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# NLRP6 Inflammasome Orchestrates the Colonic Host-Microbial Interface by Regulating Goblet Cell Mucus Secretion

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#### **Experimental model**

#### *Citrobacter rodentium* infection:

Mice were orally gavaged with  $100\mu$ l of an overnight culture of LB containing approximately  $10^9$  CFU of a kanamycin-resistant, luciferase-expressing derivative of *C. rodentium* DBS100 (ICC180).

Analysed at 9 (imaging)-15 days p.i.: mainly in distal colon.

## **NLRP6 Protects from Enhanced Enteric Infection**



This phenotype is not due to: decreased production of

proinflammatory cytokines in the colon or spleen (MCP-1, IL-6, TNFa, IFNg),

C. rodentium-specific antibody profile (IgA, IgG),

impaired signaling through the IL-22 pathway and its related downstream antimicrobial peptides (Reg3b and Reg3g), Colonic IL-1b and IL-18 mRNA levels,

Intestinal neutrophil and T cell numbers were reactively elevated in NIrp6-/- as compared to WT mice

# Inflammasome Signaling Is Required for Clearance of C. rodentium Infection





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#### **NLRP6 Is Expressed in Goblet Cells**



# NLRP6 Inflammasome Activity Is Required for Goblet Cell Function and Protection from C. rodentium Invasiveness



# NLRP6 Inflammasome Activity Is Required for Goblet Cell Function and Protection from C. rodentium Invasiveness



Fig.4

MUC2 TIR DAPI

MUC2 TIR DAPI

## Transmissible Colitogenic Gut Microbiota of NLRP6-Deficient Mice Is Not the Cause of Abnormal Goblet Cell Function and Mucus Secretion







WT singly-housed



ASC-/-(WT)











Ε

# Goblet Cell Function and Mucus Secretion Are Independent of Signaling through IL-1R and IL-18







#### NLRP6 Inflammasome Is Required for Mucus Granule Exocytosis



10.0 kV 2.0 392x

Same in ASC-/- and caspase-1/11-/- mice (fig.S4)

Acc.∨ Spot Magn 10.0 kV 2.0 508x Det WD SE 21.0

## NLRP6 Is Required for Autophagosome Formation in the Intestinal Epithelium



Fig.6

# Autophagy Is Required for Goblet Cell Function and Mucus Secretion in the Intestine



# Conclusion



# Segmented Filamentous Bacteria Antigens Presented by Intestinal Dendritic Cells Drive Mucosal Th17 Cell Differentiation

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## **Experimental model**

SFB colonization:

Comparison of SFB+ mice (Taconic) and SFB- mice (Jackson)

or

oral gavage with fecal pellets from SFB-monocolonized mice or with fecal pellets from SFBnegative Jackson B6 mice colonized with feces from SFB-monocolonized mice. Control mice: gavaged with fecal pellets from SFB- negative littermates.

Analysis: 2–3 weeks after colonization, in sI LP.

# Induction of Intestinal Th17 Cells by SFB Requires MHCII Expression in the Periphery



WT CD45.1+ CD4 T cells transferred into WT CD45.2 mice before or 12 days after SFB colonization.

в



**E** SFB-positive recipients





Fig.1

# SFB-Induced Intestinal Th17 Cells Preferentially Respond to SFB Antigens



Proliferation response (d3) of sorted SI LP TCRb+CD4+ cells from SFB-negative (Jax) and SFB-positive (Tac) WT B6 mice to SFB.

Ec, E. coli, Cp, Clostridium perfringens; MIB, mouse intestinal bacteria (cultured isolates from feces of SFB-negative (Jackson) mice); "-" = no antigen.



SI LP TCRb+CD4+ cells were purified from SFB-negative (No SFB) and SFB-positive (SFB+) WT mice and cocultured with SFB antigens and WT or IAb/ DCs.

# SFB-Induced Intestinal Th17 Cells Preferentially Respond to SFB Antigens



## Most Intestinal SFB-Induced Th17 Cells Recognize SFB

T cell hybridomas generated from SI LP GFP+ (Th17) and GFP (non-Th17) CD4 T cells from SFB-positive II17GFP mice.



# DC Expression of MHCII Is Necessary and Sufficient for SFB-Mediated Th17 Cell Induction



2 weeks after SFB colonization

# **DC Expression of MHCII Is Necessary and Sufficient for SFB-Mediated Th17 Cell Induction**



(No alteration in the level of Th17 polarizing cytokines: IL-17, IL-6, TGFb, IL-21, IL-12p19, IL-1b in terminal ileum, 2 weeks post-SFB-colonisation) Fig.4 22

## RORgt+ ILCs but not IECs Inhibit Differentiation of SFB-Independent Intestinal Th17 Cells through MHCII





D



## Priming and Induction of Th17 Cells by SFB Occur in the Small Intestine

Transfer of CD45.2+ CD4-VioletCellTrace+ T cells from II17GFP mice into WT CD45.1+ recipients



## SFB Induce Th17 Cells in the Absence of Secondary Lymphoid Organs

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# Conclusion

