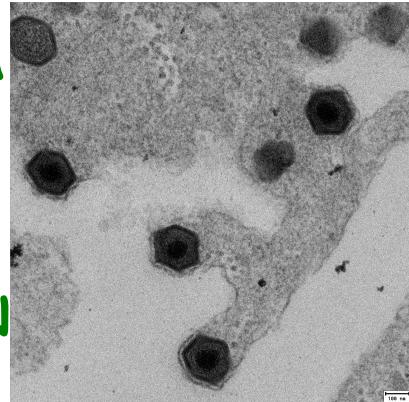


## **ASFV** VIRULENCE

ASFV C ATTENUATION C

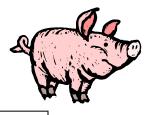


## **ASFV** virulence vs attenuation



#### **VIRUS**

**HOST** 



Highly virulent strains

Chinese strain, Georgia, Armenia, Current circulating virus in UE, Other virulent strains E70, Ba71, OURT88/1, Malawi

NaturallyAttenuated strains

OURT88/3, NH/P68, Latvian Strain (Gallardo et al 2019)

Acute infection 100% mortality

Subacute infection Some mortality in young swine

Persistent infection Clinical lesions chronic ASFV

Naturally attenuated strains protect against homologous and heterologous challenge (NH/P68 vs Lisbon60 and Armenia, CBMSO-CISA, Revilla, 2018).

Understanding ASFV virulence

Ba71V, Georgia-V, adapted strains, do not infect or protect animals from virulent challenge.

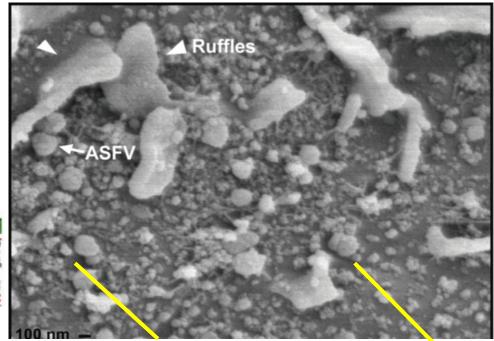
# ASFV Tropism, Mechanisms and Genes Interfering Host Response Pathways: Actors for ASF Vaccine development

Endocytosis –mediated Entry in Macrophages

## Yolanda Revilla



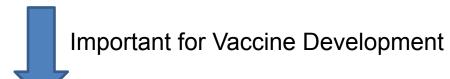




Cell membrane protrusions

#### ASFV GENES AND MECHANISMS INVOLVED IN VIRULENCE

 Approaching the viral and cellular factors, and the molecular mechanism(s) involved in ASFV virulence and attenuation



 Rational design of "Live Attenuated Vaccines" by deletion of specific genes involved in "virulence" to generate new attenuated, safer strains.

#### GENOMIC REGIONS WHICH USUALLY REARRANGE DURING NATURAL ATTENUATION

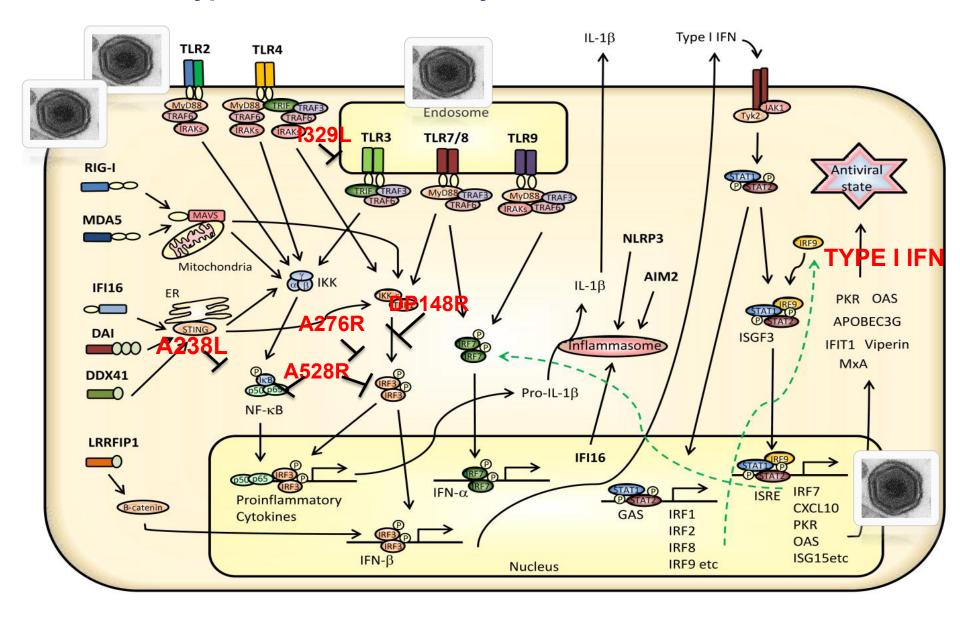
1) Central region of the genome: EP402R is altered in attenuated strains

i.e. CD2v protein is absent in attenuated strains

2) Left and right parts of the viral genome encoding for IFN-modulating genes

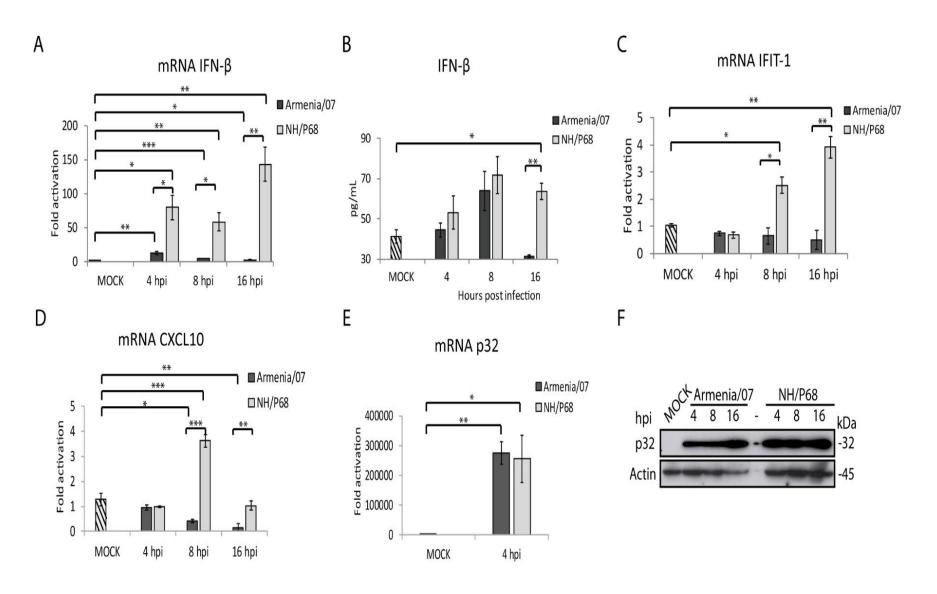
**ROLE OF TYPE I IFN IN VIRULENCE** 

## Type I IFN modulation by virulent ASFV strains



García Belmonte R, Pérez D, Richt J, Revilla Y. J. Virology, April 2019

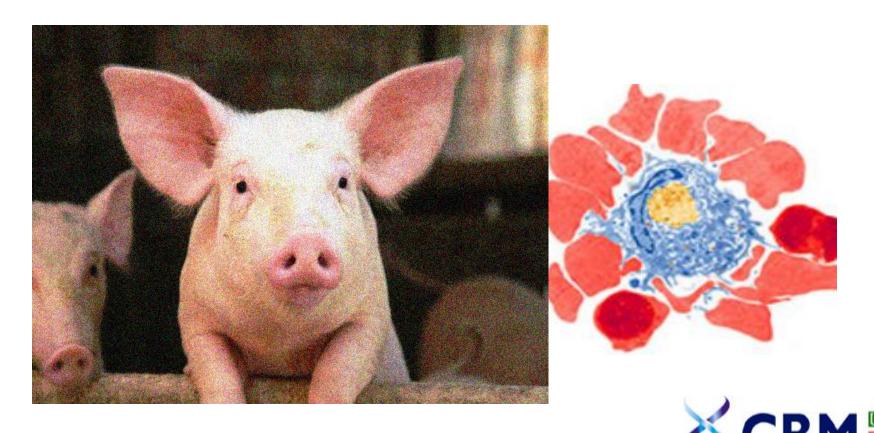
## Virulent ASFV Armenia/07 infection inhibits mRNA and secretion of type I IFN-β by controlling STING



García Belmonte R, Pérez D, Richt J, Revilla Y. J. Virology, April 2019

## ASFV GENES INVOLVED IN VIRULENCE

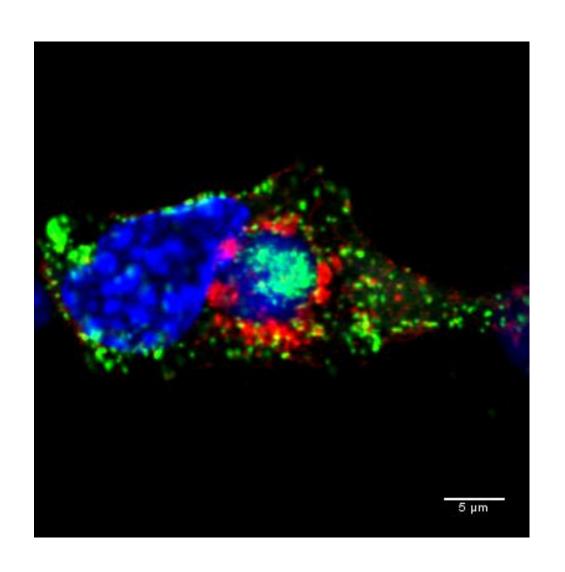
# NATURAL ATTENUATION OF THE VIRULENT STRAINS USUALLY INVOLVES RREARANGEMENT OF SEQUENCES ENCODING ASFV CD2v PROTEIN AND MGFS

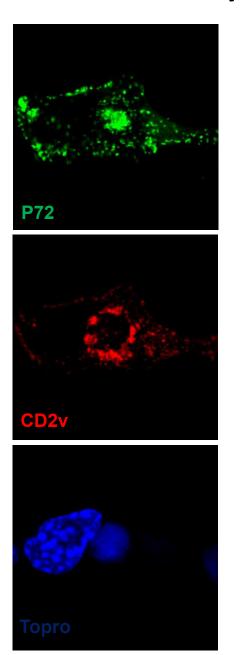


Daniel Pérez Núñez (Y. Revilla's Group)

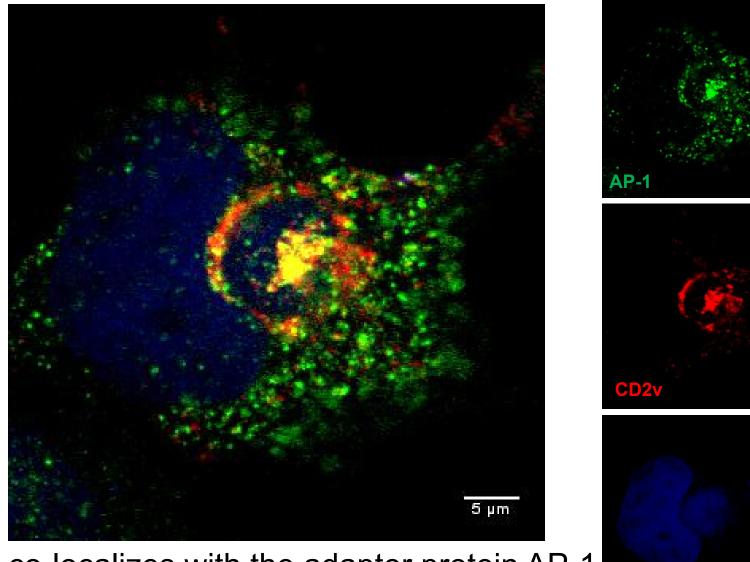
July 11<sup>th</sup> 2018

## EP402R (CD2v) localizes around viral factory





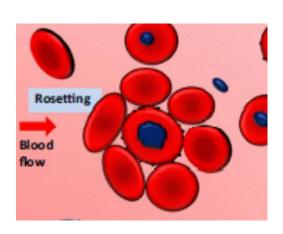
## CD2v localization in ASFV infected cells

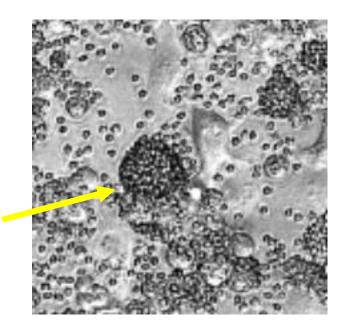


CD2v co-localizes with the adaptor protein AP-1

## Hemadsorption: Role in viral pathogenesis?

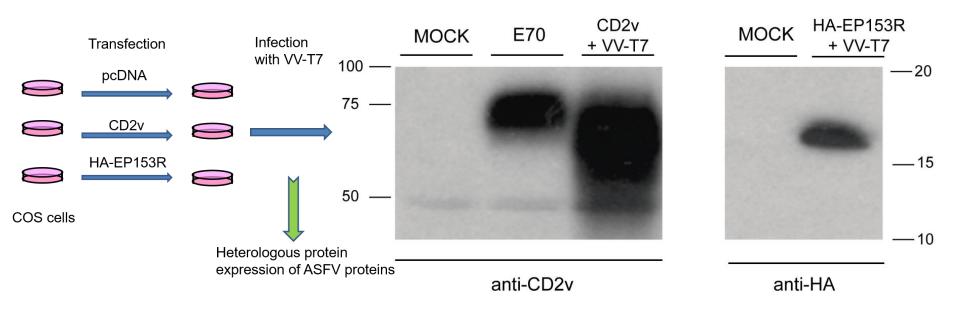
- Adherence of red blood cells to the surface of an infected cell
- Phenomenon related to pathogenesis and infectivity in many pathogens
- Involved in evasion of host-immune system by unknown mechanism



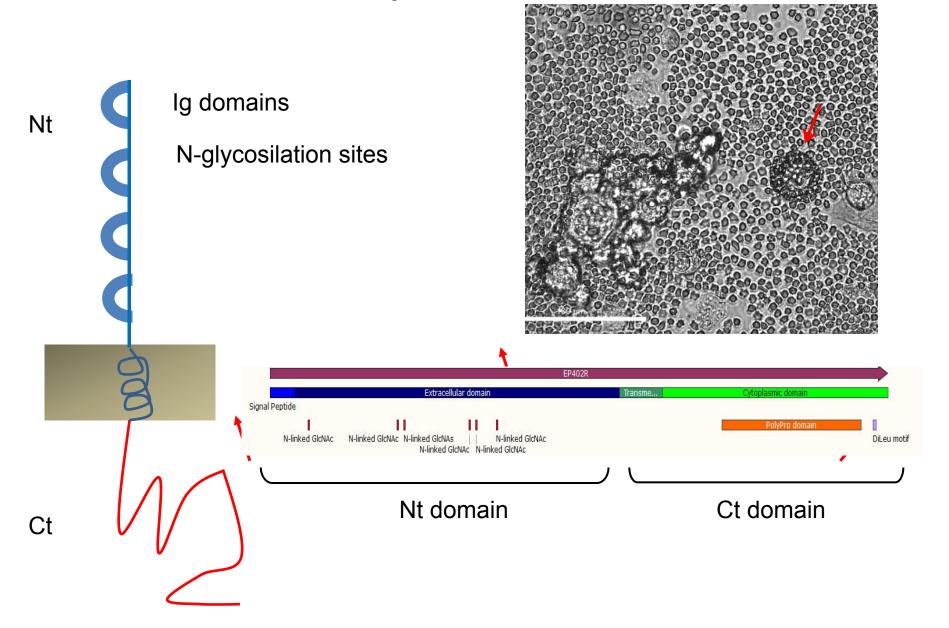


ASFV-rosette: ASFV-infected cell surrounded by RBC

## Role of CD2v in ASFV-depending rosette formation by heterologous expresión of CD2v in COS cells



Transfected CD2 mediates rossette formation and is sufficient for hemadsorption



## Why are ASF succesful vaccines not available so far?

#### 1. High complexity of the virus

# **ASFV** structure

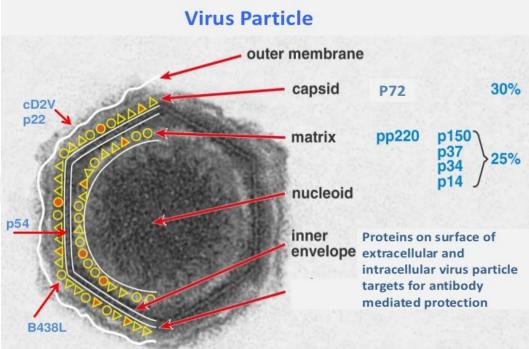
Pippa Hawes IAH



## ASFV virions have a complex multilayer structure More than 50 proteins are present Extracellular and intracellular mature virions are both

infectious

## 2. Inactivated virions do not induce protection



#### RECENT EXPERIMENTS OF VACCINATION

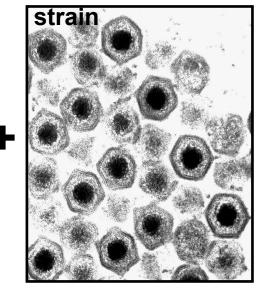
## Vaccination of pigs by using combination of several viral recombinant proteins and DNAs.

KSU

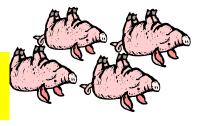
**Year 2016** 

- •p35 protein + CD2vDNA
- •81 % inhibition in vitro
- p15 protein + p72DNA
- •62 % inhibition in vitro
- p54 protein + p32 DNA
- •27 % inhibition in vitro
- CD2v protein + CP312RDNA
- •19 % inhibition in vitro





100% Died !!









## FOCUSING LAVS AS EMERGENCY TOOLS FOR AFFECTED AREAS

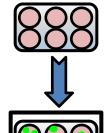
GENERATING LAVS FROM THE VIRULENT, EU CIRCULATING GENOTYPE 2 ARMENIA 07STRAIN BY USING CRISPR/Cas9 TECHNOLOGY. GFP GREEN MARKER INCORPORATED IN THE VIRAL GENOME





## Generación of the recombinant vaccine lacking CD2 from ASFV/Armenia07 by CRISPR

## Generation



COS cells

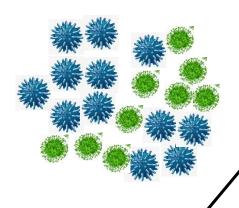
Transfection and Infection (WT virus)

Generation of recombinant virus (GFP+)



ARMENIA07deltaCD2

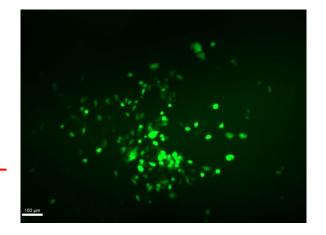
## **Purification**



Isolation of plates

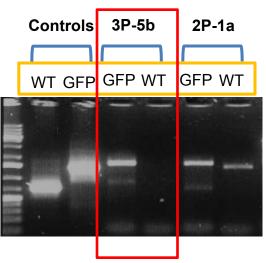
Verification of absence of WT virus:

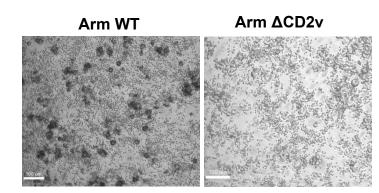
- PCR (GFP vs WT gene)
- WB
- HAD (CD2v dependent)
- NGS
- qPCR



## Generation of recombinant ASFV Arm-ΔCD2v by CRISPR

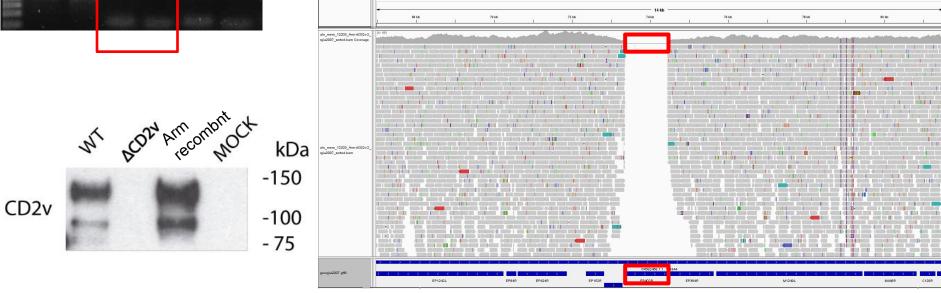
## **Purification**





Verification of absence of WT virus:

- PCR (GFP vs WT gene)
- WB
- HAD (CD2v dependent)
- NGS



# IN VIVO TESTING OF DELETION MUTANTS FROM VIRULENT STRAINS AS VACCINE PROTOTYPES IN VACCINATION/CHALLENGE MODELS

CURRENTLY ON GOING TRIAL IN PIGS BY VACCINATING WITH THE ARMENIA07\(\Delta\)CD2V AND OTHER RECENTLY PREPARED VACCINE PROTOTYPES







## THE VACCINE CHALLENGE FROM NATURALLY ATTENUTED STRAINS: OUR SECOND APPROACH

## ASFV NHV/P68 Naturally ATTENUATED STRAIN

AS MODEL FOR SAFE VACCINE
DEVELOPMENT BY GENERATING
RECOMBINANT VIRUSES
LACKING OF SELECTED GENES



AVOIDING THE
CLINIC SYMPTOMS
AND THE VIREMIA
PRODUCED BY THE
PARENTAL VIRUS



## **WE HAVE FOUND THAT:**

The NHV/P68wt strain, grown in porcine alveolar macrophages (PAM) FULLY protected to the vaccinated pigs against lethal challenge with virulent strains, including Armenia07 (100% of protection)

## **DISADVANTAGES**

#### 1. Side effects related to chronic forms of ASF







- 2. Some low viremia peaks. ENHANCING OF SAFETY REQUIRED!
- 3. INDUSTRIALLY VACCINE PRODUCTION further impaired by the fact of it should be generated in primary MACROPHAGES cultures, since not a fully productive ASFV cell line exists YET

## 1. THE NH/P68 ATTENUATED AS MODEL FOR VACCINE PROTOTYPES

#### **ARTICLE IN PRESS**

Vaccine xxx (2018) xxx-xxx



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### Vaccine

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



African swine fever virus (ASFV) protection mediated by NH/P68 and NH/P68 recombinant live-attenuated viruses

Carmina Gallardo <sup>b,1</sup>, Elena G. Sánchez <sup>a,1</sup>, Daniel Pérez-Núñez <sup>a</sup>, Marisa Nogal <sup>a</sup>, Patricia de León <sup>a</sup>, Ángel L. Carrascosa <sup>a</sup>, Raquel Nieto <sup>b</sup>, Alejandro Soler <sup>b</sup>, María Luisa Arias <sup>b</sup>, Yolanda Revilla <sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Virology Department, Centro Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa, CSIC-UAM, Madrid 28049, Spain

b European Union Reference Laboratory for ASF, Centro de Investigación en Sanidad Animal (INIA-CISA), Madrid, Spain

#### **SOME CONCLUSIONS ABOUT NH/P68 LAVs:**

-OUR MODELS CAN PROTECT AGAINST ARMENIA AND OTHER VIRULENT VIRUS BUT STILL INDUCE CLINICAL SIDE EFFECTS.

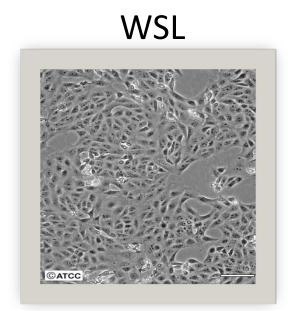
-APPART FROM THE FACT THAT WE STILL NEED MORE STUDIES TO SELECT THE GENES CANDIDATES TO BE DELETED, THE MAIN DRAWBACK WE FOUND IS THAT NO IDEAL CELLULAR SOURCE TO INDUSTRIALLY PRODUCE LAVS FROM ATTENUATED STRAINS IS AVAILABLE SO FAR.

-MODERATE LOSS OF PROTECTION WAS FOUND WERE DELETION MUTANTS WERE ACHIEVED IN COS CELLS

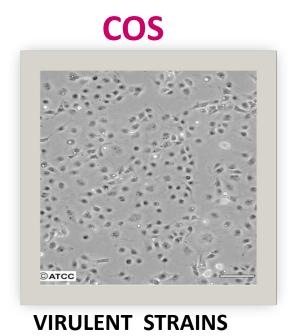




# Monocytes and tissue macrophages are the NATURAL target of ASFV, but primary cultures are not a good option for vaccine production



ASFV- NATURALLY ATTENUATED PROTOTYPES



Armenia07, Sardinian

## SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

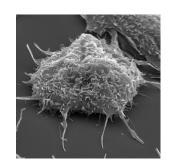
Received: 6 April 2017 Accepted: 1 August 2017

Published online: 04 September 2017

## **OPEN** Phenotyping and susceptibility of established porcine cells lines to African Swine Fever Virus infection and viral production

Elena G. Sánchez<sup>1</sup>, Elena Riera<sup>1</sup>, Marisa Nogal<sup>1</sup>, Carmina Gallardo<sup>5</sup>, Paloma Fernández<sup>1</sup>, Raquel Bello-Morales3, José Antonio López-Guerrero3, Carol G. Chitko-McKown4, Jürgen A. Richt<sup>2</sup> & Yolanda Revilla<sup>1</sup>

NEXT: CRISPR AND LENTIVIRUS-MEDIATED MODIFICATION OF SELECTED CELL FACTORS FROM COS AND WSL CELLS TO IMPROVE LAV VACCINE DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION

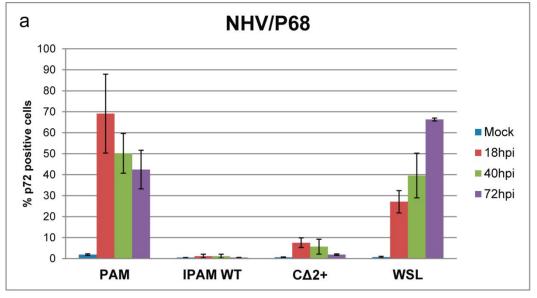


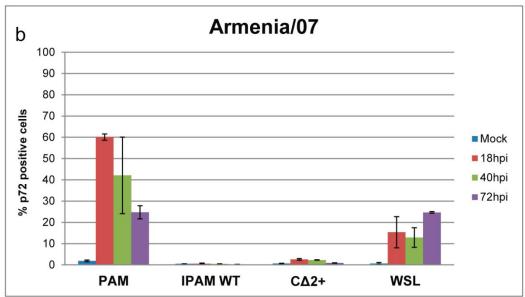
## 非常感谢您的关注! ¡Gracias! THANK YOU!



#### FACS analysis of p72 expression in PAM, IPAM-WT, C $\Delta$ 2+ and WSL infected cells.

Cells were infected with NHV/P68 (a) or Armenia/07 (b) (MOI=1) and at 18, 40 and 72 hpi, cells were processed for FACS analysis. The percentage of infected cells was detected with a MoAb anti p72-17LD3 antibody ( $n \ge 2$ , performed in duplicate; mean  $\pm$ S.D.)





## from the NHV/P68 ASFV genome

**1.NHV/P68** - $\Delta$ A238L $\rightarrow$  A238L protein inhibits key pathways involved in activating transcription of immunomodulatory genes

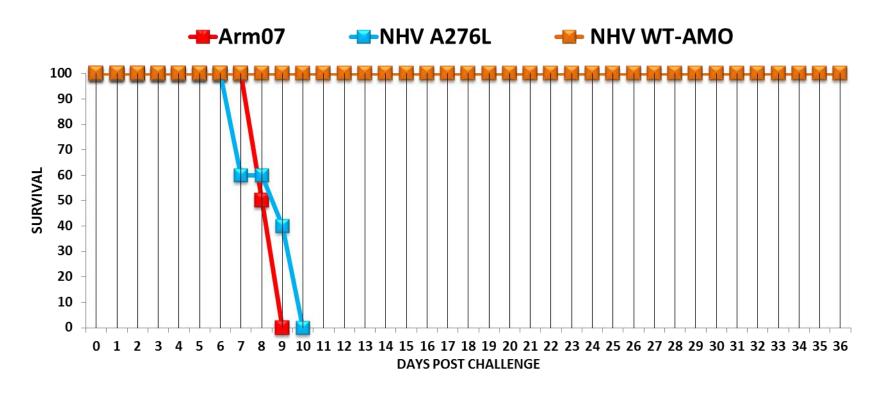
2.NHV/P68 -△A276R  $\rightarrow$  A276R gene inhibits the induction of IFN-β



The main goal was to assess whether the NHV/P68Δ A238L and NHV/P68 Δ A276R were able to induce protective immunity in pigs against a lethal challenge and their ability to reduce the adverse clinical signs produced by the attenuated strain.

## **RESULTS:** THE CHALLENGE D29PI

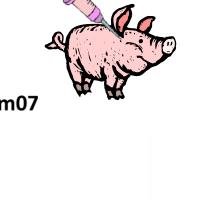
## GROUP 2 NHV-PAM → After challenge Armenia (d29pi).



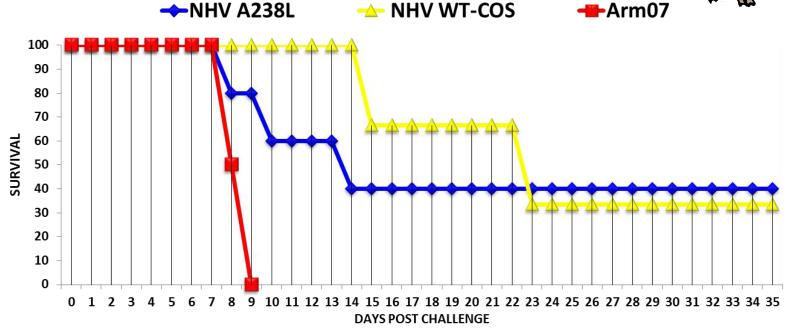
- NHV∆A276L 0 % survival (0/5) slaughtered between days 7 10 pc-
- **❖ NHV-PAM CONTROL 100% SURVIVAL (2/2)**
- Armenia Controls: 0% Survival, slaughtered 8-9 dpi.

## **RESULTS:** THE CHALLENGE D29PI

## GROUP 1 NHV-COS → SURVIVAL RATE



**Arm07 10** UHA



- **❖** Armenia Controls : 0% SURVIVAL at 8 -9 días post inoculation
- NHV-∆A238L-COS 40 % survival (2/5) → slaughtered at day 8 and 14 pc.
- NHV-COS-control 33,4% <u>survival</u> (1/3) → <u>slaughtered days 15-23 pc.</u>