

Figure S1. The identity of the prefusion conformation and postfusion conformation on pre-F protein (SC-TM) or post-F protein was verified using ELISA with pre-F specific antibodies (AM22, D25) and total F target mAbs (MPE8, 101F, MOTA) or a post-F-specific mAb (12A12). **(a)** SC-TM. **(b)** post-F.

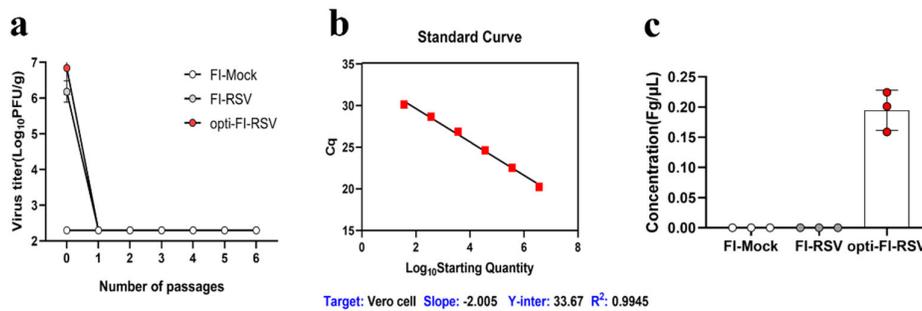


Figure S2. The complete inactivation of vaccines and the levels of residual host cell DNA for vaccines were determined with a plaque assay and a sensitive and specific real-time PCR method, respectively. **(a)** Freshly harvested virions were collected at different time points (for FI-Mock and FI-RSV, 72 hours post-infection; for opti-FI-RSV, 63 hours post-infection) and treated with formalin as described in the Method. The infectivity of both groups was determined before (passages number=0) and post formalin treated and then passaging the material on HEp-2cells for multiple passages. **(b)** The standard curve obtained from standard plasmids analysis. R² and Slope were shown. **(c)** Quantification of residual host cell DNA for FI-Mock, FI-RSV and opti-FI-RSV by interpolation of the standard curve. The symbols indicate each independent experiment, the bars/lines indicate the mean \pm SD.

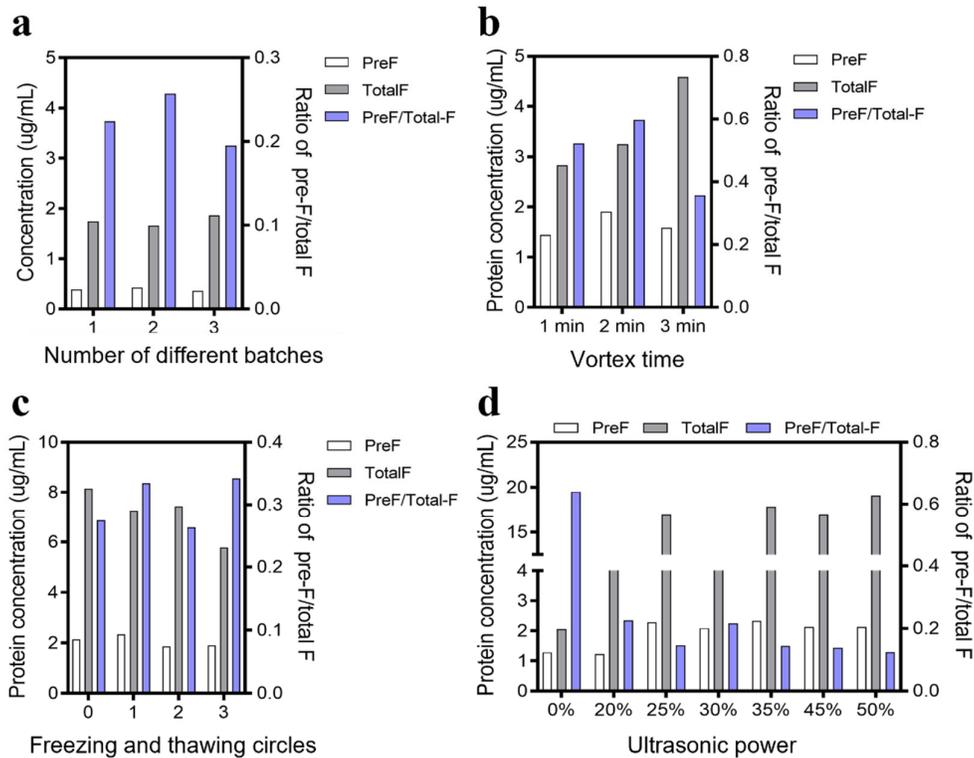


Figure S3. Quantification of pre-F on freshly produced RSV virion stocks under different conditions. (a) Vero cells were infected with RSV A2 at MOI=0.3, and the viruses were harvested 72 hours after infection. The harvested viruses were first sonicated at 50% power, followed by centrifugation and supernatant collection. The ratio of the results of sandwich ELISA using AM22, a pre-F-specific antibody, to the results of sandwich ELISA using motavizumab, a total F antibody, is shown. (b) Infection was performed as (a), except that the viruses were vortexed rather than ultrasonic. (c) Infection was performed as (a), and ultrasonic was replaced by freezing and thawing circles. (d) Infection was performed as (a), and different power of ultrasonic were performed.

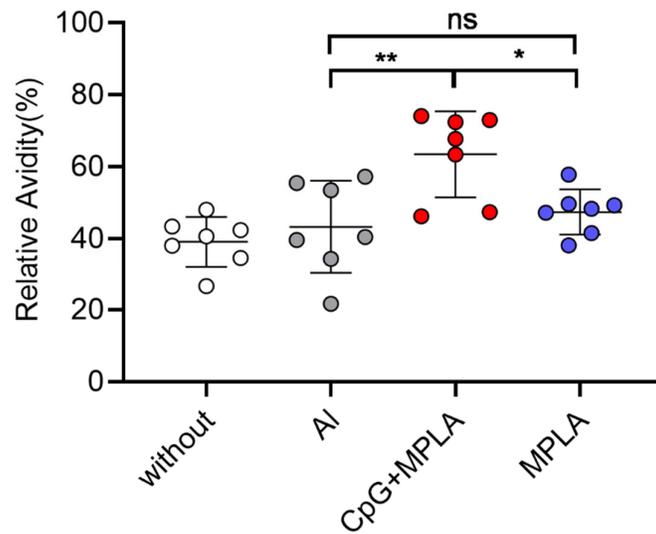


Figure S4. Antibody avidity induced by opti-FI-RSV combined with different adjuvants. Female BALB/c mice (n=7 per group) were injected intramuscularly with opti-FI-RSV combined with different adjuvants in a prime-boost regimen at week 0 and week 3. IgG avidity against pre-F after a 7 M urea wash was determined at 2 weeks after boosting. The symbols indicate individual mice, the bars/lines indicate the mean \pm SD. The data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparisons post hoc test to analyze the differences between vaccination groups. The P values are shown by asterisks (ns=nonsignificant; *P <0.05; **P <0.01; **** P <0.0001).

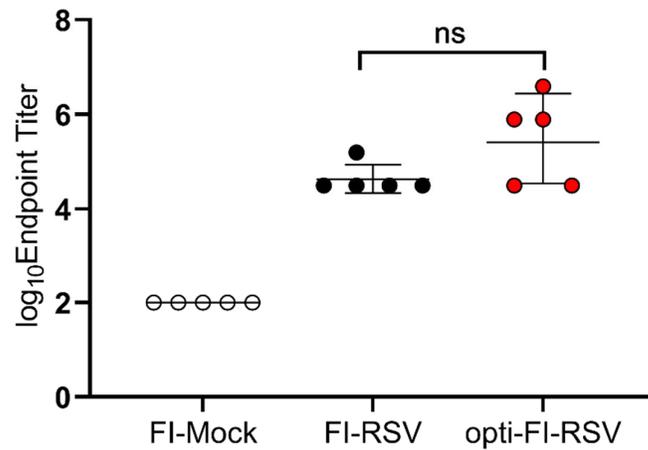


Figure S5. Glycoprotein specific antibodies induced by FI-Mock, FI-RSV and opti-FI-RSV. Female cotton rats (n=5 per group) were injected intramuscularly with FI-Mock, FI-RSV or opti-FI-RSV in a prime-boost regimen at week 0 and week 3. G-specific antibody levels were determined using ELISA. The symbols indicate individual rats, the bars/lines indicate the geometric mean \pm geometric SD. The data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparisons post hoc test to analyze the differences between vaccination groups. The P values are shown by asterisks (ns=nonsignificant; *P <0.05; **P <0.01; **** P <0.0001).

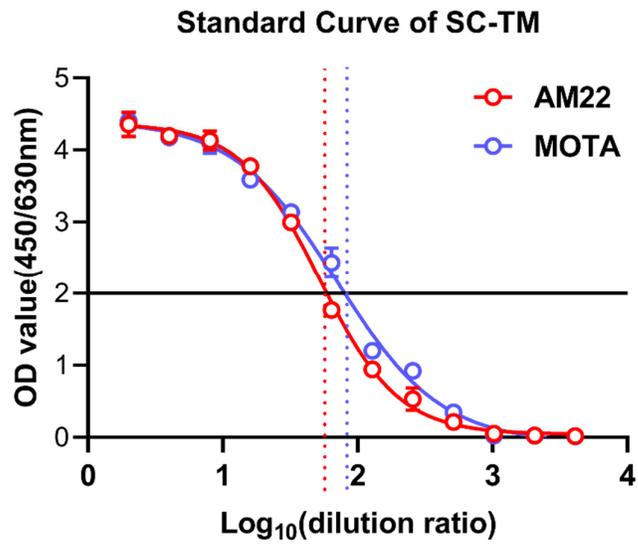


Figure S6. Standard curve for quantitation of F protein by sandwich ELISA. The standard protein SC-TM was diluted to a concentration of 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, and then serially diluted 2-fold. Mixing standards with the diluted biotinylated antibody at a 1:1 ratio. The OD value was measured on a microplate reader. A standard curve was obtained by plotting the mean absorbance values against the logarithm-transformed SC-TM concentrations and fitted to a four-parameter logistic equation using GraphPad Prism. The symbols indicate experiment in triplicates, the bars/lines indicate the mean \pm SD.