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An evolutionary insertion in the Mxra8 receptor binding site confers resistance to alphavirus infection and pathogenesis

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

A.S.K., O.Z., L.D., C.B.C., and S.C. performed infection studies with Mxra8. O.Z., R.Z., and C.B. generated Mxra8 genes and lentiviruses for complementation studies. A.S.K. and K.B. performed ELISA and BLI binding studies. A.S.K., C.N., K.B., and D.H.F. performed the structural analysis of mouse and cattle Mxra8 and docking studies on CHIKV. S.L.D. provided key animal reagents. J.M.F. performed *in vivo* studies. A.S.K., C.D., J.O., B.S., and S.A.H. analyzed the whole genome sequences and primary RNA sequences. T.W. provided genetic analysis of the sequence insertion. M.J.L. and B.S. performed evolutionary analysis. A.S.K., O.Z., J.M.F., and K.B. performed data analysis. A.S.K., O.Z., M.J.L., and M.S.D. wrote the initial manuscript draft.

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DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

M.S.D. is a consultant for Inbios and Emergent BioSolutions and on the Scientific Advisory Board of Moderna. D.H.F. is a founder of Courier Therapeutics.

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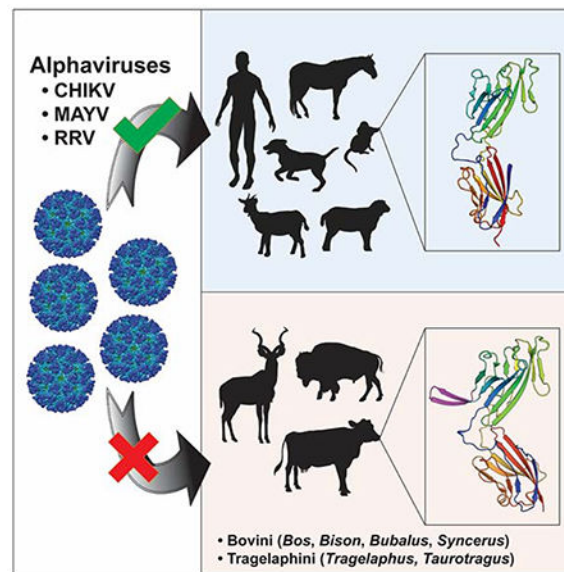
SUMMARY

Alphaviruses are emerging, mosquito-transmitted RNA viruses with poorly understood cellular tropism and species selectivity. Mxra8 is an entry receptor for multiple alphaviruses including chikungunya virus (CHIKV). We discovered that while expression of mouse, rat, chimpanzee, dog, horse, goat, sheep, and human Mxra8 enables alphavirus infection in cell culture, cattle Mxra8 does not. Cattle *Mxra8* encodes a 15-amino acid insertion in its ectodomain that prevents Mxra8 binding to CHIKV. Identical insertions are present in zebu, yak, and the extinct auroch. As other Bovinae lineages contain related Mxra8 sequences, this insertion likely occurred at least 5 million years ago. Removing the Mxra8 insertion in Bovinae enhances alphavirus binding and infection, while introducing the insertion into mouse Mxra8 blocks CHIKV binding, prevents infection by multiple alphaviruses in cells, and mitigates CHIKV-induced pathogenesis in mice. Our studies showing this insertion provides resistance to CHIKV infection could facilitate countermeasures that disrupt Mxra8 interactions with alphaviruses.

eTOC Blurb

Kim et al. identify a sequence insertion in the Mxra8 receptor of Bovinae species that prevents alphavirus binding. Deletion of the Bovinae Mxra8 insertion restores alphavirus infection, while mice engineered with the Mxra8 insertion exhibit reduced CHIKV infection. Identification of this insertion could facilitate countermeasures preventing Mxra8 engagement of alphaviruses.

Graphical Abstract



INTRODUCTION

Alphaviruses are emerging, mosquito-transmitted positive-sense RNA viruses that cause explosive disease outbreaks in humans and animals. These viruses are classified into groups based on their genetic relatedness and historical boundaries. Old World alphaviruses, including chikungunya (CHIKV), Mayaro (MAYV), O'nyong'nyong (ONNV), and Ross River (RRV), cause acute and chronic musculoskeletal disease affecting millions of people globally. New World alphaviruses, including Eastern (EEEV), Venezuelan (VEEV), and Western (WEEV) equine encephalitis viruses, infect the central nervous system in humans and some animals. Despite the epidemic potential of alphaviruses, there are no licensed therapies or vaccines for any family member.

The alphavirus RNA genome encodes four non-structural and five structural proteins using two open reading frames (Strauss et al., 1994). The non-structural proteins are required for virus translation, replication, and immune evasion, and the structural proteins (capsid [C] and envelope [E3-E2-6K-E1]) form the virion. The E1 glycoprotein participates in pH-dependent fusion in the acidified endosome (Lescar et al., 2001), and the E2 glycoprotein binds to entry factors (Smith et al., 1995; Zhang et al., 2005) and facilitates endocytosis (DeTulio and Kirchhausen, 1998; Lee et al., 2013). The E3 protein is necessary for the folding of the E2-E1 heterodimer (Carleton et al., 1997; Mulvey and Brown, 1995) but is cleaved during the maturation process (Heidner et al., 1996). Mature enveloped alphaviruses form at the plasma membrane with 240 E2-E1 heterodimers assembled into 80 trimeric icosahedral spikes (Cheng et al., 1995; Kostyuchenko et al., 2011; Paredes et al., 1993; Voss et al., 2010).

The basis for receptor engagement, cellular tropism, and species selectivity of alphaviruses is poorly understood. Attachment factors including heparan sulfates have been shown to enhance infection of some alphaviruses (Gardner et al., 2011; Klimstra et al., 1998; Wang et

al., 1992). Natural resistance-associated macrophage protein (NRAMP2) has been described as a receptor for SINV but not for CHIKV or RRV (Rose et al., 2011). We identified Mxra8 as a cellular entry receptor for multiple Old World arthritogenic alphaviruses including CHIKV, MAYV, ONNV, and RRV (Zhang et al., 2018a). Expression of Mxra8 facilitated alphavirus binding to and infection of mouse and human fibroblasts, skeletal muscle cells, and chondrocytes, and was required for virulence in mice (Zhang et al., 2019; Zhang et al., 2018a). Mxra8 binds to alphaviruses by wedging into a cleft formed by adjacent E2-E1 heterodimers in one trimeric spike and engaging a neighboring spike (Basore et al., 2019; Song et al., 2019). Apart from its role as an alphavirus receptor, the physiological function of Mxra8 is uncertain. Mxra8 also has been termed adipocyte specific protein 3 (ASP3), limitrin, and DICAM because of reported functions in mesenchymal cell differentiation, blood-brain barrier homeostasis, osteoclast development, and angiogenesis (Han et al., 2013; Jung et al., 2012; Jung et al., 2004; Jung et al., 2008; Yonezawa et al., 2003). Although Mxra8 has these ascribed functions, genetically deficient mice are viable and fertile (Han et al., 2019; Zhang et al., 2019).

Because alphaviruses in nature infect humans and several other animal hosts, here, we tested the ability of mammalian Mxra8 orthologs to facilitate infection. Whereas many mammalian Mxra8 genes support CHIKV infection in complementation studies in Mxra8-deficient cells, surprisingly, cattle Mxra8 does not. Genetic and structural analysis reveal that the ectodomain of cattle Mxra8 contains a 15-amino acid insertion in the C'-C'' loop of domain 1 (D1), which sterically blocks alphavirus binding and infection. Deletion of this insertion restores the ability of cattle Mxra8 to bind CHIKV and promote infection by multiple alphaviruses. Reciprocally, introduction of the insert into the corresponding site of mouse Mxra8 abrogates CHIKV binding and infection. Indeed, CRISPR-Cas9 engineered mice containing mouse Mxra8 with the 15-amino acid cattle insertion phenocopy a Mxra8 knock-out (KO) mouse (Zhang et al., 2019) with markedly diminished CHIKV infection and disease, confirming a loss of function allele *in vivo*. Detailed evolutionary analysis reveals that the insertion was present at the same site in most Bovinae family members, which dates its origin to the Miocene epoch. Overall, our experiments explain how an evolutionarily ancient sequence insertion impacts alphavirus-Mxra8 receptor interactions and species tropism and provides a path for developing countermeasures to limit these globally concerning and emerging pathogens.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Alphavirus infection of Mxra8 orthologs.

Gene editing of *Mxra8* results in markedly diminished alphavirus infection, and viral infectivity is restored following complementation with mouse *Mxra8* or human *MXRA8* (Zhang et al., 2018a). Because many alphaviruses infect other vertebrate hosts in epizootic cycles (Weaver et al., 2012), we tested whether Mxra8 orthologs (Fig 1A) support infection of arthritogenic alphaviruses. We complemented 3T3 fibroblasts lacking Mxra8 expression (*Mxra8*) with *Mxra8* from mouse (*Mus musculus*, positive control), rat (*Rattus norvegicus*), chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*), horse (*Equus caballus*), cattle (*Bos taurus*), goat (*Capra hircus*), and sheep (*Ovis aries*), which vary by 7 to

25 percent at the nucleotide level and 6 to 24 percent at the amino acid level (Table S1). We also tested whether Mxra8 of three avian species, turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*), and chicken (*Gallus gallus*), which vary by ~45% at the amino acid level from mouse Mxra8, promote CHIKV infection. Although birds are not a common amplifying host for arthritogenic alphaviruses (Suhrbier et al., 2012) they act as a reservoir for some encephalitic alphaviruses (Weaver et al., 1999). Surface expression of the different Mxra8 orthologs was confirmed with cross-reactive monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) against Mxra8 (Zhang et al., 2018a) or antibodies against an N-terminal tag placed downstream of the signal peptide (Fig S1A–B and S1E–F). Complemented cells were inoculated with CHIKV (strain 181/25) and evaluated for infection by quantifying intracellular viral E2 protein expression by flow cytometry. Consistent with previous findings (Zhang et al., 2018a), CHIKV E2 antigen was absent in *Mxra8* cells but present at high levels in *Mxra8* cells complemented with mouse *Mxra8*. Complementation of *Mxra8* cells with rat, chimpanzee, dog, horse, goat, and sheep *Mxra8* orthologs also restored CHIKV infectivity (Fig 1B–C). However, Mxra8 from cattle and the three more distantly related avian species failed to restore infectivity despite comparable surface expression (Fig 1B–C and S1C–D). Of note, the N-terminal tag used to detect the avian constructs did not diminish the ability of mouse Mxra8 to support CHIKV infection (Fig S1C). Similar results were observed with other CHIKV strains (AF15561 and LR-2006) and MAYV and RRV (Fig 1D–H). In contrast, expression of the mammalian Mxra8 orthologs did not enhance infection of VEEV, an encephalitic alphavirus (Fig 1I). These data are consistent with previous results showing that mouse Mxra8 expression does not enhance infectivity of bunyaviruses, flaviviruses, or rhabdoviruses (Zhang et al., 2018a).

Cattle Mxra8 contains a repeat sequence insertion.

To define the mechanism by which cattle Mxra8 fails to promote alphavirus infectivity, we first aligned its sequence with mouse Mxra8. Cattle Mxra8 contains a 15-amino acid insertion composed of three quasi-identical (GEQRL/V) five-residue repeats that appear to be derived from an immediately adjacent GEQRV gene sequence (Fig S2A). These sequences are encoded by GC-rich tandem repeats and expand a CpG island (Fig S2B) while preserving the protein coding frame. CpG islands often are hypomethylated (Kundaje et al., 2015) and associated with genome instability (Du et al., 2014). Thus, analogous to well-characterized structural variations in human coding exons (Challis et al., 2015; Montgomery et al., 2013), this GC-rich region is prone to form a single-stranded DNA loop (Fig S2C) as a consequence of polymerase slippage during DNA replication (Tian et al., 2011), which may have caused the nucleotide insertion in *Mxra8*.

Structural analysis of cattle Mxra8.

We expressed cattle Mxra8 protein in *E. coli* (Fig S3A–B) and obtained a 2.3 Å crystal structure (Fig 2A and Table S2). Cattle Mxra8, like mouse Mxra8, adopts two immunoglobulin (Ig)-like domains (Fig 2A–B) that position in an unusual head-to-head orientation with a disulfide bond linkage between them (Fig S3C and (Basore et al., 2019; Song et al., 2019)). The two domains of cattle Mxra8 are connected by a hinge, with ~ 31° of movement in the position of domain D1 relative to D2 compared with mouse Mxra8 when bound to CHIKV (Basore et al., 2019). This domain rotation is similar to that in unliganded

murine Mxra8 (Basore et al., 2019) and unlikely to explain why cattle Mxra8 does not support alphavirus infection. Weak electron density for the 15-amino acid insertion of cattle Mxra8 indicates it can form a β -hairpin loop (herein termed 'moo' and 'moo'' strands), which projects away from D1 between the C' and C'' loops (Fig 2A, 2C, and S3C). This inserted region appears to be stabilized by crystal lattice contacts with an adjacent symmetry mate, suggesting that this might not be the only conformation of the 'moo' loop.

We docked cattle Mxra8 coordinates onto the cryo-electron microscopy structure of CHIKV virions in complex with mouse Mxra8 (Basore et al., 2019) (Fig 2D–E). These analyses suggest that the modeled 15-amino acid insertion sterically hinders Mxra8 binding to the CHIKV virion, as the insertion physically clashes with residues in domain A of the CHIKV E2 protein on the heterotrimeric spike. Superimposition of cattle Mxra8 into the crystal structure of CHIKV E3-E2-E1 proteins bound to human MXRA8 (Song et al., 2019) also indicates clashes between the insertion and domain A of the CHIKV E2 protein. These docking studies suggest that cattle Mxra8 could not productively engage the CHIKV virion even if a different conformation of the 15-amino acid insertion were adopted, as alternate steric clashes would be generated. In comparison, structure-function analysis of avian Mxra8 orthologs, which also do not promote CHIKV infection, showed no insertions, but instead revealed sequence variation at the virus-receptor interface (Basore et al., 2019; Song et al., 2019) with substitutions in 17 different contact residues (Fig S1G) relative to mouse Mxra8.

The insertion in cattle Mxra8 restricts alphavirus binding and infection.

To determine whether the insertion in cattle Mxra8 disrupts interactions with CHIKV virions, we engineered mouse and cattle Mxra8-Fc fusion proteins with or without the additional 15 residues from cattle (hereafter termed the 'moo' insert: mouse Mxra8-Fc, mouse Mxra8 + moo-Fc, cattle Mxra8-Fc, and cattle Mxra8 moo-Fc) (Fig 3A and S3D). We evaluated antigenic integrity of the chimeric proteins by assessing binding to four cross-reactive anti-Mxra8 mAbs (Zhang et al., 2018a) that engage multiple epitopes (Basore et al., 2019). MAbs 3G2.F5 and 9G2.D6 bound to all cattle and mouse Mxra8-Fc variants (Fig 3B and S3E), whereas mAbs 4E7.D10 and 8F7.E1 failed to bind efficiently to cattle Mxra8-Fc but recognized mouse Mxra8-Fc and cattle Mxra8 moo-Fc, suggesting they bind an epitope proximal to the 15-amino acid insertion. Consistent with this idea, 4E7.D10 and 8F7.E1 were mapped by hydrogen-deuterium exchange mass spectrometry to residues 91-107 on Mxra8 (Basore et al., 2019).

We tested the Mxra8-Fc fusion proteins for their capacity to bind CHIKV virus-like particles (VLPs) and virions by ELISA. Mouse Mxra8-Fc and cattle Mxra8 moo-Fc bound avidly to CHIKV VLPs and virions, whereas mouse Mxra8 + moo-Fc and cattle Mxra8-Fc did not (Fig 3C). In a complementary approach, we assessed the monovalent binding of purified wild-type and chimeric Mxra8 proteins to recombinant CHIKV VLPs using biolayer interferometry (BLI). Mouse Mxra8 ($K_D = 66.4 \pm 13.3$ nM) and cattle Mxra8 moo ($K_D = 72.3 \pm 19.9$ nM) but not mouse Mxra8 + moo and cattle Mxra8 bound to CHIKV VLPs (Fig 3D, S3F and Table S3). Consistent with these results, CHIKV virions bound poorly to 3T3 Mxra8 cells expressing mouse Mxra8 + moo or cattle Mxra8 compared to mouse or cattle moo Mxra8 (Fig 3E). These data suggest that the 15-amino acid insertion in cattle Mxra8

inhibits binding to CHIKV and support the structure-based hypothesis that cattle *Mxra8* cannot engage the CHIKV spike due to the presence of a protruding loop that sterically blocks binding (Fig 2D–E).

To test whether the insertion blocks alphavirus infection, we transduced *Mxra8* 3T3 cells with mouse *Mxra8*, mouse *Mxra8* + moo, cattle *Mxra8*, or cattle *Mxra8* moo. All wild-type and chimeric *Mxra8* variants were detected on the cell surface (Fig S4A–B). The addition of the 15-amino acid insertion to mouse *Mxra8* abolished infectivity by CHIKV, MAYV, and RRV, whereas its deletion from cattle *Mxra8* restored infection to levels observed following transduction of mouse *Mxra8* (Fig 3F–I). To confirm these results in a more species-relevant cell type, we transduced bovine endothelial cells with mouse *Mxra8*, mouse *Mxra8* + moo, cattle *Mxra8*, or cattle *Mxra8* moo, followed by inoculation of CHIKV or RRV. These cells lack endogenous surface expression of *Mxra8* and at baseline did not support infection of either CHIKV or RRV (Fig S4C–E). Bovine endothelial cells transduced with mouse *Mxra8* or cattle *Mxra8* moo but not mouse *Mxra8* + moo or cattle *Mxra8* were susceptible to CHIKV and RRV infection (Fig 3J–K and S4D–E).

The 15-amino acid insertion attenuates CHIKV infection and pathogenesis *in vivo* in CRISPR-Cas9 engineered mice.

We engineered C57BL/6J knock-in (KI) mice with a *Mxra8* allele containing the ‘moo’ insertion (*Mxra8*^{moo}) to test its function in alphavirus virulence *in vivo* (Fig 4A). Founder *Mxra8*^{moo/moo} or WT mice were bred to *Mxra8*-deficient (*Mxra8*^{KO/KO}) (Zhang et al., 2019) or each other to establish *Mxra8* ‘moo’ KI (*Mxra8*^{moo/KO} and *Mxra8*^{moo/moo}) mice and corresponding control animals. All mice containing the *Mxra8* ‘moo’ allele developed normally. To confirm expression of *Mxra8*^{moo} in the KI mice, we probed primary mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) by performing immunoblotting of lysates and flow cytometry of cells. Whereas *Mxra8*^{WT/WT} and *Mxra8*^{WT/KO} MEFs had *Mxra8* bands at ~50 kDa, no band migrating at this mobility was detected in lysates from *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} MEFs. Immunoblots of *Mxra8*^{moo/KO} MEFs, however, displayed a band of ~52 kDa, consistent with the 15-amino-acid ‘moo’ insertion (Fig 4B). We detected cell surface expression of *Mxra8* on *Mxra8*^{WT/WT}, *Mxra8*^{WT/KO}, and *Mxra8*^{moo/KO} MEFs but not *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} MEFs (Fig 4C). In multi-step growth analysis, both *Mxra8*^{WT/WT} and *Mxra8*^{WT/KO} MEFs supported robust CHIKV infection whereas *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} and *Mxra8*^{moo/KO} MEFs did not (Fig 4D). We then examined disease by inoculating mice with virulent CHIKV (strain AF15561). Markedly reduced ankle joint swelling was observed throughout the acute phase (days 2 to 10) in *Mxra8*^{moo/KO} and *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} compared to *Mxra8*^{WT/KO} and *Mxra8*^{WT/WT} mice (Fig 4E). Moreover, at day 3 post-inoculation, the *Mxra8*^{moo/KO} and *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} mice displayed diminished viral loads in the serum, ipsilateral and contralateral calf muscles, and contralateral ankle relative to *Mxra8*^{WT/WT} and *Mxra8*^{WT/KO} mice (Fig 4G–J). Similar results were observed after CHIKV infection of homozygous *Mxra8*^{moo/moo} mice with reduced ankle swelling and viral burden compared to *Mxra8* mice (Fig 4F, 4K–4N). However, low levels of CHIKV were detected in *Mxra8*^{moo/KO}, *Mxra8*^{moo/moo}, and *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} mice. These results agree with previous cell culture and *in vivo* experiments (Zhang et al., 2019; Zhang et al., 2018a), and suggest that a *Mxra8*-independent entry pathway exists for CHIKV, at least in mice, although it is not sufficient to promote clinical

disease. Nonetheless, as CHIKV virulence is diminished in, *Mxra8*^{moo/KO}, *Mxra8*^{moo/moo}, and *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} mice relative to *Mxra8*^{WT/WT} and *Mxra8*^{WT/KO} mice, the ‘moo’ insertion produces a loss-of-function allele for CHIKV infection *in vivo*.

Mxra8 insertions are present in most Bovinae species and inhibit alphavirus infection.

We determined whether the 15-amino acid insertion was present in species related to cattle. We evaluated calibrated phylogenetic trees that were developed using autosomal and mitochondrial DNA sequences (MacEachern et al., 2009; Zurano et al., 2019) to identify Bovinae subfamily and Bovidae family members with shared ancestry (Fig 5, *left panel*). This tree included tribes within the Bovinae subfamily (Bovini, Tragelaphini, and Boselaphini), closely related Bovidae (*Ovis*, *Pseudois*, and *Capra*), and more distantly related Cervidae (*Cervus*, *Muntiacus*, and *Odocoileus*) and Moschidae (*Moschus*) species. We obtained sequences of *Mxra8* gene orthologs (Table S4, S5, and STAR Methods) by: (a) downloading annotated *Mxra8* gene sequences from GenBank, (b) assembling deposited unannotated whole genome or exome sequences, and (c) isolating mRNA from tissues obtained at necropsy from animals at the Saint Louis Zoo, samples acquired from commercial vendors, and validated primary fibroblasts of different Bovinae species (Modi et al., 2004).

All Bovinae subfamily members except one had insertions in *Mxra8* at the same site as observed in cattle. The most distantly related Bovinae member (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) lacked the insertion as did representatives of the Bovidae, Cervidae, or Moschidae (*Ovis orientalis*, *Pseudois nayaur*, and *Capra sibirica*) (Fig 5, *right panel* and S5A). Members of the Bovina subtribe (*Bos* and *Bison*) share identical 15-amino acid insertions whereas the Bubalina subtribe (*Bubalus* and *Syncerus*) had 5-amino acid insertions (one GEQRV repeat) at the same site as in cattle. The common ancestor of *Bubalus bubalis* and *Syncerus caffer* may have lost 30 nucleotides of the ancestral insertion. Alternatively, an independent introduction of the GEQRV insertion could have occurred in the ancestor of *Bubalus* and *Syncerus* at the same site in *Mxra8*. Members of the more distantly related Tragelaphus subtribe of spiral-horned antelopes (*e.g.*, nyala [*Tragelaphus angasi*], bongo [*Tragelaphus eurycerus*], and lesser kudu [*Tragelaphus imberbis*]) all had similar 45-nucleotide (89% identity) and 15-amino acid (73% identity) insertions (GEQPVGEPREGEPRV; with three notable proline substitutions) at the same site in *Mxra8*.

To determine the significance of the insertions of other Bovinae species in *Mxra8*, we engineered a panel of *Mxra8* Fc-fusion proteins including water buffalo (*Bubalus*)-Fc, water buffalo- 5-Fc, kudu-Fc, and kudu- 15-Fc (Fig S5B). We designed three additional variants to define the effect of size and sequence of the insertion on CHIKV binding: mouse-*Mxra8*+8-Fc and mouse-*Mxra8*+10-Fc add 8 (QRVGEQRL) and 10 (GEQRVGEQRL) of the 15 amino acids, respectively, from the cattle insertion; and mouse-*Mxra8*+*[GGS]*₅-Fc adds 15 non-homologous amino acids (GGSGGSGGSGGSGGS) that are predicted to form a flexible loop (Fig S5C). These *Mxra8*-Fc fusion proteins were recognized by anti-*Mxra8* mAbs (Fig S5D). We tested these *Mxra8*-Fc proteins for their capacity to bind CHIKV VLPs by ELISA. No binding was detected with kudu-*Mxra8*-Fc, markedly diminished binding was observed with mouse-*Mxra8*+10-Fc and mouse-*Mxra8*+*[GGS]*₅-Fc, intermediate binding

was detected with water buffalo Mxra8-Fc and mouse-Mxra8+8-Fc, and avid binding was observed with water buffalo- 5-Mxra8-Fc, kudu- 15-Mxra8-Fc, and mouse Mxra8-Fc (Fig 6A–B). To corroborate these results, we assessed the monovalent binding of purified mouse Mxra8 insertion variants to CHIKV VLPs using BLI. All Mxra8 insertion variants were recognized by an anti-Mxra8 mAb (Fig S5E), suggesting proper folding. Mouse Mxra8 bound strongly to CHIKV VLPs, whereas mouse Mxra8+5, mouse Mxra8+8, mouse Mxra8+9, mouse Mxra8+10, mouse Mxra8 + moo, or mouse Mxra8 +[GGS]₅ displayed little or no binding (Fig 6C). These data suggest that insertions of as few as five residues at the ‘moo’ site inhibit interactions of Mxra8 with CHIKV, although receptor blockade does not require a specific sequence.

To test whether the 15-residue insertion in other Mxra8 orthologs similarly disrupts alphavirus infection, we complemented *Mxra8* 3T3 cells with water buffalo *Mxra8*, water buffalo 5 *Mxra8*, zebu *Mxra8*, zebu 15 *Mxra8*, kudu *Mxra8*, or kudu 15 *Mxra8*, followed by inoculation with CHIKV, MAYV, or RRV. All wild-type and sequence-deleted Mxra8 variants were detected on the cell surface (Fig S6A). Whereas zebu and kudu Mxra8 did not promote infection, expression of the respective 15-amino acid deleted forms enabled infection of the viruses tested (Fig 6D–F and S6B–D). Water buffalo Mxra8 had an intermediate phenotype; while it supported MAYV and RRV infection, the level of CHIKV infection was diminished. However, CHIKV infection was increased in cells expressing water buffalo 5 *Mxra8*. In additional experiments, we transduced primary kudu fibroblasts with kudu *Mxra8* or kudu 15 *Mxra8* (Fig S6E). Whereas kudu Mxra8 did not promote infection of MAYV, kudu 15 *Mxra8* did (Fig 6G and S6F).

Ancient origin of the Bovine Mxra8 insertion.

The Mxra8 insertion either originated once in a common ancestor of the *Bos*, *Bubalus*, and *Tragelaphus* lineages, or up to three times independently in each of these lineages (Fig 6H and Fig S7). Our phylogenetic reconstruction places at least 80% of the amino acid substitutions within the Mxra8 insertion along internal branches of the Bovinae tree (Fig 6H, Fig S7A–C, and Table S6). This indicates that the Mxra8 insertion, and the conserved amino acid substitutions within it, probably originated during the Miocene or earlier (> 5.3 million years ago [5.3 Ma]) (Zurano et al., 2019), before *Tragelaphus* diversified (Table S7). Recent, widespread introgression of the insertion appears unlikely, as the Bovinae species tree and the Mxra8 gene tree are highly congruent (Fig S7D–E) and the chromosome counts of Bovinae species differ substantially within and between genera (see Fig S7 and Table S8) (O’Brien, 2005).

At present, we have no evidence suggesting that alphavirus disease resistance selected for the Mxra8 insertion. Although age estimates based on nucleotide sequence divergence suggest alphaviruses evolved recently from a common ancestor (Weaver et al., 1993), RNA viruses may be considerably older than hypothesized (Zhang et al., 2018b). The insertion also could have evolved to enhance an endogenous function of Mxra8 in Bovinae physiology. As Mxra8 reportedly interacts with $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin and possibly, other matrix proteins, the insertion might modulate its attributed roles in cell-cell adhesion, angiogenesis,

and/or mesenchymal cell differentiation (Han et al., 2018; Jung et al., 2012; Jung et al., 2008).

The insertion in *Mxra8* likely limits alphavirus infection in some Bovinae species. The mechanism of evasion is reminiscent of those postulated for mouse hepatitis virus and some arenaviruses, where alleles of the *Ceacam1a* or transferrin (*TFRI*) receptors, respectively, with sequence variations yielding lower binding affinity were selected in subsets of rodents (Demogines et al., 2013; Peng et al., 2017). Analogously, some humans are homozygous for a 32-nucleotide deletion in CCR5, which confers resistance to HIV entry (Martinson et al., 1997). Arthritogenic alphaviruses (*e.g.*, CHIKV and RRV) failed to infect cattle and kudu cells efficiently except when an engineered variant (cattle moo or kudu 15) but not wild-type *Mxra8* was expressed. Moreover, introducing the ‘moo’ insert into mouse *Mxra8* produces a loss-of-function allele for CHIKV infection *in vivo*, and phenocopies an absence of *Mxra8*. Consistent with this idea, four *Bos taurus* calves inoculated with CHIKV failed to develop viremia (Bosco-Lauth et al., 2016), and in an area of Central Africa with epidemic transmission of CHIKV, only 1 of 183 zebu had CHIKV antibodies (Guilherme et al., 1996). Similarly, in a region of New Zealand with active RRV transmission, 0 of 207 cattle were seropositive for RRV (McFadden et al., 2009), and in Australia, RRV has been isolated from horses and goats, but not cattle (Gard et al., 1988). Detailed seroepidemiological studies of Bovinae and related Bovidae species in areas of epidemic alphavirus transmission could clarify the relationship between exposure, infection, and resistance to disease.

Our *in vitro* and *in vivo* data suggest that animals retaining the *Mxra8* insertion or those modified with an introduced insertion are resistant to infection and disease by *Mxra8*-dependent contemporary alphaviruses. By combining established resistance patterns of specific animals to viral infection with the sequences and structures of evolutionarily related receptor orthologs, molecular and functional analysis can elucidate how and which sequence variation alters virus-receptor interactions. Moreover, these studies may foster the development of countermeasures, as they provide a strategy for genetically modifying animals or identifying molecules that bind to specific regions of *Mxra8* to promote resistance to infection by multiple alphaviruses. Indeed, small molecules that differentially bind cattle and mouse/human *Mxra8* in the region proximal to the C'-C'' loop insertion could block alphavirus attachment and infection.

STAR METHODS

LEAD CONTACT AND MATERIALS AVAILABILITY

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact author Michael S. Diamond (diamond@wusm.wustl.edu). All plasmids, antibodies, cells, viruses, and mouse lines developed for this study are available under Material Transfer Agreements from Washington University School of Medicine.

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Cells and viruses.—NIH-3T3, HEK-293, and Vero cells were obtained from ATCC and were cultured at 37°C in DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Hyclone), 100

U/ml penicillin, 100 µg/ml streptomycin, and 10 mM HEPES. *Bos taurus* corneal endothelial cells (CRL-2048) were obtained from the ATCC and were cultured at 37°C in DMEM supplemented with 20% fetal bovine serum (Hyclone), 100 U/ml penicillin, 100 µg/ml streptomycin, and 10 mM HEPES. Expi293 cells were obtained from Thermo Fisher and cultured shaking at 37°C and 8% CO₂ in Expi293 Expression Medium. Primary MEFs were generated from embryos obtained on E13. The head and internal organs were dissected from the embryos, washed, minced in the presence of 0.05% trypsin-EDTA, and cultured until confluency. Primary kudu (*Tragelaphus imberbis*) fibroblasts (generously provided by T. Raudsepp and J. Womack, Texas A&M University) were maintained in DMEM supplemented with 20% fetal bovine serum (Hyclone). The following alphaviruses were propagated in Vero cells and titered by focus forming assay as described previously (Fox et al., 2015): CHIKV 181/25, CHIKV AF15561, MAYV (BeH407), RRV (T48), ONNV (MP30), and VEEV-GFP (TC-83).

Generation of Mxra8 knock-in mice.—All mouse studies were performed after approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at the Washington University School of Medicine and the Saint Louis Zoo (Assurance number A3381-01). Gene-edited Mxra8 mice were generated with support from the Genome Engineering and iPSC center and Department of Pathology Micro-Injection Core (Washington University School of Medicine). The 45-nucleotide “moo” insertion sequence (GGCGAGCAGCGCGTGGGCGAGCAGCGCTTGGGCGAGCAGCGCGTG) from cattle Mxra8 was inserted into exon 3 of mouse Mxra8. Two sgRNAs were selected based on a low off-target profile and distance to target site: sgRNA-1: 5'-CTTGTGGATATGTATTCGGCNGG-3' and sgRNA-2: 5'-ACTTGTGGATATGTATTCGGNGG-3'. The two gRNAs were synthesized *in vitro* (HiScribe T7 *In Vitro* Transcription Kit, New England BioLabs) and purified (MEGAclear Transcription Clean-Up Kit, Thermo Fisher). Guide RNAs, Cas9 protein, and the oligo donor sequence modified with silent blocks (gtccactgggacctcagcggggcccgagccaacggcgccgactgtggatatgtatAGTgcgGGCGAGCAGC GC GTGGGCGAGCAGCGCTTGGGCGAGCAGCGCGTGggtgaacagcgcggtacgagccgcgcgatcg cga ccgctctctgtctgcctctgtct) were complexed and electroporated into C57BL/6 zygotes. After microinjection, founder lines were confirmed by genotyping and next-generation sequencing.

Mouse experiments.—Four-week-old congenic *Mxra8*^{WT/WT}, *Mxra8*^{WT/KO}, *Mxra8*^{KO/KO}, *Mxra8*^{n^{mo}/KO}, *Mxra8*^{n^{mo}/n^{mo}} male or female C57BL/6J mice were inoculated subcutaneously in the footpad with 10³ FFU of CHIKV AF15561 strain. The *Mxra8*^{KO/KO} (out of frame 8 nucleotide deletion) were generated by CRISPR-Cas9 editing and characterized previously (Zhang et al., 2019). At 3 days post infection, mice were euthanized, perfused extensively with PBS, and serum and tissues were collected. Foot swelling (width x height) was monitored using digital calipers as previously described. RNA was extracted from serum and tissues using the MagMax-96 Viral RNA Isolation Kit (Thermo Fisher). Viral RNA levels were quantified by qRT-PCR using a TaqMan RNA-to-Ct 1-Step Kit (Thermo Fisher), compared to a CHIKV RNA standard curve, and expressed on a

log₁₀ scale as viral focus-forming unit (FFU) equivalents per gram of tissue or milliliter of serum. Primers and probes used are as follows: CHIKV-AF FOR: 5'-TCGACGCGCCATCTTTAA-3'; CHIKV-AF REV: 5'-ATCGAATGCACCGCACACT-3'; CHIKV-AF Probe: 5'-/56-FAM/ACCAGCCTG/ZEN/CACCCACTCCTCAGAC/3IABkFQ/-3'.

METHOD DETAILS

Plasmid construction for trans-complementation studies.—Mxra8 cDNA fragments containing a C-terminal FLAG tag were codon-optimized, synthesized, and inserted into the lentivirus vector pLV-EF1a using an In-Fusion HD Cloning Kit (Takara) for the following species: *Mus musculus* (Genbank accession no. NM_024263), *Bos taurus* (NM_001075830), *Bos indicus* (XM_019976191), *Bubalus bubalis* (XM_006066948.2), *Tragelaphus angasii* (primary sequence, see Table S4), *Capra hircus* (XM_018060531), *Canis lupus familiaris* (XM_546712), *Rattus norvegicus* (NM_001007002), *Pan troglodytes* (NM_001280245), *Equus caballus* (XM_023636045), *Ovis aries* (XM_027975805), *Meleagris gallopavo* (XP_010721105.1), *Anas platyrhynchos* (XM_027443263), and *Gallus gallus* (NP_989967). The mouse Mxra8 + moo was generated by inserting residues “GEQRVGEQRLGEQRV” after amino acid residue 98. The cattle moo, zebu moo, and kudu 15 Mxra8 were generated by removing residues 96-110. The Bubalus 5 was generated by removing residues 96-100. All sequences were codon-optimized. Plasmids were transformed into One Shot Stbl3 Chemically Competent *E. coli* (Thermo Fisher) and bacteria were grown at 30°C on LB Agar plates with carbenicillin (100 µg/ml). Colonies were picked and grown overnight at 30°C in LB supplemented with carbenicillin (100 µg/ml). Plasmids were extracted (Qiagen) and sequenced using the following primers: GCACTTGATGTAATTCTCCTTGAATTTGC, CTCAAGCCTCAGACAGTGGTTCAAAGT and GGTGGAAAATAACATATAGACAAACGCAC. The following primers were used to sequence the following species: *Bos indicus*: GTCTATGAGCCTAGGGACCGA and GTCTATGAGCCTAGGGACCGA; *Bubalus bubalis*: CGCGTATACGAGCCTCGA and ATAGAGTCGCAGTTGAGGCAG; *Tragelaphus angasii*: TGGGGAAAGACGGGCCT; and *Equus caballus*: CGATCGAGGTGCGACTGCTTC and ACAGAGTTGCCGTAGCTGTAG.

Trans-complementation and infection experiments.—Mxra8 lentiviruses were packaged with psPAX2 (Addgene #12260) and pMD2.G (Addgene #12259) vectors in HEK-293 cells using FugeneHD (Promega). Mxra8 3T3 cells (Zhang et al., 2018a) were transduced with lentiviruses and selected with blasticidin for 7 days. Surface expression of Mxra8 was assessed by flow cytometry after staining with a pool of seven hamster anti-mouse Mxra8 mAbs (Zhang et al., 2018a) (1 µg/ml for all species except for dog Mxra8 [10 µg/ml]), and Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-Armenian hamster IgG (1 µg/ml) at 4°C. Surface expression of avian Mxra8 orthologs was assessed using a FLAG tag located at the N-terminus located downstream of the signal peptide sequence. Mouse Mxra8 expression levels were compared to Mxra8 3T3 (negative) and wild-type 3T3 (positive) cells. Mxra8 surface expression levels of all other species were compared to Mxra8 3T3 (negative) and Mxra8 3T3 cells transduced with mouse Mxra8 (positive). Trans-complemented Mxra8 3T3 cells with Mxra8 surface expression levels of less than 90% after blasticidin selection

were further enriched by fluorescence activated cell sorting. Cells (2.5×10^5) were incubated with a pool of anti-Mxra8 mAbs (1G11.E6, 1H1.F5, 3G2.F5, 4E7.D10, 7F1.D8, 8F7.E1, and 9G2.D6) (1 μ g/ml) in 1% BSA/PBS for 30 min at 4°C. After 30 min, cells were washed and incubated with Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-hamster IgG (1 μ g/ml). After a 30-min incubation, cells were washed, resuspended in PBS supplemented with 2% FBS and 1 mM EDTA, and sorted using a BD FACSAria II. Cells positive for Mxra8 expression subsequently were expanded in culture.

Trans-complemented *Mxra8* 3T3 cells were inoculated with CHIKV 181/25 (MOI 3, 9.5 h), CHIKV AF15561 (MOI 3, 9.5 h), MAYV (MOI 3, 24 h), RRV (MOI 3, 32 h), or VEEV-GFP (MOI 3, 12 h) in DMEM supplemented with 2% FBS. At indicated time points, cells were harvested, fixed and permeabilized using Foxp3 Transcription Factor Staining Buffer Set (Thermo Fisher), and stained for viral antigen after incubation with the following antibodies: CHIKV (mouse mAb CHK-11 (Pal et al., 2013)), MAYV (mouse mAb CHK-48 (Fox et al., 2015)), RRV (human mAb 119 (Smith et al., 2015)), or VEEV-GFP (mouse 3B4C-4 (Hunt et al., 2006)). Cells were washed, incubated with Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG or goat anti-human IgG (Thermo Fisher), and analyzed by flow cytometry using a MACSQuant Analyzer 10 (Miltenyi Biotec). For multi-step growth curves, trans-complemented *Mxra8* 3T3 cells or primary MEFs were inoculated (MOI 0.01) with CHIKV 181/25, CHIKV AF15561, or CHIKV LR-2006 for 1 h, washed, and maintained in 2% FBS growth medium. Viral supernatants were harvested at indicated timepoints, titered on Vero cells, fixed, permeabilized, and stained with CHK-11 and horseradish peroxidase-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG. Infected foci were visualized using TrueBlue peroxidase substrate (KPL) and quantitated on an ImmunoSpot 5.0.37 Macroanalyzer (Cellular Technologies).

Bovine corneal endothelial cells were transduced with lentiviruses and selected with blasticidin for 7 days. Mxra8 surface expression was confirmed by flow cytometry as described above. To generate a clonal line that expressed high levels of Mxra8, bovine corneal endothelial cells were subjected to fluorescence-activated cell sorting as described above. Bovine corneal endothelial cells were inoculated with CHIKV 181/25 (MOI 3, 12 h) or RRV (MOI 3, 12 h) in 5% FBS growth medium. After infection, cells were harvested, fixed, permeabilized, stained with virus-specific antibodies, and analyzed by flow cytometry.

Primary kudu fibroblasts were transduced with lentiviruses encoding kudu or kudu 15 *Mxra8*. Cell surface expression of Mxra8 was confirmed using a pool of anti-Mxra8 mAbs. Cells with >90% Mxra8 surface expression were inoculated with MAYV (MOI 3, 26 h). After infection, cells were harvested, fixed, permeabilized, stained with biotinylated anti-MAYV antibodies (MAYV-115 and MAYV-134) (Earnest et al., 2019) that contain an N297Q mutation in the Fc region, and analyzed by flow cytometry.

Expression and purification of Mxra8 proteins.—A cDNA fragment encoding residues 24-309 of the *Bos taurus* Mxra8 extracellular domain was codon-optimized, synthesized, and inserted into the pET21a vector using the NdeI/NotI sites. After sequence confirmation, the plasmid construct was transformed into BL21(DE3) chemically competent cells (Thermo Fisher). Cells were grown at 37°C to an optimal density (600 nm) of 0.8 and

induced with 0.1 mM IPTG for 4 h. Cells were harvested and resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.01% NaN₃, 1 mM DTT, 25% sucrose (TENDS) buffer, and lysed in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.01% NaN₃, 1 mM DTT, 200 mM sodium chloride, 1% sodium deoxycholate and 1% Triton X-100. Inclusion bodies were isolated from the cellular lysate after centrifugation at 6,000 x g for 20 min and washed in TENDS buffer supplemented with 100 mM NaCl and 0.5% Triton X-100. A final wash was performed in the same buffer without 0.5% Triton X-100. Inclusion bodies were denatured in 100 mM Tris-HCl, 6 M guanidinium chloride and 20 mM β-mercaptoethanol for 1 h. Denatured protein was oxidatively refolded overnight at 4°C in 400 mM L-arginine, 100 mM Tris-HCl, 5 mM reduced glutathione, 0.5 mM oxidized glutathione, 10 mM EDTA and 200 mM phenylmethylsulphonyl fluoride. Refolded protein was concentrated using a 10,000-molecular weight cut-off stirred cell concentrator (EMD Millipore). Concentrated protein was further purified by HiLoad 16/600 Superdex 75 size exclusion chromatography (GE Healthcare) and HiTrap Q HP anion exchange chromatography (GE Healthcare). Purity and oligomeric state were confirmed by SDS-PAGE analysis and size exclusion chromatography coupled with multi-angle light scattering.

The mouse Mxra8-Fc fusion protein was generated as previously described where a cDNA fragment encoding Mxra8 (Genbank accession no. NM_024263) and the mouse IgG2b Fc region was synthesized (Integrated DNA Technologies) and inserted into the pCDNA3.4 vector. The mouse +moo Mxra8-Fc, mouse-Mxra8+8-Fc, mouse-Mxra8+10-Fc, and mouse +(GGG)₅ proteins were generated as described above with the addition of the amino acids “GEQRVGEQRLGEQRV”, “QRVGEQRL”, “GEQRVGEQRL”, or “(GGG)₅” after amino acid residue 98, respectively. Cattle (Genbank accession no. NM_001075830, residues 24-358), cattle moo (Genbank accession no. NM_001075830, residues 24-95 and 111-358), Bubalus (residues 24-348), Bubalus moo (residues 24-95, 101-348), kudu (residues 24-358), and kudu 15 (residues 24-95, 111-358) Mxra8-Fc proteins were generated as described above. Mxra8-Fc plasmids were diluted in Opti-MEM, incubated with HYPE-5 reagent (OZ Biosciences), and the complex was transfected into Expi-293 cells (Thermo Fisher, 10⁶ cells/ml). Cells were supplemented daily with Expi293 medium and 2% (w/v) Hyclone Cell Boost. Four days post transfection, the supernatant was harvested by centrifuging at 3,000 x g for 15 min and purified using Protein A Sepharose 4B (Thermo Fisher). After elution, Mxra8-Fc proteins were dialyzed into 20 mM HEPES, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.5 and stored at -80°C. Purity was confirmed by SDS-PAGE analysis.

Protein crystallization and X-ray structure determination.—Purified, recombinant *Bos taurus* Mxra8 protein (residues 24-309) produced in *E. coli* was crystallized by hanging drop vapor diffusion at 15 mg/ml in 0.1 M HEPES, pH 8.0, 6% (w/v) PEG 6000, and 1.0 M LiCl₂. Crystals were cryo-protected in the mother liquor supplemented with 25% ethylene glycol and flash-cooled in liquid nitrogen. Diffraction data was collected at the Advanced Light Source MBC Beamline 4.2.2 (100K; 1.0000 Å wavelength) and processed with XDS. Four datasets were collected by translating along a single crystal. Datasets were processed and merged using XDS. Initial phases were obtained through molecular replacement with Phaser using murine Mxra8 coordinates (PDB 6NK3) as a search model. Model building was carried out in COOT (Emsley et al., 2010) and refinement was performed with Phenix

(Adams et al., 2010). The overall electron density of the structure was good except in regions corresponding to amino acid residues 79-85 and 95-112, where weak electron density was noted and building of well-restrained geometric models was challenging. For these two regions, refinement was carried out with occupancy values set to 0.5. The final *Bos taurus* Mxra8 model contains mature residues 33-309 and 117 water molecules with an R_{work} of 21.8% and R_{free} of 24.2%. Data collection and refinement statistics are reported in Table S2. Structural validation was assessed using Molprobit (Chen et al., 2010), and structural figures were generated using PyMOL (Schrodinger, Version 2.1.0).

Mxra8 ELISA binding assays.—Maxisorp ELISA plates were coated with anti-CHIKV mAb 4N12 (Smith et al., 2015) (2 µg/ml) overnight in sodium bicarbonate buffer, pH 9.3. Plates were washed four times with PBS and blocked with 4% BSA for 1 h at 25°C. CHIKV VLPs were diluted to 1 µg/ml in 2% BSA and added for 1 h at 25°C. Mxra8-Fc proteins were diluted in 2% BSA and incubated for 1 h at 25°C. Plates were washed with PBS and incubated with horseradish peroxidase conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (H + L) (1:2000 dilution, Jackson ImmunoResearch) for 1 h at 25°C. After washing, plates were developed with 3,3',5,5' tetramethylbenzidine substrate (Thermo Fisher) and 2N H₂SO₄. Plates were read at 450 nM using a TriStar Microplate Reader (Berthold). Anti-Mxra8 mAb ELISAs were performed by coating Maxisorp ELISA plates with Mxra8-Fc proteins (2 µg/ml) overnight in sodium bicarbonate buffer, pH 9.3. Plates were washed four times with PBS and 0.05% Tween-20 and blocked with 4% BSA for 1 h at 25°C. Anti-Mxra8 mAbs were diluted in 2% BSA and added for 1 h at 25°C. Plates were washed with PBS and 0.05% Tween-20 and incubated with horseradish peroxidase conjugated goat anti-Armenian hamster IgG (H + L) (1:2000 dilution, Jackson ImmunoResearch) for 1 h at 25°C. After washing, plates were developed and read as described above.

Mxra8 BLI binding assays.—BLI experiments were performed in 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 150 mM NaCl, 3 mM EDTA, and 0.005% P20 surfactant with 1% BSA at 25°C using an Octet-Red96 device (Pall ForteBio). CHK-265 was biotinylated as previously described (Fox et al., 2015), loaded onto streptavidin biosensors (ForteBio) until saturation, then incubated with CHIKV VLP for 5 min. To measure the affinity of mouse and cattle moo Mxra8 to CHIKV VLP, the loaded streptavidin biosensors were dipped into increasing concentrations of Mxra8 protein (10 nM to 1 µM) for 5 min, followed by a 5 min dissociation. Recombinant cattle and mouse + moo Mxra8 proteins (5 µM) were allowed to associate and dissociate for 5 min at each step. Real-time data was analyzed using BIAevaluation 3.1 (GE Healthcare) and kinetic curves and steady-state equilibrium were fitted using a global 1:1 binding algorithm with drifting baseline.

Virus-cell binding assays.— *Mxra8* 3T3 cells or complemented cells (3×10^4 cells) were incubated with CHIKV 181/25 (MOI 200) for 1 h at 4°C. Cells were washed extensively with cold PBS, and viral antigen staining was performed using a cocktail of CHIKV anti-E1 and anti-E2 antibodies (mAbs CHK-11, CHK-84, CHK-124, and CHK-166 (Pal et al., 2013)). Cells were washed, incubated with Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (Thermo Fisher), and analyzed by flow cytometry.

Sample collection and sequencing.—All experiments were performed after approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at the Washington University School of Medicine and the Saint Louis Zoo (Assurance number A3381-01). Muscle and liver samples were obtained from banked samples collected at necropsy. All sample sources are listed in Table S4. Total RNA was extracted using TRIzol and a Direct-zol RNA kit (Zymo Research). First strand cDNA was generated using a Superscript III First-Strand Synthesis System (Thermo Fisher). Species- and gene-specific primers were designed from deposited sequences and assembled whole genome sequences (Table S4 and S5). PCR master mixes were prepared in a nucleic acid-free PCR workstation. Bovinae *Mxra8* genes were amplified using nested PCR with 1X Q5 Reaction Buffer, 200 μ M dNTPs, 200 nM Forward primer, 200 nM Reverse primer, 2 μ l cDNA, 1X Q5 High GC Enhancer, and 1 μ l of Q5 High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (NEB). The following amplification protocol was used for both first- and second-round amplifications: 1) 98°C for 30 sec; 2) 98°C for 20 sec; 3) 60–68°C for 30 sec; 4) 72°C for 60 sec; 5) 72°C for 2 min; with steps 2–4 repeated for 35 cycles. All primer sequences and annealing temperatures are listed in Table S5. PCR products were separated on a 1% agarose gel, and the band of the predicted size was purified by gel-extraction (Qiagen). Purified PCR products were sequenced using amplification primers and primers that target a conserved region in the *Mxra8* gene (TGCCACCTGCACCACCACTAC and GTAGTGGTGGTGCAGGTGGCA).

Structural docking analysis.—The cattle *Mxra8* crystal structure was superimposed onto the *Mxra8* chains in the 1) *Mxra8*-bound CHIKV-VLP cryo-EM model (PDB 6NK6 and (Basore et al., 2019)) using the MatchMaker tool in USCF Chimera and 2) MXRA8-bound CHIKV p62-E1 glycoprotein crystal structure (PDB 6ORT) using the ‘super’ command in PyMOL (Version 2.1.0, Schrodinger).

Whole genome sequence assembly and alignments.—Whole genome sequences of the species listed in Table S4 were aligned to the *Bos taurus* genome (Elsik et al., 2016) using BWA-MEM from the Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (Li and Durbin, 2010) to look for reads mapping to the *Mxra8* gene and the “GEQRVGEQRLGEQRV” insertion sequence. For non-Bovinae species, reads were mapped to genomes with either a 15-residue insertion (*Bos taurus*), partial insertion (*Bubalus bubalis*; AWWX01000000), no insertion (*Ovis aries*; CM008472) to identify reads overlapping the insert junction. *Mxra8* nucleotide sequences were aligned with MUSCLE. Quality for alignments was refined by manual assessment and adjustment of misaligned sites.

Immunoblotting.—Primary MEFs (10^6 cells) were harvested and lysed in RIPA buffer (Thermo Fisher) containing a protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche). Cell lysates were mixed with LDS buffer (Thermo Fisher), incubated at 70°C for 10 min, and electrophoresed using 10% Bis-Tris gels (Thermo Fisher) in MOPS running buffer. Separated proteins were transferred to a PVDF membrane using an iBlot2 Dry Blotting System (Thermo Fisher). The PVDF membrane was blocked with 5% non-fat milk, probed with hamster anti-*Mxra8* mAbs (3G2.F5 or 9G2.D6, 1 μ g/ml) and horseradish peroxidase conjugated goat anti-Armenian hamster IgG, and developed with SuperSignal West Pico Chemiluminescent Substrate (Thermo Fisher).

Evolutionary analyses.—Phylogenetic analyses were executed in RevBayes (Hohna et al., 2016). The unrooted *Mxra8* gene tree topology was estimated under the HKY+Gamma substitution model (Hasegawa et al., 1985; Yang, 1994). (see Fig S7 and Table S6).

Statistical analyses.—Statistical significance was assigned using Prism Version 8 (GraphPad) when $P < 0.05$. Statistical analysis of viral infection levels was determined by one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test. Statistical analysis of *in vivo* experiments was determined by either one-way or two-way ANOVA with a Kruskal-Wallis or Dunnett's post-test depending on the data distribution and the number of comparison groups. The statistical tests, number of independent experiments, and number of experimental replicates are indicated in the Figure legends.

Data and Code Availability.—The authors declare that all data supporting the findings of this study are available within the paper. Analysis scripts and the sequence alignment are available at: https://github.com/mlandis/mxra8_bovinae. The X-ray crystal structure of cattle Mxra8 has been deposited as PDB 6ORT.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- An insertion in Bovinae Mxra8 sterically blocks alphavirus binding and infection
- The sequence insertion evolved in the Miocene epoch at least 5 million years ago
- Loss of the insertion in Mxra8 in several Bovinae restores alphavirus infection
- Introduction of the insertion into Mxra8 of mice prevents alphavirus pathogenesis

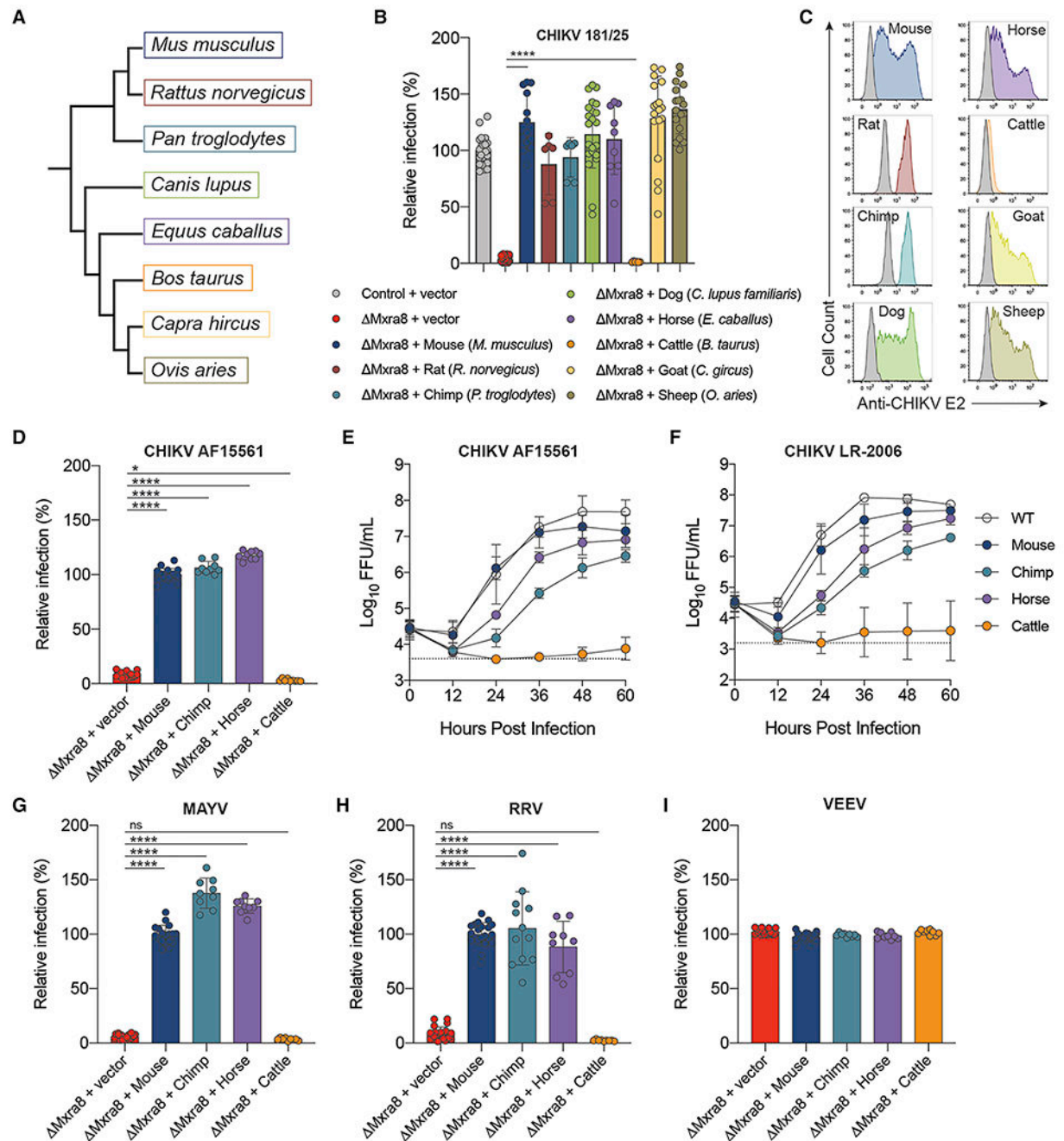


Figure 1. Alphavirus infection of cells expressing Mxra8 gene orthologs.

A. Dendrogram of *Mxra8* genes in mammals. **B-C.** Lentivirus complementation of *Mxra8* 3T3 with *Mxra8* cDNA from mouse, rat, chimpanzee, dog, horse, cattle, goat, and sheep. Cells were inoculated with CHIKV (181/25) and analyzed for infection by staining with anti-E2 mAbs. Infection data are pooled from three to nine experiments ($n = 6$ to 24 replicates; one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: ****, $P < 0.0001$) (**B**) and representative flow cytometry plots of infected cells (**C**) are shown. Small differences in infection of some species (*e.g.*, chimp and horse) may reflect relative levels of expression of

the Mxra8 orthologs (see Fig S1) or inherent differences in affinity of binding. **D-I.** Lentivirus complementation of *Mxra8* 3T3 with Mxra8 cDNA from mouse, cattle, horse, and chimpanzee. Cells were inoculated with (**D-E**) CHIKV (AF15561), (**F**) CHIKV (LR-2006) (**G**) MAYV (BeH407), (**H**) RRV (T48), or (**I**) VEEV (TC-83) and stained with virus-specific anti-E2 mAbs to quantify infection (see STAR Methods). For **E-F**, a multi-step growth analysis was conducted, and virus was titrated by focus-forming assay. Data are pooled from three experiments performed in triplicate (one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: *, $P < 0.05$; ****, $P < 0.0001$; n.s., not significant). See Fig S1.

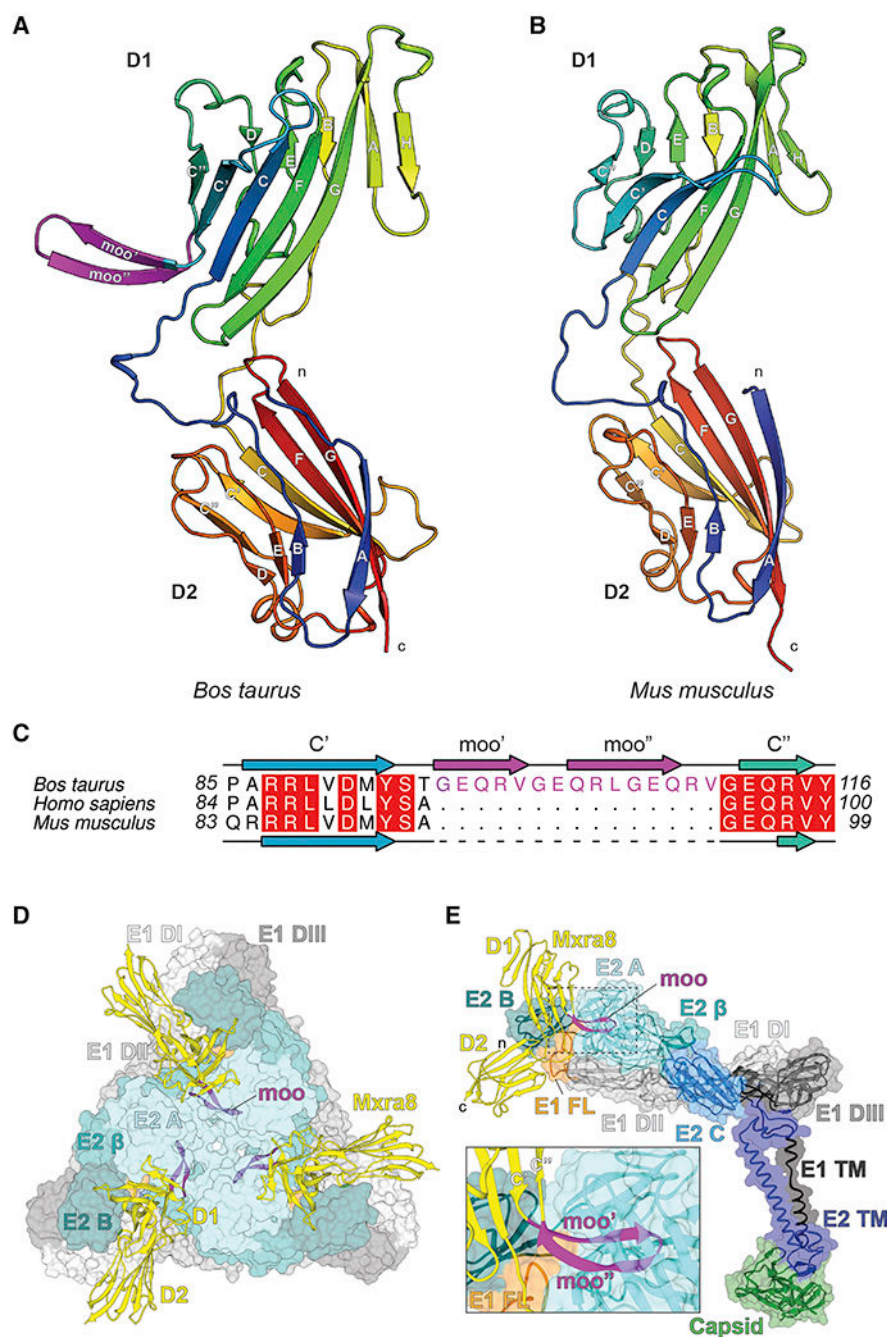


Figure 2. Structure of cattle Mxra8.

A-B. Ribbon models of the (A) cattle and (B) mouse Mxra8 (PDB 6NK3) structures determined by X-ray crystallography. The two Ig-like domains are colored by Jones' rainbow scheme with the N-terminus in blue and C-terminus in red. The β -strands of each Ig domain are labeled according to standard convention. The N- and C-termini are labeled in lowercase. **C.** Structure-based alignment of *Bos taurus* (cattle), *Homo sapiens* (human), and *Mus musculus* (mouse) Mxra8 protein sequences highlighting the 15-amino acid insertion site between the C'-C'' loop in D1. **D-E.** Docking of cattle Mxra8 onto a cryo-EM model of

mouse Mxra8 bound to CHIKV VLPs, viewed from a trimeric spike (**D**), an E2-E1 subunit (**E**), and enlarged to highlight the clash (*inset*). Cattle Mxra8 is colored yellow and labeled by domain, with the moo insert depicted in magenta. The N- and C-termini are labeled in lowercase. Within the inset, the C', 'moo' insert, and C'' β -strands are labeled, and the E1 fusion loop is depicted in orange. Structural proteins are colored and labeled by domain. E1: DI, light grey; DII, medium grey; DIII, dark grey; fusion loop, orange; TM region, black. E2: A domain, light cyan; β -linker, medium cyan; domain B, dark cyan; domain C, medium blue; TM region, dark blue. Capsid, green. See Fig S2 and S3.

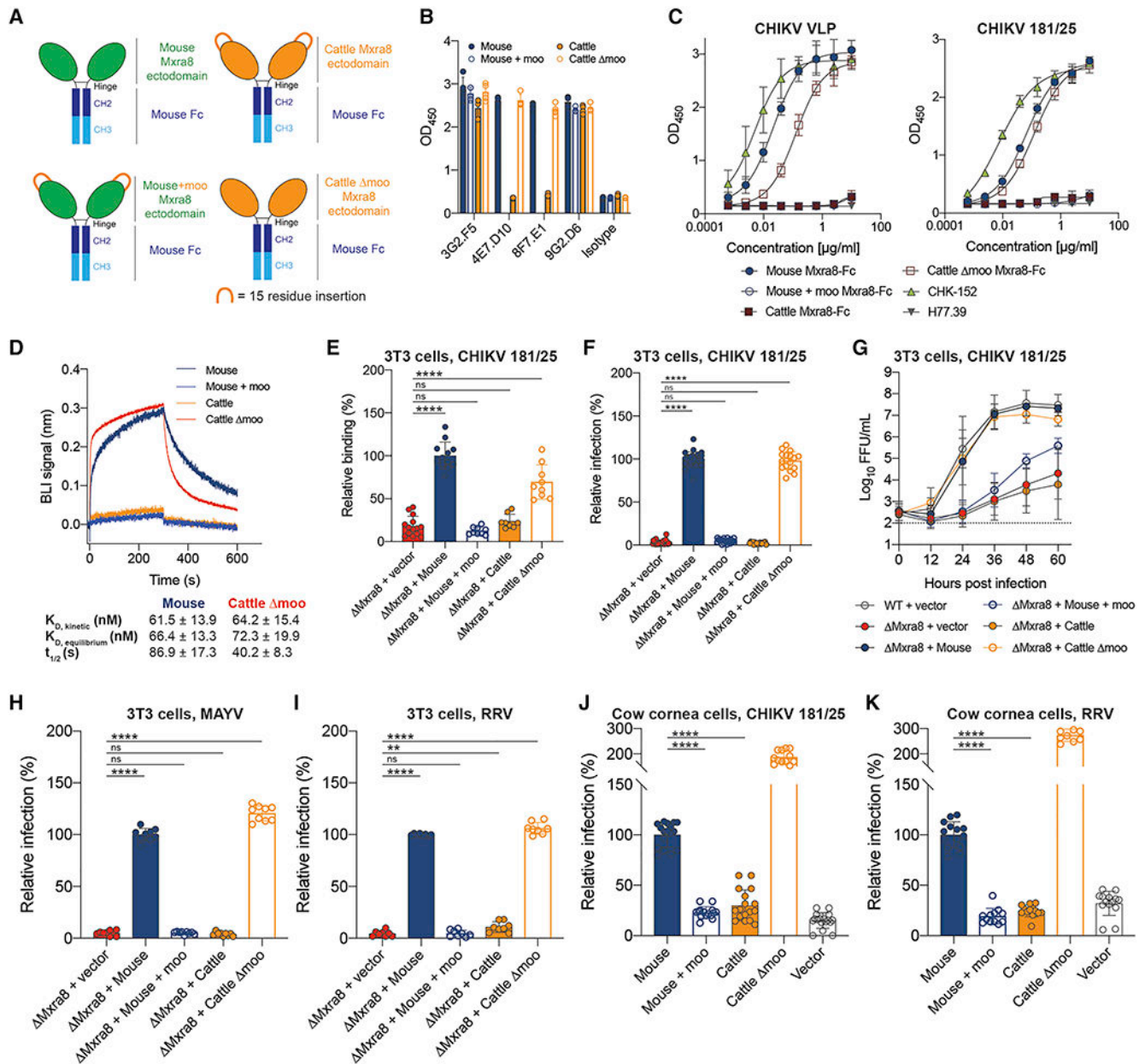


Figure 3. Effect of the 15-amino acid insertion in cattle Mxra8 on alphavirus binding and infection.

A. Diagram of mouse, cattle, mouse + moo [GEQRVGEQRLGEQRV insert], and cattle moo Mxra8-Fc fusion proteins. **B.** Binding of anti-Mxra8 mAbs 3G2.F5, 4E7.D10, 8F7.E1, and 9G2.D6 to mouse, cattle, mouse + moo, and cattle moo Mxra8-Fc fusion proteins by ELISA. Data are pooled from four experiments performed in duplicate. **C.** Binding of increasing concentrations of mouse, cattle, mouse + moo, and cattle moo Mxra8-Fc fusion proteins to antibody-captured CHIKV VLPs and CHIKV 181/25 virions by ELISA. Data are pooled from two to three experiments performed in duplicate. **D.** Representative kinetic sensograms of bacterially-expressed mouse (blue), mouse + moo (light blue), cattle (orange), and cattle moo (red) Mxra8 binding to CHIKV VLPs as

determined by BLI. CHIKV VLPs were captured using an anti-CHIKV mAb (CHK-265) and then incubated with Mxra8 proteins. Binding data represent the average of three experiments. **E.** Binding of CHIKV 181/25 virions to 3T3 *Mxra8* cells complemented with mouse, mouse + moo, cattle, or cattle moo *Mxra8* cDNA. Virions were incubated with cells at 4°C, and CHIKV antigen staining was analyzed by flow cytometry. Data are pooled from three to four experiments (n = 9 to 14 replicates; one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: ****, $P < 0.0001$). **F-I.** Lentivirus complementation of 3T3 *Mxra8* cells with *Mxra8* cDNA from mouse, mouse + moo, cattle, and cattle Amoo. Cells were inoculated with (**F, G**) CHIKV (181/25), (**H**) MAYV (BeH407), or (**I**) RRV (T48). For **G**, a multi-step growth analysis was conducted, and virus was titrated by focus-forming unit assay. Data are pooled from three experiments performed in sextuplicate. For **F, H-I**, cells were processed at specified time points (see STAR Methods) and stained with virus-specific anti-E2 protein mAbs. **J-K.** Lentivirus complementation of bovine cornea cells with *Mxra8* cDNA of mouse, cattle, mouse + moo, and cattle Amoo. Cells were inoculated with (**J**) CHIKV (181/25) or (**K**) RRV (T48) and processed by staining with anti-E2 protein mAbs. The relative increase in CHIKV and RRV infection in bovine cornea cells expressing cattle moo *Mxra8* may reflect the higher levels of surface expression (see Fig S5C). For **F, H-K**, data are pooled from three to nine experiments (n = 6 to 26 replicates; one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: **, $P < 0.01$; ****, $p < 0.0001$). See Fig S3 and S4.

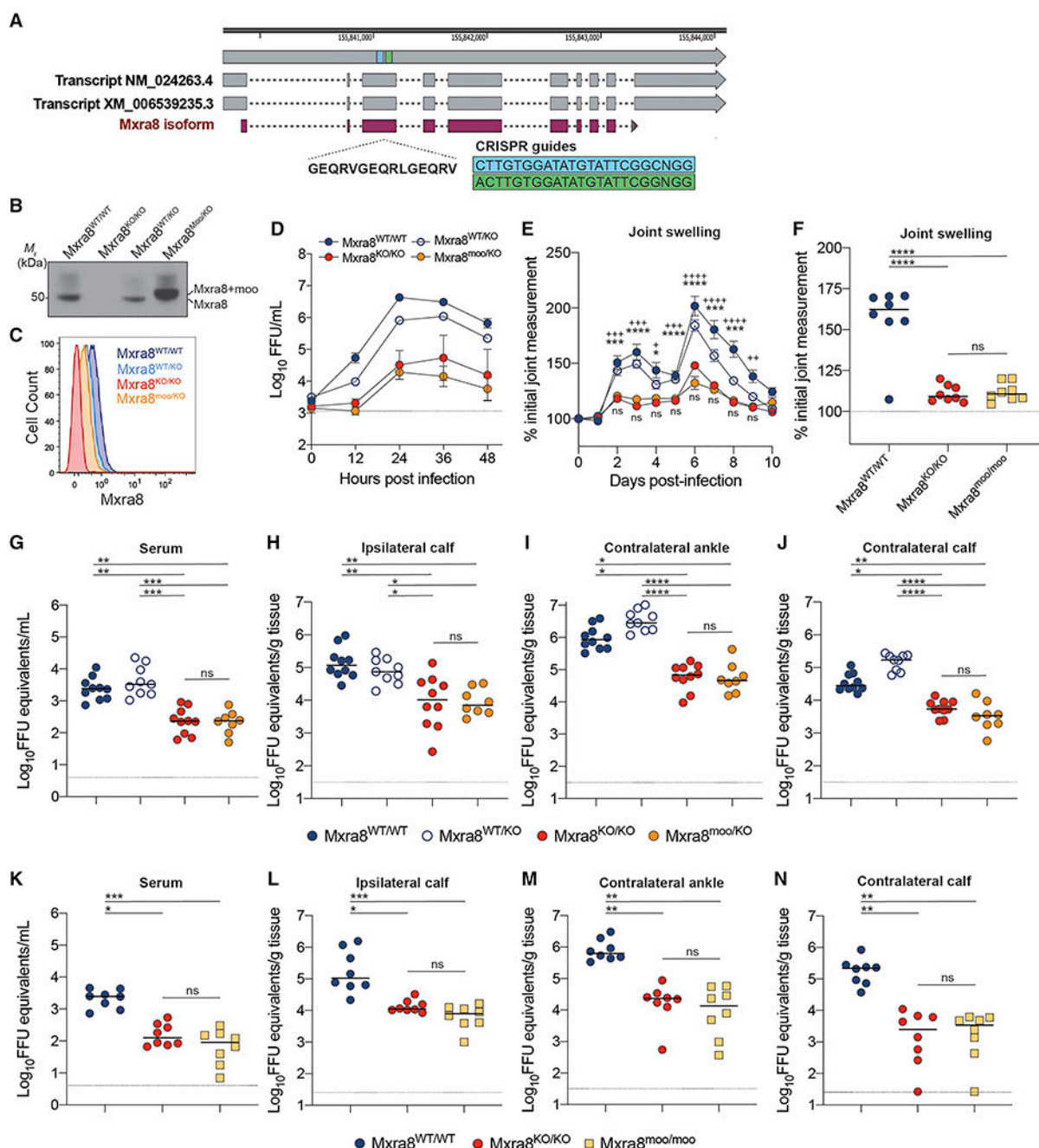


Figure 4. In vivo assessment of the Mxra8 'moo' insertion.

A. Generation of Mxra8-moo knock-in C57BL/6J mice using CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing. The 'moo' insertion (GEQRVGEQRLGEQRV) was introduced into exon 3 of the *Mxra8* gene using two single guide RNAs (sgRNAs) as indicated by the blue and green boxes. Annotated transcripts are shown in gray and the encoded protein in purple. **B.** Immunoblotting of cell lysates from primary Mxra8^{WT/WT}, Mxra8^{KO/KO}, Mxra8^{WT/KO}, and Mxra8^{moo/KO} MEFs using anti-Mxra8 mAbs 3G2.F5 and 9G2.D6 (Mr: migration rate). Data are representative of three experiments. **C.** Surface expression of Mxra8 from primary MEFs

(Mxra8^{WT/WT} (dark blue), Mxra8^{KO/KO} (red), Mxra8^{WT/KO} (light blue), and Mxra8^{moo/KO} (orange)) after staining with a pool of anti-Mxra8 mAbs as determined by flow cytometry. Data are representative of two experiments. **D.** Multi-step growth analysis of CHIKV AF15561 in primary MEFs (Mxra8^{WT/WT}, Mxra8^{KO/KO}, Mxra8^{WT/KO}, and Mxra8^{moo/KO}). Cells were infected at an MOI of 0.01, and virus in supernatants was harvested at the time points shown and titrated by focus-forming assay. Data are representative of three experiments performed in sextuplicate. **E-N.** Mxra8^{WT/WT}, Mxra8^{KO/KO}, Mxra8^{WT/KO}, and Mxra8^{moo/KO}, and Mxra8^{moo/moo} mice were inoculated in the footpad with 10³ focus-forming units (FFU) of CHIKV AF15561. Joint swelling was monitored over 10 days (**E**) or at day 3 post-infection (**F**). Viral RNA levels in serum (**G, K**), ipsilateral calf muscle (**H, L**), contralateral ankle (**I, M**), and contralateral calf muscle (**J, N**) were measured at 3 days post-infection. For **E**, data are from three experiments (n = 11 to 15; two-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: * or +, $P < 0.05$; ** or ++, $P < 0.01$; *** or +++, $P < 0.001$; **** or ++++, $P < 0.0001$; ns, not significant. “*” indicates comparison between Mxra8^{WT/WT} and Mxra8^{moo/KO} “+” indicates comparison between Mxra8^{WT/KO} and Mxra8^{moo/KO} “ns” data are a comparison between Mxra8^{KO/KO} and Mxra8^{moo/KO} For **F-N**, data are from two experiments (n = 8 to 10; one-way ANOVA with Kruskal-Wallis post-test: *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.001$; ****, $P < 0.0001$; ns, not significant).

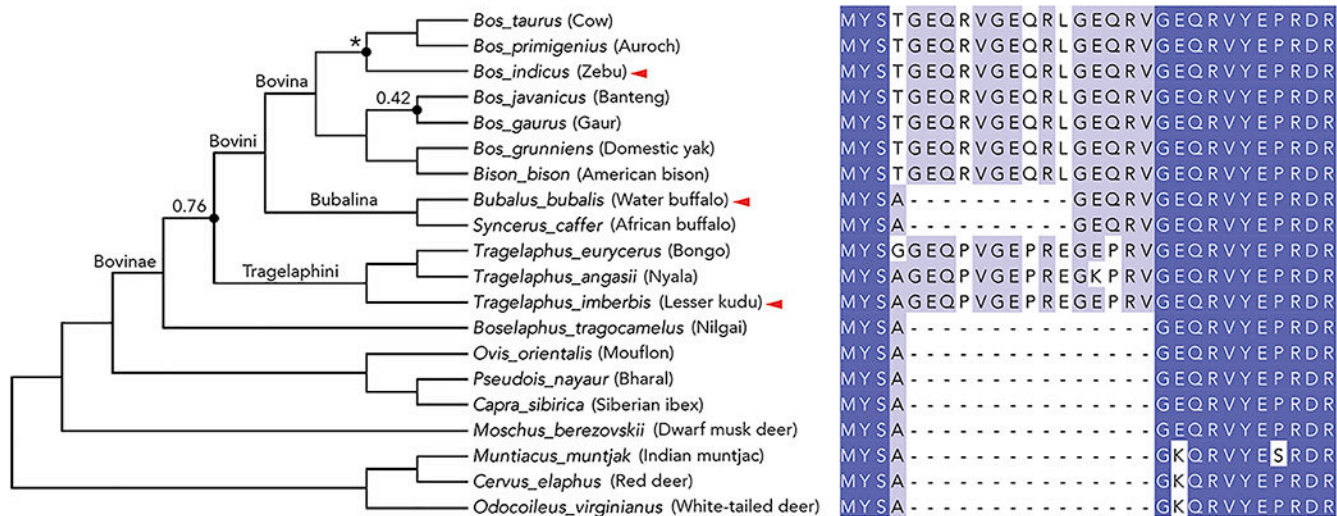


Figure 5. Phylogenetic relationship of *Mxra8* orthologs.
The phylogeny summarizes the relationships for Bovinae, Bovidae, Moschidae, and Cervidae as estimated by (Zurano et al., 2019) but was modified to include the relationships for *Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus* (reported by (Wang et al., 2018)) as indicated by asterisks. All nodes have high support with posterior probabilities >95% unless indicated otherwise by values. Species indicated with red arrows are investigated in subsequent functional experiments. The phylogenetic tree and sequence alignment were prepared using FigTree and Jalview (Waterhouse et al., 2009), respectively. Protein sequences of *Mxra8* gene orthologs from Bovidae members in the region corresponding to the 15-residue *Mxra8* insertion in D1 were aligned using MUSCLE and visualized using Jalview. Amino acid residues are colored according to sequence identity among Bovidae family members: dark blue boxes (100%), light blue boxes (50-90%), and white boxes (<50%). Gaps in the protein sequences are indicated by a dash.

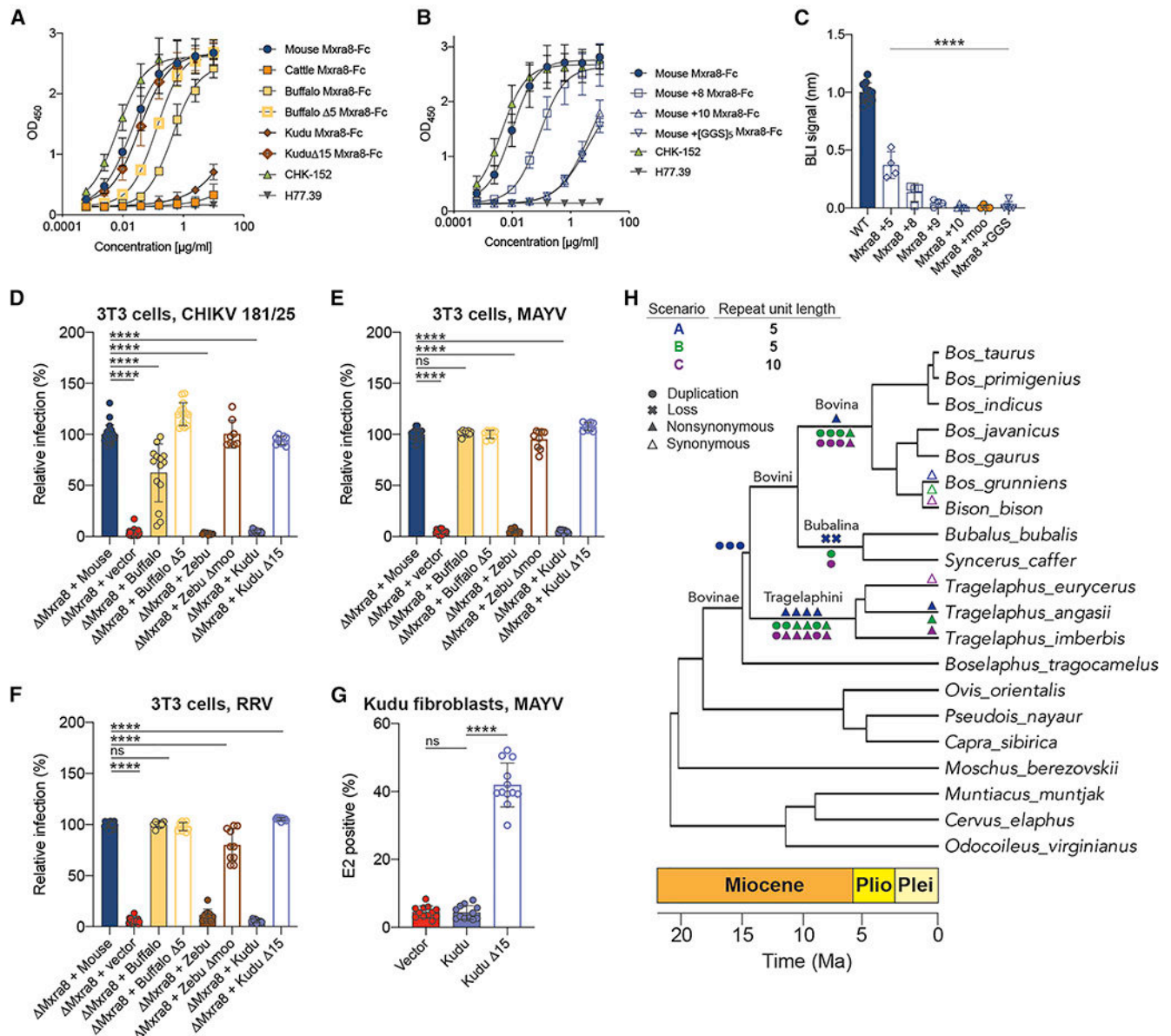


Figure 6. Functional and evolutionary relationships of Mxra8.

A. Binding of mouse-Fc, cattle-Fc, water buffalo-Fc, water buffalo- $\Delta 5$ -Fc, kudu-Fc, and kudu- $\Delta 15$ -Fc Mxra8 fusion proteins to antibody-captured CHIKV VLPs by ELISA. **B.** Binding of mouse-Fc, mouse-Mxra8+8-Fc, mouse-Mxra8+10-Fc, and mouse-Mxra8+[GGG]₅-Fc fusion proteins to antibody-captured CHIKV by ELISA. MAbs CHK-152 (anti-CHIKV) and H77.39 (anti-HCV) were included as positive and negative controls, respectively. Data are pooled from three experiments performed in duplicate. **C.** Binding response of the bacterially-expressed mouse Mxra8 and insertion variants Mxra8+5, Mxra8+8, and Mxra8+9, Mxra8+10, Mxra8+moo, and Mxra8+[GGG]₅ to antibody-captured CHIKV VLPs at 1 μ M concentration by BLI. Data are the mean and standard deviation of four to five experiments (one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: ****, $P < 0.0001$). **D-F.** Lentivirus complementation of *Mxra8* 3T3 with Mxra8 cDNA from water

buffalo, water buffalo 5, zebu, zebu moo, kudu, and kudu 15. Cells were inoculated with (D) CHIKV (181/25), (E) MAYV (BeH407), or (F) RRV (T48), harvested, stained with anti-E2 mAbs, and processed by flow cytometry. For D-F, data are pooled from three to eight experiments (n = 8 to 23 replicates; one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: ****, $P < 0.0001$). G. MAYV infection of primary kudu fibroblasts transduced with vector control, kudu Mxra8, or kudu 15 Mxra8. Data are from four experiments (n = 12; one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test: ****, $P < 0.0001$, ns, not significant). H. Evolutionary scenarios for the Bovinae Mxra8 gene insertions. The three scenarios are based on the length of the repeat unit and whether losses or duplications of the repeat unit are more common. Duplication events are indicated as circles, losses are indicated by an "x", nonsynonymous substitutions are indicated as filled triangles, and synonymous substitutions are indicated as open triangles. Events are shown in their reconstructed order, from oldest (left) to youngest (right), and in their youngest possible positions, though the age of any event is not precisely known. All scenarios involve one synonymous substitution occurring within *Bos grunniens*, and one nonsynonymous substitution occurring within *Tragelaphus angasii*, but differ elsewhere. In scenario A (blue symbols), where loss of the 5-amino acid repeat unit is relatively common, the repeat unit is duplicated three times in the common ancestor of Bovini and Tragelaphini. A nonsynonymous substitution occurs in the ancestor of Bovini followed by two loss events in the ancestor of Bubalina. Four more nonsynonymous substitutions occur in the ancestor of Tragelaphini. In scenario B (green symbols), where duplication of the 5-amino acid repeat unit is more common, three duplication events and a nonsynonymous substitution occur in the ancestor of Bovina. A single duplication event occurs in the Bubalina ancestor. In the ancestor of Tragelaphini, two duplication events are followed by two nonsynonymous substitutions, a duplication event, and a nonsynonymous substitution. Scenario C (purple symbols), where duplication of the 10-amino acid repeat unit is more common, is similar to scenario B with an exception in the Tragelaphini ancestor. Here, a single duplication event is followed by three nonsynonymous substitutions, a duplication event, and a nonsynonymous substitution. A geological time scale indicating the Miocene (orange), Pliocene (yellow), and Pleistocene (light yellow) epochs is shown below. See Fig S7 and Table S6.

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 1G11.E6	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 1H1.F5	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 3G2.F5	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 4E7.D10	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 7F1.D8	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 8F7.E1	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Anti-Mxra8 mAb 9G2.D6	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
CHK-11	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
CHK-48	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
CHK-84	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
CHK-124	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
CHK-152	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
CHK-166	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
CHK-265	Pal et al., 2013	N/A
119	Smith et al., 2015	N/A
3B4C-4	Hunt et al., 2015	N/A
MAYV-115 N297Q	Earnest et al., 2019	N/A
MAYV-134 N297Q	Earnest et al., 2019	N/A
Alexa Fluor 488 conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG	Thermo Fisher	A28175; RRID: AB_2536161
Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-Armenian hamster IgG	Abcam	ab173004; RRID: AB_2732023
Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG	Thermo Fisher	A21235; RRID: AB_2535804
Alexa Fluor 647 conjugated goat anti-human IgG	Thermo Fisher	A21445; RRID: AB_2535862
Peroxidase conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (H + L)	Jackson ImmunoResearch	115-035-062; RRID: AB_2338504
Peroxidase conjugated goat anti-Armenian hamster IgG (H + L)	Jackson ImmunoResearch	127-035-160; RRID: AB_2338976
Bacterial and Virus Strains		
Chikungunya virus (strain 181/25)	Levitt et al., 1986	AF192908
Chikungunya virus (strain AF15561)	Hawman et al., 2016	EF452493
Chikungunya virus (strain LR-2006)	Tsetsarkin et al., 2016	KY575571
Mayaro virus (strain BeH407)	World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses	AAY45742
Ross River virus (strain T48)	World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses	ACV67002
O'nyong'nyong virus (strain MP30)	World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses	AAC97207
Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (strain TC-83)	World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses	L01443

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Biological Samples		
Muscle tissue, <i>Bos taurus</i>	Whole Foods Market	N/A
Liver tissue, <i>Bos javanicus</i>	Saint Louis Zoo	ISIS #108161
Muscle tissue, <i>Bos grunniens</i>	The Yak Boys	YB105
Muscle tissue, <i>Bison bison</i>	Whole Foods Market	N/A
Muscle tissue, <i>Bubalus bubalis</i>	Nicky Farms	4695
Liver tissue, <i>Tragelaphus eurycerus</i>	Saint Louis Zoo	ISIS #103656
Liver tissue, <i>Tragelaphus angasi</i>	Saint Louis Zoo	ISIS #118494
Muscle and liver tissue, <i>Tragelaphus imberbis</i>	Saint Louis Zoo	ISIS #107129
Liver tissue, <i>Muntiacus muntjac</i>	Saint Louis Zoo	ISIS #103117
Muscle tissue, <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	Case Farms	N/A
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
Chikungunya virus-like particles (strain 37997)	Akahata et al., 2010	N/A
Mouse Mxra8 ectodomain ²³⁻²⁹⁶	Basore et al., 2019	N/A
Mouse +moo Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Mouse +5 Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Mouse +8 Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Mouse +9 Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Mouse +10 Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Mouse +[GGS] ₅ Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Cattle Mxra8 ectodomain ²⁴⁻³⁰⁹	This study	N/A
Cattle moo Mxra8 ectodomain	This study	N/A
Mouse Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	Zhang et al., 2018	N/A
Mouse +moo Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Mouse +8 Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Mouse +10 Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Mouse +[GGS] ₅ Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Cattle Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Cattle moo Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Buffalo Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Buffalo 5 Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Kudu Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Kudu 15 Mxra8 fused to mouse IgG2b Fc region	This study	N/A
Critical Commercial Assays		
TaqMan RNA-to-Ct 1-Step Kit	Thermo Fisher	4392939
In-Fusion HD Cloning Plus	Takara	638910
HiScribe T7 <i>In Vitro</i> Transcription Kit	New England BioLabs	E2040S
MEGAclear Transcription Clean-Up Kit	Thermo Fisher	AM1908

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Deposited Data		
X-ray crystal structure of murine Mxra8	Basore et al., 2019	PDB 6NK3
Electron Cryo-Microscopy of Chikungunya VLP in complex with mouse Mxra8 receptor	Basore et al., 2019	PDB 6NK6; EMD-9394
Crystal Structure of <i>Bos taurus</i> Mxra8 Ectodomain	This study	PDB 6ORT
<i>Bos primigenius</i> isolate:CPC98 Raw sequence reads	Park et al., 2015	PRJNA294709; SRR2465682
<i>Bos indicus</i> strain:Nelore RefSeq Genome sequencing	Canavez et al., 2012	PRJNA360096; XM_019976191
<i>Bos javanicus</i> WGS data	Kalbfleisch et al., 2013	PRJNA325061; SRR4035276
<i>Bos grunniens</i> WGS data	N/A	PRJNA359997; SRR5140177
<i>Bubalus bubalis</i> assembly	N/A	PRJNA207334; AWWX01000000
<i>Syncerus caffer</i> paired end sequencing	N/A	PRJNA341313; SRR4104498
<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i> RNA-seq data	N/A	PRJNA388863; SRR5647659
<i>Ovis vignei</i> paired end sequencing	N/A	PRJEB5463; ERR454948
Pseudois nayaur genome sequencing and assembly	N/A	PRJNA361448; SRR5439716
<i>Capra ibex</i> paired end sequencing	N/A	PRJNA361447; SRR5260693
<i>Moschus berezovskii</i> raw sequence reads	N/A	PRJNA289641; SRR2098995
<i>Cervus elaphus</i> genome sequencing and assembly	Bana et al., 2018	PRJNA324173; SRR4013902
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
NIH/3T3	ATCC	CRL-1658; RRID: CVCL_0594
HEK-293	ATCC	CRL-1573; RRID: CVCL_0045
Vero	ATCC	CCL-81; RRID: CVCL_0059
<i>Bos taurus</i> corneal endothelial cells	ATCC	CRL-2048; RRID: CVCL_2865
Expi293F	Thermo Fisher	A14527
C57BL/6J primary MEF	This study	N/A
C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{WT/KO} primary MEF	This study	N/A
C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{KO/KO} primary MEF	Zhang et al., 2019	N/A
C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{moo/KO} primary MEF	This study	N/A
C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{moo/moo} primary MEF	This study	N/A
<i>Bos gaurus</i> primary fibroblasts	Modi et al., 2004	N/A
<i>Syncerus caffer</i> primary fibroblasts	Modi et al., 2004	N/A
<i>Boselaphus tragelaphus</i> primary fibroblasts	Modi et al., 2004	N/A
<i>Tragelaphus imberbis</i> primary fibroblasts	Modi et al., 2004	N/A
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
Mouse: C57BL/6J	Jackson Laboratory	000664; RRID: IMSR_JAX:000664
Mouse: C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{WT/KO}	This study	N/A
Mouse: C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{KO/KO}	This study	N/A
Mouse: C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{moo/KO}	This study	N/A
Mouse: C57BL/6J Mxra8 ^{moo/moo}	This study	N/A

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Oligonucleotides		
Mxra8 sgRNA-1: 5'-CTTGTGGATATGTATTCGGCNGG-3'	Genome Engineering and iPSC Center, Washington University School of Medicine	N/A
Mxra8 sgRNA-2: 5'-ACTTGTGGATATGTATTCGGCNGG-3'	Genome Engineering and iPSC Center, Washington University School of Medicine	N/A
CHIKV-AF FOR: 5'-TCGACGCGCCATCTTTAA-3'	Zhang et al., 2019	N/A
CHIKV-AF REV: 5'-ATCGAATGCACCGCACACT-3'	Zhang et al., 2019	N/A
CHIKV-AF Probe: 5'-/56-FAM/ACCAGCCTG/ZEN/CACCCACTCCTCAGAC/3IABkFQ/-3'	Zhang et al., 2019	N/A
See Table S5 for primer sequences and annealing temperatures used to amplify <i>Mxra8</i> from primary tissue samples of different animals		
Recombinant DNA		
pLV-EF1a vector	Hayer et al., 2016	Addgene 85132; RRID: Addgene_85132
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	Zhang et al., 2018	NM_024263
Codon-optimized mouse +moo Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	NM_001075830
Codon-optimized cattle moo Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized zebu (<i>Bos indicus</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_019976191
Codon-optimized zebu moo Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized water buffalo (<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_006066948.2
Codon-optimized water buffalo 5 Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized lesser kudu (<i>Tragelaphus angasi</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized lesser kudu 15 Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_018060531
Codon-optimized dog (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_546712
Codon-optimized rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	NM_001007002
Codon-optimized chimp (<i>Pan troglodytes</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	NM_001280245
Codon-optimized horse (<i>Equus caballus</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_023636045
Codon-optimized sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_027975805

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Codon-optimized turkey (<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XP_010721105.1
Codon-optimized duck (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	XM_027443263
Codon-optimized chicken (<i>Gallus gallus</i>) Mxra8 cloned into pLV-EF1a vector	This study	NP_989967
psPAX2	Didier Trono	Addgene 12260; RRID: Addgene_12260
pMD2.G	Didier Trono	Addgene 12259; RRID: Addgene_12259
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 ectodomain ₂₃₋₂₉₆ cloned into pET21a vector	Basore et al., 2019	N/A
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 +5 ectodomain cloned into pET21a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 +8 ectodomain cloned into pET21a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 +9 ectodomain cloned into pET21a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 +10 ectodomain cloned into pET21a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized mouse Mxra8 +[GGS] ₅ ectodomain cloned into pET21a vector	This study	N/A
Codon-optimized cattle Mxra8 ectodomain ₂₄₋₃₀₉ cloned into pET21a vector	This study	NM_001075830
Codon-optimized cattle moo ectodomain Mxra8 cloned into pET21a vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized mouse Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized mouse +moo Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized mouse +8 Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized mouse +10 Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized mouse +[GGS] ₅ ectodomain Mxra8 and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized cattle Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized cattle moo Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized buffalo Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized buffalo 5 Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized kudu Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Codon optimized kudu 15 Mxra8 ectodomain and mouse IgG2b Fc region cloned into pCDNA3.4 vector	This study	N/A
Software and Algorithms		
Burrows-Wheeler Aligner	Li et al., 2009	http://bio-bwa.sourceforge.net/

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
MUSCLE	Edgar et al., 2004	https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/muscle/
RevBayes	Höhna et al., 2016	https://revbayes.github.io/
Mesquite	Maddison et al., 2018	https://www.mesquiteproject.org/
PAML	Yang et al., 2007	http://abacus.gene.ucl.ac.uk/software/paml.html
FigTree	Andrew Rambaut	http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/ ; Version 1.4.4
FlowJo	FlowJo, LLC	Versions 9 and 10
PyMOL	Schrodinger	Version 2.1.0
UCSF Chimera	RVBI	https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera/ ; Version 1.13
GraphPad Prism	GraphPad	Version 8.2.1
Other		
Evolution analysis scripts and sequence alignments	This study	https://github.com/mlandis/mxra8_bovinae