


**From:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]  
**Sent:** Wed, 29 Jan 2020 22:19:47 +0000  
**To:** Cassetti, Cristina (NIH/NIAID) [E]  
**Subject:** RE: Wuhan novel coronavirus - NIAID's role in bat-origin CoVs

OK, talk to ya then



**David M. Morens, M.D.**

CAPT, United States Public Health Service  
Senior Advisor to the Director  
Office of the Director  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
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 (b) (6) (assistants: Kimberly Barasch; Whitney Robinson)

 301 496 4409

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**From:** Cassetti, Cristina (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2020 5:18 PM  
**To:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Wuhan novel coronavirus - NIAID's role in bat-origin CoVs

Ok, let's try to connect tomorrow

Cheers,  
Cristina

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**From:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** Cassetti, Cristina (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Wuhan novel coronavirus - NIAID's role in bat-origin CoVs


C, (b) (6). I'll be in tomorrow and also tonight will eventually be reachable on cell phone (b) (6)



**David M. Morens, M.D.**

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**From:** Cassetti, Cristina (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2020 4:15 PM  
**To:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Wuhan novel coronavirus - NIAID's role in bat-origin CoVs

Hi David,

I hope you are doing well. Do you have few minutes to talk?

Cheers,

Cristina

Cristina Cassetti, Ph.D.  
Deputy Director  
Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH  
5601 Fishers Lane, Room 7G51  
Rockville, MD 20852  
Tel: (b) (6)  
(b) (6)

Administrative Assistant:  
Ms. Roshawn Treadwell-Hyde  
Tel: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

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**From:** "Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]" (b) (6)  
**Date:** January 27, 2020 at 4:53:54 PM EST  
**To:** Peter Daszak <[daszak@ecohealthalliance.org](mailto:daszak@ecohealthalliance.org)>  
**Cc:** "Stemmy, Erik (NIH/NIAID) [E]" (b) (6), Alison Andre  
<[andre@ecohealthalliance.org](mailto:andre@ecohealthalliance.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wuhan novel coronavirus - NIAID's role in bat-origin CoVs

Great info, thanks. Tony doesn't maintain awareness of these things and doesn't know unless program officers tell him, which they rarely do, since they are across town and may not see him more than once a year, or less....

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Interested in your feeling about where this is going. The experts buzzing around us are all over the map, between doomsday and not that big a deal, with everything in between.

<image001.gif>

David M. Morens, M.D.

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**From:** Peter Daszak <[daszak@ecohealthalliance.org](mailto:daszak@ecohealthalliance.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2020 1:36 PM  
**To:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Stemmy, Erik (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6); Alison Andre  
<[andre@ecohealthalliance.org](mailto:andre@ecohealthalliance.org)>  
**Subject:** Wuhan novel coronavirus - NIAID's role in bat-origin CoVs  
**Importance:** High

Hi David – Happy to have a phone call re. the Wuhan CoV, but just wanted to mentioned a few things for your information and hopefully to pass on to Tony Fauci for when he’s being interviewed re. the new CoV:

NIAID has been funding coronavirus work in China for the past 5 years through an R01 to me (1R01AI110964: “Understanding the Risk of Bat Coronavirus Emergence”). That’s now been renewed, with a specific focus that we identify cohorts of people highly exposed to bats in China, and work out if they’re getting sick from CoVs. Erik Stemmy is the Program Officer (cc’d here). Collaborators include Wuhan Institute of Virology (currently working on the nCoV), and Ralph Baric. The results of our work to date include:

- (b) (4)
- Discovered Swine Acute Diarrheal Syndrome Virus (SADS-CoV) killing >25,000 pigs in Guangdong Province (Published in Nature)
  - Found SARS-related CoVs that can bind to human cells (Published in Nature), and that cause SARS-like disease in humanized mouse models.
- (b) (4)

Also – FYI, prior to the R01, we worked under an R01 with Eun-Chung Park as Program Officer on viral discovery in bats, where originally identified SARS-CoV as having a likely origin in bats (published in Science)

As I mentioned, I'm now part of a group that's meeting by phone weekly with CEIRS to discuss the nCoV and Erik's part of that.

Cheers,

Peter

**Peter Daszak**  
*President*

EcoHealth Alliance  
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Twitter: [@PeterDaszak](https://twitter.com/PeterDaszak)

*EcoHealth Alliance leads cutting-edge research into the critical connections between human and wildlife health and delicate ecosystems. With this science we develop solutions that prevent pandemics and promote conservation.*

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**From:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 9, 2020 1:36 PM  
**To:** Peter Daszak; Ian Lipkin ([wil2001@columbia.edu](mailto:wil2001@columbia.edu)); Jon Epstein  
**Subject:** RE: Wuhan virus

Thanks, the excitement never ends, right?

<image001.gif>

David M. Morens, M.D.  
CAPT, United States Public Health Service  
Senior Advisor to the Director  
Office of the Director  
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**From:** Peter Daszak <[daszak@ecohealthalliance.org](mailto:daszak@ecohealthalliance.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 9, 2020 12:57 PM  
**To:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] [REDACTED] (b) (6); Ian Lipkin  
([wil2001@columbia.edu](mailto:wil2001@columbia.edu)) <[wil2001@columbia.edu](mailto:wil2001@columbia.edu)>; Jon Epstein  
<[epstein@ecohealthalliance.org](mailto:epstein@ecohealthalliance.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wuhan virus  
**Importance:** High

Yes – lots of information and I spoke with Erik Stemmy and Alan Embry yesterday before the news was released. Erik is my program officer on our coronavirus grant specifically focused on China.



I've been talking with reporters today and happy to fill you in on any further information...

Cheers,

Peter

**Peter Daszak**

*President*

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**From:** Morens, David (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 9, 2020 12:50 PM  
**To:** W. Ian Lipkin ([wil2001@columbia.edu](mailto:wil2001@columbia.edu)); Peter Daszak; Jon Epstein  
**Subject:** Wuhan virus

Hi guys, do any of you have any inside info on this new coronavirus that isn't yet in the public domain? Or any thoughts?

TY,



<image001.gif>

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