

**Supplementary Table 6.** Examples of heterologous prime-boost immunization against *Toxoplasma gondii* in mouse models

| Antigen/Adjuvant   | Mouse strain | Challenge  | Immune responses  | Brain cyst load  | Survival  | Conclusions or suggestions   | Reference |
|--|--------------|--|---|--|---|--|-----------|
| <p>AMA1/Gold particles</p> <p>Prime/boost:</p> <p>pAMA1/Ad5AMA1</p> <p>pAMA1/Ad5Null</p> <p>pNull/Ad5AMA1</p> <p>pNull/Ad5Null</p> | C57BL/6      | <p><math>1 \times 10^5</math> PLK-GFP of <i>T. gondii</i> tachyzoites, i.p</p> | <p>↑ Significantly IgG antibodies in pAMA1/Ad5AMA1, pAMA1/Ad5Null, and pNull/Ad5AMA1 groups, compared with those of control mice (immunized mice with pNull/Ad5Null)</p> <p>Mice that were primed with pAMA1 and boosted with Ad5AMA1 showed significant increase (<math>p &lt; 0.001</math>) in anti-TgAMA1 IgG when compared with those immunized with either pAMA1/Ad5Null or pNull/Ad5Null.</p> <p>The pAMA1/Ad5AMA1-immunized mice had a robust IgG1, and IgG2c antibody response to the TgAMA1 compared with that of either pAMA1/Ad5Null or pNull/Ad5Null, and the robust responses were significantly enhanced (<math>p &lt; 0.001</math>) after the booster immunization.</p> <p>The levels of the TgAMA1-specific IgG2c antibody were higher in mice immunized with pNull/Ad5AMA1 than in those immunized with pAMA1/Ad5AMA1 (<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>) and pAMA1/Ad5Null (<math>p &lt; 0.001</math>).</p> <p>There was no significant difference in the IgG1:IgG2c ratio between pAMA1/Ad5AMA1 and pNull/Ad5AMA1 immunized groups.</p> <p>The pNull/Ad5AMA1 immunized mice had significantly higher levels of IFN-<math>\gamma</math>, as compared with the mice immunized with pAMA1/Ad5AMA1 (<math>p &lt; 0.01</math>) and pAMA1/Ad5Null (<math>p &lt; 0.001</math>).</p> <p>The pAMA1/Ad5AMA1 immunized mice had higher levels of IL-4 than those immunized with pNull/Ad5AMA1 (<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>) and pNull/Ad5Null (<math>p &lt; 0.01</math>).</p> | <p>The pAMA1/Ad5AMA1-immunized mice produced 23% fewer brain cysts than the pNull/Ad5AMA1-immunized mice (none-significant).</p> | <p>Increased survival rate</p> <p>pAMA1/Ad5AMA1: 50%, 30-day post challenge</p> <p>pNull/Ad5AMA1: 37.5%, 30-day post challenge</p> <p>pAMA1/Ad5Null: 12.5%, 30-day post challenge</p> <p>None of the mice immunized with pNull/Ad5Null survived</p> | <p>These results demonstrate that the heterologous DNA priming and recombinant adenovirus boost strategy may provide protective immunity against <i>T. gondii</i> infection.</p> | [28]      |

(Continued to the next page)

Supplementary Table 6. Continued

| Antigen/Adjuvant  | Ag delivery  | Mouse strain | Challenge   | Immune responses   | Brain cyst load  | Survival   | Conclusions or suggestions   | Reference |
|---|--|--------------|---|--|--|--|--|-----------|
| Encoding MAS and UMAS<br>ROP18 <sub>347-386</sub> , SAG3 <sub>101-144</sub> ,<br>MIC6 <sub>288-347</sub> , GRA7 <sub>182-224</sub> ,<br>MAG1 <sub>159-125</sub> , BAG1 <sub>155-211</sub> ,<br>and SPA <sub>142-200</sub><br>DNA vaccine or/and<br>adenovirus vaccine<br>Prime/boost:<br>DNA/DNA (p-UMAS/p-UMAS)<br>Ad/Ad (Ad-UMAS/Ad-UMAS)<br>DNA/Ad (p-UMAS/Ad-UMAS)<br>Ad/DNA (Ad-UMAS/p-UMAS) | The combination of DNA vaccine (p-UMAS, 100 µg each) and recombinant adenovirus vaccine (Ad-UMAS virus, 3 × 10 <sup>8</sup> PFU each), i.m | BALB/c       | Acute:<br>1 × 10 <sup>3</sup> tachyzoites, RH strain (genotype I), i.p<br>Chronic:<br>20 cysts<br>PRU strain (genotype II), i.g via oral gavage | Highest levels of humoral antibodies and cellular immune responses were achieved in mice immunization priming with the DNA vaccine and boosting with the Ad-UMAS vaccine. Compared with p-UMAS or Ad-UMAS immunization alone, higher levels of a specific IgG (predominance of IgG2a) and higher levels of cytokines (IFN-γ and IL-2) were obtained by priming with p-UMAS and boosting with Ad-UMAS (p < 0.05). Priming with p-UMAS and boosting with Ad-UMAS demonstrated higher proliferation activity, compared with the other immunization strategy (p < 0.05). | Reduced (p < 0.01)<br>The most significant reduction of brain cyst burden was observed by the DNA prime-Ad boost approach. | Increased survival rate<br>67% Survival in mice vaccinated with p-UMAS prime and Ad-UMAS boost 28 days after challenge<br>Control mice were died within 8-10 days. | Priming vaccination with DNA vaccine and boosting with the recombinant Ad vaccine encoding ubiquitin conjugated multi-stage antigens of <i>T. gondii</i> was proved to be a potential strategy against the infection of type I and type II parasite. | [26]      |
| rTgMIC3/FCA+pcDNA-MIC3+rTgMIC3/FIA  | i.m  | BALB/c       | 1 × 10 <sup>2</sup> tachyzoites, RH strain, i.p   | ↑ Levels of IgG antibodies (p < 0.05)  | NR   | Prolonged survival time (10 days compared with 7 days in control)  | These results demonstrate that TgMIC3 could elicit some protection against toxoplasmosis.  | [8]       |

i.p, intraperitoneal; IFN-γ, interferon-γ; IL, interleukin; NR, Not reported.

## References

- Dautu G, Munyaka B, Carmen G, et al. *Toxoplasma gondii*: DNA vaccination with genes encoding antigens MIC2, M2AP, AMA1 and BAG1 and evaluation of their immunogenic potential. *Exp Parasitol* 2007;116:273-82.
- Ismael AB, Sekkai D, Collin C, Bout D, Mevelec MN. The MIC3 gene of *Toxoplasma gondii* is a novel potent vaccine candidate against toxoplasmosis. *Infect Immun* 2003;71:6222-8.
- Xiang W, Qiong Z, Li-peng L, Kui T, Jian-wu G, Heng-ping S. The location of invasion-related protein MIC3 of *Toxoplasma gondii* and protective effect of its DNA vaccine in mice. *Vet Parasitol* 2009;166:1-7.
- Fang R, Nie H, Wang Z, et al. Protective immune response in BALB/c mice induced by a suicidal DNA vaccine of the MIC3 gene of *Toxoplasma gondii*. *Vet Parasitol* 2009;164:134-40.
- Fang R, Feng H, Hu M, et al. Evaluation of immune responses induced by SAG1 and MIC3 vaccine cocktails against *Toxoplasma gondii*. *Vet Parasitol* 2012;187:140-6.
- Qu D, Han J, Du A. Evaluation of protective effect of multiantigenic DNA vaccine encoding MIC3 and ROP18 antigen segments of *Toxoplasma gondii* in mice. *Parasitol Res* 2013;112:2593-9.
- Ghaffarifar F, Naserifar R, Jafari Madrak M. Eukaryotic plasmids with *Toxoplasma gondii* dense granule antigen (GRA5) and microneme 3 (MIC3) genes as a cocktail DNA vaccine and evaluation of immune responses in BALB/C mice. *J Clin Med Genomics* 2014;3:121.
- Yang D, Liu J, Hao P, et al. MIC3, a novel cross-protective antigen expressed in *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Neospora caninum*. *Parasitol Res* 2015;114:3791-9.
- Gong P, Cao L, Guo Y, et al. *Toxoplasma gondii*: Protective immunity induced by a DNA vaccine expressing GRA1 and MIC3 against toxoplasmosis in BALB/c mice. *Exp Parasitol* 2016;166:131-6.
- Wang H, He S, Yao Y, et al. *Toxoplasma gondii*: protective effect of an intranasal SAG1 and MIC4 DNA vaccine in mice. *Exp Parasitol* 2009;122:226-32.
- Peng GH, Yuan ZG, Zhou DH, et al. Sequence variation in *Toxoplasma gondii* MIC4 gene and protective effect of an MIC4 DNA vaccine in a murine model against toxoplasmosis. *J Anim Vet Adv* 2010;9:1463-8.
- Peng GH, Yuan ZG, Zhou DH, et al. *Toxoplasma gondii* microneme protein 6 (MIC6) is a potential vaccine candidate against toxoplasmosis in mice. *Vaccine* 2009;27:6570-4.
- Yan HK, Yuan ZG, Song HQ, et al. Vaccination with a DNA vaccine coding for perforin-like protein 1 and MIC6 induces significant protective immunity against *Toxoplasma gondii*. *Clin Vaccine Immunol* 2012;19:684-9.
- Liu MM, Yuan ZG, Peng GH, et al. *Toxoplasma gondii* microneme protein 8 (MIC8) is a potential vaccine candidate against toxoplasmosis. *Parasitol Res* 2010;106:1079-84.
- Li ZY, Chen J, Petersen E, et al. Synergy of mIL-21 and mIL-15 in enhancing DNA vaccine efficacy against acute and chronic *Toxoplasma gondii* infection in mice. *Vaccine* 2014;32:3058-65.
- Tao Q, Fang R, Zhang W, et al. Protective immunity induced by a DNA vaccine-encoding *Toxoplasma gondii* microneme protein 11 against acute toxoplasmosis in BALB/c mice. *Parasitol Res* 2013;112:2871-7.
- Yuan ZG, Ren D, Zhou DH, et al. Evaluation of protective effect of pVAX-TgMIC13 plasmid against acute and chronic *Toxoplasma gondii* infection in a murine model. *Vaccine* 2013;31:3135-9.
- Yan HK, Yuan ZG, Petersen E, et al. *Toxoplasma gondii*: protective immunity against experimental toxoplasmosis induced by a DNA vaccine encoding the perforin-like protein 1. *Exp Parasitol* 2011;128:38-43.
- Zheng B, Ding J, Chen X, et al. Immuno-efficacy of a *T. gondii* secreted protein with an altered thrombospondin repeat (TgSPATR) as a novel DNA vaccine candidate against acute toxoplasmosis in BALB/c mice. *Front Microbiol* 2017;8:216.
- Beghetto E, Nielsen HV, Del Porto P, et al. A combination of antigenic regions of *Toxoplasma gondii* microneme proteins induces protective immunity against oral infection with parasite cysts. *J Infect Dis* 2005;191:637-45.
- Pinzan CF, Sardinha-Silva A, Almeida F, et al. Vaccination with recombinant microneme proteins confers protection against experimental toxoplasmosis in mice. *PLoS One* 2015;10:e0143087.
- Lourenco EV, Bernardes ES, Silva NM, Mineo JR, Panunto-Castelo A, Roque-Barreira MC. Immunization with MIC1 and MIC4 induces protective immunity against *Toxoplasma gondii*. *Microbes Infect* 2006;8:1244-51.
- Nie H, Fang R, Xiong BQ, et al. Immunogenicity and protective efficacy of two recombinant pseudorabies viruses expressing *Toxoplasma gondii* SAG1 and MIC3 proteins. *Vet Parasitol* 2011;181:215-21.

24. Qu D, Yu H, Wang S, Cai W, Du A. Induction of protective immunity by multiantigenic DNA vaccine delivered in attenuated *Salmonella typhimurium* against *Toxoplasma gondii* infection in mice. *Vet Parasitol* 2009;166:220-7.
25. Lee SH, Kim AR, Lee DH, Rubino I, Choi HJ, Quan FS. Protection induced by virus-like particles containing *Toxoplasma gondii* microneme protein 8 against highly virulent RH strain of *Toxoplasma gondii* infection. *PLoS One* 2017;12:e0175644.
26. Yin H, Zhao L, Wang T, Zhou H, He S, Cong H. A *Toxoplasma gondii* vaccine encoding multistage antigens in conjunction with ubiquitin confers protective immunity to BALB/c mice against parasite infection. *Parasit Vectors* 2015;8:498.
27. Wang T, Yin H, Li Y, Zhao L, Sun X, Cong H. Vaccination with recombinant adenovirus expressing multi-stage antigens of *Toxoplasma gondii* by the mucosal route induces higher systemic cellular and local mucosal immune responses than with other vaccination routes. *Parasite* 2017; 24:12.
28. Yu L, Yamagishi J, Zhang S, et al. Protective effect of a prime-boost strategy with plasmid DNA followed by recombinant adenovirus expressing TgAMA1 as vaccines against *Toxoplasma gondii* infection in mice. *Parasitol Int* 2012;61:481-6.