

TITLE

Antagonism of STAT1 by Nipah virus P gene products modulates disease course but not lethal outcome in the ferret model

AUTHORS AND AFFILIATIONS

Benjamin A. Satterfield^{1,2,3}, Viktoriya Borisevich^{1,2}, Stephanie L. Foster^{1,2}, Sergio E. Rodriguez^{1,2}, Robert W. Cross^{1,2}, Karla A. Fenton^{1,2}, Krystle N. Agans^{1,2}, Christopher F. Basler⁴, Thomas W. Geisbert^{1,2}, and Chad E. Mire^{1,2*}

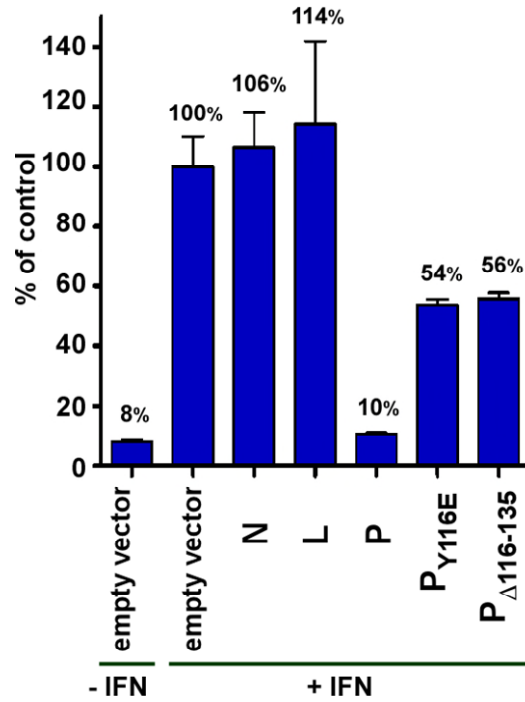
¹ Galveston National Laboratory, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX, USA

² Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX, USA

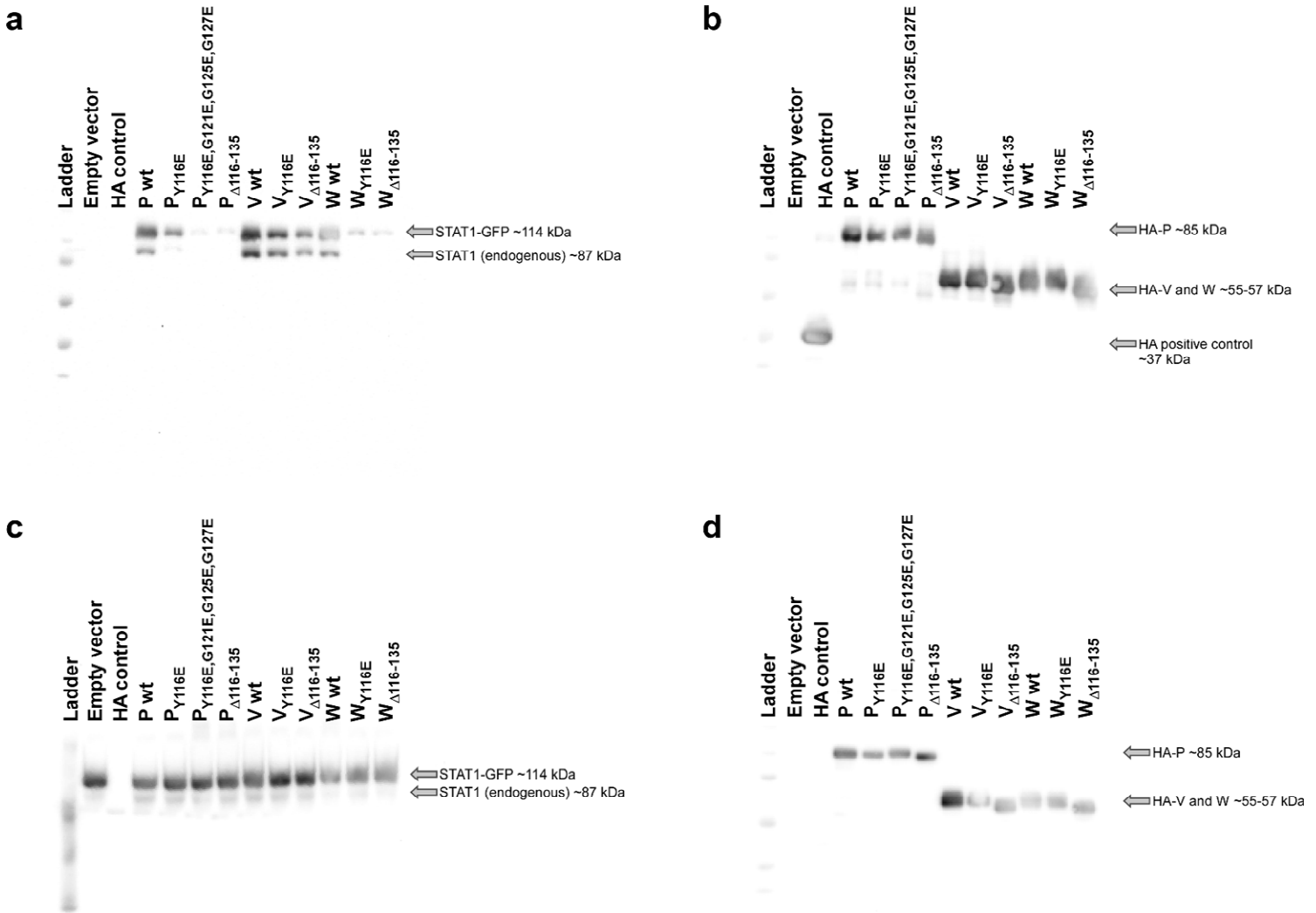
³ Mayo Clinic, Department of Medicine, Rochester, MN, USA

⁴ Center for Microbial Pathogenesis, Institute for Biomedical Sciences, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, USA

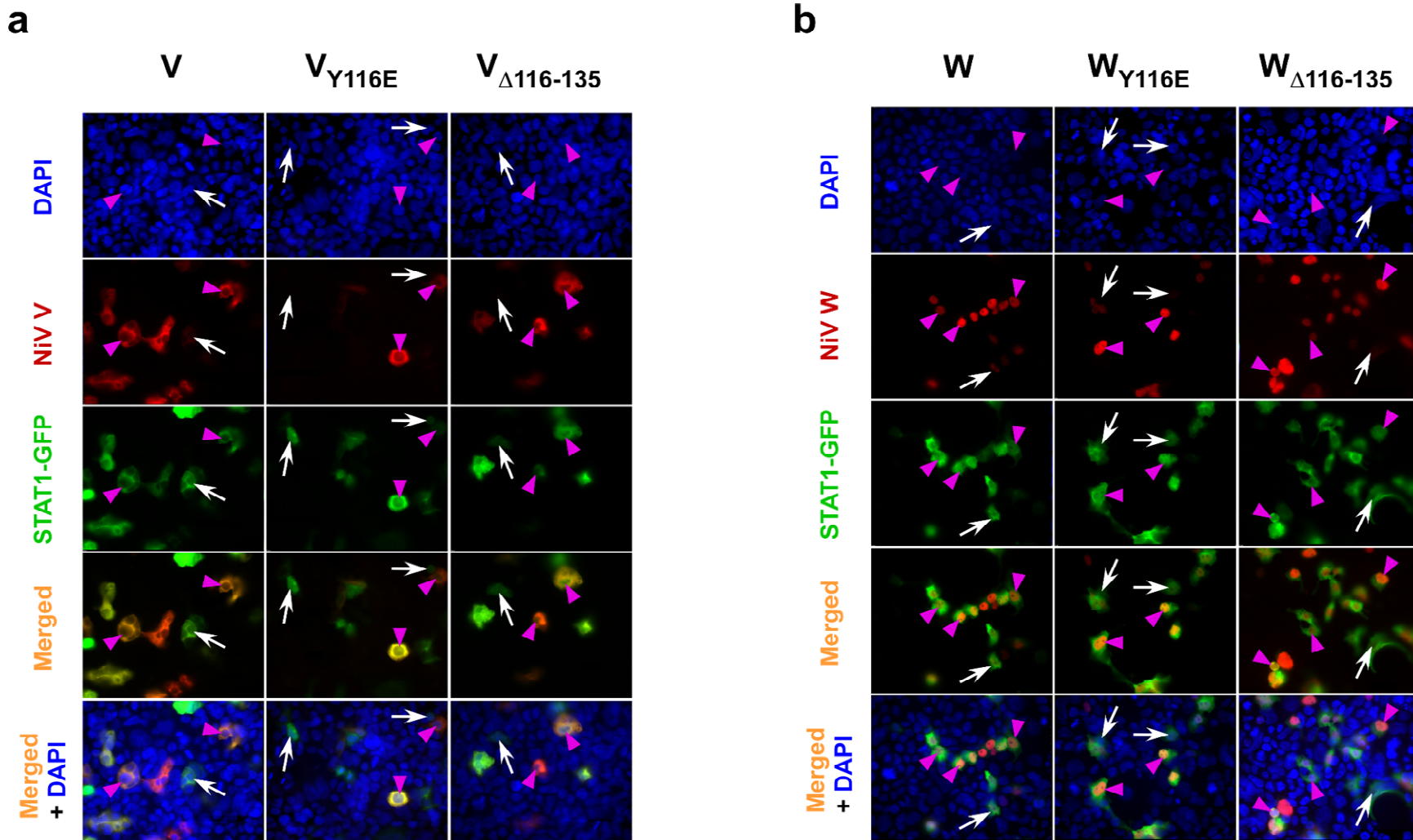
*Corresponding Author: chmire@utmb.edu



Supplementary Figure 1. Luciferase expression with additional controls. Relative IFN-induced luciferase expression of 293T cells transfected with vector only or various NiV_M expression plasmids after pre-treatment with universal IFN- α or non-treated control as indicated. This is an adjunct to Figure 1b demonstrating that the presence of other NiV_M proteins does not inhibit ISG signaling.



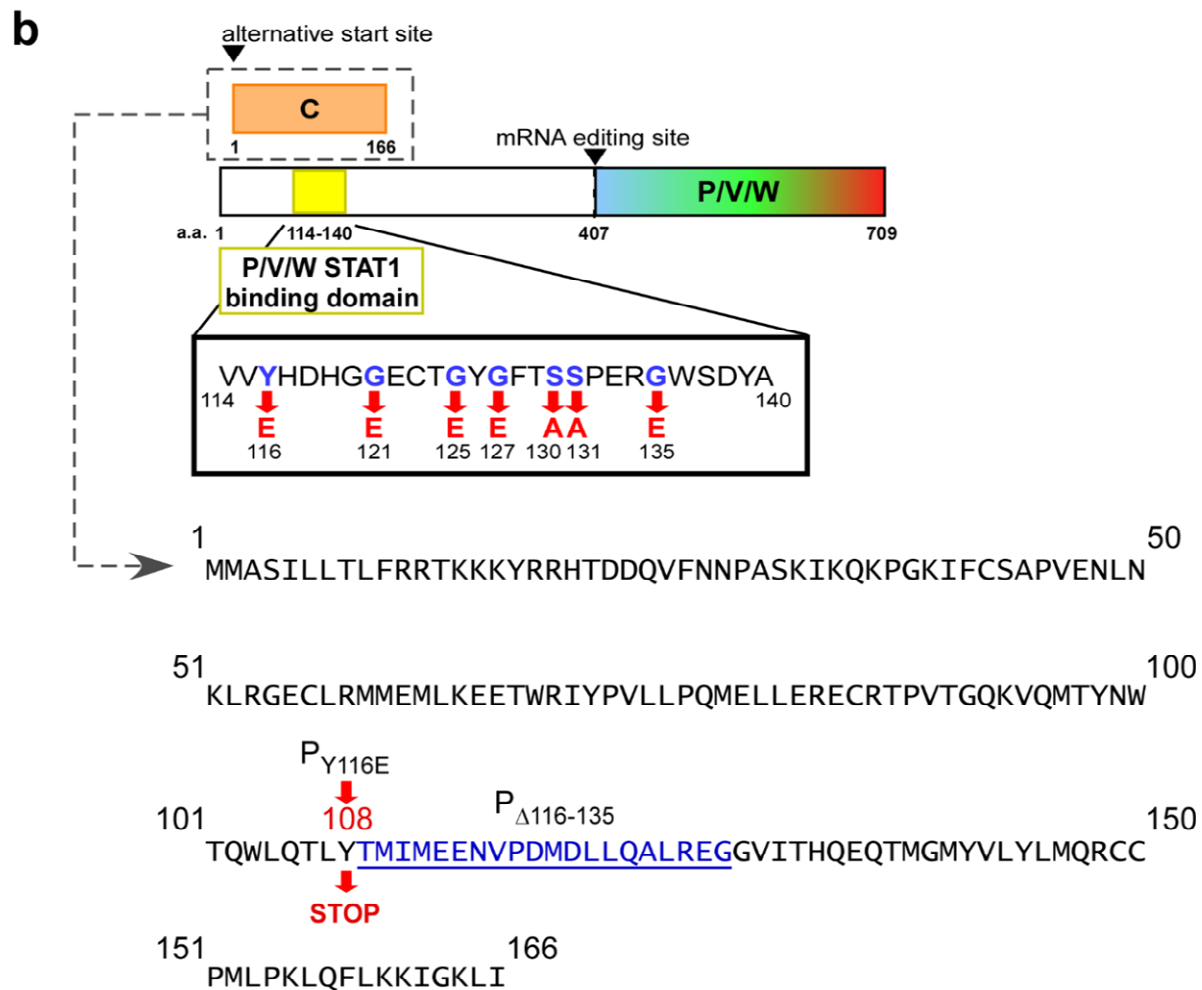
Supplementary Figure 2. Full Western blots characterizing STAT1-binding mutations. As detailed in Figure 2, 293T cells were transfected with pCAGGS-STAT1-GFP along with pCAGGS-HA NiV-P, -V, and -W wild-type and mutant proteins were then assessed at 24 hours post-transfection by Western blot, representative blots from three independent experiments are shown. Relative binding of P, V, and W mutants with STAT1 was assessed using co-immunoprecipitation with HA and stained with (a) α -STAT1 or (b) α -HA. Similarly, the total amount of expressed protein for P, V, and W mutants is observed in whole cell lysates stained with (c) α -STAT1 or (d) α -HA.



Supplementary Figure 3. Immunofluorescence assay of NiV V, W, and STAT1 proteins in transfected 293T cells. (a) Transfected cells were treated with universal IFN- α then fixed. Cell nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue); cells transfected with HA-tagged NiV V protein (red) show V protein in the cytoplasm but not the nucleus; cells transfected with fused STAT1-GFP show STAT1 in both the cytoplasm and the nucleus when V protein is not co-transfected (white arrows). Cells transfected with STAT1-GFP show no STAT1 present in the nuclei when co-transfected with wild-type NiV V (magenta arrowhead; first column panels) but STAT1 is present when co-transfected with NiV V protein containing the V_{Y116E} mutation (magenta arrowhead; second column panels) or V_{Δ116-135} deletion (magenta arrowhead; third column panels) indicating the ability of these mutations to ablate the ability of NiV V to sequester STAT1. (b) Transfected cells were treated with universal IFN- α then fixed. Cell nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue); cells transfected with HA-tagged NiV W protein (red) show W protein in the nucleus; cells transfected with fused STAT1-GFP show STAT1 in both the cytoplasm and the nucleus when W protein is not co-transfected (white arrows). Cells transfected with STAT1-GFP show STAT1 present in the nuclei when co-transfected with wild-type NiV W (magenta arrowhead; first column panels) and W protein containing the W_{Y116E} mutation (magenta arrowhead; second column panels) or W_{Δ116-135} deletion (magenta arrowhead; third column panels) demonstrating the known ability of W protein to sequester STAT1 in the nucleus. Images taken: 20x.

a

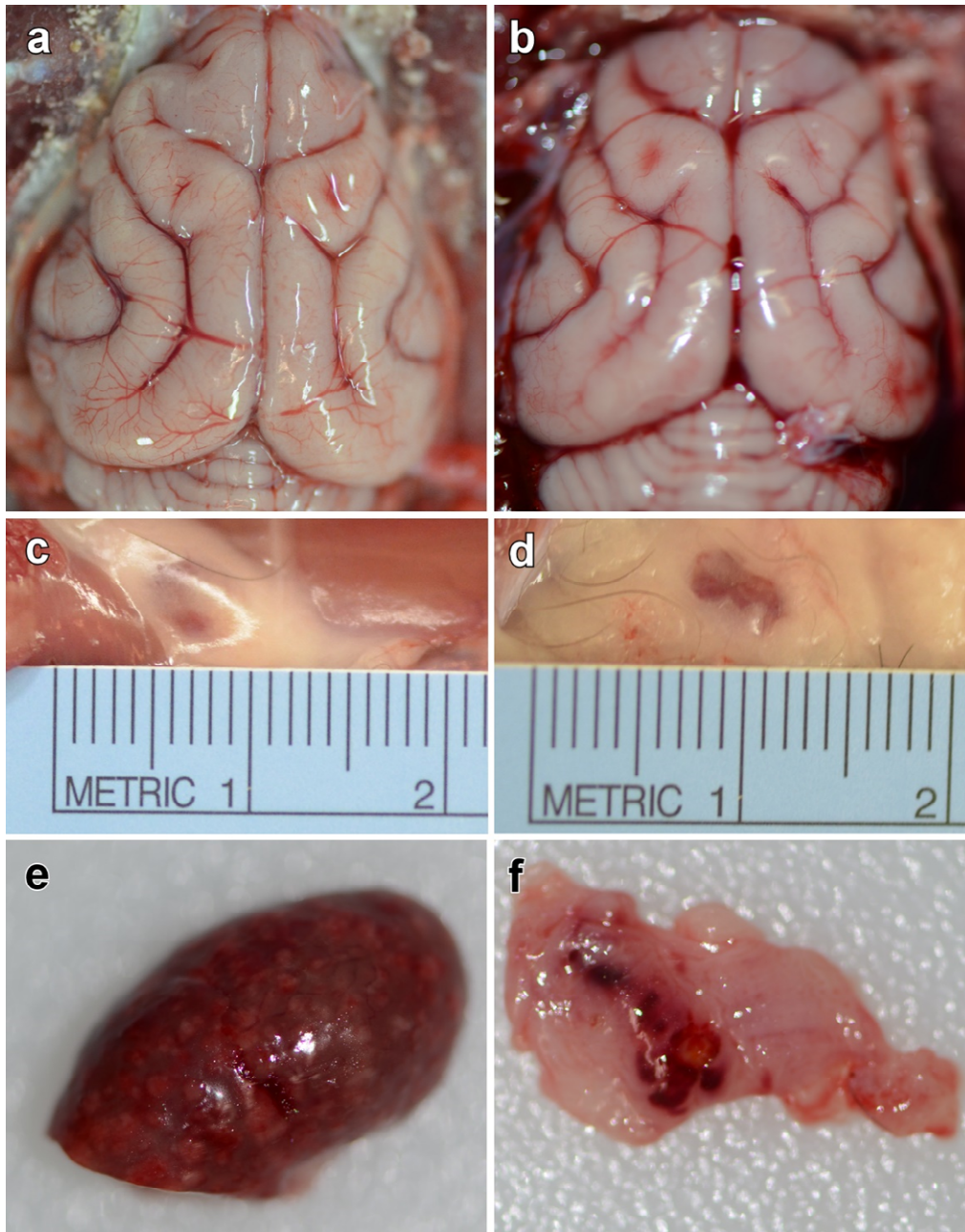
NiV _M Genome Nucleotide Position	P ORF Amino Acid Position	C ORF Amino Acid Position
T2751A and C2753G	Y116E	Y108Stop and T109S
G2767A	G121E	E114K
G2779A	G125E	D118R
G2785A	G127E	D120R
T2793G and A2795C	S130A	L122L and Q123P
A2796G and G2797C	S131A	Q123Q and A124P
G2809A and G2810A	G135E	G128R
Δ2766-2795	Δ121-130	Δ114-123
Δ2751-2810	Δ116-135	Δ109-128



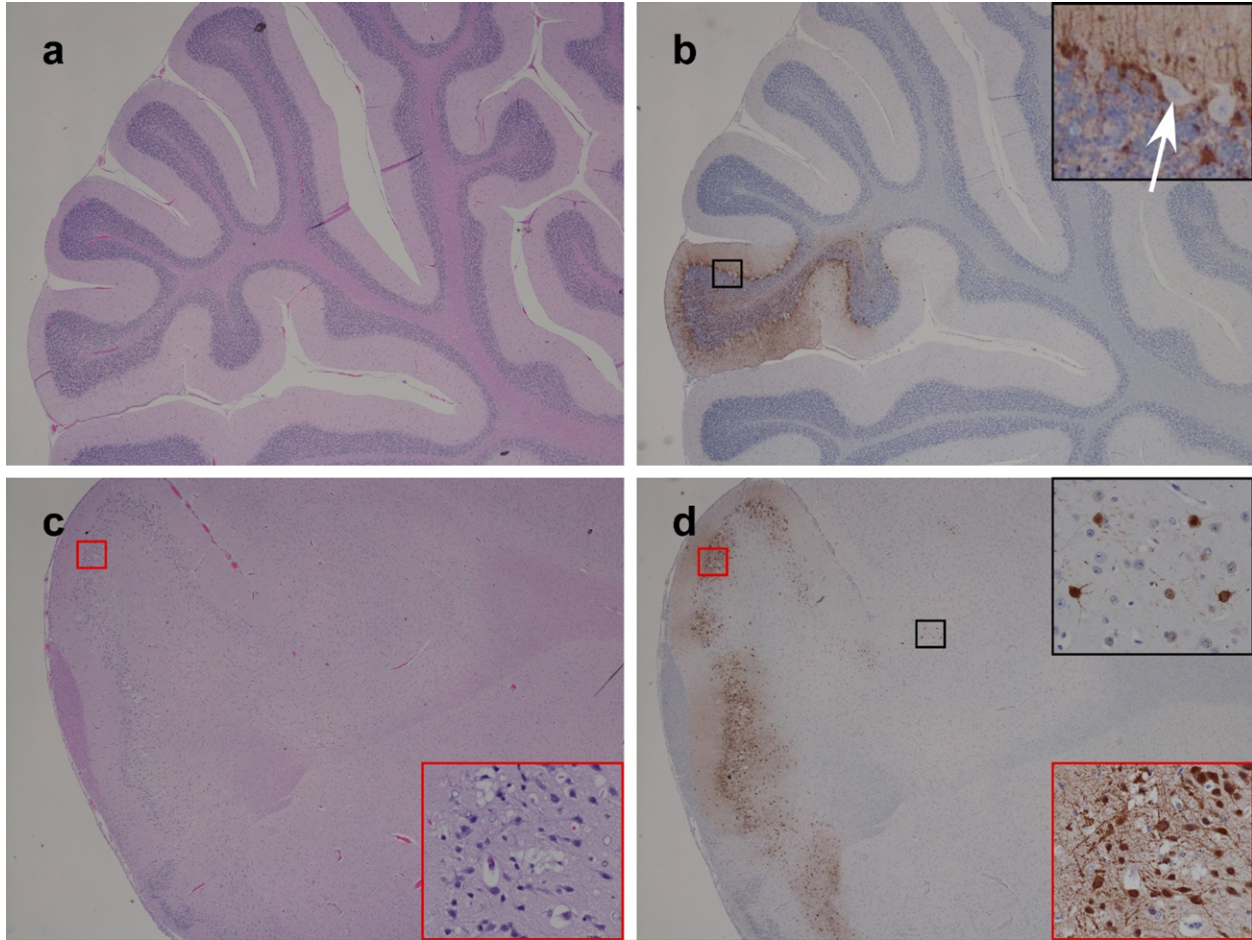
Supplementary Figure 4. STAT1^{blind} mutations utilized in this study. (a) The nucleotide positions and the subsequent amino acid mutations in the P and C ORFs are shown. The original nucleotide/amino acid is shown in blue, the mutated nucleotide/amino acid is shown in green. STOP codon is shown in red. Silent mutations remain in blue. (b) The overlap of the P and C ORFs are shown in the upper panel, the amino acid sequence of the C protein is shown below. The position of the P_{Y116E} and P_{Δ116-135} mutations are shown.

Score	Expect	Method	Identities	Positives	Gaps
1506 bits(3899)	0.0	Compositional matrix adjust.	727/750(97%)	738/750(98%)	0/750(0%)
Query 1		MSQWYELQQLDKSFLEQVHQLYDDSFPMIEIRQYLAQWLEKQDWEHAANDVSFATIRFHDL			60
Sbjct 1		MSQWYELQQLDKSFLEQVHQLYDDSFPMIEIRQYLAQWLEKQDWEHAANDVSFATIRFHDL			60
Query 61		LSQLDDQYSRFSLENNFLLQHNIRKSKRNLQDNFQEDPIQMSMIIYSCLKEERKILENAQ			120
Sbjct 61		LSQLDDQYSRFSLENNFLLQHNIRKSKRNLQDNFQEDP+QMSMII +CLKEER+ILENAQ			120
Query 121		RFNQAQSGNIQSTVMLDKQKELDSKVRNVKDKVMCIEHEIKSLEDLQDEYDFKCKTLQNR			180
Sbjct 121		RFNQAQSGSIQSTVMLDKQKELDSKVRNVKDKVMCIEHEIKTLEDLQDEYDFKCKTLQNR			180
Query 181		EHETNGVAKSDQKQEQLLLKMYLMLDNKRKEVVKIIELLNVTELTQNALINDELVEWK			240
Sbjct 181		EHETNGVAKNDQKQEQLLIQKMYLMLDNKRKEVVKIIELLNVTELTQKALINDELVEWK			240
Query 241		RRQQSACIGGPPNACLQDQVWFIVAESLQQVRQQLKKLEELEQKYTYEHDPITKNKQV			300
Sbjct 241		RRQQSACIGGPPNACLQDQVWFIVAESLQQVRQQLKKLEELEQKYTYEHDPITKNKQG			300
Query 301		LWDRFSLFQQLIQSSFVVERQPCMPHPQRPLVLTGVQFTVKLRLLVVKLQELNLYNLKV			360
Sbjct 301		LWDRFSLFQQLIQSSFVVERQPCMPHPQRPLVLTGVQFTVKLRLLVVKLQELNLYNLKV			360
Query 361		KVLFDKDVNERNTVKGFRKFNILGHTHTKVMNMEESTNGSLAAEFRHLQLKEQKNAGTRTN			420
Sbjct 361		KVLFDKDVNERNTVKGFRKFNILGHTHTKVMNMEESTNGSLAAEFRHLQLKEQKNAGTRTN			420
Query 421		EGPLIVTEELHSLSFETQLCQPGGLVIDLETTSLPVVVISNVSQPSGWASILWYNMLVAE			480
Sbjct 421		EGPLIVTEELHSLSFETQLCQPGGLVIDLETTSLPVVVISNVSQPSGWASILWYNMLVTE			480
Query 481		PRNLSFFLTPPCARWAQLSEVLSWQFSSVTKRGLNVDQLNMLGEKLLGPNASPDGLIPWT			540
Sbjct 481		PRNLSFFLTPPCARWAQLSEVLSWQFSSVTKRGLNVDQLNMLGEKLLGPNASPDGLIPWT			540
Sbjct 541		RFCKENINDKNFPFWLWIESILELIKHHLLSLWNDGCIVGFISKERERALLKDQQPGTFL			600
Query 601		LRFSESSREGAITFTWVERSQNGGEPDFHAVEPYTKKELSAVTFPDIIRNYKVMMAENIP			660
Sbjct 601		LRFSESREGAITFTWVERPQNGGEPDFHAVEPYTKKELSAVTFPDIIRNYKVMMAENIP			660
Query 661		ENPLKYLYPNIDKDHAFGKYYSRPKEAPEPEMELDGPKGTYIKTELISVSEVHPSRLQTT			720
Sbjct 661		ENPLKYLYPNIDKDHAFGKYYSRPKEAPEPEMELDGPKGTYIKTELISVSEVHPSRLQTT			720
Query 721		DNLLPMSPEEFDEVSRIVGSVEFDSMMNTV	750		
Sbjct 721		DNLLPMSPEEFDEVSRIVGSVEFDSMMNAV	750		

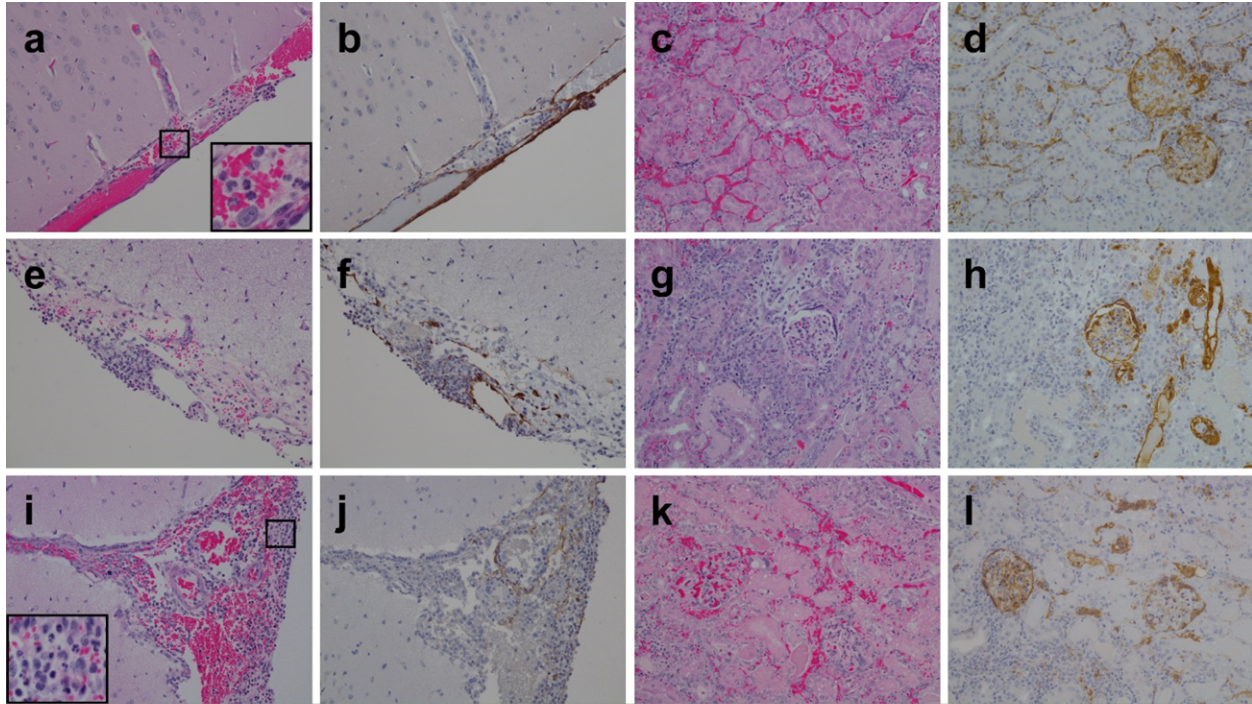
Supplementary Figure 5. Amino acid identity of STAT1 from humans and ferrets. Amino acid sequences of the STAT1 gene from humans (accession number NP_009330.1), listed as “Query,” and ferrets (accession number XP_012917318.1), listed as “Sbjct,” were compared using NCBI’s BLASTp software and found to have 97% amino acid identity.



Supplementary Figure 6. Gross pathology of brain, lymph nodes, kidney, and bladder. Representative brains from ferrets infected with rNiV_M-P_{Y116E} (a) or rNiV_M-P_{Δ116-135} (b) both show severe congestion of the blood vessels surrounding the brain. Enlarged lymph nodes from the axial (c) and inguinal (d) regions of a ferret infected with rNiV_M-P_{Y116E}. Necrosis and hemorrhage of the kidney was seen in most ferrets from all three cohorts (e). Mucosal hemorrhagic lesions of the urinary bladder were seen in some ferrets from all three cohorts (f).



Supplementary Figure 7. H&E and immunohistochemistry of ferret brains. H&E (a, c) and immunohistochemistry labeled with a NiV N protein-specific polyclonal rabbit antibody (b, d) of the cerebellum of ferret rNiV_M-P_{Y116E}-05 (a, b) and frontal cortex of ferret rNiV_M-P_{Y116E}-02 (c, d). Insert in panel b shows infected neurons with Purkinje cell sparing. Red inserts in panels c and d show marked locally extensive, vacuolar plaque with necrosis and gliosis within the grey matter in regions with diffuse, strongly immunopositive neuronal involvement. No vacuolar plaque is observed without associated NiV antigen. Black insert in panel d shows scattered deep neuron infection. Images taken: brain 2x.



Supplementary Figure 8. H&E and immunohistochemistry of ferret brain meninges. Representative H&E (**a,e,i**) and immunohistochemistry labeled with a NiV N protein-specific polyclonal rabbit antibody (**b,f,j**) of the meninges around the brain from representative ferrets infected with rNiV_M-wt (**a,b**), rNiV_M-P_{Y116E} (**e,f**), and rNiV_M-P_{Δ116-135} (**i,j**). Inserts show mononuclear cell and polynuclear cell infiltration. Representative H&E (**c,g,k**) and immunohistochemistry labeled with a NiV N protein-specific polyclonal rabbit antibody (**d,h,l**) of renal glomeruli of the kidneys from representative ferrets infected with rNiV_M-wt (**c,d**), rNiV_M-P_{Y116E} (**g,h**), and rNiV_M-P_{Δ116-135} (**k,l**). Images taken: brain 20x, kidney 20x.

Supplementary Table 1. Pathology score comparison of selected organs for all published rNiV_M cohorts*

Ferret cohort	Reference	Liver			Spleen			Lung				Brain		
		Gross ^a	H&E ^b	IHC	Gross ^c	H&E ^d	IHC	Gross ^e	H&E ^f	IHC	Nodules	Gross ^g	H&E ^h	IHC
rNiV _M -wt	§	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	2
rNiV _M -V ^{ko}	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rNiV _M -W ^{ko}	20	1.5	2.5	2.5	4	3	3	1.5	3	3	3	1	1	2
rNiV _M -C ^{ko}	21	1.5	3	3	3	3†	3	2	1.5	2‡	1.5	1	0	1
rNiV _M -C ^{ko} W ^{ko}	21	1	1	0	3	2†	1	1	1	0.5‡	1	1	1	1
rNiV _M -P _{Y116E}	§	3	3	3	4	3.5	3	2	2	2	2	1.5	2□	2□
rNiV _M -P _{Δ116-135}	§	1.5	2	2	3	2.5†	1.5	2	2.5	1.5‡	2.5	1.5	1.5	2.5

Pathology scoring: scale of 0 – 5; 0 = no lesion; 5 = severe lesions; scores are averaged from all animals in each cohort

* All specimens were reviewed and scored by the same board certified veterinary pathologist for consistency

^a Reticulation and multifocal pale areas of necrosis

^b Hepatocellular necrosis, vacuolar change, congestion, sinusoidal leukocytosis, and periportal lymphoplasmacytic infiltrates

^c Splenomegaly, mottled surface indicating multifocal necrosis

^d Splenic architectural destruction, germinal center obliteration, and necrosis

^e Multifocal pinpoint and/or coalescing hemorrhage

^f Interstitial pneumonia, necrosis of the alveolar septae, syncytial cell formation, edema, and hemorrhage

^g Congestion of meningeal blood vessels and blood pooling/clots

^h Meningitis

† Indicates hypercellularity of the red pulp

‡ Indicates immunolabeling predominately associated with inflammatory nodules

□ Indicates that there was great variability among animals, some scoring much higher, others much lower

§ Current study