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Emily Kopp
 @emilyakopp



You probably saw that Western virologists “sleuthed” that raccoon dog DNA was present in the wet market.

In fact this data was uploaded by Chinese scientists in preparation to publish in Nature. Their report says humans brought the virus into the market.



who.int

SAGO statement on newly released SARS-CoV-2 metagenomics data from C...
On 12 March 2023, WHO was made aware of new SARS-CoV-2 sequences and metagenomics data associated with samples collected in the Huanan Seafoo...

3:44 PM · Mar 20, 2023 · **20.8K** Views

50 Retweets **12** Quotes **138** Likes



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Emily Kopp @emilyakopp · 5h
Replying to @emilyakopp



An influential clique of Western virologists has aggressively pulled focus from these China CDC scientists — twice!

They say the wet market is the ONLY possible origin of the pandemic.

The Chinese scientists say it was a superspreader event.

Uh oh!

assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-13703...

To explore the potential origins of the SARS-COV-2, we conducted RNA-seq analysis using 27 SARS-CoV-2 positive environmental samples collected on January 1st, 2020 from the HSM. We analyzed the correlation of SARS-CoV-2 and the abundance of other species. The abundance of *Homo sapiens* showed the correlation to SARS-CoV-2 (Figure 4), which highly suggests the SARS-CoV-2 might have derived from *Homo sapiens* in the HSM. No animals were concluded, implying that no animal host of SARS-CoV-2 can be deduced.

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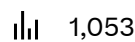


In May 2020, China CDC Director George Gao said that the samples they took in the wet market in Wuhan indicated it was not the source of the pandemic after all, and that the virus had likely been circulating earlier.



nypost.com

Wuhan wet market is the 'victim' of coronavirus outbreak, China's C...
The Wuhan wet market believed to be the origin of the coronavirus pandemic has been unfairly made into a scapegoat for the pandemi...



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But by March 2020, some Western virologists had staked their reputations on a wet market origin. "Prompted" by Fauci, they wrote a letter saying COVID was definitely natural.

Despite private doubts about the market.

usrtk.org/covid-19-origi...

The first is that it cryptically circulated in humans before evolving the furin cleavage site. The second is that it acquired a furin cleavage site in an intermediate host.

The first hypothesis is problematic because the clustering of early cases around the market implies that there was very little cryptic circulation in people.

"The connection to the market would be spurious – **some doubt** on that already," the notes read.

The second hypothesis requires a plausible intermediate host, the authors note.

"Can we suggest a host where this cleavage site would likely be advantageous. Ferrets/polecats? Rodents – bamboo rats (I don't know if they're popular in China)?" the notes read.

1 6 27 968



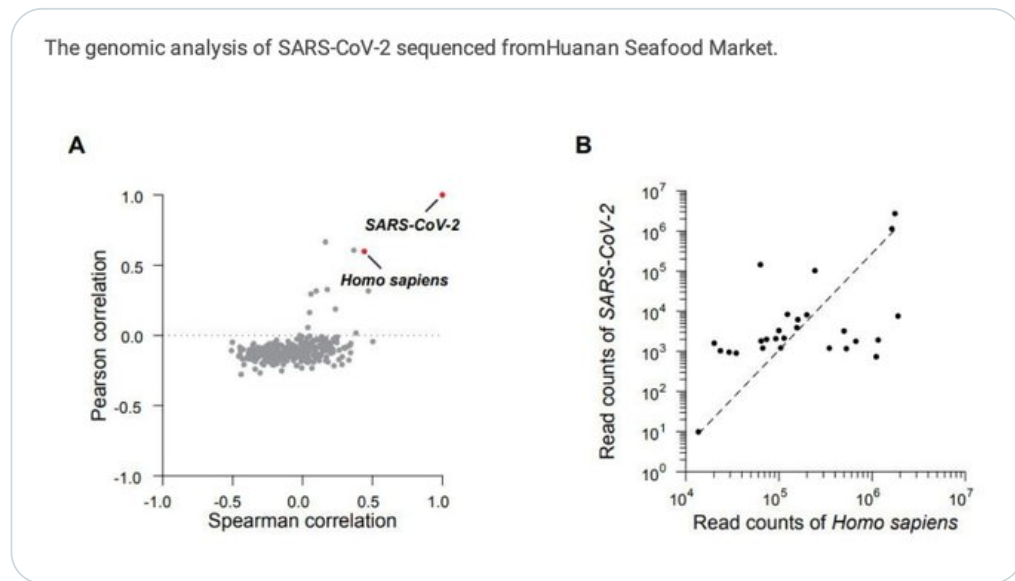
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Fast forward to 2022.

On February 25, Gao released a preprint supporting his earlier claim that the wet market was a superspreader event.

According to their sampling, COVID was most strongly correlated with human genetic material.

assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-13703...



3 3 25 829

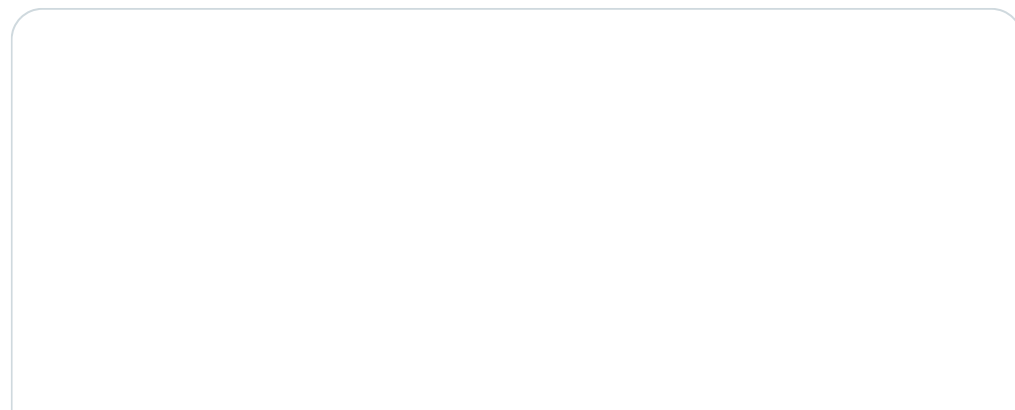


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Two days later, on February 27, these Western virologists rushed out two preprints saying the wet market was “unambiguously” the source of the pandemic.

The news was push alerted by the New York Times and CNN.

“The lab leak theory is dead.”

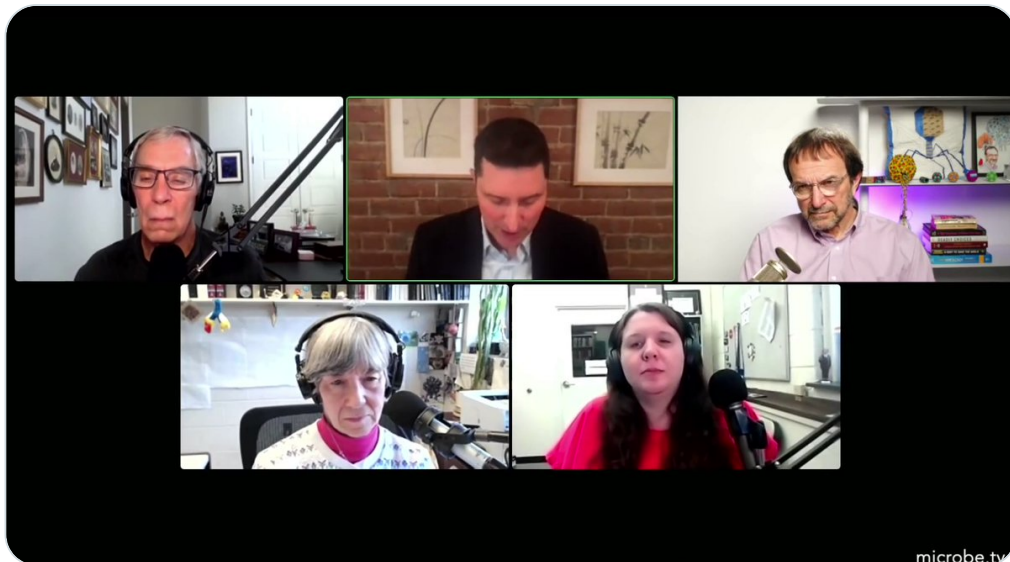




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The Chinese scientists' preprint pointing to the market being a superspreader event was totally overshadowed.

Among the ironies: The Western virologists didn't know that the more ancestral lineage of COVID was present in the market until they learned it from the Chinese preprint



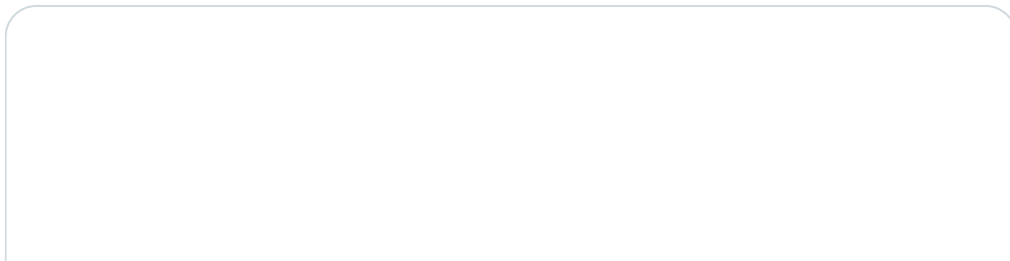
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But the Chinese scientists' preprint couldn't publish until data about genetic material found in the market were made publicly available.


Western virologists say Beijing is hiding nothing about the Wuhan lab, but covering up a natural origin of COVID.





science.org



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Last week, Western virologists seized on the newly public metagenomic data.

The Chinese virologists had been preparing for a year.

The Western virologists had been looking at the data for a few days.

Guess which analysis got picked up in the press?

THE HILL

New study cites Wuhan raccoon dogs as possible origin of COVID-19

3 days ago

Slate

What are raccoon dogs, and did they start the pandemic?

3 days ago

yahoo/news

Why 'lab leak' proponents are unconvinced by raccoon dog evidence for coronavirus origins

19 hours ago


SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN


New Evidence Supports Animal Origin of COVID Virus through Raccoon Dogs

3 days ago

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 28

 840





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Close observers already knew that raccoon dogs were sold at the Huanan Seafood Market (h/t @gdemaneuf)

So why approach the WHO and give quotes to the media before your Chinese colleagues even have the chance to publish their paper?



science.org
Unearthed genetic sequences from China market may point to anim...
French scientist finds previously undisclosed data from Chinese research team

2 4 31 846



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Western virologists have now overshadowed the conclusion of the China CDC scientists who sampled the market in the first place — TWICE.

They are being chastised for not sharing data that they actually did manage to share despite political censorship.



nytimes.com
W.H.O. Accuses China of Withholding Data on Pandemic's Origins

Genetic research from China suggests to some experts that the coronavirus may have sprung from a market in Wuhan. Now the data...

4 5 35 1,295



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In the coming weeks we'll have to weigh how the Western virologists' analysis of China CDC data compares to the Chinese virologists' analysis of their own data.

But it won't matter much.

The Western virologists achieved their aim: protecting their pet theory.

Ben Collins @oneunderscore_

Well damn.

Laurie Garrett @Laurie_Garrett

The new raccoon dog findings indicating the animals carried the #SARSCoV2 virus in Wuhan's animal market in 2019, should settle the question of the origins of our #pandemic. But the lab leak proponents will never yield.

8:19 AM · Mar 17, 2023 · 228.1K Views

347 Retweets 78 Quotes 1,272 Likes

theatlantic.com

The Strongest Evidence Yet That an Animal Started the Pandemic

A new analysis of genetic samples from China appears to link the pandemic's origin to raccoon dogs.

5:53 PM · Mar 16, 2023 · 1.4M Views

932 Retweets 217 Quotes 4,575 Likes

4 8 43 1,233



Will Murphy @Aceofspades256 · 3h

Replying to @emilyakopp

Ask yourself this: Why do you think the CCDC have withheld this data for years and now are trying to spin these results to draw attention away from the market.

1 1 227



JeanTargetter @Kingkiko61 · 4h

Replying to @emilyakopp

A pox on both their houses. Can't trust "Western virologists". Can't trust Wuhan CDC scientists. Certainly, can't trust EcoHealth et al. That leaves us with independent molecular biologists, biostatisticians, etc., who have no conflicts of interest, to trust.