

## Nucleotide sequence of capsid, E2 and E1 protein genes of Rubella virus vaccine strain RA27/3

Hira L.Nakhasi\*, Desiree Thomas, Dexian Zheng and Teh-Yung Liu

DBB, CBER, FDA, 8800 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA  
Submitted April 6, 1989

EMBL accession no. X14871

Complete nucleotide sequence of the 24S subgenomic RNA of the vaccine strain rubella virus RA27/3 was determined. The total number of amino acids which code for the capsid, E2 and E1 proteins is the same as in the wild type virus (1-4). Comparison between the structural proteins of the vaccine strain and the wild strain rubella virus revealed that after attenuation, thirty-one amino acids have changed in the vaccine strain of which twelve each are in the capsid and E1 and seven are in the E2 protein. In contrast, only five amino acids have changed in another vaccine strain of rubella virus HPV77 (5). The higher degree of change in RA27/3 strain might have resulted in this strain being a safer and more effective vaccine than HPV77 strain.

```

5'-CGGCGCTGACTAAAGGCCCTGTACGGTGGGCCCTTATCTTACCTACTCAACAGGTATCACCCACCGCTGTTCCGGCATCTGGTGGTACCAACTTTGGCATTGGGAGAG 190
Capsid M S T P I T M E D L Q K A L T O S R V L R A G L A G A S Q S R 35
CCCCAGGTGGCCGAATGGCTTCTACTACCCCATCACCATGGAGGCTCCAGAACAGGGCCCTCGAGACACAATCCCGCTCTGGCCGGGCTCACTGGCCGGCCCTGGCAGTCGGC 310
R P R P P R O R D S S T T G D D S G R D S G S G P R P R G N R G R Q R R D W S 75
CGGCCCGGGCCGGCCGAGCAGCGCAGTCCAGCACACCCGGAGATGACTCCGGCGTGTACTCCGGAGGCCCCCGCCGCCGGCAACCGGGCGTGGCCAGCGCAGGGACTGGC 430
R A P P P P E R Q E S R S Q T P A P K P S R A P P Q Q P P R M Q T G R G 115
AAGGGCCGGCCCCCCCAGAACAGCGCAAGAAAGTCGCTCCAGACTGGCCGGAGACCCATGGCCGGCCGCCACACAGCTCAACCCCGCGTATGCAAACCGGGCGTGGGGC 550
S A P R P E L G P P T N P F Q A A V A R G L R P L H D P D T E A P T E A C V T 155
TCTGCCCGGGCCGGCCAGCTGGGCCACCCGAAACCCGCTCAAGCAGCCGTGGCCGGTGGCCCTGGCCGGCTCTCCAGAACCCGCTGACACCGGAGCACCCGAGGAC 670
S W L W S E G E G A V F Y R V D L H F T N L G T P P L D E D G R W D P A L M Y N 195
TCATGGCTTGGAGCAGGGCCAAAGGGCCCGCTCTTACCGCTGACCTGCATTTAACCAACCTGGCCACCCCAACTGACAGAGCAGCCGGCTGGGACCTGGCTCATGTAAC 790
P C G P E P P A H V V V A Y N Q P A G D V R G V W G K G E R T Y A E Q D F R V G 235
CCCTGGGGCCGGAGCGCCGGCTCACGCTGCTCCGGCGTACAATCAACCTGGCCGGAGCTGAGGGGGCTTGGGTAAGGGTAGCCGACCTACGGCCAGCAGGATTTCCGGCTGGC 910
G T R W H R L L R M P V R G L D G D T A P L S P H T T E R I E T R S A R R H P S R 275
GGCACCGCCTGGCACCGAACAGCTGGCATGGCCAGCTGGCCAGGACACCCGGCCCTTCCCCCACACCCAGCCATTGGACGGCTCGGGCCGGCATCTGGAGC 1130
I R F G A P Q A F L A G L L L A A V A V G T A R A G L Q P R V D M A A P P H P P 315
ATCCGGCTTCGGCCGGCCCAAGGGCTTCTTGGCCGGCTCTGGCTGGCCGGCTGGGGCTTGGACCCGGCCGGCTGGCCGGCTGGCCGGCATGGCCGGCCACCCCTATGGCCGG 1250
Q P P R A H G Q H G H H P L G H D G H G T L R V G Q H H R R N A S 355
CACGGCCCCCGTGCGCACGGGAGCATTCAGCCGGCACCCACCATCGCTGGCTTCCGGCACACGGGCGCATAGCGCCGACCTTGGCGCTGGCCAGCATCACGAAACGGCAC 1370
D V L P G H W L Q G G W M G C Y N L S D W H Q G T H V C H T K H M D F W C V E H D 395
GACCTGCGCCGGGCAACTGGCTCAAGGGCTGGGGTTGCTAACACCTGACGGACTGGCACGGGCACTCATGGCTGACATGGACTTTGGTGTGGACGAC 1490
R P P P A T P T S L T A N T A C T A P A P C H A G L N D S C C G G F 435
CGACCCGGGGCCGGCCGGCACCTTCACCCGGGGCAACTCCACGACCCGGGGCACCCGGGCACTGGCCGGGGCCCTGGCAAGGGGGCTCAATGACAGCTGGCCGGCTTC 1610
L S G C G P M R L R H G A D T R C G R L I C G L S T T A Q Y P P T R F G A M R 475
TTGGCTGGGTGGGGCCGATGGCCCTGGCCCTGGCCAGCAGGGGGCTGGGTGATCTGGCCGGCTCTGACCCGGCCAGTACCCGGCTTGGCTATGCTATGGC 1730
W G L P P W E L V L V L T A R P E D T C R G V P A H P T R C P E L V S P M G 515
TGGGGCTTCCCCCTGGGGACTCTGGCTCTTACCGCCGGCCGGAAAGGGCTGACTCTGGCTGGGGCTGGCCGGCCACCCGGGCGCTGGCCGGCATGGGGCATGGGA 1850
R A T C S P A S A L V L A T A N A L S D H A T A A F V L L V P W V L I F H V C 555
CGCCGCACTTGTCTCCCGACCTGGCCCTGGCTGGCCACAGGGCACGGGCTCTGGCTCTGGCCGGCTCTGGCTCTGGCTGGGGCTGGCTCTGGCTATGGCT 1970
R R A C R R R G A A A A L T A V V L Q Q N P P A Y G E E A F T Y L C T A P G C 595
CGCCGGCCCTGTGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCCTACCCGGGCTGCTCTGGAGGGTACACACCCCGCCCTATGGCAAGGGGCTTACCTACCTCTGACTGCCACGGGGTGC 2090
A T Q A P V P V R L A G V F E S K I V D G G C F A P V D L E A T G A C I C E I 635
GCCACTAAGCACCTGCTCCGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGG 2110
P T D V S C E G L G A M A V P T A P C A R I M H G T O R A C T F W A V N A Y S S G 675
CCCCACTGATGTCCTGTCGAGGGCTGGGGCTGGTACCCACAGGGCCCTTGCGCGCATCTGGAAATGCGCACACGGGGGGTGACCTCTGGCTGTCACGCGACTCTCTGGC 2230
G Y A Q L A S Y F N P G G S Y Y K Q Y H P T A C E V Q P A F G H S D A A C W G F 715
GGGTACCCGCACTGCTGGCCCTTCTTCAACCTGGCCGAGCTAACACCGAGTACCCGGCTGGAGGGTCAACCTGGCCACAGGGGGCTGGACCTCTGGCTGTCACGCGACTCTGGC 2350
P T D T V M S V F A L A S Y V Q H P H K T V R V K F H T E T R T V W O L S V A G 755
CCCCACCGACACGGTATGAGGGCTGGCTGGCCCTGGCTAGCTAGCTGGCCAGACCCCTCAACAGGGCTGGCTGGAGGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGC 2470
V S C N V T T E H P F C N T P H G Q L E V Q V L P D P G D L L V E Y I M N H T G N 795
GTGTCGTGCAAGCTCACCACTGACACCCGCTGTCGAACACCCGGCGACGGGAACTGGAGGTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGCTGGC 2590
Q O S R W G L G S P N C H G P D W A S P V C Q R H S P D C S R L V G V T P E R P 835

```

```

CAGCAGTCCGGTGGGCGCTGGAGCCCCATTGCCATGGCCCATTGGCCCTCCCGTTGCCAACGCCATTCCCTGACTGCTGGCTTGTCGGCTGTGGGGTCACGCCAGGGTCCC 2710
R L R L V D A D D P L L R T A P P G P G E V W V T P V I G S Q A R K C G L H I R A 875
CGGCYGGCCTGGTCAGCCGAGCCCCCTGGCTGGCACTGCCCTGGCCGGAGGTGGGTACGCCCTGTCATGGCTCAAGGGCCAGTGGACTCCACATACGGCT 2830
G P Y G H A T V E M P E W I H A H S T S D P W H P P G P L R L K F K T V R P V A 915
GGACCGTAGGCCATGCTACCGTCAAGATGCCAGTGATCACCCCACTCTACAGGCCACCCCTGGCACCCACGGGCCCTTCGGTGAAGTCAAGACAGTTCGCCGGTGGC 2950
L P R A L A P P R N V R V T G C Y Q C G T P A L V E G L A P G G G N C H L T V N 955
CTGCCAGGGGTAGGCCAACCCGCAATGCGGTGACGGGTGCTACCAAGTGGTACCCGGCTGGTGAAGGCCCTGCCGGGGAGGGAAITGCCATCTACCGTCAT 3070
G E D V G A F P P G K F V T A A L N T P P P Y Q V S C G G E S O R A S A R V I 995
GGCGAGGATGTCGGCCCTCCCCCTGGAAAGTTGTCAACGGCCCTCTCAAACCTCCCCGGCTACCAAGTCAGCTGGGGCCAGAGGATGCCGGAGGGGGTCAAT 3190
D P A A Q S F T G V V Y G T H T T A V S E T R O T W A E W A A A H W W O L T L G 1035
GACCCCGCCGCCAATCGTACCGGGTGGTGTGGCACACACCAACTGCTGTGGAGACCCGGCAAGCTGGGGAGTGGCTGCTGCCCATGGTGGCAGCTCTGGC 3310
A I C A L L L A G L L A C C A K C L Y Y L R G A I A P R 1063
GCCATTTGGCCCCCTCTACTTGCTGGCTTACTCGCTTGTGGCAAAATGCTGTACTACTTGCGCCGGCTATGGCGCCGCTTAGGGGCCCCGGGAAACCCGCATACCCACT 3430
AGATCCCGCACCTGTTGCTGCA TAG - Poly(A) 3456

```

Fig 1. Signal sequences are underlined. The palindromic sequences at the 5' -end and 3' -end of 24SmRNA are shown by a thick underline. Glycosylation sites are shown by ( $\blacktriangle$ ). Amino acids different from the wild type strain (Thérien) are shown by ( $\bullet$ ) and different from the vaccine strain (HPV77) are shown by ( $\blacksquare$ ).

**Acknowledgments:** We thank Drs. Arthur Elliott and Suresh Prasad of Merck Sharp and Dohme for providing RA27/3 strain of rubella virus.

\*To whom correspondence should be addressed

**References:**

1. Frey, K.T., et al. (1986) *Virology* 154, 228-232.
2. Frey, K.T., et al (1988) *Gene* 62, 85-99.
3. Vidgren, G., et al. (1987) *J. Gen. Virol.* 68, 2347-2357.
4. Takkinen, K., et al. (1988) *J. Gen Virol.* 69, 603-612.
5. Zheng, D., et al. (1989) *Gene* (in press).