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## Dr Arvind Varsani

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### **EDUCATION**

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- 1998 - 2003 University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa**  
Degree course: **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology**  
Thesis title: **Development of candidate *Human papillomavirus* vaccines**  
I investigated deleted and mutated gene products of the HPV-16 major capsid protein gene towards expressing candidate HPV vaccines in plants, with the final aim being the design and analysis of novel chimaeric HPV vaccines.
- 1993 - 1997 Loughborough University, Loughborough, England**  
Degree Course: **Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry (BSc, DIS)**

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### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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#### **07/16 – current Arizona State University, Tempe, USA**

Professor (05/23 – current; 07/16 – 05/23 Associate professor) in the Biodesign Center of Fundamental and Applied Microbiomics and the School of Life Sciences. I hold adjunct positions in the Biodesign Center for Molecular Evolution and the Center of Evolution and Medicine. I teach both undergraduate and postgraduate courses and run an active research group focused on virus evolution and virus discovery.

#### **02/09 – 07/16 University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand**

Senior lecturer above bar (Assoc. Prof equivalent in USA) in molecular biology / virology.  
I taught virology, general molecular and microbiology to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students and ran an active research program in DNA virus discovery and evolution.

#### **07/03 – 09/08 University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa**

Lecturer for the Masters program in Structural Biology at the University of Cape Town. Funded (5 years) by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, this was the first structural biology initiative in Africa. I lectured on basic molecular biology, protein expression and purification, virus structure, aspects of structural bioinformatics, molecular visualisation and cryo-electron microscopy. In addition to this I provided molecular biology support for most of the projects undertaken by the students as part of their MSc projects.

#### **1995 - 1996 Astra Charnwood (Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals), Loughborough, England**

I worked as a pre-formulation research scientist in the pharmaceutical sciences department. My work mainly involved taste masking of a research compound using various ion-exchange resins and alternative salt forms. All analysis was done using HPLC, UV spectrophotometry and IR spectrophotometry in compliance with company GLP and SOPs. In addition to this, I did a fair amount of thermal degradation work using TGA, DSC, and hot stage microscopy.

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### **ADJUNT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

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- 2022 – current: Affiliate faculty member**, Simon A. Levin Mathematical, Computational and Modeling Sciences Center, Arizona State University, USA
- 2022 – current: Core Faculty member**, Center of Evolution and Medicine, Arizona State University, USA
- 2017 – 2022: Affiliate faculty member**, Center of Evolution and Medicine, Arizona State University, USA
- 2009 – current: Honorary research associate**, Structural Biology Research Unit, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014 – 2017: Courtesy research professor**, Department of Plant Pathology and the Emerging Pathogens Institute, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA

**2016 – 2019: Adjunct Associate professor**, School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

## **AWARDS AND PRIZES (ACADEMIC)**

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**2023-2024: Zebulon Pearce Distinguished Teaching Award** in Natural Sciences, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Arizona State University, USA

**2023-2024: Outstanding Postdoctoral Mentor award**, Graduate college. Arizona State University, USA

**2008: Patent incentive award** from the South African Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

**2007: Patent incentive award** from the South African Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

## **RESEARCH**

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I work across ecosystems, from plants to animals, and from the tropics to the Antarctic with a strong focus on viral evolution and dynamics, and viral metagenomics. My research uses a combination of traditional virology, microscopy (including transmission electron microscopy), molecular and cellular biology techniques in conjunction with modern techniques including high throughput sequencing, synthetic biology and bioinformatics.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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**H-Index: 84; i10-index: 312**

1. Bandoo RA, Kraberger S, Ozturk C, Lund MC, Zhu Q, Cook C, Smith B, **Varsani A. 2025.** *Identification of diverse bacteriophages associated with bees and hoverflies.* *Viruses.* 17: 201.
2. De Koch MD, Krupovic M, Fielding R, Smith K, Schiavone K, Hall KR, Reid VS, Boyea D, Smith EL, Schmidlin K, Fontenele RS, Koonin EV, Martin DP, Kraberger S, **Varsani A. 2025.** *Novel lineage of anelloviruses with large genomes identified in dolphins.* *J Virol.* 99: e01370-24
3. De Koch M, Sweeney N, Taylor JE, Lucas F, Ratheesh NK, Lamb SK, Miller J, Kraberger S, **Varsani A. 2025.** *Diverse anelloviruses identified in leporids from Arizona (USA).* *Viruses.* 17: 280
4. Łukaszuk E, Dziewulska D, Prątnicka A, Custer JM, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**, Stenzel T. **2025.** *Characterization, phylogeny and prevalence of the coding-complete genomes of aviadenoviruses and siadenovirus in young racing pigeons.* *Virology.* 603: 110400
5. Łukaszuk E, Dziewulska D, Khalifeh A, Custer JM, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**, Stenzel T. **2025.** *Known and novel parvoviruses identified in domestic pigeons.* *BMC Vet Res.* 21:47
6. McGraw KJ, Hammond R, Kraberger S, **Varsani A. 2025.** *Variation in Plumage Coloration of Rosy-Faced Lovebirds (Agapornis roseicollis): Links to Sex, Age, Nutritional Condition, Viral Infection, and Habitat Urbanization.* *J Exp Zool A Ecol Integr Physiol.* 343:48–58
7. Olivo DA, Kraberger S, Chiu EC, Custer JM, Jackson D, Regney M, Lund MC, Bandoo RA, Aguiar de Souza Penha V, Drake D, McGraw KJ, **Varsani A. 2025.** *Avian circoviruses and hepadnaviruses identified in tissue samples of various waterfowl.* *Virology.* 603: 110381
8. **Varsani A.**, Hopkins A, Lund MC, Krupovic M. **2025.** *2024 taxonomic update for the families Naryaviridae, Nenyaviridae and Vilyaviridae.* *Arch Virol.* 170:18
9. Bandoo, RA, Kraberger S, **Varsani A. 2024.** *Two novel geminiviruses identified in bees (Apis mellifera and Nomia sp.).* *Viruses.* 16: 602
10. Ben Chehida S, Devi Bunwaree H, Hoareau M, Moubset O, Julian C, Blondin L, Filloux D, Lavergne C, Roumagnac P, **Varsani A**, Martin DP, Lett J-M, Lefeuve P. **2024.** *Increase of niche filling with increase of host richness for plant infecting mastreviruses.* *Virus Evol.* 10: veae107
11. Bermudez-Rivera B, Hampton B, Wheeler C, Vargas J, Swaminathan S, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M, Faleye TOC. **2024.** *Nine Rhizobium phage genomes recovered from wastewater in Tempe, AZ, October 2019–March 2020.* *Microbiol Resour Announc* 13: e00680-24.
12. Faleye TOC, Driver EM, Wright JM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. **2024.** *Direct detection of canine picornavirus complete coding sequence in wastewater using long-range reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction and long-read sequencing.* *Infect Genet Evol.* 118: 105550
13. Faleye TOC, Skidmore P, Elyaderani A, Adhikari S, Kaiser N, Smith A, Yanez A, Perleberg T, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. **2024.** *Exploring canine picornavirus diversity in the USA using wastewater surveillance: From high-throughput genomic sequencing to immuno-informatics and capsid structure modeling.* *Viruses.* 16:1188

14. Faleye TOC, Skidmore P, Elyaderani A, Adhikari S, Kaiser N, Smith A, Yanez A, Perleberg T, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. **2024**. *Adenovirus 41 diversity in Arizona (USA) using wastewater-based epidemiology, long-range PCR, and pathogen sequencing between October 2019 and March 2020*. *Epidemiology and Infection*. 152:e142
15. Hess SC, Weiss KCB, Custer JM, Lewis JS, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Identification of small circular DNA viruses in coyote fecal samples from Arizona*. *Arch Virol*. 169:12
16. Khalifeh A, Sahnan S, Kale S, Olivo D, Lund MC, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Genomes of cressdnaviruses, microviruses, a gyrovirus, and a caudovirus identified in the fecal samples of a mallard and double-crested cormorant*. *Microbiol Resour Announc*. 13:e00332-24
17. Kraberger S, Serieys LEK, Leighton GRM, De Koch MD, Munday JS, Bishop JM, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Two lineages of papillomaviruses identified from caracals (*Caracal caracal*) in South Africa*. *Viruses* 16: 701
18. Lisovski S, Günther A, Dewar M, Ainley D, Aldunate F, Arce R, Ballard G, Bauer S, Belliure J, Banyard AC, Boulinier T, Bennison A, Braun C, Cary C, Catry P, Clessin A, Connan M, Correia E, Cox A, Cristina J, Elrod M, Emerit J, Ferreira I, Fowler Z, Gamble A, Granadeiro JP, Hurtado J, Jongsomjit D, Lesage C, Lejeune M, Kuepfer A, Lescroël A, Li A, McDonald IR, Menéndez-Blázquez J, Morandini V, Moratorio G, Militão T, Moreno P, Perbolianachis P, Pennycook J, Raslan M, Reid SM, Richards-Babbage R, Schmidt AE, Sander MM, Smyth L, Soutullo A, Stanworth A, Streith L, Tornos J, **Varsani A**, Herzsuh U, Beer M, Wille M. **2024**. *Unexpected Delayed Incursion of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 (Clade 2.3.4.4b) Into the Antarctic Region*. *Influenza Other Respir Viruses*. 18:e70010.
19. Łukaszuk E, Dziejulska D, Custer JM, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**, Stenzel T. **2024**. *Occurrence of astrovirus in young racing pigeons and genome characterization of two new astrovirus genomes representing two new species*. *Poultry Science*. 103: 104028
20. Lund MC, Hopkins A, Dayaram A, Galatowitsch ML, Stainton D, Harding JS, Lefeuvre P, Zhu Q, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Diverse microviruses circulating in invertebrates within a lake ecosystem*. *J Gen Virol*. 105:002049
21. Millerwise S, Lund MC, Schimidlin K, Kraberger S, Pinter-Wollman N, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Coding complete genomes of an iridovirus and two parvoviruses identified in lab-reared social spiders (*Stegodyphus dumicola*)*. *Microbiol Resour Announc*. 13:e0073924
22. Morandini V, Dugger K, Schmidt A, **Varsani A**, Lescroël A, Ballard G, Lyver P, Barton K, Ainley D. **2024**. *Sex-specific recruitment rates contribute to male-biased sex ratio in Adélie penguins*. *Ecology and Evolution*. 14:e10859
23. Moubset O, Filloux D, Fontes H, Julian C, Fernandez E, Galzi S, Blondin L, Ben Chehida S, Lett J-M, Mesleard M, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Salywon A, Makings E, Marais A, Chiroleu F, Lefeuvre P, Martin DP, Candresse T, **Varsani A**, Ravigné A, Roumagnac P. **2024**. *Virome release of an invasive exotic plant species in southern France*. *Virus Evol*. 10, veae025
24. Olivo D, Khalifeh A, Custer JM, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Diverse small circular DNA viruses identified in an American wigeon fecal sample*. *Microorganisms*. 12: 196
25. Olivo D, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *New duck papillomavirus type identified in a mallard from Missouri, USA*. *Arch Virol*. 167: 77
26. Oyeniran KA, Martin DP, Lett J-M, Rasoafalimanana Rakotomalala M, Azali HA, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Movement of the A-strain maize streak virus in and out of Madagascar*. *Virology*. 600: 110222
27. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Regney M, Custer JM, Ehmke E, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Interspecies papillomavirus type infection and a novel papillomavirus type in red-ruffed lemurs (*Varecia rubra*)*. *Viruses*. 16:37
28. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Lund MC, Vargas KL, Custer JM, Ehmke E, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Diverse circular DNA viral communities in blood, oral, and fecal samples of captive lemurs*. *Viruses* 16: 1099
29. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Vargas KL, Ehmke E, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Metagenome-assembled microvirus and cressdnavirus genomes from fecal samples of house mice (*Mus musculus*)*. *Microbiol Resour Announc*. 13: 00331-24
30. Regney M, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Crane AE, Shero MR, Beltran RS, Kirkham AL, Van Doorslaer K, Stone AC, Goebel ME, Burns JM, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Diverse papillomavirus identified from Antarctic fur seals, leopard seals and Weddell seals from the Antarctic*. *Virology*. 594: 110064
31. Sahnan S, Olivo D, Custer JM, Badoo RA, Jackson D, Lund MC, McGraw H, Regney M, Aguiar de Souza Penha V, Neil J, Drake D, McGraw K, **Varsani A**, Kraberger S. **2024**. *Genome analysis of gyroviruses identified in waterfowl from Arizona (USA)*. *Arch. Virol*. 169: 120
32. Simmonds P, Adriaenssens EM, Lefkowitz EJ, Oksanen HM, Siddell SG, Zerbini FM, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Aylward FO, Dempsey DM, Dutilh BE, Freitas-Astúa J, García ML, Hendrickson RC, Hughes HR, Junglen S, Krupovic M, Kuhn JH, Lambert AJ, Łobocka M, Mushegian AR, Penzes J, Muñoz AR, Robertson DL, Roux S, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Smith DB, Suzuki N, Turner D, Van Doorslaer K, Vandamme AM, **Varsani A**. **2024**. *Changes to*

*virus taxonomy and the ICTV Statutes ratified by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (2024)*. Arch Virol. 169:236

33. Stenzel T, Dziewulska D, Łukaszuk E, Custer JM, De Koch MD, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. 2024. *The pigeon circovirus evolution, epidemiology and interaction with the host immune system under One Loft Race rearing conditions*. Scientific Reports. 14: 13815
34. Santos YS, Vidal AH, Abreu EFM, Nogueira I, Faleiro FG, Lacorte CC, Melo FL, de Araújo Campos M, de Rezende RR, Morgan T, **Varsani A**, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Ribeiro SG. 2024. *Detection and molecular characterization of a novel mitovirus associated with Passiflora edulis Sims*. Arch Virol. 169:190
35. **Varsani A**, Harrach B, Roumagnac P, Benkő M, Breitbart M, Delwart E, Franzo G, Kazlauskas D, Rosario K, Segalé J, Dunay E, Rukundo J, Goldberg TL, Fehér E, Kaszab E, Bányai K, Krupovic M. 2024. *2024 taxonomy update for the family Circoviridae*. Arch Virol 169: 176
36. **Varsani A**, Krupovic M. 2024. *2024 Smacoviridae family update: 59 new species in seven genera*. Arch Virol. 169: 184
37. Abrantes J, **Varsani A**, Pereira P, Moura T, Veríssimo A, Neves F. 2023. *Identification and characterization of a polyomavirus in the Thornback skate (Raja clavata)*. Virol J. 20: 190
38. Adriaenssens EM, Roux S, Brister JR, Karsch-Mizrachi I, Kuhn JH, **Varsani A**, Yigang T, Reyes A, Lood C, Lefkowitz E, Sullivan MB, Edwards RA, Simmonds P, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Krupovic M, Dutilh BE. 2023. *Classification of uncultivated viruses: Updated standards and guidelines for the submission of uncultivated virus genome sequences to the International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration (INSDC)*. Nature Biotech. 41: 898-902
39. Bowes DA, Driver EM, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Holland LA, Wright J, Johnston B, Savic S, Engstrom Newell M, Adhikari S, Kumar R, Goetz H, Binsfeld A, Nessi K, Watkins P, Mahant A, Zevitz J, Deitrick S, Brown P, Dalton R, Garcia C, Inchausti R, Holmes W, Tian X-J, **Varsani A**, Lim ES, Scotch M, Halden RU. 2023. *Leveraging an established neighbourhood-level, open access wastewater monitoring network to address public health priorities: a population-based study*. Lancet Microbe. 4: e29-37
40. Bowes DA, Henke KB, Driver EM, Newell ME, Block I, Shaffer G, **Varsani A**, Scotch M, Halden R. 2023. *Enhanced detection of mpox virus in wastewater using a pre-amplification approach: A pilot study informing population-level monitoring of low-titer pathogens*. Sci Total Environ. 903: 166230
41. Butkovic A, Kraberger S, Smeele Z, Martin DP, Schmidlin K, Fontenele RS, Shero MR, Beltran RS, Kirkham AL, Aleamotu'a M, Burns JM, Koonin EV, **Varsani A**, Krupovic M. 2023. *Evolution of anelloviruses from a circovirus-like ancestor through gradual augmentation of the jelly-roll capsid protein*. Virus Evol. 9: vead035
42. Chapman AR, Wright JA, Kaiser NA, Jones PM, Driver EM, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M, Faleyeh TOC. 2023. *Rhizobium Phage-Like Microvirus Genome Sequence Identified in Wastewater in Arizona, USA, in November 2020 Encodes an Endolysin and a Putative Multiheme Cytochrome c-like Protein*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: e000692
43. Cerna GM, Serieys LEK, Riley SPD, Richet C, Kraberger S, **Varsani A**. 2023. *Circovirus and cycloviruses identified in feces of bobcats (Lynx rufus) in California*. Arch Virol. 168: 23
44. Claverie S, Hoareau M, Chéhida SB, Filloux D, **Varsani A**, Roumagnac P, Martin DP, Lett J-M, Lefevre P. 2023. *Metagenomics reveals the structure of Mastrevirus-host interaction network within an agro-ecosystem*. Virus Evol. 8: vead043
45. Collins PP, Broad RC, Yogeewaran, K, **Varsani A**, Poole AM, Collings C. 2023. *Characterisation of the Nuclear Pore-Anchoring Proteins GP210 and NDC1 in Arabidopsis thaliana*. Plant Science 332: 111719
46. Dewar M, Wille M, Gamble A, Vanstreels RET, Bouliner T, Smith A, **Varsani A**, Ratcliffe N, Black J, Lynnes A, Barbosa A, Hart T. 2023. *The risk of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the Southern Ocean: a practical guide for operators and scientists interacting with wildlife*. Antarctic Science. 2023: 35(6),407–414
47. Esmaili M, Heydarnejad J, Hasanvand V, Massumi H, Kvarnheden A, **Varsani A**. 2023. *Genome characterization of Iranian sophora yellow stunt virus isolates and construction of infectious clones*. Plant Path. 72:1283–1292
48. Faley TOC, Driver EM, Bowes DA, Smith A, Kaiser NA, Wright JM, Chapman AR, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. 2023. *Canine Parvovirus 2C identified in dog feces from poop bags collected from outdoor waste bins in Arizona USA, June 2022*. Transboundary and Emerging Diseases. 2023: 5596886
49. Faley TOC, Elyaderani A, Skidmore P, Adhikari S, Smith A, Kaiser N, Sandrolini H, Finnerty S, Halden RU, **Varsani A**, Scotch M. 2023. *Surveillance of rhinovirus diversity among a university community identifies multiple types from all three species including an unassigned rhinovirus A genotype*. Influenza Other Respir Viruses. 17: e13057
50. Fontenele RS, Yang Y, Driver EM, Magge A, Kraberger S; Custer JM, Dufault-Thompson K, Cox E, Newell ME, **Varsani A**, Halden RU, Scotch, M Jiang X. 2023. *Wastewater surveillance uncovers regional diversity and dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 variants across nine states in the USA*. Sci Tot. Envi. 877: 162862
51. Fritz M, Reggiardo B, Filloux D, Claude L, Fernandez E, Mahé F, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Becquart P, Mebaley TN, Kombila LB, Lenguiya LH, Boundenga L, Mombo IM, Maganga GD, Niama FR, Koumba J-S, Ogliastro M, Yvon M,

- Martin DP, Blanc S, **Varsani A**, Leroy E, Roumagnac P. **2023**. *African army ants at the forefront of virome surveillance in a remote tropical forest*. Peer Community Journal. 2: e24
52. Happel A-U, Balle C, Havyarimana E, Brown B, Maust BS, Feng C, Yi BH, Gill K, Bekker L-G, Passmore J-AS, Jaspan HB, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Cervicovaginal human papillomavirus genomes, microbiota composition and cytokine concentrations in South African adolescents*. Viruses. 15: 758
  53. Harding C, Larsen BB, Otto HW, Potticary AL, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Suazo C, Upham NS, Worobey M, Van Doorslaer K, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Diverse DNA virus genomes identified in fecal samples of Mexican free-tailed bats (Tadarida brasiliensis) captured in Chiricahua Mountains of southeast Arizona (USA)*. Virology. 580: 98-111
  54. Jimoha AO, Balle C, Brown B, Feng C, Havyarimana E, Konstantinus IN, Gill K, Bekker L-G, Passmore JS, **Varsani A**, Jaspan HB, Happel A-U. **2023**. *Genome Sequences of Anelloviruses, Genomovirus, Microviruses, Polyomaviruses, and a Bacteriophage Identified in Vaginal Secretions of South African Adolescents*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: 01143-22
  55. Kraberger S, Serieys LEK, Riley SPD, Schmidlin K, Newkirk ES, Squires JR, Buck CB, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Novel polyomaviruses identified in fecal samples from four carnivore species*. Arch. Virol. 168: 18
  56. Lopez JKM, Austin C, Farkas K, Kraberger S, Davison W, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Diverse microvirus genomes identified in the stomach of a sharp-spined notothen (Trematomus pennellii) from the Ross Sea (East Antarctica)*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: e01233-22
  57. Lund MC, Larsen BB, Rowsey DM, Otto HW, Gryseels S, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Steger L, Yule KM, Harris RE, Worobey M, Van Doorslaer K, Upham NS, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Using archived and biocollection samples towards deciphering the DNA virus diversity associated with rodent species in the families Cricetidae and Heteromyidae*. Virology. 585:42-60
  58. Ndela EO, Roux S, Henke C, Sczyrba A, Ngando TS, **Varsani A**, Enault F. **2023**. *Reekeekее- and roodoodooviruses, two different Microviridae clades constituted by the smallest DNA phages*. Virus Evolution. 8: 1-7
  59. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Vargas KL, Van Doorslaer K, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Identification of diverse papillomaviruses in captive black-and-white ruffed lemurs (Varecia variegata)*. Arch. Virol. 168: 13
  60. Paietta EN, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Vargas KL, Espy C, Ehmke E, Yoder AD, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Characterization of diverse anelloviruses, cressdnaviruses, and bacteriophages in the human oral virome from North Carolina (USA)*. Viruses. 15: 1821
  61. Payne N, Combrink L, Kraberger S, Fontenele RS, Schmidlin K, Cassaigne I, Culver M, **Varsani A**, Van Doorslaer K. **2023**. *DNA virome composition of two sympatric wild felids, bobcat (Lynx rufus) and puma (Puma concolor) in Sonora, Mexico*. Front. Ecol. Evol. 11: 1126149
  62. Salari K, Heydarnejad J, Massumi H, Hasanvand V, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Incidence of cotton leaf curl Gezira virus and the associated alphasatellites and betasatellites in crops and ornamental plants in southern Iran*. Tropical Plant Pathology. 48: 62-72
  63. Shick SRA, Elrod ML, Schmidt A, Kraberger S, Ainley DG, Ballard G, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Genomes of single stranded DNA viruses in a fecal sample of south polar skua (Stercorarius maccormicki) on Ross Island, Antarctica*. Microbiol Res Announc. 12: e0029923
  64. Siddell SG, Smith DB, Adriaenssens E, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Dutilh BE, Garcia ML, Junglen S, Krupovic M, Kuhn JH, Lambert AJ, Lefkowitz EJ, Łobocka M, Mushegian AR, Oksanen HM, Robertson DL, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Simmonds P, Suzuki N, Van Doorslaer K, Vandamme A-M, **Varsani A**, Zerbini FM. **2023**. *Virus taxonomy and the role of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV)*. J Gen Vir. 104: 001840
  65. Simmonds P, Adriaenssens E, Zerbini EF, Abrescia NGA, Aiewsakun P, Alfenas-Zerbini P, Bao Y, Barylski Y, Drosten C, Duffy S, Duprex P, Dutilh BE, Elena S, Garcia ML, Junglen S, Katzourakis A, Koonin EV, Krupovic M, Kuhn JH, Lambert AJ, Lefkowitz EJ, Łobocka M, Lood C, Mahony J, Meier-Kolthoff J, Mushegian AR, Oksanen HM, Poranen M, Muñoz AR, Robertson DL, Roux S, Rubino L, Sabanadzovic S, Siddell S, Skern T, Smith DB, Sullivan MB, Suzuki N, Turner D, Van Doorslaer K, Vandamme A-M, **Varsani A**, Vasilakis N. **2023**. *Towards a universal virus taxonomy*. PloS Biol. 21: e3001922
  66. Vargas KL, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Paiett EN, Culver M, Munguia-Vega A, Dolby GA, **Varsani A**. **2023**. *Identification of novel polyomavirus in wild Sonoran Desert rodents of the family Heteromyidae*. Arch Virol. 168: 253
  67. **Varsani A**, Kraberger S, Opriessnig T, Maggi F, Celer V, Okamoto H, Biagini P. **2023**. *Anelloviridae taxonomy update 2023*. Arch Virol. 168:277
  68. Vidal AH, Lacorte C, Sanches MM, Alves-Freitas DMT, Abreu EFM, Pinheiro-Lima B, Carriello Rosa RC, Jesus ON, Campos MA, Felix GP, Abreu ACR, de Santos YSS, Lacerda ALM, **Varsani A**, Melo FL, Ribeiro SG. **2023**. *Characterization of cucurbit aphid-borne yellows virus (CABYV) from passion fruit in Brazil: Evidence of a complex of species within CABYV isolates*. Viruses. 15: e410
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1. Ben Chehida S, Lacroix S, Hoareau M, Fénélon B, **Varsani A**, Martin DP, Teycheney P-Y, Lefeuvre P, Lett J-M. **In press**. *To be or not to be a virus: A novel chimeric circular Rep-encoding single stranded DNA virus with interfamilial gene exchange illustrates the considerable evolutionary capacity of ssDNA viruses*. PLoS One
2. **Varsani A**, Custer JM, Cobb IN, Harding C, Collins CL, Suazo C, Schreck J, Fontenele DS, Dayaram A, Goldstien S, Kazlauskas D, Kraberger S, Krupovic M. **In press**. *Bacilladnaviridae: refined taxonomy and new insights into the biology and evolution of diatom infecting DNA viruses*. J Gen Virol.

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#### **PhD**

Jada Onwuta, **PhD in Environmental Life Sciences** (2024 – current) – Primary advisor  
***Diversity and evolution of viruses associated with felids in California (USA)***

Ayla Žuštra, **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2024 – current) – Primary advisor  
***Viral dynamics in carnivores in Arizona (USA)***

Michael Lund, **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2024 – current) – Primary advisor  
***Virus diversity in fresh water systems***

Melanie Regney, **PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2022 – current) – Primary advisor  
***Viruses associated with Antarctic animals***

Diego Olivio, **PhD in Biology** (2021 - current) – Primary advisor  
***Exploring viral dynamics in Aves***

Rohan Antonio Bando, **PhD in Microbiology** (2021 – current) – Primary advisor  
***Towards understanding the ecology of honeybee viruses***

Rafaela Fontenele, **PhD in Microbiology** (2017- 2021) – Primary supervisor  
***Characterization of geminiviruses infecting Cactaceae plants: Spill-over events in agro-ecological interfaces and evolutionary aspects***

#### **MSc**

Savage Hess, **MSc in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2022 – 2023) – Primary advisor  
***Identification of novel circular DNA viruses from coyote (*Canis latrans*) scat***

Michael Lund, **MSc in Molecular and Cell Biology** (2021 – 2023) – Primary advisor  
***Metagenomic analysis of DNA virus diversity in the Rodent families Cricetidae and Heteromyidae***

Anthony Khalifeh, **MSc in Biology** (2020-2021) – Primary supervisor  
***Identification and dynamics of DNA viruses in Aves***

Kara Schmidlin, **MSc in Microbiology** (2018-2019) – Primary supervisor  
***Discovery of novel viruses in arachnids***

#### **Barrett Honors thesis**

Hannah McGraw (2023-2024)  
***Identifying novel smacoviruses in fecal samples of the Salt River horses***

Julia Neil (2023-2024)  
***A study of novel polyomaviruses and cycloviruses in Arizona scorpions***

Magalie Gomez (2023-2024)  
***A study of novel polyomaviruses and cycloviruses in Arizona scorpions***

Ciara Harding (2021-2022) – Primary advisor  
***Exploring viruses in Arizona bat species***

Courtney Collins (2021-2022) – Primary advisor  
***Understanding viral dynamic in caracals in South Africa***

Kendal Smith (2020-2021) – Primary supervisor  
***Circular DNA viruses identified in short-finned pilot whale and orca tissue samples***

Anthony Khalifeh (2019-2020) – Primary supervisor  
***Towards understanding ssDNA viral dynamics in *Marmota flaviventris* (yellow-bellied marmots)***

Joshua Schreck (2019-2020 – Primary supervisor

***Surveilling Arizona sewage sludge for analysis of Genomoviridae & Microviridae populations***

***University of Canterbury, New Zealand***

***PhD***

Daisy Stanton, **PhD in Microbiology** (2010-2015) – Primary supervisor

***Towards understanding the evolution of Banana bunchy top virus and the detection of associated badnaviruses***

Anisha Dayaram, **PhD in Microbiology** (2011-2015) – Primary supervisor

***Diversity of replication associated protein encoding viruses amongst top end insect predators and concentrators in ecosystems***

Simona Kraberger, **PhD in Microbiology** (2010-2015) - Primary supervisor

***Towards understanding mastrevirus dynamics and the use of viral metagenomic approaches to identify novel gemini-like circular DNA viruses***

Kata Farkas, **PhD in Microbiology** (2011-2014) - Primary supervisor

***Mimicking virus retention and transport in groundwater using surface charge-modified, DNA-labelled silica nanobeads***

***MSc***

Zoe Smeele, **MSc in Microbiology** (2017) – Primary supervisor

***Identification of papillomaviruses in Weddell seals***

Judith Nonis, **MSc in Microbiology** (2015) – Co-supervisor

***Bacteriophage as a biocontrol tool for foodborne pathogens***

Olivia Steel, **MSc in Microbiology** (2015) - Primary supervisor

***Exploring the diversity of CRESS DNA viruses associated with the faecal matter of wild and domestic animals in New Zealand***

Maketalena Male, **MSc in Microbiology** (2015) - Primary supervisor

***Identification of CRESS DNA viruses in faeces of Pacific flying foxes in the Tongan archipelago***

Alyssa Sikorski, **MSc in Microbiology** (2012 -2013) – Primary supervisor

***Molecular characterisation of novel single-stranded DNA viruses recovered from animal faeces***

Carina Davis, **MSc in Microbiology** (2012-2013) – Co-supervisor

***Metagenomic approaches to microbial source tracking***

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***PhD***

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***Structural studies on Heterocapsa circularisquama RNA virus***

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***Characterisation of the D surface of nitrile hydratase of Bacillus pumilus***

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***Preliminary investigation into the use of Human papillomavirus type 16 virus like particles as a delivery vector system for foreign proteins***

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***Health and disease in kakariki (*Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae*) on Tiritiri Matangi Island: Implications of Beak and feather disease virus infection for conservation management***

**PATENTS**

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**International patents:**

1. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2010) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 24614765, Japan.
2. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2009) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 2003232951, Australia.
3. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2009) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 1506222, Europe (EU).
4. **Varsani, A.D.** and Rybicki, E.P. (2008) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 7407807, US.
5. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2008) *Pharmaceutical Compositions, a Method of Preparing and Isolating Said Pharmaceutical Compositions for Prophylactic Treatment of Lesions and Carcinomas*. Patent No. 221817, India.
6. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2008) *Pharmaceutical Compositions, a Method of Preparing and Isolating Said Pharmaceutical Compositions for Prophylactic Treatment of Lesions and Carcinomas*. Patent No. 02821542.7, China.
7. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** (2006) *Chimaeric Human Papillomavirus 16 L1 Virus Like Particles and a Method for Preparing the Particles*. Patent No. 2004/10137, South Africa.
8. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2006) *Vectors and/or Constructs, and Transgenic Organisms*. Patent No. 02821507.9, China.
9. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2005) *Pharmaceutical Compositions, a Method of Preparing and Isolating Said Pharmaceutical Compositions for Prophylactic Treatment of Lesions and Carcinomas*. Patent No. 2004/2505, South Africa.
10. Rybicki E.P., **Varsani A.D.** and Williamson A-L. (2005) *Vectors and/or Constructs, and Transgenic Organisms*. Patent No. 2004/2504, South Africa.

**INTERNATIONAL REFEREEING AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES**

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- 1) Executive committee member of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” (2014 – current)
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- 3) Chair of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” *Circoviridae* study group (2011 – current)
- 4) Chair of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” *Anelloviridae* study group (2019 – 2023)
- 5) Chair of the “International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses” Animal DNA Viruses and Retroviruses Subcommittee (2020 – current)
- 6) Advisory board of the journal *Virology* (2015 – current)
- 7) Advisor for virus genomes as part of the NCBI RefSeq Virus group (2016 – current)
- 8) Associate editor for *Phytopathology* (2018- current)
- 9) Associate editor for *Virus Evolution* (2019 – current)
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- 11) Associate editor for *Proceedings of the Royal Society B journal* (2024-current)
- 12) Editorial board for *Microorganisms* (2018 – current)
- 13) Member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research Expert Group on Birds and Marine Mammals - Working group of Health Monitoring of Birds and Marine Mammals (2020- 2024)
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- Applied and Environmental Microbiology (ASM)
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- Avian Pathology (Taylor and Francis)
- Cell Host and Microbe (Cell Press)
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- Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (Elsevier)
- mSphere (ASM)
- Nature Microbiology Review (Springer-Nature)
- Nature Biotechnology (Springer-Nature)
- Nature Microbiology (Springer-Nature)
- Nature Protocols (Springer-Nature)
- Phytopathology (APS)
- Plant Pathology Journal (Wiley)
- PLoS One (PLoS Journals)
- PLoS Pathogens (PLoS Journals)
- Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS)
- Proceedings of the Royal Society B (Royal Society)
- Science Advances (AAAS)
- Scientific Reports (Springer-Nature)
- Transboundary and Emerging Diseases (Wiley)
- Transfusion (Wiley)
- Virology (Elsevier)
- Virology Journal (BioMed Central)
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