

Vector pCAGGS Containing the SARS-Related Coronavirus 2, Beta Variant Spike Glycoprotein Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) Gene

Catalog No. NR-54007

This reagent is the tangible property of the U.S. Government.

For research use only. Not for use in humans.

Contributor:

Florian Krammer, Ph.D. and Fatima Amanat, Department of Microbiology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, New York, USA, supported partially under government contract HHSN272201400008C, NIAID CEIRS program

Manufacturer:

BEI Resources

Product Description:

The vector for the receptor binding domain (RBD) of the spike (S) glycoprotein gene from severe acute respiratory syndrome-related coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), Wuhan-Hu-1 (GenBank: [MN908947](#)) was designed by fusing the N-terminal S protein signal sequence to the spike RBD (amino acids 319 to 541) with a C-terminal hexa-histidine tag.^{1,2} The sequence was codon optimized for mammalian expression, mutated to include the Beta variant [also referred to as the South Africa variant; B.1.351 lineage] K417N, E484K and N501Y mutations and subcloned into the **pCAGGS** mammalian expression vector under the AG promoter.^{2,3} NR-54007 contains the beta-lactamase gene, *bla*, to provide transformant selection through ampicillin resistance in *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). The resulting size of the plasmid is approximately 5500 base pairs. The complete plasmid sequence and map are provided on the BEI Resources webpage. The plasmid was produced in *E. coli* and extracted.

Note: For a detailed protocol and list of related items, see <https://labs.icaohn.mssm.edu/krammerlab/covid-19/>

The S glycoprotein mediates viral binding to the host angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE2). This protein forms a trimer, and when bound to a host receptor allows fusion of the viral and cellular membranes.⁴ The Beta variant includes three mutations in the RBD that may have functional significance: K417N, E484K and N501Y.⁵ Structural modeling and mouse studies indicate N501Y increases S glycoprotein binding to ACE2, resulting in increased SARS-CoV-2 virulence.^{6,7}

Material Provided:

Each vial contains plasmid DNA in TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0). The DNA concentration and volume provided are shown on the Certificate of Analysis. The vial should be centrifuged prior to opening. Note: The contents of the vial should be used to replicate the plasmid in *E. coli* prior to mammalian expression.

Packaging/Storage:

NR-54007 was packaged aseptically in screw-capped plastic cryovials. The product is provided frozen on dry ice and should be stored at -20°C or colder immediately upon arrival. Freeze-thaw cycles should be minimized.

Citation:

Acknowledgment for publications should read “The following reagent was obtained through BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH: Vector pCAGGS Containing the SARS-Related Coronavirus 2, Beta Variant Spike Glycoprotein Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) Gene, NR-54007.”

Biosafety Level: 1

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the following publication: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institutes of Health. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. 6th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2020; see www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmbl5/index.htm.

Disclaimers:

You are authorized to use this product for research use only. It is not intended for human use.

Use of this product is subject to the terms and conditions of the BEI Resources Material Transfer Agreement (MTA). The MTA is available on our Web site at www.beiresources.org.

While BEI Resources uses reasonable efforts to include accurate and up-to-date information on this product sheet, neither ATCC® nor the U.S. Government makes any warranties or representations as to its accuracy. Citations from scientific literature and patents are provided for informational purposes only. Neither ATCC® nor the U.S. Government warrants that such information has been confirmed to be accurate.

This product is sent with the condition that you are responsible for its safe storage, handling, use and disposal. ATCC® and the U.S. Government are not liable for any damages or injuries arising from receipt and/or use of this product. While reasonable effort is made to ensure authenticity and reliability of materials on deposit, the U.S. Government, ATCC®, their suppliers and contributors to BEI Resources are not liable for damages arising from the misidentification or misrepresentation of products.

Use Restrictions:

This material is distributed for internal research, non-commercial purposes only. This material, its product or its derivatives may not be distributed to third parties. Except as performed under a U.S. Government contract, individuals contemplating commercial use of the material, its products or its derivatives must contact the contributor to determine if a license is required. U.S. Government contractors may need a license before first commercial sale.

Registrants interested in commercializing this product must contact Mount Sinai for a license (Frenz, Christopher christopher.frenz@mssm.edu).

References:

1. Krammer, F. and F. Amanat, Personal Communication.
2. Amanat, F., et al. "A Serological Assay to Detect SARS-CoV-2 Seroconversion in Humans." *Nat. Med.* 26 (2020): 1033-1036. PubMed: 32398876.
3. Wu, F., et al. "A New Coronavirus Associated with Human Respiratory Disease in China." *Nature* 579 (2020): 265-269. PubMed: 32015508.
4. Hulswit, R. J. G., C. A. M. de Haan and B.-J. Bosch. "Coronavirus Spike Protein and Tropism Changes." *Adv. Virus Res.* 96 (2016): 29-57. PubMed: 27712627.
5. [WHO](#)
6. Gu, H., et al. "Adaptation of SARS-CoV-2 in BALB/c Mice for Testing Vaccine Efficacy." *Science* 369 (2020): 1603-1607. PubMed: 32732280.
7. Leung, K., et al. "Early Transmissibility Assessment of the N501Y Mutant Strains of SARS-CoV-2 in the United Kingdom, October to November 2020." *Euro. Surveill.* 26 (2021): pii 2002106. PubMed: 33413740.

ATCC® is a trademark of the American Type Culture Collection.

