

Jens H. Kuhn

Chair - Animal ssRNA+ Viruses Subcommittee

Independent Researcher
Frederick, Maryland, USA

Current term (2023 - 2026): First

Biography

I am a senior virologist and executive-level leader specializing in BSL-3 and BSL-4 containment research, CBRNe-relevant biological threats, and the integration of advanced technologies, such as AIxBio and NAMs, into modern biodefense. Numerous unresolved questions regarding the diversity and evolution of Risk Group 3/4 RNA viruses originally piqued my interest in virus taxonomy, ultimately leading me to join and then chair ICTV Study Groups and then join the ICTV Executive Committee. I expanded my interest from initially taxonomic near neighbors of the viruses I specialize in to the entire virosphere. Since joining the ICTV I have co-authored more than 280 taxonomic proposals and have been co-driving the effort to stand up virus megataxonomy via establish of realms and kingdoms.

Specialties: arboviruses, arenavirids, biodefense, biosafety, biosafety level 4, biosecurity, BSL-4, bunyaviricetes, Ebola, emerging infectious diseases, encephalitides, encephalopathies, filovirids, hantavirids, Hendra virus, henipaviruses, Lassa virus, Machupo virus, Marburg virus, megataxonomy, nairovirids, Nipah virus, nomenclature, orthoflaviviruses, phleboviruses, science policy, simariterivirins, simian hemorrhagic fever, taxonomy, viral hemorrhagic fevers, zoonoses, zoonoses.