

# Nipah Virus Kills Two In Kerala

## Why In The News?

- Cases Of **Nipah Infection** Have Been Found In Kerala Again, After Two People Were Confirmed To Have Died Of The Viral Disease In **Kozhikode District**. Two Others, Aged Nine And 24, Are Under Treatment. They Are Family Members Of The First Victim, Who Died On August 30.
- Kerala Health Minister Veena George Held A **High-level Meeting** To Review The Situation In Kozhikode On Tuesday Morning. Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya Said A **Central Team Of Experts Has Been Sent To The State**.

 **The Indian EXPRESS**  
**Nipah kills 2 in Kerala, two more test positive**



## What Is The Nipah Virus Infection?

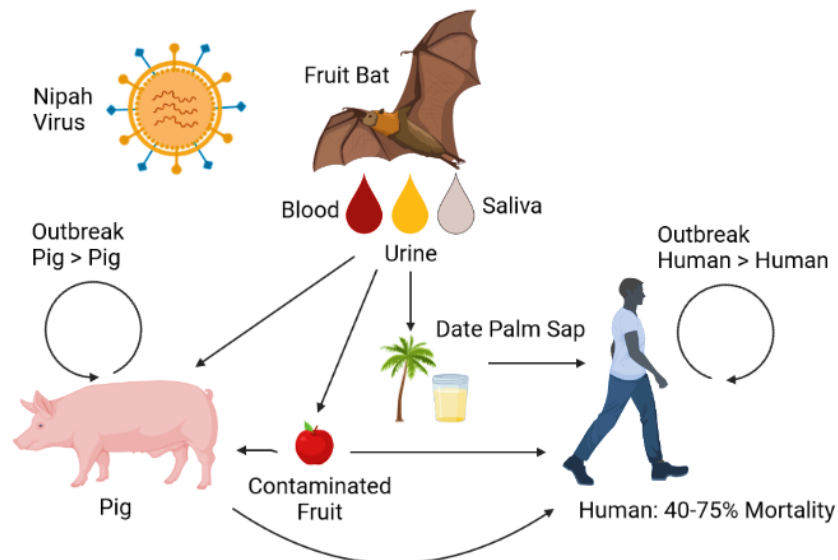
- **Nipah Is A Zoonotic Disease**, Which Means It Is Transmitted To Humans Through Infected Animals Or Contaminated Food. It **Can Also Be Transmitted Directly From Person To Person** Through Close Contact With An Infected Person, The WHO Says.
- Its **Symptoms** Are Fever, Headache, Cough, Sore Throat, Difficulty In Breathing, And Vomiting. In Severe Cases, Disorientation, Drowsiness, Seizures, Encephalitis (Swelling Of The Brain) Can Occur, Progressing To Coma And Death.
- While The Nipah Virus Does Not Spread As Quickly As The Covid-19 Virus, It Is More Deadly. According To The World Health Organization (WHO), The Overall **Global Case Fatality Rate Of Nipah Is Estimated At 40% To 75% .**



## How Is Nipah Transmitted?

- The **First Outbreaks** Of The Nipah Virus Among Humans Was Reported From **Malaysia (1998) And Singapore (1999)**. The Virus Takes Its Name From The Village In Malaysia Where The Person In Whom The Virus Was First Isolated Died Of The Disease.
- Transmission From Animals Happens Mainly Through Consumption Of Contaminated Food. Consumption Of **Raw Date Palm Sap Or Fruit** That Has Been Contaminated With **Saliva Or Urine From Infected Bats**.
- In India, **West Bengal Had Seen An Outbreak In 2001 And 2007**, While Kerala Had Reported Several Cases In 2018, And Isolated Cases In 2019 And 2021.

Nipah Virus Transmission and Mortality



## How Fast Does The Nipah Virus Spread?

- The Nipah Virus Is Known To Spread Far **More Slowly Than Sars-Cov-2**. However, It Is Its Ability To Kill That Is The Biggest Concern. During The First Outbreak **In Bengal's Siliguri In 2001, 45 Of The 66 People** Confirmed To Have Been Infected Died. That Is A **Mortality Rate Of 68%**.
- In The Next Outbreak, In Nadia District Of West Bengal, In 2007, **All The Five Infected People Died**. During The **2018 Outbreak In Kerala, 17 Of The 18 Patients** Confirmed To Have Been Infected Died.
- In The Malaysian Outbreak In 1999, A Total Of 265 People Had Been Found Infected, Of Whom **105 Had Died**. However, So Far, All Outbreaks Of The Nipah Virus Have Been **Localised And Contained Relatively Quickly**.



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