

Viral infections of CNS

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OBJECTIVES

- Understand the different acute viral infections of the CNS. (Meningitis, paralysis and encephalitis).
- Differentiate between the clinical presentation and cerebrospinal fluid finding in the viral meningitis (aseptic meningitis) and bacterial meningitis (septic meningitis).
- Understand the common viruses causing aseptic meningitis and encephalitis with regard to classification, structure, epidemiology pathogenesis, infections, clinical presentation, lab diagnosis and prevention.
- understand general information of arboviruses and giving some example of arboviruses causing CNS infection.

Virus neurological diseases:

➤ **Acute viral infections of the CNS.**

Meningitis, paralysis & encephalitis.

➤ **Chronic virus neurological diseases.**

SSPE, PML, C-J disease, tropical spastic paraparesis, HIV dementia.

➤ **Neurological diseases precipitated by viral infections.**

Reye's syndrome, Guillian-Barré syndrome.

Meningitis

Caused by:

Infectious agents ;

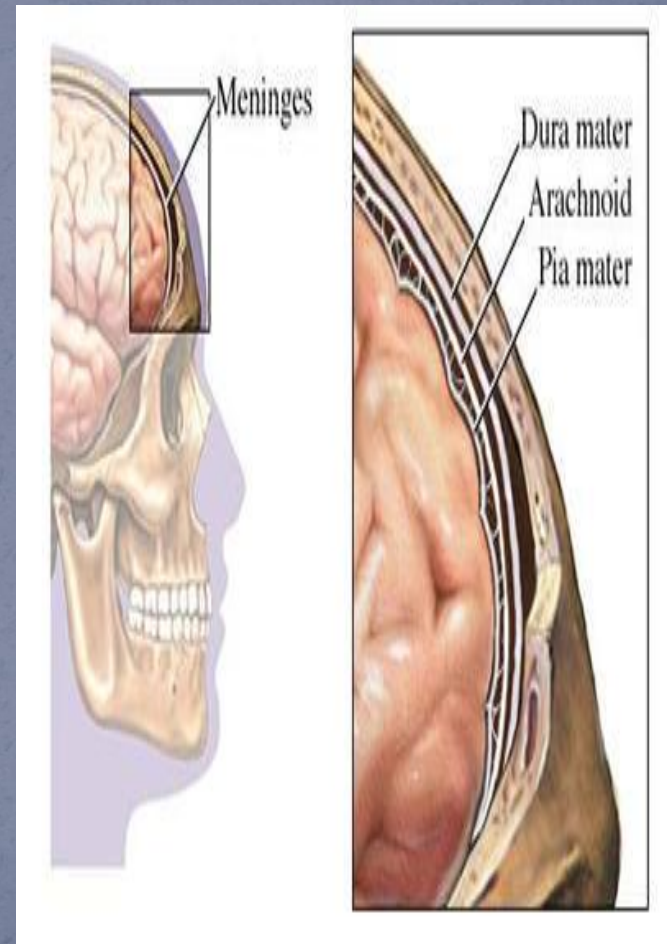
bacteria

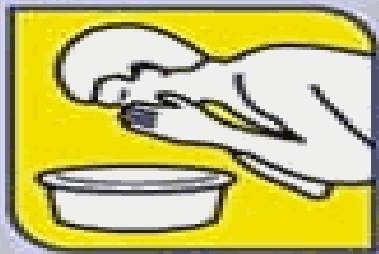
viruses

fungi

protozoa

Non-infectious agents.





Vomiting



Fever



Headache



Stiff neck



Light aversion



Drowsiness



Joint pain



Fitting

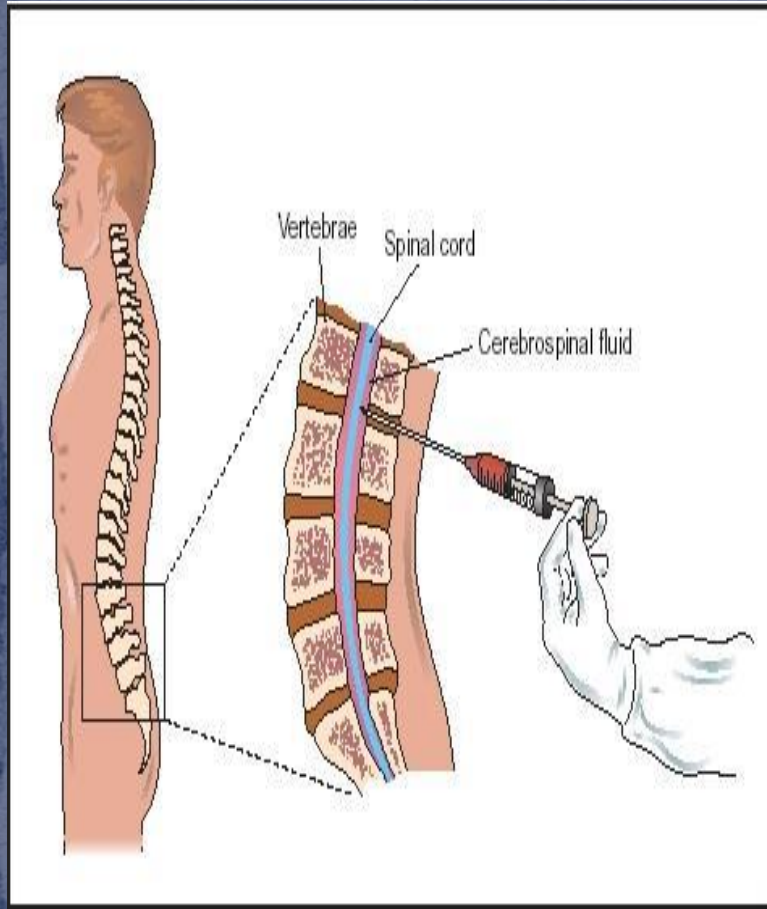
Viral Meningitis

- Aseptic meningitis
- Less severe
- Resolves without specific treatment within a week or two

Bacterial Meningitis

- Septic meningitis
- Quite severe and may result in
 - a) brain damage
 - b) hearing loss
 - c) learning disability
- It would also causes death!

Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) analysis ;



	Normal	Aseptic meningitis	Septic meningitis
Colour	Clear	Clear	Cloudy
Cells/mm ³	< 5	increase 100-1000 Lymphocytes	High/v. high 200-20,000 Neutrophils
Glucose mg/dl	45-85	Normal*	Low<45
Protein mg/dl	15-45	Normal/high 50-100	High>100
Causes		Viruses* , others	Bacteria

Viral Meningitis (Aseptic meningitis)

❖ Etiological Agents:

➤ *Enteroviruses*.**

➤ Others:

➤ Mumps virus.

➤ Arboviruses.

➤ Herpes viruses.

➤ Human immunodeficiency virus.

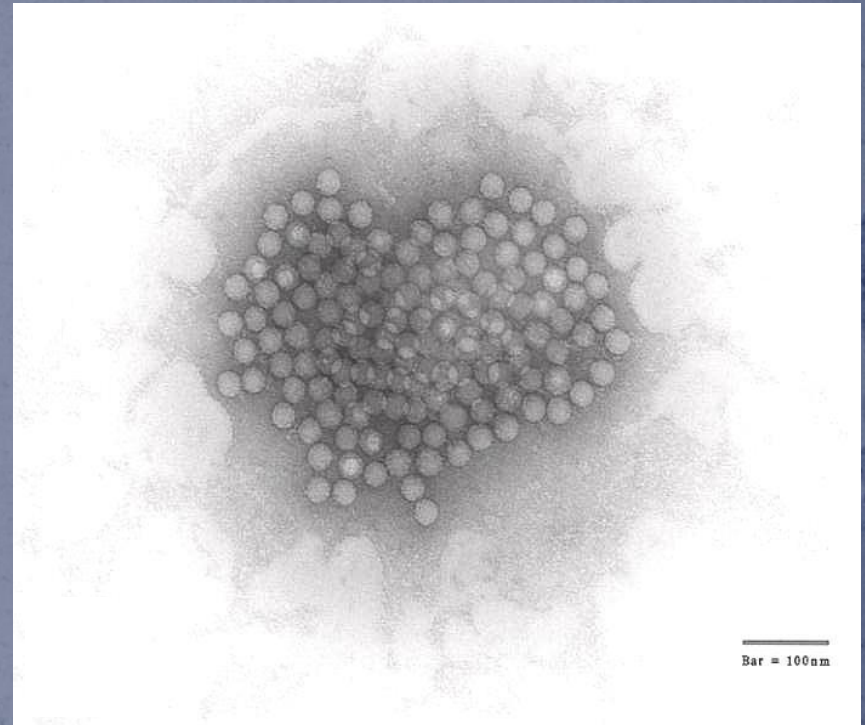
➤ Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus.

Enteroviruses

- Picornaviridae

Include;

- Poliovirus (1, 2&3 types)
- Coxsackieviruses (A&B)
- Echoviruses
- Enteroviruses (68-71)

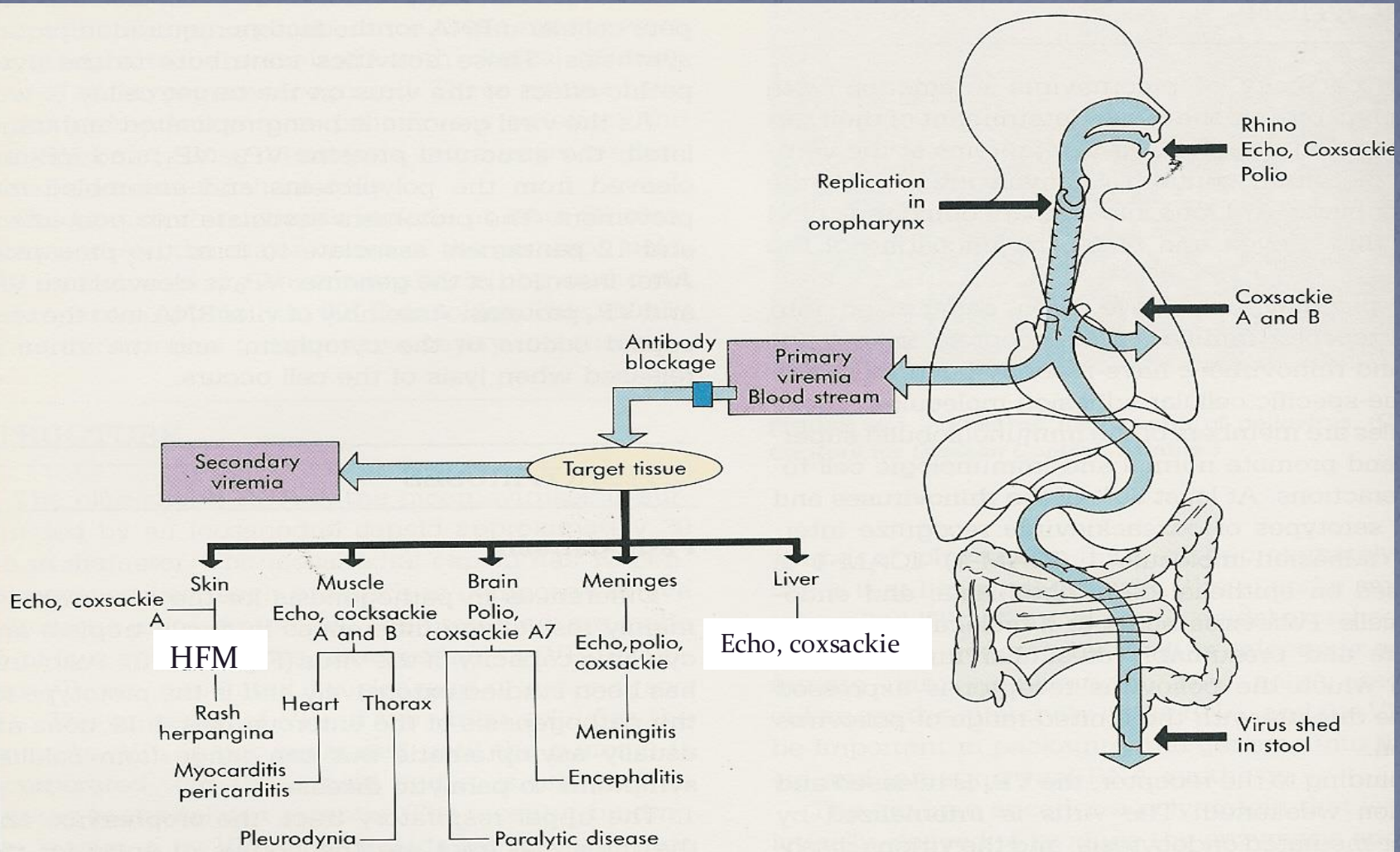


Nonenveloped , icosahedral , ss (+) RNA

Epidemiology

- Reservoir: humans
- Spread:
 - Fecal - oral route (mainly)
 - Inhalation of infectious aerosols
(Crowded, Poor hygiene & Sanitation)
- Age: children > adults
- Seasonal distribution: summer & fall

Pathogenesis



Enteroviral infections

➤ Asymptomatic Infections*

➤ Diseases;

<i>Neurologic Diseases</i>	Poliovirus Types 1-3	GPA COX. Types 1-24	GPB COX. Types 1-6	Echovirus Types 1-34	Enterovirus Types 68-71
Aseptic meningitis	1-3	Many	1-6	Many	71
Paralysis	1-3	7,9	2-5	2,4,6,9,11,30	70,71
Encephalitis		2,5-7,9	1-5	2,6,9,19	70,71

2-Cardiac and muscular;

Pleurodynia (epidemic myalgia)

Myocarditis, pericarditis

3- Skin and mucosa infections;

Herpangina

Hand-foot-and-mouth disease

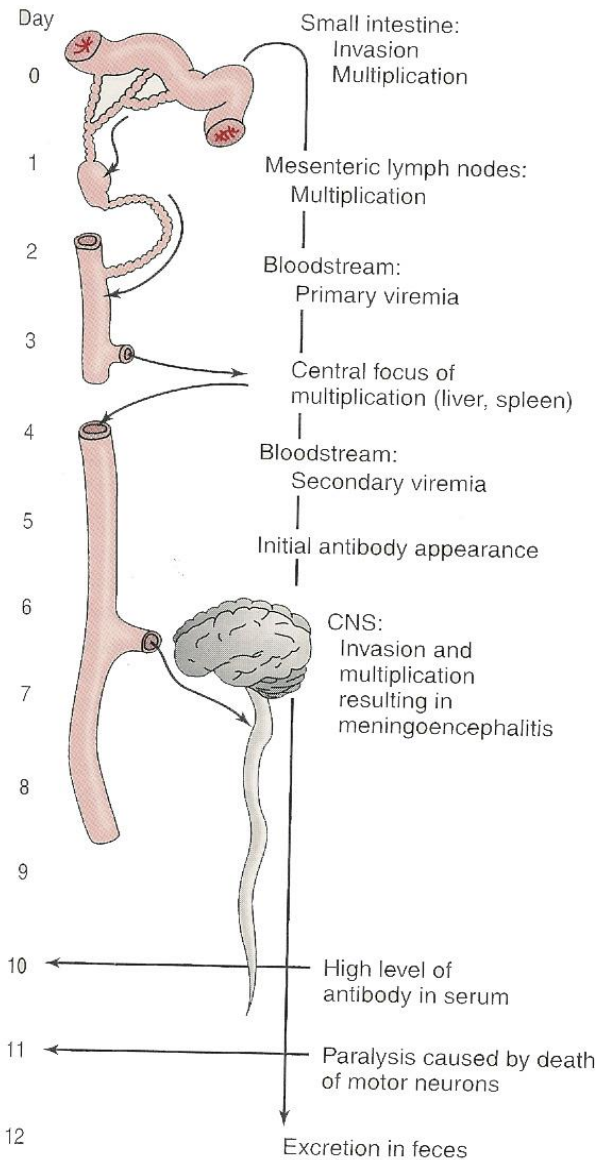
Exanthems

3-Acute hemorrhagic conjunctivitis

4-Respiratory tract infections.

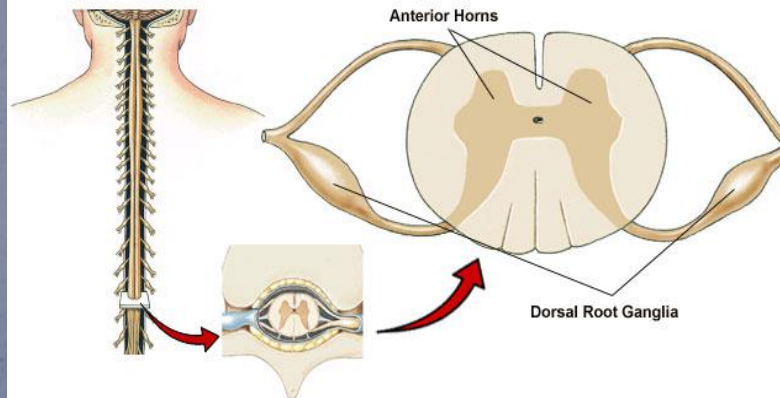
5-Others

Pathogenesis of polio:



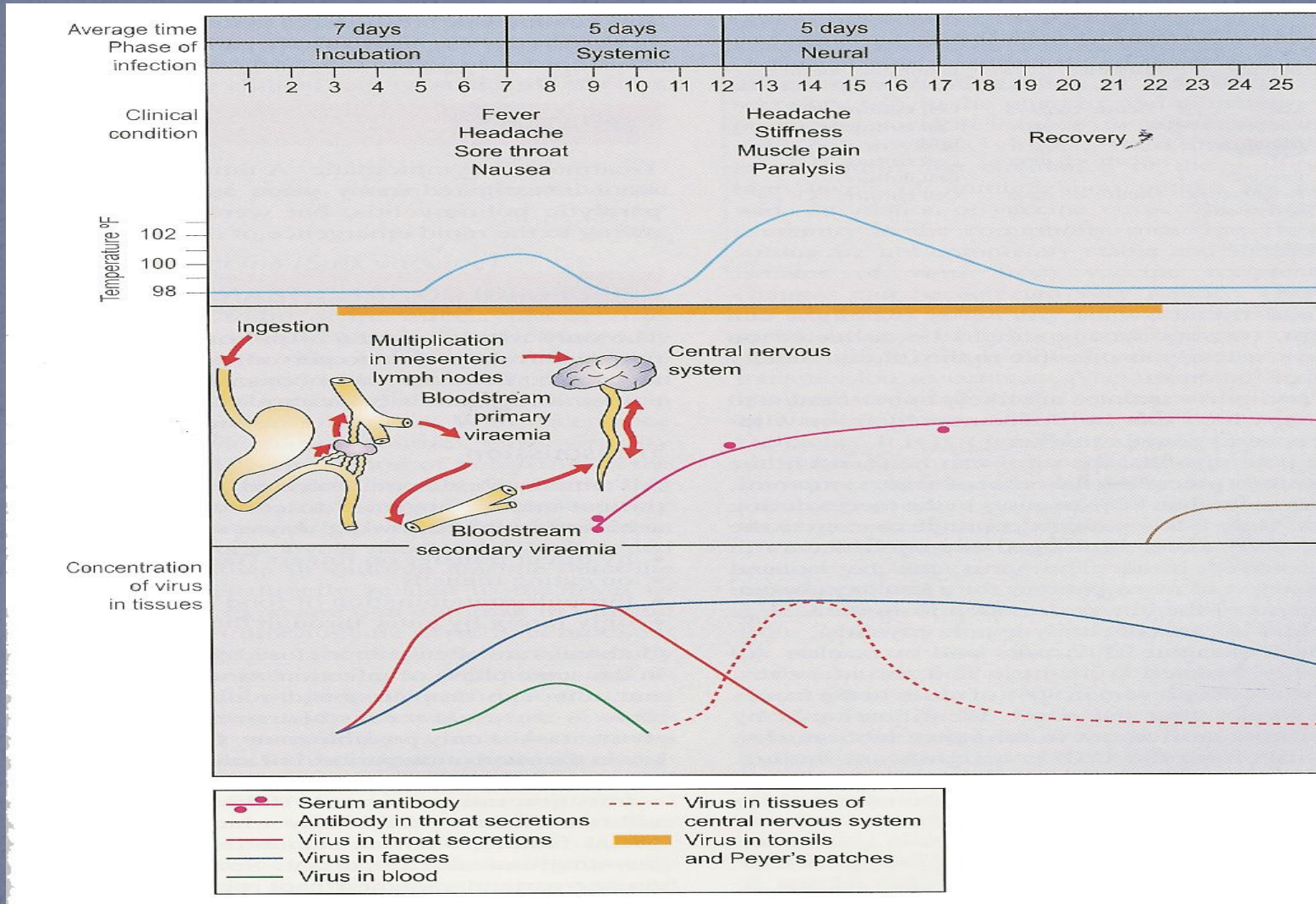
- Pathway to CNS by:
 - Blood
 - Peripheral nerves
- Causing destruction of motor neurons
- Rarely affects brain stem (bulbar poliomyelitis)

Figure F-6: Dorsal Root Ganglion & Anterior Horn



The dorsal root ganglion transmits sensory information while the anterior horn directs motor neurons.

Pathogenesis of Polio:



Immunity: IgA & IgG = Lifelong type-specific immunity

Poliovirus Infections

```
graph TD; A[Poliovirus Infections] -- "90-95%" --> B[No illness  
Asymptomatic]; A -- "4-8%" --> C[Minor Illness  
Abortive poliomyelitis (No CNS involvement)]; A -- "1-2%" --> D[Major Illness]; D --> E["1- Nonparalytic poliomyelitis (Aseptic meningitis)"]; D --> F["2- Paralytic poliomyelitis: (Flaccid paralysis)"];
```

The diagram is a flowchart with a dark blue background and red-bordered boxes. At the top is a box labeled 'Poliovirus Infections'. Three red arrows point downwards from this box. The rightmost arrow is labeled '90-95%' and points to a box labeled 'No illness' with 'Asymptomatic' written below it. The middle arrow is labeled '4-8%' and points to a box labeled 'Minor Illness' with 'Abortive poliomyelitis (No CNS involvement)' written below it. The leftmost arrow is labeled '1-2%' and points to a box labeled 'Major Illness'. Below the 'Major Illness' box are two numbered items: '1- Nonparalytic poliomyelitis (Aseptic meningitis)' and '2- Paralytic poliomyelitis: (Flaccid paralysis)'. All text in the boxes is yellow, while the arrows and percentages are red.

90-95%

No illness

Asymptomatic

4-8%

Minor Illness

Abortive poliomyelitis (No CNS involvement)

1-2%

Major Illness

1- Nonparalytic poliomyelitis (Aseptic meningitis)

2- Paralytic poliomyelitis: (Flaccid paralysis)



Lab Diagnosis of Enteroviruses

➤ Virus isolation*:

- **Samples:** Stool (best), rectal, throat swabs & CSF
- Inoculate in MKC & HDF
All EVs grown except some strains of Cox A viruses
- **Observe** for CPE
- **Identify** the type by Neutralization Test

➤ CSF in aseptic meningitis; lymphocytosis

Glucose level N to slightly ↓ , Protein level N or slightly ↑

Isolation rate is variable

*EV RNA detected in CSF by RT-PCR**

➤ Serology (limited value)

Management

➤ Treatment:

- No antiviral therapy

➤ Prevention:

- Sanitation & Hygienic measures
- Poliovirus vaccines

a- Inactivated polio vaccine
(IPV) **for adults.**

(Salk, Killed) (S/C or IM)

b- Live-attenuated polio vaccine
(OPV) **for children.**

(Sabin, oral)



Important Features of Polio Vaccines

Attribute	Killed (IPV)	Live (OPV)
3 types (trivalent)	Yes	Yes
Prevents disease	Yes	Yes
Induces humoral IgG	Yes	Yes
Route of administration	Injection	Oral
Induces intestinal IgA	No	Yes
Affords 2 ^o protection by spread to others	No	Yes
Reverts to virulence	No	Yes (rarely)
Causes disease in the low immune	No	Yes
Duration of immunity	Shorter	Longer

Poliovirus Vaccine

- Adverse reactions;
 - local reactions (IPV)
 - Vaccine-Associated Paralytic Poliomyelitis (OPV)
adult, low immune
- 4 doses of PV; 2, 4, 6-18 ms & 4 - 6 yrs
- **Pediarix** contains IPV, DTaP & HB vaccines.

Polio Vaccination of Adults

- Indications:
 - Travelers to polio-endemic countries
 - Health care workers
- IPV



1988

- 350,000 cases
- 125 endemic countries
- World Health Assembly voted to eradicate polio



2016

- 34 cases reported*
- 3 endemic countries

Viral Encephalitis

❖ Etiological Agents:

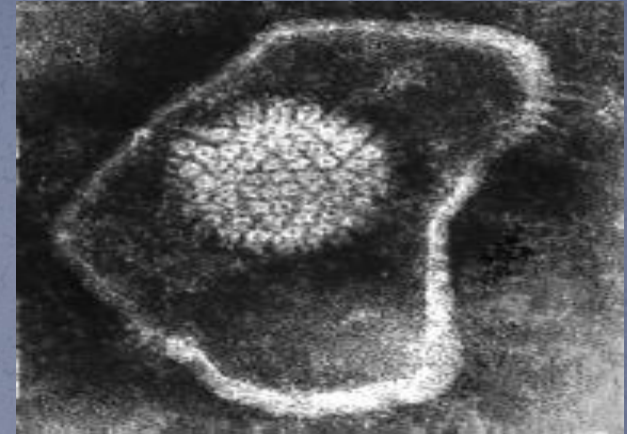
- Enteroviruses
- Herpes viruses.
- Rabies virus
- Arboviruses.

- Others

HSV encephalitis

❖ Caused by:

- Herpes simplex virus -1(HSV-1)
dsDNA, Enveloped, Icosahedral Virus



❖ C/F:

- Fever, headache, vomiting, seizures & altered mental status.
- High mortality rate

❖ Diagnosis:

- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
(temporal lesion)
- CSF---Lymph, glucose-N & Protein- ↑
---detection of HSV-1 DNA by PCR.

❖ Treatment: Acyclovir.

Rabies encephalitis



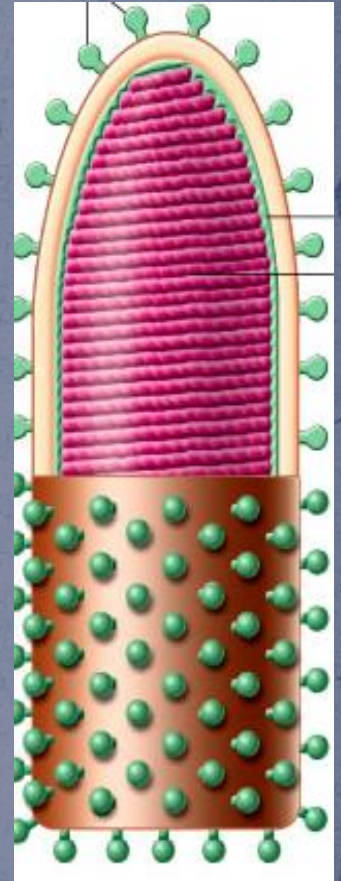
Bullet shaped virus

Rabies virus;
Rhabdoviridae.

ss (-)RNA genome,

Helical nucleocapsid,

Enveloped virus.



Epidemiology;

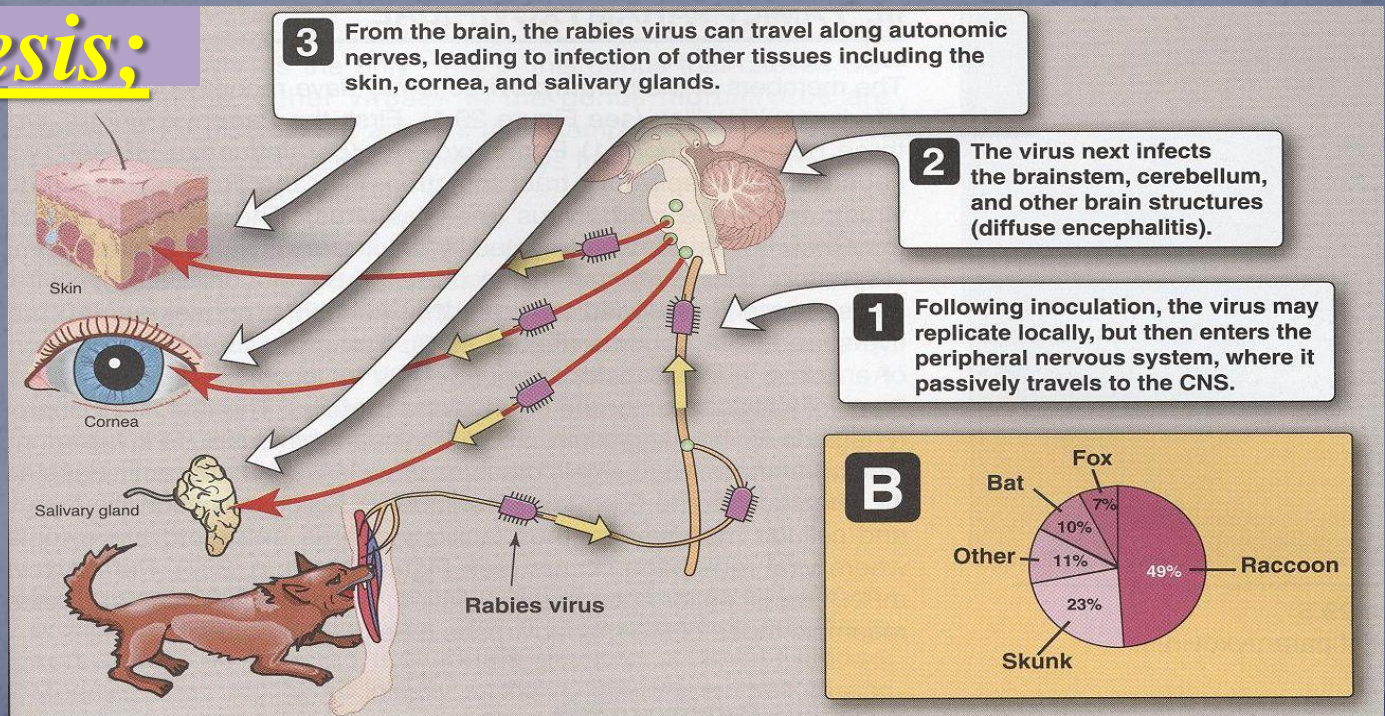
Reservoir;

- Major;
Raccoons, Foxes,
Wolves & Bats.
- Imp; cats & dogs

Transmission;

- ❖ Common route
 - Bite of a rabid animal
- ❖ Uncommon route
 - Inhalation while in a bat-infested cave
 - Corneal transplant

Pathogenesis;



Rabies; A fatal acute encephalitis

- zoonotic disease .
- 4 phase :

1-The incubation period: 1-3 m

2-The prodromal phase:

Fever, Headache, Malaise, Anorexia, Nausea & Vomiting.
Abnormal sensation around the wound.

3-Neurological phase ;

1- Encephalitis

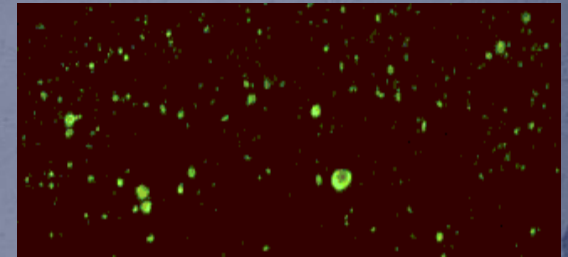
Nervous , lacrimation , salivation,
hydrophobia, convulsion , coma & death.

2-Paralytic illness; Ascending , Death, associated with Bat bite.

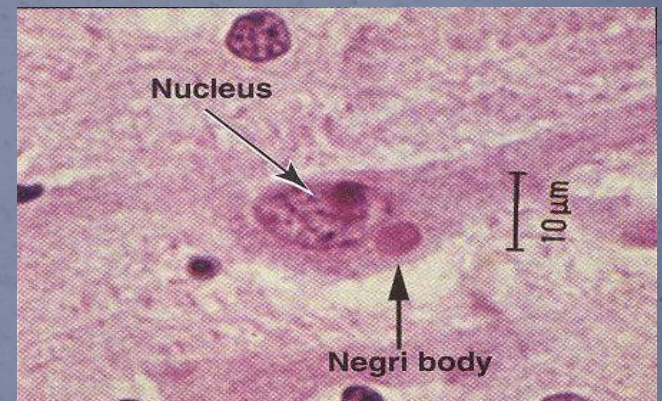
4- Recovery; Extremely rare

Laboratory Diagnosis

- ❖ PCR; R. RNA in saliva
- ❖ Rapid virus antigen detection (IF)
 - Neck skin biopsy
 - Corneal impressions
 - Brain tissue
- ❖ Histopathology
 - neuronal brain cells
 - intracytoplasmic inclusions
(Negri bodies)
- ❖ Virus cultivation



Rabid brain stained with
Fluorescent anti-rabies antibody



Negri bodies are diagnostic of rabies.

Prevention

- ❖ **Control measures** against canine rabies include;
 - Stray animals control.
 - Vaccination of domestic animals.
- **Pre-exposure prophylaxis (Vaccine)**

Persons at increased risk of rabies
e.g. vets, animal handlers etc.
- **Post-exposure prophylaxis**
 - **Wound treatment**
 - **Passive immunization;**
human anti-rabies immunoglobulin applied
around the wound & IM.
 - **Active immunization;**
Human Diploid Cell Vaccine (HDCV)**
5 - 6 doses

Arthropod-borne Viruses

Arboviruses > 500 Vs

❖ Epidemiology:

Reservoir: Wild birds & Mammals

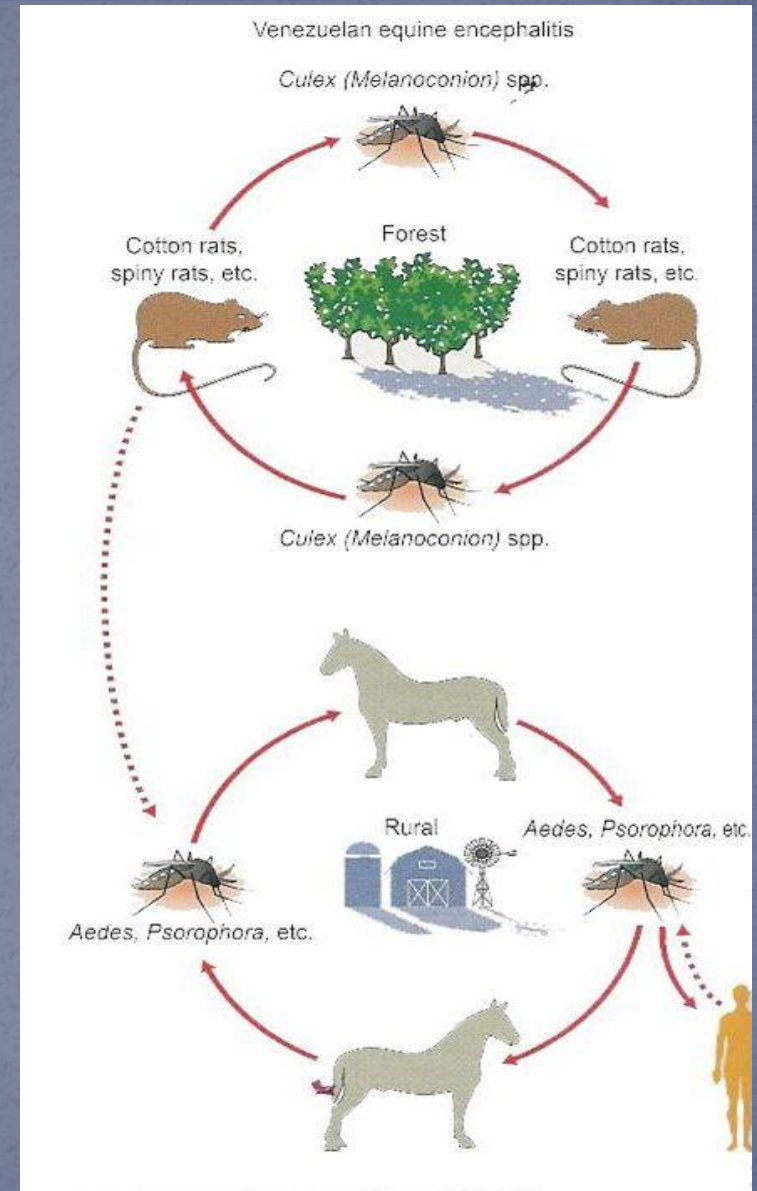
Vector: Mosquito, Tick & Sandfly



Transmission: bite of infected vector

❖ Infections

- Asymptomatic Infections*
- Diseases
 - 1) Fever, Rash & Arthralgia
 - 2) Hemorrhagic fever ± hepatitis
 - 3) CNS disease
(meningitis & encephalitis)

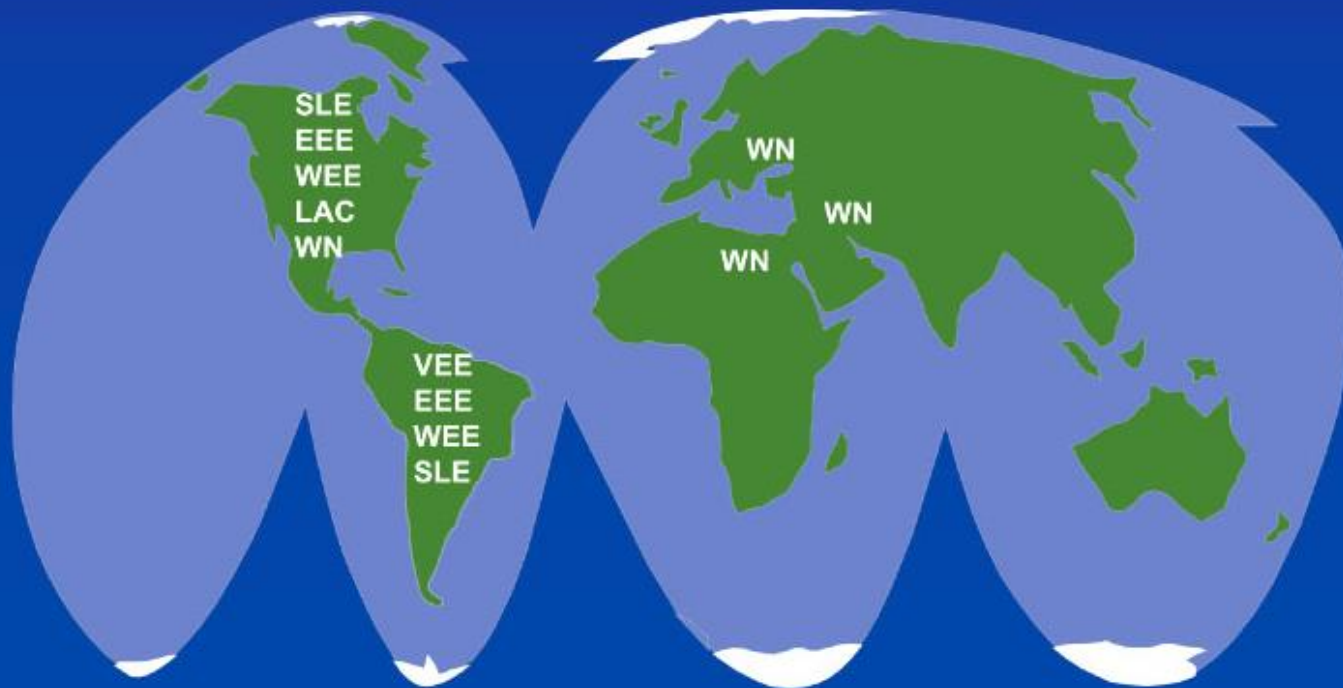


* ArboVs associated with CNS disease:

Virus	Vector	Reservoir	Distribution
Eastern equine encephalitis EEEV	Mosquito	Birds	America
Western equine encephalitis WEEV	Mosquito	Birds	America
Venezuelan equine encephalitis VEEV	Mosquito	Rodent	America
Japanese encephalitis V	Mosquito	Birds, Pigs	Orient
Murray Valley encephalitis V	Mosquito	Birds	Australia
West Nile V	Mosquito	Birds	Europe, Africa Middle East Asia, America

Arboviral encephalitis is prevalent worldwide

Worldwide Distribution of Major Arboviral Encephalitides



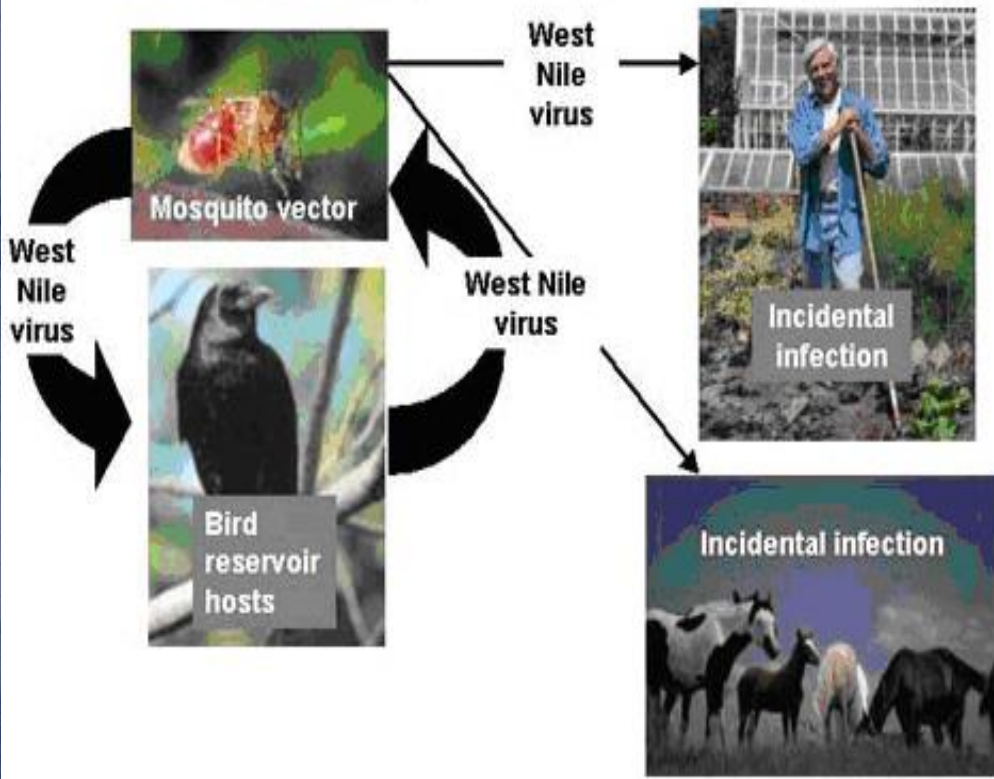
EEE: Eastern equine encephalitis
LAC: LaCrosse encephalitis
SLE: St. Louis encephalitis

WEE: Western equine encephalitis
WN: West Nile encephalitis
VEE: Venezuelan equine encephalitis

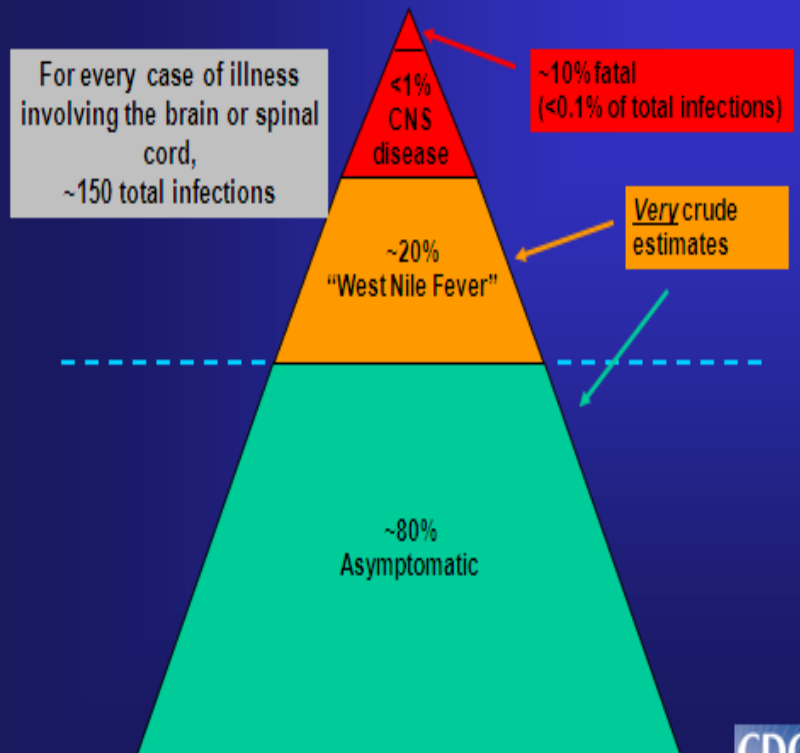
West Nile virus

- Flaviviridae (enveloped +ssRNA)
- Febrile illness → *meningitis*, encephalitis.

West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle



WNV Human Infection "Iceberg"



Diagnosis:

➤ Reference Lab

➤ Lab Methods:

A. **Isolation** (Gold standard)

Samples: blood, CSF, Viscera.

Cell culture → CPE

→ Identify by IF

B - **IgM -AB*** - ELISA, IF: (most used)

C - Arbovirus RNA by **RT-PCR**.

Prevention

1. *Vector Control:*

- Elimination of vector breeding sites
- using insecticides
- Avoidance contact with vectors
(repellants, net)

2. *Vaccines:*

Tick-borne encephalitis vaccine
Japanese encephalitis vaccine



Reference books & the relevant page numbers

Notes on Medical Microbiology

By ; Morag C. Timbury, A. Christine McCartney, Bishan Thakker and Katherine N. Ward

(2002)

Pages; 345 - 351, 392-399, 406-410, 414-419



Review of Medical Microbiology and Immunology.

By: Warren Levinson.

10th Edition, 2008.

Pages; 280-281, 284-288, 302-305

