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# Bidirectional genome-wide CRISPR screens reveal host factors regulating SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV and seasonal HCoVs

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#### Article

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# Bidirectional genome-wide CRISPR screens reveal host factors regulating 2 SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV and seasonal HCoVs

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- 27 the full landscape of SARS-CoV-2 host factors. We performed genome-wide knockout
- 28 and activation CRISPR screens in Calu-3 lung epithelial cells, as well as knockout
  - 1

29 screens in Caco-2 intestinal cells. In addition to identifying ACE2 and TMPRSS2 as top 30 hits, our study reveals a series of so far unidentified and critical host-dependency factors, 31 including the Adaptins AP1G1 and AP1B1 and the flippase ATP8B1. Moreover, new anti-32 SARS-CoV-2 proteins with potent activity, including several membrane-associated 33 Mucins, IL6R, and CD44 were identified. We further observed that these genes mostly 34 acted at the critical step of viral entry, with the notable exception of ATP8B1, the knockout 35 of which prevented late stages of viral replication. Exploring the pro- and anti-viral breadth of these genes using highly pathogenic MERS-CoV, seasonal HCoV-NL63 and -229E 36 37 and influenza A orthomyxovirus, we reveal that some genes such as AP1G1 and ATP8B1 38 are general coronavirus cofactors. In contrast, Mucins recapitulated their known role as 39 a general antiviral defense mechanism. These results demonstrate the value of 40 considering multiple cell models and perturbational modalities for understanding SARS-41 CoV-2 replication and provide a list of potential new targets for therapeutic interventions.

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- 43

#### 44 Introduction

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Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is the etiologic agent of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which has been applying an unprecedented pressure on health systems worldwide since it was first detected in China at the end of 2019. As of today (May 23, 2021), SARS-CoV-2 continues to spread worldwide, with over 167 million confirmed cases and >3,4 million deaths.

51

52 SARS-CoV-2 is the third highly pathogenic coronavirus to cross the species barrier in the 53 21<sup>st</sup> century and cause an epidemic in the human population after SARS-CoV(-1) in 2002-54 2003 <sup>1–3</sup> and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS)-CoV in 2012 <sup>4</sup>. These three 55 coronaviruses share some common clinical features, including breathing difficulty, acute 56 respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and death in the most extreme cases <sup>5</sup>. Four 57 additional Human Coronaviruses (HCoV-229E, -NL63, -OC43 and -HKU1) are known to 58 circulate seasonally in humans and are associated with multiple respiratory diseases of

59 varying severity including common cold, pneumonia and bronchitis, contributing to 60 approximately one-third of common cold infections in humans <sup>6</sup>.

61

62 Coronaviruses are enveloped, positive stranded RNA viruses with a genome of approximately 30 kilobases. Highly pathogenic SARS-CoV-1, MERS-CoV and SARS-63 64 CoV-2, as well as seasonal HCoV-OC43 and HCoV-HKU1, belong to the genus 65 betacoronavirus, whereas seasonal HCoV-229E and HCoV-NL63 are 66 alphacoronaviruses. The respiratory tract is the main replication site of SARS-CoV-2, but it has also been shown to replicate in the gastrointestinal tract <sup>7</sup> and infect other cell types. 67 68 Like SARS-CoV-1 and HCoV-NL63, SARS-CoV-2 entry into target cells is mediated by the Angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) receptor <sup>8–12</sup>. The cellular serine protease 69 70 Transmembrane protease, serine 2 (TMPRSS2) is employed by both SARS-CoV-1 and -71 2 for Spike (S) protein priming at the plasma membrane<sup>8,13</sup>. Cathepsins are also involved 72 in SARS-CoV S protein cleavage and fusion peptide exposure upon entry via an endocytic route in the absence of TMPRSS2 <sup>14–16</sup>. HCoV-229E entry into target cells is 73 mediated by membrane aminopeptidase N (ANPEP) <sup>17</sup>, whereas MERS-CoV enters via 74 75 dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP4)<sup>18</sup>. Importantly, both these coronaviruses are also known 76 to use TMPRSS2 for S protein activation <sup>19,20</sup>.

77

78 Following viral entry and delivery of the viral genomic RNA associated with the 79 nucleocapsid (N) to the cytoplasm, ORF1a/b is directly accessible to the translation 80 machinery, which leads to the synthesis of two polyproteins (pp), pp1a and pp1b. These 81 polyproteins are further processed into nonstructural proteins, which are important for the 82 formation of replication and transcription complexes. The replication/transcription steps 83 take place at the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) through the active formation of replication 84 organelles surrounded by double membranes, which form a protective microenvironment 85 against viral sensors and restriction factors. Subgenomic RNAs are then transcribed, 86 translated into structural proteins, and translocated to the ER. The assembly takes place 87 at the endoplasmic reticulum-Golgi intermediate compartments, where newly produced

genomic RNAs associated with N are also recruited. Budding occurs at the Golgi
 compartment and newly generated virions are released by exocytosis (reviewed in <sup>21</sup>).

90

91 Coronaviruses, which are found throughout the animal kingdom with an important 92 diversity in bats, have a particularly high potential for cross-species transmission and may 93 be the origin of future pandemics <sup>22</sup>. There is therefore a dire need to study coronaviruses 94 in depth and to identify new therapeutic targets against these viruses.

95

Several whole-genome knockout (KO) CRISPR screens for the identification of 96 coronavirus regulators have been recently reported <sup>23-28</sup>. These screens used simian 97 98 Vero E6 cells <sup>27</sup>, human Huh7 cells (or derivatives) ectopically expressing ACE2 and 99 TMPRSS2 or not <sup>23,25,26</sup>, and A549 cells ectopically expressing ACE2 <sup>24,28</sup>. Here, we 100 conducted genome-wide loss-of-function screens by CRISPR knockout (KO) and gain-101 of-function screens by CRISPR activation (CRISPRa) to identify host factors modulating 102 SARS-CoV-2 infection. Naturally permissive simian Vero E6 cells, as well as 103 physiologically relevant human lung epithelial Calu-3 cells and intestinal Caco-2 cells, 104 were used in these screens. Well-known SARS-CoV-2 host dependency factors were 105 identified as top hits, such as ACE2, and either TMPRSS2 or Cathepsin L (depending on 106 the cell type), validating the rationale of this study. Moreover, ACE2 scored as the top 107 enriched and top depleted hit in all CRISPR KO and CRISPRa screens in Calu-3 cells, 108 respectively, underlying the complementarity of both approaches. We validated the role 109 of our top hits using individual CRISPR KO or activation in Calu-3 cells and assessed 110 their effect on other coronaviruses and orthomyxovirus influenza A. Altogether, this 111 quantitative and integrative study provides new insights in SARS-CoV-2 life cycle by 112 identifying new host factors that modulate either positively or negatively replication of 113 SARS-CoV-2 and other coronaviruses, and might lead to new, pan-coronavirus strategies 114 for host-directed therapies.

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- 118 **Results**
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Meta-analysis of existing CRISPR KO screen data highlights the importance of diversemodels

122 African Green Monkey (Chlorocebus sabaeus) Vero E6 cells of kidney origin are 123 commonly used to amplify SARS-CoV-2 and present high levels of cytopathic effects 124 (CPE) upon replication, making them ideal to perform whole-genome CRISPR screens 125 for host factor identification. A C. sabaeus sgRNA library was previously described and 126 successfully used to identify host factors regulating SARS-CoV-2 (isolate USA-127 WA1/2020) and other coronavirus replication <sup>27</sup>. In order to determine whether hit 128 identification based on whole-genome CRISPR screens was reproducible across different 129 laboratories and virus isolates, we initially repeated whole-genome CRISPR KO screens 130 in Vero E6 cells using the SARS-CoV-2 isolate BetaCoV/France/IDF0372/2020. Vero E6 131 cells were first stably engineered to express Cas9 and activity was validated with a GFP 132 activity assay. We then transduced the cells with the *C. sabaeus* genome-wide pooled 133 CRISPR library <sup>27</sup> at a low MOI (~0.1-0.5) in biological duplicates, the first of which was 134 then divided into three technical replicates. Cells were either collected for subsequent 135 genomic DNA extraction or challenged with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.005, a viral input that 136 induced cell death in >95% of the cells in 3-4 days. After viral challenge, surviving cells 137 were propagated for 11-13 days to increase cell numbers prior to genomic DNA 138 extraction, PCR, and Illumina sequencing (Fig. 1a). We determined the log2-fold-change 139 (LFC) of guides, comparing SARS-CoV-2-challenged to untreated cells, and observed 140 that replicates for these screens were well-correlated (Fig. S1a).

141

We first examined the results from this screen and saw that ACE2 was a top hit, among other genes (**Fig. 1b**). Compared to the prior results from the Wilen lab, this screen showed greater statistical significance for proviral (resistance) hits, indicating that the screening conditions employed here resulted in stronger selective pressure (**Fig. 1c, Fig. S1b**). Nevertheless, proviral hits were consistent across the two screens, with 11 genes scoring in the top 20 of both datasets, including ACE2 and CTSL; similarly, 6 of the top

148 20 anti-viral (sensitization) hits were in common, including HIRA and CABIN1, both 149 members of an H3.3 specific chaperone complex.



150

#### 151 Fig. 1. Cell-type specificity of SARS-CoV-2 regulators identified by CRISPR screens.

- **a.** Schematic of pooled screen to identify SARS-CoV-2 regulators in Vero E6 cells.
- 153 **b.** Scatter plot showing the gene-level mean z-scores of genes when knocked out in Vero E6 cells. The top
- 154 genes conferring resistance to SARS-CoV-2 are annotated and shown in blue.
- 155 **c.** Comparison between this Vero E6 screen to the Vero E6 screen conducted by the Wilen lab <sup>27</sup>. Genes
- 156 that scored among the top 20 resistance hits and sensitization hits in both screens are labeled.

157**d.** Venn diagram comparing hits across screens conducted in Vero E6, A549, and Huh7 (or derivatives)158cells (ectopically expressing ACE2 and TMPRSS2 or not)  $^{23-28}$ . The top 20 genes from each cell line are159included, with genes considered a hit in another cell line if the average z-score was > 3.

160

161 The additional, recently published genome-wide screens for SARS-CoV-2 host factors 162 have varied in the viral isolate, the CRISPR library, and the cell type (**Table 1**) <sup>23–28</sup>. We 163 acquired the read counts from all these screens and re-processed the data via the same 164 analysis pipeline to enable fair comparisons (see Methods): top-scoring genes were 165 consistent with the analyses provided in the original publications. Two screens, using 166 different CRISPR libraries, were conducted in A549 cells engineered to express ACE2; 167 comparison of these results showed a greater number of statistically significant hits in the Zhang-Brunello dataset <sup>28</sup> compared to the Sanjana-GeCKO dataset <sup>24</sup>, but results were 168 169 generally consistent between the two, with 10 genes shared in the top 20 (Fig. S1c). 170 Likewise, three groups conducted survival screens in related cell systems (Fig. S1d): 171 Huh7 cells (Daelemans-Brunello <sup>23</sup>); Huh7.5 cells (Poirier-Brunello <sup>25</sup>), a derivative of 172 Huh7, which have biallelic loss-of-function mutation in the DDX58/RIG-I sensor; and Huh7.5.1 cells, engineered to overexpress ACE2 and TMPRSS2 (Puschnik-GeCKO <sup>26</sup>). 173 174 All three screens identified TMEM106B as a top hit, and we observed the best pair-wise 175 correlation between the two screens that used Huh7.5 and Huh7.5.1 cells (Fig. S1d).

176

177 We next averaged gene-level z-scores and compared results across the Vero E6, A549, and Huh7 cell lines. Examining the top 20 genes from each cell line, and using a lenient 178 179 z-score threshold of 3 to consider a gene a hit, we generated a Venn diagram to examine 180 their overlap (Fig. 1d). By these criteria, only ACE2 and CTSL scored in all three models, 181 and 3 additional genes overlapped in two cell lines. Examining the cell-line specific hits, 182 in Vero E6 cells we continued to observe an enrichment of BAF proteins SMARCA4 and 183 DPF2 (Wei et al., 2021); notably, another nBAF complex member, ARID1A, also scored 184 in A549 cells. Genes scoring uniquely in A549 cells included several COMM domain-185 containing proteins, which have been implicated in NF-κB signaling <sup>29</sup>. Finally, Huh7 cells 186 showed specificity for EXT1 and EXT3L, genes involved in heparin sulfate biosynthesis, 187 as well as SLC35B2, which transports PAP, a substrate for intracellular sulfation. Overall,

188 these analyses suggest that individual cell models are particularly suited, in as yet 189 unpredictable ways, to probe different aspects of SARS-CoV-2 host factor biology.



#### 190

#### 191 **Fig. S1**.

- 192 **a.** Clustermap showing correlations of log-fold change values relative to plasmid DNA across replicates in
- the Vero E6 screen from the present study. Population 1 (Pop 1) and Population 2 (Pop 2) refers to 2
- 194 independent library transductions, in which screens 1A, 1B and 2 refer to biological replicates of SARS-
- CoV-2 infection in Pop 1 and screen 2 refers to one biological replicate of SARS-CoV-2 infection in Pop 2.
   "Initial" refers to the uninfected condition.
- 197 **b.** Volcano plot showing the top genes conferring resistance (right, blue) and sensitivity (left, red) to SARS-
- 198 CoV-2 when knocked out in Vero E6 cells for this screen and the screen conducted by Wei et al. 2021
- 199 (Wilen; 27). The gene-level z-score and -log10(FDR) were calculated after averaging across conditions (of
- 200 note, the FDR value for ACE2 is effectively zero but has been assigned a -log(FDR) value for plotting 201 purposes).
- c. Comparison between genome-wide screens conducted in A549 cells overexpressing ACE2 by Daniloski
   et al. (Sanjana; <sup>24</sup>) and Zhu et al. (Zhang; <sup>28</sup>) using the GeCKOv2 and Brunello libraries, respectively.
- d. Pair-wise comparison between genome-wide screens conducted in Huh7.5.1-ACE2-TMPRSS2, Huh7.5,
- and Huh7 cells by Wang et al. (Puschnik; <sup>26</sup>), Schneider et al. (Poirier; <sup>25</sup>), and Baggen et al. (Daelemans;
- 206 <sup>23</sup>), respectively, using the GeCKOv2 and Brunello libraries as indicated. Annotated genes include top 3 207 resistance hits from each screen as well as genes that scored in multiple cell lines based on the criteria
- used to construct the Venn diagram in Fig. 1d.
- 209
- 210

211 Whole-genome knockout and activation screens to identify genes regulating SARS-CoV-

212 2 replication in Calu-3 cells

Calu-3 cells, a lung adenocarcinoma cell line, are a particularly attractive model for exploring SARS-CoV-2 biology, as they naturally express ACE2 and TMPRSS2. Furthermore, we have previously shown that Calu-3 cells behave highly similarly to primary human airway epithelia when challenged with SARS-CoV-2<sup>30</sup>. Additionally, they are suited to viability-based screens, as they are highly permissive to SARS-CoV-2 and show high levels of cytopathic effects upon replication, although the slow doubling time of the cells (~5-6 days) presents challenges for scale-up.

220

221 To conduct genome-wide CRISPR KO and activation screens (Fig. 2a), Calu-3 cells were 222 stably engineered to express Cas9 or dCas9-VP64, respectively. Calu-3-Cas9 cells 223 showed >94% Cas9 activity (Fig. S2a) and Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 cells transduced to 224 express sgRNAs targeting the MX1 and IFITM3 promoters induced expression to a similar 225 magnitude as following interferon treatment (Fig. S2b-c). The more compact Gattinara 226 library <sup>31</sup> was selected for the knockout screen due to the difficulty of scaling-up this cell 227 line, while the Calabrese library was used for the CRISPRa screen <sup>32</sup>. Cells were 228 transduced with the libraries in biological triplicates at a low MOI, selected with puromycin, 229 and 15 to 18 days post-transduction, were either harvested for subsequent genomic DNA 230 extraction or challenged with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.005, which led to >90% cell death in 231 3-5 days. The surviving cells were then cultured in conditioned media, expanded and 232 harvested when cell numbers were sufficient for genomic DNA extraction (see Methods). 233 The screening samples were processed and analyzed as above.

234

The knockout screen was most powered to identify proviral factors (**Fig. S2d**), and the top three genes were ACE2, KMT2C and TMPRSS2 (**Fig. 2b**). Importantly, the latter did not score in any of the cell models discussed above; conversely, CTSL did not score in this screen. Interestingly, whereas the BAF-specific ARID1A scored in Vero E6 cells and A549 cells, PBAF-specific components ARID2 (rank 5) and PRBM1 (rank 7) scored as top hits in Calu-3. Additional new hits include AP1G1 (rank 4), AP1B1 (rank 9), and

AAGAB (rank 22), which code for proteins involved in the formation of clathrin-coated pits and vesicles, and are important for vesicle-mediated, ligand-receptor complex intracellular trafficking.



#### 244

#### Fig. 2. Genome-wide CRISPR screens in Calu-3 reveal new regulators of SARS-CoV-2.

a. Schematic of pooled screens (Calu-3 KO/CRISPRa, Caco-2 KO).

b. Scatter plot showing the gene-level mean z-scores of genes when knocked out in Calu-3 cells. The top

248 genes conferring resistance to SARS-CoV-2 are annotated and shown in blue. This screen did not have 249 any sensitization hits.

250 c. Scatter plot showing the gene-level mean z-scores of genes when over-expressed in Calu-3 cells. The

top genes conferring resistance to SARS-CoV-2 are annotated and shown in red. The top genes conferring sensitivity to SARS-CoV-2 are annotated and shown in blue.

d. Scatter plot showing the gene-level mean z-scores of genes when knocked out in Caco-2 cells. The top
 genes conferring resistance to SARS-CoV-2 are annotated and shown in blue.

255 **e.** Heatmap of top 5 resistance hits from each cell line after averaging across screens in addition to genes

that scored in multiple cell lines based on the criteria used to construct the Venn diagram in Fig. 1D (based

257 on  $^{23-28}$  and this study).



259

#### 260 **Fig. S2.**

a. Calu-3 cells stably expressing Cas9 were transduced with a lentiviral vector expressing the puromycin resistance gene and GFP, as well as a sgRNA targeting the GFP coding sequence (XPR\_047). The percentage of puromycin-resistant cells which did not express detectable levels of GFP was scored by flow cytometry 8-10 days post-transduction.

**b.** and **c.** Calu-3 cells stably expressing dCas9-VP64 were transduced or not with lentiviral vectors expressing sgRNAs targeting either nothing (Ctrl), *MX1* or *IFITM3* promoter and puromycin-selected for 8-10 days. In parallel, non-transduced (N.T.) cells were treated or not with 1000 U/mL interferon for 24h. Cells were harvested for immunoblot analysis (**b**) or fixed, permeabilized and stained with an anti-MX1 antibody and an Alexa Fluor 488 secondary antibody and analyzed by flow cytometry (**C**). Biological duplicates (**a**,

c) and a representative immunoblot (b) are shown.

d. Volcano plot showing the top genes conferring resistance (right, blue) to SARS-CoV-2 when knocked
 out in Calu-3 cells. This screen did not have any sensitization hits. The gene-level z-score and -log10(FDR)
 were calculated after averaging across replicates.

e. Volcano plot showing the top genes conferring resistance (right, red) and sensitivity (left, blue) to SARS CoV-2 when overexpressed in Calu-3 cells. The gene-level z-score and -log10(FDR) were calculated after
 averaging across replicates.

f. Volcano plot showing the top genes conferring resistance (right, blue) and sensitivity (left, red) to SARS CoV-2 when knocked out in Caco-2 cells. The gene-level z-score and -log10(FDR) were calculated after
 averaging across replicates.

280 g. Comparison between gene hits in Calu-3 KO and activation screens. Dotted lines indicated mean z-281 scores of -3 and 2.5 or 3 for each screen. Proviral and antiviral genes are indicated in blue and red, 282 respectively.

283

284 We next examined the CRISPRa screen (Fig. 2c and S2e). In contrast to the knockout 285 screen, here we were able to detect both pro- and anti-viral genes; we speculate this is 286 due to the shorter length of time in culture post-SARS-challenge for the activation screens 287 (2 weeks, compared to 4 in the knockout screens). Assuringly, the top-scoring proviral 288 (sensitization) hit was ACE2. Several solute carrier (SLC) transport channels also scored 289 on this side of the screen, including SLC6A19 (rank 8), which is a known partner of ACE2 290 <sup>33</sup>. Furthermore, SLC6A14 (rank 2) has been implicated in cystic fibrosis progression and 291 shown to regulate the attachment of *Pseudomonas* to human bronchial epithelial cells <sup>34</sup>. 292 On the antiviral side of the screen, a top scoring hit was LY6E (rank 10), which is a known 293 restriction factor of SARS-CoV-2<sup>35</sup>, further validating the ability of this screening 294 technology and cellular model to identify known biology. Additionally, MUC21 (rank 1), 295 MUC4 (rank 4), and MUC1 (rank 26) all scored; Mucins are heavily glycosylated proteins and have a well-established role in host defense against pathogens <sup>36,37</sup>; moreover, 296 297 MUC4 has been recently proposed to possess a protective role against SARS-CoV-1 298 pathogenesis in a mouse model <sup>38</sup>. Finally, we directly compared the knockout and 299 activation screens conducted in Calu-3 cells (**Fig. S2q**). The only gene that scored in both 300 the knockout and activation screen, even using a lenient z-score threshold of >3, was 301 ACE2, emphasizing that different aspects of biology are revealed by these screening 302 technologies.

To expand the range of cell lines examined further, we also performed a knockout screen with the Brunello library in another cell line naturally permissive to SARS-CoV-2 replication, the colorectal adenocarcinoma Caco-2 cell line. Here, however, the cells were

engineered to overexpress ACE2 in order to reach sufficient levels of CPE to enable viability-based screening. Similar to Calu-3 cells, ACE2 and TMPRSS2 were the top resistance hits (**Fig. 2d, S2d and S2f**), indicating that Caco-2 and Calu-3 cells, unlike previously used models, rely on TMPRSS2-mediated cell entry, rather than the CTSLmediated endocytic pathway, which did not score in this cell line (z-score=-0.2). Assembling all the proviral genes identified across 5 cell lines, we observed a continuation of the trend that screen results are largely cell line dependent (**Fig. 2e**).

313

Individual validations via CRISPR KO confirm the identification of new proviral genes,
 including members of the AP-1 complex

316 First we focused on the proviral genes identified in our KO screens and selected 22 317 candidates among the top ones identified in the screens performed in Calu-3, Vero E6 318 and Caco-2 cells. We designed 2 sgRNAs to target these genes and generated polyclonal 319 knockout Calu-3 cell populations. In parallel, we generated 2 negative control cell lines 320 (coding non-targeting sgRNAs) and 2 positive control cell lines (ACE2 and TMPRSS2 321 KO). Two weeks post-transduction, knockout cell lines were challenged with SARS-CoV-322 2 bearing the mNeonGreen (mNG) reporter <sup>39</sup> and the percentage of infected cells was 323 scored by flow cytometry (Fig. 3a). The knockout of about half of the selected genes 324 induced at least a 50% decrease in infection efficiency. Among them, AP1G1 KO had an 325 inhibitory effect as drastic as ACE2 KO (>95% decrease in infection efficiency), showing 326 an absolutely essential role of this particular gene. Another member of the Adaptin family, 327 AP1B1, and a known partner of the AP-1 complex, AAGAB, also had an important impact, 328 albeit not as strong (~70-90% decrease in infection). The KO of 3 other genes KMT2C, 329 EP300, and ATP8B1, which code for a lysine methyltransferase, a histone acetyl 330 transferase and a flippase, respectively, inhibited the infection efficiency by at least 50%. 331 In parallel, we tested the impact of candidate knockout on SARS-CoV-2-induced CPEs. 332 Cells were infected with wild-type SARS-CoV-2 at an MOI of 0.005 and colored with crystal violet when massive CPE was observed in the negative controls, ~5 days post-333 334 infection (Fig. S3a). CPE analyses globally mirrored data obtained with mNG reporter 335 viruses, showing that the identified genes were *bona fide* proviral factors and not genes

the KO of which would only protect cells from virus-induced cell death. Encouragingly, based on a recent scRNA-seq study <sup>40</sup>, the best-validated candidate genes, i.e. *AP1G1*, *AB1B1, AAGAB, KMT2C, EP300* and *ATP8B1*, were all well expressed in SARS-CoV-2 target cells from the respiratory epithelia (**Fig. S3b**). Moreover, using RT-qPCR, we observed that these genes were all expressed at slightly higher levels in primary human airway epithelial cells (HAE) compared to Calu-3 cells (**Fig. S3c**).

342

343 We then investigated the effect of these genes on other respiratory viruses. Noteworthy, 344 knockout had no substantial impact on the replication of a respiratory virus from another 345 family, the orthomyxovirus influenza A virus (IAV) strain A/Victoria/3/75 (H3N2) (Fig. 3b). 346 In contrast, HCoV-NL63 replication was impacted by AP1G1, AP1B1 and EP300 KO, but 347 not by *KMT2C* or *ATP8B1* KO (**Fig. 3c**). Interestingly, seasonal HCoV-229E and highly 348 pathogenic MERS-CoV, which do not use ACE2 for viral entry but ANPEP and DPP4, 349 respectively, were also both strongly affected by AP1G1, and, to some extent, by AP1B1 350 and AAGAB KO (Fig. 3d-f), showing a pan-coronavirus role of these genes. 351



TMPRSS2 g2-



selected for 10-15 days.

g

SARS-CoV-2 (mNG)

100

- **a.** Cells were infected with SARS-CoV-2 bearing the mNeonGreen (mNG) reporter and the infection efficiency was scored 48h later by flow cytometry. The cell line/screen in which the candidates were identified is indicated below the graph.
- **b.** Cells were infected with influenza A virus bearing the Nanoluciferase (NLuc) reporter and 10h later relative infection efficiency was measured by monitoring Nluc activity.
- **c.** Cells were infected with HCoV-NL63 and 5 days later, relative infection efficiency was determined using RT-qPCR.
- 366 **d.** Cells were infected with HCoV-229E-Renilla and 48-72h later, relative infection efficiency was measured by monitoring Renilla activity.
- 368 e-f. Cells were infected with MERS-CoV and 16h later, the percentage of infected cells was determined
- using anti-Spike (e) or anti-dsRNA (f) immunofluorescence (IF) staining followed by microscopy analysis
   (10 fields per condition).
- 371 The mean and SEM of 4 to 7 independent experiments (a; with the notable exception of the genes with no
- 372 validated impact in Calu-3 cells, i.e. DYRK1A, VPS72, PBRM1, DRG1, UBXN7, CRSL1, SMARCA4, n=2),
- 373 3 (**b**, **d**, **e**, **f**), or 2 (**c**) independent experiments. The red dashed line represents 50% inhibition.
- 374





375

#### **Fig. S3**.

- a. SARS-CoV-2 induced cytopathic effects in candidate KO cell lines.
- Calu-3-Cas9 cells were stably transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) per indicated gene and selected for 10-15 days. Cells were infected by SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.005 and ~5 days later stained with
- 380 crystal violet. Representative images are shown.

b. Dot plot depicting the expression levels of the best validated genes in the different cell types
 from the respiratory epithelium, from Chua et al. data set <sup>40</sup>. Expression levels in COVID-19 versus
 healthy patients are color coded; the percentage of cells expressing the respective gene is size coded, as
 indicated.

c. Relative expression levels of the identified dependency factors in primary human airway epithelial
 (HAE) cells compared to Calu-3 cells. RNA samples from 3 independent experiments (and 3 independent
 donors for HAE cells), described in <sup>30</sup>, were analyzed by RT-qPCR using the indicated taqmans.

389 Next, we aimed to determine the life cycle step affected by the candidate KOs and we 390 examined the impact of the best validated candidate KO (i.e. with an effect >50% 391 decrease in mNG reporter expression, Fig. 4a) on ACE2 global expression levels (Fig. 392 4b). Immunoblot analysis revealed similar or higher expression levels of ACE2 in the 393 different KO cell lines in comparison to controls, with the exception of ACE2 and EP300 394 KO cells, which had decreased levels of ACE2. We then took advantage of recombinant 395 Spike Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) fused to a mouse Fc fragment, in order to stain 396 ACE2 at the cell surface (Fig. 4c). Using this system, we did not observe a substantial 397 decrease in ACE2 at the plasma membrane, apart from ACE2 and EP300 KO cell lines, 398 as expected.

399

400 In order to assess the internalization efficiency of viral particles, we then incubated the 401 KO cell lines with SARS-CoV-2 at an MOI of 5 for 2h at 37°C, and treated the cells with 402 Subtilisin A in order to eliminate the cell surface-bound viruses, followed by RNA 403 extraction and RdRp RT-qPCR to measure the relative amounts of internalized viruses 404 (Fig. 4d). This approach showed that AP1G1, AP1B1, AAGAB and EP300 impacted 405 SARS-CoV-2 internalization to at least some extent, but not ATP8B1. We then used vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) particles pseudotyped with SARS-CoV-2 Spike, bearing 406 407 a C-terminal deletion of 19 aminoacids (hereafter named Spike del19) as a surrogate for viral entry <sup>41,42</sup>, in comparison to VSV-G pseudotypes (**Fig. 4e**). Of note, both ACE2 and 408 409 TMPRSS2 knockout specifically impacted Spike del19-VSV infection, confirming that the 410 pseudotypes mimicked wild-type SARS-CoV-2 entry in Calu-3 cells. We observed that 411 Spike del19-dependent entry was affected in most cell lines in comparison to VSV-G-412 mediated entry, with, again, the notable exception of ATP8B1 KO cells, implying a later 413 role for this gene. Analysis of SARS-CoV-2 RNA replication by RdRp RT-qPCR (Fig. 4f)

414 and viral production in the cell supernatants by plaque assays (Fig. 4g) perfectly mirrored 415 the data obtained using the mNG reporter virus, apart from ATP8B1 KO cells. Indeed, in 416 the latter, there was only around 50% decrease in viral RNA replication or mNG reporter 417 expression, but more than one order of magnitude decrease in viral production, 418 suggesting a late block during viral replication (Fig. 4f-g). Importantly, highly similar 419 results were obtained with MERS-CoV for AP1G1 and AP1B1, which had an impact 420 comparable to *DPP4* receptor KO on viral production (Fig. 4h). Moreover, as observed 421 for SARS-CoV-2, ATP8B1 KO also strongly impacted infectious MERS-CoV particle 422 production/release, whereas it did not impact infection as measured by Spike or dsRNA 423 intracellular staining (Fig. 4h and 3e-f), arguing for a common and late role of this gene 424 in the coronavirus replicative cycle.

 $\begin{array}{r} 426 \\ 427 \\ 428 \\ 430 \\ 431 \end{array}$ 425



VSV-G
Spike del19

Fig. 4. Characterization of the impact of identified SARS-CoV-2 dependency Calu-3-Cas9 cells were stably transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) 2 different sgRNAs g2)

selected for 10-15 days per indicated gene

and

<u>а</u> Cells were infected with SARS-CoV-2 bearing the mNG reporter and the infection efficiency was scored

ē 48h later by flow cytometry. The expression levels of ACE2 were analyzed by immunoblot, Actin served as a loading control

- 432 **c**. Relative surface ACE2 expression was measured using a Spike-RBD-Fc fusion and a fluorescent 433 secondary antibody followed by flow cytometry analysis.
- 434 **d**. Cells were incubated with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 5 for 2h at 37°C and then treated with Subtilisin A followed 435 by RNA extraction and RdRp RT-qPCR analysis as a measure of viral internalization.
- 436 e. Cells were infected with Spike del19 and VSV-G pseudotyped, GFP expressing VSV and infection
   437 efficiency was analyzed 24h later by flow cytometry.
- f. Cells were infected with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.05 and, 24h later, lysed for RNA extraCtion and RdRp
   RT-qPCR analysis.
- g. Aliquots of the supernatants from F were harvested and plaque assays were performed to evaluate theproduction of infectious viruses in the different conditions.
- 442 h. Cells were infected with MERS-CoV and 16h later, infectious particle production in the supernatant was
   443 measured by TCID<sub>50</sub>.
- The mean and SEM of at least 5 (**a**), 3 (**c**, **d**, **e**, **f**, **h**) independent experiments or representative experiments (**b** and **g**) are shown. The red dashed line represents 50% inhibition (**a**, **c**-**f**).
- 446
- 447
- 448 CRISPR activation screen reveals new anti-SARS-CoV-2 genes, including *Mucins*, *CD44*
- 449 and *IL6R*

450 Next, 21 genes among the top-ranking hits conferring resistance to SARS-CoV-2 replication from the CRISPRa screen were selected for individual validation, using two 451 452 different sgRNAs in Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 cells. In parallel, non-targeting sgRNAs and 453 sgRNAs targeting ACE2 and IFNL2 promoters were used as controls. 10-15 days post-454 transduction, the sqRNA-expressing cell lines were challenged with SARS-CoV-2 bearing 455 the mNG reporter, as previously, and the percentage of infected cells was scored by flow cytometry (Fig. 5a). As expected <sup>30,35,43</sup>, the induction of *IFNL2* and *LY6E* expression 456 457 potently decreased SARS-CoV-2 replication. We observed that the increased expression 458 of the vast majority of the selected hits induced at least a 50% decrease in infection 459 efficiency with at least 1 of the 2 sqRNAs. Some genes had a particularly potent impact 460 on SARS-CoV-2 and decreased the replication levels by 80-90% or more, including the 461 Mucin genes MUC1, MUC21, MUC4, as well as CD44, PLAGL1, IL6R, TEAD3 and LYN 462 (Fig. 5a). CD44 codes for a cell surface transmembrane glycoprotein playing multiple 463 roles in adhesion, cell proliferation and survival, signaling, migration, or lymphocyte 464 activation <sup>44,45</sup>. *PLAGL1* codes for a zinc finger transcription factor that promotes cell cycle arrest and apoptosis through multiple pathways <sup>46</sup>. *IL6R* (also known as gp80 or CD126) 465 466 codes for a membrane-bound as well as a soluble receptor for IL6; IL6R is bound to gp130 (or CD130), which mediates signal transduction. Upon binding of IL6 to IL6R, the 467

468 homodimerization of gp130 is induced and a hexameric complex constituted of 469 IL6/IL6R/gp130 is formed, which induce a signaling cascade through the JAK/STAT and 470 SHP-2/ERK MAPK pathways regulating a variety of biological activities, including host 471 defense <sup>47</sup>. TEAD3 codes for a member of transcriptional enhancer factor (TEF) family of 472 transcription factors and plays roles in development, cell differentiation as well as 473 proliferation <sup>48,49</sup>. LYN codes for a membrane-anchored src tyrosine kinase, localized on 474 the cytoplasmic side of the plasma membrane and is an important regulator of signal 475 transduction <sup>50</sup>. Noteworthy, LYN was shown to regulate inflammatory responses to 476 bacterial infection <sup>51</sup> and to be important for flavivirus egress <sup>52</sup>. Additionally, an scRNA 477 seq study had shown that most of the antiviral genes identified here were expressed in a substantial percentage of epithelial cells from the respiratory epithelium, including ciliated 478 479 cells and secretory cells, the main targets of SARS-CoV-2 (Fig. S4a, based on <sup>40</sup>). We 480 confirmed that primary human airway epithelial cells (HAE) expressed MUC1, MUC4, 481 MUC21, CD44, IL6R, TEAD3 and LYN (Fig. S4b). Interestingly, all these genes were 482 expressed to higher levels in HAE than Calu-3 cells, with the exception of CD44, which 483 was less expressed. Moreover, MUC21 was upregulated upon SARS-CoV-2 replication 484 in HAE and Calu-3 cells, as well as *MUC4* in the latter (Fig. S4c-d).

485

486 Looking at the antiviral breadth of the validated genes, we observed that the induction of 487 most of them had no impact on IAV infection (Fig. 5b), with the exception of MUC4 and 488 *MUC1*, which decreased the infection efficiency by ~60-70%, as seen previously <sup>37</sup>, and 489 IL6R, with one of the 2 sqRNAs leading to 75% decrease in infection efficiency. 490 Interestingly, similarly to SARS-CoV-2, HCoV-229E appeared highly sensitive to the 491 increased expression of MUCs, IL6R, LY6E, CD44, but was less affected or not affected 492 at all by the other genes, such as *PLAGL1* (Fig. 5c). MERS-CoV infection was impacted 493 by the 3 Mucins of interest and to some extent by PLAGL1, CD44, IL6R, LY6E and 494 ATAD3B, but not by the other candidates (Fig. 5d).

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![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

മ

SARS-CoV-2 (mNG)

MYRF g1 MYRF g2

Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 cells were stably transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) per indicated gene

promoter or negative controls (CTRL) and selected for at least 10-15 days

- 502 **a.** Cells were infected with SARS-CoV-2 bearing the mNG reporter and the infection efficiency was scored
- 503 48h later by flow cytometry.

504 **b.** Cells were infected with influenza A virus bearing the Nanoluciferase (NLuc) reporter and 10h later 505 relative infection efficiency was measured by monitoring Nluc activity.

506 **c.** Cells were infected with HCoV-229E-Renilla and 48-72h later, relative infection efficiency was measured 507 by monitoring Renilla activity.

508 **d.** Cells were infected with MERS-CoV and 16h later, the percentage of infected cells was determined using anti-Spike IF staining followed by microscopy analysis (10 fields per condition).

- 510 The mean and SEM of at least 4 (a) or 3 (b, c, d) independent experiments are shown. The red and dark
- 511 red dashed lines indicate 50% and 80% inhibition, respectively.
- 512513

![](_page_24_Figure_8.jpeg)

- 514
- 515 **Fig. S4**.

**a.** Dot plot depicting the expression levels of the best validated antiviral genes in the different cell types from the respiratory epithelium, from Chua et al. data set <sup>40</sup>. Expression levels in COVID-19 versus healthy patients are color coded; the percentage of cells expressing the respective gene is size coded, as indicated.

b. Relative expression levels of a selection of the antiviral factors in primary human airway epithelial
 cells (HAE) compared to Calu-3 cells. RNA samples from 3 independent experiments, described in <sup>30</sup>,
 were analyzed by RT-gPCR using the indicated tagmans.

- 523 c-d. Impact of SARS-CoV-2 infection and interferon treatment on antiviral factor expression in HAE
   524 (c) and Calu-3 cells (d), as indicated, in samples from 3 independent experiments from <sup>30</sup>.
- 525
- 526 Next, we tested the impact on SARS-CoV-2 of some of the best candidates in naturally
- 527 permissive Caco-2 cells and in A549 cells engineered to ectopically express ACE2 (Fig.

528 S5). We observed that MUC4, MUC1, MUC21 induction potently decreased SARS-CoV-529 2 infection in these two other cell lines. Moreover, *PLAGL1* also had a strong impact in 530 A549-ACE2 cells but not in Caco-2 cells, and the opposite was true for LYN. This might 531 suggest a potential cell type specificity for the former (e.g. lung origin) and possibly a 532 dependence on ACE2/TMPRSS2 endogenous expression for the latter. CD44 and LY6E 533 also had an inhibitory effect to some extent in both cell lines. Taken together, this globally 534 showed that the inhibitory effect of the validated candidates is not restricted to Calu-3 535 cells and can be observed in other cell types.

536

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

537

**Fig. S5. Impact of the identified antiviral genes on SARS-CoV-2 in Caco-2 and A549-ACE2 cells.** Caco-2-dCas9-VP64 (**a**) and A549-ACE2-dCas9-VP64 (**b**) cells were stably transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) per indicated gene promoter, or negative controls (CTRL) and selected for at least 10-15 days prior to SARS-CoV-2 mNG infection. The percentage of infected cells was scored 48h later by flow cytometry. Relative infection efficiencies (mean and SEM) are shown for 2 independent experiments. The red and dark red dashed lines represent 50% and 80% inhibition, respectively.

545 We then explored the life cycle step affected by antiviral gene expression. The SARS-546 CoV-2 internalization assay, performed as previously, showed that most of the validated 547 genes, including those showing the strongest inhibitory phenotypes (namely MUC1, *MUC21*, *CD44*, *PLAGL1*, *IL6R*, *MUC4*, and *LYN*) impacted viral internalization (Fig. 6a). 548 549 The measure of viral entry using Spike del19- or G-pseudotyped VSV particles globally 550 mirrored the internalization data, and showed that G-dependent entry was as sensitive as 551 Spike del19-dependent entry to the induced expression of *Mucins*, *IL6R* or *LYN* (Fig. 6b). 552 However, we observed that whereas CD44 and PLAGL1 had an impact on SARS-CoV-2

553 entry as measured by our internalization assay (as well as a number of other genes such

554 as TEAD3, but with milder effects), there was no effect of these genes on Spike del19-555 VSV pseudotypes, perhaps highlighting subtle differences in the mechanism of entry by 556 the latter compared to wild-type SARS-CoV-2. Moreover, LY6E induction had no 557 measurable impact on viral entry, either using the internalization assay or the VSV 558 pseudotype assay, contrary to what was reported before <sup>35</sup>. Differences in the 559 experimental systems used could explain the differences observed here and would 560 require further investigation. Finally, the impact of the best candidates on SARS-CoV-2 561 and MERS-CoV replication, measured by RdRp RT-qPCR (Fig. 6c) and plaque assays 562 (Fig. 6d) for SARS-CoV-2, or TCID<sub>50</sub> for MERS-CoV (Fig. 6e), recapitulated what was 563 observed with SARS-CoV-2 mNG reporter (Fig. 5a) and MERS-CoV Spike intracellular staining (Fig. 5d). 564

565

566 Noteworthy, the 3 Mucins of interest had the strongest impact on both SARS-CoV-2 and 567 MERS-CoV production (~2 log and ~1 log decrease, respectively, as compared to the 568 controls). The activation of *IL6R*, *CD44*, *PLAGL1*, and *LYN* also had a substantial impact 569 on SARS-CoV-2 replication (~1 log decrease or more, for at least 1 out of the 2 sqRNAs) 570 but had a globally milder impact on MERS-CoV replication, with LYN having no impact at 571 all (Fig. 6d-e). Whereas Mucins are well-known to act as antimicrobial barriers <sup>53,54</sup>, the 572 role of the other potent antiviral genes, such as IL6R, CD44 or PLAGL1, in limiting SARS-573 CoV-2 entry remains to be elucidated.

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

promoter and selected for 10-15 days.

- 578 **a**. Cells were incubated with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 5 for 2h and then treated with Subtilisin A followed by 579 RNA extraction and RdRp RT-qPCR analysis.
- 580 **b.** Cells were infected with Spike del19 and VSV-G pseudotyped, Firefly-expressing VSV and infection
- efficiency was analyzed 24h later by monitoring Firefly activity. The red and dark red dashed lines represent
   50% and 80% inhibition, respectively.
- 583 **c**. Cells were infected with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.05 and, 24h later, lysed for RNA extraCtion and RdRp 584 RT-qPCR analysis.
- 585 **d**. Aliquots of the supernatants from C were harvested and plaque assays were performed to evaluate the
- 586 production of infectious viruses in the different conditions. A representative experiment is shown.
- 587 e. Cells were infected with MERS-CoV and 16h later, infectious particle production in the supernatant was
   588 measured by TCID<sub>50</sub>.
- 589 The mean and SEM of 3 (**a**, **c**), 4 (**b**), 2 (**d**, **e**) independent experiments are shown.
- 590
- 591
- 592 Individual validations via CRISPR activation reveal additional pro-SARS-CoV-2 genes,
- 593 including TP73 and NFE2
- 594 In addition to the dependency factors identified by the KO screens, we selected several 595 of the top-ranking hits conferring sensitization to SARS-CoV-2 replication in the CRISPRa 596 screen. Solute carriers SLC6A14 and SLC6A19, transcription factors Tumor Protein P73 597 (TP73), Hepatocyte nuclear factor-1 $\beta$  (HNF1B) and Nuclear Factor, Erythroid 2 (NFE2) 598 were chosen for individual validations, using two different sgRNAs in Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 599 cells in parallel to controls, as previously. At least 12-15 days post-transduction, the 600 sqRNA-expressing cell lines were challenged with SARS-CoV-2 bearing a NLuc reporter 601 <sup>55</sup> and the relative infection efficiency was analyzed by monitoring NLuc activity (**Fig. 7a**). 602 Among the tested candidates, TP73, HNF1B, and NFE2 had the strongest positive impact 603 on SARS-CoV-2 replication (~3-4-fold increase), which was comparable to what was 604 observed with ACE2 overexpression. SLC6A19 induction had a slight positive effect on 605 SARS-CoV-2 infection (~1.5-2-fold). Surprisingly, the induced-expression of SLC6A14, 606 which was the top-ranking sensitizing hit after ACE2, had an inhibitory effect on SARS-607 CoV-2 infection rather than a positive effect, when measuring NLuc reporter activity. 608 However, SARS-CoV-2-induced CPEs were increased in SLC6A14-induced cells 609 compared to the control, suggesting a late impact of this gene on viral replication and/or 610 an increase in cell death (Fig. 7b). Interestingly, none of the identified proviral factors had 611 a positive impact on influenza A virus infection, with the notable exception of HNF1B, 612 which had a slight positive impact (Fig. 7c). In contrast, all the identified proviral genes

had a positive impact on HCoV-NL63 infection (**Fig. 7d**). We then studied the impact of the candidates on HCoV-229E, using in parallel 2 sgRNAs targeting *ANPEP* as positive controls (**Fig. 7e**). Calu-3 cells are known to express low levels of ANPEP <sup>56</sup>, and, as expected, *ANPEP* receptor induction greatly increased HCoV-229E infection in Calu-3 cells. Among the genes having a positive impact on SARS-CoV-2 and HCoV-NL63, only *TP73* induction had a positive effect on HCoV-229E infection (**Fig. 7e**).

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

SARS-CoV-2 (CPE)

![](_page_29_Figure_3.jpeg)

619

Fig. 7. Impact of the proviral genes identified by CRISPRa on coronaviruses SARS-CoV-2, HCoV-229E, HCoV-NL63 and on orthomyxovirus influenza A.

- 622 Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 cells were stably transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) per indicated gene 623 promoter and selected for 10-15 days.
- 624 **a.** Cells were non infected (N.I.) or incubated with SARS-CoV-2 bearing NLuc reporter and the infection 625 efficiency was scored 30 h later by monitoring NLuc activity.
- 626 **b.** Cells were infected by SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.05 and ~5 days later stained with crystal violet. 627 Representative images from 2 independent experiments are shown.
- 628 **c.** Cells were infected with influenza A virus bearing NLuc reporter and 10h later, relative infection efficiency 629 was measured by monitoring NLuc activity.
- 630 **d.** Cells were infected with HCoV-NL63 and 5 days later, infection efficiency was determined using RT-631 gPCR.
- 632 **e.** Cells were infected with HCoV-229E-Renilla and 72h later, relative infection efficiency was measured by monitoring Renilla activity.
- The mean and SEM of 4 (**a**), 3 (**c**, **e**) or 2 (**d**) independent experiments or representative images (**b**) are
- 635 shown. The red dashed line indicates 1,5-fold increase in infection efficiency.

636 In order to decipher the step(s) affected by the induction of the identified proviral genes, 637 we used SARS-CoV-2 internalization and VSV pseudotype assays (Fig. 8a-b), as 638 previously. Using these 2 assays, we observed that induction of both HNF1B and NFE2 639 improved viral entry, but not TP73 or SLC6A19, which was surprising for the latter as it is 640 a known partner of ACE2<sup>33</sup>. In line with this, we observed that, despite differences in 641 ACE2 levels in the 2 negative control cell lines, induction of HNF1B and NFE2 seemed 642 to increase ACE2 expression, contrary to that of TP73 or SLC6A19 (Fig. S6a). TP73 and 643 SLC6A19 induction, however, increased SARS-CoV-2 RdRp RNA amounts in infected cells as well as infectious particle production, arguing for a post-entry impact on 644 645 replication (Fig. 8c-d). Interestingly, the pan-coronavirus cofactor TP73 (Fig. 7) was 646 particularly well expressed in ciliated cells from the respiratory epithelium, and SARS-647 CoV-2 infection in patients positively modulated its expression (Fig. S6b; <sup>40</sup>). TP73 is 648 known to be a pro-apoptotic transcription factor, inducing apoptosis upon DNA damage 649 and regulating DNA damage repair <sup>57–59</sup>. However, here we show that TP73 does not just 650 play a role in enhancing SARS-CoV-2-induced cell death, as its induction increases viral 651 replication and production. TP73 could be acting indirectly, through the induced 652 expression of SARS-CoV-2 cofactors. Interestingly, although expressed in a lower 653 percentage of cells as compared to TP73, HNF1B expression was also upregulated in 654 ciliated cells from COVID-19 patients compared to healthy controls <sup>40</sup> (Fig. S6b). HNF1B 655 is a homeodomain containing transcription factor that regulates tissue-specific gene 656 expression positively or negatively, and HNF1B has been shown to modulate lipid 657 metabolism <sup>60</sup>, which might be related to its positive role on SARS-CoV-2 entry, in addition 658 to the observed increase of ACE2 expression. NFE2 is a transcription factor involved in 659 erythroid and megakaryocytic maturation and differentiation and, together with MAFK 660 (which was identified as an antiviral gene by our CRISPRa screen, Fig. 2C and 5a), forms a complex, which regulates various pathways <sup>61</sup>. Interestingly, genes regulated by MAFK 661 662 and NFE2 were both identified as differentially expressed upon SARS-CoV-1 replication 62 663

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### 664

665 Fig. 8. SARS-CoV-2 life cycle steps affected by the proviral gene induction.

666 Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 cells were transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) per indicated gene 667 promoter and selected for 10-15 days.

a. Cells were incubated with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 5 for 2h at 37°C and then treated with Subtilisin A followed

by RNA extraction and RdRp RT-qPCR analysis as a measure of viral internalization.

670 **b.** Cells were infected with Spike del19 and VSV-G pseudotyped, Firefly-expressing VSV and infection 671 efficiency was analyzed 24h later by monitoring Firefly activity.

672 **c.** Cells were infected with SARS-CoV-2 at MOI 0.05 and, 24h later, lysed for RNA extraCtion and RdRp 673 RT-qPCR analysis.

674 d. Aliquots of the supernatants from C were harvested and plaque assays were performed to evaluate the

- 675 production of infectious viruses in the different conditions.
- <sup>.</sup> The mean and SEM of 3 (**a**, **b**, **c**) or 2 (**d**) independent experiments are shown. The red dashed line
- 677 indicates 1,5-fold increase in infection efficiency.
- 678

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### 679

#### 680 **Fig. S6**.

#### 681 a. ACE2 expression in CRISPRa cell lines.

682 Calu-3-Cas9 cells were stably transduced to express 2 different sgRNAs (g1, g2) per indicated gene and
 683 selected for 10-15 days (parallel samples from Fig. 7-8). The cells were lysed and expression levels of
 684 ACE2 were analyzed, Actin served as a loading control. A representative immunoblot is shown.

b. Dot plot depicting the expression levels of the best validated proviral genes in the different cell
 types from the respiratory epithelium, from Chua et al. data set <sup>40</sup>. Expression levels in COVID-19 versus
 healthy patients are color coded; the percentage of cells expressing the respective gene is size coded, as
 indicated.

- 689
- 690

#### 691 **Discussion**

692

693 Despite intense research efforts, much remains to be discovered about the host factors 694 regulating replication of SARS-CoV-2 and other coronaviruses. Recently, a number of whole-genome CRISPR KO screens successfully identified coronavirus host-dependency 695 696 factors pandemics <sup>23–28</sup>. However, most of these screens relied on ACE2 ectopic 697 expression and were performed in cells which do not express TMPRSS2, an important cofactor for entry <sup>8</sup> (with one notable exception <sup>26</sup>, which relied on TMPRSS2 ectopic 698 699 expression). A meta-analysis of these screens revealed a high-level of cell type specificity 700 in the hits identified, indicating a need to pursue such efforts in other model cell lines, in 701 order to better define the landscape of SARS-CoV-2 cofactors. In the present study, we 702 performed bidirectional, genome-wide screens in physiologically relevant lung Calu-3 703 cells, as well as KO screens in intestinal Caco-2 cells. We identified new host-704 dependency factors, which are not only essential for SARS-CoV-2 replication but also for

other coronaviruses, namely MERS-CoV, HCoV-229E and HCoV-NL63. Furthermore,
 our study unraveled new antiviral genes, some of them with potent and/or broad anti coronavirus activity.

708

709 Simultaneously to our screens, similar bidirectional, genome-wide screens were 710 performed in Calu-3 cells by P. Hsu and colleagues <sup>63</sup>. Comparisons between our data 711 sets and theirs showed a very good overlap in the hits identified, both in the KO and 712 activation screens (Fig. S7), with shared hits including host-dependency factors Adaptins 713 AP1G1 and AP1B1 as well as Mucins as antiviral proteins. Interestingly, ATP8B1, which 714 was identified in our Caco-2 KO screen, scored within the 25 best hits in Hsu and 715 colleagues' Calu-3 KO screen, showing the complementarity of our data. This comparison 716 emphasizes the reproducibility of CRISPR screens conducted across different labs, even 717 when different libraries are used, while further highlighting that the cellular model is the 718 primary source of variability.

719

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

- 720
- 721 **Fig. S7.**

a. Comparison between this Calu-3 KO screen to the Calu-3 KO screen conducted by Hsu and colleagues
 Genes that scored among the top 20 resistance hits in both screens are annotated and shown in green.
 b. Comparison between this Calu-3 activation screen to the Calu-3 activation screen conducted by Hsu and colleagues
 Genes that scored among the top 20 resistance hits in both screens are annotated and shown in green.
 b. Comparison between this Calu-3 activation screen to the Calu-3 activation screen conducted by Hsu and colleagues
 Genes that scored among the top 20 resistance hits and sensitization hits in both screens

- are annotated and shown in green.
- 727

728 Interestingly, we observed that most of the identified genes impacted the early phases of 729 the replicative cycle. This observation was true for both the host dependency factors and 730 the antiviral inhibitors, presumably emphasizing the fact that viral entry is the most critical 731 step of the viral life cycle and probably, as such, the most easily targeted by natural 732 defenses. Among the host-dependency factors essential for viral entry, the Adaptin 733 AP1G1 and, to a lower extent, Adaptin AP1B1 and their partner AAGAB, surprisingly 734 played a crucial role. The AP-1 complex regulates polarized sorting at the trans-Golgi 735 network and/or at the recycling endosomes, and may play an indirect role in apical sorting 736 <sup>64</sup>. Interestingly, AAGAB has been shown to bind to and stabilize AP1G1, and in AAGAB KO cells, AP1G1 is known to be less abundant <sup>65</sup>, which may suggest a role of AAGAB 737 738 via the regulation of AP-1 complex here. Our data showed that the KO of AP1G1, AP1B1 739 or AAGAB impacted SARS-CoV-2 entry, while not affecting ACE2 expression at the cell 740 surface. In line with this observation, the KO of these factors also impacted MERS-CoV 741 and HCoV-229E, which use different receptors. However, all these coronaviruses use 742 TMPRSS2 for Spike priming in Calu-3 cells, therefore a possible explanation could be 743 that the AP-1 complex might be important for surface expression of TMPRSS2 (a 744 hypothesis that we have so far been unable to test, due to the lack of specific TMPRSS2 745 antibodies). Alternatively, the AP-1 Adaptins might be important for the proper localization 746 of other plasma membrane components, which play a role in SARS-CoV-2 attachment 747 and/or entry.

748

749 Our analysis revealed that another cofactor affecting viral entry, EP300, which is a histone 750 acetyltransferase, was most likely having an indirect effect on SARS-CoV-2 replication, 751 by regulating ACE2 expression. The fact that EP300 impacted HCoV-NL63 but not HCoV-752 229E or MERS-CoV reinforced this hypothesis. This was also true for two proviral factors 753 identified through our CRISPRa screens, HNF1B and NFE2. In contrast, proviral factor 754 TP73 had no effect on ACE2 expression or viral entry, and actually impacted the 4 755 coronaviruses we tested here, suggesting the potential regulation of pan-coronavirus 756 factor(s) by this transcription factor.

758 An exception among the proviral genes that we characterized was ATP8B1, the only one 759 acting at a late stage of the viral life cycle. ATP8B1 belongs to the P4-Type subfamily of 760 ATPases (P4-ATPases) transporters, which are flippases translocating phospholipids 761 from the outer to the inner leaflet of membrane bilayers <sup>66</sup>. ATP8B1 has been shown to 762 be essential for proper apical membrane structure and mutations of this gene have been 763 linked to cholestasis. The fact that ATP8B1 was important for both SARS-CoV-2 and 764 MERS-CoV replication highlighted a potentially conserved role for coronaviruses and it 765 would be of high interest to understand the underlying molecular mechanisms. 766 Interestingly, ATP8B1 and its homologous ATP8B2 were recently identified as binding-767 partners of SARS-CoV-2 ORF3 and M, respectively <sup>67</sup>, suggesting that the virus might 768 subvert their functions. Of note, TMEM41B, an integral protein of the endoplasmic 769 reticulum known to regulate the formation of autophagosomes, lipid droplets and 770 lipoproteins, was recently shown to be both an essential coronavirus cofactor <sup>25</sup> and a 771 phospholipid scramblase whose deficiency impaired the normal cellular distribution of 772 cholesterol and phosphatidylserine <sup>68</sup>. Whether ATP8B1 could play a similar role in 773 coronavirus replication remains to be determined.

774

775 Among the best antivirals we identified through our CRISPRa screens, the well-known 776 antimicrobial defenses, membrane-associated Mucins played a broad and potent role at 777 limiting coronavirus entry. Interestingly, these Mucins were upregulated in COVID-19 778 patients <sup>40</sup>. Additionally, we showed that induced expression of two other membrane 779 proteins, CD44 and IL6R, could also limit SARS-CoV-2 viral entry. Both these proteins 780 are classically seen as important players during immune responses, being involved 781 mainly in adhesion/trafficking and pro-inflammatory processes, respectively. Interestingly, 782 CD44 has also been demonstrated to serve as a platform that brings other membrane 783 receptors together with actin cytoskeleton, possibly within lipid rafts <sup>44</sup>. One can thus 784 hypothesize that CD44 might prevent virus entry by acting on specific cellular membrane 785 domains. Regarding IL6R, it is interesting to note that Tocilizumab, a monoclonal antibody 786 against this protein, has been used in clinical trials in severe COVID-19 patients. Indeed, 787 IL-6 is one of the major cytokines responsible for the exacerbated inflammation observed

in severe COVID-19 patients. However, Tocilizumab did not improve the clinical outcome
 of severe COVID-19 <sup>69</sup>. Although the exact molecular mechanism of action of how
 overexpressed IL6R prevents SARS-CoV-2 entry remains to be uncovered, IL6R
 signaling might indirectly protect lung epithelial cells from infection *via* the induction of
 innate defenses.

In conclusion, our study unraveled a new network of SARS-CoV-2 and other coronavirus
regulators, in model cell lines physiologically expressing ACE2 and TMPRSS2.
Importantly, the main natural targets of SARS-CoV-2 in the respiratory tract do co-express
ACE2 and TMPRSS2 <sup>40,70</sup>, which highlight the importance of the models used here.
Further characterization work on this newly identified landscape of coronavirus regulators
might guide future therapeutic intervention.

803 Materials and Methods

804

#### 805 **Plasmids and constructs**

806 The lentiviral vector expressing ACE2 (pRRL.sin.cPPT.SFFV/ACE2, Addgene 145842) 807 has been described <sup>30</sup>. The pLX\_311-Cas9 (Addgene 96924) and pXPR\_BRD109, which 808 express Cas9 and dCas9-VP64, respectively, have been described <sup>32</sup>. LentiGuide-Puro 809 vector was a gift from Feng Zhang <sup>71,72</sup> (Addgene 52963) and we have described before 810 the LentiGuide-Puro-CTRL g1 and g2 73 (Addgene 139455 and 139456). pXPR\_502 811 vector for sgRNA expression for CRISPRa was also described <sup>32</sup> (Addgene 96923). Guide 812 RNA coding oligonucleotides were annealed and ligated into BsmBI-digested LentiGuide-813 Puro or pXPR\_502 vectors, as described (Addgene). See Tables 2 and 3 for the sgRNA 814 coding sequences used. pcDNA3.1 spike del19 was a gift from Raffaele De Francesco 815 (Addgene 155297).

816

#### 817 Cell lines

818 Human HEK293T, Caco-2, Calu-3, A549, Huh7, and Huh7.5.1, simian Vero E6 and LLC-819 MK2, dog MDCK cells were maintained in complete Dulbecco's modified Eagle medium 820 (DMEM) (Gibco) supplemented with 10% foetal bovine serum and penicillin/streptomycin. 821 Human Caco-2 and Calu-3, simian LLC-MK2 cells were obtained from American Type 822 Culture Collection (ATCC; a gift from Nathalie Arhel for the latter); Vero E6 cells were 823 obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (a gift from Christine Chable-Bessia), HEK293T, A549, and 824 MDCK cells were gifts from Michael Malim's lab and Wendy Barclay's lab, Huh7 and 825 Huh7.5.1 cells have been described <sup>74,75</sup>, respectively, and the latter provided by Raphaël 826 Gaudin. All cell lines were regularly screened for the absence of mycoplasma 827 contamination. When indicated, cells were treated with interferon (1000 U/mL, PBL 828 Interferon source) for 24h.

- A549 cells (and Caco-2 cells, for the CRISPR screen) stably expressing ACE2 were generated by transduction with RRL.sin.cPPT.SFFV.WPRE containing-vectors <sup>30</sup>.
- 831 For CRISPR-Cas9-mediated gene disruption, Calu-3, Caco-2 and A549-ACE2, cells
- 832 stably expressing Cas9 or dCas9-VP64 were first generated by transduction with LX\_311-

Cas9 or XPR\_BRD109, respectively, followed by blasticidin selection at 10  $\mu$ g/ml. WT Cas9 activity was checked using the XPR\_047 assay (a gift from David Root, Addgene 107145) and was always >80-90%. dCas9-VP64 activity was checked using the pXPR\_502 vector expressing sgRNA targeting IFITM3 and MX1 ISG promoters. Cells were transduced with guide RNA expressing LentiGuide-Puro or XPR\_502 (as indicated) and selected with antibiotics for at least 10 days.

839

#### 840 Lentiviral production and transduction

841 Lentiviral vector stocks were obtained by polyethylenimine (PEI; for LentiGuide vectors) 842 or Lipofectamine 3000 (Thermo Scientific; for XPR\_502 vectors)-mediated multiple 843 transfections of 293T cells in 6-well plates with vectors expressing Gag-Pol, the miniviral 844 genome, the Env glycoprotein at a ratio of 1:1:0.5. The culture medium was changed 6h 845 post-transfection, and vector containing supernatants harvested 36 h later, filtered and 846 used directly or stored at -80°C. Transduction was performed by cell incubation with the 847 LV in the presence of polybrene (4  $\mu$ g/mL) for a few hours. For LX 311-Cas9, 848 XPR BRD109, RRL.sin.cPPT.SFFV/ACE2.WPRE, LentiGuide-Puro and XPR 502 849 transductions, spin infection was performed for 2h at 30°C and 1000g to improve 850 transduction efficiencies.

851

#### 852 CRISPR KO screens

853 Vero E6, Caco-2-ACE2 and Calu-3 cells were spin infected for 2h at 1000g with LX 311-854 Cas9 lentiviral vector at a high MOI and in the presence of polybrene (4  $\mu$ g/mL). Blasticidin 855 selection was added 24-48h post transduction. Cells were grown to at least 120 million 856 cells (40-60 millions for the Calu-3) and transduced with lentiviral vectors coding the C. 857 sabeus sgRNAs <sup>27</sup> (for Vero E6), the Brunello library <sup>32</sup> (for Caco-2-ACE2) or the Gattinara library <sup>31</sup> (for Calu-3), at MOI ~0.3-0.5. Puromycin selection was added 24-48h post 858 859 transduction and maintained for 10-15 days prior to proceeding to the screens. Cells were 860 re-amplified to at least the starting amounts prior to SARS-CoV-2 challenge at MOI 0.005. 861 The day of the viral challenge, 40 million cells were harvested, pelleted by centrifugation 862 and frozen down for subsequent gDNA extraction. Massive CPEs were observed 3-5

days post SARS-CoV-2 infection and cells were kept in culture for 11-13, 18-27, and 3034 days in total prior to harvest and gDNA extraction, for Vero E6, Caco-2-ACE2 and
Calu-3, respectively.

866

#### 867 CRISPRa screens

868 Calu-3 cells were spin infected for 2h at 1000g with dCas9-VP64 (pXPR\_BRD109)-869 expressing lentiviral vectors at high MOI and in the presence of polybrene (4 µg/mL). 870 Blasticidin selection was added 24-48h post transduction and the cells were amplified. 871 120 million Calu-3-dCas9-VP64 cells were then transduced with the Calabrese library in 872 two biological replicates (for sublibrary A) or in one replicate (for sublibrary B) at a low 873 MOI (~0.3-0.5). 2.5 weeks later, 40 million cells were either challenged with SARS-CoV-874 2 (MOI 0.005) or harvested and frozen down for subsequent gDNA extraction. Massive 875 CPEs were observed 3-5 days post SARS-CoV-2 infection and cells were kept in culture 876 for 11-17 days prior to harvest and gDNA extraction.

877

#### 878 Genomic DNA preparation and sequencing

879 Genomic DNA (gDNA) was isolated using either the QIAamp DNA Blood Maxi kit 880 (Qiagen) or the NucleoSpin Blood XL kit (Macherey-Nagel), as per the manufacturer's 881 instructions. Isolated gDNAs were further prepared and cleaned up using a OneStep™ 882 PCR Inhibitor Removal Kit according to manufacturer instructions (Zymo Research, 883 D6030). For PCR amplification, gDNA was divided into 100 µL reactions such that each 884 well had at most 10 µg of gDNA. Plasmid DNA (pDNA) was also included at a maximum 885 of 100 pg per well. Per 96 well plate, a master mix consisted of 150 µL DNA Polymerase 886 (Titanium Tag; Takara), 1 mL of 10x buffer, 800 µL of dNTPs (Takara), 50 µL of P5 stagger 887 primer mix (stock at 100 µM concentration), 500 µL of DMSO, and water to bring the final 888 volume to 4 mL. Each well consisted of 50 µL gDNA plus water, 40 µL PCR master mix, 889 and  $10\,\mu$ L of a uniquely barcoded P7 primer (stock at  $5\,\mu$ M concentration). PCR cycling 890 conditions were as follows: an initial 1 min at 95 °C; followed by 30 s at 94 °C, 30 s at 891 52.5 °C, 30 s at 72 °C, for 28 cycles; and a final 10 min extension at 72 °C. PCR primers 892 were synthesized at Integrated DNA Technologies (IDT). PCR products were purified with

Agencourt AMPure XP SPRI beads according to manufacturer's instructions (Beckman Coulter, A63880). Prior to sequencing the sample was quantitated by qPCR and diluted to 2nM. 5  $\mu$ L of the sample was then further diluted and denatured with 5  $\mu$ L 0.1N NaOH and 490  $\mu$ L HT1 buffer (Illumina). Samples were sequenced on a HiSeq2500 HighOutput (Illumina) with a 5% spike-in of PhiX.

898

#### 899 Screen analysis

900 For each published screen, corresponding authors provided raw read counts. For the 901 screens conducted in this paper, guide-level read counts were retrieved from sequencing 902 data. We log-normalized read counts using the following formula:  $log - normalized reads per million for guide = log_2(\frac{number of reads per guide}{total reads in condition \times 1e6} + 1)$ 903

904 When applicable, we averaged lognorm values across conditions (Poirier, Daelemans, 905 Sanjana). We calculated log-fold changes for each condition relative to pDNA lognorm 906 values. If pDNA reads were not provided for the given screen, pDNA reads from a different 907 screen that used the same library were used (Puschnik analysis used Sanjana pDNA, 908 Zhang analysis used Poirier pDNA). Log-fold changes were used to calculate the 909 receiver-operator characteristic area under the curve values (ROC-AUC) for control 910 populations, where essential genes were treated as true positives and non-essential 911 genes were treated as true negatives. We define essential genes based on Hart et al. 912 2015 and non-essential genes based on Hart et al. 2014. For each condition in each 913 dataset, we fit a natural cubic spline between the control and infected conditions (Wei et 914 al. 2021). The degrees of freedom for each spline were fit using 10-fold cross-validation. 915 We calculated residuals from this spline and z-scored these values at the guide-level 916 (anchors package). We calculated gene-level z-scores by averaging across guides and 917 conditions, and p-values were combined across conditions using Fisher's method. Genes 918 were filtered by number of guides per gene, which was generally one guide fewer or 919 greater than the median number of genes per gene for that library (e.g. for Brunello 920 screens, which has a median of 4 guides per gene, we applied a filter of 3 to 5 guides per 921 gene). This guide-filtering step accounts for any missing values in the file compiling data

across all screens (all\_screens\_v3.xlsx). We then used these filtered gene-level z-scores
to rank the genes such that the rank one gene corresponded to the top resistance hit. The
files containing the guide-level and gene-level residual z-scores for each screen are being
deposited on Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) (Supplemental Files 1-5). All code used
in this analysis can be found at: <a href="https://github.com/PriyankaRoy5/SARS-CoV-2-meta-analysis">https://github.com/PriyankaRoy5/SARS-CoV-2-meta-analysis</a>.

928

#### 929 Wild-type and reporter SARS-CoV-2 production and infection

The (wild-type) BetaCoV/France/IDF0372/2020 isolate was supplied by Pr. Sylvie van der 930 931 Werf and the National Reference Centre for Respiratory Viruses hosted by Institut 932 Pasteur (Paris, France). The patient sample from which strain 933 BetaCoV/France/IDF0372/2020 was isolated was provided by Dr. X. Lescure and Pr. Y. 934 Yazdanpanah from the Bichat Hospital, Paris, France. The mNeonGreen (mNG) <sup>39</sup> and 935 55 SARS-COV-2 Nanoluciferase (NLuc) reporter were based 2019on 936 nCoV/USA WA1/2020 isolated from the first reported SARS-CoV-2 case in the USA, and 937 provided through World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses 938 (WRCEVA), and UTMB investigator, Dr. Pei Yong Shi.

WT, mNG and NLuc reporter SARS-CoV-2 were amplified in Vero E6 cells (MOI 0.005)
in serum-free media. The supernatant was harvested at 48 h-72 h post infection when
cytopathic effects were observed, cell debris were removed by centrifugation, and
aliquots frozen down at -80°C. Viral supernatants were titrated by plaque assays in Vero
E6 cells. Typical titers were 3.10<sup>6</sup>-3.10<sup>7</sup> plaque forming units (PFU)/ml.

944 Simian and human cell infections were performed at the indicated multiplicity of infection 945 (MOI; as calculated from titers in Vero E6 cells) in serum-free DMEM and 5% serum-946 containing DMEM, respectively. The viral input was left for the duration of the experiment (unless specified otherwise). The viral supernatants were frozen down at -80°C prior to 947 948 RNA extraction and quantification and/or titration by plaque assays on Vero E6 cells. The 949 cells were trypsinized and the percentage of cells expressing mNG was scored by flow 950 cytometry using a NovoCyte<sup>™</sup> (ACEA Biosciences Inc.) after fixation in PBS1X-2% PFA, 951 or the cells were lysed in Passive Lysis buffer and NLuc activity measured inside the BSL-

952 3 facility, or lysed in RLT buffer (Qiagen) followed by RNA extraction and RT-qPCR
953 analysis, at the indicated time post-infection.

954

#### 955 Seasonal coronavirus production and infection

956 HCoV-229E-Renilla was a gift from Volker Thiel <sup>76</sup> and was amplified for 5-7 days at 33°C 957 in Huh7.5.1 cells in 5% FCS-containing DMEM. HCoV-NL63 NR-470 was obtained 958 through BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH and was amplified for 5-7 days at 33°C in LLC-MK2 959 simian cells, in 2% FCS-containing DMEM. Viral stocks were harvested when cells showed >50% CPEs. Viruses were titrated through TCID<sub>50</sub> in the cells used for their 960 961 amplification and typical titers were 1,8.10<sup>9</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>/mL and 10<sup>6</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>/mL for HCoV-962 229E-Renilla and HCoV-NL63, respectively. Infections of Calu-3 were performed at MOI 963 300 for HCoV-229E-Renilla (as measured on Huh7.5.1 cells) and MOI 0.1 for HCoV-NL63 964 (as measured on LLC-MK2 cells) and infection efficiency was analyzed 3 days later by 965 measuring Renilla activity or 5 days later by RT-qPCR for HCoV-229E-Renilla and HCoV-966 NL63, respectively.

967

#### 968 MERS-CoV production and infection

To produce MERS-CoV, HEK-293T cells were transfected with a bacmid containing a fulllength cDNA clone of the MERS-CoV genome (a king gift of Dr Luis Enjuanes; <sup>77</sup>) and overlaid six hours later with Huh7 cells. After lysis of Huh7 cells, cell supernatants were collected and the virus was further amplified on Huh7 cells. Viral stocks were aliquoted and frozen down, and titrated by the TCID<sub>50</sub> method.

974 Calu-3 cells, seeded in 24-wells on glass coverslips (immunofluorescence) and in 975 duplicate in 48-wells (infectivity titrations), were inoculated with MERS-CoV at an MOI of 976 0.3. Sixteen hours after inoculation, coverslips were fixed by incubation in 3% 977 paraformaldehyde for 20 minutes, and stored in PBS at 4°C until immunolabeling was 978 performed. Supernatant was collected from the infected cells in the 48-wells and stored 979 at -80°C until infectivity titrations were performed. Coverslips were further processed for 980 immunolabeling of the infected cells. Briefly, cells were permeabilized by incubation with 981 0.4% Triton X-100 for 5 minutes, and were then blocked by incubation for 30 minutes with

982 5% goat serum (GS) in PBS. Infected cells were labelled with a mixture of the mouse 983 monoclonal antibody J2 against dsRNA (Scicons, diluted 1:400) and a rabbit polyclonal 984 antibody directed against the spike protein (Sino Biological Inc, diluted 1:500) in PBS 985 supplemented with 5% GS for 30 minutes at room temperature. They were washed three 986 times with PBS and then incubated for 30 minutes with Alexa-488-conjugated donkev 987 anti-mouse IgG and Alexa594-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG secondary antibodies (both 988 from Jackson Immunoresearch) in 5% GS in PBS supplemented with 1 µg/ml DAPI (4',6-989 diamidino-2-phenylindole). Coverslips were then rinsed four times with PBS, once in 990 MilliQ water and mounted on microscope slides in Mowiol 4-88-containing medium. 991 Images were acquired on an Evos M5000 imaging system (Thermo Fisher Scientific) 992 equipped with light cubes for DAPI, GFP and TX-RED, and a 10x objective. For each 993 coverslip, ten 8-bit images of each channel were acquired. The total number of cells was 994 determined by counting the nuclei. Infected cells, defined as positive for dsRNA or spike 995 immunolabeling, were counted, and the percentage of infected cells was calculated. 996 About 10,000 to 20,000 cells were counted per condition in each experiment using 997 homemade macros running in ImageJ. For the infectivity titrations, Huh7 cells, seeded in 998 96 well plates, were inoculated with 100  $\mu$ l of 1/10 serially diluted supernatants. Cells 999 were incubated with the virus dilutions for 5 days at 37°C. Then, the 50% tissue culture 1000 infectious dose (TCID<sub>50</sub>) was determined by assessing the CPEs in each well by light 1001 microscopy and the 50% and point was calculated according to the method of Reed and 1002 Muench 78.

1003

#### 1004 **IAV-NLuc production and infection**

The A/Victoria/3/75 virus carrying a NanoLuciferase reporter gene generation and production have been described <sup>73</sup>. Viruses were amplified on MDCK cells cultured in serum-free DMEM containing 0.5 μg/mL L-1-p-Tosylamino-2-phenylethyl chloromethyl ketone (TPCK)-treated trypsin (Sigma–Aldrich). Stocks were titrated by plaque assays on MDCK cells.

IAV-NLuc challenges were performed in quadruplicates in 96-well plates, in serum-free
 DMEM for 1 h and the medium was subsequently replaced with DMEM containing 10%

1012 foetal bovine serum. The cells were lysed 10h later and NanoLuc activity was measured 1013 with the Nano-Glo assay system (Promega), and luminescence was detected using a 1014 plate reader (Infinite 200 PRO; Tecan).

1015

#### 1016 SARS-CoV-2 internalization assay

1017 Calu-3 cells were incubated with SARS-CoV-2 at an MOI of 5 for 2h at 37°C, were washed 1018 twice with PBS and then treated with Subtilisin A (400  $\mu$ g/mL) in Subtilisin A buffer (10 1019 mM Tris/HCl (pH 8.0), 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>)) in order to get rid of the cell surface-1020 bound viruses, prior to lysis in 350  $\mu$ L RLT buffer, RNA extraction using the RNeasy kit 1021 according the manufacturer's instructions (Qiagen) and RdRp RT-qPCR to measure the 1022 relative amounts of internalized viruses.

1023

#### 1024 Spike pseudotype production

1025 293T cells were seeded in a 6 well plate previously coated with poly-Lysine (Sigma-1026 Aldrich) and, 1 day later, transfected with 5  $\mu$ g of an expression plasmid coding either 1027 VSV-G (pMD.G) or SARS-CoV-2 Spike del19 (pcDNA3.1\_spike\_del19) using 1028 Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Scientific). The culture medium was replaced after 6h. Cells 1029 were infected 24h post-transfection with VSVAG-GFP-Firefly Luciferase <sup>41</sup> at a MOI of 5 1030 for 1h at 37°C and subsequently rinsed 3 times with PBS. The medium was replaced with 1031 5%FCS-supplemented DMEM complemented with a mouse monoclonal anti-VSV-G 1032 antibody (CliniSciences, clone 8G5F11, final concentration 1 µg/mL) to neutralize residual 1033 viral input, as described <sup>79</sup>. Cell supernatants containing pseudotyped VSV viruses were 1034 harvested 24h later, spun at 1000 g for 10 min and stored at -80°C.

1035

#### 1036 **RNA quantification**

3-5 x 10<sup>5</sup> cells infected or not with SARS-CoV-2 or HCoV-NL63 were harvested and total
RNA was extracted using the RNeasy kit (Qiagen) employing on-column DNase
treatment, according to the manufacturer's instructions. 50-125 ng of total RNAs were
used to generate cDNAs. To quantify SARS-CoV-2 RNAs, the cDNAs were analyzed by
qPCR using published RdRp primers and probe <sup>80</sup>, as follow: RdRp\_for 5'-

1042 5'-GTGARATGGTCATGTGTGGCGG-3', RdRp\_rev 1043 CAAATGTTAAAAACACTATTAGCATA-3', and RdRp\_probe 5'-FAM-1044 CAGGTGGAACCTCATCAGGAGATGC-TAMRA-3'). To quantify HCoV-NL63 RNAs, the 1045 cDNAs were analyzed by gPCR using published primers and probe (Carbajo-Lozoya et 1046 al., 2012), as follow: NL-63F2 5'-CTTCTGGTGACGCTAGTACAGCTTAT-3', NL-63R2 1047 5'-AGACGTCGTTGTAGATCCCTAACAT-3', and NL-63 probe 5'-FAM-1048 CAGGTTGCTTAGTGTCCCATCAGATTCAT-TAMRA-3'<sup>81</sup>. For relative levels of 1049 expression of the genes of interest, the following TagMan gene expression assays were 1050 used (ThermoFisher Scientific): ACTB (Hs99999903\_m1), GAPDH (Hs99999905\_m1), 1051 AP1B1 (Hs00153906\_m1), AP1G1 (Hs00964419\_m1), AAGAB (Hs01027607\_m1), 1052 *KMT2C* (Hs01005521\_m1), *EP300* (Hs00914205\_m1), *ATP8B1* (Hs00900656\_m1), 1053 PLAGL1 (Hs00414677 m1), MUC4 (Hs00366414 m1), MUC21 (Hs01379324 q1), 1054 MUC1 (Hs00159357\_m1), IL6R (Hs01075664\_m1), LYN (Hs00176719\_m1), TEAD3 1055 (Hs00243231\_m1) and CD44 (Hs01075862\_m1). qPCR reactions were performed in 1056 triplicate, in universal PCR master mix using 900 nM of each primer and 250 nM probe 1057 or the indicated Tagmans. After 10 min at 95°C, reactions were cycled through 15 s at 1058 95°C followed by 1 min at 60°C for 40 repeats. Triplicate reactions were run according to 1059 the manufacturer's instructions using a ViiA7 Real Time PCR system (ThermoFisher 1060 Scientific). pRdRp and pNL63 (which respectively contains fragments amplified from 1061 SARS-CoV-2- and NL63-infected cell RNAs using primers RdRp for and RdRp rev, and 1062 NL-63F2 and NL-63R2, cloned into pPCR-Blunt II-TOPO) was diluted in 20 ng/ml salmon 1063 sperm DNA to generate a standard curve to calculate relative cDNA copy numbers and 1064 confirm the assay linearity (detection limit: 10 molecules of RdRp per reaction).

1065

# 1066ACE2 staining using Spike RBD-mFc recombinant protein and flow cytometry1067analysis

1068 The SARS-CoV-2 Spike RBD sequence used here as a soluble tagged exofacial ligand 1069 for ACE2, was obtained from RNA extracted from a patient nasopharyngeal sample 1070 collected in Montpellier University hospital during Spring 2020 and a gift from Vincent 1071 Foulongne <sup>82</sup> (RBD sequence GenBank accession number MT787505.1). The predicted 1072 N-terminal signal peptide of the spike protein (amino acid 1-14) was fused to the RBD 1073 sequence (amino acid 319-541) and C-terminally tagged with a mouse IgG1 Fc fragment. 1074 The RBD-mFc fusion sequence was then cloned into a pCSI vector for expression in 1075 mammalian cells, as previously described (Giovannini et al., 2013). The pCSI-SpikeRBD 1076 expression vector was transfected in HEK293T cells using the PElpro® transfection 1077 reagent. Cells were washed 6h post transfection and grown for an additional 72-96h in 1078 serum-free Optipro medium (Invitrogen) supplemented with glutamine and non-essential 1079 amino acids. Conditioned medium was then harvested, filtered through 0.45 µm filters 1080 and concentrated 100-fold by centrifugation at 3600 rpm at 4°C on 10 kDA cut-off Amicon 1081 Ultra-15 concentrators. Samples were aliquoted and stored at -20°C until further use.

For ACE2 labelling, cells were harvested and incubated 20 min at 37°C in FACS buffer
 (PBS1X-2% BSA) containing a 1/20 dilution of Spike RBD-mFc followed by secondary
 anti-mouse Alexa-488 incubation and several washes in FACS buffer. Flow cytometry
 was performed using the NovoCyte<sup>™</sup> (ACEA Biosciences Inc.).

1086

#### 1087 Immunoblot analysis

Cells were lysed in lysis buffer (10 mM TRIS 1M pH7.6, NaCl 150 mM, Triton X100 1%, EDTA 1 mM, deoxycholate 0,1%) supplemented with sample buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 6.8, 2% SDS, 5% glycerol, 100 mM DTT, 0.02% bromophenol blue), resolved by SDS-PAGE and analyzed by immunoblotting using primary antibodies against ACE2 (ProteinTech 21115-1-P) and Actin (Sigma-Aldrich A1978), followed by HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit or anti-mouse immunoglobulin antibodies and chemiluminescence Clarity or Clarity max substrate (Bio-Rad). A Bio-Rad ChemiDoc imager was used.

1095

#### 1096 Analysis of scRNAseq data

1097 For scRNaseq analysis, Seurat objects were downloaded from figshare: 1098 (<u>https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.12436517.v2</u>; <sup>40</sup>). Cell identities and CRISPR hits 1099 were selected and plotted using the DotPlot function in Seurat <sup>40</sup>.

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- 1101

#### 1102 Data availability

1103 The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are being 1104 deposited with GEO and are additionally available from the corresponding authors on 1105 reasonable request.

1106

#### 1107 **Requests for materials**

1108 Requests for material should be addressed to Caroline Goujon or John Doench at the 1109 corresponding address above, or to Addgene for the plasmids with an Addgene number. 1110

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#### 1139 Author contributions

1140 A.R., P.R., J.G.D. and C.G. conceived the study; A.R. and C.G. designed the 1141 experiments; A.R. and C.G. performed the CRISPR screens; P.R., M.H., P.DW. and 1142 J.G.D. performed the computational analysis; A.R., B.B., A.L.C.V., L.D., O.M. and C.G. 1143 performed the BSL-2 and BSL-3 experiments; Y.R., M.T., M.A.A. and Y.L. provided 1144 technical help; D.G. provided Spike RBD-mFc for ACE2 staining; F.G.G, J.M., M.W. 1145 participated in data interpretation. J.G.D. and C.G. provided overall supervision along with 1146 S.B. and J.D.; A.R., P.R., J.G.D. and C.G. wrote the manuscript with input from all 1147 authors.

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#### 1149 **Competing interests**

J.G.D. consults for Agios, Microsoft Research, Phenomic AI, BioNTech, and Pfizer; JGD
consults for and has equity in Tango Therapeutics. J.G.D.'s interests were reviewed and
are managed by the Broad Institute in accordance with its conflict of interest policies. The
other authors declare no competing interests.

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#### 1346 Table 1. Properties of SARS-CoV-2 host factor screens assayed by cell viability.

For each library, the number of unique guides per gene is indicated in parentheses. The essential gene QC serves as a metric for screen quality (see Methods) in the untreated arm, when applicable; the number of days post-library introduction until the end of the experiment is written after the semicolon.

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Study	Cell line	Library (#guides/gene)	Viral isolate	Essential gene QC (ROC-AUC; #days)
Wei, Wilen	Vero E6	C. sabeus (4)	USA-WA1/2020	0.82; 16-18 days
This study	Vero E6	C. sabeus (4)	BetaCoV/France/ IDF0372/2020	0.84; 20-24 days
Daniloski, Sanjana	A549-ACE2	GeCKO (6)	USA-WA1/2020	0.62; 18 days
Zhu, Zhang	A549-ACE2	Brunello (4)	nCoV-SH01	0.68; 14+ days
Baggen, Daelemans	Huh7	Brunello (4)	Belgium/GHB- 03021/2020	0.78; 44 days
Schneider, Poirier	Huh7.5	Brunello (4)	USA-WA1/2020	0.92; 12-21 days
Wang, Puschnik	Huh7.5.1-ACE2- TMPRSS2	GeCKO (6)	USA-WA1/2020	0.56; 19 days
This study	Caco-2-ACE2	Brunello (4)	BetaCoV/France/ IDF0372/2020	0.71; 19 days
This study	Calu-3	Gattinara (2)	BetaCoV/France/ IDF0372/2020	0.84; 13-30 days
This study	Calu-3	Calabrese (6)	BetaCoV/France/ IDF0372/2020	n/a; 17-19 days

## 1352Table 2. sgRNA sequences used for CRISPR KO perturbations

Gene	sgRNA sequence	
CTRL g1	AGCACGTAATGTCCGTGGAT	
CTRL g2	CAATCGGCGACGTTTTAAAT	
ACE2 g1	TCCTGTGCAGATATTACACA	
ACE2 g2	ACAGTTTAGACTACAATGAG	
TMPRSS2 g1	GTCCAGAACGTCCACGTGTG	
TMPRSS2 g2	CGGATGCACCTCGTAGACAG	
AP1B1 g1	TTGTGGGCGAGTACGCGGAA	
AP1B1 g2	ACTGTGGGTTCAGATCGAGC	
AP1G1 g1	GTAAATGGGAATAATATCCG	
AP1G1 g2	TGTTCAATAAGAAACGACCC	
AAGAB g1	AGCAGACATCAATCTATGTG	
AAGAB g2	AAGCCCTGAATGCCAATGTG	
KMT2C g1	ATTCAGACATTAGGCCATCG	
KMT2C g2	CCCATGCGACGACCTCCCCA	
KDM6A g1	CCTAGCAATTCAGTAACACA	
KDM6A g2	CTGGTAAGTCTCACCTTCCG	
KMT2D g1	GGTGGAAATTCCCGCCAACG	
KMT2D g2	CTTCCCTATGGGACTCAACG	
ARID2 g1	GTAAGCCAGCCAGCTCAACA	
ARID2 g2	GCAGTCTCCATTACACACAG	
DYRK1A g1	TGAGAAACACCAATTTCCGA	
DYRK1A g2	TTCAACCAAAATACACCCGA	
VPS72 g1	TTCTACCAGACGACTTATGG	
VPS72 g2	GCCTCGAAAGGTCAACACCC	
PBRM1 g1	TTGAAAATAATCGCTACCGT	
PBRM1 g2	AGGAGTTGTCGGAATAACCA	
EP300 g1	GGTACGACTAGGTACAGGCG	
EP300 g2	TTCTTCATTGTGCGACAGTG	
SRRD g1	AGGGAAACGGAGTATTCGCG	
SRRD g2	GCATCTTGACTCATTGCCAG	
RAD54L2 g1	GTTCCTTTACGATAACCTAG	
RAD54L2 g2	GTATACCCGACATACTGCCT	
PCBD1 g1	CTTTGGGTTCATGACAAGAG	
PCBD1 g2	ACACGTTAAACCATTCAGGA	
ARID1A g1	CAGCAGAACTCTCACGACCA	
ARID1A g2	CAGACACATAGAGGCGATAG	

DRG1 g1	GAGCCTTAAGCAGCCCTAAG
DRG1 g2	AGGTATCATTGAAGGTGCCA
CTSL g1	CTGGGGGCCTCATAAAACAG
CTSL g2	CAGTATGTTCAGGATAATGG
UBXN7 g1	GTGGCCGGAATAGATCTGCA
UBXN7 g2	TCAGGTGCAAGTGAAAGTGT
CRSL1 g1	CCTTCCCCGCGCCCGAACAG
CRSL1 g2	TAATCAAATAGCCCAGAACT
SMARCA4 g1	GCAGCAGACAGACGAGTACG
SMARCA4 g2	CTAGGTATGAAGTAGCTCCG
ATP8B1 g1	CTGCAAAAATGACTAAGCCG
ATP8B1 g2	AGTTCCTCAAATCTCTACCC
VPS52 g1	CAATGAACGAGCAACAGCAA
VPS52 g2	TCCGTAACATTGCAGCAAAG
PSIP1 g1	AGATCGAAAACGCAAGCAAG
PSIP1 g2	AAGAGCCGGATAAAAAAGAG

### 1354Table 3. sgRNA sequences used for CRISPRa perturbations

Gene	sgRNA sequence	
CTRL g1	AGCACGTAATGTCCGTGGAT	
CTRL g2	CAATCGGCGACGTTTTAAAT	
ACE2 g1	AGCCAATATAAAGTTCATCC	
ACE2 g2	GTTACATATCTGTCCTCTCC	
IFNL2 g1	GGTAAGACACCGGCCACCAG	
IFNL2 g2	CACAGCCTCAGGTAAGACAC	
PLAGL1/HYMAI g1	CCAAGAGGATGGCTGCGCCG	
PLAGL1/HYMAI g2	GCCGTGGGCTTTGCCGCCCG	
MUC4 g1	GCTGATGAGAAGCAGAGCAA	
MUC4 g2	CTGATGAGAAGCAGAGCAAC	
JADE3 g1	CAGCCCGCCAGAAGAACGCG	
JADE3 g2	CCCGCCAGAAGAACGCGCGG	
MUC21 g1	CCTGGGACGGAATAGAGCAG	
MUC21 g2	TAGAGCAGGGGTCAAGAGGA	
IL6R g1	GCAACGCAGGAAAACATTTG	
IL6R g2	ATCAACAGAACCGGGAGGAA	
LY6E g1	GGAGCCGGGGTAGGCCTGGG	
LY6E g2	CTATCCCAAGGAGCCGGGGT	
LYN g1	GCCTTCAAAGCCCTGCGCGA	
LYN g2	AAACACCCAAACCTTGGGCA	
CUX1 g1	GGAGGAGTCCGCGTCCTCGG	
CUX1 g2	TGAGGAGGAGTCCGCGTCCT	
FXYD5 g1	CTGGCTTCAGAGCCCGGGGT	
FXYD5 g2	GCATAGTGGTGGGAGAGGGT	
LRNF5 g1	CGCACACCCAGCACTGCACG	
LRNF5 g2	ACGGGGAGGAAGCAGCACGG	
ATAD3B g1	CTATGGCGTCACTGCCCTCG	
ATAD3B g2	TTTAGGAGCGTGCTCCGGGG	
TEAD3 g1	TCGCGAGGCCGCGGGGTAGG	
TEAD3 g2	CGCTCGGGCCGCCTACCCCG	
OR1N1 g1	AATGAACTTAAAGGGAGATT	
OR1N1 g2	ATGAACTTAAAGGGAGATTT	
BHLHA15 g1	CCGCCGGGACACCCGGACCC	
BHLHA15 g2	CGGGGTCCGGGTGTCCCGGC	
MUC1 g1	AGAGCCCTTGTACCCTACCC	
MUC1 g2	CCTTGTACCCTACCCAGGAA	

MYRF g1	GAGCGCCGCCTGCAGGAGTC
MYRF g2	AGTCGGGAGCGTGGTGCCCG
MAFK g1	CGCCCTCCTCTCCCGCCCGG
MAFK g2	GGGGATTGCAGGTGCGCGCG
ZNF572 g1	AGGGTTAAGATCAACGAGAG
ZNF572 g2	CTTCTGGTCCAGGACCCTAA
CD44 g1	AGGACACACCCAAGCAAGGG
CD44 g2	TAAGAAGTAGCAGCCCTCCC
ATP4V0A2 g1	GCCAACCAGCGCGAACCCGG
ATP4V0A2 g2	GTTGTCGCCGCACGACGTGG
FBXL19 g1	TTCGTCCTGGAAAGTGGAGG
FBXL19 g2	GCGTTCGTCCTGGAAAGTGG
ZNF703 g1	CAGCTCTCGCCGGGACCCCG
ZNF703 g2	CTGAGGCCGGCTCCATCGGT
SLC6A14 g1	TACCGGAAGGGACTAAAGTG
SLC6A14 g2	GCTACATGTAGGCTTATCTG
TP73 g1	GCGGGGCCAAGGTCTCCTCC
TP73 g2	TGGAGAGGCGGAGCGCCGGG
HNF1B g1	ACCTGGAGAGCAGAAGACCT
HNF1B g2	CGGCTGGATGCAAATGATGG
NFE2 g1	CTGCCCCTTTCGGCCAAGAG
NFE2 g2	GAGGAAACTTGAGCCCGATG
SLC6A19 g1	CTGCAGGGTGCGTCTGCGGA
SLC6A19 g2	CCTGCAGATCTGCTGACGAC

## Supplementary Files

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- SupplementalFile1allscreens.xlsx
- SupplementalFile2VeroE6thisstudy.xlsx
- SupplementalFile3Calu3Gattinara.xlsx
- SupplementalFile4Calu3Calabrese.xlsx
- SupplementalFile5Caco2Brunello.xlsx