

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

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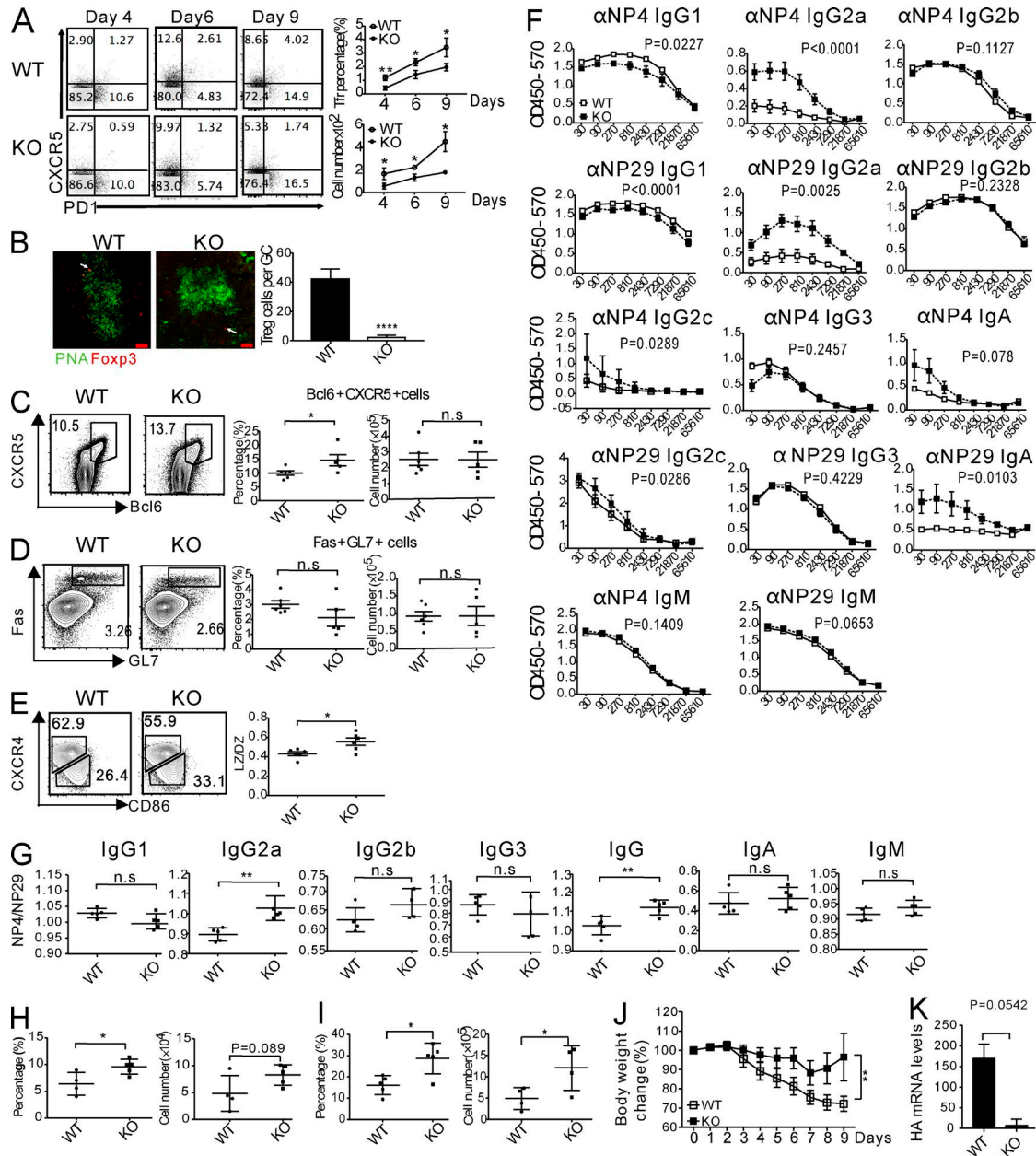


Figure S1. Defects in Tfr cells do not greatly affect Tfh and GC B cell populations in primary immune response. (A) Both WT and KO mice were immunized s.c. with KLH in CFA. FACS staining (left), frequency quantification (right, top row), and cell number (right, bottom row) analysis of CXCR5⁺PD1⁺ Tfr cells in CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ cells was performed by flow cytometry at various time points after immunization. *n* = 3 per group. (B) Cryosections of dLNs from the 9-d KLH-immunized mice were stained with PNA and anti-Foxp3 to identify Foxp3⁺ cells in the GC. Total number of Foxp3⁺ Treg cells in the GC was analyzed by confocal microscopy. Bars, 50 μ m. *n* = 3 per group. (C–F) Control and KO mice were immunized with NP-KLH by s.c. injection. FACS staining (left), frequency quantification (middle), and cell number (right) analysis were performed on CXCR5⁺Bcl6⁺ Tfh cells (C) in CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ and GL7⁺Fas⁺ GC B cells (D) in B220⁺ cells from dLNs obtained 9 d after s.c. immunization with NP-KLH. *n* = 5–6 per group. (E) GC (B220⁺GL7⁺Fas⁺), LZ (CXCR4⁺CD86⁺), and DZ (CXCR4⁺CD86⁺) staining (left) and ratio analysis (right). *n* = 6. (F) Serum antigen-specific antibody was detected. *n* = 5 or 7 per group. 30 d after immunization, mice were given boosters with NP-KLH and IFA, and antibody affinity maturation (G) was analyzed on day 3 after challenge. (H and I) Frequency quantification (left) and cell number (right) analysis of GL7⁺Fas⁺ IgD⁺ CD38⁺ memory B cells in CD19⁺ B cells were done before (H) and on day 3 after (I) the secondary challenge. *n* = 4–5 per group. *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3Cre/Cre* were KO, and *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3WT/WT* mice from the *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3Cre/WTxBcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3WT* breeder were used as control. All data are a representative of two independent experiments. (J and K) Repeated results of influenza infection model using littermate *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3Cre/Cre* as control. (J) Body weights of control and Tfr KO mice were monitored daily after influenza virus infection. (K) Mice were sacrificed at day 9 after infection, and viral titers in the lungs were assessed by quantitative RT-PCR measurement of active HA gene expression. *n* = 4 or 5 per group. Data shown are mean \pm SEM; two-tailed *t* test; *p*-values in F and J were analyzed by two-way ANOVA; *, *P* < 0.05; **, *P* < 0.01; ***, *P* < 0.001; n.s., no significance.

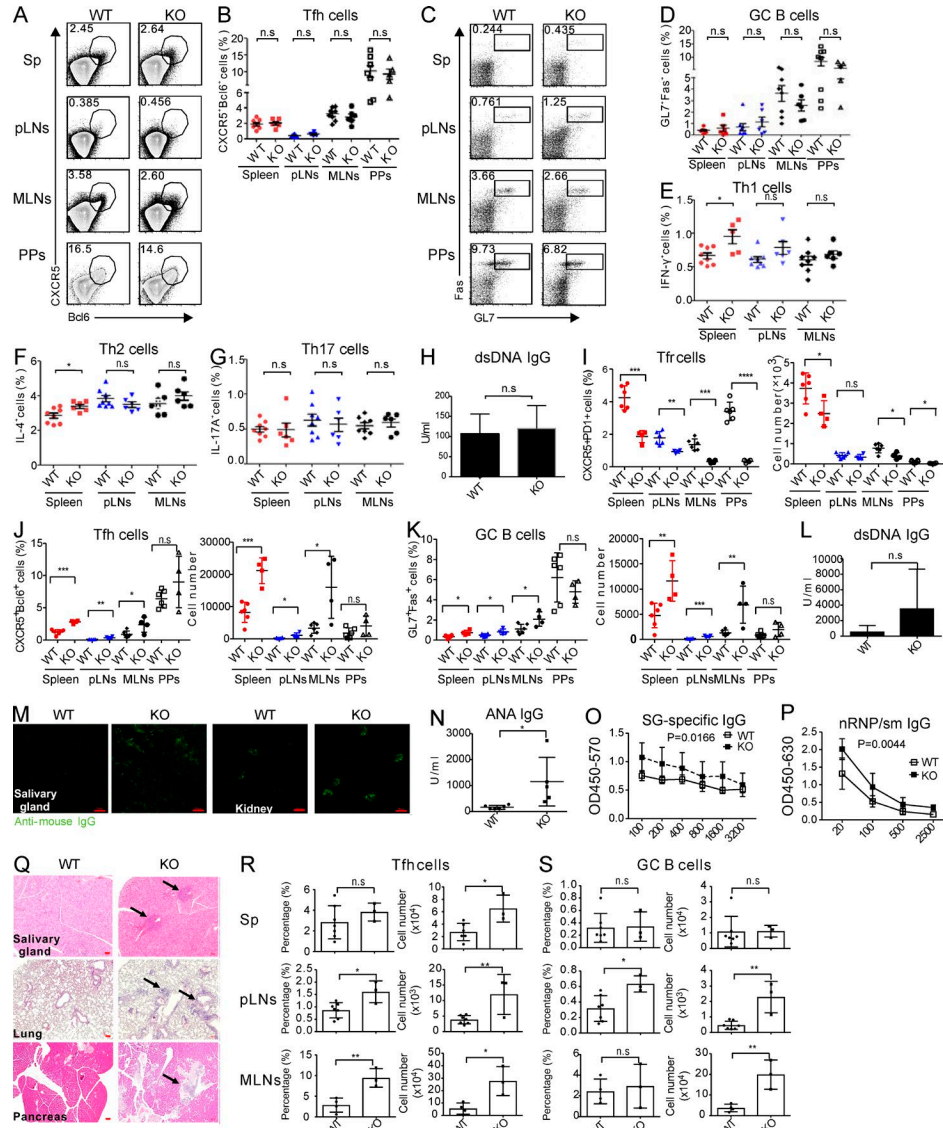


Figure S2. Young *Bcl6^{fl/fl} Foxp3Cre/Cre* mice did not show autoimmunity. (A) FACS staining of CXCR5⁺Bcl6⁺ Tfh cells among CD4⁺Foxp3⁻ cells in different organs of WT and KO mice. (B) Frequency quantification of Tfh cells in different organs of WT and KO mice. (C) FACS staining of GL7⁺Fas⁺ GC B cells among B220⁺ cells in different organs of WT and KO mice. (D) Frequency quantification of GC B cells in different organs of WT and KO mice. (E–H) After restimulation with PMA and ionomycin for 5 h, IFN-γ (E), IL-4 (F), and IL-17A (G) expression in CD4⁺ T cells from different organs was measured by flow cytometric analysis (H). Anti-dsDNA autoantibodies in the sera of WT and KO mice were measured by ELISA. All data are representative of two independent experiments. The mice used in A–H were 6–8-wk-old unmanipulated mice. *n* = 6–8 per group. (I) Flow cytometry quantification (top) and cell number (bottom) analysis of Bcl6⁺CXCR5⁺ Tfr cells in CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ T cells from different organs of WT and KO mice. (J) Flow cytometry quantification (left) and cell number (right) analysis of Bcl6⁺CXCR5⁺ Tfh cells in CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ T cells from different organs of WT and KO mice. (K) Frequency quantification (left) and cell number (right) analysis of GL7⁺Fas⁺ GC B cells in B220⁺ cells from different organs of WT and KO mice. *n* = 4 or 6 per group. (L) Anti-dsDNA autoantibodies in the sera of WT and KO mice were measured by ELISA. *n* = 4 or 6 per group. (M) Anti-IgG immunofluorescent staining of SG and kidney. Bars, 50 μm. *n* = 4 or 6 per group. The mice used in I–M were 12-wk-old unmanipulated mice. (N) Anti-ANA autoantibodies in the sera of WT and KO mice at 30 wk of age were measured by ELISA. *n* = 5 or 6 per group. (O) IgG autoantibodies against SG antigens in the sera of steady-state WT and KO mice were measured by ELISA. *n* = 5 or 11 per group. (P) Anti-nRNP/Sm autoantibodies in the sera of WT and KO mice were measured by ELISA. *n* = 6 per group. *Bcl6^{fl/fl} Foxp3Cre/Cre* were KO, and *Bcl6^{fl/fl} Foxp3WT/WT* mice from the *Bcl6^{fl/fl} Foxp3Cre/WTxBcl6^{fl/fl} Foxp3WT* breeder were used as control. (Q–S) Repeated data of the mice at 30 wk of age using littermate *Bcl6^{fl/fl} Foxp3Cre/WT* as control. (Q) Histopathology analysis of SG, lung, and pancreas from WT and KO mice at 30 wk of age. Black arrows indicate the immune cell infiltrates in KO mice. Bars, 100 μm. *n* = 3–7 per group. Flow cytometry quantitation (left) and cell number (right) analysis of CXCR5⁺Bcl6⁺ Tfh cells in CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ cells (R) and GL7⁺Fas⁺ GC B cells in B220⁺ cells (S) in different organs from the old steady-state control and KO mice. *n* = 3–7 per group. Sp, spleen; PPs, Peyer's patches. All experimental data were verified in at least two independent experiments. Data shown are mean ± SEM; two-tailed *t* test; *, *P* < 0.05; **, *P* < 0.01; ***, *P* < 0.001; n.s., no significance.

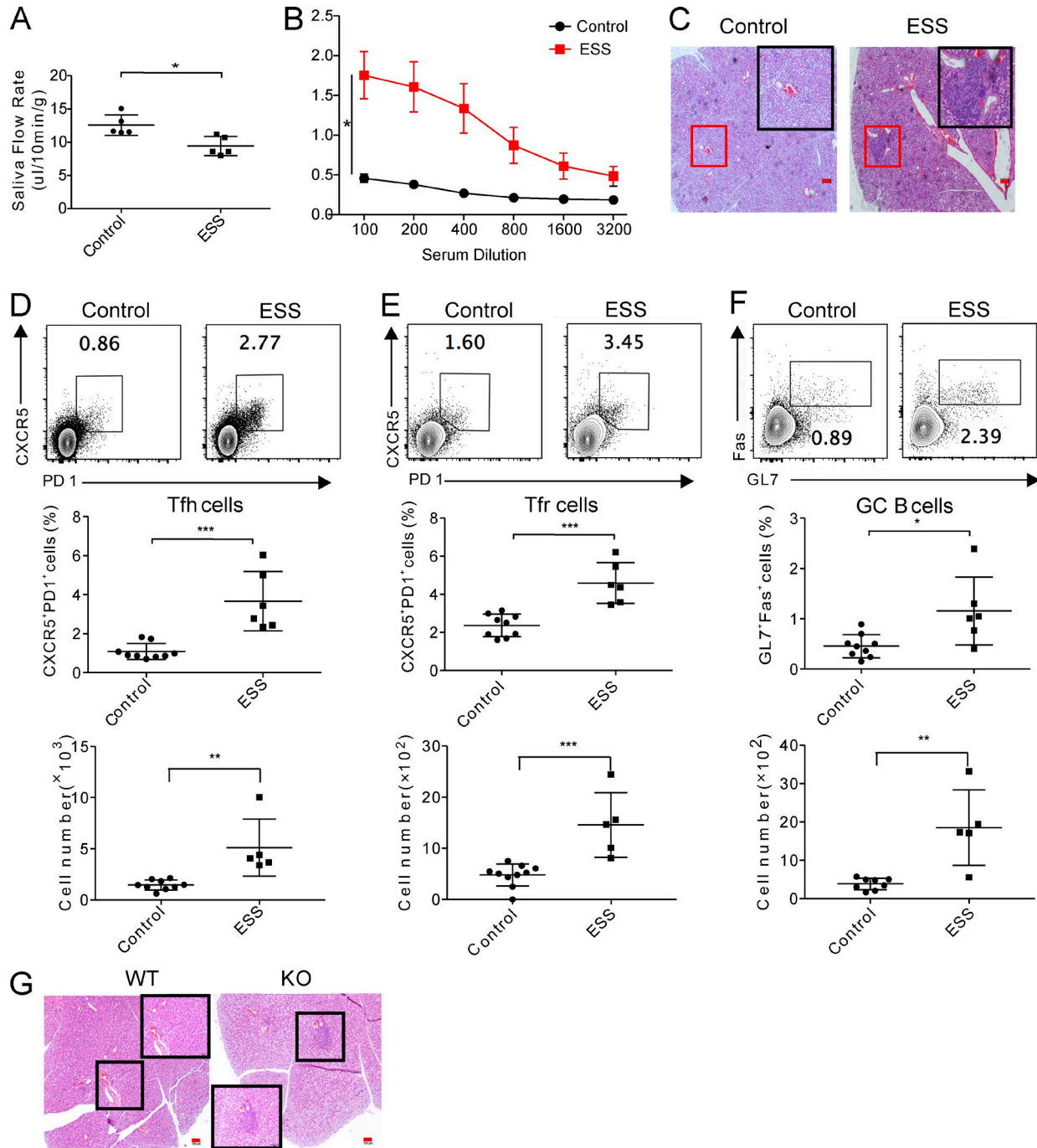


Figure S3. Tfh, Tfr, and GC B cells were all elevated in the ESS model. (A) Saliva flow rates were measured in SG protein-immunized mice for ESS induction (ESS) and control mice (control) immunized with adjuvant. Significant reduction in salivary secretion was detected in ESS mice on day 10 after immunization. $n = 5$ per group. (B) Autoantibodies against SG antigens were detected in the serum samples from ESS mice and controls 35 d after first immunization by ELISA. $n = 5$ per group. (C) Histological evaluation of glandular destruction in mice immunized with SG proteins for ESS induction and controls was performed on tissue sections of submandibular glands with H&E staining 15 wk after immunization. Bars, 100 μ m. (D–F) FACS staining (top row), frequency quantitation (middle row), and cell number (bottom row) analysis of CXCR5⁺PD1⁺ Tfh cells among CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ cells (D), CXCR5⁺PD1⁺ Tfr cells among CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ cells (E), and Fas⁺GL7⁺GC B cells among B220⁺ cells (F) in CLN at 15 wk after first immunization. $n = 6$ or 9 per group in C–F. All data are representative of two independent experiments; WT *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3^{WT/WT}* mice from the *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3^{Cre}/WTxBcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3^{WT}* breeder were used. (G) Repeated histological evaluation of glandular destruction in WT and KO mice 5 wk after ESS induction with H&E staining using littermate *Bcl6^{fl/fl}Foxp3^{Cre}/WT* as control. Bars, 100 μ m. WT, $n = 5$; KO, $n = 6$. Data shown are mean \pm SEM; two-tailed t test; p -values in B were analyzed by two-way ANOVA; *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.001$; n.s., no significance.