Supplemental Figures



Supplemental Figure 1. The fidelity of the central tolerance checkpoint is compromised in patients with MG: Central tolerance checkpoint polyreactivity ELISAs. The BCR from single new emigrant/transitional B cells (CD19⁺CD21^{lo}CD10⁺IgM^{hi}CD27⁻) derived from three AChR MG patients (MG-AChR-1, MG-AChR-2, MG-AChR-3) and two MuSK MG patients (MG-MuSK-1, MG-MuSK-2) were cloned, expressed as recombinant antibodies and then tested for reactivity against dsDNA, insulin and LPS by ELISA. Dotted lines show the positive control, a monoclonal antibody (ED38) cloned from a VpreB+L+ peripheral B cell that is highly poly- and self-reactive. Solid lines show the binding curve of each cloned recombinant antibodies from two healthy individuals (HD-1, HD-2). For each individual subject the proportion of polyreactive and non-polyreactive new emigrant B cells is summarized in the pie charts with the total number of tested clones in the center. Black shading indicates the frequency (%) of polyreactive antibodies.



Supplemental Figure 2. The fidelity of the peripheral tolerance checkpoint is compromised in patients with MG: Peripheral tolerance checkpoint polyreactivity ELISAs. The BCR from single mature naive B cells (CD19⁺CD21⁺CD10⁻IgM⁺CD27⁻) derived from three AChR MG patients (MG-AChR-1, MG-AChR-2, MG-AChR-3) and MuSK MG patients (MG-MuSK-1, MG-MuSK-2) were cloned, expressed as recombinant antibodies and then tested for reactivity against dsDNA, insulin and LPS by ELISA. Dotted lines show the positive control, a monoclonal antibody (ED38) cloned from a VpreB+L+ peripheral B cell that is highly poly- and self-reactive. Solid lines show the binding curve of each cloned recombinant antibodies from two healthy individuals (HD-1, HD-2). For each individual subject the frequency (%) of polyreactive and non-polyreactive mature naive B cells is summarized in the pie charts with the total number of tested clones in the center. Black shading indicates the frequency (%) of polyreactive antibodies.



Supplemental Figure 3. Mature naive B cell-derived BCRs reactivity toward AChR and MuSK. The BCR from single mature naive B cells (CD19⁺CD21⁺CD10⁻IgM⁺CD27⁻) derived from three AChR MG patients (MG-AChR-1, MG-AChR-2, MG-AChR-3), two MuSK MG patients (MG-MuSK-1, MG-MuSK-2) and two healthy individuals (HD-1, HD-2) were cloned, expressed as recombinant antibodies (rIgG) and then tested for reactivity against AChR or MuSK. A radioimmunoassay (RIA) was first used to evaluate the specificity of the rIgG to AChR (A) or MuSK (B). Recombinant antibody (2.5 µg) was diluted to 50 µl in Hartmann's solution and mixed with 1 µl normal human serum and 50 µl of radioactive antigen (either AChR or MuSK from RSR Ltd). These mixtures were incubated overnight at 4°C. Polyreactive goat anti-human Ig (25 µl) was incubated with the mix for 1 hr to allow precipitation. The pellet was centrifuged and washed twice and counted on an automatic gamma counter. Cell-based assays (CBA) were used further evaluate the same recombinant antibodies using transfected human embryonic kidney (HEK) 293T

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cells. Transient transfections were established using PEI with the four full-length AChR adult subunits and rapsyn-GFP to allow clustering of the AChR, or full-length MuSK-GFP. Two CBA platforms were used; immunofluorescence (IFA) and flow cytometry. In the IFA approach, cells were incubated with 2.5 µg rIgG in Hartmann's solution, with HEPES buffered Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium and 1% BSA. Cells were fixed with 4% PFA, washed and incubated with fluorescently labeled goat anti-human IgG. The cells were washed and mounted in anti-fade mounting medium supplemented with DAPI. In the flow cytometry approach cells were incubated with 10 µg/mL of rIgG, washed then incubated with fluorescently labeled goat anti-human IgG. Binding to clustered AChR in the CBAs is shown for the immunofluorescence microscopy (C) and flow cytometry (E). Similarly, binding to MuSK in the CBAs is shown for immunofluorescence microscopy (D) and flow cytometry (F). Representative images from the immunofluorescence microscopy are shown (G) for both the AChR and MuSK CBAs. Positive controls, either serum from MG subjects or a human AChR-specific monoclonal antibody (mAB-637), used in each assay platform are indicated in figure panels. Healthy donor sera were used as negative controls in the flow cytometry CBAs; these samples consistently bound less that 4% of the transfected cells (not shown).