Additional file 3 Flagellin does not induce microglial injury or cell loss. C57BL/6 microglia were incubated with different flagellin (FLA) doses, as indicated, for 72 h. Unstimulated cells served as negative control. Subsequently, cells were stained with IB4 to mark microglia, TUNEL assay to mark apoptotic cells, and DAPI. (a) Representative image of microglia exposed to 5 µg/ml FLA. Scale bar, 50 µm. (b) IB4- and (c) TUNEL-positive cells were quantified, and results were expressed as absolute number of IB4- or TUNEL-positive cells per field. Data are expressed as mean ± SEM. Results were analyzed by Kruskal-Wallis test followed by Dunn’s post hoc test. n.s., not significant.