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When Laboratories Hold Dangerous Germs

It is increasingly likely that the coronavirus that started the pandemic came from the Wuhan Institute of Virology, which conducts research on very dangerous viruses. In 2018, the U.S. government was alerted to a lack of sufficient security protocols at the institute.

Dangerous security protocol breaches have occurred in the U.S. too. In 2014, a researcher, preparing to move to another building, discovered 12 cardboard boxes on a shelf in a corner. The boxes contained six vials of smallpox. No one knows who put them there or when, but the FDA believes they were there for 50-68 years, completely unprotected. Had the box fallen or the vials cracked, a smallpox epidemic could have occurred. Thankfully, it never happened. Coronavirus shows what can happen.
