

# **STING regulates BCR signaling in normal and malignant B cells**

**Tang et al.**

**Table of contents:** Page 1

Supplementary Figure Legends: Pages 2 - 8

Supplementary Figures S1-S13: Pages 9 - 21

## Supplementary Figure Legends

**Supplementary Figure 1. Confirmation of the long- and short-arm integration of the STING V154M targeting vector by Southern blots.** Genomic DNA was extracted from 5 different clones carrying the Neo-deleted allele, and digested with Hpa I or Hind III, respectively. Southern blots were performed using a radiolabeled probe to confirm the integration of 3' and 5' homology arms. The expected band sizes of the WT allele and Neo-deleted allele after restriction digestion by Hpa I are 35010 bp and 16022 bp, respectively. The expected band sizes of the WT allele and Neo-deleted allele after restriction digestion by Hind III are 11256 bp and 8165 bp, respectively. Genomic DNA from WT mice was used as a control. The sequences of primers used to genotype mice carrying the Neo-deleted allele with V154M are listed beneath the blots.

**Supplementary Figure 2. Epitope mapping of a mouse monoclonal antibody against STING and generation of a polyclonal antibody against STING phosphorylated at S365.** (A) Mouse A20 cells, A20 cells treated with 20  $\mu$ M 3'3'-cGAMP for 4 h, STING-deficient A20 STING-ZFN cells, and human H929 cells were immunoblotted with a newly generated mouse monoclonal anti-STING antibody (clone #370.142). (B-C) Lysates from transformed BL21 (DE3) cells expressing various GST-truncated human STING fusion proteins were analyzed on SDS-PAGE gels, and either stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue G-250 (B) or immunoblotted with the anti-STING monoclonal antibody (C). The highest molecular weight bands recognized by the anti-STING antibody represent the intact fusion proteins; the lower molecular weight bands are degradation products. (D) Amino acid sequences of human and mouse STING epitopes (labeled in red) recognized by the anti-STING monoclonal antibody. Amino acids labeled in blue have similar chemical properties. (E) Amino acid sequences of the phospho-peptide and the backbone peptide of mouse STING used for generation and purification of the anti-phospho-S365 antibody.

**Supplementary Figure 3. Gating strategies for analyses of B cells in the spleens.** (A) Splenocytes from WT and V154M mice were stained with B220-BV605, GL7-PE, AA4.1-PE-Cy7, CD1d-PerCP-Cy5.5, and CD23-FITC. Gated B220<sup>+</sup> B cells were analyzed for GL7<sup>+</sup> activated B cells. Gated B220<sup>+</sup>/GL7<sup>-</sup>/AA4.1<sup>-</sup> B cell populations were analyzed for the CD1d<sup>+</sup>/CD23<sup>-</sup> marginal zone and CD1d<sup>-</sup>/CD23<sup>+</sup> follicular B cells. The numbers of spleen cells from WT and V154M mice were counted using a hemocytometer. (B-E) Quantification of B220<sup>+</sup> B cells (B), follicular B cells (C), marginal zone B cells (D), and GL7<sup>+</sup> activated B cells (E) in spleens of unimmunized WT (n=10) and V154M (n=10) mice.

**Supplementary Figure 4. Gating strategies for analyses of B cells in the bone marrow and peripheral blood and plasma cells in the spleens and bone marrow.** (A) Bone marrow cells isolated from WT and V154M mice were stained with B220-BV605, CD43-PE, CD19-Alexa 647, IgM-PE-Cy7 and IgD-FITC. Gated B220<sup>+</sup> total B cell populations (left panel) were analyzed for CD43<sup>+</sup>/CD19<sup>low</sup> pro-B cells and CD43<sup>+</sup>/CD19<sup>high</sup> pre-B cells (middle panel). The gated CD43<sup>-</sup>/CD19<sup>+</sup> population (middle panel) were also analyzed for IgM<sup>+</sup>/IgD<sup>-</sup> immature B cells and IgM<sup>+</sup>/IgD<sup>+</sup> mature B cells (right panel). The numbers of bone marrow cells from WT and V154M mice were counted using a hemocytometer. (B-F) Quantification of total B cell progenitors (B), pro-B cells (C), pre-B cells (D), immature B cells (E), and mature B cells (F) in the bone marrow of unimmunized WT (n=5) and V154M (n=5) mice. (G) Peripheral white blood cells from WT and V154M mice were stained with B220-Alexa 488. B220<sup>+</sup> B cells were gated and analyzed. The numbers of white blood cells in the whole blood of WT and V154M mice were obtained using a HemaTrue Hematology Analyzer. (H) Quantification of B220<sup>+</sup> B cells in the peripheral blood of unimmunized WT (n=5) and V154M (n=5) mice. (I) The spleen and bone marrow cells from unimmunized WT and V154M mice were stained with CD138-PE and XBP1s-Alexa 647. CD138<sup>+</sup>/XBP1s<sup>+</sup> plasma cells were gated and analyzed.

**Supplementary Figure 5. Decreased T cell populations in the spleens and peripheral blood but not in the bone marrow of unimmunized V154M mice.** (A) Splenocytes from WT and V154M mice

were stained with CD3-APC-Cy7, B220-Alexa 488, CD4-BV605 and CD8-PE-Cy7. CD3<sup>+</sup>/B220<sup>-</sup> T cell populations were analyzed for CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells. **(B-D)** Quantification of CD3<sup>+</sup> T cells (B), CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells (C), and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (D) in the spleens of unimmunized WT (n=10) and V154M (n=10) mice. **(E)** Bone marrow cells from WT and V154M mice were stained with CD3-APC-Cy7, B220-Alexa 488, CD4-BV605 and CD8-PE-Cy7. CD3<sup>+</sup>/B220<sup>-</sup> T cell populations were analyzed for CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells. **(F-H)** Quantification of CD3<sup>+</sup> T cells (F), CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells (G), and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (H) in the bone marrow of unimmunized WT (n=15) and V154M (n=15) mice. **(I)** Peripheral white blood cells from WT and V154M mice were stained with CD3-APC-Cy7, B220-Alexa 488, CD4-BV605 and CD8-PE-Cy7. CD3<sup>+</sup>/B220<sup>-</sup> T cell populations were analyzed for CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells. **(J-L)** Quantification of CD3<sup>+</sup> T cells (J), CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells (K), and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (L) in the peripheral blood of unimmunized WT (n=15) and V154M (n=15) mice.

**Supplementary Figure 6. Increased CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6C<sup>+</sup> monocytic cells and CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6G<sup>+</sup> granulocytic cells in the spleens, bone marrow and peripheral blood of unimmunized V154M mice.** **(A)** Splenocytes from WT and V154M mice were stained with CD11c-BV421, CD11b-PE, Ly6C-Alexa 488 and Ly6G-Alexa 647. Gated CD11c<sup>-</sup>/CD11b<sup>+</sup> myeloid populations were analyzed for Ly6C<sup>+</sup>/Ly6G<sup>-</sup> monocytic cells and Ly6C<sup>intermediate</sup>/Ly6G<sup>+</sup> granulocytic cells. **(B-C)** Quantification of CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6C<sup>+</sup> monocytic cells (B) and CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6G<sup>+</sup> granulocytic cells (C) in the spleens of unimmunized WT (n=10) and V154M (n=10) mice. **(D)** Bone marrow cells from WT and V154M mice were stained with CD11c-BV421, CD11b-PE, Ly6C-Alexa 488 and Ly6G-Alexa 647. Gated CD11c<sup>-</sup>/CD11b<sup>+</sup> myeloid populations were analyzed for Ly6C<sup>+</sup>/Ly6G<sup>-</sup> monocytic cells and Ly6C<sup>intermediate</sup>/Ly6G<sup>+</sup> granulocytic cells. **(E-F)** Quantification of CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6C<sup>+</sup> monocytic cells (E) and CD11b<sup>+</sup>/Ly6G<sup>+</sup> granulocytic cells (F) in the bone marrow of unimmunized WT (n=15) and V154M (n=15) mice. **(G)** Peripheral white blood cells from WT and V154M mice were stained with CD11c-BV421, CD11b-PE, Ly6C-Alexa 488 and Ly6G-Alexa 647. Gated CD11c<sup>-</sup>/CD11b<sup>+</sup> myeloid populations were analyzed for Ly6C<sup>+</sup>/Ly6G<sup>-</sup> monocytic cells and Ly6C<sup>intermediate</sup>/Ly6G<sup>+</sup> granulocytic cells. **(H-I)**

Quantification of CD11b+/Ly6C+ monocytic cells (H) and CD11b+/Ly6G+ granulocytic cells (I) in the peripheral blood of unimmunized WT (n=15) and V154M (n=15) mice.

**Supplementary Figure 7. Purified B cells from V154M mice could respond to LPS stimulation in culture by differentiating into antibody-secreting GL7+ or XBP1s+ plasmablasts which synthesized class I and class II MHC molecules and delivered them to the cell surface normally.**

(A) B cells purified from WT and V154M mice were stimulated with LPS for a course of 3 days. Each day, B cells were stained with B220-BV605 and GL7-PE. Gated B220+ B cells were analyzed for GL7+ populations. (B) Quantification (means  $\pm$  SEM) of GL7+ plasmablasts (stimulated with LPS for 2 or 3 days) derived from WT (n=5) and V154M (n=5) mice. (C) B cells purified from WT and V154M mice were stimulated with LPS for 3 days, and stained with B220-BV605, CD138-PE, and XBP1s-Alexa 647. Gated B220+ B cells were analyzed for XBP1s+ populations. (D-E) Three-day LPS-stimulated plasmablasts from WT and V154M mice were starved in cysteine- and methionine-free media for 1 h, radiolabeled for 15 min, and chased for indicated times. Intracellular and extracellular IgM were immunoprecipitated from lysates (D) and culture media (E), respectively, using an anti- $\mu$  antibody. Immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. The asterisk denotes endo-H-resistant complex glycans. (F-G) Three-day LPS-stimulated plasmablasts from WT and V154M mice were starved in cysteine- and methionine-free media for 1 h, radiolabeled for 15 min, and chased for indicated times. Lysates were immunoprecipitated with an anti-class I MHC heavy chain antibody (F) or an anti-class II MHC  $\alpha$  chain antibody (G). Immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. CHO and CHO\* indicate high mannose-type glycans and complex-type glycans, respectively.

**Supplementary Figure 8. STING did not interact with ER-resident calnexin chaperone or other**

**type I transmembrane proteins in LPS-stimulated B cells.** (A) Purified WT and V154M B cells were stimulated with LPS (20  $\mu$ g/mL) for 3 days. Lysates were immunoblotted for indicated proteins. (B) B

cells purified from WT, V154M and STING-deficient mice were stimulated with LPS for 3 days, lysed in 1.25% digitonin lysis buffer, and analyzed by immunoblots for calnexin, class I MHC heavy chains, class II MHC  $\alpha$  chains, and p97. Additionally, the anti-STING antibody was used to perform immunoprecipitations from the same lysates (equal protein amounts), and the immunoprecipitates were analyzed for the presence of calnexin, class I MHC heavy chains, class II MHC  $\alpha$  chains, and p97 by immunoblots. (C) 5TGM1 and 5TGM1 STING-ZFN (STING-deficient) cells were lysed in 1.25% digitonin lysis buffer, and analyzed by immunoblots for calnexin and p97. In addition, the anti-STING antibody was used to perform immunoprecipitations from the same lysates (equal protein amounts), and the immunoprecipitates were analyzed for the presence of calnexin and p97.

**Supplementary Figure 9. Pro-inflammatory cytokines did not affect antibody production, surface presentation of the BCR, and BCR signaling.** (A-B) Two-day LPS-stimulated WT plasmablasts were treated with IFN $\beta$  (100 ng/mL) or TNF $\alpha$  (100 ng/mL) for another 24 h in the presence of LPS. Cells were subsequently starved in cysteine- and methionine-free media for 1 h, radiolabeled for 15 min, chased for indicated times, and lysed in RIPA buffer. IgM was immunoprecipitated from culture media (A), and Ig $\beta$  was immunoprecipitated from lysates (B). Immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. CHO and CHO\* indicate high mannose-type glycans and complex-type glycans, respectively. (C) Two-day LPS-stimulated WT plasmablasts were treated with IFN $\beta$  (100 ng/mL) or TNF $\alpha$  (100 ng/mL) for another 24 h in the presence of LPS. Cells were subsequently stimulated with goat anti-mouse IgM F(ab') $_2$  (20  $\mu$ g/mL) for indicated times, and lysed for immunoblot analyses of indicated proteins.

**Supplementary Figure 10. Confirmation of the long- and short-arm integration of the STING<sup>fllox/fllox</sup> targeting vector by Southern blots.** Genomic DNA was extracted from 5 different clones carrying the STING<sup>fllox/wt</sup> targeted allele, and digested with Apa I or Afl II, respectively. Southern blots were performed using a radiolabeled probe to confirm the integration of 3' and 5' homology arms. The

expected band sizes of the WT allele and targeted allele after restriction digestion by Apa I are 33.5 Kb and 12407 bp, respectively. The expected band sizes of the WT allele and targeted allele after restriction digestion by Afl II are 3 Kb and 13700 bp, respectively. Genomic DNA from WT mice was used as a control. The sequences of primers used to genotype mice carrying the Neo-deleted allele are listed below the blot.

**Supplementary Figure 11. STING<sup>KO</sup> B cells, plasmablasts and plasma cells displayed increased levels of the BCR on their surface.** (A-B) Freshly purified B cells from STING<sup>WT</sup> and B cell-specific STING<sup>KO</sup> mice were starved in cysteine- and methionine-free media for 1 h, radiolabeled for 15 min, and chased for a course of 2 h. Lysates were immunoprecipitated with an anti- $\mu$  heavy chain antibody (A) or an anti-Ig $\beta$  antibody (B). Immunoprecipitated proteins were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. The asterisk denotes endo-H-resistant complex glycans. CHO and CHO\* indicate high mannose-type glycans and complex-type glycans, respectively. (C) Densitometric quantitation of radiolabeled  $\mu$  chains and Ig $\beta$  at the 120-min time point in panels A and B was achieved using Phosphorimaging. (D) Freshly purified B cells from CD19Cre and B cell-specific STING<sup>KO</sup> (CD19Cre/STING<sup>flox/flox</sup>) mice were stimulated with LPS (20  $\mu$ g/mL) for a course of 3 days. Each day, cells were surface stained with B220-BV605 and IgM-PE-Cy7. Gated B220+ populations were analyzed for the expression of IgM. This experiment is independent of that performed for quantification presented in Fig. 7A. (E) CD19Cre and B cell-specific STING<sup>KO</sup> mice were intraperitoneally immunized with TNP-Ficoll on Day 0. On Day 9, bone marrow cells from immunized mice were stained with B220-Alexa 488, CD138-PE and Ig $\beta$ -APC. Gated B220-/CD138+ plasma cells were analyzed for the expression of Ig $\beta$ .

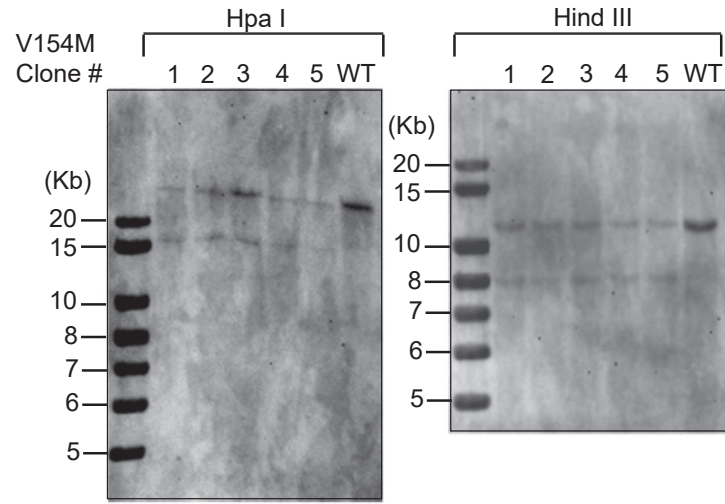
**Supplementary Figure 12. LPS-stimulated plasmablasts from B cell-specific STING<sup>KO</sup> mice exhibited significantly increased BCR signaling upon activation; in addition, B cell-specific STING<sup>KO</sup> mice and their WT littermates exhibited similar basal levels of anti-TNP IgM and IgG3 in the blood.** (A) 1-day LPS-stimulated and (B) 2-day LPS-stimulated plasmablasts from STING<sup>WT</sup> and

STING<sup>KO</sup> mice were stimulated with goat anti-mouse IgM F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (20 µg/mL) for indicated times, and lysed for immunoblot analyses. (C-D) Serum levels of anti-TNP IgM (C) and IgG3 (D) in unimmunized STING<sup>WT</sup> (n=9) and B cell-specific STING<sup>KO</sup> (n=6) mice were determined by ELISA.

**Supplementary Figure 13. Purification of CLL cells from spleens of CLL-bearing STING<sup>WT</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 and STING<sup>KO</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 mice; in addition, STING<sup>KO</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 CLL cells expressed higher levels of IgM and Igβ than STING<sup>WT</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 CLL cells on their surface.** (A) Splenocytes from STING<sup>WT</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 and STING<sup>KO</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 mice were treated with RBC lysis buffer. Some cells were subjected to purification of CD19+B220<sup>low</sup>CD5+ CLL cells using Pan B cell isolation kit (Miltenyi Biotec). Cells before and after purification were stained with CD3-BV605, CD19-APC-Cy7, B220-Alexa 488 and CD5-APC. Gated CD3-/CD19+ B cell populations were analyzed for B220<sup>high</sup>/CD5- precancerous B cell populations and B220<sup>low</sup>CD5+ CLL populations. (B) Spleen cells from STING<sup>WT</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 and STING<sup>KO</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 mice were surface stained with CD19-APC-Cy7, IgM-Alexa 568, B220-Alexa 488 and CD5-APC. Gated CD19+ B cell populations were analyzed for B220<sup>low</sup>CD5+ CLL populations. Gated CLL populations were analyzed for the expression of IgM. (C) Spleen cells from STING<sup>WT</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 and STING<sup>KO</sup>/Eµ-TCL1 mice were surface stained with CD19-APC-Cy7, Igβ-FITC, B220-BV605 and CD5-APC. Gated CD19+ B cell populations were analyzed for B220<sup>low</sup>CD5+ CLL populations. Gated CLL populations were analyzed for the expression of Igβ.



Figure S1



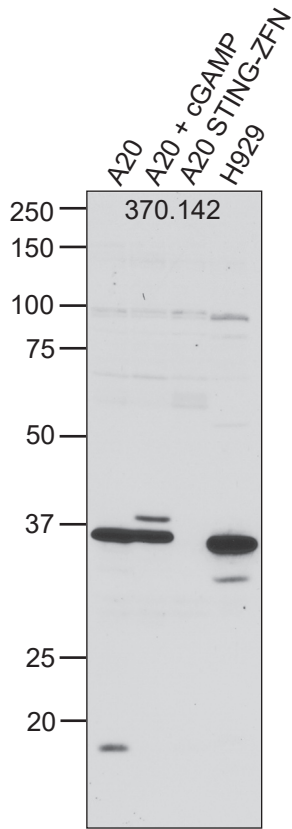
Genotyping primers:

Forward: 5'-ACA ACT TTG CTT CTA TAG GTA TCT CGC-3'

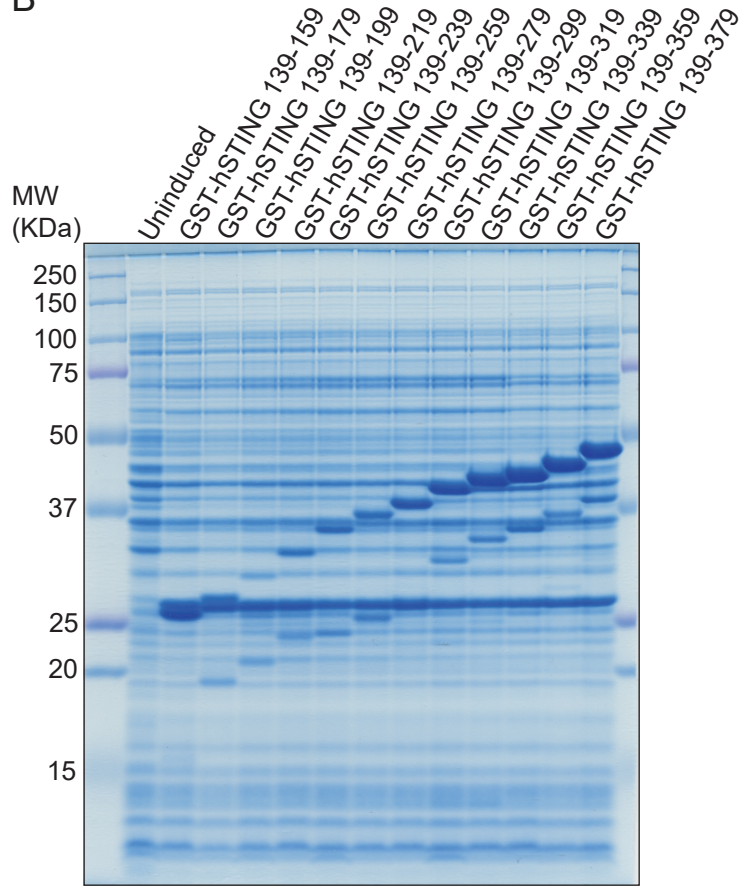
Reverse: 5'-ATG AGT TCC CCA GCA GAG TGG-3'

Figure S2

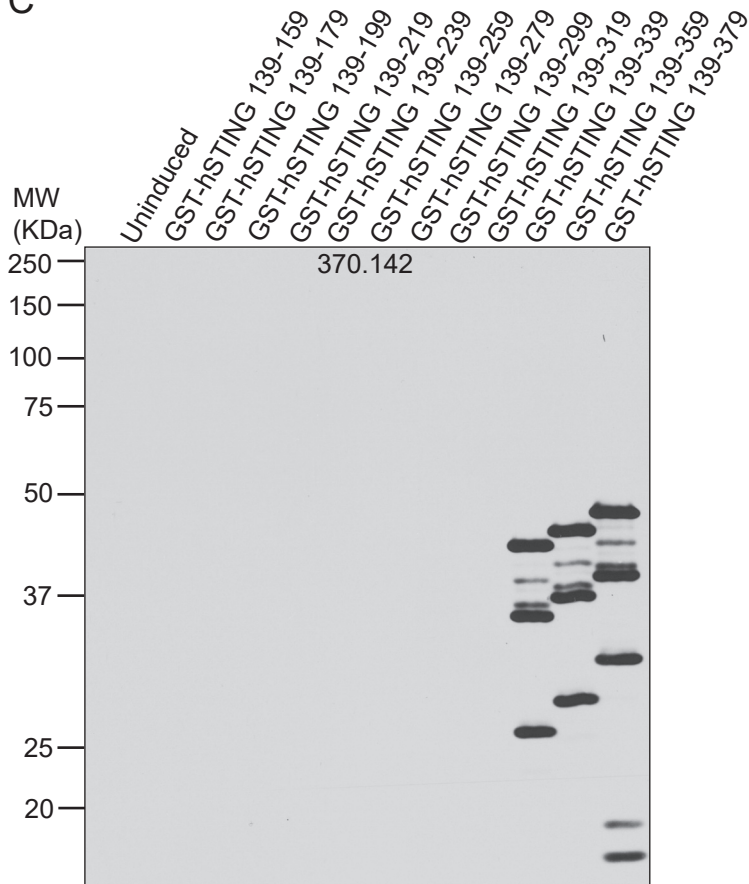
A



B



C



D

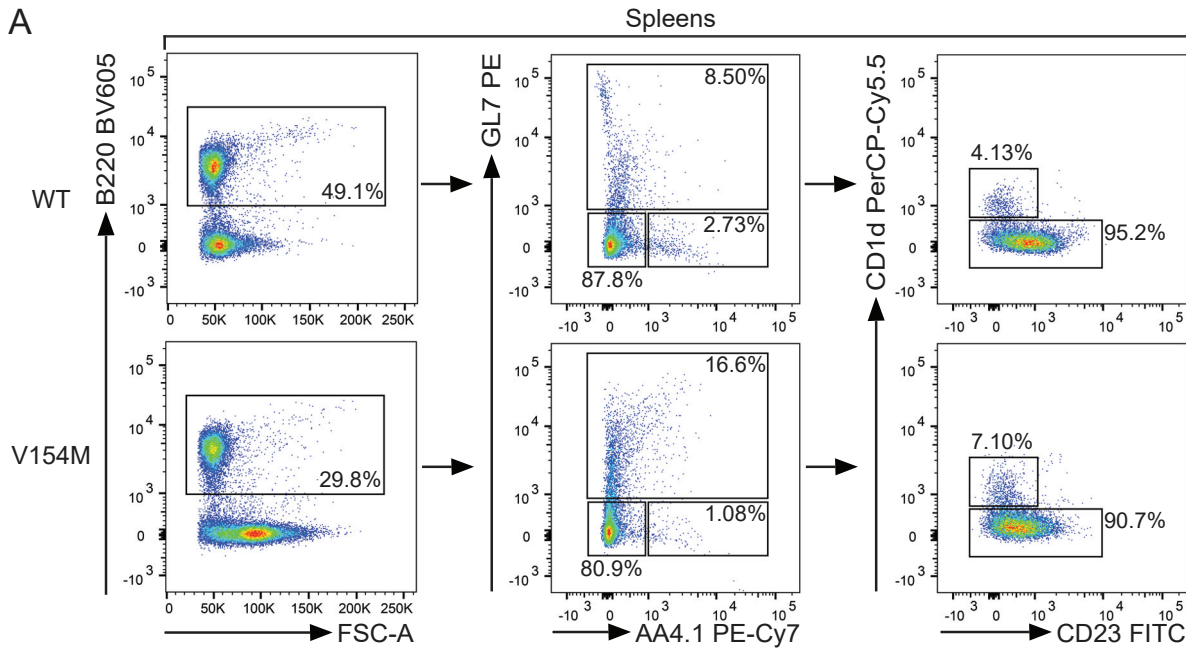
Human STING epitope sequence  
 319-DDS**SF**SL**SQ**EVLRH**L**RQEEKE-339  
 Mouse STING epitope sequence  
 318-DGNS**SF**SL**SQ**EVLRH**I**RQEEKE-338

E

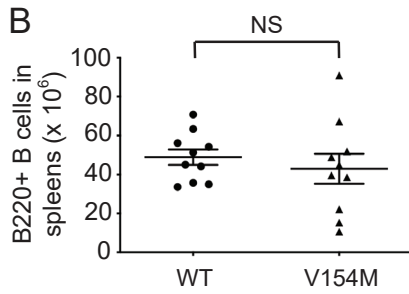
Phospho-peptide sequence  
 (for immunization and positive affinity purification):  
 Cys-EP**R**LLI(pS)GMDQPLP  
 Backbone peptide sequence  
 (for negative affinity purification):  
 Cys-EP**R**LLISGMDQPLP

Figure S3

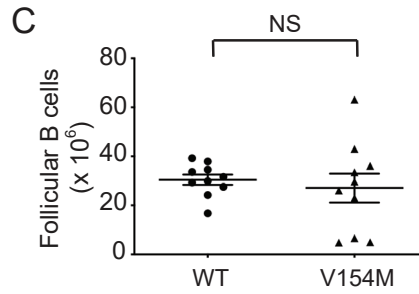
A



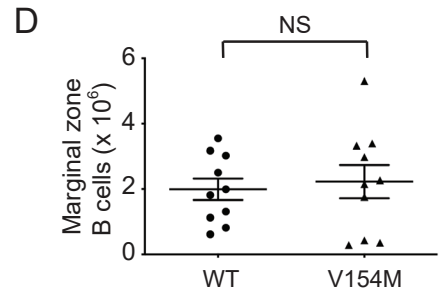
B



C



D



E

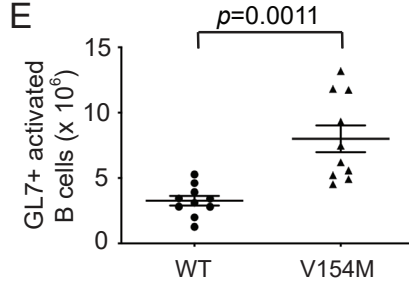
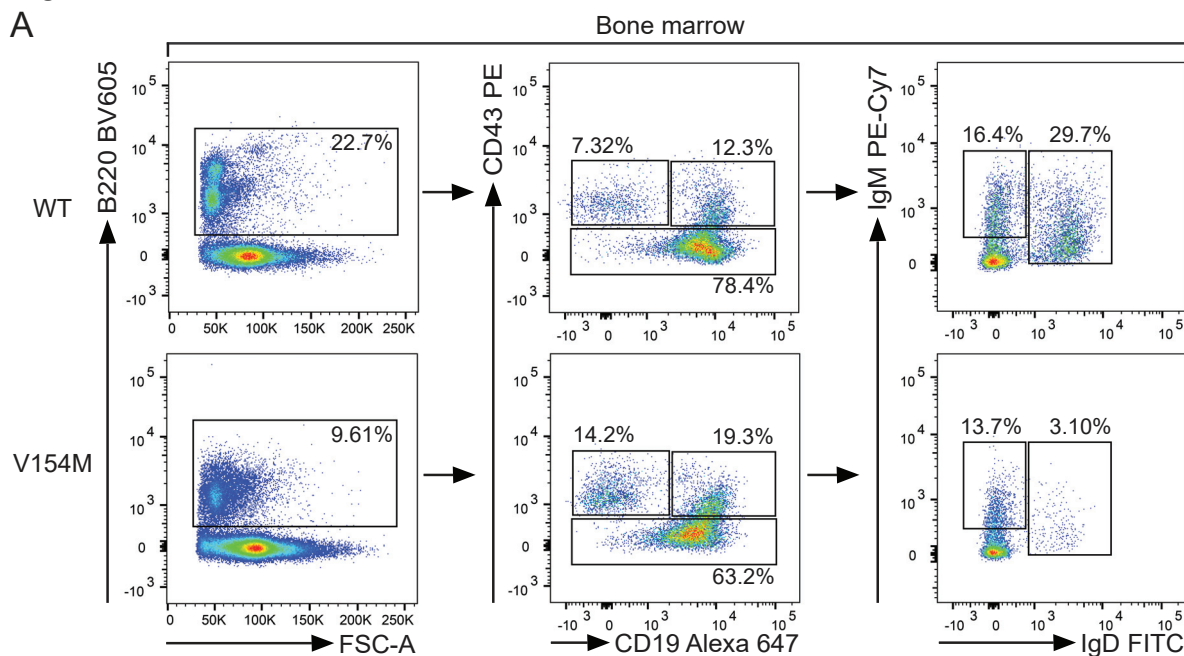
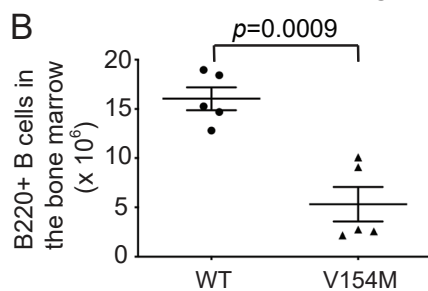


Figure S4

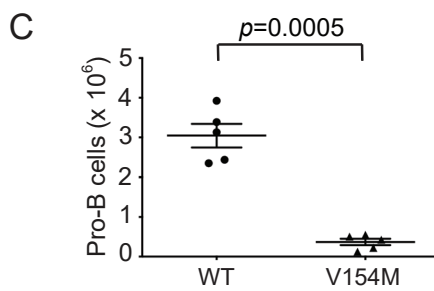
A



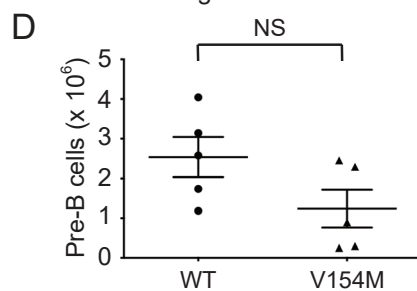
B



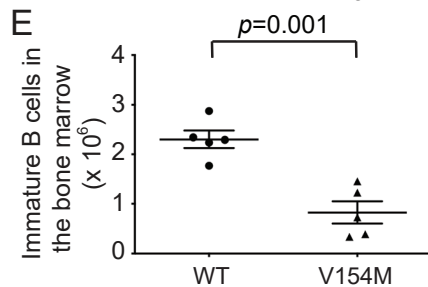
C



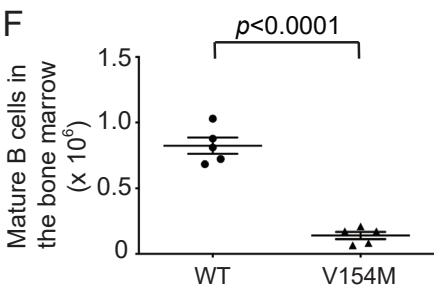
D



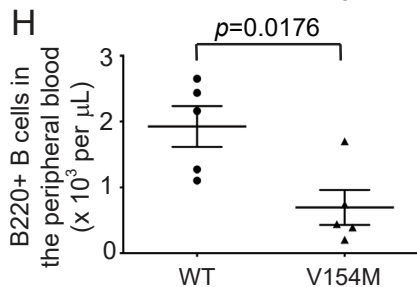
E



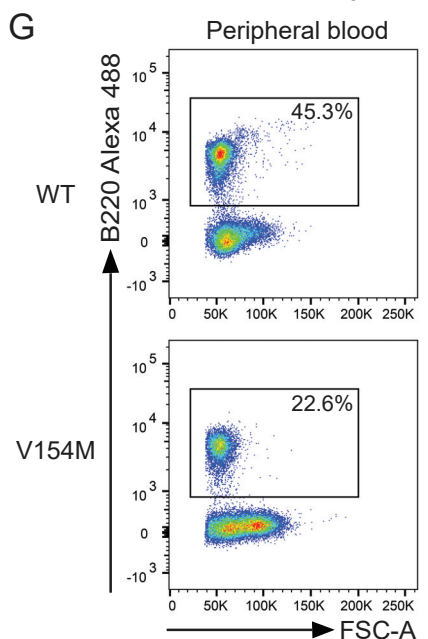
F



H



G



I

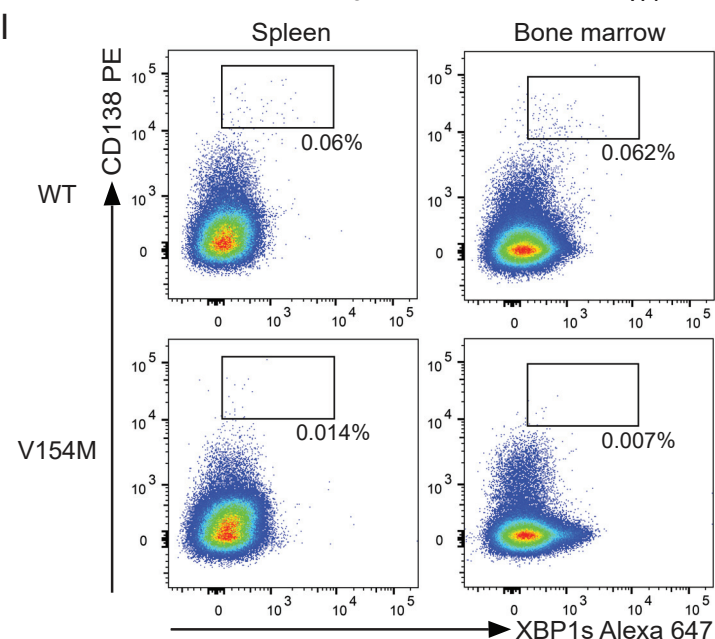


Figure S5

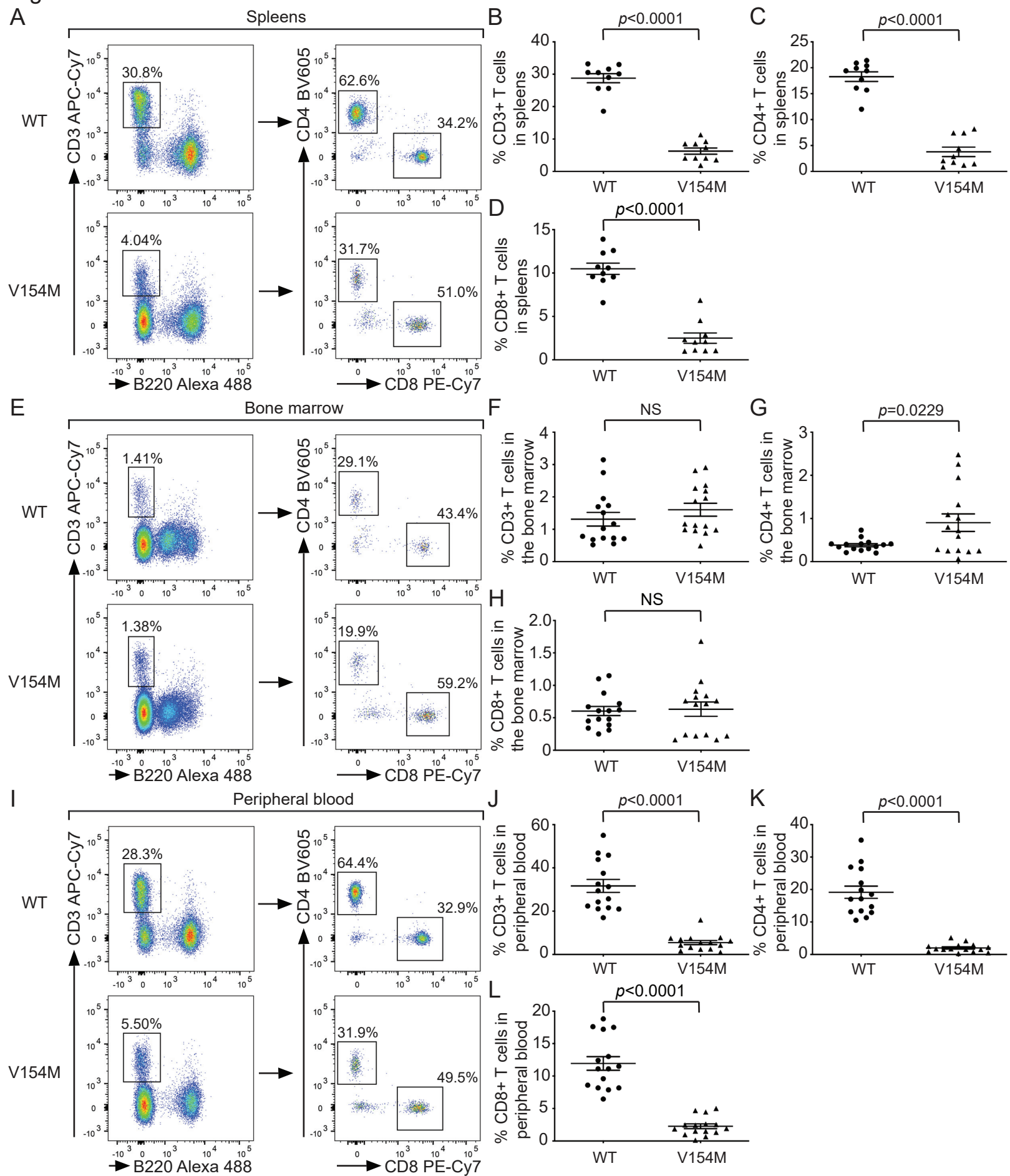




Figure S6

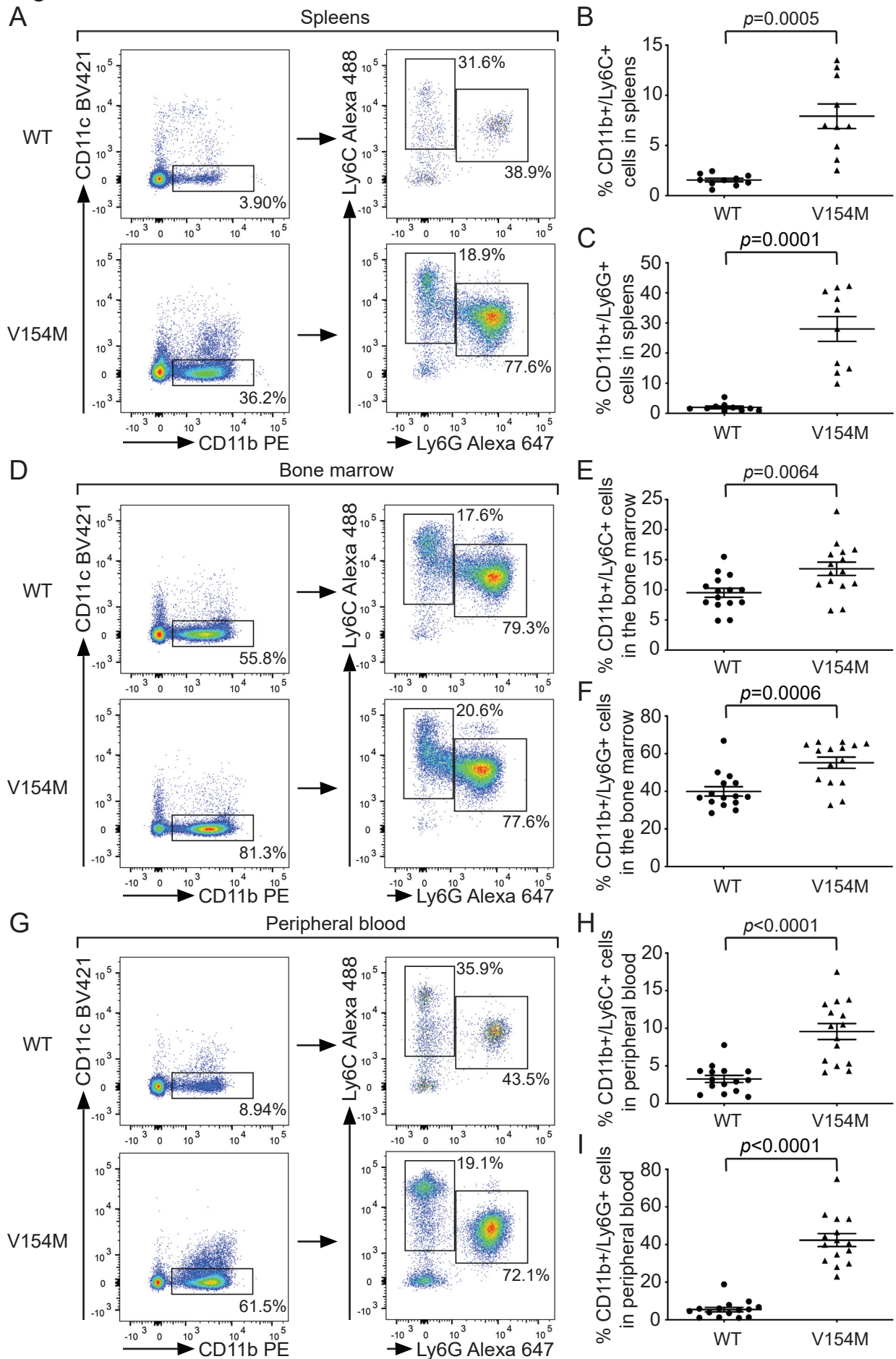


Figure S7

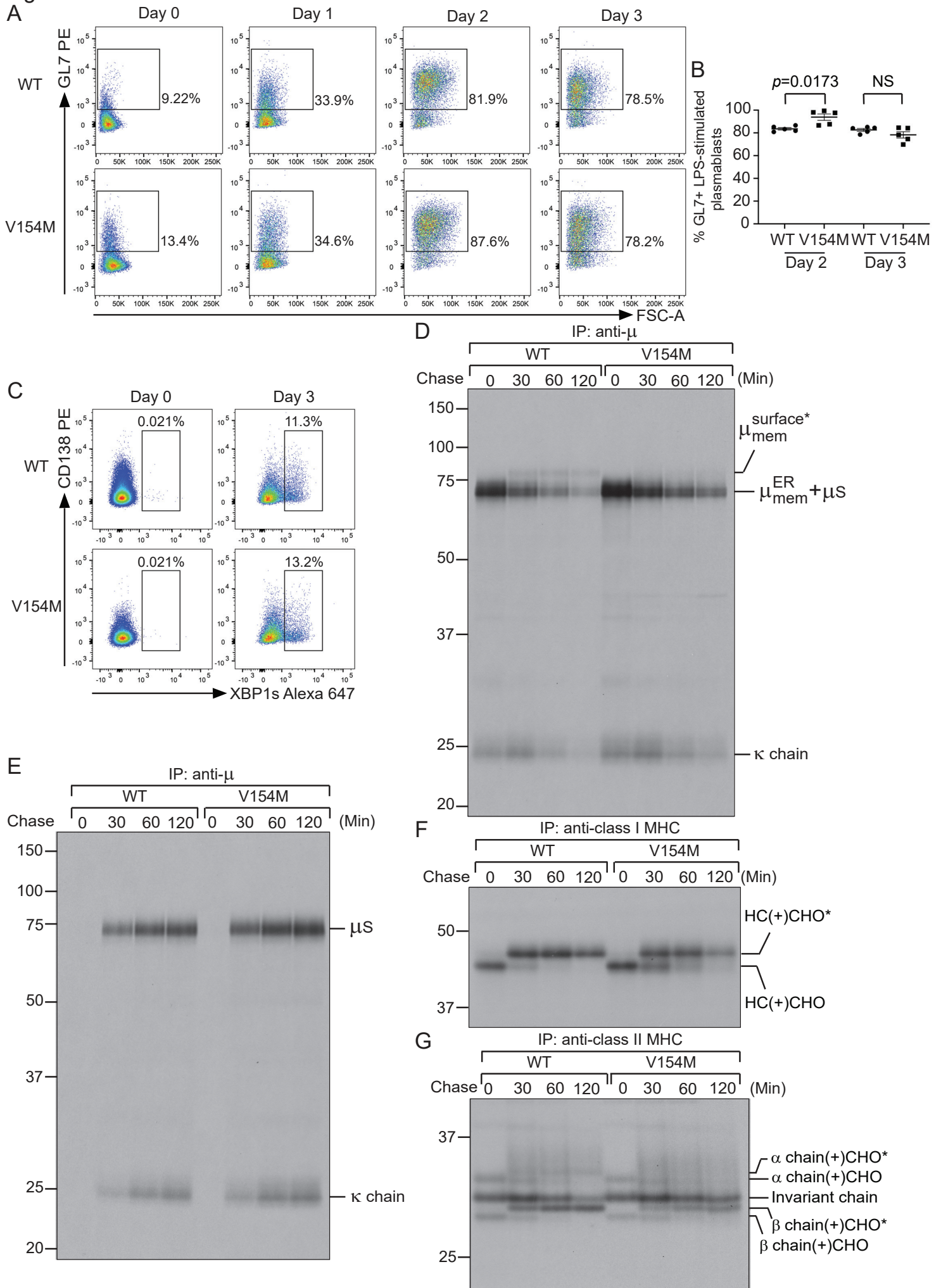


Figure S8

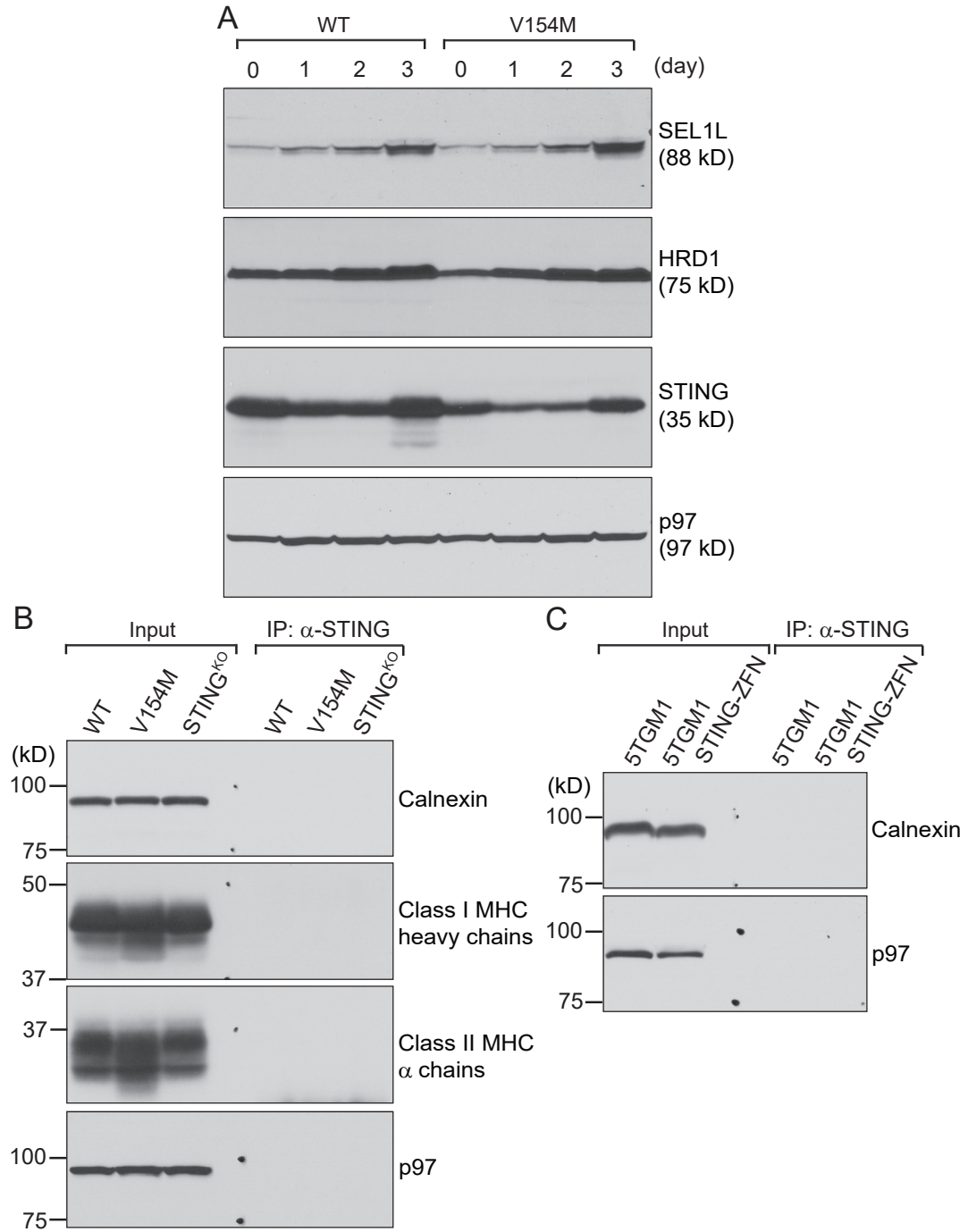




Figure S9

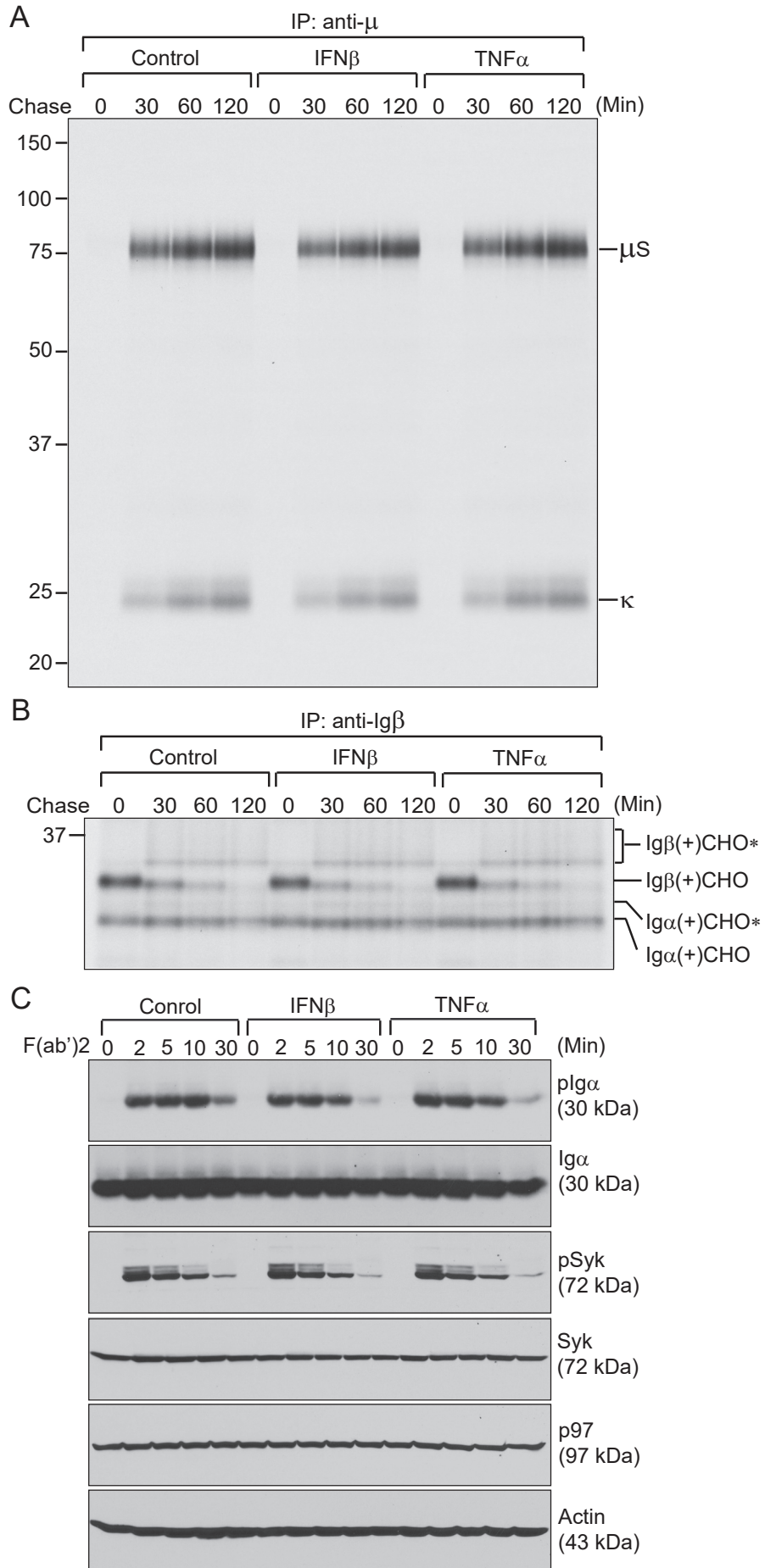
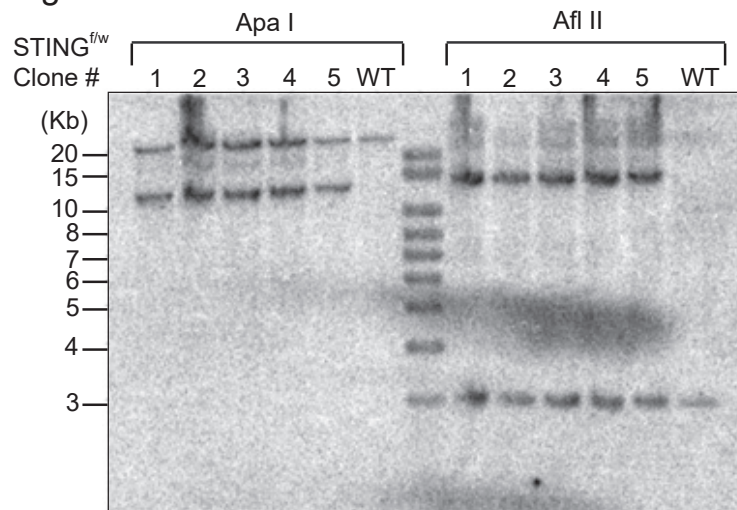


Figure S10



Genotyping primers:

Forward: 5'-CAC AGC TTT GCC GTA CTT ATT TTG C-3'

Reverse: 5'-TGC CTC AAA GAT CAC ACC CTT CAC-3'

Figure S11

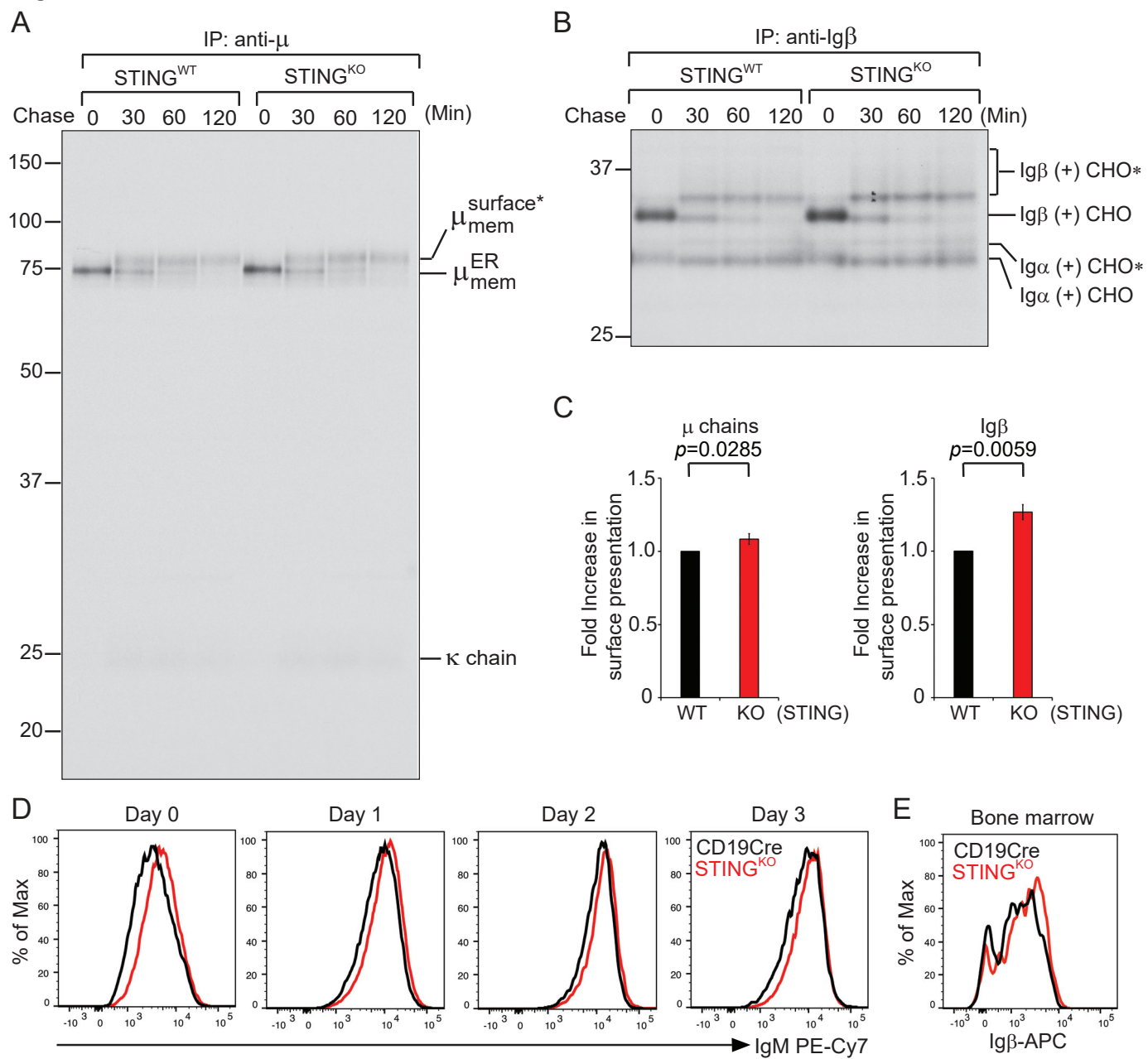


Figure S12

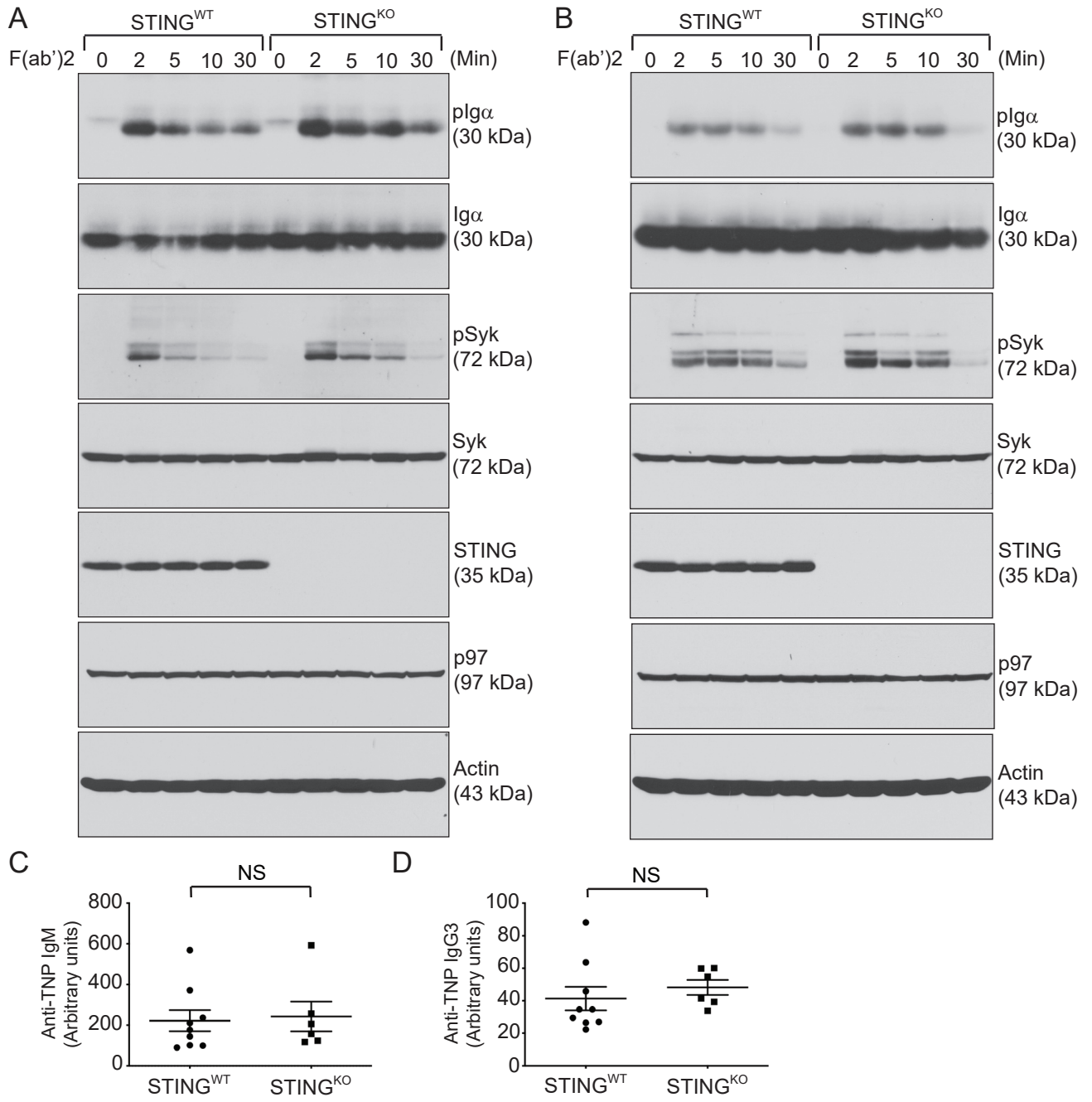
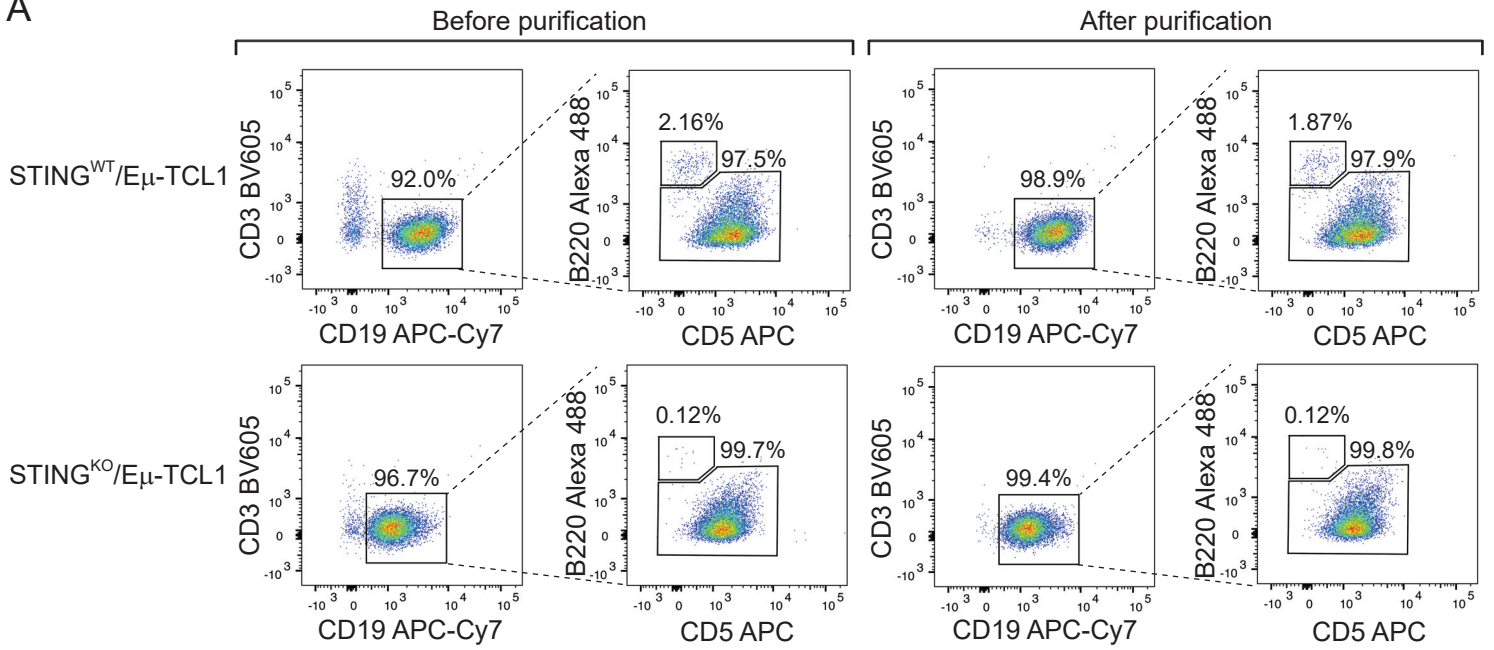
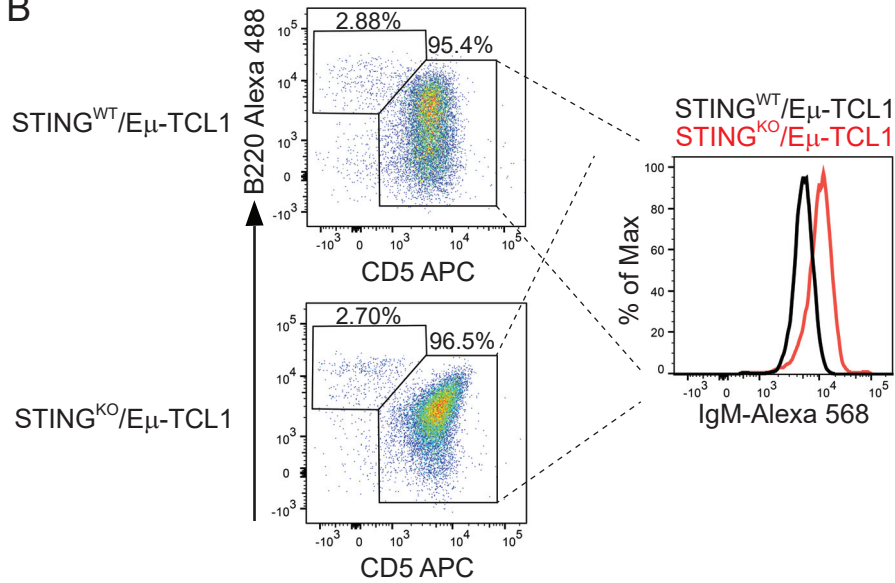


Figure S13

A



B



C

