Seminar/Talk

Towards quantitative structural cell biology: in situ experiments and simulations discover flexible hinges in SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein.

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Host: Leonid Sazanov

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) spike protein mediates viral entry to the host cells and initiates the infection. As the only exposed surface protein, it is a primary target for vaccine development. We combined cryo-electron tomography, subtomogram averaging, and molecular dynamics simulations to visualise and structurally characterise spike proteins on the surface of intact virions. We discover three hinges in the stalk of S protein that endow it with surprising flexibility and can be relevant in the process of binding to the surface of the host cell.

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 02:00pm - 03:00pm
via Zoom

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