

# New Human-Infecting Virus Discovered in Florida: Unusual Origins

## **Description**

A newly identified virus that could pose a potential risk to humans has been found in Florida. This pathogen is part of the same family of viruses as those causing measles and mumps, and its discovery came under rather unusual circumstances.

Dr. John Lednicky, a molecular biologist, had his pet cat, Pepper, deliver a common cotton mouse right at his feet. Intrigued, he decided to take the mouse to his laboratory for examination.

To his surprise, Dr. Lednicky uncovered a new kind of jeilongvirus that appears to have evolved from more prevalent strains found in regions like Africa, Asia, and South America. Previously, these viruses were believed to infect only rodents. However, recent findings show that they can also be present in bats and cats, hinting at their capacity to jump to other species, including humans.

Researchers are still uncertain whether this new virus can cause illness in humans. While jeilongviruses have occasionally led to severe respiratory issues—characterized by cough, fever, and difficulty breathing—there is no evidence they have been fatal so far.

Dr. Lednicky noted that the new virus thrives equally well in rodent, human, and nonhuman primate cells, thereby presenting a significant possibility for a spillover event. He emphasized the importance of understanding the other illnesses that animals might bring into our domestic environments.

Additionally, while the potential for human infection exists, most people are unlikely to encounter the virus, given that direct contact with infected rodent excrement is rare.

# **Vocabulary List:**

- 1. Pathogen /ˈpæθ.ə.dʒən/ (noun): An organism that causes disease especially a virus or bacterium.
- 2. **Evolved** /ɪ'vɔːlvd/ (verb): Developed gradually especially from a simple to a more complex form.
- 3. **Prevalent** /'prev.ə.lənt/ (adjective): Widespread in a particular area or at a particular time.
- 4. Uncertain /n's3:r.tən/ (adjective): Not definite or fixed; subject to change.
- 5. **Respiratory** /'rɛspə,rɑːtɔri/ (adjective): Related to breathing or the organs involved in breathing.
- 6. **Spillover** /'spɪl.oʊ.vər/ (noun): An incident in which something flows over or spreads into another area.

# **Comprehension Questions**



#### **Multiple Choice**

1. What is the new virus identified in Florida related to?

Option: Measles and mumps viruses

Option: Influenza viruses

Option: HIV

Option: Ebola virus

2. Where did Dr. John Lednicky find the new virus?

Option: In a laboratory Option: In a forest

Option: Delivered by his cat

Option: At a hospital

3. What animals were previously believed to be infected by jeilongviruses?

Option: Only bats
Option: Only rodents
Option: Only cats
Option: Only primates

4. What signs of illness have jeilongviruses occasionally caused in humans?

Option: Skin rash Option: Headache

Option: Cough, fever, and difficulty breathing

Option: Stomach ache

5. Which cells does the new virus thrive equally well in?

Option: Rodent, bird, and fish cells

Option: Human, plant, and bacterial cells

Option: Rodent, human, and nonhuman primate cells

Option: Viral and fungal cells

6. Why are most people unlikely to encounter the new virus?

Option: It only infects animals

Option: It is airborne and not easily transmissible

Option: Direct contact with infected rodent excrement is rare

Option: It is specific to a remote region



#### **True-False**

- 7. Jeilongviruses are known to be fatal to humans.
- 8. The new virus was discovered by Dr. John Lednicky in Florida.
- 9. The new virus can only infect rodents.
- 10. Dr. Lednicky emphasized the importance of understanding animals that may introduce illnesses into domestic environments.
- 11. Direct contact with infected rodent excrement is a common way for humans to contract the new virus.
- 12. Most people are likely to encounter the new virus in their daily lives.

#### **Gap-Fill**

Gap-Fill  13. Jeilongviruses have occasionally caused severe respiratory issues in humans, characterized by cough,
13. Jeilongviruses have occasionally caused severe respiratory issues in humans, characterized by cough,
fever, and difficulty breathing, but there is no evidence they have been fatal
14. Dr. Lednicky noted that the new virus presents a significant possibility for a spillover event due to its
ability to thrive in rodent, human, and nonhuman primate cells, thereby emphasizing the importance of
understanding the other illnesses that animals might bring into our environments
15. The potential for human infection by the new virus exists, but most people are unlikely to encounter it
due to the rarity of direct contact with infected
16. Researchers are uncertain whether the new virus can cause illness in humans because its effects have
not been fatal
17. The new kind of jeilongvirus found in Florida appears to have evolved from more prevalent strains found
in regions like Africa, Asia, and
18. Dr. John Lednicky found the new virus under rather unusual circumstances when his pet cat delivered a



common cotton mouse right at his \_\_\_\_\_

### **Answer**

Multiple Choice: 1. Measles and mumps viruses 2. Delivered by his cat 3. Only rodents 4. Cough, fever, and difficulty breathing 5. Rodent, human, and nonhuman primate cells 6. Direct contact with infected rodent excrement is rare

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. so far 14. domestic 15. rodent excrement 17. South America 18. feet

# Vocabulary quizzes

## Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

SL-NEWS.COP 1. Which of the following is a natural response to infection or injury?

Option: inflammation Option: prebiotic Option: nourishment

Option: binge

2. Which type of bacteria are considered good for your gut health?

Option: probiotics Option: respiratory Option: safeguard Option: diagnoses

3. Which diet is known for its emphasis on fruits vegetables and healthy fats?

Option: mediterranean

Option: stigma Option: sensory Option: acute

4. Which word describes being actively involved in a particular activity?

Option: engaged Option: exacerbated Option: therapeutic Option: advocates

5. What term is used to describe a sudden powerful forward or upward movement?



Option: surge		
Option: symptoms		
Option: isolation		
Option: liberating		
6. Which term means causing harm or damage?		
Option: detrimental		
Option: pathogen		
Option: evolved		
Option: prevalent		
7. What does safeguard mean?		
Option: safeguard		
Option: burnout		
Option: spillover		
Option: uncertain		
8. Which word means experiencing severe or intense symptoms?		
Option: acute		
Option: respiratory		
Option: inflammation		
8. Which word means experiencing severe or intense symptoms?  Option: acute Option: respiratory Option: inflammation Option: surge		
9. What term relates to the healing of disease?		
Option: therapeutic		
Option: probiotics		
Option: mediterranean		
Option: engaged		
10. Which term is associated with a mark of disgrace?		
Option: stigma		
Option: tribute		
Option: surged		
Option: sensory		
Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)		
11. Including in your diet can help reduce inflammation.		
12. The patient presented with typical flu-like		



13. The astronaut experienced prolonged	in space.		
14. Traveling to a new country can be a	experience.		
15. A is a biological agent that causes disease.			
16. The future of the project remains	due to budget constraints.		
17. The organization for improved healthcare policies.			
18. Continuous overtime work can lead to employee			
19. The doctor confirmed the patient with multiple medical			
20. Consuming foods high in can s	support gut health.		
Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )			
21. A balanced diet provides essential for the body to function properly.			
22. Some people have the tendency to eat when feeling stressed.			
23. The ceremony was held as a to the fallen soldiers.			
24. Sales of the new product in the last quarter.			
25. The new art installation aimed to heighten visitors' experiences.			
26. The lack of rain the drought conditions in the region.			
27. She is known as one of the leading for mental health awareness.			
28. Over time technology has to meet changing needs.			
29. Stress-related illnesses are becoming more in today's society.			
30. The virus primarily affects the system leading to breathing difficulties.			

## **Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. inflammation 2. probiotics 3. mediterranean 4. engaged 5. surge 6. detrimental 7. safeguard



8. acute 9. therapeutic 10. stigma

**Gap-Fill:** 11. legumes 12. symptoms 13. isolation 14. liberating 15. pathogen 16. uncertain 17. advocates 18. burnout 19. diagnoses 20. prebiotic

**Matching sentence:** 1. nourishment 2. binge 3. tribute 4. surged 5. sensory 6. exacerbated 7. advocates 8. evolved 9. prevalent 10. respiratory

#### **CATEGORY**

1. Health - LEVEL4

Date Created 2024/10/31 Author aimeeyoung99

