# The Engagement of Activating Fcy Receptors Inhibits Primate Lentivirus

2	Replication in Human Macrophages
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12	Running title: Lentivirus inhibition in FcγR-activated macrophages
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14	Key words: HIV-1, macrophages, Fc Receptors, Cell Activation, Lentiviruses
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20	Footnote: This study was supported by the Agence Nationale de Recherches sur le SIDA
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#### Abstract

We previously reported that the stimulation of monocyte-derived macrophages (MDM) by plate-bound intravenous immune globulins (IVIg) inhibits HIV-1 replication (Perez-Bercoff et al, J Virol, 2003, 77:4081). Here, we show that IgG immune complexes also suppress HIV-1 replication in MDMs and that activating receptors for the Fc portion of IgG - FcγRI, FcγRIIA and FcγRIII are responsible for the inhibition. MDM stimulation through FcγRs induces activation signals and the secretion of HIV-1 modulatory cytokines, such as M-CSF, TNF-α and MDC. However, none of these cytokines contribute to HIV-1 suppression. HIV-1 entry and post-integration steps of viral replication are not affected, whereas reduced levels of reverse transcription products and of integrated proviruses, as determined by real time PCR analysis, account for the suppression of HIV-1 gene expression in FcγR-activated MDMs. We found that FcγR-dependent activation of MDMs also inhibits the replication of HIV-2, SIVmac and SIVagm, suggesting a common control mechanism for primate immunodeficiency lentiviruses in activated macrophages.

# Introduction

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Unlike other retroviruses, lentiviruses can integrate their DNA into the genome of non-dividing cells and can therefore replicate in monocytes and macrophages. HIV and SIV infection of monocytes and differentiated tissue-resident macrophages may play a major role in viral transmission, dissemination and persistence (1-4). The capacity of monocytes and macrophages to migrate in tissues makes them potential conveyors of HIV and SIV infections. Monocytes are thought to carry the virus to the central nervous system, and the expansion of subsets of activated monocytes has been associated with neurological diseases in AIDS (5, 6). Virions generated in infected macrophages are more efficient in establishing lymphocyte infection than cell-free virions (7). Macrophages may also favor cell-to-cell transmission to CD4 T cells by producing chemotactic cytokines and by interacting with cells during antigen presentation (8). In addition, HIV-1-infected macrophages can also induce the apoptosis of uninfected bystander T cells and neuronal cells (9). Finally, infected monocytes and macrophages may act as viral reservoirs for HIV and SIV and be the main source of virus production during the late stages of disease in pathogenic infections when the numbers of CD4 T cells are substantially reduced (10-14). Macrophages play a major role in mounting innate and adaptive immune responses to pathogens. Macrophages react to HIV-1 infection by secreting cytokines, chemokines and other molecules having anti-viral activity or can directly control HIV-1 replication (15). However, HIV-1 infection may affect essential macrophage functions, such as antigen presentation, intracellular killing and phagocytosis (16). Therefore, the regulation of HIV-1 and related lentivirus replication in monocytes and macrophages might affect the host susceptibility to infection and could help to control viral dissemination and pathogenesis in

infected individuals. In a SCID mouse model, virus spread and pathology was abolished by

suppressing macrophage infection with anti-nerve growth factor antibodies (17).

We previously showed that the incubation of macrophages with IVIg bound on culture plates potently inhibit HIV-1 replication independently of viral tropism (18). Inhibition was not observed when macrophages were incubated with IVIg-F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments suggesting that it was mediated by receptor(s) for the Fc portion of IgG (Fc\u03c4R) (18). Fc\u03c4Rs are a group of integral membrane proteins that bind to the Fc portion of IgG (19), and which can either activate or inhibit cell activation when engaged by IgG immune complexes. Activating FcyRs include the high-affinity receptor FcyRI (CD64), which can bind monomeric IgG, and the low-affinity receptors FcyRIIA/C (CD32) and FcyRIIIA (CD16), which do not bind monomeric IgG but bind IgG aggregates and antigen-antibody immune complexes (ICs) with a high avidity. Activating FcyRs possess immunoreceptor tyrosine-based activation motifs (ITAMs) that become phosphorylated upon FcyR clustering. ITAM phosphorylation promotes the recruitement of cytosolic protein tyrosine kinases. These kinases phosphorylate other proteins involved in signaling pathways, leading to the activation of PI-3K and MAP kinases (19). Inhibitory FcyRs consist of FcyRIIB, which contains an immunoreceptor tyrosine-based inhibition motif (ITIM). This motif enables FcyRIIB to negatively regulate cell activation triggered by ITAM-containing receptors when co-engaged with them.

In this study we aimed at identifying which  $Fc\gamma R(s)$  is(are) involved in viral inhibition. We quantitatively analyzed  $Fc\gamma R$ -mediated inhibition of HIV-1 replication using real time PCR. We also determined whether  $Fc\gamma R$ -mediated inhibition was limited to HIV-1 or was a general anti-retroviral mechanism by studying the effect of  $Fc\gamma R$  cross-linking on the replication of other primate lentiviruses in human macrophages.

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## **Materials and Methods**

24 *Monocyte derived macrophages (MDM)* 

1 Human monocytes were isolated from buffy coats of healthy seronegative donors (Centre de Transfusion Sanguine Ile-de-France, Rungis and Hôpital de la Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris, France) 2 3 using lymphocyte separation medium (PAA laboratories GmbH, Haidmannweg) density 4 gradient centrifugation and plastic adherence as previously described (18). Monocytes were 5 then differentiated into macrophages by seven to 11 days culture in MDM medium (RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with 200 mM L-glutamine, 100 U penicillin, 100 µg 6 7 streptomycin, 10 mM HEPES, 10 mM sodium pyruvate, 50 μM β-mercaptoethanol, 1% 8 minimum essential medium vitamins, and 1% nonessential amino acids) supplemented with 15% of human AB serum in hydrophobic Teflon dishes (Lumox<sup>TM</sup>. D Dutcher, Brumath, 9 10 France) as previously described (18). Monocyte derived macrophages (MDM) were then 11 harvested, washed and resuspended in MDM medium containing 10% heat-inactivated fetal calf serum (FCS) for experiments. The purity of CD14<sup>+</sup> macrophages was usually more than 12 13 95% as assessed by immunofluorescent staining and flow cytometry analysis. FcyRI (CD64), FcγRII (CD32) and FcγRIII (CD16) were all expressed on the MDM surface but the 14 15 proportion of cells expressing each receptor varied with different donors and MDM 16 preparations. 17 LPS content in the media and all the reagents used for culture and stimulation of MDM was 18 below the limit of detection of the QCL1000 Limulus amebocyte lysate test (LAL) 19 (BioWhittaker, France). 20 Antibodies 21 Monoclonal Abs (MAbs) against FcγRs (CD64, clone 32.2; CD32, clones IV.3 and AT.10; CD16, clone 3G8) were purified from hybridoma supernatants. F(ab')<sub>2</sub> from MAbs was 22 generated by pepsin digestion (ImmunoPure F(ab')<sub>2</sub> Preparation kit from PIERCE). Anti 23 24 CD64 F(ab')<sub>2</sub> 10.1 was from Ancell (COGER, France). Isotype-matched uncoupled or FITC-25 or PE-coupled irrelevant control MAbs or F(ab')2 were from SIGMA (St Quentin Fallavier,

1 France). All F(ab')<sub>2</sub> preparations used for stimulating MDM were passed through a polymixin

- 2 B-column (Detoxi-Gel Endotoxin Removing Gel, PIERCE, Perbio Science France, Brebières,
- 3 France) to eliminate potential endotoxin contamination and were then verified as LPS-free by
- 4 the LAL test.
- 5 Human FcyRIIA-specific and FcyRIIB-specific polyclonal antibodies were generated in
- 6 rabbits immunized with GST fusion proteins containing the intracytoplasmic domain of either
- 7 human FcγRIIA (ICIIA) or FcγRIIB2 (ICIIB). Briefly, cDNAs encoding the intracytoplasmic
- 8 domains of human FcyRIIA and FcyRIIB2 were amplified by PCR using the following
- 9 primers: FcyRIIA, forward: CGCGGATCCGCGAATTCCACTGATCCTGTGAAG;
- 10 reverse: CGGAATTCCGTTAGTTATTACTGTTGACATGGTC;
- 11 FcyRIIB2, forward: GCGGATCCGCGAATCCCACTAATCCTGATGAG;
- 12 reverse: CGGAATTCCCTAAATACGGTTCTGGTCATC.
- Purified amplicons were ligated into the PGEX4T1 vector (Pharmacia Biotech 27-4580-01)
- and expressed in *E. coli* DH5α cells. GST-ICIIA and GST-ICIIB were purified on glutathion-
- agarose gel and were then used to immunize rabbits (one 200 µg injection in complete
- 16 Freund's adjuvant followed three weeks later by three 200 µg injections in incomplete
- 17 Freund's adjuvant every two weeks). Serum IgG were purified by affinity chromatography on
- 18 Protein A-sepharose (Pharmacia). IgG from rabbits immunized with GST-ICIIA were
- 19 absorbed by two passages through GST-ICIIB-coated sepharose 4B beads (Pharmacia),
- 20 whereas IgG from rabbits immunized with GST-ICIIB were absorbed by passage through
- 21 GST-ICIIA-coated sepharose 4B beads, to remove anti-GST and any possibly cross-reacting
- 22 antibodies. Anti-FcyRIIA Abs recognized FcyRIIA but not FcyRIIB in rat basophilic
- 23 leukemia (RBL) transfectants, whereas anti-FcyRIIB Abs recognized FcyRIIB but not
- 24 FcyRIIA in the same transfectants, as assessed by western blotting analysis and intracellular
- 25 immunofluorescence.

1 The above described FcyRIIA and FcyRIIB2 specific primers were used to analyze the

- 2 receptor transcripts in RNA preparations from MDM by RT-PCR. RNA was extracted using
- 3 RNeasy Kit (Qiagen, France). cDNA was synthesized from 0.5 µg total cell RNA using
- 4 Taqman Reverse Transcription Reagents Kit (Applied Biosystem). 1/5, 1/50 or 1/500 of the
- 5 volume of the reaction mixture were used for PCR amplification (30 cycles), using Taq
- 6 (Invitrogen, ) in a GeneAmp PCR9700 (Applied Biosystems). The PCR products were
- 7 analyzed by gel electrophoresis on 2% agarose gel.
- 8 Anti-TNF-α rabbit IgG (gift of J-M. Cavaillon, Institut Pasteur), anti-M-CSF goat IgG or
- 9 anti-MDC chicken IgYs (both from R&D systems, Minneapolis, MN) were used for TNF-α,
- 10 M-CSF or MDC neutralization respectively. Isotypic controls were rabbit, goat or chicken
- 11 irrelevant Abs. Commercial Abs were detoxified by passage through polymixin B columns
- 12 before utilization. TNF-α, M-CSF and MDC levels in culture supernatants were measured by
- using quantikine ELISAs (R&D systems).
- 14 The following Abs were also used: unconjugated Mouse anti-phosphotyrosine mAb 4G10:
- 15 purified from hybridoma supernatant on Protein G-sepharose; Rabbit anti-phospho-PLC-
- 16 gamma1(tyrosine-783) Abs: Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz, CA); Rabbit anti-erk1/2 and rabbit anti-
- 17 phospho-erk1/2 (Thr202/tyr204) Abs: Cell Signaling (Beverly, MA); fluorochrome-
- 18 conjugated CD11b-PE (clone Bear1) and CD4-PE (clone 13B8.2) (both from Beckman
- 19 Coulter), CD14-FITC (clone Leu M3) and CD3-FITC (clone Leu3) (both from Becton
- 20 Dickinson, San Jose, Calif.).
- 21 Flow cytometry analysis
- 22 Cells were stained either with FITC-conjugated or PE-conjugated mAbs or with unconjugated
- 23 mAbs or F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments followed by secondary FITC-goat anti-mouse IgG F(ab')<sub>2</sub> or
- 24 FITC-goat anti-mouse Fab F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (Immunotech) and analyzed using a FACSCalibur flow
- 25 cytometer (Beckman Coulter).

## 1 Immunoblotting

2 For tyrosine phosphorylation analysis, cells were lysed by three cycles of incubation for 1 min 3 in liquid nitrogen followed by 1 min at 37°C in lysis buffer at pH 8.0 (50 mM Tris, pH8, 150 mM NaCl, 1% Tx100, 1 mM Na<sub>3</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>, 5 mM NaF, 10 µg/ml aprotinin, 10 µg/ml leupeptin, 10 4 5 μg/ml pepstatin and 1mM PMSF). For FcγRII expression analysis, cells were lysed by boiling 6 5 min in 10 mM Tris pH 7.4, 1% SDS. Proteins were quantified using a Biorad protein assay 7 (Hercules, CA). 40 µg proteins for tyrosine phosphorylation analysis or 10 µg proteins for 8 FcyRII analysis were boiled in sample buffer, fractionated by SDS-PAGE and then 9 transferred onto Immobilon-P membranes (Millipore, Bedford, MA). The membranes were 10 saturated with either 5% BSA (Sigma Chemical Co) or 5% skimmed milk (Régilait, Saint-11 Martin-Belle-Roche, France) diluted in western buffer (150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris and 0.5% 12 Tween 20 (Merk, Schuchardt, Germany) pH 7.4) and incubated with the indicated antibodies 13 and then incubated with HRP-conjugated goat anti-rabbit or goat anti-mouse Ig antibodies. Labeled antibodies were detected using an ECL kit (Amersham Pharmacia biotech, Little 14 15 Chalfont, Buckinghamshire). Blots for FcyRII analysis were first probed with the anti-16 FcγRIIB antibody, then stripped with stripping buffer (reblot+, Chemicon, Temecula, CA) as 17 indicated by the manufacturer, and re-probed with the anti-FcyRIIA antibody.

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- 19 MDM stimulation
- 20 MDM were stimulated using three different methods.
- 21 (1) Immobilized IVIg stimulation was carried out with hIgG for therapeutic use (IVIg)
- 22 (Endobuline, BAXTER, Maurepas, France) (0.1 mg/ml in PBS) as previously described (18).
- 23 (2) Stimulation with preformed immune complexes (ICs) was as follows: dinitrophenyl
- 24 (DNP) groups were conjugated to LPS-free bovine serum albumin (BSA) (SIGMA) using
- 25 dinitrobenzene sulfonate (DNBS, Eastman Kodak) in alkaline medium and then dialyzed

against PBS. Culture plates were coated with 0.1 mg/ml DNP-BSA antigen by incubation for

- 2 2 hours at 37°C, washed with PBS, saturated by incubation with 1 mg/ml BSA in PBS for 30
- 3 minutes at 37°C and then incubated with 30 μg/ml rabbit anti-DNP antibodies (SIGMA) for 1
- 4 hour at 37°C to form ICs. MDMs were stimulated by plating on IC coated wells.
- 5 In some experiments 3 µm polystyrene beads (Polysciences Inc., France) opsonized with
- 6 DNP-anti-DNP ICs were used for MDM stimulation. Polystyrene beads were absorbed with
- 7 400 μg/ml DNP-BSA in PBS according to manufacturer instructions, washed, and incubated
- 8 with 100 µg/ml rabbit anti-DNP antibodies in PBS-BSA (IC-beads) or with PBS-BSA alone
- 9 (Ag-beads). MDM were plated on 96-well plates and incubated with 100 µl medium
- 10 containing IC-beads or Ag-beads at a bead:cell ratio of 10:1 and 30:1 and immediately
- 11 infected.
- 12 (3) Each FcγR was separately cross-linked on an MDM surface by incubating MDMs with
- 13 the appropriate specific F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (5 μg F(ab')<sub>2</sub> per 10<sup>6</sup> MDM) for 30 min at 4°C. The MDMs
- were then washed with PBS and seeded on plates previously coated with 0.2 mg/ml goat anti-
- mouse Fab F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (SIGMA) and saturated with 1 mg/ml BSA. MDMs were incubated in
- parallel with irrelevant mouse  $F(ab')_2$  as controls.
- 17 Cell viability was not affected in IgG or IC-stimulated MDM cultures, as evaluated by a
- 18 WST-1-based colorimetric assay (not shown).
- 19 Viruses and MDM infection
- 20 HIV-1 infections: The following viral strains were used for productive infections: HIV-1<sub>Bal</sub>,
- 21 HIV-2<sub>SBL</sub>, SIVmac251, SIVagmGril. Strains were propagated in PHA-activated human
- 22 PBMCs (except SIVagm, propagated on SupT1 cells) and the culture supernatants were
- collected at times of peak p24 (HIV-1) or p27 (HIV-2, SIV) production. p24 and p27 were
- 24 measured with commercial ELISA kits (Beckman Coulter, Paris, France). Viral stocks were

titrated on PHA-activated human PBMCs except SIVagm, which was titrated on SupT1 cells.

- Multiplicities of infection (m.o.i.) used in this study were between  $10^{-2}$  and 2 x  $10^{-2}$ .
- 3 For single-round infections, HIV-1 particles containing the *luc* reporter gene and pseudotyped
- 4 with the VSV-G envelope protein (HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub>) that allows HIV-receptor independent entry
- 5 into cells were used. HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> virions were produced by transiently co-transfecting
- 6 (SuperFect, Qiagen GmbH, Hilden, Germany) 293T cells with the proviral pNL-Luc-E<sup>-</sup>R<sup>+</sup>(20)
- 7 vector and the VSV-G expression vector pCMV-G, as previously described (18).
- 8 Supernatants were harvested 72 h after transfection, and p24gag levels were measured using a
- 9 commercial ELISA kit (Beckman Coulter, Paris, France) with MDMs. Between 3 x 10<sup>-1</sup> and 3
- 10 x 10<sup>-2</sup> m.o.i. were used for MDM infection. Mock infections with equivalent amounts of p24
- from supernatants from 293T cells transfected with pNL-Luc-E<sup>-</sup>R<sup>+</sup> only were carried out in
- parallel as controls.
- MDMs  $(0.8 \times 10^5 1 \times 10^5 \text{ cells/well in 96 well plates or } 10^6 \text{ cells/well in 12 well plates})$  were
- infected either with viral strains or with pseudotyped particles by incubating cell with viral
- inoculum 1h at 37°C, or by a spinoculation protocol (1h centrifugation at room temperature at
- 16 1200 x g followed by 1h incubation at 37°C), to increase the efficiency of infection (21).
- MDMs were then washed with PBS and cultured in MDM medium.
- 18 In the experiments for detecting HIV DNA by PCR, HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> preparations were previously
- 19 treated with DNase I (Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany).
- 20 In cytokine/chemokine neutralization experiments, immobilized-IgG-stimulated or
- unstimulated MDMs were infected in triplicate with HIV-1<sub>Bal</sub>, and then cultured in 96 well-
- 22 plates in the presence of neutralizing concentrations of the each specific Ab (anti-TNF-α,
- 23 1:150 dilution; anti-M-CSF, 7,5 µg/ml, anti-MDC, 10 µg/ml) or equal concentrations of the
- 24 appropriate control Ab. Half culture supernatant was changed with fresh medium containing
- 25 the appropriate concentrations of each Ab each 2 days.

1 WN virus infection: Production of WN virus strain IS-98-ST1 (GenBank accession number AF 481864) from mosquito Aedes pseudoscutellaris AP61 cell monolayers and virus titration 2 3 on AP61 cells by focus immmunodetection assay (FAI) were performed as previously 4 described (22). Infectivity titres were expressed as focus forming units (FFU), RPMI medium 5 supplemented with 2% FCS was used for washing, infection and culture. MDM were washed 6 three times and infected with 1 m.o.i of WN virus for 1 h at 37°C. MDM were then washed 7 twice and incubated at 37°C for 72 hours, then cell culture supernatants were harvested and 8 processed for viral titration. As a control for inhibition of WN virus replication, MDM were 9 exposed to 10 IU/ml human recombinant IFN-α A/D (Biosource, France), during and after 10 infection. 11 Measure of luciferase activity in cell lysates 12 At various times after infection with pseudotyped HIV-1 virions, each well of MDMs was 13 lysed with 100 µl of luciferase cell culture lysis reagent (Promega France, Charbonnières, France). The luciferase activity was quantified in 20 µl of each lysate using the Promega 14 15 Luciferase reporter 1000 Assay System and an LUMAT LB9501 luminometer (Berthold 16 Technologies). Real time PCR quantification of HIV-1 cDNA forms 17 18 At different times after infection, MDMs were washed in PBS and total DNA was extracted 19 using the DNeasy Tissue Kit (Qiagen). The HIV-1 DNA forms R-U5, U5-Gag and 2-LTR 20 were quantified using real time PCR with an ABI PRISM 7000 instrument (Applied 21 Biosystems Applera France, Courtaboeuf, France). For all the real-time PCR, we used 100 ng of template DNA per reaction, corresponding to about 2 x 10<sup>4</sup> MDMs. DNA loading was 22 23 controlled by concurrently amplifying the albumin gene by real-time PCR and quantifying 24 with reference to a control human genomic DNA (Roche). The reaction mixture contained 1X 25 Tagman Universal PCR master mix, 300 nM of each primer (except R-U5 primers, 200 nM)

1 and 200 nM of the appropriate fluorogenic probe, in a final volume of 30 µl. PCR cycle conditions were: 50°C for 2 min, 95°C for 10 min and 40 cycles of 95°C for 15 sec and 60°C 2 3 for 1 min. Copy numbers of R-U5 and U5-Gag were determined with reference to a standard curve prepared by concurrent amplification of serial dilutions of 8E5 cells containing one 4 5 integrated copy of HIV-1 per cell (23). The copy number of 2-LTR was determined with 6 reference to standard curves generated by serial dilutions of CEM cells infected with HIV-1<sub>NL4-3</sub>. The number of 2-LTR copies/per CEM cell was previously quantified against a 7 8 standard curve generated by dilution of cloned DNA with matching sequences (pSLL-IIIb, 9 gift of Audrey Brussel, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France) (24). R-U5 primers are described 10 elsewhere (25), the probe was (FAM)-AGACGGGCACACACTA-(MGB). Primers and 11 probes for U5-Gag (26), 2-LTR (27) and albumin (28) have been reported. 12 Integrated HIV-1 DNA was quantified by real time Alu-Gag nested PCR using primers and 13 probes supplied by Norio Yamamoto, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan. 14 The first round of amplification was conducted on a Gene Amp PCR system 9700 (Applied 15 Biosystems). Integrated HIV-1 sequences were amplified with the expand high fidelity kit 16 (Roche) using an Alu primer (NY1F) and a Gag primer extended with an artificial tag 17 sequence at the 5' end of the oligonucleotide (NY1R). The reaction mixture contained 100 ng of DNA, 0.2 mM dNTP, 300 nM primers, 1X buffer with 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 1.05 U of 18 19 polymerase. Reaction conditions were as follows: 95°C for 2 minutes, 15 cycles of 95°C for 20 15 seconds, 57°C for 30 seconds and 72°C for 3 minutes, and 72°C for 2 minutes. Real time 21 nested PCR was carried out on the ABI PRISM 7000 system (Applied Biosystems) using 10 22 µl of 1/20 dilution of the first-round PCR product as a template with 300nM of LTR primer 23 (NY2F), 300nM tag sequence primer (NY2R) and 200 nM Alu-LTR probe (NY2ALU) and 24 with 1X Taqman Universal PCR master mix. The integrated HIV-1 DNA copy number was determined with reference to a standard curve generated by concurrent amplifications of a 25

standard HeLa R7 Neo cell DNA. The HeLa R7 Neo cell line was generated as described

- 2 (29). Briefly, Hela cells were infected with a VSV-G pseudotyped HIV-1 R7 Neo virus (gift
- 3 from Audrey Brussel) containing a neomycin resistance gene and cultured for five weeks in
- 4 the presence of G418. For each sample, a whole nested PCR procedure omitting the Alu
- 5 primer in the first round PCR was carried out in parallel, showing a very low background. The
- 6 number of integrated HIV-1 DNA copies was then adjusted by subtracting the copy number
- 7 measured in the absence of the Alu primer in the first-round PCR from the copy number
- 8 measured in the presence of Alu primer. Primers and probes for the Alu-Gag nested PCR are
- 9 as follows:
- 10 NY1F: GGCTGAGGCAGGAGAATGG
- 11 NY1R: CAATATCATACGCCGAGAGTGCGCGCTTCAGCAAG
- 12 NY2F: AATAAAGCTTGCCTTGAGTGCTC
- 13 NY2R: CAATATCATACGCCGAGAGTGC
- 14 NY2*ALU*: (FAM)-AGTGTGTGCCCGTCTGTTGTGTGACTC-(TAMRA).

#### **Results**

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3 Immune complexes inhibit HIV-1 replication in macrophages

We reported previously that HIV-1 replication is inhibited in macrophages stimulated with 4 5 immobilized IVIg, but not by F(ab')2 fragments of the same IVIg preparations (18). This 6 observation suggested that Ag-Ab complexes might regulate viral infection by interacting 7 with macrophage FcyRs. To confirm this interpretation, MDMs were plated onto immobilized 8 immune complexes (ICs) made of DNP-BSA and IgG anti-DNP, and infected with HIV-1<sub>VSV</sub>. 9 g pseudotype. We used HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> pseudotyped viruses to assess the impact of ICstimulation of MDM on a single cycle of viral replication. HIV-1 replication was dose-10 11 dependently inhibited in MDMs exposed to ICs, compared to unstimulated MDMs, but not in 12 MDMs exposed to antigen or antibody alone (Fig 1A). In some experiments, MDM were 13 incubated with IC-opsonized polystyrene beads, which are readily phagocytosed by 14 macrophages and may mimic antibody-opsonized bacteria or cell debris. IC-coated 15 polystyrene beads, but not beads coated with antigen only, inhibited HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> replication in 16 a dose-dependent manner (Fig 1B). However, inhibition induced by immobilized ICs was 17 more reproducible (data not shown) and as efficient as when induced by immobilized IVIg (Fig 1C). The levels of IC- or IVIg-induced viral inhibition vary in parallel in MDM 18 19 preparations from different donors (Fig 1C). Replication competent viruses, including HIV-1 20 Bal, were also inhibited by immobilized ICs (data not shown). When equivalent concentrations of anti-DNP F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments were used to form DNP-21 22 anti-DNP ICs, no inhibition of HIV-1 replication was observed (Fig. 1D), indicating that the Fc portion of IgG is required for inhibition. Since complement is not present in incubation 23 24 medium, this result implies that HIV-1 inhibition induced by ICs is mediated by FcγR.

Inhibition of HIV-1 replication is mediated by activating  $Fc\gamma Rs$ 

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Human macrophages express several Fc $\gamma$ Rs. To identify which Fc $\gamma$ R(s) account(s) for IC-induced inhibition of HIV-1 replication, we investigated first the effect of engaging separately the three activating receptors known to be expressed on macrophages, and for which specific antibodies are available i.e. FcyRI, FcyRIIA and FcyRIIIA. MDMs were incubated with F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments of mAbs specific for each receptor or with irrelevant mouse F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, and seeded onto wells coated with F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments of goat anti-mouse Fab Abs. MDMs were then infected with HIV-1 BaL, and viral replication was evaluated by measuring p24 production. The incubation of MDMs with each of the FcγR-specific F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, but not with control F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, decreased p24 production, compared with unstimulated MDMs. Anti-FcyRIIA IV.3 F(ab')<sub>2</sub> induced the strongest inhibition (Fig 2). These results indicated that cross-linking activating receptors can induce an inhibition of HIV-1 replication. The level of viral suppression induced by F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments of antibodies against activating FcγRs was however generally lower than that induced by either IVIg or ICs ((Fig. 2 and data not shown). Human monocytes having been reported to express the inhibitory FcyRIIB, we investigated next the expression and the potential role of this receptor in HIV-1 inhibition. Because there are no available antibodies (Abs) that recognize specifically the extracellular domain of FcyRIIB, we generated FcyRIIB-specific and, as controls, FcyRIIA-specific polyclonal Abs by immunizing rabbits with peptides corresponding to the intracytoplasmic domain of each receptor. By Western blotting, anti-FcyRIIA Abs recognized proteins of the expected MW in lysates of cells stably transfected with cDNA encoding FcyRIIA but not in lysates of cells stably transfected with cDNA encoding FcyRIIB (Fig. 3A, left). Conversely, anti-FcyRIIB Abs recognized proteins of the expected MW in lysates of cells stably transfected with cDNA encoding FcyRIIB, but not in lysates of cells transfected with cDNA

1 encoding FcyRIIA (Fig. 3A, left). We used these Abs to evaluate the expression of FcyRIIA 2 and FcyRIIB in monocytes and macrophages. As a control, we also examined B lymphocytes 3 which express FcyRIIB. As expected, FcyRIIB was readily detected in B lymphocytes by the 4 anti-FcyRIIB Ab (Fig. 3A, right). In contrast, FcyRIIB was undetectable in monocyte or 5 macrophage lysates at concentrations that showed very strong FcyRIIA signals (Fig. 3A, 6 right). The same results were found with MDMs from four different donors. Thus, FcyRIIB 7 was not detectably expressed in MDMs under our experimental conditions. When analyzed by 8 RT-PCR with FcyRIIB or FcyRIIA specific primers, FcyRIIB transcripts were detected in 9 MDM RNA, but in lower amount than FcyRIIA transcripts (Fig 3B). Indeed, when analyzing 10 three ten-fold dilutions of MDM cDNA, FcyRIIB transcripts were clearly detected in the first 11 dilution and barely detected in the second dilution, whereas FcyRIIA transcripts were detected 12 in all three dilutions (Fig 3B). The same results were found with MDMs from two different 13 donors. Altogether, WB and RT-PCR results indicate that FcyRIIA is the predominant FcyRII 14 in MDMs. To assess whether, although undetected by Western blotting, FcyRIIB could 15 modulate FcyRIIA-mediated inhibition of HIV-1 replication, we compared the effect of IV.3 16 F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, which recognize the extracellular domain of FcγRIIA but not that of FcγRIIB, and the effect of AT10 F(ab')2, which recognize the extracellular domains of FcyRIIA, FcyRIIB and 17 18 FcyRIIC. Similar percentages of positive cells and similar mean fluorescence intensities were 19 found when MDM were stained with either AT10 or IV.3 F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 3C). AT10 and IV.3 20 F(ab')<sub>2</sub> induced comparable HIV-1 inhibition in infected MDM (Fig 3D).

Both expression and functional analyses altogether suggest that activating, rather than inhibitory FcyRs account for the IC-induced inhibition of HIV-1 replication in MDM.

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MDM stimulation through FcyR induces activation signals and cytokine secretion

1 We then investigated the signaling events induced by FcyRs in MDMs and their consequences 2 on infection by HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub>. As expected, tyrosine phosphorylation of a number of 3 intracellular proteins, including PLC-y and Erk1/2, increased in IVIg-stimulated MDMs (Fig. 4 4A). PLC-γ phosphorylation was transient whereas Erk1/2 phosphorylation was sustained in 5 non infected MDMs (Fig. 4A,C). HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> infection did not detectably modify the 6 phosphorylation patterns or kinetics (Fig. 4B), even when examined over an extended period 7 of time (Fig. 4C). 8 In order to assess the effect of blocking activating FcyR-mediated signaling on HIV-1 9 inhibition in IC-stimulated MDMs, we used piceatannol, reported as an inhibitor of the 10 tyrosine kinase Syk that is recruited by phosphorylated ITAMs in FcyR aggregates (30). Piceatannol concentrations of 20-40 µM partially but significantly (p=0.001) removed viral 11 12 suppression in IC-stimulated MDM infected with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> (data not shown). However, 13 piceatannol treatment also caused a dose-dependent inhibition of HIV-1 replication in 14 unstimulated MDM, which was almost complete at concentrations higher than 50 µM (data not shown), possibly because of the inhibition of phosphorylation pathways involved in HIV-15 16 1 replication. Indeed piceatannol can inhibit not only Syk but also numerous tyrosine and 17 serine-threonine kinases (31-33).

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MDM stimulation by either IVIg or ICs induced chemokine and cytokine secretion, including M-CSF, MDC and TNF- $\alpha$  (Fig. S1 A and (18)). Cross-linking of activating Fc $\gamma R$ with anti-FcyR F(ab')<sub>2</sub> on MDMs also induced the secretion of M-CSF (Fig. 4D) and other cytokines (not shown). Whether using IVIg or ICs or anti-FcyR F(ab')2, in all cases the amounts of cytokines secreted by FcyR-activated MDMs, and particularly M-CSF, correlated with the magnitude of inhibition of HIV-1 replication (Figs. 2 & 4A, (18) and data not shown). However, we previously reported that HIV-1 suppression could not be induced by

1 exposing MDMs to cytokine-containing supernatants from IVIG-stimulated MDMs and that

- 2 MDC neutralization in IVIG-stimulated MDM cultures did not restore HIV-1 replication (18).
- 3 These results indicate that neither MDC nor other secreted factors are responsible for FcyR-
- 4 mediated HIV-1 inhibition. Supporting this conclusion, anti-M-CSF or anti-TNF-α
- 5 neutralizing Abs reduced, rather than enhanced HIV-1 infection in unstimulated MDMs, and
- 6 increased IVIG-induced inhibition (Fig. S1 B).

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7 HIV-1 cDNA and integrated proviruses are decreased in FcyR-activated macrophages

To identify the steps in the HIV-1 replicative cycle that are inhibited in FcyR-activated MDMs, we measured the intermediate products of HIV-1 replication using real time PCR (rtPCR) in single-round infections with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> from entry to integration. We used primers and probes amplifying early (R-U5) and late (U5-Gag) products of reverse transcription (RT), 2-LTR circles (2-LTR), and integrated proviruses (Alu-LTR). We found similar HIV-1 replication inhibition profiles in MDMs activated either by IVIg or by ICs in MDMs from three different donors. A representative experiment is shown in Fig 5. Luciferase activity in cell lysates was much lower in IC-activated MDMs (90% inhibition at 96h) than in unstimulated MDMs (Fig. 5A). Similar levels of R-U5 products were found by rtPCR in unstimulated and in IC-stimulated MDMs at 4 and 24 h post infection (p.i.) (Fig. 5B). At these early times, R-U5 products essentially reflect the input virus entered into the cells and the initial synthesis of the first products of retrotranscription. However, at later times p.i., the levels of both early and late RT products were decreased in IC-activated MDMs compared to unstimulated MDMs (Fig. 5B,C). Among the nuclear forms of HIV-1 cDNA, 2-LTR circles were only slightly less abundant in IC-activated MDMs than in unstimulated MDMs (Fig. 5D), whereas the number of integrated copies, determined from Alu-LTR levels, progressively decreased over time in IC-activated MDMs (64 and 76% inhibition at 48 and 96 hours p.i. respectively) (Fig. 5E). Accordingly, the ratio between 2-LTR circles and integrated forms

was higher in IC-activated MDMs than in control MDMs and increased over time (2-LTR

- 2 copies were at 6% and 2,6% of Alu-LTR copies at 48 h p.i. and at 38% and 15% at 96h p.i. in
- 3 IC-activated and in unstimulated MDMs respectively) (Fig. 5F). This result suggests that
- 4 unintegrated viral forms accumulate in FcyR-activated MDM while integrated forms decrease.

- Early post-integration steps are not inhibited in  $Fc\gamma R$ -activated macrophages
  - We then determined whether Fc $\gamma$ R-mediated activation of macrophages could affect HIV-1 post-integration steps, including transcription. MDMs were infected with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> and cells were kept in suspension for 72 or 96 hours before they were plated onto IVIg-coated or uncoated wells. Under these conditions, MDMs activation was triggered after most of the viral DNA should be integrated (Fig. 5 and results not shown). Forty eight hours after activation, similar levels of luciferase activity were found in lysates from unstimulated and from IVIg-stimulated MDMs (Fig. 6). By contrast, the same MDM preparation activated at the same time as infection showed a luciferase activity 82% lower in IVIg-stimulated MDMs than in unstimulated cells (Fig. 6). These results indicate that HIV-1 transcription and protein synthesis are not affected by Fc $\gamma$ R-mediated activation in macrophages.

- FcyR-mediated activation of macrophages inhibits the replication of primate lentiviruses
- All lentiviruses can complete integration in non-dividing cells and can thus replicate in macrophages. We therefore wondered whether other primate lentiviruses would also be susceptible to FcγR-mediated inhibition in human macrophages. MDMs were infected with HIV-2sbl, SIVmac or SIVagm, plated onto wells coated with ICs, and viral p27 levels were measured in culture supernatants every three days for 23 days (Fig. 7A-C). All three lentiviruses replicated efficiently in control MDMs, with p27 production becoming greater than 1 μg/ml. p27 levels were markedly reduced in the cultures of MDMs infected with each

of the three viruses and stimulated with ICs (Fig. 7A-C). FcγR-mediated inhibition of viral infection is therefore not limited to HIV-1 but affects other primate lentiviruses.

Fc $\gamma$ R-mediated inhibition affects HIV-1 reverse transcription and integration that are peculiar features of retroviral replication. We therefore investigated whether Fc $\gamma$ R-mediated activation of MDMs could affect other viruses. For this experiment, we used the West Nile (WN) Virus, an unrelated macrophagotropic *Flaviviridae* virus. WN virus replication in unstimulated MDMs was compared with that in Fc $\gamma$ R-stimulated MDMs (Fig. 7D). As a control for inhibition, MDMs were treated with IFN- $\alpha$  (34-36). MDMs were infected with WN virus IS-98-ST1 strain at 1 m.o.i. No cytopathic effect was observed in any condition (not shown). After 72 hours, titres of virus produced in cell culture supernatants were determined. No difference was observed in the virus titre between unstimulated and stimulated MDMs (Fig. 7D). However, as expected, virus titre was strongly decreased in IFN- $\alpha$  treated MDMs. These results suggest therefore that Fc $\gamma$ R-mediated inhibition selectively affects lentiviruses.

### **Discussion**

In the present study, we show 1) that the inhibition of HIV-1 replication that we previously reported in macrophages plated onto immobilized IVIg (18), can also be induced by IgG immune complexes; 2) that activating Fc $\gamma$ Rs account for HIV-1 inhibition, but that Fc $\gamma$ R-induced cytokines are not responsible for HIV-1 inhibition; 3) that inhibition affects neither viral entry nor post integration steps, but causes a reduction of viral cDNA and blocks viral integration; 4) that Fc $\gamma$ R-mediated suppression is not limited to HIV-1 but also affects other primate lentiviruses.

We showed that the three known ITAM-bearing Fc $\gamma$ Rs can mediate HIV-1 replication inhibition. Although the levels of HIV-1 inhibition varied depending on the MDM

1 preparation, it was consistently higher upon FcyRIIA cross-linking than upon FcyRI or 2 FcyRIIIA cross-linking (Fig. 2). Whether this difference is due to a higher expression of 3 FcyRIIA on MDMs, to specific properties of this receptor, or to a higher affinity of the anti-FcγRIIA mAb used is not known. Inhibition of HIV-1 correlated with MDM activation, as 4 5 judged by M-CSF and MDC secretion. Accordingly, the partial recovery of HIV-1 replication by piceatannol in IC-stimulated MDM may suggest that blocking signalling pathways 6 7 downstream activating FcyRs can remove HIV-1 inhibition. However, the significance of this 8 result was obscured by a direct inhibitory effect of piceatannol on HIV-1 replication. Both 9 inhibition of HIV-1 and MDM activation were generally lower when induced by anti-FcyR F(ab')<sub>2</sub> than when induced by IVIg or ICs. This is consistent with previous studies showing 10 11 that FcyR cross-linking with immobilized IgG induces TNF secretion by human monocytes, whereas cross-linking with anti-FcyR antibodies does not (37). It also indicates that ICs or 12 13 IVIg are more efficient at aggregating FcyRs than anti-FcyR antibodies. 14 We found no evidence that FcyRIIB contributes to IC-induced HIV-1 inhibition in 15 MDMs. On possible reason is the low expression of FcyRIIB in these cells. We did not detect 16 FcyRIIB proteins by Western blotting, but we found relatively low levels of FcyRIIB transcripts by RT-PCR, in MDMs. These results are consistent with previous reports where 17 18 FcyRIIB detection by Western blotting required very high amounts of monocytes (38, 39). 19 FcyRIIB is highly regulated by culture conditions and the presence of cytokines, including IL-4 (38-40). Culture conditions used for macrophages differentiation, i.e. culture medium 20 21 supplemented with human serum but with no added cytokines, may not be optimal for 22 FcγRIIB expression. Our data, however, do not exclude that, if expressed at sufficient levels, 23 FcyRIIB could negatively regulate HIV-1 replication inhibition by activated FcyRs. The

1 coengagement of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA/C and Fc $\gamma$ RIIB by AT10 F(ab')<sub>2</sub>, however, had the same effect on

HIV-1 replication as the engagement of FcγRIIA alone by IV.3 F(ab')<sub>2</sub>.

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FcyRs have been involved in either enhancement or inhibition of HIV-1 infection when engaged by anti-HIV-1 antibodies. FcyRI has been suggested to contribute to the control of infection in HIV-1-infected patients by favoring the internalization of HIV-1-IgG complexes and the degradation of the virus in macrophages (41). Likewise, bispecific Abs that could target HIV-1 to macrophage activating FcyRs inhibited HIV-1 infection (42). On the contrary, FcyRI or FcyRIII have been suggested to enhance the entry of Ab-opsonized HIV-1 virions into macrophages (43-45). Whatever the effects of activating FcyRs when engaged by HIV-anti-HIV immune complexes, we consistently found that activating FcyRs inhibited HIV-1 infection when engaged by irrelevant IgG immune complexes. It was recently reported that FcyRIIA/IIIA polymorphisms which confer higher avidity binding to ICs are associated with protection against HIV infection, but, on the contrary, these same polymorphisms are associated with the likelihood of infection in HIV gp120-vaccinated individuals (46). Based on these data, one may speculate that in the presence of preexistent HIV-gp120 specific antibodies induced by vaccination, higher avidity for ICs may be deleterious favoring Ab-dependent enhancement of HIV infection. In contrast, in the absence of preexistent HIV-1 antibodies, higher avidity of FcyRs for circulating ICs may favor protection against incoming infection by limiting viral replication in IC-activated macrophages. Macrophage activation by FcyRs affects the mechanisms that eventually lead to

proviral integration. Previous qualitative PCR analysis of IVIg-stimulated MDMs infected with a replication competent virus detected a reduction in integrated proviral DNA but not in reverse transcription products (18). Using one-round infections, which avoid overlapping replication cycles, and quantitative PCR, we now show that, whereas reverse transcription

was not affected at the earliest times p.i., the levels of both early and late cDNA products were eventually reduced in activated MDMs (Fig. 5). Levels of integrated proviruses were further inhibited in either IVIg or IC-stimulated MDMs. By contrast, the ratio of circular 2-LTR forms to integrated forms was higher in activated macrophages than in controls (Fig. 5F). 2-LTR circles are unintegrated nuclear forms of HIV-1 DNA (47-49) and thus reflect the translocation of viral transcripts into the nucleus of infected cells. Our results suggest that unintegrated HIV-1 DNA accumulates because of an inhibition of integration, as observed with anti-integrase drugs (50). The level of HIV-1 integrated forms in FcγR-activated MDMs decreased to levels similar as viral replication inhibition levels, as shown by reduced luciferase activity (Fig. 5 and data not shown), suggesting that the postintegration steps of replication are unaffected. We confirmed this hypothesis by showing that FcγR-stimulation did not alter viral gene expression, once integration was achieved (Fig. 6).

The activation of PI3K or of the MAPK pathways has been shown to be essential for an efficient replication of HIV-1 (51-53). Therefore, one expects early signaling events triggered by activating Fc $\gamma$ R cross-linking to favor HIV-1 replication rather than to exert an anti-viral effect. We thus suggest that Fc $\gamma$ R-induced late signaling events, which need to be identified in future work, are involved in HIV-1 inhibition. These might include the mobilization, the neosynthesis or the suppression of molecules that are critical for reverse transcription and/or integration. Fc $\gamma$ R-activated MDMs secrete several cytokines, such as M-CSF, TNF- $\alpha$  and MDC, which either up- or down-regulate HIV-1 infection in macrophages (54-56). Neutralization of these cytokines in MDM cultures showed that the inhibitory mechanisms induced by Fc $\gamma$ R-aggregation overcome the enhancing effects of M-CSF and TNF- $\alpha$  on HIV-1 replication and are not linked to MDC (18) and data not shown). The preintegration inhibition induced by Fc $\gamma$ R stimulation is reminiscent of the inhibitory effects of IFN- $\alpha$  et  $\beta$  (57). IFN- $\alpha$ / $\beta$  was, however, not detected in Fc $\gamma$ R-activated MDM supernatant

1 (18). In addition, West Nile virus infection, which is inhibited by IFN- $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  (Fig. 7B and

2 (34, 35)), was not affected in FcγR-activated MDM. The participation of type I IFNs in HIV-

3 1 inhibition in FcγR-activated MDM is therefore unlikely.

Two distinct inhibition mechanisms may be operating: one affecting the retrotranscription process, and another inhibiting viral integration after nuclear translocation of HIV-1 cDNA. A single mechanism may however inhibit both steps of the viral cycle. An increased degradation of reverse transcripts by endonucleases, as suggested for APOBEC3G (58), or of incoming viral proteins by the proteasome (59, 60), would reduce both the levels of reverse transcripts and the reverse transcription products available for integration. Alternatively, mechanisms that hinder HIV-1 integrase activity and/or affect the preintegration complex (PIC) stability would have a negative impact on both integration and reverse transcription. Indeed, although reverse transcription and integration occur in distinct cellular compartments, they take place in the same molecular environment formed by the PIC (61). Moreover, HIV-1 integrase was involved in different steps of the HIV-1 life cycle, including reverse transcription (62, 63).

Remarkably, FcγR-mediated anti-viral activity is not limited to HIV-1 as it also affects other primate lentiviruses. By contrast, unrelated macrophage-tropic viruses such as the West Nile Virus were not affected, suggesting that FcγR-mediated anti-viral activity is not a general anti-viral defense mechanism. If it targets highly conserved lentiviral proteins and/or their functions, such as reverse transcription and integration, one would expect inhibition to affect other HIV-1-related lentiviruses. It would be interesting to study the effect of FcγR-mediated activation of macrophages on the replication of lentiviruses in their natural hosts in more distant animal systems. This would be especially relevant for diseases caused by lentiviruses having a restricted tropism for macrophages, such as the caprine arthritis and encephalitis virus (CAEV) or the Maedi-Visna virus.

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# Acknowledgements

- 3 We are grateful to Audrey Brussel and Norio Yamamoto for reagents and methods for rtPCR,
- 4 Emmanuelle Lenôtre (Applied Biosystems) for help in designing the R-U5 probe. We thank
- 5 Hugues Sudry for his contribution to cytokine analysis and Philippe Despres for expert
- 6 assistance in experiments of infection with the West Nile Virus. We thank Roger Legrand and
- 7 Michael Ploquin for providing HIV-2, SIVmac and SIVagm strains.

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## Figure legends

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2 Figure 1. IgG-immune complexes inhibit HIV-1 replication in MDMs. (A) MDMs infected 3 with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> were plated on wells treated with BSA only (unstimulated, US) or coated 4 with 30 µg/ml anti-DNP Abs (a-DNP) or with decreasing concentrations of DNP-BSA (10, 1, 5 0.1 µg/well) followed or not by 30 µg/ml anti-DNP Abs; (B) MDMs were plated and 6 incubated with medium (US) or with 3µm polystyrene beads coated with DNP-BSA-anti DNP ICs (IC) or with DNP-BSA only (Ag) at a bead:cell ratio of 10:1 and 30:1 (10, 30) and 7 8 infected with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub>; (C) HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> infected MDMs from three different donors were 9 stimulated with either immobilized IVIg or ICs. Results are expressed as percentage of inhibition of luciferase activity (means and SD of three independent wells) found in 10 unstimulated MDMs plated on BSA or DNP-BSA. (D) HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> infected MDMs were 11 12 plated on wells coated with 10 µg/well DNP-BSA or with complexes formed by DNP-BSA 13 with 30 µg/ml of either anti-DNP IgG or anti-DNP F(ab')2 and infected with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub>. In 14 all the experiments luciferase activity was measured in cell lysates 72 hours p.i. Results are 15 expressed as means and SD of three independent wells. 16 Figure 2. Cross-linking of activating FcγRs inhibit HIV-1 replication. MDMs were incubated 17 with medium (unstimulated, US), with irrelevant F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (C) or with F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments of mAbs specific for FcyRI (32.2), FcyRIIA (IV.3) or FcyRIII (3G8), and plated on anti-mouse-18 19 Fab F(ab')<sub>2</sub>-coated wells. As a control of HIV-1 inhibition, MDMs were stimulated in parallel 20 with IVIg. MDMs were then infected with HIV-1 Bal. Results are expressed as means and SD 21 of the percentage of infection in three independent wells (evaluated by p24 levels in supernatants) on day 8 p.i. with respect to unstimulated MDMs (p24 = 202 ng/ml). 22 23 Comparisons among data sets were performed by independent sample t-test. A representative 24 experiment of three performed with MDM from different donors is shown.

1 Figure 3. FcyRIIB is undetectable by Western blotting in MDM and does not apparently 2 regulate activating FcyR-mediated HIV-1 inhibition. (A) Left: RBL cells transfected with 3 cDNA encoding FcyRIIA or anti-FcyRIIB were western blotted with polyclonal rabbit anti-FcγRIIA or anti-FcγRIIB. Right: B-lymphocytes, monocytes or MDM lysates (10 μg) were 4 5 western blotted with polyclonal rabbit anti-FcyRIIA or anti-FcyRIIB. (B) RNA from MDMs 6 was analyzed by RT-PCR for expression of FcyRIIA and FcyRIIB transcripts. 0.5 µg of RNA were reverse transcribed. PCR amplification with primers specific to each receptor was 7 8 performed on sequential ten-fold dilutions of the cDNA mixture. (C) FACS analysis of 9 MDMs stained with F(ab')<sub>2</sub> of mAbs directed against FcyRIIA (IV.3) (solid line) or against 10 the FcyRs IIA, IIB and IIC (AT.10) (dashed line). (D) MDMs were incubated with medium (unstimulated, US), with ICs (IC), with 5µg/10<sup>6</sup> MDM of irrelevant F(ab') (C) or with F(ab')<sub>2</sub> 11 derived from IV.3 or AT10 mAbs at decreasing concentrations (5, 1, 0.2, 0.04 µg/10<sup>6</sup> MDM) 12 13 and plated on anti-mouse-Fab F(ab')<sub>2</sub> coated wells to cross-link bound F(ab')<sub>2</sub>. MDMs were 14 infected with HIV-1 Bal. Results are expressed as percentage of infection (evaluated by p24 levels in supernatants) on day 6 p.i. with respect to unstimulated MDM (p24 = 658 ng/ml). 15 16 Values are means and SD of three independent wells. Similar results were obtained in 17 experiments performed with MDM from three different donors. **Figure 4.** FcyR aggregation induces activation signals in MDMs and cytokine secretion (A-C) 18 19 Non-infected or HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> infected MDMs were stimulated by being plated onto IgG-coated (S) or non-coated wells (US) for the indicated times before being lysed. Proteins (40 µg) were 20 21 electrophoresed and western blotted with anti-phosphotyrosine (anti-pY), anti-phospho-PLC-22 γ1, or anti-phospho-Erk Abs. Anti-Erk Abs were used as loading controls. (D) M-CSF 23 secretion after cross-linking of activating FcyRs. M-CSF secreted in the supernatants of unstimulated MDM (US), MDM incubated with irrelevant F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (C) or with F(ab')<sub>2</sub> specific 24

1 for each activating FcyR and plated on anti-mouse-Fab F(ab')2-coated wells was measured 2 48h after cell plating by ELISA (means of duplicates). 3 Figure 5. FcyR-mediated activation causes a reduction of HIV-1 retrotranscripts and of integrated proviruses in MDMs. MDMs were infected with DNAse treated HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> and 4 5 plated on DNP-BSA coated plates (unstimulated, US) or stimulated with ICs (S). Luciferase 6 activity was monitored at 24, 48 and 96 h p.i. in MDM lysates (A). Early and late 7 retrotranscription products and 2-LTR circles were analyzed by rtPCR using the appropriate 8 primers (R-U5, U5-Gag, 2-LTR) and probes (B-D). Integrated copies were evaluated by Alu-9 LTR nested rtPCR. Values are means of duplicate measures at the indicated times p.i. (E). Ratios between 2-LTR circles and integrated nuclear forms of HIV-1 at 48 and 96 h p.i. as 10 11 measured by rtPCR in unstimulated or IC-activated MDMs. Results from a representative 12 experiment of three performed with MDM from different donors are shown. 13 Figure 6. FcγR-mediated activation of MDMs after viral integration does not affect HIV-1 14 gene expression. MDMs were infected with HIV-1<sub>VSV-G</sub> and immediately stimulated (0 h) 15 with immobilized IgG or kept in suspension for 72 h or 96 h before stimulation. Luciferase 16 activity in cell lysates was measured 72 h p.i. for MDM stimulated at time 0 and 48 h after 17 activation for MDM stimulated 72 or 96 h p.i. Results are expressed as percentage of the luciferase activity (means and SD of 3 independent wells) found in unstimulated MDM. The 18 19 experiment shown is representative of experiments on MDM from three different donors. 20 Figure 7. FcyR-mediated activation inhibits HIV-2, SIVmac and SIVagm replication, but not 21 WN virus replication in MDMs. (A-C) Unstimulated (dotted line) or IC-stimulated (solid line) MDMs were infected with HIV-2<sub>SBL</sub>, SIVmac251 or SIVagmGril and infection was 22 23 monitored between seven and 23 days by p27 levels in culture supernatants. The results 24 shown (means and SD of 3 independent wells) are representative of experiments on MDMs

from three different donors. (D) MDMs were infected with WN virus. MDMs, unstimulated

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1 (US), stimulated with immobilized IgG (S), or treated by IFN- $\alpha$  were infected with IS-98-ST1

- strain. Supernatants were harvested at 72 hours p.i. and virus infectivity was titrated by focus
- 3 immunodetection assay (FIA). Data are expressed as means and SD of 3 independent wells.