A review on human herpesvirus type 8 infection
人類疱疹病毒 8 型評論

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Human herpesvirus type eight (HHV-8), also known as Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV) is the most recently identified human herpesvirus. Over the last decade, many studies have focused on the epidemiology and disease association of this novel virus. It is aetiologically associated with Kaposi's sarcoma and some rare malignancies that are mainly found in AIDS patients. A link between HHV-8 and several diseases such as basal cell carcinoma, multiple myeloma and pemphigus has been suspected. However, convincing evidence is still lacking. In contrast to all previous known human herpesviruses, the prevalence of HHV-8 varies substantially with geographical location. Current data suggest that the principal route of transmission is also different between populations. While Kaposi's sarcoma is rare in Hong Kong, the limited available data provide some hints that this infection might be more prevalent in this locality than one would have expected. (H.K. Dermatol. Venereol. Bull. (2003) 11, 68-72)

人類疱疹病毒8型(HHV-8)，亦即多發性出血性肉瘤(卡波希肉瘤)關連性□疹病毒(KSHV)，是最近發現的人類□疹病毒。在過往十年，有關此新病毒的流行病學及其相關疾病的研究所為數不少。此病毒與卡波希肉瘤以及一些主要發生於愛滋病患者的罕見腫瘤有關。HHV-8亦可能與數種疾病有關，如基底細胞癌、多發性骨髓瘤及天口瘤。然而，確實的證據仍然缺乏。與過往所有的人類□疹病毒相反，HHV-8的患病率具有相當程度的地域差異性。目前的研究顯示，在不同的人口中，其主要傳播途徑也有差異。雖然，卡波希肉瘤在香港較罕見。但現在有限的資料顯示HHV-8的感染率可較想像中高。

Keywords: Epidemiology, HHV-8, Hong Kong, KSHV, Kaposi's sarcoma
關鍵詞：流行病學, 人類□疹病毒8型, 香港, 卡波希肉瘤關連性□疹病毒, 卡波希肉瘤