Antigenicity and Immunogenicity of Differentially Glycosylated HCV E2 Envelope Proteins Expressed in Mammalian and Insect Cells.

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Abstract | Development of a prophylactic vaccine for hepatitis C virus (HCV) remains a significant challenge. The current efforts struggle to overcome the difficulty of inducing a strong and durable immune response against the virus. The authors investigated the antigenicity and immunogenicity of differently glycosylated HCV E2 proteins expressed in mammalian and insect cells. These studies revealed that specific glycans on the E2 protein play a critical role in its immunogenicity. A more productive approach for vaccine development may be the complete deletion of specific glycans in the E2 protein, which could result in a more efficacious vaccine.
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