



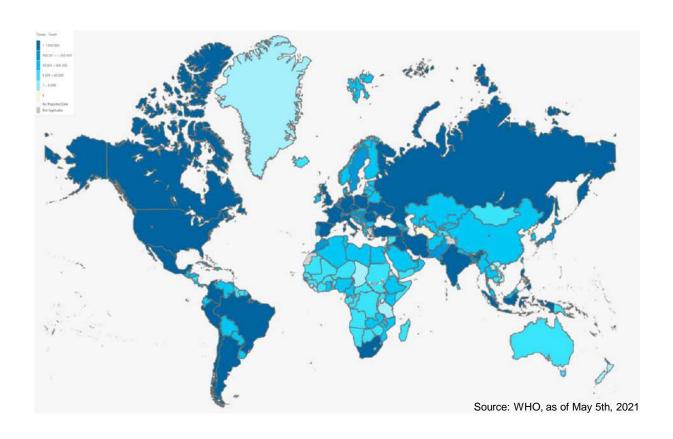
Uncovering antibody epitope signatures in COVID-19 patients by high-density peptide microarray screening

Dr. Kirsten Heiss Research & Development PEPperPRINT GmbH

June 2021

# Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)



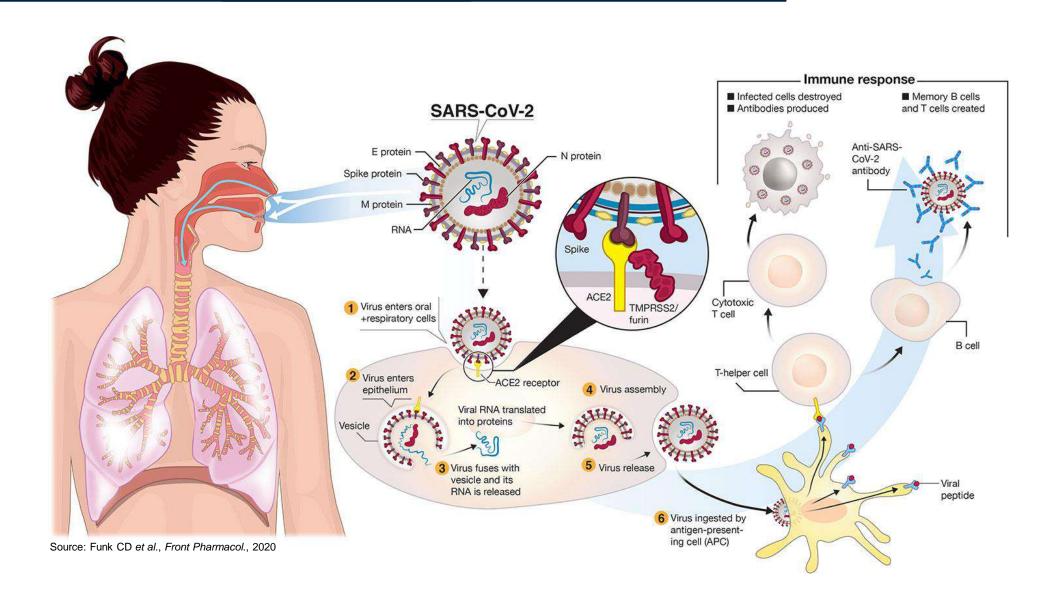


#### Globally > 170 million confirmed cases

- respiratory illness
- course of disease varies in symptoms and severity
- possible long-term effects (long COVID) in convalescents
- caused by a newly emerged coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2
- multiple SARS-CoV-2 variants are circulating globally

### Understanding the host immune defense





### Antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2

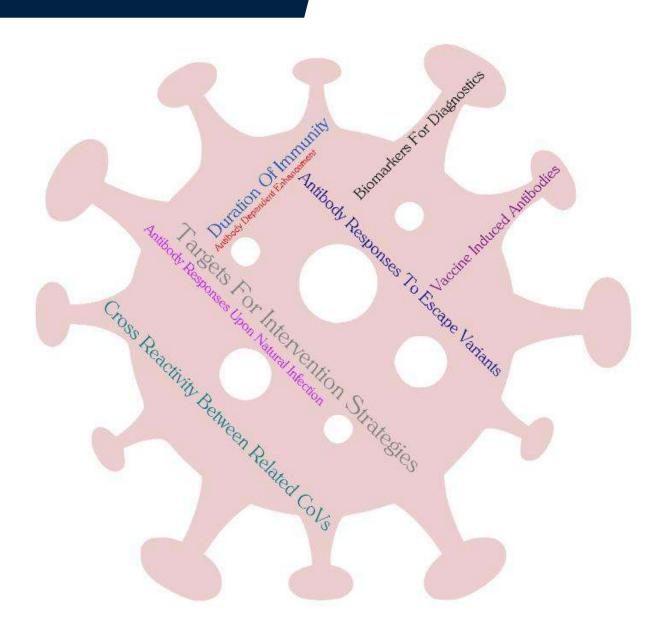


#### Essential for anti-viral defense:

virus neutralization

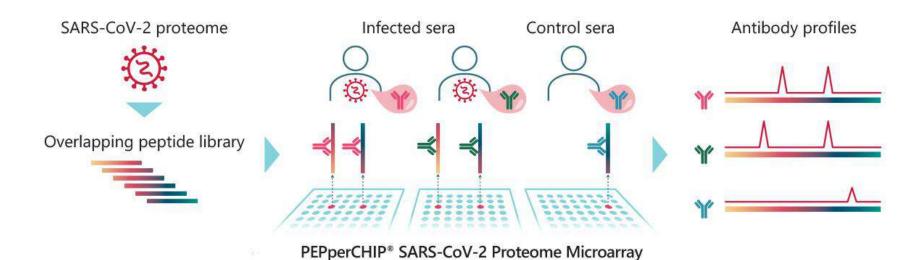
#### Significance to understand humoral responses:

- strategies for active and passive immunization
- accurate serological diagnostics
- epidemiological studies

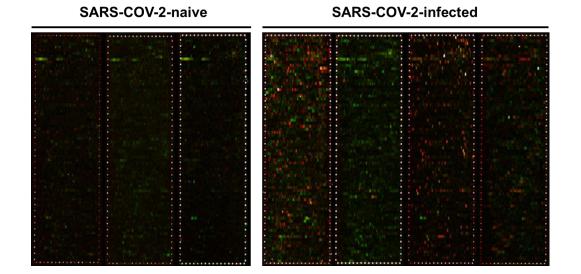


### Proteome-wide antibody screening





Whole proteome of SARS-CoV-2 isolate Wuhan-Hu-1 (GenBank ID: MN908947.3) translated into 4,883 individual peptides

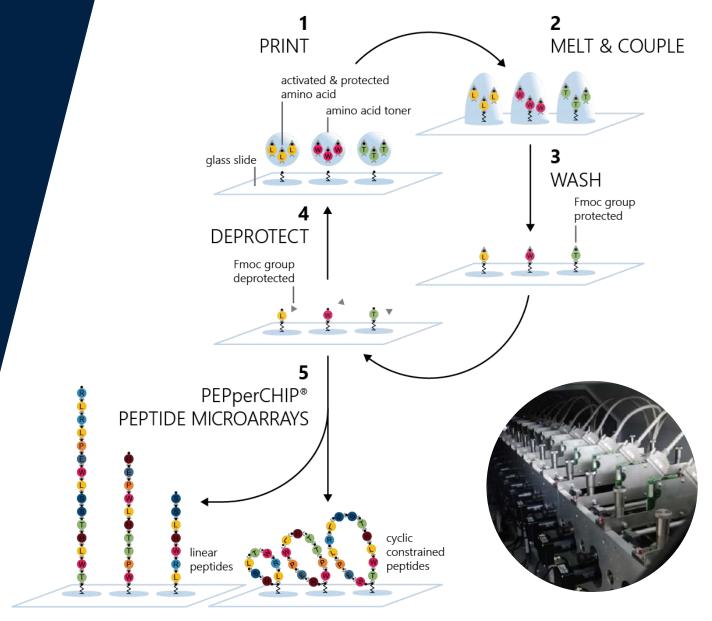


Epitope-resolved view of antibody responses

### Our Platform Technology

- High spot density (1,200 peptides/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- Digital printing flexibility: multiple formats with high scalability
- Fast production times
- High peptide quality with routine double couplings
- Very low material consumption

















#### ORIGINAL RESEARCH

published: 23 March 2021 doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2021.629185



#### SARS-CoV-2 Proteome-Wide Analysis Revealed Significant Epitope Signatures in COVID-19 Patients

Tatjana Schwarz<sup>1†</sup>, Kirsten Heiss<sup>2†</sup>, Yuvaraj Mahendran<sup>2</sup>, Fiordiligie Casilag<sup>2</sup>, Florian Kurth<sup>3</sup>, Leif E. Sander<sup>3</sup>, Clemens-Martin Wendtner<sup>4</sup>, Manuela A. Hoechstetter<sup>4</sup>, Marcel A. Müller<sup>1</sup>, Renate Sekul<sup>2</sup>, Christian Drosten<sup>1,5</sup>, Volker Stadler<sup>2\*‡</sup> and Victor M. Corman<sup>1,5\*‡</sup>

#### **OPEN ACCESS**

#### Edited by:

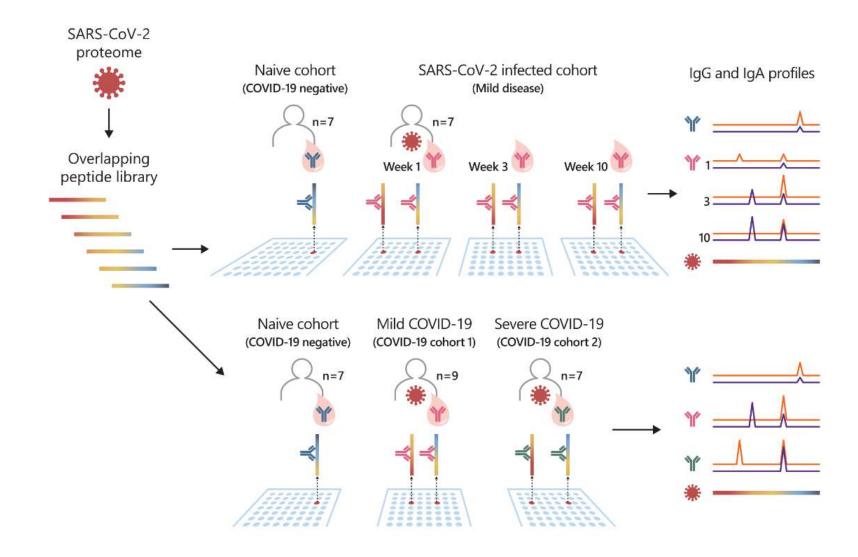
Sean X. Leng, Johns Hopkins University, United States <sup>1</sup> Institute of Virology, Charité—Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Corporate Member of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Berlin Institute of Health, Berlin, Germany, <sup>2</sup> PEPperPRINT GmbH, R&D unit, Heidelberg, Germany, <sup>3</sup> Department of Infectious Diseases and Respiratory Medicine, Charité—Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Corporate Member of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Berlin Institute of Health, Berlin, Germany, <sup>4</sup> Munich Clinic Schwabing, Academic Teaching Hospital, Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU), Munich, Germany, <sup>5</sup> German Centre for Infection Research, Associated Partner Charité, Berlin, Germany









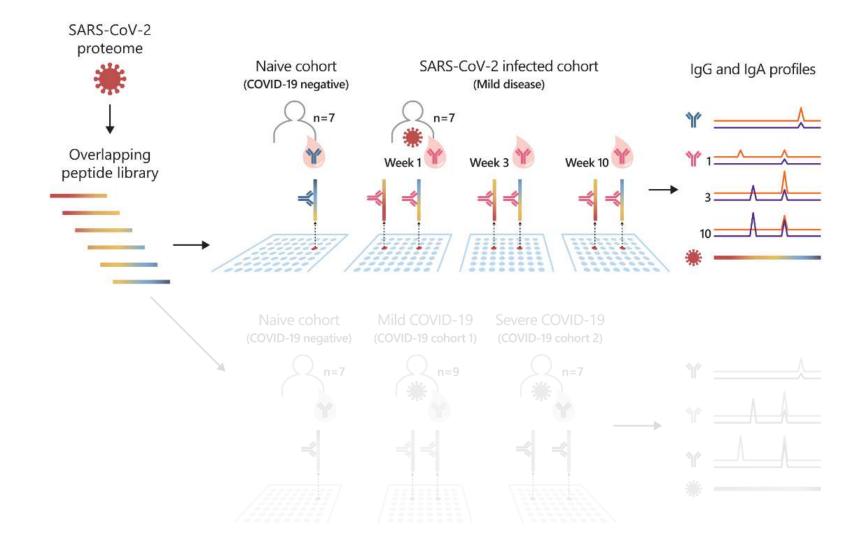












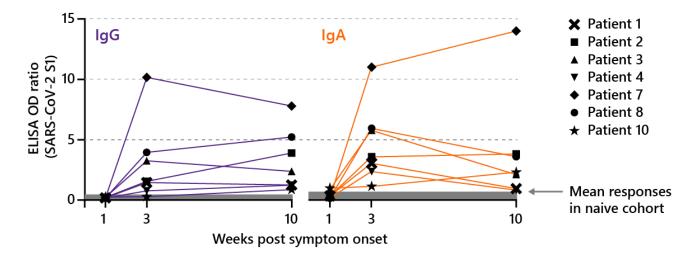
### Longevity of epitope-specific antibody responses



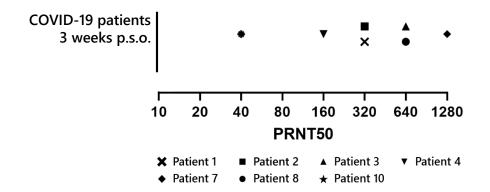




Longitudinal antibody response to SARS-CoV-2 Spike S1



Neutralization titers



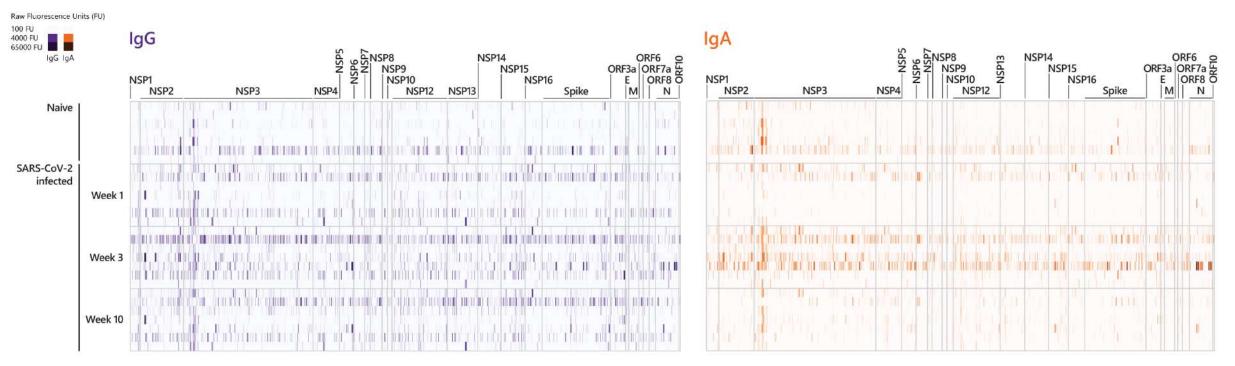
#### Longevity of epitope-specific antibody responses











- Heterogeneous breadth of antibody responses across COVID-19 patients for both IgG and IgA
- IgG: increasing epitope-specific antibody responses in most instances towards later time points
- IgA: early responses rather weak; peak in antibody responses 3 weeks p.s.o. before declining for most of the epitopes

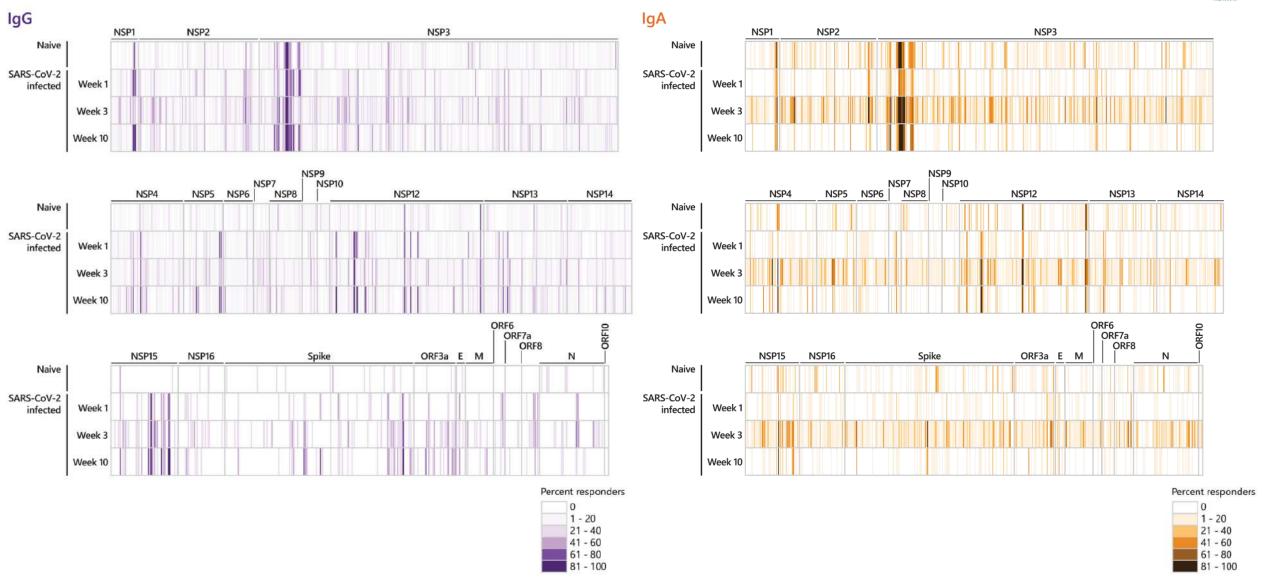
### Longevity of epitope-specific antibody responses











### E<sub>6662</sub>-R<sub>6676</sub>: a potential serological marker

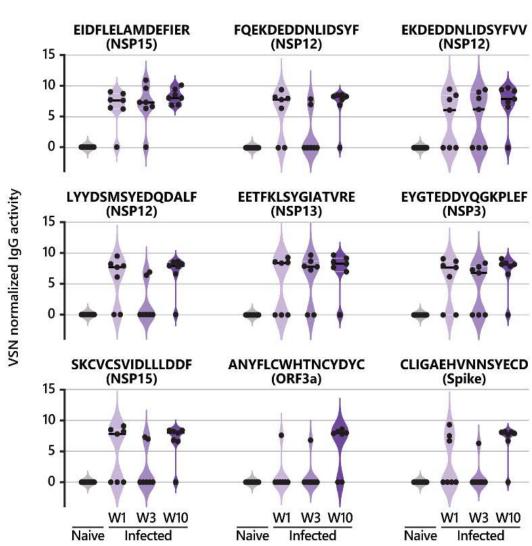








- Most epitopes could be assigned to proteins located in the ORF1a/b polyprotein
- Significant reactivity against a NSP15-derived peptide  $(E_{6662}-R_{6676})$  across the entire time span of analysis
- The other peptides were only significant at the late convalescent phase
- Spike protein-derived epitope  $C_{649}$ - $D_{663}$  is located in the S1 domain, adjacent to the S1/S2 cleavage site

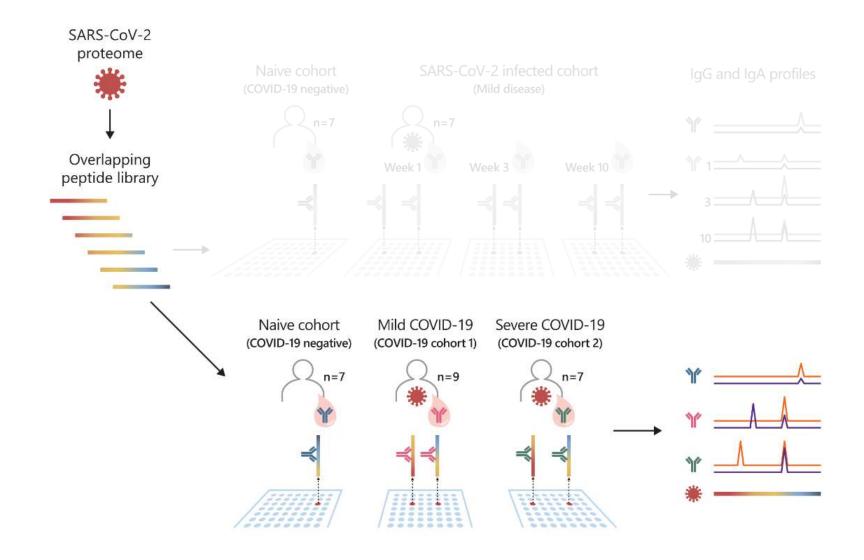












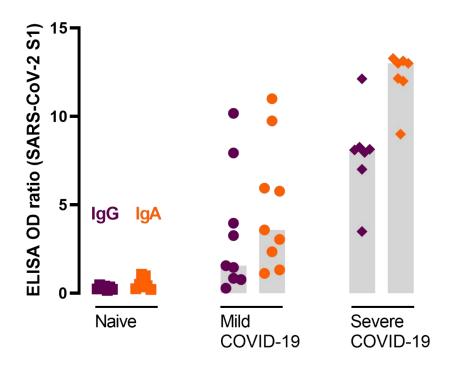
### Higher antibody response against \$1 in severe COVID-19

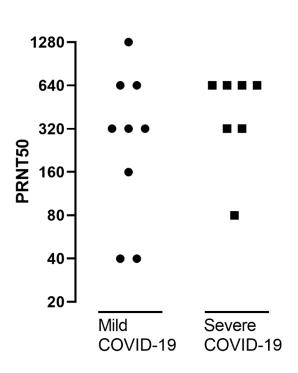












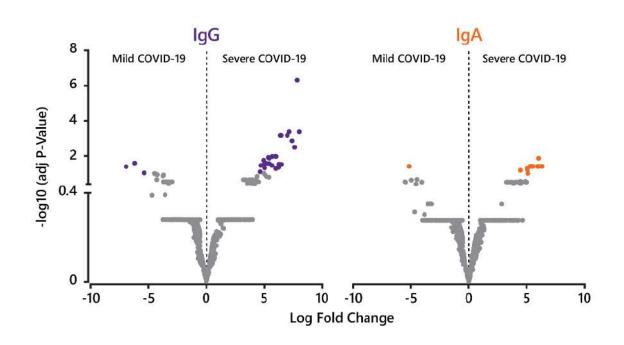
#### Epitope signatures in mild & severe COVID-19

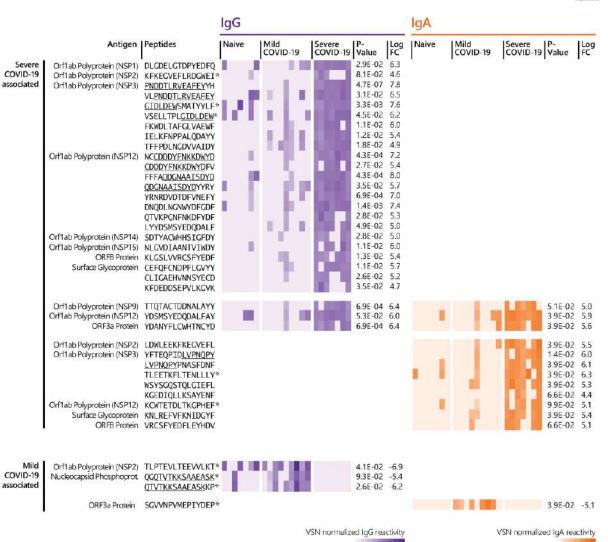












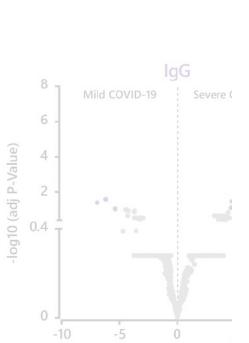
#### Epitope recognition associated with severe COVID-19

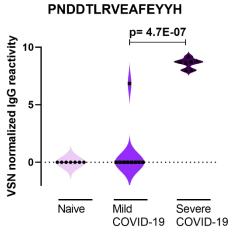


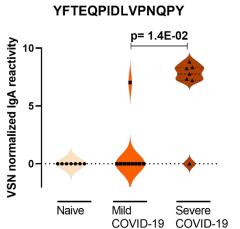


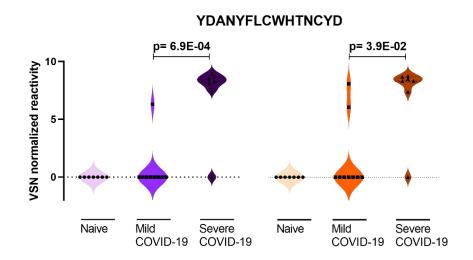


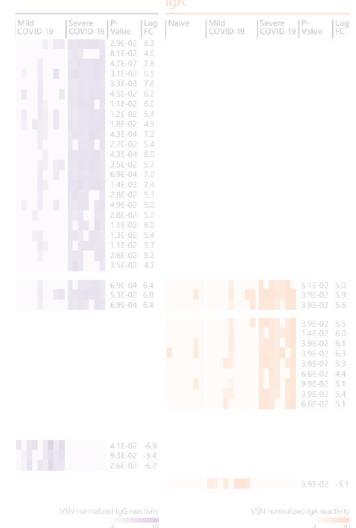












#### Conclusions









#### SARS-CoV-2 proteome-wide antibody screening identified:

- Antibody responses to linear B cell epitopes potentially applicable as serological markers of early and/or late SARS-CoV-2 infection
- Antibody responses to a Spike S1 epitope, which may interfere with furin-mediated cleavage
- Epitopes as potential biomarkers able to discriminate severe from mild COVID-19 disease courses
- Further validation of suitability as serological markers needed (e.g. larger patient cohorts)

#### SARS-CoV-2 customer studies







Journal of Virology

th (1)

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Vaccines and Antiviral Agents

#### SARS-CoV-2 spike protein stabilized in the closed state induces potent neutralizing responses.

George W. Carnell, Katarzyna A. Ciazynska, David A. Wells, Xiaoli Xiong, Ernest T. Aguinam, Stephen H. McLaughlin, Donna Mallery, Soraya Ebrahimi, Lourdes Ceron-Gutierrez. Benedikt Asbach, Sebastian Einhauser, Ralf Wagner, Leo C. James, Rainer Doffinger, Jonathan L. Heeney, John A. G. Briggs

DOI: 10.1128/JVI.00203-21

MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, anti-Spike responses





Article

Longitudinal Development of Antibody Responses in COVID-19 Patients of Different Severity with ELISA, Peptide, and Glycan Arrays: An Immunological Case Series

Jasmin Heidepriem <sup>1,†</sup>, Christine Dahlke <sup>2,3,4,\*,†</sup>, Robin Kobbe <sup>2</sup>, René Santer <sup>5</sup>, Till Koch <sup>2,3,4</sup>, Anahita Fathi <sup>2,3,4</sup>, Bruna M. S. Seco <sup>1</sup>, My L. Ly <sup>2,3,4</sup>, Stefan Schmiedel <sup>2</sup>, Dorothee Schwinge <sup>6</sup>, Sonia Serna <sup>7</sup>, Katrin Sellrie <sup>1</sup>, Niels-Christian Reichardt <sup>7,8</sup>, Peter H. Seeberger <sup>1</sup>, Marylyn M. Addo <sup>2,3,4,\*</sup>, Felix F. Loeffler <sup>1,\*</sup> and on behalf of the ID-UKE COVID-19 Study Group <sup>‡</sup>

MPI of Colloids and Interfaces, proteome-wide screening





Article

#### SARS-CoV-2 Epitope Mapping on Microarrays Highlights Strong Immune-Response to N Protein Region

Angelo Musicò <sup>1,†</sup>, Roberto Frigerio <sup>1,†</sup>, Alessandro Mussida <sup>1</sup>, Luisa Barzon <sup>2</sup><sup>10</sup>, Alessandro Sinigaglia <sup>2</sup>, Silvia Riccetti <sup>2</sup>, Federico Gobbi <sup>3</sup>, Chiara Piubelli <sup>3</sup><sup>10</sup>, Greta Bergamaschi <sup>1</sup><sup>10</sup>, Marcella Chiari <sup>1</sup>, Alessandro Gori <sup>1,\*,‡</sup><sup>10</sup> and Marina Cretich <sup>1,\*,‡</sup><sup>10</sup>

National Research Council of Italy, proteome-wide screening

Hindawi

Journal of Immunology Research Volume 2020, Article ID 9465398, 8 pages https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/9465398



#### Research Article

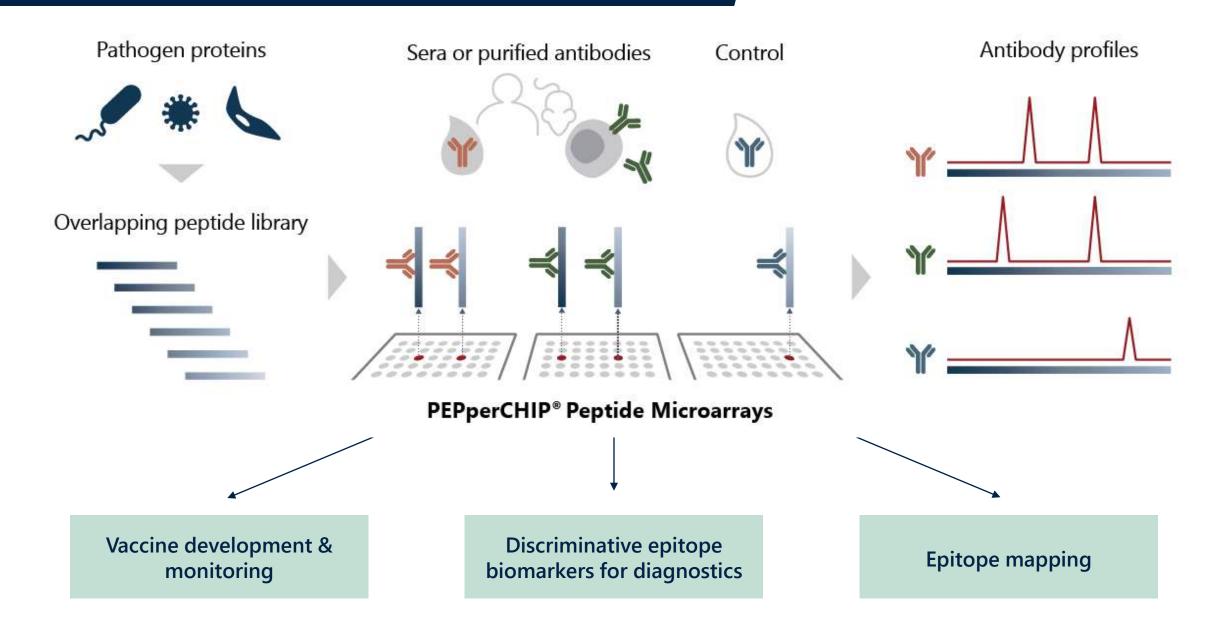
Generation of Chicken IgY against SARS-COV-2 Spike Protein and Epitope Mapping

Yan Lu<sup>0</sup>, <sup>1</sup> Yajun Wang<sup>0</sup>, <sup>2</sup> Zhen Zhang, <sup>3</sup> Jingliang Huang<sup>0</sup>, <sup>4</sup> Meicun Yao, <sup>5</sup> Guobin Huang<sup>0</sup>, <sup>6</sup> Yuanyuan Ge, <sup>6</sup> Peichun Zhang<sup>0</sup>, <sup>1</sup> Huaxin Huang, <sup>1</sup> Yong Wang<sup>0</sup>, <sup>7</sup> Huiliang Li<sup>0</sup>, <sup>2</sup> and Wen Wang<sup>0</sup>

Huamin Medicine Co Ltd, anti-Spike responses

### Applications for peptide microarrays





#### Vaccine development & monitoring





npj Vaccines

www.nature.com/npjvaccines

ARTICLE OPEN

Immunization with full-length *Plasmodium falciparum* merozoite surface protein 1 is safe and elicits functional cytophilic antibodies in a randomized first-in-human trial

Antje Blank 0<sup>1,9</sup>, Kristin Fürle<sup>2,9</sup>, Anja Jäschke<sup>2,9</sup>, Gerd Mikus<sup>1</sup>, Monika Lehmann<sup>3</sup>, Johannes Hüsing<sup>3</sup>, Kirsten Heiss<sup>4</sup>, Thomas Giese<sup>5</sup>, Darrick Carter<sup>9</sup>, Ernst Böhnlein<sup>7</sup>, Michael Lanzer 0<sup>2,104</sup>, Walter E. Haefeli<sup>1,104</sup> and Hermann Bujard<sup>7,8,10</sup>

Heidelberg Hospital & Sumaya Biotech, Malaria Vaccine Phase 1 Trial



www.nature.com/npjvaccines

ARTICLE OPE



Immunization of mice with chimeric antigens displaying selected epitopes confers protection against intestinal colonization and renal damage caused by Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* 

David A. Montero<sup>1,2</sup>, Felipe Del Canto<sup>1</sup>, Juan C. Salazar<sup>1</sup>, Sandra Céspedes<sup>1</sup>, Leandro Cádiz<sup>1</sup>, Mauricio Arenas-Salinas <sup>1</sup>, José Reyes<sup>4</sup>, Ángel Oñate <sup>1</sup> and Roberto M. Vidal <sup>1</sup>

Universidad de Chile, Epitope Screening for Antigen Design

#### RESEARCH ARTICLE

Biotechnology Journ

www.biotechnology-journal.com

Epitopes of Naturally Acquired and Vaccine-Induced Anti-Ebola Virus Glycoprotein Antibodies in Single Amino Acid Resolution

Jasmin Heidepriem, Verena Krähling, Christine Dahlke, Timo Wolf, Florian Klein, Marylyn M. Addo,\* Stephan Becker,\* and Felix F. Loeffler\*

BNI for Tropical Medicine, EBOV Antibody Signatures



ARTICLE

Received 23 Jun 2016 | Accepted 20 Oct 2016 | Published 14 Dec 2016

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms13627

OPEN

Functional screening for anti-CMV biologics identifies a broadly neutralizing epitope of an essential envelope protein

Thomas J. Gardner<sup>1</sup>, Kathryn R. Stein<sup>1</sup>, J. Andrew Duty<sup>1,2</sup>, Toni M. Schwarz<sup>1</sup>, Vanessa M. Noriega<sup>1</sup>, Thomas Kraus<sup>2</sup>, Thomas M. Moran<sup>1,2</sup> & Domenico Tortorella<sup>1</sup>

Icahn School of Medicine, Immunotherapeutics and Vaccines

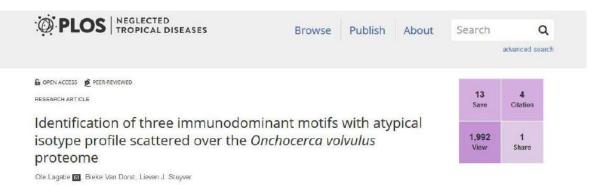
#### Biomarker discovery & epitope mapping



Chem Rx V

severe clinical phenotypes





Janssen Diagnostics, Proteome-wide Epitope Mappings



Mapping Putative B-Cell Zika Virus NS1 Epitopes Provides Molecular Basis for Anti-NS1 Antibody Discrimination between Zika and Dengue Viruses

Marjorie C. L. C. Freire, <sup>†</sup> Laércio Pol-Fachin, <sup>†,‡</sup> Danilo F. Coêlho, <sup>†,‡</sup> Isabelle F. T. Viana, <sup>†</sup> Tereza Magalhães, <sup>†</sup> Marli T. Cordeiro, <sup>†</sup> Nico Fischer, <sup>§,⊥</sup> Felix F. Loeffler, <sup>||,⊥</sup> Thomas Jaenisch, <sup>§,⊥</sup> Rafael F. Franca, <sup>†</sup> Ernesto T. A. Marques, <sup>\*,†,#</sup> and Roberto D. Lins <sup>\*,†,‡</sup>

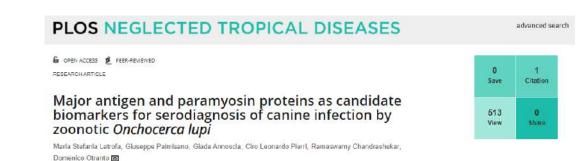
Aggeu Magalhães Institute & Federal University of Pernambuco

| Identification of a Zika NS2B epitope for which absence of IgG response is |
|--|
| associated with severe neurological symptoms and the design of a           |
| biomarker capable of discriminatory diagnostics between severe and non-    |

Search on chemRxiv.

Felix F. Loeffler<sup>a,¶</sup>, Isabelle F.T. Viana<sup>b,¶</sup>, Nico Fischer<sup>c</sup>, Danilo F. Coêlho<sup>b,d</sup>, Carolina S. Silva<sup>e</sup>, Antônio F. Purificação Jr.<sup>b</sup>, Catarina M.C.S. Araújo<sup>b</sup>, Bruno H.S. Leite<sup>b</sup>, Ricardo Durães-Carvalho<sup>f</sup>, Tereza Magalhães<sup>g</sup>, Clarice N.L. Morais<sup>b</sup>, Marli T. Cordeiro<sup>b</sup>, Roberto D. Lins<sup>2,®</sup>, Ernesto T.A. Marques<sup>b,b,®</sup> and Thomas Jaenisch<sup>c,i,®</sup>\*

Heidelberg Hospital & Aggeu Magalhães Institute, Epitope mapping



University of Bari & Bu-Ali Sina University, Epitope mapping

# Applications for peptide microarrays





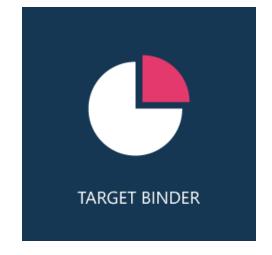
















# Thank you for joining the webinar

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### Appendix



#### Workflow for statistical analysis

