

Supplementary Appendix

Supplement to: Wang Q, Bowen A, Valdez R, et al. Antibody response to omicron BA.4–BA.5 bivalent booster. N Engl J Med. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc2213907

This appendix has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about the work.

Supplementary Appendix

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14 **Supplementary Methods**

15

16 *Clinical cohorts*

17

18 Sera analyzed in this study was categorized into several cohorts. Boosted samples consisted of
19 sera from individuals who had received three doses of monovalent, referred to as wild-type
20 (WT), mRNA vaccines (either Moderna mRNA-1273 or Pfizer BNT162b2). Sera was also
21 collected from individuals after a fourth monovalent mRNA vaccine (referred to as “4 shots
22 WT”). Bivalent vaccine sera were collected from individuals who had received three monovalent
23 mRNA vaccine doses followed by one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna bivalent vaccine targeting
24 BA.4/BA.5 in addition to the ancestral strain. BA.4/BA.5 breakthrough sera was collected from
25 individuals who had received monovalent mRNA vaccines followed by infection with Omicron
26 sub-lineages BA.4 or BA.5. Samples were examined by anti-nucleoprotein (NP) ELISA to
27 confirm status of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.

28

29 A subset of sera analyzed in this study was collected at the University of Michigan through the
30 Immunity-Associated with SARS-CoV-2 Study (IASO), an ongoing cohort study in Ann Arbor,
31 Michigan that began in 2020¹. All IASO participants provided written informed consent and
32 serum samples were collected under the protocol approved by the Institutional Review Board of
33 the University of Michigan Medical School.

34

35 A subset of vaccinee and breakthrough sera analyzed in this study was collected at Columbia
36 University Irving Medical Center. All subjects provided written informed consent, and all serum
37 collections were performed under protocols reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review
38 Board of Columbia University.

39

40 Clinical information for the different study cohorts is summarized in **Table S1** with detailed
41 information on each case provided in **Table S2**.

42

43 *Cell lines*

44

45 Vero-E6 cells (CRL-1586) and HEK293T cells (CRL-3216) were obtained from the American
46 Type Culture Collection. Cells were maintained in Dulbecco’s Modified Eagle Medium
47 (DMEM) with 10% fetal bovine serum and 1% penicillin-streptomycin in an atmosphere of 5%
48 CO₂ at 37 °C.

49

50 *SARS-CoV-2 spike plasmids*

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52 Plasmids encoding the spike (S) protein of SARS-CoV-2 variants D614G, BA.1, BA.2,
53 BA.4/BA.5, BA.4.6, BA.2.75, SARS-CoV, GD-Pangolin, GX-Pangolin, and WIV1 were

54 previously constructed²⁻⁷. BA.2.75.2 spike were constructed with the QuikChange II XL site-
55 directed mutagenesis kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (Agilent). The sequence of
56 each construct was confirmed by Sanger sequencing prior to experimental use.

57

58 *Pseudovirus production*

59

60 Pseudotyped SARS-CoV-2 variants and other tested sarbecoviruses were generated in the
61 background of vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV). The native VSV glycoprotein (G) was replaced
62 with the S protein from each SARS-CoV-2 variant or other tested sarbecoviruses as previously
63 described⁸. Briefly, HEK293T cells were transfected with plasmids encoding the appropriate S
64 protein using 1 mg/mL of PEI. Transfected HEK293T cells were then cultured at 37 °C with 5%
65 CO₂ for 24 hours. Cells were then infected with VSV-G pseudotyped ΔG-luciferase (G*ΔG-
66 luciferase, Kerafast). After a two-hour incubation at 37 °C, infected HEK293T cells were washed
67 three times before being cultured in fresh medium for another 24 hours under the same
68 conditions. Supernatants were subsequently collected, centrifuged to remove precipitates, and
69 aliquoted for storage at -80 °C. Prior to infection of target cells, the viral stock was incubated
70 with 20% I1 hybridoma (anti-VSV-G) supernatant (ATCC; CRL-2700) for 1 h at 37°C to
71 neutralize contaminating VSV-G pseudotyped ΔG-luciferase.

72

73 *Pseudovirus neutralization*

74

75 Before each neutralization assay, all pseudoviruses were titrated to equilibrate the viral input.
76 Sera were heat-inactivated and all samples run in triplicate in 96-well plates. Sera were four-fold
77 serially diluted in media starting at a 1:100 dilution. Pseudoviruses were added and the virus-
78 sample mixture was incubated at 37 °C for 1 hour. Control wells only containing virus were
79 included on all plates. Vero-E6 cells were then added at a density of 4×10⁴ cells per well and
80 plates were incubated at 37 °C with 5% CO₂ for 10 hours. Cells were then lysed and luciferase
81 activity was measured using the Luciferase Assay System (Promega) and SoftMax Pro v.7.0.2
82 (Molecular Devices) according to instructions from both manufacturers.

83

84 *Quantification and statistical analysis*

85

86 The inhibitory dilution retaining 50% neutralization (ID₅₀) was obtained for each serum-virus
87 combination using a five-parameter dose-response curve in GraphPad Prism v.9.2. Statistical
88 significance between unpaired groups was evaluated using the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test in
89 GraphPad Prism v.9.2. Levels of significance are denoted as follows: **p* < 0.05; ***p* < 0.01; and
90 ****p* < 0.001.

91

92 **Acknowledgements**

93

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100 providing serum samples.

101

102 **Author Contributions**

103

104 L.L. and D.D.H. conceived the study. Q.W. and L.L. performed experiments and analyzed data.
105 Q.W. managed the project. A.B., R.V., C.G. and A.G. collected serum samples. Q.W., A.B.,
106 L.L., and D.D.H. analyzed the results and wrote the manuscript. L.L. and D.D.H. directed and
107 supervised the project. All authors reviewed and approved of the manuscript.

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109 **Declaration of Interests**

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111 D.D.H. is a co-founder of TaiMed Biologics and RenBio, consultant to WuXi Biologics and Bria
112 Biosciences, and board director for Vicarious Surgical. Aubree Gordon serves on a scientific
113 advisory board for Janssen Pharmaceuticals. Other authors declare no competing interests.

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115 **Table S1. Summary of clinical cohorts**
 116

Characteristic	3 shots WT (N=14)	BA.4/BA.5 breakthrough (N=20)	4 shots WT (N=19)	3 shots WT + bivalent (N=21)
Sex — no. (%)				
Female	6 (42.9%)	17 (85.0%)	17 (89.5%)	16 (76.2%)
Male	8 (57.1%)	3 (15.0%)	2 (10.5%)	5 (23.8%)
Mean Age (range) — years	52.1 (26, 71)	45.5 (24, 71)	55.3 (48, 63)	36.4 (23, 49)
Mean days post vaccination or infection (range)	39.2 (14, 90)	31.8 (15, 75)	24.0 (20, 36)	26.4 (23, 30)
Mean days between vaccines 2 and 3 (range)	215.3 (117, 344)	268.3 (200, 330)	267.4 (191, 337)	242.9 (192, 345)
Mean days between vaccines 3 and 4 (range)	-	209.3 (169, 264)	190.6 (122, 294)	297.2 (224, 346)
First and Second Vaccine Type — no. (%)				
Pfizer (BNT162b2)	12 (85.7%)	17 (85.0%)	18 (94.7%)	17 (81.0%)
Moderna (mRNA-1273)	2 (14.3%)	3 (15.0%)	1 (5.3%)	4 (19.0%)
Third Vaccine Type — no. (%)				
Pfizer (BNT162b2)	11 (78.6%)	15 (75.0%)	18 (94.7%)	13 (61.9%)
Moderna (mRNA-1273)	3 (21.4%)	5 (25.0%)	1 (5.3%)	8 (38.1%)
Fourth Vaccine Type (monovalent or *bivalent) — no. (%)				
Pfizer	-	4 (20.0%)	18 (94.7%)	*9 (42.9%)
Moderna	-	0 (0.0%)	1 (5.3%)	*12 (57.1%)

117 ***Bivalent vaccine formulation. Fields marked “-” are not applicable.**

Table S2. Demographics of clinical cohorts

Sample ID	Vaccine type and infected strain	Days V2-V3	Days V3-V4	Days post-vaccination or *infection	Collection period	Documented COVID-19	Age	Gender
<i>3 shots WT</i>								
Q1	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273	204	-	29	Sep 2021	No	66	Female
Q2	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	197	-	30	Sep 2021	No	68	Male
Q3	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	227	-	14	Sep 2021	No	64	Female
Q4	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	268	-	34	Nov 2021	No	55	Male
Q5	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	269	-	34	Nov 2021	No	45	Male
Q6	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	189	-	15	Nov 2021	No	50	Female
Q7	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	189	-	15	Nov 2021	No	48	Female
Q8	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	256	-	29	Nov 2021	No	71	Male
Q9	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	140	-	90	Nov 2021	No	59	Male
Q10	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	179	-	33	Nov 2021	No	45	Male
Q11	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	117	-	87	Nov 2021	No	66	Female
Q12	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	153	-	84	Nov 2021	No	26	Male
Q13	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273	282	-	23	Nov 2021	No	28	Female
Q15	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273	344	-	32	Feb 2022	No	39	Male
<i>BA.4/BA.5 breakthrough</i>								
Q71	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/BNT162b2/BA.5.2.1	na	-	*29	Aug 2022	Yes	29	Female
Q77	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	200	-	*22	Aug 2022	Yes	61	Female
Q79	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/BA.5	264	-	*15	Aug 2022	Yes	28	Female
Q80	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/BA.5	269	-	*21	Aug 2022	Yes	24	Female
Q81	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	266	-	*75	Sep 2022	Yes	35	Female
Q82	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/BA.5	269	-	*63	Sep 2022	Yes	46	Female
Q83	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	268	-	*28	Sep 2022	Yes	55	Male
Q84	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	301	-	*17	Sep 2022	Yes	57	Female
UM-85	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	330	-	*29	Aug 2022	Yes	46	Female
UM-86	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/BA.5	323	-	*28	Aug 2022	Yes	38	Female
UM-87	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	271	169	*29	Aug 2022	Yes	56	Female
UM-88	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	208	232	*33	Sep 2022	Yes	71	Male
UM-89	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	277	-	*28	Sep 2022	Yes	46	Male
UM-90	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	254	264	*42	Aug 2022	Yes	43	Female
UM-91	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	213	-	*29	Aug 2022	Yes	46	Female
UM-92	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	280	-	*31	Aug 2022	Yes	31	Female
UM-93	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	232	-	*31	Aug 2022	Yes	50	Female
UM-94	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	329	172	*28	Aug 2022	Yes	50	Female
UM-95	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/BA.5	234	-	*29	Aug 2022	Yes	38	Female
UM-96	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BA.5	310	-	*28	Aug 2022	Yes	60	Female
<i>4 shots WT</i>								
UM-65	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	260	181	24	May 2022	No	52	Female
UM-66	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	239	224	20	May 2022	No	57	Female
UM-67	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	271	177	20	May 2022	No	61	Female
UM-68	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273	191	176	22	May 2022	No	48	Female
UM-69	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	337	122	23	May 2022	No	50	Female
UM-70	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	260	193	22	May 2022	No	50	Female
UM-71	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	290	182	20	May 2022	No	58	Female
UM-72	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	295	162	26	May 2022	No	56	Female
UM-73	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	228	132	29	May 2022	No	63	Female
UM-74	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	288	178	25	Jun 2022	No	58	Female
UM-75	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	279	204	21	Jun 2022	No	62	Male
UM-76	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	201	199	26	Jun 2022	No	54	Female
UM-77	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	244	228	23	Jun 2022	No	53	Male
UM-78	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	323	156	21	Jun 2022	No	55	Female
UM-79	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	313	151	23	Jun 2022	No	59	Female
UM-80	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	252	241	21	Jun 2022	No	49	Female
UM-81	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	310	247	27	Sep 2022	No	57	Female
UM-82	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	284	294	27	Sep 2022	No	55	Female
Q97	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2	216	175	36	Jun 2022	No	53	Female
<i>3 shots WT + bivalent</i>								

Sample ID	Vaccine type and infected strain	Days V2-V3	Days V3-V4	Days post-	Collection period	Documented COVID-19	Age	Gender
				vaccination or *infection				
UM-36	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Moderna Bivalent	259	327	24	Sep 2022	No	38	Female
UM-37	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Moderna Bivalent	218	281	27	Oct 2022	No	42	Female
UM-39	mRNA-1273//mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	205	294	24	Oct 2022	No	36	Male
UM-40	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	253	336	25	Oct 2022	No	37	Female
UM-41	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	225	280	24	Oct 2022	No	36	Male
UM-43	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	275	330	25	Oct 2022	No	49	Female
UM-44	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Moderna Bivalent	213	280	25	Oct 2022	No	37	Female
UM-47	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	256	346	26	Oct 2022	No	45	Male
UM-48	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	223	288	26	Oct 2022	No	43	Female
UM-51	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	211	279	29	Oct 2022	No	32	Female
UM-52	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	226	290	23	Oct 2022	No	43	Female
UM-53	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	247	341	26	Oct 2022	No	43	Female
UM-54	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	250	316	29	Oct 2022	No	38	Female
UM-55	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Moderna Bivalent	203	298	28	Oct 2022	No	38	Female
UM-56	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	266	321	27	Oct 2022	No	36	Female
UM-60	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Moderna Bivalent	254	346	30	Oct 2022	No	24	Female
Q101	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	314	274	30	Oct 2022	No	32	Female
Q102	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/mRNA-1273/Moderna Bivalent	345	254	23	Oct 2022	No	39	Male
Q103	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	192	224	30	Oct 2022	No	26	Female
Q104	mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/mRNA-1273/Pfizer Bivalent	217	269	30	Oct 2022	No	27	Female
Q105	BNT162b2/BNT162b2/BNT162b2/Pfizer Bivalent	248	268	23	Oct 2022	No	23	Male

119 * Days post infection. Fields marked “-” are not applicable. Fields marked “na” represent missing data. V2-V3
120 indicates days between vaccine doses two and three. V3-V4 indicates days between vaccine doses three and four.

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