

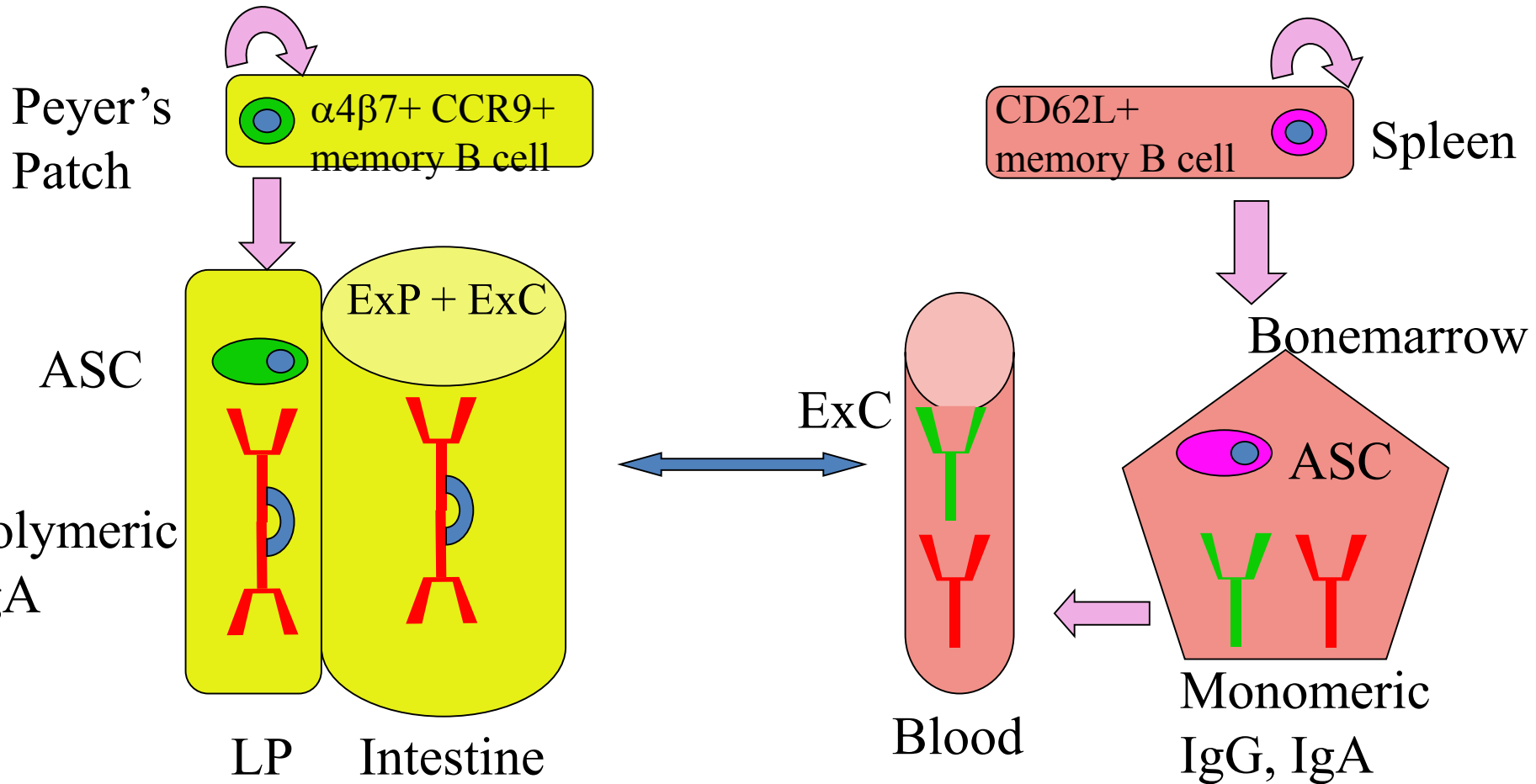
Rotavirus immune responses and correlates of protection (CoP)

Juana Angel, Manuel Franco

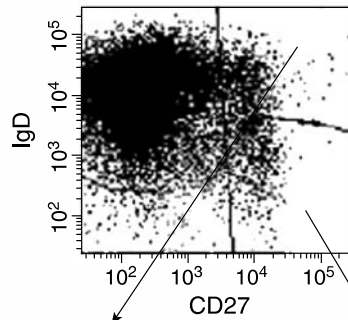
Compartmentalization of the immune system

Intestinal compartment

Systemic compartment

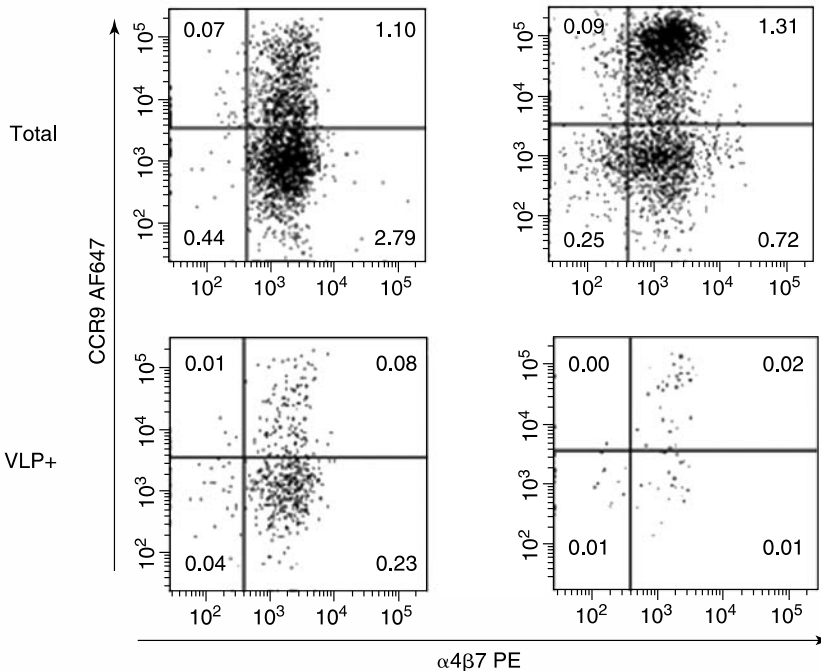


RV-memory B cells with an intestinal homing phenotype in vaccinees



IgD+, CD27+

IgD-, CD27+

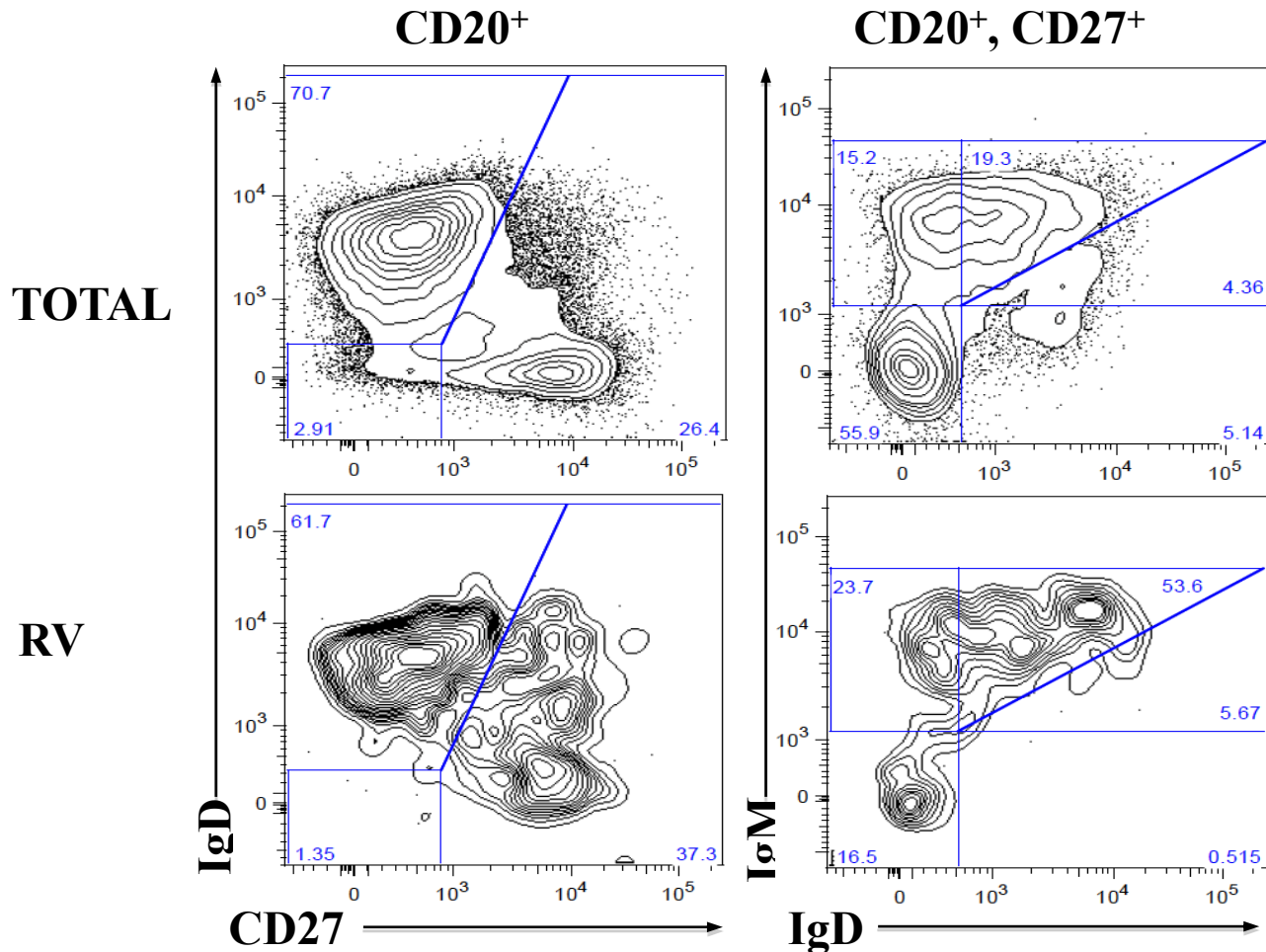


Serum RV-IgA and RV-specific IgD-, $\alpha 4\beta 7+$, CCR9+ mBc correlate weakly ($\rho < 0.2$) with protection after D2 when vaccinees and placebo recipients are considered together

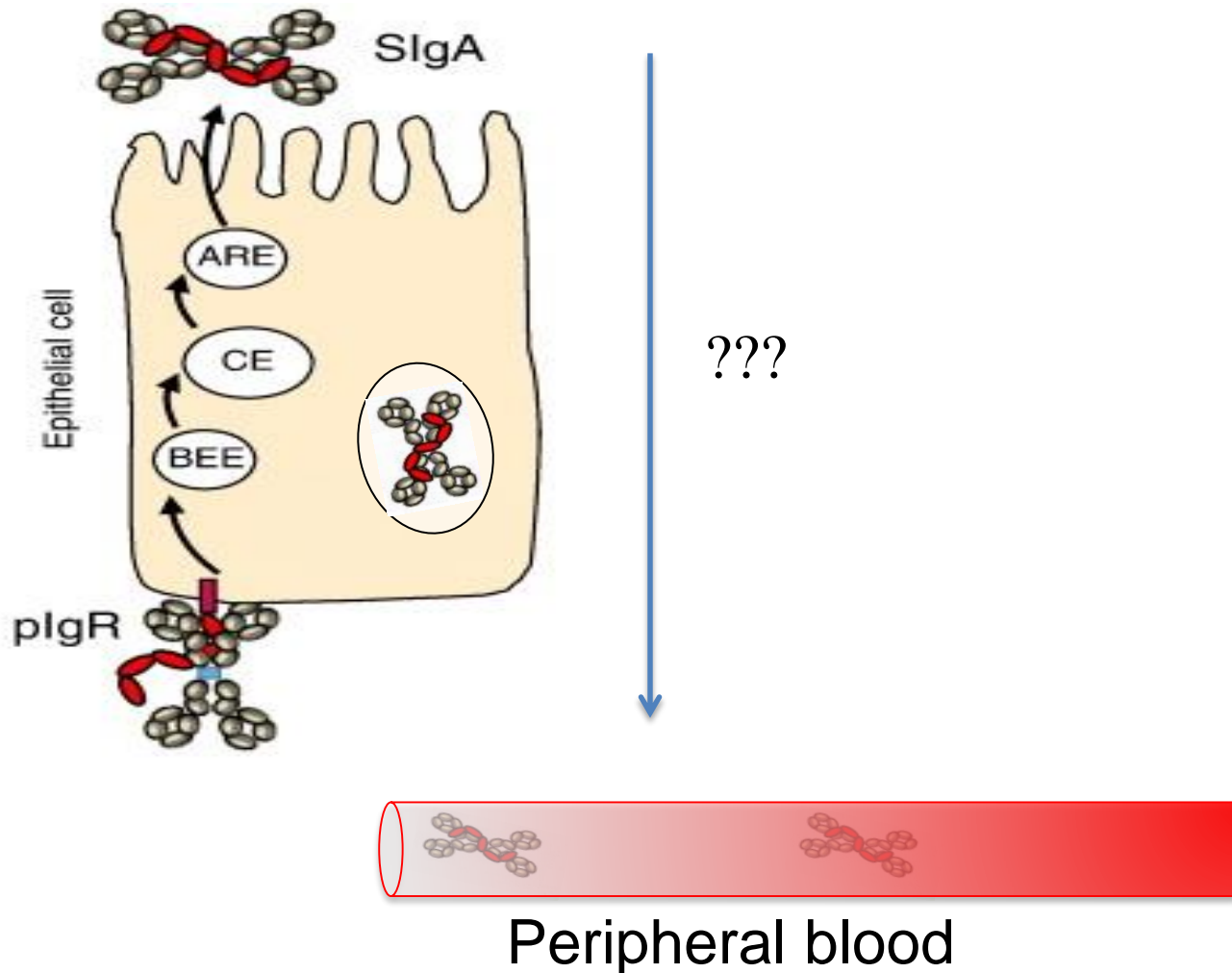
Two problems

- Frequencies of RV-specific mBc are not different between vaccinees and placebo recipients and do not correlate well with protection.
- **Are we measuring the relevant cells?**
- Protection is higher than frequency of children that have RV-IgA.
- **Can we indirectly measure the “missing” intestinal antibodies?**

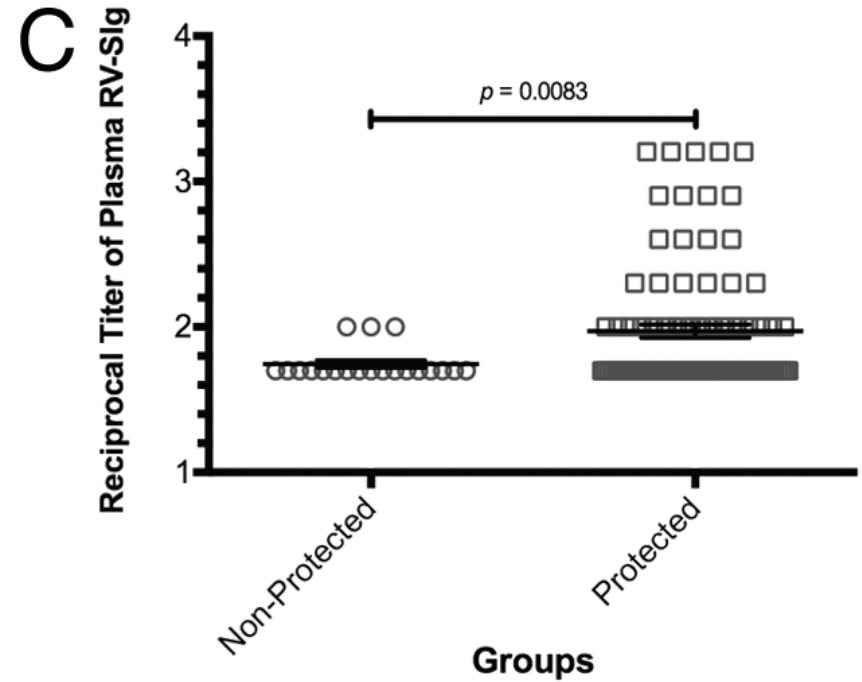
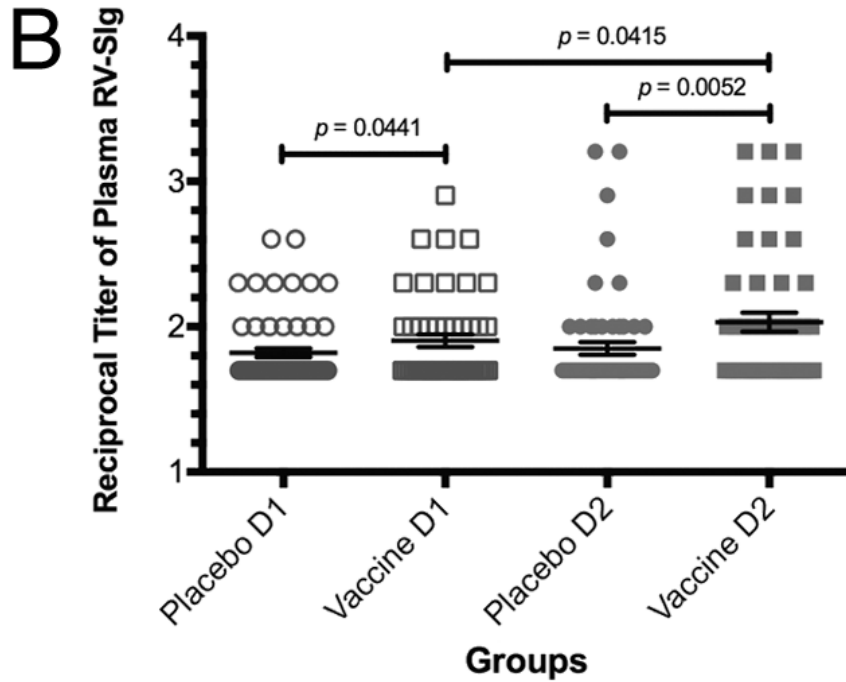
RV-specific mBc are enriched in the IgM^{hi} , IgD^{low} subset



Can we quantify RV-specific intestinal antibodies in blood?

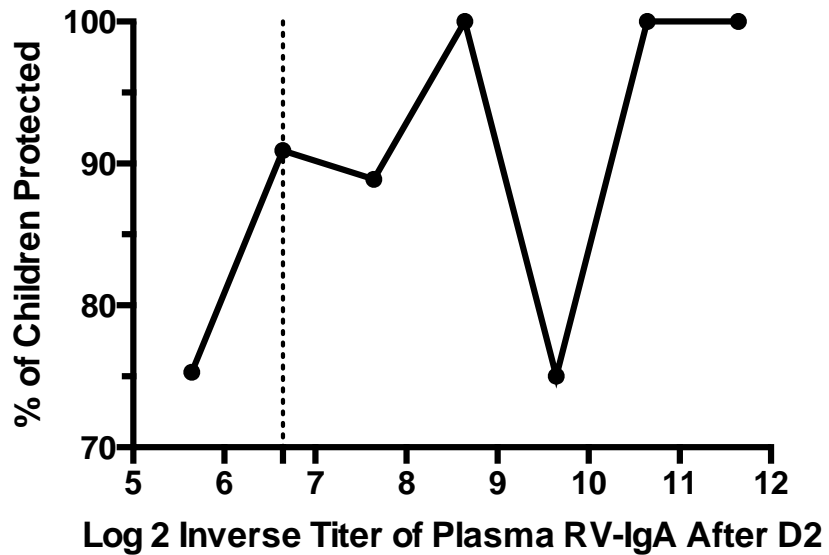


RV-specific SIg titers in plasma of vaccinees and placebo recipients after D1 or D2 and in protected and non protected individuals

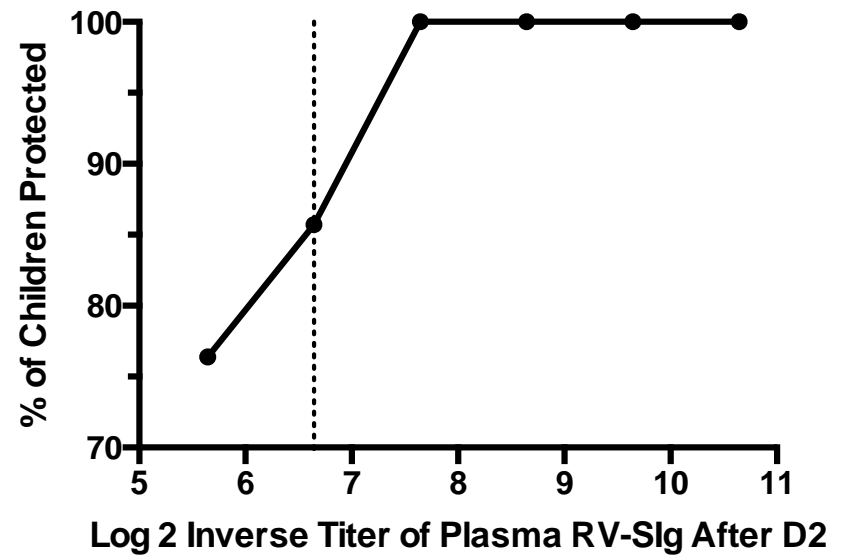


Comparison of RV-IgA and RV-SIg as CoP

A



B



Comparison between RV-SIg and RV-IgA

| | RV-SIg | RV-IgA |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Specificity vaccination after dose 2 | 74% | 92% |
| Sensitivity vaccination after dose 2 | 48% | 50% |
| Differences between titers of vaccinees and placebo recipients | Yes | No |
| Higher frequencies of protected vaccinees than placebo recipients without the marker | No | Yes |
| Specificity protection after dose 2 | 85% | 88% |
| Sensitivity protection after dose 2 | 40% | 28% |
| Differences in titers between protected and non protected children | Yes | No |
| Correlation with protection (vaccinees/placebo) | After Dose 2 | After Dose 2 |

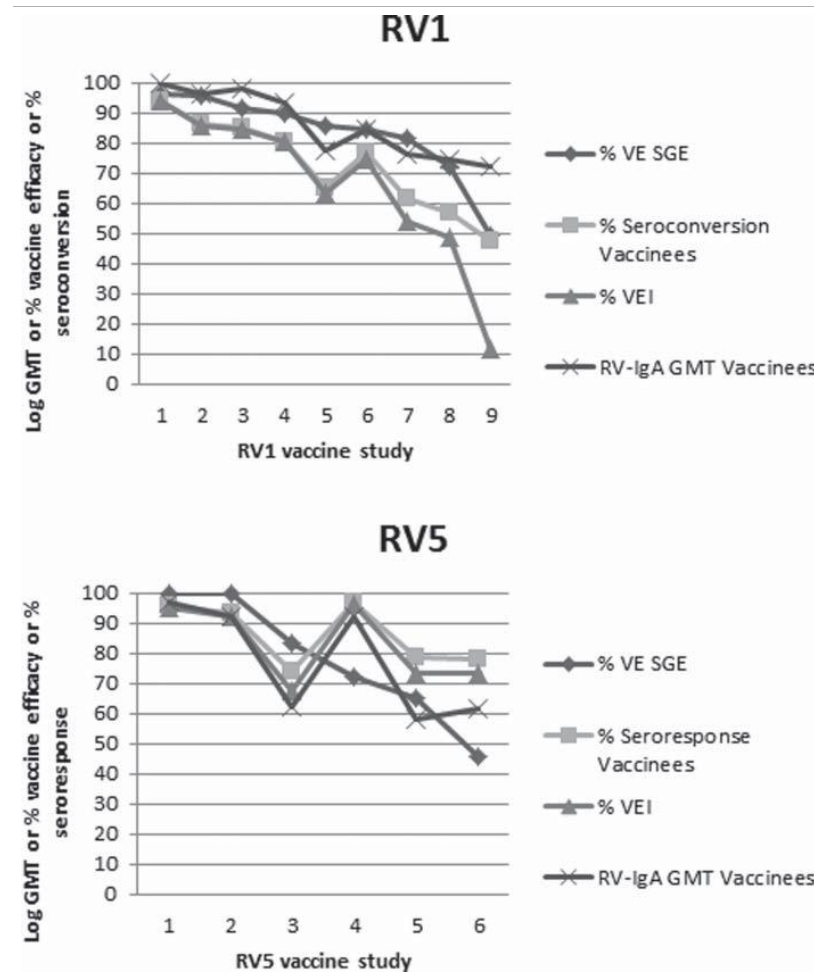
Conclusions

- IgM RV-Bc are probably composed of both antigen experienced and non experienced cells.
- “Antigen experienced” IgM and switched RV-mBc that express intestinal homing receptors may be good correlates of protection.
- RV-SIg includes RV-IgM and seems more sensitive, but less specific in detecting protection.
- RV-SIg can be complementary to RV-IgA as a correlate of protection in vaccine trials.

In favor of Serum RV-IgA as a correlate of protection

- Reflects duodenal RV-IgA levels 4 months after RV natural infection.
- Correlates with protection after natural infections in children.
- Follows Prentice's first condition as a CoP for RV1 as it correlates with the true clinical endpoint in an individual trial.
- Using meta-analysis it correlates with protection in different vaccine settings for both RV1 and RV5.

Correlation between RV-IgA and protection may vary for each type of vaccine



Against Serum RV-IgA as a correlate of protection

- It fails to fulfill Prentice's second condition for a surrogate endpoint, as it does not "fully capture the treatment's "net effect "on the true clinical endpoint." But it is "reasonably likely to predict clinical benefit", so it is a level 3 endpoint surrogate of protection.
- It is a "non-mechanistic" CoP, hence, any vaccine change affecting this biomarker may or may not affect the clinical endpoint.
- A dose effect (likelihood of not having a RV associated-GE with each 1 log increase in RV-IgA titer) has not been observed.
- Vaccinees without serum RV-IgA have significantly less RV GE than placebo recipients, suggesting that factors other than serum RV-IgA play a role in protection.

Proposals to validate RV-IgA as a level 2 endpoint surrogate marker

- **For new human attenuated vaccines:** evaluate Vaccine Efficacy with a clinical endpoint (with delayed OPV), assessing serum RV-IgA with a standardized protocol and testing in “parallel” RV1. If the correlation between RV-IgA and protection induced by new RV vaccines is similar to the one observed for RV1, serum RV-IgA could be considered a practical “validated” level 2 surrogate endpoint for this type of vaccine.
- **For new heterologous vaccines:** Determine if RV-IgA correlates with protection after RV5 in an individual trial. And repeat with RV5 as for RV1 above.

Prioritization of blood assays as RV correlates of protection against GE

| | IgA | SIg | Conform VP4/7 SIg/IgA | Gut homing mBc | Antibody Lymph Sup | Gut homing T cells | Neutralize Ab | IgG |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----|
| Not present in “naïve” children | +++ | ++ | ++ | +++ | +++ | +++ | - | - |
| Mechanistic | + | ++ | +++ | ++ | ++ | + | ++ | - |
| Practical to measure | +++ | +++ | + | + | ++ | + | +++ | +++ |
| Reflects intestinal immunity | + | +++ | +++ | +++ | ++ | +++ | + | - |
| Reflects long lasting protection | ++ | + | ++ | +++ | ++ | +++ | + | + |

Acknowledgements



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IgM^{hi}, IgD^{low} subsets have different phenotypes

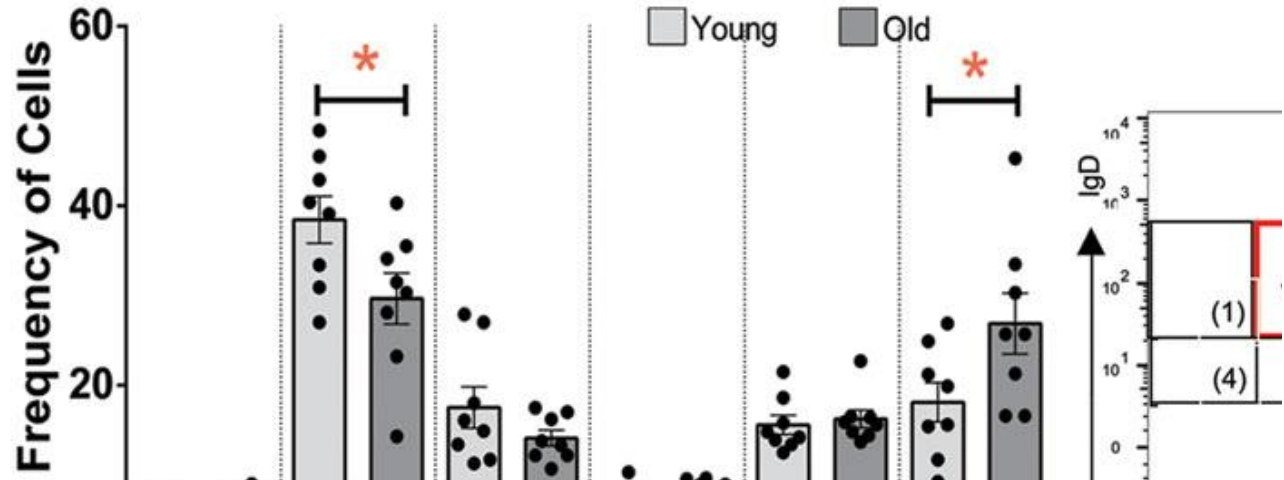
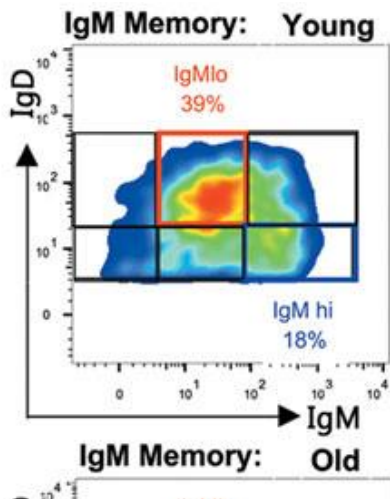
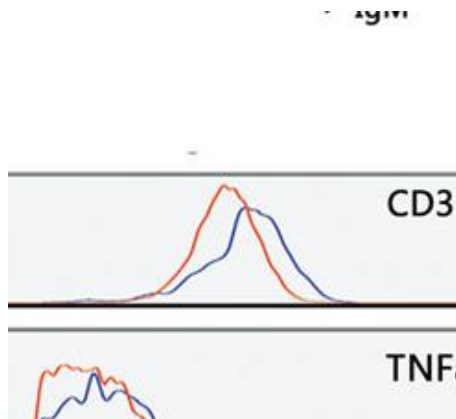
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Issue: B-1 Cell Development and Function

Age-related aspects of human IgM⁺ B cell heterogeneity

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RV-specific IgA bound to secretory component (SIgA) in serum and secretions

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