**HERPESVIRUS TAMARINUS**  
*(Herpes T-Virus, *Herpesvirus platyrrhinae*, *Herpesvirus saimiri*  
type 1, *Alphaherpesvirus saimiri*)

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| **Natural:** Saimiri sciureus; foreign: Callithrichidae, Aotus trivirgatus | Probably by direct or indirect contact | In squirrel monkeys usually none; in Callithrichidae/ Aotus trivirgatus: facial edema, parotitis, depression, death. | Yes, in Callithrichidae particulary in Saguinus oedipus | None | In houses  
Strict separation of squirrel monkeys and callitrichids  
in zoos  
Strict separation of squirrel monkeys and callitrichidae |

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**Susceptible animal groups**  
Natural hosts: *Saimiri sciureus*; foreign hosts: *Saguinus* spp., *Callithrix jacchus*, *Leontopithecus chrysomelas*, *Aotus trivirgatus*.

**Causative organism**  
*Herpesvirus tamarinus*. (*Alphaherpesvirus*, only weakly cross reacting with *H.hominis, H.simiae*).

**Zoonotic potential**  
None.

**Distribution**  
As natural Infection South- and Central America; in captivity World-wide

**Transmission**  
Probably by direct or indirect contact. Many squirrel monkeys are latently infected and excrete the virus temporarily or recurrently during their entire life.

**Incubation period**

**Clinical symptoms**  
In squirrel monkeys usually asymptomatic infections, rarely oral/ perioral ulcers. The disease in Callithrichidae ranged from mild disease and occasionally asymptomatic carriers in *Saguinus fuscicollis* to rapidly fatal disease in *Saguinus oedipus*. In *Aotus trivirgatus* facial edema, parotitis, depression and death have been reported.

**Post mortem findings**

In squirrel monkeys usually none. In Callithrichidae pneumonia, hepatitis, lienitis, hepatic-, splenic-, and adrenal necroses with Cowdry type A intranuclear inclusion bodies.

**Diagnosis**

Virology: tissue cultures, intracerebral inoculation of baby mice

**Material required for laboratory analysis**

Material from necrotic lesions.

**Relevant diagnostic laboratories**

1. New England Primate Research Laboratory, Southborough/ Ma/ USA.
2. Virus Reference Laboratories, Inc.  
7540 Louis Pasteur Road,  
SAN ANTONIO, Tx. 78229
### Treatment

**Prevention and control in zoos**
Strict separation of all squirrel monkeys from other New World monkeys.

**Suggested disinfectant for housing facilities**
Detergents, soap, UV-light, heat.

### Notification

- **Guarantees required under EU Legislation**
- **Guarantees required by EAZA Zoos**
- **Measures required under the Animal Disease Surveillance Plan**
- **Measures required for introducing animals from non-approved sources**
- **Measures to be taken in case of disease outbreak or positive laboratory findings**
- **Conditions for restoring disease-free status after an outbreak**

### Experts who may be consulted

### References