

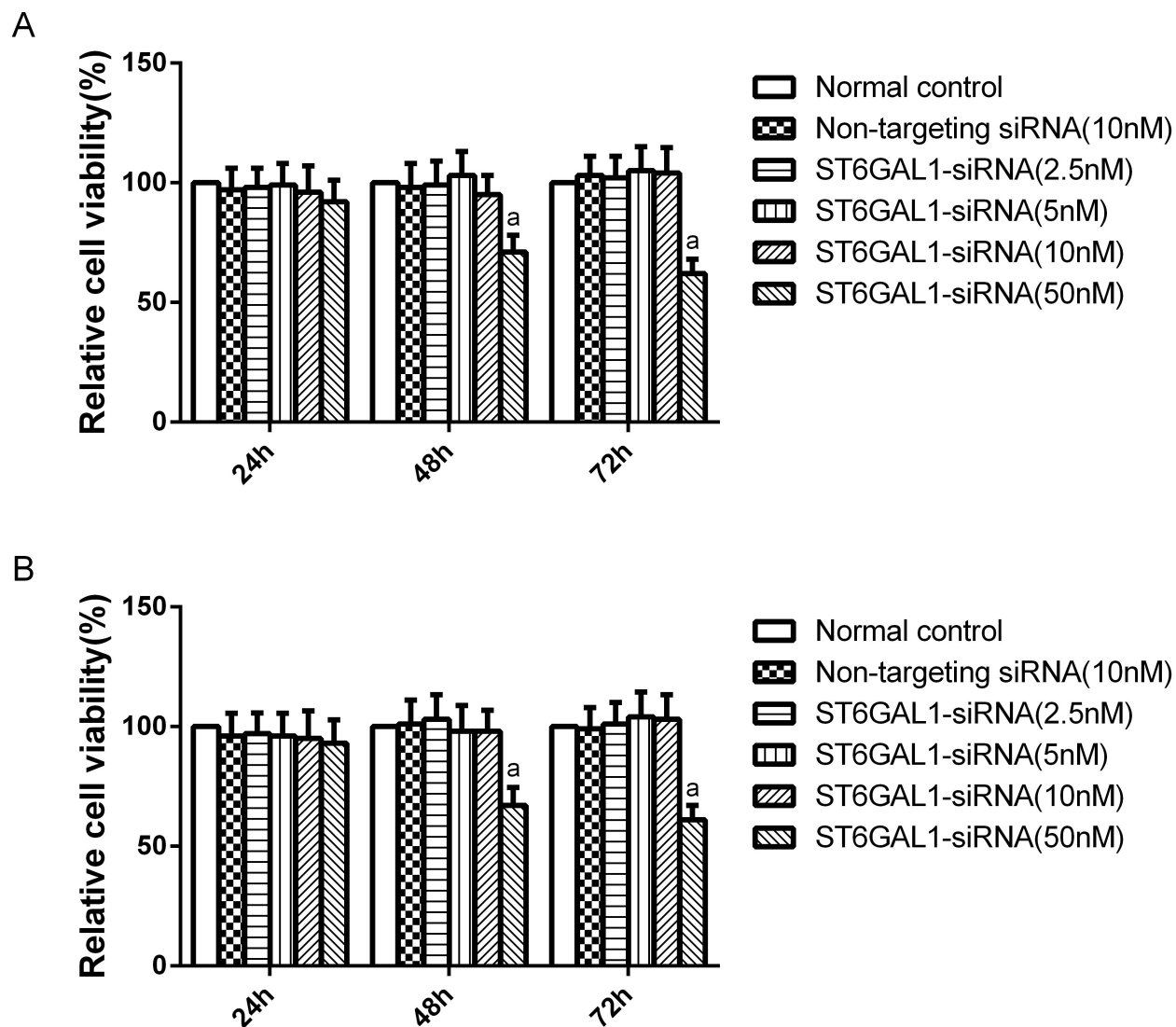
**Table S1. Nomenclature of 4 candidate siRNA duplexes targeting ST6GAL1 gene**

Name	Coding region	Position (nt)	Sequence (5' - 3')
ST6GAL1-siRNA1	ORF	1278-1296	CAGCCAACUCCAACAAGAdTdT, dTdTGUCGGUUGAAGGUUGUUCU;
ST6GAL1-siRNA 2	ORF	1438-1456	GUACCAGAAUCCGGAUUAUdTdT, dTdTCAUGGUCUUAGGCCUAAUA;
ST6GAL1-siRNA 3	ORF	1599-1617	CUGGGAUGCUUGGUAUCAUdTdT, dTdTGACCCUACGAACCAUAGUA;
ST6GAL1-siRNA 4	ORF	1144-1162	CUGGGAUGCUUGGUAUCAUdTdT, dTdTGACCCUACGAACCAUAGUA

**Table S2. Real time RT-PCR primers and probes**

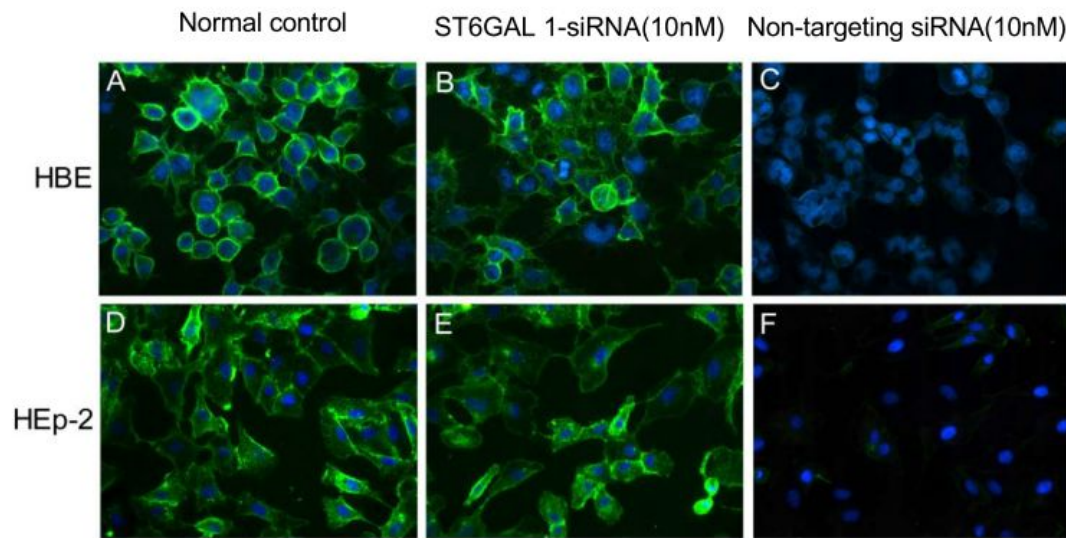
Name	Sequence (5' - 3')
ST6Gal1 forward primer	GAAACCATGCAAAGCAGTGGAC
ST6Gal1 reverse primer	GCCCATTCCTCAAGCAGAATC
$\beta$ -actin forward primer	TGGCACCCAGCACAATGAA
$\beta$ -actin reverse primer	CTAAGTCATAGTCCGCCTAGAAGCA
The influenza A virus forward primer	GACCRATCCTGTCACCTCTGAC
The influenza A virus reverse primer	AGGGCATTYTGGACAAAKCGTCTA
The influenza A virus fluoresce probe	TGCAGTCCTCGCTCACTGGGCACG-FAM
RnaseP Forward primer	AGATTTGGACCTGCGAGCG
RnaseP Reverse primer	GAGCGGCTGTCTCCACAAGT
RnaseP fluoresce probe	TTCTGACCTGAAGGCTCTGCGCG-FAM

Figure S1. Cells viability



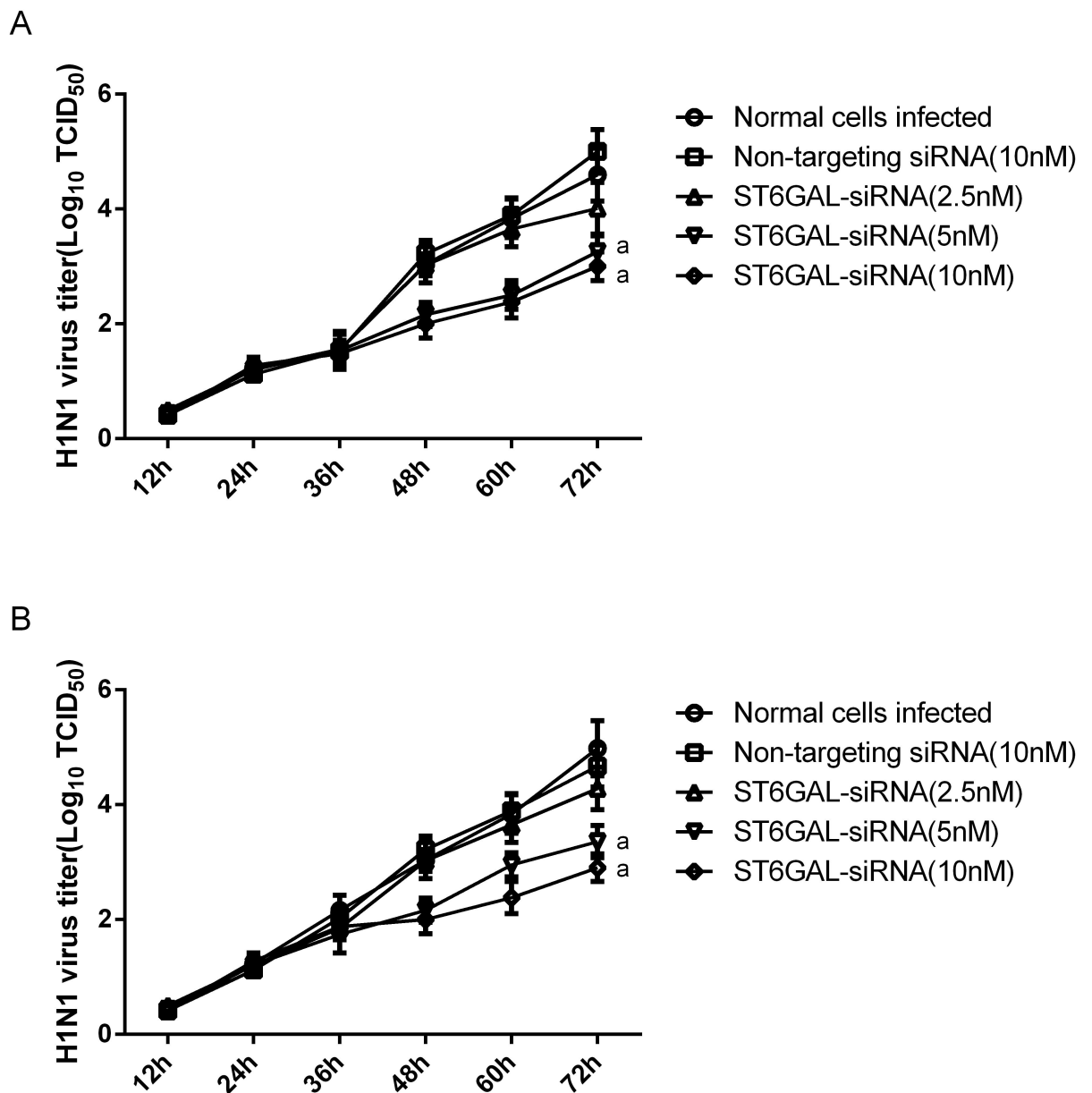
MTT assays for the influence of the siRNAs on the viability of epitheliums. HBE (A) and HEp-2 (B) cells were treated with ST6Gal1-siRNA(2.5-50 nmol) or Non-targeting siRNA. MTT tests were performed at 24, 48, 72h post-transfection. Background values were subtracted from the absorbance average value (four wells) obtained for each siRNA treatment and then compared with that scored in the absence of siRNA (100% viability). Each assay was performed in duplicates of at least four wells. ST6Gal 1-siRNA(2.5-10 nmol) is not toxic to the cells, but small toxicity was observed for the highest siRNA concentration(50nM) <sup>a</sup> $P < 0.05$

**Figure S2. Down regulation of influenza virus receptors SA  $\alpha$  2,6Gal on transduced respiratory epithelium (HBE, Hep-2)**



Fluorescence microscope analysis of the expression of SA $\alpha$ 2,6Gal on the surface of epithelium. HBE (top panel) and HEp-2 (below panel) cells were treated with either ST6GAL1-siRNA or Non-targeting siRNA at final concentrations of 10nM. SA  $\alpha$ 2, 6Gal was stained with SNA-FITC (green fluorescence), cell nuclei were counterstained with DAPI, and then cells were subjected to fluorescence microscope analyses. ST6GAL1-siRNA treated cells(C, F) demonstrated lower level of fluorescence intensity compared to Non-targeting siRNA treated (B, E) and normal control cells (A, D).

**Figure S3. Targeted siRNA transduced respiratory epitheliums resist influenza virus challenge**



Influenza virus resistance of ST6Gal1-siRNA transduced epitheliums. Transduced HBE (A) and HEp-2 (B) cells were challenged with pdmH1N1 virus.  $\text{TCID}_{50}$  assays were performed on culture supernatants taken at various time points post-infection. Experiments were performed in triplicate. A significant decrease in viral titer was observed in cells transfected with ST6Gal1-siRNA as compared to cells transfected with Non-targeting siRNA or normal cells and in a dose-dependent manner ( $^aP < 0.05$ , Student's *t* test).