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CDC: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/>

As usual, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has put together an excellent website covering multiple facets of SARS. The site provides information for the public, clinicians, travelers and American expatriates, and workers. There is also information on diagnosis, treatment, laboratory handling, infection control procedures, and so forth. As of this writing, news reports concerning the outbreak were being added almost every day. The site is well laid out, fast, and easily navigable.

Access requirement: None.

Date last updated: Unknown.

Virus World

<http://rhino.bocklabs.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/virusworld/virustable.pl?>

This site is from the Institute for Molecular Virology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The site features information on virus structure and tutorials on genetics. There is a section on "virus imaging" that provides a pull-down menu from which one can select a virus by name to view graphic images or movies (QuickTime or MPEG) that can be viewed in a browser or downloaded. Most of the site is easily navigated, although some of the tutorial sections are a little more difficult to figure out.

Access requirement: None.

Date last updated: 2003.

Disease Portfolio: UNDP-World Bank-WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)

<http://www.who.int/tdr/diseases/default.htm>

This website is based on a collaboration (referred to as TDR) between the World Health Organization, World Bank, and United Nations focusing on research on tropical diseases that disproportionately affect poor populations. The diseases profiled include malaria, tuberculosis, filariasis, and others. Each disease section includes information on the disease, the responsible organism, research efforts, and achievements during the existence of TDR. There are also links to reports on progress, media files that may be used for educational purposes, publications by TDR, and so forth. The site is fast and simply laid out, with readily understandable links.

Access requirement: None.

Date last updated: Unknown.

Priondata.org

<http://www.priondata.org/>

This website provides regularly updated information on prions. The site has a free area with reports and updates aimed at the general public. It also has three subscription areas, one aimed at journalists, one at scientists, and one at businesses; the first two are free but require registration, while the last costs £1000 for 6 months. The articles are well written, timely, and informative, and cover epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and research on prion diseases including bovine spongiform encephalopathy and Creutzfeld-Jakob disease. The site is fairly simply organized and easy to navigate.

Access requirement: None.

Date last updated: Unknown.

European *Helicobacter* Study Group (EHSG)

<http://www.helicobacter.org/>

The EHSG is a group of workers involved in *Helicobacter* research representing most European nations responsible for the annual International Workshop on *Helicobacter*. The website details some of the activities of the group, provides information on the group members, and provides information for patients, clinicians, and researchers. There are links to online articles from "Year in *Helicobacter* 2002" and to information about the organism. The site is fast and well organized.

Access requirement: None.

Date last updated: January 2003.