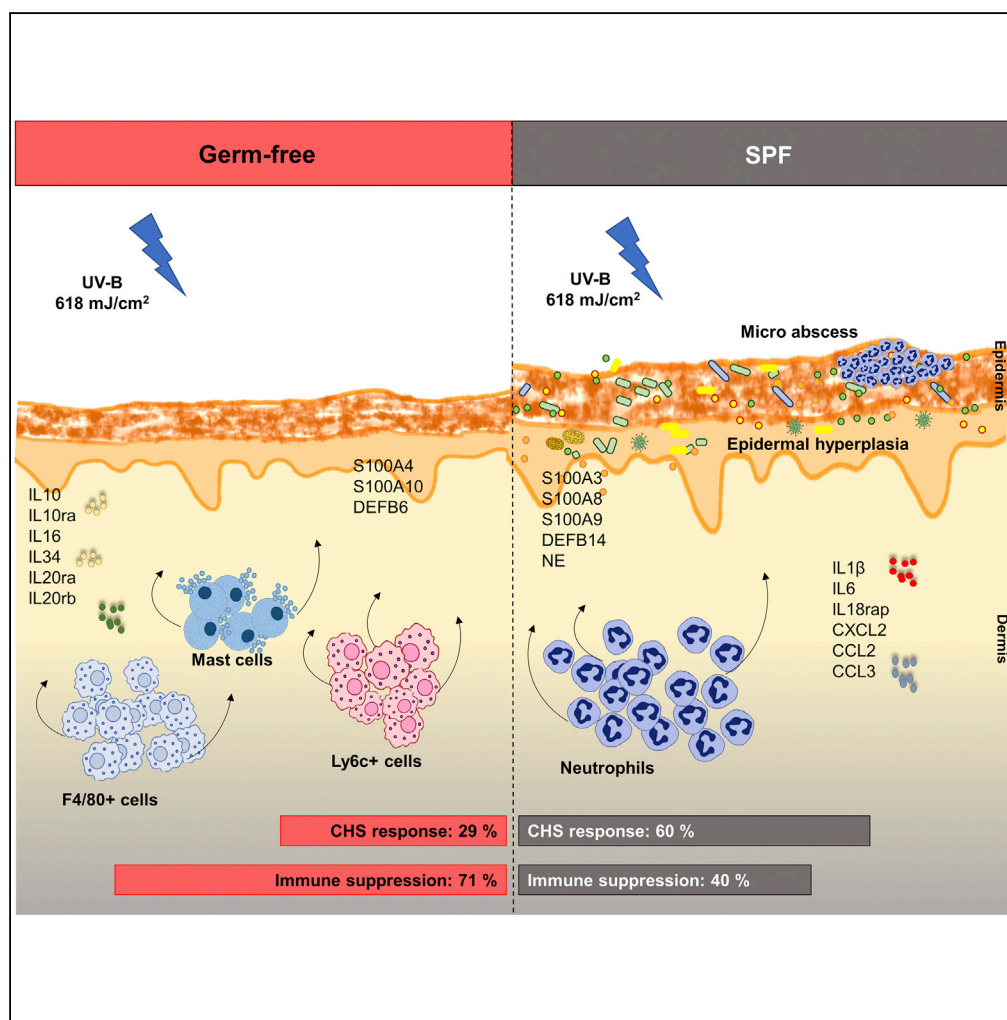


Article

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HIGHLIGHTS

Epidermal and immune response to UV is dependent on skin microbiome

Increased neutrophilic infiltration and expression of IL-1β in SPF mice after UV-R

Elevated macrophage infiltration and expression of IL-10 in GF mice after UV-R

Skin microbiome diminishes UV-induced immune suppression to contact allergen DNFB

DATA AND SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY
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Article

Skin Microbiome Modulates the Effect of Ultraviolet Radiation on Cellular Response and Immune Function

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SUMMARY

The skin is colonized by a diverse microbiome intricately involved in various molecular and cellular processes within the skin and beyond. UV radiation is known to induce profound changes in the skin and modulate the immune response. However, the role of the microbiome in UV-induced immune suppression has been overlooked. By employing the standard model of contact hypersensitivity (using germ-free mice) we found diminished UV-induced systemic immune suppression in the presence of microbiome. Upon UV exposure, we found enhanced epidermal hyperplasia and neutrophilic infiltration in the presence and enhanced numbers of mast cells and monocyte or macrophages in the absence of microbiome. Transcriptome analysis revealed a predominant expression of cytokine genes related to pro-inflammatory milieu in the presence versus immunosuppressive milieu (with increased interleukin-10) in the absence of microbiome. Collectively, microbiome abrogates the immunosuppressive response to UV by modulating gene expression and cellular microenvironment of the skin.

INTRODUCTION

The human skin is colonized by a diverse collection of microbes including bacteria, fungi, archaea, mites, and viruses. The majority of these microbes are commensals or transients that live in a mutualistic relationship with the skin's immune system, and recent studies indicate that the skin microbes influence gene expression in the skin (Meisel et al., 2018) and are involved in educating and modulating its immune response (Belkaid and Segre, 2014). Dysbiosis in the skin microbiome is linked to many skin pathologies such as acne, atopic dermatitis, and psoriasis (Zeeuwen et al., 2013).

Ultraviolet radiation (UV-R), on the other hand, has long been known to affect immune response, playing a role in skin carcinogenesis and in certain inflammatory skin diseases including photodermatoses and photoaggravated conditions (Wolf et al., 2016b). UV-R is known to induce innate immunity and suppress adaptive immune responses in healthy individuals (Schwarz, 2010). UV-R-induced immune suppression is mediated through T cells (Schwarz, 2010), and the immunomodulating properties of UV-R are most often investigated by using the contact hypersensitivity (CHS) model in mice and in humans (Fourtanier et al., 2005; Kelly et al., 2000). Furthermore, UV exposure is known to induce changes within the transcriptome of the skin and affect the gene expression of various biological processes that contribute to immune response (Sesto et al., 2002; Shen et al., 2016). Interestingly, a recent study reports the contribution of the skin microbiome to differential regulation of gene expression in the skin, most notably for the genes encoding Toll-like receptors (TLRs) and antimicrobial peptides (AMPs) and genes related to the interleukin (IL)-1 family (Meisel et al., 2018). The skin microbiome is also involved in regulating genes responsible for epidermal differentiation and development and in influencing wound healing (Canesso et al., 2014; Meisel et al., 2018).

Although previous studies have shown the broad influence of UV-B on immune function, they have overlooked the potential contribution of the skin microbiome to this phenomenon (Patra et al., 2016, 2018). Therefore we employed the model of UV-induced suppression of induction of CHS in sterile, germ-free (GF) mice (totally devoid of microbiome) and found that the skin microbiome inhibited UV-induced immune suppression. Furthermore, in our transcriptome and histological analyses, we observed that a single UV dose induced several pro-inflammatory genes such as IL-1 β , IL-6, and IL-18rap; increased microabscesses and neutrophilic infiltration in specific pathogen free (SPF) mouse skin versus induction of anti-inflammatory genes such as IL-10, IL-10ra, IL-20rb, and IL-7r; and increased numbers of mast cells, macrophages, and IL-10⁺ cells in GF skin. Collectively, our results show that the skin microbiome affords immune protection by orchestrating local cellular and innate immune responses to UV.

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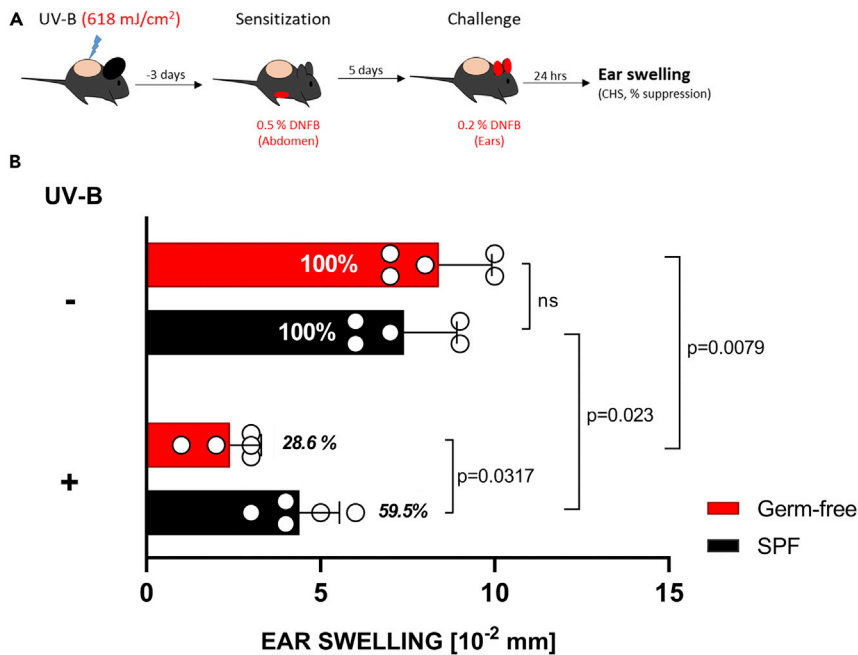


Figure 1. Skin Microbiome Inhibits UV-B-Induced Suppression of Induction of CHS

(A) GF or control SPF mice were subjected to CHS assay as described in detail in [Transparent Methods](#).

(B) The ear swelling differences between UV-B-irradiated and non-irradiated mice, with relatively reduced CHS response in GF compared with SPF (28.6% versus 59.5%), indicated immune protection by microbiome. Data shown represent mean \pm SEM. N = 5 mice per experimental group; p value determined by Mann-Whitney test.

See also [Figure S2](#).

RESULTS

Skin Microbiome Limits UV-Induced Suppression of Systemic Adaptive Immune Response

UV-B is known to inhibit CHS responses to haptens such as dinitrofluorobenzene (DNFB). However, the role of skin microbiome in this induction of immune response has not yet been studied. We irradiated mice on the shaved dorsal skin (ears covered with black electrical tape) with a dose of 618 mJ/cm² (equaling two minimal inflammatory doses; [Figure S2](#)). Three days later, the mice were sensitized on the abdomen with 0.5% DNFB and challenged on the ears 5 days later with 0.2% DNFB ([Figure 1A](#)). The skin thickness was measured before and after challenge, and CHS response (as determined by skin swelling) was calculated for the different experimental groups. The presence of skin microbiome inhibited UV-induced suppression of induction of CHS in SPF mice exposed to UV-B before sensitization with DNFB. GF mice showed a significantly reduced CHS response compared with SPF mice (28.6% versus 59.5%) ([Figure 1B](#)). These results show that the absence of skin microbiome at the time of UV-B exposure enhanced immune suppression.

Local Cellular and Innate Immune Responses Differ between GF and SPF Skin after UV Exposure

UV exposure leads to a series of cellular changes within the skin and systemic immune suppression, which is mediated by release of various immunosuppressive mediators (such as IL-10) and infiltration of the skin by immune cells such as monocytes and macrophages. To understand the cellular events occurring early after UV exposure, we took tissue samples from the UV-irradiated dorsal skin of GF and SPF mice 24 h after exposure ([Figure 2A](#)). Histological analysis of dorsal skin sections ([Figures 2B–2E](#)) revealed that UV-irradiated skin of both GF and SPF mice showed an increase in epidermal thickness, epidermal layers, and cellular infiltrate compared with the unexposed skin ([Figures 2F–2H](#)). No significant difference in epidermal thickness and layers was seen between unexposed GF and SPF skin, well in line with a recently published report ([Meisel et al., 2018](#)), but baseline density in cellular infiltrate was slightly, although significantly, increased in the skin of unexposed SPF mice compared with that of GF mice. Strikingly, UV-B exposure significantly increased the epidermal thickness ([Figure 2F](#)), epidermal layers ([Figure 2G](#)), and cellular

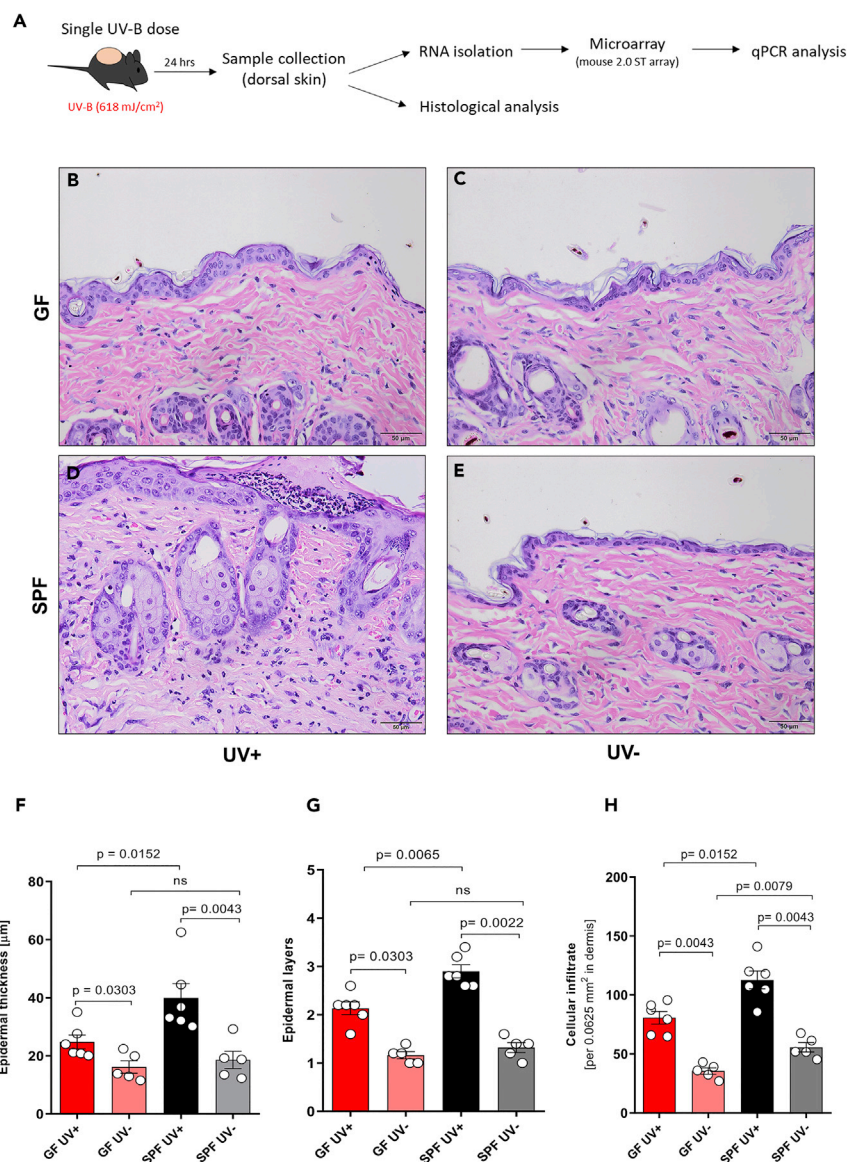


Figure 2. Microbiome Contributes to Increased Cellular Response to UV-B

(A) A single dose of UV-B (618 mJ/cm²) was administered to the shaved dorsal skin of GF (n = 6) and SPF (n = 6) mice 24 h before tissue collection.

(B–H) (B–E) Representative hematoxylin and eosin stainings of formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded skin sections are shown and indicate a UV-induced increase in (F) epidermal thickness, (G) epidermal layers, and (H) cellular infiltrate to a greater degree in SPF mice than in GF mice. Data pooled from two separate experiments. Data shown represent mean ± SEM. p value determined by Mann-Whitney test.

infiltrate (Figure 2H) to a greater degree in SPF mice than in GF mice. This differential epidermal response to UV could be due to a UV-induced cellular response in the sterile environment of GF mice, resulting in only host-derived damage-associated molecular patterns, whereas in SPF mice host-derived and microbial-associated molecular patterns might amplify the epidermal response to UV exposure (Canesso et al., 2014). This is consistent with our observations that UV exposure boosted neutrophilic infiltration in SPF mice to a greater degree than it did in GF mice, as evidenced by the increased numbers of microabscesses (built up mainly by neutrophils) in the epidermis (Figure 3B) and densely scattered neutrophils in the dermis (Figure 3C). No significant differences in neutrophil numbers were observed in the unexposed skin of GF versus SPF skin. In parallel, UV-exposed GF skin showed increased numbers of mast cells, Ly6c⁺ cells

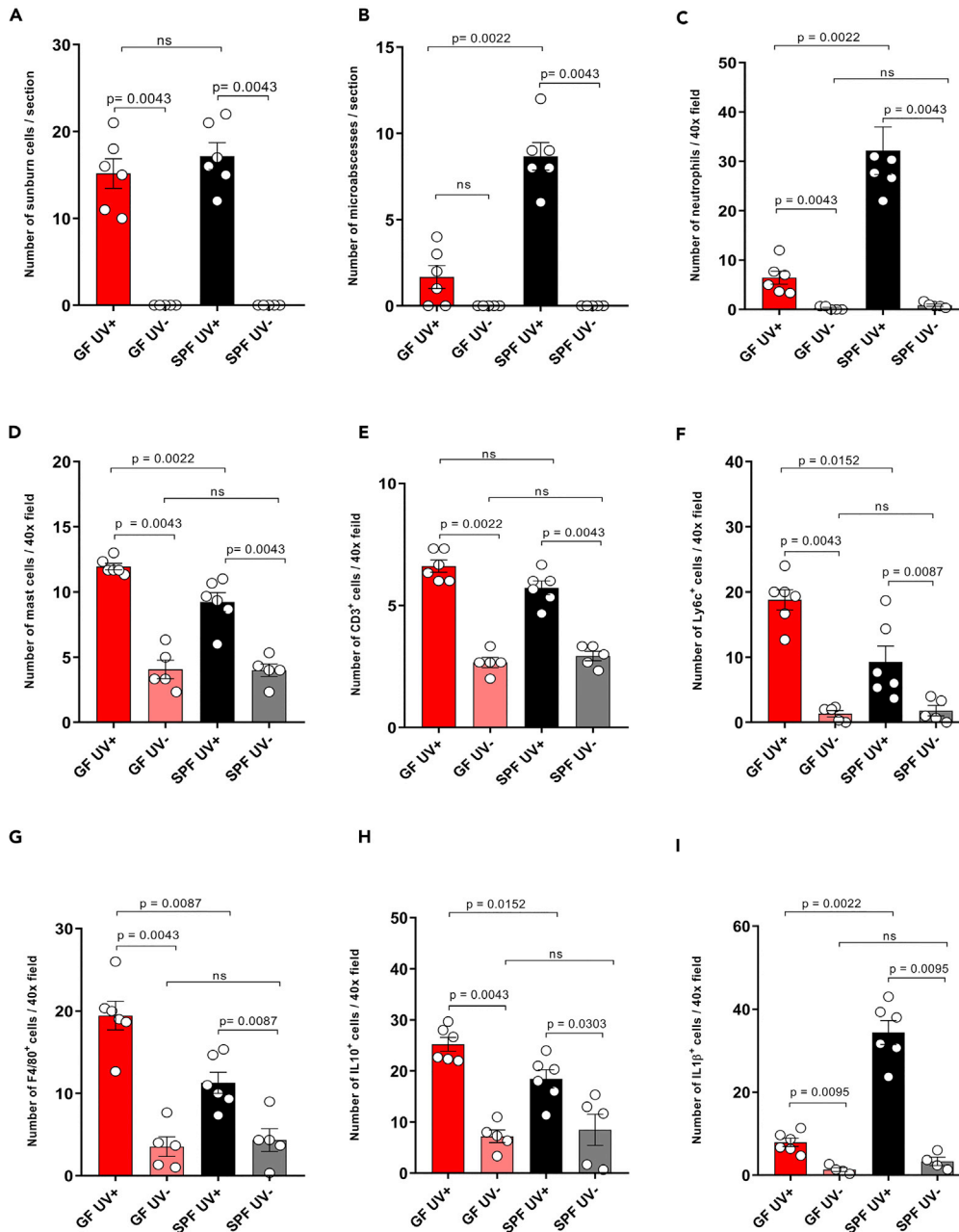


Figure 3. UV Exposure Boosts the Infiltration of Skin by Neutrophils and IL-1 β in SPF Mice but by Macrophages and IL-10 $^{+}$ Cells in GF Mice

(A–I) Quantitative analysis showed highly increased numbers of (B) epidermal microabscesses and (C) increased neutrophil infiltration and (I) IL-1 β ⁺ cells in UV-exposed SPF versus GF skin. In contrast, UV-exposed GF skin showed higher numbers of (D) mast cells (i.e., cells with enlarged cytoplasm and multiple granules), (F) Ly6c, (G) F4/80, and (H) IL10⁺ cells. Besides a slight increase of IL10⁺ cells in the skin of SPF mice, no differences were seen in baseline levels of (A) sunburn cells and (E) CD3⁺ cells between SPF and GF skin. Data pooled from two separate experiments. Data shown represent mean \pm SEM; N = 6 mice for UV-irradiated group and N = 5 for unirradiated group; p value determined by Mann-Whitney test. See also Figure S1.

(activated macrophages in inflammatory tissues), and F4/80⁺ cells (matured tissue macrophages) in the dermis, compared with SPF skin (Figures 3D, 3F, and 3G). Moreover, the anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10 (Figure 3H) was expressed at significantly higher levels in UV-exposed GF skin than in SPF skin (mostly

in the cellular infiltrate in the dermis), despite a slightly higher baseline expression of this cytokine in SPF mice. Indeed, it has been recently reported that the microbiome can itself trigger the expression of IL-10 in SPF mice (Meisel et al., 2018) (Figure 3H). No significant difference was observed in the numbers of sunburn cells and CD3+ cells (most likely dendritic epidermal T cells) in UV-exposed and unexposed GF skin compared with SPF skin (Figures 3A and 3E). Notably, the initial cellular response to UV-B differed between GF and SPF mice. SPF mice showed increased epidermal hyperplasia and dermal cellular infiltration, despite no overall difference in DNA damage as measured in terms of numbers of sunburn cells. Furthermore, dendritic epidermal $\gamma\delta$ T cells are known to be activated after exposure to UV and to be involved in limiting DNA damage (MacLeod et al., 2014); however, we found no significant differences in epidermal CD3+ cells between UV-exposed GF and SPF skin. Collectively, exposure to UV leads to a pro-inflammatory environment with increased epidermal response and neutrophilic infiltration and IL-1 β expression (Figures 3I and 6C) in the presence of microbiome. On the other hand, UV exposure to the skin in the absence of microbiome leads to an anti-inflammatory environment with increased mast cells, monocytes or macrophages, and IL-10 expression that is involved in immune suppression. This indicates that the presence of microbiome orchestrates the response of the skin to UV-B exposure.

UV-B Modulates Cutaneous Gene Expression in GF and SPF Skin

To further understand the effect of UV on immune response in the presence or absence of the microbiome, we examined gene expression in the UV-exposed and unexposed skin of GF and SPF mice by means of microarray analysis. Biological replicates of UV-exposed GF and SPF skin clustered together as demonstrated by principal-component analysis (Figure 4A) compared with the unexposed groups. To analyze up- and downregulated gene expression, the distribution was set to false discovery rate 5%, $p < 0.05$, and fold change of ± 2 . In total, 1,075 genes were upregulated and 794 genes were downregulated in response to UV-B treatment in GF mice. In comparison, 539 genes were upregulated and 325 genes were downregulated in SPF mice (Figure 4B). In this regard, a recent study has revealed differential gene expression (2,820 genes) using RNA sequencing in GF and SPF skin (Meisel et al., 2018), indicating that the microbiome can regulate gene expression within the skin. In our microarray analysis, we observed a similar number of differentially expressed genes (2,414 genes) in unexposed GF skin compared with SPF skin. Furthermore, differences in biological processes (plotted as treemap in Figure S3 and Data S4) resulting from differentially expressed genes in GF versus SPF skin (determined by microarray), such as regulation of epidermal development, cell division, and cytokinesis were consistent with previously published data (produced by RNA sequencing) by Meisel et al. (Meisel et al., 2018). Gene Ontology (GO) terms of the filtered genes were obtained using gene ontology enrichment analysis and visualization tool (Eden et al., 2009) (see Data S1), and the resulting GO terms and p values were used as input for REVIGO (Supek et al., 2011) for visualizing the scatterplots for biological processes (Figure 4C) in GF and SPF mice. The biological process GO terms enriched in the gene set contained terms related to "defense response" (GO: 0006952), "immune system process" (GO: 0002376), "response to external stimulus" (GO: 0009650), "leukocyte migration" (GO: 0050900), and "chemokine-mediated signaling pathway" (GO: 0070098). The full list of GO terms and associated genes is given in Data S2 and S3. In addition, UV-induced differentially expressed genes contributing to disease and functions by ingenuity pathway analysis are given in Data S5 and S6 for GF and SPF skin, respectively. These results indicate that UV-B acts differentially in regulating the gene expression depending on the skin microbiome.

Differential Expression of Interleukins, Chemokines, AMPs, and Other Innate Immune Response Genes in GF and SPF Skin after UV-B Irradiation

Innate immune genes related to cytokines (ILs and chemokines) and AMPs among others are crucial for inducing UV's immunological effects. These cytokines are involved in signaling pathways that lead to the activation of various immune cells infiltrating the skin. Furthermore, AMPs are key molecules in maintaining healthy homeostasis between the microbiome and immune system of the skin. Of note, UV-R is known to induce production of various AMPs in the skin (Glaser et al., 2009). We analyzed the expression of various cytokines, AMPs, TLRs, and serotonin-related genes within our dataset. Gene intensity values of ILs with $p < 0.05$ and fold change ± 2 were used to plot the expression heatmap of each mouse group. Genes are clustered by average linkage, and distance was measured using the Euclidean method. Fold change values are plotted for GF UV+/GF UV- and SPF UV+/SPF UV- groups. The most notable changes in gene expression were seen for IL-20rb, IL-22ra1, IL-34, IL-20ra, IL-12rb2, IL-1f10, and IL-22ra2, which were differentially expressed without any UV treatment (Figure 5A). However, after a single UV-B dose, we observed significant flipping of the expression of these genes in both GF and SPF skin (Figure 5B).

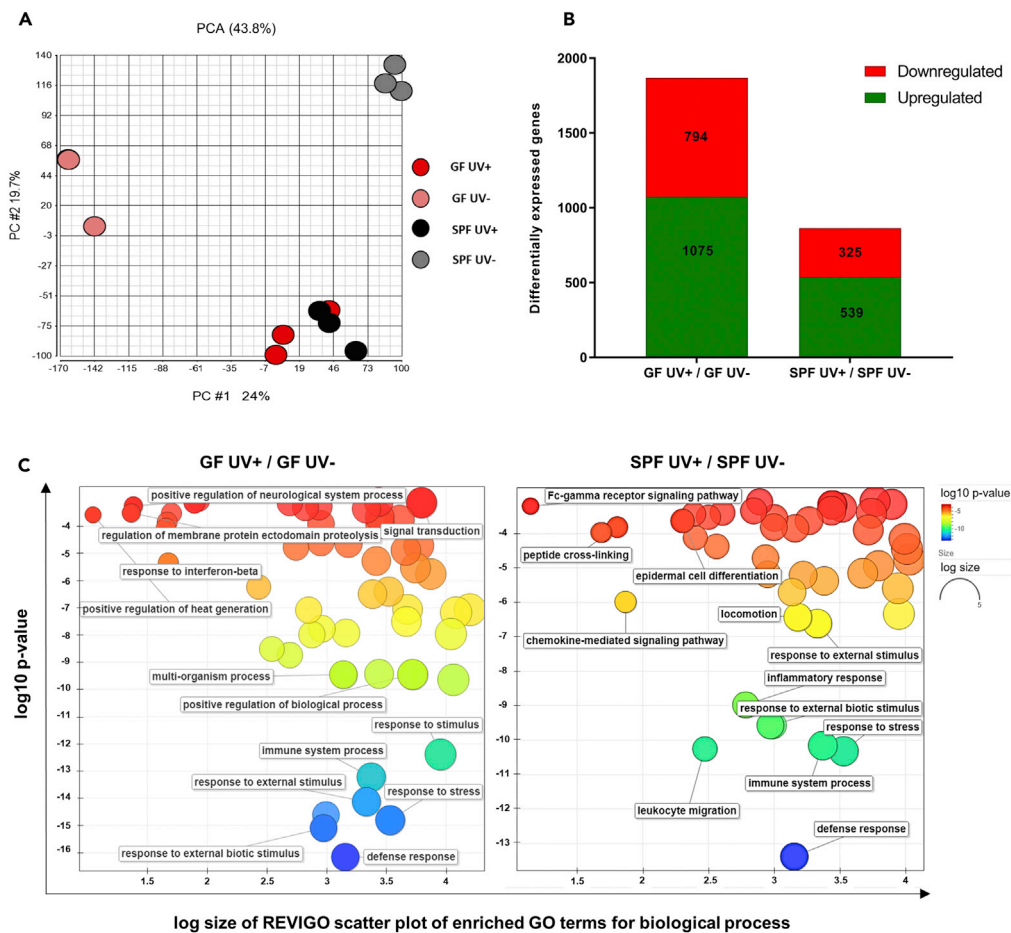


Figure 4. UV-B Modulates Gene Expression in GF and SPF Skin

(A) Two-dimensional principal-component analysis was done using Partek. Each point corresponds to a specific sample hybridized on one microarray containing 53,617 probesets. Points that are closer together (GF UV+ and SPF UV+) represent similar transcriptomic profile; points that are farther apart (GF UV- and SPF UV-) represent dissimilar transcriptomic profile.

(B) The numbers of UV-B-induced differentially expressed upregulated or downregulated genes with $p < 0.05$ and $FC \pm 2$ are plotted for GF and SPF skin.

(C) GO enrichment analysis summarized and plotted using REVI GO scatterplots for biological processes involving UV-induced differentially expressed genes in GF and SPF skin. The scatterplot shows the clusters in two-dimensional space by applying multidimensional scaling for the input GO terms. Log₁₀ p values of GO terms are shown on the y axis (indicated as colors) and log size (frequency of the GO term in the database, bubbles of more general terms being larger) on the x axis.

See also [Figure S3](#), [Tables S2](#) and [S3](#).

Genes for IL-1 β , IL-6, and IL-24 were highly expressed in SPF compared with GF skin after UV-B treatment. On the other hand, IL-20ra, IL-12rb2, IL-22ra1, IL-22ra2, IL-34, and IL-20rb were downregulated by UV-B treatment to a greater degree in SPF skin than in GF skin. However, the gene expression of IL-20rb, IL-34, IL-1f9, IL-2rg, IL-15ra, IL-16, IL-13ra1, IL-31ra, IL-1f6, IL-2rb, IL-7r, IL-10ra, and IL-1f8 was increased in GF skin compared with SPF skin ([Figure 5B](#)). Furthermore, the genes for most chemokines were upregulated after UV-B exposure in both GF and SPF skin. However, we observed a complete flipping of Ccr4 expression in both GF and SPF skin ([Figure 5C](#)). The expression of almost all the genes for chemokines was higher in SPF skin; the few exceptions included CXCL16, CCL6, CCR2, CCR5, and CCL9, which were expressed similarly in both GF and SPF skin. The expression of other genes such as CCL7, CXCL1, CXCR2, CCL2, CCL3, CXCL5, CXCL2, CCR1, and CCL12 was significantly higher in SPF skin than in GF skin after UV-B treatment ([Figures 5D](#) and [6C](#)). Innate immune genes such as AMPs, TLRs, and

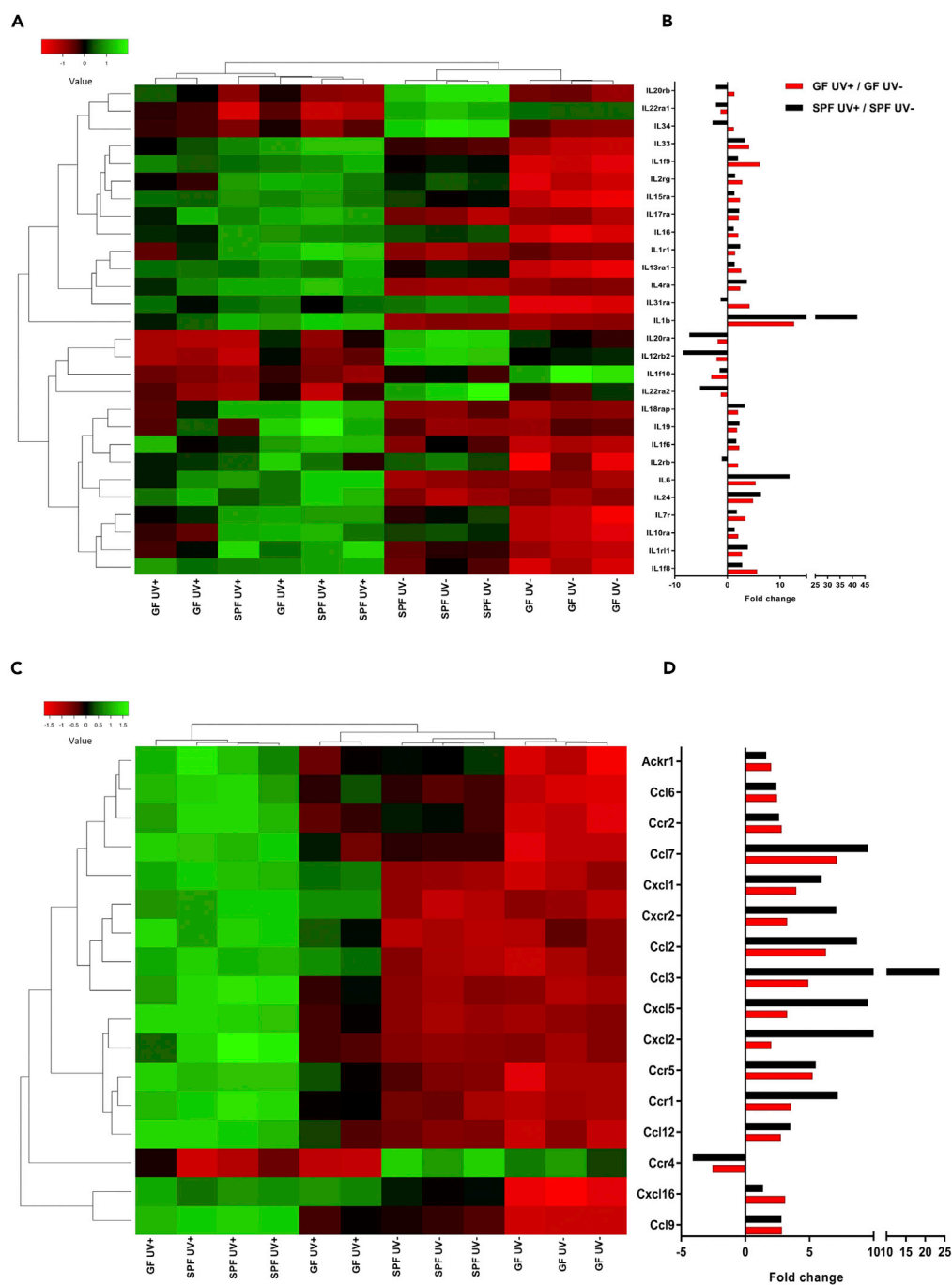


Figure 5. UV Induces Differential Expression of Interleukins and Chemokines in GF Versus SPF Skin

(A–D) (A and C) Robust multi-array average (RMA) intensities from microarray analyses were used to construct heatmaps. The genes are clustered by average linkage, and distance was measured using the Euclidean method. Fold change in gene expression for various (B) interleukins and (D) chemokines due to UV-B treatment in GF and SPF skin is shown in the bar graph. N = 3 mice per experimental group.

serotonin-related genes were differentially regulated by UV-B in GF and SPF skin (see [Table S1](#)). We found a total of 11 genes for AMPs (S100 family, DEFB, and RNase) to be differentially expressed in GF and SPF skin after UV-B exposure. In addition, TLR13 and TLR1 were significantly upregulated in SPF skin compared with GF skin. Furthermore, serotonin signaling receptor genes HTR2A and SLC6A4 were upregulated in GF skin

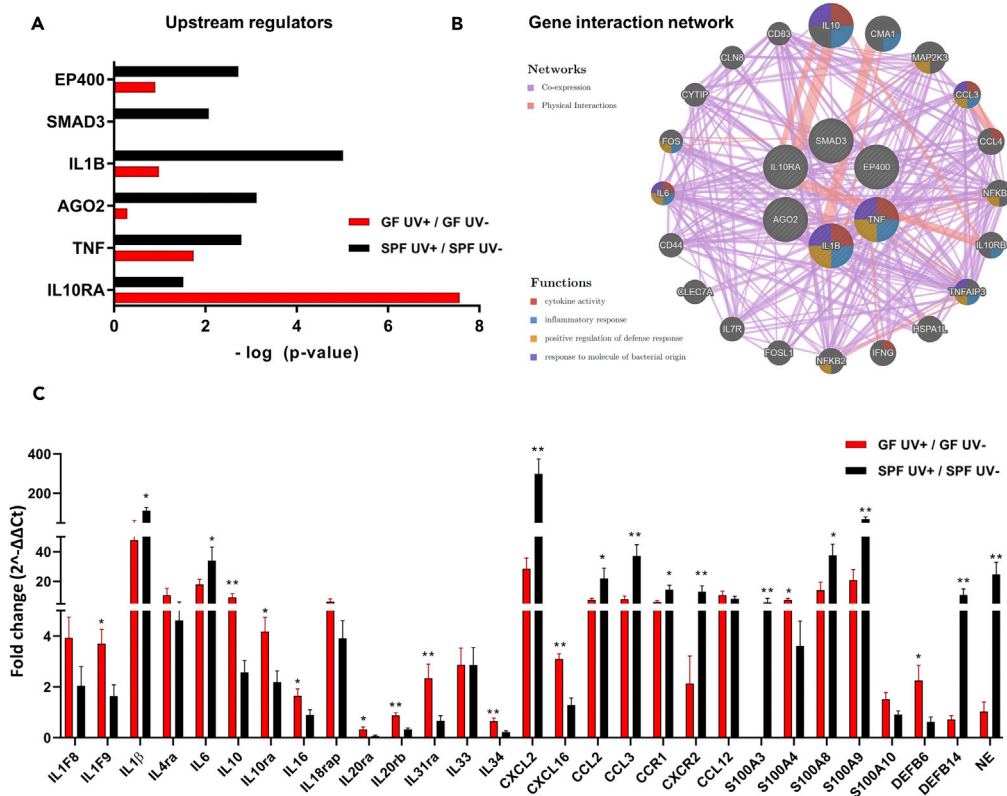


Figure 6. Effect of UV-B on Various Upstream Regulators and Gene Interaction

(A) Predicted upstream regulators enriched in UV-B-treated GF and SPF skin identified by microarray analysis. The upstream regulators (filtered by prediction activation state and $p < 0.05$) are plotted based on their $-\log(p)$ value. (B) Gene interaction network of upstream regulators was visualized using geneMANIA. The genes involved in various functions are represented by colors. Co-expression and physical interactions are also shown in the network. (C) qPCR analysis was done for selected genes from the dataset and gene network of upstream regulators. qPCR was performed in triplicates. Data were pooled from two separate experiments. Data shown represent mean \pm SEM; $N = 6$ mice for UV-irradiated group and $N = 5$ for unirradiated group; p value determined by Mann-Whitney test. * $p = 0.0332$; ** $p = 0.0021$. See also Tables S1 and S4.

compared with SPF skin. These data suggested that UV-B exposure resulted in differential expression of various cytokines and innate immune response genes depending upon the presence or absence of skin microbiome, thereby creating in UV-exposed skin an anti-inflammatory (IL-10, IL-10ra, IL-20rb, and IL-7r) environment in GF or pro-inflammatory (IL-1 β , IL-6, and IL-18rap) environment in SPF mice.

Potential Upstream Transcription Regulator Genes in UV-B-Exposed GF and SPF Skin and Their Gene Interaction Network

Upstream regulators within Ingenuity Pathway Analysis analyzes linkage to differentially expressed genes through coordinated expression and identifies potential upstream regulators that have been experimentally observed to participate in gene expression (Kramer et al., 2014). These upstream regulator genes are capable of affecting the expression of other genes or molecules that can be helpful to illuminate the biological activities occurring after UV exposure in GF and SPF skin. Our analyses of significant upstream regulators in GF and SPF skin response to UV-B exposure identified six genes: EP400, SMAD3, IL-1 β , AGO2, TNF, and IL10RA (Figure 6A). We found that EP400, SMAD3, IL-1 β , AGO2, and TNF were highly upregulated in SPF skin compared with GF. Intriguingly, after UV-B exposure, IL-10RA was highly activated in GF compared with SPF skin. In contrast, the expression of pro-inflammatory molecule IL-1B was more pronounced in UV-B-irradiated SPF than in GF skin. We further used the GeneMANIA (Warde-Farley et al., 2010) to predict the interactions and functional association of the upstream regulator genes. We found several target genes including IL-10, CMA1, MAP2K3, CCL3, CCL4, NFKBIA, IL10RB, TNFAIP3,

HSPA1L, IFNG, NFKB2, FOSL1, IL7R, CLEC7A, CD44, IL6, FOS, CYTIP, CLN8, and CD83 that were interacting physically as identified by linking of two gene products in protein-protein interaction studies or were co-expressed with similar expression levels across conditions. Notably, these genes are involved in cytokine activity, inflammatory response, positive regulation of defense response, and response to molecules of bacterial origin (Figure 6B). To confirm microarray data we performed qPCR analysis of the genes within our dataset and of target genes observed in the gene network of upstream regulators and confirmed significantly higher expression of IL-1F9, IL-10, IL-10ra, IL-16, IL-20ra, IL-20rb, IL-31ra, IL-34, CXCL16, S100A4, and DEFB6 in GF skin than in SPF skin after UV-B exposure. Consistently, gene expression of IL-1 β , IL-6, CXCL2, CCL2, CCL3, CCR1, CXCR2, S100A3, S100A8, S100A9, DEFB14, and NE was downregulated by UV-B in GF skin compared with SPF skin (Figure 6C). Comparing GF and SPF mice, these data suggest that UV exposure leads to differential expression of various upstream regulator genes such as IL-1 β and IL-10RA, which can affect the transcription of other genes of the networks shown in Figure 6B.

DISCUSSION

The impact of UV-R on the immune system was first described in landmark studies conducted by Margaret Kripke and colleagues during the 1970s (Fisher and Kripke, 1977). These studies showed that mice lost the ability to reject subcutaneously implanted immunogenic tumors in the immunosuppressive environment created after UV exposure. To illuminate the immune suppression effects of UV-R, CHS and delayed type hypersensitivity (DTH) models were established in which immune responses were found to be suppressed via the mediation of specific regulatory T cells (Schwarz, 2010) and B cells (Liu et al., 2018). We now show that the microbiome of the skin profoundly modulates the effect of UV-B on the immune system.

As demonstrated by our studies in GF and control SPF mice, the presence of microbiome protected against UV-induced immune suppression as measured by the suppression of induction of CHS (Figure 1). Indeed, our transcriptome analysis revealed the differential regulation of genes after UV exposure in the presence or absence of microbiome, resulting in a predominance of pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-1 β , IL-6, and IL-18rap versus immunosuppressive cytokines such as IL-10, IL-10ra, IL-20rb, and IL-7r (Figures 3, 5 and 6C). This agrees with recent work showing that microbes or microbial products can induce immunoregulatory effects (Belkaid and Segre, 2014; Harrison et al., 2019; Lai et al., 2009), protect against UV-induced skin neoplasia (Nakatsuji et al., 2018), and modulate gene expression in the skin and can influence the epidermal development and differentiation (Meisel et al., 2018) and wound healing (Canesso et al., 2014). Moreover, it is known that certain skin-resident microbes and microbial products can regulate the expression of AMPs (Gallo and Hooper, 2012). Furthermore, UV-R can also directly induce the expression of certain AMPs within the skin (Glaser et al., 2009), possibly indirectly by the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines. We found significant modulation of AMP expression in UV-exposed GF compared with SPF skin (Table S1). This modulation of AMPs in GF skin may greatly contribute to cellular and humoral cytokine production and immune response in the skin (Lande et al., 2007). UV-exposed GF skin showed an increased expression of TLR13 (Table S1), which is an important site-specific mouse macrophage receptor (Kolter et al., 2016). In addition, we observed increased macrophage (Ly6c+ and F4/80 + cells) infiltration and IL10+ cells in UV-exposed GF skin compared with SPF skin (Figures 3F–3H and S1). Intriguingly, macrophages can produce large amounts of the anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10, which we observed to be upregulated in UV-exposed GF skin. Moreover, serotonin signaling genes HTR2A and SLC6A4 were significantly upregulated in GF skin compared with SPF skin (Table S1). As serotonin signaling is crucial in UV-induced systemic immune suppression, but not local inflammation (Wolf et al., 2016a), this supports our observation of increased UV-induced immune suppression, but weaker epidermal response and cellular infiltration, in GF versus SPF mice. A previous study has shown that sensitization through UV-exposed skin induces regulatory T cells (Tregs) and that UV-induced Tregs suppress immune response via production of IL-10 (Maeda et al., 2008). GF mice are known to have increased number of cutaneous Foxp3+ Tregs compared with SPF mice (Naik et al., 2012).

After exposure of skin to UV-R, IL-10 is secreted to some extent by keratinocytes, but a large amount of IL-10 is produced by bone marrow-derived macrophages infiltrating the skin (Enk et al., 1995; Kang et al., 1994). In our gene expression, gene interaction, and immunohistochemical analyses (Figures 3 and S1), the skin of UV-exposed GF mice showed high expression of IL-10 and its receptors (IL-10RA, IL-10RB) compared with SPF mouse skin (Figures 5A and 6C). IL-10 inhibits the production of IL-1 α , IL-1 β , and IL-6 by monocytes (de Waal Malefyt et al., 1991); this is consistent with our data showing increased expression of IL-10 and its receptor IL-10ra and reduced expression of IL-1 β and IL-6 in UV-exposed GF

skin and an opposite effect in SPF skin, namely, increased expression of IL-1 β (linked to CHS; [Watanabe et al., 2007](#)) and IL-6 and reduced expression of IL-10 ([Figures 3, 5 and 6C](#)). Interestingly, IL-20rb was seen to be upregulated in UV-exposed GF skin but downregulated in SPF skin. IL-20rb is known to play a major role in signaling related to cutaneous inflammatory response and also to reduce production of IL-1 β ([Myles et al., 2013](#)). Previous research has shown that commensal microbes can augment IL-1 signaling and subsequently promote effector T cell functions ([Naik et al., 2012](#)). Furthermore, UV exposure is known to increase IL-1 β expression in the skin ([Feldmeyer et al., 2007](#)); our data now indicate that this increase is augmented in the presence of microbes ([Figures 3I, 6C, and S1](#)). Moreover, IL-34, which is known to stimulate monocyte and macrophage development and proliferation, was highly expressed in UV-exposed GF skin and downregulated in SPF skin ([Figures 5 and 6C](#)). IL-7r, which is known to block innate and adaptive inflammatory responses ([Willis et al., 2012](#)), was highly expressed in the skin of UV-exposed GF mice compared with SPF mice.

Alongside these findings, we also observed that UV exposure increased the expression of various chemokines in SPF skin compared with GF skin. We found increased expression of CCL7, CXCL1, CXCR2, CCL2, CCL3, CXCL5, CXCL2, CCR1, and CCL12 ([Figures 5 and 6C](#)), which goes well in line with previously published research ([Dawes et al., 2011](#)) and suggests that UV exposure induces chemokine production, which in turn mediates the recruitment and activation of immune cells. We also observed high expression of pro-inflammatory chemokines CCL2 and CCL3 induced by UV-B in SPF skin. Furthermore, we observed in SPF skin increased levels of CXCL5, which is known to be involved in UV-B-induced hypersensitivity in humans and rats and causes local inflammation by helping neutrophils and macrophages infiltrate the skin ([Dawes et al., 2011](#)). This is consistent with our observation of increased numbers of microabscesses (which could be aggravated by UV, [Nakaguma et al., 1995](#), in the presence of microbes, [Horton et al., 2015](#)), neutrophils, gene expression of neutrophil elastase (NE) ([Doring, 1994](#)), and overall cellular infiltrate in SPF compared with GF skin ([Figures 3C and 6C](#)). CCR4, which is expressed on Foxp3⁺ Tregs, is critical for suppressing cutaneous inflammatory response, and Ccr4^{-/-} mice exhibit a stronger CHS response than wild-type mice ([Sells and Hwang, 2010](#)). We observed that UV-B suppressed the expression of CCR4 slightly more in SPF skin than in GF skin ([Figure 5](#)). A decrease of CCR4 expression could impair DC-T-cell interaction and ultimately lead to enhanced inflammation in the skin ([Lehtimaki et al., 2010](#); [Sells and Hwang, 2010](#)). Our data are consistent with the observation that topical application of *Staphylococcus epidermidis* on the skin results in modulation of cytokines such as CCL3, CCR2, CXCL2, IL-18rap, IL-1 β , IL-6 ([Naik et al., 2015](#)). We observed these cytokines to be upregulated in UV-exposed SPF versus GF skin ([Figures 5 and 6C](#)).

Taken together, our findings suggest that UV-B induces a local pro-inflammatory environment in the skin in the presence of microbes, but promotes an anti-inflammatory environment with an immunosuppressive state in the absence of microbes. These findings are crucial for understanding UV-induced skin carcinogenesis and are in line with a recent report ([Nakatsuji et al., 2018](#)) showing a protective effect against skin cancer by the common skin commensal *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

Limitations of the Study

One limitation of the GF model is that it cannot separate the effects of distal gut microbes from those of skin-resident microbes. The gut microbiome could influence the response of the skin through circulating microbial products or metabolites and thus further modulate the immune response ([O'Neill et al., 2016](#)). Indeed, GF mice showed altered lymphoid organ development in the gut ([Cebra, 1999](#)), but no morphological flaws in the skin ([Chen et al., 2018](#); [Naik et al., 2012](#)). However, the exact degree to which gut microbiome could influence skin immunity is unknown. The fact that we observed increased immune suppression not only in GF mice but also in topical disinfected SPF mice by using chlorhexidine (data not shown) strongly indicates that the skin microbiome can directly modulate the immune response to UV-B, independent of the gut microbiome. That said, the skin microbiome may have potential physiological implications for other body sites such as gut, which has not been investigated here. Interestingly, a recent study showed that UV irradiation of skin resulted in alteration of intestinal ([Jung et al., 2017](#)) and fecal microbiome ([Ghaly et al., 2018](#)). Moreover, diet alone can also influence the functions of skin microbiome in triggering inflammation ([Ridaura et al., 2018](#)).

METHODS

All methods can be found in the accompanying [Transparent Methods supplemental file](#).

DATA AND SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY

All data needed to evaluate the conclusions in the article are present in the article or the [Supplemental Information](#). The microarray data have been deposited in the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) of the National Center for Biotechnology Information and are accessible through GEO Series accession number GSE117359.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2019.04.026>.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

V.P. and P.W. designed the study. V.P. performed all the experiments. V.P. and P.W. analyzed the data of the manuscript. K.W. performed microarray and data acquisition. V.A. was involved in administrative, technical, and material support for experiments involving GF animals. V.P. drafted the manuscript, and all authors critically revised the manuscript for important intellectual content. P.W. obtained the funding and supervised the study.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

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Supplemental Information

**Skin Microbiome Modulates the Effect
of Ultraviolet Radiation on Cellular Response
and Immune Function**

VijayKumar Patra, Karin Wagner, Velmurugesan Arulampalam, and Peter Wolf

Supplemental Figures

- **Figure S1.** Representative images of quantitative analysis of neutrophilic microabscess and immunohistochemical stainings. Related to Figure 3.
- **Figure S2.** Minimal inflammatory dose (MID). Related to Figure 1.
- **Figure S3.** Biological process of differentially expressed genes in unexposed GF vs SPF skin. Related to Figure 4.

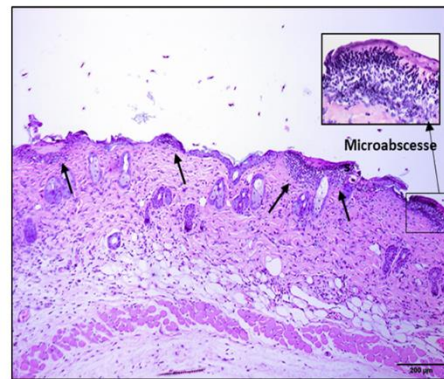
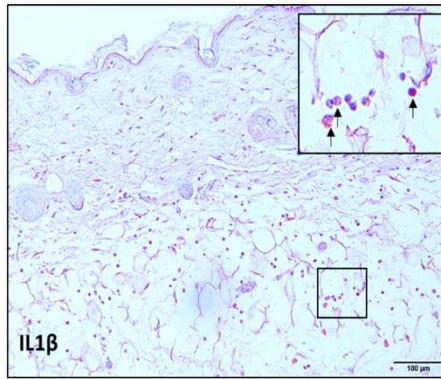
Supplemental Tables

- **Table S1.** Differential expression of AMPs and other innate immune response genes in GF and SPF skin after UV-B irradiation. Related to Figure 6.
- **Table S2.** Canonical pathway analysis of UV-B-exposed GF skin using ingenuity pathway analysis. Related to Figure 4.
- **Table S3.** Canonical pathway analysis of UV-B-exposed SPF skin using ingenuity pathway analysis. Related to Figure 4.
- **Table S4.** Primer pairs used in the study. Related to Figure 6.

Transparent Methods

Supplemental References

SPF UV+



GF UV+

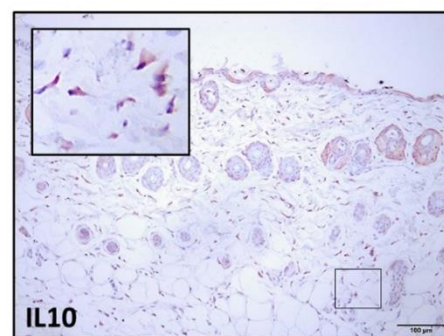
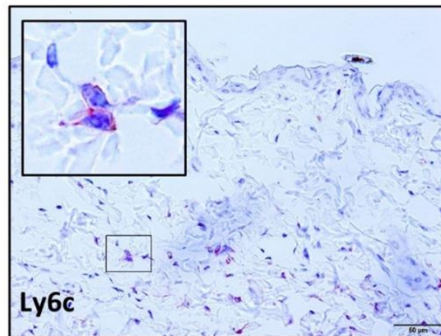
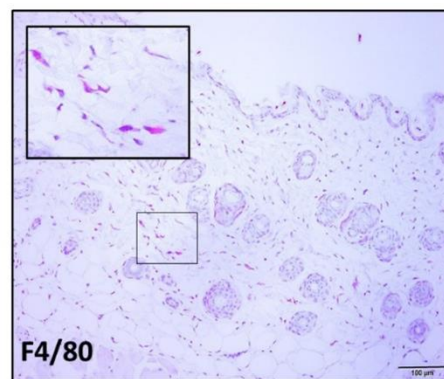
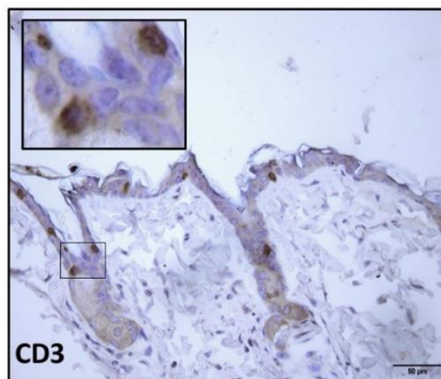


Figure S1. Representative images of quantitative analysis of neutrophilic microabscess and immunohistochemical stainings. Related to Figure 3.

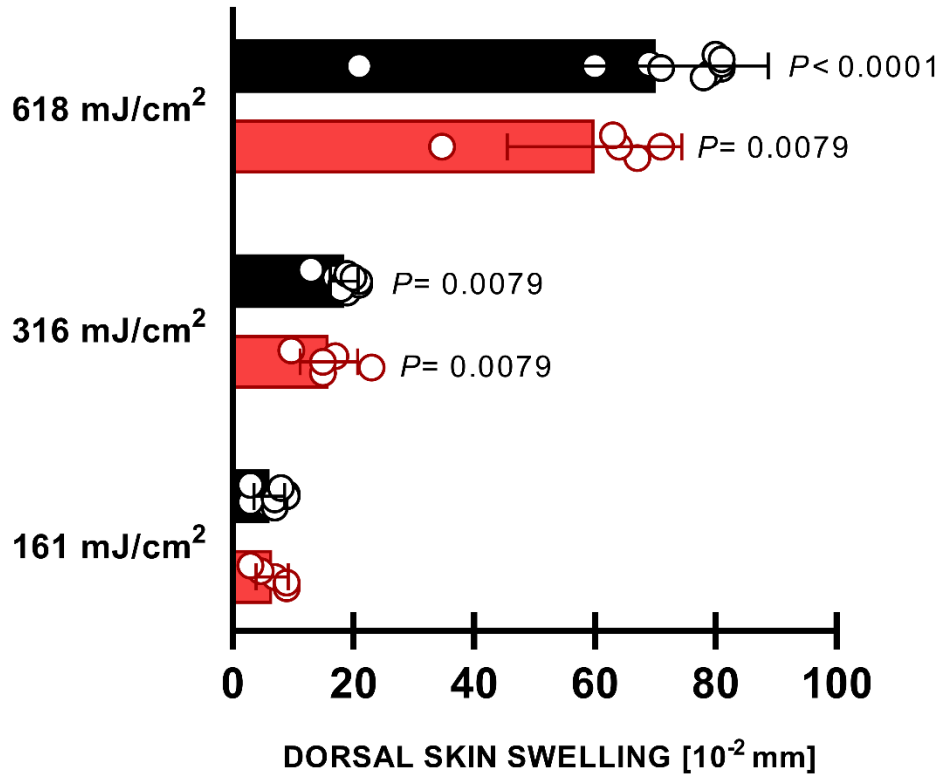


Figure S2. Minimal inflammatory dose (MID). Related to Figure 1. Data shown represent mean \pm SEM. N=5 for GF and N=10 for SPF group. Statistical analysis was performed for each dose vs 161 mJ/cm². The minimum inflammatory dose was 316 mJ/cm², as determined in a separate experiment in dose response studies (data not shown). No significance in skin swelling was observed between GF and SPF groups at any dose. *P*-value is determined by Mann-Whitney test.

REVIGO treemap of Biological Process GO terms enriched in differentially expressed genes in GF and SPF mice

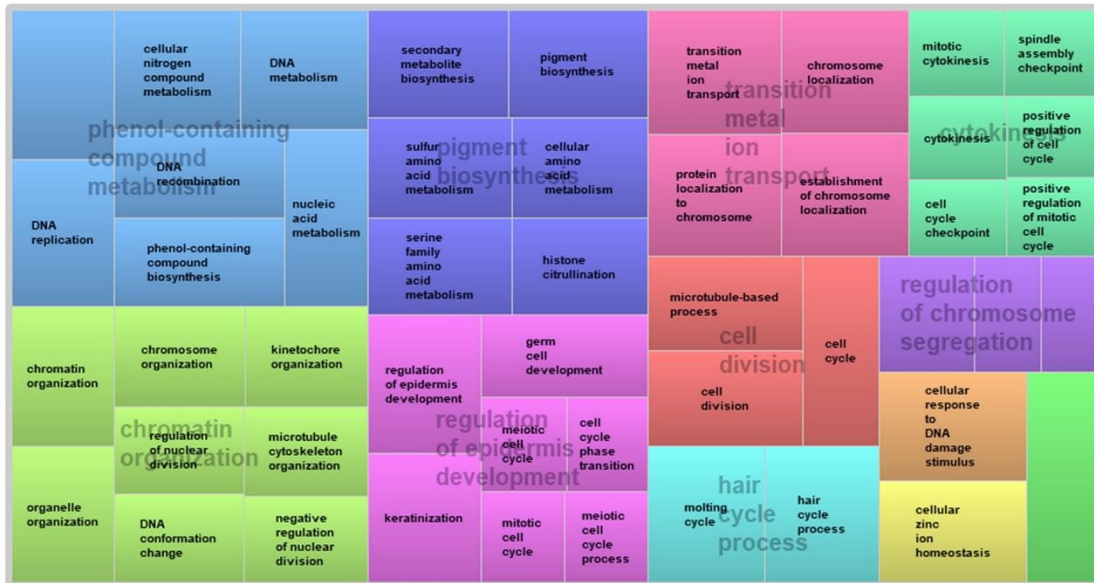


Figure S3. Biological process of differentially expressed genes in unexposed GF vs SPF skin. Related to Figure 4.

Table S1. Differential expression of AMPs and other innate immune response genes in GF and SPF skin after UV-B irradiation. Related to Figure 6.

Gene	GF UV+ / GF UV-		SPF UV+ / SPF UV-	
	p-value	Fold change	p-value	Fold change
<i>Antimicrobial Peptides</i>				
S100a7a	3.199E-06	-13.00	0.0192862	1.93
S100a3	1.288E-06	-31.34	0.0426101	1.91
S100a4	1.202E-07	4.12	0.0019311	1.44
S100a8	0.303135	1.39	8.363E-05	9.01
S100a9	0.0046878	2.65	0.0001055	5.90
Defb8	0.459292	-1.40	0.0011003	-8.45
Defb3	0.0713878	1.31	0.0005708	2.05
Defb14	2.649E-05	4.81	7.909E-06	6.36
Defb6	0.0007831	2.14	0.464353	-1.12
Defb14	2.649E-05	4.81	7.909E-06	6.36
Rnase1	0.0002004	2.20	0.0862219	1.27
Rnaset2b	1.404E-07	-2.42	0.535204	-1.03
Rnaset2a	1.103E-07	-2.42	0.419315	-1.04
Rnase1	0.0003325	-2.55	0.0010736	-2.19
<i>Toll-like receptors</i>				
Tlr13	0.0282753	2.77	0.0018269	5.72
Tlr1	0.0646121	1.70	0.0123469	2.22
<i>Serotonin signalling genes</i>				
Htr2a	0.0006754	2.05	0.0725447	1.32
SLC6A4	0.0028866	1.29	2.125E-06	-2.05

Table S2. Canonical pathway analysis of UV-B-exposed GF skin using ingenuity pathway analysis. Related to Figure 4.

Ingenuity Canonical Pathways	Total genes	p-value	z-score
TREM1 Signaling	18/69	3.16E-06	4.24
Role of NFAT in Regulation of the Immune Response	22/170	1.15E-02	3.57
PI3K Signaling in B Lymphocytes	16/124	2.88E-02	3.5
Dendritic Cell Maturation	27/159	7.94E-05	3.4
Leukocyte Extravasation Signaling	23/202	3.80E-02	3.27
IL-6 Signaling	24/124	2.24E-05	3.12
Fcγ3 Receptor-mediated Phagocytosis in Macrophages and Monocytes	13/90	2.00E-02	3.05
NF-κB Signaling	25/168	1.10E-03	3.00
CD28 Signaling in T Helper Cells	18/118	3.98E-03	3.00
Toll-like Receptor Signaling	13/70	2.40E-03	2.71
iCOS-iCOSL Signaling in T Helper Cells	18/110	1.82E-03	2.66
PKCδ Signaling in T Lymphocytes	17/120	1.05E-02	2.66
Retinoic acid Mediated Apoptosis Signaling	8/43	1.55E-02	2.64
Acute Phase Response Signaling	25/157	3.98E-04	2.55
Actin Cytoskeleton Signaling	24/217	4.68E-02	2.50
Role of Pattern Recognition Receptors in Recognition of Bacteria and Viruses	20/127	1.66E-03	2.49
UVA-Induced MAPK Signaling	14/99	1.95E-02	2.49
Interferon Signaling	6/30	2.45E-02	2.44
Oncostatin M Signaling	6/33	3.80E-02	2.44
NF-κB Activation by Viruses	13/86	1.41E-02	2.30
Death Receptor Signaling	17/88	3.47E-04	2.18
Role of IL-17F in Allergic Inflammatory Airway Diseases	9/37	1.62E-03	2.12
PCP pathway	8/62	0.04677	-2.12
Basal Cell Carcinoma Signaling	12/69	0.00603	-2.64
PPAR Signaling	18/89	0.00013	-3.30
LXR/RXR Activation	19/108	0.00055	-3.63

Table S3. Canonical pathway analysis of UV-B-exposed SPF skin using ingenuity pathway analysis. Related to Figure 4.

Ingenuity Canonical Pathways	Total genes	p-value	z-score
Acute Phase Response Signaling	21/157	1.6218E-07	3.15
TREM1 Signaling	12/69	4.7863E-06	2.88
LPS/IL-1 Mediated Inhibition of RXR Function	21/197	6.9183E-06	2.33
Toll-like Receptor Signaling	12/70	5.6234E-06	2.12
Cholecystokinin/Gastrin-mediated Signaling	8/97	0.02137962	2.12
Inflammasome pathway	4/19	0.00389045	2.00
Oncostatin M Signaling	4/33	0.02818383	2.00
MIF Regulation of Innate Immunity	4/38	0.04466836	2.00
LXR/RXR Activation	19/108	6.9183E-09	-2.66
PPAR Signaling	10/89	0.0011749	-3.16

Table S4. Primer pairs used in the study. Related to Figure 6.

Gene	Sequence (5'->3')
IL1F8	ACAAAAAGCCTTTCTGTTCTATCAT CCATGTTGGATTTACTTCTCAGACT
IL1F9	AGAGTAACCCCAGTCAGCGTG AGGGTGGTGGTACAAATCCAA
IL1 β	CAG GCA GGC AGT ATC ACT CA AGG TGC TCA TGT CCT CAT CC
IL4RA	TGACCTACAAGGAACCCAGGC CTCGGCGCACTGACCCATCT
IL6	TGAACAACGATGATGCACTTGCAGA TCTGTATCTCTCTGAAGGACTCTGGCT
IL10	CCA AGC CTT ATC GGA AAT GA CCA AGC CTT ATC GGA AAT GA
IL10RA	CCCATTCTCGTACGATCT TTTCCAGTGGAGGATGTGCT
IL16	AACCGAGGACAGGAACCACT CTTGAGAGATTTGCCATTGA
IL18RAP	TGCAATGAAGCGGCATCTGT CCGGTGATTCTGTTTCAGGCT
IL20RA	AAGTCGAGAAGAACGTGGTC GGGTGTTTTTCCTTGCCAAC
IL20RB	AATGCTCACCGACCAAAAGT AGGACAGTTGCATTTTCGGTT
IL31RA	TTCAAGACATTGTCAATCAGTGTG GTCAGTGTGTTGATGCTAAGTAGAAGA
IL33	GAT GGG AAG AAG CTG ATG GTG TTG TGA AGG ACG AAG AAG GC-3
IL34	ACTCAGAGTGGCCAACATCACAAAG ATTGAGACTCACCAAGACCCACAG
CXCL2	AGGGCGGTCAAAAAGTTTGC CGAGGCACATCAGGTACGAT
CXCL16	AAA CAT TTG CCT CAA GCC AGT GTT TCT CAT TTG CCT CAG CCT
CCL2	TTAAAAACCTGGATCGGAACCAA GCATTAGCTTCAGATTTACGGGT
CCL3	ACTGCCTGCTGCTTCTCCTACA

	AGGAAAATGACACCTGGCTGG
CCR1	TTAGCTTCCATGCCTGCCTTATA TCCACTGCTTCAGGCTCTTGT
CXCR2	CAC CGA TGT CTA CCT GCT GA CAC AGG GTT GAG CCA AAA GT
CCL12	GTCCTCAGGTATTGGCTGGA GGGTCAGCACAGATCTCCTT
S100A3	GTGAGTTCCGGGAGTGTGAC TGGCAGTAGAGACAGAGGCT
S100A4	GCTGCCAGATAAGGAACCC TGCGAAGAAGCCAGAGTAAGG
S100A8	AAATCACCATGCCCTCTACAAG CCCACCTTTTATCACCATCGCAA
S100A9	GTTGATCTTTGCCTGTCATGAG AGCCATTCCCTTTAGACTTGG
S100A10	CGCCCTCTGTACCCGCC CAGCCAGAGGGTCCTTTT GA
DEFB6	TGGTGATGCTGTCTCCACTT CATGAACGCTGGCATGAG
DEFB14	GTA TTC CTC ATC TTG TTC TTG G AAG TAC AGC ACA CCG GCC AC
NE	CTTTGAGAACGGCTTTGA CC CACATTGAGCTCTTGGAG CA
House keeping genes	
18s	CCTGCGGCTTAATTTGACTC AACTAAGAACGGCCATGCAC
Ywhaz	AACAGCTTTTCGATGAAGCCAT TGGGTATCCGATGTCCACA

Transparent Methods

Animals

Cesarean-born, axenic 4-8 weeks old female C57BL/6 mice were derived at the Core Facility for Germfree Research (CFGR) at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm; housed and bred in a sterile environment, and regularly monitored to ensure their germ-free status. All short-term experiments with axenic mice were conducted in ISOcage positive cages from Tecniplast, using the appropriate standard operating procedures (SOPs) at CFGR, Karolinska Institutet. Protocols involving the use of germ-free animals were approved by the Regional Animal Research Ethical Board, Stockholm, Sweden (Stockholms norra djurförsöksetiska nämnd), following proceedings described in EU legislation (Council Directive 86/609/EEC). Animal husbandry was done in accordance with Karolinska Institutet guidelines and approved by the above-mentioned board (Ref: N190/15). All animal care and treatment protocols were also approved by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research, through protocol number BMWFW-66.010/0137-WF/V/3b/2014. Animal experiments adhered to 3R (replacement, reduction, and refinement) policy to ensure the use of minimum numbers of animals to maximize data mining.

UV-B source and irradiation

The backs of the mice were shaved using an electric clipper 24 hours before UV-B exposure. UV radiation was performed using a Waldmann 236 light source (Waldmann Medizintechnik, Villingen-Schwenningen, Germany), equipped with two Waldmann UV6 fluorescent tubes (emission range 280–360 nm; peak, 320 nm) and positioned upside down on top of the cage. The mean UVB irradiance of the lamp was 1.9 mW/cm², as measured by a Waldmann UV photometer with a UV6 detector head appropriate to the radiation device. Each mouse in the CHS experiments was administered a UV-B radiation dose of 618 mJ/cm², being equal to 2 (minimal inflammatory doses) MID (Fig. S2) (average time of exposure 5 min, 42 sec). During the UV exposure, ears of all the mice in CHS experiments were shielded by covering with black electric tape. All the procedures were performed under sterile conditions in a laminar air flow unit.

Minimal inflammatory dose (MID)

To determine the effects of the minimal inflammatory dose (Schweintzger et al., 2015; Wolf et al., 1993) and multiples of it, 5 GF and 10 SPF mice were irradiated on the shaved dorsal skin and macroscopic skin thickness was measured immediately before and 24 hrs after UV exposure by spring-loaded engineer's micrometer and skin swelling was calculated.

Contact hypersensitivity assay

Groups of mice were sensitized (3 days after UV exposure) by applying 50 µl of freshly prepared 0.5% 1-fluoro-2,4-dinitrobenzene (DNFB; Sigma #D1529) in acetone to the shaved abdomen (Fig 1A). Five days later, the ears were challenged with 20 µl of freshly prepared 0.25% DNFB in acetone. Ear thickness before and 24 hours after the challenge was measured using a spring-loaded engineer's micrometer (Mitutoyo) to calculate ear swelling, and the following formula was used for calculating percent suppression of CHS:

$$CHS = \left[1 - \left(\frac{\text{Ear swelling of UV+ sensitized+mice}}{\text{Ear swelling of UV- sensitized+mice}} \right) * 100 \right].$$

Skin sample collection

Mice were sacrificed 24 hours after UV exposure (Fig 2A) and skin samples were then collected, fixed in 4% formaldehyde, and paraffin-embedded for histological and immunohistochemical analysis. Parts of the skin samples were snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80° C until RNA isolation.

RNA extraction, microarray, and data analysis

Total RNA was extracted from the whole skin on the same location on the dorsal skin across all the mice. RNA was extracted using the miRNeasy Kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany; Cat. No. 217004) including DNase treatment steps on the column according to the protocol. We obtained RNA quality of a RIN between 5 and 6 (checked on the BioAnalyzer BA2100 (Agilent; Foster City, CA; Cat.No. 5065-4476)). GeneChip® Mouse Gene 2.0 ST Arrays (Affymetrix; Santa Clara, CA; Cat No. 902118) were used for the whole transcript with 500 ng of the total RNA as input. The protocol was followed according to the manual. The amplified cDNA was analyzed using the BioAnalyzer BA2100 (Agilent, Foster City,

CA) and RNA 6000 Nano LabChip (Agilent; Foster City, CA; Cat.No. 5065-4476). The given fragment size of < 2000 nt over all samples was satisfactory for ss-cDNA synthesis, fragmentation, and labeling according to the manual. We hybridized 18 hours at 45°C as suggested in the manual while rotating in the hybridization oven. Washing and staining (GeneChip® HT hybridization, Wash, and Stain Kit; Affymetrix, Santa Clara, CA; Cat No. 900720) were done with the Affymetrix Genechip® Fluidics Station 450 according to the manual (protocol on Fluidics Station: FS450_0002). Arrays were then scanned with the Affymetrix GeneChip scanner GCS3000. For evaluation of the hybridization controls and pre-analysis, Affymetrix Expression Console software version 1.3.1. was used. Raw data are available at the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO; accession number GSE117359). Heat maps were constructed using heat mapper (<http://www.heatmapper.ca/>) (Babicki et al., 2016). We used the online tool GeneMANIA (<https://genemania.org/>) (Warde-Farley et al., 2010) to predict the interactions and functional association of the upstream regulator genes. Statistical analysis was done using Partek Software v.6.6 (Partek Inc, St Louis, MO). CEL files with the probe intensity data are imported using the robust multi-chip average (RMA) algorithm. This included background correction, quantile normalization across all arrays, and median polished summarization based on log-transformed expression values.

cDNA synthesis and qPCR

Total RNA (1 µg) extracted for microarray analysis was used to prepare cDNA using the Script cDNA synthesis kit (#1708890; Bio-Rad Laboratories). Reverse transcription (RT) was then performed on the 1 µl RNA sample by adding iScript reagents including 4 µl 5x iScript reaction mix, 1 µl iScript reverse transcriptase, and nuclease-free water to a reaction volume of 20 µl. The reaction was incubated for priming at 25°C for 5 min, RT at 42°C for 30 min, and RT inactivation at 85°C for 5 min. cDNA diluted 1:5 was used for qPCR. PCR was performed in 384-well Hard-Shell® PCR plates (#HSP3805, Bio-Rad Laboratories) using 1 µl of cDNA, 5 µl of iTaq™ universal SYBR® Green Supermix (#1725121, Bio-Rad Laboratories), 1 µl 10 pM forward primer, 1 µl 10 pM reverse primer, and sufficient nuclease-free water to reach a total reaction volume of 10 µl. mRNA was then quantified using quantitative PCR on a CFX384 Touch Real-Time PCR Detection System (Bio-Rad Laboratories). Primer pairs used are listed in Table S4. Expression of mRNA was analyzed using the change-in-cycle-threshold ($\Delta\Delta CT$) method.

Histological analysis

Paraffin-embedded skin samples were sectioned (3.5 µm) and stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). Cellular infiltrate in the dermis was quantified using an ocular grid with area coverage of 0.25 mm² at 5 randomly selected sites per sample. Epidermal thickness and epidermal layers were determined at 5 randomly selected locations per H&E sample under a microscope at 40x magnification. Sunburn cells (as defined as cells having pyknotic nucleus and eosinophilic cytoplasm) were counted in interfollicular epidermis in at least 10 random fields at a magnification of 10x. All measurements were performed in blinded fashion. Finally, the results were averaged per mouse and per treatment group for the statistical analysis. Images of stainings were acquired with a DP71 digital camera (Olympus, Vienna, Austria), attached to an Olympus BX51 microscope.

Immunohistochemistry

FFPE tissue sections (3.5 µm) were deparaffinized and rehydrated for immunohistochemical staining. Slides with tissues sections were incubated for heat-induced antigen retrieval in Dako Target Retrieval Solution Citrate pH 6.0 (Dako S2369) or Dako Target Retrieval Solution pH 9.0 (Dako S2367) for 30 min in a steamer. The staining was then performed manually at 4°C by antibody incubation using the Dako REAL™ Detection System, Peroxidase/AEC, and antibodies directed against anti-CD3 (1:200; #ab16669, Abcam, Cambridge), anti-Ly6c (1:500, ab15627, Abcam, Cambridge), anti-IL1 beta (1:200, ab9722, Abcam, Cambridge) and anti-IL10 (1:400, ab189392, Abcam, Cambridge). The ImmPRESS™ HRP Anti-Rat IgG (Peroxidase) Polymer Detection Kit (MP-7444, Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, California, USA) was used as secondary antibody for anti-Ly6c and anti-IL10 antibodies. F4/80 (1:200, MA5-16630, Thermo Scientific) staining was performed using EXPOSE mouse- and rabbit-specific HRP detection IHC kits (ab80436, Abcam, Cambridge) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Images of stainings were acquired with a DP71 digital camera (Olympus, Vienna, Austria), attached to an Olympus BX51 microscope.

Statistical analysis

The Mann-Whitney test was used to determine statistical significance between groups in CHS experiments and histological analyses. For microarray analyses, 1-way ANOVA with FDR < 5% was used for filtering genes. Differentially expressed genes were filtered when $P < 0.05$ and fold change was ± 2 . An unpaired T-test was used to determine statistical significance for qPCR analysis. 2-Way ANOVA was used to determine statistical significance for immunohistochemical quantitative analysis. The statistical analysis was performed using GraphPad Prism version 8 (GraphPad). Statistical significance was set at $P < 0.05$.

Supplemental References:

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