etymologia

Varicella Zoster Virus [\textit{var'i-sel'\textquotesingle zos\textquotesingle ter vir\textquotesingle s}]

A member of the family \textit{Herpesviridae}, varicella zoster virus (VZV) is named for the 2 main diseases (chickenpox and herpes zoster [shingles]) it causes. Varicella may be a diminutive of “variola” because it was considered a mild form of smallpox. “Variola” was coined by Rudolph Augustin Vogel in 1764 and is possibly derived from the Latin \textit{varus} (“pimple”) or \textit{varius} (“speckled”). Herpes zoster derives from the Greek terms \textit{herpein} (“to creep”) and \textit{zoster} (“belt”). Not until the twentieth century was VZV recognized as the cause of both these diseases.

Sources

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