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mRNA vaccine-elicited antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 and circulating variants

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To date severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) has infected over

100 million individuals resulting in over two million deaths. Many vaccines are being

deployed to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) including two novel mRNA-

based vaccines[1,2]. These vaccines elicit neutralizing antibodies and appear to be safe and

effective, but the precise nature of the elicited antibodies is not known[3-6]. Here we report on

the antibody and memory B cell responses in a cohort of 20 volunteers who received either

the Moderna (mRNA-1273) or Pfizer-BioNTech (BNT162b2) vaccines. Consistent with

prior reports, 8 weeks after the second vaccine injection volunteers showed high levels of

IgM, and IgG anti-SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (S) and receptor binding domain (RBD)

binding titers[3,5,6]. Moreover, the plasma neutralizing activity, and the relative numbers of

RBD-specific memory B cells were equivalent to individuals who recovered from natural

infection[7,8]. However, activity against SARS-CoV-2 variants encoding E484K or N501Y or

the K417N:E484K:N501Y combination was reduced by a small but significant margin.

Consistent with these findings, vaccine-elicited monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) potently

neutralize SARS-CoV-2, targeting a number of different RBD epitopes in common with

mAbs isolated from infected donors. Structural analyses of mAbs complexed with S trimer

suggest that vaccine- and virus-encoded S adopts similar conformations to induce

equivalent anti-RBD antibodies. However, neutralization by 14 of the 17 most potent mAbs

tested was reduced or abolished by either K417N, or E484K, or N501Y mutations. Notably,

the same mutations were selected when recombinant vesicular stomatitis virus

(rVSV)/SARS-CoV-2 S was cultured in the presence of the vaccine elicited mAbs. Taken

together the results suggest that the monoclonal antibodies in clinical use should be tested

against newly arising variants, and that mRNA vaccines may need to be updated

periodically to avoid potential loss of clinical efficacy.

Between 19 October 2020 and 15 January 2021, 20 volunteers who received two doses of the

Moderna (n=14) or Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA (n=6) vaccines were recruited for blood donation

and analyzed. Ages of the analyzed volunteers ranged from 29-69 years (median 43); 12

(60%) were male and 8 (40%) female. 16 participants identified as Caucasian, 2 as Hispanic, and

1 as African American or Asian, respectively. The time from the second vaccination to sample

collection varied between 3-14 weeks with an average of 8 weeks. None of the volunteers had a

history of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection and none experienced serious adverse events after

vaccination (Extended Data Table 1).

Vaccine plasma binding and neutralizing activity against SARS-CoV-2

Plasma IgM, IgG and IgA responses to SARS-CoV-2 S and RBD were measured by enzyme-

linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)[7,8]. All individuals tested showed reactivity to S and RBD

that was significantly higher compared to pre-COVID-19 historic controls (Extended Data Fig

1a-f). As might be expected anti-S and -RBD IgG levels were higher than IgM or IgA.

Moreover, there was a strong positive correlation between anti-RBD and anti-S response in all

three immunoglobulin isotypes measured (Extended Data Fig 1g-i). In line with previous

reports[3,6,9], IgG and IgM levels were significantly higher in the vaccinated group compared to a

cohort of convalescent patients assayed 1.3 and 6.2 months after infection, while IgA levels were

similar (Extended Data Fig 1j-l).

Plasma neutralizing activity was determined using human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1)

pseudotyped with SARS-CoV-2 S protein[7,8,10]. In agreement with previous reports[3,6,9], there was

a broad range of plasma neutralizing activity 3-14 weeks after the second vaccine dose that was

similar to that elicited by natural infection in a convalescent cohort after 1.3 months, and greater

than the activity at 6.2 months after infection (Fig. 1a, Extended Data Table 1). There was no

significant difference in neutralizing activity between the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech

vaccines (Fig. 1b). Whereas convalescent antibody titers tend to correlate with severity and

length of time of infection, additional sampling would be required to understand the correlates of

the magnitude of the vaccine responses. As expected, plasma neutralizing activity was directly

correlated to anti-S and -RBD binding titers in ELISAs[7,8] (Fig. 1c, d, and Extended Data Fig. 2a-

d). Finally, RBD and S binding, and neutralizing activities were directly correlated to the time

between the first vaccine dose and blood donation with significantly reduced levels in all 3

measurements with time (Fig. 1e, f and g, and Extended Data Fig. 2e-h)[11]. However, this and

other small studies[3,11] cannot accurately predict the half-life of the neutralizing response. Larger

numbers of individuals in diverse cohorts will need to be studied to determine the precise half-

life of the vaccine elicited neutralizing response.

To determine whether plasma from vaccinated individuals can neutralize circulating SARS-CoV-

2 variants of concern and mutants that arise *in vitro* under antibody pressure [12,13], we tested

vaccinee plasma against a panel of 10 mutant pseudotype viruses including recently reported

N501Y (B1.1.7 variant), K417N, E484K and the combination of these 3 RBD mutations

(501Y.V2 variant)[14-19]. Vaccinee plasma was significantly less effective in neutralizing the HIV-

1 virus pseudotyped with certain SARS-CoV-2 mutant S proteins (Fig. 1h and i and Extended

Data Fig. 2j). Among the volunteer plasmas tested there was a 1- to 3-fold decrease in

neutralizing activity against E484K, N501Y and the K417N:E484K:N501Y combination (p=

0.0033, p=0.0002, and p<0.0001, respectively, Fig. 1h and i). Similarly, convalescent plasma

obtained 1.3 and 6.2 months after infection was 0.5- to 29- and 0.5- to 20.2-fold less effective in

neutralizing the K417N:E484K:N501Y combination (p=0.001 and p<0.0001, respectively, Fig.

1j, Extended Data Table 2). We conclude that the plasma neutralizing activity elicited by either

mRNA vaccination or natural infection is variably but significantly less effective against

pseudoviruses that carry RBD mutations found in emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants.

Vaccine-elicited SARS-CoV-2 RBD-specific monoclonal antibodies

Although circulating antibodies derived from plasma cells wane over time, long-lived immune

memory can persist in expanded clones of memory B cells[7,20]. We used flow cytometry to

enumerate the circulating SARS-CoV-2 RBD-specific memory B cells elicited by mRNA

immunization[7,8] (Fig. 2a, Extended Data Fig. 3a and b). We focused on the RBD since it is the

target of the majority of the more potent SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies discovered to

date[21-26]. Notably, the percentage of RBD-binding memory B cells in vaccinees was significantly

greater than in naturally infected individuals assayed after 1.3 months, but similar to the same

individuals assayed after 6.2 months (Fig. 2b). The percentage of RBD-binding memory B cells

in vaccinees was not correlated to the time after vaccination (Extended Data Fig. 3c). Thus,

mRNA vaccination elicits a robust SARS-CoV-2 RBD-specific B cell memory response that

resembles natural infection.

To examine the nature of the antibodies produced by memory B cells in response to vaccination,

we obtained 1,409 paired antibody heavy and light chains from RBD binding single B cells from

14 individuals (n=10 Moderna and n=4 Pfizer-BioNTech vaccinees) (Extended Data Table 3).

Expanded clones of cells comprised 4-50% of the overall RBD binding memory B cell

compartment (Fig. 2c and d, and Extended Data Fig. 3d). Similar to natural infection, IGVH 3-

53, and 3-30 and some IGVL genes were significantly over-represented in the RBD-binding

memory B cell compartment of vaccinated individuals (Fig. 2e, Extended Data Fig. 4a). In

addition, antibodies that share the same combination of IGHV and IGLV genes in vaccinees

comprised 39% of all the clonal sequences (Extended Data Fig. 4b) and 59% when combined

with naturally infected individuals[7,8] (Fig. 2f), and some of these antibodies were nearly identical

(Extended Data Table 3 and 4). The number of V gene nucleotide mutations in vaccinees is

greater than in naturally infected individuals assayed after 1.3 months, but lower than that in the

same individuals assayed after 6.2 months (Fig. 2g and Extended Data Fig. 5a). The length of the

IgH CDR3 was similar in both natural infected individuals and vaccinees and hydrophobicity

was below average[27] (Fig. 2h and Extended Data Fig. 5a and b). Thus, the IgG memory response

is similar in individuals receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines and both are rich

in recurrent and clonally expanded antibody sequences.

One hundred and twenty-seven representative antibodies from 8 individuals were expressed and

tested for reactivity to the RBD (Extended Data Table 5). The antibodies included: (1) 76 that

were randomly selected from those that appeared only once, and (2) 51 representatives of

expanded clones. Of the antibodies tested 98% (124 out of the 127) bound to RBD indicating

that single cell sorting by flow cytometry efficiently identified B cells producing anti-RBD

antibodies (Extended Data Fig. 6a-c and Table 5). In anti-RBD ELISAs the mean half-maximal

effective concentration (EC_{50}) was higher than that observed in infected individuals after 6.2

months but not significantly different from antibodies obtained 1.3 months after infection

(Extended Data Fig. 6a, and Table 5 and [7,8]). To examine memory B cell antibodies for binding

to circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants and antibody resistant mutants we performed ELISAs using

mutant RBDs[12,15,28-31]. Twenty-two (26%) of the 84 antibodies tested showed at least 5-fold

decreased binding to at least one of the mutant RBDs (Extended data Fig. 6d-n and Table 5).

SARS-CoV-2 S pseudotyped viruses were used to measure the neutralizing activity of all 127

antibodies[7,8,10] (Fig. 3a, Extended Data Table 5). Consistent with the plasma neutralization

results, the geometric mean neutralization half-maximal inhibitory concentration of the Pfizer-

BioNTech and Moderna vaccinee antibodies were not significantly different from each other or

to antibody collections obtained from naturally infected individuals 1.3 or 6.2 months after

infection (Fig. 3a and [7,8]).

To examine the neutralizing breadth of the monoclonal antibodies and begin to map their target

epitopes we tested 17 of the most potent antibodies (Extended data Table 6), 8 of which carried

IgHV3-53, against a panel of 12 SARS-CoV-2 variants: A475V is resistant to class 1 antibodies

(structurally defined as described[29]); E484K and Q493R are resistant to class 2

antibodies[7,8,12,13,29,30,32,33]; while R346S, N439K, and N440K are resistant to class 3

antibodies[7,8,12,13,29,33]. Additionally, K417N, Y453F, S477R, N501Y, and D614G represent

circulating variants some of which have been associated with rapidly increasing case

numbers[14,15,19,33-35]. Based on their neutralizing activity against the variants, all but 3 of the

antibodies were provisionally assigned to a defined antibody class or a combination (Fig. 3b). As

seen in natural infection, a majority of the antibodies tested (9/17) were at least ten-fold less

effective against pseudotyped viruses carrying the E484K mutation[7,12,29]. In addition, 5 of the

antibodies were less potent against K417N and 4 against N501Y by ten-fold or more (Fig. 3b).

Similar results were obtained with antibodies being developed for clinical use (REGN10987,

REGN10933, COV2-2196, COV2-2130, C135 and C144 (Extended data Fig. 7)). However,

antibody combinations remained effective against all of the variants tested confirming the

importance of using antibody combinations in the clinic (Extended data Fig. 7). Whether less

potent antibodies show similar degrees of sensitivity to these mutations remains to be

determined.

To determine whether antibody-imposed selection pressure could also drive the emergence of

resistance mutations *in vitro,* we cultured an rVSV/SARS-CoV-2 recombinant virus in the

presence of each of 18 neutralizing monoclonal antibodies. All of the tested antibodies selected

for RBD mutations. Moreover, in all cases the selected mutations corresponded to residues in the

binding sites of their presumptive antibody class (Fig. 3b and c). For example, antibody C627,

which was assigned to class 2 based on sensitivity to the E484K mutation, selected for the

emergence of the E484K mutation *in vitro* (Fig 3c). Notably, 6 of the antibodies selected for

K417N, E or T, 5 selected for E484K and 3 selected for N501Y, T or H, which coincide with

mutations present in the circulating B.1.1.17/501Y.V1, B.1.351/501Y.V2 and B1.1.28/501.V3

(P.1) variants that have been associated with rapidly increasing case numbers in particular

locales[14,17,18,36].

Cryo-EM Mapping of Antibody Epitopes

To further characterize antibody epitopes and mechanisms of neutralization, we characterized

seven complexes between mAb Fab fragments and the prefusion, stabilized ectodomain trimer of

SARS-CoV-2 S glycoprotein[37] using single-particle cryo-EM (Fig 4 and Extended Data Table 7).

Overall resolutions ranged from 5-8 Å (Extended Data Fig. 8) and coordinates from S trimer and

representative Fab crystal structures were fit by rigid body docking into the cryo-EM density

maps to provide a general assessment of antibody footprints/RBD epitopes. Fab-S complexes

exhibited multiple RBD-binding orientations recognizing either 'up'/'down' (Fig 4a-j) or solely

'up' (Fig 4k-n) RBD conformations, consistent with structurally defined antibody classes from

natural infection (Fig 4o)[29]. The majority of mAbs characterized (6 of 7) recognized epitopes that

included RBD residues involved in ACE2 recognition, suggesting a neutralization mechanism

that directly blocks ACE2-RBD interactions. Additionally, structurally defined antibody epitopes

were consistent with RBD positions that were selected in rVSV/SARS-CoV-2 recombinant virus

outgrowth experiments, including residues K417, N439/N440, E484, and N501 (Fig 3c and Fig

4f-j,m,n). Taken together, these data suggest that functionally similar antibodies are raised during

vaccination and natural infection, and that the RBDs of spike trimers translated from the mRNA

delivered by vaccination adopt both 'up' and 'down' conformations as observed on structures of

trimer ectodomains[29] and trimers on the surface of SARS-CoV-2 virions[38].

Discussion

The mRNA-based SARS-CoV-2 vaccines are safe and effective and being deployed globally to

prevent infection and disease. The vaccines elicit antibody responses against the RBD, the major

target of neutralizing antibodies[21-26], in a manner that resembles natural infection. Notably, the

neutralizing antibodies produced by mRNA vaccination target the same epitopes as natural

infection. The data are consistent with SARS-CoV-2 spike trimers translated from the injected

RNA adopting a range of different conformations. Moreover, different individuals immunized

with either the Moderna (mRNA-1273) or Pfizer-BioNTech (BNT162b2) vaccines produce

closely related and nearly identical antibodies. Whether or not neutralizing antibodies to epitopes

other that RBD are elicited by vaccination remains to be determined.

Human neutralizing monoclonal antibodies to the SARS-CoV-2 RBD can be categorized as

belonging to 4 different classes based on their target regions on the RBD[29]. Class 1 and 2

antibodies are among the most potent and also the most abundant antibodies[7,8,21,22,25,39]. These

antibodies target epitopes that overlap or are closely associated with RBD residues K417, E484

and N501. They are frequently sensitive to mutation in these residues and select for K417N,

E484K and N501Y mutations in SARS-CoV-2 S protein expression libraries in yeast and VSV

[12,15,33]. To avert selection and escape, antibody therapies should be composed of combinations of

antibodies that target non-overlapping or highly conserved epitopes[8,12,13,33,40-44].

A number of circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants that have been associated with rapidly increasing

case numbers and have particular prevalence in the UK (B.1.1.7/501Y.V1), South Africa

(B.1.351/501Y.V2) and Brazil (P.1)[14,17,18,36]. Our experiments indicate that the RBD mutations

found in these variants, and potentially others that carry K417N/T, E484K and N501Y

mutations, can reduce the neutralization potency of vaccinee and convalescent plasma against

SARS-CoV-2 pseudotyped viruses. Although our assays are limited to pseudotyped viruses there

is an excellent correlation between pseudotyped and authentic SARS-CoV-2 neutralization

assays[10]. In addition, similar results have been reported by others using vaccinee and

convalescent plasmas and a variety of different pseudotype and authentic virus assays[15,31,45-49].

The comparatively modest effects of the mutations on viral sensitivity to plasma reflects the

polyclonal nature of the neutralizing antibodies in vaccinee plasma. Nevertheless, emergence of

these particular variants is consistent with the dominance of the class 1 and 2 antibody response

in infected or vaccinated individuals. We speculate that these mutations emerged in response to

immune selection in individuals with non-sterilizing immunity. What the long-term effect of

accumulation of mutations on the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic will be is not known, but the common

cold coronavirus HCoV-229E evolves antigenic variants that are comparatively resistant to the

older sera but remain sensitive to contemporaneous sera[50]. Thus, it is possible that these

mutations and others that emerge in individuals with suboptimal or waning immunity will erode

the effectiveness of natural and vaccine elicited immunity. The data suggests that SARS-CoV-2

vaccines and antibody therapies may need to be updated and immunity monitored in order to

compensate for viral evolution.

 Figure Legends

Fig. 1. Plasma neutralizing activity.

a, SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus neutralization assay. NT_{50} values for COVID-19 convalescent plasma measured at 1.3 months[8] and 6.2 months[7] after infection as well as plasma from vaccinees. NT_{50} values lower than 10 were plotted at 10. Mean of 2 independent experiments. Red bars and indicated values represent geometric mean NT_{50} values. Statistical significance was determined using the two-tailed Mann-Whitney U-test. Pre-COVID-19 historical control plasma was analyzed as a negative control and showed no detectable neutralization ($NT_{50}<10$). **b,** NT_{50} values for Moderna mRNA-1273 (black) and Pfizer-BioNTech BNT162b2 (red) vaccine recipients. Red bars and indicated values represent geometric mean NT_{50} values. Statistical significance was determined using the two-tailed Mann-Whitney U-test. **c,** Anti-RBD IgG AUC (Y axis) plotted against NT_{50} (X axis) r=0.82, p<0.0001. **d,** Anti-S IgG AUC (Y axis) plotted against NT_{50} (X axis) r=0.83, p<0.0001. **e,** Anti-RBD IgG AUC (Y axis) plotted against time between first dose and blood draw (X axis) r=-0.59 p=0.0058. **f,** Anti-S IgG AUC (Y axis) plotted against time between first dose and blood draw (X axis) r=-0.62 p=0.0038. **g,** NT_{50} (Y axis) plotted against time between first dose and blood draw (X axis) r=-0.69 p=0.0008. The r and p values for correlations in **c-g** were determined by two-tailed Spearman correlation. Moderna vaccinees are in black and Pfizer-BioNTech in red. **h.** Examples of neutralization assays, comparing the sensitivity of pseudotyped viruses with WT and RBD mutant SARS-CoV-2 S proteins to vaccinee plasma. MOD1 and PFZ10 indicate two representative individuals receiving the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, respectively (for details see Ext. Data Table 1). **i,** NT50 values for vaccinee plasma (n=15) neutralization of pseudotyped viruses with WT and the indicated RBD-mutant SARS-CoV-2 S proteins. Pfizer-BioNTech vaccinees in red.

j, NT50 values for convalescent plasma (n=45) neutralization of pseudotyped viruses with WT

and KEN (K417N/E484K/N501Y) SARS-CoV-2 S proteins. Statistical significance in **i** and **j**

was determined using one tailed t-test. All experiments were performed a minimum of 2 times.

Pseutotyped viruses containing the E484K mutation and corresponding WT controls contain the

R683G mutation (for details see methods).

Fig. 2. Memory B cell antibodies.

a, Representative flow cytometry plots showing dual AlexaFluor-647-RBD and PE-RBD binding

B cells for 4 vaccinees. **b,** as in **a,** dot plot summarizes the percentage of RBD binding B cells in

19 vaccinees, in comparison to a cohort of infected individuals assayed 1.3 and 6.2 months after

infection[7,8]. Individuals who received the Moderna vaccine are shown in black and Pfizer-

BioNTech vaccine recipients in red. Red horizontal bars indicate mean values. Statistical

significance was determined using two-tailed Mann–Whitney U-tests. **c,** Pie charts show the

distribution of antibody sequences from the 4 individuals in **a.** The number in the inner circle

indicates the number of sequences analyzed. Pie slice size is proportional to the number of

clonally related sequences. The black outline indicates the frequency of clonally expanded

sequences. **d,** as in **c,** graph shows relative clonality among 14 vaccinees assayed, individuals

who received the Moderna vaccine are shown in black and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine recipients

in red. Red horizontal bars indicate mean values. Statistical significance was determined using

two-tailed Mann–Whitney U-tests. **e,** Graph shows relative abundance of human IGVH genes

Sequence Read Archive accession SRP010970 (orange), and vaccinees (blue). A two-sided

binomial test was used to compare the frequency distributions, significant differences are

denoted with stars (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** = $p < 0.0001$). **f,** Clonal

relationships between sequences from 14 vaccinated individuals (Moderna in black, Pfizer-

BioNTech in red Extended Data Table 3) and naturally infected individuals (in green, from[7,8]).

Interconnecting lines indicate the relationship between antibodies that share V and J gene

segment sequences at both IGH and IGL. Purple, green and grey lines connect related clones,

clones and singles, and singles to each other, respectively. **g,** Number of somatic nucleotide

mutations in the IGVH (top) and IGVL (bottom) in vaccinee antibodies (Extended Data Table 3)

compared to natural infection obtained 1.3 or 6.2 months after infection[7,8]. Statistical

significance was determined using the two-tailed Mann–Whitney U-tests and red horizontal bars

indicate mean values. **h,** as in **g,** but for CDR3 length.

Fig. 3: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 RBD monoclonal antibody neutralizing activity.

a, SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus neutralization assay. IC_{50} values for antibodies cloned from

COVID-19 convalescent patients measured at 1.3 and 6.2 months[7,8] after infection as well as

antibodies cloned from Moderna mRNA-1273 (black) and Pfizer-BioNTech BNT162b2 (red)

mRNA- vaccine recipients. Antibodies with IC_{50} values above 1000 ng/ml were plotted at 1000

ng/ml. Mean of 2 independent experiments. Red bars and indicated values represent geometric

mean IC_{50} values in ng/ml. Statistical significance was determined using the two-tailed Mann-

Whitney U-test. Isotype control antibody was analyzed in parallel and showed no detectable

neutralization. **b,** IC_{50} values for 17 selected mAbs for neutralization of wild type and the

indicated mutant SARS-CoV-2 pseudoviruses. Color gradient indicates IC_{50} values ranging from

0 (white) to 1000 ng/ml (red). **c,** Antibody selection pressure can drive emergence of S variants

in cell culture; the percentage of sequence reads encoding the indicated RBD mutations after a

single passage of rVSV/SARS-CoV-2 in the presence of the indicated antibodies is tabulated.

Color gradient indicates percentage of sequence reads bearing the indicated mutation ranging

from 0 (white) to 100 (red). Positions for which no sequence read was detected are shown in

grey. The percentages calculated for a given position are based on all the reads, and not just the

reads that include that position. K417N, E484K/R683G and N501 are highlighted in **b** and **c** as

they constitute important circulating variants.

Fig. 4. Cryo-EM reconstructions of Fab-S complexes.

Cryo-EM densities for Fab-S complexes (**a-e**; **k-l**) and close-up views of antibody footprints on

RBDs (**f-j**; **m-n**) are shown for neutralizing mAbs. As expected, due to Fab inter-domain

flexibility, cryo-EM densities (**a-e**; **k-l**) were weak for the Fab C_H-C_L domains. Models of

antibody footprints on RBDs (**f-j**; **m-n**) are presented as Fab V_H-V_L domains (cartoon)

complexed with the RBD (surface). To generate models, coordinates of stabilized S trimer (PDB

6XKL) and representative Fab fragments (PDB 6XCA or 7K8P) with CDR3 loops removed were

fit by rigid body docking into the cryo-EM density maps. **a,f,** C669; **b,g,** C643; **c,h,** C603; **d,i,**

C601; **e,j,** C670; **k,m,** C666; and **l,n,** C663. RBD residues K417, N439, N440, E484, and N501

are highlighted as red surfaces. The N343 glycan is shown as a teal sphere. **o,** Composite model

illustrating targeted epitopes of RBD-specific neutralizing mAbs (shown as V_H-V_L domains in

colors from panels **a-l**) elicited from mRNA vaccines.

Data reporting

347 No statistical methods were used to predetermine sample size. The experiments were not

348 randomized and the investigators were not blinded to allocation during experiments and outcome

349 assessment.

Study participants.

To isolate and characterize anti-SARS-CoV-2 RBD antibodies from vaccinees, a cohort

of 20 individuals that participated in either the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech phase 3 vaccine

clinical trials and did not report prior history of SARS-CoV-2 infection was recruited at the NIH

Blood Center and the Rockefeller University Hospital for blood donation. Eligible participants

included adults, at least 18 years of age with no known heart, lung, kidney disease or bleeding

disorders, no history of HIV-1 or malaria infection. All participants were asymptomatic at the

time of the study visit and had received a complete 2 dose regimen of either mRNA vaccine.

Informed consent was obtained from all participants and the study was conducted in accordance

with Good Clinical Practice. The study visits and blood draws were reviewed and approved

under the National Institutes of Health's Federalwide Assurance (FWA00005897), in accordance

with Federal regulations 45 CFR 46 and 21 CFR 5 by the NIH Intramural Research Program IRB

committee (IRB# 99CC0168, Collection and Distribution of Blood Components from Healthy

Donors for In Vitro Research Use) and by the Institutional Review Board of the Rockefeller

University (IRB# DRO-1006, Peripheral Blood of Coronavirus Survivors to Identify Virus-

Neutralizing Antibodies). For detailed participant characteristics see Extended Data Table 1.

Blood samples processing and storage.

Samples collected at NIH were drawn from participants at the study visit and processed within 24 hours. Briefly, whole blood samples were subjected to Ficoll gradient centrifugation after 1:1 dilution in PBS. Plasma and PBMC samples were obtained through phase separation of plasma layer and Buffy coat phase, respectively. PBMCs were further prepared through centrifugation, red blood cells lysis and washing steps, and stored in CellBanker cell freezing media (Amsbio). All samples were aliquoted and stored at - 80 °C and shipped on dry ice. Prior to experiments, aliquots of plasma samples were heat-inactivated (56°C for 1 hour) and then stored at 4°C. Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells (PBMCs) obtained from samples collected at Rockefeller University were purified as previously reported[7,8] by gradient centrifugation and stored in liquid nitrogen in the presence of FCS and DMSO. Heparinized plasma samples were aliquoted and stored at -20°C or less. Prior to experiments, aliquots of plasma samples were heat-inactivated (56°C for 1 hour) and then stored at 4°C.

ELISAs

ELISAs[51,52] to evaluate antibodies binding to SARS-CoV-2 S (BioHub), RBD and additional mutated RBDs were performed by coating of high-binding 96-half-well plates (Corning 3690) with 50 µl per well of a 1µg/ml protein solution in PBS overnight at 4 °C. Plates were washed 6 times with washing buffer (1× PBS with 0.05% Tween-20 (Sigma-Aldrich)) and incubated with 170 µl per well blocking buffer (1× PBS with 2% BSA and 0.05% Tween-20 (Sigma)) for 1 h at room temperature. Immediately after blocking, monoclonal antibodies or plasma samples were added in PBS and incubated for 1 h at room temperature. Plasma samples were assayed at a 1:66.6 (RU samples) or a 1:33.3 (NIH samples) starting dilution and 7 additional threefold serial

dilutions. Monoclonal antibodies were tested at 10 μg/ml starting concentration and 10 additional

fourfold serial dilutions. Plates were washed 6 times with washing buffer and then incubated

with anti-human IgG, IgM or IgA secondary antibody conjugated to horseradish peroxidase

(HRP) (Jackson Immuno Research 109-036-088 109-035-129 and Sigma A0295) in blocking

buffer at a 1:5,000 dilution (IgM and IgG) or 1:3,000 dilution (IgA). Plates were developed by

addition of the HRP substrate, TMB (ThermoFisher) for 10 min (plasma samples) or 4 minutes

(monoclonal antibodies), then the developing reaction was stopped by adding 50 μl 1 M H_2SO_4

and absorbance was measured at 450 nm with an ELISA microplate reader (FluoStar Omega,

BMG Labtech) with Omega and Omega MARS software for analysis. For plasma samples, a

positive control (plasma from participant COV72[7,8], diluted 66.6-fold and with seven additional

threefold serial dilutions in PBS) was added to every assay plate for validation. The average of

its signal was used for normalization of all of the other values on the same plate with Excel

software before calculating the area under the curve using Prism V8.4 (GraphPad). For

monoclonal antibodies, the EC50 was determined using four-parameter nonlinear regression

(GraphPad Prism V8.4).

Expression of RBD proteins

Mammalian expression vectors encoding the RBDs of SARS-CoV-2 (GenBank MN985325.1; S

protein residues 319-539) and eight additional mutant RBD proteins (E484K, Q493R, R346S,

N493K, N440K, V367F, A475V, S477N and V483A) with an N-terminal human IL-2 or Mu

phosphatase signal peptide were previously described[30].

Cells and viruses

$293T_{Ace2}$ [8], 293T/ACE2.cl22 and $HT1080_{/}ACE2.cl14$ cells[10] were cultured in Dulbecco's

Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) at 37°C

and 5% CO_2. Cells were periodically tested for contamination with mycoplasma or retroviruses.

rVSV/SARS-CoV-2/GFP chimeric virus stocks were generated by infecting 293T/ACE2.cl22

cells. Supernatant was harvested 1 day post infection (dpi), cleared of cellular debris, and stored

at -80°C. A plaque purified variant designated $rVSV/SARS-CoV-2/GFP_{2E1}$ that encodes

D215G/R683G substitutions was used in these studies[10].

Selection and analysis of antibody escape mutations

For the selection of monoclonal antibody-resistant spike variants, an $rVSV/SARS-CoV-2/GFP_{2E1}$

(for details see[10]) population containing 10^6 infectious units was incubated with monoclonal

antibodies at 10-40 μg/ml for 1 hr at 37 °C. The virus-antibody mixtures were subsequently

incubated with 5×10^5 293T/ACE2cl.22 cells in 6-well plates. One day after infection the media

was replaced with fresh media containing the equivalent concentration of antibodies. Supernatant

was harvested 2 days after infection and 150 μl of the cleared supernatant was used to infect cells

for passage 2, while 150 μl was subjected to RNA extraction and sequencing.

For identification of putative antibody resistance mutations, RNA was extracted using

NucleoSpin 96 Virus Core Kit (Macherey-Nagel). The RNA was reversed transcribed using the

SuperScript VILO cDNA Synthesis Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific). KOD Xtreme Hot Start DNA

Polymerase (Millipore Sigma) was used for amplification of cDNA using primers flanking the S-

encoding sequence. The PCR products were purified and sequenced as previously described[7,12].

Briefly, tagmentation reactions were performed using 1ul diluted cDNA, $0.25\ \mu$l Nextera TDE1

Tagment DNA enzyme (catalog no. 15027865), and $1.25\ \mu$l TD Tagment DNA buffer (catalog

no. 15027866; Illumina). Next, the DNA was ligated to unique i5/i7 barcoded primer

combinations using the Illumina Nextera XT Index Kit v2 and KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix

(2X; KAPA Biosystems) and purified using AmPure Beads XP (Agencourt), after which the

samples were pooled into one library and subjected to paired-end sequencing using Illumina

MiSeq Nano 300 V2 cycle kits (Illumina) at a concentration of 12pM.

For analysis of the sequencing data, the raw paired-end reads were pre-processed to remove trim

adapter sequences and to remove low-quality reads (Phred quality score < 20) using BBDuk.

Reads were mapped to the rVSV/SARS-CoV-2/GFP sequence using Geneious Prime (Version

2020.1.2). Mutations were annotated using Geneious Prime, with a P-value cutoff of

10^{-6}. Because reads have randomly generated ends and different lengths, the mutations do not

necessarily have to occur on the same read. e.g K417N and N501Y might occur on the same read

or on different reads. The percentages calculated for position X are calculated based on all the

reads, and not just the reads, that include position X.

SARS-CoV-2 pseudotyped reporter virus

A panel of plasmids expressing RBD-mutant SARS-CoV-2 spike proteins in the context of

pSARS-CoV-2-S$_{\Delta 19}$ (based on (NC_045512)) have been described previously[12]. Additional

substitutions were introduced using either PCR primer-mediated mutagenesis or with synthetic

gene fragments (IDT) followed by Gibson assembly. The mutants E484K and KEN

(K417N+E484K+N501Y) were constructed in the context of a pSARS-CoV-2-S$_{\Delta 19}$ variant with

a mutation in the furin cleavage site (R683G). The NT50s and IC50 of these pseudotypes were

compared to a wildtype SARS-CoV-2 spike sequence carrying R683G in the subsequent

analyses, as appropriate.

Generation of SARS-CoV-2 pseudotyped HIV-1 particles was performed as previously

described[8]. Briefly, 293T cells were transfected with pNL4-3ΔEnv-nanoluc and pSARS-CoV-2-

$S_{\Delta 19}$ and pseudotyped virus stocks were harvested 48 hours after transfection, filtered and stored

at -80°C.

SARS-CoV-2 pseudotype neutralization assays

Plasma or monoclonal antibodies from vaccine recipients were four-fold or five-fold serially

diluted and then incubated with SARS-CoV-2 pseudotyped HIV-1 reporter virus for 1 h at 37 °C.

The antibody and pseudotyped virus mixture was added to $293T_{Ace2}$ cells[8] (for comparisons of

plasma or monoclonal antibodies from COVID-19-convalescents and vaccine recipients) or

HT1080ACE2.cl14 cells[10] (for analysis of spike mutants with vaccine recipient plasma or

monoclonal antibodies). After 48 h cells were washed with PBS and lysed with Luciferase Cell

Culture Lysis 5× reagent (Promega) and Nanoluc Luciferase activity in lysates was measured

using the Nano-Glo Luciferase Assay System (Promega) with the Glomax Navigator (Promega).

The relative luminescence units were normalized to those derived from cells infected with

SARS-CoV-2 pseudotyped virus in the absence of plasma or monoclonal antibodies. The half-

maximal and 80% or 90% neutralization titers for plasma (NT_{50} and NT_{80}/NT_{90}, respectively) or

half-maximal and 90% inhibitory concentrations for monoclonal antibodies (IC_{50} and IC_{90},

respectively) were determined using four-parameter nonlinear regression (least squares

regression method without weighting; constraints: top=1, bottom=0) (GraphPad Prism).

Biotinylation of viral protein for use in flow cytometry

Purified and Avi-tagged SARS-CoV-2 RBD was biotinylated using the Biotin-Protein Ligase-

BIRA kit according to manufacturer's instructions (Avidity) as described before[8]. Ovalbumin

(Sigma, A5503-1G) was biotinylated using the EZ-Link Sulfo-NHS-LC-Biotinylation kit

according to the manufacturer's instructions (Thermo Scientific). Biotinylated ovalbumin was

conjugated to streptavidin-BV711 (BD biosciences, 563262) and RBD to streptavidin-PE (BD

Biosciences, 554061) and streptavidin-AF647 (Biolegend, 405237)[8].

Flow cytometry and single cell sorting

Single-cell sorting by flow cytometry was performed as described previously[8]. Briefly,

peripheral blood mononuclear cells were enriched for B cells by negative selection using a pan-

B-cell isolation kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (Miltenyi Biotec, 130-101-638).

The enriched B cells were incubated in FACS buffer (1× PBS, 2% FCS, 1 mM EDTA) with the

following anti-human antibodies (all at 1:200 dilution): anti-CD20-PECy7 (BD Biosciences,

335793), anti-CD3-APC-eFluro 780 (Invitrogen, 47-0037-41), anti-CD8-APC-eFluor 780

(Invitrogen, 47-0086-42), anti-CD16-APC-eFluor 780 (Invitrogen, 47-0168-41), anti-CD14-

APC-eFluor 780 (Invitrogen, 47-0149-42), as well as Zombie NIR (BioLegend, 423105) and

fluorophore-labelled RBD and ovalbumin (Ova) for 30 min on ice. Single

CD3−CD8−CD14−CD16−CD20+Ova−RBD-PE+RBD-AF647+ B cells were sorted into

individual wells of 96-well plates containing 4 μl of lysis buffer (0.5× PBS, 10 mM DTT, 3,000

units/ml RNasin Ribonuclease Inhibitors (Promega, N2615) per well using a FACS Aria III and

FACSDiva software (Becton Dickinson) for acquisition and FlowJo for analysis. The sorted cells

were frozen on dry ice, and then stored at −80 °C or immediately used for subsequent RNA

reverse transcription.

Antibody sequencing, cloning and expression

Antibodies were identified and sequenced as described previously[8]. In brief, RNA from single

cells was reverse-transcribed (SuperScript III Reverse Transcriptase, Invitrogen, 18080-044) and

the cDNA stored at −20 °C or used for subsequent amplification of the variable IGH, IGL and

IGK genes by nested PCR and Sanger sequencing. Sequence analysis was performed using

MacVector. Amplicons from the first PCR reaction were used as templates for sequence- and

ligation-independent cloning into antibody expression vectors. Recombinant monoclonal

antibodies and Fabs were produced and purified as previously described[8].

Cryo-EM sample preparation

Expression and purification of SARS-CoV-2 6P stabilized S trimers[37] was conducted as

previously described[53]. Purified Fab and S 6P trimer were incubated at a 1.1:1 molar ratio per

protomer on ice for 30 minutes prior to deposition on a freshly glow-discharged 300 mesh,

1.2/1.3 Quantifoil copper grid. Immediately before 3 μl of complex was applied to the grid,

fluorinated octyl-malotiside was added to the Fab-S complex to a final detergent concentration of

0.02% w/v, resulting in a final complex concentration of 3 mg/ml. Samples were vitrified in

100% liquid ethane using a Mark IV Vitrobot after blotting for 3 s with Whatman No. 1 filter

paper at 22˚C and 100% humidity.

Cryo-EM data collection and processing

Data collection and processing followed a similar workflow to what has been previously

described in detail[29]. Briefly, micrographs were collected on a Talos Arctica transmission

electron microscope (Thermo Fisher) operating at 200 kV for all Fab-S complexes. Data were

collected using SerialEM automated data collection software[54] and movies were recorded with a

K3 camera (Gatan). For all datasets, cryo-EM movies were patch motion corrected for beam-

induced motion including dose-weighting within cryoSPARC v2.15[55] after binning super

resolution movies. The non-dose-weighted images were used to estimate CTF parameters using

cryoSPARC implementation of the Patch CTF job. Particles were picked using Blob picker and

extracted 4x binned and 2D classified. Class averages corresponding to distinct views with

secondary structure features were chosen and ab initio models were generated. 3D classes that

showed features of a Fab-S complex were re-extracted, unbinned (0.869 Å/pixel) and

homogenously refined with C1 symmetry. Overall resolutions were reported based on gold

standard FSC calculations.

Cryo-EM Structure Modeling and Refinement

Coordinates for initial complexes were generated by docking individual chains from reference

structures into cryo-EM density using UCSF Chimera[56] (S trimer: PDB 6KXL, Fab: PDB 6XCA

or 7K8P after trimming CDR3 loops and converting to a polyalanine model). Models were then

refined into cryo-EM maps by rigid body and real space refinement in Phenix[57]. If the resolution

allowed, partial CDR3 loops were built manually in Coot[58] and then refined using real-space

refinement in Phenix.

Computational analyses of antibody sequences

Antibody sequences were trimmed based on quality and annotated using Igblastn v.1.14. with

IMGT domain delineation system. Annotation was performed systematically using Change-O

toolkit v.0.4.540 [59]. Heavy and light chains derived from the same cell were paired, and

clonotypes were assigned based on their V and J genes using in-house R and Perl scripts (Fig. 2c

and f, Extended data Fig. 3d, Extended data Fig. 4b). All scripts and the data used to process

antibody sequences are publicly available on GitHub (https://github.com/stratust/igpipeline).

The frequency distributions of human V genes in anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies from this study

was compared to 131,284,220 IgH and IgL sequences generated by [60] and downloaded from

cAb-Rep [61], a database of human shared BCR clonotypes available at https://cab-

rep.c2b2.columbia.edu/. Based on the 97 distinct V genes that make up the 4186 analyzed

sequences from Ig repertoire of the 14 participants present in this study, we selected the IgH and

IgL sequences from the database that are partially coded by the same V genes and counted them

according to the constant region. The frequencies shown in (Fig 2e and Extended Data Fig 4a)

are relative to the source and isotype analyzed. We used the two-sided binomial test to check

whether the number of sequences belonging to a specific IgHV or IgLV gene in the repertoire is

different according to the frequency of the same IgV gene in the database. Adjusted p-values

were calculated using the false discovery rate (FDR) correction. Significant differences are

denoted with stars.

Nucleotide somatic hypermutation and CDR3 length were determined using in-house R and Perl

scripts. For somatic hypermutations, IGHV and IGLV nucleotide sequences were aligned against

their closest germlines using Igblastn and the number of differences were considered nucleotide

mutations. The average mutations for V genes were calculated by dividing the sum of all

nucleotide mutations across all participants by the number of sequences used for the analysis. To

calculate the GRAVY scores of hydrophobicity[62] we used Guy H.R. Hydrophobicity scale based

on free energy of transfer (kcal/mole)[63] implemented by the R package Peptides (the

Comprehensive R Archive Network repository; https://journal.r-project.org/archive/2015/RJ-

2015-001/RJ-2015-001.pdf). We used 1405 heavy chain CDR3 amino acid sequences from this

study and 22,654,256 IGH CDR3 sequences from the public database of memory B cell receptor

sequences[64]. The two-tailed Wilcoxon nonparametric test was used to test whether there is a

difference in hydrophobicity distribution.

Data availability statement: Data are provided in Extended Data Tables 1-7. The raw

sequencing data and computer scripts associated with Fig. 2 have been deposited at Github

(https://github.com/stratust/igpipeline). This study also uses data from "A Public Database of

Memory and Naive B-Cell Receptor Sequences" [64], PDB (6VYB and 6NB6) and from "High

frequency of shared clonotypes in human B cell receptor repertoires" [60]. Cryo-EM maps

associated with data reported in this manuscript will be deposited in the Electron Microscopy

Data Bank (EMDB: https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/emdb/) under accession codes EMD-23393

(C601-S), EMD-23394 (C603-S), EMD-23395 (C643-S), EMD-23396 (C663-S), EMD-23397

(C666-S), EMD-23398 (C669-S), and EMD-23399 (C670-S).

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Data presentation

Figures were arranged in Adobe Illustrator 2020.

Competing interests: The Rockefeller University has filed a provisional patent application in

connection with this work on which Z.W. and M.C.N. are inventors (US patent 63/199, 676).

Code availability statement: Computer code to process the antibody sequences is available at

GitHub (https://github.com/stratust/igpipeline).

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Author Contributions:

Extended Data Fig. 1. Plasma antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. a–f, Results of ELISAs

measuring plasma reactivity to S (**a,c,e**) and RBD protein (**b,d,f**) of 20 vaccinees (grey curves)

and 8 controls (black curves). **a**, Anti-S IgG. **b**, Anti-RBD IgG. **c**, Anti-S IgM. **d**, Anti-RBD

IgM. **e**, Anti-S IgA. **f**, Anti-RBD IgA. Left, optical density at 450 nm (OD 450 nm) for the

indicated reciprocal plasma dilutions. Right, normalized area under the curve (AUC) values for

the 8 controls and 20 vaccinees. Horizontal bars indicate geometric mean. Statistical significance

was determined using the two-tailed Mann–Whitney U-test. Average of two or more

experiments. **g-i,** Correlations of plasma antibodies measurements. **g,** Normalized AUC for IgG

anti-S (X axis) plotted against normalized AUC for IgG anti-RBD (Y axis). **h,** Normalized AUC

for IgM anti-S (X axis) plotted against normalized AUC for IgM anti-RBD (Y axis). **i,**

Normalized AUC for IgA anti-S (X axis) plotted against normalized AUC for IgA anti-RBD (Y

axis). The *r* and *p* values in **g-i** were determined with the two-tailed Spearman's correlation test.

Moderna vaccinees are in black and Pfizer-BioNTech in red. **j-l,** Results of ELISAs measuring

plasma reactivity to RBD in convalescent volunteers 1.3 and 6.2 months after infection[7,8] and in

20 vaccinees, who received the Moderna vaccine (black dots) and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine (red

dots). **j,** Anti-RBD IgG. **k,** Anti-RBD IgM. **l,** Anti-RBD IgA. The normalized area under the

curve (AUC) values are shown. Positive and negative controls were included for validation. Red

horizontal bars and indicated values represent geometric mean. Statistical significance was

determined using two-tailed Mann–Whitney U-test or Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed rank test.

Extended Data Fig. 2: Plasma neutralizing activity. a, Anti-S IgM AUC (Y axis) plotted

against NT_{50} (X axis) r=0.12, p<0.62. **b,** Anti-S IgA AUC (Y axis) plotted against NT_{50} (X axis)

r=0.79, p<0.0001. **c**, Anti-RBD IgM AUC (Y axis) plotted against NT50 (X axis) r=-0.079

p=0.74. **d**, Anti-RBD IgA AUC (Y axis) plotted against NT50 (X axis) r=0.69 p=0.0008. **e**, NT_{50}

(Y axis) plotted against time between last dose and blood draw (X axis) r=-0.63 p=0.0032. **f**,

NT_{50} (Y axis) plotted against time between doses (X axis) r=0.03 p=0.89. **g**, Anti-RBD IgG AUC

(Y axis) plotted against time between last dose and blood draw (X axis) r=-0.57 p=0.0084. **h**,

Anti-S IgG AUC (Y axis) plotted against time between last dose and blood draw (X axis) r=-0.59

p=0.0064. **i**, Age (Y axis) plotted against NT_{50} (X axis) r=-0.06 p=0.82. The r and p values were

determined by two-tailed Spearman's. Moderna vaccinees in black and Pfizer-BioNTech in red.

j, NT50 values for vaccinee plasma (n=15) neutralization of pseudotyped viruses with WT and

the indicated RBD-mutant SARS-CoV-2 S proteins; p-values determined using one tailed t-test.

Extended Data Fig. 3: Flow cytometry. a, Gating strategy used for cell sorting. Gating was on

singlets that were CD20+ and CD3-CD8-CD14-CD16-OVA-. Sorted cells were RBD-PE+ and

RBD-AF647+. **b,** Flow cytometry showing the percentage of RBD-double positive memory B

cells from a pre-COVID-19 control (HD) and 15 vaccinees, who received the Moderna vaccine

are shown in black and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine recipients are in red. **c**, the percentage of RBD-

binding memory B cells in vaccinees (Y axis) plotted against time between first dose and blood

draw (X axis) r=0.40 p=0.087 (left panel), and between last dose and blood draw (X axis) r=0.33

p=0.17 (right panel). Moderna vaccinees in black and Pfizer-BioNTech in red. The r and p values

for correlations were determined by two-tailed Spearman's. **d,** Pie charts show the distribution of

antibody sequences from 10 individuals in **b.** The number in the inner circle indicates the number

of sequences analyzed. Pie slice size is proportional to the number of clonally related sequences.

The black outline indicates the frequency of clonally expanded sequences. The r and p values for

correlations in **c** were determined by the two-tailed Spearman correlation test.

Extended Data Fig. 4: Frequency distributions of human VL genes.

Graph shows relative abundance of human IGVK (left) and IgVL (right) genes of Sequence Read Archive accession SRP010970 (orange)[65], and vaccinees (blue). Two-sided binomial tests with unequal variance were used to compare the frequency distributions., significant differences are denoted with stars (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** = $p < 0.0001$). **b.** Sequences from 14 individuals (Extended Data Table 3) with clonal relationships**.** Interconnecting lines indicate the relationship between antibodies that share V and J gene segment sequences at both IGH and IGL. Purple, green and grey lines connect related clones, clones and singles, and singles to each other, respectively.

Extended Data Fig. 5: Antibody somatic hypermutation, and CDR3 length. a, Number of somatic nucleotide mutations in both the IGVH and IGVL in 14 participants (left). Individuals who received the Moderna vaccine are shown in black and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine recipients in red. For each individual, the number of the amino acid length of the CDR3s at the IGVH and IGVL is shown (right). The horizontal bars indicate the mean. The number of antibody sequences (IGVH and IGVL) evaluated for each participant are n=68 (MOD1), n=45 (MOD2), n=117 (MOD3), n=123 (MOD4), n=110 (MOD6), n=109 (MOD7), n=144 (MOD8), n=102 (MOD9), n=132 (PFZ10), n=109 (MOD11), n=91 (PFZ12), n=78 (C001), n=66 (C003), and n=115 (C004). **b,** Distribution of the hydrophobicity GRAVY scores at the IGH CDR3 compared to a public database (see Methods for statistical analysis). The box limits are at the lower and upper quartiles, the center line indicates the median, the whiskers are 1.5× interquartile range and

the dots represent outliers. Statistical significance was determined using two-tailed Wilcoxon

matched-pairs signed rank test (**** = p < 0.0001).

Extended Data Fig. 6: Monoclonal antibody ELISAs. a, Graphs show anti-SARS-CoV-2

RBD antibody reactivity. ELISA EC50 values for all antibodies isolated from COVID-19

convalescent individuals assayed at 1.3 and 6.2 months after infection[7,8] and 127 selected

monoclonal antibodies isolated from 4 Moderna vaccinees (black dots) and 4 Pfizer-BioNTech

vaccinees (red dots) measured at 8 weeks after the boost. Red horizontal bars and indicated

values represent geometric mean. Statistical significance was determined using two-tailed

Mann–Whitney U-test. **b-c**, Graphs show ELISA titration curves for 86 monoclonal antibodies

isolated from Moderna vaccinees (**b**) and 41 monoclonal antibodies isolated from Pfizer-

BioNTech vaccinees (**c**). **d-l,** Graphs show ELISA titrations for 84 antibodies isolated from

Moderna vaccinees against the indicated RBD variants. Isotype control and low-binding

antibodies are indicated in colors. C661 is a non-binding antibody. Data are representative of two

independent experiments. **m,** Relative change in EC50 values for the indicated RBD variants

over wt RBD of 84 antibodies isolated from Moderna vaccinees. Red horizontal bars represent

geometric mean. **n,** a heat map summary of EC_{50} values for binding to wild type RBD and the

indicated mutant RBDs for 17 top neutralizing antibodies.

Extended Data Fig. 7: Neutralizing activity of monoclonal antibodies in clinical

development against SARS-CoV-2 variants. a, Results of a SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus

neutralization assay. IC_{50} values for 6 different monoclonal antibodies, alone or in their clinically

designated combinations, for neutralization of wild type and the indicated mutant SARS-CoV-2

pseudotyped viruses. Antibodies with IC$_{50}$ values above 1000 ng/ml were plotted at 1000 ng/ml.

Data are the mean of 2 independent experiments. Color gradient indicates IC$_{50}$ values ranging

from 0 (white) to 1000 ng/ml (red). The combination of REGN 10987 and 10933 (casirivimab

and imdevimab, respectively)[13,66,67] has been granted emergency use authorization by the U.S.

FDA, the combination of COV2-2196 and COV2-2130 (licensed to Astra Zeneca as

AZD7442)[26], and the combination of C135 and C144 (The Rockefeller University)[8] are currently

in clinical trials (NCT04507256 and NCT04700163, respectively).

Extended Data Fig. 8: Local resolution estimates of Fab-S cryo-EM reconstructions. a-g,

Local resolution maps calculated using cryoSPARC for (**a**) C669-S, (**b**) C643-S, (**c**) C603-S, (**d**)

C601-S, (**e**) C666-S, (**f**) C663-S, and (**g**) C670-S complexes. Close-up views for Fab-RBD

interfaces are highlighted for (**a**) C669 and (**b**) C643. **h,** Gold-standard Fourier shell correlation

curves for Fab-S complexes. The 0.5 and 0.143 cutoffs are indicated by dashed lines.

Supplementary Guide

Supplementary Table 1: Individual vaccinee characteristics

Supplementary Table 2: Neutralization of WT/KEN pseudovirus by convalescent plasma

Supplementary Table 3: Antibody sequences from vaccinees is provided as a separate Excel file

Supplementary Table 4: CDR3 alignment of highly identical clonal sequences

Supplementary Table 5: Sequences, half maximal effective concentrations (EC50s) and inhibitory concentrations (IC50s) of the cloned monoclonal antibodies is provided as a separate Excel file

Supplementary Table 6: Neutralization activity of mAbs against mutant SARS-CoV-2 pseudoviruses

Supplementary Table 7: Cryo-EM data collection and processing statistics

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		wt	R683G	K417N	N440K	N501Y	E484K R683G	K417N E484K N501Y R683G
Regeneron	REG10987	8	10	2	765	6	7	2
	REG10933	3	4	17	3	3	36	527
	10987+10933	4	6	3	6	3	9	4
AstraZenca	COV2-2196	3	4	1	2	3	44	16
	COV2-2130	3	5	2	4	3	4	3
	2196+2130	3	5	1	3	2	7	4
RU/BMS	C135	10	18	3	1000	14	7	3
	C144	2	4	1	2	3	1000	1000
	C144+C135	4	6	2	5	4	13	6

IC50 [ng/ml]