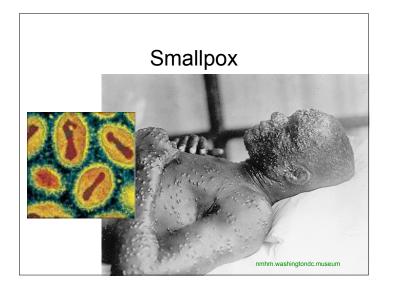
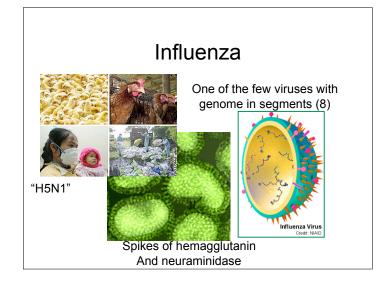
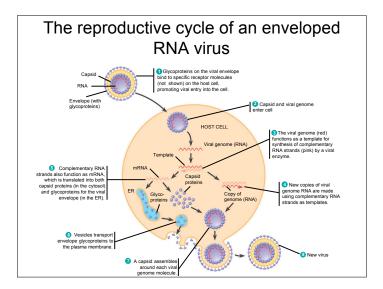


		_	Viruses
	Genome Type	Viral coat	Examples
	ds DNA	No	Herpes, chickenpox
DNA Viruses		Yes	Smallpox
	ss DNA	no	Parvovirus
RNA Viruses	dsRNA	no	Tick fever
	ss RNA (serves as mRNA)	no yes	Rhinovirus SARS
	ssRNA (template)	yes	Influenza Ebola
	ssRNA (retrovirus)	yes	HIV



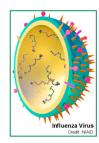




Why are flu vaccines so hard to make?

- Flu strains are highly variable

 Recombination among the viral gene segments
 - RNA polymerase has high mutation rate
- Now have some antiviral drugs (e.g. Tamiflu)
 - blocks the neuramidase enzyme so virus isn't released from cell





The New York Times

October 6, 2005

Experts Unlock Clues to Spread of 1918 Flu Virus

By <u>GINA KOLATA</u>

The 1918 influenza virus, the cause of one of history's most deadly epidemics, has been reconstructed and found be a bird flu that jumped directly to humans, two teams of federal and university scientists announced yesterday.

It was the culmination of work that began a decade ago and involved fishing tiny fragments of the 1918 virus fro snippets of lung tissue from two soldiers and an Alaskan woman who died in the 1918 pandemic. The soldiers' tissue had been saved in an Army pathology warehouse, and the woman had been buried in permanently frozen



