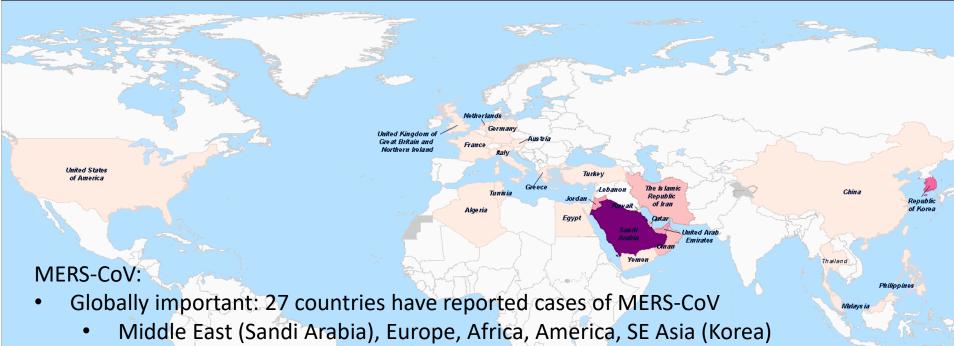


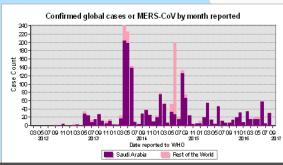
www.shutterstock.com · 291525140

#### **CONFIRMED GLOBAL CASES OF MERS-COV 2012 - 2017**



- ~35 % mortality
- As of Feb 2019, 2374 laboratory-confirmed cases





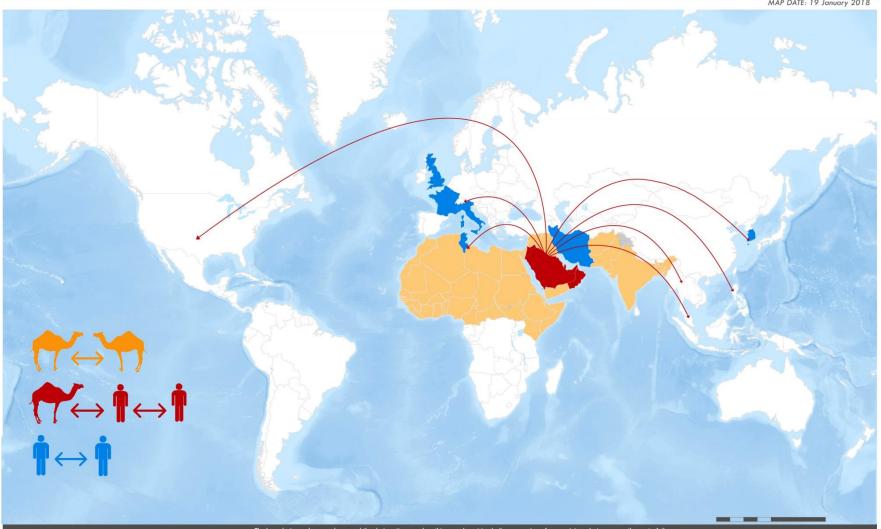


Total number of reported cases: 2078

#### **MERS-COV TRANSMISSION AND GEOGRAPHIC RANGE**



MAP DATE: 19 January 2018

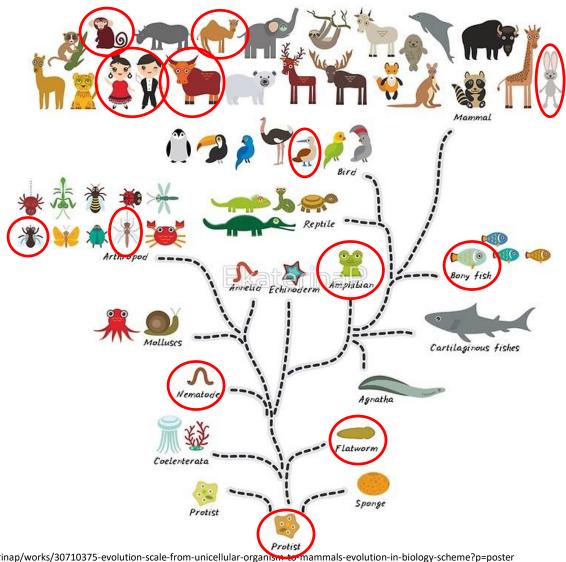


Data Source: World Health Organization Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement

### Model organism

- A non-human species for studying particular biological phenomena
- Common descent of all living organsims
  - Conserved metabolic pathways
  - Conserved developmental pathways
  - Conserved genetic materials
- Human diseases
  - Allows understanding the disease process without the added risk of harming an actual human
  - Drug development

### The tree of life



https://www.redbubble.com/people/ekaterinap/works/30710375-evolution-scale-from-unicellular-organism-to-mammals-evolution-in-biology-scheme?p=poster

### How to choose a good animal model

- Relevance
  - Disease progression (e.g. lethal model; tissue tropism)
  - Evolutionary close to human or the diseased animal
  - Support infection (in our case)
- Short life-cycle
- Genetic manipulation
- housing

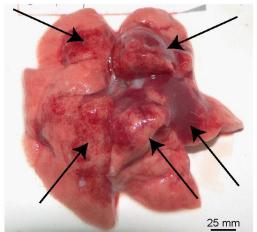
### Animal models for MERS-CoV



	Rhesus macaque	Common marmoset	Camel
Infection	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Disease development	Somewhat similar to human	Highly similar to human	Highly similar to human
Virus production	Low	High	High
Cost	High	High	High
Housing	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult
Availability	Low	Low	Low
Genetic manipulation	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult

## Common marmoset as a MERS-CoV infection model

a MERS-CoV-inoculated Mock b Mock MERS-CoV-inoculated





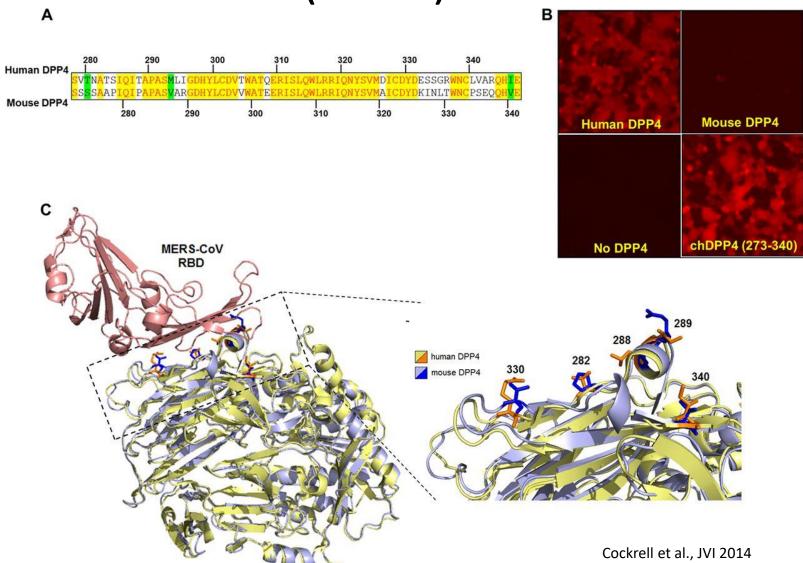
Yeung et al., 2016

### Animal models for MERS-CoV



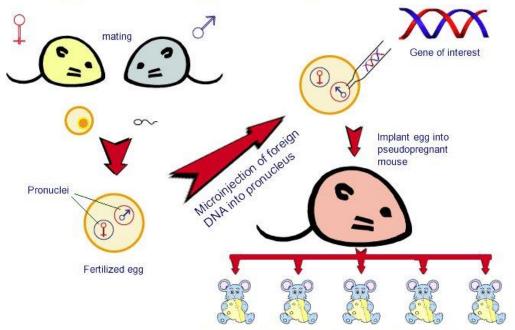
	Rhesus macaque	Common marmoset	Camel	Mouse
Infection	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	X
Disease development	Somewhat similar to human	Highly similar to human	Highly similar to human	Х
Virus production	Low	High	High	Х
Cost	High	High	High	Low
Housing	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult	Easy
Availability	Low	Low	Low	High
Genetic manipulation	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult	Easy

# Mouse lacks MERS-CoV receptor (DPP4)



## Generation of a transgenic mouse model

#### Transgenic Mice by Microinjection

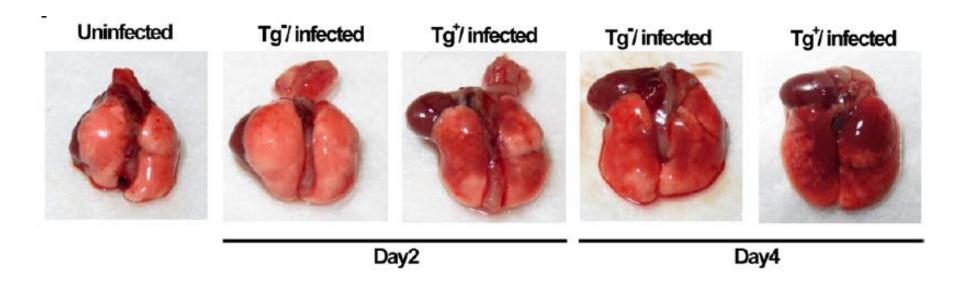


Offsprings with the desired characteristics and contain the inserted gene

## Transgenic mice expressing a green fluorescence marker



### DPP4-transgenic mice is susceptible to MERS-CoV infection



Anurodh Shankar et al., 2015

# Application of animal models for studying infection

- For studying MERS-CoV pathogenesis
- For developing anti-MERS-CoV drugs
- For developing MERS-CoV vaccines