

← Thread



Alex Washburne
@WashburneAlex



COVID-19 Origin "Coincidences"

- Sep '19: WIV switches from civ-->military control
- Sep '19: WIV hires contractor to replace HEPA filter
- Sep '19: WIV CoV database offline
- Oct '19: WIV shuts down
- Oct '19: Excess of cars at Wuhan hospitals
- Fall '19: 3 CoV workers sick

1/

2:59 PM · Mar 15, 2023 · 267.3K Views

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Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15



Replying to @WashburneAlex

- Furin cleavage site (FCS)
- FCS has human-optimized codon bias
- Restriction map of infectious clone
- Occurs 1.5 years after DEFUSE proposal to insert human-specific FCS in bat SARS CoV infectious clone
- Emerges in Wuhan, where DEFUSE proposed to work

2/



3



41



313



15.6K



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15



- WIV refuses to share their database of CoVs
- China switches narrative 3x on SARS2 Origins
- DEFUSE wasn't shared by its authors

- DEFUSE PI calls lab-origin "conspiracy theory" in Lancet
- Daszak obstructs Origins investigations (Lancet, WHO, etc.) w/ disclosing COIs

3/

3 33 292 13.4K



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

- No animal reservoir found despite intensive sampling
- No evidence of higher incidence in animal traders
- No broader geographic fingerprint of multi-spillovers

etc

All these coincidences are easily explained by a theory:

SARS-CoV-2 emerged in a lab.

4/4

13 35 349 12.4K



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

The list goes on:

- RaTG13 may be fabricated @MonaRahalkar
- Unreported MERS CoV in BAC discovered in Wuhan 2019 @humblesci @stevenemassey @BiophysicsFL @quay_dr Dayou
- Forensic evidence of contaminated metagenomic samples by authors above

5/

4 20 196 10.7K



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

- PO is wrong: Suboptimal ACE2 binding doesn't rule out lab origin alexwasburne.substack.com/p/how-to-inves...

- PO is wrong: FCS insert is not "illogical" [twitter.com/WashburneAlex/...](https://twitter.com/WashburneAlex/)

- Pekar et al is wrong: biorxiv.org/content/10.110...

- Worobey et al. is wrong:

michaelbalter.substack.com/p/the-covid-19...

6/



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Sep 30, 2022

Garry's response aims to reject an independent inquiry, calling it "a serious accusation".

He uses the following alignment to suggest e.g. the insert is "out-of-frame" and calls such insert "illogical"

Yet, it's not necessarily out of frame, nor are such inserts illogical.

5/

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A. amino acid alignment (ENaC vs. SARS-CoV-2 and BANAL-20-52)

human ENaC	198	H	G	A	R	R	A	R	S	V	A	S	S	209
				:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
SARS-CoV-2 Spike	679	N	S	P	R	R	A	R	S	V	A	S	Q	690
			:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
BANAL-20-52 Spike	679	N	S					R	S	V	A	S	Q	686

B. nucleotide alignment (ENaC vs. SARS-CoV-2 and BANAL-20-52)

human ENaC	705	cac	ggg	gcc	cgu	cga	gcc	cgu	agc	gug	gcc	ucc	agc	740
			:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
SARS-CoV-2 Spike	23597	aau	ucu	ccu	cgg	cgg	gca	cgu	agu	gua	gcu	agu	caa	23632
			:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
BANAL-20-52 Spike	23546	aau	u				ca	cgu	agu	gug	gcc	agu	caa	23569

C. amino acid alignment (ENaC vs. sarbecoviruses)

human ENaC	190	R	L	R	V	P	P	P	H	G	A	R	R	A	R	S	V	A	S	S	L	R	D	N	N	P	215	
SARS-CoV-2	671	C	A	S	Y	Q	T	Q	T	N	S	P	R	R	A	R	S	V	A	S	Q	S	-	I	I	A	Y	695
RaTG13	671	C	A	S	Y	Q	T	Q	T	N	S	-	-	-	-	R	S	V	A	S	Q	S	-	I	I	A	Y	691
BANAL-20-52	671	C	A	S	Y	Q	T	Q	T	N	S	-	-	-	-	R	S	V	A	S	Q	S	-	I	I	A	Y	691
BANAL-20-103	667	C	A	S	Y	Q	T	Q	T	N	S	-	-	-	-	R	S	V	A	S	Q	S	-	I	I	A	Y	687
BANAL-20-236	667	C	A	S	Y	Q	T	Q	T	N	S	-	-	-	-	R	S	V	A	S	Q	S	-	I	I	A	Y	687
RacCS203	631	C	A	S	Y	-	-	-	N	S	P	V	-	A	R	-	V	G	T	N	S	-	I	I	A	Y	661	
RaTG15	653	C	A	S	Y	D	I	T	K	-	-	-	-	A	R	T	S	S	T	P	A	-	L	F	A	Y	673	
RsYN04	656	C	A	S	Y	-	T	T	K	-	-	-	-	A	R	T	S	S	T	P	A	-	L	F	A	Y	675	
Rc-0o319	636	C	A	T	Y	H	T	P	S	M	L	-	-	-	R	S	A	N	N	N	K	R	I	V	A	Y	657	

8 18 160 17.6K



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

- mid-COVID 2020, China passes a new biosecurity law that, among other things, devotes 2 sections to the regulating the supervision of biotechnology research and pathogen research labs

h/t

@PrometheusCHT

chinajusticeobserver.com/law/x/biosecur...

7/

13 15 150 7,884



Tony VanDongen @tony_vandongen · Mar 15

Replying to @WashburneAlex

A couple of interesting additions:

- Oct 12, 2019: Coronavirus exercise held at Wuhan airport.

- Oct 26, 2019: participants of Military Games are told not to venture into the city. A few people that ignored the advise reported a completely deserted "ghost city".

11 16 115 7,211



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

Replying to @tony_vandongen

Woah - what's the news article or other report on the second point?

15 1 43 5,483

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Ashley Rindsberg @AshleyRindsberg · Mar 15

Replying to @WashburneAlex

Sept '19: PPE exports from China to US drop.

2 3 39 3,911



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

Replying to @AshleyRindsberg

I *knew* I was forgetting one in Sep '19

This is almost worth paying to edit the tweet.

2 33 3,039

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Carl Hodson-Thomas @PrometheusCHT · Mar 15

Replying to @WashburneAlex

Didn't Xi announce new biosafety legislation too? Lol

2 1 12 3,400



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

Replying to @PrometheusCHT

Do you have a news link to that? Would be interesting to read

2 1 4 3,058

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Brussels cyclo-pedestrian @bXLpedestrian · Mar 15

Replying to @WashburneAlex

"Sep '19: WIV switches from civ-->military control"

Is this confirmed? I don't remember hearing it prior to Redfield reportedly saying it and have only seen people give him as a source for it.

3 1 13 3,909



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

Replying to @bXLpedestrian

I can't imagine him making that statement w/o knowledge - everything else he's said on this topic checks-out, so don't have evidence of him making stuff up.

That said, you're right: it isn't confirmed / we don't know what intel this is based on.

8 1 26 3,469

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Simon L @SnupSnus · Mar 15

Replying to @WashburneAlex

Do you have a source for #1 - I recall a now deleted SCMP article talking about this but IRCC it happened in January?

1 1 1 2,332



Alex Washburne @WashburneAlex · Mar 15

Replying to @SnupSnus

Just Robert Redfield's testimony to @COVIDSelect, which IIRC placed it in September. The timing matters though, and would love to hear more on this if anyone finds it. Maybe it'll be declassified soon thanks to Congress' bill?