

ON AIR



Health Freedom Minute

May 18, 2026

Hantavirus is Not the New Covid

The Hantavirus is not Covid. It's not even a contagious person-to-person disease. So why is the news all abuzz? Maybe it's a low news cycle. Maybe they need to sell newspapers. As Dr. Steve Lawrence of the infectious disease division at Washington University in St. Louis told a news station, the primary way to catch the disease is by inhaling dust from dried rodent waste. To catch it from another person, requires very close prolonged contact.

So first, someone has to inhale the dust and then someone must be in close contact. Three people with the virus have died on the Dutch ship. But did the virus kill them or did they have pre-existing conditions that made them vulnerable? More information is needed. This is not Covid.

“UWash Director answers questions on hantavirus amid cruise ship outbreak,” First Alert 4 Staff, May 8, 2026:

<https://www.firstalert4.com/2026/05/08/washu-doctor-answers-questions-hantavirus-amid-cruise-ship-outbreak/>

“How deadly is hantavirus? We answer questions from USA TODAY readers,” Mary Walrath-Holdridge and Julia Gomez, USA TODAY, May 7, 2026:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2026/05/07/hantavirus-mortality-rate-deaths-symptoms-faq/89976651007/>

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