Claims:

1. A vaccine comprising an influenza VLP, wherein said VLP comprises influenza M1, HA and NA proteins, wherein said vaccine induces substantial immunity to influenza virus infection in an animal susceptible to influenza, wherein the M1 protein is derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 and comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:49, wherein the M1 protein is derived from a different influenza virus strain as compared to the HA and NA proteins.

2. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said HA and/or NA exhibit hemagglutinin activity and/or neuraminidase activity, respectively.

3. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said influenza VLP comprises seasonal influenza virus HA and NA proteins.

4. The vaccine of claim 3, wherein said seasonal influenza virus is a type A influenza virus.

5. The vaccine of claim 3, wherein said seasonal influenza virus is a type B influenza virus.

6. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said influenza VLP comprises avian influenza HA and NA proteins.

7. The vaccine of claim 6, wherein said avian influenza virus HA and NA proteins are H5N1.

8. The vaccine of claim 6, wherein said avian influenza virus HA and NA proteins are H9N2.

9. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said animal is a human.

10. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said influenza VLP is formulated with an adjuvant or immune stimulator.

11. The vaccine of claim 10, wherein said adjuvant comprises paucilamellar non-phospholipid vesicles.

12. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said vaccine comprises at least a second VLP which comprises HA and NA from different influenza strains.

13. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said VLP consists essentially of influenza M1, HA and NA proteins.

14. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein said VLP consists of influenza M1, HA and NA proteins.

15. A method of formulating a vaccine that induces substantial immunity to influenza virus infection to an animal susceptible to influenza, comprising adding an effective dose of an influenza VLP to a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient, wherein said VLP comprises influenza M1, HA and NA proteins, wherein said vaccine induces substantial immunity to influenza virus infection to said animal, wherein the M1 protein is derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 and comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:49, wherein the M1 protein is derived from a different influenza virus strain as compared to the HA and NA proteins.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said VLP consists essentially of influenza M1, HA and NA proteins.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said VLP consists of influenza M1, HA and NA proteins.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein said influenza VLP has been treated to inactivate baculovirus.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said inactivation treatment comprises incubating a sample comprising VLPs in about 0.2% of β-propyl lactone (BPL) for about 3 hours at about 25°C.

20. A virus like particle (VLP) comprising an influenza virus M1 protein and influenza virus HA and NA hemagglutinin and neuraminidase proteins, wherein the M1 protein is derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 and comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:49, wherein the M1 protein is derived from a different influenza virus strain as compared to the HA and NA proteins.

21. The VLP of claim 20, wherein said HA or NA are from a H5N1 clade 1 influenza virus.

22. The VLP of claim 20, wherein said HA and NA are from a H5N1 clade 2 influenza virus.

23. The VLP of claim 22, wherein said HA and NA proteins comprise SEQ ID NOS: ~~50~~51 and ~~54~~55, respectively.

24. The VLP of claim 20, wherein said HA and NA are from an influenza virus which was isolated from an infected animal.

25. The VLP of claim 24, wherein said infected animal is a human.

26. The VLP of claim 20, wherein the VLP is expressed from a eukaryotic cell comprising one or more nucleic acids encoding influenza HA and NA proteins and an influenza M1 protein under conditions that permit the formation of VLPs.

27. The VLP of claim 26, wherein said eukaryotic cell is selected from the group consisting of yeast, insect, amphibian, avian and mammalian cells.

28. The VLP of claim 27, wherein said eukaryotic cell is an insect cell.

29. The VLP of claim 28, wherein said insect cell is Sf9.

30. The VLP of claim 20, wherein said VLP elicits neutralizing antibodies in a human or animal that are protective against influenza infection when administered to said human or animal.

31. An immunogenic composition comprising an effective dose of a VLP of claim 20.

32. The composition of claim 31, wherein said composition comprises an adjuvant.

33. A vaccine comprising an effective dose of a VLP of claim 20.

34. The vaccine of claim 33, wherein said vaccine comprises at least a second VLP which comprises HA and NA from different influenza strains.

35. The vaccine of claim 33, wherein said vaccine comprises an adjuvant.

~~36. The vaccine of claim 1, wherein the M1 protein derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 comprises SEQ ID NO: 49.~~

~~37. The method of claim 15, wherein the M1 protein derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 comprises SEQ ID NO: 49.~~

~~38. The VLP of claim 20, wherein the M1 protein derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 comprises SEQ ID NO: 49.~~

~~39~~36. Use of an influenza VLP for the preparation of a vaccine for inducing substantial immunity to an influenza virus infection in a human susceptible to influenza, wherein said VLP comprises influenza M1, HA and NA proteins, and wherein said M1 protein is derived from A/Indonesia/5/05 and comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:49.

~~40~~37. The use of claim ~~39~~36, wherein said HA and/or NA exhibits hemagglutinin activity and/or neuraminidase activity, respectively.

~~41~~38. The use of claim ~~39~~36, wherein the vaccine is adapted for being administered to a human orally, intradermally, intranasally, intramuscularly, intraperitoneally, intravenously, or subcutaneously.

~~42~~39. The use of claim ~~39~~36, wherein said influenza VLP comprises seasonal influenza virus HA and NA proteins.

~~43~~40. The use of claim ~~42~~39, wherein said seasonal influenza virus is a type A influenza virus.

~~44~~41. The use of claim ~~42~~39, wherein said seasonal influenza virus is a type B influenza virus.

~~45~~42. The use of claim ~~39~~36, wherein said influenza VLP comprises avian influenza virus HA and NA proteins.

~~46~~43. The use of claim ~~45~~42, wherein said avian influenza virus HA and NA proteins are derived from H5N1.

~~47~~44. The use of claim ~~45~~42, wherein said avian influenza virus HA and NA proteins are derived from H9N2.

~~48~~45. The use of claim ~~39~~36, wherein said M1 protein is derived from a different influenza virus strain as compared to the HA and NA proteins.

~~49~~46. The use of claim ~~39~~36, wherein the vaccine further comprises an adjuvant or immune stimulator.