

Quote: "...researchers have found more than 20 related **fossils that document the evolution of modern whales from ancestors that walked on land.**"

Inset: "The limb structure of *Ambulocetus* suggest that **these animals could both swim in shallow water and walk on land.**" [emphasis added]

Questions:

1) What do you mean by "fossils that **document** the evolution of modern whales from terrestrial ancestors?" What is the evidence? Are there any real fossil intermediates, or simply a collection of false starts and dead ends?

(eg., hippo's [the object of an on-going controversy, *Science Daily* March 2009], mesonychians, artiodactyls, (even-toed ungulates, including *Pakicetus*), and the latest candidate (*Indohyus*), which looked nothing like a whale.)

In fact, all the above creatures are terrestrial quadrupeds without any whale characteristics of **flippers, flukes, blowholes, superior lungs for deep diving, and streamlined bodies.**

"All **known fossil whales** are **fully developed** aquatic animals; we do not know the steps that led to their return to the sea." See Ellis, R., *The Book of Whales*, NY: Knoph Publishing, 1978, p.8.

In other words, the huge gap between the so-called "ancestors" (quadrupeds) and modern whales is a **dramatic missing link.**

2) Humans can swim in shallow water and walk on land, too. Does that mean they are whale ancestors?

3) *Pakicetus* looks more like a dog than a whale. How do we know whales were not descended from poodles? "The skeleton of *Pakicetus* is incompletely known...." See Benton, 2015 *Vertebrate Evolution* 4th edition, p. 372

Indohyus had a thickened ear bone similar to cetaceans, but *Pakicetus* lacks the sensitive auditory components of marine animals. The ear-bone is not like a whale, which has a finger-like projection (sigmoid process), but is plate-like, like the fossils of land animals known as artiodactyls. See <http://creation.com/whale-evolution-fraud>

4) Where is the typical whale feature of a blow hole on *Pakicetus*? Do you mean that that the nostril of *Pakicetus* migrated from the snout to the top of the skull and became a blowhole?

"Pakicetans were terrestrial mammals, no more amphibious than a tapir." See Thewissen et al., *Nature* v. 413: 277-281 Sept. 20, 2001