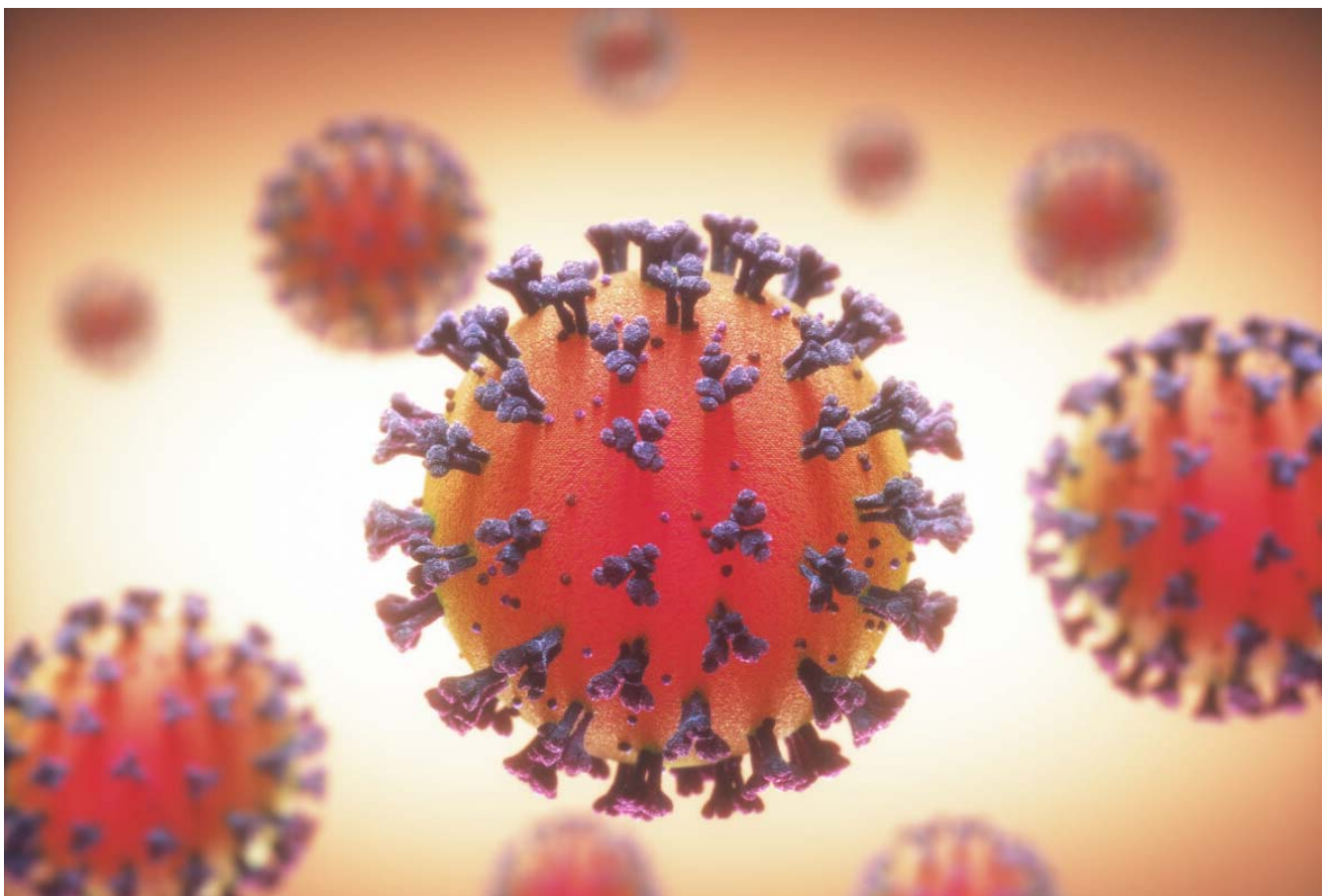




The University of Texas at Austin

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD



Newly Discovered Antibody Protects Against All COVID-19 Variants

AUSTIN, Texas — Researchers have discovered an antibody able to neutralize all known variants of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, as well as distantly related SARS-like coronaviruses that infect other animals.

As part of a new study on hybrid immunity to the virus, the large, multi-institution research team led by The University of Texas at Austin discovered and isolated a broadly neutralizing plasma antibody, called SC27, from a single patient. Using technology developed over several years of research into antibody response, the team led by UT engineers and scientists obtained the exact molecular sequence of the antibody, opening the possibility of manufacturing it on a larger scale for future treatments.

“The discovery of SC27, and other antibodies like it in the future, will help us better protect the population against current and future COVID variants,” said Jason Lavinder, a research assistant professor in the Cockrell School of Engineering’s McKetta Department of Chemical Engineering and one of the leaders of the new research, which was recently published in Cell Reports Medicine.

During the more than four years since the discovery of COVID-19, the virus that causes it has rapidly evolved. Each new variant has displayed different characteristics, many of which made them more resistant to vaccines and other treatments.

Protective antibodies bind to a part of the virus called the spike protein that acts as an anchor point for the virus to attach to and infect the cells in the body. By blocking the spike protein, the antibodies prevent this interaction and, therefore, also prevent infection.

SC27 recognized the different characteristics of the spike proteins in the many COVID variants. Fellow UT researchers, who were the first to decode the structure of the original spike protein and paved the way for vaccines and other treatments, verified SC27’s capabilities.

The technology used to isolate the antibody,

termed Ig-Seq, gives researchers a closer look at the antibody response to infection and vaccination using a combination of single-cell DNA sequencing and proteomics.

“One goal of this research, and vaccinology in general, is to work toward a universal vaccine that can generate antibodies and create an immune response with broad protection to a rapidly mutating virus,” said Will Voss, a recent Ph.D. graduate in cell and molecular biology in UT’s College of Natural Sciences, who co-led the study.

In addition to the discovery of this antibody, the research found that hybrid immunity — a combination of both infection and vaccination — offers increased antibody-based protection against future exposure compared with infection or vaccination alone.

The work comes amid another summer COVID spike. This trend shows that while the worst of the pandemic may have passed, there’s still a need for innovative solutions to help people avoid and treat the virus.

The researchers have filed a patent application for SC27. Other members of the team from UT are Jason McLellan, Patrick O. Byrne, Sean A. Knudson, Douglas R. Townsend, Jessica Kain and Yimin Huang of the Department of Molecular Biosciences; George Georgiou, Ed Satterwhite and Allison Seeger of the McKetta Department of Chemical Engineering; Jeffrey M. Marchioni of the Department of Biomedical Engineering; and Chelsea Paresi of the Department of Chemistry. Team members from other institutions include Greg Ippolito of the Texas Biomedical Research Institute; Ralph S. Baric, Michael A. Mallory, John M. Powers, Sarah R. Leist, Jennifer E. Munt and Trevor Scobey of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Department of Epidemiology; Izabella N. Castillo, Melissa Mattocks and Premkumar Lakshmanane of UNC’s Department of Microbiology and Immunology; and Bernadeta Dadonaite and Jesse D. Bloom of Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. The research team received funding from the National Institutes of Health and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Central Texas Interfaith Recognizes City of Austin for Continued Investment in Long-Term Workforce Development

(AUSTIN, TX) - Today, Austin City Council members responded to the city’s needs by approving \$2.9 million in continued funding to help low-earning adults prepare for living-wage careers through Capital IDEA’s training programs. Central Texas Interfaith appreciates the Mayor and Council for their support and Councilmembers Alter and Vela for their strong leadership on the issue.

Capital IDEA has achieved remarkable success over the past 25 years, consistently providing employers with a highly skilled workforce while breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty and transforming lives. According to the University of Texas at Austin Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources, every dollar invested in Capital IDEA’s workforce development program yields a \$6.99 return to the community.

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This project is supported in part by the City of Austin Economic Development Department

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Holy Cross Catholic Church

1610 East 11th Street Austin, Texas 78702 512-472-3741 Office 512-472-3760 Fax Email: holycross@holycrossaustin.org Website: holycrossaustin.org

Very Rev. Basil Aguzie, MSP, Pastor

Sunday Masses: 8:00a.m. & 10:00a.m.
 Weekdays (Tues-Fri): 12:00 Noon
 First Friday Devotion: 12:00 Noon & 6:30p.m.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: By Appointment

Core Values:
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“To serve as a diverse spiritual community, committed to glorifying God and Serving the needs of others as Christ did”

EBENEZER WE INVITE EVERYONE!

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Join us in-person or live on **C-LIVE**
 8:45 a.m. Christian Education Ministry in person or via **zoom**

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - Midweek Prayer Service via **zoom**
 *Contact the church office at ebenezer@ebc3austin.org for the zoom link.
 Child Development Center Ages (0-5) 512.478.6705

Agape Baptist Church

In “THE CENTRE” Bldg. F-15 7801 North Lamar Blvd. (S.E. Corner of North Lamar and 183) Austin, Texas 78752

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Church Services
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 Mid-Week
 Thurs.: Praise, Prayer and Bible Study - 7:00PM
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 Web: www.agapebcaustintx.com

H. Ed Calahan, Pastor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

4805 Heflin Lane, Austin, Texas 78721

“A Church Empowered by The Holy Spirit”

Danny L. Thomas Sr., Pastor

Worship Service
 Brotherhood 8:00am BTU 10:00am
 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 11:00am

Mid Week Services Wednesday
 Prayer 6:00pm Pastor’s Desk: 512-926-6932
 Bible Study 7:00pm Face Book: First Baptist Church on Heflin Lane Email: mbfbc2017@yahoo.com Church: 512-926-4759

DAVID CHAPEL Missionary Baptist Church

SUNDAY Christian Education 9:15a.m. | Worship 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Available
WEDNESDAY |
 Worship 1st Wed. monthly 7:00p.m. | Bible Study 7:30p.m.

DAVID CHAPEL Missionary Baptist Church

2211 East Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd. Austin, TX 78702
 Office: 512-472-9748 Fax: 512-472-5399
 Website: www.davidchapel.org
 Email: info@davidchapel.org

“A Church with a Heart for The Community”

Dr. Joseph C. Parker, Jr.
 Senior Pastor

Olive Branch Fellowship of Austin / All Faith Chapel

4110 Guadalupe St. Bldg #639 Austin, TX 78751

Sunday Morning
Worship @ 11: am

“This life, therefore, is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.” --- Martin Luther

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

Kenneth Hill, Pastor

BETHEL-ST. PAUL UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH

877 W. Hempstead, Giddings, Texas 78942

Weekly Schedule
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study 6:00p.m.

Pastor J. R. Roberson & First lady Lillian Robertson

(979) 542-2784 Church
 (979) 540-6352 Home