M1 Macrophage Polarization Is Dependent on TRPC1-Mediated Calcium Entry

HIGHLIGHTS
TRPC1 mediates sterile or infection-induced Ca\(^{2+}\) influx and M1 phenotype in macrophages
ORAI1 mediates the basal Ca\(^{2+}\) influx in macrophages
In patients with SIRS, the TRPC1 level correlates with M1 inflammatory mediators in macrophages
M1 Macrophage Polarization Is Dependent on TRPC1-Mediated Calcium Entry

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SUMMARY

Macrophage plasticity is essential for innate immunity, but in-depth signaling mechanism(s) regulating their functional phenotypes are ill-defined. Here we report that interferon (IFN) γ priming of naïve macrophages induces store-mediated Ca2+ entry and inhibition of Ca2+ entry impairs polarization to M1 inflammatory phenotype. In vitro and in vivo functional analyses revealed ORAI1 to be a primary contributor to basal Ca2+ influx in macrophages, whereas IFNγ-induced Ca2+ influx was mediated by TRPC1. Deficiency of TRPC1 displayed abrogated IFNγ-induced M1 inflammatory mediators in macrophages. In a preclinical model of peritonitis by Klebsiella pneumoniae infection, macrophages showed increased Ca2+ influx, which was TRPC1 dependent. Macrophages from infected TRPC1−/− mice showed inhibited expression of M1-associated signature molecules. Furthermore, in human patients with systemic inflammatory response syndrome, the level of TRPC1 expression in circulating macrophages directly correlated with M1 inflammatory mediators. Overall, TRPC1-mediated Ca2+ influx is essential for the induction/shaping of macrophage polarization to M1 inflammatory phenotype.

INTRODUCTION

The functional phenotypes of macrophage vary in response to the external stimuli that they receive through a wide variety of surface receptors (Murray and Wynn, 2011). Macrophage with the M1, or classical activation phenotype, release multiple pro-inflammatory molecules (Su et al., 2015). M1 macrophages are critical effectors of inflammation and innate immunity as well as orchestrators of adaptive immunity (Glass and Natoli, 2016; Locati et al., 2013). On the contrary, macrophage with M2, or alternatively activated phenotype, produces factors involved in anti-inflammatory and tissue remodeling functions (Murray et al., 2014; Ruckerl and Allen, 2014; Wynn, 2015; Wynn and Vannella, 2016). Although originally macrophage functions were defined in the context of host defense against infections, this dynamic continuum of macrophage functional phenotypes is now appreciated as being important in various acute and chronic disease conditions (Labonte et al., 2014; McNelis and Olefsky, 2014; Moore et al., 2013). Thus, clearly, the mechanistic underpinnings of macrophage activation to critical functional phenotypes will have important therapeutic implications. In this regard, environmental signals such as interferon (IFN) γ or Toll-like receptor ligands upon interactions with their specific cell surface receptors activate signal transduction pathways involving phosphorylation of STAT1 and nuclear factor (NF)-κB (Murray et al., 2014). The cascade of events that follow, including the integration of these signals culminates in the production of M1-associated inflammatory molecules (Ivashkiv, 2013; Lawrence and Natoli, 2011). However, the upstream factors interacting with these endogenous signaling pathways culminating in the development of M1 inflammatory macrophages are poorly understood.

Cellular activation requires the collaboration of many pathways to cause a precise stimulus-specific induction of gene expression. In stimulated cells, divalent cations serve as second messengers and regulate the function of many enzymes and transcription factors (Clapham, 2007). Intracellular calcium (Ca2+) is an important divalent cation that controls many cellular functions such as cell plasticity, development, cell proliferation, and differentiation (Feske et al., 2015; Hogan et al., 2010). Increases in intracellular Ca2+ levels also enhance immune functions (Cahalan and Chandy, 2009; Rao and Hogan, 2009; Vig and Kinet, 2009). In activated T cells, Ca2+ signaling regulates the cytokine and chemokine gene expression in a calcineurin-NFAT-dependent manner (Feske, 2007; Hogan et al., 2003; Macian, 2005; Oh-Hora et al., 2008, 2013; Watanabe et al., 1994), highlighting its role in adaptive immune cell activation. In innate immune functions, inhibition of intracellular Ca2+ signaling was shown to reduce phagocytosis, and production of tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-α, and nitric oxide (NO) in J774 cells, a macrophage cell line (Chen et al., 1998; Watanabe et al., 1996).
However, the identity of the specific channels involved in Ca\textsuperscript{2+} entry to modulate the macrophage phenotype remains obscure.

In non-excitable cells, the cytosolic Ca\textsuperscript{2+} changes occur mainly by the release of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} from intracellular endoplasmic reticulum (ER) stores, followed by influx through the plasma membrane (PM) Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channels, which is termed as store-operated Ca\textsuperscript{2+} entry (SOCE) (Pani et al., 2012). The PM Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channels could be broadly divided into two groups: the CRAC (Ca\textsuperscript{2+} release-activated Ca\textsuperscript{2+}/SOCE channels and the non-CRAC/non-SOCE channels (Feske et al., 2012). The ORAI1 gene encodes functions of a CRAC channel (Feske et al., 2006; McNally et al., 2012; Prakriya et al., 2006; Zhou et al., 2013), whereas the TRPC (transient receptor potential canonical) channels have been shown to be activated upon store depletion as well as through receptor-mediated activation, which requires second messengers (Feske et al., 2015; Vaeth and Feske, 2018; Yuan et al., 2007). The majority of the studies reporting the role of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx in immune cell function have been focused on CRAC channels. For instance, patients with CRAC channelopathy develop lethal pathological outcome upon infection with bacteria, fungi, and viruses (Byun et al., 2010; Feske, 2010). A loss-of-function mutation in ORAI1 is associated with a low humoral response against vaccination or infection with various pathogens in affected humans (Le Deist et al., 1995; Picard et al., 2009). In preclinical experimental models, mice lacking STIM1, the ER Ca\textsuperscript{2+} sensor responsible for the assembly of ORAI1-based Ca\textsuperscript{2+} entry and an activator of TRPC1-based Ca\textsuperscript{2+} entry, display an increased susceptibility to bacterial infection, but a diminished disease severity in inflammatory bowel disease or experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE) (referenced in Feske et al., 2015). Although other studies described T cell-specific functions of CRAC channels (Jairaman et al., 2015; Oh-Hora et al., 2013), their role in macrophage responses to modulate immune pathology is limited.

Besides ORAI and TRPC channels, TRPV, TRPM, P2RX, and voltage-gated channels are also expressed in immune cells and could also modulate immune function (Ramirez et al., 2018; Tomilin et al., 2016; Vaeth et al., 2016, 2017; Vaeth and Feske, 2018; Wang et al., 2016). Cav channels are found to modulate T cell responses and development of experimental asthma and EAE (Wang et al., 2016). P2RX7 was shown to modulate the inflammatory response of macrophage in the development of autoimmune disease (Fernandes-Alnemri et al., 2009; Junger, 2011), as well as in controlling bacterial infection (Idzko et al., 2014). Among the TRP channel proteins, direct evidence suggests that in the absence of TRPM2 or TRPV2, mice display lower inflammatory responses and are resistant to autoimmune disorders such as obesity-induced insulin resistance or EAE, respectively (Feske et al., 2015). In contrast, these mice displayed increased susceptibility to Listeria monocytogenes, presumably because of lower inflammatory response to the infection (Knowles et al., 2011). Some TRPC channels seem to play a role in innate immunity/macroage functions, e.g., chemotaxis, and phagocytosis (Link et al., 2010). Despite this mounting evidence for the importance of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} signaling in the pathogenesis of infections and autoimmune disorders, little is known about the identity or function of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel(s) directly responsible for induction of the M1 functional phenotype.

The goal of this study was to identify the PM Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel involved during naive macrophage polarization to the M1 inflammatory phenotype using well-characterized stimuli such as IFN\textgamma and bacterial infection. In addition to the ORAI1-based CRAC channel, the best documented TRPC-based Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx channel that is activated upon store depletion is TRPC1 (Liu et al., 2007; Yuan et al., 2007; Zitt et al., 1996) (Abplanalp et al., 2009; Huang et al., 2006; Kim et al., 2009). Studying TRPC1\textsuperscript{+/−} and wild-type (WT) macrophages or after knocking down TRPC1 transiently using small interfering RNA (siRNA), in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo, we found that TRPC1 mediates induction of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx during polarization from naive macrophage to M1 macrophage as seen by the level of expression of M1-associated inflammatory cytokines, chemokines, surface maturation markers, and signaling pathways. Importantly, our findings with the preclinical mouse model were translatable to human disease condition wherein analysis of circulating monocyte/macrophages from human patients with systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS) exhibited direct correlation between high TRPC1 expression and M1 inflammatory mediators. These data identify, for the first time, TRPC1 as a specific PM Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel that regulates M1 inflammatory functions in macrophage.

RESULTS

**Calcium Influx Is Required for IFN\textgamma–Induced Polarization of Macrophages to the M1 Phenotype In Vitro**

To address whether Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx has a role in the induction of M0 to M1 macrophage phenotype, bone marrow-derived (BM) macrophage cells were incubated with IFN\textgamma for various times (Figure 1). The amount
Figure 1. IFNγ Induces Ca²⁺ Influx and Shapes M1 Functional Phenotype Development in Macrophage In Vitro

(A) BM macrophages were generated in vitro (20 ng/mL GMCSF) and cultured in the presence or absence of 20 ng/mL IFNγ (phenotype inducer). Whole-cell patch-clamp and imaging analysis on these cells were performed to measure IFNγ-induced effects on Ca²⁺ release and influx. M1-associated mediators were measured in cells cultured in the presence or absence of 50 μM 2APB (Ca²⁺ entry inhibitor) by western blot, RT-PCR, and colorimetric assay.

(B and C) BM macrophages were pulsed with medium alone (M0) or IFNγ (M1) for 2 and 24 hr and loaded with Fura-2AM. 1 mM Tg was added (first arrow) to the Fura-2AM-loaded cells bathed in Ca²⁺-free medium to measure the internal Ca²⁺ release (first peak); thereafter 2 mM external Ca²⁺ was added (second arrow) to measure Ca²⁺ entry/influx through PM (second peak). Average analog plots of the fluorescence ratio (340/380 nm) from an average of 40–50 cells are shown. (B' and C') The corresponding bar graphs represent the mean ± SEM of Ca²⁺ release (first peak) and store-operated Ca²⁺ entry (SOCE) (second peak) under these conditions.

(D) Representative time course of Ca²⁺ current at −80 mV with 0 mV holding potential from BM macrophages pulsed with medium alone (M0) or IFNγ. Whole-cell patch-clamp was performed with Tg in the pipette solution.

(E) Comparison of NOS2 mRNA expression by qPCR analysis of BM macrophages cultured in medium alone (M0) or with IFNγ (M1) in the presence or absence of 2APB. The bars are representative of three independent experiments.

(F) Comparison of NO levels in culture supernatant of BM macrophages cultured with medium alone (M0) or IFNγ (M1) in the presence or absence of 2APB. Data shown are Mean ± SEM.

(G) The level of pNF-κB p65 (pp65) (Cell Signaling, 3033S), pSTAT1 (Cell Signaling, 9167S), GAPDH, p65, or STAT1 in BM macrophages cultured with medium alone (M0) or IFNγ (M1) in the presence or absence of 2APB by immunoblot. Data shown are representative of three independent experiments with similar results. The average pixel intensity of pSTAT1 or pp65 bands was measured and expressed in bar graphs as mean ± SEM (G').

*p ≤ 0.05, ***p ≤ 0.001 (Student’s t test).

See also Figure S1.

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of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx in unstimulated (M0) macrophages cultured for 2, 6, or 24 hr (Figures 1B, 1C, S1A, S1A, and S1A) were largely similar. Ca\textsuperscript{2+} imaging revealed a significant increase in internal ER Ca\textsuperscript{2+} released by thapsigargin (Tg) (first peak), followed by enhanced Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx (second peak) in IFN\textgamma-activated macrophages (for 2 and 6 hr) when compared with mock-treated control cells (M0) cultured in medium alone for corresponding duration (Figures 1B, 1B, S1A, and S1A). Importantly, prolonged IFN\textgamma treatment (for 24 hr) further increased SOCE, suggesting that IFN\textgamma treatment modulates Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx (Figures 1C and 1C). To address whether the increased Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx in IFN\textgamma-primed macrophage is specific, cells were incubated with a known SOCE Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel inhibitor 2APB (Sukumaran et al., 2015). 2APB significantly inhibited Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx, but not the ER release of Ca\textsuperscript{2+} in IFN\textgamma-primed BM macrophage (Figures S1A and S1A). Next, electrophysiological recordings were performed to measure the currents associated with the Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx in IFN\textgamma-primed BM macrophages and mock-treated control cells. Currents recorded using voltage-clamp conditions showed that application of Tg in the presence of external Ca\textsuperscript{2+} (2 mM) caused a significant increase of non-selective inward currents that reversed between 0 and −5 mV in IFN\textgamma-primed BM macrophages cultured for 2, 6, or 24 hr compared with the mock-treated control cells cultured in medium alone for corresponding duration (Figures 1D and S1A; data not shown). Together, these data indicate that IFN\textgamma-primed macrophage displayed an increased Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx, which likely influences their function in vitro.

IFN\textgamma interaction with the cell surface receptor(s) on macrophages activates specific polarizing signal transduction pathways (e.g., STAT1, NF-xB) to develop the M1 functional phenotype (Ginhoux et al., 2016; Murray et al., 2014). In this regard, production of NO and/or induction of inducible nitric oxide synthase (NOS2) enzyme that regulates NO production are considered to be the signature responses associated with the M1 phenotype. IFN\textgamma treatment induced BM macrophages to produce significant amounts of NO (Figure 1F). This IFN\textgamma-induced NO production was inhibited upon treatment with 2APB, the non-specific Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel inhibitor (Figure 1F). Moreover, 2APB treatment significantly inhibited IFN\textgamma-induced increase in NOS2 gene expression (Figure 1E). Moreover, immunoblot analysis revealed that exposure of BM macrophage to IFN\textgamma leads to a time-dependent increase in the level of pSTAT1 and pNF-xB p65 (pp65), whereas addition of 2APB caused a reduction when compared with cells exposed to IFN\textgamma alone (Figures 1G, 1G, and 1B), which was statistically significant (Figure 1G). As expected, macrophages exhibited similar levels of no significant effect on total p65, STAT1, and GAPDH with or without treatment. Together, these data suggest that in in vitro conditions Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx may be required for M1 phenotype function.

**ORAI1 and TRPC1 Channels Differentially Mediate Ca\textsuperscript{2+} Influx in M0/Naive and M1 Macrophage In Vitro**

The identity of the Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel-regulating M1 macrophages is unknown. Thus electrophysiological recordings were performed to identify specific PM Ca\textsuperscript{2+} channel(s) contributing to Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx during polarization of naive to M1 inflammatory macrophages in vitro. The Ca\textsuperscript{2+} currents were recorded at a holding potential of −80 mV, and I-V curves were developed using a ramp protocol where current density was evaluated at various membrane potentials and plotted. Our results revealed that unstimulated BM macrophages (naive/M0 macrophages) cultured for 2, 6, or 24 hr in medium alone displayed basal currents that appeared to be rectifying inward with \textit{l}_{\text{CRAC}}-like properties, which were similar to those previously observed for ORA1 channels (Figure 2A; data not shown). To address whether ORA1 plays a role in basal Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx and hence contributes to the observed \textit{l}_{\text{CRAC}}-like current in naive macrophage, cells were transfected with non-targeting control siRNA (M0-siC) or ORA1 siRNA (M0-siO1) (reduced ORA1 expression was verified [Figure S2B]). Electrophysiological recordings on these M0-siO1 cells showed a significant decrease in the inward-rectifying \textit{l}_{\text{CRAC}}-like currents (approximately 2-fold decrease in ORA1-silenced cells versus control siRNA-treated cells) (Figures 2C and 2C). In contrast, IFN\textgamma exposure induced a progressive increase in current with properties similar to \textit{l}_{\text{ISOC}} (Figure 2A). In addition, 6 and 24 hr post-IFN\textgamma exposure, the resulting macrophage displayed a non-selective Ca\textsuperscript{2+} current that reversed between 0 and 5 mV with \textit{l}_{\text{ISOC}}-like properties that have been reported for the TRPC1 channel (Selvaraj et al., 2012). To test whether TRPC1 is required for the M1 phenotype, BM macrophages derived from TRPC1\textsuperscript{-/-} mice were used. Exposure to IFN\textgamma displayed an attenuation of IFN\textgamma-increased \textit{l}_{\text{ISOC}}-like current (approximately 2.0- to 3.0-fold decrease) in TRPC1\textsuperscript{-/-} cells versus WT cells (Figure 2B). Likewise, BM macrophage transfected with TRPC1 siRNA (reduced TRPC1 expression was verified [Figure S2B]) displayed significantly reduced \textit{l}_{\text{ISOC}}-like currents after exposure to IFN\textgamma (Figures S2A and S2A). In contrast, IFN\textgamma-primed macrophage displayed largely intact Ca\textsuperscript{2+} current upon ORA1-silencing (reduced ORA1 expression was verified [Figure S2B]), albeit at a marginally lower level compared with the cells transfected with control siRNA.
However, silencing of both TRPC1 and ORAI1 significantly decreased Ca\textsuperscript{2+} current in both naive and IFN\textgamma-induced M1-BM macrophages (Figures 2D and 2D'). As the magnitude of the decrease in Ca\textsuperscript{2+} current in ORAI1-silenced BM macrophage with or without exposure to IFN\textgamma was similar (Figures 2C and 2C'), it suggested that TRPC1 could compensate for IFN\textgamma-induced Ca\textsuperscript{2+} currents associated with BM macrophage polarization from naive/M0 to M1 phenotype. Together these data suggest that under in vitro conditions ORAI1 functions as a dominant contributor to the basal Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx in naive macrophage, whereas TRPC1 is the major contributor to the Ca\textsuperscript{2+} influx in IFN\textgamma-induced M1 macrophages.
STIM1 has been shown to be the critical regulator for both ORAI1 and TRPC1 channels (Huang et al., 2006). Thus association of STIM1 with ORAI1 and TRPC1 in naive versus M1 macrophages was evaluated (Figures 2E, 2F, and S4). Cells exposed to IFNγ exhibited increased TRPC1-STIM1 association (Figure 2E), which was statistically significant compared with the basal level (Figure 2E). On the other hand, these cells displayed a loss in ORAI1-STIM1 association compared with the association in naive macrophages (Figure 2E). Moreover, ORAI1 expression at protein level was detected at a significantly higher level compared with TRPC1 in naive macrophages (Figures 2F and 2F'). Remarkably, IFNγ exposure induced a progressive increase in TRPC1 expression (Figure 2F), which was statistically significant (Figure 2F'). In contrast, ORAI1 expression remained unchanged compared with basal levels (at 0 hr) in BM macrophage (Figures 2F and 2F'). Together, the results revealed that IFNγ stimulation specifically induces an increased TRPC1 expression, along with increased TRPC1-STIM1 interaction, which increases TRPC1 channel activity in M1 macrophage in vitro.

**TRPC1 Mediates the Elevated Ca²⁺ Influx in BM Macrophage Polarized to M1 Phenotype In Vivo**

To test the physiological relevance of our in vitro findings, we next used a murine peritonitis model to determine if TRPC1 had a similar effect in M1 activation in vivo (Figure 3). Lipofectamine complexed with ORAI1-siRNA or TRPC1-siRNA was administered i.p. into the thioglycolate-injected mice to transiently knock down the pertinent channels in peritoneal macrophages in vivo (Figure S3). To determine if TRPC1 contributes to the elevated Ca²⁺ influx in M1 cells generated upon IFNγ exposure in vivo, Ca²⁺ imaging was performed. TRPC1-deficient peritoneal macrophages (M1-siT1) from mice that received TRPC1-siRNA and IFNγ displayed a significantly decreased Ca²⁺ influx when compared with the peritoneal macrophages from mice that were given IFNγ and control siRNA (M1-siO1) (Figures 3C and 3C'). In contrast, ORAI1-deficient peritoneal macrophages from mice that received ORAI1-siRNA and IFNγ (M1-siO1) displayed only a marginal decrease in Ca²⁺ influx that was not significant when compared with PM1-siC cells (Figures 3C and 3C'). Importantly, peritoneal macrophages from TRPC1−/− mice that received IFNγ (M1-TRPC1−/−) displayed a robust decrease in Ca²⁺ influx when compared with the peritoneal macrophages from WT mice with IFNγ (M1-WT) (Figures 3B and 3B'). Furthermore, electrophysiological recordings showed that peritoneal macrophages from the WT mice that were treated with IFNγ displayed a robust ~3.0-fold increase in non-selective Ca²⁺ current compared with the M0-WT (Figures 3D and 3D'). In addition, the current reversed at 0 mV and had similar properties to that of TRPC1-dependent I⁰ currents (Figure 3D) as observed earlier. Indeed, IFNγ-primed peritoneal macrophages from TRPC1−/− mice (M1-TRPC1−/−) failed to display the induced I⁰-like Ca²⁺ current compared with the cells from WT mice (Figures 3D and 3D'). Moreover, peritoneal macrophages from WT (M0-WT) and TRPC1−/− (M0-TRPC1−/−) mice that received PBS only displayed a Ca²⁺ current with properties similar to ORAI1-dependent I⁰ currents (Figure 3D).

Next, peritoneal macrophages from mice that received TRPC1-siRNA, ORAI1-siRNA, or control siRNA before i.p. injection with IFNγ or vehicle (PBS) were further analyzed. TRPC1-deficient peritoneal macrophages from mice that received TRPC1-siRNA and IFNγ (M1-siT1), but not ORAI1-siRNA and IFNγ (M1-siO1), displayed complete inhibition of the IFNγ-induced I⁰ currents with compared with M1-siC cells (Figures 3E and 3E'). Indeed, similar to the M1-TRPC1−/−, M1-siT1, the IFNγ-primed peritoneal macrophages that are transiently deficient in TRPC1, displayed a low amount of residual current, which is similar in magnitude and characteristic (inwardly rectifying like ORAI1- mediated I⁰ currents) to the basal current detected in control macrophage (Figures 3D and 3E). These data further suggest that ORAI1-dependent Ca²⁺ influx is present in naive macrophage, whereas TRPC1 mediates the IFNγ-induced Ca²⁺ influx in M1 macrophage in vivo.

To confirm the in vivo role of TRPC1 in IFNγ-induced macrophage polarization to M1 phenotype, the interaction between STIM1 and TRPC1/ORAI1 was also analyzed (Figures 3F and S4). Mice that received PBS or thioglycolate only, or thioglycolate and IFNγ, were sacrificed for analysis of STIM1-TRPC1 and STIM1-ORAI1 interactions. Co-immunoprecipitation using anti-STIM1 on cell lysate followed by western blot analysis with relevant antibodies were performed. Peritoneal macrophages from control mice that received either PBS (M0-PBS) or thioglycolate + PBS (M0-Thio) displayed a scarce presence of TRPC1, while exhibiting strong interaction between ORAI1 and STIM1, as evident by robust detection of ORAI1 (Figures 3F and 3F'). STIM1 interaction with ORAI1 was unchanged in peritoneal macrophages from mice that received IFNγ (Figures 3F and 3F'), whereas cells from the IFNγ-treated mice displayed increased STIM1-TRPC1 interaction (~4-fold) compared with the cells from mice given PBS or thioglycolate only (Figures 3F and 3F').
Figure 3. TRPC1 Mediates IFNγ-Induced Ca2+ Influx in Peritoneal Macrophages In Vivo

(A) Schematic showing calcium imaging, electrophysiological recordings, and biochemical analysis performed on peritoneal macrophages (peritoneal macrophages) from IFNγ i.p. injected WT and TRPC1−/− mice or mice injected with TRPC1 siRNA or ORAI1 siRNA to transiently knock down these proteins in vivo before the animals received IFNγ.

(B) Ca2+ entry triggered by Tg in peritoneal macrophages from WT or TRPC1−/− mice that received IFNγ i.p. (M1). Analog plots of the fluorescence ratio (340/380 nm) from an average of 40–50 cells are shown. The bar graph (B0) indicates means ± SEM of the Ca2+ release (left peak in B) and store-operated Ca2+ entry (SOCE) (right peak in B).

(C) Ca2+ entry triggered by Tg in IFNγ-exposed peritoneal macrophages transiently deficient in TRPC1 (M1-siT1) or ORAI1 (M1-siO1), or control cells (M1-siC) obtained from mice that received non-targeting siRNA. Analog plots of the fluorescence ratio (340/380 nm) from an average of 40–50 cells are shown. The bar graph (C0) indicates means ± SEM of the Ca2+ release.

(D) I-V curves in peritoneal macrophages from WT or TRPC1−/− mice that received IFNγ (M1) or vehicle (M0) i.p. Average of 8–10 recordings for current intensity at −80 mV is presented in the bar graph (D0).

(E) IFNγ-exposed peritoneal macrophages transiently deficient in TRPC1 (M1-siT1) or ORAI1 (M1-siO1), or control cells (M1-siC) were subjected to whole-cell patch-clamp recordings. Average of 8–10 recordings used for I-V relationships are shown in bar graph (E0).

(F) TRPC1-STIM1 and ORAI1-STIM1 complex formation in peritoneal macrophages from C57BL/6 mice i.p. injected with PBS (M0-PBS), thioglycolate (M0-Thio) and PBS, or thioglycolate and IFNγ (M1). Immunoprecipitation was performed on 250 μg of protein extracts from approx. 5 × 10⁶ cells using anti-STIM1 antibodies (Cell Signaling, 4916S) as seen after subjecting the immunoprecipitates to SDS-PAGE followed by immunoblot detection with anti-TRPC1 (Abcam, ab192031) and anti-ORAI1 (Alamone Lab, ACC-060). Anti-STIM1 (Cell Signaling, 4916S) was used for loading control. Bar graph (F0) represents the average pixel intensity of the respective protein bands from three independent experiments.

(G) TRPC1 and ORAI1 protein expression in peritoneal macrophages from C57BL/6 mice i.p. injected with PBS (M0-PBS), thioglycolate and PBS (M0-Thio), or thioglycolate and IFNγ (M1) as seen subjecting 30 μg protein to SDS-PAGE and using anti-TRPC1 (Abcam, ab192031), anti-ORAI1 (Alamone Lab, ACC-060), or anti-GAPDH for western blot. Bar graph (G0) represents the average pixel intensity of the respective protein bands from three independent experiments.

*p ≤ 0.05, ***p ≤ 0.001 (Student’s t test).

See also Figure S3.
3F). Consistent with the ability of IFNγ to elevate TRPC1 expression in vitro, peritoneal macrophages from mice given thioglycolate and IFNγ displayed significantly induced expression of TRPC1 (increased by ~6-fold), whereas the ORAI1 level remains unchanged in these cells compared with the peritoneal macrophages from mice that received thioglycolate only (Figures 3G and 3G').
TRPC1-Deficient Macrophage Are Impaired in Their Ability to Develop IFNγ-Induced M1 Inflammatory Response In Vitro

To determine the effect of TRPC1 on the induction of the M1 functional phenotype, a series of experiments were performed to directly compare signaling, transcriptional responses, and surface expression of maturation markers. Unstimulated BM macrophages that were transfected with non-targeting siRNA (M0-siC) or TRPC1 siRNA (M0-siT1) displayed a low basal pSTAT1 and pNF-κB (pp65) (Figures 4A and 4A’). However, when stimulated with IFNγ, only BM macrophages that were transfected with non-targeting siRNA (M1-siC) displayed induced elevated amounts of pSTAT1 and pp65 (Figures 4A and 4A’). Importantly, IFNγ-induced pSTAT1-1 and pp65 levels were also significantly reduced by severalfold in BM macrophages that were transfected with TRPC1 siRNA (BM1-siT1) at all time points tested (Figures 4A’ and S6A). Next, the effects of IFNγ on TRPC1-deficient and TRPC1-positive cells were compared in vitro for the production of signature M1 inflammatory molecules: anti-microbial effectors (e.g., NO and NOS2), cytokines (e.g., TNF-α, interleukin (IL)-6, IL-23), Th1-recruiting chemokines (e.g., CXCL9, CXCL10), and factors involved in promoting cytotoxic adaptive immunity (e.g., major histocompatibility complex class II [MHC-II] and costimulatory molecules CD80, CD86) (Ivashkiv, 2013). M2 functional phenotypic signature factors (e.g., Arg1, CCL22) were also analyzed to have better clarity about the biological significance of the role of TRPC1. IFNγ treatment resulted in the presence of large amounts of NO by 18 hr post-exposure in the supernatants of control siRNA-transfected BM macrophages (Figure 4B) or BM macrophages that are isolated from WT mice (Figure S5). In contrast, NO level was barely detected in supernatants of IFNγ-stimulated macrophage transfected with TRPC1-siRNA (Figure 4B) or BM macrophage isolated from TRPC1-sufficient mice (Figure S5). IFNγ exposure of TRPC1-deficient BM macrophages that are either isolated from WT mice or were transfected with non-targeting siRNA (M1-siC) displayed induced expression of NOS2, TNF-α, IL-6, IL-23, CXCL9, and CXCL10 (Figures 4C and S7). In contrast, in the absence of TRPC1 BM macrophages that are isolated from TRPC1-deficient mice (M1-TRPC1−/−) or BM macrophages that were transfected with TRPC1-siRNA (M1-siT1), IFNγ exposure resulted in significantly lower expression of M1 phenotype factors (Figures 4C, 4D, and S7). Among the two M2 anti-inflammatory mediators analyzed, CCL22 and arginase-1 (ARG-1) expression were found to be unaffected by IFNγ exposure in TRPC1-positive and TRPC1-deficient BM macrophages in vitro (Figures 4D and S7). Next, flow cytometry was performed to analyze the effect of TRPC1 on the surface expression of maturation markers MHC-II, CD80, and CD86. BM macrophage transfected with control siRNA exposed to IFNγ showed increased surface expression of MHC-II, CD80, and CD86 when compared with mock cells cultured in the presence of the medium alone (Figures 4E, 4E’, and S6B). However, BM macrophage transfected with TRPC1-siRNA exposed to IFNγ exhibited an inhibition of IFNγ-induced up-regulation of MHC-II and costimulatory molecules CD80 and CD86, which was statistically significant (Figures 4E, 4E’, and S6B). Together these results demonstrate that the absence of TRPC1 efficiently prevents the development of the IFNγ-induced M1 functional phenotype in macrophages in vitro.

TRPC1 Is Critical for Induction of M1 Inflammatory Response in IFNγ-Primed Peritoneal Macrophages In Vivo

To determine if TRPC1 participates in the induction of the M1 inflammatory response in vivo, we used the previously described murine peritonitis model. Peritoneal macrophages from mice that were given IFNγ and control siRNA (M1-siC) displayed upregulated amounts of pSTAT1 and pp65 when compared with cells from mice that received PBS only (M0-WT) (Figures 5A and 5A’). In contrast, peritoneal macrophages from mice that received TRPC1-siRNA and IFNγ (M1-siT1) had negligible amounts of pSTAT1 or pp65 (Figures 5A and 5A’). Likewise, peritoneal macrophages from WT mice that received IFNγ (M1-WT) displayed increased pSTAT1 and pp65 when compared with peritoneal macrophages from PBS-injected mice (M0-WT) (Figures 5B and 5B’). On the contrary, peritoneal macrophages from TRPC1−/− mice that received IFNγ (M1-TRPC1−/−) presented no change in pSTAT1 and pp65 levels when compared with the peritoneal macrophages from TRPC1−/− mice that received PBS only (M0-TRPC1−/−) (Figures 5B and 5B’). Moreover, peritoneal macrophages from mice that were given control siRNA, similar to the cells from WT mice, exhibited robust increase in the expression of NOS2, TNF-α, IL-6, IL-23, CXCL9, and CXCL10 in response to IFNγ compared with vehicle/PBS (Figures 5D and S8). On the contrary, peritoneal macrophages from mice that were given TRPC1-siRNA (Figure 5D), similar to the cells from TRPC1−/− mice, had impaired up-regulation of NOS2, TNF-α, IL-6, IL-23, CXCL9, and CXCL10 gene expression while exhibiting no effect on the expression of M2 molecules CCL22 and ARG-1 (Figure 5C). Gene expression of all these inflammatory mediators was detected at a significantly lower level in TRPC1-deficient peritoneal macrophages in response to IFNγ when compared with the TRPC1-positive macrophages (Figure 5C). These results suggest that TRPC1 is required for in vivo IFNγ-activated M1 inflammatory macrophage responses.
Macrophages in TRPC1-Deficient Mice Display Impaired Ca\(^{2+}\) Influx and Ability to Induce the M1 Inflammatory Protective Response during Klebsiella pneumoniae Infection

To determine whether TRPC1-mediated Ca\(^{2+}\) influx is involved in the development of the M1 inflammatory phenotype in a clinically relevant infection, a murine model of peritonitis was used (Figure 6A). WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice were i.p. infected with Klebsiella pneumoniae (KPN) or PBS (mock) for 24 hr before

**Figure 5. TRPC1 Deficiency Results in Reduced IFN\(\gamma\)-Induced Phosphorylation of STAT1 and NF-\(\kappa\)B as well as Impaired Production of M1 Inflammatory Mediators in Peritoneal Macrophages In Vivo**

Immunoblotting and qRT-PCR analysis were performed on peritoneal macrophages from IFN\(\gamma\)-i.p. injected WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice. IFN\(\gamma\)-induced effect was also analyzed in peritoneal macrophages in which TRPC1 was transiently knocked down in vivo by i.p. injection of TRPC1 siRNA before the animals received IFN\(\gamma\).

(A) Peritoneal macrophages transiently deficient in TRPC1 or control cells from mice that received siRNA specific for TRPC1 or non-targeting siRNA were harvested 24 hr after i.p. injection with vehicle (M0-siC, M0-siT1) or IFN\(\gamma\) (M1-siC, M1-siT1). Western blot analysis using anti-pSTAT1, pp65, p65, STAT1, and anti-GAPDH was performed on equal amount of the respective cell lysates. The bar graph (A’) depicts average \(\pm\) SEM of pixel intensity of the pSTAT1 and pp65 protein bands.

(B) Immunoblots of pSTAT1 and pp65 levels in peritoneal macrophages from PBS- (M0) or IFN\(\gamma\) (M1)-injected WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice. The bar graph (B’) depicts averages \(\pm\) SEM of pixel intensity of the pSTAT1 and pp65 protein bands.

(C) The expression of M1-associated inflammatory mediators and M2-specific anti-inflammatory mediators measured by qRT-PCR in peritoneal macrophages from PBS- (M0) or IFN\(\gamma\) (M1)-injected WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice.

(D) The expression of M1-associated inflammatory mediators in M0 and M1 peritoneal macrophages from PBS- (M0) or IFN\(\gamma\) (M1)-injected mice measured by qRT-PCR after in vivo treatment with siC or siT1 RNA, detailed in (A).

***p \(\leq 0.001\) (Student’s t test).

See also Figure S8.
compared with the WT mice. Taken together, the data clearly demonstrate that absence of TRPC1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) influx leads to significant inhibition of M1 inflammatory responses in macrophages during KPn infection. Peritoneal macrophages from infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice exhibited significantly lower Ca\(^{2+}\) influx compared with the cells from the WT animals (Figure 6A2). Indeed, electrophysiological recordings in these cells when stimulated with Tg in the presence of 2 mM external Ca\(^{2+}\) display a rapid and significant increase in Ca\(^{2+}\) currents only in peritoneal macrophages from WT-infected mice (Figure 6A3). Consistent with the above results, Ca\(^{2+}\) currents were also greatly attenuated in TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) peritoneal macrophages from KPn-infected mice (Figure 6A3).

Electrophysiological recordings showed that peritoneal macrophages from KPn-infected WT mice developed a non-selective Ca\(^{2+}\) current that reversed between 0 and 5 mV, which is consistent with TRPC1-dependent \(I_{\text{SOC}}\) currents (Figures 6A4 and 6A5). However, peritoneal macrophages from KPn-infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice failed to show an increase in Ca\(^{2+}\) current (Figures 6A4 and 6A5), suggesting the important role played by TRPC1 in SOCE in activated macrophages during bacterial infection of the host. Indeed, macrophage from KPn-infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice displayed slightly inward-rectifying Ca\(^{2+}\) currents (ORAI1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) current) (Figure 6A4) as observed in naive/M0 macrophage from WT and KPn-infected mice (Figure 6A4). This results from this study clearly demonstrate that the KPn infection in mice induced an increased Ca\(^{2+}\) influx specifically through the TRPC1 channels on the PM of macrophage.

**Macrophages from KPn-Infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) Mice Exhibit Reduced STAT1 and NF-\(\kappa\)B p65 Activation and Express Lower Levels of M1 Inflammatory Mediators**

Because macrophages activate specific polarizing signal transduction pathways (STAT1, p65, and NF-\(\kappa\)B in M1 inflammatory and STAT6 in M2 anti-inflammatory macrophages), we performed western blot analysis on cell homogenates to measure the levels of pSTAT1 and pSTAT6 in peritoneal macrophages from KPn-infected WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice. In both strains, peritoneal macrophages from mock-infected mouse peritoneum displayed low basal levels of pSTAT1 and p65 (Figures 7A and 7A'). Peritoneal macrophages from KPn-infected WT mice exhibited increased levels of pSTAT1 and pp65 (Figures 7A and 7A'). In contrast, peritoneal macrophages from infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice failed to display an increase in pSTAT1 and pp65 (Figures 7A and 7A'). This effect was selective for M1-associated signaling as pSTAT6 levels remained undetectable in peritoneal macrophages from both the WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mock and infected mice (data not shown). Thus the data suggest that induction of M1 macrophage-specific signal transduction pathways was completely inhibited in the absence of TRPC1 in mice undergoing bacterial infection.

To assess the functional relevance of TRPC1 on the induction of M1 inflammatory response in a clinically relevant infection model, RT-PCR was performed to measure key inflammatory mediators in peritoneal macrophages from mock and KPn-infected WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice. In both strains, peritoneal macrophages from mock-infected mice displayed low basal levels of M1 signature factors, NOS2, TNF-\(\alpha\), IL-6, IL-23, CXCL9, and CXCL10 (Figure 7B). On the contrary, peritoneal macrophages upon KPn infection in WT mice exhibited significantly robust increase in expression of all these signature M1 inflammatory mediators at 24 hr post-infection (Figure 7B). In contrast, the transcript levels of all these M1 inflammatory mediators were detected at a significantly lower level in peritoneal macrophages from KPn-infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice (p < 0.001) (Figure 7B). We also performed flow cytometry analysis to examine the differences in the surface expression of maturation markers, MHC-II, CD80, and CD86, on macrophages from TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) and WT mock and KPn-infected mice. The increased expression of MHC-II, CD80, and CD86, in KPn-infected WT mice was partially inhibited in macrophage from KPn-infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice when compared with WT mice (data not shown). This impaired M1 inflammatory response was correlated with a significantly higher bacterial load in the peritoneal lavage, liver, as well as blood (Figure 6A6) of these animals when compared with the WT mice. Taken together, the data clearly demonstrate that absence of TRPC1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) influx leads to significant inhibition of M1 inflammatory responses in macrophages during KPn infection of mice, which likely contributes to the increased bacteremia of TRPC1 mice to this infection.
Figure 6. TRPC1 Mediates Ca\(^{2+}\) Influx in Macrophage during Preclinical Peritonitis due to Klebsiella pneumoniae (KPn) Infection and in Human Patients with SIRS

(A) Calcium imaging and electrophysiological recordings were performed on peritoneal macrophage from WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice i.p. infected with KPn for 24 hr.

(A1) Peritoneal macrophages from WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) KPn-infected mice loaded with Fura-2AM and Tg added in Ca\(^{2+}\)-free medium to measure the internal Ca\(^{2+}\) release (first peak) before addition of external Ca\(^{2+}\) as indicated to measure Ca\(^{2+}\) entry/influx through the plasma membrane (second peak). Analog plot of the fluorescence ratio (340/380 nm) from an average of 40–50 cells is shown. The bar graph (A2) indicates average ratio ± SEM of the Ca\(^{2+}\) release (first peak) and store-operated Ca\(^{2+}\) entry (SOCE) (second peak). (A3) Representative Ca\(^{2+}\) currents at -80 mV from a 0 mV holding potential of peritoneal macrophages from WT and TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) KPn-infected mice by whole-cell patch-clamp analysis with 1 mM Tg in the pipette solution. (A4) I-V curves showing the...
The observed reduced FcγR-dependent phagocytosis in these settings, and the fact that the chimeric stim1−/− mice were resistant to IgG-dependent autoimmune hemolytic anemia (AIHA), as well as autoimmune thrombocytopenia and anaphylaxis, provide support for the idea that Ca2+ elevations involving macrophage M1 activation phenotype have been largely elusive. The data presented here show an essential function of agonist-induced Ca2+ influx in the activation of functional phenotype-determining transcription factors and gene expression of signature M1 inflammatory molecules. Importantly, these studies identify a novel function of TRPC1 in the induction of Ca2+ influx during macrophage polarization to the M1-activated phenotype in multiple experimental models in vitro and in vivo.

In the last decade, there has been an increased appreciation of the Ca2+-mediated regulation of inflammation in autoimmunity and immune response against pathogens. Previous studies have clearly identified an association of mutations in Ca2+ signaling pathways with severe immune deficiency in humans (Oh-Hora et al., 2013). Several experimental models complemented these studies by showing a defect in Ca2+ signaling as the cause of impaired T cell and B cell responses (Feske et al., 2015; Hogan et al., 2010). However, the role of Ca2+ and the identity of specific Ca2+ channels that regulate innate immune functions involving macrophage M1 activation phenotype have been largely elusive. The data presented here show an essential function of agonist-induced Ca2+ influx in the activation of functional phenotype-determining transcription factors and gene expression of signature M1 inflammatory molecules. Importantly, these studies identify a novel function of TRPC1 in the induction of Ca2+ influx during macrophage polarization to the M1-activated phenotype in multiple experimental models in vitro and in vivo.

Macrophage responses to different pattern recognition receptor (PRR) ligands have been linked to Ca2+ signals (Goodridge et al., 2007; Zanoni et al., 2009, 2011), but direct inhibition studies of Ca2+ elevations on the functions of these cells are disparate. The discrepancies are particularly evident among studies reporting the role of SOCE in macrophage functions (Demaurex and Nunes, 2016). For example, studies using stim1−/− mice display abrogated SOCE and markedly reduced Ca2+ elevations upon FcγR cross-linking in peritoneal macrophages (Braun et al., 2009). The observed reduced FcγR-dependent phagocytosis in these settings, and the fact that the chimeric stim1−/− mice were resistant to IgG-dependent autoimmune hemolytic anemia (AIHA), as well as autoimmune thrombocytopenia and anaphylaxis, provide support for the idea that Ca2+ elevations by SOCE are an important contributor to macrophage functions. Moreover, studies involving stim2−/− mice showed a reduced production of inflammatory mediators correlated with increased survival during lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced sepsis (Sogkas et al., 2015). Although these stim2−/− mice were not protected from AIHA, it provides additional support for the idea that Ca2+ plays...
a role in macrophage functions. In contrast, a study using conditional deletion of both the Stim genes (Stim1fl/fl; Stim2fl/fl) alone or together in macrophages shows that despite a reduced SOCE, immune functions such as phagocytosis as well as the production of several cytokines in response to several PRR ligands were unaffected (Vaeth et al., 2015). Interestingly, in this setting, abolishing Ca²⁺ signaling by chelation of intracellular Ca²⁺ with BAPTA (1,2-bis(o-aminophenoxy)ethane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid) or 2APB reduced macrophage functions in terms of antigen presentation or IL-1β secretion, respectively, following PRR activation. Thus, despite discrepancies in the role of SOCE, there is a strong indication for Ca²⁺ signals contributing to macrophage function(s). In this regard, Ca²⁺ imaging studies presented here showed that IFNγ exposure increases Ca²⁺ influx. Moreover, 2APB treatment inhibits this IFNγ-induced Ca²⁺ influx, which correlated with an attenuated M1 pro-inflammatory response. Thus our findings provide strong support for the functional role of Ca²⁺ entry in macrophage polarization to M1 phenotype.

The finding from electrophysiological studies on M0-like cells from both unstimulated BM macrophages in vitro and in vivo peritoneal macrophages from vehicle-injected control mice show a highly Ca²⁺-selective
inward-rectifying current. This phenotype of Ca\(^{2+}\) current typically corresponds to the ORAI channel. Indeed, our results show that ORAI1 is highly expressed, and interacts with STIM1, indicating the functional relevance of this channel in naive/M0 macrophage. In contrast, TRPC1, which at the protein level is barely detected in M0 macrophages, increases gradually upon IFNγ treatment. Since ORAI1-siRNA-treated naive/M0 macrophages displayed a massive reduction in \(I_{\text{Ca}^{2+}}\) currents, it provides additional support for a fundamentally important function of ORAI1 in basal Ca\(^{2+}\) influx in macrophage. However, although ORAI1-siRNA-treated BM macrophage in vitro or peritoneal macrophages ex vivo exposed to IFNγ display reduced Ca\(^{2+}\) currents, there was no difference observed in macrophage lacking ORAI1 under M1-polarizing conditions. If IFNγ exposure activates ORAI1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) influx, we would expect to observe a larger decrease in Ca\(^{2+}\) current in IFNγ-activated ORAI1-siRNA-treated macrophage in vitro or in vivo. Moreover, western blot analysis should have shown an increased ORAI1 level and/or increased ORAI-STIM1 interaction during IFNγ-activated polarization to M1 phenotype when compared with the M0/naive macrophages, which we did not observe. Instead, we found a massive increase in Ca\(^{2+}\) current with channel properties typically linked to TRPC1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) influx in the IFNγ-activated cells polarized to the M1 phenotype, both in in vitro and in in vivo settings. Importantly, the IFNγ-induced increase in Ca\(^{2+}\) current was abolished in TRPC1-deficient macrophages from mice that received TRPC1-siRNA or macrophages from TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice. This was also correlated with an inhibition of the IFNγ-activation-induced increase in intracellular Ca\(^{2+}\) levels in TRPC1-deficient macrophage. The IFNγ-induced increase in TRPC1 protein in BM macrophage in vitro or in peritoneal macrophages from mice injected with IFNγ further support a central role of TRPC1 in Ca\(^{2+}\) influx during polarization of naive macrophage to M1 functional phenotype.

Our findings raised the fundamental question of whether the M1 activation-induced TRPC1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) influx is functional and regulates the induction of inflammatory molecules in macrophages. Indeed, the expression of various key M1-associated inflammatory molecules, e.g., the enzyme NOS2, the Th1-recruiting chemokines CXCL9 and CXCL10, as well as the inflammatory cytokines TNF-α and IL-6, were inhibited in TRPC1-deficient BM macrophage following stimulation with the M1 polarizing stimulus IFNγ. In addition, activation of transcription factors STAT1 and NF-κB induced by IFNγ was attenuated in these TRPC1-deficient cells. Similarly, in IFNγ-injected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice or WT mice that received TRPC1-siRNA, the expression of these M1 inflammatory mediators was impaired in peritoneal macrophages at the site of inflammation, again highlighting the critical function of the TRPC1-dependent Ca\(^{2+}\) influx activated by IFNγ exposure in mediating the M1 functional phenotype.

Among the known TRP channel proteins, the role of TRPM2, TRPV4, TRPC3, and TRPC4 has been shown in macrophage functions (Di et al., 2017; Hamanaka et al., 2010; Scheraga et al., 2016). The absence of TRPC3 is linked to a reduced ER stress-induced apoptosis/necrosis in M1 macrophages present in advanced atherosclerotic plaques (Smedlund et al., 2015; Solanki et al., 2014, 2017). TRPM2, was shown to promote macrophage-associated inflammation, which was thought to provide protection from *L. monocytogenes* infection (Knowles et al., 2011) while exacerbating obesity-induced insulin resistance (Zhang et al., 2012). In contrast, TRPM4 was found to mediate Na\(^{+}\) influx to antagonize Ca\(^{2+}\) influx (Serafini et al., 2012) and inhibit macrophage function in a sepsis model (Serafini et al., 2012). These findings directly support the relevance of TRP proteins in innate immune function, and it is possible that other TRP members could promote the development of specialized functions in macrophages. Our findings show the specific involvement of TRPC1 in mediating intracellular Ca\(^{2+}\) increase in a murine bacterial peritonitis model thereby substantiating that this mechanism is relevant in *in vivo* immunopathological situations. Similar to our findings using IFNγ-activated macrophages, macrophages from the peritoneum of Kpn-infected TRPC\(^{-/-}\) mice produced less M1 pro-inflammatory cytokines, chemokines, signature enzymes, and surface maturation markers than those of WT mice. These findings are directly relevant to human disease, and it is notable that we recently reported that immune suppressive helminth molecules specifically inhibit LPS (M1 stimuli)-induced and Tg-induced TRPC1 channel activity in macrophages (Chauhan et al., 2014; Sun et al., 2014). In a recent report, we have also shown that deficiency of TRPC1 impairs host defense and pro-inflammatory responses to bacterial infection (Zhou et al., 2013). However, it is difficult to ascertain the exact clinical significance of the observed high TRPC1 level in macrophages with M1, but not M2, phenotype during SIRS, as M1 inflammatory response plays protective role in killing microbes, whereas an exuberant inflammatory response has been linked to the development of severe pathology in sepsis. Nevertheless, these results coupled with our data showing uncontrolled bacteremia in Kpn-infected TRPC1\(^{-/-}\) mice leads us to posit that TRPC1-mediated M1 inflammatory response by macrophage is important in providing immunity to microbial infection. On the other hand, as persistent inflammation is
linked to a majority of chronic immune/autoimmune disorders, we anticipate TRPC1-mediated M1 inflammatory response may function in exacerbating chronic inflammatory disease conditions, a hypothesis we are currently investigating. In toto, the finding that induction of TRPC1-mediated Ca\(^{2+}\) influx occurs in macrophage polarization to M1 phenotype caused by IFN\(\gamma\) activation or bacterial infection, and that absence of TRPC1 completely inhibits M1 cell activation, may offer important mechanisms to target in inflammatory disease conditions.

**Limitations of Study**

We show that the function of TRPC1 is necessary, but the study design does not address if it is sufficient for the development of M1 inflammatory phenotypic response in macrophages. Sensing of M1-inducing stimuli by surface receptors needs integration of many signaling events into a coherent pattern of gene transcription reprogramming. In this regard, other PM calcium channel(s), despite not contributing to M1 stimuli-induced calcium influx, may in a parallel manner control selective physiological processes underlying phenotype-specific gene expression. Finally, our data with TRPC1 expression and M1 inflammatory mediators in circulating monocytes/macrophages in patients with SIRS is only correlative and does not directly address the precise function of TRPC1 in development/sustenance of M1 inflammatory macrophages in these patients.

**METHODS**

All methods can be found in the accompanying Transparent Methods supplemental file.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Supplemental Information includes Transparent Methods, eight figures, and one table and can be found with this article online at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2018.09.014.

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**AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**


**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The authors have declared that no conflict of interest exists.


Supplemental Information

M1 Macrophage Polarization Is Dependent on TRPC1-Mediated Calcium Entry

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Figure S1. IFNγ induced Ca²⁺ influx and shape M1-functional phenotype development in the presence or absence of 2APB in vitro, related to Figure 1.

(A) BMMΦ were pulsed with medium alone (M0), or 20 ng/ml IFNγ (M1) for 6h in the presence or absence of 50 μM 2APB and loaded with Fura-2AM. 1μM Tg was added (1st arrow) to the Fura-2AM-loaded cells bathed in Ca²⁺ -free medium to measure the internal Ca²⁺ release (1st peak), followed by addition of external Ca²⁺ (2nd arrow) to measure Ca²⁺ entry/ influx through PM (2nd peak). Average analog plots of the fluorescence ratio (340/380 nm) from an average of 40 to 50 cells are shown. (A') The corresponding bar graphs represent the mean ± SEM of Ca²⁺ release (1st peak) and store-operated Ca²⁺ entry (SOC) (2nd peak).
peak) under these conditions. *** $p \leq 0.005$ (Student's t-test). (A'') The bar graphs represent the mean ± SEM of Ca$^{2+}$ release (1$^{st}$ peak) in BMMΦ were pulsed with medium alone for 0min (M0), 2h (M0(2h), 6h M0(6h), and 24h (M0(24h). (A'') IV curves were compared in BMMΦ pulsed with medium alone for 0min (M0), 2h M0(2h), 6h M0(6h), and 24h M0(24h) by whole-cell patch clamp recordings. Statistics from 8-10 recordings are shown in bar graph.

(B) The level of pNFκB p65 (pp65), or pSTAT1 in BMMΦ cultured with medium alone (M0) or IFNγ (M1) in the presence or absence of 2APB by immunoblot. GAPDH was used as loading control. Data shown are representative of three independent experiments with similar results.
Figure S2. PM Ca\(^{2+}\) influx channels in M1-macrophages in vitro, related to Figure 2.

(A) BMMΦ transfected with control siRNA (siC), or siRNA specific for TRPC1 (siT1) were cultured under M0 and M1 conditions for 24h. IV curves were compared in control and TRPC1 knock-down cells by whole-cell patch clamp recordings. Statistics from 8-10 recordings are shown in bar graph (A').

(B) BMMΦ were pulsed with medium alone (M0), or IFNγ (M1) for 24h. M1 cells were transfected with siRNA specific for TRPC1 (siT1), or control siRNA (siC). Whereas, M0 cells were transfected with siRNA specific for ORAI1 (siO1), or control siRNA (siC). TRPC1 and ORAI1 protein expression was measured by western blot using anti-TRPC1 or anti-ORAI1 antibody respectively. GAPDH was used as loading control.

* p ≤ 0.05 (Student's t-test).
Figure S3. TRPC1 and ORAI1 knock-down in peritoneal macrophages *in vivo*, related to Figure 3.

(A) Peritoneal macrophages from mice i.p. injected with TRPC1 siRNA (siT1), or with control siRNA (siC) *in vivo* before the animals received IFNγ (M1). TRPC1 protein expression was measured by western blot using anti-TRPC1. GAPDH was used as loading control.

(B) Peritoneal macrophages (M0) from mice i.p. injected with ORAI1 siRNA (siO1), or with control siRNA (siC) *in vivo*. ORAI1 protein expression was measured by western blot using anti-ORAI1. GAPDH was used as loading control.

* $p \leq 0.05$ (Student's t-test).
Figure S4. Level of STIM1-TRPC1 and STIM1-ORAI1 interaction after IFNγ stimulation of BMMΦ \textit{in vitro} and PMΦ \textit{in vivo}, related to Figure 2 and Figure 4.

A) BMMΦ from C57BL/6 mice were pulsed with IFNγ for indicates duration, and IP performed with anti-STIM1 antibody, followed by immunoblotting using anti-TRPC1 or anti-ORAI1 on 30 μg protein separated by SDS PAGE. Inputs shown here were 1/10th of the protein used for IP.

B) PMΦ from C57BL/6 mice injected with PBS only, Thio + PBS, or Thio + IFNγ as described in methods. IP was performed with anti-STIM1 antibody, followed by immunoblotting using anti-TRPC1 or anti-ORAI1 on 30 μg protein separated by SDS PAGE. Inputs shown here were 1/10th of the protein used for IP.
Figure S5. Effect of TRPC1 deficiency on the ability of IFNγ to induce NO in vitro, related to Figure 4.

BMMΦ from C57BL/6 and TRPC1−/− mice were cultured in the presence or absence of IFNγ. NO was assessed by colorimetric assay in supernatants collected at 24hrs from IFNγ treated (M1) or untreated (M0) cells.
**Figure S6.** TRPC1 knock-down results in reduced IFNγ- induced phosphorylation of STAT1 and NFκB p65 as well as impaired maturation in BMMΦ in vitro, related to Figure 4.

(A) BMMΦ from C57BL/6 mice were transfected with non-targeting siRNA (siC) or TRPC1 siRNA to transiently knock down TRPC1. Cells were pulsed with medium alone (M0-siC, M0-siT1), or IFNγ (M1-siC, M1-siT1) for 15 min or 30min. Immunoblot using anti-pSTAT1 (Cell Signaling, 9167S) and anti-p65 (Cell Signaling, 3033S) is shown. GAPDH was used as loading control.

(B) BMMΦ transfected with control siRNA, or TRPC1 siRNA and pulsed for 24h with medium only (M0-siC, M0-siT1), or IFNγ (M1-siC, M1-siT1). The surface expression of maturation markers CD80 and MHC-II, in CD11b+ (myeloid cell marker) were measured by flow cytometry.
Figure S7. TRPC1 knock-down results in reduced IFNγ-induced production of M1 inflammatory mediators in BMMφ in vitro, related to Figure 4.

BMMφ from C57BL/6 mice were transfected with non-targeting siRNA or TRPC1 siRNA to transiently knock down TRPC1. Cells were cultured in the presence or absence of IFNγ and the level of M1-associated signature immune mediators, IL-6, TNF-α, and M2 anti-inflammatory mediators, CCL22, Arginase-1 (ARG-1) were analyzed in BMMφ by qRT-PCR.

*** $p \leq 0.001$ (Student's t-test).
Figure S8. TRPC1 knock-down results in reduced IFN\(\gamma\)-induced production of M1 inflammatory mediators in peritoneal macrophages \textit{in vivo}, related to Figure 5.

PMΦ transiently deficient in TRPC1 or control cells from mice that received siRNA specific for TRPC1 or non-targeting siRNA were harvested 24h after i.p. injection with vehicle (M0-siC, M0-siT1), or IFN\(\gamma\) (M1-siC, M1-siT1). The expression of M1 associated inflammatory mediators, CXCL9, CXCL10, and M2 anti-inflammatory mediators, CCL22, Arginase-1 (ARG-1) were measured by qRT-PCR. *** \(p \leq 0.001\) (Student's t-test).
TRANSPARENT METHODS

Mice and primary cell culture conditions

Female mice 6-8 wk old were used in this study. Both TRPC1+ and WT (C57BL/6) mice were bred in the UND animal facility. All animal experiments were conducted under the guidelines of the National Institutes of Health and were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of UND. All primary cells isolated were cultured in RPMI medium with 10% (vol/vol) FCS, 2mM glutamine, 100IU ml⁻¹ of penicillin, 0.1 mg ml⁻¹ of streptomycin and 20mM HEPES buffer, pH 7.2–7.5 (all from Invitrogen) and 2mM β–mercaptoethanol (Sigma-Aldrich).

Human subjects and circulating macrophage/ monocytes isolation and Analysis

For this study, patients (18-60 years) were enrolled from 2015 to 2017 in Altru Clinic Intensive Care Units (Grand Forks, ND, USA). The collection of human samples has been approved by institutional review board (UND IRB protocol 201503-298 and Altru IRB ST151). Written informed consent from the patient or a next-of-kin was required for enrolment. The inclusion criteria were two signs or more of at least two of the following: temperature <36 or > 38 degrees C; heart rate >90/min; respiration rate >20/min or arterial PCO2<32 mm Hg; and white blood cell (WBC) count >12,000/mm³ or <4000/mm³ or shift to the left of the differential WBC count with band forms >10%. Exclusion criteria included: pregnancy, cancer, altered mental state, chronic renal failure/ Insufficiency with a baseline creatinine > 2, steroids or any immunosuppressant within 30 days, chronic liver failure, HIV/AIDS, or Hepatitis B or C, drug or alcohol use. All patients were clinically followed up for 10 days or till discharged. Control samples were collected from matched healthy blood donors (age ± 5 years, sex, race). Twenty ml of blood were collected from healthy control, or patient starting day 1 of ICU admission in EDTA blood collection tubes (BD Biosciences, Franklin Lakes, NJ, USA). Peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were isolated by centrifugation using histopaque gradient (Sigma-Aldrich, St Louis, MO,
USA) as per the manufactures’ suggestions. Monocytes/ macrophages in PBMCs were separated using CD11b microbeads (Miltenyi Biotec, Gladbach, Germany) by following the magnetic cell sorting protocol provided by the manufacturer. Western Blotting and RT-PCR analysis were performed as described in detail below. Specific primers used for RT-PCR analysis are listed in Table S1.

**Polarization to M1 macrophage inflammatory phenotype, and bacterial burden**

For *in vitro* studies, bone marrow cells were isolated from mice and differentiated to macrophages (Chauhan et al., 2014). Bone marrow-derived macrophage (BMMφ) on day 6 of differentiation were used for experiments. Naïve macrophages cells were exposed to IFNγ (20ng/ml, Peprotech) to generate the M1- inflammatory phenotype. For *in vivo* studies, mice were injected intraperitoneally (i.p.) with 4% thioglycollate on day-0. On day-3 mice were injected i.p. IFNγ (50μg/kg) to drive peritoneal macrophage (PMφ) polarization to M1-phenotype, or vehicle (PBS) (mock control). Whereas, in studies involving peritonitis due to *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (KPn) infection, mice were injected i.p. with with 30000 CFU of KPn (American Type Culture Collection strain 43816) for 24 h to drive peritoneal macrophage (PMφ) polarization to M1-phenotype. Mock control mice instead received vehicle (PBS). From mice twenty-four hours after receiving IFNγ, bacterial infection, or PBS, peritoneal exudate cells (PECs) were harvested and PMφ were analyzed for expression of immune mediators by flow cytometry, RT-PCR, and western blot.

In some experiments, the mice were euthanized at 24h p.i. and peritoneal lavage, blood, and liver were aseptically homogenized in cold PBS with CompleteTM protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche Diagnostics, Germany) (Tripathi et al., 2018, Jondle et al., 2016, Mishra et al., 2013). For the bacterial burden analyses, serially diluted liver homogenates, peritoneal lavage, and blood were plated on LB agar and incubated at 37°C overnight (Tripathi et al., 2018, Jondle et al., 2016,
Mishra et al., 2013). Electrophysiological and biochemical analysis of these cells were performed to assess Ca\(^{2+}\) influx and properties of the channels involved in this process.

**RNAi Transfections**

Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) was used for siRNA transfection as per supplier’s instructions. siRNA duplexes targeting the coding sequence of mouse TRPC1 (TRPC1-siRNA, Cat. # Sc-42665), ORAI1 (ORAI1-siRNA, Cat. # Sc-76002), or scrambled control siRNA (siRNA-sc, Cat. # Sc-36869) were purchased from Santa Cruz Biotechnologies. For *in vitro* studies BMMΦ in 6 well culture plates were typically used 24h posttransfection with 60 pmol of appropriate siRNAs that had been added 0.5 ml of transfection mix. For *in vivo* studies, mice were injected i.p. with 3 ml of 4% thioglycollate on day 0. Thioglycollate injected mice on day 2 received 250 pmol of TRPC1-siRNA, ORAI1-siRNA, or siRNA-sc i.p. in 1 ml of OptiMem media (Cat # 31985070, Gibco) before receiving 50μg/kg IFN\(\gamma\) or vehicle on day 3. On day 4 mice were euthanized to harvest PECs and analyze macrophages to measure Ca\(^{2+}\) influx, or expression of various cytokines, chemokines, transcription factors, and surface maturation markers.

**Calcium measurements**

Measurements were performed by imaging Fura-2 loaded cells using the Olympus IX50 microscope and Polychrome 4 (TILL Photonics) system (Chauhan et al., 2014; Pani et al., 2009). Images were acquired using a Photometrics CoolSNAP HQ camera (Photometrics) and the MetaFluor software (Molecular Devices).

**Electrophysiological Measurements**

All electrophysiological experiments were performed on cells (Pani et al., 2009; Selvaraj et al., 2012; Sun et al., 2017). Whole cell-attached patch clamp measurements were performed at
room temperature (22°C to 25°C) using an Axopatch 200B amplifier (Molecular Devices). Cells in the recording chambers were perfused continuously through a custom-designed, gravity-driven, speed-controlled system with an external Ringer’s solution containing: 145 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM CaCl₂, 10 mM HEPES, 10 mM glucose, pH 7.4 adjusted with NaOH. Patch pipette resistance was 3 to 6 mΩ filled with standard intracellular solution containing: 145 mM cesium methanesulfonate, 8 mM NaCl, 10 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM HEPES, 10 mM EGTA, pH 7.2 (CsOH). Cells were activated by including thapsigargin (Tg) in the pipette solution (as indicated in the figures). Voltage ramps were applied from −90 to +90 mV (over a period of 1 s, imposed every 4 s) from a holding potential of 0 mV. Currents were digitized at a rate of 1 kHz. A liquid junction potential of <8 mV was not corrected, and capacitive currents and series resistance were determined and minimized. For analysis, the first ramp was used for leak subtraction for the subsequent current records. The current was normalized to the initial size of the cell to obtain current densities (pA/pF).

**Western blotting**

Cells were solubilized in SDS-PAGE sample buffer (Chauhan et al., 2014; Sun et al., 2014). Proteins in the extracts were resolved on 10% SDS-PAGE followed by Western blot analysis using the desired antibodies as described earlier. The following antibodies were used for western blot analysis: anti-NFκB p65 (p65) (Cell Signaling, 8242S), anti-pNFκB p65 (pp65) (Cell Signaling, 3033S), anti-STAT1 (Cell Signaling, 9172S) and anti-pSTAT1 (Cell Signaling, 9167S), anti-TRPC1 (Abcam, ab192031), anti-ORAI1 (Alamo Lab, ACC-060), β-Actin (Cell Signaling, 4970S) and anti-GAPDH (Gen Script, A00191). Immunoreactivity of p65, pp65, STAT1, pSTAT1, TRPC1, ORAI1, or GAPDH were detected using super signal west Pico Chemiluminiscent detection reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and analyzed on BioRad Reader (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Hercules, CA, USA) using Chembio software (Medford, NY, USA). Densitometry of
individual bands was done using ImageJ software (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA).

**Immunoprecipitation and Western blot analyses**

Co-immunoprecipitation and Western blot analyses were performed on cell lysate (Chauhan et al., 2014; Pani et al., 2013; Selvaraj et al., 2012). Following stimulation between 5-10 million cells from *in vitro* or *in vivo* experiments were lysed in 0.5 ml of 1× RIPA buffer (Sigma-Aldrich, 20-188) supplemented with 0.05% SDS, 1% Triton X-100, 20% glycerol, 1mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, and 1× protease and phosphatase inhibitors (Thermo Scientific) for immunoprecipitation using anti-STIM1 (Cell Signaling, 4916S, 1:50) Immune complexes were separated using Protein A Agarose Plus beads (Pierce, Rockford, IL, USA), proteins were resolved on 10% SDS-PAGE followed by Western blotting using the desired antibodies. The following antibodies were used for western blot analysis: anti-STIM1 (Cell Signaling, 4916S), anti-TRPC1 (Abcam, ab192031), and anti-ORAI1 (Alamo Lab, ACC-060).

**Determination of Nitric oxide production**

Cells (1 million/well in 2ml) were pulsed with medium alone for (M0) or with IFNγ for (M1) activation phenotype. At 24h of culture, nitric oxide (NO) levels in the culture supernatant was measured using Griess reagent (Promega [Fitchburg, Wisconsin, United States]) as per manufacturer’s instructions.

**RNA Isolation and Quantitative Real-Time PCR (qRT-PCR) analysis**

The qRT-PCR analysis was performed on cDNA (Chauhan et al., 2015). Total RNA from cells was isolated using Trizol reagent following manufacturers’ instructions. One microgram of total RNA from each sample was reverse transcribed into cDNA by using a high capacity cDNA
reverse transcription kit according to the manufacturers' instructions (Applied Biosystems, CA, USA). Transcript levels of M1-inflammatory mediators or the housekeeping ribosomal 18 S RNA were analyzed by RT-PCR using specific primers (Table S1). Expression levels for all the genes were normalized to the mRNA level of the housekeeping 18 S RNA gene in the same sample. The fold change was calculated by dividing the normalized value of the gene of interest in stimulated samples with the corresponding normalized value in unstimulated samples.

**Table S1. Sequences of the specific primers used, related to Figure 1, and Figures 4, 5, 6, 7.**

<table>
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<th><strong>Anti-Sense</strong></th>
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</table>

**Flow cytometry**
Expression of surface maturation markers on macrophages was analyzed by flow cytometry (Chauhan et al., 2014; Jondle et al., 2016). Single cell suspensions were prepared at $2 \times 10^7$ cells/ml in staining buffer (10% FCS in PBS) and pre-incubated with 1μg of the 2.4G2 antibodies for 5-10 minutes on ice prior to staining. 50μl of cell suspension (equal to $10^6$ cells) were dispensed into each tube or well along with a previously determined optimal concentration of cell surface specific antibody against CD11b, MHCII, CD80, and CD86 in 50μl of staining buffer. Cell surface expression of these maturation markers was measured on a BD LSR II flow cytometer (BD Biosciences). The collected events were analyzed with FlowJo v7.6 (Treestar).

References


