



新型冠状病毒信息 简报

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上海科技大学免疫化学研究所

生物学大数据平台和高通量筛选平台领衔编译制作

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免责声明：

本简报仅作为科研参考之用，不构成医疗建议，如您怀疑自己感染新型冠状病毒，请去正规医院或者咨询医生

1. 2020年4月3日疫情

编译：王玮

数据来源：WHO

发布时间：2020年4月3日北京时间下午4点

链接：<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

根据WHO提供的数据，2020年4月3日全球累计确诊新型冠状病毒病人972303例，当日新增确诊75853例，累计死亡50322例，当日新增死亡4823。

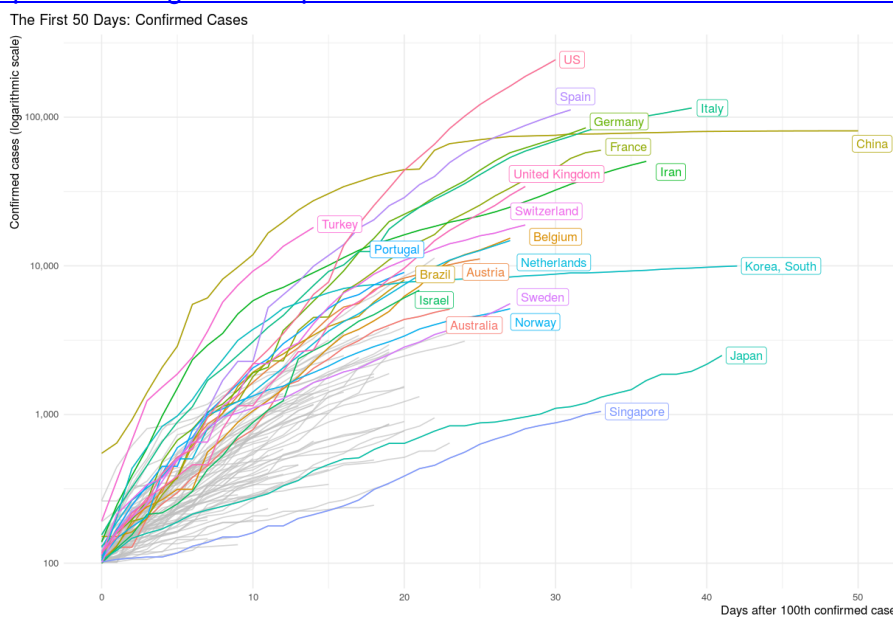
中国累计确诊82802例，累计死亡3331例，当日新增确诊78例，新增死亡4例。



世界各国地区累计确诊病例总数，圆圈越大代表总病例数越多

(链接：

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/62c28590b5ae41ef920e4d5a4128504a>)



Data as provided by Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering (JHU CSSE) and obtained on April 03, 2020. The sample is limited to countries with at least 7 days of data. Code: <https://github.com/joachim-gassen/tidycovid19>.

重点国家确诊数量曲线 (<https://jgassen.shinyapps.io/tidycovid19/>，数据截止4月3日北京时间下午4点)

2. 推荐阅读：猫确可感染新冠病毒，研究者声明反对弃猫

来源：公众号赛先生

发布事件：2020.4.4

作者：秦芳菲 邝利会

全文链接：

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s?_biz=MzAwMzc2MTA4Ng==&mid=2247498677&idx=1&sn=596a3a3f6debc3cb887879bd896c55b3&chksm=9b348d64ac430472f45ab16a0d45ee9529f69bd0b702f8a82e6dde70bbf0917d9c534a3917f6&mpshare=1&scene=1&srcid=0404xprcf4QOBrPGNSvrVCVH&sharer_sharetime=1586019657716&sharer_shareid=80f78c62f02832698f0a70d54f98b491&key=14f439f766e0e7ac55732809c8bb8b0f8f80f197c2e9dc a89001299581c5ff3c8e6ef74b0bb632ab66bc5a1975cca69ba12359ad6a7b226978c553eba4fe39ef71f3652518160c05fed1c4c02dd8252d&ascene=1&uin=MjgxMjY4NjgxNQ%3D%3D&devicetype=Windows+10&version=62080079&lang=zh_CN&exportkey=A93Ojk31zSrE9NeA6lh7Jyk%3D&pass_ticket=tb9S4A%2BXyIkMT1dBt40AxQjFPqRQwhLoFsEvjYqWchFVAmlQ29L4NLKHwMf2nWhE

该微信公众号文章简述了昨天一篇关于对 COVID-19 疫情发生后武汉地区一些猫呈现 SARS-CoV-2 血清学阳性的研究的预印本文章（

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.01.021196v1>），对作者团队进行了访谈，并公布了作者团队对公众的声明。

3. 90 例 COVID-19 临床特征的矩阵分析及免疫学特征的动态观察

Matrix Analysis of Clinical Characteristics and Dynamic Observation of Immunological Features in 90 Cases of COVID-19

来源：THE LANCET Preprint

发布时间：2020-04-02

来源链接：https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3556688

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编译：宋张悦

内容摘要：

背景：COVID-19 的临床特征特别是外周血免疫学特征的相关性矩阵分析研究目前仍是空白。而且，COVID-19 在临床病程和预后中的淋巴细胞亚群和细胞因子的动态变化尚不清楚。

方法：研究团队收集了截至 2020 年 2 月 28 日为止，来自中国大陆的 90 例经实验室确诊的 COVID-19 患者的资料。收集内容包括所有患者的人口统计学数据、症状、实验室检测值、并发症、治疗、预后、淋巴细胞亚群和细胞因子的动态改变。研究人员对这些收集的临床特征进行了相关性矩阵分析。

结果：矩阵分析研究表明，外周血淋巴细胞亚群与诊断类型和预后密切相关。41% 的轻度 COVID-19 患者出现较小的 NK 细胞减少，并伴随 IL-2 和 TNF- α 升高。但是，所有重症患者的 Ts 细胞明显减少，至少 2 个其他淋巴细胞亚群显著减少，并出现了以 IL-6 和 IL-10 为特征的细胞因子风暴。此外，无需机械通气的重症患者显示 T 淋巴细胞亚群下降后在 14 天内恢复，并伴有细胞因子的减少，但是 NK 和 B 细胞恢复很缓慢超过 21 天。相反，有使用机械通气的重症患者的所有淋巴细胞亚群均处于较低水平，难以恢复，细胞因子风暴不受控制。

IL-6 和 IL-10 与细胞因子风暴的强度成正比，最能反映出 COVID-19 的变化。

解释：淋巴细胞亚群和细胞因子与 COVID-19 的诊断类型、临床治疗和预后密切相关。淋巴细胞亚群的持续失衡导致以 IL-6 和 IL-10 为特征的不受控制的细胞因子风暴（SARS-CoV-2 诱导 COVID-19 细胞因子风暴的机制如下 Figure1 所示）。

Abstract

Background: The correlation matrix in COVID-19 clinical characteristics especially immunological features of peripheral blood is blank. And the dynamic changes of lymphocyte subsets and cytokines in clinical course and prognosis of COVID-19 had not been elucidated.

Methods: We extracted data regarding 90 patients with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 from in mainland China through February 28, 2020. Demographic data, symptoms, laboratory values, comorbidities, treatments, prognosis, dynamic modifications of lymphocyte subsets and cytokines profiles were all collected. Correlation matrix analysis was performed in these clinical characteristics.

Findings: Matrix research indicated that peripheral blood lymphocyte subsets were closely related to diagnosis type and prognosis. 41% mild COVID-19 patients appeared minor NK cell reduction, with IL-2 and TNF- α increased. However, all severe patients had Ts cell remarkable decreased, with a robust reduction of at least 2 other lymphocyte subsets, experience a cytokine storm characterized by IL-6 and IL-10. Furthermore, severe patients without mechanical ventilation showed T lymphocyte subsets decline and recovered within 14d, accompanied by the reduction of cytokines. But the NK and B cells slowly returned more than 21d. In contrast, all lymphocyte subsets of severe patients with mechanical ventilation were in lower level and difficult to recover, undergo uncontrolled cytokine storm. IL-6 and IL-10 were proportional to the intensity of the cytokine storm and best reflect the change of COVID-19.

Interpretation: Lymphocyte subsets and cytokines had closely related with diagnosis type, clinical therapy and prognosis of COVID-19. The continuous imbalance of lymphocyte subsets induced uncontrolled cytokine storm characterized by IL-6 and IL-10.

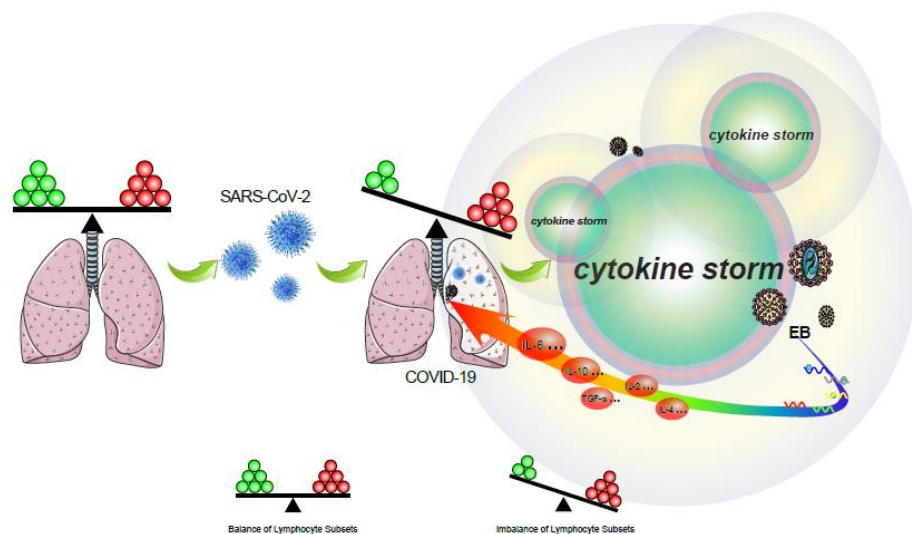


Figure 1. The mechanism of SARS-CoV-2 induced COVID-19 cytokine storm

SARS-CoV-2 infection induced an imbalance of lymphocyte subsets. The continuous imbalance caused large number of cytokines secretions, accompanied by a cytokine storm. During the storm, the potential EB virus genome activated and aggravated the cytokine storm.

4. 用临床级可溶性人 ACE2 抑制 SARS-CoV-2 感染工程人体组织

Inhibition of SARS-CoV-2 infections in engineered human tissues using clinical-grade soluble human ACE2

来源: Cell

发表时间: 2020-4-4

链接: https://www.cell.com/pb-assets/products/coronavirus/CELL_CELL-D-20-00739.pdf

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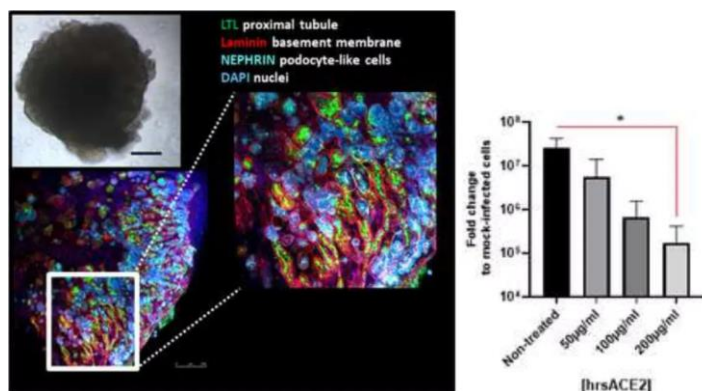
编译: 雷颖

摘要:

作者曾经提供了第一个基因证据, 血管紧张素转换酶 2 (ACE2) 是 SARS-CoV 的关键受体, 而 ACE2 又可以保护肺免受损伤, 这从分子层面解释了 SARS-CoV 感染引起严重肺衰竭和死亡的原因。ACE2 已被确定为 SARS-CoV-2 感染的关键受体, 并被认为抑制这种相互作用可用于治疗 COVID19 患者。然而, 目前尚不清楚人重组可溶性 ACE2 (HrsACE2) 是否阻断了 SARS-CoV-2 的生长。本文中, 作者展示了临床级 hrsACE2 显著降低了 SARS-CoV-2 对非洲绿猴肾细胞 (Vero cell) 的感染, 大约有 1, 000-5, 000 倍。等效的小鼠 rsACE2 却没有影响。作者还表明, SARS-CoV-2 可以直接感染体外构建的人血管器官和人肾器官, 而这也可以被 hrsACE2 抑制。这些数据表明, hrsACE2 可以显著阻断 SARS-CoV-2 感染的早期阶段。

Abstract

We have previously provided the first genetic evidence that Angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) is the critical receptor for SARS-CoV and that ACE2 protects the lung from injury, providing a molecular explanation for the severe lung failure and death due to SARS-CoV infections. ACE2 has now also been identified as a key receptor for SARS-CoV-2 infections and it has been proposed that inhibiting this interaction might be used in treating patients with COVID19. However, it is not known whether human recombinant soluble ACE2 (hrsACE2) blocks growth of SARS-CoV-2. Here we show that clinical grade hrsACE2 reduced SARS-CoV-2 recovery from Vero cells by a factor of 1,000-5,000. An equivalent mouse rsACE2 had no effect. We also show that SARS-CoV-2 can directly infect engineered human blood vessel organoids and human kidney organoids, which can be inhibited by hrsACE2. These data demonstrate that hrsACE2 can significantly block early stages of SARS-CoV-2 infections.



编者注:

在一项 phase IIa 的早期临床试验(<https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01597635>) 中文中用到的可溶性 ACE2 在急性呼吸窘迫综合症的病人良好耐受(没有大的毒副作用), 并且显示出可能作用到了 ACE2 靶点。这个小规模的临床试验结果没有显示出生理和临床获益(参考文献 1)。

参考文献 1:

A pilot clinical trial of recombinant human angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 in acute respiratory distress syndrome. Crit Care 21, 234

5. 推断 SARS-CoV-2 刺突蛋白的 N 糖基化和 O 糖基化

Deducing the N- and O- glycosylation profile of the spike protein of novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2

来源: biorxiv

发布时间: 2020.4.4

链接: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.01.020966v1.full.pdf>

编译: 陈文章

作者采用通常的蛋白质鉴定流程(胶内酶解外加质谱鉴定)鉴定了 COVID-19 的 spike protein 的糖基化修饰。样品是 293 细胞分别表达的刺突蛋白的 S1 和 S2 亚基。对于 22 个可能的糖基化位点, 17 个位点出现了糖基化, 而另外 5 个位点(N17, 603, 1134, 1158 和 1173)没有发现糖基化修饰。同先前的报道吻合, 作者观察到了在所有位点都有 Man5G1cNAc2 糖基化修饰。糖基化类型如下。

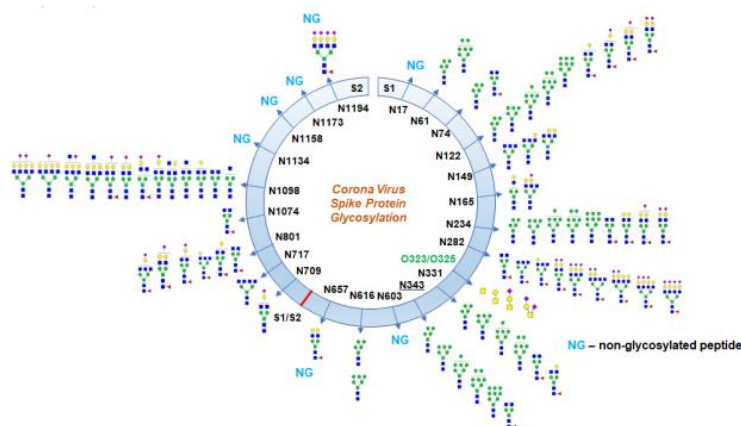


Figure 2: Glycosylation profile on coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 characterized by high-resolution LC-MS/MS. About 17 N-glycosylation sites were found occupied out of 22 potential sites along with two O-glycosylation sites bearing core-1 type O-glycans. Some N-glycosylation sites were partially glycosylated.

同先前的研究所不同，本次数据还给出了 O 糖基化的信息。

高分辨质谱数据表明在 S1 亚基上 Thr323 and Ser325 有糖基化修饰。Thr323 的糖基化分别为 HexNAc, HexNAcHex and HexNAcHexNeuAc2。有意思的是当 Thr323 的糖基化为 HexNAcHexNeuAc, Ser325 的糖基化也为 HexNAcHexNeuAc。

The current emergence of the novel coronavirus pandemic caused by SARS-CoV-2 demands the development of new therapeutic strategies to prevent rapid progress of mortalities. The coronavirus spike (S) protein, which facilitates viral attachment, entry and membrane fusion is heavily glycosylated and plays a critical role in the elicitation of host immune response. The spike protein is comprised of two protein subunits (S1 and S2), which together possess 22 potential N-glycosylation sites. Herein, we report the mapping of glycosylation on spike protein subunits S1 and S2 expressed on human cells through high resolution mass spectrometry. We have characterized the quantitative N-glycosylation profile on spike protein and interestingly, observed two unexpected O-glycosylation modifications on the receptor binding domain (RBD) of spike protein subunit S1. Even though O-glycosylation has been predicted on the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2, this is the first report of experimental data for both the site of O-glycosylation and identity of the O-glycans attached on the subunit S1. Our data on the N- and O- glycosylation is strengthened by extensive manual interpretation of each glycopeptide spectra in addition to using bioinformatics tools to confirm the complexity of glycosylation in the spike protein. The elucidation of the glycan repertoire on the spike protein provides insights into the viral binding studies and more importantly, propels research towards the development of a suitable vaccine candidate

6. 人体组织中 ACE2 的蛋白表达谱

The protein expression profile of ACE2 in human tissues

来源: bioRxiv

发布时间: 2020.3.31

链接: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.03.31.016048v1>

通讯作者: Cecilia Lindskog

作者单位: 瑞典乌普萨拉大学免疫学、遗传学和病理学系鲁贝克实验室

编译: 张鹏伟

内容摘要:

SARS-CoV-2 的国际传播对医疗和社会都构成了全球性的挑战。为了全面了解 SARS-CoV-2 感染的敏感性, 宿主细胞表面受体的细胞类型特异性的表达是必要的。提示参与宿主细胞进入的关键蛋白是 ACE2, 其在人体各器官中的表达已被报道, 但在某些情况下, 其结果不一致或相互矛盾。在此, 我们旨在验证 ACE2 在所有主要人类组织和细胞型中的可靠表达谱。从几个数据集中通过严格的免疫组化分析和高通量的 mRNA 测序, 我们发现 ACE2 的表达主要集中在肠道微绒毛和肾近端小管、胆囊上皮、睾丸支持细胞和间质细胞、精囊腺细胞和心肌细胞。我们的分析表明, ACE2 在人呼吸系统中的作用是有限的, 在蛋白水平上在肺或呼吸上皮中的受体的表达尚待证实。这就对 ACE2 在人类肺部感染中的作用提出了疑问, 并强调了进一步探索在 SARS-CoV-2 感染过程中传播途径的必要性。

Abstract:

The international spread of the novel, pathogenic SARS-coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) poses a global challenge on both healthcare and society. For a full understanding of the susceptibility for SARS

-CoV-2 infection, the cell type-specific expression of the host cell surface receptor is necessary. Here, we aim to verify a reliable expression profile of ACE2 in all major human tissues and cell types. Based on stringently validated immunohistochemical analysis and high-throughput mRNA sequencing from several datasets, we found that ACE2 expression is mainly localized to microvilli of the intestinal tract and renal proximal tubules, gallbladder epithelium, testicular Sertoli cells and Leydig cells, glandular cells of seminal vesicle and cardiomyocytes. Our analysis suggests that the expression of ACE2 in the human respiratory system appears to be limited, and the expression of the receptor in lung or respiratory epithelia on the protein level is yet to be confirmed. This raises questions regarding the role of ACE2 for infection of human lungs and highlights the need to further explore the route of transmission during SARS-CoV-2 infection.



Figure 1. A summary of ACE2 expression in human tissues based on publicly available transcriptomics and proteomics datasets. Three different sizes of circles represent high, medium or low expression levels, and each circle is color-coded based on organ system. A consistent expression in the intestinal tract, gallbladder, kidney, testis and heart muscle was observed across all datasets. The broadest expression profile was reported from Hamming et al, where also lung, oral mucosa, and esophagus, spleen, adipose tissue, smooth muscle, brain and skin showed significant staining. N/A = no data available.

7. 意大利 COVID-19 疫情严重的情况下, ACE2 和 TMPRSS2 的变体和表达水平可能是导致性别和国家差异的候选因素

ACE2 and TMPRSS2 variants and expression as candidates to sex and country differences in COVID-19 severity in Italy

来源:《柳叶刀》预印本

发表时间: 2020-4-1

链接: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3559608

通讯作者: Stefano Duga

作者单位: Humanitas University, Rozzano - Milan, ITALY

编译: 雷颖

摘要:

背景: 随着 2019 年冠状病毒病 (COVID-19) 爆发的进行, 用于早期识别高危人群的预后标志物成为紧急医疗需求。在大国中, 意大利的 SARS-CoV-2 感染率最高, 死亡人数最高, 死亡率最高。在世界范围内, COVID-19 病情严重程度与年龄、合并症和男性性别有关。因此, 作者通过查看 ACE2 和 TMPRSS2 基因的表达水平和变异对病毒感染至关重要, 以此来搜索意大利人中 COVID-19 特殊严重程度的可能遗传成分。

方法: 使用来自该国人口的大型意大利队列的外显子组和 SNP 阵列数据比较欧洲和东亚人口的稀有变异负担和多态性频率。此外, 作者调查了基因表达数据库以检查性别不平衡表达。

调查结果: 尽管作者没有发现明显的证据表明 ACE2 与意大利人群的疾病严重程度/性别差异相关, 但事实证明 TMPRSS2 水平和遗传变异可能是潜在的疾病调节剂, 有助于观察到意大利患者的流行病学数据。

解释: 作者的分析表明 TMPRSS2 的作用变异和表达水平调节 COVID-19 严重程度, 这一假设有助于对具有不同临床表现的大批患者进行快速实验验证。

编者注: 新型冠状病毒引起的症状程度在人群中异质性非常大, 急需要理解宿主的遗传因素的影响, 作者尝试探索对这个非常重要的问题。但是本文中的研究还需要粗浅, 作者只是对人群的遗传信息进行了分析、关于基因表达的推测也仅仅来源于文献推测。需要对病人群体进行基因型测定, 并做表型基因型分析、以及相关 SNP 位点对基因表达的调控进行实验检测或者验证并且进一步证明这些差异造成病毒感染后的临床差异才能证明本文阐述的观点。

Abstract

Background As the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) progresses, prognostic markers for early identification of high-risk individuals are an urgent medical need. Italy has the highest rate of SARS-CoV-2 infection, the highest number of deaths, and the highest mortality rate among large countries. Worldwide, a more severe course of COVID-19 is associated with older age, comorbidities, and male sex. Hence, we searched for possible genetic components of the peculiar severity of COVID-19 among Italians, by looking at expression

levels and variants in ACE2 and TMPRSS2 genes, which are crucial for viral infection.

Methods Exome and SNP array data from a large Italian cohort representative of the country's population were used to compare the burden of rare variants and the frequency of polymorphisms with European and East Asian populations. Moreover, we looked into gene expression databases to check for sex-unbalanced expression. **Findings** While we found no significant evidence that ACE2 is associated with disease severity/sex bias in the Italian population, TMPRSS2 levels and genetic variants proved to be possible candidate disease modulators, contributing to the observed epidemiological data among Italian patients.

Interpretation Our analysis suggests a role for TMPRSS2 variants and expression levels in modulating COVID-19 severity, a hypothesis that fosters a rapid experimental validation on large cohorts of patients with different clinical manifestations.

8. 一个具有感染性的 SARS-CoV-2 的 cDNA 克隆

An infectious cDNA clone of SARS-CoV-2

来源: Cell Host & Microbe 已接受但是未最终定稿

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链接: https://marlin-prod.literatumonline.com/pb-assets/products/coronavirus/CHOM_2291_s50_preproof.pdf

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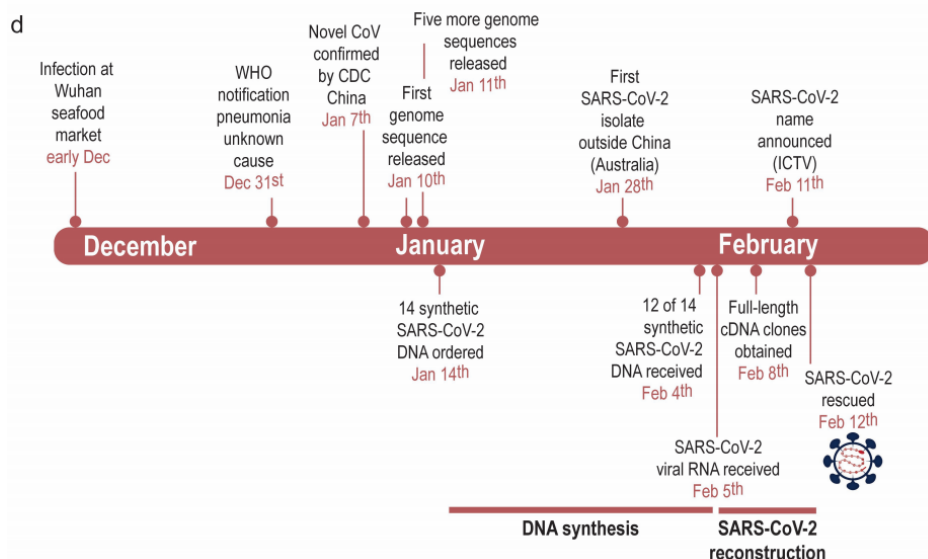
这篇文章报道了采用反向遗传方法构建的 SARS-CoV-2。作者们分 7 段克隆了 SARS-CoV-2 的基因组 (用病毒的基因组做模板进行 PCR), 并将这些序列组装成一个完整基因组 cDNA。将由此 cDNA 转录出来的 RNA 电转入细胞, 产生了 2.9×10^6 PFU/ml 的病毒。和从临床样本里分离出来的病毒比, 这个具有感染性的由基因克隆拿到的 icSARS-CoV-2 病毒表现出相似的空斑形态、病毒 RNA 表达谱、以及病毒复制动力学。另外, icSARS-CoV-2 保留了基因操作的分子标志, 没有产生突变。将绿色荧光报告基因插入到病毒基因组的 ORF7 产生了一个稳定的带绿色荧光的 icSARS-CoV-2-mng。作者成功的用带绿色荧光的病毒系统测试了干扰素的抗病毒效果。总结来讲, 反向遗传和带有报告系统的病毒为研究 SARS-CoV-2 以及开发抗病毒药物提供了关键的实验材料。

The ongoing pandemic of COVID-19, caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), underscores the urgency to develop experimental systems for studying this virus and identifying countermeasures. We report a reverse genetic system for SARS-CoV-2. Seven cDNA fragments spanning the SARS-CoV-2 genome were assembled into a full-genome cDNA. RNA transcribed from the full-genome cDNA was highly infectious after electroporation into cells, producing 2.9×10^6 PFU/ml of virus. Compared with a clinical isolate, the infectious clone-derived SARS-CoV-2 (icSARS-CoV-2) exhibited similar plaque morphology, viral RNA profile, and replication kinetics. Additionally, icSARS-CoV-2 retained engineered molecular markers and did not acquire other mutations. A stable mNeonGreen SARS-CoV-2 (icSARS-CoV2-mNG) was generated by introducing

this reporter gene into ORF7 of the viral genome. icSARSCoV-2-mNG was successfully used to evaluate the antiviral activities of interferon. Collectively, the reverse genetic system and reporter virus provide key reagents to study SARS-CoV-2 and develop countermeasures

编者注:

这是第二篇采用反向遗传学方法在实验室获到 SARS-CoV-2 病毒的科研报道。此前 1 月 23 号就上线的一篇预印本文章 <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.02.21.959817v1.full.pdf>, 欧洲科学家用基于酵母的系统人工制造出了新冠病毒, 在拿到合成的 DNA 序列之后, 一周之内就构建出了活的新冠病毒。很多推文从科学的角度讲这个事情的重要性, 但是没有想到大众看了第一反应也许是哦, 你们科学家真的可以实验室里制造出来新冠病毒哦! 这件事情科学上的重要性是让科学家容易地获得实验材料病毒, 并且可以在体外进行突变从而来研究各种突变的功能。这样就不需要从病人里费老大力气分离出来了, 比如某个在中国的病人的病毒发生了某种突变, 这个病人的病情和之前的病人很不一样。欧洲科学家想立刻着手对这个病毒进行动物实验开展研究工作, 就可以通过直接合成获得, 而不用千里迢迢把这个危险的病原运送过去了。这个研究的时间表如下图所示:



是的, 你没看错。科学家在体外完全从头把病毒制造出来是可行的, 而且还很快哦。合成 30K 的新型冠状病毒基因组有一定难度, 世界上没有多少家公司可以做, 但是整体是可行的, 也并没有特别的技术壁垒。

那么, 这是否意味着科学家可以随心所欲产生全新的对人类非常危险的病毒(全新意味着找不到人工简单改变、拼接的痕迹), 譬如这次的新型冠状病毒了呢?

答案是否定的。因为这个病毒的基因组是从中国病人里面通过测序了解到的, 如果没有这个信息, 科学家要随心所欲制造一个具有某种特性的全新病毒其实很不容易。打个比方, 大家如果得到了一本畅销书或者经典书籍的内容(对应基因组), 现在复印打印扫描语音等等操作都可以将这本书的内容进行复制。但是要乱敲键盘或者绞尽脑汁从头创作出一本热门书的内容是很不容易的。受欢迎的热门书内容可以算做非常小概率的事件。

除了整体合成以外, 对分子生物学有所了解的朋友会知道我们还有其他改造基因组的办法还有基因操作(可以理解为文本处理中的剪切、复制、粘贴这样的操作), 人工进行突变进化

等，这些办法又是否可以做到指定功能的基因组合成呢？毕竟，我前面讲了科学家经过研究对病毒基因组有了一些了解。比如冠状病毒里，我们知道它们都需要一个 S 蛋白和宿主细胞进行结合，形成一个特定的结构然后帮助病毒外膜和细胞外膜进行融合等等。如果科学家利用这些已知的生物材料进行组装，设计出一个全新的能普遍感染人造成严重传染性疾病的病毒来吗？

这个想法可以类同于我们可以把以往的作品，个人笔记各种社会热点时事新闻等等进行拼接甚至高级点进行人工智能的学习进行创作。这样的结果，也许会有某些词语、段落、行文、风格、人物关系甚至事件似曾相识，但是按照目前的技术并不容易造成书的内容自然流畅（对应病毒的重组和少数突变）并且打动人心（有感染力），并且让人们疯狂推荐传播（传染性）。

人为造出全新的病毒有多难，因为我不是病毒学家，讲我们对病毒的了解不够深入还不够有说服力。我只举一个我们对这个新冠认识的具体的例子。在科学家拿到新型冠状病毒序列（书稿）之后，对病毒和细胞的结合进行了预测。因为这个病毒使用了和 SARS 一样的抓手进入细胞，所以大家可以对这个病毒和抓手结合的 Spike 棘突蛋白的结合力进行了预测—通过计算机模拟计算，好几个组的科学家都预测这个结合力比 SARS 的结合力弱。所以在疫情早期，大家都认为这个病毒应该感染性不如 SARS。现在大家看到这个病毒在我们采取各种措施的情况下，依然传到世界各地了。医护人员在没有防护的情况下，感染一大片，家庭社区呈现爆发式感染。有了刺突蛋白和受体 ACE2 的结构数据后，科学家才对新型冠状病毒的感染力提供了不同的看法。这个病毒是否还有别的受体，为什么在某些组织器官中可以复制等等还是需要继续研究的问题。单纯回答这个侵入细胞相关的受体的问题尚且曲折困难。提前预测一个全新病毒对人类中的感染性、传播力、致病性等等目前在笔者看来仍然是一个不可能的事情。

随着科学认识的深入（数据和知识的积累），技术的发展（学习和进化算法），用计算技术产生打动人心的文学艺术作品当然是可能的。那么创造出可以预见感染力、传播力和毒性的全新病毒当然也是可能的。但这个风险应该是未来而不是现在。

当然，虽然小编觉得目前实验室造出全新病毒的可能性极其微小，但是人类已知的高致病性的病毒—比如文章中讲到的 SARS-COV-2，以及此前我们了解的 SARS，HIV，MERS 等等病毒的合成和操作必须受到非常严格的管控。如果没有严格的管控和规范，对这些病毒不当操作引起的病毒泄露或者释放会对人类造成极大的生物安全威胁。

编者注：

如果您还对 COVID-19 的临床相关研究觉得一头雾水，不如从这篇全面的临床综述开始了解。

9. COVID-19 临床进展

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): a clinical update

来源: Front. Med.

发布时间: 2020.4.2 (文章最后修改 2020.3.9)

作者: 瑞金医院院长、呼吸科瞿介明、呼吸科周敏, Xinxin zhang

链接: <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s11684-020-0767-8.pdf>

瑞金医院的专家们从流行病学、病因学、病理学、影像学特征以及最新的治疗相关进展对 COVID-19 进行了综述。目前知道新冠病毒主要通过飞沫以及亲密接触传播。疾病进程中病人特别是重症病人会产生一系列并发症。尸检结果表明病人有典型的急性呼吸窘迫综合症以

及多器官受累。除了支持性护理，目前还没有针对 COVID-19 的特效治疗方案。一些可能有潜力的抗病毒药物、康复病人血清疗法，以及托珠单抗等等都需要进一步在临床实验中得到验证。

Abstract Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) has posed a significant threat to global health. It caused a total of 80 868 confirmed cases and 3101 deaths in Chinese mainland until March 8, 2020. This novel virus spread mainly through respiratory droplets and close contact. As disease progressed, a series of complications tend to develop, especially in critically ill patients. Pathological findings showed representative features of acute respiratory distress syndrome and involvement of multiple organs. Apart from supportive care, no specific treatment has been established for COVID-19. The efficacy of some promising antivirals, convalescent plasma transfusion, and tocilizumab needs to be investigated by ongoing clinical trials.

10. 云平台上的 SRA 序列有望助力更多与 COVID-19 相关的新发现

SRA cloud sequences hold the promise of additional discoveries related to COVID-19

来源: NCBI

发布时间: 2020-04-03

来源链接: <https://ncbiinsights.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/2020/04/03/sra-cloud-sequences-hold-the-promise-of-additional-discoveries-related-to-covid-19/>

内容摘要:

NCBI 近期宣布，在两个云平台上公开了所有序列读取存档 (SRA)。这些基因序列档案是一个信息宝库，云环境通过 GCP (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/docs/SRA-Google-Cloud/#signin-and-enter-the-gcp-console> , Google Cloud Platform) 或 AWS (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/docs/sra-aws-download/>, Amazon Web Services) 帐户就在你自己的设备上提供高性能计算。高通量测序使数据生成变得极其快速和廉价，该技术推动了 SRA 的快速增长。把它放到云端可以分析“所有这些高通量、未组装的序列数据” (<https://nlmdirector.nlm.nih.gov/2019/09/24/biomedical-discovery-through-sra-and-the-cloud/>)。

那么，还会有哪些潜在的发现？为了研究其中的一些可能性，我们举办 (<https://ncbiinsights.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/2019/01/03/virus-hunting-data-science-hackathon-san-diego/>) 了一系列代码会议 (codeathons, <https://ncbi-codeathons.github.io/>), 看看是否可以在 SRA 云数据集中发现隐藏在其中的已知和未知的病毒。剧透警报-他们是！就在最近，斯坦福大学的一个研究小组报告说，他们通过对元基因组 SRA 文件的搜索，使用 SRA 工具包 (<https://github.com/ncbi/sra-tools>) 下载这些数据集，并进行分析，能够识别出穿山甲中类 2019-nCoV 冠状病毒。该团队面临的一个挑战是下载数据集：2.5TB 相当于大约 1013 个碱基需要 48 小时才能下载完成。基于云的 SRA 工具 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/docs/sra-cloud/>) 如何使这项任务变得更容易/更快？以下就是方法：

BigQuery (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/docs/sra-bigquery/> , 收费方式 https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/pricing#on_demand_pricing): 允许本机云编程访问

并对云中的 SRA 元数据进行搜索。SRA 工具包支持从云中的 SRA 数据集中检索和读取文件，并分别将文件写入相同的格式。

即将到来的云端工具是大规模 Blast 计算工具，Read Alignment and Annotation Pipeline Tool (RAPT)。这些工具允许在云中直接分析数据，无需下载到本地存储进行分析。

此外，NCBI 还会提供更好地访问已经由 NCBI 工具计算好的 SRA 分类内容的方式。

NCBI 正在不断添加新功能，以更好地支持您的云工作流，很乐意提供帮助！如果有任何疑问或需要帮助，请通过 sra@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov 联系他们。如果您需要帮助设置 GCP 或 AWS，请按照 YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNmBIN10bxc>) 上的操作视频中的步骤操作。

Abstract

We recently announced that we made all of the Sequence Read Archive (SRA) publicly available on two cloud platforms. This archive of genetic sequences is a treasure trove of information and the cloud environments provide high-performance computing capabilities via a GCP or AWS account - right from your own device. High-throughput sequencing has made generating data extremely fast and inexpensive, which has fueled the rapid growth of SRA. Putting it on the cloud makes it possible to analyze “the high-throughput, unassembled sequence data, across all such sequences”.

So, what are some of the potential discoveries that await? To investigate some of the possibilities, we have held a series of codeathons to see if known and unknown viruses could be found lurking within SRA cloud datasets. Spoiler alert - they are! And just recently, a team from Stanford reported that they were able to identify a 2019-nCoV-like Coronavirus in pangolins by examining data sets identified via a meta-metagenomic search of SRA and downloaded using the SRA Toolkit. One challenge this team faced was downloading the datasets: 2.5TB corresponding to approximately 1013 bases took over 48 hours to gather. How might cloud-based SRA tools have made this task easier/faster? Here's how: BigQuery: allows native cloud programmatic access to and search based on SRA metadata in the cloud. SRA Toolkit enables retrieval and reading of sequencing files from the SRA datasets in the cloud and writing files into the same format, respectively.

Coming soon to the cloud are tools for large scale BLAST processing for a Read Alignment and Annotation Pipeline Tool (RAPT). These tools allow the data to be analyzed directly in the cloud, eliminating the need for download to local storage for analysis.

Also in the works is a mechanism to provide better access to taxonomic content of SRA runs as calculated by NCBI tools.

We are continually adding new functionality to better support your cloud workflows and are happy to help! Contact us at sra@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov if you have questions or need help getting started. If you need assistance setting up GCP or AWS, please follow the steps in our how-to videos on YouTube.

番外：以后类似的云平台对于高通量测序/质谱数据的分析，可以用于病原物的日常监测。

11. 科学家把冠状病毒的结构变成了音乐

Scientists have turned the structure of the coronavirus into music

来源: Science

发布时间: 2020-04-03

来源链接: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/04/scientists-have-turned-structure-coronavirus-music>

内容摘要:

新型冠状病毒目前造成了 100 万人感染和数万人死亡。现在,科学家们想出了一种方法让你听到它:把新冠著名的刺突蛋白的结构翻译成音乐 (<https://soundcloud.com/user-275864738/viral-counterpoint-of-the-coronavirus-spike-protein-2019-ncov>)。

你所听到的钟声,潺潺的琴弦,潺潺的笛声都代表了从病毒表面探出的刺突蛋白的不同方面,它们有助于病毒附着在毫无防备的细胞上。像所有的蛋白质一样,这些刺突蛋白是由氨基酸组合而成的。麻省理工学院的科学家们使用一种称为“声音化”的新技术,在音阶上给每个氨基酸分配一个独特的音符,将整个蛋白质转换成一个初步的乐谱。

但在现实生活中,这些氨基酸往往卷曲成螺旋或伸展成折叠。研究人员通过改变音符的持续时间和音量来捕捉这些特征。由热引起的分子振动也会产生它们自己的声音。

但为什么要把病毒放在音乐上呢?新格式可以帮助科学家通过搜索与这些位点对应的特定音乐序列,在蛋白质上找到抗体或药物能够结合的位点。研究人员说,这种方法比研究蛋白质的传统方法(例如,分子模拟)更快、更直观。他们补充说,通过将刺突蛋白的音乐序列与其他声音化的蛋白的大型数据库进行比较,也许有一天能找到一种蛋白能粘附刺突蛋白,防止病毒感染细胞。

至于仪器,完全是研究人员的选择。在这种困难的情况下,日本筝(koto)舒缓的声音,可能会带来一些安慰。

Abstract

You've probably seen dozens of images of the novel coronavirus—now responsible for 1 million infections and tens of thousands of deaths. Now, scientists have come up with a way for you to hear it: by translating the structure of its famous spike protein into music.

The sounds you hear—the chiming bells, the twanging strings, the lilting flutes—all represent different aspects of the spikelike protein (above) that pokes from the virus' surface and helps it latch onto unsuspecting cells. Like all proteins, the spikes are made of combinations of amino acids. Using a new technique called sonification, scientists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology assigned each amino acid a unique note in a musical scale, converting the entire protein into a preliminary musical score.

But in real life, these amino acids tend to curl up into a helix or stretch out into a sheet. Researchers capture these features by altering the duration and volume of the notes. Molecular vibrations due to heat also get their own sounds. But why would you set a virus to music? The new format can help scientists find sites on the protein where antibodies or drugs might be able to bind—simply by searching for specific musical sequences that correspond to these sites. This, the researchers say, is faster and more intuitive than conventional methods used

to study proteins, such as molecular modeling. They add that by comparing the musical sequence of the spike protein to a large database of other sonified proteins, it might be possible to one day find one that can stick to the spike—preventing the virus from infecting a cell.

As for the instruments, they were entirely the researchers' choice. In this case, a Japanese koto plays the main notes—soothing sounds that might bring some comfort in a time of trouble.