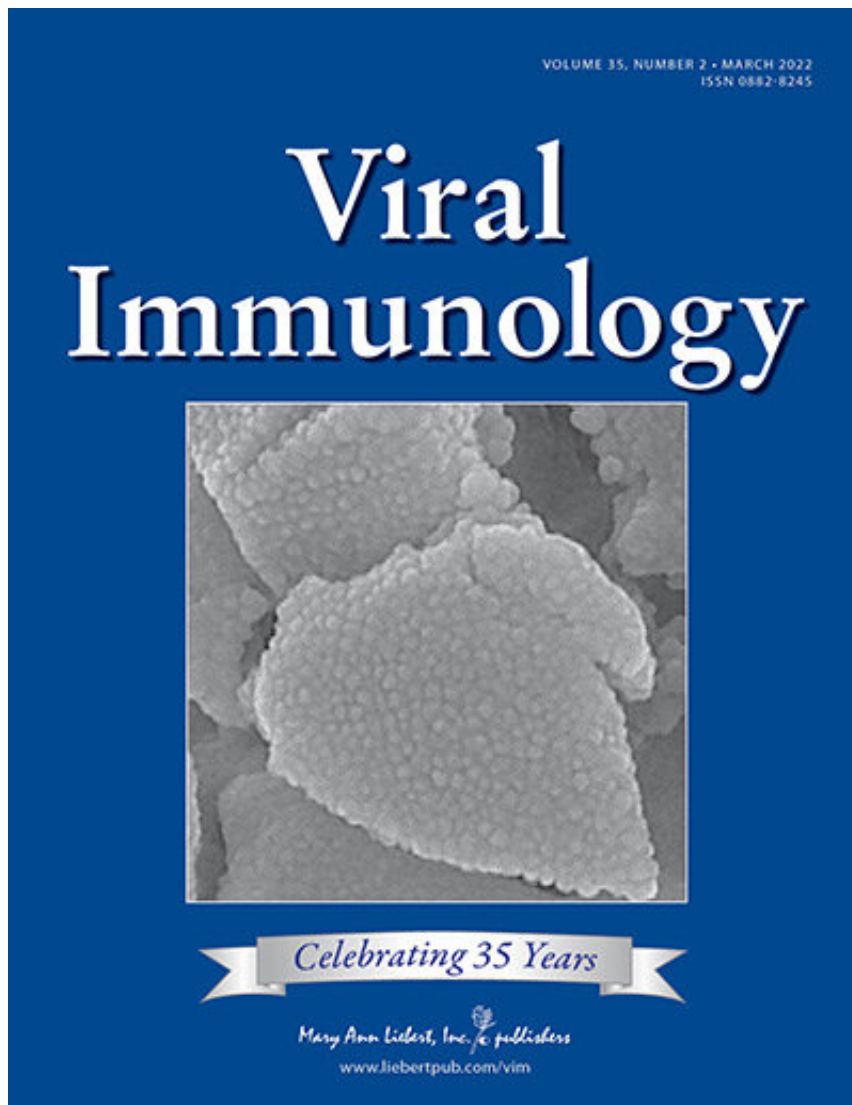


Antibody production in patients hospitalized with COVID-19

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Credit: Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers

Antibody-secreting cells (ASCs) peaked at 3-4 weeks and were still being produced at 3-4 months in patients hospitalized with COVID-19, according to a study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Viral Immunology*.

Diane Griffin, MD, Ph.D., from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and coauthors, analyzed the blood of 55 [patients](#) hospitalized up to four months after onset of COVID-19 symptoms. They reported spike (S)- and nucleocapsid (N)-specific IgM and IgG ASCs within two weeks.

The investigators found that: "Patients with more [severe disease](#) produced more S-specific IgM and IgG ASCs than those with mild disease and had higher levels of both N- and S-specific antibody in [plasma](#)." The findings predict a more durable immune response in patients recovering from more severe disease.

"This is a highly relevant and timely article because it provides scientific insights into the contribution of SARS-CoV-2 immunity gained from natural infection. The level of immunity potentially generated from actual infection with the [virus](#) has been a topic of intense debate since the beginning of the pandemic," says Rodney S. Russell, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief of *Viral Immunology*, from Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's.

More information: Maggie L. Bartlett et al, Continued Virus-Specific Antibody-Secreting Cell Production, Avidity Maturation and B Cell Evolution in Patients Hospitalized with COVID-19, *Viral Immunology* (2022). [DOI: 10.1089/vim.2021.0191](https://doi.org/10.1089/vim.2021.0191)

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

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