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Sonja Schmid, PhD
Associate Editor
Nature Communications

Dear Sonja,

Thank you for the rapid review of our manuscript at *Nature Communications*. We have prepared a revised version that addresses the few remaining reviewer requests and your editorial requests.

A description of the changes made in response to the reviewer requests is including in a separate reviewer response letter. Here we detail the changes made in response to your queries, and provide other requested information. Also, note that we have included a track-changes PDF that shows all the textual changes in the revised version relative to the initial submission.

Regarding the two-sentence editor's summary, you provided the following sentences:

Influenza A virus can escape neutralization antibodies (Abs), but it is unclear how ease of escape differs between Ab types. Here, the authors show that neutralization breadth is an imperfect indicator of viral escape, and that Abs targeting the stalk of hemagglutinin are harder to escape from.

Could we instead suggest the following slightly revised version:

Influenza A virus can escape antibodies, but it is unclear how the ease of escape depends on the epitope targeted by an antibody. Here, the authors show that neutralization breadth is an imperfect indicator of the ease of viral escape by single mutations, and that antibodies targeting the stalk of hemagglutinin are harder to escape.

Regarding the question of whether we want transparent peer review, the substantive reviewer comments were made in the initial round of reviews for *Nature Microbiology* that were then transferred to *Nature Communications*. If those reviewer comments can be used, then yes we would like to opt for publication of the reviewer comments. However, our understanding is

that perhaps this option can only be used for the reviews for the second round with *Nature Communications*. If that is the case, then we opt *not* to include the reviewer comments, since these comments for this second round of review are cursory and not particularly informative in the absence of the initial reviews for *Nature Microbiology*.

We have made the following changes to the manuscript in response to these editor comments:

- We have shortened the title from “Quantifying the effects of single mutations on viral escape from broad and narrow antibodies to an H1 influenza hemagglutinin” (19 words) to “How single mutations affect viral escape from broad and narrow antibodies to H1 influenza hemagglutinin” (15 words).
- We have provided the full address for each affiliation as requested.
- We have shortened the abstract from the original length of 160 words to the requested length of 150 words.
- We have shortened all subheadings in the RESULTS and METHODS to no more than 60 characters.
- We have provided publication-quality versions of all figures as separate files, and moved the legends to the end of the manuscript.
- The naming of supplementary figures has been changed from “Figure S1” to “Supplementary Fig. 1”. Similar changes have been made for supplementary tables and data as requested.
- We have clarified that the error bars in Figure 6 represent standard errors.
- We have added the source of the 293F cells. The 293T-CMV-PB1 and MDCK-SIAT1-CMV-PB1 cells were generated in the cited reference 70, the pHW* series plasmids were generated in the cited reference 71, and the pHH-PB1flank-eGFP plasmid was generated in the cited reference 70.
- We have expanded the Data Availability section of the METHODS as requested.
- We have added a conflict of interest statement under the heading COMPETING INTERESTS. We have no conflicts.
- We have provided the Supplementary Information as a separate PDF, which the *Nature Communications* author instructions indicate is an acceptable substitute for a Word document. The reason that we are providing it is a PDF rather than a Word document is that it is written in LaTeX.
- Here are the legends for the Supplementary Data files as requested:

- **Supplementary Data 1: Conversion from sequential numbering of the A/WSN/1933 HA to H3 numbering.** In this CSV file, the *original* column gives the residue number in sequential (1, 2, ...) numbering of the A/WSN/1933 HA, and the *new* column gives the residue number in H3 numbering.
- **Supplementary Data 2: Sequences used to infer the tree for all HA subtypes.** This FASTA file gives the HA sequences used to infer the tree of subtypes in Figure 2.
- **Supplementary Data 3: Computer code and data for the analysis of the mutational antigenic profiling data.** The code in this ZIP file performs the entire computational analysis beginning with downloading the FASTQ files from the Sequence Read Archive. The ZIP file contains a **README** file that explains the contents in detail. The actual analysis is performed by the Jupyter notebook `analysis_notebook.ipynb`, which includes embedded plots summarizing key statistics and results. An HTML version of this notebook is also included as Supplementary Data 4.
- **Supplementary Data 4: HTML version of the analysis notebook.** This file is an HTML rendering of the Jupyter notebook in Supplementary Data 3. It contains detailed plots for all aspects of the deep sequencing data and its analysis.
- **Supplementary Data 5: The excess fraction surviving for each mutation for each antibody.** This file is a ZIP of CSV files giving the numerical values plotted in the logo plots. These are median excess fraction surviving taken first across replicates and then across antibody concentrations. See Equation 2.
- **Supplementary Data 6: The fraction surviving for each mutation for each antibody.** This file differs from Supplementary Data 5 only in that the values are *not* adjusted to be in excess of the library average (e.g., they are from Equation 1 rather than Equation 2).

We have also included all requested files in our submission. Please let us know if you have any other comments or questions.

Sincerely

Jesse D. Bloom

Sonja Schmid, PhD
Associate Editor
Nature Communications