

Global Review of Neutralisation Assays against Omicron

Ioannis Sitaras

WHO Consultation on COVID-19 Vaccines

14th of February, 2022

WHO Working Group on SARS-CoV-2 Variants and Neutralisation

- ▶ Tasked to screen, summarise, and report to WHO literature on NT assays using post-vaccination sera against VoCs and Vols.
- ▶ Hundreds of papers screened.
- ▶ Collection and analysis of all available NT data.
 - ▶ Live vs pseudo-viruses
 - ▶ Vaccine platform
 - ▶ Individual vaccines
 - ▶ Vaccine combinations

Neutralisation Data: Global Summary



<https://view-hub.org/resources>

Results of Studies Evaluating the Impact of SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern on COVID-19 Vaccines: An Ongoing Systematic Review

Neutralization Plots

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Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

- ▶ Published papers and pre-prints (no press releases).
- ▶ Studies in which the vaccine-seed strain (or similar) was included in the comparison.
- ▶ Sera collected from vaccinated uninfected individuals (full primary series or booster).
- ▶ Sera collected ≥ 7 days, ≤ 6 month post final dose.
- ▶ Sera from subjects that are not immunocompromised or suffer from conditions known to affect vaccination-induced immunity.
- ▶ Only pseudoviruses that carry the full complement of Spike mutations characteristic of Omicron.

Overview of Vaccines and Dataset

Primary Vaccination Series				
Type of Vaccination	Platform	Vaccine	N Obs	No. of Sera
Homologous	Inactivated	BBIBP-CorV	4	325
		CoronaVac	4	135
	mRNA	mRNA-1273	13	263
		Comirnaty	31	769
	Vector	Vaxzevria	7	204
		Sputnik V	2	26
		Ad26.COV2.S	6	115
Heterologous	Vector + mRNA	Vaxzevria + mRNA-1273	1	11
		Vaxzevria + Comirnaty	1	15
Total			69	1863
Booster				
Homologous	Inactivated	BBIBP-CorV (3 doses)	4	408
		CoronaVac (3 doses)	2	70
	mRNA	mRNA-1273 (3 doses)	7	74
		Comirnaty (3 doses)	19	418
	Protein subunit	Anhui ZL (3 doses)	3	44
	Vector	Sputnik V + Sputnik Light	1	6
		Ad26.COV2.S (2 doses)	1	20
Heterologous	Inactivated + Protein subunit	BBIBP-CorV + Anhui ZL	2	20
	Inactivated + mRNA	CoronaVac + Comirnaty	2	85
	mRNA + mRNA	mRNA-1273 + Comirnaty	1	4
		Comirnaty + mRNA-1273	1	4
	mRNA + Vector	Comirnaty + Ad26.COV2.S	2	61
	Vector + mRNA	Ad26.COV2.S + Comirnaty	1	20
Vector + Protein subunit	Vaxzevria + MVC-COV1901	1	73	
Total			47	1307

Overview of Vaccines and Dataset

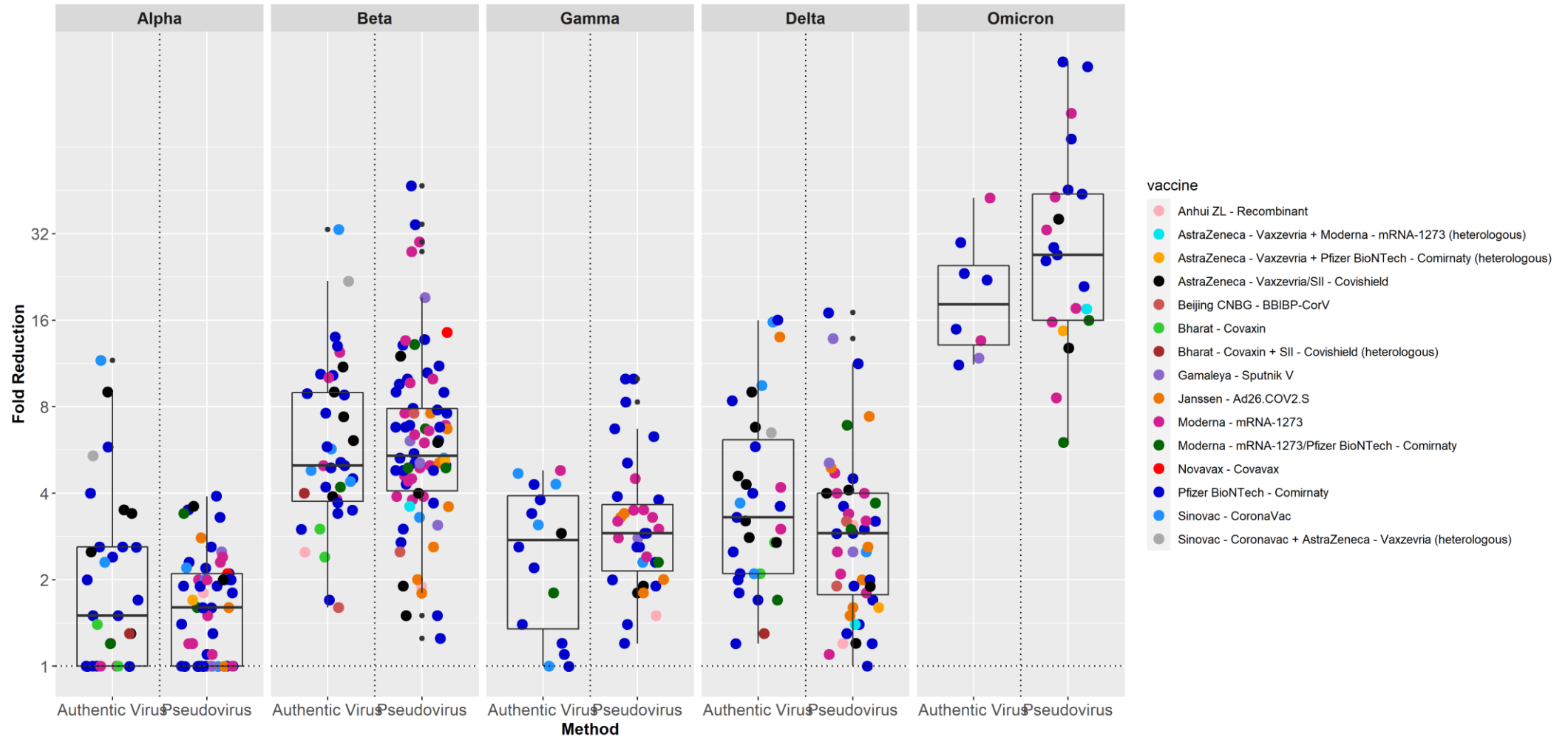
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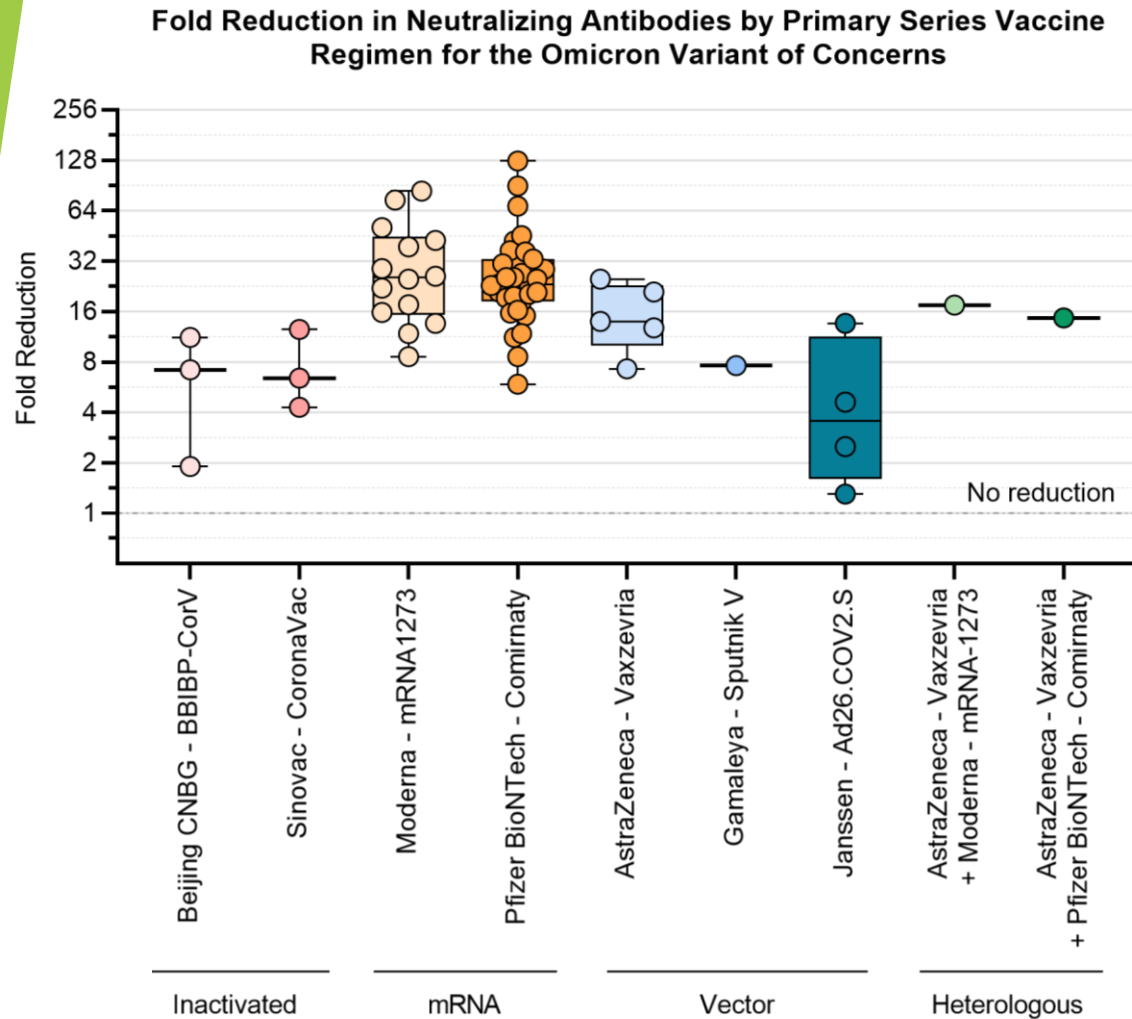
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Live vs Pseudo-viruses

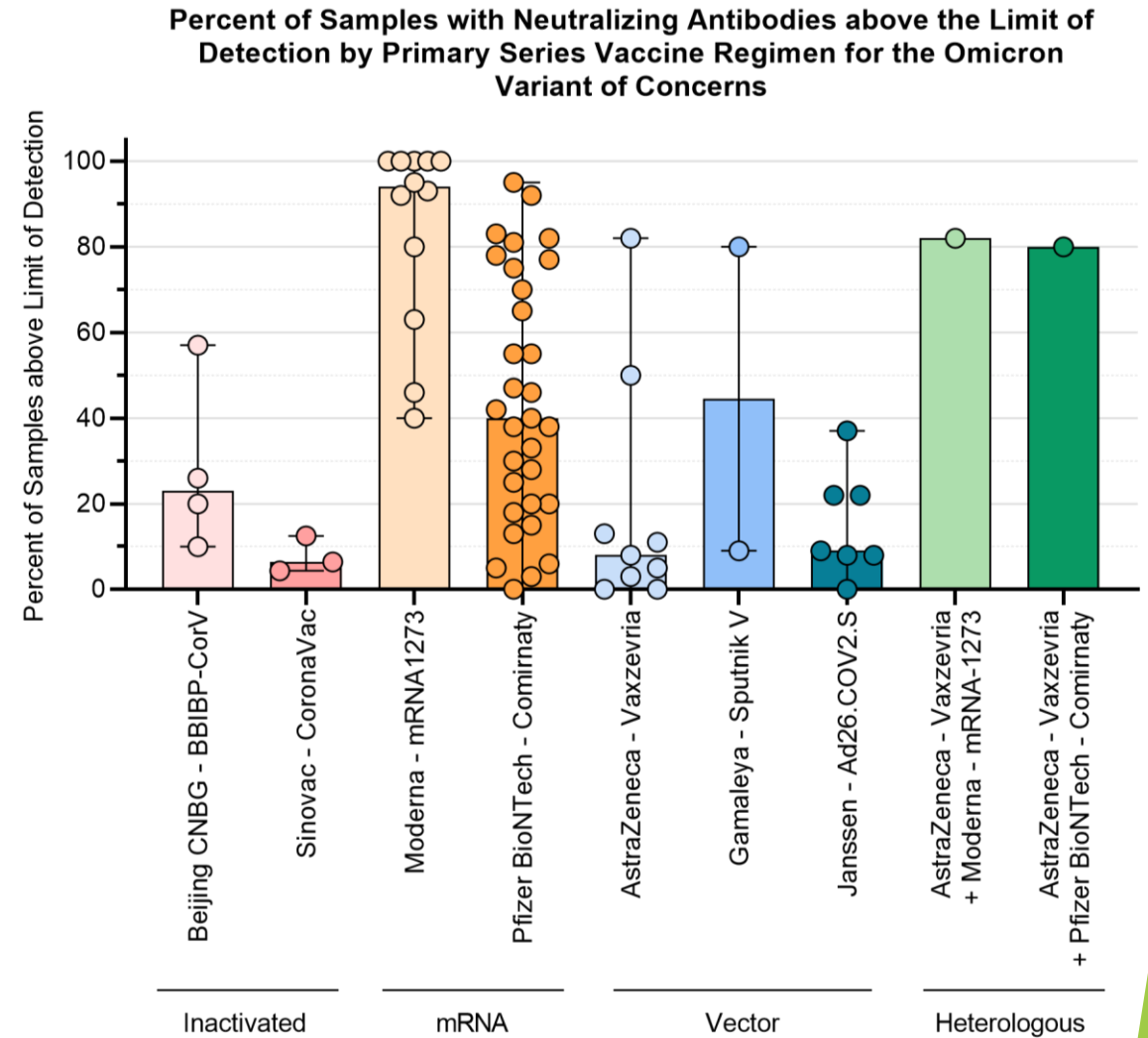
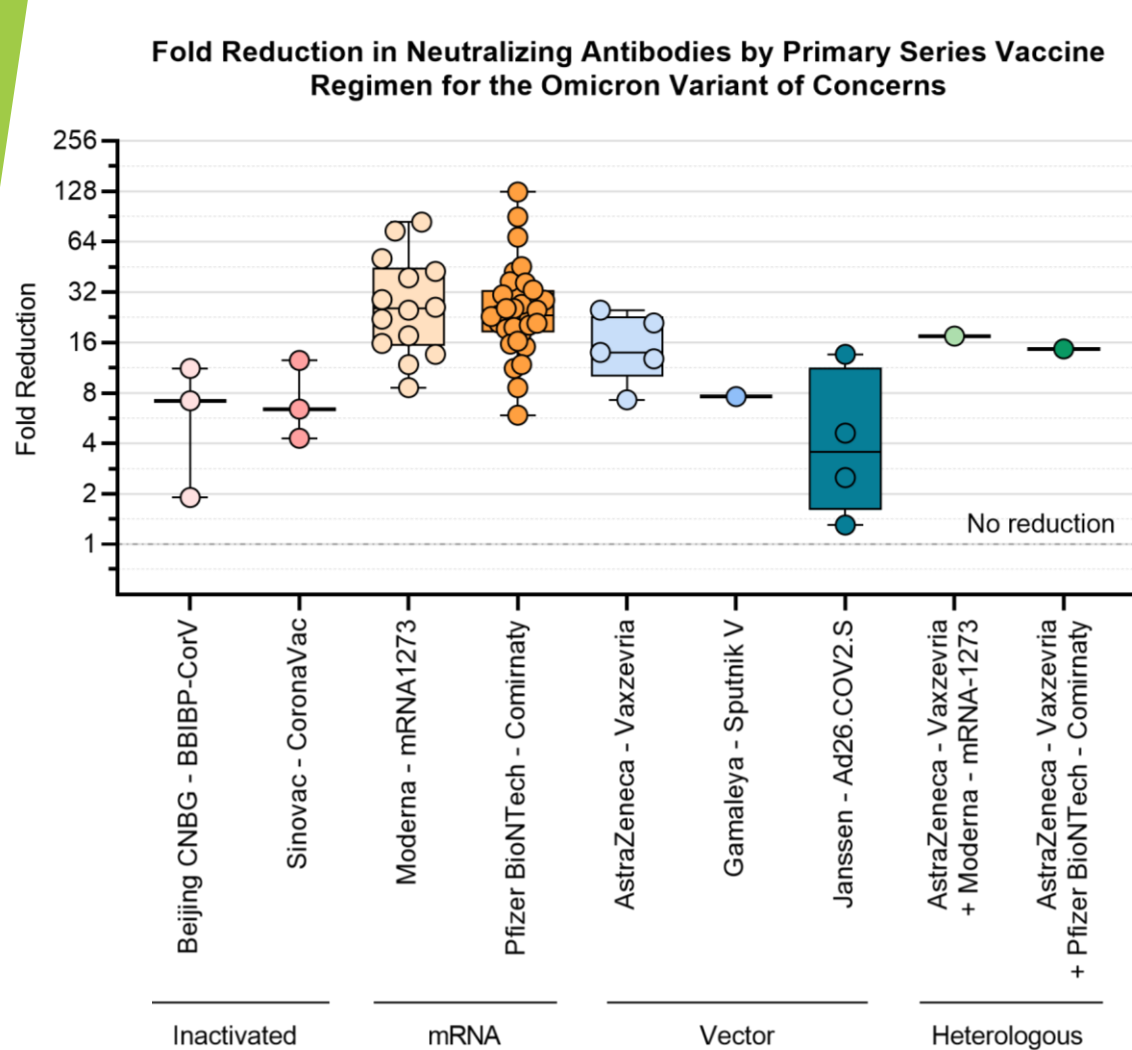
Fold Reduction in NAb by SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern and Vaccine



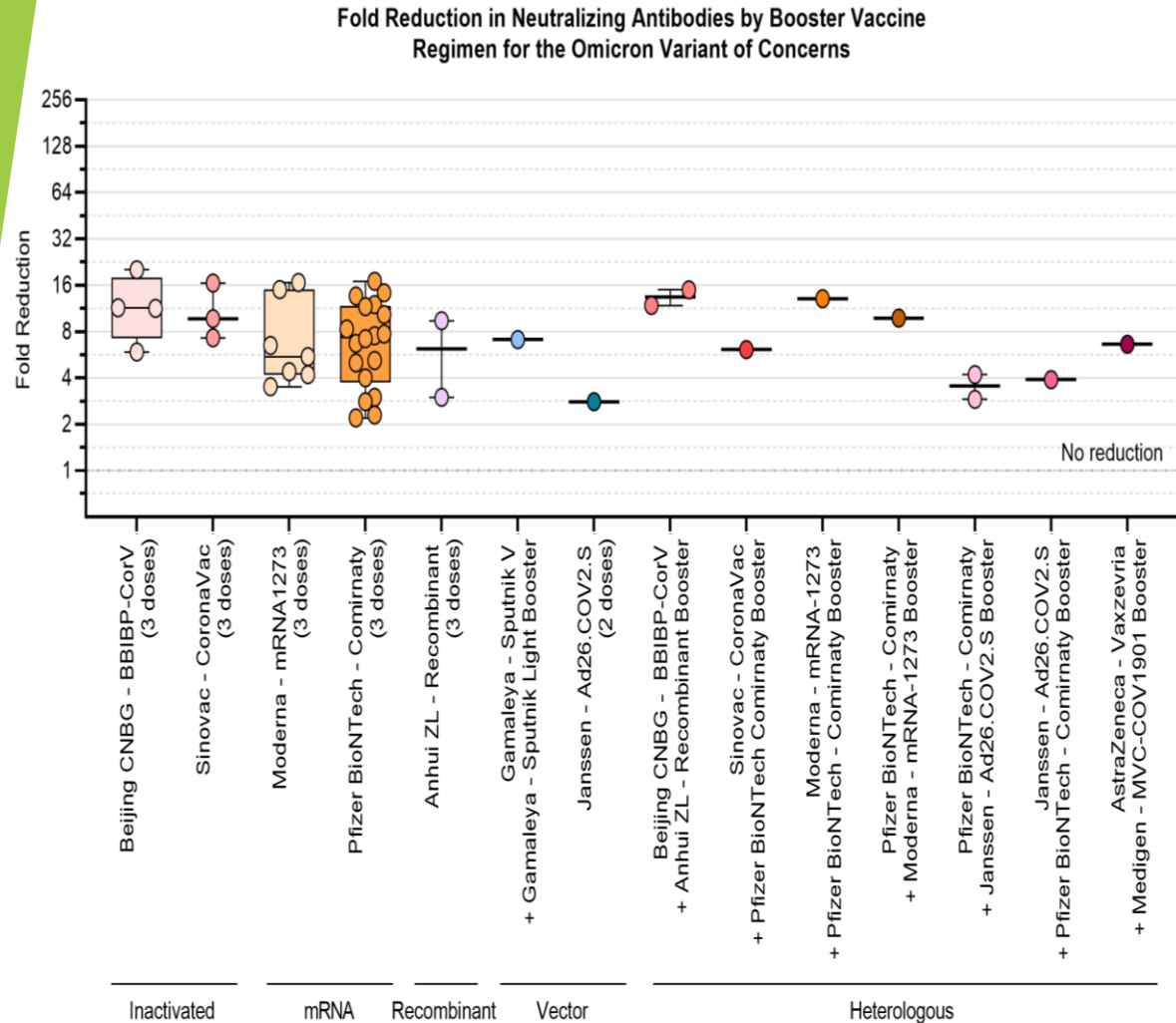
Neutralisation Data: Primary Vaccination Series



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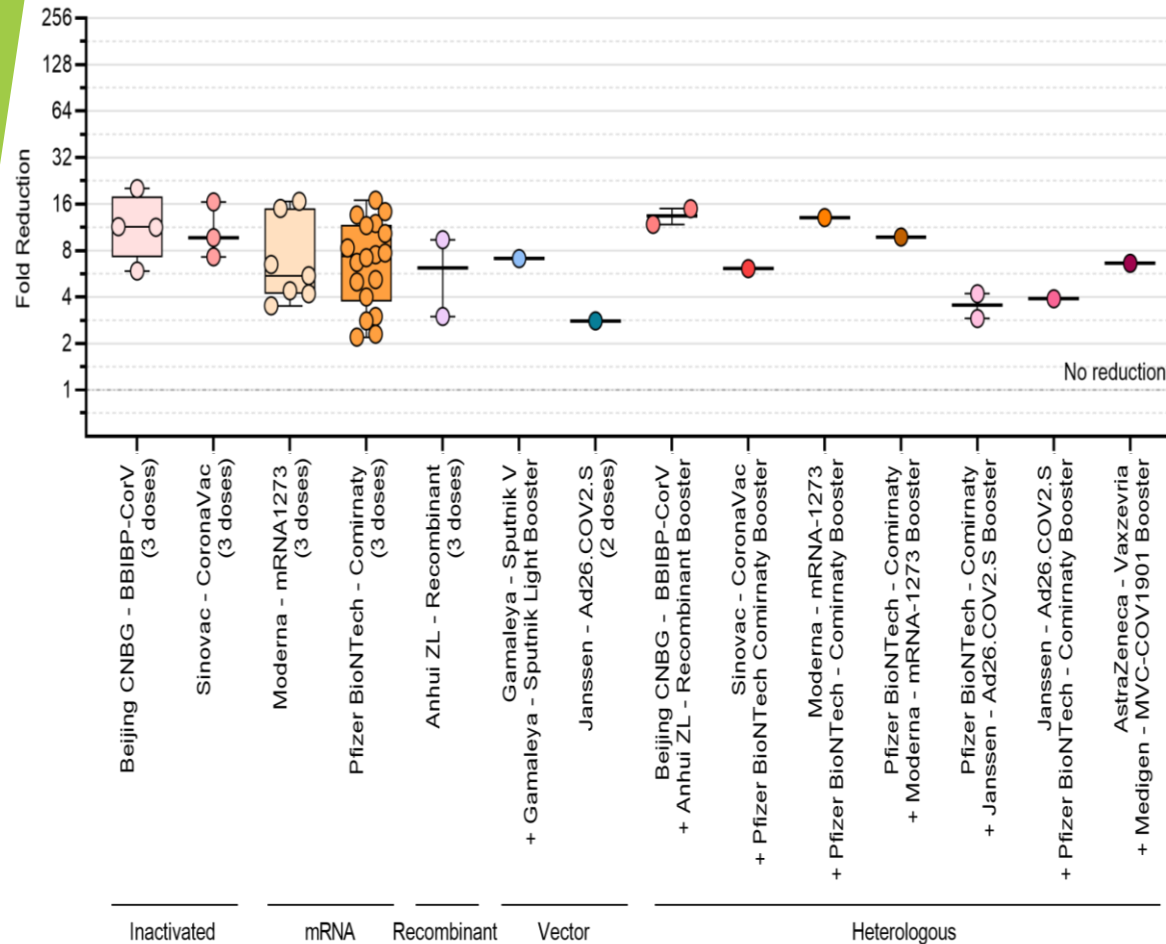


Neutralisation Data: Booster

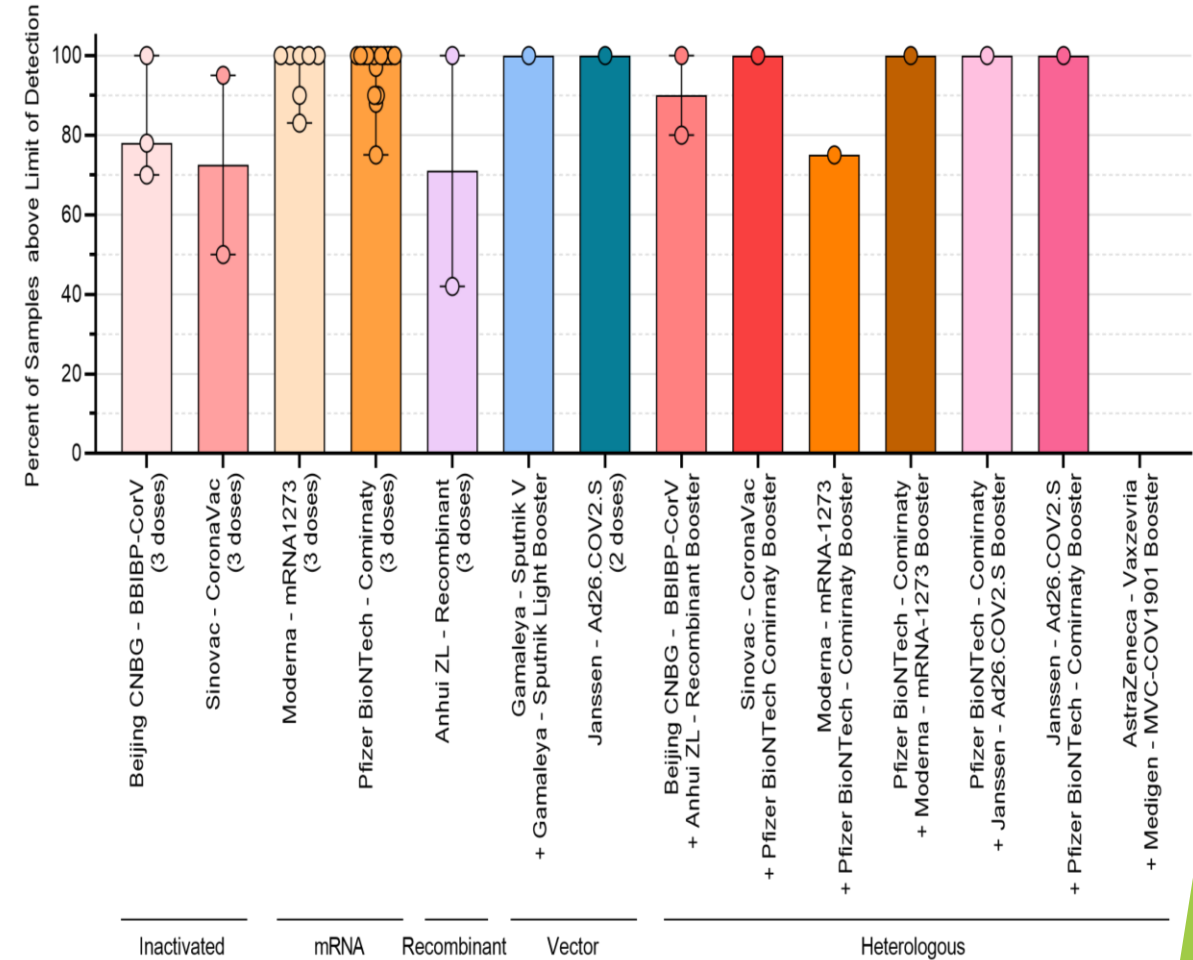


Neutralisation Data: Booster

Fold Reduction in Neutralizing Antibodies by Booster Vaccine Regimen for the Omicron Variant of Concerns



Percent of Samples with Neutralizing Antibodies above the Limit of Detection by Booster Vaccine Regimen for the Omicron Variant of Concerns



Summary of Main Findings

- ▶ Scarce data on many vaccines and vaccine combinations.
- ▶ Pseudoviruses carrying the full complement of Spike mutations are a viable alternative to live viruses.
 - ▶ Increase in contribution.
- ▶ Percentage of responders very important when evaluating fold decrease in NT activity against a variant, as well as measure of vaccine success in eliciting humoral immunity. Should be reported alongside NT data.
- ▶ Post-boost % of responders increases drastically compared to primary series vaccination.
- ▶ Calculating fold decrease in NT activity can be misleading. Sensible when:
 - ▶ NT titres against the vaccine-seed strain are high enough to allow large fold decreases against variants to be measurable. The higher the titres for the vaccine-seed strain, the higher the likelihood for more responders against Omicron.
 - ▶ Percentage of responders against Omicron is high enough to allow accurate calculation of fold decrease.
 - ▶ Immune waning further confounds fold decrease calculations.

Needs and Future Work

- ▶ Need for more data for some vaccines and vaccine combinations.
- ▶ Immune waning must be examined for further vaccine evaluation against Omicron (neutralisation activity over time).
- ▶ Contribution of pre-vaccination or breakthrough infections to immunity against Omicron.
- ▶ Examine if fold decreases should be calculated based on a threshold % of responders.

Acknowledgments



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Minal Patel