



**Zoonosis**



**Intra-species  
transmission**



Influenza A virus is remarkable for the frequency and breadth of zoonoses: many species of birds, humans, pigs, horses, dogs

## CAPIT XVII.

### *De Catarrho & Tussi epidemia.*

**I**N Febrium Malignarum catalogo meritò & illa adscribitur, quæ cum catarrho & tussi epidemia, anno 1580. sub Syrii ortum, maximè autem circa novilunium æquinoctii autumnalis, totam penè Europam, imò ferè omnes mundi regiones pervagata est, & hinc inde varia nomina accepit. Appellabatur enim catarrhus febrilis, febris catarrhosa, febris suffocativa, catarrhus epidemius, tussis epidemia, cephalalgia contagiola. Germani nominabant den Zlep / den Schaffshustē / die Schaffkrankheit / das Hühnerwehe / quod ægri instar gallinarum coryzâ vexarentur.

**Figure 3.** The first page of Chapter 17, “On the catarrh and coughing epidemic”, in Daniel Sennert’s account of the 1580 influenza pandemic.<sup>48</sup> Sennert refers obliquely to a “coryza of chickens”, but it is not known whether avian influenza occurred during the pandemic.

# ORNICEPHALZYMOSIS.

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Hens, Chickens and Turkeys Perishing  
with a Mysterious Disease.

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Desolation and Despair Among  
the Barnyard Pets.

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Mansard Roofs Appearing on  
the Egg Providers.

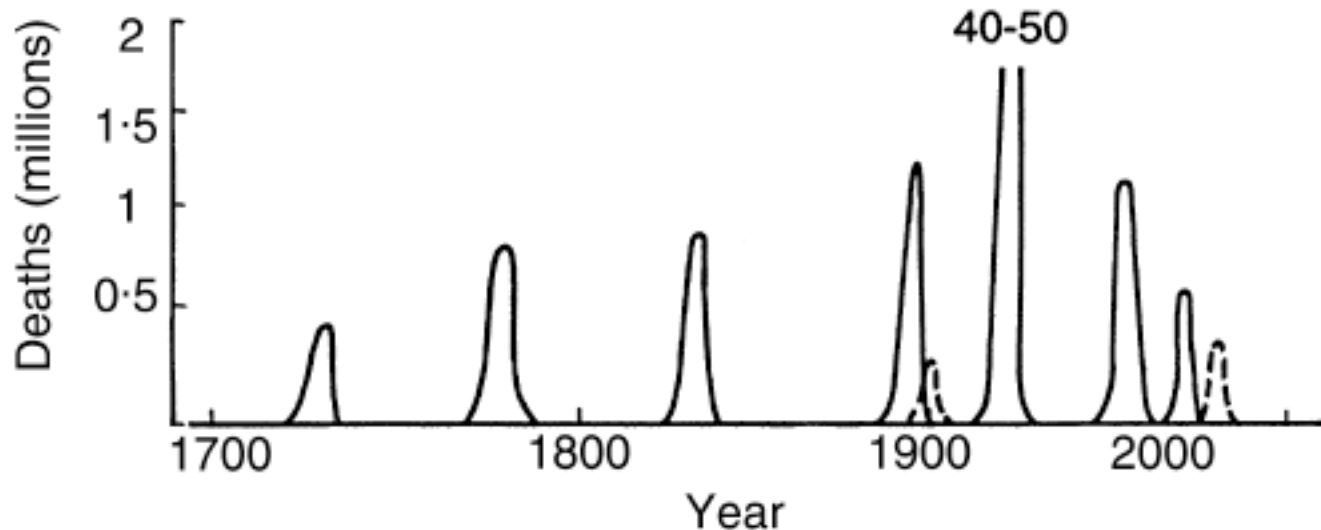
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Swelled Heads on the Thanksgiving Cobblers  
and Henfluenza Devastating the  
Chicken Coops.

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**Figure 2.** *New York Herald* headline (Monday, November 18, 1872, page 3, column 6), reporting outbreaks of fatal avian disease in birds brought from surrounding areas into New York City and elsewhere.<sup>30</sup>

# Pandemics since 1700



**Fig. 2** History of influenza pandemics 1700–2000. Not to exact scale

The 1918 pandemic was totally out of scale and has been called 'the greatest medical holocaust in history.' 40-50 million deaths but that was only a few percent of the infected (20% of the world's population).

# The 1918 “Spanish flu” pandemic



Policemen in Seattle during the 1918 pandemic

# Your Pastor Speaks to You Here

Missoula Clergymen, Barred From Pulpits by Epidemic, Talk to Their Parishioners Through the Columns of This Morning's Missoulian.

## We Need a Faith That Casts Out All Fears

BY REV. J. N. MACLEAN, D. D.  
of the Presbyterian Church.

"There stood by me this night the angel of God whose I am and whom I serve, saying, Fear not." Acts 27:23.

These words were spoken in circumstances that gave no opportunity for camouflage. They represent genuine human experience. They were spoken on board a storm-driven ship, when all hope of being saved, except the hope of one man, was taken away. For fourteen days and nights the storm prevailed, "neither sun nor stars appearing" through the clouds and darkness. There were seventy-six souls on board, consisting of ship's crew and passengers and some soldiers in charge of a few prisoners on the way to Rome for trial before the emperor. It was the climax of the storm, and the roar of

## Churchless Sundays May Revive the Family Altar

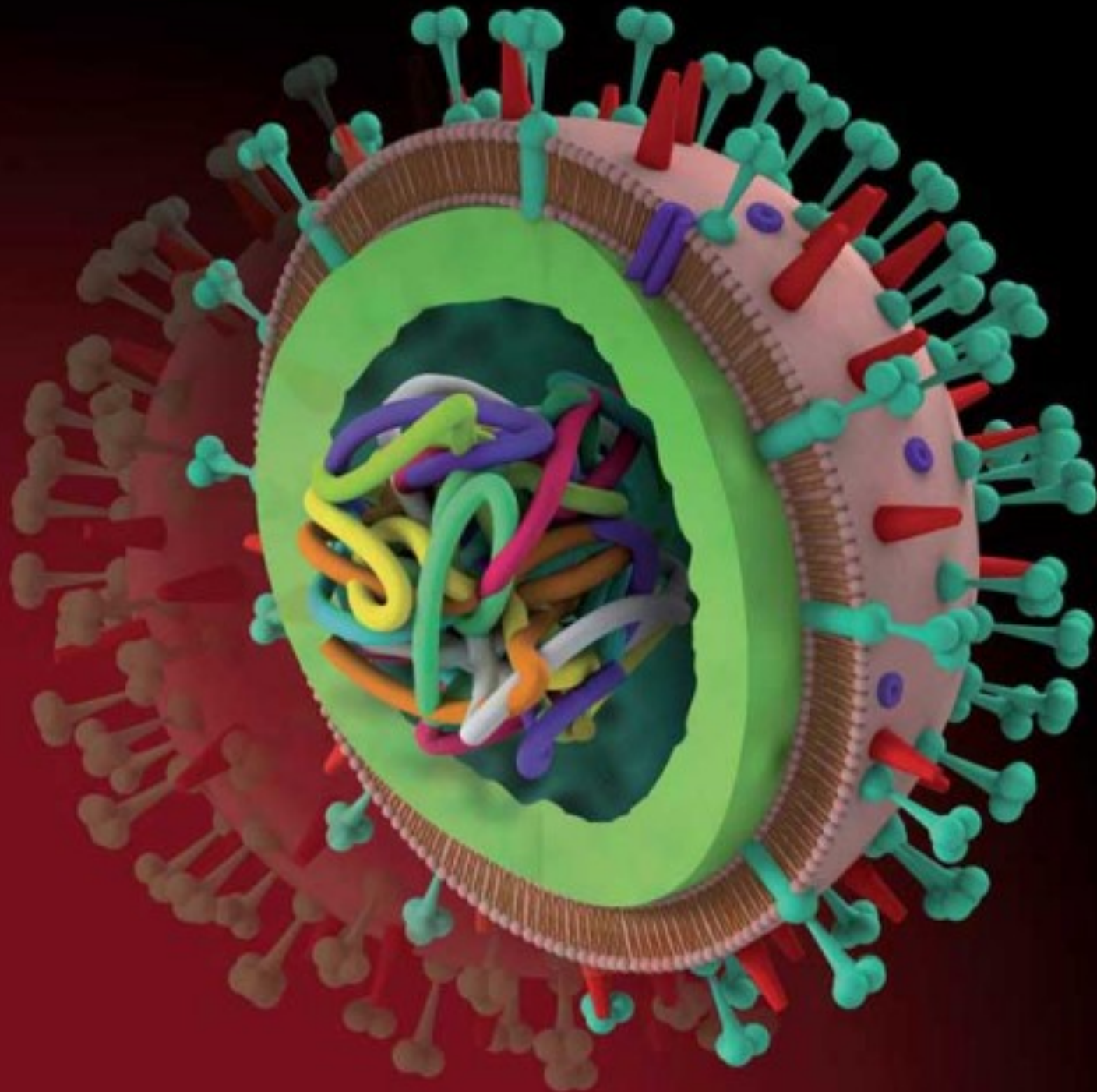
BY REV. CHARLES D. CROUCH  
of First Methodist Episcopal Church.

"For I know Him that He will command His children, and His household after Him." (Genesis 18:19).

At noon, as Abram sat in the door of his tent three men dressed in shining garments stood before him. They were angels. The home, where God loves to dwell is the truly happy home. His angels visit homes where husbands love their wives and where wives love their husbands, and where children honor their parents. Such a home is in harmony with God's will and God's law. Angels can go wherever God, the Father, the great head of the family in Heaven, is respected.

All over our great land the epidemic of Spanish influenza is raging, followed by a deadly form of pneumonia. Obedient to the orders of the public

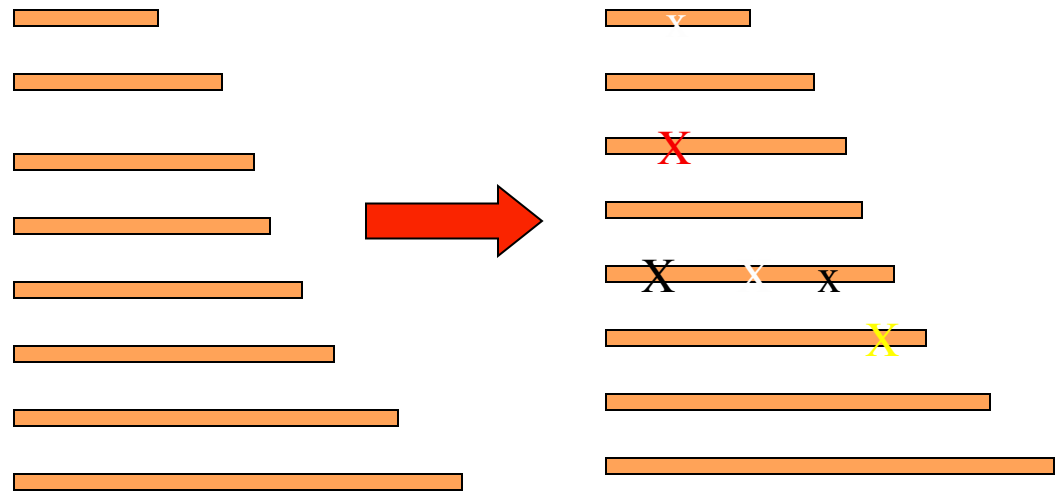
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# Genetic Changes Among Influenza Viruses: DRIFT

Associated with human EPIDEMIC

Mutations



Human

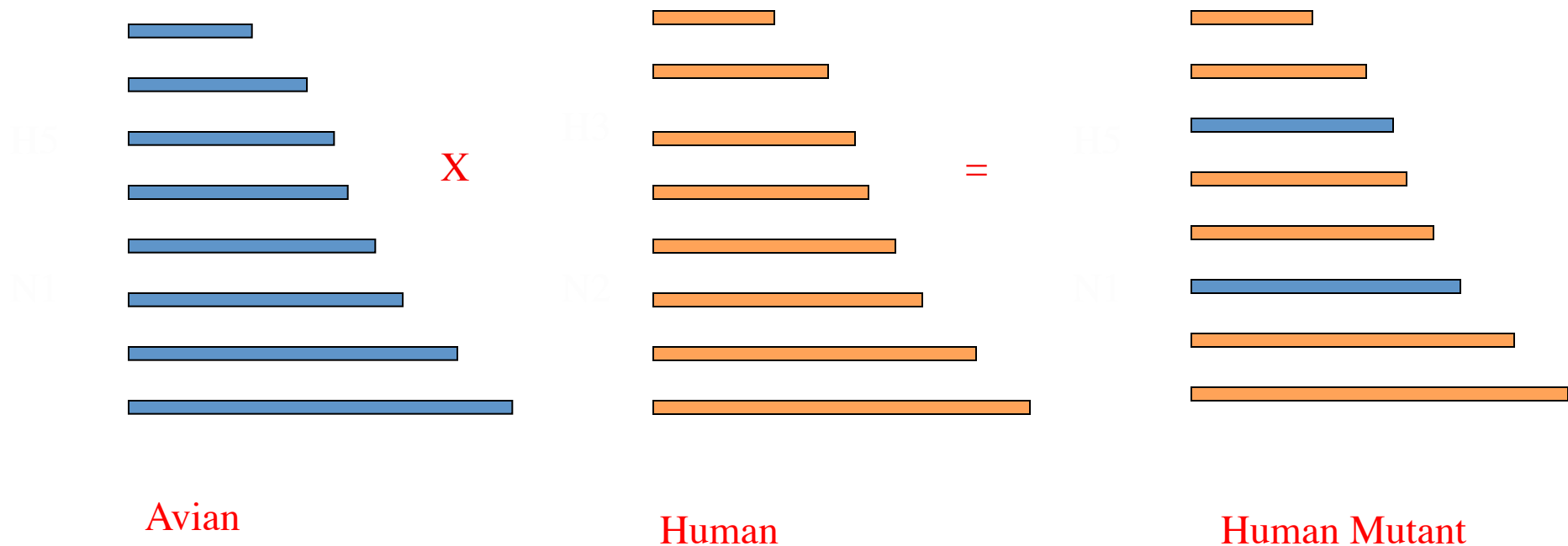
Human



# Genetic Changes Among Influenza Viruses:

## REASSORTMENT=SHIFT

Associated with human PANDEMIC



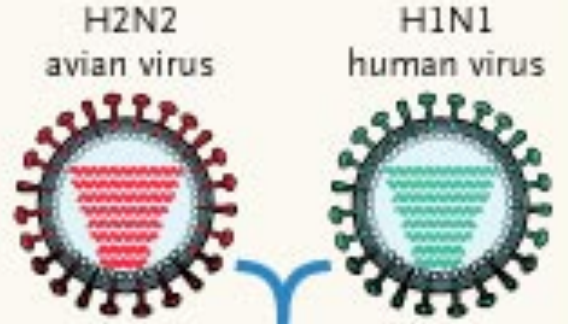
# The 1918 “Spanish flu” pandemic



**Table 1.** Age-specific excess mortality related to influenza A (H1N1), United States.

Season	Influenza subtype	P&I data source*	Excess mortality rate/100,000 <sup>†</sup> for		
			All ages	Persons $\geq$ 65 years old	Persons <65 years old
<b>1918–1919</b>	<b>H1N1</b>	[16]	529 (546,000)	166 (8000)	546 (538,000)
1919–1920	H1N1	[16]	93 (96,000)	175 (8000)	89 (88,000)
1921–1922	H1N1	[16]	16 (17,000)	93 (5000)	12 (12,000)
1922–1923	H1N1	[16]	37 (41,000)	280 (16,000)	24 (25,000)
1925–1926	H1N1	[16]	26 (30,000)	221 (14,000)	15 (16,000)
1928–1929	H1N1	[16]	84 (102,000)	594 (39,000)	55 (63,000)
1936–1937	H1N1	[16]	18 (23,000)	101 (8000)	12 (15,000)
1943–1944	H1N1	[15]	14 (19,000)	123 (13,000)	4.8 (6000)
1977–1978 <sup>§</sup>	H1N1		3.8 (8300)	30 (7100)	0.6 (1200)
	H3N2	[19]	3.7 (8200)	31 (7400)	0.4 (800)
		[4]	3.3 (7300)	26 (6300)	0.5 (1000)
1983–1984	H1N1, B		1.5 (3500)	16 (4400)	0 (0)
1986–1987	H1N1		0.7 (1800)	5.7 (1700)	0 (0)
1988–1989	H1N1, B		2.1 (5100)	15 (4400)	0.1 (200)

# 1957 “Asian flu” H2N2 pandemic



Reassortment



3 new genetic segments from avian influenza virus introduced (HA, NA, PB1); contained 5 RNA segments from 1918



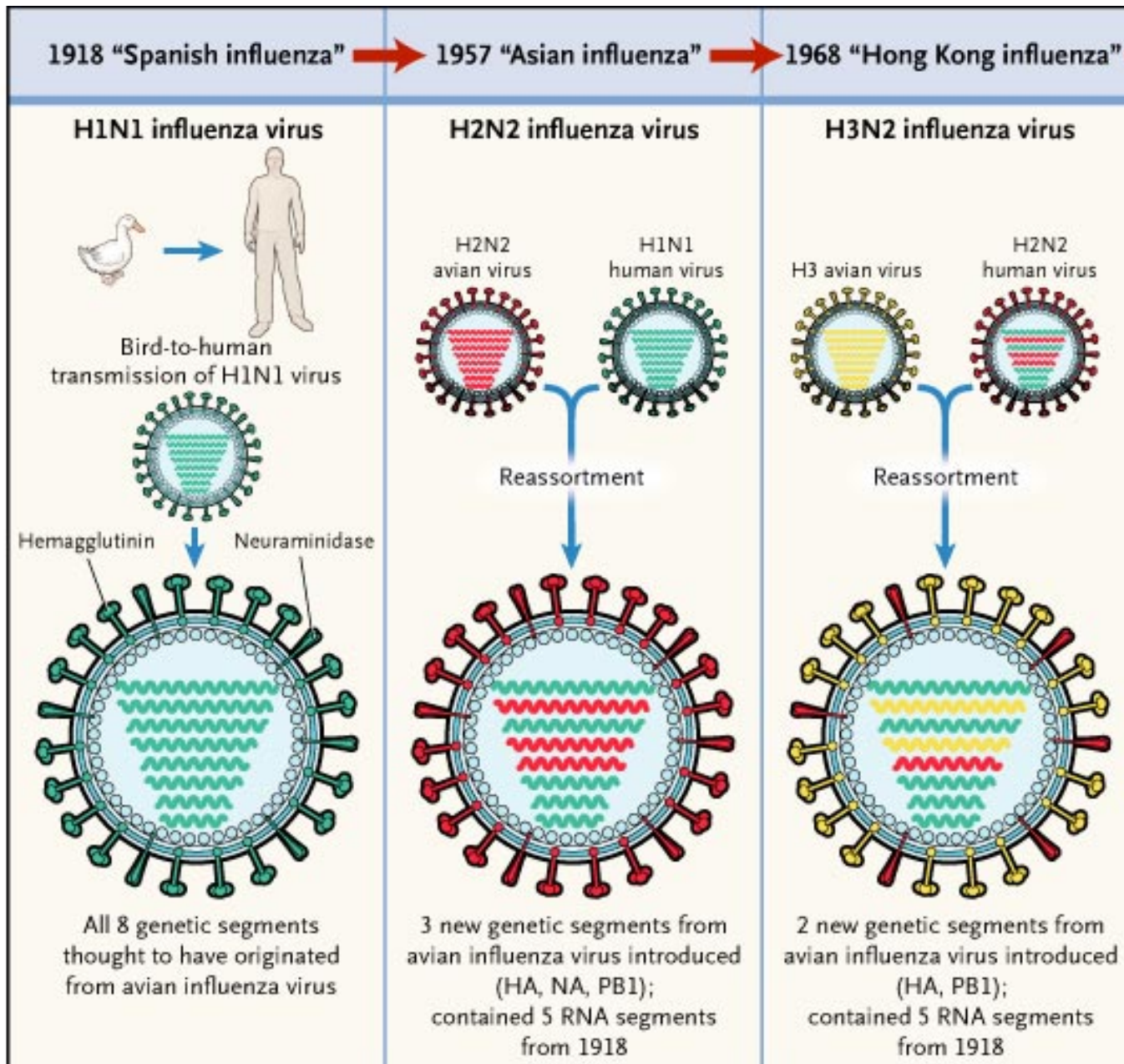
Thought to have originated in Southeast Asia. Less lethal than the 1918 pandemic. H2N2 replaced the circulating H1N1.

**Table 2.** Age-specific excess mortality related to influenza A (H2N2), U

Season	Influenza subtype	All-cause data source*	Excess mortality rate/100,000 <sup>†</sup> for		
			All ages	Persons ≥65 years old	Persons <65 years old
<b>1957–1958</b>	<b>H2N2</b>	[18]	39 (66,000)	273 (42,000)	15 (24,000)
1959–1960	H2N2	[18]	18 (32,000)	145 (23,000)	5.6 (9000)
1962–1963	H2N2	[18]	25 (46,000)	198 (35,000)	7.0 (12,000)
1967–1968	H2N2	[18]	11 (22,000)	113 (21,000)	0.6 (1000)

Table from Simonsen *et al*, *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 178:53 (1998)

# The 1968 “Hong Kong flu” H3N2 pandemic



# H3N2 pandemic was even less lethal than the H2N2 pandemic

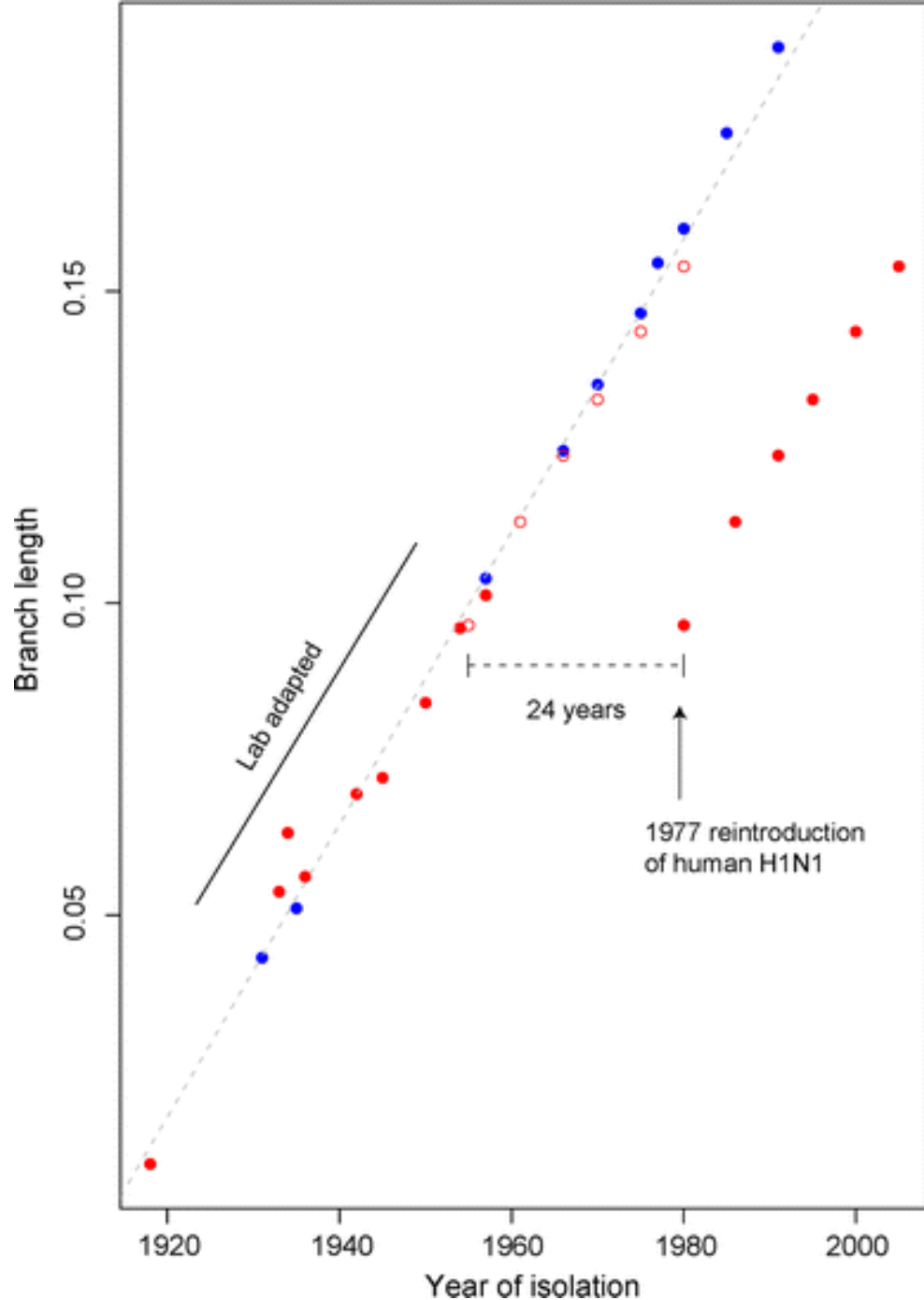
**Table 3.** Age-specific excess mortality related to influenza A (H3N2), United States.

Season	Influenza subtype	Type of data, source*	Excess mortality rate/100,000 for		
			All ages <sup>†</sup>	Persons ≥65 years old	Persons <65 years old
<b>1968–1969</b>	<b>H3N2</b>	P&I	8.1 (16,400)	44 (8600)	4.3 (7800)
		P&I [19]	7.4 (14,800)	45 (8700)	3.4 (6100)
		All-cause [18]	14 (28,100)	85 (16,500)	6.4 (11,600)
1969–1970	H3N2	P&I	3.3 (6600)	16 (3100)	1.9 (3500)
		P&I [19]	2.4 (4800)	12 (2400)	1.3 (2400)
		All-cause [18]	9.1 (18,400)	51 (10,100)	4.6 (8400)
1970–1971	H3N2	P&I	0.7 (1300)	2.8 (600)	0.4 (800)
1971–1972	H3N2	P&I	4.2 (8700)	29 (5800)	1.5 (2900)
		P&I [19]	0.6 (1200)	4.9 (1000)	0.1 (200)
1972–1973	H3N2	P&I	3.8 (7900)	21 (4500)	1.4 (2600)
		P&I [19]	4.3 (9100)	31 (6500)	1.4 (2600)
		P&I [4]	2.3 (4800)	19 (3800)	0.5 (1000)
1974–1975	H3N2	P&I	3.0 (6500)	19 (4200)	0.8 (1600)
		P&I [19]	3.3 (7100)	26 (5600)	0.8 (1500)
		P&I [4]	1.8 (3800)	15 (3000)	0.4 (800)

# 1977 “Russian Flu” H1N1 pandemic

Emerged on the Soviet / Chinese border in 1977, was identical to H1N1 from the 1950's.

This H1N1 did not replace the H3N2 virus. Instead, they co-circulated in the human population.



# EPIDEMIOLOGY

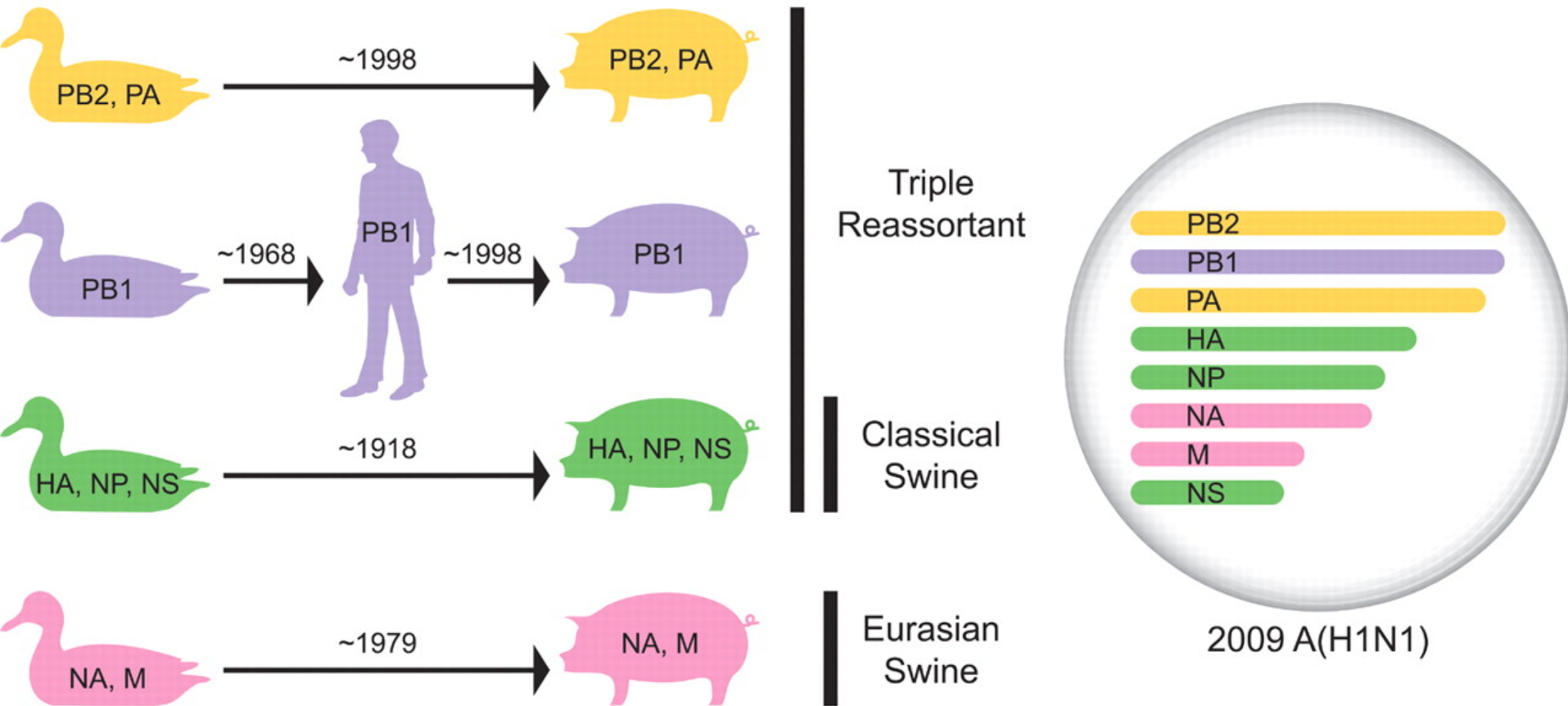
## **Influenza in a boarding school**

The Easter term began on 10 January, with boys returning from all over Britain and some from Europe and the Far East. One boy from Hong Kong had a transient febrile illness from 15 to 18 January. On Sunday 22 January three boys were in the college infirmary. The graph shows the daily total number confined to bed or convalescent during the epidemic: 512 boys (67%) spent between three and seven days away from class, and 83% of the boys in the junior house were affected. Of about 130 adults who had some contact with the boys, only one, a house matron, developed similar symptoms.



# The 2009 swine-origin H1N1 strain

Gene Segments, Hosts, and Years of Introduction



highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza: deadly but not (at least yet) transmissible in humans



# Cumulative number of confirmed human cases for avian influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO, 2003-2012

Country	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		Total	
	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths	cases	deaths
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	6	0
Cambodia	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	8	8	2	2	20	18
China	1	1	0	0	8	5	13	8	5	3	4	4	7	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	42	28
Djibouti	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	10	25	9	8	4	39	4	29	13	39	15	9	5	167	60
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	20	13	55	45	42	37	24	20	21	19	9	7	12	10	6	6	189	157
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Myanmar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
Thailand	0	0	17	12	5	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	17
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4
Viet Nam	3	3	29	20	61	19	0	0	8	5	6	5	5	5	7	2	0	0	4	2	123	61
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>356</b>

Total number of cases includes number of deaths  
 WHO reports only laboratory cases  
 All dates refer to onset of illness

**356 / 603 = 59% case fatality rate**

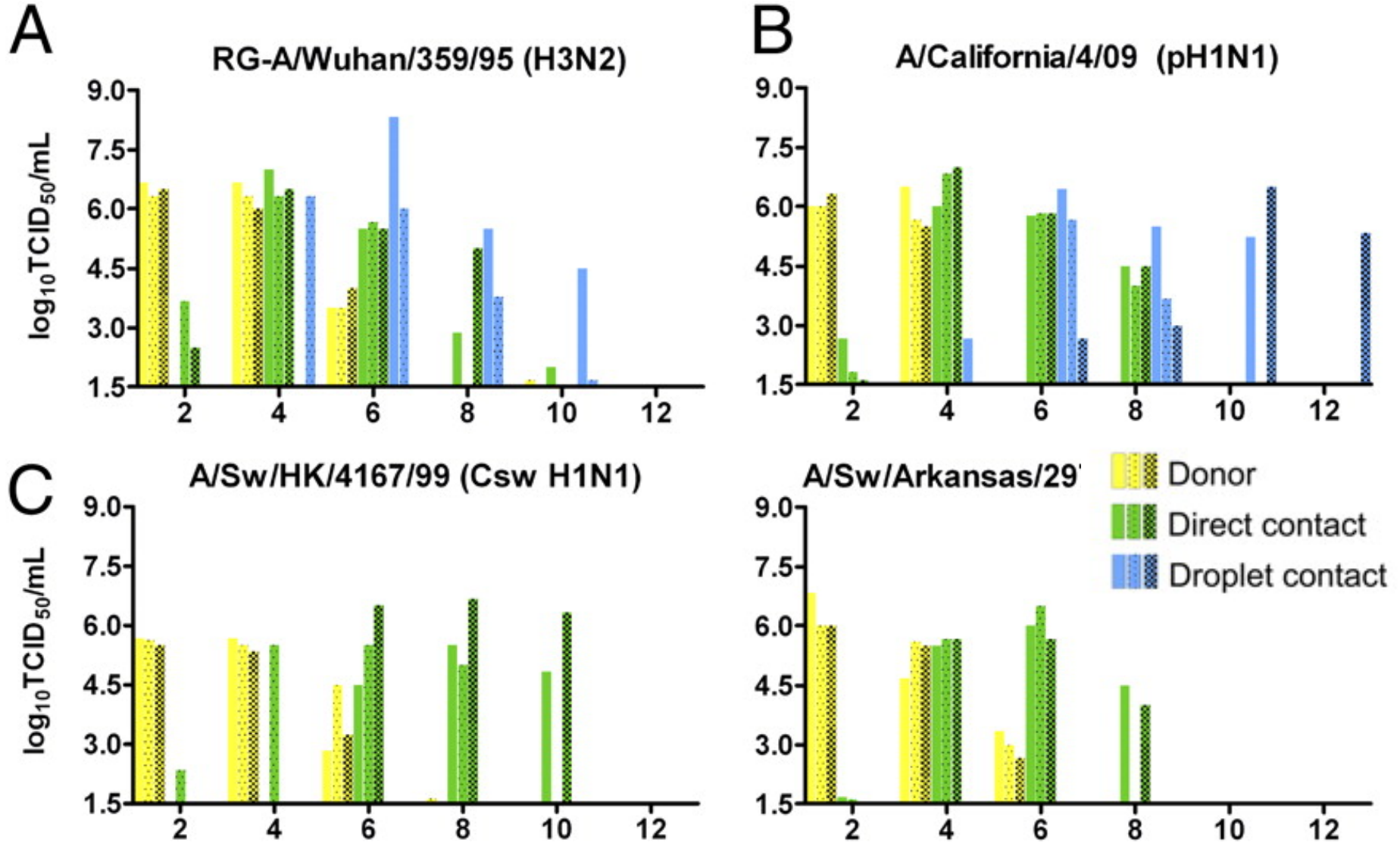
**May be an overestimate due to under-reporting of non-lethal infections.**



Could H5N1 become transmissible in humans?

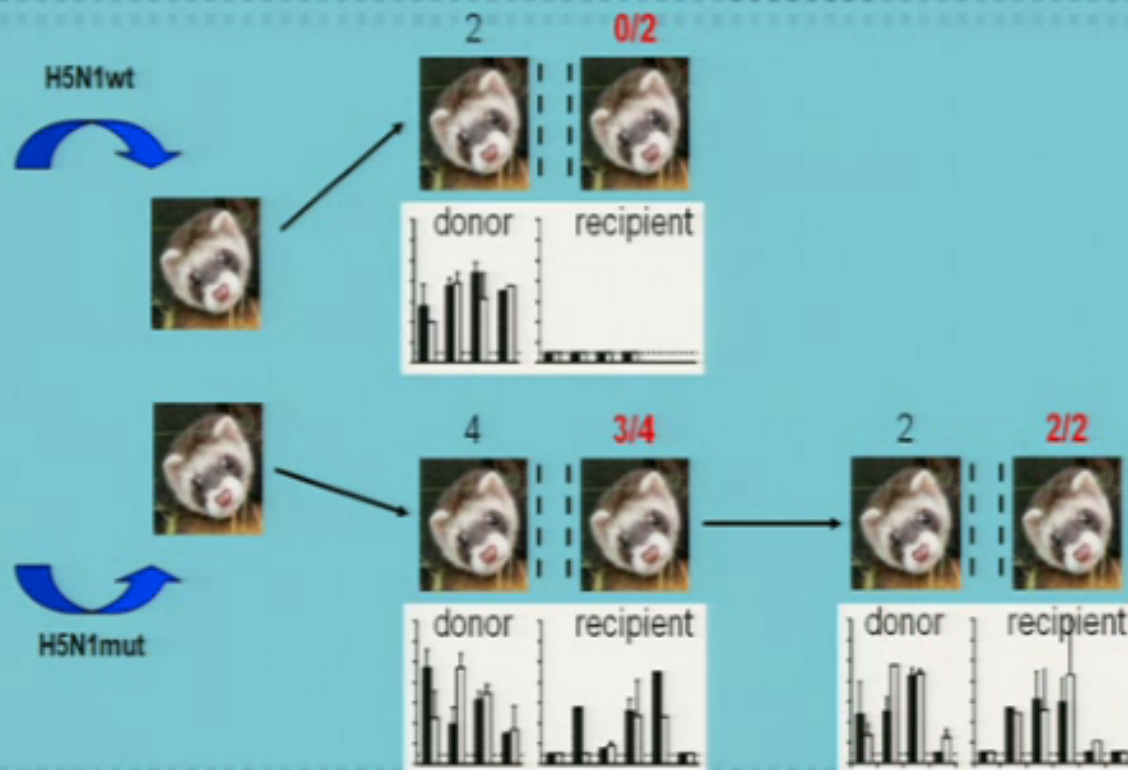


**Ferrets** as a model for airborne transmissibility. Example: the 2009 swine-origin pandemic transmits by respiratory droplets in ferrets, but its immediate swine precursor viruses do not.



# Laboratory-modified H5N1 virus

- Aerosol transmission in ferrets -



## Experimental adaptation of an influenza H5 HA confers respiratory droplet transmission to a reassortant H5 HA/H1N1 virus in ferrets

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### REPORT

# Airborne Transmission of Influenza A/H5N1 Virus Between Ferrets

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## Benefits

1. Now we know that H5N1 has the potential to become airborne transmissible in mammals.
2. Now we know some of the specific mutations that might enable this to happen.
3. This information might aid in surveillance of the viruses ongoing evolution.
4. This information might aid in vaccine development against specific H5N1 strain lineages.
5. This information increases our mechanistic understanding of the basis for influenza transmissibility.



# Risks

1. Someone could recreate the virus using reverse genetics, and then release it intentionally or accidentally.
2. There is the potential for accidental release of the virus (currently all authorized work is restricted to BSL3).
3. Controversy about this research could impede other important types of inquiry into influenza and other diseases.



**Zoonosis**



**Intra-species  
transmission**



Influenza A virus is remarkable for the frequency and breadth of zoonoses: many species of birds, humans, pigs, horses, dogs