Can a genetic model predict next year's flu strain?

The seasonal flu has met its enemy, and it's calculus.

A theoretical physicist and computational biologist analyzed the genetic code of thousands of strains of Influenza A that occurred over a 44-year period to create a model that accurately predicts which strain will prevail in the pitched evolutionary battle between human antibodies and the rapidly mutating virus.

Their method proved more accurate for selecting an appropriate vaccine than the current method used by public health officials, according to a report published online in the journal Nature.

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