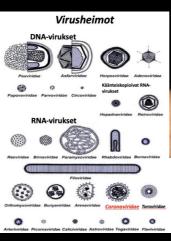
Detecting potential new emerging viral threats in clinical and field samples – *early and late alarms*











Olli Vapalahti

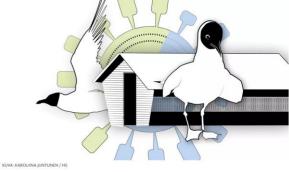
MD, Professor of Zoonotic Virology

University of Helsinki

- Department of Virology, Faculty of Medicine
- Microbiology and Epidemiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Helsinki University Hospital Diagnostic Center - HUSLAB <u>Olli.Vapalahti@helsinki.fi</u>

Wageningen 24 April 2024



MENU

APERITIF: Some general themes on Emerging Viral Infections

STARTERS: A collection of fresh parapoxviruses, arenaviruses, kolmioviruses and filoviruses detected with genus-specific primers, metagenomics & bioinfo

MAIN COURSE: Emerging flaviviruses (spiced with some other arboviruses) in mosquitoes and ticks detected with genus- and speciesspecific RT-PCRs or metagenomics and dressed with ARTIC-based sequencing, intra-host variation & phylogenetic analyses

DESSERT: Mink and foxes with highly pathogenic avian influenza

The future of infectious diseases as predicted in the past

• "The future of infectious diseases will be very dull"

Macfarlane Burnet, F. & White, D. O. 1972 Natural History of Infectious Disease p263 (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1972).

• "There would be scant role for infectious disease specialists in the next century, unless they would spend their time culturing one another"

Robert Petersdorf, 1986 President of the American Association of Medical Colleges , in Review of Infectious Diseases 8, 478-87

Required for viruses to (re-)'emerge'

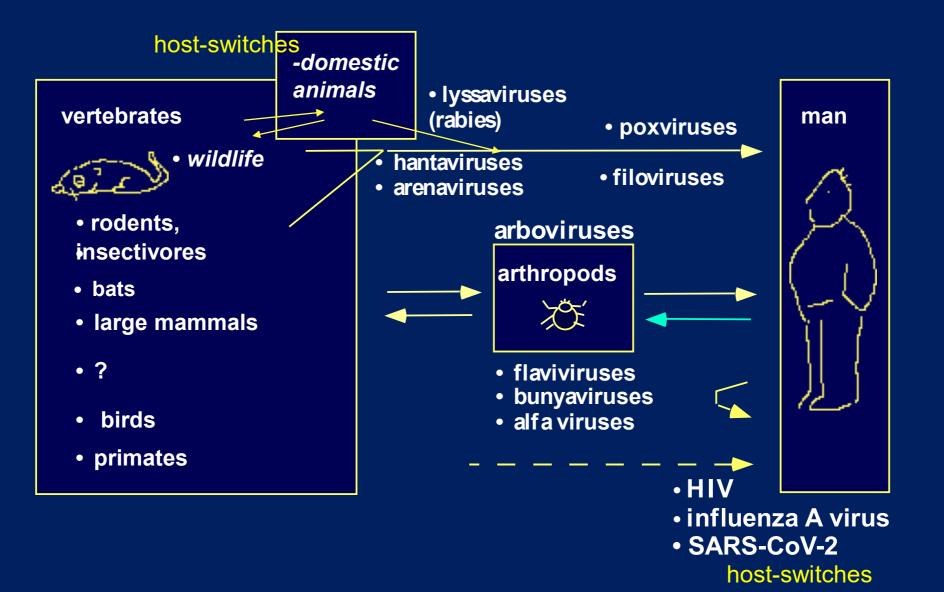
- 1) Introduction Pathogen (or its variant)
 - Crossing species or geographical borders
- 2) Suitable conditions
 - Species distributions, density, contacts; climate, lack of immunity, susceptibility to severe sympotms
- 3) Lack of control measures
 - Dg, therapy, vaccines, resources, prioritization







EMERGING ZOONOTIC VIRUSES AND HOST-SWITHCES

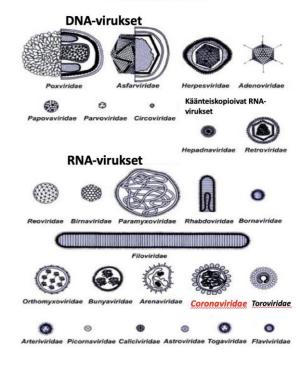


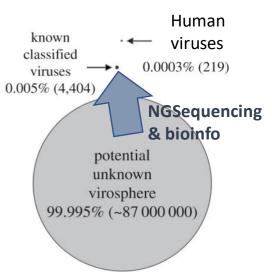
Emerging viral infections

- global threats/pandemics regional and local epidemics
- megatrends increasing new viral zoonoses, epidemics and pandemics:

globalisation-tourism - urbanisation –changes in land usage/environmental (incl. climatic) changes /change in animal husbandry

- Modern diagnostic methods help to identify
- Only a fragment of viruses known though only some pose threats:





Emerging viruses

- Diseases looking for a virus
 - Clinical hints, pathology, epi?
 - Association, causation?
- Virus looking for a disease association
 - Related to pathogens? Pathogenic determinants? Epi?
- Tools for detection
 - Pan-genus RT-PCR primers (conserved regions)
 - Metagenomics / Bioinfo: Virome. ('anything')
 - Serology reflects structural relatedness (usually more conserved relatedness than with primers)
 - Cell culture (anything that infects your cells)

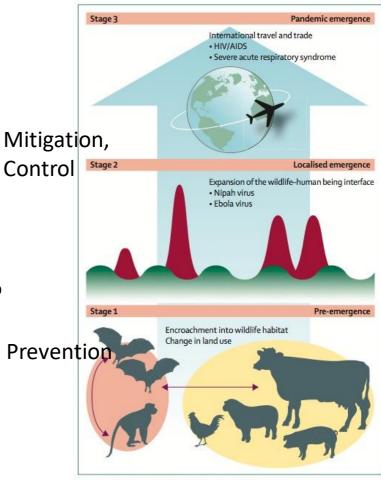
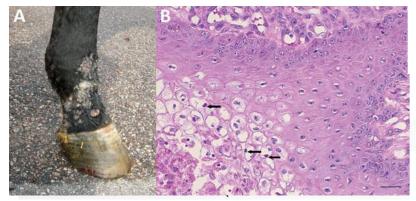


Figure 2: Emergence of pandemic zoonotic disease Morse ea, Lancet 2012

STARTERS

parapoxviruses, arenaviruses, kolmioviruses and filoviruses from veterinary patient and field samples



New contagious disease in horses 2013, pathology suggests Poxviridae \rightarrow pan-orthopox - ; pan-parapox+

EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES°

Infection with Possible Novel Parapoxvirus in Horse, Finland, 2013

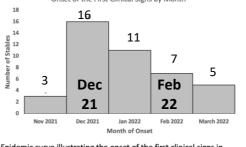
Niina Airas , Maria Hautaniemi, Pernilla Syrjä, Anna Knuuttila, Niina Putkuri¹, Lesley Coulter, Colin J. McInnes, Olli Vapalahti, Anita Huovilainen, and Paula M. Kinnunen²

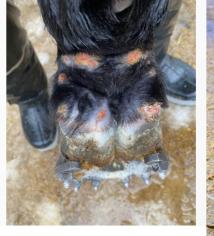
Volume 22, Number 7—July 2016

- •'infectious pastern dermatitis' in trotters
- also in winters 2014-15 & -no samples for further research
- 2021-22 hundreds of trotters sick 2-4 d after latest race: Painful pastern dermatitis (severe lameness), out of training 1-2 weeks

No isolate, more sequence of and sensitive RT-PCR for 'Equine parapoxvirus' EqPPV

Risk factor for outbreaks at stables (1/3 of horses affected): having race horses, race events before the disease (p <.001)







naranox

sqiuripox

PCPV 07012

2012

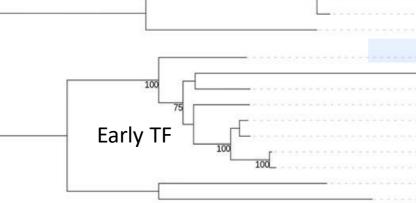
Virtanen J Gen Virol 2023

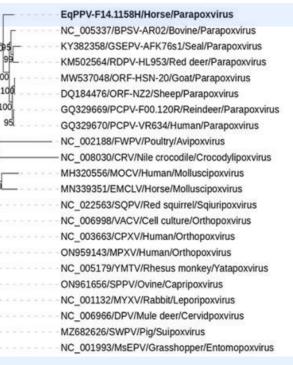
Α

В

121 kb of Equine parapoxvirus genome (skin lesion of an infected horse)

- Strong seroresponse to two recombinant proteins \rightarrow serology (IFA)





EqPPV-F14.1158H/Horse/Finland/2013 KY382358/GSEPV-AFK76s1/Seal/Poland/2015 KM502564/RDPV-HL953/Red deer/Germany/2013 NC_005337/BPSV-AR02/Bovine/USA/2002 GQ329670/PCPV-VR634/Human/USA/1963 GQ329669/PCPV-F00.120R/Reindeer/Finland/2000 MW537048/ORF-UPM/HSN-20/Goat/Malyasia/2018 DQ184476/ORF-NZ2/Sheep/New_Zealand/1982 NC_022563/SQPV/Red squirrel/UK/1999 MH320556/MCV2-MC515/Human/Slovenia/2012



\rightarrow EqPPV represents a novel parapoxvirus

DNA pol gene



Jenni Virtanen

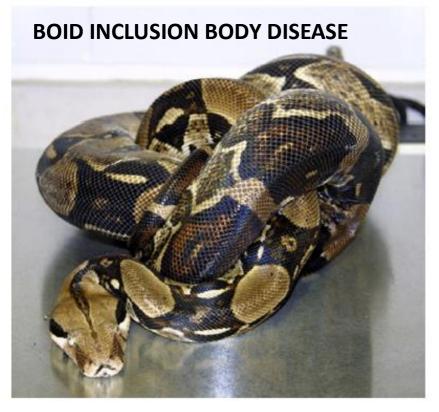
CPXV, cowpox virus; CRV, crocodilepox virus; DPV, deerpox virus; EMCLV, equine molluscum contagiosum-like virus; EqPPV, equine PPV; FWPV, fowlpox virus; MOCV, molluscum contagiosum virus; MPXV, monkeypox virus; MsEPV, melanoplus sanguinipes entomopoxvirus; MYXV, myxoma virus; ORF, open reading frame; PPV, parapoxvirus; SPPV, sheeppox virus; SQPV, squirrelpox virus; SWPV, swinepox virus; VACV, vaccinia virus; YMTV, yaba monkey tumor virus.

NC_022563/SQPV/Red_squirrel/UK/1999

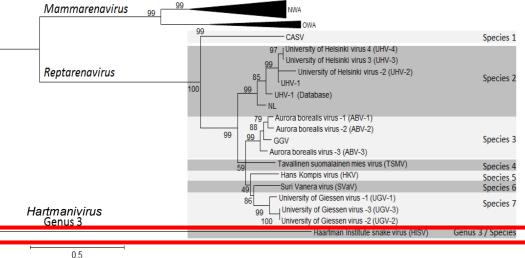
Osadebe et al CID 2015

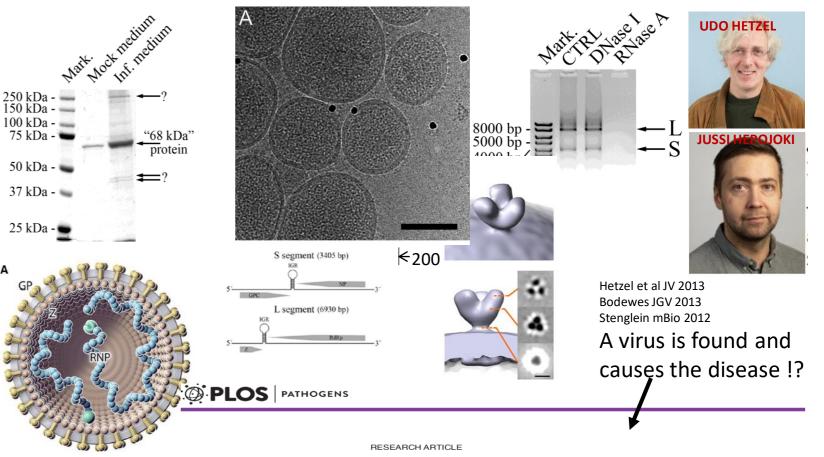
Likely a globally Occuring Zoonosis ?

Virtanen J, et al. Emerg Infect Dis. 2023;29



Fatal disease of captive boid snakes





Spectrum September/October 2022 Volume 10 https://doi.org/10.1120

Boid Inclusion Body Disease Is Also a Disease of Wild Boa Constrictors

Alejandro Alfaro-Alarcón^a, Udo Hetzel^{b,c}, Teemu Smura^d, Francesca Baggio^b, Juan Alberto Morales^a, Anja Kipar ())^{b,c}, Jussi Hepojoki ())^{b,d}

Journals.ASM.org

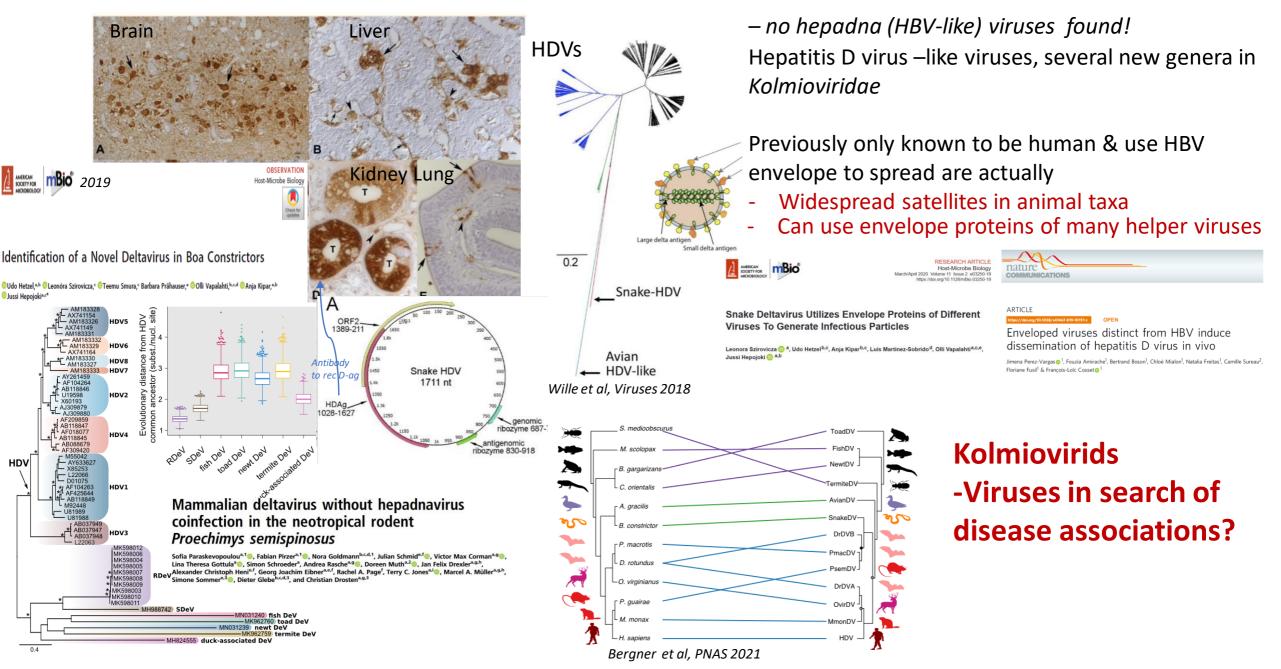
Widespread Recombination, Reassortment, and Transmission of Unbalanced Compound Viral Genotypes in Natural Arenavirus Infections

Mark D. Stenglein¹^{*}*, Elliott R. Jacobson², Li-Wen Chang², Chris Sanders³, Michelle G. Hawkins⁴, David S-M. Guzman⁴, Tracy Drazenovich⁴, Freeland Dunker⁵, Elizabeth K. Kamaka⁶, Debbie Fisher⁷, Drury R. Reavill⁸, Linda F. Meola⁹, Gregory Levens¹⁰, Joseph L. DeRisi^{1,11}*

Arenavirus Coinfections Are Common in Snakes with Boid Inclusion Body Disease

J. Hepojoki,^a P. Salmenperä,^b T. Sironen,^a U. Hetzel,^{c,d} Y. Korzyukov,^a A. Kipar,^{c,d} O. Vapalahti^{a,d,e}

Metagenomics: Viromes of boas with CNS signs → HDV-like satellites - *Deltaviruses and other Kolmioviridae*



-> people have searched and found more...

Mining metatranscriptomes reveals a vast world of viroid-like circular RNAs

Diversification of mammalian deltaviruses by host shifting

Laura M. Bergner^{a,b,1}, Richard J. Orton^b, Alice Broos^b, Carlos Tello^{c,d}, Daniel J. Becker^e, Jorge E. Carrera^{f,g} Arvind H. Patel^b, Roman Biek^a, and Daniel G. Streicker^{a,b,1}

PNAS 2021 Vol. 118 No. 3 e2019907118

https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2019907118



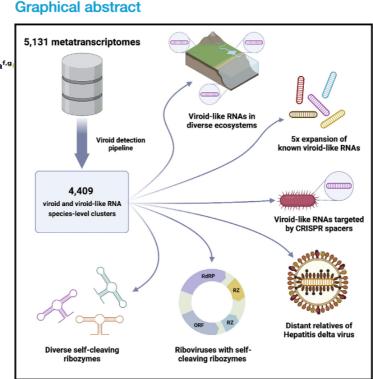
doi: 10.1093/ve/veab003 Research Article

Identification of novel avian and mammalian deltaviruses provides new insights into deltavirus evolution

Masashi Iwamoto,^{1,2} Yukino Shibata,³ Junna Kawasaki,^{4,5} Shohei Kojima,^{4,6} Yung-Tsung Li,⁷ Shingo Iwami,² Masamichi Muramatsu,¹ Hui-Lin Wu,^{7,8} Kazuhiro Wada,⁹ Keizo Tomonaga,^{4,5,10} Koichi Watashi,^{1,11} and Masavuki Horie^{4,12,*,†}

nature

Petabase-scale sequence alignment catalyses viral discovery



Authors

Benjamin D. Lee, Uri Neri, Simon Roux, ..., Uri Gophna, Valerian V. Dolja, Eugene V. Koonin

Correspondence

koonin@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

In brief

A large-scale survey of covalently closed circular RNA across ecosystems reveals that viroids infect a wide range of host species, extending beyond plants, and identifies additional types of ribozyme activity as well as functional features in these molecules.

Kolmiovirids -Viruses in search of disease associations?

Resource

CelPress

OPEN ACCESS

Mining metatranscriptomes reveals a vast world of viroid-like circular RNAs

Cell

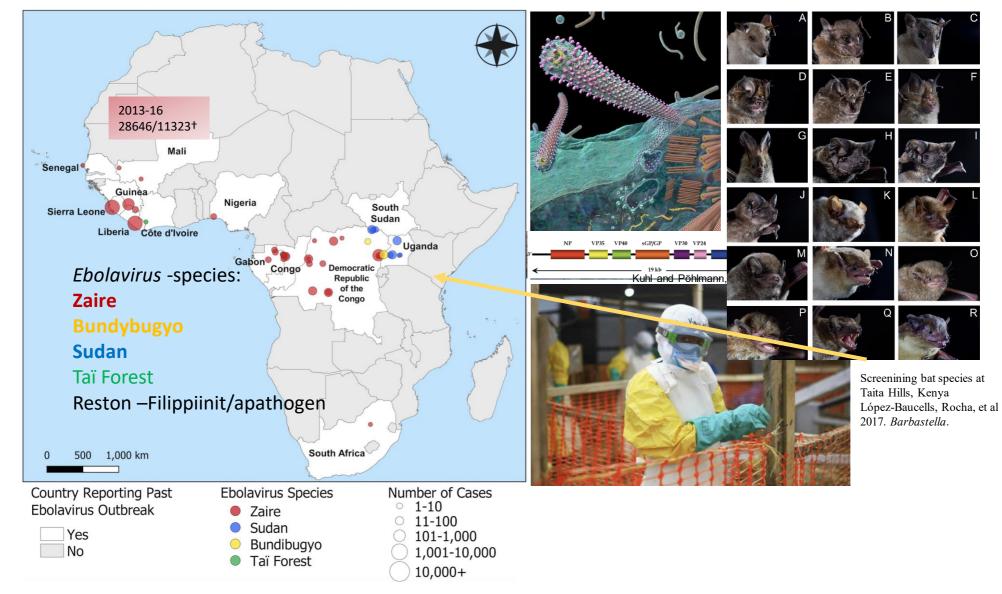
https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-04332-2

Received: 10 August 2020

Accepted: 10 December 2021

Robert C. Edgar^{1,16}, Jeff Taylor^{2,16}, Victor Lin^{3,16}, Tomer Altman^{4,16}, Pierre Barbera^{5,16}, Dmitry Meleshko^{6,7,16}, Dan Lohr^{8,16}, Gherman Novakovsky^{9,16}, Benjamin Buchfink^{10,16}

Benjamin D. Lee,^{1,2} Uri Neri,³ Simon Roux,⁴ Yuri I. Wolf,¹ Antonio Pedro Camargo,⁴ Mart Krupovic,⁵ RNA Virus Discovery Basem Al-Shayeb^{11,36}, Jillian F. Banfield^{12,16}, Marcos de la Peña^{13,16}, Anton Korobeynikov^{6,14,11} Consortium, Peter Simmonds,² Nikos Kyrpides,⁴ Uri Gophna,³ Valerian V. Dolja,⁶ and Eugene V. Koonin^{1,7,1} Ravan Chikhi^{15,16} & Artem Babaian^{2,16}



Ebolavirus-epidemics/cases since 1976 / CDC Reservoir in (fruit) bats?

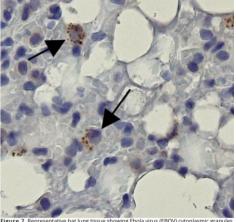
Bat filoviruses: new candidate pathogens (?)

SEARCHING FOR NEW VIRUSES FROM BATS

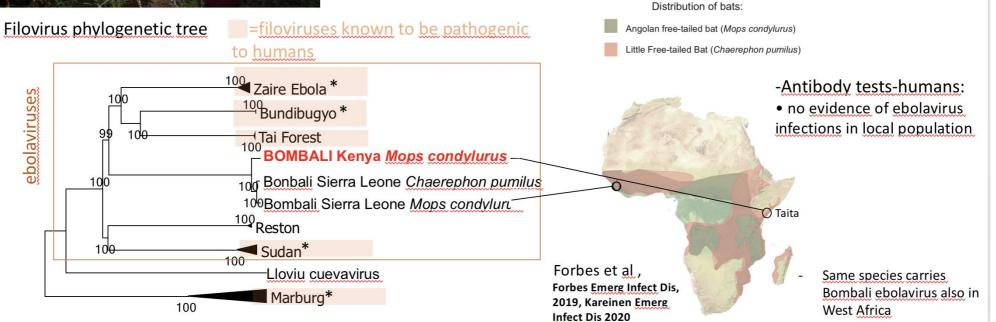


Mops condulyrus
insectivore bat lung sample
→ Screen -molecular tools^a
→ Sequencing
→ Bioinformatics^b
full genome of new Bombaliebolavirus





Kareinen EID 2023



Lauri Kareinen

Kris Forbes

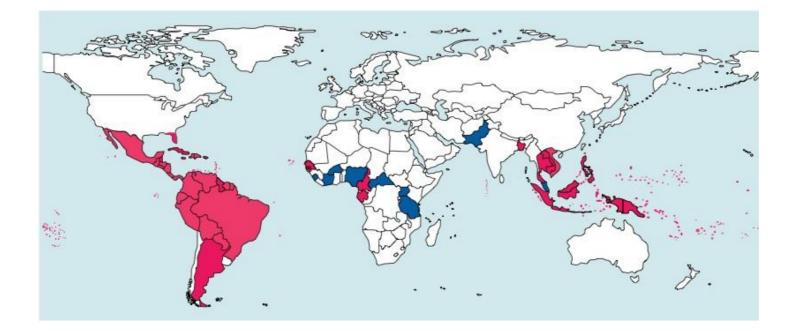
*Large outbreaks; a)Genus-specific pan-filo RT-qPCR (Jääskeläinen JCV 2019) + Illumina NGS + b) Lazypipe (Plyusnin Virus Evol 2020)

MAIN COURSE

Emerging flaviviruses and some other arboviruses in patients samples, mosquitoes and ticks

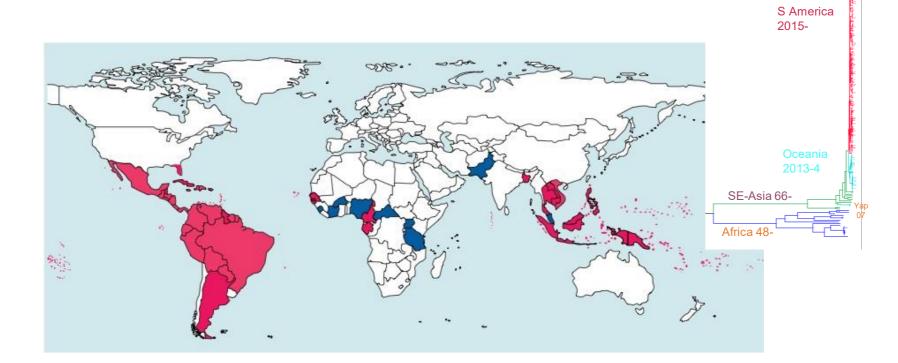
Travelers as sentinels of global emergence (Zika)

Zika virus circulation (8/2016)

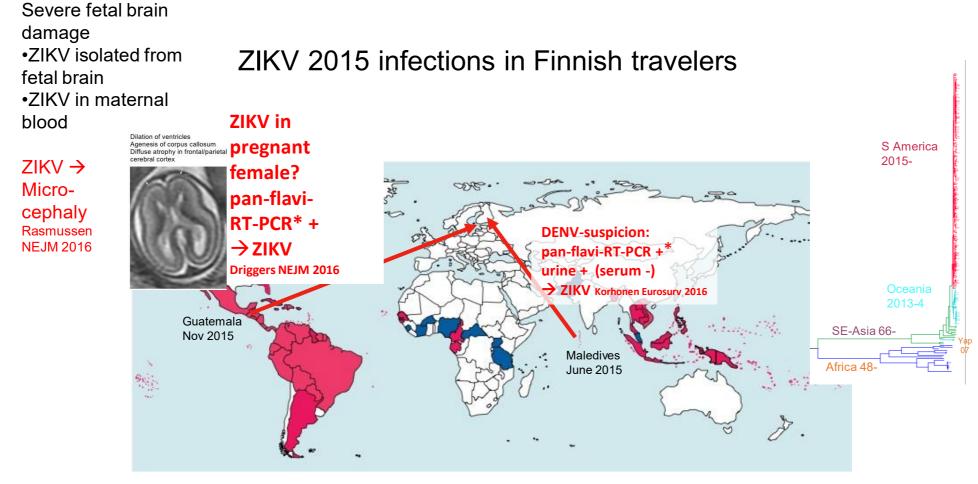


-2007 2007 --

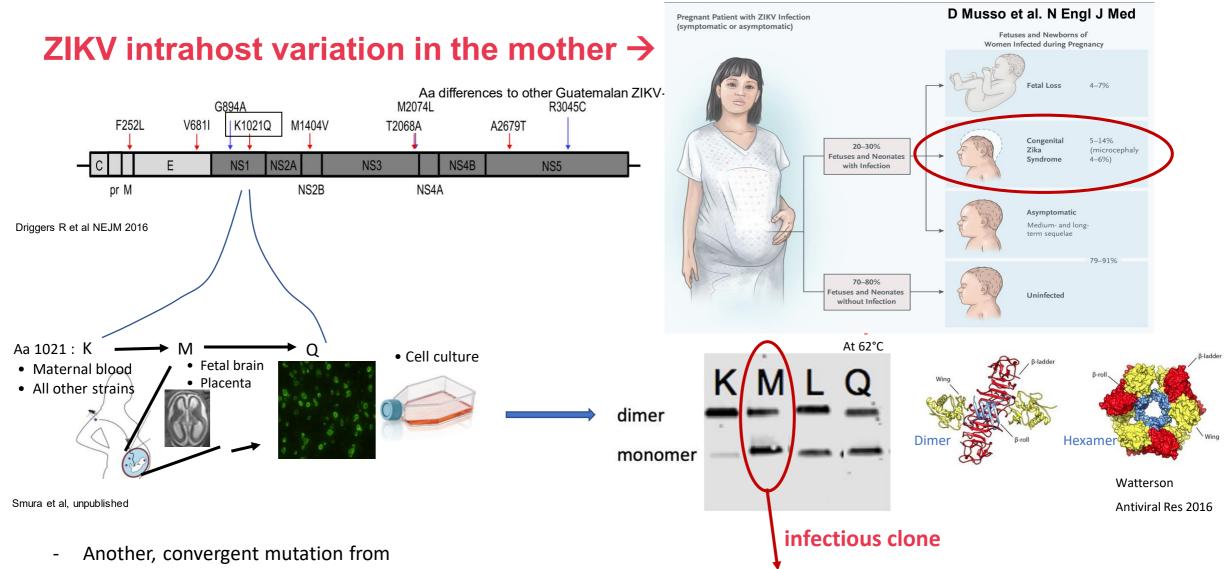
Zika virus circulation(8/2016)



-2007 2007 --



-2007 2007 --



microcephalic brain (Mlakar NEJM 2016) reported to have similar NS1 phenotype (Wang et al Sci Rep 2017)

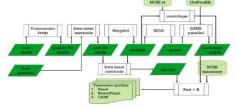
Single patient sample isolates/tissue distribution/intrahost sequence variation \rightarrow Information on causality and pathogenesis

- \rightarrow Hindbrain organoid infection
- → Transciptomics: Similar cytokine induction as in pregnant mothers with ZIKV and fetal damage (vs ZIKV only)



Plyusnin I, et al, 2020

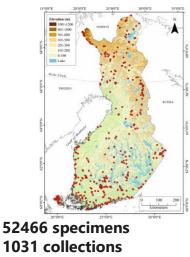
Novel NGS pipeline for virus discovery from a wide spectrum of hosts and sample types



https://www.helsinki.fi/en/p rojects/lazypipe

Medical and Veterinary Entomology

Culverwell et al, 2020 The mosquitoes of Finland: updated distributions and bionomics



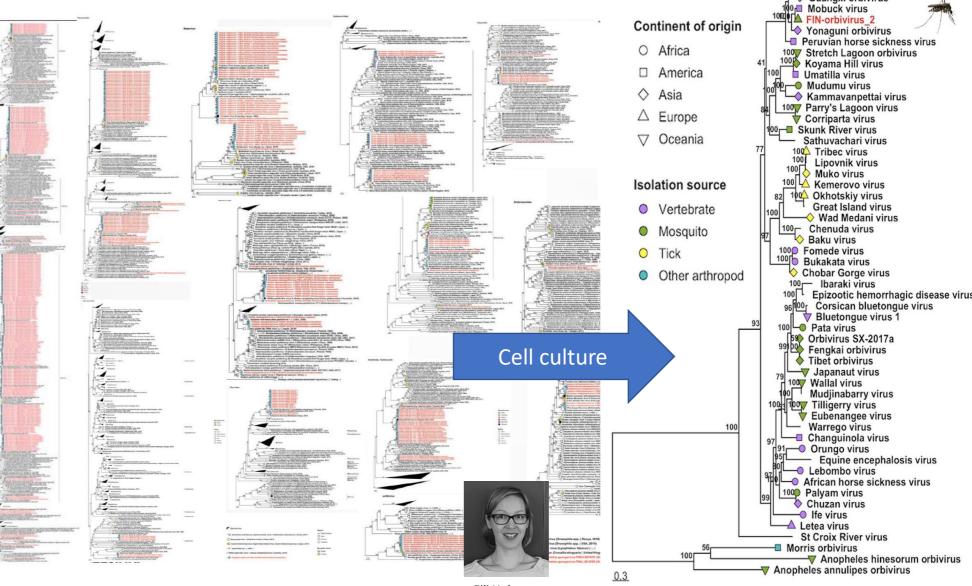




RNA Virome of 9 *Ochlerotatus* Species

in Finland Truong Nguyen PT et al, 2022

159 virus species in 25 families, 147 tentatively new species



49 CHeRI orbivirus 3-3

ORBIVIRUS

CHeRI orbivirus 3-4

CHeRI orbivirus 3-2

CHeRI orbivirus 2-2

CHeRI orbivirus 2-1

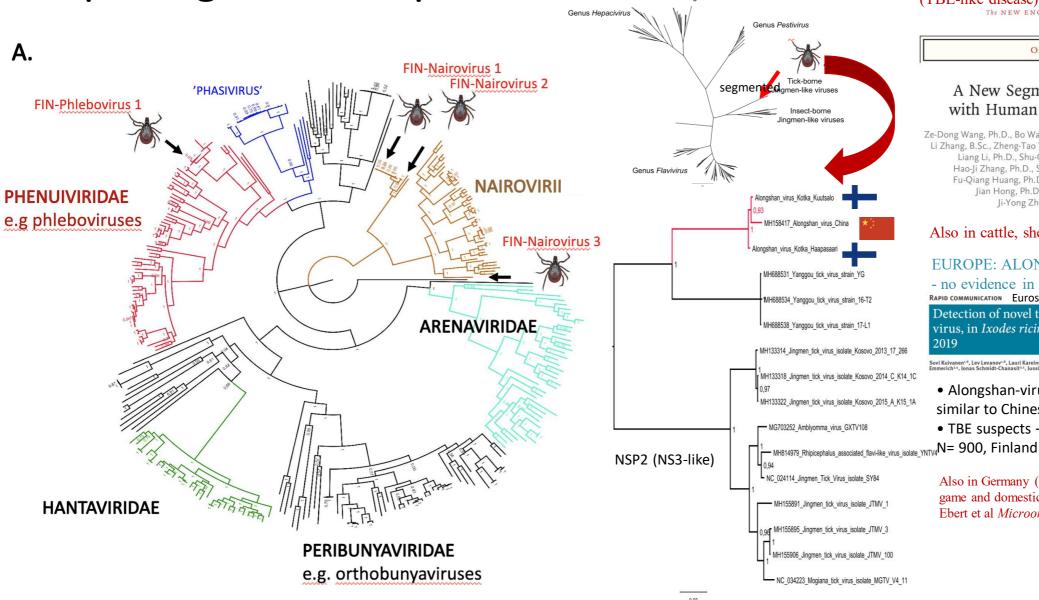
A FIN-orbivirus 1

72 Guangxi orbivirus

Yunnan orbivirus

Eili Huhtamo

I. ricinus and persulcatus virome shows presence of a new pathogen to Europe **FLAVIVIRIDAE** Genus Pegivirus



CHINA: ALONGSHAN is human PATHOGEN (TBE-like disease)

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE 2019

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A New Segmented Virus Associated with Human Febrile Illness in China

Ze-Dong Wang, Ph.D., Bo Wang, M.D., Feng Wei, Ph.D., Shu-Zheng Han, M.S., Li Zhang, B.Sc., Zheng-Tao Yang, Ph.D., Yan Yan, Ph.D., Xiao-Long Lv, M.S., Liang Li, Ph.D., Shu-Chao Wang, Ph.D., Ming-Xin Song, Ph.D., Hao-Ji Zhang, Ph.D., Shu-Jian Huang, Ph.D., Jidang Chen, Ph.D., Fu-Qiang Huang, Ph.D., Shuang Li, B.Sc., Huan-Huan Liu, B.Sc., Jian Hong, Ph.D., Yu-Lan Jin, Ph.D., Wei Wang, M.S., Ji-Yong Zhou, Ph.D., and Quan Liu, Ph.D.

Also in cattle, sheep

2019

EUROPE: ALONGSHAN PRESENT IN TICKS. - no evidence in HUMANS RAPID COMMUNICATION EUROSUVEIllance 2019 Detection of novel tick-borne pathogen, Alongshan virus, in Ixodes ricinus ticks, south-eastern Finland,

Suvi Kuivanen^{1,8}, Lev Levanov^{1,8}, Lauri Kareinen¹, Tarja Sironen^{1,4}, Anne J. Jääskeläinen⁷, Ilya Plyusnin¹, Fathiah Zakham¹, Pet Emmerich^{1,4}, Ionas Schmidt-Chanasit^{1,5}, Jussi Heoolok^{1,6}, Teemu Smura^{1,5,8}, Olli Vapalahti^{1,2,3,8}

- Alongshan-virus also in Europe, very similar to Chinese strains
- TBE suspects -> no Alongshan RNA/Abs

Also in Germany (Lower Saxony, antibodies in game and domestic animals, 1 RNA + deer), Ebert et al Microorganisms 23

Tick-borne encephalitis virus Genus Orthoflavivirus, *Family Flaviviridae*



-Virus occurs typically in foci, suitable climate enhances transmission via co-feeding

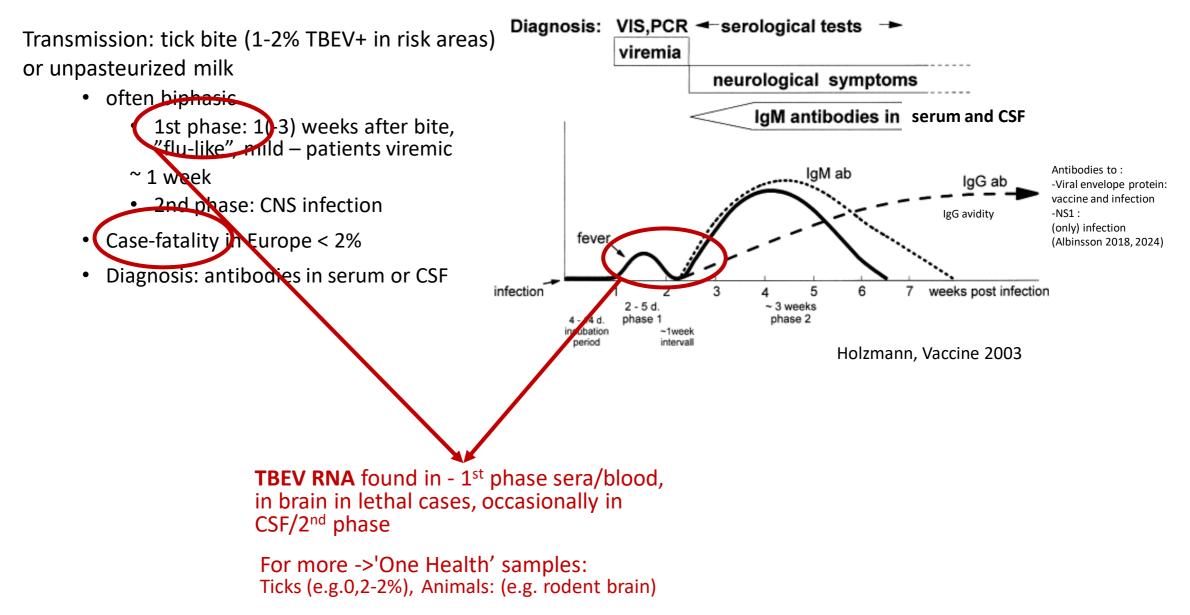






Foto: Heikki Henttonen

Tick-borne encephalitis, TBEV

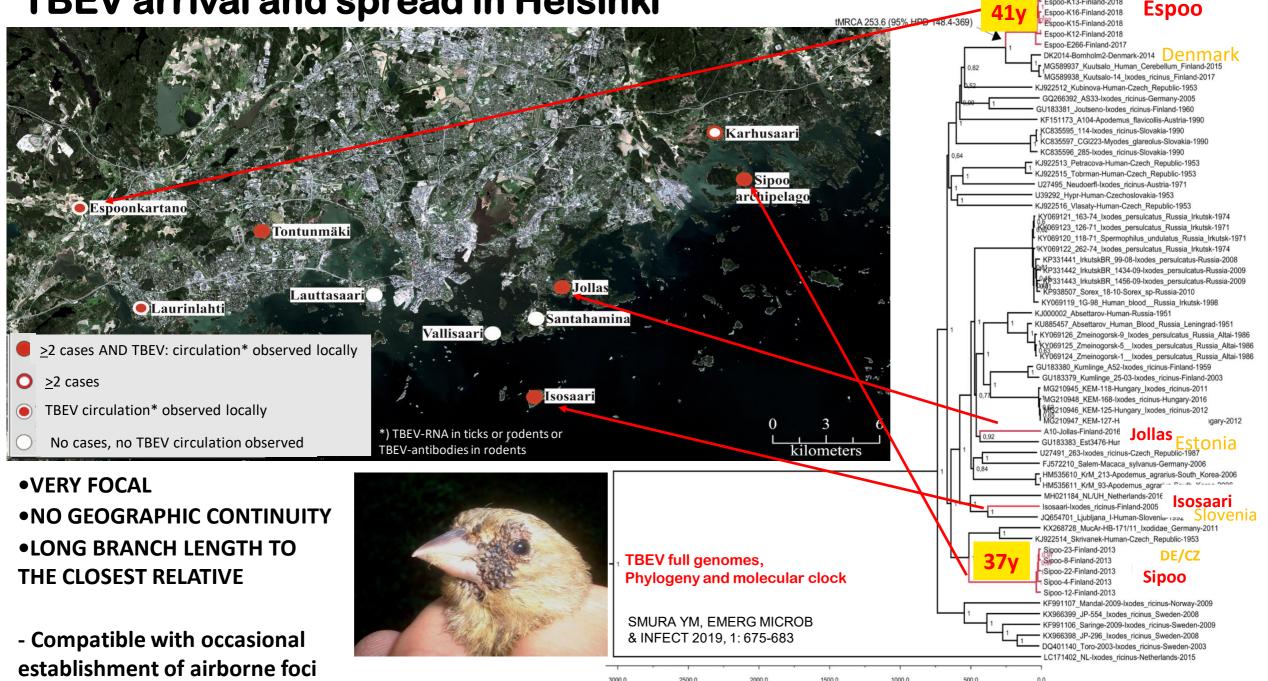


In some *foci* that we have researched



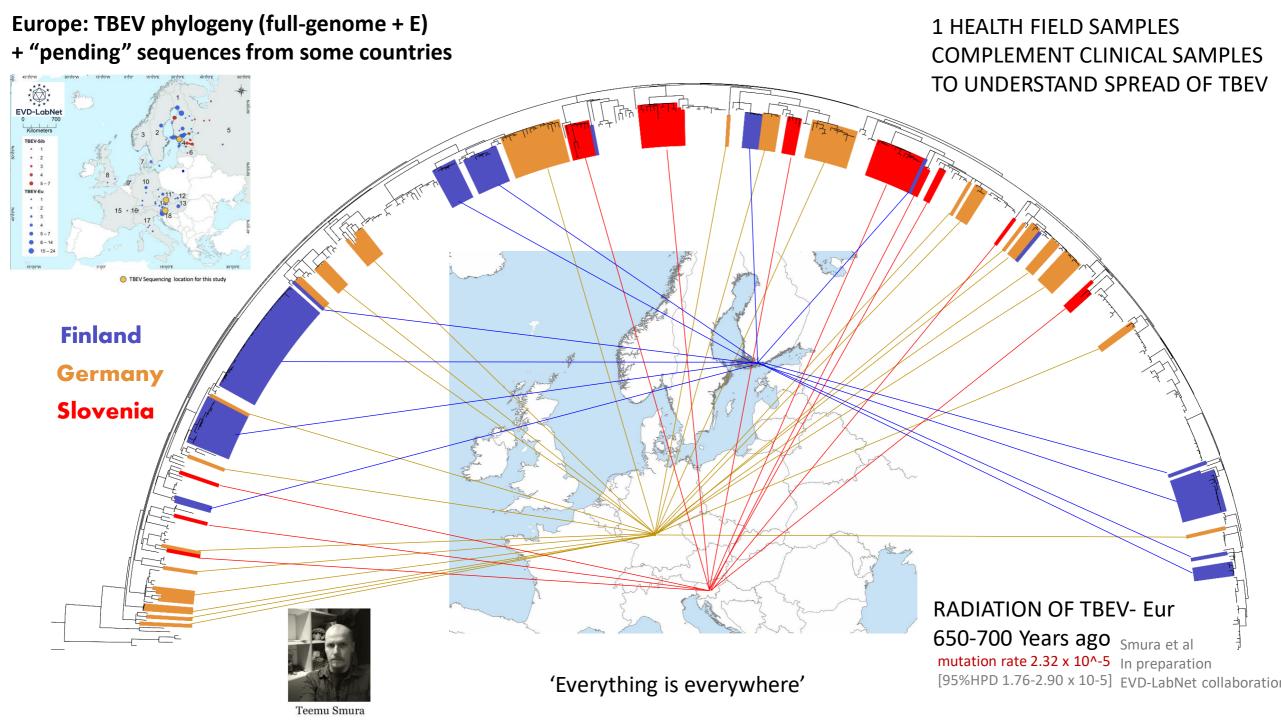
 \rightarrow Bioinformatics \rightarrow Full TBEV genome \rightarrow Phylogenetic analysis

TBEV arrival and spread in Helsinki



tMRCA 40.6 (95% HPD 20.5-62.5)

Espoo-K14-Finland-2018 Espoo-K13-Finland-2018



DESSERT

Highly pathogenic avian influenza in mink and foxes





Finnish Food Administration: H5 HPAI in 2023in

Wild birds



Passive surveillance

Active surveillance

FINLAND/ Fur farms H5N1 HPAI

Passive surveillance (by farmers) initially identified **32** farms H5N1 + by PCR

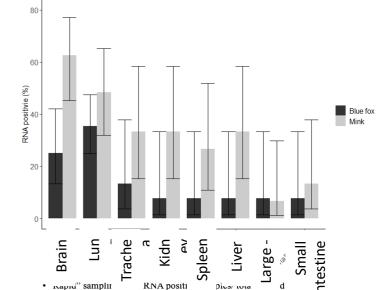
Active surveillance by serology, additional **42/392** farms (3 mink farms) + identified

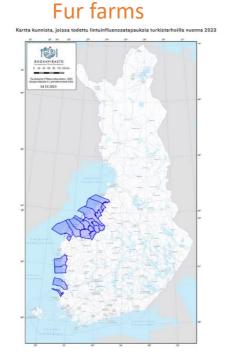
- Some farms pelted the animals before surveillance samples were collected
- -Animals culled also after positive serology

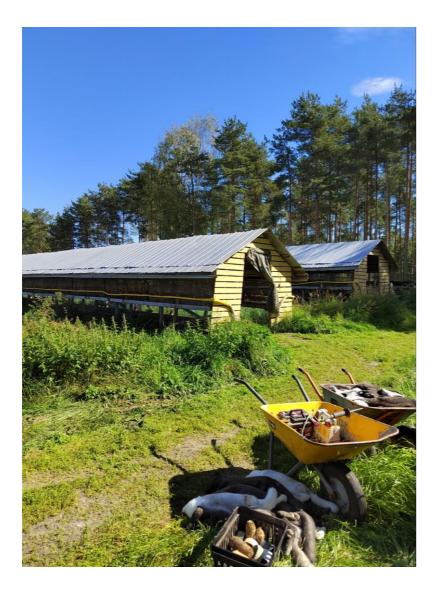




HPAIV RNA +







5 farms studied by UH (animals N=428)

Farm ID	Approximate number of	Species reared on the farm	Disease status at time of sampling	lgG positive (%) ➤ RNA positive (%) ϖ
	animals			100 60 20 60 60 20 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60
Farm 1	44 000	Blue fox, <u>Silver</u> fox, crosses of the two, Mink, and Raccoon dogs	Infections ongoing ++	
Farm 2	4 000	Blue fox	Number of cases waning	
Farm 3	25 000	Blue fox	No active cases	קן קןין
Farm 4	9 000	Mink	Infections stopped by rapid culling +++	Image:
Farm 5	14 000	Blue fox, <u>Silver</u> fox, crosses of the two, and Mink	No active cases	

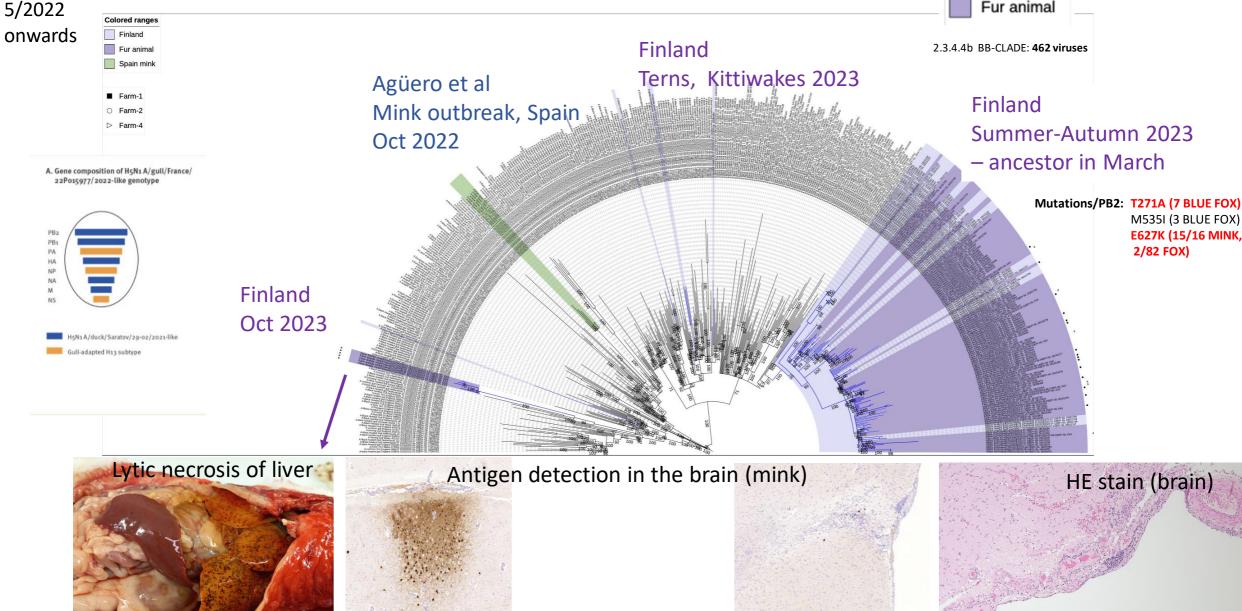
• "Rapid" sampling: AIV RNA positive samples/ total studied

3.95% (3/76) in rectal swabs (foxes) 10.52% (8/76) in respiratory swabs (1 + for both)

8,4% (19/224) in brain aspirates (6 only in brain, different set of farms).

HPAI H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b – genotype BB

Finland Fur animal



TAKE=HOME (dogrgry=bage)

• Studies of weird clinical cases and clusters as collaborations of clinical and research and vet/hum public health laboratories essential (although regulations and funding gaps makes this more challenging) for etiology as well as active surveillance for alert and (early) alarm

• As human societies grow in size and complexity, we create an endless variety of opportunities for genetically unstable infectious agents to emerge into the unfilled ecologic niches we continue to create.

• Science will surely bring us many **life-saving drugs**, **vaccines**, **and diagnostics**; however, there is no reason to think that these alone can overcome the threat of **ever more frequent and deadly emergences** of infectious diseases.

Perspective

Emerging Pandemic Diseases: How We Got to COVID-19 Cell 2020 David M. Morens^{1,*} and Anthony S. Fauci¹

THANK YOU!

ZIKA:

TBE

Mariia Bogacheva, Lev Levanov, Suvi Kuivanen, Teemu Smura, Ilja Weinstein, Jussi Hepojoki, Essi Korhonen, *** Eili Huhtamo

EVD-LabNet

ARENA- and KOLMIOVIRUSES:

Jussi Hepojoki, Annika Lintala Lenonora Szirovicza, Willem Sander, Yegor Korzykov Anja Kipar, Udo Hetzel, Francesca Baggio, Eva Dervas, Eleni Michalopoulou, Saskia Keller, Katharina Windbichler, Weinsterin, Dufton Mwaengo, Ali Mirazimi, Omu Tanja Thiele... Lisbeth Nufer, Barbara Prähauser, Universität Sabine Wunderlin Giuliani, Theresa Pesch

Equine dermatitis outbreak associated with parapoxvirus

Jenni Virtanen¹²*, Katja Hautala¹, Mira Utriainen², Lara Dutra², Katarina Eskola³⁴, Niina Airas¹, Ruut Uusitalo¹²⁵. Ella Ahvenainen², Teemu Smura², Taria Sironen^{1,2}, Olli Vapalahti^{1,2}, Ravi Kant^{1,2}, Anna-Maija K, Virtala¹ and Paula M. Kinnunen¹

- Teemu Smura, Viktor Olander, Tarja Sironen, Mert Erdin, Essi Korhonen, Ruut 1) Uusitalo, Olli Vapalahti: Viral Zoonoses Research Unit, Departments of Virology and Veterinary Biosciences, University of Helsinki & Department of Virology and Immunology, Helsinki University Hospital and University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
- Julia Geller, Department of Virology and Immunology, National Institute for 2) Health Development, Tallinn, Estonia
- Samo Zakotnik, Miša Korva, Tatjana Avšič-Županc University of Ljubljana, 3) Slovenia
- John Pettersson, Folkhälsomyndigheten, Sweden 4)
- 5) Maciej Grzybek, Martyna Krupińska Division of Tropical Parasitology, Institute of Maritime and Tropical Medicine, Medical University of Gdańsk, Poland
- 6) Jeremy Camp, Stephan Aberle, Department of Virology, Medical University of Vienna, Austria
- Giulietta Venturi, National Reference Laboratory for Arboviruses, Department 7) of Infectious Diseases, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy
- 8) Haná Zelena, University of Ostrava, Czech Republic
- Kamelia Stanoeva, RIVM, The Netherlands 9)
- Åke Lundkvist University of Uppsala, Sweden 10)
- Celine Grossner, Tamas Bakonyi, ECDC, Solna, Sweden 11)

EBOLA, BATS

Lauri Kareinen, Moses Masika, Joseph Ogola Kristian Forbes, Tarja Sironen, Paul Webala, Anne Jääskeläinen, Ilkka Kivistö, Hussein Alburkat, Ilja Anzala (univ. of Nairobi)

ARBOVIRUSES, MOSQUITOES:

Lorna Culverwell, Phuoc Truong, Suvi Kuivanen, Maija Suvanto, Victor Olander, Eili Huhtamo, Lev Levanov, L Kareinen L, Sironen T, Anne Jääskeläinen, I Weinstein I, Fathiah Zakham, P. Emmerich, Jonas Schmidt-Chanasit J (BNITM), Satu Kurkela, Niina Putkuri,

AVIAN FLU: UH: Tarja Sironen Essi Korhonen, Kirsi Aaltonen

Heli Nordgren, Maija Suvanto, Viktor Olander Jenni Virtanen Nina Suomalainen, Ella Lintunen Karoliina Hagner, Antti Sukura Pernilla Syrjä, Niina Airas Lauri Kirjalainen, Simo Miettinen



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HOW LIES

On social media, false news beats the truth pp. 1094 & 1146 Vosoughi et al, *Science* 2018 126 000 tweets studied 2006-2017 (3M people > 4.5M retweets)

False news reached more people than the truth;
• the top 1% of false news cascades →1000 -100,000 people, •
truth rarely diffused to more than 1000 people.

• Falsehood also diffused faster than the truth.

The degree of novelty and the emotional reactions may be responsible for the differences observed.