

Supplementary Fig. 1. iNKT cell subset gating. a. Example of gating for isolating iNKT cell subsets from lymphocyte- and live-gated, cell suspensions enriched for *i*NKT cells as described in Methods. Note that some ICOS^{high} cells express relatively high levels of CXCR3. Representative examples shown are from the thymus, spleen, lung and liver; one of five independent sorts. b. Expression of transcription factors PLZF and RORyt as measured by representative flow cytometry in spleen, lung, and thymus CD1d- α galcer-tetramer-binding, TCR β^+ cells selected to be NKT1(CXCR3⁺, ICOS^{low}, SDC1⁻), NKT2 (CXCR3⁻, ICOS^{high}, CD4⁺, SDC1⁻), and NKT17 (CXCR3⁻, ICOS^{high}, CD4⁻, SDC1⁺). Results are representative of cell suspensions from two mice stained with this exact panel. The staining of all of the panel reagents was confirmed in samples from at least eight mice examined in at least four independent experiments. c. Histogram overlay of staining for T-bet in CD4⁺, ICOS^{high} iNKT splenocytes with removal (cyan) or without removal (pink) of cells staining with antibodies specific for CXCR3 or CD122, which were combined into one channel to facilitate simultaneous staining for both cell surface markers and transcription factors to define iNKT cell subsets and identify more uniformly a T-bet^{low} population. Data are representative of samples from fourteen mice examined in seven independent experiments. d. Normalized reads with means +/- SD for Rorc and Tbx21 as determined by RNA-seq for cells sorted as described in Fig. Supp. 1a. n=5 for the spleen samples, n=4 for NKT17 lung and thymus, and n=3 for all other samples.



Supplementary Fig. 2. Reproducibility of thymic iNKT cell subset gene signatures.

Thymic iNKT cell subset transcriptomic signatures, as previously defined¹, were compared to the data in this study. Differentially expressed (DE) genes from the earlier study, defined by comparing end subset to the other two, and having > 2-fold difference in mean reads and adjusted p = 0.05 (DESeq2 with Benjamini-Hochberg correction), from the earlier study were compared to the results from this study.



Supplementary Fig. 3. iNKT cell lung signature genes. a. Heat map of normalized read counts from RNA-seq for genes with significantly elevated reads (raw p value of <0.1 calculated by DESeq2) in lung samples in all pairwise comparisons between lung and other tissue samples for each iNKT cell subset. Included are the mean normalized reads of NKT1 and NKT17 cells prepared from lungs of individual mice, designated with letters A-H, and from pooled mice (4-7 experimental replicates). Alphabetical list of lung signature genes (right).



Supplementary Fig. 4. Phenotype and transcriptome of NKTFH cells. a.

Splenocytes from 7-week-old C57BL/6J females injected with α GalCer 6 days prior to analysis were enriched for iNKT cells and stained as described in Methods. Plots show the staining of live, lymphocyte-gated cells with anti-TCR β and α GalCer loaded CD1d tetramers (left), and the staining of CD1d-tetramer⁺ TCR β^+ cells for CXCR5 and PD-1 (right). b. Staining for expression of PD-1 and CXCR5 in gated iNKT cells from the spleen of unchallenged mice (left panel) and α GalCer injected mice (middle panel). Right panel: Staining for BCL6 in gated iNKT cells from immunized mice that were putative NKT_{FH}, or CXCR5⁺ PD-1⁺ (pink histogram) or that were double negative for these markers (NKT_{eff}, blue histogram). Data are representative of samples from 12 mice analyzed in three independent experiments. c. Heat map depicting the relative RNA-seq normalized read counts in splenic NKT1, NKT2, NKT17 and NKTFH cells of genes that were DE in either NKT1 (left), NKT2 (center) or NKT17 cells (right) (Padj <0.1, shrunken lfc >1 or <-1). d. Heat map of RNA-seq normalized read counts from selected genes known to be DE in T_{FH} compared to T_{H1} cells. e. Expression of reporter in T-bet fate-mapping mice by NKTFH and NKTeff cells 3 days-post antigen exposure. f. ConsensusPathDB gene clustering: red up, blue down. g. NKTFH persist in the spleen for at least one month. Left: representative flow cytometry showing NKT_{FH} (TCR β^+ CD1d-tetramer⁺CXCR5⁺PD-1⁺) at d30+ after α GalCer plus unstimulated controls. Right: number of NKT_{FH} at day 6 or day 30+ after α GalCer plus controls. Data are combined from 14 experiments, n = 18 (d6 α GalCer), n = 13 (d6 unstimulated), n = 10 (d30 α GalCer), n = 9 (d30+ unstimulated), error bars depict SEM. Mann-Whitney test (two-tailed), **** = p values of <0.0001, * = p value of 0.04.

Supplementary References

1. Engel, I. *et al.* Innate-like functions of natural killer T cell subsets result from highly divergent gene programs. *Nature Immunology* **17**, 728-739 (2016).