

Figure S1. Correlation between the serum IL-21 concentrations and serum HBeAg levels ($\log_{10}$ S/CO) at baseline and week 12.

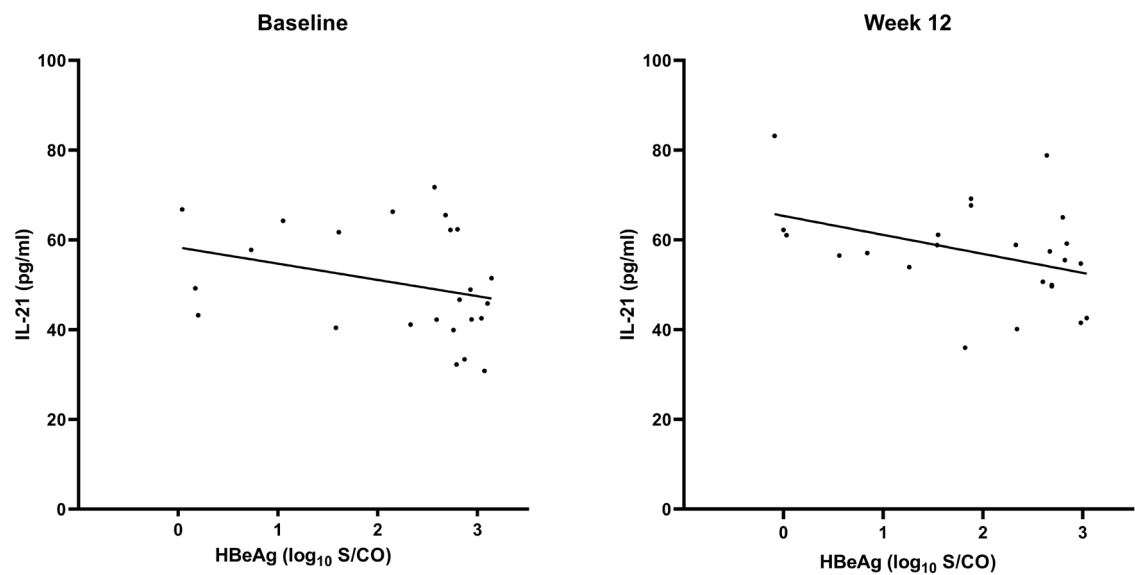


Table SI. Logistic regression analysis model for variables associated with HBeAg loss.

Variable	Odds ratio	95% CI	P-value
Baseline HBV DNA ($\log_{10}$ IU/ml)	0.199	0.034-1.177	0.075
Baseline HBeAg ($\log_{10}$ S/CO)	0.270	0.083-0.875	0.029
Baseline HBeAg adjusted ^a ($\log_{10}$ S/CO)	0.367	0.107-1.257	0.110

^aBaseline HBsAg adjusted for the confounding factor (baseline HBV DNA). CI, confidence interval; HBeAg, hepatitis B e antigen.

Table SII. Logistic regression analysis model for variables associated with HBeAg decline.

Variable	Odds ratio	95% CI	P-value
Week 24 ALT(U/l)	1.098	0.997-1.211	0.059
Elevation of IL-21 baseline to week 12 (pg/ml)	1.137	1.002-1.121	0.047
CI, confidence interval; ALT, alanine aminotransferase.			