

Review of: "A Uniformitarian Solution to the Appearance of Small-Bodied Hominins, Dwarfs, Pathologies, and Self-Domestication: Theories of New Discoveries"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The author, Dr. Niccolo Caldararo, has produced a very interesting and high-quality work, with a rich bibliography. Over the last two decades, numerous remains of different small human bodies have been discovered, each of them very distant from the other both in time and space. The author raises the problem of this large number of small-bodied human species (or at least groups) that seem to have no biological link.

The author reviews the possible explanations for this phenomenon (genetics, mating processes, domestication, etc.) and shows that the presence of a pathogen can induce this type of morphology (small size, "microcephaly", etc.). The argument is interesting, and I think this work should be published.

I have only a few minor comments:

- The bibliography is not standardized and makes it difficult to use. Check that all references are in Qeios format.
- Page 6, last paragraph, you write, "Thus, the question of how unique these cases are may represent pathology or adaptation in the Flores example, or insular dwarfism in the Palau example, as they generally fall within the range of certain local groups of Andaman Islanders (Onge)." What size are you talking about? Height, body mass, waist circumference, etc.?

In conclusion, I highly recommend the publication of this work.