

Genetic Evidence and Host Immune Response in Persons Reinfected with SARS-CoV-2, Brazil

Appendix

Detailed Materials and Methods

Measurement of Serum SARS-CoV-2 antibodies

For quantitative analysis of anti-SARS-CoV-2 spike protein IgM, IgA, and IgG antibodies, we performed the S-UFRJ test, as previously described (R.G.F. Alvim et al., unpub. data, <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.07.13.20152884>). Briefly, high binding ELISA plates were coated with 50 μ L of SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (4 μ g/mL in phosphate-buffered saline [PBS]) and incubated overnight. The coating solution was removed, and 100 μ L of PBS 1% BSA (blocking solution) was added, and the plate was incubated at room temperature (RT) for 1–2 h. The blocking solution was removed, and 50 μ L of diluted 1:40 (PBS 1% BSA) patient serum specimens were added; subsequently, the specimens were serially 3-fold diluted in the plate, which was incubated at RT for 2 h. Then, the plate was washed with 150 μ L of PBS (5 \times) and 50 μ L of 1:10,000 goat anti-human IgG, IgA, and IgM (Fc)-horseradish peroxidase antibody (SouthernBiotech, <https://www.southernbiotech.com>) were added, and the plate was incubated for 1.5 h at RT. The plate was washed again with 150 μ L of PBS (5 \times) and then treated with TMB (3,3', 5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine) (Scienco, <http://www.scienco.bio.br>) until the reaction was stopped with 50 μ L of HCl 1N. The optical density (OD) was read at 450 nm with 655 nm background compensation in a microplate reader (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc., <https://www.bio-rad.com>).

Quantification of Plasma Cytokine Levels

Plasma samples from the acute and convalescent phases of the 2 episodes of SARS-CoV-2 infection were collected in EDTA-containing tubes. Tubes were placed on ice and aliquoted. Commercial ELISA kits (R&D Systems, <https://www.rndsystems.com>) were used to measure interferon (IFN)- α , - β and - γ , interleukin (IL)-6, -8 and -10, tumor necrosis factor α (TNF- α) and

induced protein 10 (IP10)/C-X-C motif chemokine ligand 10 (CXCL-10). This panel of mediators provides evidence for host production of antiviral, pro-inflammatory, and regulatory responses.

Plaque Reduction Neutralization Test (PRNT)

To determine serum titers to block SARS-CoV-2 infection, miniaturized PRNT was performed. In brief, human serum was heat-inactivated (30 min, 56°C) before 2-fold serial dilutions (from 1:4 to 1:2,056). Diluted serum specimens were incubated with 100 PFUs (PFU) of SARS-CoV-2 (GenBank accession no. MT710714) for 1 h at 37°C in 96-well plates. Afterward, mixtures of serum and virus were incubated with Vero E6 cells (2×10^4 cell/well) in 96-well plates for an additional 1 h at 37°C. Next, a fresh semisolid medium containing 2.4% of carboxymethylcellulose (CMC) was added to the wells, and cultures were maintained for 72 h at 37°C. Cells were fixed with 10% formalin for 2 h at room temperature and stained with crystal violet (0.4%). Endpoint dilution inhibiting 90% PFU (PRNT₉₀) was scored. As a control, to validate each assay, a back-titration of the mock-treated virus was included. Our quality control accepts the final readout of the virus input to be equivalent to 100 ± 20 PFU. Plaque numbers were scored in ≥ 3 independent experiments with technical replicates by 2 independent blinded readers to determine the PRNT₉₀ (Appendix Figure 1).

Molecular Diagnosis

The total viral RNA was extracted using QIAamp Viral RNA (QIAGEN, <https://www.qiagen.com>), according to the manufacturer's instructions. Quantitative RT-PCR was performed using GoTaq Probe qPCR and RT-qPCR Systems (Promega, <https://www.promega.com>) in a StepOne Real-Time PCR System (Thermo Fisher Scientific, <https://www.thermofisher.com>). Amplifications were carried out in 25 μ L reaction mixtures containing 2 \times reaction mix buffer, 50 μ M of each primer, 10 μ M of the probe, and 5 μ L of RNA template. Primers, probes, and cycling conditions used to detect the SARS-CoV-2 RNA were those recommended by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (1). The standard curve method was employed for virus quantification, using synthetic RNA for gene N (Microbiologics, Minnesota, USA). The C_t values for this target were compared with those obtained with different cell amounts (10^7 to 10^2), for reaction calibration.

Genomic Analysis

Total viral RNA from nasopharyngeal swabs was extracted using QIAamp Viral RNA (QIAGEN), with minor modifications (2). In brief, extraction was performed in 2 mL of sample/lysis buffer (1:1) without RNA carrier, and purified RNA was obtained after binding and

elution from a single silica column. For better yields, a 50- μ L eluate was repetitively loaded (4 \times) to the same column. Tests were performed to evaluate if digestion with DNase I and depletion of rRNA enhanced the quantity/quality of SARS-CoV-2-related reads. Samples negative for SARS-CoV-2 and positive for Zika or chikungunya virus were included as controls.

To improve sequencing readout, an amplicon-based enrichment strategy was carried out with the ATOplex SARS-CoV-2 Full-Length Genome Panel v1.0 (kindly donated by MGI Tech Co., <https://en.mgi-tech.com>). For library construction, RNA samples were first quantified with the Qubit RNA BR Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific), according to the manufacturer's instructions. Approximately 5 ng of each sample were then used as inputs to reverse transcription (RT) reactions, followed by two-step multiplex PCR-based genome amplification and dual adaptor indexing (i.e., barcoding) using proprietary primer sets. Products were purified with DNA Clean beads at a 5:6 volume ratio and subsequent washing steps with 80% ethanol. Next, individual libraries were quantified with the Qubit 1X dsDNA HS Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and homogeneously pooled to a total sum of 400 ng, before being submitted to denaturation, circularization, and digestion steps. Finally, single-stranded circular DNA library pools were converted to DNA nanoballs by rolling circle amplification and submitted to pair-end sequencing (100 nt) on the MGISEQ-2000 platform (recently named as DNBSEQ-G400; MGI Tech Co. Ltd).

Genomic sequences were quality-scored, filtered, trimmed, and assembled in contigs through a validated workflow for SARS-CoV-2 (3). Genomes were aligned with MAFFT (4) or ClustalW (5), and phylogenies were constructed with MEGA version 7.0 (6,7), using the Jukes-Cantor model for Maximum likelihood estimates, by applying neighbor-join and BioNJ algorithms (8). The tree with the highest log-likelihood was used. Alternatively, MrBayes version 3.2.7 (<http://nbisweden.github.io/MrBayes>) was used for Bayesian inference (9,10) with a relaxed clock model with a priori model testing using the gamma rates and invariant sites (G + I) nucleotide substitution model, selected by jModelTest version 1.6 (<http://darwin.uvigo.es/software/jmodeltest.htm>) (11,12). The tree was visualized and edited with FigTree version 1.4.2 (<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk>). SARS-CoV-2 clades were determined using the Web site <https://clades.nextstrain.org>. To categorize mutations and polymorphisms, the SARS-CoV-2 reference genome Wuhan-Hu-1 (GISAID EPI ISL no. 402125) was aligned to our sequences. The original sequences used in this work are publicly available on <https://www.gisaid.org>: GISAID EPI ISL nos. 636737, 636834–636838. The dataset included in the analysis contained representative sequences of the emerging clades associated with our

sequences, 19A and 20B, as well as sequences from the genome 20A as a negative control (Appendix Table 1).

References

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Appendix Table 1. Access codes for sequences used in tree construction compared with patients' virus sequences in study of patients reinfecting with severe acute respiratory coronavirus 2, Brazil, 2020

No.	Name	Accession code
1	hCoV-19/Wuhan/Hu-1/2019	EPI_ISL_402125
2	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-UFRJ-9331/2020 EPI_ISL_492036 2020-06-01	EPI_ISL_492036
3	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C44/2020 EPI_ISL_513551 2020-04-17	EPI_ISL_513551
4	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C39/2020 EPI_ISL_513547 2020-04-17	EPI_ISL_513547
5	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C38/2020 EPI_ISL_513546 2020-04-17	EPI_ISL_513546
6	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C37/2020 EPI_ISL_513545 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513545
7	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C36/2020 EPI_ISL_513544 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513544
8	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C34/2020 EPI_ISL_513542 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513542
9	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C33/2020 EPI_ISL_513541 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513541
10	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C31/2020 EPI_ISL_513539 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513539
11	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C30/2020 EPI_ISL_513538 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513538
12	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C29/2020 EPI_ISL_513537 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513537
13	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C27/2020 EPI_ISL_513535 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513535
14	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C25/2020 EPI_ISL_513533 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513533
15	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C24/2020 EPI_ISL_513532 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513532
16	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C23/2020 EPI_ISL_513531 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513531
17	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C22/2020 EPI_ISL_513530 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_513530
18	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C14/2020 EPI_ISL_513517 2020-04-14	EPI_ISL_513517
19	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C13/2020 EPI_ISL_513516 2020-04-14	EPI_ISL_513516
20	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C12/2020 EPI_ISL_513515 2020-04-14	EPI_ISL_513515
21	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C07/2020 EPI_ISL_513514 2020-04-08	EPI_ISL_513514
22	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-INCA-C06/2020 EPI_ISL_513513 2020-04-08	EPI_ISL_513513
23	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-DCVN1/2020 EPI_ISL_509434 2020-03-23	EPI_ISL_509434
24	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-899/2020 EPI_ISL_456071 2020-03-30	EPI_ISL_456071
25	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-2072/2020 EPI_ISL_456104 2020-04-16	EPI_ISL_456104
26	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1921/2020 EPI_ISL_456091 2020-04-09	EPI_ISL_456091
27	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1719/2020 EPI_ISL_456088 2020-04-06	EPI_ISL_456088
28	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1702/2020 EPI_ISL_456087 2020-04-08	EPI_ISL_456087
29	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1690/2020 EPI_ISL_456084 2020-04-08	EPI_ISL_456084
30	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1627/2020 EPI_ISL_456083 2020-04-03	EPI_ISL_456083
31	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1595/2020 EPI_ISL_467346 2020-04-02	EPI_ISL_467346
32	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1555/2020 EPI_ISL_467344 2020-04-02	EPI_ISL_467344
33	hCoV-19/Brazil/GO-L19-CD410/2020 EPI_ISL_476333 2020-04-02	EPI_ISL_476333
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35	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-193/2020 EPI_ISL_523984 2020-04-19	EPI_ISL_523984
36	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-240/2020 EPI_ISL_524468 2020-05-01	EPI_ISL_524468
37	hCoV-19/Brazil/PE-IAM1126/2020 EPI_ISL_572379 2020-05-07	EPI_ISL_572379
38	hCoV-19/Brazil/SC-L15-CD265/2020 EPI_ISL_476259 2020-03-29	EPI_ISL_476259
39	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-L14-CD257/2020 EPI_ISL_476253 2020-03-27	EPI_ISL_476253
40	hCoV-19/Brazil/SC-0244/2020 EPI_ISL_470653 2020-03-18	EPI_ISL_470653
41	hCoV-19/Brazil/AL-837/2020 EPI_ISL_427292 2020-03-18	EPI_ISL_427292
42	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-294/2020 EPI_ISL_527862 2020-03-30	EPI_ISL_527862
43	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-L5-CAMPI91/2020 EPI_ISL_476419 2020-04-23	EPI_ISL_476419
44	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-254/2020 EPI_ISL_524469 2020-05-05	EPI_ISL_524469
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49	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-321/2020 EPI_ISL_534316 2020-05-02	EPI_ISL_534316
50	hCoV-19/South_Korea/KCDC2712/2020 EPI_ISL_522491 2020-07-11	EPI_ISL_522491
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55	hCoV-19/Norway/3069/2020 EPI_ISL_549084 2020-08-10	EPI_ISL_549084
56	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-370/2020 EPI_ISL_583500 2020-06-29	EPI_ISL_583500
57	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-UFRJ-9331/2020 EPI_ISL_492036 2020-06-01	EPI_ISL_492036
58	hCoV-19/Thailand/Bangkok-0071/2020 EPI_ISL_445380 2020-03-30	EPI_ISL_445380
59	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-439/2020 EPI_ISL_603036 2020-07-10	EPI_ISL_603036
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62	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-398/2020 EPI_ISL_603028 2020-06-30	EPI_ISL_603028
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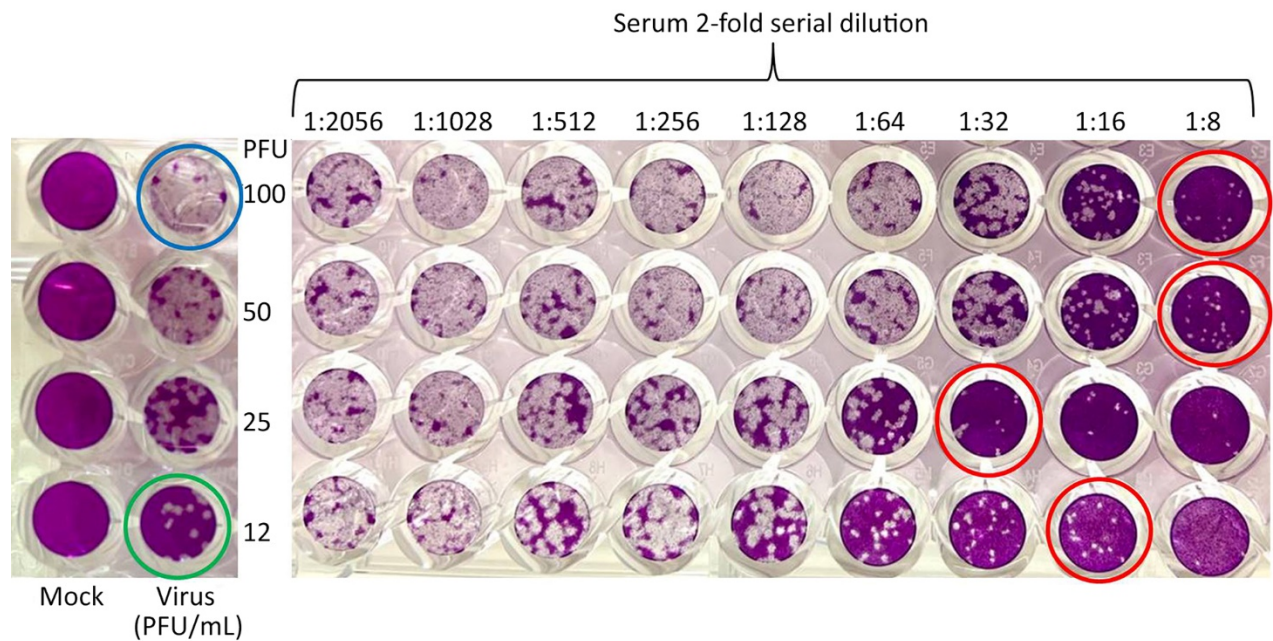
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69	hCoV-19/Ecuador/USFQ-110/2020 EPI_ISL_486845 2020-06-30	EPI_ISL_486845
70	hCoV-19/Italy/APU-UniMI-123PT/2020 EPI_ISL_525554 2020-07-20	EPI_ISL_525554
71	hCoV-19/Brazil/GO-L19-CD413/2020 EPI_ISL_476336 2020-04-02	EPI_ISL_476336
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77	hCoV-19/Mexico/HID-InDRE-54/2020 EPI_ISL_576257 2020-07-22	EPI_ISL_576257
78	hCoV-19/Mexico/CMX-INMEGEN-02/2020 EPI_ISL_522873 2020-07-31	EPI_ISL_522873
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82	hCoV-19/Peru/LIM-UPCH-0160/2020 EPI_ISL_568553 2020-08-28	EPI_ISL_568553
83	hCoV-19/CotedIvoire/BKE0891/2020 EPI_ISL_614389 2020-08-18	EPI_ISL_614389
84	hCoV-19/Peru/LIM-INS-120/2020 EPI_ISL_536518 2020-05-05	EPI_ISL_536518
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104	hCoV-19/Brazil/SP-405/2020 EPI_ISL_547577 2020-07-06	EPI_ISL_547577
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116	hCoV-19/Brazil/BA-L17-CD359/2020 EPI_ISL_476305 2020-03-31	EPI_ISL_476305
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121	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-UFRJ-58271/2020 EPI_ISL_492048 2020-06-01	EPI_ISL_492048
122	hCoV-19/Brazil/DF-615i/2020 EPI_ISL_427294 2020-03-13	EPI_ISL_427294
123	hCoV-19/Spain/GA-IBV-98006079/2020 EPI_ISL_541066 2020-07-03	EPI_ISL_541066
124	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-00316/2020 EPI_ISL_623119 2020-05-04	EPI_ISL_623119
125	hCoV-19/Argentina/PAIS-A0024/2020 EPI_ISL_430815 2020-04-18	EPI_ISL_430815
126	hCoV-19/Argentina/Heritas_HG001/2020 EPI_ISL_476496 2020-04-22	EPI_ISL_476496
127	hCoV-19/Argentina/Heritas_HG006/2020 EPI_ISL_476561 2020-05-07	EPI_ISL_476561
128	hCoV-19/Argentina/Heritas_HG007/2020 EPI_ISL_476565 2020-05-09	EPI_ISL_476565
129	hCoV-19/Argentina/Heritas-HG023/2020 EPI_ISL_615121 2020-05-26	EPI_ISL_615121
130	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-1466/2020 EPI_ISL_456081 2020-04-06	EPI_ISL_456081
131	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ0272/2020 EPI_ISL_470638 2020-04-17	EPI_ISL_470638

No.	Name	Accession code
132	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ0256/2020 EPI_ISL_470624 2020-04-03	EPI_ISL_470624
133	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ0254/2020 EPI_ISL_470622 2020-04-01	EPI_ISL_470622
134	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ0251/2020 EPI_ISL_470619 2020-03-27	EPI_ISL_470619
135	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ0248/2020 EPI_ISL_470616 2020-03-24	EPI_ISL_470616
136	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-0720/2020	EPI_ISL_636836
137	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-01020/2020	EPI_ISL_636834
138	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-06020/2020	EPI_ISL_636737
139	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-01020-2/2020	EPI_ISL_636835
140	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-0720.2/2020	EPI_ISL_63683
141	hCoV-19/Brazil/RJ-0920/2020	EPI_ISL_63683

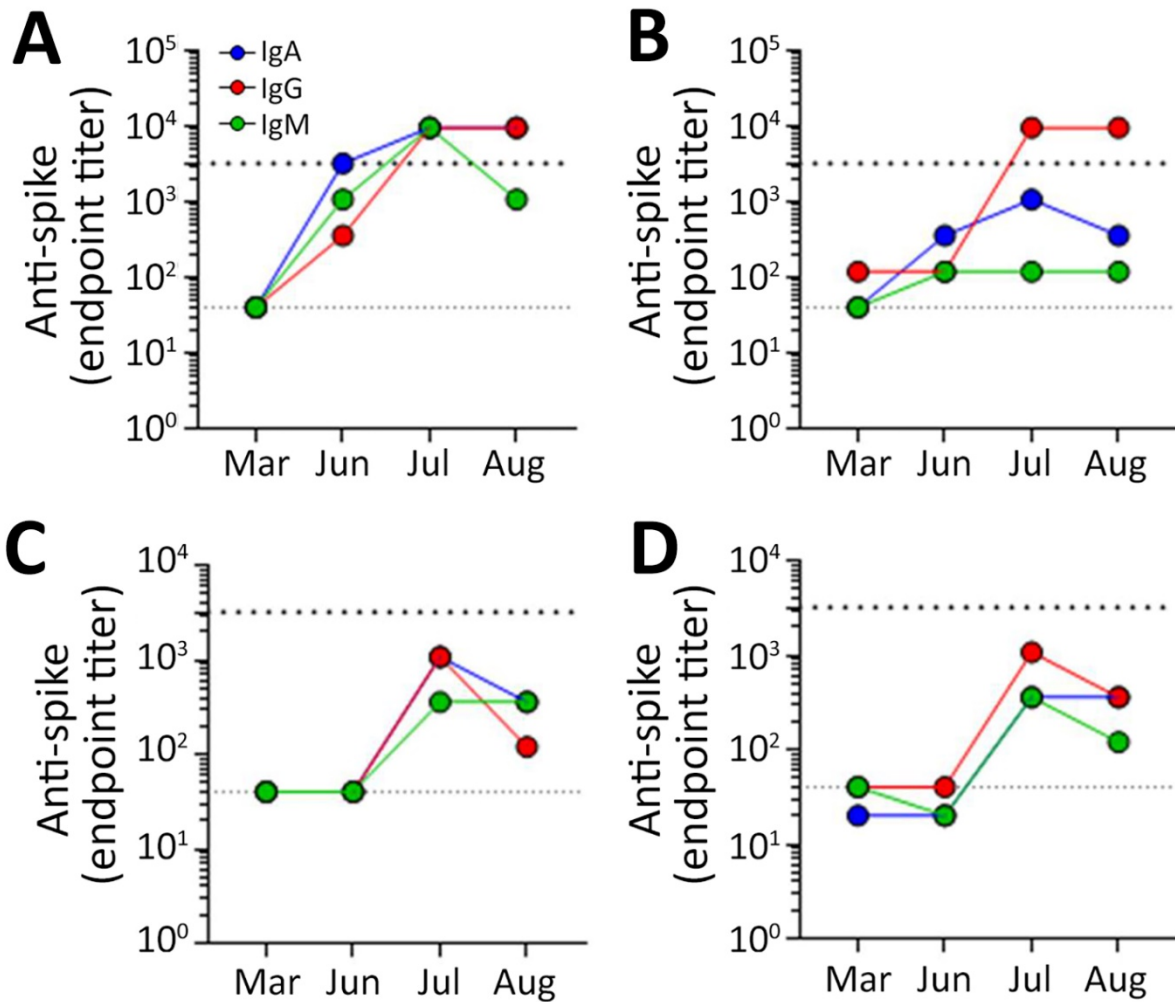
Appendix Table 2. Genetic characteristics of the SARS-CoV-2 sequences detected in patients who were infected twice, Brazil, 2020

Characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 sequences	First episode of infection		Second episode of infection			
	Patient B (% quasispecies)	Patient C (% quasispecies)	Patient A (% quasispecies)	Patient B (% quasispecies)	Patient C (% quasispecies)	Patient D (% quasispecies)
No. reads	>140K	>2.600K	>472K	>24.400K	>15.600K	>20.000K
Phred quality score	-Q35	-Q36	-Q33	-Q36	-Q36	-Q36
Depth of coverage, average ± SD	103.5 ± 1.24	2018.85 ± 31.53	350.85 ± 4.04	18426.125 ± 279.91	11753.53 ± 257.32	10061.58 ± 3701.20
Mutations						
NSP2 (AA)						
G1522A (none)	X					
NSP3 (AA)						
A6866G (N1383D)	X					
C3037T (none)	X	X (24.7)	X	X	X	X
C6021T (P1101L)	X (25.44)					
4151_4152delTT (L478X)		X				
C7164T (T1482I)		X (25.1)				
T7082A (S1455T)			X (25.3)			
A7384T (Q1555H)			X (25.3)			
NSP4 (AA)						
C9569T (P339S)			X (25.3)			
3C-like proteinase (AA)						
A10904G (S284G)		X (25.1)				
NSP6 (AA)						
C11514T (T181I)			X	X	X	X
RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (AA)						
G15406T (A656S)	X					
C14408T (P323L)	X (74.6)	X	X	X	X	X
A14836G (I466V)	X (24.77)					
Helicase (AA)						
A17105G (H290R)			X (25.3)			
3'-5'-Exonuclease						
G18412T (V125F)			X	X	X	X
G18180T (K47N)						X
18180_18181insTG (K47_D48insX)						X
EndoRNase						
A20265G (none)	X (25.44)					
2'-O-Ribose methyltransferase						
A21415T (K53*)	X (24.76)					
Surface glycoprotein						
A23403G (D614G)	X	X	X	X	X	X
T22619G (W353G)			X (25.3)			
Membrane glycoprotein						
G26795T (M91I)	X					
G27112A (S197N)	X (25.01)					
A26555N (E11X)	X (25.44)					
G26556N /A26557N/ G26558N (E12X)	X (25.44)					
C26559N (L13X)	X (25.44)					
27184_27228del TACAGTAAGTGACAA CAGATGTTTCATCTCGTTGACTTTTCAGGTT (V221X)				X (24.7)		

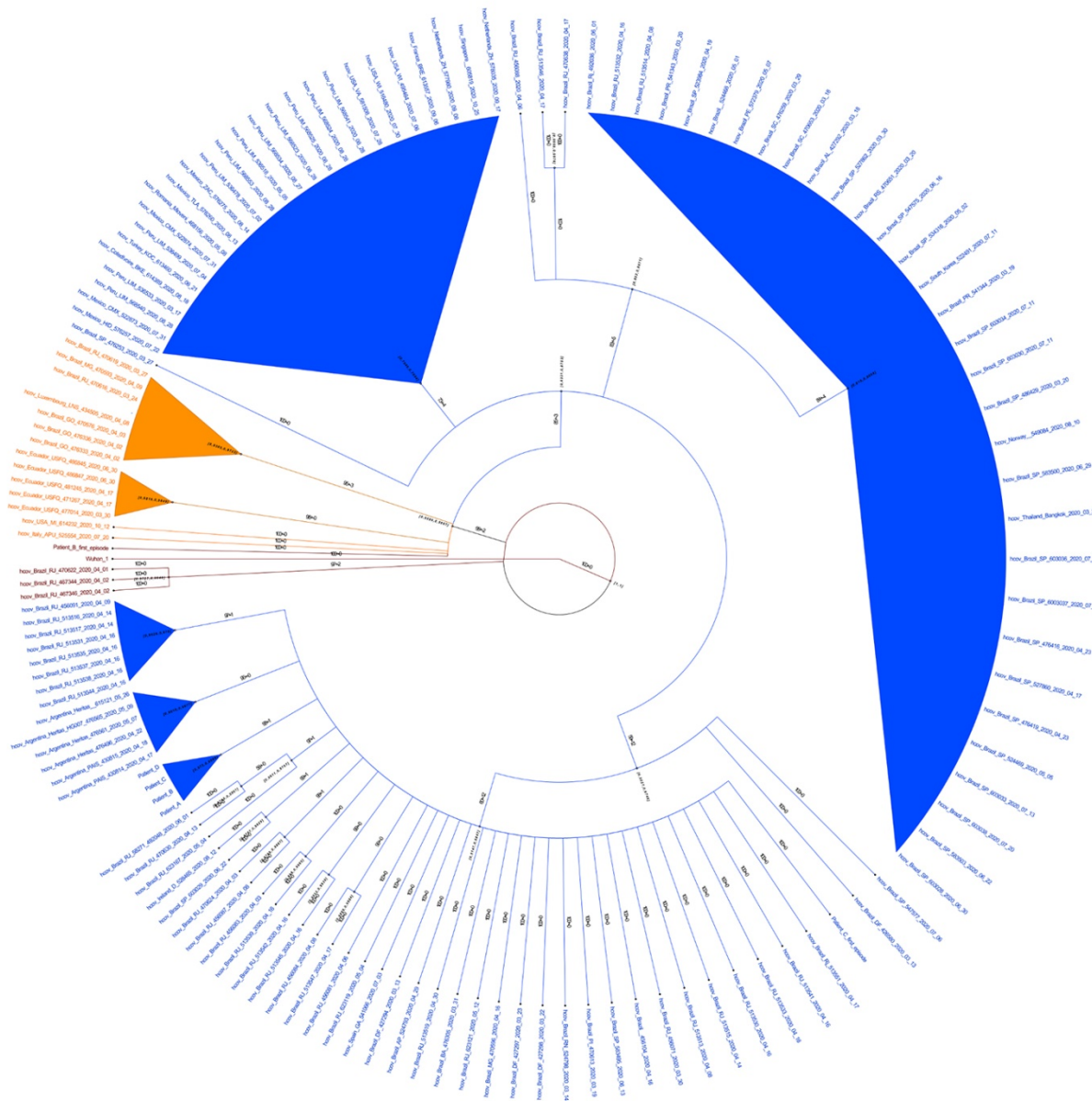
Characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 sequences	First episode of infection		Second episode of infection			
	Patient B (% quasispecies)	Patient C (% quasispecies)	Patient A (% quasispecies)	Patient B (% quasispecies)	Patient C (% quasispecies)	Patient D (% quasispecies)
ORF6						
T27299C (133T)		X	X	X (75.3)	X	X
27184_27228delTACAGTAAGTGACAAC AGATGTTTCATCTCGTTGACTTTCAGGTT (M1_V9del)				X (24.7)		
27196_27228delCAACAGATGTTTCATCTC GTTGACTTTCAGGTT (M1_V9del)					X (24.54)	
27197_27226delAACAGATGTTTCATCTC GTTGACTTTCAGG (M1_Q8del)					X (25.56)	
27197_27226delAACAGATGTTTCATCTC GTTGACTTTCAGG (V9X)					X (25.56)	
A27313G (K38E)						X
Nucleocapsid						
G28881A/G28882G (R203K)		X	X	X	X	X
G28883C (G204R)		X	X	X	X	X
T29148C (I292T)		X	X	X	X	X



Appendix Figure 1. Representative readout of PRNT. 2-fold serial dilutions (from 1:4 to 1:2056) of human serum specimens were incubated in duplicates with ≈ 100 PFUs (PFU) of SARS-CoV-2. The serum–virus mixture was incubated for 1 h at 37°C and then added to Vero E6 cells (2×10^4 cell/well) in 96-well plates and incubated for an additional 1 h at 37°C. Next, a medium with 2.4% CMC was added. After 72 h at 37°C, cells are fixed with 10% formalin and stained with crystal violet (0.4%). Mock = uninfected control. To calculate virus PFU/mL, a back-titration of the mock-treated virus was included in each experiment, the undiluted virus input incubated with the serum is highlighted by the blue circle, a 2-fold serial dilution of the virus is shown, the last dilution of the virus input (1:8) produced 12/13 PFU (green circle), validating the assay. The endpoint dilution of the serum capable of neutralizing the virus input (blue circle) by 90% was expected to produce ≈ 10 PFU; these dilutions are shown by the red circles.



Appendix Figure 2. Quantitative analysis of IgA, IgM, and IgG from patients during the primary, second infections, and 2 months after the second infection. Plasma samples from patients were collected in March, June, July, and August for longitudinal detection of anti-Spike IgM (green), IgA (blue), and IgG (red) antibodies (A–D). The relative levels of antibodies were shown as endpoint titers of patient sample values for optical density [mean + 3 standard deviation ($X + 3SD$)] negative controls on the same ELISA plate. The dashed horizontal line represents the endpoint titer value between 10,000–30,000. The samples below the dotted line are considered negative.



Appendix Figure 3. Phylogeny constructed by Bayesian inference using MrBayes version 3.2.7 (<http://nbsweden.github.io/MrBayes>), assuming a relaxed clock model with a priori model testing using the gamma rates and invariant sites nucleotide substitution model, selected by jModelTest version 1.6 (<https://github.com/ddarriba/jmodeltest2>). Emerging clade 19A is brown, clade 20A is orange, and clade 20B is blue. Posterior and anterior probabilities are presented for each branch.