

Publications by Partner using our COVID-19 products

GeneMedi's Antigens and Antibodies for COVID-19 Rapid Test and Immunoassay

The ongoing worldwide severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) epidemic has a tremendous influence on public health. There is an urgent need for developing accurate detection technologies for COVID-19 pandemic. Several diagnostic strategies are available to identify or rule out current infection, identify people in need of care escalation, or to test for past infection and immune response. Point-of-care Lateral flow assays (LFAs) and molecular tests to detect current SARS-CoV-2 infection have the potential to allow earlier detection and isolation of confirmed cases compared to laboratory-based diagnostic methods, with the aim of reducing household and community transmission.

As an innovator in biologics, GeneMedi takes response rapidly to the COVID-19 pandemic in COVID-19 diagnostics strategy, solution and product discovery and development. GeneMedi develops COVID-19 related antigens and antibodies as core ingredients of COVID-19 test kit.

Antigens including Nucleocapsid (N protein), Spike protein (S protein, S1+S2 ECD), Spike protein (S1 protein), spike RBD protein, Envelope (E protein), 3C-like Proteinase (Mpro), RdRP, et.al. These recombinant antigens are available and ready-to-use on GeneMedi:

<https://www.GeneMedi.net/i/recombinant-2019-ncov-antigens-reagents>

Antibodies including validated Spike antibodies and NP antibodies in pair against COVID-19.

<https://www.GeneMedi.net/i/2019ncov-antibody>

GeneMedi's COVID-19 diagnostics solution and products have been validated and applied by global diagnostic companies, and highly evaluated by them. In addition, many articles have cited GeneMedi's COVID-19 products and given high comments.

Antigens for COVID-19 Rapid Test and Antibodies Screening

Grant et al^[1]. described a half-strip Lateral flow assays (LFAs), which is a test format frequently utilized as the first step in assay development for a “full” LFA. Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) based on oral swabs was used for confirmation of SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, high false negative rates, implementation costs and logistical problems with reagents during the global SARS-CoV-2 pandemic have hindered its universal on demand adoption. Lateral flow assays (LFAs) represent a class of diagnostic that, if sufficiently clinically sensitive, may fill many of the gaps in the current RT-PCR testing regime, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

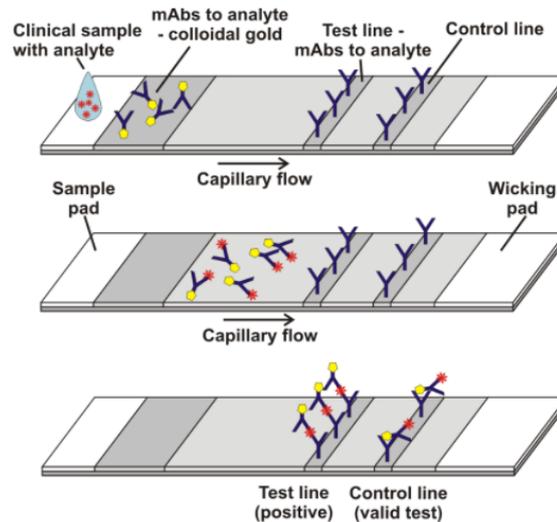


Figure 1. Schematic illustration of lateral flow immunoassay [2].

In this study, they presented a half-strip LFA for the detection of nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2. They used two commercially available SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid (N) proteins, from GeneMedi and Genscript to generate a dose response curve for the half-strip LFA. They found the limit of detection for the GeneMedi N protein was 0.65 ng/mL (95% CI of 0.53 to 0.77 ng/mL) and for the Genscript N protein was 3.03 ng/mL (95% CI of 0.00 to 7.44 ng/mL). The dose response curve, with 95% CI calculated in R using the drc package, is shown in Figure 2. **The data indicated that the NP antigen from GeneMedi was a strong candidate for lateral flow assays (LFAs).**

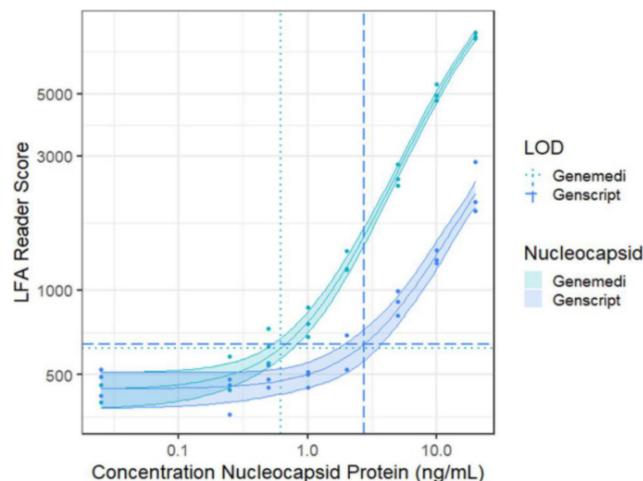


Figure 2. Dose response curve for a half-strip LFA using nucleocapsid protein from two commercially available sources, as measured using a commercially available optical LFA reader. The LOD for the GeneMedi N protein was 0.65 ng/mL (95% CI of 0.53 to 0.77 ng/mL) and for the Genscript N protein was 3.03 ng/mL (95% CI of 0.00 to 7.44 ng/mL).

In addition to NP antigen, GeneMedi also developed and verified other recombinant SARS-CoV-2 antigens, they are applied by global diagnostics companies, and the customers have obtained good performances of these products, such as their stability and specificity.

Take [Spike RBD antigen \(GMP-V-2019nCoV-SRBD001\)](#) as an example, below is the stability validation data of SRBD001. It shows that SRBD001 still exhibits excellent binding ability with ACE2002 and S1Ab001 after several freeze-thawing cycles.

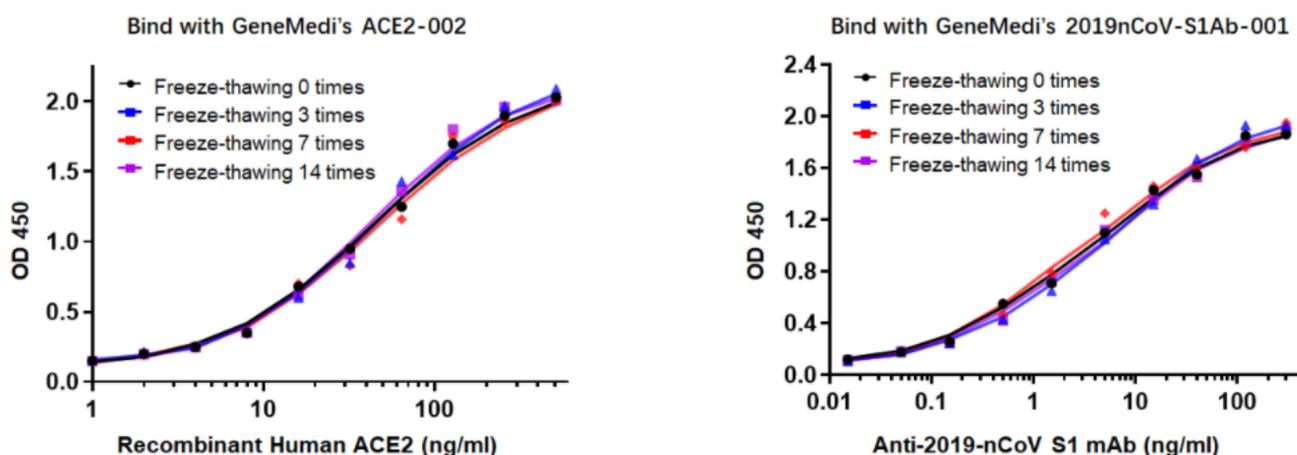


Figure 3. Stability validation data of [GMP-V-2019nCoV-SRBD001](#) with GeneMedi's [ACE2002](#) and [2019nCoV-S1Ab001](#).

At the meantime, GeneMedi also validated the binding ability of SRBD001 with ACE2002, which is important for SARS-CoV-2(2019nCoV) Pseudotyped Virus Based Neutralization Assay for evaluating Neutralizing antibodies, Peptides blockers (peptide inhibitors), Types of Vaccines (by testing immunized serum from mouse, NHP etc.), Compounds targeting Spike induced cell-fusion.

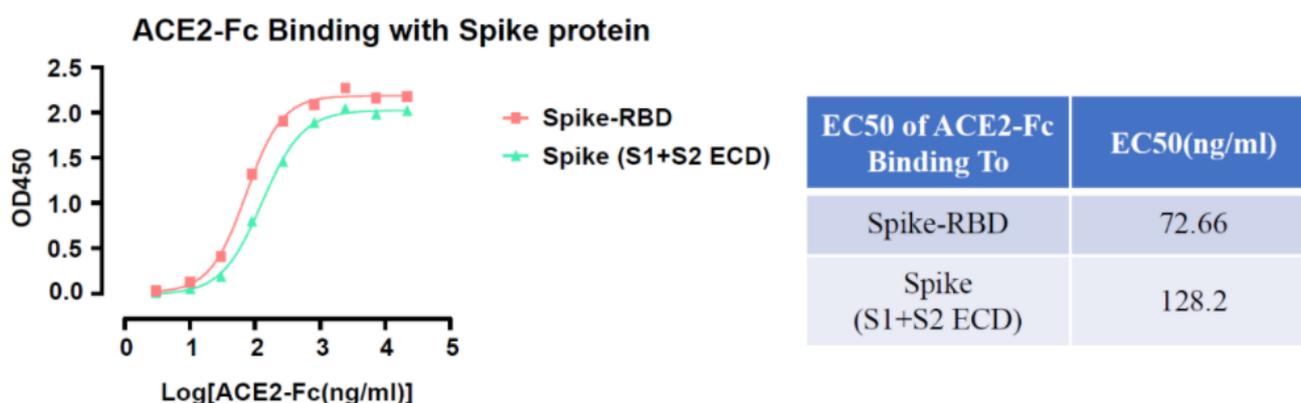


Figure 4. GeneMedi's [ACE2-Fc \(GMP-H-ACE2002\)](#) binding validation with Spike protein ([GMP-V-2019nCoV-SRBD001](#)) and ([GMP-V-2019nCoV-S1S2001](#)) in sandwich ELISA.

In another study, Cate et al [3]. described an extensive antibody screening effort that utilized high-throughput robotic antibody screening platform to screen through 673 combinations of antibody pairs that target the SARSCoV-2 nucleocapsid protein. These anti-nucleocapsid antibody pairs were tested as both capture and detection reagents with the goal of finding those pairs that have the greatest affinity for unique epitopes of the nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2 while also performing optimally in an LFA format.

Biolayer interferometry was performed on recombinant nucleocapsid proteins (NPs), for the purpose of selecting the most “native-like” analyte for LFA antibody screening. Initially, they used the estimated R_{max} of five different NPs to quantify binding affinity against a random selection of 21 anti-nucleocapsid antibodies from different vendors. The metric R_{max} was calculated based on theoretically saturating 100% of the bound antibody (ligand) with the analyte (NP).

The NP antigen from GeneMedi was selected as the starting antigen for antibody screening because the average saturation value across 21 different anti-NP antibodies was closest to the theoretical R_{max} of the antigen.

Antibody pair screening on LFAs in first-round consisted of a 11×11 grid of antibodies (121 unique pairs). For each pair, one antibody was striped on nitrocellulose as a test line (the “capture” antibody) and the other was coupled to latex nanoparticles using EDC/NHS chemistry (the “detector” antibody). The results of the first-round antibody pair screening on LFAs are given in Figure 5.

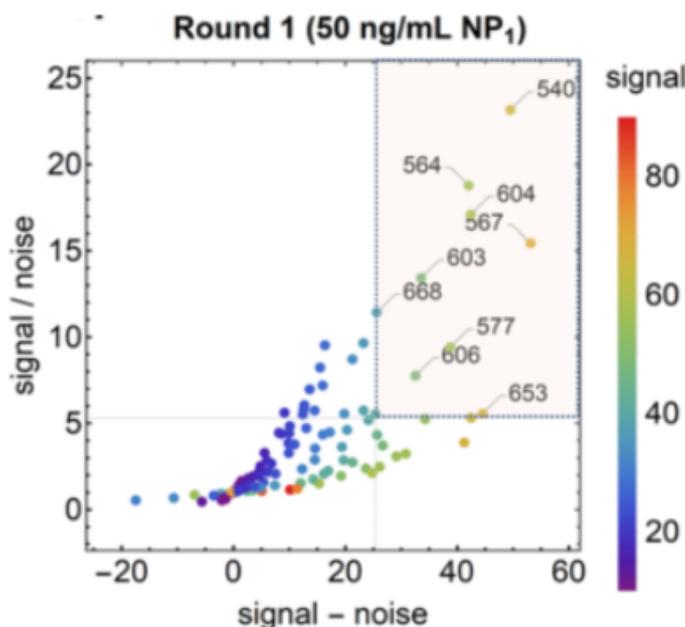


Figure 5. Performance of antibody pairs screening as a function of signal / noise and signal - noise. Line intensities are shown as scatter plots. Antibody pairs in the top 20 for both S/N and S-N are overlaid with a semi-transparent box and numbered by their index. NP1 antigen was sourced from GeneMedi.

After the clinical based antibody pair screening, interestingly, they found the NP antigen from GeneMedi appeared to best predict antibody pair performance against clinical samples.

Antibody pairs for COVID-19 Serological Test and Immunoassay

In Cate et al. 's study^[3], antibody screening results for anti-Nucleocapsid Antibodies towards the development of a SARS-CoV-2 Nucleocapsid Protein Antigen detecting Lateral Flow Assay, antibody pairs screening results in the top 5 in fourth-round from the clinical SARS-CoV-2 samples were shown in Figure 6. Among the top 5 antibody pairs, there were 3 antibody pairs from GeneMedi. **This indicated that the NP antibodies from GeneMedi also behaved good performance in lateral flow assays (LFAs).**

Index	Capture antibody	Detector antibody	Average rank			
			rd. 1	rd. 2	rd. 3	rd. 4
Top 5 performers (round 4)						
423	Genemedi GMP-V-2019nCoV-NAb001	Sino Biological 40143-MM08	-	-	8.5	2.5
33	Bioss bsm-41411M	Sino Biological 40143-MM08	-	3	5.5	3
70	Bioss bsm-41413M	Sino Biological 40143-MM08	-	-	3	3.5
422	Genemedi GMP-V-2019nCoV-NAb001	Sino Biological 40143-MM05	-	-	11	4
403	Genemedi GMP-V-2019nCoV-NAb00	Creative Diagnostics CABT-CS037	-	-	19	5.5

Figure 6. Antibody pairs in the top 5 for both S/N and S-N are ranked in the round 4.

Besides these studies, GeneMedi also validated Spike antibodies and NP antibodies in pair test against COVID-19 in-house.

GeneMedi's SARS-CoV2 NP antibodies were either in PBS solution (stocked in -20 for 7days) or lyophilized (stock at room temperature for 7 days). GeneMedi's lyophilized antibodies presented excellent stability in the room temperature condition.

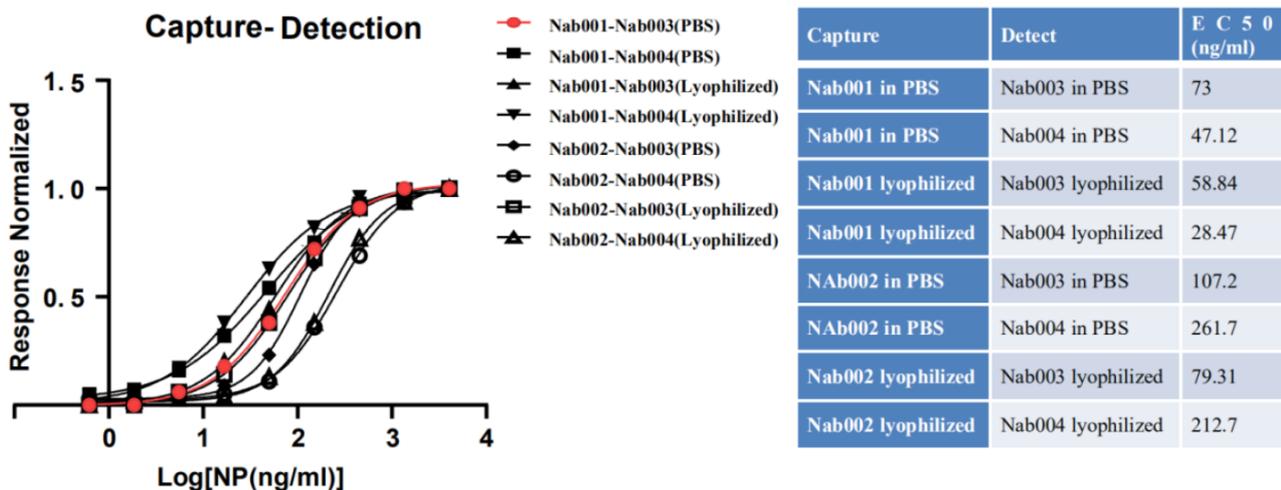
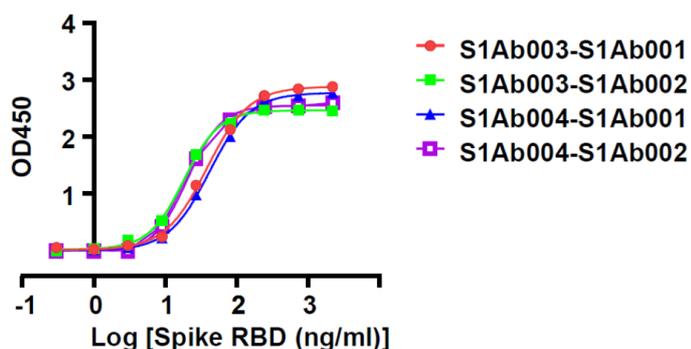


Figure 7. GeneMedi's SARS-CoV2 NP antibody (Nab) pair validation with NP antigen (GMP-V-2019nCoV-N002) in sandwich ELISA.

Capture-Detection



Capture	Detect	EC50 (ng/ml)
S1Ab003	S1Ab001	38.26
S1Ab003	S1Ab002	18.27
S1Ab004	S1Ab001	41.63
S1Ab004	S1Ab002	20.43

Figure 8. GeneMedi's SARS-CoV2 Spike antibody pair validation with Spike RBD antigen (GMP-V-2019nCoV-SRBD001) in sandwich ELISA.

The data from these studies indicate that antigens and antibodies from GeneMedi show good performance as core ingredients of COVID-19 test kit.

References

- 1 Benjamin D. Grant, Caitlin E. Anderson, John R. Williford, Luis F. Alonzo, Veronika A. Glukhova, David S. Boyle, Bernhard H. Weigl, and Kevin P. Nichols. Analytical Chemistry 2020 92 (16), 11305-11309
DOI: 10.1021/acs.analchem.0c01975
- 2 <https://med.unr.edu/ddl/technology/lateral-flow-immunoassay>
- 3 Cate, David; Hsieh, Helen; Glukhova, Veronika; Bishop, Joshua D; Hermansky, H Gleda; Barrios-Lopez, Brianda; et al. (2020): Antibody Screening Results for Anti-Nucleocapsid Antibodies Towards the Development of a SARS-CoV-2 Nucleocapsid Protein Antigen Detecting Lateral Flow Assay. ChemRxiv. Preprint. <https://doi.org/10.26434/chemrxiv.12709538.v1>

About GeneMedi

GeneMedi

GeneMedi is a BioTech company with strong expertise in Gene&Biogitics discovery, artificail design, and State-of-the-Art Manufacturing.

Our scientists and experts serve global clients in biologics discovery including antibodies, recombinant protein and multiple types of viral vectors. GeneMedi offers Pre-made and custom-made recombiant protein and antibodies for drug discovery and diagnostic ingredients. GeneMedi help scientists from academic to industry in vectors optimization, cell line development, scalable production, process development and technology transfer. GeneMedi GeneTherapy center also help in gene therapy&gene editing discovery and development.

Our Responsibility

1. Pre-made and custom-made recombinant proteins (Antibodies, Enzymes, Membrane protein, Factors and other antigens) for drug discovery and diagnostics ingredients, high quality, bulk in stock.
2. Membrane Protein & antibodies artificail design, discovery and State-of-the-Art Manufacturing.
3. High quality, scalable, State-of-the-Art Manufacturing in gene therapy vectors including adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector, lentivirus vector and adenovirus vector.
4. AAV gene therapy innovation: AAV capsid evolution and novel AAV generation for next-generation vector of gene therapy.



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