

Exhibit 43

Dr. Kevin Stillwagon: Public Health Lessons at the Orange County Commissioners Meeting

Meeting held September 14, 2021.

See <https://www.extremelyamerican.com/post/dr-kevin-stillwagon-public-health-lessons-at-the-orange-county-commissioners-meeting>

DR. KEVIN STILLWAGON OBLITERATES THE MINDLESS MASK AND VACCINE MANDATE NARRATIVE

See <https://www.bitchute.com/video/G80o7GhOZAFi/>

“My name is Dr. Kevin Stillwagon. I am a property owner and a taxpayer in Orange County. You're making some really bad decisions based on fear of a virus it has about a 99% survival rate for most of us. That is unsubstantiated fear. So let me give you a couple of things to truly be fearful about. That mask that you keep insisting that people wear decreases the amount of oxygen in your lung tissue. We now know that this virus uses something called a ‘furin cleavage site’ to merge with your lung tissue to infect you. And it works better with decreased oxygen. and peer reviewed research clearly shows that wearing a mask increases your chances of developing an upper respiratory infection 13 times more than a person not wearing a mask. So, I would stop wearing a mask immediately if I were you. secondly this shot that you insist on people getting gives you absolutely no protection against infection. It is the innate immune system that protects you from infection by using dendritic cells, T cells and natural killer cells without antibodies ever becoming involved. This shot has one goal and that goal is to make antibodies. These antibodies circulate inside of you and cannot prevent an infection. They can only react to something that has already gotten inside of you. They cannot keep something out. the shot decreases the ability of your innate immune system to keep viruses out by 60% and a booster shot will reduce it even more. even worse the antibodies that are created by this shot can no longer neutralize variants and actually enhance the virus ability to infect you. It should be painfully obvious to you by now that fully vaccinated people are getting sick. and this will continue to get worse if you keep trying to jab people while a virus is trying to spread. the variants are emerging from the vaccinated population. This so called vaccine is still being administered on what's called an emergency use authorization. It is not FDA approved. The FDA approved a biological licensing application for a product called community. The application was approved, not the product.”

See <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8346238/>

SARS-CoV-2 spike and its adaptable furin cleavage site

Try out [PMC Labs](#) and tell us what you think. [Learn More.](#)

Elsevier Public Health Emergency Collection

Public Health Emergency COVID-19 Initiative

[Lancet Microbe](#). 2021 Oct; 2(10): e488–e489.

PMCID: PMC8346238

Published online 2021 Aug 6. doi: [10.1016/S2666-5247\(21\)00174-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-5247(21)00174-9)

PMID: [34396356](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34396356/)

SARS-CoV-2 spike and its adaptable furin cleavage site

[Gary R Whittaker](#)^a

^aCollege of Veterinary Medicine and Public Health Program, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, USA

[Copyright](#) © 2021 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an Open Access article under the CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license

Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website. Elsevier hereby grants permission to make all its COVID-19-related research that is available on the COVID-19 resource centre - including this research content - immediately available in PubMed Central and other publicly funded repositories, such as the WHO COVID database with rights for unrestricted research re-use and analyses in any form or by any means with acknowledgement of the original source. These permissions are granted for free by Elsevier for as long as the COVID-19 resource centre remains active.

Much attention has been drawn to the origin of SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of COVID-19. One notable feature of SARS-CoV-2 is a four-amino acid insert starting with proline (SPRRAR|S) at the junction of the receptor-binding (S1) and fusion (S2) domains of the spike protein. Following the release of the SARS-CoV-2 genome, several groups identified this insert as a potential cleavage site for the protease furin—the insert has also been referred to as a polybasic site and proposed to be part of the proximal origin of the ongoing pandemic.¹ Proteolytic cleavage is widely used to activate the fusion machinery of viral glycoproteins. However, studies on coronaviruses—including SARS-CoV-2—have shown that activation of the spike proteins of these particular viruses is not straightforward, and is often a complex process involving more than one cleavage event at distinct sites and with the involvement of several host proteases.² As such, any consideration of spike protein origin and function need to be considered along with the natural history of coronaviruses and how the spike protein adapts to a milieu of different species, tissue types, and cell types.^{3, 4}

Furin is ubiquitously expressed in the Golgi apparatus of all cells,⁵ but generally only at low levels. Furin has a well known role in viral pathogenesis and efficiently cleaves polybasic or multi-basic sites such as those found in influenza virus subtypes H5 and H7. These highly pathogenic avian influenza viruses have therefore served as a model for the role of furin cleavage as a viral virulence factor. Mechanistically, this furin site is created through polymerase slippage during replication and occurs at the interface of the HA1 and HA2 subdomains. Such polybasic sites typically exist as a stretch of 6–7

arginine and lysine residues (eg, RKKRKR|G) that can be efficiently cleaved by furin, thereby allowing systemic spread based on the ubiquitous expression of the protease.⁶ Without the polybasic cleavage site, infection is restricted on the basis of the localised presence of the trypsin-like proteases activating low pathogenicity influenza viruses. Other influenza viruses (such as H9) modulate the cleavage site sequence through mutation and recombination.

For coronaviruses, furin cleavage sites at the interface of the S1 and S2 domain are not unusual, being found widely in betacoronaviruses in the embeco lineage (which are considered to be of rodent origin) as well as in avian-origin gammacoronaviruses and certain feline and canine alphacoronaviruses (with an unknown origin). Furin cleavage sites are also found in certain bat-origin MERS-like merbecoviruses, but not—with the exception of SARS-CoV-2—in the sarbecovirus lineage. The presence of a furin cleavage motif at the SARS-CoV-2 S1–S2 interface is therefore highly unusual, leading to the smoking gun hypothesis of manipulation that has recently gained considerable attention as a possible origin of SARS-CoV-2. However, with analogy to influenza, it was shown many years ago that the simple insertion of a polybasic site into an H3 virus does not result in a high pathogenicity phenotype⁷ and is likely to only function in the context of a series of other genomic changes provided by a process of natural selection.

So far, a viable natural origin for the SARS-CoV-2 S1–S2 site through recombination or mutation of a bat-origin virus has proved to be elusive. Of note, the S1–S2 cleavage site of SARS-CoV-2 does not comprise the pattern found in prototypical furin cleavage sites (it is RRxR and not RxK/RR),⁸ making its origin enigmatic. One feature of the S1–S2 junction for the SARS-CoV-2 spike from the original outbreak is the presence of a leading proline residue, which might have promoted furin cleavage. As new variants emerged, the leading proline was first replaced by a histidine in B.1.1.7 and now with an arginine in variants such as B.1.617^{9, 10} to turn the tri-basic PRRAR|S sequence to RRRAR|S, with these cleavage site changes occurring on the background of other genomic adaptations. However, such variant cleavage sites are still not ideal for furin—as would be found in the prototype embecovirus mouse hepatitis virus (RRARR|S)—but do appear to be making S1–S2 more polybasic as the pandemic continues and transmissibility increases. We always need to remember not to oversimplify the complex process of spike protein activation; however, it will be interesting to see whether this progression of basic residue addition continues with new variants, towards that seen in established community-acquired respiratory coronaviruses such as HCoV-HKU-1 or HCoV-OC43—both embecoviruses with S1–S2 sequences of RRKRR|S and RRSRR|A, respectively.

Acknowledgments

I declare no competing interests.

References

1. Andersen KG, Rambaut A, Lipkin WI, Holmes EC, Garry RF. The proximal origin of SARS-CoV-2. *Nat Med*. 2020;26:450–452. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
2. Hulswit RJG, de Haan C a. M, Bosch B-J. Coronavirus spike protein and tropism changes. *Adv Virus Res*. 2016;96:29–57. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
3. Graham RL, Baric RS. Recombination, reservoirs, and the modular spike: mechanisms of coronavirus cross-species transmission. *J Virol*. 2010;84:3134–3146. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
4. Whittaker GR, Daniel S, Millet JK. Coronavirus entry: how we arrived at SARS-CoV-2. *Curr Opin Virol*. 2021;47:113–120. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]

5. Thomas G. Furin at the cutting edge: from protein traffic to embryogenesis and disease. *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol.* 2002;3:753–766. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
6. Steinhauer DA. Role of hemagglutinin cleavage for the pathogenicity of influenza virus. *Virology.* 1999;258:1–20. [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
7. Schrauwen EJA, Bestebroer TM, Munster VJ. Insertion of a multibasic cleavage site in the haemagglutinin of human influenza H3N2 virus does not increase pathogenicity in ferrets. *J Gen Virol.* 2011;92:1410–1415. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
8. Tang T, Jaimes JA, Bidon MK, Straus MR, Daniel S, Whittaker GR. Proteolytic activation of SARS-CoV-2 spike at the S1/S2 boundary: potential role of proteases beyond furin. *ACS Infect Dis.* 2021;7:264–272. [[PMC free article](#)] [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
9. Lubinski B, Tang T, Daniel S, Jaimes JA, Whittaker GR. Functional evaluation of proteolytic activation for the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.7: role of the P681H mutation. *bioRxiv.* 2021 doi: 10.1101/2021.04.06.438731. published online April 8. (preprint). [[CrossRef](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]
10. Peacock TP, Sheppard CM, Brown JC. The SARS-CoV-2 variants associated with infections in India, B.1.617, show enhanced spike cleavage by furin. *bioRxiv.* 2021 doi: 10.1101/2021.05.28.446163. published online May 28. (preprint). [[CrossRef](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)]