



# Melena Passing in Langya Henipavirus and Severity of Infection: A Concern

Pathum Sookaromdee<sup>1</sup> Viroj Wiwanitkit<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand

<sup>2</sup>Department of Community Medicine, Dr DY Patil Vidhyapeeth, Pune, Maharashtra, India

<sup>3</sup>Department of Community Medicine, Hainan Medical University, Haikou People's Republic of China

Address for correspondence Pathum Sookaromdee, PhD, Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand (e-mail: pathumsook@gmail.com).

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Dear Editor, one of the most intriguing issues is usually the most recent viral infectious disease. There have been ongoing issues in recent years as a result of new viral infections. The *Langya Henipavirus* is a newly discovered viral infection that first appeared in 2022.<sup>1,2</sup> Many patients are from various Chinese cities where this new virus was discovered. Although the exact mode of transmission is unknown, zoonosis is expected.

Data on the clinical manifestations of a new infection are scarce in clinical medicine. The platelet counts of some patients may be low, and hemorrhagic presentation is an intriguing problem.<sup>1,2</sup> Melena passing is a common bleeding symptom seen in a wide range of medical conditions. The authors reevaluate the current information on how melena passing manifests in reported Langya Henipavirus cases. Using data from 26 currently available cases,<sup>1,2</sup> the expected range (95% confidence interval [CI]) of melena passing rate in severe (hospitalized) and nonsevere cases is calculated and compared. (→ **Table 1**). Melena passing is observed in 3.8% of cases (95%CI = 0.2–19.0%). Melena passing is more likely in the severe group (proportional z-test,  $p = 0.001$ ).

**Table 1** The expected range (95% confidence interval) of melena passing rate in the severe (hospitalized) and nonsevere cases

| Severity                            | Gingival bleeding (%) |                |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|                                     | rate                  | expected range |
| Hospitalized cases ( $n = 14$ )     | 7.1                   | 0.4–35.2       |
| Non hospitalized cases ( $n = 12$ ) | 0                     | 0              |

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Melena passing can be caused by a variety of colonoproctological problems. Melena passing in viral infections can occur as a result of a variety of immune or nonimmune mechanisms. The new Langya Henipavirus infection is expected to cause melena passing, which is consistent with the thrombocytopenia caused by the disease. According to the most recent research, melena passing could indicate a serious illness. More research is needed to confirm this observation. Consider the possibility that the patient has been infected with the *Langya Henipavirus*. Melena passing may be the first sign of an infection.

## Consent

The patient gave consent for the presentation of the case for academic purposes.

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## Conflict of Interests

The authors have no conflict of interests to declare.

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