



This form should be used for all taxonomic proposals. Please complete all those modules that are applicable (and then delete the unwanted sections).

Code(s) assigned:	2008.005-009V	(to be completed by ICTV officers)			
Short title: Remove and re-align a species in the genus Hepevirus; formally recognize the Family Hepeviridae (e.g. 6 new species in the genus <i>Zetavirus</i> ; re-classification of the family <i>Zetaviridae</i> etc.)					
Modules attached (please check all that apply):	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
	6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>			

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ICTV-EC or Study Group comments and response of the proposer:

The ICTV *Hepeviridae* Study Group has reviewed and approved the proposed changes.

MODULE 2: **NEW FAMILY**

(if more than one family is to be created, please complete additional copies of this module)

Code	2008.005V	(assigned by ICTV officers)
To create a new family assigned to the order: <i>unassigned</i> If there is no order, put “unassigned” here.		

Code	2008.006V	(assigned by ICTV officers)
To name the new family: <i>Hepeviridae</i>		

Code	2008.007V	(assigned by ICTV officers)
To assign the following genera to the new family: You may list several genera here. For each genus, please state whether it is new or existing. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the genus is new, please complete Module 4 to create it.• If the genus already exists, please state whether it is unassigned or is to be removed from another family and, if the latter, complete module 6(a) to ‘REMOVE’ it from that family Genus in the family: <i>Hepevirus</i> (already existing genus, currently unassigned)		

Code	2008.008V	(assigned by ICTV officers)
To create the following species to be unassigned in the new family (i.e. within the family but not assigned to any genus): You may list several species here. For each species, please state whether it is new or existing. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the species is new, please complete Module 5 to create it.• If the species already exists, please state its current position and complete module 6(a) to ‘REMOVE’ it from there. <i>Avian hepatitis E virus</i> <i>Avian hepatitis E virus</i> is currently listed in the ICTV Eighth Report as a tentative species in the genus <i>Hepevirus</i>		

Argument to justify the creation of a new family:

In the ICTV 8th Report, The genus “*Hepevirus*” was created which consisted of one type species “Hepatitis E virus” and one tentative species “Avian hepatitis E virus”. However, the genus *Hepevirus* was not formally assigned to any family in the ICTV 8th Report even though many in the scientific community have already begun to use the family name “*Hepeviridae*” in publications.

With the identification of several strains of avian hepatitis E virus (from chickens) with only approximately 50% nucleotide sequence identity to the hepatitis E virus, members of the *Hepeviridae* Study Group have agreed that it is time to formally recognize the family *Hepeviridae* for this group of viruses. By formally recognizing a new family “*Hepeviridae*”, we can now more appropriately place avian hepatitis E virus as a new species in the family (it was designated as a “tentative species in the genus” in the ICTV 8th Report).

Origin of the new family name:

The family name is derived from the sigla of *Hepatitis E Virus*.

References:

Huang FF, Sun ZF, Emerson SU, Purcell RH, Shivaprasad HL, Pierson FW, Toth TE, Meng XJ. Determination and analysis of the complete genomic sequence of avian hepatitis E virus (avian HEV) and attempts to infect rhesus monkeys with avian HEV. *J Gen Virol.* 2004;85(Pt 6):1609-18.

Billam P, Sun ZF, Meng XJ. Analysis of the complete genomic sequence of an apparently avirulent strain of avian hepatitis E virus (avian HEV) identified major genetic differences compared with the prototype pathogenic strain of avian HEV. *J Gen Virol.* 2007;88(Pt 5):1538-44.

Guo H, Zhou EM, Sun ZF, Meng XJ, Halbur PG. Identification of B-cell epitopes in the capsid protein of avian hepatitis E virus (avian HEV) that are common to human and swine HEVs or unique to avian HEV. *J Gen Virol.* 2006;87(Pt 1):217-23.

Annexes:

Include as much information as necessary to support the proposal. The use of Figures and Tables is strongly recommended.
