

Table 1 Primer sequences used for hepatitis B virus genotyping by nested PCR

Primer	Sequence ^a (position, specificity and polarity)
First PCR	
PI ^b	5'-TCA CCA TAT TCT TGG GAA CAA GA-3' (nt 2823–2845, universal, sense)
SI-2	5'-CGA ACC ACT GAA CAA ATG GC-3' (nt 685–704, universal, antisense)
Second PCR	
<i>Mix A</i>	
B2	5'-GGC TCM AGT TCM GGA ACA GT-3' (nt 67–86, genotypes A–E specific, sense)
BA1R	5'-CAG GTT GGT GAG TGA CTG GAG A-3' (nt 324–345, genotype B specific, antisense)
BB1R	5'-CAG GTT GGT GAG TGA CTG GAG A-3' (nt 324–345, genotype B specific, antisense)
BC1R	5'-GGT CCT AGG AAT CCT GAT GTT G-3' (nt 165–186, genotype C specific, antisense)
<i>Mix B</i>	
BD1	5'-GCC AAC AAG GTA GGA GCT-3' (nt 2979–2996, genotype D specific, sense)
BE1	5'-CAC CAG AAA TCC AGA TTG GGA CCA-3' (nt 2955–2978, genotype E specific, sense)
BF1	5'-GYT ACG GTC CAG GGT TAC CA-3' (nt 3032–3051, genotype F specific, sense)
B2R	5'-GGA GGC GGA TYT GCT GGC AA-3' (nt 3078–3097, genotypes D–F specific, antisense)

^aM represents A or a C; Y represents C or T.

^bSequence for primer PI was determined by Lindh et al. (35).

nt – nucleotide; PCR – polymerase chain reaction.