

# Review of: "A Harmless Avian Vaccine Virus Could Be Developed into an Off-the-Shelf “Antibiotic” for Viruses"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

The thought process in this short opinion piece is reasonable. However, the references provided are inadequate.

Suggestions for the authors:

Please change "HIV" to "Lentiviral immunodeficiency viruses" in the third paragraph of the document.

Please explain what you mean by “artificial viremia” on page 2/4. Flesh out your discussion of the feasibility of repeated oral IBDV administration to indicate that infection with this attenuated virus can be achieved when neutralizing antibodies are present. Please provide a reference with original data indicating that this information is correct.

Please provide an original reference that proves the lack of a cytokine storm with IBDV treatment.

You must remove "The Safety and Efficacy of Reverse Engineered IBDV R903/78 Drug Candidate Could Be Reconfirmed in Herpes Zoster Patients" and the paragraph that suggests a way to do this. [The crusting time of vesicles following a standard of care acyclovir monotherapy with acyclovir plus an add-on R903/78 combination therapy could be compared during a short-term (one week) Phase I/II study in herpes zoster patients. The long-term safety and efficacy of the R903/78 drug candidate could be evaluated in virally suppressed HBeAg-negative chronic hepatitis B (CHB) patients. Those CHB patients who could not achieve a functional cure during R903/78 monotherapy should be treated by sequential ultra-low dose ipilimumab plus nivolumab therapy (see in[7]).] These experiments have not been done, and the proposed experiments are not fleshed out enough to publish.

Please provide an original reference that states the NIH-ACTIV partnership conclusions about IBDV.