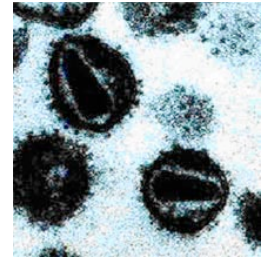


Public Enemy # 1986

Virus Name: Human Immunodeficiency Virus type 2

Code Name: HIV-2

Profile:



Family: Retroviridae

Genomic information: Single stranded, positive sense RNA. Non-segmented.



Appearance/guises: Shows *both* icosahedral and helical symmetry. Envelope present.

Power: HIV-2 is a viral agent that causes HIV disease and can eventually lead to AIDS. HIV-2 is comparatively less prevalent in the world than HIV-1.

Offenses

Attacks: Anyone engaging in high-risk behaviors is susceptible to attack by HIV-2. Such behaviors include: sexual contact (penetrative) and direct blood-to-blood contact. HIV-2 may also attack children born to HIV-2 positive mothers.

Outcome: HIV-2 causes HIV disease which may result in Acute Retroviral Syndrome as well as variety of flu-like symptoms and rashes. HIV-2 can lead to AIDS: severe suppression of the immune system, at which point opportunistic infections may arise.



Speed: Studies suggest that the incubation period of HIV-2 is longer than that of HIV-1 (around 5-7 years without intervention).

Defenses

Vaccines: There is currently no vaccine for HIV-1 or HIV-2.

Behavioral: People can easily prevent attack by not engaging in risky behaviors. An HIV-2 positive mother can protect her baby from attack by taking certain antiretroviral drugs and not breastfeeding.



Treatment: Laboratory studies show that nucleoside analogs and protease inhibitors can fight against HIV-2, but non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors can not. Any opportunistic infections associated with HIV-2 infection should be treated immediately.

Game action: Lose one life for engaging in risky behavior and falling susceptible to HIV-2.

One liner: "When it comes to speed, I won't win the game but stick around and you'll see. I'm not up to nothing for all of those years—I'll kill you all the same!"