



Microbiology

Lecture No: 2- Virology

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Sheet Slide

Virology – Introduction

JU- 2nd Year Medical Students

By

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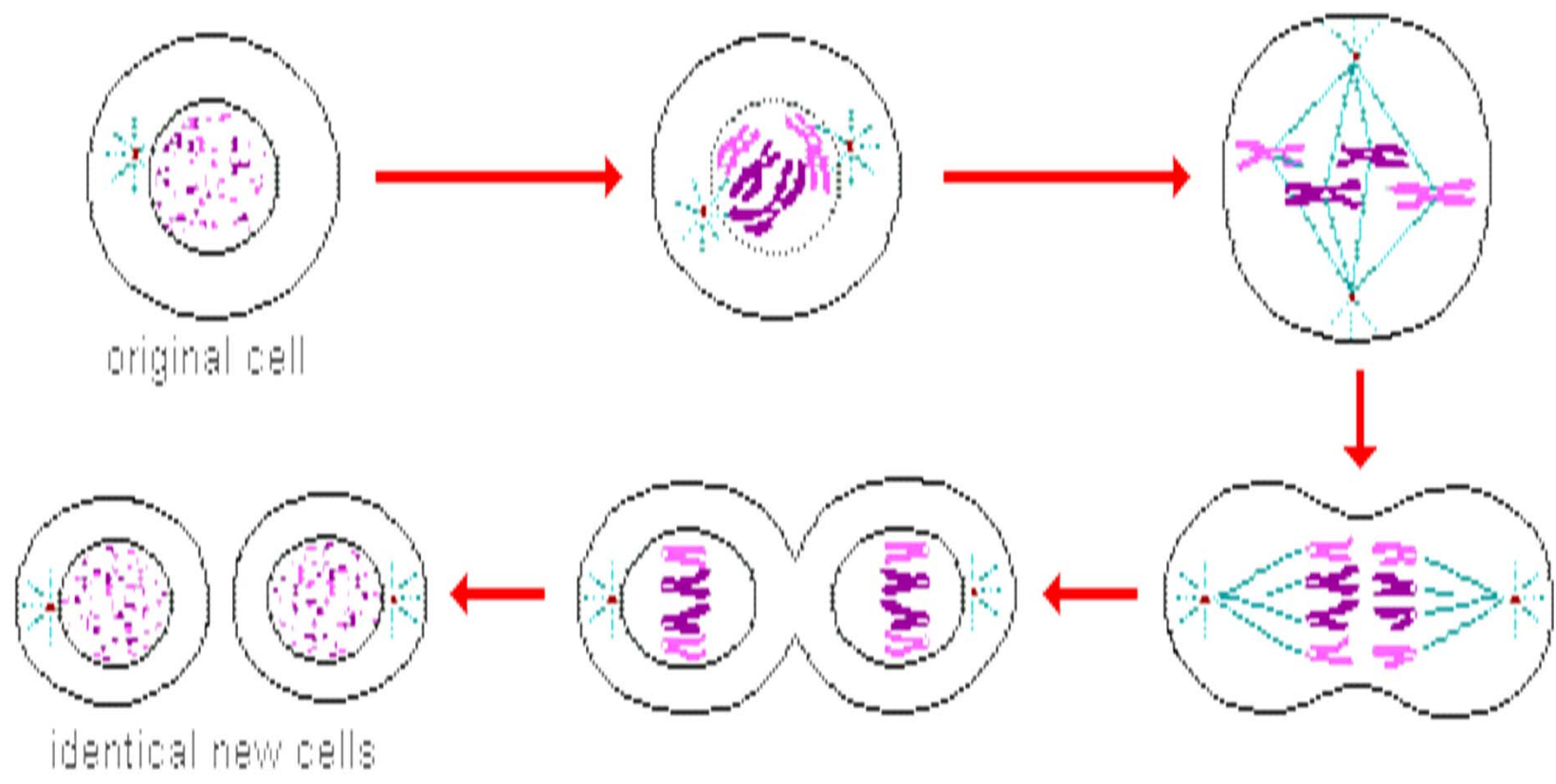
MBBS (J.U.S.T)

MSc, PhD medical microbiology (UK).

FRCPath (associate, medical microbiology).

Virology – replication and genetics

- Non-viral forms of life multiply by fission leading to a daughter cell with genetics material and enzymes that are necessary for replication and metabolism
- Viruses enters cell with nearly only 20 genes (cell has 100000 genes)
- so it must rely on cellular mechanism (complicated life cycle)
- Viral replication is not fully understood



Virology – replication and genetics

Molecular biology of mammalian cell:

✓ Structure

- dsDNA in an enveloped nucleus
- Nuclear pores
- Cytoplasm that contains proteins and chemicals
- Golgi apparatus, lysosomes (intracellular digestion)

Virology – replication and genetics

- Ribosomes (proteins factory)
- Plasma membrane (has receptors for nutrients and hormones that are necessary for cell)
- These receptors, might be used by viruses

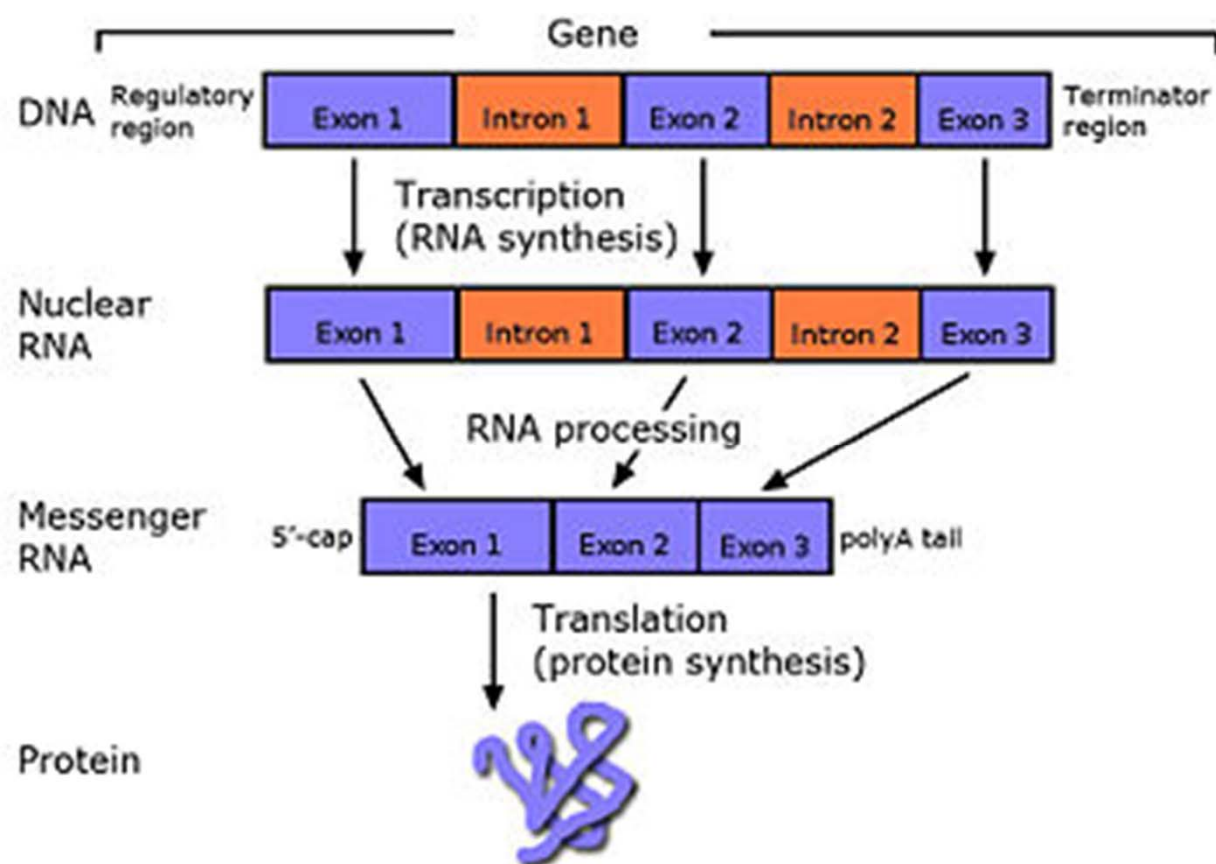
Virology – replication and genetics

✓ DNA

- ds DNA 3×10^9 nucleotides
- Replication: DNA polymerase in the cell uses a template strand to build a complementary strand

✓ Transcription and processing:

- DNA is copied into mRNA
- mRNA is then processed (5' guanine cap and 3' poly A tail)
- introns are removed (spliced by small nuclear ribonucleoprotein particles) – translation of reading frame into proteins



Virology – replication and genetics

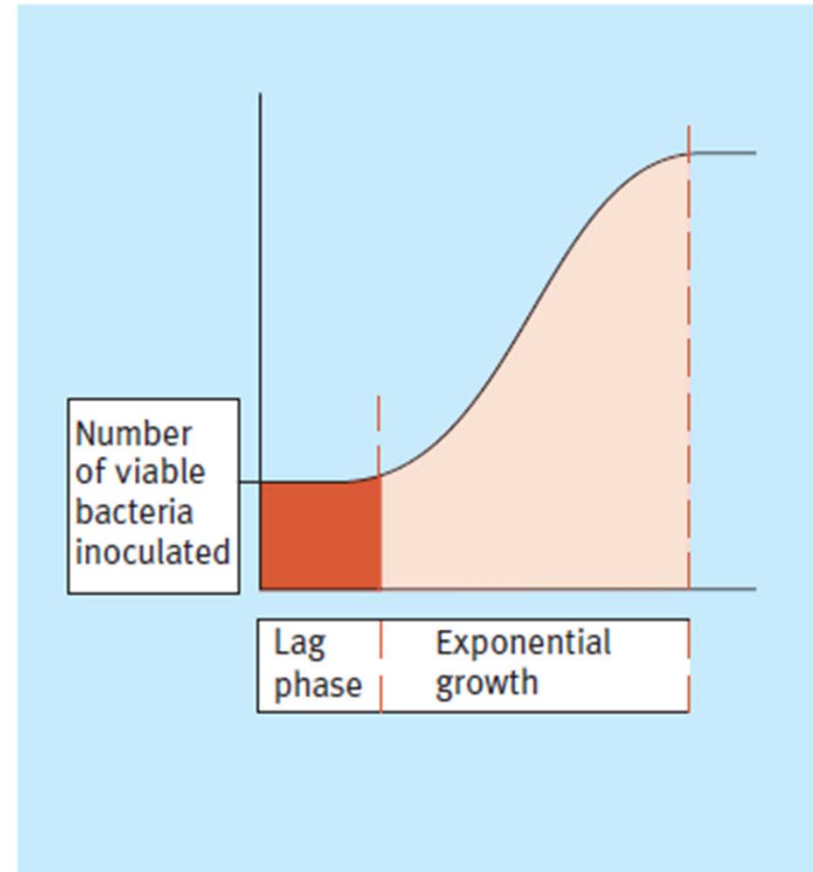
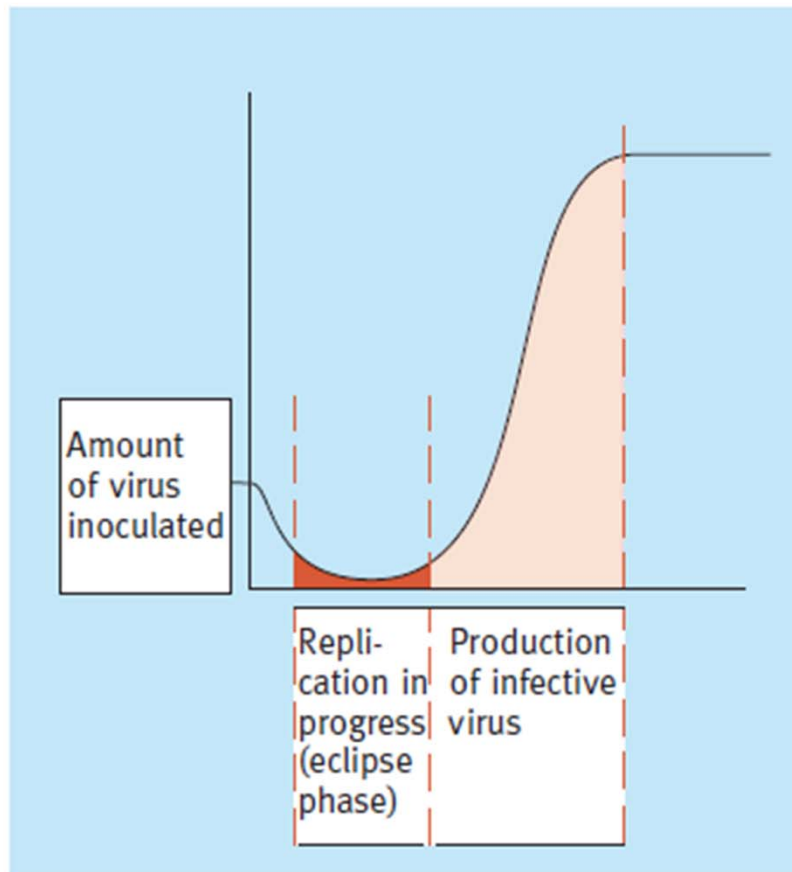
✓ Translation into proteins:

- Codon , ribosomes, amino acids
- Start (AUG) and stop codons (UAG UGA UAA)

☐ Viral replication and infection:

- Hit or miss, chance of contact (receptor and number)
- Few viral particles to initiate infection

Virology – difference between viral and bacterial replication



Virology – replication and genetics

Stages of viral life cycle:

1. Adsorption (attachment).
2. Penetration (internalisation)
3. Uncoating.
4. Transcription to mRNA
5. Translation into early (functional) and late (structural) proteins
6. Assembly in cytoplasm, nucleus or membrane
7. Release – lytic or budding

These stages can be divided into three phases

I – Initiation phase

- Attachment
- Penetration
- Uncoating

II - Replication phase

- DNA Synthesis
- RNA Synthesis
- Protein synthesis

III - Release phase

- Assembly
- Maturation
- Exit from cell

Virology – replication and genetics

- **Adsorption**
- Viral particles have receptor binding proteins (virus attachment proteins/spikes) attach to specific cellular receptors (glycoproteins or glycolipids).
- Adsorption is a random process determined by diffusion (Viruses do not have any capacity for locomotion)
- Determined by the concentrations of both, the virions and the cells.

Virology – replication and genetics

- Small viral amount (down to one virus) interacting with the receptors is enough to establish infection.
- A cell can have between 10^4 - 10^5 receptors on its surface.
- Mutations in the genes specifying anti-receptors may cause loss of the capacity to interact with certain receptors.

Virology – replication and genetics

- Example:
- Influenza virus – sialic acid
- HIV1: Primary receptor CD4 on T cells
Secondary receptors: CXCR4 and CCR5

Virology – replication and genetics

- Presence of receptors determines:
 1. Host range: e.g Measles (humans only), Arboviruses (many hosts including animals)
 2. Tissue tropism: e.g Rabies (brain), Hepatitis (Liver)
- The neutralizing antibodies can prevent infection by blocking adsorption to receptors.

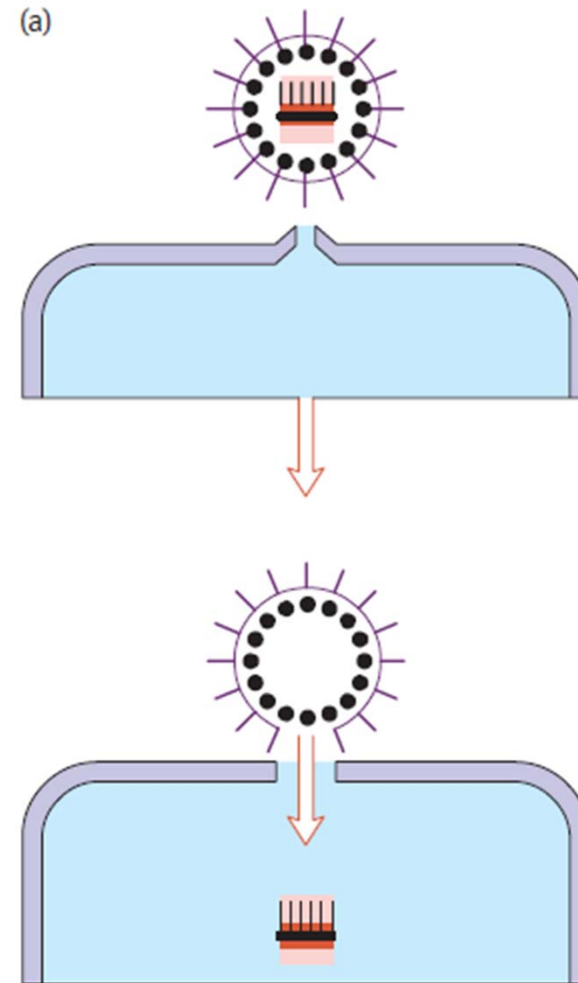
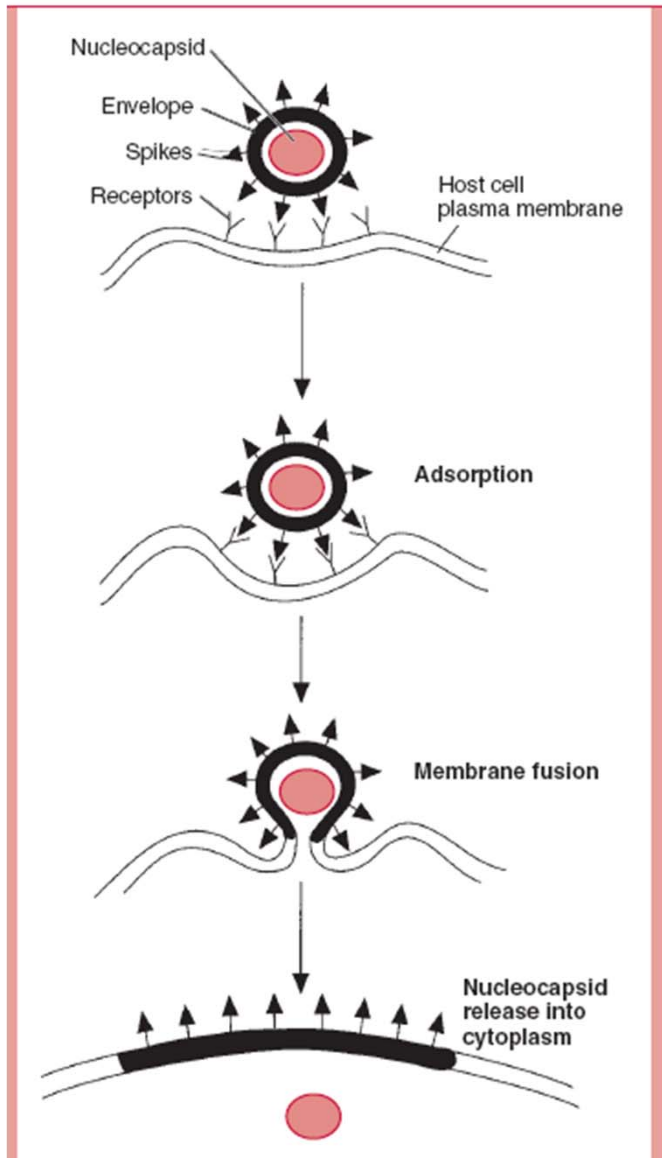
Virology – replication and genetics

- Penetration:
 - Direct membrane fusion (fusion from without)
- For the enveloped viruses Paramyxoviruses (eg, Parainfluenza), some retroviruses (eg, HIV-1), and herpesviruses
- The virus envelop fuses with the cell membrane and left there
- Mediated by hydrophobic amino acids of fusion proteins

Virology – replication and genetics

- Nucleocapsid released into cellular cytoplasm > capsid digested by cytoplasmic protease
- Presence of the envelop fusion proteins in the cell membrane
 - > Immune target
 - > enhances infected cell – non infected cell fusion.

Virology – replication and genetics



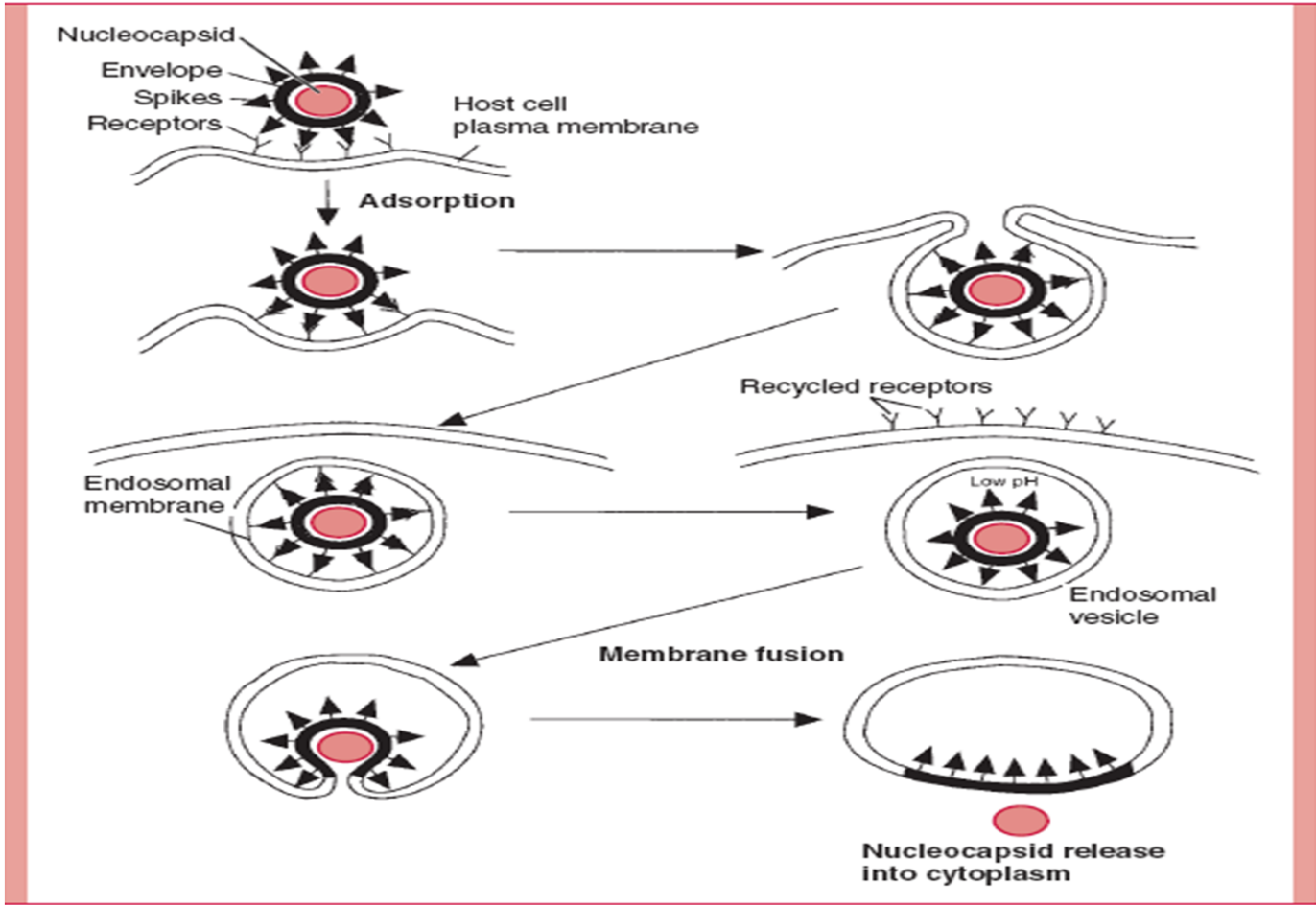
Virology – replication and genetics

☐ Receptor mediated endocytosis (viropexis)

- For remaining enveloped viruses and for the naked viruses.
- receptor attachment followed by plasma membrane inversion
- Clathrin coated pit

Virology – replication and genetics

- Viruses attach to receptors then become surrounded by a plasma membrane invagination (pseudopodia)
 - > Pinching off of the cellular membrane encloses the virion in a cytoplasmic vesicle are formed > termed the **endosomal vesicle**
- Virus (nucleocapsid) is then released by acidity changes in the vesicle/endosomal lysis



Virology – replication and genetics

- In case of influenza:
 - fusion from within
 - PH and haemagglutinin mediated
- ☐ Some viruses use Non-clathrin mediated endocytosis (Caveolae)

Virology – replication and genetics

- **Formation of viral mRNAs**
- Synthesis of mRNA is a crucial step in replication
- ✓ mRNA is transcribed from dsDNA using cellular DNA dependent RNA polymerase (POXVIRUS?)

- ✓ +ve ssRNA recognised as mRNA and translated directly by cellular ribosomes (POLIOVIRUS, FLAVIVIRUS) (+ - +)
- directly infectious to cells by itself

- ✓ -ve ssRNA? antigenome (RABIES, INFLUENZA)

Virology – replication and genetics

- For many other viruses, translation is not straightforward:
 1. Poxviruses replicate in the cytoplasm where no cellular RNA polymerase is available to transcribe the DNA genome > therefore, poxviruses carry its DNA dependent - RNA polymerase with it.
 2. No cellular machinery exists that can use either single-stranded DNA or double-stranded RNA as a template to synthesize mRNA.

The End