

February Newsletter



Surge in Dengue Outbreaks Worldwide. 2019 has seen a unusually high amount of Dengue cases so far this year. In [Brazil](#), there has been a 149% increase in projected Dengue cases from 2018; In the [Philippines](#), there have has been a sharp rise to 4,089 cases in 2019 - a 231% increase from the same period last year. The threat of Dengue spreading from [Africa](#) to Europe is also cause for concern as multiple autochthonous cases were reported late last year.

First Subject Dosed with dMAb Zika Vaccine Candidate. Inovio's Zika vaccine trial is evaluating a dMAb's ability to prevent or treat infection by Zika virus. The initial open-label, single center trial will enroll 24 healthy volunteers who will receive up to four doses of the antibody. Upon delivery, dMAbs instruct the body's cells to manufacture therapeutic antibodies - a major leap forward in antibody technology. In addition, the dMAb's produced in vivo may have additional advantages including optimal post-translational modifications such as glycosylation, and unlike traditional MAb approaches, there is no reliance on in vivo-tissue culture and costly or time-consuming production systems. [Read more.](#)

Takeda's Dengue Vaccine Meets Phase 3 Trial Endpoint. The trial showed that the company's live-attenuated tetravalent dengue vaccine (TAK-003) was effective in preventing dengue fever caused by any of the four serotypes. While review of the extensive data set is ongoing, TAK-003 was well tolerated with no significant safety concerns to date. The TIDES trial is continuing and additional results are expected later this year, along with results from other Phase 3 studies. [Read more.](#)

In Case You Missed It



Inadequate Rubella vaccination coverage continues to result in large outbreaks. Here we discuss the need for improved surveillance and diagnostics to help combat Rubella's resurgence.

[Read more](#)



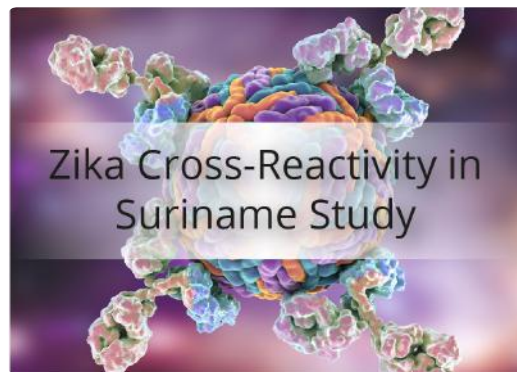
To support further research into Lyme disease, The Native Antigen Company are now offering a range of recombinant antigens and antibodies for *Borrelia burgdorferi sensu stricto*.

[Borrelia products](#)



Here we discuss some of the recent changes by the International Committee on Taxonomy Viruses (ICTV) to the common species names of your favourite viruses.

[Read more](#)



Here we discuss a recent study comparing the effectiveness of a Zika ELISA kit and virus neutralisation test and the implications on using ELISA kits for serological studies of Zika virus.

[Read more](#)

February Podcasts

[Meet the Microbiologist: Structural Biology Insights into Ebola Virus](#)

[Meet the Microbiologist: HIV Vaccines](#)

[TWiM: Standard Imperial Procedure](#)



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*How to overcome cross-reactivity
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