# **Supplementary Materials**



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Supplementary Figure 1. (Related to Fig. 2). SM-102 and ALC-0315 LNP inflammatory responses compared to cKK-E12 LNP one day after a boost immunization. a Timeline of mouse immunization and bleeding. Ten BALB/c mice per group were intramuscularly vaccinated at the indicated days, each time with 1  $\mu$ g SARS-CoV-2 spike mRNA-LNP prepared with the indicated ionizable lipid. Blood was collected at the indicated time points to measure cytokines and neutralizing antibodies. **b** Gating strategy of the flowcytometry for both d2 and d22 cytokines/chemokines detection. Within the cytokines/chemokines population, PE fluorescence intensity was measured to reflect the amount of bound cytokines/chemokines. **c** Pro-inflammatory cytokines/chemokines in the d22 plasma were measured using the murine inflammation kit and analyzed by Accuri Flow cytometer. Data are presented as Mean ± SEM of n = 10 mice per group. Statistical significance among the groups was analyzed by one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test (ns, not significant; \**p* < 0.05, \*\**p* < 0.01).



Supplementary Figure 2. (Related to Fig. 3). Effect of sucrose on mRNA-LNP size and storage at -80 °C. Size distribution of LNP was measured by DLS; mRNA-LNP was supplied with varying amount of sucrose and kept either at 4 °C or at -80 °C. LNP size was measured after thawing for those frozen at -80 °C. Sucrose protects LNP from aggregation during freeze-and-thawing. Sucrose effect on LNP size increase is observed only between 2 and 10%.

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### Pfizer/BioNTech 5'UTR:

GAGAATAAACTAGTATTCTTCTGGTCCCCACAGACTCAGAGAGAACCCGCCACC

### Pfizer/BioNTech 3'UTR:

# Moderna 5'UTR:

GGGAAATAAGAGAGAAAAGAAGAAGAAGAAGAAATATAAGACCCCGGCGCC<u>GCCACC</u>

#### Moderna 3'UTR:

GCTGGAGCCTCGGTGGCCTAGCTTCTTGCCCCTTGGGCCTCCCCCAGCCCCTCCTCCCCCCGTA CCCCCGTGGTCTTTGAATAAAGTCTGAGTGGGCGGCA

# TEV 5'UTR:

#### TEV 3'UTR:



Stran

Pfizer/BioNTech 5'UTR ΔG = -9.20 kcal/mol



Moderna 5'UTR ∆G = -3.24 kcal/mol

TEV 5'UTR ΔG = -8.60 kcal/mol



Pfizer/BioNTech 3'UTR ΔG = -91.20 kcal/mol



Moderna 3'UTR ΔG = -33.50 kcal/mol



TEV 3'UTR ΔG = -26.10 kcal/mol

Supplementary Figure 3. (Related to Fig. 5) The sequences and secondary structures of the UTRs from the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. a 5' and 3' UTR sequences. TEV is our own vector for *in vitro* transcription. The Kozak sequence is underlined and the high GC tract immediately upstream of the Kozak sequence in Moderna's 5' UTR is Italicized. **b** RNA secondary structures were predicted by M-fold (*http://www.unafold.org/mfold/applications/rna-folding-form.php*), and their 3D structures were modelled using RNA Composer (*https://rnacomposer.cs.put.poznan.pl/*).



Supplementary Figure 4. (Related to Fig. 6) Particle size and encapsulation efficiency of RBD mRNA-LNPs with varying m1Ψ content. a Schematic diagrams of the RBD mRNAs used in the study with varying wobble m1Ψ content but with the same 5' cap, UTRs, and poly(A) tail. b Size distribution of RBD mRNA-LNPs in 10% sucrose was measured by DLS. c Encapsulation efficiency of these LNPs was measured by the Quant-it<sup>™</sup> RiboGreen RNA Assay Kit.