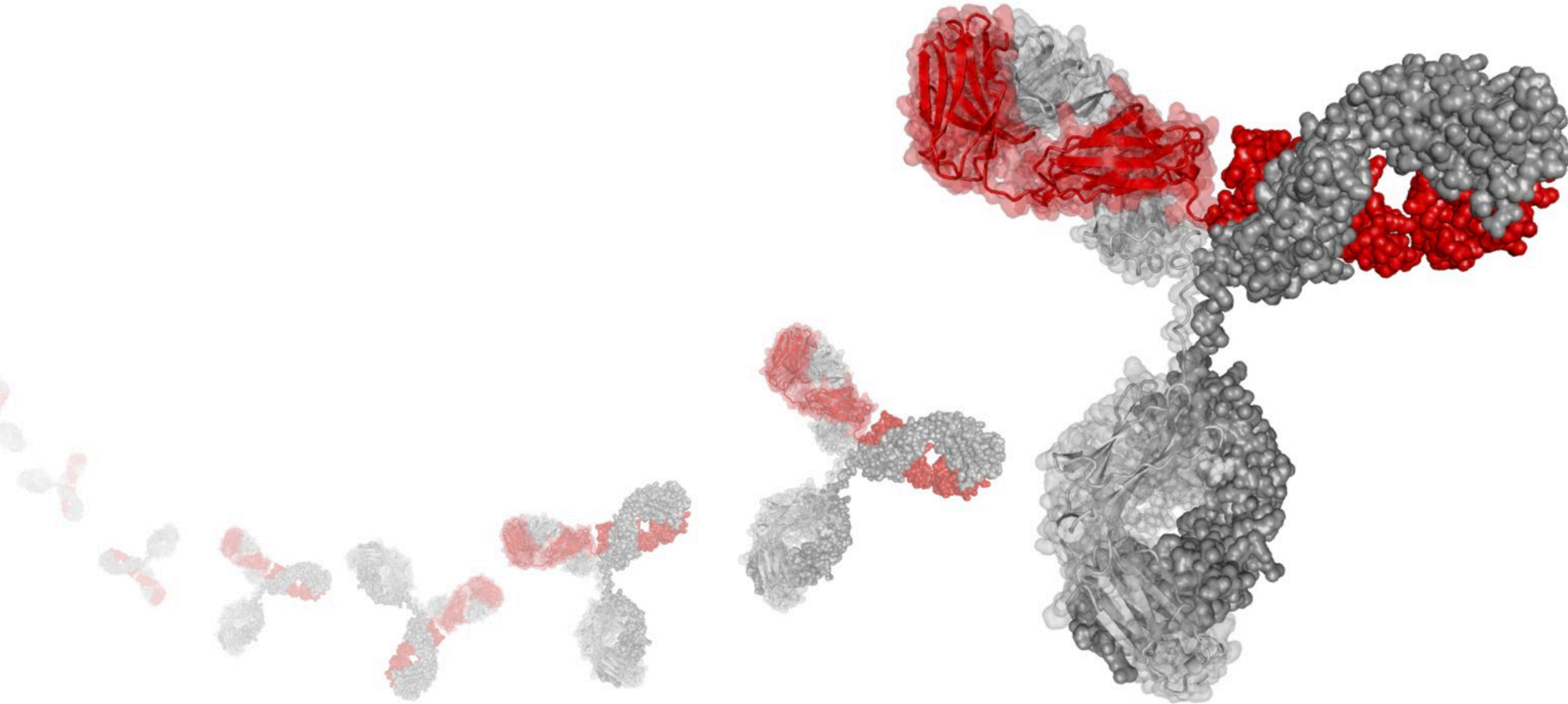


Animal free generation of antibodies



Stefan Dübel

**Department of
Biotechnology**

**Technische
Universität
Braunschweig**

Why **NADA** (Non-Animal Derived Antibodies)?

NADA offer far more than just animal replacement:

- **Quality**
- **Versatility**
- **Speed**

Quality.

Fact:

NADAs from phage display are most abundantly used in the market segment that requires the highest antibody quality (Therapy)

Unfortunately, they are used to much lower extend for reserach and diagnostics.

Why NADA (Non-Animal Derived Antibodies)?

COMMENT

PHARMA **RESEARCH**

Standardize antibodies used in research

To save millions of dollars and dramatically improve reproducibility, professional reagents must be defined by their sequences and produced as recombinant proteins. **say Andrew Bradbury, Andreas Plückthun and 110 co-signatories.**

Central to reproducibility in biomedical research is being able to use reagents that are identical to those described in publications. Alarming, there are serious flaws in the reliability of antibodies, the

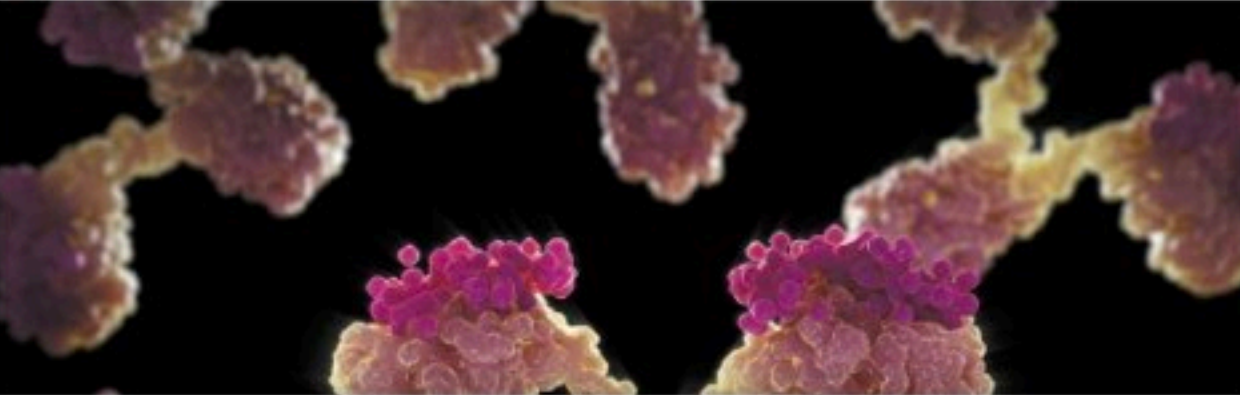
bind to specific targets. But in a 2008 study, fewer than half of around 6,000 routinely used commercial antibodies recognized only their specified targets, with some manufacturers producing consistently good antibodies, and

Begley (a co-signatory to this article) able to replicate the scientific results of 6 of 53 landmark preclinical studies in biomedical research, the results in materials, time and money is vast

TECHNOLOGY FEATURE

ANTIBODY ANARCHY: A CALL TO ORDER

Antibodies used in research often give murky results. Broader awareness and advanced technologies promise clarity.



nature [Subscribe](#)

CORRESPONDENCE · 15 MAY 2020

Reproducibility: bypass animals for antibody production

Alison C. Gray, Andrew Bradbury, Stefan Dübel, Achim Knappik, Andreas Plückthun & Carl A....

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mission's Joint Research Centre has just foundations on non-animal-derived antibodies (Zyppgstg), in accordance with the EU's 2010 ing laboratory animals (d9as). We urge government authorities, d publishers to endorse this technical scientific reproducibility and benefit society.

bodies are plagued by efficacy issues (A. ckthun *Nature* 518, 27–29; 2015), with search reproducibility, diagnosis and health ntrast, non-animal antibodies derived from e-libraries (see, for example, B. Meaden et

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

New BIOTECHNOLOGY

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/nbt



The antibody horror show: an introductory guide for the perplexed

Simon. L. Goodman

Translational Biomarkers Research, Translational Innovation Platform – Oncology, Merck KGaA, Frankfurterstr. 250, 64293, Darmstadt, Germany

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:
Commercial antibodies
Validation
User-Training
Community reporting
Reproducibility

ABSTRACT

The biological literature reverberates with the inadequacies of commercial research-tool antibodies. The scientific community spends some \$2 billion per year on such reagents. Excellent accessible scientific platforms exist for reliably making, validating and using antibodies, yet the laboratory end-user reality is somehow depressing – because they often “don’t work”. This experience is due to a bizarre and variegated spectrum of causes including: inadequately identified antibodies; inappropriate user and supplier validation; poor user training; and overloaded publishers. Colourful as this may appear, the outcomes for the community are uniformly grim, including badly damaged scientific careers, wasted public funding, and contaminated literature. As antibodies are amongst the most important of everyday reagents in cell biology and biochemistry, I have tried here to gently

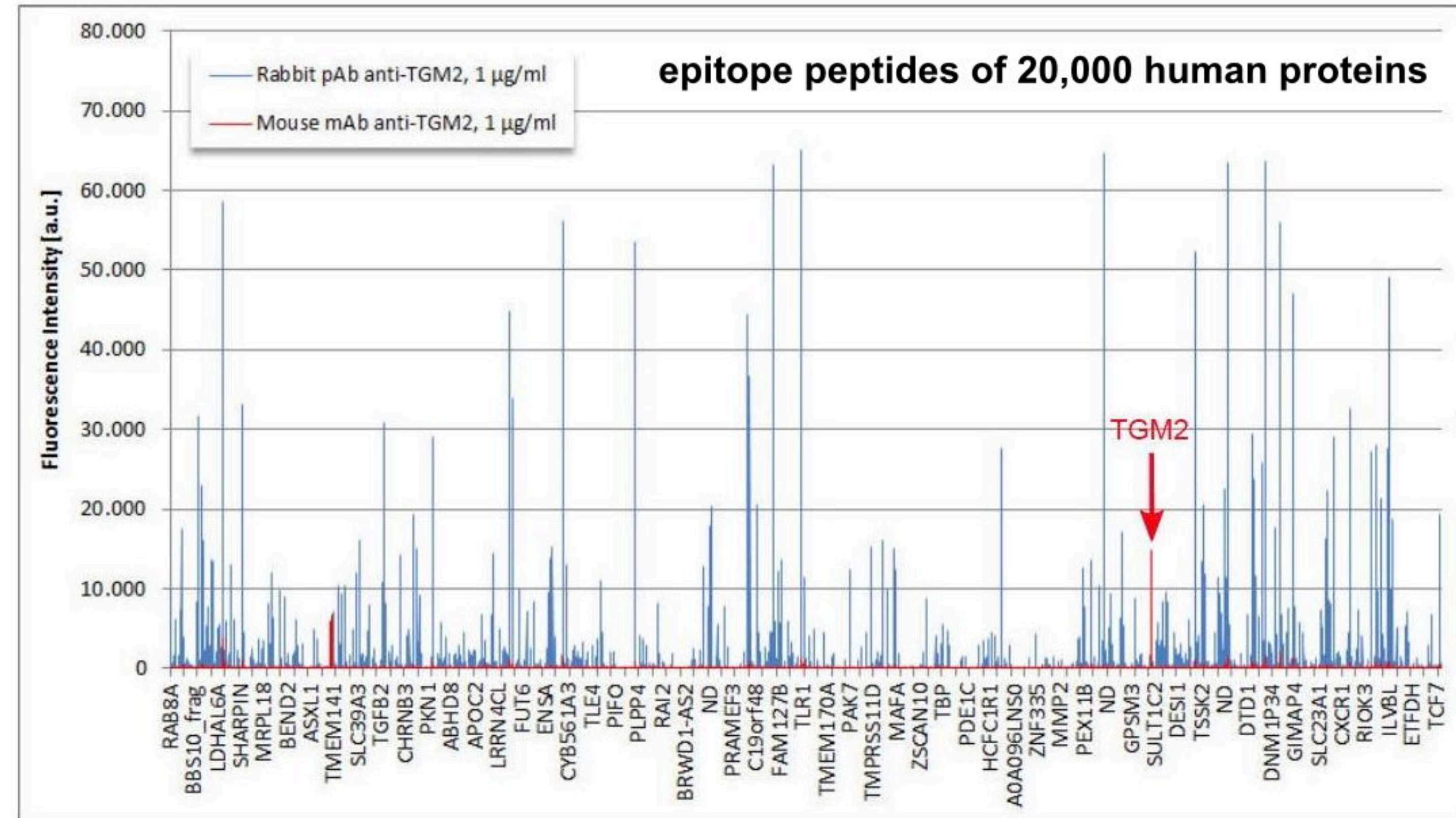
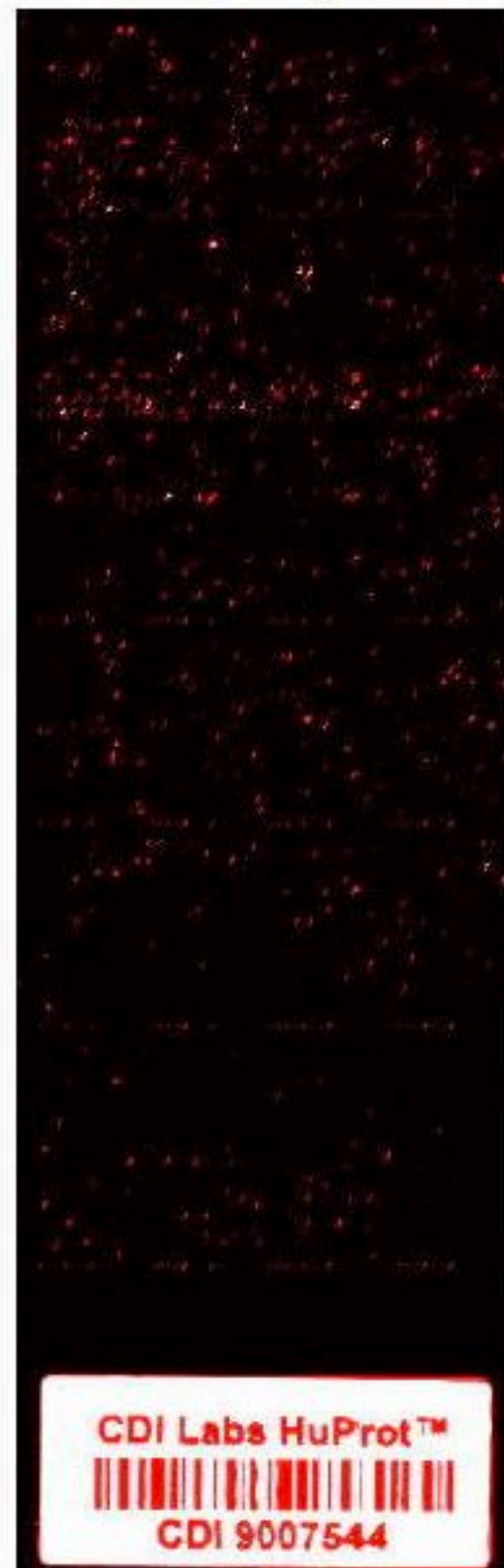
Problems with polyclonals: multiple specificities

The ZEDIRA mouse anti-TGM2 mAb (red / arrow) shows a main response against TGM2. The rabbit anti-TGM2 pAb (Atlas Antibodies, blue) exhibited a strong cross-reactivity on the protein level, but **no response** against TGM2 protein.

Mouse mAb



Rabbit pAb



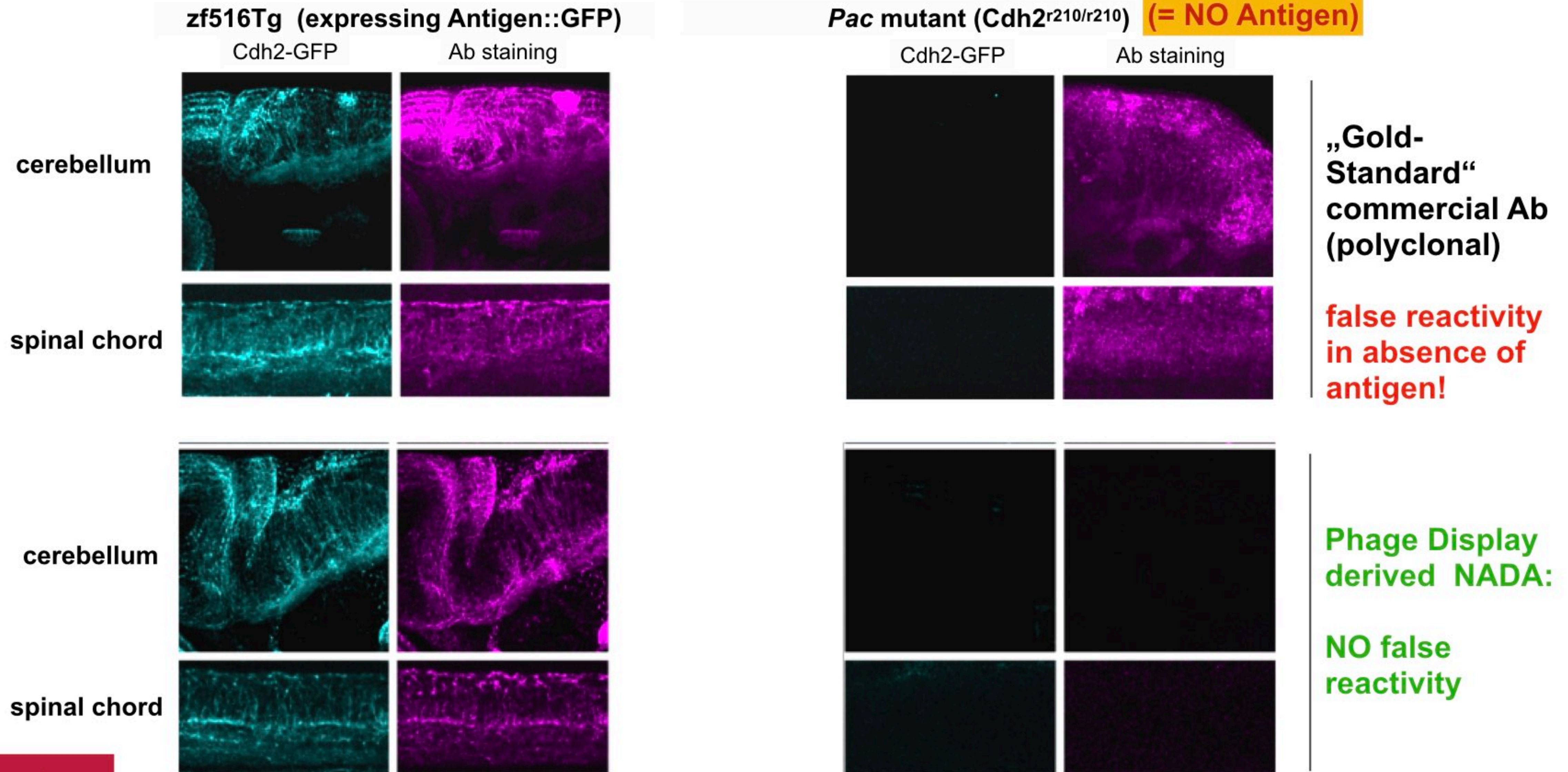
serum
(antibody mixture)

HuProt™ Human Proteome Microarray v3.1 scans and combined intensity plot of the mouse mAb and the rabbit pAb against TGM2.

The mouse anti-TGM2 mAb (red) showed a main response against TGM2 (circled / red arrow) and weaker cross-reactions with the proteins CMIP and JHU07836.P082A01. The highly validated rabbit anti-TGM2 pAb (blue) exhibited a strong cross-reactivity on the protein level, but surprisingly no response against TGM2.

Haber et al., 2019 (poster, PEGS Europe)

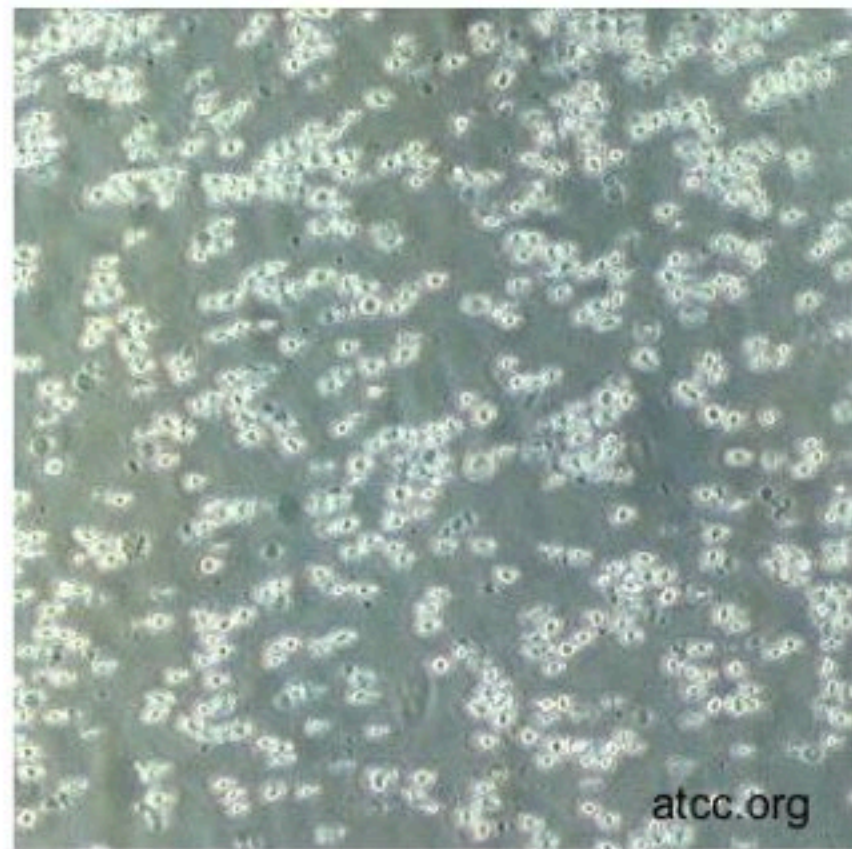
Problems with polyclonal reagents, Example: IHC of zebrafish



Russo, G. et al., 2018, N Biotechnol.

Monocloals are **not** always the solution: Productive Antibody-mRNA in Hybridoma mAbs

Hybridoma clones
(mostly of commercial use)



Sequencing of 185 hybridomas

(multicentric study in 7 different labs in 5 countries)



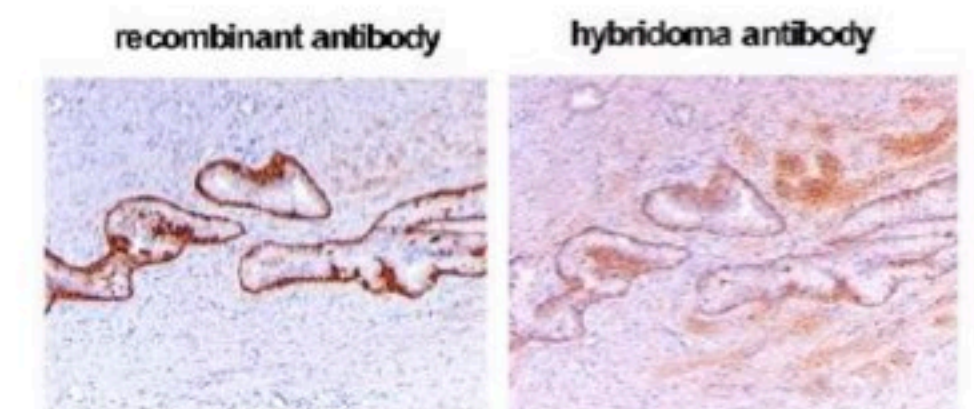
recombinant production + Protein A purification



hybridoma supernatants + Protein A purification

Specificity testing

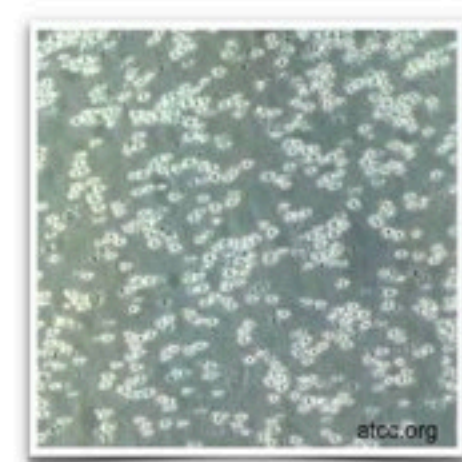
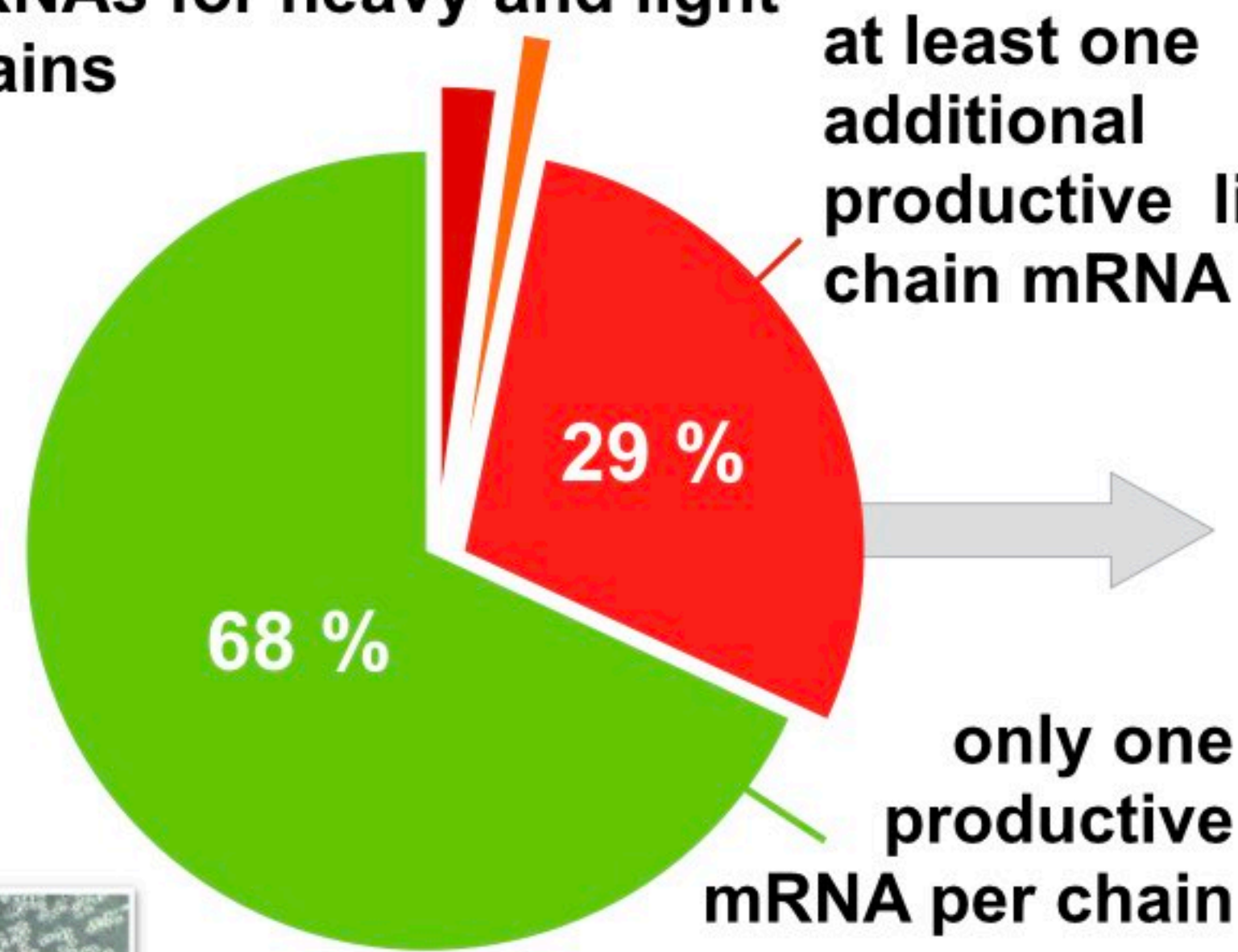
Target name	Active Motif prod no	Purified IgG	EST CONC (ng/ml)	FE0	FE2	Hb3	Hb3.3	F300	PO2	PO2	PO2
IED	81203.0	Hybridoma1	1000	18.6	208.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.8
		Hybridoma2	100	9.6	31.3	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.6
		VH1 VL1	20	104.8	156.0	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8
I2+2	39875.0	Hybridoma2	1000	0.2	390.4	4.1	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5
		Hybridoma2	100	0.4	25.4	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
		VH1 VL1	20	0.3	452.4	0.3	4.7	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.5
IM12	89877.0	Hybridoma3	1000	0.7	397.8	1.8	6.0	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.7
		Hybridoma3	100	0.6	12.7	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.3
		VH1 VL1	20	0.4	32.1	1.2	1.3	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
		VH2 VL2	20	0.3	8.5	1.6	2.0	27.4	3.7	39.2	274.3
		VH1 VL2	20	0.4	1.7	1.1	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.5	2.1
		VH2 VL3	20	0.4	0.9	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.7
I3total	81475.0	Hybridoma4	900	0.6	18.0	60.0	11.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4
		Hybridoma4	90	0.6	16.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.4
		VH1 VL1	20	0.6	2.0	18.8	42.2	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.3
		VH1 VL2	20	0.5	1.2	2.1	1.7	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0
pd2	39097.0	Hybridoma5	200	2.3	25.1	0.9	1.0	3.9	1.1	13.9	45.9
		Hybridoma5	20	0.5	18.5	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.4
		VH1 VL1	20	0.6	8.5	2.3	3.1	55.1	9.8	79.2	274.8
pd2zer2	81083.0	Hybridoma6	1000	0.4	17.9	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.6	28.6	0.8
		Hybridoma6	100	0.4	15.1	0.6	0.7	1.3	0.7	0.9	0.8
		VH1 VL1	20	0.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.7	454.5	1.5
		VH1 VL2	20	0.3	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.6
pd2zer5	81085.0	Hybridoma8	1000	0.4	15.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.4	21.8	11.7
		Hybridoma8	100	0.3	17.2	0.8	0.8	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.0
		VH1 VL1	20	0.2	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.9	286.1	283.1
		Hybridoma8	20	0.3	1.2	1.5	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.8	442.3



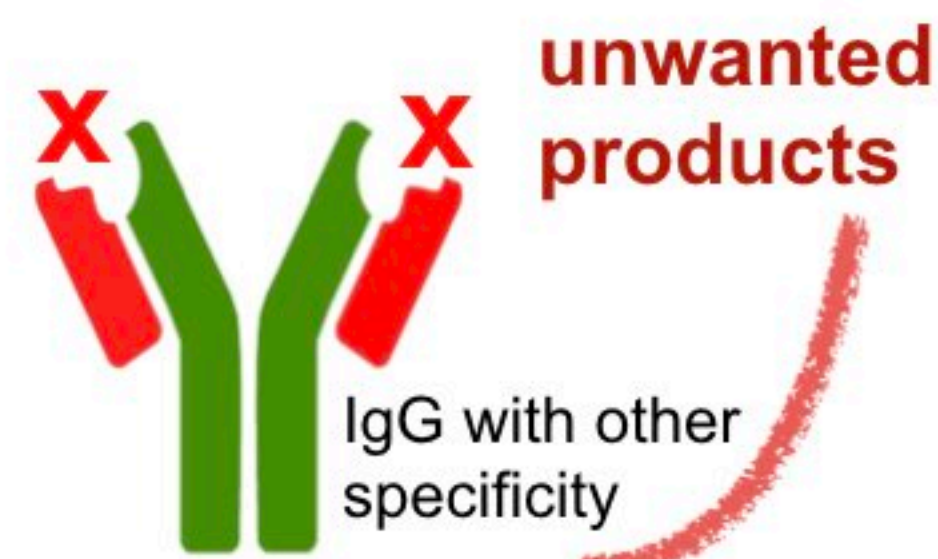
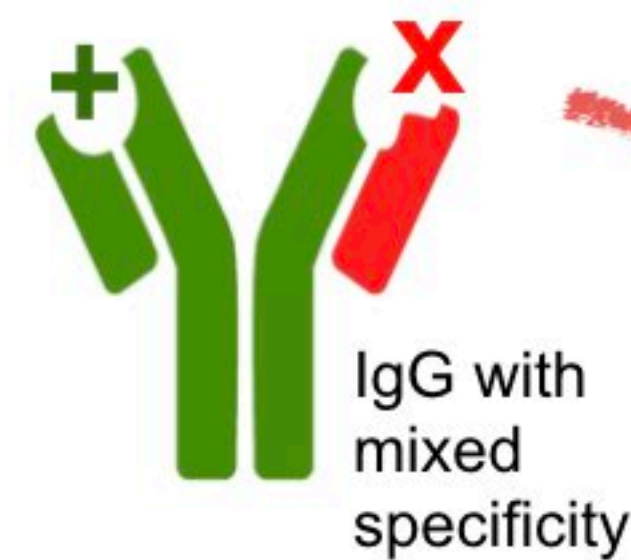
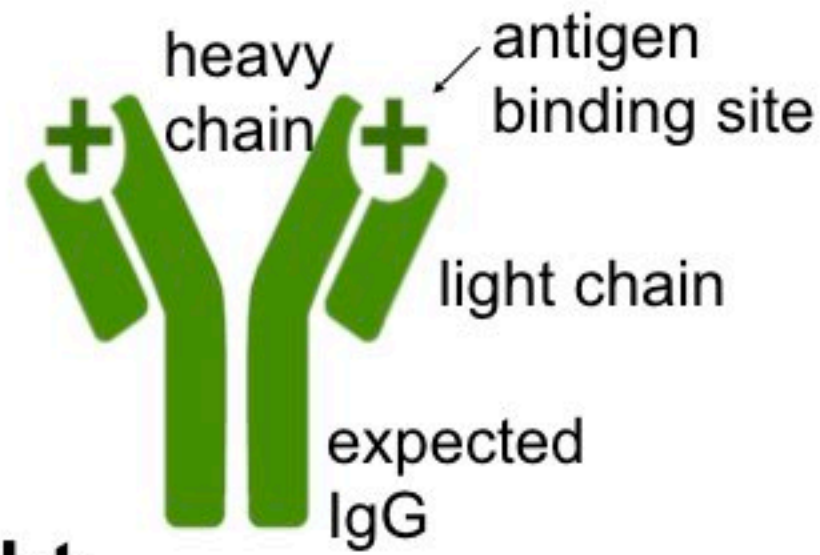
Many Hybridoma monoclonals are **not monospecific**

1%: at least one additional productive heavy chain mRNA

2%: additional productive mRNAs for heavy and light chains



185 hybridomas sequenced multicentric study (7 different labs in 5 countries)



	recombinant	hybridoma
cytokeratin7 0,03µg/mL IgG prostate cancer		
β2 microglobulin 0,2µg/mL IgG prostate cancer		
calponinin 0,4µg/mL IgG histiocytoma		
EpCAM 0,2µg/mL IgG endometrial cancer		

How to make animal free antibodies:

Most widely established method: phage display



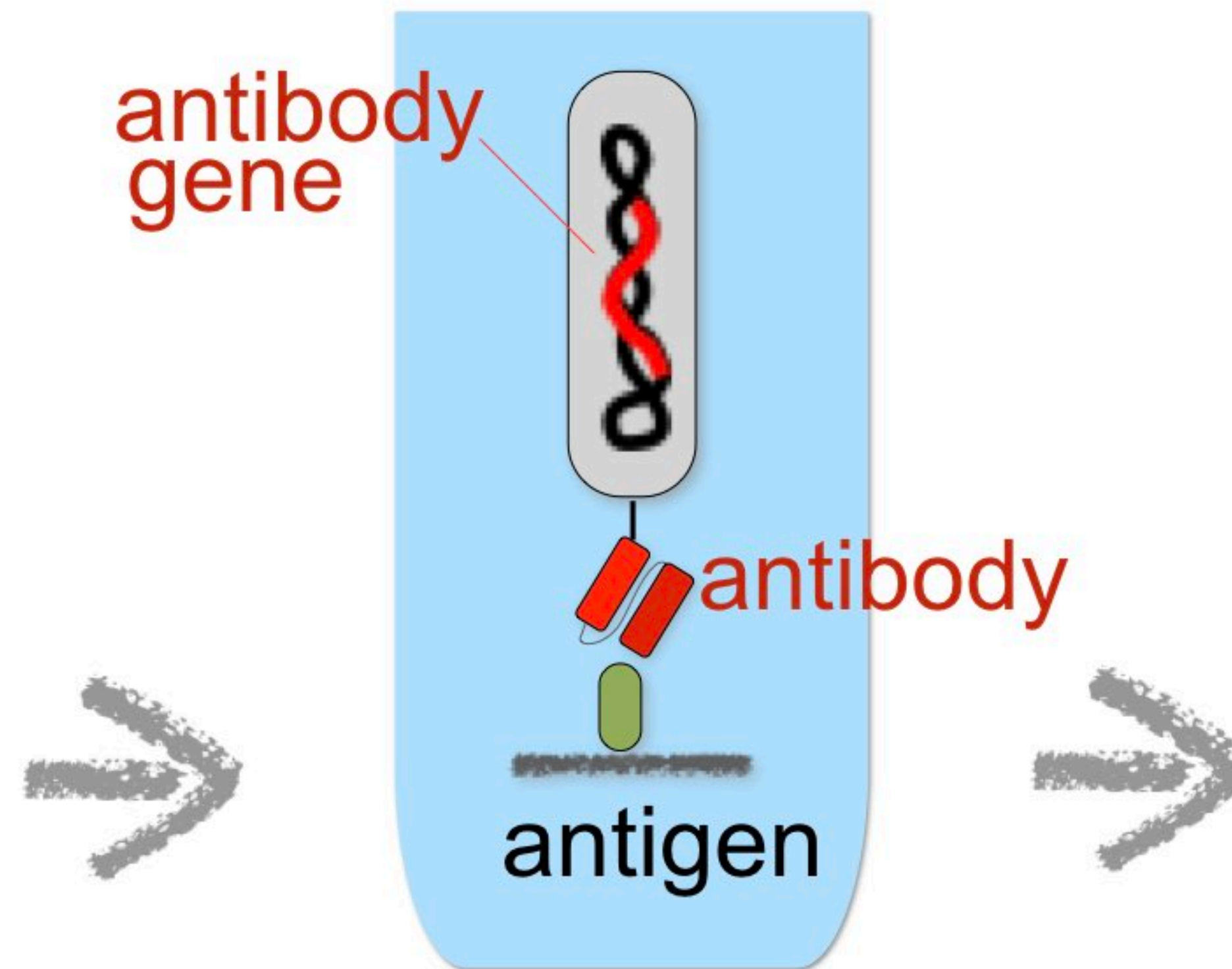
NADA: Non-Animal Derived Antibodies from phage display

the world's
antibody gene
repertoire

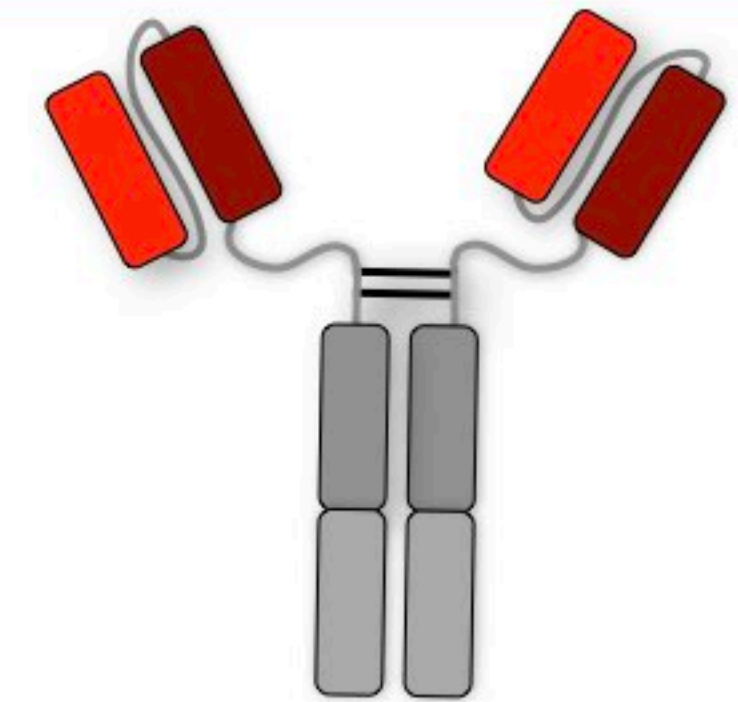


10,000,000,000
human antibody
genes ~

phage panning

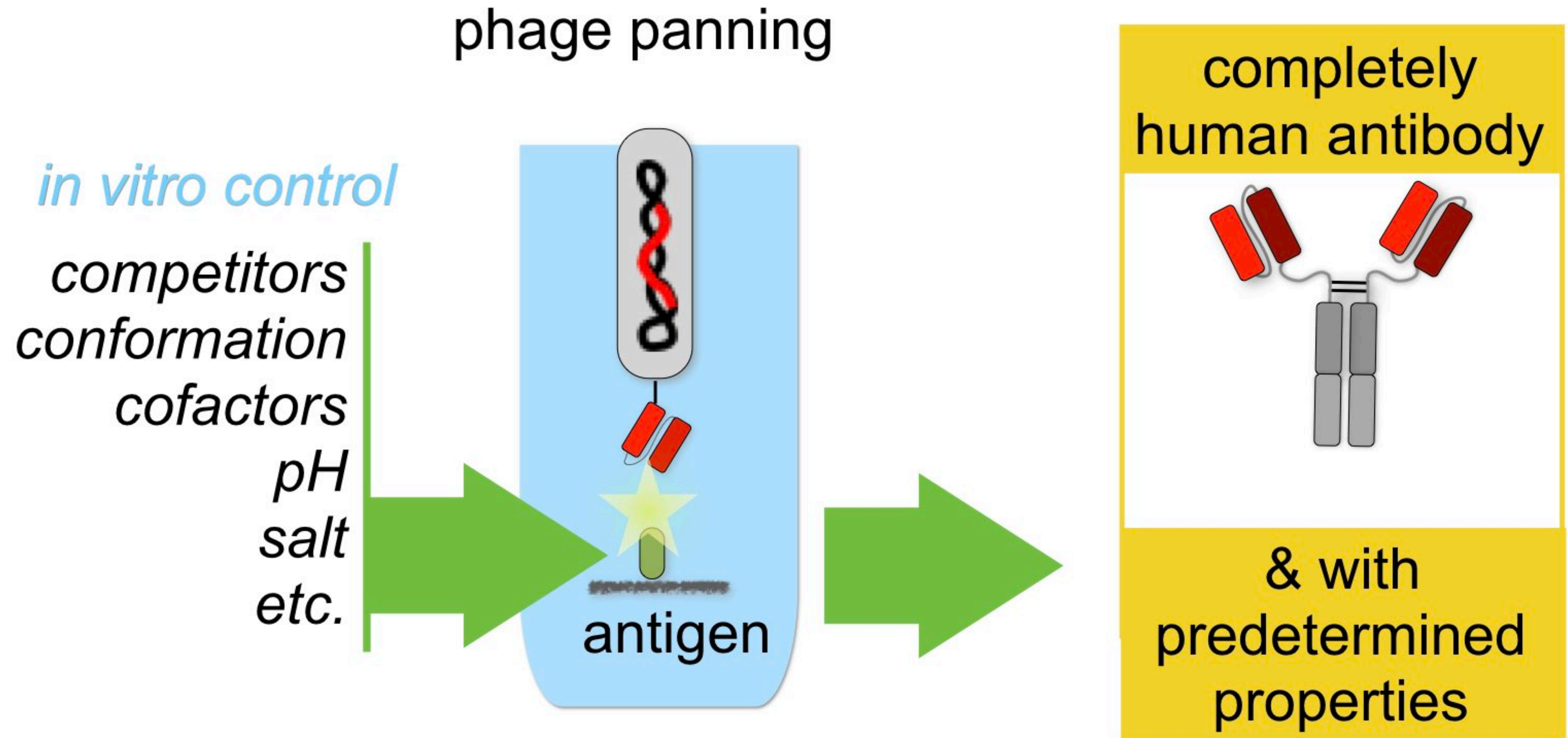


completely
human antibody



....to any target
without
immunisation

NADA: Non-Animal Derived Antibodies from phage display



Animal free antibodies from phage display

EXAMPLES

Breitling / Dübel patents (1990/91)

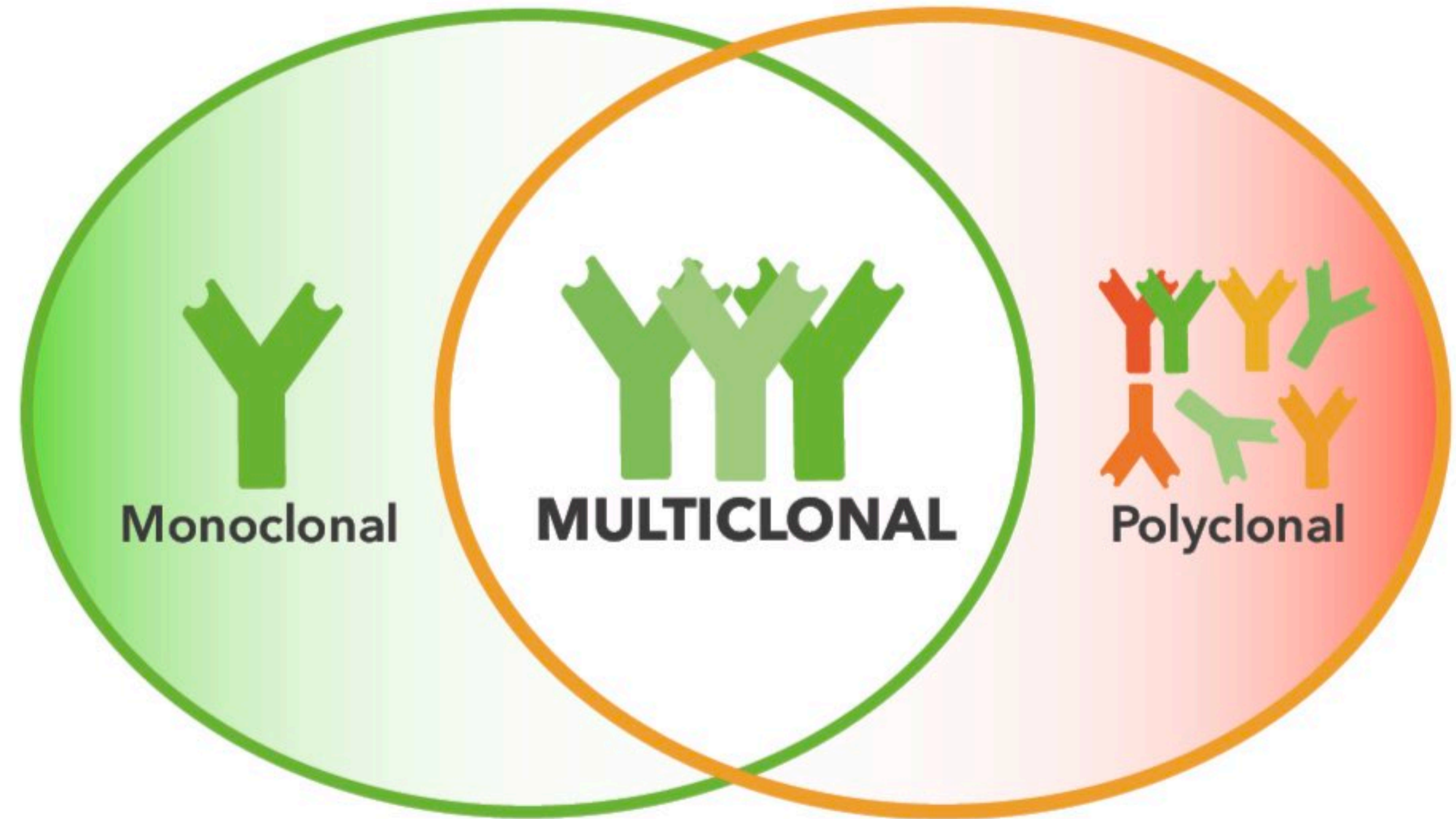
Antibody libraries US Patent 5840 479, EP 0440 146, US Patent 6319 690

scFv antibody phage display US Patents 5985 588, 5849 500, 6127 132, EP 0547 201

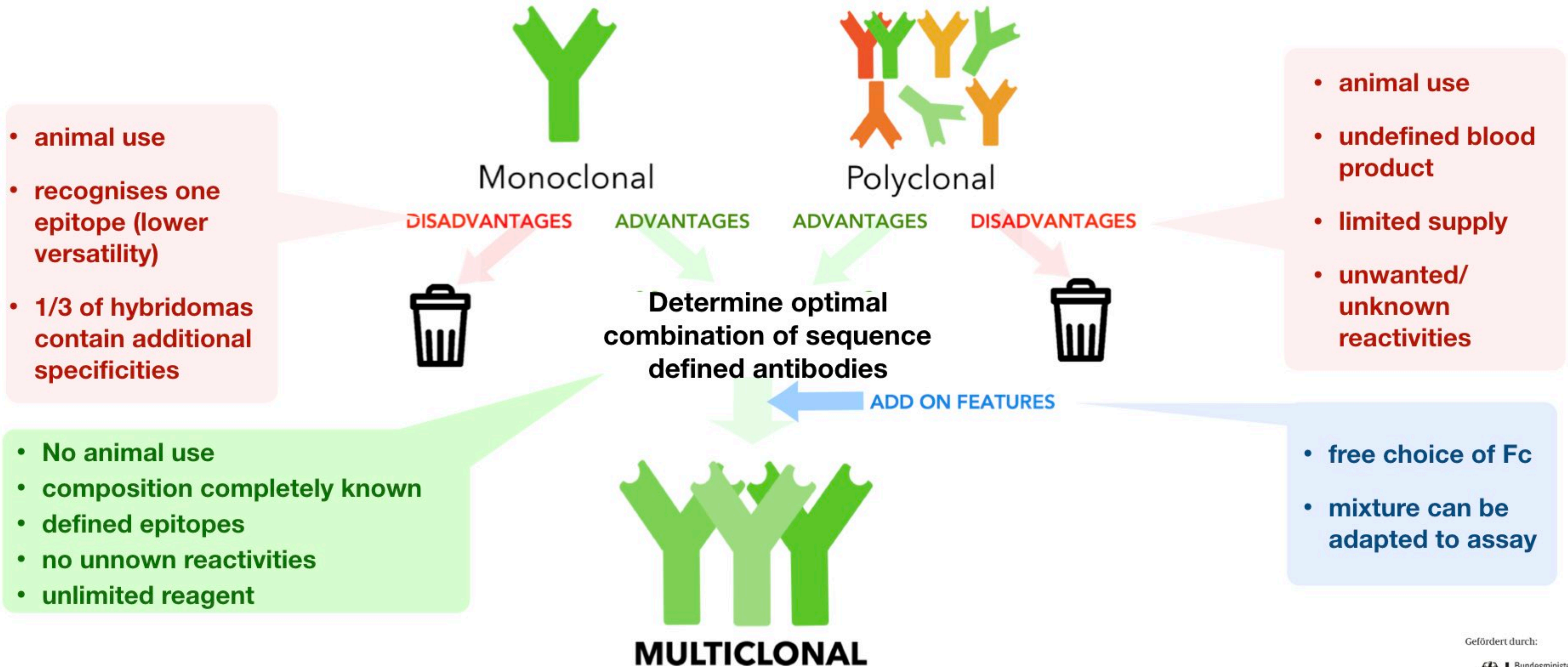


MULTICLONAL
antibodies:

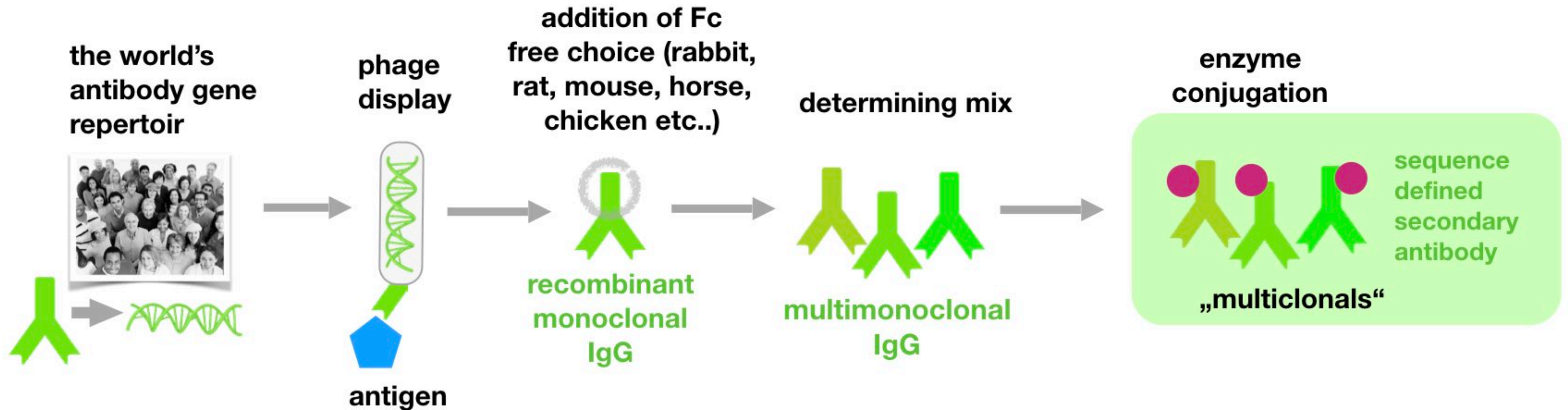
**combining the best of
monoclonals and
polyclonals**



MULTICLONALS: combining the power of polyclonals and monoclonals

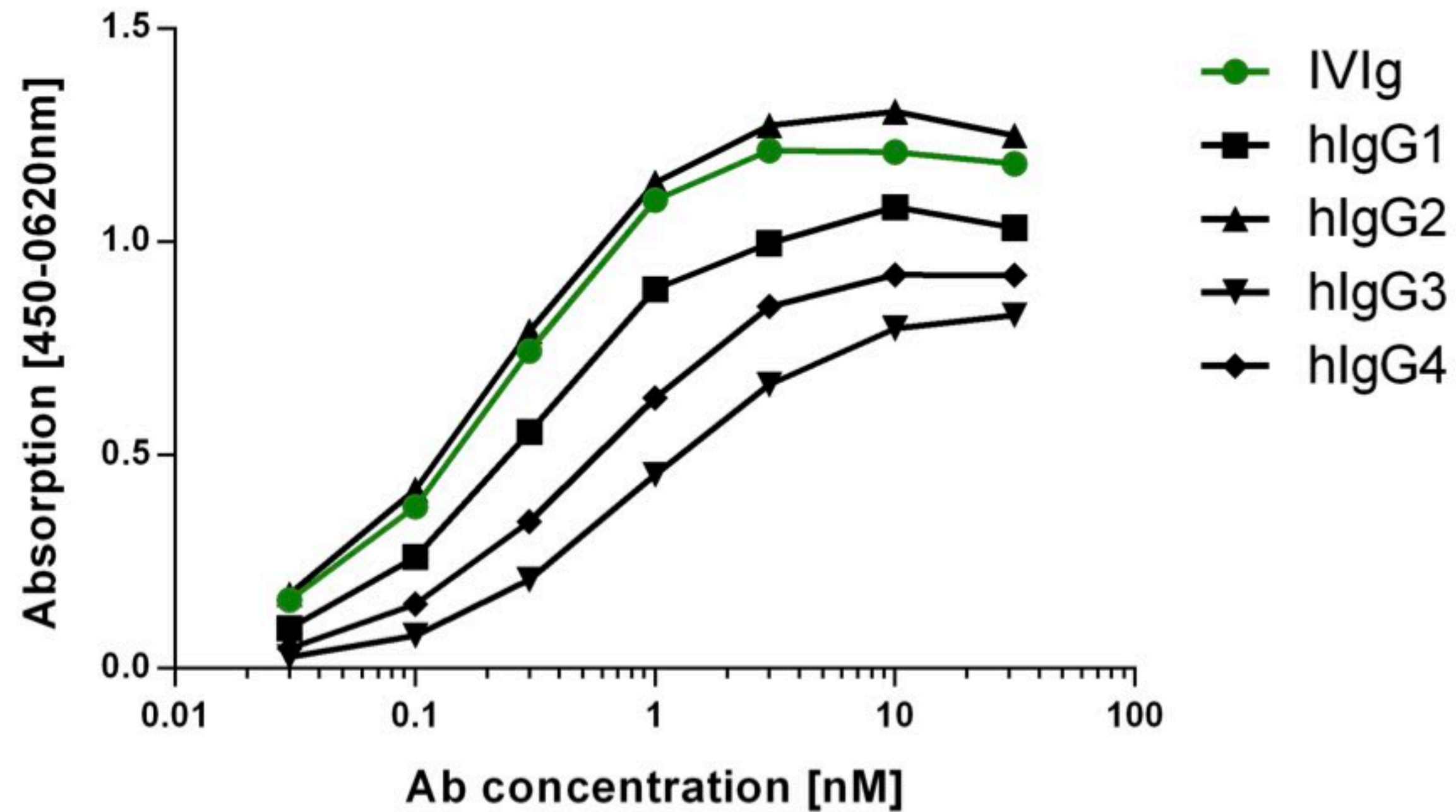


Replacing animal sera: Multimono**secondary** antibodies

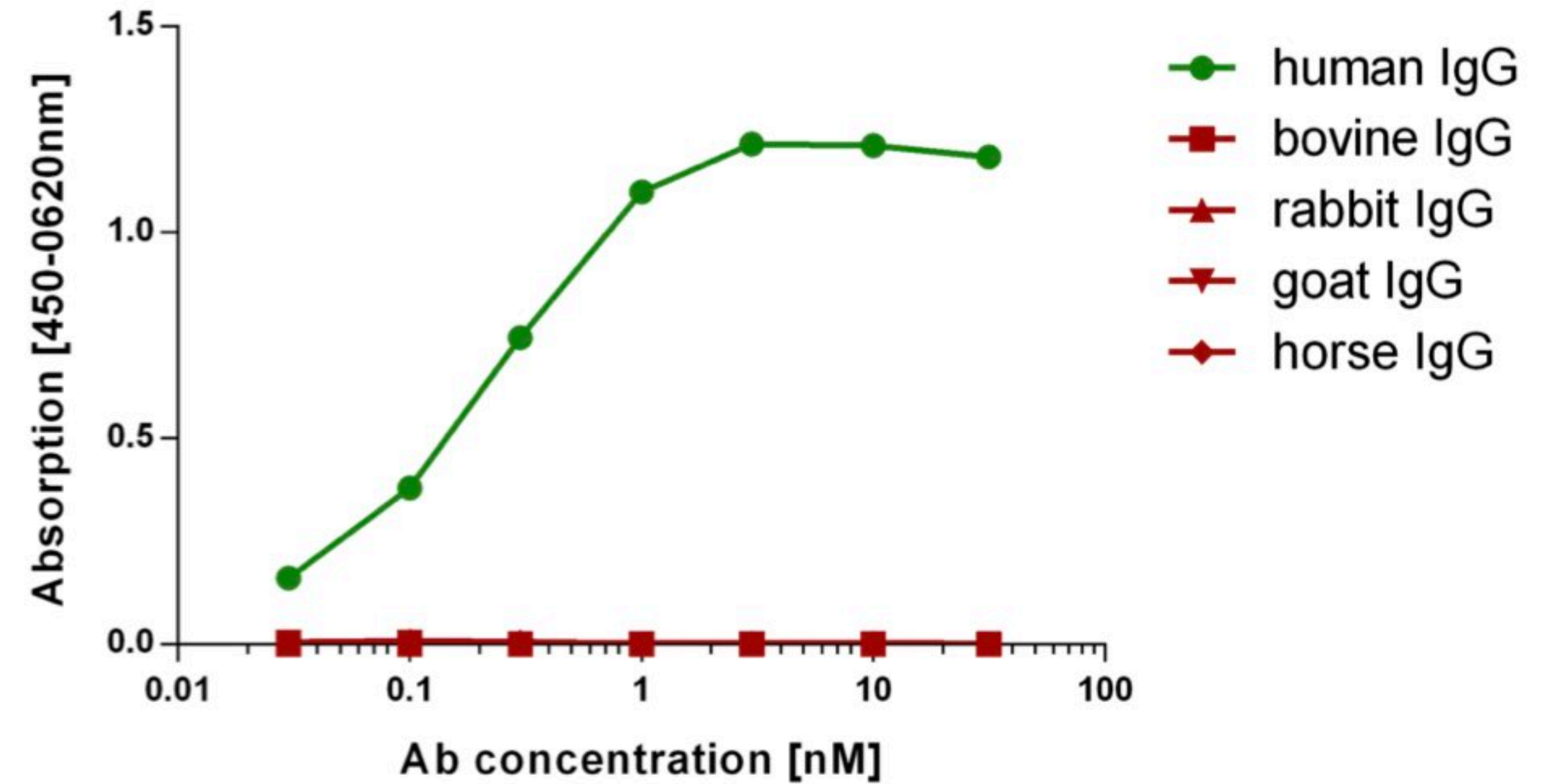


MULTICLONAL α -hIgG secondary antibody: Specificity

ABC001M - MULTICLONAL

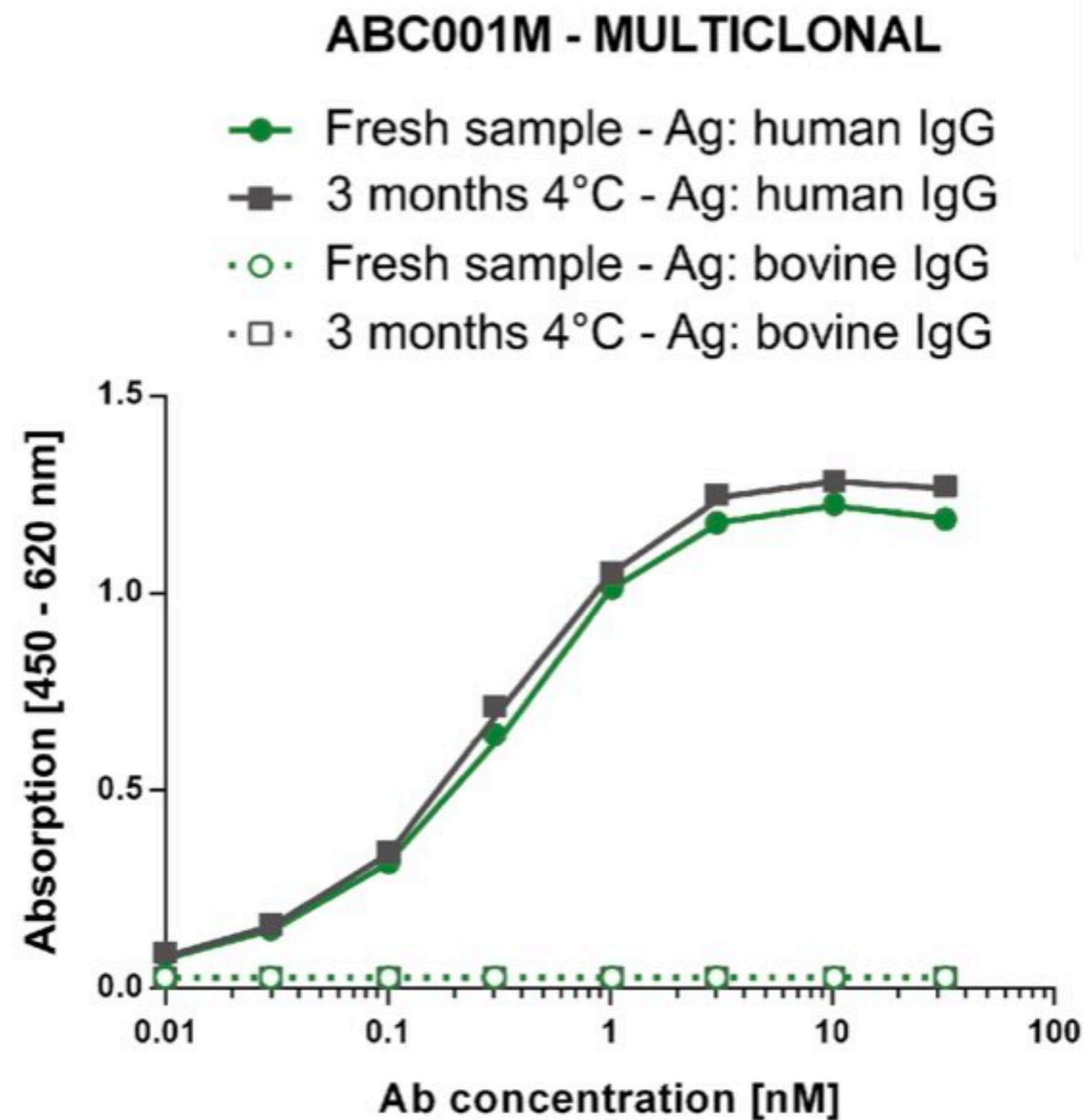


anti-human IgG, Multiclonal

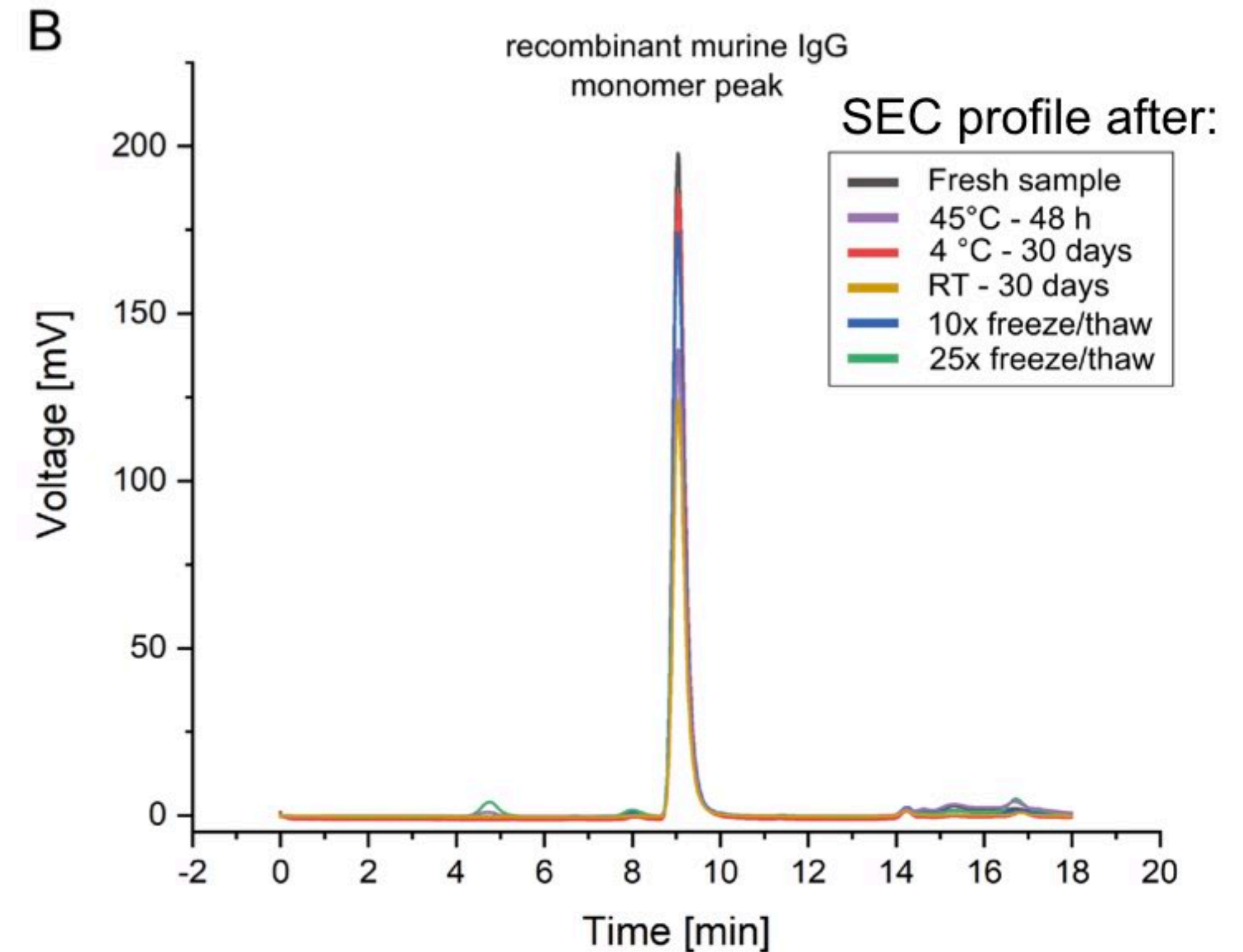
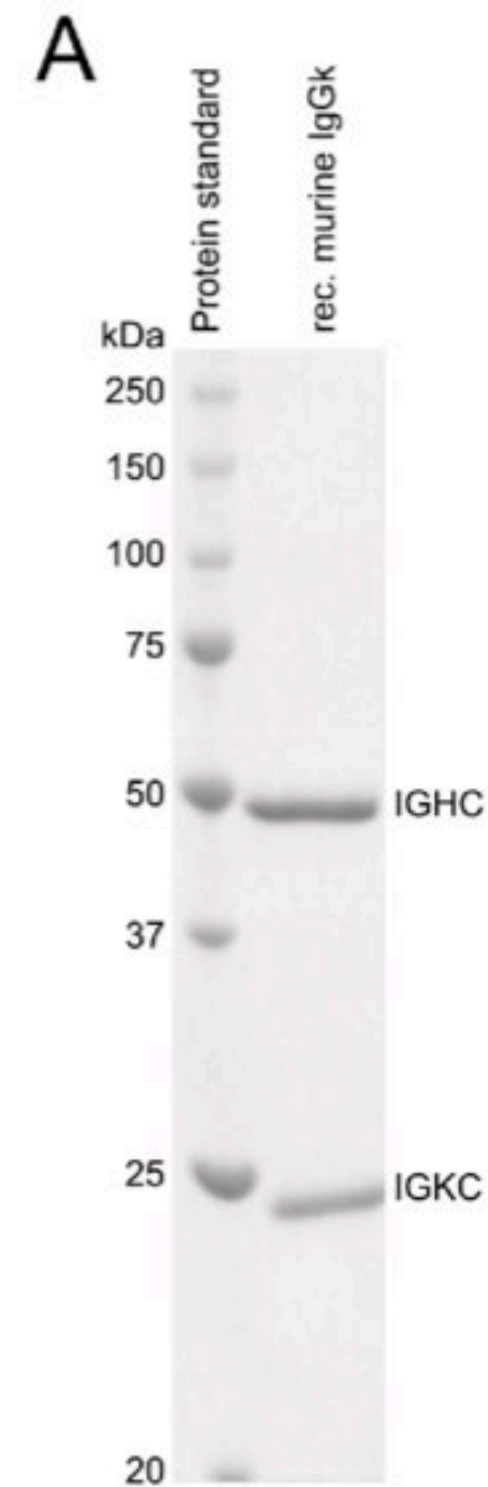


Composing defined multiclonaals (Example): stability

storage stability

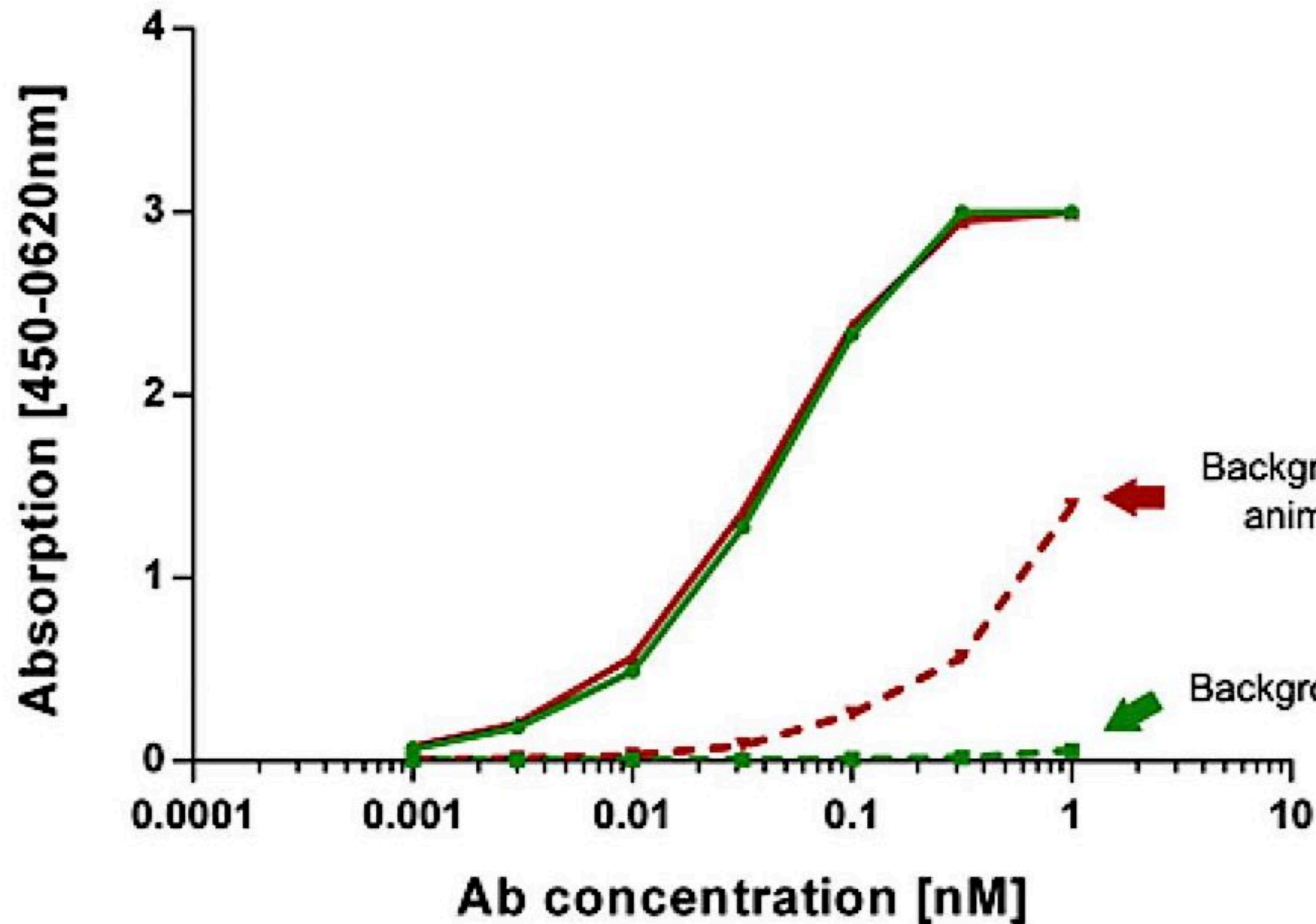


freeze-thaw (up to 25x) stability



MULTICLONAL α -hIgG: lower Background

Captured hIgG detection in ELISA



anti-hIgG antibody:

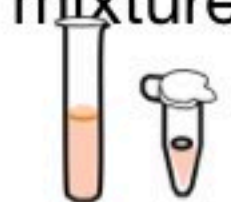
- Multiclonal-HRP
- Goat polyclonal-HRP

Background binding of typical polyclonal animal derived secondary antibody

Background binding of Abcalis Multiclonal

ADA serum (catalog product) (= undefined antibody mixture)

NADA ATGCAGTCCTAAATTAGG.. (selected equence defined antibodies)



Gefördert durch:



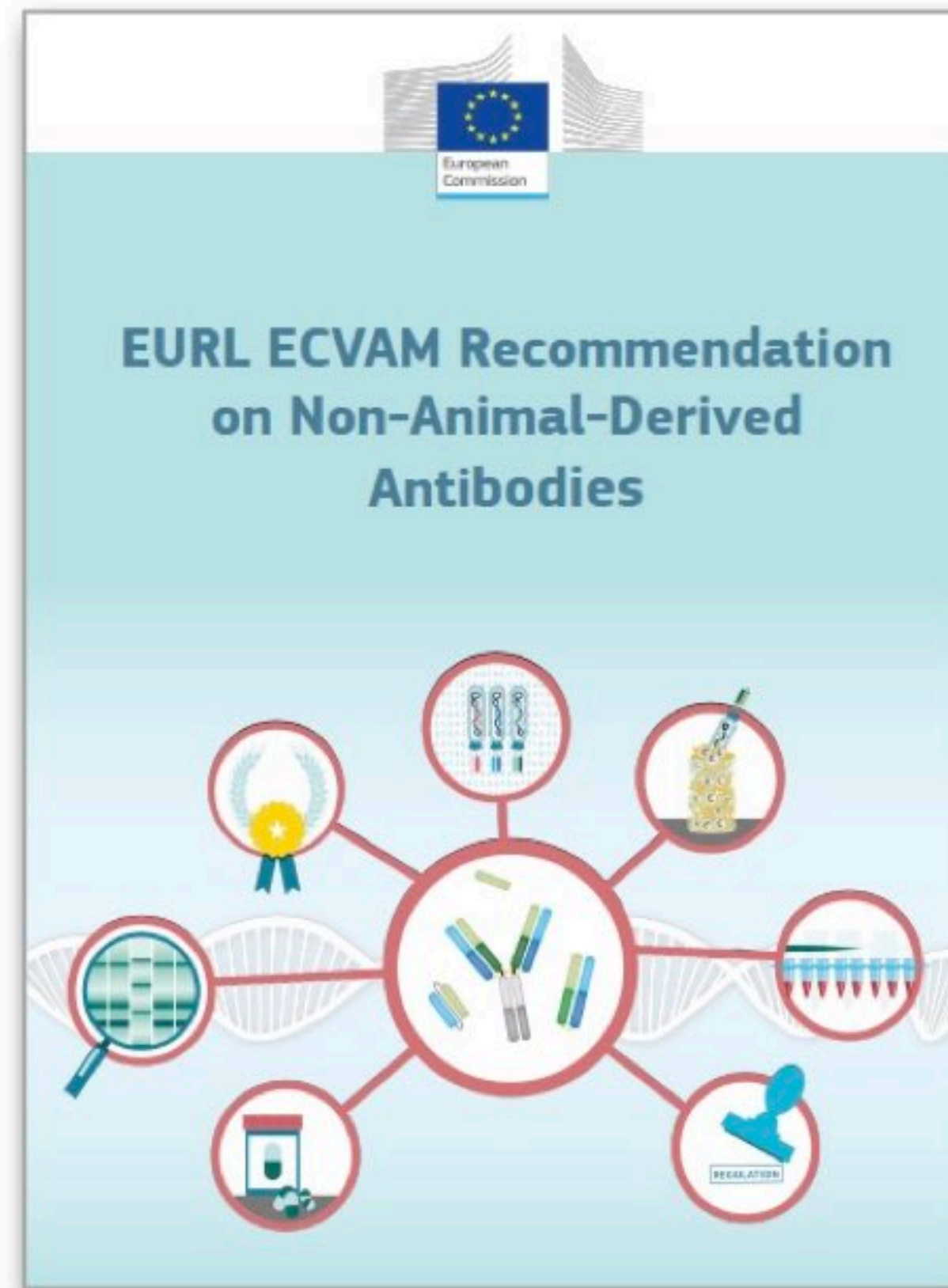
aufgrund eines Beschlusses des Deutschen Bundestages

MULTICLONALS - Summary

- completely animal free (discovery & production)
- recognize several defined epitopes
- provide „polyclonal“-like signal amplification
- tested to be robust reagents
- lower unwanted reactivity
- can be made with Fc part of choice
- provide unlimited reproducibility
- available today



Our Multiclons are fully compliant with EU guidelines



<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC120199>

Toxicity tests or for the quality control of biologicals, should be non-animal derived. This will enhance reproducibility of results and the sustainable supply of reagents.

Animal-derived polyclonal antibodies make up a large proportion of animals used today for antibody production and, therefore, present serious ethical concerns. However, they can be produced using defined mixtures of sequence-defined recombinant antibodies developed from universal phage display libraries, thereby avoiding the use of animals. These so-called “multiclonal” antibodies² have been recently shown to exceed the performance of the monoclonal products³. These recent developments also show that non-animal-derived “multiclonal” antibodies with superior quality (e.g., lower unspecific reactions) and higher reproducibility over animal-derived polyclonal antibodies can and should be generated. It is therefore possible to combine the best features of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies in a completely animal-free and defined product.

Even though the ESAC review did not cover the field of therapeutic applications, EURL ECVAM considers that non-animal-derived antibodies are also a suitable alternative in this field. In fact, monoclonal affinity reagents approved for therapeutic applications are nowadays exclusively recombinant, well characterised because of strict regulations, and stably produced in large amounts. However, while several of these affinity reagents are

Gefördert durch:



Bundesministerium
für Wirtschaft
und Technologie

aufgrund eines Beschlusses
des Deutschen Bundestages

Example 2: NADA to replace polyclonal horse sera against Diphtheria

INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Life-saving diphtheria drug is running out
Two children's deaths in Europe spur search for new sources of antitoxin
By Kai Kapferschmidt

When a little girl was transferred to the university hospital in Antwerp, Belgium, on 30 March 2015 with severe tonsillitis, doctors suspected a very unusual cause: diphtheria. Once a scourge known as "the strangling angel of children" which killed hundreds of thousands annually, diphtheria is almost unheard of today in Europe thanks to a safe and effective vaccine. But the 5-year-old, whose family was from Chechnya, was unvaccinated and had a hallmark symptom: a dense, gray layer of dead cells and bacteria in the throat known as a pseudomembrane.

In years past, she would have been given an antiserum that neutralizes the deadly toxin produced by *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*, in addition to antibiotics. But no antiserum was available. The child died when a national reference laboratory confirmed the doctors' presumption: the child's airways were still empty-handed.



Horse is bled to produce diphtheria antitoxin in cell culture. In November 2016, PETA's Treatment of Animals Fund will fund such work by a researcher at the Braunschweig Institute of Technology in Germany, who is studying the use of horses. In the United States, a manufacturer of MassBio is working on a similar project. Diphtheria, transmitted through coughing, usually causes a sore throat and fever, but can lead to a severe infection of the airways. "The children were still empty-handed," says

SCIENCE, 13. Jan. 2017

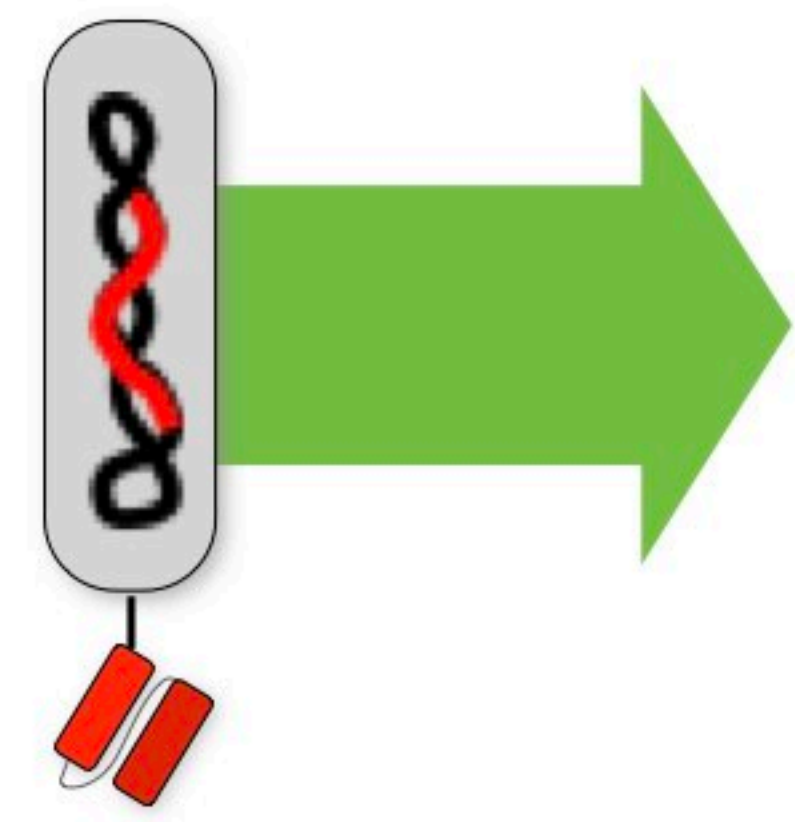
PETAUK ANIMALS ARE NOT OURS to eat, wear, experiment on, use for entertainment or abuse in any other way

HOME BLOG ACTION CENTRE ISSUES LIVING RECIPES MEDIA CENTRE

Urge India to Close Facilities That Drain Blood From Horses and Donkeys
These cruel equine-serum facilities keep animals in barren, crowded sheds and extract large amounts of blood from them to manufacture drugs.



YouTube www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=7&v=GBYj7qsOzE0

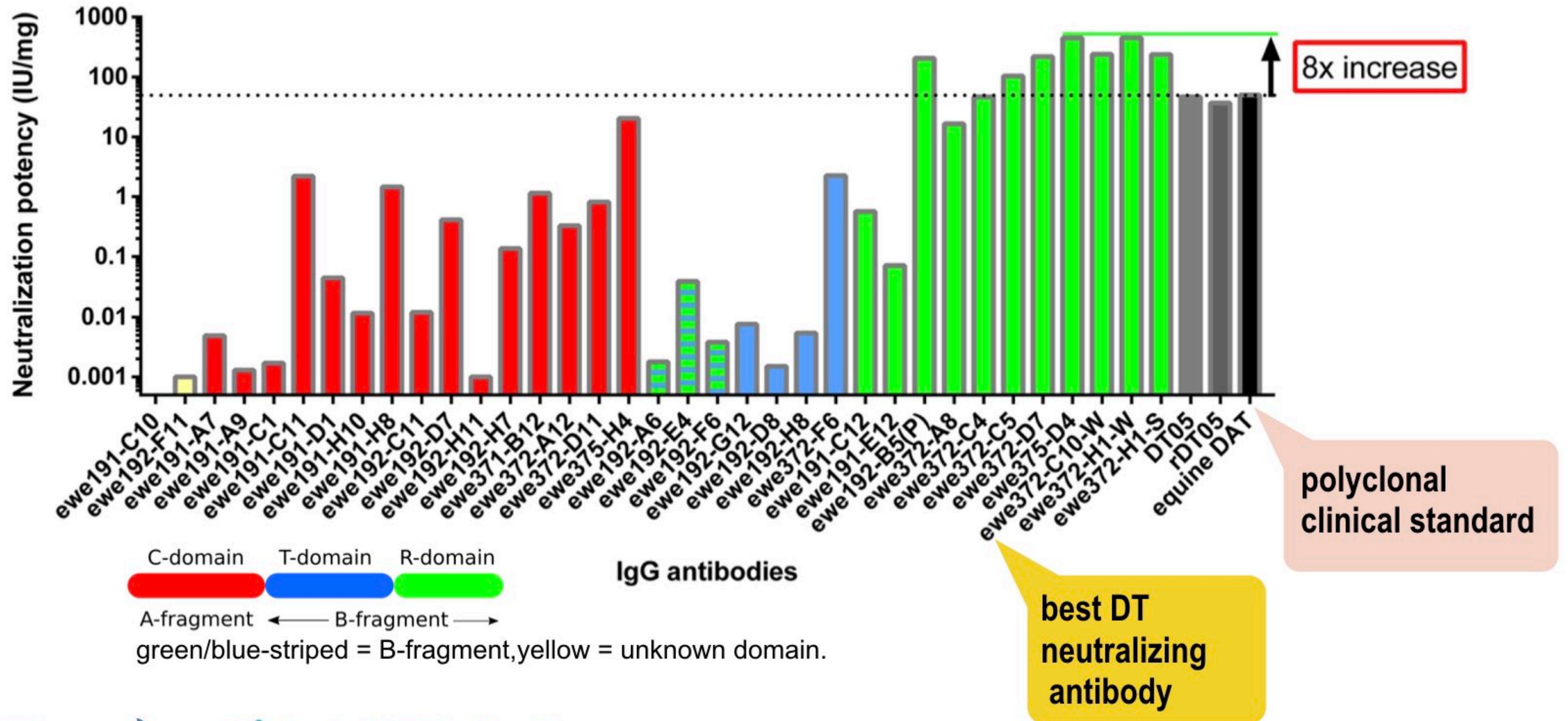


phage display

- >600 human antibodies against Diphtheria toxin
- best ones: 9x better neutralizing than best horse serum and monoclonal NIBSC world standard

Animal free antibodies are better neutralising than clinical animal sera

Neutralization potency of IgG antibodies expressed as IU/mg determined by Vero cell neutralization assay with a toxin dose level of 4 Å~ MCD.



Versatility.

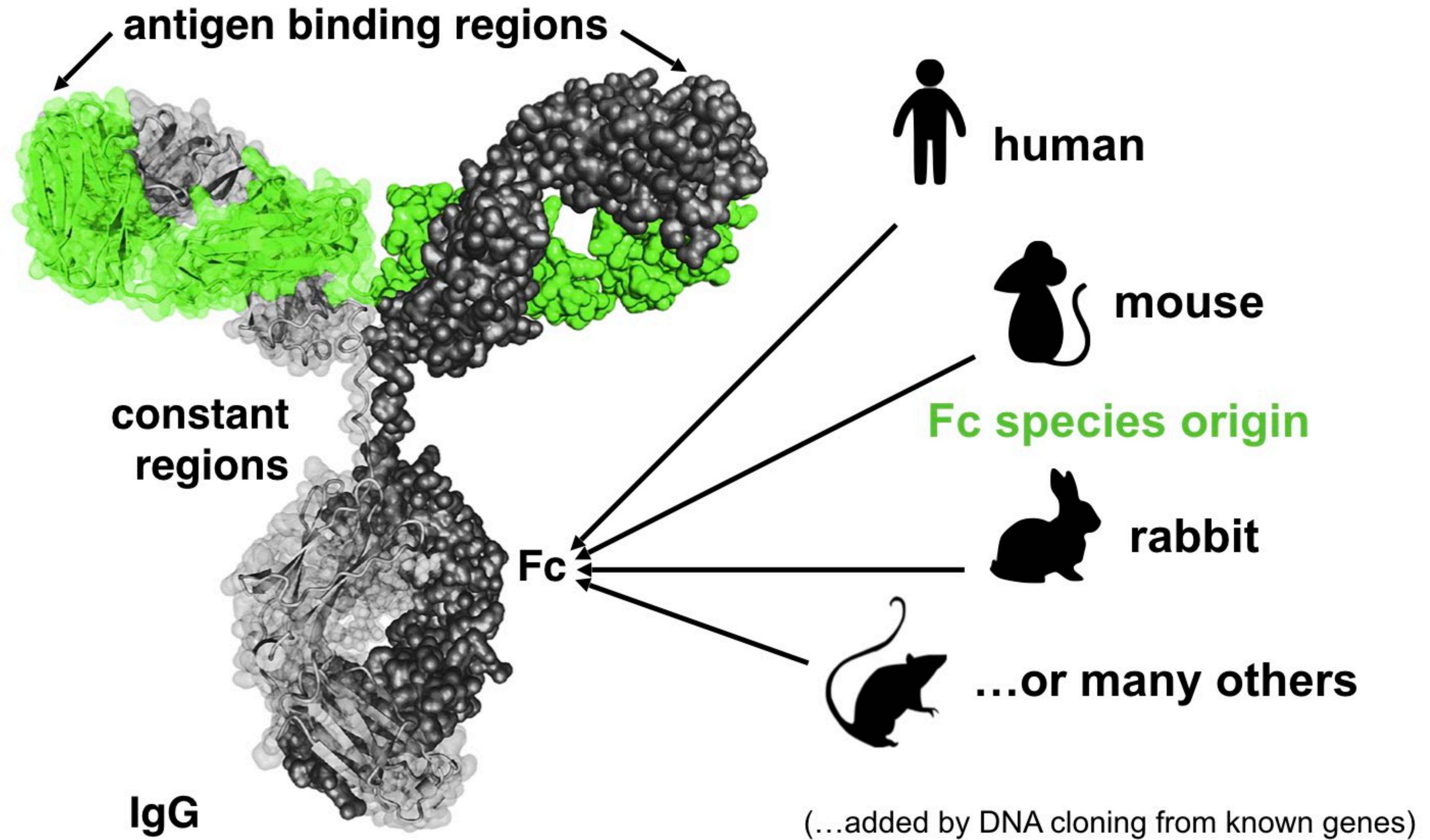
Human (animal-free) antibodies from universal HAL libraries

origin of antigen	number of different antigens	number of unique, validated binders
human	336	2375
other mammalia	43	288
metazoa	21	148
plant	14	51
fungi	13	41
bacteria	70	457
virus	14	61
haptens	6	20
total	517	3441

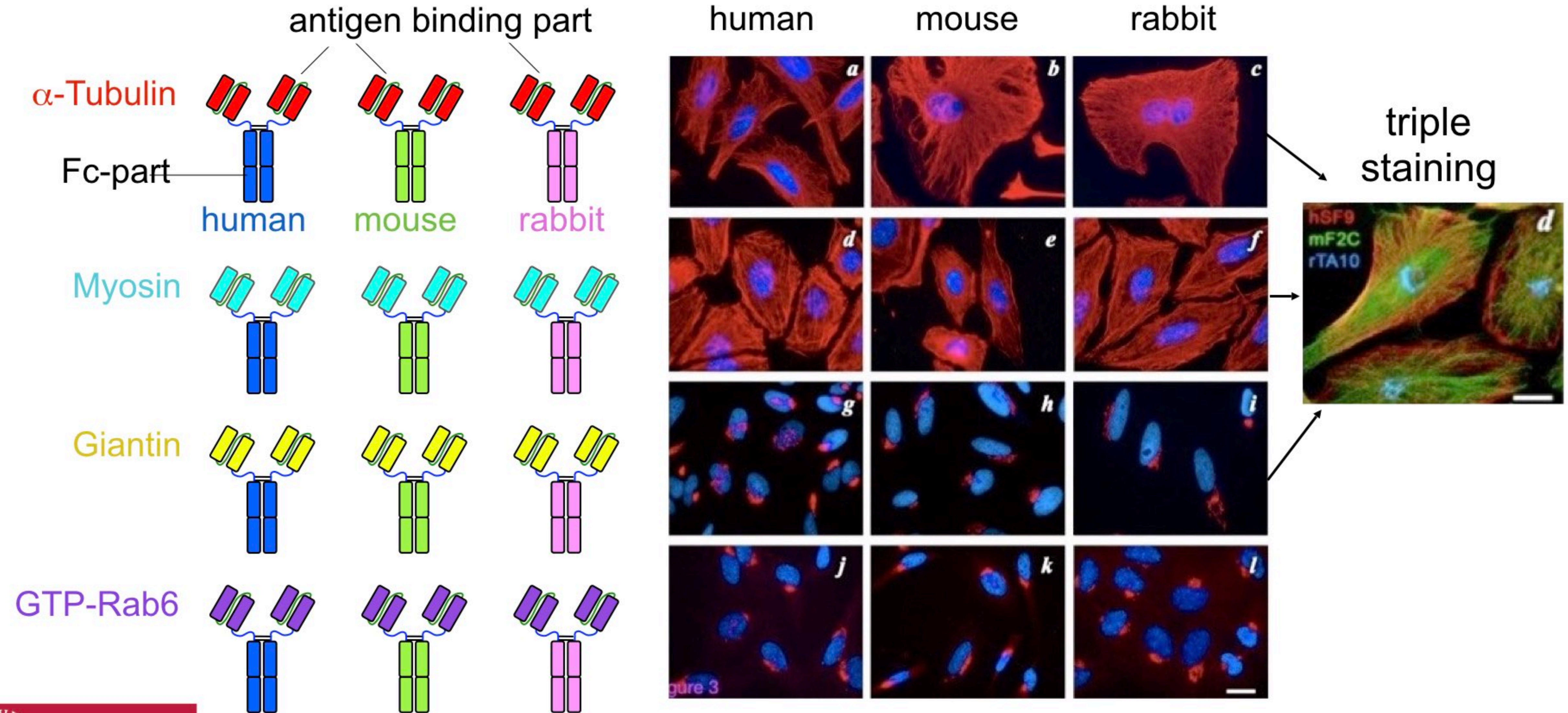
1/2020

from diversity $> 1.5 \times 10^{10}$, naive, close to germline human antibody phage display libraries

Benefits of recombinant antibodies: Free choice of Fc part



Engineered antibodies with Fc of different species:

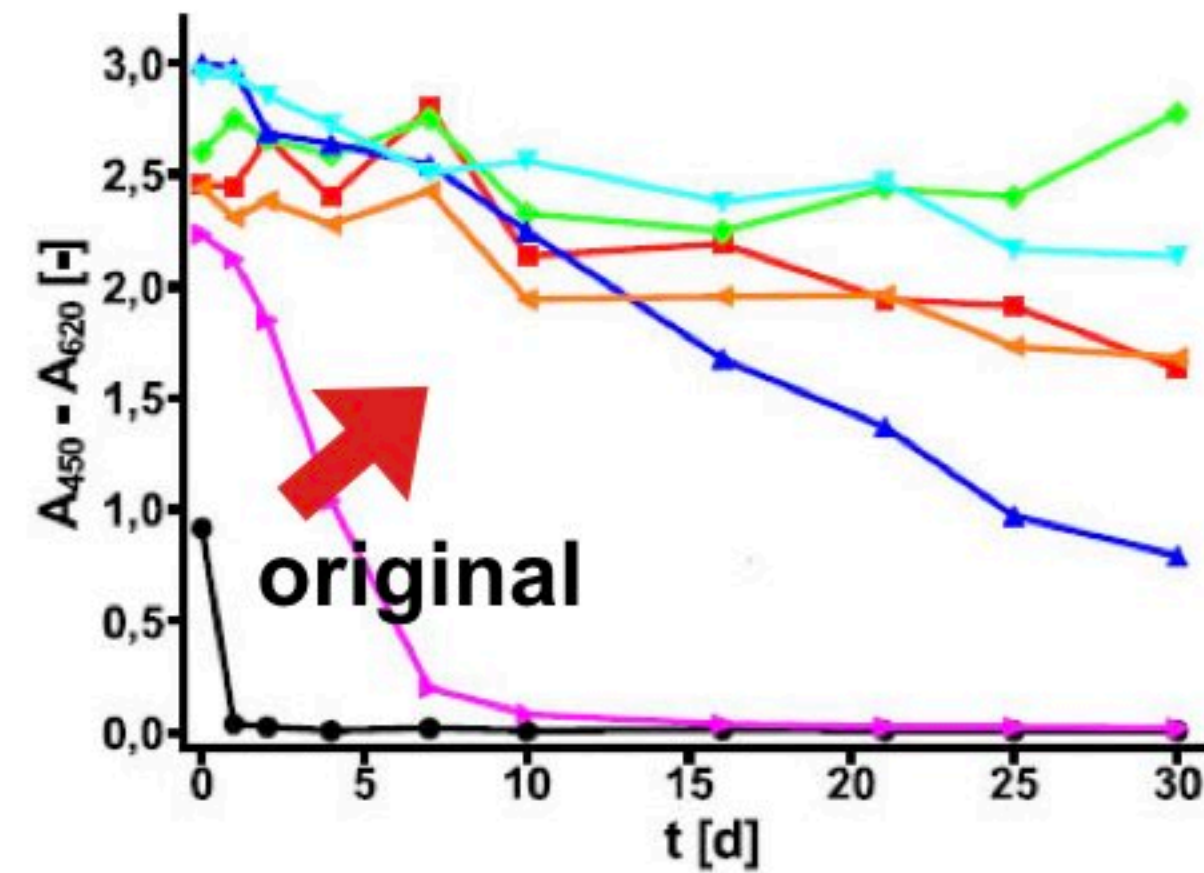
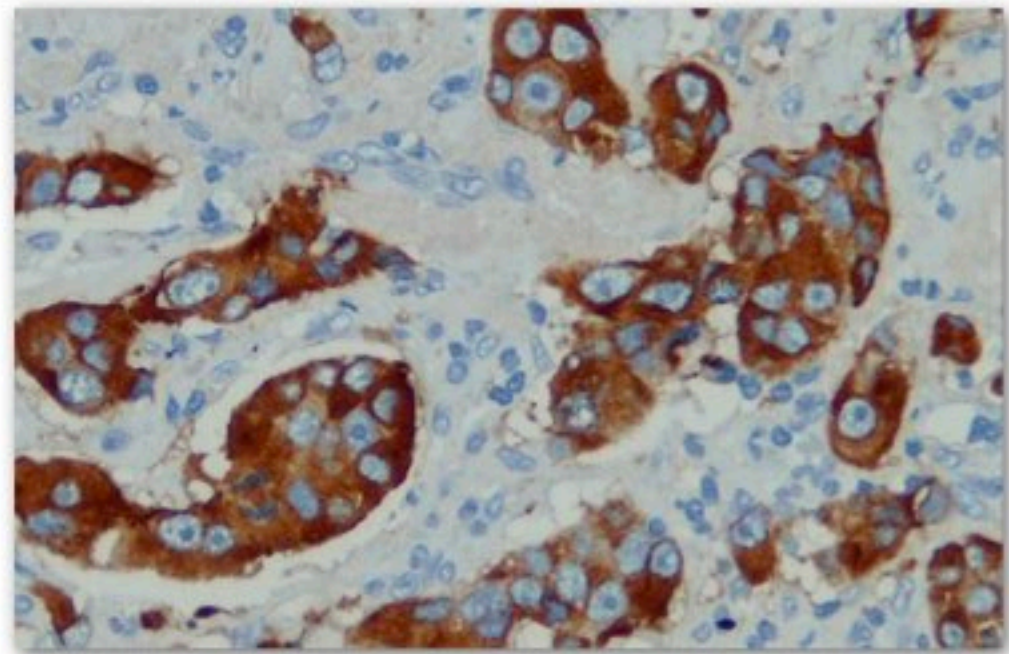


Improving antibodies by *in vitro* evolution

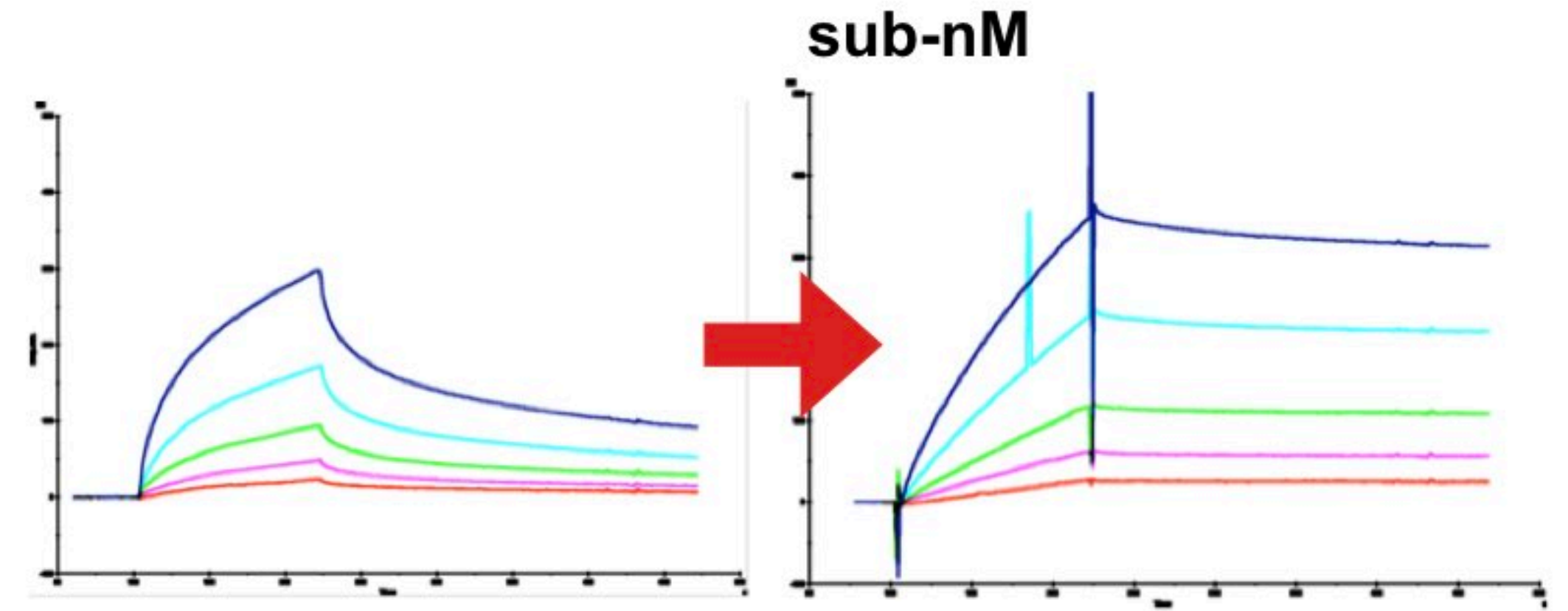
- >500 fold affinity maturation

- increased stability

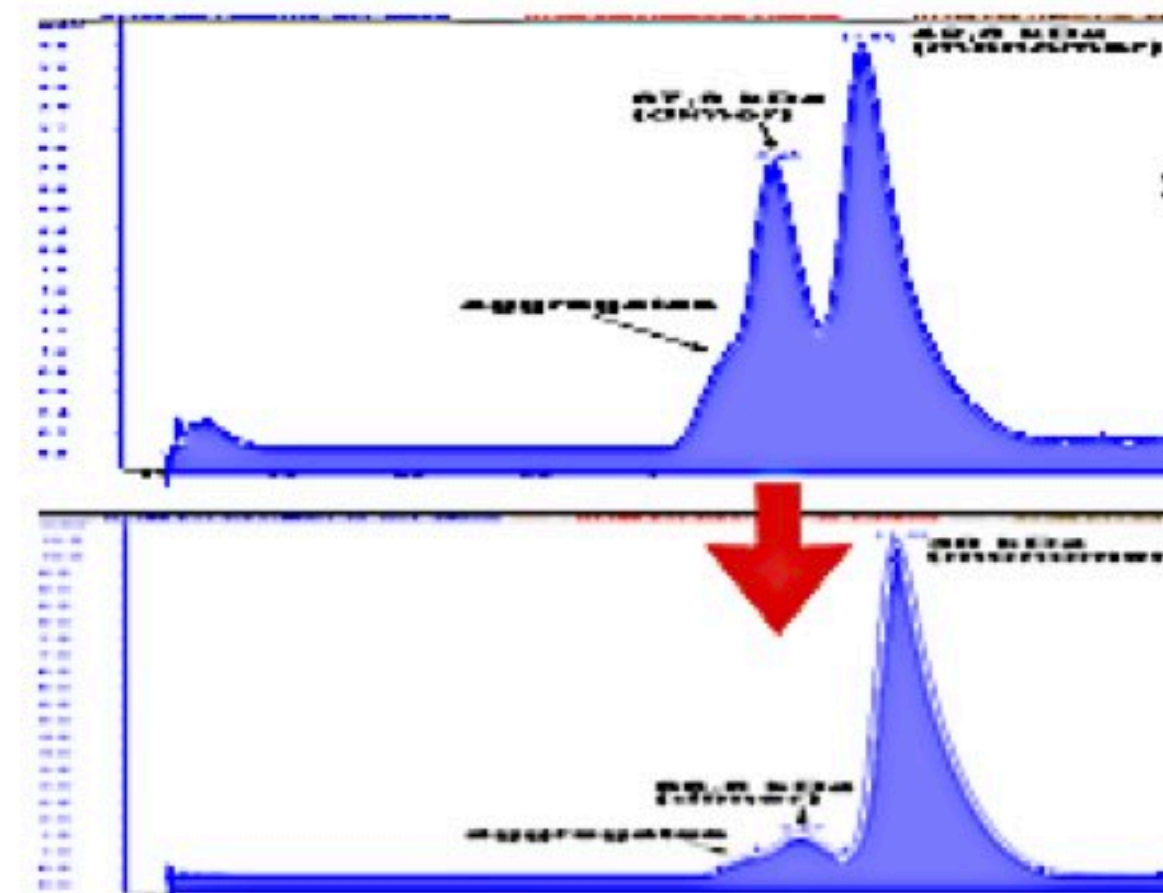
Anti-mamma carcinoma antibody



- less aggregation



end product:
stable >1 month
37°C serum



Speed.

Rapid animal-free antibody generation to SARSCoV2



Yumab GmbH

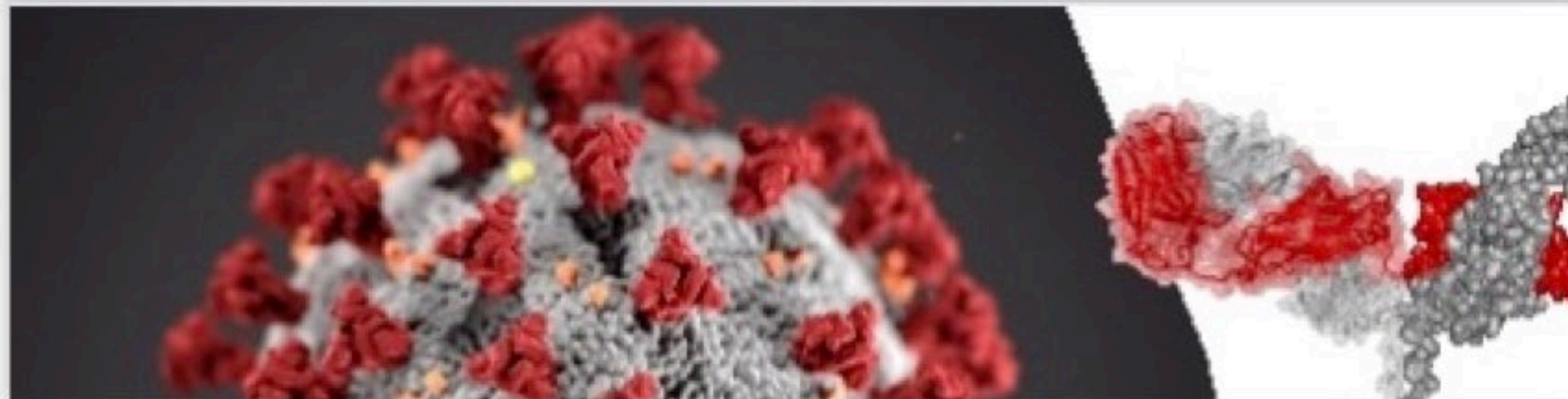
820 followers

3 Monate · Bearbeitet

In cooperation with [#BoehringerIngelheim](#) and in less than 4 weeks, YUMAB generated and characterized the first human antibodies with [#receptor_blocking_activity](#) against the new [#Coronavirus](#) by applying the Nobel prize awarded [#phage_display](#) Technology. Thanks to all involved for their excellent work. By providing these antibodies, the first step is taken towards a therapeutic antibody to combat [#Covid19](#).

<https://lnkd.in/dmjSC9E>

[#Coronavirus](#) [#SARS_CoV2](#) [#Covid19](#)

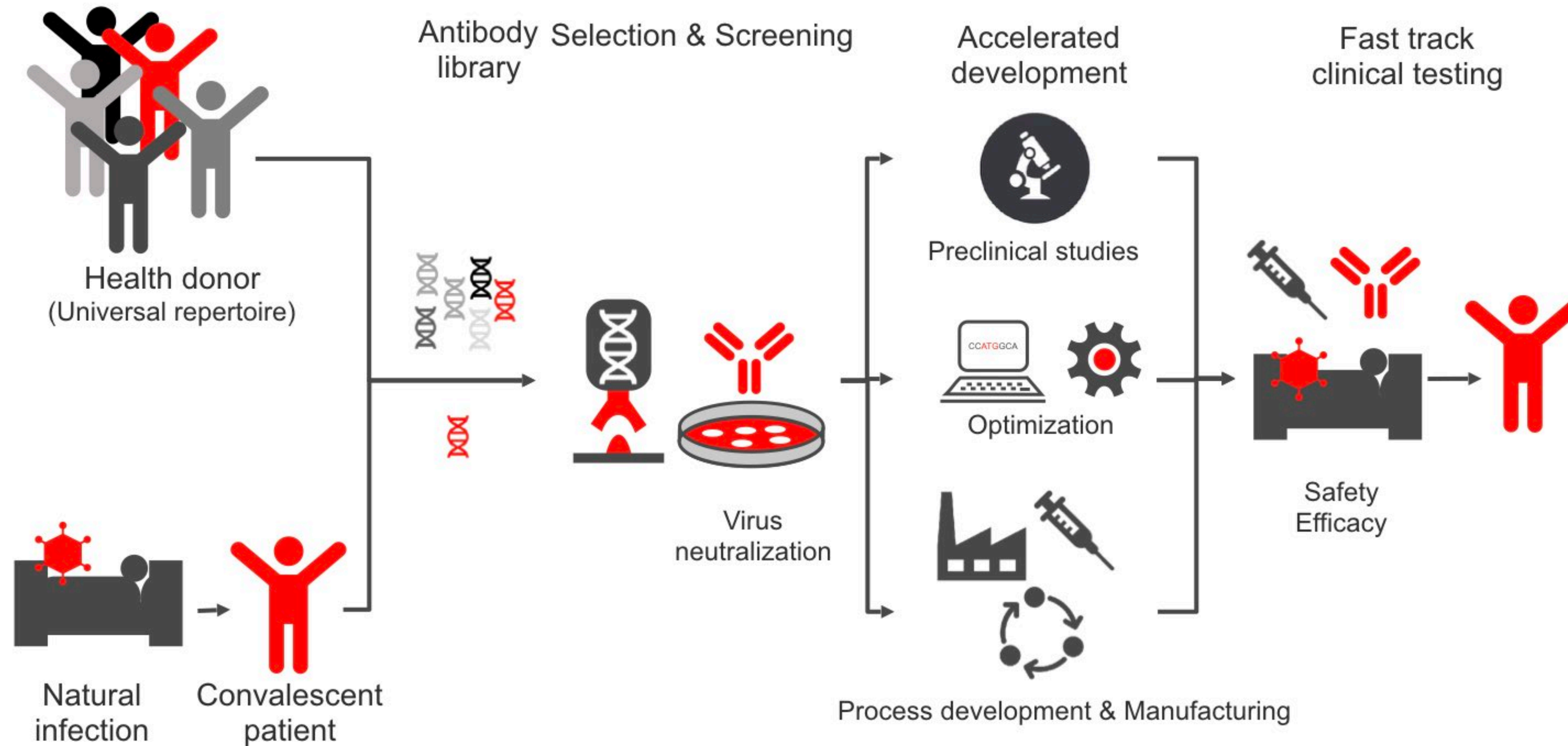


nature methods

level¹⁰ (Edwards et al., 2018). The dawn of a new era is upon us where neither the scientific nor the ethical shortcomings of animal-derived antibodies need be tolerated any longer. A poignant and pertinent example of this is the astonishingly rapid generation of animal free, human monoclonal antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 in response to the urgent need for solutions to counteract the spread of the virus by numerous biotech companies worldwide. Whilst some groups are relying on immunisation strategies, others are using non-animal approaches including human B cells from convalescent sources or large pre-existing naive antibody libraries to select antibodies by phage or yeast display, permitting the generation of antibodies in as little as 4 weeks^{11,12}

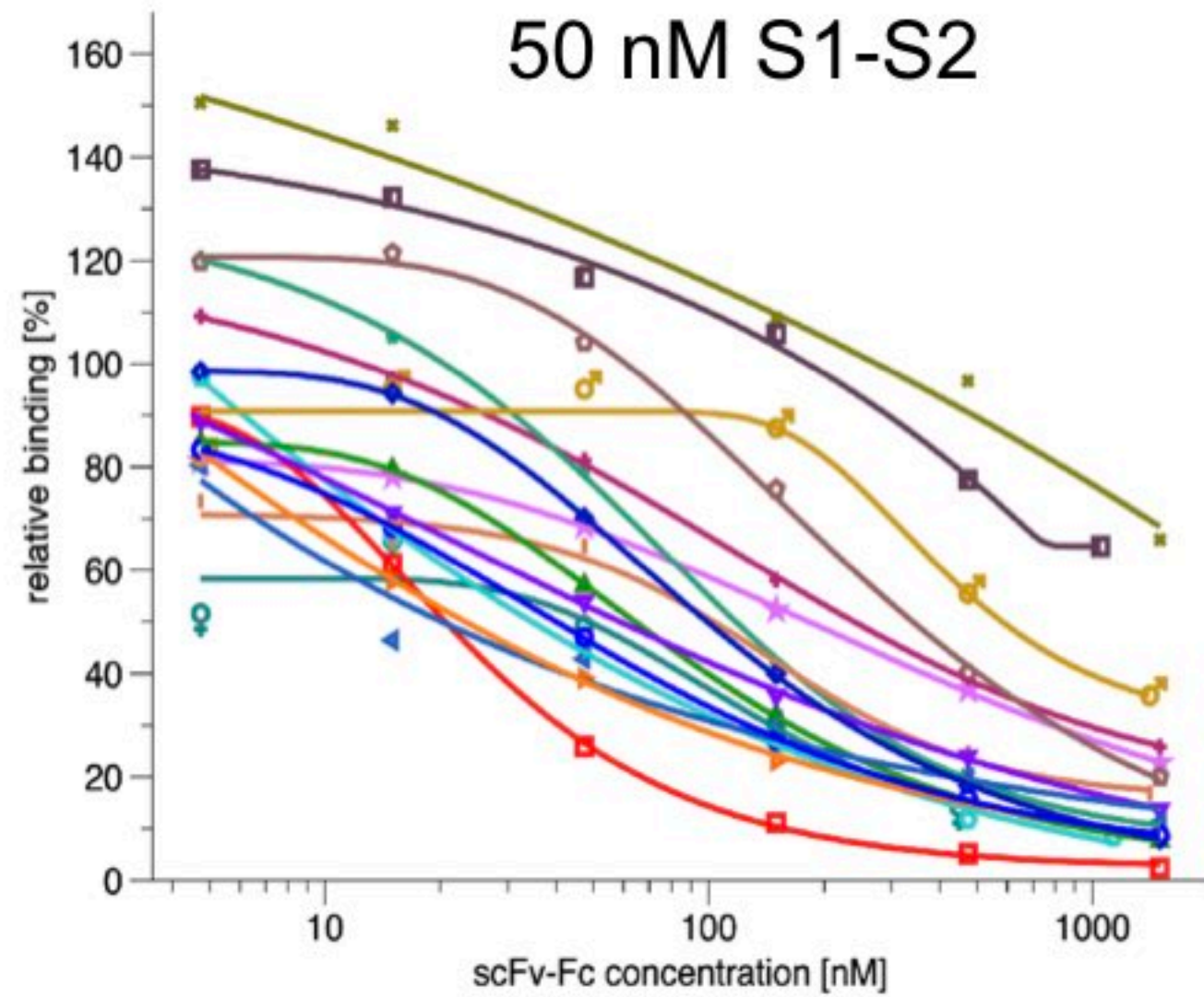
Gray, et al. (2020) The impact of EU policy on antibody generation. *Nature Meth.* in press.

Rapid human antibody generation to SARSCoV2

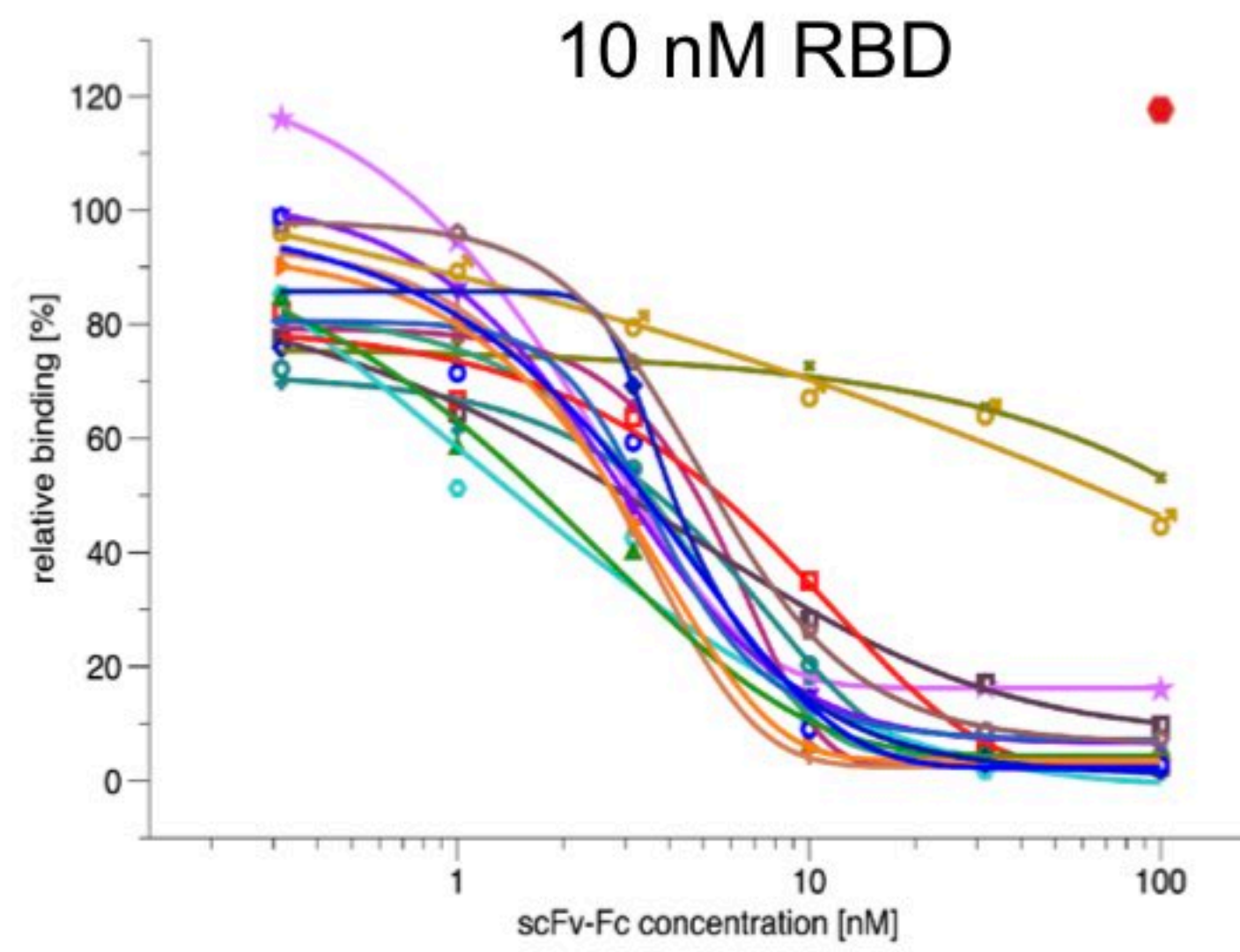


SARS-CoV-2 inhibiting antibodies from nonimmunized libraries

IC50 determination by flow cytometry

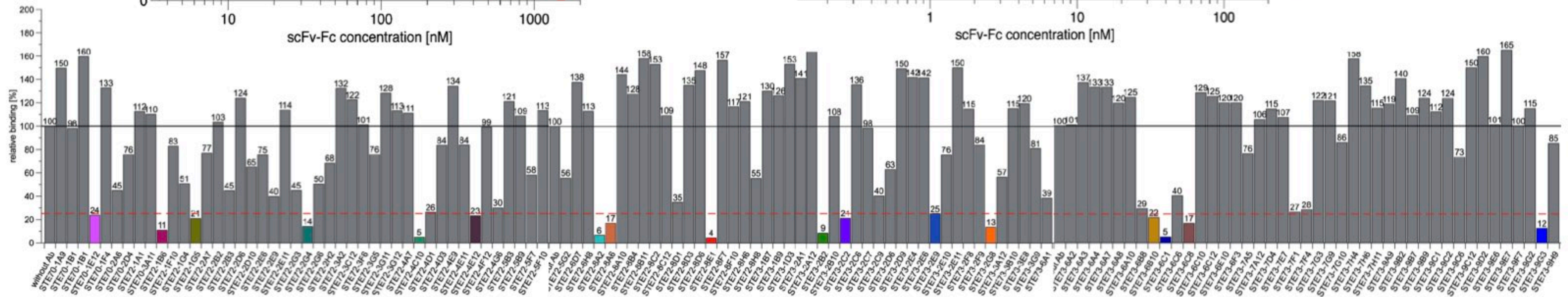


- STE70-1E12
- STE72-1B6
- STE72-1G5
- STE72-2G4
- STE72-4C10
- STE72-4E12
- STE72-8A2
- STE72-8A6
- STE72-8E1
- STE73-2B2
- STE73-2C2
- STE73-2E9
- STE73-2G8
- STE73-6B10
- STE73-6C1
- STE73-6C8
- STE73-9G3

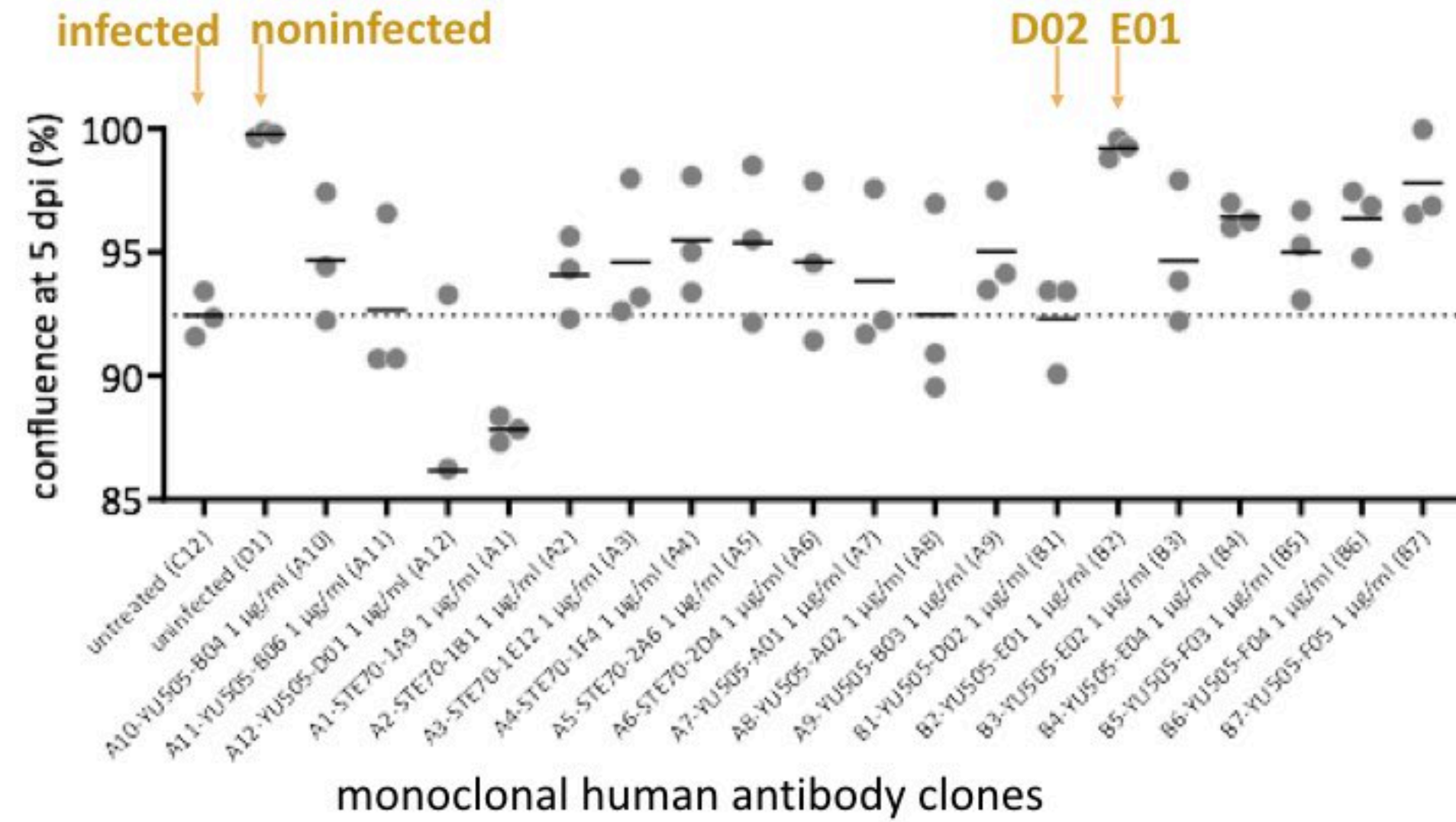


- STE70-1E12
- STE72-1B6
- STE72-1G5
- STE72-2G4
- STE72-4C10
- STE72-4E12
- STE72-8A2
- STE72-8A6
- STE72-8E1
- STE73-2B2
- STE73-2C2
- STE73-2E9
- STE73-2G8
- STE73-6B10
- STE73-6C1
- STE73-6C8
- STE73-9G3
- NC Ab

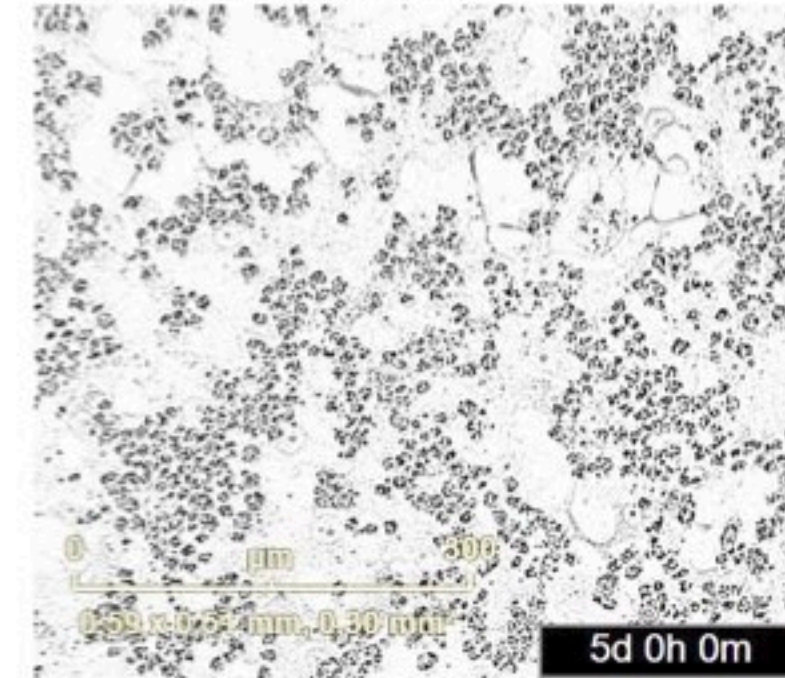
virus inhibition screen



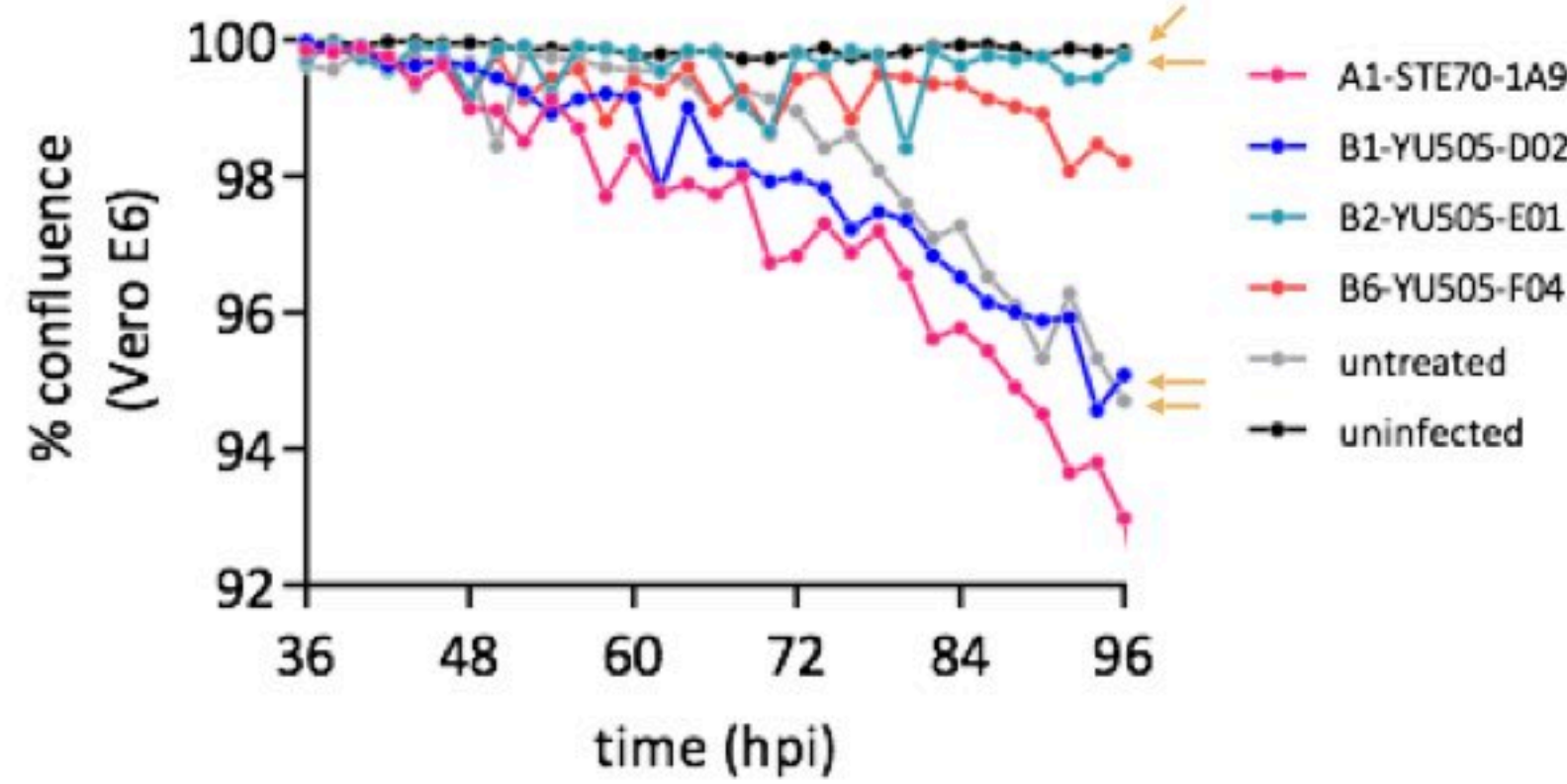
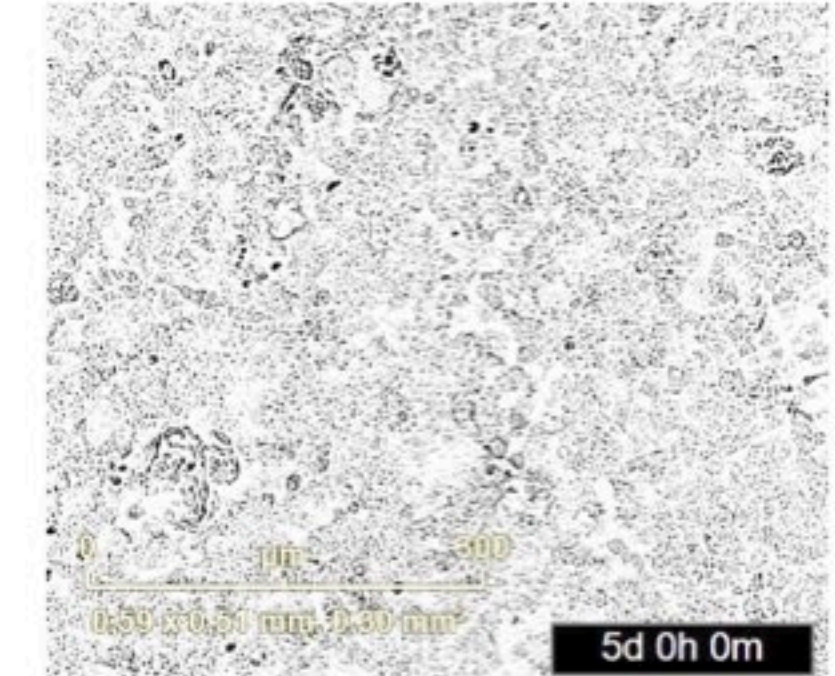
Protective antibodies against SARSCoV2 (animal free)



SARS-CoV-2 infected, untreated



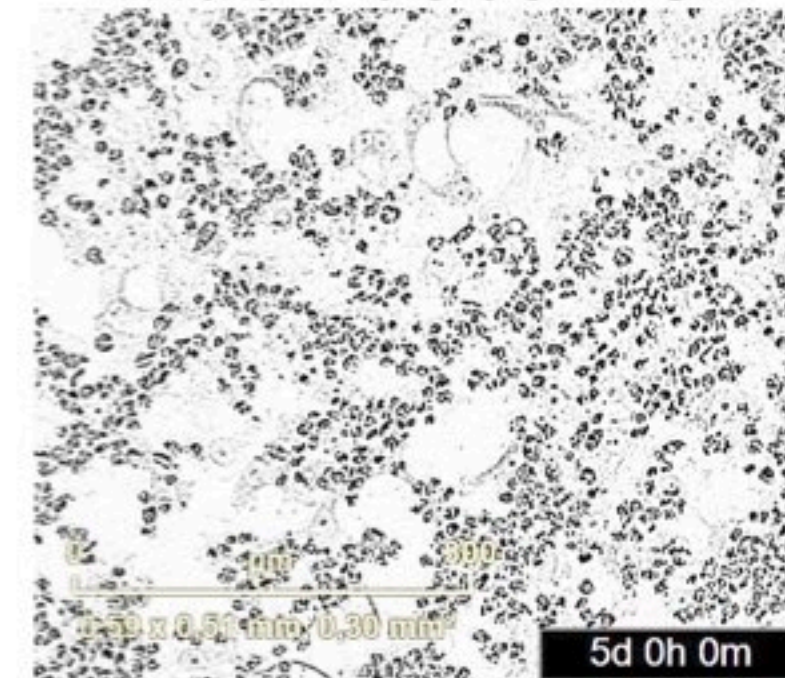
no Virus (healthy cells)



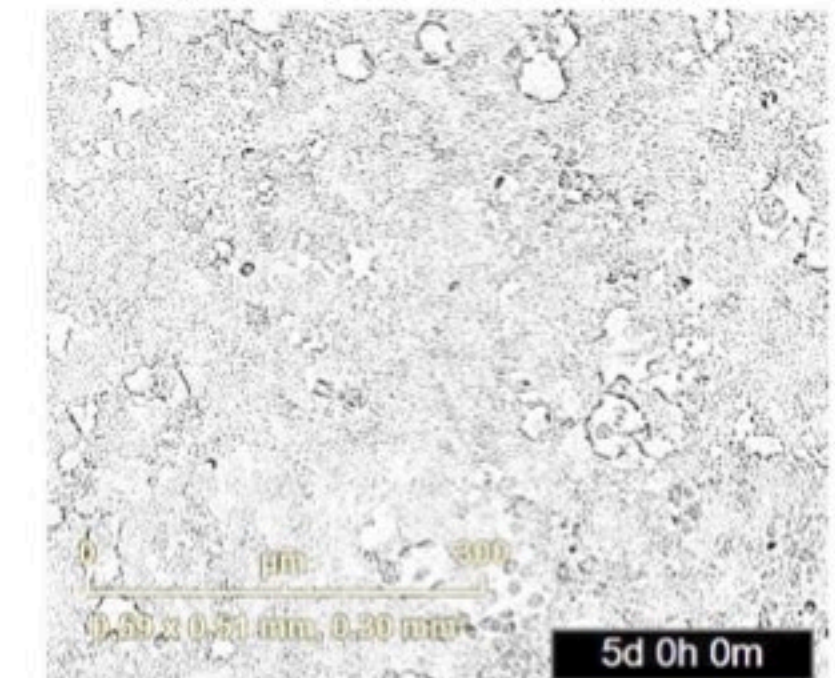
Virus growth kinetics

arrows mark samples corresponding to the microscopy panels

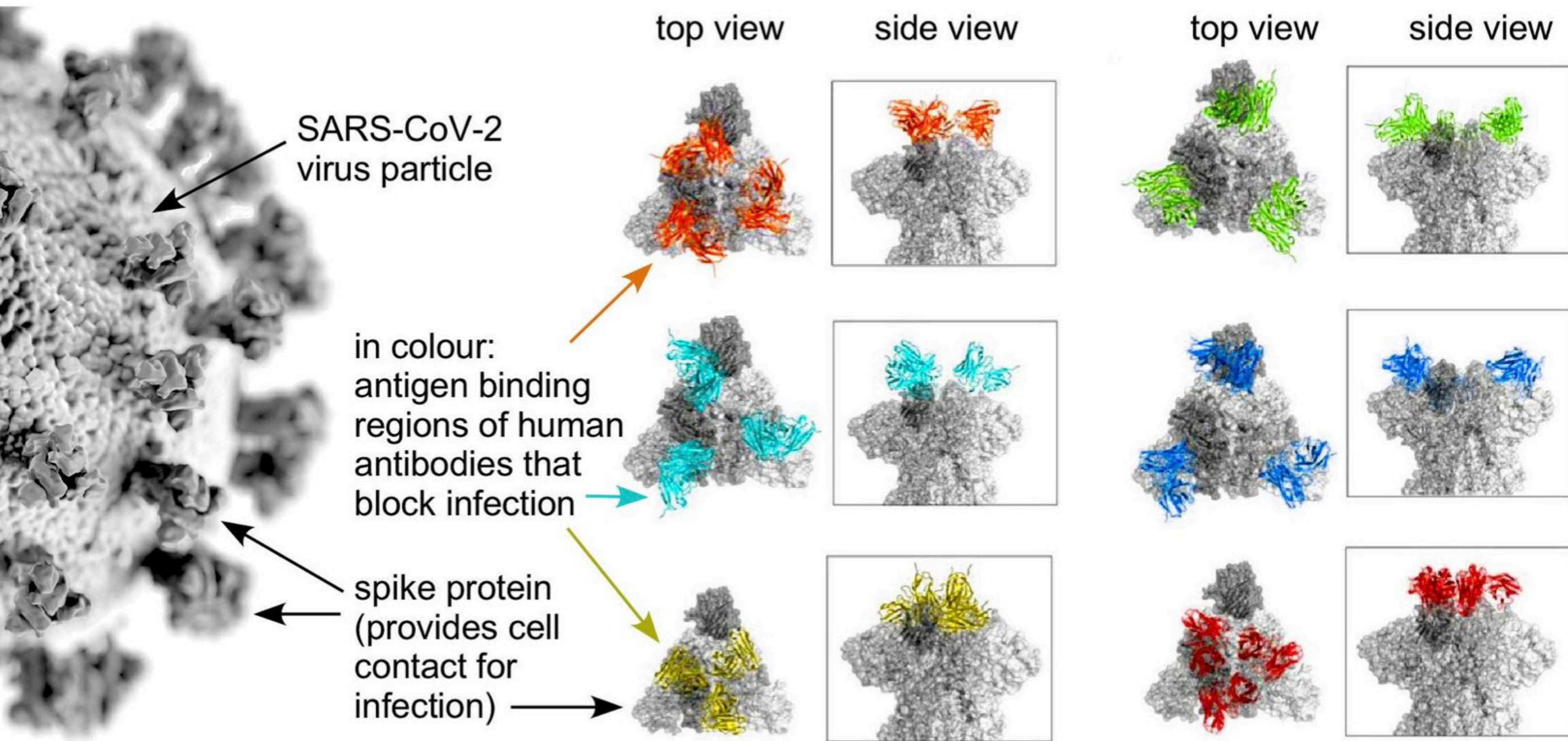
SARS-CoV-2 + mab YU505-D02



SARS-CoV-2 + mab YU505-E01

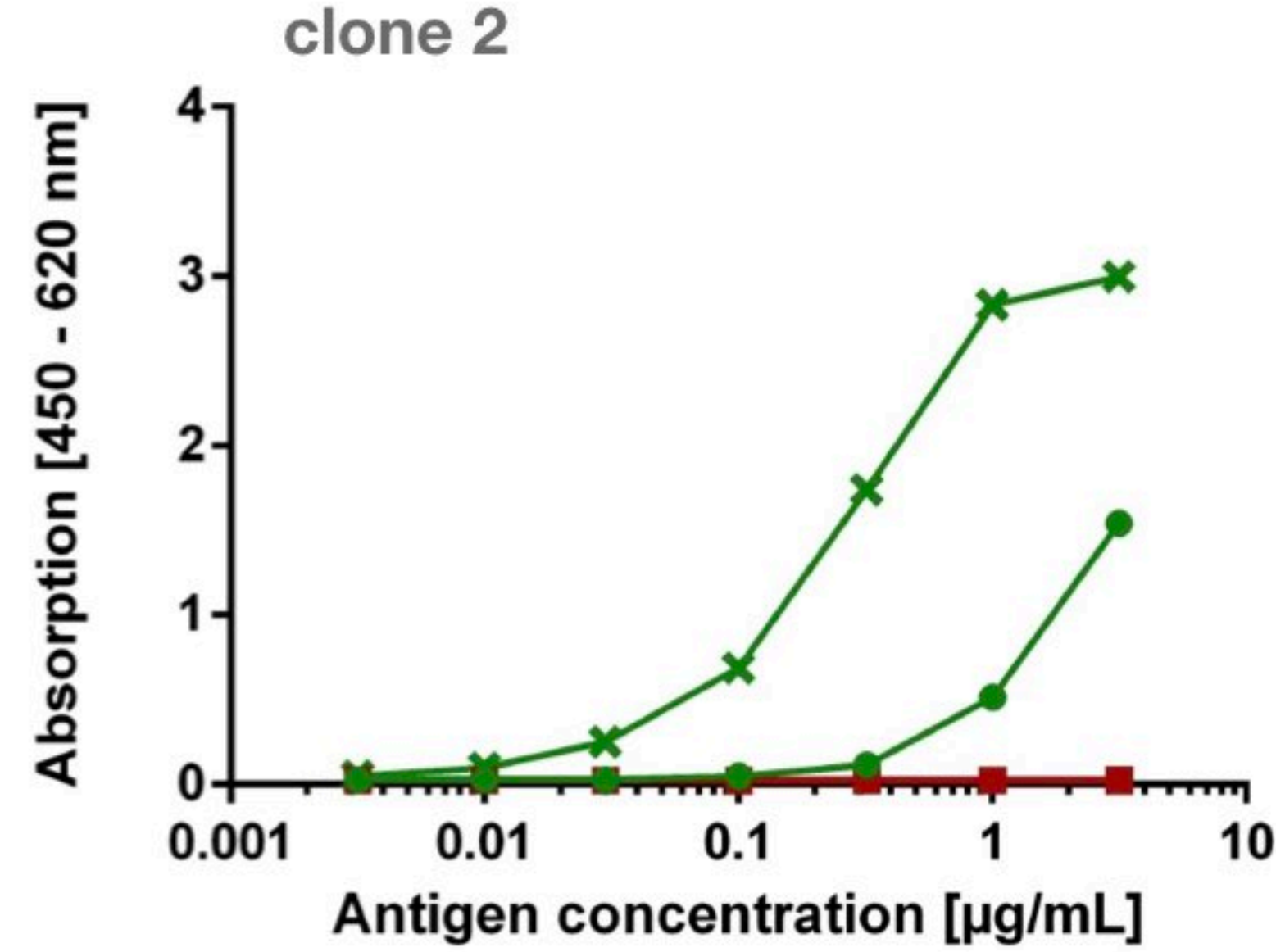
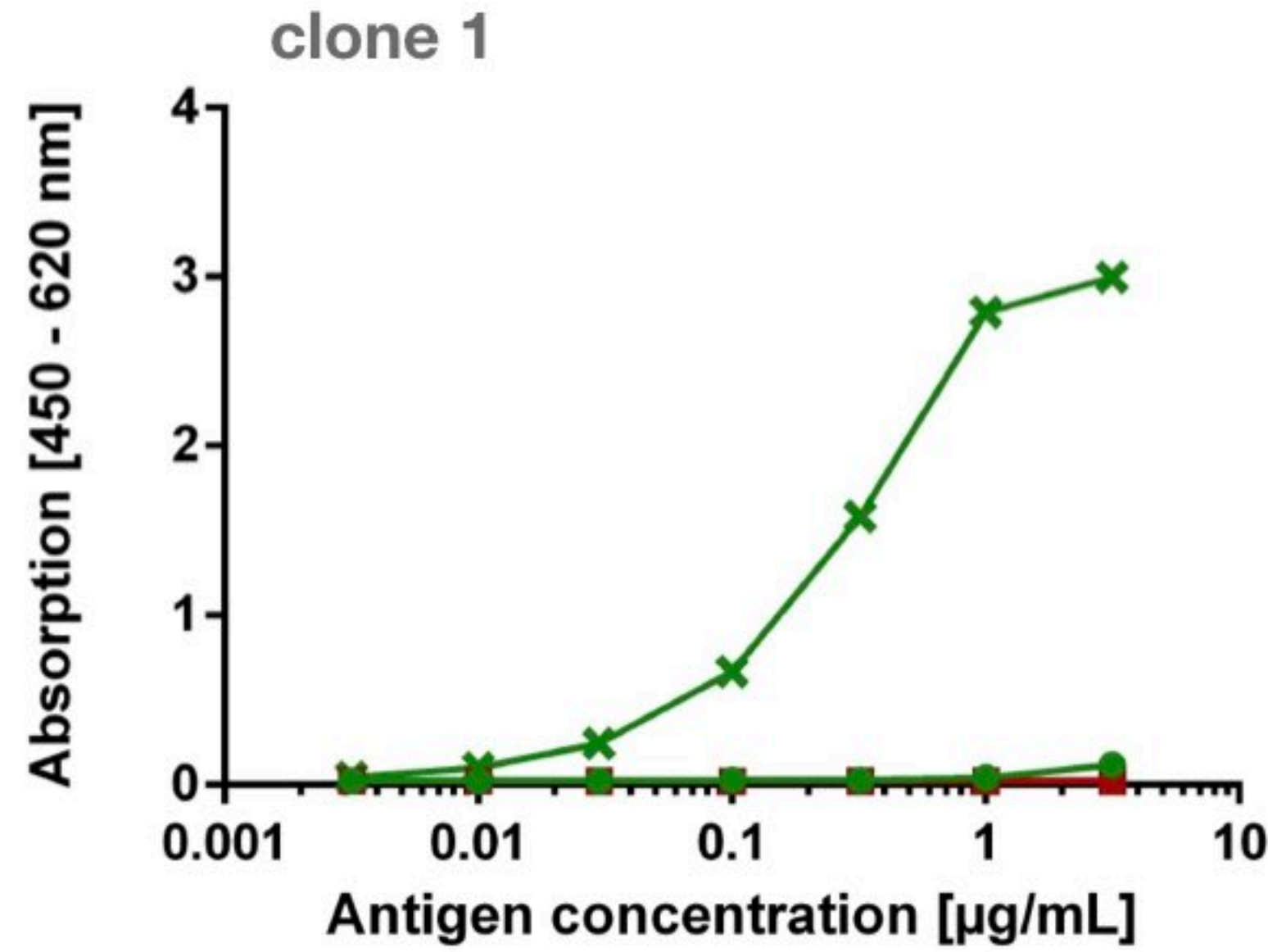


Antibodies efficiently blocking SARS-CoV-2



SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies for diagnostics:

selected for no cross-reactivity with other corona viruses



Antigen capture
ELISA

Sino Biological antigens:

- SARS-CoV-2 S1
- ▲ MERS-CoV S1
- ◆ HcoV-229E S1
- ★ HcoV-OC43 HE
- SARS-Cov-1 S1
- ▼ HKU1 S1
- HcoV-NL63 S1
- ✱ SARS-CoV-2 S1+S2

Plate immobilized anti-SARS-CoV-2 mIgG2a recAbs binding to SARS-CoV-2 Spike Glycoprotein S1 or HE domain from different human coronaviruses in ELISA. Mouse IgG2a recAbs anti-SARS-CoV-2 were immobilized in the wells of a 96-well plate at a concentration of 3.16 µg/mL (316 ng/well). Sino biological HIS-tag SARS-CoV-2 antigens (in green) or other human coronaviruses antigens (in red) were titered from a concentration of 3,16 µg/mL following a root of(10) dilution. Bound HIS-tag antigen was detected with HRP-conjugated anti-HIS antibody.

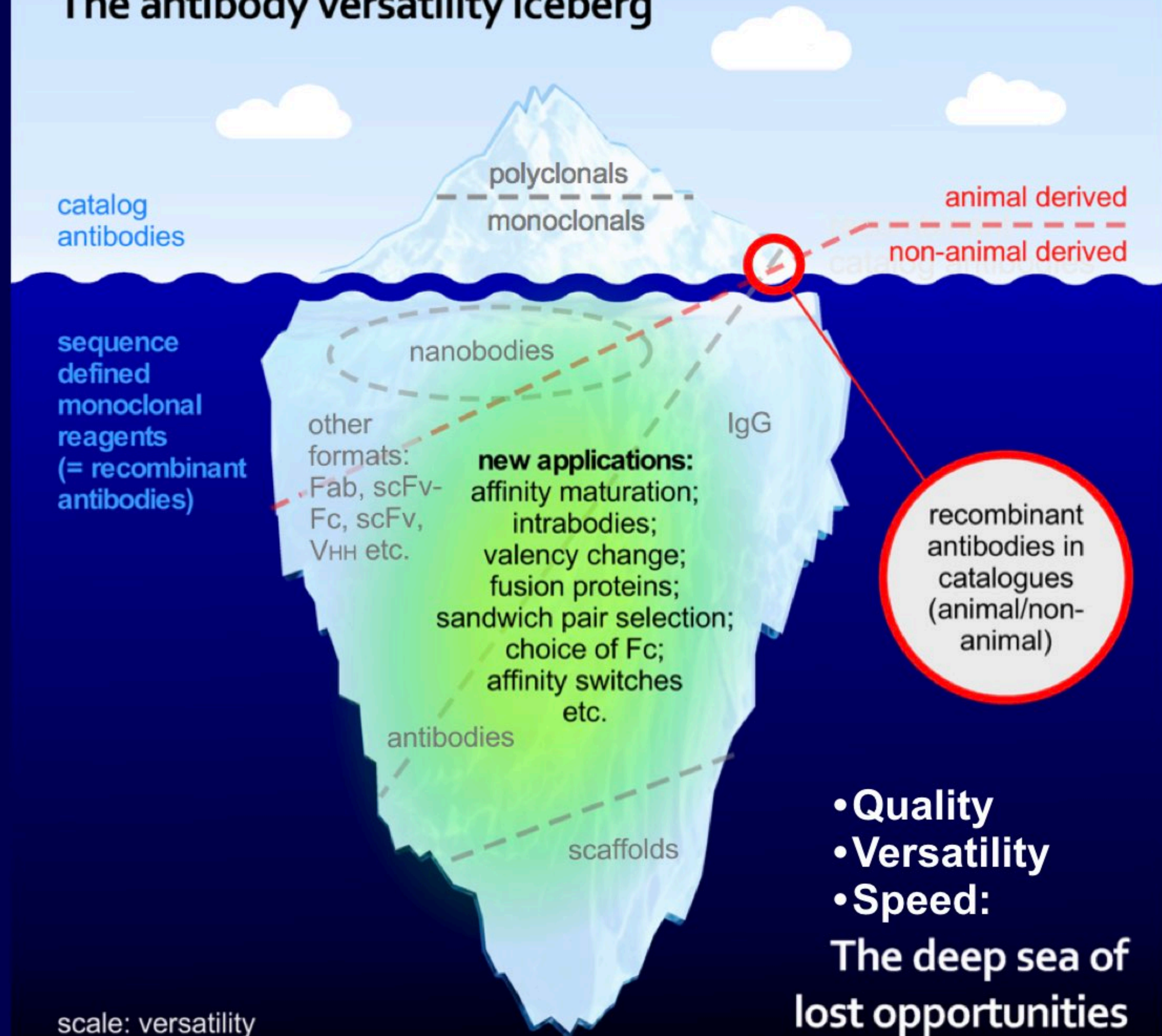
Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses des Deutschen Bundestages

What we miss by not using more animal free antibodies in reserach

The antibody versatility iceberg





Thanks to the people who did all the work!
 & thanks to our many cooperators & funders:



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