Supplemental information

Il4ra-independent vaginal eosinophil accumulation following helminth infection exacerbates epithelial ulcerative pathology of HSV-2 infection

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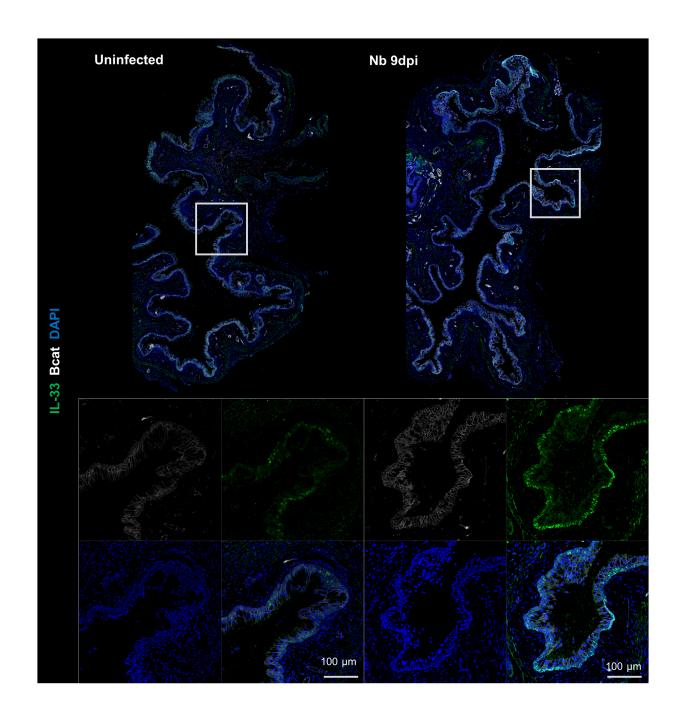
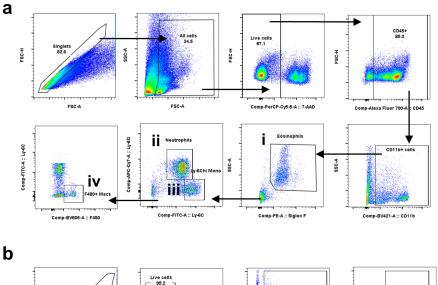


Figure S1. Vaginal epithelial cells are a major source of IL-33, Related to Figure 1: At day 9 post Nb infection (Nb 9dpi), vaginal tissue (n=2) was isolated for immunofluorescent (IF) staining for beta catenin (Bcat; white), IL-33 (green) and Hoechst 33342 (blue). White boxes indicate magnified sections. Data is representative of one experiment with 2 mice per group.



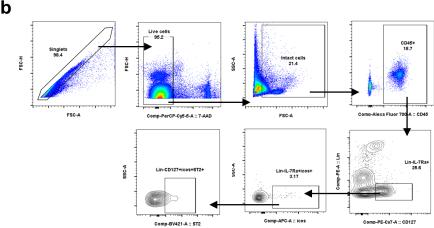
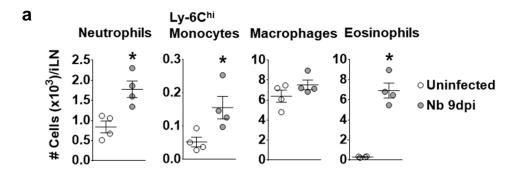


Figure S2. FGT and iLN flow cytometry gating strategy, Related to Star Methods: Flow cytometry: At day 3 post HSV-2 infection. FGT and iLNs were harvested and processed to a single cell suspension. Cells were stained with fluorochrome-conjugated antibodies and analysed by multi-colour flow cytometry. (a) The following gating strategy was used to identify (i) CD11b⁺SigLec-F⁺SSC^{hi} eosinophils, (ii) CD11b⁺Ly-6G⁺ neutrophils, (iii) CD11b⁺Ly-6C^{hi} monocytes and (iv) CD11b⁺F480⁺ macrophages. (b) Gating strategy used to identify Lin⁻IL-7R α ⁺ICOS⁺ST2⁺ ILC2s in the FGT and iLN.



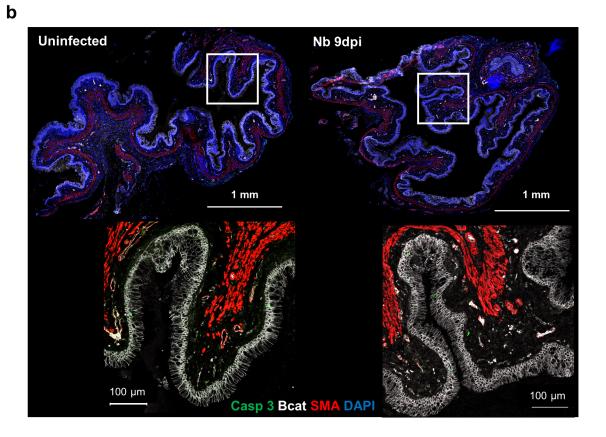
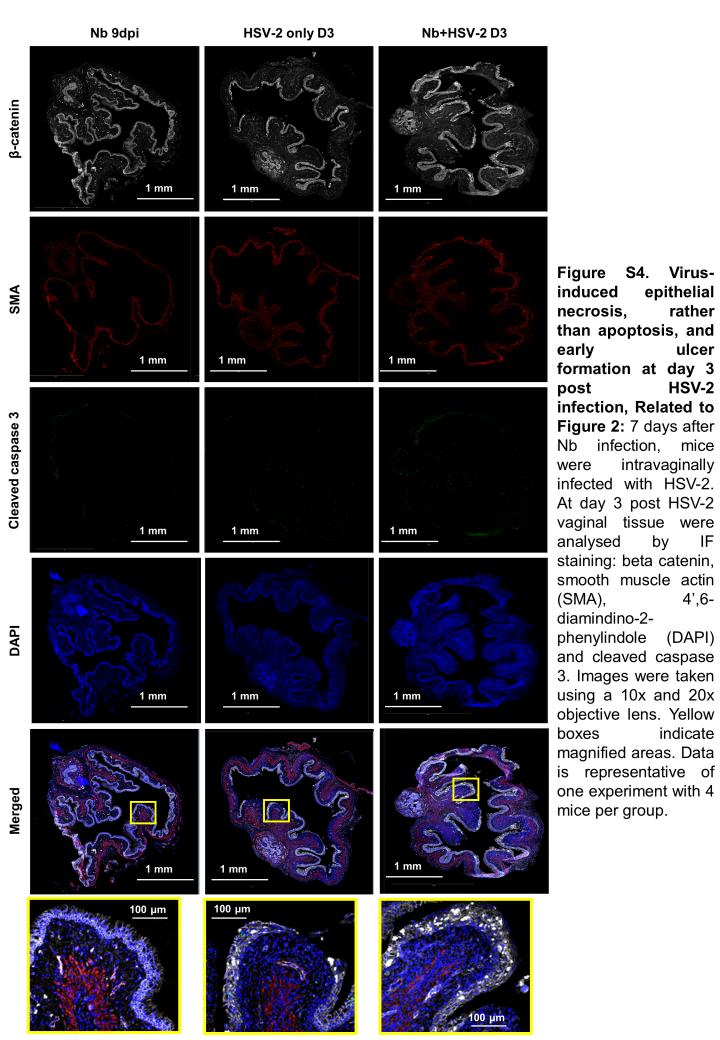


Figure S3. (a) Nb infection increases myeloid cell accumulation in the genital lymph nodes, Related to Figure 1: At 9dpi, myeloid cell populations in the iLN were analysed by flow cytometry to determine the numbers (x10³) of neutrophils, Ly-6Chi monocytes, macrophages and eosinophils in the iLN. Data is representative of two independent experiments with 4-5 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by Mann Whitney t test. * $p \le 0.05$. (b) Nb infection alone does not alter vaginal epithelial integrity, Related to Figure 1: Female BALB/c mice were treated with 2 mg Depo Provera® (DP) 7 days prior to subcutaneous infection with Nb. At day 9 post Nb infection (Nb 9dpi), vaginal tissue (n=2) was isolated for immunofluorescent (IF) staining for beta catenin (Bcat), smooth muscle actin (SMA), 4',6-diamindino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) and cleaved caspase 3 (Casp 3). Images were taken using a 10x and 20x objective lens. White boxes indicate magnified sections. Data is representative of one experiment with 2 mice per group.



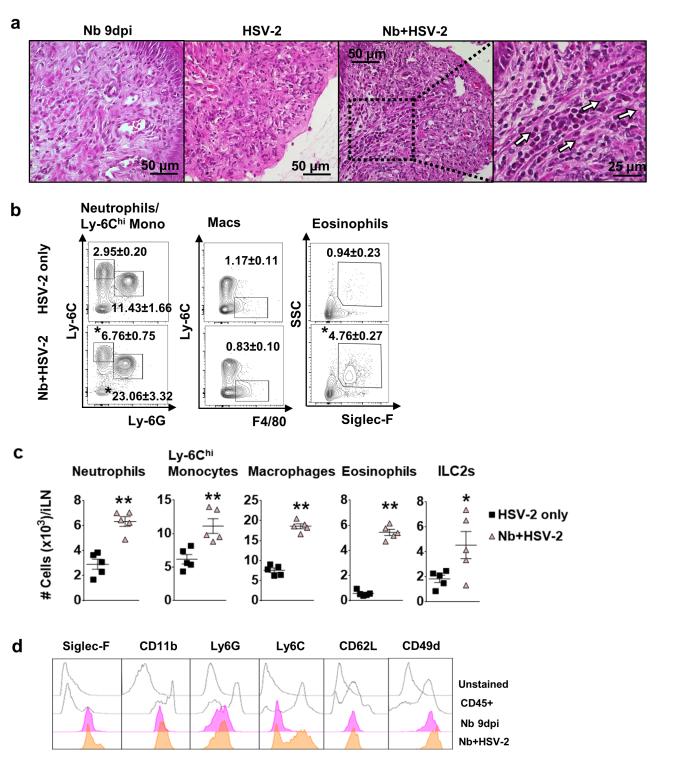


Figure S5. Prior Nb exposure increases myeloid cell inflammation in FGT and associated lymph nodes during subsequent HSV-2 infection, Related to Figure 3: At day 3 post HSV-2 vaginal tissue and iLNs were analysed by histology and flow cytometry, respectively. (a) Representative H&E-stained sections (n=4-5) of vaginal tissue of Nb only infected mice (day 9 PI), HSV-2 only and co-infected mice (day 3 post viral infection), displaying eosinophilic inflammation during co-infection (white arrows). (b) Frequencies (mean±sem) of neutrophils, Ly6Chi monocytes, macrophages, and eosinophils in the FGT of HSV-2 only and Nb+HSV-2 mice at day 3 post virus infection. (c) Myeloid cell and ILC2 (Lin-IL-7R α +ICOS+ST2+) populations in the iLN of HSV-2 only and Nb+HSV-2 infected mice. (d) Representative histograms (n=4-5) of the mean florescence intensity (MFI) of Siglec-F, CD11b, Ly6G, Ly6C, CD62L and CD49d on FGT eosinophils in Nb 9dpi and Nb+HSV-2 mice. Data is representative of two independent experiments with 4-5 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by Mann Whitney t test. * $p \le 0.05$, * $p \le 0.01$.

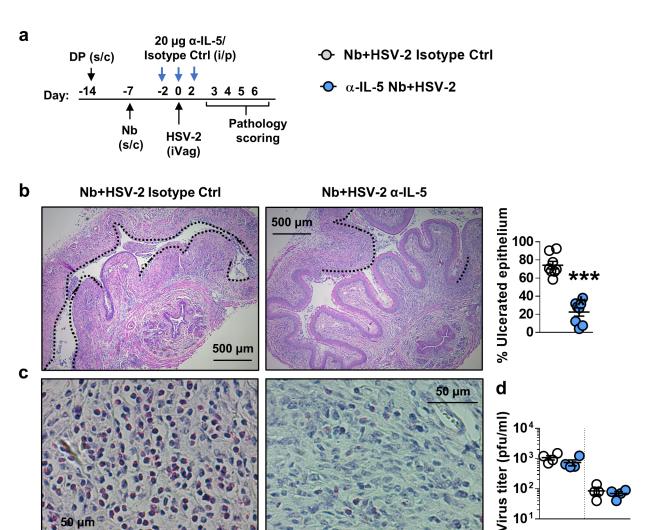


Figure S6. Anti-IL-5 antibody treatment protects against eosinophil-mediated Nb exacerbated pathology, Related to Figure 3: (a) Nb infected mice were treated with 20 µg α-IL-5 or isotype control, on day -2, 0 and 2 post HSV-2 infection. (b) Representative H&Estained vaginal sections (n=4) of co-infected α -IL-5 or isotype treated mice at day 6 post HSV-2 infection. Images were taken at x50 magnification. Ulcerated vaginal epithelium is indicated by black dotted lines and qualified as percentage (%) of ulcerated epithelium. (c) Representative sections (n=4) of Sirius red-stained vaginal ulcers at day 6 post virus infection. Images were taken at x400 magnification. (d) Viral shedding was measured by plaque assay (PFU/ml) in day 3 and day 6 vaginal washes. Data is representative of two independent experiments with 4 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by Mann Whitney t test. * $p \le 0.05$, ** $p \le 0.01$, *** $p \le 0.001$.

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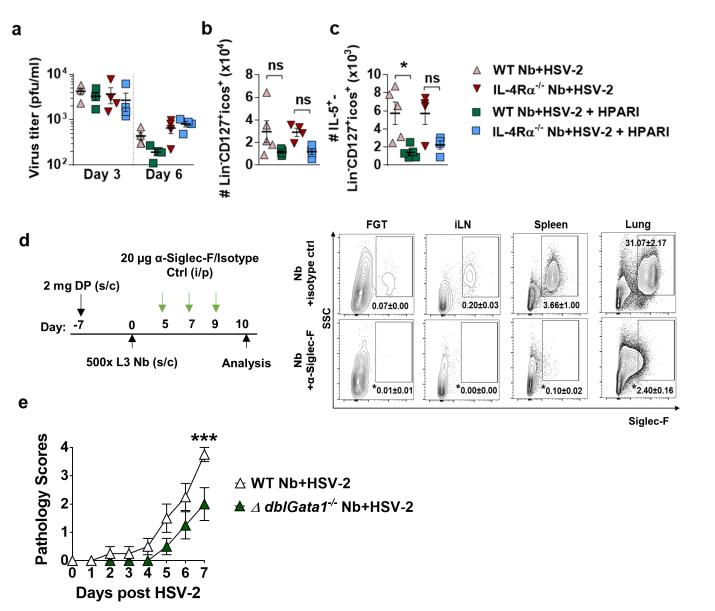


Figure S7. (a-c) IL-33 inhibition by vaginal HPARI treatment reduces IL-5 production by ILC2s, Related to Figure 5: (a) Viral shedding was measured by plaque assay (PFU/ml) in day 3 and day 6 vaginal washes. Data is representative of two independent experiments with 4 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons. At day 6 post HSV-2 infection, FGT cells were analysed by flow cytometry: (b) numbers of Lin-IL-7Rα+ICOS+ cells in the FGT and (c) the numbers of these cells, positive for intracellular IL-5. Data is representative of one experiment with 4-6 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons. * $p \le 0.05$. Related to Figure 5. (d) Anti-Siglec-F antibody administration depletes tissue eosinophils, Related to Figure 6: Nb infected mice were injected with 20 μg α-Siglec-F or isotype control, on day 5, 7 and 9 post infection. Representative flow plots (n=3) showing frequency (mean±sem) of CD11b+SSChiSiglec-F+ eosinophils in the FGT, iLN, spleen and lung, following antibody depletion. Data is representative of one experiment with 3 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by Mann Whitney t test. * $p \le 0.05$. Related to Figure 6. (e) Reduced HSV-2 pathology in co-infected \(\Delta db | Gata1^{-1} \) mice, Related to Figure 6: Hormone synchronized WT and ΔdblGata1-/- co-infected mice were scored for virus-associated vaginal pathology following HSV-2 infection. representative of one experiment with 3-4 mice per group (mean±sem). Statistical significance was calculated by two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons. *** $p \le 0.001$.