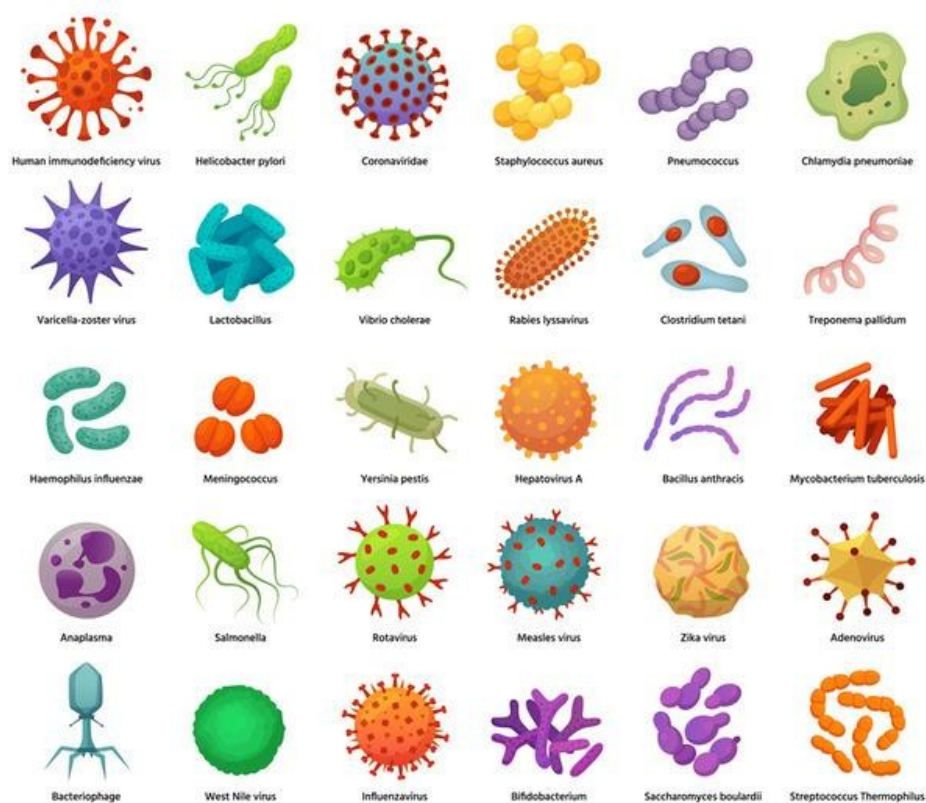


Viruses and Diseases

By Nathan Charles Ministre



Bacteria and virus icons. Disease-causing bacteria, viruses, and microbes. Color germs, bacterium types vector illustration set. Coronavirus and bacterium, pathogen hepatoviral, and zika. Source: thehungryjpeg.com

Did you know that there are many viruses and diseases?

Sometimes you know you have a disease, but sometimes you do not know until it is too late. Cancer is a good example; it can be inside you, and you don't know until you feel pain or something even worse can happen... death.

Another one is diabetes when you have too much sugar in your body. Also, hyperglycemia is when you have too much glucose which is a simple type of sugar. "When blood glucose levels (blood sugar levels) get too high, it's called hyperglycemia." (Pitone, 2021)

What is a virus or a disease?

A virus is a collection of genetic codes that infects your body. A disease is a malfunction in a human, plant, or animal. And both usually cause symptoms.

How many viruses and diseases are on our planet?

10 nonillion or 10^{31} viruses are on our planet. (National Geographic, 2020.)

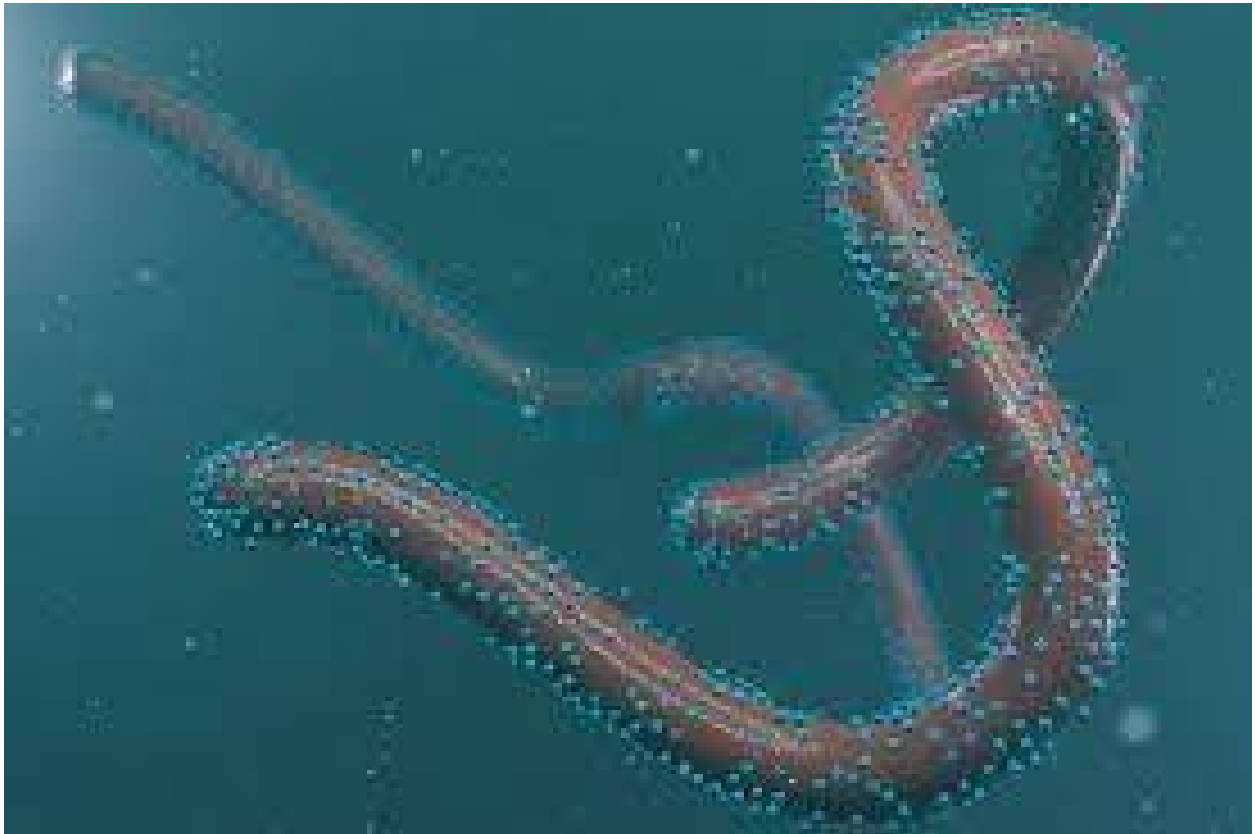
How do viruses and diseases infect your body?

First, a virus enters your body. Then, it infects a cell. After that, it breaks up and spreads its genetic code in your cell. After that, the cell dies and the genetic code disperses and infects other cells, and it happens all over and over again.

A disease infects you from Fungi, Parasites, and Bacteria.

What are the most dangerous diseases?

The Marburg virus is one of the most dangerous viruses. (Live Science, 2021)



The Marburg Virus

What is the COVID Virus?

According to Medscape.com, COVID is a new virus that began in 2019 in China. COVID reached the USA in 2020. Soon it started a worldwide pandemic.

COVID is worse than the flu. COVID spreads faster and also kills faster. It has many symptoms, including sneezing, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, shortness of breath, and fever. COVID can kill you by filling up your lungs with debris. Too much vomiting causes most of your fluids to go out of your body, and diarrhea sends most of your intestinal fluids out.

If COVID has a bright side, it is that it is bringing people together to solve the problem. Still, COVID has killed hundreds of thousands of people and has really hurt the economy; and it isn't something to joke about.

The Russian flu caused another pandemic in the '80s. The Russian flu pandemic started in 1889 about 100 years ago and ended in 1892. That was three years. Let's hope the COVID pandemic doesn't last that long, as additional variants keep occurring. But when South Africa's health minister announced on Thanksgiving Day that the discovery of the B.1.1.529 variant, which appears to be spreading rapidly in parts of the country, was the strongest reminder yet that the pandemic is not over.



What is The Black Plague?

Also known as the little ice age, thousands and thousands died from the black plague. One-third of Europe died from this devastating plague which was the first plague! Even though it was in the Middle Ages it changed our lives today. Have you ever heard of plague doctors? They're

the people who wore the bird's beak on their faces because they thought an unpleasant smell caused the plague to spread.

Because of the plague, the serfs of the Middle Ages started rising against the lords and ladies, but they always failed. The town back then was crowded with people, which allowed the plague to spread.

The plague was spread by fleas that rode on rats, and if they bit you would catch it. You knew you had the plague if you got a red or black bump that grew to the size of an apple and then they would grow all over you. You would die after one to three days. If you didn't die in that period, it meant you were better.



What is Dysentery?

Have you heard of the worst king in history, King John of England? And did you know that he died from this virus? Dysentery. So, dysentery is a virus spread by eating food made by someone who has the disease. It causes you to have bloody diarrhea.

There are many viruses and diseases I was curious about and after much research, I was able to conclude there were just too many to fit in this article.

Citation:

<https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/hyperglycemia.html>