

Nipah amidst Covid-19 Pandemic: Correspondence

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Keywords: Nipah , Covid-19, pandemic.

TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Editor, we would like to share ideas on the publication “Nipah amidst Covid-19 Pandemic, another Re-Emerging Infectious Disease of Pandemic Potential – a Narrative Review (1)”. A One Health approach is necessary to comprehend the ecology of fruit bats, the seasonality of Nipah virus (NiV) sickness and the danger of transmission of numerous intermediate species, according to Kaliappan *et al* (1). Without a comprehensive understanding of the wildlife reservoir, Kaliappan *et al* came to the conclusion that it was impossible to manage the risk of reintroduction into animal or human populations (1).

We concur that the NiV illness is a significant new issue. The outbreaks are already widespread and pose a genuine risk to the public health. Al-

though bats are thought to represent the animal reservoir, this is still a matter that needs more research. The association between the presence of sickness in the area and the bats that serve as a virus reservoir is an intriguing one. A study on bats in a tropical region found that 6.29% of the collected bats were contaminated with NiV (2). It is important to note that the bat has never been a source of zoonosis in that area, despite being known to carry a number of fatal viruses, including rabies (2). The presence of asymptomatic NiV illness is another fact worth noting. There are several examples of NiV infection with asymptomatic clinical presentation, according to a recent report from India (3). Asymptomatic infection makes it challenging to obtain precise illness data through surveillance.

Conflicts of interest: none declared.

Financial support: none declared.

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Article received on the 8th of September 2022 and accepted for publication on the 28th of September 2022