

The lurker: How a virus hid in our genome for six million years

The following is an excerpt of a longer story.

In the mid-2000s, David Markovitz, a scientist at the University of Michigan, and his colleagues took a look at the blood of people infected with HIV. Human immunodeficiency viruses kill their hosts by exhausting the immune system, allowing all sorts of pathogens to sweep into their host's body. So it wasn't a huge surprise for Markovitz and his colleagues to find other viruses in the blood of the HIV patients. What was surprising was where those other viruses had come from: from within the patients' own DNA.

View the full story here: [The Lurker: How A Virus Hid In Our Genome For Six Million Years](#)