Mapping Determinants of Virus Neutralization and Viral Escape for Rational Design of a Hepatitis C Virus Vaccine.

Abstract

<p>Hepatitis C virus (HCV) continues to spread worldwide with an annual increase of 1.75 million new infections. The virus has a high rate of drug resistance and viral escape, which makes it difficult to develop effective treatments. In this study, we aimed to map the determinants of virus neutralization and viral escape to guide rational design of a hepatitis C virus vaccine. We analyzed the immunogenicity of different regions of the HCV envelope protein and found that specific regions modulate neutralizing antibody responses to these regions will provide the necessary guidance for vaccine design.</p>