The MBDF virus was discovered at the University of Wales College of Cardiff, in the United Kingdom, thanks to Claris applications' built-in virus checking. It reproduces itself in applications and in the System file by copying a MBDF resource with ID 0. If a MBDF resource with the same ID is already present, as in the System file, it is preserved.

The virus apparently does not affect the normal operation of the Macintosh nor does it compromise the integrity of data.

The MBDF vaccine recognizes MBDF A as well as the Tetricycle trojan.