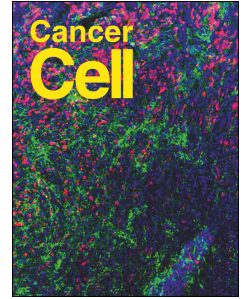


# Journal Pre-proof



Neutralization breadth of SARS-CoV-2 viral variants following primary series and booster SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in patients with cancer

Vivek Naranbhai, Kerri J. St. Denis, Evan C. Lam, Onosereme Ofoman, Wilfredo-Garcia Beltran, Cristhian Berrios, Atul K. Bhan, Justin F. Gainor, Alejandro B. Balazs, A. John Iafrate, on behalf of the CANVAX team

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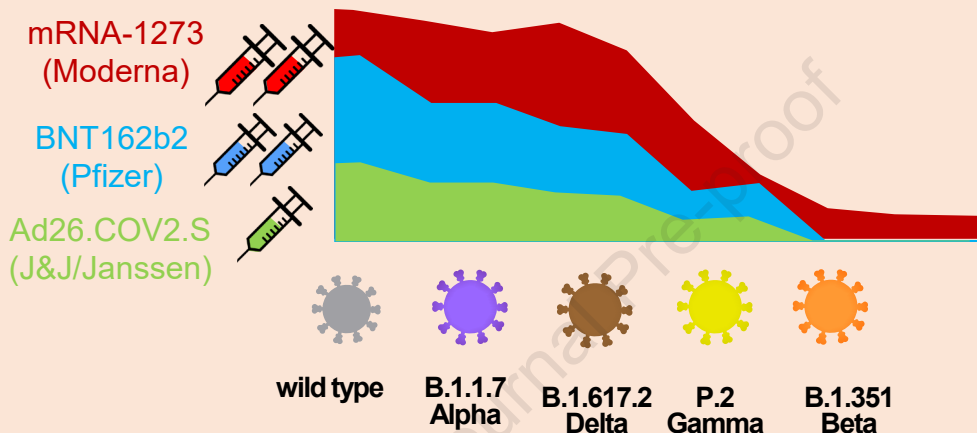
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Substudy of **CANAX** cohort study

## Pseudovirus neutralization varies by variant and vaccine



## Neutralization Breadth \* (Number of variants neutralized)



Increases with higher wildtype neutralization



Decreases with older age



Increases with **boosters** (even in individuals with lowest responses)

\* predictable by clinically measured serum spike-binding antibodies

**REPORT****Neutralization breadth of SARS-CoV-2 viral variants following primary series and booster SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in patients with cancer**

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**Running header:** SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in cancer patients

No previous presentations

[18920 characters]

27 **Summary (150/150 words)**

28 Patients with cancer are more likely to have impaired immune responses to SARS-CoV-  
29 2 vaccines. We study the breadth of responses against SARS-CoV-2 variants  
30 followingly primary vaccination in 178 patients with a variety of tumor types, and after  
31 booster doses in a subset. Neutralization of alpha, beta, gamma and delta SARS-CoV-2  
32 variants is impaired relative to wildtype, regardless of vaccine type. Regardless of viral  
33 variant, mRNA1273 is the most immunogenic, followed by BNT162b2 and then  
34 Ad26.COV2.S. Neutralization of more variants (breadth) is associated with higher  
35 magnitude of wildtype neutralization, and increases with time since vaccination;  
36 increasing age associates with lower breadth. The concentrations of anti-spike protein  
37 antibody are a good surrogate for breadth (PPV=90% at >1000U/ml). Booster SARS-  
38 CoV-2 vaccines confer enhanced breadth. These data suggest that achieving a high  
39 antibody titer is desirable to achieve broad neutralization; a single booster dose with  
40 current vaccines increases breadth of responses against variants.

41

42 **Keywords:** SARS-CoV-2, mRNA1273, BNT162b2, Ad26.COV2.S, booster dose,  
43 breadth, neutralization, variants

44 **Main text**45 **Introduction**

46 Patients with cancer are at increased risk of severe disease and/or death from severe  
47 acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus two (SARS-CoV-2) infection (Bakouny et al.,  
48 2020; Kuderer et al., 2020) and vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 is a cornerstone of  
49 prevention. The magnitude of anti-SARS-CoV-2 spike protein antibodies, receptor-  
50 binding domain (RBD) antibodies and neutralization titer against wildtype SARS-CoV-2  
51 are robust correlates of vaccine-mediated protection (Earle et al., 2021; Khoury et al.,  
52 2021), but are not sufficiently validated for use clinically. In the Cancer, COVID and  
53 Vaccination study (CANVAX) of more than 750 patients with cancer, we observed lower  
54 humoral immune responses than in non-cancer controls (Naranbhai et al., 2021a),  
55 consistent with findings from other cohorts (Addeo et al., 2021; Bird et al., 2021; Van  
56 Oekelen et al., 2021; Thakkar et al., 2021). In both non-cancer controls and patients  
57 with cancer, the magnitude of response was strongly associated with prior SARS-CoV-2  
58 infection and vaccine type: mRNA1273 was the most immunogenic followed by  
59 BNT162b2. Both mRNA vaccines were markedly more immunogenic than  
60 Ad26.COV2.S. Finally, booster vaccines were able to overcome poor responses in  
61 CANVAX (Naranbhai et al., 2021a) and other studies (Greenberger et al., 2021; Shapiro  
62 et al., 2021).

63 Evolution of SARS-CoV-2 variants with mutations that confer higher  
64 transmissibility or evasion of immune responses pose an ongoing threat, as exemplified  
65 by the rapid rise of the delta variant to global dominance during 2021. We, and others,  
66 have previously observed marked variation of *in vitro* neutralization of viral variants in  
67 healthy individuals (Garcia-Beltran et al., 2021a; Tada et al., 2021). There are few  
68 robust data regarding the degree of protection against each variant following different  
69 vaccines in immunocompromised patients, but the frequency of breakthrough infection  
70 resulting in hospitalization appears to be markedly higher for immunocompromised  
71 patients than in the general population, highlighting the impact of lower immunogenicity  
72 and higher risk of severe disease (Hippisley-Cox et al., 2021). Based on these and  
73 other data, additional 'booster' vaccine doses have been recommended for  
74 immunocompromised patients in many developed countries. Whilst these vaccine

75 increase the magnitude of response (Greenberger et al., 2021; Shapiro et al., 2021),  
76 whether homologous (i.e. wildtype strain based) 'booster' doses enhance the breadth of  
77 protection against variants is uncertain (Cho et al., 2021).

78 Here, we examine the magnitude and breadth of neutralization of SARS-CoV-2  
79 variants following the primary series, and after booster doses of vaccination in patients  
80 with cancer who received one of the SARS-CoV-2 Federal Drug Administration (FDA)  
81 Emergency Use Authorized (EUA) vaccines in the United States.

82

83

## 84 **Results**

85 The CANVAX study is an ongoing prospective cohort study of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in  
86 patients with cancer. For this report, we selected 178 participants of CANVAX without  
87 prior SARS-CoV-2 infection who were sampled  $\geq 14$  days after vaccination stratifying  
88 by vaccine type: 58 mRNA1273 (Moderna), 60 BNT162b2 (Pfizer/BioNTech) and 60  
89 Ad26.COV2S (J&J/Janssen). The baseline participant characteristics known to affect  
90 immunogenicity are shown according to vaccine type in **Table 1**, and recapitulate those  
91 of the overall CANVAX study: Ad26.COV2.S recipients were slightly older but the sex,  
92 cancer type, and therapy types were similar between groups.

93

### 94 **Neutralization of alpha, beta, gamma and delta SARS-CoV-2 variants is impaired** 95 **in vaccine recipients**

96 We assessed *in vitro* neutralization of wildtype SARS-CoV-2 (ancestral strain) and four  
97 viral variants (alpha, beta, delta and gamma strains) using an extensively validated  
98 high-throughput pseudovirus neutralization assay (Garcia-Beltran et al., 2021a, 2021b).  
99 These variants represent recent waves of the pandemic, and harbor both shared and  
100 distinct mutations (Table S1) that are targeted by immune responses induced by  
101 vaccination with current vaccines, which all encode wildtype SARS-CoV-2 spike protein.  
102 We quantified the serum pseudovirus neutralization titer (pNT50) associated with 50%  
103 reduction in viral entry into ACE2-expressing 293T-cells.

104 Consistent with the overall CANVAX population and other studies (Naranbhai et  
105 al., 2021b; Tada et al., 2021), neutralization of wildtype SARS-CoV-2 was highest for

106 mRNA1273 recipients, followed by BNT162b2 and lowest amongst Ad26.COVS.S  
107 recipients. Adjusting for covariates, neutralization was lower among BNT162b2  
108 recipients than mRNA1273 for alpha, gamma and delta variants (Figure 1 and Table  
109 S2).

110 We observed marked and significantly neutralization of alpha, beta, delta and  
111 gamma variants for most vaccine groups (Figure 1). The differences were most striking  
112 for the beta variant, where fewer than half of all evaluated donors (41% of mRNA1273,  
113 30% of BNT162b and 18% of Ad26.COVS.S recipients) had neutralization measurable  
114 above the assay limit of detection. Few patients with cancer in this study had  
115 measurable neutralization against wildtype SARS-CoV-2 and the four variants tested  
116 following receipt of Ad26.COVS.S were 43% against wildtype, 30% against alpha, 18%  
117 against beta, 12% against gamma and 15% against delta.

118

### 119 **Neutralization breadth is associated with wildtype neutralization titer, time since** 120 **vaccination and is reduced with age**

121 Next, we sought to identify correlates of vaccine breadth. In multivariate regression, the  
122 magnitude of neutralization of wildtype SARS-CoV-2 was the strongest correlate of  
123 breadth (effect estimate 1.4 additional variants neutralized per  $\log_{10}$  increase in  
124 neutralization titer, 95% CI 1.1:1.6, adjusted  $p < 0.001$ ; **Table 2**). Vaccine type did not  
125 independently associate with breadth of neutralization ( $p > 0.1$  for each vaccine). Older  
126 age was associated with narrower breadth of response (effect estimate per 5 year  
127 increase in age -0.09, 95% CI -0.17:-0.01, adjusted  $p = 0.029$ ). Breadth of response  
128 tended to increase with time after vaccination, even adjusting for the expected initial  
129 increase and later waning in the magnitude of response (effect estimate per week after  
130 vaccination 0.04, 95% CI 0:0.08, adjusted  $p = 0.061$ ).

131

### 132 **Anti-spike binding antibody concentrations are a surrogate for breadth**

133 We measured total binding antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (combined  
134 IgA/M/G) with Roche Elecsys assay (FDA & EUA approved) and specific isotypes (IgA,  
135 IgG, IgM and combined IgA/M/G) of antibodies binding the receptor-binding domain  
136 (RBD) with a validated assay we previously developed (Garcia-Beltran et al., 2021a).

137 Anti-RBD responses were dominated by IgG isotype responses, and responses varied  
138 by vaccine as previously reported (Figure S1). Wildtype neutralization was more  
139 robustly correlated with anti-RBD concentrations (Pearson  $R=0.63$ , 95% CI 0.53-0.71,  
140  $p<0.001$ ) than overall anti-spike responses (Pearson  $R=0.53$ , 95% CI 0.41-0.63,  
141  $p<0.001$ ) but both correlations were modest (Figure S2). A response comprised of more  
142 isotypes was not associated with greater breadth after adjusting for neutralization titer  
143 against wildtype virus as having a more isotype diverse response was associated with  
144 neutralization titer ( $p<0.001$ ), as in other studies (Noval et al., 2021).

145 Anti-spike IgA/M/G total antibodies are easily measured in clinical practice,  
146 whereas neutralization is not. An anti-spike IgA/G/M titer  $>1000$  U/ml on the Roche  
147 Elecsys FDA EUA assay was predictive of neutralization breadth (positive predictive  
148 value for neutralization of  $>2$  variants at a titer  $>20$  90%, negative predictive value 88%,  
149 overall sensitivity 95%, overall specificity 78%; Figure S3).

150

### 151 **Additional 'booster' SARS-CoV-2 vaccines confer enhanced variant neutralization** 152 **breadth**

153 Since the magnitude of wildtype response associated with breadth, and booster doses  
154 increase the magnitude of wildtype response, we hypothesized that an additional  
155 homologous vaccine dose (or 'booster') elicits enhanced heterologous breadth. The  
156 safety of additional doses in this cohort was comparable to the primary series  
157 (Naranbhai et al., 2021a). In 13 participants with low baseline response (Table S3),  
158 booster doses enhanced neutralization of alpha, beta, gamma and delta variants  
159 (Figure 2). Notwithstanding that these participants had low pre-booster titers (only 1 had  
160 measurable neutralization of any strain), the magnitude of neutralization of alpha, beta,  
161 gamma and delta variants was numerically higher post-booster doses than the overall  
162 evaluated population who had received the full vaccine series. In this subset of  
163 participants with poor pre-booster responses, neutralization breadth increased from  
164 median 0 (IQR 0-0) variants neutralized pre-booster to a median of 2 (IQR 1-4) variants  
165 neutralized post-booster.

166

### 167 **Discussion**



168 SARS-CoV-2 vaccination induces lower antibody responses in patients with cancer.  
169 Here we studied the breadth of response against SARS-CoV-2 variants as these  
170 represent the leading threat to vaccinated individuals. As in patients without cancer,  
171 vaccination with SARS-CoV-2 vaccines induces lower neutralization of variants,  
172 particularly beta, than wildtype. The vaccine types varied in magnitude of response but  
173 crucially, the magnitude of wildtype neutralization response was the primary correlate of  
174 breadth of neutralization. As predicted and concordant with another small study of four  
175 individuals (Iketani et al., 2021), booster doses even with wildtype vaccines increase  
176 breadth against viral variants.

177         These data have several potential clinical implications. First, to achieve the  
178 greatest neutralizing breadth, the most immunogenic vaccine may be preferred as the  
179 primary series for patients at high risk, where feasible. Second, the hierarchy of  
180 effectiveness of the three FDA EUA vaccines in preventing breakthrough infection by  
181 variants, where mRNA1273 provides the highest protection, followed by BNT162b2 and  
182 then Ad26.COV2.S (Naranbhai et al., 2021b) are likely accounted for by differences in  
183 immunogenicity against wildtype SARS-CoV-2. Finally, booster doses with wildtype  
184 vaccines would be expected to increase protection against variants in patients with  
185 cancer even as we await the next generation of vaccines. This observation is likely  
186 because of boosting of polyclonal responses capable of binding conserved sites in  
187 current and predicted future variants. The magnitude of increase in variant  
188 naturalization appears to be robust, even when responses to initial vaccination are poor,  
189 suggesting a single booster dose may be adequate for most patients to overcome the  
190 apparent reduced priming of responses. Whether these patients may require additional  
191 doses due to waning responses remains unclear.

192         There are several additional noteworthy observations. Increasing age was  
193 associated with reduced breadth of neutralization (independent of magnitude of  
194 response), consistent with impaired immune functions such as decline in somatic  
195 hypermutation with age (Troutaud et al., 1999). Interestingly we observed a trend  
196 towards enhanced breadth over time, but this is likely small and likely not at the  
197 magnitude seen in individuals with natural infection who continue to accrue increased  
198 breadth over time potentially because of antigen persistence (Cho et al., 2021).

199 Interestingly, an anti-spike antibody titer higher than 1000 U/ml on the Roche Elecsys  
200 assay, an assay that is widely available in clinical practice, was a good surrogate for  
201 breadth. This may be a helpful threshold in counselling patients regarding need for  
202 boosters, notwithstanding limitations of inferring clinical protection from immunologic  
203 measures.

204 A key limitation of this study is the focus on in vitro immunogenicity.  
205 Effectiveness of vaccines against variants is likely to be more complex involving  
206 differences in viral infectivity, exposure rates, transmissibility and possibly virulence in  
207 combination with largely humoral immune responses and cellular responses. This is  
208 illustrated by the exceptional success of the delta variant in transmission, but its  
209 relatively modest escape of neutralization. The number of individuals evaluated after  
210 booster doses is modest, but these represent the extra tail of the curve of patients who  
211 failed to make adequate responses after initial vaccination.

212 In conclusion, while current wildtype-based SARS-CoV-2 vaccines induce lower  
213 magnitude responses in patients with cancer that show impaired neutralization of viral  
214 variants, boosting these responses can safely restore breadth against current viral  
215 variants.

216

## 217 **Acknowledgments**

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223 Institutes for Drug Abuse (NIDA) Avenir New Innovator Award DP2DA040254, the MGH  
224 Transformative Scholars Program as well as funding from the Charles H. Hood  
225 Foundation.

226

## 227 **Author Contributions**

228 Conceptualization, V.N., A.J.I.

229 Methodology, V.N., J.F.G., A.B.B, A.J.I., W.F.G.B.,

230 Formal Analysis V.N., K.J.S.D, E.C.L  
231 Investigation V.N. K.J.S.D, E.C.L, O.O., W.F.G.B., C.B., A.B.B.  
232 Data Curation V.N.  
233 Writing-Original Draft V.N.  
234 Writing-Review & Editing V.N., K.J.S.D, E.C.L, O.O., W.F.G.B., C.B., A.B., J.F.G.,  
235 A.B.I., A.J.I.  
236 Visualization V.N.  
237 Supervision J.F.G., A.B.B, A.J.I.  
238 Funding acquisition J.F.G., A.B.B, A.J.I.

239

#### 240 **Declaration of Interests**

241 JFG has served as a compensated consultant or received honoraria from Bristol-Myers  
242 Squibb, Genentech, Ariad/Takeda, Loxo/Lilly, Blueprint, Oncorus, Regeneron, Gilead,  
243 Moderna, AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Novartis, Merck, and GlydeBio; research support from  
244 Novartis, Genentech/Roche, and Ariad/Takeda; institutional research support from  
245 Bristol-Myers Squibb, Tesaro, Moderna, Blueprint, Jounce, Array Biopharma, Merck,  
246 Adaptimmune, Novartis, and Alexo; and has an immediate family member who is an  
247 employee with equity at Ironwood Pharmaceuticals. AJI has served as a compensated  
248 consultant for Oncoclinicas Brasil, Kinnate, Repare, and Paige.ai.

249

#### 250 **Inclusion and Diversity Statement**

251 We worked to ensure gender balance in the recruitment of human subjects. We worked  
252 to ensure ethnic or other types of diversity in the recruitment of human subjects. One or  
253 more of the authors of this paper self-identifies as an underrepresented ethnic minority  
254 in science. One or more of the authors of this paper self-identifies as a member of the  
255 LGBTQ+ community. While citing references scientifically relevant for this work, we also  
256 actively worked to promote gender balance in our reference list.

**257 Figure Legends**

258 **Figure 1: Neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 variants following vaccination with**  
259 **mRNA1273 (n=58), BNT162b2 (n=60) or Ad26.COV2.S (n=60) in patients with**  
260 **cancer.**

261 The y-axis shows pseudovirus neutralization titer 50 (pNT50, defined as the titer at  
262 which the serum achieves 50% neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 wildtype pseudovirus  
263 entry into ACE2-expressing 293T cells). Briefly, lentiviral particles encoding both  
264 luciferase and ZsGreen reporter genes were pseudotyped with the SARS-CoV-2 spike  
265 protein from the strain indicated (see Table S1 for sequences) and produced in 293T  
266 cells, titered using ZsGreen expression by flow cytometry and used in an automated  
267 neutralization assay with 50–250 infectious units of pseudovirus co-incubated with  
268 three-fold serial dilutions of serum for 1 h. Neutralization was determined on 293T-  
269 ACE2 cells. A horizontal dotted line is shown at a pNT50 titer of 12 which is the lower  
270 limit of detection (LLOD) of this assay; a pNT50 titer of 20 corresponds with the clinical  
271 threshold for positivity defined previously (Garcia-Beltran et al., 2021a). The geometric  
272 mean titer, proportion positive (at a threshold of 1:12). Statistical comparison of  
273 neutralization titers against each strain between recipients of different vaccines is  
274 details in Table S2 and denoted by \* on the graph where p-value are adjusted for  
275 covariates previously shown to be associated with wildtype virus neutralization namely  
276 age, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, timing after vaccination, and cancer type.  
277 Comparison of neutralization titers for recipients of each vaccine type, against different  
278 strains is shown as the fold change in neutralization, and corresponding p-value (based  
279 on a dunnet's test conducted in GraphPad Prism v9.0). Horizontal lines denote  
280 geometric mean titers, whiskers extend to 2.5<sup>th</sup> and 97.5<sup>th</sup> centiles to encompass the  
281 95% confidence interval.

282

283 **Figure 2: Effect of booster doses on neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 viral variants**  
284 **in patients with cancer (n=13).** The color of each dot indicates the initial vaccine  
285 series and additional vaccine as indicated in legend. The geometric mean titer (GMT)  
286 and proportion above the lower limit of detection (LLOD=12) is shown.

287 **Tables**

288

289 **Table 1: Baseline characteristics of participants in this study**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Overall (n=178)</b>	<b>mRNA1273 (n=58)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 (n=60)</b>	<b>Ad26.CoV2.S (n=60)</b>	<b>p-value</b>
<b>Age (IQR)</b>	68 (61, 72)	66 (61, 71)	64 (57, 71)	69 (67, 73)	0.014
<b>Sex</b>					0.9
Female	109 (61%)	34 (59%)	38 (63%)	37 (62%)	
Male	69 (39%)	24 (41%)	22 (37%)	23 (38%)	
<b>Chemotherapy*</b>	59 (33%)	21 (36%)	19 (32%)	19 (32%)	0.8
<b>Immunotherapy*</b>	29 (16%)	8 (14%)	11 (18%)	10 (17%)	0.8
<b>Time after 1st dose (days (IQR))</b>	68 (55, 93)	67 (62, 86)	74 (51, 111)	65 (42, 86)	0.054
<b>Cancer type</b>					0.13
Solid	141 (79%)	41 (71%)	50 (83%)	50 (83%)	
BMT	23 (13%)	13 (22%)	6 (10%)	4 (6.7%)	
Hematologic	14 (7.9%)	4 (6.9%)	4 (6.7%)	6 (10%)	

290 \*Within 12 months of vaccination

291 **Table 2: Multivariate regression analysis to identify correlates of breadth of**  
 292 **neutralization.**

	Effect estimate *	95% CI	p- value
<b>Neutralization titer against wildtype SARS- CoV-2</b>	1.4	1.1, 1.6	<0.001
<b>Age (per 5 year increase)</b>	-0.09	-0.17, -0.01	0.029
<b>Vaccine type</b>			
mRNA1273		Ref	
BNT162b2	-0.16	-0.57, 0.25	0.4
Ad26.COVS.S	-0.29	-0.77, 0.18	0.2
<b>Chemotherapy</b>	-0.14	-0.50, 0.22	0.4
<b>Immunotherapy</b>	0.16	-0.30, 0.62	0.5
<b>Time after 1st dose (per week)</b>	0.04	0.00, 0.08	0.061
<b>Cancer type</b>			
Solid		Ref	
Bone marrow transplanted	-0.04	-0.55, 0.47	0.9
Hematologic	0.2	-0.42, 0.81	0.5

293 \*Effect estimates shown are per additional variant neutralized at measurable levels  
 294 (above lower limit of detection).

295 **STAR Methods**

296 RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

297 Lead Contact:

298 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and  
299 will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, A. John Iafrate ([aiafrate@partners.org](mailto:aiafrate@partners.org)).

300

301 Materials Availability:

302 The study did not generate new unique reagents.

303

304 Data and Code Availability:

- 305 • Code for computing and analyzing neutralization breadth measures is available  
306 in the supplementary appendix
- 307 • Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in this work  
308 paper is available from the Lead Contact upon request

309

310 EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

311 **Patients**

312 The CANVAX study enrolled consenting adult patients at the Massachusetts General  
313 Hospital Cancer Center between April 21 through July 21, 2021. Recruitment and  
314 enrolment procedures have been previously described. For this analysis we randomly  
315 selected participants without prior SARS-CoV-2 infection (confirmed by anti-  
316 nucleocapsid antibody testing) who had received each of the three FDA EUA vaccines  
317 (by allocating random numbers to each participant and selecting the first 60).

318 Participants were samples  $\geq 14$  days after their final dose of vaccine. This study was  
319 approved by the Mass General Brigham Human Research Committee (2021P000746).  
320 Adult participants provided written (or in exceptional cases verbal) informed consent to  
321 participation in this study.

322

323 METHOD DETAILS

324 **Neutralization assays**

325 We used pseudovirus neutralization assay that we have previously described in detail  
326 elsewhere. In brief, pseudovirus neutralization titer 50 (pNT50) was calculated by taking  
327 the inverse of the serum concentration that achieved 50% neutralization of SARS-CoV-  
328 2 pseudotyped lentivirus particles entry into ACE2-expressing 293T cells. We  
329 introduced mutations corresponding to the SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern shown in  
330 Supplementary Table 1 by site directed mutagenesis, and confirmed clones by  
331 sequencing.

332

### 333 **Binding antibody assays**

334 We measured antibodies against the spike protein with the Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-  
335 CoV-2 S assay (Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, USA), at the MGH Core Clinical  
336 laboratory, a CLIA lab. Anti-receptor binding domain antibodies were measured with an  
337 enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)(Garcia-Beltran et al., 2021a,  
338 2021b). Briefly, we used an indirect ELISA with a standard consisting of anti-SARS-CoV  
339 and -CoV-2 monoclonal antibody (CR3022) (IgG1 isotype). 96-well ELISA plates were  
340 coated with purified wild-type SARS-CoV-2 RBD. Plates were blocked with BSA and  
341 washed. A seven-point standard curve was created using CR3022-IgG1 starting at  
342 2 µg/mL by performing 1:3 serial dilutions with dilution buffer, and serum samples were  
343 diluted 1:100 with dilution buffer. Diluted samples and standards were added to  
344 corresponding wells and incubated for 1 h at 37°C, followed by washing. Total  
345 antibodies were detected with anti-human IgG+IgA+IgM (H+L)-HRP (Bethyl) diluted  
346 1:25,000 for a 30 min incubation at room temperature. After washing, TMB substrate  
347 (Inova) was added to each well and incubated for 5-15 min before stopping with 1 M  
348 H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Optical density (O.D.) was measured at 450 nm with subtraction of the O.D. at  
349 570 nm as a reference wavelength on a SpectraMax ABS microplate reader. Anti-RBD  
350 antibody levels were calculated by interpolating onto the standard curve and correcting  
351 for sample dilution; one unit per mL (U/mL) was defined as the equivalent reactivity  
352 seen by 1 µg/mL of CR3022.

353

354 QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS



355 Analyses were performed in R (v4.05) using the *gtsummary* packages and *lm()*  
 356 functions. Details are provided in the figure legends and below. We modelled  $\log_{10}$   
 357 transformed pseudovirus neutralization titers as the dependent variable. We selected  
 358 covariates found to associated with neutralization of wildtype SARS-CoV-2 in the overall  
 359 CANVAX study comprising >600 individuals these were: age, days post-vaccination,  
 360 vaccine type, cancer type (categorized into solid, bone-marrow transplant or  
 361 hematologic), receipt of chemotherapy in prior year and receipt of immunotherapy in  
 362 prior year as the independent variables. Statistical comparisons in Figure 1 are shown  
 363 relative to either mRNA1273 for each comparison of neutralization response between  
 364 vaccine groups for each variant, or relative to wildtype virus for each comparison of  
 365 neutralization response between variants for each vaccine group. The distribution of the  
 366 data after  $\log_{10}$  transformation was visually assessed in R to confirm suitability for linear  
 367 regression. Comparisons between vaccine groups were performed by linear regression  
 368 adjusting for all the above covariates in R (as detailed in Table S2). Comparisons  
 369 between variants were performed by dunnet's test in GraphPad Prism v9.0. Figures  
 370 were made in Graphpad Prism.

371

## 372 KEY RESOURCES TABLE

373

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
CR3022-IgG1	Obtained from the lab of Dr. Aaron Schmidt	IEDB Cat# CR3022, RRID:AB_2848080
Anti-human IgG+IgM+IgA (H+L) HRP	Bethyl	Cat# A80-152P
Polyclonal human sera	This study	N/A
Bacterial and Virus Strains		
SARS-CoV-2 $\Delta$ C18 (wild type) pseudotyped pHAGE-CMV-Luc2-IRES-ZsGreen-W lentivirus	Garcia-Beltran Cell, 2021	N/A
SARS-CoV-2 $\Delta$ C18 B.1.1.7 pseudotyped pHAGE-CMV-Luc2-IRES-ZsGreen-W lentivirus	Garcia-Beltran Cell, 2021	N/A
SARS-CoV-2 $\Delta$ C18 B.1.351 v1 pseudotyped pHAGE-CMV-Luc2-IRES-ZsGreen-W lentivirus	Garcia-Beltran Cell, 2021	N/A
SARS-CoV-2 $\Delta$ C18 P2 pseudotyped pHAGE-CMV-Luc2-IRES-ZsGreen-W lentivirus	Garcia-Beltran Cell, 2021	N/A

SARS-CoV-2 $\Delta$ C18 B.1.617.2 v1 pseudotyped pHAGE-CMV-Luc2-IRES-ZsGreen-W lentivirus	This study	N/A
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
SARS-CoV-2 receptor binding domain protein	Obtained from the lab of Dr. Aaron Schmidt	N/A
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
293T/ACE2.MF	Obtained from the lab of Dr. Michael Farzan	N/A

374

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375 **References**

376

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GMT	191.4	85.4	22.2	94.7	48.4	18.0	33.1	12.2	76.2	22.2	15.2	72.1	32.7	14.7
% >LLOD	85	75	43	72	65	30	40.7	30	62	47	12	63	53	15

**Comparisons:  
between vaccine**

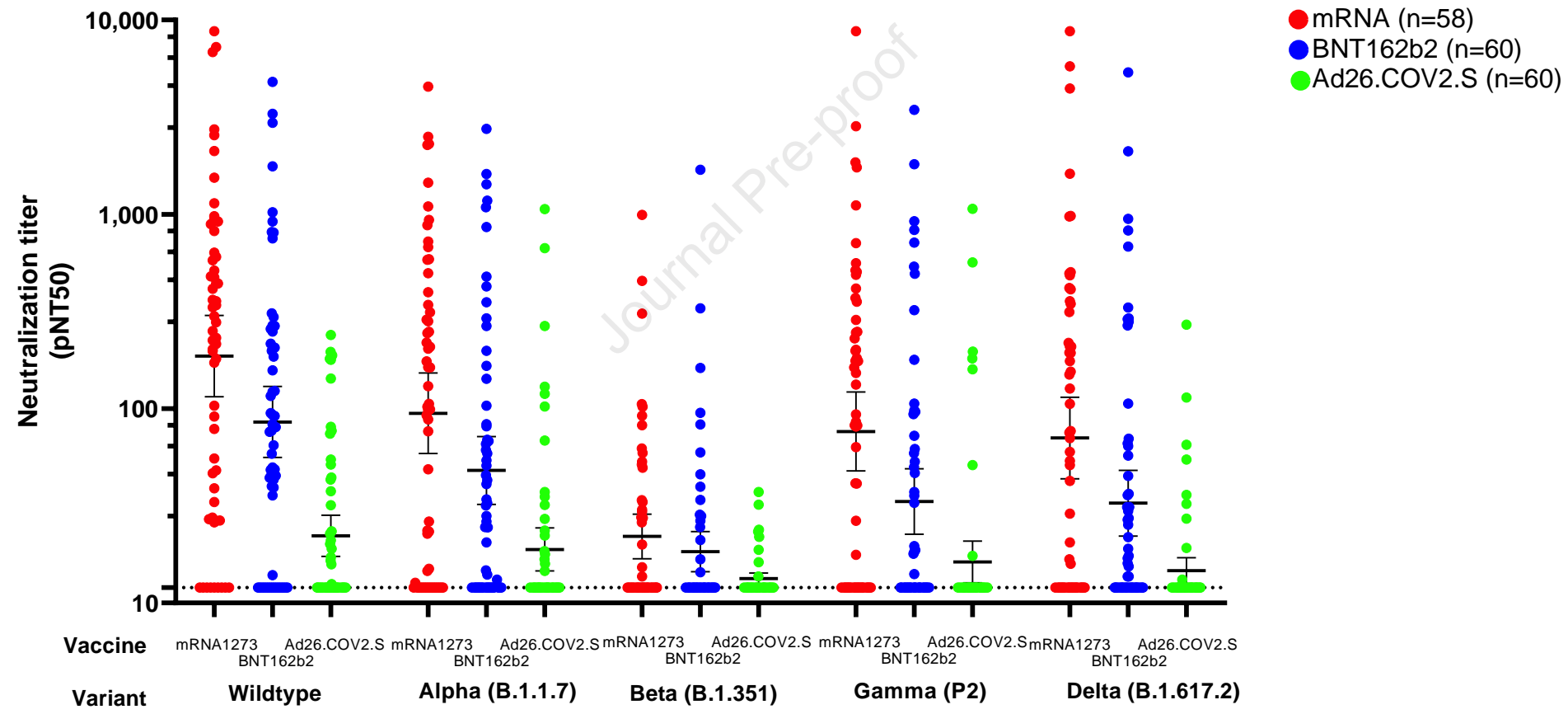
adjusted p-value

Ref	**	***	Ref	**	***	Ref	ns	**	Ref	***	***	Ref	**	***
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between variants  
fold-change

Ref	Ref	Ref	2	1.8	1.2	4.6	8.7	1.7	2.5	2.6	1.4	2.7	2.6	1.5
			***	**	ns	***	***	***	***	***	ns	***	***	*

p-value



## Highlights and eTOC Blurb

### Highlights

- Neutralization of variants is diminished, especially in Ad26.COVS recipients
- Neutralization breadth is associated with wildtype neutralization titer
- Anti-spike binding antibody concentrations >1000U/ml predict breadth
- Booster vaccines confer enhanced variant neutralization breadth

### eTOC Blurb

Naranbhai et al. examine how well current wildtype-based SARS-CoV-2 vaccines perform in patients with cancer in neutralizing viral variants. The findings support preferring the most immunogenic wildtype vaccines (i.e. mRNA1273 or BNT162b2) for patients at high risk, to generate breadth against variants.