10 Medical Encounters
Language on urine pregnancy testing for at-home use during the COVID-19 pandemic was updated.	To provide additional guidance on urine pregnancy testing at home.	10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
Guidance on source data verification/monitoring and site audits during the COVID-19 pandemic was added.	To provide additional guidance on source data verification/monitoring and site audits.	10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
Exclusion criterion A01 (M01) concerning evidence of HIV-1 or HIV 2 infection at screening and exclusion criterion A06 (M06) concerning laboratory abnormalities at screening was updated.	For clarification	5.2 Exclusion Criteria
It was clarified that JNJ-3989 should preferably be administered via subcutaneous injection in the abdomen	For clarification	1.1 Synopsis 6.1 Study Intervention(s) Administered
Head, neck, and thyroid were added to complete physical examination.	For completeness.	8.2.1 Physical Examinations
Management of rash and acute systemic allergic reactions were moved under a separate subheader.	For correction and clarification as rash and acute systemic allergic reactions are not considered AESIs for JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379.	8.3.6 Adverse Events of Special Interest 8.3.7 Other Toxicities
Minor errors were corrected and minor clarifications were made.	Correction and clarification.	Throughout the protocol

Amendment 4 (30 April 2021)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: The primary reason for this amendment is to add guidance on the concomitant use of COVID-19 vaccines and PegIFN-α2a.

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
-----------------------	-----------------	-------------------------

Guidance was added on the concomitant use of COVID-19 vaccines and PegIFN-α2a	Due to overlapping safety profiles of PegIFN-α2a and COVID-19 vaccines	6.5 Concomitant Therapy 10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
A liver ultrasound will be done yearly for all participants and remains recommended every 6 months for high-risk populations The demographics of the African/African American population considered at high-risk for developing HCC and who fall under 6-monthly liver ultrasound screening are further specified	As per standard practice for the monitoring of patients with chronic HBV infection To better align with the AASLD guidelines	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase
Language on urine pregnancy testing for at-home use was updated	To provide additional guidance on urine pregnancy testing at home	1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase
Minor corrections were made	Correction	1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase

Amendment 3 (26 January 2021)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: The primary reason for this amendment is to increase the upper age limit for participant inclusion from 45 years to 55 years and to allow participants who received <9 months of NA treatment if not within 12 months prior to screening. In addition, other changes and minor clarifications and corrections were made as detailed below.

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
Upper age limit for inclusion was changed from 45 years to 55 years with a maximum of approximately 10 participants >45 to ≤55 years of age.	Typically, CHB patients with high HBV DNA and normal ALT are relatively young. However, in practice older patients up to 55 years of age are still seen in this stage of CHB.	1.1 Synopsis 4.1 Overall Design 5.1 Inclusion Criteria
In addition to NA treatment naïve participants, participants who have received <9 months of NA treatment ≥12 months prior to screening (eg, during pregnancy to prevent mother-to-child-transmission) are also allowed.	If the requirements for HBV DNA and ALT are met at study entry, no relevant impact of prior short-term NA treatment is expected.	1.1 Synopsis 2.1 Study Rationale 4.1 Overall Design 5.1 Inclusion Criteria
Exclusion criterion A25 e was updated to include a separate, lower ANC cut off for black or African American participants.	The black or African American population generally has lower ANC values compared with other populations.	5.2 Exclusion Criteria
The exclusion criterion on CD4+ cell count was removed.	This criterion only applies to HBV/HIV coinfecting patients who are excluded from participation in this study.	5.2 Exclusion Criteria
If JNJ-6379 is discontinued, participants may continue JNJ-3989 (and PegIFN-α2a if	Discontinuation of JNJ-6379 does not necessarily lead to	7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
applicable) after discussion with the sponsor.	discontinuation of JNJ-3989 (and PegIFN- α 2a if applicable).	
Anticoagulants were moved from the list of disallowed medications to the list of concomitant medications to be used with caution.	Preclinical and clinical data for JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 do not show evidence of coagulopathy.	6.5 Concomitant Therapy
Nonclinical data on the combination of JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 with PegIFN- α 2a were added.	These data confirm that JNJ-3989 or JNJ-6379 in combination with PegIFN- α 2a is well tolerated.	2.2.1.3.1 Combination of JNJ-6379 with PegIFN- α 2a 2.2.1.3.2 Combination of JNJ-3989 with PegIFN- α 2a 2.2.2.3 Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with PegIFN- α 2a 2.3.3 Benefit-Risk Assessment for Study Participation
Cystatin C was added to the blood chemistry panel. PK information on the combination of TDF with JNJ-6379 was added.	Clinical study data suggest increased tenofovir plasma concentrations when given in combination with JNJ-6379. Therefore, additional renal monitoring by means of cystatin C testing was added to the protocol.	2.2.2.2 Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with Tenofovir Disoproxil 10.2 Appendix 2: Clinical Laboratory Tests
The potential for JNJ-6379 to increase tenofovir plasma concentrations was added to the potential risks.	Clinical study data suggest increased tenofovir plasma concentrations when given in combination with JNJ-6379.	2.3.2.2.3 Potential Risks for Tenofovir Disoproxil and PegIFN- α 2a
A footnote was added to exclusion criteria 2 a, b, c and d to clarify that bilirubin, prothrombin time and serum albumin above or below the cut off are exclusionary unless they can be explained by anything other than hepatic decompensation.	Clarification	5.2 Exclusion Criteria
Minor errors were corrected.	Correction	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 6.1 Study Intervention(s) Administered 6.2 Preparation/Handling/Storage/Accountability 6.6.1 Study Intervention Completion at Consolidation Week 12 8.3 Adverse Events, Serious Adverse Events, and Other Safety Reporting 8.3.6.5 Hematologic Abnormalities 10.4 Appendix 4: Adverse Events: Definitions and Procedures for Recording, Evaluating, Follow-up, and Reporting 10.11 Appendix 11: Hepatitis B Quality of Life Instrument

Amendment 2 (08 July 2020)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: The protocol was amended as specified below

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
The COVID-19 appendix was updated to include details on home health visits performed by a nurse	To allow visits to be performed by a nurse at the participant's home (following the schedule of activities as closely as possible) in case of restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic	10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
All references to blinding/unblinding in the COVID-19 appendix were removed	Minor corrections	10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
Other clarifications and additions made to the COVID-19 appendix		10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
Correct position of footnote 'h'		1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase
Footnote 'r' was corrected to ensure the Day-1 ECG will be collected and assessed locally		1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase
Exclusion criterion M04 should reference criterion M02.1 instead of A02a		5.2 Exclusion Criteria

Amendment 1 (24-April-2020)

Overall Rationale for the Amendment: Following Health Authority (HA) feedback the protocol was amended as specified below

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
TSH and T4 testing were added at screening, end of induction phase, and end of consolidation phase	To ensure participants meet eligibility criteria related to thyroid function and to ensure thyroid function is monitored as per the PegIFN- α 2a prescribing information	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase 10.2 Appendix 2: Clinical Laboratory Tests
It was added that participants with a decrease or loss of vision will have a prompt and complete ophthalmic examination during induction and consolidation phase	Given the known ophthalmologic toxicities of PegIFN- α 2a, ophthalmic examinations will be continued through the consolidation phase as indicated	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase 1.3.2 Schedule of Activities – Consolidation Phase and Follow-up Phase
Exclusion criterion A25 was amended to exclude participants with depression or psychiatric disorders that are not adequately controlled on a stable medication regimen	To be consistent with the PegIFN- α 2a prescribing information	5.2 Exclusion Criteria
Criteria were added for discontinuation of treatment with PegIFN- α 2a	In line with the PegIFN- α 2a prescribing information	7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention
The discontinuation criterion related to disallowed medication was updated	In line with the list of disallowed medications in Table 3	7.1 Discontinuation of Study Intervention
Contraindications for PegIFN- α 2a treatment assessed at screening will need to be re-assessed at the end of	For completeness	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase

Description of Change	Brief Rationale	Section Number and Name
the induction phase prior to randomization (i.e., prior to start of PegIFN- α 2a treatment)		5.2 Exclusion Criteria
Additional details on handling missing data were added to the protocol	For completeness	9.4.1.1 Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment) 9.4.1.2 Secondary and Exploratory Efficacy Endpoints
Information on the confidence level used for sample size calculation was added	For completeness	1.1 Synopsis 9.2 Sample Size Determination
Additional details on the analysis of the primary endpoint were added	For completeness	9.4.1.1 Primary Efficacy Endpoint (HBsAg Seroclearance 24 Weeks After Completion of Consolidation Phase Treatment)
Additional details were added on who will have access to the interim analysis results	For completeness	1.1 Synopsis 9.5 Interim Analyses
Liver biopsy result within 1 year prior to screening (instead of 2 years prior to screening) or at the time of screening is allowed for eligibility	For consistency with the inclusion criteria	1.3.1 Schedule of Activities – Screening Phase and Induction Phase
Guidance on study conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic was added	Options for study-related participant management are being provided in the event of disruption to the study conduct due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	1.3 Schedule of Activities 10.15 Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX
Minor errors were corrected	Correction	Title Page and footer 2.2.2.1 JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 2.2.2.2 Combination of JNJ-3989 and JNJ-6379 with Tenofovir Disoproxil

10.15. Appendix 15: COVID-19 APPENDIX

GUIDANCE ON STUDY CONDUCT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

This appendix applies to all current approved versions of protocol 73763989PAHPB2005.

It is recognized that the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic may have an impact on the conduct of this clinical study due to, for example, self-isolation/quarantine by participants and study site personnel; travel restrictions/limited access to public places, including hospitals; study site personnel being reassigned to critical tasks.

In alignment with recent health authority guidance, the sponsor is providing options for study-related participant management in the event of disruption to the conduct of the study. This guidance does not supersede any local or government requirements or the clinical judgement of the investigator to protect the health and well-being of participants and site staff and maintain oversight of delegated trial activities. If, at any time, a participant's safety is considered at risk, study intervention will be discontinued, and study follow-up will be conducted.

Scheduled visits that cannot be conducted in person at the study site will be performed to the extent possible remotely/virtually or delayed until such time that on-site visits can be resumed. At each contact, participants will be interviewed to collect safety data. Key efficacy endpoint assessments should be performed if required and as feasible. Participants will also be questioned regarding general health status to fulfill any physical examination requirement.

Every effort should be made to adhere to protocol-specified assessments for participants on study intervention, including follow up. Modifications to protocol-required assessments may be permitted via COVID-19 Appendix after consultation with the participant, investigator, or the sponsor. Missed assessments/visits will be captured in the clinical trial management system for protocol deviations. Discontinuations of study interventions and withdrawal from the study should be documented with the prefix "COVID-19 related" in the CRF.

The sponsor will continue to monitor the conduct and progress of the clinical study, and any changes will be communicated to the sites and to the health authorities according to local guidance. If a participant has tested positive for COVID-19, the investigator should contact the sponsor's responsible medical officer to discuss plans for study intervention and follow-up. Modifications made to the study conduct as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic should be summarized in the clinical study report.

GUIDANCE SPECIFIC TO THIS PROTOCOL

The following emergency provisions are meant to ensure participant safety on study while site capabilities are compromised by COVID-19-related restrictions. Remote medical consultation and alternatives to study intervention dispensing, administration, and clinical laboratory assessments may allow continued study participation for participants in this trial. Before implementing any of these emergency provisions, the sponsor should be consulted to perform a benefit-risk analysis and to ensure the measures are executed and documented correctly.

As restrictions are lifted and the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic resolves, sites should revert to original protocol conduct as soon as feasible and in accordance with any country-specific regulatory requirements.

Screening and randomization:

Enrollment of new participants may continue based on the investigator's assessment of risks versus benefits, depending on the situation at a particular site, and the ability to monitor participant safety.

Baseline visits for participants recently screened for this study should be postponed if the current situation does not allow for an orderly conduct of the study.

Dispensing/administration of study intervention:

- For participants unable to visit the study site, direct-to-patient (DTP) shipment or handover to a caregiver or delegate of oral study intervention may be implemented, where allowed per local regulations and if requested by the treating study physician. Where DTP shipments or handover to delegates are deemed necessary, the process must be coordinated between the site and sponsor staff following standard DTP procedures for arranging shipment and adhering to associated approvals and documentation requirements.
- For participants able to visit the study site, but who request to reduce visit frequency, or for whom limited access to the site is expected, an additional supply of oral study intervention can be provided.
- JNJ-3989 should be administered by a nurse at the study site or, if this is not possible, at the participant's home. Of note, if a scheduled injection of JNJ-3989 is not possible, the injection should be given as soon as possible within 3 weeks after the scheduled time.

Continuation of study intervention:

- Any issue with continuation of study intervention should be discussed with the sponsor and well documented.
- Study intervention should be continued if, in the assessment of the investigator, it does not result in risk to the participant. If at any time a participant's safety is considered at risk due to study intervention, study intervention will be temporarily or permanently discontinued, while every effort should be made to maintain follow-up on study. The benefit of continuing study intervention should be assessed by the investigator for each individual participant, considering the potential impact of reduced direct clinical supervision on participant safety.

- If a participant develops a COVID-19 infection, the investigator should contact the sponsor to discuss plans for study intervention and follow-up. A decision to continue study intervention should be made by the investigator depending on symptoms and concomitant medication used for the treatment of COVID-19. Study intervention must be discontinued if prohibited medication is used.
- When a participant, for whom study intervention has been interrupted, recovers from suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection or related disease and all AEs related to SARS-CoV-2 infection improve to Grade ≤ 1 , the investigator should discuss with the sponsor about resuming study intervention.

COVID-19 vaccination during the study:

Local guidelines on the use of live vaccines in participants receiving PegIFN- α 2a should be followed, including for the second dose of Sputnik V (which contains rAd5, with a theoretical risk of replication competence). Sputnik Light, which is the first dose of Sputnik V (with rAd26) is not considered a live vaccine. See below for further guidance on the use of COVID-19 vaccines.

Locally approved COVID-19 vaccines (including those that received emergency use authorization or conditional marketing authorization) are allowed throughout the study. The following recommendations should be applied to accommodate COVID-19 vaccination during the consolidation phase:

- COVID-19 vaccine and PegIFN- α 2a should not be administered on the same day.
- If required, PegIFN- α 2a injection can be delayed with 2 days. The next PegIFN- α 2a injection should be performed at the scheduled time.
- If required, skipping a PegIFN- α 2a injection may be considered after consultation with the Sponsor.
- Vaccination with Sputnik V should take above-mentioned consideration about live vaccines into account.

All COVID-19 vaccination-related data (eg, COVID-19 vaccination, AEs, AE management) should be appropriately captured in the CRF and source documents. Refer to the COVID-19 vaccine and/or PegIFN- α 2a prescribing information for more details.

Study visits and assessments:

- If possible, central laboratory testing as outlined in the [Schedule of Activities](#) is to be continued. If central laboratory tests cannot be performed, the use of a local laboratory is allowed for study evaluations. A copy of the local laboratory report should be reviewed by the investigator and filed with the source documents, along with reference ranges.
- To safely maintain participants on study intervention while site capabilities are compromised by COVID-19-related restrictions, study visits may be performed by a nurse (who received study-specific training) at the participant's home (home health visits) until such time that on-site visits can be resumed. The following activities may be completed as required per the [Schedule of Activities](#) and as feasible:

- Sampling, processing and shipping of laboratory samples (as described above)
- Checking study compliance: medication diary (if available), intake of oral study intervention, storage of oral study intervention
- Performing ECGs
- Collecting participant-reported outcomes (where appropriate translations and licensing are available)
- If JNJ-3989 is administered at the participant's home, it will need to be done by a nurse (who received study-specific training)
- Delivering oral study interventions and urine pregnancy tests for at-home use
- Any data related to adverse events, concomitant medication, vital signs, and ECGs will be reviewed and assessed by the investigator.
- In addition, participants may have tele-health visits conducted by qualified site personnel via phone or video conversation as per local regulation. Assessments may include review of adverse events (including injection site reactions), concomitant medications, and study intervention accountability. Participants will also be questioned regarding general health status to fulfill any physical examination requirement. Patient-reported outcomes may be collected (where appropriate translations and licensing are available) following the Site Assisted Administration Process Guidance.
- Procedures and timings should follow the [Schedule of Activities](#) as closely as possible. Standard Adverse Event/Serious Adverse Event reporting requirements apply.
- Ultrasound (and fibroscan where applicable) should be done as close as possible to the time points specified in the [Schedule of Activities](#). However, if this is not possible due to COVID-19 related restrictions, the imaging test should be performed as soon as possible.
- Consenting and re-consenting of participants will be performed as applicable for the measures taken (including also remote consenting by phone or video consultation) and according to local guidance for informed consent applicable during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Source Data Verification/Monitoring:

- In case on-site monitoring visits are not possible, the site monitor may contact the investigator to arrange monitoring activities remotely (in accordance with site and local requirements). Additional on-site monitoring visits may be needed in the future to catch up on source data verification.

Site Audits:

- During the COVID-19 pandemic and at the impacted sites, study site Good Clinical Practice (GCP) audits with direct impact/engagement from the investigator and study site personnel would not be conducted in order to comply with national, local, and/or organizational social distancing restrictions. Additional quality assurance activities such as remote audits or focused review of study-related documents may take place with limited impact/engagement if possible.

10.16. Appendix 16: NA Re-treatment and Monitoring After Stopping of NA

Participants who meet the NA treatment completion criteria will be monitored for NA re-treatment during the follow-up phase

Frequency of monitoring:

- Regular monitoring visits will be every 4 weeks during the follow up phase in accordance with the schedule of activities (SoA)
- A post-treatment HBV DNA value of >20,000 IU/mL should trigger re-testing of ALT/AST, HBV DNA, and total and direct bilirubin within a maximum of 7 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, weekly until HBV DNA returns to <20,000 IU/mL)
- A post-treatment HBV DNA value of >2,000 IU/mL (but <20,000 IU/mL) should trigger a re-test within 14 days from receipt of the data and further repeats as necessary (ie, every other week until HBV DNA returns to <2,000 IU/mL)
- A post-treatment ALT value of >5x ULN should trigger re-testing of ALT, AST, ALP, total and direct bilirubin, INR, albumin, and HBV DNA on a weekly basis until ALT and AST levels have returned to <5x ULN

Re-start of NA treatment:

- immediately with signs of decreasing liver function based on laboratory findings (eg, INR, direct bilirubin) or clinical assessment (eg, ascites, hepatic encephalopathy)
- immediately with an HBV DNA value of >100,000 IU/mL (irrespective of confirmation and/or ALT increase)
- with confirmed post-treatment HBeAg seroreversion (HBeAg positive after it was negative at NA completion)
- with confirmed* post-treatment increases in HBV DNA >2,000 IU/mL and ALT >5x ULN
- With confirmed* post-treatment increases in HBV DNA >20,000 IU/mL

* At least 4 weeks apart – frequency of visits as described above

Note: Additional re-testing and/or earlier restarting of NA-treatment is at the investigator's discretion also if the above cut-offs are not yet met.

11. REFERENCES

1. Brooks ST, Whitely E, Egger M, Smith GD, Mulheran PA, Peters TJ. Subgroup analyses in randomized trials: risks of subgroup-specific analyses; power and sample size for the interaction test. *J Clin Epidemiol*. 2004;57(3):229-236.
2. Chan HLY, Chan CK, Hui AJ, et al. Effects of Tenofovir Disoproxil Fumarate in Hepatitis B e Antigen-Positive Patients With Normal Levels of Alanine Aminotransferase and High Levels of Hepatitis B Virus DNA. *Gastroenterology*. 2014;146(5):1240–1248.
3. Cohen SM, Johansson SL, Arnold LL, Lawson TA. Urinary tract calculi and thresholds in carcinogenesis. *Food and Chem Tox*. 2002;40(6):793-799.
4. European Association for the Study of the Liver. EASL clinical practice guidelines on the Management of chronic hepatitis B virus infection. *J Hepatol*. 2017;67(2):370-398.
5. Fang Z, Li J, Yu X, et al. Polarization of monocytic myeloid-derived suppressor cells by hepatitis B surface antigen is mediated via ERK/IL-6/STAT3 signaling feedback and restrains the activation of T cells in chronic hepatitis B virus infection. *J Immunol*. 2015;195(10):4873-4483.
6. Feld JJ, Terrault NA, Lin HS, et al. Entecavir and Peginterferon Alfa-2a in Adults With Hepatitis B e Antigen–Positive Immune-Tolerant Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection. *Hepatology*. 2019;69(6):2338-2348.
7. Gane E, Locarnini S, Lim TH, et al. Dose Response with the RNA Interference Therapy JNJ-3989 Combined with Nucleos(t)ide Analogue Treatment in Expanded Cohorts of Patients with Chronic Hepatitis B. The Liver Meeting, Boston November 2019, Poster 0696. Available at: <http://ir.arrowheadpharma.com/static-files/66178cc7-10ce-4db2-8400-1c0495271e35>. Accessed 30 Jan 2020.
8. Henry SP, Johnson M, Zanardi TA, et al. Renal uptake and tolerability of a 2'-O-methoxyethyl modified antisense oligonucleotide (ISIS 113715) in monkey. *Toxicology*. 2012;301(1-3):13-20.
9. Hurst H, Bolton J. Assessing the clinical significance of change scores recorded on subjective outcome measures. *J. Manipulative Physiol Ther*. 2004;27(1):26-35.
10. Investigator's Brochure: JNJ-56136379 Edition 6. Janssen Research & Development (Feb 2021).
11. Investigator's Brochure: JNJ-56136379 Edition 6, Addendum 1. Janssen Research & Development (Jul 2021).
12. Investigator's Brochure: JNJ-73763989 Edition 5, Addendum 1. Janssen Research & Development (Jul 2021).
13. Investigator's Brochure: JNJ-73763989 Edition 5. Janssen Research & Development (Apr 2021).
14. Jaeschke R, Singer J, Guyatt GH. Measurement of health status. Ascertaining the minimal clinically important difference. *Control Clin Trials*. 1989;10(4):407-415.
15. Janas MM, Harbison CE, Perry VK, et al. The nonclinical safety profile of GalNac-conjugated RNAi therapeutics in subacute studies. *Toxicologic Pathology*. 2018;46(7):735-745.
16. Jeng WJ, Chen YC, Chien RN, Sheen IS, Liaw YF. Incidence and predictors of hepatitis B surface antigen seroclearance after cessation of nucleos(t)ide analogue therapy in hepatitis B e antigen-negative chronic hepatitis B. *Hepatology*. 2018;68(2):425-434.
17. Kennedy PTF, Litwin S, Dolman GE, Bertoletti A, Mason WS. Immune Tolerant Chronic Hepatitis B: The Unrecognized Risks. *Viruses*. 2017;9(96).
18. Li H, Zhai N, Wang Z, et al. Regulatory NK cells mediated between immunosuppressive monocytes and dysfunctional T cells in chronic HBV infection. *Gut*. 2018;67(11):2035-2044.
19. Mantel N and Haenszel W. Statistical aspects of the analysis of data from retrospective studies of disease. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 1959;22(4):719-748.
20. Mason WS, Gill US, Litwin S, et al. HBV DNA Integration and Clonal Hepatocyte Expansion in Chronic Hepatitis B Patients Considered Immune Tolerant. *Gastroenterology*. 2016;151(5):986–998.
21. Memorandum to Advisory Committee Members and Guests from Tenofovir Review Team. Background Package for NDA 21-356: VIREAD (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate), 6 Sep 2001.

22. Papatheodoridis GV, Rigopoulou EI, Papatheodoridi M, et al. DARING-B: discontinuation of effective entecavir or tenofovir disoproxil fumarate long-term therapy before HBsAg loss in non-cirrhotic HBeAg negative chronic hepatitis B. *Antivir Ther.* 2018;23(8):677-685.
23. PEGASYS Summary of Product Characteristics. Roche Registration GmbH. Revised July 2020. Available at https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/pegasys-epar-product-information_en.pdf. Accessed 4 September 2020.
24. PEGASYS United States Prescribing Information. Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc. Revised October 2017. Available at https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2017/103964s5270lbl.pdf. Accessed 4 September 2020.
25. Poddar U, Yachha SK, Agarwal J, Krishnani N. Cure for immune-tolerant hepatitis B in children: is it an achievable target with sequential combo therapy with lamivudine and interferon? *J. Viral Hepat.* 2013;20(5):311-316.
26. Spiegel BM, Bolus R, Han S, et al. Development and Validation of a Disease-Targeted Quality of Life Instrument in Chronic Hepatitis B: The Hepatitis B Quality of Life Instrument, Version 1.0. *Hepatology.* 2007;46(1):113-121.
27. Tannehill-Gregg SH, Dominick MA, Reisinger AJ, et al. Strain-related Differences in Urine Composition of Male Rats of Potential Relevance to Urolithiasis. *Toxicol Pathol.* 2009;37(3):293-305.
28. Terrault NA, Lok ASF, McMahon BJ, et al. Update on Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis B: AASLD 2018 Hepatitis B Guidance. American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) *Hepatology.* 2018;67(4):1560-1599.
29. Wooddell CI, Yuen MF, Chan HL, et al. RNAi-based treatment of chronically infected patients and chimpanzees reveals that integrated hepatitis B virus DNA is a source of HBsAg. *Sci. Transl. Med.* 2017;9(409).
30. Yuen MF, et al. Preliminary on-treatment data from a phase 2 study evaluating VIR-2218 in combination with pegylated interferon alfa-2a in participants with chronic hepatitis B infection. *EASL 2021.* PO-824.
31. Yuen MF, Locarnini S, Given B, et al. First Clinical Experience with RNA Interference-based Triple Combination Therapy in Chronic Hepatitis B: JNJ-3989, JNJ-6379 and a Nucleos(t)ide Analogue. The Liver Meeting, Boston November 2019, Poster LP4. Available at: <http://ir.arrowheadpharma.com/static-files/6d7edbe7-c5a2-46c5-9990-a9cdfec854a9>. Accessed 30 Jan 2020.

INVESTIGATOR AGREEMENT

I have read this protocol and agree that it contains all necessary details for carrying out this study. I will conduct the study as outlined herein and will complete the study within the time designated.

I will provide copies of the protocol and all pertinent information to all individuals responsible to me who assist in the conduct of this study. I will discuss this material with them to ensure that they are fully informed regarding the study intervention, the conduct of the study, and the obligations of confidentiality.

Coordinating Investigator (where required):

Name (typed or printed): _____

Institution and Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Day Month Year)

Principal (Site) Investigator:

Name (typed or printed): _____

Institution and Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Day Month Year)

Sponsor's Responsible Medical Officer:Name (typed or printed): PPDInstitution: Janssen Research & DevelopmentSignature: [electronic signature appended at the end of the protocol] Date: _____

(Day Month Year)

Note: If the address or telephone number of the investigator changes during the study, written notification will be provided by the investigator to the sponsor, and a protocol amendment will not be required.

Signature

User	Date	Reason
PPD	25-Nov-2021 17:23:18 (GMT)	Document Approval