

Propositions

1. The assumption that Usutu virus is less virulent in humans is dependent upon its prevalence in non-human hosts (this thesis).
2. Modelling viral neurovirulence in absence blood-borne immune cells is like modelling the impact of a hurricane without wind (this thesis).
3. Even an intact blood-brain barrier does not defend against viral neuroinvasion (this thesis).
4. Accepting the trojan horse theory of neuroinvasion is like accepting the theory of a spherical earth before the advent of space travel (this thesis).
5. The development of specific therapies is hindered by the lack of specific therapies (this thesis).
6. Vectors are the Achilles heel of arboviruses (Pereira Cabral et al., 2019).
7. Control of arboviral disease will be hampered by the erosion of public trust in science resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic (McPhedran et al., 2023).
8. There will never be a last fire (Williamson, 2022).
9. Biology is transforming from a scientific discipline into a field of engineering (Huang, 2024).
10. Deep in the human unconscious is a pervasive need for a logical universe. But the universe is always one step beyond logic (Frank Herbert, Dune, 1965).
11. Do not mistake the stars reflected on the surface of a lake at night for the heavens (Andrzej Sapkowski, Blood of Elves, 1994).