

SAL-epidemin misstänks spridas med avlopp och slam. Krav om slamstopp i Canada.

I byggnaden Amoy Garden i Hong Kong infekterades ett stort antal personer som bodde i en viss del av byggnaden. Nu misstänker man att ett trasigt avloppsrör var orsaken. Det bildades en aerosol - små droppar i luften - som spred smittan. Det är väl känt att man kan hitta coronavirus i avlopp och slam.

Det som gör saken allvarlig för svensk del är att slammet i Sverige inte skall genomgå en fullständig hygienisering enligt Naturvårdsverkets hårt kritiserade riktlinjer - trots att Statens jordbruksverk och Statens Veterinärmedicinska Anstalt m fl har krävt detta. Denna felbedömning har lett till att motståndet mot slamspridningen och Naturvårdsverkets utredningsarbete har växt sig både extra starkt och är välmotiverat. Se vidare min hemsida www.gunnarlindgren.com .

Om och när något fall av SAL uppträder i Sverige, kan vi vänta en mycket kraftig reaktion mot varje tanke att sprida avloppsfraktioner som inte är fullständigt hygieniserade. Det blir då ohållbart att som Naturvårdsverket hittills tycks ha gjort, att väga risken för smitta mot slamentreprenörernas kostnader.

Finacial Times:

"Health officials, who say the virus can be transferred through droplets from coughs or sneezes or through direct contact, have also said the disease might have been spread through Amoy Gardens via faulty sewage pipes."

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HONG KONG (Reuters) - More than 100 people in one Hong Kong apartment block were suspected to have been infected by a deadly pneumonia virus, officials said on Monday, triggering fears that the killer disease was being spread through air or water.

Health Minister Yeoh said: "We are now detecting the virus in the fecal material (from Amoy Gardens patients). So that would be one possible potential cause of spread to large populations under unusual circumstances."

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News in Science 1 April 2003

"If it were related to water or sewage or air-duct systems, you can expect a continual appearance [of more victims]," said Professor Leung Ping-chung of the Prince of Wales Hospital, where the first Hong Kong patients appeared in March.

Coronavirus had been isolated in stool samples from the patients. Officials say one possible infection source may be a faulty waste pipe at Amoy Gardens, which had been spraying tiny clouds of waste matter in the direction of the worst infected block.

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JIM POUCHINSKY OF OTTAWA, CANADA, CALLS FOR MORATORIUM ON LAND SPREADING OF SEWAGE SLUDGE BECAUSE OF SARS RISK

Aside from our concern about SARS virus being transmitted through the air in dust or spray, getting into surface water, and contaminating the food chain from the spreading of Toronto's sewage on agricultural lands, there is also a concern that SARS will exchange DNA with all the other pathogens during the sewage treatment process, and create immune and drug resistant super-bugs, which will then be released into the environment via spreading. Such DNA transmissions are known to occur in the high-stress conditions of aerobic and anaerobic digestion. (The treatment process is designed to reduce the biomass of sewage, not to kill pathogens).

Jim Poushinsky
(613)-821-2409

on 4/1/03 4:58 PM, Jim Poushinsky at jpoushinsky@sprint.ca wrote:

Thank you Ottawa City Councillors, for having the foresight to heed concerns of rural residents last year, and stop the spreading of pathogenic and toxic city sewage on agricultural land, in the absence of conclusive scientific evidence that spreading sewage is safe for human health and the environment.

The latest word on the SARS epidemic is that it can be carried in human waste, i.e. sewage (see USA Today quote below). Please act to protect our fellow citizens in Ontario and Canada by asking the provincial and federal governments to impose an immediate moratorium on the spreading of sewage sludge. Ottawa City Councillors are the most knowledgeable Council of any municipality on this issue, because of the time and thought given to understanding and debating the risks in sludge spreading. That gives Council the moral responsibility to act to protect those less informed, in the present emergency.

There is still time to prevent the widespread Spring application of virulent sludge from Toronto and other municipalities on rural lands, and by so doing avert the risk of sludge-borne illness through the multiple pathways of air-borne particles, surface water run-off, and adsorption into fodder and food crops.

Note that the Nutrient Management Act of Ontario has failed to address these health issues, and permits the airborne spreading of pathogenic sewage 50 meters from residences, schools, and health-care facilities without regard for wind conditions, and without any requirement to warn people to close windows or avoid contact with the dust or spray. Given the high infectivity of SARS and the fact that it is now present in Toronto's sewage, spreading in the next few months could have disastrous consequences for the human population. Please take immediate action to help eliminate sewage sludge spreading as a possible transmission route for the SARS epidemic, or any other infectious disease.

Sincerely,
Jim Poushinsky,
chair, Ottawa Citizens Against Pollution by Sewage
(613)-821-2409

Mystery virus spreads in Hong Kong complex

By Paul Wiseman, USA TODAY

A virulent pneumonia virus killed two more people and sent 80 to hospitals in Hong Kong on Monday. It was the latest outbreak of the mystery illness that has killed about 60 people worldwide.....Hong Kong officials are scrambling to understand why so many people in the Amoy Gardens apartment complex caught SARS so quickly. Health officials are investigating the possibility that a sewage leak might have spread the illness; scientists have learned that human waste can carry the virus

Full article at http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2003-03-31-sars-usat_x.htm

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Smittämnen i slam

By: Chris Daigle & Ryan Brown

Table 5. SELECTION OF VIRUSES EXCRETED BY HUMANS WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED IN SEWAGE AND SEWAGE SLUDGE (STRAUCH, 1991; HURST, 1989)

Virus group	Number of types
Enterovirus	
- Poliovirus	3
- Coxsackievirus A	24
- Coxsackievirus B	6
- Echovirus	34
- New „numbered“ enteroviruses	4
Adenovirus	41
Reovirus	3
Hepatitis A-virus	1
Rotavirus	4
Astrovirus	5
Calicivirus (Norwalk agent)	2

Coronavirus	1
Adeno-associated virus	4
Parvovirus	2