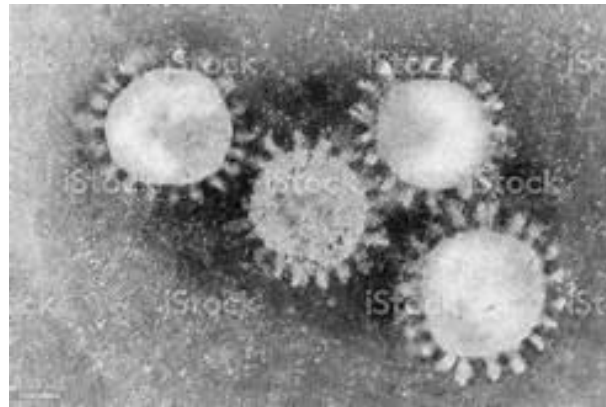


Origin and Evolution of SARS-COV-2



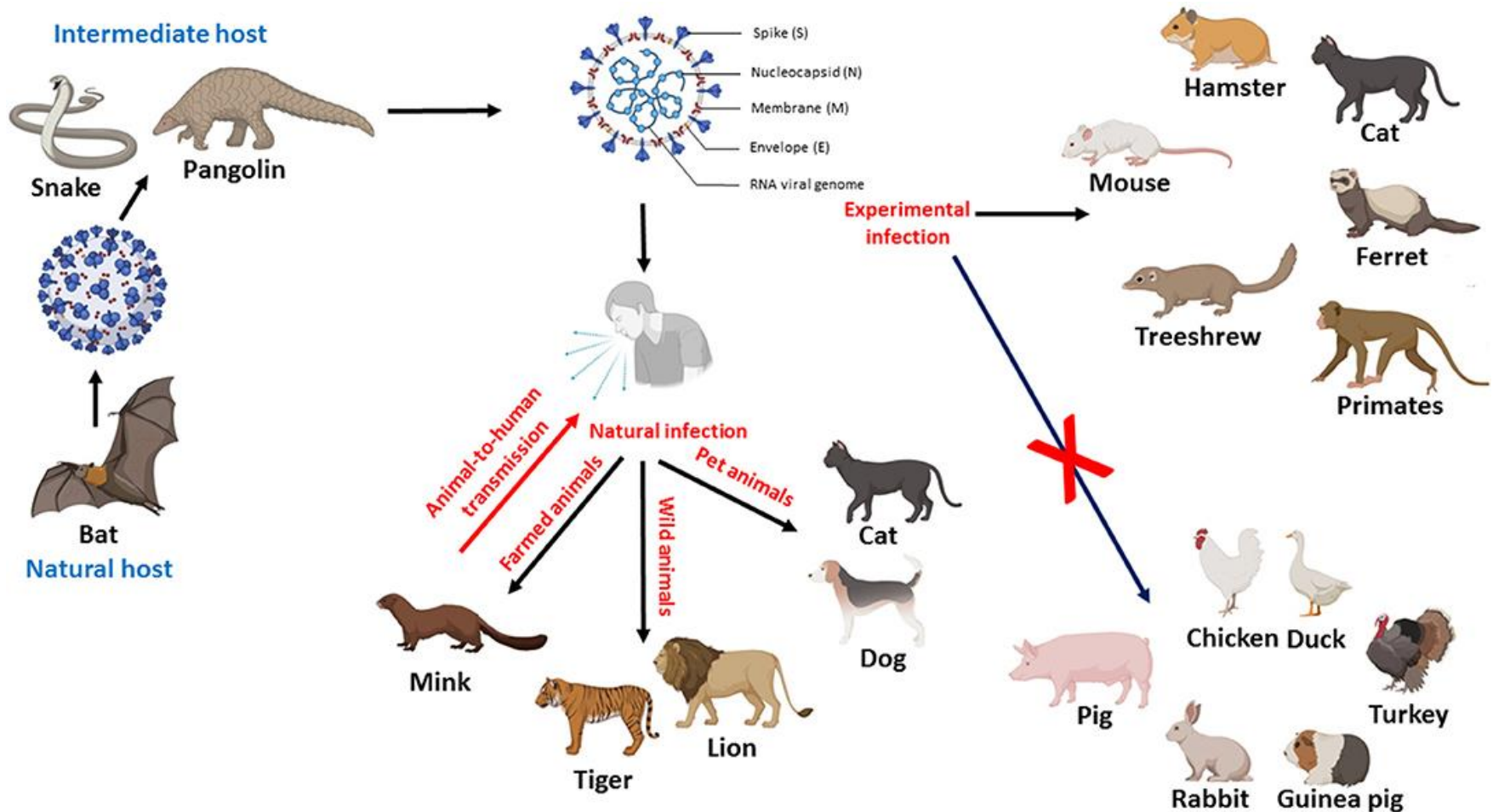
Relatore: PhD Vicenti Ilaria, ricercatrice

Università degli Studi di Siena, Dipartimento di Biotecnologie Mediche
Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Senese, Microbiologia e Virologia

Coronavirus

- Long known as animal and human pathogens (first coronavirus discovered in 1931)
- High propensity for genetic recombination across host species boundaries (spillover)
- Persistent in reservoir hosts
- Increasing contact between humans and a variety of wild mammals provides abundant opportunities for inter-species transfer

SARS-CoV-2 host reservoir



It is essential to identify the potential virus reservoir to avoid repeated contacts among the species involved

SARS-CoV-2 evolution

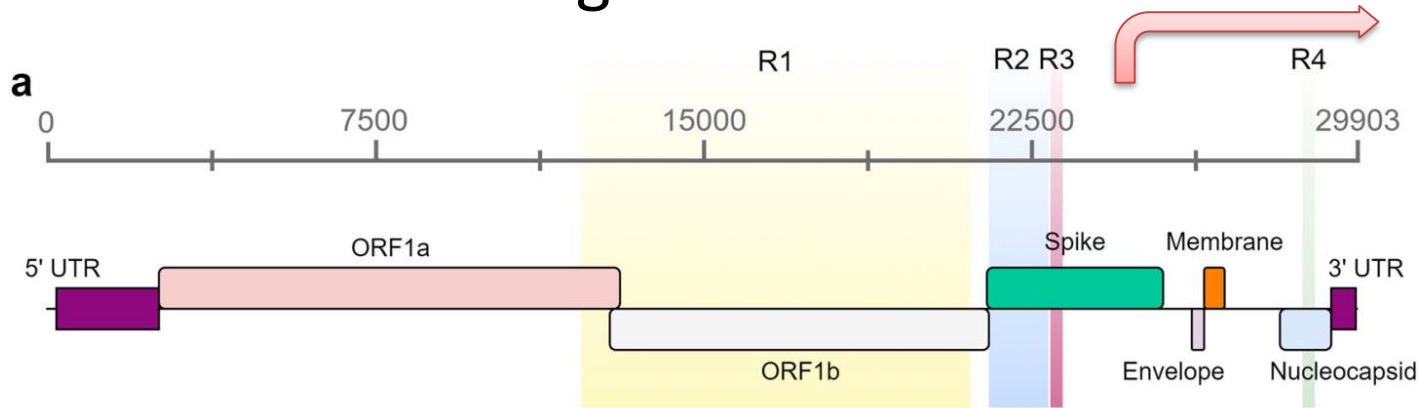
Table 2. SARS-CoV-2 genomic sequence similarity to SARS-like coronaviruses, SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV.

Coronavirus Strain	Genomic Sequence Similarity to SARS-CoV-2	Reference
SARS-like coronavirus bat-RaTG13	96.2%	[21]
SARS-like coronavirus bat-SL-CoVZC45	88%	[21]
SARS-like coronavirus bat-SL-CoVZXC21	88%	[21]
SARS-CoV	79%	[39]
MERS-CoV	51.8%	[40]

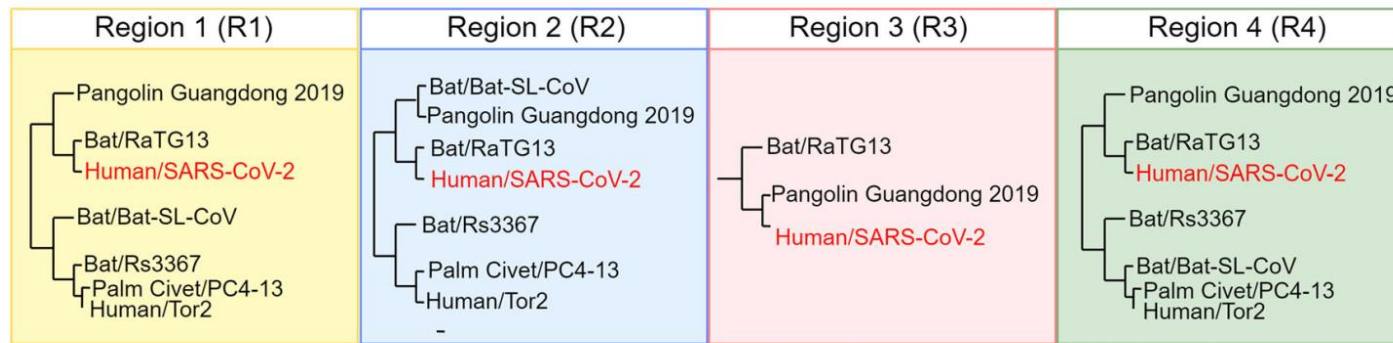
Sharma et al., Viruses 2021

- The closest SARS-CoV-2 relative is a coronavirus strain found in a bat sample from Yunnan Province, China, in 2013. This strain is referred to as “RaTG13” (horseshoe bat, *Rhinolophus affinis*) (*Boni et al, Nature Microbiology 2020*).
- The divergence distance increases in the Receptor Binding Domain:
 - The spike is a mosaic of different recombination events

SARS-CoV-2 region involved in recombination events



R3 includes the variable loop region of the S protein and 6 residues of RBD. It shares the closest similarity with the pangolin coronavirus strain



Regions 1, 2 and 4 are closely related to the bat coronavirus RaTG13



Singh et al, Exp Mol Med 2021

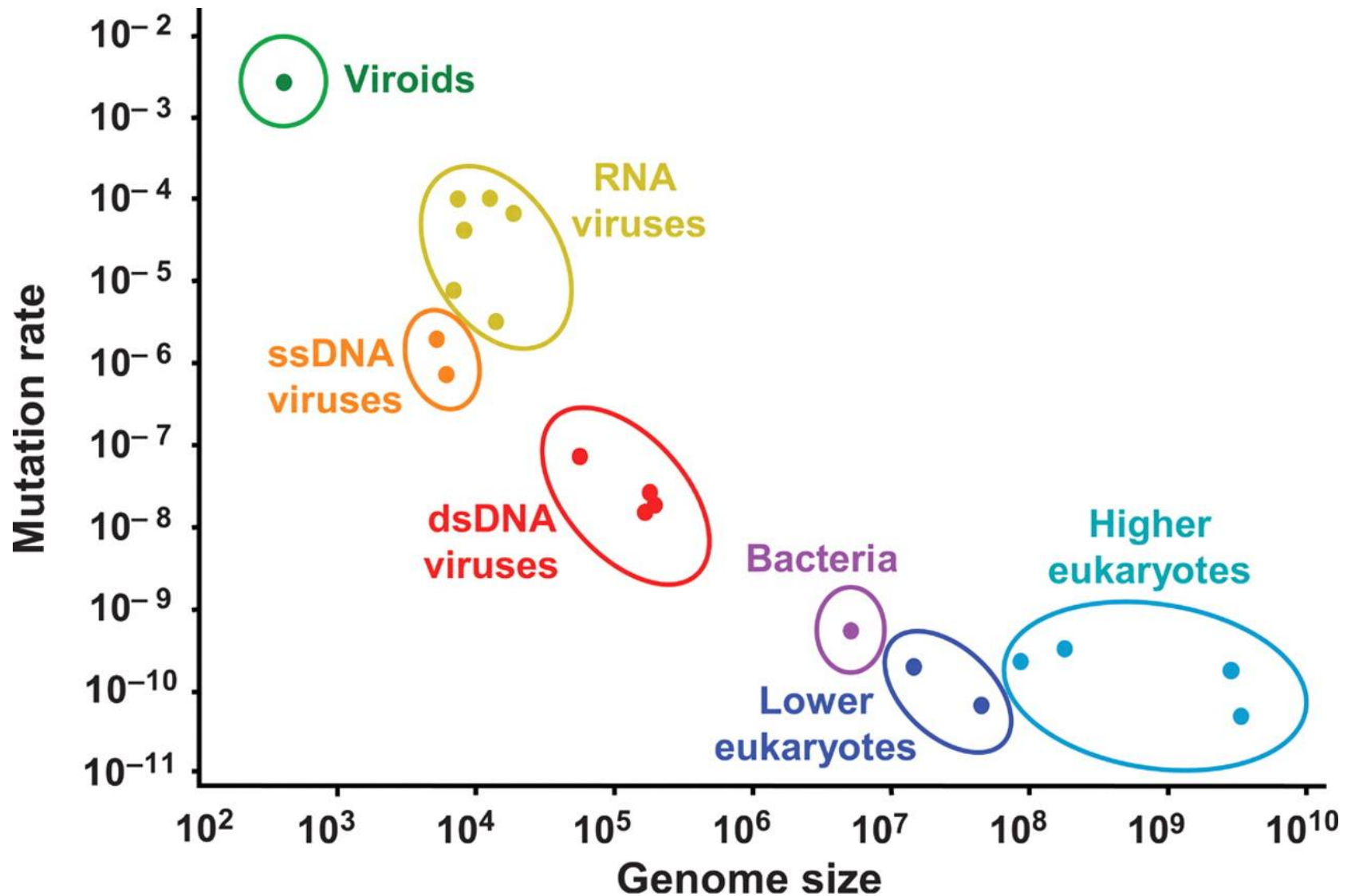
Scenario 1:

- 1) SARS-CoV-2 and RaTG13 divergence
- 2) SARS-CoV-2/Pangolin Guangdong 2019 recombination

Scenario 2:

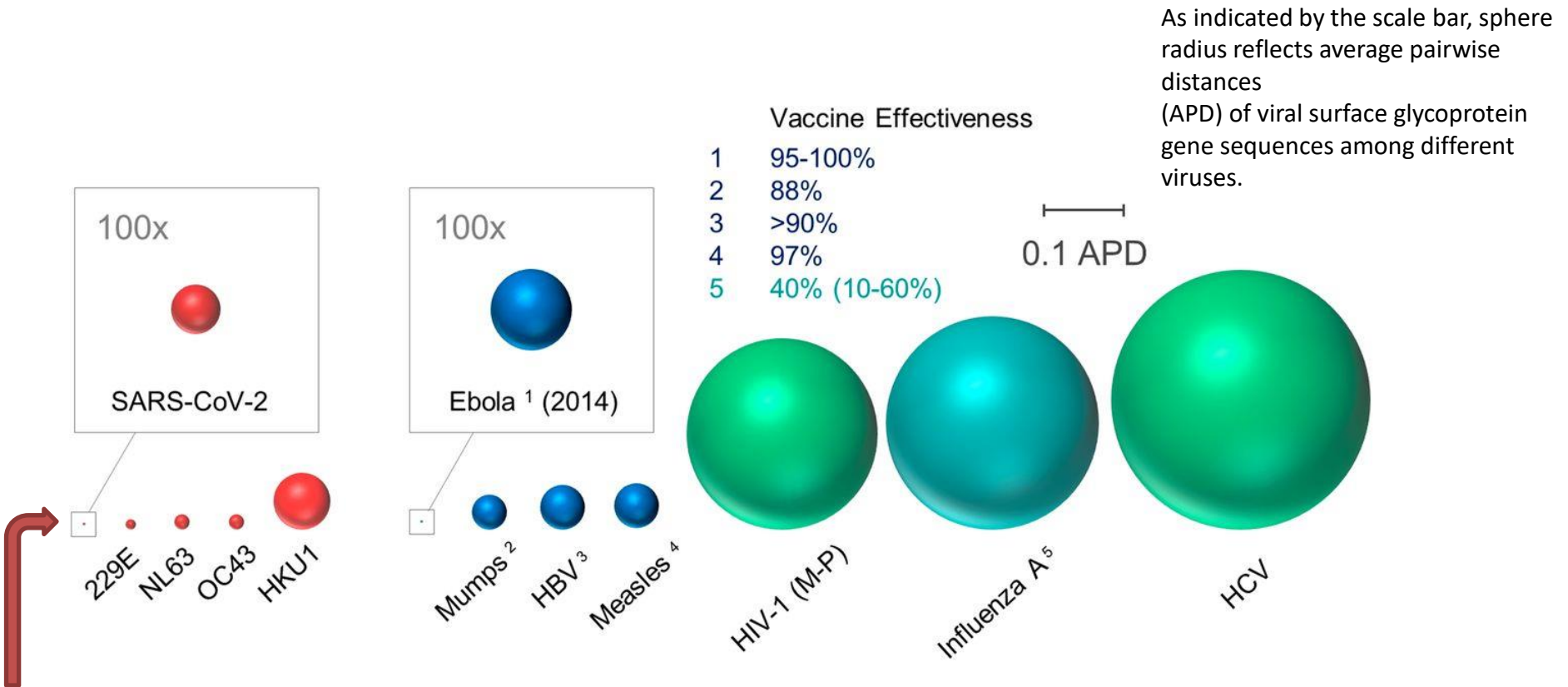
- 1) Common ancestral lineage of SARS-CoV-2/RaTG13/Pangolin Guangdong 2019 lineage recombination
- 2) accumulation of mutations in the RaTG13 lineage.

Spontaneous mutations rate



Gago S et al., Science 2009

Comparative genetic diversity among surface glycoproteins

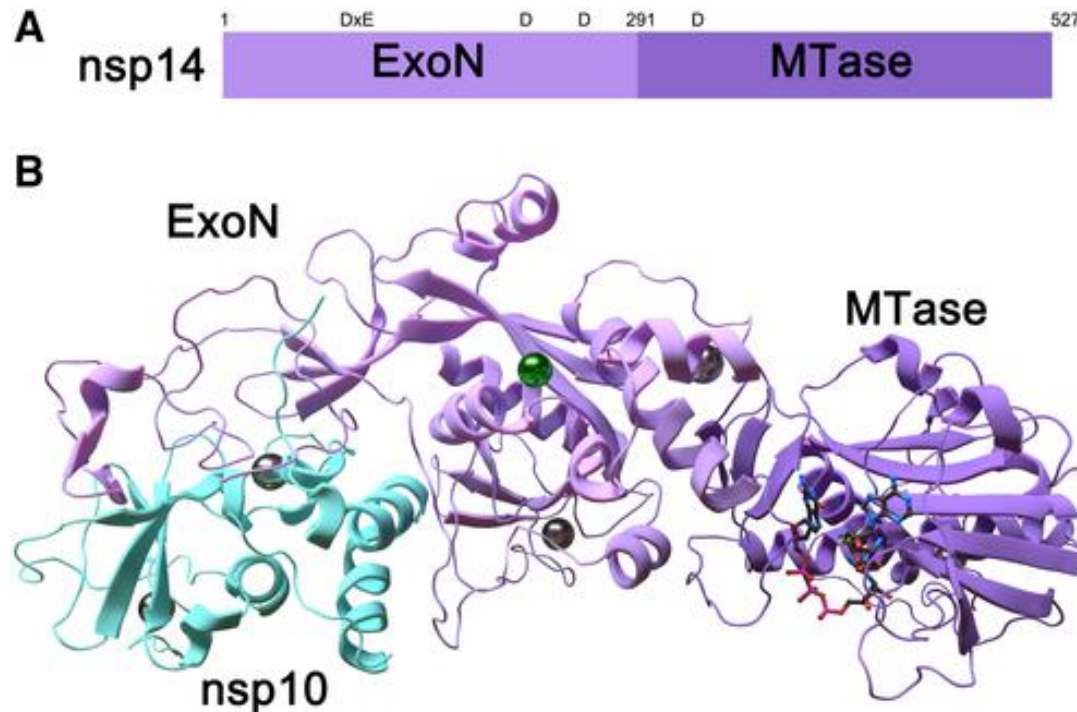


Rausch et al., PNAS 2020 doi: 10.1073/pnas.2017726117

low rate of antigenic variation

The evolutionary rate of SARS- CoV-2 has been estimated to be between 0.0004 and 0.002 mutations per nucleotide per year

Additional mechanisms of error correction: RNA proofreading



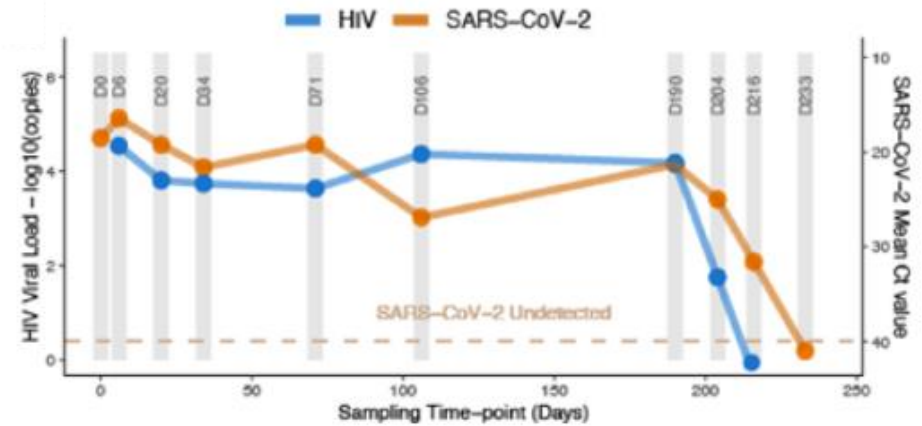
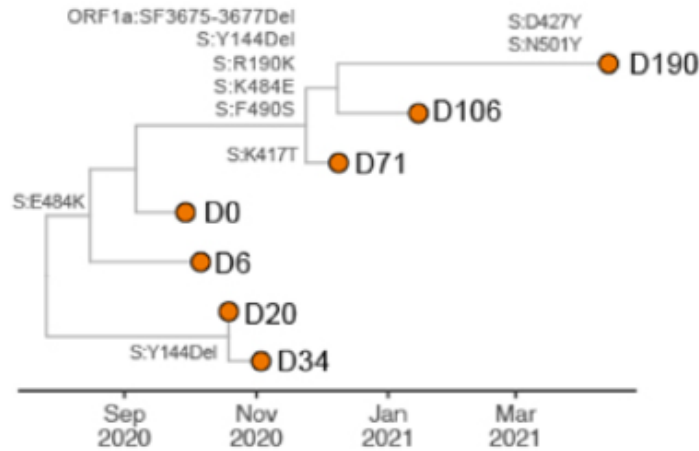
- Nsp14 is a DEDD exonucleases with proofreading activity, initially discovered in SARS-CoV
- Knockout mutants of SARS-CoV were shown to accumulate a high number of mutations (Saramago M et al., The FEBS Journal 2021).
- Nsp14 reduces replication error rate by about 15- fold to 20- fold in vitro, resulting in an in vivo viral mutation rate about 10- fold lower than that of influenza (Tao et al., Nature Review 2021)
- Inactivation of ExoN results in decreased recombination frequency in vitro (Gribble et al., PloS Pathogens 2021)

SARS-CoV-2 Evolution during pandemic

Factors driving SARS-CoV-2 evolution despite a relatively low mutation rate:

- Extremely large **population size** and prolonged **duration** of the pandemic
- Generation of **insertion and/or deletions** which are not subject to proofreading activity (*McCarthy et al., Science 2021*)
- Host-mediated **RNA editing** by APOBEC and ADAR enzymes (C to U changes in specific dinucleotide contexts)
- **Recombination** events and intra-host evolution

Persistent infection allows intra-host viral evolution



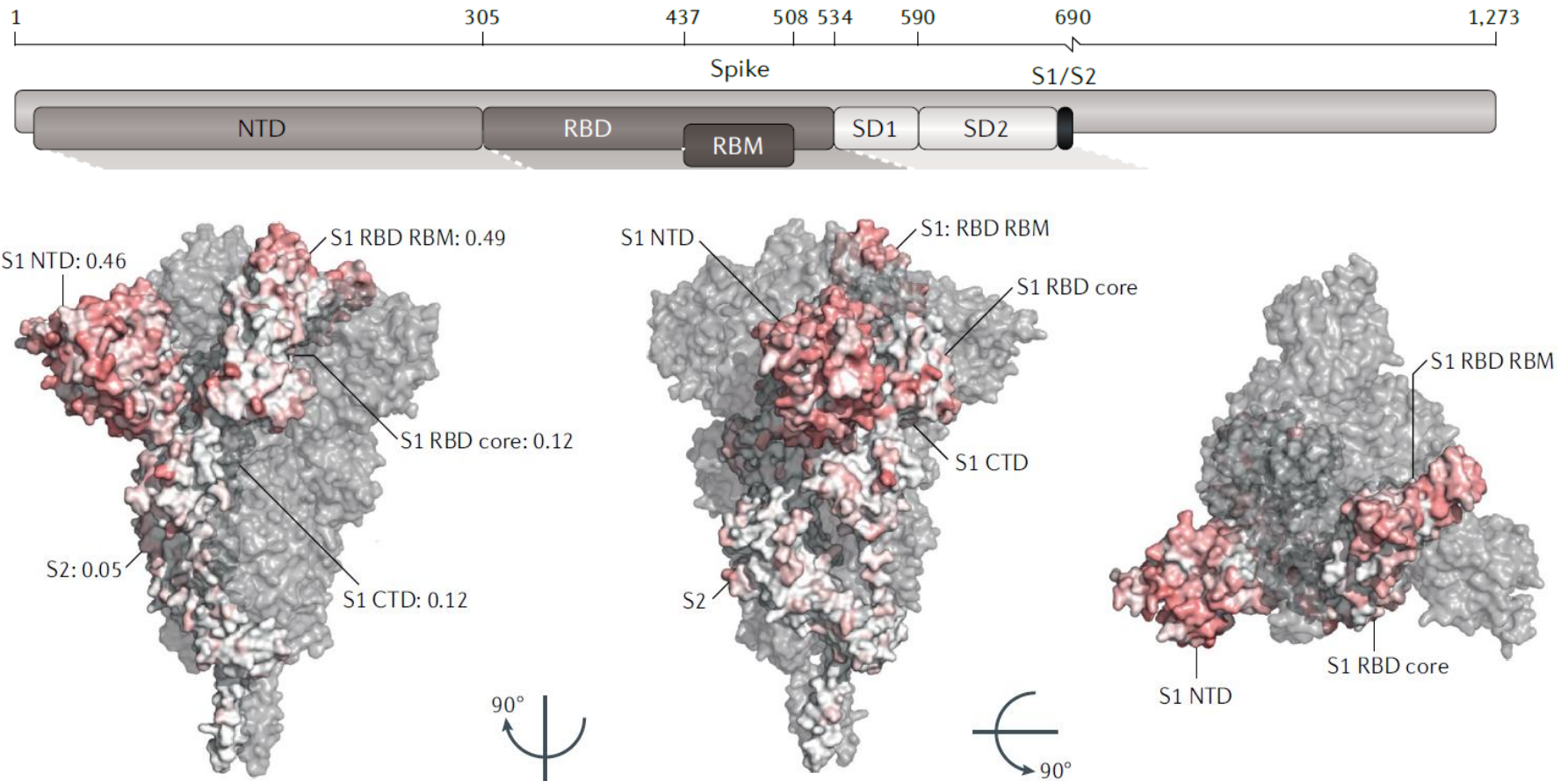
	S													N				ORF1a										ORF1a										
	9	142	144	190	417	427	455	456	484	490	501	614	796	1078	145	203	204	205	1233	1267	1352	1474	1500	2201	2267	2796	2797	3674	3675	3676	3677	176	314	657	1028	1161	1289	1936
	P	G	Y	R	K	D	L	F	E	F	N	D	D	A	H	R	G	T	K	S	A	T	H	N	R	M	S	L	S	G	F	A	P	M	D	P	T	P
D0		V										G	Y			K	R				V	I			G								V	L			L	
D6												G		V		K	R				V	I			G								V	L				H
D20												G				K	R				V	I			G								V	L			L	
D34												G				K	R				V	I			G				F				V	L			L	
D71	L			K	T					S		G	Y			K	R		N		V	I			G								V	L		A		
D106							F	L		S		G				N/A	N/A		A	V	I		Y	G	X	F							L					
D190				K	Y					S	Y	G	Y		Y			I	N	V	I	Y			G								V	L	T	A		S

The E484K mutation in the spike RBD emerged very early in the course of infection, At day 34, the Y144 deletion emerged and persisted up to day 106. As infection persisted, the E484K mutation was replaced by mutations at other sites in the RBD

Variant: VOC, VOI and VUM

- **VARIANT**: A viral genome containing one or more not-synonymous mutations, mostly detected in the spike gene
- **VOC**: Variants that have spread widely and displayed evidence for being **more transmissible**, causing **more severe disease** and/or **reducing neutralization by antibodies** generated during previous infection or vaccination
- **VOI**: Variants that have spread less widely but contain mutations similar to those present within VOCs
- **VUM**: Variants with genetic changes that are suspected to affect virus characteristics. Evidence of phenotypic or epidemiological impact is currently unclear, requiring enhanced monitoring.

Spike structure



- The SARS- CoV-2 spike protein is a trimeric glycoprotein responsible for virus entry into host cells
- Attachment domain (S1), Fusion domain (S2), Receptor Binding domain (RBD; 328aa), Receptor binding motif (RBM; 20aa)
- RBD alternates between a closed/down position and an open/up position (bound to ACE-2)
- Variability: RBM>RBD>S1>S2

VOC (Last update by WHO 23/02/2022)

WHO label	Pango lineage*	Nextstrain clade	Additional amino acid changes monitored§	Earliest documented samples	Date of designation	ECDC°	CDC°
Alpha	B.1.1.7	20I (V1)	+S:484K +S:452R	United Kingdom, Sep-2020	18-Dec-2020	De-escalated	VBM
Beta	B.1.351	20H (V2)	+S:L18F	South Africa, May-2020	18-Dec-2020	VOC	VBM
Gamma	P.1	20J (V3)	+S:681H	Brazil, Nov-2020	11-Jan-2021	VOC	VBM
Delta	B.1.617.2	21A, 21I, 21J	+S:417N +S:484K	India, Oct-2020	VOI: 4-Apr-2021 VOC: 11-May-2021	VOC	VOC
Omicron	B.1.1.529	21K, 21L 21M	+S:R346K	Multiple countries, Nov-2021	VUM: 24-Nov-2021 VOC: 26-Nov-2021	VOC	VOC

*Phylogenetic Assignment of Named Global Outbreak (PANGO). Alphabetical prefix and a suffix containing up to 3 numbers separated by periods indicating sub- lineages. (<https://cov-lineages.org/index.html#cite>)

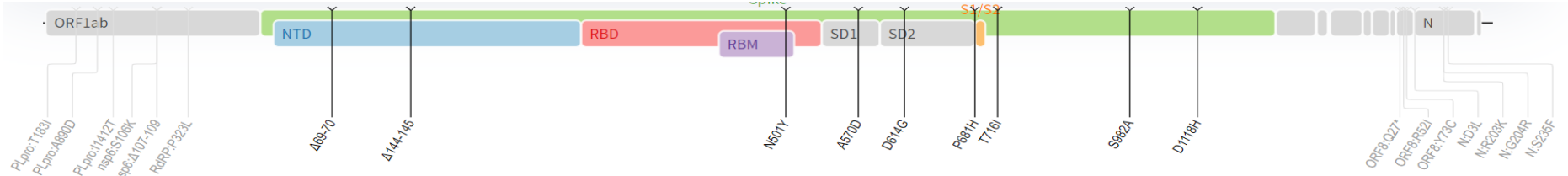
+ Nextstrain. The first numbers represent the year of variant emergence followed by a letter assigned when the variant reach the 20% of worldwide prevalence

§ Only found in a subset of sequences

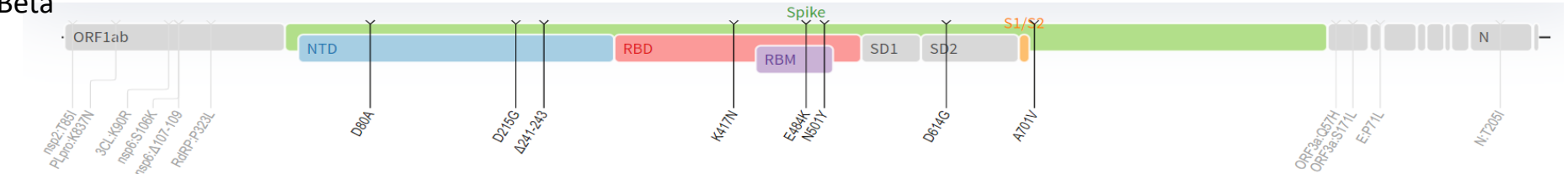
° ECDC and CDC designation as VOC, De-Escalated variants (ECDC) or VBM (Variant Being Monitored)

Mutational pattern of VOCs

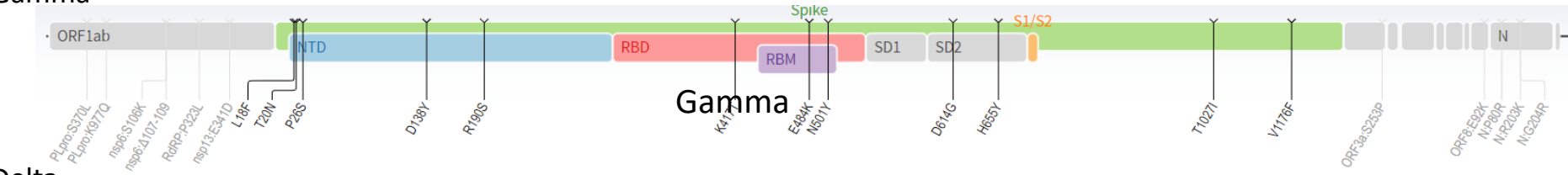
Alpha



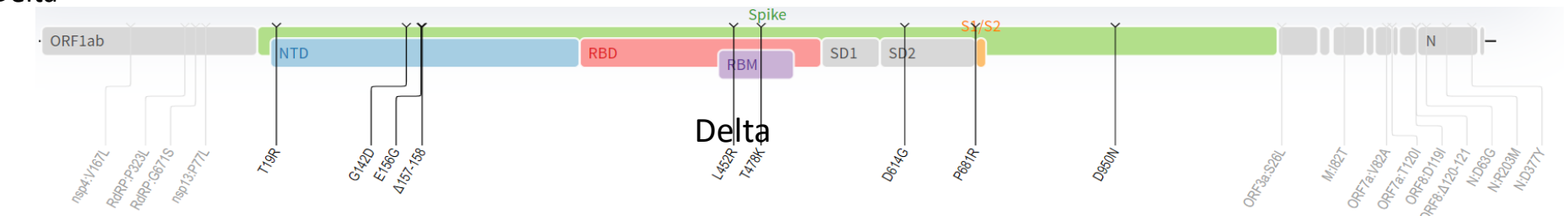
Beta



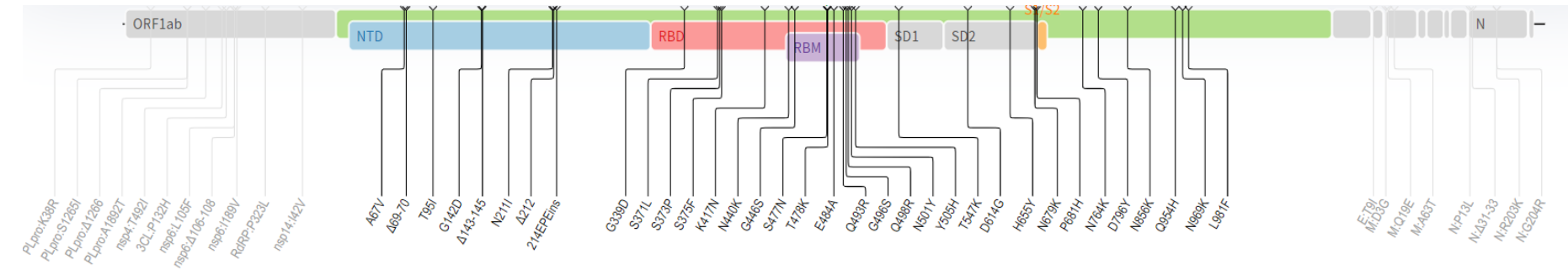
Gamma



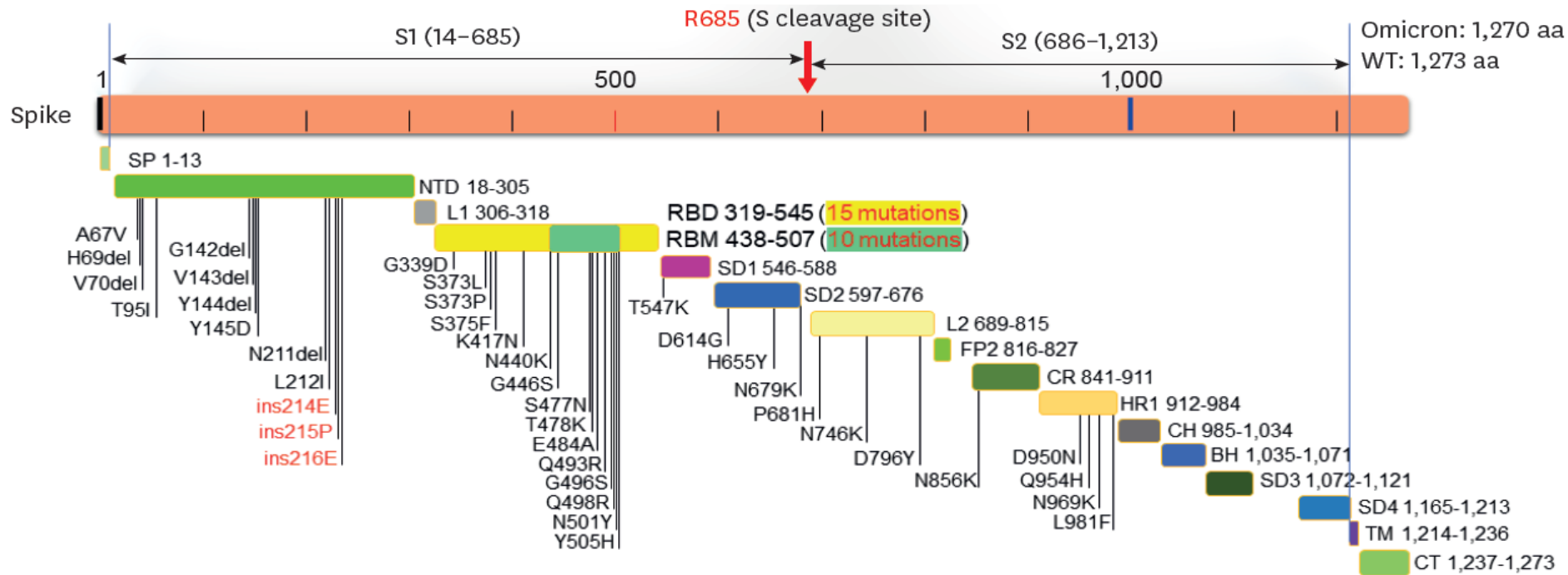
Delta



Omicron



Mutational pattern of Omicron variant in detail



Omicron (S. Africa) – 39 amino acid residues (27 new mutation sites)

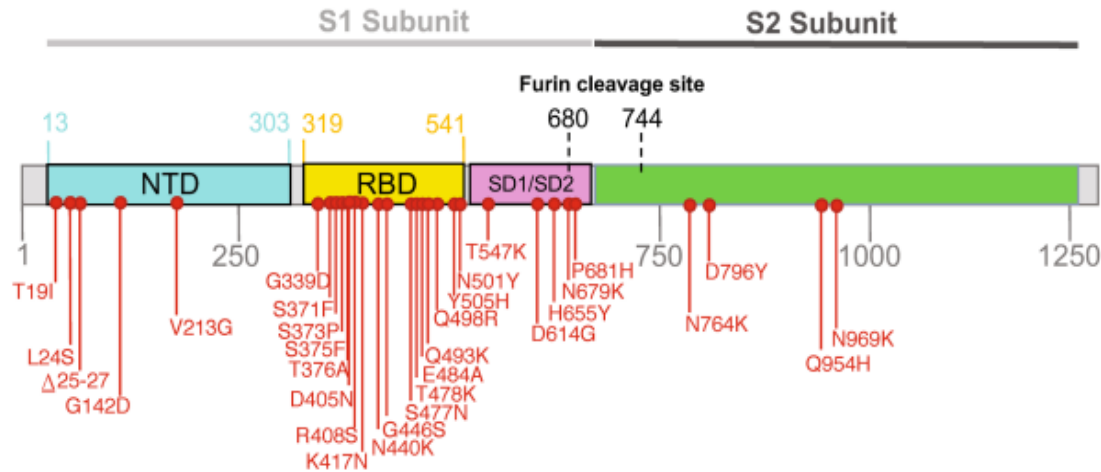
A67V, H69del, V70del, T95I, G142del, V143del, Y144del, Y145D, N211del, L212I, ins214E, ins215P, ins216E, G339D, S371L, S373P, S375F, K417N, N440K, G446S, S477N, T478K, E484A, Q493R, G496S, Q498R, N501Y, Y505H, T547K, D614G, H655Y, N679K, P681H, N764K, D796Y, N856K, Q954H, N969K, L981F



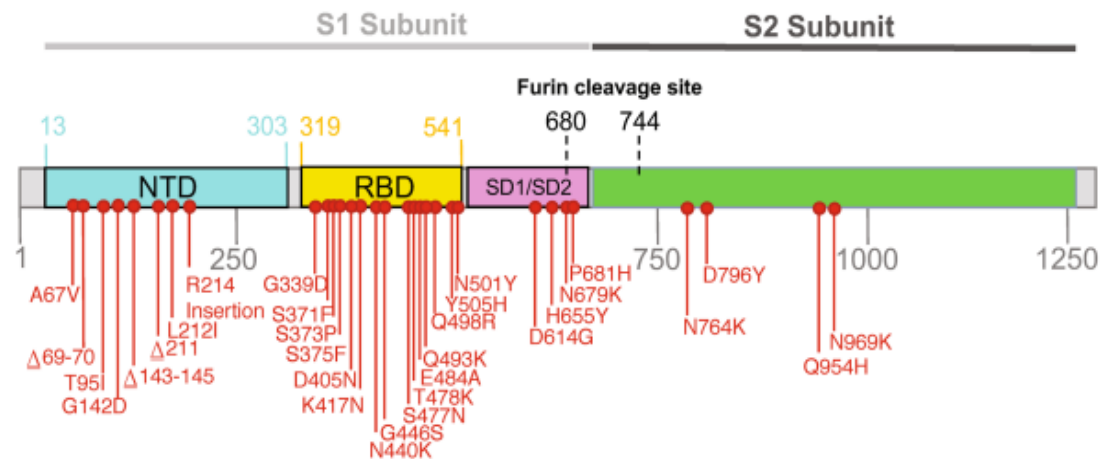
In red are indicated the new mutations; the mutations located in the RBD (15) and RBM (5) are underlined in yellow and green respectively

Further genetic evolution of Omicron: BA.2 (21L) and BA.3

BA.2



BA.3



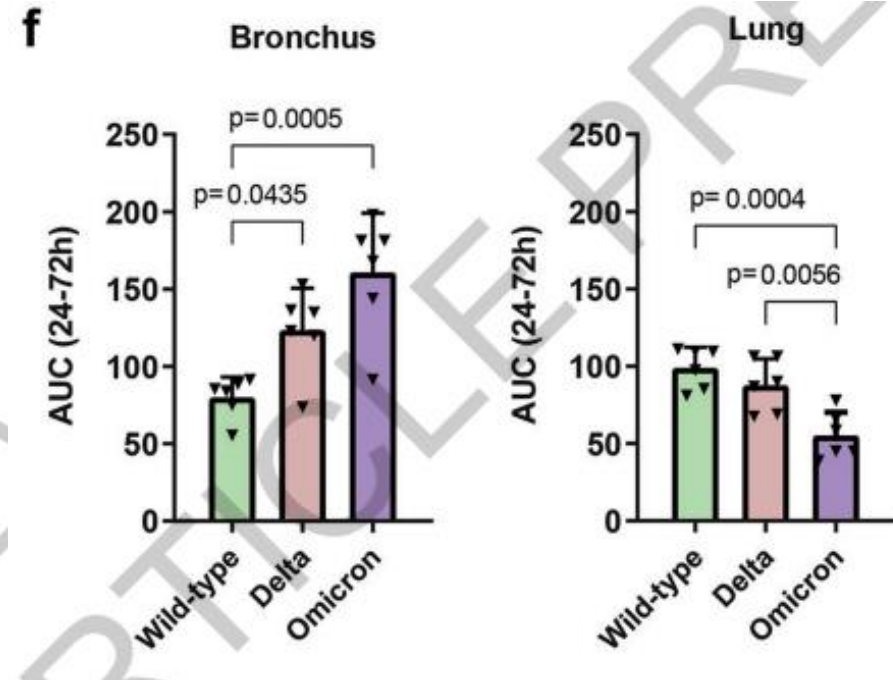
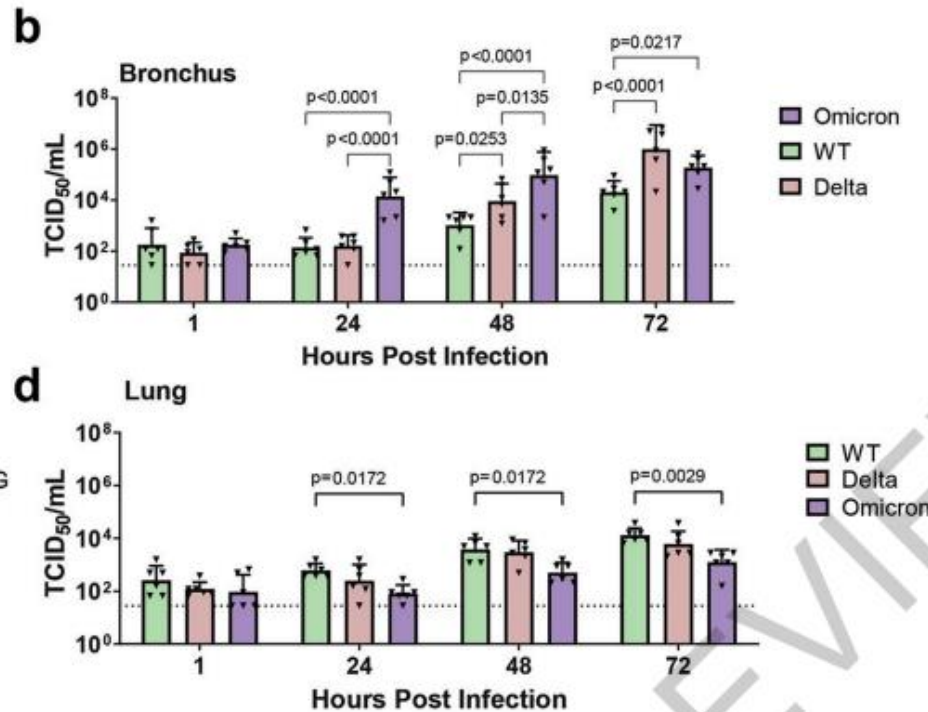
- **BA.2:** accumulation (T19I, L24S, P25-P26-A27 del, V213G, T376A, D405N, and R408S) or loss (V67A, H69-V70del, T95I, V143-Y144-Y145del, N211del, Ins214EPE, G446S, G496S, T547K, N856K, and L981F) of several mutations
- **BA.3** shared the entire mutational set with the BA.1, with the addition of the RBD mutation D405N, and the loss of G496S, N856K, and L981F

Characteristics of the main variants of SARS-CoV-2

WHO label	Spike protein substitutions	Increased transmissibility	Increased infectivity	Increased disease severity	mAbs escape	Immune escape*
Alpha	ΔH69, ΔV70, ΔY144, (E484K*), (S494P*), N501Y, A570D, D614G, P681H, T716I, S982A, D1118H (K1191N*)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Beta	D80A, D215G, Δ241, Δ242, Δ243, V367F, P384L, R408I, K417N, E484K, N501Y, D614G, A701V	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Gamma	L18F, T20N, P26S, D138Y, R190S, K417T, E484K, N501Y, D614G, H655Y, T1027I, V1176F	Yes	No	No	Yes (EI Lilly combination)	No
Delta	T19R, (V70F*), T95I, G142D, E156-, F157-, R158G, (A222V*), (W258L*), (K417N*), L452R, T478K, D614G, P681R, D950N	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Intermediate
Omicron	A67V, ΔH69, ΔV70, T95I, G142D, ΔV143, ΔY144, ΔY145, ΔN211, L212I, ins214EPE, G339D, S371L, S373P, S375F, K417N, N440K, G446S, S477N, T478K, E484A, Q493R, G496S, Q498R, N501Y, Y505H, T547K, D614G, H655Y, N679K, P681H, N764K, D796Y, Q954H, N969K, L981F, N856K	Yes	Yes	No	Yes (high for EI Lilly and Regeneron combination, medium for Sotrovimab)	Yes

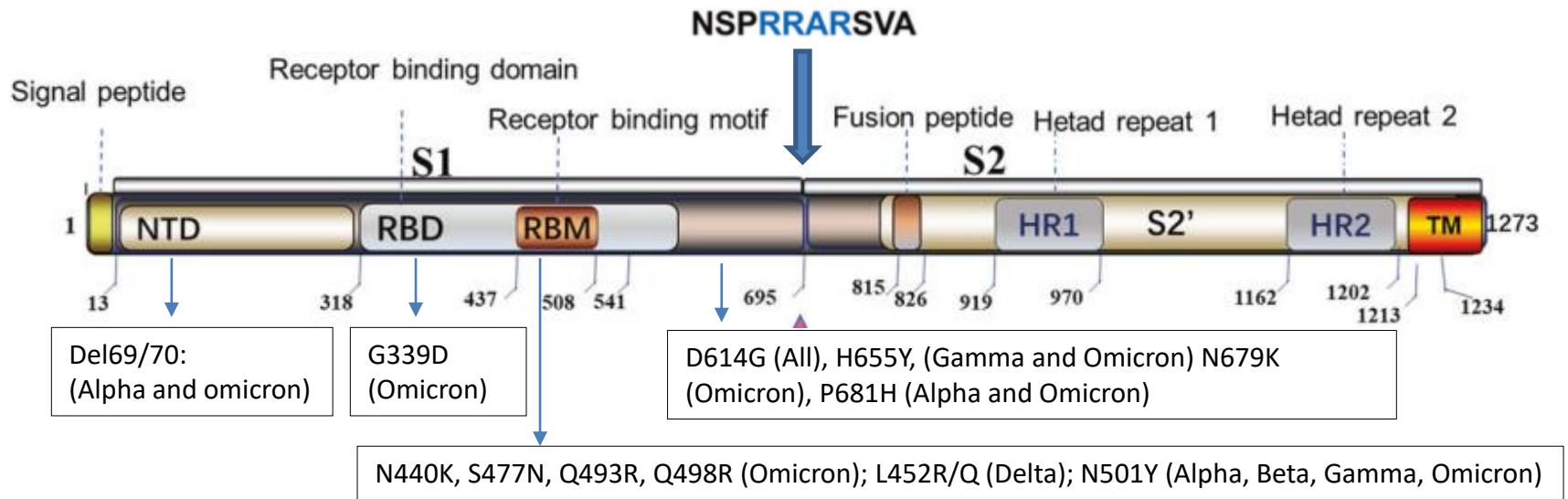
* Intended as immune escape from neutralizing antibodies. Mutations at T cell epitopes have been observed but not shown to impact the cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL) response

Omicron replicated faster than all other SARS-CoV-2 in the bronchus but less efficiently in the lung parenchyma



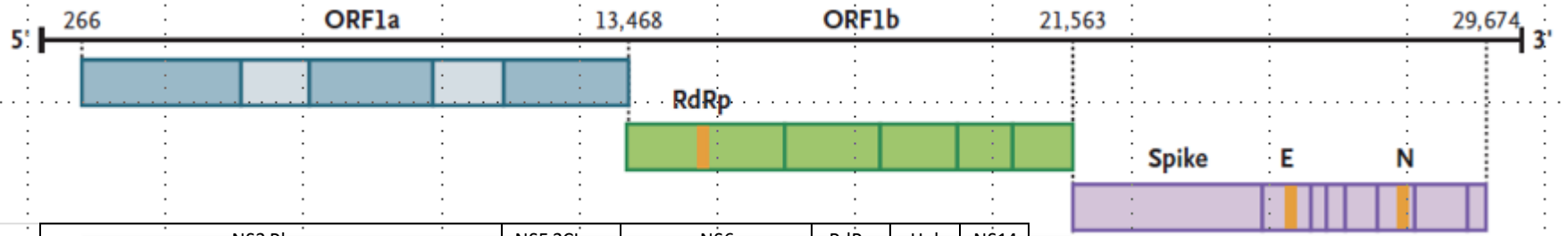
Viral replication kinetics of SARS-CoV-2 variants in ex vivo cultures of human respiratory tract. Viral titers from **b** to **d** are depicted as area under the curve (AUC) in **f**

Mutations conferring increased infectivity and transmissibility



- Increased binding affinity to ACE-2 (e.g., G339D, Q493R, N501Y)
 - Synergistic role of some mutations (e.g. Q498R + N501Y gives 4-fold increase with respect to N501Y alone)
- Enhanced virus release (e.g., N440K)
- Increased spike cleavage (S1/S2 junction; e.g., H655Y)

Non spike mutations conferring increasing transmissibility



	NS3 PI-pr											NS5-3CL-pr		NS6					RdRp		Hel			NS14		
wt	K	T	S	T	K	A	K	S	L	I	A	K	P	T	S	G	F	I	P	G	P	E	M	I	A	
Variants	38	183	370	749	837	890	977	1265	1266	1412	1892	90	132	77	106	107	108	189	323	671					42	394
Alpha		I				D				T					DEL	DEL	DEL		L							
Beta					N							R			DEL	DEL	DEL		L							
Gamma			L				Q								DEL	DEL	DEL		L			D				
Delta														A					L	S	L	I			V	
Omicron	R							DEL	I		T		H		DEL	DEL	DEL	V	L						V	

	N											
wt	D	P	E	R	S	D	P	R	G	T	S	D
Variants	3	12	31	32	33	63	80	203	204	205	235	377
Alpha	L							K	R		F	
Beta										I		
Gamma							R	K	R			
Delta						G		M				Y
Omicron		L	DEL	DEL	DEL			K	R			

Deletion 106-108: antagonism with host response to type I interferon

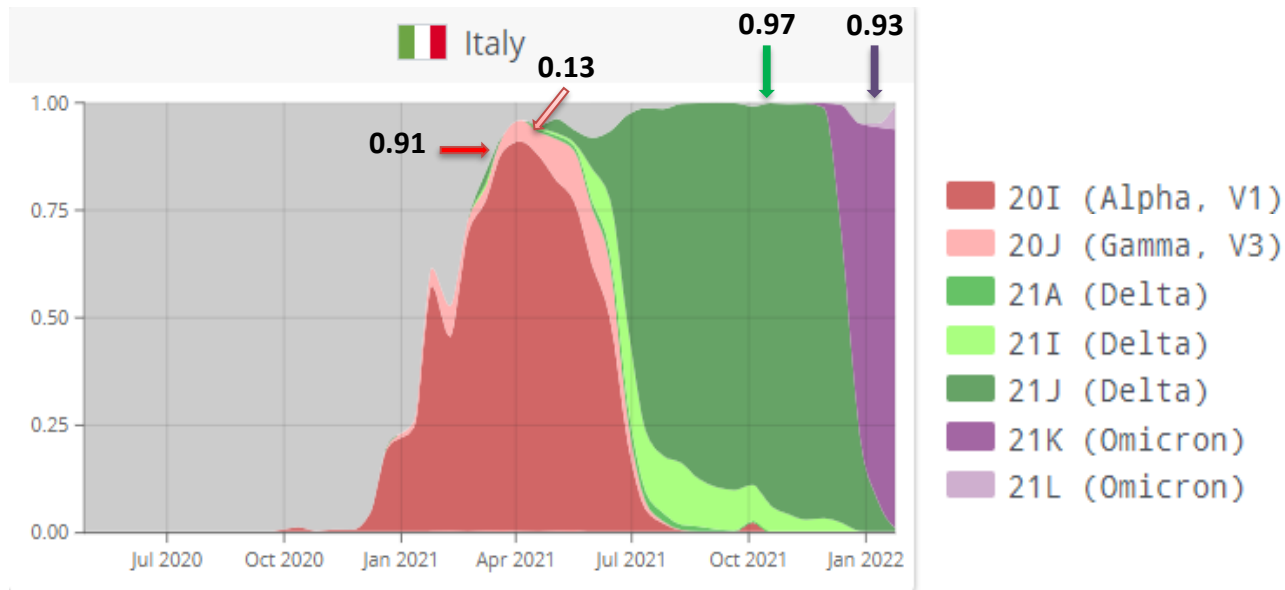
P323L: Alteration in the proofreading activity with increasing in mutation rate

D3L mutation: reduced susceptibility (>112 fold) to several type I interferons inserting a TRS (transcription regulatory sequence) to overexpress an interferon antagonist gene

R203K/M and G204R: increased subgenomic RNA expression

VOC transmissibility in Italy

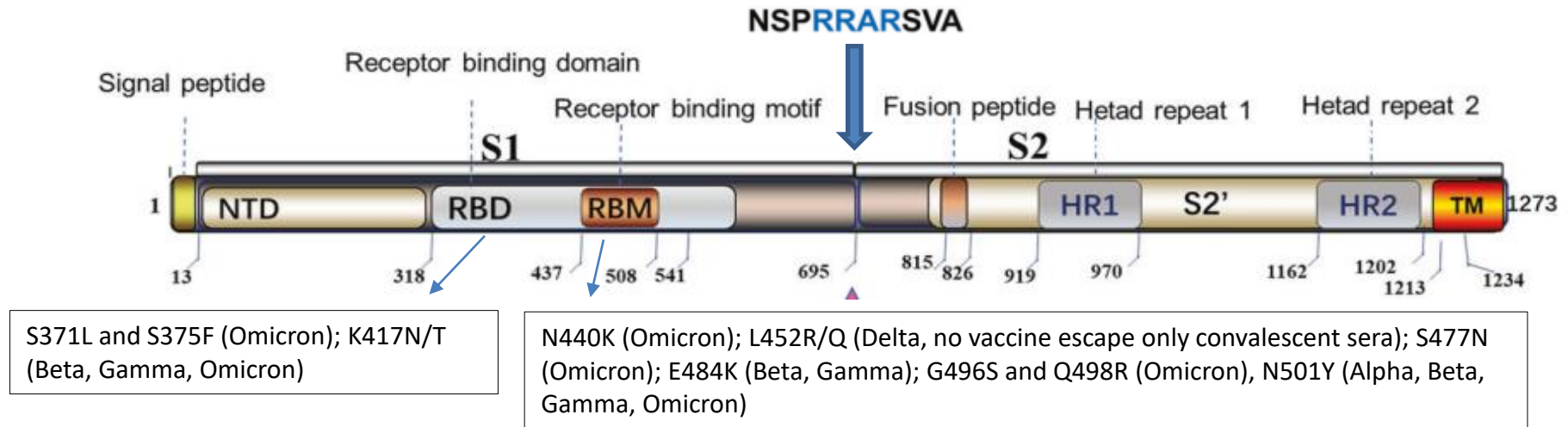
Proportion of SARS-CoV-2 variants over time



<https://covariants.org/per-country>

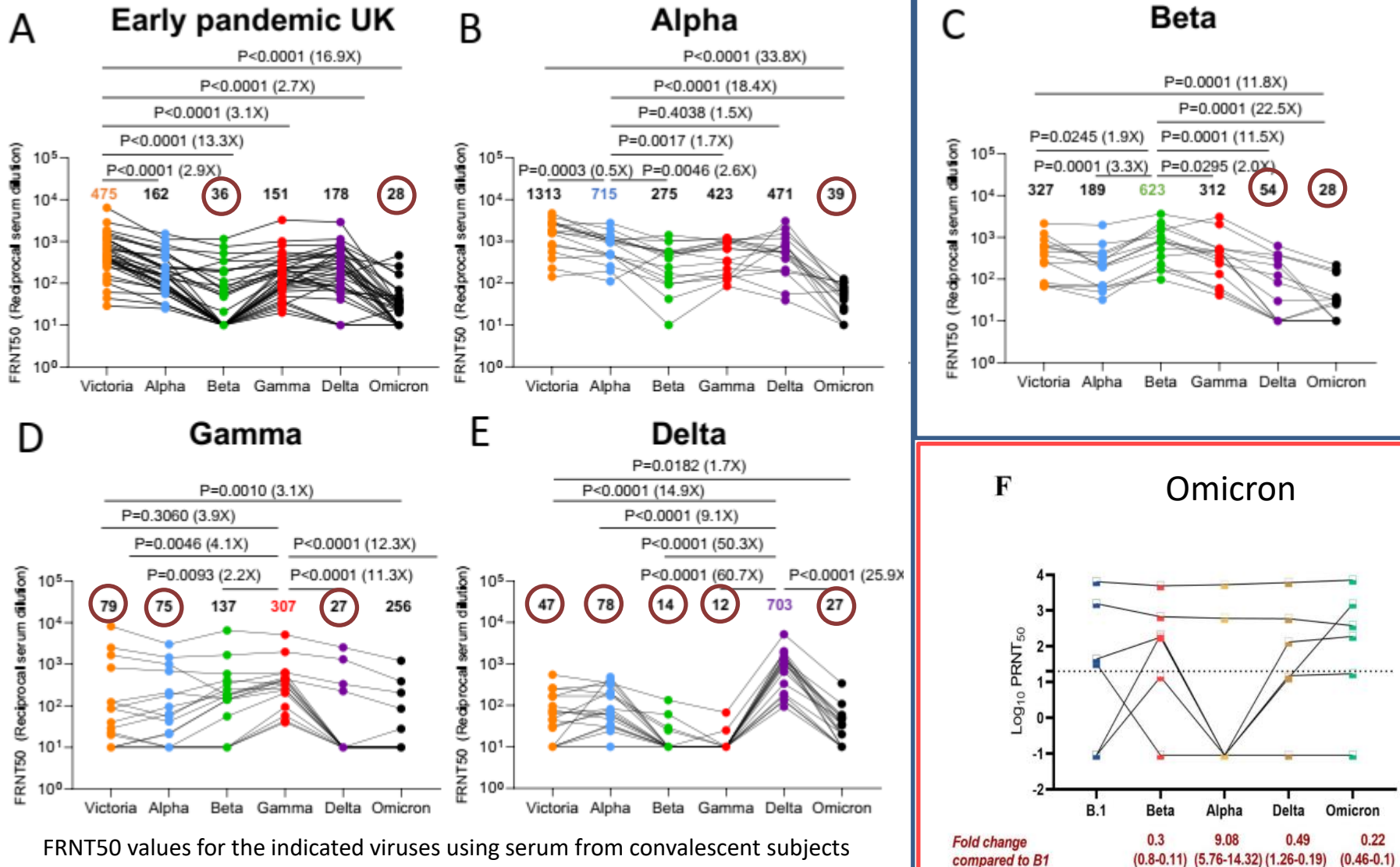
Note: The Beta variant did not become prevalent in Italy

Mutations involved in escape from immunity following natural infection and vaccination



- Mutations occur in the Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) or in the Receptor binding motif (RBM), the epitopes targeted by most potent neutralizing antibodies
- For Omicron variant, changes at residues 498 and 501 of the RBD strongly impaired antibody neutralization
- Technical caveat: different methods for measuring neutralizing antibody may not correlate well

Neutralization in convalescent people

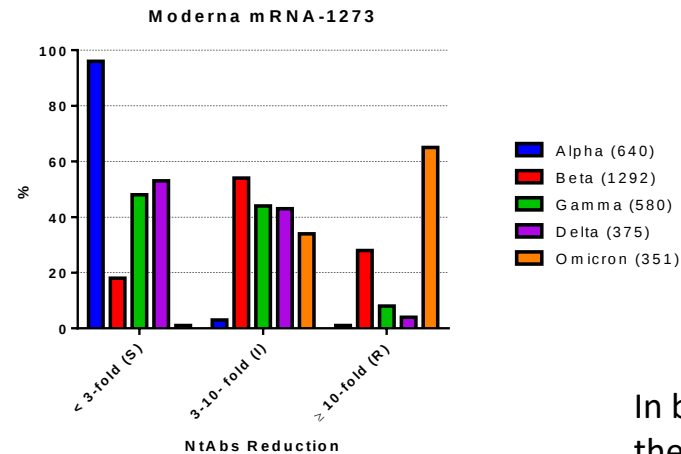
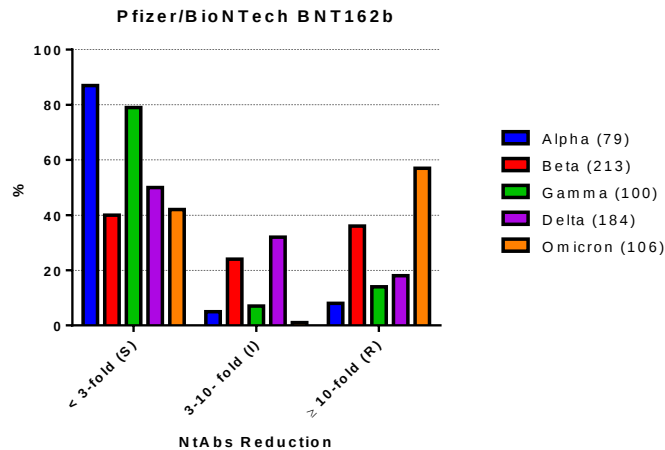


FRNT50 values for the indicated viruses using serum from convalescent subjects previously infected with A) Early pandemic virus (n=32), (B) Alpha (n=18), (C) Beta (n=14), (D) Gamma (n=16), (E) Delta (n=19)

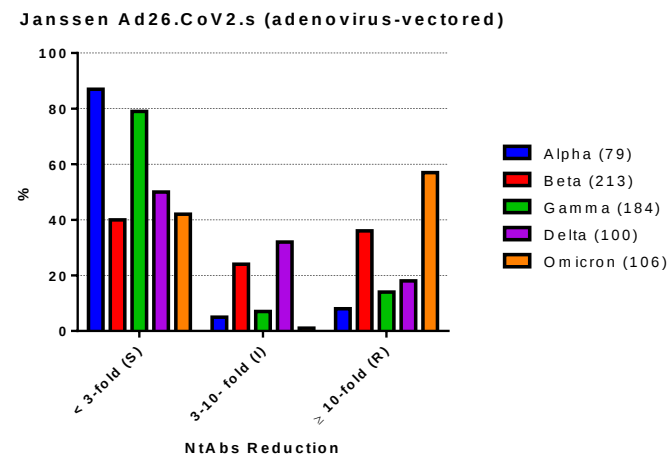
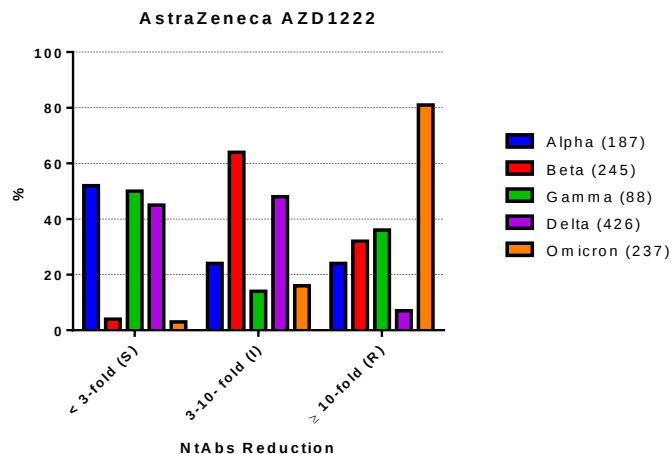
<https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.12.03.471045> preprint

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.01.24.477043>

Vaccine efficacy against different variants



In bracket is indicated the number of studies



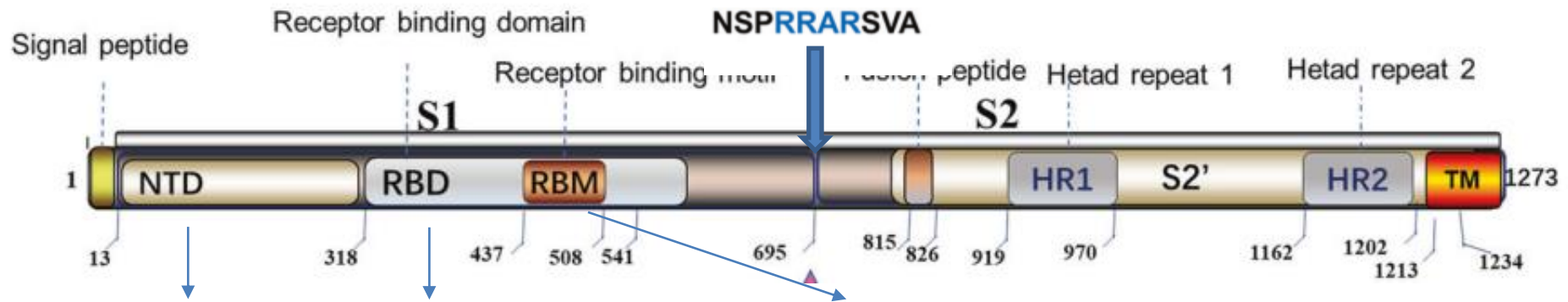
- Data were extrapolated from Stanford database (<https://covdb.stanford.edu/page/susceptibility-data/>) containing more than 18,000 sera tested in different studies
- 70% NtAbs titers were obtained from persons receiving an authorized mRNA vaccine (Pfizer(46%) and Moderna (22%)), 7% from recipients of the adenovirus-vectored AstraZeneca vaccine and 4% from recipients of the adenovirus-vectored Janssen vaccine

Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibodies (mAbs) in clinical trials

Name	Synonyms	Company	PDB Code	Epitope – Class ³	NCT Trial ID
Bamlanivimab	LY-CoV555	Eli Lilly	7KMG	RBM-2	NCT04411628;NCT04427501;NCT04497987
Etesevimab	CB6; JS016; LY-CoV16	Eli Lilly	7C01	RBM-1	NCT04441918;NCT04441931;NCT04427501
Casirivimab	REGN10933	Regeneron	6XDG	RBM-1	NCT04425629;NCT04426695;NCT04452318
Imdevimab	REGN10987	Regeneron	6XDG	RBD-Core-1	NCT04425629;NCT04426695;NCT04452318
Cilgavimab	COV2-2130; AZD1061	AstraZeneca	7L7E	RBM-2	NCT04507256;NCT04625725;NCT04625972
Tixagevimab	COV2-2196; AZD8895	AstraZeneca	7L7D	RBM-1	NCT04507256;NCT04625725;NCT04625972
Sotrovimab	S309; VIR-7831; GSK4182136	Vir biotechnology	6WPS	RBD-Core-1	NCT04545060
Vir-7832		Vir biotechnology		RBD-Core-1	NCT04746183
Regdanvimab	CT-P59	Celltrion	7CM4	RBM-1	NCT04525079;NCT04593641;NCT04602000
C135		Bristol-Myers	7K8Z	RBD-Core-1	NCT04700163
C144		Bristol-Myers	7K90	RBM-3	NCT04700163
ADG20		Adagio Therapeutics		RBM	NCT04805671;NCT04859517
BRII-196	P2C-1F11	Brii Biosciences	7CDI	RBM-1	NCT04479631
BRII-198	P2B-1G5	Brii Biosciences			NCT04479644

The following mAbs are being studied in combination – Casirivimab/Imdevimab, Cilgavimab/Tixagevimab, C135/C144, and BRII-196/BRII-198. The FDA has granted emergency use authorization (EUA) for the use Sotrovimab, bamlanivimab/etesevimab, and casirivimab/imdevimab.

Mutations conferring escape from mAbs



L18F, T20N (Gamma);
D80A/G (Beta); **Del** H69,
V70, V143, Y144, Y145
(Alpha and Omicron);
G142D (Omicron, Delta);
D215G (Beta) **Del** L242,
A243, L244 (Beta)

G339D, S371L, S373P,
S375F (Omicron); K417N/T
(Beta, Gamma, Omicron)

N440K, G446S (Omicron), L452R (Delta), S477N
(Omicron); T478K (Delta, Omicron), E484A/K/Q, N501Y
(Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Omicron); Y505H

Mutations are located in epitopes targeted by different monoclonal antibodies:
reduction or complete loss of neutralization efficacy

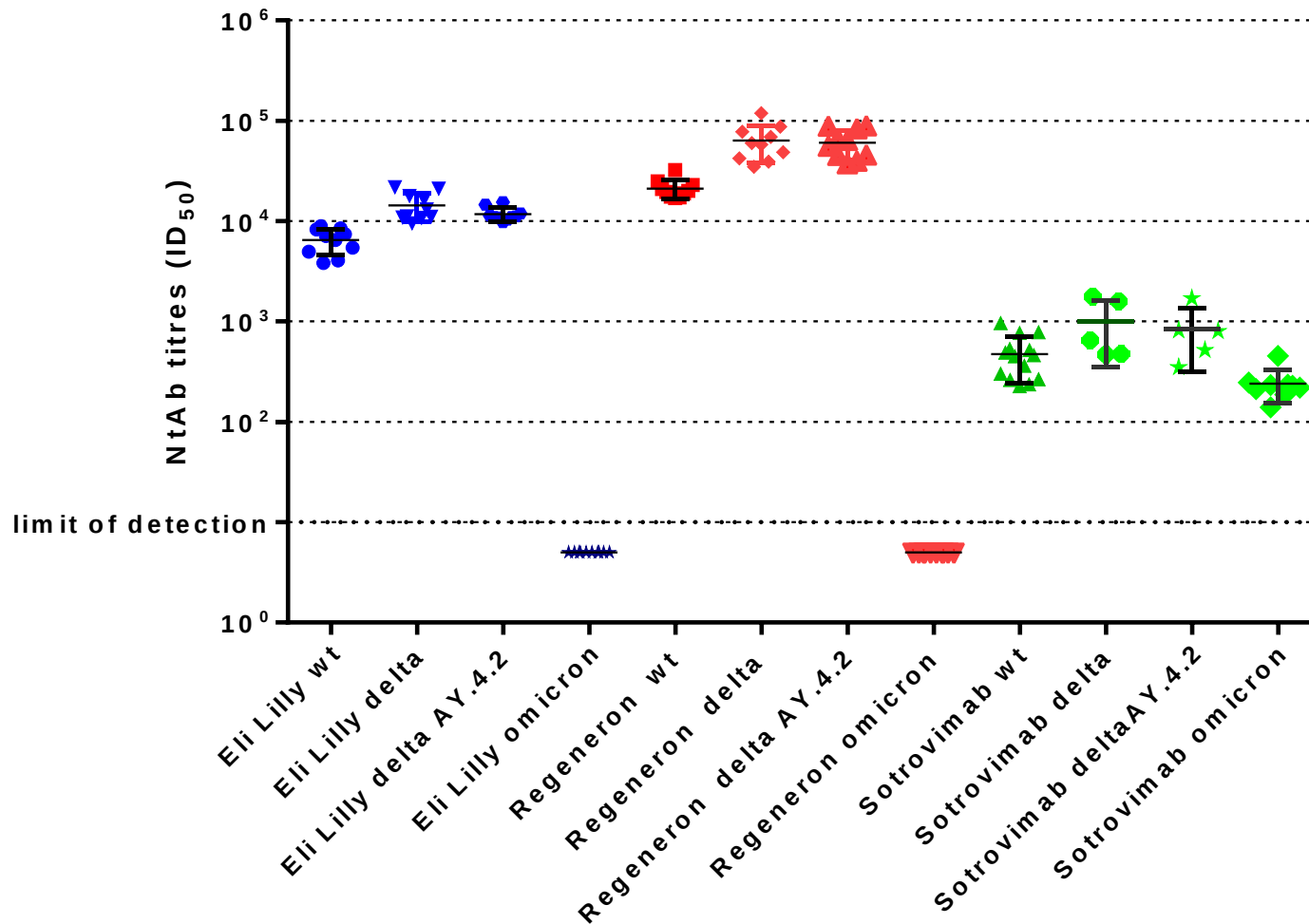
SARs-CoV-2 VOCs and their fold reduction in neutralization susceptibility to monoclonal antibodies in advanced clinical trials

Fold reductions in neutralization (relative to control virus) for pseudo-typed and infectious viruses against the 5 VOCs (Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, Omicron). Fold change is the median value of results, subscript is the number of results.

VOC	BAM	ETE	BAM/ETE	CAS	IMD	CAS/IMD	CIL	TIX	CIL/TIX	SOT	REG
Alpha	1 ¹⁷	11 ¹⁵	1.3 ⁷	1 ²³	0.7 ²³	1 ¹¹	0.7 ¹⁰	1.5 ⁹	0.8 ⁷	2.2* ¹⁸	2.6 ²
Beta	>1000 ¹⁹	382 ¹⁷	897 ⁸	106 ²⁷	0.6 ²⁶	1.5 ¹⁴	1.1 ⁹	6.3 ⁹	1.3 ⁷	1 ¹⁷	33 ³
Gamma	>1000 ¹²	304 ¹²	227 ²	177 ¹⁸	0.3 ¹⁷	1 ⁶	0.5 ⁹	6.4 ⁸	0.7 ⁴	1.2 ¹³	61 ³
Delta	>1000 ¹⁷	0.4 ¹⁷	0.9 ⁶	0.7 ¹⁸	1.5 ¹⁸	1 ⁷	2.5 ⁶	0.6 ⁶	0.7 ⁴	1.3 ¹¹	9.8 ³
Omicron	>1000 ²⁰	323 ¹⁹	897 ⁸	>1000 ²¹	>1000 ²¹	>1000 ¹⁰	305 ¹⁸	276 ¹⁸	59 ¹⁰	3.4 ²⁰	>1000 ⁷

BAM, bamlanivimab (LY-CoV555); CAS, casirivimab (REGN10933); CIL, cilgavimab (AZD1061); ETE, etesevimab (LY-CoV016); IMD, imdevimab (REGN10987); REG, regdanvimab (CT-P59); SOT, sotrovimab (Vir-7831); TIX, Tixagevimab (AZD8895)

Neutralization of mAbs against different variant



El Lilly: Etesevimab+Bamlanivimab; Regeneron: Casirivimab+Imdevimab; delta AY 4.2: delta plus additional mutation Y145H and A222V; ID50: Drug Concentration neutralizing the 50% of virus in a microneutralization assay in VERO E6 using live virus

Impact of SARS-CoV-2 variability on diagnostics

- Most assays target multiple genome regions to minimize false negatives
- Failure to detect specific targets can be used for presumptive variant assignment:
 - S-gene dropout: spike amplification failure with del 69-70 in alpha and omicron (BA.2)
- Diagnostic targets should be reviewed on a regular basis by manufacturers and by laboratories
 - Delay between identification of a new variant and availability of updated kit

Companies rarely or never disclose detailed
Information on their assays

Selection of available PCR assays and the impacts on their performance of the Alpha and Omicron variants

		Targets							Reported impact of VOC on signal detection of the S-gene target	
Supplier in Switzerland and Liechtenstein	Test-kit	ORF1ab	RdRp	S	E	M	N	Alpha (B.1.1.7)	Omicron (B.1.1.529)	
Abbott	Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 (#09N77-095)	0	1	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Abbott	ALINITY m SARS-COV-2 ASSAY (#09N78-095)	0	1	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Altona	Altona "RealStar® SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR" (#821005)	0	0	1	1	0	0	No impact	No impact	
Axon Lab / Cepheid	Gene Xpert® Xpress SARS-CoV-2 (#12039255)	0	0	0	1	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Axon Lab	BioGX SARS-CoV-2 kit (#444213)	0	0	0	0	0	2	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Axon Lab	EASY® SARS-CoV-2 Kit (#RT020)	0	1	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Axon Lab	Hi-PCR® Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) Probe PCR Kit (#MBPCR242)	0	1	0	0	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Axon Lab	NaGene Multiple Real-Time PCR kit for Detection of 2019-nCoV	1	0	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Axon Lab	Progenie Coronavirus 2019-nCoV Assay (#CORO-UX 5.2)	0	0	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Becton Dickinson	ViaSure SARS-CoV-2 (N1+N2) Real Time PCR (#444215)	0	0	0	0	0	2	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Becton Dickinson	ViaSure SARS-CoV-2 S gene Real Time PCR (#444212)*	0	0	1	0	0	0	Detection compromised*	Not available in EU/CHE*	
Becton Dickinson	ViaSure SARS-CoV-2, Flu (A+B) & RSV Real Time PCR Detection Kit (#444217)	0	0	0	0	0	2	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
bioMerieux	BIOFIRE® COVID-19 test (#423744)	1	0	0	0	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
bioMerieux	BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory Panel 2.1+ (RP2.1+) (#423740)	0	0	1	0	1	0	No impact	No impact	
bioMerieux	SARS-COV-2 R-GENE® (#423720)	0	1	0	1	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Bühlmann	Seegene Allplex™ 2019-nCov (#RP10243X) (older Kit)	0	1	0	1	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Bühlmann	Seegene Allplex™ SARS-CoV-2 (#RV10248X) (newer kit)	0	1	1	1	0	1	2x 1-mer mismatch**	No impact	
Bühlmann	Seegene Allplex™ SARS-CoV-2/Flu A/Flu B/RSV Assay (#RV10259X)	0	1	1	0	0	1	1x 1-mer mismatch**	Mismatch (delayed Ct/drop out possible)	
DiaSorin	Simplexa™ COVID-19 Direct (#MOL4150)	1	0	1	0	0	0	No impact	No impact	
Ender diagnostics	Ender MASS	1	0	0	0	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Hologic	Panther® Fusion SARS-CoV-2 (#AW-21159-001)	2	0	0	0	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Hologic	Aptima® SARS-CoV-2 Assay (#PRD-06419)	2	0	0	0	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Hyris	SARS-CoV-2 human diagnostics (#bKTH-SCV2.02)	0	0	0	0	0	2	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
FRIZ Biochem	COVID-19 direct RT-PCR (#FBC101)	0	0	0	1	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Lubioscience	2019-nCoV CDC EUA Kit (#10006606)	0	0	0	0	0	2	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Mikrogen Diagnostik	ampliCube Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (#50143, #50144)	1	0	0	1	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Qiagen	QiaStat-Dx Respiratory SARS-CoV-2 Panel (#691223)	0	1	0	1	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Qiagen	NeuMoDx SARS-CoV-2 Assay (#300800)	1	0	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Qiagen	SARS-CoV-2 N1+N2 Assay Kit (#222015 or #222017)	0	0	0	0	0	2	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Roche Diagnostics	cobas® 6800/8800 SARS-CoV-2 (#09175431190)	1	0	0	1	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Roche Diagnostics	cobas® 6800/8800 SARS-CoV-2 & Influenza A/B (#09233474190)	1	0	0	1	0	0	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Roche Diagnostics	cobas® Liat SARS-CoV-2 & Influenza A/B (#09211101190)	1	0	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Sansure	Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Nucleic Acid Diagnostic Kit (#S3104E)	1	0	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Siemens Healthineers	FTD SARS-CoV-2 qPCR Test (#11416302)	1	0	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
TECOmedical	PathoFinder RealAccurate® Quadruplex SARS-CoV-2 PCR Kit (#PF0971C-R)	0	1	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
TECOmedical	Eurobio Scientific EurobioPlex SARS-CoV-2 Multiplex (#EBX-041-192)	0	2	0	0	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	
Thermo Fisher	TaqPath™ COVID-19 Combo Kit (#A48067)	1	0	1	0	0	1	S-gene drop out	S-gene drop out	
Thermo Fisher	TaqPath™ COVID-19, FluA/B, RSV (#A49867)	0	0	1	0	0	1	No impact	No impact	
TibMolBio	LightMix® Modular Sarbecovirus SARS-CoV-2 (#50-0776-96)	0	1	0	1	0	1	No S-gene target	No S-gene target	

Conclusions

- Limited evolutionary rate, however, variants emerge in the pandemic context
 - Recombination across host species, jumping back to humans
- Escape from immunity following natural infection is a concern
 - Waning immunity is an intrinsic feature of coronaviruses
- Escape from vaccine elicited immunity likely due to outdated immunogen
 - Updating in progress but may run out of time
- Escape from diagnostics is limited
 - Multitarget strategy
- Unprecedented sequencing of a massive number of isolates worldwide
 - Far from being uniform worldwide

Thank you for your attention