

New Studies Indicate SARS Can Be Airborne

Can the Virus causing Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) be spread through the air? Two new studies say the answer may be yes.

One of the studies was conducted in Hong Kong, the other in Toronto, Canada. The Hong Kong researchers said in their summary, "...our epidemiologic analysis, experimental studies and airflow simulations support the probability of an airborne spread of the SARS virus..."

The Toronto study reports findings that, "...provide the first experimental confirmation of viral aerosol generation by a patient with SARS, indicating the possibility of airborne droplet transmission..."

While neither study confirms an actual instance of airborne SARS transmission, they both bolster the concept that a SARS infected patient can aerosolize the corona virus. In an editorial commentary appearing in *The Journal of Infectious Disease*, Dr. Tommy Tong says the Toronto research "...has shown beyond doubt that the SARS-CoV aerosol generation can occur from a patient with SARS."

Continue to check this web site for the latest information on airborne nosocomial infections and their relevance to proper HVAC contamination control.

Click For More Information

[Dr. Tommy Tong's Editorial on Airborne Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus and Its Implications from the Journal of Infectious Diseases](#)

[The Toronto Study Detection of Airborne Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome \(SARS\) Coronavirus and Environmental Contamination in SARS Outbreak Units published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases](#)

[The Hong Kong Study Evidence of Airborne Transmission of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Virus published in the New England Journal of Medicine \(subscription required\)](#)

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