mTOR-regulated Mitochondrial Metabolism Limits Mycobacterium-induced Cytotoxicity

Antonio J. Pagán[1,2,3], Lauren J. Lee[1,2], Joy Edwards-Hicks[4,6], Cecilia B. Moens[5], David M. Tobin[3,7], Elisabeth M. Busch-Nentwich[1,8], Erika L. Pearce[4,9], Lalita Ramakrishnan[1,2,3,10]

[1]Molecular Immunity Unit, Cambridge Institute of Therapeutic Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 0AW, UK

[2]MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge CB2 0QH, UK

[3]Department of Microbiology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, USA

[4]Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics, Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany

[5]Division of Basic Sciences, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle, WA 98109, USA

[6]Present address: Cambridge Institute of Therapeutic Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 0AW, UK

[7]Present address: Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Duke University, Durham, NC 27710, USA

[8]Present address: School of Biological and Behavioural Sciences, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Queen Mary University of London, London E1 4NS, UK

[9]Present address: The Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, USA; Department of Oncology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21287, USA

[10]Lead contact

Correspondence: apagan@mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk; lalitar@mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk

ABSTRACT

Necrosis of macrophages in the tuberculous granuloma represents a major pathogenic

event in tuberculosis. Through a zebrafish forward genetic screen, we identified the

mTOR kinase, a master regulator of metabolism, as an early host resistance factor in

tuberculosis. We found that mTOR complex 1 protects macrophages from

mycobacterium-induced death by enabling infection-induced increases in mitochondrial

energy metabolism fueled by glycolysis. These metabolic adaptations are required to

prevent mitochondrial damage and death caused by the secreted mycobacterial

virulence determinant ESAT-6. Thus, the host can effectively counter this early critical

mycobacterial virulence mechanism simply by regulating energy metabolism, thereby

allowing pathogen-specific immune mechanisms time to develop. Our findings may

explain why *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, albeit humanity's most lethal pathogen, is

successful in only a minority of infected individuals.

INTRODUCTION

Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb) induces the formation of granulomas, organized structures comprised of macrophages within which mycobacteria reside, and accessory cells (Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2014; 2018; Ramakrishnan, 2012). The granuloma represents a key host-pathogen battleground that determines the outcome of tuberculosis (TB) infection (Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2014; Ramakrishnan, 2012). In most individuals, the granuloma successfully clears Mtb infection, often leaving a residual, sterile, fibrotic structure as a stamp of past infection (Behr et al., 2018; 2019; Behr et al., 2021; Canetti et al., 1972; Feldman and Baggenstoss, 1938; Opie and Aronson, 1927; Terplan, 1951). In contrast, in the minority of people who go on to develop TB, the granuloma often becomes a mycobacterium-beneficial structure that promotes bacterial expansion and dissemination (Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2014; Ramakrishnan, 2012). Granuloma necrosis is a pivotal pathogenic event because it delivers macrophage-resident mycobacteria into the growth-enhancing extracellular milieu (Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2014; Ramakrishnan, 2012; Russell, 2007). Necrosis of lung granulomas with their attendant rupture into the airways also facilitates transmission, sustaining the global TB burden and promoting Mtb's evolutionary survival (Ong et al., 2014; Ramakrishnan, 2012). Mtb's exploitation of the granuloma begins in the innate stage of the response, enabling Mtb to gain a foothold in the host (Cambier et al., 2014a; Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2014; Ramakrishnan, 2012). Thus, innate immune dysfunctions that facilitate this exploitation can lead to susceptibility (Cambier *et al.*, 2014a; Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2014; Ramakrishnan, 2012).

Zebrafish infected with *Mycobacterium marinum* (Mm), a close relative of Mtb,

develop TB-like disease with necrotic granulomas (Cosma et al., 2003; Swaim et al.,

2006). Mm-infected zebrafish larvae, in which adaptive immunity has not yet developed,

also form organized granulomas that undergo necrosis (Davis et al., 2002). Thus, the

zebrafish larva offers the opportunity to dissect the contribution of innate immunity in

tuberculous granuloma formation and necrosis (Davis *et al.*, 2002; Davis and

Ramakrishnan, 2009; Ramakrishnan, 2013; 2020). The larva's optical transparency and

genetic tractability enables the detailed, sequential monitoring by intravital microscopy

of the steps of infection, the contribution of host and pathogen determinants to them,

and the consequences to outcome (Ramakrishnan, 2013). The use of unbiased genetic

screens and candidate gene approaches in zebrafish larvae has shed light on

granuloma biology (Ramakrishnan, 2013). Hypersusceptible zebrafish mutants

displaying accelerated granuloma necrosis have identified innate immune host

determinants that protect against necrosis and that are relevant to human TB (Berg et

al., 2016; Clay et al., 2008; Pagan et al., 2015; Roca and Ramakrishnan, 2013; Roca et

al., 2022; Roca et al., 2019; Tobin et al., 2012; Tobin et al., 2010; Whitworth et al.,

2021a; Whitworth et al., 2021b).

Here, we report on insights into TB pathogenesis and resistance gained from the

genetic mapping and characterization of a loss-of-function mutant in mTOR kinase that

exhibits rapid granuloma necrosis. The mTOR pathway integrates environmental

signals emanating from diverse nutrient-sensing and growth factor receptor pathways to

regulate biosynthetic and metabolic processes vital for cellular development, growth,

survival, and function (Liu and Sabatini, 2020). Iterative experimental approaches in the

zebrafish and in human macrophages uncover the mitotoxic function of mycobacterial

ESAT-6 and show that mTOR-facilitated mitochondrial metabolism serves as a highly

effective innate 'counter virulence' factor in TB by exerting a mitoprotective effect

against this critical mycobacterial virulence factor.

RESULTS

mTORC1 Deficiency Confers Susceptibility to Mm Infection in Zebrafish

The zebrafish mutant *fh178*, identified in a forward genetic screen (Tobin *et al.*, 2010),

was hypersusceptible to Mm, with larvae exhibiting increased bacterial burdens relative

to wild-type and heterozygote siblings following infection into the caudal vein (cv)

(Figures 1A-1C). By four days post-infection (dpi), *fh178* mutant granulomas had

depleted their macrophages and the released mycobacteria were growing extracellularly

in rope-like cords (Pagan *et al.*, 2015; Tobin *et al.*, 2010)(Figure 1D and 1E).

Mycobacterial cording, a sensitive and specific surrogate for macrophage depletion, is a

readily quantifiable, binary phenotype for mapping mutants rendered hypersusceptible

by granuloma necrosis (Berg *et al.*, 2016; Tobin *et al.*, 2010). Using polymorphic

markers and the mycobacterial cording phenotype, we mapped the *fh178* mutation to a

nonsense mutation in exon 24 of the *mtor* gene (See STAR Methods). We confirmed

that genetic disruption of *mtor* was the cause of *fh178* hypersusceptibility by showing

that animals with a nonsense mutation in exon 19 (*mtor^{sa16755}*) (Kettleborough et al.,

2013) also exhibited hypersusceptibility with cording as did compound *fh178/sa16755*

heterozygotes (Figure 1F and 1G).

The mTOR kinase functions in two distinct complexes, mTORC1 and mTORC2,

that require the adaptors Raptor and Rictor, respectively (Liu and Sabatini, 2020).

Animals with nonsense alleles of *rptor*, the gene encoding Raptor, showed similar

cording as the *mtor* mutants, whereas those with nonsense alleles of *Rictor* did not

(Figure 1H and 1I). Inhibition of mTOR or mTORC1 with torin1 or rapamycin,

respectively (Benjamin et al., 2011), recapitulated genetic mTOR/mTORC1 deficiency

with increased cording (Figure 1J). Thus, mTORC1 deficiency confers susceptibility to

mycobacterial infection, linked to early granuloma breakdown. Because zebrafish larvae

have not yet developed adaptive immunity, this reflects innate resistance conferred by

mTOR.

mTOR Deficiency Accelerates Death of Mycobacterium-Infected Macrophages

At 4 dpi, wild-type animals had granulomas with sparse intracellular bacteria; in contrast

mTOR-deficient animals had clusters of extracellular bacteria in shapes similar to wild-

type granulomas, suggesting that they had been in granulomas that had broken down

due to macrophage death (Figure 1D, compare top and bottom). To detail the kinetics of

macrophage death, we infected zebrafish larvae in the hindbrain ventricle (hbv), an

acellular compartment ideal for monitoring early granuloma formation (Davis and

Ramakrishnan, 2009). Animals rendered mTOR-deficient by rapamycin treatment

formed granulomas similar to wild-type by 2 dpi, but their macrophages died by 3 dpi,

leaving clumps of extracellular bacteria (Figure 2A).

We hypothesized that mTORC1 deficiency might cause granuloma breakdown

through its impairment of myelopoiesis (Karmaus et al., 2017; Lee et al., 2017). The

paucity of available macrophages to replenish the growing granuloma could cause its

breakdown, similar to the case of myeloid growth factor Colony Stimulating Factor-1

Receptor (CSF-1R) deficiency (Pagan *et al.*, 2015). Supporting this possibility,

mTORC1 promotes myelopoiesis through CSF-1R (Karmaus *et al.*, 2017). However,

even though mTORC1-deficient animals had more macrophages at baseline than CSF-

1R-deficient animals, their granulomas broke down sooner (2-4 days versus 5-7 for

CSF-1R mutants) (Figure 2B)(Pagan *et al.*, 2015), suggesting that mTOR deficiency

induces death of infected granuloma macrophages independently of reducing basal

macrophage supply. In support of this, rapamycin treatment after formation of

granulomas caused their rapid breakdown (Figure 2C). For further confirmation, we

used time-lapse microscopy to capture in real-time the death of infected macrophages.

If mTOR-deficient granulomas are breaking down due to reduced macrophage

replenishment, then dying mTOR mutant macrophages should have bacterial burdens

similar to or greater than wild-type. To assess bacterial burdens in dying macrophages,

we used blue fluorescent Mm to infect mTOR-deficient animals and their wild-type

siblings. that had red fluorescent macrophage membranes. All animals were also

transgenic for a ubiquitously-expressed secreted annexin V tagged with yellow

fluorescent protein (*Tg(ubb:secA5-YFP)*), which accumulates on the surface of cells

undergoing apoptosis and other modes of regulated cell death (Bendall and Green,

2014). We monitored macrophage death by the appearance of annexin V-YFP labeling

of the plasma membrane and membrane blebs followed by the loss of tdTomato

fluorescence reflecting plasma membrane disintegration (Figure 2D and Movie S1). In 2

dpi animals, over a 4.5-hour imaging period that captured similar numbers of infected

macrophages in mTOR-deficient and wild-type siblings, 6-fold more mTOR-deficient

macrophages died (Figure 2E and 2F and Movie S2). Importantly, mTOR-deficient

macrophages died with lower bacterial burdens than wild-type (Figure 2G). This finding

ruled out numerical macrophage defects as the cause of macrophage death and

showed that mTOR-deficient macrophages died because they were "intolerant" of

mycobacterial infection.

To determine if mTOR's protective effect was macrophage-intrinsic, we

compared mTOR mutant and wild-type macrophages in the same environment by

creating wild-type – mTOR mutant parabionts, with differentially labeled macrophages,

red and yellow fluorescent in wild-type and mTOR mutants, respectively, and infecting

both caudal veins (Figure 2H). By 4 dpi, mTOR mutant macrophages had been

depleted by more than 90% on both wild-type and mTOR mutant sides of the

parabionts, whereas wild-type macrophages persisted equally on both sides (Figure 2I).

The depletion of mTOR mutant macrophages in these animals should not lead to Mm

cording because the complement of WT macrophages should be able to engulf the

infected mTOR mutant corpses and keep Mm intracellularly. By 4 dpi, as predicted, Mm

was only found inside the WT macrophages (Figure 2J). In mTOR heterozygote – wild-

type parabionts, mTOR heterozygote yellow fluorescent macrophages survived as well

as wild-type red fluorescent macrophages, ruling out *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* expression as an

artifactual cause of macrophage depletion of mTOR mutant macrophages (Figure 2K -

2L).

Thus, mTOR confers early cell-intrinsic protection against *Mycobacterium-*

induced death.

Infected Macrophage Death in mTOR Deficiency is Associated with Reduced

Mitochondrial Membrane Potential

Impairment in nutrient sensing pathways caused by mTOR-deficiency could sensitize

cells to autophagic death or mitochondrial apoptosis (Gonzalez et al., 2020; Green and

Levine, 2014; Hosoi et al., 1999; Muthukkumar et al., 1995). To assess autophagic

death, we created zebrafish deficient in the essential autophagy protein ATG12 (Bento

et al., 2016). ATG12-deficient animals had defective autophagosome formation as

evidenced by reduced aggregation of LC3 (Figures S1A and S1B). However, ATG12

deficiency did not prevent death of mycobacterium-infected macrophages in rapamycin-

treated animals (Figure S1C). To assess mitochondrial apoptosis, we used caspase-9

deficient zebrafish mutants (Galluzzi et al., 2016). Capase-9 mutants had the expected

defect in developmental apoptosis as reflected by reduced dead cell debris in the brain

at 3 dpf (S1D and S1E). However, rapamycin treatment induced death of their infected

macrophages (Figure S1F). Thus, mTOR deficiency kills infected macrophages

independent of inducing autophagy or mitochondrial apoptosis.

We ruled out two other modes of macrophage death commonly associated with

mycobacterial infection – inflammasome-dependent mediated through the adapter ASC

and Type 1 interferon-dependent mediated through the cytosolic DNA sensing adapter

STING (Decout et al., 2021; Swanson et al., 2019). ASC or STING mutants had

increased macrophage death when rendered mTOR-deficient (Figure S2G and S2H).

In contrast to mTOR deficiency, where macrophages died rapidly when bacterial

burdens were still low, mycobacterium-induced macrophage death typically occurs with

high intracellular bacterial burdens (Amaral et al., 2019; Beckwith et al., 2020; Clay *et*

al., 2008; Lee et al., 2011), We had previously identified a case of macrophage death

associated with low mycobacterial burdens, which was mediated through a pathway

activated by dysregulated Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF) (Roca and Ramakrishnan,

2013; Roca *et al.*, 2019). mTOR-deficient macrophage death did not involve this

pathway; inhibition of essential components, the kinase RIP1 and the L-type calcium

channels, failed to rescue death (Figure S1I - S1K). Moreover, mTOR-deficient infected

macrophages produced less mitochondrial reactive oxygen species (mROS) than wild-

type ones, in contrast to macrophage death in high TNF animals, which is initiated by

excess mROS (Roca and Ramakrishnan, 2013; Roca *et al.*, 2019)(Figure 3A and 3B).

mTOR-deficient macrophages had lower baseline mROS and a muted infection-induced

increase, which only reached baseline wild-type levels (Figure 3B). mTOR regulates

mitochondrial metabolism (Cunningham et al., 2007; Liu and Sabatini, 2020; Morita et

al., 2013; Rambold and Pearce, 2018; Schieke et al., 2006). Our findings suggested

that mTOR-dependent increases in mitochondrial metabolism in response to

mycobacterial infection constitute a protective metabolic adaptation that prevents

pathogenic macrophage death.

To explore this further, we infected the THP-1 human macrophage cell line

rendered mTOR-deficient by torin1 treatment. As in the zebrafish, mTOR deficiency

increased macrophage death within one day post-infection as indicated by staining with

the cell membrane-impermeant fixable viability dye eFluor 660 (Figure 3C and 3D).

Moreover, Tetramethylrhodamine, ethyl ester (TMRE) staining showed that infection

increased mitochondrial membrane potential in an mTOR-dependent manner (Murphy,

2009) (Figure 3E and 3F). Consistent with defective mitochondrial metabolism, mTOR-

deficient macrophages had slightly lower baseline ATP production, again with a muted

infection-induced increase that only reached baseline wild-type levels (Figure 3G).

We found that infection increased mTORC1 signaling as evidenced by increased

phosphorylation of the ribosomal protein S6 (Battaglioni et al., 2022) (Figure 3H – 3K).

Torin1-treated cells had a small increase in S6 phosphorylation, consistent with residual

mTOR activity (Figure 3H and 3I). Notably, this increase only reached baseline wild-

type levels, tracking with infection-induced increases in mitochondrial metabolism

(mROS and TMRE) to baseline wild-type levels in mTOR-deficient conditions. Together,

these findings suggest that baseline mTOR-facilitated mitochondrial metabolism is

insufficient to protect macrophages from mycobacterium-induced death; adaptive

infection-induced mTOR activity and corresponding increases in mitochondrial

metabolism are required.

To determine if death of infected mTOR-deficient macrophages was due to

mitochondrial damage, we assessed cytochrome c release by flow cytometry (Lienard

et al., 2020). More mTOR-deficient infected cells had released cytochrome c (Figure 4A

and 4B). In contrast, uninfected cells hardly released any cytochrome c (Figure 4B). To

confirm that mitochondrial damage was the cause rather than the consequence of

death, we checked if mitochondrial depolarization preceded death. Macrophages

infected with blue fluorescent Mm for 32 hours were stained with TMRE, which is rapidly

lost from the mitochondria upon loss of membrane potential, MitoTracker Deep Red

(MTDR), a mitochondrial dye that is more resistant to changes in membrane potential,

and Sytox Green, a cell membrane impermeant nucleic acid dye that labels dying cells.

Widespread mitochondrial membrane depolarization (near total loss of TMRE)

consistently preceded plasma membrane permeabilization and cell death (Sytox

positivity) (Figure 4C and 4D and Movie S3). MTDR staining outlasted TMRE staining

while preceding Sytox positivity. Moreover, its loss was often incomplete at the time of

Sytox positivity, consistent with some retention of mitochondrial architecture at the

commencement of the death process. Thus, infection induces widespread mitochondrial

damage in mTOR-deficient macrophages causing cytochrome c release and death.

Infection-induced increases in mTOR activity are adaptive, facilitating rapid increases in

mitochondrial energy production, which appear to protect against this mycobacterium-

mediated lethal mitochondrial damage.

mTOR Deficiency Sensitizes Macrophages to Mycobacterium-Induced Death by

Impairing Glycolysis-dependent Oxidative Phosphorylation (OXPHOS)

Consistent with mTOR regulating a number of metabolic pathways that, in turn, regulate

mitochondrial metabolism, mTOR inhibition of THP-1 cells caused broad reductions in

glycolysis, pentose phosphate pathway and Krebs cycle metabolites (Duvel et al., 2010;

Morita *et al.*, 2013) (Figure S3A). Correspondingly, glycolytic and respiratory capacity

were reduced in mTOR-deficient cells with lower basal and ATP-coupled respiration and

spare respiratory capacity (Figure S3G – S3L). These deficits reflected compromised

mitochondrial respiration and ATP production at baseline and a reduced ability to boost

mitochondrial respiration in response to increased ATP demands. Moreover, mTOR

deficiency blunted the small increase in mitochondrial metabolism that was apparent by

24 hours post-infection (Figure S3H and S3I). At this early stage, however, infection did

not alter glucose levels, glycolytic capacity nor alter metabolite abundance in either wild-

type or mTOR-deficient cells (Figure S3A – S3F and S3J – S3L). Consistent with mTOR

deficiency impairing mitochondrial respiration by reducing glycolysis, selective inhibition

of glycolysis with the glucose analog 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2DG), reduced Krebs cycle

metabolites, mitochondrial respiration and ATP production (Figure S3A, S3F, S3M –

S3O and Table S1).

Our findings were consistent with a model where mTOR-facilitated glycolytic

fueling of the Krebs cycle drives the mitochondrial energy production required to protect

infected macrophages from dying. If so, then inhibition of glycolysis should phenocopy

mTOR deficiency, causing selective death of infected macrophages with impaired

infection-induced increase in mitochondrial membrane potential. 2DG treatment induced

both phenotypes in THP-1 cells, similar to torin1 treatment (Figure 5A and 5B). mTOR

and glycolysis had a cytoprotective effect in Mtb infection also. To assess this, we used

mc^2 6206, the isogenic leucine and pantothenate auxotrophic mutant of the virulent

H37Rv Mtb strain, a biosafety 2 level pathogen that elicits similar inflammatory

responses and triggers diverse cell death programs (Beckwith *et al.*, 2020; Mouton et

al., 2019; Roca *et al.*, 2022; Roca *et al.*, 2019; Sampson et al., 2004; Sampson et al.,

2011). Mtb infection caused increased death of both mTOR-deficient and glycolysis-

deficient THP-1 cells (Figure 5C). In the zebrafish, 2DG treatment depleted infected

macrophages selectively and increased bacterial cording (Figure 5D - 5G and Movie

S4). Thus, mTOR exerts its cytoprotective effect by supporting glycolysis both in Mm

zebrafish infection and Mm- and Mtb-infected human macrophages.

Since glycolysis contributes to mitochondrial ATP production by supplying

pyruvate to the Krebs cycle (Ryan and O'Neill, 2020), intercepting this step should also

produce bacterial cording. Inhibition of the mitochondrial pyruvate carrier with UK5099

similarly increased bacterial cording (Halestrap, 1975)(Figure 5H). mTOR-facilitated

glycolysis also feeds the pentose phosphate pathway (Patra and Hay, 2014)(Figure

S2A). Zebrafish mutants deficient in glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD), the

rate-limiting enzyme of the pentose phosphate pathway, did not have increased

bacterial cording, ruling out the contribution of this pathway to mTOR-mediated

resistance (Figure S3P and S3Q). Thus, mTOR deficiency sensitizes macrophages to

Mm-induced mitochondrial damage and death by impairing glycolysis-dependent

OXPHOS and thereby mitochondrial energy production. Consistent with this, genetic

disruption of the electron transport chain complex 1 by targeting the assembly factor

NDUFAF1 increased bacterial cording (Formosa et al., 2018)(Figure 5I).

mTOR-dependent Glycolysis and OXPHOS Enable Macrophages to Resist

Mycobacterium ESAT-6-mediated Death

The mTOR mutant had unmasked the potential of pathogenic mycobacteria to cause

lethal mitochondrial damage in infected macrophages. We hypothesized that a specific

mycobacterial determinant caused this damage. Our prime candidate was the ESX-1

secretion system because (1) it accelerates mycobacterium-induced macrophage death

in wild-type (mTOR-sufficient) conditions, including in the zebrafish (Conrad et al., 2017;

Davis and Ramakrishnan, 2009; Groschel et al., 2016; Simeone et al., 2012; Simeone

et al., 2021; Volkman et al., 2004), and (2) it mediates mitochondrial damage in infected

macrophages (Lienard *et al.*, 2020; Wiens and Ernst, 2016). Whereas in wild-type

macrophages, ESX-1-dependent death requires high intramacrophage bacterial

burdens (Davis and Ramakrishnan, 2009; Volkman *et al.*, 2004), we hypothesized that

mTOR-deficiency sensitizes macrophages to ESX-1-mediated mitochondrial damage,

causing death at low bacterial burdens. Consistent with our hypothesis, mTOR-deficient

THP-1 macrophages infected with ESX-1-deficient Mm did not have increased

cytochrome c release nor increased death (Figure 6A and 6B and Movie S5). In mTOR-

deficient zebrafish infected with ESX-1-deficient Mm, infected macrophages did not die

(Figure 6C – 6E and Movie S6). ESX-1-deficient infection also did not cause

macrophage death in animals deficient in glycolysis or OXPHOS (Figure 6F – 6H).

Thus, mycobacterium-induced, mTOR-dependent increase in mitochondrial metabolism

specifically counters ESX-1-dependent mitochondrial damage and cell death.

ESX-1-mediated damage of *Mycobacterium*-containing phagosomes is integral to

its role in virulence (Lienard *et al.*, 2020; Simeone *et al.*, 2012; Simeone *et al.*, 2021).

This process is facilitated by the mycobacterial cell surface lipid phthiocerol

dimycoceroserate (PDIM); Mm mutants in the PDIM transporter MmpL7 are also

impaired in phagosomal damage as indicated by reduced galectin-8 recruitment

(Augenstreich et al., 2017; Lerner et al., 2018; Osman et al., 2020; Quigley et al., 2017;

Simeone *et al.*, 2021) (Cambier et al., 2014b)(Figure S4A and S4B). To determine if

ESX-1-mediated phagosomal damage was integral to its mitotoxicity in mTOR-deficient

macrophages, we tested the Mm mmpL7 mutant. mmpL7 mutant Mm infection did not

kill mTOR-deficient macrophages, as evidenced by the lack of cording in the animals

(Figure 6I). In contrast, Mm mutants in the virulence determinants Erp and MarP, which

do not mediate phagosomal damage and promote intramacrophage growth through

distinct mechanisms from ESX-1, did accelerate macrophage death in mTOR-deficient

animals (Berthet et al., 1998; Cosma et al., 2006; Levitte et al., 2016; Vandal et al.,

2008)(Figure S4A and S4B and Figure 6I). Thus, ESX-1-dependent phagosomal

permeabilization is a pre-requisite for its cytotoxicity to mTOR-deficient macrophages.

ESX-1's membranolytic activity had been ascribed to its major secreted substrate

ESAT-6 (6 kDa early secretory antigenic target); however, pinning down its role versus

those of other ESX-1 substrates has been complicated by their co-dependency for

secretion, as deletion of ESAT-6 causes loss of other ESX-1 substrates (Bao et al.,

2021; Champion et al., 2014; Fortune et al., 2005). Recent work has pinpointed a

specific role for ESAT-6 in phagosomal damage and virulence by identifying point

mutations in ESAT-6 that allow substantial levels of secretion of ESAT-6 and other

ESX-1 substrates yet cause loss of phagosomal membrane damage and/or virulence

(Brodin et al., 2005; Osman et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2016). To test the specific role of

ESAT-6-induced phagosomal damage in mediating cell death in mTOR deficiency, we

used *esxA* (ESAT-6) mutant Mm expressing either of two such ESAT-6 C-terminal point

mutations, M83I and M93T (Brodin *et al.*, 2005; Osman *et al.*, 2022). Mm-ESAT-6^{M83I}

and Mm-ESAT-6^{M93T} infections did not kill macrophages in mTOR-deficient zebrafish

(Figure 6J). Thus, ESAT-6 causes the phagosomal damage required for the cell death

induced by mTOR deficiency.

mTOR Enables Infected Macrophages to Specifically Resist ESAT-6-mediated

Mitochondrial Damage

mTOR-deficiency might simply sensitize phagosomes to ESAT-6-mediated damage.

However, mTOR-deficient and wild-type macrophages had similar ESAT-6-dependent

increases in phagosomal damage, showing that this was not the case and instead

suggesting that mTOR-deficient macrophages were sensitized to ESAT-6-mediated

mitochondrial damage (Figure 7A, upper panels and 7B, black symbols).

ESAT-6 might mediate mitochondrial damage in mTOR-deficient macrophages

indirectly or directly. In the indirect case, ESAT-6 would only be required to permeabilize

phagosomes, enabling host lysosomal factors or other mycobacterial determinant(s) to

access and damage mitochondria. In the direct case, ESAT-6 would also be required

after the phagosome has been permeabilized. To distinguish between the two, we

treated THP-1 cells with prazosin, a drug that permeabilizes endo-lysosomal

compartments in myeloid cells (Kozik et al., 2020). By 7 hours of treatment, prazosin

had caused extensive endo-lysosomal damage in uninfected control and mTOR-

deficient macrophages (Figure S4C). In infected macrophages, prazosin caused similar

increases in damaged wild-type and ESX-1-deficient mycobacterial phagosomes

(Figure 7A and 7B). Moreover, the proportion of wild-type and ESX-1-mutant

mycobacteria associated with damaged phagosomes was similar, showing that the

prazosin-induced phagosomal permeabilization could equalize access of wild-type and

ESX-1-deficient mycobacteria to the mitochondria (Figure 7C). Consistent with

increasing bacterial exposure to mitochondria, prazosin increased cytochrome c release

from wild-type-infected macrophages (Figure 7D). Prazosin-treated ESX-1 mutant-

infected macrophages had a much smaller increase in cytochrome c release, and

significantly lower than in untreated wild-type macrophages (Figure 7D). The small

increase in cytochrome c release in ESX-1-mutant infection suggests that additional

mechanisms may also play a role, for instance PDIM. To corroborate these conclusions

in vivo, we assessed bacterial cording in zebrafish with and without prazosin treatment.

As before, mTOR deficiency caused cording of wild-type but not ESX-1-deficient

bacteria (Figure 7E). Prazosin treatment of mTOR mutants increased ESX-1-mutant

cording only slightly, and significantly less than wild-type bacteria without prazosin

(Figure 7E).

Next, we tested if ESAT-6 was responsible for the mitochondrial damage by

assessing bacterial cording of ESAT-6-mutant bacteria in zebrafish with and without

prazosin treatment. As with ESX-1 mutant infections, prazosin treatment did not restore

bacterial cording of ESAT-6 mutants (Figure 7F). These findings implicate ESAT-6 in

mediating mitochondrial damage after first damaging the phagosome to enable access.

ESAT-6 possesses both phagosomal and mitochondrial damaging activity and mTOR

protects specifically against the latter. Our findings highlight the strength of mTOR as a

"counter-virulence" factor against ESAT-6 and indicate that a small amount of ESAT-6 is

sufficient to induce cytotoxicity in mTOR-deficient macrophages. mTOR-deficient

macrophages tolerate infection with mycobacteria so long as they lack functional ESAT-

6.

DISCUSSION

Consistent with mTOR's critical role in the development, homeostasis and function of myeloid cells and T cells (Lachmandas et al., 2016; Powell et al., 2012; Sinclair et al., 2017; Weichhart et al., 2015), therapeutic mTOR blockade in organ transplantation and cancer has been associated with increased risk of infections, including TB (Fijalkowska-Morawska et al., 2011; Garcia and Wu, 2016; Jeon et al., 2017; Ruiz-Camps and Aguilar-Company, 2021; Tsai et al., 2007). This susceptibility has generally been ascribed to compromised adaptive immunity (Weichhart *et al.*, 2015). We show here that mTOR deficiency results in profound, innate susceptibility to mycobacteria resulting from the rapid death of infected macrophages. This death results from catastrophic mitochondrial damage caused by mycobacterial ESAT-6. Thus, mTOR-facilitated mitochondrial metabolism represents a formidable armor against a potent mycobacterial mitotoxin. This study adds to the appreciation that while intracellular microbes can exploit host cell metabolism for growth and pathogenesis, the cells' metabolic capabilities can also avert microbial attack (Pernas, 2021).

Our findings provide insight into the adaptive metabolic changes that occur upon mycobacterial infection. Stimulation of cultured macrophages with lipopolysaccharide (LPS), a major Gram-negative bacterial virulence determinant, induces a metabolic switch from mitochondrial OXPHOS to glycolysis under normoxic conditions (O'Neill and Pearce, 2016; Weichhart *et al.*, 2015). This switch, which occurs through mTORC1 activation, enables macrophages to elaborate antimicrobial responses that depend on cataplerosis of Krebs cycle intermediates (O'Neill and Pearce, 2016). Whether Mtb infection induces this glycolytic switch is unclear; studies variably find that it boosts or

represses glycolysis (Braverman et al., 2016; Cumming et al., 2018; Gleeson et al.,

2016; Huang et al., 2018; Lachmandas *et al.*, 2016; Olson et al., 2021; Shi et al., 2015).

We find here that early in infection, Mm infection of cultured human macrophages

induces OXPHOS without altering glycolysis. This is consistent with our findings in the

zebrafish where Mm- and Mtb-infected macrophages exhibit small increases in

mitochondrial respiration early on (Roca *et al.*, 2022). While adaptive glycolytic shifts

may occur later in infection, mTORC1's role in early resistance to mycobacteria stems

not from a glycolytic shift but from the boost in OXPHOS from its stimulation of

glycolysis (Weichhart *et al.*, 2015). This is highlighted by our finding that directly

inhibiting OXPHOS confers susceptibility.

How does ESAT-6 damage mitochondria? Mm and Mtb phagosomes frequently

fuse to lysosomes, and contacts between lysosomes and mitochondria are proposed to

facilitate metabolic exchanges between these organelles (Armstrong and Hart, 1971;

Barker et al., 1997; Clemens and Horwitz, 1995; Harris et al., 2008; Levitte *et al.*, 2016;

Wong et al., 2018). The idea that mycobacterial phagolysosomes influence

mitochondrial function is reinforced by the finding that mitochondria aggregate around

these structures and undergo morphological changes (Jamwal et al., 2013; Mohareer et

al., 2020). Given that direct contact is required for ESAT-6 permeabilization of host

membranes (Conrad *et al.*, 2017), ESAT-6 might specifically damage membranes of

mitochondria that are in direct contact with permeabilized phagosomes. Indeed, ESX-1

is reported to cause some mitochondrial damage in mTOR-sufficient cells as evidenced

by reductions in mitochondrial mass, membrane potential loss, and release of

cytochrome c and mitochondrial DNA (Chen et al., 2008; Fine-Coulson et al., 2015;

Lienard *et al.*, 2020; Pajuelo et al., 2018; Wiens and Ernst, 2016). The finding that in

mTOR deficiency, infection with very few ESX-1/ESAT-6-expressing mycobacteria,

likely confined to a single phagosome/phagolysosome, causes global loss of

mitochondrial membrane potential suggests that there is rapid propagation of the initial

localized damage. The lack of rapid repair or replacement of damaged mitochondria in

the absence of mTOR-regulated biosynthetic processes may account for this

(Cunningham *et al.*, 2007; Liu and Sabatini, 2020; Morita *et al.*, 2013; Morita et al.,

2017; Rambold and Pearce, 2018; Schieke *et al.*, 2006). Alternatively, reduced

mitochondrial membrane potential has been shown to cause structural changes in the

mitochondria – matrix condensation and unfolding of cristae – that facilitate cytochrome

c release upon exposure to outer membrane disrupters like BAX family proteins

(Gottlieb et al., 2003). Similar changes from mTOR deficiency could cause global

mitochondrial catastrophe when subjected to ESAT-6's mitotoxic effects. As in that

report, we too find that disruption of respiration at complex I phenocopies the ESAT-6-

mediated death produced by mTOR deficiency.

ESX-1 increases macrophage death even in wild-type (mTOR competent)

macrophages (Groschel *et al.*, 2016; Ramakrishnan, 2012) (Augenstreich *et al.*, 2017;

Beckwith *et al.*, 2020; Behar et al., 2010; Davis and Ramakrishnan, 2009; Srinivasan et

al., 2014), with ESAT-6-mediated phagosomal damage being a pre-requisite step (Bao

et al., 2021; Osman *et al.*, 2022; Simeone *et al.*, 2021; Srinivasan *et al.*, 2014; Zhang *et*

al., 2016). We show here that ESAT-6 induces phagosomal damage irrespective of

whether the macrophage is mTOR-sufficient or -deficient. mTOR's specific role is in

resistance against ESAT-6-mediated catastrophic mitochondrial damage that rapidly

kills the cell. We do not know if ESAT-6 is sufficient for mitochondrial damage in mTOR

deficiency. ESX-1 is responsible for plasma membrane damage in mTOR-sufficient

cells and there too it is not clear exactly how damage is mediated — studies have

variably implicated ESAT-6, other ESX-1 substrates, non-ESX-1 mycobacterial

products, and excess lipoxins (Beckwith *et al.*, 2020; Divangahi et al., 2009; Pagan and

Ramakrishnan, 2018; Pajuelo *et al.*, 2018). For the mitochondrial damage in mTOR

deficiency, PDIM may facilitate ESAT-6's role, in addition to facilitating ESAT-6-

mediated phagosomal damage.

TB is notorious for killing far more people over the millennia than any other

infectious agent (Paulson, 2013). Yet, our recent epidemiological analyses show that

most individuals clear Mtb infection through a combination of innate and adaptive

immunity (Behr *et al.*, 2018; 2019). Our work finds that tapping into mTOR-regulated

homeostatic metabolic pathways constitutes a major host defense strategy. Curiously,

these pathways protect against a specific mycobacterial virulence determinant,

identifying mTOR as a "counter-virulence" factor against ESAT-6, where mTOR averts

its catastrophic mitotoxicity to buy the host time to call in other "classical" immune

defenses that can clear infection much of the time. In the minority of individuals, ESAT-6

and other mycobacterial virulence factors win out, allowing the evolutionary survival of

the pathogen as well (Cambier *et al.*, 2014a). Indeed, the modes of cell death that

ESAT-6 produces in wild-type hosts through phagosomal or plasma membrane damage

likely represent "workarounds" in mycobacterium's pathogenic strategy (Beckwith *et al.*,

2020; Chen *et al.*, 2008; Divangahi *et al.*, 2009; Pagan and Ramakrishnan, 2018;

Pajuelo *et al.*, 2018; Simeone *et al.*, 2021; Zhang et al., 2021).

Therapies targeting mTOR are being explored for a number of conditions,

including aging. Genetic and pharmacological mTOR inhibition can increase lifespan in

yeast, worms, flies, and mice (Papadopoli et al., 2019; Saxton and Sabatini, 2017). Pilot

studies of a short course of pharmacological mTOR inhibition in older human volunteers

report increased responses to influenza vaccines (suggesting decreased immune

senescence) and a reduction in self-reported viral respiratory infections (Mannick et al.,

2014; Mannick et al., 2018). Similarly, in lung TB patients receiving adjunctive mTOR

inhibition therapy together with appropriate antimicrobial treatment had possible,

transient improvement in lung function (Wallis et al., 2021). In a mouse model of severe

TB, mTOR inhibition therapy induced host-beneficial or -detrimental effects depending

on the treatment regimen; mTOR inhibition therapy reduced lung immunopathology in

established infections when given in conjunction with an antimicrobial drug, but

exacerbated lung damage and morbidity when administered alone in the early infection

(Bhatt et al., 2021). Our finding that mTOR inhibitors dramatically increase susceptibility

to pathogenic mycobacteria warrants caution in their use as anti-aging or immune

boosting therapies in the many areas of the world with a high burden of TB.

Limitations of the Study

How ESAT-6 causes the mitochondrial damage which ultimately triggers cell death in

mTOR deficiency remains to be determined. ESAT-6 may directly permeabilize the

outer membrane of mitochondria in close proximity to permeabilized phagosomes or

induce mitochondrial damage by cooperating with host or mycobacterial molecules with

intrinsic mitotoxic activity. Furthermore, how reductions in mitochondrial membrane

potential specifically increase sensitivity to ESAT-6-mediated mitotoxicity remains

unclear. Identifying the molecular players in the cell death cascade and the alterations

in mitochondrial structure and function in mTOR deficiency, and specifically in response

to ESAT-6-mediated damage, should help to clarify these processes.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

A.J.P., C.B.M., D.M.T., and L.R. conceived the project. A.J.P., L.J.L., J.E.-H., C.B.M.,

D.M.T., E.M.B.-N., E.L.P. and L.R. designed experiments and analyzed data. A.J.P. and

L.J.L. performed zebrafish experiments. D.M.T. isolated and mapped $mtor^{fh178}$. A.J.P.

conducted cell culture experiments. J.E.-H. performed and analyzed LC/MS. C.B.M. and

E.M.B.-N. provided chemically-mutagenized zebrafish lines. E.L.P. suggested and

supervised metabolomics experiments and advised on the experimental design and

interpretation of metabolic experiments. A.J.P. and L.R. wrote the manuscript and got

input from the other authors.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

E.L.P. is a scientific advisory board member of ImmunoMet and a founder of Rheos

Medicines. For the purpose of open access, the authors have applied a CC BY public

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 FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. mTORC1-deficient Zebrafish Are Hypersusceptible to Mm Infection.

(A) Hindbrain ventricle (hbv) and caudal vein (cv) injection routes used in this study.

Larvae were infected with ~150 Mm expressing tdTomato (B, C, E - J) or tdKatushka2

(D) fluorescent proteins via the caudal vein two days post-fertilization (dpf).

(B) Overlaid micrographs of widefield mycobacterial fluorescence (Mm*,* red) and

brightfield in *mtor$^{fh178/fh178}$* or wild-type siblings (*mtor$^{+/+}$*) four days post infection

(dpi).

(C) Quantification of bacterial fluorescence (fluorescent pixel counts, FPC) in animals

from *mtor$^{fh178/+}$* incross 4 dpi. Symbols represent individual animals. Horizontal lines

indicate mean values.

(D) Confocal micrograph optical sections of *mtor$^{fh178/fh178}$* and a wild-type sibling

expressing *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* 4 dpi showing a granuloma in the wild-type animal and

mycobacterial cording in the *mtor$^{fh178/fh178}$* animal. Mm (magenta) and macrophages

(green) are shown. Arrowheads indicate intracellular Mm.

Mycobacterial cording in animals from (E) *mtor$^{fh178/+}$* incross, (F) *mtor$^{sa16755/+}$* incross, (G)

mtor$^{fh178/+}$ x *mtor$^{sa16755/+}$* cross, and (H) *rptor$^{sa11537/+}$* incross at 4 dpi, and (I)

rictora$^{sa15967/+}$; rictorb$^{sa18403/+}$ double heterozygote incross and (J) wild-type animals

treated with torin1 (400 nM), rapamycin (400 nM), or 0.5% DMSO (vehicle control) 5

dpi. (E - J) Numbers within columns indicate animals per group.

Scale bars, (B) 300 μm and (D) 25 μm. Statistical analyses, (C) one-way ANOVA with

Tukey's post-test and (E - J) Fisher's exact test. Data are representative of two or more

independent experiments.

Figure 2. mTOR Deficiency Impairs Macrophage Development and Survival and

Sensitizes Infected Macrophages to Mycobacterium-induced Cytotoxicity.

Larvae were infected with Mm expressing BFP2 (A, E, I - N), mWasabi (C, D) or

tdKatushka2 (F - H) fluorescent proteins via the hindbrain ventricle (A) or the caudal

vein (B - N) 2 dpf.

(A) Serial confocal micrographs of granulomas in *Tg(mfap4:tdTomato-CAAX)* zebrafish

treated with rapamycin or DMSO. Mm (cyan), macrophages (red).

(B) (Top) Macrophage counting region (shaded light blue). (Bottom) Numbers of

macrophages in Mm- and mock-infected Raptor mutants and siblings expressing

Tg(mpeg1:tdTomato). Symbols indicate mean values for each group. Error bars

show Standard Error of the Mean (S.E.M.).

(C) (Top) Duration of rapamycin and DMSO treatments. (Bottom) Mycobacterial cording

5 dpi.

(D) Time-lapse confocal micrographs of a dying infected macrophage in an

mtor$^{sa16755/sa16755}$; Tg(mfap4:tdTomato-CAAX); Tg(ubb:secA5-YFP) animal 2 dpi.

Mm (blue), secreted annexin V-YFP (green), macrophage (magenta), annexin V$^+$

blebs (arrowheads). See Movie S1.

(E - G) 6-hr time-lapse confocal microscopy of *mtor$^{fh178/fh178}$* and mTOR-sufficient

siblings expressing *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* 2 dpi. See Movie S2.

(E) Absolute numbers of infected macrophages per field.

(F) Percentage of dying macrophages per field.

(G) Relative mycobacterial burdens in dying macrophages of $mtor^{-/-}$ and mTOR-

sufficient fish. Bacterial volumes were normalized to values obtained from dying

cells in mTOR-sufficient controls for each imaging run.

(H) Widefield micrograph of parabiotic zebrafish comprised of conjoined wild-type

Tg(mpeg1:tdTomato) and $mtor^{fh178/fh178}$*; Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* embryos 4 dpi.

(I) Absolute numbers of macrophages in the WT body (top) and $mtor^{-/-}$ body (bottom)

of WT - $mtor^{-/-}$ parabiont.

(J) Maximum intensity projections of infections in the WT body (top) and $mtor^{-/-}$ body

(bottom) of a WT - $mtor^{-/-}$ parabiont 4 dpi.

(K) Widefield micrograph of wild-type *Tg(mpeg1:tdTomato)* and $mtor^{fh178/+}$*;*

Tg(mpeg1:YFP) parabiont 4 dpi.

(L) Absolute numbers of macrophages in the WT body (top) and $mtor^{+/-}$ body (bottom)

of WT - $mtor^{+/-}$ parabiont.

(M) Maximum intensity projections of infections in the WT body (top) and $mtor^{+/-}$ body

(bottom) of a WT - $mtor^{+/-}$ parabiont 4 dpi.

Scale bars, (A) 25 μm, (D) 10 μm, (H, K) 400 μm, and (J, M) 50 μm. Statistical analyses,

(E - G) two-tailed, unpaired Student's *t* test. Time lapse data were pooled from five (E

and F) or three (G) independent experiments. See also Figure S1.

Figure 3. mTOR Deficiency Impairs Basal and Mycobacterium-stimulated

Mitochondrial Metabolism in Macrophages.

(A, B) *mtor$^{fh178/fh178}$* and mTOR-sufficient siblings expressing *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* were

infected intravenously with Mm expressing BFP2 on 2 dpf and injected

intravenously with MitoTracker Red CMH$_2$-Xros one day later.

(A)   Confocal micrograph illustrating mROS detection in an infected animal.

Macrophages (green), Mm (blue), mROS (magenta), mROS-producing infected

cells (arrowheads). Scale bar, 20 μm.

(B)   MitoTracker Red CMH$_2$-Xros mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) in infected and

uninfected macrophages of *mtor$^{-/-}$* animals and siblings at 1 dpi. Symbols represent

individual macrophages. Horizontal lines indicate mean values.

THP-1 macrophages were treated with torin1 or DMSO and infected with (C, D, G, H)

tdTomato- (E, F) or mWasabi-expressing Mm at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1 (C -

F) or 3 (G, H).

(C)   Flow cytometry plots of cell viability 2 dpi. Percentages of non-viable cells (FVD

eFluor 660$^+$) in the infected and uninfected subpopulations are shown.

(D)   Quantification of non-viable cells. Symbols represent values from individual wells.

Bars indicate mean values.

(E)   Flow cytometry histograms of TMRE fluorescence 1 dpi.

(F)   TMRE geometric mean fluorescence intensities (GeoMFI) 1 dpi. Symbols

represent values from individual wells. Bars indicate mean values.

(G)   ATP concentration per well containing 10^6 THP-1 macrophages 1 dpi.

(H – K) 1 dpi THP-1 macrophage cultures infected with tdTomato-expressing Mm (MOI

= 2) were treated with torin1 or DMSO for 4-hours in serum-free media.

(H, J) Confocal micrographs depicting Hoechst-stained nuclei (blue), Mm (red), and (H)

phospho-S6$^{S235/S236}$ or (J) total S6 staining (white). Scale bars, 20 μm.

(I and K) Mean fluorescent intensity (MFI) of (I) phospho-S6$^{S235/S236}$ and (K) total S6

staining in uninfected and infected cells. Bars indicate group means. Symbols depict

average MFI per field.

Statistical analyses, (B) one-way or (D, G, I, K) two-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-test.

(A, B, H – K) Data are representative of two experiments.

625
Figure 4. mTOR Deficiency Promotes Mycobacterium-induced, Mitochondrially-

mediated Cell Death.

THP-1 macrophages were infected with (A and B) tdTomato- or (C and D) BFP-

expressing Mm at MOI = 3.

(A)   Flow cytometry histograms of cytochrome c (cyt c) fluorescence in infected viable

cells (FVD eFluor 660⁻) 7 hours post-infection (7 hpi). Gate indicates cells that

have released cyt c.

(B)   Quantification of cyt c^{low} cells 7 hpi.

(C, D) Torin1-treated THP-1 macrophages were labeled with TMRE and MitoTracker

Deep Red prior to imaging in the presence of Sytox Green 32 hpi. See Movie 3 and

Figure S2.

(C)   Confocal micrographs of a dying infected macrophage (filled arrowhead)

surrounded by surviving uninfected macrophages. Mm (asterisk), Sytox Green

(open arrowheads). Scale bar, 10μm.

640 (D) MFI of TMRE, MitoTracker Deep Red, and Sytox Green staining of dying infected

641   macrophages over time. Key time-lapse frames for Cell 1 are shown in (C).

642 Statistical analyses, (B) two-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-test.

644 **Figure 5. Glycolysis Inhibition Impairs Mitochondrial Metabolism and Sensitizes**

645 **Infected Macrophages to Mycobacterium-induced Cytotoxicity.**

646 THP-1 macrophages treated with torin1 (400 nM), 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2DG, 5 mM) or

647 DMSO were infected with Mm expressing (A) BFP2 or (B) tdTomato or (C) Mtb

648 expressing tdTomato (MOI = 1).

649 (A) TMRE GeoMFI 1 dpi.

650 (B, C) Percentage of non-viable cells (FVD eFluor 660$^+$) 1 dpi.

651 (D – I) Zebrafish were infected with ~150 fluorescent Mm via the caudal vein.

652 (D) 5 dpi macrophage numbers in the body of mock- or Mm‑infected *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)*

653   zebrafish fish treated with 50 mM 2DG or 0.5% DMSO.

654 (E, F) 6-hr time-lapse confocal microscopy of *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* 3 dpi. (E) Absolute

655 numbers of infected macrophages per field. (F) Percentage of dying infected

656 macrophages per field. See Movie S3.

657 (G) Cording in wild-type animals treated with 2DG or DMSO 5 dpi.

658 (H) Cording in wildtype animals treated with UK5099 (10 μM) or 0.5% DMSO 5 dpi.

659 (I) Cording in *ndufaf1* G0 crispants and wild-type (WT) siblings 5 dpi.

661 Symbols represent values from individual (A- C, K) wells or (D - F) animals. (A - C) Bars

662 and (D - F) horizontal lines indicate mean values. (G – I) Numbers within columns

indicate animals per group. Statistical analyses, one-way ANOVA with (A - C) Sidak or

(D) Tukey post-tests, (E, F) unpaired Student's *t* test, or (G – I) Fisher's exact test. (E,

F) Time-lapse data were pooled from two independent experiments. Data are

representative of (A, G, H) two independent experiments. See also Figure S2.

Figure 6. Deficiencies in mTOR, Glycolysis, and OXPHOS Sensitize Macrophages

to Mycobacterial ESAT-6-dependent Cytotoxicity.

(A)   Cytochrome c release 7 hpi in THP-1 macrophages infected with BFP2-expressing

WT or ΔESX-1 Mm at MOI = 3.

(B)   Percentage of dying cells (Sytox Green$^+$) during 4-hr time-lapse at 1 dpi with

tdTomato-expressing WT or ΔESX-1 Mm at MOI = 1. Values from uninfected (U)

and infected (I) cells from the same fields are shown. See Movie S4.

(C – J) Zebrafish were infected with dose-matched inocula of tdTomato-expressing Mm

of the indicated strains via the caudal vein.

(C)   Intramacrophage Mm burdens at the beginning of 6-hr time-lapse confocal

microscopy of $mtor^{fh178/fh178}$ and $mtor$-sufficient siblings expressing

Tg(mpeg1:YFP) 2 dpi. See Movie S5.

(D)   Percentage of dying infected macrophages in same experiment shown in (C). See

Movie S5.

(E)   Cording in $mtor^{fh178/fh178}$ animals and $mtor$-sufficient siblings 4 dpi.

(F, G) C in wild-type zebrafish treated with 2DG, UK5099, or DMSO 5 dpi.

(H)   Cording in *ndufaf1* G0 crispants and WT siblings 5 dpi.

(I)   Cording in *mtor*^{sa16755/sa16755} animals and *mtor*-sufficient siblings 4 dpi. See also

686   Figure S3.

687   (J)   Cording in *mtor*^{fh178/fh178} animals and *mtor*-sufficient siblings 4 dpi with Δ*esxA* Mm

688   complemented with wild-type or point mutant Mtb *esxA*.

689   Symbols represent values from individual (A) wells, (B) imaging fields, or (C) animals.

690   (A, B) Bars and (C, D) horizontal lines indicate mean values. (E – J) Numbers within

691   columns indicate animals per group. Statistical analyses, (A – D) one-way ANOVA with

692   Sidak's post-test or (E – J) Fisher's exact test. (B, E, H) Data are representative of two

693   experiments. Zebrafish time-lapse data were pooled from four experiments.

694
Figure 7. ESAT-6 Mediates Mitochondrial Damage in mTOR-deficient

Macrophages Downstream of Its Involvement in Phagosomal Permeabilization.

(A - E) Torin1- and DMSO-treated THP-1 macrophages were infected with tdTomato-

expressing WT or Δ*ESX-1* Mm at MOI = 3 and treated with prazosin (PRZ, 20 μM) for 7

hrs. See also Figure S4.

(A)   Confocal micrographs of Galectin-8 (GAL8) immunofluorescence (green) and Mm

701   fluorescence (magenta) in THP-1 macrophages 7 hpi. GAL8 foci associated with

702   Mm (filled arrowheads) or not associated with Mm (open arrowheads) are shown.

703   Scale bar, 20 μm.

704   (B)   Percentage of macrophages with GAL8-associated Mm foci.

705   (C)   Percentage of Mm volume associated with GAL8 foci 7 hpi.

706   (D)   Percentage of cells that have released cytochrome c 7 hpi.

707   (E)   *mtor*^{sa16755/sa16755} fish and *mtor*-sufficient siblings were infected with ~90 fluorescent

708   Mm via the hindbrain ventricle on 2 dpf. On 1 and 2 dpi, animals were injected with

~3 nL of 300 μM PRZ or 1% DMSO into the hbv. Graph indicates the percentage

of animals with cording 3 dpi.

(F) Wild-type fish treated with 400 nM rapamycin were infected with ~180 tdTomato-

expressing *ΔesxA* Mm complemented with wild-type or point mutant Mtb *esxA* via

the hbv on 2 dpf. Animals were injected with PRZ or DMSO as indicated on (E).

Graph indicates the percentage of animals with cording 3 dpi.

Symbols represent values from individual (B, C) imaging fields or (D) individual wells.

(B, C) Horizontal lines and (D) bars indicate mean values. (E, F) Numbers within

columns indicate animals per group. Statistical analyses, (B, D) one-way ANOVA with

Sidak's post-test or (E, F) Fisher's exact test.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES, TABLES, AND MOVIES

Figure S1. mTOR Deficiency Impairs Hematopoiesis in Zebrafish.

(A) Overlaid widefield fluorescence and brightfield micrographs of an $mtor^{fh178/fh178}$

animal and wild-type sibling expressing the neutrophil-specific fluorescent

reporter *Tg(lysC:EGFP)* 6 dpf (Hall et al., 2007).

(B) Numbers of neutrophils in the caudal hematopoietic tissue (CHT) of animals from

$mtor^{fh178/+}$; *Tg(lysC:EGFP)* incross 2 and 6 dpf.

(C – F) Zebrafish embryos were manually dechorionated and treated with 400nM

rapamycin or 0.5% DMSO on 1 dpf to block primitive and intermediate waves of

hematopoiesis (Clements and Traver, 2013).

(C)   Confocal micrographs of the CHT of *Tg(cd41:GFP)* zebrafish at 2 dpf.

732   Hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs, open arrowheads) and thrombocytes,

733   nucleated counterparts of platelets in non-mammalian vertebrates, (filled

734   arrowheads) were identified by low vs. high level expression of *cd41:GFP*,

735   respectively (Lin et al., 2005; Ma et al., 2011).

736   (D)   Numbers of HSCs in the CHT of 2 dpf animals.

737   (E)   Numbers of thrombocytes in the CHT of 2 dpf animals.

738   (F)   Numbers of macrophages in the midbrain and CHT of *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* zebrafish

739   2 dpf.

Scale bars, (A) 300 μm and (C) 100 μm. (B, D – F) Symbols represent individual

animals. Horizontal lines indicate means. Statistical analyses, (B) two-way ANOVA with

Tukey's post-test and (D – F) unpaired Student's *t* test.

Figure S2. Inhibition of Autophagic Cell Death, Mitochondrial Apoptosis, or TNF-

associated Necrosis Does Not Prevent Mycobacterium-induced Macrophage

Death in mTOR-deficient Animals, Related to Figures 2 and 3.

(A)   Confocal micrographs of LC3 clustering in neuromasts, clusters of

748   mechanosensory cells of the fish lateral line, from *atg12^{sa42684}* incross fish

749   expressing *Tg(CMV:lc3b-GFP)* 5 dpf. GFP fluorescence (top) and surface-

750   rendered puncta (bottom) are shown. Scale bar, 10 μm.

(B)   Number of LC3 puncta per neuromast.

(C)   Cording in rapamycin- or DMSO-treated *atg12^{sa42684}* incross fish 5 dpi.

(D)   Confocal micrographs of acridine orange (AO) staining (green) and surface-

rendered puncta (magenta) in the midbrain of *casp9sa* incross fish 3 dpf. Scale

bar, 50 μm.

(E)   Number of AO puncta in the midbrain.

(F)   Cording in rapamycin- or DMSO-treated *casp9*^{sa11164} incross fish 5 dpi.

(G)   Cording in rapamycin- and DMSO-treated *pycard*$^{w216/w216}$ (Asc-deficient) animals

and siblings 4 dpi.

(H)   Cording in rapamycin- and DMSO-treated *sting1*^{sa35634} (Sting-deficient) animals

and WT siblings 5 dpi.

(I)   Necrosis pathway induced by mycobacterial infection plus excess TNF and

pharmacological interventions tested.

(J, K) Mycobacterial cording in *mtor*$^{fh178/+}$ incross fish treated with (H) necrostatin-1, (I)

nifedipine (5 μM), diltiazem (10 μM), or 0.5% DMSO 4 dpi.

Symbols represent individual (B) neuromasts or (E) animals. (B, E) Horizontal lines

indicate mean values. (C, F, G, H, J, K) Numbers within columns indicate animals per

group. (B, E) one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-test.

Figure S3. mTOR Inhibition Impairs Glycolysis and Mitochondrial Metabolism,

Related to Figure 5.

(A)   Metabolite profiles of uninfected and Mm-infected THP-1 macrophages 1 dpi

(MOI = 1). Cell were treated with torin1 (400nM), 2DG (5mM), or 0.5% DMSO

for 1.5 days prior to harvest. Heat map scale indicates relative log$_2$ expression

levels. See also Table S1.

(B – F) Volcano plots of differences in metabolite abundances induced by the indicated

treatments. Dashed lines indicate fold-change and p value cut-offs.

(G)   Diagram of Mitochondrial Oxygen Consumption Rate (OCR) assay.

(H)   OCR kinetics of torin1 or DMSO-treated THP-1 macrophages 1 dpi (Mm, MOI =

4).

(I)   Modular analysis of mitochondrial OCR.

(J)   Diagram of Glycolytic Proton Efflux Rate (PER) assay.

(K)   PER kinetics of torin1 or DMSO-treated THP-1 macrophages 1 dpi (Mm, MOI =

4).

(L)   Basal and compensatory glycolytic PER.

786
(M)   OCR kinetics of uninfected THP-1 macrophages treated with 2DG or DMSO for

1.5 days.

(N)   Modular analysis of mitochondrial OCR.

(O)   Relative ATP levels in THP-1 macrophage cultures 1.5 days after treatment.

(P)   Glucose-6 phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) activity in 5 dpf animals from

$g6pd^{sa24272/+}$ incross.

(Q)   Cording in animals from $g6pd^{sa24272/+}$ incross 5 dpi.

Symbols represent (B – F) individual metabolites, (H, K, M) mean values, (O) individual

wells, or (P) individual animals. (I, L, N – P) Bars indicate mean values. (H, I, K, L, M, N)

Error bars depict standard deviation. (G, J) Arrows indicate the time of compound

injection. Abbreviations: rotenone plus antimycin A (Rot + AA), 2DG, oligomycin (Oligo),

carbonyl cyanide 4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenylhydrazone (FCCP), compensatory

glycolysis (Comp), spare respiratory capacity (SRC). Statistical significance, (B – F)

unpaired Students' *t* test, one-way ANOVA with (I, L, N) Sidak or (P) Tukey's post-tests.

Figure S4. Damage of Phagosomal/Lysosomal Compartments by ESX-1-

competent Mycobacteria and the Drug Prazosin, Related to Figures 6 and 7.

(A) Confocal micrographs of Galectin-8 (GAL8) immunofluorescence (green) and Mm

fluorescence (magenta) in THP-1 macrophages infected with the indicated Mm

strains (MOI = 1) 1 dpi. The *ΔmmpL7* Mm strain is defective in PDIM transport to

the myco-membrane. Bottom panels show area enclosed in dashed squares on top

panels. Arrowheads indicate foci of GAL8-associated Mm. Scale bar, 25 μm.

(B) Percentage of macrophages with foci of GAL8-associated Mm. Symbols represent

values from individual imaging fields. Horizontal bars indicate mean values. One-

way ANOVA with Tukey's post-test.

(C) Confocal micrographs of GAL8 immunofluorescence 7 hours after treatment with

prazosin (PRZ, 20 μM) or 0.5% DMSO. Arrowheads indicate GAL8 puncta. Scale

bar, 20 μm.

Table S1. Metabolite Profiles of Mm-infected and Uninfected THP-1 Macrophages

Treated with Torin1, 2DG, or DMSO, Related to Figure S3.

Movie S1. Annexin V Labeling of a Dying, Mm-infected Macrophage in an mTOR

Mutant Animal, Related to Figure 2. Time-lapse confocal microscopy of a dying,

infected macrophage in an *mtor$^{sa16755/sa16755}$; Tg(mfap4:tdTomato-CAAX);*

Tg(ubib:secA5-YFP) animal 2 dpi. Mm (blue), secreted annexin V-YFP (green), and

macrophage (magenta) are shown.

Movie S2. Death of Mm-infected Macrophages in mTOR Mutant Animals, Related

to Figure 2. Time-lapse confocal microscopy of $mtor^{fh178/fh178}$ animals and mTOR-

sufficient siblings expressing *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)*, 2 dpi. Mm (magenta) and macrophages

(green) are shown. Arrows indicate dying infected macrophages.

Movie S3. Mitochondrial Damage Precedes Mycobacterium-induced Cell Death in

mTOR-deficient Macrophages, Related to Figure 4. 8-hr time-lapse confocal

microscopy of a torin1-treated THP-1 macrophage experiencing mitochondrial damage

and subsequently dying (arrow). Note the sequential loss of the mitochondrial dyes

TMRE (gold) and MitoTracker Deep Red (magenta) prior to labeling with the cell-

membrane impermeant nucleic acid dye Sytox Green. The adjacent viable uninfected

cells retained the mitochondrial dyes for the duration of the experiment.

Movie S4. Death of Mm-infected Macrophages in 2DG-treated Animals, Related to

Figure 5. Time-lapse confocal microscopy of *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* animals treated with 2DG

or DMSO, 3 dpi. Mm (magenta) and macrophages (green) are shown. Arrows indicate

dying infected macrophages.

Movie S5. Torin1-treated THP-1 Macrophages Tolerate *ΔESX-1* Infection, Related

to Figure 6. Time-lapse confocal microscopy of THP-1 macrophage treated with torin1

or DMSO and infected with WT or Δ*ESX-1* Mm, 1 dpi. Mm (magenta) and Sytox Green-

labeled dying cells (green). Arrows indicate dying infected macrophages.

Movie S6. Macrophages of mTOR Mutant Animals Tolerate Δ*ESX-1* Infection,

Related to Figure 6. Time-lapse confocal microscopy of *mtor*[fh178/fh178] animals and

mTOR-sufficient siblings expressing *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)* infected with WT or Δ*ESX-1* Mm,

2 dpi. Mm (magenta) and macrophages (green) are shown. Arrows indicate dying

infected macrophages.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

Additional information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to

and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Lalita Ramakrishnan (lalitar@mrc-

lmb.cam.ac.uk).

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Ethics Statement

Zebrafish husbandry and experiments were carried out in compliance with guidelines

from the UK Home Office and the US Public Health Service Policy on Human Care and

Use of Laboratory Larvae using protocols approved by the Animal Welfare and Ethical

Review Body of the University of Cambridge and the Institutional Animal Care and Use

Committee of the University of Washington, respectively.

Zebrafish Husbandry and Infections

Zebrafish of the wild-type AB strain (Zebrafish International Resource Center, ZIRC), TL

strain (ZIRC), or of mixed AB/TL backgrounds were used in experiments (Table S2).

The *Tg(mpeg1:YFP)^{w200}, Tg(mpeg1:Brainbow)^{w201}* (described as *mpeg1:tdTomato*),

Tg(mfap4:tdTomato-CAAX)^{xt6}, Tg(CMV:EGFP-map1lc3b)^{zf155}, Tg(lysC:EGFP)^{nz117},

Tg(cd41:GFP), and *Tg(ubb:secA5-YFP)^{cu34}* (this work) fluorescent reporter lines were

maintained in the AB strain (Hall *et al.*, 2007; He et al., 2009; Lin *et al.*, 2005; Pagan *et*

al., 2015; Roca and Ramakrishnan, 2013; Walton et al., 2015) (Table S2). The

pycard^{w216} mutant line (Matty et al., 2019) and *mtor^{fh178}* mutant line (this work) were

generated and maintained in the AB strain (Table S2). The *mtor^{sa16755}, rptor^{sa11537},*

rictora^{sa15967}, rictorb^{sa18403}, atg12^{sa42684}, casp9^{sa11164}, sting1^{sa35634}, and *g6pd^{sa24272}*

mutant lines (Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute) (Kettleborough *et al.*, 2013) were

generated in the TL strain and maintained in either the TL strain (*rictora^{sa15967},*

rictorb^{sa18403}, and *g6pd^{sa24272}*) or mixed AB/TL backgrounds (*mtor^{sa16755}, rptor^{sa11537},* and

atg12^{sa42684}, casp9^{sa11164}, and *sting1^{sa35634}*) (Table S2). Zebrafish of the WIK strain

(ZIRC) were used to map *mtor^{fh178}*. Zebrafish were maintained in buffered reverse

osmotic water systems under a 14-hr light/10-hr dark cycle. Zebrafish larvae were fed

paramecia twice daily, while juvenile and adult zebrafish were fed at least twice a day

with dry food and brine shrimp. Zebrafish embryos were collected and cultured in

reverse osmosis water containing 0.18g/L Instant Ocean Salt supplemented with

0.25µg/mL methylene blue at 28.5°C. On 1 dpf, embryos to be used in experiments

were transferred to 0.5x E2 medium (7.5mM NaCl, 0.25mM KCl, 0.5mM MgSO$_4$,

0.075mM KH_2PO_4, 0.025mM Na_2HPO_4, 0.5mM $CaCl_2$, and 0.35mM $NaHCO_3$)

supplemented with 0.003% PTU (1-phenyl-2-thiourea, Sigma) to inhibit melanin

synthesis.

For infections, 2 dpf larvae of undetermined sex (due to early developmental

stage) were dechorionated manually or with ≤0.5mg/mL pronase (Sigma-Aldrich) and

then anesthetized with fish water containing 0.025% tricaine (Sigma). Larvae were

injected via the caudal vein or the hindbrain ventricle using single-cell suspensions of

Mm of known titer to deliver ~100 - 250 bacteria per 3 – 5 nL injection as previously

described (Takaki et al., 2013). Phenol red sodium salt (≤ 1% w/v diluted in PBS,

Sigma-Aldrich) was used as an injection tracer. Inoculums were confirmed by injecting

onto Middlebrook 7H10 agar plates (supplemented with oleic acid, albumin, dextrose,

and Tween-80 plus hygromycin B or kanamycin, as appropriate. For experiments with

mutant lines, wild-type and heterozygous siblings were used as comparators, animals

were genotyped after data acquisition. In experiments involving drug treatments,

infected animals were randomly assigned to treatment groups. Unless indicated,

treatments (Table S2) were initiated immediately after infection via soaking, and drug

exposure was maintained until the experimental endpoint. UK5099 (Cambridge

Bioscience) was changed daily.

THP-1 Macrophage Culture and Infections

Monocytic human THP-1 cells (ATCC) were grown at 37°C, 5% CO_2 in RPMI medium

(Sigma-Aldrich) supplemented with 10% FBS (Gibco), L-glutamine (Gibco), Penicillin,

and Streptomycin (complete RPMI) (Table S2). To differentiate THP-1 cells into

macrophages, cells were seeded at 5 x 10^5 cells/mL in flat-bottomed tissue culture

plates (2.5 x 10^5 cells/well of 24-well plate) and stimulated with 100nM PMA Phorbol 12-

myristate 13-acetate (Sigma-Aldrich) for two days. The resulting adherent cells were

then washed with complete RPMI and rested for two days prior to infection. For

microscopy experiments, cells were plated on optical bottom plates (Perkin Elmer or

MatTek). Cells were pre-incubated overnight with pharmacological compounds or

matching concentrations of vehicle (≤0.5% DMSO). On the infection day, cells were

washed with antibiotic-free complete RPMI and infected with single-cell suspensions of

Mm or Mtb for five hours in a 33°C, 5% CO_2 incubator (for Mm) and 37°C, 5% CO_2

incubator (for Mtb). After infection, cells were washed with antibiotic-free complete

RPMI supplemented with the corresponding pharmacological compounds and returned

to the appropriate incubators. For experiments with the leucine and pantothenate

double auxotroph *ΔleuDΔpanCD* Mtb, complete RMPI was also supplemented with 0.05

mg/mL L-leucine and 0.024 mg/mL calcium pantothenate (Sigma-Aldrich). Multiplicity of

infection was determined by calculating the number of mycobacterial colony forming

units (CFU) per cells plated in each well.

METHODS DETAILS

Bacterial Strains

M. marinum M strain (ATCC #BAA-535) and its mutant derivatives *ΔESX-1*, *ΔmmpL7*,

Δerp, *marP::tn*, and *ΔesxA* expressing BFP2, mWasabi, tdTomato, or tdKatushka2

under the control of the *msp12* promoter (Cambier *et al.*, 2014b; Cosma *et al.*, 2006;

Levitte *et al.*, 2016; Osman *et al.*, 2022; Takaki *et al.*, 2013) were grown at 33°C under

hygromycin B (Cambridge Bioscience) or kanamycin (Sigma-Aldrich) selection in

Middlebrook 7H9 medium (BD Difco) supplemented with oleic acid, albumin, dextrose,

and Tween-80 (Sigma-Aldrich) (Takaki *et al.*, 2013) (Table S2). *M. tuberculosis*

ΔleuDΔpanCD mc^2 6206 expressing *msp12:tdTomato* was grown at 37°C under

hygromycin B and kanamycin selection in Middlebrook 7H9 medium supplemented with

oleic acid, albumin, dextrose, Tween-80, catalase, and 0.05 mg/mL L-leucine and 0.024

mg/mL calcium pantothenate (Sigma-Aldrich) (Roca *et al.*, 2019; Sampson *et al.*, 2011).

Zebrafish Genotyping

DNA from adult fin clips or whole larvae was extracted using the HotSHOT method

(Truett et al., 2000). Animals were genotyped by High Resolution Melt Analysis (HRMA)

of PCR products (Garritano et al., 2009) or by Kompetitive Allele-Specific PCR (KASP)

assay (LGC Biosearch) (He et al., 2014) in a CFX Connect thermocycler (BioRad)

(Table S2). DNA from 2DG-treated animals was purified with AMPure XP beads

(Beckman Coulter) according to the manufacturer's instructions prior to PCR.

Mapping of *mtor*^{fh178}

Zebrafish carrying the *fh178* allele were outcrossed to the WIK strain for mapping as

previously described (Tobin *et al.*, 2010). *fh178* was mapped to chromosome 8 initially

between the markers z7370 and z14670. Further mapping defined a critical two-gene

interval that included *mtor* and *qars1* to the right of a single nucleotide polymorphism in

the 3' end of *angptl7* (1 recombination in 302 meioses) and to the left of a polymorphism

in intron 2 of *ogg1* (2 recombinations in 300 meioses). Sequencing of cDNAs isolated

from mutants and wild-type animals in the critical region identified a stop codon in exon

24 of *mtor* in the mutant but not wild-type animals. This mutation segregated absolutely

with the *fh178* mutants (no recombinants).

Creation of *Tg(ubb:secA5-YFP)*[cu34]

The Tol2 *ubb:secA5-YFP* plasmid was assembled from PCR-amplified fragments of

pDestTol2pA2_ubi:EGFP (RRID: Addgene 27323) (Mosimann et al., 2011) and pBH-

UAS-secA5-YFP (RRID: Addgene 32359) (van Ham et al., 2010) the Gibson Cloning kit

(New England Biolabs) (Table S2). Correct plasmid assembly was confirmed by

diagnostic PCR of joined segments and by Sanger sequencing. Tol2 transposase

(RRID: Addgene 51818) (Khattak et al., 2014) was in vitro transcribed with the T7

mMessage/mMachine kit (ThermoFisher) according to the manufacturer's instructions

(Table S2). Tol2 *ubb:secA5-YFP* plasmid and transposase mRNA were co-injected into

one-cell embryos of the wild-type AB strain as previously described (Suster et al.,

2011). G0 larvae expressing the transgene were identified by fluorescence microscopy

and raised to adulthood. Potential founders were identified through pairwise crosses of

G0 adults and non-transgenic AB fish. A single F1 transgenic animal was used to

establish the line.

CRISPR-Cas9 Mutagenesis

The mutagenesis procedure was adapted from published methods (Burger et al., 2016;

Wu et al., 2018). Guide RNAs (60 μM) were generated by complexing equimolar

amounts of Alt-R tracrRNA and individual *ndufaf1*-specific Alt-R crRNAs

(Dr.Cas9.NDUFAF1.1.AA, AB, AC, and AD; IDT) (Table S2) in nuclease-free Duplex

Buffer (IDT) at 95°C for 5 minutes. Aliquots of complexed RNA were stored at -20°C. To

produce ribonucleoprotein complexes (RNPs) (10 μM), guide RNA pools were

combined with Alt-R Sp Cas9 Nuclease V3 (IDT) (Table S2) at an equimolar ratio of

total RNA to Cas9 in working buffer (20 mM HEPES, 150 mM KCl, pH 7.5) and

incubated at 37°C for 10 minutes. Wild-type zebrafish of the AB strain were injected at

the 1-cell stage with ~2 nL of RNP to create G0 crispants or ~2nl of working buffer to

produce unmutagenized experimental control animals. Mutagenesis was assessed in

individual animals by HRMA of PCR amplicons (Table S2) spanning each of the

CRISPR targets.

Parabiosis

Parabiosis of zebrafish embryos was performed as previously described (Demy et al.,

2013). Briefly, blastulae derived from synchronized $mtor^{fh178/+}$; $Tg(mpeg1:YFP)^{w200}$ and

$Tg(mpeg1:tdTomato)$ incrosses were manually dechorionated, paired, scratched with an

aluminum silicate microinjection needle, and allowed to fuse in high-calcium Ringer's

solution (116 mM NaCl, 2.9 mM KCl, 10 mM $CaCl_2$, 5 mM HEPES, pH 7.2)

supplemented with 50 U/mL penicillin and 50 U/mL streptomycin. Only parabiotic pairs

fused at the head, devoid of gross morphological abnormalities, and sharing blood

circulation were used in experiments. On 2 dpf, each parabiotic animal was infected via

the caudal vein to ensure similar distribution of mycobacteria between the pair's caudal

hematopoietic tissues. The bodies of each parabiotic pair were micro-dissected and

individually genotyped after completion of the experiment.

1006

Microscopy and Image Analyses

Widefield fluorescence microscopy was performed as previously described (Takaki *et*

al., 2013). Bacterial burdens were determined with a Nikon Eclipse Ti-E inverted

microscope using a 4x objective and running a fluorescent pixel counts macro in ImageJ

(National Institutes of Health) (Takaki *et al.*, 2013). Macrophages were counted

manually with a Nikon Eclipse E600 upright microscope using a 20x objective. For serial

imaging of individual zebrafish, larvae were housed individually in 96-well plates under

standard husbandry conditions.

Laser scanning confocal microscopy was performed as described (Pagan *et al.*,

2015). Larvae were anesthetized in PTU-supplemented 0.5x E2 medium containing

0.025% tricaine and embedded in 2% low melt agarose (TopVision) on optical-bottom

plates (MatTek). Imaging was performed with a Nikon A1R confocal microscope using

20x or 40x objectives and the galvano or resonant scanners. 0.9 - 2 µm optical sections

were combined to generate 15 - 60 µm z stacks. For time-lapse microscopy of zebrafish

larvae, imaging was done at 27°C using a microscope incubator (Okolab), using

acquisition intervals of 2 - 5 minutes for 6 hours. For serial imaging of individual

zebrafish, larvae were removed from the agarose using jeweler's forceps and housed

individually under standard husbandry conditions. For time-lapse microscopy of Mm-

infected THP-1 cells, samples were imaged at 33°C, 5% CO_2 in antibiotic-free, phenol-

free complete RPMI containing 50 nM SYTOX Green nucleic acid stain (Invitrogen) for 4

hours.

The acquired images were processed using the denoising feature in the

Elements software (Nikon). The surface rendering feature of Imaris (Bitplane) was used

to quantify intramacrophage bacterial burdens and mROS levels; the number of acridine

orange foci in the midbrain and LC3 puncta in neuromasts, clusters of mechanosensory

hair cells of the lateral line in fish; phospho-S6 and total S6 MFIs, and the frequencies of

galectin-8-associated Mm per imaging field (Thomas et al., 2015). The numbers of

dying macrophages and macrophages with galectin-8-decorated Mm foci were counted

manually.

1036

1037   **Acridine Orange Staining**

1038   Zebrafish larvae were transferred to 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes and stained with 1

1039   mL of 2.4µg/mL acridine orange in 0.5x E2 medium with PTU for 30 minutes with

1040   rotation and protected from light (Roca *et al.*, 2019). Stained larvae were then rinsed in

1041   0.5x E2 medium with PTU and imaged by confocal microscopy.

1042

1043   **Mitochondrial Vital Dye Staining**

1044   Zebrafish larvae were injected with ~1 nL of 10 mM MitoTracker Red CMXH$_2$-Xros via

1045   the caudal vein immediately prior to imaging by confocal microscopy (Roca and

1046   Ramakrishnan, 2013).

1047

1048   THP-1 macrophages were incubated with 40nM MitoTracker Deep Red (ThermoFisher)

1049   and/or 100 nM tetramethylrhodamine, ethyl ester (TMRE) (Abcam) for 20 minutes in a

1050   37°C, 5% CO$_2$ incubator according to the manufacturers' instructions. For flow

1051   cytometric analysis of TMRE, cells were then washed with complete RPMI media,

1052   stained with FVD eF660, and run without chemical fixation.

1053

Immunostaining

The staining procedure was performed as previously described (Osman *et al*., 2020).

THP-1 cells were fixed in PFA solution (4% w/v paraformaldehyde in PBS) at room

temperature (RT) for at least 30 minutes. Cells were then washed twice with PBS and

incubated in permeabilization/block (PB) solution (0.1% Triton-X 100, 1% bovine serum

albumin in PBS) for 30 minutes at RT, and subsequently stained with Alexa Fluor 647-

conjugated rabbit anti-phospho-S6$^{S235/S236}$ or total S6 (Cell Signaling Technology) or

goat anti-human galectin-8 antibody (R&D Systems) diluted in PB solution overnight at

4°C. The following day, cells stained with the galectin-8 antibody were washed three

times with PBS and stained with Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated donkey anti-goat IgG

(ThermoFisher) in PB solution for one hour at RT. Cells were then washed three times

with PBS and maintained in PBS for imaging by confocal microscopy. In some

experiments, cells nuclei were stained with Hoechst 33342 (10µg/ml) for 20 minutes at

RT prior to imaging.

1068

Flow Cytometry

THP-1 macrophages were stained with Fixable Viability Dye (FVD) eFluor 660

(eBioscience), detached with Accutase (Sigma-Aldrich), and transferred to polystyrene

FACS tubes (Sarstedt). Single-cell suspensions were washed with MACS buffer (0.5%

bovine serum albumin, 2mM EDTA in PBS, ph7.2) at 290 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C, and

in most cases, fixed in 4% PFA solution overnight at 4°C. The following day, samples

were washed with and resuspended in MACS buffer. Data were acquired in LSRII or

Fortessa flow cytometers (BD Biosciences) and analyzed in FlowJo 10 (TreeStar),

gating on single-cell events.

1078

Cytochrome c Release Assay

The cytochrome c release assay was adapted from Lienard, et al. (Lienard *et al.*, 2020).

7 hours after infection with tdTomato-expressing Mm, cells were stained with Fixable

Viability Dye (FVD) eFluor 660 (eBioscience), detached with Accutase (Sigma-Aldrich),

transferred to polystyrene FACS tubes (Sarstedt), and washed first with ice-cold MACS

buffer (0.5% bovine serum albumin, 2mM EDTA in PBS, ph7.2) and then ice-cold PBS

by centrifugation at 290 x g for 5 minutes at 4°C. Cells were incubated in ice-cold

permeabilization buffer (50 µg/mL digitonin, 100 mM KCl) for 5 minutes and immediately

fixed in 4% PFA solution to stop the permeabilization reaction. Cells were then

centrifuged as above and fixed overnight in 4% PFA solution at 4°C. Samples were

subsequently permeabilized with eBio Permeabilization Buffer (ThermoFisher) and

stained with AlexaFluor 488 anti-cytochrome c antibody (BioLegend) (Table S2) for 2 hours

at room temperature. Samples were analyzed by flow cytometry by gating on the viable,

infected (FVD eFluor 660$^-$ tdTomato$^+$) single-cell events.

1093

1094   **ATP Quantification**

1095   ATP levels were quantified by fluorimetry in a CLARIOStar Plus (BMG Labtech)

1096   microplate reader using the ATP Assay Kit (Abcam) according to the manufacturer's

1097   instructions. 10^6 THP-1 macrophages were analyzed per replicate.

1098

Measurement of G6PD Activity

Individual 5 dpf larvae from an $g6pd^{sa24272/+}$ incross were lysed using Mammalian Cell

Lysis Buffer (Abcam). A small amount of each lysate was used to genotype the larvae.

G6PD activity in individual larvae was determined by fluorimetry in a CLARIOStar Plus

(BMG Labtech) microplate reader using the G6PD Activity Assay Kit (Abcam) according

to the manufacturer's instructions.

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Metabolic Analyses

For metabolite quantification, THP-1 cells (2 x 10^6 cells/sample, four

replicates/condition) were washed in ice-cold PBS, and metabolites were extracted with

150 μL extraction buffer (50:30:20, methanol:acetonitrile:water) cooled on dry ice for 30

minutes beforehand. Samples were then centrifuged at maximum speed for 10 minutes

at °C to remove protein debris, and supernatants were stored at -80°C until acquisition.

Liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS) was carried out using an Agilent

1290 Infinity II UHPLC in line with a Bruker Impact II QTOF operating in negative ion

mode, as previously described (Edwards-Hicks et al., 2020). LC separation was

performed on a Phenomenex Luna propylamine column (50 x 2 mm, 3 μm particles)

using a solvent gradient of 100% buffer B (5 mM ammonium carbonate in 90%

acetonitrile) to 90% buffer A (10 mM NH_4 in water). Flow rate was from 1000 to 750

μL/min. Autosampler temperature was 5°C, and injection volume was 2 μL. Metabolites

were quantified using AssayR (Wills et al., 2017). The hierarchical clustering heatmap

was generated in MetaboAnalyst 5.0 using Euclidean distance measure, the Ward

clustering algorithm, and autoscale feature standarization (Pang et al., 2021).

Metabolic flux measurements were carried out with the Seahorse XFp Glycolytic

Rate Assay and Cell Mito Stress Test kits (Agilent) according to the manufacturer's

instructions. On the day of the assay, 4×10^4 differentiated THP-1 macrophages were

seeded per well of the XFp cartridge, allowed to adhere for 2 hours in a 37°C, 5% CO_2

incubator, and then incubated with assay medium (XF DMEM medium with 10 mM

glucose and 2 mM glutamine but without sodium pyruvate (Agilent)) for 45 - 60 minutes

in a non- CO_2 37°C incubator prior to data acquisition in a Seahorse XFp analyzer

(Agilent).

1130

1131   **Statistical Analyses**

1132   Statistical analyses were performed on Prism (GraphPad) with each statistical test and

1133   number of samples per group indicated in the corresponding figure legend. Not

1134   significant, $P > 0.05$; *$P < 0.05$; **$P < 0.01$; ***$P < 0.001$; ***$P < 0.0001$.

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Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

A

Normalized to mode

DMSO (4%)
Torin1 (20%)

cyt c AF488

B

Cyt c^low cells (%)

UN
Mm

DMSO   Torin1

**
***

C

Mm
TMRE
MTDR
SG

-2h 30m   -2h 23m   -1h 56m

-1h 30m   0m   5m

D

MFI (% maximum)

TMRE   MTDR   SG

Cell 1   Cell 2   Cell 3   Cell 4   Cell 5   Cell 6

Time to Sytox Green positivity (hours)

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7