Global Health & Emerging Pathogens Institute

The Global Health and Emerging Pathogens Institute is the nucleus of Mount Sinai’s work on infectious diseases and the pathogens that cause them. The Institute, based in New York City, builds on Mount Sinai’s internationally recognized expertise in RNA virus research and encompasses ongoing research on the molecular pathogenesis of influenza, HIV, and dengue and Ebola viruses, as well as on hepatitis C and West Nile.

The innate component of the immune response is a rapid one, in which the body recognizes and fights off general classes of infectious agents. Mount Sinai has been at the forefront of current research, identifying viral factors that inhibit innate immune responses and showing how such factors contribute to the pathogenesis of the virus. Global Health and Emerging Pathogens Institute expertise in virology will prove invaluable as we work to develop robust vaccines and antiviral drugs that save people lives.

The Global Health and Emerging Pathogens Institute is focused on expanding Mount Sinai’s world-renowned programs in RNA viruses. Our strategy serves as a model for developing new programs to study other viruses, specially zoonotic and emerging viruses, including the MERS virus. These viruses blur the line between animal and human viruses and do not respect country borders, consistent with the concept “one world, one health, one medicine”, linking human, animal and environmental health. The Institute is also developing research programs driven by local and global public health needs. One emerging area of interest is the impact of host genetics and of the microbiome in virus disease.

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