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FPR1 is the plague receptor on host immune cells

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Abstract

The plague agent, *Yersinia pestis*, employs a type III secretion system (T3SS) to selectively destroy human immune cells, thereby enabling its replication in the bloodstream and transmission to new hosts via fleabite. The host factors responsible for the selective destruction of immune cells by plague bacteria were not known. Here we show that LcrV, the needle cap protein of the *Y. pestis* T3SS, binds *N*-formylpeptide receptor (FPR1) on human immune cells to promote the translocation of bacterial effectors. Plague infection in mice is characterized by high mortality, however *N*-formylpeptide receptor deficient animals exhibit increased survival and plague-protective antibody responses. We identified *FPR1* p.R190W as a candidate human resistance allele that protects neutrophils from *Y. pestis* T3SS. These findings reveal the plague receptor on immune cells and show that *FPR1* mutations provide for plague survival, which appears to have shaped human immune responses towards other infectious diseases and malignant neoplasms.

Yersinia pestis has caused human disease for more than 5,000 years¹. Three pandemics were recorded, including the plague of Justinian (6th-8th), the Black Death (14th-18th) and the Asian Pandemic (19th-20th century)². The Black Death killed more than half of Europe's population, suggesting plague must have shaped the human immune system by selecting for mutations that confer resistance³. Carriers of *CCR5-Δ32*, a gene variant of CC-type chemokine receptor 5 (CCR5), are resistant to infections with human immunodeficiency virus type 1⁴. CCR5 is a member of the 7-transmembrane spanning G protein coupled receptor (GPCR) family that is expressed on immune cells, whereas *CCR5-Δ32* is not presented on cell surfaces⁵. The allele frequency of *CCR5-Δ32* is high in Northern Europe and originated 800 years ago, suggesting its selection may be linked to the Black Death⁶. However, studies in mice did not reveal an impact of *CCR5* on plague survival^{7,8}.

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Pathogenesis of *Y. pestis* and of related *Yersinia enterocolitica* and *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis*, relies on a conserved type III secretion system (T3SS) that delivers effector proteins into host cells^{9–11}. *Y. pestis* T3SS targets immune cells for destruction with preferences for neutrophils, macrophages, and dendritic cells¹². Immune cell ablation enables bacteria to replicate to high density resulting in high mortality¹³. Without therapy, approximately half of all bubonic plague victims survive and mount pathogen-specific antibody responses that prevent replication of *Y. pestis* in blood¹⁴. We hypothesized that humans may have acquired mutations in the immune cell receptor for *Y. pestis* T3SS, thereby diminishing the destruction of immune cells and increasing survival. Here we establish *N*-formylpeptide receptor (FPR1) as the physiologically relevant plague receptor.

CRISPR-Cas9 screen for T3SS receptor

Y. pestis AM18, a *yfeAB* variant of the vaccine strain EV76, is defective for iron and manganese scavenging¹⁵. In broth cultures, *Y. pestis* AM18 secretes the YopE effector via the *IcrV*-dependent T3SS pathway (Fig. 1a). Compared with the *IcrV* variant (AM46), which cannot kill immune cells above control levels, *Y. pestis* AM18 infection resulted in modest killing of U937 human histiocytic leukemia cells differentiated into macrophages (Fig. 1b). *Y. pestis* POO1 is a variant of AM18 expressing *yopE-dtx*, a translational hybrid between the YopE effector and the mature domain of diphtheria toxin¹⁶. Dtx is an ADP-ribosyltransferase that modifies elongation factor 2 (EF2) at its diphthamide residue to promote cell death¹⁶. *Y. pestis* POO1 secretes YopE-Dtx and causes death of U937 macrophages in an *IcrV*-dependent manner (Fig. 1ab). U937 cells were transduced with lentiviral libraries expressing RNA guided endonuclease Cas9 and short guide RNAs (sgRNA – 3 per gene) targeting 19,052 genes. After 12 hours of infection with *Y. pestis* POO1 or POO2 (*yopE-dtx IcrV*), resistant cells were cultured with antibiotics to approximately 70% confluence and re-infected. The sgRNA sequences from surviving U937 cells were identified via next-generation sequencing (NGS) and candidate genes ranked based on the number of unique sgRNAs versus NGS reads (Fig. 1c). *FPR1* stood out in three independent screens with the most abundant sgRNAs (Supplementary Databases S1–S3). *FPR1* is a member of the GPCR family that activates immune cell chemotaxis and cytokine release in response to *N*-formylpeptides contained in bacteria or mitochondria¹⁷. To validate these results, we generated *FPR1*^{-/-} U937 cells using CRISPR-Cas9 and analyzed mutant cells by sequencing the mutated (frame-shifted) *FPR1* alleles (Extended Data Fig. 1a). *FPR1*^{-/-} cells were transfected with pFPR1¹⁸. When analyzed for *FPR1* expression by immunoblot with α FPR1m, U937 cells, but not their *FPR1*^{-/-} variants, produced FPR1 (Extended Data Fig. 1b). FPR1 production was restored upon transfection with pFPR1; expression of *FPR2* and *FPR3*, homologs of FPR1 that promote chemotaxis to distinct signals was unaffected (Extended Data Fig. 1b)¹⁹. When infected with *Y. pestis* POO1, *FPR1*^{-/-} cells were resistant to *Y. pestis* T3SS-mediated killing (Fig. 1d). This defect was restored in *FPR1*^{-/-}(pFPR1) cells (Fig. 1d). To validate *FPR1*-dependent resistance to T3SS, translocation of YopM-Bla into CCF2-AM stained U937 cells was assessed using KIM D27 (pMM83). Increase in blue fluorescence indicates YopM-Bla mediated CCF2-AM cleavage in the cytoplasm of immune cells¹². YopM-Bla translocation was abolished in *FPR1*^{-/-} cells and restored by plasmid-borne expression of FPR1 (Fig. 1e).

Diphthamide is a modified histidine residue synthesized by 7 gene products²⁰. As YopE-Dtx is responsible for some, but not all, of the T3SS-mediated killing of U937 cells by strain POO1, one would expect CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis to target the diphthamide synthesis pathway. Indeed, sgRNAs targeting *DPH1*, *DPH2*, *DPH3*, *DPH5*, *DPH6* and *DPH7* were enriched in U937 macrophages that survived *Y. pestis* POO1-mediated killing (Supplementary Databases S1–S3). sgRNAs targeting genes that scored even higher than the *DPH* determinants, were also identified suggesting that these genes may be involved in T3SS-mediated translocation of *Yersinia* effectors: sorting nexin 24 (*SNX24*), ubiquitin C-terminal hydrolase (*USP48*), histone 3.1 (*HIST1H3A*), thyrotropin-releasing hormone receptor (*TRHR*), leptin receptor (*LEPR*) and macrophage inflammatory protein alpha ($MIP2\alpha=CXCL2$) (Fig. 1c).

Prior work using RNA interference identified *CCR5* as contributing to *Y. pseudotuberculosis* T3SS into 293T cells and into primary murine immune cells²¹. *CCR5* was not identified in our CRISPR-Cas9 screen (Supplementary Databases S1–S3). We used CRISPR-Cas9 and *CCR5*-specific sgRNAs to generate two independent cell lines with null mutations in *CCR5* (Extended Data Fig. 2a). *CCR5*^{-/-} cells did not exhibit resistance to *Y. pestis* POO1-mediated killing (Extended Data Fig. 2b). When analyzed for YopM-Bla translocation, *Y. pestis* infected *CCR5*^{-/-} cells exhibited a small reduction in T3SS whereas *FPR1*^{-/-} cells were resistant to effector translocation (Extended Data Fig. 2c). *Y. pseudotuberculosis* T3SS into U937 cells relied in part on *CCR5*, whereas *FPR1* was dispensable for effector translocation (Extended Data Fig. 2d). Thus, *Y. pseudotuberculosis* and *Y. pestis* utilize distinct receptors for translocation of effectors into immune cells. Of note, *Y. pestis* LcrV acquired 10 amino acid substitutions during evolution from its ancestor *Y. pseudotuberculosis* LcrV, supporting a mechanism for host-cell receptor selectivity.

FPR1 inhibitors block *Y. pestis* T3SS

We screened monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) specific for surface proteins of human neutrophils to identify inhibitors of *Y. pestis* YopM-Bla translocation (Extended Data Fig. 3ab)²². Only the mAb against FPR1 (α FPR1m) inhibited effector translocation (Extended Data Fig. 4). Polyclonal antibodies against FPR1 and LcrV (α LcrV), the needle cap protein of the T3SS²³, also inhibited T3SS into neutrophils (Extended Data Fig. 3c). Annexin, a ubiquitous cytosolic protein, is another ligand of FPR1²⁴. During cell death, released annexin undergoes Ca²⁺-dependent rearrangements to expose its A1 peptide for FPR1 recognition²⁵. Addition of *N*-formylpeptide (fMLF) or annexin A1 to human neutrophils interfered with *Y. pestis* effector translocation (Extended Data Fig. 3c). FPR1 activation is inhibited by *Staphylococcus aureus* CHIPS and *Tolyplocadium inflatum* cyclosporin H^{26,27}; these compounds also inhibited *Y. pestis* effector translocation (Extended Data Fig. 3c). Fluorescence and differential interference contrast microscopy revealed physical interactions between enhanced green-fluorescent protein (EGFP)-labeled bacteria and U937-derived macrophages. In the absence, but not in the presence of fMLF, *Y. pestis* (pEGFP) was associated with the cell surface (Extended Data Fig. 3d). Treatment with α FPR1m, α LcrV, fMLF, annexin A1, CHIPS and cyclosporin H also diminished *Y. pestis* effector translocation into U937 cells (Extended Data Fig. 3e).

T3SS triggers immune cell chemotaxis

Using a transwell migration assay, we observed chemotaxis of U937 cells towards fMLF, *Y. pestis* KIM D27, Leukotriene B4 (LTB4) and Keratinocyte Chemoattractant (KC) (Fig. 2a; Extended Data Fig. 5a). Chemotaxis toward fMLF and *Y. pestis*, but not toward LTB4 and KC, was abolished in *FPR1*^{-/-} monocytes, and restored following transfection with pFPR1 (Fig. 2a; Extended Data Fig. 5a). U937 monocyte chemotaxis was also diminished when *Y. pestis* KLD29 (*lcrV*) was analyzed as a chemoattractant, suggesting that the *N*-formylpeptide signal is amplified by secretion via the bacterial T3SS (Fig. 2a). To test whether other immune cells migrate towards *Y. pestis* in a T3SS-dependent manner, we analyzed primary human neutrophils and differentiated HL-60 cells, neutrophils derived from acute promyelocytic leukemia cells. Compared to wild-type *Y. pestis*, migration of primary human neutrophils and HL-60 cells was diminished towards the *lcrV* mutant (Fig. 2b; Extended Data Fig. 5b). Granulocytes from wild-type mice, but not *N*-formylpeptide receptor deficient mice, *mFpr1*^{-/-}, migrate towards fMLF peptide and *Y. pestis* wild type for *lcrV* (Fig. 2c). Chemotaxis towards recombinant LcrV_{S228}, a STREP-tagged variant that functions identically to wild-type LcrV²⁸ was not observed suggesting that LcrV is not a chemoattractant signal (Extended Data Fig. 5c). Addition of LcrV_{S228} to differentiated HL-60 cells blocked chemotaxis toward fMLF (data not shown), an activity previously reported for the V antigen of plague (LcrV)²⁹.

The T3SS cap protein LcrV binds FPR1

Y. pestis KIM D27 adhesion to U937-derived macrophages was diminished for the *lcrV* variant (Fig. 3a). *FPR1* is required for *Y. pestis* adherence and plasmid-borne expression of *FPR1* in *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) macrophages restored the adhesion of plague bacteria (Fig. 3b). Addition of fMLF, αLcrV or purified LcrV_{S228} each caused a reduction in bacteria adhesion to macrophages (Fig. 3c). To exclude the possibility that secreted bacterial effectors may impact adhesion, U937 macrophages were inoculated with *Y. pestis* KIM8, a plasminogen activator protease mutant, or with KIM8 1234, an isogenic variant lacking segments of the pCD1 virulence plasmid encoding YopE, YopH, YopJ, YopK, YopM, YopT, and YpkA³⁰ (Extended Data Fig. 6a). Similar levels of adhesion were observed albeit that as expected KIM8 1234 was unable to intoxicate immune cells (Extended Data Fig. 6b). When transfected into *FPR1*^{-/-} cells, pFPR1_{STREP} encoding FPR1 with C-terminal Strep-tag II restored *Y. pestis* POO1 killing of, and YopM-B1a cleavage of CCF2-AM (Extended Data Fig. 6cd). When subjected to pull-down experiments, FPR1_{STREP} from detergent lysate of *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1_{STREP}) cells, but not FPR1 from U937 macrophages, was retained on StrepTactin-sepharose (Fig. 3d). *Y. pestis* T3SS needle complex components, LcrV and YopD²⁸, co-purified with FPR1_{STREP} (Fig. 3d). As control, actin from U937 macrophages and RNA polymerase A (RpoA) from bacterial cells did not associate with FPR1_{STREP} (Fig. 3d).

mFpr1^{-/-} mice exhibit plague resistance

Rodents play important roles in the epidemiology of plague as highly-susceptible epizootic reservoirs for pathogen amplification and flea-borne disease transmission³¹. The mouse

chemotaxis locus harbors three genes (*mFpr1*, *mFpr2*, and *mFpr3*) whose products are known to function as GPCR, promoting immune cell chemotaxis towards *N*-formylpeptides (mFpr1 and to a lesser degree mFpr2) or other bacterial products (mFpr3)^{32,33}. *mFpr1*, *mFpr2*, and *mFpr3* were cloned into pBGSA and transfected into *FPR1*^{-/-} macrophages for infection with *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83). Expression of *mFpr1*, but not of *mFpr2* and *mFpr3*, restored in part *Y. pestis* T3SS effector translocation into *FPR1*^{-/-} macrophages (Fig. 4a). C57BL/6 mice lacking *mFpr1* that are reared under pathogen-free conditions develop normally³². However, when infected with bacteria and compared to wild-type animals, *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice exhibit reduced survival (accelerated time-to-death), increased pathogen burden in the spleen and liver and their neutrophils display diminished chemotaxis towards fMLF^{32,34}. When infected with *Y. pestis* POO1, bone marrow derived macrophages (BMDM) of wild-type animals (male and female) were rapidly killed, whereas *mFpr1*^{-/-} BMDM exhibited partial resistance to *Y. pestis* T3SS-induced killing (Fig. 4b). *mFpr2*^{-/-} BMDM did not exhibit resistance to *Y. pestis* POO1 induced killing (Fig. 4b). *Y. pestis* KIMD27 (pMM83) infection of macrophages demonstrated reduced translocation of YopM-Bla into *mFpr1*^{-/-} BMDM, when compared to wild-type and *mFpr2*^{-/-} BMDMs (Fig. 4c). Peritoneal granulocytes from *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice also displayed a reduction in *Y. pestis* effector translocation, whereas neutrophils from *mFpr2*^{-/-} mice did not (Fig. 4d).

To assess whether mFpr1 functions as the plague receptor in mice, wild-type C57BL/6 and *mFpr1*^{-/-} animals were infected by subcutaneous inoculation with 600 CFU *Y. pestis* CO92. Wild-type mice succumbed 3–8 days post-inoculation and *mFpr1*^{-/-} animals exhibited delayed time-to-death (2.25 days) and a small, but significant increase in survival, suggesting that another GPCR may function as a plague receptor (Fig. 4e). Unlike with human macrophages and *FPR1* (Fig. 1e), mFpr1 is not absolutely essential for effector translocation into mouse macrophages and neutrophils (Fig. 4cd). To rule out the possibility that complement coating of *Y. pestis* during infection may have bypassed the requirement for mFpr1 binding, bacteria were preincubated with mouse plasma and effector injection measured using peritoneal granulocytes from C57BL/6, *mFpr1*^{-/-} and *mFpr2*^{-/-} mice (Extended Data Fig. 7ab). Although plasma enhanced T3SS-mediated translocation into wild-type and *mFpr2*^{-/-} granulocytes relative to heat-inactivated plasma, preincubation of bacteria with plasma did not restore the translocation of YopM-Bla into *mFpr1*^{-/-} granulocytes.

In mouse models for pneumonic and bubonic plague, *Y. pestis* triggers neutrophil influx to the site of infection^{35,36}. Neutrophil-mediated tissue damage is thought to prime the devastating pathology associated with plague³⁵. To determine whether knockout mutation in *mFpr1* affects predominantly chemotaxis of immune cells towards *Y. pestis* rather than blocking T3SS-mediated effector injection, we asked whether neutrophil influx into plague infected tissues is reduced in *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice as compared to wild-type animals. Similar numbers of anti-Ly6G⁺ immune cells were detected in inguinal tissues of *mFpr1*^{-/-} and wild-type animals four hours following intradermal inoculation with *Y. pestis* (Extended Data Fig. 7c–e). Thus, during bubonic plague infection, the *mFpr1*^{-/-} mutation predominantly blocks the injection of bacterial effectors without abolishing the neutrophil influx into infected tissues.

All animals that died of plague displayed high bacterial loads in spleens, but *Y. pestis* bacteria were not recovered from tissues of surviving *mFprI*^{-/-} animals (Fig. 4f). *mFprI*^{-/-} survivors developed high-titer pathogen-specific F1-antibodies (Extended Data Fig. 8a), which provide protective immunity against plague³⁷. Plague infection results in the massive depletion of immune cells in the spleen *i.e.* the destruction of white pulp and its replacement by fibrinoid necrosis lesions (Extended Data Fig. 8b; label A). Loss of white pulp can be visualized by H&E staining of thin-sectioned spleen samples and can be quantified by measuring areas of white pulp (Extended Data Fig. 8c). Unlike wild-type and *mFprI*^{-/-} animals that succumbed to plague, spleens of *mFprI*^{-/-} survivors displayed histology similar to that of naïve animals with larger white pulp area (Extended Data Fig. 8bc).

FPR1 R190W is a plague resistance allele

Neutrophils from human volunteers were infected with *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) to measure YopM-Bla effector translocation. Neutrophils of donor 2 exhibited decreased T3SS translocation and reduced chemotaxis towards fMLF and *Y. pestis* (Fig. 5ab). ELISA measurement of specific F1-antibodies ruled out the possibility of plague immunity in volunteers (Extended Data Fig. 9a). *FPR1* and *CCR5* genes were PCR amplified from leukocyte DNA and sequenced to identify single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in each proband (Supplementary Table 1 & Extended Data Fig. 9b). *FPR1* genes from each donor carried between 3–4 SNPs, however only donor 2 carried rs5030880 (A>T, p.R190W), with a single amino acid substitution, Arg¹⁹⁰Trp, located in extracellular loop 2 between transmembrane domains 4 and 5 (Fig. 5c). rs5030880 occurs in 11–13% of Europeans and Americans with European descent, 6–9% of Africans and Americans with African descent, and 20% of Asians. Two donors were carrier or homozygote for *CCR5*-Δ32, whereas donor 2 did not harbor the *CCR5*-Δ32 deletion (Supplementary Table 1). To test whether rs5030880 is sufficient to confer diminished chemotaxis towards *Y. pestis* and reduced T3SS, we generated *FPR1*^{-/-} cells expressing pFPR1 R190W. Compared with U937 and *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) cells, *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1 R190W) cells exhibited reduced effector translocation during *Y. pestis* infection (Extended Data Fig. 9c). Immunoblotting and fluorescence microscopy experiments documented that *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1 R190W) macrophages produce and deposit *N*-formylpeptide receptor on the cell surface similar to U937 or *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) macrophages (Fig. 5d; Extended Data Fig. 9d). Chemotaxis experiments revealed reduced migration of *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1 R190W) monocytes towards fMLF and *Y. pestis* as compared to U937 or *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) monocytes (Fig. 5e).

Discussion

Our findings suggest that chemotaxis of immune cells towards *Y. pestis* is enhanced by the pathogen's T3SS, releasing *N*-formylpeptides to activate FPR1 signaling (Extended Data Fig. 10a). Following chemotaxis, the T3SS cap protein, LcrV, binds to FPR1 (Extended Data Fig. 10b). The *N*-terminal domain of LcrV with homology to annexin A1 (Extended Data Fig. 10e) but without *N*-formyl modification^{15,24} may contribute to this docking event. Docking enables the assembly of the T3SS translocon, composed of LcrV, YopB, and YopD (Extended Data Fig. 10c)³⁸. LcrV and YopD co-purified with FPR1_{STREP}, demonstrating interaction between FPR1 and the T3SS needle. Translocon assembly promotes the

formation of a conduit between the *Y. pestis* T3SS and the cytoplasm of immune cells, a low-calcium environment activating Yop effector translocation (Extended Data Fig. 10d)³⁹. Yop effectors then inhibit host cell signaling, block actin-polymerization and activate immune cell apoptosis⁴⁰. The concurrent release of formylated peptides from mitochondria (DAMPs, damage-associated molecular patterns) may further exacerbate infection through FPR1-mediated recruitment of neutrophils, and subsequent acute inflammation^{41,42}.

Phylogenetic analyses revealed that early duplication of *FPR1* generated *FPR2* in the chemotaxis locus of mammals⁴³. This was followed by a late duplication of *FPR2* to yield *FPR3* near the evolutionary origin of primates⁴³. FPR1 is the high affinity receptor for *N*-formylpeptides, whereas FPR2 functions as a low affinity receptor for these compounds yet also recognizes other types of chemoattractants⁴⁴. Rodents generally harbor *FPR1* and an expanded family of *FPR2*-derived receptors that are expressed in vomeronasal neurons and respond to olfactory stimuli. In contrast, canidae (wolves, dogs, ferrets, coyotes, foxes) have lost *FPR1* and the ability to respond to *N*-formylpeptides, harboring duplicated *FPR2* in their chemotaxis locus⁴⁵. *Y. pestis* causes plague in a wide range of different rodent species (rats, mice, prairie dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs and gerbils), however canidae are resistant to plague disease⁴⁶. Although coyotes are frequently infected with *Y. pestis* through the consumption of plague-infected prey, these animals generate plague-protective F1 antibodies without developing disease symptoms⁴⁷. Thus, plague resistance in canidae may be related to the loss of *FPR1* in these species. More than 200 SNPs, many of which cause amino acid substitutions, have been described for *FPR1*. *FPR1* SNPs have been associated with macular degeneration⁴⁸, gastric cancer⁴⁹ and the reduced survival of cancer patients receiving chemotherapy²⁴. Of note, the ability of dendritic cells to physically associate with dying cancer cells and promote neoplasm-specific T cell immune responses requires expression of functional FPR1 on dendritic cells and annexin A1 on tumor cells²⁴. Thus, while myeloid cell chemotaxis towards dying cancer cells is an important element of anti-tumor immune responses, annexin A1 binding to FPR1 enhances the presentation of cancer neoantigens by antigen-presenting cells and the stimulation of T lymphocytic responses that promote the killing of tumor cells²⁴. We propose that the most abundant *FPR1* SNPs may have been selected to enhance human survival from infectious diseases, including plague. The consequences of such selection may be the association of *FPR1* SNPs with human diseases, most importantly malignant neoplasms. Of note, the onset of cancer occurs predominantly late in life, and may therefore not exert positive selection on *FPR1*.

METHODS

Ethics statement.

The University of Chicago's Institutional Review Board (IRB) reviewed, approved, and supervised the protocols used for all experiments utilizing blood from human volunteers and informed consent forms were obtained from all participants. Animal research was performed in accordance with institutional guidelines following experimental protocol review, approval, and supervision by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at The University of Chicago. Experiments with *Y. pestis* were performed in biosafety level 3 (BSL3)/animal BSL3 (ABSL3) containment at the Howard Taylor Ricketts Regional Biocontainment

Laboratory. The University of Chicago Select Agent Program is approved and routinely inspected by both Institutional Biosafety Committee and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) officials. Based on information provided to the CDC Select Agent Program and the APHIS Agriculture Select Agent Program, the University of Chicago is authorized to possess, use and transfer select agents and toxins under the conditions specified in the University of Chicago registration application, in accordance with 42 CFR part 73, 9 CFR part 121 and 7 CFR part 331.

Biosafety and Dual Use Research of Concern.

This manuscript describes experiments with *Y. pestis* AM18 (*pgm*, *yfeAB*), a non-virulent variant of the plague vaccine strain *Y. pestis* EV76 (*pgm*), which was genetically modified to express the *yopE-dtx* hybrid (a fusion between full length *yopE* and the coding sequence for the mature domain of diphtheria toxin), generating *Y. pestis* POO1 (*pgm*, *yfeAB*, *yopE-dtx*). To construct *Y. pestis* POO1, the investigators (O.S. and D.M.) submitted a proposal that was reviewed by The University of Chicago's Institutional Biosafety Committee DURC Task Force (DTF) for the possibility of generating a strain with enhanced virulence. As mandated by DTF, the investigators analyzed the virulence attributes of strains *Y. pestis* EV76, *Y. pestis* AM18 and *Y. pestis* POO1 in a mouse model of bubonic plague infection. The data demonstrated that *Y. pestis* POO1 is avirulent in the mouse model of plague infection, whereas *Y. pestis* EV76 exhibits residual virulence, which is known to be required for eliciting a protective immune response against plague^{50,51}. The analysis was reviewed by The University of Chicago's DTF. DTF agreed with the investigators' assessment that the findings presented in this proposal do not present DURC potential in that the *yopE-dtx* allele attenuates *Y. pestis* virulence. The DURC analysis allowed the investigators to use *Y. pestis* POO1 for CRISPR-Cas9 screening to isolate mutations in cell lines that confer resistance to *Y. pestis* T3SS effector translocation.

Bacterial strains and media.

Y. pestis KIM D27, an attenuated variant of the *Y. pestis* Mediaevalis strain KIM lacking the 102-kb *pgm* locus⁵², AM18, a *yfeAB* variant of *Y. pestis* EV76¹⁵, the corresponding *IcrV* mutant strains KLD29⁵³ and AM46, (constructed in KIM D27 and AM18 backgrounds, respectively)¹⁵, and strains KIM8 and KIM8 1234³⁰ were propagated on Heart Infusion Agar (HIA) plates at 26°C for two days. Overnight cultures were grown in Heart Infusion Broth (HIB) or thoroughly modified Higuchi's (TMH) medium at 26°C^{15,54}. Antibiotics were added as appropriate to a final concentration of 20 µg/ml chloramphenicol, 50 µg/ml kanamycin or 50 µg/ml ampicillin. *Y. pestis* CO92, a fully virulent isolate of the biovar Orientalis, was propagated on HIA plates supplemented with 0.2% galactose and 0.01% Congo Red at 26°C for two days⁵⁵. Overnight cultures were grown in HIB at 26°C. *Escherichia coli* DH5α was propagated on Luria-Bertani (LB) agar plates at 37°C for 18–24 hours⁵⁶. Overnight cultures were grown in Luria-Bertani (LB) broth at 37°C. Antibiotics were added as appropriate to a final concentration of 20 µg/ml chloramphenicol or 100 µg/ml ampicillin. *Y. pseudotuberculosis* YPIII (PB1+) was propagated on LB or Tryptic Soy agar (TSA) plates at 26°C for 2 days, overnight cultures were grown in LB or Tryptic Soy broth (TSB) at 26°C⁵⁷. Chloramphenicol was added as required to a final concentration of 20 µg/ml.

***Yersinia pestis* strains and plasmid construction.**

Construction of *Y. pestis* POO1 and POO2 was performed as follows. Upstream and downstream 1 kb flanking fragments of *yopE* were PCR amplified (5'-AAATCTAGAGGTAAACATTAATATTTGCCCGACAGGATGCTCTG-3' in combination with 5'-AAAGTCGACCATCAATGACAGTAATTTCTGCATCTGTTGCGCC-3' and 5'-AAAGTCGACTATGGATAAAAACAAGGGGATAGTGTTCCTCC-3' in combination with 5'-AAAGAGCTCCTCTGTTGAGCATTACACACTCCACAGTTGGG-3') using the pCD1 plasmid from *Y. pestis* AM18 as template. The fragments were digested with XbaI/SalI and SalI/SacI and cloned into XbaI/SacI digested pUC19 in a three-way ligation yielding pUC19::*yopE* (all restriction enzymes were from New England Biolabs, Ipswich, Massachusetts, USA). A DNA fragment containing the codons 33–225 of diphtheria toxin fragment A (*dtxA*) was amplified by PCR (5'-AAAGTCGACTCTAAATCTTTTGTGATGGAAAAC-3' and 5'-AAAGTCGACTGACACTGAGCTACCTACTGATCGCCTG-3') using chromosomal DNA from *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* NCTC13129⁵⁸. The PCR products encoding 579 base pairs of *dtxA* was digested with SalI and cloned into the corresponding site of pUC19::*yopE* yielding pUC19::*yopE-dtxA*. pUC19::*yopE-dtxA* was digested with SacI/XbaI and the resulting products sub-cloned into SacI/XbaI digested pCVD442 for allelic replacement. The resulting plasmid pCVD442::*yopE-dtxA* was electroporated into *Y. pestis* AM18 (to yield POO1) or AM46 (to yield POO2) and single-crossover events were selected by plating on HIA supplemented with 50 µg ml⁻¹ ampicillin. Resolution of replication-defective plasmid co-integrates of pCVD442 were achieved by plating on HIA supplemented with 5% sucrose as counter-selection for *sacB*⁵⁸. Ampicillin-sensitive and sucrose-resistant colonies were examined by PCR and DNA sequencing with 5'-AAATCTAGAGGTAAACATTAATATTTGCCCGACAGGATGCTCTG-3' and 5'-AAAGAGCTCCTCTGTTGAGCATTACACACTCCACAGTTGGG-3' to verify mutants. Plasmid transformation of *Y. pestis* KIM D27 and its variants with pEGFP (Clontech, Palo Alto, California, USA), in addition to the plasmids described above, was performed by electroporation at 25 µF, 100 Ω, 1.8 kV cm⁻¹. *Y. pseudotuberculosis* was transformed with pMM83 and pMM91 by electroporation at 25 µF, 200 Ω, 2.5 kV cm⁻¹. Plasmid encoding FPR1 (*FPR1* sgRNA resistant allele), which expresses human *FPR1* from the SRα promoter¹⁸ was obtained from Addgene (plasmid #62600). The FPR1 insert is encoded in the pBGS vector backbone¹⁸. pFPR1_{STREP}, which carries a Strep-tag II (residues WSHPQFEK) appended to the C-terminal end of FPR1, and pFPR1 R190W were constructed by inverse PCR, as described in QuikChange® II Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit. Briefly, PCR was performed using pFPR1 as template and two oligonucleotide primers (5'-TGGAGTTACAGGCAAAGAGGAGCCACCCGAGTTCGAGAAATAATAGAATTC-3' and 5'-GGGCTGCAGGAATCTATTTTCTCGAACTGCGGGTGGCTCCTCTTTGCCTG-3' for pFPR1_{STREP} and 5'-GGACCAACGACCCTAAAGAGTGGATAAATGTGGCCG-3' and 5'-CATGGCAACGGCCACATTTATCCACTCTTTAGGGTCG-3' for pFPR1 R190W) using *PfuUltra* HF DNA polymerase (Agilent, Santa Clara, California, USA). The PCR products were treated with DpnI endonuclease for 1 hour to digest the parental DNA template and subsequently transformed into *E. coli* DH5α super-competent cells. Clones were screened using the primer pair 5'-CAGCTGGTGAACAGTCCAGGAGCAGACAAG ATGGAG-3'

and 5'-CCCCGGGCTGCAGGAATTCTATTACTTTGCCTGTA-3'. The plasmids were transfected into U937 *FPR1*^{-/-} cells as described below. Human-codon-optimized sequences encoding *mFPR1*, *mFPR2* and *mFPR3* were synthesized by Integrated DNA Technologies (Skokie, Illinois) and amplified in *E. coli* DH5α. The genes were excised with EcoRI (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, Massachusetts, USA) and ligated into the parent vector pBGSA. Clones were screened for directionality using the following primer pairs: 5'-CAGGACGCAGATACAGCGGTC-3' in combination with 5'-CAGCTGGTGAACAGTCCAGGAGCAGACAAGATGGAG-3' (*mFPR1*, 2 and 3), or 5'-CCCCGGGCTGCAGGAATTCTATTACTTTGCCTGTA-3' combination with 5'-GAAGGTGGCCGTTACCATGTTGAC-3', 5'-GAAGCTGAATACCGCCATCACCTTCG-3', or 5'-CTGAATACCGCCATCACCTTCGTG-3' (*mFPR1*, 2 and 3, respectively). The plasmids were transfected into U937 *FPR1*^{-/-} cells as described below.

Antibodies and reagents.

The following monoclonal antibodies, sourced from R&D Systems (Minneapolis, Minnesota), were used to investigate inhibition of *Y. pestis* type III injection of human neutrophils, as described below: Siglec-9, LTB4, CD321, CD282, CD182, CD181, CD162, CD147, CD120b, CD120a, CDw119, CD114, CD89, CD88, CD87, CD66b, CD66, CD62L, CD63, CD58, CD55, CD54, CD50, CD49b, CD47, CD46, CD45, CD44, CD43, CD35, CD32, CD31, CD29, CD18, CD16, CD15, CD14, CD13, CD11b, CD11c, CD11a, CD10, CD9 and CD195. The rabbit polyclonal antibodies targeting FPR1 and FPR2 were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific, while the rabbit polyclonal antibody to FPR3 was purchased from Abcam (Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA). Mouse monoclonal antibodies against FPR1 and CCR1 were sourced from R&D Systems. The rabbit polyclonal to β-actin was purchased from Abcam. The mouse monoclonal anti-*Y. pestis* F1 antigen antibody was purchased from Abcam. Polyclonal anti-sera from rabbits were previously raised against LcrV and YopE⁵⁹. Goat anti-rabbit IgG HRP-conjugated secondary antibodies were purchased from Cell Signaling Technology (Danvers, Massachusetts) or Abcam. Horse anti-mouse IgG HRP-conjugated secondary antibody was purchased from Cell Signaling Technology. Goat anti-mouse Alexa Fluor488-conjugated secondary antibody and goat anti-Rabbit Alexa Fluor594-conjugated secondary antibody were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific. The peptide *N*-formyl-methionine-leucine-phenylalanine (fMLF), mouse KC (CXCL1) and *Tolyplocadium inflatum* cyclosporin H were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, Missouri). The annexin A1 peptide (residues 1–25) was sourced from VWR Scientific (Radnor, Pennsylvania) and Leukotriene B4 from Cayman Chemical Company (Ann Arbor, Michigan).

Cell culture.

Human U937 histiocytic leukemia cells were propagated in Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium (RPMI) 1640 (Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS, Sigma Aldrich or Gemini Bio-Products, CA)⁶⁰. Human HL-60 acute promyelocytic leukemia cells were propagated in Iscove's Modified Dulbecco's Medium (IMDM, Gibco) supplemented with 25 mM HEPES, L-Glutamine and 20% FCS⁶¹. The human HEK293T embryonic kidney cells were propagated in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM, Gibco)

supplemented with 10% FCS. For transiently transfected cell lines, plasmids were maintained by the addition of 200 µg/ml G-418 (Invitrogen) to the media. U937 cells were differentiated into macrophages with 10 nM phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate (PMA, Sigma Aldrich) in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS for 48 hours and into monocytes with 1 mM N6,2'-O-dibutyryladenine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate (Sigma Aldrich) in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS for 48 hours, replacing the medium every 24 hours. HL-60 cells were differentiated into neutrophils in IMDM containing 20% FCS, supplemented with 0.8% DMSO for 5–7 days.

Lentiviral production and isolation.

Lentivirus for transduction of U937 cells were produced by transfection of HEK293T cells. One hour prior to transfection, 80–90% confluent HEK293T cell cultures were washed with PBS (Corning Cellgro) and placed under 13 ml of reduced serum Opti-MEM media (Life Technologies) per T225 flask used. For each flask, 200 µl of Lipofectamine 2000+ reagent (Life Technologies) was diluted in 7.5 ml Opti-MEM and incubated for 5 minutes at room temperature. Separately, 10 µg of each lentiviral CRISPR vector (LentiCRISPRv2) and 50 µg of ViraPower lentiviral packaging mix (Invitrogen) was suspended in 7.5 ml of Opti-MEM media per flask. The following LentiCRISPRv2 plasmids were sourced from Genscript; for inactivation of *FPR1* pLentiCRISPRv2::FPR1guideRNA#1 and pLentiCRISPRv2::FPR1guideRNA#2 were used, while pLentiCRISPRv2::CCR5guideRNA#1 and pLentiCRISPRv2::CCR5guideRNA#2 were used for inactivation of *CCR5*. Alternatively, 20 µg of the pooled human GeCKO v2.0 library, obtained from Addgene (Feng Zhang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA)⁶² was used in place of the individual LentiCRISPRv2 plasmids. The solutions were then mixed and incubated at room temperature for 20 minutes. The lipofectamine-DNA complex solution was added to the HEK293T cells, which were incubated overnight at 37°C, 5% CO₂. The media was then replaced with RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS, without antibiotics. Lentivirus containing supernatants were removed 72 hours post-transfection and debris removed by centrifugation at 2000 ×g, 15 minutes, 4°C. Viruses were concentrated by ultra-centrifugation at 45,700 ×g, 2 hours, 4°C, filtered through a 0.45 µm PVDF filter (Millex) and stored at –80°C. Lentivirus concentration was determined by titration against U937 cells prior to use, infecting 1×10⁶ cells with 0 to 100 µl of lentiviral stocks, as described below.

Cell transduction using the GeCKO library.

The human CRISPR-Cas9 v2 library was a gift from Feng Zhang and obtained via Addgene (Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; Catalogue Number 1000000048)⁶². U937 cells were transduced with the GeCKO library via spinfection. To find optimal virus volumes for achieving a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 0.3–0.5, each cell type and new virus batch was tested by spinfecting 3×10⁶ cells with a dilution series of the lentivirus. Briefly, 3×10⁶ cells per well were plated into a 12-well plate in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS, supplemented with 8 µg/ml polybrene (Sigma Aldrich). Each well received a different titrated virus amount, between 0 to 50 µl. The 12-well plate was centrifuged at 1,500 ×g for 2 hours at 37°C. Cell pellets were suspended in fresh RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS incubated for 48 hours at 37°C under 5% CO₂. Cells were centrifuged, counted, and samples

split in two wells with one well containing 2.5 µg/ml puromycin (Gibco). After 3 days, cells were counted, and the transduction efficiency was calculated as cell count from wells containing puromycin divided by cell count from wells without puromycin, and multiplied by 100.

Genomic DNA sequencing.

U937 cells were transduced at MOI of 0.3–0.5 with the GeCKO lentiviral library. Transduced U937 cells were infected with *Y. pestis* POO1 or POO2 for 12 hours at MOI of 100. Following infection, resistant cells were cultured in the presence of 2.5 µg/ml puromycin until reaching approximately 70% confluence and then reseeded and re-infected. Following incubation for 12 hours, the resistant cells were cultured in the presence of 2.5 µg/ml puromycin. Genomic DNA was extracted with a Blood & Cell Culture Midi kit (Qiagen) and used to prepare a sgRNA library with a two-step PCR protocol⁶². The first PCR was used to amplify the sgRNA containing cassette. Amplified products were subjected to a second PCR with a primer pair encoding a unique 8-bp barcode required for multiplexing along with a stagger sequence to increase library complexity⁶². The resulting amplicons from the second PCR were gel extracted, quantified, mixed and sequenced using a HiSeq 2500 (Illumina). The raw sequencing data were processed and analyzed using customized CRISPR-Cas9 library screen pipelines. Briefly, sequencing reads were first demultiplexed by using the barcode in the reverse primer, and processed by Cutadapt to remove sequences from beginning to sgRNA priming site primers. Trimmed reads were used to map sgRNA sequences to pooled GeCKO v2 libraries A. Read counts of sgRNA for each sample were quantified by MAGeCK v5.6.0. Count data were filtered and normalized, and essential sgRNA and genes were ranked by MAGeCK. The data have been deposited in NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus⁶³ and are accessible through GEO Series accession number GSE133826 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE133826>).

Targeted CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis.

U937 cells were suspended in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS, supplemented with 8 µg/ml polybrene (Sigma Aldrich), to a density of 1×10^7 cells/ml. Cells were transduced with CRISPR Lentivirus, produced as described above, at MOI of 10 and the cell-virus mixture centrifuged at $680 \times g$ for 2 hours at room temperature. The supernatant containing virus was removed and the cells re-suspended in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS to a density of 1×10^7 cells/ml, seeded in 12 well tissue culture plates (Corning) and incubated at 37°C, 5% CO₂ for 3 days. The cells were sedimented by centrifugation ($200 \times g$, 5 minutes, room temperature), the media replaced with RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS supplemented with 2.5 µg/ml puromycin and the cells incubated at 37°C, 5% CO₂ for another 3 days. The cells were pooled, sedimented by centrifugation ($200 \times g$) for 5 minutes at room temperature, re-suspended in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS supplemented with 2.5 µg/ml puromycin and seeded into T225 flasks for expansion. Following expansion, the transduced cells were enumerated and diluted to approximately 5 cell/ml and 96 well plates seeded with 100 µl per well. Wells containing a single cell were identified by microscopy. DNA lesions in the sgRNA target region were identified by PCR as described below. Cell lines harboring deletions in the target gene were expanded in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS, without antibiotic supplementation, prior to use.

Isolation of murine bone marrow derived macrophages (BMDMs).

C57BL/6J, *mFpr1^{-/-}* and *mFpr-rs2^{-/-}* mice were euthanized by compressed CO₂ inhalation. The femur and tibia were removed and stored at 4°C in RPMI 1640 supplemented with penicillin/streptomycin (Gibco) for transportation, as needed. Femur and tibia were surface sterilized with 70% ethanol, washed with phosphate buffered saline (PBS, Sigma Aldrich), separated and ends removed to flush out the bone marrow with 2×10 ml of RPMI 1640 containing penicillin/streptomycin. The suspension was passed through a 40 µm nylon tissue culture strainer (BD) and the cells were sedimented by centrifugation (10 minutes, 200 ×g, room temperature). The supernatant was aspirated and the pellet washed with 10 ml of RPMI 1640 containing penicillin/streptomycin (10 minutes, 200 ×g, room temperature) and re-suspended in 10 ml RPMI 1640 without penicillin/streptomycin. The cells were enumerated using a hemocytometer and diluted with BMDM media (RPMI 1640 (Gibco), supplemented with 20% FCS, 10% filter sterilized supernatant from colony-stimulating-factor-transfected cells, 2 mM glutamine, 1 mM pyruvate and 0.55 mM β-mercaptoethanol) to a density of 3×10⁵ cells/ml. The cells were seeded in 150 mm bacteriological dishes and fed with an additional 30 ml of BMDM medium 3 days post-extraction. The growth medium was replaced 6 days post-extraction. Any non-adherent cells were sedimented by centrifugation (10 minutes, 200 ×g, room temperature), re-suspended in BMDM medium and seeded in new 150 mm bacteriological dishes. Bone marrow derived macrophages were used at day 7 to 9 post extraction.

Isolation of murine peritoneal granulocytes.

C57BL/6J, *mFpr1^{-/-}* and *mFpr-rs2^{-/-}* mice were hand restrained and 1 ml of Brewer thioglycollate medium (Sigma Aldrich) injected into the peritoneal cavity. The inflammatory response was allowed to develop for 3 hours before animals were euthanized by compressed CO₂ inhalation. The abdomen of each mouse was surface sterilized with 70% ethanol and the peritoneal wall exposed. 5 ml of sterile PBS (Corning Cellgro) containing 0.02% sodium ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (Na₂ EDTA) was injected into the peritoneal cavity and withdrawn. This step was repeated and the peritoneal fluids combined for each mouse. The pooled peritoneal fluids were centrifuged (10 minutes at 200 ×g, room temperature), and the peritoneal exudate washed three times with 10 ml PBS (10 minutes, 200 ×g, room temperature). The washed pellet was re-suspended in 1 ml PBS, enumerated and diluted to 3–5×10⁷ peritoneal exudate cells/ml. The cell suspension was mixed 1:9 (vol/vol) with Percoll gradient solution [1 volume 10 × PBS, pH 7.2 to 9 volumes sterile Percoll (Sigma Aldrich)] and separated by ultracentrifugation (20 minutes, 60,650 ×g, 4°C). The granulocyte containing layer was collected and washed with 10 ml PBS (5 minutes, 200 ×g, room temperature). The granulocytes were re-suspended in the appropriate medium and enumerated.

Isolation of human neutrophils.

Primary neutrophils from healthy human volunteers were isolated from Na₂ EDTA-anticoagulated venous blood samples. The blood was layered 1:1 (vol/vol) onto PolymorphPrep and separated by centrifugation (35 minutes, 500 ×g, 20°C). The neutrophil containing layer was removed, mixed 1:1 (vol/vol) with 50% HBSS/water, and centrifuged

(10 min, 350 ×g, room temperature). Sedimented neutrophils were washed with 10 ml Hank's Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS, Corning Cellgro) (10 min, 350 ×g, room temperature) and re-suspended in 5 ml of red blood cell lysis buffer (Roche). Neutrophils were sedimented by centrifugation (5 min, 250 ×g, room temperature) and washed with 10 ml HBSS (10 min, 350 ×g, room temperature). The neutrophils were suspended in 2 ml RPMI 1640 supplemented with 2% bovine serum albumin (BSA, Fisher Scientific). Neutrophil viability and purity were determined by Trypan blue (MP Biomedicals, LLC) exclusion and Wright/Giemsa staining, respectively.

Isolation of DNA for sequencing of *FPR1* and *CCR5*.

Genomic DNA was isolated from clonal transductant cells (following CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis) or from Na₂ EDTA-anticoagulated venous blood obtained from healthy human volunteers using the Wizard Genomic DNA Purification kit (Promega), according to the manufacturer's instructions. For CRISPR-Cas9 derived cells, primers 5'-CCTGGTAAAACGGGGACAGTAGC-3' and 5'-CTGTAACTCCACCTCTGCAGAAGG-3' were used to amplify the sgRNA target region of *FPR1* and primers 5'-CTGCTTGTCATGGTCATCTGCTAC-3' and 5'-CTTAGACCCTCTATAACAGTAACTTCC-3' were used for *CCR5*. The entire coding region of both *FPR1* and *CCR5* was then amplified from candidate mutant cell lines, or genomic DNA donor using primer pairs 5'-GATCAAGCTTGAGCAGACAAGATGGAGACAAATTC-3' and 5'-GATCGAATTCCTCAAGGTGAGACGAAGCTGG-3' and 5'-GATCAAGCTTGCACAGGGTGAACAAGATGG-3' and 5'-GATCGAGCTCGCACAACCTGACTGGGTCAC-3', respectively. PCR products digested with HindIII/EcoRI (*FPR1*) or HindIII/SacI (*CCR5*) were cloned into pUC19. Plasmids were transformed into *E. coli* DH5α and clonal isolates of pUC19::*FPR1* and pUC19::*CCR5* Sanger sequenced by the University of Chicago Cancer Sequencing Center, using the primers described above as well as the plasmid targeting primers 5'-GTAAAACGACGGCCAGT-3' and 5'-CACACAGGAAACAGCTATGACCAT-3'. A minimum of four reads per sequence were used for alignment and SNP analysis, performed using Geneious 6.0.6 (Biomatters Ltd).

Type III injection assay.

Overnight *Y. pestis* cultures were diluted 1:20 into fresh HIB supplemented with 20 µg/ml chloramphenicol, incubated for 1.5 hours at 26°C and then incubated for 1.5 hours at 37°C. Target cells were suspended at a density of 1×10⁶ cell/ml in 500 µl of RPMI 1640 containing 2% BSA and 50% mouse plasma in RPMI when indicated. Cells (U937 cells, mouse BMDM and neutrophils, and human neutrophils) were pre-incubated with fMLF, FPR1 inhibitors, antibodies or LcrV_{S228} for 30 minutes at 37°C, 5% CO₂ prior to infection, if required. The target cells were infected at MOI of 10 in a final volume of 600 µl, at 37°C, 5% CO₂. Infection with *Y. pestis* KIMD27 YopM-Bla (pMM83) and, as a negative control, *Y. pestis* KLD29 (*lcrV*) YopM-Bla (pMM83) was allowed to proceed for 3 hours. Alternatively, infection with *Y. pseudotuberculosis* YPIII (PB1+) YopM-Bla (pMM83), with *Y. pseudotuberculosis* YPIII (PB1+) GST-Bla (pMM91) serving as the negative control, was allowed to proceed for 1 hour. Cells were sedimented by centrifugation (3 minutes, 1,500

$\times g$, room temperature) and re-suspended in 100 μ l of RPMI 1640 containing 2% BSA, with 50 μ g/ml kanamycin to abrogate *Yersinia* growth and type III injection. The cells were stained with $1 \times$ CCF2-AM (Invitrogen) for 1 hour in the dark at room temperature. Cells were collected by centrifugation (3 minutes, 1,500 $\times g$, room temperature), washed with 500 μ L of HBSS (Corning Cellgro) (3 minutes, 1,500 $\times g$, room temperature), and re-suspended in 500 μ l HBSS Flow (HBSS supplemented with 0.5 mM EDTA, 25 mM HEPES and 2% bovine serum albumin, pH 7.4). To discriminate between live and dead cells, propidium iodide was added to each sample at a final concentration of 0.5 μ g/ml immediately prior to flow cytometry analysis. A BD FACSCanto flow cytometer was used to analyze at least 10,000 cells per sample, and data were analyzed using FlowJo v10.0.7 (FlowJo, LLC, USA) and FACSDiva (BD Biosciences, San Jose, California, USA). Samples were first gated with the forward and side scatter for the population of singlet cells and subsequently gated for live cells by negative PI selection. PI-negative cells were analyzed for blue fluorescence indicative of type III injection of YopM-Bla.

Trans-well migration assay.

HL-60 cells were seeded at a density of 2×10^5 cell/ml, 6 days prior to the assay and differentiated as described above. U937 cells were seeded at a density of 3×10^5 cell/ml, 2 days prior to the assay and differentiated into monocytes as described above. Human neutrophils and murine granulocytes were prepared as described above and used directly for the trans-well migration (chemotaxis) assay. The cells were sedimented by centrifugation (5 minutes, 200 $\times g$, room temperature). For chemotaxis towards fMLF, the cells were re-suspended in 1 ml HBSS with calcium, magnesium and glucose (Gibco) and 1% BSA; HBSS without calcium and magnesium (Corning Cellgro) was used for U937 derived monocytes. For chemotaxis towards *Y. pestis*, the cells were re-suspended in the same medium as present in the bottom chamber, typically thoroughly modified Higuchi's (TMH) medium. The cells were counted using a hemocytometer and adjusted to 2×10^6 cell/ml; where required the cells were pre-incubated with LcrV_{S228} for 30 minutes at 37°C, 5% CO₂ prior to setting up the trans-well plates. Trans-well plates with polycarbonate inserts of a 5 μ m pore size (Corning Costar) were used. Appropriate medium (600 μ l) was placed in the lower wells, containing the chemoattractant fMLF (Sigma Aldrich) at a concentration of 1 nM for HL-60 cells and primary neutrophils and 10 nM for U937 monocytes. The chemoattractants LTB4 and KC (CXCL1) were used at 10 nM and 100 ng ml⁻¹, respectively. To measure chemotaxis towards *Y. pestis*, 2×10^7 CFUs of KIMD27 or its derivatives were re-suspended in 600 μ l HBSS containing 1% BSA and placed in the bottom chamber. 100 μ l of the cell suspension was added to the top chamber and the trans-well plates incubated for 2 hours at 37°C, 5% CO₂. Following migration, the media and un-translocated cells were aspirated from the top well and discarded. The trans-well inserts were treated with trypsin at 37°C, 5% CO₂ for 5 minutes and then discarded. The medium from the lower chamber was combined with the trypsin and the translocated cells recovered by centrifugation (5 minutes, 200 $\times g$, room temperature). The cells were suspended in HBSS containing 0.04% Trypan blue (MP Biomedicals, LLC) and enumerated using a hemocytometer.

Cell adhesion assay.

For adhesion assays, 2×10^5 U937 cells were seeded into 24-well plates and differentiated into macrophages for 48 hours with 100 ng/ml of PMA in RPMI containing 10% FCS. Fresh medium was added without PMA and the cells allowed to rest for 24 hours. U937 cells were infected for 2 hours at a MOI of 10 with *Y. pestis*. Un-inoculated medium was used for mock infection. Supernatants were collected without disturbing the cells, followed by serial dilution and plating of bacteria on HIA. The adherent cells were washed with PBS and lysed with 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS for 30 min. The cells were serially diluted and plated on HIA and incubated at 26°C for 48 hours. Bacteria attached to the cells were counted and calculated as a percentage of inoculum.

Immunofluorescence microscopy.

U937 cells were seeded in 12-well plates on 18-mm glass coverslips. Cells were fixed with 10% formalin for 20 minutes at room temperature, washed with $1 \times$ PBS three times and permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS for 30 minutes. For human peripheral neutrophils, 18-mm glass coverslips were coated with 50 μ l fresh human serum for 1 hour at 37°C. One ml of neutrophils (1×10^6 cells) was placed on coated coverslips and incubated for 1 hour at 37°C. The neutrophils were stimulated with 200 nM PMA for 30 minutes, washed with PBS, fixed with 10% formalin for 30 minutes and permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS for 30 minutes. Cells were blocked in 5% goat serum in PBS (blocking buffer) for 1 hour, followed by overnight incubation with primary antibodies (as described above) at 4°C. Next, the cells were washed three times with PBS followed by incubation with fluorescently labeled secondary antibody for 1 hour at room temperature. Cells were counterstained with Alexa 488 and DAPI (4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole). For extracellular binding of Alexa 488-tagged FPR1, cells were not permeabilized; for intracellular binding, cells were permeabilized and stained as described above.

FPR1_{STREP} affinity purification.

U937 and U937 *FPR1*^{-/-}(pFPR1_{STREP}) cells (10×10^6) grown in 100 mL RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS were centrifuged, washed in PBS and suspended in 100 mL serum free RPMI. Each sample was split into two flasks (5×10^6 cells) and one aliquot infected with 5×10^7 *Y. pestis* KIM D27 for 2 hours at 37°C (MOI 10), while the other aliquot was left uninfected. *Y. pestis* KIM D27 was pre-grown in HIB for 1.5 hours at 37°C. Both samples were sedimented by centrifugation at $300 \times g$ for 5 minutes at 25°C. Permeabilization buffer with Halt Protease Inhibitor Cocktail was added to the cell pellets, vortexed briefly and incubated 10 minutes at 25°C. A 50% slurry StrepTactin sepharose (100 μ l) was added to fresh tubes, centrifuged at $3,000 \times g$ for 1 minute and washed with permeabilization buffer. Permeabilized cells were centrifuged for 15 minutes at $16,000 \times g$ and 0.7 ml supernatant containing proteins was transferred to a new tube. Protein samples from U937 and U937 *FPR1*^{-/-}(pFPR1_{STREP}) were added to the washed Strep-Tactin sepharose and rotated for 30 minutes at 25°C. Samples were centrifuged for 1 minute at $3,000 \times g$. The supernatant was transferred to a fresh tube and sample loading buffer added to the beads. Samples were vortexed and heated to 90°C and analyzed by 15% SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting for FPR1, Actin, LcrV, YopD and RpoA.

LDH release assay/cell killing assay.

LDH release was measured using a Pierce LDH Cytotoxicity Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific), according to the manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, U937 cells were infected with *Y. pestis* POO1 or POO2 at MOI of 10 for 4 hours in a 96-well plate. At the end of incubation, the plate was centrifuged at 250 $\times g$ for 3 minutes and 50 μ l of each supernatant was transferred to a 96-well flat bottom plate in triplicate wells. Reaction Mixture (50 μ l) was added to each sample well and mixed by gentle tapping. The plate was incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes protected from light. Stop Solution (50 μ l) was added to each sample well and mixed by gentle tapping and the absorbance measured at 490 nm and 680 nm. The 680 nm absorbance values were subtracted from the 490 nm absorbance value to determine LDH activity.

Trypan blue exclusion assay.

The Trypan blue exclusion assay was used to measure killing of U937 cells and murine BMDMs. Briefly, cells were suspended at a density of 5×10^5 cell/ml in 1 ml of RPMI 1640 supplemented with 2% BSA. The target cells were infected at MOI of 10 by the addition of *Y. pestis* KIMD27, KLD29 (*IcrV*) or POO1 (*yopE-DTA*) in 10 μ l PBS (Corning Cellgro) and incubated at 37°C, 5% CO₂ for 4 or 18 hours. At the conclusion of the infection, Trypan blue solution was added to a final concentration of 0.04% and the number of live and dead cells counted using a hemocytometer. The number of live cells was calculated as a percentage of the total number of live (Trypan blue negative) and dead (Trypan blue positive) cells per grid square. Three biological repeats were performed per assay, with each replicate being counted in technical triplicate.

U937 cell lysis.

FPR1 containing extracts were prepared from U937 cells and their derivatives using the M-PER plus membrane protein extraction reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific), according to manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, 1×10^8 cells were washed with PBS by centrifugation (5 minutes, 300 $\times g$, room temperature). The cell pellet was lysed using 2 ml of permeabilization buffer, supplemented with 1 \times HALT protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktail (Thermo Fisher Scientific), for 10 minutes at 4°C. Insoluble material was removed by centrifugation (15 minutes, 16,000 $\times g$, 4°C). The supernatant was removed, mixed 1:1 (vol/vol) with 2 \times loading buffer and boiled at 90°C prior to separation by SDS-PAGE and visualization of proteins by immuno-blotting.

Animal breeding.

C57BL/6J, *mFpr1*^{-/-} and *mFpr2*^{-/-} mice were sourced from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (28) and bred in a barrier facility at the University of Chicago. All *mFpr1*^{-/-} and *mFpr2*^{-/-} mice were genotyped by PCR prior to use. DNA was extracted from tissue samples taken by ear punch, using the Hot-SHOT DNA extraction method. Briefly, tissue samples were placed under 100 μ l of alkaline lysis reagent (25 mM sodium hydroxide, 0.2 mM sodium EDTA) and boiled at 90°C for 30 minutes. The samples were neutralized with 100 μ l of 40 mM Tris-HCl, the tissue sedimented by centrifugation (3 minutes, 1,500 $\times g$, room temperature) and the DNA containing supernatant removed. One μ l of the DNA extract

was used as a template for PCR, using KOD polymerase (Novagen) and primers 5'-CTGATGATTTCCTCTGACAGTGAGC-3' and 5'-GCAACGGGCTCGTGATCTGG-3' to amplify *mFpr1* and 5'-CGGGGTGTGTAGTGTGACTTTTC-3' and 5'-CCTGACAAATGCTATGATTATAGGCATG-3' to amplify *mFpr2*. PCR products were analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis, in comparison to products generated from wild-type C57BL/6J mouse tissue.

Bubonic plague mouse model.

For bubonic plague challenge, *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice (n = 20, 6- to 8-week old, 10 males and 10 females) were compared to age and sex matched C57BL/6J mice. All mice were infected by subcutaneous injection in the left inguinal fold with *Y. pestis* strain CO92 in 100 µl of PBS, at a dose of 600 CFU. Animals were monitored every 12 hours, increasing to every 6 hours following the onset of severe disease; deaths were recorded. When animals were deemed moribund (laterally recumbent and lethargic with rapid respiration) they were euthanized by compressed CO₂ inhalation. After 14 days post-infection, *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice that survived the initial challenge were euthanized. Cardiac puncture was performed to obtain sera for analysis of IgG antibody titers. For all animals the draining lymph nodes, liver and spleen were removed during necropsy, a section was taken for histopathological analysis and the remainder analyzed for bacterial load by CFU enumeration. Antibody titers were determined by ELISA as previously described⁶⁴. All experiments were performed in BSL3 and ABSL3 laboratories at the Howard Taylor Ricketts Laboratory. Samples for histopathology were fixed in Formalin (Fisher Scientific) and hematoxylin and eosin stained slides were prepared by the Human Tissue Resource Center, University of Chicago.

Neutrophil infiltration.

To measure neutrophil infiltration, 20 *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice (4 groups, n = 5 per group, 6- to 8-week old, 5 males and 5 females, 2 experimental replicates) were compared to age and sex matched C57BL/6J mice. All mice were anaesthetized by intra-peritoneal injection with ketamine/xylazine (100 mg kg⁻¹ and 5 mg kg⁻¹, respectively), shaved and infected by injection into the dermis of the left inguinal region with *Y. pestis* strain CO92 in 50 µl of PBS, at a dose of 1000 CFU. Four hours post-challenge, all animals were euthanized by compressed CO₂ inhalation. The dermis surrounding the injection site was removed during necropsy and fixed in Formalin (Fisher Scientific) for histopathological analysis. Consecutive thin section slides were stained with hematoxylin and eosin, or stained by immunohistochemistry using the neutrophil specific marker anti-Ly6G (1A8). Slides were prepared by the Human Tissue Resource Center, University of Chicago and analyzed by a blinded investigator who assigned each thin-sectioned tissue sample one of four pathology scores: 0 = no neutrophil influx, 1 = local infiltration, 2 = moderate local infiltration and 3 = widespread infiltration (Extended Data Figure 8). Datasets were analyzed for statistical significant differences in neutrophil influx between plague infected wild-type and *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice.

Murine plasma preparation.

Whole blood was collected by cardiac puncture of CD-1 mice (Charles River Laboratories) and immediately anti-coagulated with 10 µg ml⁻¹ desirudin (Marathon Pharmaceuticals).

Plasma was generated by centrifugation of desirudin-treated blood at $1,000 \times g$ for 5 minutes at 4°C for removal of blood cells, followed by a second centrifugation at $10,000 \times g$ for 3 minutes at 4°C . Heat inactivation was achieved by incubating plasma at 56°C for 30 minutes.

LcrV_{S228} purification.

Recombinant LcrV_{S228} was purified from a 2-liter culture of *E. coli* DH5 α carrying plasmid pKG48²⁸. The culture was grown in LB broth to mid-exponential phase ($\text{OD}_{600} \sim 0.6$) prior to addition of 1 mM isopropyl- β -D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG, Fisher Scientific). The culture was incubated at 37°C for another 4 hours and the bacteria sedimented by centrifugation (10 minutes, $5,000 \times g$, 4°C). The cell pellet was washed with PBS (10 minutes, $5,000 \times g$, 4°C) and re-suspended in 20 ml of Buffer A (0.1 M Tris (pH 8.0), 0.15 M NaCl, 1 mM EDTA). The cells were lysed in a French pressure cell at 14,000 psi and insoluble material removed by ultra-centrifugation (2 hours, $40,000 \times g$, 4°C). The supernatant was subjected to chromatography over 1 ml of Strep-Tactin Sepharose resin (IBA BioTAGnology). The protein-bound resin was washed with 20 ml of STREP-purification buffer and the bound LcrV_{S228} eluted with 10×1 ml of STREP-purification buffer, supplemented with 5 mM desthiobiotin (IBA BioTAGnology). The elution fractions were analyzed by 15% SDS-PAGE and those containing LcrV_{S228} pooled. The protein concentration was determined by bicinchoninic acid (BCA) assay (Pierce, Thermo Fisher Scientific).

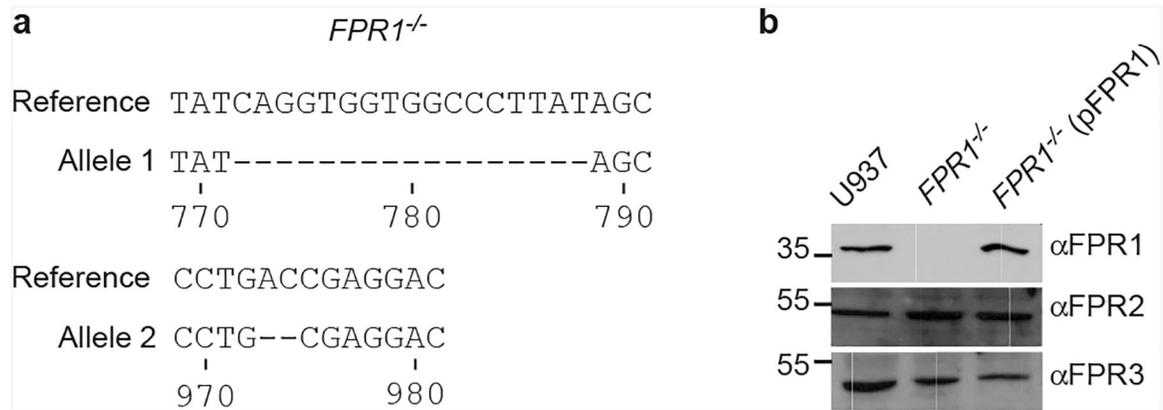
Statistical analyses.

All statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism, version 5.0 (GraphPad Software, Inc., La Jolla USA). Datasets featuring one group were analyzed by an un-paired Student's *t*-test or Mann Whitney test while a one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni's post-test or Kruskal-Wallis test was used for datasets containing more than one group. For Trypan blue exclusion, LDH release, cell adhesion, type III injection and trans-well migration assays, a minimum of 3 repeats were performed. In all cases, *p* is defined as follows: *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$.

Data availability statement.

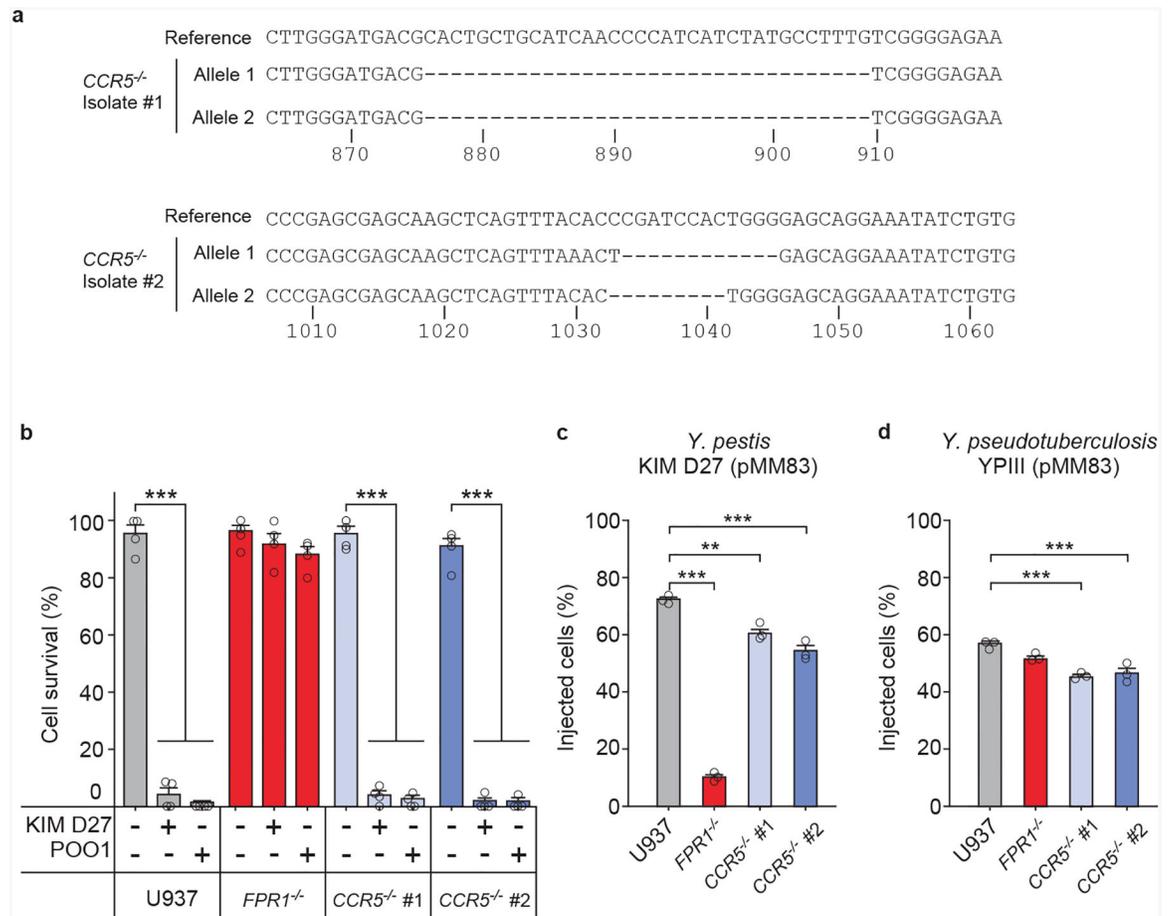
All data generated as part of this study are included in this article or its Extended Data and Supplementary Materials. Data for the CRISPR-Cas9 screen have been deposited in NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus and are accessible through GEO Series accession number GSE133826 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE133826>).

Extended Data



Extended Data Figure 1 |. Generation of *FPR1*^{-/-} U937 cells using CRISPR-Cas9 and genetic complementation.

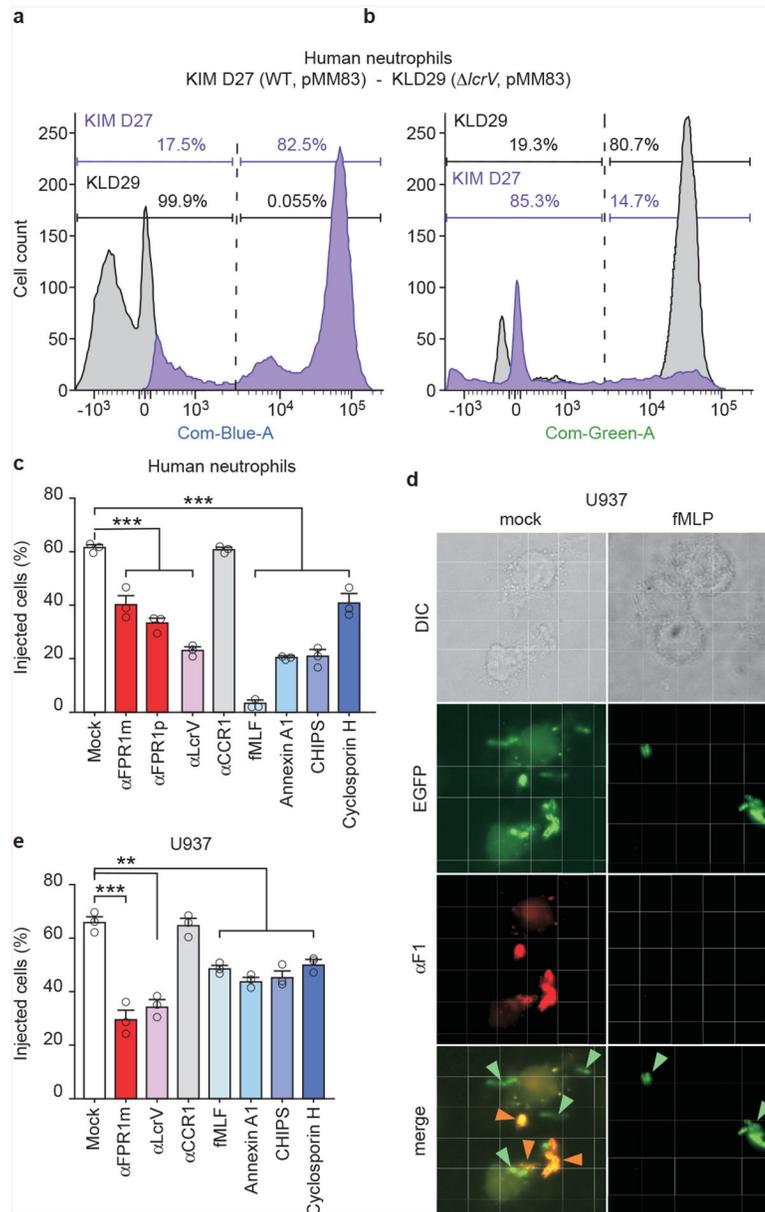
a, Sequencing results for alleles cloned from CRISPR-Cas9 derived *FPR1*^{-/-} U937 macrophages. **b**, Immunoblot analysis for the production of FPR1, FPR2 and FPR3 in U937 macrophages, CRISPR-Cas9 derived *FPR1*^{-/-} cells and *FPR1*^{-/-} cells transfected with pFPR1. Numbers to the left of blots indicate migration of molecular weight markers. One of three repeats is shown (**a**, **b**).



Extended Data Figure 2 | Contribution of CCR5 to *Yersinia* spp. intoxication and injection by the T3SS.

a, Sequencing results for the alleles of two CCR5^{-/-} U937 isolates obtained using CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis. **b**, Cell survival following incubation with strains *Y. pestis* KIM D27 and POO1 was measured using the Trypan blue exclusion assay; error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 4 biological replicates). T3SS injection into U937, FPR1^{-/-}, and CCR5^{-/-} by *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (**c**) and *Y. pseudotuberculosis* YPIII carrying pMM83 (YopM-Bla) (**d**); error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). One of three repeats is shown (**b-d**).

Statistical analysis was performed using one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction: ***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$.



Extended Data Figure 3 |. Antibodies and ligands of *N*-formylpeptide receptor (FPR1) inhibit *Y. pestis* type III secretion into human neutrophils.

Human neutrophils were stained with the β -lactamase substrate CCF2-AM, infected with wild-type *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (WT, pMM83) or KLD29 ($\Delta lcrV$, pMM83) variant defective for the type III secretion system (T3SS), and analyzed for (a) blue fluorescence (YopM-Bla translocation into neutrophils and CCF2-AM cleavage) or (b) green fluorescence to derive the percent of stained cells injected with T3SS effector. c, Inhibition of *Y. pestis* T3SS into human neutrophils by monoclonal (α FPR1m) and polyclonal antibodies against FPR1 (α FPR1p), bacterial LcrV, N-formylpeptide (fMLF), annexin A1 peptide, staphylococcal CHIPS and cyclosporin H. d, Differential interference contrast (DIC) and fluorescence microscopy of mock or fMLF treated differentiated U937 cells infected with green-fluorescent *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pEGFP) and stained with F1-specific antibody (red) to

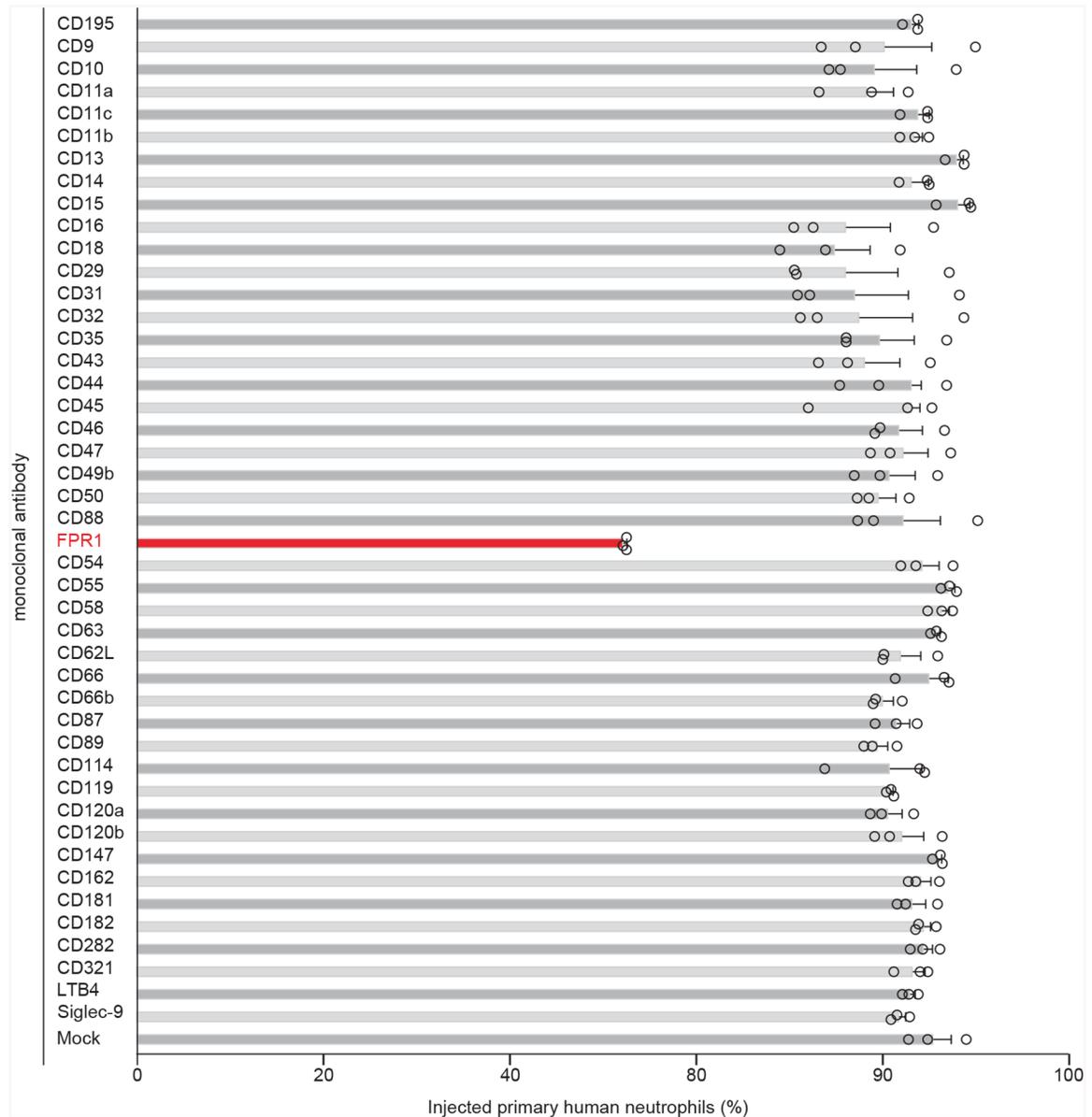
reveal extracellular bacteria in merged images of mock, but not in merged images of fMLF-treated cells. Orange and green arrows point to extra- and intracellular bacteria, respectively. **e**, Antibodies and ligands of FPR1 inhibit *Y. pestis* T3SS of YopM-Bla into U937 macrophages. One of three repeats is shown (**a-e**). Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates) (**c**, **e**). One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction was used to identify significant differences (**c**, **e**): ***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$.

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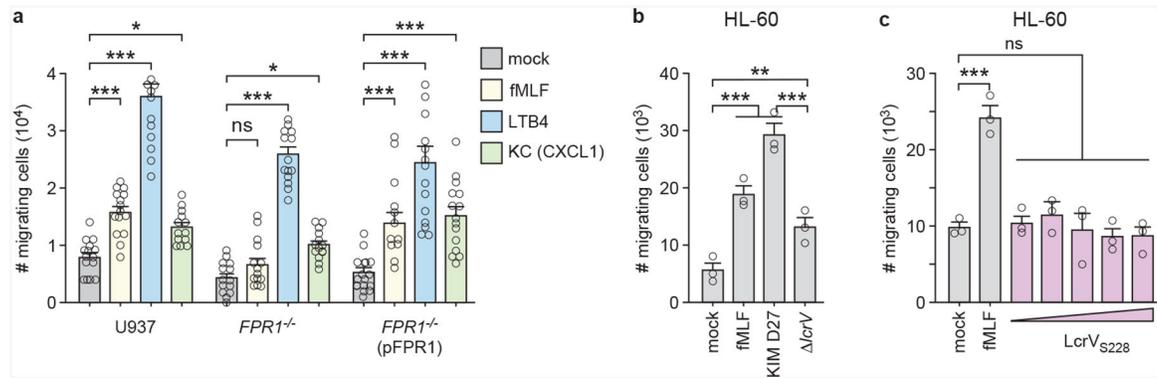
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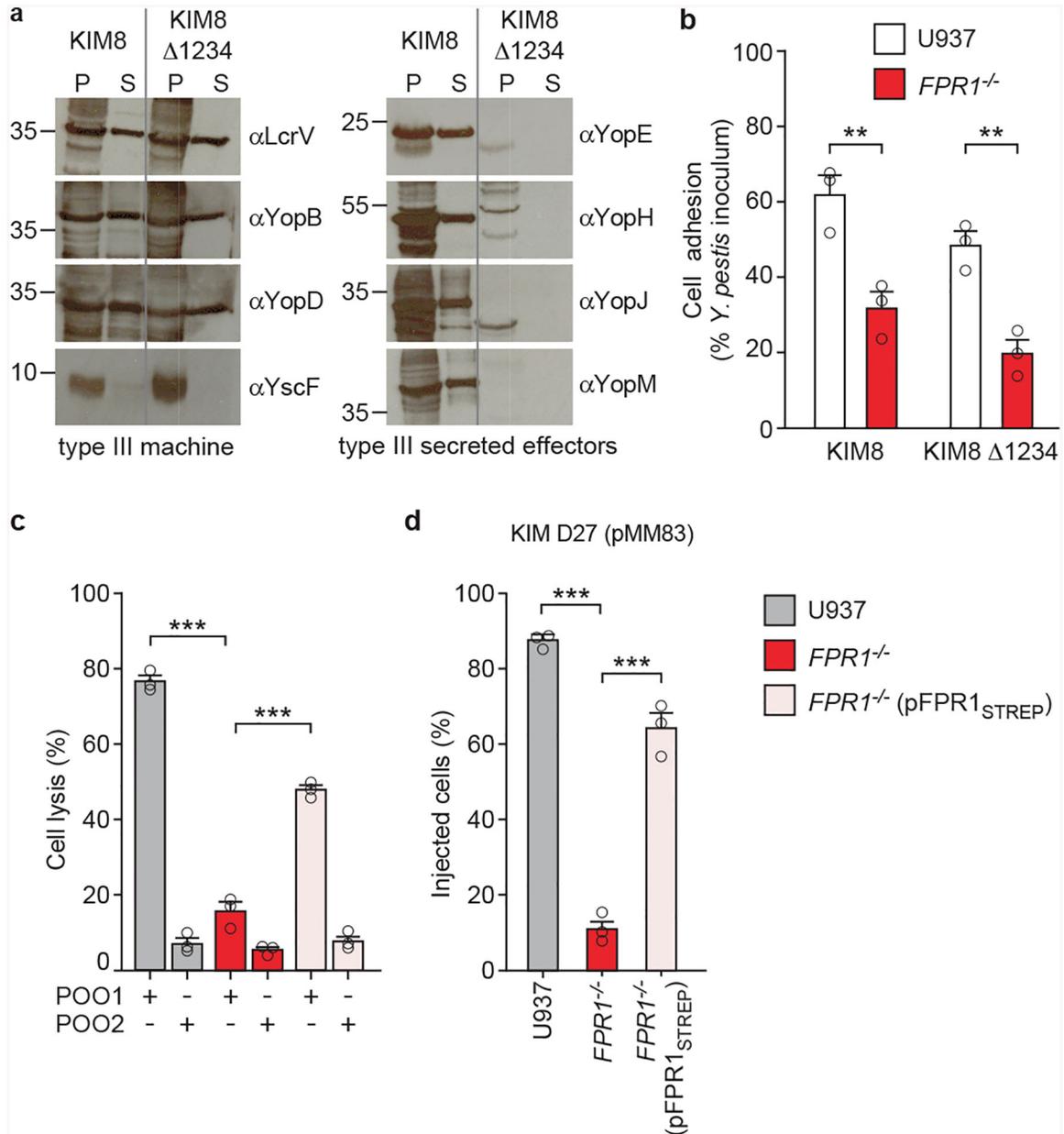
Extended Data Figure 4 |. Screening 45 monoclonal antibodies for inhibition of *Y. pestis* T3SS into human neutrophils.

Human neutrophils were stained with the β -lactamase substrate CCF2-AM (green fluorescence), and infected with wild-type *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83). Translocation of YopM-B1a into neutrophils results in CCF2-AM cleavage (blue fluorescence) allowing for quantification of percent of stained cells injected with T3SS effector in the absence (Mock) or presence of specific monoclonal antibody. Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). A representative of three independent experiments is shown.



Extended Data Figure 5 | $FPR1^{-/-}$ cells migrate towards chemoattractants other than formylated peptides and differentiated HL-60 cells migrate towards *Y. pestis*.

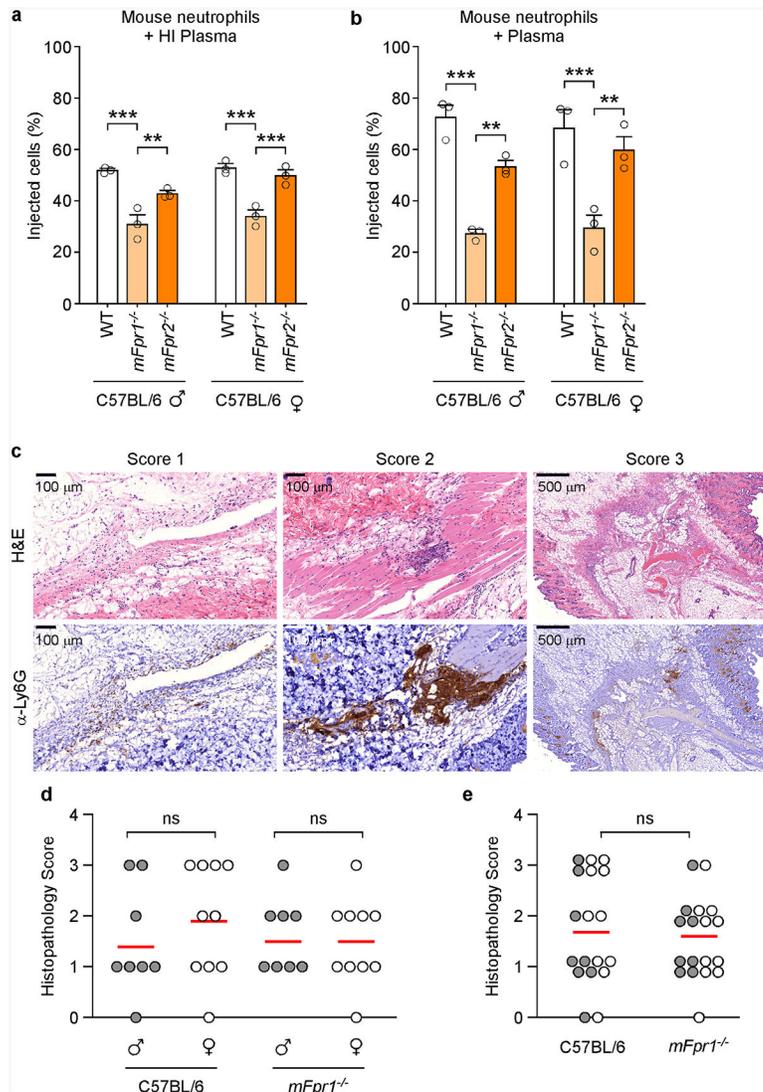
a, Numbers of migrating immune cells were quantified in a transwell assay primed with mock, 10 nM fMLF, 10 nM LTB4 or 100 ng ml^{-1} KC (CXCL1) for U937, $FPR1^{-/-}$ and $FPR1^{-/-}$ (pFPR1) cells. **b**, Numbers of migrating HL-60 cells were quantified in a transwell assay primed with mock, *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (WT) or KLD29 (*lcrV*) (10^7 CFU/ml). Chemotaxis toward fMLF is shown as a control. **c**, Increasing concentrations of LcrV_{S228} (10^{-1} – 10^3 ng/ml) were added to the transwell assay and number of migrating HL-60 cells recorded. Error bars represent the s.e.m. ($n = 3$ biological replicates); one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction was used to identify significant differences: ***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$; *, $P < 0.05$; ns, not significant. A representative of three independent experiments is shown.



Extended Data Figure 6 | Adhesion of *Y. pestis* to human macrophages does not require effector Yops and loss of *FPR1* in human macrophages can be complemented with pFPR1_{STREP}.

a, *Y. pestis* KIM 8 and its variant KIM 8 $\Delta 1234$ (Yop-less) were grown at 37°C in TMH to induce T3SS. Cultures were centrifuged to separate the supernatant (S) from the bacterial pellet (P) and extracts were analyzed by immunoblotting with antibodies specific for YopB (α YopB), YopD (α YopD), YopE (α YopE), LcrV (α LcrV), YscF (α YscF), YopH (α YopH), YopM (α YopM) and YopJ (α YopJ). One of three repeats is shown. **b**, Wild-type *Y. pestis* KIM 8 or its Yop-less variant, KIM8 $\Delta 1234$, were added to U937 and $FPR1^{-/-}$ cells (MOI of 10) and adherence quantified as percent inoculum. Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction was used to identify significant differences: **, $P < 0.01$. A representative of three independent experiments is

shown. **c-d**, Genetic complementation in *FPR1*^{-/-} cells using pFPR1_{STREP}. **c**, *Y. pestis* POO1 (*yopE-dtx*) but not POO2 (*lcrV*, *yopE-dtx*) induced cell lysis is restored in *FPR1*^{-/-} cells transfected with plasmid expressing C-terminal Strep-II tag FPR1 (pFPR1_{STREP}). **d**, *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) mediated YopM-Bla translocation into U937, *FPR1*^{-/-} and *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1_{STREP}) cells. One of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates) (**c**, **d**). Significant differences were measured with one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni post-hoc analysis: ***, *P*<0.001.



Extended Data Figure 7 | T3SS injection of *mFpr1^{-/-}* neutrophils *in vitro* and *in vivo*. **a-b**, Murine plasma does not affect *mFpr1^{-/-}* neutrophil resistance to T3SS injection. *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) translocation of YopM-Bla into mouse neutrophils, incubated in murine plasma with **(a)** or without **(b)** prior heat inactivation (HI). One of three repeats is shown. Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates); one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction was used to identify significant differences: ***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$. **c-e**, The *mFpr1^{-/-}* mutation does not abolish the influx of neutrophils into *Y. pestis* infected tissues. Age and sex matched C57BL/6J and *mFpr1^{-/-}* mice (4 groups, n = 5 per group, 6- to 8-week old, 5 males and 5 females, 2 experimental replicates) were anesthetized and infected by injection of 1,000 CFU *Y. pestis* CO92 into the inguinal region. Four hours post-challenge, euthanized animals were necropsied, the dermis surrounding the injection site was removed and fixed in formalin for histopathological analysis. Consecutive thin sectioned slides were stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E), or stained by immunohistochemistry with the neutrophil marker anti-Ly6G (α -Ly6G). **(c)** Slides were analyzed by a blinded investigator and assigned one of four pathology scores: 0 = no

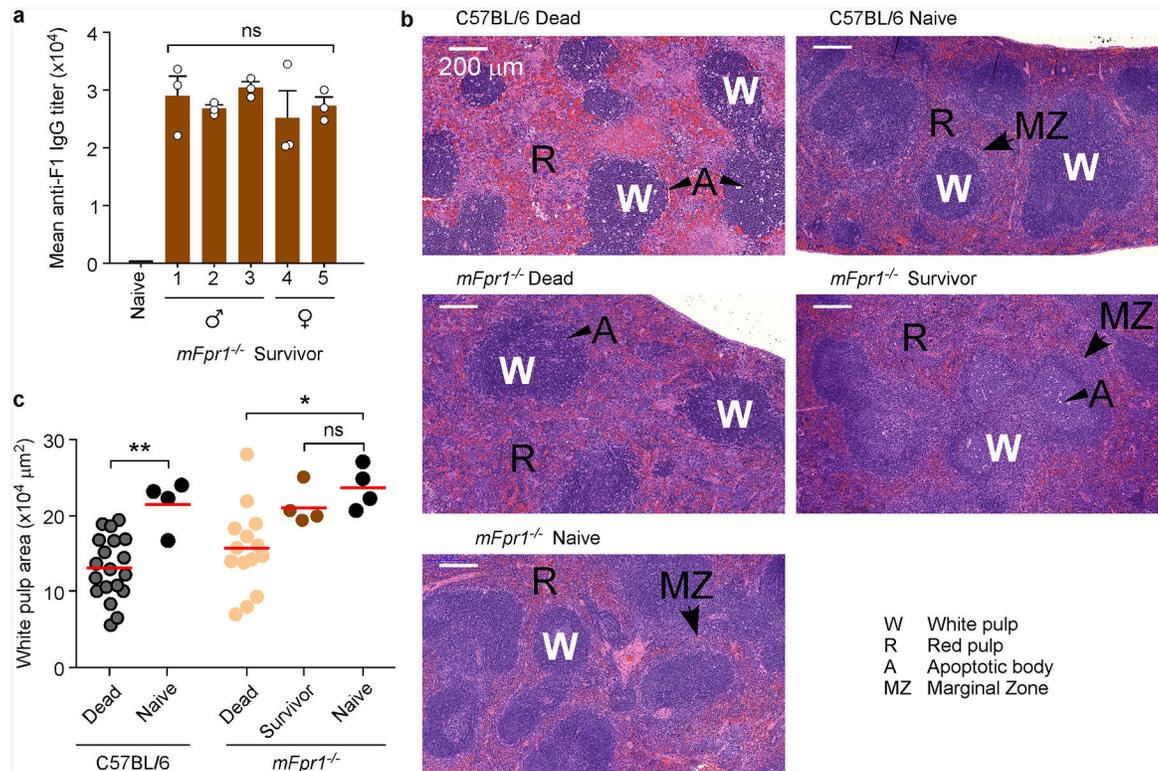
neutrophil influx, 1 = local infiltration, 2 = moderate local infiltration and 3 = widespread infiltration. Analysis of neutrophil influx was performed in male (n=8) and in female (n= 10) mice (**d**) or in all mice (male and female, n=18; 2 animals were excluded from the analysis owing to unclear histology)(**e**). One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction was used to analyze differences: ns, not significant (**b-c**).

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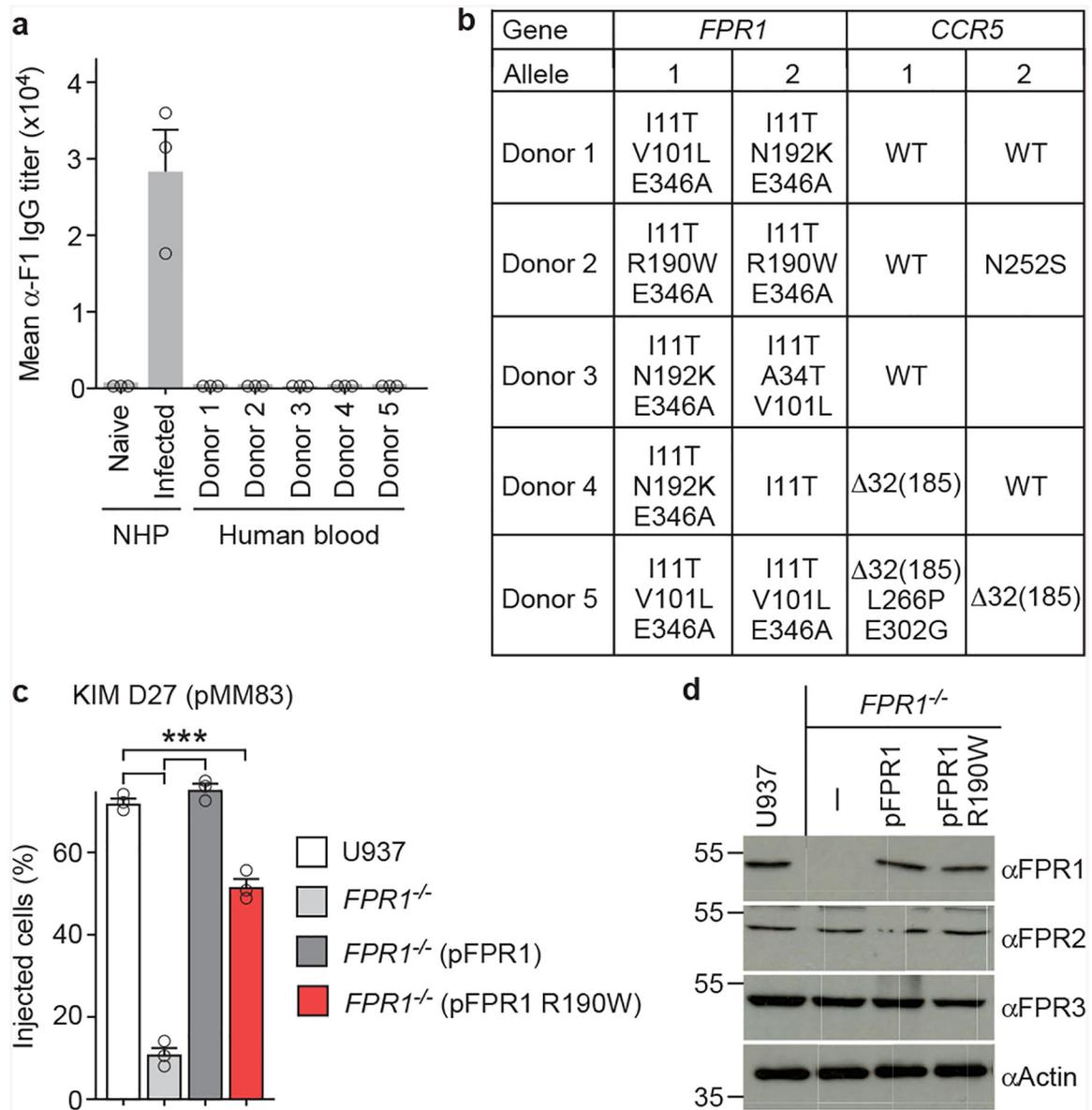
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Extended Data Figure 8 | Contribution of mouse *N*-formylpeptide receptor 1 to plague disease.

a, Serum derived from naïve or *Y. pestis* infected *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice (experiment shown in Fig. 4e) was analyzed for IgG specific for capsular fraction 1 antigen (αF1) via ELISA. One of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). **b**, Representative spleen sections stained with H&E from naïve or *Y. pestis* infected animals shown in Fig. 4e. **c**, Measurements of white pulp areas in spleens. Each dot represents the average white pulp surface area in each animal (n=19–101 per animal, data quantified using ImageJ). Horizontal bars denote the average. Significant differences were determined using one-way ANOVA and Bonferroni's post-hoc analysis (**a**) and the Mann-Whitney and Kruskal-Wallis tests (**c**): **, $P < 0.01$; *, $P < 0.05$; ns, not significant.



Extended Data Figure 9 | Genetic and functional analyses of *FPR1* and *CCR5* genes from five human donors.

a, Serum derived from the blood of naïve or *Y. pestis* infected non-human primates (NHP, *Cynomolgus macaque*) or human blood donors described in Fig. 5a (donors 1–5) was analyzed for IgG specific for F1 antigen (α F1) via ELISA. **b**, List of amino acids changes deduced following cloning and sequencing of *FPR1* and *CCR5* alleles from human blood neutrophils (donors 1–5). **c**, Quantification of *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) translocation of YopM-Bla into U937 or *FPR1*^{-/-} macrophages transfected with plasmids pFPR1 and pFPR1 R190W. **d**, Immunoblot analysis for the production of FPR1, FPR2, FPR3 and actin in U937 macrophages, and derived *FPR1*^{-/-} cells un-transfected or transfected with pFPR1 and pFPR1 R190W, respectively. One of three repeats is shown (**a**, **c**). Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates) (**a**, **c**). One-way ANOVA and Bonferroni's post-hoc analyses (**c**) was used to identify significant differences: ***, $P < 0.001$.

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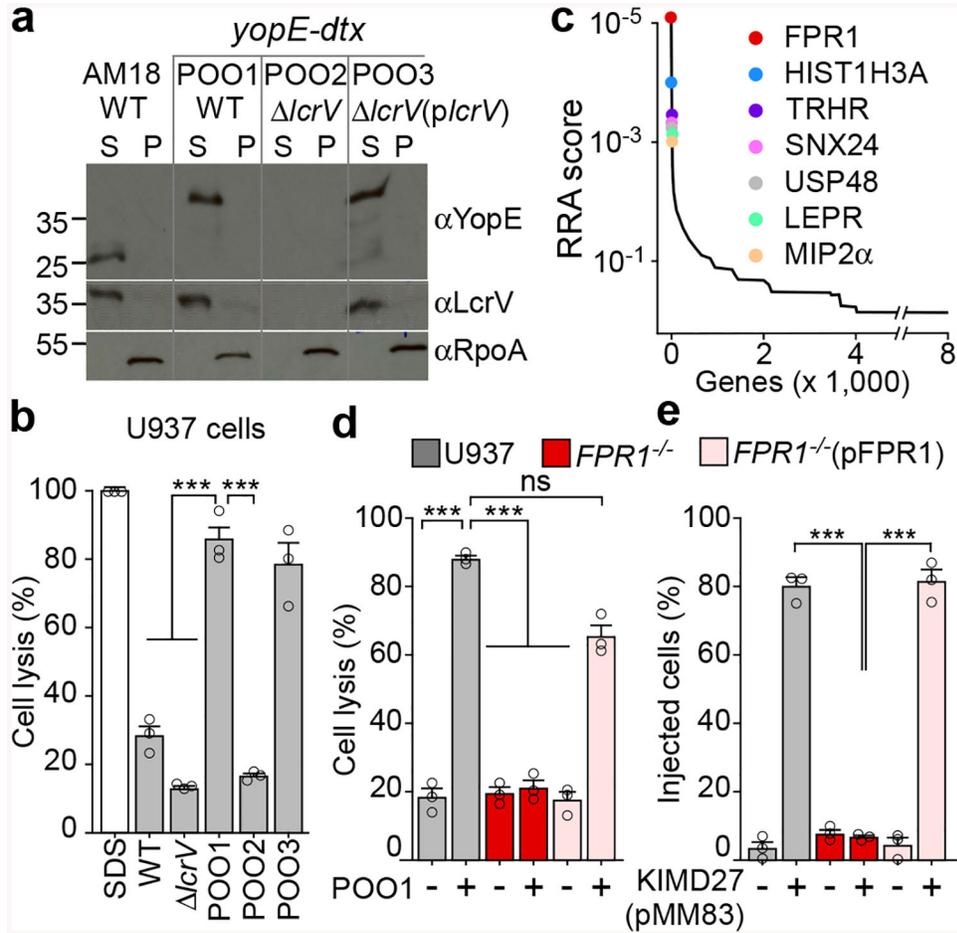


Figure 1 | *FPR1* is essential for *Y. pestis* T3SS into U937 macrophages.
a, *Y. pestis* AM18 (*yfeAB*, *pgm*) and its variants POO1 (*yopE-dtx*), POO2 (*lcrV*, *yopE-dtx*) and POO3 (*lcrV(plcrV)*, *yopE-dtx*) were grown at 37°C with 5 mM EGTA to induce T3SS. Cultures were centrifuged to separate the supernatant (S) from the bacterial pellet (P) and extracts analyzed by immunoblotting with antibodies specific for YopE (αYopE), LcrV (αLcrV) and cytoplasmic RNA polymerase subunit A (αRpoA). **b**, *Y. pestis* cells (AM18, POO1, POO2 or POO3) were added at MOI of 10 to U937 for 4 hours at 37°C. Cell lysis was measured as LDH activity in centrifuged supernatants. SDS was used to generate a control sample. **c**, CRISPR-Cas9 mutagenesis of U937 cells was performed to select for variants resistant to *Y. pestis* POO1 intoxication as compared to *Y. pestis* POO2 control. Candidate genes were identified by next generation sequencing and data which are representative of three independent replicates were analyzed using the MaGeCK-based robust rank aggregation (RRA) score analysis. **d**, *Y. pestis* POO1 induced cell lysis in U937, *FPR1*^{-/-} and *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) cultures. **e**, *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) mediated YopM-Bla translocation into U937, *FPR1*^{-/-} and *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) cells. Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates) (**b,d,e**). One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction was used to identify significant differences: ***, *P*<0.001; ns= not significant. One of three repeats is shown (**a-e**).

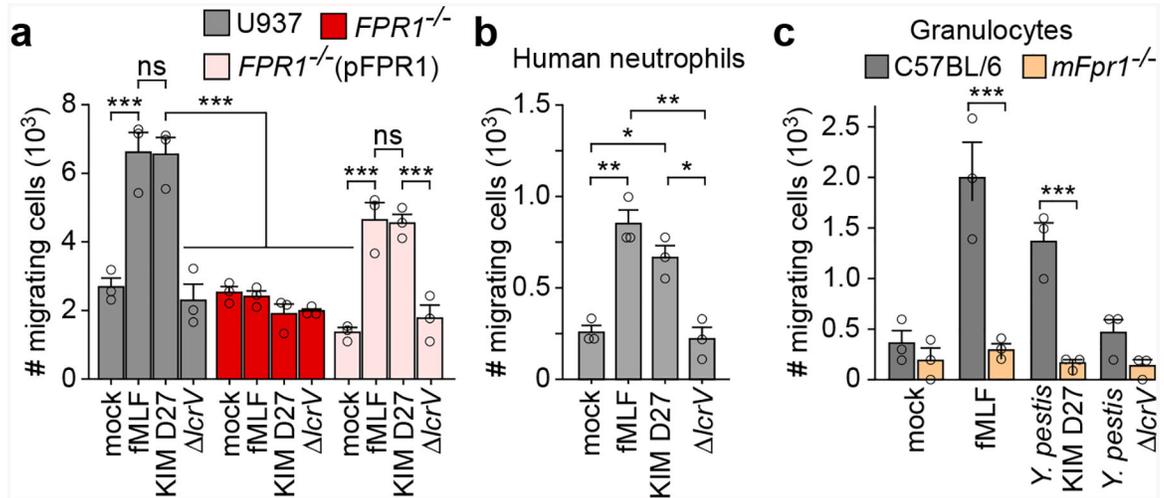


Figure 2 | Immune cell chemotaxis towards *Y. pestis* is mediated by the T3SS and FPR1. Numbers of migrating immune cells were quantified in a transwell assay primed with mock, *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (WT) or KLD29 (*lcrV*) (10^7 CFU/ml). Chemotaxis toward fMLF is shown as a control: U937, *FPR1*^{-/-} and *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) cells (**a**); human neutrophils (**b**); granulocytes from wild-type (C57BL/6) and *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice (**c**). One of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni Correction (**a**, **b**) and un-paired Student's *t*-test (**c**) were used to identify significant differences: ***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$; *, $P < 0.05$; ns, not significant.

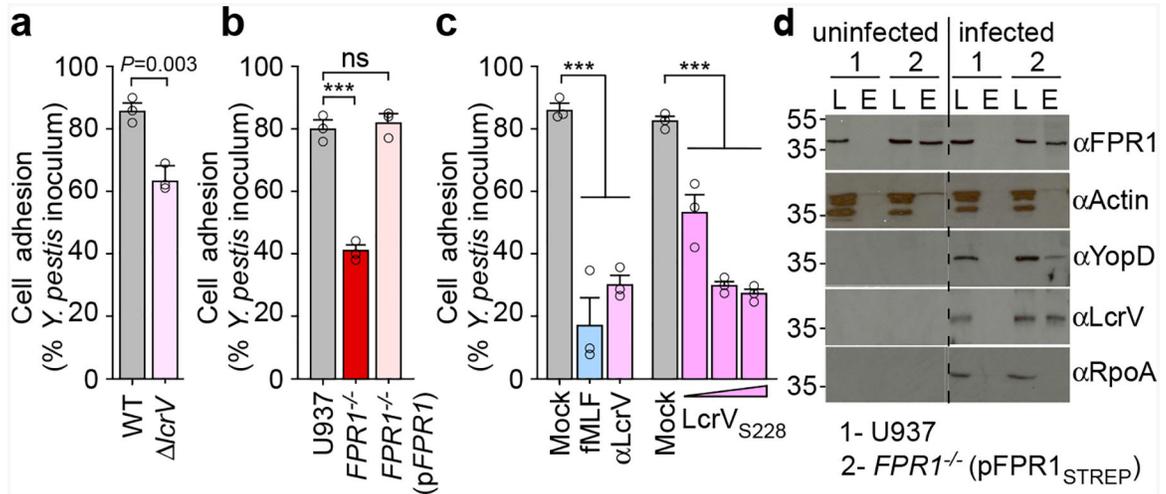


Figure 3 | Adhesion of *Y. pestis* to human macrophages involves LcrV binding to N-formylpeptide receptor.

a, Wild-type *Y. pestis* KIM D27 or its *lcrV* variant (KLD29) were added to U937 cells (MOI of 10) and adherence quantified as percent inoculum. **b**, Adherence of *Y. pestis* KIM D27 to U937, $FPR1^{-/-}$ and $FPR1^{-/-}$ (pFPR1) cells. **c**, Treatment of U937 cells with 10 μ M fMLF or α LcrV or LcrV_{S228} (10–10³ ng/ml) reduces *Y. pestis* KIM D27 adherence. One of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates) (**a-c**). Significant differences were measured with the two tailed *t*-test (**a**), and one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni post-hoc analysis (**b, c**): ***, P<0.001; ns= not significant. **d**, Cleared detergent lysates of U937 or $FPR1^{-/-}$ (pFPR1_{STREP}) cells were incubated without (left panel) or with 10 MOI *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (right panel) and subjected to affinity chromatography on StrepTactin-sepharose. Load (L) and eluate (E) samples were analyzed by immunoblotting with IgG specific for FPR1, actin, YopD, LcrV, and RpoA. One of three repeats is shown.

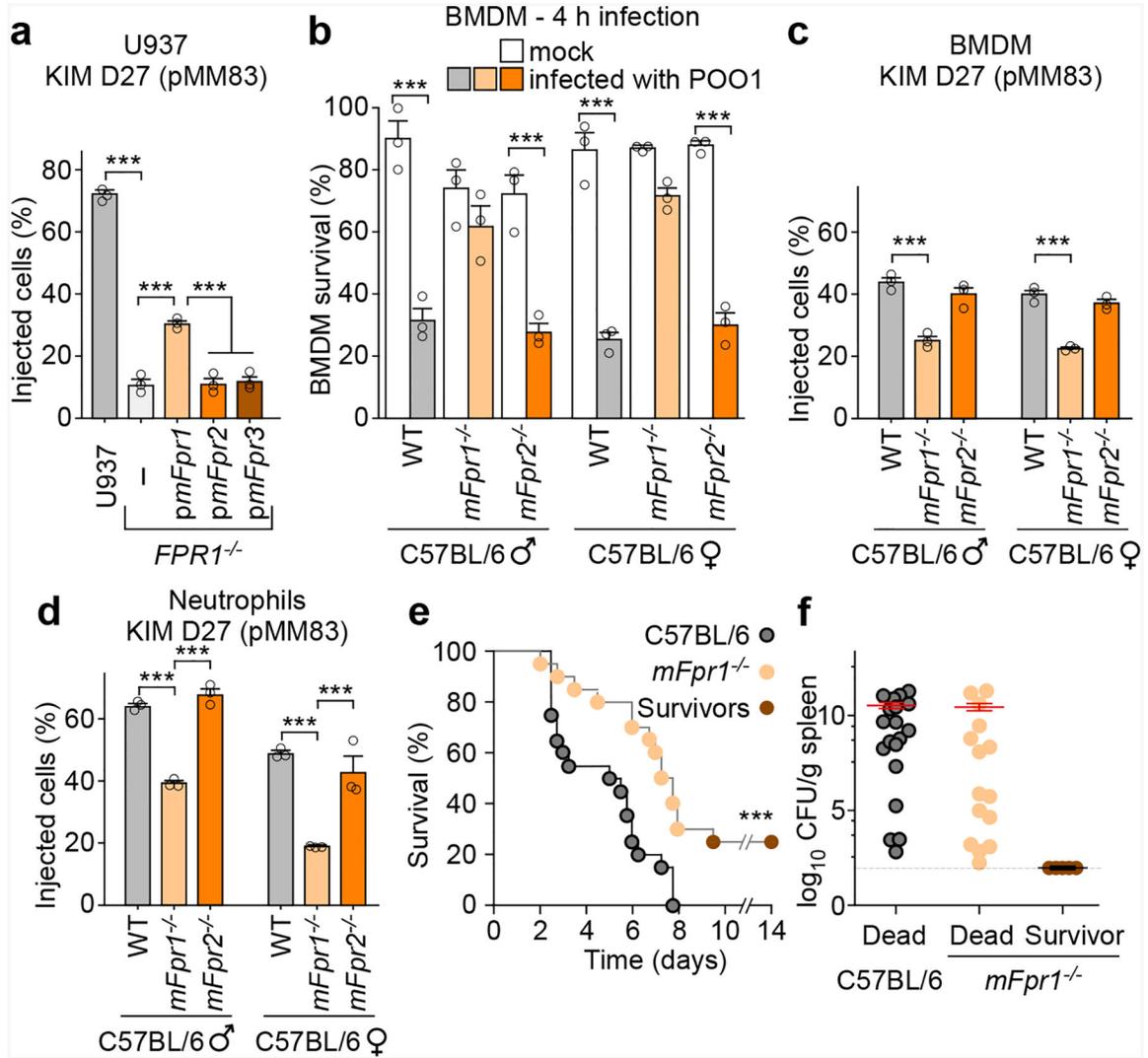


Figure 4 | Contribution of mouse *N*-formylpeptide receptors to plague disease.

a, Transfection with *pmFpr1*, but not *pmFpr2* or *pmFpr3*, restores *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) translocation of YopM-Bla into U937 *FPR1*^{-/-} cells. One of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). **b**, Compared to C57BL/6 mice, BMDM from *mFpr1*^{-/-}, but not *mFpr2*^{-/-} mice, exhibit increased survival when infected with *Y. pestis* POO1 (*yopE-dtx*); one of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) translocation of YopM-Bla in mouse BMDM (**c**) and neutrophils (**d**) requires mFpr1; one of three repeats is shown and error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates). **e**, Survival of wild-type C57BL/6 and *mFpr1*^{-/-} mice (n=10 males and 10 females) following subcutaneous inoculation with (600 CFU) *Y. pestis* CO92. **f**, Bacterial loads (CFU) in spleen tissues of dead and surviving animals. Horizontal bars denote the mean and error bars represent the s.e.m. One of two repeats is shown (**e**, **f**). Significant differences were determined using one-way ANOVA and Bonferroni's post-hoc analysis (**a-d**) and the log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test (**e**): ***, *P*<0.001.

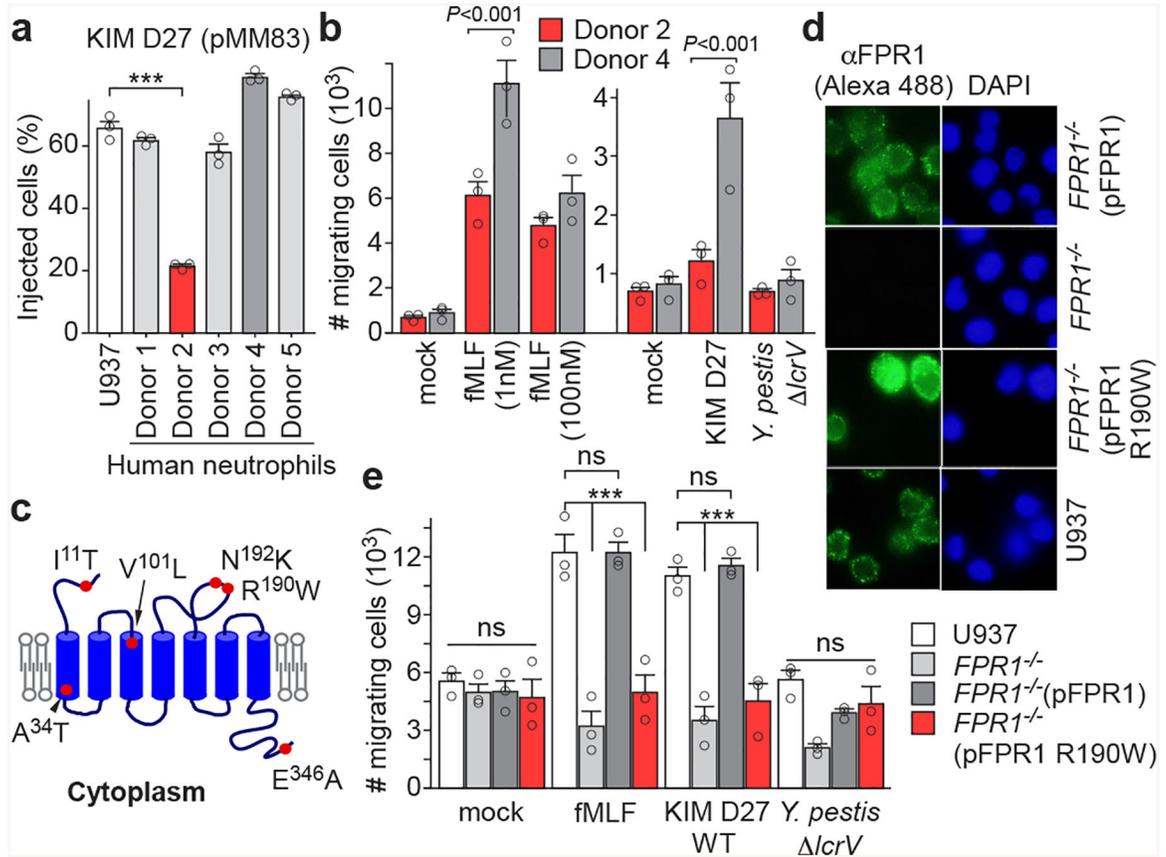


Figure 5 | Single-nucleotide polymorphism in human *FPR1* associated with neutrophil resistance to *Y. pestis* T3SS.

a, Quantification of *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (pMM83) translocation of YopM-Bla into neutrophils from five different donors (1–5) as compared to U937 cells. **b**, Quantification of migrating neutrophils from donors 2 and 4 following addition of fMLF (1–100 nM) or priming with mock, *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (WT) or KLD29 (*lcrV*) (2×10^7 CFU/ml). **c**, Model illustrating the position of amino acid substitutions in human FPR1. **d**, Surface display of FPR1 revealed by immunofluorescence microscopy using Alexa 488 labeled anti-FPR1 antibodies (α FPR1) (*left*). DAPI staining showing nuclei of U937 cells and variants (*right*). One of three repeats is shown. **e**, Quantification of migrating U937, *FPR1*^{-/-}, *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1) and *FPR1*^{-/-} (pFPR1 R190W) cells in a transwell assay primed with mock, fMLF, *Y. pestis* KIM D27 (WT) or KLD29 (*lcrV*). One of three repeats is shown (**a**, **b**, **d**, **e**). Error bars represent the s.e.m. (n = 3 biological replicates) (**a**, **b**, **e**). One-way ANOVA and Bonferroni’s post-hoc analyses (**a**, **e**) and two-tailed *t*-test (**b**) were used to identify significant differences: ***, $P < 0.001$; ns, not significant.