

- immunization/programmes\_systems/policies\_strategies/vaccine\_intro\_resources/nvi\_guidelines/en
39. Carvalho Aguiar Melo M, de Sousa Soares D. Impact of social distancing on mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic: an urgent discussion. *Int J Soc Psychiatry*. 2020;66:625–6. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020764020927047>
  40. Chan PKS. Outbreak of avian influenza A(H5N1) virus infection in Hong Kong in 1997. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2002;34 (Suppl 2):S58–64. <https://doi.org/10.1086/338820>
  41. Hung LS. The SARS epidemic in Hong Kong: what lessons have we learned? *J R Soc Med*. 2003;96:374–8. <https://doi.org/10.1177/014107680309600803>
  42. Kwok KO, Davoudi B, Riley S, Pourbohloul B. Early real-time estimation of the basic reproduction number of emerging or reemerging infectious diseases in a community with heterogeneous contact pattern: using data from Hong Kong 2009 H1N1 pandemic influenza as an illustrative example. *PLoS One*. 2015;10:e0137959. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0137959>
  43. Cheng S. Two more deaths, another nine temporary facial paralysis cases after Covid vaccinations. 2021 [cited 2021 Apr 10]. <https://hongkongfp.com/2021/03/25/two-more-deaths-another-nine-temporary-facial-paralysis-cases-after-covid-vaccinations>
  44. Magramo K, Choy G, Tsang E. Coronavirus: chronically ill Hongkonger dies days after getting BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine, while experts push for return of international travel. 2021 [cited 2021 Apr 10]. <https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/health-environment/article/3126158/coronavirus-tourism-lawmaker-urges-hong-kong>
  45. The Standard. Another man died after receiving Sinovac vaccine. 2021 [cited 2021 Apr 10]. <https://www.thestandard.com.hk/breaking-news/section/4/168423/Another-man-died-after-receiving-Sinovac-vaccine>

Address for correspondence: Kin On Kwok, Rm 419, 4/F, JC School of Public Health and Primary Care Building, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong; email: [kkokwok@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:kkokwok@cuhk.edu.hk); Wan In Wei, Rm 429, 4/F, JC School of Public Health and Primary Care Building, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong; email: [vivian1628@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:vivian1628@cuhk.edu.hk)

## etymologia

Clyde Partin

### Sunda Pangolin [*'sün də 'paNG gōl ən*]

The Sunda or Malayan pangolin (*Manis javanica*) achieved notoriety during the coronavirus disease pandemic because of flawed evidence suggesting that pangolins could be intermediate hosts. Genetic analysis later demonstrated that the spike protein angiotensin-converting enzyme-2 receptor-binding domain of the pangolin had marginal viral avidity and thus was an unlikely infectious conduit. Pangolins are edentate mammals possessing short powerful forelimbs suitable for excavating ants and termites.

Linnaeus named the genus *Manis*, derived from *manes*, Latin for “spirits” or “ghosts or shades of the dead,” which refers to their noncuddly reptilian persona and solitary nocturnal foraging. Covered by keratin scales, pangolins, when threatened, assume a rolled up position, described by the Malay word *pengguling* (one who rolls up). Native to Java (thus *javanica*), their habitat includes Southeast Asia, especially the Indomalayan archipelago and Sunda Islands. Humans hunt pangolins for their meat, consume their blood as an elixir, and use their scales and other body parts as ingredients for crafting leather products and nonefficacious medications.



**Figure.** Covered in tough keratin scales interspersed with strands of fur, the pangolin, also known as a scaly anteater, assumes an impenetrable rolled-up position when threatened. Note the short muscular forelimbs. Pangolins are endangered and World Pangolin Day is the third Saturday in February. Photo of a young Chinese pangolin (*Manis pentadactyla*) by Te-Chuan Chan (Taipei Zoo, Taiwan) and Wen-Ta Li (Pangolin International Biomedical Consultant Ltd., Taiwan)

#### Sources

1. Frutos R, Serra-Cobo J, Chen T, Devaux CA. COVID-19: time to exonerate the pangolin from the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 to humans. *Infect Genet Evol*. 2020;84:104493. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.meegid.2020.104493>
2. ITIS Report. *Manus Linnaeus, 1758* [cited 2021 Mar 21]. [https://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search\\_topic=TSN&search\\_value=584905#null](https://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=584905#null)
3. Animal source of the coronavirus continues to elude scientists. *Nature*. May 18, 2020 [cited 2021 Mar 21]. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01449-8>
4. Wang Y, Turvey ST, Leader-Williams N. Knowledge and attitudes about the use of pangolin scale products in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM). *People and Nature*. 2020;2:903–12 [cited 2021 May 14]. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pan3.10150>

Address for correspondence: Clyde Partin, Department of Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine, 1365 Clifton Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30322-1007, USA; email: [wpart01@emory.edu](mailto:wpart01@emory.edu)

Author affiliation: Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3201/eid2707.ET2707>