

Ancient origin of hepatitis B viruses revealed by DNA fossils in bird genomes

The following is an excerpt.

As the old adage goes; “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure”: what has often been described as “junk DNA” has revealed a hidden gem. Not only can we find the ancient ancestor of the human hepatitis B virus nestled in songbird genomes, but according to research published recently by a team of scientists at the University of Münster, this virus is 63 million years older than originally thought, a finding that may help improve human health outcomes.

Read the full story here: [Ancient origin of hepatitis B viruses revealed by DNA fossils in bird genomes](#)