

Analysis and Fine Specificity of the HCMV-Specific Cell-Free and Cell-Associated Antibody-Dependent Cellular Phagocytosis (ADCP) Responses in Lung Transplant Recipients

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Characteristics of D-/R+ patients.

	D-/R+ Lung-Transplant Recipients (N = 26)	
	Viremic N = 9 (34.6%)	Non/Low-Viremic N = 17 (65.4%)
Median Age at LTX (range)	50 (37–69)	55 (26–66)
Gender	Female: N = 3 (33.3%) Male: N = 6 (66.7%)	Female: N = 9 (53%) Male: N = 8 (47%)
Time points: median days post LTX (range)		
T0: Median days (min–max)	1 (0–2)	1 (0–3)
T1: Median days (min–max)	92.5 (82–105)	90 (77–106)
T2: Median days (min–max)	180 (176–188)	186.5 (159–200)
T3: Median days (min–max)	280 (267–293)	283.5 (251–297)
T4: Median days (min–max)	363 (352–366)	369 (361–391)
1st viremic episode ¹	N = 9 (100%)	
Median days post LTX (range)	135 (41–364)	
Median viral load (copies/mL) (range)	2.53 × 10 ³ (1.14 × 10 ³ –1.04 × 10 ⁴)	

D+, HCMV-seropositive donor; D-, HCMV-seronegative donor; HCMV, human cytomegalovirus; LTX, lung transplantation; R+, HCMV-seropositive recipient; R-, HCMV-seronegative recipient. ¹ Four patients had a 2nd viremic episode (median 1.69 × 10³ copies/mL (1.05 × 10³–1.29 × 10⁴ copies/mL)) after median 205.5 days (135–258 days) within the follow-up.

Table S2. Characteristics of D+/R+ patients.

	D+/R+ Lung-Transplant Recipients (N = 31)	
	Viremic N = 16 (51.6%)	Non/Low-Viremic N = 15 (48.4%)
Median Age at LTX (range)	58.5 (18–65)	60 (21–68)
Gender	Female: N = 8 (50%) Male: N = 8 (50%)	Female: N = 5 (33.3%) Male: N = 10 (66.7%)
Time points: median days post LTX (range)		
T0: Median days (min–max)	0 (0–3)	1 (0–4)
T1: Median days (min–max)	93 (76–115)	93 (84–103)
T2: Median days (min–max)	182 (155–200)	180 (161–194)
T3: Median days (min–max)	288 (251–322)	276 (247–291)
T4: Median days (min–max)	390.5 (343–403)	365 (354–389)
1st viremic episode ¹	N = 16 (100%)	
Median days post LTX (range)	133.5 (16–254)	
Median viral load (copies/mL) (range)	2.64 × 10 ³ (1.07 × 10 ³ –1.12 × 10 ⁵)	

D+, HCMV-seropositive donor; D–, HCMV-seronegative donor; HCMV, human cytomegalovirus; LTX, lung transplantation; R+, HCMV-seropositive recipient; R–, HCMV-seronegative recipient. ¹ Three patients had a 2nd viremic episode (median 3.3 × 10³ copies/mL (2.9 × 10³–1.48 × 10⁴ copies/mL)) after median 207 days (134–262 days) within the follow-up.

Table S3. Characteristics of D+/R- patients.

	D+/R- Lung-Transplant Recipients (N = 18)	
	Viremic N = 11 (61.1%)	Non/Low-Viremic N = 7 (38.9%)
Median Age at LTX (range)	31 (21-63)	45 (22-61)
Gender	Female: N = 4 (36.4%) Male: N = 7 (63.6%)	Female: N = 3 (42.9%) Male: N = 4 (57.1%)
Time points: median days post LTX (range)		
T0: Median days (min-max)	1 (0-2)	2 (1-6)
T1: Median days (min-max)	89.5 (78-99)	87.5 (80-117)
T2: Median days (min-max)	182 (157-215)	196 (177-209)
T3: Median days (min-max)	275 (252-296)	265 (254-293)
T4: Median days (min-max)	367 (343-398)	370 (359-380)
T5: Median days (min-max)	468 (457-480)	466 (446-477)
T6: Median days (min-max)	534 (521-593)	544 (511-583)
T7: Median days (min-max)	654 (592-684)	648 (595-678)
T8: Median days (min-max)	709 (675-717)	714 (691-776)
1st viremic episode ¹	N = 11 (100%)	
Median days post LTX (range)	179 (65-469)	
Median viral load (copies/mL) (range)	3.89 × 10 ³ (1.16 × 10 ³ -8.16 × 10 ⁴)	

D+, HCMV-seropositive donor; D-, HCMV-seronegative donor; HCMV, human cytomegalovirus; LTX, lung transplantation; R+, HCMV-seropositive recipient; R-, HCMV-seronegative recipient. ¹ Two patients had a 2nd viremic episode (median 7.49 × 10³ copies/mL (1.6 × 10³-1.3 × 10⁴ copies/mL)) after median 433.5 days (420-447 days) within the follow-up.

Table S4. Serology of Lung-Transplant Recipients.

Serostatus	Study Cohort					
	D-/R+ Lung-Transplant Recipients (N = 26)		D+/R+ Lung-Transplant Recipients (N = 31)		D+/R- Lung-Transplant Recipients (N = 18)	
	Viremic N = 9 (34.8%)	Non/Low-Viremic N = 17 (65.4%)	Viremic N = 16 (51.6%)	Non/Low-Viremic N = 15 (48.4%)	Viremic N = 11 (61.1%)	Non/Low-Viremic N = 7 (38.9%)
gB-specific IgG1	N = 8 (88.94%)	N = 15 (88.24%)	N = 13 (81.25%)	N = 13 (86.68%)	N = 9 (81.82%)	N = 4 (57.14%)
gB-specific IgG3	N = 7 (77.78%)	N = 16 (94.12%)	N = 15 (93.75%)	N = 1 (93.33%)	N = 9 (81.82%)	N = 6 (85.71%)
PC-specific IgG1	N = 3 (33.33%)	N = 15 (88.24%)	N = 9 (56.25%)	N = 12 (80%)	N = 11 (100%)	N = 4 (57.14%)
PC-specific IgG3	N = 8 (88.94%)	N = 14 (82.35%)	N = 16 (100%)	N = 15 (100%)	N = 11 (100%)	N = 5 (71.42%)

D+, HCMV-seropositive donor; D-, HCMV-seronegative donor; gB: glycoprotein B; HCMV, human cytomegalovirus; LTX, lung transplantation; PC: pentameric complex; R+, HCMV-seropositive recipient; R-, HCMV-seronegative recipient.

Supplementary Figures

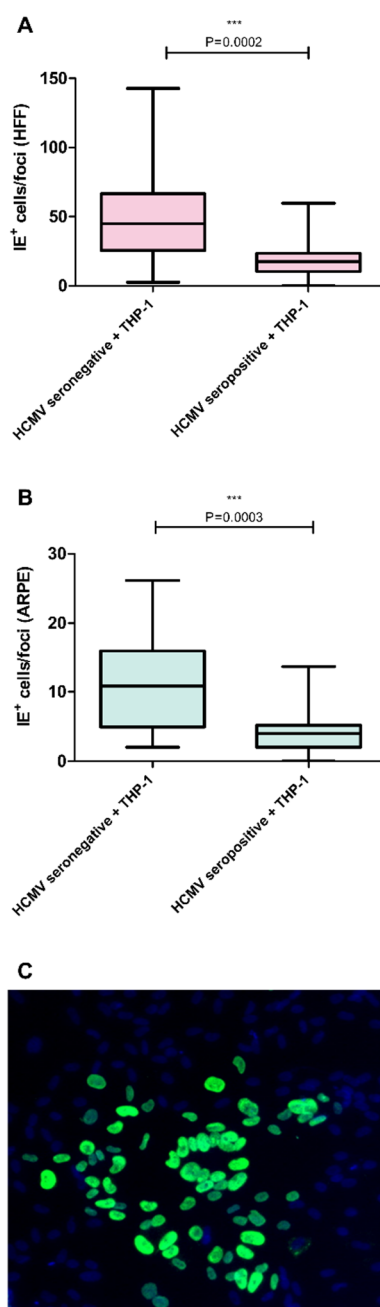


Figure S1. Establishment of the plasma-dependent focus expansion assay (FEA) with THP-1 cells on (A) Human Foreskin Fibroblasts (HFF) (B) or epithelial cells (ARPE) with HCMV-seropositive (N = 80) and HCMV-seronegative (N = 20) plasma samples. Data are shown as mean values (min–max). Plaque sizes between different experimental settings were compared by Mann Whitney-Test. (C) Representative example of a HCMV focus on human foreskin fibroblasts (HFF) in the presence of THP-1 cells and a HCMV-seronegative control plasma. $p < 0.05$ was considered significant. ***, $p < 0.001$. IE⁺, HCMV-immediately early positive cells.

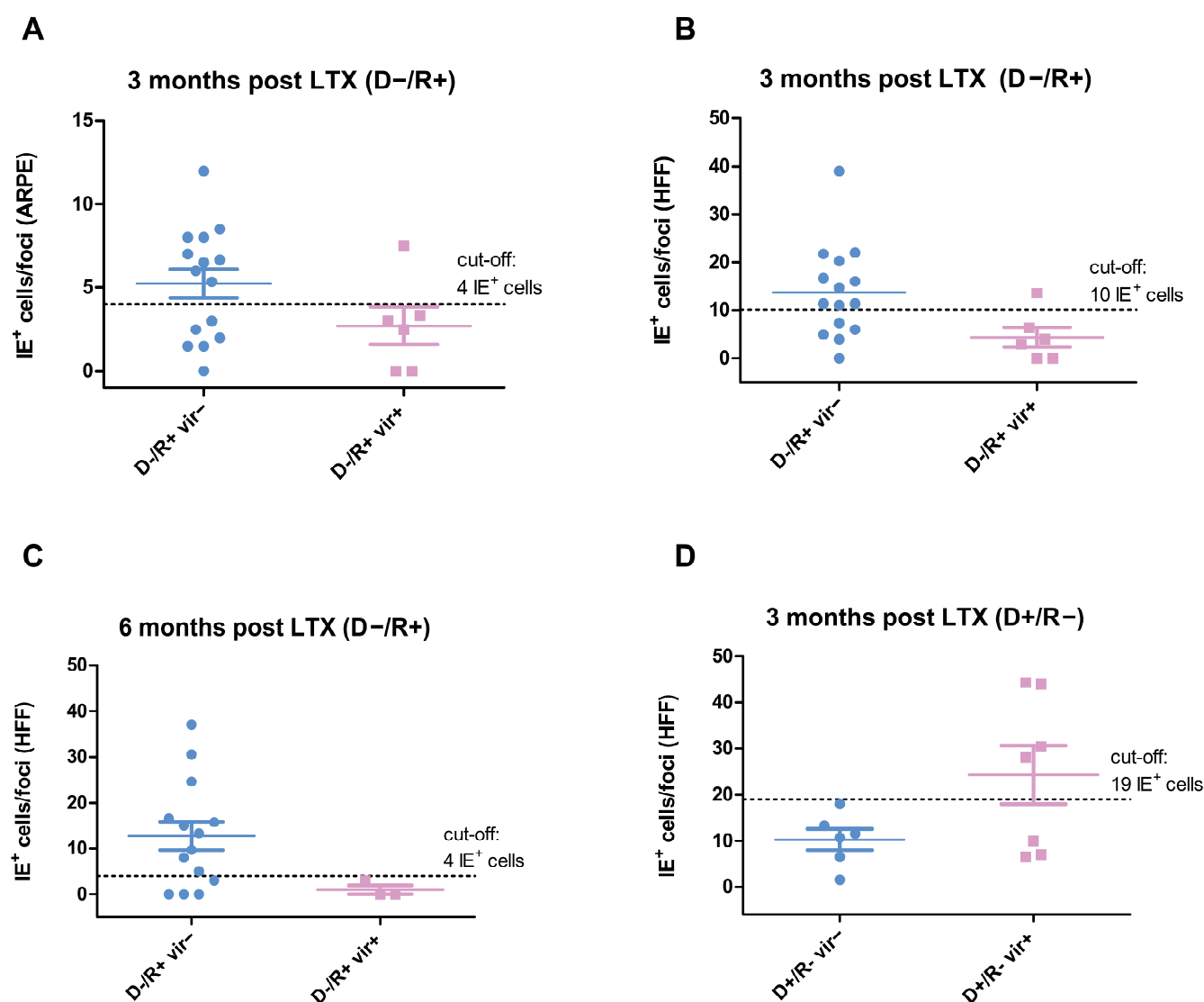


Figure S2. Estimated cut-offs for calculation of positive predictive values (PPV) and negative predictive values (NPV) in either epithelial cells (ARPE) (**A**) or fibroblasts (HFF) (**B–D**) in viremic (pink) and non viremic (blue) D-/R+ (**A,C**) and D+/R- (**D**) lung transplant recipients (LTRs) at several time points post lung transplantation (LTX). The dashed black line indicates the set cut-off.

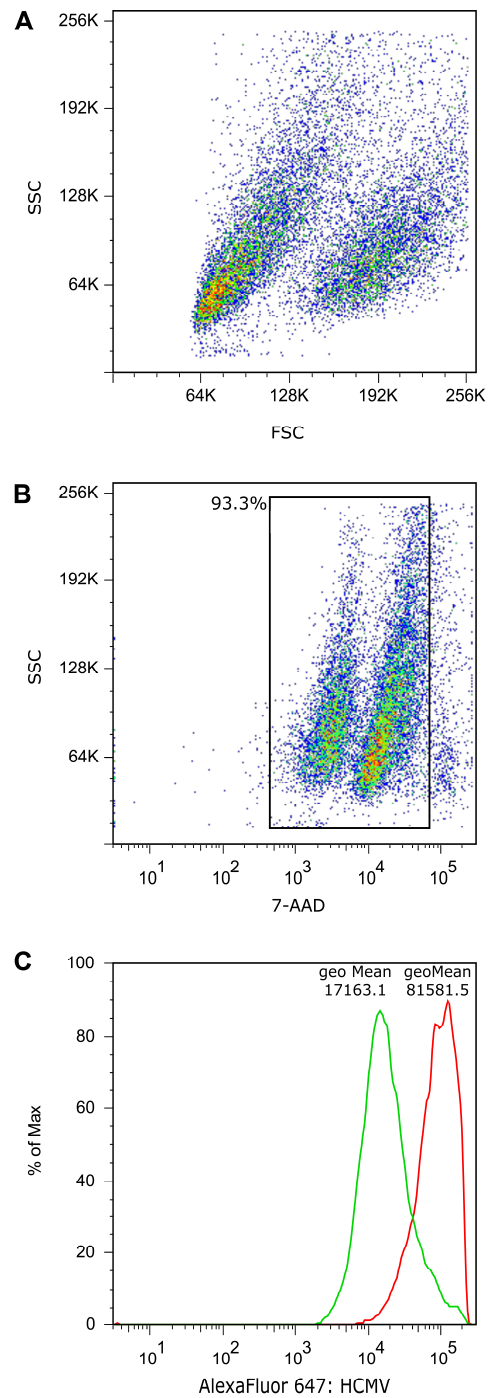


Figure S3. Representative example of the gating strategy and determination of life (7-AAD^{low}) THP-1 cells (**A,B**) stimulated with TB40E cell-free virions and either a HCMV-seropositive (red) or a HCMV-seronegative (green) control plasma (**C**).

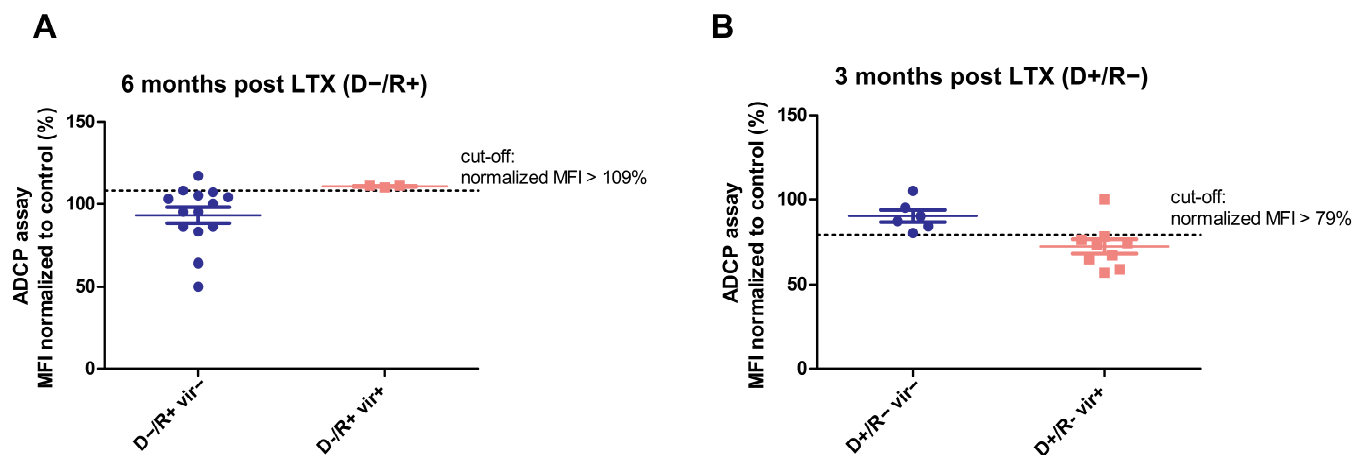


Figure S4. Estimated cut-offs for calculation of positive predictive values (PPV) and negative predictive values (NPV) in viremic (pink) and non/viremic (blue) D-/R+ lung transplant recipients (LTRs) at 6 months post lung transplantation (LTX) (A) and D+/R- LTRs at 3 months post lung transplantation (LTX) (B). The dashed black line indicates the set cut-off.

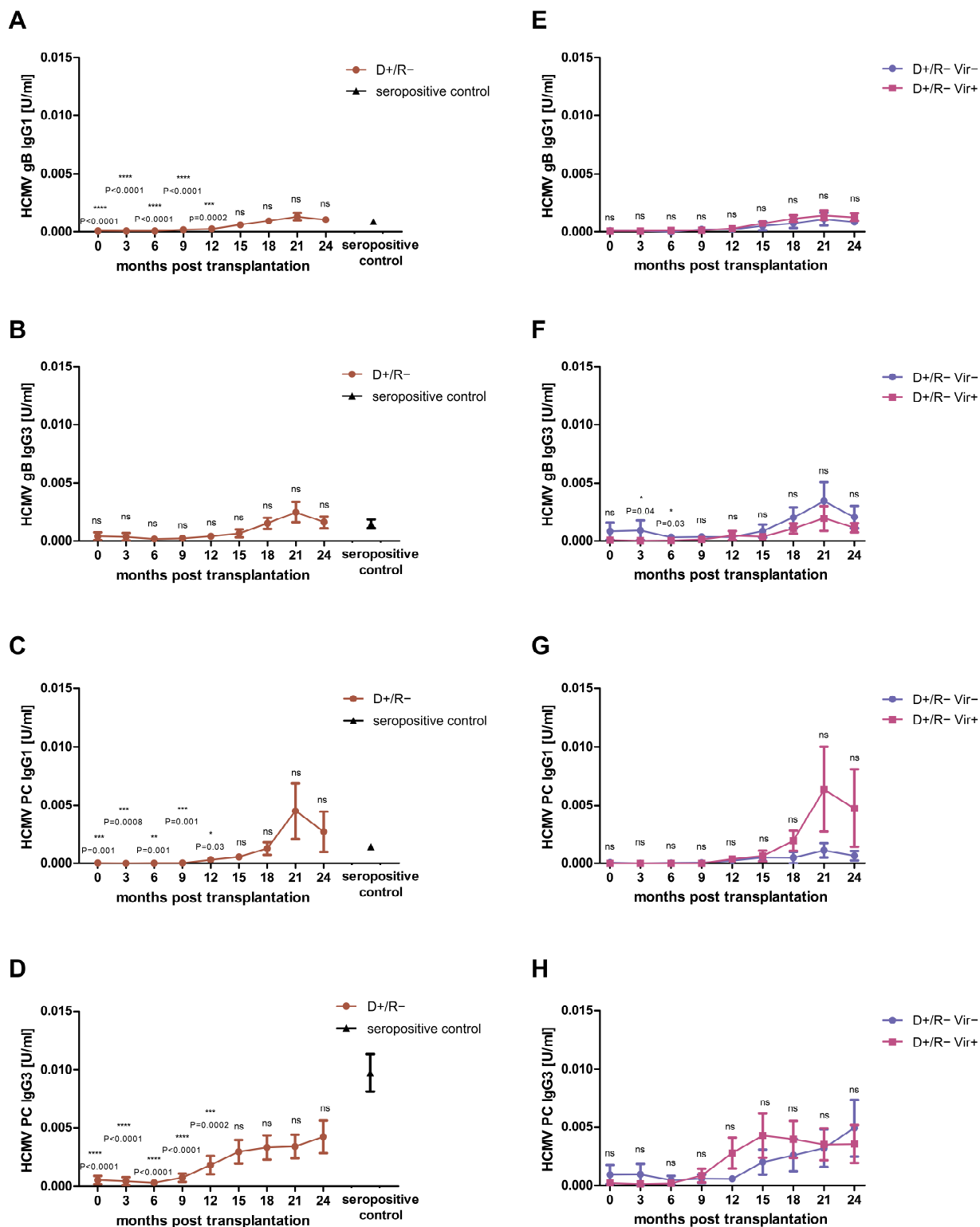


Figure S5. Analysis of HCMV-specific gB IgG1 titers (A,E), gB IgG3 titers (B,F), PC IgG1 titers (C,G), and PC IgG3 titers (D,H) in D+/R- lung transplant recipients (LTRs) after lung-transplantation (LTX). Patients were tested at 0, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21 and 24 months post LTX. Data are shown as mean antibody titers (\pm SEM). (A–D) Mean value (\pm SEM) of the HCMV-seropositive control cohort (N = 80) is indicated as black triangle. (A–D) Antibody levels at each time point of D+/R- LTRs were compared with those of the seropositive control patients ANOVA and Dunn’s post-test. (E–H) Antibody levels at each time point of viremic (blue) (>1000 copies/mL) D+/R- LTRs were compared with those of non/low-viremic (pink) (<1000 copies/mL) D+/R- LTRs by Mann Whitney-Test; $p < 0.05$ was considered significant. *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. U/mL, units/milliliter; gB: glycoprotein B; PC: pentameric complex.

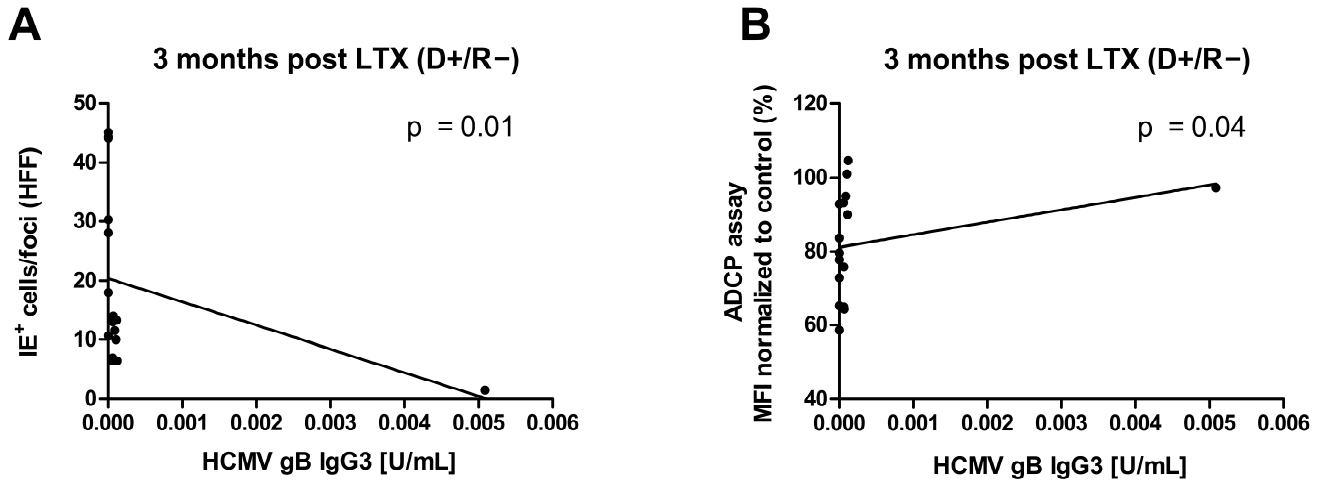


Figure S6. Correlation analysis of the HCMV-specific ADCP responses and HCMV-specific antibody titers in D+/R- LTRs. gB-specific IgG3 titers obtained at 3 months post-LTX were correlated with individual mean plaque sizes of Focus Expansion Assays (FEA) on fibroblasts (HFF) (**A**) or mean normalized mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) of antibody-dependent cellular phagocytosis (ADCP)-assays (**B**) at the same time point. Non-parametric two-tailed Spearman's rank correlation test was used to evaluate the correlation between HCMV-specific ADCP responses and gB-specific IgG3 titers. The solid black line indicates a linear regression. gB: glycoprotein B.

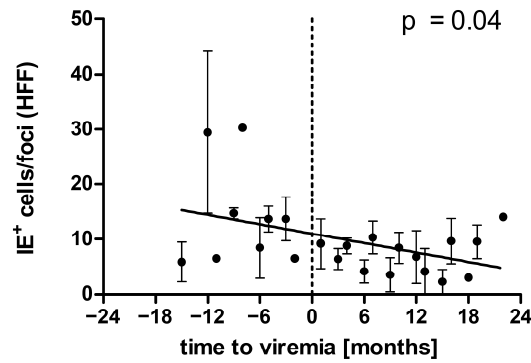
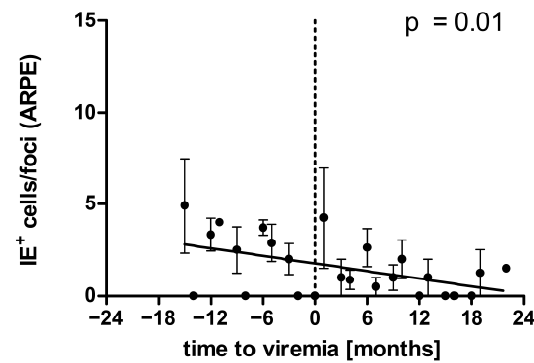
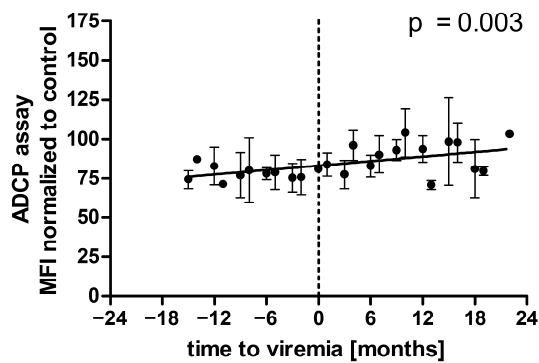
A**B****C**

Figure S7. Analysis of the Focus Expansion Assay (FEA) on fibroblasts (HFF) (**A**), epithelial cells (ARPE) (**B**) as well the HCMV-specific ADCP response against cell-free virions (**C**) with plasma obtained from D+/R- highly viremic (>1000 copies HCMV DNA/mL) lung transplant recipients (LTRs) after lung transplantation (LTX). D+/R- LTRs were tested at 0, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21 and 24 months post LTX. Data are shown as mean IE⁺ /per foci (\pm SEM) (**A,B**) or as mean normalized mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) (\pm SEM) (**C**). Non-parametric two-tailed Spearman's rank correlation test was used to evaluate the correlation between HCMV-specific ADCP responses in the post-transplant follow-up. The solid black line indicates a linear regression. The dotted black line indicates the time of the first highly viremic episode.