

779 **STAR METHODS**

780 **CONTACT FOR REAGENT AND RESOURCE SHARING.**

781 **Requests should be addressed and will be fulfilled by lead author** Michael S. Diamond;
782 diamond@wusm.wustl.edu.

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784 **EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS**

785 **Ethics statement.** This study was carried out in strict accordance with the
786 recommendations in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals of the National
787 Institutes of Health. The protocols were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use
788 Committee (IACUC) at the Washington University School of Medicine (Assurance Number:
789 A3381-01), the IACUC at the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology under protocol #
790 AP028-SS1-0615, and the IACUC at Utah State University under protocol 2598. Dissections
791 and footpad injections were performed under anesthesia that was induced and maintained with
792 ketamine hydrochloride and xylazine, and all efforts were made to minimize suffering.

793 **Mouse experiments.** BALB/c and C57BL/6 mice were purchased from The Jackson
794 Laboratory, and AG129 mice were bred in the animal facilities at Utah State University,
795 Washington University, or the La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology. All mice were
796 housed in pathogen-free mouse facilities. For immunizations, mice were inoculated via an
797 intramuscular route with 50 μ l of the indicated vaccine LNP constructs. For challenge studies,
798 mice were inoculated subcutaneously with 10^4 PFU of ZIKV P6-740 or 10^6 FFU of mouse-
799 adapted ZIKV Dakar 41519 in 50 μ l of HBSS + 0.1% FBS. For ZIKV challenge studies in
800 BALB/c and C57BL/6 mice, 2 mg of anti-IFNAR1 blocking antibody (MAR1-5A3 (Sheehan et al.,
801 2006)) was administered via intraperitoneal injection 24 hours prior to viral infection. For DENV
802 challenge studies in AG129 mice, animals were passively transferred pooled vaccine immune
803 sera or PBS one day prior to infection with $\sim 10^5$ FFU of DENV-2 S221. Animals were monitored

804 for mortality and clinical score (1 = healthy; 2 = slightly ruffled fur; 3 = very ruffled fur; 4 = mild
805 lethargy, decreased scurrying activity; 5 = very sick, slow to no movement; 6 = very sick,
806 euthanize (in distress); 7 = deceased) as described previously (Tang et al., 2016).

807

808 **METHOD DETAILS**

809 **Viruses and cells.** ZIKV strain Dakar 41519 (Senegal, 1984) and P6-740 (Malaysia,
810 1966) were provided by the World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses (R.
811 Tesh and S. Weaver, University of Texas Medical Branch). To create a mouse-adapted more
812 pathogenic variant of ZIKV Dakar 41519, it was passaged twice in *Rag1^{-/-}* mice (Sapparapu et
813 al., 2016; Zhao et al., 2016). ZIKV strain Paraiba 2015 (Brazil) was provided by S. Whitehead
814 (NIH, Bethesda, MD) (Tsetsarkin et al., 2016). DENV-2 strain S221 is a mouse-adapted strain
815 that has been described previously (Yauch et al., 2009). Virus stocks were propagated in
816 mycoplasma-free Vero cells and titrated by focus-forming assay (FFA), as described previously
817 (Lazear et al., 2016). Experiments with ZIKV and DENV were conducted under biosafety level 2
818 (BSL2) containment at Washington University School of Medicine or under BSL3 containment at
819 Utah State University with Institutional Biosafety Committee approval.

820 **Generation of modified mRNA and LNP** The mRNA was synthesized *in vitro* using T7
821 polymerase-mediated DNA-dependent RNA transcription where the UTP was substituted with 1-
822 methylpseudoUTP, using a linearized DNA template, which incorporates 5' and 3' untranslated
823 regions (UTRs) and includes a poly-A tail (5'-UTR:
824 TCAAGCTTTTGGACCCTCGTACAGAAGCTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAAATAAGAGAGAA
825 AAGAAGAGTAAGAAGAAATATAAGAGCCACC; and 3'-UTR:
826 TGATAATAGGCTGGAGCCTCGGTGGCCATGCTTCTTGCCCCTTGGGCCTCCCCCAGCCC
827 CTCCTCCCCTTCTGCACCCGTACCCCGTGGTCTTTGAATAAAGTCTGAGTGGGCGGC).

828 A donor methyl group S-adenosylmethionine (SAM) was added to the methylated capped RNA

829 (cap 0), resulting in a cap 1 structure to increase mRNA translation efficiency. The modified
830 mRNAs encoded the signal sequences from human IgE (MDWTWILFLVAAATRVHS) or JEV
831 prM (MWLVSLAIVTACAGA) and the prM and E genes from an Asian ZIKV strain (Micronesia
832 2007, GenBank accession number EU545988 (Lanciotti et al., 2008)), which is >99% identical
833 to circulating American strains.

834 LNP formulations were prepared using a modified procedure of a method described for
835 siRNA (Chen et al., 2016). Briefly, lipids were dissolved in ethanol at molar ratios of
836 50:10:38.5:1.5 (ionizable lipid: DSPC: cholesterol: PEG-lipid). The lipid mixture was combined
837 with a 50 mM citrate buffer (pH 4.0) containing mRNA at a ratio of 3:1 (aqueous:ethanol) using a
838 microfluidic mixer (Precision Nanosystems, Vancouver, BC). Formulations were dialyzed
839 against PBS (pH 7.4) in dialysis cassettes for at least 18 h. Formulations were concentrated
840 using Amicon Ultra Centrifugal Filters (EMD Millipore, Billerica, MA), passed through a 0.22- μ m
841 filter and stored at 4°C until use. All formulations were tested for particle size, RNA
842 encapsulation, and endotoxin and were found to be between 80 to 100 nm in size, with greater
843 than 90% encapsulation and <1 EU/ml of endotoxin.

844 **Viral protein analysis.** SVPs were floated on a 10-50% sucrose gradient (50 mM MES
845 pH 5.5, 120 mM NaCl) and ultracentrifuged at 32,000 rpm at 4°C for 4 h in a Beckman SW55
846 rotor. Fractions (1 ml) were collected and pelleted by a second ultracentrifugation step over a
847 20% sucrose cushion at 32,000 rpm at 4°C for 2 h. Protein concentration of SVPs was
848 measured using a spectrophotometer (280 nm wavelength). Western blotting was performed
849 using NuPAGE MES Western blot system (Thermo Fisher) reagents as per the manufacturer's
850 instructions. Samples were boiled at 100°C for 10 min in the absence of reducing agent.
851 Samples (100 or 500 ng total protein) were loaded on 4-12% NuPAGE gradient gel and
852 electrophoresed. Proteins were transferred onto nitrocellulose membranes using iBlot 2 gel
853 transfer system. Membranes were washed three times with deionized water and blocked in PBS
854 with 5% Blotto (Thermo Fisher) overnight at 4°C. Primary mAbs (WNV E60 (Oliphant et al.,

855 2006) or mouse anti-ZIKV E (Biofront, BF-1176-86)) were added at 1 µg/ml in PBS
856 supplemented with 5% Blotto and 0.2% (v/v) Tween 20 (Sigma) and incubated for 2 h at room
857 temperature with agitation. Membranes were washed three times with PBS supplemented with
858 0.2% Tween 20. Secondary antibody (horseradish peroxidase conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG
859 (Ab97023, Abcam)) was added at 0.25 µg/ml in PBS supplemented with 5% Blotto and 0.2%
860 Tween 20 for 2 h at room temperature with agitation. After final washing, blots were developed
861 using Amersham ECL prime solution (GE Healthcare Life Sciences) for 2 min and imaged.
862 SeeBlue plus 2 pre-stained protein ladders were included for molecular weight references.

863 To compare expression of SVPs from different mRNA vaccine constructs, HeLa cells
864 were transfected with 1.25 µg of mRNA constructs using Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Fisher),
865 and cells were harvested 24 h later. Cell lysates were prepared in RIPA lysis buffer (Thermo
866 Fisher) with phosphatase and protease inhibitors (Millipore) added.

867 **Electron microscopy of SVPs.** The SVPs were imaged by electron microscopy and
868 negative staining using a fee-for-service facility (University of California, Los Angeles). Briefly,
869 purified SVPs (2.5 µl) were applied to a Glow-discharge carbon-coated grid (Ted Pella Inc.).
870 Staining (2% uranyl acetate) was added in a drop-wise manner for 60 sec. After blotting of
871 excess liquid and drying, the images were collected on a FEI Tecnai TF20 transmission electron
872 microscope at an accelerating voltage of 200 kV using TVIPS EM-Menu program. The nominal
873 magnifications used were 50,000, 29,000 and 14,500 with 2 binning.

874 **Measurement of viral burden.** At specified time points after ZIKV challenge, blood was
875 collected and organs were recovered. Organs were weighed and homogenized using a bead-
876 beater apparatus (MagNA Lyser, Roche), and serum was prepared after coagulation and
877 centrifugation. Tissue samples and serum from ZIKV-infected mice were extracted with the
878 RNeasy Mini Kit (Qiagen). ZIKV RNA levels were determined by TaqMan one-step quantitative
879 reverse transcriptase PCR (qRT-PCR) on an ABI 7500 Fast Instrument using standard cycling

880 conditions. Viral burden is expressed on a log₁₀ scale as viral RNA equivalents per gram or per
881 milliliter after comparison with a standard curve produced using serial 5-fold dilutions of ZIKV
882 RNA from known quantities of infectious virus. For ZIKV, the following primer sets were used:
883 1183F: 5'-CCACCAATGTTCTCTTGCAGACATATTG-3'; 1268R: 5'-
884 TTCGGACAGCCGTTGTCCAACACAAG-3'; and probes (1213F): 5'-56-FAM/AGCCTACCT
885 TGACAAGCAGTC/3IABkFQ-3'.

886 **Neutralization assays.** (a) PRNT or FRNT assays. Serial dilutions of heat-inactivated
887 sera obtained from AG129 or C57BL/6 mice were incubated with 50 to 100 FFU of ZIKV
888 (Paraiba, Brazil 2015) for 1 h at 37 °C. The serum Ab-virus complexes were added to Vero cell
889 monolayers in 96-well plates for 60 min at 37°C. Plaque assays were performed as described
890 previously (Brien et al., 2013; Lazear et al., 2016) For FRNT assays, cells were overlaid with 1%
891 (w/v) methylcellulose in MEM supplemented with 4% heat-inactivated FBS. Plates were fixed
892 40 h later with 1% PFA in PBS for 1 h at room temperature. The plates were incubated
893 sequentially with 500 ng/ml of humanized anti-WNV E60 (Oliphant et al) and horseradish-
894 peroxidase-conjugated goat anti-human IgG in PBS supplemented with 0.1% (w/v) saponin
895 (Sigma) and 0.1% BSA. ZIKV-infected cell foci were visualized using TrueBlue peroxidase
896 substrate (KPL) and quantitated on an ImmunoSpot 5.0.37 macroanalyzer (Cellular
897 Technologies). (b) RVP assays. RVPs incorporating the structural proteins of ZIKV or DENV
898 were produced by complementation of a previously described sub-genomic GFP-expressing
899 replicon derived from a lineage II strain of WNV (Dowd et al., 2016a; Dowd et al., 2015). Serial
900 dilutions of heat-inactivated sera obtained from BALB/c mice were mixed with ZIKV (strain
901 H/PF/2013; French Polynesia, 2013) or DENV-2 (strain 16681) reporter viral particles (RVPs)
902 and incubated for 1 h at 37°C. Immune complexes were added in duplicate technical replicates
903 to pre-plated Vero cells in a 96-well plate and incubated for two days. Cells were trypsinized,
904 resuspended in 4% PFA in PBS, and RVP infection scored as a function of GFP expression by
905 flow cytometry. All neutralization data were analyzed by non-linear regression to determine the

906 dilution of sera required to inhibit 50% (EC50) and 90% (EC90) of infection. RVP studies were
907 performed starting at an initial serum dilution of 1:100 (based on the final volume of cells, virus,
908 and sera per well), which was designated as the limit of detection.

909 **ADE assays.** Serial dilutions of heat-inactivated sera obtained from BALB/c mice were
910 mixed with DENV-1 RVPs (Western Pacific-74 strain) and incubated for 1 h at 37°C. Immune
911 complexes were added in duplicate technical replicates to K562 cells that express the Fc- γ
912 receptor CD32A and incubated for two days. Due to limited volumes of sera, a small number of
913 samples (four) could not be performed in duplicate. Cells were fixed with 2% PFA, and RVP
914 infection was scored as a function of GFP expression by flow cytometry. To normalize the
915 magnitude of enhancement across independent experiments, results are displayed relative to
916 the maximum infectivity observed with a control cross-reactive WNV mAb E60 (Oliphant et al.,
917 2006) run in parallel. ADE studies were performed starting at an initial serum dilution of 1:60
918 (based on the final volume of cells, virus, and sera per well), which was designated as the limit
919 of detection. For calculations of peak enhancing titer, samples for which no enhancement
920 (infectivity) was observed are reported as a titer of 30 (one half the limit of detection).

921
922 **QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.** All data were analyzed with GraphPad
923 Prism software. Kaplan-Meier survival curves were analyzed by the log rank test, and weight
924 losses were compared using two-way ANOVA. For neutralization antibody titers and viral
925 burden analysis, the log titers and levels of viral RNA were analyzed by a Kruskal-Wallis 2-way
926 ANOVA with a multiple comparisons correction. A *P* value of < 0.05 indicated statistically
927 significant differences.

928
929 **DATA AND SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY.** All data is available upon request to the lead contact
930 author. No proprietary software was used in the data analysis.

931

932 **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.** mRNA LNP vaccines are available from Valera/Moderna upon
933 request and completion of appropriate Material Transfer Agreements.

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936 **SUPPLEMENTAL TITLES AND LEGENDS**

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939 **SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS**

940 **Figure S1. Production of LNPs for vaccination, Related to Figure 1. A.**
941 Schematic representation of the process to encapsulate mRNA into LNPs. **B.** A
942 representative cryo-electron microscopy image of an LNP solution, following mRNA
943 encapsulation.

944 **Figure S2. Serum neutralization curves from IgE_{sig}-prM-E vaccinated AG129**
945 **mice, Related to Figure 1.** Ten AG129 mice in each group (combined from two
946 independent experiments) were immunized with 10 (Groups 1 and 2, *panels A-B*) or 2
947 (Groups 3 and 4, *panels C-D*) μ gs of IgE_{sig} prM-E mRNA LNPs. Some of the mice
948 (Groups 1 and 3) were boosted with an equivalent dose 21 days later. Serum was
949 collected at 6 weeks (day 42) post initial vaccination and analyzed for ZIKV
950 neutralization activity by PRNT. Each line represents the neutralization curve from an
951 individual mouse.

952 **Figure S3. Serum neutralization curves from IgE_{sig} prM-E vaccinated**
953 **C57BL/6 mice, Related to Figure 2.** Ten C57BL/6 mice in each group (combined from
954 two independent experiments) were immunized with 10 μ g of IgE_{sig}-prM-E mRNA LNPs
955 and boosted with an equivalent dose four weeks later. Serum was collected at 4 (**B**), 8
956 (**C**), and 18 (**D**) weeks post initial vaccination and analyzed for ZIKV neutralization

957 activity by FRNT. Serum from mice immunized with placebo mRNA LNPs also were
958 analyzed (**A**) Each line represents the neutralization curve from an individual mouse.
959 Error bars indicate the standard deviation (SD) of triplicate technical replicates.

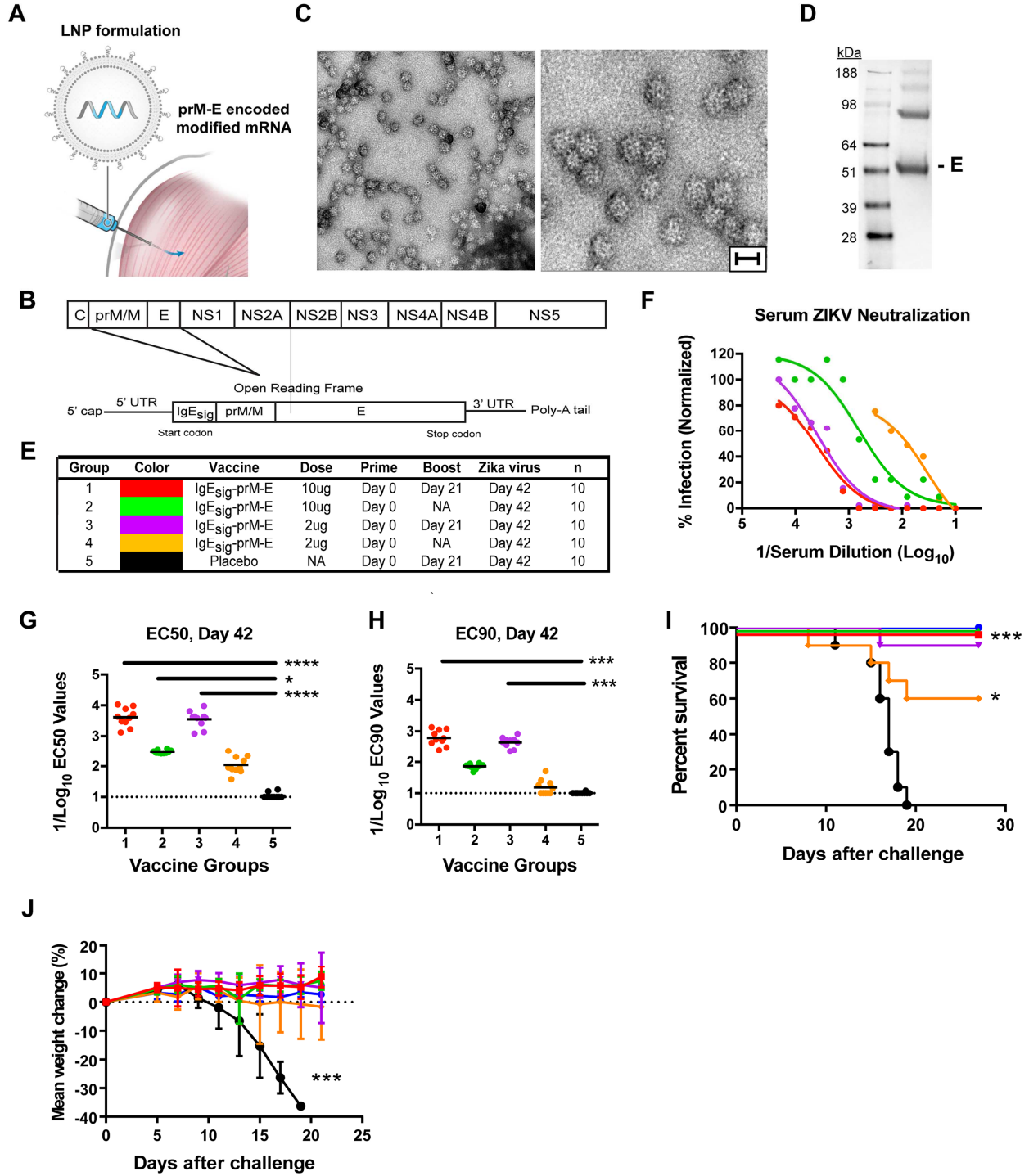
960 **Figure S4. Serum neutralization curves from LNP vaccines containing WT**
961 **or mutant FL sequences, Related to Figure 3.** Ten BALB/c mice in each group
962 (combined from two independent experiments) were immunized with 2 or 10 μ g of prM-
963 E mRNA LNP vaccines containing IgE or JEV signal sequences and WT or mutant
964 fusion loop (FL) sequences or placebo mRNA LNPs (Groups 1-9, **A-I**). Animals were
965 boosted with the equivalent dose of the same vaccine 4 weeks later. At week 8, serum
966 was harvested and analyzed for ZIKV neutralization capacity by incubating serial
967 dilutions of serum with GFP-expressing ZIKV RVPs, followed by infection of Vero cells.
968 Infected cells were quantified 2 days later by flow cytometry. Each curve represents the
969 data from an individual mouse analyzed by non-linear regression analysis. Error bars
970 indicate the range of duplicate technical replicates.

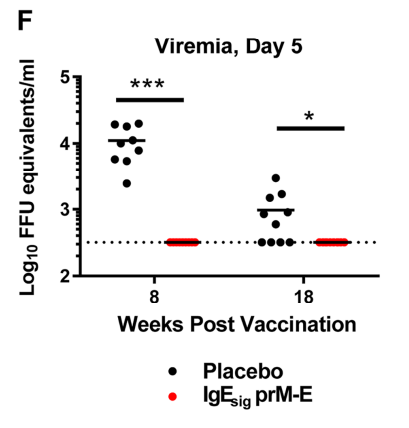
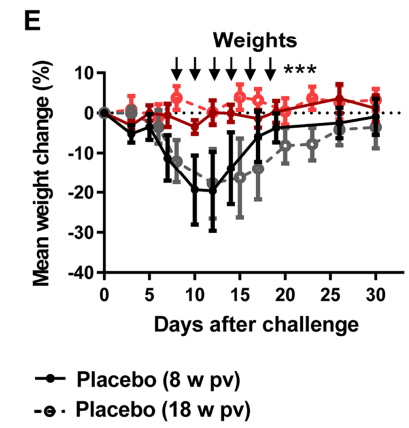
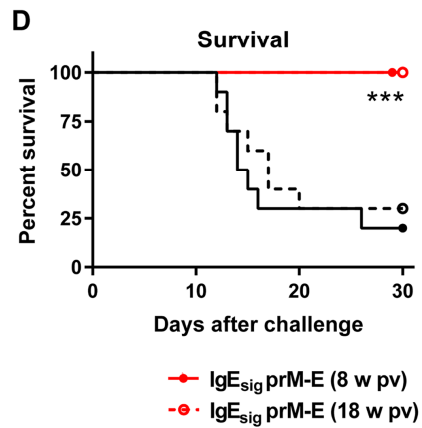
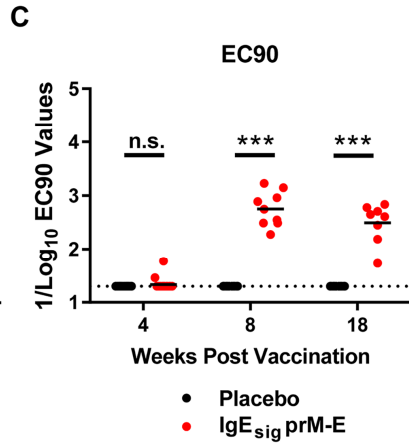
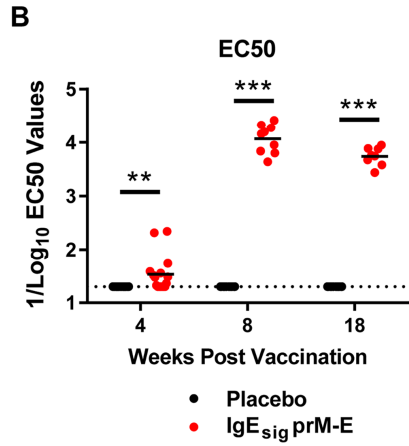
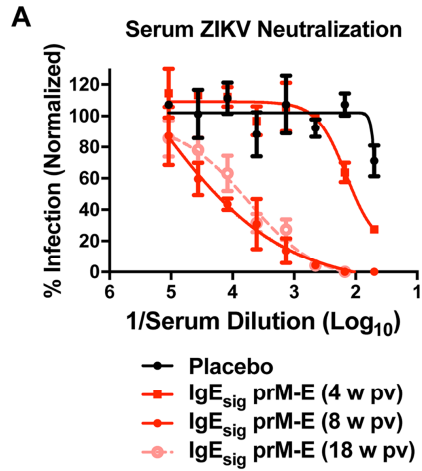
971 **Figure S5. ADE curves from LNP vaccines containing WT or FL mutant**
972 **sequences, Related to Figure 4.** Ten BALB/c mice in each group (combined from two
973 independent experiments) were immunized with 2 or 10 μ g of prM-E mRNA LNP
974 vaccines containing IgE or JEV signal sequences and WT or mutant FL sequences or
975 placebo mRNA LNPs (Groups 1-9, **A-I**). Animals were boosted with the equivalent dose
976 of the same vaccine 4 weeks later. At week 8, serum was harvested from vaccinated
977 mice. Serial dilutions of sera were mixed with GFP-expressing DENV-1 (strain West-
978 Pac 74) RVPs and incubated with Fc γ R-expressing K562 cells. Infected cells were
979 quantified by flow cytometry. In each experiment, the cross-reactive FL-specific mAb

980 E60 was included as a control (**J**). To normalize the magnitude of enhancement across
981 independent experiments, results are displayed relative to the maximum infectivity
982 observed with mAb E60 run in parallel (designated by the dotted line at 100). Each line
983 represents the enhancement curve from an individual mouse. Error bars indicate the
984 range of duplicate technical replicates.

985 **Figure S6. ZIKV mRNA LNP vaccines containing mutant FL sequences**
986 **showed reduced ADE against DENV in AG129 mice, Related to Figure 4. A.**
987 Neutralization of DENV-2 RVPs by sera pooled from placebo or JEV_{sig}-prM-E (2 µg
988 dose of WT or FL mutant) vaccinated mice. Error bars indicate the range of duplicate
989 technical replicates. **B.** Enhancing effects of ZIKV immune serum on DENV-2 infection
990 in AG129 mice. Recipient AG129 mice were passively transferred PBS or 10 µl of
991 pooled serum from BALB/c mice vaccinated with WT or FL mutant JEV_{sig}-prM E LNPs.
992 One day later, animals were challenged with 10⁴ FFU of DENV-2 (strain S220) and
993 followed for mortality. Results are pooled from two independent challenge experiments
994 (numbers of animals indicated beneath graph). Survival curves between serum
995 transfers from JEV_{sig}-prM-E (WT and FL mutant LNPs) vaccinated mice were
996 statistically different (***, $P < 0.001$, log-rank test).

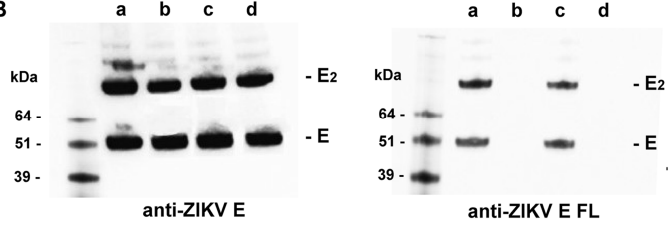
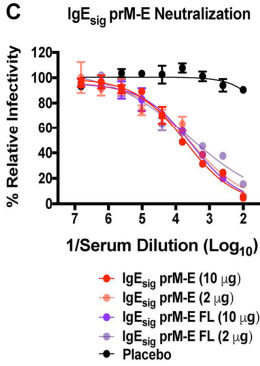
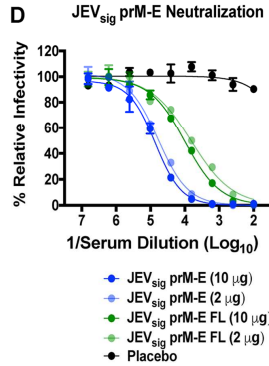
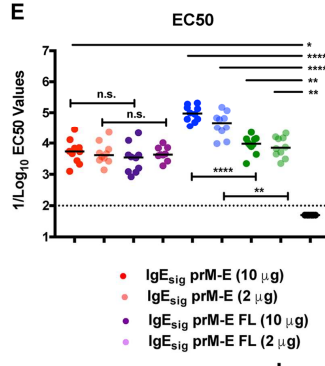
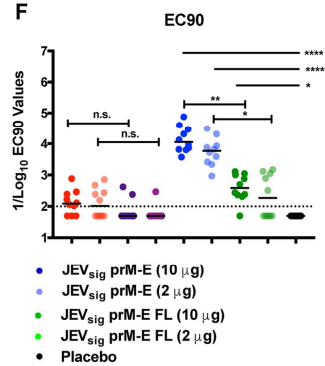
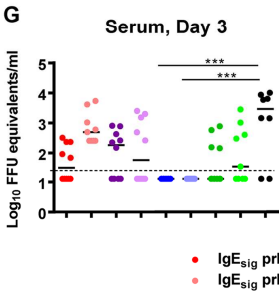
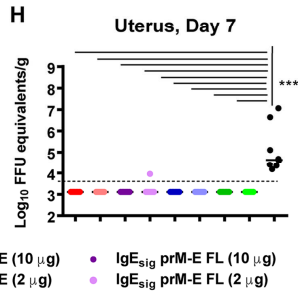
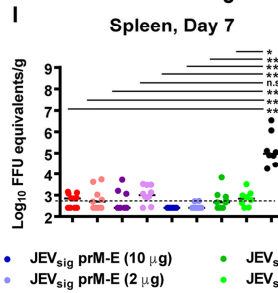
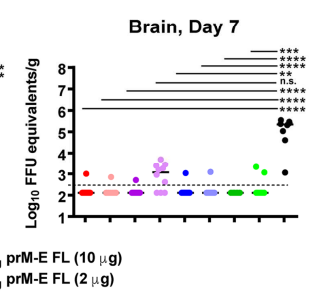
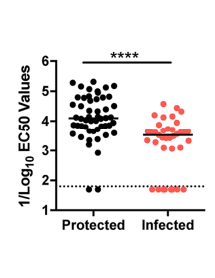
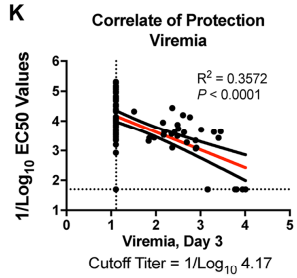
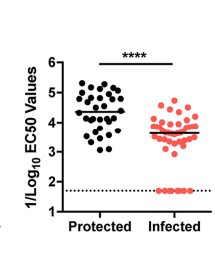
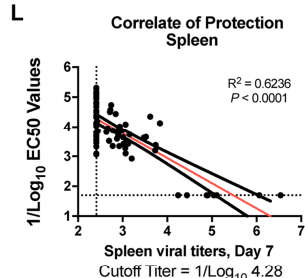
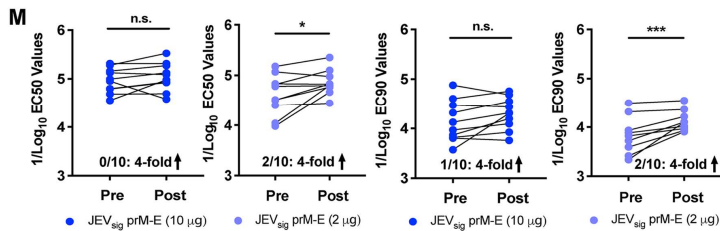
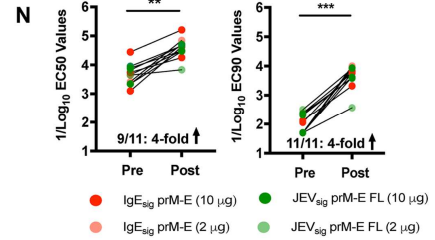
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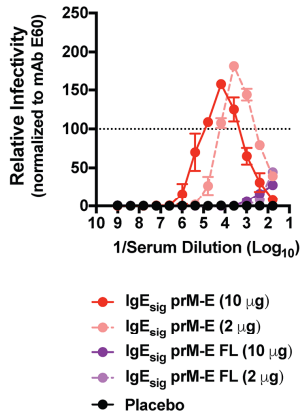


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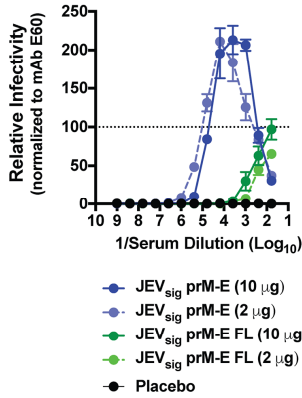
Group	Color	Vaccine	Dose
1	Red	IgE _{sig} prM-E	10 μg
2	Orange	IgE _{sig} prM-E	2 μg
3	Purple	IgE _{sig} prM-E FL	10 μg
4	Light Purple	IgE _{sig} prM-E FL	2 μg
5	Blue	JEV _{sig} prM-E	10 μg
6	Light Blue	JEV _{sig} prM-E	2 μg
7	Green	JEV _{sig} prM-E FL	10 μg
8	Light Green	JEV _{sig} prM-E FL	2 μg
9	Black	Placebo	NA

B**C****D****E****F****G****H****I****J****K****L****M****N**

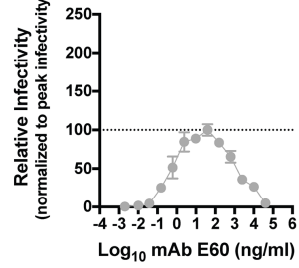
A IgE_{sig}-prM-E Enhancement of DENV-1 Infection



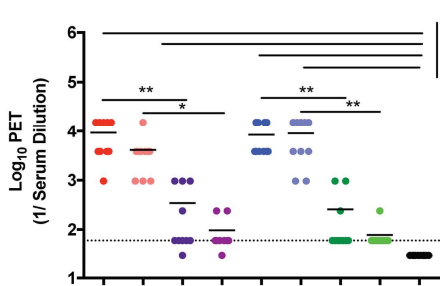
B JEV_{sig}-prM-E Enhancement of DENV-1 Infection



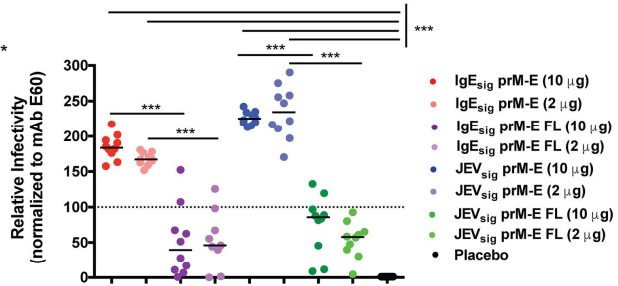
C mAb E60



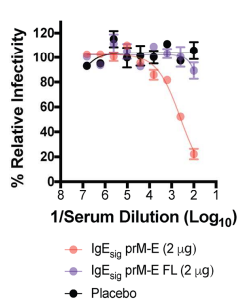
D Peak enhancing titer (PET)



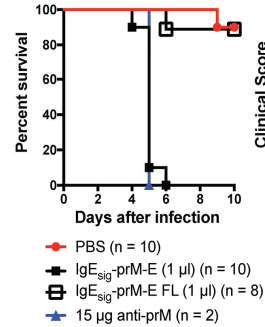
E Magnitude of enhancement



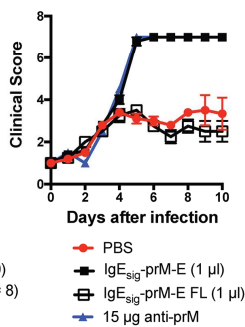
F Pooled sera + DENV-2



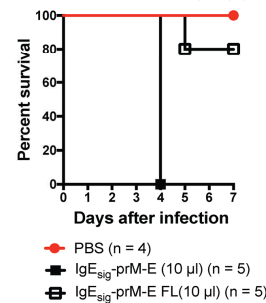
G DENV-2 ADE (1 µl)



DENV-2, Clinical Score



H DENV-2 ADE (10 µl)



DENV-2, Clinical Score

