

As one of the most rapidly evolving proteins of the genus *Betacoronavirus*, ORF8's function and potential pathological consequence *in vivo* are still obscure. In this study, we show that the secretion of ORF8 is dependent on its N-terminal signal peptide sequence and can be inhibited by ROS scavenger and ER-Golgi transportation inhibitor in cultured cells. To trace the effect of its possible *in vivo* secretion, we examined the plasma samples of COVID-19 convalescent patients and found that the patients aged 40 to 60 had higher antibody titers than those under 40. To explore ORF8's *in vivo* function, we administered the mice with ORF8 via tail-vein injection to simulate the circulating ORF8 in the patient. Although no apparent difference in body weight, food intake, and vitality was detected between vehicle- and ORF8-treated mice, the latter displayed morphological abnormalities of testes and epididymides, as indicated by the loss of the central ductal lumen accompanied by a decreased fertility in five-week-old male mice. Furthermore, the analysis of gene expression in the testes between vehicle- and ORF8-treated mice identified a decreased expression of *Col1a1*, the loss of which is known to be associated with mice's infertility. Although whether our observation in mice could be translated to humans remains unclear, our study provides a potential mouse model that can be used to investigate the impact of SARS-CoV-2 infection on the human reproductive system.