

# Tech Session 3: Immuno Delivery

Dylan Hendy

**CRS 2022 Annual Meeting & Expo**

July 11 – 15, 2022 | Montreal Congress Center, Montreal Canada

***Advanced Delivery Science***

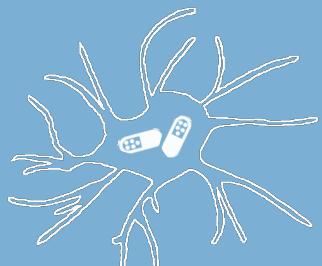
# Ace-DEX Microparticles for Broadly Active Influenza Vaccination

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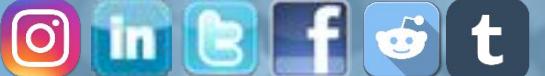
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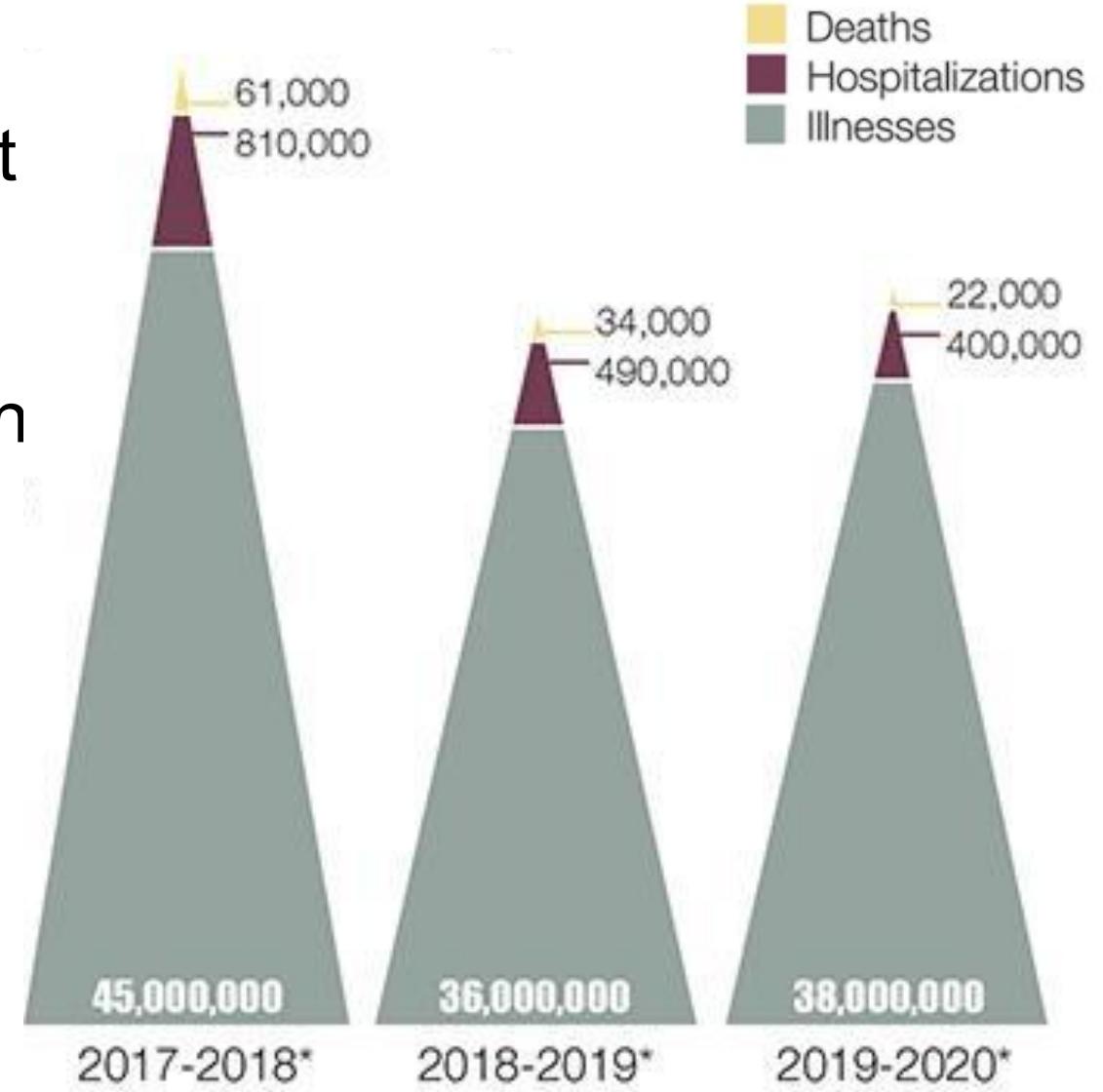
Ainslie Lab @ UNC



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# Influenza Affects Millions Worldwide

- Seasonal influenza is estimated to cost the U.S. an average of **\$11.2 billion each season**
- **H1, H3, and H5** are of greatest concern for pandemic potential
- Current vaccination strategies are inadequate
  - Antigenic Drift
  - Humoral Biased Immune Response



WHO and CDC Websites

# Computationally Optimized Broadly Reactive Antigen (COBRA)

- Methodology for creating broadly reactive HA antigens from the Ross group at UGA
- Vaccination with broadly responsive antibodies
- Poorly immunogenic

Influenza A H3N2 HA Sequences  
Isolated from 1995 to 2016



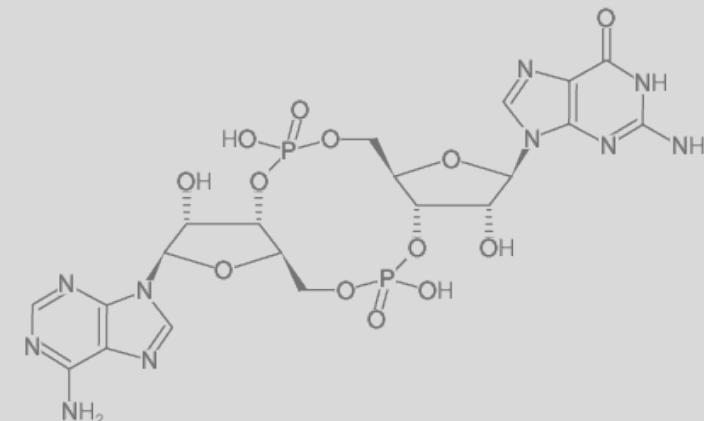
COBRA  
Methodology



How can we improve the delivery  
of these vaccine components?

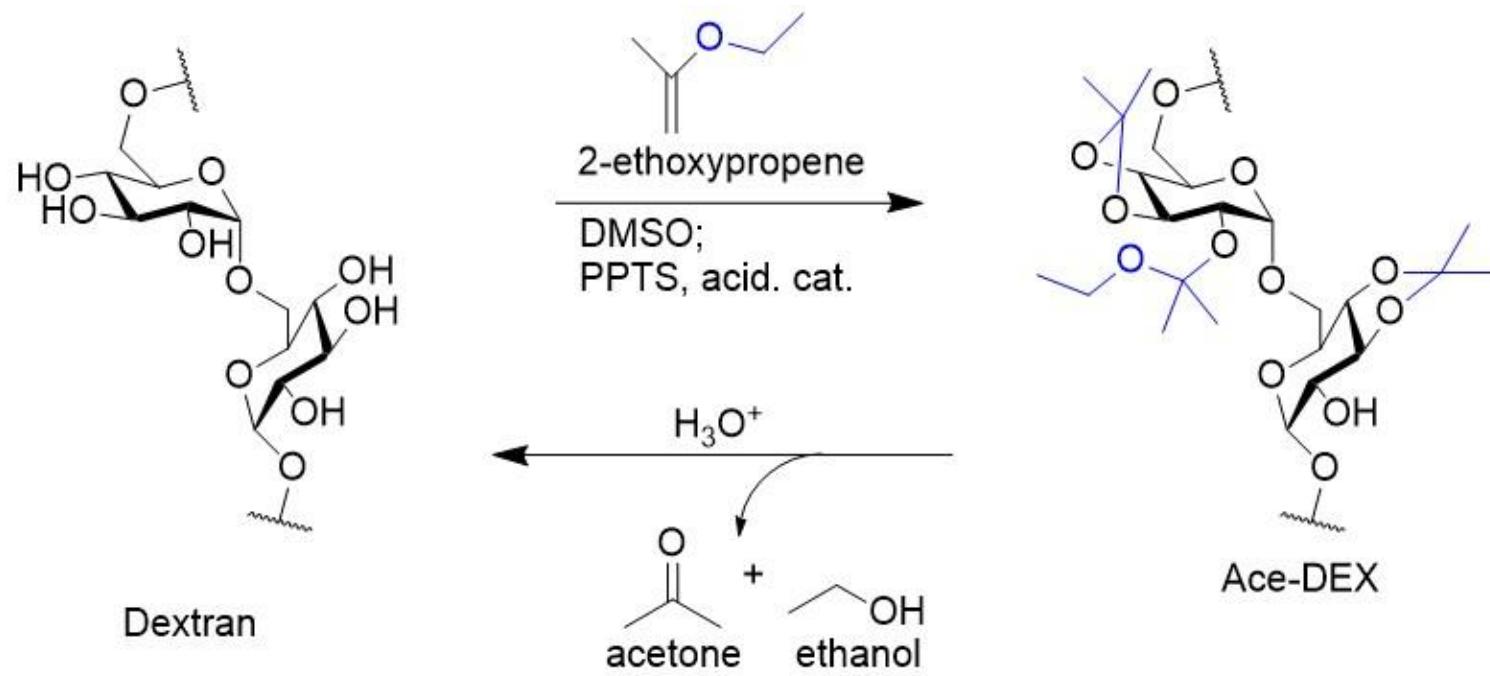
## cGAMP:

- STING agonist
- Promotes a balanced humoral and cell mediated response



Giles and Ross., *Vaccine* 2011

# Acetalated Dextran is an Acid-sensitive Polymer Used For Vaccine and Drug Delivery



## Advantages of Ace-DEX Microparticles:

- Passive targeting to phagocytes
- Sustained release of antigen
- Acid sensitivity
- Increased efficiency of presentation of protein antigen to CD8+ and CD4+ T cells

Kauffman et al. *ACS Appl Mater Interfaces* 2012  
Broaders et al. *PNAS* 2009

# cGAMP Adjuvanted COBRA Ace-DEX Microparticles

- = COBRA
- = cGAMP

How does the fabrication method of Ace-DEX microparticles effect vaccine efficacy?

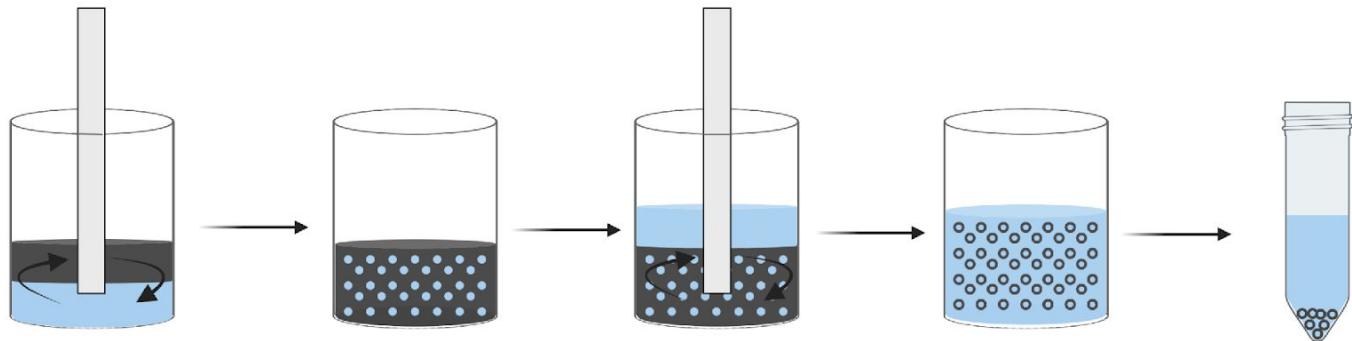


COBRA activity from  
Ace-DEX  
delivery

# Fabrication of Vaccine MPs

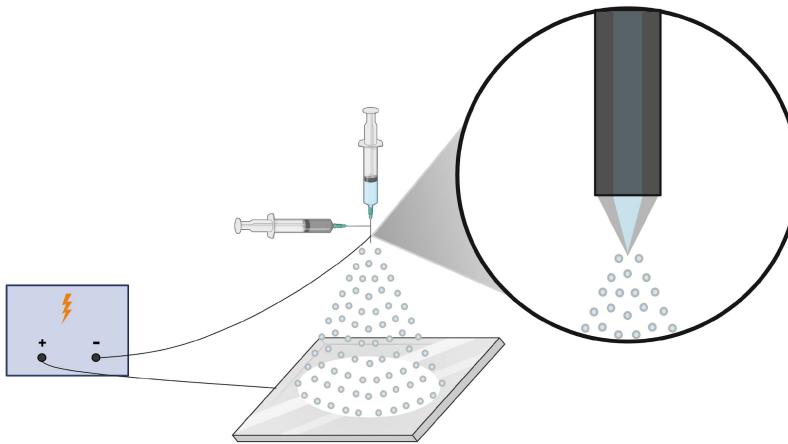
## Double Emulsion:

- Allows for the encapsulation of water-soluble cargo
- This process could be harmful to protein antigens



## Electrospray:

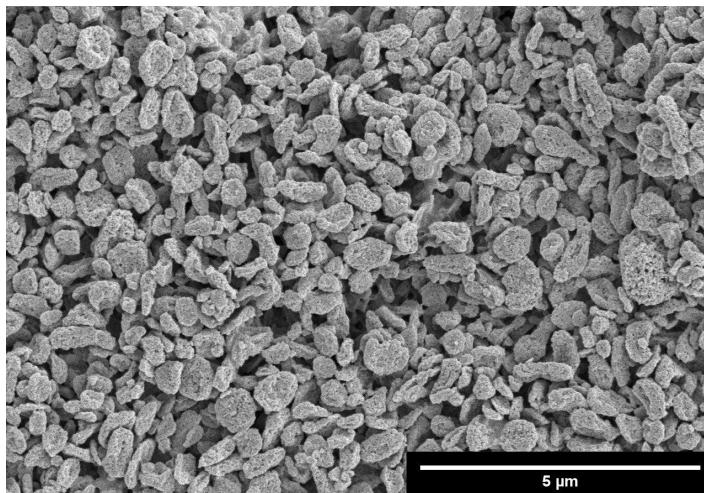
- Allows for the encapsulation of water-soluble cargo
- Highly scalable
- Less harsh on proteins than other fabrication techniques



Gallovic et al. *Adv Healthc Mater* 2016

### cGAMP MPs (1% loading)

Electrospray

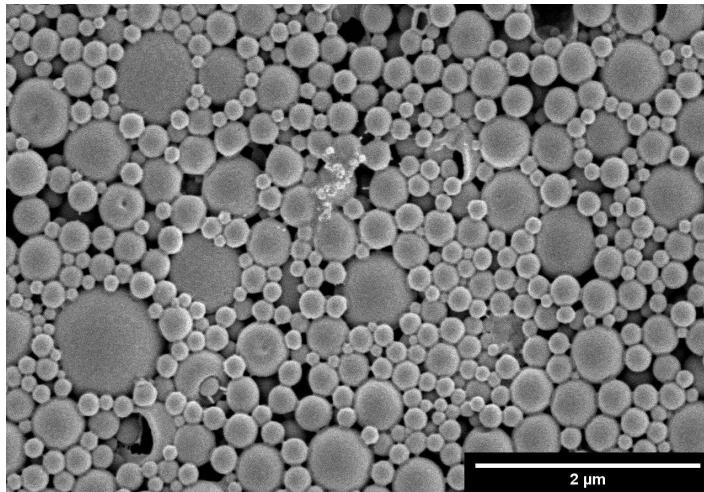


### H3 COBRA MPs (0.765% loading)

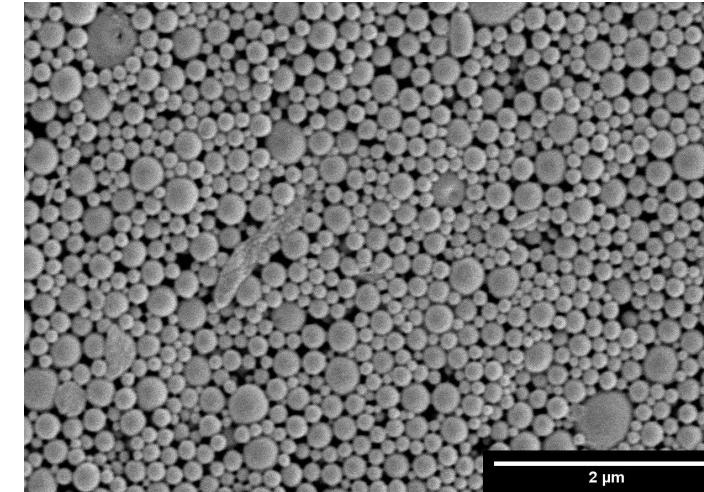
Homogenization

EE = 108%  $\pm$  1%

EE = 92%  $\pm$  2%



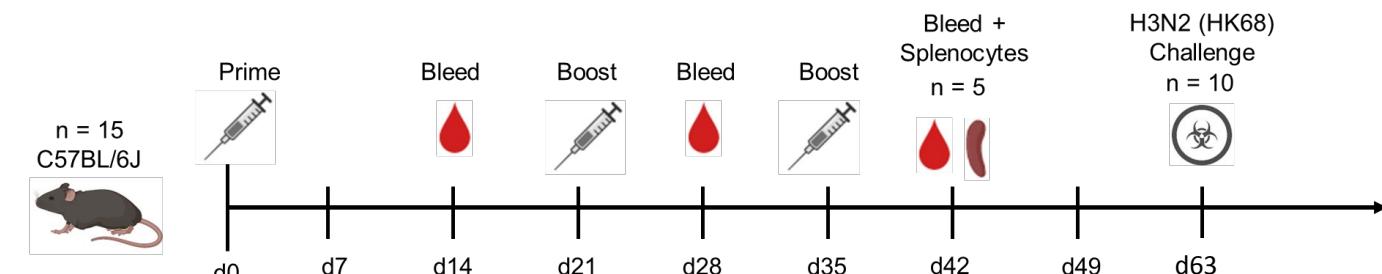
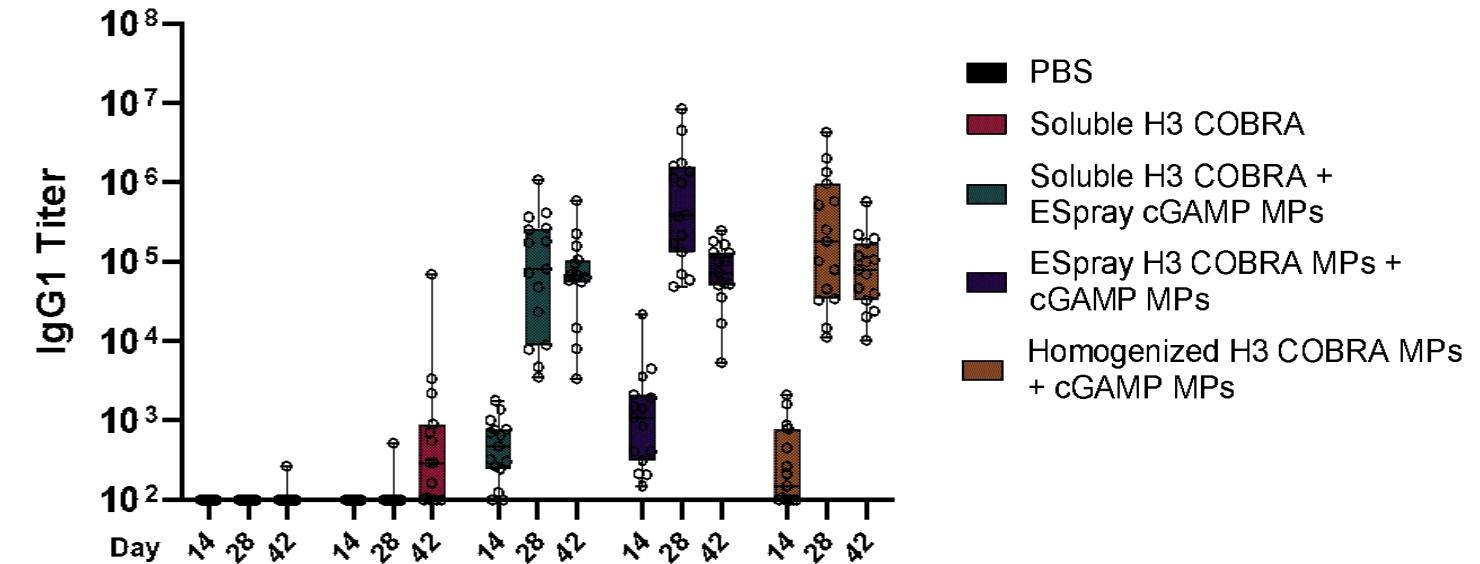
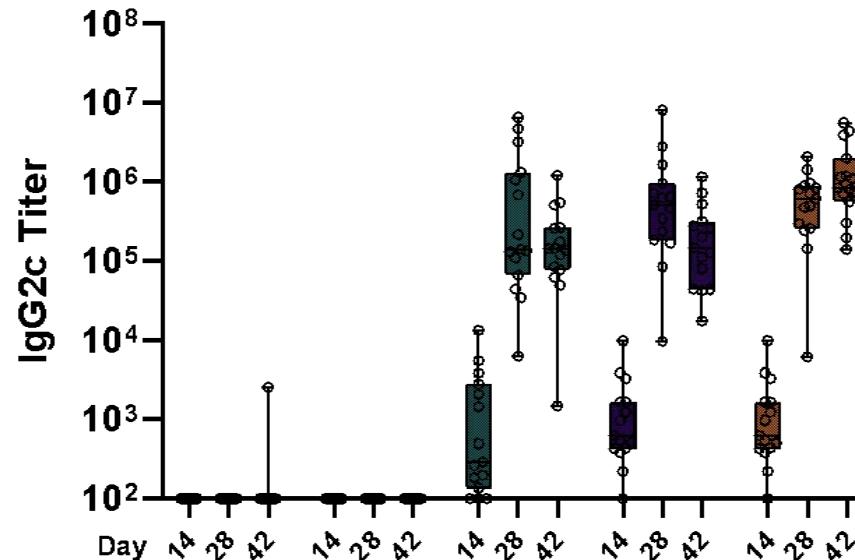
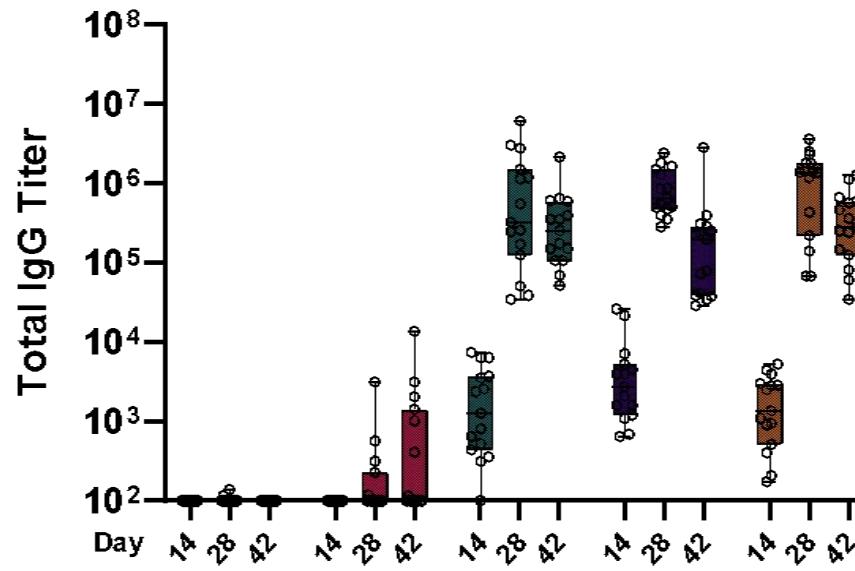
EE = 61%  $\pm$  7%



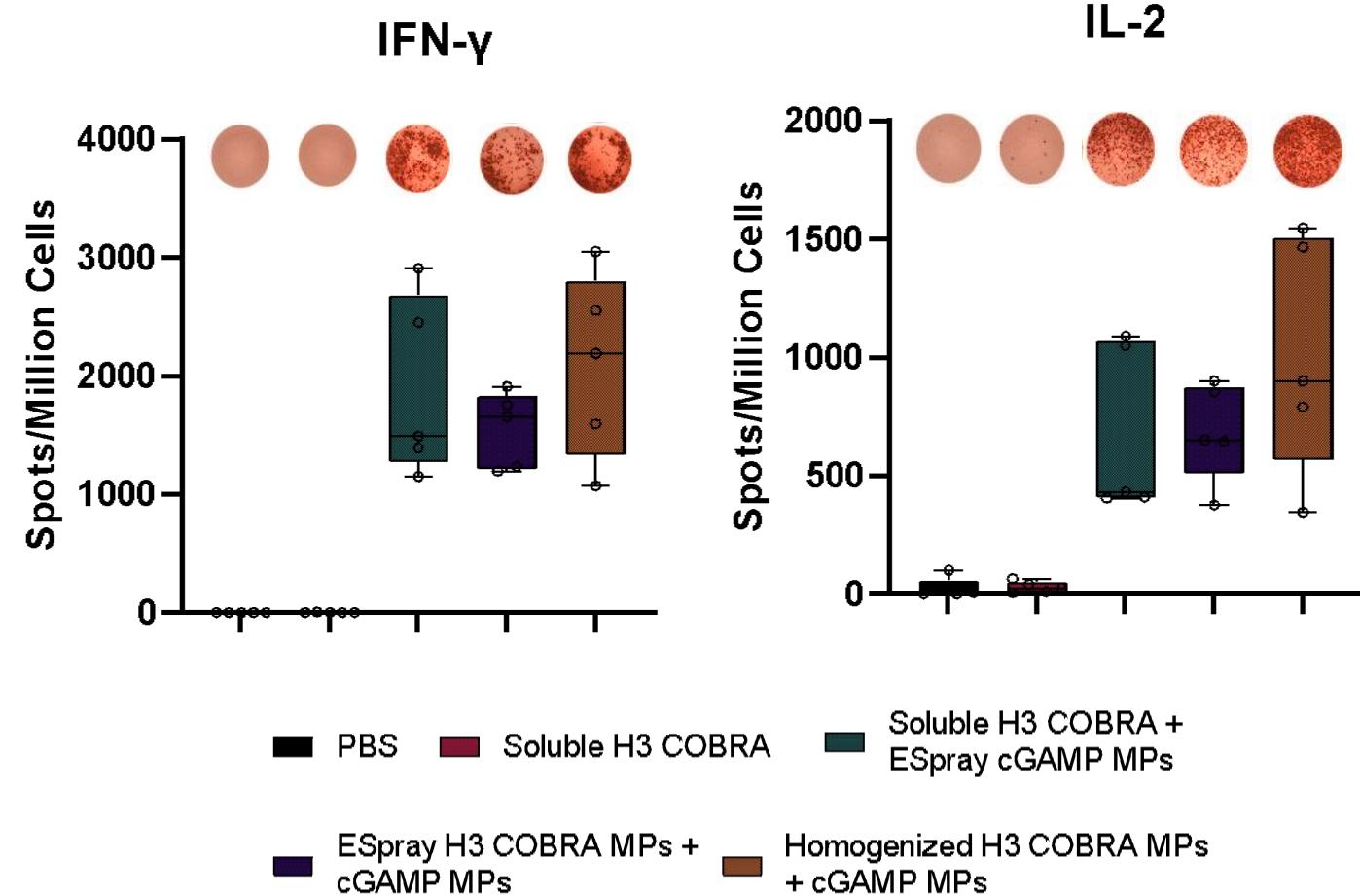
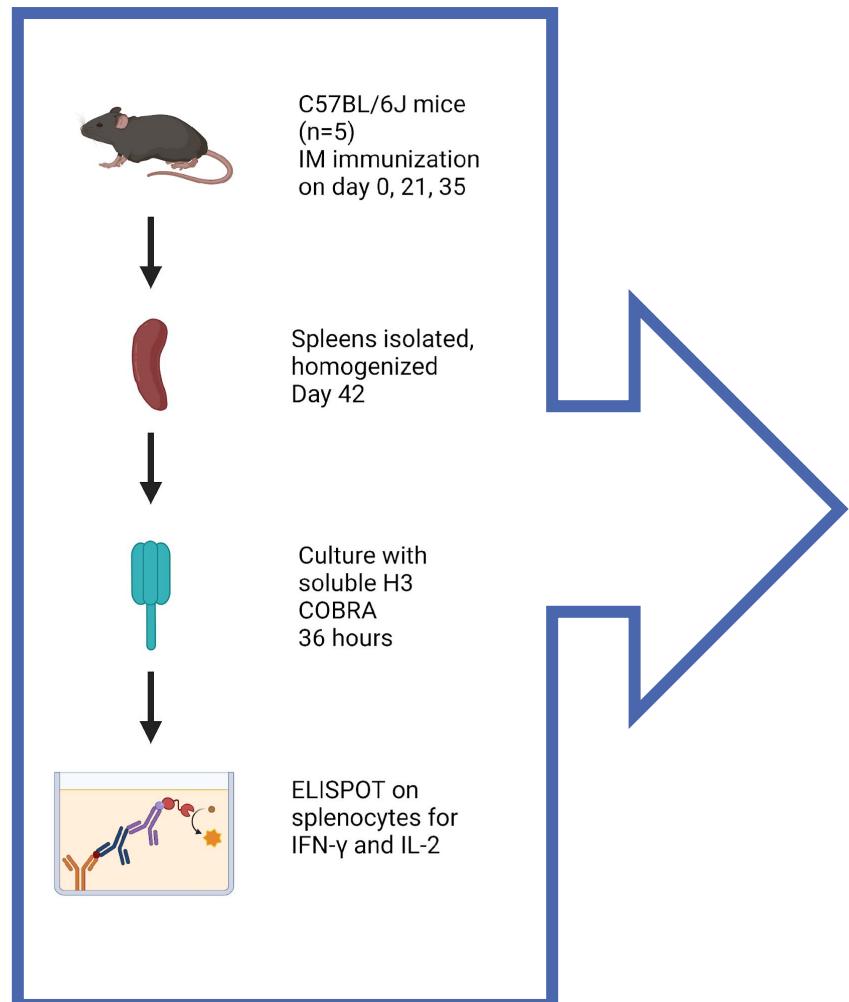
EE = 100%  $\pm$  7%

EE = Encapsulation Efficiency

# Vaccination Produced a Strong Humoral Response

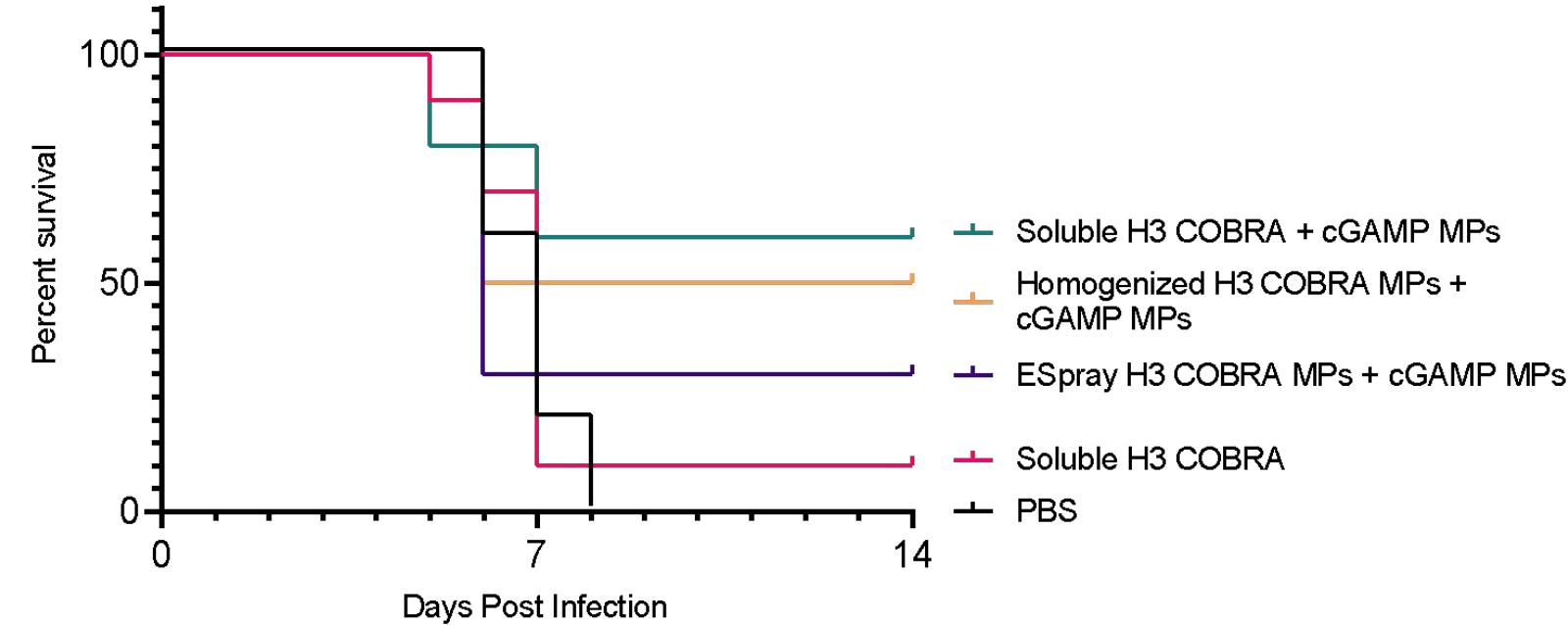
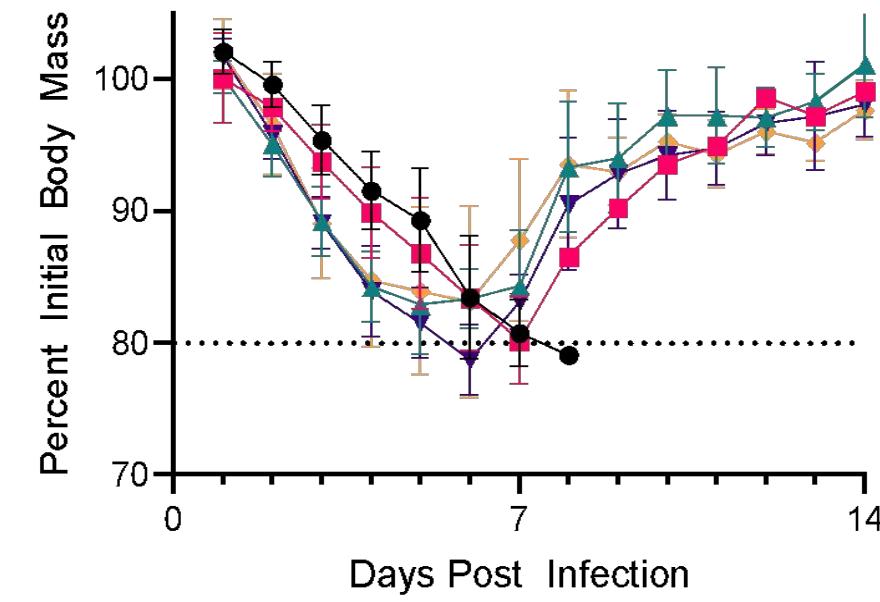
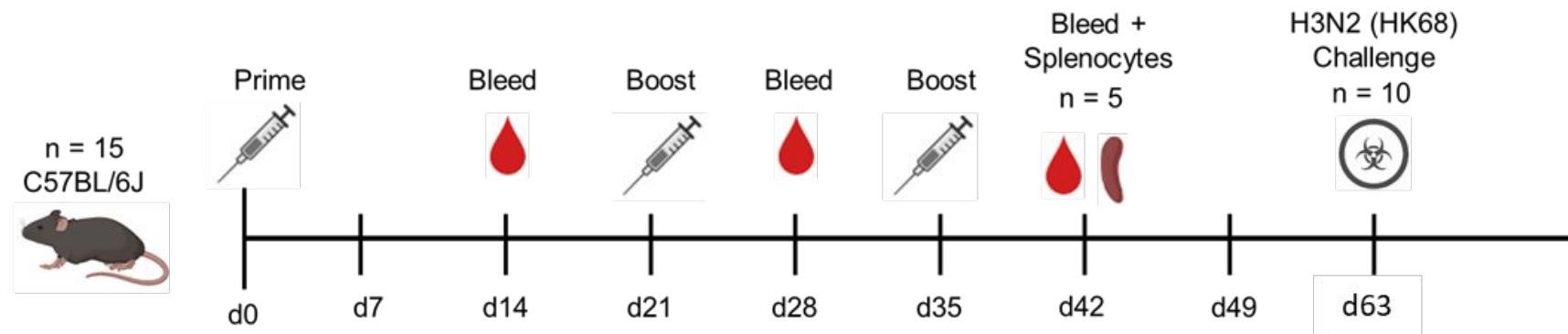


# Vaccination Produced a Strong Cellular Response



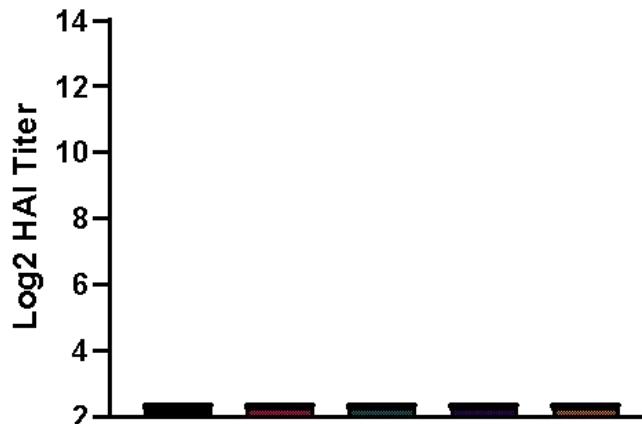
Similar trends were observed with soluble cytokines using an ELISA

# Vaccination Produced Protection Against Influenza Challenge

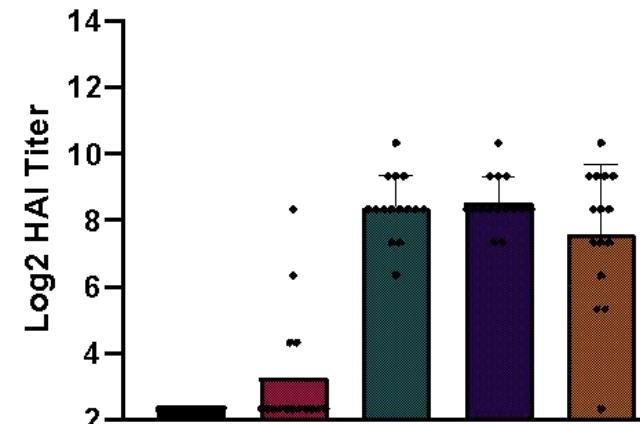


# Vaccination with Ace-DEX MPs Elicited High HAI Titers

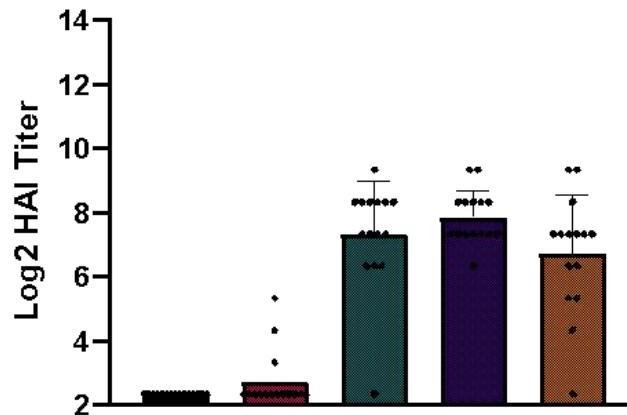
A/Hong Kong/1/1968(H3N2)



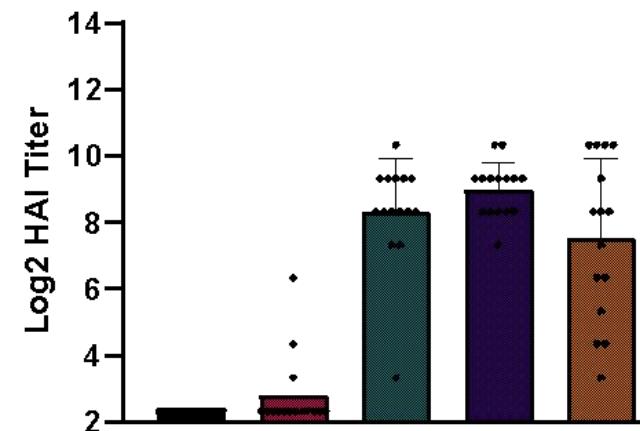
A/Texas/50/2012(H3N2)



A/Switzerland/9715293/2013(H3N2)



A/Hong Kong/4801/2014(H3N2)

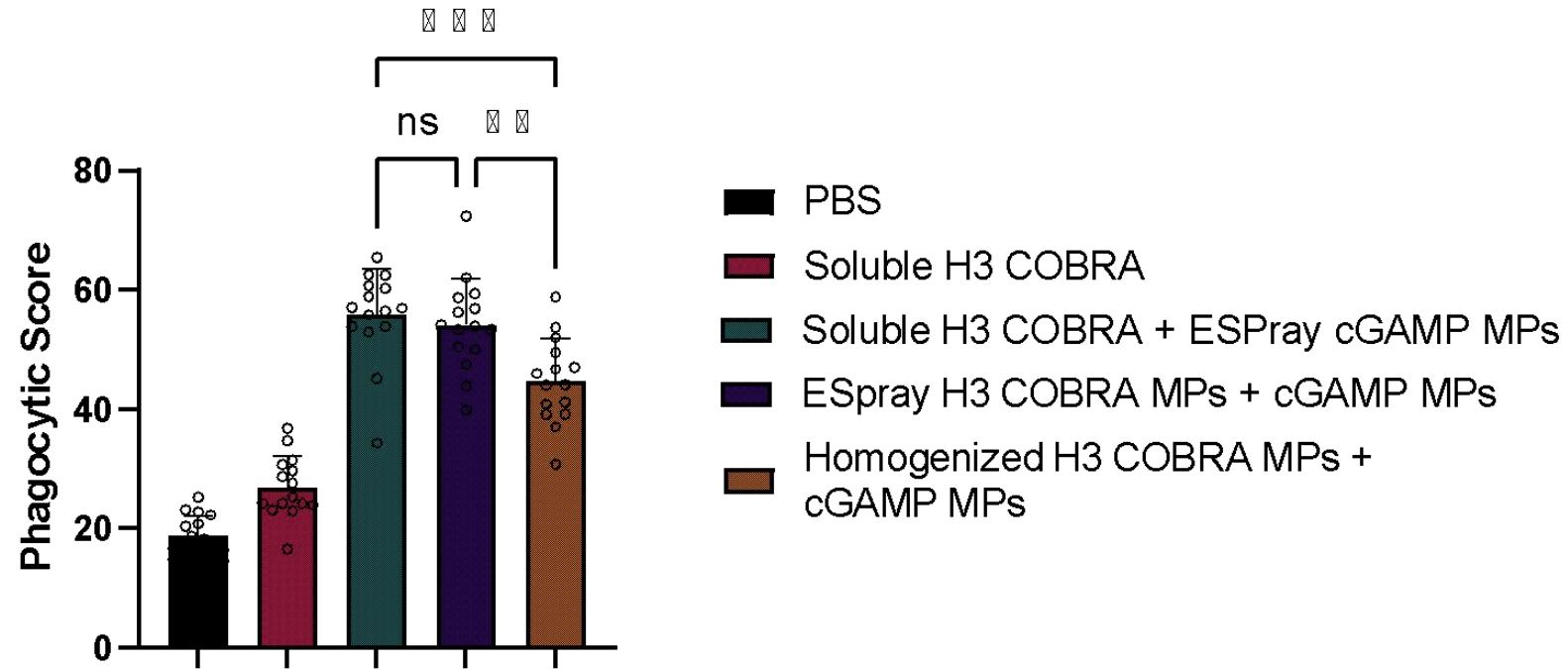
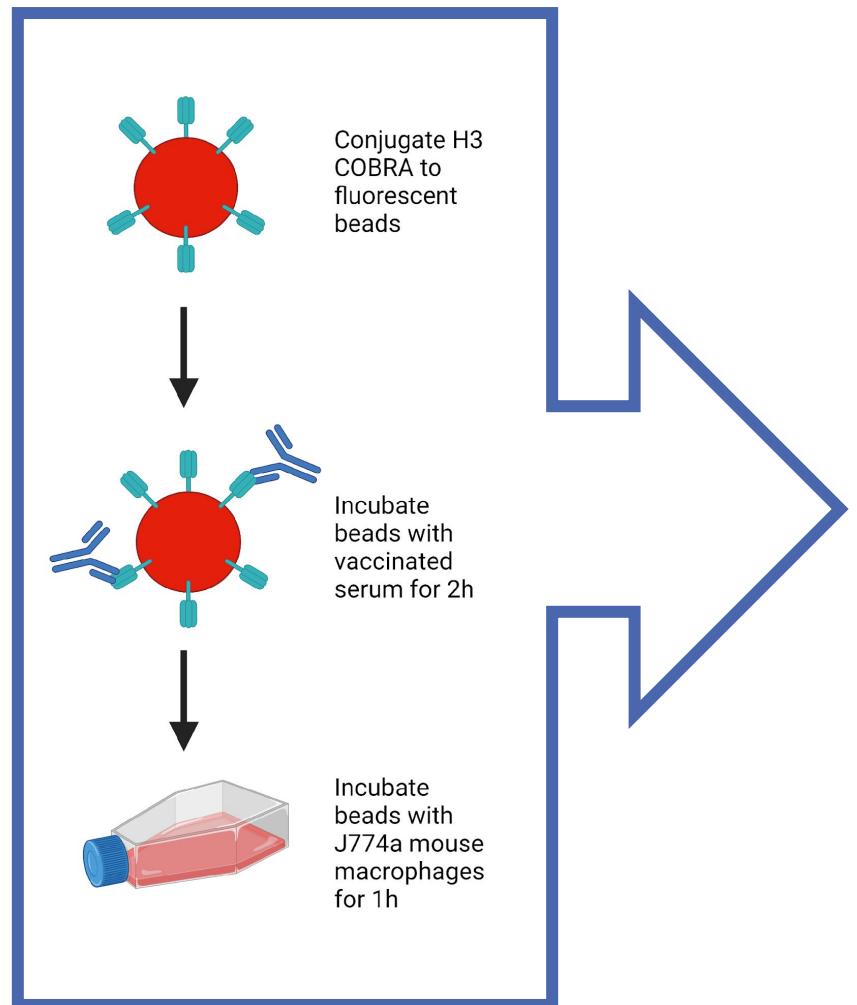


- PBS
- Soluble H3 COBRA
- Soluble H3 COBRA + cGAMP MPs
- ESpray H3 COBRA MPs + cGAMP MPs
- Homogenized H3 COBRA MPs + cGAMP MPs

Serum from Day 42

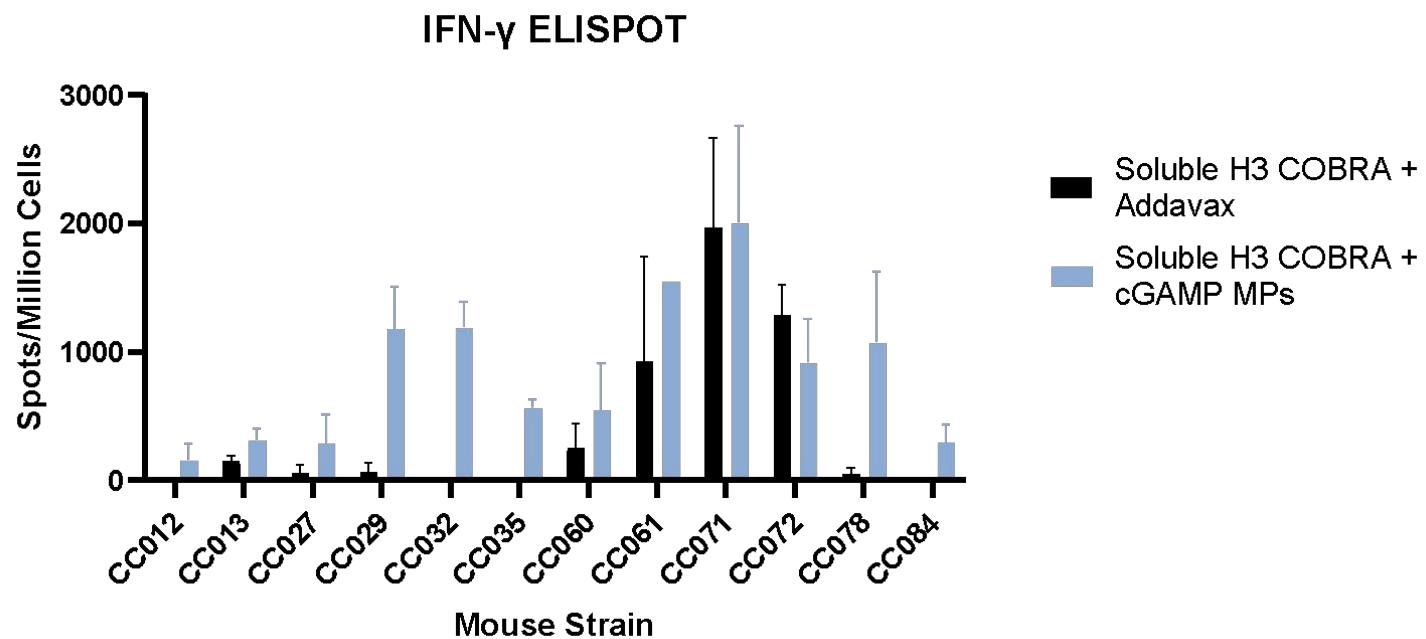
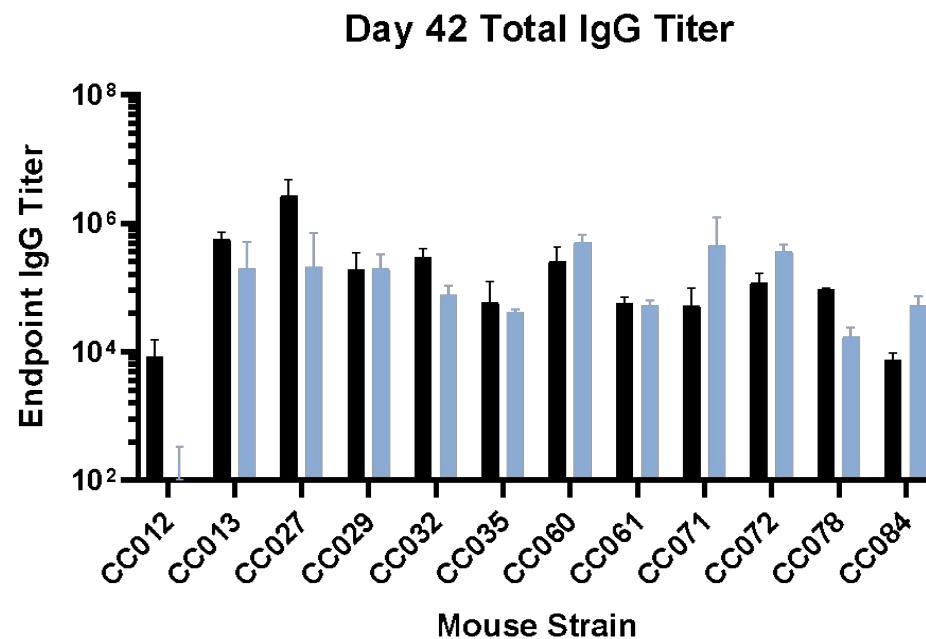
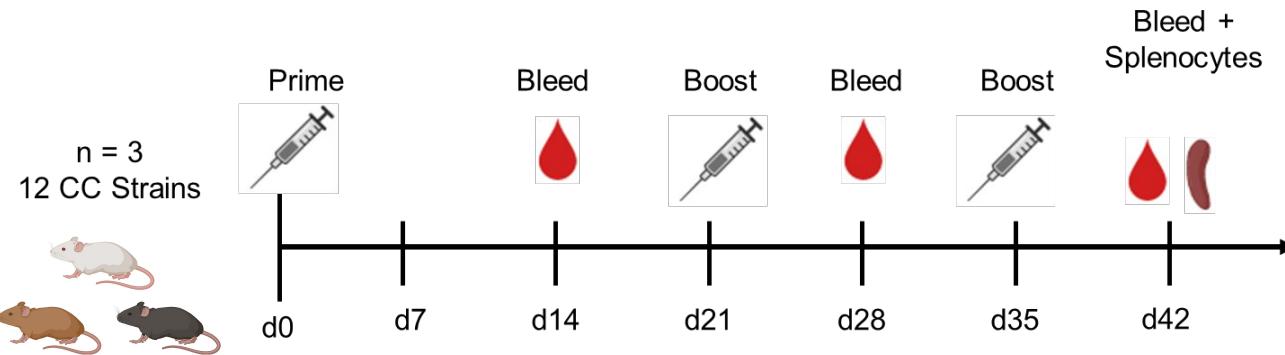
HAI = hemagglutination inhibition

# Vaccination with Ace-DEX MPs Elicited Antibodies with Antibody Dependent Cellular Phagocytosis Activity

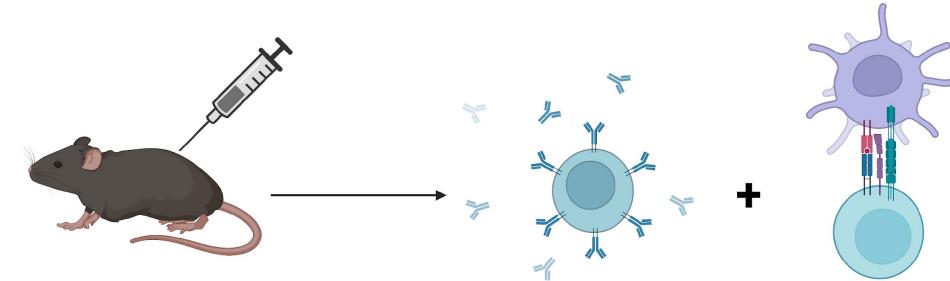


Future work will include the investigation of ADCC and ADCD

# cGAMP MPs Provided Strong Cellular Response in Cross Collaborative (CC) Mice



# Conclusions

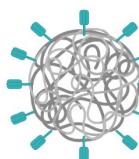


Vaccination produced high cellular and humoral responses as well as broad neutralization

## Future Directions



Evaluate the long-term storage of COBRA and cGAMP microparticles



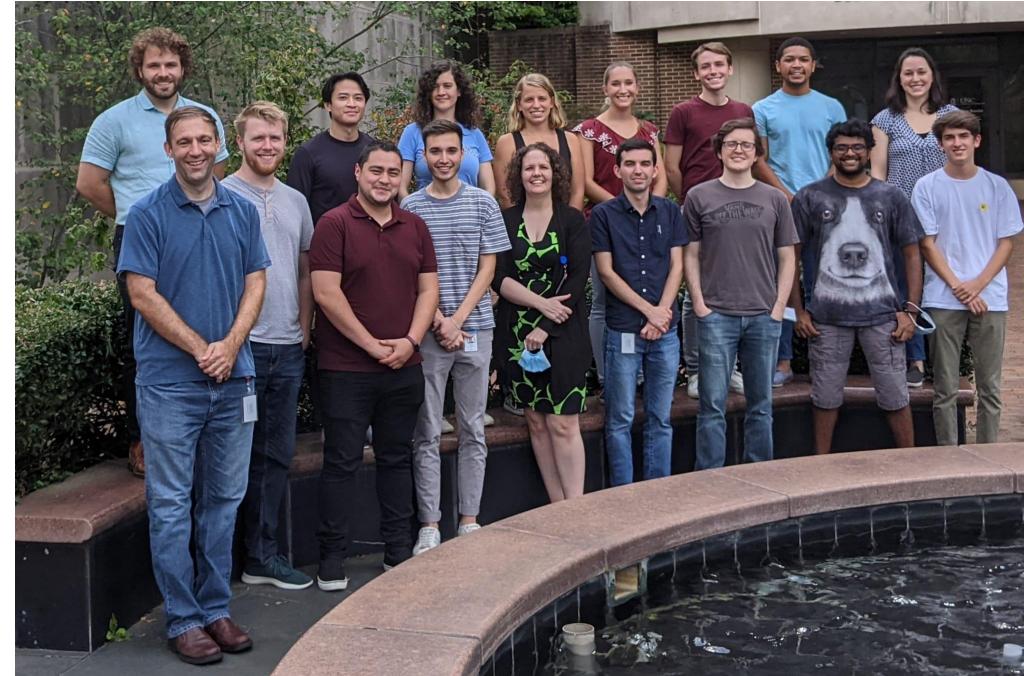
Compare the efficacy of encapsulated COBRA to surface conjugated COBRA microparticles



# Acknowledgements

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