# Virology

K. C. Sawant Dr. Prithpal Singh Matreja

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Knowledge is Our Business

VIROLOGY By K. C. Sawant, Dr. Prithpal Singh Matreja

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# CHAPTER 1 UNVEILING THE INTRIGUING WORLD OF VIRUSES: FROM DISCOVERY TO MULTIPLICATION

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

It is a remarkable truth that viruses cohabit alongside every species of plant, animal, and protist on Earth, however not all species have been properly examined. Regularly new species are found, and examined species routinely produce novel virus isolates. Each species is home to a distinct range of viruses that predominantly affect that species alone. Given the multiplicity of known human viruses by the number of species worldwide, estimating the overall number of viral genomes in existence is a difficult endeavour. This prompts concerns about both the function of viruses in their host species and their possible advantages. Although the harmful consequences of viral infections are widely established, it is still unclear if the host might benefit from hosting a virus. The effects that viruses have on their host species are outlined in this abstract, with an emphasis on the necessity to comprehend viral reproduction mechanisms and general characteristics in order to comprehend the nature of viruses. It has been shown via macromolecule synthesis in infected cells that cells synthesise virus-specific DNA and proteins throughout the multiplication cycle. By demonstrating the linear emergence of intracellular phage particles and the production of viral proteins, these studies give information on the dynamics of viral replication.Basic elements of bacterial and animal virus replication, such as specialised cell binding, viral genome entrance, and protein synthesis, are comparable. Animal viral development cycles, on the other hand, often last 5 to 15 hours longer than bacterial virus cycles. Unravel the secrets of viruses and their interactions with host organisms by comprehending these mechanisms. This historical view on viral detection and reproduction offers insightful information into the area of virology by emphasising the important advancements that have influenced our comprehension of these puzzling organisms.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Animal, Bacteria, Cell, DNA, Viruses.

#### INTRODUCTION

A crucial turning point in the field of virology was the identification of viral DNA and RNA as genetic components. The importance of nucleic acids in viral replication and inheritance was first revealed in early work with bacteriophages and plant viruses. The contrast between typical viruses and viroids, which are devoid of a protein coat, emphasises the variety of viral organisms. The analysis of macromolecule production in infected cells has shown how dynamic virus-host interactions are. The synchronised processes that result in the release of new viral particles have been illuminated by the timing of DNA synthesis, protein synthesis, and virus assembly. The emergence of the germ hypothesis of sickness in the late 19th century is when the history of viral detection began. At first, researchers thought that each infectious illness was caused by a specific bacterium that could be grown, examined under a microscope, and isolated using filters. However, Dmitri Iwanowski's 1892 discovery that the cause of tobacco mosaic disease was invisible and uncultivable, and that it could pass through

bacteria-proof filters led to the identification of a new class of infectious agent, today known as a virus. The detection of bacterial viruses (bacteriophages), as well as the cell-free transmission of illnesses like chicken leukaemia and solid tumours in chickens, were other early 20th century discoveries. These discoveries provided the first concrete proof that some viruses might cause cancer.Due to the limits of technology at the time, bacterial viruses were predominantly used in the development of viral assays. The capacity to quantify these imperceptible entities and the lysis of bacteria in liquid cultures are two important procedures that resulted from d'Hérelle's findings in the early 20th century. Later, similar techniques were modified to test viruses in plants and animals. The local lesion test and plaque test were crucial for detecting viruses.

Delbruck clarified the idea of many bacterial lysis mechanisms, including both internal and external processes, by showing that the proportion of infecting phages to bacteria dictated the kind of lysis seen. In 1939, Ellis and Delbruck conducted a one-step growth experiment that produced compelling evidence in favour of intracellular phage replication. The steps of attachment, penetration, uncoating, biosynthesis, assembly, and release make up the viral multiplication cycle. A virus goes through attachment, entry, uncoating, and biosynthesis during the eclipse phase, culminating in the generation of viral components within the host cell before to the appearance of new infectious particles. Early 20th-century chemical investigations of viruses disproved the idea that life needed just proteins by revealing the presence of nucleic acid, either DNA or RNA. Through studies like the 1952 Hershey-Chase experiment, which established the distinct functions of viral protein and nucleic acid in infection, the relevance of viral DNA was clarified[1], [2].

The fact that every species of plant, animal, and protist on our planet carries a virus may surprise you. Of course, this is a generalization since not all species have been studied; in fact, new species are found almost every day; yet the tested species have all produced novel viral isolates. Furthermore, while viruses are present everywhere, each species also has its own unique spectrum of viruses that mostly infect that species alone. Thus, one may estimate the overall number of viral genomes now in existence by multiplying the number of known human viruses by the global species count. These ideas instantly raise concerns about what the viruses are doing there and what, if any, selective benefit they provide to the host species. The first question has the same response as the one asking what a lion is doing there: merely living in a certain habitat, but the environment for a virus is one inhabited by a different species. Although much is known about the negative effects of viral infections, it is unknown if there is any advantage to harbouring a virus. It is evident that the viruses did not annihilate their hosts, nevertheless. All that is now feasible is a summary of some of the ways that viruses affect the creatures that serve as their hosts. It is instructive to think about the broad characteristics of viruses' multiplication processes and generic qualities in order to comprehend the nature of viruses.

#### **Detection Of Viruses**

Although there is a lot that is known about viruses, it is informative and intriguing to think about how this information came to be. The germ hypothesis of illness was developed just a little over a century ago, near the end of the nineteenth century, and pathologists were optimistic that a causal bacterium would be discovered for every infectious disease at that time. Additionally, they thought that these disease pathogens might be grown on a nutrient medium, seen under a microscope, and captured by filters. The other two requirements were met, albeit there were a few species that were so particular that they could not be grown in a dish. However, Dmitri Iwanowski was able to demonstrate a few years later, in 1892, that the causative agent of a tobacco plant disease known as the mosaic disease, which causes

discoloration of the leaf, went through a bacteria-proof filter and was neither visible or cultivable. Iwanowski was underwhelmed by his research, but Beijerinck carried out a second round of tests in 1898 and came to the conclusion that this was a new kind of infectious agent he named contagiumvivumfiuidum, or virus as we know it today. The cause of foot-and-mouth disease was determined by Loeffler and Frosch in the same year. In addition, the causal agent required to be reproducing in order for foot-and-mouth disease to be transmitted from animal to animal, with significant dilution occurring with each transmission. As a result, a bacterial toxin was not a viable option. Other animal viruses were quickly found. In 1908, Ellerman and Bang reported the cell-free transmission of chicken leukaemia, and in 1911, Rous found that cell-free filtrates could also transmit the solid tumours of chickens. These findings provided the first proof that some viruses might cause cancer[3], [4].

#### DISCUSSION

Bacterial viruses were eventually found. Twort presented a description of the glassy transition of micrococci in 1915. On agar plates, he had been attempting to cultivate the smallpox agent, but the only development he had seen was some contaminated micrococci. Some of the colonies had a glassy look after an extended incubation period, and no bacteria could be subcultured from those colonies beyond that point. Even after passing the glassy material through very thin filters, when part of it was put to conventional colonies, the colonies also developed a similar look. The presence of a bacterial virus or the secretion of an enzyme capable of lysing the generating cells were two of the explanations Twort offered to explain the phenomena. Over the next ten years, the concept of self-destruction by released enzymes would become contentious. D'Hérelle noted a same phenomenon in dysentery bacilli in 1917. He decided to investigate these cells after seeing distinct areas of them on lawns. He saw right away that he was dealing with a bacterial virus after seeing that filtered emulsions of faeces lysed broth cultures of pure dysentery bacilli. He termed his virus a bacteriophage or phage for short since it could only replicate by consuming live bacteria. Since they couldn't be seen, they couldn't be grown without cells, and most importantly, they couldn't be captured by bacteria-proof filters, the original definition of these new agents-the viruses-was wholly negative.

#### The Creation of Virus Assays

The majority of the early analytical viral research used bacterial viruses. The technology at the time was not sufficiently developed for virologists to experiment with agents that caused illness in people, animals, or agricultural plants, which they would have like to do. While viruses might be analysed in complete organisms, it is simply not practical to study the specifics of viral propagation in whole animals or plants. Plant cell culture is still technically challenging; animal cell culture was not a feasible idea until the 1950s when antibiotics were made accessible to prevent bacterial contamination. This left bacteria-based viruses, which can infect cells easily, swiftly, and in suspension culture; tests using bacteria-based viruses are measured in minutes as opposed to the hours or days required for those involving animal viruses.

Two significant strategies were developed as a result of d'Hérelle's findings in the early 20th century. The first of these was the lysis of bacteria in liquid cultures to prepare stocks of bacterial viruses. Since bacteria may be cultivated in specified conditions to which radioactive precursors can be added to "label" certain viral components, this has proven essential in contemporary virus research. In cultures of the appropriate animal cell, several animal viruses may be developed in a similar manner. Second, d'Hérelle's discoveries gave researchers a way to measure these undetectable molecules. Inoculating several, identical

cultures of a vulnerable bacterial species with dilutions of the virus-containing material is one way. All the cultures lyse in samples that are more concentrated, but none of the cultures lyse in samples that are too diluted. Since not every culture receives a viral particle, not all of the cultures lyse in the intermediate range of dilutions, and virus quantification is predicated on this. For instance, only three of the ten test cultures that were infected with a viral dilution equal to 1011 ml lyse. Because only three of the seven cultures get any live phage particles, it can be said that the sample had between 1010 and 1011 viable phages per ml. End-point dilution experiments of this kind may be statistically analysed to get more accurate estimates of the viral concentration, which is often referred to as the virus titer. The plaque test, which is now more popular and effective, was the second approach offered. According to d'Hérelle, the amount of bacteriophage lysate diluted with the number of clear spots or plaques generated on a bacterial lawn was inversely proportionate. As a result, it is simple to calculate the titer of a virus-containing solution in terms of plaque-forming units per ml. The effectiveness of plating is unity if every viral particle in the preparation results in a plaque, however for many viruses, preparations have particle to PFU ratios that are much higher than 1.

Later, both of these techniques were used for the more challenging job of testing plant and animal viruses. However, end-point dilution experiments using animals are often avoided due to the labour, time, expense, and ethical issues. Holmes created the local lesion test, a variant of the plaque assay, for the detection of plant viruses in 1929. He noticed that Nicotianaglutinosa leaves infected with tobacco mosaic virus developed countable necrotic lesions, and that the number of local lesions depended on how much virus was present in the inoculum. Unfortunately, even within the same plant, various leaves might develop variable amounts of lesions from the same inoculum. The opposing parts of the same leaf, however, produce almost comparable numbers of lesions, making it possible to compare two viruscontaining samples by inoculating them on the opposite halves of the same leaf.

In 1952, Dulbecco created a plaque test for animal viruses, which was a significant step forward for animal virology. In this scenario, a suspension of cells that are sensitive is added to Petri plates or another culture medium after a suitable tissue has been trypsinized. Once attached to the surface, the cells continue to proliferate until a monolayer of cells is created. After that, the nutrient media that has been soaking the cells is withdrawn, and a sufficient virus dilution is then supplied. After a brief incubation time during which virus particles might adhere to the cells, nutritional agar was applied on top of the cells. A dye is applied after an additional incubation period, typically lasting 3 days, to distinguish live cells from the unstained circular regions that make up the plaques. Today, rather than creating new cell lines from fresh tissue each time, plaque tests are carried out using cell lines that can be kept alive in the lab for several generations. If the right particular detection reagents are available, infected cells may always be identified by the presence of viral protein or nucleic acids, even if certain viruses are not cytopathic. A focus-forming test, in which a single infected particle results in the creation of a distinct colony of cells, is an option for tumour viruses that induce morphological trans- formation of cells; colonies may be counted as a measure of the input virus[5], [6].

#### Multiple virus occurrence

Despite the development of assaying techniques, there were still many questions about the nature of viruses. Others thought that phage-induced dissolution of bacterial cultures was merely the result of a stimulation of lytic enzymes that are endogenous to the bacteria, in contrast to d'Hérelle's theory that the infecting phage particle multiplied within the bacterium and that its progeny were liberated upon lysis of the host cell. Another school of thought held

that phages could easily enter and exit bacterial cells and that bacterial lysis was a secondary phenomenon unrelated to phage proliferation. Delbruck brought an end to the debate by pointing out that both lysis from inside and lysis from beyond were at play. The ratio of infecting phages to bacteria determined the sort of lysis that was seen. When the number of infected cells is low, the phages grow and lyse the cells from inside. When there are many hundreds of phages per bacterium, or when the multiplicity of infection is large, the cells are immediately lysed instead of increasing the phage titer. When several phages are attached, the cell wall weakens, which causes lysis.

The one-step growth experiment conducted by Ellis and Delbruck in 1939 offered strong evidence in favour of d'Hérelle's theory. In order to ensure that almost all cells are infected, a phage preparation, such as bacteriophage, is combined with a suspension of the bacteria Escherichia coli at a multiplicity of infection of 10 PFU per cell. The culture is then centrifuged to pellet the cells and attached phage after allowing the phage to adhere for 5 minutes. phages that are not adhering to the medium are discarded. The cells are then put back together in brand-new media. At regular intervals, medium samples are taken, cells are separated, and infectious phage is tested. There is a dramatic increase in PFU in the medium after a latent period of 17 minutes during which no phage growth was seen in cell-free media. This "burst" size, which can be determined from the total viral yield/number of infected cells, is the average of many distinct bursts from individual cells. Although the length of the growth cycle varies with various viruses and cells, it generally lasts 30 minutes here. By removing the pelleted cells from the medium, disturbing them, and performing the same viral infectivity test as previously, the quantity of cell-associated virus may be calculated. The intra-cellular character of phage replication is shown by the fact that virus first manifests within cells before manifesting in the media. Additionally, it is evident that intracellular phage particle appearance kinetics are linear rather than exponential. This is in line with the idea that particles are created by assembly from component components rather than binary fission.

#### The Cycle of Virus Multiplication

The mechanisms that take place when viruses multiply inside of single cells are now well understood. Although the specifics vary depending on the virus, all viruses share a set of events that indicate certain stages in the multiplication cycle. The virus connects to the prospective host cell during the attachment stage, which is the initial step. The unique interaction occurs when the viral attachment protein binds to cell surface tar-get receptor molecules. Initial virus-host cell contact is dynamic, reversible, and often accompanied by mild electrostatic interactions. However, the connections rapidly grow more solid and, in certain situations, almost irreversible, making the contacts considerably stronger. The attachment stage determines the virus's specificity for a certain class of cells or host species. A procedure known as penetration or entrance is what the virus must do after adhering to the cell's surface in order to be able to proliferate. The virus' genome must become accessible once inside the cell. This is accomplished by the uncoating process, which causes most or all of the proteins that make up the particle to be lost. Some viruses combine the entrance and uncoating processes into a single step. Normally, energy in the form of ATP hydrolysis is not needed for the first three steps. The viral genome has now been made accessible and is being utilised in the biosynthesis phase, which is when genome replication, mRNA transcription, and protein translation take place. Because ribosomes are required for the translation process and because molecules are needed for biosynthesis, viruses are forced to live inside of host cells where they may access the translation machinery. In an amplification process, the freshly synthesised genomes may then be employed as templates for further replication cycles

and for the transcription of more viral mRNA, increasing the production of virus from the infected cells. In a process known as assembly, the freshly created viral proteins and the new genomes combine to create offspring virus particles. The particles must finally exit the cell during a release phase before looking for fresh host cells to restart the process. Prior to or after release, the cell's generated particles may go through a maturation period in order to become infectious.

It can be shown that during the eclipse phase, the virus is going through the processes of attachment, entrance, uncoating, and biosynthesis by taking into account the steps that make up a virus's replication cycle and the data in the graph showing the outcomes of a single-step growth curve. In spite of the fact that the original infecting virus has been destroyed and no new infectious particles have yet been generated, the cells now have all the components needed to make viruses. We first see virus particles within the cell just after the assembly process, before they are discharged and manifest themselves in the media.

Chemical terms may be used to define viruses.In 1933, Schlessinger used differential centrifugation to purify the first virus. The purified bacteriophage's chemical examination revealed that it had almost equal amounts of protein and deoxyribonucleic acid. A few years later, in 1935, Stanley identified the tobacco mosaic virus in its paracrystalline form, and this crystallisation of a biological material that was supposed to be alive sparked a number of philosophical inquiries about the meaning of life. Bawden and Pirie thoroughly purified the tobacco mosaic virus in 1937 and demonstrated that it was a nucleoprotein that contained ribonucleic acid. Consequently, DNA or RNA may be present in viral particles. However, it was unknown at the time that genetic material was made up of nucleic acids.

#### Significance of viral DNA

In 1949, Markham and Smith discovered that turnip yellow mosaic virus preparations were made up of two kinds of spherical particles that were each the same size but only one of them carried nucleic acid. Notably, only the parts of the particles that contained nucleic acid were contagious. A few years later, in 1952, Hershey and Chase used the head-tail virus bacteriophage T2 to establish the separate roles of viral protein and nucleic acid. In a different way than in the original experiment, Fraenkel-Conrat and Singer were able to demonstrate the hereditary function of viral RNA. Their research was inspired by an earlier finding that tobacco mosaic virus particles may be broken down into their protein and RNA constituents, and then reassembled to produce particles that are morphologically developed and completely infectious. The characteristics of the virus that was propagated when the resulting "hybrid" particles were used to infect host plants were always those of the parent virus from which the RNA was derived. This is true even when particles of two different strains were each disassociated and the RNA of one reassociated with the protein of the other, and vice versa.

Numerous observations indicating isolated viral nucleic acid may start an infection under certain conditions, although with less effectiveness, serve as the conclusive evidence that viral nucleic acid is the genetic material. For instance, Gierer, Schramm, and Fraenkel-Conrat separately demonstrated in 1956 that the pure RNA of the tobacco mosaic virus may be infectious if measures are taken to prevent ribonuclease from inactivating it. An extreme example is the potato spindle tuber disease causal agent, which has no protein and just RNA. Such entities are known as viroids instead of viruses because they lack a protein covering, disqualifying them from the term virus.

#### Macromolecule synthesis in infected cells

Given that only bacteriophages' nucleic acids may enter cells and that nucleic acids are the carriers of genetic information, it is important to examine what happens within cells. Hershey, Dixon, and Chase were able to examine infected bacteria for the presence of phage-specific DNA at different stages of intracellular growth thanks to Wyatt and Cohen's 1953 discovery that the DNA of the T-even bacteriophages T2, T4, and T6 contains hydroxymethylcytosine instead of cytosine. The DNA of T2-infected E was isolated. coli at various points after the start of phage development and examined for the presence of HMC. Based on the total nucleic acid and relative HMC content of the intact T2 phage particle, this provided an estimate of the number of phage equivalents of HMC-containing DNA present at any moment. The findings demonstrated that, with T2, synthesis of phage DNA begins at 6 minutes after infection and subsequently increases quickly, resulting in 50–80 phage equivalents of HMC by the time the first infectious particles start to surface 6 minutes later. After then, even if lysis is delayed beyond the typical burst period, the quantities of infectious particles and phage equivalents of DNA rise linearly and at the same rate up to lysis[7], [8].

Hershey and his colleagues also looked into the production of phage protein, which differs from bacterial protein by interacting with certain antibodies. In the course of E. coli by the T2 phage, protein may be found around 9 minutes after the start of the latent phase, that is, after DNA synthesis starts and before to the emergence of infectious particles. A few minutes later, the cell contains between 30 and 40 phages. Pulse-chase tests have shown that the absorption of 35S into intracellular protein is continuous from the beginning of infection, but the synthesis of viral protein begins roughly 9 minutes after the initiation of the latent phase. At various points following infection, a little amount of 35S was introduced to the medium, which was then guickly followed by an enormous amount of unlabelled sulphate to prevent any further incorporation of label. The label may be pursued into material that could be recognised by its response with an antibody as phage coat protein when the pulse was created starting at the ninth minute. The pulse might, however, be chased into protein if it was generated early in the infection. Although this was nonbacterial, it did not react with antibodies to phage structural proteins. This early protein mostly consists of virus-specific enzymes involved in phage replication but excluded from phage particles. In Part II, the idea of early and late, nonstructural and structural viral proteins is covered.

Only head-tail phages that infect E. coli are characteristic of these traditional tests. coli under ideal circumstances for growth. E. It seems implausible that coli would grow with its ideal doubling time of 20 minutes under natural conditions given that it is often found in the anaerobic environment of the digestive system. Other bacteria have slower growth rates than E. Longer multiplication cycles are seen in E. coli and associated viruses.Bacterial and animal virus multiplication is fundamentally similar. Numerous animal viruses have been used in the development curve and other tests mentioned above, with virtually the same outcomes each time. Animal and bacterial viruses both engage specifically with cell surface molecules to bind to their target cells. Some animal viruses' genomes penetrate the cell and leave their coat proteins on the outside, similar to the T4 bacteriophage. But with the majority of animal viruses, a little amount of viral proteintypically from inside the particleenters the cell along with the viral DNA. In fact, it is now recognised that phage genomes sometimes carry phage proteins that infiltrate bacterial cells. These proteins are necessary for the replication of the DNA. Numerous other animal viruses exhibit somewhat different behaviours and, upon attachment, are absorbed by the cell membrane and transported within vesicles inside the cell. However, technically speaking, this virus is still outside the cell and has not yet entered the cytoplasm of the cell. When the particle is encouraged to uncoat, the

viral genome enters the cytoplasm via the vesicle wall. The outside virion proteins, once again, remain in the vesicle, or outside the cell. Similar to bacterial viruses, animal viruses go through the similar phases of eclipse and virus assembly from basic viral components with linear kinetics. Progeny virions may be released by cell lysis, however this seldom results in significant cell damage. Even while the cell may eventually perish, not all animal viruses must multiply in tandem with cell death. Animal viral growth cycles last between 5 to 15 hours, which is a significant difference between bacterial and animal virus multiplication[9], [10].

#### CONCLUSION

The intricacy of the viral world is highlighted by the fact that viruses are pervasive and may infect a broad variety of organisms, including protists, plants, and mammals. The research implies that each species tends to have its own distinct spectrum of viruses, typically peculiar to that species, even if not all species have been fully examined.Since the beginning of microbiology, a lot has been learned about the detection of viruses. From Dmitri Iwanowski's discovery of the tobacco mosaic virus through the creation of complex viral assays like the plaque test, scientists have created strong instruments to investigate these minutes but important organisms.In conclusion, research into viruses has advanced our knowledge of microbiology while also posing fascinating issues regarding the genesis, development, and ecological functions of these minute organisms. Viruses are important participants in the complex web of life on our planet, despite often being linked to sickness. Their research is continually producing new understandings of the underlying mechanisms governing biology, genetics, and evolution.

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# CHAPTER 2 EXPLORING VIRUS DETECTION AND CULTURE SYSTEMS: FROM MICROSCOPY TO MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

Since viruses lack a distinctive structure, electron microscopy is required for their detection. The apparatus, high particle concentrations, and expert operators needed for this process are nonetheless specialized. As a result, three categories of indirect methodsculture-based detection, antibody-based detection, and nucleic acid detectionare often used for viral identification. Given the availability of adequate oligonucleotide primers, the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is currently the technique of choice, particularly for viruses that cannot be cultured. The study goals, which might range from virus isolation to investigations of natural infection, must be taken into consideration while choosing a culture system. The natural host organism should ideally be employed for illness research, however this may be constrained by ethical or safety considerations. Viable options include cell and organ cultures made from the original host or relevant tissues. For biochemical research, cell systems with high infection rates are essential, necessitating a large production of infectious particles. Although the ability to sustain cellular differentiation is a benefit of cultured organs, their application is less widespread owing to technological difficulties. The norm is cell cultures, which often use heteroploid cells. The effectiveness of cell culture has increased because to modern methods like microcarriers. Whether by hemagglutination tests, hemagglutination-inhibition tests, or immunofluorescence, antibodies are crucial in the detection of viruses. ELISAs, or enzyme-linked immunosorbent tests, are often used to measure antibodies. These techniques do not, however, provide genetic data.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Animal, Bacteria, Culture Systems, DNA, Virus Detection.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The sensitivity and specificity of the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) has revolutionised the detection of viruses. By getting through the restrictions of culture adaption, it makes it possible to identify viruses in basic tissues. The ability to manipulate viruses for scientific reasons via reverse genetics and controlled mutagenesis contributes to our knowledge of viral processes. Comparing viral and cellular traits shows important distinctions, particularly in replication procedures. In contrast to cells, viruses employ host ribosomes to synthesise proteins. There are now two leading ideas for the genesis of viruses: viruses as stray genes or faulty cells. Recombination and mutation promote the evolution of viruses, leading to the variety we see today. The relevance of culture systems, antibody-based detection, PCR, and genetic modification methods is emphasised in this chapter's conclusion as it sheds light on the basic principles governing the research of animal viruses. It also analyses ideas on the genesis and development of viruses and underlines the distinguishing characteristics that separate them different from cellular life forms.

When particular oligonucleotide primers are available, modern methods like the polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which offers speed and sensitivity, have completely changed how

viruses are detected and identified. Both research and clinical virology now use PCR as a critical technique. The use of antibodies in viral identification is also discussed in this chapter, with techniques including hemagglutination assays, hemagglutination-inhibition tests, and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs) being highlighted. Each approach has its benefits and drawbacks, making it appropriate for a variety of viral detection and antibody analysis applications[1], [2].

Since viruses lack a characteristic shape, electron microscopy is the only way to observe them. This needs specialised equipment, concentrations over 1011 particles per ml, and a highly competent operator. Thus, indirect approaches are often used to identify viruses. These may be divided into three groups: detection of the virus via its effects and growth in an appropriate culture system; detection of the virus through its interaction with an antibody that is particularly designed to fight it; and detection of viral nucleic acid. Today, however, the polymerase chain reaction is more often used since it is speedier if the right oligonucleotide primers are available. Many viruses, especially those that exist in the gut, are uncultivable; nonetheless, some of these viruses appear in such high concentrations that they were actually found by EM. This chapter serves as an illustration of the fundamental concepts guiding the research of animal viruses rather than as a technical guidebook.

#### **Choosing A Cultural System**

Living cells are always used in the culture system used to generate viruses, and the options are described. The objectives of the investigation, such as viral isolation, biochemistry of multiplication, structural research, or the study of natural infections, will determine which culture system is used. A virus is often initially identified because it is thought to be the source of an illness. By definition, only the whole organism, ideally the native host, may be used to study illness. For humans, this can be prohibited due to safety or ethical concerns. Cells and organ cultures are other options. These should originate from the normal host and come from the locations where the virus replicates across the whole animal, according to logic. However, it's possible that cells from other species are vulnerable. For instance, human influenza viruses were originally grown by injecting them into a ferret and were later discovered to thrive best in embryonated chicken eggs. Viruses often grow poorly when first isolated but adapt when transferred from culture to culture owing to the selection of mutations. The question of how similar the modified virus is to the initial isolate is another issue. Because PCR employs the original nucleic acid as a template, it overcomes this challenge. A virus may often be found in an infected cell by looking at the pathology it creates. The cytopathic effect, or CPE, is what is meant by this. The morphology of the cell is often altered by a virus or collection of related viruses in a distinctive fashion, and this may be identified by looking at the cell culture under a low-magnification microscope. Such CPE provides a good hint as to which further, more focused diagnostic procedures to do when isolating an unknown virus. CPE makes it simple and rapid to monitor the progression of the infection in the research lab.

A cell system with almost all of the cells infected is necessary for biochemical investigations of viral infections. To do this, a system that will manufacture a huge number of infectious particles is needed. Cells that are good for producing viruses often vary from those that are used to investigate viral proliferation. The selection of a cell system is mostly pragmatic and lacks much rationale. There are many differences between cells, and based on certain characteristics, one cell may be more suited for one research than another. Since a chemically defined medium without the nonradioactive isotope must be created for labelling with radioisotopes, it is important to be able to regulate the environment of the cell. Otherwise, the radioisotope's particular activity would be decreased to an unusable level.

#### Entire creatures

It is better to study natural infections and diseases in their native hosts. These, however, are generally inappropriate, and the closest equivalent is typically a purpose-bred animal that has a comparable spectrum of defensive mechanisms and can be kept in the lab. The genetics of the mouse have been thoroughly investigated, and the genetic variety is decreased by inbred strains. Although the use of animals for the study of viral diseases has drawn criticism from animal rights organisations, the virology student will be aware after reading Parts III and IV that there is currently no alternative for examining the intricate relationships between viruses and the responses of the host. Although a test-tube system would make it much simpler to analyse the related processes, none is likely to be developed in the near future.

#### **Cultured organs**

Organ cultures offer the benefit of preserving the target cell's differentiated status. They have not, however, been extensively used because of technological issues that prevent their largescale application. The trachea is a typical organ culture system that has been used to cultivate a number of respiratory viruses. While the tissue is healthy, the ciliated cells lining the trachea continue to pulse in rhythmic waves. Some viruses multiply, causing the loss of synchrony and finally the separation of the ciliated cells. If the right tests are available, virus may also be detected in fluids around the tissue.

#### Cultures of cells

Cells are maintained in an isotonic solution, which is made up of a combination of salts in their physiologically appropriate proportions and is often supplemented with serum. Most cells quickly cling to the surface of appropriate glass or plastic containers in such a growing media. Without serum, which is a complex combination of proteins and other substances, mitosis cannot take place. There are currently synthetic alternatives, although they are mostly used for specific functions. To stop the development of bacteria and fungus, all materials used in cell culture must be sterile and handled in an aseptic manner. Since antibiotics first became available on the market in the 1950s, regular cell culture has benefited greatly from their use. However, antibiotics are no longer necessarily necessary due to the development of work environments with filtered, sterile air[3], [4].

#### DISCUSSION

Heteroploid cells are the norm in cultured cells. Diploid cell lines can only divide between 10 and 100 times, but heteroploid cells are immortal and may divide indefinitely. The latter are referred to as continuous cell lines, and they come from spontaneous events that change how a diploid cell is controlled during division or from naturally developing tumours. The best method for producing diploid cell lines is to disperse embryonic kidney or whole body cells into a solution. Embryos from mice or chickens are often employed.

#### Modern cell culture techniques

Although the approach previously outlined is appropriate for research and clinical or diagnostic labs, it is challenging to scale it up for commercial uses, such as the production of vaccines. There are currently several approaches to the issue, all geared at boosting cell density. Growing cells in suspension was one of the early methods, and it has since been improved to grow hybridoma cells, which create monoclonal antibodies. Although certain cells can only grow when attached to a solid surface, technology has attempted to enhance the available surface area by, for instance, introducing spiral inserts into regular culture bottles. Cells may also be grown using "microcarriers," which are minute particles on which cells

adhere and proliferate. One kilogramme of microcarriers provides a surface area of about 2.5 m2, and the amount of space required is little. This approach combines a stable matrix for the cell to grow on with the simplicity of handling cell suspensions.

#### Virus Identification Using Antibodies

Higher vertebrates' immune systems manufacture antibodies, which are proteins, in reaction to foreign substances that their cells come into contact with. These antibodies have a region that precisely identifies and binds to that antigen. Blood is the most readily available source of antibodies, which are released into bodily fluids. Antibodies persist in the fluid portion of the blood after blood coagulation has eliminated cells and clotting proteins. Then, this is referred to as an antiserum. The idea behind utilising an antibody with established specificity to find an infectious virus. The infectivity of the virus will be decreased if the antibody identifies and attaches to it. One of the many viral attributes that may be impacted by antibody binding and, therefore, tracked in this kind of experiment is infectivity. Another is virus-induced suppression of red blood cell agglutination.

This is a characteristic of certain viruses that adhere to molecules on the surface of red blood cells, such as influenza viruses. When the virus to cell ratio reaches a specific point, the rbcs get infected and the cells become agglutinated. This has nothing to do with infectivity, and even if a virus's infectivity has been purposefully deactivated, it may still effectively agglutinate rbcs as long as its surface features are unaltered. By preparing dilutions of the virus in an appropriate tray and then adding a standard quantity of rbcs to each well, a quantitative hemagglutination test may be created. The viral concentration is calculated as the dilution at which 50% of the sample agglutines. The benefit of this test is its quickness; a plaque assay typically takes 3 days, while it just takes 30 minutes. It is insensitive, however; for instance, it takes around 106 influenza virus plaque-forming units to generate detectable agglutination.

Before adding rbcs in the hemagglutination-inhibition test, a little quantity of virus is introduced to successive antibody dilutions. Blocking of agglutination detects a viral particle by demonstrating that an antibody has attached to it. It may be used to detect an unknown virus when combined with a known antibody, or it can be used to identify the presence of a viral-specific antibody in a serum sample when combined with a known virus. By reacting with a certain antibody, alternative virus may assemble and be directly seen by electron microscopy. The use of antibodies to find viral antigens within infected cells is another option. Antibodies cannot pass the plasma membrane of an active cell and will thus only bind to antigens exposed on the cell surface. By "fixing" the cell in organic solvents like acetone or methanol, which permeabilize the plasma membrane and allow antibody to enter the cytoplasm and nucleus and bind to antigens, this permeability barrier is destroyed. Antibodies are "tagged" with a marker material before to usage, making them detectable in the field. When exposed to ultraviolet light, tags like fluorescent dyes can be seen under a microscope; enzymes that leave a coloured deposit upon reaction with a substrate can be seen; radioactive substances can be seen by the deposition of silver grains from a photographic emulsion; and electron-dense molecules can be seen by electron microscopy[5], [6].

Nowadays, a quantitative technique known as the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay often employs antibodies covalently coupled to a marker enzyme. In the illustration, a panel of antibodies is being used to recognise an unidentified virus that is adhered to the plastic well's surface. Here, two antibodies are used: the main antibody, which is unlabeled and specific for viruses, and the secondary antibody, which is covalently attached to an enzyme and specific for conserved epitopes on the primary antibody. As several secondary antibody molecules may attach to a single primary antibody molecule, the ELISA becomes more sensitive as a result. The quantity of primary antibody bound is proportional to the coloured product produced by the enzyme's interaction with the additional substrate, which may be detected spectrophotometrically. Elisas have the benefit of being readily automated to handle several routine samples in huge quantities. By titrating the antibody and adding successive dilutions to a constant, low concentration of virus that has been attached to the tray, an ELISA may also be used to evaluate antibody concentration.

All strategies have benefits and limits, as was already mentioned. For instance, serological approaches to viral identification are swift and efficient but provide no information about the virus genome. Simple neutralisation tests take a long time to complete and are only effective against viruses that can be grown in culture. This depends on how long it takes a virus to destroy a noticeable number of cells, which may be anything between a few days and a few weeks. This is far from ideal, but the issue was resolved when a method for making several copies of a specific region of the viral genome was discovered. This polymerase chain reaction, developed in 1985 by Kari Mullis, creates DNA from a DNA template. If the target virus has an RNA genome, reverse transcriptase, a retrovirus enzyme, and a primer must first convert the area of interest into DNA. The virus present is quickly recognised if a certain sequence is selected and a positive result is obtained. One DNA genome copy or around 1000 copies of an RNA genome may be detected by the method, which has a high level of sensitivity. As a result, it serves as both a detection and an identification system. A area of around 100 bp is typically amplified, however complete genomes up to 15,000 bp may be duplicated with caution. The additional benefit of PCR is that it may identify viruses in primary tissue, preventing mutations brought on by adaptation to cell culture. The cost is comparable to that of a neutralisation test.

Knowing the sequence of the areas surrounding the part of the genome to be detected is the sole need for PCR, since it allows for the creation of oligonucleotide primers that are complementary to a sequence on each strand of DNA. Two primers are needed for PCR, and they must each be roughly 20 to 30 nucleotides long. The primers and deoxyribonucleotide triphosphates are introduced after the DNA has been heated to around 90°C to denature it. The primers anneal to their respective template strands upon cooling, and the enzyme copies the template. In order to avoid having to add new polymerase after each denaturation stage, it is useful to use a polymerase that is not inactivated at high temperatures, such as the Taq polymerase from the bacteria Thermophilus aquaticus, which is found in natural hot springs. To allow for more primer annealing and the subsequent cycle of DNA synthesis, the mixture is once again denatured and chilled. The specified PCR product is now present, but another 30 or more rounds of synthesis are necessary to provide enough material for analysis. DNA is electrophoresed to see whether an amplified fragment of the anticipated size has been synthesised in order to establish if the PCR result is positive. By comparing size to DNA size markers electrophoresed on parallel tracks, size is determined. By separating the DNA fragment from the gel and sequencing it, the outcome may be confirmed.

This method is widely applicable and quickly acquired recognition. Both research and diagnostic clinical virology make extensive use of it. PCR may be done in two steps for diagnostic reasons. In the first, primers are designed to amplify parts of the genome that are shared by many known viruses, such as those that are found in the gut. Primer sets to a region specific to each virus type may then be used to precisely identify any positives that are discovered[7], [8].Complete genes or even tiny genomes may be amplified by PCR, and they can then be cloned into the proper vector to express additional genomes or a protein when transfected into animal cells in culture. In this technique, noncultivable viruses may be used

to create vaccines. A DNA vaccine is a kind of experimental vaccination that involves injecting an animal directly with cloned DNA that encodes a viral protein.

#### Viruses Can Be Genetically Manipulated

Isolating mutants that are unable to perform a certain reaction inside an organism is one of the simplest methods to comprehend the stages involved in that reaction. Viruses, like all other creatures, experience changes throughout the course of their development. These variations may change a virus's physicochemical characteristics as well as the kind of plaque it forms and the spectrum of hosts it can infect. However, there is one obvious limitationmany changes will be fatal to the virus but go unnoticed. By finding conditional lethal mutants, Epstein, Edgar, and their team were able to solve this issue in 1963. One class of these mutants, the temperature-sensitive mutants, could only thrive at a lower, more permissive temperature than the original virus could, the restrictive temperature. The amber mutant was a different category of conditionally deadly mutants. A DNA damage in these mutants causes a codon inside transcribed RNA to change into a triplet, which stops protein production. Only permissive host cells, which include amber-suppressor transfer RNAsthat can add an amino acid to the mutant site during translation, can support their growth.

The random mutation that conditional lethal mutants exhibit is a downside, but reverse genetics, or controlled mutagenesis, has been made possible by the development of recombinant DNA technology, at least for viruses whose infectious particles can be recreated from cloned genomic DNA or CDNA. In order to create a distinctive restriction fragment that may later be re-inserted in the proper orientation, a segment of a cloned viral DNA or cdna genome that contains the target sequence is excised from the plasmid using two separate restriction enzymes. Using suitable mutagenic primers and oligonucleotide- or site-directed mutagenesis, the fragment is then altered before being put back into the original sequence in a plasmid to create a mutant viral particle.

#### Viruses' Properties

It is feasible to compare and contrast the characteristics of viruses with those of their host cells on the presumption that the characteristics of viral development just given for specific viruses are true of all viruses. Viruses only have one form of nucleic acid, while host cells contain both types. However, viruses contain their genetic material encoded in nucleic acid, just as their host cells do. Another distinction is that the host cell reproduces from the integrated total of its constituent parts, but the virus reproduces only from its genetic material. As a result, unlike cells, which always develop from pre-existing cells, viruses never develop directly from pre-existing viruses. The studies conducted by Hershey and his collaborators made it abundantly evident that a virus's constituent parts are separately synthesised before being put together into a variety of viral particles. In contrast, the host cell multiplies its component components while continuing to keep its uniqueness, splits, and creates two new cells. Finally, because viruses cannot make their own ribosomes, they must rely on ribosomes that already present in the host cell to create viral proteins. These characteristics categorically distinguish viruses from all other creatures, including chlamydia, which was formerly thought to be an intermediary between bacteria and viruses.

#### The source of viruses

The genesis of viruses is an intriguing subject, but as is often the case when there is a lack of solid evidence, debate may be divisive rather than illuminating. There are two widely accepted hypotheses: viruses are either vagrant genes or defective cells. Viruses may come from pro- or eukaryotic cells that have lost many of their biological capabilities, much as

fleas are descended from flies through the loss of wings. Another possibility is that some nucleic acid accidently entered a cell of a different species and, instead of degrading as it would typically do, survived and multiplied. Despite the fact that it has been fifty years since these two hypotheses were initially put out, we are still unable to definitively determine which, if either, is true. Rapid sequencing of viral and cellular genomes is now supplying information for computer analysis, leading to an ever-improving comprehension of the relationships between various viruses. Such investigations may locate a virus' ancestors, but they are unable to distinguish between degeneracy and escape[9], [10].

It seems doubtful that every virus in existence today originated from a single progenitor. Rather, one or both of the aforementioned techniques have likely been used to create viruses' multiple times in the past.

The tremendous variety of viruses that exist today is the result of the fact that, once produced, viruses are vulnerable to evolutionary forces in the same way that all other organ- isms are. Recombination and mutation are two mechanisms that have a substantial impact on the evolution of viruses. Recombination occurs seldom and results in a unique gene combination between the single molecule genomes of two related DNA or RNA viruses that are present in the same cell. The possibility of genetic exchange between related viruses with segmented genomes is significantly more significant. Reassortment is a kind of recombination where whole functioning genes are swapped. The functional genome's functional genome's many separate portions are only constrained by their compatibility. Although it is not unbreakable, because pandemic influenza A viruses may be produced in this manner, this seems to be a genuine barrier to the limitless generation of new viruses. Since RNA production lacks a molecular proof-reading mechanism, unlike DNA synthesis, mutations are particularly important to the evolution of RNA genomes.

#### CONCLUSION

In summary, this chapter offers a thorough review of the techniques and strategies used in the investigation of animal viruses. It emphasises the difficulties in researching viruses since they lack distinguishing shapes and because direct observation using electron microscopy requires specialized tools and knowledge. As a result, scientists often employ indirect methods to discover and analyse viruses. These methods may be divided into three primary categories: detection by viral nucleic acid detection, detection through interactions with certain antibodies, and detection through impacts and growth in culture systems. The selection of a culture system is critical and is determined by the study's goals, which may include viral isolation, biochemical analyses of viral replication, structural research, or the study of spontaneous infections. The use of complete organisms, cultured cells, organ cultures, as well as the difficulties involved with each, are just a few of the choices covered in this chapter. Additionally, it highlights the need of maintaining sterile surroundings and the use of antibiotics during cell growth. In conclusion, this chapter offers a thorough review of the key theories and methodologies used in the study of animal viruses, highlighting the significance of creativity and flexibility in the always developing area of virology. It emphasizes the importance of these investigations for resolving real-world issues in medicine and public health as well as for advancing scientific knowledge.

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# CHAPTER 3 A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF CLASSIFICATION OF VIRUSES

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

One of the most prolific and varied families of parasites on Earth, viruses may be found in anything from the tiniest single-celled bacteria to the biggest animals. This abstract examines numerous approaches of classifying viruses, highlighting both their drawbacks and advantages.First, a human-centric viewpoint may be provided by classifying viruses according to the diseases they cause. This approach, however, ignores viruses that do not infect people or our domesticated animals and does not adequately account for the complexity of viruses that infect many hosts or cause varied illnesses in different hosts. Another strategy is to categorize them according on the host species they infect. The difficulty arises when viruses infect a variety of hosts from different kingdoms, even though it may be appropriate for certain viruses with a limited host range. Additionally, this approach is unable to forecast the common traits of viruses that infect the same host. Classification based on morphology uses structural characteristics of virus particles seen under an electron microscope. Although simple, it fails to connect morphology to biological and genetic traits since comparable forms might mask subtle variances. The Baltimore scheme, a more complex categorization scheme, focuses on viral nucleic acids and their replication mechanisms. Based on the characteristics of their genetic makeup and replication techniques, it divides viruses into seven categories, revealing information about their reproduction tactics.Last but not least, the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) provides a taxonomic categorization system based on many variables, such as host range, physical traits, and genomic makeup. It explains the subtleties of viral species, which are sometimes perplexing since there is no mechanism for proofreading during genome replication.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Animal, Bacteria, Genetic, Morphology, Viruses.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Viruses are intriguing and very varied organisms that have effectively evolved to infect a broad variety of host species, ranging from simple bacteria to sophisticated mammals. They are among the most successful parasite species on Earth thanks to their capacity for evolution and adaptation. The field of virology is constantly growing, with over 5000 viruses now recognized and new discoveries being made on a regular basis. The categorization of viruses has proven to be a difficult task, and several approaches have been put forward throughout time. These techniques include grouping them according to the sort of illness they bring about, the hosts they infect, the shape of their viral particles, and the make-up of their nucleic acids. All of these methods have their benefits, but none of them offers a thorough foundation for comprehending the whole variety of viruses.

The Baltimore scheme, which classifies viruses according to their genetic makeup and reproduction techniques, is one important categorization method. This technique provides an efficient method for classifying viruses with comparable replication methods, but it may

ignore biological differences within these categories. The International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) classifies viruses into hierarchical categories such orders, families, subfamilies, and genera as another method of categorization. This approach considers a number of variables, including host range, physical traits, and genomic makeup. However, the absence of a proofreading mechanism during viral genome replication leaves the idea of a viral species ambiguous.

Satellites and viroids are subviral agents that vary from typical viruses in a number of ways. Satellites are subviral agents that depend on coinfection with a helper virus for reproduction, while viroids are tiny, circular RNA molecules linked to plant diseases. They have the power to affect both the helper virus's behavior and the severity of the sickness it spreads.Initially believed to be slow-replicating viruses, prions are distinct infectious agents. However, it was eventually discovered that they are really misfolded cellular proteins. Different animals are afflicted with prion diseases, often known as spongiform encephalopathies, which are characterised by gradual brain deterioration[1], [2].

From the tiniest single-celled bacteria to the biggest mammal, viruses are one of the most successful sorts of parasites in the world. They have been isolated from every known group of species. While most viruses only infect the host species for which they have been specifically identified, certain viruses may infect species from several phyla and even whole kingdoms. More than 5000 viruses are now known, and more are being found every day.time. This very big figure includes a wide variety of viruses, many of which are first somewhat alarming. Over the years, a variety of methods have been put up to create categorization schemes that would enable us to study typical viruses rather than each one individually, making it simpler to research viruses and bringing order to this seeming diversity. Although there is now widespread consensus, each of the suggested categorization methods has unique benefits and disadvantages. The assignment of novel viruses to certain classifications is the duty of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses.

#### **Classification Based on Illness**

The first and most prevalent way that viruses are experienced is as illness-causing agents, and viruses may be categorised based on the kind of disease that they are linked to. Thus, it is possible to talk about viruses that cause the common cold or hepatitis. This is deceptively easy. Although reflecting an essential quality, this approach of classifying viruses has significant flaws. First off, because it focuses on illnesses that we are aware of because they impact people or our domesticated animals, this approach is extremely humanistic. This overlooks the reality that most viruses either don't cause illness or produce a condition we aren't familiar with because we don't understand the host; for instance, we don't fully comprehend the diseases brought on by fish or frog virus. The varicella zoster virus, which initially causes chickenpox but may also result in shingles if it is reactivated later in life, is an excellent example of a virus that can cause several diseases. When considering viruses that infect several hosts, the issue is made worse since it is often discovered that they either produce no illness in one host while severely damaging the other or that they may cause various diseases in various hosts. While a categorization based on sickness may be useful in certain contexts, it also falls short in the crucial area of being able to utilise the groups to forecast shared core characteristics of the relevant viruses. Numerous viruses with extremely varied molecular make-ups are involved in the pathogenesis of hepatitis and the common cold, and learning about one of these viruses informs us very little, if anything, about the others.

#### **Classification Based on Host Organization**

A different strategy has attempted to categorize viruses based on the hosts they infect. This is appealing because it highlights how parasitic the relationship between the virus and host is. However, there are a number of issues with this strategy. This kind of categorization suggests that the relationship between the virus and the target host is stable and constant. A categorization based on the host is suitable since certain viruses are relatively constrained in their host range and only infect one species, such as the hepatitis B virus that infects humans. Others, like the poliovirus, which may infect a variety of primates, may only infect a smaller range of hosts, therefore the designation in this case must reflect this rather than identify a specific species. The most challenging situation occurs when viruses proliferate and infect a wide variety of animals[3], [4]. This is shown by certain viruses that can multiply and infect both plants and insects. Thus, it is not always easy to identify a virus by the host it infects. The issue that even if many viruses infect a single animal, this trait does not suggest any additional commonalities in terms of illness or genetic composition of the numerous viruses dominates all of these challenges.

#### DISCUSSION

For other viruses, particularly the herpesviruses, a different degree of complexity in terms of characterising the host has been utilized. After demonstrating the similarities amongst herpesviruses, a taxonomy that categorised them according to the kind of host cell they infected was identified. For instance, gammaherpesviruses infect lymphoid cells in the host animal. This description is no longer valid in light of the recent identification of novel herpesviruses that infect lymphoid cells while exhibiting traits in common with other nongammaherpesviruses. Therefore, researching a single virus that infects a single species or group of species, or even a virus that infects a specific cell type, does not reveal anything about the essential characteristics of the possibly many other viruses that may also infect that host.

#### A Classification Based on the Morphology of the Virus Parts

Descriptions of the structural characteristics of viral particles and the underlying structural concepts. When viruses were initially seen in the electron microscope, it was quite easy to classify them into different categories based on the observed particle form. If the viral particle has a lipid envelope, this is a crucial structural characteristic that may be utilised to distinguish between enveloped and nonenveloped viruses. The isometric, filamentous, and complicated morphological categories are established if the virion is unenveloped. Although isometric viruses resemble spheres, they are really icosahedrons or icosadeltahedrons. The morphology of filamentous viruses is straightforward and helical. The more complicated viruses fall outside of the other two groups. As with bacteriophage T2, complex forms for viral particles may be composed of both isometric and filamentous components, or they may have a structure that deviates from the common basic geometrical laws and seems irregular to the human eye. Describe the shape of the nucleocapsid located within the membrane to provide another degree of categorization if the virion is encased. So, nucleocapsids may be isometric or helical.

Although a categorization system based on morphology is straightforward and reflects an unchangeable aspect of the virus, it has significant shortcomings. The first of them is that understanding the form of a particular virus does not enable us to make any predictions about the biology, pathology, or molecular biology of viruses with similar shapes. As a result, while having extremely similar morphologies, two viruses may vary in every other important way. Even for viruses that seem to share a lot of other characteristics, this limitation still applies.

For instance, the morphology of the polyomaviruses and papillomaviruses, as well as other, deeper characteristics of their structures, such as the type and organisation of their genomes, led to their initial classification as a single group. These viruses are now recognised as distinct organisms since a deeper knowledge of them at the molecular level revealed that they vary in a number of significant areas. Despite these issues, it is nonetheless typical to provide a preliminary description of a virus in terms of its morphology.

A virus's nucleic acid has all the information required to create new viral particles. Some of this data is utilised directly to create components for virion, while other portions are employed to create accessory proteins or to send signals that enable the virus to manipulate a cell's biosynthetic machinery and steer it towards the generation of virus. Viruses include a wide variety of nucleic acid structures and compositions, while double-stranded DNA is the standard type of genetic material in living systems. A virus' nucleic acid composition has been used as the foundation for classification. This categorization system's most important feature is that it takes into account the nature of the viral genome in terms of the processes required to replicate the nucleic acid and produce mRNA that codes for proteins. Itprovide a thorough analysis of the characteristics of viral nucleic acids and the processes by which they are reproduced and transcribed[5], [6].

By evaluating a nucleic acid sample's base makeup, susceptibility to DNase or RNase, buoyant density, etc., its nature may be ascertained. The non-equivalence of the molar proportions of adenine and thymine (or guanine and cytosine) and the lack of a significant rise in UV absorbance upon heating differentiate single-stranded nucleic acids from double-stranded nucleic acids. According to these analyses, viruses may utilize single-stranded DNA, single-stranded RNA, double-stranded DNA, and double-stranded RNA as viral nucleic acids. Each kind of genome is found in a variety of viral families, which together include members that infect a wide range of bacteria, plants, and other organisms.

The Baltimore Scheme is used to classify viruses.As was already said, viruses have a wide variety of morphologies, genomic structures, modes of infection, hosts, tissue tropism, diseases, etc. Although each of these characteristics can be used to categorize viruses, as we have seen, doing so solely on the basis of one or even two of these characteristics does not result in a system that allows researchers to use the study of one virus in a given group to make generalizations about other members of the same group. Additionally, grouping on the basis of these criteria does not provide a solid foundation for coordinating discussions of viral replication mechanisms.

David Baltimore, the winner of the Nobel Prize, suggested a categorization system that categorizes all viruses based on the characteristics of their genomes, mechanisms of replication, and gene expression in order to get around these issues. This technique offers the chance to draw conclusions and forecast what the essential characteristics of all viruses within each designated category will be.

The foundational significance of messenger RNA in the viral replication cycle served as the basis for the original Baltimore categorization system. The molecules required to translate mRNA are not present in viruses; instead, they must be obtained from the host cell. Therefore, they must produce mRNAs that the ribosomes of the host cell can recognise. According to the Baltimore system, viruses are categorised based on the mRNA production process they utilise. All mRNA is often referred to as positive sense RNA. Positive sense refers to viral DNA and RNA strands that have the same sequence as the mRNA and are complementary to it. Negative sense refers to the opposite. A modified categorization system

based on Baltimore's original proposal describes seven categories of viruses using this language and some extra information about the replication process.

All viruses with double-stranded DNA genomes belong to class 1. Since mRNAs may originate from either strand, the distinction between positive and negative sense has no significance in this class. Similar to the technique used by host cells, transcription may take place using this method.Viruses with single-stranded DNA genomes belong to class 2. Depending on the virus being investigated, the DNA might have either a positive or negative meaning. Before mRNA production can start in class 2 viruses, the DNA must be changed into a double-stranded structure.Viral species in class 3 have dsRNA genomes. All known viruses of this kind have segmented genomes, and only one template strand from each segment is used to create mRNA. It is possible to imagine that the mechanism used for transcription from a dsRNA genome is the same as that used for transcription from a dsDNA genome. However, normal, uninfected cells lack the enzymes must be transported into the cell by the virus and expressed by the viral genome.

Viruses in class 4 have ssRNA genomes that can be translated and have the same sense as mRNA. Prior to the production of mRNA, a complementary strand is synthesised, creating a dsRNA intermediate. Although they are not transported in the viral particle, RNA synthesis must be carried out utilising virus-encoded enzymes, much as with the class 3 viruses. Class 5 viruses have ssRNA genomes that are complementary to the mRNA in base sequence. The creation of new viral genomes necessitates the production of a dsRNA intermediate, whose positive sense strand serves as a template for replication. Both processes need unique virus-encoded enzymes for mRNA synthesis. The virion contains the viral enzymes that produce RNA. Some class 5 viruses, known as "ambisense" viruses, employ the recently synthesised "antigenome" RNA strand as a template for the generation of an mRNA[7], [8].

Viruses in class 6 have ssRNA genomes and produce dsDNA intermediates before replicating by employing an enzyme carried by the virion.Class 7 In recent years, there has been talk of moving certain viruses, known as reversiviruses, from class 1 to a new class 7. This is predicated on the fact that they replicate from dsDNA back to dsDNA through a positive sense ssRNA intermediary. This is the opposite of the class 6 replication approach, which class 7 shares with in many ways.The Baltimore scheme is a useful tool for analysing the characteristics of viruses, but it also has several drawbacks. The fact that classification of a virus is based on its basic, constant traits is one of its strongest points. Once given a class, it is possible to make certain predictions regarding the chemical mechanisms behind nucleic acid synthesis, such as the need of new virus-encoded enzymes. The scheme's flaw is that, although grouping viruses with similar reproduction mechanisms, it ignores their biological characteristics. For instance, variola virus and bacteriophage T2 are grouped together in class 1 despite having completely different biology and structural makeup. comparable to how finding a positive sense RNA genome is insufficient to categorise the virus unambiguously, viruses of classes 4 and 6 contain nucleic acids that are comparable in their genomes.

#### **Classification According To Taxonomy**

A taxonomic categorization system for viruses has been developed by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses, which was first constituted in the late 1960s. This employs the well-known Order, Family, Subfamily, and Genus taxonomy system. However, the idea of a species in the context of the taxonomy of viruses is nuanced and often remains the subject of continuing discussion. The lack of a proofreading mechanism during genome replication makes it difficult for viruses with RNA genomes to conceptualise themselves as a species. This has the effect of making viruses part of populations where each member has a genome sequence that may be unique from the others but that is a part of a group of sequences that will come together to establish a consensus for that virus. There is no established "correct" genomic sequence for the virus, which is considered to be a quasi-species.

The ICTV takes a variety of factors into account when classifying a virus into a taxonomic category. These include the virion's host range, physical characteristics, and the nucleic acid makeup of the genome. Additional aspects are taken into account within these constraints. These factors, which enable the allocation of subdivisions in the taxonomic designation, include things like the length of a phage's tail or the presence or lack of certain genes in the genomes of related viruses. Rapid nucleotide sequencing of viral genomes has made it feasible to create phylogenetic trees depending on how well-preserved certain gene sequences are, which helps with the creation of phylogenetic categories. When evaluating recently found viruses for which little additional information may be available, phylogeny is very helpful. A single virus has been identified as the type member for each of the distinct genera listed by the ICTV. In essence, the type member serves as the genus's reference.

The information used to classify the measles virus demonstrates how the method incorporates elements from all previous classification systems in an effort to clearly identify each viral group. As new viruses are found, the categorization of viruses is a continuous endeavour. The taxonomic groups are continuously reviewed as our knowledge of certain traits expands, notably in the field of phylogenetic research.

#### Viruses, prions, and satellites

#### Viroids and satellites

Satellites and viroids vary from the better-understood "conventional" viruses in a number of ways. They are often referred to as subviral agents, yet they share characteristics with a number of viruses. Due to their resemblance to common viruses, viroids may now be divided into families and genera.Satellite viruses and satellite nucleic acid are the two types that make up satellites. Unlike DI viruses, satellite viruses and satellite nucleic acids do not encode the replicative enzymes needed for their own replication and instead depend on coinfection with a conventional, helper virus to provide these enzymes. However, unlike DI viruses, satellite nucleic acids either only encode nonstructural proteins or no proteins at all, the satellite viruses encode the structural protein that encapsidates them. The coinfecting helper virus provides the satellite nucleic acids with their structural proteins. It has been suggested that these areas are important in replication, as is often the case with the helper viral genomes, when the sequences of the immediate termini of satellite genomes are comparable to those of the helper virus.

A satellite or satellite virus may influence how well the helper virus replicates and may also influence how severe the illness the helper virus causes is. There are known satellite viruses and satellite nucleic acids with either DNA or RNA genomes. The size of RNA genomes ranges from around 350 nucleotides to 1500 nucleotides, whereas the size of DNA genomes, which may be single or double stranded, ranges from 500 nucleotides to 1800 nucleotides. There are three different types of RNA satellite genomes: linear, circular, and dsRNA[8], [9].

Hepatitis delta virus is a satellite that is significant because to its connection to sickness in humans. Only when HBV is present can HDV exist, and it is linked to increased HBV pathogenicity. The circular ssRNA molecule that makes up the HDV genome is heavily base-

paired and has the appearance of a rod-like shape. Without a helper virus, which supplies the structural proteins that encapsulate the DNA and enable HDV to disseminate, HDV cannot replicate. The HDV genome is around 1700 nt long and contains two protein encoding regions. Similar to the class 5 viruses' mechanism of gene expression, both proteins are translated from an mRNA that makes sense in the other direction from the HDV genomic RNA.

A single circular ssRNA molecule without any protein components makes up the infectious material of viruses, which are unique disease-causing agents in plants. The smallest known self-replicating diseases are viroids, which have genomes that range in size from 246 to 400 nucleotides. When genomes are studied under an electron microscope, they appear as rod- or dumb-bell-shaped molecules, similar to the genome of HDV, since up to 70% of the nucleotides in the genome RNAs are base-paired. No proteins are encoded by the genome or antigenome sense RNA, according to nucleotide sequence analyses of viroid RNA. It is believed that the RNA interferes with crucial host cell functions as a cause of the disorders linked to viroids. The cellular DNA-dependent RNA polymerase II, which typically recognises a DNA template, seems to replicate viruses including HDV.

#### Prions

Initially, prions were thought to be the cause of a variety of deadly disorders characterised by a gradual, progressive brain degradation. When the brain is examined after death, it has a spongy look that is linked to the disorders. Spongiform encephalopathies are a group of illnesses that include scrapie in sheep, bovine spongiform encephalopathy in cattle, and kuru and variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans. Prions have also been found in the fungus Podosporaanserina and the yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae. Prions were originally believed to be slow-replicating viruses, but after extensive research, no nucleic acid has ever been linked to infectious material. Analysis of prions has shown that they are erroneous variations of healthy cellular proteins that may drastically alter the structure of their healthy homologs.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the categorization of viruses is still a challenging and developing science, with many approaches providing different perspectives on the viral world. The study objectives and the necessity to comprehend many elements of viruses, from disease aetiology to genetic traits, influence the technique of categorization chosen. In conclusion, viruses are highly varied, making it difficult for scientists to categorise and comprehend them. Although several categorization schemes provide insightful information about certain aspects of viral biology, none can adequately convey the complexity of the viral universe. To solve the secrets of these small, remarkably adaptive organisms that are important in both health and sickness, further investigation and discovery is required.

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# CHAPTER 4 STRUCTURAL BLUEPRINT AND REPLICATION STRATEGIES OF VIRUSES: UNRAVELING THE COMPLEXITY OF GENETIC PARASITES

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

The essential ideas that underlie the design and reproduction processes of viruses are covered in this abstract. Because they are made of proteins and nucleic acids, viruses may take on a variety of shapes, with proteins making up a significant amount of their bulk. However, owing to efficiency and stability limitations, viruses often adopt certain structural forms.To adapt the atypical structure of proteins and maintain stability, subunits are crucial in the construction of viral particles. As a result, a viral particle with a strong structural foundation is produced thanks to the assistance of these components. The positioning of these subunits is crucial for establishing stability, and their symmetry allows for the most possible interaction. In order to comprehend viral design, Watson and Crick's ideas on asymmetrical subunits leading to cubic or helical symmetries are essential. Isometric, helical, head-tail, and asymmetric shapes are only a few of the structural patterns that different kinds of viruses display. Bacterial, plant, and animal viruses do not all exhibit the same structural patterns. The abstract also discusses particular instances, such as the methods of replication used by the parvovirus family, viruses' independence from one another during DNA replication, and how certain viruses are dependent on host cellular machinery. Overall, this abstract offers a perceptive summary of the structural variety and reproduction methods of viruses. illuminating the complex realm of viral biology.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Bacteria, DNA, Genetic, Viruses.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Viruses may take on a variety of forms, such as helical, isometric, head-tail, and more, according to research on viral structures. The genetic makeup, size, and functional needs of the virus influence the structural choice often. For viruses with lengthy, flexible nucleic acids, helical shapes work well, but isometric structures are effective in condensing genetic material. Additionally, viruses have developed complex replication processes that guarantee the effective transfer of their genetic material to new host cells. These processes include the use of primers, editing, and the machinery found in the host cell. A virus's capacity for genome replication varies greatly depending on how dependent it is on the resources of the host cell. Some viruses are more self-sufficient than others.

Viral replication, genome release, and virus particle deconstruction are all necessary for viral spread. Viruses utilise a variety of tactics to do this, often depending on the interaction of viral envelope proteins with cell receptors. In viral DNA replication systems, the need for a primer to start DNA synthesis during replication is a recurring motif. All viruses are composed of protein and nucleic acid, with protein making up at least 50% and sometimes as much as 90% of their mass. On the surface, it would seem that proteins may be organised around nucleic acids in a variety of ways. However, there aren't many different designs used

by viruses. Due to limitations imposed by efficiency and stability concerns, the variety of structures is limited.

Subunits are used to construct virus particles. Although helix and structure are common secondary structure components in proteins, the tertiary structure of the protein is not symmetrical. This results from proline entering the secondary structure, hydrogen bonding, disulfide bridges, and other factors. Although it may be naively assumed that a single, big protein molecule might cover the nucleic acid, this is not the case since proteins are irregular in structure whereas most virus particles have a regular morphology. However, viruses' need for many proteins may also be inferred merely from analysis of the nucleic acid molecules' capacity for coding. A coding triplet defines a single amino acid with an average Mr of around 100 and has a Mr of about 1000. Therefore, a nucleic acid can only specify, at most, one-tenth of the mass of its protein. It is clear that more than one protein must be present since viruses typically contain more than 50% protein by mass[1], [2].

Using the single protein molecule mentioned as a repeating component obviously requires less genetic material. It is not necessary for the coat to be made of identical subunits, however, as long as the aggregate molecular weight of the many subunits is sufficiently low compared to the nucleic acid molecule that they are meant to protect. A additional benefit of building a virus from its component parts is that any protein misfolding only impacts a limited portion of a structural unit. Thus, an error-free structure may be built with the least amount of waste as long as defective subunits are not incorporated in the viral particle during assembly.

It may be assumed that the greatest amount of contacts are created between the subunits of a virus particle as the minimal free energy state is a physical requirement for the stability of any structure. The maximum number of contacts can only develop if the subunits are placed symmetrically, which can only be done in a finite number of ways since the subunits are themselves nonsymmetrical. Watson and Crick theorised that the only two ways that asymmetrical subunits could be joined to create virus particles would produce structures with either cubic or helical symmetry shortly after their groundbreaking breakthrough on the structure of DNA.

#### The Structure of Nucleoproteins and Filamentous Viruses

Placing nonsymmetrical elements around a circle's perimeter to create discs is one of the easiest methods to symmetrically arrange them. A two-dimensional structure results from this. A "stacked-disc" structure is created when several discs are stacked on top of each other. Thus, it is possible to create a symmetrical three-dimensional structure from a nonsymmetric component, like a protein, while still leaving space for nucleic acid. Some viruses have a tubular form, as may be shown by looking at published electron micrographs of viruses. Tobamovirus, often known as tobacco mosaic virus, is one such virus. However, a closer look shows that the TMV subunits are organised helical rather than cylindrically, or in rings. A clear explanation exists for this.

In a stacked-disc configuration, a helical nucleic acid could not be equivalently bonded. The maximum number of bonds may still form, and each subunit can still be equally bound, with the exception of those at either end, of course, when the subunits are arranged helical. The insertion of the nucleic acid may be the determining element in this arrangement as all filamentous viruses that have been studied so far are helical rather than cylindrical. Due to the subunits, a helical structure provides a significant amount of stability. This value is higher than that of a cylinder without any connection along the long axis. The construction of several nucleoprotein structures inside enveloped viruses is similar.

#### Isometric virus particles' structure

The fewest number of subunits might be arranged around the vertices or faces of a cubically symmetric object, such as a tetrahedron, cube, octahedron, dodecahedron, or icosahedron, as another method of creating symmetrical particles. demonstrates potential configurations for triangular and square-faced items. The least number of subunits that may be grouped around such an object is determined by multiplying the minimal number of subunits per face by the number of faces. The symmetry of the face dictates the minimum number of subunits; for example, a square face will have four subunits, a triangular face will have three subunits, etc.

The fewest number of components for a tetrahedron is 12, followed by 24 for an octahedron or cube and 60 for a dodecahedron or icosahedron. These depict the few ways that an asymmetrical item may be positioned symmetrically on the surface of an object that resembles a spherical, even though they may not be immediately obvious. Many viruses exhibit spherical appearances on electron micrographs, however they really have icosahedral symmetry rather than octahedral, tetrahedral, or cuboidal symmetry. Icosahedral symmetry was chosen above the alternatives for one of two reasons[1], [3]. The size of the repeating subunits may be smaller, which helps save genetic information since it takes more subunits to create a spherical with the same volume. Second, it seems that there are physical limitations that impede the compact packing of subunits needed to achieve tetrahedral and octahedral symmetry.

#### DISCUSSION

These viruses have a typical isometric or helical form, which is encased in a membrane that is a 4-nm-thick lipid bilayer containing proteins, despite their seeming complexity. Many of the bigger animal viruses serve as examples, but just a few plant and bacterial viruses do as well. By treating these viruses with detergents or organic solvents, which damage the membrane and render them ineffective, it was customarily possible to identify these viruses from nucleocapsid viruses. As a result, they were sometimes called "ether-sensitive viruses". Although most do not include cell proteins, the viral budding process uses cell membranes to acquire the envelope, which is produced from host cell membranes. We don't fully understand how cell proteins are excluded from virions and why retroviruses, the exception, do not.

An isometric envelope enclosing an isometric core the virus Sindbis particles. The nucleocapsid of the Sindbis virus is an icosahedral structure made up of a single protein and is encased in an envelope from which viral spike proteins emerge. Similar to the previously mentioned tomato bushy stunt virus, the core includes 180 subunits and T 3. To everyone's amazement, the envelope likewise has icosahedral symmetry, but it is T 4 and contains 240 subunits. When it was discovered that the two structures are complimentary, this seeming contradiction was eliminated since the interior ends of the spike proteins fit perfectly into depressions between the nucleocapsid subunits. This and its close relatives are the only known enveloped viruses with a geometrically symmetrical envelope as of now.

Rhabdovirus particles have a non-spherical sheath around a helical core. This genus of viruses has an envelope resembling influenza viruses and a helical core made entirely of nucleoprotein. These viruses stand out because they are either bacilliform or bullet-shaped rather than isometric. These morphologies are distinctive. Rhabdoviruses may be found in both plants and animals, and they are always bullet-shaped. The viral attachment protein G is present as a thick layer of spikes within the envelope. The membrane is supported by the matrix protein. Rhabdoviruses and influenza viruses have many structural similarities while having noticeably different overall shapes. Defective-interfering rhabdoviruses, which have a

substantially deleted genome, create tiny bullet-shaped particles, suggesting that the size of the RNA genome regulates the bullet's length. The structural geometry involved in rhabdovirus particle production is unknown.

#### Head-Tail Morphologic Virus Particles

While bacterial viruses are the only ones that employ the head-tail architectural concept, many of them exhibit alternative morphologies. 100 nm is the bar. Bacteriophages may be separated into those with short tails, lengthy noncontractile tails, and complicated contractile tails due to the wide variety in the head-tail structural motif. There might be other structures like base plates, collars, etc. Despite their complicated structure, head-tail phages follow the same design principles as the viruses with simpler architecture that were discussed before. Icosahedral symmetry is often found in heads, while helical symmetry is typically found in tails. Each and every other structure, including base plates, collars, etc., has a certain symmetry. It's possible that how these bacterial viruses infect cells that are vulnerable to infection has something to do with how this complex structure evolved. In a nutshell, the phage uses its tail to adhere to a bacterium, enzymatically lyses a hole in the cell wall, and then uses the tail as a conduit to introduce its densely packed DNA into the cell.

The principles underlying the creation of some of the bigger viruses have not yet been clarified, and some of them do not match any of these patterns. The giant mimivirus, which infects protozoa, has a 400-nm nonenveloped, spherical particle that is surrounded by an icosahedral capsid and fibrils. In contrast, the animal poxviruses have a complex enveloped structure enclosing two lateral bodies and a biconcave core that includes all the enzymes required for viral mRNA synthesis[4], [5].

#### The Regularity Of Certain Virus Particle Morphologies Occurring

The various viral morphologies mentioned above don't appear in bacterial, plant, or animal viruses equally often. Purely icosahedral viruses are rather uncommon in bacteria; nonenveloped helical viruses are frequent and virtually exclusively found in plants; and enveloped icosahedral and helical viruses are widespread in animals but uncommon in both plants and bacteria. Last but not least, only bacteria are known to harbour head-tail viruses, which have an isometric head and a helical tail connected together. Unfortunately, there is no compelling justification for why these limits should exist. Additionally, there are some enormous, very complicated viruses whose morphogenesis is now beyond our grasp.

#### **Principles of deconstruction:**

Virus particles may be manipulated. It's crucial to keep in mind that every virus particle must be built to guard the genome and then disassemble in order to allow the genome to enter a new target cell. Since the virus particle only gets one opportunity to do this successfully and spread its genome, it is of utmost importance. The idea that the particle is metastablethat is, that it may spontaneously decelerate to a lower energy level and release its genomeis growing. It should come as no surprise that there are many fail-safe mechanisms that signal to the virus when it is okay to release the DNA. Animal viruses with envelopes, such as HIV-1, employ one of the simplest methods. This involves a series of interactions between cell receptors and the viral envelope protein binding sites, which function as the passwords required to enter a building with strong security. If all goes according to plan, a concealed hydrophobic region may then insert into the cell membrane after the metastable envelope protein goes through significant rearrangements. The virus's lipid bilayer and the cell's plasma membrane begin to fuse as a result, and the viral genome immediately enters the cell
cytoplasm. If the password sequence turns out to be erroneous, the virus separates from the cell, allowing the procedure to be repeated until the right cell is located.

Whether the DNA is of cellular or viral origin, the fundamental process by which a new strand is created in a cell is the same. Given that all DNA synthesis has these essential characteristics, biochemists trying to understand the mysteries of DNA replication often study the easily manipulable viral DNA molecules. These studies have tremendously improved our understanding of this process, but they have also shown that viruses exploit this fundamental mechanism in a variety of ways, each tailored to the unique features of their genomic architectures. The variety of viral DNA replication processes is examined in this chapter.

## DNA Synthesis' Universal Mechanism

A primer is required for the beginning of a DNA strand.Any DNA replication mechanism must start someplace with the fresh synthesis process. Origins of replication are the precise sites on the template molecule where this takes place. Specific proteins must attach to the origin for replication to start, and the two DNA strands must be untangled to serve as a template for fresh synthesis. Due to these needs, origin sequences often have certain common characteristics, such as sequence symmetry for particular protein binding and the presence of an AT-rich region for straightforward strand separation.New DNA strands must be begun during replication at least once to start the process and periodically afterwards if the discontinuous mechanism is present. This creates a new issue since DNA polymerases cannot initiate DNA chains from scratch; instead, they all need a hydroxyl group to serve as a primer before continuing synthesis. Since ribonucleic acid polymerases do not need a primer to begin synthesis, they are often used as a universal solution to this issue. The enzyme copies the DNA template into a short RNA primer, which is subsequently expanded by DNA polymerase. After serving their purpose, the primers are removed by certain enzymes that can identify and destroy DNA- and RNA-duplexed RNA.

Why did RNA-primed DNA synthesis develop into such a complicated process when DNA polymerases' ability to generate strands from scratch may have prevented it? The reason is presumably because DNA replication is far more accurate than RNA replication, which is a major evolutionary advantage over employing RNA as genetic material. The significant preference for base-pairing of the substrate nucleoside triphosphate to the template is the first test of fidelity of synthesis, which is relevant to both RNA and DNA polymerases. However, DNA polymerases have a further safeguard, the capacity to "proofread" the newly created DNA. DNA polymerases proofread strands by removing any unpaired nucleotides from the 3' end of a developing strand before introducing new nucleotides. Since they must be able to start the synthesis of new molecules without a correctly base-paired primer, RNA polymerases lack this ability. Errors in the production of RNA transcripts may be tolerated since they are continuously renewed and have no long-term purpose in the organism. However, this has repercussions for viruses with RNA genomes.

#### Linear Single-Strand Dna Genetic Replication

The parvovirus family includes both independent and flawed viruses. While defective parvoviruses, like the adeno-associated viruses, package both positive- and negative-sense DNA strands in distinct virions, making either one contagious, the autonomous parvoviruses, like the minute virus of mice, only package a negative-sense DNA strand. For these damaged viruses to replicate, coinfection with a helper virus is nearly entirely necessary.Terminal hairpins may be seen in parvovirus genomes. While the sequences of these terminal hairpins differ in the autonomous viruses, they are complementary in the flawed viruses. This

distinction explains why the polarity of the DNA strands that the two kinds of viruses bundle vary, as will be detailed later.

### Autonomy vs. Dependency in DNA viruses

The size of the viral genome affects how independent viruses are from their hosts in terms of the replication of their DNA, which may vary widely. Large viruses, such the poxviruses, are at one extreme of the spectrum. Such viruses just need a closed environment, protein synthesis equipment, a supply of amino acids and deoxyribonucleotide triphosphates, and an energy source from their host cells. Some may not even need this much; the vaccinia and herpes simplex viruses both call for a thymidine kinase and a number of other enzymes. On the opposite extreme are viruses with genomes that can only define a small number of proteins, as the little virus of mice and SV40. There aren't many genes remaining that code for processes necessary for replication since some of them are required to create the viral coat. These viruses depend on the host for polymerases, ligases, nucleases, and other enzymes in addition to nucleic acid precursors. Viruses like the adeno-associated virus, which needs help from both the host and another virus for reproduction, demonstrate the extreme of lack of autonomy[6], [7].

## CONCLUSION

The tremendous variety and adaptability of these tiny organisms are shown by the structure and replicating processes of viruses. Although viruses have certain characteristics in common, such as the presence of protein and nucleic acid, their structural makeup may differ greatly. In the formation of viral particles, proteins often play a crucial role, and the stability of these structures is greatly influenced by their symmetry. In conclusion, research into the architecture and reproduction processes of viruses continues to illuminate the mysterious world of viruses. Their variety, flexibility, and distinctive reproductive and survival strategies illustrate the intricate interactions between viruses and their host species. Additional virology study is expected to provide much more information about these mysterious things and how they affect Earthly life.

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# CHAPTER 5 EXPLORING THE PROCESS OF INFECTION: ATTACHMENT OF VIRUSES AND THE ENTRY OF THEIR GENOMES INTO THE TARGET CELL

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## ABSTRACT:

A critical stage in the infection process is the first contact between a viral particle and its target cell. The way that bacteriophages, plant viruses, and animal viruses interact differs. The contact usually starts in animal cells with simple diffusion, which is made possible by the persistent Brownian motion of virus-sized particles in a liquid media. Plant viruses often infect plant cells when pathogens or mechanical trauma have caused tissue damage. Animal cells, on the other hand, are an exception, since they all directly communicate with one another.Dedifferentiated cells were often employed in in vitro cell culture research, which may not accurately reflect the infection process in multicellular tissue structures. The nomenclature surrounding viral attachment often makes reference to "viral attachment protein" and "cell receptor", emphasizing the role that these molecules play in promoting viral attachment.Infections of animal cells occur when viruses attach to the cells via receptors on the cell surface, which are generally proteins. With few exceptions, such as Nacetylneuraminic acid, different viruses may exploit the same receptor. Principal receptors, co- or subsidiary receptors, and low-affinity receptors are the three categories of receptor molecules that viruses may successively bind. These receptors resist repulsive forces, allowing the virus and cell membrane to come in close proximity. In order to prevent and manage illness, it's crucial to comprehend the intricate and diverse methods by which viral particles interact with host cells during infection, as this abstract highlights.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Animal, Bacteria, Infection, Plant, Viruses.

## **INTRODUCTION**

A viral particle first interacts with its target cell to start the infection process, although bacteriophages, plant viruses, and animal viruses all interact with cells in various ways. Animal viruses and animal cells first interact via simple diffusion because virus-sized particles suspended in liquid are always in continual Brownian motion. Bacteriophage diffusion is likely another factor that affects how they join with bacterial cells. In contrast, plant viruses are often introduced directly into the cytoplasm of cells by the actions of virus-carrying pathogens, or else plants get infected after mechanical injury, sometimes as a consequence of wind action, and then spread throughout the plant. As a result, in plant systems, the manner in which a virus and cell mate is less significant. But by grafting, viruses may also spread from infected tissue to an uninfected plant; in this case, infection is most likely the result of viral diffusion through the vascular system. Plants are an exception since they act as a single cell and have direct communication between all of their cells.

The majority of in vitro cell culture studies used to study the attachment and entrance of animal viruses used cells that were dedifferentiated from their in vivo counterparts. As a result, the method by which differentiated cells get infected may vary from that of multicellular tissue structures in vivo. For instance, infection can be less effective. The language used in relation to attachment might be perplexing. Consequently, to characterise the interacting parts, the phrases viral attachment protein and cell receptor are utilised. Cell receptor sites, which may be multivalent and include a number of cell receptors, are valuable in certain circumstances.

Viral entry into animal cells may take place either by receptor-mediated endocytosis or fusion of the viral lipid bilayer with the cell membrane. Encapsulated viruses are able to release their genome into the cell after fusion at neutral or low pH. Non-enveloped viruses enter by endocytosis, where virion protein conformational changes cause genome release.Numerous viral particles often fail to finish the infection process in animal cells, making the infectious process ineffective. Viral genomes may be damaged or degraded at different stages, which affects the ratio of infectious to non-infectious particles.Plant cells have cell barriers around them, making it difficult for viruses to enter directly or indirectly. Viral uncoating takes place in the cytoplasm, and the freed genome then spreads by plasmodesmata, infecting the whole plant.Bacteriophages may bind to bacteria by a variety of cell receptors, such as flagella, pili, or capsules. Each phage has a unique way of penetrating nucleic acids. While filamentous DNA phages take advantage of host cell retraction, tail-tailed bacteriophages like T2 enter cells via a contractile sheath. When RNA phages bind, structural modifications take place that make it possible to access the genome[1], [2].

Animal viruses often attach to and start an infection by using certain receptor molecules on the cell surface. These extremely selective receptor interactions might include several receptor types, such as main receptors, co-receptors, and low-affinity receptors. Viruses may overcome repellent factors and begin the process of viral entrance into the host cell thanks to their attachment to these receptors.Different processes, including membrane fusion in enveloped viruses and receptor-mediated endocytosis in both enveloped and non-enveloped viruses, may allow viral genetic material to enter the host cell. These procedures often entail the release of the viral DNA into the cytoplasm of the host cell and conformational changes in viral proteins.

It's crucial to remember that different viruses have different levels of infectious effectiveness, and many viral particles may fail to fully infect a person for a variety of reasons. Failures in attachment, entrance, or following phases in the infection process may make animal viral infections ineffective. The difficulty of researching viral infections is increased by the presence of non-infectious viral particles.Due to the existence of a cell membrane that prohibits direct attachment and entrance, plant viruses face special difficulties. These viruses often depend on vectors, such insects, to spread across plants. They spread throughout the plant via specialised movement proteins after they have entered plant cells.

Bacteriophages, viruses that attack bacteria, have unique strategies for adhering to and entering host cells. These strategies often include interactions with cell wall elements, pili, flagella, or capsules. Depending on the particular bacteriophage and host, these interactions may change.Developing ways to prevent and cure viral illnesses requires a thorough understanding of the early phases of viral infection. In order to prevent viral infections in both people and animals, vaccination and antiviral medications that target viral attachment and entrance are crucial strategies.Developing antiviral therapies requires a thorough understanding of viral interactions with host cells. Potential preventative interventions include neutralising antibodies and antiviral medications that target the attachment and uncoating processes. Reducing viral vectors and choosing plants that are resistant to disease are important tactics in plant agriculture. Using resistant cell lines or changing growth conditions may be necessary in industrial settings to mitigate bacteriophage infections.

# Attachment To The Cell In Animal Cell Infection

Animal cell surfaces have receptor molecules that allow viruses to bind to the cells. Typically, proteins are employed, although rarely, carbs and fats are also utilised. Although the virus-receptor interaction is quite particular, different viruses from the same family may utilise the same receptor. The sugar N-acetylneuraminic acid, which is employed as a receptor by members of numerous distinct genera of viruses, is one prominent exception. It often forms the terminal moiety of a carbohydrate group of a glycoprotein or glycolipid. Some viruses have main receptors that may be more than one kind of chemical. Stringent testing are necessary for the unmistakable proof that a molecule acts as a receptor for viral infection[3], [4].

Up to three distinct receptor molecule types on the cell surface are sequentially bound by viruses. These include principal receptors, co- or subsidiary receptors, and low affinity receptors. In theory, receptors work to counteract any repellent forces that could exist between the virus and the cell, enabling the virus particle to make close contact with the lipid bilayer of the cell membrane and initiating the release of the viral genome into the cell. The first kind of receptor is a high abundance molecule that interacts with the virus with limited specificity and affinity. This assists to bring the virus into direct contact with molecules on the cell surface and out of the fluid that is bathing the cell. Some viruses, including HIV-1, employ heparins as their initial receptor, whereas others use the sugar N-acetyl neuraminic acid. Usually, interactions with other cell-surface molecules occur after this binding, which promotes infection. For instance, HIV-1 requires three cell receptors and three viral attachment sites to connect to its target cell, which is a complicated process.

# DISCUSSION

Some viruses may actually function as an extra receptor for virus-specific, non-neutralizing antibodies. The antibody causes infection by attaching to Fc receptors found in the plasma membranes of certain cells through its constant regions. Such cells are not often infected because they lack a typical viral receptor. Antibody-dependent increase of infectivity is the term for this mechanism. Although ADE is often seen in cells in culture, it is uncommon in living things. The dengue fever virus is the prime example. In humans, this virus often produces a mild subclinical or febrile sickness; nevertheless, in the presence of an antibody, it may infect macrophages and result in infections that can be fatal.

## Entry Into The Cell In Animal Cell Infection

The cell's protective plasma membrane is a highly mobile and active structure. It consists of a lipid bilayer that various proteins are put into. Proteins have been compared as icebergs that may travel laterally inside the membrane, while the membrane has been likened to a sea. Endo-cytosis, in which the membrane invaginates and a vesicle is pinched off into the cytoplasm, is a mechanism that cells use to continuously sample their immediate surroundings. Endo-cytosis may also be used to export molecules from the cell, such as enzymes, hormones, or neurotransmitters.

Before a virus may enter a cell and/or shed its coating, it may need to enlist more receptors, as was mentioned above when it was linked to cells. Both the attached virus and free receptors may travel laterally and collide because the receptors in the lipid membrane are mobile. The final signal for the entry/uncoating stage to start is the recruitment of a finite number of receptors because interaction with receptors not only enables the virus to locate the proper target cell but also primes the virus particle for uncoating and the entry of the viral genome into the cell cytoplasm. A virus may enter a cell in one of two ways: either by fusing

its lipid bilayer with a cell membrane, which is how enveloped viruses do, or by being taken up into a vesicle via receptor-mediated endocytosis, where the viral genome then escapes into the cell cytoplasm.

Fusion of the lipid bilayers of the virus and the cell at neutral or low pH allows the genome of an enveloped virus to enter the cell.A ubiquitous biological phenomena known as membrane fusion may be seen in a wide range of biological activities, including the movement of membrane vesicles inside cells and fertilization. But lipid bilayers, which are made of two monolayers with the component molecules' lengthy hydrophobic chains within and their polar, negatively charged head groups exposed on their inner and outer surfaces, are very stable structures. Fusion is thus far from being a natural process. The viral and cell bilayers must first separate at a common site, exposing their hydrophobic interiors to an unfavourable environment, and then unite and reconstruct as a single bilayer for fusion to take place. There is a lot of knowledge concerning HIV-1, yet it is still unclear how this happens. In a series of interactions between the virus and receptors, the plasma membrane and the HIV-1 lipid bilayer directly fuse. The metastable undergoes conformational changes as a result[5], [6].

That cause the hydrophobic terminal regions of the gp41 envelope protein molecules to be exposed from their typically concealed location close to the virion membrane. Fusion requires three key processes. The gp41 envelope proteins combine to form a hydrophobic channel between the two membranes, disrupting both bilayers and allowing the disturbed lipid to flow through the hydrophobic channel, causing the two bilayers to come together and form a fusion pore; finally, the pore enlarges so that the genome and associated proteins can pass through. Other enveloped viruses, like the influenza A virus, may fuse via proteinprotein interactions as well as exposure to an acidic pH. When a virus particle adheres to a cell, receptor-mediated endocytosis causes it to be absorbed into a vesicle. Since the virus is trapped in what was formerly the plasma membrane, it is technically still outside the cell and not in the cytoplasm. The inside environment of the endocytic vesicle must become acidic in order for the genome to be released into the cytoplasm. The endocytic vesicle and an endosome, an intracellular vesicle, are fused to accomplish this. After that, protons are pumped into the vesicle's lumen by an endosomal protein that is membrane-bound. The viral envelope proteins undergo conformational changes as a result of the low pH, which causes the membrane-anchoring portion of the membrane's buried hydrophobic N-terminus to be released. The process of fusing the viral lipid bilayer with the vesicle's bilayer then proceeds just as it did for HIV-1.

Entry of a nonenveloped virus's DNA into the cell. All nonenveloped animal viruses, including the enveloped influenza virus, are taken up by the cell through receptor-mediated endocytosis into an endocytic vesicle after attachment. The conformational changes in virion proteins, which may be triggered by binding to receptors in the vesicle and/or a reduction in the pH of the vesicle's internal environment, are necessary for the release of the genome into the cytoplasm. The concealed hydrophobic sections are released by the conformational changes, and these hydrophobic regions may then insert into the vesicle's bilayer to provide a route via which the genome and its accompanying proteins can reach the cytoplasm.

Uncoated genomes' intricate structure and subsequent uncoating. Whatever the virus particles are like, it should be noted that what enters the cell is a nucleoprotein structure, often with residual capsid components still attached, and not bare nucleic acid. Additionally, the genome that enters the cell either forms a complex with viral nucleo-proteins or quickly binds to cellular components like polymerases or ribosomes for the subsequent stage of multiplication. Enzymes for the production of nucleic acids and internal structural virus proteins, which make up the nucleoprotein core of some of the more complicated viruses, are among the viral

proteins associated with the genome. The viral nucleo-capsid may also undergo secondary uncoating within the cell, during which certain viral proteins are eliminated or altered. The idea that viral nucleic acids are stretched out is also a prevalent fallacy. All forms of nucleic acids will likely be tightly wound, and single-stranded nucleic acid genomes create doublestranded secondary structures whenever areas of base complementarity can be brought together. Thus, nucleic acids and the proteins that they are linked to build intricate structures.

## The Infectious Process' Inefficiency

Ineffectiveness is one of the most notable characteristics of viruses infecting animal cells. For instance, in poliovirus infections, once the virus interacts with cells, the bulk of the RNA of the infecting virus is destroyed. There are a number of reasons for this, such as when the virus-cell contact fails to finish the entrance phase or the following steps mentioned above. Therefore, marauding ribonucleases hydrolyze the RNA genome instead of alterations in the virion capsid structure causing its release into the cytoplasm and complexing with ribosomes and then replicase proteins. High physical particle to infectious particle ratios of about 1000: 1 may be partially attributed to this inability to begin infection. These infected and noninfectious particles cannot be distinguished by electron microscopy or biochemical analyses. A viral genome is present in majority of the non-infectious particles really pose a risk of infection. It seems that most particles fail to finish the infectious process by coincidence. It is challenging to pinpoint the functional infectious entrance channel for a virus because of the abundance of noninfectious particles.

# **Plant Infection**

All plant cells have a cell wall around their plasma membrane that prevents viruses from adhering to and entering them in the manner that are outlined for animal cells. Plant cells' cytoplasm can only be reached by viruses after tissue destruction. Thus, viruses spread to plants either directly into cells or indirectly with the assistance of vectors, such as animals that eat plants, invasive fungus, or mechanical damage brought on by the wind or passing animals.

The moderate application of abrasive carborundum to leaves during local lesion testing of virus-containing material mimics this in the lab. Because they are eaten by animals that carry viruses, many plants become sick naturally. Although it happens anytime any animal has the opportunity to eat from an uninfected host plant after eating from an infected one, this transmission is not a casual procedure. Instead, the majority of plant viruses spread by a very precise method that involves certain animals acting as vectors. Some viruses, like the tobacco mosaic virus, may be spread mechanically and without a vector in general, but the majority are associated with specialized animal vectors that eat by puncturing plant tissues with their mouthparts[7], [8].

Once a virus has been given to a plant, the viral particle uncoating occurs in the cytoplasm under the effect of calcium-containing divalent cations and the capsid's attachment to cytoplasmic proteins. The connections between plant cells, which render a plant functionally unicellular, allow the liberated genome to circulate across the plant. This may be shown by infecting plants with viral genomes that include coat proteins that are altered and dysfunctional. The typical illness symptoms manifest on the leaves, demonstrating that the virus still travels normally throughout the plant despite its mutation. Plant viruses do this by encoding viral movement proteins, which create channels along plasmodesmata and aid in the spread of viral genomes to neighboring cells.

## Bacteriophage adherence to the bacterial cell

There are various cell receptors on the pili, flagella, or capsule of host cells, albeit the cell wall is where the majority of bacteriophages attach. Bacteriophages with tails often adhere to the cell wall via the tip of their tail. For several Salmonella phages, the chemical make-up of the cell receptor has been determined. The O antigen of wild-type Salmonella typhimurium and several mutants produced from it that have altered cell walls. It is clear that each mutant has a unique sensitivity pattern when the mutants are evaluated for sensitivity to various phages. The O-specific side-chains, for instance, render a cell resistant to the phages 6SR, C21, Br60, and Br2, but vulnerable to P22 and Felix O, the latter of which bind to the Ospecific side-chains. The cell is resistant to P22, Felix O, and C21 in the absence of the Ospecific side-chains, as in rfb T mutants, but susceptible to 6SR, Br60, and Br2, the latter of which bind the terminal N-acetyl galactosamine. Cell wall chemists are also interested in this knowledge. Consider the scenario if we wanted to isolate a Salmonella rfc mutant. This would be a tiresome effort without a selection process. However, after several days of incubation, tiny colonies form inside the P22 phage plaques on a bacterial lawn, indicating the development of phage-resistant mutants. It is obvious that these mutants with increased resistance might come from any of the mutant classes. All except the rfc class may be eliminated by concurrently selecting for resistance to 6SR, C21, Br60, and Br2, which should only be sensitive to Felix O.

Phages T2 and T4 are the most well-researched examples of phage attachment. The complicated structure of these viruses includes a tail, base plate, pins, and tail fibres. The distal ends of the long tail fibres are what first bind these phages to the receptors on the bacterial surface. These fibres are the first to connect, bend at their centres, and only a few distance from the phage particle's midway do their distal ends make contact with the cell wall. The phage particle is transported nearer to the cell surface after attachment. Contact is achieved between the short pins projecting from the base plate of the phage and the cell wall when it is around 10 nm away. Tailed phages do not always adhere to the cell wall. Some attach to flagella, including phage and PBSI. These phages have a fibre at the tip of their tail that wraps around the flagellum. The phage then proceeds to glide until it comes to rest at the flagellum's base. While a second location of crucial cell receptors is on the sex pili, other tailtailed phages bind to the cell capsule. Pili are produced by bacteria that have the sex factor, certain colicins, or drug-resistance factors, and two kinds of phage are known to cling to these pili. The spherical ribonucleic acid phages attach along the pili, whereas the filamentous single-stranded deoxyribonucleic acid phages connect to the tips of the pili. various phages are very helpful to microbial geneticists because they provide a quick way to determine if cells have various forms of pili.

#### Bacteriophages with heads and tails

The head-tail bacteriophage T2 infected cells, according to Hershey and Chase's research, predominantly by the entry of nucleic acid. This has now been explained, and the narrative behind how it happens is complicated but intriguing. It can only be stated briefly here. The expanded version of the bacteriophage's tail, which is contractile, has 24 rings of subunits around a central core. There are both little and big components in each ring. When the tail contracts after attachment, the small and big subunits combine to form 12 rings of 12 subunits. With a twisting motion, the non-contractile tail core is forced through the bacterial cell's outer layers, and when the head contracts, DNA is injected into the cell. The lysozyme included inside the phage tail most likely facilitates this process. The sheath contains 144 molecules of adenosine 5'-triphosphate, and it is most likely that these molecules' conversion to adenosine diphosphate provides the energy for contraction.

#### The bacteriophages with RNA

The majority of bacteriophages lack contractile sheaths, and it is unknown how their nucleic acid penetrates the cell. It has been hypothesized that the phage-pilus complex is retracted by the host cell following attachment by the filamentous DNA phages that connect to the sex pili, according to Hershey-Chase-type tests with these phages. The results are identical to those for T2 in that the phage coat protein does not enter the cell when comparable studies are carried out on the RNA phages, which likewise bind to the sex pili. In fact, the RNA phage particles are quickly rinsed after attachment. Even while many of these particles still contain their RNA genomes, their contact with the bacteria has caused all of them to go through a structural change, making it possible to access their genome. The attachment protein, A, has been removed from the particles, which is the alteration. Since viral RNA and the A protein are taken up by the cell in about equimolar levels and have comparable uptake rates, it is probable that after a successful infection, the A protein enters the cell carrying the RNA with it.

## **Early Stages of Infection Prevention**

Studying the interactions between viruses and cells is done in part to find ways to stop viral infections, especially those that affect people and domestic animals. What better way to stop a virus from attaching and releasing its genome? The primary strategy has been and continues is to immunise individuals to produce neutralising antibodies. Alternatives include therapeutic medicines that prevent attachment and/or entrance. Proteins or glycoproteins, which are structural elements of the cell and only incidentally meet the demands of the virus, make up the majority of cellular receptors. Therefore, assaulting them can put the cell itself in peril. Since more and more virions and coat proteins' atomic resolution, three-dimensional structures are being revealed from the virus's perspective, the search for antiviral drugs that block the attachment and uncoating processes now includes rational development in addition to random screening. However, a challenge for antiviral medications in disease prevention is that no one realizes they are infected until clinical signs and symptoms arise, and by that point the infection has progressed too far to be effectively treated by antivirals[9], [10].

Plant virus infection is a significant agricultural issue. One of the greatest preventative strategies for the protection of plants is to decrease the number of viral vectors using pesticides or biological control, although this is not always a simple process. Another option is to select for disease resistance in the species of plants. Bacteriophages may also be a concern for the industrial sector since some of them infect the organisms employed in industrial experiments, causing cell lysis and product loss. Utilising resistant cell strains or lowering the quantity of divalent cations in the growth medium, which are typically crucial for phage attachment, is the best course of action in this situation.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the process of viral infection involves a difficult and comprehensive set of actions that differs across various viruses and host cells. An important stage in starting the infection process is the first engagement of a viral particle with its target cell. Different processes, such as simple diffusion in animal viruses, direct entry into the cytoplasm in plant viruses, and attachment to certain receptors on the cell surface in both animal and bacterial viruses, might cause this interaction.In order to safeguard crops, it is crucial to control viral vector populations and produce disease-resistant plant kinds. Overall, research on viral entrance and attachment offers important insights into the biology of viruses and the creation of antiviral defences.

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# CHAPTER 6 RNA VIRUS GENOME REPLICATION: MECHANISMS AND REGULATION

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## **ABSTRACT:**

A wide range of diseases known as RNA viruses encode the polymerases required for RNA replication. These polymerases, often known as "replicases," are essential for the progression of viral life. RNA genomes may be segmented or unsegmented, single-stranded or doublestranded, positive or negative sense molecules. Due to the absence of proofreading systems, RNA genomes are more prone to fast mutation than DNA genomes, which presents problems for viral evolution and genome expansion. This paper investigates the regulatory components involved in the synthesis of the RNA virus genome, highlighting the significance of sequences near the termini of the genome, such as inverted repeat sequences and homopolymeric tracts, in regulating the commencement of RNA replication. Defective Interfering (DI) particles are produced as a result of mistakes in nucleic acid synthesis, and this discussion sheds insight on their function in viral interference and replication. Reverse genetic systems have been created as a result of recent developments in the study of RNA viruses, enabling the manipulation of viral genomes. This discovery has increased our knowledge of the production and control of RNA genomes and opened up new opportunities for the study of different RNA viruses, especially those with negative-sense single-stranded RNA genomes. We also discuss the details of RNA genome production for viruses belonging to Baltimore Classes 3, 4, and 5, using examples from rhabdoviruses, picornaviruses, and orthomyxoviruses. The generation of replicative intermediates, the function of protein synthesis, and the start of RNA synthesis at the 3' end of the genome are only a few of the unique replication methods used by these viruses.

## **KEYWORDS:**

Antigenome, DNA, Genome, RNA, Virus.

# **INTRODUCTION**

The virus encodes the polymerases necessary for RNA replication, which are either delivered into the infected cell at the moment of infection or created very quickly after infection has started. To distinguish them from the polymerases engaged in transcription, the polymerases involved in RNA replication are often referred to as "replicases." However, the same enzyme, which performs both processes at different points in the infectious cycle, exhibits distinct synthetic activity.

## **RNA Virus Genomes: Nature And Diversity**

RNA genomes may be single-stranded or double-stranded, and the former can have either a positive or negative sense, as shown by the Baltimore categorization system. Although infectious circular RNA molecules comprise the genomes of a specialised sort of agent, the viroid, discussed in Section 4.6, RNA molecules that operate as virus genomes only exist as linear molecules. Many RNA viruses have an uncommon trait in that their genomes are divided into numerous segments, similar to the chromosomes of their host cells. For the mature particle to produce a complete complement of genes, these viruses make sure

that at least one copy of each segment is present. The RNA molecules stay linear throughout replication, and covalently closed circular molecules are never seen. Unlike DNA viral genomes, which exhibit a wide variation in size, RNA virus genomes are far more uniform. The coronaviruses have the biggest single molecule RNA viral genomes, which are over 30,000 nt, whereas the picornaviruses have the smallest animal virus RNA genomes, which are around 7500 nt. There are bacteriophages with RNA genomes that are smaller than this, with MS2 having the smallest single-stranded positive sense RNA genome at 3569 nucleotides. The genome of the nodaviruses, which infect insects and certain animals, is very tiny and is made up of only two RNA molecules with lengths of around 3000 and 1400 nucleotides.

All RNA production enzymes, whether they come from a virus or a host cell, are unable to "proofread" their work. In contrast, corrections could take place during DNA synthesis. The RNA genomes mutate more quickly than DNA genomes because they are not proofread. According to estimates, there are between 103 and 105 errors made per each instance of genome replication when an RNA virus replicates. This has consequences for the development of RNA viruses and is likely to set a ceiling on the size of an RNA-based genome since as genome size grows, the likelihood that it may include a mutation in a crucial area also grows[1], [2].

## Regulatory Elements For The Synthesis Of The RNA Virus Gene

All RNA viruses have certain characteristics in their reproduction mechanism. The RNAdependent RNA polymerase must start synthesis at the 3' terminal nucleotide of the template strand in order to produce an accurate copy of the genome. Therefore, a signal to control synthesis initiation must be present at the 3' terminus. All RNA viruses must reproduce via a dsRNA intermediary molecule, as shown by the principles that guide the Baltimore categorization method. For instance, a virus with a ssRNA genome must create a full-length "antigenome" strand in order to construct a dsRNA intermediate. More genomes will subsequently be created and packaged into progeny virions using the antigenome strand as a template. As previously, in order to create a faithful, full-length copy utilising an antigenome as a template, synthesis must start at the 3' terminal nucleotide and the antigenome's 3' end must likewise carry a signal instructing the polymerase to start synthesis. The mechanism by which RNA synthesis is initiated during replication for the majority of viruses is only imperfectly, if at all, understood. However, a combination of old and recent research have shown that the termini of RNA viruses include the regulatory elements that control RNA synthesis. The study of the genomes of flawed-interfering viruses and, more recently, investigations on RNA viruses using reverse genetics, have provided the most compelling data.

The sequences at the genome's immediate termini for certain RNA viruses are virtually entirely complementary to one another. These complementary portions, known as inverted repeat sequences, may be anywhere from a dozen and over fifty nucleotides long in various viruses. The sequence at the 3' terminal of the genome and antigenome for genomes with complementary termini will be substantially identical, allowing for the same mechanism to kick off synthesis utilising these molecules as templates. Many viruses, including paramyxoviruses and influenza viruses, have this behaviour. The beginning of the production of antigenome- and genome-sense compounds must each be regulated by a distinct method in viruses whose genomes do not include inverted repeat regions. Different characteristics may sometimes be seen at the termini of RNA genomes. These include lengthy homopolymericpolyadenylate tracts at the 3 ends of many positive sense RNA genomes, such

as those of picorna-viruses, alphaviruses, flaviviruses, and coronaviruses, and covalently linked proteins at the 5 end of picornaviruses, such as poliovirus.

The production and multiplication of viral RNA that interferes with signals. The creation of DI particles by viruses as a consequence of mistakes in their nucleic acid synthesis is a regular occurrence. Here, we will solely take into account DI RNA viruses as they are better understood. In DI viruses, the genomes have undergone significant deletions, leaving RNA that might make up as little as 10% of the infectious genome from which they originated. Without the help of the infectious virus they were generated from, DI viruses are unable to proliferate. All of the components required for genome replication and packing are present in the sections of the genome that DI viruses maintain. The initial evidence for the placement of replication sequences came from the analysis of DI genomes, and further analysis of these genomes in conjunction with contemporary molecular biology methods has helped to discover crucial components in viral reproduction[3], [4]. When all cells have an infectious viral genome, the multiplicity of infection where the DI virus can best spread is great. By competing for a little quantity of one or more products that can only be produced by the infectious parent, also known as the helper virus, DI genomes reduce the production of infectious progeny. Only when the ratio of infectious genomes to DI reaches a critical point can interference occur. Both infectious and DI genomes have completed their entire replication up to this time.

#### DISCUSSION

Many DI viruses have genomes that have been so thoroughly deleted that they don't produce any proteins, and others don't even have an open reading frame. Apart from their RNAs, DI and parental viruses are similar in structure because they rely on the parental virus to provide the necessary proteins. Therefore, it is often difficult to distinguish one from the other. The DI particle of rhabdoviruses like VSV, whose particle length is proportionate to that of the genome, stands out as an important exception. To differentiate them from infectious B particles, which settle to the bottom of sucrose velocity gradients when centrifuged, these short particles are referred to as T particles. The biological effects of DI particles are discussed in some detail.

Examining genomic and DI RNAs from single-stranded RNA viruses under the electron microscope provided a hint that helped one idea explain how DI RNAs are produced. Both were discovered to be circularised by hydrogen bonding between short complementary sequences at the termini, generating "panhandles" or "stems"-like structures. A polymerase molecule may separate from the template RNA strand and reconnect to it at a different location in the genome or to the freshly synthesised, incomplete strand to cause the loss that leads to DI RNA.

Typically, interference only occurs between the parent virus and the DI virus. This is so because infectious viruses produce replicative enzymes, whereas the DI virus does not. The enzymes are the source of specificity since they only replicate molecules with certain unique nucleotide sequences. As time advances, the quantity of DI RNAs grows compared to the parental RNA in an amplification phase because it is intuitively obvious that an enzyme will be able to create more copies of the smaller DI RNA in a given amount of time. This is not the whole picture, however, since certain big DI RNAs may interfere more effectively than smaller ones. Such DI RNAs seem to have developed a polymerase recognition sequence that is more enzyme-affine than that of the infectious parent and, as a result, provides a replication advantage. This may suggest that although the termini contain the critical minimum sequences for guiding genome synthesis, nucleotides placed elsewhere may also have

boosting effects. The packaging or encapsidation sequence is the only other region that all DI genomes must maintain in order for them to be recognised by virion proteins and create viral particles.

### **RNA virus reverse genetics**

The creation of reverse genetic systems for a variety of RNA viruses, especially those with negative sense ssRNA genomes, has been one of the most intriguing recent advances. Due to the lack of means to alter RNA in the same manner as DNA, the lack of a DNA intermediate in the replication cycle of RNA viruses restricted study. However, it is now feasible to create DNA copies of viral genomes, convert them into RNA, and then finally form infectious virus particles for many RNA virus systems. Numerous modifications to the DNA are possible, such as the creation of deletions or certain mutations, which are subsequently reflected in the synthetic replicas of the viral genomes. The immediate termini of the genome, or each genome segment, include the components that are necessary to control RNA synthesis for replication, according to analysis of these altered genomes, which have been found in members of all RNA virus families. This is true regardless of whether the viral genome has inverted repeat sequences or other distinctive sequences at its termini. The capacity of the RNA molecules to be reproduced by viral proteins is severely adversely affected by mutation of the sequences at the termini[5], [6].

## **RNA Genome Synthesis Of Baltimore Class 3 Viruses**

Similar to how DNA replicates, this dsRNA may do so by a semiconservative process that displaces the complementary strands of the parental RNA duplex into different child genomes, or it may destroy or preserve the parental genome. In actuality, dsRNA genomes reproduce cautiously. After infection begins, numerous proteins in the reovirus particles are digested by proteases during the process of uncoating to create a subviral particle, which is located in the cytoplasm where replication occurs. Throughout the infectious cycle, the dsRNA genome is kept within the subviral particle and does not escape. The fact that both the positive and negative strands of the genome segments are not entirely uncoated in the infected cell suggested that dsRNA replication could not take place in the DNA's typical semiconservative manner. Only mRNA, which is produced by transcription utilising the particle-associated RNA-dependent RNA polymerase, is the only virus nucleic acid that can be detected in the cytoplasm outside of the subviral particles. It was evident that the singlestranded mRNA transcripts were the only ones capable of transmitting genetic information from parent to offspring since both strands of the genome RNA were maintained in the subviral particle. The freshly synthesised RNA is then duplicated to create a new dsRNA genome segment, which implies that just one strand of each of the 10 genome segments is utilised as a template. Only when it is a component of a dsRNA molecule may newly synthesised negative sense RNA be discovered. Infected cells never contain free dsRNA segments; instead, each segment is always linked to an immature virus particle. Each of the 10 reovirus genome segments must be present in one copy per particle. There is yet no known process by which a virion selectively wraps one of each of the 10 RNA segments.

## **RNA Genome Synthesis Of Baltimore Class 4 Viruses**

The mechanism by which class 4 viruses reproduce their positive sense ssRNA genomes is fairly similar, despite the fact that the specifics of their replication cycles varies greatly in terms of gene expression and assembly. The process of picornavirus genome replication is well understood, and this will be covered in depth in this article. All class 4 viruses may theoretically go through the same process that picornaviruses do by producing the same kind

of intermediate molecules both in vivo and in vitro. The creation of the coronavirus subgenomic mRNAs follows a similar procedure.

A partial ssRNA and partial dsRNA RNA molecule is present in the replication complex, according to analysis of virus-specific RNA recovered from picornavirus-infected cells. The replicative intermediate-ate is what is meant by this. Only positive sense in the RI and negative sense RNA are ever detected together in a cell. A faux dsRNA with nicks in the freshly synthesised strand of RNA that is the same length as the viral genome is produced by deproteinizing and treating the RI with ribonuclease. The replicative form is what we have here. By eliminating the ssRNA tails present in the RI, the RF is created. In poliovirus-infected cells treated with inhibitors of host cell RNA polymerase, a dsRNA RF complex is also present, although it is unknown whether this is a result of the drug therapy or a byproduct of the treatment.

According to the proposed mechanism of replication, initial replication involves the creation of negative sense, anti-genome RNA with VPg at the 5' end using the positive sense genome ssRNA as a template. Although the nature of the positive and negative strand's relationship in the RI is unknown, it is probable that they are only tangentially connected. The two strands may only associate in the area where synthesis is taking place. Even if the previous complex has not yet finished duplicating the template, after the polymerase complex has proceeded along the template, the 3' end will be open for another round of replication. Up to five functioning replication complexes may be associated with a picornavirus template at any one moment, according to estimates. In fact, numerous initiations may take place on the template before the first replication complex has finished its task. In a similar manner, the freshly synthesised RNA is then employed as a template to create new copies of the genome RNA with VPg linked to the 5' end. Given that positive sense genome ssRNA is generated in substantially greater amounts than negative sense ssRNA, the syn- thesis process must be biassed or asymmetrical. Positive sense RNA is finished and released from the replication complex, unlike negative sense RNA, to be packaged into virions, used as a template for more replication, or used for translation.RNA synthesis is also started at the 3' end of the genome and antigenome RNAs for class 4 viruses other than picornaviruses that lack a VPg on the genome. The fact that RI structures are produced in every scenario indicates that the replication process' fundamental principles are the same.

## **RNA Genome Synthesis Of Baltimore Class 5 Viruses**

There are two kinds of class 5 viruses: those with single-molecule genomes and those with segmented genomes. Indicating that they contain a single, negative sense ssRNA molecule as their genome, the former are placed together in a taxonomic order called the Mononegavirales. The paramyxo-, rhabdo-, filo-, and bornavirus families are members of the Mononegavirales. The orthomyxo-, arena-, and bunyaviruses are among the viruses having segmented genomes. Despite the fact that many elements of class 5 viruses' RNA replication remain mostly unknown, there are several fundamental characteristics that seem to apply to all of them, regardless of how many molecules make up each virus' genome. The existence of complementary sequences at the termini, as mentioned above, is a crucial component for the replication of all class 5 viral genome RNAs. Class 5 viral RNA synthesis can only take place utilising an already-existing RNA-dependent RNA polymerase present in the virus particle since the negative sense genome RNA cannot be translated into protein to make the necessary polymerases, as observed with positive stranded RNA genomes. Some class 5 viruses may exhibit polymerase activity in vitro when partially disrupted with detergent and in the presence of the four ribonucleoside triphosphates and the necessary ions. In the absence of complete cells, viruses that have been so "activated" produce RNA at a linear rate for at least

two hours. In general, positive sense antigenome RNA is not produced by in vitro systems; only mRNA is. However, transcription and replication are both carried out by the virus-associated polymerase in infected cells[7], [8].

Rhabdoviruses, nonsegmented class 5 viruses, replicate their RNA genomes. The most comprehensive model of replication for class 5 viruses with a single or multiple genome segments, including all Mononegavirales, the bunya- and arenaviruses, has been developed using the majority of information currently known about the replication process of rhabdoviruses, particularly vesicular stomatitis virus. Recent research has shown that all individuals in the order Mononegavirales adhere to the main principles of the model developed for VSV.

Three virus proteins and the VSV ssRNA genome are always found together in a helical structure. The nucleoprotein is the most prevalent protein, followed by modest quantities of phosphoprotein and a few molecules of a big protein. The NP and P proteins are necessary for the functioning of the replica-tion complex, whose catalytic component, the L protein, is responsible for RNA synthesis. The nucleocapsid, a complex made up of genomic RNA and the NP, P, and L proteins, also performs transcription to create mRNA. What causes the complex to replicate the genome at times and transcribe mRNA at others is unknown. The three proteins' relative concentrations seem to be crucial for the nucleocapsid's ability to function.

Class 5 viruses need ongoing protein synthesis to replicate, and their replication stops right away when protein synthesis inhibitors are added. The same applies to viruses in class 4 in this regard. Thus, viral mRNA and protein synthesis take place before the start of replication. Replication starts at the negative sense RNA template's 3' end, where the polymerase binds to a particular sequence, and proceeds to the 5' end, producing a positive sense, antigenome, RNA. A very similar polymerase-binding region is found at the 3' end of the antigenome, where the polymerase starts synthesis to produce new genome RNA molecules, as a result of the complementarity of the termi- nal sequences. Within infected cells, circular nucleocapsids are often seen, which suggests that the complimentary termini engage to create a panhadle structure. The termini may interact directly with one another via base pairing or indirectly through the nucleocapsid proteins. Although it is not yet obvious, it may be that this circularization is a crucial phase in the replication process. The signals for stopping mRNA synthesis that are recognised during transcription are disregarded by the polymerase during replication.

The RI produced by rhabdovirus replication has a molecular structure like that of picornaviruses. The RI and the three replication proteins have strong relationships, and antigenome RNA is unique to the RI. When the RI is purified and subjected to RNase treatment, a double-stranded RF RNA similar to that produced by the picornavirus RI is produced.For the creation of negative sense ssRNA for progeny virus genomes, the antigenome RNA serves as a template. Before being incorporated into virus particles, the negative sense RNA is detected as a nucleocapsid structure that may be exploited for further replication cycles. The replication process must be asymmetrical in order to favour the development of one strand over the other since much more negative sense RNA than positive sense RNA is created.

Orthomyxoviruses, segmented class 5 viruses, replicate their RNA genomes.Regarding the Mononegavirales, class 5 viruses with numerous segmented genomic RNA also develop helical nucleocapsid structures. These often take the shape of circles owing to the development of pan-handle structures that are kept together by the nucleocapsid proteins. The

nucleoprotein is the main protein of the influenza virus nucleocapsid. The NP protein binds to the sugar phosphate backbone of the genome RNA and interacts directly with it, leaving the nucleotide bases exposed on the surface of the structure. Although it is less apparent where the additional nucleocapsid proteins PA, PB1, and PB2 are located, it is believed that they are connected to the nucleotide bases on the exterior of the helix. Each segment autonomously replicates.

The positive sense RNA that is produced from the genome template is most likely started from scratch. Contrast this with the transcription of mRNA, which uses a primer produced from the host cell mRNA. It is unknown why the nucleocapsid complex behaves differently during transcription and replication. The ongoing production of at least one viral protein is necessary for the replication complex to function. Similar circumstances apply to other RNA viruses as well.

The transcription termination and polyadenylation signal in the genome regions utilised for mRNA synthesis do not cause RNA synthesis to halt during replication; rather, it drives it all the way to the end of the template molecule. It is believed that the positive sense RNA is produced by an anti-termination event, in which the NP protein prevents termination at the polyadenylation signal, before the end of the template is reached, when there isn't a cap structure on the RNA being synthesised. The NP may directly connect with the RNA, PB, and PA proteins in the nucleocapsid structure to do this. Depending on whether or not a cap was utilised to start RNA synthesis, this complex can be different[9], [10].

Positive sense RNAs that have recently been synthesised and are found in nucleocapsid complexes serve as templates for the creation of negative sense ssRNAs, which may then be employed for further replication cycles before the development of new offspring virions. It is uncertain how influenza viruses assemble to govern the acquisition of genomic segments. It is conceivable for each particle to include several copies of each segment while creating new virus particles. Recombinant viruses made in vitro can be made to take more segments, however this doesn't seem to be a long-lasting scenario since the extra segments are lost very soon. Given this possible flexibility, less specificity in packing would be required to assure the presence of the full complement of genome segments, although it is unclear how many segments can be packed and how this relates to the situation in vivo.

## CONCLUSION

The synthesis of RNA genomes in viruses is a difficult and carefully controlled process that differs amongst various kinds of viruses. Despite these differences, there are certain universal rules that apply to the replication of RNA genomes.Utilisingreplicases, which are the enzymes in charge of RNA replication, is a crucial component. These replicases are often different from the transcription-related polymerases and are necessary for the virus to replicate its RNA genome. The evolution and size restrictions of RNA-based genomes may be significantly impacted by the increased mutation rate that results from the lack of proofreading systems in RNA replication as compared to DNA genomes.Single-stranded or double-stranded RNA, positive or negative sense, segmented or non-segmented genomes, and other genomic properties are all shown by RNA viruses. These differences affect how these viruses replicate and maintain their genomes.The creation of defective interfering (DI) particles by RNA viruses is an intriguing phenomena. These erroneous nucleic acid synthesis-related particles may obstruct the infectious parent virus's ability to replicate. In order to comprehend viral evolution, it is essential to understand how DI particles control viral replication.

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# CHAPTER 7 GENE EXPRESSION IN DNA VIRUSES AND REVERSE-TRANSCRIBING VIRUSES

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# **ABSTRACT:**

With a focus on several virus families, including Polyomaviruses, Papillomaviruses, Adenoviruses, Herpesviruses, Poxviruses, Parvoviruses, Hepadnaviruses, Retroviruses, and Bacteriophages with DNA genomes, this abstract offers an overview of the intricate processes involved in the gene expression of DNA viruses. It emphasises fundamental ideas like transcription, splicing, polyadenylation, and translation while putting special emphasis on how the timing and location of gene expression are controlled in various viral systems. Additionally discussed in the abstract is how certain viruses alter host cell functions to aid in their own multiplication and survival. It sheds insight on each virus family's distinct methods for regulating the synthesis of viral proteins at certain points of the viral life cycle by examining the complexity and variety of gene expression mechanisms across various virus families. These discoveries not only advance our knowledge of viral biology but also provide crucial data for developing vaccines and possible treatment measures. This thorough summary offers a solid starting point for additional study into the complexities of viral gene expression as well as a helpful resource for researchers and students interested in the molecular biology of DNA viruses.

### **KEYWORDS:**

Biology, DNA, Molecular, RNA, Viruses.

## **INTRODUCTION**

DNA viral genomes must be transcribed into positive sense mRNA, which must then be translated into polypeptide for the viruses to be expressed. In order to produce functional mRNA, RNAs must typically be cap- and polyadenylated, as well as perhaps spliced, in the case of viruses that infect eukaryotes. The mRNA must be transported to the cytoplasm if it was made in the nucleus in order for translation to take place. Every step of the gene expression process, from RNA transcription to post-translational protein modification, provides a possible point of control, and DNA viruses take use of these opportunities in a variety of ways to each accomplish a well-coordinated programme of gene expression. Retroviruses, which have RNA genomes, express genes through a DNA intermediary as well. Because of this, their gene expression mechanisms and those of certain DNA viruses are quite similar.

The majority of DNA viruses have phased gene expression, where early genes are expressed before DNA synthesis starts and late genes are only active after this process. Additional temporal divisions are also visible in certain circumstances. These patterns of expression have been characterised in great depth, and these studies have substantially improved our knowledge of the molecular biology of eukaryotic cells as well as viral development cycles. These principles are shown by looking at gene expression and its regulation in various viral systems in this chapter and the companion one on RNA virus gene expression.

## DNA Viruses and Retroviruses of Baltimore

All DNA viruses produce their own mRNA by transcription from a double-stranded DNA molecule; those from Baltimore class 1 may express their genes immediately, while classes 2 and 7 must convert their genomes to double-stranded form or finish the second strand before transcription can start. Since they need to produce a dsDNA form of their genomic RNA before transcription can occur, class 6 retroviruses may also be taken into consideration in this situation. The exact mRNAs generated by each of the viruses discussed in this chapter are the subject of comprehensive knowledge; however, only the simpler viruses' information is provided here. Applying a similar set of approaches has produced evidence for these viral transcription patterns[1], [2].

Except for the pox-, irido-, and asfarviruses, all viruses that infect eukaryotes do transcription in the cell nucleus. As a result, the majority of DNA viruses employ the cell's own transcription and RNA modification machinery to manufacture their own messenger RNA (mRNA). As a result, these viruses provide excellent model systems for research into cellular mRNA production. Through this effort, we have reached many important turning points in our knowledge of eukaryotic gene expression. For instance, SV40 gene expression studies led to the first identification of transcription enhancers and transcription factors that regulate RNA polymerase II activity, while adenovirus mRNA analysis led to the discovery of splicing.

The quantity of genetic information differs amongst various DNA virus families by a factor of more than 100. Despite having evolved to make the best use of the genetic information available, some viruses have severe limitations on their ability to code and heavily rely on their host for crucial replicative functions, whereas others have had the chance to evolve or acquire a number of functions that are not necessary for virus multiplication. The smaller viruses are unable to replicate when cells are not in the S phase, but the bigger viruses can do so because they are less reliant on the host cell. These bigger viruses have the ability to direct all of the host's resources towards their own reproduction by inhibiting host macromolecular synthesis. In order to speed up their reproduction, certain viruses have the ability to cause the host cell to enter the S phase. These processes may not be needed in quickly expanding experimental cell cultures, but they are undoubtedly necessary when a virus infects cells that are not proliferating in a natural infection. Numerous DNA-based viruses have the ability to change cells. When the viral functions that control cell division become persistently expressed in cells that have not already perished as a consequence of virus infection, transformation may happen.

#### Polyomaviruses

The polyomavirus family is represented by polyomavirus and SV40; other related human viruses include BK and JC. Each of these viruses has a double-stranded circular genome that is approximately 5.3 kbp long and contains early and late genes that each take up roughly half of the genome. In each scenario, RNA pol II transcribes the genes to create a single main transcript, which is subsequently differently spliced to create various mRNA species. Multiple acceptable splicing patterns exist for the main transcript due to differential splicing. The splicing machinery's relative affinity for the different splice sites present on a given RNA molecule will determine which pattern is applied to that molecule. Although it doesn't seem to work in polyomaviruses, changing the balance of usage of alternative splice sites is a possible strategy for controlling gene expression during infection. The big T antigen, a key early protein, and a second protein known as small t are both encoded by the two mRNA from the SV40 early region; both proteins are comparable in BK and JC viruses. Every

protein originates from a unique spliced mRNA. Using a method similar to SV40, the polyoma early region codes for three proteins known as big T, middle T, and small t antigen. By means of variable RNA splicing, the late mRNAs generated by each virus also code for the three virion proteins VP1, VP2, and VP3. The primary capsid protein is VP1, whereas VP2 and VP3 are just minor parts. Histones H2A, H2B, H3, and H4 from the host cell are employed in place of viral proteins to interact with the DNA in the virion[3], [4]. Although its function is yet unclear, the Agno protein performs extremely late in the viral life cycle.

#### DISCUSSION

The control region of the genome is where the SV40 early and late promoters are located, surrounding the origin of replication. When big T antigen is present in low amounts, host cell transcription factors and this product, the early promoter, are activated. Large T antigen, however, contributes to the change from early to late gene expression by binding to sites 1, 2, and 3 in its own promoter when present in higher concentrations; binding to site 2 is also necessary to start DNA replication. An enhancer, the first of this kind of regulatory element to be characterised, regulates the early promoter. DNA replication and T antigen, which here functions via its effects on host cell transcription factors, both activate the late promoter. Large T antigen may affect host gene expression, which activates cell cycle progression and sends cells into the S phase in addition to its roles in DNA replication and influencing viral gene expression.

#### Papillo ma viruses

Bovine papillomavirus type 1 and the many varieties of human papillomavirus are two examples of papillomaviruses. Due to the difficulties of producing these viruses in cell culture methods, it has been considerably more difficult to determine the specifics of their gene expression than it has been for polyomaviruses. All transcription, like that of polyomaviruses, takes place in the nucleus and is regulated by host RNA pol II. However, in contrast to SV40, all of the genes are arranged in the same direction, meaning that only one strand of the genome is transcribed. The somewhat longer genome likely encodes 11 proteins, and seven distinct promoters generate the mRNA for each of these proteins. The majority of the genome is covered by both early and late gene transcription, although they are expressed from separate promoters. Multiple mRNAs may be produced from a single main transcript through alternative splicing and polyadenylation, particularly in late transcripts when three distinct proteins are encoded. The HPVs display a mostly similar image, although with some subtle changes.

The E2 gene, whose full-length product, E2TA dimerizes to form a DNA-binding transcription factor, regulates the transcription of BPV. This same protein also makes it easier for E1 protein to bind to DNA during replication. The lengthy control region contains two E2-dependent enhancer elements as well as binding sites connected to most/all viral promoters. In addition to E2TA, two truncated E2 variants are also generated; each only comprises the C-terminal half of the E2TA protein and are either begun inside the E2 reading frame or alternatively spliced. When combined with either other or E2TA, E2TR and E8E2 may create homo- and hetero-dimers that still have specialised DNA binding activity but lack the transcription activation capability of the E2TA dimer. Therefore, the shortened versions of E2 regulate the degree of E2-mediated transactivation in two ways: by obstructing the dimerization of active E2TA and by challenging active dimers for DNA binding.

These viruses create warts, which are benign growths in epithelia, and the expression of their early and late genes is separated in time and place. This makes the biology of HPV gene expression very fascinating. Early genes are expressed in the basal cell layer's proliferating

cells in infected epithelia, and when the cells divide, restricted replication keeps the viral DNA at about a constant copy number per cell. These cells' cell cycle regulation is altered by the E6 and E7 proteins via similar methods to those shown by the SV40 big T antigen. Only when an infected cell has exited this layer and decided to undergo terminal differentiation do the late events start. As a result, the host cell's level of differentiation affects how the viral genes are expressed. It is unknown what triggers the growth cycle's so-called vegetative phase. The human papillomaviruses are also interesting because they have a role in the development of several types of cancer in people[5], [6].

#### Adenoviruses

The two closely related human serotypes 2 and 5 have been the best investigated for adenovirus gene expression. Transcription in these viruses starts from both strands of their linear 36 kbp genome. Host RNA polymerase II synthesises all mRNA; RNA polymerase III also produces two short RNAs. Early and late were first used to categorise genes as E or L because gene expression demonstrates temporal control. It is now understood that the tiny IVa2 and IX protein genes constitute an intermediate class rather than being genuine late genes since expression of the E1A gene begins earlier than that of the other early genes and should therefore be categorised as immediate-early. The fact that E1A is transcribed in an infected cell while protein synthesis is inhibited by a chemical is what distinguishes E1A as "immediate early" compared to other early genes. This finding demonstrates the need of E1A proteins for the expression during adenovirus infection is by regulating promoter activity. Although a comprehensive examination is beyond the purview of this book, Box 9.6 provides a summary of some of this intricacy. Overall, the mechanisms succeed in producing each of the viral proteins at the precise timing and quantity needed.

Adenovirus 5's whole gene expression map is intricate and intimidating. The fundamental idea is that, via variable splicing and polyadenylation, a relatively small number of transcriptional promoters may regulate the production of a vast number of mRNAs. In other words, when transcription begins, splicing is utilised to move a downstream reading frame up to a 5 proximal place in the RNA so that it may be translated. Several different open reading frames are organised downstream of a single promoter in this manner. Each of the five early areas has its own promoter, as shown in detail in 9.6b. While transcription from the primary late transcription unit creates five families of mRNA as a consequence of polyadenylation at any one of five potential sites, two of them have two alternative polyadenylation sites A and B, resulting in two families of mRNA in each instance. Multiple mRNAs are generated simultaneously by alternative splicing within each mRNA family, all of which terminate at the same polyadenylation site. These mRNAs typically encode unrelated proteins, with the exception of E1A, whose main products are closely linked in sequence.

Adenovirus gene regions that encode numerous proteins often have shared activities. In contrast, the five families of MLTU mRNA allow for the synthesis of at least 14 distinct proteins, most of which are involved in the formation of progeny particles. For instance, the E2 region encodes three viral proteins that are directly engaged in DNA replication. When adenoviruses are compared, the E3 region is the one that varies the most. It encodes proteins that help the host immune system avoid certain reactions.

The MLTU processes RNA, which is extremely resource-intensive for the cell since each late mRNA, which is 1–5 kb long, is created from a pre-cursor that may be up to 28 kb long. Since all mRNAs include the identical three RNA segments from the precursor's 5' end, which are joined to create the so-called tripartite leader sequence, it is impossible to produce

more than one mRNA from a single precursor molecule. As a result, a significant amount of freshly synthesised viral RNA from other genes as well as the main late gene is deleted as intron sequence and destroyed. The advantage of this strategy is that the virus may accomplish coordinated transcription of proteins with similar functions while utilising a minimal amount of genomic space[7], [8].

## Herpesviruses

## Types 1 and 2 of the herpes simplex virus

Herpesvirus genomes exhibit significant length and gene content variety and are much bigger than those of adenoviruses and polyomaviruses. The herpesviruses do share conserved blocks of genes, and these genes are likely essential for viral proliferation. Herpes simplex virus type 1, which productively infects epithelial cells in vivo and exhibits a productive, cytolytic infection of cell lines in culture, has been used mostly in studies of herpesvirus gene expression. Here, we focus on gene expression during HSV1 lytic infection rather than the extremely varied gene expression in response to latency. Around 70 genes are scattered across the 153 kbp genome of HSV1 on both strands. The majority of HSV1 genes have independent promoter regions controlling their transcription, in contrast to the smaller DNA viruses, and relatively little splicing occurs during mRNA synthesis. Another difference is that it seems that around half of the genes may be altered without impairing the virus' ability to proliferate in cell culture. It is assumed that these disposable genes are significant in vivo.

## Poxviruses

Poxviruses proliferate in the cytoplasm, in contrast to the other groups of eukaryotic DNA viruses covered in this chapter. Using the vaccinia virus, the molecular specifics of their gene expression have been investigated. Numerous proteins are encoded by the virus's linear double-stranded genome, which gives it a great deal of autonomy over how it replicates in the host. Since infection may occur in experimentally nucleated cells, it seems that viral gene expression is entirely independent of the host nucleus. The infecting virion must have the enzymes required for mRNA synthesis, including a DNA-dependent RNA polymerase and enzymes that cap, methylate, and polyadenylate the resultant mRNAs, in order to complete this cytoplasmic life cycle. These viruses are not known to engage in splicing activities.

Only a fraction of viral genes are first transcribed, using the enzymes from the infecting particle, in cytoplasmic replication "factories." Proteins required for replication and activating intermediate genes, which subsequently activate late genes, are found in early gene products. As with the other DNA viruses, infection results in a stepped sequence of gene expression interspersed with viral DNA production. Being independent of the cell's own transcriptional machinery gives the virus the chance to shut down the cell nucleus, directing all of the cell's metabolic resources towards the virus. Poxviruses are thus only cytolytic, in contrast to the other families of DNA viruses produce a wide variety of proteins that are important in controlling how the host immune system reacts to infection.

#### Parvoviruses

The parvovirus with the finest characterization is adeno-associated virus. After becoming double-stranded, its linear single-stranded genome has three promoters, each of which uses differential splicing to create at least two related mRNAs. Because they activate the third promoter, P40, the proteins produced by expression from P5 and P19 are all sequence-related and may be classified as early proteins. The site-specific DNA cleavage activity that is

necessary for genome replication is only one of the unique functions of the Rep proteins, which have not yet been completely described. The P40 mRNAs encode for the VP1, VP2, and VP3 structural proteins, which are used to build new virions. These three proteins all have a same sequence, with VP3 serving as the main capsid protein. Internal initiation at an AUG codon inside the shortest mRNA results in the production of this protein. The majority of translation events read through to this start site because the other initiation event, specifying VP2, employs a noncanonical ACG codon. In most cases, AAV needs a helper virus to proliferate, yet it has the ability to go into latency in the absence of one. There does not seem to be a necessary need for any helper function to accomplish AAV gene expression, even though transcriptional activators from the helper may upregulate AAV gene expression and other proteins may promote gene expression at a post-transcriptional level.

#### Retroviruses

The provirus, a DNA copy of the viral RNA genome that is often incorporated into the host chromosome, is the only source of retroviral gene expression. Numerous cell transcription factors regulate the provirus's upstream LTR, which serves as the promoter for transcription. There are other virus-coded regulators of gene expression in retroviruses that are more complicated, such the human immunodeficiency virus. The host RNA pol II, capping, splicing, and polyadenylation functions, as well as host RNA pol II, play key roles in the synthesis of retrovirus mRNA. The cytoplasm is where mRNAs are translated after being delivered there. Simple retroviruses are able to regulate their gene expression in this manner because to the extra features they possess.

This mechanism is quite similar to that seen in corona viruses. The similar issue of getting their pol genes to express is faced by other retroviruses, but they come up with different methods. The gag and pol genes are in the same frame and are only separated by a stop codon in the murine version of ALV, also known as MLV. Again, with around 5% efficiency, a certain loaded tRNA misinterprets this and produces a Gag-Pol fusion.

The gag and pol genes produce polyproteins that combined include the proteins required to assemble the internal components of the virion in all retroviruses. A particular protease that is encoded at the gag-pol border is needed to digest them during a post-assembly maturation event. Unlike MLV, where PR is coded at the N-terminus of pol, ALV codes PR at the C-terminus of gag. Other retroviruses, like the human T-cell lymphotropic virus, have a further alternative method for pol expression in which the protease is encoded in a reading frame different from both gag upstream and pol downstream. Three distinct polypeptides, Gag, Gag-PR, and Gag-PR-Pol, are formed as a result of the ribosome's frameshifting from the Gag reading frame into the Pro reading frame and then into the Pol reading frame. Last but not least, there is evidence that the spumaviruses, the retrovirus genus with the least amount of research, employ a different spliced mRNA to encode Pol, preventing the production of a Gag-Pol fusion protein.

Based on characteristics of both their genome replication and their gene expression, the spumaviruses truly represent an intriguing intermediary stage between common retroviruses and the hepadnaviruses. They employ a second promoter to produce two proteins from reading frames 3 to env in addition to producing Pol protein independently of Gag. Despite having extra genes in the same location in other complex retroviruses, these genes are expressed by splicing from the same LTR promoter as all other retrovirus genes are. The protease is only present in the Gag-Pol fusion protein because it is encoded as part of the Pol

gene in nonavian retroviruses. a mature virion's site for retroviral proteins. Consideration is given to the protease's function in the maturation of retrovirus particles[9], [10].

### Hepadnaviruses

Hepadnaviruses, such as the 3.2 kbp hepatitis B virus, have very tiny circular genomes. This virus's gene expression is notable for the density with which information is packed onto the genome, with every piece of DNA encoding a protein and two unrelated proteins being encoded in different reading frames throughout a significant portion of the genome's length. Pregenomic mRNA is produced by four RNA pol II promoters, whereas subgenomic mRNA is produced by three different types. All of these mRNAs finish at the same polyadenylation location without being spliced. The regulation of transcription by cell-type-specific factors is one of the bases for the virus's affinity for the liver.

Seven proteins are encoded by mRNAs from the four promoters. All are structural elements of the virion, with the exception of the X and pre-C proteins. While X is a transcriptional activator that influences a variety of viral and cellular pro- moters, Pre-C is released from the cell and likely functions to modify the immunological response to the virus. The mRNAs produced by the genomic and S promoters have variable 5' ends. This indicates that although the majority of molecules lack the translation start sites for the pre-C and M proteins, respectively, some do. Translation of the C and S proteins then starts at downstream AUGs from these later mRNAs. Since there is no mRNA with a reading frame that is close to the 5' end, synthesis of the P protein creates a challenge. There is no C-P fusion protein produced, despite the P reading frame's location, which overlaps the C-terminus of the core protein sequence being suggestive of the retroviral arrangement of the gag and pol genes. Instead, it is thought that a minority of ribosomes, which load onto the mRNA at its 5' end, are now able to start translation at the start codon for the P protein thanks to a changed ribosome scanning process. Once again, this results in a lower amount of P expression compared to C, reflecting the various needs for these proteins.

#### **Bacterophages With DNA**

The management of gene expression by bacteriophages with DNA genomes is more complex as genome size rises, and synthesis of the proteins needed early and late in the infection is phased down over time, similar to eukaryotic DNA viruses. Since bacterial gene expression does not include RNA processing and because prokaryotic mRNA has a short half-life, transcriptional regulation is especially efficient in controlling bacteriophage gene expression. Infections with the Escherichia coli bacteriophage T4 cause modifications to the specificity of the host RNA polymerase that regulate the transcription of phage genes. Alternatively, E. coli infections cause the introduction of a novel RNA polymerase that is unique to the E. coli bacteriophage. The T7 RNA polymerase and related enzymes from phages SP6 and T3 are useful tools for RNA transcription from in vitro cloned genes due to their distinct promoter specificities.

The genetic complexity of each DNA virus family varies, with some viruses being highly dependent on host cellular machinery and others being more genetically autonomous. Many DNA viruses have the capacity to control host cell processes, including cell cycle progression, which aids in their rapid replication.Examples of DNA viruses that exhibit distinctive gene expression techniques adapted to their own demands and host interactions include polyomaviruses, papillomaviruses, adenoviruses, herpesviruses, poxviruses, parvoviruses, and hepadnaviruses. These viruses have shed important light on molecular biology, the connections between hosts and viruses, and the genesis of illnesses like cancer.Overall, research on DNA viral gene expression has shown complex systems that

illustrate how adaptable viruses are and how they may leverage host cell functions to their advantage. Expanding our knowledge of basic biological processes and creating effective antiviral medicines need an understanding of these systems.

## CONCLUSION

As a result of DNA viruses' millions of years of co-evolution with host species, their gene expression methods are immensely complex and varied. These viruses have developed a number of techniques to take advantage of the machinery in the host cell for their own reproduction and spread. Viruses may use many points of control provided by the essential processes in gene expression, from transcription to translation and beyond, to guarantee their survival and procreation. According to the Baltimore classification system, many kinds of DNA viruses have distinctive processes and patterns of gene expression. When a virus infects a host, some of them can start expressing their genes right once, while others need to go through laborious steps to get their genomes ready for transcription. Despite possessing RNA genomes, certain DNA viruses often exhibit temporal control of gene expression, with early genes being expressed prior to DNA synthesis and late genes being active later in the infection cycle. The smooth development of the viral life cycle depends on these temporal divides. Our knowledge of eukaryotic gene expression and viral development has considerably improved as a result of research into these patterns.

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# CHAPTER 8 ANALYZING THE PROCESS OF INFECTION: GENE EXPRESSION AND ITS REGULATION IN RNA VIRUSES

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## **ABSTRACT:**

In order to control gene expression throughout their replication cycles, RNA viruses, including a large variety of pathogens from various classes of the Baltimore classification, demonstrate a variety of distinct mechanisms. This summary gives a general overview of the processes used by various viral types to control gene expression in RNA viruses. Negativesense RNA molecules serve as templates for mRNA production in RNA viruses. Class 4 Baltimore viruses must replicate their genomes in order to produce negative-sense RNA intermediates prior to transcription, in contrast to class 3 Baltimore viruses, which utilize their double-stranded genomes as templates. Class 5 viruses have the ability to directly employ the genomic RNA as a transcription template. RNA viruses encode their RNAdependent RNA polymerases, or "transcriptases," which are essential for both transcription and replication in order to aid this process.Compared to DNA viruses, RNA viruses often have less strict temporal control over gene expression. Despite all genes being expressed concurrently and at various levels, quantitative discrepancies in gene expression levels are often seen. Some RNA viruses do not synthesise mRNA with the normal polyadenylation and capping of eukaryotic mRNA. As a result, these viruses adopt inventive techniques to assure effective mRNA translation.

## **KEYWORDS:**

DNA, Gene Expression, Infection, RNA, Viruses.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Some RNA viruses reproduce in the nucleus as opposed to the cytoplasm, where the majority do. The control of gene expression is further complicated and provided with new chances by this separation from the nucleus of the host cell. Despite these variations, RNA viruses and DNA viruses have similar fundamental strategies for controlling gene expression.For example, reoviruses largely control gene expression via transcription. These double-stranded RNA viruses rely on certain processes for cap-independent translation to create mRNA that is the same length as the genomic RNA.Alphaviruses produce separate mRNAs for structural and nonstructural proteins using a subgenomic mRNA method. The balance of these mRNAs is assumed to be influenced by transcriptional regulatory mechanisms.In order to control gene expression, coronaviruses, which are distinguished by their enormous positive-sense RNA genomes, require special techniques including ribosomal frameshifting.

Subgenomic mRNAs also play a significant role in coding for different proteins during infection. Arenaviruses are a good example of segmented negative-sense RNA viruses that utilise "ambisense" coding. The genome and antigenome of each segment may act as transcriptional template, leading to a complicated control of gene expression. Finally, nonsegmented genome viruses like rhabdoviruses and paramyxoviruses control transcriptional regulation of gene expression. The transcription process is regulated by the start and termination signals on the genome, which also affect the relative abundance of mRNAs and proteins. It is essential to comprehend the many ways by which RNA viruses

control gene expression in order to create effective antiviral defences and shed insight on viral pathogenesis. The incredible variety of gene expression regulation in the RNA virus world is shown by the way that each viral class adapts to its particular environment, host, and lifecycle.

All RNA viruses use a negative sense RNA molecule as a starting point for the synthesis of their mRNA; class 3 Baltimore viruses do this by using their double-stranded genomes as templates, whereas class 4 viruses must replicate their genomes in order to create a replicative intermediate that contains the negative sense RNA template before transcription can take place. Class 5 viruses are capable of directly using the genome's RNA as a template for transcription. Since host cell enzymes are unable to transcribe an RNA template, each RNA virus must also encode its own RNA-dependent RNA polymerases. The polymerase is a vital, internal component of viruses of classes 3 and 5, and they deliver it into the infected cell so that transcription may start right away. The enzyme is produced by trans- lation of the positive sense RNA genome instead of being present on Class 4 virus particles, which lack a polymerase. In order to distinguish transcription from replication, RNA virus transcription-related enzymes are usually referred to as "transcriptases". Although the enzymes may be altered in various ways to work in the two distinct processes, transcription and replication are both carried out by the same enzyme for each virus[1], [2].

#### Classes 3, 4, and 5 of the Baltimore RNA viruses

Generally speaking, if pre-sent, temporal control of gene expression in RNA viruses is less strong than it is in many DNA viruses. The majority of the time, the difference in gene expression is quantitative, with all genes expressed simultaneously but some being more abundant than others at different times. In cases where there is true temporal regulation, like with alphaviruses, the early genes are also expressed at late times during infection. Since ribosomes from the host cell must be used for translation, many RNA viruses create mRNA that is either not capped, not polyadenylated, or neither capped nor polyadenylated, unlike DNA viruses. Since the virus lacks these features, in particular the 5' mRNA cap, it must rely on creative means to guarantee that its mRNA gets translated. While the majority of RNA viruses reproduce in the host cell's cytoplasm, others do so in the nucleus. Since RNA viruses, unlike DNA viruses, do not utilise the host cell DNA-dependent RNA polymerase, there are additional reasons why certain RNA viruses reproduce in the nucleus, which are discussed below. Viruses cannot depart from this "choice." The regulation of gene expression by RNA viruses typically resembles that of DNA viruses, despite the basic differences in the structure of the template nucleic acid.

#### Reoviruses

Gene expression is regulated by transcription. Mammalian reoviruses, the type member of the Family of reoviruses, have double-stranded RNA as their genome. The dsRNA genome is made up of 10 distinct RNA segments that fit into three size classes: L, M, and S, according to electrophoretic analysis of RNA recovered from reovirus particles. Hybridization experiments on these 10 segments revealed no base sequence similarity, indicating that they could not have formed as a result of random genome fragmentation. All 10 segments have been individually identified by nucleotide sequence analysis. It is possible that the complete virus has one copy of each segment since the sum of the lengths of the 10 segments matches the size of the viral genome as determined by chemical techniques. At neither end of the molecule are there any overlapping single-stranded areas, and each segment is completely base-paired.

The produced mRNA is precisely the same length as the genomic RNA since reovirus transcription only uses one strand of RNA as a template. It is possible that the genome is transcribed while still within the viral core because added dsRNA is not recognised by the polymerase. Through channels through the exterior protein spikes, newly synthesised mRNA exits the cores of the virions that first caused the infection. Electron microscopy has shown the freshly synthesised mRNA from transcribing core particles.

These findings demonstrate cap-independent translation in reovirus-infected cells. As the infection progresses, it can be observed from the lysates that were generated at different points after infection that there is a steady shift from cap-dependence to cap-independence. Using the host's current mRNAs, and succeeding. The extraordinarily effective translation of the late, uncapped reovirus mRNA is a startling finding. This is unexpected since cellular ribosomes do not normally translate uncapped mRNA[3], [4]. The cap-binding protein complex, which is a component of the functioning ribosome, is particularly inactivated by reovirus proteins during infection. As a consequence, only uncapped mRNA may now be translated by the impacted ribosomes. Only viral mRNA gets translated by the altered ribosomes since it is the only uncapped RNA in the body. This is the cause of the decrease in host cell mRNA translation and the preference for viral mRNA translation; this is known as a switch from cap-dependent to cap-independent translation. Only viral mRNA gets translated in the cell eventually as all of the initiation factors change.

#### DISCUSSION

The picornavirus genome is first exposed, and then it is translated utilising ribosomes from the host cell. The picornavirus genome RNA cannot be translated directly on host ribosomes due to the presence of VPg and the lack of a cap. To get around this restriction on gene expression, picornavirus genomes include a section of RNA at position 5 of the AUG initiation codon that takes on a certain three-dimensional shape and instructs ribosomes to start translation without the aid of a cap structure and within the mRNA. The internal ribosome entrance point is where this area is located. The host translation system is changed throughout the replication cycle as a result of the proteolytic cleavage and subsequent deactivation of both eIF4GI and eIF4GII. The interaction with the cap-binding protein eIF4E is stopped by the cleavage. As a consequence of this inactivation, translation becomes capindependent, an initiation complex may form, but it cannot do so on capped mRNA, and the cell is unable to translate its own mRNA. Host cell protein synthesis is hindered as a consequence of the virus's modifications to the translational machinery, and only virusspecific synthesis occurs instead. The mentioned replication of the genome results in the production of more mRNA.

Picornaviruses' complete genome is translated into a massive polyprotein that is around 2200 amino acids long. This polyprotein is then broken up into smaller functional proteins, both structural and nonstructural, in a sequence of well-ordered stages. Virus-encoded proteases that also break themselves from the expanding polypeptide chain begin the cleavage process while the polyprotein is still being synthesised. The only way to isolate the complete polyprotein is by blocking pro-tease activity or changing the cleavage sites by adding amino acid analogues. Pulse-chase analysis may also show cleavage in a sample. The quantity of each protein generated is regulated by the rate of cleavage, even though all picornavirus proteins should, in principle, be present in equimolar amounts. However, this is not the case in practise. The rates of cleavage of the precursors vary significantly, allowing for considerable control over the yields of each protein. Different rates of degradation, such as the known instability of the virus-specific polymerase activity, have an impact on the steady-

state levels of the viral proteins. The most well-known of them is protease 3C, which is created by autocatalytic excision when P3 attains the necessary conformation.

## AlphaViruses

### Creating a Sub genomic mRNA

One positive sense ssRNA molecule with a sedimentation coefficient of 42S makes up the whole of an alphavirus' genome, which is around 11,400 nucleotides long. Contrary to picornaviruses, alphaviruses like Semliki Forest virus produce nonstructural but not virion proteins when the positive sense genomic RNA of these viruses is translated in vitro. Two different forms of positive sense RNA are created in virus-infected cells: one with a sedimentation coefficient of 26S and the other with a 42S equal to the genome RNA. About one-third of the genomic RNA's length is made up of the 26S RNA. Both of these positive sense RNA molecules contain a polyA tail and a cap at the 3' end, and they both serve as mRNAs. The structural proteins are produced by translating the 26S mRNA, which represents the 3' terminal region of the genomic RNA. In a manner similar to that reported for picornaviruses, the major result of translation of each mRNA is processed by proteolytic cleavage to yield functional proteins. The tiny functional proteins are produced from bigger precursor molecules, as shown by pulse- chase studies and tryptic peptide mapping. .Given that the genomic RNA does not influence the synthesis of structural proteins and that the sequence of the 26S mRNA is present there, it may be assumed that the genomic RNA contains an internal starting site for the synthesis of virion proteins that is inaccessible to ribosomes. It must be the template from which both the 42S and 26S positive sense RNA are generated since the sole negative sense viral RNA identified in infected cells settles at position 42S[5], [6].

It is shown how the two mRNAs are produced. Each mRNA's role in encoding proteins, as well as the sequence of proteolytic cleavage that leads to the production of useful proteins. Although the mechanism by which transcription is regulated is unknown, the large amounts of 26S mRNA show that internal transcription initiation is effective, resulting in an abundance of structural proteins. Since the 26S mRNA can only be created after the genome has been replicated, it is a late mRNA, and in this system, transcription controls gene expression. creating a lot of structural proteins without creating a lot of nonstructural proteins seems to be an adaptation for which the 26S mRNA is synthesised.

#### **Ribosomal frameshifting in CORONAVIRUS**

With some exceeding approximately 30,000 nt, coronaviruses have the biggest RNA genomes that have been previously identified. A 5 cap and a 3 polyA tail are present on the single, linear, positive sense, ssRNA molecule. The viral genome RNA is translated in the first step upon uncoating to create the virus polymerase. In a RI replication complex, this enzyme produces double-stranded RNA utilising the plus strand as a template before transcribing positive sense RNA from a negative sense RNA template.

Two proteins are produced from the genome's RNA by following instructions from the first translation event. The first ORF, which makes up a minor fraction of the molecule, is translated to produce the smallest protein, designated 1a. It is believed that a second, bigger protein, which is generated in lesser numbers, contains the enzymatic portion of the polymerase. Unknown is how the two proteins interact in their combined form. An ORF that can synthesise the 1a protein was discovered by nucleotide sequence analysis, however there was no ORF long enough to produce the bigger protein. The 1b ORF, which overlaps with the 3' end of the 1a ORF and lacks an AUG initiation codon, is present in place of the first

ORF. In relation to the 1a ORF, the 1b ORF is in the -1 reading frame. A part of the ribosomes, which start translation in the 1a ORF and switch reading frames at the area of the overlap of the 1a and 1b ORFs to produce a fusion 1a-1b protein, are responsible for producing the big protein. Certain retrovirus gag-pol fusion proteins are synthesised in a manner similar to this. The frequency of the frameshifting event determines the quantity of the fusion protein that is generated. This is an illustration of how the translation of genes is regulated.

In coronaviruses, the presence of two structural characteristics in the genomic RNA determines the frameshifting event. The first is a "slippery" sequence in the overlap area between the ORFs, where the frameshift takes place, and the second is a three-dimensional structure termed a pseudoknot, in which the RNA is folded into a tight shape. The frameshift is caused by the combination of these two properties.

#### Subgenomic mRNAs that are functionally monocistronic

Coronaviruses take the alphavirus technique of generating a subgenomic mRNA to the limit by generating not one, not two, but several mRNAs. Infected cells include an addition to the mouse genome. The sum of the sizes of these mRNAs is more than the size of the whole genome. The sequence analysis used to explain this phenomenon revealed that all mRNAs shared a common 3' end with the genome RNA and that the sequences found in tiny mRNAs were also found in the bigger mRNAs. According to the standard procedure of eukaryotic translation, this is defined as a coding sequence for all of the proteins, with the first ORF being employed preferentially. When it comes to certain MHV mRNAs, as with some reovirus and paramyxovirus mRNAs, each unique mRNA produces more than one protein, however the second protein is very mildly detectable. While the ratios of each do not change during the infectious cycle, the mRNAs are pre- sent in varying amounts relative to one another, some plentiful and others less so.

Thus, there is no temporal regulation of gene expression. Since coronaviruses multiply in the cytoplasm and the cell's splicing enzymes are situated in the nucleus, it is not possible to create the subgenomic mRNAs through these mechanisms. The process by which they are produced is unique, and although there is some indication that antigenome RNA serves as the main template for the synthesis of mRNA, the majority of the data indicates to genome RNA as the mechanism. At specified locations, the polymerase molecule finishes and the combination of protein and freshly synthesised negative sense RNA dissociates, at least in part, from the template. Transcription of the genome starts at the 3' end of the RNA, forming a negative sense RNA. The nascent RNA is subsequently transported to a location close to the fifth end of the genome RNA, where synthesis is carried out until the end.

This results in the formation of a number of negative sense RNA molecules that have complementary sequences to the genome's 3 and 5 ends, respectively. Unknown, but perhaps connected to the secondary structure of the template RNA, is the transfer mechanism. Each RNA is present in varying amounts depending on how often the polymerase termini- nates inside the template. The faith- ful positive sense copies, which serve as mRNAs, are next created using the negative sense RNA molecules as templates. Each mRNA is really the result of the replication of a subgenomic negative sense RNA utilising a replication intermediate created using a method similar to that outlined for the ssRNA viral genome replication process. Following transcription from subgenomic negative sense RNA, each mRNA is translated into the corresponding protein. Therefore, transcription is principally responsible for regulating coronavirus gene expression[7], [8].

#### Segmented Genome RNA Viruses With A Negative Sense

Although the amount of ssRNA segments that make up the genomes of viruses in the Baltimore class 5 varies, monocistronic mRNAs are mostly but not entirely used for gene expression. Each segment of the genomes of viruses with segmented genomes must be transcribed into mRNA, providing the possibility for transcriptional regulation of gene expression. Since normal cells lack the enzymes necessary to produce mRNA from an RNA template, all viruses with nonsegmented negative sense RNA genomes produce mRNA utilising transcription machinery that is delivered into the infected cell by the virus. Nearly all negative sense RNA viruses reproduce inside the cytoplasm. The orthomyxoviruses and the virus that causes Borna illness are the exceptions.

## Orthomyxoviruses

## Gene expression is regulated by transcription

The type A influenza viruses that infect people and other animals are the orthomyxoviruses that are well understood. The fact that influenza virus replication takes place in the infected cell's nucleus is a unique characteristic. Immediately after infection, the virus particle without a coating is moved to the nucleus, where viral mRNA is produced. mRNA is exported from the nucleus to the cytoplasm for translation, and subsequently during infection, certain freshly synthesised proteins move from the cytoplasm to the nucleus from where they were made. Eukaryotic cells possess a special degree of control because the passage of molecules over the nuclear membrane is a highly selective process. Although this enzyme is unable to transcribe the viral genome, influenza viruses can only reproduce in cells with a functioning DNA-dependent RNA pol II. Infected cells produce mRNA and replication template positive sense RNA, respectively. Numerous criteria may be used to separate these two forms of RNA from one another.

Within an hour of infection, the levels of mRNAs encoding the nucleoprotein and NS1 significantly outpace those of the other influenza virus genes. At first, comparable quantities of each influenza virus mRNA are generated. Later, when genome replication has begun, the amounts of mRNAs that encode the matrix proteins, neuraminidase, and hemagglutinin predominate. Accordingly, despite the fact that all of the genes are expressed during the infection, there is some temporal control over transcription that is based on the relative rates of transcription of specific segments.

#### mRNA splicing regulates gene expression

A mechanism that allows the synthesis of two extra proteins from influenza virus segments 7 and 8 via the process of splicing is superimposed on the fundamental pattern of transcription of a single mRNA from each influenza A virus genome segment. The fact that the virus' RNA is translated in the nucleus makes this method possible. Each of these segments is translated into an mRNA, which, in the case of M1 and NS1, respectively, encodes a distinct protein. With the two remaining molecules ligated, an internal region is relocated from a part of the principal transcripts. In both instances, the splicing processes leave the AUG start codon in situ while deleting a significant amount of the first ORF. As a consequence, a distinct ORF that ribosomes have never before been able to access gets fused to the first few codons of the M1 or NS1 ORFs. This alternative ORF is in a different reading frame. M2 and NS2 are two unique proteins whose synthesis is controlled by the newly generated ORF. This is comparable to how polyomaviruses operate. An alternate splicing procedure produces an additional, uncommon mRNA from the section 7 main transcript. The M1 and M2 proteins are produced from the main transcript by splicing out the first AUG codon. In the alternatively spliced segment 7 mRNA, there are only nine codons in the first ORF. The putative protein known as M3, which is thought to be created by the translation of this mRNA, has not been found in infected cells, hence its function in the course of the infection is unknown. The frequency of the post-transcriptional splicing process controls the levels of expression of NS2 and M2.

### Gene expression is regulated by translation

The mRNA transcribed from genome segment 2, which also encodes PB1, is used by certain human and animal influenza A viruses to produce a second protein. The protein, referred to as PB1-F2, is encoded in a brief second ORF that is located within the PB1 ORF but is in a distinct reading frame. The PB1-F2 proteins from different influenza viruses vary in size across strains, measuring between 57 and 90 amino acids. The PB1-F2 protein's purpose is unknown, although following translation, it is carried to the host mitochondria where it is quickly broken down. It is assumed that the PB1-F2 protein may cause infection-induced cell death via the process of apoptosis due to the protein's mitochondrial location and other experimental findings.

Despite being integrated into virus particles that are morphologically normal and have the ability to agglutinate red blood cells, uncleaned molecules are found in cells with insufficient protease activity. Such virus particles are not infectious, nevertheless, up until the HA protein is broken. The cleaved HA alters conformation, and the N terminus of HA2 now has a free hydrophobic domain known as the fusion peptide. A host cell enzyme found in the Golgi network, where the influenza virus HA protein is transported, is the protease that breaks down the HA protein. The location of fruitful viral replication is determined by the limitation of such enzymes to certain organs, such as the respiratory system. The virus may spread systemically if HA is broken down by a more common protease, such as that seen in bird infections with the avian influenza virus. Some viruses, like the Sendai virus, need the cleavage activation of proteins, which might take place after the virus has left the host cell as opposed to within the cell as is the case with influenza virus[8], [9].

#### **ARENAVISES** Ambisense coding technique

Arenaviruses have an odd gene organisation, despite the fact that they resemble conventional segmented negative-strand viruses and only contain two genomic RNAs. Only the third of the genome's RNAs are translated by a virus-encoded enzyme into a capped, polyadenylatedsubgenomic mRNA. This mRNA encodes the big polymerase protein for the L RNA and the nucleocapsid protein for the S RNA, respectively. Each RNA segment is replicated, and after replication, transcription additionally uses the antigenome copy's 3' end as a template. This causes the S antigenome RNA to produce a subgenomic mRNA that encodes the precursor protein for the structural glycoproteins of the virus, a protein known as GPC. The mRNA obtained from the L antigenome RNA is used to encode the protein Z. The GPC and Z mRNAs are by definition late mRNAs as their synthesis is dependent on replication. Because of this process, the genome and antigenome both serve as negative sense RNA templates for transcription and are referred to be "ambisense" RNA. When expressing from their S genomic region, several bunyaviruses, like Punta Toro virus, also use an ambisense approach.

Rhabdoviruses and paramyxoviruses are negative sense rna viruses with nonsegmented, single-stranded genomes.Regulation of gene expression through transcription. Most information about the rhabdoviruses is known about the vesicular stomatitis virus. Although the precise molecular characteristics of each virus, such as the regulatory sequences and other components, vary, the suggested model for VSV transcription is utilised as a paradigm for all other viruses with nonsegmented negative sense RNA genomes. The VSV genome can be translated into five distinct monocistronic mRNAs, and gene expression is regulated at the

transcriptional level, where the quantity of mRNAs influences the quantity of proteins. The paramyxoviruses have a similar transcriptional pattern, however they may each encode six, seven, or 10 mRNAs.

The VSV genome RNA, together with significant quantities of the viral nucleoprotein, negligible amounts of the virus phosphoprotein, and a few molecules of a big protein, make up the ribonucleoprotein complex that executes the transcription process. The L protein, also known as the polymerase, is considered to include the catalytic sites for RNA synthesis and maybe also capping of the mRNA. Only the 3' end of the genomic template RNA may trigger complex to start transcription. A short, 49-nucleotide uncapped, the RNP nonpolyadenylated RNA that is a precise replica of the 3' terminal is produced at the start of VSV transcription. This is the leader RNA, whose purpose is unknown. Consensus sequences surround each of the remaining five transcription units on the genome RNA, instructing the polymerase to first start and then finish transcription. Only polymerases moving from the 3' end can recognise the initiation sequences. As the polymerase proceeds through the genome, it encounters a transcription initiation signal and starts mRNA production. Since no capping enzymes are detected in the cytoplasm where VSV transcription and replication take place, a component of the RNP complex is probably responsible for adding a cap at some stage during this process. The polymerase inserts a poly tail as reported for influenza virus at the homopolymer uracil tract-containing consensus transcription termination signal. The mRNA separates from the template at this time and is then withdrawn for translation.

After that, the polymerase one of two actions. A significant number, maybe 50%, of the polymerase molecules also separate from the template and can only rebind at the 3' terminal, where transcription is restarted. The remaining polymerases proceed through the genome without starting transcription until they reach the following consensus transcription initiation signal, at which point they start transcription in a specific area of the genome. The polymerase has the same two possibilities of dissociation or translocation followed by reinitiation at the conclusion of this transcription unit. As the polymerase advances closer to the 5' end of the genome, the process results in the mRNAs being synthesised sequentially in diminishing pro- parts. The relative protein abundances mirror those of the mRNAs. Paramyxoviruses like the Sendai virus use a similar tactic.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, RNA viruses have developed a variety of complex gene expression techniques that represent their distinct adaptations to take use of host cellular machinery for replication and spread. To assure the production of viral proteins and the replication of their genomes, these viruses interfere with the transcriptional and translational processes in the host cell. The many RNA virus classes identified by the Baltimore categorization scheme exhibit a variety of methods for obtaining gene expression. These several strategies highlight how adaptable RNA viruses may be when using host cellular functions to further their own reproduction. RNA-dependent RNA polymerases, which are necessary for effective transcription and replication, must be encoded by RNA viruses. By focusing on these distinct mechanisms, the research of various gene expression techniques not only advances our knowledge of viral biology but also provides guidance for prospective antiviral therapies.

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#### **CHAPTER 9**

# UNVEILING THE INTRICATE DANCE OF VIRUS ASSEMBLY: FROM SELF-ASSEMBLY TO SEQUENCE-DEPENDENT PACKAGING

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## **ABSTRACT:**

In virology, the assembly or morphogenesis of virally encoded proteins and nucleic acids to produce infectious progeny virus particles is a crucial process. When assembly takes place within the cell nucleus and proteins made in the cytoplasm must be transferred, the process is made very difficult. Although viral architectures vary widely, three main assembly methods have been discovered. First, certain viruses assemble by self-assembly, which is similar to crystallisation in that virion components join together on their own to achieve the state with the lowest energy. Second, viral-encoded proteins that do not contribute to the structural composition of the virus may be involved in assembly. The infectious virion may also be created by first transforming precursor proteins, often by proteolytic cleavage. A mature particle in these latter two situations is often difficult to separate into its constituent parts and put it back together again. Another crucial stage in assembly is the integration of the viral DNA into progeny virus particles. There are two possible mechanisms for this to happen: some viruses add the nucleic acid after the particle components have already started to assemble, while others employ the genome as an initiating factor. Recent developments in Xray crystallography and cryoelectron microscopy have provided new insights into the interactions between virion building blocks. Pure viral nucleic acid and refined structural proteins must interact in vitro to create infectious particles that resemble the original virus in order for self-assembly to be confirmed. However, not all viruses spontaneously assemble themselves. Some need additional maturation processes in order to develop infectivity, making it difficult to reconstruct the virus once it has been broken down. The lipid envelope enclosing a nucleocapsid core in viruses adds another layer of complexity since it must be obtained separately from the main assembly process.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Genome, Nucleic, Proteins, Viruses.

#### INTRODUCTION

Assembly or morphogenesis is the process through which viral-encoded proteins and nucleic acids, which are synthesised independently in infected cells, must be brought together to generate infectious offspring virus particles. When assembly occurs in the nucleus and proteins made in the cytoplasm must be transferred there, there is an extra consideration for certain viruses. For the majority of viruses, little assembly-related information is known. There only seem to be three methods for viruses to assemble, despite the variety in viral structure. First, combine to create particles via the self-assembly process. In theory, this is comparable to crystallisation, in which the end result reflects the lowest energy state that may be achieved. Second, the assembly process can call for certain, virus-encoded proteins that do not ultimately contribute to the virus's structural makeup. Finally, a particle may be constructed from precursor proteins, which are subsequently changed to generate the infectious virion, often by proteolytic cleavage. It is not feasible to separate a mature particle from its component pieces in the latter two instances and then put it back together again. The
production of an infectious particle is complicated further when certain viruses have a lipid envelope enclosing a nucleocapsid core; this envelope must be obtained independently from the primary assembly procedure.

A crucial stage in the assembly of viruses is the introduction of the viral genome into the progeny virus particle. This may be done using one of two methods. In certain viruses, the genome that is a component of the infectious particle plays a crucial role in assembly, functioning as an initiating element with the particle components assembling around the nucleic acid, according to research on reconstruction and other methods. For some viruses, the nucleic acid is added later in the assembly phase after the particle, or a precursor of the particle, has already been produced. The binding of virus-encoded structural proteins with certain nucleotide sequences in the genome, known to as packing signals, is a necessary component of the first phase. While it's possible that the second phase also needs packaging signals in the genome, that's not always the case.

The process of assembly is partially determined by the structure of viral particles, whose characteristics. It is now clearer how precisely virion components interact thanks to recent developments in the three-dimensional structure determination of viral particles by cryoelectron microscopy and X-ray crystallography. As a result, theories on how some of these components could fit together during the assembly process have been made[1], [2].

## From Mature Virion Components' Self-Assembly

Absolute confirmation of self-assembly requires the capacity of pure viral nucleic acid and refined structural proteins to combine in vitro to produce infectious particles that are similar to the original virus in form, size, and stability. The method utilised to accomplish disassembly is a crucial step in showing assembly in vitro. The subunits should be released during disassembly while retaining the capacity to associate in a certain fashion in order to construct the virus particle. The disassembly procedure should, in theory, not denature the virion's component monomers. This has only been shown for a small number of viruses thus far.

Even though it is believed to be a crucial step in the process, it is not always feasible to establish spontaneous self-assembly in viruses. For instance, a virus may assemble spontaneously, but once it has done so, it must undergo a maturation event that modifies one of the structural proteins in order to acquire infectivity. It's possible that the changed protein won't be able to spontaneously engage with the other parts of the virion to reassemble them after the dissociation of pure infectious particles. Similar to this, if a virus is contained in a lipid envelope, the disassembly process is likely to demolish this structure, preventing the regeneration of an infectious particle.

### Assembly of helical virus assemblies

### Building the TMV

The TMV particle is made up of a single positive sense single-stranded RNA molecule that is enclosed in a framework of tiny, identical protein molecules that are organised in a righthanded helix and each of which binds to three nucleotides of RNA. TMV may be dismantled to produce protein and RNA parts, which can then be put back together in vitro to create an active virus. But the isolated protein, devoid of any RNA, can likewise be polymerized into a helical shape, demonstrating that the protein's ability to form bonds between the subunits is a unique characteristic. Research has shown that the assembly of TMV is a much more complex process in which the genome RNA plays an essential role[3], [4]. The most likely model for the assembly of the virus would be for the protein molecules to arrange themselves like steps in a spiral staircase, enclosing the RNA as a cork-screw-like thread.

# DISCUSSION

TMV in a resolution Depending on the environmental factors, notably ionic strength and pH, a protein may form various different types of complexes. The amount of individual proteins that make up the complexes varies. Since it predominates under physiological settings, the disc structure is thought to be the most significant of these complexes. Two rings with 17 subunits each make up each disc. This suggests that the bonding between the subunits in discs is probably quite similar to that in viruses, which has 16.34 A protein subunits per turn of the helix. Although the idea that the discs may just align to create a helix, which would have a slightly different packing arrangement for the A protein subunits, is tempting, this does not happen, demonstrating that the process is not that simple. The "lock- washer" structures are the primary building blocks in the spontaneous construction of TMV. These helical structures are just little longer than two helix turns in length. Subtle modifications to the A protein subunit's conformation result in the production of the lock-washers from the discs. However, since lock-washers interact extremely slowly to generate helices similar to those seen in virus particles, there must be another component in the system that catalyses the assembly process. When A protein subunits and tiny aggregates of dimers and trimers, etc. are combined with TMV RNA, assembly is sluggish and viral particle production takes roughly 6 hours. However, assembly is quick and a complete virus emerges in about five minutes when discs and RNA are combined under the same conditions. The pace of assembly is not accelerated by adding discs or tiny aggregates to the RNA.

According to this scenario, the charges on the nearby carboxyl group in the A protein subunits are neutralised by the genome RNA's contact with a disc. The disc becomes a lock-washer as a result, trapping the RNA in the groove between each turn of the helix. A second disc may join after being structurally transformed into a lock-washer and taking on the same transformation as the helix expands. As a result, the genomic RNA serves as a catalyst for the quick construction of a helix and is eventually encased in the helical structure. The packaging point, located close to the 3' end of the TMV genome RNA, is where the first disc attaches and transforms into lock-washer form. It is also where the helix extends in both directions, but at different speeds in each direction, according to later studies. The packaging site's secondary structure prediction with computer assistance strongly implies that it has a hairpin arrangement.

Although the hypothesis presented above fits the facts, a different explanation is also conceivable. According to the "travelling loop" concept, the hairpin structure at the TMV genome's packaging site inserts itself into the groove between the rings of subunits via the disc's central hole. More RNA is subsequently attached within the groove as the nucleotides in the double-stranded stem unpair.

This contact causes the disc to change into a lock-washer structure, trapping the RNA. When additional discs are added on top of the growing helix, the unique configuration created by the insertion of the RNA into the initiating disc's central hole may then be repeated. The loop may be lengthened by drawing more of the longer RNA tail up through the centre hole of the developing virus particle. As a result, the particle might extend via a process similar to that of packaging initiation, with the primary growing end of the viral particle now having a "travelling loop" of RNA rather than the particular packing loop. The viral particle would continue to expand as this loop inserted itself into the centre hole of the subsequent disc, prompting conversion to the lock-washer form.

### Virus Assembly With Isometric Structure

All isometric viruses have icosahedral particles with 20 identical faces. The method by which isometric viruses grow their capsids in size while also multiplying the number of capsomere subunits is known as triangulation. Reconstitution efforts, as previously mentioned, have met with only patchy success. The most thorough investigation on the self-assembly and reconstitution of an isometric virus to date is that of the plant virus cowpea chlorotic mottle virus. The capacity of this virus to self-assemble is shown by the production of infectious CCMV particles from a stoichiometric combination of originally separated CCMV RNA and protein[5], [6].

## **Conglomeration Of Picornaviruses**

In recent years, X-ray crystallography has been used to identify the three-dimensional structures of many viruses. Numerous of them were picornaviruses, such as the poliovirus, which has icosahedral particles of 30 nm in diameter. 60 copies of each of the four structural proteins VP1-4 make up poliovirus particles. On each of the icosahedron's 20 faces, three complexes made up of the associated proteins are grouped in groups of three. There is a wealth of knowledge regarding the sequence of activities involved in the construction of the poliovirus, which shows how an icosahedral virus particle may be produced.

The whole poliovirus genome is translated as a single large polypeptide that is split up into smaller polypeptides as translation moves along. The precursor to each of the four virion proteins, P1, is produced by the first cleavage. The fact that the 5' end of the genome directs P1 synthesis and that it is fully synthesised before being cleaved suggests that folding is required for cleavage. P1 is then cleaved to produce the proteins VP0, VP1, and VP3. These three proteins form an intricate packaging site for TMV RNA in infected cells, which is where poliovirus assembly starts. To start the assembly process, the loop most likely attaches to the first protein disc.

## the creation of adenoviruses

Depending on the strain under study, adenovirus particles vary in size from 70 to 90 nm in diameter and appear as icosahedra under an electron microscope. With at least 10 proteins, the particle is more complicated than those of the picornaviruses. The 12 remaining proteins are organised at the icosahedron's vertices with fivefold symmetry, while the remaining 240 proteins are distributed in the 252 capsomeres that make up the exterior surface. The pentons have fibre extensions. While many aspects of the assembly of adenoviruses are still unknown, the information that is now available suggests that, in contrast to the picornavirus assembly process, the distinct parts of the adenovirus particle are built separately and brought together in a purposeful manner.

The proteins that make up the virion must be transported to the nucleus of the infected cell since here is where the final steps of adenovirus assembly take place. In the cytoplasm, the proteins that make up the fibre, the penton capsomere's base, and the hexoncapsomere are each synthesised separately. While the penton monomers create a pentameric penton base, the fibre and hexon proteins combine to form separate trimer intermediaries. The penton base and fibre trimmers combine to produce the penton cap-somere. A second viral protein with a Mr of 100,000 that interacts directly with the hexon proteins is necessary for the formation of the hexontrimer unit and its import into the nucleus. The Mr 100,000 protein, often known as a "scaffolding" protein, is absent from the mature viral particle.

On the basis of the identification and examination of potential intermediate structures, the remaining stages in the viral assembly process have been deduced. The development of immature virus particles, which lack the infectious particle's core proteins and genome dsDNA but do include at least three additional proteins, is an important factor. By being degraded by proteases, these three scaffolding proteins may be partially eliminated. The hexoncapsomeres combine to form a nonamer complex, and 20 of these nonamer complexes then interact to form a lattice that resembles an icosahedral cage. The remaining structural elements, together with the viral DNA and core proteins, are subsequently added to this structure, and the scaffolding proteins are simultaneously lost. Finally, a protease in the particle cleaves numerous components to generate an infectious virion; whether the DNA and the core proteins reach the immature particle simultaneously or successively is unknown.

The packaging of the genome into particles does not require the protein that is covalently bound to the termini of adenovirus DNA. A region required for packaging has been discovered by analysis of DNA packed into adenovirus defective- interfering particles and the creation of deletion mutants. For the DNA to enter the immature particle, it has to have around 400 bp at one end, close to the E1A gene. The data that the genome enters the particle in a polar way, one end first, and that this polarity is lost when the sequence is replicated at the other end of the DNA supports the notion that this is a packing signal responsible for the particular acquisition of DNA by the particle[7], [8].

### **Complex Virus Assembly**

It is unclear how animal viruses that include particles that are neither helical nor isometric are put together. Given our knowledge of how these viruses are put together, it is probable that their assembly processes are similarly quite well-structured. The process of assembling phage, such as phage, which have a complicated structure made up of an isometric head coupled to a helical tail, has been thoroughly studied using mutants that are unable to go beyond certain stages. The DNA genome is acquired by the phage following capsid formation, and its isometric head shape is comparable to that of an adenovirus. Pro-capsid I, a head-like structure, is created with the aid of scaffolding proteins. The presence of a portal protein complex creates the "entrance" to the procapsid. A procapsid II structure is created as a result of the removal of the scaffolding proteins. The single-stranded overhang is created when a protein inside the phage pro-capsid II head cleaves at the location where it recognises the cos sequence in the concatemeric DNA. Once the empty head is fully filled with DNA, a second cleavage occurs to produce a mature capsid.

The tail and tail fibre parts of the phage assemble independently of one another. The head-tail connection, the core to which it is joined, and the surrounding sheath make up the tail, which is shaped like a helical structure. Assembly of the tail and tail fibres involves scaffolding proteins. After that, the tail and tail fibres spontaneously unite, perhaps with the assistance of one or more scaffolding proteins. The heads and tails are built separately and then join together in an unidentified manner. One end of the phage DNA may protrude through a vertex, disrupting the fivefold symmetry, which would encourage tail addition. In fact, a structural characteristic that may be required for effective injection after contact between the phage and a susceptible bacteria is the protrusion of the DNA a short distance into the tail.

## Packaging Of Virus Dna In Virus Particles Is Sequence-Dependent And Independent

It is abundantly obvious from the adenovirus assembly process that the packing of genomic DNA is sequence-dependent. Although the procedures vary in specifics, many other viruses also depend on the presence of certain sequences to choose the viral DNA or RNA. The

assembly process for the herpes simplex virus is connected to the excision of the genome from the concatenated replication intermediate.

The internal component of the herpes simplex virus particle, an isometric nucleocapsid, is formed first in a process that is probably similar to that described for adenovirus. The external component of the particle, a lipid envelope, is acquired as the final stage in assembly in a process described in Section 11.6. An immature nucleocapsid without viral DNA is produced during the formation of the herpes simplex virus. The HSV genome has direct repetitions at the ends of the DNA, as described in Section 6.3. Each "a" sequence includes two brief sections termed "pac1" and "pac2" that are necessary for packaging. A DNA concatemer's Pac sequences are recognised by the juvenile nucleocapsid during assembly, and it cleaves the DNA at the proper termini before inserting it into the interior of the peptide. Since an extra copy of the "a" sequence is present inside the genome at the border of the internal long and short repeat elements, the presence of the "a" sequence alone is insufficient to specify cleavage and guarantee that the full genome is absorbed into the particle. The most plausible hypothesis is that assembly is influenced by DNA length, with restrictions on the minimum and maximum lengths of DNA that may be accepted into a particle.

Bacteriophages go through a similar process, producing concatemeric DNA from a circular intermediate. The following cos sequence in the catemer is easily accessible to the cleavage enzyme thanks to the proper length of DNA inside the phage head, and the DNA is cut to leave an overhang. No cos sequence is accessible to the enzyme when the phage head is complete and particle assembly fails if two cos sequences are brought near together by a genome loss. Similar to the last example, the assembly process will fail if an insert is made to extend the space between cos sequences because the head will be full before the next cleavage site is reached. Phage controls the size of the genomic DNA that can be packed in this fashion, making ensuring that all the genes are present. However, the phage packing strategy allows for a certain degree of genome length flexibility, allowing the virus to carry extra host-derived DNA while engaging in specialised transduction.

For a very long time, it was believed that constraints on particle assembly were necessary for dsDNA animal viruses in order to guarantee that only viral DNA could be packed. The remainder of the sequence is unimportant for viruses that contain a packing signal since this is the only control that is present. One such instance is SV40, which exhibits particular packaging across the six GC boxes in its control zone.

The host transcription factor SP1 is bound by these regions, and SP1 then interacts with the viral capsid proteins to start packaging the genome. It has been shown that polyomavirus may, in certain circumstances, package foreign DNA. This suggests that certain viruses' control systems may not be as accurate as first believed, and it may be able to take advantage of this when creating novel strategies for introducing DNA into cells for gene therapy. Phages that display generalised transduction show true sequence-independent packing of DNA[9], [10].

### The Combination Of Evaded Viruses

Many viruses, especially those that infect mammals, have a lipid envelope as a crucial component of their structure. These include the tomato spotted wilt virus family, rhabdoviruses of plants and animals, herpes, filo, retro, orthomyxo, paramyxo, corona, arena, pox, and iridoviruses. Each virus's nucleocapsid, which is contained within the envelope, has a specific shape that may be helical, isometric, or of a more complicated type. For the majority of enclosed viruses, the nucleocapsid is completely produced before the lipid envelope is acquired.

## Helical Nucleocapsid Assembly

The creation of all helical viral structures is thought to be modelled after the assembly mechanism of TMV. The nucleocapsid architectures of enveloped viruses, however, vary greatly. This is especially true for the nucleocapsids of negative sense ssRNA viruses including filo-, para-, rhabdo-, and orthomyxoviruses. The RNA genome in the nucleocapsid is shielded from destruction by nucleases in vitro for members of some of these virus families but not for others. This suggests that a new arrangement of the structures is required. The fundamental structure of the nucleocapsid for all Baltimore class 5 viruses, with the exception of orthomyxoviruses, consists of the genome RNA encapsulated by a nucleoprotein, termed N or NP, in conjunction with lesser quantities of a phosphoprotein and a few molecules of a big protein. The replication and transcription activities are carried out by this complex. The nucleoprotein for orthomyxoviruses connects with three proteins, PA, PB1, and PB2, which function as RNA syn- thesis. While some of the phases in the assembly process for certain viral nucleocapsids are known, there aren't any exact information available to characterize every single step.

The termini of the genomes are crucial for the encapsulation process, as shown by analyses of the negative sense ssRNA DI virus genomes and the creation of synthetic genomes for reverse genetics investigations. According to theory, particular sequences in the genome's terminal sections start the formation of nucleocapsid structures and make sure that viral RNA is packaged. When the measles virus nucleoprotein is expressed in bacteria in the absence of the viral genome RNA, small RNA-protein complexes that resemble nucleocapsids are produced. This suggests that the nucleoprotein has the innate potential to form nucleocapsids around any RNA. In the battle with any other RNA for binding nucleoprotein, it is conceivable that the signal in the genome termini offers the genome a major advantage. Prior to interacting with RNA, the paramyxovirus Sendai virus's nucleocapsid's phosphoprotein forms a strong association with the nucleoprotein. This relationship affords the encapsidation process selectivity and prevents the nucleoprotein from interacting with RNA in an unintended manner. This might be a characteristic shared by several class 5 viruses. No helical nucleocapsid complex has yet had the molecular specifics of the interaction between the nucleoprotein and genomic RNA established. The genome RNA of various paramyxoviruses, including the measles and Sendai viruses, must always contain a number of nucleotides that is divisible by 6. The nucleoprotein's binding to clusters of six nucleotides in the RNA is thought to be the cause of this "Rule of Six". Unencapsidated nucleotides will be present at one or both termini of a genome that does not follow the Rule of Six, preventing replication and subsequently the spread of the genome. The nature of the interaction between the nucleoprotein and the genome is unknown for the majority of viruses, for which there is no such rigorous length requirement for the genome.

The positioning of the genome RNA is a key distinction between the TMV capsid's structure and that of certain negative sense ssRNA viruses' nucleocapsids. The RNA is completely contained inside the capsid of the TMV particle. According to biochemical study, the RNA for the influenza virus and the rhabdovirus vesicular stomatitis virus is twisted around the exterior of the nucleocapsid complex with the nucleotide bases exposed. As a result, the nucleotides may be employed as templates for transcription and replication. Although it is unknown at this time whether this is a characteristic of all class 5 viruses, the difference between this structure and the TMV capsid reflects the different functions of the two types of particles in TMV, the capsid protects the genome RNA because the particle lacks the extra lipid layer present in class 5 viruses. Nucleocapsid assembly in isometric form. Without more specific knowledge, it is hypothesised that the procedures outlined for non-enveloped viruses apply to the synthesis of isometric nucleocapsids. Thus, either an immature particle is created and the genome is added later, as in the case of herpesviruses, or the different components are built around the viral genome in response to a packing signal, as is the case with togaviruses.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, viral assembly, sometimes referred to as morphogenesis, is a complicated and tightly controlled set of activities that differs across various virus kinds. In order to create contagious virus particles, it entails the coordinated assembly of viral proteins and nucleic acids. Although we have learned a lot about how different viruses put themselves together, there is still more to discover and many elements of the process are still a mystery. In conclusion, the process of viral assembly differs amongst various virus families and is intricate and well controlled. The development of vaccines and antiviral treatments depends critically on our understanding of these assembly processes. Many viruses, especially those with complicated structures and envelopes, need more study to determine the specific molecular intricacies of formation. In conclusion, knowledge of viral assembly is crucial for comprehending viral replication and pathogenicity. The complex procedures involved in the construction of different viruses continue to be better understood because to developments in structural biology and molecular biology. The development of vaccinations and antiviral treatments may benefit from this information, in addition to fundamental research.

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# CHAPTER 10 UNLOCKING THE COMPLEXITY OF IMMUNE RESPONSES TO VIRAL INFECTIONS

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# **ABSTRACT:**

The explores interferons' discovery and crucial function in antiviral defence systems. It demonstrates how the immune system's activation and the production of effector cells are essential in preventing viral infections, but require time, enabling the virus to multiply and perhaps cause clinical sickness. We also examine the role of dendritic cells in bridging innate and adaptive immunity, as well as the two components of innate immunityphagocytosis and natural killer cells. As molecular pattern recognition receptors, toll-like receptors are investigated.It clarifies the functions of B and T cells in humoral and cell-mediated immunity and offers new insights into how these cells differentiate and operate. Discussed are the ideas of receptor and epitope specificity as well as the relationship between T cell receptors and major histocompatibility complex (MHC) proteins. The chapter also discusses how mucosal immunity interacts with systemic immunity and how it is crucial for avoiding viral infections. The chapter also describes antibody-mediated neutralisation of viruses, showing how antibodies attach to certain viral epitopes and inhibit viability. In order to understand how antibodies and viruses interact, it is important to realise that the neutralisation process differs depending on the virus and the particular epitope targeted. The phenomena of antibody escape mutations is investigated, highlighting their significance in the evolution of viruses. The chapter next discusses how immune responses differ with age, noting the difficulties both the very young and the elderly have in putting up strong immunological defences against illnesses. Discussed along with the consequences for vaccination techniques are the immune system's development in babies and its decrease in the elderly. This in-depth analysis of immunology in relation to viral infections offers important new perspectives on the complex host-virus interactions that are crucial for comprehending and treating viral diseases.

## **KEYWORDS:**

Cell, Immunological, Multicellular, Neutralisation, Viruses.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Due to the variety of cell types that make up an organism, multicellular organisms have sophisticated immune systems that act as their main line of defence against external intruders. In this chapter, immunology is thoroughly reviewed in relation to viruses and viral diseases, with an emphasis on the complex interactions between viral infections and the host's immune system. Innate immunity, adaptive T cell-mediated immunity, and adaptive B cell-mediated immunity are the three basic elements of the immune response, each of which plays a specific function in preventing viral infections. The first line of defence is provided by innate immunity, which is characterised by fast, non-specific action of cells like phagocytes and natural killer cells. B and T lymphocytes with antigen specificity are activated during adaptive immunity, which is specific to viral components.

Multicellular animals have a complex immune system that protects them against infection by any outside intruders, complicating infections because of the diversity of cell types that make

up a person. Innate and adaptive immunity are the two forms of host responses to viral infection. A crucial aspect to keep in mind is that an infection is a conflict between the immune system and the virus, with the latter attempting all in its power to thwart, undermine, and dodge the former. It is impossible to overstate the two-way nature of a host-virus contact, and which prevails determines whether an infection results in subclinical illness, acute sickness, long-term infection, or death. The chapter that follows serves as a review of immunology in relation to viruses and viral illnesses[1], [2].

### An overview of viruses and the immune system

The immune response consists of three basic parts: innate immunity, adaptive T cellmediated immunity, and adaptive B cell-mediated immunity. 12.1 when referring to viral illnesses. Immune system cells that patrol the body are solitary and migratory. The innate immune system's cells are ready to go to work, but T and B lymphocytes are sentinels that must first clonally multiply and specialise before they may engage in offensive activity. Virus particles and the factories that produce them, virus-infected cells, are the two major targets of viral infection. The first line of protection is innate immunity, which all animals have in some capacity. It is made up of cells (natural killer cells) and soluble components. These operate nonspecifically because they lack virus-specific recognition features, but they have the benefit of being present by default, so that their mobilisation after infection happens immediately. Even while their activity may temporarily increase as a consequence of an infection, this increase is not long-lasting.

Adaptive immunity is particular to foreign molecules, in this example, the components of viruses. The activation of B and T cells that are specific for the antigen mediates it. These are dormant, non-dividing cells that cannot activate the immune system and are found in extremely small amounts. BCRs and TCRs are epitope-specific receptor proteins that are found on the surface of B and T cells, respectively. The region of the antigen to which the BCR or TCR binds is referred to as the epitope. An antigenic site is made up of ten or so overlapping epitopes, and there are often numerous of these antigenic sites on a protein on the surface of a viral particle. The cognate epitope is the only epitope that each B and T cell's receptor is specialised for. A cell is prompted to undertake several divisions in order to generate an enlarged clonal population of identical cells when a receptor attaches to its homologous epitope. These daughter cells subsequently undergo differentiation to become memory cells or effector cells, which mount immunological responses. In order to combat the continuous infection, virus-specific lymphocytes adapt to it. Additionally, when their corresponding epitopes change, so do their receptors. However, all of this takes a few days, during which the virus has the opportunity to grow and maybe create a clinical illness. Effector cells of the T and B types are non-dividing and transient. To stimulate the creation of new effector cells, the body only maintains a sizable population of T and B effector cells for as long as their associated antigen is present. After the virus is destroyed, the number of T and B effector cells declines, however not to its initial level since an increased number of memory cells persists. Long-lived antigen is likely present if T effector or B effector cells have been producing antibodies for a long time. It is unknown precisely where this is, and it is not always in the form of an infectious virus.

## Annoying Immunity

There are two different cell types in the innate immune system, and phagocytosis is what they do best. The first line of protection against infection is these. The polymorphonuclear leukocytes in blood and the macrophages that patrol the tissues outside of the blood stream have a distinct division of labour. Both kinds of cells have the inherent ability to phagocytose

virus particles, while chemical messengers may momentarily augment this ability. Phagocytes stop virus particles from reaching their target cells by deactivating them in their lysosomal vesicles using a variety of potent enzymes. However, certain viruses are able to infiltrate that cell and turn the tables on the phagocyte, sometimes with disastrous consequences. This occurs when dengue fever complexes with non-neutralizing antibodies and HIV-1 are present in macrophages[3], [4]. In the latter scenario, the virus-attached antibody's Fc region binds to Fc receptor proteins in the macrophage's plasma membrane. Then, in place of the macrophages' natural viral receptors, the Fc receptors allow infection of the previously immune cells. If this component of innate immunity is successful, an infection may be stopped without leaving any B or T cell traces.

## DISCUSSION

Unnatural immunity also includes the natural killer cell. It recognises the presence of unusually low amounts of MHC proteins on the surface of cells, which often indicate viral activity within the cell. These cells are subsequently lysed and eliminated by the NK cell. Important sentinels that trigger immunological reactions are dendritic cells. When infected, they produce type 1 interferons and are strong innate immunity inducers. Additionally, they play a crucial role in processing and delivering foreign antigens to T cells, serving as the main point of contact between the innate and adaptive immune systems. We are now understanding how viruses, in particular HIV-1, have developed strategies to take use of dendritic cells. Finally, although though innate immune system cells lack the adaptive immune system's epitope-specific cell-surface receptors, they do contain receptors that can recognise certain molecular patterns. These Toll-like receptors were first identified due to their function in signalling throughout development. The interferon protein kinase pathway is one of the innate immune system's several pathways that is stimulated by TLRs, which also recognise patterns on viral single- and double-stranded RNAs and viral envelope proteins.

### Interferons and viruses

Jean Lindenmann and Alick Isaacs discovered interferon in 1957. They treated chorioallantoic membranes from embryonated chicken eggs with heat-inactivated noninfectious influenza virus in buffered saline for 24 hours, washing the membrane to remove any nonadsorbed virus. After that, the membranes were discarded, and the antiviral activity of the buffer solution was examined. A new chorio-allantoic membrane was placed in the buffer and inoculated with an infectious influenza virus to achieve this. In contrast to untreated membranes, these membranes did not enable the development of active virus. It was determined that a molecule known as interferon, an extracellular, viral-inhibitory product, had been released in reaction to the heat-killed virus. By blocking the incorporation of radioactive uridine into viral ribonucleic acid in cells infected by an interferon-sensitive virus, or by ELISA, it is possible to measure the anti-viral activity of interferons. Its mechanism of action against viruses is outlined.

### **Actuated Immunity**

T cells were the first class of lymphocytes to develop, and their function complemented and improved the innate immune system's defensive capacity. As will be shown, B lymphocytes emerged later and gave the immune system still another tool to fight infection. The first fish that had them made its appearance. A B lymphocyte undergoes differentiation to become a B effector cell, which produces antibodies with a particular sequence and specificity. For humoral or antibody-based immunity, B cells are in charge. The BCR and the antibody that a B cell produces have the same amino acid sequence, with the exception that the BCR includes an additional domain that binds it to the plasma membrane. An antibody is, in other

words, a soluble BCR. The plasma membrane of every T or B cell contains several copies of the TCR or BCR, respectively. A foreign chemical is only partially recognised by a receptor. Although embryologically we have a random assortment of TCRs and BCRs, early in life we delete cells with receptors that can react with our own epitopes, thus by definition all BCRs and TCRs that are left exclusively recognise alien epitopes. The immunological theory of self and non-self is presented here. An epitope that is a protein, lipid, carbohydrate, or nucleic acid may be recognised by an antibody. An antibody or BCR attaches to the protein's epitope, which is a very narrow area. Approximately 16 amino acids make up this planar surface, which interacts with a corresponding surface to produce the binding site of the homologous antibody[5], [6].

The TCR has a significantly smaller range of recognition and exclusively recognises peptides. These are produced by the intracellular proteolysis of proteins and range in length from 8 to 22 amino acids. The major histocompatibility complex proteins, which make up the plasma membrane of cells, are always present in association with the peptides. Only when a TCR is complexed with an MHC protein can it recognise the corresponding peptide. Even though they circulate as single cells, immune cells move to one of the lymphoid centres when they come into contact with their corresponding antigen. There are numerous of these haphazardly arranged cell clusters, but the lymph nodes, which are strategically placed throughout the body, and the Peyer's patches in the gut wall are the best recognised. They develop into effector cells here. Activated T cells patrol the body, while activated B cells remain where they are and release antibodies.

The systemic immune system and the mucosal immune system are the two components that make up the adaptive immune system. The surfaces of the digestive system, urinary tract, respiratory tract, and ocular conjunctiva are included in the latter group. These are crucial since it is via these sites that most infections are spread. In contrast to the skin, which is virus-impermeable until damaged, mucosal surfaces are particularly susceptible because of their size and the need for bare epithelium for their physiological functions. The issue is that systemic immunity's constituent cells and antibodies do not go to the mucosae. However, the mucosae also contain a reserve of lymphocytes that are activated when an antigen comes into contact with the mucosal surface. Nonreplicating vaccinations, which are often delivered by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection and do not reach the mucosa is triggered by an antigen, both the mucosal and the systemic immunity developed at one mucosal site might spread to other mucosal sites through the migration of activated T and B cells.

All immune responsesinnate and adaptiveare coordinated and interdependent. Even while numerous additional immune responses may be activated, it is frightening to consider that just one particular immune response may defeat a particular pathogen. The remaining replies are either wholly unsuccessful or less effective than the core response. The issue is that it might be difficult to pinpoint which aspect of the immune system will be crucial in overcoming a certain viral infection. The amount and nature of the reaction of this second arm of the immune system depend greatly on the T cells. As was previously mentioned, when a T lymphocyte is stimulated by its corresponding epitope, a cloned population of T effector cells is produced. This population is in charge of a special sort of immunity known as cell-mediated immunity, which has the ability to destroy infected cells. A TCR, a single sequence, epitope-specific receptor that is present in many copies on each T cell that recognises a foreign peptide complexed with an MHC protein on the cell surface, is present on every T cell. A few cell types, most notably dendritic cells and B lymphocytes, also express MHC

class II proteins, although all cellsaside from red blood cellsexpress MHC class I proteins. The three main loci that gene for MHC I proteins each produce a single polypeptide that binds to the identical 2-microglobulin protein to create a dimer. Another three loci are responsible for encoding MHC II proteins, which are dimers of the polypeptides and that are encoded by the three loci. The genes that produce MHC proteins are co-dominantly expressed and have a high degree of polymorphism. MHC proteins cannot develop unless they are complexed with a peptide.

A unique interaction between an MHC protein and its corresponding peptide occurs when the two terminal amino acid residues that anchor the peptide in a groove on the MHC protein are recognised again. The peptide sequence sandwiched between the anchor residues serves as the epitope that this combination presents to T lymphocytes. So long as they all contain the proper anchor residues, an MHC protein may show a variety of epitopes. Since peptides with the right specificity in the cell connect with an MHC molecule, all of these in a virus-free cell will be self-peptides, while some of them in a virus-infected cell will be viral peptides. These peptides are created by proteasomes' intracellular proteolysis and interact with MHC proteins in a manner akin to an egg in an egg cup. Peptides of 8-10 amino acids and 17-22 amino acids form a complex with class I MHC proteins and class II MHC proteins, respectively. A second distinction is that proteins generated within the cell are used to create peptides that associate with MHC I proteins, while proteins introduced from the outside are used to create peptides that associate with MHC II proteins. The peptide is shown on the outside of the cell, attached to the integral membrane MHC protein, once all MHC-peptide complexes have been delivered to the plasma membrane. By engaging with a foreign peptide-MHC complex on the cell surface, the TCR of a T lymphocyte recognises an infected cell, which causes it to be activated to become a functioning T effector cell[7], [8].

## **Understanding Antibody Neutralisation Of Viruses**

When an antibody attaches to a matching epitope on a viral particle, the virus loses its ability to infect. This process is known as neutralisation. In contrast to bigger organisms like bacterial cells, which also need the activity of secondary effectors like complement, viruses are uncommon in that neutralisation is often achieved by antibody alone. Other proteins have little impact on the antibody-antigen response because it is so selective. Therefore, it is not necessary to remove antibodies from crude serum in order to detect neutralisation when using impure viral preparations. Not all antibodies that attach to a viral particle can, however, prevent it from spreading. The phenomenon of neutralisation is epitope-specific. However, it is important to describe how antibody neutralises or makes virus non-infectious in this context. The function of antibody in the recovery from viral illnesses and prevention of reinfection.

Several weeks after an illness has cleared up or after at least two immunisations of a human being or an experimental animal, antibodies are often collected from venous blood as an antiserum often a guinea pig, rabbit, or mouse rat. A pool of antibodies to other foreign antigens that the animal has already encountered may be produced in response to the many viral epitopes found on the various virus proteins. Care must be used when extrapolating from one condition to the next since the isotype distribution of antibodies in serum and mucosal secretions vary. In serum, IgG is more prevalent than IgA, and vice versa.

It seems sense that analysing such a complicated antibody combination would be challenging. Monoclonal antibodies are used to analyse viral epitopes in an unambiguous manner. An antibody-producing B cell produces an antibody with just one sequence, but since these cells cannot proliferate, a single cell cannot produce enough antibody to be useful. However, in 1975 Köhler and Milstein discovered a way to fuse an antibody-producing cell with a B cell tumour cell that no longer produces its own antibodies in order to immortalize an antibody-producing cell. The resultant hybrid cell may then be multiplied in size in a lab. Each cloned cell line produces monoclonal antibodies, or MAbs, which are antibodies with a single sequence. In actuality, the fusion process produces several clones by using a shoddy combination of B cells. The intended hybridoma is recognized by the way its antibody responds to the targeted antigen.

Early research made the assumption that neutralising antibodies only functioned by preventing viruses from adhering to cell surface receptors. While most rhinovirus-specificMAbs functioned via this method, most influenza A virus and poliovirus-specific, neutralisingMAbs did not prevent cell attachment. Consequently, there are several methods for using an antibody to destroy a virus. A virus may be neutralised in a number of ways due to the antibody-specific neutralisation process, which is mostly influenced by the epitope that the antibody attaches to. Surprisingly, no antibody is produced to the poliovirus, rhinovirus, or influenza A virus attachment sites. These sites are concealed from the immune system in depressions on the surface of the virus, most likely as a consequence of evolution seeking to thwart the host's defensive response.

Neutralising antibodies that are particular to rhinoviruses bind to and span the amino acids on each side of the rhinovirus attachment site, blocking it indirectly. By using EM, one can see the antibody-tethered virions as having a fuzzy outer coating. Antibody may be diluted, however, to the point that it is no longer visible to EM yet still completely neutralises infectivity. It is doubtful that the small number of antibody molecules attached to the virus particle would prevent adhesion. Since there are several trimeric attachment proteins present in each influenza virus virion and one IgG molecule is somewhat smaller than one hemagglutinin protein, interfering with the attachment of the virus would be especially ineffective. Additionally, the fact that non-neutralizing antibodies exist shows how specialised the neutralisation response is and implies that antibodies attached to a virus' surface do not always obstruct the attachment process. The fact that a non-neutralizing antibody may sterically impede the binding of a neutralising antibody and enable the virus to elude the immune response adds another layer to this.

It has also been shown that neutralisingMAbs to other particular epitopes do not prevent viral attachment, but antibodies to other epitopes neutralise by inhibiting attachment of a virion to its cell receptors. The neutralised poliovirus binds to cells and is engulfed by an endocytic vesicle, but it is unable to uncoil. Another example has an influenza virus that binds to cells, is endocytosed, but fuses with the cell.membranes is not performed. According to current understanding, there are as many ways to neutralise a virus as there are steps it must take before its genome can enter a cell and be produced. The virus and the MAb must be included in any description of the process of neutralisation, and this definition may alter based on other elements such as the antibody isotype, quantity of antibody molecules within each virion, cell receptor, and type of cell.

At first glance, it seems strange that an influenza MAb would neutralise the virus through a method that does not stop the virus from adhering to cells in culture, but does stop it from attaching to red blood cells. The nature of N-acetyl neuraminic acid, the cell receptor unit, or rather the molecule that transports the carbohydrate moiety of which NANA is a component, likely explains the situation. A little protein that extends only a few nanometers from the surface of the red blood cell carries the majority of the NANA found there. As a result, antibody may sterically stop a virus from adhering to a red blood cell. The longer NANA-carrying molecule on the surface of additional cells that are potential targets for influenza

virus infection likely interacts with the attached antibody to allow the NANA to connect with the virus attachment point. Neutralizing antibody escape mutations are important from a practical standpoint. These viruses contain a point mutation that replaces an essential amino acid in the epitope, which prevents antibodies from attaching to them. Natural mutations of this kind happen roughly 1 in 100,000 times. An antibody-escape mutant's offspring are also not neutralised. As a result, the escape mutant virus displaces the wild-type virus in the population. By comparing the sequences of the wild-type and mutant genes that encode the neutralisation protein, the site of the mutation may be identified. In this approach, all of a viral particle's epitopes and thus its antigenic sites may be mapped using enough MAbs. There are various circumstances in which virions may attach a neutralising antibody without being stopped by it. This happens when the antibody concentration is too low, the antibody's affinity is so low that it dissociates quickly, the virions are aggregated and shielded from antibody contact, or both. There are also some neutralising antibodies that evade detection that have mutations that do not change the epitope but do eliminate neutralisation. This most likely works by stopping a subsequent event along the neutralisation route[9], [10].

## Immunity And Age

In comparison to persons of other ages, the very young and the very old have more bouts of infectious illness, and these infections may sometimes be more severe. This happens because the immune systems of the young and the elderly are, respectively, less developed or less active. Although the newborn receives some protection from maternal transplacental IgG and from immunoglobulins from maternal milk, the development of the immune system lags behind that of other bodily systems.

However, maternal IgG is no longer present by the age of 9 months. By the age of 12 months, a newborn generates 60% of the adult level IgG but only 20% of the adult level IgA, and by the age of two years, the immune system is essentially mature. Like other bodily functions, the immune system deteriorates with age in the elderly. The elderly with immunological memory have an easier time fighting off recurring illnesses, but their immune systems are less competent to handle novel infections like the pandemic influenza A virus. Due to the fact that most clinical trials include participants in the age range in-between, both the young and the elderly present unique challenges for vaccination. In one research experiment, for instance, 46% of participants over 65 failed to react to the influenza vaccine.

### CONCLUSION

The immune system in multicellular organisms is a sophisticated defence system built to guard against a variety of outside invaders, including viruses. Because of this intricacy, which results from the variety of cell types that comprise an organism, infections are difficult to treat. Innate immunity, adaptive T cell-mediated immunity, and adaptive B cell-mediated immunity are the three primary elements of the immune response, and each one is essential to the body's defence against viral infections. In conclusion, the complicated interaction between innate and adaptive immunity in the immune system is crucial for defending multicellular creatures against viral infections. In order to create successful ways to fight viral diseases and enhance public health, it is essential to comprehend the processes of immune response, neutralisation, and the effects of ageing on immunity.

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# CHAPTER 11 EXPLORING THE SPECTRUM OF VIRUS-CELL INTERACTIONS: BEYOND CELL LYSIS

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## **ABSTRACT:**

In the abstract, it is discussed how viruses may cohabit with host cells to prevent host cell death in chronic infections. The discussion includes interactions with antibodies, interferons, and defective-interfering viruses, among other potential causes of chronic infections. The idea that viruses may survive peacefully with their hosts is put out, emphasising how the virus and host interact to achieve a harmonious coexistence. It is discussed how latency works, where the viral DNA stays within the infected cell but doesn't produce infectious children. Herpesviruses and temperate phages are used as examples to briefly discuss the molecular causes of latency. The possibility of latent viruses reactivating themselves as well as their capacity to transition between the latent and cytopathogenic stages are described. It introduces the process of transformation, which occurs when some viruses infect cells and cause them to alter the way they behave. It places an emphasis on the viral genome's integration into the host genome as a prerequisite to transformation, and it briefly discusses the ramifications of transformation. The abstract then discusses adoptive infections, in which certain cells are less receptive to viral replication, resulting in a decrease in viral output or offspring of inferior quality. Examples of human and avian influenza viruses invading nonpermissive cells are shown to demonstrate this point. There is a short explanation of the idea of missing infections, which refers to cells that lack the required viral receptors. An artificial infection of these cells in a laboratory environment is mentioned in the abstract. Finally, the abstract discusses the intricate ways by which viruses cause cell death, highlighting the likelihood that diverse viruses utilise distinct toxicity mechanisms to cause cell death. The poliovirus serves as an illustration of how protein synthesis in the host cell may be inhibited. The conclusion of the abstract emphasises the evolutionary intricacy of viral-host interactions by pointing out the complicated link between cell death that helps the virus and cell death that aids the host in recovering.

### **KEYWORDS:**

Cell, Develop, DNA, Protein, RNA, Virus.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The common misunderstanding that viral infections always result in the death of the infected cell. It explores the many results of interactions between viruses and hosts, such as acutely cytopathogenic, chronic, latent, transforming, abortive, and null infections. It is stressed that a key factor influencing how an infection develops is how a virus first interacts with the receptor on its host cell. The virus's capacity to manifest numerous infection types in distinct cell types is highlighted by the roles played by both the virus and the host cell in determining the interaction's outcome. Acutely cytopathogenic infections are emphasised because they often result in cell death, but not always by cell lysis. The visible cytopathic effects (CPE) and how they normally develop later in the infection process are covered in the abstract. Exploring the idea of apoptosis, a unique kind of cell death, and comparing it with cell lysis.

It is suggested that certain viruses may either prevent or cause apoptosis, which sheds insight on the intricate ways viruses modify cells and cause long-lasting infections.

It takes a complicated connection between the virus and host to kill cells, and this contact often involves the suppression of cellular processes such the creation of protein, DNA, or RNA. Even if the precise processes of cell death are still largely unclear, it is obvious that not all viruses behave in the same way and that elements like cellular apoptosis have a big impact.Numerous methods may lead to persistent infections, in which the virus keeps reproducing within the host without immediately killing off all the cells. These include the interaction between the virus and the cell alone, the presence of antibodies or interferons, or the production of faulty interfering viruses. Since viruses are dependent on host cells for life, they may develop the ability to live in harmony with their hosts. Although infected cells have viral genomes, latent infections do not result in the active generation of contagious virions. Under certain circumstances, these dormant viruses might reawaken and cause recurring illnesses[1], [2].

It is also possible for a virus to transform cells, changing how they behave and multiply. In such circumstances, viral genomes often integrate with the genetic makeup of the host. Only a few cells in a culture may get infected in a "abortive infection," which lowers the viral output. Understanding the causes of this deficiency may help us understand how to prevent successful infections. There are no infections because certain cells do not have the required viral receptors. However, virion production may result from the introduction of viral nucleic acids into these cells, proving that receptor accessibility is an important consideration. Viruses destroy host cells via complicated, poorly understood methods that often entail the disruption of crucial biological functions. Some viruses prevent the commencement of translation, which has an impact on the creation of proteins in the host cell. The virus does not always benefit from cell death brought on by viral infection since the majority of virus children leave the cell without lysing the cell[1], [2].

The most prevalent misconception about viral infections is that the only possible conclusion is the lysis death of the infected cell. However, the interaction between a virus and a host cell may result in a variety of outcomes, from no infection to a persistent infection. Acutely cytopathogenic, chronic, latent, transforming, abortive, and null infections are different types of virus-cell interactions. Initial research focuses on examining cell infections in the lab, and the information gathered helps to comprehend infection of the whole organism in the long run. Two things should be kept in mind: first, the initial interaction between a virus and its receptor on the surface of the host cell is a prerequisite of any of these types of infection, so any cell lacking the receptor is automatically resistant to infection; and second, both the virus and the cell play a crucial role in determining the outcome of the interaction; a virus, for example, may exhibit an acutely cytopathogenic infection in one cell type and laten infection in another.

Cell death is a side effect of acutely cytopathogenic illnesses. These infections have also been referred to as "lytic" infections, however this word is not totally true since in certain infections, cells pass away through apoptosis or programmed cell death rather than being lysed. Since cell dying is a simple impact to detect, viruses that induce acutely cytopathogenic infections are the ones that are most often investigated in laboratories. The creation of infectious offspring in these diseases can often be easily tracked, and the time scale is typically estimated in hours. The fundamental characteristics of each eukaryotic or prokaryotic organism are described by the one-step growth curve. Cell-associated viral infectivity, infectivity that has been discharged from the cell into the tissue culture fluid, and the cytopathic impact are all defined. As with human illnesses, the harmful repercussions

usually manifest last. Under a microscope, CPE may be seen to result in a shift in cell shape from a flattened, spread-out morphology to a rounded one. The production of cellular proteins, DNA, or RNA is usually inhibited by viruses very early in an infection, although cell death frequently happens earlier than can be explained by these inhibitory processes[3], [4]. Although the exact mechanism by which an animal cell is destroyed in the majority of situations is still unknown, it has nothing to do with lysis by lysozyme, which is only used by a small number of bacteria and bacteriophages. One method for releasing a nonenveloped virus from the infected cell is lysis. In other infections, the cell is not destroyed and the virus enters a cytoplasmic vesicle, which subsequently fuses with the plasma membrane to release its contents into the tissue culture fluid. Cellular membranes serve as the bud for all membrane-bound viruses.

### DISCUSSION

The natural mechanism of apoptosis controls the amount of cells throughout development. The separation of webbed digits into fingers and toes in the human embryo, the disappearance of the tadpole's tail, and the elimination of self-reactive T cells during immune system development are examples of well-known instances. The dying cell's ability to maintain its integrity and keep its contents inside the plasma membrane is a very distinctive aspect of apoptosis. Cell lysis, in contrast, causes the cell to disintegrate and liberate its contents. These necrotic byproducts are inflammatory throughout a whole animal and must be cleaned up by scavenger cells, especially those of the immune system, while an apoptotic cell is not inflammatory. A cell goes through significant internal changes during apoptosis, including the fragmentation of its chromosomal DNA. These procedures adhere to a distinct, well-defined pattern. The cell eventually rounds up and is eliminated by being swallowed by a phagocyte, where it is hydrolyzed. Since the infected cell commits suicide rather than producing viral offspring, it is probable that the apoptosis that results from infection rather than that which is caused by the virus, other viruses produce additional proteins that prevent apoptosis while viral replication is taking place, while other viruses contain proteins that initiate the apoptosis pathway as an unavoidable result of their interactions with the cell. This is relevant to the processes through which viruses alter cells or create long-lasting infections.

## **Continuing Infections**

The survival of the infected cell or a situation in which only a small number of cells are initially infected and the spread of the virus is constrained results in persistent infections, which result in the ongoing production of infectious virus with no net loss. The balance between the virus and its host is achieved through the interaction of the virus and cells alone, the interaction of the virus and cells with antibody or interferon to limit virus production, the interaction of the virus and cells with the production of defective-interfering virus, or a combination of these events. Persistent infections are the result of one or more of these outcomes. The hypothesis that viruses evolve to a condition of peaceful coexistence with their host is put out as an explanation for why some virus-cell combinations may create a sustained infection. In other words, the virus does not benefit from the death of its host; in fact, the opposite is true since the virus completely relies on the host for existence.

Virus-cell interactions that lead to recurring infections. Simian virus 5 creates a persistent infection when it infects a monolayer of monkey kidney cells after causing an intensely cytopathogenic infection with cell death in the BHK cell line. The virus multiplies at the same pace in both cell types and in MK cells, where it multiplies with a traditional one-step growth curve. However, MK cells do not exhibit CPE, are unharmed, and constantly generate progeny virus. The MK cell is unaffected by simian virus 5 infection in that normal cell

division occurs and the syn- thesis of cellular protein, RNA, or DNA is not disturbed. According to calculations, the host's resources are not heavily taxed by this virus infection. For instance, less than 1% of cellular RNA is synthesised by the virus in its whole. As a result, although SV5 generates a non-lethal persistent infection in monkey cells, it induces a fatal acute cytopathogenic infection in BHK cells. Thus, the result of this interaction depends entirely on the origin of the cell[5], [6].

When viruses are able to prevent the apoptotic response that often results in an intensely cytopathogenic event, persistent infections may also develop. Numerous viruses produce gene products that may prevent apoptosis. For instance, the human cytomagalovirus encodes UL37x1, a protein that prevents the death of infected cells, enabling the virus to create a long-lasting infection. It is advantageous for the virus to have developed mechanisms to inhibit apoptosis since the chronic infection permits the virus to grow for a long time.

Proof that viruses may prevent apoptosis in order to create a chronic infection. Lysis occurs when the Sindbis virus infects normal cell lines. The creation of a permanent infection, however, occurs when initial cultures of neurons are infected. The bcl-2 gene of the host cell was activated by the Sindbis virus infection, according to an analysis of gene expression from the neuronal cell genome. In healthy cells, this gene stops apoptosis from occurring. The Sindbis virus may survive by preventing the cell's usual apoptotic response to infection by promoting bcl-2 expression. When just a few cells in a culture are infected, naturally generated interferon will induce an antiviral state in the uninfected cells. Interferon suppresses viral proliferation. As a consequence, there is a considerable decline in viral generation and a corresponding decrease in interferon induction. Until the degree of interferon response increases to a threshold where it once again restricts viral development, the fall in interferon levels permits the virus to replicate, infecting a part of the cells in culture. This creates a cycle of viral generation and suppression and allows for the establishment of a stable state.

When just a tiny quantity of a particular neutralising antibody is introduced, a permanently infected culture may also be created in the laboratory when only a small number of cells are originally infected. The progeny virus's ability to reinfect cells is reduced by the antibody. Similar to the interferon scenario, the outcome is that non-infected cells divide at a rate equal to or greater than that of infected cells, resulting in a net survival of the cell population. It is necessary to create a dynamic equilibrium that is skewed in the cell's favour. Of course, there is less net cell formation overall than in an uninfected culture, but in an animal, the regular homeostatic processes that govern cell quantity would increase the rate of cell division. Indeed, it is believed that this circumstance closely resembles certain types of animal-wide chronic illnesses.

Infections can last a long time due to interactions between viruses, cells, and virus that interferes with function. All viruses create DI genomes as a consequence of replication mistakes that erase a significant portion of the viral genome, rendering them incapable of replicating. The DI genome preserves just the sequences required for viral polymerases to recognise it and for the genome to be packaged into a virus particle. Because this is required to provide replicative enzymes and structural proteins, the DI genome can only be duplicated in a cell that is infected with an infectious virus of the kind from which it was formed. The DI genome is an infectious virus' parasite in this sense. The DI virus particles that are produced as a consequence of this collaboration often look exactly like infectious particles. The shorter DI genome may be duplicated more often in the same amount of time as the full-length genome, which causes interference between the DI and infectious virus. For instance, if the DI genome makes up one-tenth of the infectious genome, then 10 copies of the DI genome

will be created for every entire genome that is synthesised. Since viral polymerases are created in negligible quantities, the production of a large number of DI genomes would ultimately sequester all the polymerase, resulting in the cessation of infectious genomes and virus particles. Now that critical proteins are less readily available, the synthesis of DI genomes starts to slow down. In reality, the situation is more complicated since the kind of infected cell greatly influences the development of DI genomes, which allows both the virus and the cell to contribute to a healthy equilibrium.

When cell division, infectious virus replication, and DI virus replication are in balance, persistent infections are the consequence. A DI genome is first created from scratch, and as it grows, it follows the pattern of the infectious virus on which it depends. There is no interference at first since there is enough polymerase to permit replication of both infectious and DI genomes. Only until there are enough DI genomes to sequester most of the polymerase proteins will interference become noticeable. At this stage, there is interference with the infectious virus' ability to multiply, which simultaneously causes the dependant DI virus to decline. Cell counts increase after a low point in the infectious virus population. As they do so, the relative absence of the DI virus boosts infectivity, but the cycle of events is again repeated. In this very dynamic approach, the infectious virus survives in environments where, in the absence of the DI virus, it would only cause a transient, intensely cytopathogenic infection. In other systems, the cycles grow smaller and smaller until there is simply a steady state continuous infection and low level generation of infectious virus and DI virus [7], [8].

## **Infections Current**

The definition of "latent" is anything that exists but isn't manifested. The viral genome is therefore present in the setting of a virus-infected cell, but no infectious offspring are generated. However, a virus that ordinarily produces an intensely cytopathogenic infection and a defective-interfering virus have established latency. A low-level steady state chronic infection gradually replaces the dynamic cycles of infectious and DI viral generation.

There is always an active infection present, as well as certain virus-coded products. Herpesviruses and adeno-associated viruses, for instance, show latency in animal cells and lysogeny by temperate phages is definitely a latent infection. In contrast to phages integrating a DNA copy of their genome into the host's genome, knowledge of the molecular regulatory mechanisms is still in its infancy. This guarantees that the viral genome will reproduce together with the host chromosomal DNA, be passed on to daughter cells, and be shielded from nuclease destruction. On the other hand, despite the typically linear molecule being circularised, the DNA of herpes viruses is not integrated but rather remains episomal.

It is incorrect to refer to a virus as latent since it always starts and ends as an intensely cytopathogenic infection. Delicate molecular mechanisms then work to preserve the latent state once the first intensely cytopathogenic infection is transformed into one. Once the virus's latency has been broken by certain external stimuli, its whole genome is expressed, infectious virus is produced, and the acutely cytopathogenic infection is once again established, providing the virus the chance to infect new hosts. As a result, latency might be seen as an evolutionary tactic for staying in a host for a long time. Herpesvirus latent infections in people may persist throughout their whole lifetimes, reversing sometimes into severely cytopathogenic infections. It is clear that bacteriophage latency differs fundamentally from that of malignant viruses because the former is maintained primarily by virally encoded regulators of lytic replication, whereas the latter is regulated by host factors required for the expression of early virus gene products. The use of labelled antibodies that

are specific for the relevant viral proteins or, in every instance, the polymerase chain reaction amplification of virus genome sequences may be used to detect the existence of a latent virus.

### Modelling Infections

A cell may experience more rapid multiplication than its peers as a consequence of infection with several DNA viruses or some retroviruses, along with a change in a broad range of its features, i.e. it gets transformed.Integration of at least a portion of the viral genome with the host genome often occurs prior to this. The topic of transformation and other facets of tumour viruses are covered in length. Although transformation is an uncommon occurrence brought on by a virus that often leads to acutely cytopathogenic or permanent infections, the name "tumour virus" is misleading. Even still, metamorphosis is an important occurrence since a single immortal cell has the power to rule a whole population. Since the transformed cell only carries a portion of the virus's genome and is unable to produce any offspring, transformation for DNA viruses seems to have no evolutionary importance.

### **Adoptic Infections**

Any cell with the necessary receptors will get infected by a virus, however not all cells reproduce the virus as well as others. The amount of virus particles produced may be less overall, or the progeny's particle to infectivity ratio may indicate that they are of lower quality. Both of these indicate a flaw in the creation or processing of certain components required for multiplication, whether they be proteins, RNA, or DNA. An example of this is the avian influenza virus developing in mouse L cell line, where both the quantity of offspring and its specific infectivity are decreased, most likely as a result of inadequate virion RNA synthesis. Another is when human influenza viruses infect other nonpermissive cells, which results in typical yields of noninfectious virions. This is because the specific protease needed to cleave the hemagglutinin precursor protein into HA1 and HA2 is not present in these cells. Trypsin, in modest doses, may be added to the culture or to the released virions to reverse this. When seeking to spread viruses, abortion infections create challenges, but they have proven helpful when studies into the basis of the defect have improved knowledge of productive infections. Abortiveness in natural infections enhances the nature of the infection by limiting the virus to just those cells where a productive infection occurs[9], [10].

### **Absent Infections**

This group of cells comprises those that lack the proper receptors for a certain virus and cannot interact with a viral particle. When infectious viral nucleic acids are intentionally injected into these cells in the lab and form offspring virions, it is shown that often this is the only barrier to infection. The simplest criteria of infectivity, that of viral CPEs, is provided by the understanding that animal viruses often destroy the cells in which they multiply. A virus does not always kill the cell in which it multiplies, as shown by simian virus 5 above. Instead, such death might result from a particular viral-cell interaction. Surprisingly, it is still not entirely understood how a cell gets destroyed, except for the fact that every virus must go through at least a portion of its multiplication cycle in order for death to take place. Thus, it seems that the virus creates a hazardous substance and that viruses with various reproduction techniques are likely to employ various toxicity mechanisms. Differentiating between an impact on a cell function that operates early enough to be accountable for toxicity and those that show late and are a result of those toxic effects is a challenge in these studies. Although viruses may prevent the creation of host proteins, RNA, and DNA, we will only discuss proteins in this article as they are the subject of considerable research.

Studies on how the poliovirus inhibits the production of host cell proteins suggest that this is due to the inactivation of the translation initiation factors that are in charge of identifying capped messenger RNAs. The mRNA of the poliovirus is not capped and depends on a unique translation start mechanism. Therefore, its translation is unaltered. Evidently, viruses do not destroy cells by a single, easy procedure, and we are unaware of the intricate processes at play. However, unless there was a quick turnover of a crucial molecule that could not thereafter be replenished, cells would not instantly perish when their macromolecular production is cut off. Thus, the processes outlined above resemble gradual starvation more than acute poisoning, with the exception of the disruption of the Na/K balance and apoptosis. The virus's benefit, if any, from destroying its host cell is not entirely evident as the majority of offspring viruses exit the cell by exocytosis or by budding from the cell membrane. There is a difference between cell death that results in the animal host's demise and cell death that the host can easily replace, often without the host even realising they are infected. The former is harmless, while the latter implies that the infection is a brand-new viral-host interaction that hasn't developed well in terms of virus and host survival or the invasion of the "wrong" sort of cell.

### CONCLUSION

The widely held belief that viral infections only result in the lysis and death of infected cells is far from accurate. There are a variety of outcomes that may arise from viral interactions with host cells, from no infection to several types of chronic infections. These interactions are influenced by elements including the properties of the virus, the kind of host cell, and the systems that control the immune response to infection. Even though acutely cytopathogenic infections, also known as lytic infections, may cause cell death, not all lytic infections cause cell lysis. Also possible is apoptosis, or programmed cell death. Due to their obvious consequences and simplicity of investigation, these illnesses are often the subject of laboratory research. In conclusion, viral infections include a variety of interactions with host cells that might result in results other than cell lysis. Research is currently being conducted to better understand the complexities of virus-cell interactions and its ramifications for both viruses and host organisms. These interactions are regulated by a variety of circumstances.

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# CHAPTER 12 UNDERSTANDING THE COMPLEX DYNAMICS OF VIRUS-HOST INTERACTIONS AND THEIR IMPACT ON DISEASE

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## **ABSTRACT:**

Understanding how viruses cause sickness depends critically on the study of virus-host interactions in animals. The fact that viruses are parasites emphasises their need on the biological success of host species, emphasising the necessity to prevent eradicating the host or reducing its reproductive ability for the virus's evolutionary plan to persist in nature. The result of a virus's complex and varied interactions with its host organism depends on a wide range of variables, including the immune system of the host. This essay explores the relevance of Robert Koch's postulates, which were developed more than a century ago to identify the disease-causing chemicals. These hypotheses have undergone revisions to account for our growing knowledge of viral pathogenesis, even though they remain valid today. Notably, these postulates' applicability has been expanded by the existence of asymptomatic carriers and the need to show that viruses may cause the formation of certain antibodies. The article also offers a thorough categorization of virus-host interactions, including a variety of classifications based on elements including host cell death, clinical symptoms, and the length of infection. The research emphasises the complex three-way interplay between the immune system, host cells, and viruses, recognising that the immune system plays a crucial role in the outcome of these interactions. In addition, the study explores several viral infections, including acute infections, subclinical infections, chronic infections, and latent infections, illuminating each's unique traits and ramifications. It emphasises how different infection types affect the immune system's efficacy and stresses the significance of immunological memory in avoiding repeated infections.

## **KEYWORDS:**

Cell,DNA, Protein, RNA, Virus-Host Interactions.

## INTRODUCTION

The more than a century-old Robert Koch postulates continue to be the basis for identifying the infectious disease-causing organisms. In recognition of the fact that viruses may cause subclinical diseases and may not always be isolated in pure culture, they have developed to take into account the complexity of viral pathogenesis.Based on elements including whether the virus kills its host cell, the existence of clinical symptoms, and the length of infection, viral-host interactions may be divided into several categories. These categories aid in our comprehension of the variety of interactions, but it's crucial to keep in mind that, depending on the situation, viruses may display a variety of different behaviours.The fate of viral infections is significantly influenced by the immune system. While viruses may cause host cells to die, the immune system's reaction to the infection can also cause illnesses, such as autoimmune disorders. Immune responses must be balanced since an overactive immune system may be harmful to the host.Rapid viral replication is a characteristic of acute viral infections, which generally produce clinical symptoms. Together, the innate and adaptive immune responses regulate and eradicate the infection. Through the synthesis of antibodies,

the memory cells produced during an infection provide long-lasting defence against reinfection. On the other hand, subclinical illnesses often go untreated since they don't have obvious symptoms. These infections show how intricately certain viruses interact with their natural hosts, finding a balance that prevents the virus from causing serious illness. When the immune system is unable to adequately eliminate the virus, persistent and chronic infections develop. Viruses that cause these illnesses often adopt techniques to circumvent immune responses, which might result in extended infections that could be harmful to the host.Herpesviruses are well-known instances of latent infections because they lie dormant for extended periods before becoming active again. These infections may endure a lifetime and present particular difficulties for the immune system of the patient.Chronic illnesses that worsen over time as the virus keeps replicating are referred to be strategically developing diseases. While some viruses continue to pass on their infectious traits to their progeny, others go through genetic modifications that make them less contagious. A greater understanding of viral aetiology and its effect on the host is necessary to comprehend these illnesses.

Understanding the ability of viruses to cause illness depends on the study of animal virus-host interactions. The fact that viruses are parasites and that the biological success of a virus completely relies on the success of the host species must constantly be kept in mind. Therefore, a virus's evolutionary strategy in nature must take into consideration the fact that eliminating the host species or impairing its capacity to reproduce is counterproductive. Virusesexhibit a variety of unique, often intricate interactions with complete creatures. The final result of the interactions between viruses and animals depends on a variety of distinct circumstances. Numerous of these interactions include the immune system's outlined components[1], [2].

# **KOCH'S Postulats Are The Cause And The Effect**

Robert Koch, a bacteriologist, established standards for determining if an infectious agent was indeed the cause of an illness and not just a byproduct more than a century ago. These still apply now since new illnesses are continuously developing. Koch's basic premise was that the suspected agent must be isolated and cultivated in pure culture, and pure preparations of the agent must result in the same sickness when administered to healthy subjects. The suspected agent must also be present in specific tissues in each occurrence of the disease. The following changes were made as knowledge of pathogenesis expanded:

## Hypothesis 1

When Koch learned that there were asymptomatic carriers of cholera and typhoid germs, he abandoned his initial belief that the agent shouldn't be pre-sent in the body in the absence of the illness. Many viruses may also produce these subclinical illnesses, as will be evident further down.

## Hypothesis 2

This postulate was adjusted to state that it is necessary to establish that bacteria-free filtrates generate illness and/or trigger the manufacture of agent-specific antibodies since viruses were not known in Koch's day and some still cannot be grown in culture today.

## Hypothesis 3.

When it comes to severe human illness, it is obviously difficult to complete the third postulate, albeit sometimes an incidental infection might provide the required proof. For

instance, regrettable laboratory mishaps have conclusively shown that the acquired immune deficiency syndrome is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus.

# A Virus-Host Interactions Classification

a list of examples along with a categorization of the different virus-host interactions. The table is simply meant to be a guide, however, since there is a continuum of virus-host interactions and the divisions are only there for categorizing ease. Four factors are used to differentiate the categories: whether or not the virus kills its host cell, whether or not there are visible clinical indications or symptoms, and the length of the infection. As many cell types may be replaced without causing damage to the individual, it is clear that cell death does not always correspond with illness. It is also clear that a single virus may be included in a number of categories, depending on how it interacts with the host, and that the length of infection seems to be inversely related to the need for effective transmission. HIV-1 serves as an example of how challenging it is to categorise illnesses. Additionally, it is crucial to recognise the three-way interaction between the immune system, host cell, and virus that determines how each infection develops. As a result, whereas the balance is tipped in favour of the virus in persistent and chronic infections, it favours the host in acute and subclinical infections. The characteristic shared by persistent, chronic, and latent infections is that the immune system is unable to remove the rogue viruses from the body[3], [4]. However, since every infection engages the immune system and modifies one or more of its processes, the immune system never performs to its maximum capacity.

## DISCUSSION

It is important to keep in mind that virus disease and virus infections are inextricably linked. For example, the only distinction between an acute infection and a subclinical infection and the distinction between chronic and persistent infections is whether or not a disease develops as a result of the infection. While the virus's destruction of target cells may be the primary cause of illness, the immune system's reaction to the infection also plays a significant role in disease development. When the immune system is supposed to be battling the infection, this sounds weird, but it is one of the flaws in that response that is caused by the many, competing demands placed on it; other drawbacks include allergic responses and autoimmune diseases. If the immune system is not adequately managed or directed, it has the potential to completely destroy the body in which it is housed. Indeed, there are severe reactions that happen when some viruses infect animals that lead to death. This is readily shown since immunosuppression stops the sickness and spares the animal's life. Various clinical signs and symptoms that are caused by the immune system rather than the virus are present in between, such the measles rash and the vaccinia pock. It is not simply the adaptive immune response that is involved in this fashion, since pure interferon treatment causes all of the flu's symptoms, and interferon triggered by influenza virus infection may even be the cause of the flu itself.

### Acute illnesses

Acute infections are similar to acutely cytopathogenic infections in vitro, with the exception that the virus's infecting dosage is usually tiny and that it replicates several times, spreading from the initial infected cells to other susceptible cells. Because of this, the minimum time frame is measured in days as opposed to hours. Viruses circulate throughout the body and come into touch with a variety of organs during numerous illnesses. The majority of viruses, known as target organs or target tissues, attack specific organs or tissues rather than spreading infection across the body. As a result, influenza viruses invade the respiratory system while hepatitis viruses enter the liver; the opposite never happens. As mentioned for

in vitro infections in this specificity is mostly accomplished by the presence of certain cell receptors on only particular cells in the body, but there may also be intracellular limitations on infection.

Clinical signs and symptoms as well as a number of laboratory tests may be used to characterize an infection of an organism. Without the latter, the cause of the problem cannot be fully identified. The detection of viral antigens in blood and other tissues obtained by biopsy using a variety of immunological assays, the isolation and titration of infectious viruses, the detection of viral nucleic acids using the polymerase chain reaction for DNA or RT-PCR for RNA, and the direct identification of viruses using the electron microscopepossibly in conjunction with an antibody that will agglutinate cognate virus particles are all examples of laboratory tests. Faecal samples, nasal wash materials, or biopsy materials may all be examined using electron microscopy.

The progression of acute infection and infection recovery. Acute infections start with the infection of one or a few cells, the production of infectious offspring, and the death of the infected cells. With growing numbers of infected cells, further rounds of multiplication continue until eventually the first illness signs and symptoms emerge. So before we even become aware of the illness, it has been developing for many days. Virus is often shed before we are aware of an illness, which may only help the virus spread to the susceptible persons we come into contact with. Thankfully, the majority of individuals recover from acute viral infections in a few days or weeks. There are several distinct acute illnesses, and the requirements for each. The measles virus is a great illustration since virtually all of the diseases it produces are severe. Comparatively, 99% of poliovirus infections are subclinical and just 1% are severe[5], [6].

At this point, it is useful to think about the processes involved in surviving a primary infection, which is the first contact with a certain virus. It is difficult to draw definitive conclusions from a setting this intricate and disconnected from the study of cells in culture. The innate immune system, however, serves as the initial line of protection. If it is successful, the virus does not spread further, but the interaction does not leave an immunological memory. Adaptive immunity, on the other hand, is triggered if the virus manages to bypass innate immunity. The initial line of defense against primary infections is comprised of antibodies and T cells, particularly CD8 cytotoxic T cells. Although research on persons with inherent immune deficits have been instructive, information on local mucosal immune responses in humans is widely available. These have produced the crucial finding that, once established, a virus infection can only be managed by one or both of the adaptive immune response's arms and that this antiviral impact is not interchangeable. People with good T cellmediated immunity but a congenital lack of antibody-mediated immunity, for instance, are unable to fight off picornavirus, orthomyxovirus, and paramyxovirus primary infections. In these situations, the virus is not eliminated from the body and may stay there for years, thereby worsening the clinical condition. Herpesvirus and poxvirus infections are not eliminated, and they may spread throughout the body and possibly become life-threatening due to a congenital inability to mount T cell-mediated immunity.

These discoveries have serious implications for vaccinations. Vaccines are created empirically in the sense that their ability to prevent infection is all that is commonly understood about the immune responses they trigger. Therefore, it is unknown whose immune responseif anyis responsible for the observed protection or how to activate a specific immunological component that could be of value. There is no rational method to solve the issue if a proposed vaccination does not provide protection. This is the same issue that vaccine researchers are dealing with after using every empirical strategy possible to combat HIV with glaring failure. Therefore, scientists must now decide which immune responses provide protection against HIV infection before figuring out how to activate them; in other words, they must comprehend how the immune system as a whole functions, which is a crucial issue.

As long as the corresponding antigen is present, B cells and T cells are urged to proliferate and differentiate, and adaptive immunity is said to be "antigen driven." Once the cognate antigen is removed from the environment, immune cell division ceases, leaving a population of memory cells. The presence of long-lived, non-infectious antigen is assumed to be the reason why antibodies often linger for a long time after the infection. Memory cells are dormant cells without effector capabilities that produce a considerably greater population of cognate B and T cells than were present prior to the infection throughout the duration of the cell's existence. Additionally, compared to lymphocytes, memory cells have a lower threshold for antigen activation. All of this permits a secondary immune response to be established less slowly, more quickly, and to a greater extent than the main response in the event of reinfection with the same virus. The primary line of defence against re-infection by the same agent is antibodies. It is believed in some circles that such "sterilising immunity" does not actually exist and that when a virus is encountered a second time, infection does in fact occur, albeit this time the infection is low-level and subclinical. If they are present in sufficient quantity there will be no reinfection. In fact, because it will strengthen immunological responses, this may be advantageous [7], [8].

## **Controllable Infections**

Invisible or silent infections are other names for subclinical infections. These infections are the most prevalent and, as asymptomatic name suggests, show no symptoms of illness. These are exactly the same as acute infections in every other way. Only laboratory isolation of the virus or a post-infection elevation in virus-specific antibodies serve as indicators of infection. Any virus that develops a favourable balance with its host and results in a subclinical infection. One such type of viruses is the enteroviruses, which grow in the gut; the poliovirus, which is responsible for over 99% of infections yet seldom manifests any symptoms, is a well-known example. Since there are numerous instances of a virus causing lethal disease when it infects a different host, such as the yellow fever virus, which causes a subclinical infection in Old World monkeys but results in a severe infection in humans and is fatal in some New World monkeys, a subclinical infection may be the expression of a highly evolved relationship between a virus and its natural host. Acute infections last for the same amount of time and are treated the same way as subclinical infections.

## **Chronic And Permanent Infections**

Infections that are persistent or chronic are acute or subclinical infections that the immune system does not clear up. However, persistent infections often only affect a small number of cells and give forth little viral offspring, while chronic infections are more active. Why the immune response is ineffective is the important issue. The expression of major histocompatibility complex proteins or some part of the immune response itself, in general, seems to be significantly inhibited by viruses that cause persistent and chronic infections. In contrast, persistent or chronic infected by a person with an aberrant immune system. Virus particles and infected cells are not eliminated, whatever the initial source.

Understanding how the immune system, host cell, and virus interact in a three-way manner to determine the course of all infections is crucial. While the balance is more in favour of the virus in acute and subclinical infections, it is more in favour of the host in persistent and

chronic infections. Numerous viruses perform specialized tasks that suppress the production of certain immune responses. It is more difficult to analyses downregulation since it is a quantitative phenomenon rather than an absolute. For instance, interferon has to be present in sufficient quantities to be effective. A dosage of interferon that suppresses one virus could not be effective against another because viruses differ in their innate sensitivity to the antiviral action of interferon.

When mice are infected with the lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus as newborns, this is a typical illustration of a persistent infection. The virus is abundant in the blood and every tissue, including the brain, and the animals develop immune tolerance to its antigens. Tolerance is seldom complete, which is an unknown characteristic, but it is likely because of the compromised immune response that the infection cannot be controlled. Similar to interferon, which is produced in little amounts despite the viruses' sensitivity to it. Animals infected during pregnancy are unaffected, while those infected as adults get an acute illness. They mount a fatal, extraordinarily potent T cell defense against the virus, committing immunological suicide.

Humans who are infected with the hepatitis B virus, one of the causes of viral hepatitis, are another example of a chronic infection. Blood and saliva that have been exposed to an infection may also spread it sexually.

Even while the majority of infections are fully recovered after an adult's first acute infection, there may still be illness and liver damage. Despite the fact that most of these infections are subclinical, the virus may survive in the liver for a lifetime in a tiny percentage of persons. Contrast this with the scenario in the Far East, where HBV is prevalent and is probably transferred by contaminated saliva from a carrier mother to her young offspring. Chances of a persistent infection increasing with age, reaching over 90% in very young newborns, the younger the age at which the illness occurs[7], [9].

## **Infections Current**

All latent infections, by definition, begin and end as acute infections. A latent infection never progresses beyond the subclinical stage because no infectious virus is present. Herpesviruses are a large and diversified family that infect a wide range of animal species latently. Many are responsible for typical childhood infections. These viruses are arguably the best suited to survive with their host of all viruses since they all stay dormant and such infections last a lifetime. Some viruses depend on immune system activity to retain their dormant existence. All of us have many latent human herpesviruses, and some of us carry as many as eight herpesviruses. Human herpes simplex virus type 1 is one of the most prevalent and effective because by the age of two, almost everyone has contracted it. Contact with contagious saliva is what causes this. Finally, one of the several states that HIV-1 may assume in specific cell types is latency.

### **Strategically Developing Diseases**

As their names suggest, they are chronic illnesses that take years to develop, while viral replication continues as usual. Viral diseases that progressively worsen and spongiform encephalopathies-related illnesses are the two groups. The viruses are further separated between those that continuously produce infectious offspring and those whose genomes degenerate over the course of the lengthy incubation period, rendering them noninfectious. The infectious agent that causes the transmissible spongiform encephalopathies is thought to be a new kind of one.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, research into how viruses interact with their hosts is essential if we are to comprehend how viruses spread disease. Because they are obligate parasites, viruses are completely dependent on the host species to survive biologically. Since eradicating the host species would be harmful, this basic link determines how viruses evolve. Viruses interact in a variety of complex ways with the creatures that serve as their hosts, and how these interactions turn out is influenced by a number of variables, including the immune system of the host. In conclusion, the study of virus-host interactions explores the complex connections between viruses and their hosts. Understanding how viral diseases work, the function of the immune system, and the creation of preventative and treatment plans depend on it. Research in this area must continue since viruses continue to be a threat to human health. This study concludes by providing a thorough summary of the complex and varied interactions between viruses and their host species. It highlights the importance of comprehending these interactions to clarify the origins and consequences of illnesses and opens the door for further virology and immunology-related study.

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# CHAPTER 13 REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION AND GENOME REPLICATION IN RETROVIRUSES AND HEPADNAVIRUSES

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## **ABSTRACT:**

The replication mechanisms of retroviruses and hepadnaviruses, two important virus families that include genetic material in both RNA and DNA forms at different phases of their life cycles, are thoroughly examined in this chapter. Hepadnaviruses have DNA as its genetic material, while retroviruses mostly carry RNA. Reverse transcription, in which DNA is transcribed from an RNA template, is the key component of the replication process in both families. However, this process alone does not lead to genome amplification; rather, the number of genomes is only sufficiently increased for the production of progeny particles once RNA copies are synthesised from the DNA template. Reverse transcription is highlighted when the chapter digs into the many stages of the retrovirus replication cycle. Howard Temin's groundbreaking work from the 1960s hypothesised the possibility of a DNA intermediate in retroviral replication, which was subsequently validated by David Baltimore and Howard Temin's discovery of reverse transcriptase. Since then, reverse transcription has developed into a crucial technique in molecular biology research and illuminated the role it played in the development of sophisticated creatures, including the discovery of retroviral sequences in human DNA. The chapter also covers spumaviruses, a subclass of retroviruses with distinctive replicating characteristics. These properties include late-stage reverse transcription inside progeny particles prior to their release. Hepadnaviruses, like retroviruses, employ reverse transcription, but because of their circular DNA genomes, they also need to create covalently closed circular DNA and produce mRNA.The chapter concludes with a discussion of the distinctive gene expression tactics used by several paramyxoviruses, where nontemplated insertions result in the creation of extra proteins. It also emphasises the viral glycoproteins' proteolytic cleavage, which is a crucial step in paramyxovirus assembly and fusion protein activation. The chapter offers a thorough review of the various replication and gene expression processes used by different virus families.

### **KEYWORDS:**

DNA, Retroviruses, Reverse Transcription, Viruses.

### INTRODUCTION

The replication of retroviruses and hepadnaviruses, two significant virus families with genetic material in both RNA and DNA forms at various phases of their life cycles, is covered in this chapter. Different viruses have different types of nucleic acid packed into their particles; most retroviruses have RNA, while hepadnaviruses have DNA. Reverse transcription is the method by which DNA is transcribed from an RNA template.

Although necessary for both virus families' replication, this stage does not result in genome amplification on its own. Instead, only after RNA copies are transcribed from the DNA do we see a rise in genome number adequate for progeny particle generation.

# The Cycle Of Retrovirus Replication

The next parts of this chapter go into great depth on the different phases of the retrovirus replication cycle. Before attempting to comprehend these phases in further depth, it is helpful to consider the overall context in which they fit. All retroviral particles have two identical single-stranded genomic RNA molecules that are linked to one another and are approximately 8000–10,000 nucleotides long. These RNAs have the same sense as mRNA and possess the distinctive 5' cap structure and 3' poly-adenylate tail of eukaryotic mRNA. Despite these characteristics, once the particle reaches a cell, the genomic RNA is never translated. Instead, a double-stranded DNA molecule is created using it as a template. Reverse transcription takes place inside the cytoplasm of the arriving viral particle. The DNA is subsequently transferred to the nucleus, where it joins the host genome. Only then are progeny genomes capable of being created by the transcription of DNA into mRNA molecules. These may either be packed into offspring particles that exit the cell to complete the cycle or translated to produce protein[1], [2].

Howard Temin developed the idea that a DNA intermediary participates in retroviral replication in the 1960s. His "provirus" idea postulated that the information from the retroviral RNA that caused the infection was transferred to a copy of the DNA, which was then used as a template for the synthesis of offspring viral RNA. Now it is obvious that this idea is accurate. Temin's idea called for an RNA-dependent DNA polymerase or "reverse transcriptase" to be present in infected cells, but at the time, no enzyme that could accomplish this had been discovered. If such an enzyme existed, the retrovirus would have to either cause a cell to produce it or transport it within its virion into the cell. A reverse transcriptase was sought for in retrovirus particles, and in 1970, David Baltimore and Howard Temin separately announced the discovery of such an enzyme. For their work, they were later given the Nobel prize. Since reverse transcriptase gives researchers the ability to make whole DNA from mRNA in the lab, enabling cDNA cloning, it has grown to be a fundamental component of all molecular biology studies. The role of reverse transcription in the development of the genomes of sophisticated creatures like ourselves has also come to light. Numerous repetitive fragments and intron less pseudogenes, each of which bears the telltale signs of a reversetranscribed and integrated sequence, may be found in human DNA.

## **Reverse Transcriptase Of The Antivirus**

Three enzymatic processes are carried out by the reverse transcriptase protein: reverse transcriptase, which produces DNA from an RNA template, DNA polymerase, which produces DNA from a DNA template, and RNaseH activity, which breaks down the RNA strand in an RNA:DNA hybrid to produce single-stranded DNA. The primers are removed during DNA replication by an enzyme having RNaseH activity. for additional information about the RT protein.

As with all other DNA polymerases, the RT enzyme needs a primer to start DNA synthesis. A host tRNA that is transported in the virus particle along with the viral genome serves as the primer for reverse transcription of the viral RNA. Each retrovirus has a particular kind of tRNA in it, for example. Both the Moloney murine leukaemia virus and the Rous sarcoma virus include tryptophan tRNA. Although the process by which these tRNAs are chosen is unknown, it is likely that the precise sequence of the genomic RNA at the tRNA binding site plays a key role. The genomic RNA and RT must both enter a cell for RT to fulfil its role in the viral life cycle. Even if a cell has previously been modified to have RT, mutant retroviral particles that do not contain active RT cannot form proviral DNA. This shows that reverse transcription doesn't completely uncoat the genome, which explains why, despite the genome

possessing all the characteristics of mRNA, it is never translated because host ribosomes can't reach it. Reverse transcription, which is a conversion rather than an amplification phase, can only produce one proviral DNA molecule from each genome RNA due to the activity of RNaseH. Only after several RNA copies are synthesised from proviral DNA later in the infectious cycle is the cycle of retroviral genome replication complete. However, reverse transcription is an essential initial step in a retrovirus's infection of a cell; without it, the infection cannot advance. Therefore, it is not unexpected that this mechanism is a crucial target for medications intended to treat HIV infection. Retroviral sequences, on the other hand, experience large amounts of mutation with each cycle of infection since RT lacks any proofreading function[3], [4]. Due to the quick development of drug resistance, this fast evolution of sequence poses a serious challenge to the treatment of HIV infection. Another reason why a potent vaccination against this virus has not yet been created is the ensuing antigenic variation.

## DISCUSSION

In the life cycle of retroviruses, the incorporation of proviral DNA into the host genome is a critical stage. This procedure guarantees the viral genetic material remains in host cells throughout time and may result in the emergence of endogenous retroviruses. Retroviral integration, on the other hand, is strictly controlled and mostly takes place in dividing cells.Circular DNA genomes are reproduced in hepadnaviruses, such as the hepatitis B virus (HBV), by a difficult process including transcription and reverse transcription. HBV replication differs from that of retroviruses due to the production of covalently closed circular DNA (CCC) and the function of host RNA polymerase II in transcription.Reverse transcription, DNA polymerization, and RNaseH activitywhich breaks down the RNA strand in RNA. DNA hybridsare the three main tasks carried out by the reverse transcriptase enzyme. A primer, often a host tRNA contained inside the viral particle, is needed for reverse transcription. For reverse transcription to be effective, the host cell must accept both the reverse transcriptase and the genomic RNA. Although reverse transcription only partially removes the genome's protective layer, it is an important first step in retroviral infection and is hence a good target for HIV drugs.

The next stage of retroviral replication involves integrating parvoviral DNA into the host genome, which is made possible by the virus-coded integrase enzyme. This procedure, which varies amongst retroviruses and is reliant on the cell cycle stage of the host cell, is necessary for effective replication. Endogenous retroviruses that are inherited in the host's genome have developed as a result of certain retroviral integrations that have taken place in germ lines.Similar to how mRNA is produced in the host cell, new retroviral RNA genomes are created from integrated proviral DNA. But for genome replication, proper regulation of transcription start sites and polyA addition sites inside retroviral long terminal repeats (LTRs) is crucial. Due to reverse transcription units to both encode and decode them.Without encoding proteins, the short circular RNA genomes of the viroids multiply by rolling-circle processes in the host cell. The host's RNA polymerase is also necessary for the replication of the circular RNA genome virus known as the hepatitis delta virus (HDV). To reproduce, HDV needs an active infection with the hepatitis B virus (HBV), and its replication methods are unique from those of retroviruses and viroids.

#### DNA from retroviruses is integrated with cell DNA

In the cytoplasm of the partially uncoated virus particle, proviral DNA is created. Preintegration complex, or PIC, is the name given to this combination of DNA and remaining virion proteins, which includes the virus-coded integrase enzyme that entered the cell in the particle. The DNA is integrated into the cellular DNA in the nucleus when it migrates there. The integrase enzyme and the short inverted repeat sequences at the proviral termini are necessary for successful integration. Similar to RT, this enzyme cannot be added later; in order to function, it must enter the cell with the infecting particle.

The integration process is broken down into three parts. The viral integrase first removes two bases from each of the 3' ends of the linear proviral DNA molecule. The 3 ends are secondly annealed to locations in the host DNA that are a few bases apart. Following the attachment of the proviral 3' ends to the genomic DNA 5' ends, the integrase cleaves these sites. Because the energy of the cleaved bonds is utilised to produce the new ones and is thus reversible, this stage of the integration process does not need an input of energy from ATP, etc. Finally, host DNA repair processes fill in any gaps and correct any mismatched bases at the newly formed junctions, making the integration irreversible. Typically, 1–20 copies of integrated proviral DNA are present in infected cells. There are no particular integration sites, however there is a slight bias for chromatin areas that are open and have active genes[5], [6].

Integration only takes place in cells that are progressing through the cell cycle for the majority of retroviruses. This is believed to be a result of the PIC's inability to pass through an unbroken nuclear membrane; the nuclear membrane is broken during mitosis, allowing the PIC to reach the host chromosomes. However, HIV is not constrained by this limitation since proteins in its PIC may promote nuclear uptake, enabling infection of dormant cells. Although somatic cells will often host the majority of retroviral integration events during an infection, retroviral integrations into human and other species' germ lines have been seen at different stages throughout evolutionary history. These occurrences have resulted in the development of endogenous retroviruses, which are inherited similarly to conventional genetic loci. The majority of these loci have undergone changes that make it impossible for them to produce viral particles, but some still retain the ability to do so under the right circumstances.

### **Retrovirus Progeny Genomes Are Made**

From integrated proviral DNA, fresh retroviral RNA genomes are synthesized. This mechanism is quite similar to how biological mRNA is made. The provirus is translated by cellular DNA-dependent RNA polymerase II, and the host cell enzymes cap and polyadenylate the main transcript. Undoubtedly, a single provirus may produce several RNA copies, and it is this processrather than reverse transcription that results in genome expansion throughout the replication cycle. The parental genome that created the provirus must perfectly match the offspring genomes for the virus to effectively multiply. To do this, the transcription start point inside the left-hand LTR must be precisely at the 5 end of the R element. However, the RNA pol II promoter is located before the transcription begins. Genome RNA production would be dependent on serendipitous integration of the provirus near to a host promoter if the provirus were just a copy of the genome since there wouldn't be any viral sequences upstream of this start point to supply the promoter. This is why it's crucial that the LTRs be produced during reverse transcription.

The needed promoter elements for RNA pol II are provided by a virus-coded sequence, U3, which is inserted upstream of the requisite start site at R during the formation of the left LTR. The polyA addition site must also be placed precisely at the 3' end of the R element inside the right-hand LTR at the opposite end of the genome. Again, it is crucial that proviral sequences extend beyond the desired genome 3' end; these sequences are given by the U5 element inside the right-hand LTR. This is because sequences both upstream and downstream of a polyadenyla- tion site are vital in defining its location. As a result, the LTRs' development is

essential for retroviral replication. A retroviral genome is able to both encode and be encoded by an RNA pol II transcription unit because of the sequence duplications that take place during reverse transcription.

## **Retrovirus With Unusual Features**

Spongaviruses are members of the retrovirus family, although they have only lately been thoroughly researched. The majority of research has focused on the human foamy virus, despite the fact that it is really a chimpanzee virus that infected humans as a dead-end zoonotic infection; there is no proof of a true human foamy virus. Sponga viruses at least start reverse transcription inside assembled progeny particles before they are discharged from a cell, unlike the typical retrovirus replication cycle. In other words, rather than starting at the beginning of the replication cycle, DNA synthesis happens towards the conclusion. As a result, DNA rather than RNA constitutes the genetic material in at least a percentage of spumavirus particles. The hepadnaviruses, which are likewise reverse-transcriptional viruses containing DNA in their particles, and spumaviruses are similar in this regard. The spumaviruses may resemble both common retroviruses are currently considered as a subfamily of the retroviruses, the Spumavirinae, rather than a genus within that family due to their distinctions from conventional retroviruses[7], [8].

# The Cycle Of Hepadnavirus Replication

The circular DNA genome of the human hepatitis B virus is partly double-stranded. This consists of two straight DNA strands that have been paired to create a circular. The genome of an HBV particle is carried to the nucleus where it is finished and forms an entire double-stranded circle. This is then translated to produce several types of mRNA, one of which may be packed into progeny capsids instead of being translated. This pregenome RNA acts as a template for reverse transcription after it enters the capsid, resulting in the formation of the partly double-stranded DNA that is discovered in particles after they have left the cell. Some of the DNA-containing cellular debris is lost. Additionally, they have the ability to infect the cell's nucleus once again. This procedure increases the amount of viral DNA copies in the nucleus that are accessible for viral gene expression and offspring development because the infection itself does not cause cell death.

## Hepadnavirus Reverse Transcription Mechanism

It has taken a while for molecular analyses of HBV replication since the virus is highly challenging to produce in culture. However, research on HBV and its cousins, the woodchuck and duck hepatitis viruses, has led to the development of a replication strategy.Following entry of the HBV particle, the DNA genome is carried to the nucleus, where the P protein is cut loose and both strands are finished and ligated by host DNA repair processes to form a covalently closed circle, or CCC.

The host RNA pol II then uses the DNA strand of the CCC as a template for transcription. It should be noted that the hep-adnavirus CCC does not need to integrate into the host genome for it to be transcribed, in contrast to the retroviral provirus. Different mRNAs are produced during transcription and exported to the cytoplasm. The longest type of mRNA encodes the P protein and also acts as the pregenome, or the template for genome DNA synthesis, and has a terminal repeat since it spans more than the whole circumference of the circular template. With terminal protein, reverse transcriptase/DNA polymerase, and RNaseH domains, P protein is multifunctional.

## **Reverse Transcribing Viruses Comparison**

Reverse transcriptases are used by viruses other than animal retro- and hepadnaviruses. The only true double-stranded DNA virus family in the plant world is the caulimoviruses. Cauliflower mosaic virus research has shown that it is a reverse-transcribing virus with characteristics like both retroviruses and hepadnaviruses. The CaMV genome is a double-stranded DNA circular, similar to the HBV genome, with an incomplete positive strand and a full but gapped negative strand. The retroviruses, hepadnaviruses, and caulimoviruses are essentially unrelated; only the retroviruses contain a particular integration function, and their protein coding techniques vary. However, there are some striking similarities between the molecular components of their replication. Additionally, each species of virus uses host RNA polymerase II to create RNA that functions as either the genome or the pre-genome. The variation in the nucleic acid composition of mature virions is caused by variations in the timing of this occurrence in the viral life cycle. The spumavirus subfamily of the retroviruses serves as an example of how this variety may be seen even within a single virus family. Therefore, all of these viruses' reproduction cycles may be thought of as slightly altered versions of one another throughout time.

## RNA Genome Synthesis of Viruses And Hepatitis Delta Virus

## The spreading of viroids

There is no positive sense mRNA produced because the covalently closed ssRNA genomes of plant viroids do not encode any proteins. Positive sense is the word used by convention to refer to the strand of RNA that is most prevalent in the infected cell, however this term has no real-world use. The host plant's proteins are required to duplicate the naked RNA when it enters the cell. The host cell DNA-dependent RNA polymerase is the enzyme most likely in charge of replicating the genome's RNA. Although the precise mechanism of this enzyme's action on an RNA template is unknown, the vast base-pairing structure of the genome RNA may play some role.

Viroid genome RNA replicates by using a rolling circle process similar to that of circular DNA. Although the mechanism of the initiation event is unknown, RNA polymerase II starts replication at a specific location on the genome. A linear concatemeric RNA with the opposite sense to the genome is created during the replication process, and it is from this RNA that genome-length RNA molecules are removed. The excision is dependent on the activity of a ribozyme, a peculiar RNA sequence found within the freshly synthesised molecule. In order to produce genome-length linear ssRNA molecules, these ribozyme sequences take on a complicated three-dimensional structure and autocatalytically cleave the RNA at a particular point. Then circles are created out of these molecules.

Circular plant viroid antigenome RNA formation is poorly understood. The ribozymes are unable to enter their active conformation because the RNA forms an extensively base-paired rod-like structure in the covalently closed circular conformation, which is comparable to the infecting genome. The circular RNA is not cleaved as a result. The rolling circle concept uses the circular antigenome RNA as a template to create more genomes. A ribozyme sequence found in the genome sense RNA cleaves the concatemer to create linear genome-length molecules that can once again be circularised.

### Delta-type hepatitis virus

The circular RNA genome of the hepatitis delta virus is 1.7 kb. In the electron microscope, the genome appears like a rod because it is heavily base-paired. HDV encodes two proteins,
the large and small delta antigens, in contrast to plant viroids. Both of them are made from the same mRNA, but the bigger protein comes from the translation of a subset of the mRNA molecules, which has had its typical stop codon that ends the synthesis of the tiny delta antigen changed by a host cell enzyme. This indicates that although the amino acid sequences of the two proteins are similar, the big delta antigen has an additional 19 amino acids at the carboxy terminus. Only cells that are also infected with hepatitis B virus can support HDV replication. The replication of the HDV genome proceeds in the same manner as that of the viroids. The HDV RNA is replicated by the host cell RNA polymerase via a rolling circle mechanism, and the linear genomes created by the cleavage of the concatemer by the HDV ribozyme sequence are circularised using an unidentified method. Although the small delta antigen has been linked to the start of replication, there is still disagreement and study in this area. The hepatitis B virus structural proteins and both delta antigens are used to package the DNA into particles. The resulting particle resembles hepatitis B virus particles exactly.

## Virus development in cells

A unique method of gene expression that is used by several other paramyxoviruses was discovered by nucleotide sequence analysis of mRNAs produced from the Sendai virus P gene. To guarantee the integrity of the protein sequence during transcription of any gene, it is crucial that the polymerase creates an accurate duplicate of the template.

However, as RNA synthesising enzymes lack a proofreading capability, any mistakes cannot be fixed. The majority of the mRNA produced during Sendai virus P gene transcription is an exact replica of the template. However, at a specific location in around 30% of moleculesnucleotide 1183 in the mRNA, which is in the ORF encoding the P proteinan extra G nucleotide is added. A fresh protein with the same amino terminal sequence as the P protein but a distinct carboxyl terminus is synthesised under the direction of the mRNA with the extra G residue. V is the name of the new protein. Strangely, certain paramyxoviruses encode the P protein from the mRNA with the extra nucleotide in addition to the V protein from the mRNA that is accurately transcribed from the genome template. Though its exact purpose is unknown, the V protein is considered to have a role in the development of illness. Two G residues are added at the same position during transcription events from the Sendai virus P gene in around 10% of cases. The W protein, which has the same amino terminal sequence as the P and V proteins but a different carboxy terminus, is produced by translation of the resultant mRNA. The relative abundance of the new proteins is determined by the frequency of the nontemplated insertion event[9], [10].

## Cleavage of post-translational proteins

Two glycoproteins, the attachment and fusion proteins, are introduced into the cell's lipid bilayer by paramyxoviruses. While the amino terminus of the attachment protein is external, the carboxyl terminus of the F protein is inserted on the exterior surfaces of the cell and, sometimes, the virus. The precursor, F0, which features an amino-terminal hydrophobic signal sequence that is cut off by a host cell protease upon insertion into the cell membrane, is used to create the F protein. The F protein must undergo one more cleavage, this time in the Golgi network, which is likewise carried out by a host cell protease. This cleavage activation process results in the formation of the two halves of the F protein, designated F1 and F2, which are covalently joined to one another by disulfide bonds. This is comparable to the cleavage of the HA protein of the influenza virus. Paramyxoviruses' attachment protein is not broken down.

## CONCLUSION

This chapter explores the replication procedures of retroviruses and hepadnaviruses, two important virus families having genetic material present in both RNA and DNA forms at different phases of their life cycles. Both virus families depend heavily on the reverse transcription process, which turns RNA into DNA, for successful reproduction. By allowing the viral genetic material to integrate into the host genome, the viral replication cycle can be completed and offspring genomes may be created. The chapter also discusses additional reverse-transcribing viruses, such as caulimoviruses and spumaviruses, which differ from retroviruses and hepadnaviruses in their reproduction cycles. It also examines the distinctive characteristics of the hepatitis delta virus (HDV) and the replicating processes of plant viroids. In conclusion, reverse transcription, integration, and transcription are complex processes involved in the reproduction of retroviruses and hepadnaviruses. For the creation of antiviral treatments and for gathering knowledge about the development of genetic material in different species, it is essential to comprehend these processes.

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