

January Newsletter



Welcome to the first edition of our monthly newsletter, where we present the latest news on research, public health and developing technologies in infectious diseases.

Monthly News

Between 1999-2016, 7 million people in the US have been infected with West Nile virus, exceeding previous estimates. A study published this month in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* used data from the CDC's ArboNET surveillance system to estimate that approximately 7 million individuals in the United States have been infected with West Nile virus, since its introduction to the country in 1999. Nearly 98% of the US population is seronegative and still susceptible to WNV infection, highlighting the need for improved disease surveillance and reporting, insecticide usage and vaccination interventions. [Click here for the full article.](#)

Delivering vaccines by drone in the South Pacific. The Republic of Vanuatu, a chain of 80 islands in the South Pacific Ocean, is trialling the use of drones to deliver vaccines on-demand. Around 20% of children do not receive necessary vaccines due to difficulties with cold-chain supply over rocky terrain and open-ocean. Two commercial companies have been chosen to conduct trials in partnership with UNICEF, in which styrofoam boxes with ice packs and thermometers are delivered to the local population. [Click here for the full article.](#)

Another Lassa fever outbreak rocks Nigeria. Nigerian health authorities confirmed 31 deaths from 136 Lassa fever cases last week, making for a 22.8% fatality rate. The outbreak comes straight after the first Lassa fever international

fatality rate. The outbreak comes straight after the first Ebola level international conference, held in Nigeria, to mark the 50th anniversary since the disease's discovery. To coordinate an effective response, the Nigerian Centers for Disease Control (NCDC) has activated an emergency operations centre to coordinate an effective response. [Click here for the NCDC report.](#)

Non-human primates serve only as intermediate hosts for the Ebola virus. A study published in *The Journal of Infectious Diseases* this week found that of the 2,322 monkey samples tested for Ebola antibodies, none of them reacted simultaneously with glycoprotein or nucleoprotein from the Zaire Ebola virus. From this, researchers have concluded that non-human primates act as intermediate hosts, as they are not a reservoir species. This comes hot on the heels of news last week, that [Zaire Ebola virus was found in a bat](#) – a long-suspected carrier of Ebola. [Click here for the full article.](#)

This Month's Product Releases

[Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia antigens](#)

[Dengue virus chimeric antibodies](#)

[Human Papillomavirus antibodies](#)

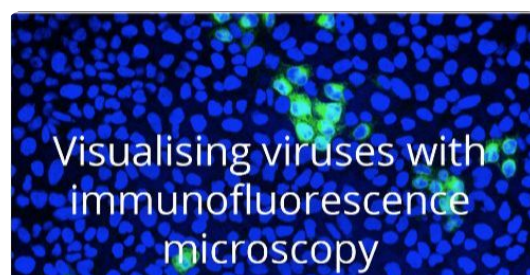
January Podcasts

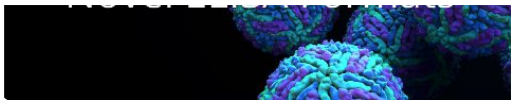
[TwiEVO: In a Legionella of their own](#)

[Meet the Microbiologist: Microbial engineering for biofuels](#)

[TWiM: A Qtip for phages](#)

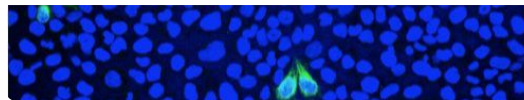
In Case You Missed It





In this guest blog for Virology Research Services, we discuss the advantages of DABA ELISA formats to minimise Zika-Dengue cross-reactivity.

[Read more](#)



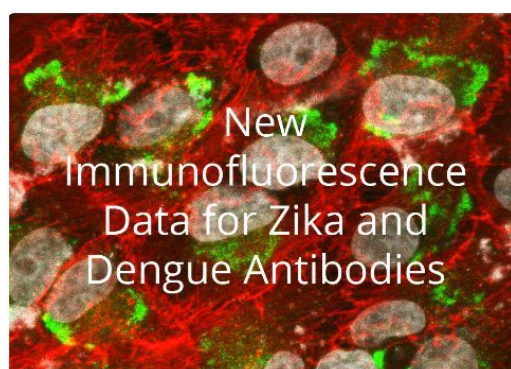
Virology Research Services discuss their work in using immunofluorescence microscopy to study viruses in high-throughput and high-resolution applications.

[Read more](#)



Accurate diagnostics of yellow fever are currently limited by assays that are either unreliable or too impractical. Are better solutions available?

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He we present results and procedures for immunofluorescence staining of our Zika and Dengue NS1 antibodies.

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How to overcome cross-reactivity in Zika virus research

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