

A SINGLE MUTATION IS ENOUGH

The title of this article, published in *Science* (1), speaks for itself:

“A single mutation in bovine influenza H5N1 hemagglutinin switches specificity to human receptors.”

This is not the norm—usually, three or more mutations are required for such a shift. However, this example sheds new light on how easily viruses can adapt for transmission to humans.

1. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adt0180>