

# ifA PODCAST SERIES

## hMPV: A Common Yet Unknown Respiratory Threat

3 episodes, 5 experts, multiple insights

### Episode 3: Exploring hMPV: Public Health Impact of hMPV

Dr. Brian Labus

**hMPV: An unknown respiratory threat demanding public health action**



2019 2023

According to statistics published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is a **36% increase** in the number of positive tests for hMPV in comparison to before the COVID-19 pandemic in the USA.<sup>1</sup>

Recently, hMPV cases have risen in countries, including China, with concerns of overwhelming hospitals.<sup>2</sup>

**How can we improve hMPV prevention and treatment at every level?**

#### Individual Level

As research and development advances to provide a vaccine for hMPV, talk to your healthcare provider on the benefits

#### Societal Level

Continue the conversation and ensure more individuals have access to timely, relevant information on hMPV

#### System Level

Improving routine surveillance of common respiratory diseases to better understand burden of disease and develop prevention strategies



“[hMPV] is incredibly common [yet] not part of our disease surveillance systems. [...] The biggest call to action is [to] learn what this disease is, [...] and how common this is as a problem worldwide.”



Dr. Brian Labus  
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#### References

1. A little-known respiratory virus, HMPV, surged this spring. What you need to know [Internet]. [cited 2025 Jan 5]. Available from: <https://health.ucdavis.edu/news/headlines/a-little-known-respiratory-virus-hmpv-surged-this-spring-what-you-need-to-know/2023/06>

2. Winter surge in respiratory illness in China within expected range, WHO says | CBC News [Internet]. [cited 2025 Mar 19]. Available from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/human-metapneumovirus-1.7425728>