

Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| n/a | Confirmed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided
<i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> A description of all covariates tested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. F , t , r) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and P value noted
<i>Give P values as exact values whenever suitable.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d , Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated |

Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.

Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection MACSQuant® Tyto® sorter (Miltenyi). FACSARIA Fusion sorter (BD), Microplate Reader Synergy 2 (BioTek), ID7000 Spectral Cell Analyzer (SONY), Chromium™ Controller (10x genomics), AutoMACS Pro Separator (Miltenyi Biotec).

Data analysis FlowJo 10.7.2 (Tree Star Inc), GraphPad Prism 9 Vers. 9.3.1 (GraphPad Software Inc), ImageJ 1.47v2 (NIH), Microsoft Office 2016 (Microsoft), The R Project for statistical Computing Vers. 4.2.1 (R project), RStudio (R studio), CellRanger software version 3.0.2 and CellRanger using STAR version 2.5.3a (10x Genomics), circlize (0.4.15), ComplexHeatmap (2.12.1), cowplot (1.1.1), future (1.28.0), ggalluvial (0.12.5), ggpubr (0.4.0), ggrepel (0.9.1), GSVA (1.44.5), msigdb (7.5.1), patchwork (1.1.2), plyr (1.8.7), presto (1.0.0), RColorBrewer (1.1-3), reshape2 (1.4.4), sctransform (0.3.5), Seurat (4.2.0), SeuratDisk (0.0.0.9020), SeuratWrappers (0.3.1), velocity.R (0.6)

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

All scripts and analysis workflow are available under Zenodo DOI:10.5281/zenodo.10404879. Raw sequencing data supporting the findings presented in this study are available upon request and can be browsed via the web interface: <http://einstein.virologie.uni-wuerzburg.de:3839/45559dc12750521deffaff3b105e9615/>
Code for reproducing all single cell RNA-seq data analyses is available on zenodo (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10404879>).

Research involving human participants, their data, or biological material

Policy information about studies with [human participants or human data](#). See also policy information about [sex, gender \(identity/presentation\), and sexual orientation](#) and [race, ethnicity and racism](#).

Reporting on sex and gender	The authors are not aware of sex and gender of the blood donors, since blood samples were obtained anonymously.
Reporting on race, ethnicity, or other socially relevant groupings	The authors are not aware of race or ethnicity of the blood donors, since blood samples were obtained anonymously.
Population characteristics	The donor cohort at the Institute of Transfusion Medicine and Transplant Engineering, Hannover Medical School, Germany, is made up of approximately half women and half men and the average age is 44 years (19-65 years).
Recruitment	Blood samples from healthy donors used in this study were obtained from the Blutspendedienst NSTOB (Niedersachsen-Sachsen-Anhalt-Thüringen-Oldenburg-Bremen gGmbH, Institut Springe) and the Institute of Transfusion Medicine and Transplant Engineering, Hannover Medical School, Germany. The Institute of Transfusion Medicine and Transplant Engineering provided residual blood samples that remained in the apheresis sets during stem cell donation. All donors whose residual blood was used have consented to it being used for the research project.
Ethics oversight	Approved by the ethics committee of the Hannover Medical School, ethical approval no. 8315_BO_K_2019

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

- Life sciences Behavioural & social sciences Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf

Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	scRNA-seq data was generated from 2 donors (n=2). For in vitro stimulation of moDC with IFN- α , IFN- β and IFN- γ , 7 donors were used (n=7). For analysis of STING and NF- κ B agonists treatments, cells from 13 donors (n=13) were analyzed. For evaluation of frequencies and RFI of the analyzed markers, 16 donors (n=16) were used. For analysis of percentages of infection 6 donors (n=6) were used. For the quantification of STING protein expression 7 donors (n=7) were used. Evaluation of percentages of NG, BFP and RFP fluorescence was conducted in 3 donors (n=3). For analysis of the percentages of productively infected cells, 6 donors (n=6) were used. For evaluation of percentages of "re-activated cells" two donors were used (n=2). ELISA experiments were carried with 6 donors (n=6). Experiments with monocyte derived macrophages were carried with 6 donors (n=6). For subcellular fractionation experiments 3 or 4 donors (n = 3-4).
Data exclusions	No data were excluded from the analyses.
Replication	All experiments were successfully repeated as indicated in the respective figure legend.
Randomization	The experiments were not randomized.
Blinding	The Investigators were not blinded to allocation during experiments and outcome assessment.

Behavioural & social sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Study description	Briefly describe the study type including whether data are quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods (e.g. qualitative cross-sectional, quantitative experimental, mixed-methods case study).
Research sample	State the research sample (e.g. Harvard university undergraduates, villagers in rural India) and provide relevant demographic information (e.g. age, sex) and indicate whether the sample is representative. Provide a rationale for the study sample chosen. For studies involving existing datasets, please describe the dataset and source.
Sampling strategy	Describe the sampling procedure (e.g. random, snowball, stratified, convenience). Describe the statistical methods that were used to predetermine sample size OR if no sample-size calculation was performed, describe how sample sizes were chosen and provide a rationale for why these sample sizes are sufficient. For qualitative data, please indicate whether data saturation was considered, and what criteria were used to decide that no further sampling was needed.
Data collection	Provide details about the data collection procedure, including the instruments or devices used to record the data (e.g. pen and paper, computer, eye tracker, video or audio equipment) whether anyone was present besides the participant(s) and the researcher, and whether the researcher was blind to experimental condition and/or the study hypothesis during data collection.
Timing	Indicate the start and stop dates of data collection. If there is a gap between collection periods, state the dates for each sample cohort.
Data exclusions	If no data were excluded from the analyses, state so OR if data were excluded, provide the exact number of exclusions and the rationale behind them, indicating whether exclusion criteria were pre-established.
Non-participation	State how many participants dropped out/declined participation and the reason(s) given OR provide response rate OR state that no participants dropped out/declined participation.
Randomization	If participants were not allocated into experimental groups, state so OR describe how participants were allocated to groups, and if allocation was not random, describe how covariates were controlled.

Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Study description	Briefly describe the study. For quantitative data include treatment factors and interactions, design structure (e.g. factorial, nested, hierarchical), nature and number of experimental units and replicates.
Research sample	Describe the research sample (e.g. a group of tagged <i>Passer domesticus</i> , all <i>Stenocereus thurberi</i> within Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument), and provide a rationale for the sample choice. When relevant, describe the organism taxa, source, sex, age range and any manipulations. State what population the sample is meant to represent when applicable. For studies involving existing datasets, describe the data and its source.
Sampling strategy	Note the sampling procedure. Describe the statistical methods that were used to predetermine sample size OR if no sample-size calculation was performed, describe how sample sizes were chosen and provide a rationale for why these sample sizes are sufficient.
Data collection	Describe the data collection procedure, including who recorded the data and how.
Timing and spatial scale	Indicate the start and stop dates of data collection, noting the frequency and periodicity of sampling and providing a rationale for these choices. If there is a gap between collection periods, state the dates for each sample cohort. Specify the spatial scale from which the data are taken
Data exclusions	If no data were excluded from the analyses, state so OR if data were excluded, describe the exclusions and the rationale behind them, indicating whether exclusion criteria were pre-established.
Reproducibility	Describe the measures taken to verify the reproducibility of experimental findings. For each experiment, note whether any attempts to repeat the experiment failed OR state that all attempts to repeat the experiment were successful.
Randomization	Describe how samples/organisms/participants were allocated into groups. If allocation was not random, describe how covariates were controlled. If this is not relevant to your study, explain why.
Blinding	Describe the extent of blinding used during data acquisition and analysis. If blinding was not possible, describe why OR explain why blinding was not relevant to your study.

Did the study involve field work? Yes No

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems

- n/a Involved in the study
- Antibodies
- Eukaryotic cell lines
- Palaeontology and archaeology
- Animals and other organisms
- Clinical data
- Dual use research of concern
- Plants

Methods

- n/a Involved in the study
- ChIP-seq
- Flow cytometry
- MRI-based neuroimaging

Antibodies

Antibodies used

anti-hCD1a, clone HI149 (1:20, Cat# 300128, BioLegend)
 anti-hCD85d, clone 42D1 (1:20, Cat #338710, BioLegend)
 anti-hCD86, clone L161 (1:20, Cat#331538, BioLegend)
 anti-hCD88, clone S5/1 (1:20, Cat#344312, BioLegend)
 anti-hCD115, clone 9-4D2-1E4 (1:20, Cat#347318, BioLegend)
 anti-hCLEC12A, clone 50C1 (1:20, Cat#353610, BioLegend)
 anti-hCCL17, Clone # 54015 (1:10, Cat#IC3641V, R&D Systems)
 anti-hCCL18, Clone REA487 (1:10, Cat#130-107-653, Myltenyi Biotec)
 anti-hCCL22, Clone T51-719 (1:10, Cat#565950, BD Biosciences)
 anti-Cytomegalovirus, Clone DDG9 + CCH2 (1:100, #M0854, DAKO)
 anti-Mouse IgG (H+L), Clone 474-1806 (1:500, #5450-0011, KPL)

Validation

Validation is available on the manufacturer's website. All antibodies were validated in human cells for flow cytometry.

Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines and Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Cell line source(s)

MRC-5 (Cat#CCL-171™, AT®ATCC®)

Authentication

The cells were authenticated by Karyotyping with authentication being available on the manufacturer's website.

Mycoplasma contamination

MRC-5 cell lines were tested negative for mycoplasma contamination.

Commonly misidentified lines
(See [ICLAC](#) register)

No commonly misidentified cell lines were used.

Palaeontology and Archaeology

Specimen provenance

Provide provenance information for specimens and describe permits that were obtained for the work (including the name of the issuing authority, the date of issue, and any identifying information). Permits should encompass collection and, where applicable, export.

Specimen deposition

Indicate where the specimens have been deposited to permit free access by other researchers.

Dating methods

If new dates are provided, describe how they were obtained (e.g. collection, storage, sample pretreatment and measurement), where they were obtained (i.e. lab name), the calibration program and the protocol for quality assurance OR state that no new dates are provided.

Tick this box to confirm that the raw and calibrated dates are available in the paper or in Supplementary Information.

Ethics oversight

Identify the organization(s) that approved or provided guidance on the study protocol, OR state that no ethical approval or guidance was required and explain why not.

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Animals and other research organisms

Policy information about [studies involving animals](#); [ARRIVE guidelines](#) recommended for reporting animal research, and [Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Laboratory animals	<i>For laboratory animals, report species, strain and age OR state that the study did not involve laboratory animals.</i>
Wild animals	<i>Provide details on animals observed in or captured in the field; report species and age where possible. Describe how animals were caught and transported and what happened to captive animals after the study (if killed, explain why and describe method; if released, say where and when) OR state that the study did not involve wild animals.</i>
Reporting on sex	<i>Indicate if findings apply to only one sex; describe whether sex was considered in study design, methods used for assigning sex. Provide data disaggregated for sex where this information has been collected in the source data as appropriate; provide overall numbers in this Reporting Summary. Please state if this information has not been collected. Report sex-based analyses where performed, justify reasons for lack of sex-based analysis.</i>
Field-collected samples	<i>For laboratory work with field-collected samples, describe all relevant parameters such as housing, maintenance, temperature, photoperiod and end-of-experiment protocol OR state that the study did not involve samples collected from the field.</i>
Ethics oversight	<i>Identify the organization(s) that approved or provided guidance on the study protocol, OR state that no ethical approval or guidance was required and explain why not.</i>

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Clinical data

Policy information about [clinical studies](#)

All manuscripts should comply with the ICMJE [guidelines for publication of clinical research](#) and a completed [CONSORT checklist](#) must be included with all submissions.

Clinical trial registration	<i>Provide the trial registration number from ClinicalTrials.gov or an equivalent agency.</i>
Study protocol	<i>Note where the full trial protocol can be accessed OR if not available, explain why.</i>
Data collection	<i>Describe the settings and locales of data collection, noting the time periods of recruitment and data collection.</i>
Outcomes	<i>Describe how you pre-defined primary and secondary outcome measures and how you assessed these measures.</i>

Dual use research of concern

Policy information about [dual use research of concern](#)

Hazards

Could the accidental, deliberate or reckless misuse of agents or technologies generated in the work, or the application of information presented in the manuscript, pose a threat to:

No	Yes	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public health
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National security
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crops and/or livestock
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ecosystems
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other significant area

Experiments of concern

Does the work involve any of these experiments of concern:

- | No | Yes | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Demonstrate how to render a vaccine ineffective |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Confer resistance to therapeutically useful antibiotics or antiviral agents |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Enhance the virulence of a pathogen or render a nonpathogen virulent |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Increase transmissibility of a pathogen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alter the host range of a pathogen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Enable evasion of diagnostic/detection modalities |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Enable the weaponization of a biological agent or toxin |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Any other potentially harmful combination of experiments and agents |

Plants

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Seed stocks | <i>Report on the source of all seed stocks or other plant material used. If applicable, state the seed stock centre and catalogue number. If plant specimens were collected from the field, describe the collection location, date and sampling procedures.</i> |
| Novel plant genotypes | <i>Describe the methods by which all novel plant genotypes were produced. This includes those generated by transgenic approaches, gene editing, chemical/radiation-based mutagenesis and hybridization. For transgenic lines, describe the transformation method, the number of independent lines analyzed and the generation upon which experiments were performed. For gene-edited lines, describe the editor used, the endogenous sequence targeted for editing, the targeting guide RNA sequence (if applicable) and how the editor was applied.</i> |
| Authentication | <i>Describe any authentication procedures for each seed stock used or novel genotype generated. Describe any experiments used to assess the effect of a mutation and, where applicable, how potential secondary effects (e.g. second site T-DNA insertions, mosaicism, off-target gene editing) were examined.</i> |

ChIP-seq

Data deposition

- Confirm that both raw and final processed data have been deposited in a public database such as [GEO](#).
- Confirm that you have deposited or provided access to graph files (e.g. BED files) for the called peaks.

Data access links
May remain private before publication.

For "Initial submission" or "Revised version" documents, provide reviewer access links. For your "Final submission" document, provide a link to the deposited data.

Files in database submission

Provide a list of all files available in the database submission.

Genome browser session
(e.g. [UCSC](#))

Provide a link to an anonymized genome browser session for "Initial submission" and "Revised version" documents only, to enable peer review. Write "no longer applicable" for "Final submission" documents.

Methodology

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Replicates | <i>Describe the experimental replicates, specifying number, type and replicate agreement.</i> |
| Sequencing depth | <i>Describe the sequencing depth for each experiment, providing the total number of reads, uniquely mapped reads, length of reads and whether they were paired- or single-end.</i> |
| Antibodies | <i>Describe the antibodies used for the ChIP-seq experiments; as applicable, provide supplier name, catalog number, clone name, and lot number.</i> |
| Peak calling parameters | <i>Specify the command line program and parameters used for read mapping and peak calling, including the ChIP, control and index files used.</i> |
| Data quality | <i>Describe the methods used to ensure data quality in full detail, including how many peaks are at FDR 5% and above 5-fold enrichment.</i> |
| Software | <i>Describe the software used to collect and analyze the ChIP-seq data. For custom code that has been deposited into a community repository, provide accession details.</i> |

Flow Cytometry

Plots

Confirm that:

- The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).
- The axis scales are clearly visible. Include numbers along axes only for bottom left plot of group (a 'group' is an analysis of identical markers).
- All plots are contour plots with outliers or pseudocolor plots.
- A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

Methodology

Sample preparation	Cells were harvested by scraping, labeled with the previously described antibodies, fixed with 1% PFA and analyzed.
Instrument	ID7000 Spectral Cell Analyzer (SONY)
Software	FlowJo 10.7.2 (Tree Star Inc)
Cell population abundance	Flow cytometry analysis was performed to define the moDC live population, which was about 50%.
Gating strategy	By gating FSC-H/FSC-A; which limited the single cells, SSC-A/FSC-A defined the living cell population. The infected or antibody labeled population was selected by gating SSC-A against GFP or the fluorochrome of each marker.

Tick this box to confirm that a figure exemplifying the gating strategy is provided in the Supplementary Information.

Magnetic resonance imaging

Experimental design

Design type	<i>Indicate task or resting state; event-related or block design.</i>
Design specifications	<i>Specify the number of blocks, trials or experimental units per session and/or subject, and specify the length of each trial or block (if trials are blocked) and interval between trials.</i>
Behavioral performance measures	<i>State number and/or type of variables recorded (e.g. correct button press, response time) and what statistics were used to establish that the subjects were performing the task as expected (e.g. mean, range, and/or standard deviation across subjects).</i>

Acquisition

Imaging type(s)	<i>Specify: functional, structural, diffusion, perfusion.</i>
Field strength	<i>Specify in Tesla</i>
Sequence & imaging parameters	<i>Specify the pulse sequence type (gradient echo, spin echo, etc.), imaging type (EPI, spiral, etc.), field of view, matrix size, slice thickness, orientation and TE/TR/flip angle.</i>
Area of acquisition	<i>State whether a whole brain scan was used OR define the area of acquisition, describing how the region was determined.</i>
Diffusion MRI	<input type="checkbox"/> Used <input type="checkbox"/> Not used

Preprocessing

Preprocessing software	<i>Provide detail on software version and revision number and on specific parameters (model/functions, brain extraction, segmentation, smoothing kernel size, etc.).</i>
Normalization	<i>If data were normalized/standardized, describe the approach(es): specify linear or non-linear and define image types used for transformation OR indicate that data were not normalized and explain rationale for lack of normalization.</i>
Normalization template	<i>Describe the template used for normalization/transformation, specifying subject space or group standardized space (e.g. original Talairach, MNI305, ICBM152) OR indicate that the data were not normalized.</i>
Noise and artifact removal	<i>Describe your procedure(s) for artifact and structured noise removal, specifying motion parameters, tissue signals and physiological signals (heart rate, respiration).</i>
Volume censoring	<i>Define your software and/or method and criteria for volume censoring, and state the extent of such censoring.</i>

Statistical modeling & inference

Model type and settings *Specify type (mass univariate, multivariate, RSA, predictive, etc.) and describe essential details of the model at the first and second levels (e.g. fixed, random or mixed effects; drift or auto-correlation).*

Effect(s) tested *Define precise effect in terms of the task or stimulus conditions instead of psychological concepts and indicate whether ANOVA or factorial designs were used.*

Specify type of analysis: Whole brain ROI-based Both

Statistic type for inference *Specify voxel-wise or cluster-wise and report all relevant parameters for cluster-wise methods.*
(See [Eklund et al. 2016](#))

Correction *Describe the type of correction and how it is obtained for multiple comparisons (e.g. FWE, FDR, permutation or Monte Carlo).*

Models & analysis

n/a | Involved in the study

Functional and/or effective connectivity

Graph analysis

Multivariate modeling or predictive analysis

Functional and/or effective connectivity *Report the measures of dependence used and the model details (e.g. Pearson correlation, partial correlation, mutual information).*

Graph analysis *Report the dependent variable and connectivity measure, specifying weighted graph or binarized graph, subject- or group-level, and the global and/or node summaries used (e.g. clustering coefficient, efficiency, etc.).*

Multivariate modeling and predictive analysis *Specify independent variables, features extraction and dimension reduction, model, training and evaluation metrics.*