**This is hard to believe. But ..**.

Recent studies in UK revealed that recent Influenza A victims , exposed to the RSV (respiratory ancytial virus) can develop into viral pneumonia which is very dangerous and can be fatal. While these cases are not common in the U.S. , viruses are not contained by borderlines, and therefore, everyone, everywhere needs to be cautious.

Before you (and I) stop using face masks in public, you (and I) must decide whether we and young children in our families should be extra cautious and reduce risk by continuing to face mask in public, especially around strangers.

===========================================================

SOURCE:

**Warning as new hybrid virus threatens to evade immunity in 'never before seen' infection**

**Researchers warned the new hybrid virus could increase the chances of influenza triggering a severe, and probably fatal, lung infection called viral pneumonia.**

**By**[**ANTONY ASHKENAZ**](https://www.express.co.uk/journalist/123149/Antony-Ashkenaz)**, Wed, Oct 26, 2022**

For the first time, researchers have discovered a new type of hybrid virus pathogen, formed after two viruses fused together. The RSV and influenza viruses, each responsible for tens of thousands of deaths each year, have fused together to form a virus that evades immunity. Through this finding, researchers believe they can understand why co-infections, which is where a person is infected with two viruses at the same time, can lead to a disease becoming significantly worse for some patients, including hard-to-treat viral pneumonia. Influenza A is responsible for about 5 million people around the world being hospitalised every year, while in the UK, over 30,000 babies and children under 5 are hospitalised every year after suffering from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

The virus, which can cause serious respiratory infections such as pneumonia and bronchiolitis (inflammation of the airways), is the leading cause of acute lower respiratory tract infections in children under five years old, and can cause severe illness in some children and older adults.

While co-infections are relatively common, researchers were unsure about how these viruses would respond if they found themselves inside the same cell.

Dr Joanne Haney from the MRC-University of Glasgow centre for virus research, who led the study told the Guardian: "Respiratory viruses exist as part of a community of many viruses that all target the same region of the body, like an ecological niche.

In the study, Dr Haney and her colleagues deliberately infected human lung cells with the two virus strains, and discovered that insteading of competing with each other for control of the cell, as some other viruses have been known to do, this pair fused together.

The two viruses fused to form a palm tree-shaped hybrid pathogen – with RSV forming the trunk, and influenza the leaves. Prof Pablo Murcia, who supervised the research, published in Nature Microbiology said: "This kind of hybrid virus has never been described before.

"We are talking about viruses from two completely different families combining together with the genomes and the external proteins of both viruses. It is a new type of virus pathogen."

Once the hybrid strain was formed, it was able to infect neighbouring cells, even evading antibodies that would generally block influenza infections.