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Hantavirus Infections

Also called: Hanta virus, HPS

Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) is a rare but deadly viral infection. It is spread by mice and rats. They shed the virus in their urine, droppings, and saliva. Tiny droplets with the virus can enter the air. People can get the disease if they breathe infected air or come into contact with rodents or their urine or droppings. You cannot catch it from people.

Early symptoms of HPS include:

- Fatigue
- Fever
- Muscle aches, especially in the thighs, hips and back
- Headaches
- Chills
- Dizziness
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or abdominal pain

Later symptoms include coughing and shortness of breath.

Controlling rodents in and around your house is the best way to prevent infection. If you have been around rodents and have symptoms of fever, deep muscle aches, and severe shortness of breath, see your doctor immediately.


There is no specific treatment, cure, or vaccine for HPS. Patients may do better if it is recognized early and they get medical care in an intensive care unit. They often need to use a breathing machine and have oxygen therapy.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Learn More

- [About Hantavirus \[https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/about/\]](https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/about/) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [Clinical Overview of Hantavirus \[https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/hcp/clinical-overview/\]](https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/hcp/clinical-overview/) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [Clinician Brief: Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome \[https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/hcp/clinical-overview/hfrs.html\]](https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/hcp/clinical-overview/hfrs.html) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [Hantavirus Prevention \[https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/prevention/\]](https://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus/prevention/) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Clinical Trials

- [ClinicalTrials.gov: Hantavirus Infections \[https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Hantavirus+Infections%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec\]](https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Hantavirus+Infections%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec)  (National Institutes of Health)

Journal Articles

- Article: Characterisation of Orthohantavirus Serotypes in Human Infections in Kazakhstan. [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40733543]
- Article: Virological characterization of a new isolated strain of Andes virus involved... [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40523041]
- Article: Lanka virus, a Mus booduga-borne orthohantavirus infection-associated febrile illness in Sri... [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40498868]
- Hantavirus Infections -- see more articles [https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%22Hantavirus+Infections%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+AND+humans%5Bmh%5D+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+%22last+1+Year%22+%5Bedat%5D+NOT+%28letter%5Bpt%5D+OR+case+reports%5Bpt%5D+OR+editorial%5Bpt%5D+OR+comment%5Bpt%5D%29+AND+free+full+text%5Bsb%5D+]

Patient Handouts

- Hantavirus [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001382.htm] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/001382.htm]



National Institutes of Health

The primary NIH organization for research on *Hantavirus Infections* is the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases [http://www.niaid.nih.gov/]

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