Putuo district community-based population

HBV infection recorded in the surveillance system in 1991 (702)

- Positive HBV surface antigen for more than 6 months and asymptomatic
- No MS when follow up began
- Not receiving antiviral or immunosuppressive therapy
- Negative for anti-HCV or other types of hepatitis virus except for HBV

People without HBV infection (732)

- Negative HBV surface antigen and HCV or other types of hepatitis virus,
- No MS when follow-up began

Excluded:

- Hepatitis C (14)
- MS in the beginning (43)
- Lost follow up due to death (129)
- Refused (48)

Included:

Exposed group, 480 subjects

Unexposed group, 496 subjects

Figure 1: Selection of subjects during study