

This Week in the Journal

MAY 15, 2003

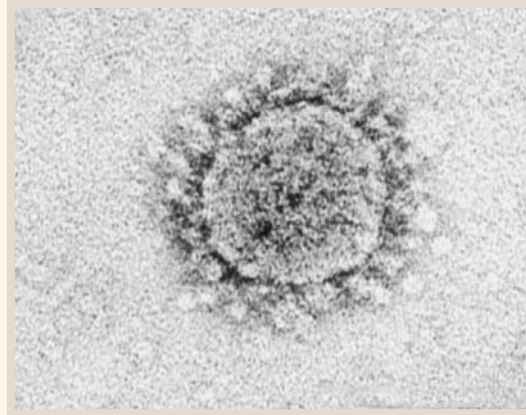
VOL. 348 NO. 20

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A Novel Coronavirus Associated with SARS

This report summarizes the laboratory studies undertaken to identify the etiologic agent of the worldwide outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). In specimens from patients from seven countries, a coronavirus was identified by electron microscopy. The virus is only distantly related to previously sequenced coronaviruses. From serologic studies it appears that this virus has not previously circulated in humans.

SEE PAGE 1953



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Identification of a Novel Coronavirus in SARS

This study used cell culture and molecular techniques to identify the infectious agent associated with SARS. A novel coronavirus was found in multiple samples from 18 patients but in no specimens from control subjects. In the patients there were high concentrations of viral RNA in sputum, a finding consistent with a highly infectious agent. Low concentrations of viral RNA were also detected in stool.

SEE PAGE 1967

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A Cluster of Cases of SARS in Hong Kong

This report describes 10 epidemiologically linked patients in Hong Kong in whom SARS was diagnosed between late February and late March. They presented with fever, cough, malaise, dyspnea, and hypoxemia. Chest radiographs showed progressive airway disease. In the two patients who died, examination of the lungs showed diffuse alveolar damage.

SEE PAGE 1977

THIS WEEK IN THE JOURNAL

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**A Major Outbreak of SARS
in Hong Kong**

Over a period of two weeks at a hospital in Hong Kong 69 patients and 69 health care workers were admitted to isolation wards because of SARS. Thirty-two of those with SARS required intensive care, and five died. This report describes the clinical and radiologic features of SARS, and it analyzes the predictors of a poor outcome.

SEE PAGE 1986



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The First Cases of SARS in Canada

In Canada, SARS was identified in 10 patients who presented with fever, malaise, and nonproductive cough. In most, there was lymphopenia and elevated levels of lactate dehydrogenase and creatine kinase. Five patients required mechanical ventilation, and three died. Laboratory studies of sputum samples found both human metapneumovirus and a novel coronavirus.

SEE PAGE 1995

MEDICAL PROGRESS

Heart Failure

Heart failure is a costly and deadly condition that currently affects nearly 5 million Americans. The incidence approaches 10 per 1000 population among persons older than 65 years of age. This review highlights current pathophysiological concepts and discusses available therapies for a range of patients — from those at risk to those with widespread disease.

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CORRESPONDENCE

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| 2035 SARS in Northern Vietnam | 2041 Pharmacogenetics |
| 2035 Pulmonary-Artery Catheters in High-Risk Surgical Patients | 2044 Herpes Zoster |
| 2037 Peritoneal Dialysis and Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition | 2045 Increase in Serum IgM during Treatment of Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia with Cladribine |
| 2039 Outbreaks of Infection Associated with Bronchoscopes | |