

Selective disruption of TLR2/MyD88 interaction inhibits inflammation and attenuates Alzheimer's pathology

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Legends to Supplemental Figures

Figure S1. Monitoring TLR2, TLR4 and MyD88 in the CNS of cases clinically diagnosed as no cognitive impairment (NCI) and Alzheimer's disease (AD). Hippocampal sections of NCI and AD brains were double-labeled with Iba-1 (microglia) & TLR2 (A), Iba-1 & MyD88 (B) and Iba-1 & TLR4 (C). Results represent analysis of two sections from each of four different brains. Cells positive for Iba1 (D, cortex; E, CA1) were counted in two sections (two images per slide) of each of four different cases. $^a p < 0.001$ vs NCI by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S2. Status of TLR2 in the CNS of non-Tg and Tg (5XFAD) mice. A) Hippocampal sections of six-month old non-Tg and Tg mouse brains were double-labeled with Iba-1 (microglia) and TLR2. Results represent analysis of two sections from each of six different mice. B) Hippocampal extracts of all groups of mice (n=4) were immunoblotted for TLR2. Actin was run as loading control. C) Bands were scanned using the NIH Image J software and values (TLR2/Actin) are presented as relative to non-Tg control. $^a p < 0.001$ vs non-Tg by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S3. Status of MyD88 in the CNS of non-Tg and Tg (5XFAD) mice. A) Hippocampal sections of six-month old non-Tg and Tg mouse brains were double-labeled with Iba-1 (microglia) and MyD88. Results represent analysis of two sections from each of six different mice. B) Hippocampal extracts of all groups of mice (n=4) were immunoblotted for MyD88. Actin was run as loading control. C) Bands were scanned using the NIH Image J software and values (MyD88/Actin) are presented as relative to non-Tg control. $^a p < 0.001$ vs non-Tg by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S4. Implementation of in silico homology modeling strategy to build the structure of TLR-interacting domain of different mouse TLRs. Initial structures of TIRs (A, TLR1; B, TLR2; C, TLR4; D, TLR5; E, TLR6; F, TLR7; G, TLR9) were modeled by Deep View 3.7 β 2, an online macromolecular analytical tool of Expert Protein Analytical System (ExpPASy). The quality of each modeled structure was evaluated with Quality Measurement Analysis tool (QMEAN).

Figure S5. Docking analyses of wtTIDM and mTIDM complexed with TIR domain of TLR2 protein. A) *In silico* structural analysis of TIR domain of TLR2 and wtTIDM peptide. The docked pose was derived from pydock rigid-body protein-protein docking tool. The most stable structure was obtained from j mol viewer and displayed. B) Similar analysis was performed with mTIDM. C) Further analyses revealed a strong electrostatic interaction between wtTIDM and TLR2 ($\sim 2.31 \text{ \AA}^\circ$; *left*) and a weak interaction with mTIDM ($\sim 7.26 \text{ \AA}^\circ$; *right*) (D) A closer look of a complex between BB loop of TLR2 (blue) and CD loop of MYD88 (green). VDW droplets were shown to be overlapped with each other. E) The VDW clouds of MYD88 (pink) moved far from these of TLR2 (blue) when complexed with wtTIDM (green).

Figure S6. Effect of wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides on the expression of proinflammatory molecules in microglial cells. BV-2 microglial cells preincubated with 10 μM wtTIDM/mTIDM peptides for 1 h were stimulated with 1 μM fibrillar A β 1-42 (A), 1 μM MPP $^+$ (B), 250 ng/ml LTA (C), 1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ LPS (D), 1 μM flagellin (E), and 1 μM CpG DNA (F). After 4 h of stimulation, the mRNA expression of IL-1 β and iNOS was monitored by RT-PCR (n=2 replicates/condition in 3 independent experiments).

Figure S7. Effect of wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides on polyIC-mediated activation of NF- κ B activation and the expression of proinflammatory molecules in microglial cells. BV-2 microglial cells preincubated with 10 μ M wtTIDM/mTIDM peptides for 1 h were stimulated with 50 μ M polyIC. A) After 1 h of stimulation, the activation of NF- κ B was monitored in nuclear extracts by EMSA. After 4 h of stimulation, the mRNA expression of IL-1 β and iNOS was monitored by semi-quantitative RT-PCR (B) and real-time PCR (C, IL-1 β ; D, iNOS) (n=2 replicates/condition in 3 independent experiments). ^a*p* < 0.001 vs control; ^b*p* < 0.001 vs stimuli by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S8. Effect of wtTIDM peptide on fibrillar A β - and LPS-induced nuclear translocation of p65 and p50 in microglial cells. BV-2 microglial cells preincubated with 10 μ M wtTIDM peptide for 1 h were stimulated with either 1 μ M fibrillar A β 1-42 (A-C) or 1 μ g/ml LPS (D-F) under serum-free condition. At different minute intervals, levels of p65 and p50 (A, fibrillar A β ; D, LPS) were monitored in nuclear extracts by Western blot. Histone H3 was run as a loading control. Bands were scanned and values of p65/H3 (B & E) and p50/H3 (C & F) are presented as relative to control (n=2 replicates/condition in 3 independent experiments). ^a*p* < 0.05, ^b*p* < 0.001 vs control; ^c*p* < 0.01 vs 30 min stimulation; ^d*p* < 0.05 vs 15 min stimulation; NS, not significant by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S9. The wtTIDM peptide remained unable to inhibit fibrillar A β 1-42 peptide-mediated activation of NF- κ B and the expression of proinflammatory molecules in TLR2 (-/-) microglia. Primary microglia isolated from WT (A) and TLR2 (-/-) (B) mice were treated with different concentrations of wtTIDM peptide for 1 h followed by stimulation with 1 μ M fibrillar A β 1-42 under serum-free condition. After 1 h of stimulation, the activation of NF- κ B was monitored by EMSA. WT (C & D) and TLR2 (-/-) (E & F) microglia were treated with different concentrations of wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides for 1 h followed by stimulation with 1 μ M fibrillar A β 1-42 under serum-free condition. After 18 h of stimulation, levels of TNF α (C & E) and IL-1 β (D & F) were monitored in supernatants by ELISA (n=2 replicates/condition in 3 independent experiments). ^a*p* < 0.001 vs control; ^b*p* < 0.001 vs stimuli by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S10. After intranasal administration, wtTIDM peptide enters into the hippocampus of Tg mice. The wtTIDM peptide was labeled with Alexa 680-SE NIR dye (Life Technologies) following the manufacturer's protocol and Alexa 680-labeled peptide (2.5 μ g) was administered to each mouse intranasally. Alexa 680-SE NIR dye was also administered as control. After 60 min, mice (n=3 in each group) were perfused with PBS and paraformaldehyde and hippocampal regions of the brain were scanned in Odyssey (ODY-0854, Licor-Inc) infra-red scanner at 700 and 800 nm channels. The red background came from 800 nm filter whereas the green signal was from Alexa 680-labeled NBD peptide at 700 nm channel.

Figure S11. After intranasal delivery, wtTIDM peptide suppresses the activation of NF- κ B in the hippocampus of Tg mice. Tg mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, hippocampal extracts of all groups of mice were immunoblotted for phospho-p65 (A). Actin was run as loading control. Bands were scanned and values (p-p65/Actin) are presented as relative to non-Tg control (n=4 in two independent experiments). ^a*p* < 0.001 vs non-Tg; ^b*p* < 0.001 vs Tg by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S12. Intranasal delivery of wtTIDM, but not mTIDM, peptide suppresses microglial expression of iNOS in the hippocampus of Tg mice. Tg mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, mice were sacrificed and hippocampal sections were double-labeled for Iba-1 and iNOS. Results represent analysis of two sections from each of six different mice per group.

Figure S13. Intranasal delivery of wtTIDM, but not mTIDM, peptide lowers the burden of amyloid plaques in the hippocampus of Tg mice. A) Tg mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, hippocampal extracts of all groups of mice (n=4 per group) were analyzed for protein levels of A β by Western blot using 82E1 mAb. Actin was run as loading control. B) Bands were scanned and values (A β /Actin) presented as relative to non-Tg control. Results were analyzed by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S14. Intranasal delivery of wtTIDM, but not mTIDM, peptide reduces the levels of A β ₁₋₄₀ and A β ₁₋₄₂ in serum and hippocampus of Tg mice. Tg mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, ELISA quantification of A β ₁₋₄₀ (A, C & E) and A β ₁₋₄₂ (B, D & F) was performed in serum (A & B) and TBS (C & D) and (TBS+Triton X-100) (E & F) extracted hippocampal tissues. Six mice (n=6 per group) were used in two independent experiments. ^a*p* < 0.01 & ^c*p* < 0.001 versus *non-Tg*; ^b*p* < 0.01 & ^d*p* < 0.001 versus *Tg* by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S15. Intranasal delivery of wtTIDM, but not mTIDM, peptide decreases the phosphorylation of tau in the hippocampus of Tg mice. A) Tg mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, hippocampal extracts of all groups of mice (n=4 per group) were analyzed for phospho-tau and total tau by Western blot. B) Bands were scanned and values (P-Tau/Tau) presented as relative to non-Tg control. Results were analyzed by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S16. Intranasal delivery of wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides does not modulate locomotor activities of Tg mice. Tg mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, mice were tested for general locomotor activities (A, number of movements; B, horizontal activity; C, rest time; D, number of stereotypy). Eight mice (n=8 in two independent experiments) were used in each group. NS, not significant.

Figure S17. Intranasal delivery of wtTIDM peptide does not reduce plaques and improve memory in FAD5X Tg mice lacking Tlr2 (Tg-Tlr2^{-/-}). A) *Tlr2*^{-/-} mice were bred with Tg (5XFAD mice) and representative PCR of *Tlr2*, *App695* and *Psen1* transgene DNA expression is shown for 6-month old non-Tg, Tg (5XFAD), Tg-*Tlr2*^{-/-} (F7), and *Tlr2*^{-/-} mice. Average body weight (B) and wet brain weight (C) of non-Tg, Tg, Tg-*Tlr2*^{-/-}, and *Tlr2*^{-/-} mice. For wet brain weight, the olfactory lobes and brainstem were removed. Tg-*Tlr2*^{-/-} mice (6-month old) were treated with wtTIDM peptide (0.1 mg/kg body wt/2d) via intranasal route. After 30d of treatment, hippocampal sections were immunolabeled with 6E10 mAb (D). Amyloid plaques were counted in two sections (two images per slide) of each of four different mice per group (E). Mice were tested for Barnes maze (F, track plot; G, latency; H, number of errors made). Four mice (n=4) were used in each group. NS, not significant by two-sample t-tests.

Figure S18. Footprint analysis of EAE mice after treatment with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides. On the walking track, we applied white paper strips and obtained the footprints of mice of different groups (A, control; B, EAE; C, EAE+wtTIDM; D, EAE+mTIDM) on paper using black ink. A total of 30-40 steps for each group were determined. Four different footprint measurements, viz., stride length (SL), print length (PL), sway length (SWL), and toe spread (TS) were calculated in centimeters from the recorded prints of mice. While SL refers the distance between the front edge of two consecutive prints of the same paw, SWL refers the distance between the paws perpendicular to the distance of travel and PL indicates the measurement of length of print area. On the other hand, TS refers the distance between the first and fifth digits of paw print. Six mice (n=6 per group) were used in two independent experiments.

Figure S19. Footprint analysis of mice with CIA after treatment with wtTIDM and mTIDM peptides. On the walking track, we applied white paper strips and obtained the footprints of mice of different groups (A, control; B, CIA; C, CIA+wtTIDM; D, CIA+mTIDM) on paper using black ink. A total of 30-40 steps for each group were determined. Four different footprint measurements (SL, PL, SWL, and TS) were calculated in centimeters from the recorded prints of mice. Six mice (n=6 per group) were used in two independent experiments.

Figure S20. Morphology of fibrillar A β 1-42 peptides. Fibrillar A β 1-42 peptides (Bachem Bioscience) were prepared by incubating freshly solubilized peptides at 50 μ M in sterile distilled water at 37 °C for 5 days. Morphology of fibrillar A β 1-42 peptides was examined by transmission electron microscopy.

Table S1: Clinical and pathological characteristics of human samples

Number of samples	NCI (n=12)	MCI (n=11)	AD (n=10)
Age (years) at death	82.18 \pm 5.13	84.87 \pm 6.23	88.73 \pm 5.89
Number of males	4	7	5
Number of females	8	4	5
Number of ApoE e4 allele	4	2	5
MMSE	27.25 \pm 2.77	25.95 \pm 1.92	13.30 \pm 5.27
GCS	0.44 \pm 0.32	0.09 \pm 0.27	-1.13 \pm 0.39
PMI (hours)	7.45 \pm 6.36	5.15 \pm 3.12	6.57 \pm 3.33
Distribution of Braak Scores			
No AD	0	0	0
I/II	2	2	1
III/IV	10	7	5
V/VI	0	2	4
NIA Reagan			
No AD	0	0	0
Low	5	3	1
Intermediate	7	7	6
High	0	1	3
CERAD			
No AD	5	3	0
Possible	0	0	0
Probable	5	6	6
Definite	2	2	4

NCI, No cognitive impairment; MCI, mild cognitive impairment; AD, Alzheimer's disease; ApoE, apolipoprotein E; MMSE, Mini-Mental State Examination; GCS, global cognitive z score; PMI, post-mortem interval; NIA, National Institute on Aging; CERAD, Consortium to Establish a Registry for Alzheimer's Disease

Table S2: Correlations of TLR2, TLR4 and MyD88 with Cognitive Test Scores

	NCI	MCI	AD	p^a	Pairwise	r_s^b		
						MMSE	GCS	Braak
MyD88	6.38 ± 1.26	14.69 ± 4.41	45.66 ± 7.72	<.001	NCI, MCI < AD	-.538, $p = .001$	-.475, $p = .005$.371, $p = .033$
TLR2	34.75 ± 6.05	29.98 ± 11.44	69.37 ± 11.47	.018	NCI, MCI < AD	-.278, $p = .117$	-.177, $p = .326$.463, $p = .007$
TLR4	15.36 ± 3.82	14.61 ± 4.92	10.55 ± 1.61	.620	N/A	-.173, $p = .336$.047, $p = .794$	-.012, $p = .947$

Pre-frontal cortex homogenates of NCI, MCI and AD were immunoblotted with antibodies against TLR2, TLR4 and MyD88. β -actin was used to normalize loading. Values represent mean \pm SEM (range). Protein levels of TLR2, TLR4 and MyD88 were correlated with MMSE, GCS and Braak. AD, Alzheimer's disease; MCI, mild cognitive impairment; NCI, no cognitive impairment; MMSE, Mini-Mental State Examination; GCS, Global Cognitive z Score.

^aKruskal-Wallis test corrected for multiple comparisons; Spearman's Rank-Order correlation (2-tailed), unadjusted.

Table S3. **Antibodies, sources, applications, and dilutions used**

Antibody	Manufacturer	Catalog	Host	Application	Dilution/ Amount
TLR2	Millipore	06-1119	Rabbit	WB/IF	1:1000/1:100
TLR4	Abcam	Ab13556	Rabbit	WB/IF	1:1000/1:150
MyD88	Millipore	AB16527	Rabbit	WB	1:1000
MyD88	Abcam	Ab2068	Rabbit	IF	1:150
MyD88	Santa Cruz	Sc11356	Rabbit	IP	2 µg/reaction
β-actin	Abcam	Ab6276	Mouse	WB	1:6000
6E10	Covance	sig-39320	Mouse	WB	1:1000
phosphorylated p65 ^{S536}	Cell Signaling	3031S	Rabbit	WB/IF	1:1000
82E1	IBL	10323	Mouse	IHC	1:1000
Iba-1	Abcam	Ab5076	Goat	IF	1:500
GFAP	Dako	Z0334	Rabbit	WB/ IF	1:1000/1:2000
NeuN	Millipore	NAB377	Mouse	IF	1:500
iNOS	BD Bioscience	610432	Mouse	WB/IF	1:200
Cleaved caspase 3	Santa Cruz	sc-7148	Rabbit	WB	1:100
PSD95	Abcam	Ab2723	Mouse	WB	1:1000
NR2A	Cell Signaling	4205S	Rabbit	WB	1:250
GluR1	Cell Signaling	13185S	Rabbit	WB	1:250
P-Tau (pSer396)	Sigma-Aldrich	SAB4504557	Rabbit	WB/IF	1:1000
Tau (TAU-5)	Millipore- Sigma	577801	Mouse	WB/IF	1:1000

WB, Western blot; IP, immunoprecipitation; IHC, immunohistochemistry; IF, immunofluorescence

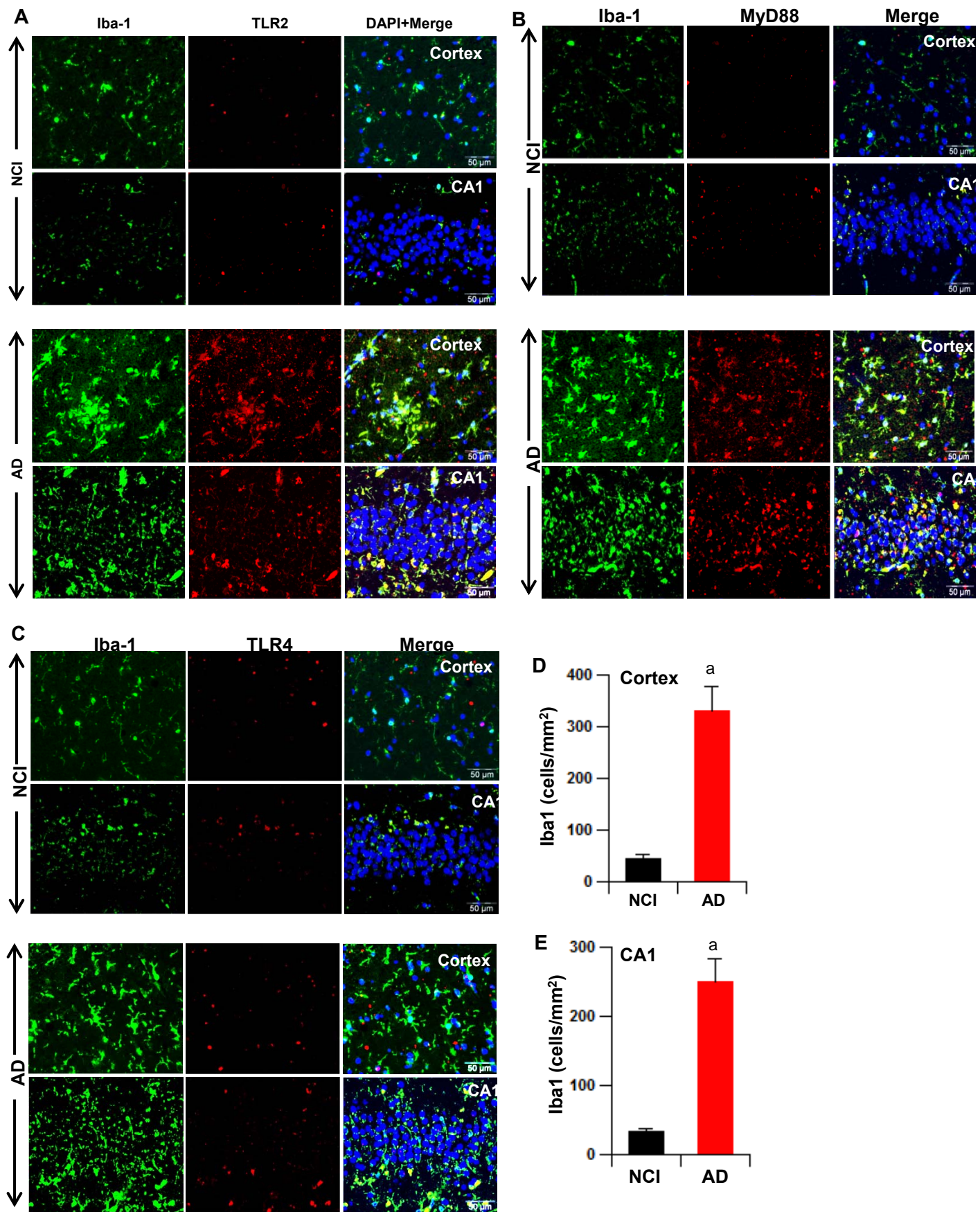


Figure S1

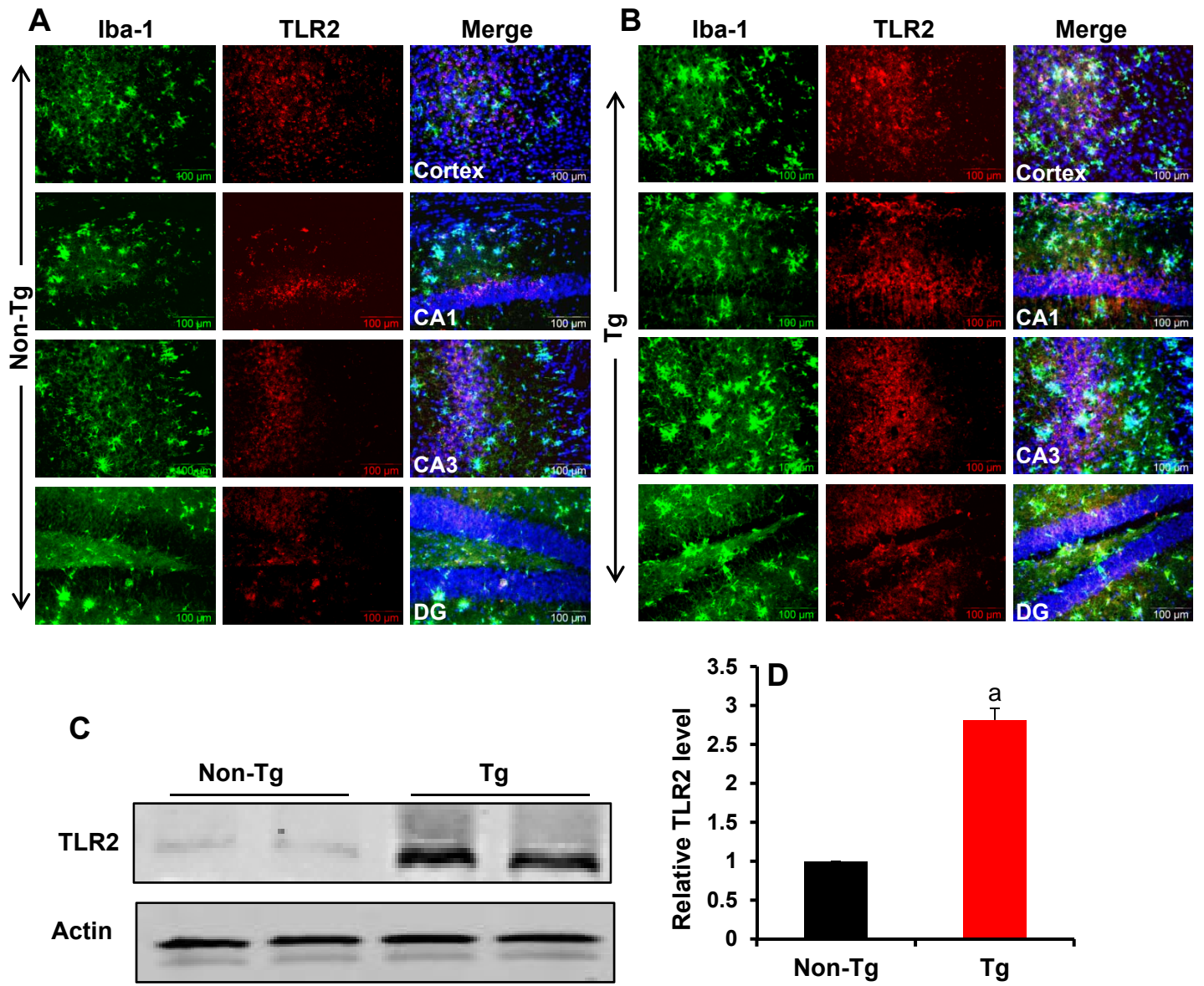


Figure S2

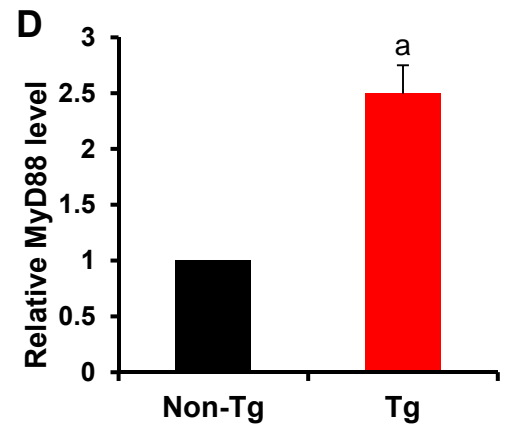
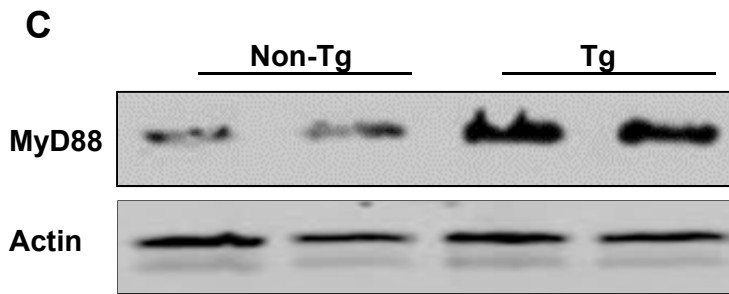
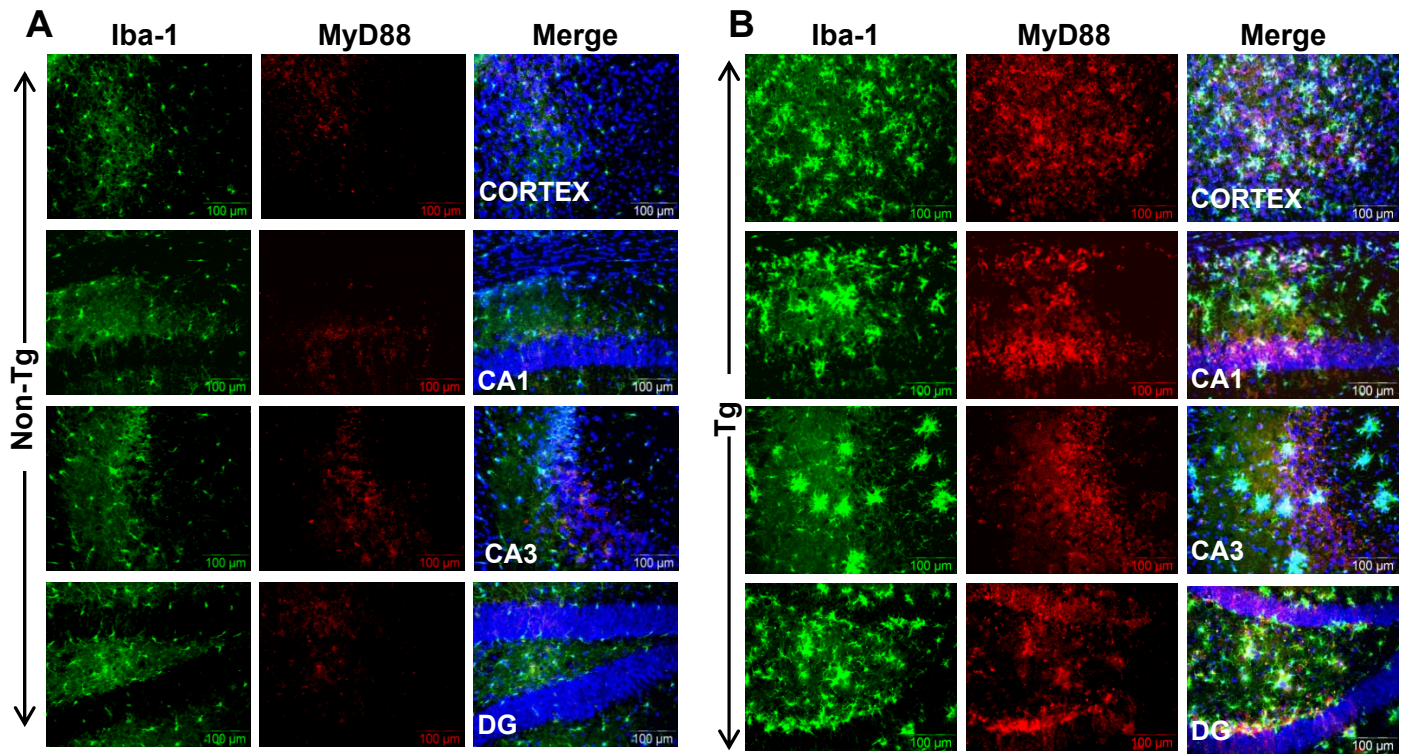


Figure S3

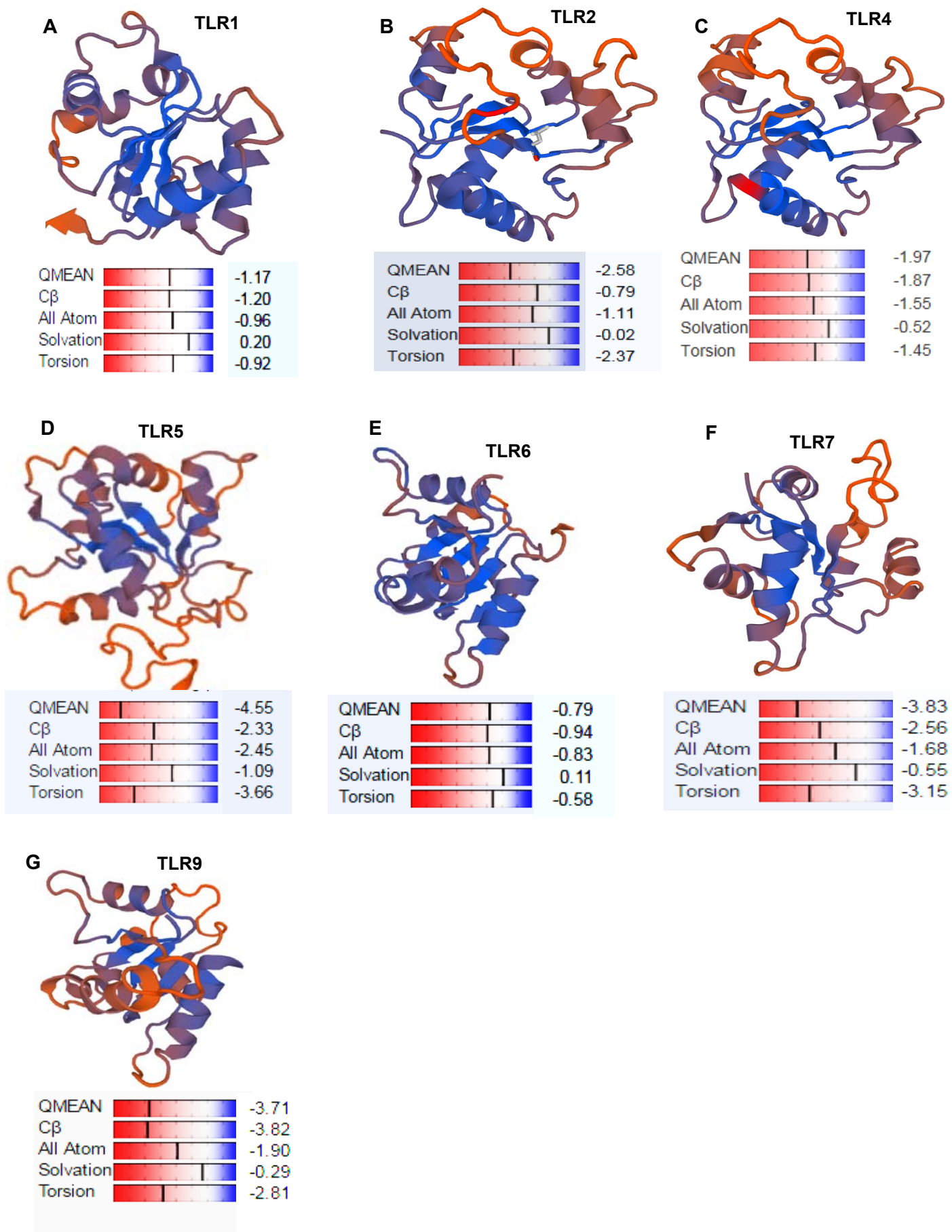


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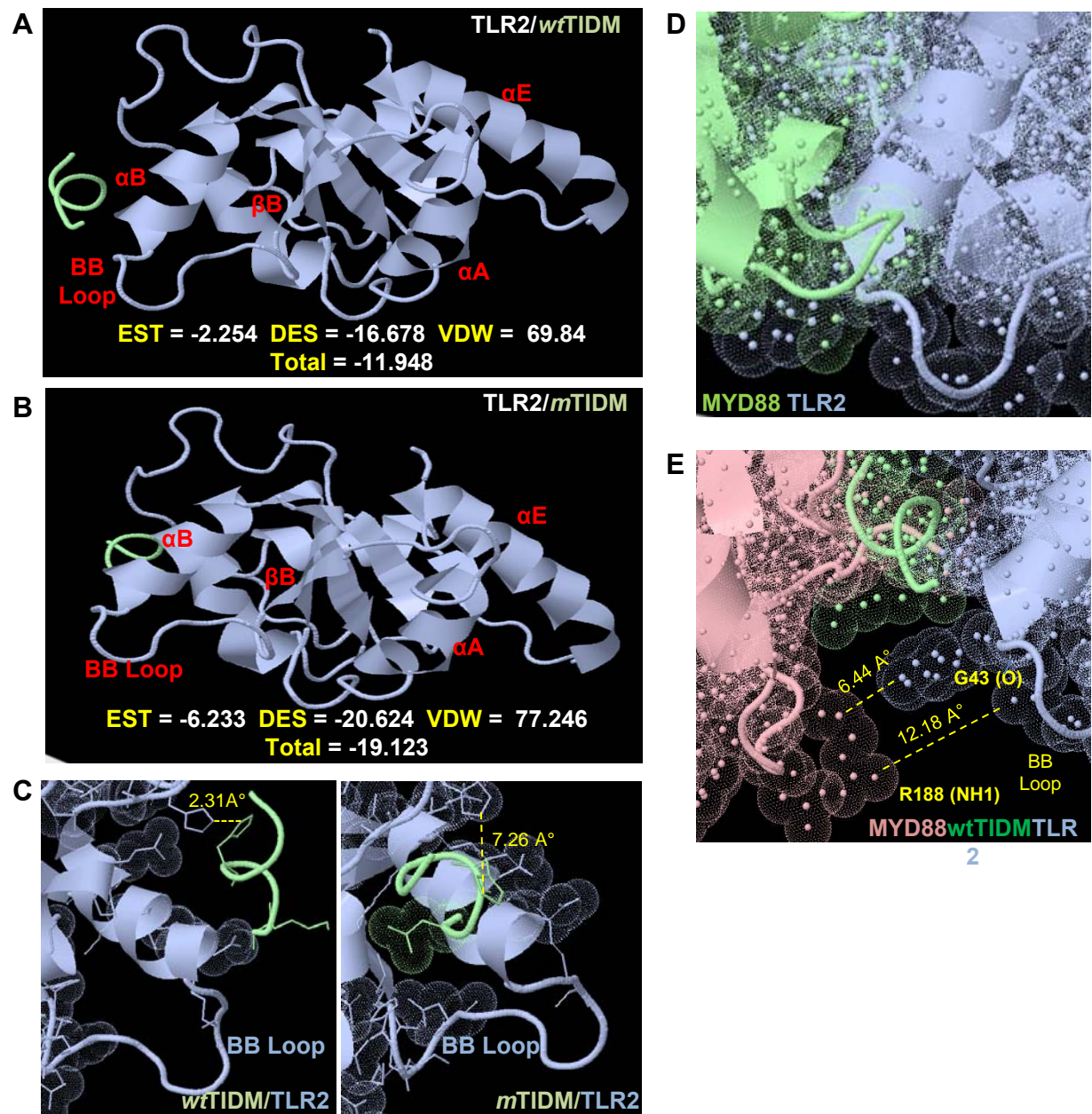
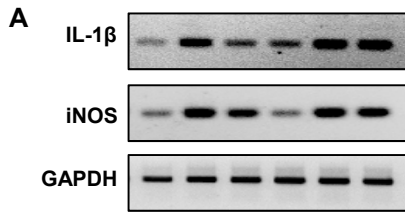
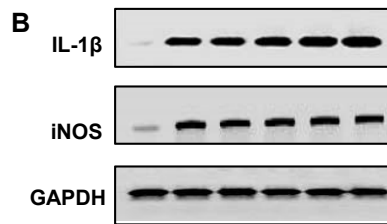


Figure S5

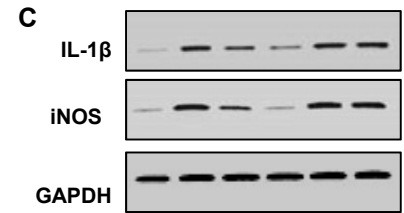
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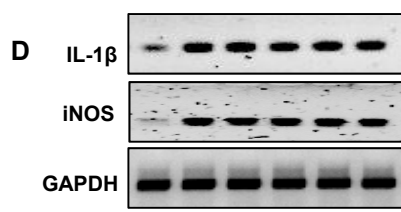
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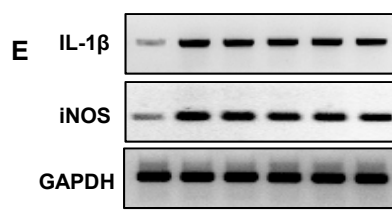
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mTIDM (μM) - - - - 10 20
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 LPS - + + + + +



mTIDM (μM) - - - - 10 20
 wtTIDM (μM) - - 10 20 - -
 Flagellin - + + + + +



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 CpG ODN - + + + + +

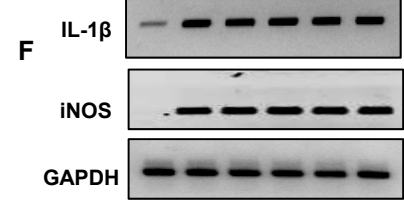


Figure S6

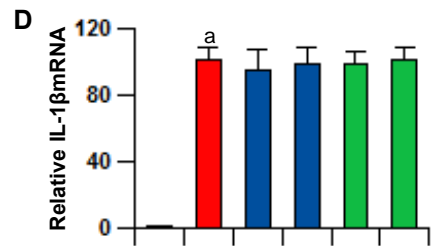
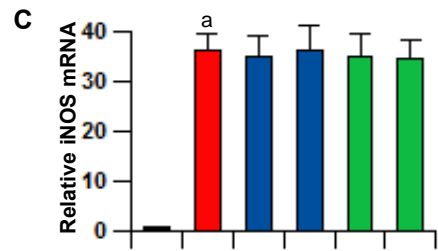
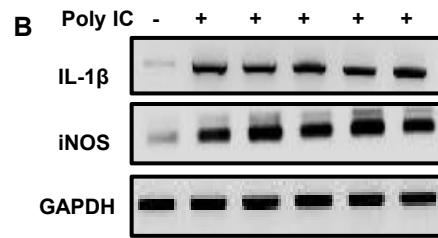
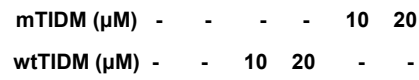
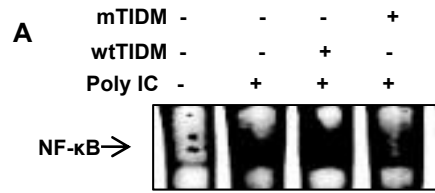


Figure S7

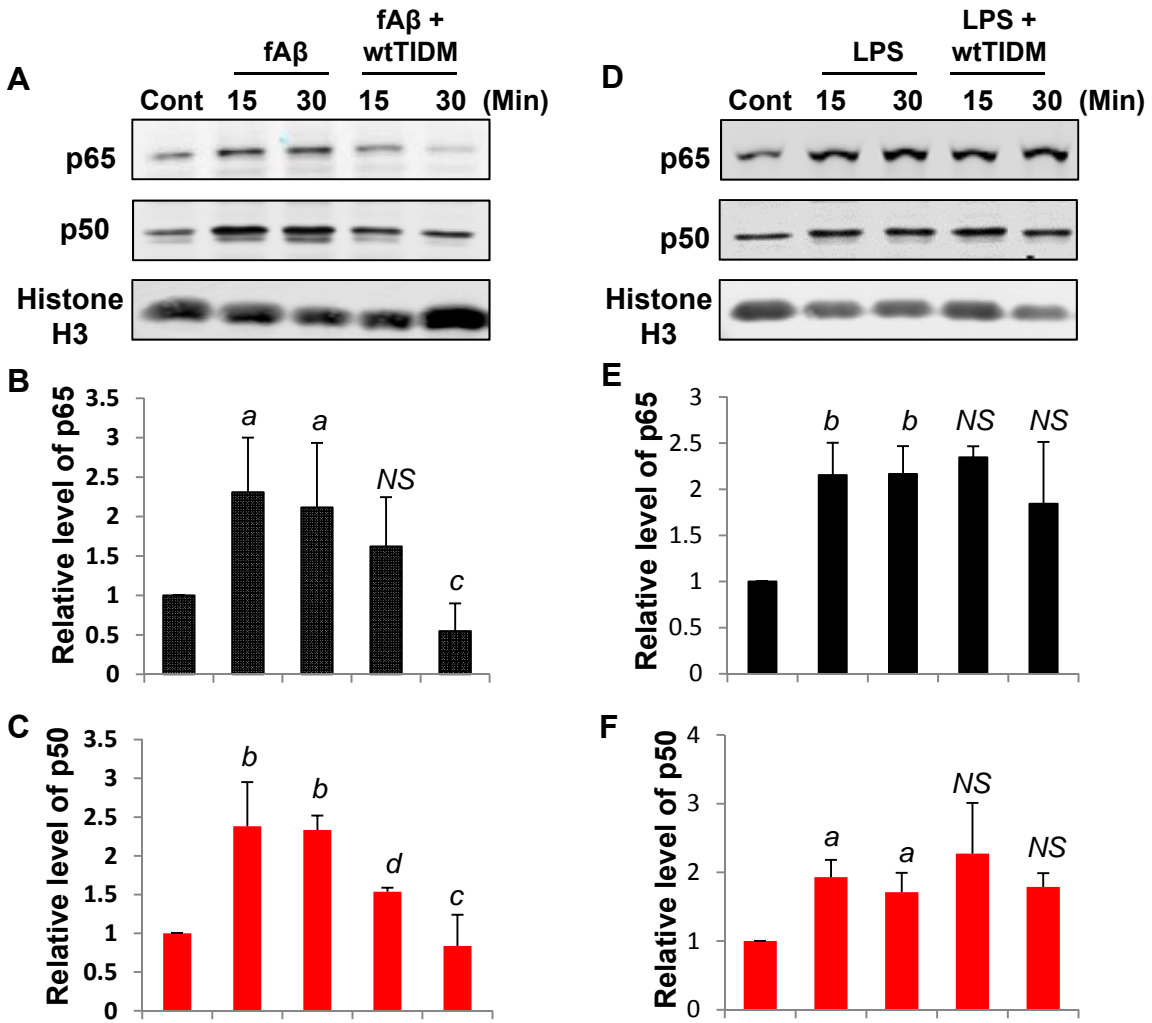
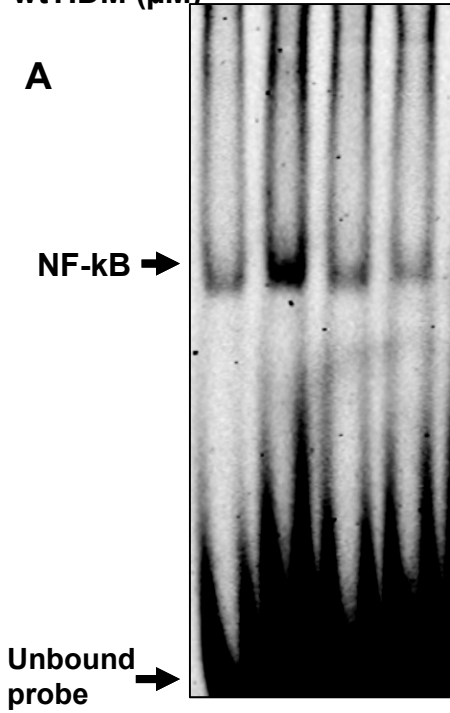
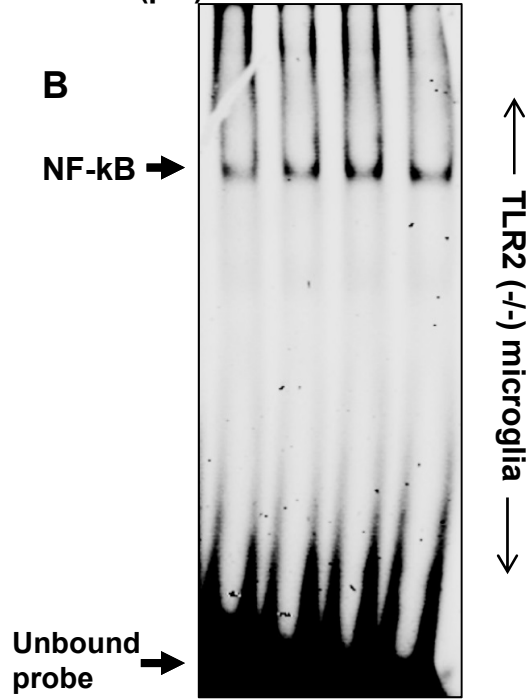


Figure S8

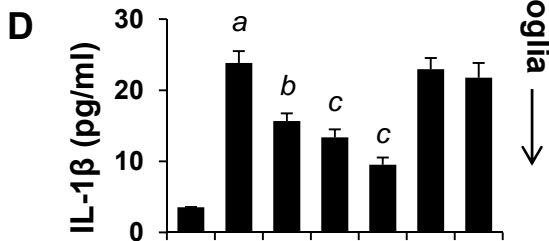
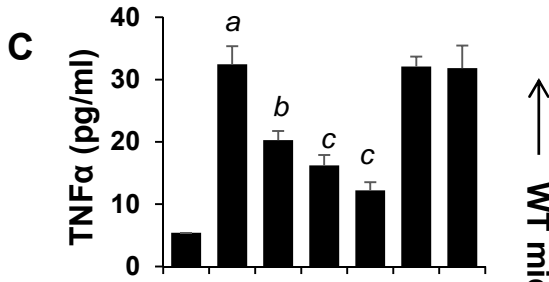
fA β (1 μ g/ml) - + + +
wtTIDM (μ M) - - 5 10



fA β (1 μ g/ml) - + + +
wtTIDM (μ M) - - 5 10



fA β (1 μ M) - + + + + + +
wTIDM (μ M) - - 2 5 10 - -
mTIDM (μ M) - - - - - 5 10



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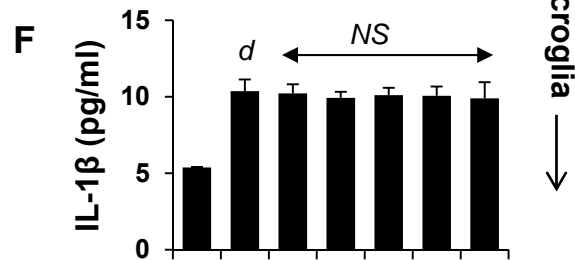
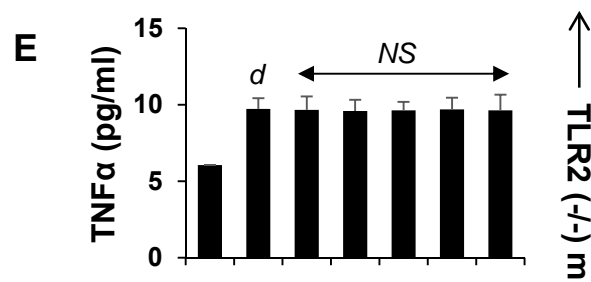


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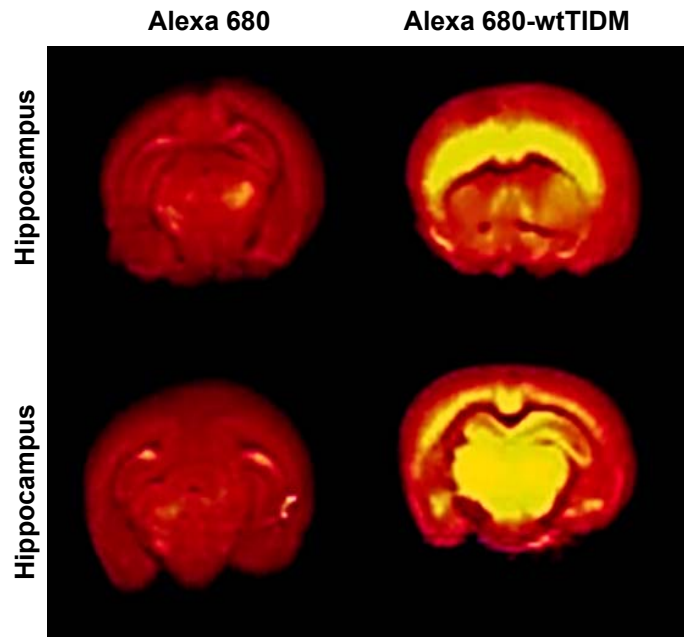


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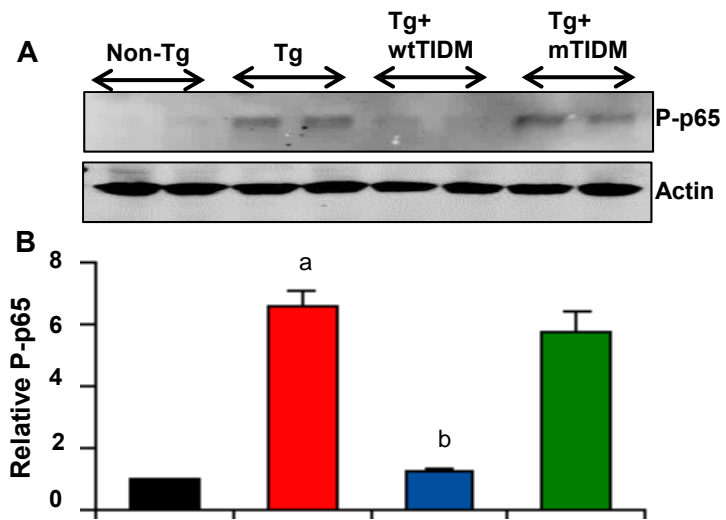


Figure S11

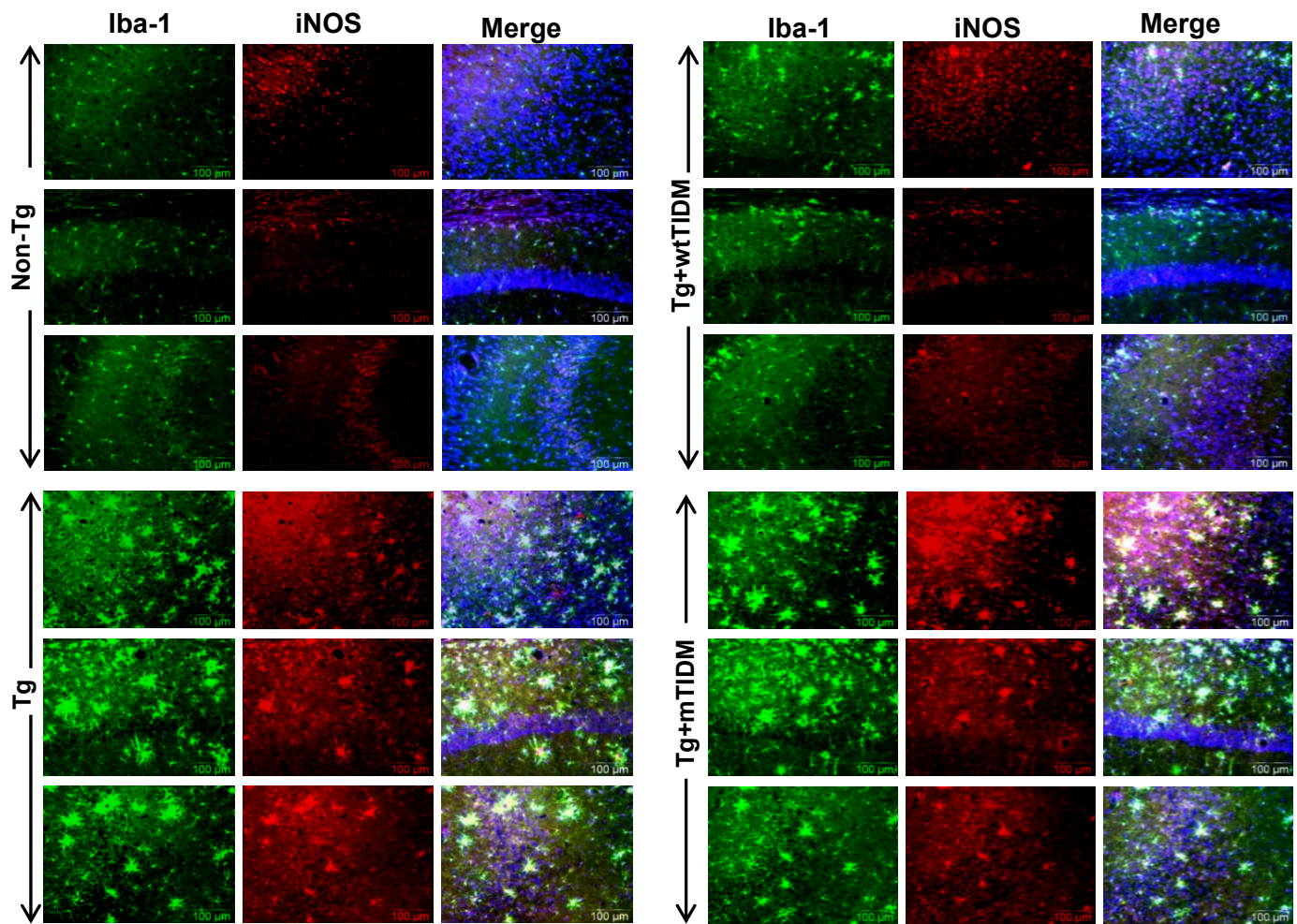


Figure S12

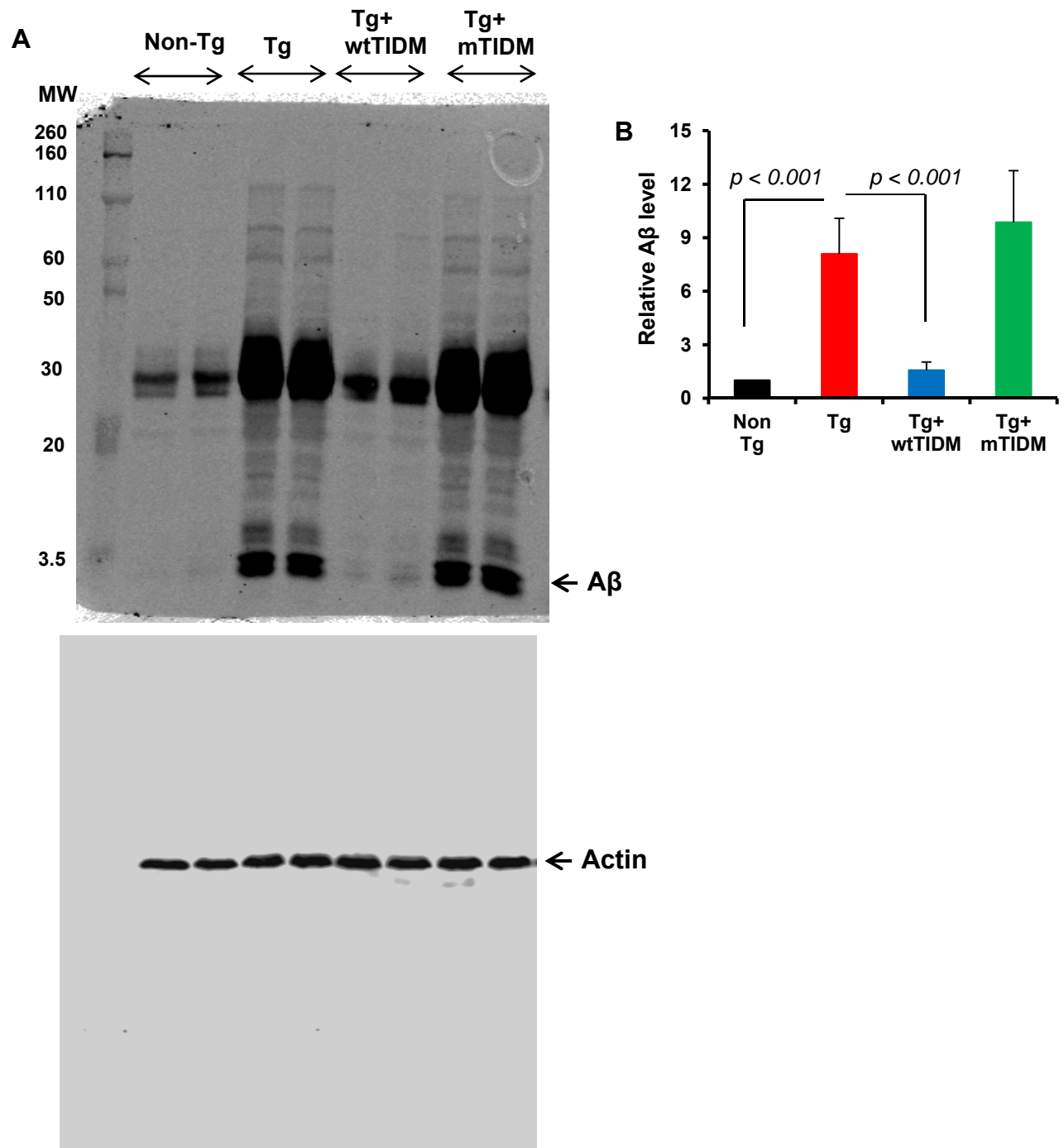


Figure S13

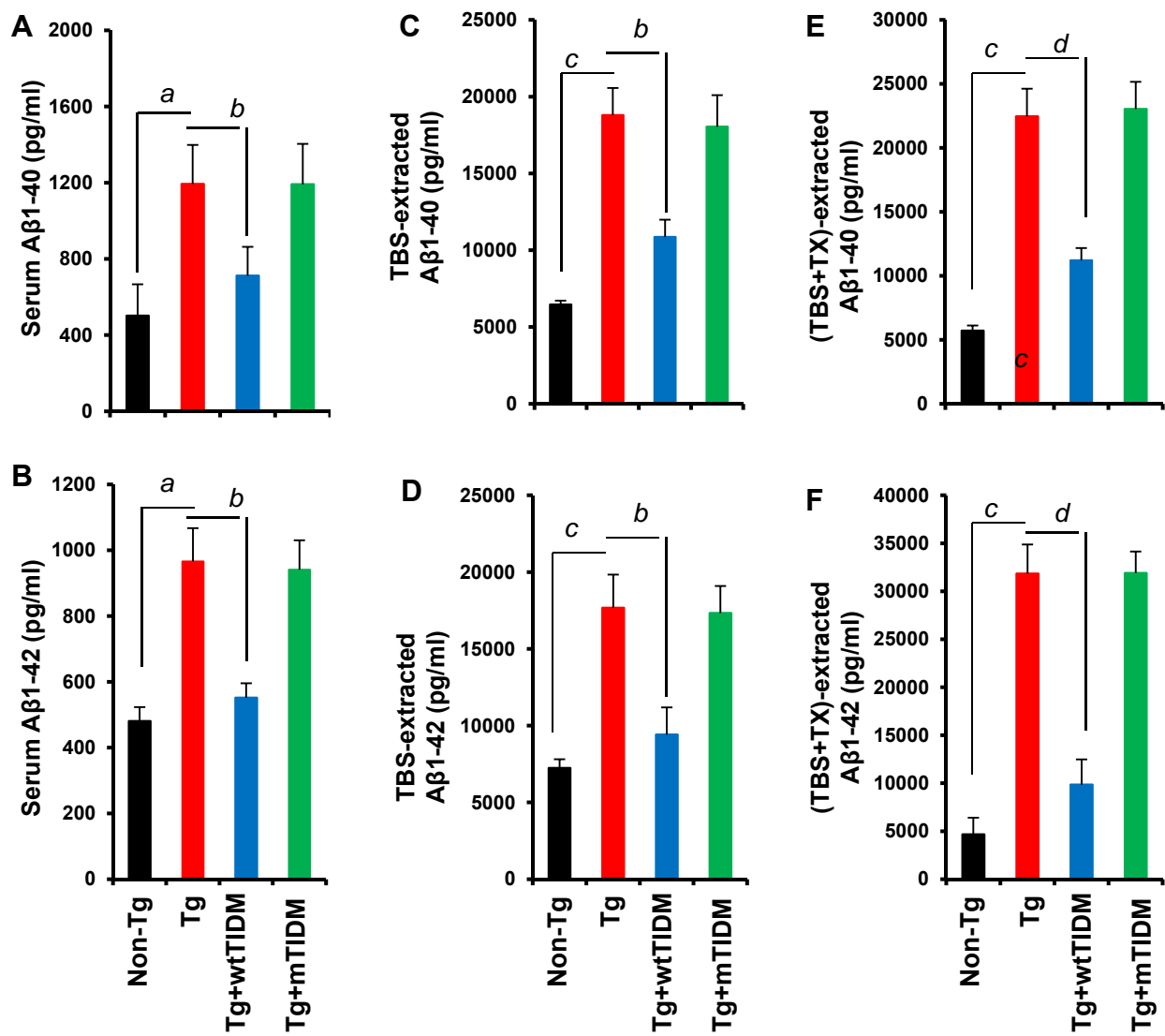


Figure S14

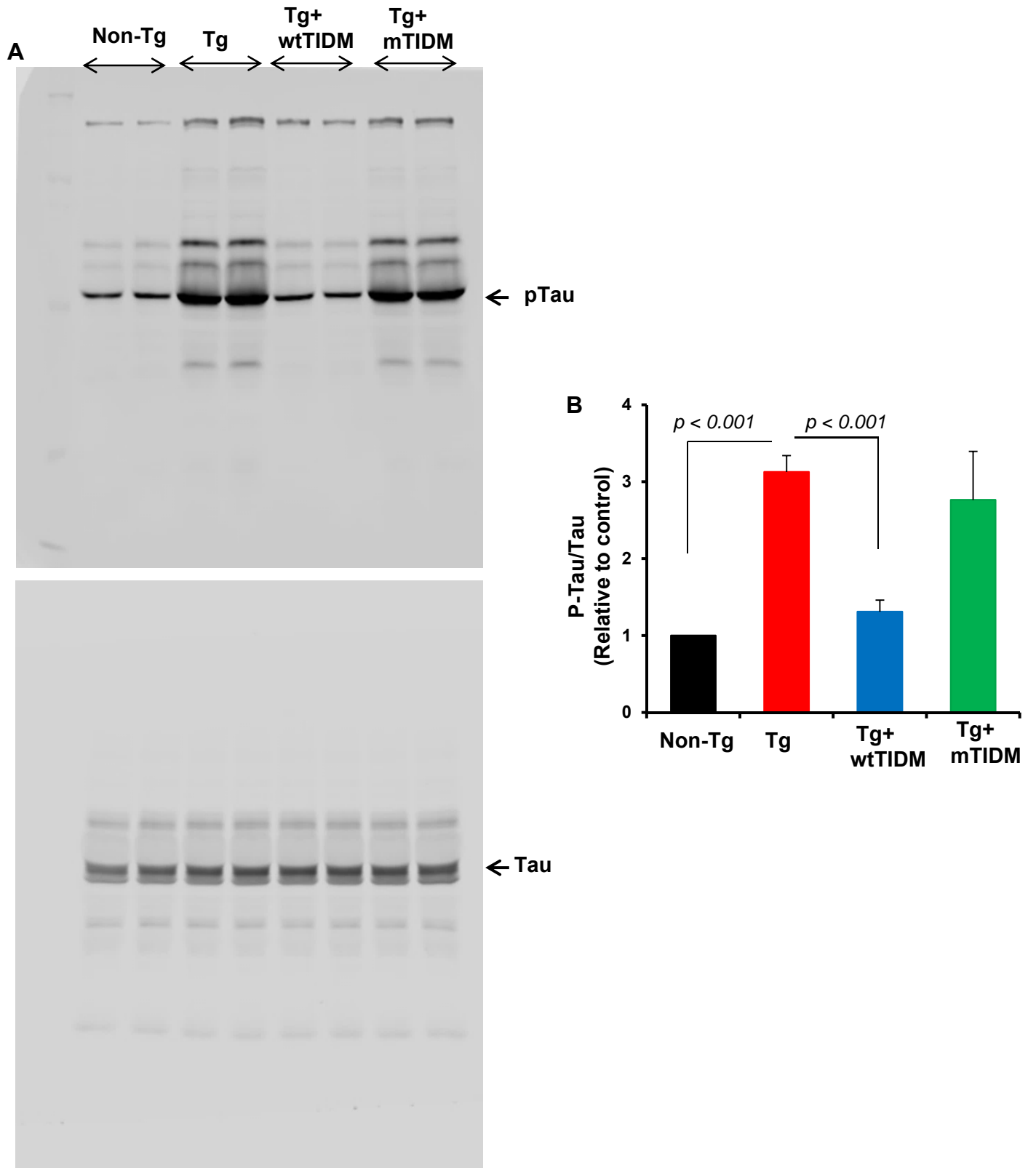


Figure S15

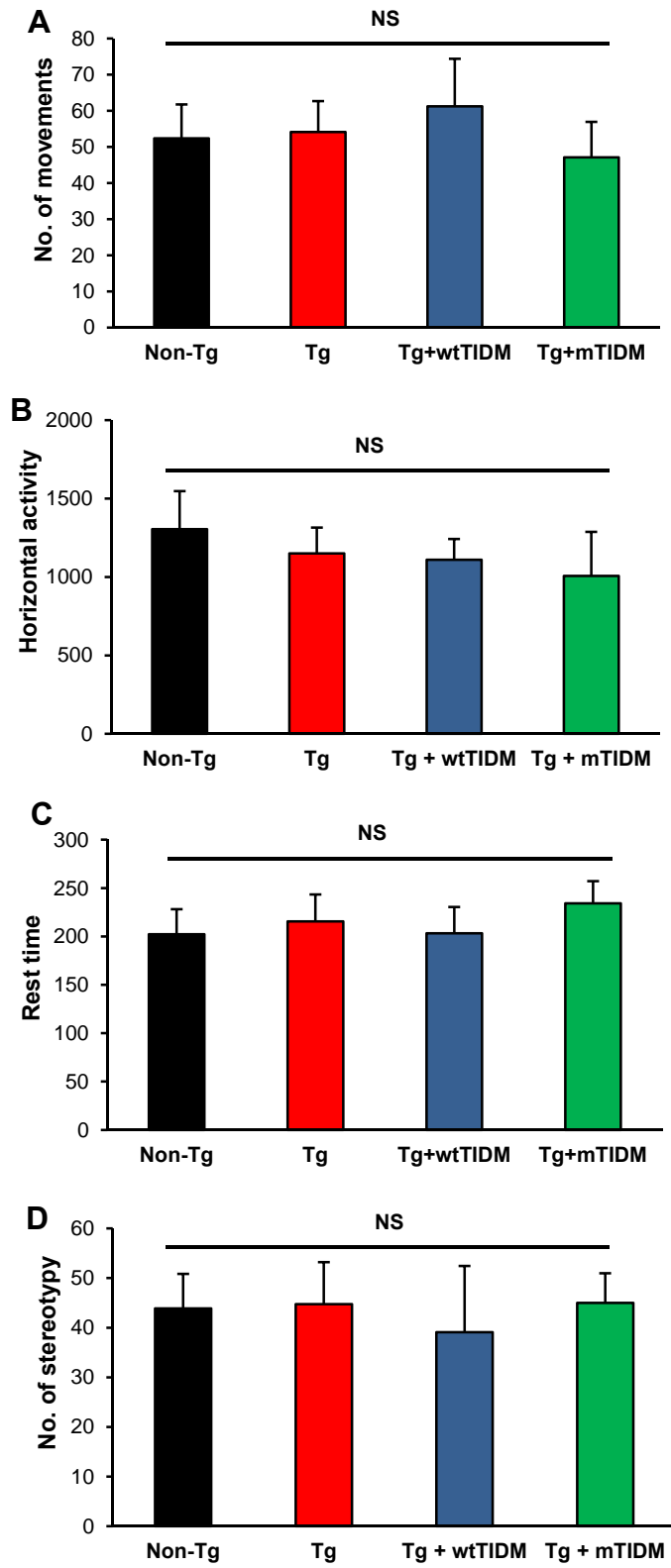


Figure S16

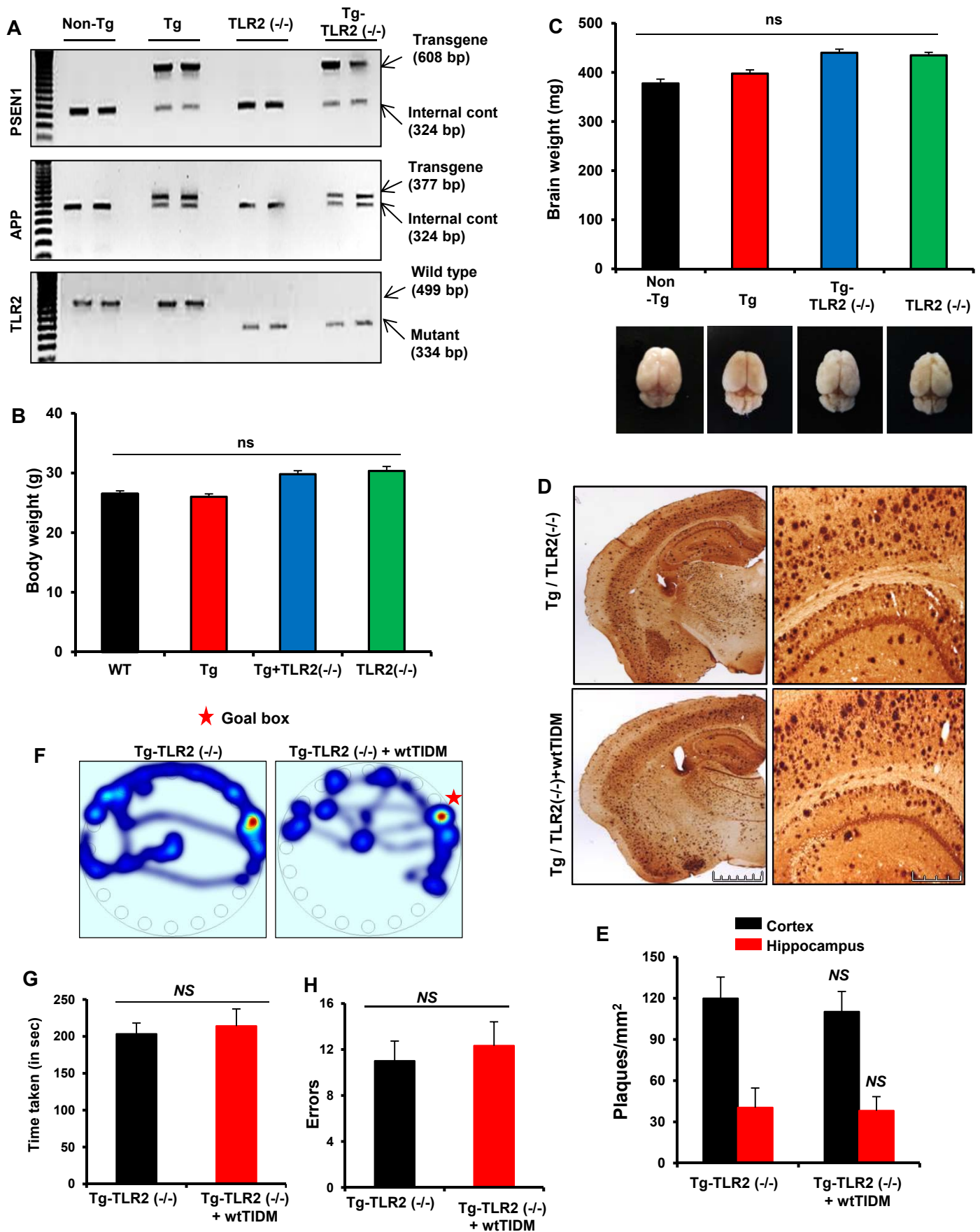
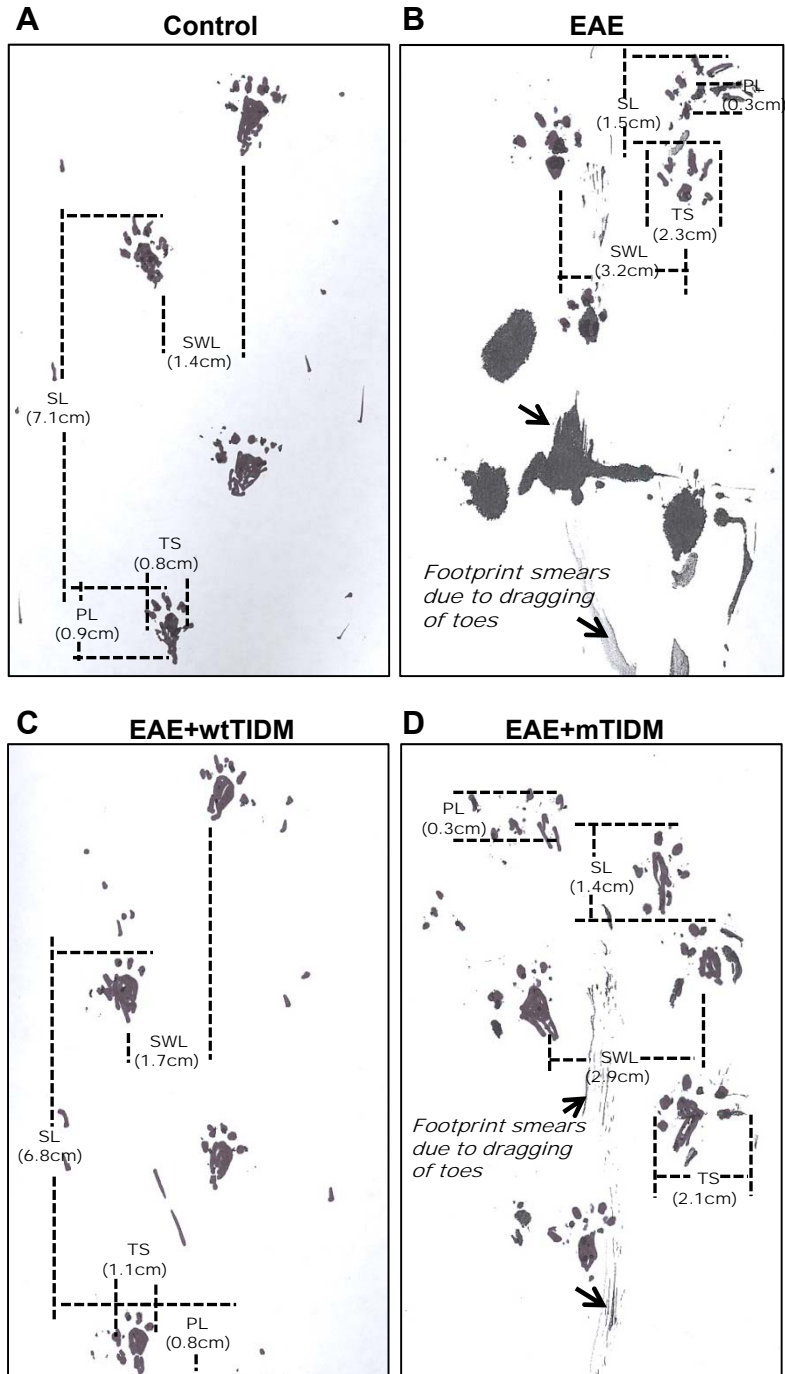
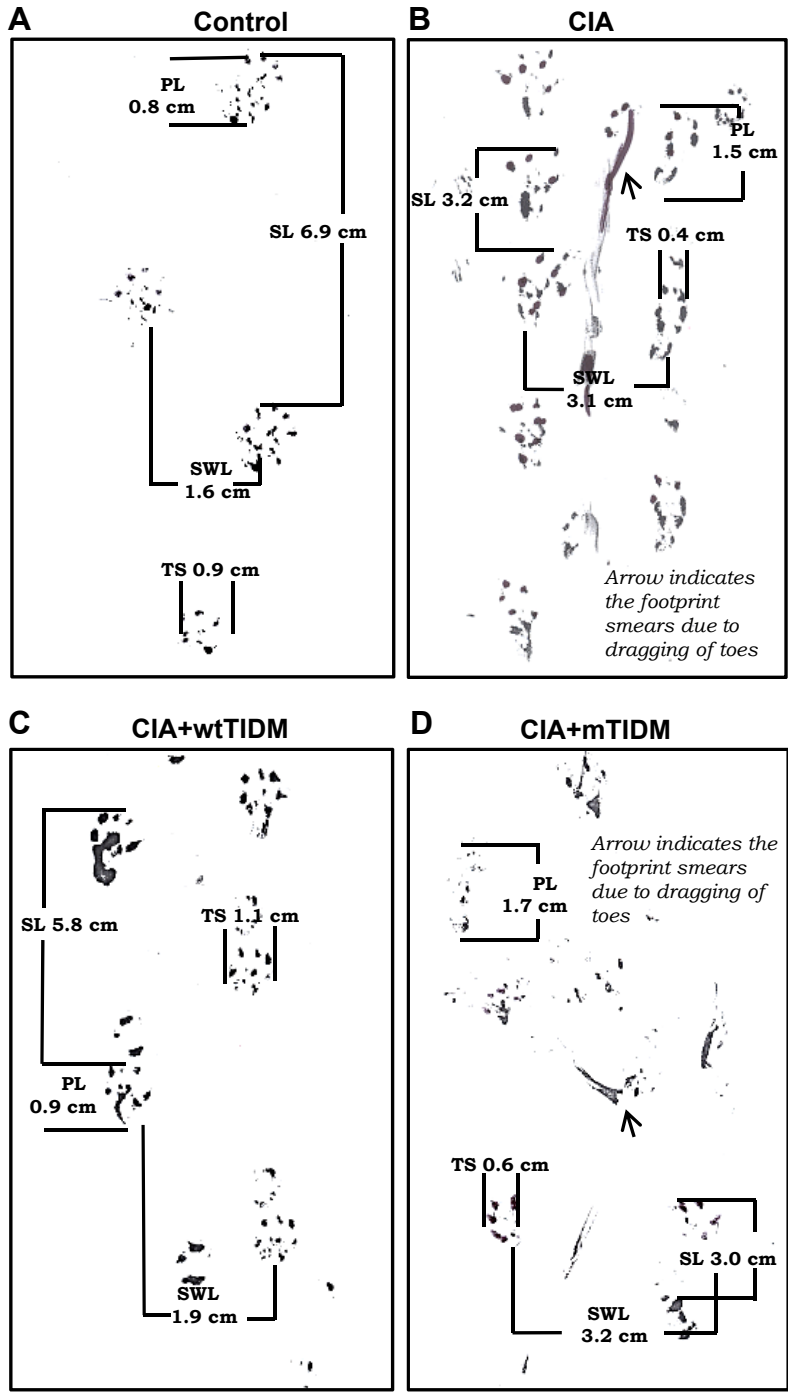


Figure S17



SL, Stride length; SWL, Sway length; PL, Print length; TS, Toe spread

Figure S18



SL, Stride length; SWL, Sway length; PL, Print length; TS, Toe spread

Figure S19

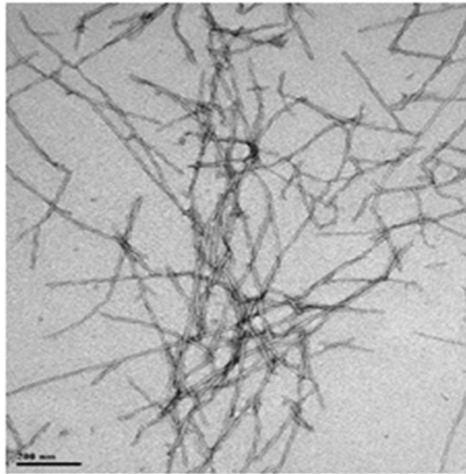


Figure S20