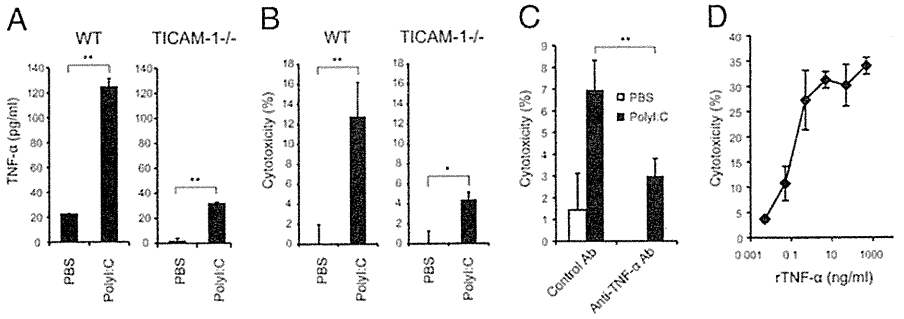

Fig. 4. PolyI:C enhances TNF-α production and cytotoxicity of F4/80⁺ cells in tumor. PolyI:C (200 μg) or PBS was i.p. injected into 3LL tumor-bearing WT mice. After 30 min, F4/80⁺ cells isolated from tumor were cultured for 24 h and TNF-α concentration in the conditioned medium was determined by ELISA (*A*). In parallel, the cytotoxicity of tumor-infiltrating F4/80⁺ cells against 3LL tumor cells was measured by ^{51}Cr-release assay (*B*). Anti–TNF-α neutralization antibody or control antibody was added (10 μg/mL) to mixed culture of isolated tumor-infiltrating F4/80⁺ cells and 3LL tumor cells (*C*). (*D*) Cytotoxic activity of TNF-α against 3LL tumor cells. Recombinant TNF-α was added to ^{51}Cr-labeled 3LL tumor cell culture at various concentrations. After 20 h, cytotoxicity was measured; $n = 3$. Data are shown as average ± SD. $^{*}P < 0.05$, $^{**}P < 0.001$. A representative experiment of three with similar outcomes is shown.

response, minute type I IFN of undefined source has to be provided to set the TLR3/TICAM-1 pathway, which may primarily fail in IFNAR$^{-/-}$ mice. Cellular effectors, cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL) and NK cells, are induced secondary to activation of IFN-inducible genes in a late phase of polyI:C-stimulated myeloid cells (45–47). The relationship among the TICAM-1–mediated type I IFN liberation, these late-phase effectors, and tumor regression remains an open question in this setting.

M1 Mf cells function to protect the host against tumors by producing large amounts of inflammatory cytokines and activating the immune response (48, 49). However, distinct types of M2 cells differentiate when monocytes are stimulated with IL-4 and IL-13 (M2a), immune complexes/TLR ligands (M2b), or IL-10 and glucocorticoids (M2c) (50). In our study, polyI:C stimulation led to incremental expression of the M1 Mf-related genes. In contrast, polyI:C stimulation was not associated with M2 polarization, except for IL-10. Other genes related to angiogenesis and extravasation were not affected by polyI:C treatment. Thus, polyI:C was able to induce the characteristic M1 conversion and, in turn, contribute to tumor regression. It is notable that TAM cells usually have defective and delayed NF-κB activation in response to different proinflammatory signals, such as expression of cytotoxic mediators NO, cytokines, TNF-α, and IL-12 (51–53). These observations are in apparent contrast with the function of other resident Mf species. This discrepancy may again reflect a dynamic change in the tumor microenvironment during tumor progression.

In line with our findings, virus infection has been observed to instigate tumor regression in patients with cancer (36, 54). Gene therapy for cancer patients using virus-derived vectors has proved effective in reducing tumors in clinic (36, 37). Administration of dsRNA elicits IFN induction, NK cell activation, and CTL proliferation for antitumor effectors in vivo (19, 55). This is a unique finding that tumor-infiltrating Mfs are a target of dsRNA and converted from tumor supporters to tumoricidal effectors. Hence, the antitumor effect of dsRNA adjuvant is ultimately based on the liberation of type I IFN, functional maturation of mDCs, and modulation of tumor-infiltrating Mfs, where TICAM-1 is a crucial transducer in eliciting antitumor immunity.

Methods

Inbred C57BL/6 WT mice were purchased from CLEA Japan, Inc. TICAM-1$^{-/-}$ and IPS-1$^{-/-}$ mice were generated in our laboratory and maintained as described previously. IRF-3/7 double-KO mice were a gift from T. Taniguchi

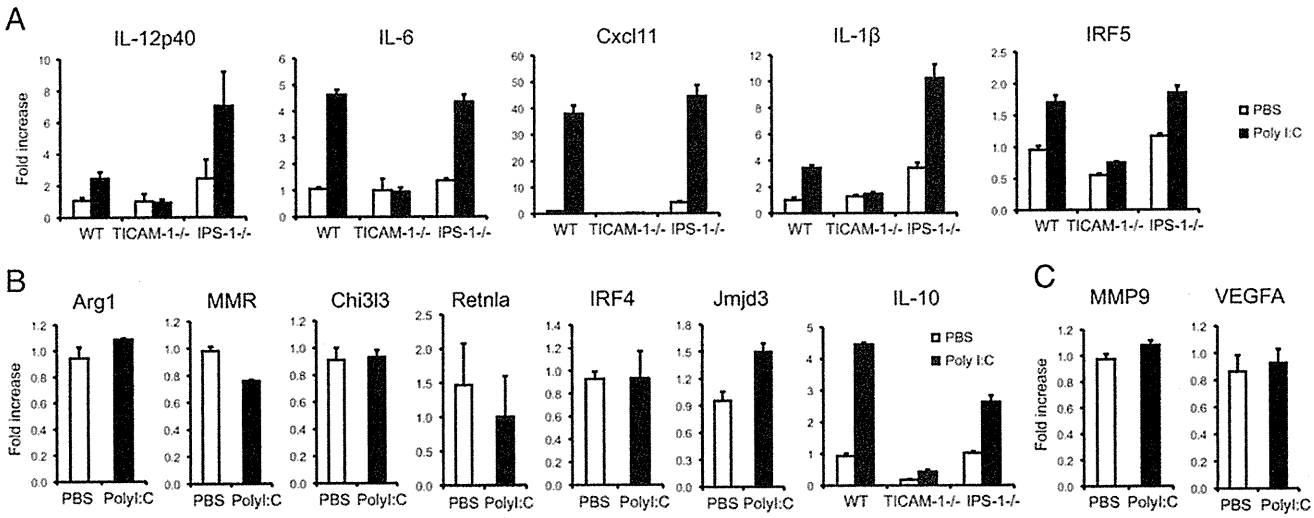

Fig. 5. PolyI:C induces M1 polarization of TAMs. F4/80⁺ cells were isolated from 3LL tumor and stimulated with polyI:C (50 μg/mL) for 4 h. Total RNA was extracted and used to analyze the transcript expression levels of M1 (*A*) and M2 (*B* and *C*) markers; $n = 3$. Data are shown as average ± SD. A representative experiment of two with similar outcomes is shown.

(University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan). TNF-$\alpha^{-/-}$ mice were kindly provided by A. Nakane (Hirosaki University, Aomori, Japan) and Y. Iwakura (University of Tokyo). Mice 6–10 wk of age were used in all experiments. 3LL lung cancer cells were cultured at 37 °C under 5% CO_2 in RPMI containing 10% FCS, penicillin, and streptomycin. This study was carried out in strict accordance with the recommendations in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals of the National Institutes of Health. The protocol was approved by the Committee on the Ethics of Animal Experiments in the Animal Safety Center, Hokkaido University, Japan. All mice were used according to the guidelines of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of Hokkaido University, who approved this study as no. 08-0290, "Analysis of Anti-Tumor Immune Response Induced by the Activation of Innate Immunity."

Other detailed methods are provided in *SI Methods*.

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