

CCR5 Signaling Promotes Murine and Human Hematopoietic Regeneration following Ionizing Radiation

Sadhna O. Piryani,¹ Angel Y.F. Kam,¹ Uyen T. Vu,¹ Nelson J. Chao,^{1,2} and Phuong L. Doan^{1,2,*}

¹Division of Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapy, Duke University, Durham, NC 27710, USA

²Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University, 595 LaSalle Street, DUMC 103866, Durham, NC 27710, USA

*Correspondence: phuong.doan@duke.edu

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SUMMARY

Hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells (HSPCs) depend on regulatory cytokines from the marrow microenvironment. From an unbiased cytokine screen of murine marrow supernatants, we identified C-C motif chemokine ligand 5 (CCL5) as an endothelial cell-secreted hematopoietic growth factor. Following treatment with CCL5, hematopoietic regeneration is accelerated and survival is prolonged after radiation. In mice with deletion of *Ccr5*, hematopoietic regeneration is delayed compared to control mice. Deletion of *Ccr5* specifically in hematopoietic cells was sufficient to delay regeneration, while the deletion of *Ccr5* in stromal/endothelial cells was not. Mechanistically, CCL5 promotes hematopoietic cell cycling and cell survival. Like murine hematopoietic cells, human hematopoietic cells (cord blood, healthy marrow, and peripheral blood) increase CCR5 expression after radiation exposure to promote cell survival. These data establish that CCL5 and CCR5 signaling play critical roles in hematopoietic regeneration and could serve as therapeutic targets to shorten the duration of myelosuppression.

INTRODUCTION

Hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) reside adjacent to bone marrow sinusoidal vessels (Kiel et al., 2005) and rely on extrinsic factors from endothelial cells for both HSC self-renewal and regeneration (Butler et al., 2010; Ding et al., 2012; Himburg et al., 2010; Mendelson and Frenette, 2014). Identification of these factors can produce targeted therapies for stem cell expansion for hematopoietic transplantation or accelerate hematopoietic regeneration following myeloablation. These endothelial cell-derived growth factors include stem cell factor, notch ligands, pleiotrophin, and epidermal growth factor (EGF), among others (Ding et al., 2012; Doan et al., 2013a; Himburg et al., 2010; Hooper et al., 2009; Kobayashi et al., 2010). EGF was identified as a growth factor from an 84-target cytokine array that demonstrated increased levels of EGF in the marrow supernatants of mice with deletions of proapoptotic genes *Bak* and *Bax* in Tie2⁺ cells and prolonged survival following lethal dose total body irradiation (TBI) compared with littermate control mice with lower levels of EGF (Doan et al., 2013a, 2013b). From this same array, we discovered that C-C motif chemokine ligand 5 (CCL5) was increased by 11-fold in mice with more intact HSCs and endothelial cell (EC) vasculature after TBI compared with littermate controls, suggesting that CCL5 could play a role in hematopoietic regeneration following radiation injury (Doan et al., 2013b).

Certain chemokines are required for HSC maintenance and retention in the marrow (Petit et al., 2002; Sugiyama et al., 2006). For example, constitutive deletion of the

chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 12 (*Cxcl12*) results in depletion of HSCs (Sugiyama et al., 2006; Tzeng et al., 2011). Through systematic deletion of *Cxcl12* in a cell-specific manner, HSCs were shown to rely on a perivascular niche (Ding and Morrison, 2013). Whether other chemokines, such as CCL5, could modulate hematopoietic function is not completely defined. CCL5 is increased in the marrow microenvironment with aging, which is associated with bias in myeloid cell production in aged mice (Ergen et al., 2012). Deficiency of CCL5 results in skewing of myeloid-to-lymphocyte cell ratios resulting in an increase in T cells, lymphoid-biased HSCs, and a corresponding decrease in myeloid progenitor cells in aged mice (Ergen et al., 2012). Further, CCL5 promotes angiogenesis via two distinct mechanisms, either by direct signaling on ECs or by increasing vascular endothelial growth factor (Liu et al., 2015; Sax et al., 2016). When *Ccr5*, the cognate receptor for CCL5, is genetically deleted, macrophage trafficking is impaired (Kuziel et al., 2003). These studies suggest that CCL5 and CCR5 signaling can modulate hematopoiesis under homeostatic conditions.

While CCL5 has been studied in the context of aging and hematopoiesis in steady state, the role of CCL5 signaling in hematopoietic regeneration is unknown. We set out to define whether CCL5 and CCR5 could contribute to hematopoietic regeneration following myelosuppressive injury with ionizing radiation. We have identified CCL5 as a pharmacologic agent that could accelerate hematopoietic regeneration, which bears therapeutic implications for the treatment of acute radiation sickness or for chemotherapy-induced myelosuppression.

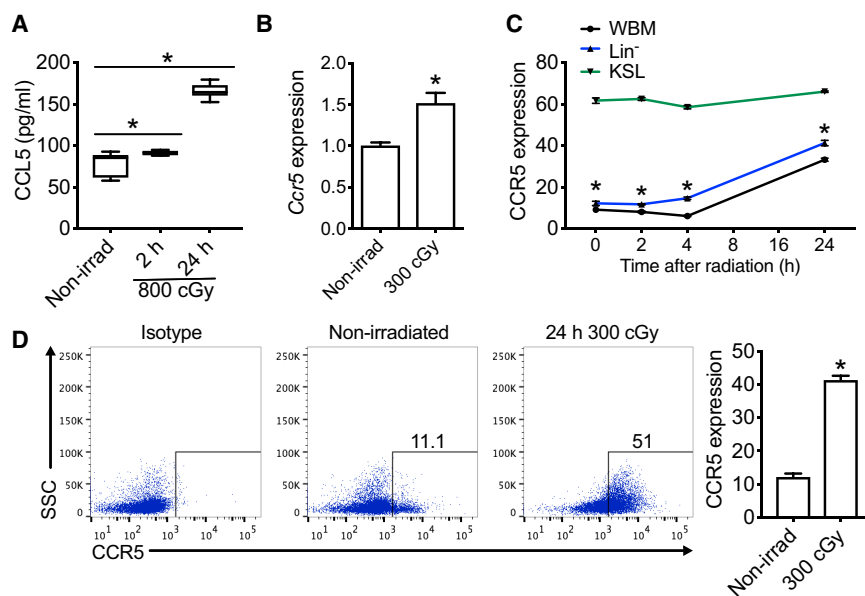


Figure 1. CCL5 and CCR5 Expression Are Increased following Ionizing Irradiation

(A) ELISA of CCL5 expression from C57BL/6 ECs at 0 (Non-irrad), 2, and 24 h following 800 cGy irradiation. $n = 6-8$ per group, $*p = 0.03$ and $p < 0.0001$ for 2 and 24 h compared with nonirradiated ECs, respectively.

(B) *Ccr5* mRNA expression of C57BL/6 KSL cells at 2 h following 300 cGy compared with nonirradiated KSL cells. Data are normalized to nonirradiated control samples and *GAPDH*. $n = 8$ per group, $*p = 0.002$.

(C) CCR5 protein expression by flow cytometric analysis of whole bone marrow (WBM), Lin⁻, and KSL cells following 300 cGy over time compared with nonirradiated control mice (0 h). $n = 3-5$ per group per time point, $*p < 0.0001$ for times 0, 2, 4, and 24 h.

(D) Representative flow cytometric analysis and quantification of CCR5 expression in BM Lin⁻ cells at 24 h following 300 cGy compared with nonirradiated control mice. $n = 5$ per group per time point, $*p < 0.0001$. SSC, side scatter. Data are shown as means \pm SEM. Student's *t* test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the datasets except in (C) where a one-way ANOVA analysis was applied.

RESULTS

CCL5 and CCR5 Expression Are Increased following Irradiation

Mice with deletion of *Bax* in Tie2⁺ ECs displayed both prolonged survival following lethal dose TBI and increased levels of CCL5 in marrow supernatants compared with littermate control mice (Doan et al., 2013b). We sought to confirm that primary C57BL/6 marrow ECs elaborate CCL5. At steady state, CCL5 is detected in the conditioned media from cultures of ECs (Figure 1A). Following irradiation, levels of CCL5 increase as early as 2 h and continue to rise by 2-fold at 24 h compared with nonirradiated cultures (Figure 1A). Its receptor CCR5 on hematopoietic cells is also inducible and responsive to irradiation. At 2 h following 300 cGy, cKit⁺Sca-1⁺Lin⁻ (KSL) cells had a 1.5-fold increase in *Ccr5* mRNA expression compared with nonirradiated cells (Figure 1B). There was an enrichment of *Ccr5* expression in KSL cells after irradiation in comparison with bone marrow (BM) lineage-negative (Lin⁻) cells (Figure S1A). Of hematopoietic cell subsets, KSL cells display the highest levels of CCR5 protein expression compared with either whole bone marrow (WBM) or Lin⁻ cells (Figure 1C). Lin⁻ cells display increased CCR5 as early as 2 h following 300 cGy (Figures 1C, 1D, and S1B) and remained elevated at least until day 7 (Figure S1C). These data demonstrate that CCR5 expression is enriched in hematopoietic progenitor cell subsets compared with more differentiated WBM cells.

CCL5 Treatment Promotes Hematopoietic Regeneration In Vitro

Without irradiation injury, competitive transplantation of KSL cells treated with CCL5 does not increase long-term hematopoietic stem content compared with control cultures (Figures S2A–S2C). Yet, when irradiated (300 cGy) C57BL/6 KSL cells were cultured with CCL5, they demonstrated greater than a 2-fold total cell expansion and increased total KSL cells compared with control cultures with cytokines alone (thrombopoietin, stem cell factor, Flt-3 ligand [TSF], Figures 2A and 2B). There was a corresponding increase in recovery of colony-forming units (CFUs) in CCL5-treated cultures compared with control cultures (Figure 2C). To determine whether CCL5 could increase irradiated HSC content following exposure *in vitro*, we performed competitive transplantation assays with donor irradiated CD34⁻ KSL cells that had been treated with either CCL5 or TSF alone (Figures S2D–S2F). No differences in donor engraftment were detected in the peripheral or BM of recipient mice (Figures S2E and S2F). These data suggest that *in vitro* pharmacologic treatment with CCL5 might not alter HSC content, but could increase lineage-committed cells *in vitro*.

CCL5 Promotes HSPC Regeneration In Vivo and Prolongs Survival

To determine whether CCL5 promotes hematopoietic regeneration *in vivo*, we measured HSPC cells in C57BL/6 mice following subcutaneous injection with 0.1 μ g/g

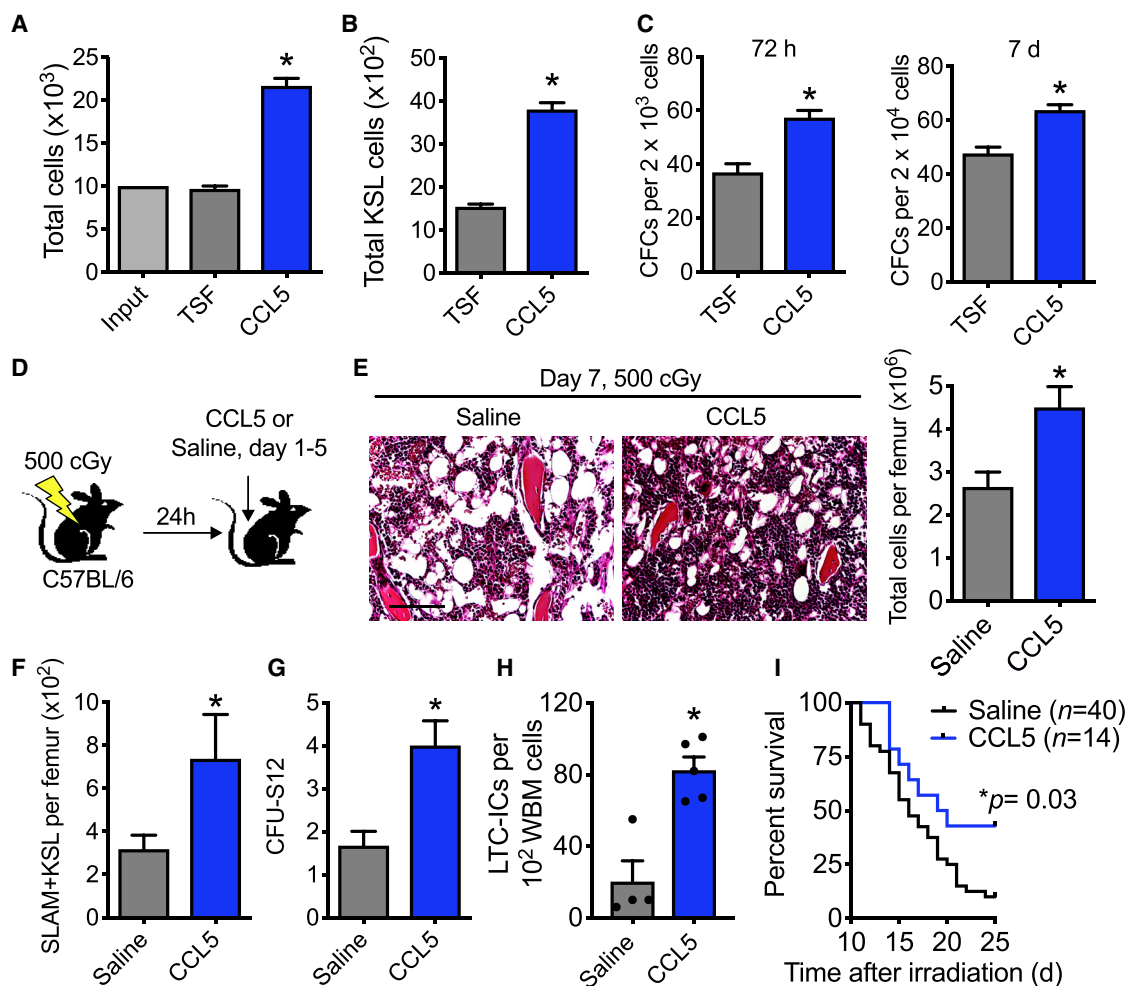


Figure 2. CCL5 Accelerates Hematopoietic Regeneration following Ionizing Radiation

(A) Total cells following 300 cGy and culture with 30 ng/mL CCL5 + TSF compared with TSF alone at 72 h. $n = 3$ per group, $*p = 0.0002$.
 (B) Total KSL cells at 72 h after 300 cGy in culture with TSF + CCL5 compared with TSF alone. $n = 3$ per group, $*p = 0.0002$.
 (C) Left, CFCs of KSL and progeny at 72 h and right, CFCs at 7 days following 300 cGy and culture with CCL5 + TSF or TSF alone. $n = 3$ per group, $*p = 0.008$ and $p = 0.007$ for 72 h and 7 days, respectively.
 (D) Schematic diagram of study. C57BL/6 mice were exposed to 500 cGy. 24 h after irradiation, mice were injected subcutaneously with 0.1 $\mu\text{g/g}$ body weight CCL5 or saline from day 1 to 5. On day 7, marrow was collected for hematopoietic assays.
 (E) Left, H&E staining of marrow at day 7. Scale bar, 100 μm . Right, bone marrow cell counts per femur. $n = 11\text{--}18$ per group, $*p = 0.004$.
 (F) Total SLAM + KSL cells per femur. $n = 5\text{--}10$ per group, $*p = 0.03$.
 (G) CFU-S12 on day 7 following 500 cGy and treatment with CCL5 or saline. $n = 3$ per group, $*p = 0.03$.
 (H) Levels of LTC-ICs on day 7 following 500 cGy and treatment with CCL5 or saline. $n = 4\text{--}5$ per group. $*p = 0.002$.
 (I) Survival following 700 cGy TBI and subcutaneous injections given 3 doses of 0.1 $\mu\text{g/g}$ body weight CCL5 or saline per week from days 1 to 15. $n = 14\text{--}40$ mice per group. $*p = 0.03$ by log rank analysis. Four of 40 mice were alive in the saline-treated group compared with 6 of 14 mice alive in the CCL5-treated group at day 25. The median survival for saline-treated and CCL5-treated mice are 16 and 19.5 days, respectively. Data are shown as means \pm SEM. Student's *t* test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the data except for survival analysis where log rank analysis was applied.

body weight CCL5 or saline control beginning 24 h after 500 cGy TBI, which is a sublethal and highly myelosuppressive radiation dose (Figure 2D) (Himburg et al., 2017, 2018). On day 7 following irradiation, CCL5-treated mice

displayed preserved BM cellularity, increased total BM cells, increased CD150⁺ CD48⁻ KSL (SLAM + KSL) cells (Figure S3), and colony-forming unit spleen (CFU-S12) (Figures 2E–2G). Using these same experimental conditions, we

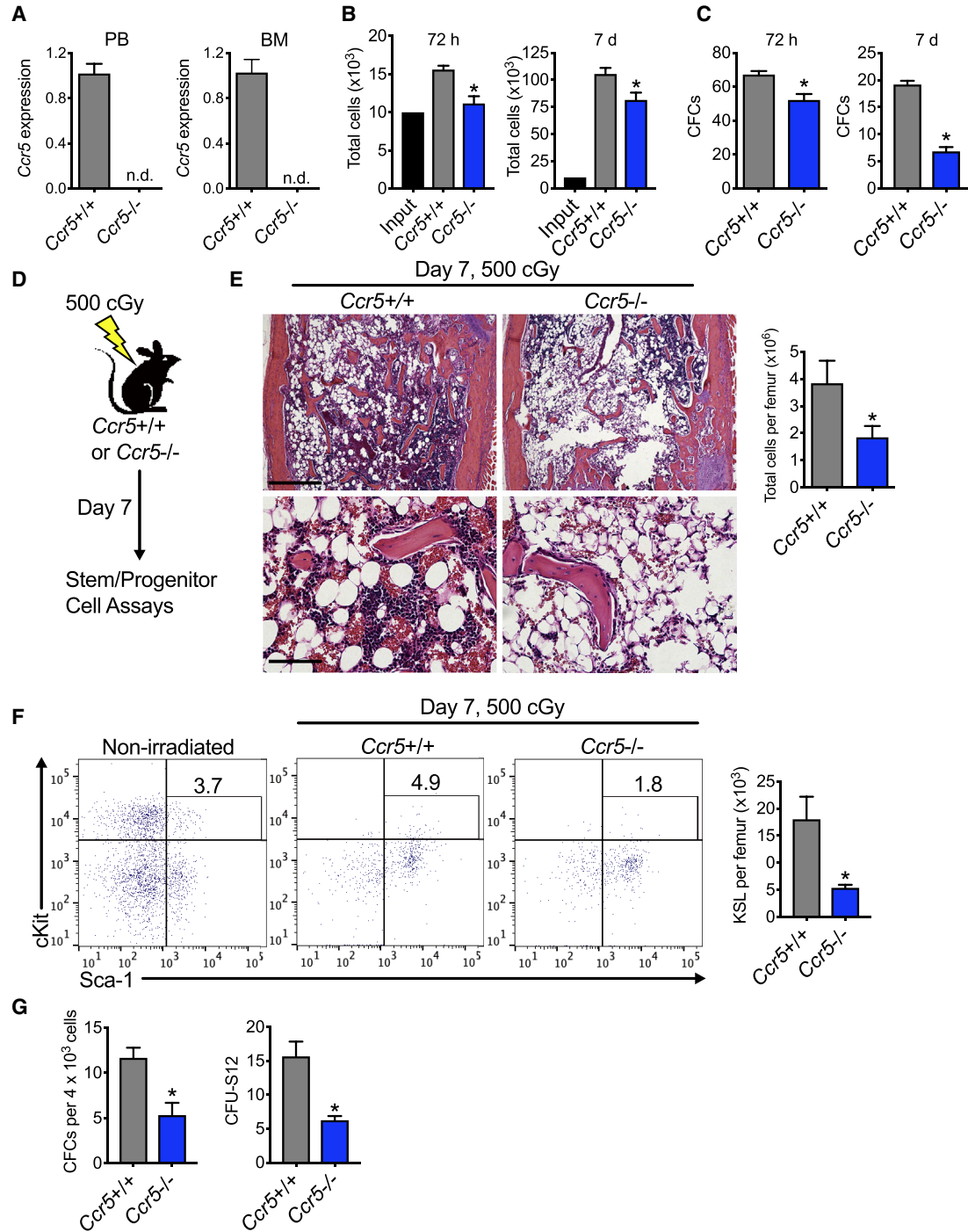


Figure 3. CCR5 Is Necessary for Hematopoietic Regeneration *In Vitro* and *In Vivo*

(A) mRNA expression of *Ccr5* in peripheral blood (PB) or bone marrow (BM) in *Ccr5*^{-/-} compared with *Ccr5*^{+/+} control mice. n = 6–30 per group. n.d., not detected. Data are normalized to *Ccr5*^{+/+} control samples and *GAPDH*.

(B) Total cells at 72 h or day 7 of 300-cGy irradiated BM KSL cells from *Ccr5*^{-/-} or *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice. n = 5–6 per group, *p = 0.004 and p = 0.03 for 72 h and day 7, respectively.

(C) CFCs per 2 × 10³ KSL and progeny cells at 72 h or day 7. n = 6 per group, *p = 0.004 and p < 0.0001 for 72 h and day 7, respectively.

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performed limiting dilutions of long-term culture-initiating cell (LTC-IC) assays. Irradiated mice treated with CCL5 had a 4-fold increase in LTC-IC cells compared with saline-treated mice (Figures 2H and S4A). Following competitive transplantation with WBM from either saline-treated or CCL5-treated donor mice, no differences in long-term HSC content were detected in recipient mice in either the peripheral blood or BM (Figures S4B–S4D). When mice were exposed to 700 cGy, which is a lethal dose of irradiation (LD_{60-90/30}) (Gluzman-Poltorak et al., 2014a, 2014b), and then treated with CCL5, CCL5-treated mice displayed a modest increase in marrow cellularity and colony-forming cells (CFCs), but not in CFU-S12 or LTC-ICs at this radiation dose (Figures S5A–S5D). Based on these data, CCL5 can accelerate hematopoietic progenitor cell regeneration *in vivo*, with the greatest benefit to hematopoietic recovery following moderate, myelosuppressive doses of irradiation.

To determine whether CCL5 contributes to prolong survival following TBI, we treated C57BL/6 mice with 3 doses per week from day 1 to 15 with CCL5 or saline (total 7 doses) following 700 cGy. Ten percent (4 of 40) of saline-treated mice survived past day 25 compared with 43% (6 of 14) of CCL5-treated mice (Figure 2I). These results demonstrate that CCL5 administration prolongs survival after lethal dose TBI.

CCR5 Is Necessary for Hematopoietic Regeneration

Since CCL5 can activate CCR5 as well as CCR1 and CCR3, we sought to determine whether CCR5 signaling was necessary for hematopoietic regeneration by using mice that are deficient in *Ccr5* (*Ccr5*^{-/-} mice) (Kuziel et al., 2003). We confirmed that *Ccr5* mRNA expression is not detected in either the peripheral blood or BM of *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice (Figure 3A). At steady state, *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice display no differences in complete blood counts, BM cellularity, KSL cells, SLAMF + KSL cells, or CFCs, compared with *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice (Figures S6A–S6F). Following 300 cGy irradiation, KSL cells from *Ccr5*^{-/-} displayed decreased total cell expansion and CFCs compared with KSL cells from *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice at both 72 h and day 7 in culture (Figures 3B and 3C). When these mice are exposed to 500 cGy TBI, *Ccr5*-deficient mice display decreased marrow cellularity compared

with *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice (Figures 3D and 3E). At day 7 following 500 cGy, total KSL cells, CFCs, and CFU-S12 were decreased by 3.3-, 2.2-, and 2.5-fold, respectively, in *Ccr5*-deficient mice compared with control mice that retained *Ccr5* (Figures 3F and 3G). To measure long-term HSC content, we performed competitive transplantation assays on day 7 following 500 cGy TBI (Figure 4A). At 16 weeks following transplantation, recipients of *Ccr5*^{-/-} donor cells displayed a 5.8-fold decrease in total donor marrow engraftment compared with recipients of *Ccr5*^{+/+} donor cells (Figures 4B and 4C). While no differences were detected in engraftment of either B or T cells, there was a 4.3-fold decrease in engraftment of donor myeloid cells (Mac1/Gr-1⁺ cells, Figure 4C). The percentage of KSL cells was decreased in recipients of donor cells from *Ccr5*-deficient mice compared with recipients of *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice (Figures 4D and 4E). Finally, we found that total donor engraftment corresponded with donor chimerism within the marrow KSL cells for each group, in which there was a 4.2-fold decrease in recipients of *Ccr5*-deficient donor cells compared with recipients of *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice (Figures 4D and 4F). These data demonstrate that CCR5 signaling could be necessary for hematopoietic regeneration, especially in the myeloid compartment, and that its deficiency results in delayed hematopoietic recovery following sublethal TBI.

Deletion of *Ccr5* in Hematopoietic Cells Is Sufficient to Delay Hematopoietic Regeneration

CCR5 is expressed on a number of cell subsets including hematopoietic cells and nonhematopoietic cells including ECs and fibroblasts (Rottman et al., 1997). We sought to isolate the effect of *Ccr5* deficiency to hematopoietic cells. Using established hematopoietic transplantation models in which hematopoietic cells with desired genetic mutations are transplanted into wild-type recipient animals (Doan et al., 2013b; Shao et al., 2010), we generated chimeric mice with deletion of *Ccr5* in hematopoietic cells only (*Ccr5*^{-/-} hematopoietic cell [HC]) along with control mice that were recipients of *Ccr5*^{+/+} marrow (*Ccr5*^{+/+} HC, Figure 5A). At 12 weeks following transplantation, we confirmed full donor chimerism in both groups (Figure 5B). Using fluorescence-activated cell sorting analysis, we isolated hematopoietic cells that were CD45⁺

(D) Schematic diagram of study. *Ccr5*^{-/-} or control *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice were exposed to 500 cGy. Hematopoietic assays were performed on day 7 postirradiation.

(E) H&E-stained femurs from *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice at day 7 following 500 cGy compared with *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice. Scale bars, 500 μm (top) and 100 μm (bottom). Quantification of total cells per femur. n = 6–9 per group, *p = 0.03.

(F) Left, representative flow cytometric analysis from Lin⁻ gate of KSL cells on day 7 from *Ccr5*^{-/-} and *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice irradiated with 500 cGy. Nonirradiated wild-type control is shown to left. Right, quantification of KSL cells per femur. n = 8–9 per group, *p = 0.01.

(G) Levels of CFCs and CFU-S12 on day 7 following 500 cGy of *Ccr5*^{-/-} and *Ccr5*^{+/+} mice. n = 3–12 per group. *p = 0.002 and p = 0.005 for CFCs and CFU-S12, respectively. Data are shown as means ± SEM. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the data.

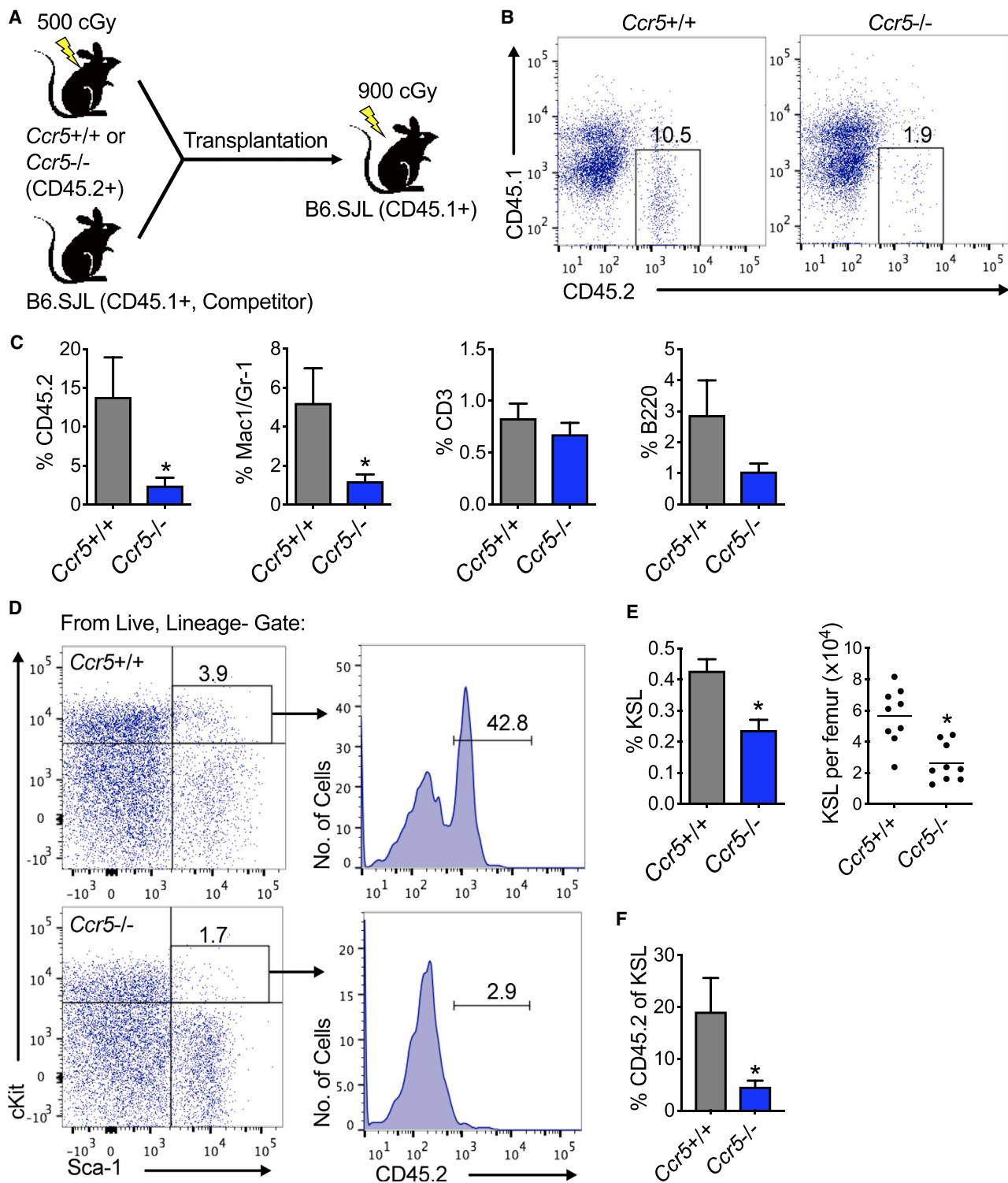


Figure 4. CCR5 Is Necessary for Hematopoietic Regeneration

(A) Schematic diagram of irradiation of *Ccr5*^{+/+} or *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice and transplantation of 10⁶ donor cells and 2 × 10⁵ competing host marrow cells into lethally irradiated B6.SJL recipient mice.

(B) Representative flow cytometric analysis of total donor bone marrow engraftment at 16 weeks posttransplantation.

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(a pan-hematopoietic cell marker) and cells that were negative for mouse endothelial cell antigen (MECA-32), an endothelial cell marker (Kopp et al., 2005). We detected *Ccr5* mRNA expression in the hematopoietic cells of *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC mice, but not in *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice (Figure 5C). At day 7 following 500 cGy TBI, *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC mice display decreased marrow cellularity and increased hemorrhage (Figures 5D and 5E). There was also a corresponding decrease in KSL content and committed progenitors (Figures 5F and 5G). In competitive repopulating assays at day 7 following 500 cGy, *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC and *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC had comparable levels of HSC function both in the peripheral blood and marrow at 16 weeks posttransplantation (Figures S7A–S7C). Since the hematopoietic response to radiation injury of chimeric mice with deletion of *Ccr5* in hematopoietic cells only was attenuated compared with mice with constitutive deletion of *Ccr5*, these results demonstrate that CCR5 deficiency, specifically in hematopoietic cells, delays the hematopoietic response to radiation injury.

To determine whether CCR5 in ECs and other cells within the microenvironment could contribute to hematopoietic regeneration (Rottman et al., 1997), we isolated the deletion of *Ccr5* to the marrow microenvironment by transplanting wild-type hematopoietic cells (B6.SJL and CD45.1) into *Ccr5*^{+/+} or *Ccr5*^{-/-} recipient mice (CD45.2, Figure S7D). At 12 weeks posttransplantation, mice displayed full donor engraftment (Figure S7E). At day 7 following 500 cGy, these chimeric mice display no differences in total cell counts or in CFC content (Figure S7F). These data demonstrate that *Ccr5* expression in the marrow microenvironment could be dispensable for the hematopoietic response following ionizing irradiation.

CCL5 Increases Cell Cycling and Cell Survival after Irradiation

Since CCL5 can induce cell cycling in certain cancer systems (Zhao et al., 2015), we sought to determine whether CCL5 could promote cell cycling following irradiation. When KSL cells are irradiated and then cultured with CCL5, there is a 2.6-fold increase in cells in G2/S/M phase compared with cultures with TSF alone (Figures 6A and 6B). Since cyclin-dependent kinases (Cdks) regulate cell cycle (Lim and Kaldis, 2013), we measured the levels of *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6* in KSL cells (Figure 6C). At 72 h following

300 cGy, KSL cells cultured with CCL5 displayed increased mRNA expression of these *Cdks* (Figure 6C). Moreover, irradiated C57BL/6 mice treated with CCL5 display increased *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6* compared with saline-treated mice (Figures 6D and 6E). Likewise, KSL cells from irradiated C57BL/6 mice display a 1.9-fold increase in G2/S/M cells by flow cytometric analysis with CCL5 treatment compared with saline controls (Figures 6F and 6G). These data suggest that both *in vitro* and *in vivo* treatment with CCL5 increases hematopoietic progenitor cell cycling following irradiation.

To determine whether CCL5 could improve cell survival after irradiation, we performed flow cytometric analysis for annexin V⁺. Irradiated KSL cells in culture with CCL5 demonstrated significantly less annexin V⁺ staining compared with cultures with TSF alone (Figure 6H). Since irradiation can introduce DNA breaks (Kao et al., 2005), leading to cell death if not repaired, we measured γ -H2AX to quantify these DNA breaks (Figure 6I). With CCL5, irradiated KSL cells have 50% less DNA breaks compared with cultures with TSF alone (Figure 6I). In the absence of CCR5 signaling, KSL cells from *Ccr5*-deficient mice displayed increase levels of annexin V⁺ staining (Figure 6J). These data demonstrate that CCL5/CCR5 signaling ameliorate radiation-induced HSPC cell death in part via reduction of DNA breaks.

CCR5 Is Inducible in Human HSPCs following Irradiation

Since CCR5 expression is inducible following irradiation in murine HSPCs, we sought to determine whether CCR5 expression was translationally relevant to human hematopoietic cells. Following irradiation of cord blood mononuclear cells, *CCR5* expression was increased proportionately to the levels of irradiation at both early (4 h) and later time points (24 h) (Figure 7A). At 24 h following irradiation, a 150-cGy dose resulted in a 2.5-fold increase in *CCR5* expression. Strikingly, a 300-cGy dose resulted in a 30-fold increase in *CCR5* (Figure 7A). Radiation exposure to human CD34⁺ marrow also increased *CCR5* expression (Figure 7B). Likewise, *CCR5* expression was inducible in peripheral blood of a group of healthy human donors with irradiation doses as low as 100 cGy (Figure 7C). Using flow cytometric analysis, *CCR5* was also increased following irradiation in the peripheral blood of healthy

(C) Percentage of total donor CD45.2⁺ cell, myeloid (Mac1/Gr-1), T cell (CD3), and B cell (B220) engraftment in the bone marrow of CD45.1 recipient mice at 16 weeks following transplantation. n = 9 per group, *p = 0.04 for total engraftment and Mac1/Gr-1, respectively.

(D) Representative flow cytometric analysis of CD45.2⁺ donor cells within bone marrow KSL cells at 16 weeks.

(E) Quantification of percentage KSL and total KSL cells per femur. n = 9 per group, *p = 0.002 and p = 0.0007 for percentage KSL cells and total KSL cells, respectively.

(F) The mean percentages of CD45.2 donor cells within bone marrow KSL cells. n = 9 per group, *p = 0.04. Data are shown as means \pm SEM. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the data.

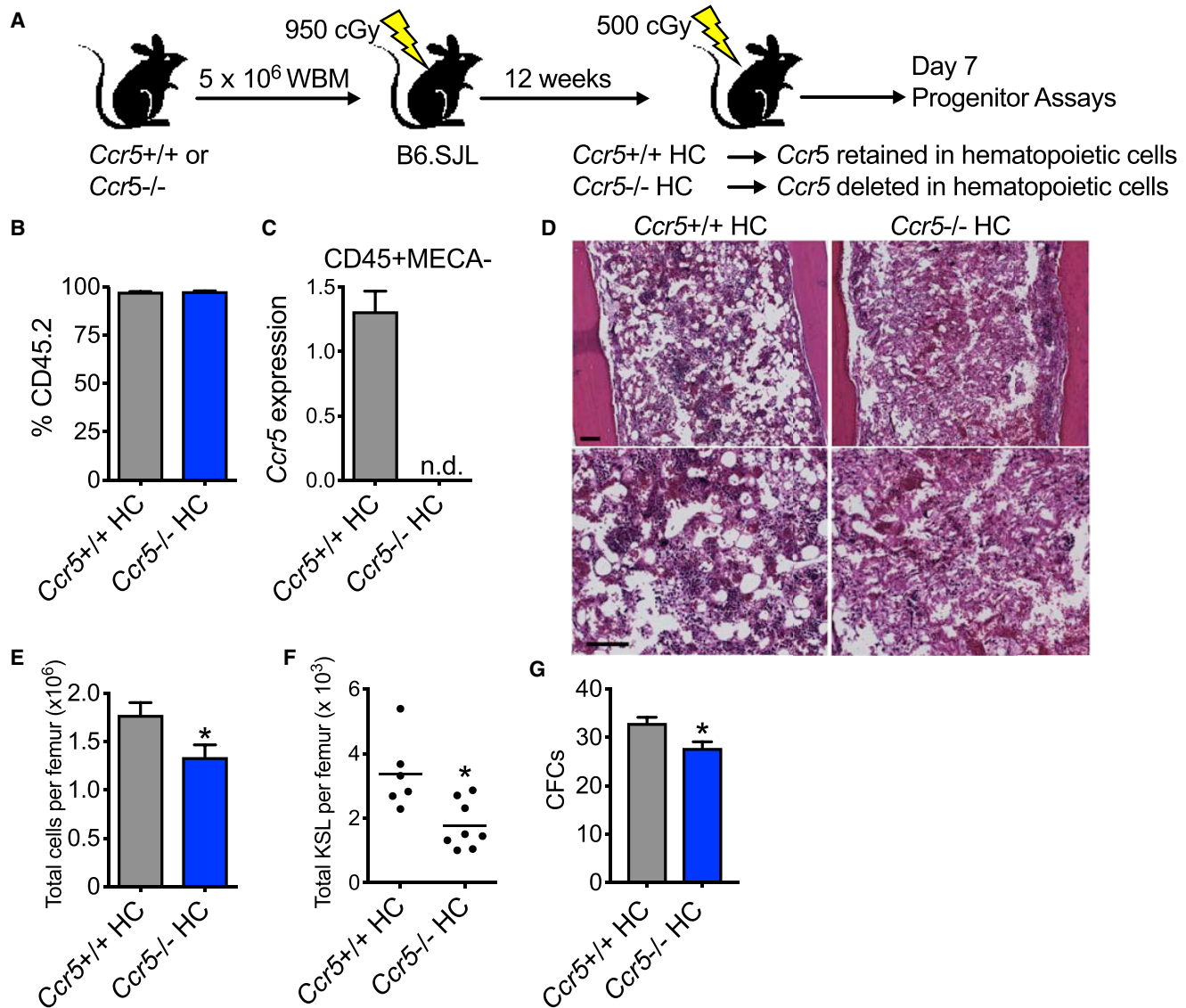


Figure 5. Deletion of *Ccr5* in Hematopoietic Cells Delays Hematopoietic Regeneration

(A) Schematic diagram of isolation of *Ccr5* deficiency to the hematopoietic compartment. B6.SJL (CD45.1) recipient mice were irradiated with 950 cGy and then transplanted with 5×10^6 WBM cells from *Ccr5*^{+/+} or *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice. At 12 weeks posttransplantation, donor chimerism was measured. Hematopoietic progenitor assays were performed on day 7 following 500 cGy TBI.

(B) Levels of peripheral blood donor engraftment by flow cytometric analysis in *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC or *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC mice. n = 15 per group. Levels of mean engraftment were >97%.

(C) RT-PCR of *Ccr5* mRNA expression of hematopoietic cells that are CD45⁺ and negative for mouse endothelial cell antigen (MECA). n.d., not detected. n = 3 per group. Data are normalized to *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC and *GAPDH*.

(D) H&E staining of femurs on day 7 following 500 cGy TBI. Scale bars, 100 μ m.

(E–G) Bone marrow cell counts (E), total KSL cells per femur (F), and CFCs (G) per 4×10^4 WBM cells in *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC and *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC at day 7 following 500 cGy TBI. n = 6–8 per group. *p = 0.03, *p = 0.007, and *p = 0.01 for total cells per femur, total KSL cells per femur, and CFCs, respectively. Data are shown as means \pm SEM. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the data.

donors (Figure 7D). Culture of human CD34⁺ BM with CCL5 increased the levels of CFUs compared with cultures with cytokines alone (Figure 7E). Consistent with the increase in CFUs, cultured human CD34⁺ BM with CCL5

displayed decreased apoptotic cell death compared with cultures with cytokines alone (Figure 7F). These data suggest that treatment with recombinant CCL5 could increase hematopoietic progenitor cells and ameliorate

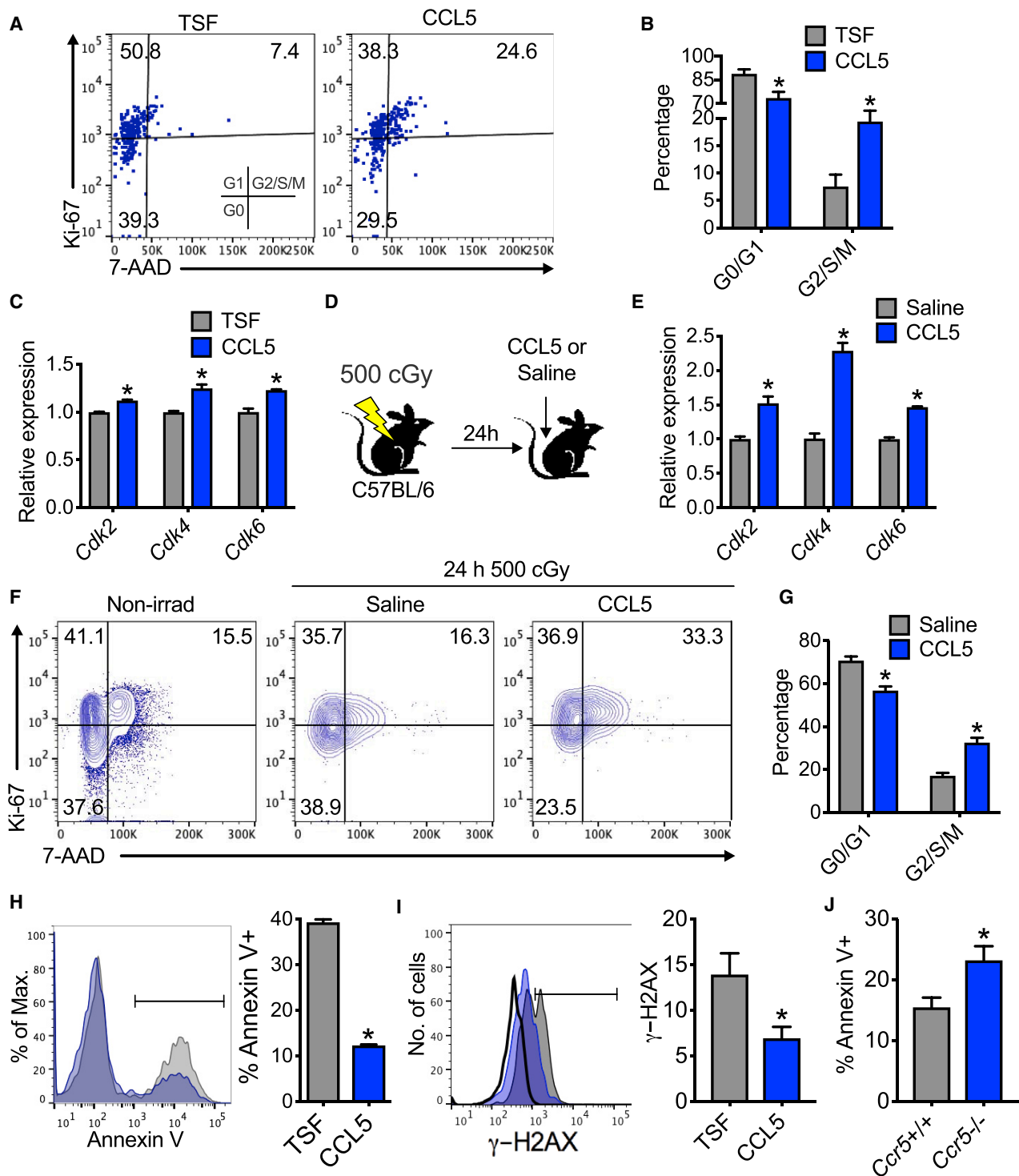


Figure 6. CCL5 Promotes Cell Cycling and Cell Survival after Irradiation

(A) Left, representative flow cytometric analysis of KSL cells in G0 (Ki67⁻7-AAD⁻), G1 (Ki67⁺7-AAD⁻), and G2/S/M (Ki67⁺7-AAD⁺) phase at 72 h following 300 cGy in culture with CCL5 + TSF (CCL5) compared with TSF alone. (B) Cell-cycle analysis of KSL cells at 72 h following 300 cGy in culture with CCL5 + TSF (CCL5) compared with TSF alone. n = 7–8 per group, *p = 0.009 and p = 0.005 for G0/G1 and G2/S/M, respectively.

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radiation-induced cell death. Since CCL5 promoted cell survival in murine cultures following irradiation, we demonstrate that CCL5 provided a survival benefit for human CD34⁺ BM cells after irradiation. These data suggest that irradiated human hematopoietic cells increase CCR5 expression, which, in part, could contribute to cell survival following radiation injury.

DISCUSSION

In an unbiased screen of cytokines from marrow supernatants, we identified CCL5 to be elevated in mice with deletion of proapoptotic proteins in Tie2⁺ cells compared with littermate control mice at 6 h following lethal dose TBI (Doan et al., 2013b). CCL5 differs from other inflammatory cytokines in that it has been reported to be elevated 3–5 days following T cell activation, with its later expression being associated with maintaining inflammation (Krensky and Ahn, 2007; Schall et al., 1988; Song et al., 2000). In the setting of ionizing radiation, CCL5 expression could be quickly induced in ECs within 2 h, and this expression increases at 24 h. Likewise, CCR5 is also responsive to radiation and increases expression on hematopoietic progenitor cells. Since both CCL5 and CCR5 increase following irradiation, this finding suggests that CCR5 signaling could be functional in the early hematopoietic response to radiation.

CCL5 has previously been shown to be a proinflammatory cytokine that accumulates in the aging marrow (Ergen et al., 2012). Either exposure to CCL5 or enforced expression of CCL5 resulted in lineage skewing to favor production of myeloid cells and a corresponding decrease in lymphocyte production. In our competitive transplantation studies, in which recipient mice receive donor cells

from irradiated, CCL5-treated mice, these recipient mice did not demonstrate an increase in myeloid cells compared with control recipients. Notably, these studies were performed in younger mice (<12 weeks of age) at the time of transplantation compared with mice used in studies by Ergen et al. It is possible that the myeloid bias seen in the aging marrow requires additional cytokines that are altered in the elderly marrow (>70 weeks of age) or that the dosing of CCL5 in this current study was insufficient to reproduce lineage skewing.

Competitive transplantation studies with HSCs with either CCL5-deficient or CCL5-replete cells did not demonstrate differences in the levels of total engraftment (Ergen et al., 2012). Since ligands for CCR5 include CCL3 and CCL4, it is possible that these ligands could provide functional redundancy for CCR5 signaling when CCL5 alone is depleted (Lee et al., 2018; Menten et al., 2002). For these reasons, we sought to genetically abolish CCR5 signaling by using *Ccr5*-deficient mice. In loss-of-function studies, irradiated *Ccr5*-deficient mice display delayed HSC regeneration compared with *Ccr5*-replete mice. Since CCR5 is expressed on both hematopoietic and ECs (Rottman et al., 1997), we employed transplantation studies to isolate the deletion of *Ccr5* to either hematopoietic cells or to the marrow microenvironment (i.e., ECs). We found that deletion of *Ccr5* in hematopoietic cells delayed hematopoietic regeneration compared with control mice. Since the deletion of *Ccr5* in nonhematopoietic cells did not alter hematopoietic regeneration, these findings suggest that *Ccr5* deletion in ECs could be dispensable.

To make these findings in murine systems translationally relevant, we demonstrate that CCR5 expression is also inducible following irradiation in three human HC populations (cord blood, marrow, and peripheral blood). CCR5 expression increases with time (i.e., CCR5 expression is

(C) RT-PCR analysis of *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6* mRNA expression from KSL cells at 72 h following 300 cGy and treatment with TSF or 30 ng/mL CCL5. n = 3 per group, *p = 0.0002, p = 0.004, and p = 0.004 for *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6*, respectively. Data are normalized to *GAPDH* and TSF for each *Cdk*.

(D) Schematic diagram of study design for Figures 6E–6G. At 24 h after 500 cGy TBI, mice were injected with saline or 0.1 µg/g body weight of CCL5 and analyzed at 2 h postinjection.

(E) RT-PCR analysis of *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6* of BM Lin[−] cells. n = 4 per group, *p = 0.003, p < 0.0001, and p < 0.0001 for *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6*, respectively. Data are normalized to *GAPDH* and saline for each *Cdk*.

(F) Representative flow cytometric Ki67/7-AAD cell-cycle analysis from KSL cells following 500 cGy TBI and treatment with CCL5 or saline. Nonirradiated control is shown for comparison.

(G) Levels of G0/G1 and G2/S/M of KSL cells from irradiated CCL5- or saline-treated C57BL/6 mice. n = 5 per group, *p < 0.001 for G0/G1 and G2/S/M.

(H) Left, representative flow cytometric analysis of annexin V⁺ KSL cells and progeny at 72 h following 300 cGy in culture with CCL5 (blue line) compared with TSF alone (gray line). Right, quantification of total annexin V⁺ cells day 7 following 300 cGy and treatment with CCL5 or TSF alone. n = 3 per group, *p < 0.0001.

(I) Representative flow cytometric analysis and quantification of γ-H2AX in KSL and progeny following 300 cGy irradiation and 24 h culture with CCL5 (blue) or TSF alone (gray). Isotype is shown as black curve. n = 6 per group, *p = 0.02.

(J) Flow cytometric analysis of annexin V⁺ from KSL cells and progeny of *Ccr5*^{+/+} and *Ccr5*^{−/−} mice at 72 h following 300 cGy. n = 6 per group, *p = 0.02. Data are shown as means ± SEM. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the data.

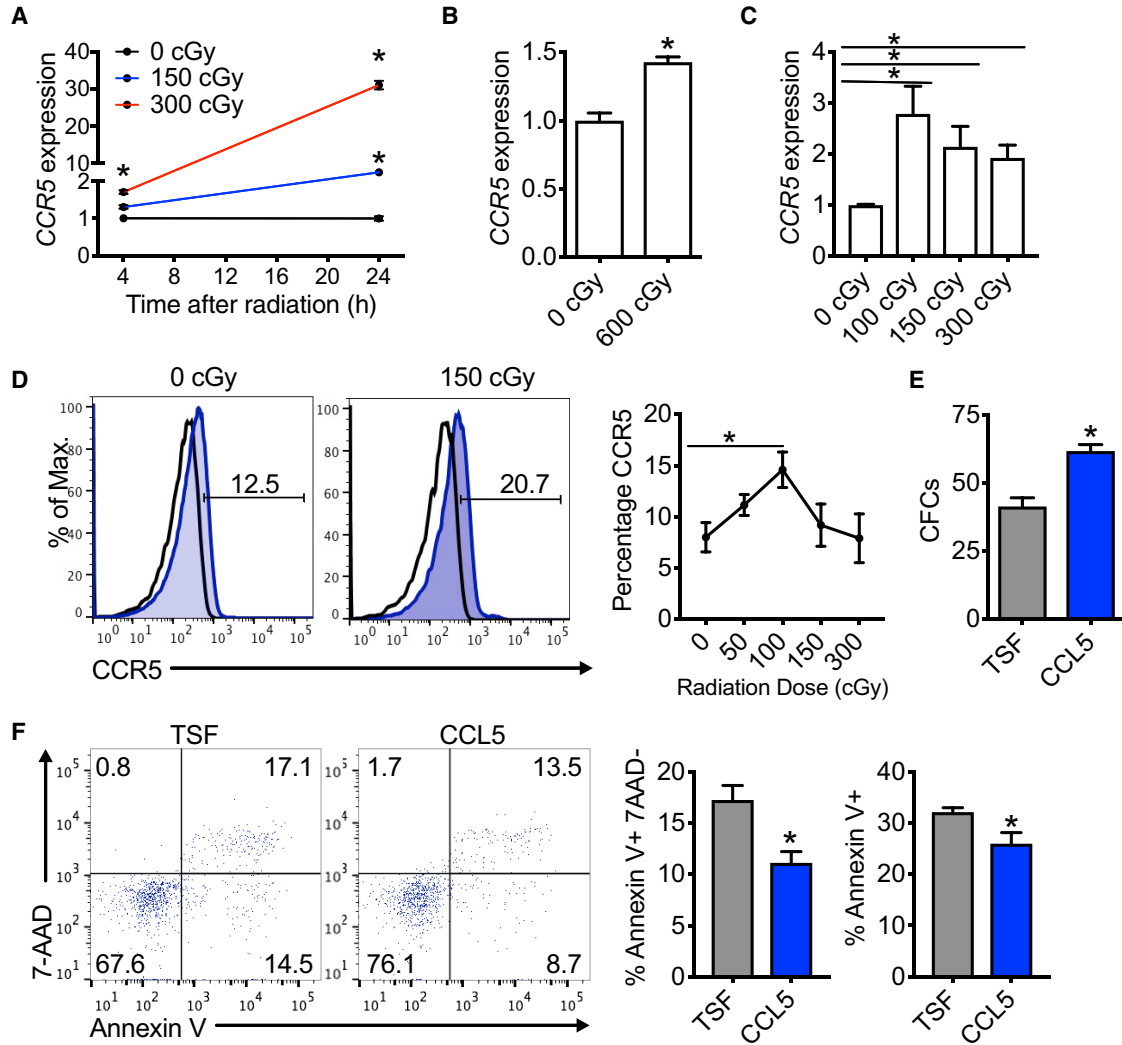


Figure 7. CCR5 Expression Is Induced in Human Hematopoietic Stem/Progenitor Cells to Promote Cell Survival following Irradiation Injury

(A) *CCR5* mRNA expression by RT-PCR of cord blood mononuclear cells at 4 and 24 h following either 150 or 300 cGy. Data are shown relative to 0 cGy for each time point. $n = 3$ per group. $*p = 0.03$ and $p = 0.002$ for 150 and 300 cGy versus 0 cGy at 4 h, respectively. $*p = 0.0004$ and $p < 0.0001$ for 150 and 300 cGy versus 0 cGy at 24 h, respectively.

(B) *CCR5* mRNA expression of human bone marrow $CD34^+$ cells at 24 h following irradiation. $n = 3$ per group. $*p = 0.003$.

(C) *CCR5* mRNA expression of human peripheral blood from healthy donors at 16 h following irradiation. $n = 14-15$ per group. $*p = 0.004$, $p = 0.008$, and $p = 0.001$ for 100, 150, and 300 cGy versus 0 cGy, respectively.

(D) Representative flow cytometric analysis and quantification of CCR5 protein expression in human peripheral blood from healthy donors at 16 h following irradiation. $n = 6-10$ per group. $*p = 0.02$ for 100 versus 0 cGy.

(E) CFCs from cord blood $CD34^+$ cells following 7 days in culture with 30 ng/mL CCL5 + TSF compared with TSF alone. $n = 3$ per group. $*p = 0.007$.

(F) Left, representative flow cytometric analysis of annexin V, 7-AAD stained human $CD34^+$ bone marrow cells following 48 h in culture with 30 ng/mL CCL5 + TSF or TSF alone. Middle, levels of annexin V^+ , 7-AAD $^-$ cells; right, levels of annexin V^+ cells at 48 h following culture with specified conditions. $n = 4$ per group. $*p = 0.01$ and $p = 0.04$, respectively. Data are shown as means \pm SEM. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) was applied to the data.

more highly expressed at 24 h compared with 4 h). Interestingly, *CCR5* increases at lower doses of irradiation, although its expression is not sustained at higher doses,

possibly due to increased necrotic cell death and degraded mRNA. This proportionate increase in *CCR5* expression after irradiation in human hematopoietic cell populations,



particularly in the peripheral blood, suggests that *CCR5* could be used as a marker or dosimeter for accidental radiation exposures.

The discovery that people who bear homozygous mutations of *CCR5* are resistant to HIV infection, and that those with heterozygous deletion of *CCR5* have slower progression of HIV once infected, provided the rationale to investigate *CCR5* in HIV (Huang et al., 1996; Liu et al., 1996). More recently, an HIV-infected patient who received an allogeneic HSC transplant for treatment of Hodgkin's lymphoma with donor cells bearing a homozygous mutation for *CCR5* achieved HIV remission while off antiretroviral therapy (Gupta et al., 2019). *CCR5* antagonists, such as maraviroc, are being developed to modulate the immune system both in infection and following HSC transplantation. Moreover, maraviroc is a small-molecule inhibitor that selectively and reversibly binds *CCR5* (Gulick et al., 2008). Since *CCR5* is a co-receptor for HIV, *CCR5* antagonists can impair HIV infection and modulate the host immune system (Dean et al., 1996; Huang et al., 1996). In a study with over 1,000 patients, differences in complete blood counts or myelosuppression were not noted between treatment with maraviroc and placebo groups (Gulick et al., 2008). Since *CCL5* could contribute to alloreactivity following hematopoietic cell transplantation through recruitment of lymphocytes (Choi et al., 2007), blockade of *CCL1*, *CCL3*, and *CCL5* signaling with maraviroc was effective to prevent the onset of acute graft-versus-host disease (Moy et al., 2017; Reshef et al., 2012). In this phase I/II study to determine whether maraviroc could prevent GVHD following allogeneic transplantation, no impact on the levels of hematopoietic engraftment or toxicity was observed (Reshef et al., 2012). It is important to note that this study used reduced-intensity preparative regimens, which were performed without radiation. Like these clinical findings using maraviroc for *CCR5* blockade, our data demonstrate no differences in hematopoietic profiles in mice with deletion of *Ccr5* compared with control mice in the absence of irradiation. Whether *CCR5* blockade following preparative regimens that include radiotherapy would be deleterious to hematopoiesis and engraftment was not investigated in these clinical studies. For these reasons, *CCL5* could be employed cautiously to accelerate hematopoietic regeneration in recipients of HSC transplantation.

Whether *CCL5* cooperates with other chemokines, such as *CXCL12* or other growth factors, for hematopoietic regeneration is still unknown. Future studies are required to determine whether *CCL5* could accelerate hematopoietic regeneration following other mechanisms of myelosuppressive stress such as chemotherapy. In summary, our data demonstrate that *CCR5* signaling is a necessary pathway for hematopoietic regeneration. These data demonstrate that *CCL5* could be used pharmacolog-

ically following either therapeutic or accidental radiation injury.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Animals

Eight- to 12-week-old C57BL/6 (CD 45.2⁺), B6.SJL (CD 45.1⁺), and *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice were purchased from Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor, ME). To isolate the deletion of *Ccr5* to the hematopoietic compartment, *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC and *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC mice were generated by transplanting 5×10^6 WBM from *Ccr5*^{+/+} or *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice by tail vein injection into lethally irradiated (950 cGy) recipient B6.SJL mice. To isolate *Ccr5* deletion to nonhematopoietic cells in the marrow, *Ccr5*^{+/+} EC or *Ccr5*^{-/-} EC mice were generated by transplanting 5×10^6 WBM from B6.SJL mice into *Ccr5*^{+/+} or *Ccr5*^{-/-} recipient mice. Donor chimerism was confirmed by flow cytometric analysis of percentage CD45.2⁺ or CD45.1⁺ cells (BD Biosciences; 560695, 553775). Biologic variables such as age, sex, and preirradiation weight were matched for each study. Duke University Animal Care and Use Committee approved all animal studies.

Measurements of CCL5 and CCR5 Expression

CCL5 was measured in conditioned media from cultures of C57BL/6 BM ECs using an ELISA detection kit according to the manufacturer's specifications (R&D Systems; MMR00). *Ccr5* mRNA expression analyses (Thermo Fisher Scientific; Mm01963251_s1) were performed on peripheral blood or BM subsets as indicated in the figure legends. *Ccr5* expression was calculated using delta-delta C_T analysis with normalization to *GAPDH* (Thermo Fisher Scientific; Mm99999915_g1) as described previously (Livak and Schmittgen, 2001). For flow cytometric analysis of *CCR5*, C57BL/6 mice were irradiated with 300 cGy TBI and were sacrificed at specified time points. Cells from femurs were collected by flushing into Iscove's Modification of DMEM (Corning; 10-016-cv) with 10% fetal bovine serum (HyClone, GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences; SH30071.03), and 1% penicillin-streptomycin (Gibco; 15140-122). Red blood cells were depleted with ammonium-chloride-potassium (ACK) lysing buffer (Lonza; 10-548E). WBM cells were stained with anti-*CCR5* antibody (BioLegend; 313712), antilineage antibody APC (BD; 558074), anti-cKit PE (BD; 553355), anti-Sca-1 APC-Cy7 (BD; 560654), and 7-AAD (BD; 559925). Isotype controls were included for all analyses.

To measure *Ccr5* expression in CD45⁺ MECA-marrow cells, cells from femurs were isolated with fluorescence-activated cell sorting, as described previously (Doan et al., 2013b), and then analyzed for *Ccr5* expression as noted above.

Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Assays, Histologic Analyses, and Survival Study

Complete blood counts were quantified on a HemaVet 950 (Drew Scientific, Dallas, TX). BM collection, KSL, SLAM + KSL cells, and CFC methylcellulose assays were performed using published methods (Doan et al., 2013a). H&E staining of femurs were performed by the Duke Research Immunohistology Lab. For CFU-S12 analysis, 2×10^5 WBM cells were injected into 900-cGy irradiated C57BL/6 mice. At day 12 postinjection, colonies were counted



independently by two investigators. LTC-IC limiting dilution analyses were performed as described previously (Piryani et al., 2018). For competitive transplantation assays, donor mice were exposed to 500 cGy TBI and then sacrificed at 7 days postirradiation. Cell doses of 10^6 WBM donor cells and 2×10^5 nonirradiated host marrow were transplanted by single tail vein injection into 900-cGy irradiated recipient mice. Donor engraftment was measured in the BM at 12 weeks posttransplantation using flow cytometric analysis using published methods (Piryani et al., 2018).

For the survival study, C57BL/6 mice were exposed to 700 cGy TBI. Twenty-four hours later, mice received subcutaneous injections of either 0.1 μ g/g body weight of CCL5 (R&D Systems; 478-MR-050) in 200 μ L volume or $1 \times$ sterile PBS. Injections were administered three times per week until day 15 for a total of 7 doses. Animals were monitored for survival or were sacrificed for humane endpoints according to approved animal protocols.

HSC Cycling and Cell Survival Assays

RT-PCR for *Cdk2*, *Cdk4*, and *Cdk6* was performed on irradiated KSL cells or BM Lin⁻ cells as specified in the figure legends (Thermo Fisher Scientific; Mm00443947_m1, Mm00726334_s1, Mm01311342_m1, respectively). Expression was calculated using delta-delta C_T analysis with normalization to *GAPDH* and control groups. For *in vitro* cell-cycle analysis by flow cytometry, KSL-labeled cells were treated with Fix Buffer I (BD; 557870), Perm Buffer III (BD; 558050), Ki67-FITC (BD; 556026), and 7-AAD (BD; 559925) according to the manufacturer's specifications (BD). For *in vivo* cell-cycle analysis, C57BL/6 mice were irradiated with 500 cGy. At 24 h, mice were injected subcutaneously with saline or 0.1 μ g/g body weight of CCL5. At 2 h postinjection, marrow cells were collected, depleted of red blood cells, and enriched for Lin⁻ cells using a lineage cell depletion kit and LS columns according to the manufacturer's specifications (Miltenyi Biotech; 130-090-858, 130-042-401). Cells were labeled for KSL, Ki67/7-AAD, and analyzed by flow cytometry as described above.

For cell death analysis, KSL cells were irradiated with 300 cGy and then cultured for 72 h or 7 days in 30 ng/mL CCL5 in 20 ng/mL thrombopoietin (R&D Systems; 488-TO-200), 125 ng/mL stem cell factor (R&D Systems; 455-MC-500), and 50 ng/mL Flt-3 ligand (R&D Systems; 427-FL-025) (TSF) (Doan et al., 2013a) compared with TSF alone. KSL cells and progeny were stained with annexin V FITC and 7-AAD according to the manufacturer's specifications (BD; 556419). For analysis for expression of γ -H2AX, 300-cGy irradiated KSL cells were cultured for 24 h with 30 ng/mL CCL5 + TSF or TSF alone. Cells were fixed in Fix Buffer I, permeabilized in Phos-flow Perm Buffer III, and labeled with anti- γ -H2AX antibody (BD; 562377).

Human Specimens and Assays

De-identified cord blood was obtained from the Carolinas Cord Blood Bank (Durham, NC). De-identified human BM was obtained from healthy marrow donors. Peripheral blood was obtained from healthy donors. Male and female subjects were included. Samples were collected from subjects older than 18 years of age. Samples were collected in heparinized tubes, irradiated at specified doses, and cultured without additional cytokine or media supplementation at 37°C. At 16 h, red blood cells were depleted with ACK lysing

buffer, and labeled with anti-CCR5 antibody (BioLegend). RNA from human specimens was isolated using RNeasy Kit (QIAGEN; 74104) according to the manufacturer's specifications. Cell survival analysis was performed as noted above. Written and informed consent was obtained from donors. The Duke Institutional Review Board approved all studies.

Statistical Analyses and Image Capture

Data are shown as means \pm SEM. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance), or one-way ANOVA analyses were used as specified in the figure legends. Survival analysis was performed using a log rank test. Analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism (v.8.0, La Jolla, CA).

Images for immunohistochemical analysis were obtained with Zeiss AxioImager Z2 and AxioCam 506.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.stemcr.2019.04.023>.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

S.O.P., A.Y.F.K., and U.T.V. performed the experiments, analyzed the data, and reviewed the paper. N.J.C. provided samples of human peripheral blood, discussed the experiments, and reviewed the paper. P.L.D. conceived of the study, designed the experiments, performed the experiments, analyzed the data, and wrote the paper. The authors declare no competing interests.

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Stem Cell Reports, Volume 13

Supplemental Information

CCR5 Signaling Promotes Murine and Human Hematopoietic Regeneration following Ionizing Radiation

Sadhna O. Piryani, Angel Y.F. Kam, Uyen T. Vu, Nelson J. Chao, and Phuong L. Doan

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Figure S1

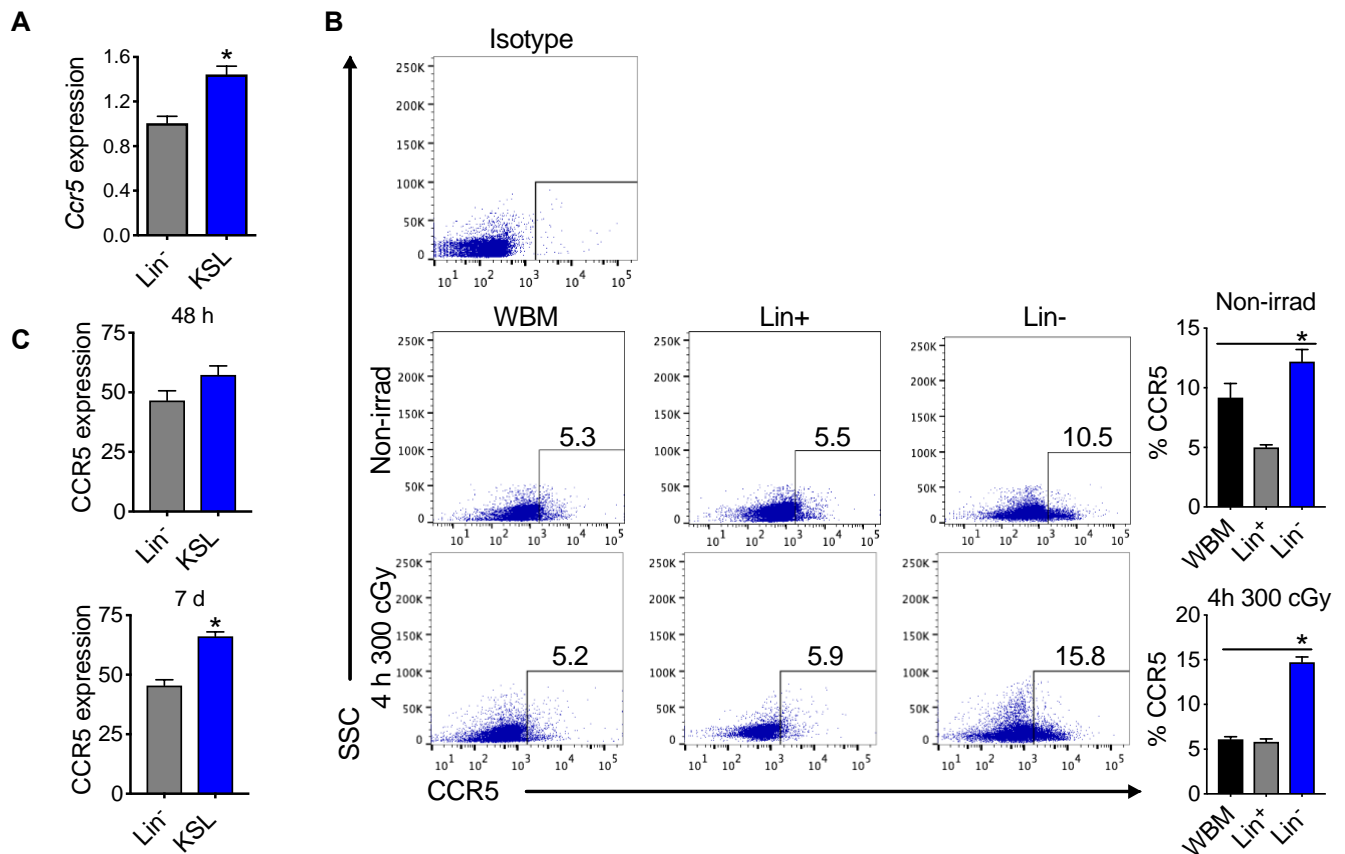


Figure S1. CCR5 expression in hematopoietic cell subsets following irradiation. (A) *Ccr5* mRNA expression of C57BL/6 KSL cells compared to Lin⁻ cells at 2 h following 500 cGy. $n=4$ per group, $*p=0.004$. **(B)** Representative flow cytometric analysis and quantification of CCR5 expression in subsets of non-irradiated hematopoietic cells and at 4 h following 300 cGy. $n=5$ per group. $*p=0.0004$ and <0.0001 by Anova analysis for non-irradiated and irradiated comparisons, respectively. **(C)** Percentage of CCR5 by flow cytometric analysis in Lin⁻ or KSL cells at 48 h and at 7 days following 300 cGy. $n=6$ per group. $*p<0.0001$ at 7 days, respectively. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) were used in these analyses, except as noted in **(B)**.

Figure S2

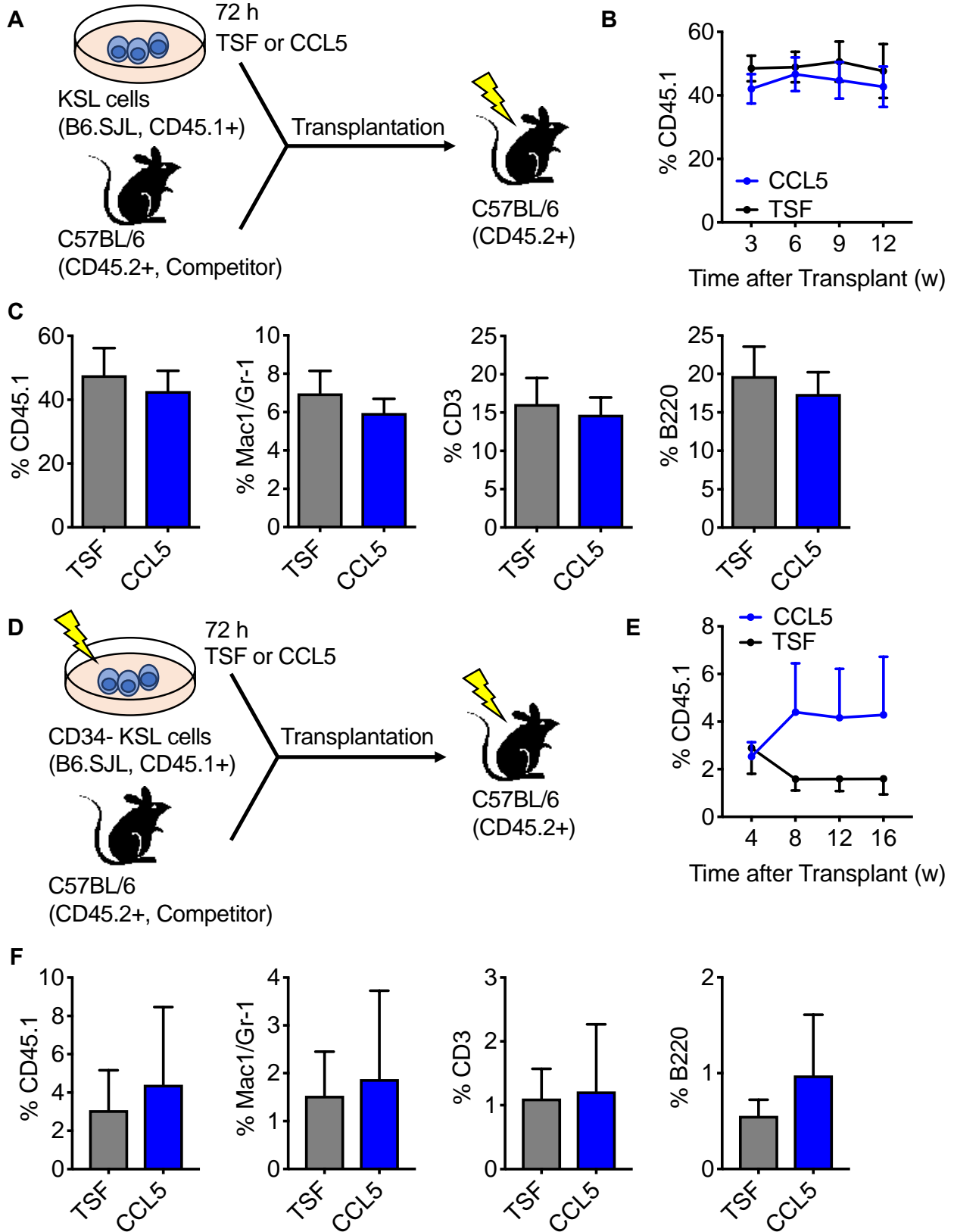


Figure S2. Competitive transplantation following CCL5 treatment in vitro and in vivo. (A)

Schematic diagram of competitive transplantation assay of non-irradiated KSL cells and progeny (B6.SJL, CD45.1+) cultured for 7 days with 30 ng/ml CCL5 and TSF or TSF alone. Recipient mice (C57BL/6, CD45.2+) were conditioned with 900 cGy total body irradiation and then transplanted with 1.5×10^3 non-irradiated KSL cells and progeny along with 2×10^5 competing host bone marrow (CD45.2+). **(B)** Total CD45.1 peripheral blood donor engraftment over time in recipient mice transplanted as outline in **(A)**. **(C)** Total and multi-lineage engraftment in the peripheral blood of recipient mice at 12 weeks following transplantation. $n= 8-9$ mice per group. **(D)** Schematic diagram of study design for competitive transplantation following in vitro treatment with CCL5. CD34-KSL cells were isolated from B6.SJL donor mice (CD45.1) and irradiated with 300 cGy. One thousand CD34-KSL cells per well were cultured with either 30 ng/ml CCL5 + TSF or TSF alone. At 72 h, CD34-KSL cells and progeny were transplanted into lethally-irradiated (900-cGy) C57BL/6 recipient mice along with 2×10^5 competing host bone marrow cells. One well of cultured cells was transplanted into 1 animal. Mice were followed for peripheral blood and marrow engraftment over time. **(E)** Total CD45.1 peripheral blood donor engraftment over time of recipient mice. $n= 11-12$ mice per group. **(F)** Total and multi-lineage engraftment in the bone marrow of recipient mice at 16 weeks following transplantation. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) were used in these analyses. All comparisons were $p > 0.05$.

Figure S3

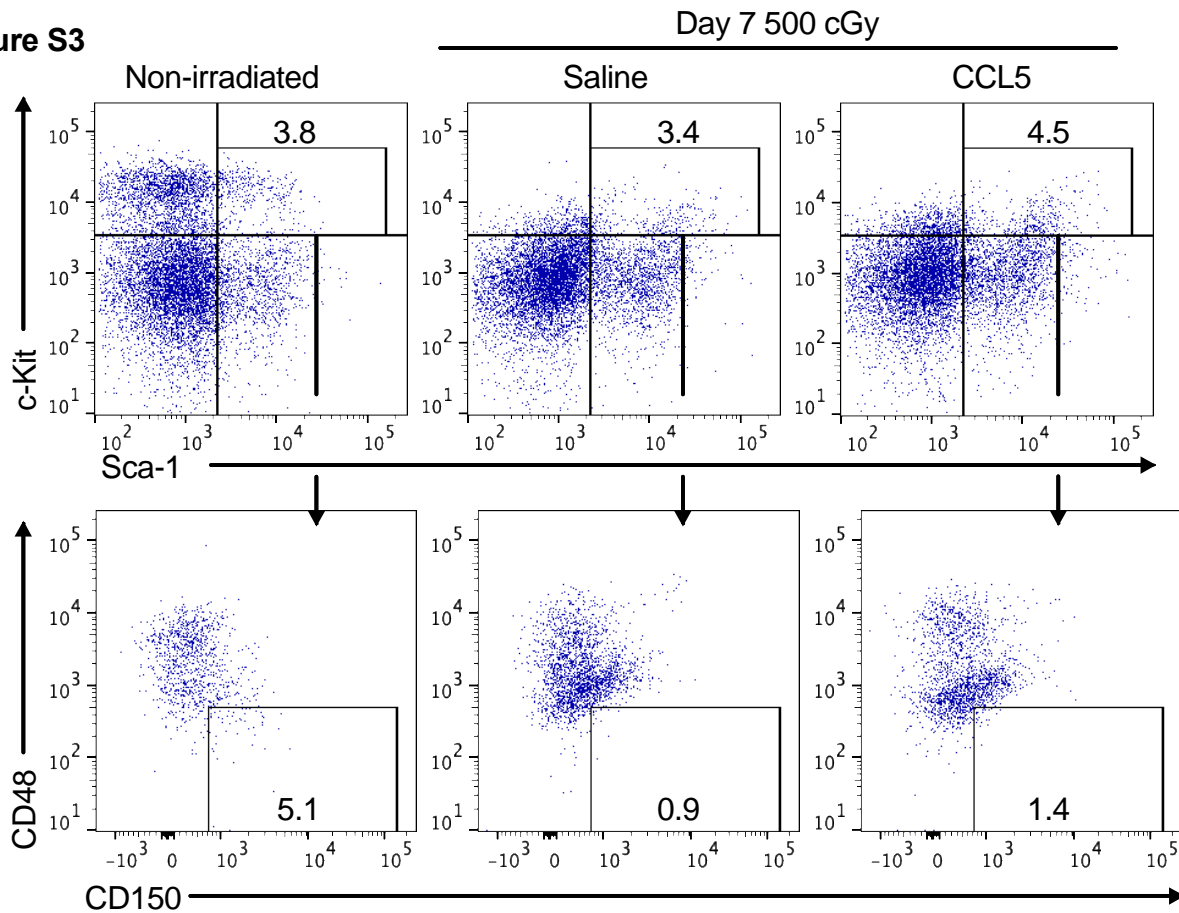


Figure S3. Representative flow cytometric analysis for SLAM+KSL. From Lineage- cells, ckit+Sca-1+ cells are gated (top row). From this KSL gate, CD150+CD48- KSL cells are gated (bottom row).

Figure S4

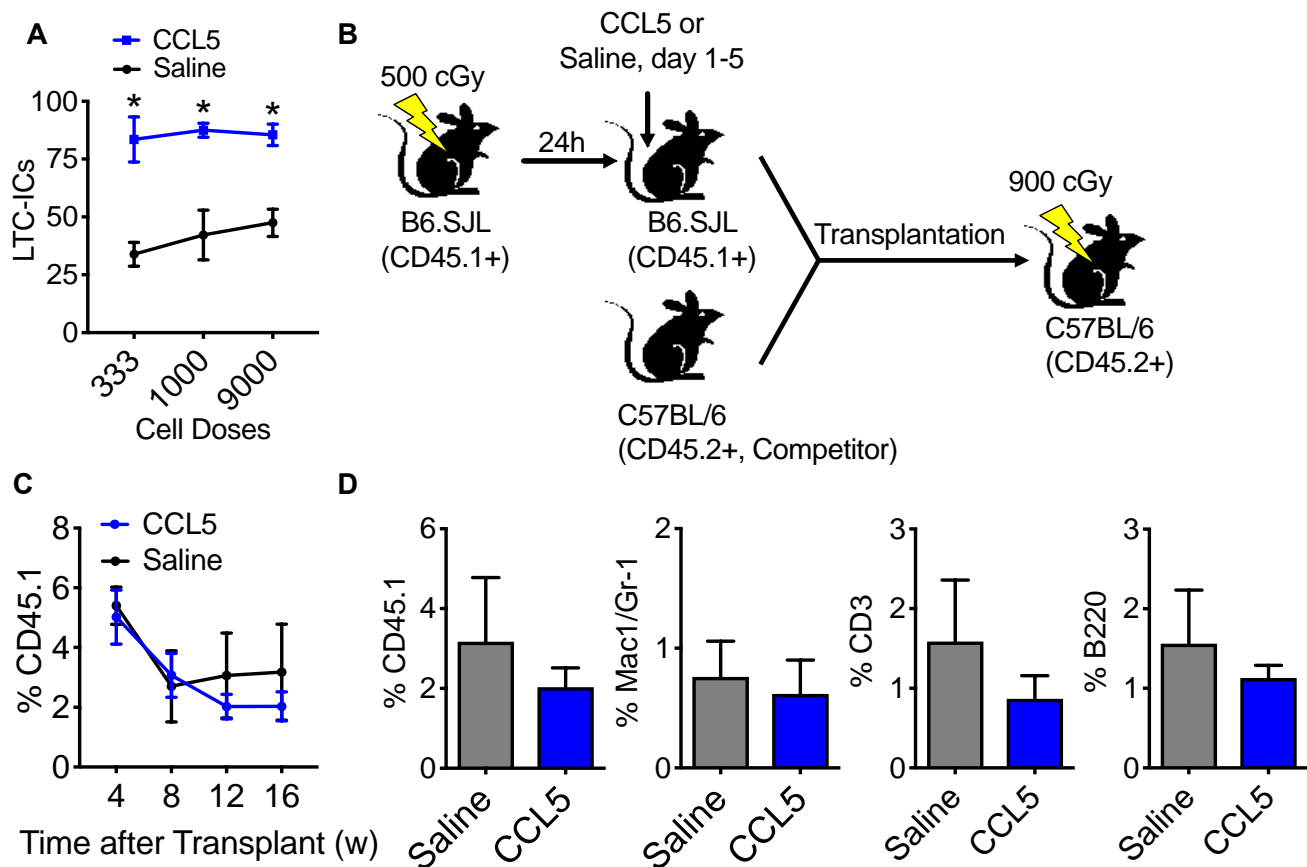


Figure S4. HSC content in C57BL/6 mice following 500 cGy TBI and treatment with CCL5. (A) Levels of long-term colony-initiating cells (LTC-ICs) on day 7 from whole bone marrow (WBM) of irradiated (500cGy) C57BL/6 mice treated with 0.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{gram}$ body weight CCL5 or Saline subcutaneously starting 24 h after irradiation for 5 doses. $n= 4-7$ per group. * $p= 0.001, 0.002,$ and 0.002 for cell doses $3.3 \times 10^2, 10^3,$ and 9×10^3 respectively. **(B)** Schematic diagram of competitive transplantation of donor cells from irradiated (500 cGy) B6.SJL mice treated with 0.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{gram}$ body weight CCL5 or Saline subcutaneously starting 24 h after irradiation for 5 doses. On day 7 post-irradiation, 10^6 donor cells and 2×10^5 competing host cells are transplanted to irradiated (900 cGy) mice. **(C)** Total peripheral blood donor engraftment of recipient mice transplanted with CCL5- or Saline-treated donor mice. $n= 8-10$ mice per group. **(D)** Total and multi-lineage engraftment in the bone marrow of recipient mice at 16 weeks following transplantation. $n= 8-10$ mice per group. Student's t test

(two-tailed with unequal variance) were used in these analyses. All comparisons in Fig. S4C, D were $p > 0.05$.

Figure S5

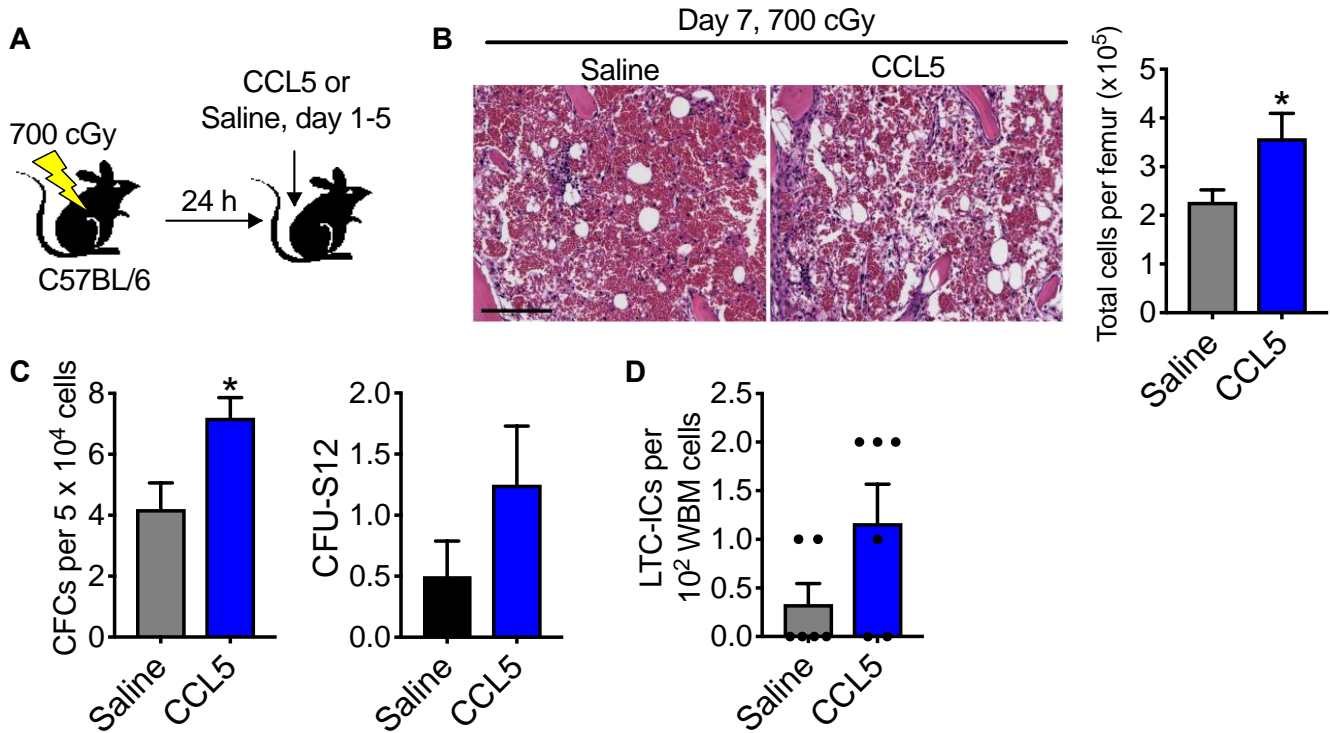


Figure S5. HSPC content in C57BL/6 mice following 700 cGy TBI and treatment with CCL5. (A) Schematic diagram of study design. Irradiated (700 cGy) C57BL/6 mice are treated with 0.1 μg/gram body weight CCL5 or Saline subcutaneously starting 24 h after irradiation for 5 doses. Hematopoietic stem/progenitor assays are performed on day 7 post-irradiation. (B) Left, Representative femurs stained with hematoxylin and eosin. Scale bar 100 μm. Right, total cells per femur. $n = 6-10$ mice per group. $*p = 0.02$. (C) CFCs and CFU-S12. $n = 5$ and 4 per group for CFCs and CFU-S12, respectively. $*p = 0.02$ for CFCs. $p > 0.05$ for CFU-S12. (D) Levels of LTC-ICs as shown. $n = 6$ per group. $p > 0.05$. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) were used in these analyses.

Figure S6

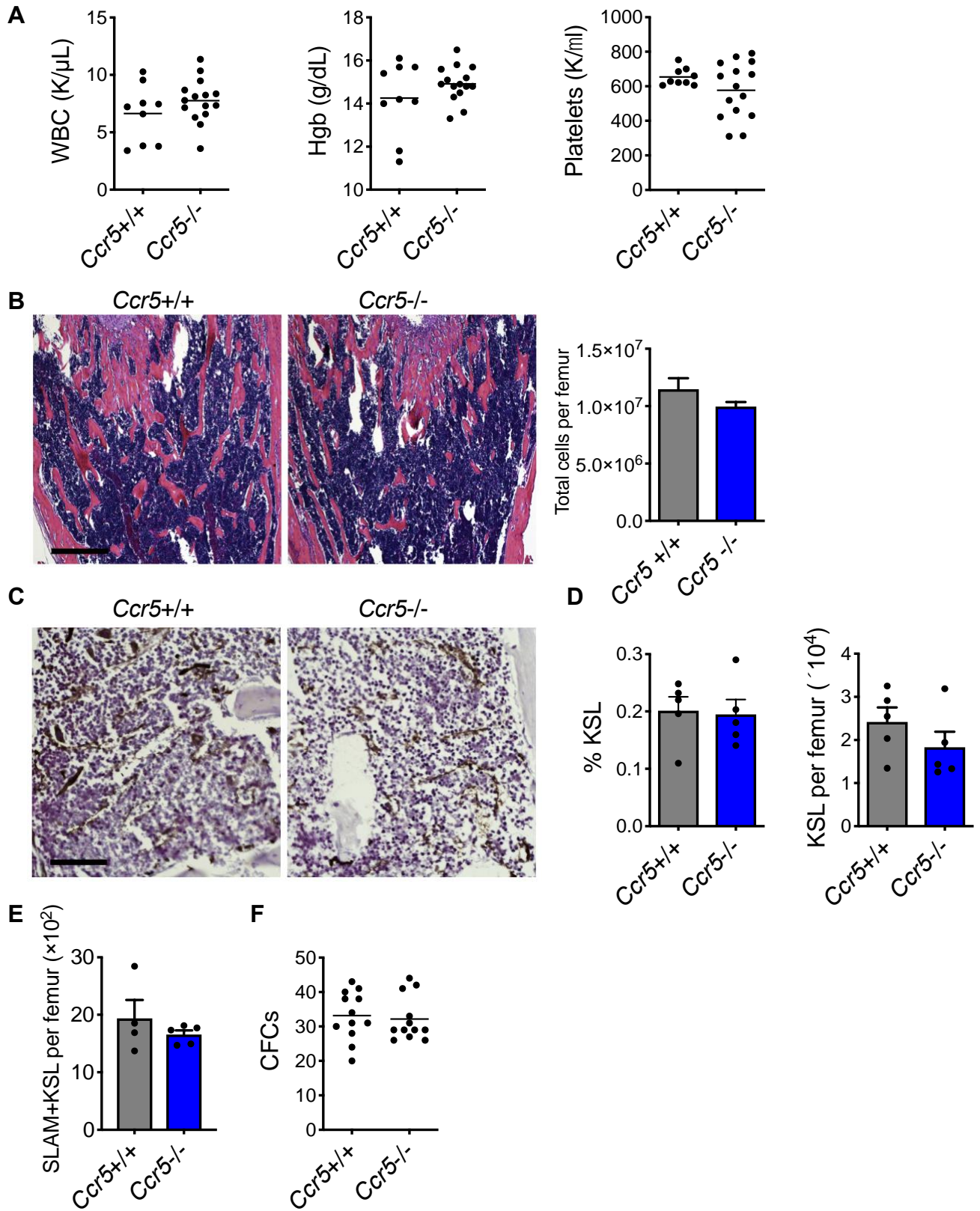


Figure S6. Hematopoietic phenotype of non-irradiated *Ccr5*^{+/+} and *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice. (A) White blood cell count (WBC), Hemoglobin (Hgb), and platelets are shown at baseline in indicated genotypes. *n*= 9-15 per group. (B) Left, representative femur sections stained with hematoxylin and eosin. Scale bar 100 μ m. Right, quantification of total cells per femur. *n*= 5 per group. (C) MECA-32 and hematoxylin-stained femur sections. Scale bar 100 μ m. (D) Percentage KSL and total KSL per femur. *n*= 5 per group. (E) Total SLAM+KSL cells per femur. *n*= 4-5 per group. (F) Total CFCs per 1×10^4 cells. *n*= 12 per group. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) were used in these analyses. All comparisons were $p > 0.05$.

Figure S7

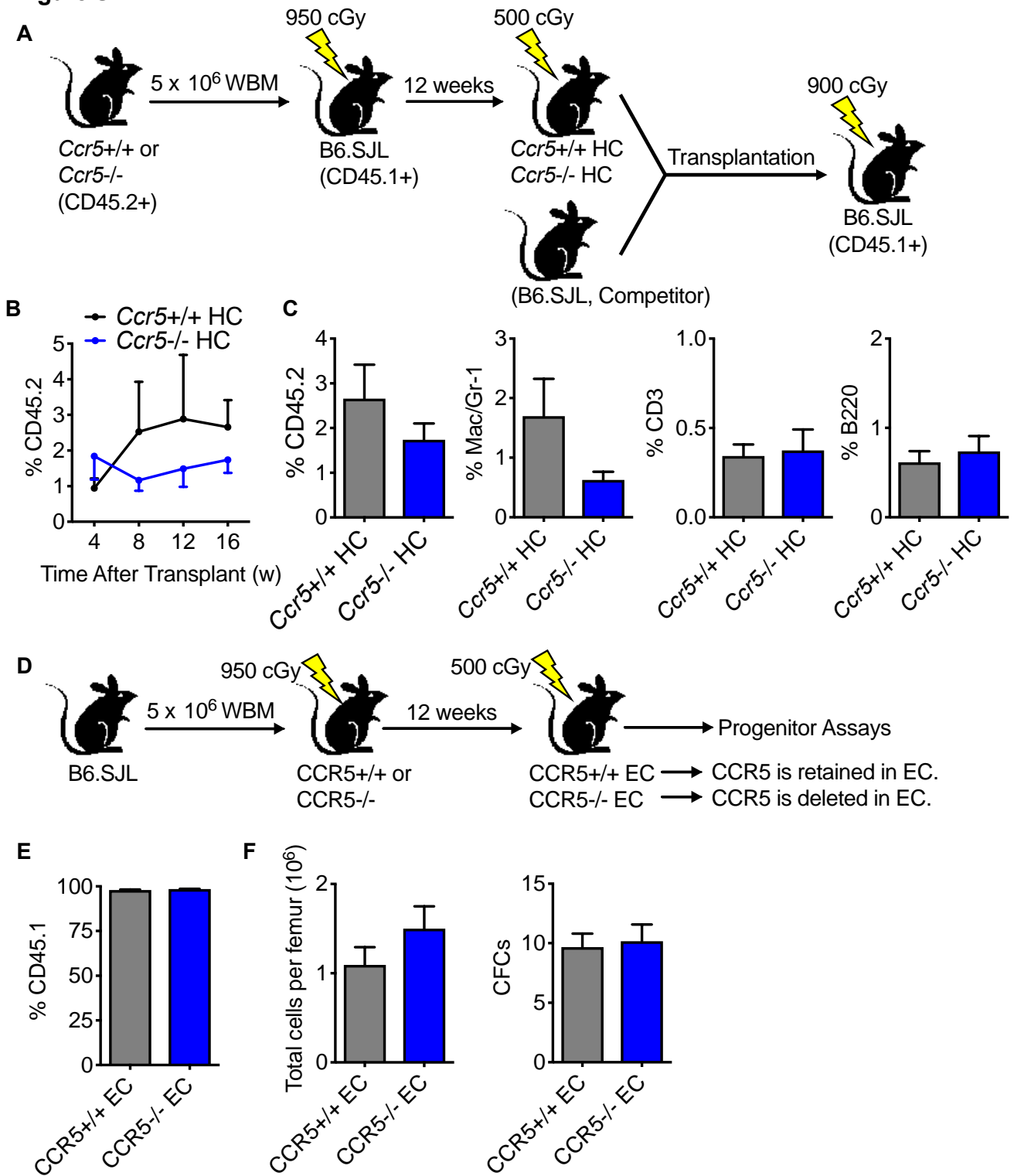


Figure S7. Deletion of CCR5 in hematopoietic cells or in the marrow microenvironment. (A)

Schematic diagram of study design. *Ccr5*^{-/-} hematopoietic cell (HC) and *Ccr5*^{+/+} HC control mice are

generated by transplanting 5×10^6 donor cells from corresponding genotypes into B6.SJL recipients. At 12 weeks following transplantation, *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC and controls are irradiated with 500 cGy. At day 7 following irradiation, 10^6 irradiated donor cells and 2×10^5 competing host marrow cells are transplanted into irradiated recipient mice (B6.SJL). Peripheral blood engraftment is measured over time. **(B)** Total CD45.2 donor engraftment in the peripheral blood of recipients of *Ccr5*^{+/+} (HC) or *Ccr5*^{-/-} HC marrow on day 7 following 500 cGy. $n= 7-8$ per group. **(C)** Total CD45.2+ peripheral blood donor engraftment and multi-lineage engraftment at 16 weeks post-transplantation. **(D)** Schematic diagram for the isolation of *Ccr5* deficiency in the marrow microenvironment. *Ccr5*^{+/+} or *Ccr5*^{-/-} mice were transplanted with WBM cells from B6.SJL mice following 950 cGy total body irradiation to generate *Ccr5*^{-/-} EC mice, which bear a deficiency of *Ccr5* in endothelial cells and other cells within the marrow microenvironment, and also control *Ccr5*^{+/+} EC mice, which retain *Ccr5*. At 12 weeks post-transplantation, mice were exposed to 500 cGy and hematopoietic response was determined. **(E)** RT-PCR analysis of peripheral blood donor chimerism of *Ccr5*^{+/+} EC and *Ccr5*^{-/-} EC mice. $n= 12$ per group. **(F)** Total cells per femur and CFCs at day 7 following 500 cGy total body irradiation. $n= 4-6$ per group. Student's t test (two-tailed with unequal variance) were used in these analyses. All comparisons were $p > 0.05$.