



Supplementary Figure 3. Protective immunity in BALB/c mice was associated with a Th17/IL-17A polarized response, compared with a Th1/IFN polarized response in C57BL/6 mice. *S. aureus* specific T cell responses were assessed 8 wks after secondary *S. aureus* SSTI by ELISpot (A-C) intracellular cytokine staining (G-I) (n=3-5 mice/group). (A) IFN responses were higher in C57BL/6 mice, compared with BALB/c mice, after secondary infection. (B) There was no significant difference in IL-17A between C57BL/6 and BALB/c mice after secondary infection. (C) IFN/IL-17A ratios were higher in C57BL/6 mice, compared with BALB/c mice, after secondary infection. (D) The percentage of CD4+ CD44+ IFN staining cells was higher in C57BL/6 mice, compared with BALB/c mice, after secondary infection. (E) There were no significant differences in the percentage of CD4+ CD44+ IL-17A staining cells between C57BL/6 and BALB/c mice after secondary infection. (F) There was a higher ratio of IFN/IL-17A staining CD4+ CD44+ cells in C57BL/6 mice, compared with BALB/c mice after secondary infection. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ by one way ANOVA with Tukey's post-test. The results of one representative experiment are presented; each was repeated at least once.