

1 **Local proliferation maintains a stable pool of tissue-resident memory T**
2 **cells following antiviral recall responses**

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While tissue-resident memory T (T_{RM}) cells play a critical role against infection, their fate following local pathogen reencounter is unknown. Here, we found that skin T_{RM} cells engaged virus infected cells, proliferated *in situ* in response to local antigen encounter and did not migrate out of the epidermis where they exclusively reside. As a consequence, secondary T_{RM} cells formed from pre-existing T_{RM} cells, as well as from precursors recruited from the circulation. Importantly, newly recruited antigen-specific or bystander T_{RM} cells were generated in the skin without displacement of the pre-existing T_{RM} cell pool. Thus, pre-existing skin T_{RM} populations are not displaced by subsequent infections, enabling multiple T_{RM} cell specificities to be stably maintained within the tissue.

68 Tissue-resident memory T (T_{RM}) cells are non-circulating lymphocytes that preferentially
69 localize to sites of pathogen entry. T_{RM} cells are critical mediators of anti-pathogen immunity
70 and are becoming recognized as key players in cancer, autoimmune and allergic pathologies¹
71 ². These cells exist in most organs and tissues in both humans and mice, and are found at high
72 densities at sites of previous infection or inflammation^{3, 4, 5}. T_{RM} cells are generated from
73 precursors transiently present in the circulation, and are phenotypically distinct from
74 circulating memory T cells (T_{CIRC}), bearing a unique transcriptional profile that is acquired
75 during differentiation in the tissue^{6, 7, 8, 9}.

76

77 The restricted anatomical localization and unique gene expression program enables T_{RM} cells
78 to mediate local immunosurveillance and rapid protection against reinfection. Local antigen
79 sensing by T_{RM} cells can also result in the enhanced recruitment of both adaptive and innate
80 circulating cells to the site of T_{RM} cell activation^{10, 11, 12}. However, surprisingly little is known
81 regarding the fate of T_{RM} cells following secondary pathogen encounter. It is not known if
82 T_{RM} cells persist into secondary memory after recall responses, or whether pre-existing T_{RM}
83 cells are displaced by “new” T_{RM} cell populations generated by subsequent infections. It is
84 also unclear whether reactivation of T_{RM} cells can lead to re-entry into the recirculating pool.

85

86 Skin T_{RM} cells persist in the epidermis, where they remain at the site of initial lodgment
87 without diffusing through the tissue^{13, 14}. Skin T_{RM} cells show minimal evidence of turnover
88 in the steady-state¹⁵, depend uniquely on fatty acid metabolism¹⁶ and express molecules
89 associated with inhibitory T cell function. Therefore, it might be expected that T_{RM} cells are
90 terminally differentiated and unable to expand and survive following recall. Here, we
91 examined the T_{RM} cell response to secondary viral infection utilizing experimental
92 approaches that enabled the comparison of responses by T_{RM} and T_{CIRC} cells. We utilized a
93 model of herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV) infection that infects the skin before entering the
94 sensory ganglia, where it emerges via zosteriform spread as a band of lesions over the
95 dermatome that is innervated by a single nerve¹⁷. T_{RM} cells in the tissue can block peripheral
96 HSV replication indirectly by affecting neuronal infection¹⁸. To determine if skin-lodged T_{RM}
97 cells can control HSV directly at the skin surface, we reasoned that protection would be
98 confined to regions of skin that contained an area, or “patch” of embedded T_{RM} cells. We
99 show that in response to secondary viral infection, T_{RM} cells mediate such local protection,
100 engage virus-infected cells, remain constrained to their epidermal niche and proliferate *in situ*.
101 Skin T_{RM} cells were maintained as a stable population after recall. Furthermore, we found

102 that pre-existing T_{RM} cells were not displaced by newly recruited T_{RM} populations, but
103 instead they remained as a numerically stable population in the tissue.
104

105 **Results**

106

107 **Skin T_{RM} cells mediate local immune protection**

108 To understand how T_{RM} cells directly control virus infection at the point of pathogen entry,
109 we *in vitro* activated congenically marked CD45.1⁺ gBT-I transgenic CD8⁺ T cells that are
110 specific for the immunodominant determinant from HSV (gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅) to generate effector T
111 (T_{EFF}) cells. gBT-I T_{EFF} cells were transferred i.v. into C57BL/6 mice and were recruited into
112 a patch of lower flank skin in a non-specific manner using the contact sensitizer DNFB¹⁹.
113 This approach generates skin T_{RM} cells at frequencies similar to that of the gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅-specific
114 endogenous response induced by HSV infection but importantly, leaves the sensory ganglia
115 unpopulated by T cells. CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells expressing the surface markers CD69 and
116 CD103 were present in DNFB-treated skin, but not in untreated contralateral skin
117 (**Supplementary Fig. 1a, b**). HSV was inoculated on the upper flank skin >1cm above the
118 DNFB-treated patch containing gBT-I T_{RM} cells to induce HSV replication and infection of
119 the sensory ganglia (**Supplementary Fig. 1c**). 6d after HSV infection, a band of herpetic
120 lesions spread across the dermatome from the point of inoculation, but the DNFB-treated skin
121 patch remained clear of disease (**Supplementary Fig. 1d**). Viral titers were reduced 4d and
122 6d after infection in DNFB-treated skin that contained gBT-I T_{RM} cells, compared to
123 contralateral skin or to skin treated with DNFB but not transferred with gBT-I T cells (**Fig.**
124 **1a**). Thus, CD8⁺ T_{RM} cells can control HSV infection in the skin in a very discrete and
125 localized manner.

126

127 **Density of skin T_{RM} cells influences local immune protection**

128 Upon restimulation, T_{RM} cells may facilitate enhanced recruitment of memory T cells from
129 the circulation¹². We examined whether this was the case following recall of DNFB-lodged
130 skin T_{RM} cells via HSV infection on the DNFB-untreated upper flank. We observed reduced
131 recruitment of CD103⁻ CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T cells into DNFB-treated skin containing CD103⁺
132 CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells 3-6d post-HSV infection, when compared to skin that did not
133 contain gBT-I T_{RM} cells (**Fig. 1b**). This indicated that skin T_{RM} cells were dominating local
134 virus protection, consistent with previous findings showing that T_{RM} cells can protect in the
135 absence of T_{CIRCM} cells^{20, 21, 22, 23}. To assess whether this protective response required an
136 appropriate density of T_{RM} cells to mediate protection, we transferred increasing numbers of
137 Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{EFF} cells into mice followed by DNFB-mediated skin lodgement. Mice were
138 rested for >30d and injected i.p. with Thy1.1-specific antibody to deplete the Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I

139 $T_{\text{CIRC}}^{\text{CM}}$ cells without affecting skin T_{RM} cells²⁰. Increasing the number of input Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I
140 T cells resulted in a concomitant increase in the number of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells in
141 DNFB-treated skin (**Fig. 1c**), and induced a dose-dependent reduction in viral load 6d
142 following HSV infection above the DNFB-treated skin patch (**Fig. 1d**). Thus, skin T_{RM} cells
143 mediate protection from infection in a manner dependent on their local density in the tissue
144 and independent of circulating T cells.

145

146 **Antigen-specific T_{RM} cells exhibit dynamic responses to skin infection**

147 To examine how skin T_{RM} cells mediate protection following infection, we transferred *in*
148 *vitro* activated EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells into mice followed by DNFB-mediated skin lodgement.
149 More than 30d following EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cell transfer we imaged the DNFB-treated skin
150 patch by intravital 2-photon microscopy (IV-2PM)²⁴. EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells displayed a
151 dendritic morphology, slow migration and were evenly distributed across the epidermal layer
152 but absent from the dermis in a manner characteristic of skin T_{RM} cells¹³ (**Fig. 2a**). To
153 determine if skin T_{RM} cells could respond to antigen *in situ*, >30d following EGFP⁺ gBT-I T
154 cell transfer and DNFB treatment, we delivered antigen directly into the epidermis by mixing
155 HSV-derived gB peptide with aqueous sorbolene cream and topically applying it to depilated
156 skin²⁵. Starting at 3h after gB peptide application we observed changes in the dendritic
157 morphology of skin EGFP⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells, which became more rounded with shorter
158 dendrites, and displayed reduced motility (**Fig. 2b,c and Movie 1**). In contrast, application of
159 non-specific ovalbumin (OVA) peptide did not alter the appearance or motility of skin
160 EGFP⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells (**Fig. 2b,c and Movie 1**), indicating that epidermal T_{RM} cells
161 responded to cognate antigen *in situ*.

162

163 We next examined the localization and migration of T_{RM} cells in DNFB-treated lower flank
164 skin 3-4d following infection of the DNFB-untreated upper flank skin with HSV-mCherry²⁶.
165 Following zosteriform spread, small epidermal foci of infected HSV-mCherry⁺ cells were
166 observed in DNFB-treated skin by 3.5d post-infection, and slow, but noticeable spreading of
167 mCherry⁺ HSV occurred over the 4h imaging period (**Supplementary Fig. 2a**). EGFP⁺ gBT-I
168 T cells clustered near HSV-mCherry⁺ infected cells, while epidermal cells distal to virus
169 foci remained evenly distributed (**Supplementary Fig. 2b**). This suggested local
170 accumulation of EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells in response to the virus, but without the possibility of
171 distinguishing between T_{RM} cells and T cells recruited from the circulation. We also observed
172 highly motile EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells in the underlying dermis (**Fig. 2d and Movie 2**). EGFP⁺

173 gBT-I T cells that engaged mCherry⁺ HSV-infected cells showed reduced motility and more
174 restricted migration around the virus foci compared with the EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells not
175 recruited to foci of HSV-infected cells (**Fig. 2e, f**). Non-specific EGFP⁺ OT-I T cells
176 transferred to a second group of DNFB-treated mice as a control did not cluster in this
177 manner following mCherry⁺ HSV challenge (**Fig. 2d and Movie 3**). EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells
178 also retained their dendritic morphology, motility and epidermal localization following
179 mCherry⁺ HSV challenge (**Fig. 2d and Movie 3**), suggesting that the changes in T_{RM} cell
180 behavior we observed during viral recall depended on recognition of cognate antigen. To
181 confirm this, we co-transferred equal numbers of activated EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells with
182 lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV)-specific DsRed⁺ P14 T cells and treated mice
183 with DNFB to generate skin T_{RM} of alternate specificities on the lower flank. 30d later, mice
184 were challenged with CFP⁺ HSV on the upper flank and DNFB-treated skin imaged by IV-
185 2PM. EGFP⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells clustered and dynamically engaged CFP⁺ HSV-infected cells
186 3.5d following infection, while DsRed⁺ P14 T cells did not (**Supplementary Fig. 2c**). Thus,
187 local HSV infection drove dynamic responses by skin T_{RM} cells that were dependent on
188 antigen-specific signals.

189

190 **Skin T_{RM} cell responses are epidermally constrained during recall**

191 We next asked whether epidermal T_{RM} cells could migrate towards foci of infected
192 keratinocytes as well as into the underlying dermis. To distinguish between gBT-I T_{RM} cells
193 and gBT-I T cells recruited from the circulation, we treated mice in which Thy1.1⁺ EGFP⁺
194 gBT-I T_{RM} cells had been lodged by DNFB treatment with Thy1.1 antibody, to selectively
195 remove Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRC} cells. 10d after antibody treatment, mice were infected above
196 the DNFB-treated skin with HSV-mCherry and imaged by IV-2PM 4d later. EGFP⁺ gBT-I
197 T_{RM} cells in the mCherry⁺ virus foci adopted a rounded morphology and were more sessile
198 than nearby EGFP⁺ T_{RM} cells that were not in contact with virus-infected cells (**Fig. 3a, b**
199 **and Movie 4**). Importantly, although we had observed highly motile dermal EGFP⁺ gBT-I T
200 cells in undepleted mice (**Fig 2d and Movie 2**), we did not observe EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells in
201 the dermis of Thy1.1 antibody-treated mice (**Fig. 3c**), indicating that T_{RM} cells responding to
202 challenge within the epidermis did not transit into the dermis.

203

204 Next, we directly compared the recall responses of DNFB-lodged T_{RM} cells with those
205 mediated by memory T cells recruited from the circulation. To do this, we generated DNFB-
206 recruited skin T_{RM} cells using gBT-I T cells expressing the photoconvertible protein Kaede,

207 which changes from green to red fluorescence upon exposure to violet light²⁷. Mice were
208 infected with HSV-CFP above DNFB-treated skin and 2d later the DNFB skin patch was
209 photoconverted, resulting in Kaede-red⁺ epidermal T_{RM} cells, whilst unconverted gBT-I T
210 cells in the circulation remained Kaede-green⁺. Following the spread of HSV to the lower
211 skin flank on d3.5, both Kaede-red⁺ and Kaede-green⁺ gBT-I T cells accumulated around
212 CFP⁺ HSV foci (**Fig. 3d**). Kaede-red⁺ gBT-I T cells that were distal to virus remained evenly
213 distributed and localized to the epidermis, with a lower average velocity compared to the
214 predominantly Kaede-green⁺ gBT-I T cells in the dermis (**Fig. 3e**). To assess if T_{RM} cells
215 migrated from skin to LN during the recall response, we next examined the distribution of
216 photoconverted and unconverted gBT-I T cells in the skin and draining axillary lymph node
217 (dLN) 4-5d after infection with HSV. The majority (91 ± 4.6%) of gBT-I T cells in the skin
218 4d after HSV infection were Kaede-red⁺ (**Fig. 3f, g**), indicating that these were resident in the
219 skin prior to viral spread. On d5 post-infection, a greater proportion (34 ± 25%) of Kaede-
220 green⁺ gBT-I T cells was observed in the skin (**Fig. 3g**), indicating recruitment of gBT-I T
221 cells from the circulation. Notably, we could not detect Kaede-red⁺ gBT-I T cells in the dLN
222 at either time point after infection (**Fig. 3g**). Moreover, the Kaede-red⁺ gBT-I T cells retained
223 a CD103⁺CD69⁺ T_{RM} cell phenotype, distinct from that of Kaede-green⁺ gBT-I T cells that
224 were CD103⁻CD69⁻ (**Fig. 3h, i**). Together, these data indicate that skin T_{RM} cells responding
225 to recall virus infection remained constrained to the epidermis and did not migrate into the
226 dermis or local draining lymph nodes.

227

228 **T_{RM} cells proliferate locally in response to antigenic challenge**

229 Phenotypic flow cytometry analysis of gBT-I T_{RM} cells isolated from previously challenged
230 skin >30d after HSV infection or DNFB treatment showed increased surface expression of
231 multiple co-inhibitory molecules, including PD-1, Tim-3, LAG3, CD101, CD244, CTLA4
232 and ICOS in comparison with gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} cells (**Supplementary Fig. 3a, b**). Because these
233 inhibitory receptors are involved in the inhibition of T cell proliferation and effector
234 functions²⁸, we tested whether skin T_{RM} cells could undergo significant numerical expansion
235 upon challenge. As such, we generated mice with DNFB-lodged Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells
236 and treated them >30d later with Thy1.1 antibody to deplete gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} cells or with PBS
237 as control. Following infection with HSV above DNFB-treated skin, mice were treated i.p.
238 with bromodeoxyuridine (BrdU) to assess the proliferative capacity of DNFB-lodged T_{RM}
239 cells responding to HSV spread (**Supplementary Fig. 4a**). 7d post-HSV infection, a

240 population of circulating CD103⁻ gBT-I T cells was detected in the DNFB-treated skin of
241 PBS-treated control mice, whereas only CD103⁺ T_{RM} cells were detected in DNFB-treated
242 skin of Thy1.1 antibody-treated mice (**Fig. 4a**). Notably, a substantial proportion ($36 \pm$
243 5.4%) of CD103⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells from the skin of Thy1.1-depleted mice had incorporated
244 BrdU 7d post-infection (**Fig. 4b, c**). The proliferation marker Ki67 was also upregulated by
245 skin gBT-I T_{RM} cells following infection (**Fig. 4b and Supplementary Fig. 4b**), indicating
246 that skin T_{RM} cells proliferated *in situ* upon rechallenge. Ki67 was also upregulated by gBT-I
247 T cells in the spleen of PBS-treated controls after HSV infection (**Supplementary Fig. 4c**).
248 Divided BrdU⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells in DNFB-treated skin of Thy1.1-depleted mice remained
249 CD103⁺ 7d post-HSV infection (**Supplementary Fig. 4d**), suggesting that T_{RM} cell
250 proliferation expanded or maintained the epidermal T_{RM} cell pool and that T_{RM} cells did not
251 give rise to CD103⁻ T cells, nor lose CD103 expression upon stimulation. In a separate
252 approach, we induced skin gBT-I T_{RM} cells from adoptively transferred Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I naïve
253 T (T_N) cells by e.c. skin infection with recombinant vaccinia virus (VV) expressing the HSV
254 gB epitope (VV-gB) on the lower flank. After 30d mice were treated with Thy1.1 antibody to
255 deplete Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRC} cells and >7d later infected with HSV above the primary VV
256 infection site and subsequently treated with BrdU (**Supplementary Fig. 4a**). Increased BrdU
257 incorporation by skin Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells ($33.3 \pm 4.8\%$) was observed in comparison
258 with uninfected mice ($7.3 \pm 2.7\%$), indicating virally primed T_{RM} cells also divide upon
259 rechallenge (**Fig. 4d**). We also assessed the uptake of BrdU by gBT-I T_{RM} cells 2d after
260 transcutaneous application of HSV-gB peptide (**Fig 4e**). T_{RM} cells induced by DNFB
261 recruitment or local HSV infection showed similar proliferative responses ($45 \pm 15\%$ and 42
262 $\pm 6.6\%$ BrdU⁺, respectively) in response to HSV-gB peptide application (**Supplementary**
263 **Fig. 4e**). Finally, we tested whether skin gBT-I T_{RM} cell proliferation was antigen-specific by
264 applying HSV-gB peptide or a non-specific OVA peptide to the skin of DNFB-treated mice
265 administered BrdU, and observed that division of skin Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells only
266 occurred in response to cognate antigen (**Fig. 4f**). Together, these observations indicated that
267 skin T_{RM} cells were not terminally differentiated and divided *in situ* in response to viral
268 challenge.

269

270 However, we observed only a marginal increase in Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cell numbers in
271 DNFB-treated skin between 3 and 14d after HSV infection above the DNFB patch compared
272 to uninfected mice (**Supplementary Fig. 4f**). Amongst the rechallenged gBT-I T_{RM} cell
273 population we observed an increase in the proportion of annexinV⁺ (from $8.5 \pm 0.7\%$ to $18 \pm$

274 2.2%) and annexinV⁺ PI⁺ cells (from $7 \pm 0.7\%$ to $11 \pm 0.9\%$) 7d post HSV infection
275 compared to DNFB-lodged gBT-I T_{RM} cells at steady state (**Supplementary Fig. 4f and g**),
276 indicative of increased apoptosis of T_{RM} cells upon recall in addition to heightened
277 proliferation. In all, these data indicate that T_{RM} cells can be maintained by local proliferation
278 during secondary infections, without the requirement for replenishment from the circulating
279 T cell pool.

280

281 **Circulating T cells form T_{RM} cells without displacing pre-existing T_{RM} cells**

282 Next, we examined whether antigen-specific memory T cells in the circulation were recruited
283 to inflamed skin and developed into T_{RM} cells after secondary challenge. We also asked how
284 these incoming cells impacted on populations of pre-existing T_{RM} cells in the skin. To this
285 end, we performed antibody-mediated enrichment of CD44⁺CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} cells
286 isolated from spleens of mice that were previously infected with HSV and transferred them
287 into Thy1.1 antibody-treated recipient mice possessing DNFB-lodged Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I skin
288 T_{RM} cells. 2d following CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} cell transfer, recipient mice were infected
289 with HSV above DNFB-treated skin to restimulate both skin T_{RM} cells and adoptively
290 transferred T_{CIRCUM} cells (**Supplementary Fig. 5a**). CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} cells were
291 detected in DNFB-treated skin alongside Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells and persisted for at least
292 30d after HSV infection (**Fig. 5a, b**). CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} cells infiltrating the skin
293 upregulated both CD69 and CD103 (**Fig. 5c**), indicative of *de novo* T_{RM} cell formation from
294 circulating memory precursors. Importantly, stable numbers of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells were
295 maintained in the DNFB-treated skin before and after HSV challenge, irrespective of
296 CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRCUM} transfer (**Fig. 5b**), indicating that the pre-existing skin T_{RM} cell
297 population was not displaced by subsequent T_{RM} cell generation. Together, these findings
298 indicate that both local maintenance of pre-existing T_{RM} cells and *de novo* differentiation of
299 restimulated T_{CIRCUM} cells into T_{RM} cells contribute independently to maintenance or
300 expansion of the T_{RM} cell pool upon secondary infection.

301

302 We then sought to determine whether CD8⁺ T_{EFF} cells of an unrelated specificity would give
303 rise to T_{RM} cells in HSV-infected skin containing pre-existing T_{RM} cells. Mice with DNFB-
304 lodged non-HSV-specific Thy1.1⁺ P14 skin T_{RM} cells were depleted of Thy1.1⁺ P14 T_{CIRCUM}
305 cells by administration of Thy1.1 antibody and infected with HSV above the DNFB patch
306 >7d later. Mice were adoptively transferred with *in vitro*-activated CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{EFF} cells
307 and examined after 30d (**Supplementary Fig. 5b**). HSV infection resulted in non-HSV-

308 specific CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{EFF} cell recruitment into DNFB-treated skin (**Fig. 5d, e**), and these
309 bystander CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{EFF} cells had converted to a CD69⁺CD103⁺ T_{RM} cell phenotype
310 (**Fig. 5f**). The number of pre-existing Thy1.1⁺ P14 skin T_{RM} cells was not affected by
311 CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{EFF} cell transfer despite *de novo* OT-I T_{RM} cell formation (**Fig. 5e**).

312

313 Because the presence of local antigen in the tissue can influence the formation of T_{RM} cells^{29,}
314 ^{30, 31}, we next examined the recall of T_{RM} cells induced by direct skin infection with a virus
315 rather than DNFB recruitment. Mice were transferred with naïve Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I (T_N) cells
316 and infected on the lower flank skin with VV-gB to generate a population of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I
317 T_{RM} cells and Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{CIRCM} cells were subsequently depleted by Thy1.1 antibody
318 administration. More than 30d following VV-gB infection and >7d following T_{CIRCM}
319 depletion, mice were challenged with HSV above the initial VV-gB scarification site and
320 transferred with *in vitro* activated CD45.1⁺ non-specific OT-I T_{EFF} cells (**Supplementary Fig.**
321 **5c**). Both Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells generated in response to VV-gB infection and bystander
322 CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells were detected in skin at the previously infected VV-gB site >30d
323 after HSV challenge (Fig. 5g-i). The number of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells in VV-gB
324 challenged skin was not altered after HSV infection, and unchanged by the transfer of
325 bystander OT-I T_{EFF} cells, despite induction of substantial OT-I T_{RM} cells after HSV infection
326 (**Fig. 5h**), suggesting that virally induced T_{RM} cells are also stably maintained upon
327 reinfection. Further, to examine recall responses to HSV in the absence of antibody-mediated
328 protection, B cell-deficient *Igmh*(μ MT)^{-/-} mice adoptively transferred with Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_N
329 cells were infected with HSV on the lower flank and treated with Thy1.1 antibody >30d post-
330 infection to induce T_{CIRCM} depletion. 10d following T_{CIRCM} depletion, mice were re-
331 challenged on the upper flank with HSV and transferred *in vitro* activated OT-I CD45.1 T_{EFF}
332 cells (**Supplementary Fig. 5d**). Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells generated by the primary HSV
333 infection were detected in post-lesional skin >30d following HSV rechallenge
334 (**Supplementary Fig. 5e**). Previously infected skin also contained CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{EFF} that
335 had converted into CD69⁺CD103⁺ T_{RM} cells, without impacting the numbers of Thy1.1⁺
336 gBT-I T_{RM} cells (**Supplementary Fig. 5e**). Combined, these results show that pre-existing
337 and incoming T_{RM} cell populations of identical or different specificities can be maintained
338 and established concomitantly, and do not outcompete one another in the context of local
339 infection.

340

341 **New T_{RM} cells minimally dislodge of pre-existing T_{RM} cells**

342 To determine whether a maximal capacity for T_{RM} cell generation exists within the skin, we
343 transferred increasing numbers of CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{EFF} cells into mice and induced T_{RM} cell
344 lodgement in the skin using DNFB. Although increased T cell input in the range of 1-
345 100×10⁶ gBT-I T_{EFF} cells resulted in increasing numbers of splenic gBT-I T cells (**Fig. 6a**),
346 the number of skin gBT-I T_{RM} cells plateaued following an input of 50-100×10⁶ gBT-I T
347 cells (**Fig. 6a**), indicating a limited number of T_{RM} cells could be generated in the skin, at
348 least during a single inflammatory response. To test whether subsequent responses could add
349 to the T_{RM} cell pool, we transferred CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_N cells into mice containing DNFB-
350 induced skin EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells. After >30d, mice were subjected to a prime-boost
351 immunization with i.v. transferred gB-pulsed DC followed by s.c. and i.n. infection with
352 recombinant influenza viruses, which results in widespread generation of skin T_{RM} cells³¹,
353 and a separate cohort of mice were left untreated (**Supplementary Fig. 6a**). More than 30d
354 after influenza virus infection, a pool of newly generated ('new') CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells of
355 a different TCR specificity was detected in DNFB-treated skin that also contained 'old'
356 EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells (**Fig. 6b**). Importantly, generation of new T_{RM} cells by multiple route
357 prime-boost immunization allowed us to test if dislodgement of pre-existing T_{RM} cells
358 occurred in the absence of perturbation to the skin tissue itself. We detected minimal
359 numerical decay of DNFB-induced 'old' skin EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells in prime-boost
360 immunized mice in comparison to control mice that were not subjected to prime-boost
361 immunization (**Fig. 6b**), indicating that *de novo* formation of T_{RM} cells with different
362 specificities occurs without displacing pre-existing T_{RM} cells in the tissue. Moreover, when
363 DNFB-treated mice possessing 'old' CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells were adoptively transferred
364 with EGFP⁺ OT-I T_N cells, and 'new' T_{RM} cell formation was induced via multiple skin
365 immunizations (e.c. infection with VV-OVA contralateral to DNFB-treated skin followed by
366 secondary VV-OVA infection at an unrelated skin site) (**Supplementary Fig 6b**), the number
367 of pre-existing CD45.1⁺ gBT-I skin T_{RM} cells remained constant in comparison with non-
368 immunized mice (**Fig 6c**). Collectively, these findings highlight the exceptional stability of
369 skin T_{RM} cell populations following rechallenge.

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377 **Discussion**

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379 Here, we found that T_{RM} cells respond in an antigen-specific manner, proliferate and survive
380 following local restimulation, and are not dislodged by newly generated T_{RM} cells . This has
381 important implications for understanding how immune memory is maintained within
382 peripheral tissues. We show that T_{RM} cell-mediated protection is directly linked to the density
383 of T_{RM} cells in the skin. This finding has been predicted by mathematical models that showed
384 an inverse correlation of the number of $CD8^+$ T cells in the genital mucosa after HSV
385 reactivation with the severity of disease³². We observed that T_{RM} cells interacting with virus-
386 infected cells decelerated and were restimulated, whilst T_{RM} cells in nearby uninfected
387 epidermis continued to exhibit random migration. Our imaging did not reveal any obvious
388 attraction of T_{RM} cells towards virally infected cells, suggesting that T_{RM} cells need to be in
389 the right place at the right time to protect against infection. Consequently, it may take hours
390 to days for epidermal T_{RM} cells to chance upon infected cells, highlighting the importance of
391 T_{RM} cell density for protection. We found that T_{RM} cells could protect against local infection
392 independently of T_{CIRC} cells, although the mechanism through which T_{RM} cells execute
393 protection is unclear. It has been shown that T_{RM} cells can directly kill infected cell targets³³.
394 Whilst we observed skin T_{RM} cells engaging virally infected cells, we were unable to
395 regularly document killing of infected targets by $CD8^+$ T cells in the skin (data not shown). It
396 is possible that density of T_{RM} cells inversely regulates the recruitment of T cells from the
397 circulation, as near-sterile immunity induced by local T_{RM} cells might negate the need to
398 recruit large numbers of T_{CIRC} cells and reduce inflammation.

399

400 T_{RM} cells proliferated in response to antigen, yet numbers of secondary T_{RM} cells in the
401 absence of T_{CIRC} cells did not markedly increase. Skin T_{RM} cell populations appeared to
402 maintain stability by balancing cell death with proliferation, as we observed increased
403 annexinV staining of skin T_{RM} cells upon viral recall. Restimulated T_{RM} cells did not exit the
404 epidermis even after proliferation. T_{RM} cells survive poorly when removed from tissues³³
405 (and our unpublished observations), potentially limiting their relocation to other tissues.
406 Collectively, our results indicate T_{RM} cells, at least in the skin, are a durable and autonomous
407 population. It will however be important to ascertain whether T_{RM} cells in other organs are
408 similarly tissue-restricted upon reactivation, particularly in tissues such as the lungs, where
409 local T_{RM} cell maintenance relies on constant replenishment from circulating cells³⁴.

410

411 We show that T_{CIRC} and T_{EFF} cells are recruited into the skin upon pathogen reencounter
412 where some convert to T_{RM} cells, thereby adding to the T_{RM} cell pool. Our findings suggest
413 that T_{RM} cells can be maintained in tissues subject to repeated infections, with unrelated
414 infections unlikely to substantially dislodge T_{RM} cells already in the tissue. Such knowledge
415 is of clinical relevance to help shape vaccine strategies that might induce diverse T_{RM} cells to
416 protect against multiple diseases. Nonetheless, under conditions where T_{RM} cells of certain
417 specificities are undesirable, such as psoriasis in the skin^{35, 36}, replacing unwelcome T_{RM} cells
418 with desired T_{RM} populations may be a challenge.

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421

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423

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428 the Australian Research Council.

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430

431 **Author contributions**

432

433 S.L.P., A.Z., J.L.H., S.N.C., J.E.P., B.D., Y.O.A., J.L.G., S.N.M. and L.K.M. performed
434 experiments and analyzed data; T.A.R. and D.C.T. provided reagents; S.L.P., A.Z., T.G.
435 F.R.C., W.R.H., S.N.M. and L.K.M. contributed to experimental design. S.L.P., S.N.M. and
436 L.K.M. prepared the manuscript; S.N.M. and L.K.M. led the research program.

437

438 **Competing financial interests statement**

439 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

440

441 **Methods**

442

443 **Mice and infections.** C57BL/6, gBT-I, gBT-I.xB6.SJL-PtprcaPep3b/BoyJ (gBT-I.CD45.1),
444 gBT-I.Thy1.1, gBT-I.ubiquitin-EGFP (gBT-I.EGFP), gBT-I.EGFP.Thy1.1, gBT-I.Kaede,
445 OT-I.EGFP, P14.DsRed, P14.Thy1.1, OT-I.CD45.1 and *Igmh*(μ MT)^{-/-} mice were bred in the
446 Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne. gBT-I mice
447 encode a transgene for a T-cell receptor recognizing the HSV-1 glycoprotein B (gB)-derived
448 epitope gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅³⁷. Animal experiments were approved by The University of Melbourne
449 Animal Ethics Committee. Epicutaneous (e.c.) infection by scarification was done using
450 1×10^6 plaque forming units HSV-1 KOS, HSV-1 pCmC (HSV-mCherry)²⁶ or
451 HSVgDUL47 Δ YFP (HSV-CFP)³⁸ as described³⁹, or with recombinant vaccinia viruses
452 expressing gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅ (VV-gB)⁴⁰ or ovalbumin (VV-OVA)⁴¹. Strains of recombinant influenza
453 virus expressing gB used were WSN-gB and X31-gB (H1N1) and were administered s.c. or
454 i.n. as described³¹. Viral titers were determined in homogenized skin by performing PFU
455 assays as previously described¹⁵.

456

457 **Adoptive T cell transfer and DNFB treatment** Transgenic gBT-I, OT-I or P14 CD8⁺ T
458 cells were activated *in vitro* by incubation for 4-5d with gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅ (SSIEFARL), OVA
459 (SIINFEKL) or gp33 (KAVYNFATM) peptide-pulsed splenocytes in the presence of
460 recombinant human IL-2 (25U/mL, PeproTech), as described previously¹⁵. Except where
461 indicated, $2-10 \times 10^6$ effector gBT-I or OT-I T cells were adoptively transferred i.v. Mice
462 were shaved and depilated before the application of 15 μ l DNFB in acetone/oil (4:1) to a 1.5
463 cm² area of skin on the day of T cell transfer. Alternatively, $5 \times 10^4 - 1 \times 10^6$ naïve gBT-I or
464 OT-I T cells were transferred i.v. prior to infection. For adoptive transfer of CD8⁺ memory T
465 cells, cells were enriched from spleens of HSV-immune mice >30d post-infection by staining
466 cell suspensions with anti-CD4 (GK1.5), anti-CD11b (M1/70), anti-F4/80 (F4/80), anti-
467 erythrocyte (TER-119), anti-I-A/I-E (M5114) monoclonal antibodies and then incubating
468 cells with goat-anti-rat IgG-coupled magnetic beads (Qiagen) prior to removal of bead-bound
469 cells.

470

471 **Flow cytometry.** Cells were isolated from the spleen and lymph nodes (LN) by grinding
472 organs through a metal mesh to create single cell suspensions. T cells were isolated from the
473 skin as previously described¹⁹. Briefly, skin was incubated in dispase (2.5mg/mL, Roche)

474 solution at 37°C for 90 min and the epidermis separated from the dermis. The dermis was
475 chopped and incubated in collagenase type 3 (3 mg/mL, Worthington) at 37°C for 30 min and
476 the epidermis placed in trypsin/EDTA (Sigma) and incubated at 37°C for 30 min. Cells were
477 stained with antibodies and their expression of phenotypic markers determined using a BD
478 Fortessa (BD Biosciences) or BD FACSCanto II (BD Biosciences) and analyzed using
479 Flowjo (Treestar). Antibodies used were: anti-mouse CD45.1 (A20), CD8 α (53-6.7), V α 2
480 (B20.1), CD69 (H1.2F3), CD16/CD32 (2.4G2), and anti-BrdU (B24) from BD Biosciences;
481 anti-mouse CD45.1 (A20), CD3e (eBio500A2), CD8 α (53-6.7), CD69 (H1.2F3), CD103
482 (2E7) Ki67 (20Raj1) CD101 (Moushi101), CD244 (eBio244F4), CTLA4 (UC10-4B9),
483 LAG3 (e9B7W), PD-1 (J43) and TIM-3 (8B.2C12) from eBioscience; anti-mouse CD45.2
484 (104), CD103 (2E7), CD8 α (53-6.7), CD103 (2E7) Thy1.1 (OX-7) and ICOS (C398.4A),
485 from Biolegend. Live cells were discriminated using a Fixable Live/Dead stain (Life
486 Technologies or Biolegend) or by propidium iodide staining. AnnexinV staining was
487 determined using a BD AnnexinV FITC staining kit according to the manufacturer's
488 instructions. Cells were enumerated by adding a known number of calibration particles (BD
489 Biosciences) to each sample before analysis.

490

491 **Intravital two photon microscopy.** Mice were anaesthetized with isoflurane (Cenvet; 2.5%
492 for induction, 1-1.5% for maintenance, vaporized at 80:20 mixture of O₂ and air), and were
493 shaved on the left flank and hair depilated for flank skin imaging as described elsewhere⁴².
494 Briefly, two incisions (~15mm apart) were made longitudinally along the left flank, cutting
495 through the dermis, and the peritoneum separated by cutting away the connective tissues
496 underneath the skin. A 18mm-wide x 1mm thick stainless steel platform was inserted under
497 the exposed dermis, which was glued to the platform with vetbond tissue adhesive (3M). The
498 edges of the skin were lined with vacuum grease (Dow Corning), upon which a glass
499 coverslip was placed. Imaging was performed with an upright LSM710 NLO multiphoton
500 microscope (Carl Zeiss) with a 20 \times /1.0 NA water immersion objective enclosed in an
501 environmental chamber that was maintained at 35°C with heated air. Fluorescence excitation
502 was provided by a Chameleon Vision II Ti:sapphire laser (Coherent) with dispersion
503 correction and fluorescence emission detected using external non-descanned photomultiplier
504 tubes. EGFP, and second-harmonic generation were excited at 920 nm, mCherry at 960-980
505 nm. Kaede-green was excited at 800nm and Kaede-red at 900nm. For four-dimensional data
506 sets, three-dimensional stacks were captured every 1min for at least 30min. Raw imaging

507 data were then processed with Imaris 8 (Bitplane) and movies generated in Imaris and
508 composed in After Effects (Adobe).

509

510 **Intravital imaging analysis.** To distinguish gBT-I T cells based on contact with virus-
511 infected keratinocytes, tracks were generated using Imaris Spot function, and mCherry
512 positive virus-infected cells were rendered as a three-dimensional surface. Tracks were
513 computed using a custom-modified version of the script ‘Surface to Spot Distance’ through
514 an XT/Matlab interface (Mathworks). To segregate T cells in contact with virus, we used the
515 center of each gBT-I T cell and defined contact as cells remaining within 10µm of rendered
516 virus (mCherry⁺ or CFP⁺) for at least 5min. Statistical values for mean track speed and mean
517 track displacement length were extracted from Imaris software. Statistical significance was
518 determined by Mann-Whitney U-Test.

519

520 **Depletion of circulating gBT-I Thy1.1 T cells.** > 20d following activated gBT-I Thy1.1 cell
521 transfer and DNFB treatment, mice were injected i.p. 1-3 times with 0.5-4µg anti-mouse/rat
522 Thy1.1 mAb (α -Thy1.1, clone HIS57; eBioscience) in PBS. Control mice received PBS alone.

523

524 ***In vivo* photoconversion of gBT-I Kaede T_{RM} cells.** Mice containing gBT-I Kaede T_{RM}
525 cells were anesthetized, shaved and depilated and infected with HSV-mCherry. At 2d post-
526 infection, mice were exposed under a 410nm spot lamp (Dymax Bluewave LED; UV Pacific)
527 to 100mJ/cm² of violet light for 6min. Light emitted through an 8mm diameter fiber optic
528 guide was mounted at a distance of 4.17cm directly above the DNFB patch, while areas
529 around the patch were covered with a double layer of aluminium foil to prevent distal
530 photoconversion. Mice were then imaged by IV-2PM from 94h post-infection.

531

532 **Transcutaneous delivery of gB and OVA peptide.** 50µg of MHC-I-restricted HSV gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅
533 (SSIEFARL) or ovalbumin (SIINFEKL) peptides (Genscript) were mixed with 100mg
534 Sorbolene cream and thoroughly mixed by successive vortexing and short-pulse
535 centrifugation. Mice containing DNFB-lodged T_{RM} cells were anesthetized, shaved and
536 depilated, and the peptide/sorbolene mixture was applied directly atop the DNFB patch. The
537 peptide/cream mixture was contained above the skin region using a bandage consisting of an
538 adhesive film (OpSite Flexigrid, Smith & Nephew) and surgical tape (Micropore Tape, 3M).
539 For intravital imaging experiments, the mixture was allowed to absorb through the skin for 3h

540 prior to removal of the bandage. For flow cytometry experiments, peptide/sorbolene mixture
541 was applied once per day for 2d and mice bandaged for 24h following each application.

542

543 ***In vivo* Bromodeoxyuridine (BrdU) treatment.** Mice were injected i.p. with 2mg BrdU per
544 day, with treatment commencing on the day of transcutaneous peptide application or 0-2d
545 post infection. BrdU incorporation was measured using a BrdU Flow Kit (BD Biosciences) or
546 FoxP3 staining kit (eBioscience) and where indicated the proportion BrdU⁺ cells was
547 determined by the Overton method of population comparison⁴² (FlowJo, Treestar) using skin
548 gBT-I T cells from an untreated mouse as the control population.

549

550 **Generation and transfer of bone marrow-derived dendritic cells.** Dendritic cells were
551 differentiated by culturing C57BL/6 bone marrow cells in the presence of 20ng/mL GM-CSF
552 and IL-4 for 7d. Dendritic cells were matured overnight in the presence of 150ng/mL LPS
553 then pulsed with 1µg/mL gB₄₉₈₋₅₀₅ (SSIEFARL) peptide for 45min before transfer of 2.5×10⁵
554 cells i.v. to recipients.

555

556 **Statistics and reproducibility.** Two-tailed Mann Whitney *U*-tests, one way ANOVA with
557 Tukey's multiple comparisons test or Kruskal Wallis tests with Dunn's multiple comparison
558 test were used where indicated. All proportional numerical values provided in the text are
559 written as the mean ± standard error of the mean. All statistical analyses were performed in
560 Prism 7.0 (Graphpad). All experiments were performed at least two times with similar results
561 obtained.

562

563 **Data availability.** Publically available source data was not used in this study. Data
564 supporting the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon
565 request.

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571 **Figure Legends**

572

573 **Figure 1. Anti-viral protection by skin T_{RM} cells correlates with T_{RM} cell density. (a)**

574 Skin HSV titers 4d and 6d after HSV infection of the upper flank in mice receiving *in vitro*
575 activated gBT-I T cells and treated with DNFB on the lower left flank. DNFB-treated skin
576 (DNFB + T_{RM}) or untreated skin from the right (contralateral) flank were analysed, as well as
577 skin from mice treated with DNFB but not receiving gBT-I T cells (DNFB). Data are
578 representative of 2 experiments with n= 4 or 6 mice per group per experiment. **p= 0.0004,
579 **p= 0.005, ****p< 0.0001, one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. (b)
580 Enumeration of CD103⁺ gBT-I T cells in DNFB-treated or contralateral skin following HSV
581 infection. Data are representative of 2 experiments with n= 3 or 5 mice per group per
582 experiment. (c) Mice received 0-20 x 10⁶ Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{EFF} cells, were treated with DNFB
583 and depleted of Thy1.1⁺ T_{CIRC} cells >30d later. Shown is the number of CD103⁺ T_{RM} in
584 DNFB-treated skin >7d post Thy1.1 antibody treatment. Data are pooled from 2 experiments
585 with n= 5 or 6 mice per group. (d) DNFB-treated skin HSV-titres in cohorts described in c 6d
586 after HSV infection. Data are pooled from 2 experiments with n= 8 or 10 mice per group.
587 ***p= 0.005 in c, ***p< 0.0001 in d, Kruskal Wallis test with Dunn's post-test. Bars
588 represent the mean.

589

590 **Figure 2. T_{RM} cells respond in an antigen-specific manner upon HSV challenge. (a) IV-**

591 2PM image of EGFP⁺ gBT-I skin T_{RM} cells >30d post DNFB treatment. (b) IV-2PM images
592 of EGFP⁺ skin T_{RM} cells 3h post-gB or OVA peptide application. Scale bars; 20µm. Data in a
593 and b are representative of 2 experiments with n= 5 or 6 mice per experiment. (c) Sphericity
594 and velocity of skin EGFP⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells 3h after gB or OVA peptide application. Data
595 are pooled from 2 experiments with n= 5 or 6 mice per experiment. ****p< 0.0001, two-
596 tailed Mann Whitney U-test. (d) Maximum intensity projection images acquired 92-114h
597 after HSV-mCherry infection across x, y and z dimensions of skin containing DNFB-lodged
598 EGFP⁺ gBT-I or OT-I T cells. Scale bar; 60µm (left panel), 75µm (right panel). (e) Plots
599 showing tracks of EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cell migration in the skin 94h after HSV-mCherry
600 infection in cells contacting HSV-mCherry⁺ cells. (f) Velocity and track displacement length
601 measurements of EGFP⁺ gBT-I T cells contacting mCherry⁺ virus-infected cells. Data in e
602 and f are pooled from 5 mice from 1 of 4 representative experiments. *p= 0.0137, ****p<
603 0.0001, two-tailed Mann Whitney U-test. SHG, second harmonic generation (dermal
604 collagen). Bars represent the mean.

605

606 **Figure 3. Skin T_{RM} cells remain localized to the epidermis upon virus rechallenge.** (a)
607 IV-2PM image of EGFP⁺ Thy1.1⁺ T_{RM} cells entering HSV-mCherry⁺ virus foci in DNFB-
608 treated skin of T_{CIRC} depleted mice 4d post-infection. Representative of 7 mice from 2
609 experiments. Scale bar; 30 μ m. (b) Sphericity and velocity of EGFP⁺ gBT-I Thy1.1 T_{RM} cells
610 in cells contacting mCherry⁺ cells 4d after HSV-mCherry infection. ****p< 0.0001, two-
611 tailed Mann Whitney U-test. (c) Percentage of EGFP⁺ Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells localizing to
612 the epidermis of DNFB-treated skin 4d after HSV-mCherry infection. Error bars represent
613 mean \pm SEM. Data in **b** and **c** are pooled from 2 experiments with n= 14 movies from 7 mice.
614 (d) IV-2PM image of Kaede⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells in DNFB-treated skin 3.5d after HSV-CFP
615 infection above the DNFB patch and 2d after violet light exposure. Scale bar; 100 μ m. (e)
616 Velocity of Kaede-green⁺ (unconverted) and Kaede-red⁺ (converted) gBT-I T cells in DNFB-
617 treated skin 3.5d post HSV-CFP infection and 2d after violet light exposure. ****p< 0.0001
618 two-tailed Mann Whitney U-test. Data are representative of 3 experiments with n = 3 mice
619 per experiment in **d** and **e**. (f-i) Flow cytometry of Kaede⁺ gBT-I T cell fluorescence
620 phenotype in DNFB-treated skin and draining axillary LN (dLN) 4-5d post-HSV infection
621 and 2d after violet light exposure. (f, g) Proportion of converted or unconverted Kaede⁺ gBT-
622 I T cells localizing to skin or dLN. (h, i) Expression of CD69 and CD103 amongst converted
623 and unconverted Kaede⁺ gBT-I T cells. Data are representative of 2 experiments with n= 6
624 mice per experiment. Error bars represent mean \pm SEM. Bars represent the mean.

625

626 **Figure 4. T_{RM} cells proliferate following antigenic challenge.** (a) CD69 and CD103
627 expression by skin Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells 7d post-infection in Thy1.1 antibody or PBS
628 (control)-treated cohorts. (b) Representative BrdU and Ki67 staining on CD103⁺ Thy1.1⁺
629 gBT-I T_{RM} cells 7d after HSV challenge. Data in **a** and **b** are representative of 2 experiments
630 with n = 3 or 4 mice per group. (c) Proportion of DNFB-lodged skin CD103⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells
631 incorporating BrdU in > 7d post-HSV infection or in non-infected mice, determined by the
632 Overton method of population comparison. Data are pooled from 2 experiments with 6 or 8
633 mice per group. **p= 0.0022, **p= 0.0047, two-tailed Mann Whitney U-test. (d) Proportion
634 of VV-gB lodged skin CD103⁺ Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells incorporating BrdU >7d post-HSV
635 infection or in non-infected mice. Data are pooled from 2 experiments with 6 mice per group.
636 **p= 0.0043, two-tailed Mann Whitney U-test. (e) Representative BrdU and Ki67 staining on
637 CD103⁺ Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells 2d after HSV-gB peptide application. Data are
638 representative of 2 experiments with n= 3 or 4 mice per group. (f) Proportion of skin CD103⁺

639 Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells incorporating BrdU 2d after topical HSV-gB or OVA peptide
640 application determined by the Overton method of population comparison. Data are pooled
641 from 2 independent experiments with n= 5 or 7 mice per group. **p= 0.0043, two-tailed
642 Mann Whitney U-test. Bars represent the mean.

643

644 **Figure 5. T_{CIRCUM} cells and bystander T_{EFF} cells generate *de novo* T_{RM} cells following**
645 **viral challenge. (a)** Frequency of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I (DNFB-lodged) and CD45.1⁺ gBT-I
646 (T_{CIRCUM} derived) T cells in DNFB-treated skin >30d post-HSV infection. Data are
647 representative of 2 experiments with n= 3 or 5 mice per group. **(b)** Number of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I
648 and CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells and **(c)** their CD69 and CD103 expression in DNFB-treated
649 skin >30d post-HSV infection. Data are pooled from 2 experiments with n= 6 or 10 mice per
650 group. ***p= 0.0002, two-tailed Mann Whitney test. **(d)** Frequency of Thy1.1⁺ P14 (DNFB-
651 lodged) and CD45.1⁺ OT-I (T_{EFF} derived) T cells in DNFB-treated skin >30d post-HSV
652 infection. Data are representative of 2 experiments with n= 4 or 5 mice per group. **(e)**
653 Number of Thy1.1⁺ P14 and CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells and **(f)** their CD69 and CD103
654 expression in DNFB-treated skin >30d post-HSV infection. Data are pooled from 2
655 experiments with n= 9 mice per group. **(g)** Frequency of Thy1.1⁺ gBT-I (VV-gB lodged) and
656 CD45.1⁺ OT-I (T_{EFF} derived) T cells in VV-gB challenged skin >30d post-HSV infection.
657 Data are representative of 2 experiments with n= 4 mice per group. **(h)** Number of Thy1.1⁺
658 gBT-I and CD45.1⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells and **(i)** their CD69 and CD103 expression in VV-gB
659 challenged skin >30d post-HSV infection. Data are pooled from 2 experiments with n= 8
660 mice per group. ***p = 0.0002, two-tailed Mann Whitney U-test. Bars represent the mean.

661

662 **Figure 6. *De novo* T_{RM} cell generation does not displace pre-existing T_{RM} cells in skin.**
663 **(a)** Mice were seeded with 1-100 x 10⁶ CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{EFF} cells and treated with DNFB.
664 Shown is the number of gBT-I T cells in the spleen and CD103⁺ T_{RM} cells in DNFB-treated
665 skin >30d post-treatment. Data are pooled from 2 experiments with n= 6 or 7 mice per group.
666 *p= 0.0262, n.s; not significant, two-tailed Mann Whitney test. **(b)** Number of ‘old’ (DNFB-
667 lodged) EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells (generated from 50×10⁶ input EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{EFF} cells) and
668 ‘new’ prime-boosted CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T cells in DNFB-treated skin of flu-immunized mice
669 >30d following final immunization, or in non-immunized mice. Data are pooled from 2
670 experiments with n= 18 or 25 mice per group. N.s.; not significant, Kruskal-Wallis test with
671 Dunn’s multiple comparisons. **(c)** Number of DNFB-lodged CD45.1⁺ gBT-I T_{RM} cells and
672 VV-OVA primed EGFP⁺ OT-I T_{RM} cells in DNFB-treated skin >25d following final

673 contralateral VV-OVA immunization or in non-immunized mice. Data are pooled from 2
674 experiments with n= 9 or 10 mice. n.s., not significant; ** p = 0.0098, n.s., not significant,
675 Kruskal Wallis test with Dunn's multiple comparisons. Bars represent the mean.

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Figure 1

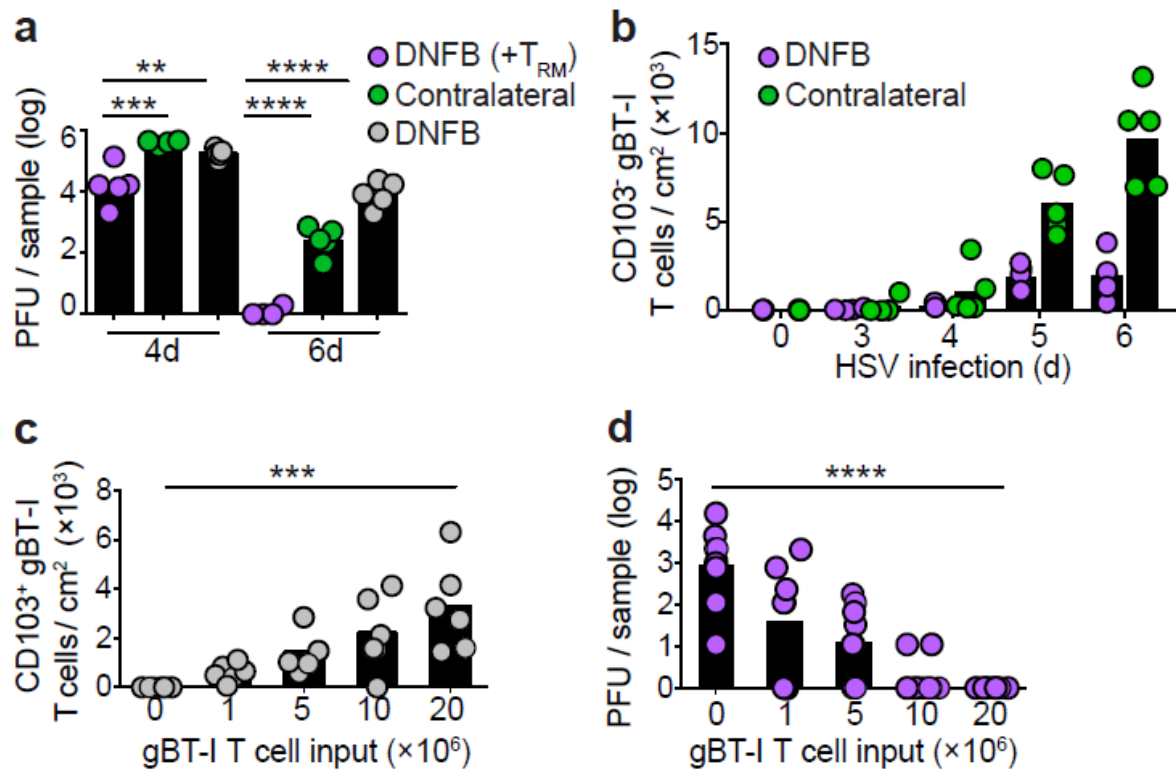


Figure 2

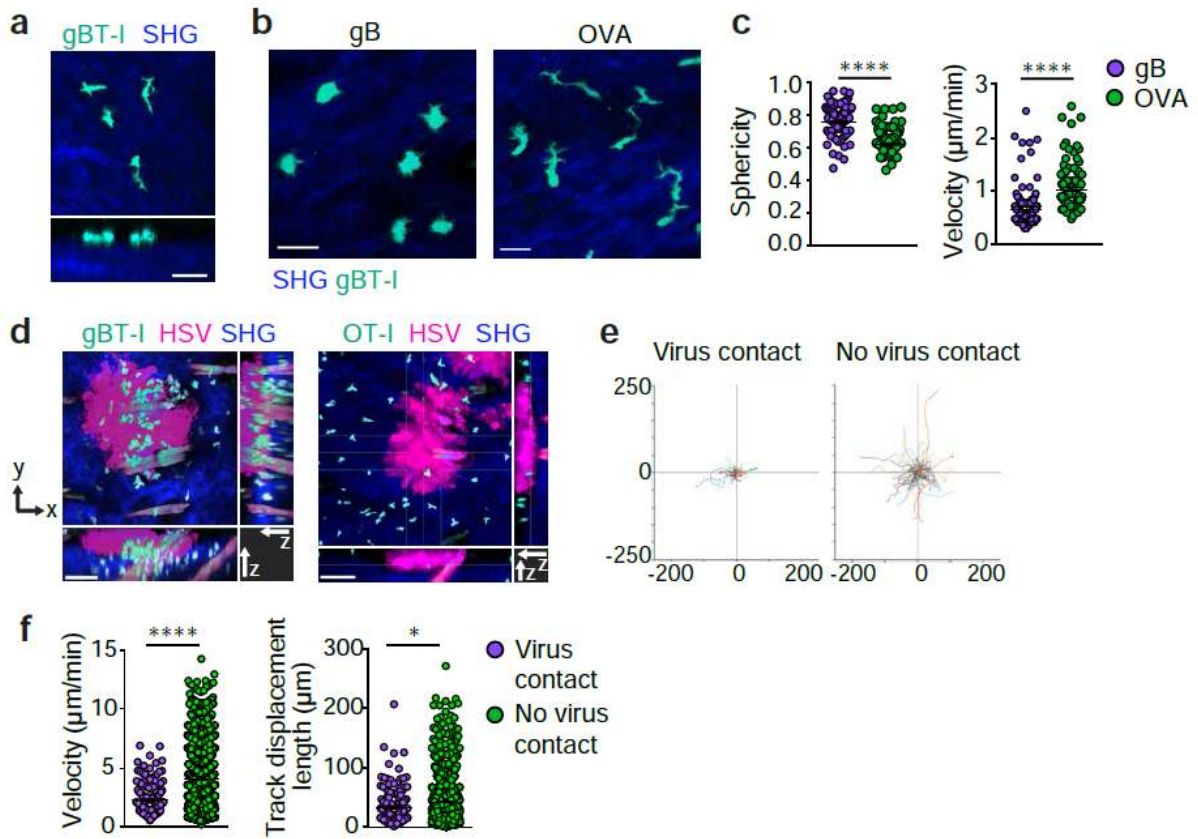


Figure 3

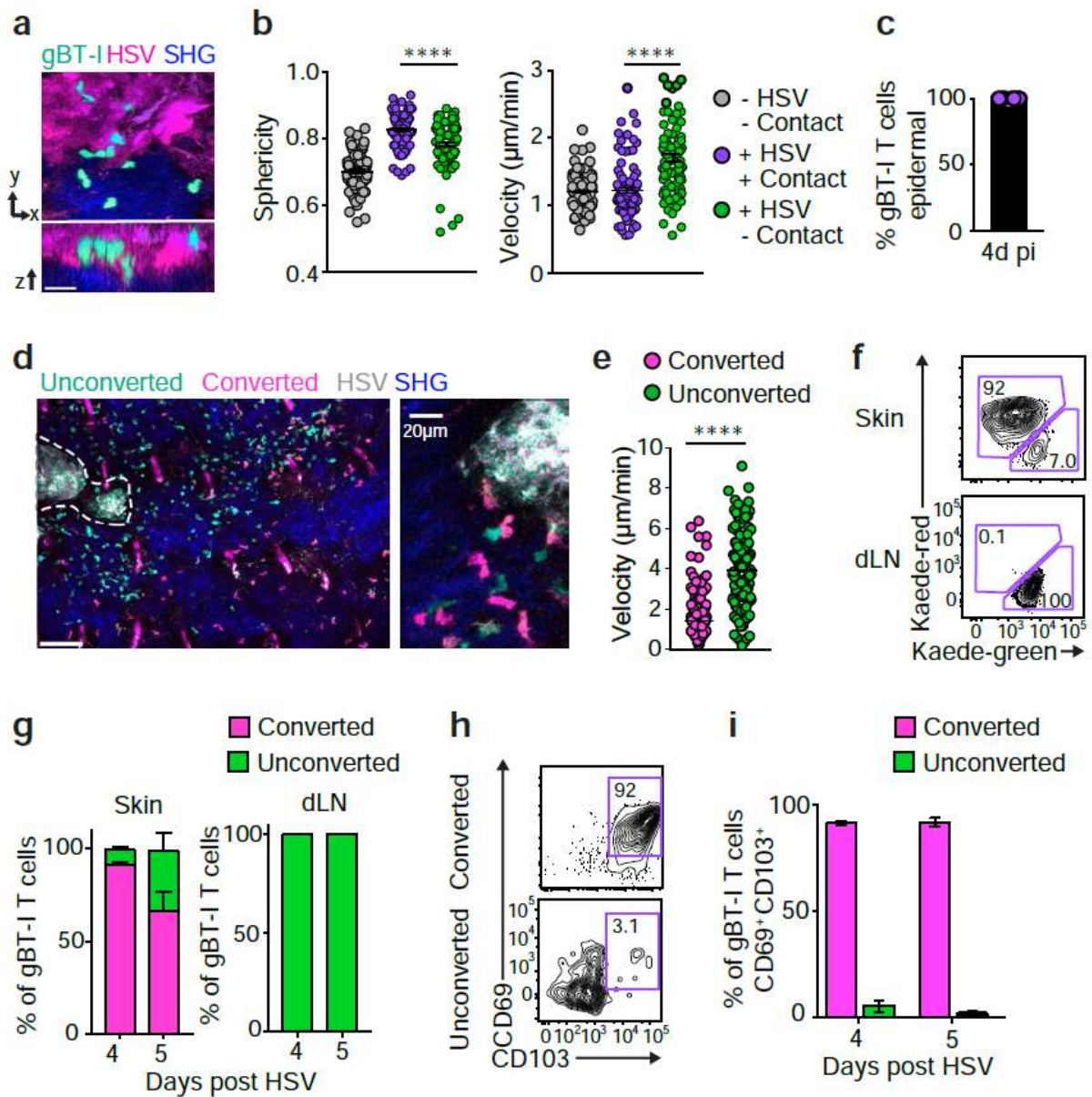


Figure 4

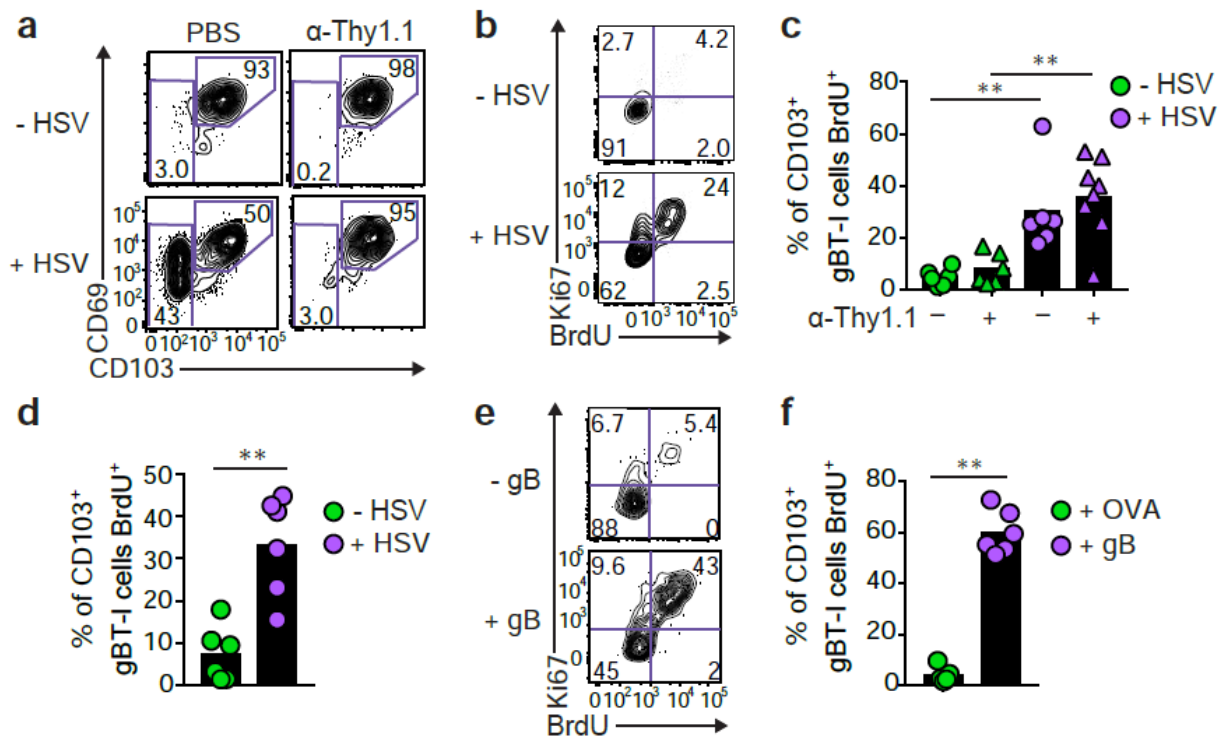


Figure 5

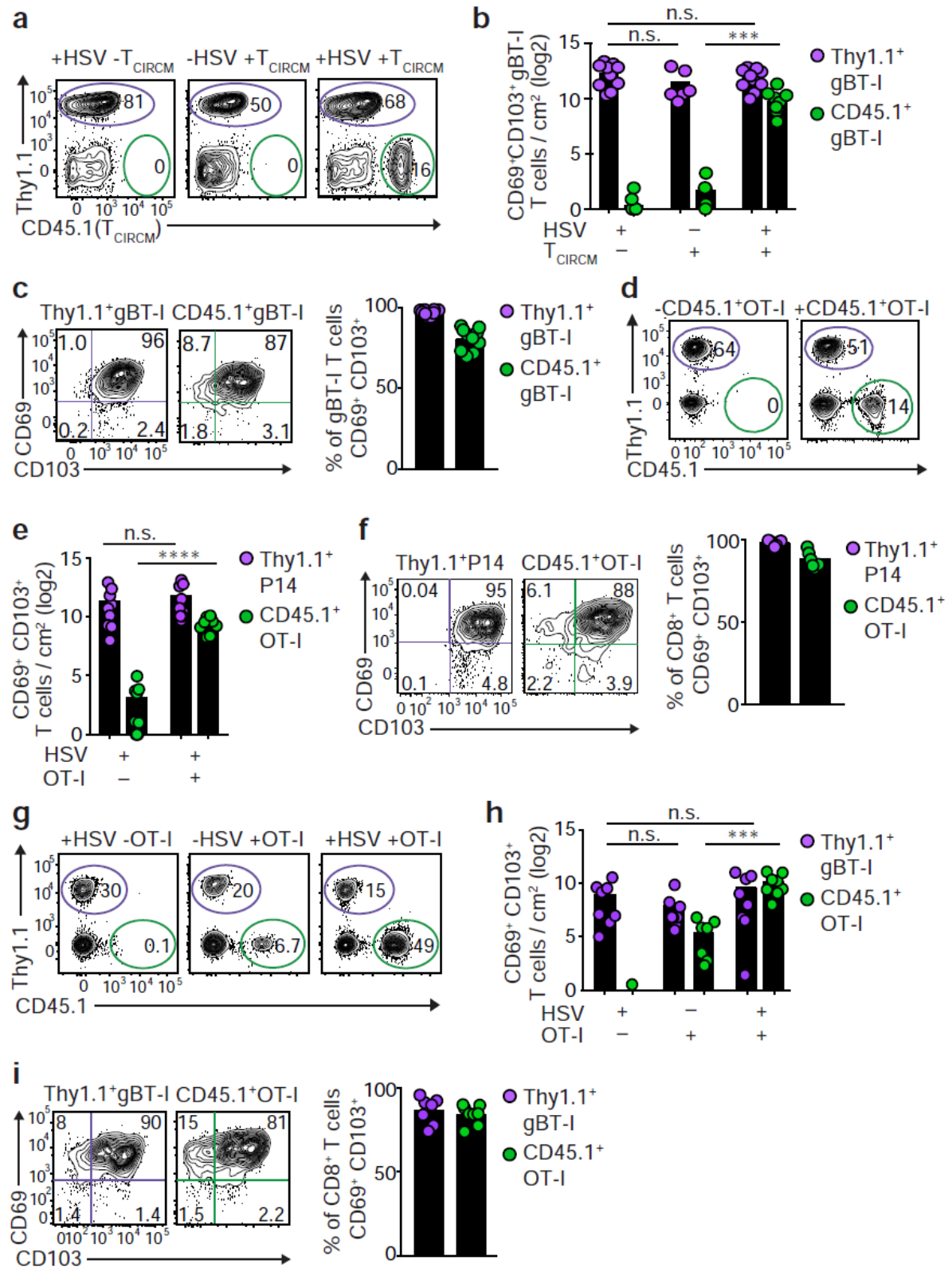


Figure 6

