

**Part 1:** **TITLE, AUTHORS, APPROVALS, etc**

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| **Code assigned:** | ***2022.009M*** |  |
| **Short title:** Rename two genera (*Mononegavirales*: *Filoviridae*) | | |
|  | | |

**Author(s) and email address(es)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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**Corresponding author**

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**List the ICTV Study Group(s) that have seen this proposal**

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| ICTV *Filoviridae* Study Group |

**ICTV Study Group comments and response of proposer**

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**ICTV Study Group votes on proposal**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study Group** | **Number of members** | | |
| **Votes support** | **Votes against** | **Abstain/Did not vote** |
| ICTV *Filoviridae* Study Group | 8 | 5 | 2/0 |

**Authority to use the name of a living person**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Is any taxon name used here derived from that of a living person (Y/N)** | N |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Taxon name** | **Person from whom the name is derived** | **Permission attached (Y/N)** |
|  |  |  |

**Submission dates**

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| --- | --- |
| Date first submitted to SC Chair | May 27, 2022 |
| Date of this revision (if different to above) | July |

**ICTV-EC comments and response of the proposer**

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**Part 2:** **NON-TAXONOMIC PROPOSAL**

**Text of proposal**

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| N/A |

**Part 3:** **TAXONOMIC PROPOSAL**

**Name of accompanying Excel module**

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| --- |
| 2022.009M.N.v1.Filoviridae\_2genrenamed.xlsx |

**Abstract**

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| Here it is proposed to replace the genus names *Ebolavirus* and *Marburgvirus* with *Orthoebolavirus* and *Orthomarburgvirus*, respectively, to remove nomenclature ambiguities highly prevalent in the field. |

**Text of proposal**

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| |  | | --- | | The family *Filoviridae* includes two genera, *Ebolavirus* and *Marburgvirus*, that, among others, harbor viruses with homophonous and almost homonymous designations: Ebola virus and Marburg virus, respectively. Consequently, one must know that Ebola virus is one of several ebolaviruses and vice versa that the term “ebolavirus” does not necessarily refer to Ebola virus. Likewise, Marburg virus is one of two marburgviruses. If correctly applied, these subtle differences (italics or not, capital letters or not, inserted space or not) are discernible in writing, but not during oral discussions – and even in writing there is appears to be considerable confusion as these various terms are constantly ill-applied in publications.  Here it is proposed to solve this issue by subtly changing the two genus names by adding the prefix “*Ortho*” (to *Orthoebolavirus* and *Orthomarburgvirus*, respectively). That way, the names follow precedence (e.g., *Orthobunyavirus*, *Orthohantavirus*, *Orthophasmavirus*, *Orthonairovirus*) and maintain the reference to “Ebola” and “Marburg” in the genus names.  As a result of this proposal, if approved, Ebola virus would be one of several orthoebolaviruses, and Marburg virus would be one of several orthomarburgviruses, and the existing ambiguities would be largely resolved. | |

**Supporting evidence**

N/A

**References**

N/A