



US009950057B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kawaoka et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,950,057 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 24, 2018**

(54) **HIGH TITER RECOMBINANT INFLUENZA VIRUSES WITH ENHANCED REPLICATION IN MDCK OR VERO CELLS OR EGGS**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/332,121**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 15, 2014**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2015/0017205 A1 Jan. 15, 2015

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Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 61/846,460, filed on Jul. 15, 2013.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

A61K 39/145 (2006.01)

C12N 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **A61K 39/145** (2013.01); **C12N 7/00** (2013.01); **C12N 2760/16121** (2013.01); **C12N 2760/16134** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC **C12N 7/00**; **C12N 2760/16134**; **A61K 39/145**; **A61K 39/12**; **C07K 14/005**

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The invention provides a composition useful to prepare high titer influenza viruses, e.g., in the absence of helper virus, which includes internal genes from an influenza virus vaccine strain or isolate, e.g., one that is safe in humans, for instance, one that does not result in significant disease, that confer enhanced growth in cells in culture, such as MDCK cells, or in eggs.

17 Claims, 45 Drawing Sheets

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FIG. 1

PB2

PR8(Cambridge)

AGCGAAAGCAGGTCAATTATATTCAATATGGAAAGAATAAAAGAACTAAGAAATCTAATGTCGCAGTCTCGCACCCGCGAGATA
CTCACAAAAACCCGTTGGACCATAATGGCCATAATCAAGAAGTACACATCAGGAAGACAGGAGAGAAGAACCCAGCACTTAGGATG
AAATGGATGATGGCAATGAAATATCCAATTAAGCAGACAGAGGATAACGGAAATGATTCCTGAGAGAAATGAGCAAGGACAA
ACTTTATGGAGTAAAAATGAATGATGCCGGATCAGACCGAGTGATGGTATCACCTCTGGCTGTGACATGGTGGAAATAGGAATGGA
CCAATGACAAATACAGTTCATTATCCAAAAATCTACAAAACTTATTTGAAAGAGTCGAAAGGCTAAAGCATGGAACTTTGGC
CCTGTCCATTTTGAAGAACCAAGTCAAAATACGTCCGAGAGTTGACATAAAATCCTGGTCATGCAGATCTCAGTGGCCAAAGGAGGA
CAGGATGTAATCATGGAAGTTGTTTTCCCTAACGAAGTGGGAGCCAGGATACTAACATCGGAATCGCAACTAACGATAACCAAA
GAGAAGAAAGAAAGTCCAGGATTGCAAAATTTCTCCTTTGATGGTTGCATACATGTTGGAGAGAGAACTGGTCCGCAAAACG
AGATTCTCCAGTGGCTGGTGGAAACAGCAGTGTGTACATTTGAAGTGTTCATTTGACTCAAGGAACATGCTGGGAACAGATG
TATACTCCAGGAGGGGAAGTGAAGAATGATGATGTTGATCAAAAGCTTGATTATTGCTGCTAGGAACATAGTGAGAAGAGCTGCA
GTATCAGCAGACCCACTAGCATCTTTATTGGAGATGTGCCACAGCACAGATTTGGTGGAAATAGGATGGTAGACATCTTTAAG
CAGAACCCCAACAGAAGAGCAAGCCGTGGATATATGCAAGGCTGCAATGGGACTGAGAATTAGCTCATCCTTCAGTTTTGGTGGGA
TTTACATTTAAGAGAACAGCGGATCATCAGTCAAGAGAGAGGAAGAGGTGCTTACGGGCAATCTTCAAACTTTGAAGATAAGA
GTGCATGAGGGATCTGAAGAGTTTCAAAATGGTTGGGAGAGAGCAACAGCCATACTCAGAAAAGCAACAGGAGATTGATTGAG
CTGTAGTGAAGTGGGAGAGACGAAACAGTTCGTTGCGAAGCAATTTGTGGCCATGGTATTTTCAAGAGGATTTGATGATA
AAAGCAGTTAGAGGTGATCTGAATTTCTGCAATAGGGCGAATCAGCGACTGAATCCTATGCATCACTTTTAAAGACATTTTCAG
AAGGATGCGAAAGTGTCTTTTCAAAATTTGGGAGTGTGAACCTATCGACAATGTGATGGGAATGATTGGGATATTGGCCGACATG
ACTCCAAGCATCGAGATGTCAATGAGAGGAGTGAGAATCAGCAAAATGGGTGTAGATGAGTACTCCAGCACGAGAGGGTAGTG
GTGAGCATTTGACCGGTTCTTGAGAGTCAGGGACCAACAGGAAATGTACTACTGTCTCCGAGGAGGTGAGTGAACACAGGGGA
ACAGAGAACTGACAAATACTTACTCATCTGATGATGTGGGAGATTAAATGGTCTGAATCAGTGTGGTCAATACCTATCAA
TGTGATCATCAGAACTGGGAACTGTTAAATTCAGTGGTCCCAAGAACCTACAATGCTATACAATAAAATGGAAATTTGAACCA
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GGGACATTTGATACCCGACAGATAATAAACTTCTTCCCTTCGACGCCCTCCACCAAGCAAGTAGAATGCAAGTCTCTCTCA
TTTACTGTGAATGTGAGGGGATCAGGAATGAGAATCTTGAAGGGGCAATTCCTGTATTCAACTACAACAGGCGCACGAAG
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GAGAAGGCTAATGTCTAATTTGGGCAAGGAGACGTGGTGTGGTGAATGAAGCAAGAAACGGGACTCTAGCATACTTACTGACAGC
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(SEQ ID NO: 11)

PB1

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TACTCAGAAAAGGGAAGATGGACAACAAACACCGAACTGGAGACCCGCAACTCAACCCGATTTGATGGGCCACTCCGAGAGAC
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AACTCGTGTATTGAAACGATGGAGGTTGTTGAGCAAAACAGAGTAGACAAGCTGACACAAGGCCGACAGACCTATGACTGGA
TTAAATAGAAAACAGCCTGCTGCAACAGCATTGGCCAAACAAATAGAAAGTGTTCAGATCAAAATGGCCCTCACGGCCATGAGTCA
GGAAGGCTCATAGACTTCTTAAGGATGTAATGGAGTCAATGAAAAAGAGAAATGGGGATCAAACTCAATTTTTCAGAGAAAG
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TATCGTTATGGGTTTGTGCAATTTCAAGTGGAGCTTCCAGTTTTGGGGTGTCTGGGATCAACGAGTCAGCGGACATGAGT
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AAAGATTACAGGTACACGTACCGATGCCATAGAGGTGACACACAAATACAAACCCGAAGATCATTTGAAATAAAGAAATGTTGG
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ATTGAATCAATGAACCAATGAGTGTGATGCCAGCACATGGTCCAGCAAAACATGGAGTATGATGCTGTGCAACAAACAC
TCCTGGATCCCCAAAAGAAATCGATCCATCTTGAATACAAGTCAAGAGGAGTACTTGAAGATGAACAAATGTACCAAAAGGTGC
TGCAATTTTATTTGAAAAATCTTCCAGCAGTTTATACAGAAAGACAGTGGGATATCCAGTATGGTGGAGGCTATGGTTTCC
AGAGCCCGAATTTGATGCACGAGTGAATTCGAATCTGGAAGGATAAAGAAAGAGATTCACTGAGATCATGAAGATCTGTTCC
ACCATTGAAGAGCTCAGACGGCAAAATAGTGAATTTAGCTTGTCTTATGAAAAATGCCTTGTTCCTACT

(SEQ ID NO: 10)

FIG. 1 (Continued)

PR8 (Cambridge)

PA

AGCGAAAGCAGGTACTGATTCAAAATGGAAGATTTGTGCGACAATGCTTCAATCCGATGATTGTCGAGCTTGC6GAAAAACA
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CAAGTCTCCCGCCGAACITCTCCAGCCTTGAATAATTTAGAGCCTATGTGGATGGATTGGAACCGAACCGGCTACATTGAGGGC
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TGAGGACTTTATTTAGCAAAAGTCGGTATTTAACAGCTTGTATGCATCTCCACAACTAGAAGGATTTTCAGCTGAATCAAGAAAA
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TGCTAATTAATGATCCTCGGTTTGTCTAATGCTTCTTGGTTCAACTCTTCTTACACATGCATTGAGTTAGTTGTGGCAG
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(SEQ ID NO 12)

NP

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GGAGTCTTCGAGCTCTCGGACGAAAAGGCGAGCGCCGATCGTGCCTTCTTGTGACATGAGTAATGAAGGATCTTATTTCTT
GGAGACAATGCAAGGAGTACGACAATTAAGAAAAATACCTTGTCTTACT

(SEQ ID NO 13)

M

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AAGACCAATCTCTGACTTCAAGGGGATTTAGGATTTGTGTTCAAGCTCAGCGTCCCGATGAGCGAGGACTGCAAGC
TAGACGCTTTGTCCAAATGCCCTTAATGGGAACGGGGATCCAAATAACATGGACAAAGCAGTTAACTGTATAGGAAGCTCAA
GAGGGAGATAACATTTCCATGGGGCCAAAGAAATCTCACTCAGTTATTTCTGCTGGTGCATTTGCCAGTTGTATGGGCTCATATA
CAACAGGATGGGGGCTGTGACCACTGAAGTGGCATTTGGCCTGGTATGTGCAACCTGTGAACAGATTGCTGACTCCAGCATCG

FIG. 1 (Continued)

PR8(Cambridge)

GTCTCATAGGCAAATGGTGACAACAACCAACCCACTAATCAGACATGAGAACAGAATGGTTTTAGCCAGCACTACAGCTAAGGC
TATGGAGCAAATGGCTGGATCGAGTGAGCAAGCAGCAGAGGCCATGGAGGTTGCTAGTCAGGCTAGGCAAATGGTGCAAGCGAT
GAGAACCATTGGGACTCATCCTAGCTCCAGTGCTGGTCTGAAAAATGATCTTCTTGAAAAATTTGCAGGCCTATCAGAAACGAAT
GGGGGTGCAGATGCAACGGTTCAAGTGATCCTCTCGCTATTGCCGCAAATATCATTGGGATCTTGCACTTGATATTGTGGATTCT
TTGATCGTCTTTTTTCAAATGCATTACCGTCGCTTTAAATACGGACTGAAAGGAGGGCCTCTACGGGAAGGAGTGCCAAAGT
CTATGAGGGAAGAATATCGAAAGGAACAGCAGAGTGCTGTGGATGCTGACGATGGTCATTTTGTGAGCATAGAGCTGGAGTAAA
AAACTACCTTGTCTTCTACT

SEQ ID NO: 14

NS

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GCACTCTTGGTCTGGACATCGAGACAGCCACACGTGCTGGAAAGCAGATAGTGGAGCGGATTCTGAAAGAAAGATCCGATGAGG
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TGCTCATACCCAAAGCAGAAAGTGGCAGGCCCTCTTTGTATCAGAATGGACCAGGCGATCATGGATAAAACATCATACTGAAAG
CGAACTTCAGTGTGATTTTGAACGGCTGGAGACTCTAATATTGCTAAGGGCTTTCACCGAAGAGGGAGCAATTGTTGGCGAAA
TTTCACCATTTGCCCTTCTCTCCAGGACATACTGCTGAGGATGTCAAAAATGCAGTTGGAGTCTCATCGGAGGACTTGAATGGA
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CAAAACAGAAACGAGAAATGGCGGGAACAATTAGGTCAGAAGTTTGAAGAAATAAGATGGTTGATTGAAGAAGTGAGACACAAA
CTGAAGGTAAACAGAGAATAGTTTTGAGCAAATAACATTTATGCAAGCCTTACATCTATTGCTTGAAGTGGAGCAAGAGATAAGA
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SEQ ID NO: 15

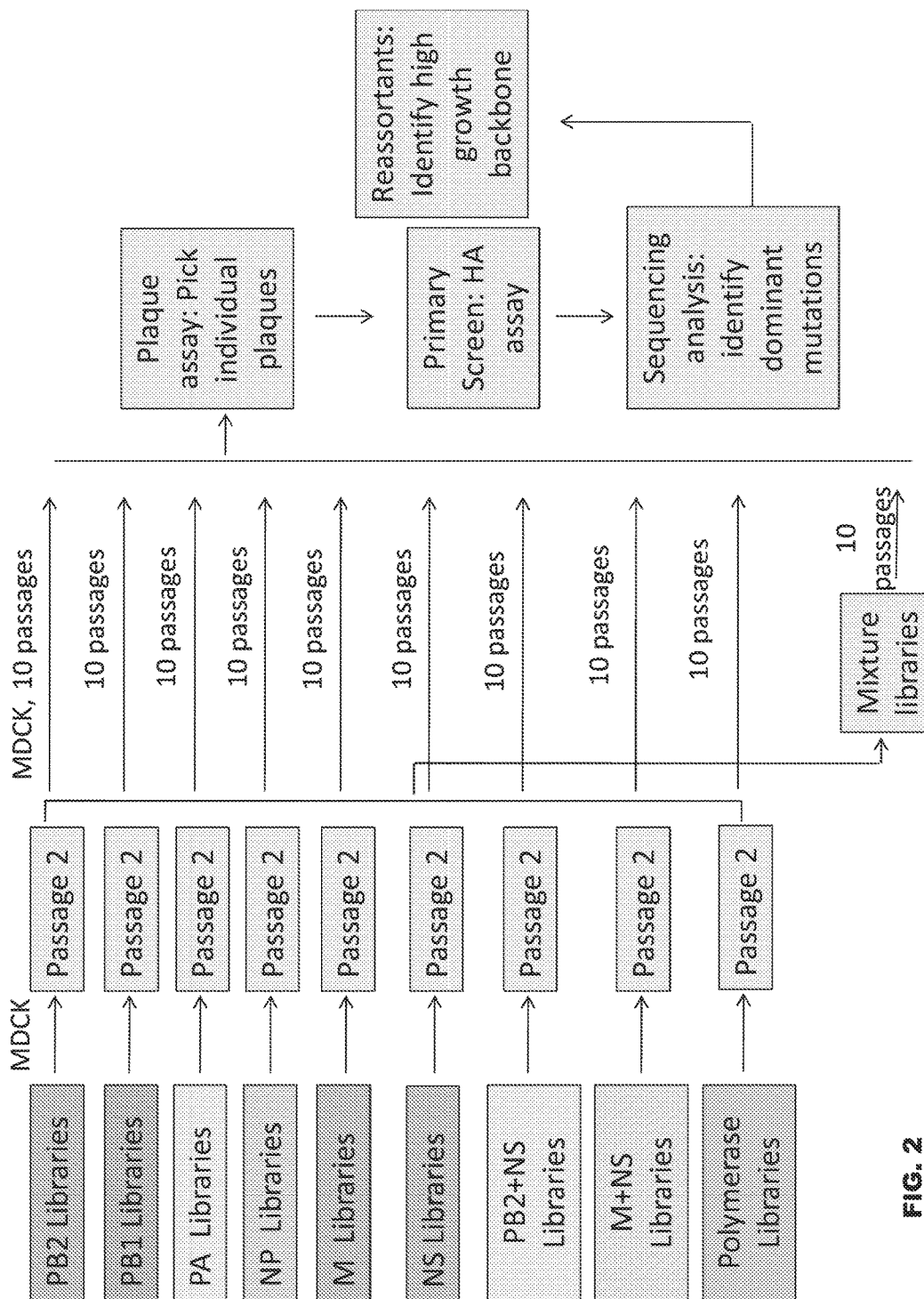


FIG. 2

Figure 3 Summary of HA assay of 1434 individual clones

Groups	Numbers of clone	Fold change	%
WT HA titer = 2^7	-	-	-
HA titer = $2^{>9-9.5}$	8	>4	0.6%
HA titer = $2^{>8.5-9}$	23	>2.8 - 4	1.6%
HA titer = $2^{7-8.5}$	748	1 - 2.8	52.2%
HA titer < 2^7	655	<1	45.6%
Total	1434	-	100%

Figure 4 Recombinant viruses generated from dominant mutations

Viruses	Gene backbone								Virus stock titer	
	HA	NA	PB2	PB1	PA	NP	M	NS		Pfu/ml
WT			PR8-wt	PR8-wt	PR8-wt	PR8-wt	PR8-wt	PR8-wt	2	3.0E+07
1			M202L F323L	M507V V644A		I116L		K55E	9~9.5	2.0E+08
2			M202L F323L	Q247H	R401K			T49A	9	1.0E+08
3	Indo/NC /09 delHA	Indo/NC /09 NA	I504V	M507V V644A	I550L	R74K N417D		K55E	8~8.5	5.7E+07
4			I505V	E112G	I550L	R74K		S161T	9	1.6E+08
5			M202L F323L	E112G				S161T	8.5	1.3E+08
6			M66R	M40I G180W		R74K		S161T	8~8.5	2.3E+07

Figure 5B PB1 Mutants

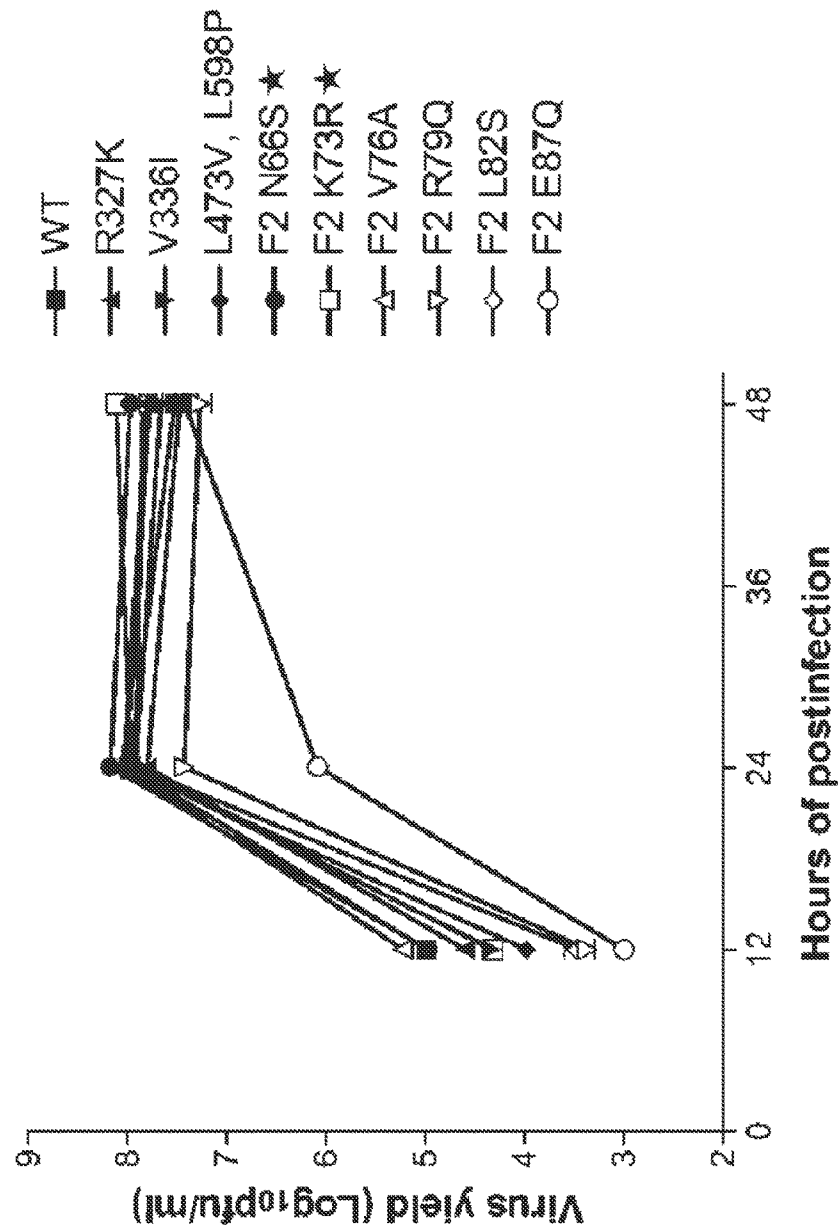
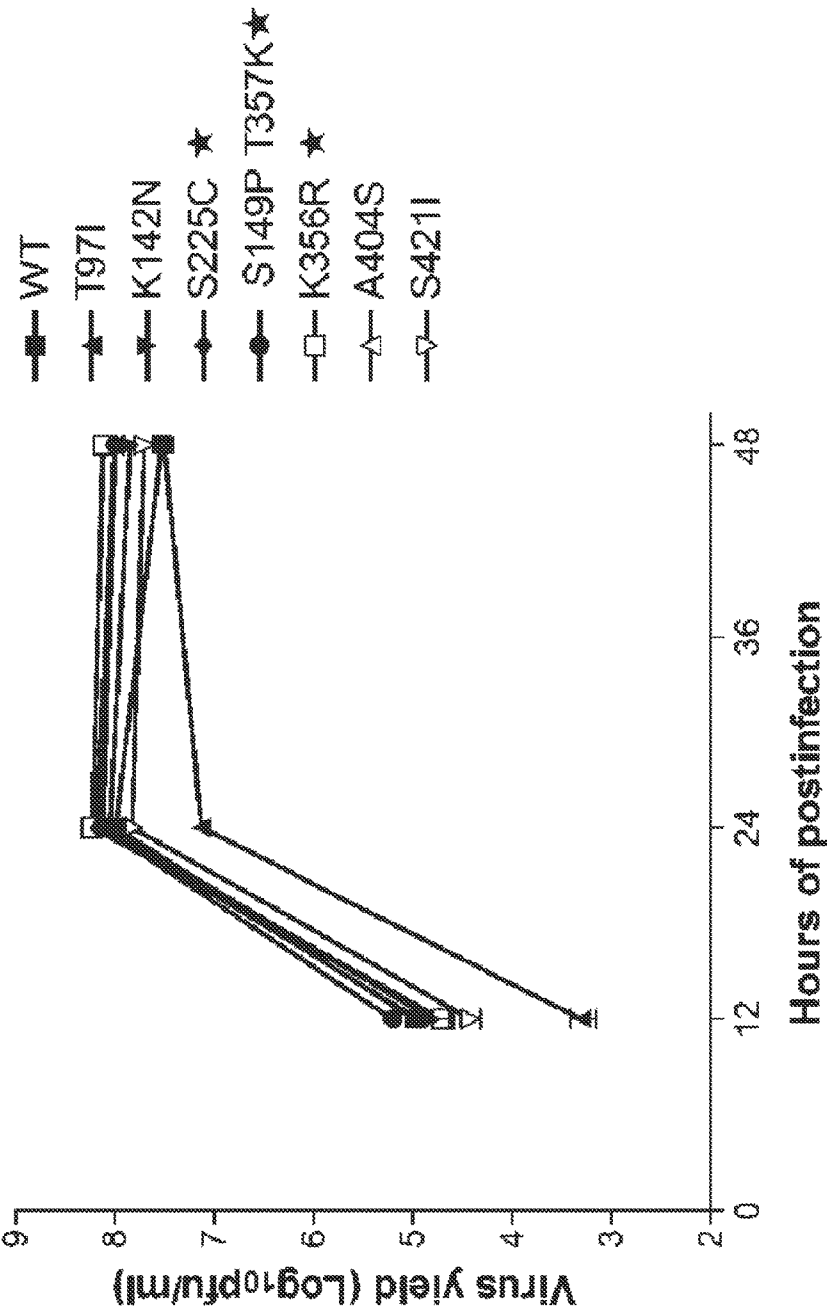


Figure 5C PA Mutants



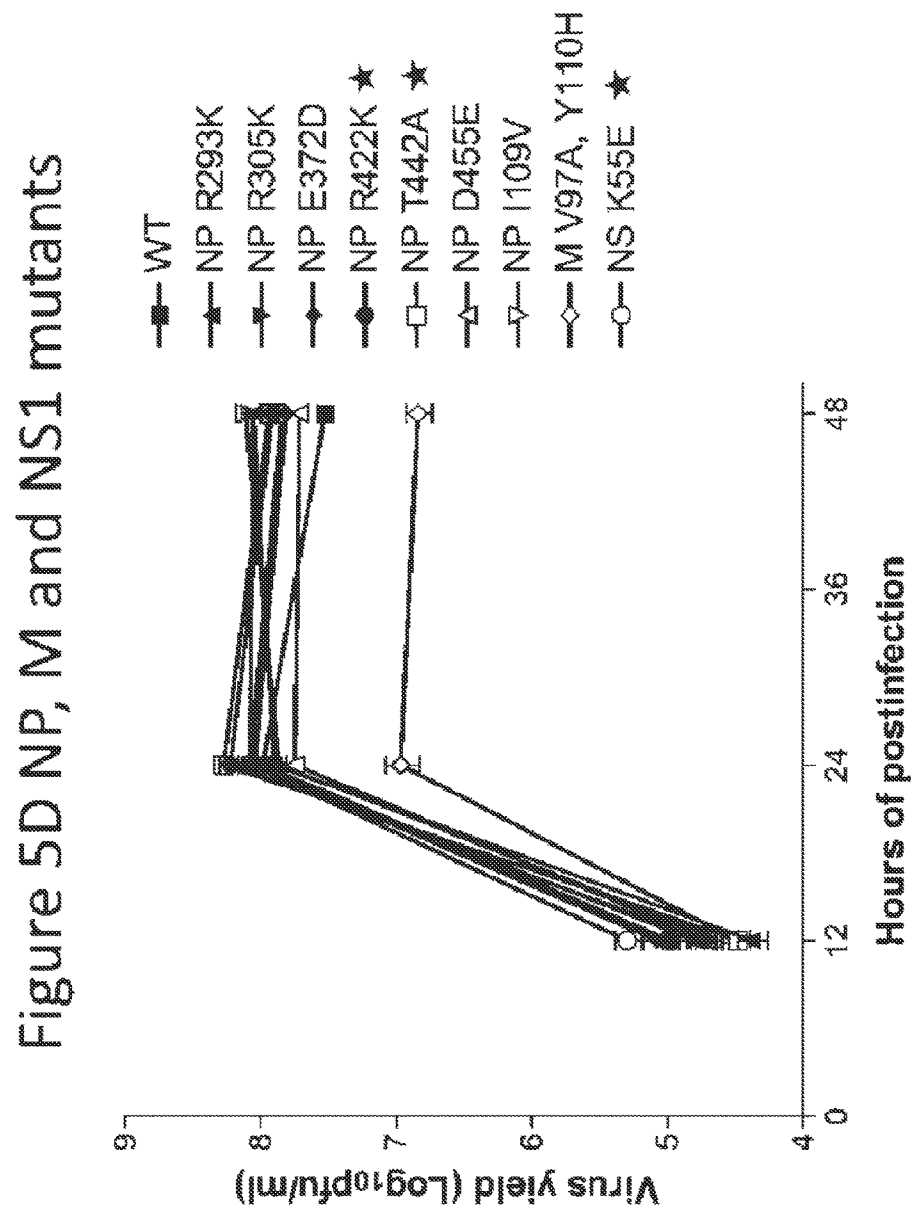


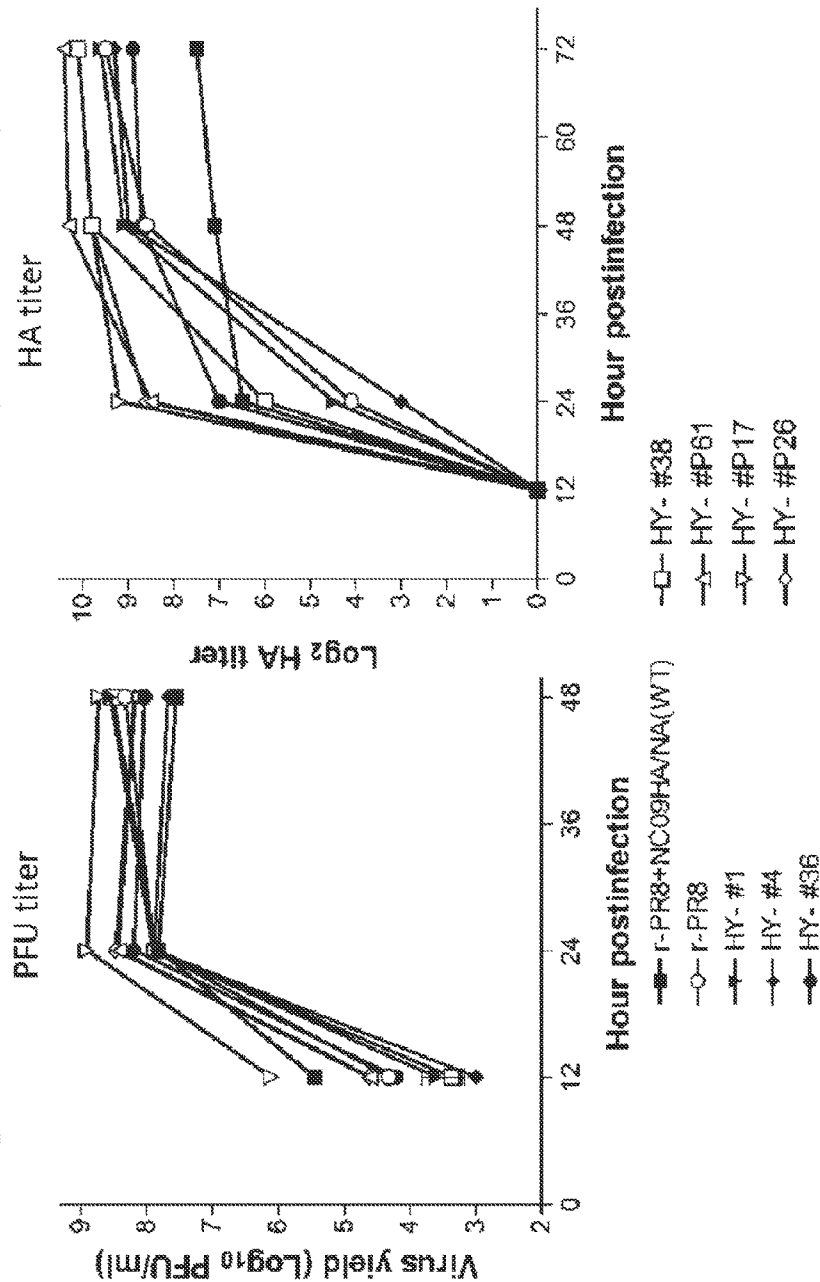
Figure 6 Confirmed high replicative mutations

Gene	Screened from viruses libraries	Described in literature
PB2	<u>M202L F323L, I504V, M66R</u>	A44S, E158G, E158A, D236N, D256G, <u>R368K, E391Q, I504V, Q591K, V613T, A661T, D701N, D701N S714R</u>
PB1	M507V V644A, <u>V644A, R54I, Q247H, E112G, M40I G180W, I667T M714T</u>	R327K, V336I, L473V L598P
PB1 F2	-	<u>N66S, K73R, V76A, R79Q, L82S, E87Q</u>
PA	F105C, R401K	T97I, K142N, <u>S225C, S149PP T357K, K356R, A404S, S421I</u>
NP	R293M, <u>I116L, N224I, R74K, R74K N417D,</u>	R293K, R305K, E372D, <u>R422K, T442A, D455E, I109V, N101G, N319K</u>
M	P90S	<u>V97A, Y100H, V97A Y100H</u>
NS	A30P, T49A, R140Q, <u>S161T, A223E</u>	<u>K55E</u>

Figure 7A Recombinant viruses generated by
RGS

Virus #	Gene backbone								Virus stock titer	
	HA	NA	PB2	PB1	PA	NP	M	NS	2 ⁿ	Pfu/ml
wt			wt	wt	wt	wt	wt	wt	7	3.0E+07
1			M202L F323L	M507V V644A		I116L		K55E	9~9.5	2.0E+08
4			M202L F323L	M507V V644A	K356R	T442A	V97A Y100H	K55E	10~10.5	1.6E+08
36			I504V	E112G	I550L	I112L	Y100H	R140Q	9.5	1.3E+08
38			M202L F323L	M507V V644A		I116L	Y100H	K55E	10~10.5	2.3E+08
HY-#17			I504V	E112G	S225C	R74K N417D	V97A Y100H	K55E	9.5~10	5.8E+08
HY-#61			M202L F323L	Q247H	K142N	R74K	V97A Y100H	K55E	10~10.5	2.0E+08
HY-#26			M202L F323L	M40L G180W	S225C	R422K	V97A Y100H	K55E	10	3.0E+08

Figure 7B Growth characteristics (MOI=0.001)



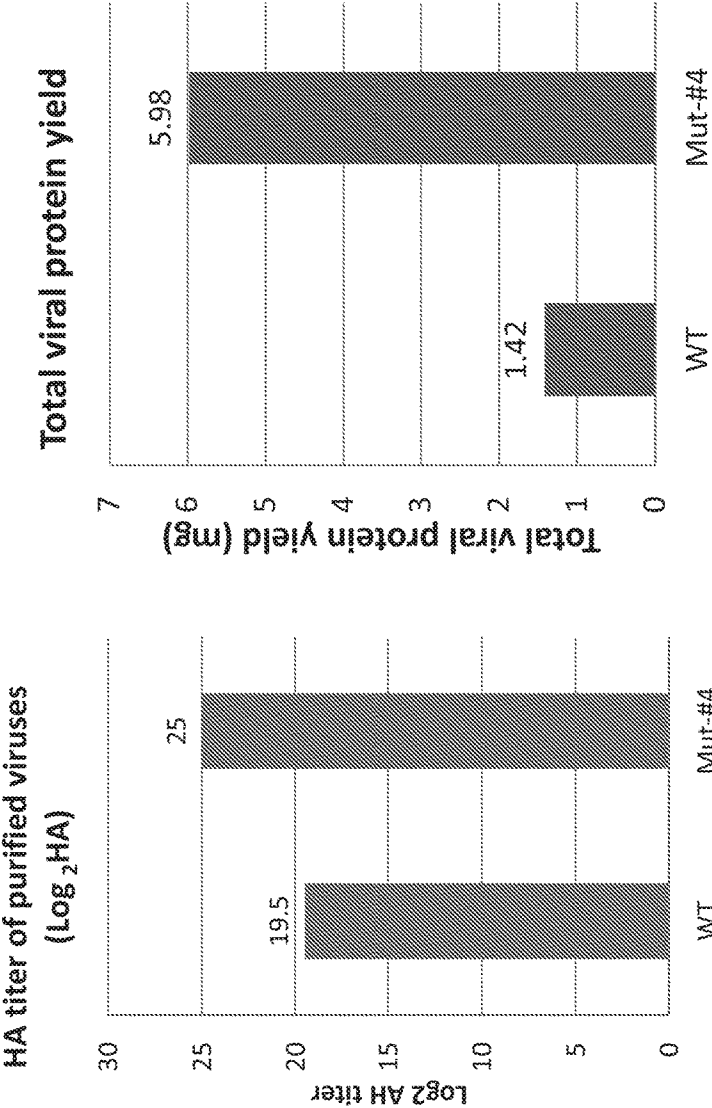
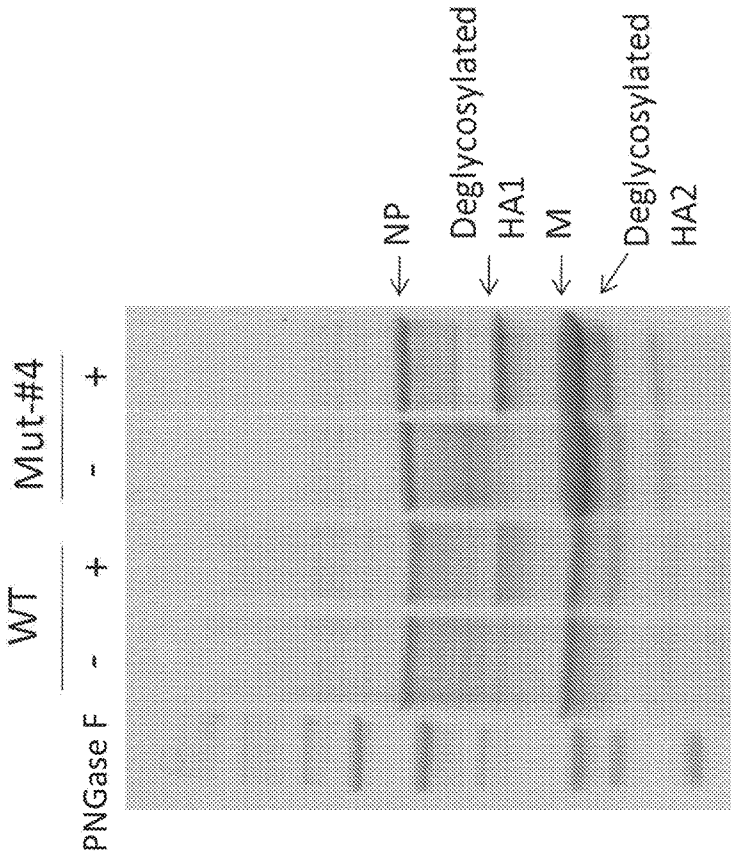


FIG. 8A
Total viral protein yield: 4.2 fold

FIG. 8B

Figure 8C SDS-PAGE analysis



Mutant virus generates much more M1 and HA1 proteins than wild type.

Figure 9A Wild type VS. mutant

#	Gene backbone								Virus stock titer	
	HA	NA	PB2	PB1	PA	NP	M	NS	HA titer (2 ⁿ)	Pfu/ml
WT	Indo/NC/ 09 delHA	Indo/NC /09 NA	PR8- wt	PR8- wt	PR8- wt	PR8- wt	PR8- wt	PR8- wt	7	3.0E+07
4			M202L F323L	M507V V644A	K356R	T442A	V97A Y100H	K55E	10~10.5	1.6E+08

Figure 9B Growth kinetics (MOI=0.001)

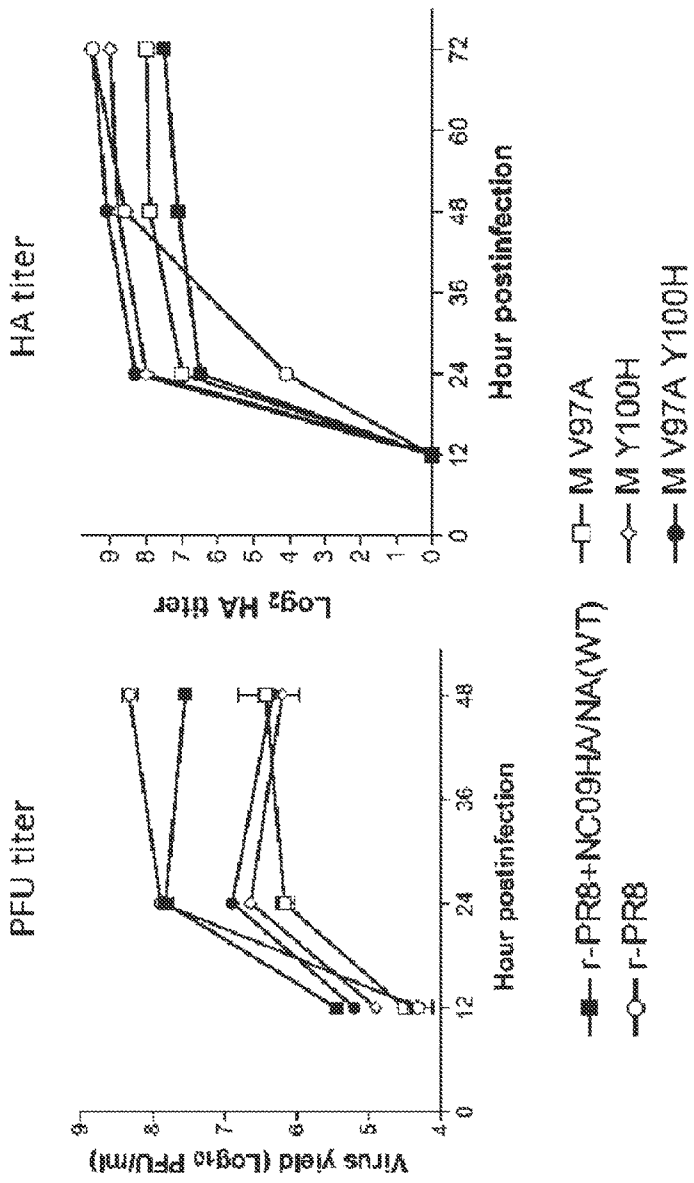


Figure 10A Codons usage frequency of Canis familiaris

Canis familiaris [genus]: 1194 CDS's (549561 codons)

fields: [triplet] [amino acid] [fraction] [frequency per thousand] (number)

UUU	F	0.41	17.1	{	9540}	UUU	S	0.18	13.8	{	7723}	UUA	Y	0.40	13.5	{	4556}	UUG	C	0.42	10.1	{	5465}
UUC	F	0.39	24.4	{	13671}	UCC	S	0.24	18.4	{	10299}	UAC	Y	0.50	17.5	{	9786}	UCG	C	0.38	13.6	{	7723}
UUA	L	0.46	5.8	{	3270}	UCA	S	0.13	9.8	{	5467}	UAA	*	0.27	0.6	{	323}	UGA	*	0.53	1.1	{	612}
UUG	L	0.12	11.6	{	6327}	UCC	S	0.06	4.6	{	2384}	UAG	*	0.23	0.5	{	354}	UGG	W	1.00	13.6	{	7704}
CUU	L	0.12	11.7	{	6523}	CCU	S	0.27	15.6	{	8713}	CAU	H	0.39	8.0	{	5039}	CGU	R	0.07	3.9	{	2163}
CUC	L	0.22	21.8	{	12243}	CCC	S	0.35	20.4	{	11422}	CAC	H	0.61	14.1	{	7898}	CCG	R	0.20	10.6	{	5913}
CUA	L	0.06	6.5	{	3544}	CCA	P	0.25	14.6	{	8157}	CAA	Q	0.25	11.0	{	4149}	CGA	R	0.11	5.6	{	3155}
CUG	L	0.43	42.8	{	13966}	CCG	P	0.12	7.0	{	3892}	CGG	Q	0.75	32.6	{	18314}	CGG	R	0.21	11.0	{	6132}
AUU	I	0.32	15.5	{	8662}	AUU	F	0.22	12.3	{	6866}	AUU	M	0.43	16.5	{	9253}	AGU	S	0.14	10.8	{	4029}
AUC	I	0.53	25.7	{	14311}	AUU	T	0.36	21.4	{	11519}	AAC	M	0.57	21.6	{	12104}	AGC	S	0.25	16.8	{	16595}
AUA	I	0.15	7.2	{	4017}	AUA	T	0.26	14.2	{	7872}	AAA	K	0.40	22.2	{	12110}	AGA	R	0.20	10.5	{	5847}
AUG	M	1.00	22.7	{	12717}	ACU	T	0.13	7.2	{	4065}	AAU	K	0.60	33.8	{	18967}	AGU	R	0.21	11.1	{	6228}
GCU	V	0.14	9.3	{	5189}	GCU	A	0.25	17.3	{	9408}	GUU	D	0.43	19.7	{	11012}	GGU	G	0.16	11.3	{	4298}
GUC	V	0.27	17.2	{	9607}	GCU	A	0.44	20.3	{	10227}	GAC	D	0.57	26.2	{	14553}	GCC	G	0.35	21.2	{	13513}
GCA	V	0.50	6.5	{	3660}	GCA	A	0.20	13.7	{	7651}	GAA	E	0.40	26.4	{	14776}	GGA	G	0.24	16.9	{	9485}
GUG	V	0.48	31.0	{	17366}	GCG	A	0.11	7.9	{	4431}	GAG	E	0.60	40.3	{	22552}	GGG	G	0.25	17.4	{	9718}

Coding GC 53.16% 1st letter GC 55.32% 2nd letter GC 41.92% 3rd letter GC 62.22%
Genetic code 1: Standard

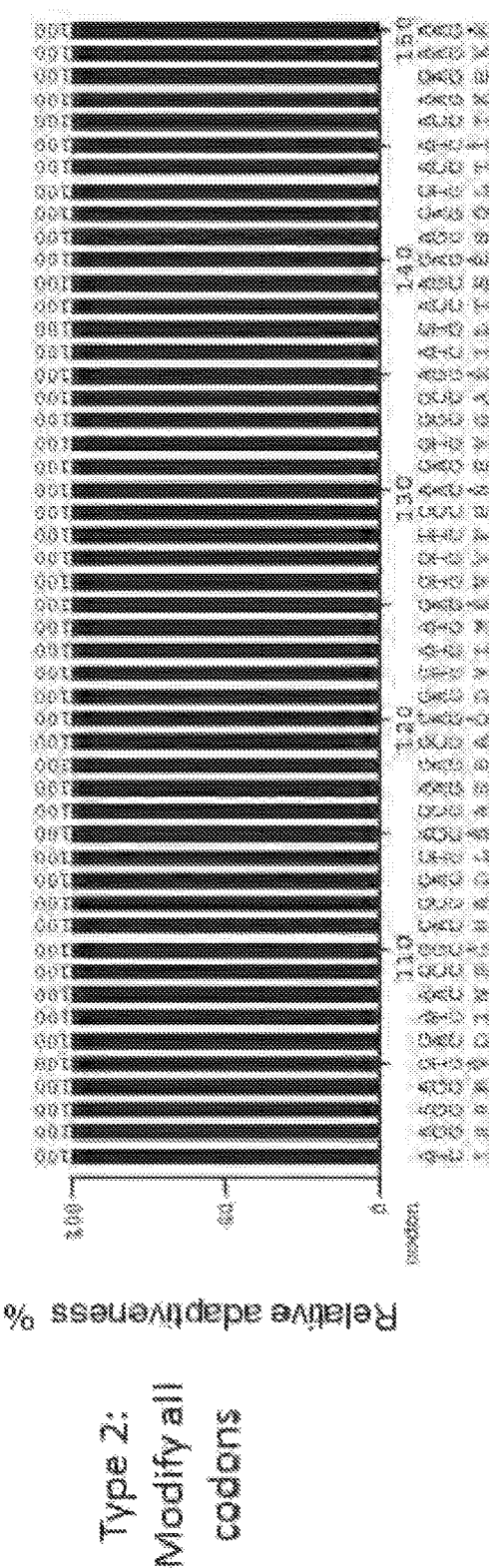
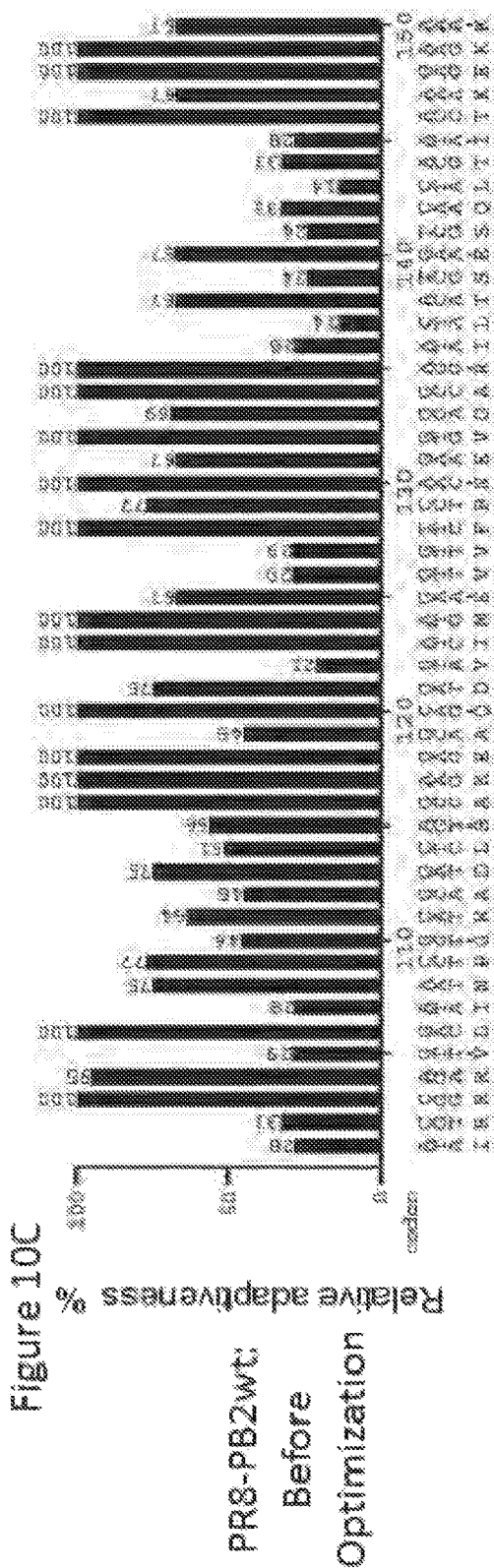


Figure 10D Growth kinetics in MDCK cells

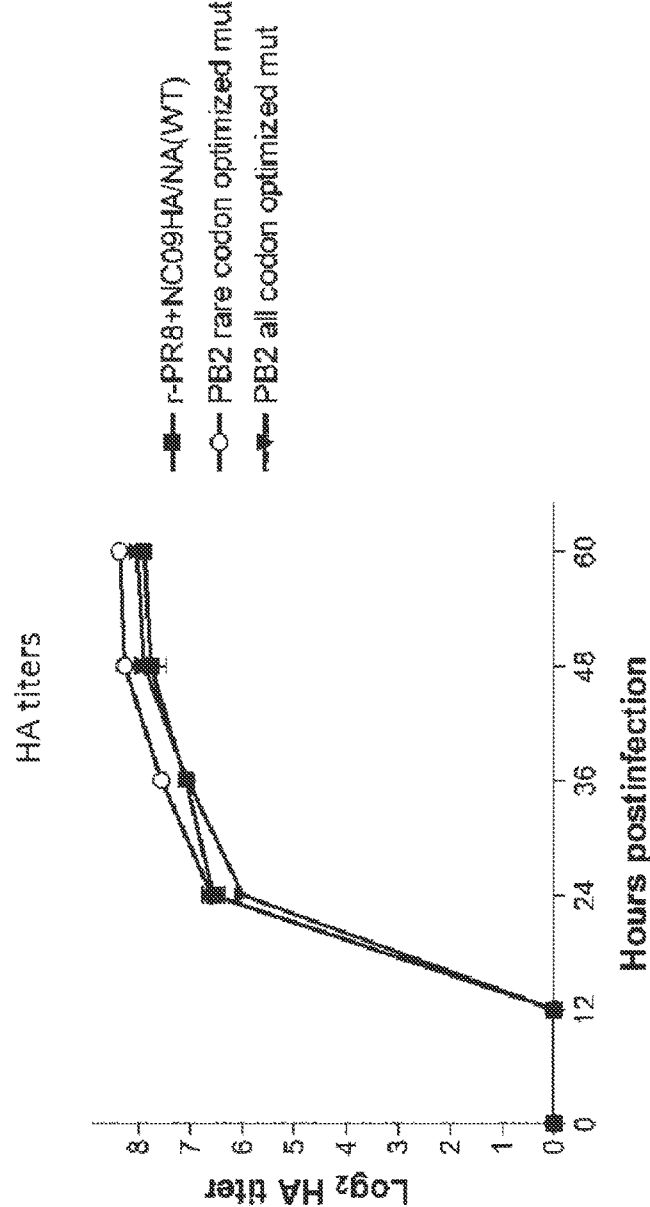


Figure 10E

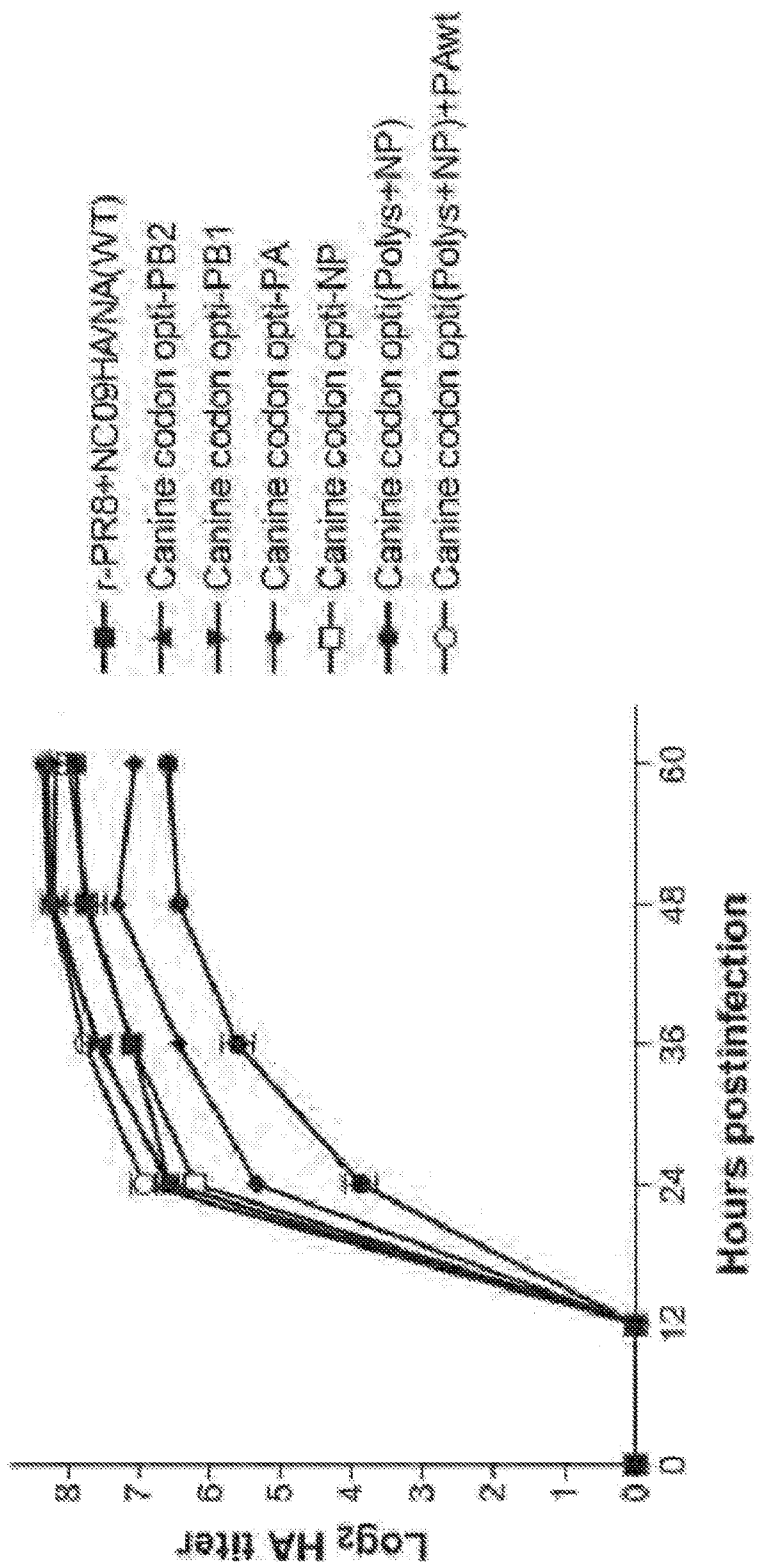


FIG. 10F

PR8-UW PB2:

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TTAGGATGAAATGGATGATGGCAATGAAATATCCAATTACAGCAGACAAGAGGATAACGGAAATGATTCCTGAGAGAAAT
GAGCAAGGACAAACTTTATGGAGTAAATGAATGATGCCGATCAGACCGAGTGATGGTATCACCTCTGGCTGTGACATG
GTGGAATAGGAATGGACCAATAACAAATACAGTTCATTATCCAAAATCTACAAAATTTATTTTGAAAGAGTCGAAAGGC
TAAAGCATGGAACTTTGGCCCTGTCCATTTTAGAAACCAAGTCAAAATACGTCGGAGAGTTGACATAAATCCTGGTCAT
GCAGATCTCAGTGCCAAGGAGGCACAGGATGTAATCATGGAAGTTGTTTTCCCTAACGAAGTGGGAGCCAGGATACTAAC
ATCGGAATCGCAACTAACGATAACCAAGAGAAGAAAGAAGAACTCCAGGATTGCAAAATTTCTCCTTTGATGGTTGCAT
ACATGTTGGAGAGAGAACTGGTCCGCAAAACGAGATTCCTCCAGTGGCTGGTGGACAAGCAGTGTGTACATTGAAGTG
TTGCATTTGACTCAAGGAACATGCTGGGAACAGATGTATACTCCAGGAGGGGAAGTGAGGAATGATGATGTTGATCAAAG
CTTGATTATTGCTGCTAGGAACATAGTGAGAAGAGCTGCAGTATCAGCAGATCCACTAGCATCTTTATTGGAGATGTGCC
ACAGCACACAGATTGGTGGGAATTAGGATGGTAGACATCCTTAGGCAGAACCCAACAGAAGAGCAAGCCGTGGATATATGC
AAGGCTGCAATGGGACTGAGAATTAGCTCATCCTTCAGTTTTGGTGGATTACATTTAAGAGAACAAAGCGGATCATCAGT
CAAGAGAGAGGAAGAGGTGCTTACGGGCAATCTTCAAACATTGAAGATAAGAGTGCATGAGGGATATGAAGAGTTCACAA
TGGTTGGGAGAAGAGCAACAGCCATACTCAGAAAAGCAACCAGGAGATTGATTCAGCTGATAGTGAGTGGGAGAGACGAA
CAGTCGATTGCCGAAGCAATAATTGTGGCCATGGTATTTTCAAGAGGATTGTATGATAAAAGCAGTCAGAGGTGATCT
GAATTCGTC AATAGGGCGAATCAACGATTGAATCCTATGCATCAACTTTTAAGACATTTTCAGAAGGATGCGAAAGTGC
TTTTTCAAATTTGGGGAGTTGAACCTATCGACAATGTGATGGGAATGATTGGGATATTGCCCGACATGACTCCAAGCATC
GAGATGTCAATGAGAGGAGTGAGAATCAGCAAAATGGGTGTAGATGAGTACTCCAGCACGGAGAGGGTAGTGGTGAGCAT
TGACCGTTTTTTGAGAAATCCGGGACCAACGAGGAAATGTACTACTGTCTCCGAGGAGGTCAGTGAAACACAGGGAAACAG
AGAAACTGACAATAACTTACTCATCGTCAATGATGTGGGAGATTAATGGTCCTGAATCAGTGTGGTCAATACCTATCAA
TGGATCATCAGAACTGGGAACTGTAAAATTCAGTGGTCCAGAACCTACAATGCTATACAATAAAATGGAATTTGA
ACCATTTAGTCTTTAGTACCTAAGGCCATTAGAGGCCAATACAGTGGGTTTGAAGAACTCTGTTCCAACAAATGAGGG
ATGTGCTTGGGACATTTGATACCGCACAGATAATAAACTTCTTCCCTTCGCAGCCGCTCCACCAAAGCAAAGTAGAATG
CAGTTCCTCATTTACTGTGAATGTGAGGGGATCAGGAATGAGAATACTTGTAAAGGGCAATTCCTCTGTATTCAACTA
TAACAAGGCCACGAAGAGACTCACAGTTCTCGAAAGGATGCTGGCACTTTAACTGAAGACCCAGATGAAGGCACAGCTG
GAGTGGAGTCCGCTGTTCTGAGGGGATTCTCATTCTGGGCAAAGAAGACAAGAGATATGGGCCAGCACTAAGCATCAAT
GAACTGAGCAACCTTGCAGAAAGGAGAGAAGGCTAATGTGCTAATTGGGCAAGGAGACGTGGTGTGGTAATGAACGGAA
ACGGGACTCTAGCATACTTACTGACAGCCAGACAGCGACCAAAAGAATTCGGATGGCCATCAATTAGTGTGAATAGTTT
AAAAACGACCTTGTCTTACT (SEQ ID NO:3)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

Canine codon optimized PR8-PB2:

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GAGCAGGGACAGACTCTGTGGAGTAAAATGAATGATGCCGGATCAGACCGAGTGTGGTGTCACTCTGGCTGTGACATG
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TGAAGCATGGAACCTTTGGCCCTGTCCATTTTAGAAACCAGGTCAAAATCCGGCGGAGAGTGGACATCAATCTGGTCAT
GCAGATCTCAGTGCCAAGGAGGCACAGGATGTGATCATGGAAGTGGTGTCCCTAACGAAGTGGGAGCCAGGATTCTGAC
ATCCGAATCCCAGCTGACCATTACCAAAGAGAAGAAAGAAGAACTCCAGGATTGCAAAATTTCTCTCTGATGGTGGCAT
ACATGCTGGAGAGAGAACTGGTCCGCAAAACAAGATTCTCCAGTGGCTGGTGGAAACAAGCAGTGTGTACATTGAAGTG
CTGCATCTGACTCAGGGAAACATGCTGGGAACAGATGTATACTCCAGGAGGGGAAGTGAGGAATGATGATGTGGATCAGAG
CCTGATTATTGCTGCTAGGAACATTGTGAGAAGAGCTGCAGTGTGAGCAGATCCACTGGCATCTCTGCTGGAGATGTGCC
ACAGCACACAGATTGGTGGAAATTAGGATGGTGGACATCCTGAGGCAGAACCCAACAGAAGAGCAGGCCGTGGATATTTGC
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CAAGAGAGAGGAAGAGGTGCTGACCGGCAATCTGCAGACACTGAAGATCAGAGTGCATGAGGGATATGAAGAGTTCACAA
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TGTTTCAGAATTGGGAGTGGAACCTATCGACAATGTGATGGGAATGATTGGGATCCTGCCGACATGACTCCAAGCATC
GAGATGTCAATGAGAGGAGTGAGAATCAGCAAAATGGGTGTGGATGAGTACTCCAGCACCGAGAGGGTCTGGTGTGAGCAT
TGACAGATTTCTGAGAATCCGGGACCAGCGAGGAAATGTGCTCCTGTCTCCGAGGAGGTGAGTGAACACAGGGAAACAG
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TGGATCATCAGAACTGGGAACTGTGAAAATTCAGTGGTCCCAGAACCTACAATGCTGTACAATAAAATGGAATTTGA
ACCATTTGAGTCTCTGGTGCCTAAGGCCATTAGAGGCCAGTACAGTGGGTTTGTGAGAACTCTGTTCCAGCAGATGAGGG
ATGTGCTGGGGACATTTGATACCGCACAGATTATTAAGTGTGCTGCCCTTCGAGCCGCTCCACCAAGCAGAGTAGAATG
CAGTTCTCCTCATTTACTGTGAATGTGAGGGGATCAGGAATGAGAATCCTGGTGAGGGGCAATTCTCCTGTGTTCAACTA
TAACAAGGCCACCAAGAGACTCACAGTGTCTCGAAAGGATGCTGGCACTCTGACTGAAGACCCAGATGAAGGCACAGCTG
GAGTGGAGTCCGCTGTGCTGAGGGGATTCCTCATTCTGGGCAAGAAGACAAGAGATATGGGCCAGCACTGAGCATCAAT
GAACTGAGCAACCTGGCCAAAGGAGAGAAGGCTAATGTGCTAATTGGGCAAGGAGACGTGGTGTGGTAATGAAACGGAA
ACGGGACTCTAGCATACTTACTGACAGCCAGACAGCGACCAAAAGAATTCCGGATGGCCATCAATTAGTGTGCAATAGTTT
AAAAACGACCTTGTCTACT (SEQ ID NO:13)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

PR8-UW PB1:

AGCGAAAGCAGGCAAACCATTTGAATGGATGTCAATCCGACCTTACTTTTCTTAAAGTGCCAGCACAAAATGCTATAAG
CACAACTTTCCCTTATACTGGAGACCCTCCTTACAGCCATGGGACAGGAACAGGATACACCATGGATACTGTCAACAGGA
CACATCAGTACTCAGAAAAGGGAAGATGGACAACAAACACCGAACTGGAGCACCGCAACTCAACCCGATTGATGGGCCA
CTGCCAGAAGACAATGAACCAAGTGGTTATGCCCAAACAGATTGTGTATTGGAGGCGATGGCTTTCCTTGAGGAATCCCA
TCCTGGTATTTTGAAGAACTCGTGATTGAAACGATGGAGGTTGTTGAGCAACACGAGTAGACAAGCTGACACAAGGCC
GACAGACCTATGACTGGACTCTAAATAGAAACCAACCTGCTGCAACAGCATTGGCCAACACAATAGAAGTGTTCAGATCA
AATGGCCTCACGGCCAATGAGTCTGGAAGGCTCATAGACTTCCTTAAGGATGTAATGGAGTCAATGAACAAAGAAGAAAT
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GTAAAAAGAAGCAGAGATTGAACAAAAGGAGTTATCTAATTAGAGCATTGACCCTGAACACAATGACCAAAGATGCTGAG
AGAGGGAAGCTAAACCGGAGAGCAATTGCAACCCAGGGATGCAAATAAGGGGGTTTGTATACTTTGTTGAGACACTGGC
AAGGAGTATATGTGAGAACTTGAACAATCAGGGTTGCCAGTTGGAGGCAATGAGAAGAAAGCAAAGTTGGCAAATGTTG
TAAGGAAGATGATGACCAATTCTCAGGACACCGAACTTCTTTCAACATCACTGGAGATAACACCAAATGGAACGAAAAT
CAGAATCCTCGGATGTTTTTGGCCATGATCACATATATGACCAGAAATCAGCCCGAATGGTTCAGAAATGTTCTAAGTAT
TGCTCCAATAATGTTCTCAAACAAAATGGCGAGACTGGGAAAAGGGTATATGTTTGAGAGCAAGAGTATGAACTTAGAA
CTCAAATACCTGCAGAAATGCTAGCAAGCATCGATTGAAATATTTCAATGATTCAACAAGAAAGAAGATTGAAAAATC
CGACCGCTCTTAATAGAGGGGACTGCATCATTGAGCCCTGGAATGATGATGGGCATGTTCAATATGTTAAGCACTGTATT
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AGTATGGTGGAGGCTATGGTTCCAGAGCCGAATTGATGCACGGATTGATTTGCAATCTGGAAGGATAAGAAAGAAGA
GTTCACTGAGATCATGAAGATCTGTTCCACCATTTGAAGAGCTCAGACGGCAAAAATAGTGAATTTAGCTTGCTTCATG
AAAAATGCCTTGTCTACT (SEQ ID NO:2)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

Canine codon optimized PR8 PB1:

AGCGAAAGCAGGCAAACCATTTGAATGGATGTCAATCCGACCTTACTTTTCTTAAAGTGCCAGCACAAAATGCTATAAG
CACAACTTTCCCTTATACTGGAGACCCTCCTTACAGCCATGGGACAGGAACAGGATACACCATGGATACTGTCAACAGGA
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GTGGGAGCAGACCCGCTCCAAAGCTGGACTGCTGGTCTCCGACGGAGGCCAAATCTGTACAACATTAGAAATCTCCACA
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TGTGGCAACAACACACTCTGGATCCCCAAAAGAAATCGATCCATCCTGAATACAAGTCAGAGAGGAGTGTGGAGGATG
AACAGATGTACCAGAGGTGCTGCAATCTGTTGAAAAATCTTCCCCAGCAGTTCATACAGAAGACCAGTCGGGATCTCC
AGTATGGTGGAGGCTATGGTGTCCAGAGCCCGAATTGATGCACGGATTGATTCGAATCTGGAAGGATCAAGAAAGAAGA
GTTCACTGAGATCATGAAGATCTGTTCCACCATTGAAGAGCTCAGACGGCAAAAATAGTGAATTTAGCTTGCTTTCATG
AAAAAATGCCTTGTCTTACT (SEQ ID NO:12)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

PR8-UW PA:

AGCGAAAGCAGGTACTGATCCAAAATGGAAGATTTTGTGCGACAATGCTTCAATCCGATGATTGTCGAGCTTGCGGAAAA
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TCATGTATTCAGATTTTCACTTCATCAATGAGCAAGGCGAGTCAATAATCGTAGAACTTGGTGATCCAAATGCACITTTG
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GAAGAAATGGCCACAAGGCGAGCTACACTCTCGATGAAGAAAGCAGGGCTAGGATCAAACAGACTATTCACCATAAG
ACAAGAAATGGCCAGCAGAGGCTCTGGGATTCCTTTCGTCTAGTCCGAGAGAGGAGAAGAGACAATTGAAGAAAGGTTTG
AAATCACAGGAACAATGCGCAAGCTTGGGACCAAGTCTCCGCGCAACTTCTCCAGCCTTGAAAATTTTAGAGCCTAT
GTGGATGGATTCGAACCGAACGGCTACATTGAGGGCAAGCTGTCTCAAATGTCCAAAGAAGTAAATGTAGAATTGAACC
TTTTTTGAAAACAACACCACGACCACTTAGACTTCCGAATGGGCTCCCTGTTCTCAGCGGTCCAAATTCCTGCTGATGG
ATGCCTTAAATTAAGCATTGAGGACCAAGTCATGAAGGAGAGGGAATACCGCTATATGATGCAATCAAATGCATGAGA
ACATTCCTTTGGATGGAAGGAACCAATGTTGTTAAACCACACGAAAAGGGAATAAATCCAAATTATCTTCTGTCTGGAA
GCAAGTACTGGCAGAACTGCAGGACATTGAGAATGAGGAGAAAATTCCAAAGACTAAAAATATGAAGAAAACAAGTCAGC
TAAAGTGGGCACTTGGTGAGAACATGGCACCAGAAAAGGTAGACTTTGACGACTGTAAAGATGTAGGTTGATTGAAGCAA
TATGATAGTGATGAACCAGAATTGAGGTCGCTTCAAGTTGGATTGAGAATGAGTTTAAACAAGGCATGCGAACTGACAGA
TTCAAGCTGGATAGAGCTCGATGAGATTGGAGAAGATGTGGCTCCAATTGAACACATTGCAAGCATGAGAAGGAATTATT
TCACATCAGAGGTGTCTCACTGCAGAGCCACAGAATACATAATGAAGGGAGTGTACATCAATACTGCCTTGCTTAATGCA
TCTTGTGCAGCAATGGATGATTTCCAATTAATTCCAATGATAAGCAAGTGTAGAACTAAGGAGGGAAGGCGAAAGACCAA
CTTGATGGTTTCATCATAAAAGGAAGATCCCACTTAAGGAATGACACCGACGTGGTAAACTTTGTGAGCATGGAGTTTT
CTCTCACTGACCCAAGACTTGAACCACATAAATGGGAGAAGTACTGTGTTCTTGAGATAGGAGATATGCTTATAAGAAGT
GCCATAGGCCAGGTTTCAAGGCCCATGTTCTTGATGTGAGAACAAATGGAACCTCAAAAATTAATGAATGGGGAAT
GGAGATGAGGCGTTGCTCCTCAGTCACTTCAACAAATTGAGAGTATGATTGAAGCTGAGTCTCTGTCAAAGAGAAAG
ACATGACCAAAGAGTTCTTTGAGAACAAATCAGAAACATGGCCATTGGAGAGTCCCCAAAGGAGTGGAGGAAAGTTCC
ATTGGGAAGGTCTGCAGGACTTTATTAGCAAAGTCGGTATTCAACAGCTTGATGCATCTCCACAAGTGAAGGATTTTC
AGCTGAATCAAGAAAATGCTTCTTATCGTTTCAGGCTCTTAGGGACAACCTGGAACCTGGGACCTTTGATCTTGGGGGGC
TATATGAAGCAATTGAGGAGTGCCTGATTAATGATCCCTGGGTTTTGCTTAATGCTTCTTGGTTCAACTCCTTCTTACA
CATGCATTGAGTTAGTTGTGGCAGTGCTACTATTTGCTATCCATACTGTCCAAAAAAGTACCTTGTCTTACT (SEQ ID NO:1)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

Canine codon optimized PR8 PA:

AGCGAAAGCAGGTACTGATCCAAAATGGAAGATTTTGTGCGACAATGCTTCAATCCGATGATTGTCGAGCTTGCGGAAAA
AACAATGAAAGAGTATGGGGAGGACCTGAAAATCGAAACAAACAAATTTGCAGCAATATGCACTCACTTGGAAGTATGCT
TCATGTATTCAGATTTTCACTTCATCAATGAGCAAGGCGAGTCAATAATCGTAGAACTTGGTGATCCAAATGCACATTTTG
AAGCACAGATTTGAAATAATCGAGGGAAGAGATCGCACAAATGGCCTGGACAGTAGTAAACAGTATTTGCAACACTACAGG
GGCTGAGAAACCAAGTTTCTACCAGATTTGTATGATTACAAGGAGAATAGATTATCGAAATTGGAGTAACAAGGAGAG
AAGTTCACATATACTATCTGGAAAAGGCCAATAAAATTAATCTGAGAAAACACATCCACATTTTCTCGTTCACTGGG
GAAGAAATGGCCACAAAGGCAGACTACACTCTCGATGAAGAAAGCAGGGCTAGGATCAAAACCAGACTATTCACCATAAG
ACAAGAAATGGCCAGCAGAGGCCCTCTGGGATTCCTTTCGTCACTCCGAGAGAGGAGAAGAGACAATTGAAGAAAGGTTTG
AAATCACAGGAACAATGCGCAAGCTTGCCGACCAAGTCTCCGCGGAACCTCTCCAGCCTTGAAAATTTTAGAGCCTAT
GTGGATGGATTGGAACCGAACGGCTACATTGAGGGCAAGCTGTCTCAAATGTCCAAAGAAGTAAATGCTAGAATTGAACC
TTTTCTGAAAACAACACCAGCAGCCACTGAGACTGCCCAATGGGCTCCTGTTCTCAGCGGTCCAAATTCCTGCTGATGG
ATGCCCTGAAACTGAGCATTGAGGACCCAAGTCATGAAGGAGAGGGAATCCCTGTATGATGCAATCAAATGCATGAGA
ACATTCCTTTGGATGGAAGGAACCAATGTGGTGAAACCACACGAAAAGGGAATCAATCCAAATTATCTGCTGTCTATGGAA
GCAGGTGCTGGCAGAACTGCAGGACATTGAGAATGAGGAGAAAATCCAAAGACTAAAAATATGAAGAAAACAAGTCAGC
TGAAGTGGGCACTGGGTGAGAACATGGCACCAGAAAAGGTGGACTTTGACGACTGTAAAGATGTGGGTGATCTGAAGCAG
TATGATAGTGATGAACCAGAACTGAGGTCCTGGCAAGTTGGATTGAGAATGAGTTTAAACAAGGCATGCGAACTGACAGA
TTCAAGCTGGATTGAGCTCGATGAGATTGGAGAAGATGTGGCTCAATTGAACACATTGCAAGCATGAGAAGGAATTATT
TCACATCAGAGGTGTCTCACTGCAGAGCCACAGAATACATCATGAAGGGAGTGATCAATACTGCCCTGCTGAATGCA
TCTTGTGCAGCAATGGATGATTTCCAGCTGATTCCAATGATCAGCAAGTGAGAACTAAGGAGGGAAGGCGAAAGACCAA
CCTGTATGGTTTCATCATCAAAGGAAGATCCACCTGAGGAATGACACCGACGTGGTGAACTTTGTGAGCATGGAGTTT
CTCTCACTGACCCAAGACTGGAACCACATAAATGGGAGAAGTACTGTGTGCTGGAGATTGGAGATATGCTGATCAGAAGT
GCCATTGGCCAGGTGTCAAGGCCCATGTTCTGTATGTGAGAACAAATGGAACCTCAAAATTAATGAATGGGGAAT
GGAGATGAGGCGCTGCCTCCTCAGTCACTGCAGCAGATTGAGAGTATGATTGAAGCTGAGTCCTCTGTCAAAGAGAAAAG
ACATGACCAAAGAGTTCTTTGAGAACAAATCAGAAACATGGCCATTGGAGAGTCCCCAAAGGAGTGGAGGAAAGTTCC
ATTGGGAAGGTCTGCAGGACTCTGCTGGCAAAGTCCGTGTTCAACAGCCTGTATGCATCTCCACAGCTGGAAGGATTTTC
AGCTGAATCAAGAAAATGCTGCTGATCGTGCAAGGCTCTGAGGGACAACCTGGAACCTGGGACCTTTGATCTGGGGGGGC
TGTATGAAGCAATTGAGGAGTGCCTGATTAATGATCCCTGGGTGCTGCTGAATGCTTCTTGGTTCAACTCCTTCTTACA
CATGCATTGAGTTAGTTGTGGCAGTGCTACTATTTGCTATCCATACTGTCCAAAAAGTACCTTGTCTTCTACT (SEQ ID NO:11)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

PR8-UW NP:

AGCAAAAGCAGGGTAGATAATCACTCACTGAGTGACATCAAAATCATGGCGTCTCAAGGCACCAAACGATCTTACGAACA
GATGGAGACTGATGGAGAACGCCAGAATGCCACTGAAATCAGAGCATCCGTCGGAAAAATGATTGGTGAATTGGACGAT
TCTACATCCAAATGTGCACCGAACTCAAACCTCAGTGATTATGAGGGACGGTTGATCCAAAACAGCTTAACAATAGAGAGA
ATGGTGCTCTCTGCTTTTGACGAAAGGAGAAATAAATACCTTGAAGAACATCCAGTGCGGGGAAAGATCCTAAGAAAAAC
TGGAGGACCTATATACAGGAGAGTAAACGGAAGTGGATGAGAGAACTCATCCTTTATGACAAAGAAGAAATAAGGCGAA
TCTGGCGCCAAGCTAATAATGGTGACGATGCAACGGCTGGTCTGACTCACATGATGATCTGGCATTCCAATTTGAATGAT
GCAACTTATCAGAGGACAAGAGCTCTTGTCGCACCGGAATGGATCCCAGGATGTGCTCTCTGATGCAAGGTTCAACTCT
CCCTAGGAGGTCTGGAGCCGAGGTGCTGCAGTCAAAGGAGTTGGAACAATGGTGATGGAATTGGTCAGAATGATCAAAC
GTGGGATCAATGATCGGAACCTTCTGGAGGGGTGAGAATGGACGAAAAACAAGAATTGCTTATGAAAGAATGTGCAACATT
CTCAAAGGGAAATTTCAAACCTGCTGCACAAAAGCAATGATGGATCAAGTGAGAGAGAGCCGGAACCCAGGGAATGTCTGA
GTTTCAAGATCTCACITTTCTAGCACGGTCTGCACTCATATTGAGAGGGTCGGTTGCTCACAAGTCTGCTGCCTGCCTGCCT
GTGTGTATGGACCTGCCGTAGCCAGTGGGTACGACTTTGAAAGGGAGGGATACTCTCTAGTCGGAATAGACCTTTTCAGA
CTGCTTCAAAACAGCCAAGGTGACAGCCTAATCAGACCAATGAGAATCCAGCACACAAGAGTCAACTGGTGTGGATGGC
ATGCCATTCTGCCGATTTGAAGATCTAAGAGTATTAAGCTTCATCAAAGGGACGAAGGTGCTCCCAAGAGGGAAGCTTT
CCACTAGAGGAGTTCAAATTGCTTCCAATGAAAAATATGGAGACTATGGAATCAAGTACACTTGAAGTGAAGAGCAGGTAC
TGGGCCATAAGGACCAGAAGTGGAGGAAACACCAATCAACAGAGGGCATCTGCGGGCCAAATCAGCATAAACCTACGTT
CTCAGTACAGAGAAATCTCCCTTTTGACAGAACAACCATTATGGCAGCATTCAATGGGAATACAGAGGGGAGAACATCTG
ACATGAGGACCGAAATCATAAGGATGATGGAAAGTGCAAGACCAGAAGATGTGTCTTTCCAGGGGCGGGGAGTCTTCGAG
CTCTCGGACGAAAAGGCAGCGAGCCCGATCGTGCCTTCTTTGACATGAGTAATGAAGGATCTTATTTCTTCGGAGACAA
TGCAGAGGAGTACGACAATTAAAGAAAAATACCTTGTCTACT (SEQ ID NO:4)

FIG. 10F (Continued)

Canine codon optimized NP:

AGCAAAAGCAGGGTAGATAATCACTCACTGAGTGACATCAAAATCATGGCGTCTCAAGGCACCAAACGATCTTACGAACA
GATGGAGACTGATGGAGAACGCCAGAATGCCACTGAAATCAGAGCATCCGTCGGAAAAATGATTGGTGGAAATTGGACGAT
TCTACATCCAGATGTGCACCGAACTCAAACCTCAGTGATTATGAGGGACGGCTGATCCAGAACAGCCTGACAATCGAGAGA
ATGGTGCTCTCTGCTTTTGACGAAAGGAGAAATAAATACCTGGAAGAACATCCAGTGCCGGGAAAGATCCTAAGAAAAC
TGGAGGACCTATCTACAGGAGAGTGAACGAAAGTGGATGAGAGAACTCATCCTGTATGACAAAGAAGAAATCAGGCGAA
TCTGGCGCCAGGCTAATAATGGTGACGATGCAACCGCTGGTCTGACTCACATGATGATCTGGCATTCCAATCTGAATGAT
GCAACTTATCAGAGGACAAGAGCTCTGGTGCGCACCGGAATGGATCCCAGGATGTGCTCTCTGATGCAGGGTTCAACTCT
CCCTAGGAGGTCTGGAGCCGAGGTGCTGCAGTCAAAGGAGTGGGAACAATGGTGATGGAAGTGGTGAATGATCAAAA
GAGGGATCAATGATCGGAACCTCTGGAGGGGTGAGAATGGACGAAAAACAAGAAATTGCTTATGAAAGAATGTGCAACATT
CTCAAAGGGAAATTCAGACTGCTGCACAGAAAGCAATGATGGATCAGGTGAGAGAGAGCCGGAACCCAGGGAATGCTGA
GTTTGAAGATCTCACTTTTCTGGCACGGTCTGCACTCATCCTGAGAGGGTCCGTGGCTCACAAGTCTGCTGCCTGCCT
GTGTGTATGGACCTGCCGTGGCCAGTGGGTACGACTTTGAAAGGGAGGGATACTCTCTGGTCGGAATTGACCTTTTCTGAG
CTGCTGCAGAACAGCCAGGTGTACAGCCTGATCAGACCAATGAGAATCCAGCACACAAGAGTCAGCTGGTGTGGATGGC
ATGCCATTCTGCCGCATTTGAAGATCTGAGAGTGCTGAGCTTCATCAAAGGGACCAAGGTGCTCCCAAGAGGGAAGCTGT
CCACTAGAGGAGTGCAGATTGCTTCCAATGAAAATATGGAGACTATGGAATCAAGTACACTGGAAGTGAAGCAGGTAC
TGGGCCATCAGGACCAGAAGTGGAGGAAACACCAATCAGCAGAGGGCATCTGCCGGCCAGATCAGCATTAGCCTACCTT
CTCAGTGCAGAGAAATCTCCCTTTTGACAGAACCAACCATTATGGCAGCATTCAATGGGAATACAGAGGGGAGAACATCTG
ACATGAGGACCGAAATCATCAGGATGATGGAAAGTGCAAGACCAGAAGATGTGTCTTCCAGGGGCGGGGAGTCTTCGAG
CTCTCGGACGAAAAGGCAGCGAGCCCGATCGTGCCCTTCTTTGACATGAGTAATGAAGGATCTTATTTCTTCGGAGACAA
TGCAGAGGAGTACGACAATTAAGAAAAATACCTTGTTTCTACT (SEQ ID NO:14)

Figure 11 A Nucleotide mutation in position 4 of each gene of PR8 and Indo/NC/09.

Genes	Position 4 of vRNA
PR8 PB2	C
PR8 PB1	C
PR8 PA	C
PR8 NP	U
PR8 M	U
PR8 NS	U
Indo/NC/09 HA	U
Indo/NC/09 NA	U

Figure 11B All 3'C4U mutant

Genes	Position 4 of vRNA	
PR8 PB2		U
PR8 PB1		U
PR8 PA		U
PR8 NP		U
PR8 M		U
PR8 NS		U
Inda/NC/09 HA		U
Inda/NC/09 NA		U

Figure 11C Growth kinetics of 3' C4U mutant

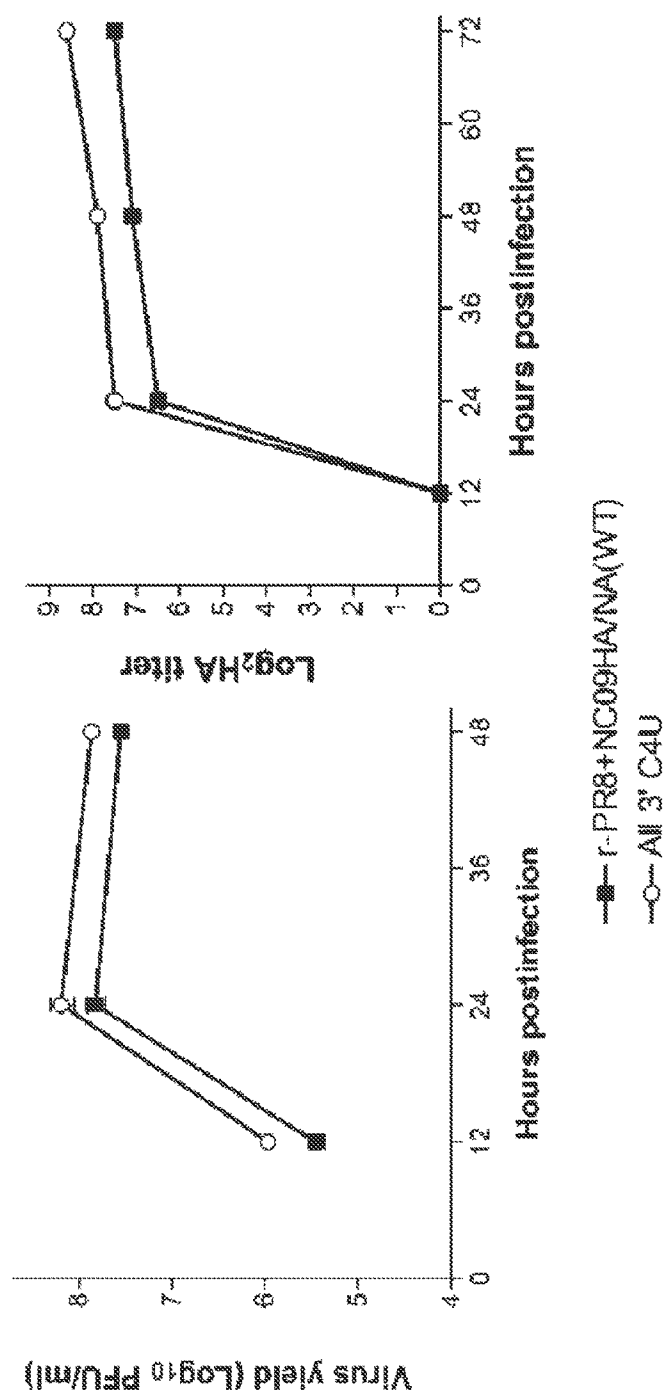


Figure 12

HA

atgaacacacaaatcctggtattcgtctgattgcgatcattccaacaaatgcagacaaaatctgcctcggaacatcatgcccgtgtcaaacgggaacaaagtaaa
cacattaactgaagagagagtggaagtcgtcaatgcaactgaacagtggaacgaacaaacatcccaggatctgtcaaaagggaaggaacagtgacc
tcggtcaatgtggactcctggggacaatcactggaccacccaatgtgaccaatcctagaattttcagccgatttaattattgagaggcgagaagggaagtgtg
tctgttatcctgggaattcgtgaatgaagaagctctgaggcaattctcagagaatcaggcggaattgacaagggaagcaatgggattcacatacagtggaat
aagaactaatggagcaaccagtgcatgtaggagatcaggatcttctatgcagaatgaaatggctcctgtcaaacacagataatgctgattcccgcaga
tgactaagtcataaaaaatacaagaaaagccagctctaatagtatgggggatccatcattccgtatcaactgcagagcaaaccaagctataatgggagtg
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agtggaagtcagagttgatgccaattgtgaaggaggactgctatcatagtgaggaggacaataaagtaacttgccatttcagaacatagatagcagggcagttg
gaaaatgtccgagatatgitaagcaaggagctgtgctgtagcaacagggatgaagaatgttctgagattccaagggaaggagcctatttggtgctatagc
gggttctattgaaaatggatgggaaggcctaattgatggttggtatggtttagacaccagaaatgcacaggagagagggaactgctgagattcacaagcact
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gatgatgactgtatggccagattagaaataacacactatgacacagcaataacagggaaggcgaatgcaaatagataacagattgaccagtcacaacta
agcagcggctacaaagatgtgatacttgggttagcttggggcatcatgttcatatcttgcattgtgaatgggcctgtcttcatatgtgtaagaatggaaa
catgcggtgcactatttctatataa (SEQ ID NO:17)

MNTQILVFAL	IAIIPTNADK	ICLGHHAVSN	GTKVNTLTER	GVEVFNATET	VERTNIPRIC
SKGKRTVDLG	QCGLLGTITG	PPQCDQFLEF	SADLI IERRE	GSDVCYPGKF	VNEEALRQIL
RESGGIDKEA	MGFTYSQIRT	NGATSACRRS	GSSFYAEMKW	LLSNIDNAAF	PQMTKSYKNT
RKSPALIVWG	IHHSVSTAEO	TKLYGSGNKL	VTVGSSNYQQ	SFVPSFGARF	QVNGLSGRID
FHWLMLNPND	TVTFSTNGAF	IAPDRASF LR	GKSMGIQSGV	QVDANCEGDC	YHSGGTIISN
LPFQNI DSRA	VGKCPRYVKQ	RSLLLATGMK	NVPEIPKGRG	LFGATAGFIE	NGWEGLIDGW
YGFRHQNAQG	EGTAADYKST	QSAIDQITGK	LNRLIEKTNQ	QFELIDNEFN	EVEKQIGNVI
NWTRDSITEV	WSYNAELLVA	MENQHTIDLA	DSEMDKLYER	VKRQLRENAE	EDGTGCFEIF
HKCDDDCMAS	IRNNYDHSK	YREEAMQNRI	QIDPVKLSSG	YKDVILWFSF	GASCFILLAI

VMGLVFLCVK NGNMRCTICI (SEQ ID NO:18)

NA

atgaatccaaatcagaagattctatgcacttcagccactgctatcataataggcgcaatcgagtagctcattggaatagcaaacctaggattgaacataggact
gcatctaaaaccgggtcgaattgctcacactcacaacctgaacaaacacacagaacaaacaataataaacaactattataatgaacaaacatcacaa
catccaaatgggaagagagaacaagcaggaatttcaataacttaactaaagggctctgtactataaattcatggcacatataatgggaagacaatgcagtaaga
attggagagagctcgagatgttttagtcacaagagaacctatgtttcatgcgaccagatgaatgcagggttctatgctctcagccaagggaacaacatcagagg
gaaacactcaaacgggaacaatacacgatagggtccagatctcgccctgataagctggccactatcatcaccgccacagtgataacagcagggtgggaatg
cattgggtggtcaagtactagttgccatgatggcgaatccaggatgtcaaatgtatatacaggaccaaaacaacatgcacatgcagtagtatggataacagaa
ggcctgttcagaaattaacacatggggccgaaacatactaagaacacagggaatctgaatgtgtatgccacaacggcgatgcccagtagttcaccgatgg
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ctagtcaatatatatgcagtcctgttttacagacaatccccgaccgaatgacccaataataggttaagtgaatgaccttatccaggtaataataacaatggag
tcaagggaattctacacctggatggggctaacacttggctaggaggagacaataagcacagcctcgagggtctggatacagagatgttaaaagtccaatgcat
gacagatgatagatcaaaagccattcaaggtcagacaattgtatataacgctgactggagtggttaacagtggaattttcatggactattgggctgaaggaggact
gctatcgagcgtgttttatgtggagttgatactggaagaccgaaggaataaagtgtgtggaccagcaatagtagtatcatgatgtgttcagtagacagaat
tcttgaggacaatgggaactggcctgatggggctaaaatagagtacttctctaa (SEQ ID NO:19)

MNPNQKILCTSATAIIGAIIVLIGIANLGLNIGLHLKPGCNCSHSQPETTNTSQTIIINYYNETNITNIQMEERTSRNFNLTGKL
CTINSWHIYGKDNNAVRIE SSDVLVTREPVVSCDPDECRFYALSQGTITRGKHSNGTIHDRSQYRALISWPLSSPPTVYNSRVECI
GWSSTSCHDGKSRMSICISGPNNNASAVVWYNRRPVAEINTWARNILRTQSEECVCHNGVCPVVFTDGSATGPADTRIYYFK

MNPNQKILCTSAIHGAIVLIGIANLGLNIGLHLKPCSCNSHQPETTNTSQTIIHNNYYNETNITNIQMEERTSRNFNLTKGL
 CTINSWHIYGKDNNAVRIGESSDVLVTREPYVSCDPDECRFYALSQGTITIRGKHNSNGTIHDSRQYRALISWPLSSPPTVYNSRVECI
 GWSSTSCHDGKSRMSICISGPNNNASAVVWYNRRPVAEINTWARNILRTQESCEVCVCHNGVCPVVFDTGGSATGPADTRIYYFK

FIG. 12 CONT

EGKILKWESLTGTAKHIEECSCYGERTGITCTCKDNWQGSNRPVIQIDPVAMTHTSQYICSPVLTDNPRPNDPNIGKCNDPYPG
NNNNGVKGFSYLDGANTWLGRTISTASRSGYEMLKVPNALTDDRSPKPIQGQTIVLNADWSGYSGSFMDYWAEGDCYRACFY
VELIRGRPKEDKVWWTSNSIVSMCSSTFLGQWNWPDGAKIEYFL (SEQ ID NO:24)

Figure 13A Construct chimeric HA &NA to increase virus replication

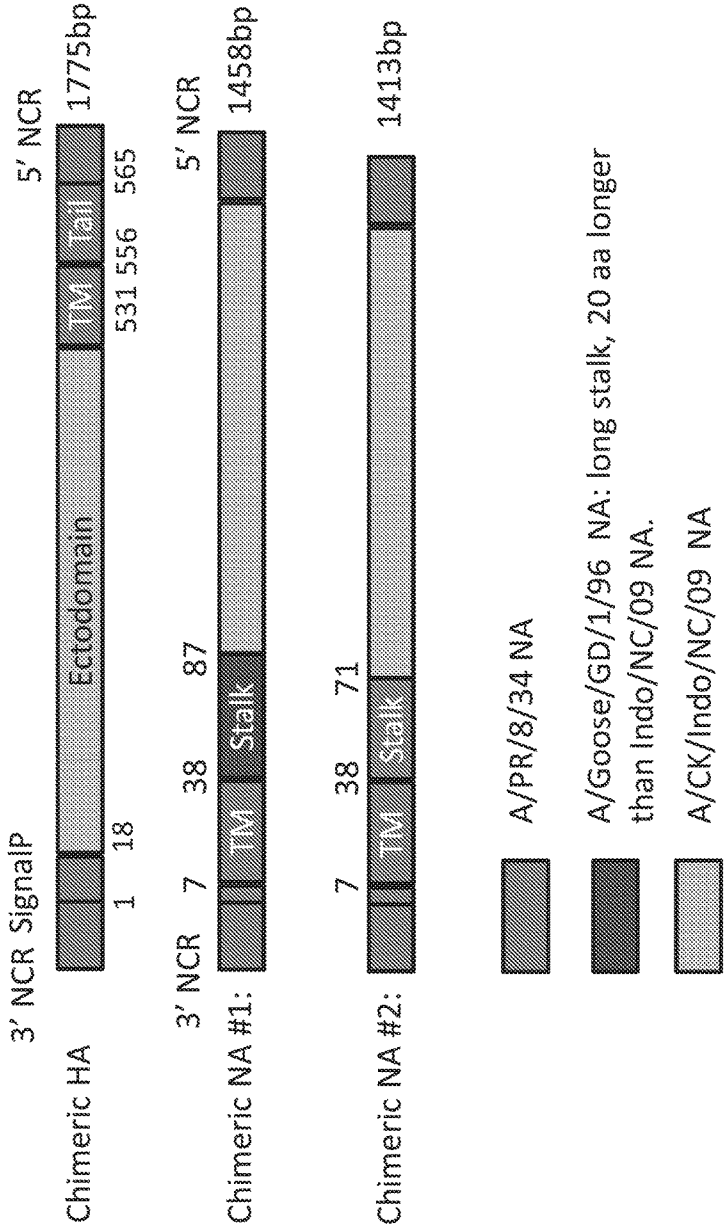


Figure 13B Growth kinetics in MDCK cells

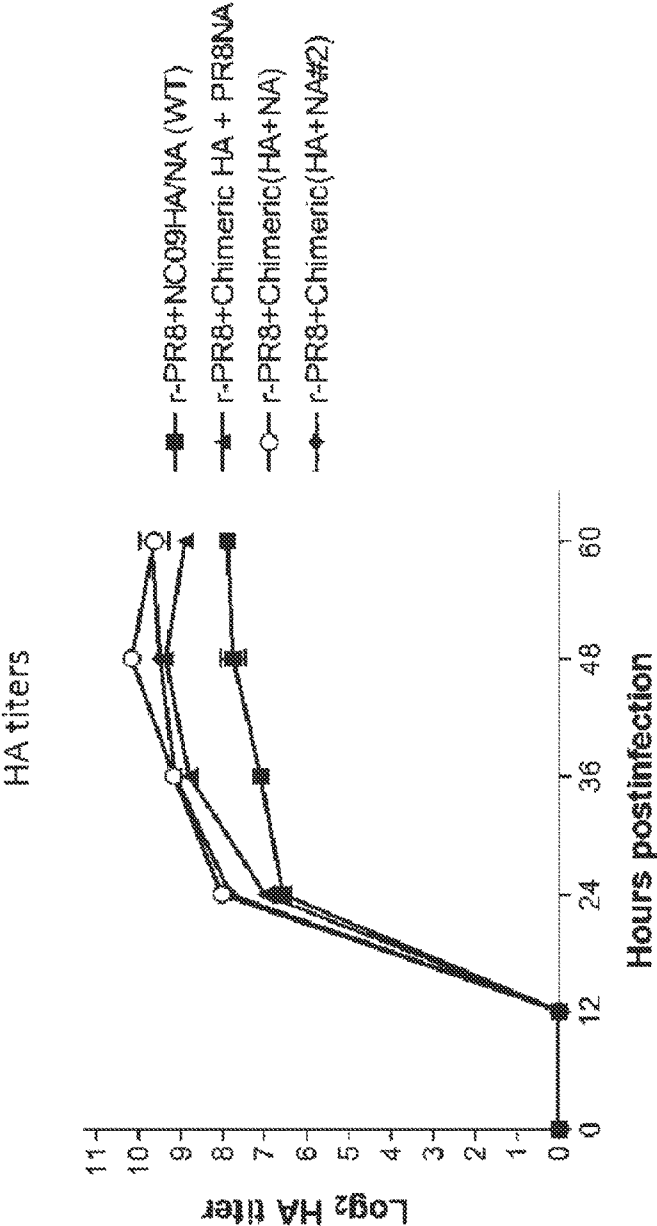
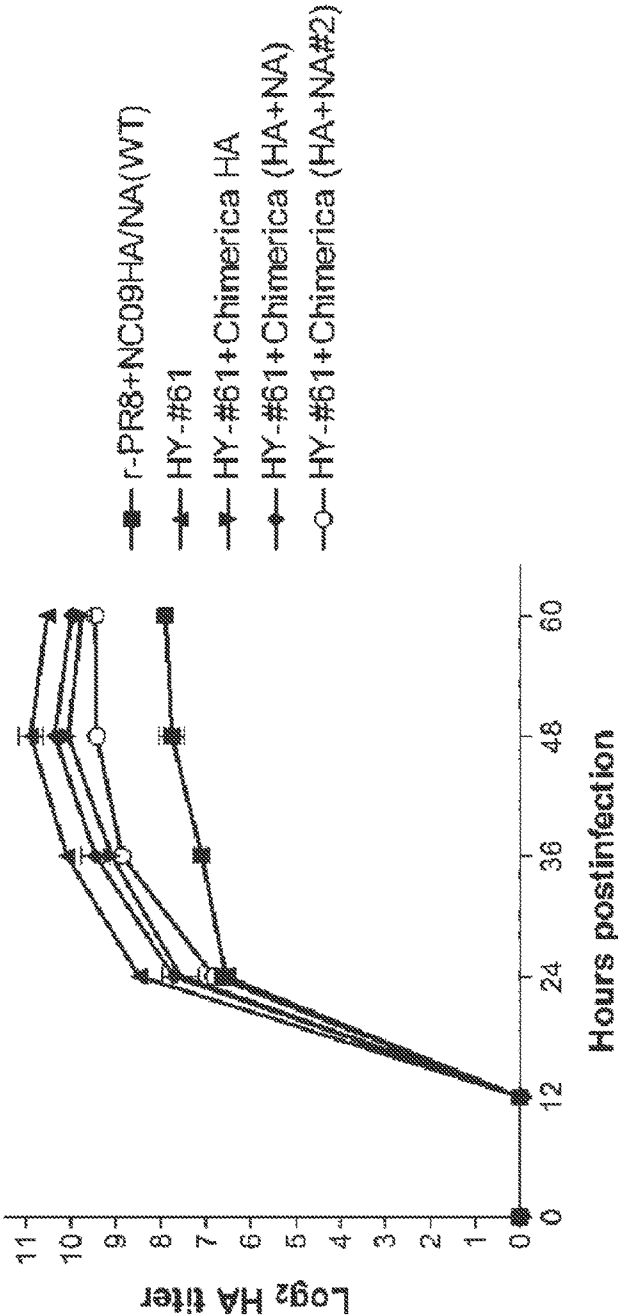
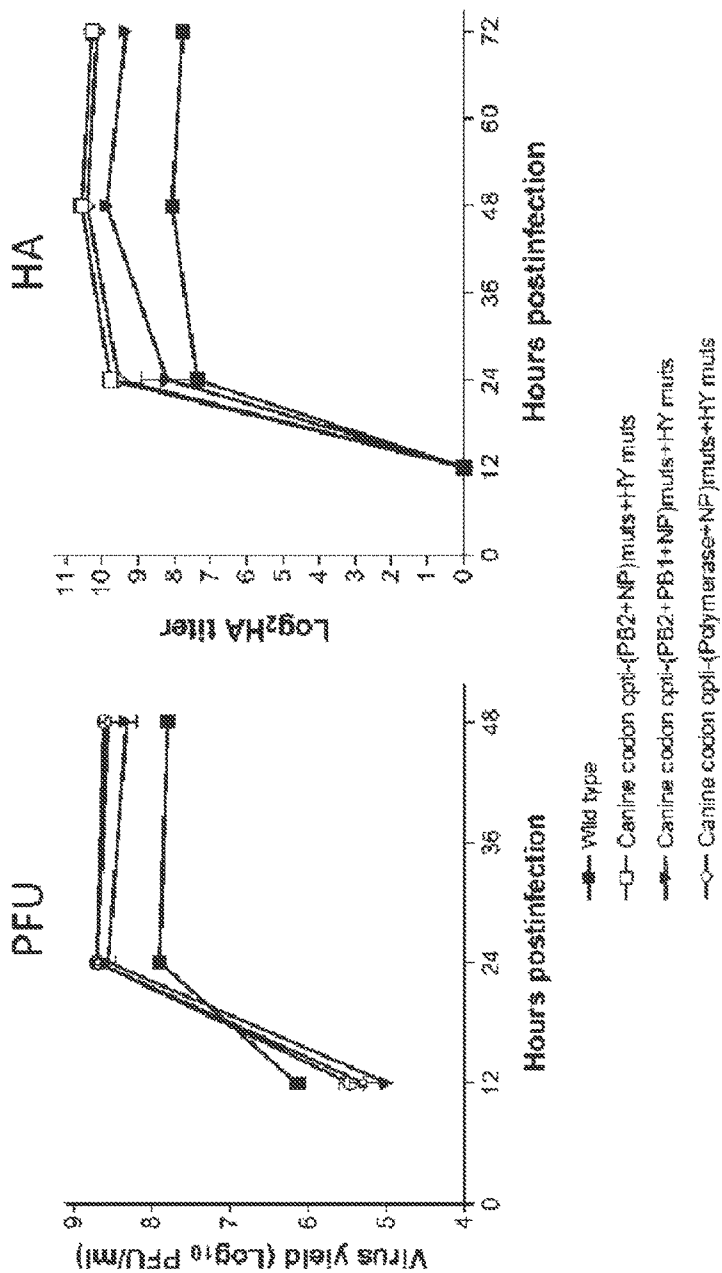


Figure 14A Growth kinetics in MDCK cells



HY-#61 includes PB2: M202L F323L, PB1 Q247H, PA K142N, NP R74K, M V97A Y100H and NS K55E mutations.

Figure 14B



HY mutations include PB2: M202L F323L, PB1 Q247H, PA K142N, NP R74K, M V97A Y100H and NS K55E mutations.

Figure 15 Schematic diagram of screening high growth mutations in eggs.

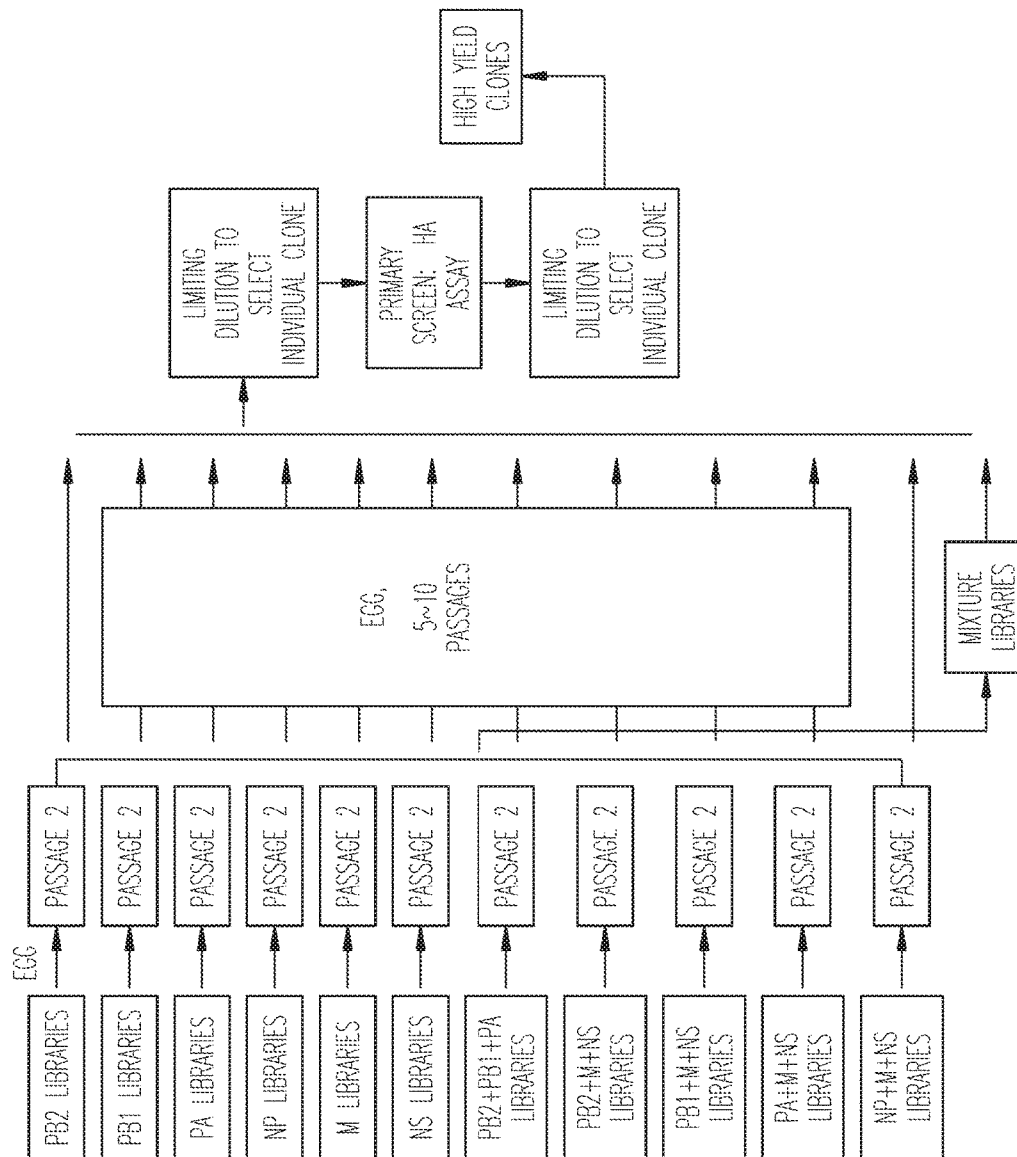


Figure 16 Summary of HA assay of individual clones purified from Vero cells

Groups	Numbers of clone	Fold change	%
WT HA titer = $2^{6.5}$	5	-	2.3%
HA titer = $2^{9-9.5}$	16	>5.6	7.4%
HA titer = 2^{8-9}	91	>2.8-5.6	42.2%
HA titer = $2^{6.5-8}$	80	1 - 2.8	37.0%
HA titer < $2^{6.5}$	24	<1	11.1%
Total	216	-	100%

Figure 17 Recombinant viruses generated with different PR8 backbone mutants.

#	Del-HA & NA genes	PB2	PB1	PA	NP	M	NS
WT	CK/Indo/NC/09	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT
HY-1		I504V	M40L G180W	R401K	I116L	WT	A30P R118K
HY-2		E391Q		I30T E31K K142N	R74K S377N	WT	S161T
HY-3		I504V		K142N	I116L	V97A Y100H	V136M S161T
HY-4		M202L F323L		K356R	I116L	V97A Y100H	K55E
HY-5				K356R	R422L	WT	K55E

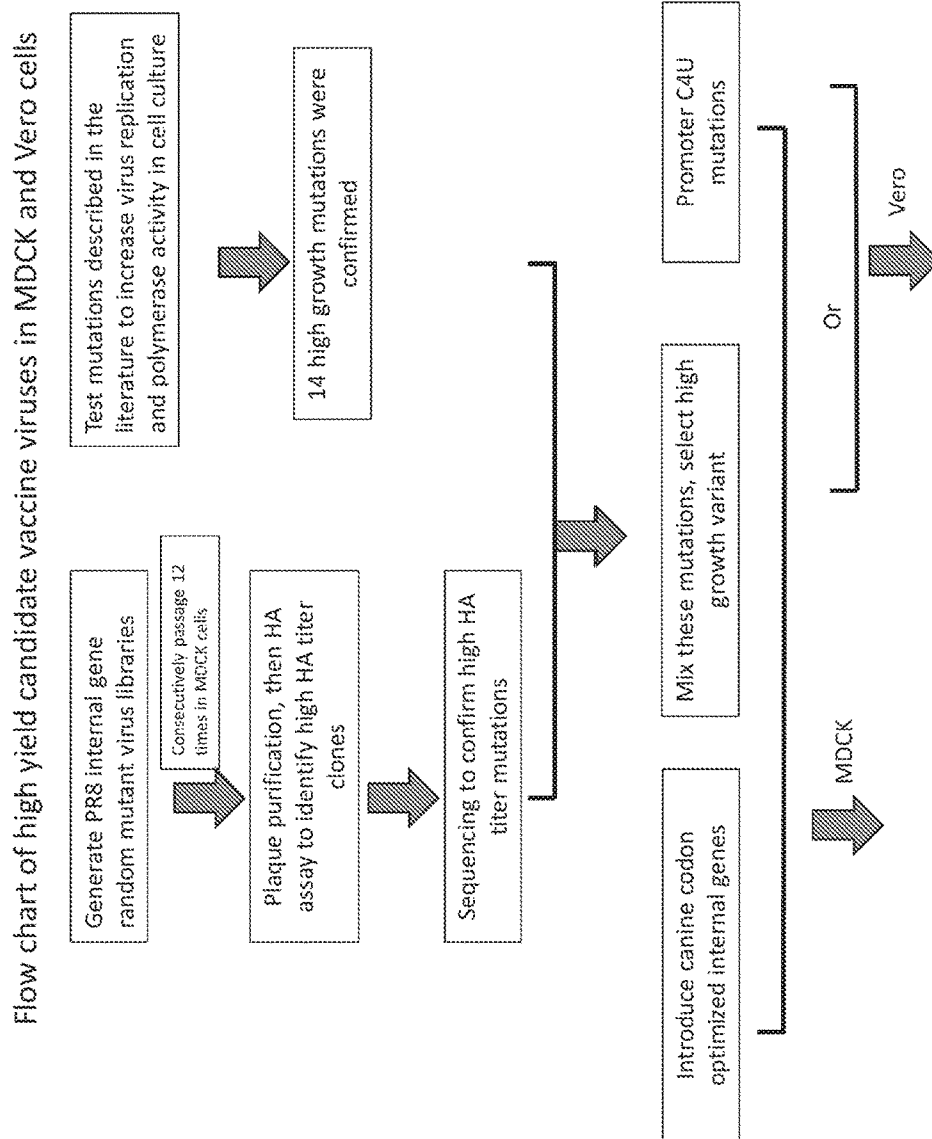


FIG. 18A

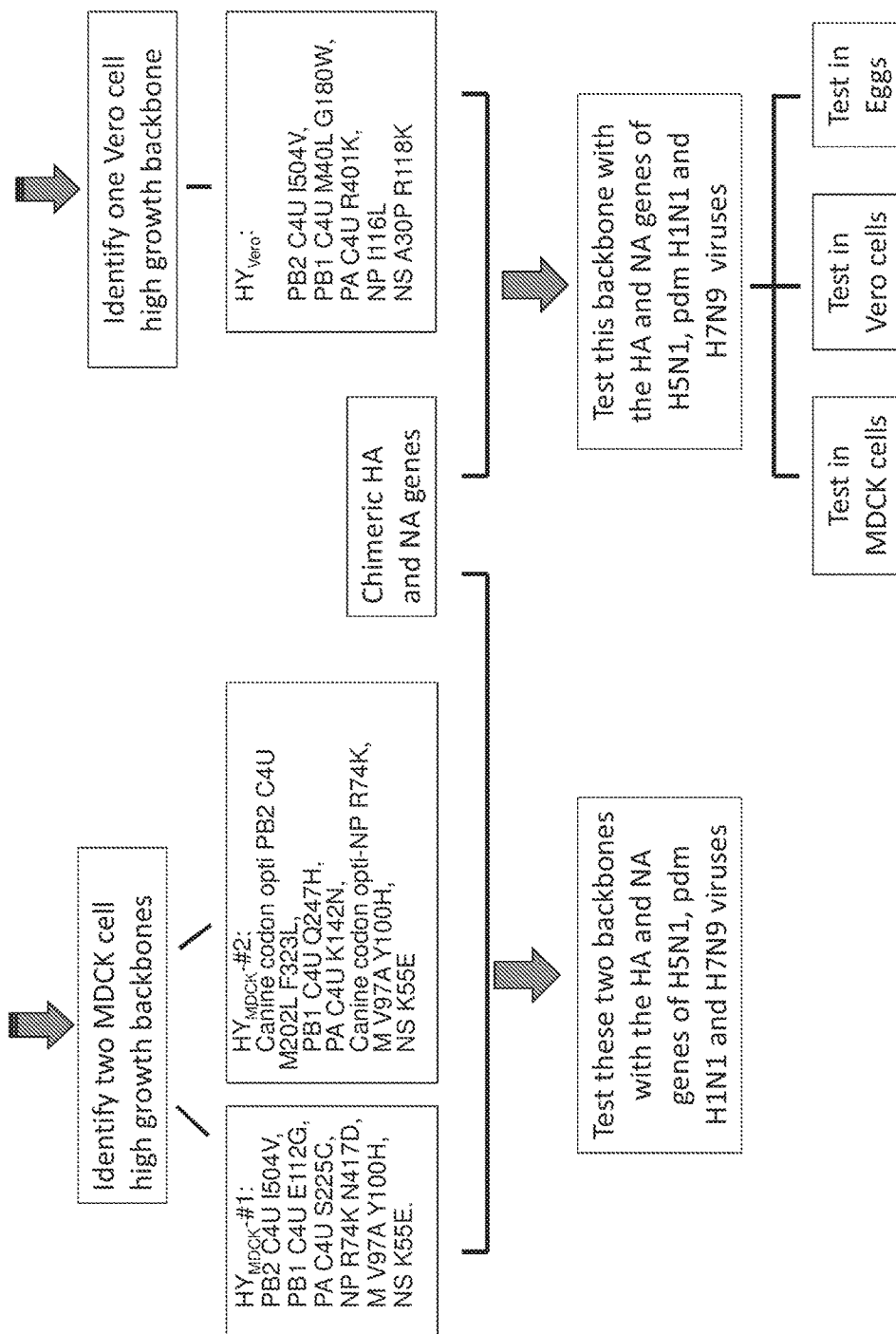


FIG. 18B

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HIGH TITER RECOMBINANT INFLUENZA VIRUSES WITH ENHANCED REPLICATION IN MDCK OR VERO CELLS OR EGGS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S. application Ser. No. 61/846,460, filed on Jul. 15, 2013, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT RIGHTS

This invention was made with government support under AI070010 and HHSN266200700010C awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in the invention.

BACKGROUND

Influenza is a major respiratory disease in some mammals including horses and is responsible for substantial morbidity and economic losses each year. In addition, influenza virus infections can cause severe systemic disease in some avian species, leading to death. The segmented nature of the influenza virus genome allows for reassortment of segments during virus replication in cells infected with two or more influenza viruses. The reassortment of segments, combined with genetic mutation and drift, can give rise to a myriad of divergent strains of influenza virus over time. The new strains exhibit antigenic variation in their hemagglutinin (HA) and/or neuraminidase (NA) proteins, and in particular the gene coding for the HA protein has a high rate of variability. The predominant current practice for the prevention of flu is vaccination. As the influenza HA protein is the major target antigen for the protective immune responses of a host to the virus and is highly variable, the isolation of influenza virus and the identification and characterization of the HA antigen in viruses associated with recent outbreaks is important for vaccine production. Based on prevalence and prediction, a vaccine is designed to stimulate a protective immune response against the predominant and expected influenza virus strains (Park et al., 2004).

There are three general types of influenza viruses, Type A, Type B and Type C, which are defined by the absence of serological crossreactivity between their internal proteins. Influenza Type A viruses are further classified into subtypes based on antigenic and genetic differences of their glycoproteins, the HA and NA proteins. Most of all the known HA and NA subtypes (H1 to H17 and N1 to N10) have been isolated from aquatic birds, which are thought to act as a natural reservoir for influenza. The H1N1 pandemic virus caused a pandemic in 2009. The first vaccine candidates tested in 2009 did not grow to high titers, demonstrating the need to develop vaccine virus backbones that confer efficient replication to vaccine virus candidates.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Mutations that increase the replicative ability of viruses in cell culture and/or embryonated chicken eggs are useful to amplify influenza viruses and to establish robust influenza vaccine platforms. Currently, most influenza vaccines are generated in embryonated chicken eggs. Influenza vaccines generated in MDCK cells are now approved for human use in the U.S. and in Europe, and influenza vaccines derived from Vero cells are approved for human use in Europe. Virus

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libraries possessing random mutations in the 'internal' viral genes (i.e., all viral genes except those encoding the viral surface glycoproteins HA and NA) of a vaccine virus isolate, e.g., UW-PR8, were generated and passaged in MDCK cells. The identified mutations result in higher virus titers in MDCK cells (and may also increase virus titers in Vero cells and/or embryonated chicken eggs), allowing more efficient influenza virus growth and more cost-effective vaccine production. Moreover, previously described mutations increased the replicative ability of UW-PR8 vaccine backbone virus. In addition to mutations in the coding regions of the six internal gene segments, mutations in non-coding regions were observed to increase viral titers, including promoter mutations, for instance, C-to-U mutations at position 4 from the 3' end of the PB2, PB1, and/or PA vRNA segments. The resulting sequences may be also codon-usage optimized, e.g., optimized for expression in mammalian cells such as canine cells or primate cells, or avian cells, e.g., chicken embryos. The mutations can be used in various combinations, with results influenced by the cell line (or egg) in use and the desired level of improvement in the replication of the virus.

The invention provides isolated recombinant, e.g., reassortant, influenza viruses with selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions in one or more gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M (encoding M1 and M2 proteins), and/or NS (encoding NS1 and NS2 proteins), e.g., in selected amino acid residues at specified positions of PB1, PB2 and NS1; PA, PB1, PB2, NP and NS1; PB1, PB2, NP, M, and NS1; PA, PB1, PB2, NP and NS1; or PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M, and NS1, and including HA and NA genes/proteins of interest, e.g., from annual and pandemic strains, which viruses are produced more efficiently and cost-effectively via cell culture (in MDCK or Vero cells) or in embryonated chicken eggs. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 142 in PA that results in enhanced growth in cells including MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a lysine at position 142 in PA, i.e., the residue at position 142 in PA in the PA gene segment in the recombinant influenza virus is not lysine but is a residue that is correlated with enhanced replication in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs, as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions in PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 142 in PA that results in enhanced interaction with one or more host proteins in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a lysine at position 142 in PA. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an asparagine or glutamine at position 142 in PA as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions in PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 247 in PB1 that results in enhanced growth in cells including MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a glutamine at position 247 in PB1, i.e., the residue at position 247 in PB1 in the PB1 gene segment in the recombinant influenza virus is not glutamine but is a residue that is correlated with enhanced replication in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs, as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 which have are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 247 in PB1 that results in enhanced interaction with one or

more host proteins in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a glutamine at position 247 in PB1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has a histidine, arginine or lysine at position 247 in PB1 as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 202 and/or position 323 in PB2 that results in enhanced growth in cells including MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a methionine at position 202 or a phenylalanine at position 323 in PB2, i.e., the residue at position 202 and/or 323 in PB2 in the PB2 gene segment in the recombinant influenza virus is not methionine or phenylalanine but is a residue that is correlated with enhanced replication in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs, as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, NP, M1 and/or NS which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 323 in PB2 that results in an altered cap binding interaction relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a phenylalanine at position 323 in PB2. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has a leucine, alanine, threonine, valine, isoleucine, or glycine, at position 202 and/or position 323 in PB2 as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, NP, M1 and/or NS which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 74 in NP that results in enhanced growth in cells including MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, an arginine at position 74 in NP, i.e., the residue at position 74 in NP in the NP gene segment in the recombinant influenza virus is not arginine but is a residue that is correlated with enhanced replication in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs, as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, PB2, M1 and/or NS which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 74 in NP that may alter folding, stability and/or interaction with other viral or host proteins relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, an arginine at position 74 in NP. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has a lysine or histidine at position 74 in NP as well as optionally selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, PB2, M1 and/or NS which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 97 and/or position 100 in M1 that results in enhanced growth in cells including MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a valine at position 97 or a tyrosine at position 100 in M1, i.e., the residue at position 97 and/or 100 in M1 in the M gene segment in the recombinant influenza virus is not valine or tyrosine, respectively, but is a residue that is correlated with enhanced replication in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs, as well as selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, PB2, NP and/or NS1 which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 97 in M1 that may alter dimerization relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a valine at position 97 in M1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 100 in M1 that may alter

virus assembly relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a tyrosine at position 100 in M1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has a leucine, threonine, isoleucine, alanine, or glycine, at position 97 and/or a lysine, arginine, or histidine at position 100 in M1 as well as selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, PB2, NP and/or NS1 which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 55 in NS1 that results in enhanced growth in cells including MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a lysine at position 55 in NS1 as well as selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, PB2, NP and/or M1 which are described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid or glutamine at position 55 in NS1 as well as selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions PA, PB1, PB2, NP and/or M1 which are described herein. In one embodiment, the invention provides an isolated recombinant reassortant influenza virus having six "internal" gene segments from a vaccine influenza virus with two or more of the selected amino acid residues at specified positions described herein, and a NA gene segment selected from a first influenza virus isolate, and a HA gene segment from the same isolate or a different isolate.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having two or more of selected amino acid residues at specified positions in one or more gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1, and/or NS1, which can be employed with HA and NA genes of interest. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 142 in PA that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a lysine at position 142 in PA; an amino acid residue at position 247 in PB1 that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a glutamine at position 247 in PB1; an amino acid residue at position 202 and/or position 323 in PB2 that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a methionine at position 202 or a phenylalanine at position 323 in PB2; an amino acid residue at position 74 in NP that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, an arginine at position 74 in NP; an amino acid residue at position 97 and/or position 100 in M1 that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a valine at position 97 or a tyrosine at position 100 in M1; or an amino acid residue at position 55 in NS1 that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells, Vero cells or eggs relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a lysine at position 55 in NS1, or combinations thereof.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having two or more of selected amino acid residues at specified positions in one or more gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1, and/or NS1, which can be employed with HA and NA genes of interest. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has two or more of a lysine at position 142 in PA; a glutamine at position 247 in PB1; a leucine at position 202 and/or at position 323 in PB2; a lysine at position 74 in NP; an alanine at position 97 and an histidine at position 100 in M1; or a glutamic acid at position 55 in NS1.

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The invention provides isolated recombinant, e.g., reassortant, influenza viruses with selected amino acid residues at one or more specified positions in one or more gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1, and/or NS1, e.g., in selected amino acid residues at specified positions PB1, PB2 and NS; PB1, PB2, NP and NS; PA, PB1, PB2, NP and NS; PB1, PB2, NP, M and NS; or PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M, and NS, that include one or more of the characteristic residues described herein. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 105 and/or 401 in PA that results in enhanced growth in cells, e.g., MDCK cells, relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a phenylalanine or arginine at position 105 or 401, respectively, in PA. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 66 (F2), 73 (F2), 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 112, 180, 327, 507, 624, 644, 667, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 702, 705, 713, and/or 714 in PB1 that results in enhanced growth in cells, e.g., MDCK cells, relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a methionine, arginine, threonine, glycine, alanine, asparagine, lysine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, proline, serine, glutamic acid, glycine, isoleucine, methionine, leucine, valine, isoleucine, asparagine, leucine, glutamic acid, phenylalanine, phenylalanine, proline, serine, tyrosine, serine or methionine, at position 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 66 (F2), 73 (F2), 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 112, 180, 504, 507, 624, 644, 667, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 702, 705, 713, or 714, respectively, in PB1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 323, 368, 391, 504, 591, 677, 678, or 679 in PB2 that results in enhanced growth in cells, e.g., MDCK cells, relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, an isoleucine, threonine, alanine, lysine, methionine, methionine, phenylalanine, arginine, glutamic acid, isoleucine, glutamine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid or phenylalanine, at position 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 323, 368, 391, 504, 591, 677, 678 or 679, respectively, in PB2. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 116, 224, 293, 371, 417, 422 or 442 in NP that results in enhanced growth in cells, e.g., MDCK cells, relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a leucine, asparagine, arginine, methionine, aspartic acid, arginine or threonine, at position 116, 224, 293, 371, 417, 422, or 442, respectively, in NP. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 90 in M1 that results in enhanced growth in cells relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a serine at position 90 in M1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an amino acid residue at position 30, 49, 140, 161 or 223 in NS1 that results in enhanced growth in MDCK cells relative to a corresponding virus with, for instance, a proline, alanine, glutamine, threonine or glutamic acid, respectively, at position 30, 49, 140, 161 or 223, respectively, in NS1. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus does not have a valine at residue 504 in PB2 and a leucine at residue 550 in PA.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in one, two, three or more of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and having an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, such as a polypeptide with a residue other than K142, S225,

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K356 or I550 in PA; other than E112, Q247, M507 or V644 in PB1; other than M202, F323 or I504 in PB2; other than R74, I112, I116, T442, or N417 in NP; other than V97 and/or Y100 in M1; and/or other than R140 or K55 in NS. The residue other than the specified residue may be conservative substitution. Conservative amino acid substitutions refer to the interchangeability of residues having similar side chains. For example, a group of amino acids having aliphatic side chains is glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, and isoleucine; a group of amino acids having aliphatic-hydroxyl side chains is serine and threonine; a group of amino acids having amide-containing side chains is asparagine and glutamine; a group of amino acids having aromatic side chains is phenylalanine, tyrosine and tryptophan; a group of amino acids having basic side chains is lysine, arginine and histidine; and a group of amino acids having sulfur-containing side chain is cysteine and methionine. In one embodiment, conservative amino acid substitution groups are: threonine-valine-leucine-isoleucine-alanine; phenylalanine-tyrosine; lysine-arginine; alanine-valine; glutamic-aspartic; and asparagine-glutamine.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in one or more of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, such as a polypeptide with a residue that is a conservative substitution relative to M202 in PB2, R74 in NP, and/or V97 in M1.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, e.g., a polypeptide with a residue that is a non-conservative substitution relative to K142 in PA, Q247 in PB1, M202, F323 or I504 in PB2, R74 I112, I116, J442 or N417 in NP, V97 and/or Y100 in M1, and/or K55 or R140 in NS1.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, e.g., a PB2 gene segment with a residue other than isoleucine and that is a conservative substitution for isoleucine at residue 504; a PB1 gene segment with a non-conservative substitution for E112; a PA gene segment with a substitution for S225; a NP gene segment with a conservative substitution for R74 and N417; a M gene segment with a conservative substitution for V97 and a non-conservative substitution for Y100; and a NS gene segment with a non-conservative substitution for K55.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, e.g., a PB2 gene segment with

a non-conservative substitution for M202 and F323; a PB1 gene segment with a non-conservative substitution for Q247; a PA gene segment with a non-conservative substitution for K142; a NP gene segment with a conservative substitution for R74; a M gene segment with a conservative substitution for V97 and a non-conservative substitution for Y100; and a NS gene segment with a conservative substitution for K55E.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, e.g., a PB2 segment with a conservative substitution for I504; a PB1 segment with a conservative substitution for M40L and a non-conservative substitution for G180; a PA segment with a conservative substitution for R401; a NP segment with a conservative substitution for I116; a NS gene segment with a conservative substitution for A30 or R118.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having a particular amino acid residue at specified positions in one or more of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1 and an amino acid sequence with at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97% or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15, such as a polypeptide with a residue that is a non-conservative substitution relative to K142 in PA, Q247 in PB1, F323 in PB2, Y100 in M1, and/or K55 in NS1. In one embodiment, the amino acid residue that is replaced has an aliphatic side chain, amide-containing side chain, basic side chain, or sulfur containing side chain and the replacement of an aromatic side chain or acidic side chain (a nonconservative substitution). In one embodiment, the recombinant influenza virus has a residue that is a neutral or positively charged residue that is replaced with a polar or negatively charged residue.

Also included are any combination of the selected amino acid residues at specified positions described herein.

Gene segments for of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M and/or NS that have the residues at the specified positions may be combined with a gene segment for HA, e.g., H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13, H14, H15, H16, or H17 and a gene segment for NA, e.g., N1, N2, N3, N4, N5, N6, N7, N8, N9, or N10, and any combination of HA and NA, to provide the reassortant vaccine viruses of the invention. In one embodiment, the HA is H1, H5 or H7. In one embodiment the NA is N1 or N9. In one embodiment, the HA gene segment in the reassortant virus is heterologous to the gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M and NS. In one embodiment, the HA gene segment in the reassortant virus is heterologous to the gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M and NS from one influenza virus isolate or strain ("parent"), or a variant thereof, e.g., one with gene segments encoding influenza virus proteins with at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or 99.5% amino acid sequence identity, or having 1, 2, 5, 10, or 20 substitutions relative, to sequences in a parent influenza virus isolate or strain. In one embodiment, the parent strain has gene segments with sequences corresponding to SEQ ID Nos. 1-6 or 10-15. In one embodiment, the HA gene segment in the reassortant virus is a chimeric HA gene segment, e.g., a chimera of heterologous

HA ectodomain sequences linked to HA signal peptide sequences and/or HA transmembrane domain sequences from the HA gene segment of the parent isolate or strain, or variant thereof. In one embodiment, the NA gene segment in the isolated recombinant virus is a chimeric NA gene segment e.g., a chimera of heterologous NA ectodomain sequences linked to NA transmembrane domain sequences from the NA gene segment of the parent isolate or strain, or variant thereof, and/or stalk sequences from the parent isolate or strain, or variant thereof. In one embodiment, the NA gene segment in the isolated recombinant virus is a chimeric NA gene segment e.g., a chimera of heterologous NA ectodomain sequences linked to NA transmembrane domain sequences from the NA gene segment of the parent isolate or strain, or variant thereof, and/or stalk sequences from a second isolate or strain, or variant thereof. In one embodiment, the isolated recombinant virus has a heterologous HA gene segment, a heterologous NA gene segment, a chimeric HA gene segment, a chimeric NA gene segment, or any combination thereof. The nucleic acid sequences employed to prepare vRNA may be ones that introduce the residues at the specified positions via recombinant methodology or may be selected as having the residues at the specified positions.

A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1), "PR8," virus serves as the genetic backbone for generation of inactivated influenza vaccines. Occasionally, vaccine strains based on PR8 backbone replicate to relatively low titers in eggs and cell culture resulting in delayed vaccine production and vaccine shortage. To determine if high yield vaccine strain backbones for propagation in MDCK cells, chicken eggs and Vero cells can be prepared to supply the demand of seasonal flu and highly pathogenic pandemic viruses, various mutagenesis strategies were employed. For example, PR8 backbone random mutant libraries were screened for high replicative mutants, e.g., by introducing random mutations to internal PR8 genes by error prone PCR, introducing mutations that confer high replication and high polymerase activity, and optimizing PR8 internal gene via codon bias. In another approach, the HA gene was optimized to increase virus replication and HA content, e.g., by optimizing the HA promoter to generate a strong promoter, optimizing the HA noncoding region, and/or optimizing the HA signal peptide.

As described herein, an influenza virus isolate useful as a vaccine virus (e.g., A/Puerto Rico/8/34, "PR8," including a specific isolate such as UW-PR8) to carry heterologous gene segments for NA and/or HA, was serially passaged in MDCK cells, e.g., about 10-12-times although fewer passages may be employed, to obtain virus with enhanced replication in those cells. In one embodiment, viruses obtained after serial passage which have enhanced replication, have titers that are at least 1 or 2 logs higher than viruses that were not serially passaged. In one embodiment, viruses obtained after serial passage had substitutions in two or more internal gene segments relative to the parent virus.

Thus, for vaccine viruses that are to be grown or passaged in cells in culture, e.g., MDCK or Vero cells or eggs, selection of sequences with, or replacement of, the disclosed residues at the specified positions in one or more of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1 and/or NS1, that confer enhanced growth of the virus in cultured cells when employed with HA and NA sequences of interest, can result in significantly higher viral titers. Thus, the invention provides a method to select for influenza viruses with enhanced replication in cell culture. The method includes providing cells suitable for influenza vaccine production; serially culturing one or more influenza virus isolates in the cells; and isolating serially cultured

virus with enhanced growth relative to the one or more isolates prior to serial culture. In one embodiment, the cells are canine or primate, e.g., human or monkey, cells.

In one embodiment, the influenza virus of the invention is a recombinant influenza virus having two or more of selected amino acid residues at specified positions in one or more of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1, and/or NS1, which can be employed with HA and NA genes of interest. In one embodiment, the recombinant reassortant influenza virus has an asparagine or glutamine at position 142 in PA, a cysteine at position 225, an arginine or histidine at position 356 in PA, or a leucine, valine, threonine, or glycine at position 550 in PA; a histidine, arginine or lysine at position 247 in PB1, a valine, leucine, isoleucine, threonine, alanine or glycine at position 507 in PB1 and/or an alanine, glycine, leucine or isoleucine at position 644 in PB1; a leucine, alanine, valine, isoleucine, glycine, or threonine at position 202 and/or position 323 in PB2, or a valine, leucine, glycine, threonine, or alanine at position 504 in PB2; a lysine or a histidine at position 74 in NP or a leucine, valine, glycine or alanine at position 112, 116 or 442 in NP; a leucine, isoleucine, alanine, glycine, or threonine, at position 97 and/or a lysine, arginine or histidine position 100 in M1; or an asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid or glutamine at position 55 or glutamine or asparagine at position 140 in NS1.

The invention provides a plurality of influenza virus vectors of the invention, e.g., those useful to prepare reassortant viruses including 6:1:1 reassortants, 6:2 reassortants and 7:1 reassortants. A 6:1:1 reassortant within the scope of the present invention is an influenza virus with 6 internal gene segments from a vaccine virus, a NA gene segment from a different (second) viral isolate, and a HA gene segment from a third isolate; a 6:2 reassortant within the scope of the present invention is an influenza virus with 6 internal gene segments from a vaccine virus, and a NA gene segment and a HA gene segment from a different (second) viral isolate; and a 7:1 reassortant within the scope of the present invention is an influenza virus with 6 internal gene segments and a NA gene segment from a vaccine virus, and a HA gene segment from a different viral source than the vaccine virus, or an influenza virus with 6 internal gene segments and a HA gene segment from the vaccine virus, and a NA gene segment is from a different viral source than the vaccine virus.

In one embodiment of the invention, the plurality includes vectors for vRNA production selected from a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB1 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB2 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus HA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NP DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, and a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NS DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence. In one embodiment, the DNAs for vRNA production of PB1, PB2, PA, NP, M, and NS, have sequences from an influenza virus that replicates to high titers in cultured mammalian cells such as MDCK cells, Vero cells or PER.C6® cells and also

optionally embryonated eggs, and/or from a vaccine virus, e.g., one that does not cause significant disease in humans. The DNA for vRNA production of NA may be from any NA, e.g., any of N1-N10, and the DNA for vRNA production of HA may be from any HA, e.g., H1-H17. In one embodiment, the DNAs for vRNA production may be for an influenza B or C virus. The DNAs for vRNA production of NA and HA may be from different strains or isolates (6:1:1 reassortants) or from the same strain or isolate (6:2 reassortants), or the NA may be from the same strain or isolate as that for the internal genes (7:1 reassortant). The plurality also includes vectors for mRNA production selected from a vector encoding influenza virus PA, a vector encoding influenza virus PB1, a vector encoding influenza virus PB2, and a vector encoding influenza virus NP, and optionally one or more vectors encoding NP, NS, M, e.g., M1 and M2, HA or NA. The vectors encoding viral proteins may further include a transcription termination sequence.

Viruses that may provide the internal genes for reassortants within the scope of the invention include viruses that have high titers in MDCK cells, e.g., titers of at least about 10^5 PFU/mL, e.g., at least 10^6 PFU/mL, 10^7 PFU/mL or 10^8 PFU/mL; high titers in embryonated eggs, e.g., titers of at least about 10^7 EID₅₀/mL, e.g., at least 10^8 EID₅₀/mL, 10^9 EID₅₀/mL or 10^{10} EID₅₀/mL; high titers in cells such as MDCK cells, e.g., titers of at least about 10^7 PFU/mL, e.g., at least 10^8 PFU/mL, or high titers in two of more of those host cells.

In one embodiment, the titers of the reassortant viruses of the invention in cells such as MDCK cells or Vero cells may be over 1 log, 2 logs, 3 logs, or greater, than titers of the corresponding virus without particular residues at the specified positions.

Other reassortants with internal genes from other PR8 isolates or vaccine viruses may be employed in recombinant reassortant viruses of the invention. In particular, 5:1:2 reassortants having UW-PR8 PB1, PB2, PA, NP, and M ("5") and PR8(Cam) NS ("1"); 6:1:1 reassortants having UW-PR8 NA, PB1, PB2, PA, NP, and M ("6") and PR8 (Cam) NS ("1"); and 7:1 reassortants having UW-PR8 PB1, PB2, PA, NP, M, NA, and NS ("7") may be employed.

In one embodiment, the DNAs for the internal genes for PB1, PB2, PA, NP, M, and NS encode proteins with substantially the same activity as a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15. As used herein, "substantially the same activity" includes an activity that is about 0.1%, 1%, 10%, 30%, 50%, 90%, e.g., up to 100% or more, or detectable protein level that is about 80%, 90% or more, the activity or protein level, respectively, of the corresponding full-length polypeptide. In one embodiment, the nucleic acid a sequence encoding a polypeptide which is substantially the same as, e.g., having at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to, a polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15. In one embodiment, the isolated and/or purified nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially the same as, e.g., having at least 50%, e.g., 60%, 70%, 80% or 90%, including any integer between 50 and 100, or more contiguous nucleic acid sequence identity to one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15 and, in one embodiment, also encodes a polypeptide having at least 80%, e.g., 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%, including any integer between 80 and 99, contiguous amino acid sequence identity to a polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15. In one embodiment, the influenza virus polypeptide has one or more, for instance, 2, 5,

10, 15, 20 or more, conservative amino acids substitutions, e.g., conservative substitutions of up to 10% or 20% of 2, 5, 10, 15, 20 or more, of a combination of conservative and non-conservative amino acids substitutions, e.g., conservative substitutions of up to 10% or 20% of the residues, or relative to a polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ IS NOs:1-6 or 10-15, and has a characteristic residue in two or more of PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1, and/or NS1 the residues, relative to a polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15, and has a characteristic residue in two or more of the gene segments for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, M1, and/or NS1, e.g., there is an asparagine or glutamine at position 142 in PA; a histidine, arginine or lysine at position 247 in PB1; a leucine, alanine, valine, isoleucine, glycine, or serine at position 202 and/or position 323 in PB2; a lysine or a histidine at position 74 in NP; a leucine, isoleucine, alanine, glycine, or serine at position 202 and/or a lysine, arginine, or histidine position 100 in M1; or an asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid or glutamine at position 44 in NS1. In one embodiment, the influenza virus polypeptide has one or more, for instance, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 conservative and/or nonconservative amino acid substitutions, relative to a polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15, e.g., those in virus isolates 1, 4, 36, 38, P17, P25 or P61 in Table 4.

The invention thus includes the use of isolated and purified vectors or plasmids, which express or encode influenza virus proteins, or express or encode influenza vRNA, both native and recombinant vRNA. The vectors comprise influenza cDNA, e.g., influenza A (e.g., any influenza A gene including any of the 16 HA or 9 NA subtypes), B or C DNA (see Fields *Virology* (Fields et al. (eds.), Lippincott, Williams and Wickens (2006), which is specifically incorporated by reference herein). Any suitable promoter or transcription termination sequence may be employed to express a protein or peptide, e.g., a viral protein or peptide, a protein or peptide of a nonviral pathogen, or a therapeutic protein or peptide.

A composition or plurality of vectors of the invention may also comprise a heterologous gene or open reading frame of interest, e.g., a foreign gene encoding an immunogenic peptide or protein useful as a vaccine or in gene replacement, for instance, may encode an epitope useful in a cancer therapy or vaccine, or a peptide or polypeptide useful in gene therapy. When preparing virus, the vector or plasmid comprising the gene or cDNA of interest may substitute for a vector or plasmid for an influenza viral gene or may be in addition to vectors or plasmids for all influenza viral genes. Thus, another embodiment of the invention comprises a composition or plurality of vectors as described above in which one of the vectors is replaced with, or further comprises, 5' influenza virus sequences optionally including 5' influenza virus coding sequences or a portion thereof, linked to a desired nucleic acid sequence, e.g., a desired cDNA, linked to 3' influenza virus sequences optionally including 3' influenza virus coding sequences or a portion thereof. In one embodiment, the desired nucleic acid sequence such as a cDNA is in an antisense (antigenomic) orientation. The introduction of such a vector in conjunction with the other vectors described above to a host cell permissive for influenza virus replication results in recombinant virus comprising vRNA corresponding to the heterologous sequences of the vector.

The promoter in a vector for vRNA production may be a RNA polymerase I promoter, a RNA polymerase II promoter, a RNA polymerase III promoter, a T7 promoter, or a T3 promoter, and optionally the vector comprises a transcription termination sequence such as a RNA polymerase I

transcription termination sequence, a RNA polymerase II transcription termination sequence, a RNA polymerase III transcription termination sequence, or a ribozyme. Ribozymes within the scope of the invention include, but are not limited to, tetrahymena ribozymes, RNase P, hammerhead ribozymes, hairpin ribozymes, hepatitis ribozyme, as well as synthetic ribozymes. In one embodiment, the RNA polymerase I promoter is a human RNA polymerase I promoter.

The promoter or transcription termination sequence in a vRNA or virus protein expression vector may be the same or different relative to the promoter or any other vector. In one embodiment, the vector or plasmid which expresses influenza vRNA comprises a promoter suitable for expression in at least one particular host cell, e.g., avian or mammalian host cells such as canine, feline, equine, bovine, ovine, or primate cells including human cells, or for expression in more than one host.

In one embodiment, at least one vector for vRNA comprises a RNA polymerase II promoter linked to a ribozyme sequence linked to viral coding sequences linked to another ribozyme sequences, optionally linked to a RNA polymerase II transcription termination sequence. In one embodiment, at least 2, e.g., 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8, vectors for vRNA production comprise a RNA polymerase II promoter, a first ribozyme sequence, which is 5' to a sequence corresponding to viral sequences including viral coding sequences, which is 5' to a second ribozyme sequence, which is 5' to a transcription termination sequence. Each RNA polymerase II promoter in each vRNA vector may be the same or different as the RNA polymerase II promoter in any other vRNA vector. Similarly, each ribozyme sequence in each vRNA vector may be the same or different as the ribozyme sequences in any other vRNA vector. In one embodiment, the ribozyme sequences in a single vector are not the same.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a plurality of influenza virus vectors for a reassortant, comprising a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB1 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB2 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus HA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NP DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, and a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NS cDNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, wherein the DNAs for PB1, PB2, PA, NP, NS, and M are from one or more influenza vaccine seed viruses and contain two or more of the characteristic residues at the specified position(s); and a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PB1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PB2, and a vector for

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mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NP, and optionally a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus HA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M2, or a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NS2. In one embodiment, at least one vector comprises sequences corresponding to those encoding PB1, PB2, PA, NP, M, or NS, or a portion thereof, having substantially the same activity as a corresponding polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15, e.g., a sequence encoding a polypeptide with at least 80%, e.g., 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 98%, 99% or 100%, including any integer between 80 and 100, amino acid identity to a polypeptide encoded by one of SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15. Optionally, two vectors may be employed in place of the vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M cDNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, e.g., a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M1 cDNA linked to a transcription termination sequence and a vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M2 cDNA linked to a transcription termination sequence.

A plurality of the vectors of the invention may be physically linked or each vector may be present on an individual plasmid or other, e.g., linear, nucleic acid delivery vehicle. In one embodiment, each vRNA production vector is on a separate plasmid. In one embodiment, each mRNA production vector is on a separate plasmid.

The invention also provides a method to prepare influenza virus. The method comprises contacting a cell with a plurality of the vectors of the invention, e.g., sequentially or simultaneously, in an amount effective to yield infectious influenza virus. The invention also includes isolating virus from a cell contacted with the plurality of vectors. Thus, the invention further provides isolated virus, as well as a host cell contacted with the plurality of vectors or virus of the invention. In another embodiment, the invention includes contacting the cell with one or more vectors, either vRNA or protein production vectors, prior to other vectors, either vRNA or protein production vectors. In one embodiment, the promoter for vRNA vectors employed in the method is a RNA polymerase I promoter, a RNA polymerase II promoter, a RNA polymerase III promoter, a T3 promoter or a T7 promoter. In one embodiment, the RNA polymerase I promoter is a human RNA polymerase I promoter. In one embodiment, each vRNA vector employed in the method is on a separate plasmid. In one embodiment, the vRNA vectors employed in the method are on one plasmid or on two or three different plasmids. In one embodiment, each mRNA vector employed in the method is on a separate plasmid. In one embodiment, the mRNA vectors for PA, PB1, PB2 and NP employed in the method are on one plasmid or on two or three different plasmids.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a method to select for influenza viruses with enhanced replication in cell culture. The method includes providing cells suitable for influenza vaccine production; serially culturing one or more influenza virus isolates in the cells; and isolating serially cultured virus with enhanced growth relative to the one or more isolates prior to serial culture. In one embodiment, the cells are rodent or primate cells.

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The methods of producing virus described herein, which do not require helper virus infection, are useful in viral mutagenesis studies, and in the production of vaccines (e.g., for AIDS, influenza, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, rhinovirus, filoviruses, malaria, herpes, and foot and mouth disease) and gene therapy vectors (e.g., for cancer, AIDS, adenosine deaminase, muscular dystrophy, ornithine transcarbamylase deficiency and central nervous system tumors). Thus, a virus for use in medical therapy (e.g., for a vaccine or gene therapy) is provided.

The invention also provides isolated viral polypeptides, and methods of preparing and using recombinant virus of the invention. The methods include administering to a host organism, e.g., a mammal, an effective amount of the influenza virus of the invention, e.g., an inactivated virus preparation, optionally in combination with an adjuvant and/or a carrier, e.g., in an amount effective to prevent or ameliorate infection of an animal such as a mammal by that virus or an antigenically closely related virus. In one embodiment, the virus is administered intramuscularly while in another embodiment, the virus is administered intranasally. In some dosing protocols, all doses may be administered intramuscularly or intranasally, while in others a combination of intramuscular and intranasal administration is employed. The vaccine may further contain other isolates of influenza virus including recombinant influenza virus, other pathogen(s), additional biological agents or microbial components, e.g., to form a multivalent vaccine. In one embodiment, intranasal vaccination, for instance containing with inactivated influenza virus, and a mucosal adjuvant may induce virus-specific IgA and neutralizing antibody in the nasopharynx as well as serum IgG.

The influenza virus of the invention may be employed with other anti-virals, e.g., amantadine, rimantadine, and/or neuraminidase inhibitors, e.g., may be administered separately in conjunction with those anti-virals, for instance, administered before, during and/or after.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

FIG. 1. Nucleotide sequence for PR8(Cambridge) genes (SEQ ID NOs:10-15).

FIG. 2: Overview of library passages and the identification of high-yield candidates.

FIG. 3. Number of clones with random mutations having specified HA titers.

FIG. 4. Titers of clones having selected mutations.

FIGS. 5A-D. Growth curves of UW-PR8 viruses possessing previously identified mutations in PB2 (A), PB1 (B), PA (C), and NP, M or NS1 (D).

FIG. 6. Summary of mutations that confer high replicative property in MDCK cells.

FIGS. 7A-B. A) Virus stocks were tested for HA titers (in 2") and virus titers (in PFU/mL). B) Growth curves in MDCK cells.

FIGS. 8A-C. A) HA titer of wild type (UW-PR8) and clone #4. B) Viral protein for wild type (UW-PR8) and #4. C) SDS-PAGE analysis of viral proteins of wild type and #4.

FIGS. 9A-B. A) Comparison of titers of wild type virus (UW-PR8) and high replicative virus with mutations in M1. B) Growth kinetics of wild type virus (UW-PR8) and high replicative virus with mutations in M1.

FIGS. 10A-F. A) Codon usage table for canines. B) Relative adaptiveness of wild type (UW-PR8) and "rare" codon optimized PB2 viruses. C) Relative adaptiveness of wild type (UW-PR8) and "all" codon optimized PB2 viruses. D) Growth kinetics of PB2 codon optimized viruses.

E) Growth kinetics of viruses with codon optimized PB2, PB1, PA, or NP gene segment or combinations of segments. F) Sequence of PB2, PB1, PA and NP gene segments of UW-PR8 (SEQ ID Nos. 3, 2, 1 and 4, respectively), and sequence of canine codon-usage optimized PB2, PB1, PA and NP gene segments of UW-PR8 (SEQ ID Nos. 25, 26, 27 and 28, respectively).

FIGS. 11A-C. A) Nucleotide position 4 of each gene of PR8 and Indo/NC/09. B) All 3'C4U mutant. C) Growth kinetics of a recombinant UW-PR8 virus encoding 'C' at position 4 of the PB2, PB1, and PA genes (black), and a mutant encoding 'U' at position 4 of all eight segments (red).

FIG. 12. Nucleotide and amino acid sequences for H7 and N9 which are exemplary sequences for use with the internal gene segment sequences disclosed herein useful to provide high titer influenza viruses for vaccines (SEQ ID NOS: 17-24)

FIGS. 13A-B. A) Schematic of chimeric HA and NA genes to increase virus titer. B) Growth kinetics of chimeric viruses.

FIGS. 14A-B. A) Growth kinetics of viruses with combinations of mutations. B) PFU and HA titers of viruses with combinations of mutations.

FIG. 15. Screening in eggs.

FIG. 16. HA titers of 216 clones isolated from Vero cells.

FIG. 17. Recombinant viruses generated with different PR8 backbone mutations.

FIGS. 18A-B Overview of generation of viruses with enhanced growth in MDCK cells and Vero cells.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Definitions

As used herein, the term "isolated" refers to in vitro preparation and/or isolation of a nucleic acid molecule, e.g., vector or plasmid, peptide or polypeptide (protein), or virus of the invention, so that it is not associated with in vivo substances, or is substantially purified from in vitro substances. An isolated virus preparation is generally obtained by in vitro culture and propagation, and/or via passage in eggs, and is substantially free from other infectious agents.

As used herein, "substantially purified" means the object species is the predominant species, e.g., on a molar basis it is more abundant than any other individual species in a composition, and preferably is at least about 80% of the species present, and optionally 90% or greater, e.g., 95%, 98%, 99% or more, of the species present in the composition.

As used herein, "substantially free" means below the level of detection for a particular infectious agent using standard detection methods for that agent.

A "recombinant" virus is one which has been manipulated in vitro, e.g., using recombinant DNA techniques, to introduce changes to the viral genome. Reassortant viruses can be prepared by recombinant or nonrecombinant techniques.

As used herein, the term "recombinant nucleic acid" or "recombinant DNA sequence or segment" refers to a nucleic acid, e.g., to DNA, that has been derived or isolated from a source, that may be subsequently chemically altered in vitro, so that its sequence is not naturally occurring, or corresponds to naturally occurring sequences that are not positioned as they would be positioned in the native genome. An example of DNA "derived" from a source, would be a DNA sequence that is identified as a useful fragment, and which is then chemically synthesized in essentially pure form. An example of such DNA "isolated" from a source would be a

useful DNA sequence that is excised or removed from said source by chemical means, e.g., by the use of restriction endonucleases, so that it can be further manipulated, e.g., amplified, for use in the invention, by the methodology of genetic engineering.

As used herein, a "heterologous" influenza virus gene or gene segment is from an influenza virus source that is different than a majority of the other influenza viral genes or gene segments in a recombinant, e.g., reassortant, influenza virus.

The terms "isolated polypeptide", "isolated peptide" or "isolated protein" include a polypeptide, peptide or protein encoded by cDNA or recombinant RNA including one of synthetic origin, or some combination thereof.

The term "recombinant protein" or "recombinant polypeptide" as used herein refers to a protein molecule expressed from a recombinant DNA molecule. In contrast, the term "native protein" is used herein to indicate a protein isolated from a naturally occurring (i.e., a nonrecombinant) source. Molecular biological techniques may be used to produce a recombinant form of a protein with identical properties as compared to the native form of the protein.

Methods of alignment of sequences for comparison are well known in the art. Thus, the determination of percent identity between any two sequences can be accomplished using a mathematical algorithm.

Computer implementations of these mathematical algorithms can be utilized for comparison of sequences to determine sequence identity. Alignments using these programs can be performed using the default parameters. Software for performing BLAST analyses is publicly available through the National Center for Biotechnology Information (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>). The algorithm may involve first identifying high scoring sequence pairs (HSPs) by identifying short words of length W in the query sequence, which either match or satisfy some positive-valued threshold score T when aligned with a word of the same length in a database sequence. T is referred to as the neighborhood word score threshold. These initial neighborhood word hits act as seeds for initiating searches to find longer HSPs containing them. The word hits are then extended in both directions along each sequence for as far as the cumulative alignment score can be increased. Cumulative scores are calculated using, for nucleotide sequences, the parameters M (reward score for a pair of matching residues; always >0) and N (penalty score for mismatching residues; always <0). For amino acid sequences, a scoring matrix is used to calculate the cumulative score. Extension of the word hits in each direction are halted when the cumulative alignment score falls off by the quantity X from its maximum achieved value, the cumulative score goes to zero or below due to the accumulation of one or more negative-scoring residue alignments, or the end of either sequence is reached.

In addition to calculating percent sequence identity, the BLAST algorithm may also perform a statistical analysis of the similarity between two sequences. One measure of similarity provided by the BLAST algorithm may be the smallest sum probability (P(N)), which provides an indication of the probability by which a match between two nucleotide or amino acid sequences would occur by chance. For example, a test nucleic acid sequence is considered similar to a reference sequence if the smallest sum probability in a comparison of the test nucleic acid sequence to the reference nucleic acid sequence is less than about 0.1, more preferably less than about 0.01, and most preferably less than about 0.001.

The BLASTN program (for nucleotide sequences) may use as defaults a wordlength (W) of 11, an expectation (E) of 10, a cutoff of 100, M=5, N=-4, and a comparison of both strands. For amino acid sequences, the BLASTP program may use as defaults a wordlength (W) of 3, an expectation (E) of 10, and the BLOSUM62 scoring matrix. See <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>. Alignment may also be performed manually by inspection.

For sequence comparison, typically one sequence acts as a reference sequence to which test sequences are compared. When using a sequence comparison algorithm, test and reference sequences are input into a computer, subsequence coordinates are designated if necessary, and sequence algorithm program parameters are designated. The sequence comparison algorithm then calculates the percent sequence identity for the test sequence(s) relative to the reference sequence, based on the designated program parameters.

Influenza Virus Structure and Propagation

Influenza A viruses possess a genome of eight single-stranded negative-sense viral RNAs (vRNAs) that encode at least ten proteins. The influenza virus life cycle begins with binding of the hemagglutinin (HA) to sialic acid-containing receptors on the surface of the host cell, followed by receptor-mediated endocytosis. The low pH in late endosomes triggers a conformational shift in the HA, thereby exposing the N-terminus of the HA2 subunit (the so-called fusion peptide). The fusion peptide initiates the fusion of the viral and endosomal membrane, and the matrix protein (M1) and RNP complexes are released into the cytoplasm. RNPs consist of the nucleoprotein (NP), which encapsidates vRNA, and the viral polymerase complex, which is formed by the PA, PB1, and PB2 proteins. RNPs are transported into the nucleus, where transcription and replication take place. The RNA polymerase complex catalyzes three different reactions: synthesis of an mRNA with a 5' cap and 3' polyA structure, of a full-length complementary RNA (cRNA), and of genomic vRNA using the cRNA as a template. Newly synthesized vRNAs, NP, and polymerase proteins are then assembled into RNPs, exported from the nucleus, and transported to the plasma membrane, where budding of progeny virus particles occurs. The neuraminidase (NA) protein plays a crucial role late in infection by removing sialic acid from sialyloligosaccharides, thus releasing newly assembled virions from the cell surface and preventing the self aggregation of virus particles. Although virus assembly involves protein-protein and protein-vRNA interactions, the nature of these interactions is largely unknown.

Although influenza B and C viruses are structurally and functionally similar to influenza A virus, there are some differences. For example, influenza B virus does not have a M2 protein with ion channel activity but has BM2 and has a gene segment with both NA and NB sequences. Influenza C virus has only seven gene segments.

Cell Lines that can be Used in the Present Invention

Any cell, e.g., any avian or mammalian cell, such as a human, e.g., 293T or PER.C6® cells, or canine, e.g., MDCK, bovine, equine, feline, swine, ovine, rodent, for instance mink, e.g., MvLu1 cells, or hamster, e.g., CHO cells, or non-human primate, e.g., Vero cells, including mutant cells, which supports efficient replication of influenza virus can be employed to isolate and/or propagate influenza viruses. Isolated viruses can be used to prepare a

reassortant virus. In one embodiment, host cells for vaccine production are continuous mammalian or avian cell lines or cell strains. A complete characterization of the cells to be used, may be conducted so that appropriate tests for purity of the final product can be included. Data that can be used for the characterization of a cell includes (a) information on its origin, derivation, and passage history; (b) information on its growth and morphological characteristics; (c) results of tests of adventitious agents; (d) distinguishing features, such as biochemical, immunological, and cytogenetic patterns which allow the cells to be clearly recognized among other cell lines; and (e) results of tests for tumorigenicity. In one embodiment, the passage level, or population doubling, of the host cell used is as low as possible.

In one embodiment, the cells are WHO certified, or certifiable, continuous cell lines. The requirements for certifying such cell lines include characterization with respect to at least one of genealogy, growth characteristics, immunological markers, virus susceptibility tumorigenicity and storage conditions, as well as by testing in animals, eggs, and cell culture. Such characterization is used to confirm that the cells are free from detectable adventitious agents. In some countries, karyology may also be required. In addition, tumorigenicity may be tested in cells that are at the same passage level as those used for vaccine production. The virus may be purified by a process that has been shown to give consistent results, before vaccine production (see, e.g., World Health Organization, 1982).

Virus produced by the host cell may be highly purified prior to vaccine or gene therapy formulation. Generally, the purification procedures result in extensive removal of cellular DNA and other cellular components, and adventitious agents. Procedures that extensively degrade or denature DNA may also be used.

Influenza Vaccines

A vaccine of the invention includes an isolated recombinant influenza virus of the invention, and optionally one or more other isolated viruses including other isolated influenza viruses, one or more immunogenic proteins or glycoproteins of one or more isolated influenza viruses or one or more other pathogens, e.g., an immunogenic protein from one or more bacteria, non-influenza viruses, yeast or fungi, or isolated nucleic acid encoding one or more viral proteins (e.g., DNA vaccines) including one or more immunogenic proteins of the isolated influenza virus of the invention. In one embodiment, the influenza viruses of the invention may be vaccine vectors for influenza virus or other pathogens.

A complete virion vaccine may be concentrated by ultrafiltration and then purified by zonal centrifugation or by chromatography. Viruses other than the virus of the invention, such as those included in a multivalent vaccine, may be inactivated before or after purification using formalin or beta-propiolactone, for instance.

A subunit vaccine comprises purified glycoproteins. Such a vaccine may be prepared as follows: using viral suspensions fragmented by treatment with detergent, the surface antigens are purified, by ultracentrifugation for example. The subunit vaccines thus contain mainly HA protein, and also NA. The detergent used may be cationic detergent for example, such as hexadecyl trimethyl ammonium bromide (Bachmeyer, 1975), an anionic detergent such as ammonium deoxycholate (laver & Webster, 1976); or a nonionic detergent such as that commercialized under the name TRITON X100. The hemagglutinin may also be isolated after treatment of the virions with a protease such as bromelin, and

then purified. The subunit vaccine may be combined with an attenuated virus of the invention in a multivalent vaccine.

A split vaccine comprises virions which have been subjected to treatment with agents that dissolve lipids. A split vaccine can be prepared as follows: an aqueous suspension of the purified virus obtained as above, inactivated or not, is treated, under stirring, by lipid solvents such as ethyl ether or chloroform, associated with detergents. The dissolution of the viral envelope lipids results in fragmentation of the viral particles. The aqueous phase is recuperated containing the split vaccine, constituted mainly of hemagglutinin and neuraminidase with their original lipid environment removed, and the core or its degradation products. Then the residual infectious particles are inactivated if this has not already been done. The split vaccine may be combined with an attenuated virus of the invention in a multivalent vaccine.

Inactivated Vaccines. Inactivated influenza virus vaccines are provided by inactivating replicated virus using known methods, such as, but not limited to, formalin or β -propiolactone treatment. Inactivated vaccine types that can be used in the invention can include whole-virus (WV) vaccines or subvirion (SV) (split) vaccines. The WV vaccine contains intact, inactivated virus, while the SV vaccine contains purified virus disrupted with detergents that solubilize the lipid-containing viral envelope, followed by chemical inactivation of residual virus.

In addition, vaccines that can be used include those containing the isolated HA and NA surface proteins, which are referred to as surface antigen or subunit vaccines.

Live Attenuated Virus Vaccines. Live, attenuated influenza virus vaccines, such as those including a recombinant virus of the invention can be used for preventing or treating influenza virus infection. Attenuation may be achieved in a single step by transfer of attenuated genes from an attenuated donor virus to a replicated isolate or reassorted virus according to known methods. Since resistance to influenza A virus is mediated primarily by the development of an immune response to the HA and/or NA glycoproteins, the genes coding for these surface antigens come from the reassorted viruses or clinical isolates. The attenuated genes are derived from an attenuated parent. In this approach, genes that confer attenuation generally do not code for the HA and NA glycoproteins.

Viruses (donor influenza viruses) are available that are capable of reproducibly attenuating influenza viruses, e.g., a cold adapted (ca) donor virus can be used for attenuated vaccine production. Live, attenuated reassortant virus vaccines can be generated by mating the ca donor virus with a virulent replicated virus. Reassortant progeny are then selected at 25° C. (restrictive for replication of virulent virus), in the presence of an appropriate antiserum, which inhibits replication of the viruses bearing the surface antigens of the attenuated ca donor virus. Useful reassortants are: (a) infectious, (b) attenuated for seronegative non-adult mammals and immunologically primed adult mammals, (c) immunogenic and (d) genetically stable. The immunogenicity of the ca reassortants parallels their level of replication. Thus, the acquisition of the six transferable genes of the ca donor virus by new wild-type viruses has reproducibly attenuated these viruses for use in vaccinating susceptible mammals both adults and non-adult.

Other attenuating mutations can be introduced into influenza virus genes by site-directed mutagenesis to rescue infectious viruses bearing these mutant genes. Attenuating mutations can be introduced into non-coding regions of the genome, as well as into coding regions. Such attenuating mutations can also be introduced into genes other than the

HA or NA, e.g., the PB2 polymerase gene. Thus, new donor viruses can also be generated bearing attenuating mutations introduced by site-directed mutagenesis, and such new donor viruses can be used in the production of live attenuated reassortants vaccine candidates in a manner analogous to that described above for the ca donor virus. Similarly, other known and suitable attenuated donor strains can be reassorted with influenza virus to obtain attenuated vaccines suitable for use in the vaccination of mammals.

In one embodiment, such attenuated viruses maintain the genes from the virus that encode antigenic determinants substantially similar to those of the original clinical isolates. This is because the purpose of the attenuated vaccine is to provide substantially the same antigenicity as the original clinical isolate of the virus, while at the same time lacking pathogenicity to the degree that the vaccine causes minimal chance of inducing a serious disease condition in the vaccinated mammal.

The viruses in a multivalent vaccine can thus be attenuated or inactivated, formulated and administered, according to known methods, as a vaccine to induce an immune response in an animal, e.g., a mammal. Methods are well-known in the art for determining whether such attenuated or inactivated vaccines have maintained similar antigenicity to that of the clinical isolate or high growth strain derived therefrom. Such known methods include the use of antisera or antibodies to eliminate viruses expressing antigenic determinants of the donor virus; chemical selection (e.g., amantadine or rimantidine); HA and NA activity and inhibition; and nucleic acid screening (such as probe hybridization or PCR) to confirm that donor genes encoding the antigenic determinants (e.g., HA or NA genes) are not present in the attenuated viruses.

Pharmaceutical Compositions

Pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention, suitable for inoculation, e.g., nasal, parenteral or oral administration, comprise one or more influenza virus isolates, e.g., one or more attenuated or inactivated influenza viruses, a subunit thereof, isolated protein(s) thereof, and/or isolated nucleic acid encoding one or more proteins thereof, optionally further comprising sterile aqueous or non-aqueous solutions, suspensions, and emulsions. The compositions can further comprise auxiliary agents or excipients, as known in the art. The composition of the invention is generally presented in the form of individual doses (unit doses).

Conventional vaccines generally contain about 0.1 to 200 μ g, e.g., 30 to 100 μ g, of HA from each of the strains entering into their composition. The vaccine forming the main constituent of the vaccine composition of the invention may comprise a single influenza virus, or a combination of influenza viruses, for example, at least two or three influenza viruses, including one or more reassortant(s).

Preparations for parenteral administration include sterile aqueous or non-aqueous solutions, suspensions, and/or emulsions, which may contain auxiliary agents or excipients known in the art. Examples of non-aqueous solvents are propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, vegetable oils such as olive oil, and injectable organic esters such as ethyl oleate. Carriers or occlusive dressings can be used to increase skin permeability and enhance antigen absorption. Liquid dosage forms for oral administration may generally comprise a liposome solution containing the liquid dosage form. Suitable forms for suspending liposomes include emulsions, suspensions, solutions, syrups, and elixirs containing inert diluents commonly used in the art, such as purified water.

Besides the inert diluents, such compositions can also include adjuvants, wetting agents, emulsifying and suspending agents, or sweetening, flavoring, or perfuming agents.

When a composition of the present invention is used for administration to an individual, it can further comprise salts, buffers, adjuvants, or other substances which are desirable for improving the efficacy of the composition. For vaccines, adjuvants, substances which can augment a specific immune response, can be used. Normally, the adjuvant and the composition are mixed prior to presentation to the immune system, or presented separately, but into the same site of the organism being immunized.

Heterogeneity in a vaccine may be provided by mixing replicated influenza viruses for at least two influenza virus strains, such as 2-20 strains or any range or value therein. Vaccines can be provided for variations in a single strain of an influenza virus, using techniques known in the art.

A pharmaceutical composition according to the present invention may further or additionally comprise at least one chemotherapeutic compound, for example, for gene therapy, immunosuppressants, anti-inflammatory agents or immune enhancers, and for vaccines, chemotherapeutics including, but not limited to, gamma globulin, amantadine, guanidine, hydroxybenzimidazole, interferon- α , interferon- β , interferon- γ , tumor necrosis factor- α , thiosemicarbazones, methisazone, rifampin, ribavirin, a pyrimidine analog, a purine analog, foscarnet, phosphonoacetic acid, acyclovir, dideoxynucleosides, a protease inhibitor, or ganciclovir.

The composition can also contain variable but small quantities of endotoxin-free formaldehyde, and preservatives, which have been found safe and not contributing to undesirable effects in the organism to which the composition is administered.

Pharmaceutical Purposes

The administration of the composition (or the antisera that it elicits) may be for either a "prophylactic" or "therapeutic" purpose. When provided prophylactically, the compositions of the invention which are vaccines are provided before any symptom or clinical sign of a pathogen infection becomes manifest. The prophylactic administration of the composition serves to prevent or attenuate any subsequent infection. When provided prophylactically, the gene therapy compositions of the invention, are provided before any symptom or clinical sign of a disease becomes manifest. The prophylactic administration of the composition serves to prevent or attenuate one or more symptoms or clinical signs associated with the disease.

When provided therapeutically, a viral vaccine is provided upon the detection of a symptom or clinical sign of actual infection. The therapeutic administration of the compound(s) serves to attenuate any actual infection. When provided therapeutically, a gene therapy composition is provided upon the detection of a symptom or clinical sign of the disease. The therapeutic administration of the compound(s) serves to attenuate a symptom or clinical sign of that disease.

Thus, a vaccine composition of the present invention may be provided either before the onset of infection (so as to prevent or attenuate an anticipated infection) or after the initiation of an actual infection. Similarly, for gene therapy, the composition may be provided before any symptom or clinical sign of a disorder or disease is manifested or after one or more symptoms are detected.

A composition is said to be "pharmacologically acceptable" if its administration can be tolerated by a recipient

mammal. Such an agent is said to be administered in a "therapeutically effective amount" if the amount administered is physiologically significant. A composition of the present invention is physiologically significant if its presence results in a detectable change in the physiology of a recipient patient, e.g., enhances at least one primary or secondary humoral or cellular immune response against at least one strain of an infectious influenza virus.

The "protection" provided need not be absolute, i.e., the influenza infection need not be totally prevented or eradicated, if there is a statistically significant improvement compared with a control population or set of mammals. Protection may be limited to mitigating the severity or rapidity of onset of symptoms or clinical signs of the influenza virus infection.

Pharmaceutical Administration

A composition of the present invention may confer resistance to one or more pathogens, e.g., one or more influenza virus strains, by either passive immunization or active immunization. In active immunization, an attenuated live vaccine composition is administered prophylactically to a host (e.g., a mammal), and the host's immune response to the administration protects against infection and/or disease. For passive immunization, the elicited antisera can be recovered and administered to a recipient suspected of having an infection caused by at least one influenza virus strain. A gene therapy composition of the present invention may yield prophylactic or therapeutic levels of the desired gene product by active immunization.

In one embodiment, the vaccine is provided to a mammalian female (at or prior to pregnancy or parturition), under conditions of time and amount sufficient to cause the production of an immune response which serves to protect both the female and the fetus or newborn (via passive incorporation of the antibodies across the placenta or in the mother's milk).

The present invention thus includes methods for preventing or attenuating a disorder or disease, e.g., an infection by at least one strain of pathogen. As used herein, a vaccine is said to prevent or attenuate a disease if its administration results either in the total or partial attenuation (i.e., suppression) of a clinical sign or condition of the disease, or in the total or partial immunity of the individual to the disease. As used herein, a gene therapy composition is said to prevent or attenuate a disease if its administration results either in the total or partial attenuation (i.e., suppression) of a clinical sign or condition of the disease, or in the total or partial immunity of the individual to the disease.

A composition having at least one influenza virus of the present invention, including one which is attenuated and one or more other isolated viruses, one or more isolated viral proteins thereof, one or more isolated nucleic acid molecules encoding one or more viral proteins thereof, or a combination thereof, may be administered by any means that achieve the intended purposes.

For example, administration of such a composition may be by various parenteral routes such as subcutaneous, intravenous, intradermal, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intranasal, oral or transdermal routes. Parenteral administration can be accomplished by bolus injection or by gradual perfusion over time.

A typical regimen for preventing, suppressing, or treating an influenza virus related pathology, comprises administration of an effective amount of a vaccine composition as described herein, administered as a single treatment, or

repeated as enhancing or booster dosages, over a period up to and including between one week and about 24 months, or any range or value therein.

According to the present invention, an "effective amount" of a composition is one that is sufficient to achieve a desired effect. It is understood that the effective dosage may be dependent upon the species, age, sex, health, and weight of the recipient, kind of concurrent treatment, if any, frequency of treatment, and the nature of the effect wanted. The ranges of effective doses provided below are not intended to limit the invention and represent dose ranges.

The dosage of a live, attenuated or killed virus vaccine for an animal such as a mammalian adult organism may be from about 10^2 - 10^{15} , e.g., 10^3 - 10^{12} , plaque forming units (PFU)/kg, or any range or value therein. The dose of inactivated vaccine may range from about 0.1 to 1000, e.g., 30 to 100 μ g, of HA protein. However, the dosage should be a safe and effective amount as determined by conventional methods, using existing vaccines as a starting point.

The dosage of immunoreactive HA in each dose of replicated virus vaccine may be standardized to contain a suitable amount, e.g., 30 to 100 μ g or any range or value therein, or the amount recommended by government agencies or recognized professional organizations. The quantity of NA can also be standardized, however, this glycoprotein may be labile during purification and storage.

The dosage of immunoreactive HA in each dose of replicated virus vaccine can be standardized to contain a suitable amount, e.g., 1-50 μ g or any range or value therein, or the amount recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS), which is usually 15 μ g per component for older children (greater than or equal to 3 years of age), and 7.5 μ g per component for children less than 3 years of age. The quantity of NA can also be standardized, however, this glycoprotein can be labile during the processor purification and storage (Kendal et al., 1980; Kerr et al., 1975). Each 0.5-ml dose of vaccine may contain approximately 1-50 billion virus particles, and preferably 10 billion particles.

Exemplary Embodiments

In one embodiment, the invention provides an isolated recombinant influenza virus having PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M gene segments from a first influenza vaccine virus isolate, a heterologous influenza virus NA gene segment, and a heterologous HA gene segment, wherein two or more of the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M gene segments have selected amino acid residues at positions 30, 31, 105, 142, 149, 225, 356, 357, 401, and/or 550 in PA; positions 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 112, 180, 247, 327, 507, 624, 644, 667, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 702, 705, 713, and/or 714 in PB1; positions 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 323, 368, 391, 504, 591, 677, 678, and/or 679, in PB2; positions 74, 112, 116, 224, 293, 371, 377, 417, 422 or 442 in NP; positions 90, 97 and/or 100 in M1; or positions 30, 49, 55, 118, 140, 161 and/or 223 in NS1. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 142N, 225C, 356R, or 550L in PA; has one or more of 112G, 247H, 507V, or 644A in PB1; has one or more of 202L, 323L or 504V in PB2; has one or more of 74K, 112L, 116L, 417D, or 442A in NP; 97A and/or 100H in M1; and/or 55E and/or 140Q in NS1, or combinations thereof, e.g., has at least one of 202L and/or 323L in PB2, 247H in PB1 or 74K in NP and optionally at least one of 142N in PA1, 55K in NS1 or 97A and/or 100H in M1 or has at least one of 202L and/or 323L in PB2, 247H in PB1 or 74K in NP and at least one of 142N in PA1, 55K in NS1 or 97A and/or 100H in M1. In one embodiment, the virus has at least one of 202L and/or

323L in PB2, 247H in PB1 or 74K in NP and optionally at least one of 142N in PA1, 55K in NS1 or 97A and/or 100H in M1. In one embodiment, the virus has at least one of 202L and/or 323L in PB2, 247H in PB1 or 74K in NP and at least one of 142N in PA1, 55K in NS1 or 97A and/or 100H in M1. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 202L and/or 323L in PB2, and optionally has 247H in PB1 and optionally 74K in NP. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 247H in PB1 and optionally 74K in NP. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 40I, 40L, 112G, 180W, 247H, 507V, or 644A in PB1 and optionally has 202L and/or 323L in PB2, and optionally has 74K, 112L, 116L, 377N, 417D, or 422L in NP, and optionally has 30P, 118K, 161T or 140Q in NS1, and optionally has 142N, 225C, 356R, 401K, or 550L in PA. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 40I, 40L, 112G, 180W, 247H, 507V, or 644A in PB1. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 202L and/or 323L in PB2. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 74K, 112L, 116L, 377N, 417D, or 422L in NP. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 30P, 118K, 161T or 140Q in NS1. In one embodiment, the isolated virus has 142N, 225C, 356R, 401K, or 550L in PA. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the PA is/are at position(s) 97, 105, 142, 149, 225, 356, 357, 401, 404, and/or 421. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the PB1 is/are at position(s) 12, 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 66, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 180, 247, 507, 624, 644, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 705, 713, 714, and/or 762. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the PB2 is/are at position(s) 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 243, 323, 504, 677, 678, and/or 679. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the NP is/are at position(s) 74, 112, 116, 224, 293, 417, and/or 442. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the M1 is/are at position(s) 90, 97, and/or 100. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the NS1 is/are at position(s) 49, 30, 55, 161, and/or 223. In one embodiment, the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the PA is/are at position(s) 97, 105, 142, 149, 225, 356, 357, 401, 404, and/or 421; and optionally the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the PB1 is/are at position(s) 12, 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 66, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 180, 247, 507, 624, 644, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 705, 713, 714, and/or 762, in any combination with the selected residues for PA; and optionally the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the PB2 is/are at position(s) 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 243, 323, 504, 677, 678, and/or 679 in any combination with the selected residues for PA and/or PB1; and optionally the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the NP is/are at position(s) 74, 112, 116, 224, 293, 417, and/or 442 any combination with the selected residues for PA, PB1 and/or PB2; and optionally the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the M1 is/are at position(s) 90, 97, and/or 100 any combination with the selected residues for PA, PB1, PB2, and/or NP; and optionally the selected amino acid residues at specified positions in the NS1 is/are at position(s) 49, 30, 55, 161, and/or 223, or in any combination with the selected residues for PA, PB1, PB2, NP, and/or M1.

For any of the exemplary viruses disclosed above, in one embodiment, the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M gene segments comprise sequences for at least one of the following: a PB1 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:2 or PB1 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB1 encoded by SEQ ID NO:2; a PB2 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:3 or PB2

with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB2 encoded by SEQ ID NO:3; a PA having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:1 or PA with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PA encoded by SEQ ID NO:1; a NP having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:4 or NP with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NP encoded by SEQ ID NO:4; a M having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:5 or M with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the M encoded by SEQ ID NO:5; or a NS having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:6 or NS with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NS encoded by SEQ ID NO:6, or the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M gene segments comprise sequences for at least one of the following: a PB1 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:10 or PB1 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB1 encoded by SEQ ID NO:10; a PB2 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:11 or PB2 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB2 encoded by SEQ ID NO:11; a PA having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:12 or PA with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PA encoded by SEQ ID NO:12; a NP having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:13 or NP with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NP encoded by SEQ ID NO:13; a M having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:14 or M with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the M encoded by SEQ ID NO:14; or a NS having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:15 or NS with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NS encoded by SEQ ID NO:15.

For any of the exemplary viruses disclosed above, in one embodiment, at least one of the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M gene segments has a C to U promoter mutation.

Any of the isolated viruses disclosed herein may be employed in a vaccine.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a plurality of influenza virus vectors for preparing a reassortant. In one embodiment, the plurality includes a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB1 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB2 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus HA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NP DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, and a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NS cDNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, wherein the PB1, PB2, PA, NP, NS, and M DNAs in the vectors for vRNA production are from one or more influenza vaccine virus isolates, wherein the NA DNA in the vector for vRNA production of NA has sequences for a heterologous NA, and wherein the HA DNA in the vector for vRNA production of HA has sequences for a heterologous HA, 30, 31, 105, 142, 149, 225, 356, 357, 401, and/or 550 in PA; 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 112, 180, 247, 327, 507, 624, 644, 667, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701,

702, 705, 713, or 714 and/or 247 in PB1; 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 323, 368, 391, 504, 591, 677, 678, or 679, 202 and/or 323 in PB2; 74, 112, 116, 224, 293, 371, 377, 417, 422 and/or 442 in NP; 90, 97 and/or 100 in M1; or 30, 49, 55, 118, 140, 161 and/or 223 in NS; and a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PB1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PB2, and a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NP, and optionally a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus HA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M2, or a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NS2. In one embodiment, the PB1, PB2, PA, NP, NS, and M DNAs in the vectors for vRNA production have a sequence corresponding to one that encodes a polypeptide having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15. In one embodiment, the promoter for vRNA vectors is a RNA polymerase I promoter, a RNA polymerase II promoter, a RNA polymerase III promoter, a T3 promoter or a T7 promoter. In one embodiment, the NA is N9. In one embodiment, the HA is H7. In one embodiment, the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and/or M gene segments has/have a promoter C to a mutation.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a method to prepare influenza virus. The method includes contacting a cell with: a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB1 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus PB2 DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus HA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NP DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NA DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus M DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, and a vector for vRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to an influenza virus NS DNA linked to a transcription termination sequence, wherein the PB1, PB2, PA, NP, NS, and M DNAs in the vectors for vRNA production are from one or more influenza vaccine virus isolates, wherein the NA DNA in the vector for vRNA production of NA has sequences for a heterologous NA, and wherein the HA DNA in the vector for vRNA production of HA has sequences for a heterologous HA, 30, 31, 105, 142, 149, 225, 356, 357, 401, and/or 550 in PA; 40, 54, 59, 62, 63, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 112, 180, 247, 327, 507, 624, 644, 667, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 702, 705, 713, and/or 714

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and/or 247 in PB1; 57, 58, 59, 61, 66, 202, 323, 368, 391, 504, 591, 677, 678, and/or 679, 202 and/or 323 in PB2; 74, 112, 116, 224, 293, 371, 377, 417, 422 and/or 442 in NP; 90, 97 and/or 100 in M1; or 30, 49, 55, 118, 140, 161 or 223 in NS; and a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PB1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PB2, and a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NP, and optionally a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus HA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M2, or a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NS2; in an amount effective to yield infectious influenza virus. In one embodiment, the cell is an avian cell or a mammalian cell, e.g., a Vero cell, a human cell or a MDCK cell. In one embodiment, the PB1, PB2, PA, NP, NS, and M DNAs in the vectors for vRNA productions have a sequence that corresponds to one that encodes a polypeptide having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15. In one embodiment, the method includes isolating the virus. In one embodiment, at least one of PA, PB1, or PB2 gene segments has a C to U promoter mutation.

Further provided is a vector for vRNA or mRNA expression of influenza virus PA having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:1 and having a threonine at position 30, a lysine at position 31, cysteine at position 105 or a lysine at position 401; a vector for vRNA or mRNA expression of influenza virus PB1 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:2 and having a leucine at position 40, an alanine or isoleucine at position 54, glycine at position 112, histidine at position 247, valine at position 507, alanine at position 644, or cysteine at position 713; a vector for vRNA or mRNA expression of PB2 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:3 and a leucine at position 202 and/or 323; a vector for vRNA or mRNA expression of influenza virus NP having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:4 and having a lysine at position 74, leucine at position 116, isoleucine at position 224, lysine at position 293, asparagine at position 377, or aspartic acid at position 417; a vector for vRNA or mRNA expression of influenza virus NS1 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a NS1 polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:6 and having a proline at position 30, alanine at position 49, lysine at position 118, glutamine at position 140, threonine at position 161, or glutamic acid at position 223; and a vector for vRNA or RNA expression of influenza virus M1 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a M1 polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:5 and having a serine at position 90.

The invention will be described by the following nonlimiting examples.

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Example 1

Methods

Cells and Viruses

293T human embryonic kidney cells are maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's minimal essential medium (DMEM) with 10% fetal calf serum and antibiotics. Madin-Darby canine kidney (MDCK) cells are grown in MEM with 5% newborn calf serum and antibiotics. African green monkey Vero WCB cells, which had been established after biosafety tests for use in human vaccine production (Sugawara et al., 2002), are maintained in serum-free VP-SFM medium (GIBCO-BRL) with antibiotics. Cells are maintained at 37° C. in 5% CO₂. A WHO-recommended vaccine seed virus is NIBRG-14.

Construction of Plasmids and Reverse Genetics

To generate reassortants of influenza A viruses, a plasmid-based reverse genetics (Neumann et al., 1999) is used. The full-length cDNAs were cloned into a plasmid under control of the human polymerase I promoter and the mouse RNA polymerase I terminator (Poll plasmids).

A previously produced series of Poll constructs, derived from A/WSN/33 (H5N1; WSN) or PR8 strains is used, for reverse genetics (Horimoto et al., 2006; Neumann et al., 1999). The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (H1N1; PR8) as a donor virus, because of its safety in humans (Wood & Robertson, 2004; Webby & Webster, 2003).

Plasmids expressing WSN or PR8 NP, PA, PB1, or PB2 under control of the chicken actin, e.g., beta-actin, promoter are used for all reverse genetics experiments (Horimoto et al., 2006; Neumann et al., 1999). Briefly, Poll plasmids and protein expression plasmids are mixed with a transfection reagent, Trans-IT 293T (Panvera), incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes, and then added to 293T cells. Transfected cells are incubated in Opti-MEM I (GIBCO-BRL) for 48 hours. For reverse genetics in Vero WCB cells, an electroporator (Amaza) is used to transfect the plasmid mixtures according to the manufacturer's instructions. Sixteen hours after transfection, freshly prepared Vero WCB cells were added onto the transfected cells and TPCK-trypsin (1 µg/mL) is added to the culture 6 hours later. Transfected cells are incubated in serum-free VP-SFM for a total of 4 days. Supernatants containing infectious viruses are harvested, and may be biologically cloned by limiting dilution.

A recombinant virus having the HA and NA genes from A/Hong Kong/213/2003 (H5N1) and the remainder of the type A influenza virus genes from PR8(UW) was prepared. The titer of the recombinant virus was 10^{10.67} EID₅₀/mL, and the HA titer was 1:1600

TABLE 1

Virus possessing PR8 genes together with the following HA and NA genes	HA titer (HAU/mL) in each dilution						
	10-2	10-3	10-4	10-5	10-6	10-7	10-8
WSN-HA NA	160	40	40	320	40	640	<1
HK-HAavir NA	400	800	400	400	400	800	<1

The sequences of PR8 (UW) genes are as follows:

PA

(SEQ ID NO: 1)

AGCGAAAGCA GGTACTGATC CAAAATGGAA GATTTTGTGC GACAATGCTT CAATCCGATG
 ATTGTCGAGC TTGCGGAAAA AACAAATGAAA GAGTATGGGG AGGACCTGAA AATCGAAACA
 AACAAATTTG CAGCAATATG CACTCACTTG GAAGTATGCT TCATGTATTC AGATTTTCAC
 TTCATCAATG AGCAAGGCGA GTCAATAATC GTAGAAGTTG GTGATCCAAA TGCACTTTGG
 AAGCACAGAT TTGAAATAAT CGAGGGAAGA GATCGCACAA TGGCCTGGAC AGTAGTAAAC
 AGTATTTGCA AACTACAGG GGCTGAGAAA CCAAAGTTTC TACCAGATT GTATGATTAC
 AAGGAGAATA GATTCATCGA AATTGGAGTA ACAAGGAGAG AAGTTCACAT ATACTATCTG
 GAAAAGGCCA ATAAATTAAT ATCTGAGAAA ACACACATCC ACATTTTCTC GTTCACTGGG
 GAAGAAATGG CCACAAGGC AGACTACACT CTCGATGAAG AAAGCAGGC TAGGATCAAA
 ACCAGACTAT TCACCATAAG ACAAGAAATG GCCAGCAGAG GCCTCTGGGA TTCCTTTCGT
 CAGTCCGAGA GAGGAGAAGA GACAATTGAA GAAAGGTTTG AAATCACAGG AACAAATGCGC
 AAGCTTGCCG ACCAAAGTCT CCCGCCGAAC TTCTCCAGCC TGAAAAATTT TAGAGCCTAT
 GTGGATGGAT TCGAACCGAA CGGTACATT GAGGGCAAGC TGTCTCAAAT GTCCAAAGAA
 GTAAATGCTA GAATTGAACC TTTTGTGAAA ACAACACCAC GACCACTTAG ACTTCCGAAT
 GGGCCTCCCT GTTCTCAGCG GTCCAAATTC CTGCTGATGG ATGCCTTAAA ATTAAGCATT
 GAGGACCCAA GTCATGAAGG AGAGGGAATA CCGCTATATG ATGCAATCAA ATGCATGAGA
 ACATTCCTTG GATGGAAGGA ACCCAATGTT GTTAAACCAC ACGAAAAGGG AATAAATCCA
 AATTATCTTC TGTATGGAA GCAAGTACTG GCAGAACTGC AGGACATTGA GAATGAGGAG
 AAAATTCCAA AGACTAAAAA TATGAAGAAA ACAAGTCAGC TAAAGTGGGC ACTTGGTGAG
 AACATGGCAC CAGAAAAGGT AGACTTTGAC GACTGTAAAG ATGTAGGTGA TTTGAAGCAA
 TATGATAGTG ATGAACCAGA ATTGAGGTCG CTGCAAGTT GGATTCAGAA TGAGTTTAAC
 AAGGCATGCG AACTGACAGA TTCAAGCTGG ATAGAGCTCG ATGAGATTGG AGAAGATGTG
 GCTCCAATTG AACACATTGC AAGCATGAGA AGGAATTATT TCACATCAGA GGTGTCTCAC
 TGCAGAGCCA CAGAATACAT AATGAAGGGA GTGTACATCA ATACTGCCTT GCTTAATGCA
 TCTTGTGCAG CAATGGATGA TTTCCAATTA ATTCCAATGA TAAGCAAGTG TAGAACTAAG
 GAGGGAAGGC GAAAGACCAA CTTGTATGGT TTCATCATAA AAGGAAGATC CCACTTAAGG
 AATGACACCG ACGTGGTAAA CTTGTGAGC ATGGAGTTTT CTCTCACTGA CCCAAGACTT
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 CCTTGTTTCT ACT

PB1

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(SEQ ID NO: 2)

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T

PB2

(SEQ ID NO: 3)

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T

NP

(SEQ ID NO: 4)

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M

(SEQ ID NO: 5)

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NS

(SEQ ID NO: 6)

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HA

(SEQ ID NO: 7)

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NA

(SEQ ID NO: 8)

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High-titer A/PR/8/34 (H1N1, PR8(UW)) virus grows 10 times better than other A/PR/8/34 PR8 strains in eggs (10^{10} EID₅₀/mL; HA titer: 1:8,000). Thus, replacement of the HA and NA genes of PR8(UW) with those of a currently circulating strain of influenza virus results in a vaccine strain that can be safely produced, and validates the use of PR8 (UW) as a master vaccine strain.

Genes that contribute to different growth properties between PR8(UW) and PR8 (Cambridge), which provides the non-HA and -NA genes of the NIBRG-14 vaccine strain

(FIG. 1), were determined. Higher titers in eggs were obtained when the majority of internal genes were from PR8(UW). Highest titers were with the M gene segment of PR8(UW) and the NS gene of PR8 (Cambridge). The NS gene in PR8(UW) has a K (lysine) at residue 55 while the NS gene in PR8(Cam) has a E (glutamic acid). The polymerase subunit (PA, PB1, and PB2) and NP genes of PR8(UW) enhanced the growth of an H5N1 vaccine seed virus in chicken embryonated eggs, and the NS gene of PR8(Cambridge) enhanced the growth of an H5N1 vaccine seed virus

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in chicken embryonated eggs. A tyrosine (Y) at position 360 in PB2 of PR8(UW) likely contributes to the high growth rate of that virus in MDCK cells.

Example 2

To develop an high-yield A/PR/8/34 (H1N1; PR8) virus backbone for growth of vaccine virus in specific host cells, random mutagenesis of the internal genes of PR8(HG) (PR8UW) was conducted. Random mutations were introduced into the UW-PR8 (Example 1) internal genes by error-prone PCR, after which plasmid libraries were prepared that possessed the random mutations in an individual UW-PR8 internal gene. Then virus libraries (PR8/H5N1) were generated that possessed random mutations in an individual UW-PR8 internal gene, along with the other wild type internal genes and the NA and 'detoxified' HA genes of A/chicken/Indonesia/NC/09 (H5N1) virus (Table 1), to generate "6+2" recombinant viruses. Consecutive passages of the virus in MDCK cells were employed to select for variants with high-growth properties.

TABLE 1

Virus libraries generated				
Internal genes				Titer of
Number	Gene library	Other internal genes	HA + NA	virus library (pfu/ml)
Control		PR8 wild type	NC/09/H5N1	3×10^6
1	PB2	5 UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	2.1×10^2

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TABLE 1-continued

Virus libraries generated				
Internal genes				Titer of
Number	Gene library	Other internal genes	HA + NA	virus library (pfu/ml)
2	PB1	5 UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	1.6×10^5
3	PA	5 UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	7×10^3
4	NP	5 UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	1.5×10^3
5	M	5 UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	1×10^6
6	NS	5 UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	1.8×10^6
7	PB2 + PB1 + PA	3UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	75
8	PB2 + PB1 + PA + NP	2UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	33
9	PB2 + NS	4UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	2×10^2
10	M + NS	4UW-PR8 genes	NC/09/H5N1	5.7×10^5

Virus libraries were passaged 12 times in MDCK cells or, after 2 passages, the libraries were mixed and 10 more passages were carried out (FIG. 2).

After 10 to about 12 consecutive passages in MDCK cells, plaque assays were performed and over 1,400 individual plaques were picked. FIG. 3 shows the numbers of clones with various HA titers. Growth enhancing mutations included: PB2: M202L, F323L, I504V, PB1: E112G, V644A, NP: R74K, N417D, I116L, and NS: S161T. FIG. 4 provides the titers of recombinant viruses generated from selected mutations.

36 viruses with the highest HA titers from the random mutagenesis libraries were sequenced (Table 2)

TABLE 2

Sequences of viruses with the highest HA titers									
Clone #	Library	HA titer (2 ⁿ)	PB2	PB1	PA	HA (H3 numbering)	NP	NA	M
WT		7							
329	Mix	9	M202L			L182V			
154	Mix	8.5~9	F323L			L182V			
347	Mix	9	M202L			L182V			
94	Mix	8.5	F323L			F252I	I116L	L55S	
1045	Mix	9	M202L	V644A		F252I			
965	Mix	8.5~9	F323L		F105C	V184I			P90S
50	Mix	8.5	M202L			M148I (HA2)	R293M		
1005	Mix	9~9.5	F323L	V644A	R401K	M148I (HA2)			T49A
134	Mix	8.5	M202L						A223E
387	Mix	9	F323L	M507V					
852	Mix	9~9.5	F323L	V644A	R54I				
981	Mix	8.5~9	M202L	Q247H					
993	Mix	8.5~9	F323L				N224I		
1043	Mix	8.5~9	I504V			L182V	R75K		
398	Mix	8.5	I504V			L182V	R74K, N417D		A30P
1007	Mix	8.5	I504V	V644A		F252I	M371V		
1042	Mix	8.5~9	I504V	E75V		F252I	R74K		
			D76G						
			E78P						

TABLE 2-continued

Sequences of viruses with the highest HA titers									
Clone #	Library	HA titer (2 ⁿ)	PB2	PB1	PA	HA (H3 numbering)	NP	NA	M NS
				P79V S80G V644A E697P F699L F700L P701H S702R Y705T					
999	Mix	8.5~9	I504V			M148I (HA2)	R74K, N417D		
1014	Mix	8.5	I504V	T59I G62X A63P V644A N694K L695T		M148I (HA2)	R74K, N417D	A265V	
1016	Mix	8.5~9	I504V			M148I (HA2)			
540	PB1	8.5		E112G		K162E			S161T
548	PB1	8.5~9		E112G L624V		K162E			S161T
191	PB1	8~8.5		E112G					
571	PB1	9~9.5		E112G					
572	PB1	8.5		E112G					
573	PB1	8.5		E112G					
1404	PB1	8.5	I57V T58G A59V K61Q E677D D678E P679M	E112G S713C					
1408	PB1	8.5		M40I G180W					S161T
582	PB1	8.5~9		M40L, G180W					S161T
545	PB1	8.5		M40L, G180W		K121E (HA2)			
543	PB1	8.5		I667T					
219	PB1	9		I667T, M714T		K162E			
344	Mix	8.5~9	M66R			L182V			
312	Mix	8.5~9				L182V	II16L		R140Q
320	Mix	8.5				L182V			
209	PB1	8.5~9		R54I		E136D, Q179L, A194V			

In a second approach, potentially growth-enhancing mutations described in the literature were introduced into the background of UW-PR8 virus (see Table 3 for virus stock titers) and tested for replicative ability. FIGS. 5A-D show growth curves for various viruses.

TABLE 3

UW-PR8 viruses possessing mutation(s) identified in the literature		
Gene	Mutation(s)	Virus stock titer (Pfu/ml)
WT	—	2×10^7
PB2	A44S	4.5×10^7
	E158G	3.2×10^4
	E158G + NP N101G	7.5×10^4
	E158A	8.3×10^6
	D253N + Q591K	8.3×10^6
	D256G	2.8×10^7
	R368K	3.1×10^7
	E391Q	1.4×10^8

TABLE 3-continued

UW-PR8 viruses possessing mutation(s) identified in the literature		
Gene	Mutation(s)	Virus stock titer (Pfu/ml)
	I504V + PA I550L	1.1×10^8
	Q591K	4.4×10^7
	V613T	1.8×10^7
	A661T	2.2×10^7
	D701N + S714R + NP N319K	1×10^6
	D701N	2.1×10^7
	R327K	1.3×10^7
	V336I	2.3×10^7
	L473V + L598P	3.9×10^6
PB1	F2 N66S	1.6×10^8
	F2 K73R	1.1×10^8
	F2 V76A	4.4×10^7
	F2 R79Q	6.2×10^6
	F2 L82S	2.7×10^7
	F2 E87Q	1.5×10^6

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TABLE 3-continued

UW-PR8 viruses possessing mutation(s) identified in the literature		
Gene	Mutation(s)	Virus stock titer (Pfu/ml)
PA	T97I	1.6×10^7
	K142N	3.3×10^7
	S225C	6.7×10^7
	S149P + T357K	3.4×10^8
	K356R	8.5×10^7
	A404S	5.2×10^7
	S421I	2.7×10^7
	R293K	4.7×10^7
NP	R305K	7.2×10^7
	E372D	2.2×10^7

5

10

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TABLE 3-continued

UW-PR8 viruses possessing mutation(s) identified in the literature		
Gene	Mutation(s)	Virus stock titer (Pfu/ml)
M	R422K	1.3×10^8
	T442A	5×10^7
	D455E	2.2×10^7
	I109V	3.9×10^7
	V97A + Y100H	1.4×10^7
NS1	K55E	1.6×10^7

In a third approach, candidates from approaches 1 and 2 were combined and HA titers and PFU/mL determined (Table 4).

TABLE 4

High-growth candidates identified in approaches 1 and 2 were tested in various combinations.

		Gene origin							Virus stock titer	
#	HA	NA	PB2	PB1	PA	NP	M	NS	HA (2 ⁿ)	Pfu/ml
WT	Indo/NC/09 (detoxified)	Indo/NC/09	UW-PR8	UW-PR8	UW-PR8	UW-PR8	UW-PR8	UW-PR8	7	3.00E+07
1			M202L F323L	M507V V644A		I116L		K55E	9~9.5	2.00E+08
2			M202L F323L	R54I		N224I		K55E	5	1.00E+05
3			M202L F323L	Q247H	R401K			T49A	9	1.00E+08
4			M202L F323L	M507V V644A	K356R	T442A	V97A Y100H	K55E	10~10.5	1.60E+08
5			I504V	M507V V644A	I550L	R74K N417D		K55E	8~8.5	5.70E+07
6			I504V	M507V V644A	I550L	R74K N417D	V97A Y100H	K55E	9~9.5	4.40E+07
7			I505V	E112G	I550L	R74K		S161T	9	1.60E+08
8			M202L F323L	I667T M714T		I116L		R140Q	<1	<1E3
9			M202L F323L	E112G				S161T	8.5	1.30E+08
10			M66R	M40I G180W		R74K		S161T	8~8.5	2.30E+07
12			R368K	PB1 F2 N66S	K356R	R422K		K55E	5.5	9.00E+02
13			E391Q	R327K	S149P T357K	R293K			3	1.60E+06
14			Q591K	PB1 F2 K73R	S225C	R422K		K55E	7.5	2.00E+07
23							V97A		8.5~9	1.50E+07
24							Y100H		9	2.90E+07
25	NCR 15-19nt mut ¹	Indo/NC/09	M202L F323L	M507V V644A	K356R	R422K	V97A Y100H	K55E	9.5~10	7.50E+07
26	Indo/NC/09 (detoxified)	Indo/NC/09						A30P	6.5~7	1.00E+07
27								T49A	6.5~7	2.00E+07
28								R140Q	8	4.00E+07
29								S161T	7~7.5	1.40E+07
30								A223E	7.5	1.00E+07
31				I667T M714T					3.5	4.00E+05
32	NCR 15-19nt mut	UW-PR8	M202L F323L	V644A	K356R	T442A	Y100H	K55E	7~7.5	4.30E+06
33	Indo/NC/09 (detoxified)	Indo/NC/09	M202L F323L	E112G	K356R	R74K	Y100H	K55E	9~9.5	7.00E+07
34	NCR 15-19nt mut	UW-PR8	I504V	M507V V644A			V97A Y100H	K55E	7	2.00E+05
35	Indo/NC/09 (detoxified)	Indo/NC/09	M202L F323L	M507V V644A	R401K	T442A	Y100H	R140Q	9	3.20E+07
36			I504V	E112G	I550L	I112L	Y100H	R140Q	9.5	1.30E+08
37			M202L F323L	E112G	S149P T357K	T442A	Y100H	K55E	0	0.00E+00
38			M202L F323L	M507V V644A		I116L	Y100H	K55E	10.1	2.30E+00

Codon usage optimization was also conducted. Alteration of codons may increase protein expression but could also alter RNA structure and stability. For example, codon usage optimization of the PB2 gene segment was performed to reflect the codon usage in canine cells (since MDCK cells are of canine origin) (FIG. 10A), while leaving the packaging signals (located at the 5' and 3' ends of the vRNA) unaltered. In one approach, codon optimization was performed for all codons in the 'internal' region of the PB2 gene (FIG. 10C) and in another approach, codon optimization was performed for so-called 'rare' codons (FIG. 10B) (used at significantly lower frequency compared to the codon used most frequently for a given amino acid) (see SEQ ID NO: 13 in FIG. 10F). Analyses were carried out using the "Graphical Codon Usage Analyser" (www.gcua.de). The titers of those viruses are shown in Table 6 (see also FIGS. 10B-C).

TABLE 6

Titers of viruses encoding codon-optimized PB2 genes.										
Virus	Gene backbone								Virus stock titers	
	HA	NA	PB2	PB1	PA	NP	M	NS	HA (2")	pfu/ml
Wild type	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	7~7.5	3.5E+07
PB2 codon optimization-1	WT	WT	Rare codon optimized PB2	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	9	2.1E+08
PB2 codon optimization-2	WT	WT	All Codon optimized PB2	WT	WT	WT	WT	WT	3	9.0E+05

Optimization of rare codons in PB2 resulted in increased titers compared to wild type virus (UW-PR8) (see FIG. 10D). Other gene segments were codon optimized and titers of viruses with those segments or combinations of optimized segments were determined (FIG. 10E).

In another approach to increase virus titer in MDCK cells, chimeric HA and NA genes were prepared (FIG. 13A) and titers of viruses having those genes were determined (FIG. 13B).

Viruses with combinations of the above-mentioned mutations (high growth backbone mutations, promoter mutations, chimeric HA and NA genes and canine codon optimization) were prepared and growth kinetics, PFU and HA titers of those viruses were determined (see FIG. 14). An exemplary set of backbone mutations are canine codon opti-PB2+C4U+M202L, F323L; PB1: C4U+Q247H; PA: C4U+K142N; NP: Canine codon opti-NP+R74K; M: V97A, Y100H; and NS: K55E.

Any of the mutations described herein, or any combination thereof, may be combined with, for instance, seasonal H1N1 and H3N2, H3N2 Variant, PdmH1N1, H5N1, H7N9 or H9N2, or other clades or candidate vaccine strains. For example, HA and NA genes from A/California/04/2009(pdm H1N1) were combined with the six internal genes of UW-PR/8 to generate "6+2" recombinant viruses. Eleven virus libraries were generated and passaged 10 times in eggs. Three rounds of limiting dilution were performed to screen for high growth mutants (FIG. 15). In one embodiment, a variant with high growth properties in MDCK cells has a PB2 gene segment with a promoter mutation (C4U) and a mutation that results in I504V (relative to the parental virus); a PB1 gene segment with a promoter mutation (C4U) and a mutation that results in E112G; a PA gene segment with a

promoter mutation (C4U) and a mutation that results in S225C; a NP gene segment with mutations that result in R74K and N417D; a M gene segment with mutations that result in V97A and Y100H; and a NS gene segment with a mutation that results in K55E, where optionally the sequence of one or more gene segments, e.g., the NP gene segment, is modified to include canine codon optimized codons. In one embodiment, a variant with high growth properties in MDCK cells has a canine codon optimized PB2 gene segment with a promoter mutation (C4U) and mutations that result in M202L and F323L; a PB1 gene segment with a promoter mutation (C4U) and a mutation that results in Q247H; a PA gene segment with a promoter mutation (C4U) and a mutation that results in K142N; a canine codon optimized NP gene segment with a mutation that results in

R74K; a M gene segment with mutations that result in V97A Y100H; and a NS gene segment with a mutation that results in K55E.

Similar experiments were conducted in Vero cells, e.g., after about 3 to 5 passages in Vero cells, using clones with high replicative properties in MDCK cells (see FIG. 16). FIG. 17 shows 5 viruses likely to have high replicative properties in Vero cells. In one embodiment, a PR8(UW) variant with high-growth properties in Vero cells has the following mutations that may be used in various combinations to increase the replicative ability of PR8(UW) virus: PB2 segment: C4U (promoter mutation), I504V (amino acid change); PB1 segment: C4U (promoter mutation); M40L (amino acid change), G180W (amino acid change); PA segment: C4U (promoter mutation), R401K (amino acid change); NP segment: I116L (amino acid change); NS segment: A30P (amino acid change in NS1), or R118K (amino acid change in NS1).

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All publications, patents and patent applications are incorporated herein by reference. While in the foregoing specification this invention has been described in relation to certain preferred embodiments thereof, and many details have been set forth for purposes of illustration, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the invention is susceptible to additional embodiments and that certain of the details described herein may be varied considerably without departing from the basic principles of the invention.

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gagagggtag tggtagcat tgaccgtttt ttgagaatcc gggaccaacg aggaaatgta	1560
ctactgtctc cgcaggaggt cagtgaaca caggaacag agaaactgac aataacttac	1620
tcacgtctca tgatgtggga gattaatggt cctgaatcag tggtagtcaa tacctatcaa	1680
tggatcatca gaaactggga aactgttaaa attcagtggg cccagaacc tacaatgcta	1740
tacaataaaa tggaatttga accatttcag tcttttagtac ctaaggccat tagaggccaa	1800
tacagtgggt ttgtaagaac tctgttccaa caaatgaggg atgtgcttgg gacatttgat	1860
accgcacaga taataaaact tcttccttc gcagccgtc caccaaagca agtagaatg	1920
cagttctcct catttactgt gaatgtgagg ggcacaggaa tgagaatact tgtaaggggc	1980
aattctctg tattcaacta taacaaggcc acgaagagac tcacagttct cggaaaggat	2040
gctggcactt taactgaaga ccagatgaa ggcacagctg gagtggagtc cgctgttctg	2100
aggggattcc tcattctggg caaagaagac aagagatatg ggccagcact aagcatcaat	2160
gaactgagca accttgcaa aggagagaag gctaattgtc taattgggca aggagacgtg	2220
gtgttggtaa tgaaacggaa acgggactct agcacttta ctgacagcca gacagcgacc	2280
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t	2341

<210> SEQ ID NO 4
 <211> LENGTH: 1565
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 4

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agagcatccg tcggaaaaat gattggtgga attggacgat tctacatcca aatgtgcacc	180
gaactcaaac tcagtgatta tgagggacgg ttgatccaaa acagcttaac aatagagaga	240
atggtgctct ctgcttttga cgaaaggaga aataaatacc ttgaagaaca tcccagtgcg	300
gggaaagatc ctaagaaaac tggaggacct atatacagga gagtaaacgg aaagtggatg	360
agagaactca tcctttatga caaagaagaa ataaggcgaa tctggcgcca agctaataat	420
ggtgacgatg caacggctgg tctgactcac atgatgatct ggcatccaa tttgaatgat	480
gcaacttato agaggacaag agctcttgtt cgcaccggaa tggatcccag gatgtgctct	540
ctgatgcaag gttcaactct ccttaggagg tctggagccg caggtgctgc agtcaaagga	600
gttggaacaa tggtagtggg attggtcaga atgatcaaac gtgggatcaa tgatcggaac	660
ttctggaggg gtgagaatgg acgaaaaaca agaattgctt atgaaagaat gtgcaacatt	720
ctcaaaggga aatttcaaac tgtgcacaa aaagcaatga tggatcaagt gagagagagc	780
cggaaaccag ggaatgctga gttcgaagat ctacttttc tagcacggtc tgcactcata	840
ttgagagggt cggttgctca caagtctgc ctgcctgctt gtgtgtatgg acctgccgta	900
gccagtgggt acgactttga aaggaggga tactctctag tcggaataga ccctttcaga	960

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ctgcttcaaa acagccaagt gtacagccta atcagaccaa atgagaatcc agcacacaag	1020
agtcaactgg tgtggatggc atgccattct gccgcatttg aagatctaag agtattaagc	1080
ttcatcaaaag ggacgaaggt gctcccaaga gggaagcttt ccactagagg agttcaaatt	1140
gcttccaatg aaaatatgga gactatggaa tcaagtacac ttgaactgag aagcaggtac	1200
tggggccataa ggaccagaag tggaggaaac accaatcaac agaggggcac tgcgggccaa	1260
atcagcatac aacctacgtt ctcagtacag agaaatctcc cttttgacag aacaaccatt	1320
atggcagcat tcaatgggaa tacagagggg agaacatctg acatgaggac cgaaatcata	1380
aggatgatgg aaagtgcag accagaagat gtgtctttcc aggggcgggg agtcttcgag	1440
ctctcggacg aaaaggcagc gagcccgac gtgccttctc ttgacatgag taatgaagga	1500
tcttatttct tcggagacaa tgcagaggag tacgacaatt aaagaaaaat acccttgttt	1560
ctact	1565

<210> SEQ ID NO 5

<211> LENGTH: 1027

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 5

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tgcagggaag aacaccgacg ttgaggttct catggaatgg ctaaagacaa gaccaatcct	180
gtcacctctg actaagggga ttttaggatt tgtgttcacg ctcaccgtgc ccagtgcgag	240
aggactgcag cgtagacgct ttgtccaaaa tgcccttaat gggaacgggg atccaaataa	300
catggacaaa gcagttaaac tgtataggaa gctcaagagg gagataacat tccatggggc	360
caaagaaatc tcaactcagtt attctgtctg tgcacttgcc agttgtatgg gcctcatata	420
caacaggatg ggggctgtga ccactgaagt ggcatttggc ctggtatgtg caacctgtga	480
acagattgct gactcccagc atcgggtctca taggcaaatg gtgacaacaa ccaatccact	540
aatcagacat gagaacagaa tgggttttagc cagcactaca gctaaggcta tggagcaaat	600
ggctggatcg agtgagcaag cagcagaggc catggagggt gctagtgcag ctagacaaat	660
ggtgcaagcg atgagaacca ttgggactca tcctagctcc agtgcgtgtc tgaaaaatga	720
tcttcttgaa aatttgcagg cctatcagaa acgaatgggg gtgcagatgc aacggttcaa	780
gtgatcctct cactattgcc gcaaatatca ttgggatctt gcaactgaca ttgtggattc	840
ttgatcgtct ttttttcaaa tgcatttacc gtcgctttaa atacggactg aaaggagggc	900
cttctacgga aggagtgcc aagtctatga gggaagaata tcgaaaggaa cagcagagtg	960
ctgtggatgc tgacgatggt cattttgcga gcatagagct ggagtaaaaa actaccttgt	1020
ttctact	1027

<210> SEQ ID NO 6

<211> LENGTH: 890

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 6

agcaaaagca gggtagacaaa aacataatgg atccaaacac tgtgtcaagc tttcaggtag	60
attgctttct ttggcatgtc cgcaaacgag ttgcagacca agaactaggc gatgccccat	120
tccttgatcg gcttcgccga gatcagaaat ccctaagagg aaggggcagt actctcggtc	180

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tggacatcaa gacagccaca cgtgctggaa agcagatagt ggagcggatt ctgaaagaag	240
aatccgatga ggcacttaaa atgaccatgg cctctgtacc tgcgtcgcgt tacctaactg	300
acatgactct tgaggaaaatg tcaagggact ggtccatgct catacccaag cagaaagtgg	360
caggccctct ttgtatcaga atggaccagg cgatcatgga taagaacatc atactgaaag	420
cgaacttcag tgtgattttt gaccggctgg agactctaatt attgctaagg gctttcaccg	480
aagagggagc aattgttggc gaaatttccac cattgccttc tcttccagga catactgctg	540
aggatgtcaa aaatgcagtt ggagtcctca tcggaggact tgaatggaat gataacacag	600
ttcgagtctc tgaactctca cagagattcg cttggagaag cagtaatgag aatgggagac	660
ctccactcac tccaaaacag aaacgagaaa tggcgggaac aattaggcca gaagtttgaa	720
gaaataagat ggttgattga agaagtgaga cacaaactga agataacaga gaatagtttt	780
gagcaataa catttatgca agccttacat ctattgcttg aagtggagca agagataaga	840
actttctcgt ttcagcttat ttagtactaa aaaacaccct tgtttctact	890

<210> SEQ ID NO 7

<211> LENGTH: 1775

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 7

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gtgcacttgc agctgcagat gcagacacaa tatgtatagg ctaccatgcg aacaattcaa	120
cgcacactgt tgacacagta ctcgagaaga atgtgacagt gacacactct gttaacctgc	180
tcgaagacag ccacaacgga aaactatgta gattaaaagg aatagcccca ctacaattgg	240
ggaaatgtaa catcgccgga tggctcttgg gaaaccaga atgcgaccca ctgcttcag	300
tgagatcatg gtctacatt gtagaaacac caaactctga gaatggaata tgttatccag	360
gagatttcat cgactatgag gagctgagg agcaattgag ctcagtgtca tcattcgaaa	420
gattcgaaat atttcccaa gaaagctcat ggcccaacca caacacaaac ggagtaacgg	480
cagcatgtct ccatgagggg aaaagcagtt ttacagaaa tttgctatgg ctgacggaga	540
aggagggctc atacccaaag ctgaaaaatt cttatgtgaa caaaaaggg aaagaagtcc	600
ttgtactgtg gggatttcat caccgccta acagtaagga acaacagaat ctctatcaga	660
atgaaaaatg ttatgtctct gtagtgactt caaattataa caggagattt accccggaaa	720
tagcagaaaag acccaaagta agagatcaag ctgggaggat gaactattac tggaccttgc	780
taaaaccggg agacacaata atatttgagg caaatggaaa tctaatagca ccaatgtatg	840
ctttcgcact gagtagaggc tttgggtccg gcatcatcac ctcaaacgca tcaatgcatg	900
agtgtaacac gaagtgtcaa acacccttg gagctataaa cagcagtctc ccttaccaga	960
atatacacc agtcacaata ggagagtgcc caaaatacgt caggagtgcc aaattgagga	1020
tggttacagg actaaggaac attccgtcca ttcaatccag aggtctatgt ggagccattg	1080
cgggttttat tgaaggggga tggactggaa tgatagatgg atggtatggt tatcatcatc	1140
agaatgaaca gggatcaggc tatgcagcgg atcaaaaaag cacacaaaat gccattaacg	1200
ggattacaaa caaggtgaac actgttatcg agaaaatgaa cattcaattc acagctgttg	1260
gtaaagaatt caacaaatta gaaaaagga tggaaaattt aaataaaaaa gttgatgatg	1320
gatttctgga catttggaac tataatgcag aattgttagt tctactggaa aatgaaagga	1380

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ctctggattt ccatgactca aatgtgaaga atctgtatga gaaagtaaaa agccaattaa 1440
agaataatgc caaagaaatc ggaaatggat gttttgagtt ctaccacaag tgtgacaatg 1500
aatgcatgga aagtgtgaaga aatgggactt atgattatcc caaatattca gaagagtcaa 1560
agttgaacag ggaaaaggta gatggagtga aattggaatc aatggggatc tatcagattc 1620
tggcgatcta ctcaactgtc gccagttcac tggtgctttt ggtctccctg ggggcaatca 1680
gtttctggat gtgttctaata ggatctttgc agtgcagaat atgcatctga gattagaatt 1740
tcagagatat gaggaaaaac acccttgttt ctact 1775

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<210> SEQ ID NO 8
<211> LENGTH: 1413
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

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<400> SEQUENCE: 8

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gtctggtagt cggactaatt agcctaatat tgcaaatagg gaatataatc tcaatatgga 120
ttagccattc aattcaaact ggaagtcaaa accatactgg aatatgcaac caaaacatca 180
ttacctataa aaatagcacc tgggtaaaagg acacaacttc agtgatatta accggcaatt 240
catctctttg tcccatccgt ggggtgggcta tatacagcaa agacaatagc ataagaattg 300
gttccaaagg agacgttttt gtcataagag agccctttat ttcattgtct cacttggaat 360
gcaggacett tttctgacc caagggtgct tactgaatga caagcattca agtgggactg 420
ttaaggacag aagcccttat agggccttaa tgagctgccc tgtcggtgaa gctccgtccc 480
cgtacaattc aagatttgaa tcggttgctt ggtcagcaag tgcattgcat gatggcatgg 540
gctggctaac aatcggaatt tcagggtccag ataatggagc agtggctgta ttaaaataca 600
acggcataat aactgaaacc ataaaaagt ggaggaagaa aatattgagg acacaagagt 660
ctgaatgtgc ctgtgtaaat ggttcattgt ttactataat gactgatggc ccgagtgatg 720
ggctggcctc gtacaaaatt ttcaagatcg aaaaggggaa ggttactaaa tcaatagagt 780
tgaatgcacc taattctcac tatgaggaat gttcctgtta ccctgatacc ggcaaagtga 840
tgtgtgtgtg cagagacaat tggcatgggt cgaaccggcc atgggtgtct ttcgatcaaa 900
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tgaggcaaga tgttgtggca atgactgatt ggtcagggtg tagcgggaagt ttcgttcaac 1200
atcctgagct gacagggcta gactgtatga ggccgtgctt ctgggttgaa ttaatcaggg 1260
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atagtgatac tgtagattgg tcttggccag acggtgctga gttgccattc agcattgaca 1380
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<210> SEQ ID NO 9

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<400> SEQUENCE: 9

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<210> SEQ ID NO 10

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<211> LENGTH: 2341

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 10

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ccagcacaaa atgtataaag cacaactttc cttataaccg gagaccctcc ttacagccat      120
gggacaggaa caggatacac catggatact gtcaacagga cacatcagta ctacagaaaag      180
ggaagatgga caacaaacac cgaaactgga gcaccgcaac tcaacccgat tgatgggcca      240
ctgccagaag acaatgaacc aagtgggtat gcccaaacag attgtgtatt ggaagcaatg      300
gctttccttg aggaatccca tcctgggtatt ttgaaaact cgtgtattga aacgatggag      360
gttgttcagc aaacacgagt agacaagctg acacaaggcc gacagaccta tgactggact      420
ttaaatagaa accagcctgc tgcaacagca ttggccaaca caatagaagt gttcagatca      480
aatggcctca cggccaatga gtcaggaagg ctcatagact tccttaagga tgtaatggag      540
tcaatgaaaa aagaagaaat ggggatcaca actcattttc agagaaagag acgggtgaga      600
gacaatatga ctaagaaaat gataaacacag agaacaatag gtaaaaggaa acagagattg      660
aacaaaaggg gttatctaata tagagcattg accctgaaca caatgaccaa agatgctgag      720
agaggggaagc taaaacggag agcaattgca accccaggga tgcaaataag ggggtttgta      780
tactttgttg agacactggc aaggagtata tgtgagaaac ttgaacaatc agggttgcca      840
gttgagggca atgagaagaa agcaaagttg gcaaatgttg taaggaagat gatgaccaat      900
tctcaggaca ccgaactttc ttccaccatc actggagata acaccaaatg gaacgaaaat      960
cagaatcctc ggatgttttt ggccatgatc acatatatga ccagaaatca gcccgaaatg      1020
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aaagggtata tgtttgagag caagagtatg aaacttagaa ctcaaatacc tgcagaaatg      1140
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cgaccgctct taatagaggg gactgcatca ttgagccctg gaatgatgat gggcatgttc      1260
aatatgttaa gcaactgtatt aggcgtctcc atcctgaatc ttggacaaa gagatacacc      1320
aagactactt actggtggga tggctctcaa tcctctgacg attttgcctt gattgtgaat      1380
gcacccaatc atgaagggat tcaagccgga gtcgacaggt tttatcgaa ctgtaagcta      1440
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acaagttttt tctatcgtaa tgggtttgtt gccaatttca gcatggagct tcccagtttt      1560
ggggtgtctg ggatcaacga gtcagcggac atgagtattg gagttactgt catcaaaaac      1620
aatatgataa acaatgatct tgggccagca acagctcaa tgccccttca gttgttcatc      1680
aaagattaca ggtacacgta ccgatgccat agaggtgaca cacaaataca aaccgaaga      1740
tcatttgaaa taaagaaact gtgggagcaa acccgttcca aagctggact gctgggtctc      1800
gacggaggcc caaatattata caacattaga aatctccaca ttctgaagt ctgcctaaaa      1860
tggaattga tggatgagga ttaccagggg cgtttatgca acccactgaa ccatttgtc      1920
agccataaag aaattgaatc aatgaacaat gcagtgatga tgccagcaca tggccagcc      1980
aaaaacatgg agtatgatgc tgttgcaaca acacactcct ggatcccaa aagaaatcga      2040
tccatcttga atacaagtca aagaggagta cttgaagatg aacaaatgta ccaaagggtc      2100
tgcaatttat ttgaaaaatt cttccccagc agttcataca gaagaccagt cgggatatcc      2160
agtatggtgg aggctatggt ttccagagcc cgaattgatg cacggattga ttccgaatct      2220

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ggaaggataa agaaagaaga gttcactgag atcatgaaga tctgttcac cattgaagag	2280
ctcagacggc aaaaatagtg aatttagctt gtccttcacg aaaaatgcc ttgtttctac	2340
t	2341

<210> SEQ ID NO 11
 <211> LENGTH: 2341
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 11

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tcgcagtctc gcacccgcga gatactcaca aaaaccaccg tggaccatat ggccataatc	120
aagaagtaca catcaggaag acaggagaag aaccagcac ttaggatgaa atggatgatg	180
gcaatgaaat atccaattac agcagacaag aggataacgg aaatgattcc tgagagaaat	240
gagcaaggac aaactttatg gagtaaaatg aatgatgccg gatcagaccg agtgatggta	300
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ccaaaaatct aaaaaactta ttttgaaaga gtcgaaagcg taaagcatgg aacctttggc	420
cctgtccatt ttagaaacca agtcaaaata cgtcggagag ttgacataaa tcctgggtcat	480
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gaactccagg attgcaaaat ttctcctttg atgggtgcat acatgttgga gagagaactg	660
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ttgcatttga ctcaaggaa atgctgggaa cagatgtata ctccaggagg ggaagtgaag	780
aatgatgatg ttgatcaaa cttgattatt gctgctagga acatagttag aagagctgca	840
gtatcagcag acccactagc atctttattg gagatgtgcc acagcacaca gattggtgga	900
attaggtagg tagacatcct taagcagaac ccaacagaag agcaagccgt ggatatatgc	960
aaggctgcaa tgggactgag aattagctca tccttcagtt ttggtggatt cacatttaag	1020
agaacaagcg gatcatcagt caagagagag gaagaggtgc ttacgggcaa tcttcaaaca	1080
ttgaagataa gagtgcata gggatctgaa gagttcaca tgggtgggag aagagcaaca	1140
gccatactca gaaaagcaac caggagattg attcagctga tagtgatgg gagagacgaa	1200
cagtcgattg ccgaagcaat aattgtggcc atgggtatctt cacaagagga ttgtatgata	1260
aaagcagtta gaggtgatct gaatttcgtc aataggcgca atcagcgact gaatcctatg	1320
catcaacttt taagacattt tcagaaggat gcgaaagtgc tttttcaaaa ttggggagtt	1380
gaacctatcg acaatgtgat gggaaatgatt gggatattgc ccgacatgac tccaagcatc	1440
gagatgtcaa tgagaggagt gagaatcagc aaaatgggtg tagatgagta ctccagcacg	1500
gagagggtag tggtagcatg tgaccggttc ttgagagtca gggaccaacg aggaaatgta	1560
ctactgtctc ccgaggaggt cagtgaacaa cagggaacag agaaactgac aataacttac	1620
tcacgtgcaa tgatgtggga gattaatggt cctgaatcag tgttggtcaa tacctatcaa	1680
tggatcatca gaaactggga aactgttaaa attcagtggg ccagaaaccc tacaatgcta	1740
tacaataaaa tggaaattga accatttcag tcttttagta ctaaggccat tagaggccaa	1800
tacagtgggt ttgtaagaac tctgttccaa caaatgaggg atgtgcttgg gacatttgat	1860
accgcacaga taataaaact tcttccttc gcagccgctc caccaaagca agtagaatg	1920

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cagttctcct catttactgt gaatgtgagg ggatcaggaa tgagaatact tgtaaggggc	1980
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gctggcaact taaccgaaga ccagatgaa ggcacagctg gagtggagtc cgctgttctg	2100
aggggattcc tcattctggg caaagaagac aggagatatg ggcagcatt aagcatcaat	2160
gaactgagca accttgcgaa aggagagaag gctaattgtc taattgggca aggagacgtg	2220
gtgttggtaa tgaacgaaa acgggactct agcatactta ctgacagcca gacagcgacc	2280
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<210> SEQ ID NO 12

<211> LENGTH: 2233

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 12

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aacaaatttg cagcaatatg cactcacttg gaagtatgct tcatgtattc agatttccac	180
ttcatcaatg agcaaggcga gtcaataatc gtagaacttg gtgatcctaa tgcacttttg	240
aagcacagat ttgaataat cgagggaaga gatcgacaaa tggcctggac agtagtaaac	300
agtatttgca acactacagg ggctgagaaa ccaaagtctt taccagattt gtatgattac	360
aaggaaaata gattcatcga aattggagta acaaggagag aagttcacat atactatctg	420
gaaaaggcca ataaaattaa atctgagaaa acacacatcc acattttctc gttcactggg	480
gaagaaatgg ccacaagggc cgactacact ctcgatgaag aaagcagggc taggatcaaa	540
accaggctat tcaccataag acaagaaatg gccagcagag gcctctggga ttcctttcgt	600
cagtccgaga gaggagaaga gacaattgaa gaaaggttg aaatcacagg aacaatgcgc	660
aagcttgccg accaaagtct ccgcccgaac ttctccagcc ttgaaaattt tagagcctat	720
gtggatggat tcgaaccgaa cggtacatt gagggcaagc tgtctcaat gtccaaagaa	780
gtaaatgcta gaattgaacc ttttttgaaa acaacaccac gaccacttag acttccgaat	840
gggcctccct gttctcagcg gtccaaatc ctgctgatgg atgccttaa attaagcatt	900
gaggacccaa gtcatgaagg agagggaata ccgctatatg atgcaatcaa atgcatgaga	960
acattctttg gatggaagga acccaatgtt gttaaaccac acgaaaaggg aataaatcca	1020
aattatcttc tgtcatggaa gcaagtactg gcagaactgc aggacattga gaatgaggag	1080
aaaattccaa agactaaaaa tatgaaaaa acaagtcagc taaagtgggc acttggtgag	1140
aacatggcac cagaaaagg agactttgac gactgtaaag atgtaggta tttgaagcaa	1200
tatgatagtg atgaaccaga attgaggtcg cttgcaagtt ggattcagaa tgagttcaac	1260
aaggcatgcg aactgacaga ttcaagctgg atagagcttg atgagattgg agaagatgtg	1320
gtccaattg aacacattgc aagcatgaga aggaattatt tcacatcaga ggtgtctcac	1380
tgacagacca cagaatacat aatgaagggg gtgtacatca atactgcctt acttaatgca	1440
tcttgtgcag caatggatga tttccaatta attccaatga taagcaagt tagaactaag	1500
gagggaaggc gaaagaccaa cttgtatggt ttcatacataa aagggaagac ccacttaagg	1560
aatgacaccg acgtggtaaa ctttgtgagc atggagtttt ctctcactga cccaagactt	1620
gaaccacaca aatgggagaa gtactgtggt cttgagatag gagatagct tctaagaagt	1680

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gccataggcc aggtttcaag gcccatgttc ttgtatgtga ggacaaatgg aacctcaaaa 1740
attaaaatga aatggggaat ggagatgagg cgttgtctcc tccagtcact tcaacaaatt 1800
gagagtatga ttgaagctga gtcctctgtc aaagagaaag acatgaccaa agagtctctt 1860
gagaacaaat cagaacatg gcccatgga gagtctccca aaggagtgga ggaaagtctc 1920
attgggaagg tctgcaggac tttattagca aagtcggtat ttaacagctt gtatgcatct 1980
ccacaactag aaggattttc agctgaatca agaaaactgc ttcttatcgt tcaggctctt 2040
agggacaatc tggaaacctg gacctttgat cttggggggc tatatgaagc aattgaggag 2100
tgctaatta atgatccctg ggttttgctt aatgcttctt ggttcaactc cttccttaca 2160
catgcattga gttagtgtg gcagtgtac tatttgctat ccatactgtc caaaaaagta 2220
ccttgttct act 2233

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<210> SEQ ID NO 13
<211> LENGTH: 1565
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

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<400> SEQUENCE: 13

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agcaaaagca gggtagataa tcactcactg agtgacatca aaatcatggc gtccaaggc 60
accaaacggt cttacgaaca gatggagact gatggagaac gccagaatgc cactgaaatc 120
agagcatccg tcgaaaaaat gattggtgga attggacgat tctacatcca aatgtgcaca 180
gaacttaaac tcagtgatta tgagggacgg ttgatccaaa acagcttaac aatagagaga 240
atggtgctct ctgcttttga cgaaggaga aataaatacc tggaagaaca tcccagtgcg 300
gggaagatc ctaagaaaac tggaggacct atatacagaa gagtaaacgg aaagtggatg 360
agagaactca tcctttatga caaagaagaa ataaggcgaa tctggcgcca agctaataat 420
ggtgacgatg caacggctgg tctgactcac atgatgatct ggcatccaa tttgaatgat 480
gcaacttato agaggacaag ggctcttgtt cgcaccgga tggatcccag gatgtgctct 540
ctgatgcaag gttcaactct ccttaggagg tctggagccg caggtgtgc agtcaaagga 600
gttggaacaa tggatgatga attggtcagg atgatcaaac gtgggatcaa tgatcggaac 660
ttctggaggg gtgagaatgg acgaaaaaca agaattgctt atgaaagaat gtgcaacatt 720
ctcaaagga aatttcaaac tgctgcacaa aaagcaatga tggatcaagt gagagagagc 780
cggaaccag ggaatgctga gttcgaagat ctcacttttc tagcacggtc tgcactcata 840
ttgagagggg cggttgctca caagtcctgc ctgcctgcct gtgtgtatgg acctgccgta 900
gccagtgggt acgactttga aagagaggga tactctctag tcggaataga ccctttcaga 960
ctgcttcaaa acagccaagt gtacagccta atcagaccaa atgagaatcc agcacacaag 1020
agtcaactgg tgtggatggc atgccattct gccgcatttg aagatctaag agtattgagc 1080
ttcatcaaa ggacgaaggt ggtcccaaga ggaagcttt ccactagagg agttcaaatt 1140
gcttccaatg aaaatatgga gactatggaa tcaagtacac ttgaactgag aagcaggtac 1200
tgggccataa ggaccagaag tggaggaaac accaatcaac agagggcac tgcgggcca 1260
atcagcatac aacctacgtt ctcagtacag agaaatctcc cttttgacag aacaaccgtt 1320
atggcagcat tcaactggaa tacagagggg agaacatctg acatgaggac cgaaatcata 1380
aggatgatgg aaagtgaag accagaagat gtgtctttcc aggggcgggg agtcttcgag 1440
ctctcgagc aaaaggcagc gagcccgatc gtgccttctt ttgacatgag taatgaagga 1500

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tcttatttct tcggagacaa tgcagaggag tacgacaatt aaagaaaaat acccttgttt	1560
ctact	1565

<210> SEQ ID NO 14
 <211> LENGTH: 1027
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

agcaaaagca ggtagatatt gaaagatgag tcttctaacc gaggtcgaaa cgtacgttct	60
ctctatcatc ccgtcaggcc ccctcaaagc cgagatcgca cagagacttg aagatgtctt	120
tgcagggaag aacaccgacg ttgaggttct catggaatgg ctaaagacaa gaccaatcct	180
gtcacctctg actaagggga ttttaggatt tgtgttcacg ctcaccgtgc ccagtgcg	240
aggactgcag cgtagacgct ttgtccaaaa tgccttaaat gggaacgggg atccaaataa	300
catggacaaa gcagttaaac tgtataggaa gctcaagagg gagataacat tccatggggc	360
caaagaaatc tcaactcagtt attctgctgg tgcacttgcc agttgtatgg gcctcatata	420
caacaggatg ggggctgtga ccactgaagt ggcatattggc ctggtatgtg caacctgtga	480
acagattgct gactcccagc atcgggtctca taggcaaatg gtgacaacaa ccaaccact	540
aatcagacat gagaacagaa tggttttagc cagcactaca gctaaggcta tggagcaaat	600
ggctgggatc agtgagcaag cagcagaggc catggagggt gctagtgcag ctaggcaaat	660
ggtgcaagcg atgagaacca ttgggactca tcctagctcc agtgctggtc tgaaaaatga	720
tcttcttgaa aatttgcagg cctatcagaa acgaatgggg gtgcagatgc aacggttcaa	780
gtgatcctct cgctattgcc gcaaatatca ttgggatctt gcaactgata ttgtggattc	840
ttgatcgtct ttttttcaaa tgcatttacc gtgcgtttaa atacggactg aaaggagggc	900
cttctacgga aggagtgcc aagtctatga ggaagaata tcgaaaggaa cagcagagtg	960
ctgtggatgc tgacgatggt cattttgtca gcatagagct ggagtaaaaa actaccttgt	1020
ttctact	1027

<210> SEQ ID NO 15
 <211> LENGTH: 890
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

agcaaaagca gggtagacaaa gacataatgg atccaaacac tgtgtcaagc tttcaggtag	60
attgctttct ttggcatgtc cgcaaacgag ttgcagacca agaactaggt gatgccccat	120
tccttgatcg gcttcgccga gatcagaaat ccctaagagg aaggggcagc actcttggtc	180
tggacatcga gacagccaca cgtgctggaa agcagatagt ggagcggatt ctgaaagaag	240
aatccgatga ggcacttaaa atgaccatgg cctctgtacc tgcgtcgcgt tacctaaccg	300
acatgactct tgaggaaatg tcaagggaat ggtccatgct catacccaag cagaaagtgg	360
caggccctct ttgtatcaga atggaccagg cgatcatgga taaaaacatc atactgaaag	420
cgaacttcag tgtgattttt gaccggctgg agactctaatt attgctaagg gctttcaccg	480
aagaggggagc aattgttggc gaaatttcac cattgccttc tcttccagga catactgctg	540
aggatgtcaa aaatgcagtt ggagtctca tcggaggact tgaatggaat gataacacag	600
ttcgagtctc tgaaactcta cagagattcg cttggagaag cagtaatgag aatgggagac	660
ctccactcac tccaaaacag aaacgagaaa tggcggaac aattaggtca gaagtttgaa	720

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gaaataagat ggttgattga agaagtgaga cacaaactga aggtaacaga gaatagtttt	780
gagcaataa catttatgca agccttacat ctattgcttg aagtggagca agagataaga	840
actttctcat ttcagcttat ttaataataa aaaacaccct tgtttctact	890

<210> SEQ ID NO 16

<400> SEQUENCE: 16

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<210> SEQ ID NO 17

<211> LENGTH: 1683

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

atgaacactc aaatcctggt attcgtcttg attgcatca ttccaacaaa tgcagacaaa	60
atctgctctg gacatcatgc cgtgtcaaac ggaaccaaag taaacacatt aactgaaaga	120
ggagtggaag tcgtcaatgc aactgaaaca gtggaacgaa caaacatccc caggatctgc	180
tcaaaagggg aaaggacagt tgacctcggg caatgtggac tctctggggc aatcactgga	240
ccacctcaat gtgaccaatt cctagaattt tcagccgatt taattattga gaggcgagaa	300
ggaagtgatg tctgttatcc tgggaaattc gtgaatgaag aagctctgag gcaaattctc	360
agagaatcag gcggaattga caaggaagca atgggattca catacagtgg aataagaact	420
aatggagcaa ccagtgcctg taggagatca ggatcttcat tctatgcaga aatgaaatgg	480
ctcctgtcaa acacagataa tgctgcattc ccgcagatga ctaagtcata taaaaataca	540
agaaaaagcc cagctctaata agtatggggg atccatcatt ccgtatcaac tgcagagcaa	600
accaagctat atgggagtgg aaacaaactg gtgacagttg ggagttctaa ttatcaacaa	660
tcttttgtac cgagtccagg agcgagacca caagttaatg gtctatctgg aagaattgac	720
tttcatgtgc taatgtctaa tcccaatgat acagtcactt tcagtttcaa tggggctttc	780
atagctccag accgtgcaag cttcctgaga ggaaaacta tgggaatcca gagtggagta	840
caggttgatg ccaattgtga aggggactgc tatcatagtg gagggacaat aataagtaac	900
ttgccatttc agaacataga tagcagggca gttggaaaat gtccgagata tgtaagcaa	960
aggagtctgc tgctagcaac agggatgaag aatgttcctg agattccaaa gggaagaggc	1020
ctatttggtg ctatagcggg ttccattgaa aatggatggg aaggcctaata tgatggttgg	1080
tatggtttca gacaccagaa tgcacaggga gagggaaact ctgcagatta caaaagcact	1140
caatcggaat ttgatcaaat aacaggaaaa ttaaacccgc ttatagaaaa aaccaaccaa	1200
caatttgagt tgatagacaa tgaattcaat gaggtagaga agcaaatcgg taatgtgata	1260
aattggacca gagattctat aacagaagtg tggtcataca atgctgaact cttggttagca	1320
atggagaacc agcatacaat tgatctggct gattcagaaa tggacaaact gtacgaacga	1380
gtgaaaagac agctgagaga gaatgctgaa gaagatggca ctggttgctt tgaatatatt	1440
cacaagtgtg atgatgactg tatggccagt attagaaata acacctatga tcacagcaaa	1500
tacagggaag aggcaatgca aaatagaata cagattgacc cagtcaaact aagcagcggc	1560
tacaaagatg tgatactttg gtttagcttc ggggcatcat gtttcatact tctagccatt	1620
gtaatgggcc ttgtcttcat atgtgtaaag aatggaaaac tgcggtgcac tatttgtata	1680
taa	1683

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<210> SEQ ID NO 18
<211> LENGTH: 560
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 18

Met Asn Thr Gln Ile Leu Val Phe Ala Leu Ile Ala Ile Ile Pro Thr
 1             5             10             15

Asn Ala Asp Lys Ile Cys Leu Gly His His Ala Val Ser Asn Gly Thr
 20             25             30

Lys Val Asn Thr Leu Thr Glu Arg Gly Val Glu Val Val Asn Ala Thr
 35             40             45

Glu Thr Val Glu Arg Thr Asn Ile Pro Arg Ile Cys Ser Lys Gly Lys
 50             55             60

Arg Thr Val Asp Leu Gly Gln Cys Gly Leu Leu Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly
 65             70             75             80

Pro Pro Gln Cys Asp Gln Phe Leu Glu Phe Ser Ala Asp Leu Ile Ile
 85             90             95

Glu Arg Arg Glu Gly Ser Asp Val Cys Tyr Pro Gly Lys Phe Val Asn
100            105            110

Glu Glu Ala Leu Arg Gln Ile Leu Arg Glu Ser Gly Gly Ile Asp Lys
115            120            125

Glu Ala Met Gly Phe Thr Tyr Ser Gly Ile Arg Thr Asn Gly Ala Thr
130            135            140

Ser Ala Cys Arg Arg Ser Gly Ser Ser Phe Tyr Ala Glu Met Lys Trp
145            150            155            160

Leu Leu Ser Asn Thr Asp Asn Ala Ala Phe Pro Gln Met Thr Lys Ser
165            170            175

Tyr Lys Asn Thr Arg Lys Ser Pro Ala Leu Ile Val Trp Gly Ile His
180            185            190

His Ser Val Ser Thr Ala Glu Gln Thr Lys Leu Tyr Gly Ser Gly Asn
195            200            205

Lys Leu Val Thr Val Gly Ser Ser Asn Tyr Gln Gln Ser Phe Val Pro
210            215            220

Ser Pro Gly Ala Arg Pro Gln Val Asn Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ile Asp
225            230            235            240

Phe His Trp Leu Met Leu Asn Pro Asn Asp Thr Val Thr Phe Ser Phe
245            250            255

Asn Gly Ala Phe Ile Ala Pro Asp Arg Ala Ser Phe Leu Arg Gly Lys
260            265            270

Ser Met Gly Ile Gln Ser Gly Val Gln Val Asp Ala Asn Cys Glu Gly
275            280            285

Asp Cys Tyr His Ser Gly Gly Thr Ile Ile Ser Asn Leu Pro Phe Gln
290            295            300

Asn Ile Asp Ser Arg Ala Val Gly Lys Cys Pro Arg Tyr Val Lys Gln
305            310            315            320

Arg Ser Leu Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Met Lys Asn Val Pro Glu Ile Pro
325            330            335

Lys Gly Arg Gly Leu Phe Gly Ala Ile Ala Gly Phe Ile Glu Asn Gly
340            345            350

Trp Glu Gly Leu Ile Asp Gly Trp Tyr Gly Phe Arg His Gln Asn Ala
355            360            365

Gln Gly Glu Gly Thr Ala Ala Asp Tyr Lys Ser Thr Gln Ser Ala Ile

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370	375	380
Asp Gln Ile Thr Gly Lys Leu Asn Arg Leu Ile Glu Lys Thr Asn Gln		
385	390	395 400
Gln Phe Glu Leu Ile Asp Asn Glu Phe Asn Glu Val Glu Lys Gln Ile		
	405	410 415
Gly Asn Val Ile Asn Trp Thr Arg Asp Ser Ile Thr Glu Val Trp Ser		
	420	425 430
Tyr Asn Ala Glu Leu Leu Val Ala Met Glu Asn Gln His Thr Ile Asp		
	435	440 445
Leu Ala Asp Ser Glu Met Asp Lys Leu Tyr Glu Arg Val Lys Arg Gln		
	450	455 460
Leu Arg Glu Asn Ala Glu Glu Asp Gly Thr Gly Cys Phe Glu Ile Phe		
465	470	475 480
His Lys Cys Asp Asp Asp Cys Met Ala Ser Ile Arg Asn Asn Thr Tyr		
	485	490 495
Asp His Ser Lys Tyr Arg Glu Glu Ala Met Gln Asn Arg Ile Gln Ile		
	500	505 510
Asp Pro Val Lys Leu Ser Ser Gly Tyr Lys Asp Val Ile Leu Trp Phe		
	515	520 525
Ser Phe Gly Ala Ser Cys Phe Ile Leu Leu Ala Ile Val Met Gly Leu		
530	535	540
Val Phe Ile Cys Val Lys Asn Gly Asn Met Arg Cys Thr Ile Cys Ile		
545	550	555 560

<210> SEQ ID NO 19

<211> LENGTH: 1398

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 19

atgaatccaa atcagaagat tctatgcact tcagccactg ctatcataat aggcgcaatc	60
gcagtactca ttggaatagc aaacctagga ttgaacatag gactgcatct aaaaccgggc	120
tgcaattgct cacttcaca acctgaaaca accaacacaa gccaaacaat aataaacaac	180
tattataatg aaacaaacat caccaacatc caaatggaag agagaacaag caggaatttc	240
aataacttaa ctaaagggct ctgtactata aattcatggc acatatatgg gaaagacaat	300
gcagtaagaa ttggagagag ctcggtatgt ttagtcacaa gagaacccta tgtttcatgc	360
gaccagatg aatgcagggt ctatgctctc agccaaggaa caacaatcag agggaaacac	420
tcaaacggaa caatacacga taggtcccag tatcgcgccc tgataagctg gccactatca	480
tcaccgcccc cagtgtacaa cagcagggtg gaatgcattg ggtggtcaag tactagtgtc	540
catgatggca aatccaggat gtcaatatgt atatcaggac caaacaacaa tgcattctgca	600
gtagtatggt acaacagaag gcctgttgca gaaattaaca catgggcccc aacatacta	660
agaacacagg aatctgaatg tgtatgccac aacggcggtat gccagtagt gttcaccgat	720
gggtctgcca ctggacctgc agacacaaga atatactatt ttaaaggagg gaaaatattg	780
aaatgggagt ctctgactgg aactgctaag catattgaag aatgctcatg ttacggggaa	840
cgaacaggaa ttacctgcac atgcaggagc aattggcagg gctcaaatac accagtgtatt	900
cagatagacc cagtagcaat gacacacact agtcaatata tatgcagtcc tgttcttaca	960
gacaatcccc gaccgaatga cccaaatata ggtaagtgt atgaccctta tccaggtaat	1020
aataacaatg gagtcaaggg attctcatac ctggatgggg ctaaacattg gctaggagg	1080

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acaataagca cagcctcgag gtctggatac gagatgttaa aagtgcctaaa tgcattgaca 1140
gatgatagat caaagcccat tcaaggctcag acaattgtat taaacgctga ctggagtggc 1200
tacagtggat ctttcattga ctattgggct gaaggggact gctatcgagc gtgtttttat 1260
gtggagttag tacgtggaag acccaaggaa gataaagtgt ggtggaccag caatagtata 1320
gtatcgatgt gttccagtac agaattcctg ggacaatgga actggcctga tggggctaaa 1380
atagagtact tcctctaa 1398

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<210> SEQ ID NO 20

<211> LENGTH: 465

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 20

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Met Asn Pro Asn Gln Lys Ile Leu Cys Thr Ser Ala Thr Ala Ile Ile
  1           5           10          15

Ile Gly Ala Ile Ala Val Leu Ile Gly Ile Ala Asn Leu Gly Leu Asn
  20          25          30

Ile Gly Leu His Leu Lys Pro Gly Cys Asn Cys Ser His Ser Gln Pro
  35          40          45

Glu Thr Thr Asn Thr Ser Gln Thr Ile Ile Asn Asn Tyr Tyr Asn Glu
  50          55          60

Thr Asn Ile Thr Asn Ile Gln Met Glu Glu Arg Thr Ser Arg Asn Phe
  65          70          75          80

Asn Asn Leu Thr Lys Gly Leu Cys Thr Ile Asn Ser Trp His Ile Tyr
  85          90          95

Gly Lys Asp Asn Ala Val Arg Ile Gly Glu Ser Ser Asp Val Leu Val
 100          105          110

Thr Arg Glu Pro Tyr Val Ser Cys Asp Pro Asp Glu Cys Arg Phe Tyr
 115          120          125

Ala Leu Ser Gln Gly Thr Thr Ile Arg Gly Lys His Ser Asn Gly Thr
 130          135          140

Ile His Asp Arg Ser Gln Tyr Arg Ala Leu Ile Ser Trp Pro Leu Ser
 145          150          155          160

Ser Pro Pro Thr Val Tyr Asn Ser Arg Val Glu Cys Ile Gly Trp Ser
 165          170          175

Ser Thr Ser Cys His Asp Gly Lys Ser Arg Met Ser Ile Cys Ile Ser
 180          185          190

Gly Pro Asn Asn Asn Ala Ser Ala Val Val Trp Tyr Asn Arg Arg Pro
 195          200          205

Val Ala Glu Ile Asn Thr Trp Ala Arg Asn Ile Leu Arg Thr Gln Glu
 210          215          220

Ser Glu Cys Val Cys His Asn Gly Val Cys Pro Val Val Phe Thr Asp
 225          230          235          240

Gly Ser Ala Thr Gly Pro Ala Asp Thr Arg Ile Tyr Tyr Phe Lys Glu
 245          250          255

Gly Lys Ile Leu Lys Trp Glu Ser Leu Thr Gly Thr Ala Lys His Ile
 260          265          270

Glu Glu Cys Ser Cys Tyr Gly Glu Arg Thr Gly Ile Thr Cys Thr Cys
 275          280          285

Arg Asp Asn Trp Gln Gly Ser Asn Arg Pro Val Ile Gln Ile Asp Pro
 290          295          300

Val Ala Met Thr His Thr Ser Gln Tyr Ile Cys Ser Pro Val Leu Thr
 305          310          315          320

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caatttgagt tgatagacaa tgaattcact gaggtagaga agcaaatcgg taatgtgata 1260
aattggacca gagattctat aacagaagtg tggtcataca atgctgaact cttggtagca 1320
atggagaacc agcatacaat tgatctggct gattcagaaa tggacaaaact gtacgaacga 1380
gtgaaaagac agctgagaga gaatgctgaa gaagatggca ctggttgctt tgaatatatt 1440
cacaagtgtg atgatgactg tatggccagc attagaaata acacctatga tcacagcaaa 1500
tacagggaag aggcaatgca aaatagaata cagattgacc cagtcaaaact aagcagcggc 1560
tacaaagatg tgatactttg gtttagcttc ggggcatcat gtttcatact tctagccatt 1620
gcaatggggc ttgtcttcat atgtgtaaag aatggaaaca tgcggtgcac tatttgtata 1680
taa 1683

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<210> SEQ ID NO 22

<211> LENGTH: 560

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 22

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Met Asn Thr Gln Ile Leu Val Phe Ala Leu Ile Ala Ile Ile Pro Thr
  1           5           10          15
Asn Ala Asp Lys Ile Cys Leu Gly His His Ala Val Ser Asn Gly Thr
  20          25          30
Lys Val Asn Thr Leu Thr Glu Arg Gly Val Glu Val Val Asn Ala Thr
  35          40          45
Glu Thr Val Glu Arg Thr Asn Ile Pro Arg Ile Cys Ser Lys Gly Lys
  50          55          60
Arg Thr Val Asp Leu Gly Gln Cys Gly Leu Leu Gly Thr Ile Thr Gly
  65          70          75          80
Pro Pro Gln Cys Asp Gln Phe Leu Glu Phe Ser Ala Asp Leu Ile Ile
  85          90          95
Glu Arg Arg Glu Gly Ser Asp Val Cys Tyr Pro Gly Lys Phe Val Asn
 100         105         110
Glu Glu Ala Leu Arg Gln Ile Leu Arg Glu Ser Gly Gly Ile Asp Lys
 115         120         125
Glu Ala Met Gly Phe Thr Tyr Ser Gly Ile Arg Thr Asn Gly Ala Thr
 130         135         140
Ser Ser Cys Arg Arg Ser Gly Ser Ser Phe Tyr Ala Glu Met Lys Trp
 145         150         155         160
Leu Leu Ser Asn Thr Asp Asn Ala Ala Phe Pro Gln Met Thr Lys Ser
 165         170         175
Tyr Lys Asn Thr Arg Lys Asn Pro Ala Leu Ile Val Trp Gly Ile His
 180         185         190
His Ser Gly Ser Thr Ala Glu Gln Thr Lys Leu Tyr Gly Ser Gly Asn
 195         200         205
Lys Leu Val Thr Val Gly Ser Ser Asn Tyr Gln Gln Ser Phe Val Pro
 210         215         220
Ser Pro Gly Ala Arg Thr Gln Val Asn Gly Gln Ser Gly Arg Ile Asp
 225         230         235         240
Phe His Trp Leu Met Leu Asn Pro Asn Asp Thr Val Thr Phe Ser Phe
 245         250         255
Asn Gly Ala Phe Ile Ala Pro Asp Arg Ala Ser Phe Leu Arg Gly Lys
 260         265         270
Ser Met Gly Ile Gln Ser Gly Val Gln Val Asp Ala Asp Cys Glu Gly
 275         280         285

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Asp Cys Tyr Tyr Ser Gly Gly Thr Ile Ile Ser Asn Leu Pro Phe Gln
 290 295 300
 Asn Ile Asp Ser Arg Ala Val Gly Lys Cys Pro Arg Tyr Val Lys Gln
 305 310 315 320
 Arg Ser Leu Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Met Lys Asn Val Pro Glu Ile Pro
 325 330 335
 Lys Gly Arg Gly Leu Phe Gly Ala Ile Ala Gly Phe Ile Glu Asn Gly
 340 345 350
 Trp Glu Gly Leu Ile Asp Gly Trp Tyr Gly Phe Arg His Gln Asn Ala
 355 360 365
 Gln Gly Glu Gly Thr Ala Ala Asp Tyr Lys Ser Thr Gln Ser Ala Ile
 370 375 380
 Asp Gln Ile Thr Gly Lys Leu Asn Arg Leu Ile Glu Lys Thr Asn Gln
 385 390 395 400
 Gln Phe Glu Leu Ile Asp Asn Glu Phe Thr Glu Val Glu Lys Gln Ile
 405 410 415
 Gly Asn Val Ile Asn Trp Thr Arg Asp Ser Ile Thr Glu Val Trp Ser
 420 425 430
 Tyr Asn Ala Glu Leu Leu Val Ala Met Glu Asn Gln His Thr Ile Asp
 435 440 445
 Leu Ala Asp Ser Glu Met Asp Lys Leu Tyr Glu Arg Val Lys Arg Gln
 450 455 460
 Leu Arg Glu Asn Ala Glu Glu Asp Gly Thr Gly Cys Phe Glu Ile Phe
 465 470 475 480
 His Lys Cys Asp Asp Asp Cys Met Ala Ser Ile Arg Asn Asn Thr Tyr
 485 490 495
 Asp His Ser Lys Tyr Arg Glu Glu Ala Met Gln Asn Arg Ile Gln Ile
 500 505 510
 Asp Pro Val Lys Leu Ser Ser Gly Tyr Lys Asp Val Ile Leu Trp Phe
 515 520 525
 Ser Phe Gly Ala Ser Cys Phe Ile Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Met Gly Leu
 530 535 540
 Val Phe Ile Cys Val Lys Asn Gly Asn Met Arg Cys Thr Ile Cys Ile
 545 550 555 560

<210> SEQ ID NO 23

<211> LENGTH: 1398

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

<400> SEQUENCE: 23

atgaatccaa atcagaagat tctatgcact tcagccactg ctatcataat aggcgcaatc 60
 gcagtactca ttggaatagc aaacctagga ttgaacatag gactgcactc aaaaccgagc 120
 tgcaattgct cacactcaca acctgaaaca accaacacaa gccaaacaat aataaacaac 180
 tattataatg aaacaaacat caccaacatc caaatggaag agagaacaag caggaatttc 240
 aataacttaa ctaaagggct ctgtactata aattcatggc acatatatgg gaaagacaat 300
 gcggtaagaa ttggagagag ctcggatggt ttagtcacaa gagaacccta tgtttcatgc 360
 gaccagatg aatgcagggt ctatgctctc agccaaggaa caacaatcag aggaaaacac 420
 tcaaacggaa caatacagc taggtcccag tatcgcgccc tgataagctg gccactatca 480
 tcaccgcccc cagtgtacaa cagcagggtg gaatgcattg ggtggtcaag tactagtgtc 540
 catgatggca aatccaggat gtcaatatgt atatcaggac caaacaacaa tgcactctgca 600

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gtagtatggt acaacagaag gcctgttgca gaaattaaca catgggcccg aaacatacta 660
agaacacagg aatctgaatg tgtatgccac aacggcgatg gcccagtagt gttcaccgat 720
gggtctgcca ctggacctgc agacacaaga atatactatt ttaaagaggg gaaaatattg 780
aaatgggagt ctctgactgg aactgctaag catattgaag aatgctcatg ttacggggaa 840
cgaacaggaa ttacctgcac atgcaaggac aattggcagg gctcaaatac accagtgtatt 900
cagatagatc cagtagcaat gacacacact agtcagtata tatgcagtcc tgttcttaca 960
gacaatcccc gaccgaatga cccaaatata ggtaagtgtg atgaccctta tccaggtaat 1020
aataacaatg gagtcaaggg attctcatc ctggatgggg ctaacacttg gctagggagg 1080
acaataagca cagcctcgag gtcctggatac gagatgttaa aagtgccaaa tgcattgaca 1140
gatgatagat caaagcccat tcaaggtcag acaattgtat taaacgtga ctggagtggg 1200
tacagtggat ctttcatgga ctattgggct gagggggact gctatcgagc gtgtttttat 1260
gtggaattga tacgtggaag acccaaggag gataaagtgt ggtggaccag caatagtata 1320
gtatcgatgt gttccagtac agaattcttg ggacaatgga actggcctga tggggctaaa 1380
atagagtact tcctctaa 1398

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<210> SEQ ID NO 24
<211> LENGTH: 465
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Influenza A

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<400> SEQUENCE: 24

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Met Asn Pro Asn Gln Lys Ile Leu Cys Thr Ser Ala Thr Ala Ile Ile
 1             5             10            15
Ile Gly Ala Ile Ala Val Leu Ile Gly Ile Ala Asn Leu Gly Leu Asn
 20            25            30
Ile Gly Leu His Leu Lys Pro Ser Cys Asn Cys Ser His Ser Gln Pro
 35            40            45
Glu Thr Thr Asn Thr Ser Gln Thr Ile Ile Asn Asn Tyr Tyr Asn Glu
 50            55            60
Thr Asn Ile Thr Asn Ile Gln Met Glu Glu Arg Thr Ser Arg Asn Phe
 65            70            75            80
Asn Asn Leu Thr Lys Gly Leu Cys Thr Ile Asn Ser Trp His Ile Tyr
 85            90            95
Gly Lys Asp Asn Ala Val Arg Ile Gly Glu Ser Ser Asp Val Leu Val
100            105            110
Thr Arg Glu Pro Tyr Val Ser Cys Asp Pro Asp Glu Cys Arg Phe Tyr
115            120            125
Ala Leu Ser Gln Gly Thr Thr Ile Arg Gly Lys His Ser Asn Gly Thr
130            135            140
Ile His Asp Arg Ser Gln Tyr Arg Ala Leu Ile Ser Trp Pro Leu Ser
145            150            155            160
Ser Pro Pro Thr Val Tyr Asn Ser Arg Val Glu Cys Ile Gly Trp Ser
165            170            175
Ser Thr Ser Cys His Asp Gly Lys Ser Arg Met Ser Ile Cys Ile Ser
180            185            190
Gly Pro Asn Asn Asn Ala Ser Ala Val Val Trp Tyr Asn Arg Arg Pro
195            200            205
Val Ala Glu Ile Asn Thr Trp Ala Arg Asn Ile Leu Arg Thr Gln Glu
210            215            220

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Ser Glu Cys Val Cys His Asn Gly Val Cys Pro Val Val Phe Thr Asp
 225 230 235 240
 Gly Ser Ala Thr Gly Pro Ala Asp Thr Arg Ile Tyr Tyr Phe Lys Glu
 245 250 255
 Gly Lys Ile Leu Lys Trp Glu Ser Leu Thr Gly Thr Ala Lys His Ile
 260 265 270
 Glu Glu Cys Ser Cys Tyr Gly Glu Arg Thr Gly Ile Thr Cys Thr Cys
 275 280 285
 Lys Asp Asn Trp Gln Gly Ser Asn Arg Pro Val Ile Gln Ile Asp Pro
 290 295 300
 Val Ala Met Thr His Thr Ser Gln Tyr Ile Cys Ser Pro Val Leu Thr
 305 310 315 320
 Asp Asn Pro Arg Pro Asn Asp Pro Asn Ile Gly Lys Cys Asn Asp Pro
 325 330 335
 Tyr Pro Gly Asn Asn Asn Asn Gly Val Lys Gly Phe Ser Tyr Leu Asp
 340 345 350
 Gly Ala Asn Thr Trp Leu Gly Arg Thr Ile Ser Thr Ala Ser Arg Ser
 355 360 365
 Gly Tyr Glu Met Leu Lys Val Pro Asn Ala Leu Thr Asp Asp Arg Ser
 370 375 380
 Lys Pro Ile Gln Gly Gln Thr Ile Val Leu Asn Ala Asp Trp Ser Gly
 385 390 395 400
 Tyr Ser Gly Ser Phe Met Asp Tyr Trp Ala Glu Gly Asp Cys Tyr Arg
 405 410 415
 Ala Cys Phe Tyr Val Glu Leu Ile Arg Gly Arg Pro Lys Glu Asp Lys
 420 425 430
 Val Trp Trp Thr Ser Asn Ser Ile Val Ser Met Cys Ser Ser Thr Glu
 435 440 445
 Phe Leu Gly Gln Trp Asn Trp Pro Asp Gly Ala Lys Ile Glu Tyr Phe
 450 455 460

Leu
 465

<210> SEQ ID NO 25
 <211> LENGTH: 2341
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: A synthetic oligonucleotide

<400> SEQUENCE: 25

agcgaaagca ggtcaattat attcaatatg gaaagaataa aagaactacg aaatctaattg	60
tcgcagtctc gcacccgcga gatactcaca aaaaccaccg tggaccatat ggccataatc	120
aagaagtaca catcaggaag acaggagaag aaccacgac tgaggatgaa atggatgatg	180
gcaatgaaat atccaattac agcagacaag aggatcaccg aaatgattcc tgagagaaat	240
gagcagggac agactctgtg gagtaaaatg aatgatgccg gatcagaccg agtcatgggtg	300
tcacctctgg ctgtgacatg gtggaatagg aatggaccaa tcacaaatc agtgcattat	360
ccaaaaatct acaaaactta ttttgaaaga gtcgaaaggc tgaagcatgg aacctttggc	420
cctgtccatt ttagaaacca ggtcaaaatc cggcggagag tggacatcaa tcctgggtcat	480
gcagatctca gtgccaagga ggcacaggat gtgatcatgg aagtgggtgt ccctaacgaa	540
gtgggagcca ggattctgac atccgaatcc cagctgacca ttaccaaaga gaagaaagaa	600
gaactccagg attgcaaaat ttctcctctg atggtggcat acatgctgga gagagaactg	660

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gtccgcaaaa caagattcct cccagtggct ggtggaacaa gcagtgtgta cattgaagtg	720
ctgcatctga ctcagggaaac atgctgggaa cagatgtata ctccaggagg ggaagtgagg	780
aatgatgatg tggatcagag cctgattatt gctgctagga acattgtgag aagagctgca	840
gtgtcagcag atccactggc atctctgctg gagatgtgcc acagcacaca gattggtgga	900
attaggatgg tggacatcct gaggcagaac ccaacagaag agcaggccgt ggatatttgc	960
aaggctgcaa tgggactgag aattagctca tccttcagtt ttggtggatt cacatttaag	1020
agaacaagcg gatcatcagt caagagagag gaagagggtc tgaccggcaa tctgcagaca	1080
ctgaagatca gagtgcata gggatatgaa gagttcacia tgggtgggag aagagcaaca	1140
gccatcctca gaaaagcaac caggagactg attcagctga tcgtgagtgg gagagacgaa	1200
cagtccattg ccgaagcaat tattgtggcc atggtgtttt cacaggagga ttgtatgatt	1260
aaagcagtca gaggtgatct gaatttcgtc aatagggccca atcagcgact gaatcctatg	1320
catcagctgc tgagacattt tcagaaggat gccaaagtgc tgtttcagaa tgggggagtg	1380
gaacctatcg acaatgtgat gggaatgatt gggatcctgc ccgacatgac tccaagcatc	1440
gagatgtcaa tgagaggagt gagaatcagc aaaatgggtg tggatgagta ctccagcacc	1500
gagagggctg tggtgagcat tgacagattt ctgagaatcc gggaccacgc aggaaatgtg	1560
ctctgtctc ccgaggaggt cagtgaacaa cagggaacag agaaactgac aattacttac	1620
tcacctcaa tgatgtggga gattaatggt cctgaatcag tgctggtcaa tacctatcag	1680
tggatcatca gaaactggga aactgtgaaa attcagtggc ccagaaccc tacaatgctg	1740
tacaataaaa tggaaattga accatttcag tctctggtgc ctaaggccat tagaggccag	1800
tacagtgggt ttgtgagaac tctgttccag cagatgaggg atgtgctggg gacatttgat	1860
accgcacaga ttattaaact gctgcccttc gcagccgctc caccaaagca gagtagaatg	1920
cagttctctc catttactgt gaatgtgagg ggatcaggaa tgagaatcct ggtgaggggc	1980
aattctcctg tgttcaacta taacaaggcc accaagagac tcacagtgtc cggaaaggat	2040
gctggcactc tgactgaaga ccagatgaa ggcacagctg gagtgagtc cgctgtgctg	2100
aggggattcc tcattctggg caaagaagac aagagatatg ggcagcact gagcatcaat	2160
gaactgagca acctggccaa aggagagaag gctaattgtc taattgggca aggagacgtg	2220
gtgttggtaa tgaacaggaa acgggactct agcatactta ctgacagcca gacagcgacc	2280
aaaagaattc ggatggccat caattagtgt cgaatagttt aaaaacgacc ttgtttctac	2340
t	2341

<210> SEQ ID NO 26

<211> LENGTH: 2341

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: A synthetic oligonucleotide

<400> SEQUENCE: 26

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ccagcacaaa atgctataag cacaacttcc ccttatactg gagaccctcc ttacagccat	120
gggacaggaa caggatacac catggatact gtcaacagga cacatcagta ctcagaaaag	180
ggaagatgga caacaacac cgaaactgga gcaccgcaac tcaaccgat tgatgggcca	240
ctgccagaag acaatgaacc aagtgggtat gcccaaacag attgtgtatt ggaggcgatg	300

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gctttccttg aggaatccca tcttgggtatt ttgaaaact cgtgtattga aacgatggag	360
gttgttcagc aaacacgagt ggacaagctg acacagggcc gacagaccta tgactggact	420
ctgaatagaa accagcctgc tgcaacagca ctggccaaca caatcgaagt gttcagatca	480
aatggcctca cgcgaatga gtctggaagg ctcatcgact tctgaagga tgtgatggag	540
tcaatgaaca aagaagaaat ggggatcaca actcattttc agagaaagag acgggtgaga	600
gacaatatga ctaagaaaat gattacacag agaacaatgg gtaaaaagaa gcagagactg	660
aacaaaagga gttatctgat tagagcactg accctgaaca caatgaccaa agatgctgag	720
agaggggaagc tgaacaggag agcaattgca accccaggga tgcagattag ggggtttgtg	780
tactttgtgg agacactggc aaggagtatt tgtgagaaac tggaacagtc agggctgcca	840
gtgggaggca atgagaagaa agcaaagctg gcaaatgtgg tgaggaagat gatgaccaat	900
tctcaggaca ccgaactgtc ttccaccatc actggagata acaccaaag gaacgaaaat	960
cagaatcctc ggatgtttct ggccatgatc acatatatga ccagaaatca gccgaatgg	1020
ttcagaaatg tgctgagtat tgctccaatt atgttctcaa acaaaatggc cagactggga	1080
aaagggata tgtttgagag caagagtatg aaactgagaa ctgagattcc tgcagaaatg	1140
ctggcaagca tcgatctgaa atatttcaat gattcaacaa gaaagaagat tgaaaaaatc	1200
cgacccctcc tgattgaggg gactgcatca ctgagccctg gaatgatgat gggcatgttc	1260
aatatgctga gcactgtgct gggcgtctcc atcctgaatc tgggacagaa gagatacacc	1320
aagactactt actggtggga tggctctgag tcctctgacg attttgcctt gattgtgaat	1380
gcacccaatc atgaagggat tcaggccgga gtcgacaggt tttatcgaac ctgtaagctg	1440
ctgggaaatc atatgagcaa gaaaaagtct tacatcaaca gaacaggtag atttgaattc	1500
acaagttttt tctatcgcta tgggtttgtg gccaatttca gcatggagct gccagtttt	1560
ggggtgtctg ggatcaacga gtcagccgac atgagtattg gaggtagctg catcaaaaac	1620
aatatgatca acaatgatct gggccagca acagctcaga tggccctgca gctgttcatc	1680
aaagattaca ggtacaccta ccgatgccat atcggtgaca cacagattca gacccaaga	1740
tcatttgaat tcaagaaact gtgggagcag acccgctcca aagctggact gctggtctcc	1800
gacggaggcc caaatctgta caacattaga aatctccaca ttctgaagt ctgcctgaaa	1860
tgggaactga tggatgagga ttaccagggg cgcctgtgca acccactgaa cccatttgtc	1920
agccataaag aaattgaatc aatgaacaat gcagtgatga tgccagcaca tggccagcc	1980
aaaaacatgg agtatgatgc tgtggcaaca acacactcct ggatcccaa aagaaatcga	2040
tccatcctga atacaagtca gagaggagtg ctggaggatg aacagatgta ccagagggtc	2100
tgcaatctgt ttgaaaaatt cttcccagc agttcataca gaagaccagt cgggatctcc	2160
agtatgggtg aggtatggt gtccagagcc cgaattgatg cacggattga tttcgaatct	2220
ggaaggatca agaaagaaga gttcactgag atcatgaaga tctgttcac cattgaagag	2280
ctcagacggc aaaaatagtg aatttagctt gtccttcag aaaaaatgcc ttgtttctac	2340
t	2341

<210> SEQ ID NO 27

<211> LENGTH: 2233

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: A synthetic oligonucleotide

<400> SEQUENCE: 27

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agcgaaagca ggtactgac caaaatggaa gattttgtgc gacaatgctt caatccgatg	60
attgtcgagc ttgcggaaaa aacaatgaaa gagtatgggg aggacctgaa aatcgaaaca	120
aacaaatttg cagcaatatg cactcacttg gaagtatgct tcatgtattc agattttcac	180
ttcatcaatg agcaaggcga gtcaataatc gtagaacttg gtgatccaaa tgcacttttg	240
aagcacagat ttgaataaat cgagggaaga gatcgacaaa tggcctggac agtagtaaac	300
agtatttgca acactacagg ggctgagaaa ccaaagtctt taccagattt gtatgattac	360
aaggagaata gattcatcga aattggagta acaaggagag aagttcacat atactatctg	420
gaaaaggcca ataaaattaa atctgagaaa acacacatcc acattttctc gttcactggg	480
gaagaaatgg ccacaaaggc agactacact ctcgatgaag aaagcagggc taggatcaaa	540
accagactat tcaccataag acaagaaatg gccagcagag gcctctggga ttctttctgt	600
cagtccgaga gaggagaaga gacaattgaa gaaaggtttg aaatcacagg aacaatgcgc	660
aagcttgccg accaaagtct ccgcccgaac ttctccagcc ttgaaaattt tagagcctat	720
gtggatggat tcgaaccgaa cggtacatt gagggcaagc tgtctcaaat gtccaaagaa	780
gtaaatgcta gaattgaacc tttctgaaa acaacaccac gaccactgag actgccaat	840
gggcctccct gttctcagcg gtccaaattc ctgctgatgg atgcctgaa actgagcatt	900
gaggacccaa gtcatgaagg agagggaatt ccctgtatg atgcaatcaa atgcatgaga	960
acattctttg gatggaagga acccaatgtg gtgaaaccac acgaaaaggg aatcaatcca	1020
aattatctgc tgtcatggaa gcagggtctg gcagaactgc aggacattga gaatgaggag	1080
aaaattccaa agactaaaaa tatgaagaaa acaagtcagc tgaagtgggc actgggtgag	1140
aacatggcac cagaaaaggc ggactttgac gactgtaaag atgtgggtga tctgaagcag	1200
tatgatagtg atgaaccaga actgaggtcc ctggcaagtt ggattcagaa tgagttaac	1260
aaggcatgcg aactgacaga ttcaagctgg attgagctcg atgagattgg agaagatgtg	1320
gtccaattg aacacattgc aagcatgaga aggaattatt tcacatcaga ggtgtctcac	1380
tgcagagcca cagaatacat catgaaggga gtgtacatca atactgcctt gctgaatgca	1440
tcttgtgcag caatggatga ttccagctg attccaatga tcagcaagtg tagaactaag	1500
gagggaaggc gaaagaccaa cctgtatggt ttcatcatca aaggaagatc ccacctgagg	1560
aatgacaccg acgtgggtgaa ctttgtgagc atggagtttt ctctcactga cccaagactg	1620
gaaccacata aatgggagaa gtactgtgtg ctggagattg gagatattgt gatcagaagt	1680
gccattggcc aggtgtcaag gcccatgttc ctgtatgtga gaacaaatgg aacctcaaaa	1740
attaaaatga aatggggaat ggagatgagg cgctgcctcc tccagtcact gcagcagatt	1800
gagagtatga ttgaagctga gtcctctgtc aaagagaaa acatgaccaa agagttcttt	1860
gagaacaaat cagaaacatg gccattgga gagtcccca aaggagtgga ggaaagtctc	1920
attgggaagg tctgcaggac tctgctggca aagtccgtgt tcaacagcct gtatgcatct	1980
ccacagctgg aaggattttc agctgaatca agaaaactgc tgctgatctg gcaggctctg	2040
agggacaacc tggaacctgg gacctttgat ctgggggggc tgtatgaagc aattgaggag	2100
tgctgatta atgatccctg ggtgctgtg aatgcttctt ggttcaactc cttccttaca	2160
catgcattga gttagtgtg gcagtgtac tatttgctat ccatactgtc caaaaaagta	2220
ccttgtttct act	2233

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<211> LENGTH: 1565
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: A synthetic oligonucleotide

<400> SEQUENCE: 28
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accaaacgat cttacgaaca gatggagact gatggagaac gccagaatgc cactgaaatc      120
agagcatccg tcggaaaaat gattggtgga attggacgat tctacatcca gatgtgcacc      180
gaactcaaac tcagtgatta tgaggggacgg ctgatccaga acagcctgac aatcgagaga      240
atggtgtctct ctgcttttga cgaaaggaga aataaatacc tggaagaaca tcccagtgcc      300
gggaaagatc ctaagaaaac tggaggacct atctacagga gagtgaacgg aaagtggatg      360
agagaactca tcctgtatga caaagaagaa atcaggcgaa tctggcgcca ggctaataat      420
ggtgacgatg caaccgctgg tctgactcac atgatgatct ggcattecaa tctgaatgat      480
gcaacttata agaggacaag agctctgggt cgcaccggaa tggatcccag gatgtgctct      540
ctgatgcagg gttcaactct ccttaggagg tctggagccg caggtgtgctc agtcaaagga      600
gtgggaacaa tgggtgatga actggtcaga atgatcaaaa gagggatcaa tgatcggaac      660
ttctggaggg gtgagaatgg acgaaaaaca agaattgctt atgaagaat gtgcaacatt      720
ctcaaaggga aatttcagac tgtgacacag aaagcaatga tggatcaggt gagagagagc      780
cggaacccag ggaatgtgta gttcgaagat ctcaactttc tggcacggtc tgcactcatc      840
ctgagagggg ccgtggctca caagtcctgc ctgcctgcct gtgtgtatgg acctgccgtg      900
gccagtgggt acgactttga aagggaggga tactctcttg tcggaattga ccctttcaga      960
ctgtgcgaga acagccaggt gtacagcctg atcagaccaa atgagaatcc agcacacaag     1020
agtcagctgg tgtggatggc atgccattct gccgcatttg aagatctgag agtgctgagc     1080
ttcatcaaa ggaaccaagg gctcccaaga gggaagctgt ccactagagg agtgcagatt     1140
gcttccaatg aaaatatgga gactatggaa tcaagtacac tggaactgag aagcaggtac     1200
tgggccatca ggaccagaag tggaggaaac accaatcagc agagggcatc tgccggccag     1260
atcagcatte agcctacctt ctcaagtgcag agaaatctcc cttttgacag aacaaccatt     1320
atggcagcat tcaatgggaa tacagagggg agaacatctg acatgaggac cgaaatcatc     1380
aggatgatgg aaagtgaag accagaagat gtgtctttcc aggggcgggg agtcttcgag     1440
ctctcgagcg aaaaggcagc gagcccgatc gtgccttcct ttgacatgag taatgaagga     1500
tcttatttct tcggagacaa tgcagaggag tacgacaatt aaagaaaaat acccttgttt     1560
ctact

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What is claimed is:

1. A method to prepare influenza virus, comprising: 55
contacting a cell with:

one or more vectors for vRNA or cRNA production of PA,
PB1, PB2, NP, NS, M, NA, and HA viral segments,
wherein the one or more vectors comprise a promoter
operably linked to DNA for the viral segments linked to 60
a transcription termination sequence, wherein the DNA
for the NA viral segment for vRNA or cRNA produc-
tion of NA has sequences for a heterologous NA, and
wherein the DNA for the HA viral segment in the vector
for vRNA or cRNA production of HA has sequences for 65
a heterologous HA, wherein two or more of the PA,
PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M viral segments have

sequences that are capable of encoding a PA protein,
PB1 protein, PB2 protein, NP protein, NS1 protein, or
M2 protein, respectively, having selected amino acid
residues at positions 30, 31, 105, 142, 149, 225, 356,
357, 401, and/or 550 in the PA protein: 40, 54, 59, 62,
63, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 112, 180, 247, 327, 507, 624,
644, 667, 694, 695, 697, 699, 700, 701, 702, 705, 713,
and/or 714 and/or 247 in the PB1 protein: 57, 58, 59,
61, 66, 202, 323, 368, 391, 504, 591, 677, 678, and/or
679, 202 and/or 323 in the PB2 protein: 74, 112, 116,
224, 293, 371, 377, 417, 422 and/or 442 in the NP
protein: 90, 97 and/or 100 in M1 protein in the M viral
segment; or 30, 49, 55, 118, 140, 161 or 223 in NS1
protein in the NS viral segment, wherein the selected

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amino acid residue when present in the, influenza viral protein in an influenza virus enhances replication relative to an influenza virus having an amino acid residue in a corresponding influenza virus protein encoded by SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 6 or 10 to 16, wherein if the selected residue is in the PA protein, the position and the selected residue include 142N, 225C, 356R, 401K, or 550L, wherein if the selected residue is in the PB1 protein, the position and the selected residue include 401L/112G, 180W, 247H 507V, or 644A, wherein if the selected residue is in the PB2 protein, the position and the selected residue include 180W, 202L, 504 V or 323L, wherein if the selected residue is in the NP protein, the position and the selected residue include 74K, 112L, 116L, 377N, 417D, or 422L, wherein if the selected residue is in the NS1 protein, the position and the selected residue include 30P, 118K, 161T or 140Q, and wherein if the selected residue is in the M1 protein, the position and the selected residue include 97A or 100H; and one or more vectors for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus PA, PB1, PB2 and NP viral segments and optionally a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus HA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NA, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M1, a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus M2, or a vector for mRNA production comprising a promoter operably linked to a DNA segment encoding influenza virus NS2; in an amount effective to yield infectious influenza virus.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is an avian cell.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is a Vero cell, a human cell or a MDCK cell.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the PB1, PB2, PA, NP, NS, and M DNAs in the vectors for vRNA productions have a sequence that corresponds to one that encodes a polypeptide having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to a corresponding polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NOs:1-6 or 10-15.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising isolating the virus.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of PA, PB1, or PB2 viral segments has a C to U promoter mutation.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein selected position and residue in PA comprises 142N, 225C, 356R, or 550L; wherein the selected position and residue in PB1 comprises 112G, 247H, 507V, or 644A; wherein the selected position and residue in PB2 comprises 202L, 323L or 504V; wherein the selected position and residue in NP comprises 74K, 112L, 116L, 417D, or 442A; wherein the selected position and residue in M1 comprises 97A and/or 100H; and/or wherein the selected position and residue in NS1 comprises 55E and/or 140Q in NS1, or combinations thereof.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected position and residue in PB2 comprises 202L and/or 323; wherein the selected position and residue in PB1 comprises 247H; or wherein the selected position and residue in NP comprises 74K.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected position and residue in PB1 comprises 40L, 40L, 112G, 180W, 247H,

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507V, or 644A; wherein the selected position and residue in PB2 comprises 202L and/or 323L; wherein the selected position and residue in NP comprises 74K, 112L, 116L, 377N, 417D, or 422L; wherein the selected position and residue in NS1 comprises 30P, 118K, 161T or 140Q; and/or wherein the selected position and residue in PA comprises 142N, 225C, 356R, 401K, or 550L.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the NA viral segment and the HA viral segment are from the same influenza virus isolate.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M viral segments comprise sequences for at least one of the following: a PB1 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:2 or PB1 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB1 encoded by SEQ ID NO:2; a PB2 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:3 or PB2 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB2 encoded by SEQ ID NO:3; a PA having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:1 or PA with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PA encoded by SEQ ID NO:1; a NP having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:4 or NP with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NP encoded by SEQ ID NO:4; a M having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:5 or M with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the M encoded by SEQ ID NO:5; or a NS having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:6 or NS with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NS encoded by SEQ ID NO:6 or wherein the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M viral segments comprise sequences for at least one of the following: a PB1 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:10 or PB1 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB1 encoded by SEQ ID NO:10; a PB2 having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:11 or PB2 with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PB2 encoded by SEQ ID NO: 11; a PA having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:12 or PA with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PA encoded by SEQ ID NO:12; a NP having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:13 or NP with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NP encoded by SEQ ID NO:13; a M having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:14 or M with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the M encoded by SEQ ID NO:14; or a NS having the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:15 or NS with at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to the NS encoded by SEQ ID NO:15.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected position and residue in PB2 comprises 504V; wherein the selected position and residue in PB1 comprises 40L or 180W; wherein the selected position and residue in PA comprises 401K; wherein the selected position and residue in NP comprises 116L; and/or wherein the selected position and residue in NS1 comprises A30P or R118K.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected position and residue in PB2 comprises 504V; wherein the selected position and residue in PB1 comprises 112G; wherein the selected position and residue in PA comprises 225C; wherein the selected position and residue in NP comprises 74K or 417D; wherein the selected position and residue in M1 comprises 97A and/or 100H; and/or wherein the selected position and residue in NS comprises 55E.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the PA, PB1, PB2, NP, NS, and M viral segments has a C to U promoter mutation.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the at least two viral segments with the selected amino acid residues are selected

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from the group consisting of the PA viral segment, the PB1 viral segment, the PB2 viral segment or the NP viral segment.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein at least three of the PA viral segment, the PB1 viral segment, the PB2 viral segment or the NP viral segment have one of the selected amino acid residues.

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