Additional file 1

CD4+ effector T cells accelerate Alzheimer's disease in mice

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Tetramer BV421

b

Fig. S1. Development of monoclonal Aβ-Th1 and Aβ-Th17 cells. (a) Workflow showing development of antigen-specific T cells. Non-Tg mice immunized with $A\beta_{1-42}$ followed by isolation of CD4+ T cells from spleen and lymph nodes. In vitro culture of CD4+ T cells in the presence of feeder cells and $A\beta_{1-42}$ for enrichment of antigen-rich population. Growth pattern of CD4+ T cells over in vitro incubation where cells growth declined for a several weeks followed by increased cell number without compromising CD4+ T cell purity (shown as % of CD3+ cells). Limiting dilution culture to seed as low as 1 cell per well in presence of feeder cells, $A\beta_{1-42}$, and IL2 to obtain Aβ-Th1 cell clone. Aβ-Th1 cells polarized into $A\beta$ -Th17 cells using conditional culture media in presence of feeder cells and $A\beta_{1-42}$. (b) Staining of three-month propagated $A\beta$ -Th1 and $A\beta$ -Th17 cells with two concentrations of MHCII-IA^b-KLVFFAEDVGSNKGA (Aβ T cell epitope) tetramer after incubation at 37 °C for 3 hr. Control tetramer MHCII-IA^b-PVSKMRMATPLLMQA (Ctrl) was used to determine non-specific binding of T cells.



Fig. S2. Modelling and explicit solvent molecular dynamics simulations. (a) (i) TCRpMHC complex with surface interactions (post MD production); (ii) Ramachandran plot for the optimized and energetically stabilized model; (iii) RMSD plot for the TCR-pMHC complex for 100 ns MD simulation; (iv) RMSF for complete TCR-pMHC complex over the period of 100 ns MD simulation. (b) (i) pMHC complex from the modelled complex; RMSF for the (ii) MHCa chain and (iii) MHC β chain. (c) (i) TCR complex; (ii) RMSF of TCRa chain and (iii) TCR β chain from the complex. (iv) Close-up of the Fab (fragment antigen binding) and (v) the Fc (fragment crystallizable) regions.



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Fig. S3. Adoptive transfer of Aβ-Teffs did not affect T cell frequency in APP/PS1 mice. Frequency of CD3+CD4+ and CD3+CD8+ T cells in blood, spleen and lymph nodes by flow cytometric analysis for n=6 mice per group. One-way ANOVA followed by Newman–Keuls post-hoc test was used to determine statistical significance.



Fig. S4. Transcriptomic analysis of immune genes. Gene expression of different innate and adaptive immune genes from the hippocampus of each treatment group were assessed in Qiagen RT^2 -PCR arrays. Genes less affected and not covered in Fig. 5c are summarized here. (left) Gene expression in different APP/PS1 mice compared to non-Tg mice. (right) Gene expression in APP/PS1/A β -Th1 and APP/PS1/A β -Th17 mice compared to untreated APP/PS1 mice for n=4 mice per group. Fold changes in different innate and adaptive immune genes are presented as heat maps.



Fig. S5. Western blot images. Full blot image of iNOS, arginase-1, synaptophysin, PSD95, 6E10, 22C11 and β -actin protein expression determined from cortical tissues of each treatment group.