



## COVID-19: CDC Museum Closed to the Public

Due to ongoing concerns about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the David J. Sencer CDC Museum is closed to the public and will remain closed as we continue to assess and monitor developments. All CDC Museum tours are canceled until further notice.

This decision is being made out of an abundance of caution and based upon the guidance of the CDC regarding social distancing and the elimination of large gatherings.

Please continue to check our website and social media accounts for additional updates.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

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# Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM)



On display is a powerful microscope: the electron microscope. This microscope, the TEM 410 Philips model, was made in the Netherlands and used in CDC labs from 1985-2005. This transmission electron microscope was purchased by CDC in 1985 to study the AIDS virus and over the next 20 years, scientists used it repeatedly in the [rapid identification of emerging pathogens](#) including [hantavirus](#), [Nipah virus](#), and [SARS coronavirus](#).

## Enrichment Modules

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## SEE

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### Take a closer look:

- Find high-resolution, public domain images of viruses/bacteria in [CDC's Public Health Image Library](#), including transmission electron microscope images of coronaviruses and the hepatitis A virus.
- From where do up-close images of viruses and bacteria we see in the news come? Learn more from this [National Institutes of Health article](#) [↗](#).
- View transmission electron microscope micrographs of [rotavirus particles](#), [the virus that causes rabies](#), [variola virus particles](#), and [poxvirus particles](#). Then, take a look at what a transmission electron microscope looks like from the other side of the lens: [in the 1960s](#) and [present day](#).
- Learn how to [collect and prepare specimens](#) for electron microscopy.

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## HEAR

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### From the source:

- Take a close look at [how electron microscopy was used to confirm poxvirus infections](#) during the smallpox eradication campaign.
- View a [historic image](#) [↗](#) of an electron microscope in use during 1988 laboratory studies of AIDS and a transmission electron microscope [image of HIV](#) [↗](#) from Global Health Chronicles, A CDC Museum/Emory University collaboration.

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## REFLECT

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### Then and now:

- Learn how electron microscopy has aided CDC scientists in identifying the causative agents during [critical infectious disease outbreaks](#).
- Read how transmission electron microscopy was used to understand molecular mechanisms of the [severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS coronavirus outbreak](#) in 2002.

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## DO

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### Give it a try:

- Want to try your hand at microscopy? Check out this CDC [microscopy training course](#).

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