

# **Researchers find COVID-19 virus causing testicular damage and atrophy**

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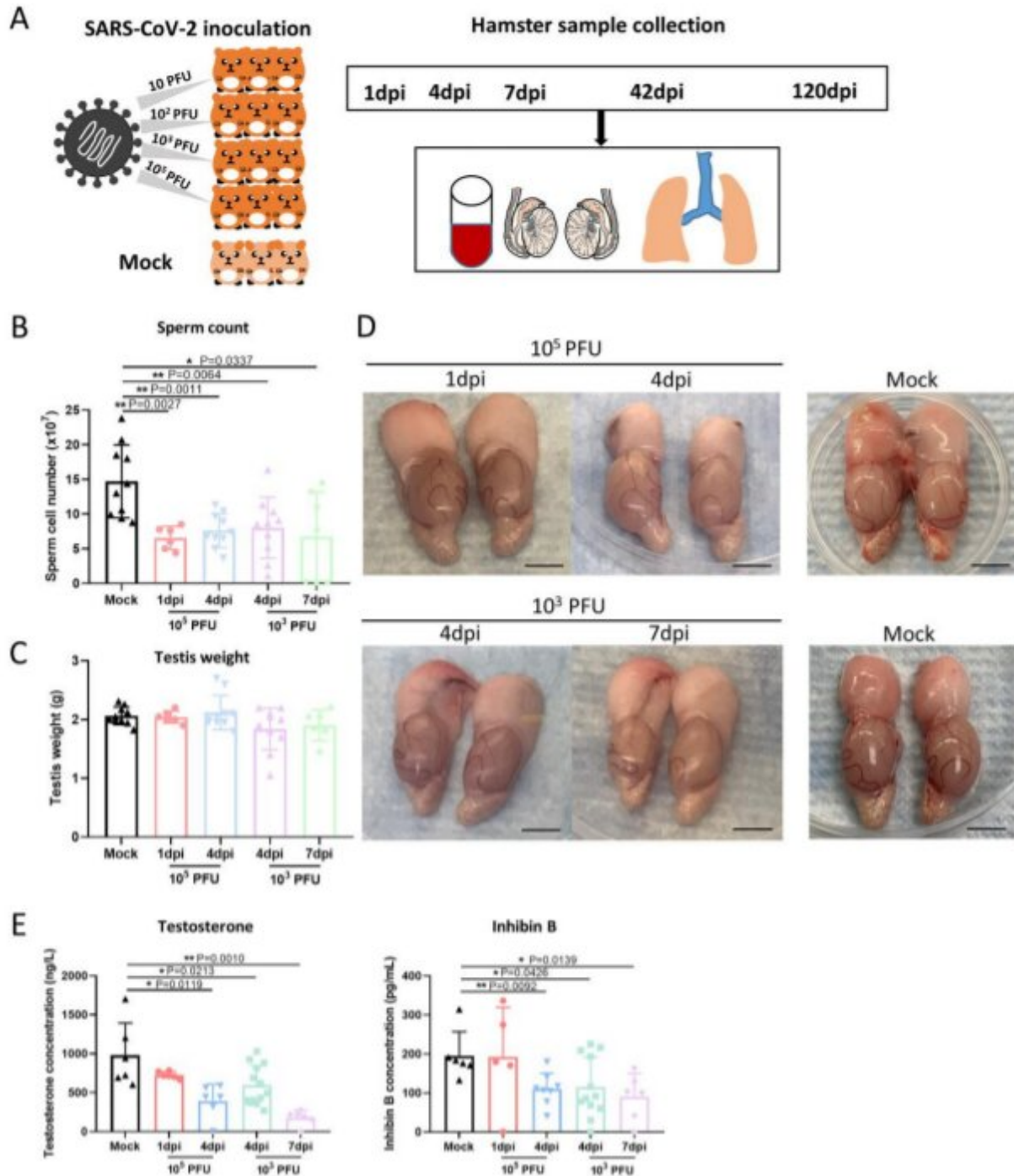


Figure 1. Intranasal inoculation of SARS-CoV-2 causes acute testicular damage in golden Syrian hamsters A. Schema of intranasal challenge of male Syrian hamsters at 8–10 weeks of age. The animals were randomly divided into groups and intranasally challenged by SARS-CoV-2 HK-13 strain at a dose of 10, 10<sup>2</sup>, 10<sup>3</sup> and 10<sup>5</sup> PFU in 50ul. The animals were monitored and sacrificed at 1, 4, 7,

for study of acute damages, and at 42dpi or 120dpi for chronic damages. B. Sperm counts. The epididymis was dissected and opened, sperms were rinsed out for counting the number per hamster testicle. n=5–10 for each group. Data represent mean  $\pm$  SD. \* p

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