

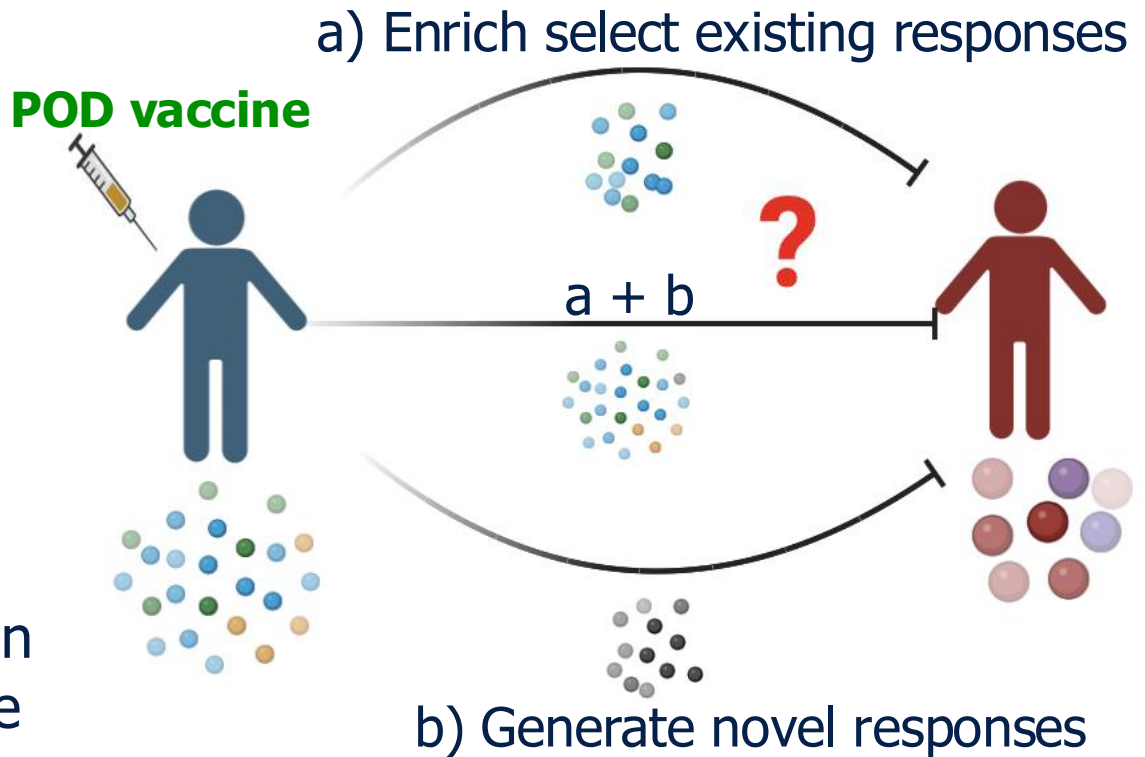
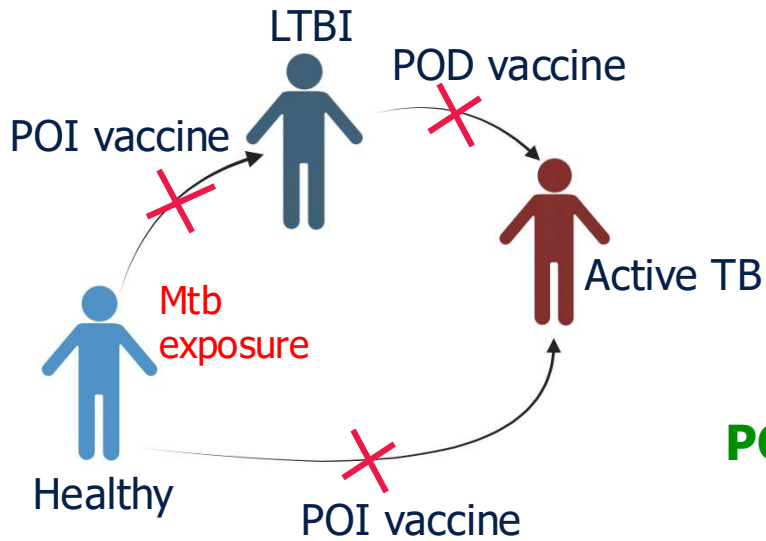
# *M. tuberculosis* antigens under diversifying evolutionary selection induce Th17 responses in human infection

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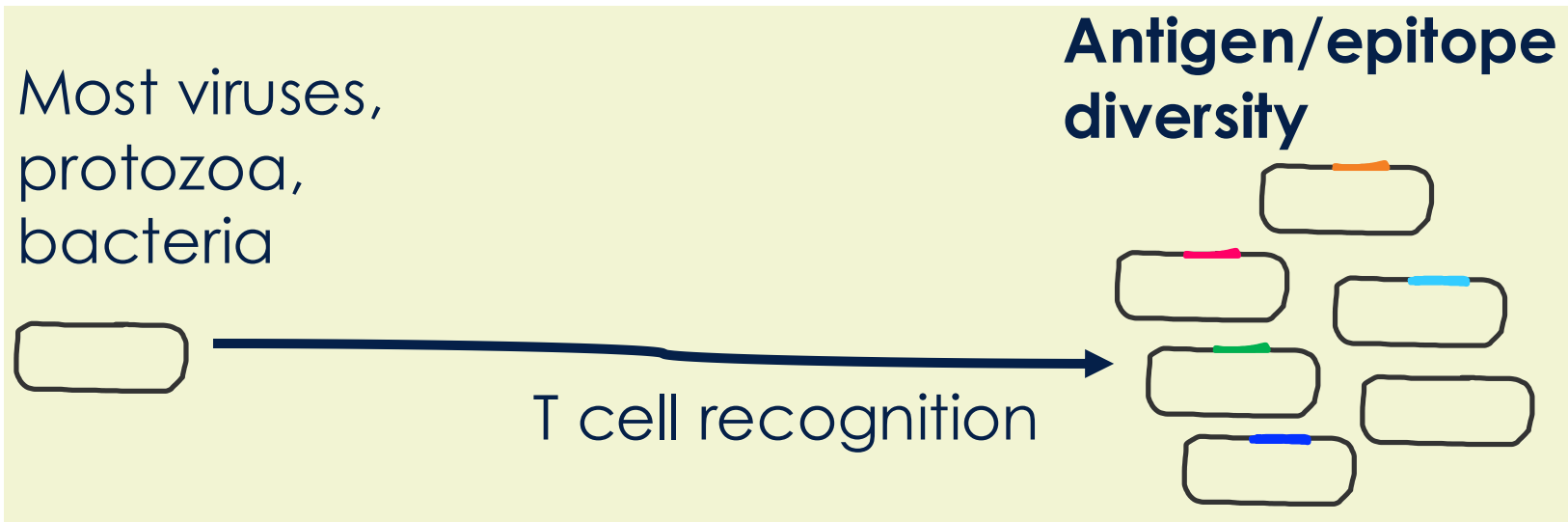
University of California San Francisco

# Prevention of Disease TB vaccines

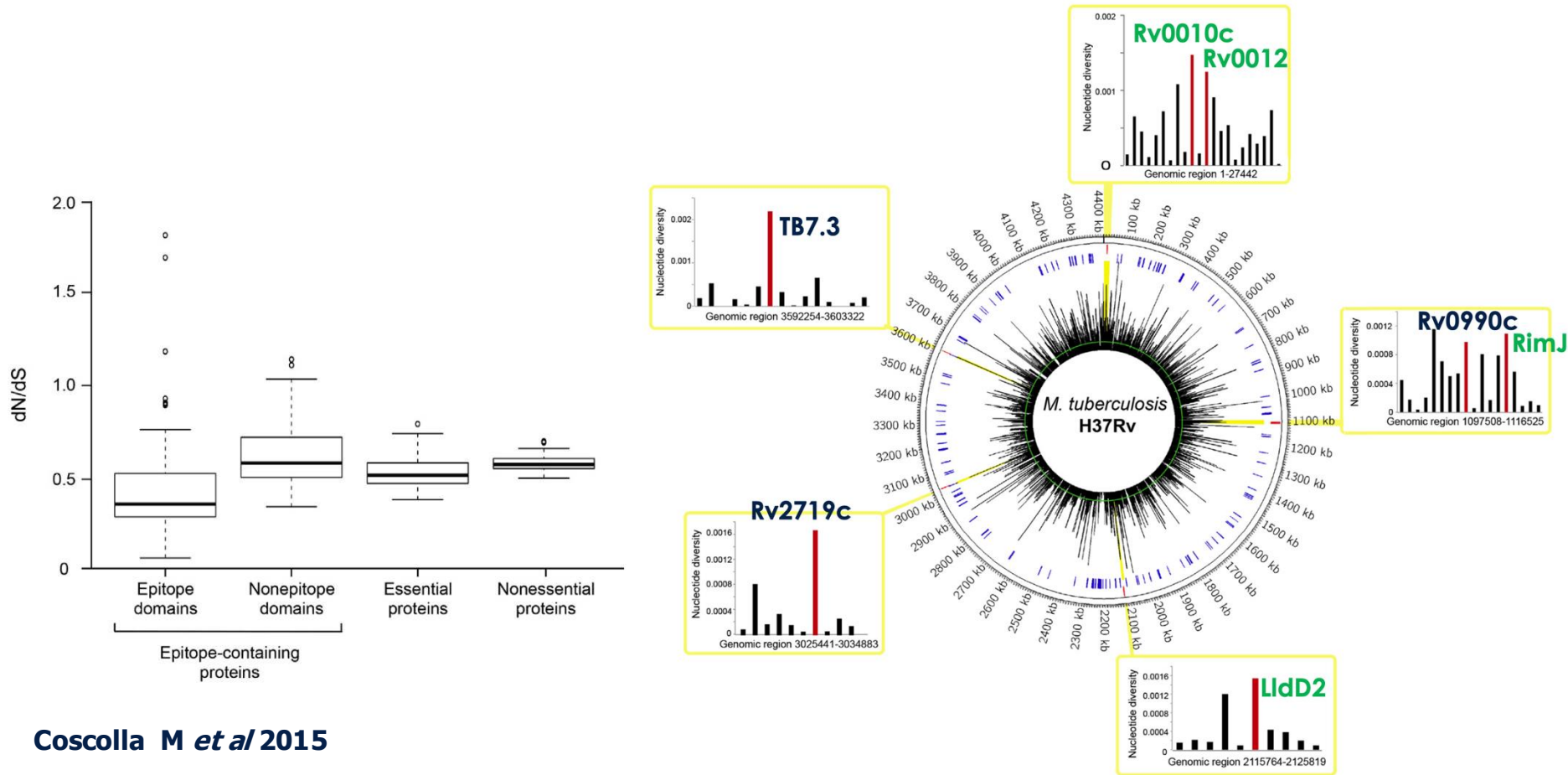


POI = prevention of infection  
POD = prevention of disease

# POD vaccines: which *Mtb* antigens should we target?



# Rare variable *Mtb* antigens as POD vaccine candidates



Coscolla M *et al* 2015

Antigens with variable T cell epitopes = RVMA

- Hotspots of variable regions suggestive of diversifying evolutionary selection

# Distinct *Mtb* antigen-specific CD4 T cell responses in controlled human TB

## **Hypothesis:**

Human CD4 T cells with distinct *Mtb* antigen specificities differ in their functional responses that contribute to protective CD4 T cells

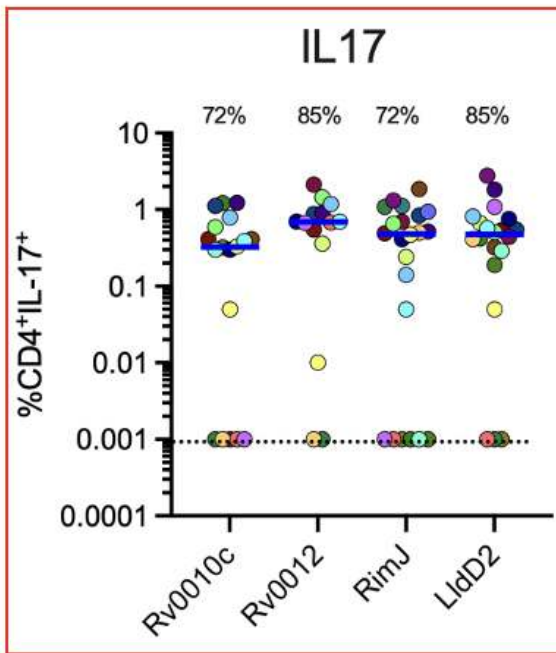
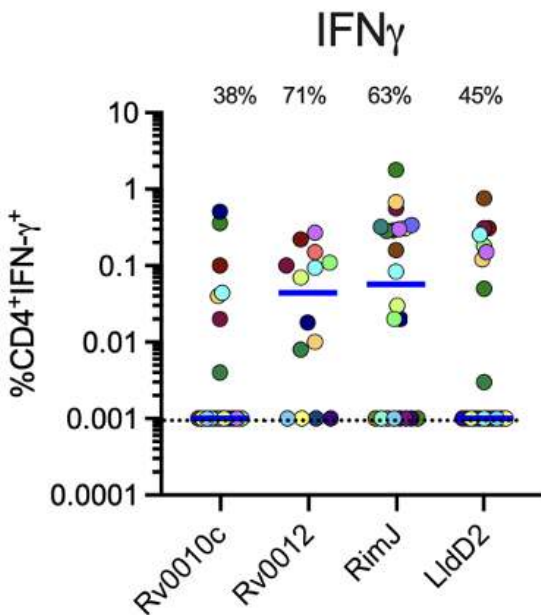
**Household contacts** (QFT+/HIV-) of confirmed index TB case (smear+/Xpert)

**8 distinct Mtb antigens**; synthesized as peptide pools

- 4 Rare variable Mtb antigen (RVMA)
- 4 classical conserved Mtb antigens

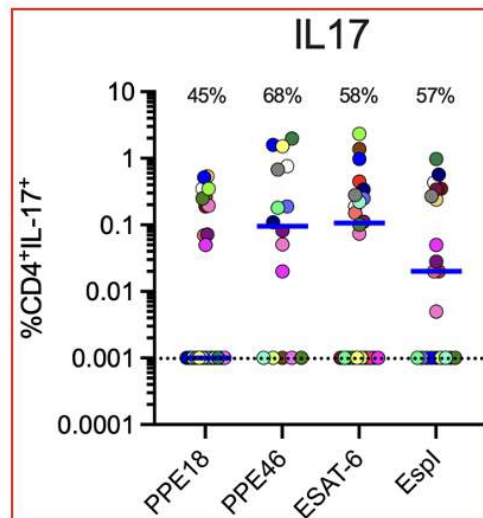
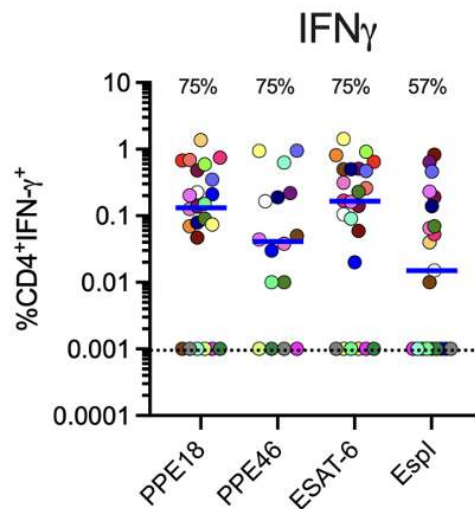
# RVMA preferentially elicit Th17 responses

## RVMA



Ogongo P et al 2024  
(*bioRxiv*, PMID: 38496518)

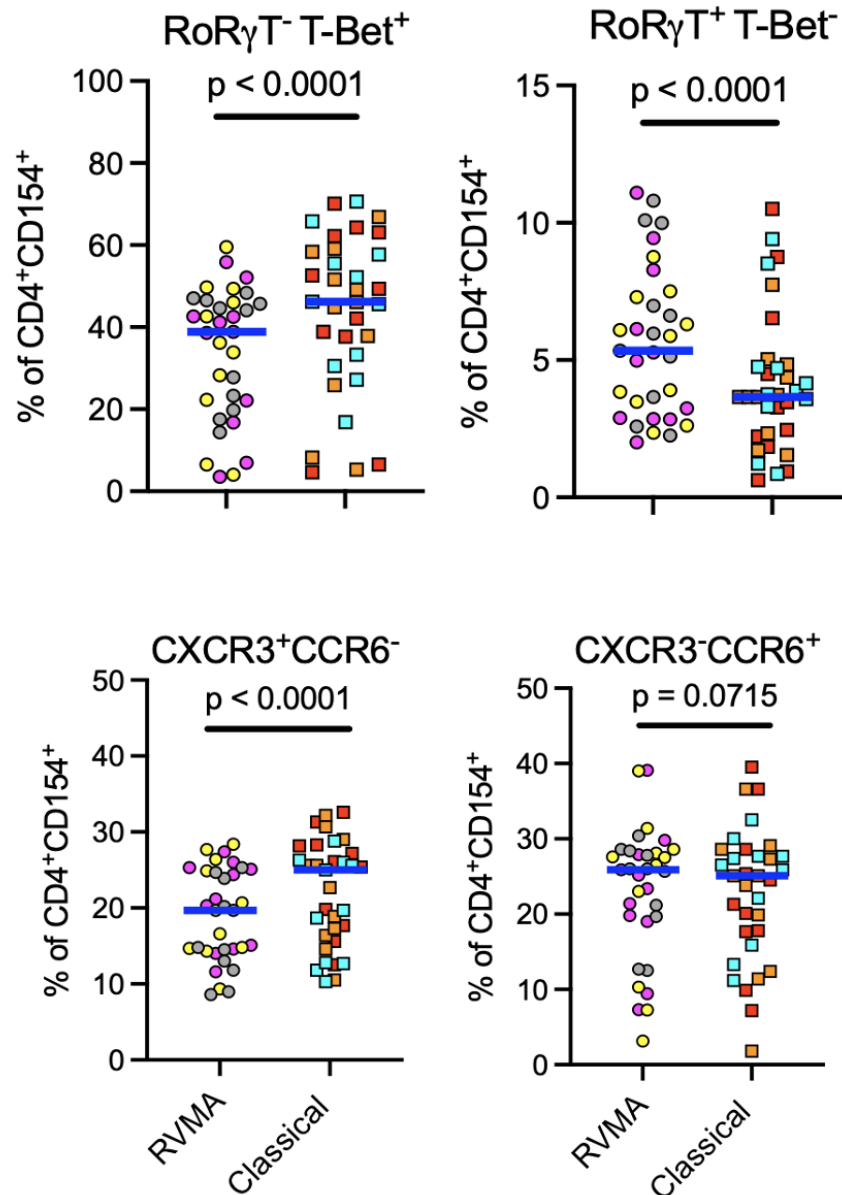
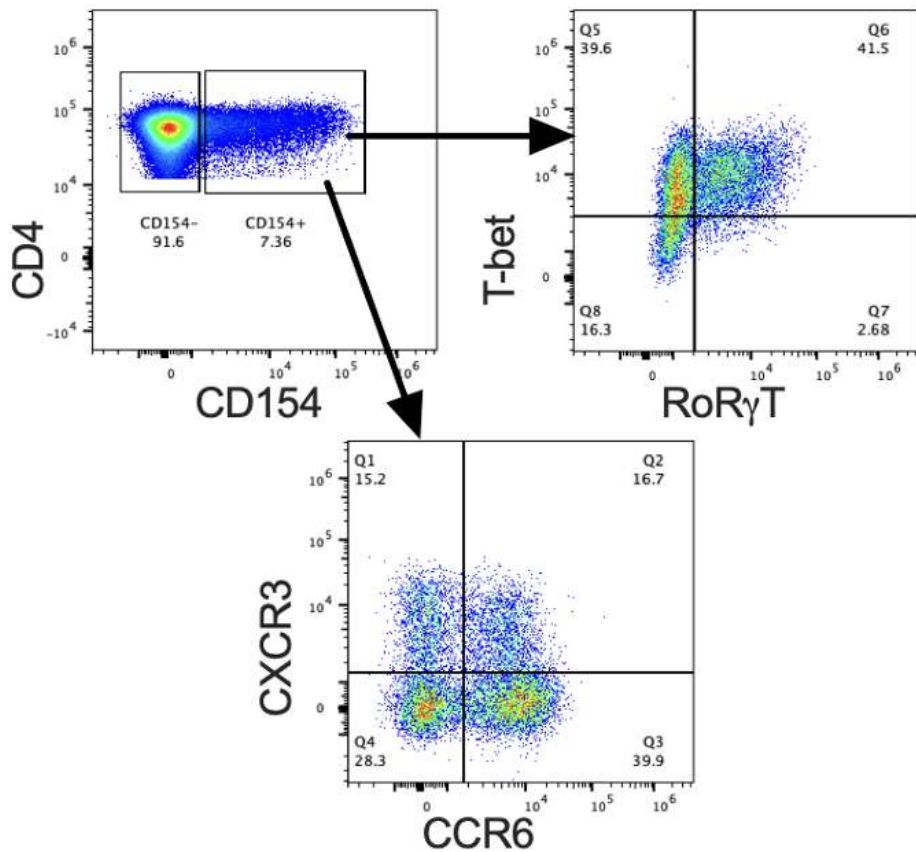
Classical antigens



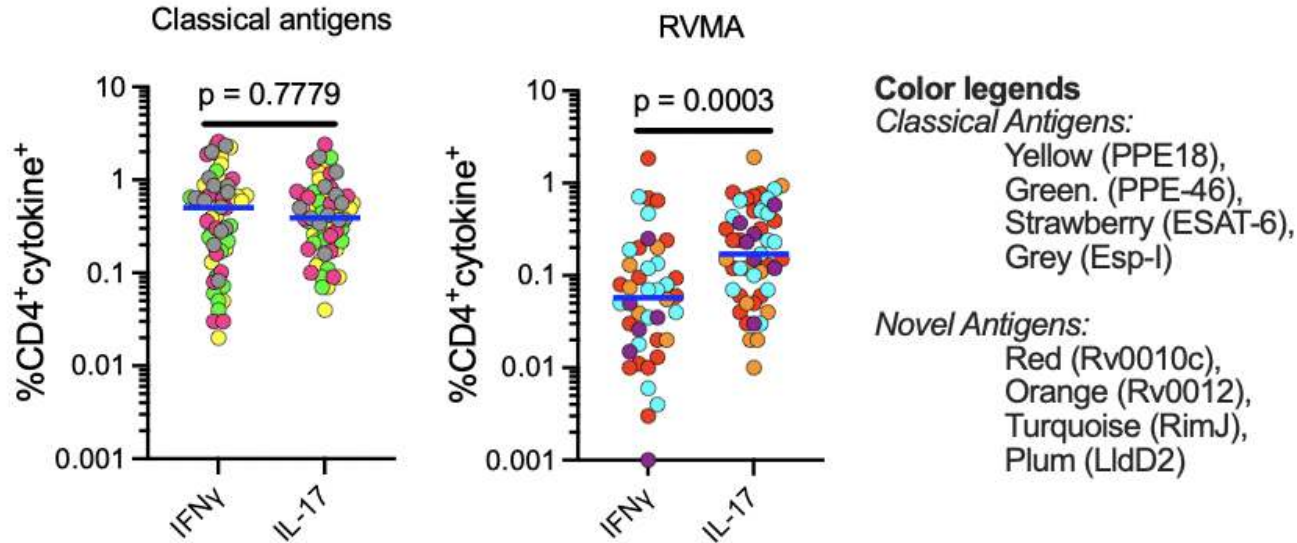
2 East African cohorts of people with contained *Mtb* infection

# RVMA preferentially elicit Th17 responses

Gated on CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells



# RVMA skew T cells towards IL17 responses



Cohort 2

## Cohort 2: IL17 vs IFN $\gamma$ responses to individual RVMA

	Response Frequencies (% of participants with detectable cytokine <sup>+</sup> CD4 T cells)		Response Magnitudes (% of CD4 T cells that are cytokine <sup>+</sup> ) Median (interquartile range)		p*
	IL-17	IFN $\gamma$	IL-17	IFN $\gamma$	
Rv0010c	58	35	0.02 (0.001, 0.115)	0.001 (0.001, 0.047)	0.2437
Rv0012	58	58	0.07 (0.001, 0.385)	0.012 (0.001, 0.0775)	0.0054
RimJ	62	55	0.06 (0.001, 0.32)	0.01 (0.001, 0.087)	0.2157
LldD2	63	46	0.03 (0.001, 0.255)	0.001 (0.001, 0.0305)	0.0391

\*p values for the comparison of IL17 vs IFN $\gamma$  magnitudes (Wilcoxon matched pairs)



# Th17 cells play a protective role in human TB

Suppression of Th17 responses is associated with progression to TB disease

Mtb-exposed individuals who remain IGRA negative display enrichment of Th17 cell-like functional programs

The Th17 cell-like functional programs were associated with a lack of progression to TB disease

Mtb-specific CD4<sup>+</sup>IL17<sup>+</sup> T cells are enriched in Mtb-infected human lungs compared to matched blood and inversely correlate with plasma IL1- $\beta$

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Scriba *et al*/2017; Nathan *et al*/2021; Sun *et al*/2024; Ogongo *et al*/2021

# Vaccines that induce Th17 responses confer superior protection against Mtb



The Journal of Immunology

## Mucosal Vaccination with Cyclic Dinucleotide Adjuvants Induces Effective T Cell Homing and IL-17–Dependent Protection against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Infection

Robyn M. Jong,<sup>\*1</sup> Erik Van Dis,<sup>\*1</sup> Samuel B. Berry,<sup>\*</sup> Xammy Nguyenla,<sup>†</sup> Alexander Baltodano,<sup>†</sup> Gabrielle Pastenkos,<sup>‡</sup> Chenling Xu,<sup>§</sup> Douglas Fox,<sup>\*</sup> Nir Yosef,<sup>§,¶,||</sup> Sarah M. McWhirter,<sup>#</sup> and Sarah A. Stanley<sup>\*†</sup>

npj | vaccines

www.nature.com/npjvaccines

ARTICLE OPEN

A protective, single-visit TB vaccination regimen by co-administration of a subunit vaccine with BCG

Karin Dijkman<sup>1,4,5</sup>, Thomas Lindenstrøm<sup>1,5</sup>, Ida Rosenkrands<sup>1</sup>, Rikke Søe<sup>2</sup>, Joshua S. Woodworth<sup>1</sup>, Cecilia S. Lindestam Arlehamn<sup>1</sup> and Rasmus Mortensen<sup>1</sup>

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nature  
medicine

LETTERS

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-018-0319-9>

## Prevention of tuberculosis infection and disease by local BCG in repeatedly exposed rhesus macaques

Karin Dijkman<sup>1\*</sup>, Claudia C. Sombroek<sup>1</sup>, Richard A. W. Vervenne<sup>1</sup>, Sam O. Hofman<sup>1</sup>, Charelle Boot<sup>1</sup>, Edmond J. Remarque<sup>1</sup>, Clemens H. M. Kocken<sup>1</sup>, Tom H. M. Ottenhoff<sup>2</sup>, Ivanela Kondova<sup>1</sup>, Mohammed A. Khayum<sup>1</sup>, Krista G. Haanstra<sup>1</sup>, Michel P. M. Vierboom<sup>1</sup> and Frank A. W. Verreck<sup>1\*</sup>

Cell Host & Microbe

CellPress

Article

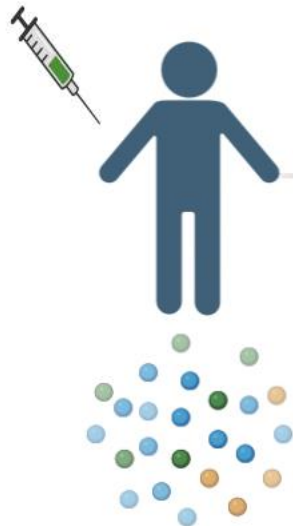
## Airway T cells are a correlate of i.v. Bacille Calmette-Guerin-mediated protection against tuberculosis in rhesus macaques

Patricia A. Darrah<sup>1,9</sup>, Joseph J. Zeppa<sup>2,9</sup>, Chuangqi Wang<sup>3,9</sup>, Edward B. Irvine<sup>4,7</sup>, Allison N. Bucsan<sup>1</sup>, Mark A. Rodgers<sup>2</sup>, Supriya Pokkali<sup>1</sup>, Joshua A. Hackney<sup>1</sup>, Megha Kamath<sup>1</sup>, Alexander G. White<sup>2</sup>, H. Jacob Borish<sup>2</sup>, L. James Frye<sup>2</sup>, Jaime Tomko<sup>2</sup>, Kara Kracinovsky<sup>2</sup>, Philana Ling Lin<sup>2</sup>, Edwin Klein<sup>6</sup>, Charles A. Scanga<sup>2</sup>, Galit Alter<sup>4</sup>, Sarah M. Fortune<sup>4,7</sup>, Douglas A. Lauffenburger<sup>8</sup>, JoAnne L. Flynn<sup>2</sup>, Robert A. Seder<sup>1</sup>, Pauline Maiello<sup>2,10</sup> and Mario Roederer<sup>1,10,11,\*</sup>

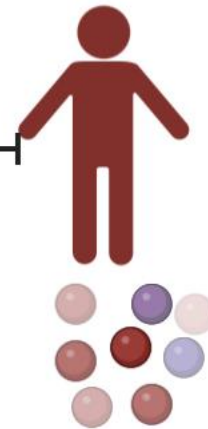
# Summary/Conclusions

- Rare variable *Mtb* antigens induce human Th17 responses in controlled TB
- Th17 cell responses are associated with a lack of progression to TB disease in human cohorts

RVMA TB  
vaccine



Th17-like cell  
signature



# Acknowledgements

## Study participants

- **Joel Ernst, MD**
- Ernst Lab Members
  - Anthony Tran (past)
  - Julia Huffaker
  - **Zach Howard - PD20**



Center for  
Tuberculosis



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San Francisco



## Funding



NIH/NIAID R25AI147375  
NIH/NIAID P30AI168440



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Antigen Specific T-cell Responses and the control of TB

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P30AI027763

