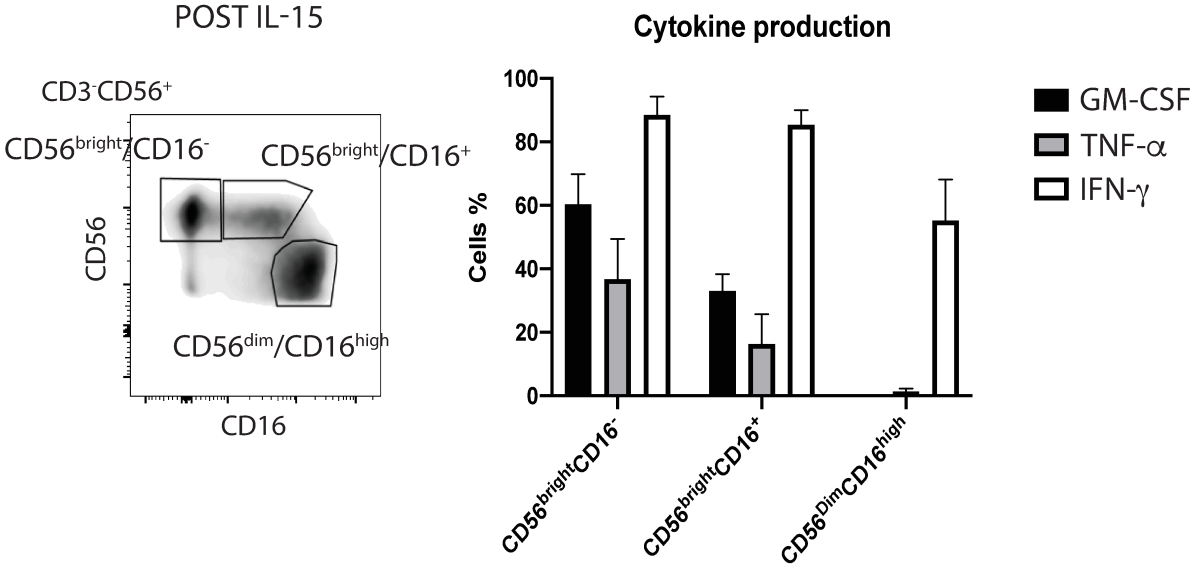

Supplementary Figure 4:
The relationship between CD56^{dim} and CD56^{bright} NK cells remains a matter of debate. However, in our previous study with CIV-10, analyses *ex vivo* and *in vitro* showed increased proliferation rates in the CD56^{bright} subset. Using a large panel of makers that are specific for each subset, we observed that the majority of surface markers that are distinct between both subsets were expressed at similar levels on CD56^{bright} NK cells before and after treatments. Those data suggested that the predominant appearance of CD56^{bright} NK cells in response to IL-15 treatments resulted mainly from a superior ability of this subset to proliferate. In this study, we confirmed that the lower expression of CD16 within CD56^{bright} appearing after IL-15 treatment. Moreover, we observed that CD56^{bright}CD16^{+} cells displayed the specific abilities to produce GM-CSF and TNFα that is inherent to CD56^{bright} subset upon IL-12/IL-18 stimulation as shown in the figure above. Based on all those observations, our gating strategy has separated CD56^{bright}CD16^{+} cells (that have been included in CD56^{bright} subset gate) from CD56^{dim}CD16^{high} subpopulation.