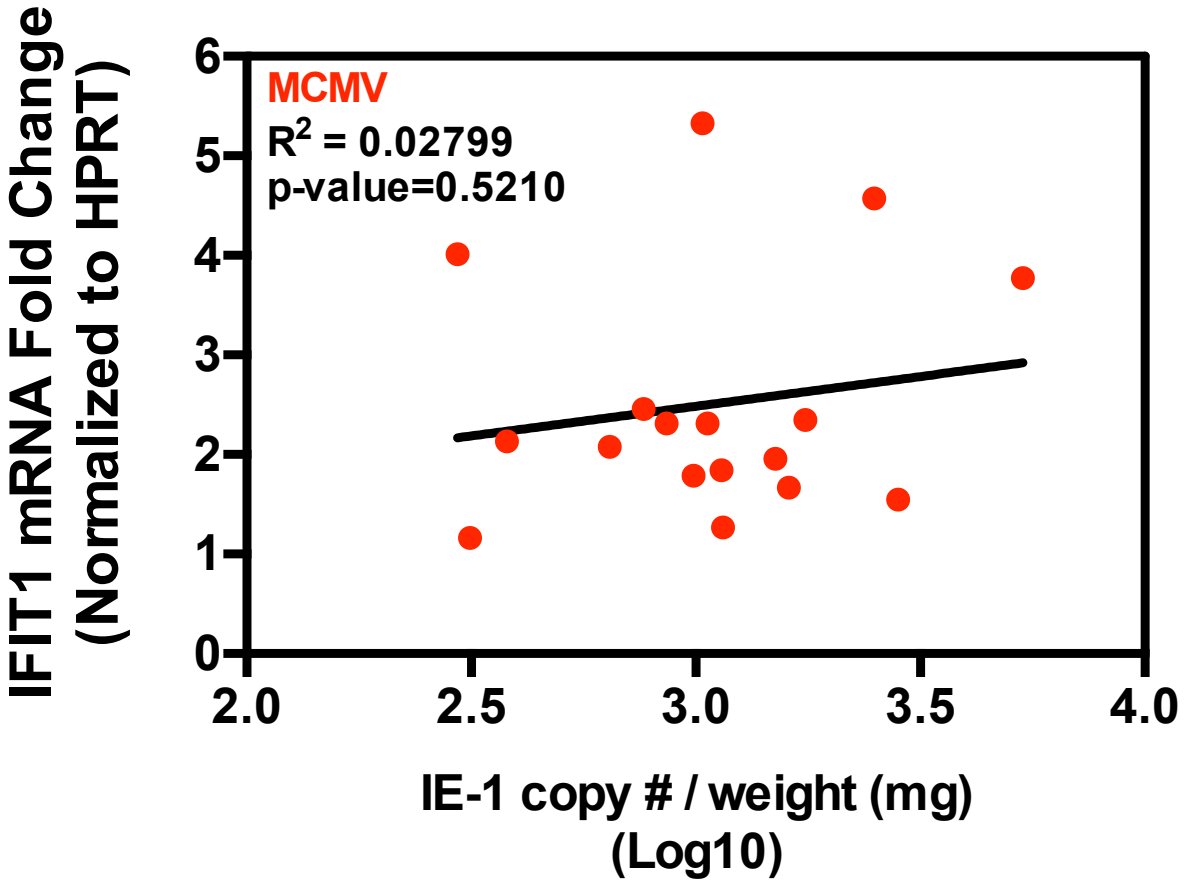
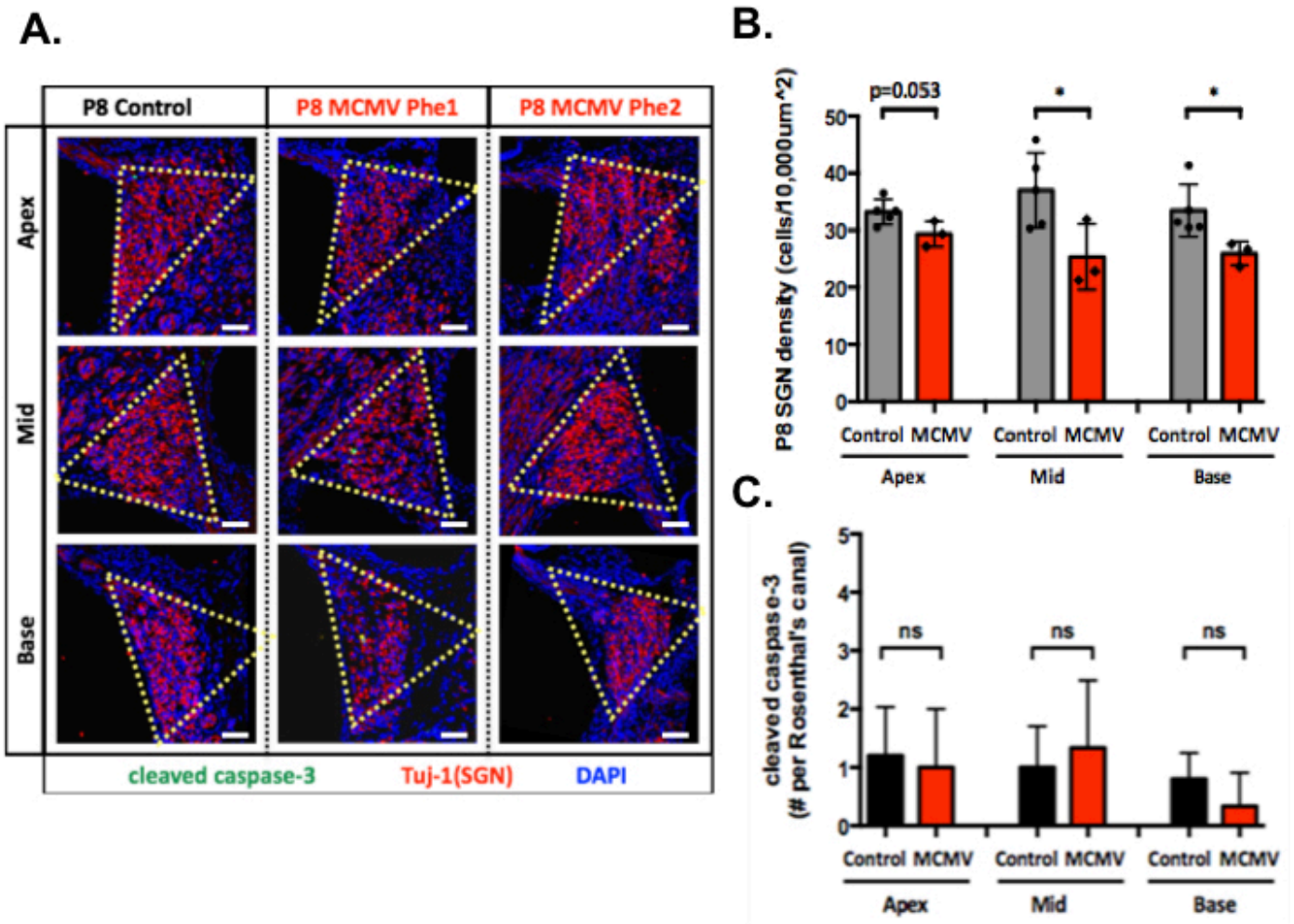
Supplemental Material

Supplemental Table 1. Primary Antibodies used in this Study

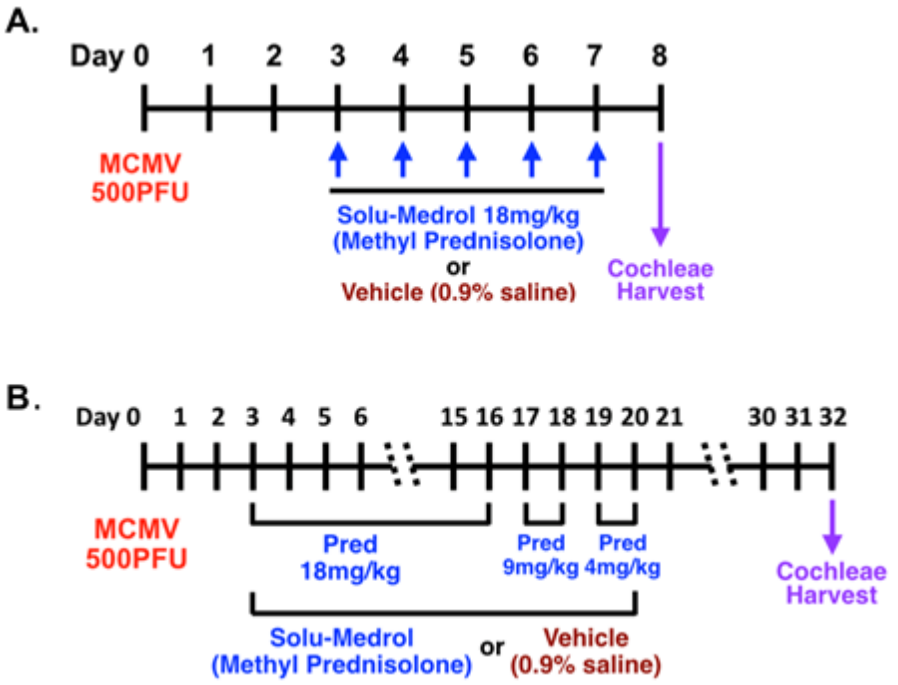
Antigen	Species	Clone	Dilution	Company	Catalog #
MyosinVIIa (H-60)	Rabbit	Polyclonal	1:300	Santa Cruz	Sc-25834
SOX2(E-4)	Mouse	IgG1	1:300	Santa Cruz	Sc-365823
CtBP2	Mouse	IgG1	1:300	BD Biosciences	612044
GluR2(6C4)	Mouse	IgG2a	1:300	Millipore	MAB397
NF-H	Chicken	Polyclonal	1:1000	Millipore	AB5539
Tuj-1	Mouse	IgG2a	1:1500	Biolegend (prev. Covance)	801202
MCMV IE-1 (pp89)	Mouse	IgG1	1:100	lab generated	Croma101
Iba1	Rabbit	Polyclonal	1:300	Wako	019-19741
Cleaved caspase-3 (D175)	Rabbit	Polyclonal	1:200	Cell Signaling	9961S



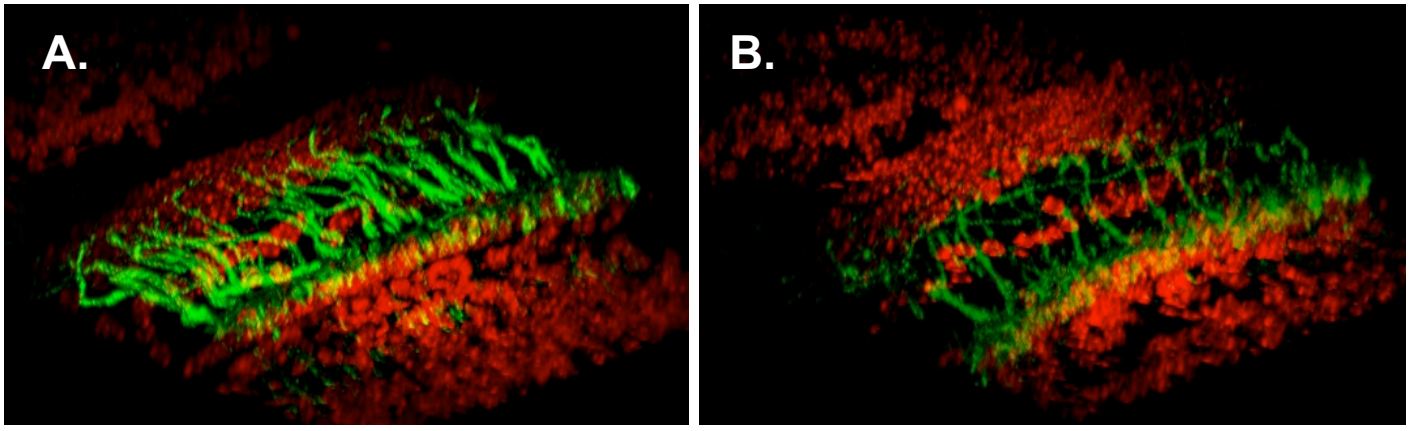
Supplemental Figure 1. IFIT1 expression and MCMV genome copy number in individual cochlea. IFIT1 expression plotted as function of IE-1 copy number. Linear regression line analysis was performed and p-value, as a test for linear trend, is shown. Note there was no correlation between IFIT1 expression and viral load.



Supplemental Figure 2. SGN loss in MCMV infected mice. PNd8 cochlear sections from non-infected, control and MCMV infected (500 PFU) mice were stained for Tuj-1 to detect SGNs and cleaved caspase-3. Stained sections were imaged with confocal microscope at 40X magnification. **(A)** Representative confocal images of the cochlea stained for Tuj-1 displaying the three regions of the Rosenthal's canal. **(B)** Quantification of SGN was normalized to the areas of Rosenthal's canal to provide SGN density (cells/10,000μm^2) in the three cochlear regions. **(C)** Number of cleaved caspase-3 expressing cells in control and infected mice. Cleaved caspase-3 positive cells in the Rosenthal's canal are shown as mean ± SD, n=3 mice/ 6 cochlea per experimental group. P-values were calculated using standard two-tailed t test. Data are representative of two independent experiments. Scale bars: 40μm



Supplemental Figure 3. Schematic representation of methylprednisolone treatment protocols. (A) Short duration (PNd 3-7) and (B) extended (PNd 3-20).



Supplemental Figure 4. Loss of neurites in cochlea of infected mice. Mid-apical regions of cochlear whole mounts from **(A)** PNd32 non-infected, control mice and **(B)** mice infected with 500 PFU MCMV as newborns were stained for neurofilaments (NF-H) and nuclear stain, Hoechst dye (red), as described in Figure 5 and imagined by confocal microscopy. z-stacked images were viewed tangenitally to demonstrate the neurofilaments (green) extending into the OHCs.