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conserved replicative domains in pplab (3C-like protease (3CLpro), nidovirus RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp)-associated nucleotidyltransferase (NiRAN), RdRp, zinc-binding domain (ZBD) and HELI), the Coronaviridae Study Group of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses estimated the pairwise patristic distances between SARS-CoV-2 and known coronaviruses, and assigned SARS-CoV-2 to the existing species SARSr-CoV". Although phyloge- netically related, SARS-CoV-2 is distinct from all other coronaviruses from bats and pangolins in this species. The SARS-CoV-2 S protein has a full size of 1,273 amino acids, longer than that of SARS-CoV (1,255 amino acids) and known bat SARSr-CoVs (1,245-1,269 amino acids). It is distinct from the S proteins of most members in the subgenus Sarbecovirus, sharing amino acid sequence similarities of 76.7-77.0% with SARS-CoVs from civets and humans,