Introduction to medical virology "Viral structure and Classification"

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**OBJECTIVES** 

General characteristics of viruses. > Structure & symmetry of viruses. > Classification of viruses. > Steps of virus replication. > Laboratory diagnosis of viral infections.

## **Properties of Microorganisms**

<i>characteristic</i>	<b>Parasite</b>	Fungi	<b>Bacteria</b>	<b>Virus</b>
Cell	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<i>Type of nucleus</i>	Eukaryotic	Eukaryotic	Prokaryotic	
Nucleic acid	Both DNA & RNA	Both DNA & RNA	Both DNA & RNA	DNA or RNA
<b>Ribosomes</b>	Present	Present	Present	Absent
Mitochondria	Present	Present	Absent	Absent
<b>Replication</b>	Mitosis	Budding or mitosis	Binary fission	Special

## <u>Characteristics Of viruses</u>



## Size ; 20-300 nm





#### **1- Viral genome**

### 2- Capsid

#### 3- Envelope





**1-Viral genome** 

DNA
(Deoxyribonucleic acid)
All DNA Vs have ds except Parvoviruses
Single molecule

RNA (Ribonucleic acid) > All RNA Vs have ss except Reoviruses Single / double > (+) polarity (-) polarity

All Vs are haploid, except retroviruses are diploid



## **2-Capsid**

> a protein coat
 > Subunits (capsomeres)
 > Genome (NA) + capsid
 = nucleocapsid

#### Function;

- Protects NA
- Facilitates its entry into cell





based on arrangement of capsomeres

Cubic symmetry

 (Icosahederal)

Helical symmetry

Complex symmetry



#### based on arrangement of capsomeres

> 1-Cubic symmetry ( lcosahedral )









#### Herpes virus



#### based on arrangement of capsomeres

#### > 2- Helical symmetry





Elongated (filoviruses) Pleomorphic ( influenza v.)

> 3- Complex symmetry poxviruses





3-Envelope
Lipoprotein mb
(host lipid, virus specific protein)

 During viral budding
 Envelope is derived from cell mb except herpesviruses from nuclear mb
 Enveloped Vs are more sensitive to heat, dry & other factors than nonenveloped Vs
 Glycoprotein attaches to host cell receptor





#### The outer viral ps

- Mediate attachment to specific Rs
- Induce neutralizing Abs
- Target of Abs
- The internal viral ps
- Structural ps ( capsid ps of enveloped Vs )
- Nonstructural ps (enzymes)
  - All ssRNA Vs (-) polarity have transcriptase (RNA dependent RNA polymerase) inside virions
  - RetroVs & HBV contain reverse transcriptase





> Type of NA > The no. of strand > The polarity of viral genome > The presence or absence of envelope > Type of symmetry









> Adsorption (Attachment) Penetration > Uncoating > Synthesis of viral components mRNA Viral proteins NA > Assembly > Release



Viral growth cycle



## Attachment site; glycoprotein \_\_\_\_\_



#### - folding in the capsid proteins.





#### **1-Fusion**



(enveloped virus)



Enveloped viruses
 fuse with endosome mb.
 Nonenveloped viruses
 lyse, or pore em.

<u>Replication</u>

 Adsorption (Attachment)
 Penetration
 Uncoating Release of viral genome - cytoplasm - nucleus

## Synthesis of viral components





- > Adsorption (attachment)
- Penetration
- > Uncoating
- Synthesis of viral components
  - mRNA
  - Viral proteins
  - NA

## >Assembly

## *NA* + *V. proteins* = *Virions*



**Release** 

> 1-Budding
 (enveloped Vs)
 -cell mb\*
 -nuclear mb
 (herpesVs)



 > 2- Cell lysis
 or rupture of the cm (nonenveloped Vs)





> *Microscopic examination.* > Cell culture. > Serological tests . > Detection of viral Ag. > Molecular method .

## **Microscopic examination**

## Light microscopy, Histological appearance Ex. Inclusion bodies



*Owl's eye* (CM∨)

#### Electron microscopy;

- Morphology& size of virions
- Ex. Diagnosis of viral GE such as rota, adenoviruses.
   Diagnosis of skin lesion caused by herpes, or poxviruses.
- It is replaced by Ag detection & molecular tests

#### > Electron micrographs



















Laboratory animals
Embryonated eggs
Cell culture







Variation in Sensitivity of cell cultures to infection by viruses commonly isolated in clinical virology laboratories

Virus	Cell culture <sup>a</sup>		
	PMK	HDF	HEp-2
RNA virus			
Enterovirus Rhinovirus Influenza virus RSV	++++ + ++++	+++ ++++ + +	+/- + - +++
DNA virus Adenovirus	+	++	+++
HSV VZV CMV	+ + -	++ +++ +++	++

*PMK, primary MK. Degree of sensitivity:* +++, *highly sensitive;*++, *moderately sensitive;* +, *low sensitivity;* +/-, *variable;* -, *not sensitive* 



#### Cytopathic effects







## **Problems with cell culture**

Long incubation (up to 5 days)
Sensitivity is variable
Susceptible to bacterial contamination
Some viruses do not grow in cell culture e.g. HCV

## Rapid culture technique

Shell Vial Assay
 Detect viral antigens
 1-3 days





Fig. 2, CMV centrifugation culture fixed and stained 16 hrs after inoculation showing viral proteins in nuclei of infected human fibroblast cells











- > e.g. of techniques
- Complement fixation test (CFT)
- > Immunofluorescence (IF)
- Enzyme- linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)







A- Direct
 Ag detection;
 Sample (Ag)

B- Indirect
 Ab detection;
 Sample (Ab)









Fig. 3, HSV-infected epithelial cell from skin lesion (DFA)









Indirect ELISA for Ab detection ; coloured wells indicate reactivity







#### > Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)

- NA amplification technique.
- Viral genome
- > Uses;
  - Diagnosis
  - Monitoring response to treatment

# Reference book and the relevant page numbers

Medical Microbiology and Immunology
 By: Warren Levinson .
 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2008.
 Pages;192-195,199-207, 216-220,233-235.



REVIEW OF Medical Microbiology and Immunology

LANGE

VARREN LEVINSON

 Lippincott's Illustrated Reviews: Microbiology By: Richard A.Harvey , Pamela C Champe & Bruce D. Fisher 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2007 . Pages;233-242



