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Supplemental Information

Qa-1-Restricted CD8⁺ T Cells

Can Compensate for the Absence

of Conventional T Cells during Viral Infection

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Supplementary Figure 1. MCMV-expanded non-classical CD8⁺ T cells are distinct from innate-like T cells. Related to Figure 1. (A) Frequency and number of CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on day 0 and day 7 post-MCMV infection (n=12-15). (B) Representative histograms of PLZF and T-bet expression of CD8⁺ T cells from the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on day 0 (black line) and 7 (grey line) post-MCMV infection. iNKT cells were used as positive control for PLZF (dotted line). Frequency of CD8⁺ T cells that are (C) CD8 $\alpha\alpha^+$ (n=4-7) or (D) NK1.1⁺ (n=9) from the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} on day 0 and 7 post-MCMV infection. Data are pooled from at least three (A, D) or two (C) independent experiments. Data represent mean ± SEM. *p<0.05 and ****p<0.0001.



Supplementary Figure 2. Non-classical CD8⁺ T cells acquire an effector phenotype following acute MCMV infection. Related to Figure 1. (A) CD44 and CD62L expression and (B) CD127 and KLRG1 expression of CD8⁺ T cells from the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on day 0 and 7 post-MCMV infection. (C) Frequency of naïve (CD62L⁺CD44⁺), CTL (CD62L⁻CD44⁺), and memory (CD62L⁺CD44⁺) CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on day 0 and day 7 post-infection (n=12). (D) Frequency of CD8⁺ T_{EFF} cells (KLRG1⁺CD127⁻) in the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on day 0 and day 7 post infection (n=15). (E) Frequency of NKG2A/C/E⁺ CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on day 0 and day 7 post-infection (n=9). (F) Expression and (G) frequency of CD8⁺ T cells that are CX3CR1^{hi}KLRG1⁺ from the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-} mice on indicated day post-MCMV infection (n=3). Viral quantification of the MCMV gene *IE1* by qPCR in the (H) spleen, (I) liver, and (J) SMG of K^bD^{b-/-} and C57BL/6 mice on indicated days post-infection (n=4). Dotted line is limit of detection. Data are pooled or representative of at least three (A-E) or one (F-J) independent experiment. Data represent mean ± SEM . *p<0.05, **p<0.01 and ****p<0.0001.



Supplemental Figure 3. Non-classical CD8⁺ T cells persist in long-term MCMVinfected K^bD^{b-/-} mice and form memory populations. Related to Figure 4. (A) Frequency and (B) number of CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen and liver from naïve (n=8) and long-term infected K^bD^{b-/-} mice (n=15-16). (C) Representative CD8⁺ T cells in the SMG of long-term infected K^bD^{b-/-} and C57BL/6 mice. (D) CD103 and CD69 expression of SMG CD8⁺ T cells from long-term infected K^bD^{b-/-} and C57BL/6 mice. Data are representative of two (C-D) or pooled from three (A, B) independent experiments and represent mean ± SEM. **p<0.01, ***p<0.001 and ****p<0.0001.



Supplementary Figure 4. Non-classical CD8⁺ T cell expansion following MCMV infection is Qa-1- and β_2 m-dependent. Related to Figures 6 and 7. (A) Representative staining of non-classical CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen and liver of K^bD^{b-/-}, CD1d^{-/-}K^bD^{b-/-}, and β_2 m^{-/-} mice on day 7 post-MCMV infection. (B) Representative staining of non-classical CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen and liver on day 7 post-MCMV infection from K^bD^{b-/-}Qa-1^{+/+}, K^bD^{b-/-}Qa-1^{+/-}, and K^bD^{b-/-}Qa-1^{-/-} mice. Data are representative of at least two independent experiments.