

<b>Title:</b>	Epstein–Barr virus, the germinal centre and the development of Hodgkin’s lymphoma
<b>Type:</b>	Review Article
<b>Source (ISSN):</b>	Journal of General Virology (0022-1317)
<b>Status:</b>	A paid open access option is available for this journal.
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<b>Volume (Issue):</b>	95(9): 1861-1869
<b>DOI:</b>	10.1099/vir.0.066712-0
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>The relationship between Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) and the germinal centre (GC) of the asymptomatic host remains an enigma. The occasional appearance of EBV-positive germinal centres in some patients, particularly those with a history of immunosuppression, suggests that EBV numbers in the GC are subject to immune control. The relationship, if any, between lymphoid hyperplasia with EBV-positive germinal centres and subsequent or concurrent lymphomagenesis remains to be clarified. As far as the development of EBV-associated Hodgkin's lymphoma is concerned, the suppression of virus replication, mediated by LMP1 on the one hand, and the loss of B-cell receptor signalling on the other, appears to be an important pathogenic mechanism. A further important emerging concept is that alterations in the microenvironment of the EBV-infected B-cell may be important for lymphomagenesis.</p>

<b>Keyword:</b>	CENTER B-CELLS; REED-STERNBERG CELLS; EBV-INFECTED-CELLS; IN-VIVO; LATENT MEMBRANE-PROTEIN-1; LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE DISORDERS; TERMINAL DIFFERENTIATION; BURKITT'S-LYMPHOMA; DISEASE; ACTIVATION
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