

Supporting Information

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Human MHC Class II and Invariant Chain Knock-in Mice Mimic Rheumatoid Arthritis with Allele Restriction in Immune Response and Arthritis Association

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Human MHC class II and invariant chain knock-in mice mimic rheumatoid arthritis with allele restriction in immune response and arthritis association.

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Figure S1– Unaffected immune cell populations in the presence of Ii in naive mice. (A) B cell development in the bone marrow with different B cell stages depicted (immature $(IgM^+ IgD^-)$ pre and pro $(IgM^- IgD^-)$, pre $(CD2^+ cKit^-)$ and pro $(CD2^- cKit^+)$ B cells) from B.0401 (n = 4) and B.0401.hIi (n = 4) mice. (B) T cells in the lymph nodes, spleen, and thymus from B.0401 (n = 4) and B.0401.hIi (n = 4) mice. Each dot represents an individual mouse. Results are expressed as mean ± SEM. Statistics were determined using a Mann-Whitney test.



Figure S2– T cells response by COL2 and pepsin. (**A**) Parker and B6N mice were immunized with either rrCOL2-TH, different batches of rCOL2 (#65 and #66) or bCOL2, emulsified in CFA. On day 10 post-immunization, T cells from the iLNs were stimulated with either $COL2_{259-273}$ peptide or porcine pepsin and 24 h later the IFN γ -secreting T cells were detected by ELISpot. 2 mice per condition were used. (**B**) Dunder (n = 8) and Parker (n = 8) mice were immunized with bCOL2 emulsified in CFA. At day 10 post-immunization, T cells from the iLNs were stimulated with porcine pepsin and 24 h later the IFN γ -secreting T cells were detected by ELISpot. 2 mice per condition were used. (**B**) Dunder (n = 8) and Parker (n = 8) mice were immunized with bCOL2 emulsified in CFA. At day 10 post-immunization, T cells from the iLNs were stimulated with porcine pepsin and 24 h later the IFN γ -secreting T cells were detected by ELISpot. Each dot represents an individual mouse. Results are expressed as mean ± SEM. Statistics in B represented experiment were determined using a two-tailed Mann-Whitney test.



Figure S3– CIA development in Parker (0401) and Dunder (0402) mice in Fraunhofer Institute. (A) Arthritis severity was evaluated in male Parker (n = 20) and Dunder mice (n = 15), following immunization with bCOL2 on day 0 and boosted on day 35. Inflammation was monitored for over 70 days. Arthritis incidence is indicated in parenthesis. (B) Anti-COL2 antibody titer of total IgG (anti-kappa) from serum at terminal point measured by ELISA. Each dot represents individual mice. (C) Representative histological samples of ankle joints taken at CIA endpoint. Sections were stained with hematoxylin/eosin (H&E). Scale bars equal 20 μ m. Results are expressed as mean \pm SEM. Statistics in (A) experiment represented were determined with a two-tailed Mann-Whitney test.



Figure S4– Affected joints during CIA model in the arthritic P.266E mice. To show the fluctuations in arthritis during the disease course, inflammation in each joint from a mouse with arthritis was plotted on a heatmap (A), in which each paw was numbered according to the scheme shown in B.



Figure S5- Genetic engineering and mouse breeding to obtain the humanized mice used in this study.

Sequence:

Amino acids positions	Description
1 - 25	Native signal sequence
26 - 33	His-tag for purification
34 - 39	Thrombin cleavage site
40 - 55	Mouse IgG2a hinge region
56 - 1075	Collagen alpha-1 (II) chain triple helical region
1076 - 1083	Cys-knot

Figure S6- The recombinant rat COL2 triple helical region (rrCOL2-TH) protein design with description of the regions at amino acids positions.



Figure S7- Gating strategy for FACS analyses of the main Figures 1 and 2.