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## Article

# Virome of Mosquitoes from Natural Landscapes of the Western Siberia

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**Abstract:** Metagenomic analysis of mosquitoes allows the genetic characterization of mosquito-associated viruses in different regions of the world. This study applied the metagenomic approach to search for novel viral sequences in seven species of mosquitoes collected from the Novosibirsk region of Western Siberia. Using NGS sequencing, we identified 15 coding-complete viral polyproteins (genomes) and 15 viral-like partial sequences in mosquitoes. The complete sequences for novel viruses or partial sequences of capsid proteins, hypothetical viral proteins, and RdRp were used to identify their taxonomy. The novel viral sequences were classified within the orders *Tymovirales* and *Picornavirales*, the families *Partitiviridae*, *Totiviridae*, *Tombusviridae*, *Iflaviridae*, *Nodaviridae*, *Permutotetraviridae*, *Solemoviridae*, with several attributed to four unclassified RNA-viruses. The main part of the novel putative viruses and viral sequences was associated with *Coquillettidia richardii* mosquito. This study is intended to increase our understanding of viral diversity in mosquitoes found in the natural habitats of Siberia, characterized by very long, snowy, and cold winters.

**Keywords:** metagenomics; virome; viruses; mosquito; Novosibirsk region; Western Siberia

## 1. Introduction

Mosquitoes are well known to transmit numerous arboviruses causing viral infections in animals and humans, such as West Nile virus (WNV), Zika, Japanese encephalitis, Chikungunya, and dengue viruses [1–4]. In recent years, the development of metagenomic approaches has led to the discovery of many novel viruses in invertebrates [5–10]. Studying the viromes of different species of mosquitoes has revealed new viruses referred to as Insect-Specific Viruses (ISVs). The viral interference within the ISV group and pathogenic viruses may dramatically change the viral biodiversity in mosquitoes and thereby predetermine the transmission of pathogenic viruses by mosquitoes to animals and humans [11–16]. These are viruses belonging to *Peribunyaviridae*, *Flaviviridae*, *Reoviridae*, and *Togaviridae* families, with all of them being a potential source of viral biodiversity for viruses with dual tropism for invertebrate and vertebrate hosts [7,17,18].

Comparing mosquito viromes from different geographical regions revealed their biodiversity, providing new insights into the phylogeography of mosquito-borne viruses [5,6,19,20]. Generally, such studies are conducted in countries characterized by warm or tropical climates, such as China, Australia, Mozambique, and the USA, where mosquito-borne viral infections are not uncommon. Sindbis, Inco, and West Nile viruses are usually detected and isolated from mosquitoes in the



southern regions of Russia [21,22]. No systemic information is available for Western Siberia, where it is also possible for mosquito-borne viruses to circulate. This region has a continental climate with long winters and short summers that may limit the biodiversity of mosquito species and mosquito-associated viruses. Only several studies have reported the detection of WNV markers in birds and human cases of West Nile fever in Western Siberia [22,23].

In this study, we sought to investigate the biodiversity of mosquito-borne viruses from different mosquito species collected in Western Siberia using metagenomic approaches.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Mosquito samples

For the study, 3,910 mosquitoes were collected in the Novosibirsk region during the spring-summer period of 2017–2018. The collection sites were selected in typical mosquito habitats in Western Siberia (Figure 1): deciduous and mixed forests with well-developed grassy cover, deforestations with a natural resumption of hardwoods, and stream banks. The mosquitoes were collected using a light trap [<https://survinat.ru/2011/09/metodika-sborov-xraneniya-i-izucheniya-komarov/>]. The capture was conducted after sunset. The mosquitoes were transported in a thermal bag, on a damp napkin, at a temperature of 4°C and stored at minus 18–24°C. The fragments of the 16S rRNA and COI gene of the mitogenome were sequenced to determine the mosquito species [11]. The pools of 10–40 mosquitoes were formed using the data on mosquito species and the time of collection.



**Figure 1.** The place where mosquitoes were collected for the study, with the upper picture showing the world and the lower showing the Novosibirsk region.

## 2.2. Sample preparation

All the mosquitoes were washed in 70% ethanol and then twice in water, followed by homogenization to remove potential surface microorganisms. The homogenization of the samples was performed mechanically by grinding in a mortar with 300  $\mu$ l of sterile saline. The homogenates were centrifuged at 8,000 g for 5 minutes at 4°C, and the supernatants were used for the analysis. The total RNA was extracted using Extract RNA reagent (Eurogen, Russia) according to the manufacturer's protocol and purified on Cleanup Mini spin columns (Eurogen, Russia). The pools were then processed by benzonaze [24]. The first chain of cDNA was synthesized using the NEBNext Ultra Direction module. The second cDNA chain was synthesized using the UMI Second Strand Synthesis module (Illumina, Lexogen).

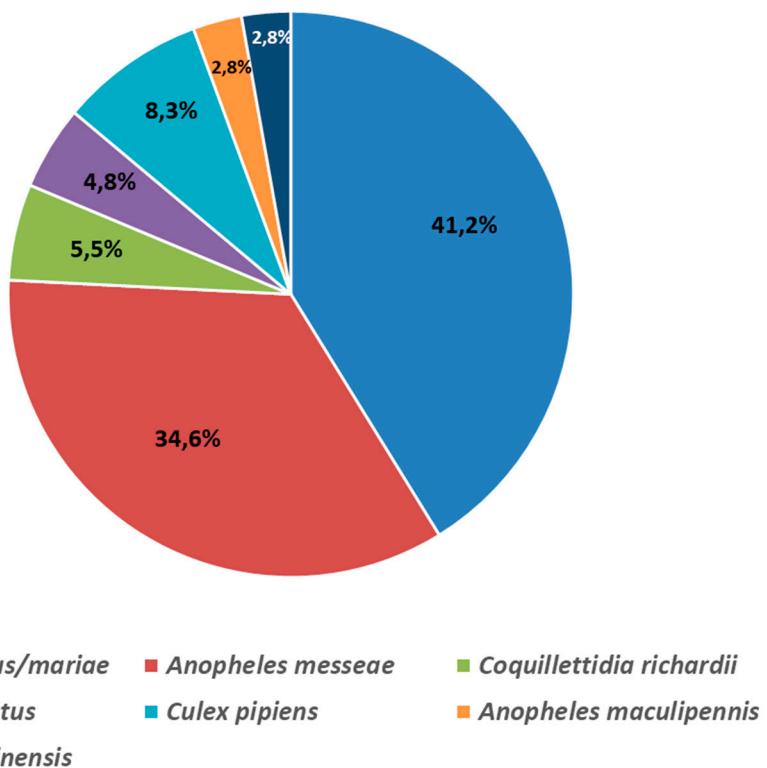
## 2.3. NGS sequencing and phylogenetic analysis

The dsDNA libraries were prepared and analyzed by NGS on MiSeq using the Illumina technology. Cutadapt (version 1.18) and SAMtools (version 0.1.18) were used to remove Illumina adapters and re-read. The contigs were assembled *de novo* using the MIRA assembly (version 4.9.6). The experimentally determined sequences were deposited in GenBank. The phylogenetic analysis was performed using RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) sequences from GenBank with amino acid identity > 20%. The sequences were aligned, and phylogenetic trees were built in Vector NTI Advance 11, MEGA 7/10 (PSU, USA), and Lasergen 7 (Invitrogen). The resulting viral sequences and sequence read archive (SRA) were deposited in GenBank. The phylogenetic trees were calculated by the maximum likelihood method using 500 replicates for bootstraps values.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Mosquito species

A total of 3,910 mosquitoes were collected in the Novosibirsk suburbs and Novosibirsk region rural district in 2017–2018. The pools of 10–40 mosquitoes were formed to identify the mosquito species for every collection point. The fragments of the 16S rRNA and COI gene of the mitogenome were sequenced to determine the species of mosquitoes (Figure 2). *Aedes caspius* (Pallas, 1771) and *Ae. mariae* (Sergent and Sergent, 1903) were found to be the most abundant species, making up to 41.2% of the total. *Anopheles messeae* (Falleroni, 1926) accounted for 34.6%, *Culex pipiens* (Linnaeus, 1758) for 8.3%, *Coquillettidia richardii* (Ficalbi, 1889) for 5.5%, *C. modestus* (Ficalbi, 1889) for 4.8%, *An. maculipennis* (Meigen, 1818), and *An. sinensis* (Wiedemann, 1828) for 2.8%.



**Figure 2.** Histogram of mosquito species collected in the south of Western Siberia (Novosibirsk region).

### 3.2. NGS sequencing

One hundred forty-four putative viral sequences were selected in the first step, and of these, 30 sequences with lengths greater than 1239 bp were chosen. Eight sequences with a level of identity > 80% aa) have been previously described as mosquito-borne viruses (Table 1). These are Partitivirus-like 1 (dsRNA, *Partitiviridae*), Hammarskog tombus-like virus (ssRNA (+), *Tombusviridae*), Hammarskog picorna-like virus (ssRNA (+), *Picornavirales*, unclassified), Lymantria dispar iflavirus 1 (ssRNA (+) viruses, *Iflaviruses*), Wenzhou noda-like virus 6 (ssRNA (+) viruses, unclassified), Mayapan virus (ssRNA (+), 2 segments, Sanxia permutotetra-like virus 1 (ssRNA (+) viruses, unclassified), Chaq virus-like 1 (RNA viruses, unclassified). Other 22 viral sequences are presented as putative mosquito-borne sequences, with a level of identity less than 79% for viral prototype sequences.

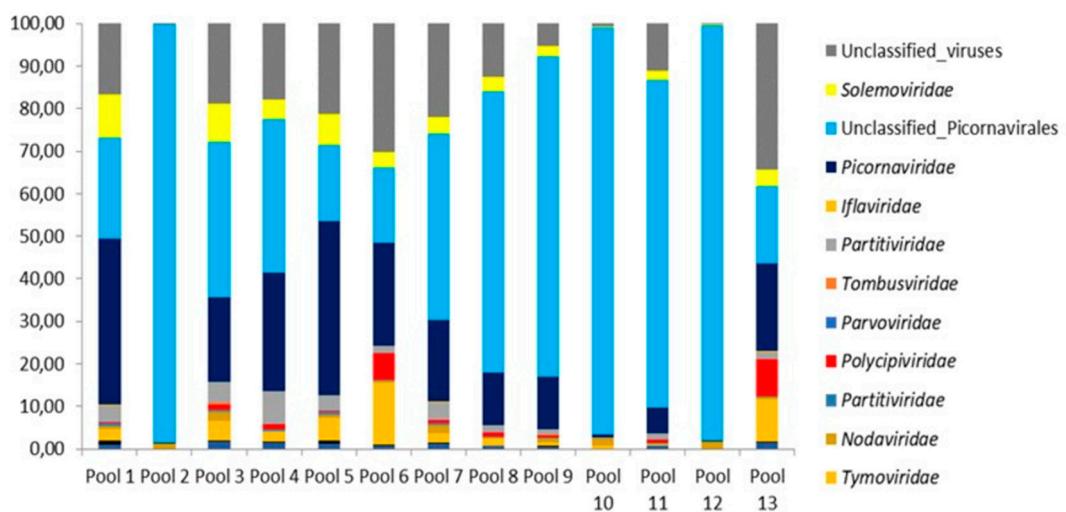
The proportions for classified and unclassified viral reads are presented for 13 mosquito pools (Figure 3). The prevalence of unclassified and classified picornaviruses was detected practically in all studied pools. Unclassified viral sequences were also analyzed, ranging from 0.13 to 34.27% for the different pools.

**Table 1.** List of putative and novel mosquito-associated viruses detected in Western Siberia.

	Name of viruses	Viral prototype (identity, %)	Accession number, GenBank	Genome (fragment) size (bp)	Coverage by NGS, times
<i>Tymovirales</i> (positive ssRNA)					
1.	Inya insect-associated virus 1	Insect-associated tymovirus 1 / Andean potato mild mosaic virus (near 60%)	MW251314	6568 (polyprotein)	155
2.	Inya insect-associated virus 2	Insect-associated tymovirus 1 / Andean potato mild mosaic virus (near 60%)	MW251315	6566 (polyprotein)	105
<i>Partitiviridae</i> (dsRNA)					
3.	Partitivirus-like 1	Partitivirus-like 1 (89%)	MW251327	1749 (RdRp)	40
4.	Krahall insect-associated virus 1/01	Atrato Partiti-like virus 2 (63%)	MW389552	1490 (capsid)	179
	Krahall insect-associated virus 1/02	Atrato Partiti-like virus 2 (61%)	MW389553	1512 (capsid)	71
	Krahall insect-associated virus 1/03	Atrato Partiti-like virus 2 (61%)	MW389554	1488 (capsid)	35
5.	Krahall insect-associated virus 2	Atrato Partiti-like virus 2 (60%)	MW389555	1531 (capsid)	79
6.	Talaya insect virus 2/01	Partitivirus-like 1 (68%)	MW251328	1426 (RdRp)	51
	Talaya insect virus 2/02	Partitivirus-like 1 (71%)	MW251329	1489 (RdRp)	30
	Talaya insect virus 2/03	Partitivirus-like 1 (68%)	MW251330	1426 (RdRp)	20
7.	TarBrook virus	Sonnbo virus (79%)	MW251325	1742 (hypot. protein)	75
8.	Zeyabrook partiti-like_virus 1/01	Beihai partiti-like virus 2 (38%)	MW389559	1597 (capsid)	99
	Zeyabrook partiti-like_virus 1/02	Beihai partiti-like virus 2 (38%)	MW389560	1597 (capsid)	31
9.	Zeyabrook partiti-like_virus 2	Beihai partiti-like virus 2 (42%)	MW389561	1458 (capsid)	32
<i>Totiviridae</i> (monopartite, dsRNA)					
10.	Zyryana toti-like virus-2	Fitzroy Crossing toti-like virus 1 (51%)	MW251336	>5863 (RdRp, capsid)	24
<i>Tombusviridae</i> (positive, ssRNA)					
11.	Hammarskog tombus-like virus	Hammarskog tombus-like virus (90)	MW251332	4317 (polyprotein)	10
12.	Oyosh tombus-like virus	Hubei tombus-like virus 13 (62%)	MW251324	>5640 (polyprotein)	19
<i>Picornavirales</i> (positive, ssRNA)					
13.	Hammarskog picorna-like virus-	Hammarskog picorna-like virus (98%)	MT753151	11506 (polyprotein)	6952
14.	Miltyush picorna-like virus 1/01	Halhan virus 3 (31%)	MW251320	9329 (polyprotein)	31

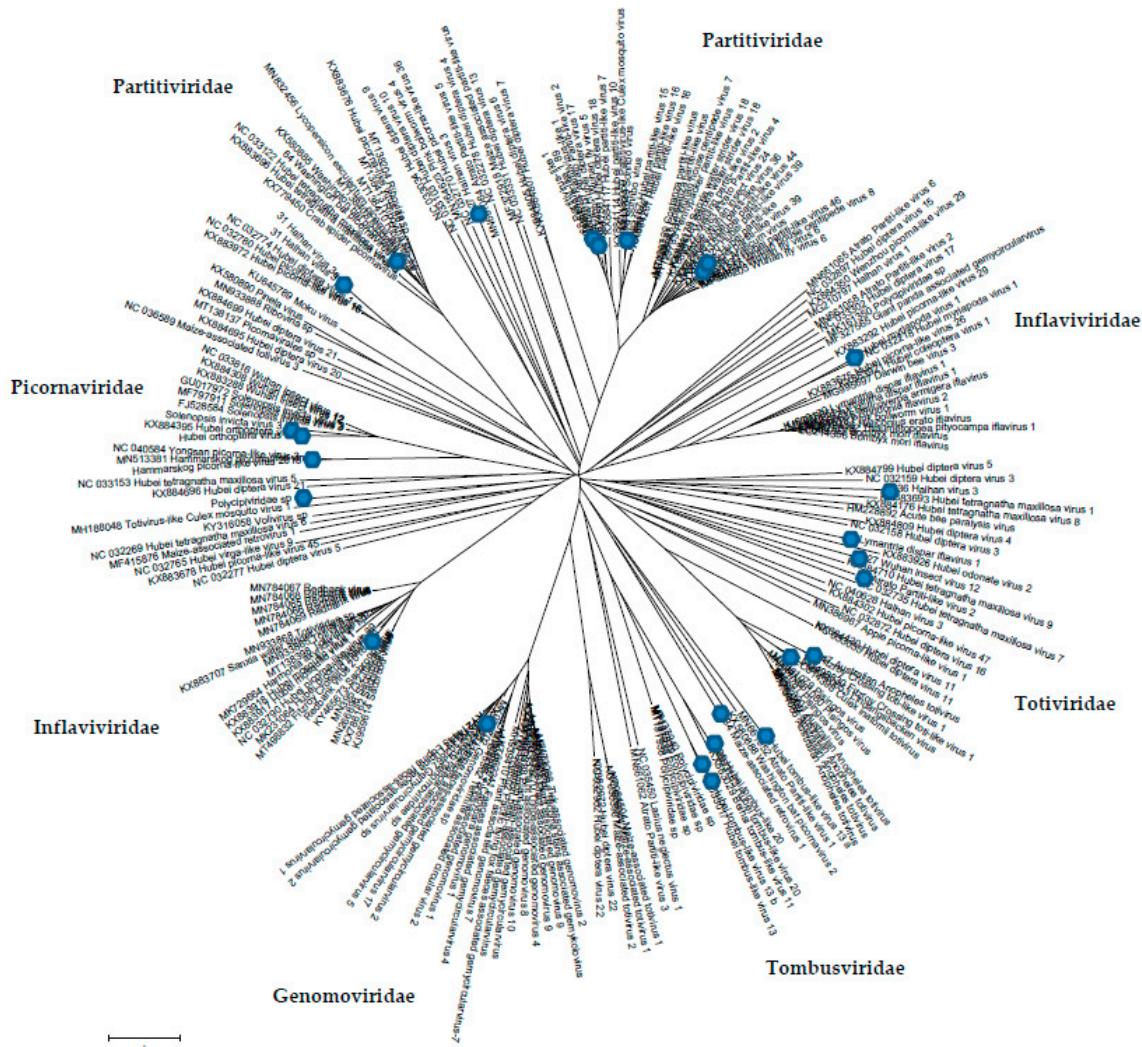
	Miltush picorna-like virus 1/02	Halhan virus 3 (31%)	MW251321	9329 (polyprotein)	19
15.	Miltush picorna-like virus 2	Halhan virus 3 (36%)	MW251322	10077 (polyprotein)	49
16.	Ises picorna-like virus 1	Washington bat picornavirus (64%)	MW251316	8992 (polyprotein)	537
	Ises picorna-like virus 2	Washington bat picornavirus (64%)	MW251317	8992 (polyprotein)	134
17.	Ora Rivulet insect-associated polycipivivirus	Polycipiviridae sp (34%)	MW251323	10879 (polyprotein)	62
18.	Icha Creek insect virus	Solenopsis invicta virus 3 (32%)	MW251313	10272 (polyprotein)	24
	<i>Iflaviridae</i> (positive, ssRNA)				
19.	<b>Lymantria dispar iflavivirus 1</b>	<b>Lymantria dispar iflavivirus 1 (99%)</b>	MT753155	9996 (polyprotein)	347
	<i>Nodaviridae</i> (Bi-partite positive-sense, ssRNA)				
20.	Wenzhou noda-like virus 6	Wenzhou noda-like virus 6 (87%)	MW251319	3098 (RdRp)	159
21.	<b>Mayapan virus 1/1</b>	Mayapan virus (90%)	MT753152	3024 (RdRp)	292
	<b>Mayapan virus 1/2</b>	Mayapan virus (88%)	MT753153	1378 (capsid)	181
22.	Mayzas noda-like virus RNA 2	Mayapan virus segment RNA2 (43%)	MW389556	1239 (capsid)	68
23.	Uzakla insect-associated virus	Mosinovirus (36%)	MW389557	2493 (capsid)	46
	<i>Permutotetraviridae</i> (dsRNA)				
24.	<b>Sanxia permuto-tetra-like virus 1</b>	<b>Sanxia permuto-tetra-like virus 1 (93%)</b>	MT753154	4670 (polyprotein)	378
25.	Uzakla mosquito-associated permuto-tetra-like virus	Vespa velutina permuto-tetra-like virus 2 (53%)	MW389558	1749 (capsid)	207
	Other viruses and viral sequences				
26.	<b>Chaq virus-like 1/1</b>	<b>Chaq virus-like 1 (82%)</b>	MW251333	1495 (hypot. protein)	451
	<b>Chaq virus-like 1/2</b>	<b>Chaq virus-like 1 (82%)</b>	MW251334	1492 (hypot. protein)	300
27.	Tartas insect associate virus	Atrato Sobemo-like virus 6 (61%)	MW251326	3259 (polyprotein)	464
28.	ZeyaBrook chaq-like_virus 2	Chaq virus-like 3 (47%)	MW251335	1409 (hypot. protein)	220
29.	Kamenka insect-associated virus	Hubei levi-like virus 3 (38%)	MW251318	>3296 (polyprotein)	17
30.	Uzakla insect virus	Hubei myriapoda virus 1 (33%)	MW251331	9614 (polyprotein)	46

Note: Bold letters indicate the sequences with an identity level of 80% or more.



**Figure 3.** Annotation of the taxonomy for the viral reads in the different pools of *Cq. richardii* mosquito.

The phylogenetic analysis results for the sequences obtained from mosquitoes are presented in Figure 4. This phylogeny is based on an amino acid sequence of RdRp, with these data confirming the virome biodiversity of mosquito viruses in nature.



**Figure 4.** Phylogenetic tree for RNA viruses belonging to different families found in mosquitoes collected in Western Siberia in 2017–2018. A phylogeny for these viruses is based on the amino acid sequence of RdRp. The sequences from this study are marked with circles.

### 3.2.1. Tymovirales (positive ssRNA)

The complete viral genome tymovirus-like sequence with a 60% identity (according to amino acid sequence) with the previously described Insect-associated tymovirus 1 in Mexico (MN203215) was detected in the *Cq. richardii* mosquitoes. This virus has been designated as Inya insect-associated virus 1 (MW251313, MW251314). The genomic positive ssRNA of the Inya insect-associated virus was identified to comprise 6526 bp and three ORF-encoding proteins (Figure S1). ORF MP of Inya insect-associated virus 1 is RdRp, and this ORF contains a highly conservative "tymobox" near the 5'-end [25]. The tymobox sequence has 16 nucleotides that are likely part of the subgenomic promoter for the third ORF encoding the coat protein (CP). Previously, the *Tymovirales* were well-known as plant viruses [26]. Inya insect-associated virus 1 can be presumably identified taxonomically by the order *Tymovirales*, unclassified *Tymovirales*.

### 3.2.2. Partitiviridae (dsRNA)

Partitivirus-like 1 was detected in *Cq. richardii* with an identity level of 89% with an isolate from *Anopheles gambiae* collected in Liberia (KX148575). Another novel putative partitivirus was detected in the pool of *Cq. richardii* mosquitoes (Figure S2) and was designated as Krahall insect-associated

virus 1 and 2 with an identity level of 60–63% with previously described Atrato Partiti-like virus 2 isolated earlier from *Anopheles darlingi* in Colombia (MN661058). In addition, seven suspected partitiviruses were found in the pool of *Cq. richardii* mosquitoes. These are: novel insect Talaya 1 and 2 viruses (MW251327–MW251330), with a 68–71% aa identity with previously described Partitivirus-like 1 (Liberia, KX148575); Tarbrook virus (MW251325) with 79% homology with the previously described Sonnbo virus in Sweden (MK440649); Zeyabrook partiti-like viruses 1 and 2 having similarity of 38–42% with Beihai partiti-like virus 2 (NC\_032500) from China. All the prototype sequences were isolated earlier from invertebrates (mollusks, octopuses, mosquitoes, and odonatos). These partitiviruses were preliminarily taxonomically identified as the family *Partitiviridae*, unclassified *Partitiviridae*.

### 3.2.3. Totiviridae (monopartite dsRNA)

We have found a novel putative totivirus designated as Zyryana toti-like virus 2 with the prototype Fitzroy Crossing toti-like virus 1 isolated earlier from *Culex annulirostris* in Australia (MT498830) (Table 1). Zyryana toti-like virus 2 with a 51% identity with prototype sequence was detected in the pools of *An. Messeae* and *Cq. richardii* mosquitoes. The length of the nucleotide sequence of the Zyryana toti-like virus 2 was over 5863 bp, and the ORFs encode two proteins 1112 aa and 807 aa of CP and RdRp. The putative genome organization schemes for these totiviruses are presented in Figure S3.

### 3.2.4. Tombusviridae (positive ssRNA).

Tombusviridae (Tolivirales, Tombusviridae) are single-stranded RNA (+) genomes between 3.7 and 4.8 kb in length, currently regarded as plant viruses with a relatively limited host [27]. We presented the complete polyprotein (4317 bp) for Hammarskog tombus-like virus with 90% identity with a similar virus detected in Sweden (MN513379) and isolated from *Cq. Richiardii* in 2017. The 4166 bp partial polyprotein contains three ORF-encoded hypothetical polypeptides: 397 aa, 482 aa, and 409 aa that differ for Hubei tombus-like 20 (Figure S4). In addition, we found a novel Oyosh tombus-like virus, with 62% identity with Hubei tombus-like virus 13 (NC033017) isolated from house centipedes in China. Four polypeptides are encoded by a prototype genome (5904 bp). The RdRp for *Tombusviridae* was translated using a potential alternative mechanism to suppress the stop-codon reading mechanism with the formation of a full-size protein with an elongated C-end of ORF1 [6].

### 3.2.5. Picornavirales (positive ssRNA)

Most members of the order Picornavirales have a single molecule of positive sense RNA ranging in length between 7,000 and 12,500 nt. The viral RNA is infectious and serves as a template for replication and mRNA [28]. Six different picorna-like viruses were identified as mosquito-associated viruses in Western Siberia (Table 1). We have assembled a complete genome for the Hammarskog picorna-like virus (11507 bp) from *Cq. richardii* mosquito that has five ORF encoding 175 aa, 156 aa, 121aa, 376 aa, and 2424 aa polypeptides with 98% aa identity with the previously described Hammarskog picorna-like virus (MN513381) isolated from *Cq. richiardii* in Sweden (Figure S5). In addition, other novel picorno-like viruses were found in *Cq. richardii* mosquitoes collected in the Novosibirsk region. These are Miltush picorna-like viruses 1 and 2, Ises picorna-like virus, Ichacreek insect virus, and polycipiviridae associated with Ora rivulet insects.

Miltush picorna-like virus was found to have only 36% identity with the previously detected Halhan virus 3 from *Halothis discus hannai* in Korea (NC040628). Ises picorna-like virus 1 was found to have 64% identity with previously discovered Washington bat picornavirus in the USA (KX580885). Ichacreek insect virus 3 was identified to have a 44% level of identity with the previously detected *Solenopsis invicta* virus 3 (GU017972) from *Solenopsis invicta* in Argentina. Ora rivulet insect-associated polycipiviridae was identified to have a 34% identity level with the previously discovered *Polycipivirida* sp. isolated from *Pteropus lylei* in Cambodia (MK161350). The preliminary taxonomic identification for these six viruses is *Picornavirales*, unclassified *Picornavirales*.

### 3.2.6. Iflaviridae (positive ssRNA)

The order *Picornavirales* also includes some iflaviruses that were found in *Cq. richardii* mosquito in this study. *Lymantria dispar* iflavirus 1 was detected with its sequence having 99% identity with already known viral isolates in USA and Russia (KJ629170, MN938851). The alignment and phylogenetic analysis revealed a high sequence identity with the representatives of *Iflavirus*, the family *Iflaviridae* (data not shown).

### 3.2.7. Nodaviridae (Bi-partite positive-sense, ssRNA)

We have assembled practically the whole genome for Wenzhou noda-like virus 6 from *Cq. richardii* mosquito and Mayapan virus with 87 and 90% identity levels, respectively. Previously, the sequence of the Wenzhou noda-like virus 6 was identified in *Channeled applesnail* in China (KX883260) and Mayapan virus (MH719096) isolated from the *Psorophora ferox* mosquito in Mexico (Figure S6). Other novel nodaviruses were also found in *Cq. richardii* mosquitoes collected in the Novosibirsk region. These are Mayzas noda-like virus RNA 2 with a prototype Mayapan virus RNA2 segment (MH719097) with a 43% identity with that isolated from *Psorophora ferox* mosquito in Mexico and the insect-associated Uzakla virus with a prototype Mosinovirus (KJ632942) with a 36% identity and isolated from *Culicidae* spp. in Cote d'Ivoire.

### 3.2.8. Permutotetraviridae (dsRNA)

The genomic RNA for permutotetraviruses is 4,582 bp long and encodes three ORFs overlapping in a short region (Figure S7). The longest ORF (1028 aa) encoding RdRp overlaps with 106 nucleotides with a small ORF (199 aa), presumably encoding the capsid protein. Like all permutotetraviruses, the sequences from *Cq. richardii* mosquito pools showed the presence of the virus with a 93% identity with previously detected Sanxia permuto-tetra-like virus 1 in water striders in China (KX883450). The Uzakla mosquito-associated permuto-tetra-like virus with a 53% identity to *Vespa velutina* permuto-tetra-like virus 2 in France (MN5650551, MN565052) was early described as unclassified Permutotetraviridae.

### 3.2.9. Other viruses and viral sequences

Two variants of Chaq virus-like 1, Tartas insect associate virus, ZeyaBrook chaq-like virus 2, Kamenka insect-associated virus, and Uzakla insect virus were detected in *Cq. richardii*. The Chaq virus-like 1 has 82% identity with an earlier described unclassified sequence from *Anopheles gambiae* in Liberia (KX148554). The ZeyaBrook chaq-like virus 2, Kamenka insect-associated virus, and Uzakla insect virus have a 33–47% identity with the previously unclassified putative viral sequences (KX148556, KX883594, and NC032218) isolated from invertebrates. Only the Tartas insect associate virus may be classified as unclassified Solemoviridae with prototype Atrato Sobemo-like virus 6 (MN661101) with a 61% identity detected in *Wyeomyia* spp. mosquitoes in Colombia. The Solemoviridae have a relatively small (4–4.6 kb) positive-sense, single-stranded, monopartite RNA genome with 4–5 ORFs, and they are usually associated with plant viruses.

## 4. Discussion

The application of the metagenomic approach offers novel opportunities for virome analysis [5,7,20]. This approach has provided new insights into the evolution of viruses of clinical importance and has allowed new viruses to be discovered from different viral families such as *Peribunyaviridae* [5], *Rhabdoviridae* [29], *Orthomyxoviridae* [7,30], *Flaviviridae* [31] and *Reoviridae* [32], as well as unclassified *Chuvirus* [7], and *Negevirus* [33]. Recent metagenomic studies have also confirmed the presence of dengue virus, Zika virus, and Japanese encephalitis virus in mosquitoes in China [34,35].

Numerous genetically diverse viruses have also been detected by NGS sequencing in plants, invertebrates and vertebrates in tropical countries [7,8]. Phylogenetic analysis has demonstrated that it is possible for all host species and viruses to co-evolve by changing hosts. Mosquitoes are among the most common and important viral vectors of the Zika, dengue, yellow fever, and West Nile

viruses that are associated with unprecedented global outbreaks of these infectious in tropical countries [36,37]. In addition, mosquitoes are also known to carry insect-specific viruses. Although not directly affecting humans and animals, these viruses can modulate the transmission of pathogenic viruses to vertebrates [38,39]. The growth of tourism and trade has also led to an intensive exchange of viral pathogens and their vectors in different geographic regions. Together with the rapid growth of large cities in tropical countries, these are the basis for outbreaks or/and epidemics for mosquito-borne infections among animals and humans, with the environment to maintain the transmission of zoonotic infectious [40]. In addition, viruses have extraordinary evolutionary potential to generate new pathogenic isolates that can cause severe diseases in humans and/or animals.

The south of the Western Siberian Plain is characterized by a continental climate, with short warm summers and long winters, uniform humidity, and rather abrupt changes in all-weather components over relatively short periods of time [41]. This region has experienced characteristic negative mean annual temperatures during the last century, with the maximum variations of the mean annual temperature being 3.6 °C over the observation period. The activity season for different species of mosquitoes begins when the ambient temperature rises above 0 °C (early May) and ends in late August or early September, depending on the year. The maximum duration of the mosquito activity period is approximately four to five months. Seventeen species of mosquitoes were earlier found in the forest-steppe and steppe zones of the region [42]. The mosquito species composition from different foci can drastically vary. For example, the *Cq. richardii* concentrations can vary from 1.7 to 99.5%, with this species usually dominating in the main forest-steppe and steppe landscapes of the rural part of the Novosibirsk region.

In this study, we used a metagenomic sequencing method to identify the viromes in seven mosquito species collected in the vicinity of Novosibirsk. The metagenomic approach was used to identify the viral diversity in randomly collected mosquitoes. We have identified 30 coding complete viral genomes and viral-like partial sequences of capsid proteins and/or RdRp from mosquitoes (Table 1). These sequences were classified as putative members of orders: *Tymovirales* and *Picornavirales*, families: *Partitiviridae*, *Totiviridae*, *Tombusviridae*, *Iflaviridae*, *Nodaviridae*, *Permutotetraviridae*, *Solemoviridae*, and four unclassified RNA-viruses. The previously described Partitivirus-like 1, Hammarskog tombus-like virus, Hammarskog picorna-like virus, Lymantria dispar iflavirus 1, Wenzhou noda-like virus 6, Mayapan virus, Sanxia permuto-tetra-like virus 1, and Chaq virus-like 1 were identified as practically complete genomes with an 82–99% level of identity in *Cq. richardii* mosquito. These viruses were earlier found in Liberia (West Africa), Sweden (North Europe), the USA (America), China (Asia), and Mexico (Central America). These findings allow us to hypothesize that these viruses may be widely distributed on a global scale.

Some novel putative viruses and viral sequences have prototype viral sequences with 31% to 79% identity levels, with these prototypes also found in invertebrates from almost all continents. Some of them are associated with different species of mosquitoes. In our study, the main parts of novel viruses were associated with *Cq. richardii* mosquito, with this species widespread in the south of Western Siberia [42]. The role of this mosquito species in the spread of human viral infections in Siberia has not been studied virtually, suggesting that our knowledge concerning mosquito-associated viruses in North Eurasia is very limited and requires further study.

## 5. Conclusions

We have identified novel and known viral genomes and viral-like partial sequences in mosquitoes collected in the Novosibirsk region of Western Siberia. They were classified as novel putative viruses using the bioinformatics analysis of partial sequences of capsid proteins and RdRp or whole polyproteins (genomes) within the orders *Tymovirales* and *Picornavirales*, the families *Partitiviridae*, *Totiviridae*, *Tombusviridae*, *Iflaviridae*, *Nodaviridae*, *Permutotetraviridae*, and *Solemoviridae*, and four unclassified RNA-viruses. We believe that the virus identification will enhance our understanding of the transmission of RNA viruses by mosquitoes in North Asia. We hope that the discovery and observation of these mosquito-borne viruses can help prevent future outbreaks of viral infections in the region under study.

**Supplementary Materials:** The following supporting information can be downloaded at: [www.mdpi.com/xxx/s1](http://www.mdpi.com/xxx/s1), Figure S1: Andean potato mild mosaic virus (APMMV) as a novel Inya insect-associated virus 1 and 2; Figure S2: A novel virus with a 51% identity to Atrato Partiti-like virus 2 was detected in the Anopheles messeae pool and referred to as the Krahall insect-associated virus; Figure S3: The scheme of genome organization for Fitzroy Crossing toti-like virus 1; Figure S4: The scheme of genome organization for Tombus-like virus; Figure S5: The genome organization for the picorna-like virus; Figure S6: The genome organization for nodaviruses (ssRNA); Figure S7: The genome organization for permutoheterotetraviruses.

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