

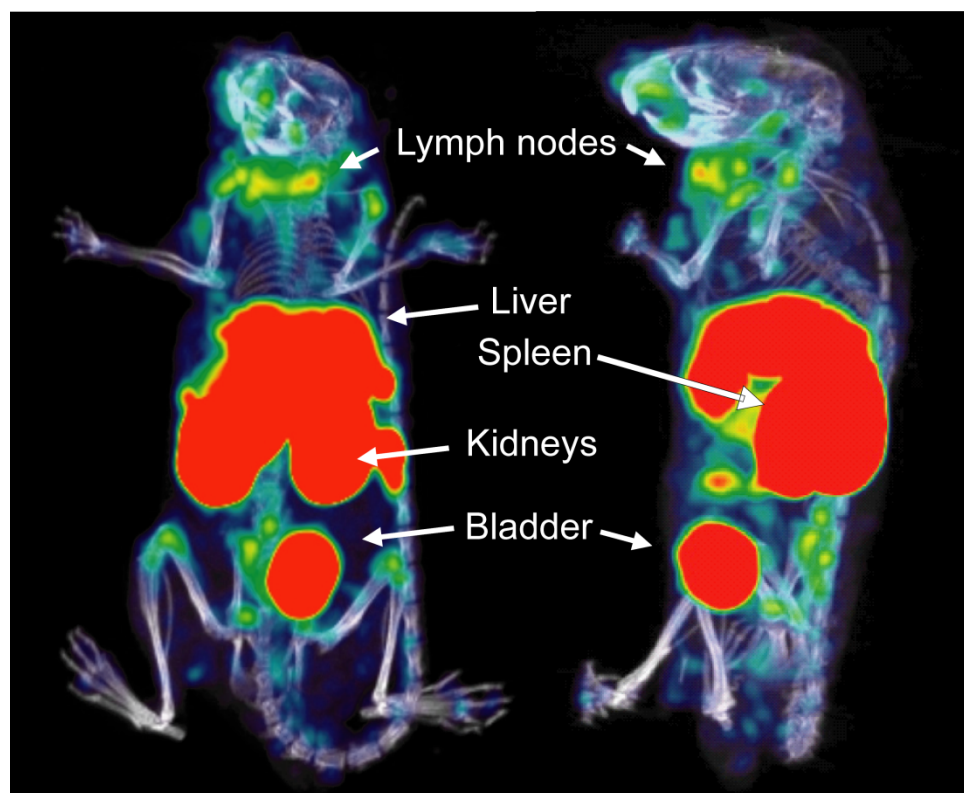
### Supplemental figure 1: Binding specificity, purity and stability of radiolabeled nanobodies.

**A:** *In vitro* binding specificity of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -labeled nanobodies was investigated by quantification of the binding of the nanobodies (10 nM) to MMR-expressing peritoneal macrophages from wildtype mice and MMR knockout (KO) mice. Binding of the BCII10 nanobody to wildtype macrophages was included as a control. Binding of the MMR nanobodies to recombinant MMR or HER2 (control) protein further confirmed the specificity of the nanobodies. Graph shows mean of 3-4 normalized values +SEM.

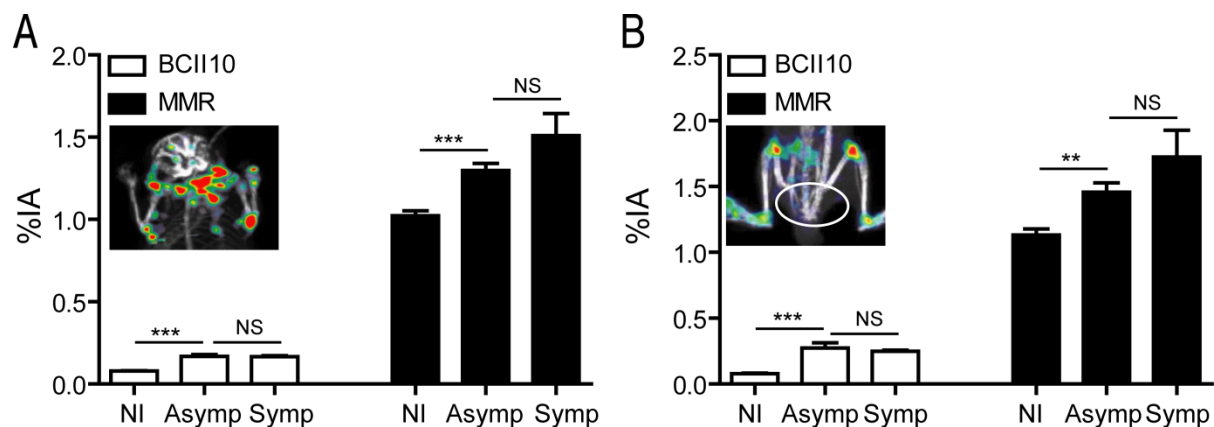
**B:** Radiochemical purity was assessed by performing RP-HPLC on a PLRP-S column using a gradient of 75% 0.1% TFA in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  / 25% acetonitrile to 100% acetonitrile at 1 ml/min. The resulting radioactive signal shows a radiochemical purity of almost 99%.

**C:** Gel filtration of the  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -labeled nanobodies using a Superdex 75 column resulted in a peak of >96%.

**D:** Incubation of the radiolabeled nanobodies in mouse serum for three hours at  $37^\circ\text{C}$  (comparable to the *in vivo* situation) resulted in a similar profile as observed in panel C and confirmed the stability of the nanobodies.



**Supplemental figure 2:** SPECT imaging was performed after micro-CT scans on healthy animals at 3 hours post injection and shows the biodistribution of injected MMR nanobody.



**Supplemental figure 3:** The radioactivity emitted by each area of interest [lymph nodes (A), immunization site (B)] was quantified using AMIDE software as % of injected activity (%IA) in groups of nonimmunized mice (NI), immunized mice without symptoms (Asymp) and with symptoms of arthritis (Symp). Inset images show quantified areas. Bars represent means of 6 to 12 values (NI: n=9; Asymp: n=6; Symp: n=12) + SEM (\*p<001 \*\*p<0 0001 Mann-Whitney's U test). NS: no significant difference.

**Supplemental table 1: Quantification of <sup>99m</sup>Tc-labeled BCII10 or MMR nanobody accumulation.**

	BCII10				MMR			
	NI	Asymp	Symp		NI	Asymp	Symp	
			NA	A			NA	A
<b>Lymph nodes</b>	0.08 ±	0.17 ±	0.17 ± 0.007		1.02 ±	1.30 ±	1.51 ± 0.13	
<b>(%IA)</b>	0.003	0.011			0.030	0.044		
<b>Immunization site</b>	0.08 ±	0.27 ±	0.25 ± 0.0078		1.13 ±	1.46 ±	1.73 ± 0.20	
<b>(%IA)</b>	0.005	0.039			0.046	0.071		
<b>Ankles (%IA)</b>	0.007 ±	0.021 ±	0.018 ±	0.073 ±	0.063 ±	0.074 ±	0.06 ±	0.36 ±
	0.0008	0.002	0.002	0.007	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.03
<b>Metatarsal joints</b>	0.0028 ±	0.013 ±	0.0093 ±	0.038 ±	0.062 ±	0.05 ±	0.060 ±	0.20 ±
	0.0005	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.004	0.03
<b>Knees (%IA)</b>	0.016 ±	0.053 ±	0.059 ±	0.087 ±	0.30 ±	0.29 ±	0.35 ±	0.56 ±
	0.0009	0.007	0.01	0.003	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.06
<b>Dissected paws</b>	0.13 ±	0.40 ±	0.33 ±	0.70 ±	1.67 ±	1.88 ±	3.03 ±	4.83 ±
	0.006	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2

Table shows the mean values (%IA or %IA/g) obtained from the analysis shown in figure 5 ± SEM. Mice were divided into three groups. NI: non-immunized mice; Asymp: immunized mice without symptoms; Symp: immunized mice with symptoms of arthritis. Since collagen-induced arthritis is not a symmetric disease and limbs in the same mouse can have different scores, the ankles, metatarsal joints, knees and dissected paws of Symp mice were further subdivided in NA (non-arthritic, no scores) or A (arthritic, with scores).