



Supplementary Material for

Pulmonary surfactant–biomimetic nanoparticles potentiate heterosubtypic influenza immunity

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This PDF file includes:

Materials and Methods
Figs. S1 to S31
Tables S1 to S3
References

Extended Materials and Methods

Hemagglutination inhibition (HAI) assays

Serum samples were collected at indicated times from immunized and control animals and treated with receptor-destroying enzyme (RDE) (Denka Seiken, Tokyo, Japan) at 37°C for 20 hrs followed by heat inactivation at 56°C for 30 min. The resultant serum samples were serially diluted and incubated with 4 hemagglutination units (HAU) of an indicated influenza virus at 37°C for 1 h. The serum-treated virus was incubated with 0.5% chicken red blood cells (for H1N1 and H7N9) or horse red blood cells (for H5N1) at room temperature for 30 minutes. The HAI titer was defined as the reciprocal of the highest serum dilution that inhibited 4 HAU of a given virus.

Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)

Influenza-specific IgG, IgG1, IgG2a, IgA, IgM, and IgG2c antibody titers were measured by ELISA. In brief, 1 µg/ml of recombinant HA was coated onto ELISA plates in NaHCO₃ buffer, pH 9.6 overnight, to which serially diluted serum samples were added. Antibody subtypes were quantified by HRP-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (NA931V, GE healthcare, dilution 1:6000), IgG1 (1073-05, Southern Biotech, 1:4000), IgG2c (1079-05, Southern Biotech, 1:4000), IgA (A90-103P, Bethyl, 1:10000), IgM (ab97230, 1:20000) or IgG2a (1083-05, Southern Biotech, 1:4000) antibody. Titers of specific antibody subtypes were quantified by using SIGMAFAS™ OPD as the substrate and reading the reaction at A490 on a plate reader (Molecular Devices).

Cellular immune responses

Splenocytes were isolated from mice 7 d post-immunization by passing the spleens through 40-µm strainers, followed by lysis of red blood cells with ACK (Ammonium-Chloride-Potassium) buffer for 4 min on ice. Cells at 1×10^6 /ml were incubated with influenza vaccine (1 µg/ml) and 4 µg/ml of anti-CD28 (clone 37.51, BD Pharmingen) antibody overnight. Golgi-Plug (BD Pharmingen) was added to the culture and incubated for another 5 h. The stimulated cells were first stained with fluorescence-conjugated antibodies against CD3, CD4, and CD8, followed by intracellular staining with anti-IFN-γ antibody. All antibodies were listed in Table S2. The stained cells were acquired on a FACSAria II (BD) and analyzed using FlowJo software (Tree Star).

Chimeric mice generated by bone marrow transplantation

Chimeric mice were generated by bone marrow (BM) transplantation as described (33). Briefly, BM cells were harvested from femur and tibia of gender- and age-matched donor mice different in CD45 alleles. Recipient mice received lethal irradiation from ¹³⁷Cs gamma irradiator (Mark I, 30 J.L. Shepherd) at a dose of 1100 rad administered in two fractions at 3 h apart. Right after the second irradiation, 5×10^6 donor BM cells were intravenously injected into recipient mice. BM cells of STING-deficient mice (*Sting*^{-/-} or ST) were transferred to age and gender-matched WT mice or vice versa. WT mice receiving WT BM cells or ST mice receiving ST BM cells were also prepared in parallel. Mice were supplied with antibiotics-containing water from 5 d before irradiation to 14 d after irradiation and housed for 3 months to establish complete reconstitution of donor populations, which was corroborated by flow cytometric analysis of lungs, MLNs,

spleens, and peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) after staining with anti-CD45.1 (clone A20, BioLegend, 2 µg/ml) or anti-CD45.2 (clone 104, BioLegend, 2.5 µg/ml) antibody.

BM-derived dendritic cells (BMDCs) and BM-derived macrophages (BMMs)

BMDCs and BMMs were prepared as previously described (45). Briefly, BM cells were harvested from tibiae and femurs of 4-6-week-old C57BL/6 mice. Cells at a concentration of 1×10^6 / ml were cultured with 10 ng/ml granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF) or 100 ng/ml macrophage colony stimulating factor (M-CSF) for 7 days to generate BMDCs or BMMs, respectively. CD11c⁺ BMDCs were further purified by high-speed cell sorting in FACS Aria II (BD).

Requirement of PS for AM uptake of nano4 in non-human primates (NHP)

Lungs were surgically removed after rhesus macaques were euthanized, filled with 150 ml of cold RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with antibiotics, immersed in the cold medium, and transported to the laboratory on ice. The AMs and PS were isolated as described (46). Briefly, the filled RPMI 1640 medium was collected from the lung and centrifuged at $200 \times g$ to remove cell debris and then at $8000 \times g$ for 20 min to pellet PS. The supernatant (30 ml) was concentrated to 1 ml by 10 kDa Amicon Ultra Centrifugal Filter Units (Merk Millipore) and mixed with PS pellet prepared above to obtain concentrated PS with both lipids and surfactant proteins. AMs were isolated by washing the lung six times with 100 ml of PBS containing 0.5 mM EDTA. The lung lavages were pooled and centrifuged at $200 \times g$ to collect the cells. The cells were washed thoroughly with PBS and cultured in RPMI 1640 for 20 min, followed by removal of nonadherent cells. The concentrated PS at 2 mg of total proteins was mixed with DiD-nano4 or DiD-nano5 (48 µg lipid content) for 30 min and then incubated with 1.6×10^5 AMs in 1 ml of medium for 3 h at 37°C with 5% CO₂. AMs were stained with a vital dye Calcein-AM (Life Technologies) and Hoechst (Sigma). AM uptake of the nanoparticles was evaluated by confocal microscopy (Olympus FV3000, UPLSAPO 40×) and analyzed by ImageJ software.

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM)

To determine ultrastructural localization of nano4 and nano5 in alveoli, nanogold (5 nm, Alfa Aesar) was encapsulated into nano4 or nano5 by reverse-phase evaporation as described (47). Mice were i.n. administered with nanogold-nano4 or nano5 at an equal amount, 12 h after which lungs were isolated, fixed in Karnovsky fixative at 4°C overnight, post-fixed in 1% OsO₄ in 0.1 M sodium cacodylate buffer for 1.5 h, dehydrated in gradient alcohol series, infiltrated with s-propylene oxide/Epon t812 gradient mixture, and embedded in Epon t812 (Tousimis). Ultrathin sections were cut at 80 nm on a microtome (Reichert-Jung Ultracut E), collected on 100-mesh copper grids, stained with 2% Uranyl Acetate and Lead Citrate (2.66% lead nitrate, 3.52% sodium citrate), and examined on a CM-10 transmission electron microscope (Philips). Digital TEM images were taken by AMT-XR41M 4.0 Megapixel Cooled sCMOS camera (Advanced Microscopy Techniques).

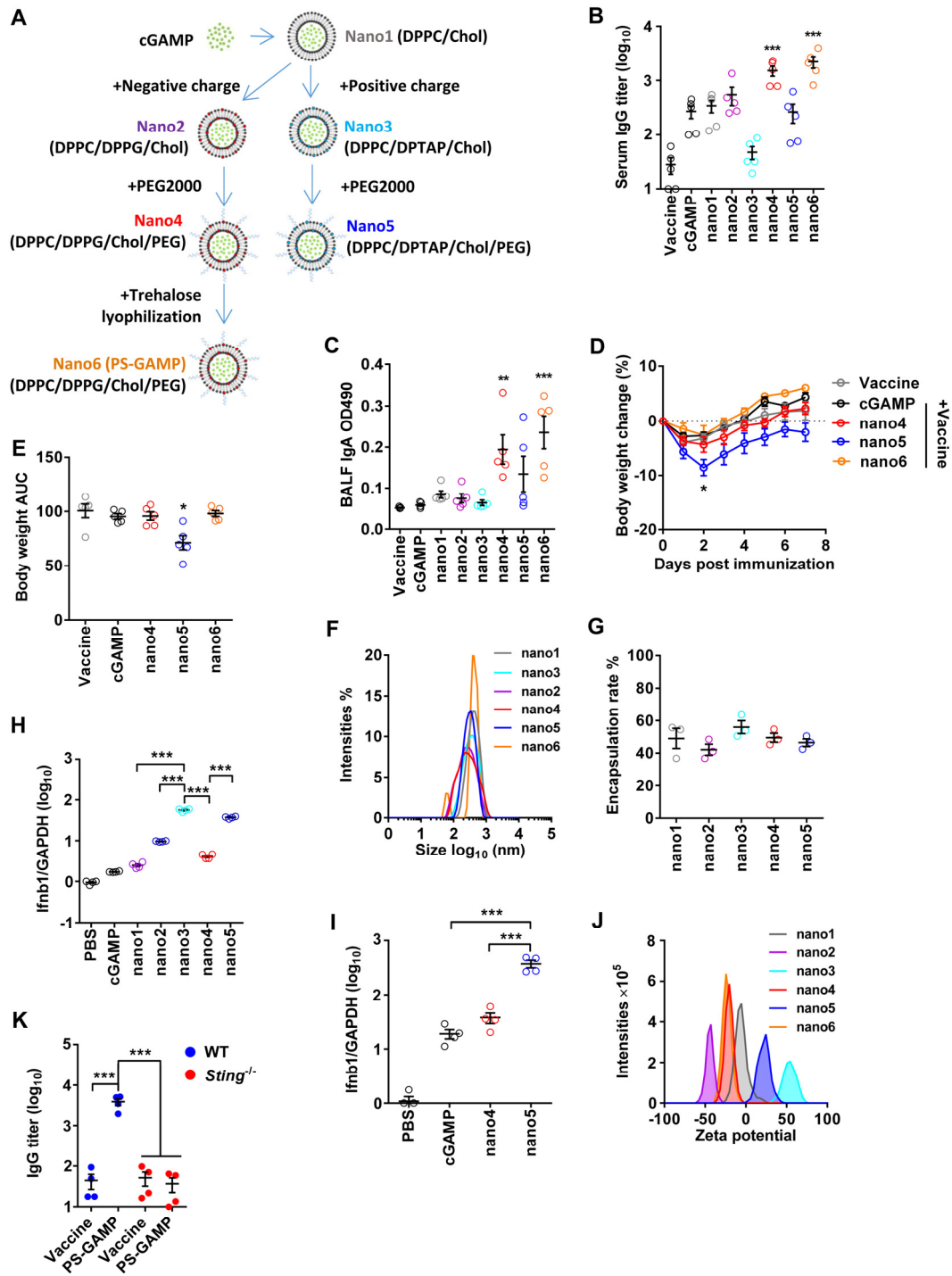


Fig. S1. PS-GAMP fabrication and characterization.

(A) A schematic diagram of PS-GAMP fabrication. The liposomes were synthesized in the basis of PS ingredients of mammals, which typically consists of 90% lipids and 10% proteins and is evolutionally conserved. The lipids contain 8-10% of cholesterol, 60-70%

of zwitterionic phosphatidylcholines (PC), mainly dipalmitoylated phosphatidylcholine (DPPC), up to 8-15% of anionic phosphatidylglycerol (DPPG), and a relatively small portion of other lipids (17). PEG2000 was utilized in place of hydrophilic proteins and DPPG was replaced with cationic DPTAP in nano3 and nano5 to determine the importance of charges. These PS lipids and PEG2000 form liposomes with a single lipid bilayer encapsulating cGAMP by reverse-phase evaporation as detailed in Materials and Methods. (B to E) Swiss Webster mice were i.n. immunized with VN04 H5N1 vaccine (1 µg HA content) plus 10 µg free cGAMP or an equal amount of cGAMP packaged in the indicated liposomes. Serum IgG (B) and bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF) IgA (C) were measured two weeks later, body weight was monitored for 7 d after immunization (D) and the area under the curve (AUC) was calculated from (D) by PRISM software (E). n=5. Sizes (F), encapsulation rate (G), and zeta potentials (J) of indicated liposomes were measured. (H and I) Free cGAMP or cGAMP-encapsulated liposomes were cultured with BMDCs (H) and BMMs (I) at a final cGAMP concentration of 10 µg/ml for 8 h, after which IFN-β (*Ifnb1*) was measured by real-time RT-PCR. n=4. (K) STING-deficient mice (*Sting*^{-/-}) (Red) or wild-type (WT) (Blue) control mice were i.n. immunized with VN04 H5N1 vaccine alone or together with PS-GAMP and serum IgG titers were measured 2 weeks later as above. n=4. The results were presented as means ± SEM. Each symbol represents individual mice in (B, C, E, and K) or independent duplicates in (G, H, and I). Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA for (B, C, E, and H-K), two-way ANOVA for (D). *p<0.05, **p<0.01, and ***p<0.001 compared to vaccine alone group or between indicated groups. All experiments were repeated twice with similar results.

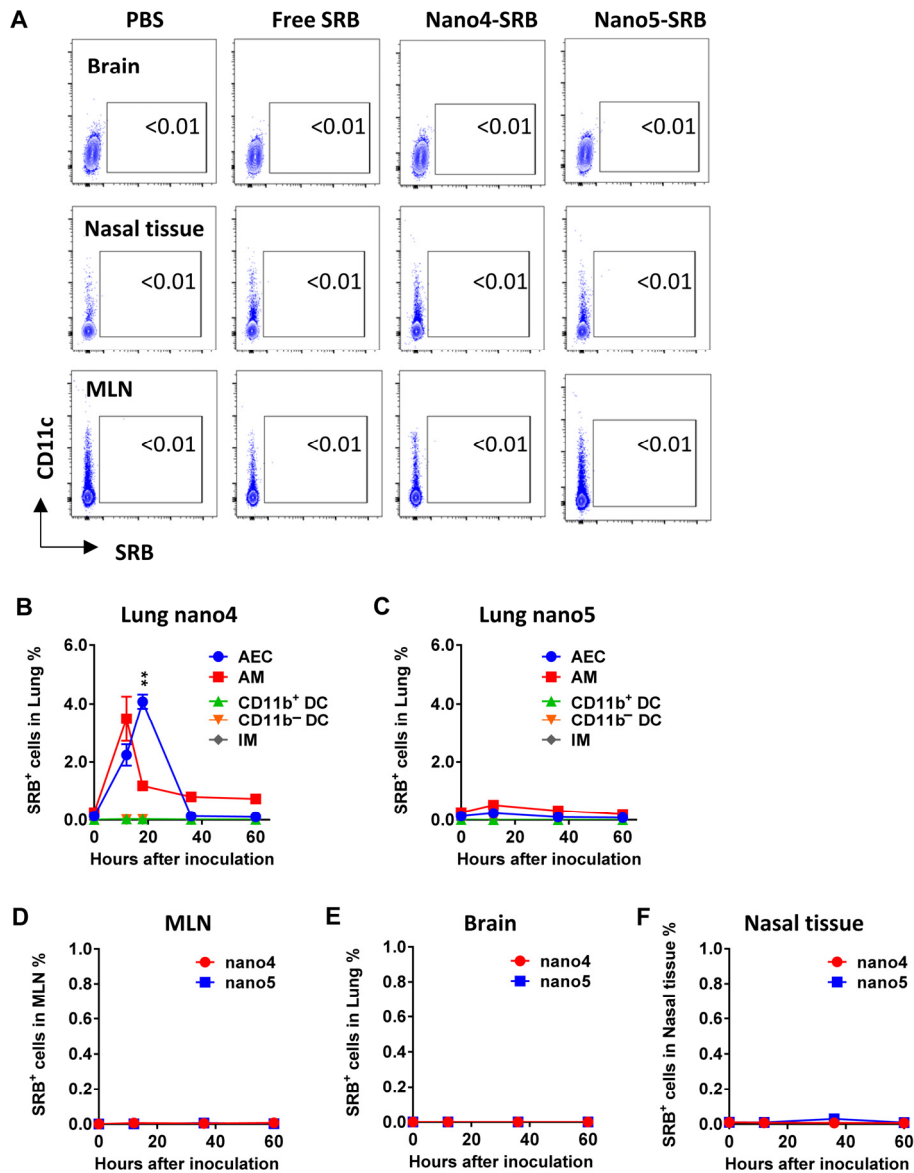


Fig. S2. Kinetics of nanoparticle uptake in different tissues.

Mice were i.n. administered PBS, free SRB, SRB-encapsulated and DiD-labeled nano4 (Nano4-SRB) or SRB-encapsulated and DiD-labeled nano5 (Nano5-SRB) and analyzed by flow cytometry at varying times. (A) Representative flow plots for SRB⁺ cells in the brain (upper), nasal tissue (middle), and MLN (lower). Data are representative of two separate experiments each assayed in triplicate. (B and C) SRB⁺ cells in the lungs of mice receiving nano4-SRB (B) or nano5-SRB (C). Alveolar macrophages (AM), interstitial macrophages (IM), CD11b⁺DCs, and CD11b⁻DCs were gated as **fig. S3**. (D-F) SRB⁺ cells in MLN (D), brain (E), or nasal tissue (F) of mice receiving nano4-SRB or nano5-SRB. n=4. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, two-way ANOVA for (B-F). *p<0.05, **p<0.01, and ***p<0.001. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

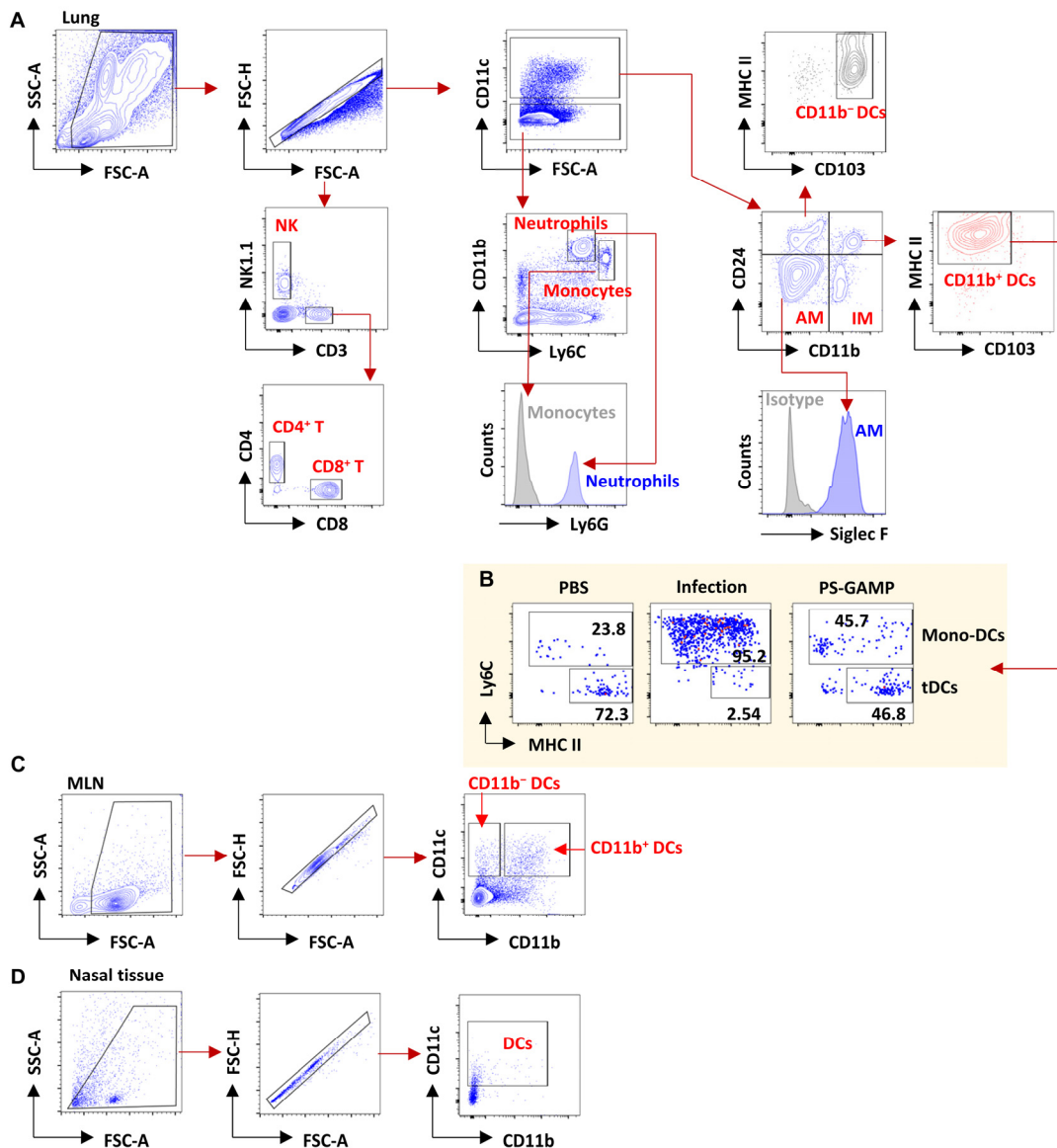


Fig. S3. Gating strategy for flow cytometric analysis of cells isolated from indicated tissues.

(A) NK cells were identified by NK1.1⁺ and CD3⁻ in pulmonary cells and CD3⁺ cells were separated into CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cells. Pulmonary CD11c⁻ cells were divided into neutrophils as CD11b⁺Ly6C⁺Ly6G⁺, whereas inflammatory monocytes were recognized as CD11b⁺Ly6C^{hi}Ly6G⁻. On the gate of CD11c⁺ cells, four populations were discriminated with CD24 and CD11b markers, among which AMs were CD24⁻CD11b⁻Siglec F⁺, IMs were CD24⁻CD11b⁺, CD24⁺CD11b⁻DCs were CD103⁺MHC II⁺, and tissue-resident CD24⁺CD11b⁺ DCs also expressed MHC II but not CD103. (B) During influenza virus infection or after PS-GAMP administration, CD11b⁺ DCs could be separated into monocyte-derived DCs (Mono-DCs) or tissue resident-like DCs (tDCs). Mono-DCs were Ly6C^{hi} and MHC II expression varied with their activation

status. On the other hand, tDCs were Ly6C^{lo}MHC II^{hi}. (**C** and **D**) Gating strategy for CD11b⁺DCs and CD11b⁻DCs in MLN (**C**) or DCs in nasal tissue (**D**). Gating strategies for T cells, NK cells, neutrophils, and monocytes in MLN, nasal tissue, and brain were similar to those in the lung (**A**).

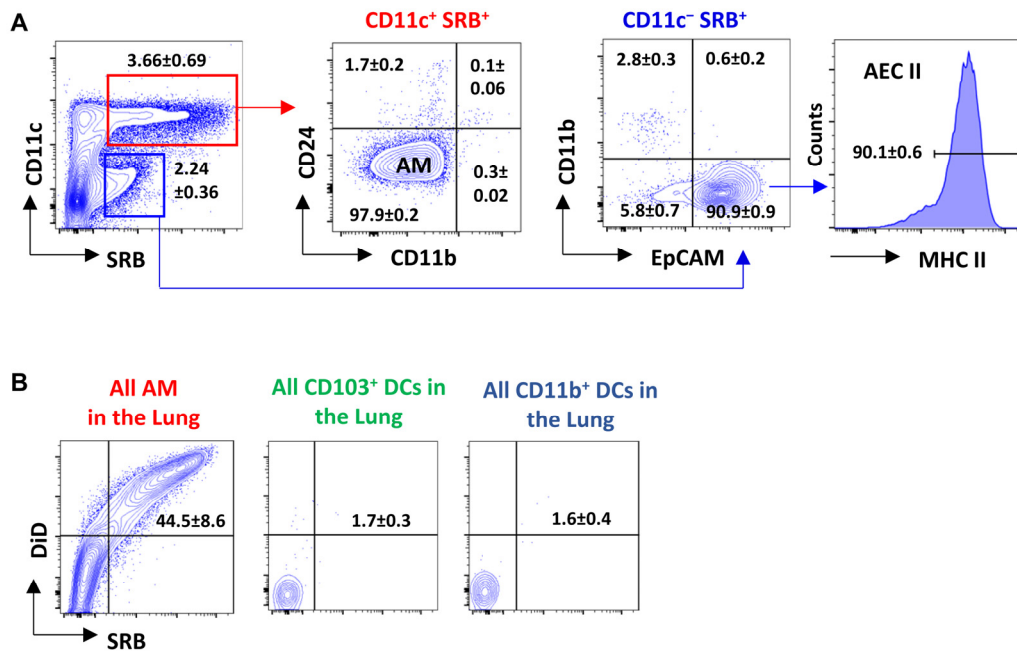


Fig. S4. Analysis of cells capturing PS-liposomes in the lung.

(A) Mice were i.n. administered nano4-SRB prepared as **Fig. 1A**. Twelve h later, CD11c⁺SRB⁺ cells were characterized mostly as CD24⁻CD11b⁻ AMs, and CD11c⁻SRB⁺ cells were mostly EpCAM⁺CD11b⁻ AECs, which were also positive for MHC II. (B) AMs, CD103⁺ DCs, and CD11b⁺ DCs gated as **fig. S3A** were analyzed for direct nanoparticle uptake (SRB⁺DiD⁺) in mice receiving nano4-SRB. About half of AMs ingested nano4-SRB shown as SRB⁺DiD⁺, whereas DCs rarely captured the nanoparticles. The results were presented as means ± SEM. n=4 mice. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

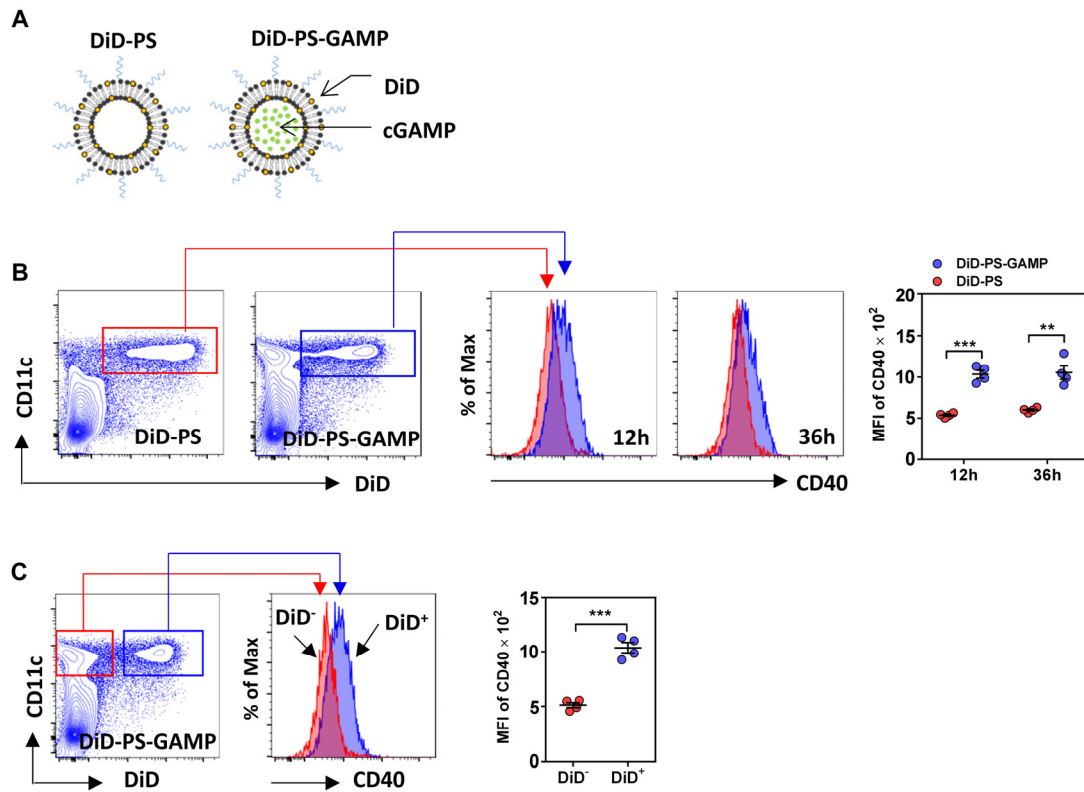


Fig. S5. Nano4 delivered cGAMP into AMs.

(A) Schematic diagrams of DiD-labeled empty PS-mimetic nanoparticles (DiD-PS) and cGAMP-encapsulated PS-mimetic nanoparticles (DiD-PS-GAMP). (B) DiD-PS or DiD-PS-GAMP (20 μ g cGAMP) were i.n. inoculated. Pulmonary cells were analyzed for DiD⁺ CD11c⁺ cells by flow cytometry 12 or 36 h later in mice receiving DiD-PS (Red) or DiD-PS-GAMP (Blue). These cells were also assessed for CD40 expression to verify STING activation in the cells. Representative histogram of CD40 expression is given in the middle and Mean Fluorescence Intensity (MFI) is summarized in the right panel. n=4. (C) DiD⁺ (Blue) or DiD⁻ AMs (Red) expressing CD40 were analyzed similarly as (B). n=4. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Each symbol represents individual mice in the right panels of B and C. Statistical analysis, *t*-test for (B and C). ***p*<0.01 and ****p*<0.001 in the presence or absence of cGAMP. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

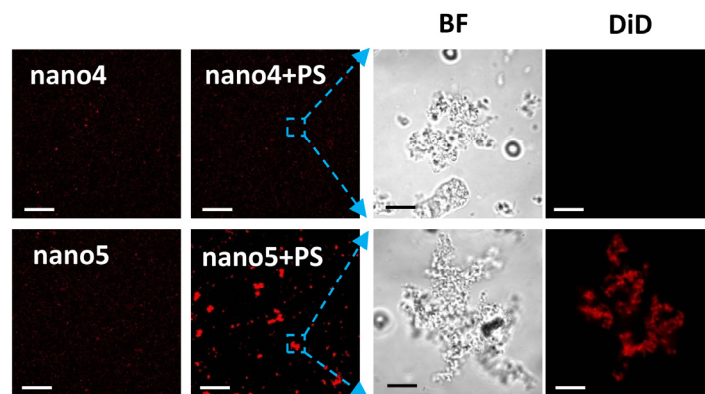


Fig. S6. Positively charged nano5 was entrapped by PS in ex vivo culture.

DiD-labeled Nano4 or nano5 was incubated with PS for 30 min. Nanoparticle aggregates on PS were visualized by confocal microscopy. The areas outlined in the 2nd panel were enlarged on the right. BF, Bright Field. Scale bar, 100 μm in panel 1 and 2 and 10 μm in panel 3 and 4. Data are representative of ten similar results in two separate experiments.

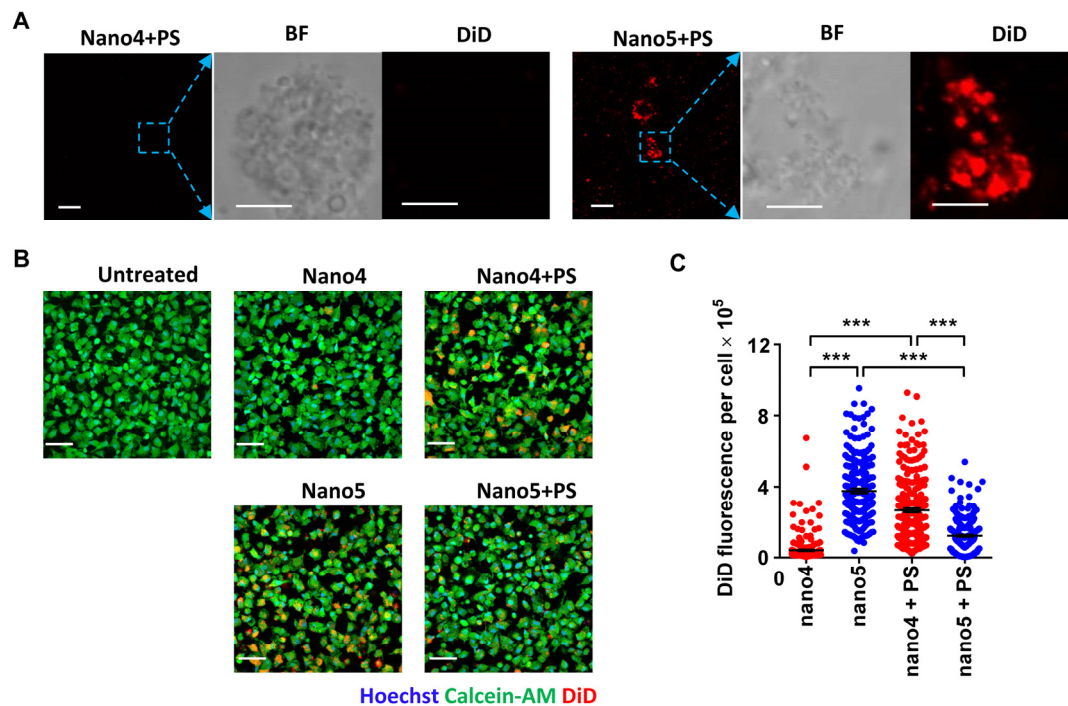


Fig. S7. Nano4 uptake by AMs isolated from non-human primates (NHP).

AMs and PS were isolated from rhesus macaques. **(A)** DiD-nano4 or DiD-nano5 was incubated for 30 min with rhesus macaque PS. Nano5, but not nano4, aggregated on PS and visualized by confocal microscopy. The areas outlined were enlarged in the corresponding panels on the right. Scale bar, 10 μ m. Data are representative of five similar results. **(B)** Monkey AMs were isolated and cultured with DiD-nano4 (upper) or DiD-nano5 (low) for 3 h with or without PS pre-treatment of the nanoparticles and imaged by fluorescent microscopy. Live cells were stained by Calcein-AM and nuclei were stained by Hoechst. Scale bar, 50 μ m. DiD fluorescence intensity in cells was quantified by Image J **(C)**. $n=221-275$. Each symbol represents individual cells. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA for **(C)**. *** $p<0.001$ between indicated groups. We thank Prof. Wanli Liu, Dr. Junyi Wang, and Ms. Shaoling Qi for their help in the NHP study.

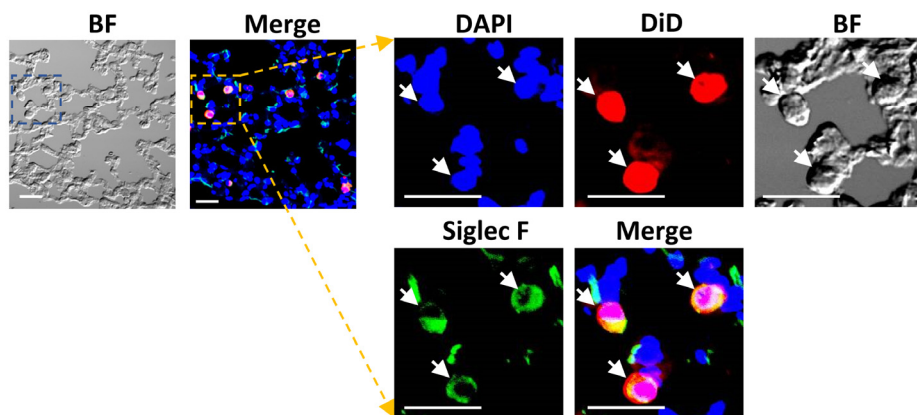


Fig. S8. AM capture nano4 in the lung.

Lungs were collected 12 h after mice received DiD-nano4 intranasally and frozen thin sections were stained for an AM-specific marker Siglec F and visualized by fluorescent microscopy. Scale bar, 30 μm . The square in the 2nd panel is enlarged on the right panels. Data are representative of six similar results in two separate experiments.

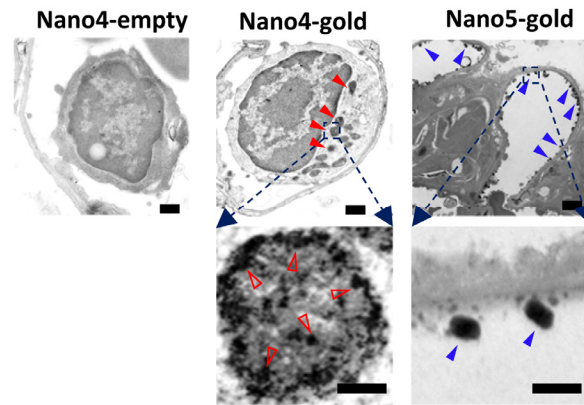


Fig. S9. TEM of nanoparticle distribution in the lung.

Nanogold was encapsulated within nano4 (nano4-gold) and nano5 (nano5-gold) as **Fig. S1A**. Mice were i.n. administered with the nanoparticles. Lungs were collected 6 h later and prepared for TEM. Note: nano4-gold was entrapped within cellular vesicles inside AM (**red** arrows) and some nanogolds were observed within a cellular vesicle (open red arrows, lower panel). In contrast, nano5-gold was mostly presented on the surface of alveoli (**blue** arrows). The areas outlined in upper panels are enlarged in the corresponding lower panels. Scale bar, 2 μm for the upper panel and 500 nm for the lower panel.

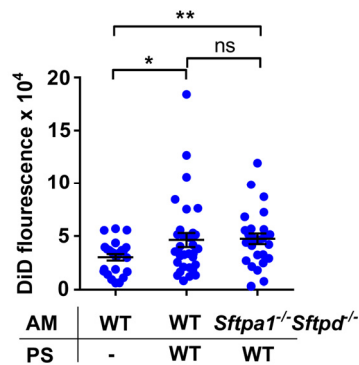
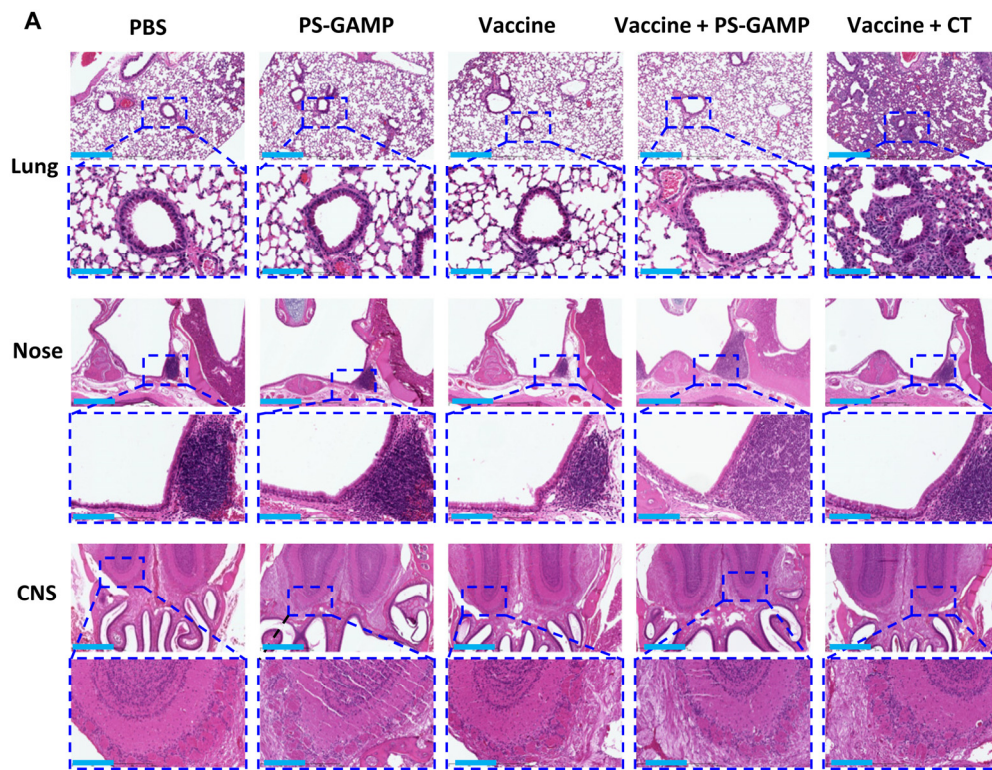


Fig. S10. AMs from *Sftpa1*^{-/-}*Sftpd*^{-/-} mice had a similar capability as WT AMs in nano4 uptake.

SP-A/D are hydrophilic large proteins and well established as a first line of the innate defense. These two collectins are capable of integrating into PS-wrapped bacteria, viruses, cellular debris, apoptotic cells, and various nanoparticles, to facilitate their endocytosis or phagocytosis by AMs (20). To test whether this might be the mechanism for nano4 uptake by AMs, AMs were isolated from WT or *Sftpa1*^{-/-}*Sftpd*^{-/-} mice and incubated with DiD-nano4 that was pre-treated with WT PS for 30 min. DiD fluorescence in cells was captured by confocal microscopy and quantified by Image J software. AMs from *Sftpa1*^{-/-}*Sftpd*^{-/-} mice were found to ingest nano4 as efficiently as WT AMs in the presence of WT PS, but not in the presence of SP-A/D-deficient PS (**Fig. 11**). n=25-32. Each symbol represents individual cells. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA. *p<0.05 and **p<0.01 between indicated groups and ns, not significant. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.



B Summary of histopathological analysis

| Treatment | Lung | | | | | | Nose | | | | | | CNS | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|---|-----------------|---|----------|---|------------------------|---|-------------------|---|----------|---|------------------------|---|----------|---|
| | Eosinophil infiltrates | | Alveolar damage | | Necrosis | | Eosinophil infiltrates | | Epithelium damage | | Necrosis | | Eosinophil infiltrates | | Necrosis | |
| | + | - | + | - | + | - | + | - | + | - | + | - | + | - | + | - |
| PBS | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| PS-GAMP | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| Vaccine | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| Vaccine+PS-GAMP | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| Vaccine+CT | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 |

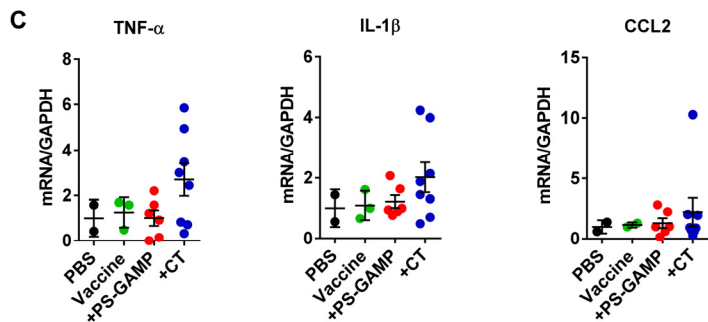
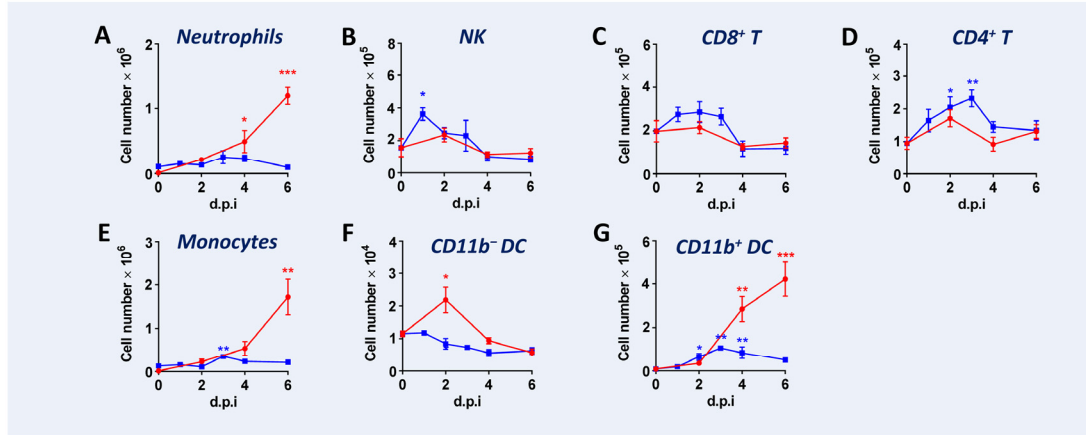


Fig. S11. PS-GAMP did not induce overt inflammation in the lung, nose, and central nervous system (CNS).

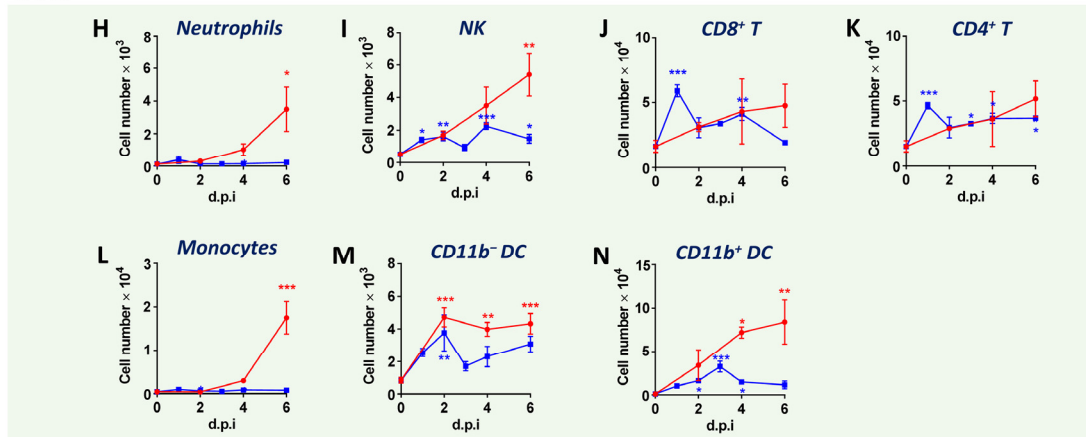
Swiss Webster mice were i.n. administered with PBS, PS-GAMP, VN04 H5N1 vaccine, or the vaccine plus PS-GAMP or CT. (A) Histological examination of the lung (1st and

2nd panel), nose (3rd and 4th panel), and CNS (5th and 6th panel) in 2 d post-immunization. Alveolar and bronchus of lungs, the nasal associated lymphoid tissue of noses, and the olfactory bulb region of the brain tissue are outlined by a dashed rectangle and enlarged in the corresponding bottom panels. The olfactory bulb region of the brain tissue connects directly with olfactory nerves in the nasal cavity. Data are representative of two separate experiments each assayed in triplicate. Scale bars for the lung and nose, the upper panel 400 μ m and the lower panel 100 μ m. Scale bars for CNS, the upper panel 800 μ m and the lower panel 200 μ m. **(B)** Eosinophil infiltrates, epithelium damage, and necrosis of each mouse were analyzed as previously reported (48). The number indicates the number of mice with (+) or without (-) eosinophil infiltrates, epithelium damage or necrosis. n=6 mice. **(C)** Expression of indicated cytokines and chemokine in the CNS of mice receiving VN04 H5N1 vaccine in the presence or absence of PS-GAMP or CT was determined by real-time RT-PCR 2 d post-immunization. n=2-8. Each symbol represents individual mice. The results were presented as means \pm SEM.

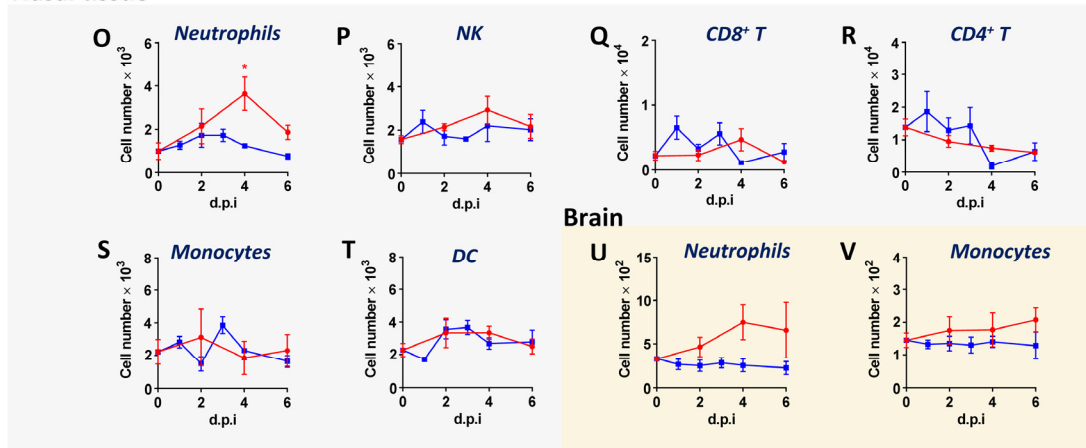
Lung



MLN



Nasal tissue



Brain

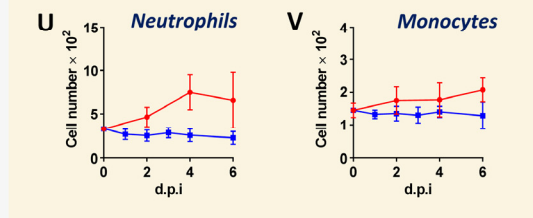
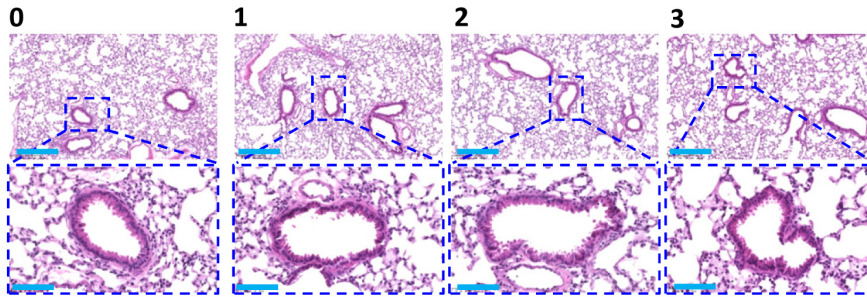


Fig. S12. Alterations of inflammatory and immune cells after PS-GAMP administration or viral infection.

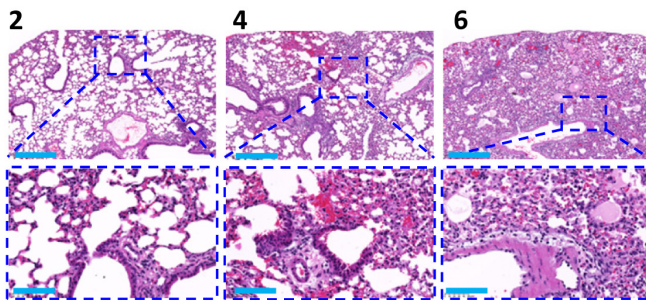
C57BL6 mice were i.n. administered with CA09 H1N1 vaccine plus 20 μ g of PS-GAMP (Blue) or infected with 1 \times LD₅₀ CA09 H1N1 influenza virus (Red). Neutrophils, NK,

CD4⁺, and CD8⁺ T cells, monocytes, and CD11b⁺ and CD11b⁻ DCs in the lung (A to G) or MLN (H to N) were analyzed by flow cytometry on indicated d post-infection or post-immunization (d.p.i). Neutrophils, NK, CD4⁺, and CD8⁺ T cells, monocytes and DCs in nasal tissue (O to T) or neutrophils and monocytes in brain (U and V) were similarly analyzed. n=4. The results were presented as means ± SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA. *p<0.05, **p<0.01, and ***p<0.001 compared to d 0. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

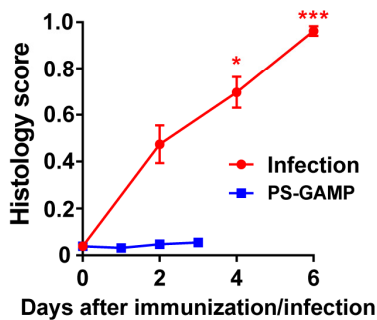
A PS-GAMP (Days post immunization)



B Infection (Days post infection)



C



Lung Injury Scoring System

| Parameter | Score per field | | |
|---|-----------------|-------|-----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| A. Neutrophils in the alveolar space | None | 1-5 | >5 |
| B. Neutrophils in the interstitial space | None | 1-5 | >5 |
| C. Hyaline membranes | None | 1 | >1 |
| D. Proteinaceous debris filling the airspaces | None | 1 | >1 |
| E. Alveolar septal thickening | <2x | 2x-4x | >4x |

$$\text{Score} = [(20 \times A) + (14 \times B) + (7 \times C) + (7 \times D) + (2 \times E)] / (\text{number of fields} \times 100)$$

Fig. S13. PS-GAMP did not induce overt inflammation in the lung in contrast to viral infection.

Mice were i.n. immunized with CA09 H1N1 vaccine plus 20 µg of PS-GAMP (A) or infected with 1×LD₅₀ CA09 H1N1 influenza virus (B). Lungs were analyzed by H&E staining on indicated d after immunization or infection. Data are representative of two separate experiments each assayed in triplicate. Scale bar, 400 µm for upper panel and 100 µm for lower panel. (C) The lung inflammation was quantified according to a standard scoring system shown on the right (49). n=6. Data were presented as means ± SEM. *p<0.05 and ***p<0.001 compared to d 0 by Kruskal-Wallis test.

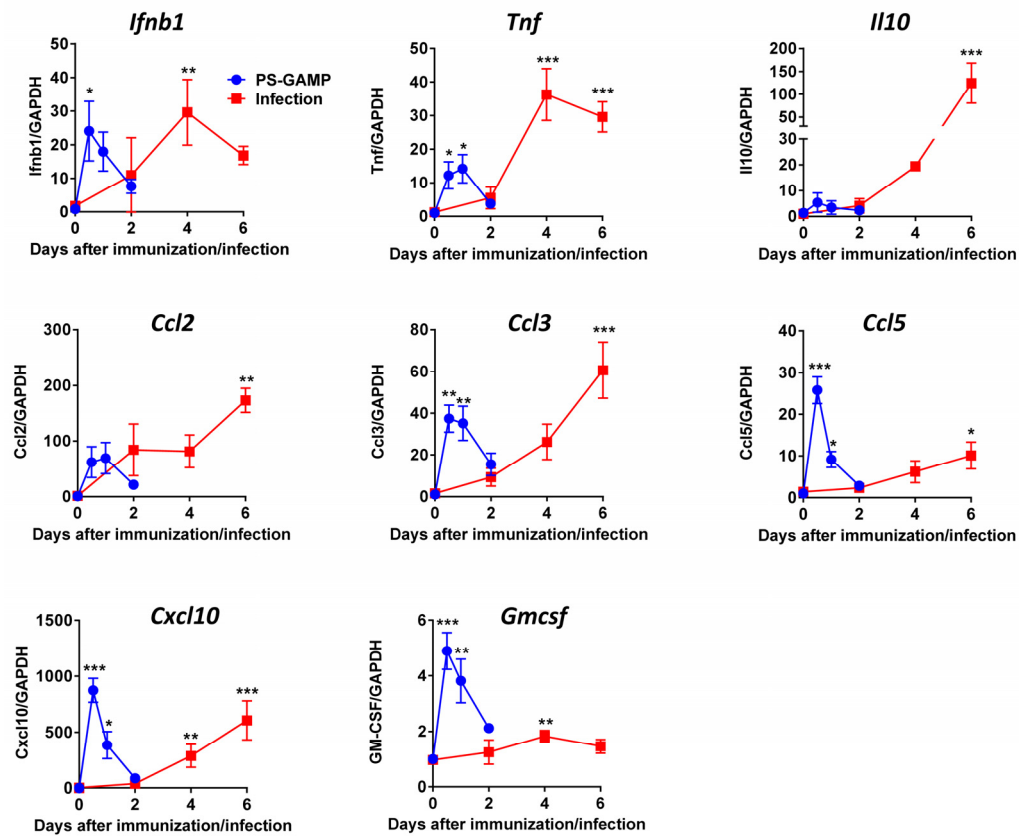


Fig. S14. PS-GAMP induces transient production of immune mediators in the lung.

Mice were i.n. given 20 μ g of PS-GAMP (Blue) or infected with $1 \times LD_{50}$ CA09 H1N1 influenza virus (Red). mRNA levels of indicated mediators were measured by real-time RT-PCR at various time points and normalized against untreated mice. $n=4$. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA. * $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$, and *** $p<0.001$ compared to d 0. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

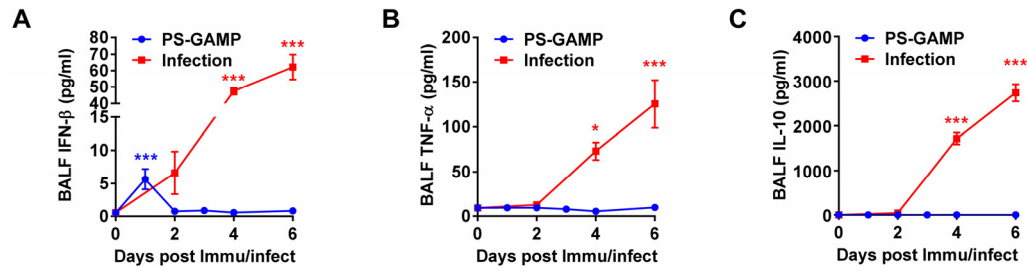


Fig. S15. PS-GAMP briefly elevates IFN- β protein in BALF.

Mice were i. n. administered 20 μ g of PS-GAMP (**Blue**) or infected with 1 \times LD₅₀ CA09 H1N1 influenza virus (**Red**). Protein levels of IFN- β (**A**), TNF- α (**B**), and IL-10 (**C**) in BALF were measured by ELISA at various time points. n=4. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA. *p<0.05 and ***p<0.001 compared to d 0 (before treatments). The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

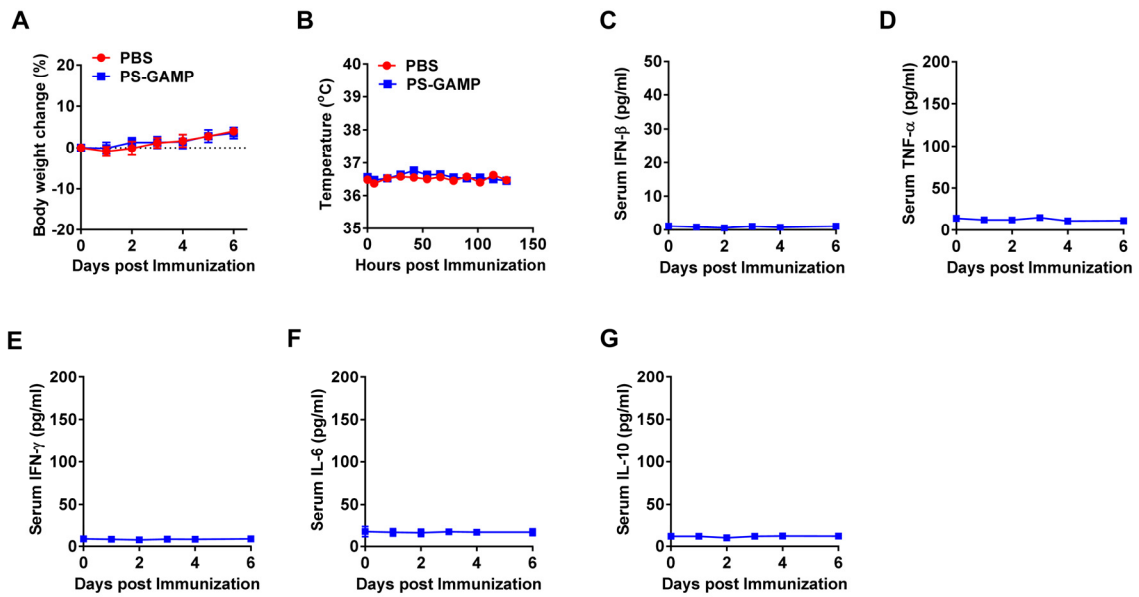


Fig. S16. PS-GAMP did not induce any inflammation systemically.

Mice were i.n. immunized with CA09 H1N1 vaccine plus 20 μ g of PS-GAMP. Body weight (A) and temperature (B) were monitored for 6 d. Mice receiving PBS served as control. n=5. Serum IFN- β (C), TNF- α (D), IFN- γ (E), IL-6 (F), and IL-10 (G) were also monitored for 6 d by ELISA. n=4. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

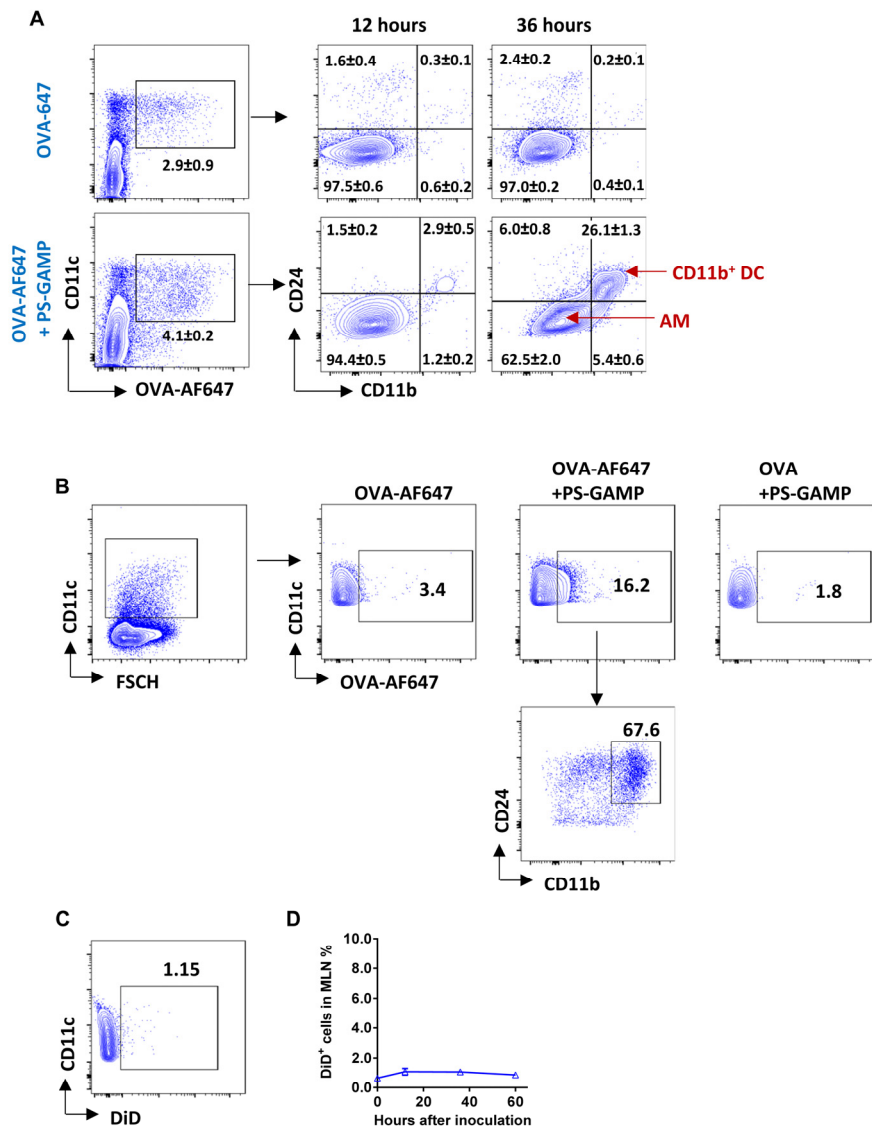


Fig. S17. PS-GAMP increases the number of CD11b⁺ DCs ingesting extracellular Ag in the lung and MLN.

(A) Mice were i.n. vaccinated with OVA-AF647 with or without 20 μ g of PS-GAMP. Pulmonary CD11c⁺ cells capturing OVA were analyzed for CD11b and CD24 expression. The numbers in the plots are mean percentages \pm SEM of individual cell subsets. (B) Mice receiving OVA (non-fluorescence) + PS-GAMP served as controls to gate out cell activation-related autofluorescence. OVA uptake was analyzed 36 h later on the gate of DCs prepared from MLNs revealing OVA⁺ DCs to be mostly CD11b⁺ DCs. (C) DCs did not directly ingest PS-GAMP in the MLN as shown by few CD11c⁺DiD⁺ cells when mice were i.n. administered with 20 μ g of DiD-PS-GAMP and analyzed similarly. (D) DiD⁺ cells were also tracked in MLNs from 0 to 60 h after PS-GAMP administration. n=4. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

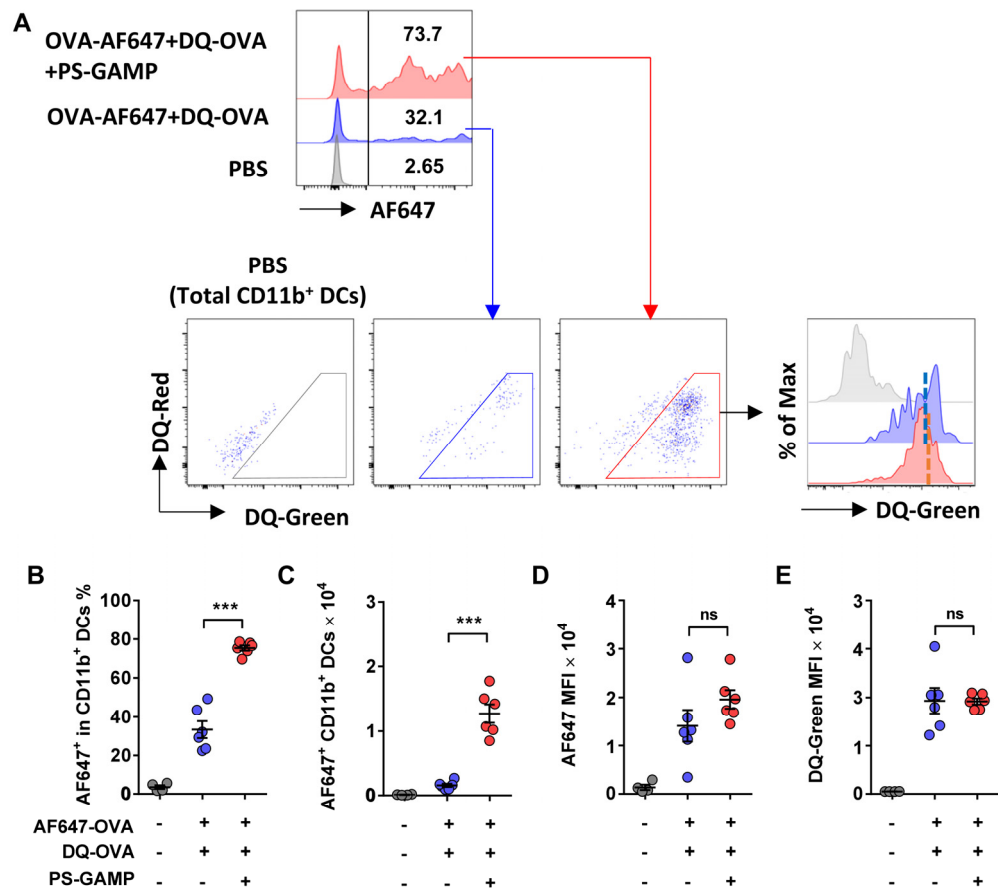


Fig. S18. PS-GAMP did not augment Ag-uptake or processing in vivo.

Whether PS-GAMP influenced Ag-uptake or Ag-processing was evaluated using AF647-labeled OVA and DQ-OVA. DQ-OVA is OVA conjugation with a BODIPY fluorescent dye (DQ) and remains self-quenched until OVA is proteolytically processed to generate DQ-green fluorescence, which is commonly used to assess Ag-processing. To this end, mice were i.n. administered with PBS (Gray) or AF647-OVA together with DQ-OVA in the presence (Red) or absence (Blue) of PS-GAMP and euthanized 24 h later for flow cytometric analysis (A). AF647-OVA was analyzed on the gate of DC11b⁺ DCs, which were further quantified for OVA cleavage based on DQ-green fluorescence. Percentages and cell numbers of AF647⁺ CD11b⁺ DCs were summarized in (B) and (C). AF647 and DQ-Green MFIs in these cells were given in (D) or (E), respectively. Each symbol represents individual mice in B to E. The results were presented as means ± SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA for (B-E). *p<0.05, **p<0.01, and ***p<0.001 in the presence or absence of PS-GAMP. ns, no significance. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results. **Note:** there was no difference in MFI of DQ-green fluorescence or OVA in AF647⁺CD11b⁺ DCs irrespective of whether or not PS-GAMP was presented (D and E). However, percentages and numbers of CD11b⁺ DCs positive to OVA were robustly increased in the presence of PS-GAMP (B and C), which was attributed primarily from an increased number of CD11b⁺ DCs secondarily to immune mediators induced by PS-GAMP.

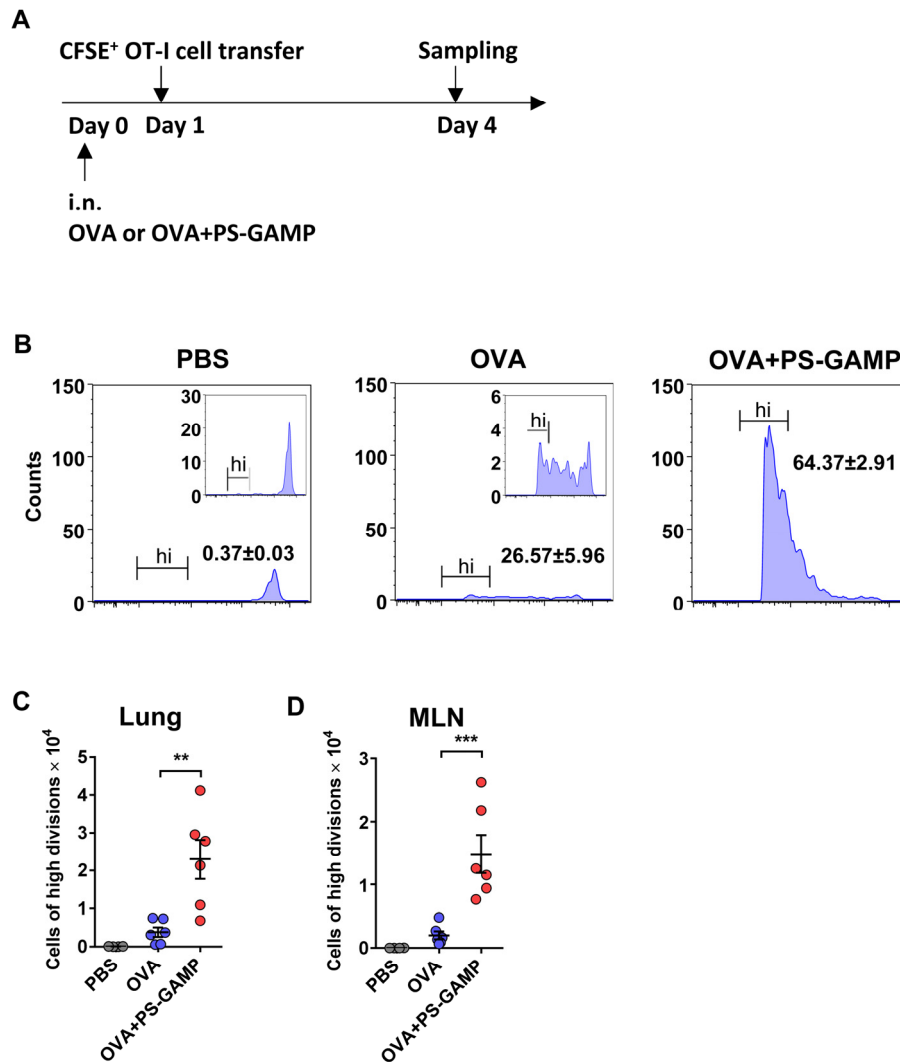


Fig. S19. PS-GAMP enhances Ag cross-presentation.

(A) Mice were i.n. vaccinated with 60 μ g of OVA with or without 20 μ g of PS-GAMP. Carboxyfluorescein succinimidyl ester (CFSE)-labeled OT-I cells were transferred into vaccinated mice 1 d later. Lungs and MLN were collected 3 d post-cell transfer. (B) OT-I cells were analyzed for Ag-specific proliferation by step-wise decreases of CFSE fluorescence. Inset in the first two panels (PBS and OVA): a reduced scale of the y-axis to show CFSE decreases. Cells of high divisions (≥ 6 , hi) were gated. Numbers of highly divided cells in lungs (C) and MLNs (D) were summarized. $n=4-6$. Each symbol represents individual mice in C and D. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA for (C and D). The results were presented as means \pm SEM. $**p<0.01$ and $***p<0.001$ in the presence or absence of PS-GAMP. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

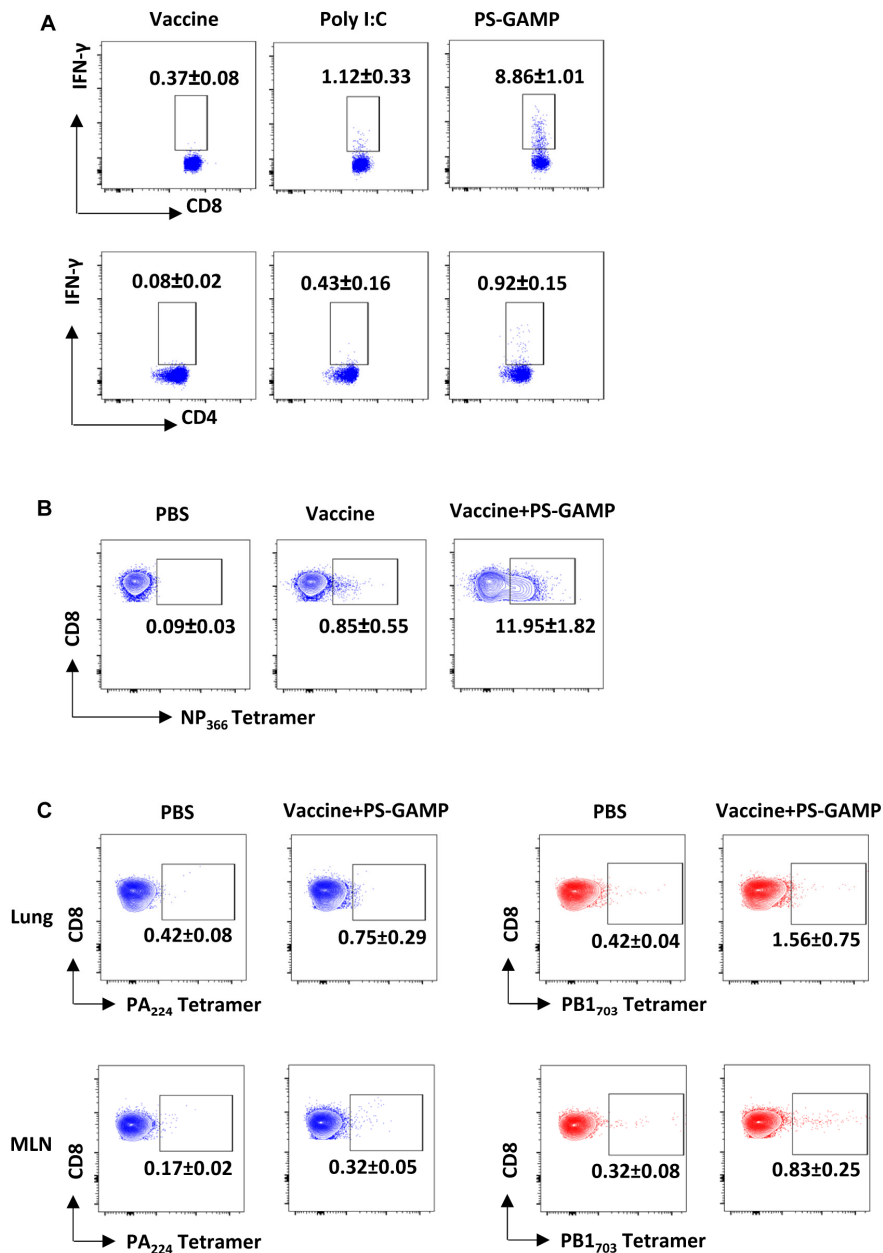


Fig. S20. CD8⁺ T cell responses in the spleen, lung and MLN.

C57BL/6 mice were i.n. immunized with CA09 H1N1 vaccine plus 20 µg of PS-GAMP. Mice received PBS as a control. (A) Splenocytes were isolated 7 d post-immunization and stimulated with the CA09 H1N1 vaccine. Representative cytometric profiles of CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cells producing IFN-γ are shown. (B) Representative cytometric profiles of NP₃₆₆₋₃₇₄⁺ CD8⁺ T cells in the lung 4 d after immunization. (C) Percentages of PA₂₂₄₋₂₃₃ (Blue) or PB1₇₀₃₋₇₁₁ (Red) positive cells were determined on gate of CD3⁺CD8⁺ T cells. Each plot is representative of four similar results in the same group. n=4. Data are presented as means ± SEM. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

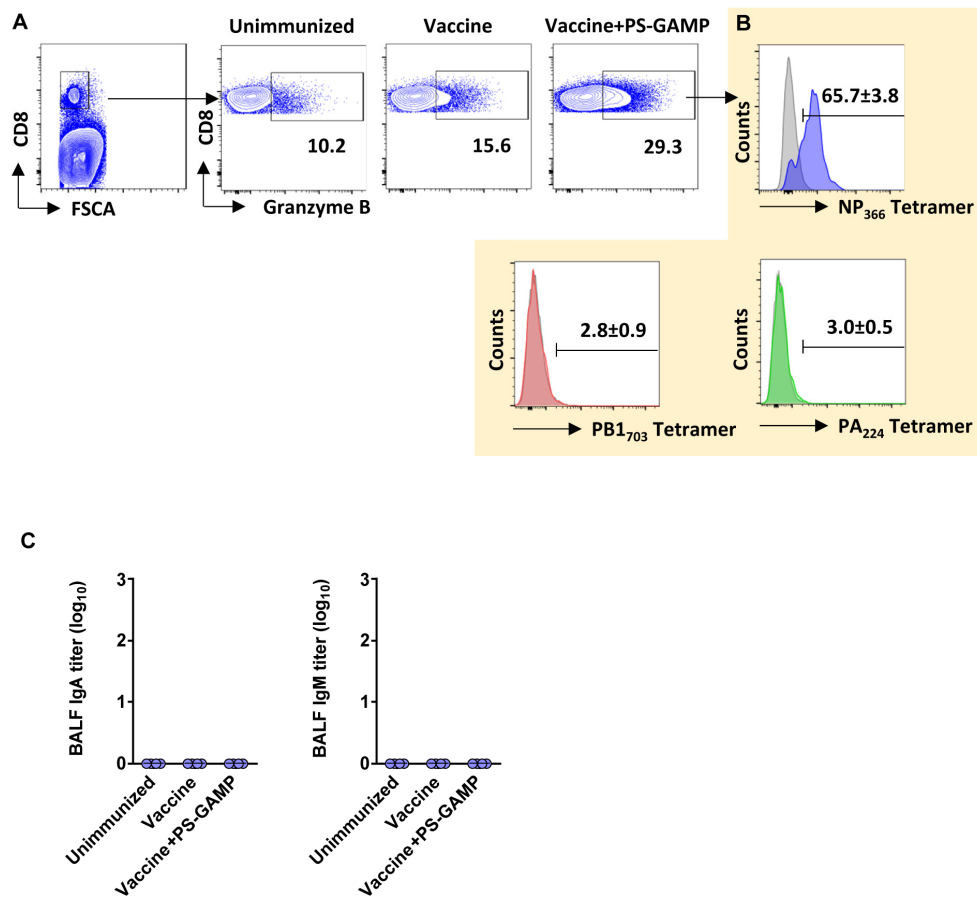


Fig. S21. Early viral specific GZMB⁺CD8⁺ T cells and BALF antibodies.

(A) C57BL/6 mice were either left unimmunized or immunized with CA09 H1N1 vaccine alone or the vaccine plus 20 μ g of PS-GAMP, followed 2 d later by challenging with 10 \times LD₅₀ CA09 H1N1 virus. Lungs were collected 4 d post-infection. (B) The percentages of NP₃₆₆₋₃₇₄ tetramer (Blue), PB1₇₀₃₋₇₁₁ (Red), or PA₂₂₄₋₂₃₃ (Green) positive cells were obtained on the gate of GZMB⁺CD8⁺ T cells. CD8⁺ T cells from unimmunized/un-challenged mice were analyzed in parallel as negative controls (Gray). n=3. (C) BALF were analyzed for Ag-specific IgA and IgM titers 6 d post-immunization. n=4. Data are presented as means \pm SEM. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

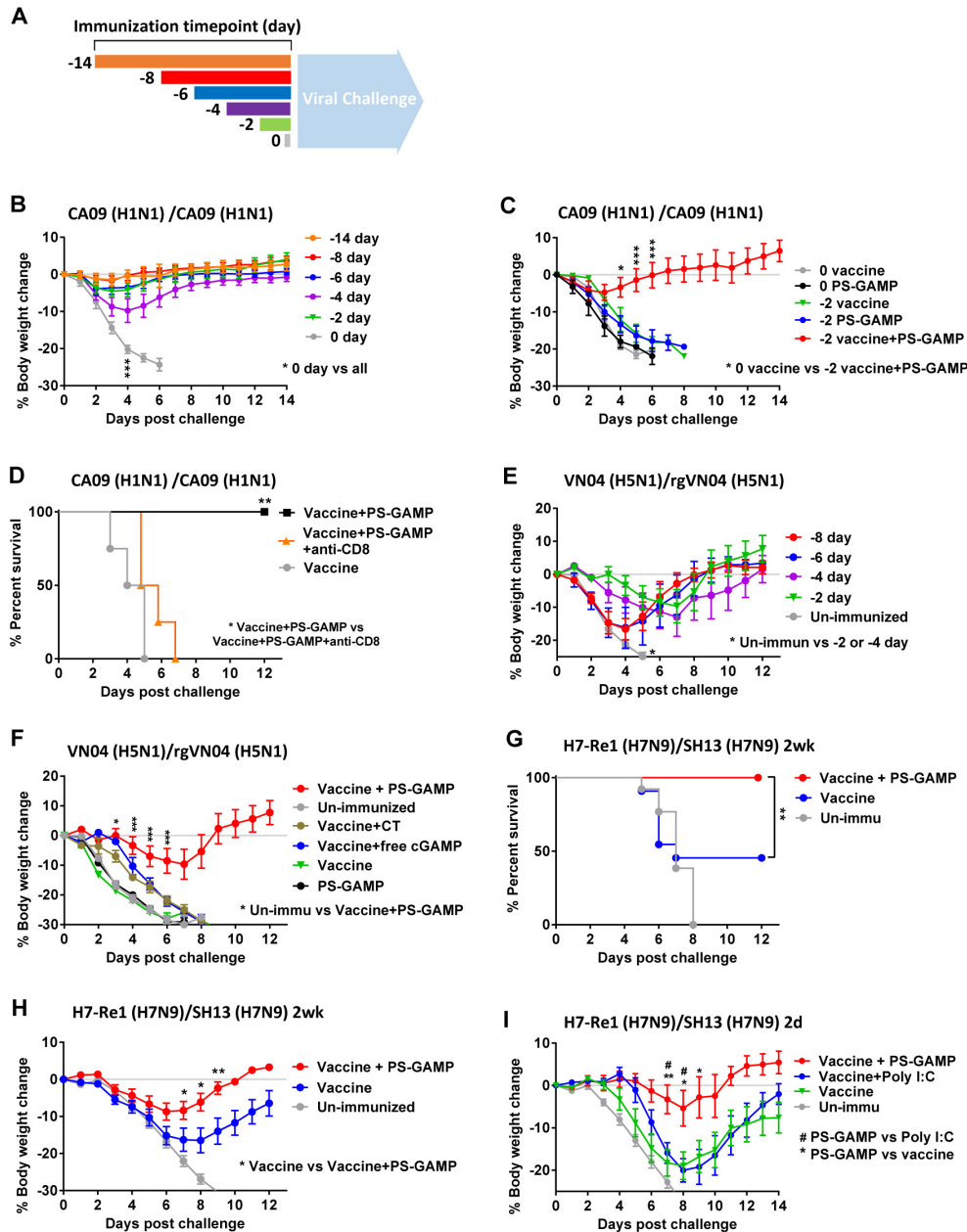


Fig. S22. Supplementary data for Fig. 4.

(A) A schematic diagram of vaccination and viral challenge schedule. (B to F) The body weight changes (B, C, E, and F) or survival (D) of mice corresponding to those described in Fig. 4, A to E, respectively. (G and H) Mice were i.n. immunized with H7-Re1 H7N9 vaccine alone or alongside 20 μ g of PS-GAMP or poly I:C and challenged 14 d later by a clinically isolated SH13 H7N9 virus. $n=10-13$. (I) Body weight change of mice described in Fig. 4F. Statistical analysis, two-way ANOVA for (B, C, E, F, H, I), Log-rank test for (D and G). * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, and # $p < 0.05$. All experiments were repeated at least twice with similar results.

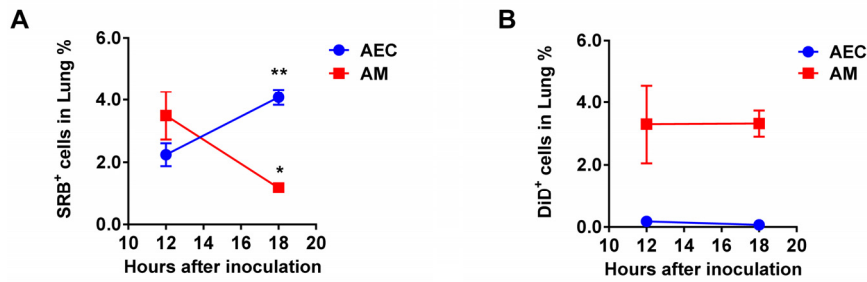


Fig. S23. An inverse correlation of SRB⁺AMs vs. SRB⁺AECs over time in vivo while DiD⁺AMs remained unaltered in percentages.

SRB-DiD-nano4 was i.n. inoculated into mice. **(A)** Percentage changes of SRB⁺AMs and SRB⁺AECs relative to a total number of lung cells were tracked over time after the inoculation. n=4. **(B)** DiD⁺ AMs were analyzed by flow cytometry 12 and 18 h later following nanoparticle administration. n=4. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, *t*-test. **p*<0.05 and ***p*<0.01 compared between 18 and 12 h. All experiments were repeated twice with similar results.

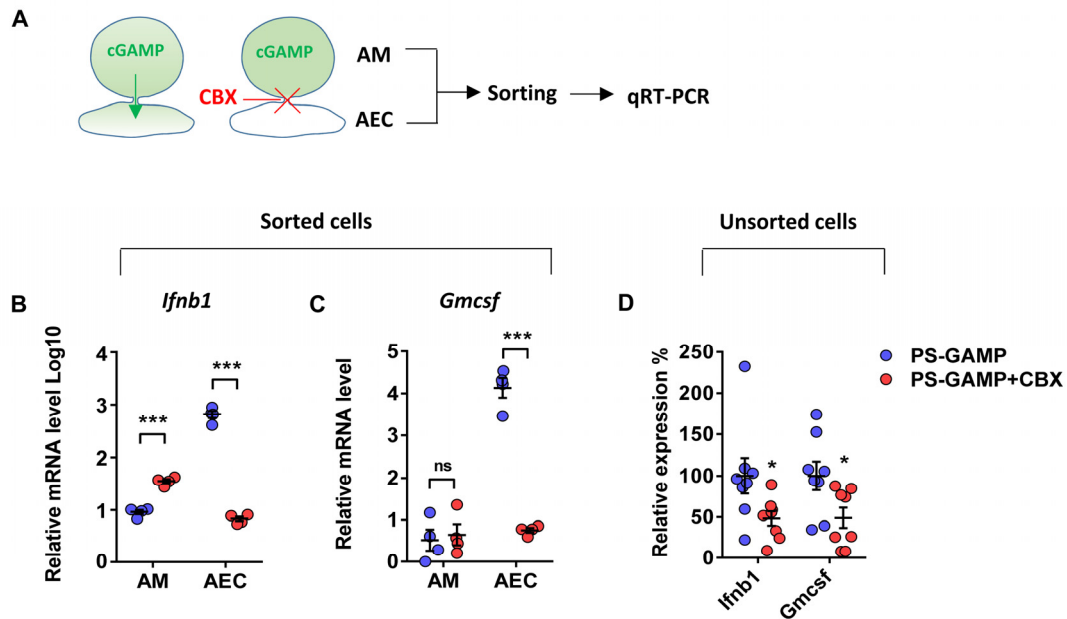


Fig. S24. Entry of cGAMP from AMs into AECs.

(A) Mice were i.p. injected with a gap junction inhibitor CBX or PBS for 3 consecutive d, after which 20 μg of PS-GAMP was i.n. administrated. AMs and AECs were sorted 12 h later and analyzed for *Ifnb1* (B) and *Gmcsf* (C) expression by real-time RT-PCR. mRNA levels were first normalized to *Gapdh* and then to corresponding cells isolated from naïve mice. $n=4$. (D) Unsorted lung cells were also analyzed similarly for comparisons. $n=8$.

The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Each symbol represents individual mice in B to D. Statistical analysis, *t*-test. * $p<0.05$ and *** $p<0.001$ in the presence or absence of CBX. ns, no significance. All experiments were repeated twice with similar results.

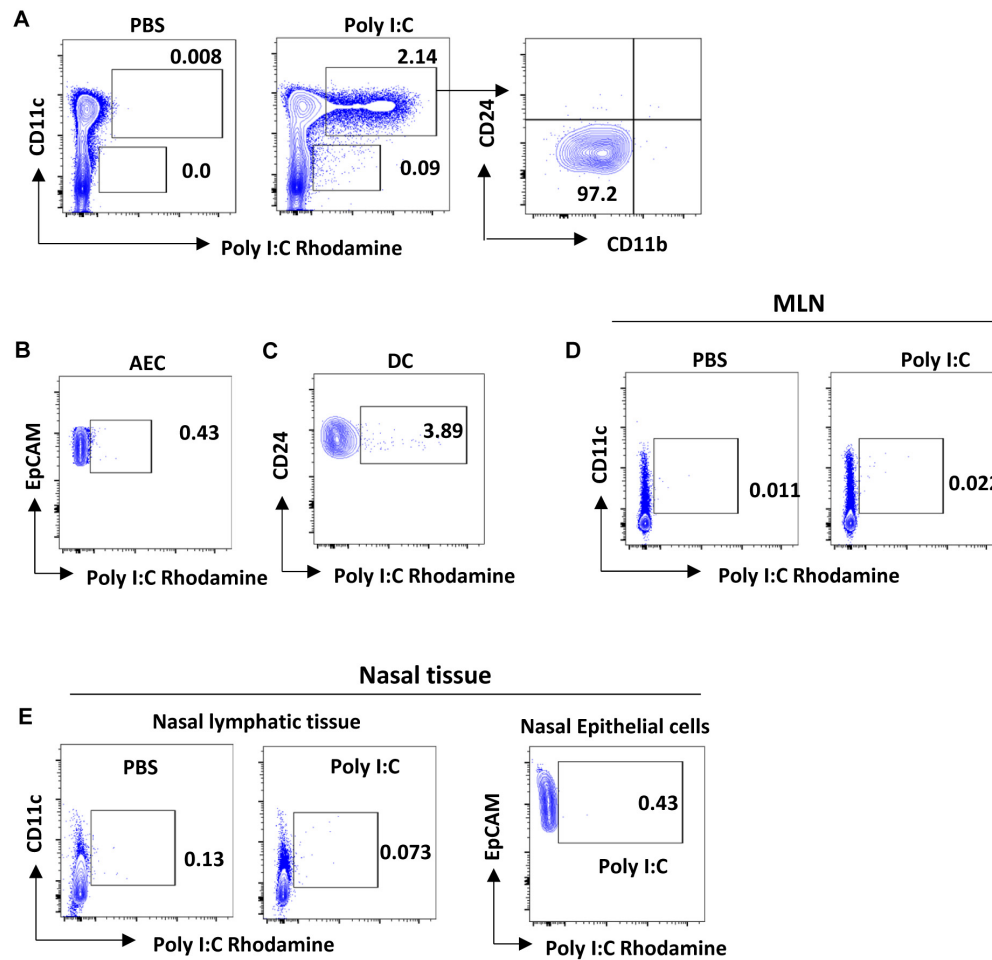


Fig. S25. Tissue and cell distribution of poly I:C.

Mice received 20 μg of rhodamine-labeled poly I:C intranasally. (A) Lungs were dissected and digested 12 h later for flow cytometric analysis of poly I:C uptake by CD11c⁺ and CD11c⁻ subsets. CD11c⁺poly I:C⁺ cells were further confirmed to be CD24⁺ CD11b⁻ AMs. Poly I:C uptake was next analyzed on the gate of EpCAM⁺ AECs (B) or CD11c⁺CD24⁺ DCs (C). MLNs (D) and nasal epithelium and lymphatic tissue (E) were also prepared for single-cell suspensions to determine poly I:C uptake. Data are representative of two separate experiments each assayed in triplicate.

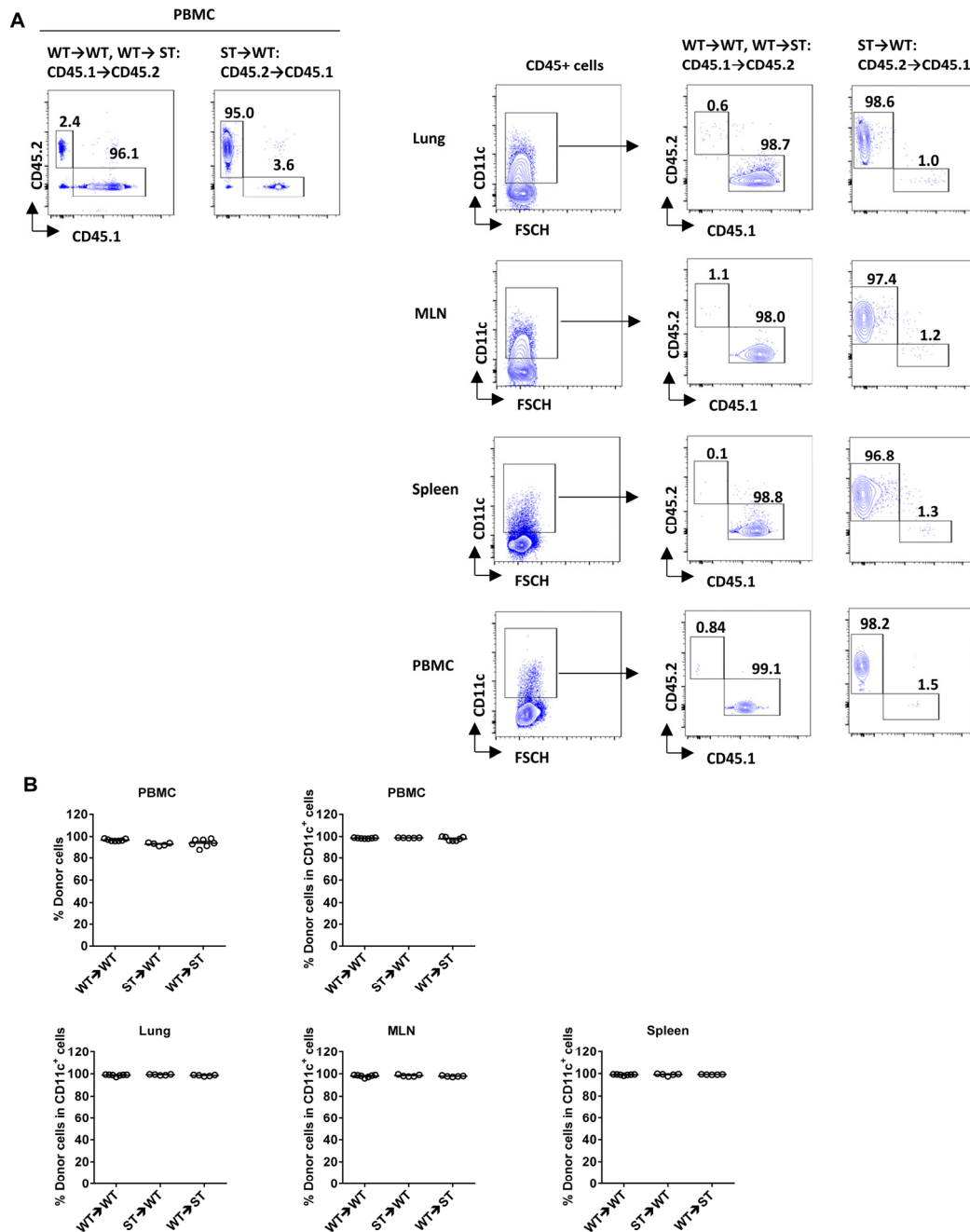


Fig. S26. Cell reconstitution efficacy after bone marrow (BM) cell transfer.

Mice were pre-conditioned with lethal irradiation prior to infusion with BM cells isolated from mice carrying reciprocal CD45 alleles, CD45.1 and CD45.2, a surface biomarker for all leukocytes. Donor cells were distinguished from recipients by a specific antibody for CD45.1 or CD45.2. The transfer efficacy was analyzed by quantifying CD45.1 or CD45.2 expression on leukocytes in various tissues in the recipients after three months of infusion (A) and summarized in (B). Each symbol represents individual mice in (B). n=5-7. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

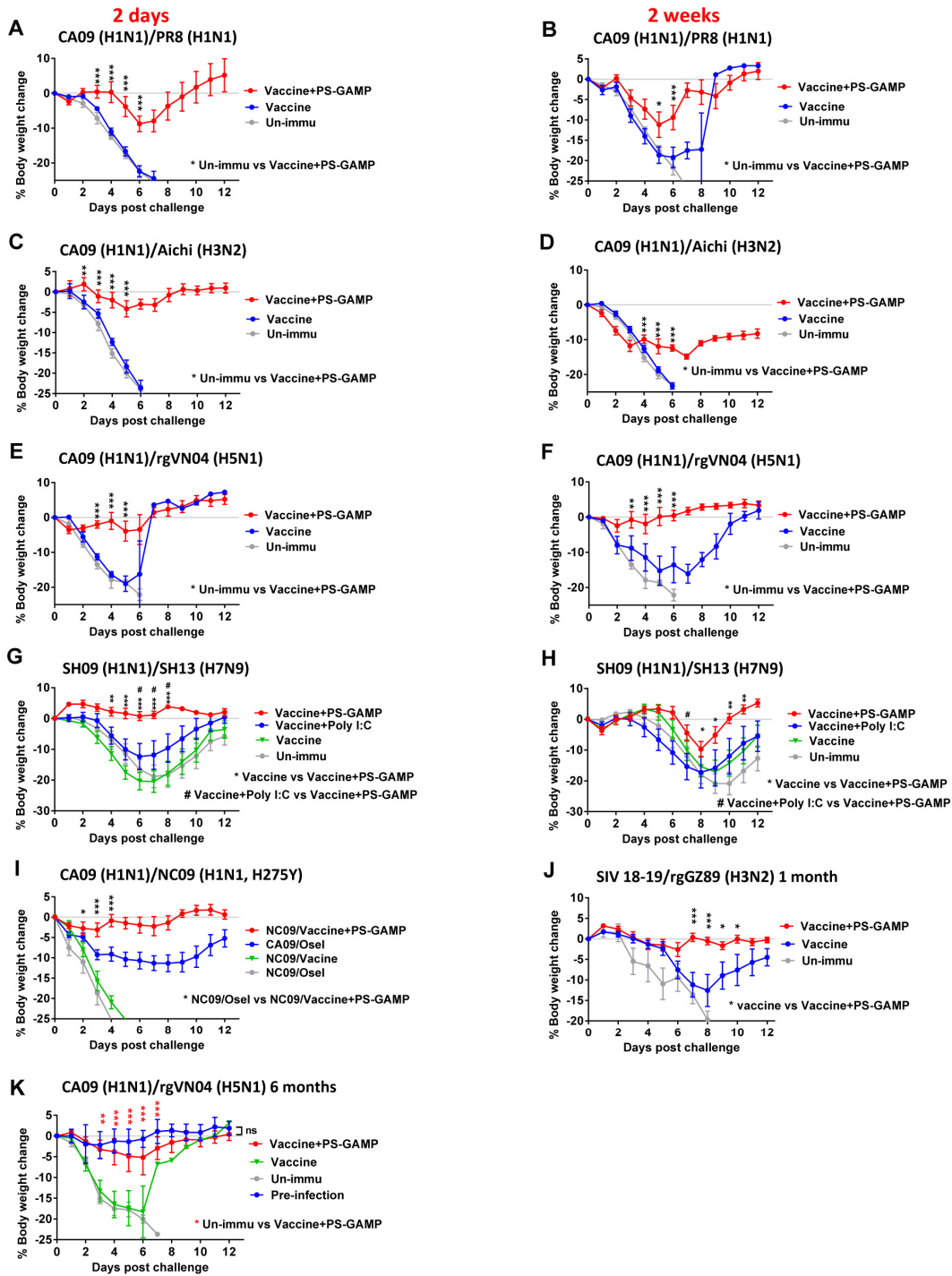


Fig. S27. Supplementary data for cross-protection studies.

(A to K) Body weight changes corresponding to mice described in Fig. 6, A to K, respectively. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, two-way ANOVA. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, and # $p < 0.05$. All experiments were repeated twice with similar results.

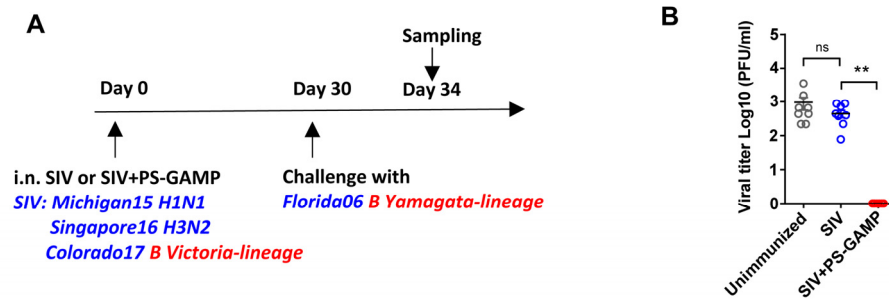


Fig. S28. Vaccination with trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine and PS-GAMP induces cross-protective immunity against mismatched influenza B virus.

(A) A schematic of the vaccination/sampling schedule. BALB/c mice were immunized with trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine (2018-19) (SIV) alone or together with 20 µg of PS-GAMP and challenged 1 month later with 4×10^5 TCID₅₀ mismatched Florida06 B virus. (B) Lungs were isolated 4 d after the immunization and analyzed for viral titers. Each symbol represents individual mice in (B). n=8-9. The results were presented as means ± SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA. **p<0.01 in the presence or absence of PS-GAMP. ns, no significance. The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

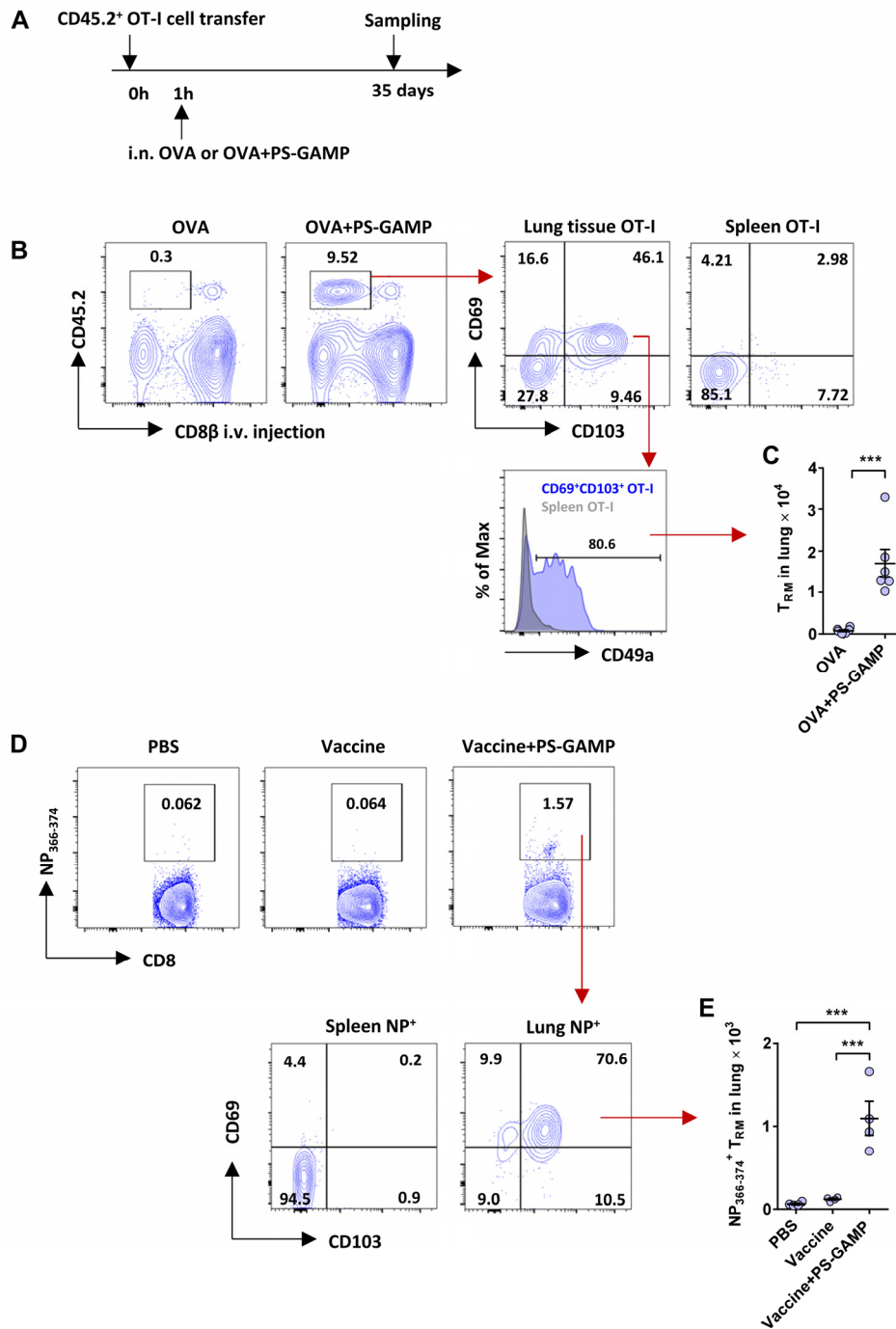


Fig. S29. PS-GAMP/inactivated influenza vaccine induces viral-specific lung CD8⁺ T_{RM} cells.

(A) A schematic of the vaccination/sampling timeline of OT-I mouse model. Mice were transferred with OT-I cells and i.n. immunized 1 h later with OVA in presence or absence of PS-GAMP. Thirty-five d later, mice were i.v. injected with anti-CD8β antibody to exclude circulating CD8⁺ T cells before sacrificed for flow cytometric analysis. (B) Total

CD8⁺ T cells in the lung were gated by CD3⁺ and CD8 α ⁺ (profile not shown) and lung OT-I cells were recognized as CD45.2⁺ and CD8 β ⁻ (antibody i.v. injected) (1st two panels). OT-I cells with T_{RM} phenotype were identified as CD103⁺CD69⁺CD49a⁺. OT-I cells in the spleen served as the control (Gray). The number of lung OT-I T_{RM} cells were summarized in (C). n=6. (D and E) Mice were i.n. immunized with CA09 H1N1 vaccine in the presence or absence of PS-GAMP. Lungs were isolated 6 months later for flow cytometry. NP₃₆₆₋₃₇₄⁺ CD8⁺ T cells were gated and validated for CD103 and CD69 expression (D) and the number of NP₃₆₆₋₃₇₄⁺ CD8⁺ T_{RM} cells were summarized in (E). n=4. NP₃₆₆₋₃₇₄⁺ CD8⁺ T cells in the spleen served as the control. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, *t*-test for (C), one-way ANOVA for (E). ****p*<0.001 in the presence or absence of PS-GAMP. All experiments were repeated twice with similar results.

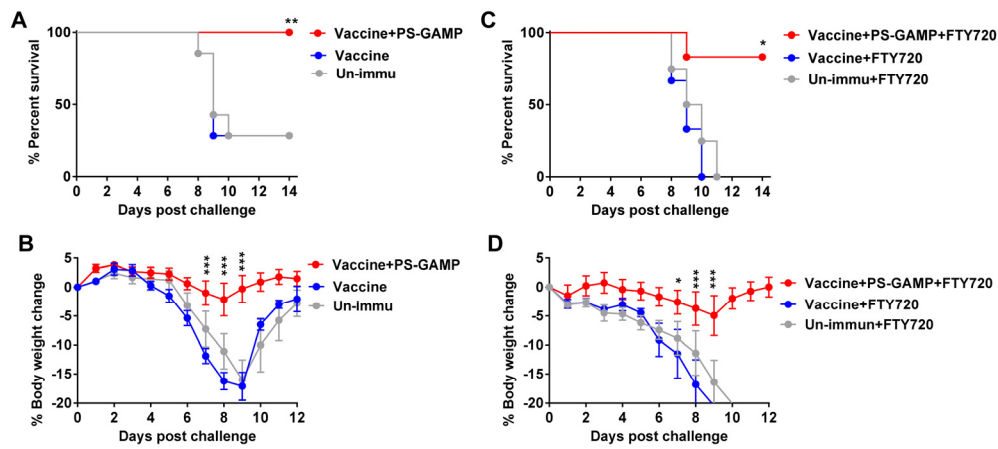


Fig. S30. FTY720 did not affect the cross-protection elicited by influenza vaccine/PS-GAMP.

(A and B) Mice were i.n. immunized with CA09 H1N1 vaccine alone or together with 20 μ g of PS-GAMP and challenged 1 month later with $5 \times LD_{50}$ GZ89 H3N2 virus. (C and D) Mice were immunized and challenged as A and B except that the mice additionally received daily injections of FTY720 (1 mg/kg/day) from -2 to 14 days after the challenge. $n=6-8$. Statistical analysis, two-way ANOVA for (B and D) and Log-rank test for (A and C). * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, and *** $p < 0.001$ compared to the vaccine alone. All experiments were repeated twice with similar results.

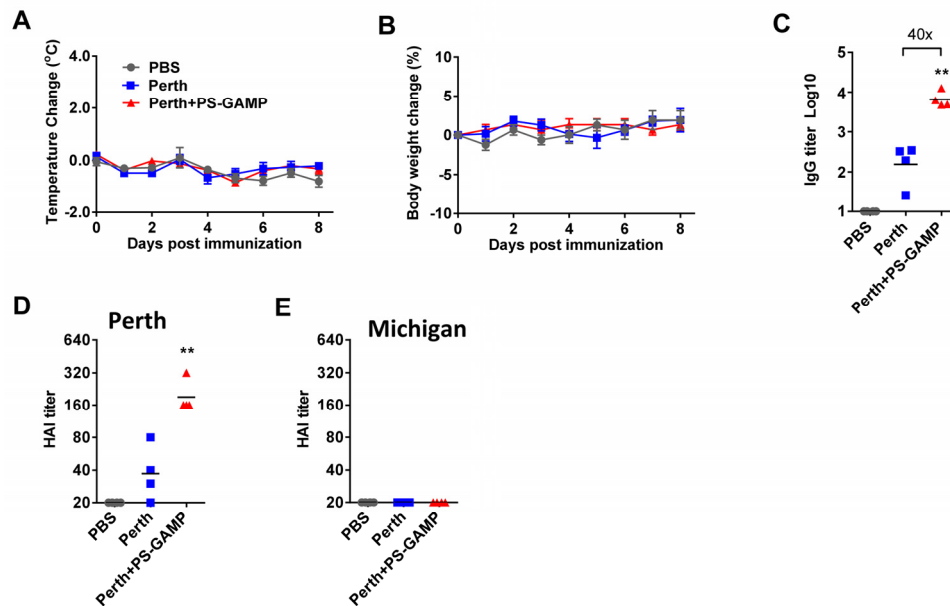


Fig. S31. Safety and efficacy of PS-GAMP in ferrets.

Ferrets were i.n. immunized with an inactivated viral vaccine (Perth H3N2 15 μ g) with or without 200 μ g of PS-GAMP. Body weight (A) and temperature (B) of the animals were monitored for 6 d. (C) Sera were collected 4 weeks after the immunization and tested for PerthH3N2-specific IgG titers (C). HAI titers were also measured against PerthH3N2 (D) or MichiganH1N1 (E) viral strains. n=4. Each symbol represents individual animals in C to E. The results were presented as means \pm SEM. Statistical analysis, one-way ANOVA for (C and D). **p< 0.01 compared in the presence vs. absence of PS-GAMP.

Table S1.

Supplementary Table 1. Ferret Clinical Symptom Scores (44)

| Score | Nasal symptoms | Activity level (playfulness) |
|-------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 0 | No symptoms | Fully playful |
| 1 | Nasal rattling or sneezing | Responds to play overtures but does not initiate play activity |
| 2 | Nasal discharge on external nares | Alert but not playful |
| 3 | Mouth breathing | Not playful, not alert |

Table S2.

Antibodies and Tetramers for flow cytometry

| Antibody | Clone | Label | Vendor | Concentration |
|--|---------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| NP₃₆₆₋₃₇₄ MHC I tetramers | N/A | AF647 | NIH Tetramer Core | 7.5 µg/ml |
| PA₂₂₄₋₂₃₃ MHC I tetramers | N/A | APC | NIH Tetramer Core | 7.5 µg/ml |
| PB1₇₀₃₋₇₁₁ MHC I tetramers | N/A | APC | NIH Tetramer Core | 7.5 µg/ml |
| anti-Ly6G | 1A8 | APC | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD11c | N418 | AF488 | Biologend | 2.5 µg/ml |
| anti-CD11b | M1/70 | BV421 | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| | M1/70 | PerCP/Cy5.5 | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| | M1/70 | PE | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-Ly6C | HK1.4 | Pacific Blue | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| | HK1.4 | APC | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD24 | M1/69 | Pacific Blue | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| anti-EpCAM | G8.8 | PerCP/Cy5.5 | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| | G8.8 | PE | Biologend | 1.0 µg/ml |
| | G8.8 | APC | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD40 | 3/23 | PE | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD86 | GL-1 | PerCP/Cy5.5 | Biologend | 1.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD8a | 53-6.7 | PerCP/Cy5.5 | Biologend | 1.0 µg/ml |
| | 53-6.7 | APC | Biologend | 1.0 µg/ml |
| | 53-6.7 | PE | Biologend | 2.5 µg/ml |
| | 53-6.7 | AF488 | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| | 53-6.7 | APC/Cy7 | Biologend | 4.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD8β | 53-5.8 | PE/Cy7 | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| | H35-7.2 | PE/Cy7 | eBioscience | 4.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD3 | 17A2 | PE | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| | 500A2 | AF647 | eBioscience | 1.0 µg/ml |
| | 145-2C11 | APC/Cy7 | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| | 17A2 | APC/Cy7 | Biologend | 4.0 µg/ml |
| | 500A2 | FITC | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| anti-Granzyme B | GB11 | AF647 | Biologend | 1 test |
| | GB11 | Pacific Blue | Biologend | 1 test |
| anti-CD4 | GK1.5 | APC/Cy7 | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| | GK1.5 | FITC | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| | GK1.5 | Pacific Blue | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| anti-IFNγ | XMG1.2 | BV421 | Biologend | 1.0 µg/ml |
| anti-MHC II | M5/114.15.2 | APC/Fire750 | Biologend | 4.0 µg/ml |
| anti-Siglec F | S17007L | APC | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD103 | 2E7 | PE/Cy7 | Biologend | 5.0 µg/ml |
| | 2E7 | BV421 | Biologend | 4.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD69 | H1.2F3 | BV510 | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD49a | HM α 1 | PE | Biologend | 4.0 µg/ml |

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| anti-NK1.1 | PK136 | PE | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD45.1 | A20 | PE | Biologend | 2.0 µg/ml |
| anti-CD45.2 | 104 | AF647 | Biologend | 2.5 µg/ml |

Table S3.**Supplementary Table 3. Primers for Real-time PCR**

| Gene | Forward 5'-3' | Reverse 5'-3' |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Gapdh</i> | ATCAAGAAGGTGGTGAAGCA | AGACAACCTGGTCCTCAGTGT |
| <i>Ifnb1</i> | AGCTCCAAGAAAGGACGAACA | GCCCTGTAGGTGAGGTTGAT |
| <i>Tnf</i> | CCTGTAGCCCACGTCGTAG | GGGAGTAGACAAGGTACAACCC |
| <i>Il10</i> | GCTGGACAACATACTGCTAACC | ATTCCGATAAGGCTTGGCAA |
| <i>Cxcl10</i> | CCAAGTGCTGCCGTCATTTTC | TCCCTATGGCCCTCATTCTCA |
| <i>Ccl2</i> | TCTGGGCCTGCTGTTTACA | CCTACTCATTGGGATCATCTTGCT |
| <i>Ccl3</i> | TGTACCATGACACTCTGCAAC | CAACGATGAATTGGCGTGGAA |
| <i>Ccl5</i> | GCCCACGTCAAGGAGTATTTCTA | ACACACTTGGCGGTTTCCTTC |
| <i>Gmcsf</i> | GAAGCATGTAGAGGCCATCA | GAATATCTTCAGGCGGGTCT |

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