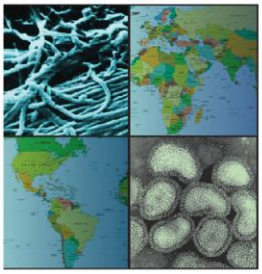
BECOME A DISEASE DETECTIVE
Discover Public Health!

Viruses, Vectors & Victims:



Public Health at the Movies

28 Weeks Later. (2007)

Just when it seems the "rage virus" has been fully contained, and London is in the process of slowly recovering, an extremely unfortunate couple is attacked by a small band of rampaging "ragers". The cowardly husband escapes while his wife is attacked and presumably infected. Their surviving children fall under the protection of a U.S. Army sharpshooter, but nobody's safe for long.

Absolon. (2003)

In the near future, a virus has infected everyone on the planet, and Absolon is a drug that everyone must take to stay alive. One corporation controls the drug. A scientist who was researching the virus is found murdered, and Norman Scott is the policeman who investigates the crime. Soon Norman realizes that he's in over his head, as hitmen are gunning for him.

And the Band Played On. (1993)

Story of the discovery of the AIDS virus. From the early days in 1978 when numerous San Francisco gays began dying from unknown causes, to the identification of the HIV virus.

The Andromeda Strain. (1981)

A deadly micro-organism enters Earth's atmosphere with a returning satellite, and a team of medical specialists must discover how to battle it before time runs out.

Cassandra Crossing. (1977)

"Outbreak" meets "The Runaway Train" as a motley group of passengers are quarantined on a train destined to prevent the spread of the disease at the cost of their lives. Government intrigue, international smuggling, and the legend of the Cassandra Crossing add to the suspense.

Contagious. (1997)

An epidemiologist has to cope with a cholera outbreak, track down a drug dealer who is a carrier, track down all the people he has come into contact with and deal with hundreds of patients. Then it gets personal. She discovers her husband and step-children are lost in the woods and her husband is infected with cholera. She begins a race against time to track them down while battling her own demons and lack of sleep. In the end her step-children treat her with a new found respect.

Erin Brockovich. (2000)

Erin Brockovich is an unemployed single mother who works as a file clerk for a lawyer. While no one takes her seriously, with her trashy clothes and earthy manners, that soon changes when she begins to investigate a suspicious case involving the Pacific Gas & Electric Company. She discovers that the company is trying to buy land contaminated by toxic hexavalent chromium waste that the company is illegally dumping. Erin finds herself leading point in a series of events that involve her law firm in one of the biggest class action lawsuits in American history.

I Am Legend. (2007)

After the outbreak of a lethal virus in 2009, in 2012 U.S. Army virologist Lieutenant Colonel Robert Neville is left as the last healthy human along with his trusty dog in New York City and possibly the entire world.

Life Science Library ©2008 by University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin | www.lib.utexas.edu

The Insider. (1999)

This film tells the true story of Jeffrey Wigand, a former tobacco executive, who revealed to CBS-TV News show "60 Minutes." that the tobacco industry was not only aware that cigarettes are addictive & harmful, but deliberately worked on increasing that addictiveness. He and producer Lowell Bergman learn the hard way that simply telling the truth is not enough as they struggle against both Big Tobacco's attempts to silence them and the CBS TV Network's own cowardly preference of putting money as a higher priority over the truth.

John Q. (2002)

John Q. is a factory worker facing financial hardship as a result of reduced hours in his workplace. He and his wife soon discover that their child is in need of an emergency heart transplant. Although they have an HMO, they are informed that their policy doesn't cover such an expensive procedure. Unable to raise the money for the surgery himself and with no recourse but to take his son home to die, John snaps and holds the staff and patients of the hospital's emergency room hostage at gunpoint.

Mimic. (1998)

A team of scientists discover a miracle cure that stops the spread of a deadly disease...only to find three years later that something has gone terribly wrong! Their creation has taken on a horrifying life of its own...able to mimic and destroy its every predator - even man! And now, it threatens to wipe out an entire city...unless they stop it in time.

12 Monkeys. (2005)

A lethal virus wipes out five billion people in 1996. Only 1% of the population survives by 2035, and is forced to live underground. A convict reluctantly volunteers to be sent back in time to 1996 to investigate the mysterious "Army of the Twelve Monkeys" and locate the virus before it mutates so that scientists can study it. Unfortunately Cole is mistakenly sent to 1990 and is arrested and locked up in a mental institution, where he meets Dr. Kathryn Railly, a psychiatrist, and Jeffrey Goines, the insane son of a famous scientist and virus expert.

Miss Evers' Boys. (1997)

In 1932, Nurse Eunice Evers is invited to work with doctors on the "Tuskegee Experiment" to study the effects of syphilis. She is faced with a terrible dilemma when she learns the patients are denied treatment that could cure them.

Outbreak. (1995)

Dustin Hoffman plays Sam Daniels, a take-charge army virologist trying to stave off global biological meltdown. A rare killer virus from the jungles of Zaire has taken hold in a California community. Its mortality rate is 100%. And some say the only way to stop its spread is to firebomb the town and everyone in it.

Panic in the Streets. (2005)

One night in the New Orleans slums, vicious hoodlum Blackie and his friends kill an illegal immigrant who won too much in a card game. When Dr. Reed confirms the dead man had pneumonic plague he must find and inoculate the killers.

Quarantine. (1990)

In a futuristic society being decimated by plague, a fascist movement seizes power and quarantines not only the plague victims, but anyone related to them. Rebels trying to assassinate a particularly reactionary senator stumble onto a computer programmer trying to track and eradicate the disease.

Satan Bug. (1964)

A germ warfare lab has had an accident. The first theory is that one of the nasty germs has gotten free and killed several scientists. The big fear is that a more virulent strain, named The Satan Bug because all life can be killed off by it should it escape, may have been stolen.

Winged Scourge. (1944)

Shows the development of the Anopheles mosquito, carrier of the malaria germ, from the larva to full growth at which time it becomes the menance. The Seven Dwarfs demonstrate the various methods for mosquito control.