

1: The Plague of Thebes, a Historical Epidemic in Sophocles's Oedipus Rex

Rheumatic fever was the disease that fatally weakened Beth March in "Little Women." Before the development of antibiotics, this disease was a major cause of death, particularly in children.

Highlight and copy the desired format. A Literature Review of Zika Virus. Emerging Infectious Diseases, 22 7 , Abstract Zika virus is a mosquito-borne flavivirus that is the focus of an ongoing pandemic and public health emergency. Previously limited to sporadic cases in Africa and Asia, the emergence of Zika virus in Brazil heralded rapid spread throughout the Americas. Although most Zika virus infections are characterized by subclinical or mild influenza-like illness, severe manifestations have been described, including Guillain-Barre syndrome in adults and microcephaly in babies born to infected mothers. Neither an effective treatment nor a vaccine is available for Zika virus; therefore, the public health response primarily focuses on preventing infection, particularly in pregnant women. These questions highlight the need for research to optimize surveillance, patient management, and public health intervention in the current Zika virus epidemic. Zika virus is a flavivirus that was first isolated in from a febrile rhesus macaque monkey in the Zika Forest of Uganda and later identified in Aedes africanus mosquitoes from the same forest 1. In , the first 3 cases of human infection were reported in Nigeria 2. Serosurveillance studies in humans suggest that Zika virus is widespread throughout Africa, Asia, and Oceania Technical Appendix Table 1. Figure 1 Figure 1. Cases of laboratory-confirmed, imported Zika virus infections in the United States, by state, January 1, 2014–February 10, 2015. All cases are imported, with the exception of 2 sexually Figure 2 Figure 2. All countries and regions reporting laboratory-confirmed autochthonous Zika virus cases, January 1, 2014–February 10, 2015, Technical Appendix Table 2. Data represent outbreaks and case reports for all reported Figure 3 Figure 3. South America, Central America, and Caribbean countries and regions reporting laboratory-confirmed autochthonous Zika virus disease cases during January 1, 2014–February 10, 2015, Technical Appendix Table 2. Historically, symptomatic Zika virus infections were limited to sporadic cases or small clusters of patients Technical Appendix Table 2. Since then, Zika virus infection has spread rapidly. Except for 2 sexually acquired cases, Zika virus in the United States, Canada, and Europe has been restricted to travelers from affected areas Figure 1 ; Technical Appendix Table 2 ; a patient who delivered an infant with microcephaly in Hawaii had spent part of her pregnancy in Brazil Given the wealth of new information about Zika virus, we conducted a literature review to summarize the published findings. This review contextualizes the ongoing Zika virus epidemic in the Americas and identifies knowledge gaps that must be addressed to combat Zika virus successfully. We reviewed all literature published through February 16, 2015, including peer-reviewed journal articles, infectious disease reporting system broadcasts, and public health agency information e. To ensure the capture of all information, we cross-referenced the bibliographies of reviewed articles. The search included English-language and foreign-language articles, which were computer translated. Virology and Pathogenesis Zika virus is a positive-sense single-stranded RNA virus in the family Flaviviridae, which includes several other mosquito-borne viruses of clinical importance e. Its closest relative is Spondweni virus, the only other member of its clade 15 , The Zika virus genome contains 10, 800 nt encoding 3, 300 aa Phylogenetic analysis shows that Zika virus can be classified into distinct African and Asian lineages; both emerged from East Africa during the late 1940s or early 1950s This finding suggests frequent purging of deleterious polymorphisms in functionally important genes and the possibility of recombination, which occurs rarely among flaviviruses The implications of this finding require further evaluation with respect to viral spread, zoonotic maintenance, and epidemiologic potential. After mosquito inoculation of a human host, cellular entry likely resembles that of other flaviviruses, whereby the virus enters skin cells through cellular receptors, enabling migration to the lymph nodes and bloodstream. Few studies have investigated the pathogenesis of Zika virus infection. One study showed that human skin fibroblasts, keratinocytes, and immature dendritic cells allow entry of Zika virus Several entry and adhesion factors e. After cellular entry, flaviviruses typically replicate within endoplasmic reticulum-derived vesicles. However, Zika virus antigens were found exclusively in the nuclei of infected cells; this finding suggests a location for replication that differs from that of other flaviviruses and merits

further investigation Transmission Zika virus, like other flaviviruses, is transmitted by mosquitoes, primarily of the *Aedes Stegomyia* genus. Zika virus has been detected in wild-caught *Ae.* In Africa, the predominant *Aedes* species vector has not been definitively identified, although viral isolation studies suggest that *Ae.* *Aedes* mosquitoes are widely distributed globally, and native habitats of most species are warm tropical and subtropical regions 29 . Some species show a limited distribution e. Mosquito acquisition of the virus likely occurs during a blood meal; after uptake, the virus replicates and is transmitted to a reservoir animal at the next blood meal Isolation of the virus or of anti-Zika virus antibodies from various nonhuman primates and other wild and domestic animals suggests multiple animal reservoirs One study examined the kinetics of Zika virus infectivity in *Ae.* Other nonvector modes of Zika virus transmission include congenital 34 , perinatal 35 , and sexual 11 , Possible transmission by blood transfusion 37 , 38 , animal bite 39 , and laboratory exposure 40 ; Technical Appendix reference 41 has been described; however, confounding by contemporaneous vectorborne transmission in these instances cannot be excluded. For example, the patient who became infected with Zika virus after a monkey bite had concomitant exposure to mosquitoes, a more plausible route of acquisition Similarly, 1 of 2 patients with potentially laboratory-acquired infection 40 ; Technical Appendix reference 41 reported recent exposure to mosquitoes 40 ; no definitive mechanism for transmission was described for either patient. Intrauterine transmission is supported by the finding of Zika virus RNA by reverse transcription PCR RT-PCR in amniotic fluid of 2 mothers with symptoms of Zika virus infection during pregnancy; both delivered babies with microcephaly Probable intrapartum transmission has also been described: Viral RNA, but not culturable virus, has been detected in breast milk 35 , but transmission by breast-feeding has not been reported. Two cases of possible transfusion-transmitted Zika virus were reported in Brazil Furthermore, during the French Polynesia outbreak, a study found that 42 2. All ages are susceptible 4 daysâ€”76 years , with a slight preponderance of cases in females Technical Appendix Table 3. When symptoms occur, they are typically mild, self-limiting, and nonspecific Technical Appendix Table 3 ; similarity to other arbovirus infections e. Commonly reported symptoms include rash, fever, arthralgia, myalgia, fatigue, headache, and conjunctivitis Technical Appendix Table 3. Rash, a prominent feature, is maculopapular and pruritic in most cases; it begins proximally and spreads to the extremities with spontaneous resolution within 1â€”4 days of onset Fever is typically low grade Symptoms resolve within 2 weeks; accounts of longer persistence are rare 25 ; Technical Appendix reference More severe clinical sequelae have increasingly been associated with Zika virus. However, concern exists that these findings may in part be artifactual, resulting from previous underreporting of cases and confounding by other risk factors for microcephaly Technical Appendix reference Because systematic surveillance for microcephaly was not previously undertaken, the baseline rate of microcephaly in Brazil is unknown, and subsequent reports suggest that a substantial proportion of infants that reportedly have microcephaly do not actually have the condition Technical Appendix reference Health officials in French Polynesia have reported an apparent increase in congenital central nervous system CNS malformations, coinciding with the outbreak occurring during â€” Technical Appendix reference However, this finding should be cautiously interpreted; reports included only 17 cases, and none were laboratory-confirmed Zika virus cases. In addition, the true baseline rate of such malformations before the outbreak is unknown Technical Appendix reference A plausible neuropathologic link between Zika virus and CNS anomalies is supported by research showing viral neurotropism in intraperitoneally infected mice Technical Appendix reference 52 and progression of disease in directly infected mouse brains Technical Appendix reference Some cellular proteins have a dual role in autophagy and centrosome stability; a normal number of centrosomes is important for brain development Technical Appendix reference An increase in centrosomes in mice has been shown to result in microcephaly Technical Appendix reference Severe neurologic sequelae have also been described in adults, including meningitis, meningoencephalitis, and Guillain-Barre syndrome Technical Appendix reference A surge in Guillain-Barre syndrome cases has been observed in Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Suriname, Venezuela, and French Polynesia during outbreaks; however, Zika virus has been laboratory confirmed in only some of these cases Technical Appendix reference Nonneurologic sequelae include transient hearing loss, hypotension, and genitourinary symptoms 11 , 36 ; Technical Appendix references 56, Hematospermia was reported in 2 cases

11 , A year-old man in Tahiti in whom hematospermia developed 2 weeks after symptoms of Zika virus infection was found to have replicative cultured Zika virus particles in his semen. In addition, a year-old man from the United States contracted Zika virus infection while in Senegal, and subsequently, his wife was infected in the United States; this case supports sexual transmission. A second sexually acquired case was reported in Texas. Technical Appendix reference. Rare deaths have been described in patients infected with Zika virus. Technical Appendix reference. Besides 1 infant death, 3 other fatalities were reported: 2 from Brazil and 1 from Colombia. Medical history was not reported for the other girl [Technical Appendix reference 44].

General Laboratory Findings Information on laboratory findings for Zika virus infection is limited. Complete blood count is often normal; even if blood count is abnormal, changes may be nonspecific. Mild elevations in inflammatory markers C-reactive protein, fibrinogen, and ferritin, serum lactate dehydrogenase, or liver enzymes have been described [8 , 25 ; Technical Appendix reference]. These findings are observed in many other viral infections, including the co-circulating viruses DENV and CHIKV, so none of these laboratory alterations reliably distinguish among these infections.

Diagnosis Clinical evaluation alone is unreliable for a diagnosis of Zika virus infection. Because of clinical overlap with other arboviruses, diagnosis relies on laboratory testing. Evaluation for Zika virus, CHIKV, and DENV should be undertaken concurrently for all patients who have acute fever, rash, myalgia, or arthralgia after recent previous 2 weeks travel to an area of ongoing Zika virus transmission. Technical Appendix reference. Testing has typically been performed by large reference laboratories. Appropriate tests are selected by the laboratory on the basis of clinical information provided by the requesting healthcare provider. Technical Appendix reference. To coordinate sample collection, providers should contact local public health agencies before testing. In contrast, serologic testing is not recommended during the acute phase, when Zika virus IgM may be undetectable. However, molecular testing must be performed during the viremic period. Consequently, testing algorithms are based on sampling relative to symptom onset, and serologic testing should be considered if samples are negative for Zika virus by RT-PCR. Technical Appendix reference. Serologic testing has limitations. Therefore, positive serologic test results should be confirmed with testing that uses an alternative platform such as a seroneutralization assay. However, flaviviral cross-reactivity can also pose problems in confirmatory assays, especially for patients immunized. e. Louis encephalitis virus; presence of antibodies confounds diagnosis. Technical Appendix reference. The type of sample can also affect the probability of detection.

2: Two characters who die of a disease in literary work? | Yahoo Answers

Disease—real or imagined, physical or mental—is a common theme in Western literature and is often a symbol of modern alienation. In *Literary Diseases*, a comprehensive analysis of the metaphorical and symbolic force of disease in modern Italian literature, Gian-Paolo Biasin expands the geography of the discussion of this important theme.

My flare has not been brief. Nor did it come suddenly or brightly. It crawled along my limbs, sending a dull, nagging pain wherever it landed. A knee became harder to bend. An elbow froze in place overnight, making it impossible to straighten out my arm in the morning. The knuckle of a middle finger puffed out, the skin tight and pink. In a couple of days it went back to its regular shape but new fingers were affected, my index becoming curved, bad for pointing. Shoes started to feel painful to step in, even to put on. My sneakers were broken-in but the soles of my feet felt like I was walking barefoot on small, polished stones. I even said it out loud to my partner, though really I was comforting myself. We were in the Matagalpa department of Nicaragua, the highlands known for their shade-grown coffee and cacao. It was December and the rain came several times daily and nightly. Being accustomed to the California drought, we both complained of the humidity. And everyone was sore from sleeping in unfamiliar beds. But even while thinking about places of convalescence, I refused to recognize the signs of an illness I had been living with for a decade. With the flare still in its early stages, it was possible to negotiate the pain without putting a name to it. I simultaneously live in terror of the next flare and fantasize that I may never get a flare again. The pain is still frightening but it is also vague. The levels, locations and migration patterns, because for me lupus-related pain always moves, become harder and harder to revisit. This time it was walking. After we returned from Nicaragua, my knees began to burn. The muscles in my thighs felt more sore than after a day-long, up-hill hike, even though I barely got exercise. I had to do a lot of sitting and typing to prepare for teaching in the new term and this made my legs calcify. Going from the couch to the bathroom required physical and mental exertion. This was enough to make me go into the hospital. The results of the blood work were a relief. They confirmed what I was too tired to deny. The expat lifestyle was over. My body was once again trying to destroy itself. My immune system was producing antibodies determined to eliminate my healthy cells as though they were foreign invaders. My antibodies against my body. The body against itself. I never owned a copy. Instead I got the more recent edition of *The Lupus Book: A Guide for Patients and Their Families*. In , it was indeed the lupus book. These were metaphors of hypersensitivity, self-sabotage and, of course, war. And the stories we patients and doctors tell each other and ourselves. I had read Sontag. I was not well versed in crip theory but I was surrounded by people who were and they helped me critically approach the ableism that pervades all aspects of our culture. In the course of treatment, the situation is constantly assessed and reassessed. There are more blood tests and urine tests. A slow retreat follows the initial attack on the immune system. My doctor has to fine-tune the drugs, adjusting the treatment plan and then re-adjusting it. I am used to dividing my day according to pills—some must be consumed with food and others on a completely empty stomach. During a flare, I have to be extra vigilant but I inevitably forget to take my meds because of carelessness or inertia. There are no good drugs for lupus. When the drugs do work, there are many good days. But they are worth the good days, when the pain almost disappears and I let myself feel that I am well again. What I know and what I feel are two very different things. Flares do not mean that work stops. Even on days when my legs feel as heavy as pillars of cement and my arms as brittle as toothpicks, I still have to face a room full of students. In the mornings, parts of my body feel immobilized, as if wearing a brace, and I slowly move my muscles and joints to loosen them up even though my impulse is to fall back into bed or sink into a couch and be still. This is self-sabotaging because, for my joint pain, being immobile only breeds more immobility. That is why nights are the worst. I cannot sleep through a night normally but during a flare I awake dozens of times. And always I awake into pain. Before knowing who I am or where I am, I feel the dull, dolorous stillness of my body. The night-side of life. And so I started thinking about my tattoo. This would be my first and it would commemorate the end of my flare. I was certain that it had to be an image of a wolf. I rejected the idea of this disease, its nebulosity, its synonymousness with weakness. But now that I felt myself emerging from my

flare, it felt safe, superstitiously speaking, to externalize my diagnosis, to embrace the wolf. Unlike cancer, lupus is not a metaphor for anything. Doctors today think that SLE Systemic Lupus Systemic Erythematosus , which is what I have, is not even one disease, but many different ones that are not yet parsed out. Without the rash, lupus can be invisible on clothed bodies, as it is in our culture. My tattoo would be for myself but it would also force me to externalize the disease, to have conversations about it. I know other people with other chronic illnesses who got inked to mark their bodies. The semi colon tattoo, for some, represents struggles with mental illness and suicidal ideation. For people with IBD it commemorates their ostomy. Cancer survivor sometimes get tattoos over their mastectomy scars , less to cover them, than to accept their changed bodies. To exercise agency over my body, to inflict bearable pain with a clear beginning and end, seemed appealing. My tattoo would be an abstract representation of a wolf, located on my forearm. In March, my labs were bad again and suddenly I was no longer eager to embrace the wolf. My tattoo would have to wait. Either that or I would have to rethink the design. Maybe I could get a tattoo of a wolf howling at the moon. Maybe it would be of an octopus. To view oneself as being in exile but on the verge of return can give one hope. To think that this body can be a healthy body and that this self can be one with that healthy body is a beautiful fantasy. As the war drags on, it becomes less and less clear who the enemy is. Under a regimen of immunosuppressants, the body opens up to uninvited guests that seek to do further damage, to take over infections, viruses. Such a strange situation for an immune system to have to battle foreign intruders while continuing to fight against itself. Commemorative tattoos usually serve as reminders of that which is over, of milestones. But this flare shows no sign of ending. When I first learned of lupus, I imagined it in terms of brief flares and long remissions, but the longer I live with it, the less I believe this to be true. Even with past flares, there was no day on which I woke up and knew that a flare was over. Nor did the end of a flare, as pronounced by my doctor after looking at blood and urine, mean an end to pain, or the fog of depression that comes with straddling what one believes to be two worlds. The longer I am in this flare the less I think in terms of beginnings and endings. What if it ends me? This disease is me. I have lived with it for over a decade now. Embodiment to me is inseparable from lupus. Since my disease has begun to express itself, I have seen it as an inextricable part of my identity. This is not a source of exceptionalism or pride. I have seen my body change as a result of this disease. My knuckles are larger. My skin is chronically pale.

3: 10 Captivating Books That Portray Disease and Disability Through Fiction | The Mighty

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Part of the reason for why heart disease is considered lyrically and symbolically powerful is because, since at least the Ancient Greek era, the heart has been considered the emotional centre of the human body. Endless writers invoke the heart in this context, and the heart is associated with romantic love everywhere from poetry to popular culture. As a result, heart disease symbolizes all kinds of suffering: Although science has now confirmed that the heart has nothing to do with human emotion considering our consciousness lies in the brain, this has done little to decrease the association between the heart and romantic love. Such is the enduring power of symbol in the human imagination! As these examples show, characters in literature are punished both for being too loving and not being loving enough. This paradox suggests that part of the role of literature is to teach us to achieve moral and emotional balance in our lives. Illness is one of the most dramatic parts of life, which makes it ideal fodder for writers. Active Themes Bear in mind that prior to the 20th century, disease was very mysterious. People did not have a clear understanding of what caused illness, how it would progress, or how it could be cured. Historical context is also relevant to which diseases are more commonly represented in literature. Like the seasons and weather, illness has historically been difficult for people to comprehend. As a result, writers and artists have developed myths and symbolic explanations to account for the complex, mysterious, and ruthless workings of the human body. Of course, these figures do not accurately represent the grim reality of the disease. Indeed, the potential of illness to carry symbolic meaning is arguably the most important reason for how and why illness will appear in a text. Although symbolic meaning is never fixed, illnesses do have particular associations that will be better suited to some narratives than others. The bubonic plague, for example, invokes themes such as all-encompassing tragedy and apocalyptic devastation. According to Sontag, this can lead us to subconsciously believe that sufferers did something to deserve their illness, or that it is within their power to cure themselves. Active Themes Illnesses play different roles in different eras. Whereas tuberculosis cast a large shadow in Victorian times, the era from the s to the present has been particularly affected by the sudden emergence of AIDS. Because of the way the AIDS crisis played out, and the fact that minority groups such as gay men, trans women, and black people were disproportionately affected, the literature of AIDS is also inherently political. Although the abundance of beautiful art and literature produced in response to the AIDS crisis could never make up for the senseless devastation caused by the disease, this is an important example of the way that people process the darker aspects of existence through literature. When emotions like those generated by AIDS cannot be adequately communicated through normal language, sometimes symbolic language provides a way forward. Active Themes Frequently, writers simply invent illnesses without clearly defining them, and use this as a way to kill off characters with little explanation. Of course, this has been more difficult to do in the era of modern medicine, when mysterious illnesses mostly no longer appear out of nowhere. This passage demonstrates that the boundaries of realism change as our understanding of the world changes. Retrieved November 14,

4: Tuberculosis in human culture - Wikipedia

Literary diseases by Gian-Paolo Biasin, , University of Texas Press edition, in English.

5: It's Never Just Heart Disease Or Illness by on Prezi

Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.

6: Literary diseases (edition) | Open Library

Disease and Literature The subject of disease "whether as a metaphor for spiritual corruption manifested in the body or as symbol of social ills" is one of the most prevalent in modern literature.

7: My Disease is Not a Metaphor | Literary Hub

The point of inflection where the lived body becomes a lived body-cum-disease, constitutes a biographical disruption between the traditional subjective experience of disease, and a modified subject, the disease-subject, whose different mode of being-in-the world requires a new narrative.

8: Best Fiction Books About Diseases or Viruses (books)

A disease is an illness which affects people, animals, or plants, for example one which is caused by bacteria or infection. the rapid spread of disease in the area. illnesses such as heart disease.

9: Disease and Literature Critical Essays - www.enganchecubano.com

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