Lactobacillus reuteri 5454 and *Bifidobacterium animalis* ssp. *lactis* 5764 improve colitis while differentially impacting dendritic cells maturation and antimicrobial responses

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Legend to Supplementary Figures

Supplementary Figure 1. Protective effect of selected strains in a mouse model of TNBSinduced colitis. Individual bacterial strains Lr 5454 and Bl 5764 (5 x 10^8 CFU of each) or PBS were daily administered for 5 days before and 1 day after TNBS induction to BALB/c mice which were sacrificed 48 hrs after colitis induction. A) Weight was followed after probiotic treatment before and after colitis induction. Colon samples were removed 48h after colitis induction and kept frozen at -80°C. After thawing, they were homogenized in T-PER tissue protein extraction reagent and normalized to total protein content for each sample. B) IL-17 and C) IL-22 levels were measured by ELISA in colonic homogenates. D-E-F) Colonic gene expression *of il22, ahr* and *il23* followed by qRT-PCR. Results represent mean levels ± SEM (n = 10 mice per group). *p < 0.05

Supplementary Figure 2. Purity of BMDCs generated from bone marrow precursor cells after 10 day differentiation in the presence of GM-CSF, determined by measuring the level of CD11c⁺ cells by flow cytometry.

Supplementary Figure 3. Purity and viability of $CD4^+$ T cells. Purity of isolated $CD4^+CD25^-$ T cells used for co-culture experiments was evaluated by measuring the level of $CD4^+$ cells and viability was measured after propidium iodide labelling and flow cytometry.

Supplementary Figure 4. Gating strategy used to follow the induction of Tregs. Firstly, lymphocyte gate was set based on forward (FSC-A) and side (SSC-A) scatter. Then doublets were excluded according to FSC-A and FSC-H characteristics followed by gating CD4+ T cells (FITC conjugated antibody against CD4 marker was used).

Supplementary Figure 5. Bacteria-primed BMDC were co-cultured with naïve CD4⁺ T cells (1:10) for 6 days. A) Concentration of and IL-22 and B) IL-17 in cell culture supernatants of cells derived from C57BL/6 mice or C) from BALB/c mice. * refers to the comparisons of bacteria-treated cells versus untreated cells; * p < 0.05

Supplementary Figure 6. Impact of bacteria-primed BMDCs on the proliferation of $CD4^+ T$ cells using CFSE (carboxyfluorescein succinimidyl ester, 5µM) proliferation assay by flow cytometry.

Supplementary Table 1: Forward and reverse primers used in the study for the respective genes encoding β -actin, IL-1 β , TNF- α , CXCL-2, IL-6, IL-22, β -defensin 2, Reg-3 β , Reg-3 γ and Cryptdin 4.

bact-F	5'- CTAAGGCCAACCGTGAAAAC -3'
bact-R	5'- ACCAGAGGCATACAGGGACA -3'
il1b-F	5'- TTGACGGACCCCAAAAGATG -3'
il1b-R	5'- AGAAGGTGCTCATGTCCTCA -3'
tnfa-F	5'- CCCTCACACTCAGATCATCTTCTC -3'
tnfa-R	5'- GGCTACAGGCTTGTCACTCG -3'
cxcl2-f	5'- CAAAAGATACTGAACAAAGGCAA -3'
cxcl2-R	5'- TCAGGTACGATCCAGGCTTCC -3'
il6-F	5'- AGCCAGAGTCCTTCAGAGAGATAC -3'
il6-R	5'- AATTGGATGGTCTTGGTCCTTAGC -3'
il22-F	5'- TTGAGGTGTCCAACTTCCAGCA -3'
il22-R	5'- AGCCGGACGTCTGTGTTGTTA -3'
Bd2-F	5'- AAAGTATTGGATACGAAGCAGAACTT -3'
Bd2-R	5'- GGAGGACAAATGGCTCTGACA -3'
Reg3b-F	5'- ATGCTGCTCTCCTGCCTGATG -3'
Reg3b-R	5'- CTAATGCGTGCGGAGGGTATATTC -3'
Reg3g-F	5'- CTGTGGTACCCTGTCAAGAGC -3'
Reg3g-R	5'- GGCCTTGAATTTGCAGACAT -3'
Crypt4-F	5'- TGGCCTCCAAAGGAGATAGACA -3'
Crypt4-R	5'- AGGCTGATCCTATCCAAAACACA -3'











