Supplementary Material

## Supplementary Figures

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**Figure 1sup: epithelial production and storage sites for APRIL in different tissues**

Serial sections of the indicated epithelia were stained for APRIL production and secreted APRIL. Scale bar = 20 µm. Results are representative of at least five cases per epithelium. Brownish stain in the normal skin corresponds to melanin pigment.



**Figure 2sup: APRIL secretion and PC density for the surface and crypt epithelium**

Staining for secreted APRIL and PC number were quantified and compared between the crypt and surface epithelium. A paired parametric t test was performed. \*\*\*: p<0,001, \*\*\*\*:p<0,0001.



**Figure 3sup: reactivity of the basal epithelial cells with anti-HS antibodies.**

Serial sections of a tonsil epithelium were stained with the indicated anti-HS. Scale bar = 10 µm

Results are representative of ten tonsils.



**Figure 4sup: fine specifity of anti-syndecan antibodies**

293-T cells transiently transfected with plasmids encoding for syndecan-1, -2 and -4 were stained with the indicated antibodies and analyzed by flow cytometry. Results are representative of two independent experiments.