## Transmission Perspective on COVID-19 and the Future of Singing

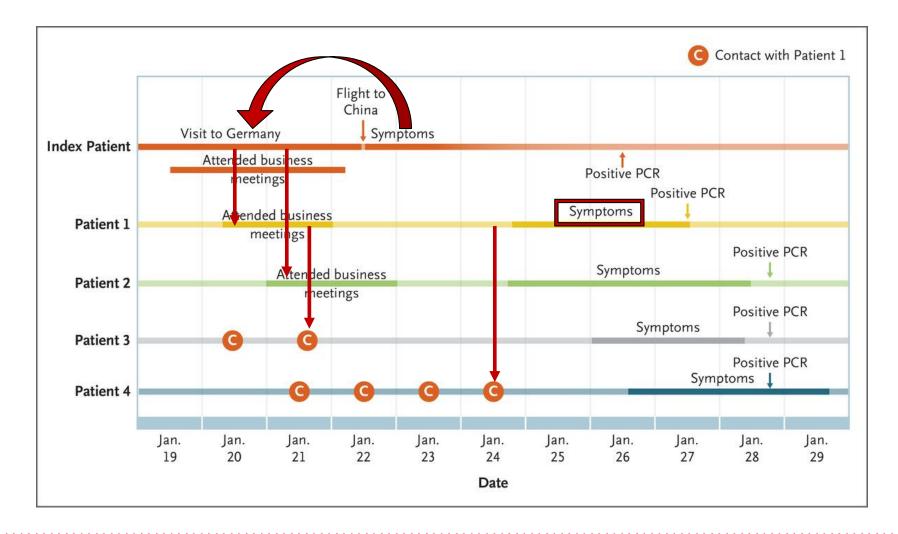
Donald Milton, MD, DrPH / Professor / Institute for Applied Environmental Health







### **Timeline of Spread from Asymptomatic Patient 1 in Germany**

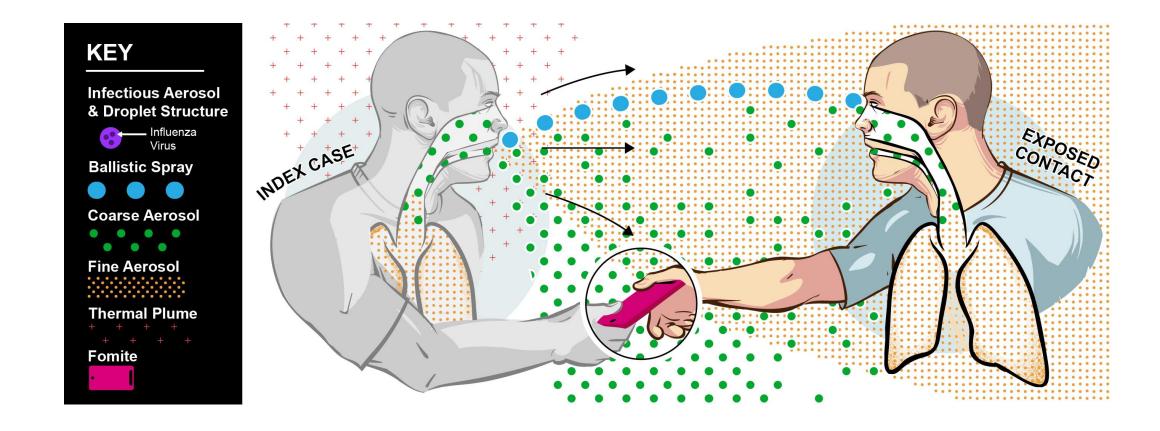




C Rothe et al. N Engl J Med 2020. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc2001468



## **Modes of Transmission?**



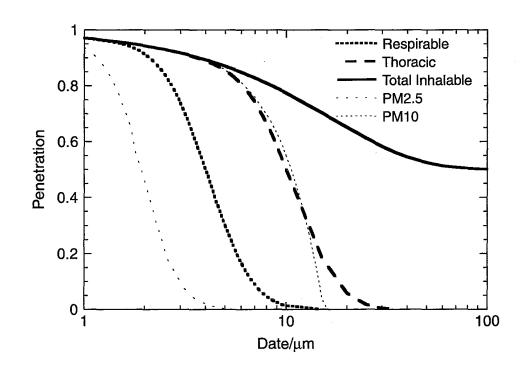


# Two ways to define droplets and particles that can carry respiratory viruses

### **Medical categories**

- Respiratory droplets
  - Droplets that do not travel very far
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- Aerosols
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# Pulmonary physiology – exposure science based categories

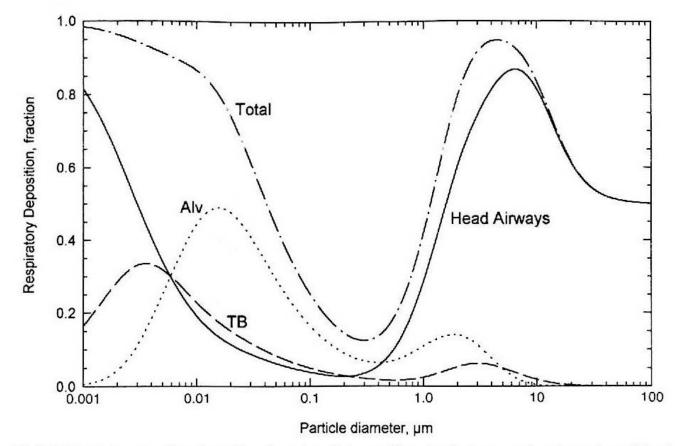




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J. C. Volkwein, A. D. Maynard, M. Harper, in *Aerosol Measurement*, P. Kulkarni, P. A. Baron, K. Willeke, Eds. (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ, USA, 2011, pp. 571–590.

### **Total & Regional Respiratory Tract Deposition**

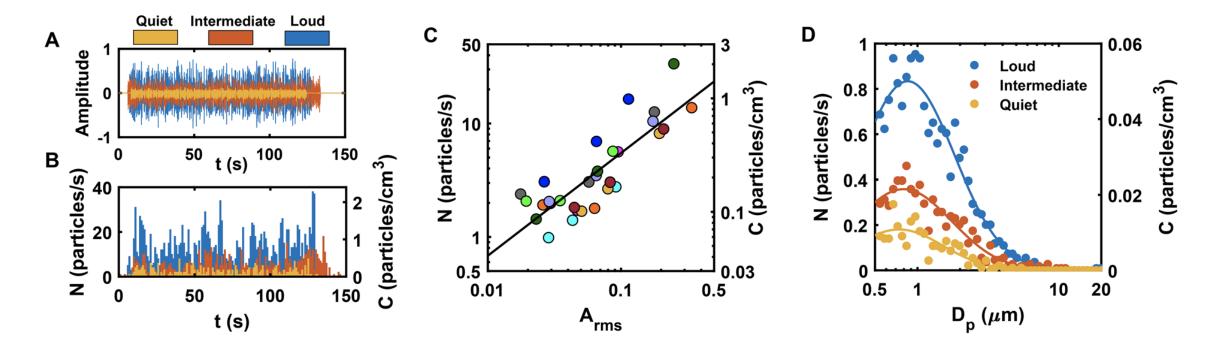


**FIGURE 11.3** Predicted total and regional deposition for light exercise (nose breathing) based on ICRP deposition model. Average data for males and females.



Hines WC Aerosol Technology, 1999

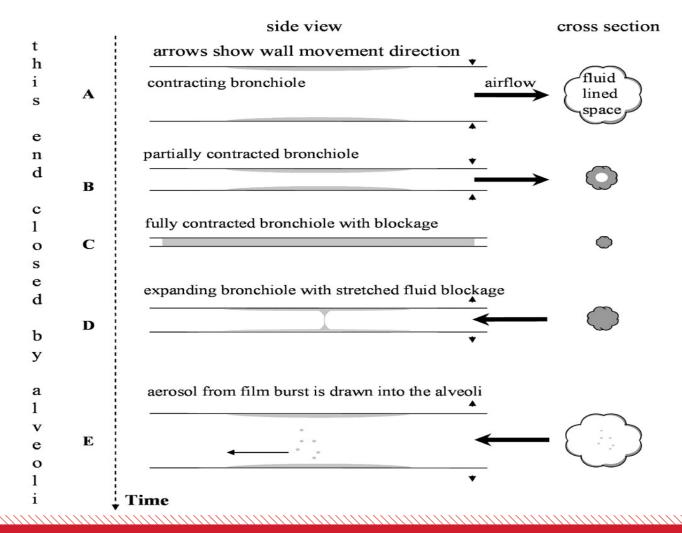
# Aerosol emission and superemission during human speech increase with voice loudness





S. Asadi et al., Scientific Reports. 9, 2348 (2019).

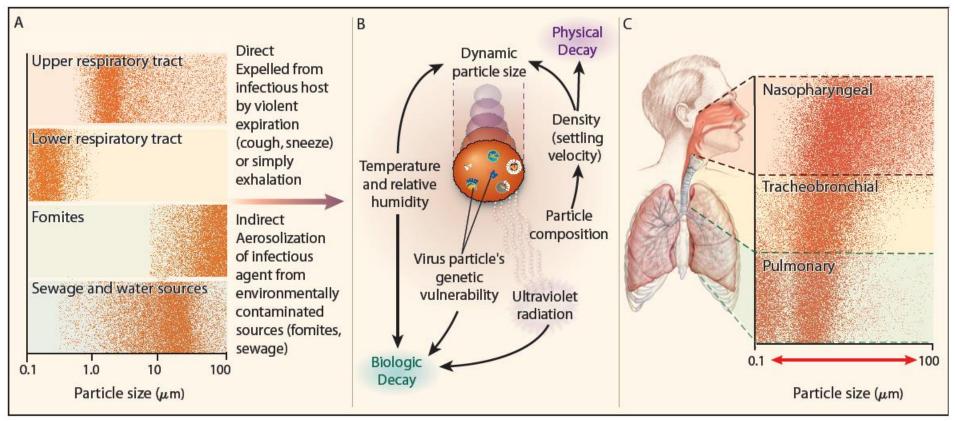
## Mechanism of Breath Aerosol Formation





Johnson & Morawska, 2009

## The Elusive Pathway The Aerobiological Pathway for Transmission of Communicable Respiratory Disease



A: Source, B: Transport and Dispersion, C: Deposition

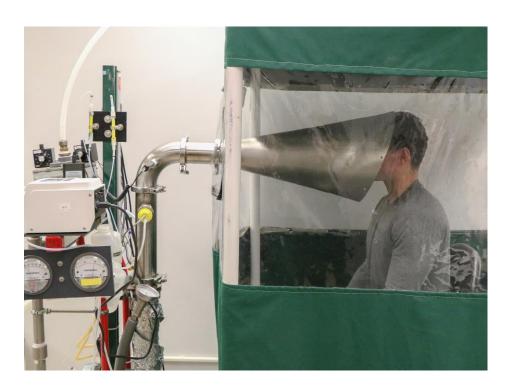


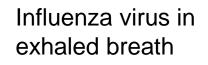
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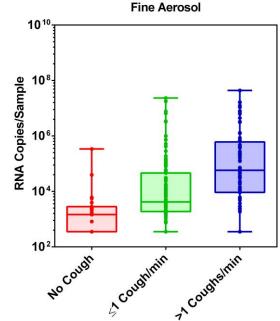
Roy C and Milton DK, New Engl J Med, 2004

## **Modes of Transmission?**

- Gesundheit-II exhaled breath sampler
- Fine aerosol = tiny particle suspended in air
- Influenza virus is present in exhaled breath – even without coughing.



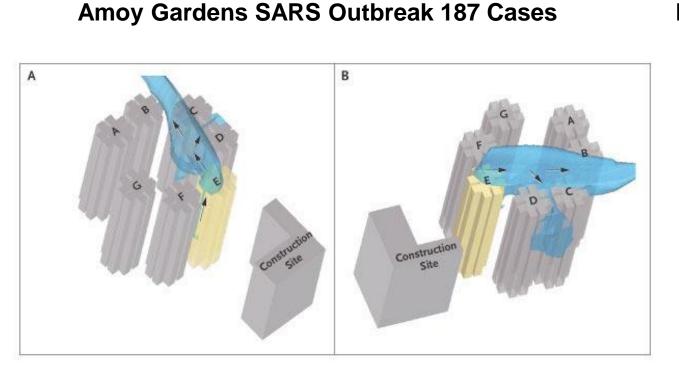




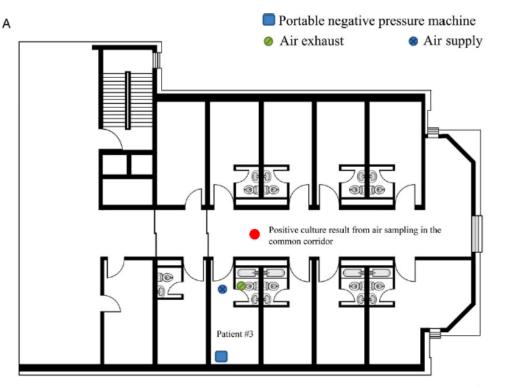


J. Yan et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 115, 1081–1086 (2018)

## **Modes of Transmission?**



#### Infectious MERS-CoV in Hospital Corridor Air



Yu, I. T.S. et al. N Engl J Med 2004;350:1731-1739

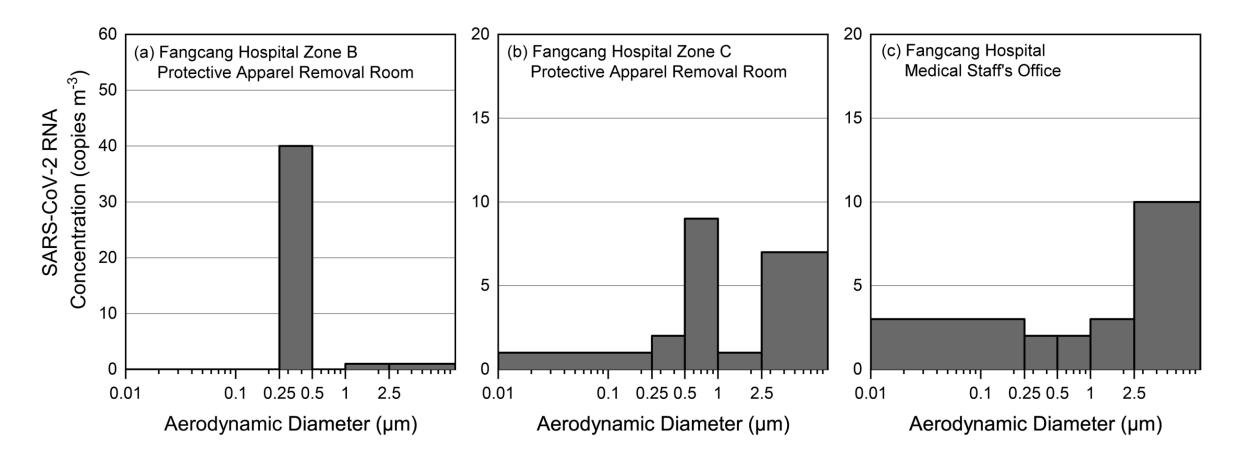
S.-H. Kim et al., Clin. Infect. Dis. 63, 363–369 (2016).



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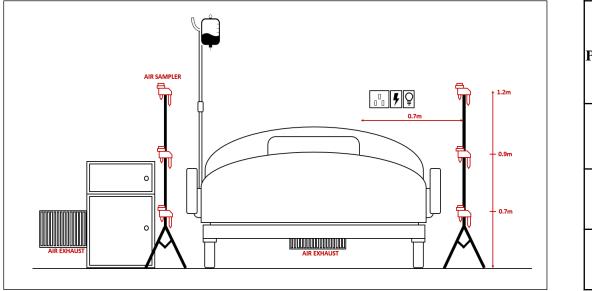
# Aerodynamic analysis of SARS-CoV-2 in two Wuhan hospitals





Y. Liu et al., Nature, 1–6 (2020).

## Aerosols in Containment Unit, Singapore



Patient	Day of	Symptoms reported on day of air sampling	Clinical Ct value*	Airborne SARS- CoV-2 concentrations (RNA copies m <sup>-3</sup> air)	Aerosol particle size	Samplers used
1	9	Cough, nausea,	33.22	ND		NIOSH
		dyspnea		ND		SKC Filters
2	5	Cough, dyspnea	18.45	2,000	>4 µm	NIOSH
				1,384	1-4 µm	
3	5	Asymptomatic <sup>†</sup>	20.11	927	>4 µm	NIOSH
				916	1-4 µm	

P. Y. Chia *et al., medRxiv*, 2020, doi:<u>10.1101/2020.03.29.20046557</u>.



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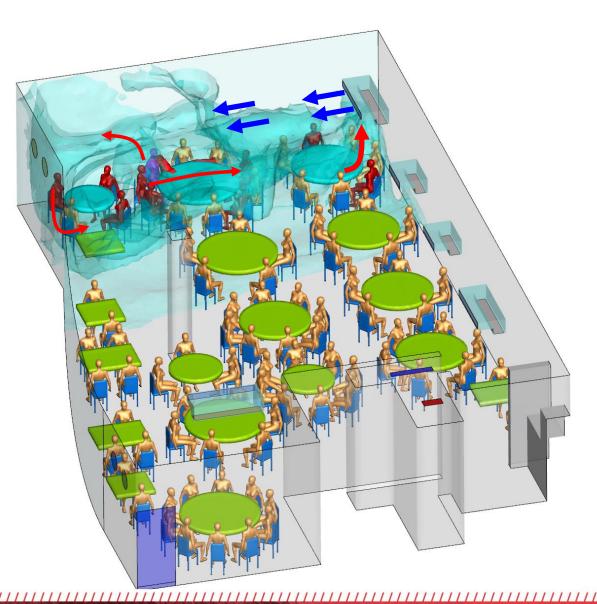
Transmission Potential of SARS-CoV-2 in Viral Shedding Observed at the University of Nebraska Medical Center

			Air Samples		Air Samples	
Location	Day	(copies/L of air)		(copies/L of air)		
	5	UND	NC			
]	5	UND	NC			
]	6	5.757	5.096			
]	6	6.004	5.902			
]	7	2.077	3.597			
NQU	7	UND	NC			
	8	8.688	3.688			
]	8	2.361 4.090				
	8	2.294	3.972			
]	9			7.392	19.204	
				5.366	7.150	
	10	UND	NC			
	10	2.994	2.994 5.186			
NBU	10	0.979	1.695	)5		
]	10			19.174	49.817	
	18			48.216	67.164	
Percent	Positive	66.7%		100.0%		

J. L. Santarpia et al., medRxiv, 2020, doi: 10.1101/2020.03.23.20039446.



Evidence for probable aerosol transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in a poorly ventilated restaurant





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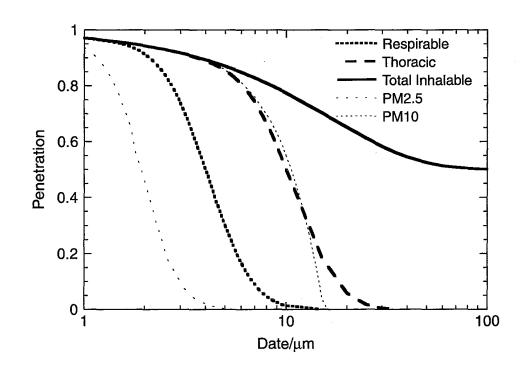
Y. Li et al., medRxiv, in press, doi: 10.1101/2020.04.16.20067728.

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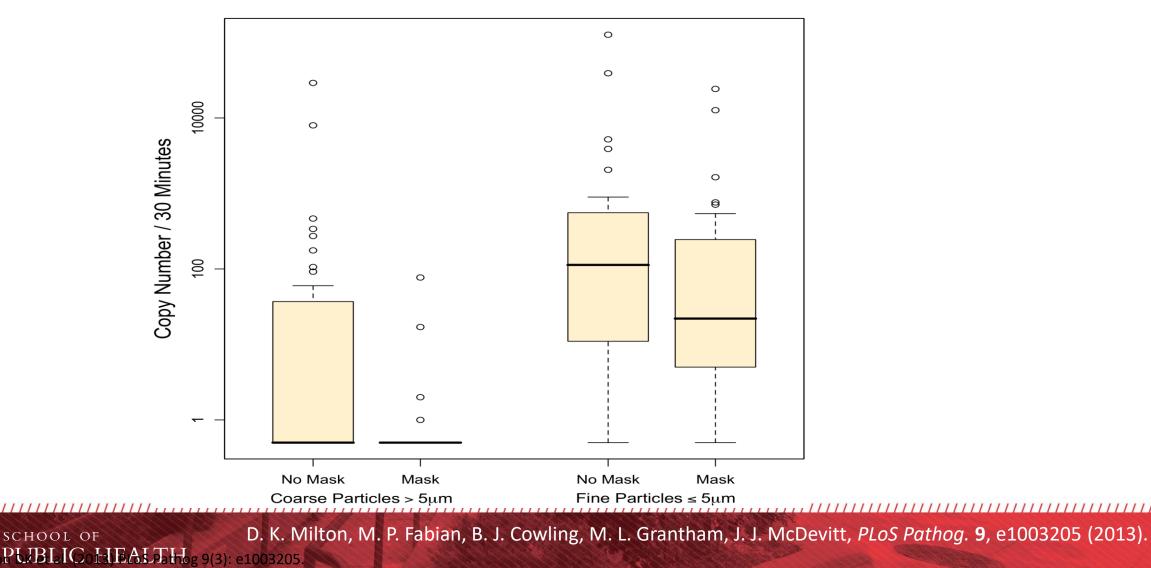


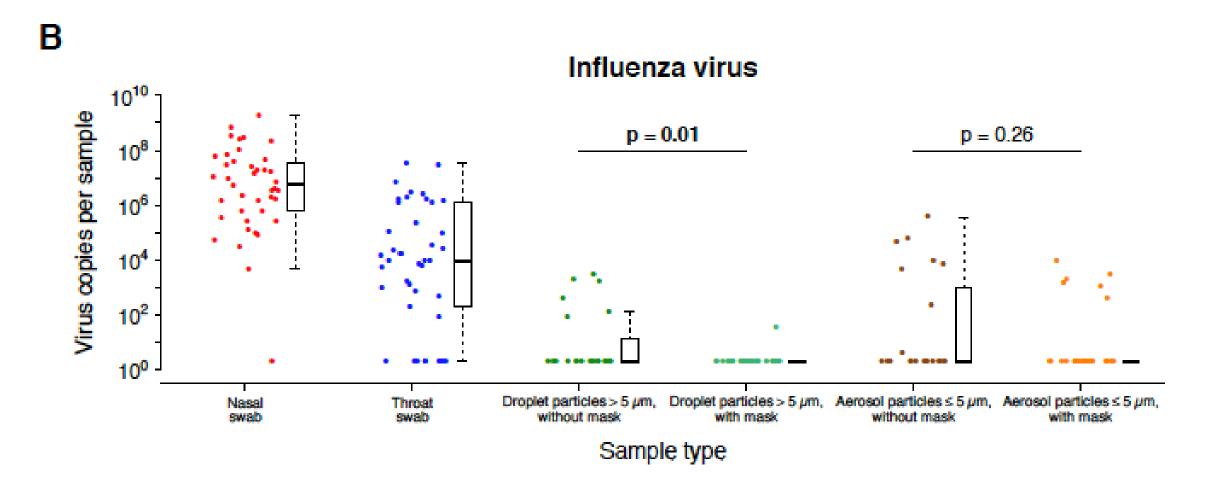


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J. C. Volkwein, A. D. Maynard, M. Harper, in *Aerosol Measurement*, P. Kulkarni, P. A. Baron, K. Willeke, Eds. (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ, USA, 2011, pp. 571–590.

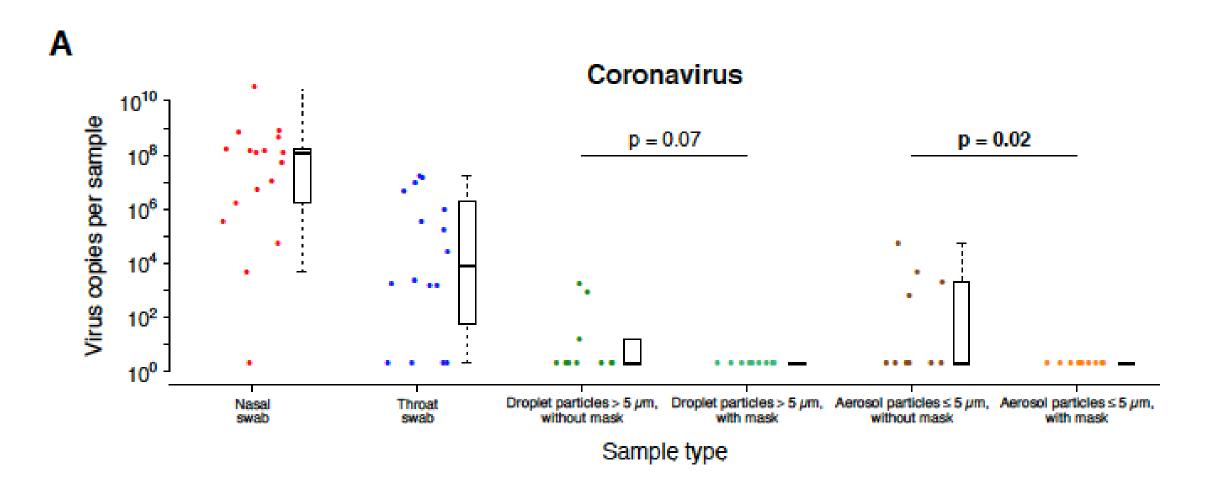
### Influenza Virus Copy Number In Aerosol Particles Exhaled By Patients With And Without Wearing Of An Ear-loop Surgical Mask







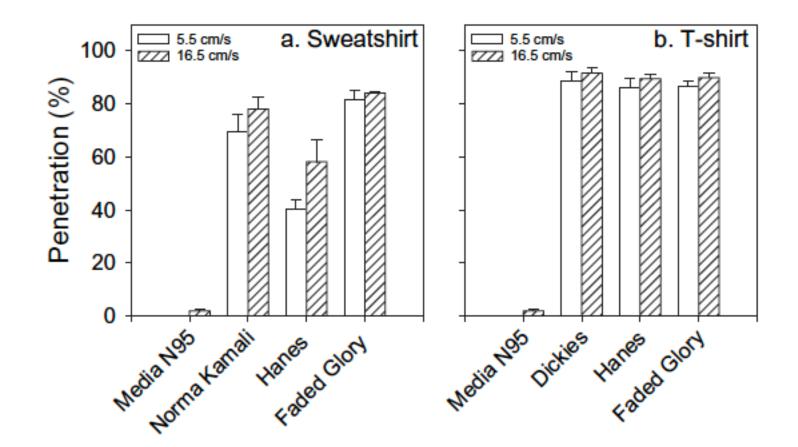
N. H. L. Leung et al., Nature Medicine, 1–5 (2020).





N. H. L. Leung et al., Nature Medicine, 1–5 (2020).

## Evaluation of the Filtration Performance of Cloth Masks and Common Fabric Materials





S. Rengasamy, B. Eimer, R. E. Shaffer, Ann Occup Hyg. 54, 789–798 (2010).

## Skagit Choir Outbreak

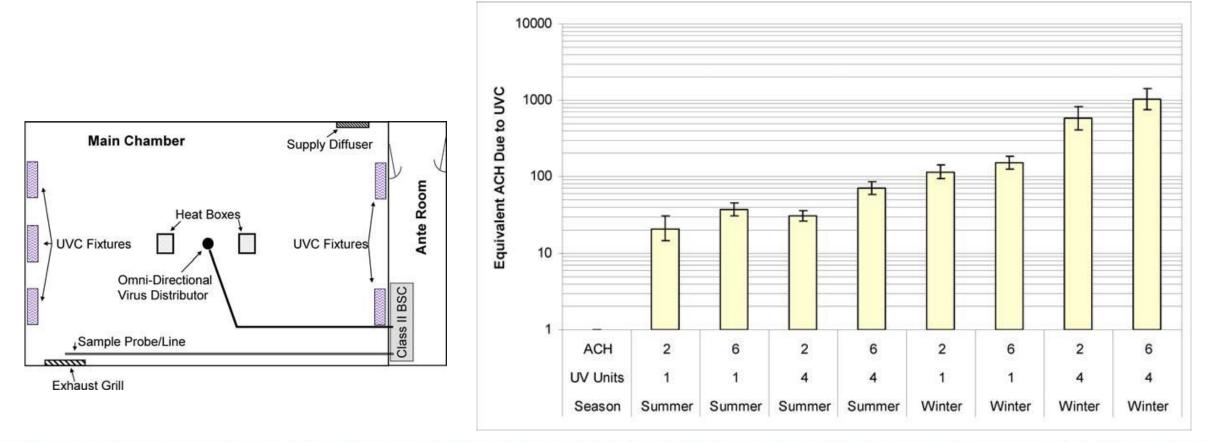
- March 10, 2020
- "About 55 people (roughly one-half of the group) attended."
- At the time of the rehearsal, there were no known cases in Skagit Valley, nor were any closures in effect.
- Notice to members: "Anyone showing any symptoms of illness, no matter the cause, should not attend rehearsals."
- ~70% infection rate
- 0.5 air changes per hour estimated
- Increase to 9 air changes per hour would have reduced to 14% infected, if airborne transmission

15 seats 8 occupied 5 infections	15 seats 6 occupied 1 infection	15 seats 10 occupied 8 infections	15 seats 6 occupied 5 infections		Summary 120 seats + 2   58 occupied 42 infections
15 seats 5 occupied 4 infections	15 seats 9 occupied 9 infections	15 seats + 2 leaders 9 occupied 6 infections	15 seats 5 occupied 4 infections	12 m	

Average ceiling height = 4.5 m



# Upper-room Germicidal UV (gUV) Light Air Sanitation





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J. J. McDevitt, D. K. Milton, S. N. Rudnick, M. W. First, PLoS ONE. 3 (2008).