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## Development of trained immunity and activation of inflammasomes are promising strategies to combat *Staphylococcus aureus* infection

Emmanuel Chaumond, Elma Lima Leite, Sandrine Péron, Nathalie Daniel, Yann Le Gouar, Aurélie Nicolas, Jordane Ossemond, Arthur Gautron, David Gilot, Vasco Ariston de Carvalho Azevedo, et al.

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Société Française  
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# MICROBES 2023

18<sup>e</sup> CONGRÈS NATIONAL DE LA SFM

4-6  
octobre

LE COUVENT  
DES JACOBINS

CENTRE DES CONGRÈS DE  
DE RENNES MÉTROPOLE



## Déclaration de conflit d'intérêt

Pour cette présentation,  
je déclare n'avoir aucun conflit d'intérêt.



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N. Berkova  
SFM 2022

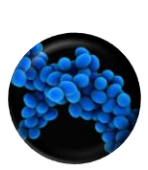


Development of trained immunity and activation of inflammasomes are promising strategies to combat *Staphylococcus aureus* infection



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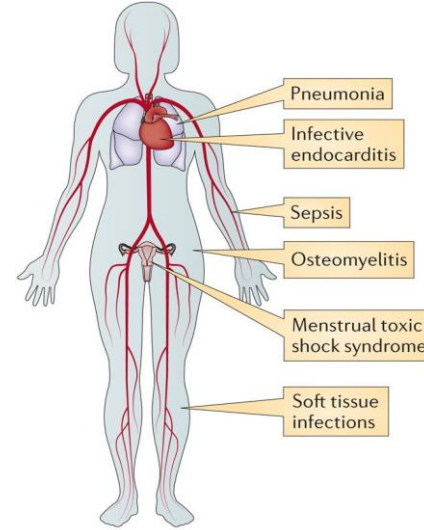
# ➤ *Staphylococcus aureus* is responsible for a wide range of infections in human and animals

*S. aureus*-induced diseases represent serious problems, especially during chronic infections

Human Mild skin infections



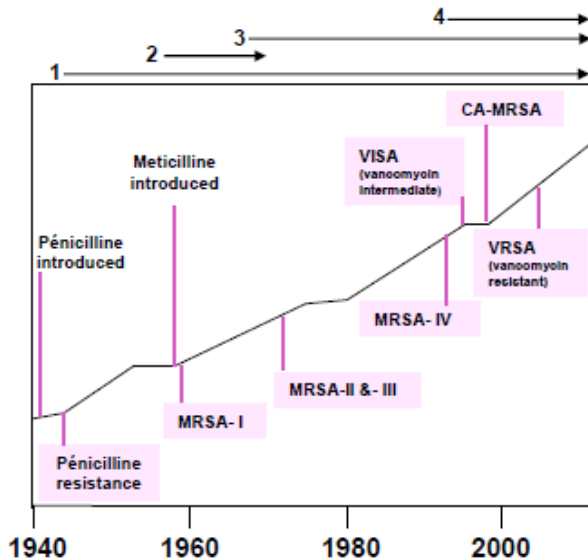
Life-threatening infections



Dairy\_cattle: Chronic mastitis



## Waves of *S. aureus* resistance



Nature Reviews | Microbiology

Urgent Need



Unraveling Immunity to Strengthen the Host's Defense Against Recurrent *S. aureus* Infection



## ➤ The compelling reasons to study non-immune cells in host-pathogen dynamics

### **Site-Specific Defense:**

Non-immune cells with an extended lifespan are located in tissues prone to infections

### **Chronic Infections:**

Tissue-residents non-immune cells, contribute to infection persistence by internalizing pathogens

### **Cellular Crosstalk:**

Immune cells & non-immune cells communication shapes a coordinated defense response



**Osteomyelitis, often caused by *S. aureus* infections**

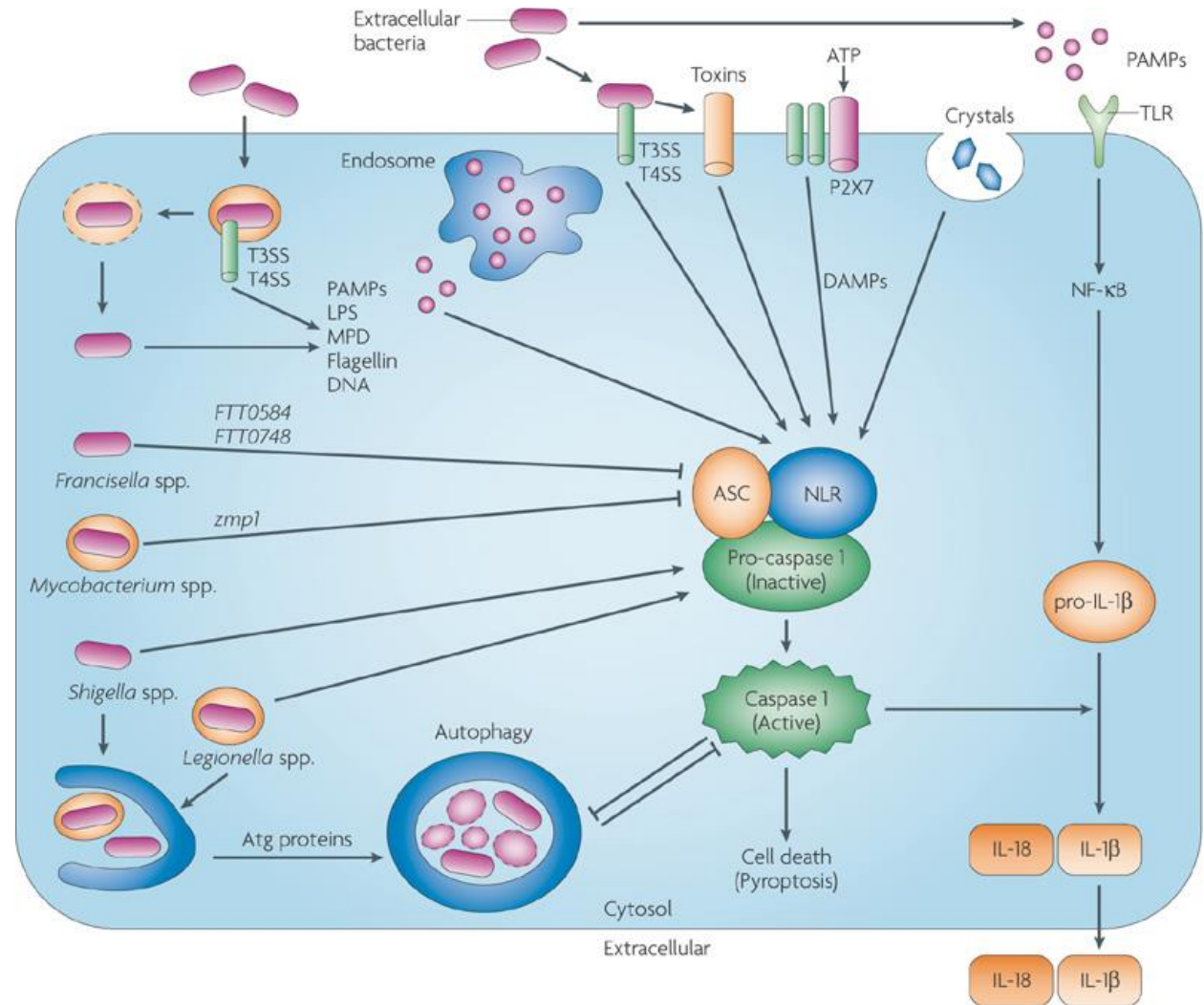


**How Osteoblasts Defend Against *S. aureus* Invasion?**

# ➤ INFLAMMASOMES activation as a defense mechanism against infection and injury

Persistent inflammation activates protein complexes, inflammasomes, that are composed of **a sensor (NLR)**, **an adaptor (ASC)**, and **a zymogen procaspase-1**

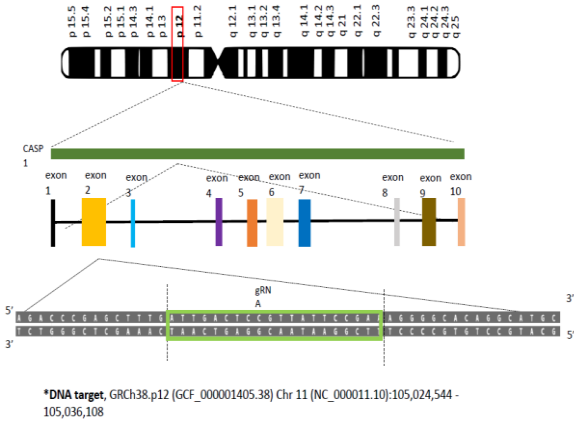
Inflammasomes activate Caspase-1, which proteolytically matures pro-IL-1 $\beta$  and pro-IL-18



# ➤ Generation of *CASP1*<sup>-/-</sup> MG-63 cells using the CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing system

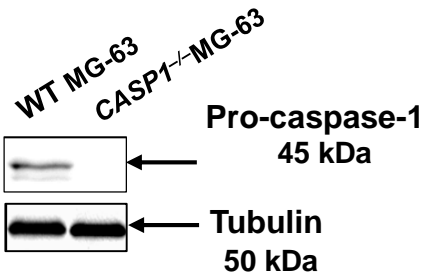
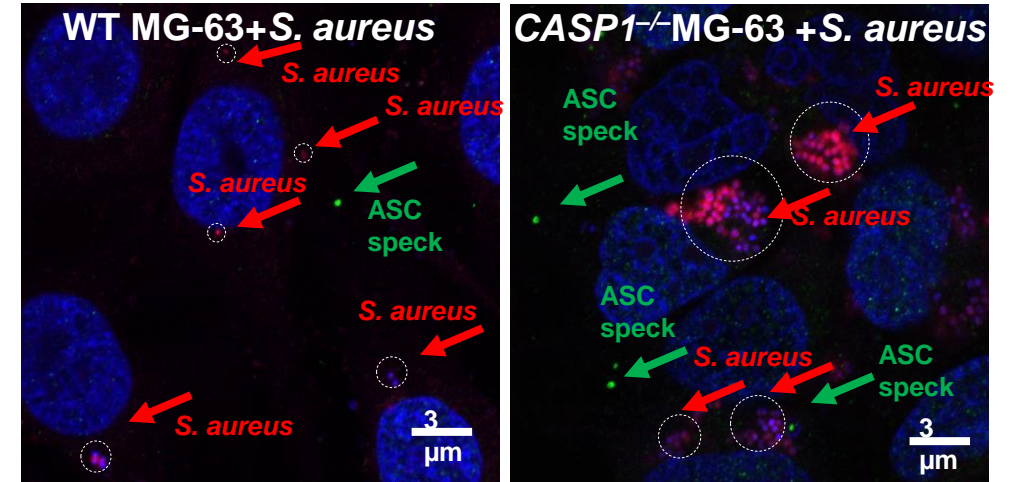
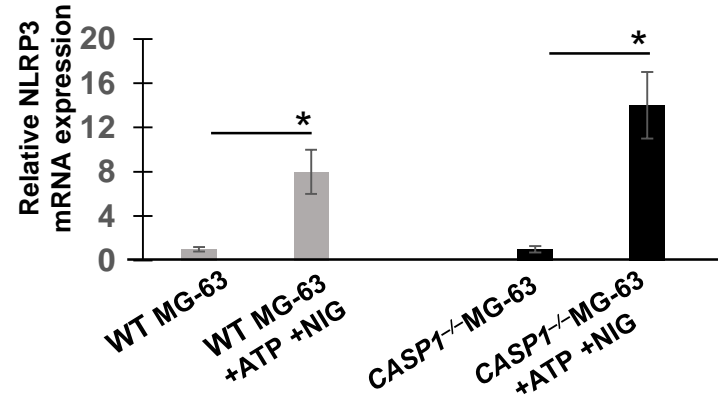
**a**

Human Chromosome 11 map depicting the position of Caspase-1



**b**

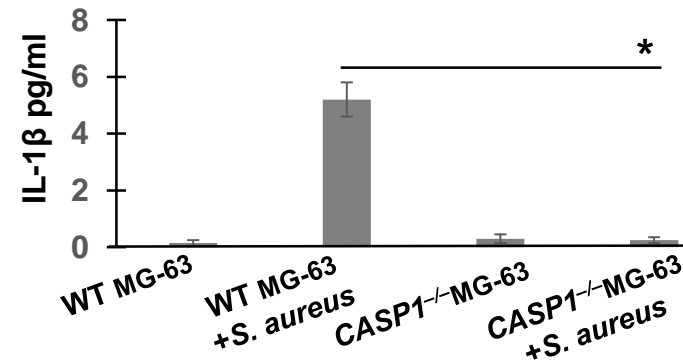
WT MG-63 cells and *CASP1*<sup>-/-</sup> MG-63 clone express NLRP3 and form ASC specks.



Lack of the 45-kDa band corresponding to pro-caspase-1 in *CASP1*<sup>-/-</sup> MG-63 cells

**c**

Lack of IL-1 $\beta$  production in *CASP1*<sup>-/-</sup> MG-63 in contrast to WT MG-63 cells (ELISA)

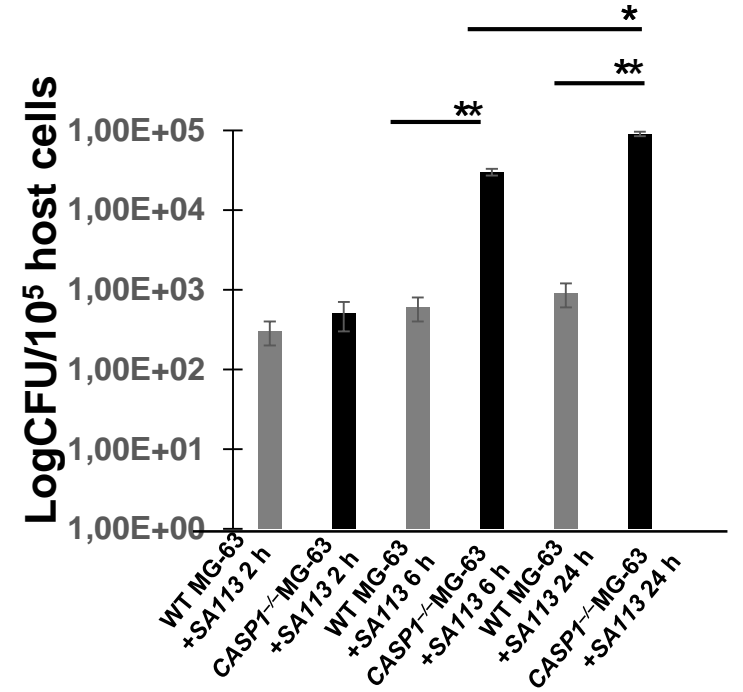
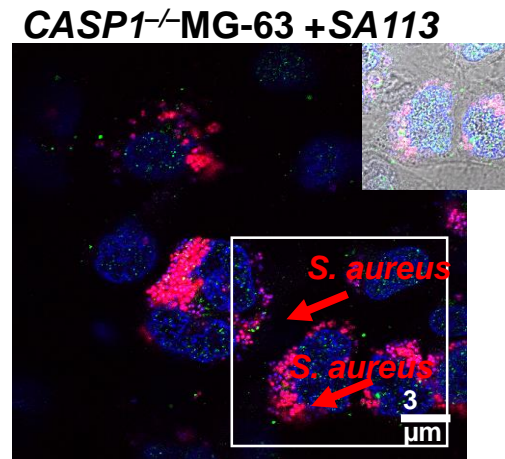
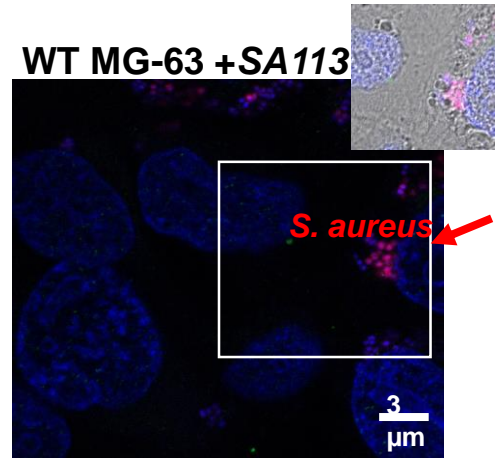
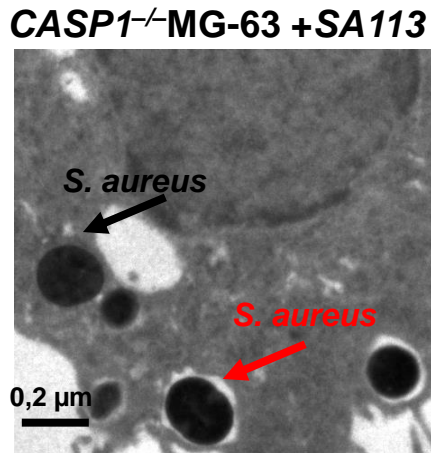
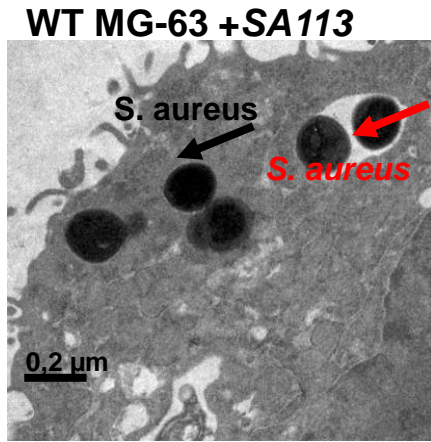


Only WT MG-63 cells produce IL-1 $\beta$  following exposure to *S. aureus*

# ➤ *S. aureus* clearance by osteoblast-like MG-63 cells depends on caspase-1

2h

Transmission electron micrographs



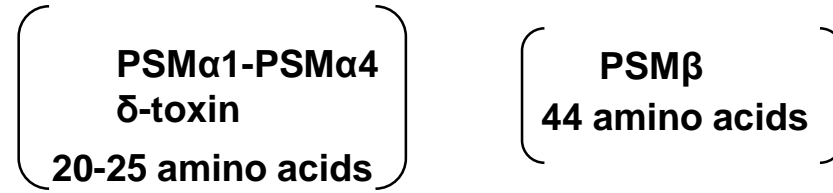
Internalization of *S. aureus* (2h) was not impaired in CASP1<sup>-/-</sup>MG-63 cells

Most internalized bacteria are surrounded by phagosomal/lysosomal membranes, some bacteria are scattered freely in the cytosol

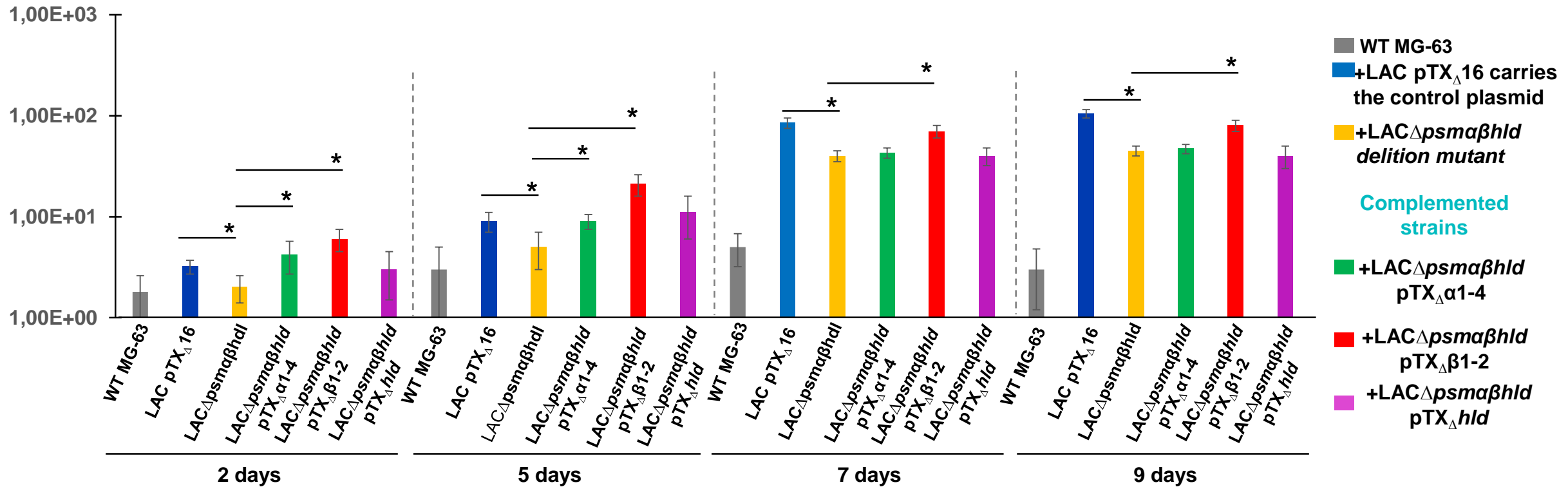
Higher number of intracellular *S. aureus* cells was observed in CASP1<sup>-/-</sup> MG-63 cells compared to WT MG-63 cells



# ➤ Phenol-soluble modulins peptides (PSMs) define the virulence potential of *S. aureus*



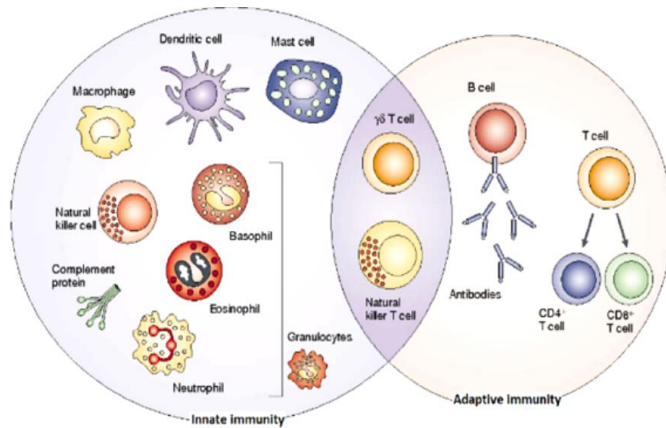
Log IL-1 $\beta$  pg/ml



*S. aureus* phenol-soluble modulins stimulate IL-1 $\beta$  release from infected MG-63 cells

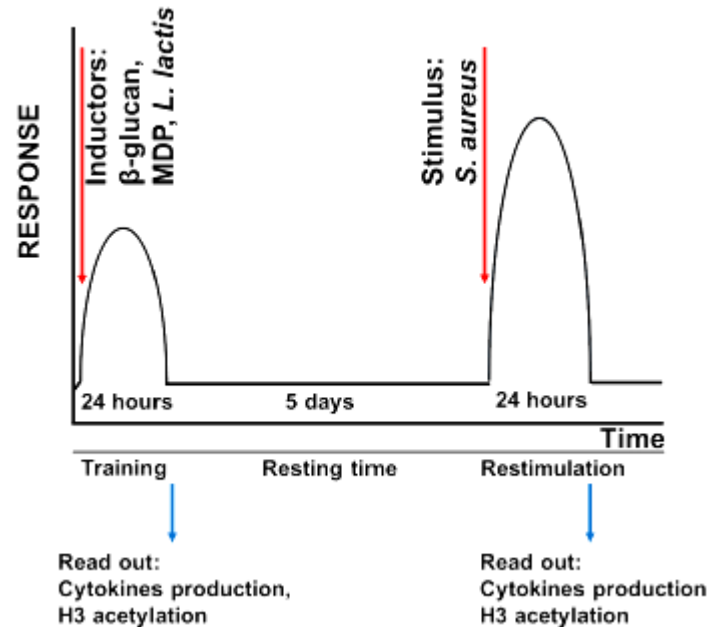
# ➤ Trained Immunity: shaping host-pathogen interactions through a new paradigm

Traditionally, the immune system has been divided into innate and adaptive components



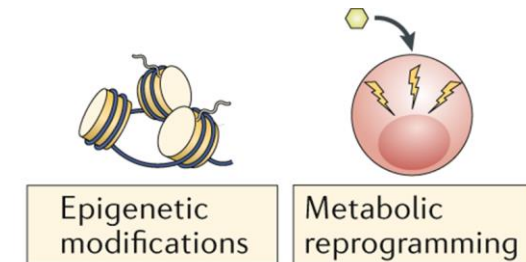
Dranoff, Nat Rev Cancer, 2004

Innate immunity exhibits adaptive traits, termed **innate immune memory** or **trained immunity**, leading to an **enhanced response** after subsequent unrelated challenges



Adapted from Netea *at al.* Science, 2016

The molecular basis of trained immunity involves metabolic and epigenetic changes



## Exploring Trained Immunity Potential in Non-Immune Cells against *S. aureus* Infection

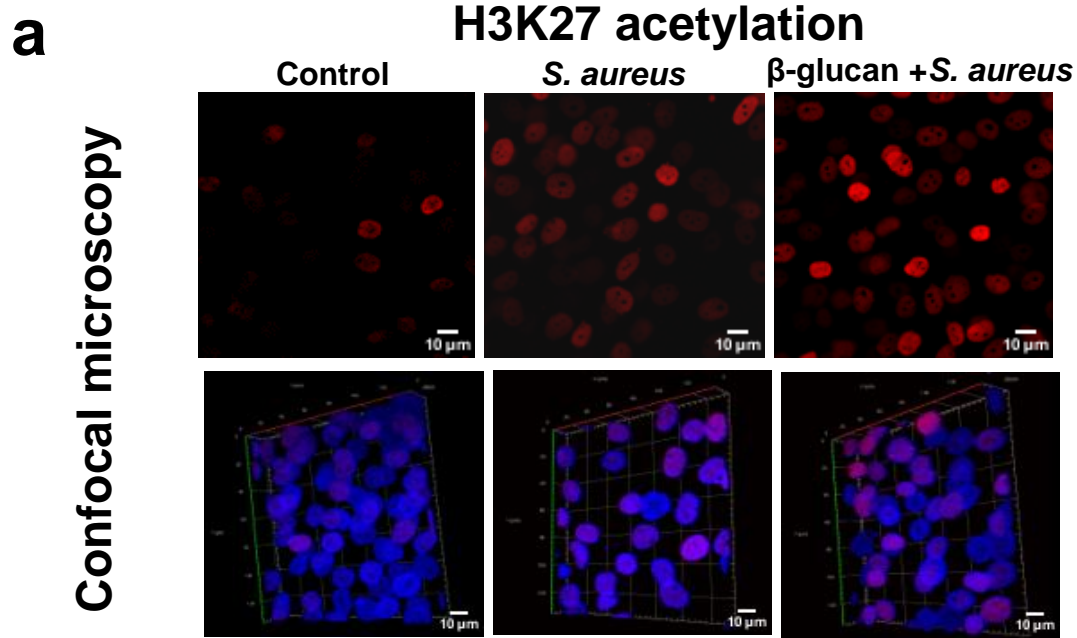
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MG-63, osteoblast-like cells  
A549, lung epithelial cells

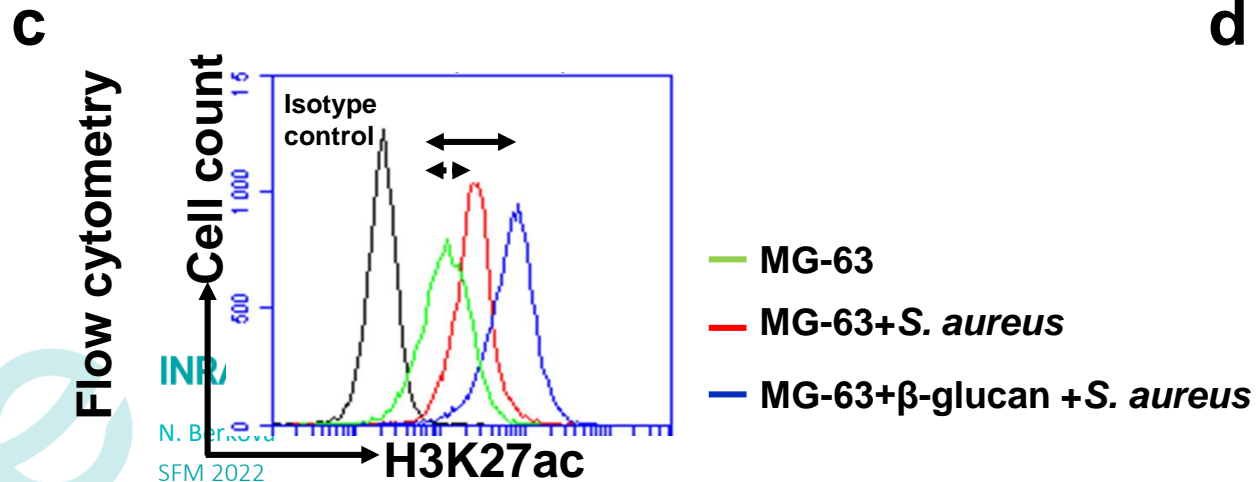
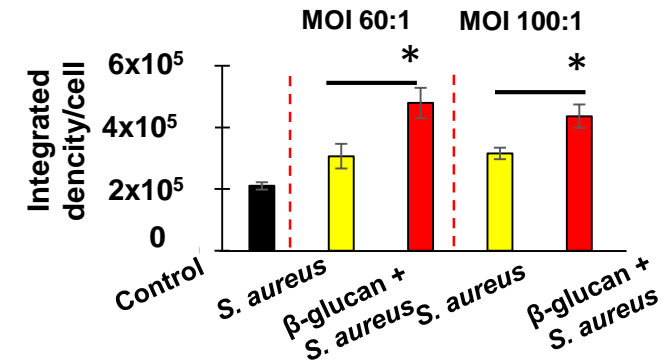
# ➤ Enhanced H3K27 acetylation in $\beta$ -glucan-trained cells upon *S. aureus* stimulation, positively correlating with IL-6/IL-8 production

MG-63

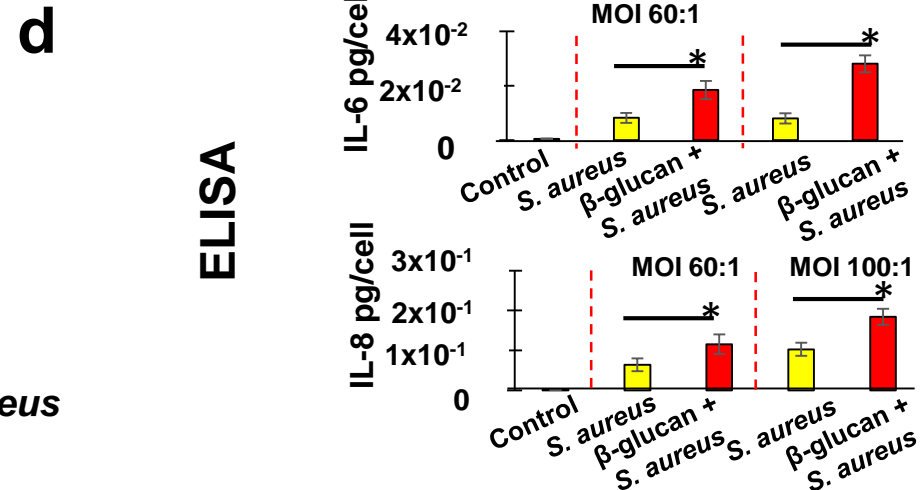


**b**

Normalized Integrated Density was monitored for comparing H3K27 acetylation



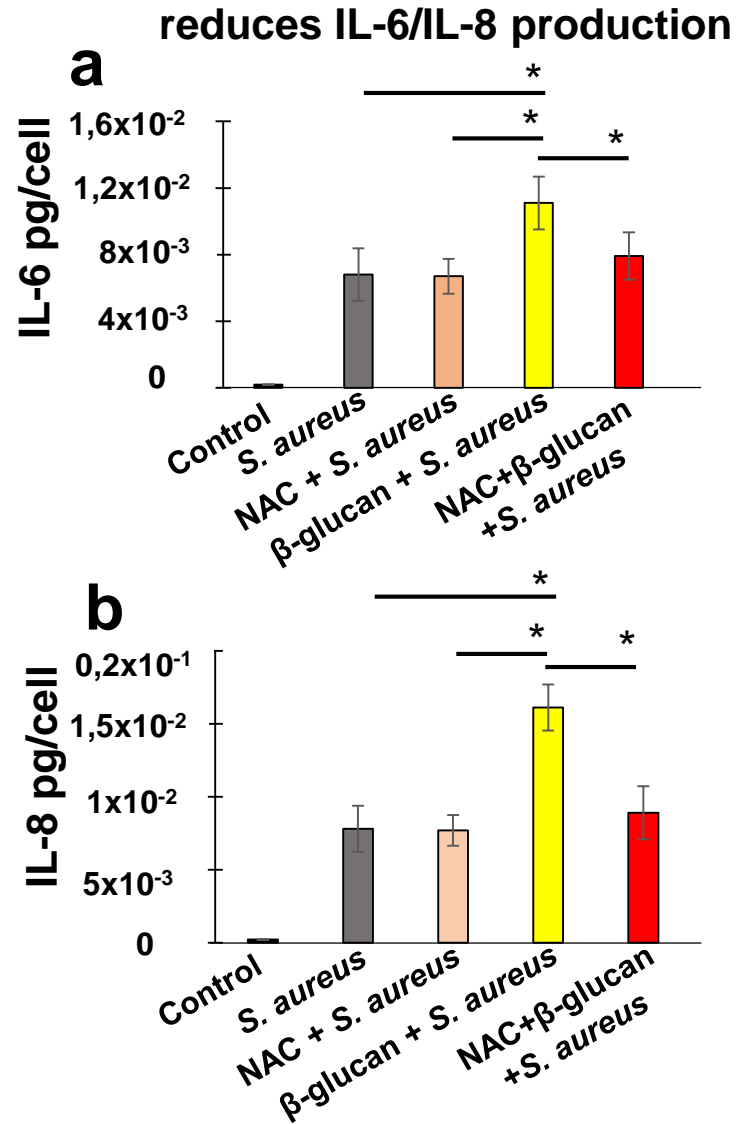
Assessment of IL-6 and IL-8 production



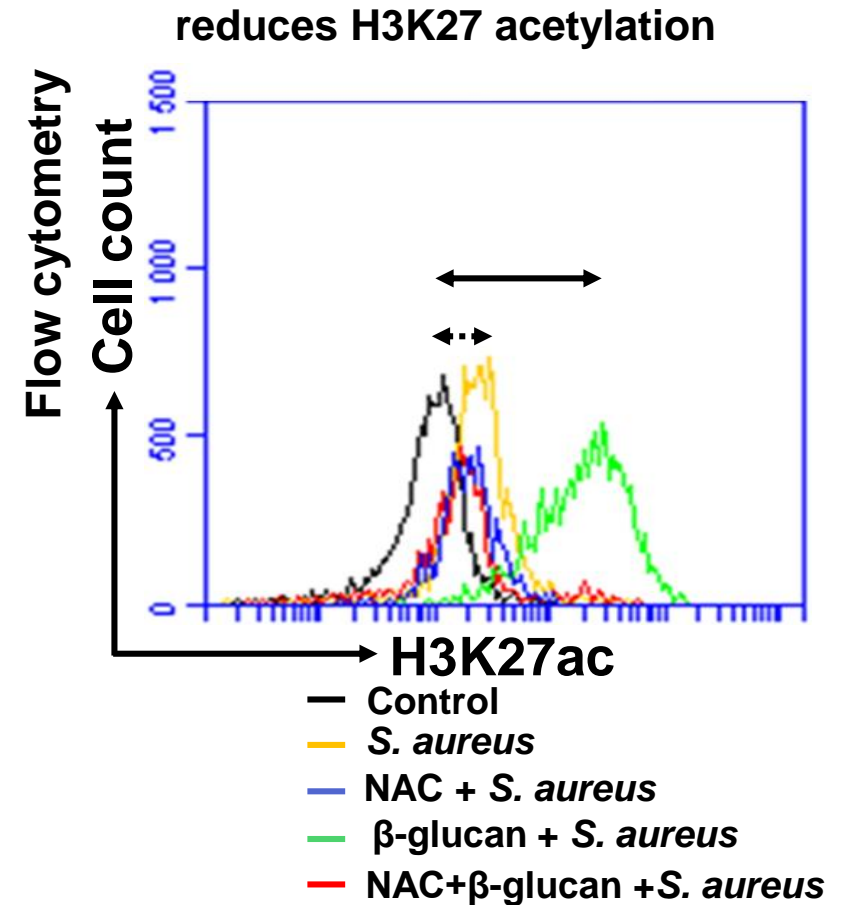
# ➤ Development of the innate immune memory depends on reactive oxygen species

Pre-treatment of cells with the ROS inhibitor NAC, prior to  $\beta$ -glucan treatment

ELISA



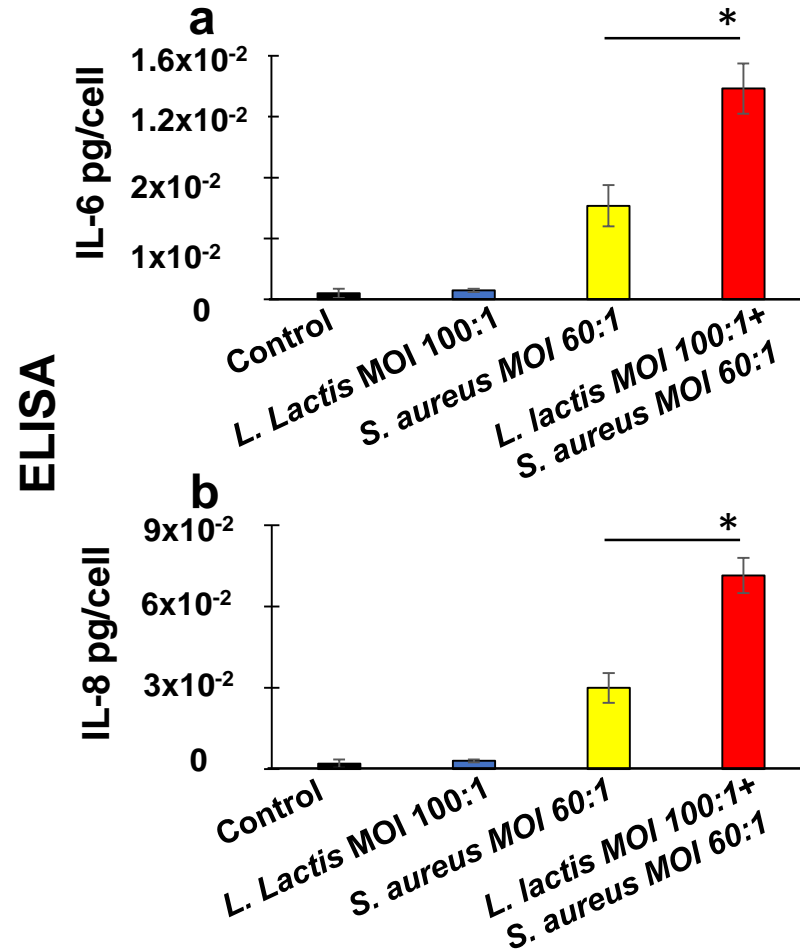
**c**



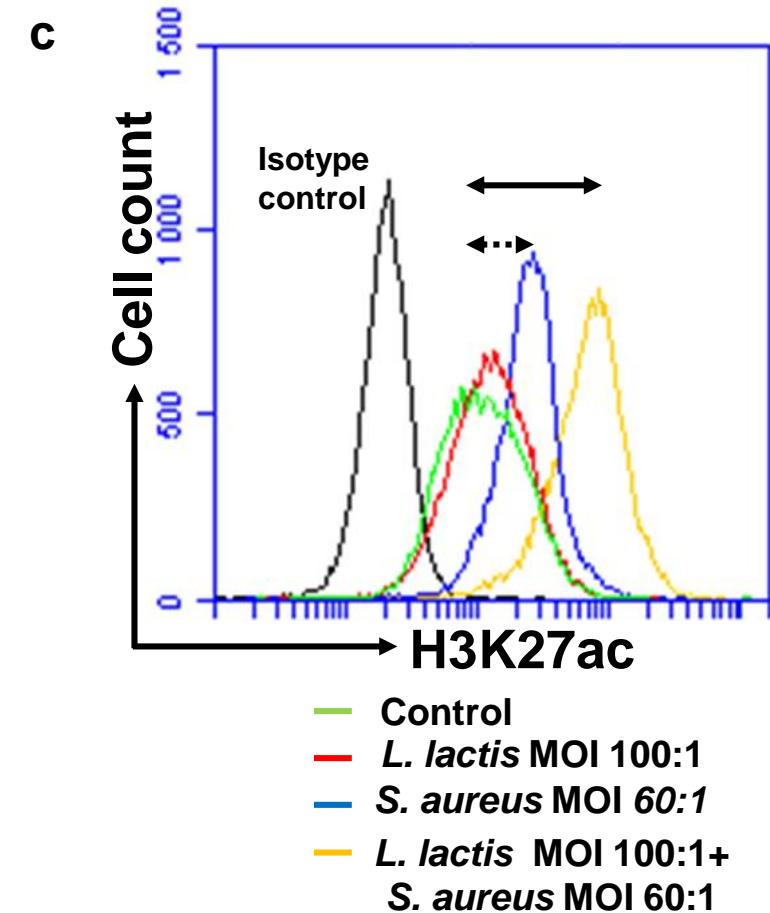
The decrease in IL-6/IL-8 production correlates to the decline in H3K27 acetylation in NAC-pre-treated cells

## ➤ Cells exposed to *L. lactis* increase IL-6/IL-8 production upon *S. aureus* stimulation, correlating with H3K27 acetylation

Pre-exposure of cells to *L. lactis* increases IL-6 /IL-8 production upon a stimulation with *S. aureus*



Pre-exposure of cells to *L. lactis* increases H3K27 acetylation upon a stimulation with *S. aureus*

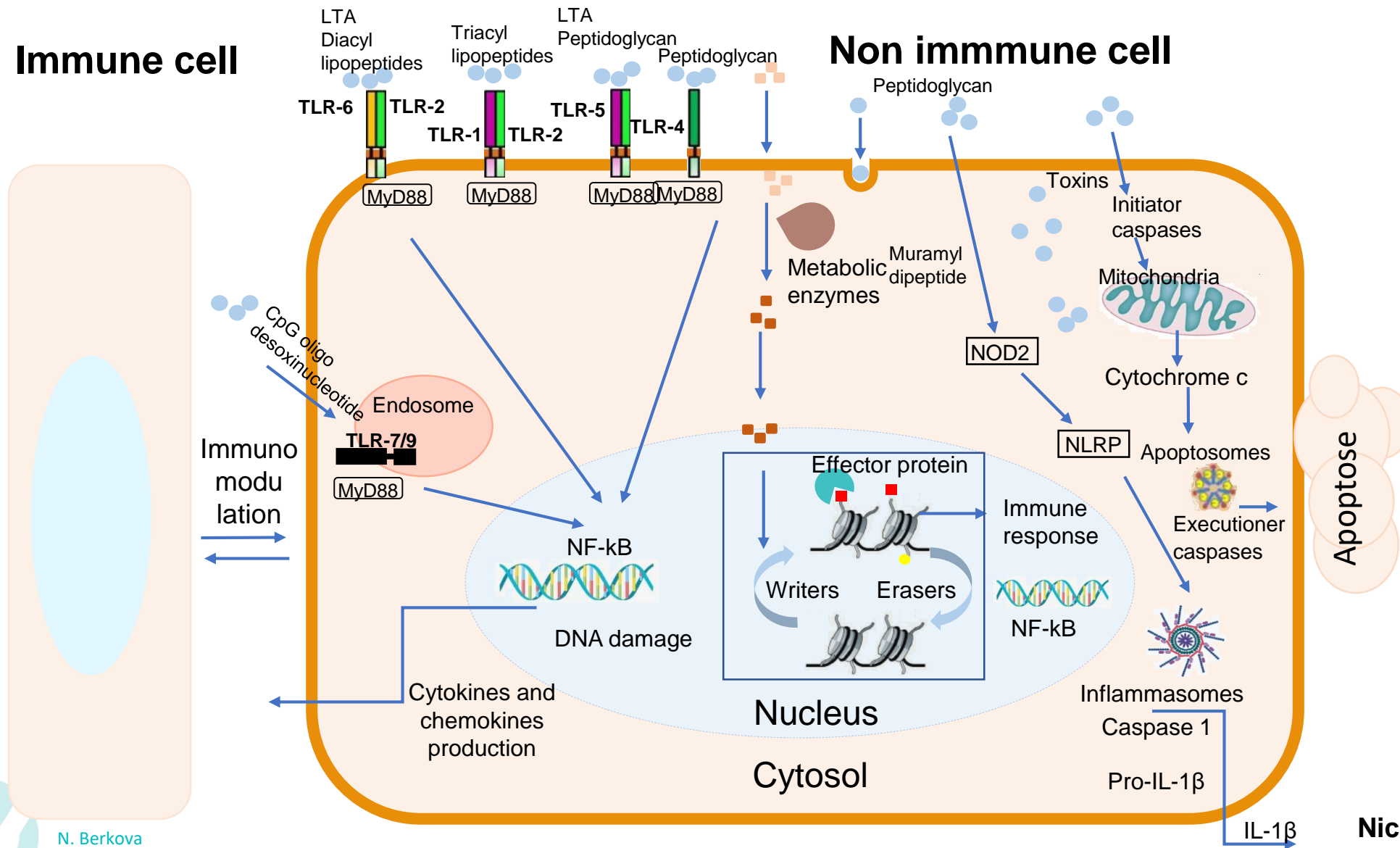


The increase in IL-6/IL-8 production correlates with the rise in H3K27 acetylation in cells pre-treated with *L. lactis*

*Lactococcus lactis* may be a potential inducer of trained immunity

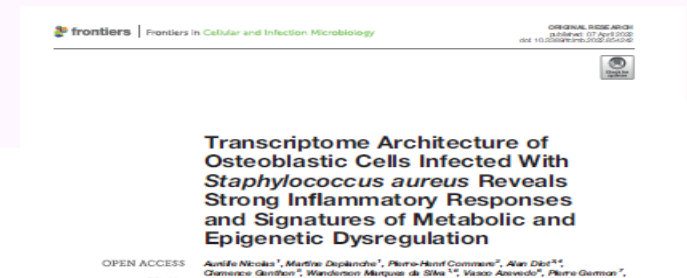
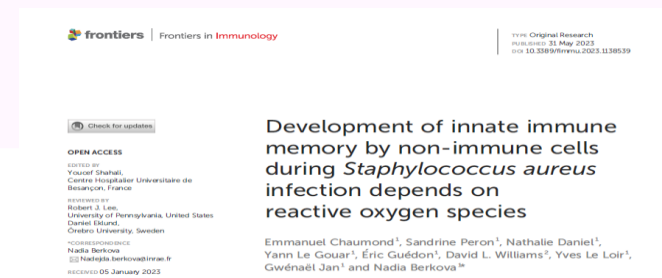
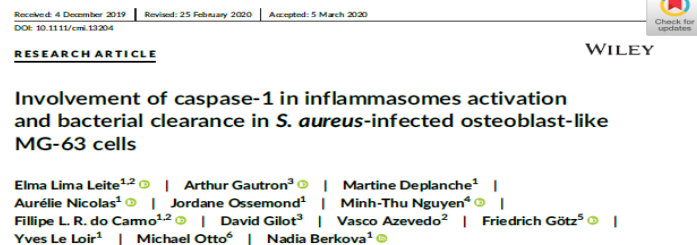
Chaumond et al. Front. Immunol. 2023

# ➤ Model of the immune, metabolic and epigenetic dysregulated signatures induced by long-term *S. aureus* infection



## ➤ CONCLUSION

- ❖ Besides structural functions, non-immune cells contribute to the defense response against *S. aureus* through inflammasomes activation
- ❖ The active caspase-1 restricts intracellular replication of *S. aureus* in non-professional phagocytes
- ❖ Non-immune cells develop trained immunity that is at least partially dependent on ROS
- ❖ *L. lactis* may be a potential inducer of trained immunity, suggesting the possibility of using this bacterium as a preventive measure against staphylococcal infections



# COLLABORATIONS

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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