

Supplemental Information

A STING-Adjuvanted Outer Membrane Vesicle Nanoparticle Vaccine against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

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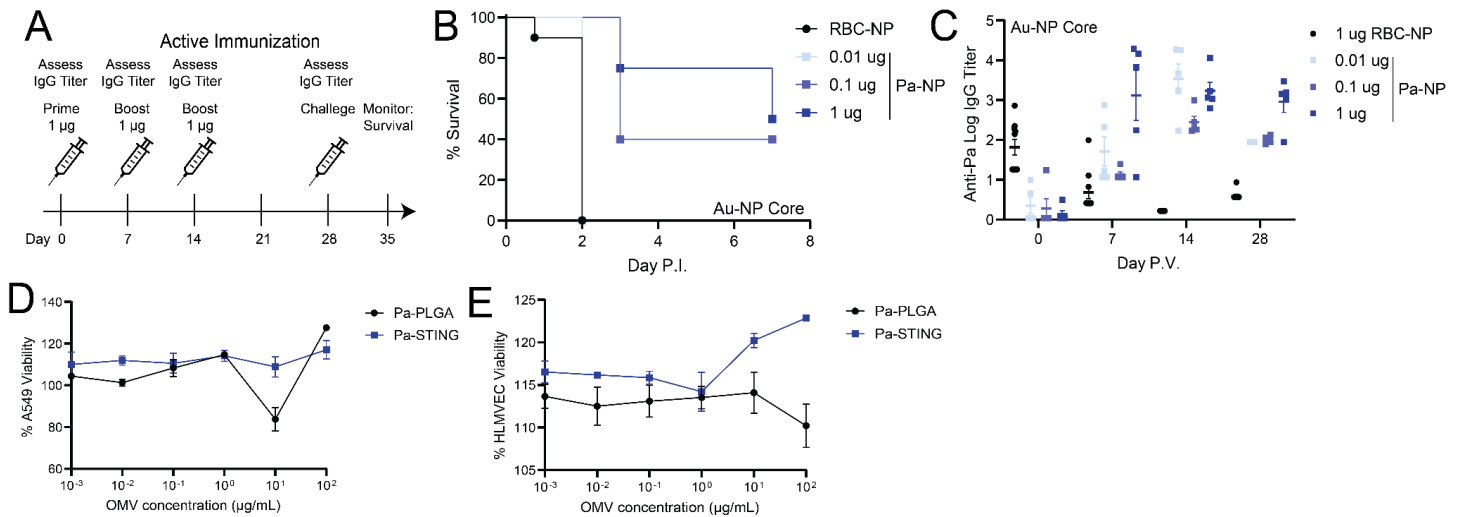
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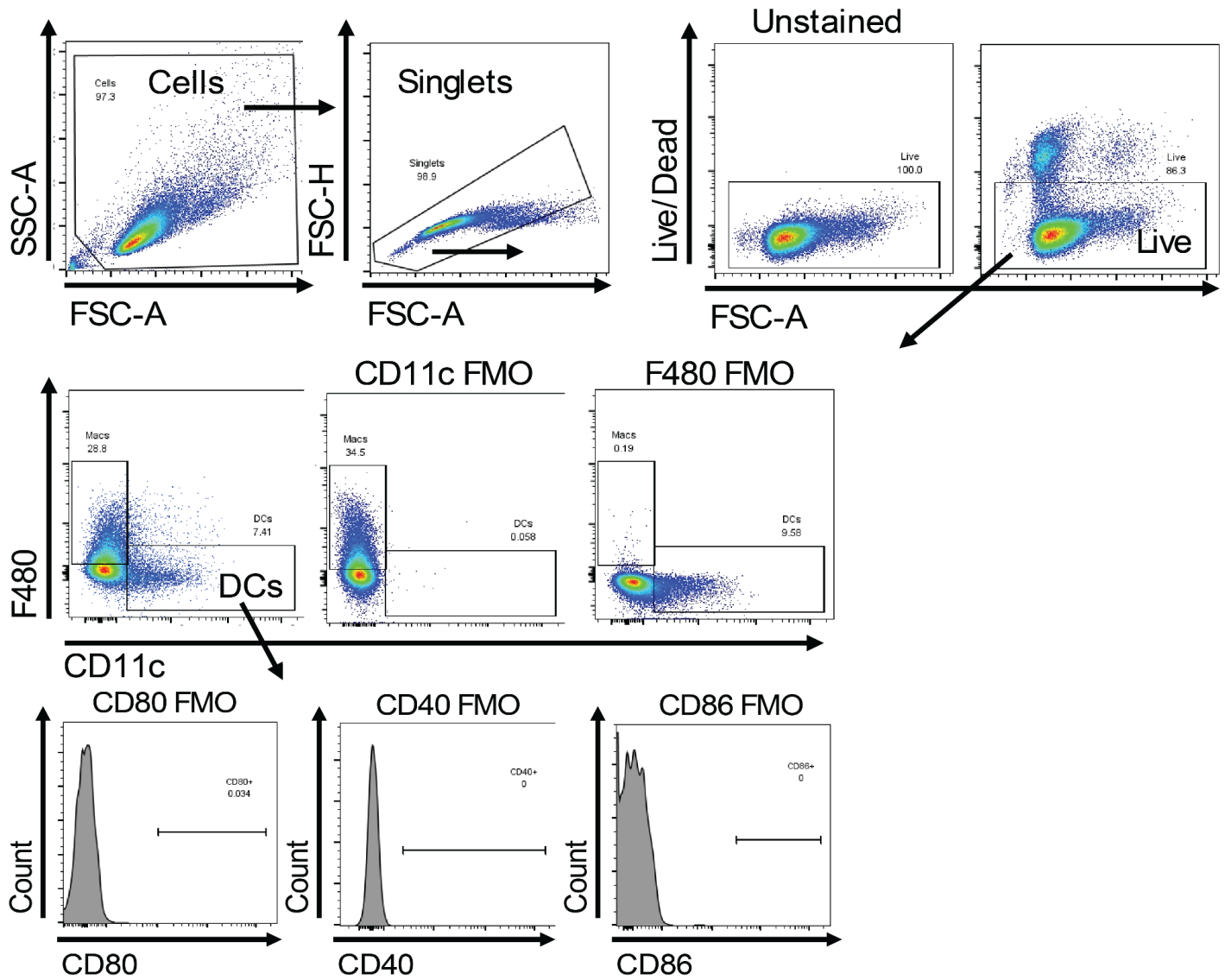
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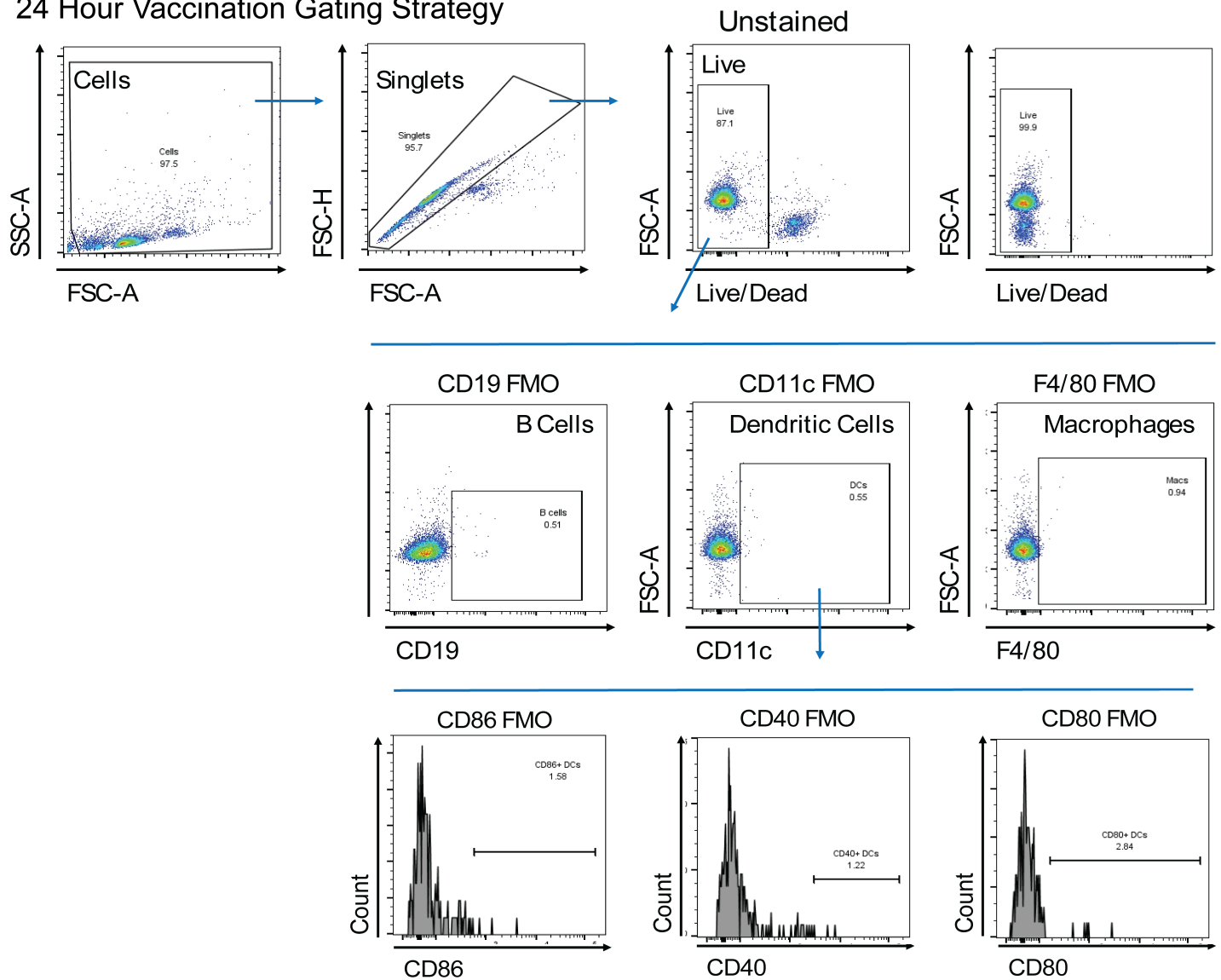


Supplemental Figure 1: Pa-NP vaccination with a gold core provides partial protection against lethal pneumonia. A) Active immunization scheme with RBC-NP and Pa-NP formulated with a gold core (Au-NP), Mice were immunized subcutaneously with 1 μ g RBC-NP or Pa-NP. B) Mortality curves in mice vaccinated with 1 μ g RBC-NP or Pa-NP and intratracheally infected with $\sim 1 \times 10^7$ CFUs PA14 pneumonia. Mice were monitored for mortality for seven days. C) Anti-Pa IgG titers from B). Titers were assessed by mandibular cheek bleeding and ELISAs on day 0, 7, 14, and 28. Means \pm SEM. n=5/group, representative of one experiment. D) % A549 or E) % human microvascular endothelial cell (HMVEC) viability after incubation with Pa-STING or Pa-PLGA particles for 48 hours. Cells were incubated with increasing concentrations of Pa-STING or Pa-PLGA particles and viability was measured by CytoTox 96 non-radioactive cytotoxicity assay. Representative of three independent experiments.

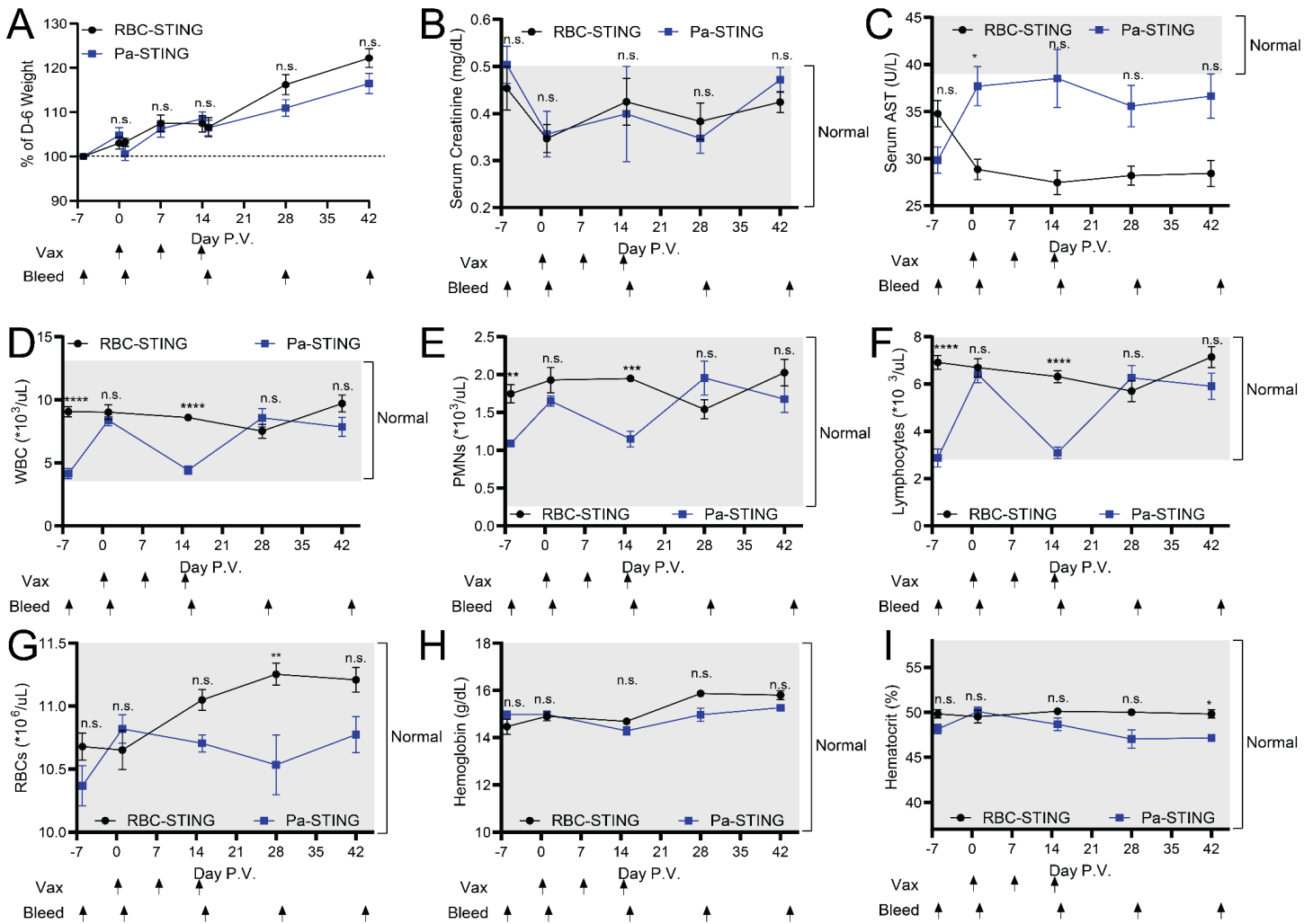


Supplemental Figure 2: Gating strategy for dendritic cell activation. For antigen presenting cell analysis, bone marrow derived dendritic cells were stimulated for 48 hours, harvested, stained and analyzed on a BD FACS Canto II. Cells were gated cells, singlets, live, CD11c⁺/F4/80⁻. Dendritic cells were further gated on CD86, CD40, and CD86. Gates were drawn with single-stained and unstained controls and with fluorescence minus ones.

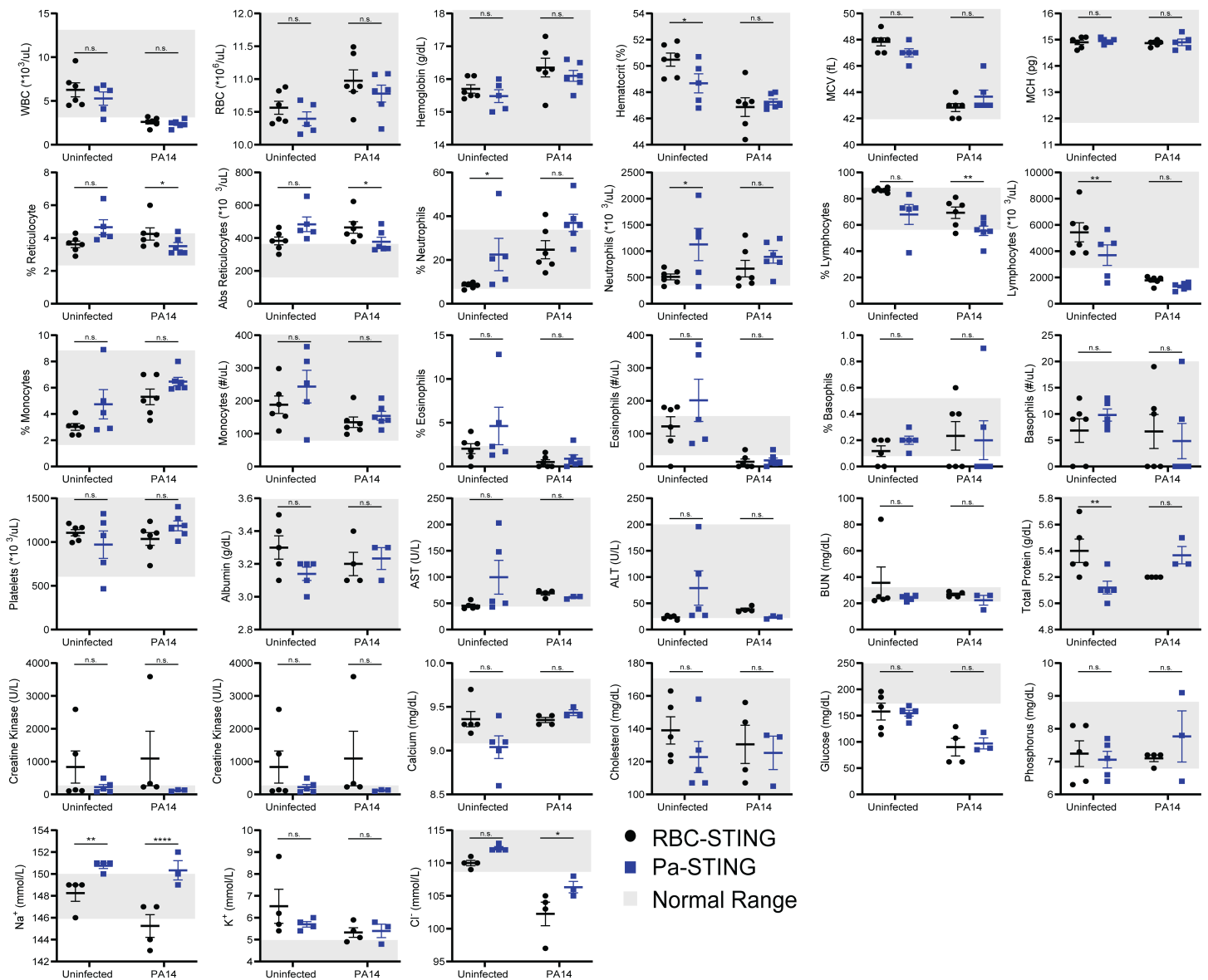
24 Hour Vaccination Gating Strategy



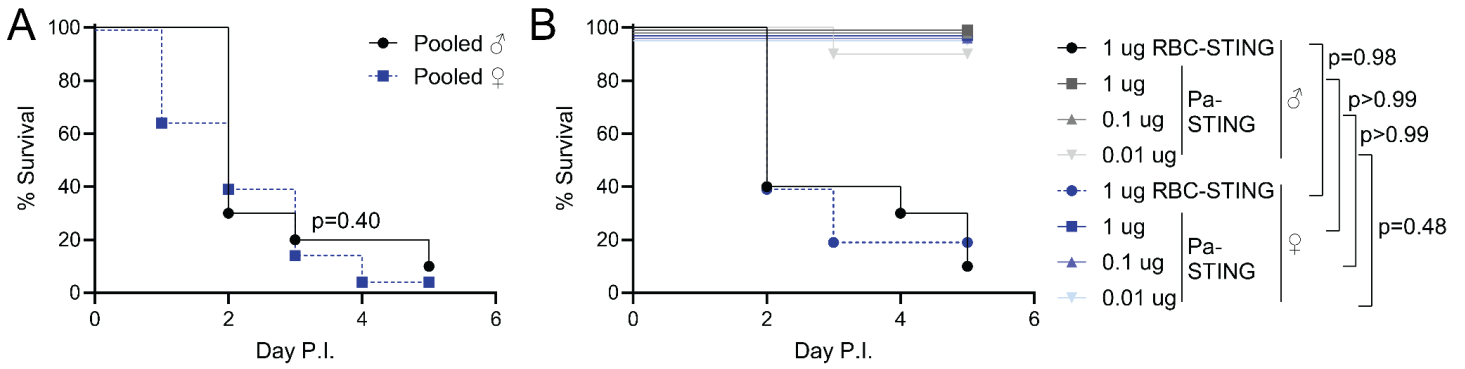
Supplemental Figure 3: Gating Strategy for ILN Flow Cytometry. For antigen presenting cell analysis, inguinal lymph nodes were processed for single cell isolation, stained and analyzed on a BD FACS Canto II. Cells were gated cells, singlets, live. B cells were gated CD19⁺. Dendritic cells were gated CD11c⁺. Macrophages were gated F4/80⁺. Dendritic cells were further gated on CD86, CD40, and CD80. Gates were drawn with single-stained and unstained controls and fluorescence minus ones.



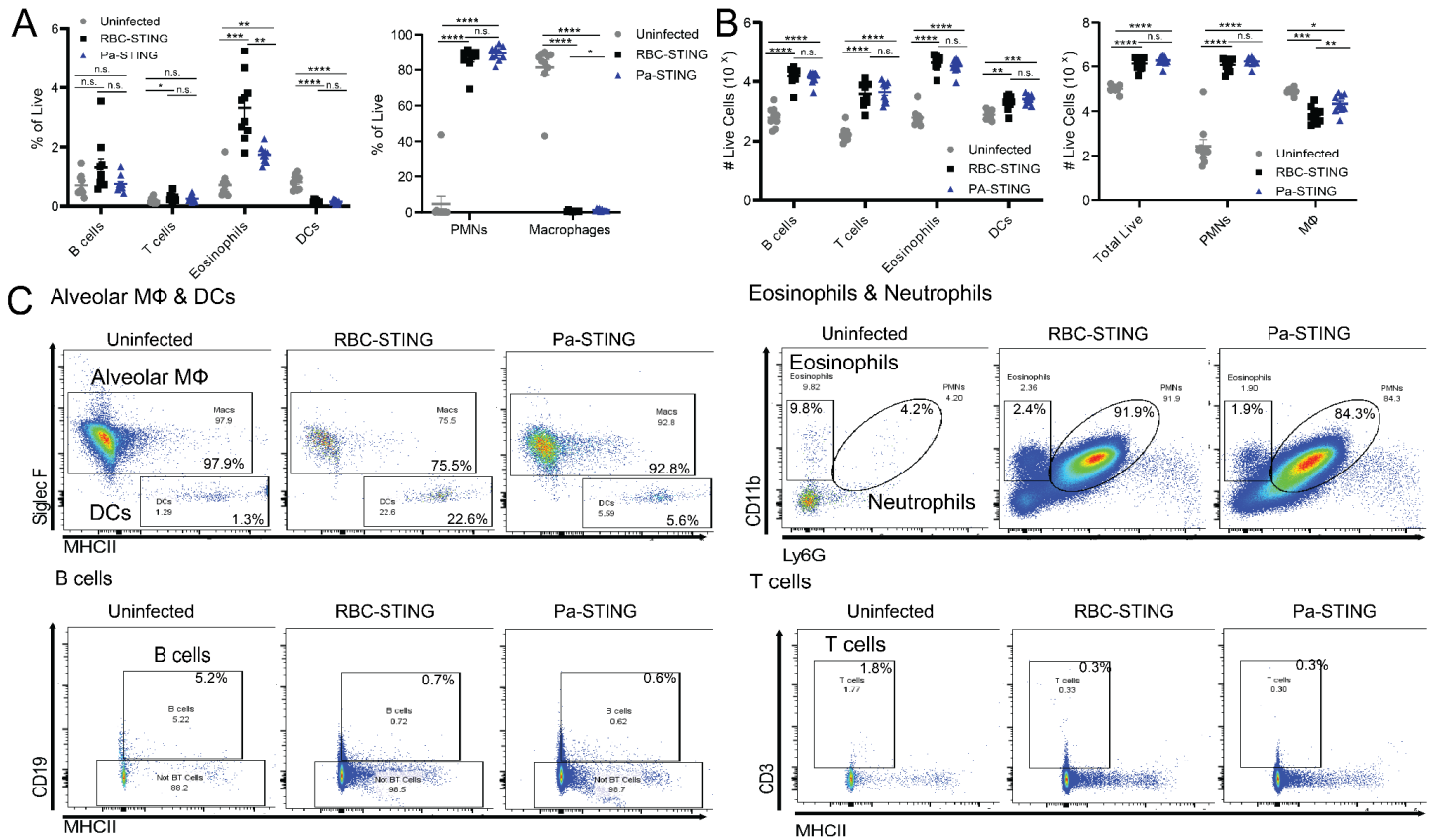
Supplemental Figure 4: Pa-STING vaccination does not induce toxicity in the hematology compartment. A) Percent weight gain during vaccination with 1 μ g RBC-STING or Pa-STING. Mice were weighed on days -6, 0, 1, 7, 14, 15, 28, and 42. Serum B) creatinine and C) aspartate aminotransferase (AST) levels from mice vaccinated with 1 μ g RBC-STING or PA-STING on days 0, 7, 14. Creatinine and AST levels were analyzed by Hemovet on days -6, 1, 15, 28, and 42. D-I) Hematology results from mice vaccinated with 1 μ g RBC-STING or PA-STING on days 0, 7, 14. D) white blood count, E) polymorphonuclear cells (PMNs), F) lymphocytes, G) red blood cells (RBCs), H) hemoglobin, and I) hematocrit were analyzed by Hemovet on days -6, 1, 15, 28, and 42. Means \pm SEM. n=5-10/group. (A-I) Two-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison's post-test. n.s. not significant. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.0001$. All data is listed in Supplemental Table 1 and Supplemental Data File.



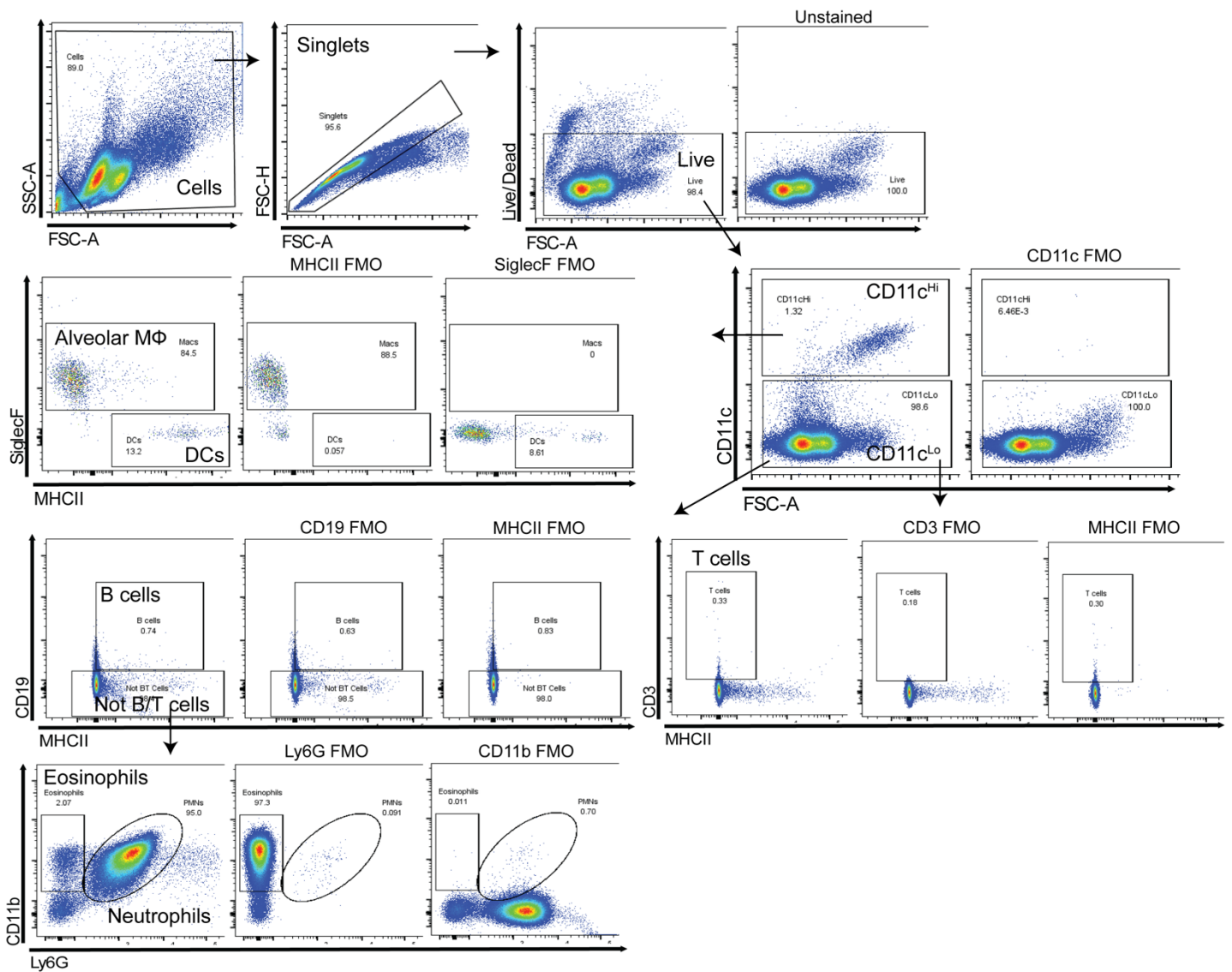
Supplemental Figure 5: Comprehensive serum chemistry and hematology from RBC-STING and Pa-STING vaccinated mice. Mice were vaccinated with 1 μ g RBC-STING or Pa-STING on days 0, 7, and 14. Mice were infected with 0.5-1 $\times 10^7$ CFUs PA14 or left uninfected on day 28. On Day 29 blood was collected by submandibular cheek bleeding and serum was isolated. Whole blood and serum were sent for comprehensive serum chemistry and hematology by IDEXX Technologies. Some samples were pooled from two mice to reach the minimum volume necessary. The grey box indicates the normal expected range for B6 mice. Means \pm SEM. $n=5-6$ /group, two independent experiments pooled. Mixed model two-way ANOVA with uncorrected Fisher's LSD post-test. n.s. not significant. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.0001$. All data is listed in the Supplemental Data File.



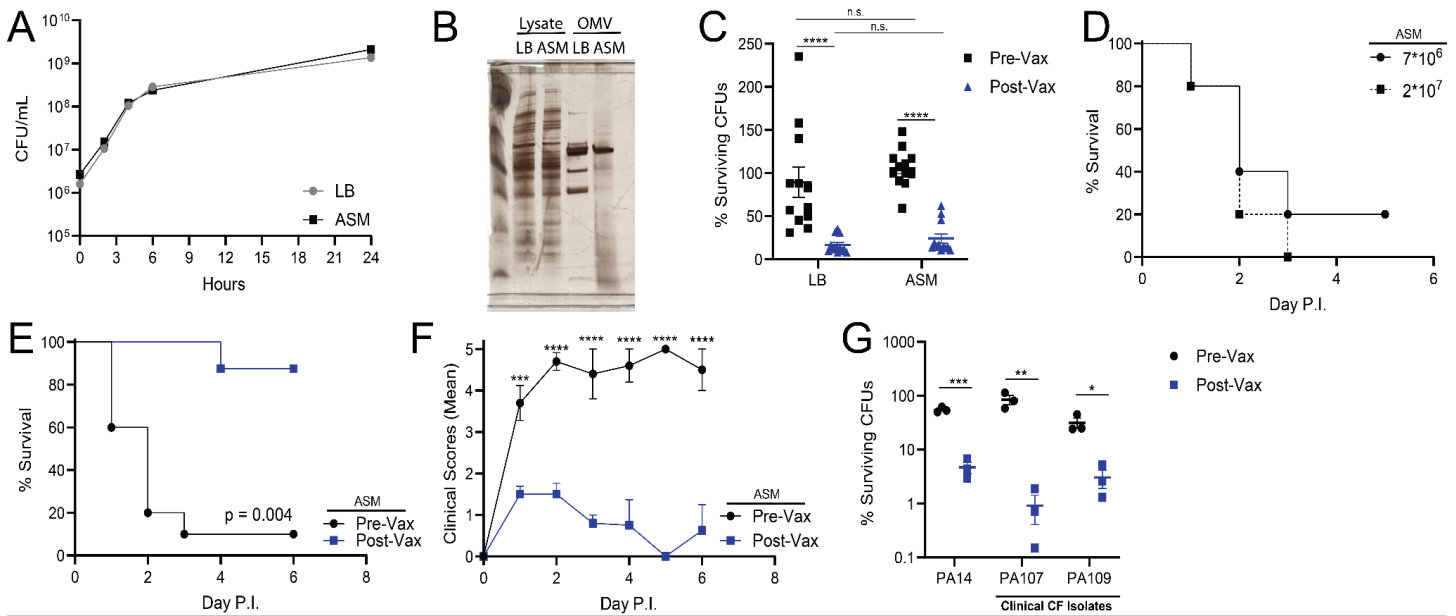
Supplemental Figure 7: No sex differences were observed in unvaccinated and vaccinated mice following intratracheal infection to PA14. A) Male and female survival data was pooled from **Figure 4B** and **4C** and analyzed using Kaplan-Meier (Log-rank). Median survival: male = 2.0 days, female = 2.0 days. B) Male and female survival data pooled from **Figure 4D** and **4E** and analyzed using Kaplan-Meier (Log-rank). Median survival: Male RBC-STING = 2.0 days, Female RBC-STING = 2.0 days. All other conditions had indeterminate median survival times.



Supplemental Figure 8: Immune infiltrating cells in BAL in RBC-STING and Pa-STING vaccinated and PA14 infected mice. Mice were vaccinated with 1 μ g RBC-STING or Pa-STING weekly on days 0, 7 & 14, and infected with ~ 0.5 - 1×10^7 CFUs PA14 intratracheally on Day 28. RBC-STING vaccinated uninfected mice were used as a control. 20 hours p.i., mice were humanely euthanized and lung immune infiltrates were collected by BAL. Cells were stained, fixed and analyzed by flow cytometry. **A)** Quantification of cell populations as a percent of total live cells. **B)** Quantification of total number of live cells. **A) & B)** $n = 10$ /group, two independent experiments pooled. Means \pm SEM. **C)** Representative flow plots depicting cell populations in **A)** and **B)**. A gating strategy is depicted in **Supplemental Figure 9**. (A & B) Mixed model two-way ANOVA with Tukey's or Sidak's multiple comparisons post-test. n.s. not significant. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.0001$.



Supplemental Figure 9: Gating Strategy for BAL Flow Cytometry. For BAL infiltrating cell analysis, mice were humanely euthanized 24 hours post infection. BAL was collected, spun, stained and analyzed on a BD FACS Canto II. Gating strategy was based on the method by Van Hoecke *et al* (1). Cells were gated cells, singlets, live, CD11c. Alveolar macrophages were gated CD11c^{Hi}, Siglec F⁺/MHCII⁻. Dendritic cells were gated CD11c^{Hi}, Siglec F⁻/MHCII⁺. T cells were gated CD11c^{Lo}, CD3⁺/MHCII⁻. B cells were gated CD11c^{Lo}, CD19⁺/MHCII⁺. Eosinophils were gated CD11c^{Lo}, CD19⁻, Ly6G⁻/CD11b⁺. Neutrophils were gated CD11c^{Lo}, CD19⁻, Ly6G⁺/CD11b⁺. Gates were drawn with single-stained and unstained controls and FMOs.



Supplemental Figure 10: Pa-STING vaccination provides protection against PA14 grown in artificial sputum media. A) Growth curves of PA14 grown in Luria broth (LB) or artificial sputum media (ASM). Representative of 2 independent experiments. B) Protein loading of LB vs ASM grown PA14 whole cell lysates and OMVs. $\sim 10 \mu\text{g}$ of protein or lysate measured by BCA assay was loaded per lane and visualized with silver stain. C) Opsonophagocytic killing of PA14 grown in either LB or ASM by healthy human neutrophils incubated with pre-vax or post-vax rabbit serum. Percent surviving colony forming units (CFUs) relative to starting inputs is graphed. Pooled means of technical replicates from 2 independent experiments \pm SEM. D) Survival curve of unvaccinated mice infected intratracheally with $0.7-2 \times 10^7$ CFUs PA14 grown in ASM. E) Survival curves from mice passively vaccinated with pre-vax or post-vax serum 72 hours prior to intratracheal infection with $\sim 0.5-1 \times 10^7$ CFUs PA14 grown in ASM media. Mice were monitored twice daily for 5-7 days. $n = 8-10/\text{group}$, two independent experiments pooled. F) Clinical scores (means \pm SEM) from mice passively immunized with pre-vax or post-vax serum and infected intratracheally with PA14 grown in ASM media. G) Opsonophagocytic killing of PA14 or clinical cystic fibrosis isolates PA107 and PA109 by healthy human neutrophils incubated with pre-vax or post-vax rabbit serum. Percent surviving colony forming units (CFUs) relative to starting inputs is graphed. C) Mixed model two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons post-test. E) Kaplan Meier (Log-Rank) test. F) Mixed model two-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparisons post-test. G) Unpaired two-tailed Student's t -test. n.s. not significant. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.0001$.

Supplemental Table 1: Pa-STING vaccination does not induce toxicity in the hematology compartment.

WBC (10 ³ /uL)						WBC (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	9.056	0.4076	4.13	0.39563	<0.0001	-6	9.056	0.4076	4.13	0.39563	<0.0001
1	9.022	0.57995	8.376	0.45369	0.9225	1	9.022	0.57995	8.376	0.45369	0.9225
15	8.594	0.26322	4.42	0.33839	0.0002	15	8.594	0.26322	4.42	0.33839	0.0002
28	7.514	0.55218	8.566	0.72709	0.6261	28	7.514	0.55218	8.566	0.72709	0.6261
42	9.706	0.67084	7.844	0.75556	0.1151	42	9.706	0.67084	7.844	0.75556	0.1151
PMNs (10 ³ /uL)						PMNs (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	1.747	0.12195	1.089	0.03411	0.0084	-6	19.333	1.14094	27.41	1.9646	0.0524
1	1.928	0.16791	1.652	0.06472	0.595	1	21.291	0.94163	19.804	0.55751	0.7103
15	1.949	0.04534	1.148	0.10427	0.001	15	22.736	0.61595	26.064	1.53537	0.4018
28	1.54	0.12759	1.955	0.2262	0.184	28	20.512	0.76905	22.667	1.42202	0.7289
42	2.026	0.17707	1.675	0.17499	0.3405	42	20.854	0.88364	21.352	0.64677	0.9956
Lymphocytes (10 ³ /uL)						Lymphocytes (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	6.914	0.28951	2.869	0.38045	<0.0001	-6	76.42	0.86052	68.193	2.35228	0.103
1	6.695	0.39156	6.408	0.36339	0.9919	1	74.355	1.00503	76.47	0.37278	0.4245
15	6.314	0.259	3.089	0.24714	<0.0001	15	73.383	0.72448	69.798	1.98386	0.5558
28	5.7	0.4427	6.265	0.52641	0.864	28	75.784	0.78991	73.253	1.47895	0.6316
42	7.14	0.45044	5.909	0.5629	0.1736	42	73.766	1.34174	75.354	0.66602	0.8658
Monocytes (10 ³ /uL)						Monocytes (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	0.336	0.07231	0.138	0.00644	0.0013	-6	3.624	0.67849	3.415	0.38315	0.9997
1	0.345	0.03581	0.289	0.03367	0.7859	1	3.83	0.26487	3.412	0.22111	0.7801
15	0.278	0.03019	0.146	0.02561	0.0543	15	3.245	0.3721	3.309	0.47748	>0.9999
28	0.252	0.01356	0.258	0.02663	>0.9999	28	3.416	0.29992	3.043	0.2993	0.925
42	0.345	0.03138	0.223	0.03393	0.088	42	3.518	0.12141	2.788	0.25565	0.2001
Eosinophils (10 ³ /uL)						Eosinophils (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	0.041	0.01427	0.025	0.00447	>0.9999	-6	0.449	0.14985	0.688	0.121	0.7648
1	0.4	0.26968	0.268	0.0142	0.8233	1	0.4	0.26968	0.268	0.0142	0.9948
15	0.039	0.0156	0.031	0.00678	>0.9999	15	0.483	0.20024	0.656	0.09921	0.9578
28	0.018	0.00339	0.072	0.02601	0.9958	28	0.25	0.05753	0.828	0.29223	0.4698
42	0.151	0.05073	0.03	0.00474	0.8695	42	1.459	0.41514	0.426	0.08549	0.2911
Basophils (10 ³ /uL)						Basophils (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	0.015	0.00652	0.01	0.00354	0.9958	-6	0.172	0.06486	0.293	0.07957	0.7979
1	0.012	0.00718	0.004	0.00187	0.9656	1	0.125	0.06762	0.043	0.00982	0.8244
15	0.012	0.00957	0.007	0.00122	0.9958	15	0.156	0.11646	0.174	0.03562	>0.9999
28	0.001	0.001	0.018	0.00735	0.5483	28	0.036	0.01111	0.21	0.08404	0.4321
42	0.043	0.02004	0.004	0.001	0.0078	42	0.401	0.169	0.078	0.01158	0.4974
RBCs (10 ⁶ /uL)						Platelets (10 ³ /uL)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	10.679	0.10612	10.368	0.16004	0.4325	-6	608.1	16.9192	420.5	32.9981	0.0117
1	10.652	0.1544	10.819	0.11111	0.9094	1	643.9	16.1736	635.2	21.9696	0.9992
15	11.05	0.08204	10.706	0.0677	0.3255	15	688.1	21.7373	585.6	63.7465	0.6502
28	11.253	0.08773	10.534	0.23711	0.0023	28	768.2	15.9833	727.3	67.833	0.9878
42	11.209	0.09861	10.774	0.14135	0.1252	42	705.7	24.6939	669.1	52.768	0.9824
Hemoglobin (g/dL)						Hematocrit (%)					
Day	RBC		PA		p value	Day	RBC		PA		p value
	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM			Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	
-6	14.47	0.32117	14.98	0.14883	0.6779	-6	49.81	0.47021	48.16	0.54139	0.2303

1	14.9	0.18908	14.98	0.09028	0.9982	1	49.52	0.70331	50.08	0.53024	0.9803		
15	14.69	0.06782	14.29	0.17847	0.3721	15	50.11	0.36242	48.66	0.70735	0.4668		
28	15.87	0.06819	14.97	0.27776	0.1395	28	50.01	0.40847	47.04	1.00603	0.1791		
42	15.8	0.19685	15.27	0.13657	0.2736	42	49.81	0.457	47.16	0.38968	0.0119		
MCV (fL)						MCH (Pg)							
	RBC			PA				RBC			PA		
Day	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	p value	Day	Mean	± SEM	Mean	± SEM	p value		
-6	46.65	0.39718	46.46	0.24052	0.9974	-6	13.57	0.36042	14.45	0.12748	0.3034		
1	46.48	0.27046	46.3	0.08367	0.9824	1	13.99	0.14612	13.84	0.14089	0.9624		
15	45.34	0.21413	45.44	0.54369	>0.9999	15	13.31	0.09798	13.35	0.16733	>0.9999		
28	44.44	0.16233	44.67	0.51904	0.9972	28	14.1	0.07906	14.22	0.1437	0.9658		
42	44.45	0.23184	43.81	0.42024	0.7277	42	14.1	0.16508	14.19	0.2176	0.999		
Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)						Serum AST (U/L)							
	RBC			PA				RBC			PA		
Day	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	p value	Day	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	p value		
-6	0.45357	0.04669	0.50357	0.03929	0.9434	-6	34.7672	1.39227	29.8479	1.4087	0.1756		
1	0.34643	0.02963	0.35625	0.04877	>0.9999	1	28.8573	1.10811	37.691	2.08453	0.0458		
15	0.425	0.05018	0.39911	0.10125	0.9998	15	27.4607	1.28956	38.5227	3.09373	0.0934		
28	0.38304	0.03885	0.34732	0.03171	0.9679	28	28.2072	1.01453	35.5961	2.19798	0.1159		
42	0.42411	0.02223	0.47143	0.02628	0.6874	42	28.4201	1.39846	36.6436	2.33341	0.1004		
Serum ALT (U/L)													
	RBC			PA									
Day	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	p value								
-6	11.6581	0.98838	11.4282	0.61796	>0.9999								
1	9.16728	0.25087	7.90693	2.22286	0.9901								
15	8.59246	0.30922	8.00912	0.41975	0.83								
28	7.30231	1.52722	9.53345	0.64389	0.7332								
42	9.43551	0.61964	11.5432	0.78617	0.3051								

Means ± SEM for hematology analysis conducted on plasma obtained by submandibular cheek bleeding from mice vaccinated with 1 µg RBC-STING or Pa-STING subcutaneously on days 0, 7, and 14. Plasma and serum were obtained on day -6, 1, 15, 28, and 42. Serum creatinine and aspartate aminotransferase (AST) were assessed by colorimetric kits according to the manufacturer's instructions. All other values were obtained by Hemavet analysis.

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1. Van Hoecke L, Job ER, Saelens X, Roose K. Bronchoalveolar lavage of murine lungs to analyze inflammatory cell infiltration. *J Vis Exp.* 2017;(123):e55398.