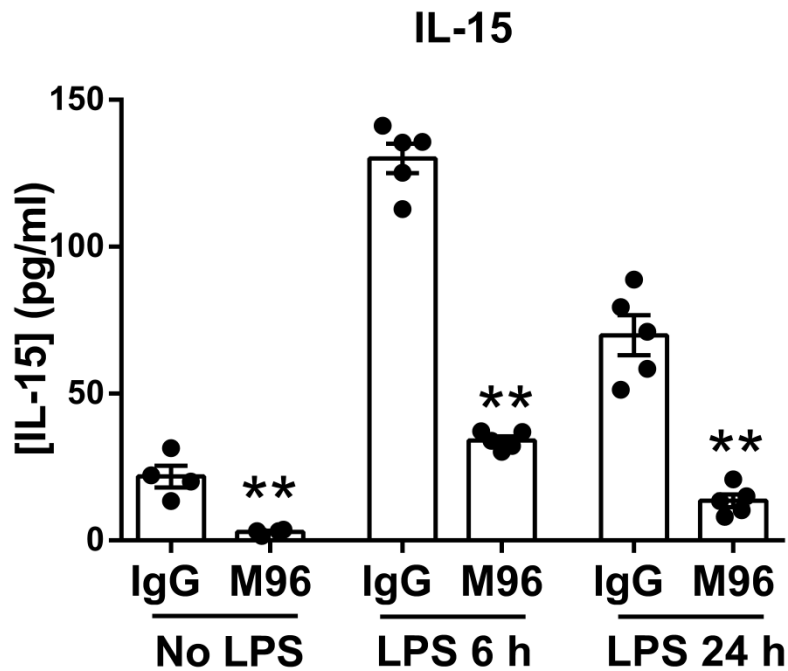
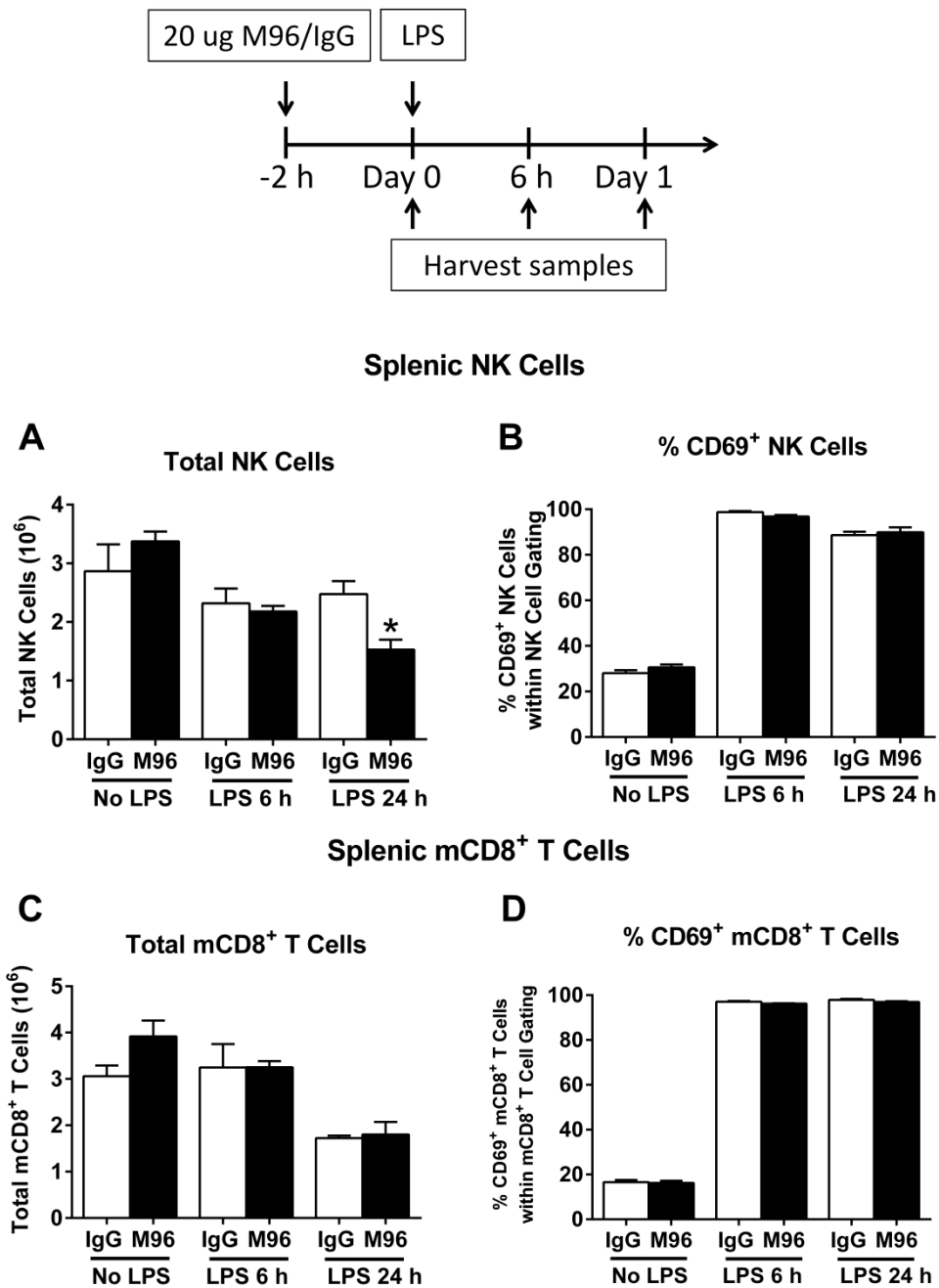


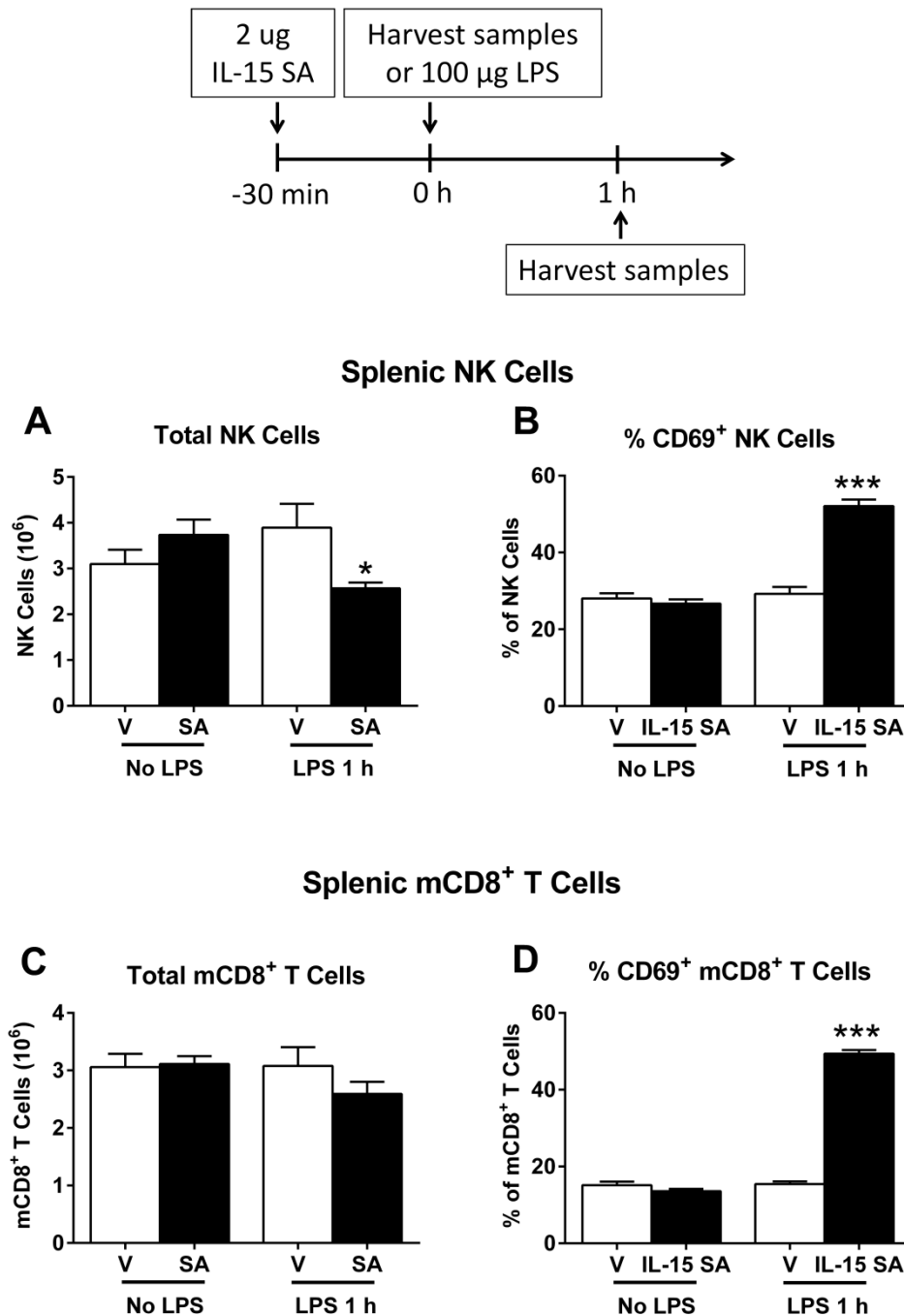
Supplemental Figure 1. NK, NKT and memory CD8⁺ T cell counts in spleens and livers of wild type and IL-15 KO mice. Spleens (A) and livers (B) were harvested from wild type and IL-15 KO mice for measurement of NK, NKT and memory CD8⁺ T cell number. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.0001$, compared to wild type mice. $n=3-9$ mice per group. Data are representative of two separate experiments.



Supplemental Figure 2. Plasma level of IL-15 in wild type mice treated with IgG or M96, an IL-15 neutralizing antibody post LPS. Wild type mice received 20 μ g of M96 or IgG i.p. at 2 hours prior to CLP or LPS challenge. Blood was harvested at 0, 6 and 24 hours after LPS for measurement of IL-15 in the plasma. ** $p < 0.01$ compared to IgG control at designated time points. $n=4-5$ mice per group. Data are representative of two separate experiments.



Supplemental Figure 3. Effect of short-term IL-15 neutralization on lymphocyte numbers and activation after LPS challenge. Wild type mice received 20 μ g of M96, an IL-15 neutralizing antibody i.p. at 2 hours prior to 150 μ g LPS challenge (A and B). Specific IgG serve as control. Splenic NK and mCD8⁺ T cell number and activation were measured at 0, 6 and 24 hours after LPS challenge (A-D). * $p < 0.05$, compared to IgG control. $n=5-10$ mice per group. Data are representative of two separate experiments.



Supplemental Figure 4. Effect of IL-15 SA on lymphocyte numbers and activation after LPS challenge. Wild type mice were treated with 2 µg of IL-15 SA 30 minutes prior to LPS (100 µg) challenge. Spleens were harvested at 0 and 1 hours after LPS challenge for measurement of NK and mCD8⁺ T cell total number and CD69 expression (A-D). * p < 0.05, *** p < 0.001, compared to vehicle wild type control. n=4-8 mice per group. Data are representative of two to three separate experiments.