

# David Pintel

**University of Missouri researcher Dr. David Pintel is renowned for his insights into the life cycle of viruses.**

Pintel works to further scientists' understanding of the interaction between viruses and host cells. He specializes in the study of parvoviruses, the smallest of all DNA viruses that infect vertebrates. At their worst, parvoviruses can cause life-threatening illness; yet, some versions hold promise as a method of delivering new medical therapies at the genetic level.

Pintel has spent nearly 35 years studying parvo and is one of the world's foremost experts on the virus. In past years, through studies of infected animals including mice and dogs, he conducted research on how parvoviruses replicate. Currently he is studying virus-host interactions: how infected cells fight off attacks by this pathogen and how the virus, in turn, tries to overcome the cell's defenses. Insights into the details of this complex battle could reveal new methods to stop parvoviruses and other DNA viruses from replicating.

In recognition of his contributions to understanding the life cycle of parvoviruses, in 2015 Pintel was named a fellow of the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science and elected fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

Dr. David Pintel is a Curators Distinguished Professor and the Dr. R. Phillip and Diane Acuff Endowed Professor in Medical Research, Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the School of Medicine.

