#### **Supplementary material**

#### Inflammatory response of microglia to prions is controlled by sialylation of PrPSc

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#### **Supplemental Figure Legends.**

**Figure S1. Purification and 2D analysis of PrP<sup>Sc</sup>.** (A) Analysis of purified, brain-derived 22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> by silver staining (left panel) and Western blot using anti-PrP Ab3531 antibody (right panel). Full-length recombinant PrP is shown as references of leading amounts. (B) Analysis of PrP<sup>Sc</sup> by 2D Western blot: 22L scrapie brain homogenate (i); brain-derived, purified 22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> mock-treated using conditions for neuraminidase treatment (ii); brain-derived, purified 22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> treated with neuraminidase (iii); ScN2a cell-derived, purified 22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> mock-treated using conditions for neuraminidase treatment (iv); ScN2a cell-derived, purified 22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> treated with neuraminidase treatment (iv); ScN2a cell-derived, purified 22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> treated with neuraminidase (v). (C) Assessing the amounts of PrP<sup>Sc</sup> in purified preparations of 22L and ds22L in comparison to 1% 22L scrapie brain homogenate. All Western blots were stained using Ab3531 antibody.

**Figure S2. Analysis of inflammatory responses of BV2 cells to neuraminidase treatment.** To examine whether the neuraminidase or the buffer components used for the desialylation reaction have any inflammatory effects, BV2 cells were treated with neuraminidase (Neu), heat denatured neuraminidase (D.Neu) or Glycobuffer1 (the buffer used for neuraminidase treatment reactions) using experimental conditions identical to the experiments presented in Figures 2 and 3. The final concentration of neuraminidase in cultured cells was the same as in the experiments on treatment of BV2 cells with ds-22L PrP<sup>Sc</sup> material presented in Figure 2 and 3. Levels of TNF $\alpha$  (A), IL6 (B), NO (C) and iNOS were measured upon treatment of BV2 cells for 18 hours. In parallel, cells were cultured in the absence of treatment (ctrl) or were treated with LPS (100 ng/ml). In panel C, the concentration of NO in fresh culture media is marked a as Blank. Expression levels of iNOS were normalized relative to the intensity of the  $\beta$  actin.

Figure S3. Dose dependent effect of 22L and ds-22L on NO production in BV2 cells. A dose response of BV2 cells exposed to purified 22L or ds-22L  $PrP^{Sc}$  for 18 hours, as analyzed by measuring NO secretion. NO secretion in non-treated control is shown for reference (ctrl). The final concentrations of 22L or ds-22L  $PrP^{Sc}$  in the cell culture media spike with 10 µl of purified material were equivalent to the amounts of  $PrP^{Sc}$  in 0.75% 22L scrapie brain homogenate.

Figure S4. Full-length Western blots shown in Figure 3A and Figure 6A.

Figure S5. Full-length Western blots shown in Figure 4A.







Figure S4



