



**Additional file 5. The gating strategy used to determine the activation status of the APC subsets as depicted in Figure**

5. The three identified splenic APC subsets **A** macrophages, **B** FSC<sup>low</sup> DCs and **C** FSC<sup>high</sup> DCs were assessed for CHIR-AB1, CD40, CD80 and MHC-II. For CHIR-AB1, CD40 and CD80, the cells expressing the respective markers were selected and expressed as a percentage. The expression of MHC-II by each subset was expressed as the geometric mean fluorescent intensity (gMFI).