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## Commentary

# Important Aspects of Virus Structure and its Classifications

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## DESCRIPTION

An infection is an unstoppable microbe made up of a protein-coated nucleic acid fragment i.e., either DNA or RNA. A virus cannot replicate and spread on its own; under normal circumstances, it should infect cells and utilise components of the host cell to produce additional copies of it. A virus typically destroys the host cell while also harming the host organism. Well-known examples of viruses that cause human disease include AIDS, COVID-19, measles, and smallpox. A virus is a tiny, straightforward infectious agent that can only spread throughout live bacteria, plants, or animal cells. The name is derived from a Latin word that can indicate either "poison" or "slimy liquid."

The Russian researcher Dmitry I. Ivanovsky's studies from 1892 and the Dutch researcher Martinus W. Beijerinck's studies from 1898 provided the initial evidence for the organic concept of infections. Assigning the infection under study the name contagium vivum fluidum, Beijerinck had already deduced that it was a novel kind of irresistible specialist that differed from various biological entities. Both of these scientists made the discovery that the tobacco mosaic virus later known as a bacteria-impermeable minute filter-could spread a disease of tobacco plants. Both the later-isolated viruses and this one would not proliferate on artificial media or be detectable with a light microscope. Independent experiments carried out in 1915 by British researcher Frederick W. Twort and 1917 by French Canadian researcher Félix H. d'Hérelle led to the discovery of lesions in bacterial cultures and the bacteriophage, which is Greek for "eater of bacteria," agent. It is now known that certain viruses can infect bacteria.

Due to these agents' particular traits, new strategies and alternative models had to be developed in order to study and categorise them. On the other hand, the search for an appropriate animal host presents a significant challenge to the study of viruses that predominantly or solely impact people. The influenza virus was modified for use in mice as a result of Wilson Smith, Christopher H. Andrewes, and Patrick P. Laidlaw's ability to transmit the illness to ferrets in 1933. George K. Hirst, an American researcher, discovered in 1941 that the ability of the flu virus to agglutinate pulls together red platelets could be used to distinguish it from flu infection contained in tissues of the chicken embryonic organism.

The method of cultivating cells on glass surfaces was created in 1949 by the American scientists John Enders, Thomas Weller, and Frederick Robbins; this allowed the poliovirus and other infectious illnesses that cause polio to infect cells. The poliovirus could only be cultivated in the brains or in the spinal cords of chimpanzees or monkeys up until this time. It was feasible to distinguish between viral diseases by looking for antibodies to them in the blood and their effects on cells commonly known as cytopathogenic effect by growing cells on glass surfaces. Cell culture aided in the later creation and production of vaccinations, which are substances used to induce immunity against a disease, such as the poliovirus vaccine.

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## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The author declares there is no conflict of interest.

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