



Supplementary Figure 1. Proposed role of iTh13 cell in ectopic formation of TLO at sites of inflammation.

Left: Follicular dendritic cells (FDCs) recruit CXCR5⁺ B cells and CXCR5⁺ Tfh cells to form the GC in the secondary lymphoid organs (SLO). B helper activity of Tfh cells promotes class switch, and establishment of long-lived memory B or plasma cells. (19, 21, 22, 27).

Right: In the peripheral sites of inflammation such as RA synovial tissues, TCR stimulation and proinflammatory cytokines induce iTh13 cells (Figure 5) and maintained the persistent production of CXCL13 (Figures 4B and C). iTh13 cells modify local chemokine environment coordinately with stromal cells of synoviocytes to form TLO by recruiting CXCR5⁺ B cells and CXCR5⁺ Tfh cells (Figure 6). Presence of TCR stimulation and proinflammatory cytokines may lead to the maintenance of TLO, to the generation of autoantibodies (36,41), and to the enlargement of TLO and surrounding tissues.