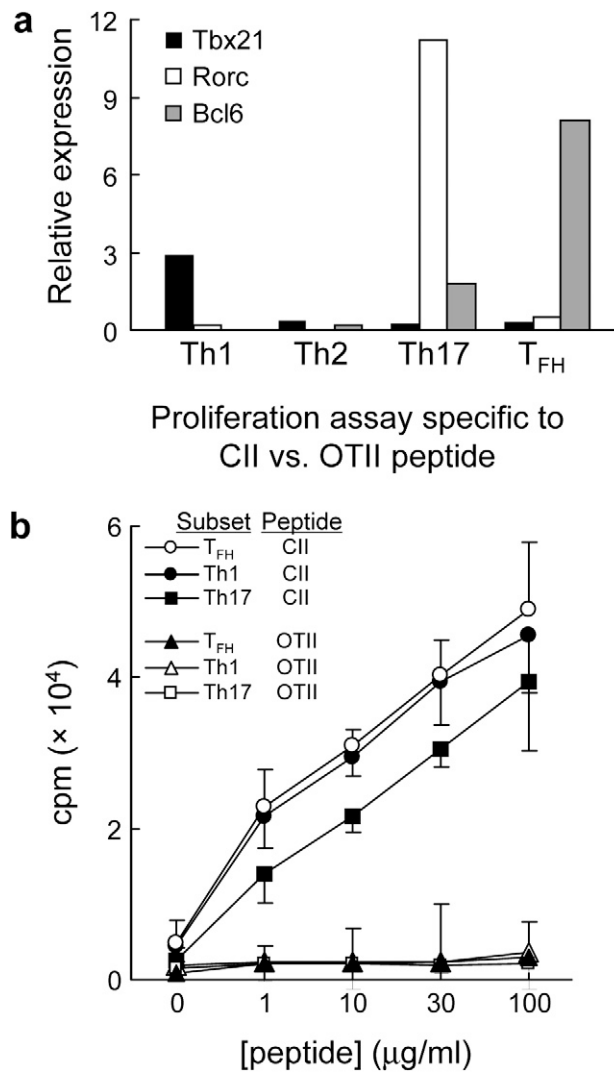


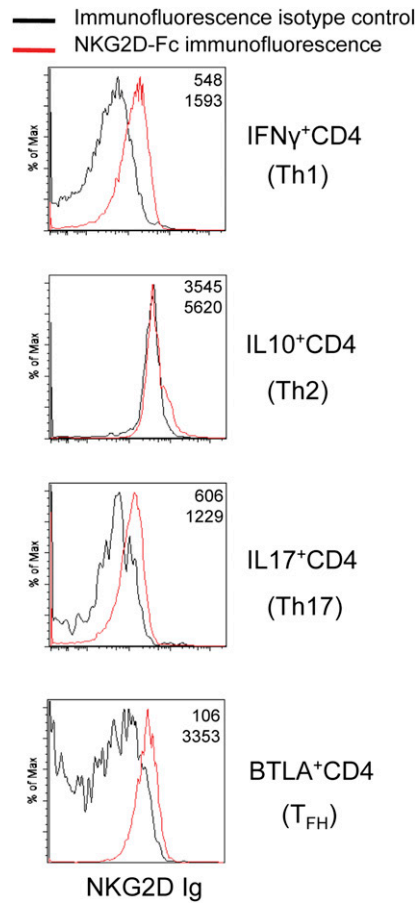
# Supporting Information

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**Fig. S1.** Generation of type II collagen (CII)-specific T helper (T<sub>H</sub>) subsets. (A) Levels of mRNA *Tbx21*, *Rorc*, and *Bcl6* mRNA were measured by quantitative RT-PCR to define T<sub>H</sub> subsets generated in vitro. (B) Specificity of T<sub>H</sub> subsets for CII. In vitro-generated T<sub>H</sub> subsets were incubated with different concentrations of chicken CII or OTII peptide for 48 h and pulsed with <sup>3</sup>H-thymidine for the last 18 h before proliferation assays were performed.





**Fig. S3.** Enhanced NKG2D ligand expression does not account for differential susceptibility of T<sub>H</sub> subsets. T<sub>H</sub> subsets were stimulated with leukocyte activation mixture for 4 h before surface staining with anti-CD4, anti-BTLA, and NKG2D-Fc (revealed with goat anti-human APC) followed by intracellular staining with Abs to indicated cytokines. Levels of NKG2D-Fc-dependent fluorescence were measured for IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup>, IL-10<sup>+</sup>, IL-17<sup>+</sup>, and BTLA<sup>+</sup> CD4 cells. Representative histogram overlays are shown with mean fluorescence intensity indicated.