Supporting Information

Zhou et al. 10.1073/pnas.0811119106

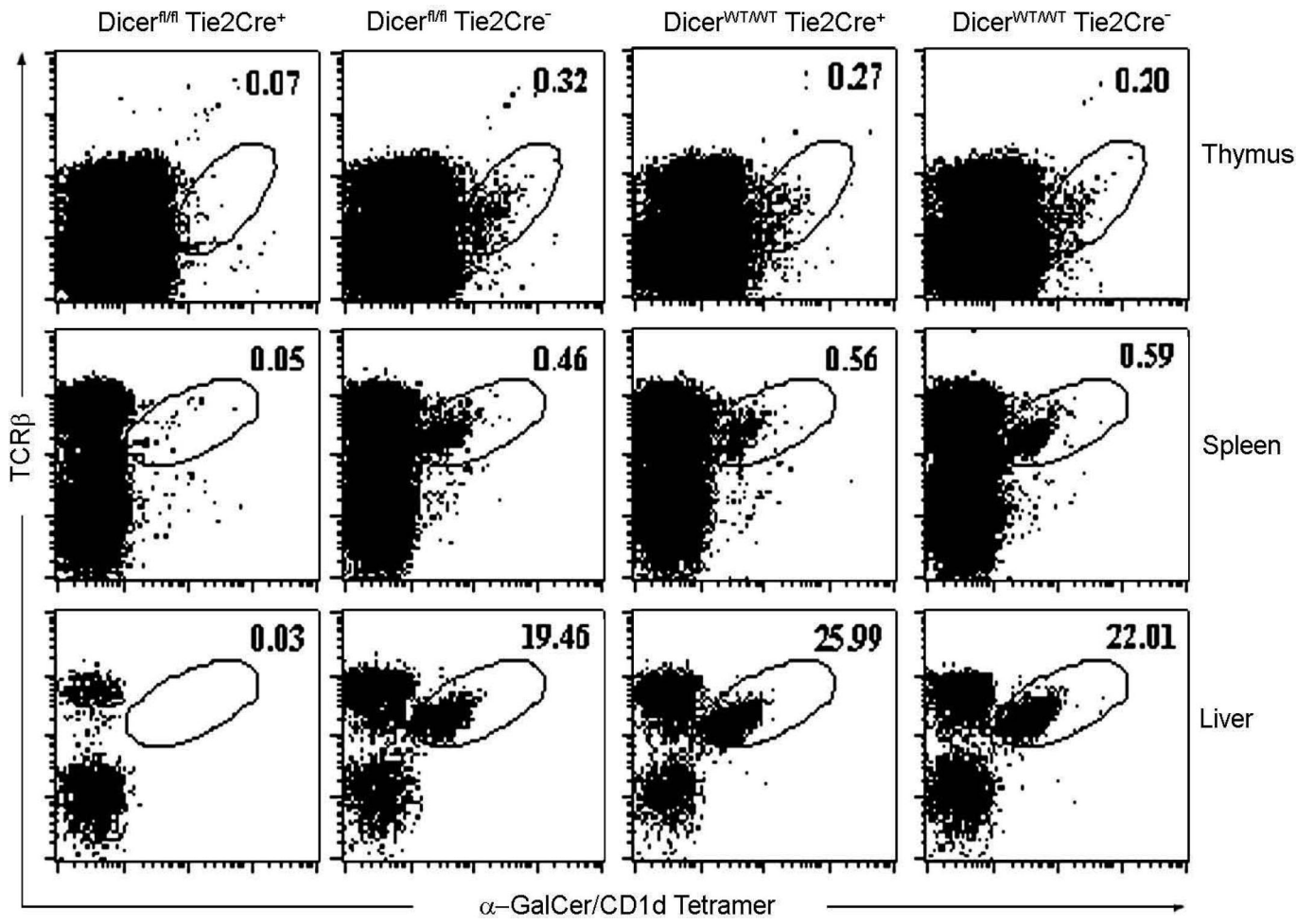

Fig. S1. Invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cells in Tie2-Cre transgenic and Dicer$^{fl/fl}$ mice. Thymic, splenic, and hepatic iNKT cells from Dicer$^{fl/fl}$Tie-2Cre^{+}, Dicer$^{fl/fl}$Tie-2Cre^{-}, Dicer$^{wt/wt}$Tie-2Cre^{+}, and Dicer$^{wt/wt}$Tie2Cre^{-} littermates were identified as TCRbeta^{+}Tetramer^{+} cells. In the spleen and liver, iNKT cells were gated on the B220^{lo} spleen and liver cells. There were no significant differences among Dicer$^{fl/fl}$Tie-2Cre^{-}, Dicer$^{wt/wt}$Tie-2Cre^{+}, and dicer$^{wt/wt}$Tie2Cre^{-} mice. However, iNKT cells were significantly reduced in Dicer$^{fl/fl}$Tie-2Cre^{+} mice.

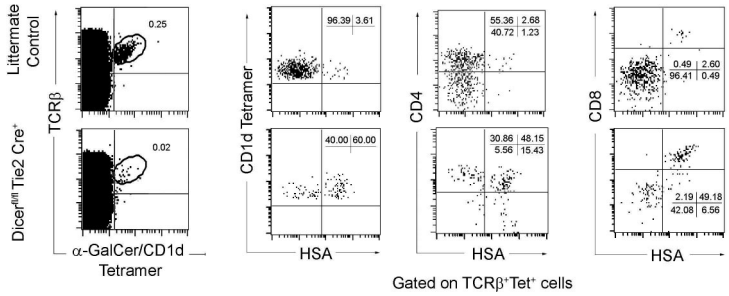

Fig. S2. Defective thymic *i*NKT cell development in Dicer$^{fl/fl}$Tie-2Cre^{+} mouse. TCRbeta^{+}Tetramer^{+} thymic *i*NKT cells were analyzed for the expression of CD24 (HSA), CD4, and CD8 in Dicer$^{fl/fl}$Tie-2Cre^{+} mice and WT littermate control.

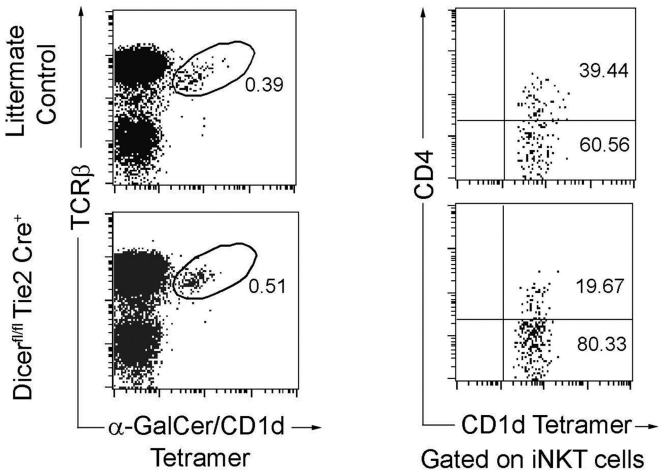

Fig. S3. The *i*NKT cell homeostasis in the spleen from Dicer deletion mice. CD8-depleted thymocytes (up to 4% of recovered thymocytes were Tetramer$^+$*i*NKT cells) from CD45.1-congenic mice were transferred to irradiated 6 week-old *Dicer*$^{fl/fl}$*Tie2cre*$^+$ or littermate control mice (2 to 3 mice per group). The CD45.1$^+$ lymphocytes from the spleen were analyzed for *i*NKT cells at day 5 after transferring. The percentages of CD4$^+$ *i*NKT cells were further analyzed in the spleen on the gated iNKT cells.