

Editor's Comment:

This manuscript addresses an often overlooked aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic by focusing on the human microbiome and its critical role in immune function and viral interactions. The author brings together insights from multiple disciplines, including microbiology, virology, and ethnotoxicology, to provide a comprehensive perspective on how industrialization and environmental disruption contribute to pandemics. The manuscript is thought-provoking and sheds light on under-explored mechanisms, such as the role of the virome and biofilm in COVID-19 susceptibility, its heavy reliance on speculative hypotheses, and the lack of robust experimental evidence that may limit its direct impact. The author's hypothesis suggests that the essence of the COVID-19 pandemic lies in the reduced efficiency of the evolutionarily derived mechanisms with which humans are equipped. They allow us to coexist with viruses, both in their endogenous form (that make up our bodies) and the exogenous ones with which we constantly interact, including those that are pathogenic. This paper attempts to present the complexity and interdependence of the cellular and subcellular organisms that make up the human body, as well as their sensitivity to toxic exposures associated with human industrial activities. I believe this study is fully ready for publication, as it may serve as an important conceptual framework that may inspire further research into the interactions of the microbiome and the immune system in the context of emerging infectious diseases.

Editor's Details:

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