

Source: [KBhBIO101Diseases](#)

1 | Viruses

Definition 1 · **Viruses** Acellular Macromolecular Assemblies

Viruses...

- ...contain protein coat called **capsid**
- ...use DNA or RNA, but not both
- ...are obligate parasites that could only replicate within host

Assembled and mature viral particles => **virions**. They usually have three different parts

1. Capsid — the protein coat
2. Genetic material — what they are transmitting/replicating
3. Occasionally outside lipid layer

=> Viruses exist on the nanometre scale, but they are difference in share and size

1.1 | Structure of Viruses

See [KBhBIO101StructureOfViruses](#)

1.2 | Types of Viruses

Two types of viruses: the prokaryote-frequenting **DNA viruses** which replicates themselves using DNA and the eukaryote-frequenting **RNA viruses** which replicates themselves using RNA.

See [KBhBIO101TypesOfViruses](#)

1.3 | Virus Lifecycle + Infectivity

How do viruses infect people? Basically, they come into your body, hijack the [KBhBIO101CentralDogma](#) system of your body, and leverage it to create more copies of itself.

To see more about this, head on over to [KBhBIO101ViralInfection](#). This is important and cool.

1.4 | Viral Genetic Shift + Viral Genetic Drift

Viruses modulate themselves, which make them particularly hard to deal with