

## Virus dangers: Zika, SARS, dengue, 24 others could be transmitted through semen

A dig through the literature has uncovered evidence of 27 distinct viruses from a wide variety of families capable of staying intact as they're transmitted through semen to a new host. While not all of the microbes are confirmed sexually transmitted infections, the review does draw attention to the fact the testes seems to provide a potentially easy way for just about any kind of virus to migrate into a new home. This latest research was inspired by the recent discovery of [Zika virus RNA](#) in the semen of infected hosts.

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To see what other nasties might be lurking alongside our sperm, the researchers ran a search through the [PubMed catalogue](#) for relevant terms, filtering out over 3,800 papers containing some mention of viruses and semen. All up they fished out evidence of [27 viruses](#) – including Zika – that could remain intact enough to infect the blood of a new host.

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Viruses responsible for diseases such as influenza, SARS, and dengue have been found in the testes, making it a fair question to ask if they're one small step away from an easy passage. [...] But with Zika taking a number of people by surprise, we should be thinking outside of the box when it comes to the spread of viruses.

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This research was published in [Emerging Infectious Diseases](#).

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [More Viruses Than We Previously Thought Could Be Transmitted Sexually](#)**