

Supplementary Materials for
ChAdOx1 interacts with CAR and PF4 with implications for thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome

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This PDF file includes:

Figs. S1 to S10

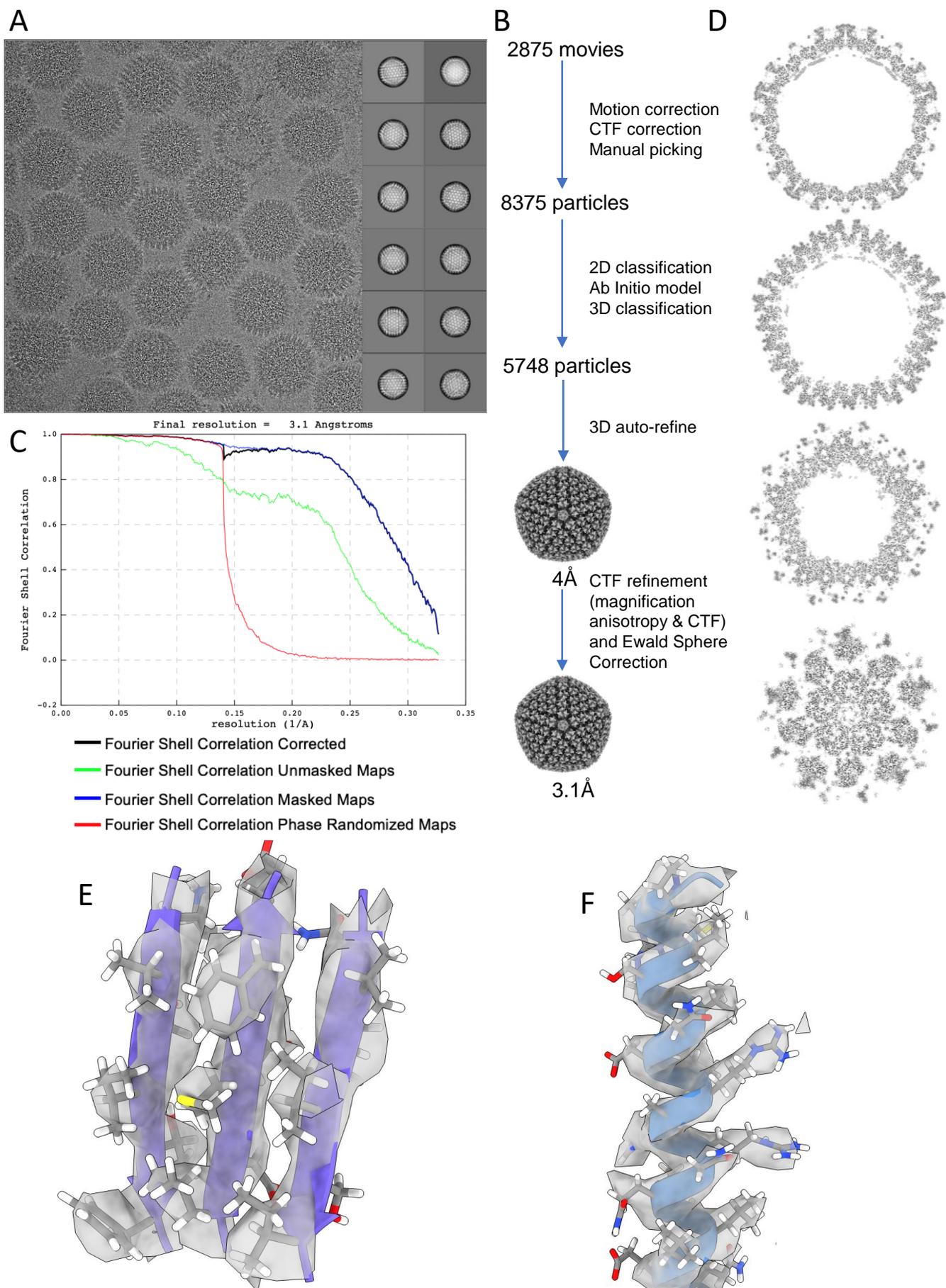
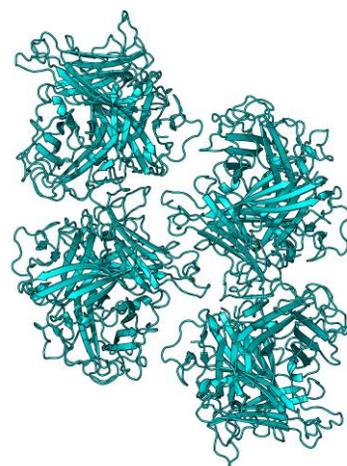


Fig.S1: Validation statistics for CryoEM ChAdOx1 structure. Particles were hand picked from micrographs and 2D classified (**A**). After classification and refinement (**B**) a 3.07Å volume was generated with acceptable Fourier shell correlation (**C**). Slices through the ChAdOx1 CryoEM volume show the localized resolution at the capsid interior has higher resolution information than the exterior which contains more flexible regions. An equatorial slice shows greater detail on the capsid interior, revealed in more detail by slices at points further along the 5-fold axis (**D**). Examples show hexon (**E**) and pVIII (**F**) model in density at contour level 0.015.

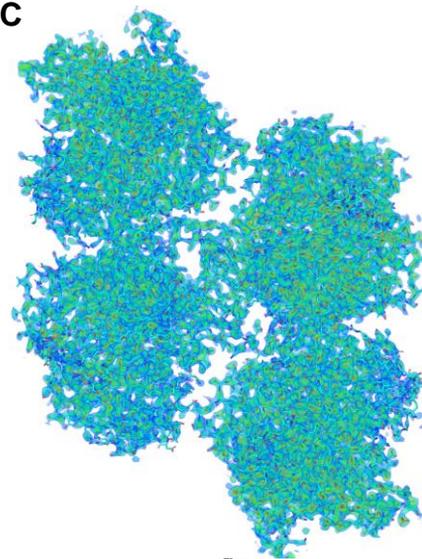
A

PDB Entry	7OP2
Data Collection	
Diamond Beamline	DLS-I03
Date	2021-04-24
Wavelength	0.97626
Crystal Data (figures in brackets refer to outer resolution shell)	
Crystallization Conditions	0.2 M CaCl ₂ , 0.1 M Tris, pH 8.0, 20 % w/v PEG 6000
a, b, c (Å)	98.427, 112.26, 98.605
$\alpha = \beta = \gamma$ (°)	90.0, 92.61, 90.0
Space group	P 1 2 ₁ 1
Resolution (Å)	1.59 – 74.03
Outer shell	1.59-1.62
R-merge (%)	27.3 (365.2)
R-pim (%)	8.0 (103.1)
R-meas (%)	28.5 (379.7)
CC1/2	0.996 (0.334)
I / σ (I)	5.5 (0.4)
Completeness (%)	100 (100)
Multiplicity	12.7 (13.5)
Total Measurements	3,364,401 (193,086)
Unique Reflections	286,462 (14,263)
Wilson B-factor(Å ²)	14.6
Refinement Statistics	
Refined atoms	18,792
Protein atoms	17,316
Non-protein atoms	4
Water molecules	585
R-work reflections	271,539
R-free reflections	14,210
R-work/R-free (%)	22.4 / 24.4
rms deviations (target in brackets)	
Bond lengths (Å)	0.012 (0.013)
Bond Angles (°)	1.498 (1.656)
¹ Coordinate error	0.136
Mean B value (Å ²)	24.8
Ramachandran Statistics (PDB Validation)	
Favoured/allowed/Outliers	2143 / 84 / 4
%	96.0 / 4.0 / 0

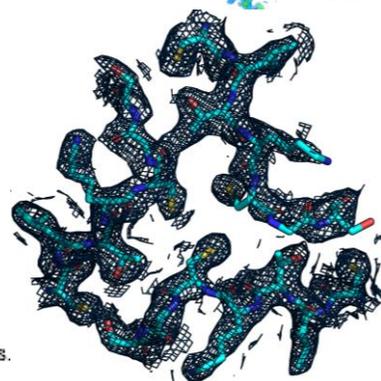
B



C



D



* One crystal was used for determining each structure.

¹ Coordinate Estimated Standard Uncertainty in (Å), calculated based on maximum likelihood statistics.

Fig.S2: Crystallization of ChAdOx1 fiber-knob protein results in 4 copies of the expected trimer per asymmetric unit and reveals side-chain locations. Acceptable refinement statistics were achieved for the fiber-knob protein of ChAdOx1 (A). The crystal structure was solved with 12 copies of the monomer in the asymmetric unit, packing to form 3 trimeric biological assemblies (B). Density was sufficient to provide a complete structure in all copies (C, volume rendered in 0.5σ steps from red, 3.0σ , to dark blue), and was able to resolve side chain orientations reliably throughout the core fold (D, mesh shown at $\sigma=1.0$).

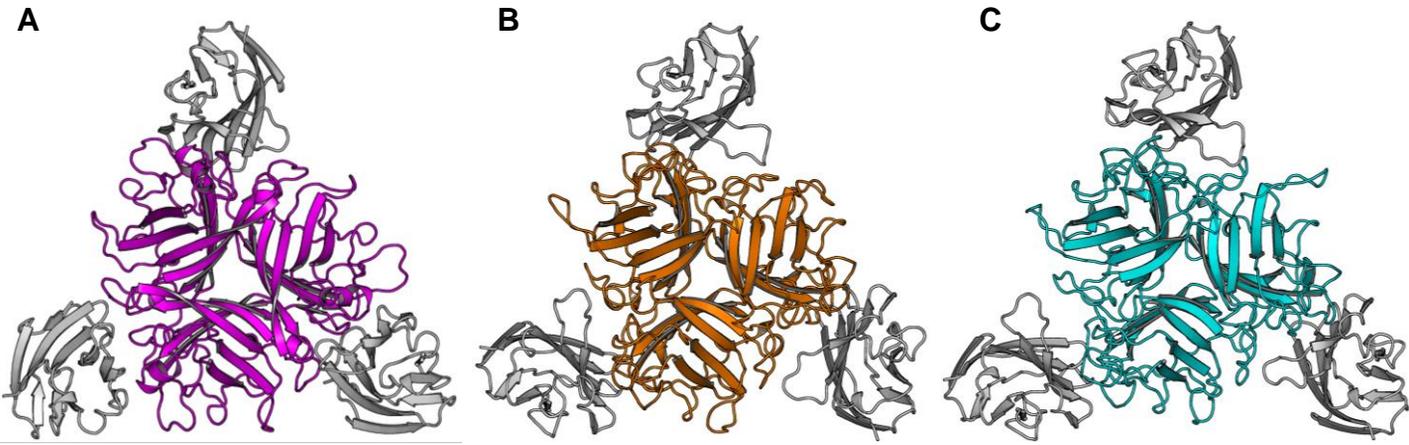


Fig.S3: Homology models of adenovirus fiber-knobs with CAR. Using PDB 2J12 as a template the fiber-knob structures of HAdV-B35 (A, purple), HAdV-C5 (B, orange), and ChAdOx1 (C, cyan) were aligned with CAR (grey) in a potential binding pose and equilibrated by molecular dynamics.

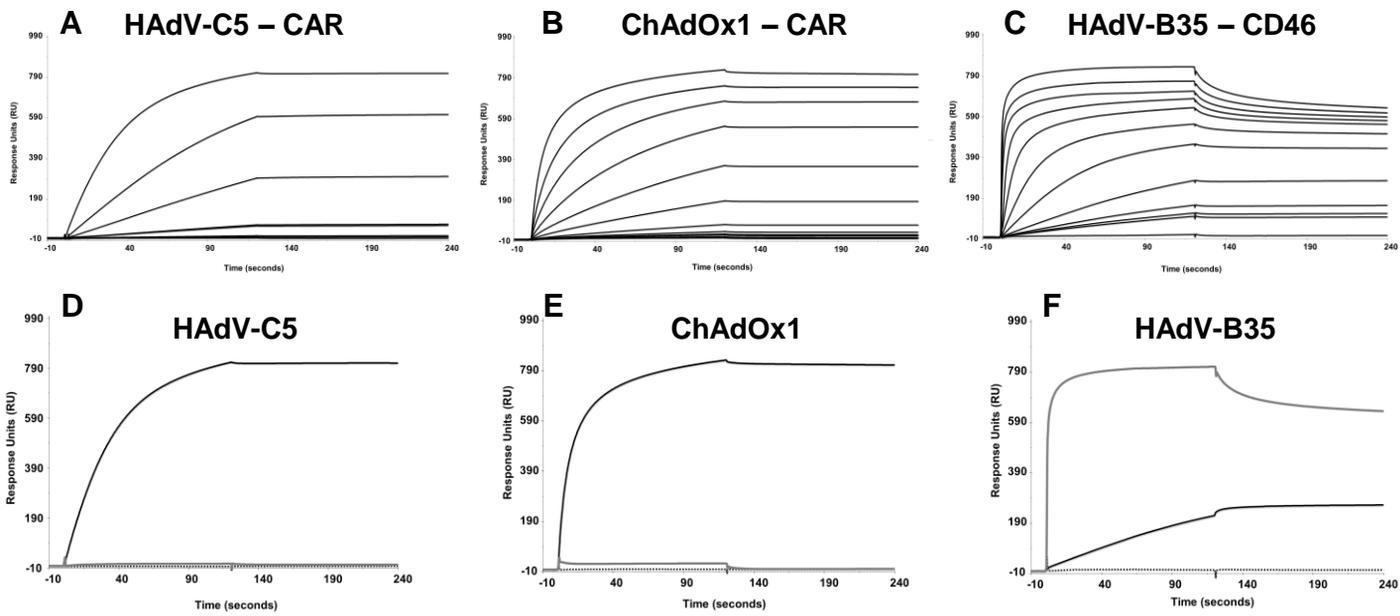


Fig.S4: Surface plasmon resonance traces show ChAdOx1 fiber-knob binds to CAR with high affinity but not CD46 or desmoglein 2. Traces are shown as resonance units (RU) over time (seconds). Serial titration SPR shows HAdV-C5 (Titration=2.5-160nM) binds to CAR ($KD=0.06\pm 0.02nM$, **A**) as does ChAdOx1 (Titration=2.5-2560nM, $KD=7.16\pm 1.92nM$, **B**). HAdV-B35 (Titration=2.5-2560nM) binds to CD46 ($KD=4.38\pm 1.95nM$, **C**). Further SPR experiments show HAdV-C5K (160nM) binds CAR (black), but not DSG2 (black, dashed) nor CD46 (grey, **D**). ChAdOX (2560nM) binds CAR (black), but not to DSG2 (black, dashed) and weakly interacts with CD46 (grey, **E**). HAdV-B35K (2560nM) binds CD46 (grey) and to a lesser degree to CAR (black) but not DSG2 (black dashed, **F**).

AZD1222

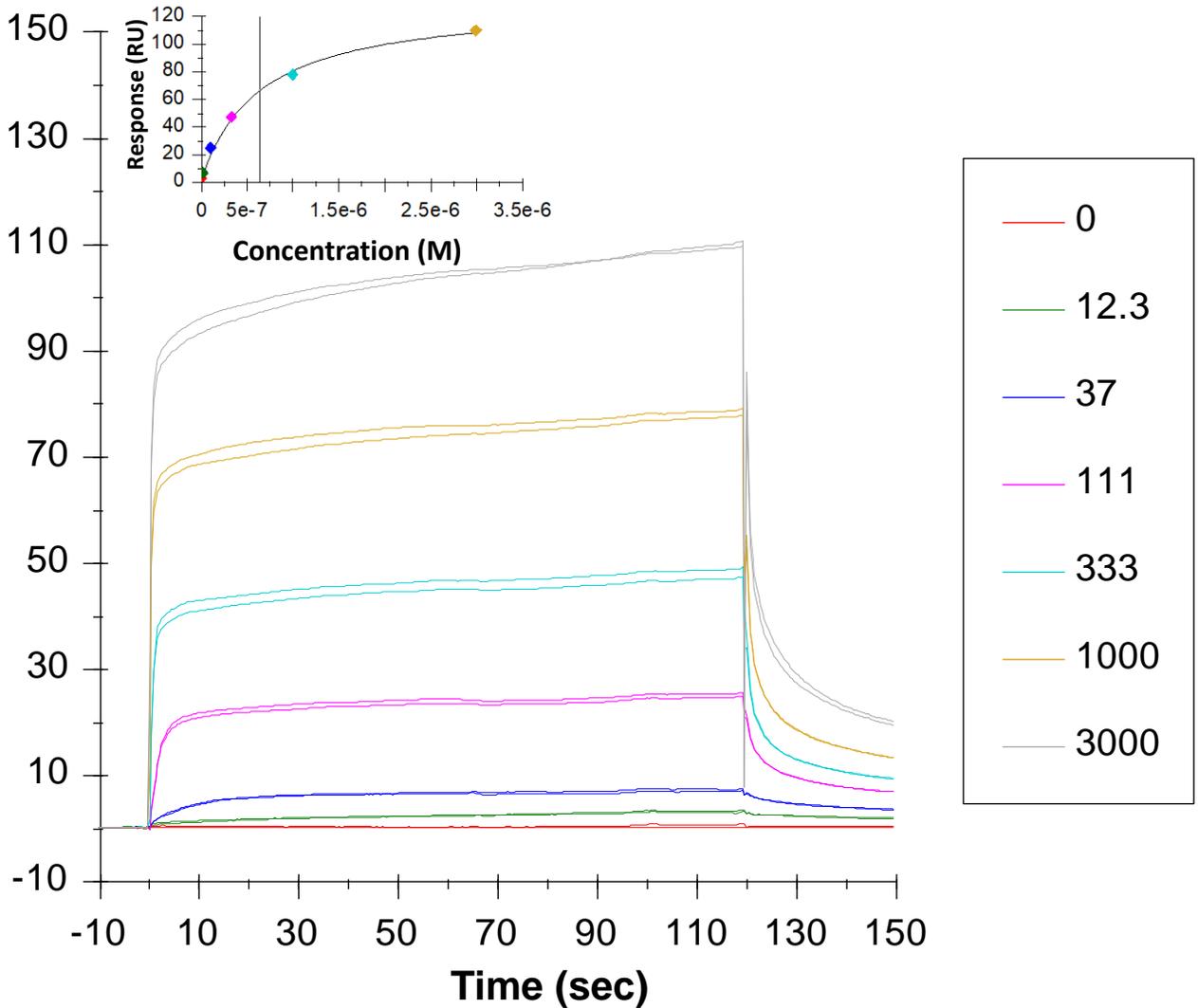
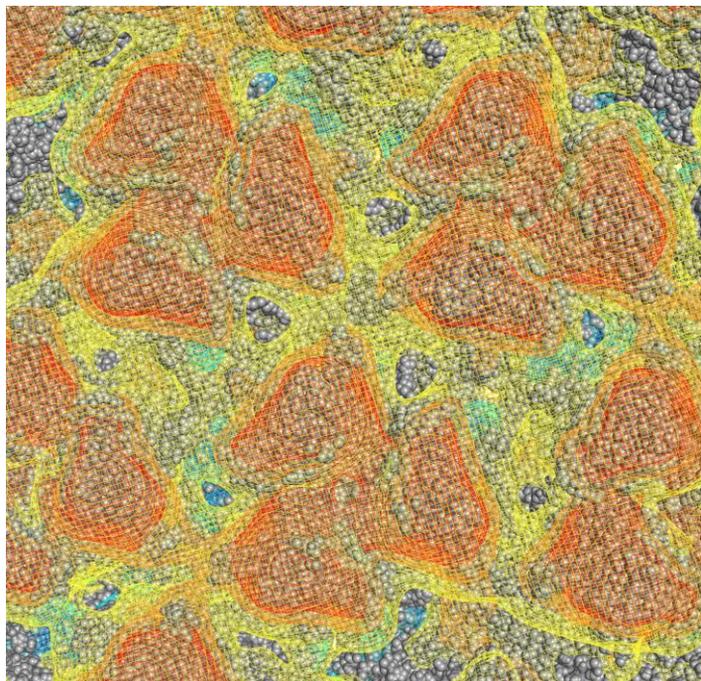
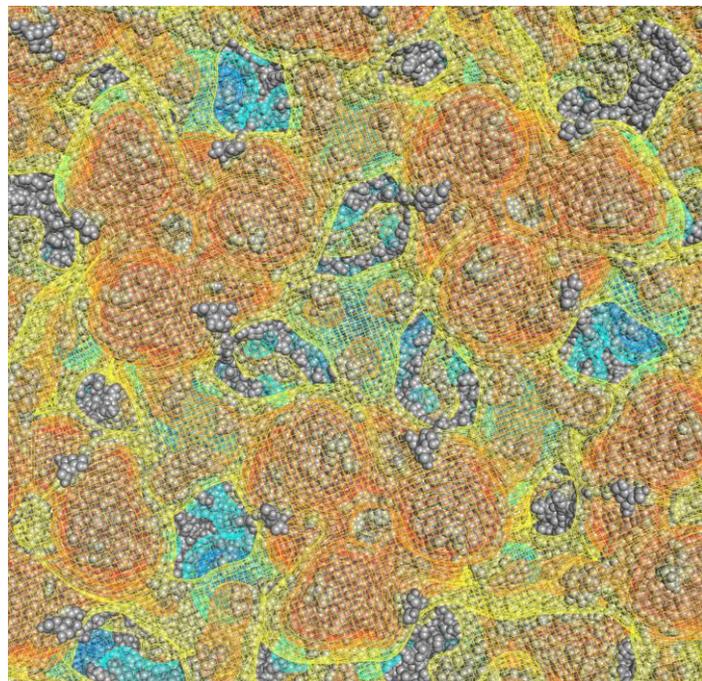


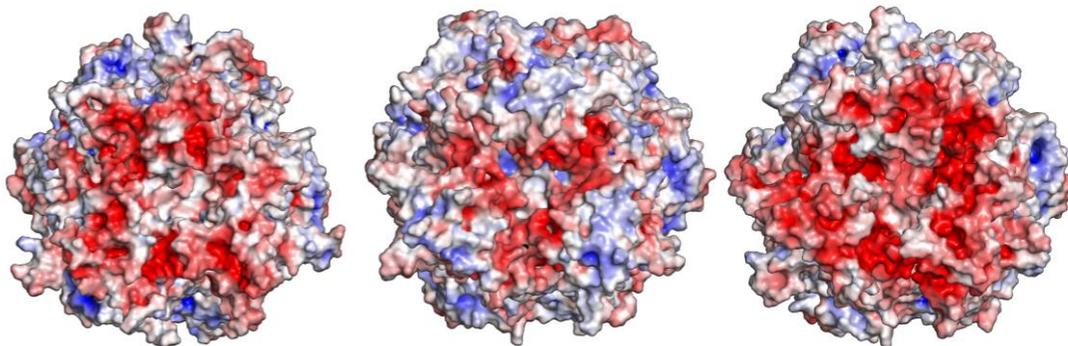
Fig.S5: The ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine preparation (AZD1222) binds to PF4 with high affinity. Serial titration SPR at the indicated concentrations (nM, see legend) shows the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine preparation binds to PF4 with affinity ($K_D = 514 \pm 40$ nM) comparable to that of CsCl purified adenoviruses as determined by the steady state model (inset figure).

A ChAdOx1**B** HAdV-D26**C**

HAdV-C5

HAdV-D26

ChAdOx1

**D** PF4 (Apex)

PF4 (Side)

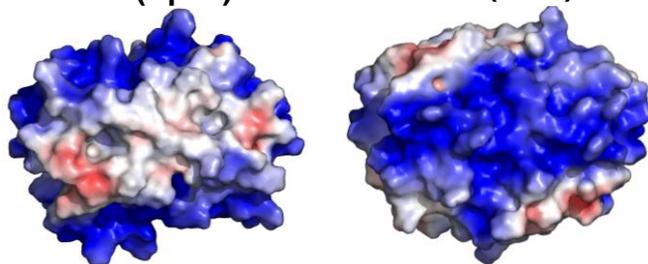


Fig.S6: ChAdOx1 is strongly electronegative, the opposite of PF4. Close-up inspection of the electrostatic surface of ChAdOx1 (**A**) and HAdV-D26 (**B**) shows the strong electronegative potential emanating from the hexon apices, with regions of electropositive potential in the space between hexons. The electronegative potential is substantially stronger in ChAdOx1, while the regions of electropositive potential are stronger in HAdV-D26. Visualisation in individual hexons shows how the apex of the trimer is electronegative around the apex of the 3 fold axis, and that the charge is strongest in ChAdOx1, followed by HAdV-C5, and weakest in HAdV-D26, with HAdV-D26 showing the strongest electropositive charges in the lateral regions (**C**). This contrasts with PF4, which has a strongly overall electropositive charge (**D**). Continuum electrostatic calculations are shown as a mesh from $-0.5K_B T$ (yellow), $-1.0K_B T$ (orange), $-1.5K_B T$ (red), $0.5K_B T$ (cyan), $1.0K_B T$ (blue), and $1.5K_B T$ (dark blue). APBS is visualized on a $\pm 5.0eV$ ramp from blue to red.

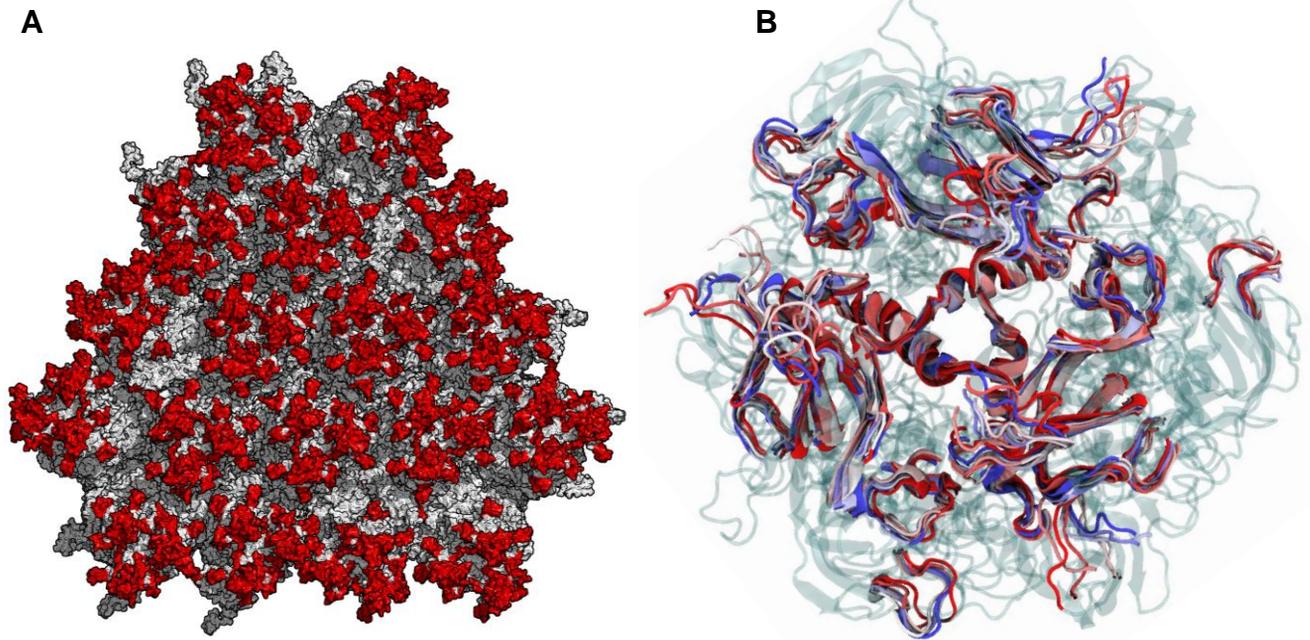


Fig.S7: The ChAdOx1 hexon HVRs face into the space between hexons and are highly flexible. The hyper variable regions of the ChAdOx1 hexons (red) cluster about the apex and present into the space between hexons (A). Molecular dynamics simulations demonstrate that the HVRs are highly flexible (B, HVR positions are shown in full color).

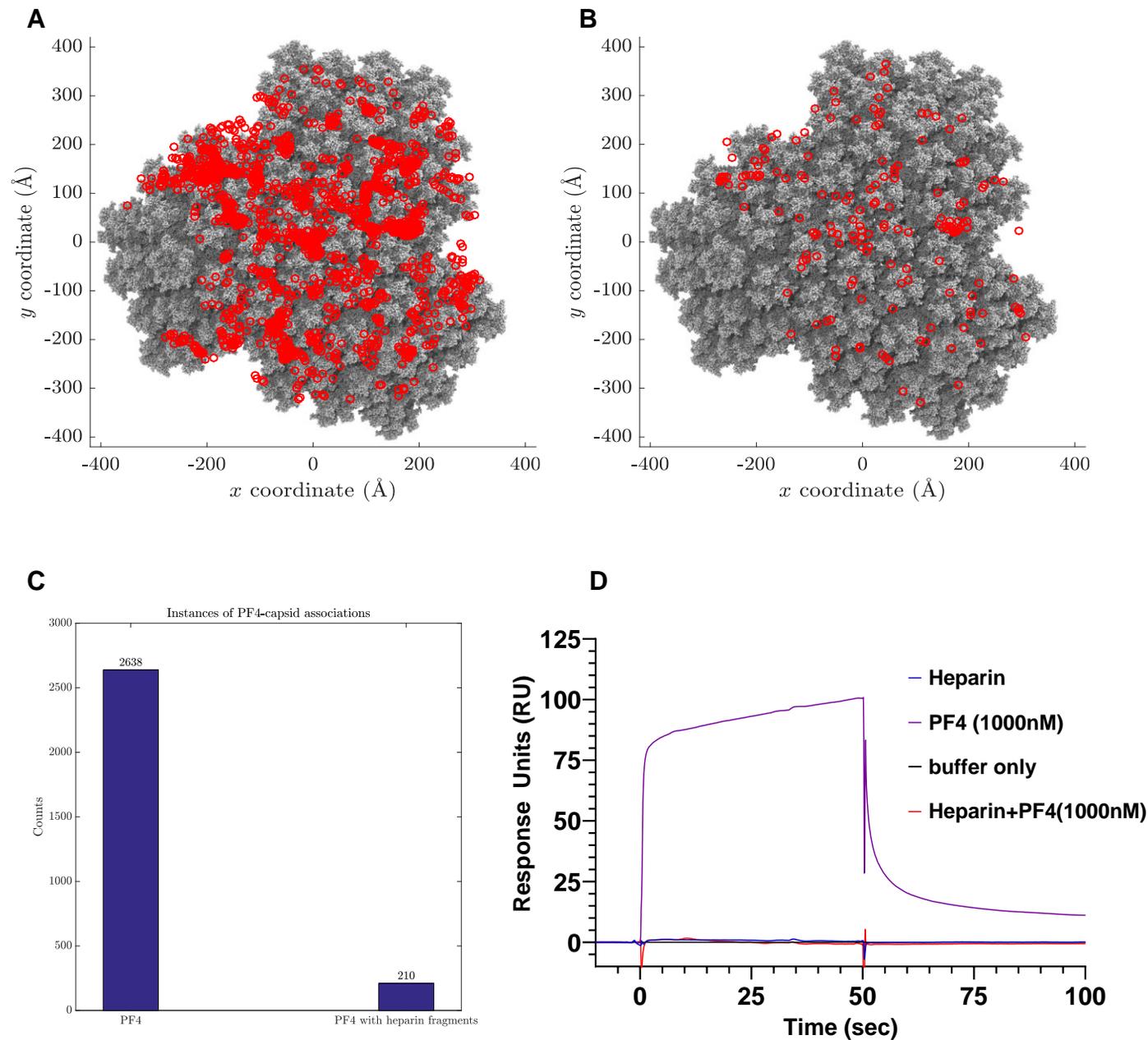


Fig.S8: The ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine preparation binds to PF4 with high affinity, but this interaction is weakened by the presence of heparin. Brownian dynamics simulations show frequent interactions (red spots) between the PF4 tetramer and the ChAdOx1 surface (grey) (A). Similar simulations performed with the PF4-Fondaparinux (PDB 4R9W) showed the frequency of interactions reduced (B) by 12.56-fold (C). SPR shows that PF4 binds to the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine preparation with high affinity, but when PF4 is preincubated with Heparin this affinity is drastically reduced (D).

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      10      20      30      40      50      60      70
P78310-Homo sapiens      MALLLCFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
H2QKV2-Pan troglodytes  MALLLCFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
A0A1D5QDK0-Macaca mulatta MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
P97792-Mus musculus     MALLLCFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
Q9R066-Rattus norvegicus MALLLCFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
Q8WMF3-Bos taurus       MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
A0A287ALW2-Sus scrofa   MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
A0A337S2K2-Felis catus  MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
A0A3G9F1C8-Canis lupus familia MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
A0A7E6D2H0-Phyllostomus discolor MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV
A0A3G9EA18-Vespertilio sinensis MALLRFVLLCGVVD FARSLSITFPEEMIEKAKGE TAYLPCFKFTLSPEDQGPDLIEWLLSPADNQQKVDQV

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P78310-Homo sapiens      IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
H2QKV2-Pan troglodytes  IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
A0A1D5QDK0-Macaca mulatta IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
P97792-Mus musculus     IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
Q9R066-Rattus norvegicus IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
Q8WMF3-Bos taurus       IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
A0A287ALW2-Sus scrofa   IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
A0A337S2K2-Felis catus  IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
A0A3G9F1C8-Canis lupus familia IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
A0A7E6D2H0-Phyllostomus discolor IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK
A0A3G9EA18-Vespertilio sinensis IILYSGDKIYDDYYPDLKGRVHFTSSNDLKSGDASINVTNLQLSDIGTYQCKVKKAPGVGNKKIQLVVLVK

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P78310-Homo sapiens      PSGARCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
H2QKV2-Pan troglodytes  PSGARCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
A0A1D5QDK0-Macaca mulatta PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
P97792-Mus musculus     PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
Q9R066-Rattus norvegicus PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
Q8WMF3-Bos taurus       PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
A0A287ALW2-Sus scrofa   PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
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A0A3G9F1C8-Canis lupus familia PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
A0A7E6D2H0-Phyllostomus discolor PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY
A0A3G9EA18-Vespertilio sinensis PSGTRCYVDGSEZEEIGSDFKIKCEPKEGSLPLQYEWQKLSDSQKMPSTWLAEMTSSVISVKNASSEYSGTY

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P78310-Homo sapiens      SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
H2QKV2-Pan troglodytes  SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
A0A1D5QDK0-Macaca mulatta SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
P97792-Mus musculus     SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
Q9R066-Rattus norvegicus SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
Q8WMF3-Bos taurus       SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
A0A287ALW2-Sus scrofa   SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
A0A337S2K2-Felis catus  SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
A0A3G9F1C8-Canis lupus familia SCTVFRNRVGSDDQCLLRNVVPPSNRAGTIAGAVIGTLLALVLIIGLIIFCCKRKRREKYEKVEVHDIRED
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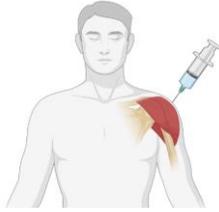
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H2QKV2-Pan troglodytes  VPPPKSRTSTARSYIGSNHSSLGSMSPSNMEGYSKTYNQVPSDED FERTPQSPTLPPAKVAAPNLSRMGA
A0A1D5QDK0-Macaca mulatta VPPPKSRTSTARSYIGSNHSSLGSMSPSNMEGYSKTYNQVPSDED FERTPQSPTLPPAKVAAPNLSRMGA
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A0A7E6D2H0-Phyllostomus discolor VPPPKSRTSTARSYIGSNHSSLGSMSPSNMEGYSKTYNQVPSDED FERTPQSPTLPPAKVAAPNLSRMGA
A0A3G9EA18-Vespertilio sinensis VPPPKSRTSTARSYIGSNHSSLGSMSPSNMEGYSKTYNQVPSDED FERTPQSPTLPPAKVAAPNLSRMGA

      360
P78310-Homo sapiens      IPVMIPAQSKDGSIV
H2QKV2-Pan troglodytes  IPVMIPAQSKDGSIV
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Q9R066-Rattus norvegicus VPVMIPAQSKDGSIV

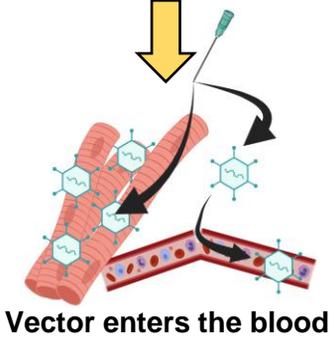
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Fig.S9: CAR is a highly conserved protein across a range of scientifically important, domestic, and agriculturally significant species. Humans (*homo sapiens*) and Chimpanzees (*Pan Troglodytes*) share a 100% sequence identity for their canonical CAR isoform. Sequences in this alignment taken from the indicted UniProt accession numbers.

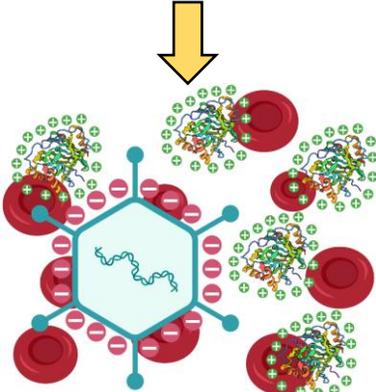
Day of Vaccination



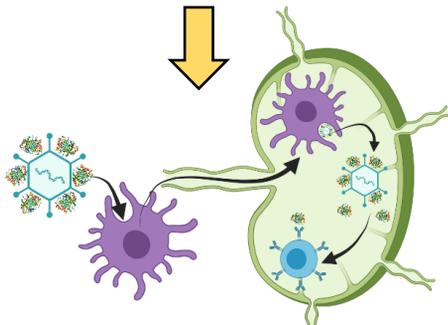
Vaccination



Vector enters the blood

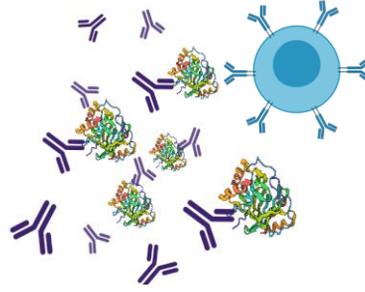


Electrostatic association of PF4 and adenovirus vector

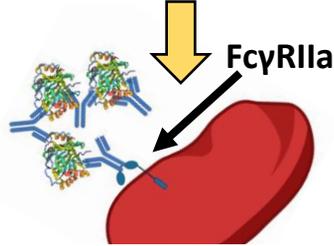


The PF4/AdV complex is phagocytosed, trafficked to lymph nodes, and stimulates α PF4 memory B-cells

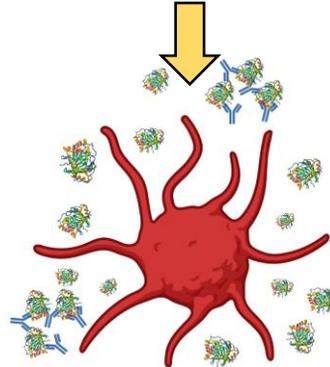
Post B-Cell Maturation



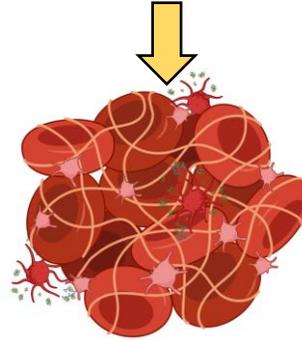
B-cell matures and secretes α PF4/ChAdOx1 antibodies



Antibody/PF4 immuno-aggregates activate platelets



Activated platelets release further PF4



Increasing numbers of activated platelets stimulate clot formation

Fig.S10: Cartoon representation of a proposed mechanism by which ChAdOx1 association with PF4 might result in thrombotic thrombocytopenic syndrome. Following intramuscular vaccination with ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 small quantities of viral vector may enter the blood where they could interact with PF4 and form a complex through the mechanisms described in this study. This complex can then be taken up by monocytes and transported to the lymph nodes where it may stimulate the proliferation of pre-existing PF4 specific B-cells. After maturation of these B-cells, >5 days later, α PF4 IgG will be secreted which can form aggregates with PF4 circulating in the blood. These aggregates can stimulate activation of platelets by binding to Fc γ RIIa, stimulating further PF4 release. This could trigger a positive feedback loop culminating in clot formation and NETs, as in HIT.