

The International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses

Taxonomy Proposal Form, 2025

**Part 1a: Details of taxonomy proposals**

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| **Title:**  | Renaming four species of pestiviruses |
| **Code assigned:**  | 2025.005S.N.v1.Pestivirus\_8spren |

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| **Author(s), affiliation and email address(es):**  |
| **Given name (+middle initial(s))** | **Surname** | **Affiliation**  | **Email address**  | **Corr. author(s)**  |
| Jens H | Kuhn | Frederick, Maryland, USA | jenshkuhn@comcast.net | X |
| Martin | Beer | Institute of Diagnostic Virology, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Greifswald-Insel Riems, Germany | Martin.Beer@fli.de | X |
| Peter | Simmonds | Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom | Peter.Simmonds@ndm.ox.ac.uk |  |
| Anamarija | Butkovic | Viruses and RNA Interference Laboratory, Paris, France | anamarija.butkovic@pasteur.fr |  |
| Jens | Bukh | Copenhagen Hepatitis C Program(CO-HEP), Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark | jbukh@sund.ku.dk |  |
| Jan Felix | Drexler | Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Institute of Virology, Berlin, Germany | felix.drexler@charite.de |  |
| Amit | Kapoor | Center for Vaccines and Immunity, The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, USA | amit.kapoor@nationwidechildrens.org |  |
| Volker | Lohmann | Department of Infectious Diseases, Molecular Virology, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany | Volker.Lohmann@med.uni-heidelberg.de |  |
| Donald B | Smith | Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom | donald.smith.ictv@gmail.com |  |
| Jack T | Stapleton | Departments of Internal Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology, University of Iowa and Iowa City VA Healthcare, Iowa City, Iowa, USA | jack-stapleton@uiowa.edu |  |
| Nikolaos | Vasilakis | Department of Pathology and Center for Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, USA | nivasila@utmb.edu |  |

**Part 1b: Taxonomy Proposal Submission**

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| **ICTV Subcommittee:**  |
| Animal DNA Viruses and Retroviruses |  | Bacterial viruses |  |
| Animal minus-strand and dsRNA viruses |  | Fungal and protist viruses |  |
| Animal positive-strand RNA viruses | **X** | Plant viruses |  |
| Archaeal viruses |  | General - |  |

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| **List the ICTV Study Group(s) that have seen or have been involved in creating this proposal:**  |
| *ICTV Flaviviridae* Study Group |

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| **Optional – complete only if formally voted on by an ICTV Study Group:**  |
| **Study Group** | **Number of members** |
| **Votes in support** | **Votes against** | **No vote** |
| ICTV *Flaviviridae* Study Group |  |  |  |
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| **Submission date:** |  20/06/2025 |

**Part 1c: Feedback from ICTV Executive Committee (EC) meeting**

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| **Executive Committee Meeting Decision code:** | **X** |
| A – Accept |  |
| Ac – Accept subject to revision by relevant subcommittee chair. No further vote required |  |
| U – Accept without revision but with re-evaluation and email vote by the EC |  |
| Uc – Accept subject to revision and re-evaluation and email vote by the EC |  |
| Ud – Deferred to the next EC meeting, with an invitation to revise based on EC comments |  |
| J - Reject |  |
| W - Withdrawn |  |

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| **Comments from the Executive Committee:** |
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**Part 1d: Revised Taxonomy Proposal Submission**

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| **Response of proposer:**  |
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| **Revision date:** |  |

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

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| **Taxonomic changes proposed:**  |
| Establish new taxon |  | Split taxon |  |
| Abolish taxon |  | Merge taxon |  |
| Move taxon |  | Promote taxon |  |
| Rename taxon | **X** | Demote taxon |  |
| Move and rename |  |

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| **Etymology (origin) of proposed taxonomic names:**  |
| **Taxon name**  | **Etymology of the term** |
| *Pestivirus steiermarkense* | Named after Steiermark (Styria), the state in Austria, where Linda virus was discovered |
| *Pestivirus phocoenae* | Named after the host genus, *Phoecena* (porpoises) |
| *Pestivirus caprinae* | Named after the host subfamily, Caprinae (sheep and goats) |
| *Pestivirus agnis* | Named after the agnus, meaning lamb |
| *Pestivirus manidae* | Named after the host family, Manidae (pangolins) |
| *Pestivirus niviventris* | Named after the host genus, *Niviventer* (niviventers or white-bellied rats) |
| *Pestivirus apodemuris* | Named after the host genus, *Apodemus* (field mice) |
| *Pestivirus scotophili* | Named after the host genus, *Scotophilus* (yellow bats)  |

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| **Permission for use of names derived from a living person:**  |
| **Taxon name** | **Full name of person from whom the name is derived** | **Attached**  |
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| **Abstract of Taxonomy Proposal:**  |
| *Taxonomic rank(s) affected*: *Pestivirus**Description of current taxonomy*: Most species included in the family *Flaviviridae* have been renamed according to a Latinised binomial format. This was recommended in the recent ICTV policy change towards a more uniform format for virus species names. However, several recently described and assigned species of pestiviruses (*Pestivirus L, Pestivirus M – Pestivirus S*) are still named using the previous [genus name + single letter] format. This is inconsistent with intention for the species epithet to be a pronounceable word, ideally in a Latinised format that is used in the rest of biology for organism scientific names, *Proposed* *taxonomic change(s):* The pestivirus species names *Pestivirus L – Pestivirus S* will be replaced with whole-word species epithets (see Etymology section). *Justification*: The ICTV has promoted renaming species into a more recognizable form that matches at least in part the nomenclature used in other biological codes. Most virus species have been accordingly renamed, and the current proposals simply applies this principle to pestivirus species that were described and named after the previous pestivirus renaming proposal was adopted. |
| **Text of Taxonomy proposal:**  |
| *Taxonomic rank(s) affected*: *Pestivirus**Description of current taxonomy*: Most species classified within the genus *Pestivirus* have been renamed according to a Latinised binomial format in the proposal: 2022.007S.Flaviviridae\_1genren\_sprenamedThis was recommended in the recent ICTV policy change towards a more uniform format for virus species names: 2018.001G.R.binomial\_species.docx However, several recently described and assigned species of pestiviruses (*Pestivirus L – Pestivirus S*) are still named using the previous [genus name + single letter] format. This is inconsistent with intention for the species epithet to be a pronounceable word, ideally in a Latinised format that is used in the rest of biology for organism scientific names, *Proposed* *taxonomic change(s):* The pestivirus species names *Pestivirus L – Pestivirus S* will be replaced with whole word species epithets (see Etymology section). *Justification*: The ICTV has mandated renaming species into a more recognizable form that matches at least in part the nomenclature used in other biological codes. Most virus species have been accordingly renamed, and the current proposals simply applies this principle to pestivirus species that were described and named after the previous pestivirus renaming proposal was adopted. |

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| **References:**  |
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| **Accompanying files:**  |
| **Filename** | **Description of contents** |
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| **Tables, Figures:**  |