

Omicron neutralization

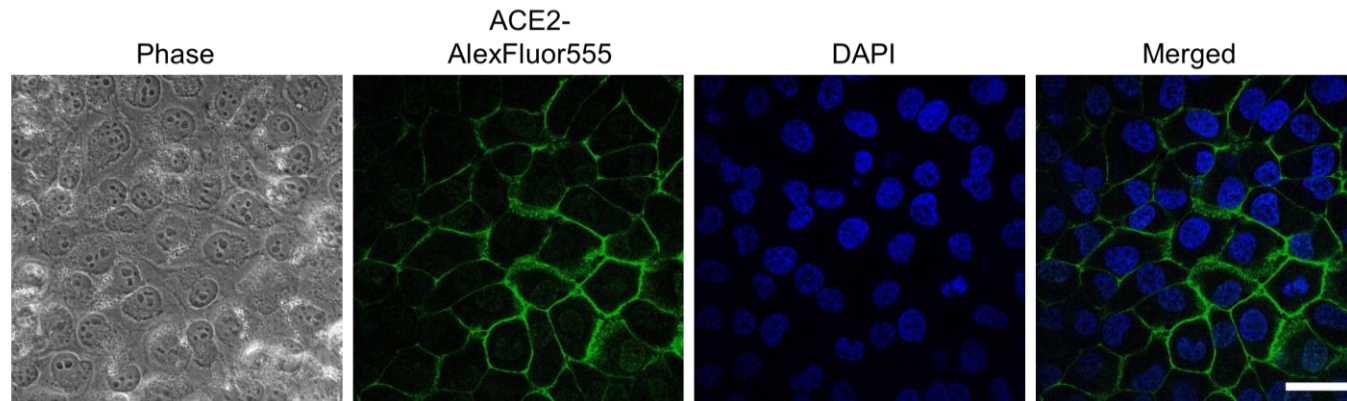
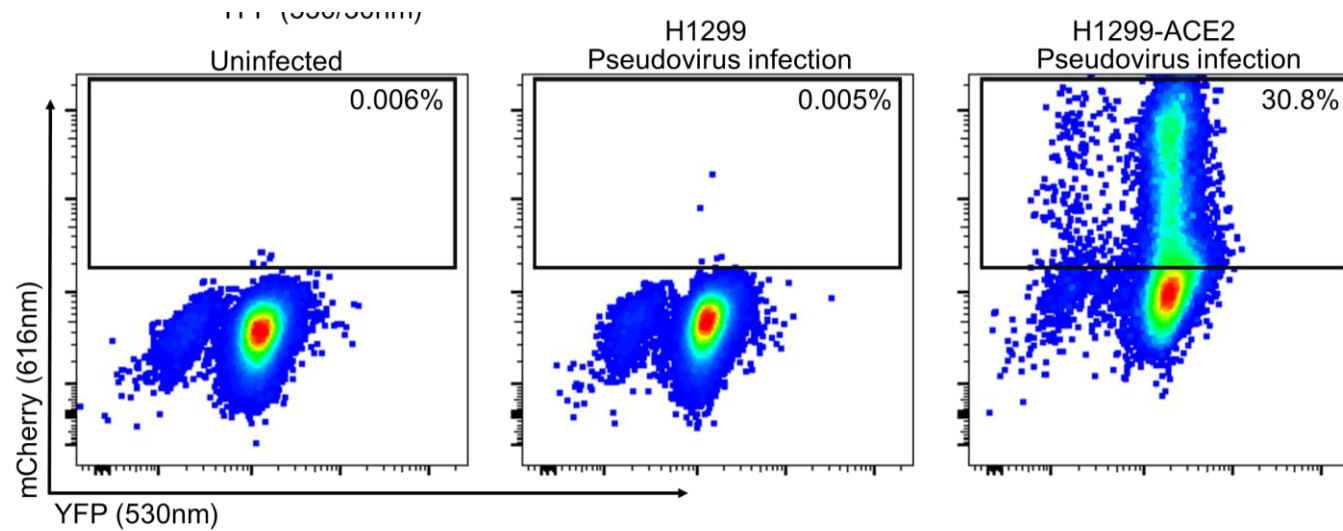
14.12.2021

Alex Sigal

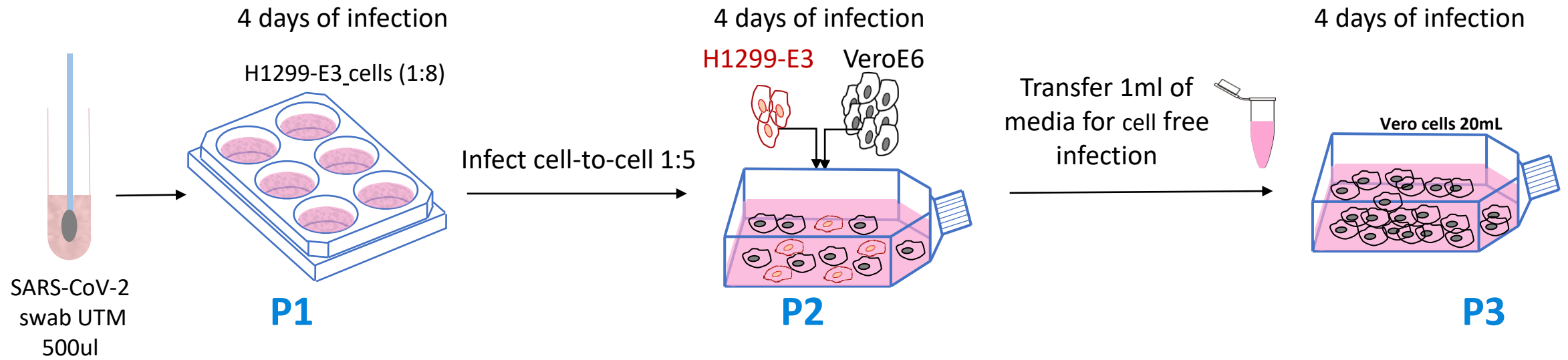
Africa Health Research Institute and University of KwaZulu-Natal



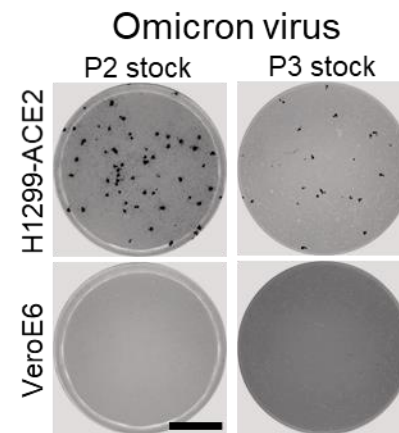
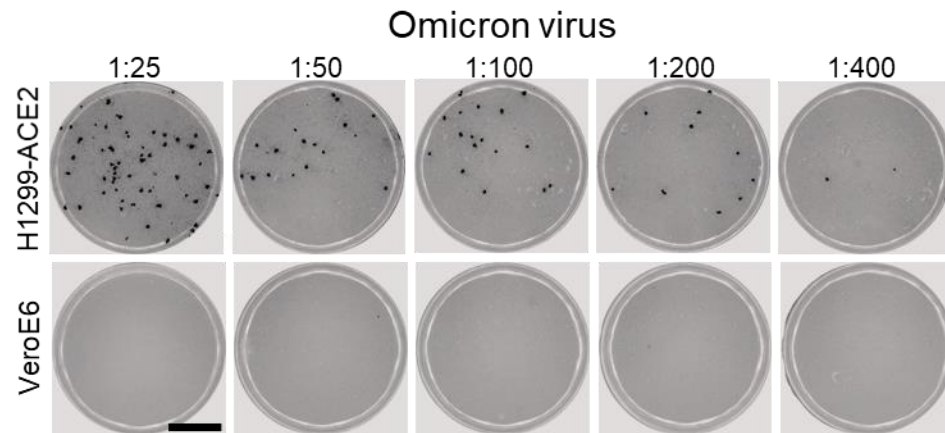
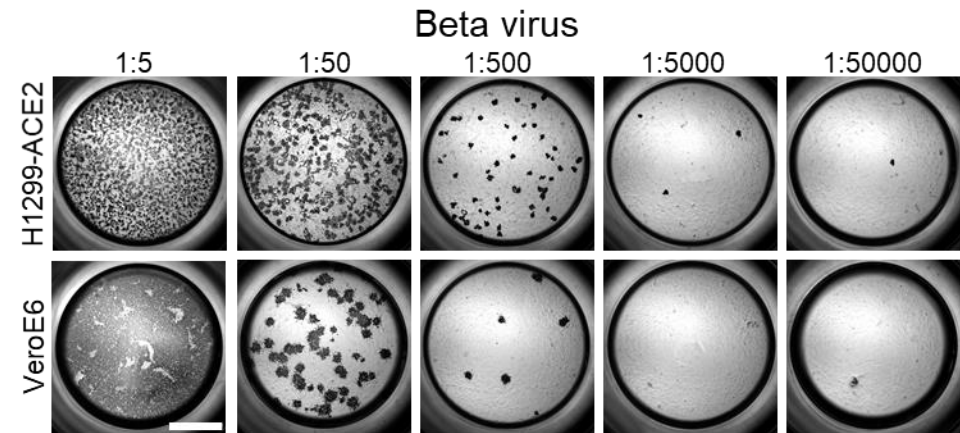
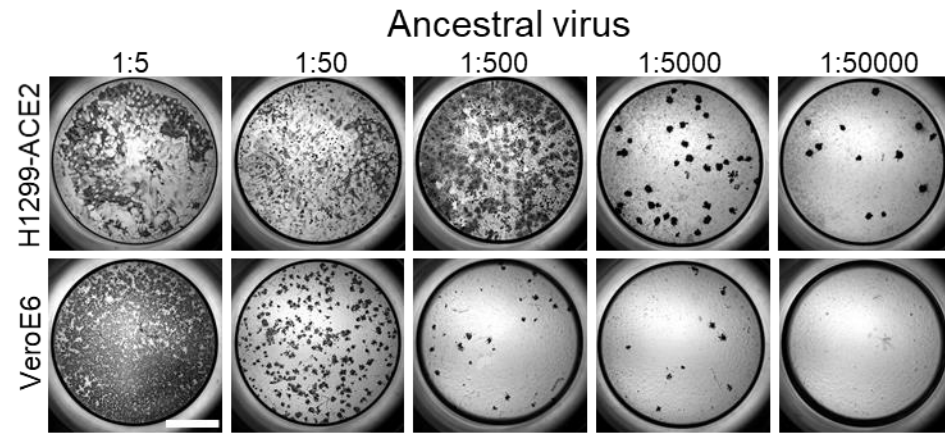
Validation of cell line



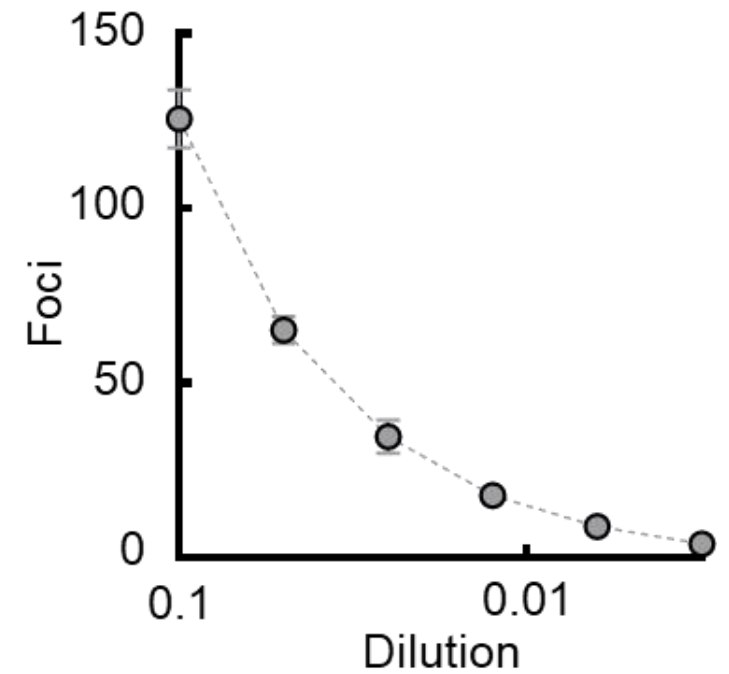
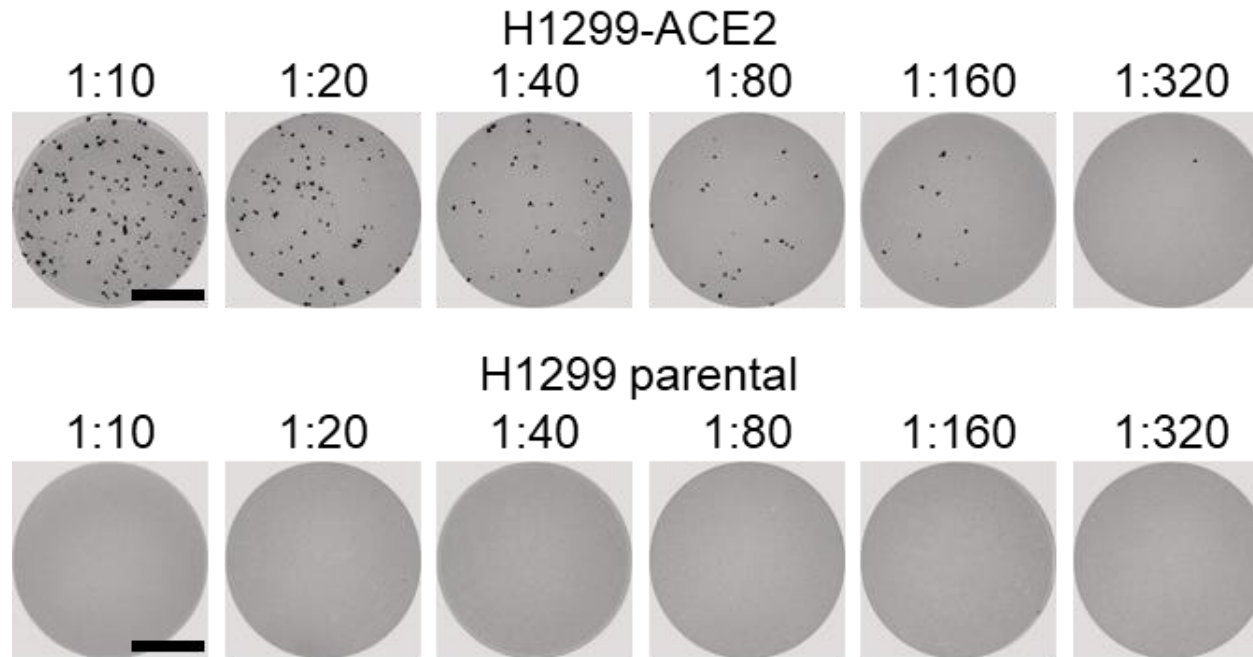
Outgrowth



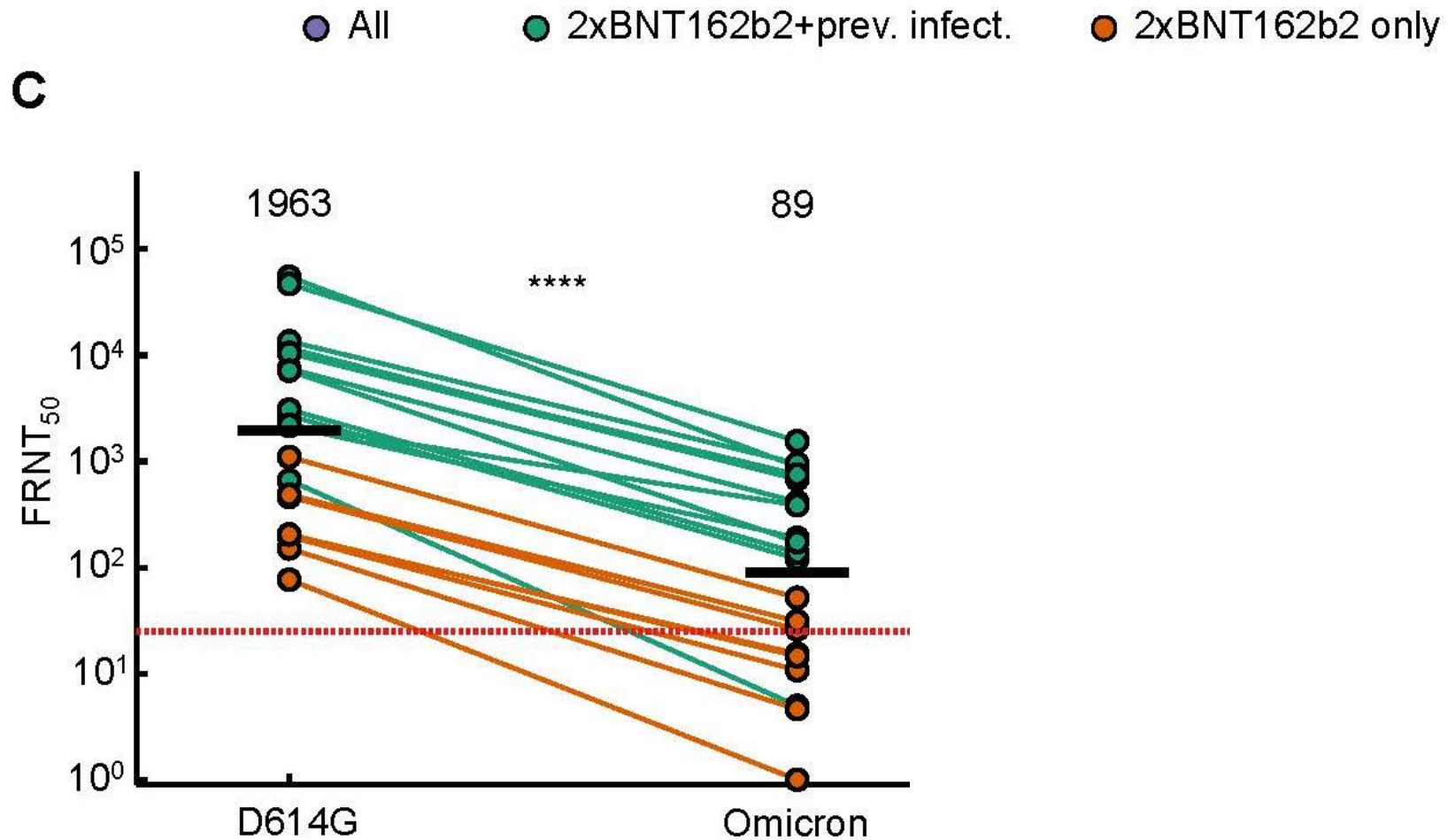
Expansion of Omicron



ACE2 still required for Omicron

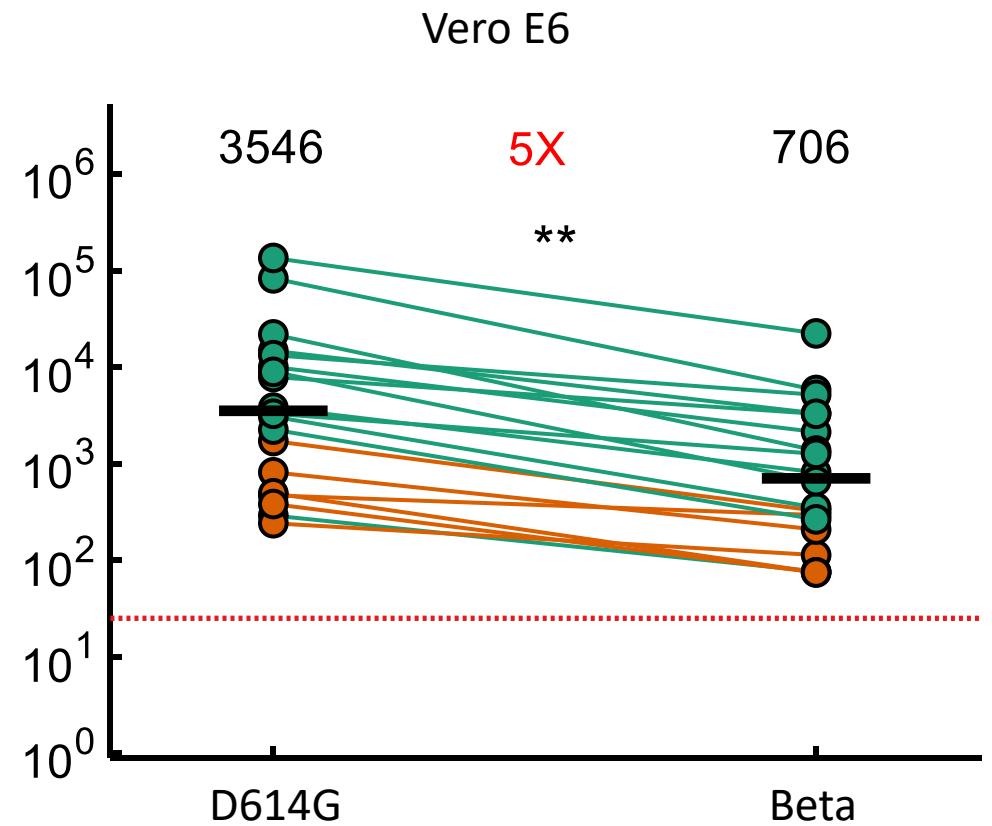
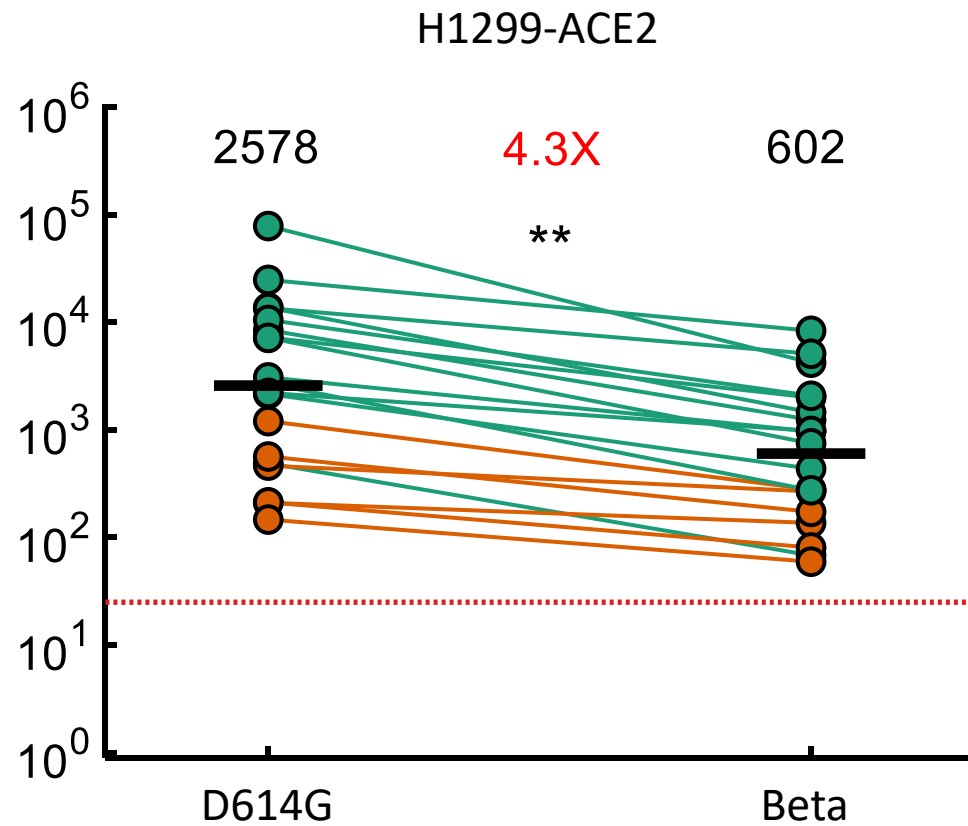


Neutralization of Omicron and estimates of VE



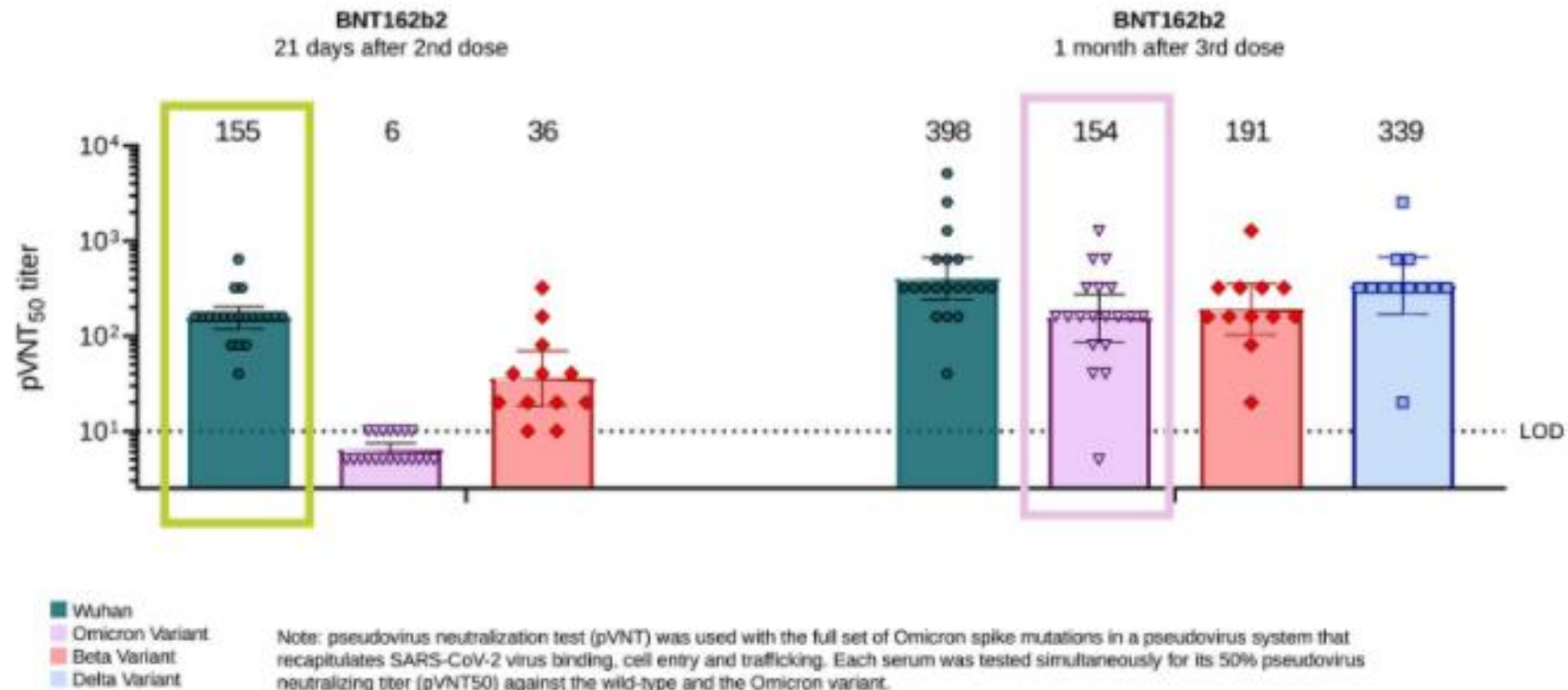
*Note that VE against severe outcomes is much less reliable and validated, because we do not have data to support the model at such low titers against severe outcomes, and also because we do not understand baseline severity with omicron.

Neutralization of Beta in H1299-ACE 2 and Vero-E6



Pfizer-BioNtech Results

Three doses of BNT162b2 neutralize Omicron



Conclusions

- Extensive but incomplete escape of Omicron from Pfizer-BNT162b2 vaccine elicited neutralization
- Numbers game – fold-change in neutralization same between low and high neutralizers but residual neutralization level different
- Pfizer-BNT vaccination is predicted to give reasonable protection from Omicron severe disease but waning not considered

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