GRADUATE STUDIES in BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

MICROBIOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY, and INFECTIOUS DISEASES



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Image: GFP (green fluorescent protein) expressing HeLa (human epithelial) cells immuno-fluorescently labeled with antibody to detect the endoplasmic reticulum (red); courtesy of Mattoo lab.

The Microbiology, Immunology, and Infectious Disease Research Area

conducts innovative basic research in the areas of cellular and molecular mechanisms of infectious disease, as well as the immune response and microbe-host interaction. We seek to understand the biology of microbial signaling systems, exploitation of host cell functions by pathogenic organisms, and mechanisms of protective host immune responses to infections.

The model microorganisms used in our research are important pathogenic agents of humans, animals and plants. Examples include Legionella, Salmonella, E. coli, Agrobacterium, herpesviruses, togaviruses, and flaviviruses.

The group fosters high quality scholarship and provides interdisciplinary undergraduate, predoctoral, and postdoctoral trainings in cellular and molecular mechanisms of infectious diseases and other aspects of microbiology, with numerous collaborative opportunities across the Colleges of Science, Veterinary Medicine, and Agriculture.

Our on-campus involvement includes a variety of centers, such as the Purdue Institute of Inflammation, Immunology, and Infectious Disease (PI4D), the Bindley Bioscience Center, Markey Center for Structural Biology, the Genomics Center and the Energy Center, and with faculty from across campus involved in the Purdue UniversityLife Science (PULSe) graduate program.

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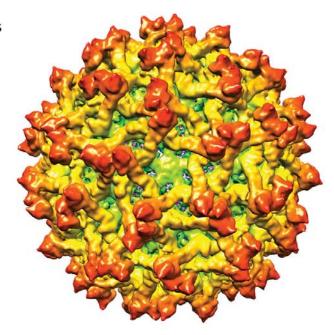


Image: Inmature Zika virus structure composite; courtesy of Kuhn and Rossmann labs.