Supporting Information

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Fig. S1. Kinetics of thymocytes depletion in young adult mice. Absolute cell numbers of double positive (DP) thymocytes after poly(I:C) treatment of 4- to 6-week-old MxCre⁻ Rag2 fl/- (filled symbols) or MxCre⁺ Rag2 fl/- (open symbols).



(b)			Total [x 10E6]	DN1 [x 10E3]	DN2 [x 10E3]	DN3 [x 10E3]	DN4 [x 10E3]	DP [x10E6]
2								[]
Rag2 wt/wt	Mx1Cre pos	1	53.40	86.00	196.00	2,600.00	320.00	40.70
		2	12.80	9.00	160.00	1,530.00	180.00	6.90
		3	25.30	35.00	194.00	1,230.00	190.00	21.00
		4	10.20	5.00	121.00	1,100.00	240.00	8.20
		5	26.10	21.00	211.00	1,860.00	95.00	21.40
	Mean		25.56	31.20	176.40	1,664.00	205.00	19.64
	StDev		17.13	32.79	36.16	599.77	82.76	13.62
Rag2 wt/wt	My1 Cre neg	1	32 20	40.00	111.00	1 778 00	408.00	28 70
nagz m, m	That circ neg	2	33.50	33.00	195.00	2 253 00	350.00	30.00
		3	21.80	19.00	168.00	1,590.00	200.00	16.80
		4	12.50	23.00	96.00	1,265.00	55.00	6.90
		5	30.20	35.00	256.00	2,140.00	455.00	26.20
	Mean		26.04	30.00	165.20	1,805.20	293.60	21.72
	StDev		8.83	8.72	64.94	403.57	164.32	9.76

Fig. S2. No side effects of poly(I:C) injection and no toxicity of Cre. (a) Two weeks after poly(I:C) treatment absolute numbers of thymocyte subpopulations from untreated Mx Cre⁺ Rag2fl/– mice (empty bars) and poly(I:C)-treated MxCre⁻ Rag2fl/– mice (filled bars). (b) Absolute numbers of thymocytes 4 weeks after treatment of MxCre1⁺ Rag wt/wt (*Upper*) or MxCre1⁻ Rag wt/wt (*Lower*) with poly(I:C).

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Fig. S3. No side effect of poly(I:C) treatment on peripheral cells. (a) Absolute numbers of total, naïve, memory, and Treg CD4 T cells from poly(I:C)-treated (white bars) and nontreated (gray bars). (*Left*) Mx Cre⁺ Rag2 fl/– mice are shown. (*Right*) CD8 subsets are shown. (b) Expression of MHC class II (*Left*), CD80 (*Center*), and CD86 (*Right*) expression on DC (gated on CD11c) isolated 2 days after the last poly(I:C) injection. Histograms of cells from poly(I:C)-treated mice are shown as black lines, control untreated cells are shown as gray lines. Stipled lines represent isotype control values. This experiment is representative for three independent experiments using three to four mice per group.

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