

Supporting Information

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SI Materials and Methods

Mice. *Ikkβ^Δ* mice were crossed with *Tnfr^{-/-}*, *Il1r^{-/-}*, *Rag1^{-/-}*, or NU-*Foxn1^{nu}* mice (all purchased from Jackson Laboratory), or *Asc^{-/-}* (1) and *Nlrp3^{-/-}* (2) to generate respective compound mutants. All mice were on a mixed genetic background and, in all experiments, Cre-negative littermate controls (*Ikkβ^{F/F}*) were used. *Prtn3/Ela2^{-/-}* (3) and *Casp1^{-/-}* mice (4) were on a C57/B6 background. To induce deletion of *Ikkβ*, mice were injected once with 250 μL of poly(I:C) (Sigma) i.p. and were generally analyzed after 21 d unless stated otherwise. Littermate controls received the same amount of poly(I:C). In neutralization experiments, 10 μg of rat α-G-CSF (MAB414; R&D Systems) or rat IgG1 isotype control (MAB 005; R&D Systems) were injected i.p. daily for 21 d. For ex vivo culture of bone marrow cells, total bone marrow was flushed from the hind limbs followed by RBC lysis. Cells (1×10^6) were stimulated with TNF-α (Peprotech) for 24 h in RPMI media containing 10% bovine FCS and 1% penicillin/streptomycin. ML120B was provided by Millenium Pharmaceuticals.

Flow Cytometry and Cell Separation. The following antibodies were used for FACS analysis: FITC-labeled anti-CD11b (BD Biosciences), PE-labeled anti-Gr-1 (eBioscience), FITC-labeled anti-CD34 (eBioscience), PE-labeled anti-FcγRII/III (eBioscience), APC-labeled anti-c-Kit (eBioscience), APC-Cy7-labeled anti-Sca-1 (BD Biosciences), APC-labeled anti-IL-7Rα (eBioscience), PerCP Cy5.5-labeled anti-IL-7Rα (eBioscience), PE-labeled anti-F4/80 (eBioscience), APC-labeled anti-IL-17 (eBioscience), FITC-labeled anti-CD3 (BD Biosciences), and FITC-labeled anti-CD4 (BD Biosciences). Annexin V (BD Biosciences) was used to quantify apoptotic cells. IL-7Rα⁺ and IL-7Rα⁻, as well as CD34⁺ and CD34⁻, cells were purified by using respective antibodies and magnetically separated by using anti-APC (IL-7Rα) or anti-FITC (CD34) microbeads according to the manufacturer's instructions (Miltenyi Biotec).

For detection of intracellular IL-17, MLN cells were isolated and stimulated with PMA (50 ng/mL) and ionomycin (500 ng/mL) in the presence of Golgi Plug (BD Pharmingen) for 4 h before permeabilization and staining. FACS data were acquired on a BD FACSCalibur (Becton Dickinson) and analyzed using FlowJo software (TreeStar). Myeloid progenitors were identified on a Gallios flow cytometer and data were analyzed by using Kaluza software (Beckman Coulter).

In Vitro T-Cell Differentiation. T cells were isolated by using the CD4⁺ T Cell Isolation Kit II (Miltenyi Biotech) and incubated in anti-CD3 (4 μg)/anti-CD28 (2 μg)-coated plates in the presence of recombinant mouse IL-6, IL-23, TGF-β, and IL-1β (Peprotech).

Protein and RNA Analysis. For immunoblot analysis, the following antibodies were used: IL-1β (R&D Systems), IKKβ (UBI), and β-actin (Sigma). IL-1β, IL-6, IL-17, IFN-γ, and G-CSF levels in plasma and cell culture supernatants were measured using the respective DuoSet ELISA system (R&D Systems). RNA isolation and cDNA synthesis was performed as previously described (1), and real-time PCR analysis with a Power SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems) was performed on a StepOne Plus Real-Time PCR system (Applied Biosystems). RNA levels were normalized to cyclophilin levels and calculated as $2^{(Ct \text{ cyclophilin} - Ct \text{ gene of interest})}$ and plotted as arbitrary units on a linear scale. Primer sequences are available on request.

Induction of EAE. Twenty-one days after poly(I:C) administration, *Ikkβ^{F/F}* and *Ikkβ^Δ* were immunized s.c. at the dorsal flanks with 100 μg of MOG₃₅₋₅₅ peptide (MEVGWYRSPFSRVVH-LYRNGK) emulsified in complete Freund adjuvant (250 μg of *Mycobacterium* extract H37Ra per mouse). Pertussis toxin (200 ng) was given i.p. on days 0 and 2 after immunization. Occurrence of EAE was clinically scored when the mice had developed a limp tail or gait alterations (5). For MOG recall experiments, *Ikkβ^{F/F}* and *Ikkβ^Δ* mice were killed on day 12 after MOG₃₅₋₅₅ immunization and draining lymph node cells were cultured in the presence of various concentrations of MOG₃₃₋₅₅ peptide. The supernatants were collected after 48 h of antigen reexposure for determination of cytokine secretion by ELISA and proliferation was determined by [³H]-thymidine incorporation assay and compared with T cells that had not been rechallenged to determine stimulation index.

Statistical Analysis. Data are expressed as mean ± SE. Differences were analyzed by log-rank or Student *t* test by using Prism software, version 4 (GraphPad Software). A *P* value ≤ 0.05 was considered significant.

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