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ATG7 and ATG14 restrict cytosolic and phagosomal *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* replication in human macrophages

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Autophagy is a cellular innate-immune defence mechanism against intracellular microorganisms, including *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb). How canonical and non-canonical autophagy function to control Mtb infection in phagosomes and the cytosol remains unresolved. Macrophages are the main host cell in humans for Mtb. Here we studied the contributions of canonical and non-canonical autophagy in the genetically tractable human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived macrophages (iPSDM), using a set of Mtb mutants generated in the same genetic background of the common lab strain H37Rv. We monitored replication of Mtb mutants that are either unable to trigger canonical autophagy (Mtb Δ esxB) or reportedly unable to block non-canonical autophagy (Mtb Δ cpsA) in iPSDM lacking either ATG7 or ATG14 using single-cell high-content imaging. We report that deletion of ATG7 by CRISPR–Cas9 in iPSDM resulted in increased replication of wild-type Mtb but not of Mtb Δ esxB or Mtb Δ cpsA. We show that deletion of ATG14 resulted in increased replication of both Mtb wild type and the mutant Mtb Δ esxB. Using Mtb reporters and quantitative imaging, we identified a role for ATG14 in regulating fusion of phagosomes containing Mtb with lysosomes, thereby enabling intracellular bacteria restriction. We conclude that ATG7 and ATG14 are both required for restricting Mtb replication in human macrophages.

Two main autophagy pathways have been implicated in host defence against intracellular pathogens: the canonical pathway of xenophagy^{1–3} and a non-canonical pathway named LC3-associated phagocytosis (LAP)^{4,5}. Xenophagy is a specialized form of macroautophagy in which de novo autophagosome biogenesis captures bacteria in double-membraned autophagosomes that are targeted to lysosomes⁶. The rupture of bacteria containing phagosomes triggers the exposure of luminal carbohydrate moieties to the cytosol that are recognized by galectins to initiate xenophagy^{7,8}. Xenophagy

can also be initiated by ubiquitination of host and pathogen proteins and lipopolysaccharide during membrane damage as well as following escape of bacteria into the cytosol^{9,10}. In LAP, members of the Atg8 family of autophagy proteins are conjugated directly to single phagosomal membranes to enable phagosome maturation⁴. Targeting of pathogens to LAP has been shown to have different outcomes; in some cases it is restrictive, but in other cases it promotes bacterial replication⁵. Mechanistically, LAP requires the LC3 lipidation machinery of Atg7, Atg3 and Atg5-12-16L1, as well

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as the PI3K complex (Beclin1, UVRAG, Rubicon, Vps34 and Atg101) and the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) by the NADPH oxidase. LAP does not require the components of the ULK1 complex nor Atg14, both of which are essential for xenophagy¹¹. Despite recent advances, the spatial and temporal regulation between canonical (xenophagy) and non-canonical (LAP) autophagy responses during infection with intracellular pathogens remains poorly characterized in human macrophages.

There is evidence that xenophagy and LAP have a role in the response of host macrophages to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb) infection^{2,12}. On the other hand, Mtb delivers several bacterial effectors into host cells that interfere with autophagy¹³. Moreover, Mtb damages the phagosomal membrane and enters the host cytosol through the coordinated action of the ESX-1 Type 7 Secretion System (T7SS) encoded within the region of difference 1 (RD1)^{14–16} and the cell wall lipids phthiocerol dimycocerosates (PDIM)^{17–20}. The targeting of Mtb to autophagy and the evasion by Mtb is highly dynamic and temporally regulated^{13,21}. Mtb-induced damage to the phagosomal membrane induces complex tubulovesicular autophagosomal structures (LC3-TV5)²². Following induction of LC3-TV5, Mtb segregates from autophagosomal membranes, evading xenophagy and escaping into the cytosol²². The remaining phagosomal subpopulation of Mtb actively manipulate the phagosome maturation pathway¹³. However, for a subpopulation of bacteria that access the cytosol, targeting to xenophagy is probably successful and leads to their restriction. LAP does not contribute to the restriction of Mtb wild type (WT) in mouse macrophages because Mtb subverts this pathway through the secretion of CpsA. CpsA blocks the action of the NADPH oxidase and thus reduces phagosomal ROS and LAP activation¹².

In mouse macrophages, disruption of the autophagy pathway by knockout (KO) of key selective autophagy genes increases Mtb replication^{12,23–25}. However, in vivo conditional KO of several murine autophagy proteins did not alter either Mtb bacterial loads or mouse survival after infection²⁶. Although it is clear that Mtb can be efficiently restricted by autophagy responses in vitro, these in vivo results led to the postulation that autophagy is not important for the control of Mtb in the tuberculosis (TB) mouse model²⁷, potentially due to efficient subversion in vivo; thus, the role of autophagy in TB remains unclear.

Owing to a lack of robust genetic systems, it has not previously been feasible to use specific gene deletion approaches to study the role of autophagy in primary human macrophages. Such approaches could improve our understanding of autophagy in infection because knockdowns, or conditional KO strategies, can result in incomplete removal of all autophagy processes in host cells. In this article, to better understand the role of autophagy in killing Mtb in humans, we developed a human macrophage cell model, and investigated the roles of ATG7 and ATG14 in bacterial replication and cell death.

Results

Attenuated replication of Mtb Δ esxB and Δ cpsA mutants in iPSCDM

To investigate the role of the autophagy response to Mtb infection in human macrophages and to reduce inconsistencies associated with changes in the genetic background of the parental strain, we generated two gene-deletion mutants, and cognate complemented strains, in the Mtb H37Rv background. First, we generated a strain lacking both EsxA and EsxB (Mtb Δ esxBA), two substrates of the ESX-1 T7SS that are responsible for phagosome damage and induction of xenophagy (Fig. 1a)^{28,29}. The deletion of esxBA was confirmed by probing EsxA and EsxB proteins in both whole-cell lysate and culture filtrate by western blot (Fig. 1b). As expected, neither EsxA nor EsxB was detected in either culture filtrate or whole-cell lysate of Mtb Δ esxBA or Mtb Δ RD1, which was used as a control. The Mtb Δ esxBA mutant was complemented by placing both Mtb H37Rv esxB and esxA expression under the control of the strong *Psmc* promoter³⁰ at the MS6 site in the chromosome. Expression and secretion of the complemented EsxA and EsxB proteins was validated by western blot (Fig. 1b). Next, we generated a second mutant strain lacking CpsA (Mtb Δ cpsA), which is reported to be unable to block LAP in macrophages¹² (Fig. 1c). The Mtb Δ cpsA mutant was complemented by chromosomal integration of the *cpsA* gene placed under the control of the strong *hsp60* promoter at the MS6 site. The production and secretion of EsxA and EsxB was not affected in Mtb Δ cpsA and Mtb Δ cpsA:*cpsA* (Fig. 1d). Importantly, the in vitro replication profiles (Fig. 1e,f) and PDIM production of these strains was similar in 7H9 liquid media, indicating that extracellular replication was unaffected (Fig. 1g). All the generated recombinant strains were then transformed with vectors encoding the E2-Crimson fluorescent protein and their replication profiles in iPSCDM further analysed by high-content imaging and single-cell analysis. The uptake of Mtb by macrophages was unaffected by esxA/esxB or cpsA deletions (Fig. 1h). However, the replication of Mtb Δ esxBA was reduced in iPSCDM after 96 h of infection (Fig. 1i,j). A similar reduction was observed after infection of iPSCDM with the Mtb Δ cpsA mutant (Fig. 1k,l). The complementation of both Mtb Δ esxBA and Mtb Δ cpsA with functional esxBA or cpsA genes restored their ability to replicate in macrophages (Fig. 1i–l).

Generation of ATG7 and ATG14 KO iPSCDM

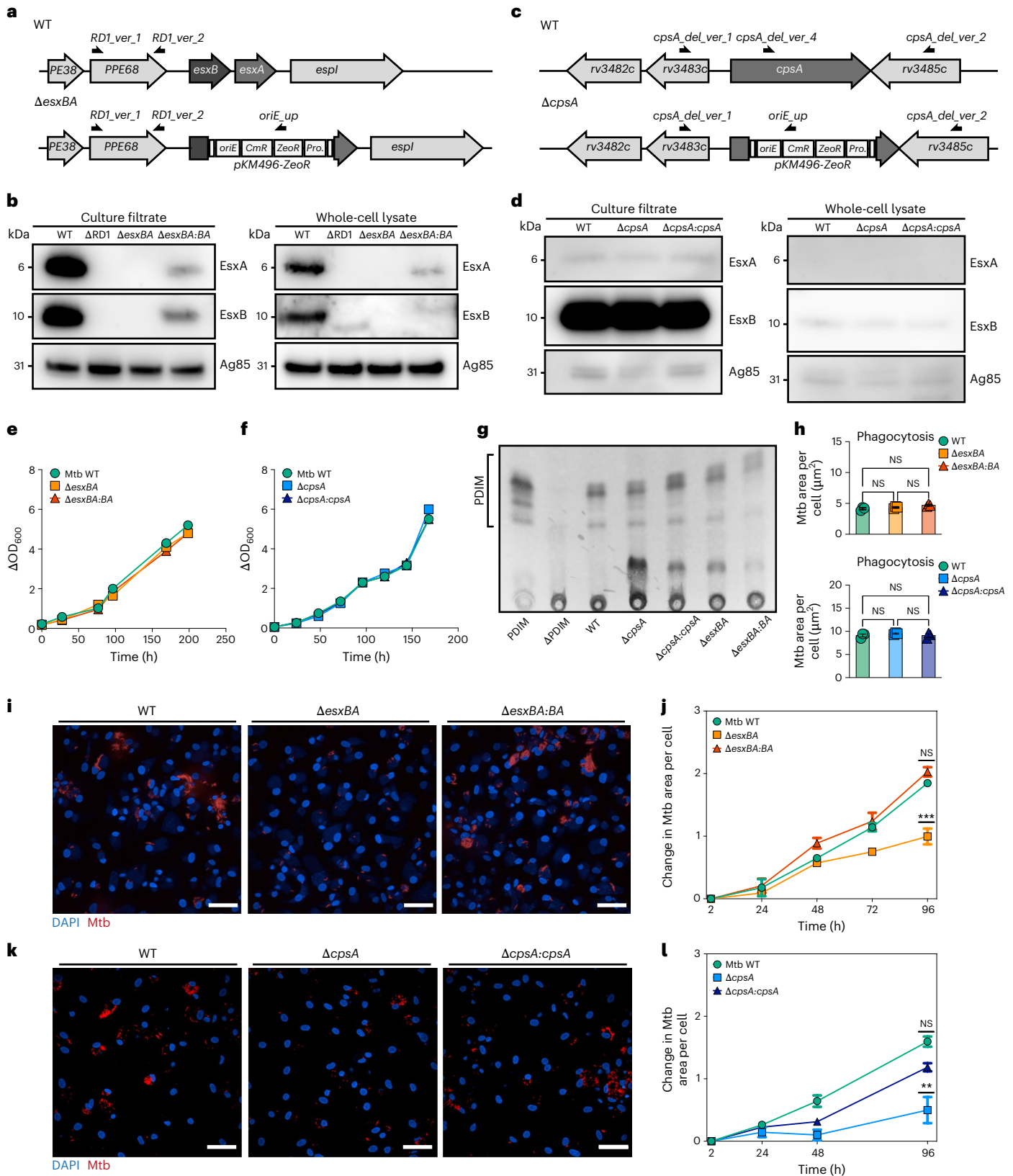
Next, we used clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR)–Cas9 to knock out either *ATG7* or *ATG14* in induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) to investigate canonical and non-canonical autophagy responses to Mtb (Extended Data Fig. 1a,d). We tested if autophagy responses were altered in the ATG7 and ATG14 KO iPSC (referred to as ATG7^{-/-} and ATG14^{-/-}). The WT iPSC (referred as ATG7^{+/+} and ATG14^{+/+}) accumulated LC3B-II in response to canonical autophagy induction by starvation, blockade of autophagosome degradation by Bafilomycin A1 (BafA1) or induction of non-canonical autophagy by monensin treatment³¹, whereas ATG7 KO iPSC had undetectable

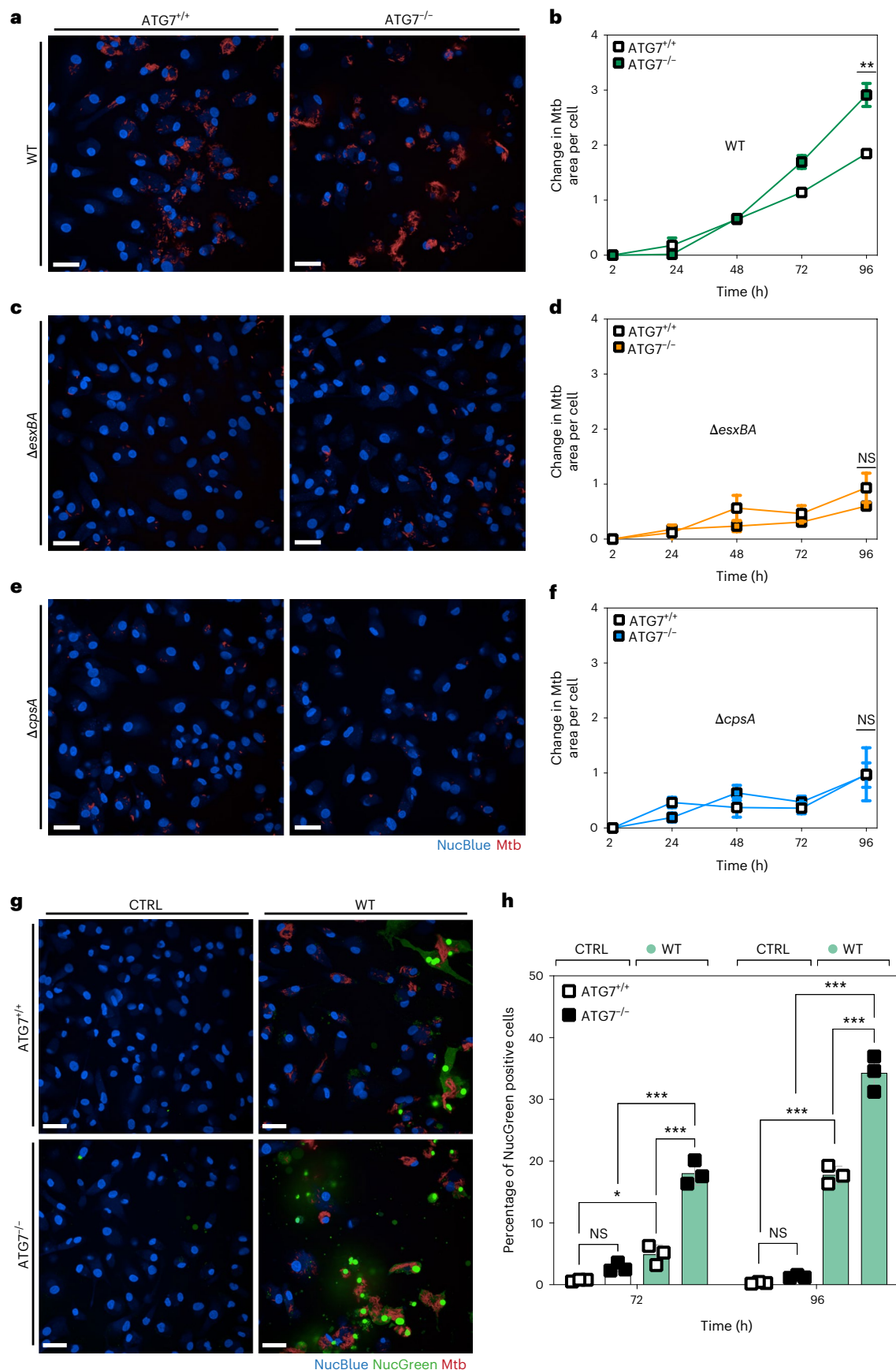
Fig. 1 | Characterization of Mtb Δ esxBA and Mtb Δ cpsA. a, c, Mtb esxBA-rv3874-75 locus (a) and cpsA-rv3484 locus (c) in Mtb WT and the respective deletion strains. Black half-arrows depict the primer positions (CmR, chloramphenicol resistance; ZeoR, zeocin resistance; Prom., groEL promoter). **b, d**, Western blot of EsxA and EsxB from total cell lysates and culture filtrates from Mtb WT, Δ RD1, Δ esxBA, Δ esxBA:BA ($n = 3$) (b) or Mtb WT, Δ cpsA and Δ cpsA:*cpsA* strains ($n = 1$) (d). Ag85 was used as a loading control. **e**, Growth curves of Mtb WT, Δ esxBA and Δ esxBA:BA. **f**, Growth curves of Mtb WT, Δ cpsA and Δ cpsA:*cpsA* strains. **g**, Thin-layer chromatography analysis of PDIM from Mtb WT, Δ cpsA, Δ cpsA:*cpsA*, Δ esxBA and Δ esxBA:BA cultures ($n = 1$). Purified PDIM and extracts from Mtb Δ PDIM were used as controls. **h**, Quantitative analysis of Mtb WT, Δ esxBA, Δ esxBA:BA (top) and Mtb WT, Δ cpsA, Δ cpsA:*cpsA* (bottom) area per single cell, 2 h post infection. Representative data of three independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm standard error of the mean (s.e.m.). One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple

comparison test. NS, non-significant. **i**, Snapshot of live iPSCDM infected with Mtb WT, Δ esxBA and Δ esxBA:BA 96 h post infection. Nuclear staining (blue) and Mtb-E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 50 μ m. **j**, Quantitative analysis of Mtb replication after infection with Mtb WT, Δ esxBA and Δ esxBA:BA. Mtb area per cell was calculated as fold change, relative to 2 h post infection. Representative data of three independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparison test. *** $P < 0.001$; NS, non-significant. **k**, Representative images of fixed iPSCDM infected with Mtb WT, Δ cpsA and Δ cpsA:*cpsA* 96 h post infection. Nuclear staining (blue) and Mtb-E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 50 μ m. **l**, Quantitative analysis of Mtb replication after infection with Mtb WT, Δ cpsA and Δ cpsA:*cpsA*. Mtb area per cell was calculated as fold change, relative to 2 h post infection. Representative data of three independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparisons test. *** $P < 0.002$; NS, non-significant.

levels of LC3B-II (Extended Data Fig. 1b,e). Additionally, ATG7 KO iPSC showed accumulation of p62 under all conditions when compared with WT iPSC (Extended Data Fig. 1b). As expected, ATG14 KO iPSC showed increased p62 levels when compared with WT iPSC, even in the fed condition, and failed to alter levels of LC3B-II in response to either starvation or BafA1 (Extended Data Fig. 1e). In contrast, monensin

treatment led to an increase in LC3B-II levels and undetectable levels of LC3B-I in both WT and ATG14 KO iPSC (Extended Data Fig. 1e). We next tested if differentiation into iPSCDM affected the autophagy phenotypes of the ATG7 KO and ATG14 KO iPSC. As expected, ATG7 KO iPSCDM showed defective LC3B processing and increased p62 levels in resting conditions (Extended Data Fig. 1c). Functionally, the ATG14 KO iPSCDM





showed no substantial changes in LC3B processing after starvation or BafA1 treatment (Extended Data Fig. 1f). Induction of non-canonical autophagy with monensin increased LC3B processing in both WT and

ATG14 KO iPSDM, and the levels of p62 remained largely unchanged under all conditions tested (Extended Data Fig. 1f). Next, the iPSDM clones were characterized by flow cytometry for surface expression

Fig. 2 | Increased Mtb replication in ATG7-deficient iPSDM. **a, c, e.** Snapshot of live ATG7^{+/+} and ATG7^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT (**a**), Δ esxB (**c**) and Δ cpsA (**e**) at 96 h. Nuclear staining (blue) and Mtb-E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 50 μ m. **b, d, f.** High content quantitative analysis of Mtb replication after infection of ATG7^{+/+} or ATG7^{-/-} iPSDM with Mtb WT (**b**), Δ esxB (**d**) and Δ cpsA (**f**). Mtb area per cell was calculated as fold change, relative to 2 h post infection. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. An unpaired two-tailed t -test was used

for comparisons $^{**}P < 0.002$; NS, non-significant. **g.** Representative images of Blue/Green (Live/Dead)-stained ATG7^{+/+} and ATG7^{-/-} iPSDM uninfected (CTRL) or infected with Mtb WT for 96 h. Nuclear staining (blue) and dead nuclear staining (green). Scale bars, 50 μ m. **h.** Quantitative analysis of the percentage of NucGreen-positive cells in each condition. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparison test $^{***}P < 0.001$, $^{*}P < 0.033$; NS, non-significant.

of macrophage markers. After M-CSF-induced differentiation, all the iPSDM showed a reduction in CD14 and an increase in CD11b surface expression levels as shown before^{22,32} (Extended Data Fig. 2). Upon differentiation, ATG7 and ATG14 KO iPSDM surface expression of CD163 and CD206 was similar to WT iPSDM whereas the levels of CD169 were higher in both ATG7 and ATG14 KO iPSDM (Extended Data Fig. 2).

ATG7 KO leads to increased Mtb replication and cell death

We then infected ATG7 KO iPSDM with Mtb WT, Δ esxB or Δ cpsA expressing E2-Crimson and analysed bacterial replication by single-cell high-content imaging. Mtb signal per macrophage increased approximately three-fold in ATG7 KO iPSDM versus two-fold when compared with WT iPSDM after 96 h of infection (Fig. 2a,b). These differences were not due to a change in bacterial uptake or dissemination in ATG7 KO iPSDM as the bacterial area per cell at uptake and percentage of infected cells at all timepoints were similar in both genetic backgrounds (Extended Data Fig. 3a,b). The increase in bacterial replication was observed only during infection with Mtb WT since both the Mtb Δ esxB and Δ cpsA mutants were restricted in the ATG7 KO iPSDM (Fig. 2c–f). As expected, after infection of ATG7 KO iPSDM with Mtb WT, Δ esxB or Δ cpsA, there was no induction of LC3B processing (Extended Data Fig. 3c). The levels of p62 in ATG7 KO iPSDM were higher for Mtb WT and Δ cpsA compared with WT iPSDM, potentially due to transcriptional upregulation (Extended Data Fig. 3c). The restriction of Mtb Δ cpsA in iPSDM was not associated with NADPH oxidase localization since no differences in the recruitment of p40 Phox to Mtb WT and Δ cpsA were observed after 2 h of infection (Extended Data Fig. 4). However, at 48 h post infection, the levels of association of p40 Phox with Mtb Δ cpsA were higher when compared with Mtb WT in infected iPSDM. During the analysis, we noticed that in the ATG7 KO iPSDM infected with Mtb WT there was a reduction in the total number of cells analysed by high-content imaging suggesting cell death, a process associated with Mtb replication in human monocyte-derived macrophages (MDM)¹⁴. To test this, we stained the infected cells with NucGreen that selectively stains cells with compromised plasma membrane integrity³³. The percentage of dead cells in ATG7 KO iPSDM was significantly higher after infection with Mtb WT, indicating that, in ATG7 KO cells, the infection was associated with macrophage cell death (Fig. 2g,h).

ATG14 is required to control Mtb WT and Δ esxB replication

To understand the contribution of ATG14 in Mtb restriction, we infected WT and ATG14 KO iPSDM for up to 96 h with Mtb WT, Δ cpsA or Δ esxB and analysed bacterial replication by high-content imaging. The replication of Mtb WT was significantly enhanced in ATG14 KO iPSDM compared with WT iPSDM at 96 h (Fig. 3a,b). Similar to the ATG7 KO

iPSDM infected with Mtb WT, most of the ATG14 KO iPSDM underwent cell death after Mtb WT infection, precluding fixed cell image-based analysis. However, when compared with ATG7 KO macrophages, the replication and cell death phenotype in iPSDM lacking ATG14 was more pronounced at 96 h post infection (30% ATG7 KO versus 50% in ATG14 KO cell death after 96 h infection). This increase in Mtb replication was not related to differences in phagocytosis or bacterial area per cell after uptake as both parameters were similar in both genetic backgrounds (Extended Data Fig. 5a,b). In contrast to iPSDM lacking ATG7, the mutant Mtb Δ esxB also replicated more efficiently in the ATG14 KO iPSDM (Fig. 3c,d). Different from Mtb Δ esxB, the Δ cpsA mutant was still restricted in ATG14 KO iPSDM (Fig. 3e,f). In both uninfected and infected cells ATG14 KO iPSDM showed higher LC3B-II levels compared with WT iPSDM, suggesting an impaired autophagic flux (Extended Data Fig. 5c). The levels of p62 in ATG14 KO iPSDM were also higher compared with WT iPSDM in all conditions tested, which supports the prior observation with LC3B-II (Extended Data Fig. 5c). The increase in Mtb WT replication was associated with an increase in the number of dead cells in ATG14 KO iPSDM, as measured by NucGreen staining, indicating that enhanced bacterial replication resulted in macrophage cell death. In contrast, the enhanced cell death phenotype was observed in neither Mtb Δ esxB nor Δ cpsA infected ATG14 KO iPSDM (Fig. 3g,h).

Increased Mtb replication precedes cell death in ATG14 KO

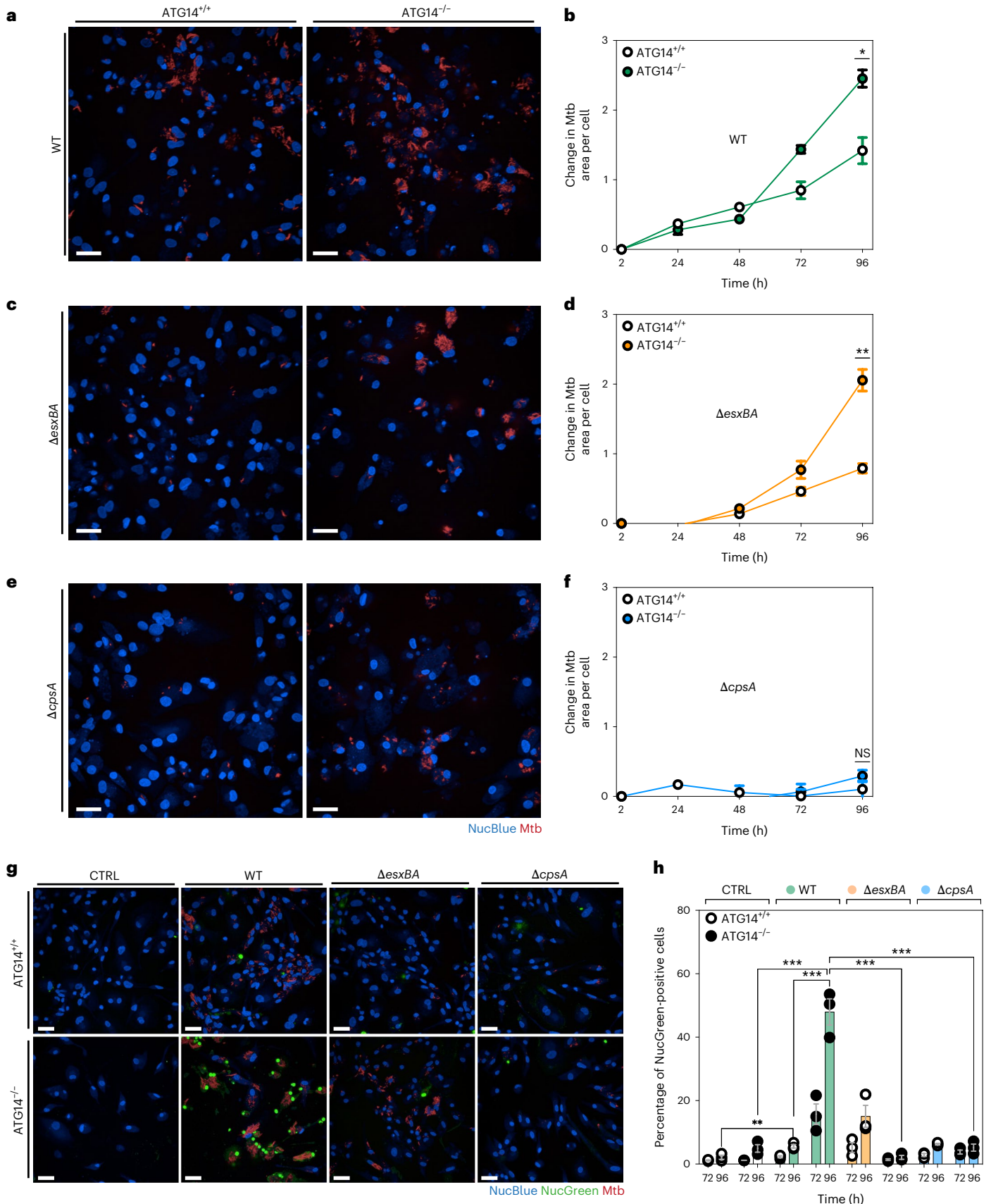
To define whether the ATG14 KO iPSDM were dying because of high bacterial burden or if they became more permissive for Mtb replication after they underwent cell death, we performed high-content live cell imaging of iPSDM infected with Mtb WT in the presence propidium iodide (PI), a probe for the loss of plasma membrane integrity¹⁴. Similarly to what we observed at 96 h post infection (Fig. 3g,h), the ratio of PI-positive iPSDM lacking ATG14 was six-fold higher than in WT iPSDM (Fig. 4a–d and Supplementary Movie 1). Cell death increased exponentially after 72 h of infection in ATG14 KO iPSDM, which correlated with high bacterial loads (Fig. 4c,d and Supplementary Movie 1). While Mtb replication was higher in ATG14 KO iPSDM from 48 h on, the increase in cell death was only observed from 72 h, suggesting that enhanced Mtb replication precedes cell death. We observed that the majority of ATG14-deficient macrophages with high bacterial burden lost their plasma membrane integrity and became PI positive. Bacterial replication continued after cells became leaky, and most of the cells with increased bacterial load were compromised. Quantitative analysis of bacterial replication captured a pronounced difference between WT and ATG14 KO iPSDM. The fold change in bacterial replication was eight-fold in ATG14 KO iPSDM when compared with four-fold for WT iPSDM (Fig. 4a,c). This showed that the fold change was underestimated

Fig. 3 | Mtb WT and Mtb Δ esxB replication increased in ATG14-deficient iPSDM. **a, c, e.** Snapshot of live ATG14^{+/+} and ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT (**a**), Δ esxB (**c**) and Δ cpsA (**e**) at 96 h. Nuclear staining (blue) and Mtb-E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 50 μ m. **b, d, f.** High-content quantitative analysis of Mtb replication after infection of ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM with Mtb WT (**b**), Δ esxB (**d**) and Δ cpsA (**f**). Mtb area per cell was calculated as fold change, relative to 2 h post infection. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. An unpaired two-tailed t -test was used for comparisons $^{**}P < 0.002$, $^{*}P < 0.033$;

NS, non-significant. **g.** Representative images of Blue/Green (Live/Dead)-stained ATG14^{+/+} and ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM uninfected (CTRL) or infected with Mtb WT, Δ esxB and Δ cpsA for 96 h. Nuclear staining (blue) and dead nuclear staining (green). Scale bars, 50 μ m. **h.** Quantitative analysis of the percentage of NucGreen positive cells in each condition. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. Two-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparison test $^{***}P < 0.001$, $^{**}P < 0.002$. Scale bars, 50 μ m.

with the live snapshot approach due to the loss of heavily infected cells during the viability staining step. To validate our findings, we targeted *ATG7* and *ATG14* in human MDM using CRISPR–Cas9 as a

ribonucleoprotein (RNP) complex consisting of Cas9 protein and single guide RNA (sgRNA) by nucleofection³⁴(Fig. 4e,f). After infection of MDM, there were higher replication rates with both Mtb WT (2.6-fold)



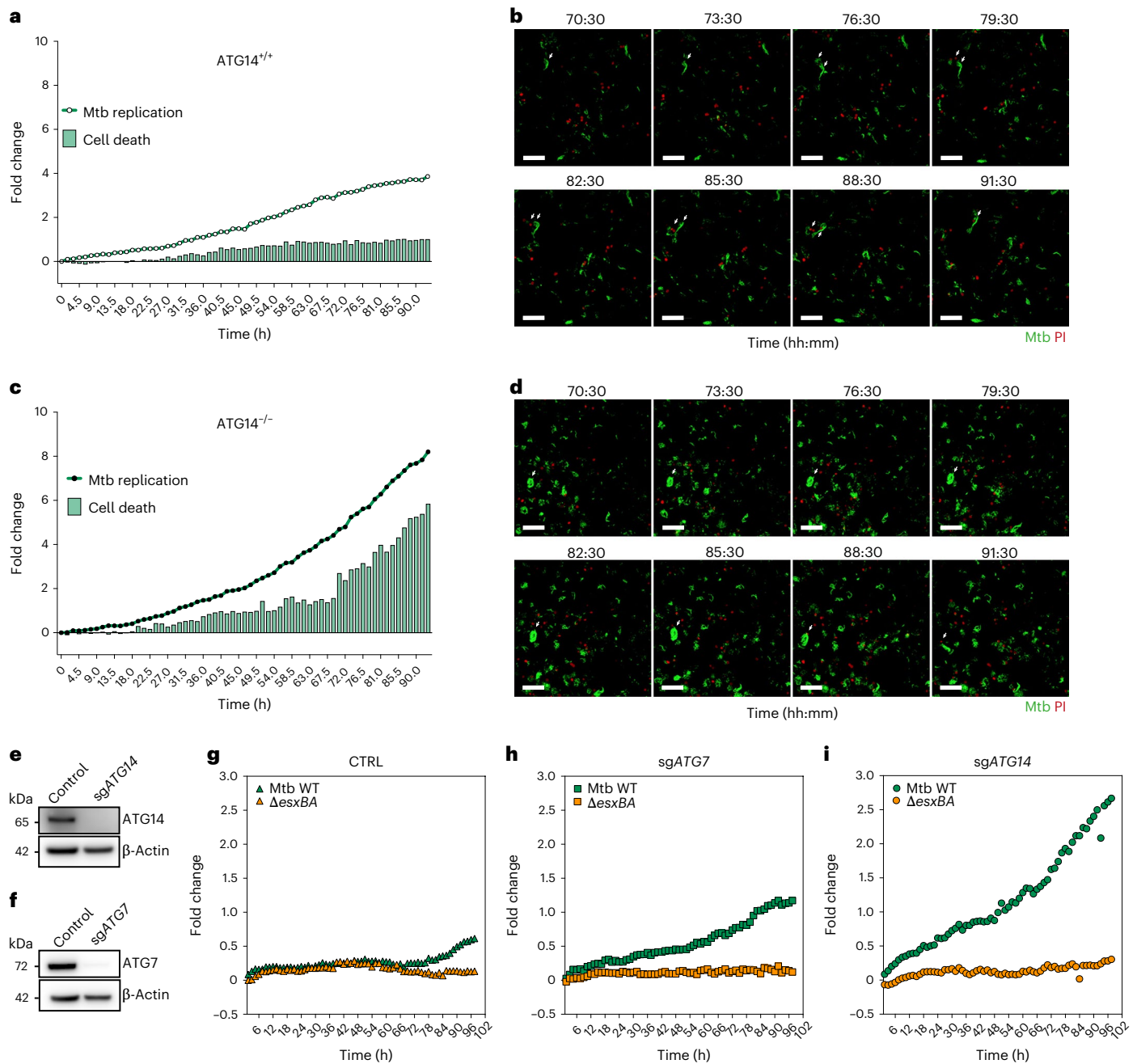


Fig. 4 | Unrestrained Mtb replication and cell death in ATG14-deficient cells.

a,c. High-content quantitative analysis of live Mtb WT replication in ATG14^{+/+} (**a**) or ATG14^{-/-} (**c**) iPSDM. Mtb area (dot plot) and cell death (bar plot) was calculated as fold change, relative to Mtb uptake at time 0 h post infection. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments. **b,d.** Representative micrographs at indicated timepoints of ATG14^{+/+} (**b**) or ATG14^{-/-} (**d**) iPSDM infected with Mtb WT (green) in the presence of PI (red). Data representative from one out of two independent experiments. Scale bars, 50 μ m. **e,f.** Western blot of human MDM

pool-KO for ATG14 (**e**) or ATG7 (**f**). Data representative from one out of two independent experiments. **g.** High-content quantitative analysis of live Mtb WT and Δ esxB A replication in human MDM. Mtb area (dot plot) was calculated as fold change, relative to Mtb uptake at time 0 h post infection. **h,i.** High-content quantitative analysis of live Mtb WT and Mtb Δ esxB A replication in nucleofected human MDM pool-KO for ATG14 (**h**) or ATG7 (**i**). Mtb area (dot plot) was calculated as fold change, relative to Mtb uptake at time 0 h post infection. Data representative of one out of two independent experiments.

and Δ esxB A (0.3-fold) in MDM lacking ATG14 (Fig. 4g) than in WT (Fig. 4h) or ATG7-deficient MDM (Fig. 4i). Pool KO of ATG7 in MDM showed increased Mtb WT replication (1.1-fold) after 5 days of infection when compared with WT MDM (0.6-fold) (Fig. 4g,i); however, this increase was not observed for Mtb Δ esxB A.

Mtb WT access the cytosol more efficiently in ATG14 KO

We next focused on understanding if the increased replication of Mtb WT was due to enhanced cytosolic access. To test this, we used

Galectin-3 (Gal3) as a marker, which is known to recognize luminal glycans of damaged phagosomal membranes. The percentage of Mtb WT associated to Gal3 in ATG7 KO iPSDM was not different from WT iPSDM (Extended Data Fig. 6a,b). Clear association of Gal3 to Mtb WT and Δ cpsA was observed in both WT and ATG7 KO iPSDM, whereas for Mtb Δ esxB A it was almost absent (Extended Data Fig. 6a,b). The percentage of Gal3-positive phagosomes containing Mtb WT and Δ cpsA was higher at 2 h after infection in iPSDM deficient for ATG14 compared with WT iPSDM (Fig. 5a,b). This effect was observed at

the early stages of infection, suggesting that ATG14 regulates early access of Mtb to the cytosol. As expected, the levels of Gal3-positive Mtb *ΔesxB*A were lower in both WT and ATG14 KO iPSDM and there were no differences between the iPSDM genotypes for *ΔcpsA* at later times post infection (Fig. 5a,b). We then analysed the generation of LC3-TV3, which are a consequence of Mtb-induced membrane damage²². In agreement with the Gal3 association results, the percentage of LC3-TV3-positive Mtb WT was significantly higher in ATG14 KO iPSDM, suggesting that the proportion of damaged Mtb phagosomes was higher (Fig. 5c). As expected, this effect was also observed with Mtb *ΔcpsA* mutant but not in Mtb *ΔesxB*A infected cells, confirming the role of the ESX-1 secretion system (Fig. 5c). There were no differences in LC3B recruitment to Mtb in these cells (Fig. 5d). To confirm these observations at the ultrastructural level, we analysed bacterial localization by transmission electron microscopy (TEM). Stereological analysis of cytosolic bacteria further confirmed that a higher fraction of Mtb WT was localized in the cytosol of ATG14-deficient iPSDM 48 h post infection (Fig. 5e). In WT and ATG14 KO macrophages, the vast majority of *ΔesxB*A were localized in phagosomes. However, different from WT cells, in ATG14 iPSDM a small fraction of *ΔesxB*A was in the cytosol, which was probably due to the combination of high levels of bacteria and the reported effect of PDIM in phagosome membrane damage^{17,18,35,36}.

ATG14 regulates the maturation of Mtb phagosomes

The previous results provided an explanation of the highly permissive behaviour of ATG14 KO iPSDM to Mtb WT. However, the higher replication rate of Mtb *ΔesxB*A, which is not able to efficiently access the cytosol, was unexpected. Moreover, the TEM results suggested a permissive intra-phagosomal environment for the replication of Mtb *ΔesxB*A. To investigate this further, we analysed Mtb that are associated to the acidic organelle probe LysoTracker (LTR) during infection and quantified the mean intensity of LTR as a measure of phagosomal maturation. After 2 h of infection, the mean intensity of LTR was lower for both Mtb WT and *ΔesxB*A in ATG14 KO infected iPSDM (Fig. 6a,b). The LTR association remained lower for Mtb WT and *ΔesxB*A in ATG14 KO iPSDM even after 24 h of infection (Fig. 6a,b). In agreement with the replication results in ATG7 KO iPSDM, we did not observe significant differences in LTR intensity associated to Mtb WT or *ΔesxB*A in WT versus ATG7 KO iPSDM (Extended Data Fig. 6c,d). Given that Mtb *ΔesxB*A is mostly in phagosomes, these results suggested that ATG14 is required for the maturation of Mtb phagosomes. To confirm these observations, we generated a dual reporter strain that responds to the pH and chloride concentration of the environment (*rv2390::mWasabi*, pMSP12::E2-Crimson)³⁷. The reporter contains the constitutive promoter pMSP12 driving the expression of E2-Crimson and the promoter of *rv2390* driving the expression of mWasabi in response to increasing concentrations of chloride [Cl⁻] and decreasing pH in the phagosome, which are indicators of phagosomal maturation³⁷. When the ratio of mWasabi/E2-Crimson was analysed in infected iPSDM, we found that the activity of the promoter responding to pH and chloride significantly increased up to 48 h (Fig. 6c,d) as reported before in mouse macrophages³⁷. In contrast, in ATG14 KO iPSDM, the activity of the promoter remained low even after 48 h of infection (Fig. 6c,d). Inhibition of the V-ATPase dependent acidification of Mtb phagosomes

with Bafilomycin A1 (BAF) impaired the activity of the *rv2390* promoter in both WT and ATG14 KO iPSDM (Fig. 6c,d).

We then transformed Mtb *ΔesxB*A and *ΔcpsA* strains with the same reporter and infected iPSDM. After infection of WT iPSDM, the promoter activity in Mtb *ΔesxB*A was significantly higher than Mtb WT (Fig. 6e,f). In contrast, the Mtb *ΔesxB*A *rv2390::mWasabi* reporter activity was substantially reduced in ATG14 KO iPSDM (Fig. 6e,f). Similar to Mtb WT, the *rv2390::mWasabi* reporter activity in Mtb *ΔcpsA* was also reduced in ATG14 KO iPSDM since both Mtb WT and *ΔcpsA* were less exposed to low pH and [Cl⁻] when compared with Mtb *ΔesxB*A (Fig. 6e,f). BAF treatment reduced *rv2390::mWasabi* reporter activity in all conditions tested, confirming that the activity of the reporter was pH dependent (Extended Data Fig. 6e,f).

Discussion

Using a combination of genetic and imaging approaches we show that autophagy-deficient human macrophages have crucial defects in Mtb control. Our human macrophage model provides a tool in which to examine the function of autophagy during Mtb infection. It has been reported that disruption of the autophagy pathway by gene deletion approaches significantly increases Mtb replication in mouse macrophages in vitro^{23–25}, and the data presented in this paper provide genetic evidence that, at least for ATG7 and ATG14, this is also the case in human macrophages.

Of the six Atg proteins studied in mouse models, only Atg5 has a substantial effect on WT Mtb infection in vivo, as measured by colony-forming units, inflammation and survival^{26,38}. However, the observed in vivo pathology is mainly due to increased neutrophilic inflammation and to an autophagy-independent function of Atg5, through an unexplained mechanism^{26,38}. One of the arguments to explain these contradicting results so far is that, in vitro, the differences in replication are not large and therefore not directly translated into in vivo settings. Although it is unclear if large numbers of bacteria in tissues are relevant in the context of human TB³⁹, in our experiments with human macrophages lacking the *ATG7* and *ATG14* autophagy genes, we observed that the cells were highly permissive to Mtb and associated with extensive necrotic cell death. Mouse macrophages produce high levels of nitric oxide (NO) in the lungs that is critical for the control of TB in vivo⁴⁰, and high levels of NO could mask some of the autophagy-dependent effects. Moreover, the Cre-lox recombination systems used in mice for conditional KOs are not 100% efficient and some residual autophagy could have been present⁴¹. Importantly, there is a fine balance between autophagy and cell death in different contexts and the in vivo conditional deletion of critical autophagy genes in specific cell types could affect the survival of these cells in vivo and specifically deplete cellular populations. Until now, the in vivo models used to study autophagy have been in C57BL/6 mice that are resistant to TB, and it would be important to investigate the role of autophagy in TB susceptible mouse strains such as C3H/HeBFeJ⁴² or B6.Sst1⁵ mice⁴³ that display necrotic lesions better resembling human TB.

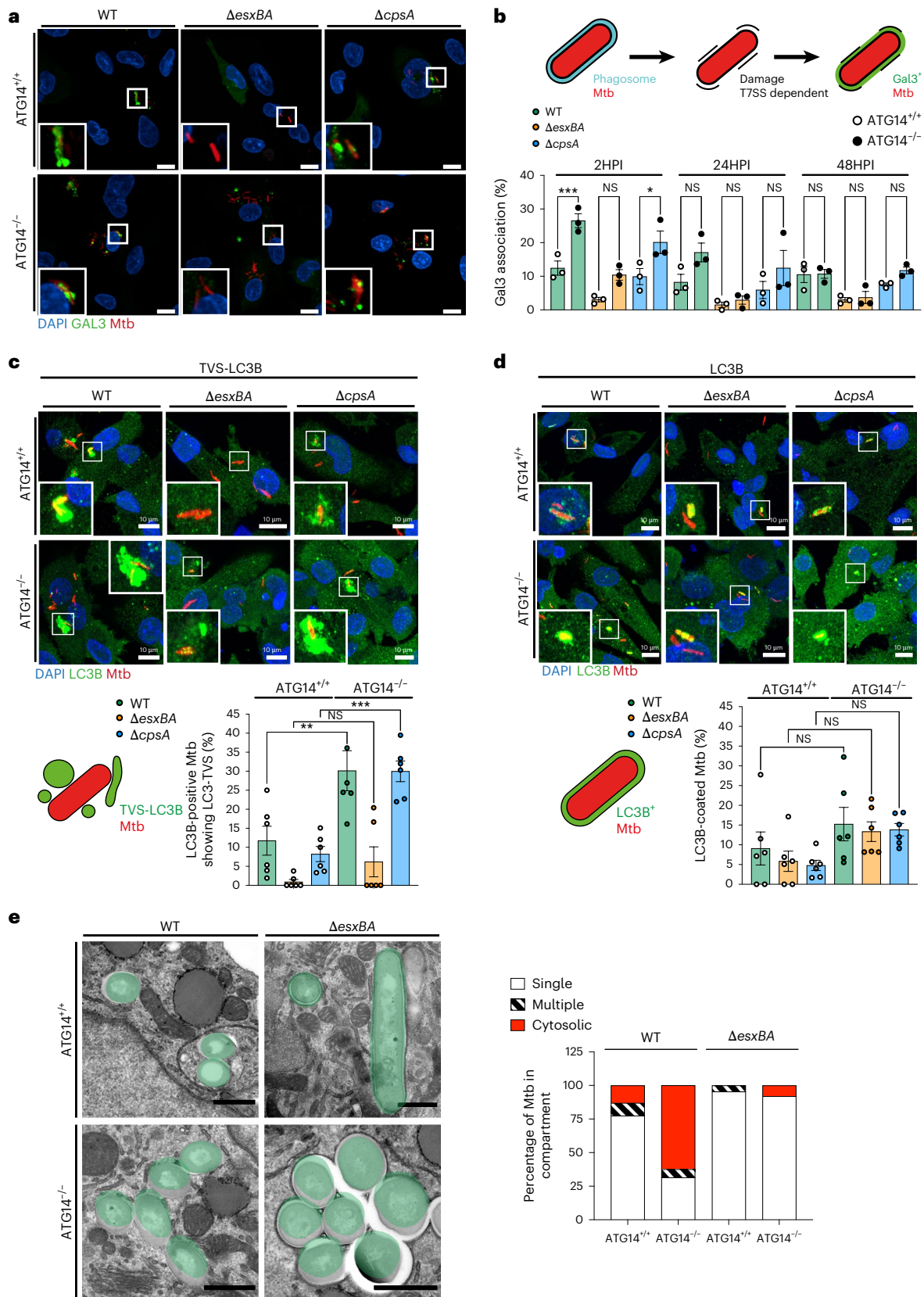
Our data show that ATG7- and ATG14-dependent restriction and induction of cell death is primarily associated with Mtb WT infection. Our data support the notion that both ATG7 and ATG14 control the replication of cytosolic bacteria through either recapture of bacteria from the cytosol²² or sealing of damaged phagosomes by autophagosomes as

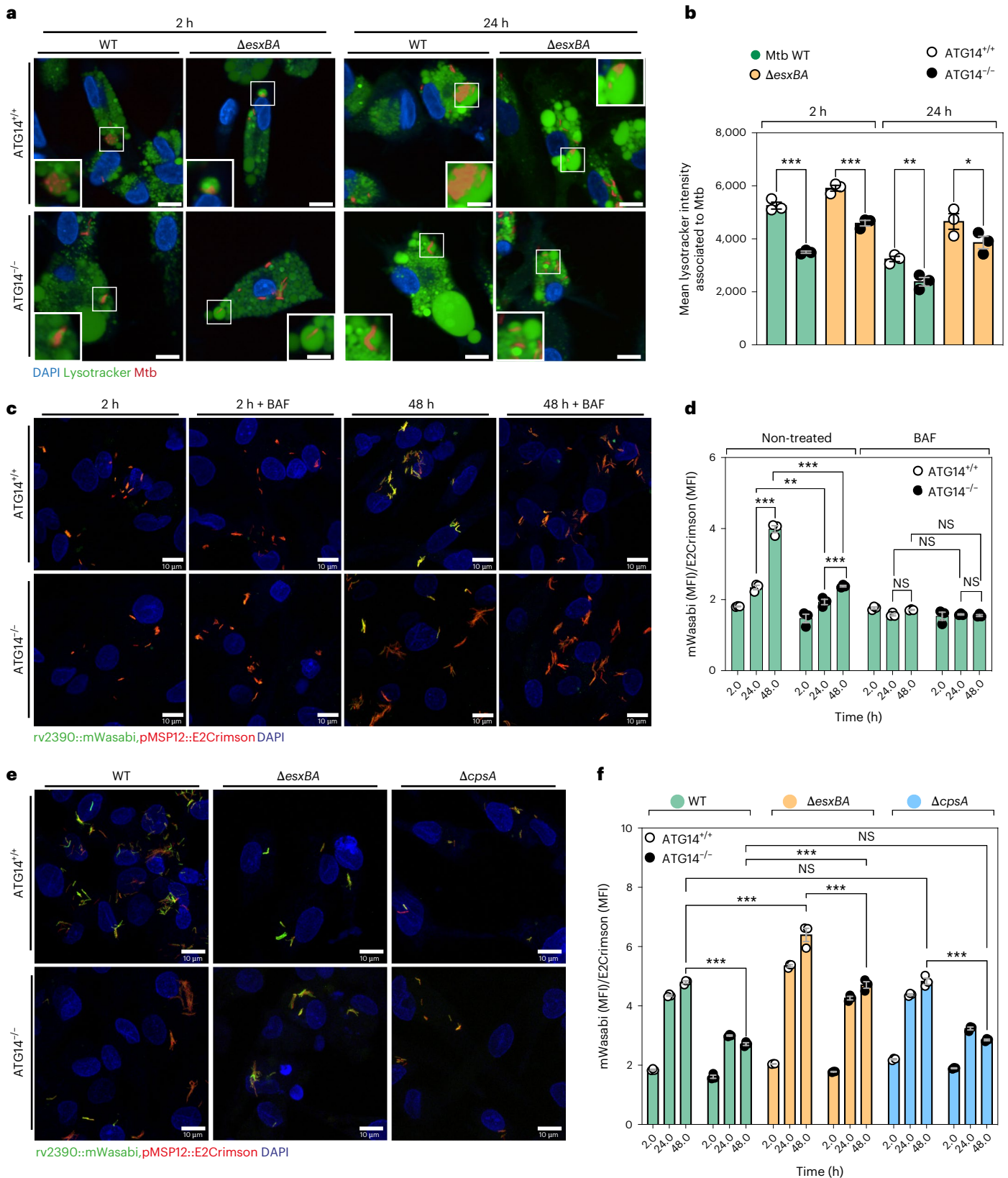
Fig. 5 | ATG14 contributes to maintenance of Mtb in phagosomes. **a**, GAL3 staining in ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT, *ΔesxB*A or *ΔcpsA*. Nuclear staining (blue), GAL3 (green) and Mtb E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 10 μm. **b**, Compiled data from three independent experiments. Results are shown as mean ± s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparison test ****P* < 0.001, ***P* < 0.002; NS, non-significant. **c, d**, LC3B staining (top) and quantification (bottom) of ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDMs infected with Mtb WT, *ΔesxB*A or *ΔcpsA*, 2 h post infection. Mtb in TV3-LC3B-positive (c) or LC3B-positive compartments (d). Nuclear staining (blue), LC3B (green) and

Mtb E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 10 μm. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (*n* = 5 independent fields). Results are shown as mean ± s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparison test ****P* < 0.001, ***P* < 0.002; NS, non-significant. **e**, Transmission electron micrographs of Mtb WT or *ΔesxB*A in distinct subcellular locations in ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDMs after 48 h of infection (left) and stereological quantification of the subcellular distribution of Mtb WT and *ΔesxB*A from TEM images (right). Compiled data from two independent experiments. Scale bars, 500 nm.

reported for *Salmonella*⁴⁴. The Mtb $\Delta cpsA$ mutant is able to damage the phagosomal membrane, but it is possible that the attenuation occurs at earlier steps of infection or that the Mtb $\Delta cpsA$ mutant is unable to efficiently replicate in the cytosol due to unknown defects in, for example, nutrient acquisition.

Our genetic KO experiments suggest that neither canonical nor non-canonical autophagy are required for the control of the mutant Mtb $\Delta cpsA$ in human macrophages. Atg7 KO mouse macrophages were unable to restrict Mtb $\Delta cpsA$ up to 72 h post infection¹². However, in iPSDM, Mtb $\Delta cpsA$ showed attenuated replication in both the ATG7 KO,





which are deficient in both canonical and non-canonical autophagy, and ATG14 KO macrophages, which are impaired for canonical but not non-canonical autophagy. In mouse macrophages the attenuation of the Mtb CpsA KO mutant has been shown to be due to increased NADPH oxidase recruitment and phagosomal ROS production leading to LAP. Different from the results in primary mouse macrophages, in iPSDM

Mtb Δ cpsA recruited NADPH oxidase at similar levels as Mtb WT 2 h post infection. This discrepancy could be due to differences between mouse and human macrophages, differentiation protocols and the genetic background of the Mtb parental strains used. The strains used in this study are all derived from the same parental strain and tested for PDIM status, allowing us to directly compare phenotypic outcomes during

Fig. 6 | ATG14 is required for Mtb phagosome maturation. **a**, Snapshot of live ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT and Δ esxB stained with LTR and NucBlue dye. Nuclear staining (blue), LTR (green) and Mtb E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars, 10 μ m. **b**, Quantitative analysis of the LTR association with Mtb as mean fluorescence intensity (MFI). Data representative from one out of two independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparisons test $***P < 0.001$, $**P < 0.002$, $*P < 0.033$. **c**, Snapshot of ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb expressing rv2390::mWasabi, pMSP12::E2-Crimson reporter in the presence or absence of BafA1 (BAF). Scale bars, 10 μ m. **d**, Quantitative analysis of rv2390 promoter activity as MFI of mWasabi over E2-Crimson at the indicated timepoints of infection with ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM. Data representative

from one out of three independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparisons test $***P < 0.001$, $**P < 0.002$; NS, non-significant. **e**, Snapshot of ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT, Δ esxB or Δ cpsA strains expressing rv2390::mWasabi, pMSP12::E2-Crimson reporter at 48 h of infection. Scale bars, 10 μ m. **f**, Quantitative analysis of rv2390 promoter activity as MFI of mWasabi over E2-Crimson in Mtb WT, Δ esxB or Δ cpsA strains at the indicated time points of infection with ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments ($n = 3$ independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm s.e.m. Two-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparisons test. $***P < 0.001$; NS, non-significant.

infection. In this context, further studies and characterization of its localization are required to define the precise mechanism by which the Mtb Δ cpsA mutant is restricted in human macrophages.

We propose that ATG7 and ATG14 act at different stages of the intracellular lifestyle of Mtb in human macrophages. While the ATG7 KO macrophages showed a significant change in Mtb WT replication and Mtb-induced cell death, the KO of ATG14, which disrupts only canonical autophagy but leaves non-canonical autophagy intact, led to more pronounced increased replication of Mtb WT and the mutant Mtb Δ esxB. There is evidence that ATG14 regulates the fusion between autophagosomes and lysosomes⁴⁵ and also has a function in the endosomal pathway that is autophagy independent⁴⁶. We found that ATG14 also regulates the fusion between Mtb-containing phagosomes and lysosomes in macrophages, but the mechanisms regulating this process needs to be further investigated. Our results raise questions about possible links between phagosome maturation and cytosolic access as shown in *Dyctiostelium*²¹. Is a decrease in phagosome maturation a result of enhanced membrane damage? Or is it that reduced phagosome maturation leads to enhanced membrane damage and increased cytosolic access? Further studies will define how these events are temporally regulated.

Altogether, our data revealed that ATG7 and ATG14 are required to control Mtb infection by macrophages, showing that autophagy proteins regulate different stages: ATG7 and ATG14 regulating the control of cytosolic Mtb and ATG14 in addition to the fusion of Mtb phagosomes with lysosomes. Understanding how autophagy acts to control the infection of intracellular pathogens in humans will enable the development of host-directed therapies.

Methods

Mycobacterial strains and culture conditions

Mtb H37Rv (Mtb WT) was provided by Prof. Douglas Young (The Francis Crick Institute, UK). Mtb deletion mutants for *cpsA* (rv3484) or *esxB* and *esxA* (rv3874 and rv3875) were constructed using ORBIT⁴⁷. For each mutant the transformants were verified by PCR (Supplementary Table 1) and confirmed by whole genome sequencing. Complementation of the *cpsA* gene deletion was carried out through the expression of the Mtb H37Rv *cpsA* gene under the control of the *hsp60* promoter from the MS6 site in the chromosome. Complementation of the *esxB* genes deletion was achieved by placing both Mtb H37Rv *esxB* and *esxA* expression under the control of the Psmc promoter³⁰ from the MS6 site in the chromosome. Fluorescent strains were engineered to express E2-Crimson from pTEC19 (Addgene #30178, from Prof. Lalita Ramakrishnan). The dual reporter strains of Mtb were constructed through episomal expression of E2-Crimson from the same constitutive promoter as in pTEC19 and mWasabi gene amplified from the pTEC15 vector (Addgene #30174, from Prof. Lalita Ramakrishnan) was placed under the control of the chloride- and low-pH-responsive rv2390c promoter^{37,48}. Mtb strains were cultured in Middlebrook 7H9 (Sigma-Aldrich, M0178) supplemented with 0.2% glycerol (Fisher Chemical, G/0650/17), 0.05% Tween-80 (Sigma-Aldrich, P1754) and

10% ADC (BD Biosciences, 212352). Appropriate selection markers 50 μ g ml⁻¹ hygromycin (Invitrogen, 10687010), 25 μ g ml⁻¹ kanamycin (Sigma-Aldrich, K1876) or 25 μ g ml⁻¹ zeocin (Invivogen, ant-zn-05) were used when required.

Mycobacterial protein lysate preparation

Thirty millilitres of log-phase mycobacterial culture was centrifuged for 5 min at 2,000g at room temperature. Supernatant was removed and filtered twice with 0.22 μ m filter. The pellet was washed with wash buffer (PBS-Tween-80 0.05% or PBS-Tyloxapol 0.05%), then with PBS. The pellet was resuspended in 500 μ l of PBS containing protease inhibitor and transferred to a 2 ml screw cap tube 1/3 full of glass beads (Sigma, G-1145). Samples were ribolysed at setting 6.5 for 30 s, then placed on ice for 5 min and centrifuged twice at 4,000g for 1 min at 4 °C. The remaining supernatant was centrifuged at 4,000g for 10 min at 4 °C and 500 μ l transferred to a Millipore Ultrafree-MC centrifugal filter device. Samples were filtered two times Millipore Ultrafree-MC centrifugal filter device at 4,000g for 5 min at 4 °C.

Human iPSC culture and iPSDM preparation

EIKA2 and KOLF2 human iPSCs were sourced from Public Health England Culture Collections (catalogue numbers 77650059 and 77650100, respectively) and maintained in Vitronectin XF (StemCell Technologies, 100-0763)-coated plates with Essential 8 medium (Gibco, A1517001). Cells were authenticated by STR profiling and checked monthly for *Mycoplasma* contamination. Cells were passaged using Versene (Gibco, 15040066). Monocyte factories were set up following a previously reported protocol³². Embryonic bodies (EBs) were fed daily with two times 50% medium changes with E8 supplemented with 50 ng ml⁻¹ hBMP4 (Peprotech, 120-05), 50 ng ml⁻¹ hVEGF (Peprotech, 100-20) and 20 ng ml⁻¹ hSCF (Peprotech, 300-07) for 3 days. On day 4, the EBs were collected and seeded at 100–150 EBs per T175 or 250–300 per T225 flask in XVIVO-factory medium or OXM-factory medium (Supplementary Table 2). These monocyte factories were fed weekly for 5 weeks until monocytes were observed in the supernatant. Up to 50% of the supernatant was collected weekly and centrifuged at 300g for 5 min. The cells were resuspended in XVIVO-differentiation medium or OXM-differentiation medium (Supplementary Table 2). Monocytes were plated at 4 \times 10⁶ cells per 10 cm Petri dish to differentiate over 7 days; on day 4, a 50% medium change was performed. To detach, cells were washed once with PBS (pH 7.4), then incubated with Versene for 15 min at 37 °C and 5% CO₂ before diluting 1:3 with PBS and gently scraping. Macrophages were centrifuged at 300g and plated for experiments.

Lipid extraction and thin-layer liquid chromatography

Ten millilitres of logarithmic culture was inactivated for 2 h at 95 °C in 1 ml PBS. After three washes in water, supernatants from successive incubations in chloroform:methanol (2:1) and methanol:chloroform (1:1) were pooled and dried at 55 °C. Dried lipids were further resuspended in chloroform, resolved on a silica gel plate with a petroleum

ether:ethyl acetate (98:2) solvent mix and visualized with 5% phosphomolybdic acid in ethanol against purified PDIMs (H37Rv, Purified Phthiocerol Dimycoserolate, BEI Resources, NR-20328) and a strain defective in PDIM synthesis⁴⁹ as positive and negative controls, respectively.

Generation of ATG7 and ATG14 KO in human iPSCs

The CRISPR–Cas9-based KO strategy used four sgRNAs flanking specific gene exons to obtain a deletion of a genomic sequence. The sgRNAs targeting *ATG7* and *ATG14* were designed and selected using WGE CRISPR design tool (www.sanger.ac.uk/htgt/wge/)⁵⁰. Nucleofection of EIK2 iPSCs was performed by using the Amaxa 4D-Nucleofector (V4XP-3024, Lonza) to obtain ATG7 KO clones. ATG7 KO iPSC were viable and displayed no replication deficiency although the EB formation and monocyte production steps were variable. For each nucleofection, 1×10^6 of human iPSCs were resuspended in 100 μ l of P3 buffer (Lonza, V4XP-3024) containing 20 μ g of S.p. Cas9 (Alt-R S.p. Cas9 Nuclease V3, 1081059, IDT) mixed with a total of 16 μ g of synthetic chemically modified single guide RNAs (Synthego) (Supplementary Table 3). The cells and the Cas9–RNP mix were then nucleofected with program CA-137. After nucleofection, single clones were manually picked⁵¹ and screened by PCR-based assay (for sequences, see Supplementary Table 1). Nucleofection of KOLF2 iPSCs to obtain ATG14 KO and ATG7 KO clones was performed as above.

Flow cytometry

Cells were collected and incubated in PBS/0.1% BSA (Cell Signaling Technologies, 9998S) and 5 μ l Fc block per million cells for 20 min. Fifty microlitres of cells were incubated with 50 μ l antibody cocktail diluted in PBS/0.1% BSA for 20 min on ice in the dark. Cells were washed in 2 ml PBS and fixed in 2% paraformaldehyde (PFA; Electron Microscopy Sciences, 15710). Cells were analysed on an LSRII flow cytometer. Antibodies were purchased from BD Biosciences and are detailed in Supplementary Table 4. Flow cytometry data were analysed and plotted in FlowJo (BD Biosciences).

Macrophage infection with Mtb

iPSDM were seeded at a density of 50,000 cells per well of a 96-well plate, 150,000 cells per well of a 24-well plate, 500,000 cells per well of a 12-well plate and 1×10^6 cells per well of a 6-well plate. Mid-logarithmic-phase bacterial cultures (OD_{600} 0.5–1.0) were centrifuged at 2,000g for 5 min and washed twice in PBS. Pellets were then shaken vigorously for 1 min with 2.5–3.5 mm glass beads (VWR, 332124 G) and bacteria resuspended in 10 ml macrophage culture medium before being centrifuged at 300g for 5 min to remove large clumps. The top 7 ml of bacterial suspension was taken, the OD_{600} was recorded and the suspension was diluted appropriately for infection. After 2 h of uptake, extracellular bacteria were removed with two washes in PBS and macrophages were incubated at 37 °C and 5% CO₂. At the required time post infection, cells were collected or fixed in 4% PFA. A target multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1 was used for all the experiments, assuming OD_{600} of 1 is 1×10^8 bacteria ml⁻¹. Bafilomycin A1 treatment was done in parallel to the infection with 100 nM final concentration and kept present until the last timepoint.

Generation of human MDM

Cells were prepared from leucocyte cones (NC24) supplied by the NHS Blood and Transplant service¹⁴. White blood cells were isolated by centrifugation on Ficoll-Paque Premium (GE Healthcare, 17-5442-03) for 60 min at 300g. Mononuclear cells were collected and washed twice with MACS rinsing solution (Miltenyi, 130-091-222) to remove platelets and red blood cells. The remaining samples were incubated with 10 ml RBC lysing buffer (Sigma, R7757) per pellet for 10 min at room temperature. Cells were washed with rinsing buffer and were resuspended in 80 μ l MACS rinsing solution supplemented with 1% BSA (Miltenyi,

130-091-376) (MACS/BSA) and 20 μ l anti-CD14 magnetic beads (Miltenyi, 130-050-201) per 10^8 cells. After 20 min on ice, cells were washed in MACS/BSA solution and resuspended at a concentration of 10^8 cells per 500 μ l in MACS/BSA solution and further passed through an LS column (Miltenyi, 130-042-401) in the field of a QuadroMACS separator magnet (Miltenyi, 130-090-976). The LS column was washed three times with MACS/BSA solution, then CD14-positive cells were eluted, centrifuged and resuspended in complete RPMI 1640 with GlutaMAX and HEPES (Gibco, 72400-02) and 10% foetal bovine serum (FBS; Sigma, F7524).

Nucleofection of human MDM

Cells were washed twice with PBS and electroporated in the appropriate primary nucleofection solution (Amaxa Human Monocyte Nucleofector Kit, cat. no. VPA-1007) using the Lonza 2b Nucleofector (Nucleofector 2b Device, AAB-1001). A total of 5×10^6 of cells were used per reaction and resuspended in 100 μ l of primary nucleofection solution containing 4 μ g of S.p. Cas9 (IDT) mixed with a total of 12 μ g of targeting synthetic chemically modified single guide RNAs (Synthego) (Supplementary Table 3). MDM were then nucleofected with the sgRNA pool and the Cas9–RNP mix using Y001 program. Nucleofected cells were cultured in pre-warmed RPMI 1640 supplemented with GlutaMAX, HEPES and 10% FBS in a six-well plate. Two hours post nucleofection, 100 ng ml⁻¹ hM-CSF was added to the cells. Dishes were incubated in a humidified 37 °C incubator with 5% CO₂. After 3 days, an equal volume of fresh complete medium including 100 ng ml⁻¹ hM-CSF was added. After 6 days, differentiated macrophages were detached in 0.5 mM EDTA in ice-cold PBS using cell scrapers (Sarsted, 83.1830), pelleted by centrifugation and resuspended in RPMI medium containing 10% FBS³⁴.

SDS-PAGE and western blot

Cells were washed once with PBS, lysed on ice in RIPA buffer (Millipore, 20-188) containing complete, EDTA-free protease inhibitor (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 78445) and boiled at 95–100 °C for 20 min in LDS sample (Thermo Fisher Scientific, NP008) and NuPage Sample Reducing Agent (Thermo Fisher Scientific, NP009). Samples were loaded into 4–12% Bis-Tris gel (Thermo Fisher Scientific, WG1403BOX), and electrophoresis was performed at 100 V for 120 min. The gels were transferred onto a PVDF membrane using an iBlot2 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, IB21001) using program P0. Membranes were blocked in 5% skimmed milk powder in TBS plus 0.05% Tween20 (TBS-T) for 1 h at room temperature, then incubated with primary antibody overnight at 4 °C. Membranes were washed in TBS-T and incubated with horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-conjugated secondary antibodies for 1 h at room temperature. Membranes were developed with enhanced chemiluminescence reagent (Bio-Rad) and imaged on an Amersham GE Imager 680 (GE Healthcare). The molecular weight ladder was from Abcam (116028).

Cells were washed twice with PBS, then incubated for 2 h in full medium or starved of amino acids with Hanks' Balanced Salt Solution (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 14170088) with or without 100 nM Bafilomycin A1 (Merck, B1793-10UG) or 50 μ M monensin (Sigma Aldrich, M5273-5G). Antibodies used were p62 (5114), Atg7 (8558), Atg14 (5504 S), β -actin-HRP (12262) from Cell Signaling Technologies, LC3B (ab48394), anti-ESAT6 (EsxA, ab26246), anti-CFP10 (EsxB, ab45074) and anti-Ag85 (ab36731) from Abcam, and anti-rabbit-IgG conjugated to HRP (W4011) and anti-mouse-IgG conjugated to HRP (W4021) from Promega.

Indirect immunofluorescence

Cells were fixed in 4% PFA in PBS, quenched with 50 mM NH₄Cl in PBS for 10 min at room temperature and permeabilized with 0.3% Triton X-100, 5% FBS in PBS for 30 min. Antibodies were diluted in PBS containing 5% FBS and incubated for 1 h at room temperature. Between antibodies, cells were washed three times in PBS. Nuclei were stained for 10 min with DAPI (ThermoFisher, D1306) diluted 1:10,000 in PBS.

Coverslips were mounted on glass slides with DAKO mounting medium (DAKO, S3023). Antibodies used were Alexa Fluor 488 anti-mouse/human Mac-2 (Galectin-3) antibody (BioLegend, 125410, 1:500), anti-LC3B (MBL, PM036, 1:100), p40 Phox (Millipore, 07–503, 1:100) and anti-rabbit-Alexa Fluor 488 (Life Technologies, A11034, 1:500).

Confocal microscopy

Coverslips were imaged using a Leica SP8 inverted confocal microscope (Leica Microsystems) with a 63×1.4 numerical aperture (NA) oil immersion objective. Fluorescence was detected using HyD detectors. Laser and detector settings were kept constant between conditions for each biological replicate of an experiment.

High-content live imaging of Mtb replication and iPSDM cell death

After 72 or 96 h of infection, cells were stained for 30 min using the Blue/Green ReadyProbes Cell Viability Imaging Kit (Invitrogen, R37609) following the manufacturer recommendations. For imaging the timepoints 2, 24 and 48 h post infection, only NucBlue ReadyProbes Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific, R37605) was used. Live cell imaging was performed using an OPERA Phenix microscope (Perkin Elmer) with 40×1.1 NA water-immersion objective with a 10% overlap between adjacent fields, three wells per condition per experiment. Segmentation and analysis were performed using Harmony software (Perkin Elmer, version 4.9) where maximum projection of individual z-planes with an approximate distance of $1\ \mu\text{m}$ was used to perform single-cell segmentation by combining the 'Find nuclei' and 'Find cells' building blocks. For quantifying Mtb replication, bacteria were detected by the 'Find Spots' building block of Harmony. To determine the bacteria area for each cell, the spot area was summed for each segmented cell. The mean bacteria area per cell of each timepoint and condition was imported to R Studio (The R Project for Statistical Computing, version 1.3.1073). The results were then exported as a .csv file. Mtb growth as fold change was calculated by the following formula: (mean Mtb area per cell for the time point at – mean Mtb area per cell at t_{2h})/(mean Mtb area per cell at t_{2h}).

For assessing cell death, segmentation and analysis were performed with Harmony software where maximum projection of individual z-planes with an approximate distance of $1\ \mu\text{m}$ was used to perform single-cell segmentation by the 'Find nuclei' building block. The number of total nuclei was calculated, and then the nuclei that were positive for NucGreen were calculated by setting a threshold in Alexa Fluor 488 intensity. The percentage of cell death was determined by dividing the number of green nuclei over the total number of nuclei.

Long-term live cell imaging of Mtb replication and iPSDM

A total of 50,000 macrophages were seeded per well on olefin-bottomed 96-well plate. Cells were infected with Mtb at an MOI of 1 for 2 h. After infection, cells were washed with PBS and replaced with medium containing $0.4\ \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ PI (Abcam, ab14083). Imaging was performed using an OPERA Phenix microscope (Perkin Elmer) with 40×1.1 NA water-immersion objective with a 10% overlap between adjacent fields. Five planes with $1\ \mu\text{m}$ distance of more than 20 fields of view were monitored over time, and snapshots were taken every 1.5 h for 96 h. For assessing bacterial replication and cell death, analysis was performed with Harmony software where maximum projection of individual z-planes with an approximate distance of $1\ \mu\text{m}$ was used. To perform cellular segmentation, 'Find Texture Regions' building block was trained in Brightfield channel to segment cellular areas. Following the segmentation of cellular area, 'Find Spots' and 'Find nuclei' building blocks were used to segment Mtb and PI-positive nuclei. To determine the bacteria area and PI-positive nuclei over time, the spot area and number of PI-positive nuclei was summed for each timepoint. Mtb growth as fold change was calculated by the following formula: (sum of intracellular Mtb area for the timepoint – sum of intracellular

Mtb area at t_{0h})/(sum of intracellular Mtb area at t_{0h}). Cell death as fold change was calculated by the following formula: (sum of PI-positive nuclei for the timepoint – sum of PI-positive nuclei at t_{0h})/(sum of PI-positive nuclei at t_{0h}).

Image analysis for Gal3 association and LC3-TVS

Images were acquired using the Opera Phenix system. Cells were stained in either 96-well glass-bottom Viewplates or olefin-bottomed 96-well plate and imaged with a 63×1.15 NA water immersion objective. Segmentation was performed using Harmony software. DAPI signal from a single z-planes was detected using the 'Find Nuclei' building block, next 'Find Spots' building block was used to perform bacterial segmentation. Gal3 association was calculated manually; five fields with over 100 cells were analysed for each condition. To quantify LC3B and LC3-TVS association to Mtb, images were acquired using a Leica SP8 inverted confocal microscope with a 63×1.4 NA oil immersion objective. Quantification of Mtb and LC3-TVS association was done manually using the open-source software ImageJ/Fiji v1.53a, and five fields with over 100 cells were analysed for each condition.

Sample preparation for TEM analysis

Samples were fixed by adding double strength fixative (2.5% glutaraldehyde and 8% formaldehyde in 200 mM HEPES, pH 7.4) to the culture medium for 30 min at room temperature, then replaced with 1.25% glutaraldehyde and 4% formaldehyde in 200 mM HEPES overnight at $4\ ^\circ\text{C}$. Samples were processed in a Biowave Pro (Pelco) with use of microwave energy and vacuum. Briefly, cells were twice washed in HEPES (Sigma-Aldrich H0887) and post-fixed using a mixture of 2% osmium tetroxide (Taab O011) and 1.5% potassium ferricyanide (Taab, P018) (v/v). Samples were washed with distilled water four times and stained with 2% aqueous uranyl acetate (Agar scientific AGR1260A), then washed as before. Samples were dehydrated using a stepwise ethanol series of 50%, 75%, 90% and 100%, then lifted from the tissue culture plastic with propylene oxide, washed four times in dry acetone and transferred to 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tubes. Samples were infiltrated with a dilution series of 50%, 75% and 100% of Ultra Bed Low Viscosity Epoxy (EMS) resin to acetone mix and centrifuged at 600g between changes. Finally, samples were cured for a minimum of 48 h at $60\ ^\circ\text{C}$.

Ultrathin sections ($\sim 60\ \text{nm}$) were cut with an EM UC7 Ultramicrotome (Leica Microsystems) using an oscillating ultrasonic 35° diamond Knife (DiaTOME) at a cutting speed of $0.6\ \text{mm s}^{-1}$, a frequency set by automatic mode and a voltage of 6.0 V. Images were acquired using a 120k 1400FLASH VTEM with a Matataki CCD camera.

Stereological analysis of Mtb-infected cells: At least 33 different infected cells per group were imaged at $\times 3,900$ magnification by systematic and random sampling. Cross points of the stereological test grid over bacteria were counted regarding the subcellular localization of bacteria, which was determined from images taken at minimum magnification of $\times 16,000$. The following criteria were followed for the assessment of subcellular membrane involvement: (1) single surrounding membrane, that is, bacteria were, at least partially, tightly lined by a phospholipid bilayer, representing the phagosomal membrane; (2) cytosolic, that is, bacteria were surrounded by ribosomes, representing the cytoplasm with no indication of the phagosomal membrane; (3) multiple surrounding membranes, that is, bacteria were enveloped by double or multiple membrane structures.

High-content live fluorescence imaging and determination of Mtb-associated LTR intensity

Cells were infected with Mtb WT or ΔesxB A at an MOI of 1 as described previously. Infected cells were washed once with PBS and stained with medium containing 200 nM LysoTracker Green DND-26 (LTR; Invitrogen, L7526) and NucBlue ReadyProbes Reagent (Invitrogen, R37605) following the manufacturer recommendations. Segmentation and analysis were performed using Harmony software as above. DAPI signal

from a single z-plane was detected using the 'Find Image Region' building block, then 'Find Spots' building block was used to perform bacterial segmentation. Each individual region of interest was transformed into a mask and extended by using the 'Find Surrounding Regions' building block with an individual threshold of 0.8 and including the input region. This mask was used to determine the LTR mean intensity associated to each Mtb region. The mean intensity of LTR associated to every Mtb was calculated, and mean of every timepoint and condition was imported to RStudio. The results were then exported as a .csv file.

Intra-phagosomal pH/chloride analysis with Mtb rv2390 promoter reporter

Analysis of the Mtb expressing pH/chloride reporter (rv2390::mWasabi, pMSP12::E2-Crimson) was performed using Harmony software. Segmentation and analysis were performed on maximum projection of individual z-planes with an approximate distance of 0.5 μm . DAPI signal from all the z-planes was detected using the 'Find Nuclei' and 'Find Cytoplasm' building blocks to accurately perform cellular segmentation. Signals from both mWasabi and E2-Crimson channels were detected using the 'Find Image Region' or alternatively the 'Find Spot' building block where a manual threshold was applied to accurately define bacterial objects. Signal from the mWasabi and the E2-Crimson channels were merged using the 'Calculate Image' and the function 'By Formula' by applying a channel A + B operation. For each bacterial object, the mean fluorescence intensity of mWasabi and E2-Crimson was determined with calculate intensity properties building block. The reporter activity for each bacterial object was calculated by generating a formula output of the mean mWasabi intensity per object over mean E2-Crimson intensity per object. The mean of each condition was then exported as a .csv file.

Graph plotting and statistical analysis

All graphs were produced and statistical analysis were performed in GraphPad Prism Version 9.4.0 (GraphPad Software LLC). Figures were compiled using Adobe Illustrator 2022 Version 26.2.1 (Adobe).

Reporting summary

Further information on research design is available in the Nature Portfolio Reporting Summary linked to this article.

Data availability

Source data are provided with this paper. All other data supporting the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Code availability

All analyses were done reproducibly using publicly available R scripts.

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Author contributions

M.G.G. conceived the project and was the primary supervisor for the study. B.A., E.M.B. and E.P. performed experiments and analysed the data. L.B. generated and characterized all the Mtb strains used in this work. A.F. performed the electron microscopy analysis. N.A., C.B. and P.S. contributed with the stem cell culture and macrophage production. M.G.G. wrote the initial draft, and B.A. prepared the figures. B.A., E.M.B. and E.P. revised the manuscript with input from all authors.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Additional information

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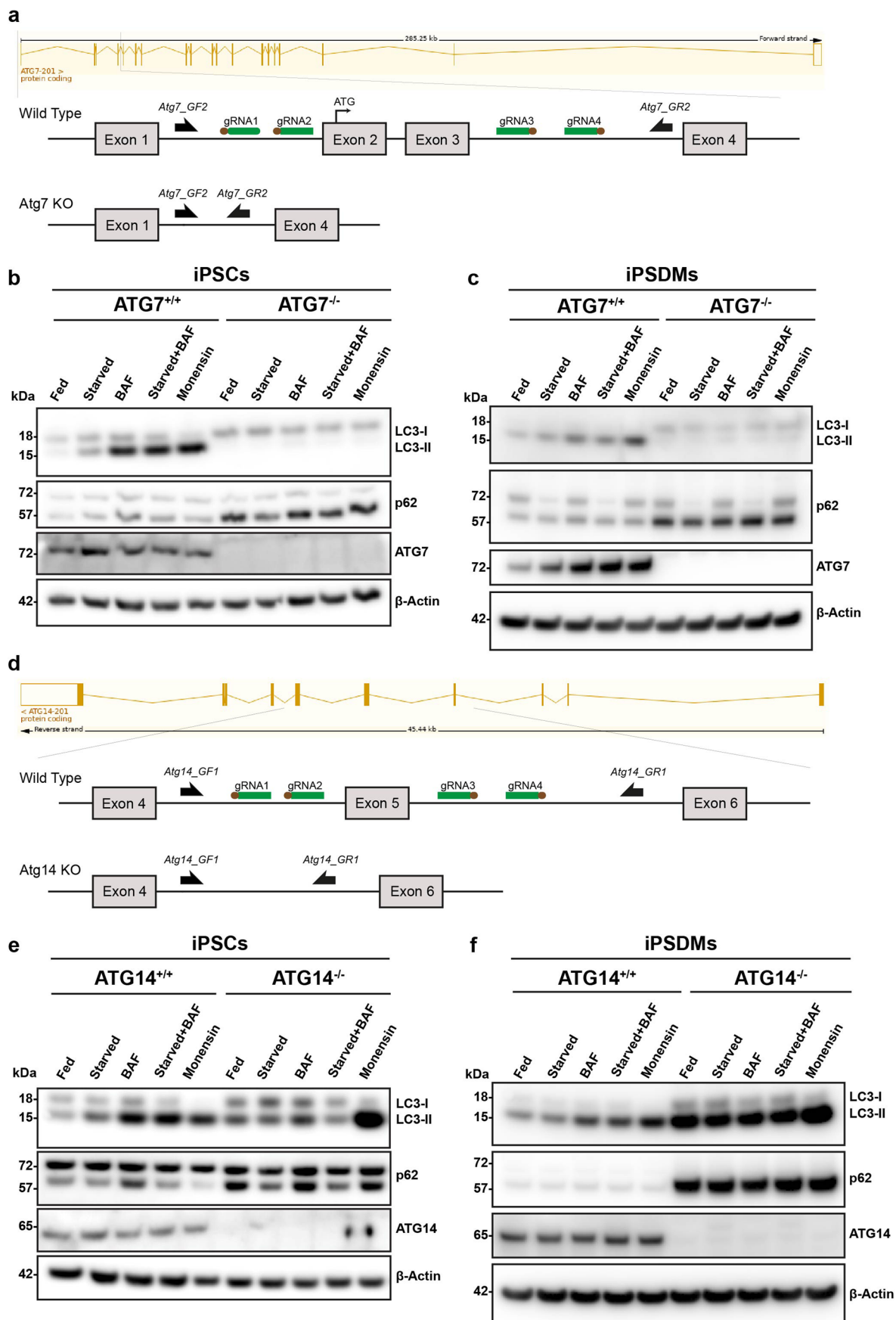
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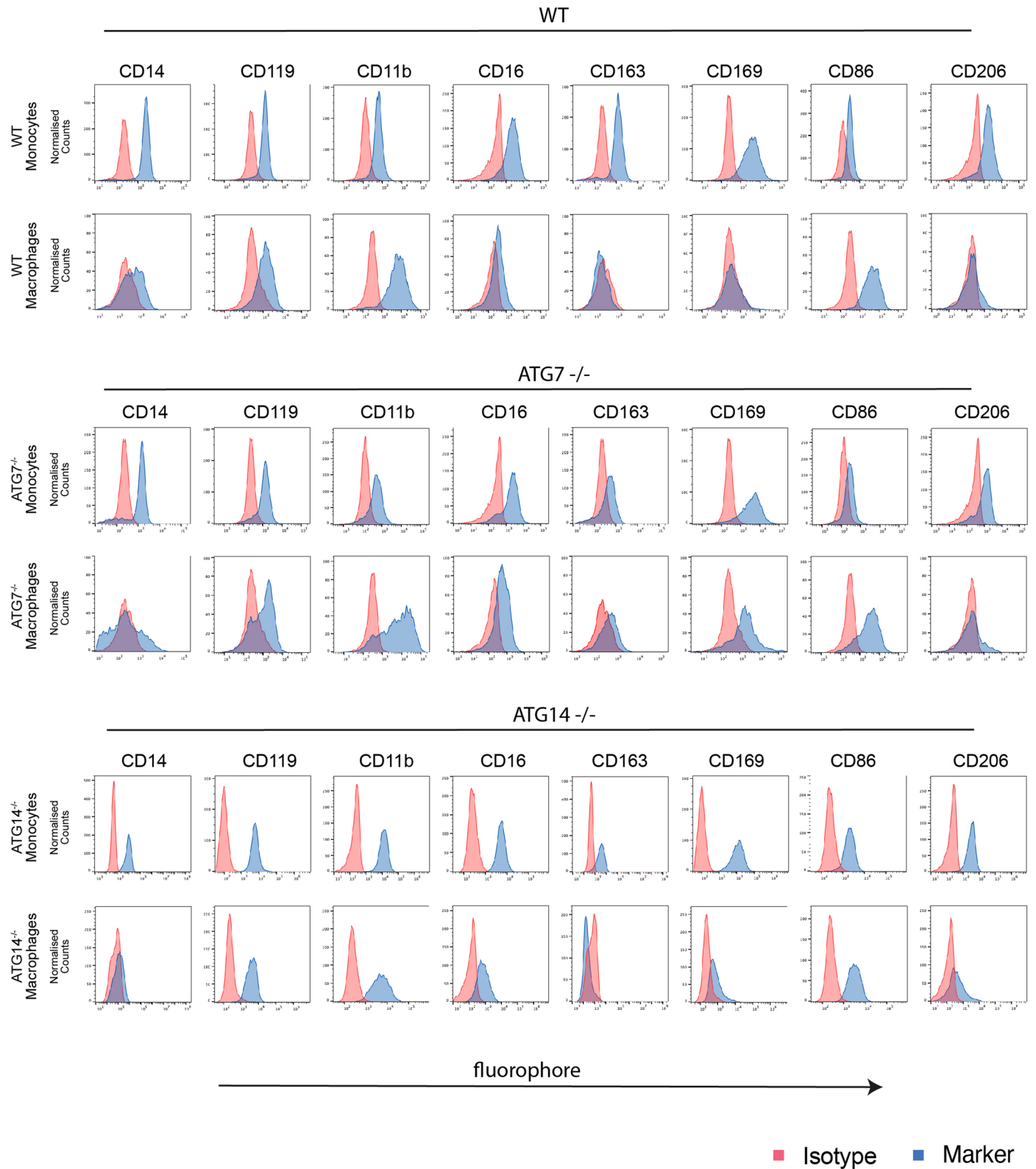
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Extended Data Fig. 1 | See next page for caption.

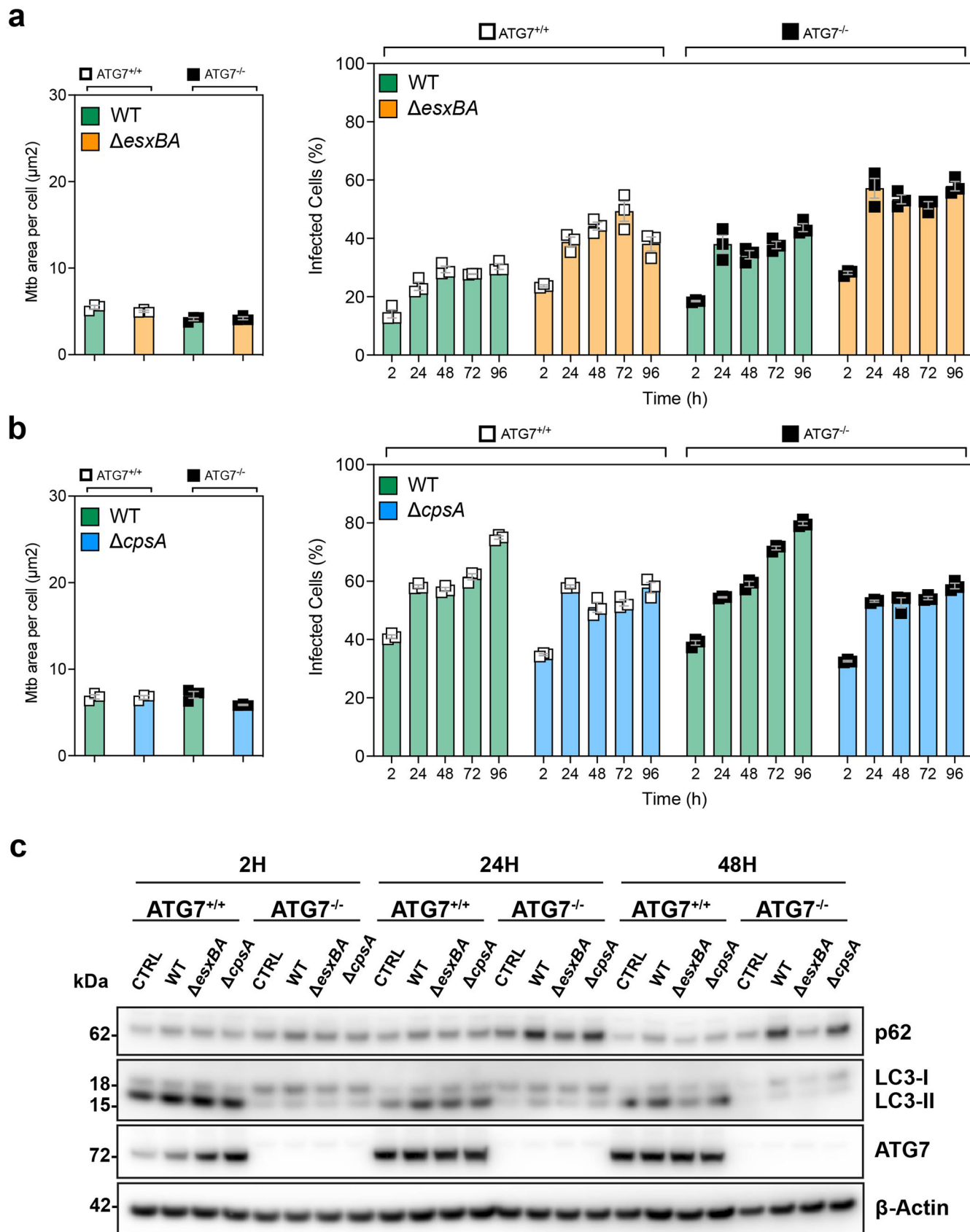
Extended Data Fig. 1 | Generation and validation of ATG14 and ATG7 knock-out iPSC lines. a, Schematic representation of the ATG7^{-/-} CRISPR strategy. Brown circles shows the orientation of PAM sequence, and the green lines are indicating the sgRNAs used to target the introns flanking the exon 2 and exon 3 of *ATG7*. Black arrows are showing the primer (GF2 and GR2) used to genotyping the single clones after targeting. **b, c**, Representative Western blot of LC3B, p62 and ATG7 in ATG7^{+/+}, ATG7^{-/-} iPSC (**b**) and iPSDM (**c**) after starvation in the presence or absence of 100 nM BafA1, 100 nM BafA1 alone or 50 μM monensin for 2 h. **d**, Schematic representation of the orientation of the ATG14^{-/-} CRISPR strategy.

Brown circles are showing the orientation of the PAM sequence and the green lines are indicating the sgRNAs used to target the intron flanking the exon 5 of *ATG14*. Black arrows are showing the primers (GF1 and GR1) used to genotyping the single clones after targeting. **e, f**, Representative Western blot of LC3B, p62 and ATG14 in ATG14^{+/+}, ATG14^{-/-} iPSC (**e**) and iPSDM (**f**) after starvation in the presence or absence of 100 nM BafA1, 100 nM BafA1 alone or 50 μM monensin for 2 h. Representative Western blots from three independent biological replicates (n = 3).



Extended Data Fig. 2 | Characterisation of ATG14 and ATG7 knock-out monocytes and macrophages. Flow cytometry characterisation of WT, ATG14 and ATG7 KO monocytes and macrophages. Name of the markers are indicated

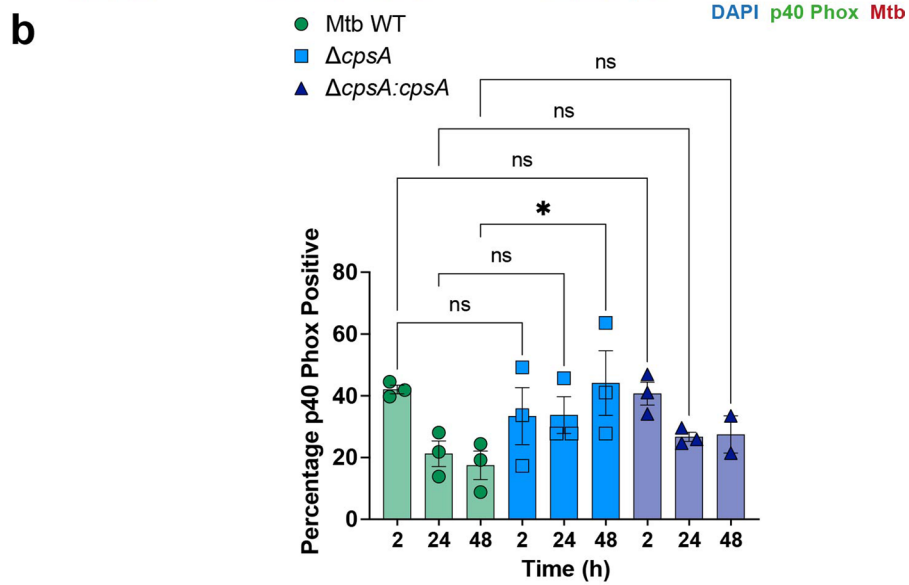
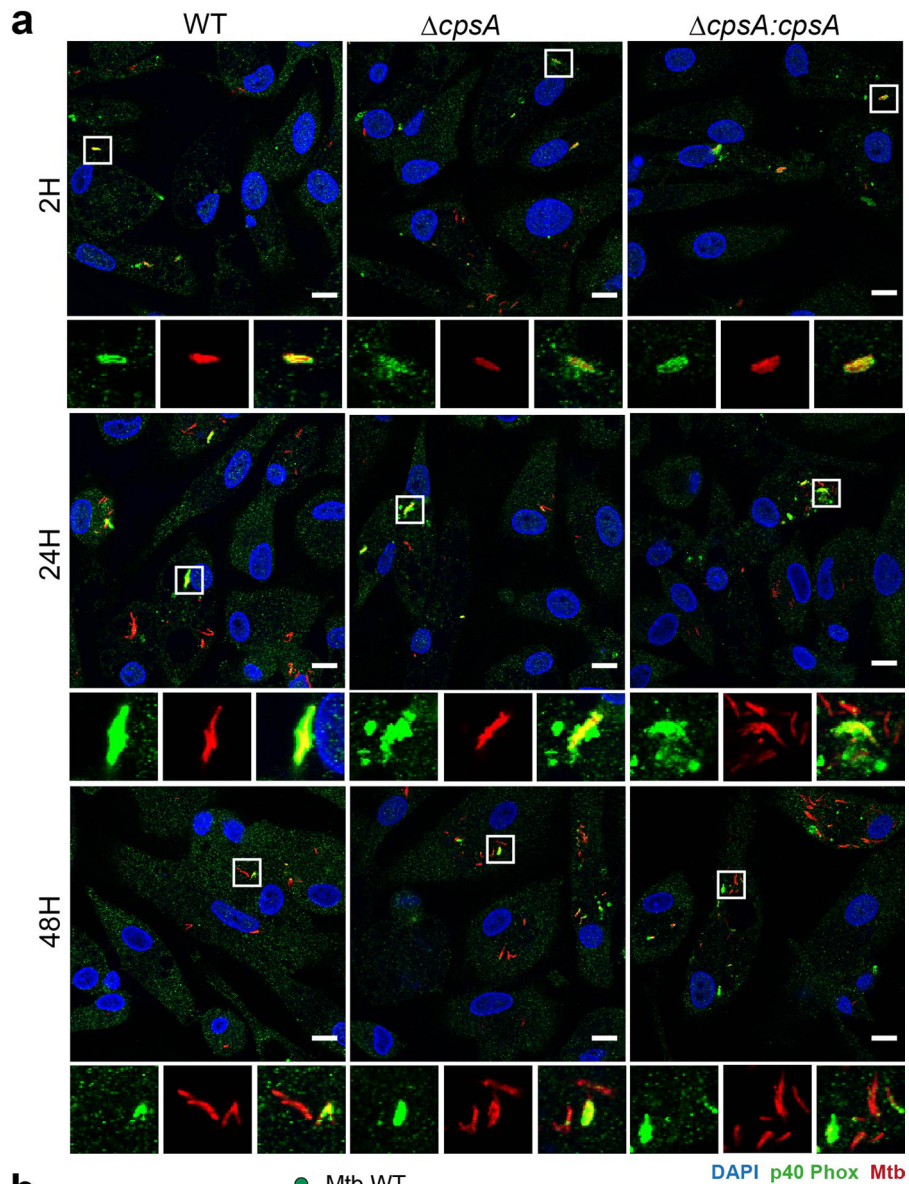
on top of each column of graphs and the genotype of the cells is indicated in the beginning of each row. Pink represents the isotype control and blue the corresponding marker.



Extended Data Fig. 3 | See next page for caption.

Extended Data Fig. 3 | Mtb phagocytosis and cell numbers after infection of ATG7^{-/-} iPSDM. **a**, Left graph shows the quantitative analysis of Mtb WT or *DesxB*A area in ATG7^{-/-} or ATG7^{+/+} iPSDMs 2 h post infection. Right graph shows the percentage of infected cells at 2, 24, 48, 72 and 96 h post infection from the same biological replicate. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (n = 3 independent wells). Results are shown as mean ± SEM. **(b)** The graph on the left represents the quantification of Mtb WT or *DcpsA* area in

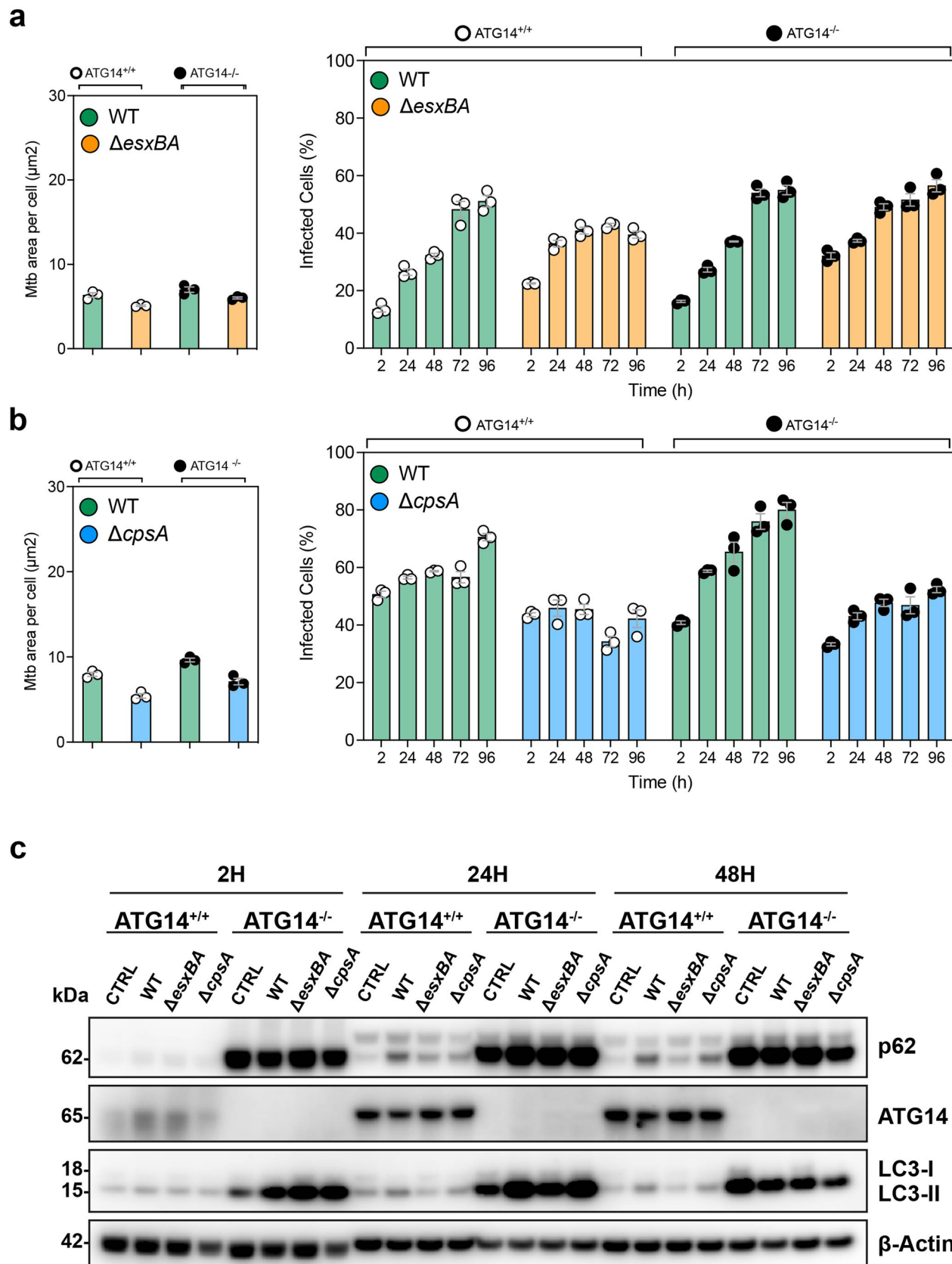
ATG7^{-/-} or ATG7^{+/+} iPSDMs 2 h post infection. Right graph shows the percentage of infected cells at 2, 24, 48, 72 and 96 h post infection from the same biological replicate. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (n = 3 independent wells). Results are shown as mean ± SEM. **(c)** Western blot analysis of ATG7, p62 and LC3B levels in ATG7^{+/+} and ATG7^{-/-} iPSDMs at 2 h, 24 h or 48 h of infection with Mtb WT, *ΔesxB*A or *ΔcpsA*. Representative Western blots from two independent biological replicates (n = 2).



Extended Data Fig. 4 | See next page for caption.

Extended Data Fig. 4 | Mtb DcpsA colocalization with p40 Phox during infection. **a**, iPSDM were infected with Mtb WT, *DcpsA* or *DcpsA:cpsA* for 2 h, 24 h and 48 h and stained for p40 Phox by indirect immunofluorescence. Representative images of p40 Phox recruitment to each strain, at indicated time points. Images are representative of three independent biological replicates.

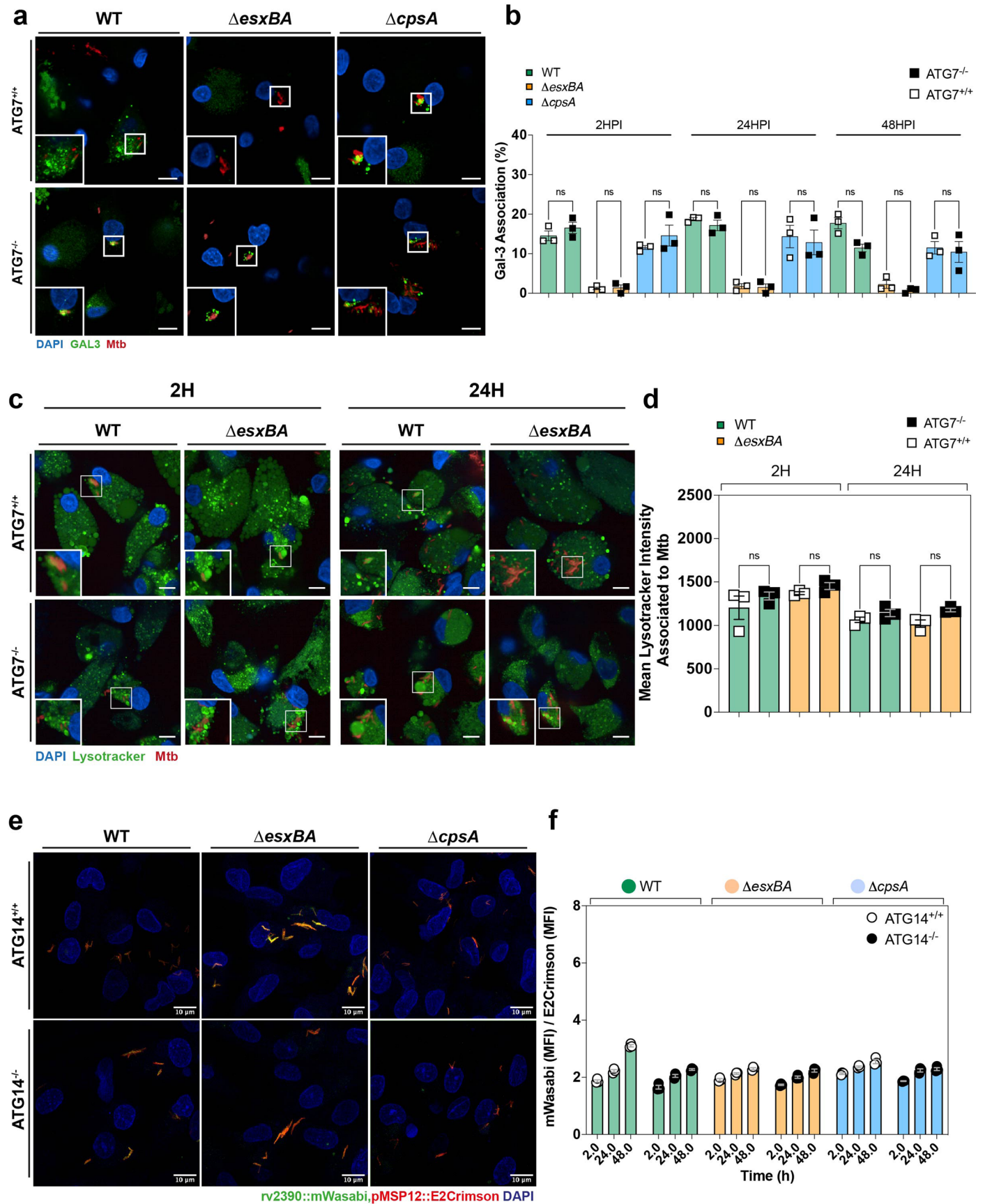
Scale bars: 10 μm . **b**, Quantitative analysis of p40 Phox recruitment to WT Mtb, *DcpsA* or *DcpsA:cpsA*. Data are mean \pm SD of three independent biological replicates. One way ANOVA followed with Šídák's multiple comparisons test * $p < 0.033$, ns = non-significant.



Extended Data Fig. 5 | See next page for caption.

Extended Data Fig. 5 | Mtb phagocytosis and cell numbers after infection of ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM. **a.** Left graph shows the quantitative analysis of Mtb WT or *DesxB*A area in ATG14^{-/-} or ATG14^{+/+} iPSDMs 2 h post infection. Right graph shows the percentage of infected cells at 2, 24, 48, 72 and 96 h post infection from the same biological replicate. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (n = 3 independent wells). Results are shown as mean ± SEM. (b) The graph on the left represents the quantification of Mtb WT or *DcpsA* area in

ATG14^{-/-} or ATG14^{+/+} iPSDMs 2 h post infection. Right graph shows the percentage of infected cells at 2, 24, 48, 72 and 96 h post infection from the same biological replicate. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (n = 3 independent wells). Results are shown as mean ± SEM. (c) Western blot analysis of ATG14, p62 and LC3B levels in ATG14^{+/+} and ATG14^{-/-} iPSDMs at 2 h, 24 h or 48 h of infection with Mtb WT, Δ *esxB*A or Δ *cpsA*. Representative Western blots from three independent biological replicates (n = 3).



Extended Data Fig. 6 | See next page for caption.

Extended Data Fig. 6 | ATG7 absence does not impact membrane damage or phagosome maturation kinetics. **a**, Representative images of endogenous Gal-3 localisation in ATG7^{+/+} or ATG7^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT, Mtb Δ esxB or Mtb Δ cpsA. Images show nuclear staining (blue), GAL3 (green) and Mtb E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars: 10 μ m. **b**, Manual quantification of Gal-3 association with Mtb WT, Mtb Δ esxB or Mtb Δ cpsA after 2 h, 24 h or 48 h of infection. Compiled data from 3 independent experiments. Results are shown as mean \pm SEM. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparison test ***p < 0.001, **p < 0.01, *p < 0.05, ns = non-significant. **c**, Representative images of ATG7^{+/+} or ATG7^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT and Mtb Δ esxB stained with LysoTracker and NucBlue dye and imaged in live mode after 2 h and 24 h of infection by high content imaging. Images show nuclear staining (blue), LysoTracker (green) and Mtb E2-Crimson (red). Scale bars: 10 μ m. **d**, Quantitative

analysis of the LTR association with Mtb as mean fluorescence intensity. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (n = 3 independent wells). Results are shown as mean \pm SEM. One-way ANOVA followed with Šidák's multiple comparisons test, ns = non-significant. **e**, Representative images of ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM infected with Mtb WT, Δ esxB or Δ cpsA strains expressing rv2390::mWasabi, pMSP12::E2-Crimson reporter in the presence of 100 nM BafA1 at 48 h of infection. **f**, Quantitative analysis of rv2390 promoter activity in Mtb WT, Δ esxB or Δ cpsA strains at the indicated time points of infection with ATG14^{+/+} or ATG14^{-/-} iPSDM in the presence of 100 nM BafA1 was calculated as fold change of mWasabi MFI over E2-Crimson MFI for single bacterial event. Data representative from one out of two independent experiments (n = 3 independent wells).

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Blinding	No blinding was performed for this study.

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems

n/a	Involvement in the study
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antibodies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology and archaeology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Human research participants
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical data
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual use research of concern

Methods

n/a	Involvement in the study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging

Antibodies

Antibodies used

Alexa Fluor 488 anti-mouse/human Mac-2 (Galectin-3), Biolegend Cat #125410
 Anti-LC3 pAb (Polyclonal Antibody), MBL Cat #PM036 (1:100)
 Anti-p40-phox Antibody, Merck Millipore Cat #07-503 (1:100)
 Goat anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor 488, Life Technologies Cat #A-11034 (1:500)
 SQSTM1/p62 Antibody, Cell Signaling Technology Cat #5114 (1:1000)
 Atg7 (D12B11) Rabbit mAb Antibody, Cell Signaling Technology Cat #8558 (1:1000)
 Atg14 Antibody, Cell Signaling Technology Cat #5504S (1:1000)
 Anti-LC3B Antibody, Abcam Cat #ab48394 (1:1000)
 Anti-ESAT6 Antibody, Abcam Cat #ab26246 (1:1000)
 Anti-CFP10 Antibody, Abcam Cat #ab45074 (1:1000)
 Anti-Mycobacterium tuberculosis Ag85 Antibody [HYT27], Abcam Cat #ab36731 (1:1000)
 β -Actin (8H10D10) Mouse mAb (HRP Conjugate), Cell Signaling Technology Cat #12262 (1:5000)
 CD14-Alexa488 MΦP9 Cat #562689 (1:20)
 CD119-PE GIR-208 Cat #558934 (1:20)
 CD86-BV421 2331 Cat #562433 (1:20)
 CD11b-bv421 ICRF44 Cat #562632 (1:20)
 CD163-FITC GHI/61 Cat #563697 (1:20)
 CD169-PE 7-239 Cat #565248 (1:20)
 CD206-APC 19.2 Cat #561763 (1:20)
 CD16-Alexa647 3G8 Cat #557710 (1:20)
 Alexa488 isotype Cat #557703

Alexa647 isotype Cat #557714
 PE isotype Cat #12-4015-82
 BV421 isotype Cat #562438

Validation

All the antibodies purchased have been validated as reported in manufacturer's website.

Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines](#)

Cell line source(s)

EIKA2 human iPSCs, Public Health England Culture Collections, Cat#77650059
 KOLF2 human iPSCs, Public Health England Culture Collections, Cat#77650100

The use of human cells is covered and approved by the Ethical Committee and regulated by the Francis Crick Institute Biological Safety Code of Practice in the project registered at the Crick (Project HTA17) framed under Human Tissue Authority Licence number 12650

Authentication

Authentication results can be accessed at the respective source's website.
<https://www.phe-culturecollections.org.uk/products/celllines/generalcell/search.jsp> (for EIKA2, KOLF2)

Mycoplasma contamination

All cells tested negative for mycoplasma contamination.

Commonly misidentified lines
 (See [ICLAC](#) register)

No ICLAC cell lines were used in this study.

Flow Cytometry

Plots

Confirm that:

- The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).
- The axis scales are clearly visible. Include numbers along axes only for bottom left plot of group (a 'group' is an analysis of identical markers).
- All plots are contour plots with outliers or pseudocolor plots.
- A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

Methodology

Sample preparation

See material and methods.

Instrument

BD LSRFortessa™ Cell Analyzer

Software

Analyzer: BD FACS Diva
 Data analysis: FlowJo Version 10.8.1

Cell population abundance

Cell sorting was not performed in this manuscript.

Gating strategy

In SSC-A/FSC-A plot, cells were gated by exclusion of debris and cell clumps. Singlets were further gated from cells in FSC-H/FSC-A plot. Background intensity (negatives) of each channel was determined by cells immunofluorescently stained with isotype antibodies, intensity higher than the defined background intensity was considered positive.

- Tick this box to confirm that a figure exemplifying the gating strategy is provided in the Supplementary Information.