

with different WUPyV and KIPyV subtypes. We conclude that WUPyV and KIPyV are frequently present in young children. Additional studies are needed to confirm the suggestion from this study that both viruses may be associated with respiratory disease.

Acknowledgments

We thank all the parents and children who were willing to participate in this study and Caroline de Jong for laboratory assistance. Positive controls for the WUPyV and KIPyV PCR were a kind gift of S. Bialasiewicz and T.P. Sloots.

This study was supported by an MD/PhD grant from the University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands (M.M. van der Zalm), and by the Wilhelmina Children's Hospital Research Fund (fellowship to B.E. van Ewijk).

Ms van der Zalm is an MD and PhD candidate at the Wilhelmina Children's Hospital in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Her research interests include epidemiologic studies for respiratory viruses in young children.

References

1. Gaynor AM, Nissen MD, Whiley DM, Mackay IM, Lambert SB, Wu G, et al. Identification of a novel polyomavirus from patients with acute respiratory tract infections. *PLoS Pathog.* 2007;3:e64. DOI: 10.1371/journal.ppat.0030064
2. Allander T, Andreasson K, Gupta S, Bjerkner A, Bogdanovic G, Persson MA, et al. Identification of a third human polyomavirus. *J Virol.* 2007;81:4130–6. DOI: 10.1128/JVI.00028-07
3. Bialasiewicz S, Whiley DM, Lambert SB, Jacob K, Bletchly C, Wang D, et al. Presence of the newly discovered human polyomaviruses KI and WU in Australian patients with acute respiratory tract infection. *J Clin Virol.* 2008;41:63–8. DOI: 10.1016/j.jcv.2007.11.001
4. Foulongne V, Brieu N, Jeziorski E, Chatain A, Rodiere M, Segondy M. KI and WU polyomaviruses in children, France. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2008;14:523–5.
5. Le BM, Demertzis LM, Wu G, Tibbets RJ, Buller R, Arens MQ, et al. Clinical and epidemiologic characterization of WU polyomavirus infection, St. Louis, Missouri. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2007;13:1936–8.
6. Abed Y, Wang D, Boivin G. WU polyomavirus in children, Canada. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2007;13:1939–41.
7. Han TH, Chung JY, Koo JW, Kim SW, Hwang ES. WU polyomavirus in children with acute lower respiratory tract infections, South Korea. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2007;13:1766–8.
8. Norja P, Ubillos I, Templeton K, Simmonds P. No evidence for an association between infections with WU and KI polyomaviruses and respiratory disease. *J Clin Virol.* 2007;40:307–11. DOI: 10.1016/j.jcv.2007.09.008
9. van der Zalm MM, Uiterwaal CS, de Jong BM, Wilbrink B, van der Ent CK. Viral specimen collection by parents increases response rate in population-based virus studies. *J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2006;117:955–6. DOI: 10.1016/j.jaci.2006.01.006
10. Bialasiewicz S, Whiley DM, Lambert SB, Gould A, Nissen MD, Sloots TP. Development and evaluation of real-time PCR assays for the detection of the newly identified KI and WU polyomaviruses. *J Clin Virol.* 2007;40:9–14. DOI: 10.1016/j.jcv.2007.07.015
11. van Gageldonk-Lafeber AB, Heijnen ML, Bartelds AI, Peters MF, van der Plas SM, Wilbrink B. A case-control study of acute respiratory tract infection in general practice patients in The Netherlands. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2005;41:490–7. DOI: 10.1086/431982
12. Dorries K. Molecular biology and pathogenesis of human polyomavirus infections. *Dev Biol Stand.* 1998;94:71–9.

Address for correspondence: Marieke M. van der Zalm, Department of Pediatrics, Respiratory Diseases, Wilhelmina Children's Hospital, University Medical Centre Utrecht, PO Box 85090, Office KH 01.419.0, 3508 AB Utrecht, the Netherlands; email: m.m.vanderzalm@umcutrecht.nl

All material published in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* is in the public domain and may be used and reprinted without special permission; proper citation, however, is required.

etymologia

Chimera

[ki-mir'ə]

From the Greek *Khimaira*, Latin *Chimaera*; she-goat. In Greek mythology: a composite creature with the body and head of a lion, a goat's head rising from its back, and a serpent's tail. In science: an individual organism whose body contains cell populations derived from different zygotes, of the same or different species. Each population of cells keeps its own character, and the resulting animal is a mixture of tissues. Chimera also refers to a substance created from proteins or genes of 2 species, as by genetic engineering. Chimerism is rare in humans; ~40 cases have been reported.

Source: Dorland's illustrated medical dictionary, 31st edition. Philadelphia: Saunders; 2007; <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>; <http://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/hp.asp>