EVOLUCIÓN Y PATOLOGÍA DE LOS CORONAVIRUS HUMANOS: DESASRROLLO DE VACUNAS Y ANTIVIRALES





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VIRUSES ARE GREAT GENERATORS OF GENETIC VARIABILITY



- BY SHUTTLING GENES INTO AND OUT OF THEIR HOST, VIRUSES SEEM TO BE A MAJOR DRIVING FORCE IN THE EVOLUTION OF HIGHER ORGANISMS
- IN HUMANS, VIRUSES ARE CONTINUALLY REINVENTING THEMSELVES THANKS TO A HIGHLY CREATIVE PROCESS NEVER SEEN BEFORE IN NATURE

CORONAVIRUS STRUCTURE AND GENE EXPRESSION



RNA VIRUS GENOME SIZE IN NUCLEOTIDES



CORONAVIRUS RNA REPLICATION



REGULATION OF sgmRNA LEVELS





- MULTIFACTOR REGULATION
- **1. TRS RNA STRUCTURE**
- 2. TRS PRIMARY SEQUENCE
- **3. LONG DISTANCE INTERACTIONS**
- 4. PROTEIN-RNA BINDING

CORONAVIRUS STRUCTURE AND GENE EXPRESSION



TRANSCRIPTION MECHANISM

TEMPLATE SWITCH

A HIGH FREQUENCY RECOMBINATION

MUTATION OF CORONAVIRUS EXON MOTIFS



Eckerle et al., 2007, 2010

VIRUS DISSEMINATION ROUTES

MOSQUITO TRANSMITTED VIRUSES: BTV ZIKA CHIKUNGUNYA

- MIGRATORY BIRDS AND MOSQUITO: WNV
- DIRECT PERSON TO PERSON TRANSMISSION: EBOLA
- AIR TRANSMISSION BETWEEN PERSONS: CoV

VIRUSES TRANSMITED BETWEEN BATS AND PERSONS AND FROM PERSON TO PERSON

POSTULATED CORONAVIRUS ECOLOGY



HUMAN PATHOGENIC CORONAVIRUSES

VIRUS	YEAR	INFECTED	DEATHS	MORTALITY	COUNTRIES
SARS-CoV	2002	8 098	774	10%	29
MERS-CoV	2012	2650	858	37%	27
SARS-CoV-2	2019	518x10 ⁶	6.3x10 ⁶	2%	235

WHO, MAY 12th, 2022

HUMAN CORONAVIRUSES



- HCoV-OC43
- HCoV-229E
- HCoV-NL-63
- HCoV-HKU1
- SARS-CoV
- MERS-CoV
- SARS-CoV-2

SARS-CoV AND MERS-CoV CAUSE ARDS



RT-PCR EVALUATION OF CLINICAL SAMPLES FROM SERO-POSITIVE PATIENTS



Chan KH et al., 2004 EID 10: 294

HUMAN ENTERIC TRACT INFECTED WITH SARS-CoV



GEOGRAPHICAL ORIGIN GRAPHIC



SARS-CoV-1 VECTORS



MERS-CoV EMERGING IN 2012



MERS-CoV IS TRANSMITTED BY CAMEL



DISSEMINATION OF SARS-CoV-2





SARS-CoV-2 ORIGIN

INITIAL DISSEMINATION OF SARS-CoV-2 IN WUHAN



INITIAL SARS-CoV-2 INFECTIONS

- All previous human coronaviruses have zoonotic origins, as have the vast majority of human viruses
- Locations of early cases shows that most were located around the Huanan market, located north of the Yangtze River
- Wuhan Institute of Virology is located South => unlike the virus origin
- Viruses closely related to SARS-CoV-2 have been documented in bats and pangolins in multiple localities in South-East Asia, including in China, Thailand, Cambodia, and Japan. Importantly, in the metal cages of racoons viruses with a genetic identity of 99.99% with SARS-CoV-2 were found, indicating that they transmitted the virus to humans

INSERTION OF A FURIN SITE OF FOUR AMINO ACIDS IN SARS-CoV-2 S PROTEIN



Holmes et al., Cell 2021

PRESENCE OF FURIN CLEAVAGE SITE IN DIFFERENT CoVs

Sarbeco	SARS-CoV-2	671	CASYQTQTNSPRRARSVASQSIIA 69	4
	BtCoV RmYN02	631	CASYNSP-AAR-VGTNSIIA 64	7
	BtCoV RaTG13	671	CASYQTQTNSRSVASQSIIA 69	0
	SARS-CoV	657	CASYHTVSLLRSTSQKSIVA 67	6
Merheco	MERS-CoV	736	CALPDTPST-LTPRSVRSVPGEMRLA 76	0
111010000	BtCoV HKU5	739	CAIPPTTSSRFRRATSGVPDVF 76	0
	BtCoV HKU4	740	CAVPPVSTFRSYSASQF 75	6
	HCoV HKUla	744	CVDYNSPS <mark>S</mark> SSS <mark>RRKRRS</mark> ISASYRFV 76	9
	HCoV HKU1b	743	CIDYALPSSRRKRRGISSPYRFV 76	5
Embeco	HCoV OC43	756	CLDYSKNRRSRRAITTGYRFT 77	6
	Bovine CoV	757	CVDYSTKRRSRRSITTGYRFT 77	5
	RatCoV HKU24	752	CVDYSSTWRAKRDLNTGYRLT 77	0
Llibooo	BtCov HpZj13	714	CVNYTADTRLRTARAADRALTFN 73	6
HIDECO	BtCov HcNG08	698	CLNITRGRVGSRSAGHLKESS 71	8

CONCLUSION ON SARS-CoV-2 ORIGIN

- THE MOST DIRECT EXPLANATION FOR THE ORIGIN OF SARS-COV-2 IS A ZOONOTIC EVENT
- THERE IS CURRENTLY NO EVIDENCE THAT SARS-CoV-2 HAS A LABORATORY ORIGIN
- BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL FROM HUANAN MARKET RACOONS INCLUDED CoVS WITH THE SAME SEQUENCE THAN HUMAN SARS-CoV-2 INDICATING THAT THEY TRANSMITTED THE VIRUS TO HUMANS

SARS-CoV-2 ORIGIN: RACOON [MAPACHES]

SARS-CoV-2 CELL INTERACTION

SARS-CoV-2 PROTEOLITIC CLEAVAGES

THE S1/S2 SITE IN SASRS-CoV-2 SPIKE IS CLEAVED BY FURIN IN INFECTED CELLS

S2' CLEAVAGE BY TMPRSS2^{HIGH} OR CATHEPSIN^{LOW} IS ESSENTIAL FOR VIRAL ENTRY IN LUNG CELLS

HOFFMANN ET AL., Molec. Cell 2020

SARS-CoV-2 INDUCED PATHOLOGY: ORGANS AFFECTED

	ARDS ➡ LUNG EDEMA
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- GUT LARGE AND SMALL INTESTINE ENTEROCYTES
- KIDNEY OBSERVED IN INTENSE CARE UNIT
- BRAIN: VIRUS PRESENCE IN BRAIN DETECTED
- HEART ARREST AND ARRHYMIAS INFLAMMATION MYOCARD
- VEINS EXTENSIVELY CLOTHING. PLATELETS, STROKES
- SMELL LOSS NASAL EPITHELIUM HIGHEST ACE-2
- TONG KERATINOCYTES
- PANCREAS IN SEVERE DISEASE

BODY WEIGHT LOSSES CAUSED BY INFECTING WITH OMICRON MICE STRAINS

LUNG OF SARS-CoV-2 INFECTED HAMSTERS

PATHOLOGY OF LUNGS INFECTED WITH DELTA OR OMICRON VIRUSES

DELTA

OMICRON

OMICRON INFECTION OF HUMAN BRONCHUS

GROWTH OF OMICRON CoV IN RESPIRATORY TRACT

WHAT IS NEXT FOR SARS-CoV-2 EVOLUTION. Nature Dec 22

- The new pathogen will not be eradicated. Seasonal CoVs as potential models for SARS-CoV-2: HCoV-229E Since 1980. The virus is scaping immune response, as **Omicron and Delta (Jesse Bloom, Washington)**
- CoV evolution guided by: Increase of virus infectivity
 - Evasion of previous immunity
- CoV must balance its ability to replicate to high levels with the need to keep healthy the new new host (Fred Hutchinson. Washington)
- SARS-CoV-2 could become more severe or evade current vaccines by recombination with other CoVs currently circulating in animal reservoirs (mink (visones), whitetailed deer [ciervo], etc) to scape immune response (UK government advisory group)

INNATE IMMUNE RESPONSE IN SARS-CoV-2 PATIENTS

- REDUCED INNATE ANTIVIRAL DEFENSES
 - LOW IFN-I & IFN-III : ANTI-IFN I Auto Abs; Genetic defects
- HUGE INFLAMMATORY CYTOKINE PRODUCTION
 - HIGH LEVELS CXCL8 → NEUTROFIL CHEMOATTRACTANT
 - HIGH SERUM LEVELS CYTOKINE IL6
 - HIGH LEVELS CHEMOKINES CXCL9, CXCL16→ CHEMO-ATTRACTANTS OF T AND NK CELLS
 - HIGH LEVELS CCL8 AND CCL2 → RECRUIT MONOCYTES AND MACROPHAGES

Zhang et al. Science. 2020. 10.1126/science.abd4570 Blanco-Melo et al. Cell 181, 1036–1045. 2020 Bastard et al. Science. 2020. 10.1126/science.abd4585

DYSFUNTION OF SARS-CoV-2 ELICITED ANTIBODIES

- Abnormalities of the adaptive immune system driven by the dysregulated cytokine response
- Similar quantity of antibodies in survivors and those who died Differences in their function: viral proteins targeted

- Absence of germinal centers: Defects in Ab maturation, long-lasting plasma cells, and memory B cells
- Low neutralizing activity

TYPES OF VACCINES

INACTIVATED	>	LOW MUCOSAL IMMUNITY NON-LASTING MEMORY EOSINOPHILIA & ADEI
LIVE-ATTENUATED	>	MIMIC THE NATURAL ROUTE OF INFECTION HIGHLY IMMUNOGENIC LONG LASTING MEMORY BIOSAFETY CONCERS
BASED ON VIRAL VECTORS	>	FAST DEVELOPMENT SAFETY DOCUMENTED EFFICIENT
mRNA	>	FAST DEVELOPMENT HIGH AMOUNTS AND TWO DOSES REQUIRED
RNA REPLICONS	>	SELF-AMPLIFYING: STRONG IMMUNE RESPONSE PROPAGATION DEFICIENT: SAFE

SARS-CoV-2 VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

MOLECULAR BASES OF VIRULENCE: VACCINES

TOOLS

ANIMAL MODEL

- The virus produces pulmonar pathology
- Death induction

SARS-CoV

 $\textbf{mAb} \; \alpha \; \textbf{E}$

BSL-3 LABORATORY AT CNB. CSIC MADRID

LUNG PATHLOGY ASSOCIATED TO MICE INFECTION BY SARS-CoV-MA15

PROTECTION PROVIDED BY AN ATTENUATED SARS-CoV E PROTEIN DELETION MUTANT

MERS-CoV-ΔE REPLICATION-COMPETENT DISSEMINATION-DEFICIENT

REPLICATION

ENGINEEREING A MERS-MA REPLICON DERIVED FROM AN ATTENUATED VIRUS

J. Gutierrez¹, J. M. Honrubia, Li Wang, S. Zuniga, I. Sola, L. Enjuanes. PNAS 2021

MERS-MA30-Δ[3,4a,4b,5,E] REPLICON IS AMPLIFIED IN KI MICE LUNG

VIRAL REPLICATION

VIRAL TRANSCRIPTION

TIME POST INFECTION, days

ATTENUATION OF MERS-CoV RNA REPLICONS

TIME POST-INFECTION, days

MERS-MA30 RNA REPLICON INDUCED PROTECTION IN KI MICE

CHALLENGE WITH 1 x 10⁵ PFU/MOUSE IN IMMUNIZATION

MERS-MA30-Δ[3,4a,4b,5,E] REPLICON CONFERRED STERALIZING IMMUNITY IN KI MICE

CNB-CSIC. MADRID

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