

1 **Early transcriptional responses after dengue vaccination mirror the**  
2 **response to natural infection and predict neutralizing antibody titers**

3 Running title: Early correlates of immunity to dengue

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39

40 **ABSTRACT**

41

42 *Background:* Several promising live attenuated virus (LAV) dengue vaccines are in  
43 development, but information about innate immune responses and early correlates of protection  
44 are lacking.

45 *Methods:* We characterized human genome-wide transcripts in whole blood from 10 volunteers  
46 at 11 time-points after immunization with the dengue virus type 3 (DENV-3) component of the  
47 NIH dengue vaccine candidate TV003 and from 30 hospitalized children with acute primary  
48 DENV-3 infection. We compared day-specific gene expression patterns with subsequent  
49 neutralizing antibody (NAb) titers.

50 *Results:* The transcriptional response to vaccination was largely confined to days 5-20 and was  
51 dominated by an interferon-associated signature and a cell cycle signature that peaked on days  
52 8 and 14, respectively. Changes in transcript abundance were much greater in magnitude and  
53 scope in symptomatic natural infection than following vaccination (maximum fold-change >200  
54 versus 21 post-vaccination; 3,210 versus 286 transcripts with significant fold-change), but  
55 shared gene modules were induced in the same sequence. The abundance of 131 transcripts  
56 on days 8 and 9 post-vaccination was strongly correlated with NAb titers measured 6 weeks  
57 post-vaccination.

58 *Conclusions:* LAV dengue vaccination elicits early transcriptional responses that mirror those  
59 found in symptomatic natural infection and provide candidate early markers of protection against  
60 DENV infection.

61

62 Clinical Trial Registration Number: NCT00831012 (available at [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov))

63 Keywords: dengue; vaccine; innate immune response; gene expression; microarray; correlates  
64 of protection; interferon; neutralizing antibody

65

## 66 **BACKGROUND**

67           Each year, the four dengue virus serotypes (DENV-1-4) infect an estimated 390 million  
68 individuals globally [1]. While most of these infections are asymptomatic, approximately 100  
69 million individuals develop clinically apparent disease ranging from uncomplicated fever to life-  
70 threatening illness. Despite the high disease burden, there are no licensed therapeutics for  
71 DENV infection. Several promising candidate dengue vaccines are in Phase III clinical trials,  
72 and the live attenuated chimeric dengue vaccine Dengvaxia™ was recently licensed for use in  
73 children 9 years of age and older in DENV endemic areas. However, the efficacy and duration  
74 of protection were limited or uncertain, and DENV-naïve vaccine recipients were hospitalized for  
75 dengue and severe dengue at a higher rate than placebo recipients, possibly due to antibody-  
76 dependent enhancement (ADE) [2].

77           Studies of natural DENV infection and flavivirus LAVs have identified immune responses  
78 needed for protection against dengue disease. Pre-existing neutralizing antibody (NAb) titers  
79 correlated with a lack of symptomatic disease in subsequent infections [3–6] and are used as  
80 the primary measure of candidate vaccine immunogenicity. However, the risk of severe disease  
81 is elevated after a second infection with a heterotypic dengue virus [7]. The recognition of  
82 effective homotypic immunity after natural infection has led to a common vaccine development  
83 strategy of inducing homotypic NABs to all four serotypes simultaneously.

84           Little is known about the role of early innate immune responses in enhancing NAb  
85 production and promoting protective immune memory against dengue. Studies of innate  
86 immunity have been hampered by the difficulty inherent in identifying individuals with early  
87 infection, when innate immune responses are most active, particularly those with mild or  
88 subclinical infections. Trials of LAVs provide a unique opportunity to examine early immune  
89 responses in a setting where the time, dose, and viral serotype are known. Genome-wide  
90 transcript responses to vaccines have provided important clues about early steps in the  
91 generation of humoral and cellular immunity [8–13]. Transcript profiling of peripheral blood also

92 incorporates information from cell populations that are difficult to examine in clinical settings,  
93 and has led to signatures associated with dengue disease severity, identified links between  
94 innate responses and humoral immunity in secondary DENV infection, and illustrated the  
95 dynamic nature of these responses [14–20].

96 In this study, we characterized the transcript response to rDEN3Δ30/31, the DENV-3  
97 component of TV003, a tetravalent live attenuated vaccine candidate developed by NIH. TV003  
98 is a single-dose vaccine that has proven to be both safe and immunogenic and is being  
99 evaluated in a Phase III efficacy trial [21,22]. We examined the temporal course of changes in  
100 transcript abundance and identified early signatures correlated with NAb titers measured six  
101 weeks post-vaccination. We also compared these results with the transcript patterns we  
102 observed in patients with symptomatic wild-type primary DENV-3 infection. Despite the  
103 anticipated differences in the magnitude of expression, we observed the induction of common  
104 gene expression programs in the same temporal sequence, with a similar relationship to the  
105 induction of NAb. These results reveal candidate biomarkers of early protective DENV immune  
106 responses against dengue and suggest a path towards validation and deployment.

107

## 108 **METHODS**

109 **Vaccine study population.** Samples for this study were collected from a Phase I clinical trial of  
110 the live attenuated dengue vaccine rDEN3Δ30/31-7164 (DENV-3), described previously [23].

111 Briefly, healthy, flavivirus-naïve adult volunteers were enrolled and randomized to receive a  
112 single 0.5 ml subcutaneous dose of 1,000 PFU of DENV-3 vaccine or a placebo (0.5 ml of  
113 vaccine diluent). Blood samples including whole blood for RNA profiling (PAXgene, Preanalytix)  
114 were collected immediately prior to vaccination and on days 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 20, 29, 42 and  
115 180, and stored at -80°C until used. Samples from each of these time-points were available  
116 from nine of ten vaccinees and from all placebo recipients. Subject 9 had samples available for  
117 all days except days 8 and 12; 166 samples in total were used for analysis. Serum virus titers

118 (viremia) were measured using a standard plaque assay as described previously [24]. Serum  
119 NAb titer was determined by 60% plaque reduction (PRNT<sub>60</sub>) [25]. Seroconversion was defined  
120 by a  $\geq 4$ -fold increase in PRNT<sub>60</sub> on study day 28 or 42 relative to day 0 and corresponds to a  
121 post-vaccination titer  $>10$  [23].

122

123 **Dengue patient population.** Patients presenting with fever and suspected dengue during the  
124 2010 dengue season were enrolled at the Hospital Infantil Manuel de Jesús Rivera (HIMJR) in  
125 Managua, Nicaragua. Inclusion criteria, recruitment, and laboratory testing have been described  
126 previously [26]; a full description is available in the Supplementary Information. Blood samples  
127 from healthy subjects were collected as part of a separate prospective cohort study in which  
128 healthy children in the same general population were enrolled without regard to dengue status  
129 [27].

130

131 **Ethics statement.** The trial of rDEN3Δ30/31 was approved by the Committee for Human  
132 Research at the University of Vermont, and written informed consent was obtained from all  
133 subjects following a review of risks and benefits and a comprehension assessment. The study in  
134 Nicaragua was approved by the Institutional Review Boards of the University of California,  
135 Berkeley, and the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health, and by the Stanford University Administrative  
136 Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research. All clinical research followed human  
137 experimentation guidelines of the United States Department of Health and Human Services  
138 and/or those of the authors' institutions. Parents or legal guardians of all subjects provided  
139 written informed consent, and subjects 6 years of age and older provided assent.

140

141 **RNA sample processing and transcriptome analysis.** PAXgene RNA was amplified and  
142 hybridized to Human Exonic Evidence Based Oligonucleotide (HEEBO) microarrays [14].  
143 Microarray data were submitted to the Princeton University MicroArray (PUMA) database for

144 normalization and gene filtering and are deposited at Gene Expression Omnibus  
145 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>; accession numbers GSE96656 and GSE98053). Data  
146 analysis was carried out using packages cited in the main text; a full description of both sample  
147 processing and analysis steps is available in the Supplementary Information.

148

## 149 **RESULTS**

150

### 151 **Temporal patterns of the transcriptional responses to live dengue vaccination**

152 To identify the temporal pattern of the early human transcriptional response to dengue  
153 vaccination, we examined changes in genome-wide transcript abundance in serial whole blood  
154 samples from 10 volunteers infected with 1,000 plaque forming units (pfu) of rDEN3Δ30/31, the  
155 dose included in TV003, and four volunteers inoculated with placebo (L-15 medium). Nine of ten  
156 vaccinees seroconverted 28 days post-vaccination, defined as a 60% plaque reduction  
157 neutralization titer (PRNT<sub>60</sub>) >10 (Table 1). Four of the vaccinees had low-level viremia on one  
158 or more days within the first 10 days post-vaccination, five developed a mild maculopapular  
159 rash, and none were febrile. The four placebo recipients remained seronegative for DENV  
160 serotypes.

161 We collected whole blood for isolation of RNA immediately before vaccination (day 0),  
162 and on days 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 20, 29, 42 and 180 post-vaccination from all volunteers and  
163 measured genome-wide transcript abundance levels. Data were available for eight of the nine  
164 participants who seroconverted. For each of these eight subjects, we compared transcript  
165 abundances for each post-vaccination day with those for the matched pre-vaccination sample  
166 (see Supplementary Information). Almost all significant changes in transcript abundance  
167 occurred 5-20 days after vaccination, with a peak of 161 and 156 transcripts changing in  
168 abundance (days 8 and 9, respectively), and 286 transcripts with a significant change in  
169 abundance on at least one day (Figure 1). Fewer transcripts met criteria for significance when

170 comparing vaccinees to placebo recipients (n=131), but the direction of change for 271 of the  
171 286 transcripts from vaccinees was the same whether the comparison was with day-matched  
172 placebo recipients or each subject's baseline sample (Supplementary Figure 1).

173 To infer the functional implications of these changes in transcript abundance, we used  
174 hierarchical clustering to organize the transcripts and compared gene membership in Gene  
175 Ontology and the KEGG pathways using the DAVID bioinformatics resource [28]. Gene  
176 transcripts were grouped in three clusters (Figure 2 and Supplementary Figure 2). Transcripts in  
177 Cluster 1 were more abundant after vaccination (Figure 2C), peaked on days 8 and 9 post  
178 vaccination, and included canonical interferon-stimulated gene (ISG) transcripts; IFI44, IFI44L,  
179 IFI27, HERC5, IFIT1, USP18, and ISG15 transcripts all increased 10- to 22-fold compared to  
180 baseline. Cluster 1 was strongly enriched for genes involved in the innate immune response to  
181 viruses and highly enriched for genes we previously found to be expressed after treatment of  
182 PBMCs with type I interferon ( $p < 1E-36$ ) [29].

183 Gene transcripts in Clusters 2 and 3 showed maximal changes on day 14, with Cluster 2  
184 transcripts increasing and Cluster 3 transcripts decreasing in abundance from baseline (Figure  
185 2A and 2B). Cluster 2 included TYMS, CEP55, CCNA2, and NEK2, whose genes products are  
186 involved in DNA replication and cell division, and other genes associated with mitosis ( $p < 2E-9$ ,  
187 Figure 2C). Genes in Cluster 3 were enriched in both reticulocytes ( $p = 1E-20$ ) and neutrophils  
188 ( $p = 2E-7$ ) [30]. We did not measure reticulocyte counts, but we did measure neutrophils and the  
189 relative neutrophil abundance in vaccinees did not change significantly with time ( $p = 0.55$ , paired  
190 t-test), suggesting that decreased expression of these genes was not due to decreased  
191 neutrophil abundance.

192

193 **Changes observed after vaccination are a subset of those observed in natural**  
194 **symptomatic DENV-3 infection**



195 To establish which features of the early response to vaccination are shared with the  
196 response to natural symptomatic infection, we examined transcript responses in Nicaraguan  
197 children hospitalized with acute dengue. We previously demonstrated that a history of previous  
198 DENV exposure is the most prominent source of variation in gene expression in dengue  
199 patients [14]. To ensure that DENV immune status, as well as serotype, did not confound our  
200 analysis, we identified 30 children diagnosed with acute primary DENV-3 infection during a  
201 single year (Supplementary Table 1), and compared transcript abundance in whole blood with  
202 measurements from 9 healthy individuals. Principal components analysis confirmed previous  
203 findings that there are significant day-to-day changes in the transcript response to natural  
204 infection [14,31] (Supplementary Figure 4); thus, we subsequently performed analyses stratified  
205 by day of fever.

206 Despite having fewer days available for comparison and lacking baseline samples for  
207 each patient, we identified many more transcripts with significant changes in abundance post-  
208 infection compared to those found in vaccinees: among the 20,623 transcripts measured in both  
209 datasets, we identified 3,210 transcripts that differed significantly on at least one day of fever,  
210 compared with 278 transcripts following vaccination (Figure 3A and Supplementary Figure 5A).  
211 The magnitude of the maximum change in abundance post-infection was also nearly 10-fold  
212 greater: there was a 200-fold difference post-infection compared to a maximum 21-fold  
213 difference post-vaccination (Figure 3B). The transcripts with the greatest differences in relative  
214 abundance during natural infection were MT2A (242-fold) and USP18 (183-fold), both of which  
215 are interferon-induced; HESX1 (150-fold), which is expressed in activated dendritic cells; and  
216 SPAT2SL (137-fold), which may be involved in activation and differentiation of multiple cell  
217 types.

218 Despite differences in response magnitude and number, the response following natural  
219 symptomatic infection included 90% (250/278) of transcripts that changed after vaccination, and  
220 the direction of change was the same for 96% of these transcripts (240/250) (Figure 3C). The

221 transcripts that changed the most post-vaccination (IFI44, IFI44L, IFI27 and HERC5) were  
222 among the 20 transcripts with the biggest differences in abundance following natural infection,  
223 and relative increases in transcript abundance were strongly correlated across the two groups  
224 (Spearman  $r^2 = 0.75$ ).

225

## 226 **Responses to dengue vaccination and symptomatic natural infection share a common** 227 **temporal sequence**

228 We used gene set enrichment analysis and information from all measured transcripts to  
229 identify 141 blood transcript gene modules that changed in abundance following either  
230 immunization or infection [8] (FDR<1%). Many of these modules demonstrated similar changes  
231 in both vaccinees and patients (Figure 4A). Modules enriched for ISG expression were elevated  
232 on days 5-14 post-vaccination and were also persistently elevated after natural DENV infection.  
233 Modules representing monocyte-associated transcripts were elevated on days 1-3 of natural  
234 infection and on days 8-9 post-vaccination, while modules associated with the mitotic cell cycle  
235 were elevated on later days in both groups, with the highest levels on day 5 of natural infection  
236 and on day 14 post-vaccination. When we compared the overall profiles of the gene modules in  
237 the two groups, we found that the responses to natural infection on fever days 1-3 were most  
238 similar to responses to vaccination on days 8-9 (Pearson's  $r \geq 0.60$ ; peak on day 9), while fever  
239 day 4 was most similar to vaccination day 12 ( $r > 0.75$ , peak on day 12), and fever day 5 was  
240 most similar to vaccination day 14 and subsequent time-points ( $r \geq 0.70$ , peak on 14) (Figure 4B,  
241 Supplementary Dataset 1). Thus, the enrichment of common modules in the same sequence  
242 indicates a similar progression in the early host response to vaccination and to natural infection.

243 We note there was also a cluster of 16 gene modules, six associated with platelet  
244 activation and cytoskeletal remodeling, that were elevated in natural infection but not vaccinees  
245 (Figure 4A and Supplementary Dataset 1). Previous studies have demonstrated that platelet

246 activation and TGF $\beta$  expression are elevated in DENV infection and higher in patients with more  
247 severe disease [32]. TGF $\beta$ , which is expressed at high levels in platelets [33], was elevated on  
248 fever days 1-2 in dengue patients but was never elevated post-vaccination (Supplementary  
249 Figure 6).

250

### 251 **Early transcriptional responses linked to neutralizing antibody production**

252 DENV-specific NAb are the primary endpoint for assessing vaccine responses in clinical trials  
253 and are associated with protection from both symptomatic infection and severe disease [3–5].  
254 To determine whether changes in host transcript patterns predicted differences in NAb titer we  
255 calculated the correlation between the change in abundance of each transcript on each day and  
256 the NAb titer on post-vaccination day 42, when NAb are generally at peak titer (Table 1,  
257 Supplementary Figure 7). During the first 6 days post-vaccination, we found no significant  
258 correlations with NAb titer, but by day 8, expression of the ISGs in Cluster 1 positively correlated  
259 with the day 42 NAb titer ( $p < 0.01$ ; Figure 5). This correlation was equally strong on day 9, and  
260 131 transcripts were significantly correlated with day 42 NAb titer on both days. Among the  
261 individual ISG transcripts most strongly correlated with day 42 NAb titer on both days 8 and 9  
262 ( $r > 0.8$ ) was IFI44, the transcript whose abundance changed the most post-vaccination. IFI44  
263 was also elevated at one time-point in each of two placebo recipients, but the timing of elevated  
264 expression was different and correlated with unrelated respiratory viral infections in each  
265 instance (Supplementary Figure 8). Twelve of the 131 transcripts were also associated with  
266 subsequent development of a rash, which was the only significant correlate with positive NAb  
267 titer in a clinical trial of TV003 [21] (Supplementary Figure 9). Interestingly, the one vaccinee  
268 who failed to develop neutralizing antibodies showed little evidence of increased abundance in  
269 Cluster 1 genes (Supplementary Figure 3). The association of interferon-related transcript  
270 abundance and later NAb titer diminished on days 12 and 14, but BUB1 ( $r = 0.9$ ) and other

271 transcripts associated with the mitotic cell cycle were correlated with subsequent NAb titers on  
272 day 14 (Figure 5).

273         When we performed similar comparisons for naturally infected patients, we found no  
274 transcript clusters significantly correlated with either convalescent or three month NAb titer  
275 (Supplementary Figure 5B and 5C). However, the pattern of blood transcript module  
276 enrichment indicated a similar relationship between day-specific gene expression and later  
277 production of NAb; gene enrichment for both interferon-stimulated and cell cycle-associated  
278 gene modules was associated with higher NAb titer in both vaccinees and patients (Figure 6),  
279 albeit more weakly in patients, and cell cycle-associated modules were correlated with NAb titer  
280 later in both groups.

281         There are at least three subpopulations of monocytes with distinct transcript profiles [34];  
282 Kwissa et al. identified an increase in CD14<sup>+</sup>CD16<sup>+</sup> intermediate-phenotype population after  
283 secondary DENV infection, and showed that in vitro these cells stimulated formation of the  
284 plasmablasts that secrete antibodies weeks after infection, mediated in part by secretion of the  
285 ISG cytokine BAFF [19]. In our study, gene set enrichment analysis indicated enrichment of  
286 transcripts for both intermediate and nonclassical monocytes at multiple time-points in both  
287 vaccinees and patients, while BAFF transcripts were most abundant on fever days 1 and 2 in  
288 the patients and days 8 and 9 in the vaccinees (Supplementary Figure 10).

289

## 290 **DISCUSSION**

291         In this study, we used intensive longitudinal sampling to characterize the transcriptional  
292 response to dengue vaccination, compared results with those from natural infection with the  
293 same DENV serotype, and identified early features that may predict a protective immune  
294 response. We found that vaccination and natural infection induced common gene expression  
295 programs, and the abundance of individual interferon-stimulated transcripts 8 days post-

296 vaccination was correlated with NAb titers measured five weeks later, representing the earliest  
297 identified correlates of a protective adaptive immune response following dengue vaccination.

298 An interferon response signature has been observed in other studies profiling viral  
299 vaccine transcriptional responses. Inactivated influenza and meningococcal vaccines both  
300 induce a mild interferon response during the first week post-vaccination, but the response is  
301 particularly strong after vaccination with live attenuated vaccines [9,12,35]. We reported that  
302 ISG expression was much stronger in cynomolgous macaques infected with wild-type DENV  
303 compared to live attenuated virus [35]. Here, we found that ISG expression was much stronger  
304 in symptomatic dengue patients than vaccinees, presumably due to higher viral load after  
305 infection with wild-type virus. Expression of ISGs was correlated with viral load in the patients,  
306 as seen in other studies [19,36]. However, this association did not persist when patients were  
307 stratified by day of fever, highlighting the importance of temporal variation in the innate immune  
308 response and in viral load, and suggesting that factors in addition to viral replication influence  
309 ISG expression. Several studies have found stable inter-individual differences in the response to  
310 interferon, suggesting that genetic and environmental features may affect the relationship  
311 between viral infection and the interferon response [37,38].

312 The links between type I interferon production and NAb production are likely to involve  
313 multiple cell types. Plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs) contribute to B cell differentiation and  
314 antibody production after viral infection [39]. In this study, increases in monocyte-associated  
315 gene expression coincided with ISG expression, and we found features related to multiple  
316 monocyte phenotypes in both natural infection and vaccination (Supplementary Figure 10C).  
317 Gene module analysis also suggested that T cells were responsible for the increase in cell  
318 cycle-associated transcripts two weeks after vaccination that was linked to NAb titers. Future  
319 targeted studies of pDCs, monocytes, and T cell populations during the first two weeks post-  
320 vaccination will help clarify their role in establishing long-lasting antibody responses. In addition,  
321 the link between an early interferon response and later NAb titer was only apparent in natural

322 infection when we used a module analysis approach. This may indicate a plateau, or saturation  
323 effect, in the relationship between ISG expression and antibody titer. Alternatively, it may reflect  
324 the variability in pathogen dose, prior health status and/or days of infection absent in clinical  
325 trials but inherent in observational studies.

326         Comparison with LAV vaccination also provides a framework for identification of features  
327 associated with pathogenic versus non-pathogenic infection. A recent study compared PBMC  
328 gene expression in asymptomatic and clinically significant secondary DENV infection and  
329 identified differences in antigen presentation and lymphocyte activation [36]. In this study  
330 examining whole blood gene expression during primary infection, we found an increased  
331 abundance of transcripts associated with platelet activation in natural (pathogenic) infection but  
332 not vaccination (non-pathogenic infection), consistent with the hypothesis that platelet activation  
333 contributes to dengue pathogenesis [40].

334         Neutralizing antibody titers were used as an endpoint for these vaccine studies because  
335 many studies have shown that these antibodies play an important role in protective immunity.  
336 However, recent work has demonstrated that NAbs measured in vitro are an imperfect correlate  
337 of in vivo protection [37,38]. Immunity mediated by NAbs may be neither life-long nor sterilizing  
338 [43,44] and will be affected by the quality as well as the quantity of NAbs [5,26,45]. Recent  
339 studies also highlight a likely role for cytotoxic T cells in mediating protection against DENV  
340 reinfection and severe disease [46–49]. The NIH tetravalent vaccine, of which rDEN3Δ30/31 is  
341 a component, elicits CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell responses similar to those seen in natural infection [50]. It will  
342 be important to establish whether the early transcript-based features we measured in this study  
343 are associated with DENV-specific responses in memory T cell populations.

344         Our findings should be validated using a tetravalent dengue vaccine formulation. We  
345 previously studied transcript-based responses to a different tetravalent dengue vaccine in  
346 nonhuman primates and found that the interferon response was associated with antibody  
347 formation [35]. We believe it is likely that the same relationship between early transcriptional

348 responses and neutralizing antibodies will exist in humans immunized with tetravalent LAV  
349 dengue vaccines. The initiation of Phase 3 clinical trials of TetraVax-DV-TV003 provides the  
350 opportunity to establish whether specific transcriptional profiles can be used as early surrogate  
351 markers of both immunogenicity and protection.

352

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- 502

503 **Figure Legends**

504

505 Figure 1. Significant differences in transcript abundance post-vaccination (FDR<1%; minimum  
506 2-fold change compared to pre-vaccination sample).

507

508 Figure 2. Changes in transcript abundances over time in vaccinees. A) Hierarchical clustering  
509 of the 286 transcripts whose abundance was significantly different from baseline on more  
510 than one day. Lines and numbers to the right of the heatmap mark sets of co-expressed  
511 genes (average cluster  $r>0.5$ ). B) Change over time in abundance for each transcript in  
512 each gene cluster. Heavy line indicates median expression of all genes in each cluster. C)  
513 Gene ontologies associated with gene clusters described in (A) and (B). There were no  
514 significant gene ontologies for Cluster 3.

515

516 Figure 3. Comparison of post-vaccination and post-infection transcript abundance changes. A)  
517 Transcripts with significant changes on days 2, 3, 4, or 5 of fever in patients with primary  
518 DENV-3 infection (blue circle) and on any day post-vaccination (green circle). Numbers  
519 indicate transcripts unique to vaccination, infection, or shared (overlap,  $n=246$ ). B)  
520 Maximum fold-change in transcript abundance following vaccination (red circles) or during  
521 infection (blue diamonds). C) Maximum fold-change in abundance for transcripts with  
522 significant changes post-vaccination or during infection. Dotted diagonal line at equal fold  
523 change included for reference.

524

525 Figure 4. Gene modules affected by DENV vaccination and natural infection. A) Blood  
526 transcript modules with transcripts that were significantly up- or down-regulated on at least  
527 one day (FDR <1%) were hierarchically clustered. NES; normalized enrichment score.  
528 Vertical lines on right denote module clusters described in the text. B) Hierarchical

529 clustering of each day post-vaccination or post-infection using the NES from (A). Days in  
530 bold italics represent days of fever for infected patients; days preceded by “v” represent  
531 days post-vaccination.

532

533 Figure 5. Correlation of transcript abundance and day 42 PRNT<sub>60</sub> among vaccine recipients. A)

534 Average fold change in abundance by day for all transcripts with significant differences

535 from baseline post-vaccination. Transcripts are ordered and clusters labeled as in Figure

536 2. Asterisk marks IFI44. B) Spearman correlation of each transcript and day 42 PRNT<sub>60</sub>

537 using a moving average of window size 9. Solid lines indicate days post-vaccination on

538 which a significant correlation was identified ( $p < 0.01$ , indicated by vertical dotted grey line).

539

540 Figure 6. Gene modules correlated with subsequent neutralizing antibody response. A) Blood

541 Transcript Modules that were significantly enriched for transcripts positively correlated with

542 day 42 PRNT<sub>60</sub> (vaccinees) or convalescent NT<sub>50</sub> (patients) on at least one day (FDR < 1%)

543 were hierarchically clustered. NES; normalized enrichment score. Vertical lines delineate

544 module clusters described in the text. B) Significant modules (FDR < 1%) are marked in red.

545 Modules and samples are organized as in (A). C) Hierarchical clustering of gene module

546 expression from each day post-vaccination or post-infection using the NES from (A). Day

547 labels in bold italics represent fever day for infected patients; day labels preceded by “v”

548 represent day post-vaccination.

549

550 Table 1. Characteristics of subjects in vaccine trial

551

Subject	Age	Sex	Viremia <sup>a</sup>	Rash <sup>b</sup>	Day 28	Day 42	Day 180
					PRNT <sub>60</sub> <sup>c</sup>	PRNT <sub>60</sub> <sup>c</sup>	PRNT <sub>60</sub> <sup>c</sup>
1 (Vaccine)	19	F	--	Days 12-20	54	70	30
2 (Vaccine)	26	F	--	--	22	15	<5
3 (Vaccine)	25	M	Days 8-9	--	52	106	22
4 (Vaccine)	20	M	Days 8-9	Days 12-16	26	32	<5
5 (Vaccine)	20	M	Day 6	Days 12-20	33	19	<5
6 (Vaccine)	22	M	--	--	<5	<5	<5
7 (Vaccine)	19	M	--	--	18	8	8
8 (Vaccine)	22	F	Days 5-8	Days 12-20	34	29	8
9 (Vaccine)	19	F	--	--	25	33	<5
10 (Vaccine)	46	F	--	Days 12-16	70	152	64
11 (Placebo)	18	F	--	--	<5	<5	<5
12 (Placebo)	19	M	--	--	<5	<5	<5
13 (Placebo)	45	M	--	--	<5	<5	<5
14 (Placebo)	21	F	--	--	<5	<5	<5

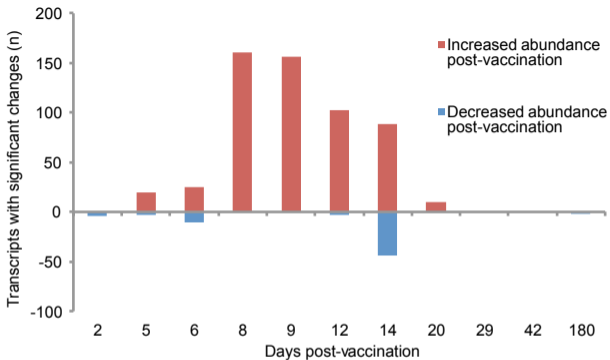
552

553 <sup>a</sup> Virus detected in serum from tissue culture plaque formation assay

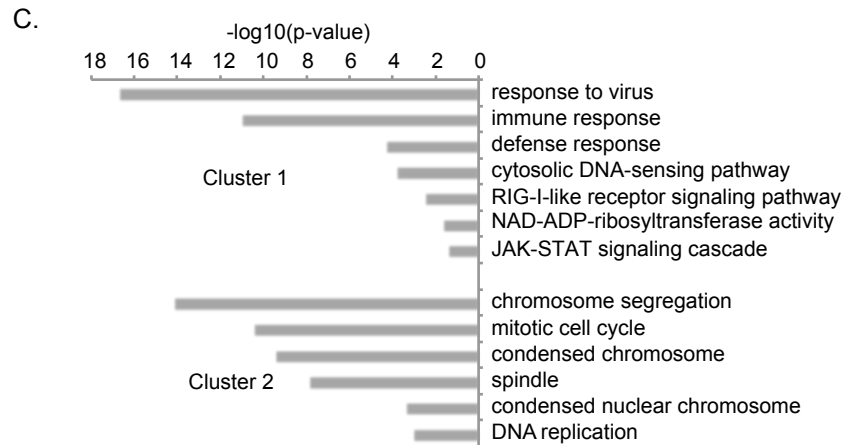
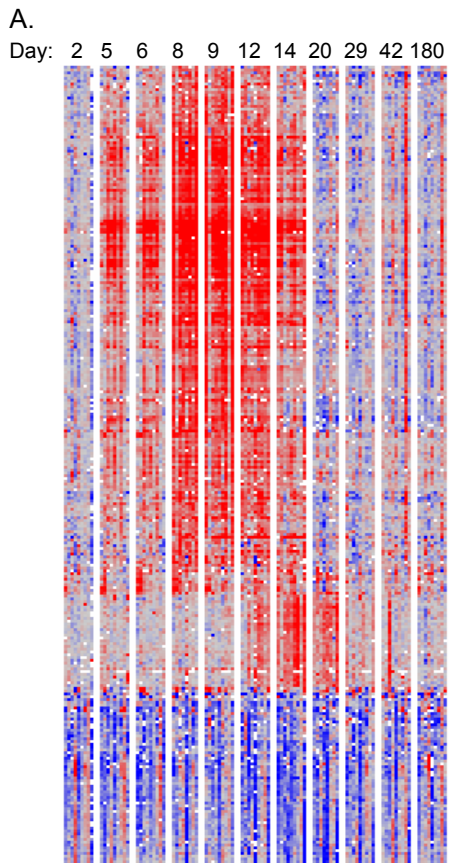
554 <sup>b</sup> First and last day on which maculopapular rash observed

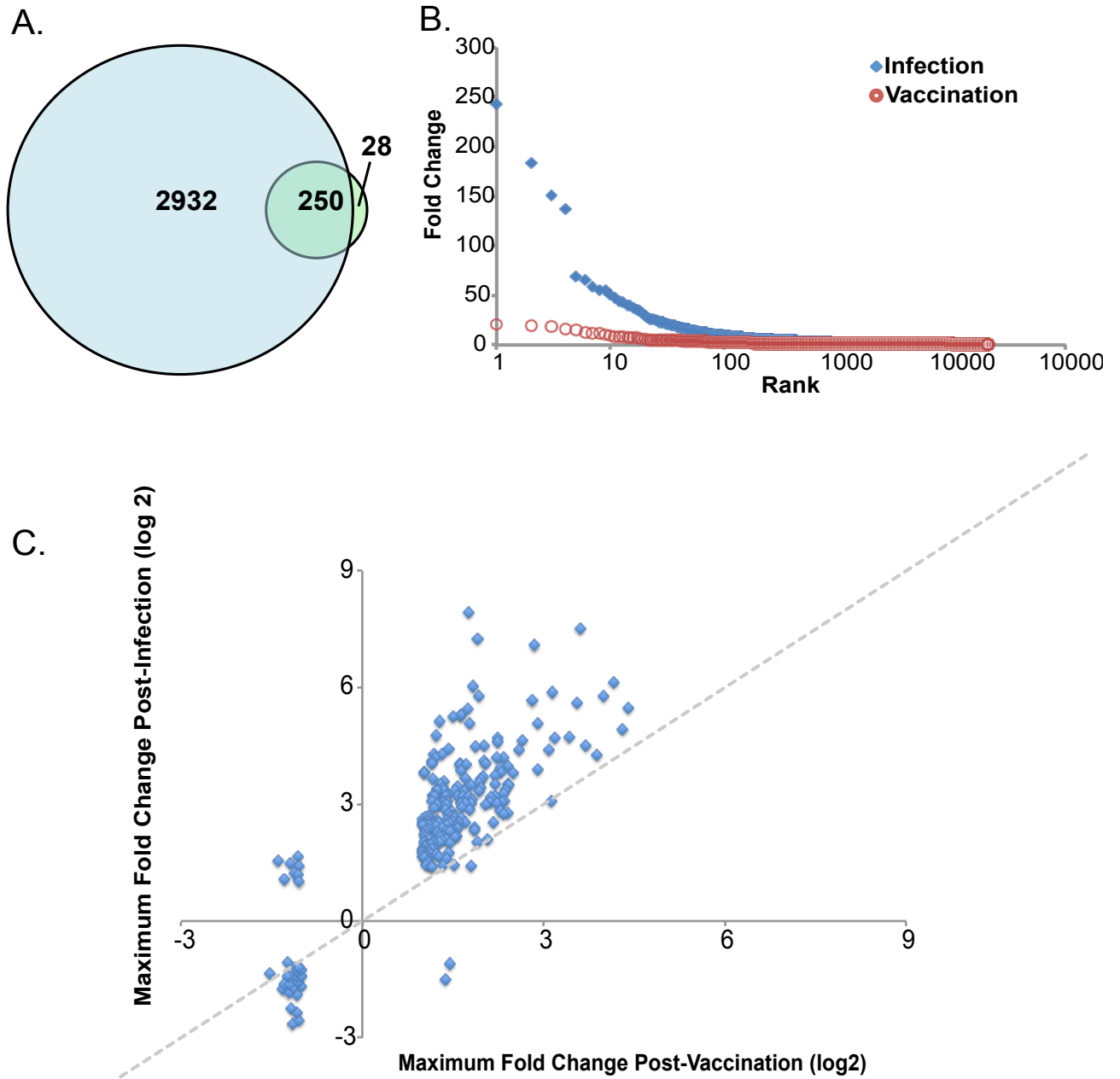
555 <sup>c</sup> Reciprocal serum dilution providing 60% reduction in plaque formation

556

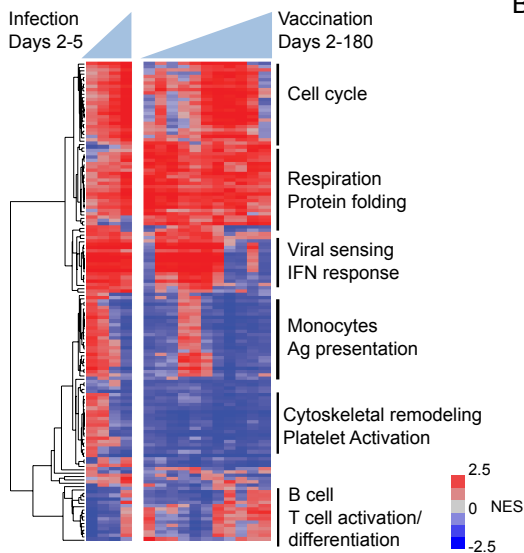




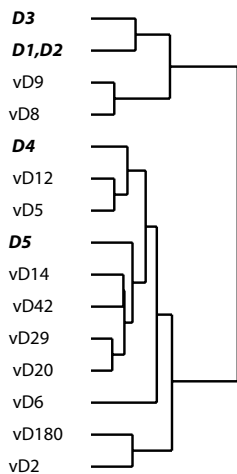


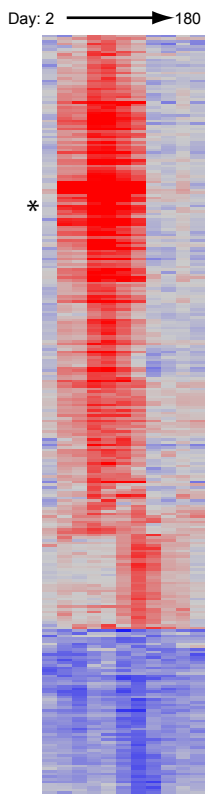


A.

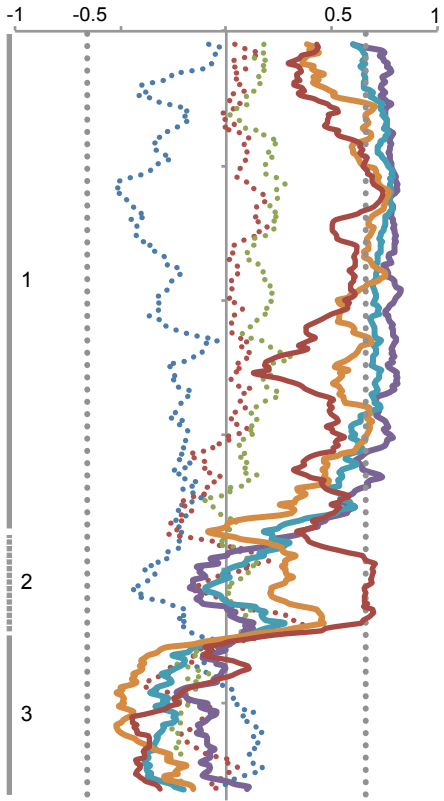


B.

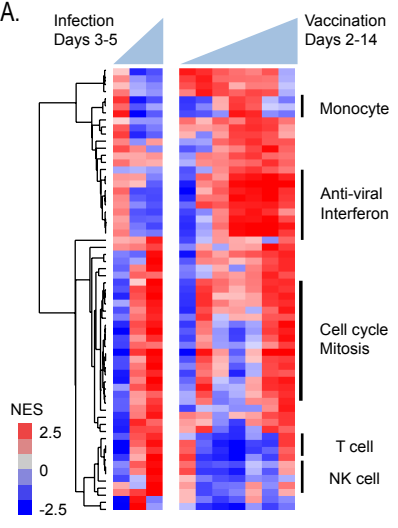


**A.****B.**

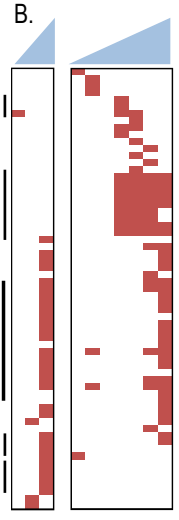
Spearman correlation coefficient



A.



B.



C.

