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Neutrophil infiltration during inflammation is regulated by PILR α via modulation of integrin activation

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Abstract

Acute inflammatory responses are important in host defense, whereas dysregulated inflammation results in life-threatening complications. Here we found that paired immunoglobulin-like type 2 receptor alpha (PILR α), an inhibitory receptor containing an immunoreceptor tyrosine-based inhibitory motif (ITIM), negatively regulated neutrophil infiltration during inflammation. *Pilra*^{-/-} mice had increased neutrophil recruitment to inflammatory sites and were highly susceptible to endotoxin shock. *Pilra*^{-/-} neutrophils showed enhanced transmigration ability and increased adhesion to the ligand ICAM-1. PILR α expressed on neutrophils constitutively associated in *cis* with its ligands, resulting in clustering of PILR α during stimulation with a chemoattractant. Clustering of PILR α enhanced ITIM-mediated signaling, thus modulating β_2 integrin inside-out activation. These data demonstrate that neutrophil recruitment in inflammatory responses is regulated by PILR α via modulation of integrin activation.