Supplemental Data

Aging imparts cell-autonomous dysfunction to regulatory T cells during recovery from influenza pneumonia

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Competing Interest Statement/Declaration of Interests

BDS has a pending patent application – US Patent App. 15/542,380, "Compositions and Methods to Accelerate Resolution of Acute Lung Inflammation." The other authors declare no competing interests.

Supplemental Figures



Supplemental Figure 1. Aged and young mice demonstrate similar lung inflammation during early influenza-induced lung injury. (A) Survival curve of young (2-4 months, n = 10) and aged (18-22 months, n = 10) wild-type mice compared using the log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test. (B) Weight loss percentage from baseline in young (2-4 months, n = 10) and aged (18-22 months, n = 10) mice compared using a mixed-effects model (REML) with Sidak's *post-hoc* multiple comparisons test. Data presented as mean \pm SEM. ns = not significant. (C) Flow cytometry quantitative analysis of total number of cells and (D) Total number of CD45⁺ cells from left lung during the naïve state and early acute injury from influenza infection. Data presented as mean \pm SD, one-way ANOVA with Holm-Sidak's *post-hoc* testing for multiple comparisons (C and D). ** p < 0.005, ns = not significant. n = 4-5 mice/group (young – naïve, aged – naïve, young – influenza and aged – influenza) for figures C and D.



Supplemental Figure 2. Sequential gating strategy used for flow cytometry analysis of type II alveolar epithelial (AT2s) cells and endothelial cells (ECs).



Supplemental Figure 3. Phenotypic characterization of the splenic Treg cell compartment and post-adoptive transfer engraftment efficiency. (A) Representative flow cytometry contour plot analysis of young and aged splenic Treg cells following magnetic bead isolation but prior to adoptive cell transfer. Treg cells (CD25^{hi}Foxp3⁺) were gated on single, live and CD4⁺ cells. (B) Representative flow cytometry contour plot phenotypic analysis of splenic central Treg (cTreg) cells and splenic effector Treg (eTreg) cells. Percentage of cTreg cells (CD62L^{hi}CD44^{lo}) and eTreg cells (CD62L^{lo}CD44^{hi}) of splenic Treg cells. n = 4 mice/group (young – naïve, aged – naïve, young – influenza and aged – influenza). (C) Quantification of engrafted splenic Treg cells in lung tissue 35 days post-influenza infection. n = 4 mice/group (aged CD45.2 into young CD45.1 and young CD45.1 into aged CD45.2). (D) Sequential gating strategy used for flow cytometry sorting of lung Treg cells following pre-sort enrichment for CD4⁺ T cells via magnetic bead separation. (E) MA plot demonstrating the gene expression profile of young and aged lung Treg cells. Canonical Treg cell signature genes of interest are annotated. n = 5 mice/group (young – influenza and aged – influenza). Data presented as mean ± SD, one-way ANOVA with Holm-Sidak's posthoc testing for multiple comparisons (B) or Mann-Whitney test (C). **** p < 0.0001, * p < 0.05, ns = not significant



Supplemental Figure 4. Young Treg cells from the lung share a greater commonality with reparative Treg cell subsets than aged Treg cells. (A) Representative contour plots and pairwise comparison of percentage (%) of CD4⁺Foxp3⁺ cells expressing ST2 (IL33R), IL18Ra or IL10. Data presented as mean \pm SD, Mann Whitney test. n = 4 mice/group (young – influenza and aged – influenza). (B) Venn diagram partitioning into upregulated genes in young Treg cells (761 genes), aged Treg cells (35 genes), IL10⁺ Treg cells (386 genes), young and aged Treg cells (112 genes), young and IL10⁺ Treg cells (164 genes), aged and IL10⁺ Treg cells (6 genes) and young, aged and IL10⁺ Treg cells (53 genes) (*Top panel*). Venn diagram partitioning into upregulated genes in young Treg cells (845 genes), aged Treg cells (36 genes), IL18Rα⁺ Treg cells (226 genes), young and aged Treg cells (140 genes), young and IL18Ra⁺ Treg cells (80 genes), aged and IL18Ra⁺ Treg cells (5 genes) and young, aged and IL18Ra⁺ Treg cells (25 genes) (Bottom panel). FDR qvalue < 0.05 and fold-change (FC) > 2. Top 10 gene ontology (GO) processes derived from genes in young and IL10⁺ Treg partition (*Top panel*), and young and IL18Ra⁺ Treg partition (*Bottom panel*) of the Venn diagram are annotated and ranked by $-\log_{10}$ -transformed FDR *q*-value. * *p* < 0.05, ns = not significant. n = 5 mice/group (young – influenza, aged – influenza, IL10⁺ - influenza and IL18R α^+ - influenza).



Supplemental Figure 5. Aging does not result in changes in the suppressive phenotype and capacity of Treg cells. (A) Representative flow cytometry histogram plots of Treg cell-associated activation and suppressive markers in lungs of young and aged mice analyzed at day 60 post-influenza infection. n = 4 mice/group (young – influenza, aged – influenza). (B) CellTrace violet (CTV) dilution and percent (%) proliferation in CD4⁺ T effector cells (Teff) co-cultured for 48 hours with varying ratios of Treg cells from young and aged animals. Data presented as mean \pm SD (B). n = 3 mice per group in technical triplicates except for technical duplicates for the 1:8 young condition Neither the pairwise comparisons of each marker's median fluorescence intensity (MFI) in (A) nor the intra-dilutional comparisons in (B) were statistically significant by the Mann-Whitney test.

Supplemental Tables

Antigen/Reagent	Conjugate	Clone	Company	Catalog
				number
CD25	PE	PC61.5	eBioscience	12-0251-82
CD25	APC	PC61.5	eBioscience	17-0251-82
Foxp3	PE-Cyanine 7	FJK-16s	eBioscience	25-5773-82
CD3ε	APC	17A2	eBioscience	17-0032-82
CD3ε	FITC	145-2C11	eBioscience	11-0031-82
CD62L	APC-eFluor 780	MEL-14	eBioscience	47-0621-82
CD4	BUV395	GK1.5	BD	563790
CD4	PerCP-Cyanine 5.5	GK1.5	Biolegend	100433
CD4	APC-e780	GK1.5	Biolegend	100411
CD44	BUV373	IM7	BD	612779
CD44	BV421	IM7	Biolegend	103039
Tigit	PerCP-eFluor 710	GIGD7	eBioscience	46-9501-82
CD69	FITC	H1 2F3	BD	553236
Helios	PE	22F6	eBioscience	12-9883-42
CD103	PE-CF594	M290	BD	565849
Gitr	APC	DTA-1	eBioscience	17-5874-81
Pd-1	PerCP-eFluor 710	J43	eBioscience	46-9985-82
Ox40	APC	OX-86	eBioscience	17-1341-82
Klrg1	BV711	2F1	BD	564014
Nrp1	PerCP-eFluor 710	3DS304M	eBioscience	46-3041-82
Icos	APC	C398.4A	eBioscience	17-9949-82
Tbet	PE	4B10	eBioscience	12-5825-82

Gata3	PerCP-eFluor 710	TWAJ	eBioscience	46-9966-42
Ctla-4	APC	UC10-4F10-11	Milipore	MABF545
Ror-γt	BV421	Q31-378	BD	562884
IL-17	PE	TC11-18H1	BD	561020
ΙFN-γ	PE-CF594	XMG1.2	BD	562303
IL-4	APC	11B11	BD	562045
IL-10	APC	JES5-16E3	Biolegend	505009
IL18Rα	PE	P3TUNYA	eBioscience	12-5183-82
IL-33R	PE	RMST2-2	eBioscience	12-9335-82
CD45	FITC	30.F11	Biolegend	103107
CD31	PE	MEC 13.3	BD	561073
Τ1α	PE-Cyanine 7	1.1(8.1.1)	BD	25-5381-82
CD326	BV421	G8.8	Biolegend	118225
MHCII	BUV395	2G9	BD	743876
Krt5	Unconjugated	Poly9059	Biolegend	905901
	Alexa Fluor 488 –		Invitrogen	A11039
	Secondary antibody			
FR4	PE-Cyanine 7	12A5	eBioscience	11-5445-82
Cell Trace Violet	BV421	N/A	eBioscience	C34571
Live-dead marker	eFluor 506	N/A	eBioscience	65-0866-14
Live-dead marker	Propidium iodide	N/A	eBioscience	BMS500PI

Supplemental Table 1. Flow cytometry reagents.