

# New E. coli-infecting bacteriophage introduced in PHAGE

January 14 2020

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A new coliphage—a bacteriophage that infects and can destroy *Escherichia coli*—is presented and characterized in *PHAGE: Therapy, Applications, and Research*.

The article entitled "Genome Sequence and Characterization of Coliphage vB\_Eco\_SLUR29." was coauthored by Andrew Millard, University of Leicester, and colleagues from the University of Leicester, University of Warwick (Coventry), and University of Nottingham (Sutton Bonington), U.K. Coliphage have potential therapeutic applications, and more than 600 unique coliphage have been isolated and their genomes sequenced to date. The researchers isolated vB\_Eco\_SLUR29 from cattle slurry collected from a farm in rural England. They analyzed the ability of this novel coliphage to lyse *E. coli* and they sequenced its genome. They used [transmission electron microscopy](#) to identify the phase as a member of the Siphoviridae family, and they used phylogenetic analysis and [comparative genomics](#) to identify it as part of a new genus within the subfamily Tunavirinae.

"In an increasing era of finding new phages that infect bacterial pathogens, it will be to our advantage as much as possible to systematically catalogue genomic and biological data collected on new phages," said Martha Clokie, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief of *PHAGE* and Professor of Microbiology, University of Leicester (U.K.). "To present newly isolated and characterized phages, we suggest they are written up as 'phage introductions.' I am very pleased that Andy Millard—who coined this concept—has written a key exemplar paper to showcase our first 'introduction.' Please meet coliphage vB\_Eco\_SLUR29!"

**More information:** Ibrahim Besler et al, Genome Sequence and Characterization of Coliphage vB\_Eco\_SLUR29, *PHAGE* (2020). [DOI: 10.1089/phage.2019.0009](https://doi.org/10.1089/phage.2019.0009)

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

Citation: New E. coli-infecting bacteriophage introduced in PHAGE (2020, January 14)  
retrieved 10 April 2024 from

<https://phys.org/news/2020-01-coli-infecting-bacteriophage-phage.html>

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