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## A hyper-IgM syndrome mutation in activation-induced cytidine deaminase disrupts G-quadruplex binding and genome-wide chromatin localization

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## SUMMARY

Precise targeting of activation-induced cytidine deaminase (AID) to immunoglobulin (Ig) loci promotes antibody class switch recombination (CSR) and somatic hypermutation (SHM), whereas

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

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AID targeting of non-Ig loci can generate oncogenic DNA lesions. Here, we examined the contribution of G-quadruplex (G4) nucleic acid structures to AID targeting *in vivo*. Mice bearing a mutation in *Aicda* (AID<sup>G133V</sup>) that disrupts AID-G4 binding modeled the pathology of hyper-IgM syndrome patients with an orthologous mutation, lacked CSR and SHM, and had broad defects in genome-wide AID<sup>G133V</sup> chromatin localization. Genome-wide analyses also revealed that wild type AID localized to MHCII genes, and AID expression correlated with decreased MHCII expression in germinal center B cells and diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. Our findings indicate a crucial role for G4-binding in AID targeting, and suggest that AID activity may extend beyond Ig loci to regulate the expression of genes relevant to the physiology and pathology of activated B cells.

## **Graphical Abstract**



#### Keywords

Activation-induced cytidine deaminase; class switch recombination; somatic hypermutation; Gquadruplex; hyper-IgM syndrome; MHC class II (MHCII); germinal center B cells; diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL)

## INTRODUCTION

The vertebrate humoral immune system possesses the remarkable ability to recognize a vast array of antigens, activate antigen-specific B cells, and select cells with high-affinity B

cell receptors (BCRs) to produce antibodies (abs) in a process of accelerated Darwinian natural selection. Activation-induced cytidine deaminase (AID) plays a critical role in humoral immunity by orchestrating the secondary diversification of BCRs. Targeted AID deamination of the immunoglobulin (Ig) locus converts deoxycytidines into deoxyuridines, supercharging the frequency of somatic mutations that fuel class switch recombination (CSR) and somatic hypermutation (SHM) (Muramatsu et al., 2000; Muramatsu et al., 1999; Petersen-Mahrt et al., 2002; Revy et al., 2000). Mutations in *AICDA* can result in hyper-immunoglobulin M syndrome type 2 (HIGM2), a primary immunodeficiency disease characterized by a severe defect in CSR that is frequently coupled with a deficiency in SHM (Durandy et al., 2006; Revy et al., 2000).

CSR is a molecular rearrangement that deletes and recombines segments of the immunoglobulin (Ig) heavy chain (*Igh*) locus, exchanging the default IgM and IgD constant region gene segments for a set of downstream exons. During CSR, AID is targeted to repetitive DNA elements called switch (S) regions, located upstream of each constant region gene segment. AID deamination within S regions initiates a cascade of DNA processing events leading to the formation of DNA double-strand breaks (DSBs). Ligation of donor and acceptor S region DSBs, primarily by non-homologous end-joining, juxtaposes the upstream V(D)J region with a new downstream constant region gene segment, switching activated B cells from expressing IgM and IgD to a secondary heavy chain isotype like IgG, IgE, IgA or in rare cases, expressing solely IgD (Gilliam et al., 1984; Matthews et al., 2014; Xu et al., 2012). Pathogens and responding immune cells provide molecular cues that direct CSR to particular antibody isotypes, equipping the adaptive immune system with tailored antibody-mediated effector functions to optimally combat a variety of pathogens.

In addition to S regions, AID targets the variable region of the *Igh, Igk*, and *Igl* loci to perform SHM, where deamination and subsequent processing by error prone DNA repair generate somatic mutations (Di Noia and Neuberger, 2007). SHM occurs in microanatomical structures called germinal centers (GC) located within secondary lymphoid organs. Here, competition between B cells for T cell help leads to the selection of B cells with higher affinity BCRs (Mesin et al., 2016). While AID targeting to Ig loci is critical for CSR and SHM, AID can localize to hundreds of non-Ig genes, many of which have been shown to be mutated (Alvarez-Prado et al., 2018; Chiarle et al., 2011; Klein et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2008; Pavri et al., 2010; Yamane et al., 2011). Understanding AID specificity is paramount, since AID targeting of non-Ig loci can generate oncogenic mutations and translocations, such as with *Myc* or *Bcl6*, that characterize many B cell lymphomas (Lieber, 2016; Lu et al., 2013; Pasqualucci et al., 2008; Ramiro et al., 2004).

Myriad molecular factors affect AID targeting, including R-loops, the transcriptional and splicing machineries, the RNA exosome, and G-quadruplex structures (G4s) (Casellas et al., 2016). G4s are non-canonical nucleic acid structures that can form in guanine-rich sequences via Hoogsteen base-pairing of planar guanine tetrads, generating a parallel four-stranded structure (Gellert et al., 1962; Sen and Gilbert, 1988). DNA G4s have been observed following *in vitro* transcription of S regions (Carrasco-Salas et al., 2019; Duquette et al., 2004; Neaves et al., 2009), which are composed of G-rich tandem repeats (Dunnick et al., 1993). AID binding to transcription-induced G4s *in vitro* suggests that these structures

may recruit AID in *cis* (Duquette et al., 2005). AID also binds to S region RNA G4s (Qiao et al., 2017; Zheng et al., 2015), and G4s bind to AID with 10-fold higher affinity than linear forms of the same sequence, perhaps accounting for the preferential deamination of deoxycytidine residues adjacent to G4 structures (Qiao et al., 2017).

There is mounting functional evidence for a critical role of AID-G4 binding in CSR. Cooperative AID-G4 binding seeds the formation of large AID-G4 oligomers, and mutations that disrupt cooperativity and oligomer formation impair CSR without altering deamination activity (Qiao et al., 2017). Further, a Gly-to-Val mutation at residue 133 of AID (AID<sup>G133V</sup>) disrupts AID-G4 RNA binding, abolishing AID targeting to S regions and CSR in *ex vivo* activated B cells (Zheng et al., 2015). Intriguingly, expression of S region transcripts that generate G4s, but not their antisense counterparts, rescues CSR in B cells with defective RNA splicing, suggesting that S region G4 RNAs "guide" AID to the *Igh* locus, analogous to guide RNAs targeting Cas9 (Zheng et al., 2015). Lastly, the identification of HIGM2 patients with homozygous G133V mutations in *AICDA* (Mahdaviani et al., 2012) suggests a conserved role for AID-G4 binding in CSR, and underscores the importance of studying AID-G4 binding *in vivo*, for which experimental models are currently lacking.

To address this gap in knowledge, we generated mice bearing an engineered allele of *Aicda* encoding a Gly-to-Val mutation (AID<sup>G133V</sup>). Whereas AID<sup>G133V</sup> and wild type AID (AID<sup>WT</sup>) had comparable DNA deaminase activity *in vitro* and in *ex vivo* activated B cells, *Aicda<sup>G133V/G133V</sup>* (*Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>*) mice lacked CSR and SHM. AID<sup>G133V</sup> failed to localize to *Igh* S regions, and ChIP-sequencing (ChIP-seq) uncovered a broad defect in genome-wide AID<sup>G133V</sup> chromatin localization. These genome-wide analyses also revealed that AID<sup>WT</sup> localized to MHCII genes, and AID expression correlated with decreased MHCII expression in GC B cells. Additionally, human diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) tumors with the highest AID levels exhibited decreased expression of multiple MHCII presentation pathway genes. Our findings point to a central role for G4 binding in AID targeting, and suggest that AID-dependent gene regulation of non-Ig loci may play a critical role in regulating GC B cell fates, as well as affect the genesis and prognosis of DLBCL.

## RESULTS

### Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup> mice model HIGM2 syndrome

Using CRISPR-Cas9 targeted mutagenesis, we generated a mouse strain with a Gly-to-Val mutation at residue 133 (G133V) of the *Aicda* gene (Figure S1A) that has been shown to disrupt AID-G4 binding (Zheng et al., 2015). The modified allele was expressed, properly spliced and contained only the specified G133V encoding mutation (Figure S1B). We next compared the development of B cells in *Aicda*<sup>GV/GV</sup> mice to WT and *Aicda*<sup>GV/4</sup> littermate controls, and found no overt differences in the absolute number or frequency of developing or mature B cell subsets within the bone marrow or spleen, or within T cell subsets (Figure S1).

To test if  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice model human HIGM2, we used ELISAs to measure serum Ig isotype composition.  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice had a nearly 4-fold higher IgM concentration

compared to WT controls (Figure 1A), similar to the fold change in HIGM2 patients (Mahdaviani et al., 2012; Revy et al., 2000). Compared to WT and  $Aicda^{+/-}$  mice, the levels of all class-switched abs in  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  and  $Aicda^{-/-}$  mice were reduced 10- to 1,000-fold (Figure 1A), indicating a major CSR defect.

*Aicda*<sup>-/-</sup> mice and HIGM2 patients exhibit lymph node (LN) hyperplasia resulting from enlarged GCs (Muramatsu et al., 2000; Revy et al., 2000). To test if  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice develop GC B cell hyperplasia, we analyzed homeostatic GCs in secondary lymphoid organs. We found elevated frequencies of GC B cells in the mesenteric LNs (Figure 1B,C), Peyer's patches (Figure 1D), and spleen (Figure S2A) of  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice, and the absolute number of GC B cells in Peyer's patches was approximately 6.5-fold higher on average, and 5-fold higher per individual Peyer's patch in  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice versus WT controls (Figure S2B–D).

To determine if AID<sup>G133V</sup>-induced hyperplasia occurs during acute immune responses, we infected mice intranasally with 50 TCID<sub>50</sub> of PR8, a highly mouse-adapted influenza A virus (IAV) strain. We harvested spleen and mediastinal LNs 21 days post-infection (dpi) and quantified the frequency of GC B cells, and the number and size of GCs in splenic sections. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* and *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice had significantly elevated frequencies of mediastinal (draining) LN (Figure 1E,F) and splenic (Figure 1G) GC B cells. This can be attributed to the larger size of individual GCs in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* and *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice (Figure 1H,I), as all genotypes had similar numbers of GCs (Figure 1J). Additionally, we found that *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* GC B cells predominately occupied the light zone (LZ) (Figure S2E,F), as previously shown for *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* GC B cells (Boulianne et al., 2013; Hogenbirk et al., 2013), whereas WT GC B cells predominantly populate the dark zone (DZ). Overall, the lack of class-switched antibodies, elevated serum IgM and lymphoid GC hyperplasia indicate that *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice model HIGM2 pathology.

## Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup> B cells do not class switch in response to viral infection

To determine if the greatly reduced serum levels of class-switched abs in  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice result from defective CSR, we analyzed GC B cell CSR by flow cytometry. WT and  $Aicda^{+/-}$  mice had substantial frequencies of IgG1 and IgA class-switched B cells in chronic homeostatic GCs within mesenteric LNs and Peyer's patches, whereas  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  mice had no detectable levels of class-switched B cells in either lymphoid organ, similar to  $Aicda^{-/-}$  controls (Figure 2A–D).

Extending these findings to IAV infection, we harvested the spleen and mediastinal LN 21dpi during the peak of the GC B cell response (Frank et al., 2015; Rothaeusler and Baumgarth, 2010). We measured CSR in total GC B cells, as well as hemagglutinin (HA) -specific GC B cells (Figure 2E); HA is the immunodominant antigen following IAV infection (Altman et al., 2018). We identified HA-specific cells by staining with fluorescent HA containing a mutation that abrogates HA binding to terminal sialic acid residues, which are abundant on B cells (Whittle et al., 2014). As a negative control for HA staining, *Aicda*<sup>+/-</sup> mice were infected with the J1 strain of IAV (Figure 2E), a reassortant virus that is identical to PR8 except for an H3 HA gene, which does not cross-react serologically with PR8 HA (Palese, 1977). Both *Aicda*<sup>GV/GV</sup> and *Aicda*<sup>-/-</sup> mice had higher frequencies

of HA-specific B cells within mediastinal LN and splenic GCs, although this difference was only statistically significant in the spleen (Figure 2E–G). While approximately 80% of HA-specific GC B cells class-switched to IgG1, IgG2c, or IgG2b in WT mediastinal LNs, *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* HA-specific GC B cells were virtually 100% IgM<sup>+</sup>, as were *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* GC B cells (Figure 2H–J). This held true for total GC B cells in the mediastinal LN (Figure S3A–C), and total (Figure S3D) and HA-specific (Figure S3E) splenic GC B cells.

We next immunized *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice with the model antigen 4-Hydroxy-3nitrophenylacetyl (NP) conjugated to chicken gamma globulin (NP-CGG) and measured NP-specific IgM and IgG1 ab responses over 28 days. Both WT and *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice had significant increases in NP-specific IgM abs following immunization (Figure S3F), however, class-switched NP-specific IgG1 abs were undetectable in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* and *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice (Figure S3G). Taken together, these data demonstrate that *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* B cells have a complete CSR defect during a primary immune response.

#### Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup> B cells do not undergo CSR ex vivo

For mechanistic insight underlying the CSR deficiency in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice, we used a tractable *ex vivo* system wherein purified naïve splenic B cells are stimulated with various cytokine plus mitogen cocktails to induce CSR. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* B cells failed to undergo detectable CSR to IgG1 (Figure 3A,B), IgG3 (Figure 3C,D), or IgA (Figure 3E,F). *Aicda<sup>GV/+</sup>* B cells underwent approximately 80% the levels of WT IgG1 CSR following 96hrs LPS plus IL-4 stimulation (Figure 3B). Because *Aicda<sup>+/-</sup>* B cells also undergo 80% of WT IgG1 CSR under similar stimulation conditions (McBride et al., 2008), the partial CSR defect in *Aicda<sup>GV/+</sup>* B cells is likely due to decreased AID<sup>WT</sup> protein levels, versus a dominant negative interaction between AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> proteins. Retroviral expression of AID<sup>WT</sup>, but not catalytically dead AID<sup>H56R/E58Q</sup> (AID<sup>CD</sup>) (Papavasiliou and Schatz, 2002), rescued the CSR defect in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* B cells, ruling out off-target mutations introduced during CRISPR-Cas9 targeting causing the CSR defect (Figure 3G).

Compromised CSR can result from multiple defects, including cell proliferation, transcription and splicing of switch regions, as well as AID expression and targeting to the *Igh* locus (Matthews et al., 2014; Yewdell and Chaudhuri, 2017). *Aicda*<sup>GV/GV</sup> B cells proliferate comparably to WT (Figure S4A) and have no significant differences in the levels of Sµ or Sγ1 germline transcripts (Figure S4B). To analyze AID expression, we prepared B cell lysates 96hrs post-stimulation and quantified AID protein levels by immunoblotting (Figure 3H, S4C) and intracellular flow cytometry (Figure S4D). AID<sup>G133V</sup> was expressed at 70% of AID<sup>WT</sup> levels on average, despite *Aicda*<sup>GV/GV</sup> B cells having slightly more abundant *Aicda* mRNA (Figure S4E). Extending these findings, sorted GC B cells from mice immunized with sheep red blood cells (SRBCs) expressed AID<sup>G133V</sup> at slightly lower levels compared to WT controls (Figure 3I).

Intriguingly, AID<sup>G133V</sup> extracted from *ex vivo* activated B cells and GC B cells migrated faster than AID<sup>WT</sup> under denaturing SDS-PAGE conditions (Figure 3H,I). Recombinant N-terminal maltose binding protein (MBP) tagged protein purified from *E. coli*, MBP-AID<sup>G133V</sup>, and AID<sup>G133V</sup> proteolytically cleaved from MBP, also migrated faster than AID<sup>WT</sup>, whereas AID<sup>CD</sup> did not (Figure S4F–J). Thus, the accelerated migration is not

intrinsic to eukaryotic cell expression or dependent on AID catalytic activity. Because the MBP fusion protects the AID<sup>G133V</sup> N-terminus, an N-terminal truncation is not likely to cause the accelerated migration. Additionally, mass spectrometry failed to reveal alterations to C-terminal peptides (Figure S4K). It is possible that AID<sup>G133V</sup> and AID<sup>WT</sup> differ in a post-translational modification common to both mouse and bacterial cells; however, we did not detect any such modifications in our mass spectrometry analysis. It is more likely that the mobility of AID in SDS-PAGE experiments is highly sensitive to the primary amino acid sequence, as AID<sup>CD</sup> also migrates differently than AID<sup>WT</sup> (Figure S4I,J), and the altered migration of other AID point mutants is observable in previous reports (Methot et al., 2018; Mondal et al., 2016).

## AID<sup>G133V</sup> retains DNA deamination activity

The indistinguishable phenotypes of *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* and *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice suggest that AID<sup>G133V</sup> may be catalytically impaired. However, *in vitro* deamination assays (Figure 4A) using purified proteins revealed that MBP-AID<sup>WT</sup> and MBP-AID<sup>G133V</sup> have comparable deamination activity across 3 different protein preparations, whereas the negative control MBP-AID<sup>CD</sup> has no detectable activity (Figure 4B, S5A). Additionally, we expressed and purified human AID (hAID) MBP fusion proteins from *E. coli* (Figure S5B), and found that MBP-hAID<sup>WT</sup> and MBP-hAID<sup>G133V</sup> also had comparable deamination activity, whereas MBP-hAID<sup>CD</sup> had no detectable activity (Figure S5C,D). To more quantitatively compare AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> deamination activity, we performed deamination assays across a wide concentration of purified proteins. We found no differences between AID<sup>G133V</sup> and AID<sup>WT</sup> deamination activity at all concentrations tested (Figure 4C, S5E). Thus, these data indicate that AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> have comparable *in vitro* deamination activity.

Because AID binds to G4s cooperatively, creating large AID-G4 oligomers (Qiao et al., 2017), we tested whether the addition of G4 substrates could alter MBP-AID's deamination activity on the linear substrate. Deamination assays performed in the presence of DNA or RNA G4 substrates composed of 4 tandem Sµ repeats (Sµ4G) (Figure 4D, S5F) previously shown to bind AID (Zheng et al., 2015) inhibited deamination of the linear substrate by MBP-AID<sup>WT</sup> (Figure 4E,G,H, S5G). This is consistent with the previous observations that AID binds to G4 substrates with > 10-fold affinity than it binds to linear substrates, and that AID binds to DNA and RNA G4 substrates with similar affinities (Qiao et al., 2017). Disrupting the G4 substrate by mutating the sequence (Sµ4Gmut) or folding Sµ4G in the presence of Li<sup>+</sup>, which destabilizes G4s (Bardin and Leroy, 2008; Bhattacharyya et al., 2016) (Figure S5F), abrogates G4-dependent inhibition (Figure 4E,G,H S5G). Consistent with a defect in G4 nucleic acid binding, the addition of DNA or RNA Sµ4G did not inhibit MBP-AID<sup>G133V</sup> deamination of the linear substrate (Figure 4F-H, S5H), despite a 5-fold molar excess of Sµ4G versus linear substrate. Thus, these data indicate that AID<sup>WT</sup> binding to a G4 structure can inhibit its deamination of a linear substrate, and reinforce the notion that AID<sup>G133V</sup> does not bind to G4 nucleic acids.

### AID<sup>G133V</sup> has impaired lgh targeting

We next tested the ability of AID<sup>G133V</sup> to localize to the Sµ region of the *Igh* locus by performing ChIP-qPCR experiments. We first confirmed that the anti-AID ab

immunoprecipitated both AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> proteins during the ChIP protocol (Figure 5A). The amount of AID<sup>G133V</sup> immunoprecipitated was approximately 70% of the AID<sup>WT</sup> levels (Figure 5B), mirroring the relative protein levels of AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> that we detected in B cell lysates (Figure 3H, S4C). As an additional control, we performed nuclear-cytoplasmic fractionation experiments followed by immunoblotting to test if AID<sup>G133V</sup> localizes to the nucleus. Because upwards of 90% of AID is localized in the cytoplasm (Methot et al., 2015; Pasqualucci et al., 2004; Rada et al., 2002), detecting endogenous AID in nuclear extracts is challenging. As expected, both AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> were readily detected in the cytoplasmic fraction, and sparse in the nuclear fraction (Figure 5C). qPCR revealed a significant enrichment of Sµ DNA in AID ChIP samples from WT B cells versus *Aicda*<sup>-/-</sup> B cells. However, AID<sup>G133V</sup> localization to Sµ.

To assess AID<sup>G133V</sup> localization to the V(D)J segments, we sorted GC B cells from Peyer's patches at homeostasis, or spleens following SRBC immunization, and PCR amplified and sequenced the 5' region of the *Jh4* intron. Sequencing of the *Jh4* intron is commonly used as a proxy to measure variable region SHM, as hypermutation continues past the rearranged V(D)J and into the downstream intron (Jolly et al., 1997). WT and *Aicda<sup>+/-</sup>* GC B cells had mutation rates ranging from  $2 \times 10^{-3} - 6 \times 10^{-3}$ /bp (Figure 5E–G), consistent with previous *Jh4* mutation rates within these lymphoid organs (Wei et al., 2011). *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mutation rates  $(1 \times 10^{-5} - 5 \times 10^{-5}/\text{bp})$  were two orders of magnitude lower than WT, and indistinguishable from *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>*, consistent with the complete absence of SHM in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* GC B cells. Taken together, the above data suggest that the lack of CSR and SHM in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* B cells results from a defect in AID<sup>G133V</sup> Igh localization.

#### Forced targeting of AID<sup>G133V</sup> to S regions can restore CSR

To determine the extent that defective AID<sup>G133V</sup> *Igh* localization limits CSR, and reinforce the notion that AID<sup>G133V</sup> is catalytically active, we sought to forcibly target AID<sup>G133V</sup> to S regions to rescue the CSR defect. We fused AID<sup>G133V</sup> to the N terminus of AID<sup>CD</sup>, which localizes to S regions but lacks deamination activity (Methot et al., 2018; Vuong et al., 2013). We expressed the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion protein retrovirally, along with AID<sup>WT</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> and AID<sup>CD</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusions as positive and negative controls, respectively, and assessed their ability to restore CSR in *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* B cells. The AID<sup>WT</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion reduced IgG1 CSR efficiency to ~71% of the levels of AID<sup>WT</sup>, whereas the negative control AID<sup>CD</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> and the empty vector (EV) control resulted in no detectable CSR. Remarkably, while AID<sup>G133V</sup> and AID<sup>CD</sup> induced no detectable CSR on their own, the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion restored IgG1 CSR activity of AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> is likely not due to simple protein stabilization, as an AID<sup>G133V</sup>-mCherry fusion did not support detectable CSR.

The inability of the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion to fully restore CSR to control levels could be due to the AID<sup>WT</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion containing two moieties capable of targeting S regions, versus only one in the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion. Additionally, because AID<sup>WT</sup> binds to G4s with 10-fold higher affinity than a linear substrate of the same sequence, and preferentially

deaminates deoxycytidine residues adjacent to G4s (Qiao et al., 2017), the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion may be less efficient at deaminating S regions than AID<sup>WT</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup>. Overall, these data demonstrate that first, AID<sup>G133V</sup> can be catalytically active in activated B cells, and second, AID<sup>G133V</sup> can deaminate S regions if properly targeted.

## AID<sup>G133V</sup> has impaired genome-wide chromatin localization

To uncover the contribution of G4 binding to AID chromatin localization outside the *Igh* locus, we performed ChIP-seq experiments in WT and  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$ B cells. In order to allay reproducibility concerns regarding previous AID ChIP-seq analyses (Hogenbirk et al., 2012), we analyzed sequencing libraries from 4 biological replicates of WT and  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  ChIP experiments, and 3 biological replicates plus one technical replicate of  $Aicda^{-/-}$ . After filtering low quality and duplicate reads, putative sites of binding were identified and analyzed for differentially bound regions across genotype comparisons, accounting for differences between biological replicates (see methods for details). We identified 37 peaks significantly enriched in WT versus either  $Aicda^{-/-}$  or  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$ , of which 21 were significantly enriched in both comparisons, 14 in comparison to  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  only, and 2 in comparison to  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$  versus  $Aicda^{-/-}$  comparison, indicating a major genome-wide defect in AID<sup>G133V</sup> chromatin localization (Table S4).

As expected and previously reported, we detected AID<sup>WT</sup> enriched at two *Igh* S regions (*Ighm-Sµ* and *Ighg1-Sγ1*) that are targeted by AID as sites of IgG1 CSR following LPS plus IL-4 stimulation (Figure 6A,B) (Yamane et al., 2011). We also detected peaks at the *Ig1* and *Igk* light chain genes; the higher fold-change and significance of the *Igk* peak versus the *Ig1* peak is consistent with the observation that over 90% of mouse B cells express  $\kappa$  light chains (Eisen and Reilly, 1985; LeJeune et al., 1982; Woloschak and Krco, 1987) (Table S5). Genome-wide AID occupancy is highly correlated with RNA polymerase II, peaking around transcriptional start sites (TSS) (Pavri et al., 2010; Yamane et al., 2011). Similarly, we found that the mean AID signal at significantly enriched regions dramatically increased immediately 3' of TSSs (Figure 6C).

Many of the non-Ig peaks identified, such as *Gas5*, *mir142*, and *Il4ra*, were among the top AID targets in a previous ChIP-seq analysis (Yamane et al., 2011). Additionally, 11/37 peaks were previously identified as AID-dependent *c-myc* or *Igh* translocation partners (Chiarle et al., 2011; Klein et al., 2011), 18/37 have been validated as AID hypermutation targets via sequencing analysis of *ex vivo* activated B cells (Klein et al., 2011; Pavri et al., 2010; Yamane et al., 2011) or sorted GC B cells (Alvarez-Prado et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2008), and 17/37 were identified as AID-dependent sites of RPA recruitment (Qian et al., 2014) (Table S5). The identification of numerous AID targets that have been verified across multiple experimental approaches indicates that novel targets uncovered by our ChIP-seq analysis may reveal overlooked aspects of AID biology.

#### AID localizes to MHCII genes

ChIP-seq revealed that 3 of the top 10 AID<sup>WT</sup> targets are the MHCII genes *H2-Aa, H2-Eb1* and the invariant chain *Cd74*. Additionally, *H2-Dma* was significantly enriched and *H2-Ab1* 

was near the significance cut-off (Table S5). Revisiting a previous AID ChIP analysis, we found that *H2-Aa, H2-Eb1*, and *H2-Ab1* ranked within the top 4%, and *H2-Dma* within the top 14%, of AID targets (Yamane et al., 2011). To determine if MHCII genes are hypermutated by AID, we cross-referenced two previous studies that performed DNA deep-sequencing to identify AID targets in GC B cells isolated from either  $Ung^{-/-}Msh2^{-/-}$  or *Aicda*<sup>-/-</sup> mice (Alvarez-Prado et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2008). Due to their inability to remove dG:dU mismatches,  $Ung^{-/-}Msh2^{-/-}$  B cells are commonly used to trap AID deamination events. Both studies found *Cd74* mutation rates that were 10-fold higher in  $Ung^{-/-}Msh2^{-/-}$  B cells versus *Aicda*<sup>-/-</sup> controls (Table S6) (Alvarez-Prado et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2008). Additionally, *CD74* is thought to be a target of recurrent AID SHM in DLBCL samples (Khodabakhshi et al., 2012), and was identified as a site of AID-dependent RPA recruitment (Qian et al., 2014). Thus, while the data from two independent AID ChIP-seq analyses suggest AID localizes to multiple MHCII genes in *ex vivo* activated B cells (Figure 6, (Yamane et al., 2011)), we conclude that *Cd74* is the only MHCII AID target currently known to be mutated in GC B cells.

#### AID expression correlates with decreased MHCII expression in mouse GC B cells

Given that GC B cells primarily express AID within the DZ (Greiner et al., 2005; Moldenhauer et al., 2006; Victora et al., 2012), and MHCII expression is downregulated in DZ versus LZ B cells (Bannard et al., 2016; Victora et al., 2012), we hypothesized that AID targeting could negatively regulate MHCII expression. To test this hypothesis, we immunized WT,  $Aicda^{+/-}$ , and  $Aicda^{-/-}$  mice intraperitoneally with UV inactivated IAV, and assessed MHCII surface levels in LZ and DZ GC B cells 12 days post-immunization. Similar to homeostatic and IAV infection-induced GCs,  $Aicda^{-/-}$  mice were characterized by GC hyperplasia and an increase in the frequency of LZ B cells (Figure 7A, S6A,B), while all genotypes had a similar frequency of HA<sup>+</sup> GC B cells (Figure S6C,D).

As previously reported in WT mice (Bannard et al., 2016; Victora et al., 2012), we observed a distinct population of DZ B cells expressing low levels of MHCII (MHCII<sup>lo</sup>) in comparison to their LZ counterparts. This MHCII<sup>lo</sup> population was clearly diminished in *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice (Figure 7B). Indeed, the frequency of MHCII<sup>lo</sup> DZ B cells was nearly 4-fold greater in WT vs. *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice, and 2-fold greater in *Aicda<sup>+/-</sup>* vs. *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice, whereas the frequency of MHCII<sup>lo</sup> LZ B cells was close to zero for all genotypes (Figure 7C). To control for considerable fluctuations in MHCII MFIs across different mice and experiments (Figure S6E,F), we calculated the ratio of DZ/LZ MFIs per mouse. While the DZ MHCII MFI was ~65% of the matched LZ MFI in WT mice, this ratio increased significantly to ~80% in *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* GCs (Figure 7D). Similar to the frequency of MHCII<sup>lo</sup> DZ B cells, the DZ/LZ MHCII MFI ratio scaled with the increasing amounts of AID present within *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>*, *Aicda<sup>+/-</sup>*, and WT GC B cells. Thus, it appears that MHCII expression is inversely correlated with AID levels in GC B cells.

#### Human DLBCLs with the highest AID levels have decreased MHCII expression

DLBCL, the most common human lymphoma, is fatal in approximately 30% of patients (Pasqualucci and Dalla-Favera, 2018). DLBCLs can be classified into three subgroups based on gene expression profiling: activated B cell-like (ABC), germinal center B cell-like

(GCB), or unclassified (Alizadeh et al., 2000; Rosenwald et al., 2002). DLBCLs frequently express AID (Arima et al., 2018; Greeve et al., 2003; Kawamura et al., 2016; Lossos et al., 2004; Pasqualucci et al., 2004), and ABC tumors generally express the highest levels of AID versus the other subgroups (Lossos et al., 2004; Pasqualucci et al., 2004). Given that DLBCLs also have varying levels of MHCII expression (Miller et al., 1988; Momburg et al., 1987; Rimsza et al., 2004; Rosenwald et al., 2002), we hypothesized that the inverse correlation between AID expression and MHCII observed in GC B cells might also occur in DLBCLs. To test this, we analyzed RNA-sequencing (RNA-seq) data generated from 562 DLBCL biopsy samples, consisting of 286 ABC, 162 GCB, and 114 unclassified tumors (Schmitz et al., 2018).

As expected, the ABC tumors had ~3-fold higher *AICDA* expression versus GCB tumors, and ~2.5 fold higher expression versus unclassified tumors (Figure 7E). We correlated *AICDA* expression with MHCII expression amongst each DLBCL subgroup, and observed that DLBCLs with the highest levels of AID expression appeared to be enriched for low expression of several MHCII presentation pathway genes, particularly amongst ABC tumors (Figure S7A–C). To quantify this, we performed differential expression analyses comparing MHCII genes amongst the top 10% of AID expressing samples (AID<sup>top10%</sup>) versus the bottom 90% (AID<sup>bot90%</sup>) within each subgroup.

11 MHCII genes were significantly decreased in the AID<sup>top10%</sup> within ABC tumors, including *CD74*, *HLA-DQA2* (*H2-Aa*), *HLA-DMA* (*H2-Dma*), whereas the housekeeping genes *ACTB* and *GAPDH* were similarly expressed in the AID<sup>top10%</sup> and AID<sup>bot90%</sup> tumors (Figure 7F). Interestingly, the MHCII transactivator (CIITA) was also significantly decreased in the AID<sup>top10%</sup> within the ABC tumors, consistent with AID targeting of *CIITA* previously reported in primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma (Mottok et al., 2015) and a previous AID ChIP analysis (Yamane et al., 2011). Additionally, *Ciita* has also been identified as a site of AID-dependent RPA recruitment (Qian et al., 2014). In contrast, GCB tumors had only 4 MHCII genes that were significantly decreased, and the unclassified tumors had none. Thus, these data indicate that ABC DLBCLs with the highest AID levels exhibit decreased expression of multiple MHCII presentation pathway genes.

## DISCUSSION

Nearly 25 years after the structural basis for G4 nucleic acids was first proposed (Gellert et al., 1962), *Igh* S regions were amongst the first DNA sequences shown to self-associate into G4 structures (Sen and Gilbert, 1988). Over the last decade, G4 biology has become an exciting area of investigation in myriad biological processes (Hansel-Hertsch et al., 2017), including recent work implicating G4s as critical effectors of class switch recombination and AID biology (Qiao et al., 2017; Zheng et al., 2015). Given the lack of models currently available to study AID-G4 binding function *in vivo*, we generated *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice.

We found that *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice completely lack CSR and SHM due to a broad, drastic defect in genome-wide AID<sup>G133V</sup> chromatin localization. Crucially, while AID<sup>G133V</sup> has impaired G4-binding, it is catalytically active both *in vitro* and in *ex vivo* activated B cells. Importantly, overexpression of AID<sup>G133V</sup> does not restore any detectable CSR, suggesting

that the 30% decrease in AID<sup>G133V</sup> expression is not limiting. While the lower AID<sup>G133V</sup> expression may reflect an intrinsic difference in protein stability compared to AID<sup>WT</sup>, the ability of the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup> fusion to restore significant levels of CSR indicate that AID<sup>G133V</sup> is sufficiently stable to deaminate S regions if properly targeted. Further, the inability of the AID<sup>G133V</sup>-mCherry fusion to restore CSR indicates that a C-terminal protein fusion cannot simply stabilize an otherwise unstable AID<sup>G133V</sup>. Thus, to the extent of our current knowledge, AID<sup>G133V</sup> largely separates DNA deamination from G4 binding, and can be used to parse the importance of G4 binding to AID function.

Given this separation of function, the failure of AID<sup>G133V</sup> to localize to Sµ, coupled with the observations that 1) transcription of S regions triggers the formation of DNA G4s (Carrasco-Salas et al., 2019; Duquette et al., 2004; Neaves et al., 2009), and 2) G4s can bind purified AID with high affinity (Duquette et al., 2005; Qiao et al., 2017), indicate that S region G4s may target AID in *cis*, or *trans* via an RNA-guided mechanism analogous to CRISPR-Cas9 targeting (Zheng et al., 2015). Importantly, G4-mediated targeting in *cis* or *trans* are not mutually exclusive, and could also involve an S region RNA/DNA hybrid G4. Notably, AID also targets to the G4-forming telomeric repeats (Cortizas et al., 2016).

Replacement of the endogenous mouse  $S\gamma 1$  region with 4kb of the AT-rich Xenopus Sµ region is sufficient to promote CSR (Zarrin et al., 2004), implying that AID targeting to S regions does not absolutely require AID binding to G4 sequences at the targeted S region. Until recently, this observation was clearly inconsistent with a G4-mediated AID targeting model for S regions, and the complete absence of CSR in Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>B cells. However, a recent study possibly reconciles these inconsistencies by proposing *Igh* chromatin loop extrusion as a mechanism that juxtaposes downstream S regions with  $S\mu$ , creating a class switch recombination center (CSRC) (Zhang et al., 2019). In this light, efficient AID targeting to Sµ and the formation of the CSRC could endow targeting to the downstream G4-deficient Xenopus  $S\gamma$ 1 region. Such a mechanism could also account for the lack of SHM within the Jh4 intron, as V(D)J segments are not predisposed to form G4s, and the Sµ region is merely 3–4 kb away from the rearranged V(D)J segments (depending on the utilized J segment). Thus, SHM at the Igh locus may rely upon efficient AID localization to Sµ, which is defective in  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$ B cells. Therefore, G-rich proximal sequences, as well as the 3-dimensional chromatin architecture exemplified by the CSRC, may affect the efficiency of AID targeting to the Igh locus.

Outside of the *Igh* locus, the computationally predicted propensity of a sequence to form G4s has been suggested to correlate with genome-wide AID targeting (Duquette et al., 2007; Zheng et al., 2015). However, the mutation frequency of over 100 genes expressed in GC B cells does not correlate with G-richness (Liu et al., 2008). It is possible that chromatin looping interactions, such as those that establish the CSRC, play a role in genome-wide AID chromatin localization. Alternatively, G4 binding could precipitate the formation of large AID-G4 oligomers (Qiao et al., 2017), and AID<sup>WT</sup>, but not AID<sup>G133V</sup>, forms high molecular weight, RNA-dependent complexes containing multiple RNA-binding proteins (Mondal et al., 2016). The formation of a G4-dependent high-avidity AID complex could thus function to increase AID binding affinity to target loci. An intriguing alternative possibility is that AID targeting depends on a G4-dependent phase separation of AID and other binding

partners. While AID is predicted to have only a small disordered region at its N-terminus, its various binding partners could potentially provide larger disordered regions that associate into phase-separated complexes. Further investigation is required to elucidate the molecular requirements for G4 binding in localizing AID to S regions, as well as other prominent non-Ig loci.

A central question in AID biology is the extent to which SHM extends to non-Ig genes, and how this affects B cell function. AID ChIP revealed localization to multiple MHCII genes, and two previous studies found that *Cd74* is mutated by AID in GC B cells (Alvarez-Prado et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2008). This lead to the hypothesis that AID directly regulates MHCII gene expression in GC B cells, as DNA DSBs and deamination can regulate transcription (Kim et al., 2016; Pankotai et al., 2012; Periyasamy et al., 2015; Shanbhag et al., 2010). Consistent with this, we found that first, AID expression correlates with decreased MHCII surface staining within DZ GC B cells, and second, human ABC DLBCLs with the highest AID levels exhibit decreased expression of multiple MHCII presentation pathway genes. Notably, only DLBCLs with the highest AID expression approach physiological AID levels found within GC B cells (Lossos et al., 2004). Taken together, these data suggest there may be a threshold for AID expression that is required for AID-dependent gene regulation, and while this threshold is routinely achieved in GC B cells, it is reached only in a fraction of ABC tumors. It is also important to note that DLBCLs have frequent genetic alterations (Wright et al., 2020) that could lead to AID-independent regulation of MHCII genes.

AID-dependent regulation of MHCII expression has critical pathological implications, particularly for DLBCLs, where loss of MHCII expression is highly correlated with decreased patient survival (Rimsza et al., 2004). MHCII molecules enable CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell immunosurveillance of B cell lymphomas, and DLBCLs with low MHCII have severely diminished numbers of tumor infiltrating lymphocytes (Rimsza et al., 2004). MHCII molecule transcription is regulated by CIITA, which is frequently translocated or mutated in DLBCLs, and has been proposed to be a target of aberrant AID SHM (Khodabakhshi et al., 2012; Mottok et al., 2015; Steidl et al., 2011). In addition to our finding decreased *CIITA* expression in the AID<sup>top10%</sup> ABC tumors, *Ciita* ranked within the top 1% of AID targets in a previous ChIP analysis (Yamane et al., 2011), and was identified as a site of AID-dependent RPA recruitment (Qian et al., 2014). Thus, in addition to directly blocking MHCII gene transcription, AID may also regulate MHCII transcription by targeting *CIITA*.

While non-Ig AID targets are generally considered to be collateral damage incurred during BCR secondary diversification, we venture that AID-dependent regulation of gene expression is a physiological adaption in B cell responses. Alterations in MHCII expression would be expected to modulate T cell help within the GC, a critical factor in B cell expansion and affinity maturation. Intriguingly, another critical regulator of GC B cell biology, *Bcl6*, is not only the most highly mutated non-Ig AID target, but is also thought to be selectively permissive to DNA damage (Liu et al., 2008; Shen et al., 1998; Ye et al., 1993). Furthermore, the levels of *Bcl6* mRNA are increased 10-fold in *Aicda*<sup>-/-</sup> vs. WT DLBCL cell lines (Jiao et al., 2020), hinting at a role for AID-dependent regulation.

AID-dependent gene regulation of MHCII and *Bcl6* could affect the probability of a B cell to leave the GC, acting as rheostat to prevent B cells from staying in an environment that is dangerously permissive to DNA damage. The observations that 1)  $Aicda^{-/-}$  GC B cells do not efficiently differentiate into plasma cells (Boulianne et al., 2013), and 2) LZ GC B cells expressing low levels of BCL6 are thought to favor GC exit and differentiation into plasma cells (Ise et al., 2018), suggest that AID may play a critical role regulating GC B cell fates. Furthermore, the absence of this regulation could contribute to the GC B cell hyperplasia observed in  $Aicda^{-/-}$  mice. Importantly, AID-deficient mice and CRISPR-Cas9 technology will allow many of these ideas to transition into testable hypotheses, making AID-dependent regulation of gene expression an exciting avenue for future investigation in physiological and pathological B cells.

## LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

There are a few key limitations to the interpretations of the data presented herein. Firstly, the inherent difficulties in purifying active full-length mouse AID impaired our ability to thoroughly assess AID catalytic activity. Mutations and truncations are commonly made to stabilize purified AID proteins in order to produce maximally active preps, and mouse AID in particular is notoriously finicky. We prioritized controlling for as few perturbations as possible when comparing AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup>. Thus, it is possible that our biochemical analysis was not sensitive enough to detect subtle differences between AID<sup>WT</sup> and AID<sup>G133V</sup> catalytic activity *in vitro*. Secondly, while there is a reasonable amount of evidence demonstrating that S region sequences can form G4 structures, this is not the case for the Ig variable region genes or the non-Ig loci identified in our AID ChIP-seq analysis. While G4s generated by S region DNA or RNA may function to target AID to S regions, further investigation is required to determine the G4-dependent mechanisms of AID targeting to loci whose underlying sequences may not support G4 formation. Thirdly, while we focused on disrupting AID-G4 binding in vivo via the AID<sup>G133V</sup> mutation, mutating genomic G4 sequences and assessing AID<sup>WT</sup> targeting *in* vivo would strengthen the conclusions of this study. Additionally, sufficiency experiments in which the ability of G4 structures to recruit AID to an ectopic locus is tested would further bolster the conclusions of this study. Lastly, further studies are required to test the proposed mechanisms underlying the model for AID-dependent regulation of MHCII gene expression.

#### STAR METHODS

#### **RESOURCE AVAILIABILITY**

**Lead Contact**—Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Jayanta Chaudhuri, (chaudhuj@mskcc.org)

**Materials Availability**—All materials generated in this study are available upon request with a completed Materials Transfer Agreement.

**Data and Code Availability**—ChIP-seq datasets generated during this study are available at the Gene Omnibus Repository under accession code GSE136959.

### EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

**Mice**—*Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice were generated at the MSKCC transgenic core facility using CRISPR-Cas9 targeted mutagenesis and the following oligos: G133V gRNA, G133V donor oligo. Two independent founders were identified by DNA sequencing of the *Aicda* locus, and backcrossed to the C57BL/6J background. All mice used in subsequent experiments were derived from these 2 founder lines. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice were genotyped using sG133V and asG133V primers. PCR products were digested with SfcI and AvaII restriction enzymes to differentiate between WT and *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* alleles. *Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>* mice were a kind gift from Dr. T. Honjo, and were generated from homozygous breeders. Experiments were conducted using 3–5 month old littermate controls, or age matched controls when littermates were not available. Mice were housed under specific pathogen-free conditions and handled in accordance with the guidelines for animal care of MSKCC Research Animal Resource Center and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Primary B cell ex vivo CSR assays—Splenic single cell suspensions were prepared from ~12 week-old mice by mashing through a 70µm cell strainer (352350, Corning). Cells were collected by centrifugation and resuspended in 2mLs of red blood cell lysis buffer for 5 min at 25°C, followed by neutralization with B cell media. Naive B cells were purified by negative selection using anti-CD43 magnetic beads (130-049-801, Miltenvi Biotec) according to the manufacturer's protocol.  $2 \times 10^6$  B cells were plated at a density of 1  $\times 10^{6}$  cells/mL in a 6-well dish and cultured in B cell media. B cells were immediately stimulated with one of the following conditions: LPS plus IL-4, 30 µg/mL LPS (L4130, Sigma), 25 ng/mL IL-4 (404-ML-010, R&D systems); LPS, 30 µg/mL LPS (L4130, Sigma); BAFF plus retinoic acid (RA) plus IL-4 plus TGFβ plus IL-5 plus LPS, 20 ng/mL BAFF (AG-40B-0022, Adipogen), 10 nM RA (R2625, Sigma), 10 ng/mL IL-4 (404-ML-010, R&D systems), 10 ng/mL TGFβ (240-B-010, R&D systems), 10 ng/mL IL-5 (215–15, Peprotech), 10 µg/mL LPS (L4130, Sigma). Cell cultures were split 1:2 and 1:3 at 48 hrs and 72 hrs post-stimulation, respectively. B cells were harvested at 48 hrs to purify total RNA for quantitative PCR (qPCR) analysis, or at 72 hrs and 96 hrs for flow cytometry and immunoblotting analysis.

**Cell lines**—HEK293T cells were cultured in DMEM (11965118, Gibco) supplemented with 10% FBS and 1% Pen-Strep (400–109, Gemini), and were used for the production of retroviruses. See "B cell retroviral infections" below.

#### METHOD DETAILS

**Infections and immunizations**—Influenza A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (PR8) and J1 were grown in 10 day-old embryonated chicken eggs. For intranasal infections, mice were anesthetized with 3% isofluorane and nasally inoculated with 50 TCID<sub>50</sub> of PR8 or J1 diluted in PBS plus 0.1% BSA.

For NP-CGG immunizations, NP(33)-CGG (N-5055D-5, Biosearch Technologies) was precipitated with Imject alum adjuvant (77161, Thermo Scientific). Briefly, NP(33)-CGG was resuspended to a final concentration of 1 mg/mL in PBS. 2 mLs of Imject alum was added dropwise to 2 mLs of NP(33)-CGG, and mixed by vortexing for 30 min at 25°C. Mice

were immunized intraperitoneally with 200  $\mu$ L (100  $\mu$ g NP(33)-CGG) of this solution. Blood was collected at day 0,7,14,21, and 28 post-immunization by submandibular bleeding, and serum was isolated using BD microtainer SST blood tubes (365967, BD Biosciences) and stored at  $-80^{\circ}$ C.

For SRBC immunizations, packed 10% SRBCs (ISHRBC10P15ML, Innovative Research) were diluted to  $1 \times 10^9$  cells/mL in PBS, mice were immunized intraperitoneally with 200 uL ( $2 \times 10^8$  cells), and analyzed at day 7 post-immunization.

For IAV immunizations, PR8 was inactivated by exposing to 254nm UV-C light using an 8 watt MRL-58 multiple-ray lamp (95–0313-01, Analytikjena) with a shortwave, 254nm, 8 watt bulb (34–0007-01, Analytikjena). Briefly, 1mL of PR8 allantoic fluid (with a titer of  $\sim 1.2 \times 10^9$  TCID<sub>50</sub>/mL) was placed into 1 well of a 6-well dish on ice, and exposed to UV-C light for 10 min, at a distance of 6 inches from the bulb, with shaking every 2 min. To assess infectivity post-inactivation, TCID<sub>50</sub> values were calculated using the Reed and Muench method. To ensure UV-inactivation did not overtly damage the PR8 HA, hemagglutination assays were performed and compared to non-inactivated samples. Mice were immunized intraperitoneally with 180uL of UV-inactivated PR8, and the spleens were analyzed at day 12 post-immunization.

**Flow cytometry**—Single cell suspensions were prepared from mouse lymph nodes, spleen, Peyer's patches, or thymus by mashing through a 70µm cell strainer (352350, Corning), and bone marrow was flushed from the tibia bone using a syringe. Single cell suspensions from the spleen and bone marrow were resuspended in 2mLs of red blood cell lysis buffer (150 mM NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, 10 mM KHCO<sub>3</sub>, 0.1 mM EDTA) for 5 min at 25°C, followed by neutralization with B cell media (RPMI 1640 plus L-Glutamine (11875, Gibco), supplemented with 15% FBS, 1% Pen-Strep (400–109, Gemini), 55 µM  $\beta$ -Mercaptoethanol (21985023, Gibco), and 2 mM L-Glutamine). Approximately 5–10  $\times$ 10<sup>6</sup> cells were washed once with PBS, stained with Zombie Red fixable viability dye (423109, BioLegend, 1:500) for 15 min at 25°C, washed with once with FACS buffer (PBS + 2.5% FBS), stained with rat anti-mouse CD16/CD32 Fc Block (553142, BD Biosciences, 1:50) for 5 min at 25°C, and washed once with FACS buffer before staining with the following antibody cocktails at 4°C for 30 min. Splenic B cell development stain: B220-BV786 (563894, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgM-BUV395 (743329, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgD-AF700 (405729, BioLegend, 1:750), CD43-FITC (11-0431-82, eBioscience, 1:300), CD21-eFluor450 (48-0212-82, eBioscience, 1:750), CD23-PE-Cy7 (25-0232-81, eBioscience, 1:750), IgG1-BV510 (742476, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgA-PE (1040-09, Southern Biotech, 1:750), CD38-PerCP-eFluor710 (46–0381-80, eBioscience, 1:750), CD19-APC-H7 (560143, BD Biosciences, 1:400). Bone marrow B cell development stain: B220-BV786 (563894, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgM-BUV395 (743329, BD Biosciences, 1:750), CD25-APC-eFluor780 (47-0251-82, eBioscience, 1:500), IgD-BV510 (405723, BioLegend, 1:750), CD138 -PE-Cy7 (142514, BioLegend, 1:500), CD21-eFluor450 (48-0212-82, eBioscience, 1:750), CD19-AF700 (115528, BioLegend, 1:750), CD43-FITC (11-0431-82, eBioscience, 1:300), cKit-APC (17-1171-81, eBioscience, 1:100). Thymus T cell stain: B220-BV786 (563894, BD Biosciences, 1;750), CD3e-eFluor450 (48-0032-80, eBioscience, 1:750), CD8-FITC (35-0081, Tonbo Biosciences, 1:500), TCRβ-

AF700 (109224, BioLegend, 1:750), CD4-PerCP-Cy5.5 (45-0042-80, eBioscience, 1:400), CD62L-PE-Cy7 (25-0621-82, eBioscience, 1:400), CD69-APC (17-0691-82, eBioscience, 1:500), CD44-PE (12–0441-83, eBioscience, 1:400). Homeostatic GC B cell stain: B220-BV786 (563894, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgM-BUV395 (743329, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgD-APC-eFluor780 (47-5993-80, eBioscience, 1:750), IgG1-BV510 (742476, BD Biosciences, 1:750), Fas-PE-Cy7 (557653, BD Biosciences, 1:750), GL7-eFluor450 (48-5902-80, eBioscience, 1:750), CD38-AF700 (56-0381-82, eBioscience, 1:750), IgG2c-FITC (1079-02, Southern Biotech, 1:200), CD19-PerCP-Cy5.5 (45-0193-80, eBioscience, 1:400), IgA-PE (1040–09, Southern Biotech, 1:750). Influenza GC B cell stain (infections): B220-BV786 (563894, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgM-BUV395 (743329, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgG2b-APC-Cy7 (1090–19, Southern Biotech, 1:150), IgG1-BV510 (742476, BD Biosciences, 1:750), Fas-PE-Cy7 (557653, BD Biosciences, 1:750), GL7-eFluor450 (48-5902-80, eBioscience, 1:750), CD38-AF700 (56-0381-82, eBioscience, 1:750), IgG2c-FITC (1079–02, Southern Biotech, 1:200), CD86-PE (12–0862-82, eBioscience, 1:5,000), IgD-BV711 (405731, BioLegend, 1:750), CXCR4-PerCP-eFluor710 (46-9991-82, eBioscience, 1:250), biotinylated HA trimer (recombinant protein from A.B.M., final concentration = 2.3nM), streptavidin-APC (405207, BioLegend, 1:1700). Influenza GC B cell stain (immunizations): IgM-BV786 (743328, BD Biosciences, 1:750), CD86-BUV395 (564199, BD Biosciences, 1:4000), IgG2b-APC-Cy7 (1090-19, Southern Biotech, 1:150), IgG1-BV510 (742476, BD Biosciences, 1:750), Fas-PE-Cy7 (557653, BD Biosciences, 1:750), GL7-eFluor450 (48-5902, eBioscience, 1:750), CD38-AF700 (56-0381, eBioscience, 1:750), IgG2c-FITC (1079–02, Southern Biotech, 1:200), MHC Class II (I-A/I-E)-APC (17-5321-81, eBioscience, 1:1000), Rat IgG2b-APC, k isotype control (400612, BioLegend, 1:1000), IgD-BV711 (405731, BioLegend, 1:750), CXCR4-PerCP-eFluor710 (46-9991-82, eBioscience, 1:250), B220-BUV737 (612838, BD Biosciences, 1:750), biotinylated HA trimer (recombinant protein from A.B.M., final concentration = 2.3nM), streptavidin-PE (405204, BioLegend, 1:1700). Ex vivo CSR stain: B220-BV786 (563894, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgM-BUV395 (743329, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgD-APC-eFluor780 (47-5993, eBioscience, 1:750), IgG1-BV510 (742476, BD Biosciences, 1:750), IgG3-FITC (553403, BD Biosciences, 1:300), IgA-PE (1040-09, Southern Biotech, 1:750).

Data was acquired using an LSR II flow cytometer (BD Biosciences), and analyzed using FlowJo software (version 9.9).

**B cell retroviral infections**—Retroviruses were prepared by co-transfecting 30 µgs of various pMIG vectors with 20 µgs of the packaging vector pCL-Eco per 10 cm dish of 50–70% confluent HEK293T cells by the calcium phosphate method. 10 mLs of retroviral supernatant were collected from per 10 cm dish of HEK293T cells at 48 hrs and 72 hrs post-transfection, and polybrene was added to a final concentration of 8 µg/mL.  $2 \times 10^6$  purified naïve splenic B cells were plated at a density of  $1 \times 10^6$  cells per mL in B cell media and were immediately stimulated with 30 µg/mL LPS (L4130, Sigma) plus 25 ng/mL IL-4 (404-ML-010, R&D systems). After stimulation for either 24 hrs or 48 hrs, media were aspirated, leaving approximately 1 mL of media per well of a six-well dish, and 3 mLs of retroviral supernatant (out of 10 mLs total per 10cm dish of transfected HEK239T cells) were added to each well of a six-well dish. Six-well dishes were spun at 2,000 g for 90 min

at 32°C, after which viral supernatants were aspirated and fresh B-cell media plus LPS and IL-4 was added.

**B cell lysates**—Lysates were prepared from B cell pellets stored at  $-80^{\circ}$ C or from B cell cultures collected by centrifugation. Approximately 5 × 10<sup>6</sup> B cells were resuspended in 200 μL B cell lysis buffer (0.5% NP-40, 50 mM Tris pH 7.4, 200 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM Benzamidine HCl (B6506, Sigma), 1 mM PMSF (36978, Thermo Scientific), 5 μM β-mercaptoethanol, and 1 cOmplete, Mini, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail tablet per 10 mL buffer (11836170001,Sigma)), and incubated on ice for 30 min. Lysates were sonicated using a Branson digital sonifier with a microtip until no longer viscous, and protein concentrations were measured by Bradford assay (5000001, Bio-Rad). 4x protein sample buffer (10% SDS, 50% glycerol, 0.05% Bromophenol blue, 200 mM Tris pH 6.8, 40 mM EDTA, 20% β-mercaptoethanol) was added to a final concentration of 1x, samples were boiled at 98°C 10 min and stored at  $-20^{\circ}$ C.

**Nuclear-cytoplasmic fractionation**—Nuclear and cytoplasmic lysates were prepared at 72 hrs following stimulation of purified naïve splenic B cells with LPS plus IL-4 using the NE-PER Nuclear and Cytoplasmic Extraction Reagents (78835, Thermo Scientific), and according to the manufacturers protocol. Briefly, approximately  $5 \times 10^6$  B cells were resuspended in 200 µL of CER I buffer, and incubated on ice for 10 min. 11 µL of CER II buffer was added, samples were vortexed at max speed for 5 sec, incubated on ice for 1 min, vortexed at max speed for 5 sec, and centrifuged for 5 min at 16,000 g at 4°C. The cytoplasmic fraction contained in the supernatant was transferred to a clean 1.5 mL tube, 4x protein sample buffer was added to a 1x final concentration, samples were boiled at 98°C for 10 min and stored at  $-20^{\circ}$ C. The remaining pellet was resuspended in 100 µL NER and incubated at  $4^{\circ}$ C for 40 min, with 15 sec of max speed vortexing every 10 min. Samples were centrifuged at 16,000 g for 10 min at 4°C, and the nuclear fraction contained in the supernatant was transferred to a clean 1.5 mL tube at 1x final concentration, sample buffer was added to a 1x final concentration contained in the supernatant was transferred to a clean 1.5 mL tube. At protein sample buffer was added to a 1.5 mL tube. 4x protein contained in the supernatant was transferred to a clean 1.5 mL tube.  $4x = 20^{\circ}$ C.

**Immunoblotting**—SDS-polyacrylamide gels were transferred to a PVDF membrane (IPVH00010, Millipore) using a Trans-Blot SD Semi-Dry Transfer Cell (1703940, Bio-Rad) for 1 hr at 19 V. Immunoblots were blocked with PBST (PBS, 0.1% Tween 20) plus 4% non-fat dry milk (NC9121673, Fisher) for 30 min at 25°C, and all subsequent incubations were carried out in this solution. Rabbit anti-AID polyclonal antibodies were generated by Covance. The following antibodies were used for immunoblotting: rabbit anti-AID (Chaudhuri Lab, (Chaudhuri et al., 2003), 1:500), mouse anti-HSP90 (MAB3286, R&D systems, 0.25 µg/mL), rabbit anti-Lamin-B1 (PA5–19468, ThermoFisher Scientific, 0.2 µg/mL), mouse anti- $\alpha$ -Tubulin (T9026, Sigma, 1:2,000), mouse anti-MBP (E8032, NEB, 1:10,000). Primary antibodies were incubated for ~12 hrs at 4°C, with the exception of anti-HSP90, which was incubated for 1 hr at 25°C.

**qPCR**—RNA was isolated from purified naïve splenic B cells stimulated with LPS plus IL-4 for 48 hrs using the TRIzol reagent (15596026, Invitrogen) according to the manufacturers protocol. RNA concentration and purity was assessed using a NanoDrop

spectrophotometer. cDNA was synthesized from 1  $\mu$ g of purified total RNA using the SuperScript First-Strand Synthesis System (18080051, Invitrogen) according to the manufacturers protocol, and using random hexamers for priming. All qPCR experiments were performed in a 384-well format using an Applied Biosystems QuantStudio 6 Flex instrument. Briefly, 1  $\mu$ L of cDNA (5% of total) was used with the PowerUp SYBR Green Master Mix (A25741, Applied Biosystems) according to the manufacturers protocol, and using the following primer pairs: Imu F and Cmu R for  $\mu$ GLTs, Ig1 F and Cg1 R for  $\gamma$ 1GLTs, sAID and asAID for *Aicda* mRNA, sAct and asAct for *Actb* mRNA. Data was normalized to *Actb* mRNA expression, and to the average of WT samples for each experiment.

Immunofluorescent imaging and quantification—Spleen samples were embedded in optimal cutting tissue reagent (4583, Sakura). Tissue sections of 6 µm thickness were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde and stained with primary antibodies, followed by appropriate secondary reagents. Primary antibodies: anti-IgD (1120–01, Southern Biotech), PNA (B-1075, Vector Laboratories), anti-B220 (ab64100; Abcam). Secondary antibodies: donkey anti-rat AlexaFluor 488 (A21208, Invitrogen), donkey anti-rat 594 (A21209, Invitrogen), Streptavidin-Cy5 (016-170-084, Jackson ImmunoResearch). Primary antibodies with irrelevant binding activity and the appropriate secondary reagents were used to validate the specificity of tissue staining. In all cases, nuclear DNA was stained with DAPI (4', 6-diamidine-2'-phenylindole dihydrochloride; D1306, Invitrogen). Coverslips were applied with FluorSave (345789-20, Calbiochem). Slides were scanned with Panoramic Flash (3DHistech) using 203/0.8NA objective, and regions of interest were drawn manually using CaseViewer (3DHistech) and exported into TIFF files. Raw unedited images were then analyzed using ImageJ/FIJI, by which the area of the interest was measured. In all cases, DAPI channel of the scan was used as a mask to exclude artifacts outside the tissue. Signals of interest were thresholded, and the area and count were measured. Scoring of desired area was done manually with randomly shuffled pictures to reduce bias.

**MBP-AID expression**—WT, AID<sup>G133V</sup> and AID<sup>CD</sup> sequences were cloned into the pMAL-c5X vector with a modified MCS using AscI and PacI restriction sites. BL21(DE3) competent *E. coli* cells (C2527, NEB) were transformed with MBP-AID plasmids and the trigger factor chaperone plasmid (courtesy of Kohli Lab, via LiChung Ma and Gaetano T. Montelione) (Kohli et al., 2009). Colonies were picked and cultured at 37°C in 25mL LB media containing 100 µg/mL carbenicillin and 33 µg/mL chloramphenicol overnight with shaking. 2L of 2X YT media containing 100 µg/mL carbenicillin and 33 µg/mL chloramphenicol was inoculated with the overnight cultures and grown at 37°C with shaking until the OD<sub>600</sub> reached ~0.6–0.8, after which cultures were cooled to 16°C. IPTG was added to a final concentration of 0.3 mM and the cells were cultured at 16°C for 18 hours with shaking. Bacterial cells were harvested by centrifugation at 6,000g at 4°C for 15 min, washed with PBS, frozen with liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C.

**MBP-AID purification**—Bacterial pellets were thawed at 37°C, resuspended with 50 mL lysis buffer (50mM Tris-Cl pH 80, 15mM NaCl, 10 $\mu$ M ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, 10% glycerol, 0.1% Tween-20, 5 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol; 1 mM PMSF (36978, Thermo Scientific), 1 mM

benzamidine hydrochloride (B6506, Sigma), 0.5 mg/mL lysozyme from hen egg-white (10837059001, Sigma), 1 tablet cOmplete Mini EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail per 10mL buffer, (11836170001,Sigma)), and incubated at 4°C for 30 min with magnetic stirring. Lysates were sonicated using a Branson 450 digital sonifier and a microtip until no longer viscous, while kept on ice. Samples were centrifugated at 27,000 g for 1 hour at 4°C. 6 mL amylose resin (E8021, NEB) was equilibrated with 30 mL binding buffer (50mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0, 15mM NaCl, 10μM ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, 10% glycerol, 0.1% Tween-20, 5mM β-mercaptoethanol), loaded with the lysate supernatant using a peristaltic pump, washed with 100 mL binding buffer, and eluted with 25 mL elution buffer (binding buffer + 10mM maltose) over twelve 2 mL fractions. The protein concentration for each fraction was measured using Bradford assay, and fractions were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie staining. Fractions were frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at  $-80^{\circ}$ C. Fractions with significant full-length MBP-AID band (67kDa) on Coomassie gels were pooled and concentrated with Amicon Ultra-15 centrifugal 30kDa filter units (C7715, Millipore) and incubated with 20 µg Ambion RNase A (AM2271, Invitrogen) on ice for 2 hours. RNA-digested samples were loaded onto a Superdex 200 10/300 GL gel filtration column (17517501, GE) with gel filtration elution buffer (50mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0, 150mM KCl, 10μM ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, 5mM β-mercaptoethanol, 10% glycerol, 0.1% Tween-20). Each fraction was frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at  $-80^{\circ}$ C. Fractions with significant full-length MBP-AID band (67kDa) on Coomassie gel were thawed, pooled, concentrated and bufferexchanged to deamination reaction buffer (20mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0, 20mM NaCl, 20µM ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, 5mM β-mercaptoethanol, 5% glycerol) with Amicon Ultra-15 centrifugal 30kDa filter units (C7715, Millipore). Samples were diluted to 4 mg/mL, aliquoted, frozen with liquid nitrogen, and stored at  $-80^{\circ}$ C. For linker digestion,  $-80 \mu g$  MBP-AID was incubated with 2U PreScission protease (27-0843-01, GE Healthcare) at 4°C for 4 hours.

In vitro deamination assay—MBP-AID aliquots were thawed on ice. S30-TGC, S30-TGU, or 15mer oligos were used as substrates (Integrated DNA Technologies). Deamination reactions were performed at 30°C for 16 hrs in a final volume of 10 or 20 μL, and contained the following: 20 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0, 20 mM NaCl, 20 μM ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, 5 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 5% glycerol, 0.5 μM substrate, and 1 mg/mL MBP-AID, aside from Figure 4C in which μg of AID used is indicated. For G4 inhibition experiments, 2.5 μM of folded DNA or RNA Sμ4G or Sμ4Gmut oligos and 2U/μl of Ambion RNase Inhibitor (AM2682, Invitrogen) were added to the deamination reaction. 2U of Uracil-DNA glycosylase (UDG) (M0280, NEB) was added and incubated at 37°C for 1 hr. Sample were boiled at 95°C in 1x RNA loading buffer (B0363, NEB) supplemented with 150 mM NaOH for 30 min. Samples were run on a 13.3% TBE-Urea gel and imaged with a Typhoon gel imager (GE). Images were analyzed with ImageJ software. Deamination activity (%) is defined as [(sample product ratio)] × 100. Product ratio)] / [(positive control product ratio)] - (negative control product ratio)] x 100. Product ratio is defined as (product signal pixel count) / (total signal pixel count) for each lane.

**Mass spectrometry**—Samples were excised, washed, reduced with DTT, alkylated with IAA, and digested overnight with either Asp-N/Lys-C or Glu-C at 37°C. Peptides were then desalted using C18 zip tips, and dried by vacuum centrifugation. Each sample

was reconstituted in 0.1% (vol/vol) formic acid and analyzed by microcapillary liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry using the NanoAcquity (Waters) with a 100-µm inner-diameter × 10-cm- length C18 column (1.7 um BEH130, Waters) configured with a 180-µm × 2-cm trap column coupled to a Q-Exactive Plus mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Peptides were eluted with a linear gradient of 0–30% acetonitrile (0.1% formic acid) in water (0.1% formic acid) over 50 mins with a flow rate of 300 nL/min. The QE+ was operated in automatic, data-dependent MS/MS acquisition mode with one MS full scan (380–1600 m/z) at 70,000 mass resolution and up to ten concurrent MS/MS scans for the ten most intense peaks selected from each survey scan. Survey scans were acquired in profile mode and MS/MS scans were acquired in centroid mode at 17,500 resolution and isolation window of 1.5 amu and normalized collision energy of 27. AGC was set to  $1 \times$  $10^6$  for MS1 and  $5 \times 10^4$  and 50 ms IT for MS2. Charge exclusion of unassigned, +1, and greater than +6 enabled with a dynamic exclusion of 15 s. Mass spectrometry data files were converted to mascot generic files, searched using MASCOT (v. 2.3.02) against a custom database, and imported into Scaffold (v. 4.8.4).

**G4 folding**—For DNA and RNA G4 folding,  $10 \mu$ M Sµ4G or Sµ4Gmut oligos (Integrated DNA Technologies) were boiled in folding buffer (20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.6, 100 mM KCl or LiCl, 1 mM EDTA) at 95°C for 10 min and cooled at 25°C for 2 hours. Folded DNA and RNAs (4  $\mu$ M) were incubated with 12  $\mu$ M hemin (H-5533, Sigma) resuspended in DMSO, in 1x NEBuffer 2 (NEB) at 37°C for 1 hr. Substrate solution (2 mM ABTS (A9941, Sigma), 2 mM hydrogen peroxide (H1009, Sigma), 25 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 0.2 M NaCl, 10 mM KCl, 0.05% Triton X-100, 1% DMSO) was added. Color development was allowed for 15 min and absorbance was measured from 400 nm to 500 nm using Synergy HT Biotek plate reader (513148) with Gen5 software.

Jh4 intron DNA sequencing—Peyer's patches were isolated from 5–7 month-old mice, or spleens at day 7 post-immunization with SRBCs, processed into single cell suspensions, stained with surface antibodies, and GC B cells were sorted into B cell media. For SRBC immunizations, B cells were enriched by positive selection using antimouse CD19 MicroBeads (130-121-301, Miltenyi Biotec) and LS columns (130-042-401, Miltenyi Biotec) prior to surface staining. Sorted cells were collected by centrifugation and resuspended in 500 µL of genomic DNA cell lysis buffer (100 mM Tris 8.8, 200 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, 0.2% SDS) plus 80 ug of protease K, and incubated at 56°C for 12hrs. Genomic DNA was precipitated with isopropanol and resuspended in 25  $\mu$ L of H<sub>2</sub>O. Jh4 intron sequences were amplified by PCR using Jh4 forward and Jh4 reverse primers. The following PCR program was used: 1) 98°C 3 min, 2) 98°C 30 sec, 3) 72°C 1 min, 4) go to step 2 34 times, 5) 72°C 10 min 6) 4°C hold. PCR amplicons that were approximately 1200 bp were gel purified, ligated into the pCR-Blunt II-TOPO vector (K2800J10, Invitrogen) and transformed into One Shot TOP10 chemically competent E. coli (K280020, Thermo Fisher Scientific) according to the manufacturers protocol. Clones were sequenced using the bacterial colony Sanger sequencing service provided by Genewiz (South Plainfield, NJ), and the Jh4 seq primer. Sequences were aligned using SeqMan Pro (DNASTAR) and analyzed for mutations.

**ChIP**—ChIP was performed according to the protocol of the ChIP Assay Kit (Millipore, 17-295). Briefly, purified naïve splenic B cells were stimulated with LPS (30 µg/mL, L4130, Sigma) plus mouse IL-4 (404-ML-010, R&D systems) for 72 hours.  $10 \times 10^6$  activated B cells were crosslinked by adding fresh 16% formaldehyde (28908, Thermo Scientific) to a final concentration of 1% and incubating at 25°C for 10 min with shaking. The reaction was neutralized by adding 1:20 volumes of 2.5 M glycine pH 8 with shaking for 5 min. Crosslinked cells were washed with PBS Cell Wash Buffer (PBS, 0.1% FBS, 2 mM EDTA). Cells were lysed according to the protocol of truChIP Chromatin Shearing Kit with Formaldehyde (520154, Covaris,). Cell lysates were sonicated in the M220 Focusedultrasonicator (5002295, Covaris) to shear the chromatin, and debris was removed by centrifugation at 18,000g at 4°C for 10 min. 50  $\mu$ L (5%) of the lysate was removed for the input fraction. The remaining sonicated lysates were diluted to 1.5 mL in ChIP dilution buffer (0.01% SDS, 1.1% Triton X100, 1.2 mM EDTA, 16.7 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.1, 167 mM NaCl) (20-153, Millipore) and precleared according to protocol with Salmon Sperm DNA/Protein A Agarose Slurry for 1 hour at 4°C. Precleared lysates were divided into three parts of 500  $\mu$ L each and incubated with either 1  $\mu$ g of anti-H3 antibody (ab1791, Abcam), 2 µg of anti-AID antibody (Chaudhuri Lab) or 1 µg control IgG (011-000-003, Jackson Immunoresearch Labs) at 4°C overnight. Immunocomplexes were recovered by incubation with Salmon Sperm DNA/Protein A Agarose Slurry (16-157C, Millipore) and washed with 1 mL of the following sequence of buffers,: Low Salt Buffer (0.1% SDS, 1% Triton X-100, 2 mM EDTA, 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.1, 150 mM NaCl) (20-154, Millipore), High Salt Buffer (0.1% SDS, 1% Triton X-100, 2 mM EDTA, 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.1, 500 mM NaCl) (20-155, Millipore), LiCl Immune Complex Wash Buffer (0.25 M LiCl, 1% IGEPAL-CA630, 1% deoxycholic acid (sodium salt), 1 mM EDTA, 10 mM Tris, pH 8.1) (20-156, Millipore), and TE Buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0) (20–157, Millipore). Immunocomplexes were eluted from the beads using 500 µL of fresh elution buffer (1% SDS and 0.1M NaHCO<sub>3</sub>). Cross-linking for immunoprecipitated and input samples was reversed by incubation in 0.3M NaCl and RNase A (30 µg /mL) (19101, Qiagen) at 65°C for 6 hours. Samples were treated with 20 µL of 1 M Tris pH 6.5, 10 µL of 0.5 M EDTA and 2 µL proteinase K (10mg/ml), (97062-242, VWR) for 1 hour at 45°C. DNA was recovered by phenol-chloroform extraction and ethanol precipitation with 20 µg carrier glycogen. Pellets were resuspended in 35 µL of water for use as ChIP DNA or 50 µL of water for use as input DNA. Sµ DNA was analyzed by qPCR using PowerUp SYBR™ Green Master Mix (Applied Biosystems) and sSµ and asSµ primers.

**ELISAs**—4 month-old mice were used to generate all ELISA data. Assays were done in MaxiSorp clear, flat-bottom, 96- well plates (439454, Thermo Fisher Scientific). Coating abs for binding IgM, IgG1, IgG2b, IgG2c, IgG3, and IgA (1020–01, 1070–01, 1090–01, 1079–01, 1100–01, 1040–01, respectively, Southern Biotech) were used at 3  $\mu$ g/mL in PBS pH 8. Each plate was coated with ab overnight at 4°C (100  $\mu$ l per well). Plates were washed 4x with 0.05% PBS plus 0.1% Tween-20 (PBST) and blocked with 250  $\mu$ l of ELISA diluent per well (00–4202-56, eBioscience) for 3 hours at 25°C or overnight at 4°C. Plates were washed 3x, loaded with 100  $\mu$ l of serum samples and standards per well, and incubated for 2.5 hrs at 25°C or overnight at 4°C. The following isotype standards were used to calculate absolute concentration values: IgM (14–4752-81; eBioscience), IgG1 (0102–01;

Southern Biotech), IgG2b (14–4732-81; eBioscience), IgG2c (0122–01; Southern Biotech), IgG3 (553486; BD Pharmingen), and IgA (553476; BD Pharmingen). Plates were washed 6x and secondary abs for detecting IgM, IgG1, IgG2b, IgG2c, IgG3, and IgA (1020–05, 1070-05, 1090-05, 1079-05, 1100-05, 1040-05, respectively, Southern Biotech) were used at 1:2,000 for 1.5 hrs at RT (100 µl per well). After 7 washes, 100 µl of TMB substrate (00-4201-56, eBioscience) per well was used to develop for 30-60 sec, and 1 M phosphoric acid was used to stop development. Plates were read at 450 nm on a BioTek Synergy HT detector. Absolute concentrations of serum abs were determined by interpolation from the standard curve, while keeping within standard and sample linear ranges. All samples were done in triplicate over a six-step dilution series. An eleven-step standard curve was generated for each plate. For NP-specific assays, plates were coated with 3 µg/ml NP(8)-BSA (N-5050L-10; Biosearch Technologies) or NP(30)-BSA (N-5050H-10; Biosearch Technologies) resuspended in PBS. Relative titers were determined by interpolation of the plate reference curve generated for each plate using a constant sample, with attention paid to keeping within plate reference and sample linear ranges. All samples were done in triplicate over a six-step dilution series.

**Cell proliferation assays**—Naïve splenic B cells were resuspended in PBS at a concentration of  $10 \times 10^6$  cells/mL. CellTrace Violet (C34571, Invitrogen) stock solution in DMSO was added to a final working solution of 4.25  $\mu$ M. Cells were vortexed briefly and incubated for 10 min at RT in the dark. B cell media was added at 5x the original staining volume and cells were incubated for 5 min to remove the free dye. The cells were then pelleted, resuspended in warm B cell media and incubated for 30 min at 25°C before cell stimulation or analysis.

**Library preparation for ChIP-Seq**—Immunoprecipitated DNA was quantified by PicoGreen and the size was evaluated by Agilent BioAnalyzer. Illumina libraries were prepared using the KAPA HTP Library Preparation Kit (Kapa Biosystems KK8234) according to the manufacturer's instructions with 0 (undetectable)-4.6 ng input DNA and 8–12 cycles of PCR. Barcoded libraries were run on the Hiseq 2500 in Rapid mode and the HiSeq 4000 in 50bp/50bp paired end runs, using the HiSeq Rapid SBS Kit v2 and HiSeq 3000/4000 SBS Kit, respectively (Illumina). An average of 35 million paired reads were generated per sample.

**ChIP-Seq analysis**—Paired-end reads were trimmed for adaptors and removal of low quality reads using Trimmomatic (v.0.36) (Bolger et al., 2014). Trimmed reads were mapped to the *Mus musculus* genome (mm10 assembly) using Bowtie2 (v2.2.9)(Langmead and Salzberg, 2012). Concordantly aligned paired mates pooled from all samples were used for peak calling by MACS2 (v2.1.1.20160309)(Zhang et al., 2008) with the arguments "-f BAMPE --broad". Peak assignment to genes was performed using ChipPeakAnno (Zhu et al., 2010) and the UCSC Known Gene transcript models (v10) (Speir et al., 2016). For some peaks (e.g. those around the *Igh* locus), version 11 of the UCSC Known Gene transcript model was used to manually reference and reassign peaks. Overlapping blacklist regions downloaded from the ENCODE portal (Davis et al., 2018) (accession ENCFF547MET) and

regions found in non-standard or mitochondrial chromosomes were removed. This yielded an atlas of 15,052 quantifiable regions used for statistical comparisons.

For differential binding, duplicate reads were removed from concordantly aligned paired mates using the default settings of MarkDuplicates from Picard (http:// broadinstitute.github.io/picard/) (MACS2 peak calling ignores duplicates, thus deduplication was not required at an earlier stage). These filtered reads were counted within all atlas regions using the summarizeOverlaps function from the GenomicAlignments package (v1.18.1)(Lawrence et al., 2013) using arguments "mode='IntersectionNotEmpty', ignore.strand=TRUE, singleEnd=FALSE". Technical replicates were first collapsed and differential analyses were executed with the DESeq2 software (v1.22.2)(Love et al., 2014), accounting for differences between biological replicates and using the "normal" shrinkage estimator. Low count regions were removed by first calculating a common threshold for all samples. This threshold was determined by taking the geometric mean of independent filtering thresholds calculated by DESeq2 when performing pairwise contrasts between all conditions (WT, Aicda<sup>-/-</sup>, and Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>). Regions showing a mean count (using all samples) higher than this threshold were retained for final differential binding comparisons, with independent filtering disabled. Ultimately, 5,242 regions were tested and those that reported an FDR-adjusted p-value < 0.05 were considered differentially bound. AID-dependent regions were defined as differentially bound regions showing a negative log2 fold change when comparing Aicda<sup>-/-</sup> or Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup> (numerator) to WT (denominator).

To generate gene tracks, paired-end reads from deduplicated BAM files were extended to represent fragment length using the bamCoverage function from deepTools (v3.2.1) (Ramirez et al., 2016). The resulting bigWig files were normalized for sequencing depth using size factors calculated by DESeq2 and visualized using the Gviz R package (v1.26.5) (Hahne and Ivanek, 2016).

To generate heatmaps and signal density plots, signal for each sample was quantified from bigWigs described above. For heatmaps, scores were generated using the computeMatrix function from deepTools, with arguments "--referencePoint center --missingDataAsZero -b 2500 -a 2500 -bs 100". For each condition, scores from each bin position were summarized across condition replicates and plotted as a heatmap using the ComplexHeatmap R package (v1.99.7)(Gu et al., 2016). For signal density plots, individual scores at each base pair were computed +/- 2.5kb the nearest transcriptional start site per AID-dependent peak and then summarized as a mean score per position. The mean of these summarized scores across all replicates were plotted as a line across the 5 kb window for each condition.

Notably, this analysis identified 37 peaks that were significantly enriched in WT versus either  $Aicda^{-/-}$  or  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$ B cells, a stark contrast to a previous AID-ChIP study which identified thousands of genes as potential AID targets (Yamane et al., 2011). It is important to highlight key differences between these two analyses that can account for such a large discrepancy, such as the peak calling software and algorithms, as well as experimental design. Whereas the previous study pooled multiple anti-AID immunoprecipitations (which can serve to increase read depth and sensitivity to detect AID binding), this analysis focused on attempting to detect the most reproducible and robust AID-bound regions.

Thus, 4 biological replicates for WT and  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$ , or 3 biological replicates and one technical replicate for  $Aicda^{-/-}$ , were incorporated in order to account for variation and to rigorously gauge statistical confidence. While the replicate variability undoubtedly decreased the overall number of AID binding events detected, it potentially yields relatively higher confidence that those that passed statistical thresholds are likely true AID binding events.

**RNA-sequencing analysis**—HTSeq counts files from the following projects were downloaded from the Genomic Data Commons Data Portal: NCICCR-DLBCL (dbGaP Study Accession phs001444), CTSP-DLBCL1 (dbGaP Study Accession phs001175), and TCGA-DLBC (dbGaP Study Accession phs000178). These were melted into a single count matrix and TPMs for each gene were determined using custom scripts (available upon request). The ggPlot2 package v3.3.2 (Wickham, 2009) was used to generate scatter plots for each gene, as well as violin plots for AICDA expression amongst DLBCL subgroups. In parallel, the counts files were imported into DESeq2 v1.24.0 (Love et al., 2014) using Tximport v1.12.3 (Soneson et al., 2015). Separately for each of the three classifications, DESeq2 was used to quantify differentially expressed genes between AID<sup>top10%</sup> (defined as the samples with the highest 10% AID TPM) and AID<sup>bot90%</sup> (the remainder of the samples in that subgroup) tumor samples. Genes with fewer than a single count per sample were removed from consideration. The data was further visualized using distinct volcano plots for each tumor subgroup, with the following modification: data points with p values less than  $10^{-3}$  or fold changes greater than 8 between the groups were mapped to the closest point on the plot. These modified points were depicted as triangles for clarity, while the unmodified data points were plotted as circles. MHC class II-associated genes, AID and two housekeeping genes were highlighted.

#### QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

All statistical analyses were performed with GraphPad Prism 7 (GraphPad Software, Inc.), with the exception of ChIP-seq and RNA-seq analyses, which were performed using DESeq2 (Love et al., 2014). Flow cytometry data was analyzed using FlowJo software (version 9.9). Graphs were created using GraphPad Prism 7 or the ggPlot2 package (v3.3.2) (Wickham, 2009). Graph titles and axes labels were edited using Adobe Illustrator CS6. All graphs depict data collected from all performed experiments, and all error bars represent the mean plus or minus the standard deviation.

#### Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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## Figure 1. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* mice model hyper-IgM type 2 syndrome.

(A) Quantification of homeostatic serum immunoglobulin concentrations by ELISA. (B-D) Homeostatic germinal center (GC) hyperplasia in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* secondary lymphoid organs. (B) Representative GC B cell gates (GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup> of B220<sup>+</sup> live cells) from mesenteric lymph node (LN). Quantification of GC B cell frequency within the mesenteric LN (C) or Peyer's patches (D). (E-J) Influenza A virus GC hyperplasia. Mice were intranasally infected with 50 TCID50 PR8 and analyzed at d21 post-infection. (E) Representative GC B cell gates (GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup> of B220<sup>+</sup> live cells) from mediastinal LN. Quantification of GC B cell frequency

within the mediastinal LN (**F**) or spleen (**G**). (**H**) Representative immunofluorescent images from splenic sections stained with PNA (red), anti-IgD (green), anti-B220 (grey), and DAPI (blue). Scale bar represents 50 µm. Quantification of GC size (**I**) and density (**J**). Data in (**A-D**) are from 2 independent experiments with 1–6 mice per genotype, (**E-G**) are from 5 independent experiments with 2–8 mice per genotype, (**H-J**) are from 1 experiment with 3–4 mice per genotype. *Aicda*<sup>GV/GV</sup>, *Aicda*<sup>G133V/G133V</sup>. Error bars represent the mean  $\pm$ std. dev. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001; p-values calculated using a one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test without pairing.



Figure 2. Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup> B cells do not undergo CSR at homeostasis or during acute viral infection.
(A-D) Homeostatic class switch recombination (CSR) in secondary lymphoid organs.
Representative gates of IgG1 (A) or IgA (B) class-switched B cells in mesenteric lymph node (LN) (A) or Peyer's patch (B) germinal centers (GC) (IgG1<sup>+</sup> or IgA<sup>+</sup> of GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup> B220<sup>+</sup> live cells). Quantification of class-switched B cells within the mesenteric LN
(C) or Peyer's patch GCs (D). (E-J) CSR in response to influenza A virus infection.
Mice were intranasally infected with 50 TCID50 PR8 or J1 and analyzed at d21 post-infection. (E) Representative gates showing hemagglutinin-specific (HA<sup>+</sup>) GC B cells (HA<sup>+</sup>)

of GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>+</sup> live cells) in the mediastinal LN. Quantification of HA<sup>+</sup> frequency within GC B cells in the mediastinal LN (**F**) or spleen (**G**). Representative gates showing IgG1<sup>+</sup> and IgG2c<sup>+</sup> (**H**) or IgD<sup>-</sup>IgM<sup>-</sup> and IgM<sup>+</sup> (**I**) B cell populations in mediastinal LN GC HA<sup>+</sup> cells (IgG1<sup>+</sup>, IgG2c<sup>+</sup>, IgD<sup>-</sup>IgM<sup>-</sup>, or IgM<sup>+</sup> of HA<sup>+</sup>GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>+</sup> live cells). (**J**) Quantification of HA<sup>+</sup> class-switched B cells within mediastinal LN GCs. Data in (**A-D**) are from 2 independent experiments with 3–6 mice per genotype, (**E-J**) are from 5 independent experiments with 2–8 mice per genotype. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>*, *Aicda<sup>G133V/G133V</sup>*. Error bars represent the mean ± std. dev. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001; ns, not significant, p 0.05. (**C,D**) all comparisons p < 0.0001 unless noted; (**J**) all comparisons p < 0.05 unless noted. p-values calculated using a one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test without pairing.

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(A-F) Naïve splenic B cells from mice of the indicated genotypes were stimulated for 72 or 96 hrs with LPS plus IL-4 (A,B), LPS (C,D), or B cell activating factor (BAFF), retinoic acid (RA), IL-4, TGF $\beta$ , IL-5, and LPS (E,F). Class switch recombination (CSR) to IgG1 (B), IgG3 (D), or IgA (F) was quantified at 72 and 96 hrs post-stimulation. Representative CSR gates shown in (A), (C), and (E) (gated on live cells). (G) Retroviral rescue of CSR in *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* B cells. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* B cells were infected with retroviruses expressing GFP only (empty vector, EV), wild type AID (AID<sup>WT</sup>) or catalytically dead

AID<sup>H56R/E58Q</sup> (AID<sup>CD</sup>), stimulated with LPS plus IL-4, and IgG1 CSR was quantified as a frequency of live infected cells (GFP<sup>+</sup>) at 72 and 96 hrs following stimulation. (**H**) Expression of AID<sup>G133V</sup> *ex vivo*. Whole cell extracts were prepared from WT and *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>* purified naïve splenic B cells stimulated for 96 hrs with LPS plus IL-4, and immunoblotted with anti-AID antibodies; loading control, HSP90; quantification shown in Figure S4C. (**I**) Expression of AID<sup>G133V</sup> *in vivo*. Following immunization with SRBCs, splenic GC B cells were sorted at d7, whole cell extracts were prepared and immunoblotted with anti-AID antibodies; loading control,  $\alpha$ -Tubulin. Data in (**A-F, H**) are from, or representative of, 4 independent experiments with 1–6 mice per genotype, (**G**) are from 2 independent experiments with 3 mice, (**I**) are from one experiment with 2–3 mice per genotype. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>, Aicda<sup>G133V/G133V</sup>*. Error bars represent the mean ± std. dev. \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001; ns, not significant, p 0.05. All comparisons p < 0.001 in (**B**) unless noted; all comparisons p < 0.0001 in (**D,F**) unless noted. p-values calculated using a one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test with (**G**), or without pairing (**B,D,F**).



#### Figure 4. AID<sup>G133V</sup> retains DNA deamination activity.

(A) Schematic of AID *in vitro* deamination assay. FAM, 6-carboxyfluorescein. TGU, positive control representing 100% cytidine deamination; TGC, AID deamination substrate.
(B) Representative TBE-Urea gel showing the products of *in vitro* deamination reactions with purified MBP-mouse AID (MBP-mAID) proteins, quantified in Figure S5A. Purified MBP-mAID proteins shown in Figure S4F–J. CD, catalytically dead AID<sup>H56R/E58Q</sup>.
(C) Quantification of deamination assays with varying amounts of purified MBP-mAID proteins, representative gels shown in Figure S5E. (D) G4 substrate derived from *Igh-Sµ*

locus (Sµ4G) and mutant sequence unable to form G4 (Sµ4Gmut). Substrate characterization in Figure S5F. (**E**,**F**) Representative TBE-Urea gels showing the products of *in vitro* deamination reactions with purified mouse MBP-mAID proteins, performed with or without G4 DNA or RNA, quantified in (**G**,**H**). Mut, Sµ4Gmut; Li<sup>+</sup>, G4 folded in presence of Li<sup>+</sup> (destabilizes G4s); K<sup>+</sup>, G4 folded in presence of K<sup>+</sup> (stabilizes G4s). Data in (**B**) are representative of 2 independent experiments, (**C**, **E**-**H**) are from, or representative of, 4 or 5 independent experiments using 2 (**C**) or 3 (**E**-**H**) independent protein preparations. (**B**, **E**-**F**) "s" denotes substrate, "p" denotes product. Error bars represent the mean ± std. dev. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001; p-values calculated using a one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test with (**G**,**H**) or without (**C**) pairing.



#### Figure 5. AID<sup>G133V</sup> has impaired *Igh* targeting.

(A) Representative immunoblot showing AID immunoprecipitation during ChIP protocol, fraction of total lysate loaded is indicated. Exp, exposure. (B) Quantification of data shown in (A). (C) Representative immunoblots from nuclear-cytoplasmic fractionation experiments. Cytoplasmic loading control, HSP 90; nuclear loading control, Lamin-B1.
(D) ChIP qPCR quantifying the amount of Sµ DNA immunoprecipitated with indicated antibodies (ab) from various genotypes. (E-G) Analysis of somatic hypermutation within the *Jh4* intron. Germinal center (GC) B cells were sorted from Peyer's patches at homeostasis

(E), or the spleen at d7 post-SRBC immunization (F), and Jh4 intron sequences were cloned and sequenced. Total number of clones and total base pairs (bp) analyzed indicated inside circles, average mutation frequency indicated below circles, fraction of clones with the indicated number of mutations represented as section of circle. (G) Quantification of data in (E.F). (H) Representative gates from retroviral rescue of CSR in  $Aicda^{-/-}$  B cells.  $Aicda^{-/-}$ B cells were infected with retroviruses expressing GFP only (empty vector, EV), wild type AID (AID<sup>WT</sup>), AID<sup>G133V</sup>, catalytically dead AID<sup>H56R/E58Q</sup> (AID<sup>CD</sup>), or AID<sup>WT</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup>, AID<sup>G133V</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup>, AID<sup>CD</sup>-AID<sup>CD</sup>, and AID<sup>G133V</sup>-mCherry fusions. Cells were stimulated with LPS plus IL-4, and IgG1 CSR was quantified as a frequency of live infected cells (GFP<sup>+</sup>) at 96 hrs post-stimulation. (I) Quantification of data shown in (H), raw CSR values shown in Table S1. Data in (A,B) are representative of 3 independent experiments with 1 mouse per genotype, (C) are representative of 2 independent experiments with 2 mice per genotype, (D) are from 4 independent experiments with 1 mouse per genotype, (E,F) are from 1 experiment with 3-4 mice per genotype, (H,I) are from 2 or 3 independent experiments with 1 or 2 mice per experiment. Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>, Aicda<sup>G133V/G133V</sup>. Error bars represent the mean  $\pm$  std. dev. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001. p-values calculated using a paired (**B**,**I**) or unpaired (**G**) t-test.



#### Figure 6. AID<sup>G133V</sup> has impaired genome-wide chromatin localization.

(A) Heat map displaying ChIP-seq peaks that were significantly enriched in WT versus either  $Aicda^{GV/GV}$ ,  $Aicda^{-/-}$ , or both. Each row represents a peak region, and each tile within the row represents normalized read counts averaged from 100bp bins spanning +/- 2.5kb from the peak center. Significance of peak enrichment indicated by green shading, \* p < 0.05. Gene names shown with corresponding peak number, purple text indicates a previously identified AID target verified by either deep-sequencing of AID-dependent somatic mutations (Alvarez-Prado et al., 2018; Klein et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2008; Pavri

et al., 2010; Yamane et al., 2011), or as an AID-dependent translocation partner (Chiarle et al., 2011; Klein et al., 2011). (**B**) Normalized read count tracks for selected genes. Dashed lines denote peak regions; closed rectangles denote exons; arrows indicate direction of transcription. (**C**) Mean signal of all significantly enriched regions described in (A) relative to the closest transcriptional start site (TSS). Data in (**A**-**C**) are from 4 independent experiments with 1 mouse per genotype. *Aicda<sup>GV/GV</sup>*, *Aicda<sup>G133V/G133V</sup>*. Complete ChIP-seq data shown in Table S2–4.





(A-D) MHCII expression in germinal center (GC) B cells. Mice were immunized intraperitoneally with UV-inactivated influenza A virus and analyzed at d12 post-immunization. (A) Representative GC B cell gates (GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup> of B220<sup>+</sup> live cells) (top), and GC dark zone (DZ) (CXCR4<sup>hi</sup>CD86<sup>lo</sup> of GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>+</sup> live cells) and light zone (LZ) (CXCR4<sup>lo</sup>CD86<sup>hi</sup> of GL7<sup>+</sup>Fas<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>+</sup> live cells) gates (bottom) in the spleen (Quantified in Figure S6A,B). (B) Representative histograms depicting MHCII surface staining in LZ and

DZ GC B cells, and representative MHCII<sup>lo</sup> gate (%MHCII<sup>lo</sup> of DZ or LZ GC B cells). (C) Quantification of MHCII<sup>lo</sup> frequency within DZ and LZ GC B cells. (D) Quantification of MHCII MFI ratio, calculated as DZ MHCII MFI/LZ MHCII MFI (MFI values quantified in Figure S6F). (E) Violin plots depicting AICDA expression values within activated B celllike (ABC), germinal center B cell-like (GCB), or unclassified human diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) tumors. Box and whiskers plot displayed inside; TPM, transcripts per million. (F) Volcano plots depicting RNA-seq data, analyzed as TPM, from ABC, GCB or unclassified human DLBCL tumors. Log<sub>2</sub> fold change (top 10% of AID expressing samples (AID<sup>top10%</sup>) versus the bottom 90% (AID<sup>bot90%</sup>)) shown on the x-axis and -log<sub>10</sub> (p-value) on the y-axis. Circles represent genes plotted within boundaries; triangles represent genes that are off the axis, plotted at the nearest point within the boundaries. Green, MHCII genes; red, control genes; purple, AICDA and CIITA. Dotted lines mark p-value = 0.05 and  $log_2(fold change) = \pm 0.5$ . Scatter plots correlating AICDA and MHCII expression, analyzed as transcripts per million (TPM), shown in Figure S7. Data in (A-D) are from 3 independent experiments with 2–6 mice per genotype. Error bars represent the mean  $\pm$  std. dev. \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001. p-values calculated using a one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test (C-E), or from DEseq analysis (F) (see methods for details).

## **KEY RESOURCES TABLE**

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
BV786 Rat Anti-Mouse CD45R/B220	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 563894; RRID: AB_2738472
BUV395 Rat Anti-Mouse IgM	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 743329; RRID: AB_2741430
Alexa Fluor® 700 anti-mouse IgD	BioLegend	Cat#: 405729, RRID: AB_2563340
CD43 Monoclonal Antibody (eBioR2/60), FITC, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 11-0431-82; RRID: AB_465040
CD21/CD35 Monoclonal Antibody (eBio4E3 (4E3)), eFluor 450, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 48-0212-82: RRID: AB_2016703)
CD23 Monoclonal Antibody (B3B4), PE-Cyanine7, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 25-0232-81; RRID: AB_469603
BV510 Rat Anti-Mouse IgG1	BD Biosciences	Cat# 742476; RRID: AB_2740810
Goat Anti-Mouse IgA-PE	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1040-09; RRID: AB_2794375
CD38 Monoclonal Antibody (90), PerCP-eFluor 710, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 46-0381-80; RRID: AB_10852870
APC-H7 Rat anti-Mouse CD19	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 560143; RRID: AB_1645234
CD25 Monoclonal Antibody (PC61.5). APC-eFluor 780, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 47-0251-82; RRID: AB_1272179
Brilliant Violet 510 <sup>™</sup> anti-mouse IgD	BioLegend	Cat#: 405723; RRID: AB_2562742
PE/Cy7 anti-mouse CD138 (Syndecan-1)	BioLegend	Cat#: 142514; RRID: AB_2562198
Aiexa Fluor® 700 anti-mouse CD19	BioLegend	Cat#: 115528; RRID: AB_493735
CD117 (c-Kit) Monoclonal Antibody (2B8), APC, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 17-1171-81; RRID: AB_469429
CD3 Monoclonal Antibody (17A2), eFIuor 450, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 48-0032-80; RRID: AB_1272229
FITC Anti-Mouse CD8a (53-6.7)	Tonbo Biosciences	Cat#: 35-0081; RRID: AB_2621671
Aiexa Fluor® 700 anti-mouse TCR β chain	BioLegend	Cat#: 109224; RRID: AB_1027648
CD4 Monoclonal Antibody (RM4-5), PerCP-Cyanine5.5, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 45-0042-80: RRID: AB_906231
CD62L (L-Selectin) Monoclonal Antibody (MEL-14), PE- Cyanine7, eBioscience™	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 25-0621-82; RRID: AB_469633
CD69 Monoclonal Antibody (H1.2F3), APC, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 17-0691-82; RRID: AB_1210795
CD44 Monoclonal Antibody (IM7), PE, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 12-0441-83: RRID: AB_465665
IgD Monoclonal Antibody (11-26c(11-26)), APC-eFluor 780, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 47-5993-80; RRID: AB_2573993
PE-Cy <sup>TM7</sup> Hamster Anti-Mouse CD95	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 557653; RRID: AB_396768
GL7 Monoclonal Antibody (GL-7 (GL7)), eFluor 450, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 48-5902-80; RRID: AB_10854881
CD38 Monoclonal Antibody (90), Alexa Fluor 700, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 56-0381-82; RRID:AB_657740
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG2c, Human ads-FITC	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1079-02; RRID: AB_2794465
CD19 Monoclonal Antibody (eBio1D3 (1D3)), PerCP- Cyanine5.5, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 45-0193-80; RRID: AB_906215
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG2b, Human ads-APC/CY7	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1090-19; RRID: AB_2794530
CD86 (B7-2) Monoclonal Antibody (GL1), PE, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 12-0862-82; RRID: AB_465768

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Brilliant Violet 711 <sup>TM</sup> anti-mouse IgD	BioLegend	Cat#: 405731; RRID: AB_2563342
CD184 (CXCR4) Monoclonal Antibody (2B11), PerCP-eFluor 710, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 46-9991-82; RRID: AB_10670489
APC Streptavidin	BioLegend	Cat#: 405207
BV786 Rat Anti-Mouse IgM	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 743328; RRID: AB_2741429
BUV395 Rat Anti-Mouse CD86	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 564199; RRID: AB_2738664
MHC Class II (I-A/I-E) Monoclonal Antibody (M5/114.15.2), APC, eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 17-5321-81; RRID: AB_469454
APC Rat IgG2b, kappa Isotype Ctrl	BioLegend	Cat#: 400612; RRID: AB_326556
BUV737 Rat Anti-Mouse CD45R/B220	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 612838
PE Streptavidin	BioLegend	Cat#: 405204
FITC Rat Anti-Mouse IgG3	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 553403; RRID: AB_394840
Rabbit anti-AID	Chaudhuri et al., 2003	N/A
Human/Mouse/Rat HSP90 Antibody	R&D Systems	Cat#: MAB3286; RRID: AB_2121072
Lamin B1 Polyclonal Antibody	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: PA5-19468; RRID: AB_10985414
Monoclonal Anti-a-Tubulin antibody produced in mouse	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat#: T9026; RRID: AB_477593
Anti-MBP Monoclonal Antibody	New England Biolabs	Cat#: E8032; RRID: AB_1559730
Rat Anti-Mouse IgD-UNLB	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1120-01; RRID: AB_2794607
Peanut Agglutinin (PNA), Biotinylated	Vectors Laboratories	Cat#: B-1075; RRID: AB_2313597
Anti-CD45R antibody [RA3-6B2]	Abcam	Cat#: ab64100; RRID: AB_1140036
Donkey anti-Rat IgG (H+L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor 488	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: A-21208; RRID: AB_141709
Donkey anti-Rat IgG (H+L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor 594	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: A-21209; RRID: AB_2535795
Cy <sup>TM</sup> 5 Streptavidin	Jackson ImmunoResearch Labs	Cat#: 016-170-084; RRID: AB_2337245
Anti-Histone H3 antibody - Nuclear Marker and ChIP Grade	Abcam	Cat#: ab1791; RRID: AB_302613
ChromPure Rabbit IgG, whole molecule	Jackson ImmunoResearch Labs	Cat#: 011-000-003; RRID: AB_2337118
Goat Anti-Mouse IgM, Human ads-UNLB	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1020-01; RRID: AB_2794197
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG1, Human ads-UNLB antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1070-01; RRID: AB_2794408
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG2b, Human ads-UNLB antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1090-01; RRID: AB_2794517
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG2c, Human ads-UNLB antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1079-01; RRID: AB_2794464
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG3, Human ads-UNLB antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1100-01; RRID: AB_2794567
Goat Anti-Mouse IgA-UNLB	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1040-01; RRID: AB_2314669
Mouse IgM Isotype Control (11E10), eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 14-4752-81; RRID: AB_470122
Mouse IgG1-UNLB antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 0102-01; RRID: AB_2793845
Mouse IgG2b kappa Isotype Control (eBMG2b), eBioscience <sup>TM</sup>	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#: 14-4732-81; RRID: AB_470116
Mouse IgG2c-UNLB antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 0122-01; RRID: AB_2794064
Purified Mouse IgG3, $\kappa$ Isotype Control	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 553486; RRID: AB_10054920
Purified Mouse IgA, r Isotype Control	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 553476; RRID: AB_479590
Goat Anti-Mouse IgM, Human ads-HRP	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1020-05; RRID: AB_2794201
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG1, Human ads-HRP	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1070-05; RRID: AB_2650509

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG2b, Human ads-HRP	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1090-05; RRID: AB_2794521
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG2c, Human ads-HRP	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1079-05; RRID: AB_2794466
Goat Anti-Mouse IgG3, Human ads-HRP	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1100-05; RRID: AB_2794573
Goat Anti-Mouse IgA-HRP antibody	Southern Biotech	Cat#: 1040-05; RRID: AB_2714213
Purified Rat Anti-Mouse CD16/CD32 (Mouse BD Fc Block <sup>TM</sup> )	BD Biosciences	Cat#: 553142; RRID: AB_394657
Bacterial and Virus Strains		
Influenza A/Puerto Rico/8/34 (PR8) mouse adapted influenza strain, grown in 10 day-old embryonated chicken eggs	Yewdell laboratory, (NIAID, NIH)	N/A
J1, PR8 reassortant virus, mouse adapted influenza strain, grown in 10 day-old embryonated chicken eggs	Yewdell laboratory, (NIAID, NIH)	N/A
BL21(DE3) Competent E. coli	New England Biolabs	Cat#: C2527
One Shot <sup>TM</sup> TOP10 Chemically Competent E. coli	Invitrogen	Cat#: C404010
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
NP(33)-CGG (Chicken Gamma Globulin), Ratio 30–39	Biosearch Technologies	Cat#: N-5055D-5
NP(8)-BSA	Biosearch Technologies	N-5050L-10
NP(30)-BSA	Biosearch Technologies	N-5050H-10
Imject <sup>™</sup> Alum Adjuvant	Thermo Scientific	Cat#: 77161
Sheep Red Blood Cells Packed 10%	Innovative Research	Cat#: ISHRBC10P15ML
Lipopolysaccharides from Escherichia coli O111:B4	Sigma	L4130
Recombinant Mouse IL-4 Protein	R&D Systems	Cat#: 404-ML-010
BAFF, Soluble (mouse) (rec.)	Adipogen	Cat#: AG-40B-0022
Retinoic acid, 98% (HPLC), powder	Sigma	Cat#: R2625
Recombinant Human TGF-beta 1 Protein	R&D Systems	Cat#: 240-B-010
Recombinant Murine IL-5	Peprotech	Cat#: 215-15
Benzamidine hydrochloride hydrate	Sigma	Cat#: B6506
PMSF Protease Inhibitor	Thermo Scientific	Cat#: 36978
cOmplete <sup>TM</sup> , Mini, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail	Sigma	Cat#: 11836170001
TRIzol <sup>TM</sup> Reagent	Invitrogen	Cat#: 15596026
Tissue-Tek® O.C.T. Compound, Sakura® Finetek	Sakura	Cat#: 4583
Ambion <sup>™</sup> RNase A, affinity purified, 1 mg/mL	Invitrogen	Cat#: AM2270
PreScission protease	GE	Cat#: 27-0843-01
Ambion RNase Inhibitor	Invitrogen	Cat#: AM2682
Uracil-DNA glycosylase	New England Biolabs	Cat#: M0280
Hemin, from bovine, 80%	Sigma	Cat#: H-5533
2,2'-Azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) diammonium salt (ABTS)	Sigma	Cat#: A9941
Pierce <sup>TM</sup> 16% Formaldehyde (w/v), Methanol-free	Thermo Scientific	Cat#: 28908
RNase A	Qiagen	Cat#: 19101
Proteinase K, Biotechnology Grade	VWR	Cat#: 97062-242
eBioscience <sup>TM</sup> ELISA/ELISPOT Diluent (5X)	Invitrogen	Cat#: 00-4202-56
eBioscience <sup>TM</sup> TMB Solution (1X)	Invitrogen	Cat#: 00-4201-56

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Recombinant PR8 HA-biotin	A. McDermott (VRC, NIAID,NIH)	NA
Critical Commercial Assays		
RPMI 1640 Medium	Gibco	Cat#: 11875085
DMEM, high glucose	Gibco	Cat#: 11965118
Zombie Red <sup>™</sup> Fixable Viability Kit	BioLegend	Cat#: 423110
CD43 (Ly-48) MicroBeads, mouse	Miltenyi Biotec	Cat#: 130-049-801; RRID: AB_2861373
CD19 MicroBeads, mouse	Miltenyi Biotec	Cat#: 130-121-301; RRID: AB_2827612
NE-PER <sup>TM</sup> Nuclear and Cytoplasmic Extraction Reagents	Thermo Scientific	Cat#: 78835
Superscript <sup>TM</sup> III First-Strand Synthesis System	Invitrogen	Cat#: 18080051
PowerUp <sup>TM</sup> SYBR <sup>TM</sup> Green Master Mix	Applied Biosystems <sup>TM</sup>	Cat#: A25741
Amylose Resin	New England Biolabs	Cat#: E8021
Superdex 200 10/300 GL gel filtration column	GE	Cat#: 17517501
Amicon Ultra-15 centrifugal 30kDa filter	Millipore	Cat#: C7715
LS Columns	Miltenyi Bictec	Cat#: 130-042-401
Zero Blunt <sup>TM</sup> TOPO <sup>TM</sup> PCR Cloning Kit, with One Shot <sup>TM</sup> TOP10 Chemically Competent E. coli cells	Invitrogen	Cat#: K2800J10
Chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP) Assay Kit	Millipore	Cat#: 17-295
truChIP Chromatin Shearing Kit with Formaldehyde	Covaris	Cat#: 520154
CellTrace <sup>TM</sup> Violet Cell Proliferation Kit, for flow cytometry	Invitrogen	Cat#: C34571
Deposited Data		
AID ChIP-seq raw and processed data	This paper	GEO: GSE136959, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/ query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE136959
DLBCL RNA-Seq processed data	Schmitz et al., 2018	dbGaP Study Accessions phs001444, phs001175, phs000178.
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
HEK293T cells	ATCC	ATCC® CRL-3216 <sup>TM</sup>
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
Mouse: Aicda <sup>G133V</sup>	This paper	N/A
Mouse: Aicda-/-	T. Honjo, (Muramatsu et al., 2000)	N/A
Mouse: C57BL6/J	The Jackson Laboratory	JAX: 000664
Oligonucleotides		
See Table S7	IDT	N/A
Recombinant DNA		
pCL-Eco, retroviral packaging vector	Chaudhuri Lab	JCP 28
pMIG, retroviral expression vector	Chaudhuri Lab	JCP 1
Trigger factor plasmid	L. Ma. and G. Montelione, Rutgers. (Kohli et al., 2009)	JCP 128
pMALc5x-MBP-AID (mouse)	This paper	JCP 20
pMALc5x-MBP-AID G133V (mouse)	This paper	JCP 23

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
pMALc5x-MBP-AID H56R E58Q (CD) (mouse)	This paper	JCP 22
pMAL-MBP-AID (human), codon optimized	R. Kohli Laboratory	JCP 113 (RK016)
pMAL-MBP-AID E58 (CD) (human), codon optimized	R. Kohli Laboratory	JCP 114 (RK019)
pMAL-MBP-AID G133V (human), codon optimized	This paper	JCP 115
pMIG-AID	Zheng et al., 2015	JCP 24
pMIG-AID G133V	Zheng et al., 2015	JCP 27
pMIG-AID H56R ES8Q (pMIG-AID CD)	Vuong et al., 2013	JCP 22
pMIG-AID-AID CD (fusion)	This paper	JCP 197
pMIG-AID G133V-AID CD (fusion)	This paper	JCP 201
pMIG-AID CD-AID CD (fusion)	This paper	JCP 221
pMIG-AID G133V-mCherry (fusion)	This paper	JCP 220
Software and Algorithms		
Trimmomatic (v.0.36)	Bolger et al., 2014	http://www.usadellab.org/cms/? page=trimmomatic
Bowtie2 (v2.2.9)	Langmead and Salzberg, 2012	http://bowtie-bio.sourceforge.net/ bowtie2/index.shtml
MACS2 (v2.1.1.20160309)	Zhang et al., 2008	https://github.com/macs3-project/MACS
ChipPeakAnno (v3.16.1)	Zhu et al., 2010	https://bioconductor.org/packages/ release/bioc/html/ChIPpeakAnno.html
UCSC mm10 Known Gene Annotation Package (v3.4.4)	Speir et al., 2016	https://bioconductor.org/packages/ release/data/annotation/html/ TxDb.Mmusculus.UCSC.mm10.known Gene.html
GenomicAlignments (v.1.18.1)	Lawrence et al., 2013	https://bioconductor.org/ packages/release/bioc/html/ GenomicAlignments.html
DESeq2 (v.1.22.2)	Love et al., 2014	http://bioconductor.org/packages/ release/bioc/html/DESeq2.html
deeptools2 (v3.21.1)	Ramírez et al, 2016	https://deeptools.readthedocs.io/en/ develop/index.html
Gviz (v.1.18.2)	Hahne and Ivanek, 2016	http://bioconductor.org/packages/ release/bioc/html/Gviz.html
ComplexHeatmap (v1.99.7)	Gu et al, 2016	https://bioconductor.org/ packages/release/bioc/html/ ComplexHeatmap.html
R (v.3.5.3)	https://www.r-project.org/	https://www.r-project.org/
Tximport (v1.12.3)	Soneson et al., 2015	https://bioconductor.org/packages/ release/bioc/html/tximport.html
ggPlot2	Wickham, 2009	https://ggplot2.tidyverse.org/
Prism	Graphpad	RRID: SCR_002798
FlowJo	TreeStar	RRID: SCR_008520
Excel	Microsoft	RRID: SCR_016137
Illustrator	Adobe	RRID: SCR_010279
Photoshop	Adobe	RRID: SCR_014199
FIJI	https://imagej.net/Fiji	RRID: SCR_002285