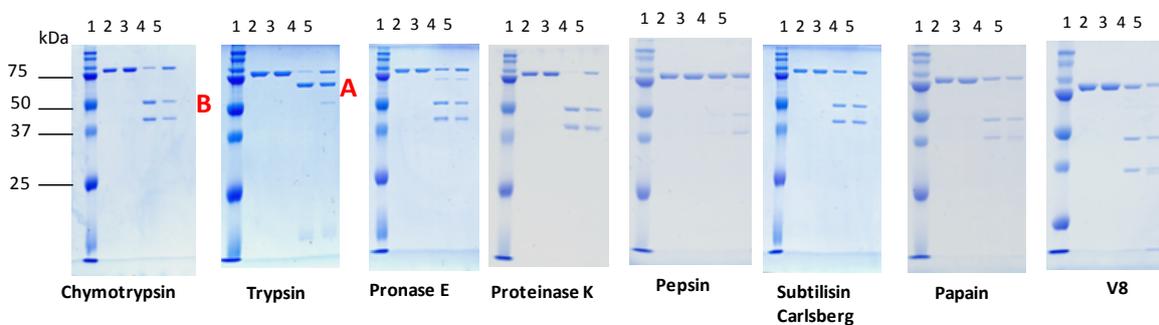


**Figure S1:** SDS PAGE of desorbed rPA<sub>83</sub> from Alhydrogel®. Lane 2 shows the rPA<sub>83</sub> before alhydrogel addition. A sample of supernatant after binding would be empty. Lane 3 shows the amount of rPA<sub>83</sub> desorbed into the supernatant by high phosphate concentration treatment (see text). As can be seen it is possible to obtain full recovery of rPA<sub>83</sub> by this method.

### Proteolytic enzymes target similar sites

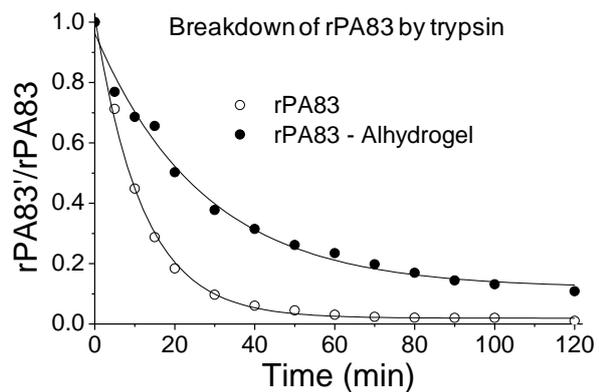
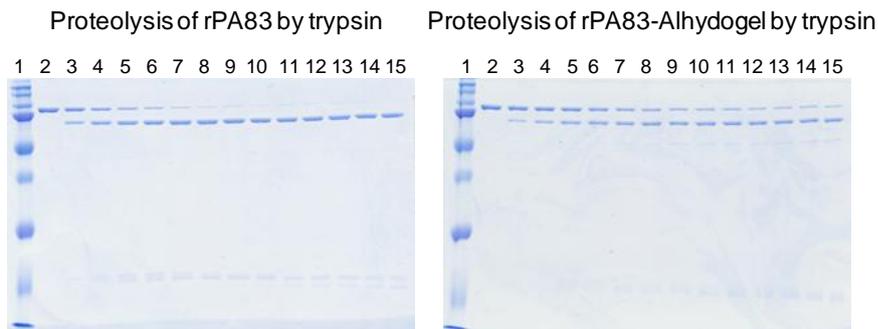
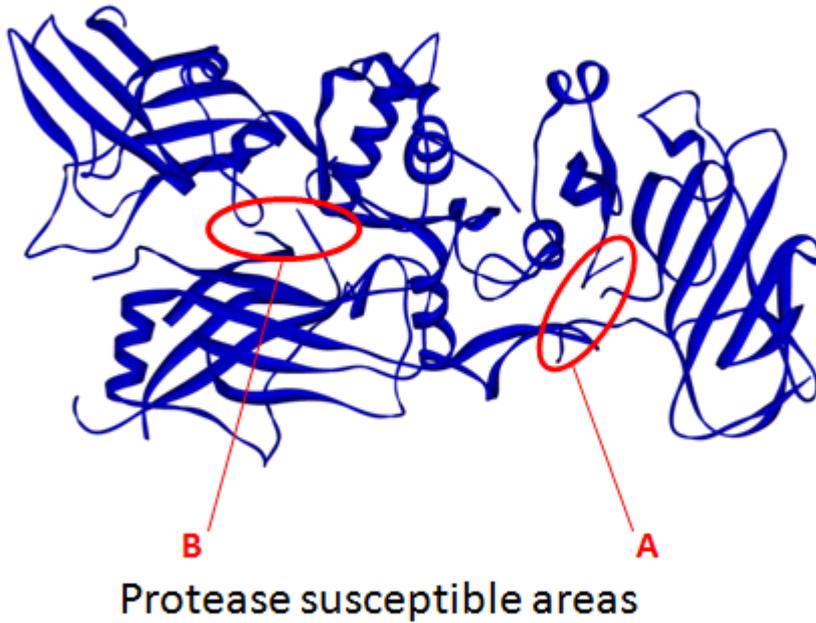


Lane 1 = Molecular weight marker, Lane 2 = rPA, Lane 3 = rPA recovered from Adjuvant

Lane 4 = rPA cleaved in solution, Lane 5 = rPA cleaved when bound to Adjuvant

**Figure S2:** Proteolytic cleavage patterns of free and adsorbed rPA<sub>83</sub> see below for the sites A and B

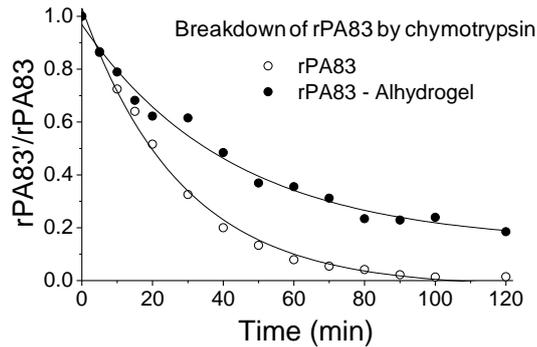
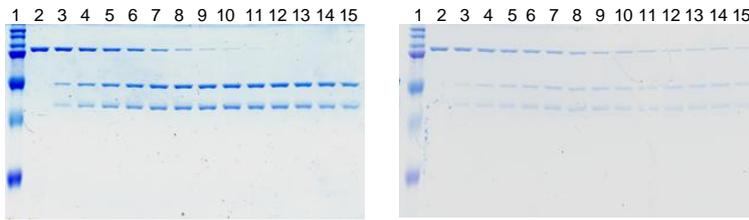
## Protective Antigen



**Figure S3:** Time course: proteolysis of soluble and adsorbed rPA<sub>83</sub> by trypsin. Lanes: 1) molecular weight marker, 2) time = 0, 3) time = 5 min, 4) time = 10 min, 5) time = 15 min, 6) time = 20 min, 7) time = 30 min, 8) time = 40 min, 9) time = 50 min, 10) time = 60 min, 11) time = 70 min, 12) time = 80 min, 13) time = 90 min, 14) time = 100 min, 15) time = 120 min.

Y-axis: rPA83 = optical density of rPA83 band at time = 0, rPA83' = optical density of rPA83 band at time = X. Breakdown rate of soluble rPA83 is quicker than breakdown rate of adsorbed rPA83.

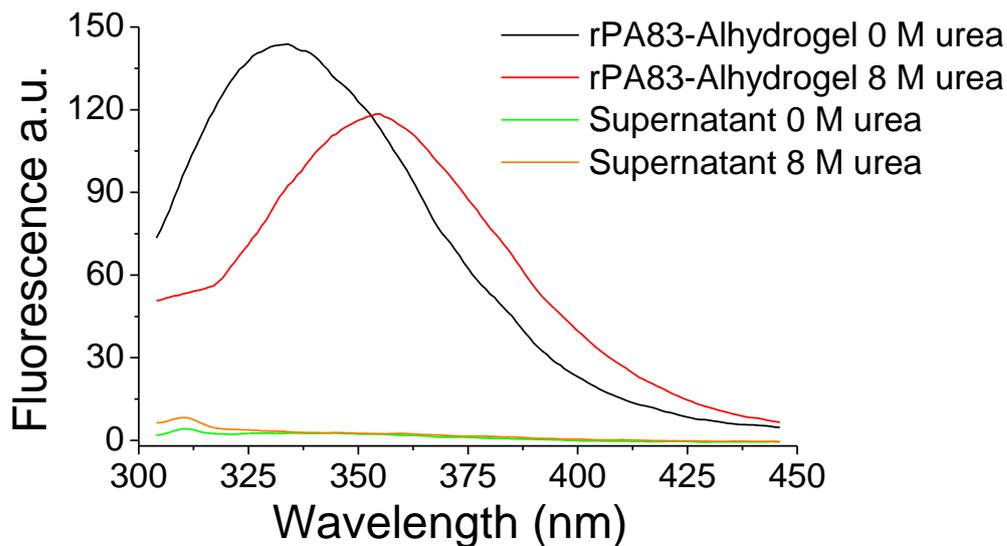
Proteolysis of rPA83 by chymotrypsin    Proteolysis of rPA83-Alhydrogel by chymotrypsin



**Figure S4:** Time course: proteolysis of soluble and adsorbed rPA<sub>83</sub> by chymotrypsin.

Lanes: 1) molecular weight marker, 2) time = 0, 3) time = 5 min, 4) time = 10 min, 5) time = 15 min, 6) time = 20 min, 7) time = 30 min, 8) time = 40 min, 9) time = 50 min, 10) time = 60 min, 11) time = 70 min, 12) time = 80 min, 13) time = 90 min, 14) time = 100 min, 15) time = 120 min.

Y-axis: rPA83 = optical density of rPA83 band at time = 0, rPA83' = optical density of rPA83 band at time = X. Breakdown rate of soluble rPA83 is quicker than breakdown rate of adsorbed rPA83.



**Figure S5:** Tryptophan fluorescence emission of rPA83-Alhydrogel samples in 0 M urea, 8 M urea and corresponding supernatants. Non-fluorescent supernatants indicate that rPA83 and Alhydrogel do not dissociate in urea.