

Supporting Information

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M2 Macrophage-Derived sEV Regulate Pro-Inflammatory CCR2⁺ Macrophage
Subpopulations to Favor Post-AMI Cardiac Repair

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Supplementary Materials for

Title: M2 macrophage-derived sEV regulate pro-inflammatory CCR2⁺ macrophage subpopulations to favor post-AMI cardiac repair

One Sentence Summary: M2 macrophage-derived sEV ameliorate CCR2⁺ macrophage-driven AMI.

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Supplementary Methods

Transfected and Transgenic animal procedures.: Specific CCR2 knock-down or overexpression was achieved in the left ventricles of the rats by using adeno-associated viruses-based (AAV9) delivery vectors (Genechem, Shanghai, China). In short, following tracheal intubation and thoracotomy, AAV9 expressing the CCR2 open reading frame (titer: 1.32×10^{12}), CCR2-shRNA (titer: 1.43×10^{12}), or a scrambled control sequence bearing no

homology to known gene transcripts (titer: 1.14×10^{12}) were injected into the left ventricle at multiple sites. After a period of 45 days, the rats were subjected to I/R surgery and subsequent treatments. Six-week-old $CCR2^{CreER/+}$ $R26^{tdtomato/+}$ mice received daily intraperitoneal injections of tamoxifen (2 mg) in corn oil, for 5 days. After three weeks, $CCR2^{CreER/+}$ $R26^{tdtomato/+}$ mice were prepared for surgery as described *above*. Seven/eight-week-old $CCR2^{DTR-GFP}$ mice received daily intraperitoneal injections of DT (50 μ g/kg body weight), for 3 days. The following *day*, $CCR2^{DTR-GFP}$ mice were prepared for surgery as described *above*. Seven/eight-week-old $Lyz2^{Cre/+}$ $R26^{tdTomato/+}$ mice received daily intraperitoneal injections of tamoxifen (2 mg) in corn oil, for 5 days. After 7 days, $Lyz2^{Cre/+}$ $R26^{tdtomato/+}$ mice were prepared for surgery as described *above*.

Microarray-based high-throughput microRNA expression profiling: MicroRNA sequencing was performed using nucleic acids isolated from M2_{EV} and M1_{EV}. Analysis and bioinformatics analysis was outsourced and performed by Ouyi Biomedical Technology (Shanghai, China). In short, the Agilent Rat miRNA Microarray Kit (Release 21.0, 8x15K, Design-ID: 070154) was used to evaluate 6 independent samples for the expression profiles of 780 mature miRNA. Total RNA was quantified by a NanoDrop ND-2000 (Thermo-Fisher Scientific) and the RNA integrity (RIN) was assessed using an Agilent Bioanalyzer 2100 (Agilent Technologies, USA). The sample labeling, microarray hybridization, and washing were performed based on the manufacturer's standard protocols. Briefly, total RNA was dephosphorylated, denatured, and then labeled with Cyanine-3-CTP. After purification the labeled RNAs were hybridized onto the microarray. After washing, the microarrays were scanned with an Agilent Scanner G2505C (Agilent Technologies). Feature Extraction software (v10.7.1.1, Agilent Technologies) was used to analyze array images to calculate raw data. Next, raw data was normalized using the quantile algorithm. The probes present in at least 100 % of samples in any 1 of the 2 conditions were flagged as "Detected" and were selected for further data analysis. Differentially expressed miRNAs were then identified through fold-change as well as P-values calculated by *t*-test. The thresholds set for up- and down-regulated genes were a fold-change ≥ 2.0 and a P-value ≤ 0.05 .

Cardiac functional measurements: Rat echocardiography was performed using a Vevo 2100 (VisualSonic, Canada) ultra-high-resolution animal ultrasound imaging system and the left ventricular function was evaluated as previously described. Long axes with M-mode were visualized. Three representative cycles were captured for each animal, and measurements for ejection fraction (EF%), fractional shortening (FS%). Rat left ventricular pressure-volume

was determined using a Millar pressure-volume catheter (SPE-869, #840-813G) was connected to an MPVS Ultra PV loop system (Millar, Houston, TX, USA). After calibration, the catheter was advanced into the left ventricle through the right common carotid artery. The pressure-volume loop was recorded using a data acquisition system (LabChart Pro, ADInstruments, Colorado Springs, CO, USA) and measurements for dP/dt max and dP/dt were calculated. Pig echocardiography was performed using a Philips EPIQ 7C ultrasound system (Philips, Cambridge, MA, USA) and was used to evaluate the ejection fraction (EF%) before LAD and after 72 h of reperfusion. Electrocardiograms (ECG, Schiller, AT-102, Switzerland) were recorded before LAD and after 72 h of reperfusion.

Plasma biochemistry and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA): Plasma biochemistry, including creatine kinase (CK), creatine kinase-MB (CK-MB), and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) in rats, Interleukin-1 beta (IL-1 β) in mouse and rat, Interleukin-6 (IL-6) in mouse and rat, human tumor necrosis factor α (TNF- α) in mouse and rat, and cardiac troponin (CTn) in pig was assessed using an auto-analyzer (Multiskan MK3; Thermo-Fisher Scientific).

2,3,5-Triphenyltetrazolium chloride (TTC) staining: After 72 h of reperfusion, the rats and pigs were euthanized, hearts were excised, and were washed in PBS. Following harvest, rat hearts were cut into six transverse slices (from apex to basal edge of infarction), whereas pig hearts were sectioned into 1 cm thick slices (below the ligation line). Sections were incubated with 1% 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium chloride (TTC) in PBS for 30 min, at 37°C, and in darkness. Then, the transverse slices were washed with PBS three times and subsequently imaged. The infarcted myocardium was stained in white, and the viable tissue was stained in red. Photographs were taken and images were analyzed using ImageJ software (NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA). The percentage of infarct area was calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Infarct area (\%)} = \frac{\text{Infarct area}}{\text{Viable area} + \text{Infarct area}} \times 100$$

Histological analysis: The heart tissues were fixed by immersion in 4% paraformaldehyde for 72 h. The tissues were then embedded in paraffin, cut into 4 μ m thick sections, and subjected to hematoxylin/eosin staining (H&E). For immunofluorescence (IF) analysis, sections were incubated with CCR2 (Rat: Abcam, Rabbit Monoclonal, ab273050; Pig: Abcam, Rabbit Monoclonal, ab216863, 1:200 dilution), α -SMA (Proteintech, Mouse Monoclonal, 67735-1-Ig, 1:200 dilution), VEGF (Proteintech, Mouse Monoclonal, 66828-1-

Ig, 1:200 dilution), CD31 (Servicebio, Mouse Monoclonal, GB12063, 1:200 dilution), CD68 (Pig: Proteintech, Mouse Monoclonal, 66231-2-Ig, 1:200 dilution), or Brdu (Proteintech, Mouse Monoclonal, 66241-1-Ig) at 4 °C for 12 h and subsequently incubated with anti-Rabbit HRP (Alexa Fluor 647) and anti-Mouse HRP (Alexa Fluor 488) at 37 °C for 2 h. After washing with PBS, the sections were counterstained with DAPI. The sections were examined using a fluorescence microscope and a digital camera (Carl Zeiss, Axio Observer Al, Germany). PKH26 labeled M2_{EV} and CCR2 colocalization analysis on cryosections. The tyramide signal amplification plus multiplex fluorescence staining kit (#G1236-100T, Servicebio, Wuhan, China) was used for staining CCR2 (Abcam, Rabbit Monoclonal, ab273050), CD68 (Proteintech, Rabbit Monoclonal, 25747-1-AP), IL-1 β (Abcam, Rabbit Monoclonal, ab283818) / ARG1 (Proteintech, Mouse Monoclonal, 66129-1-Ig) or Collagen Hybridizing Peptide (CHP, 3HeliX, RED300), according to the manufacturer's protocol. The sections were examined and imaged using a NanoZoomer Digital Pathology (NanoZoomer S60, Japan, DAPI: ultraviolet 330-380nm, emission 420nm, FITC: ultraviolet 465-495nm, emission 515-555nm; Cy3: ultraviolet 510-560 nm, emission 590 nm; Cy5: ultraviolet 608-648nm, emission 672-712 nm).

Magnetic-activated cell sorting (MACS) and fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) separation : For single-cell suspensions, the Multi-Tissue Dissociation Kit 2 (Miltenyi, #130-110-203, Germany) was used to dissociate cells from adult rat or mice hearts according to the distributor's recommendations. Briefly, heart tissues harvested from rats and mice were cut at the infarction border zone (~2 mm in width around the infarcted myocardium) into small pieces (1-2 mm³) and suspended in 2.5 mL of enzyme mix in gentleMACS C-Tubes (Miltenyi, #130-093-237). The C-Tubes were attached onto the sleeve of a gentleMACS Dissociator device (Miltenyi), and the program "37C_Multi_G" was run. Samples were then left to settle without agitation for 15 min at 37 °C before the program was repeated, or until the tissues sections has disassociated completely. Following erythrocyte removal, Rat CD68⁺ cells (anti-CD68 antibody, Miltenyi, #130-102-723; Anti-FITC MicroBeads, Miltenyi, # 130-048-701) were isolated and purified using an AutoMACS Pro Separator (Miltenyi). Mouse CD45⁺ cells were isolated and purified using EasySep™ Mouse CD45 Positive Selection Kit (Stemcell, # 18945). Mouse monocyte derived macrophages (GFP⁺ tdTomato⁻) and locally resident macrophages (GFP⁺ tdTomato⁺) were isolated and purified from CCR2^{CreER/+} R26^{tdTomato/+} mice by fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS). Antibody List: TruStain FcX™ (anti-mouse CD16/32) Antibody (Biolegend, # 101319), APC/Cyanine7 anti-mouse

CD45 Antibody (Biolegend, # 103116); BV650 Rat Anti-CD11b (BD Horizon™, # 563402); Brilliant Violet 421™ anti-mouse CD192 (CCR2) Antibody (Biolegend, # 150605); PerCP anti-mouse F4/80 Antibody (Biolegend, # 123126). The following antibodies were used for flow cytometric analysis: CD68 Antibody, anti-rat, PE, REAfinity™ (Miltenyi, # 130-123-757), Anti-CCR2 antibody conjugated to DyLight 488 (Invitrogen, #PA5-23040); anti-MHC Class II antibody conjugated to APC (Invitrogen, #17-0920-82), TruStain FcX™ (anti-mouse CD16/32) Antibody (Biolegend, # 101319); APC/Cyanine7 anti-mouse CD45 Antibody (Biolegend, # 103116), PE anti-mouse CD192 (CCR2) Antibody (Biolegend, # 150610), BV650 Rat Anti-CD11b (BD Horizon™, # 563402), Anti-IL-1 beta (abcam, # ab254360). The collected cells were incubated with antibodies at 37°C for 20 min. Flow cytometry was performed using a FACS Aria II flow cytometer (BD Biosciences, USA) and a NovoCyte Flow Cytometers (Agilent). Data were analyzed with FlowJo software version V10.8 (TreeStar, USA) and NovoExpress (Agilent).

Cell transfection: For cell transfections, M2 macrophages were stably transfected with CCR2-overexpressing lentivirus (Genechem, Shanghai, China), miR-181b-5p inhibitory sequence (i181) containing lentivirus (Genechem), or lentivirus containing scrambled controls sequences. Briefly, M2 macrophages was inoculated into 6-well plate and cultured at 37°C. The infection reagent, and lentivirus were added to M2 macrophages according to the manufacturer's instructions for 72 h.

Quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR): The mRNA reverse transcription kit was used to obtain cDNA following the manufacturer's instructions (Roche, Basle, Switzerland). SYBR Green PCR master mix (Roche) was used to perform RT-PCR using a CFX96™ PCR detection system (BioRad, Redmond, WA, USA). GAPDH and U87 were used as a housekeeping gene. All primer sequences are provided in the supplementary data.

Table S1. Primer sequences information

Target gene		Primer sequence (5' → 3')
<i>Ccl2</i>	Forward:	TCTCTTCCTCCACCACTATGC
	Reverse:	GTTCTCCAGCCGACTCATTG
<i>Cxcl2</i>	Forward:	AAAGATACTGAACAAAGGCAAGG
	Reverse:	CAGACAGCGAGGCACATC
<i>Ccl11</i>	Forward:	CTTCTATTCTGCTGCTCAC
	Reverse:	GCTCTTCAGTAGTGTGTTGG

<i>Ccl24</i>	Forward:	TGTTTGTCTGTCCACCTCTG
	Reverse:	AAATGCTGCCGTTGAAATCC
<i>Il4</i>	Forward:	ACAAGGAACACCACGGAGAAC
	Reverse:	TCAAGCACGGAGGTACATCAC
<i>Cxcl12</i>	Forward:	CAAGATGTGAGAGGTGTGAGTC
	Reverse:	GCAGAGGAAGTGGCTATGGG
<i>Il10</i>	Forward:	GGAGTGAAGACCAGCAAAGG
	Reverse:	TGTGCTCTGCTTGTGAGGTGCTG
<i>IL1β(mice)</i>	Forward:	GCCGTGGTTGGAGAGATAGG
	Reverse:	TAGTCCTTCCTACCCCAATTTCC
<i>IL6 (mice)</i>	Forward:	TTGGTCCTTAGCCACTCCTTC
	Reverse:	GGTGATCGGTCCCCAAAGGGATGA
<i>TNFα(mice)</i>	Forward:	TGGTTTGCTACGACGTGGGCT
	Reverse:	TGGAGCCTGGACACACAGTA
<i>TGFβ(mice)</i>	Forward:	GTAGTAGACGATGGGCAGTGG
	Reverse:	CACTGTCCACCCCTCAGAGC
<i>MMP9(mice)</i>	Forward:	CACTTGTCGGCGATAAGG
	Reverse:	

Supplementary Figures

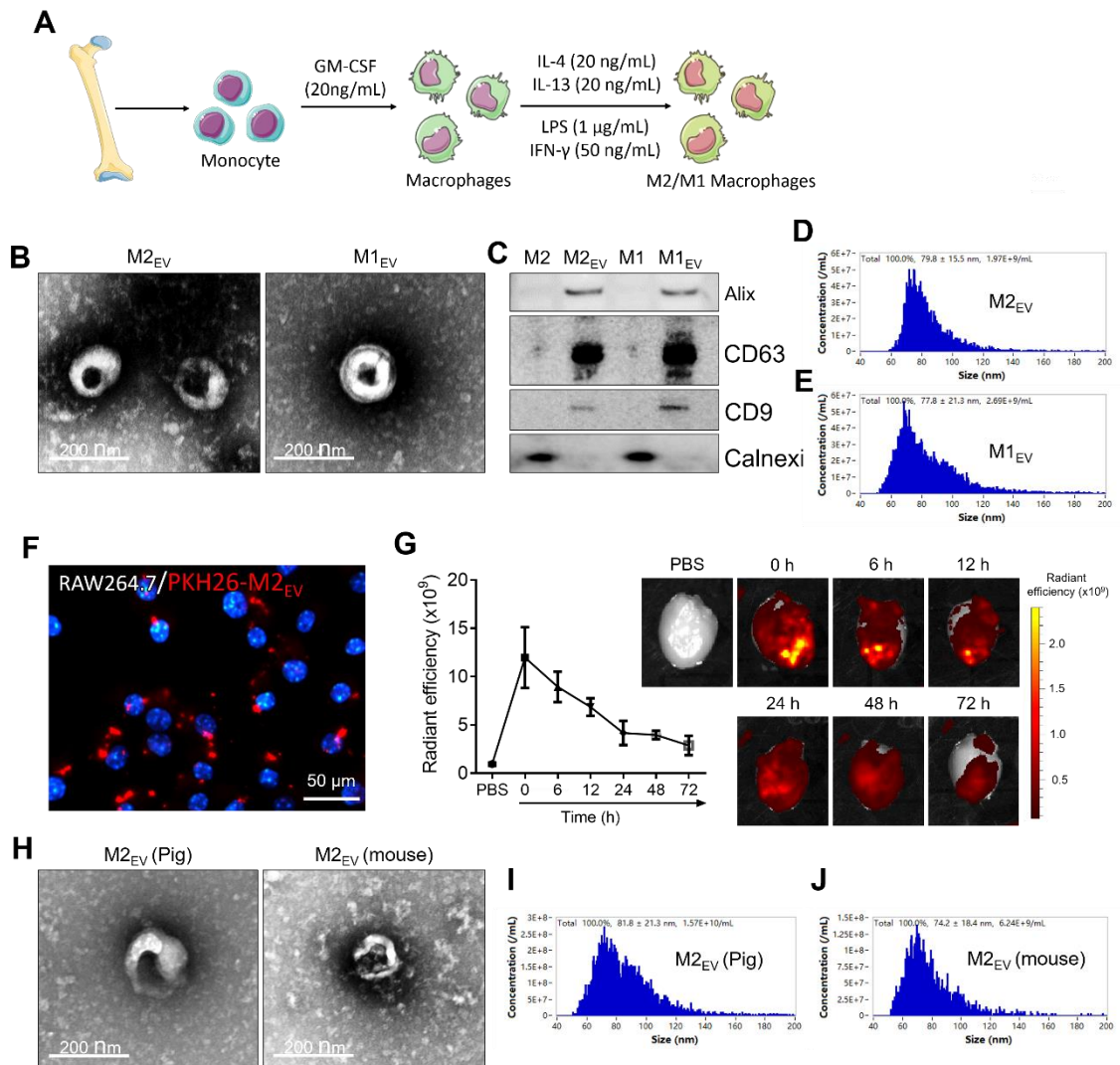


Figure S1. M2_{EV} isolation, characterization, and bioavailability. (A) Schematic of the preparation of M1 and M2 BMDMs. (B) TEM visualization of dry-state rat M2_{EV} and M1_{EV}. Scale bar = 200 nm. (C) Western blot detection to confirm presence of typical sEV/exosome markers and absence of endoplasmic reticulum marker, calnexin. (D-E) Nano-flow cytometry (NanoFCM) analysis of hydrodynamic diameter and concentration of rat M2_{EV} and M1_{EV}. (F) M2_{EV} uptake by RAW264.7 macrophages. Scale bars = 50 µm. (G) Near-infrared detection of intramyocardially injected PKH26-M2_{EV} in the hearts of rats over the course of 72 h. (H) TEM visualization of dry-state pig M2_{EV} and mouse M2_{EV}. (I-J) NanoFCM analysis of hydrodynamic diameter and concentration of pig M2_{EV} and mouse M2_{EV}. All data are representative of n = 3 individual experiments.

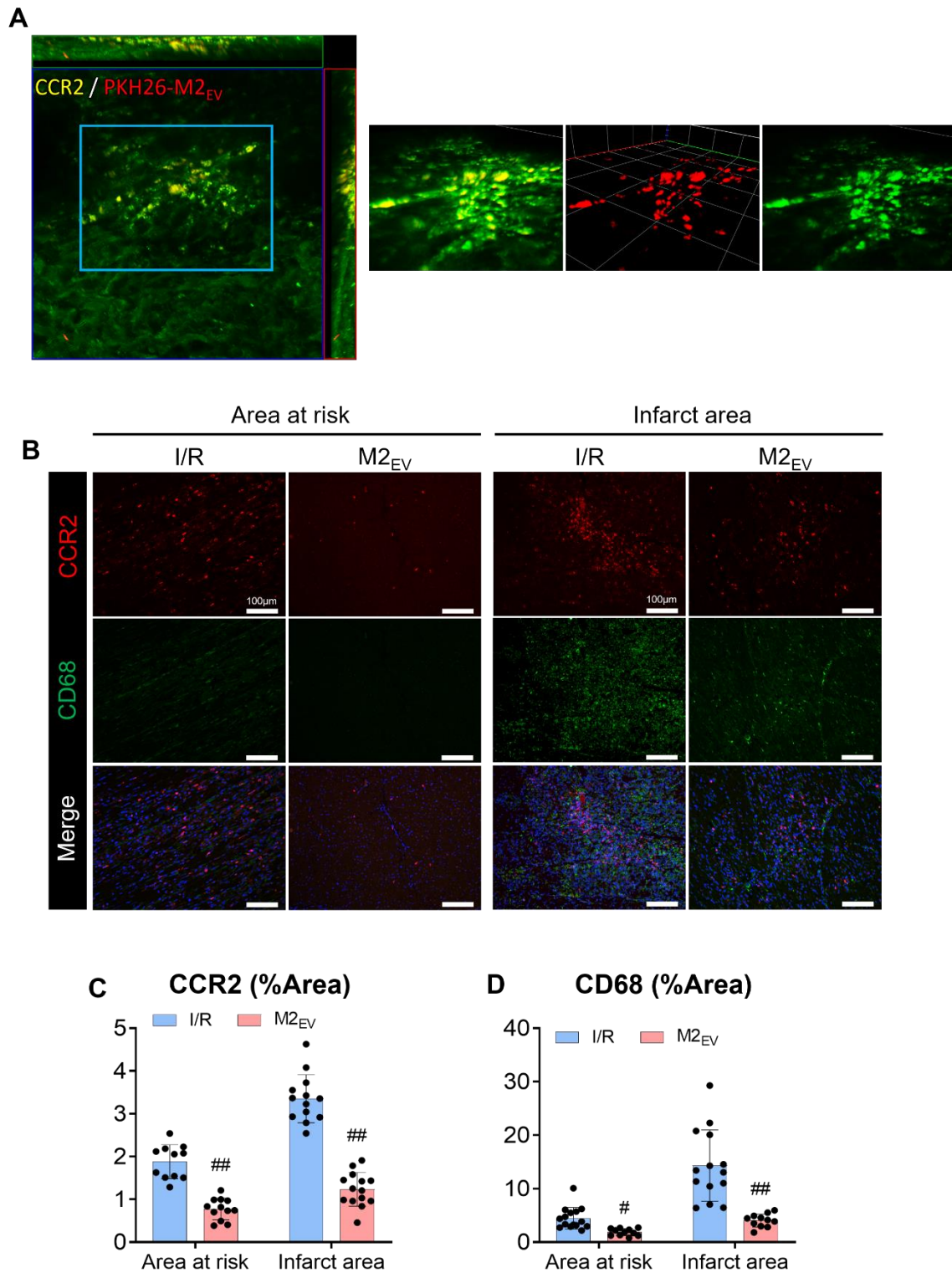


Fig. S2. M2_{EV} inhibited CCR2⁺ macrophages in porcine I/R hearts. (A) Immunostaining of PKH26-M2_{EV}/CCR2 co-staining, respectively. (B) Immunostaining of CCR2 (red) and CD68 (green) in porcine myocardial tissue sections of the area at risk infarct border zone and the infarct area. Scale bar = 100 μ m. (C-D) Quantification of CCR2 and CD68 immunostaining, 3 porcine models in each group, 3-5 microscopic fields of

view for each porcine sample, scale bar = 100 μ m. Statistical significance is shown as $^{\#}p < 0.05$ and $^{\#\#}p < 0.01$ compared with the I/R group.

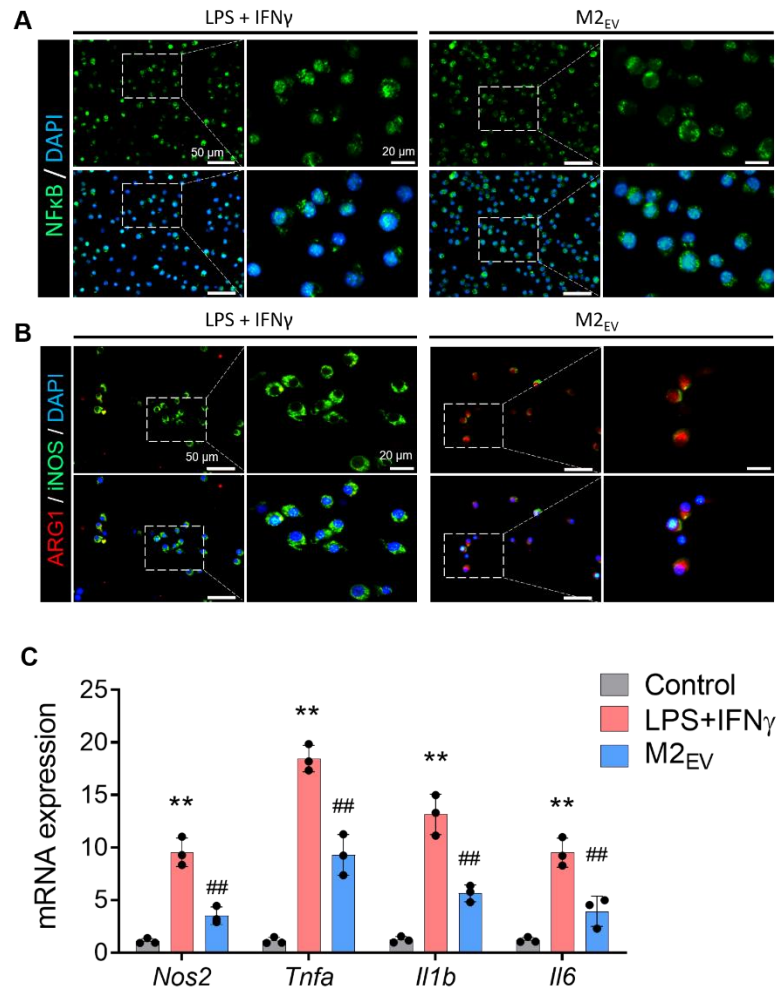


Fig. S3. M2_{EV} treatment inhibits M1 macrophage activation and induces M2 macrophage polarization in vitro. (A) Representative immunocytochemistry images of NF κ B expression and localization in treated BMDM. Scale bar = 50 μ m. (B) Representative immunocytochemistry images of iNOS (green) and ARG-1 (red) in treated BMDM. Scale bar = 50 μ m. (C) Relative mRNA expression of M1-associated genes, *Nos2*, *Il1b*, *Il6* and *Tnfa*. Data are presented as the mean \pm SD of n = 3 individual experiments. Statistical significance is shown as $^*p < 0.05$ and $^{**}p < 0.01$ compared with the control group; $^{\#}p < 0.05$ and $^{\#\#}p < 0.01$ compared with the LPS+IFN γ group.

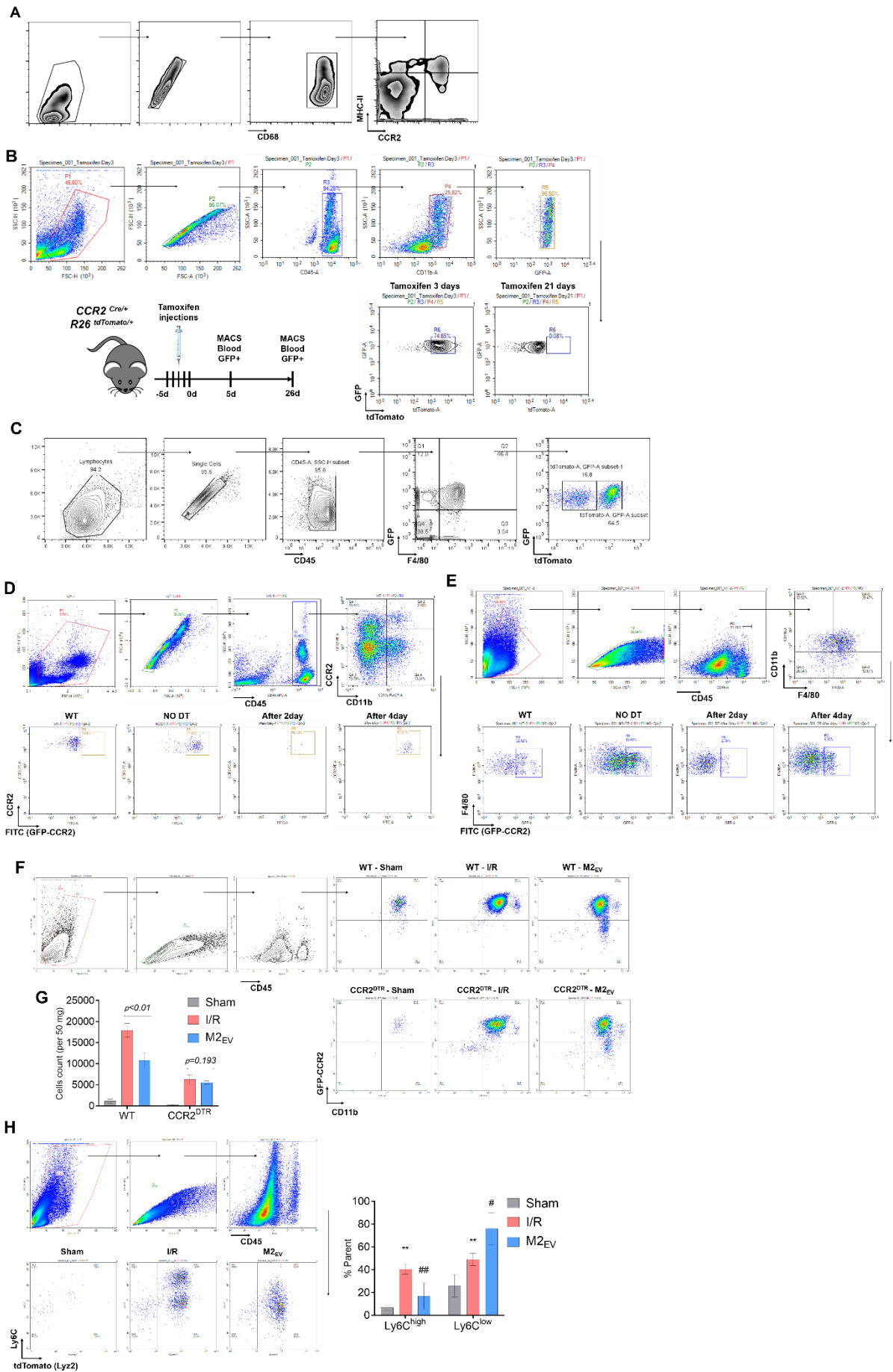


Fig. S4. Schematic representation and results of flow cytometry workflow. (A) Flow cytometry assessment of rat MHC-II^{Hi}/CCR2⁺ macrophages. (B) Experimental design and flow cytometry assessment of tdTomato red fluorescence signal in CCR2⁺ monocytes isolated from blood after tamoxifen treatment. (C) Flow cytometry assessment of mouse resident and monocyte derived cardiac CCR2⁺ macrophages. (D) Assessment of GFP green fluorescence signal in CCR2⁺ monocytes from blood after DT treatment. (E) Assessment of GFP green fluorescence signal in CCR2⁺ monocytes from heart after DT treatment. (F-G) Quantification and assessment of CCR2⁺ monocytes from mouse heart after DT treatment, n = 3. (H) Quantification and assessment of myeloid derived monocytes, n = 4. Data are presented as the mean \pm SD. Statistical significance is shown as * p < 0.05 and ** p < 0.01 compared with the Sham group; # p < 0.05 and ## p < 0.01 compared with the I/R group.

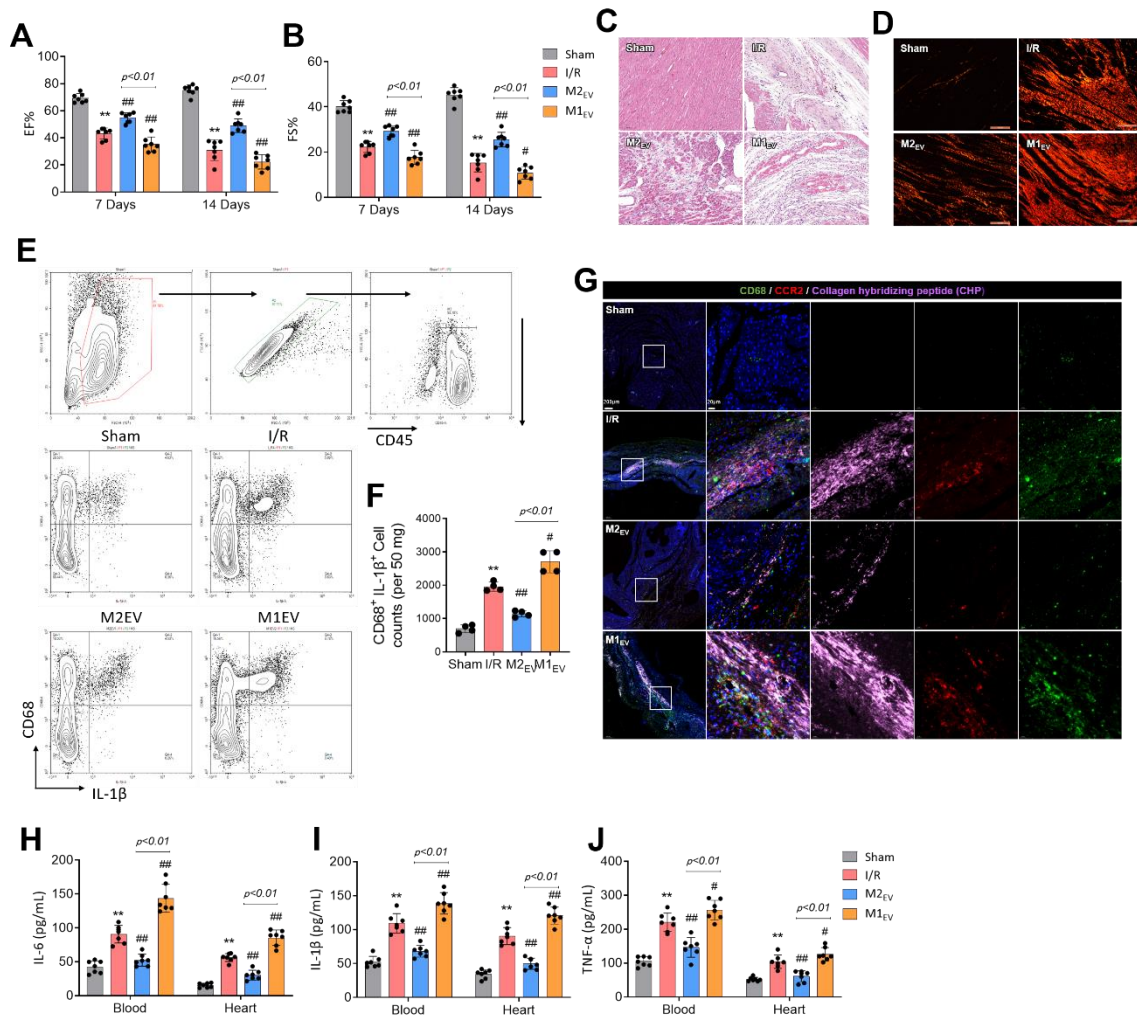


Fig. S5. Protective activity of M2_{EV} in I/R rat hearts after 14days. (A) Quantification of (B) LVEF % and (C) LVFS %, n = 7. (C) Representative H&E staining of heart transverse sections (scale bar = 100 μ m). (D) Representative Sirius Red staining of heart transverse sections (scale bar = 100 μ m). (E-F) Quantification and assessment

of Proinflammatory macrophage from rat heart, $n = 4$. **(G)** Representative immunostaining of CD68, CCR2, and collagen hybridizing peptide. **(H-I)** The protein levels of IL-1 β , IL-6 and TNF- α in rat heart using ELISA, $n=7$. All data are presented as the mean \pm SD. Statistical significance is shown as: $**p < 0.01$ compared with the sham group; and $^{##}p < 0.01$ compared with the I/R group.

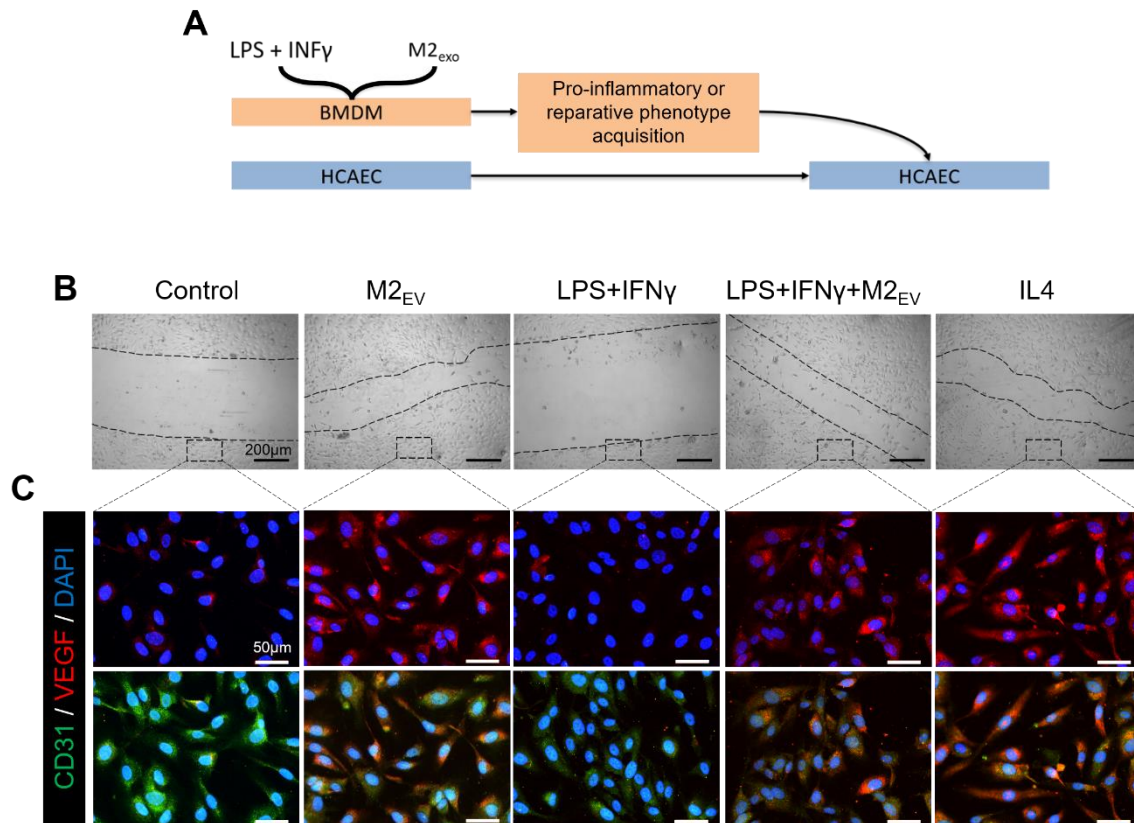


Fig. S6. M2_{EV} promotes endothelial cell migration and VEGF expression. **(A)** Experimental procedure. **(B)** Scratch-wound assays of HCAEC in co-culture with differentially stimulated BMDM. Scale bar = 200 μ m. **(C)** Representative immunocytochemistry images of CD31 and VEGF expression by HCAEC after co-culture with differentially stimulated BMDM. Scale bar = 50 μ m. Images are representative of $n = 3$ individual experiments.

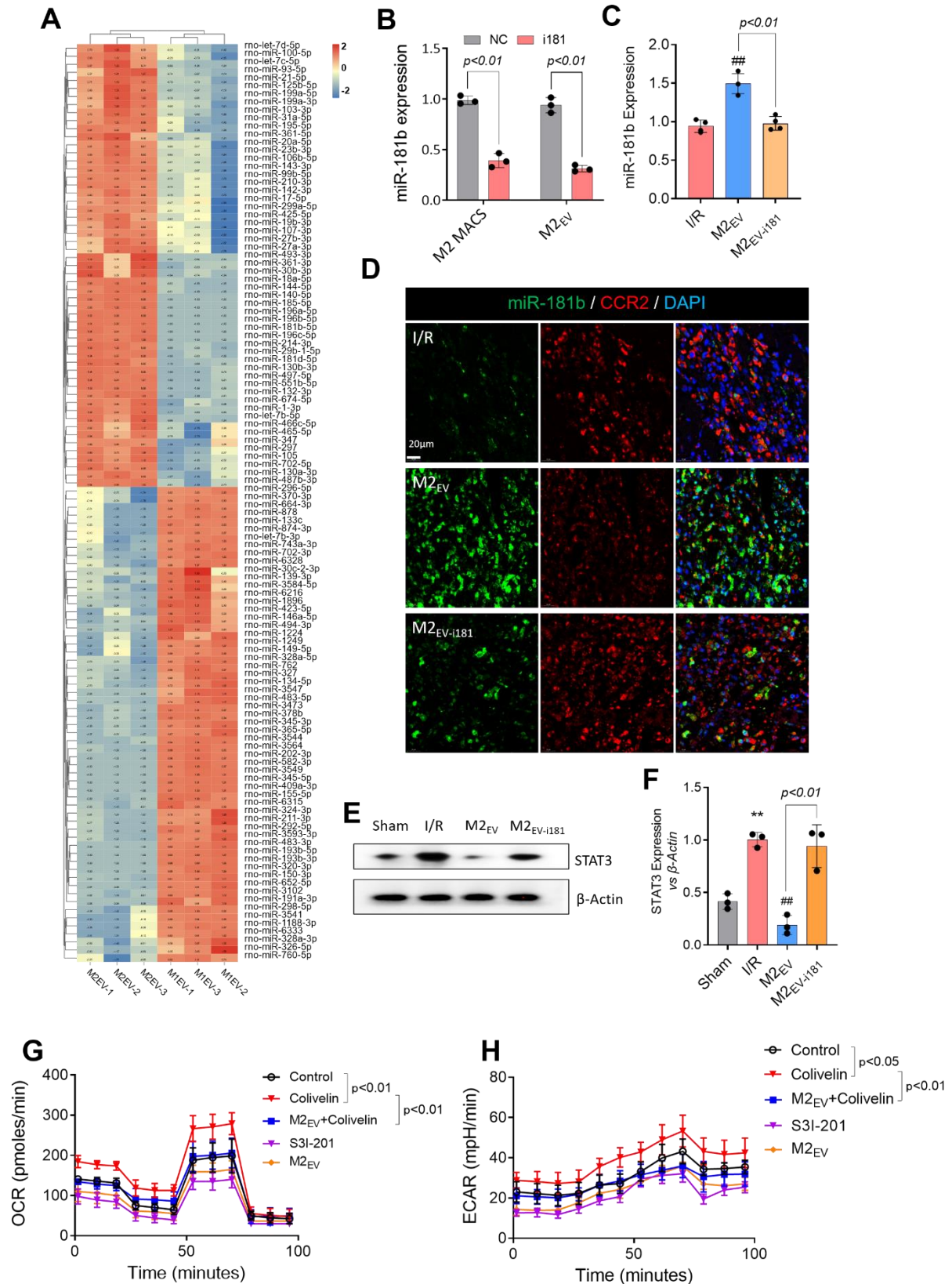


Fig. S7. MicroRNA-181b-5p has elevated expression in M2_{EV}. (A) Heat map and volcano plots displaying the differential expression of miRNAs in M2_{EV} and M1_{EV}. (B) miR-181b-5p expression in M2 macrophages and M2_{EV} with or without i181, n=3. (C)

miR-181b-5p expression in rat heart with or without i181, n=3. **(D)** Immunostaining of miR-181b/CCR2 co-staining (scale bar = 20 μ m). **(E-F)** The protein level of STAT3 in CCR2⁺ macrophages, as assessed using Western Blot and densitometric analysis, n=3. **(G-H)** OCR and ECAR measurements in CCR2⁺ macrophages, as assessed by a Seahorse Bioscience XF24 analyzer, n=3. All data are presented as the mean \pm SD. Statistical significance is shown as: ** $p < 0.01$ compared with the sham group; and ## $p < 0.01$ compared with the I/R group.

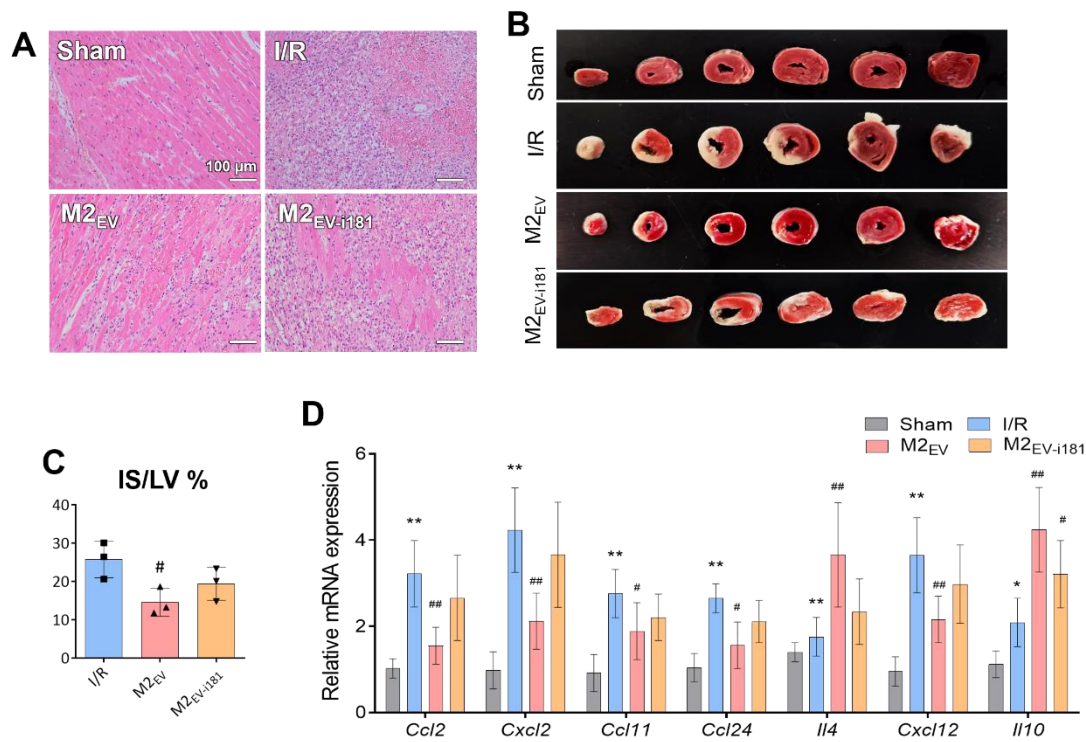


Fig. S8. MicroRNA-181b-5p is implicated in CCR2 regulation by M2_{EV}. **(A)** Representative H&E staining of transverse heart tissue sections. Scale bar = 100 μ m. **(B-C)** Representative TTC stained heart sections and quantification of infarct site area relative to whole heart sections. **(D)** Relative mRNA expression of a panel of inflammation regulatory genes: *Ccl2*, *Cxcl2*, *Ccl11*, *Ccl24*, *Il4*, *Cxcl12*, and *Il10*. Data are presented as the mean \pm SD of n = 3 individual experiments. Statistical significance is shown as * $p < 0.05$ and ** $p < 0.01$ compared with the control group; # $p < 0.05$ and ## $p < 0.01$ compared with the I/R group.

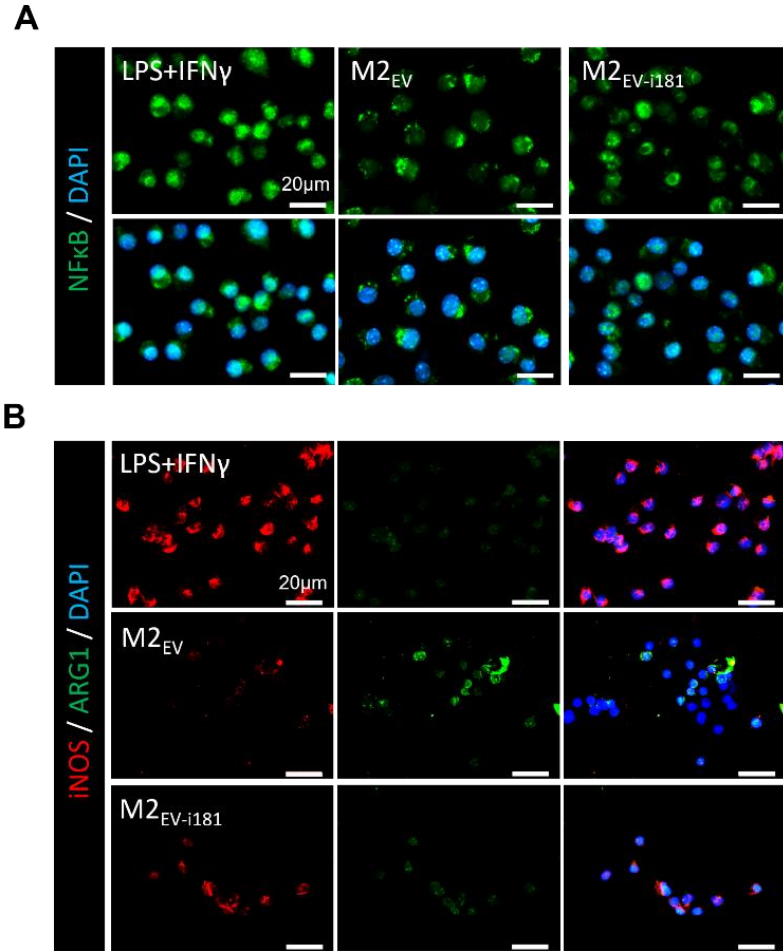


Fig. S9. MicroRNA-181b-5p involvement in macrophage phenotypic switching. (A) Representative immunostaining of NFκB localization in treated BMDM. Scale bar = 20 μm. (B) Representative immunostaining of iNOS (red) and ARG-1 (green) in treated BMDM. Scale bar = 20 μm. Images are representative of n = 3 individual experiments.

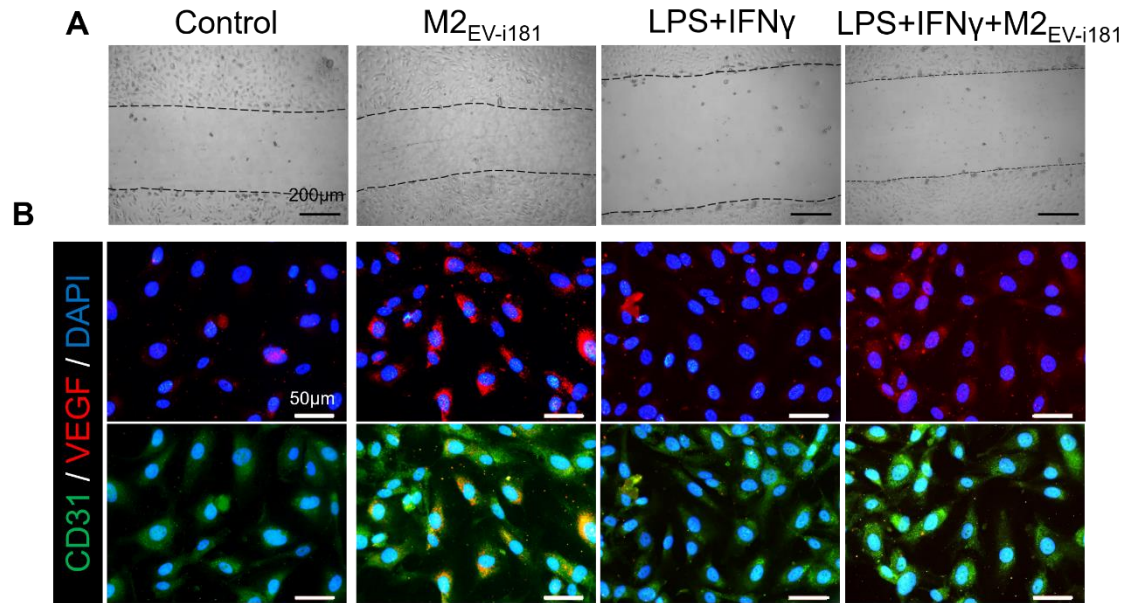


Fig. S10. MicroRNA-181b-5p involvement in macrophage-endothelial cell regulation.
 (A) Scratch wound migration assays of HCAEC co-cultured with treated BMDM. Scale bar = 200 μm. (B) Representative immunocytochemistry images of CD31 and VEGF expression in HCAEC co-cultured with treated BMDM. Scale bar = 50 μm. Images are representative of n = 3 individual experiments.

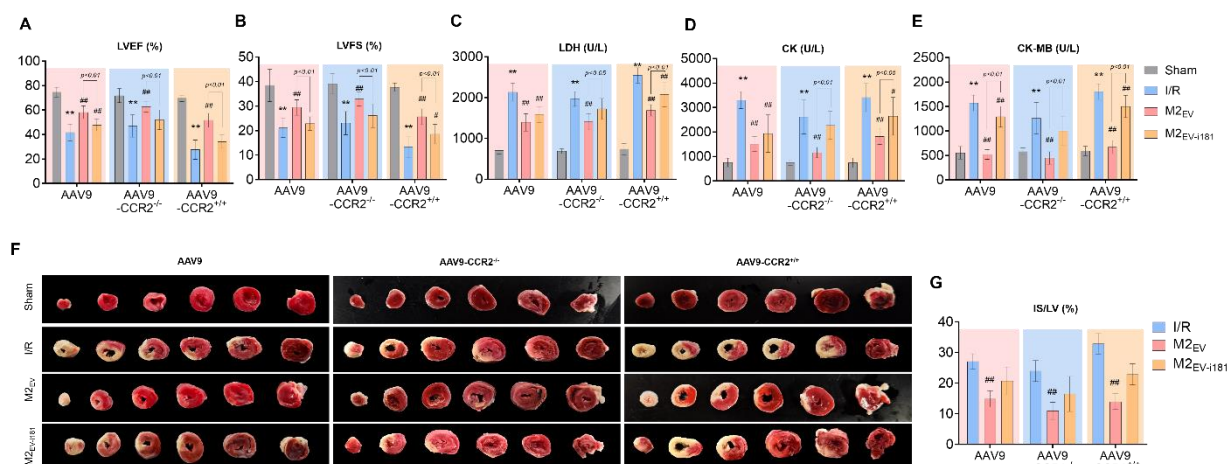


Fig. S11. Indiscriminate knockdown or overexpression of cardiac CCR2 does not influence M2_{EV} therapeutic effects. (A-B) Quantification of LVEF and LVFS, $n = 6$. (C-E) Levels of LDH, CK, and CK-MB. (F-G) Representative TTC stained heart sections and quantification, $n = 3$. All data are presented as the mean \pm SD. Statistical significance is shown as $^*p < 0.05$ and $^{**}p < 0.01$ compared with the control group; $^{\#}p < 0.05$ and $^{\#\#}p < 0.01$ compared with the I/R group.