

Herpesviridae, a large family of DNA viruses that cause diseases in animals and humans.

The members of this family are also known as **herpesviruses**. Name is derived from the Greek word *herpein* ("to creep or crawl"). Latent, reactivation, recurring and lytic infections are typical of this group of viruses.



Medically important viruses - Three subfamilies.

- Alpha herpes virinae.
 - Rapid growth,
 - Latent infection in sensory ganglia.
 - \times HSV 1, HSV 2, V Z Virus.
- Beta herpes virinae
 - Slow growth.
 - Grow best in Fibroblasts.
 - Latent infection in salivary gland.
 - \times HHV 5 (CMV) HHV 6 , HHV 7



- Grow in Lymphoblastoid cells.
- Latent infection in Lymphoid tissue.
- HHV 4 (Epstein Barr Virus)
- HHV 8 (Kaposi's sarcoma herpes virus)