



Seroprevalence of Hantavirus in *Rattus norvegicus* in Grenada, West Indies

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Abstract:

Hantavirus is an emerging zoonotic agent with potential for significant human disease and mortality. Rodents are the natural reservoir for the virus¹. This study reports the seroprevalence of hantavirus in brown rats (*Rattus norvegicus*) in Grenada. Serum from 198 brown rats was tested for immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibody to hantavirus using an Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent assay (ELISA). A seroprevalence rate of 29.3% was found. This is the first report of hantavirus exposure in any species on the island of Grenada and clearly documents the brown rat as a reservoir host on this island.