

Figure S1. Expression and purification of modified SARS-CoV-2 spike proteins

Production of SARS-CoV-2 S-2P and S-trimer was monitored by (A,C) SDS-PAGE analysis and (B,D) immunoblotting with anti-His-tagged antibodies. Lane M: molecular weight ladder, with relevant bands labeled in kilodaltons; Lane 1: transient expressing CHO cells diluted in PBS; Lane 2: filtered medium supernatant from transfected CHO cells; Lane 3: elution of purified S protein from Ni-NAT affinity resin.

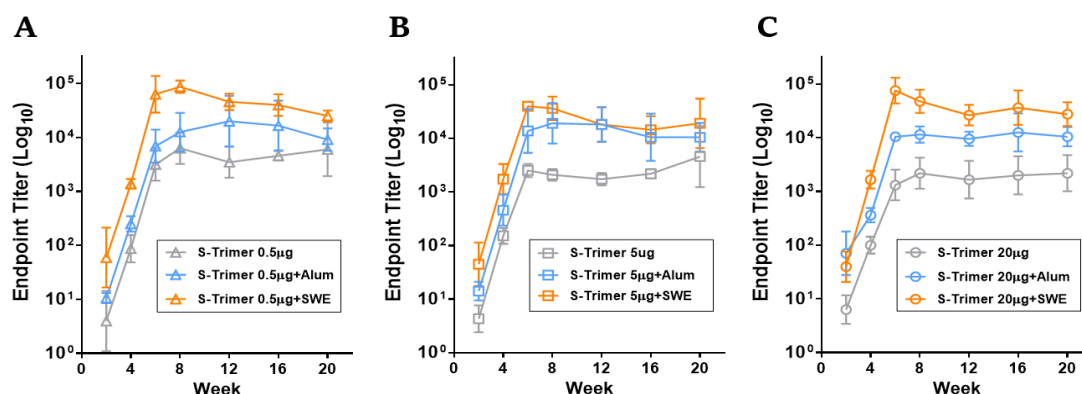


Figure S2. Antibody response induced by vaccination of S-trimer with human adjuvants

BALB/c mice (n = 5/ group) were intramuscularly immunized twice at a 4-week interval with (A) 0.5 µg or (B) 5 µg or (C) 20 µg of S-trimer protein with or without adjuvant (Alum or SWE). Serum samples were collected at the indicated time points after the first immunization. Endpoint titers (Log₁₀) of the total IgG antibodies against the SARS-CoV-2 S-trimer protein was evaluated by ELISA.

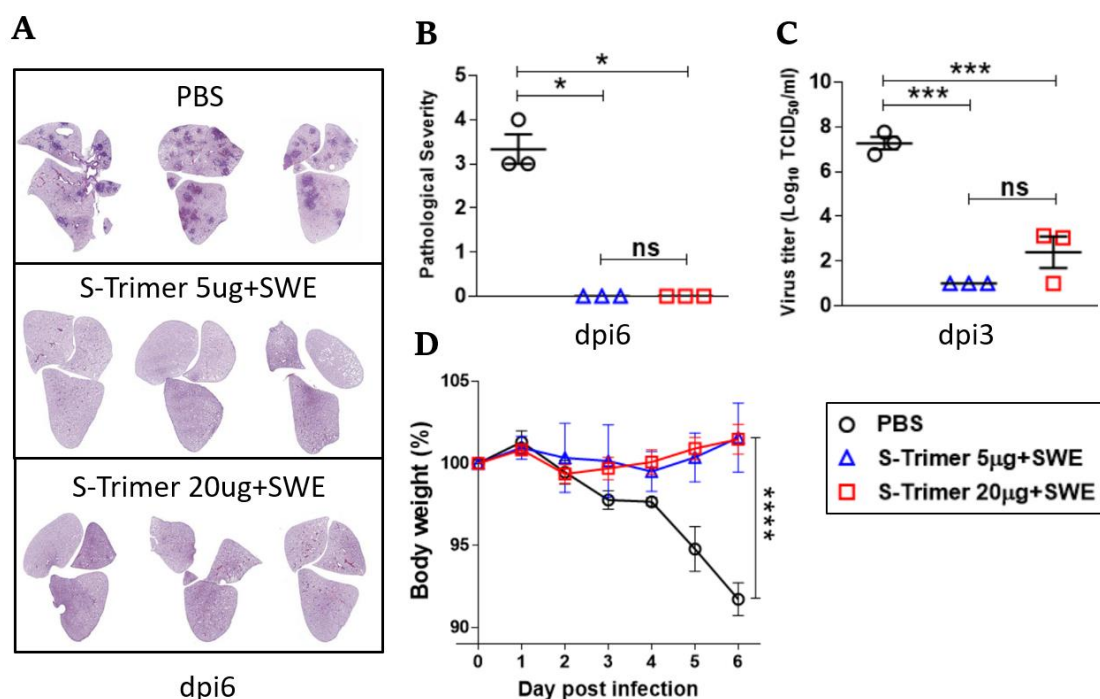


Figure S3. Immunization of S-trimer with SWE provides robust protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection in Syrian hamster

Syrian hamsters ($n=6/\text{group}$) were immunized with SWE-adjuvanted S-trimer at 5 μg or 20 μg twice via the intramuscular route on Days 0 and 28. The PBS-injected group was the blank control. Syrian hamsters were intranasally infected on Day 45 with 1×10^5 TCID₅₀ live SARS-CoV-2 virus. **(A)** Bright field imager of H&E staining of lung sections from infected hamsters at dpi6, in which purple indicates areas of inflammation. **(B)** The pathological severity of lung lesions was evaluated by the percentage of inflammation area of each section. **(C)** Virus titers in the lungs of SARS-CoV-2-infected hamsters at dpi3 were determined by TCID₅₀ assay. **(D)** Body weight change (%) of the hamsters was recorded every day after SARS-CoV-2 infection. Symbols represent individual animals; horizontal lines indicate the mean \pm SD. Statistically significant differences were compared by a two-tailed Mann–Whitney test. The comparisons of body weight change (%) were made by two-way ANOVA with multiple comparisons tests. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.008$, *** $P < 0.0005$, *ns*: not significant.