

Figure S1. Correlation between Helios gene signals in CD4⁺ T cells and serum CRP in RA patients.

(A-D) CD4⁺ T cells were isolated from PBMC of RA patients who were not receiving biologics (n=124), and were subjected to DNA microarray analysis. (A) Association between Helios and Fosp3 gene signals. (B) Association between Eos and Fosp3 gene signals. (C, D) Association between Helios gene signals and CRP (C) or DAS28-ESR (D). Correlation analysis was performed with Spearman's rank correlation. * $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$.

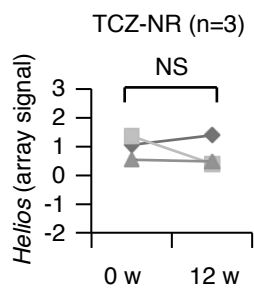


Figure S2. Treatment with Tocilizumab did not increase Helios gene expression in CD4⁺ T cells in non-responders.

CD4⁺ T cells were isolated from PBMC of RA patients who did not respond to the treatment with TCZ (TCZ-NR; n=3) at just before (0 w) and 12 weeks (12 w) after the treatment, and were subjected to DNA microarray analysis. Shown are Helios gene signals.

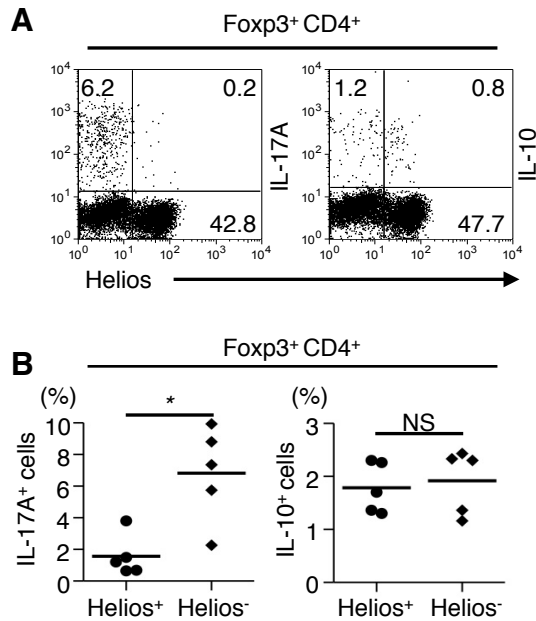


Figure S3. Helios⁺ Foxp3⁺ CD4⁺ T cells produce IL-10 but not IL-17A in humans. CD4⁺ T cells from PBMCs of HD were stimulated with anti-CD3/anti-CD28 mAb in the presence of TGF- β (10 ng/ml) for 7 days. Cells were then stimulated with PMA/ionomycin for 4 hours, and the expression of Foxp3, Helios, IL-17A, and IL-10 in CD4⁺ cells was examined by intracellular staining. Representative dot plots of Helios vs. IL-17A or Helios vs. IL-10 of Foxp3⁺ CD4⁺ cells (**A**) and the scatter plot depicting the frequency of indicated cells (**B**) are shown (n = 5 subjects per group). Horizontal lines represent the mean values. *p < 0.05, NS = not significant.

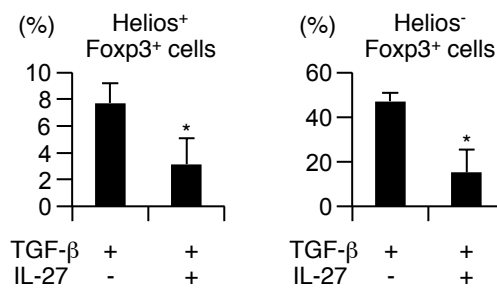


Figure S4. IL-27 inhibits the development of Helios⁺ and Helios⁻ iTregs.

Naïve CD4⁺ T cells from WT mice were stimulated with anti-CD3/anti-CD28 mAb in the presence of TGF-β with or without IL-27 (50 ng/ml) for 3 days and analyzed by flow cytometry. Shown are means ± SD of the frequency of Helios⁺ Foxp3⁺ CD4⁺ T cells (left panel) and Helios⁻ Foxp3⁺ CD4⁺ T cells (right panel) (n=3 mice per group). *p<0.05.

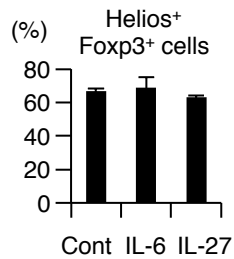


Figure S5. The expression of Helios was not decreased by IL-6 or IL-27 in thymus-derived naturally occurring Tregs.

CD4⁺ hCD2⁺ cells were isolated from LN of Foxp3^{hCD2} mice and stimulated with anti-CD3 mAb in neutral conditions, IL-6 conditions, or IL-27 conditions for 3 days. The expression of Foxp3 and Helios in CD4⁺ hCD2⁺ cells was analyzed by intracellular staining. Shown are means \pm SD of the frequency of Helios⁺ Foxp3⁺ CD4⁺ T cells (n=3 mice per group).

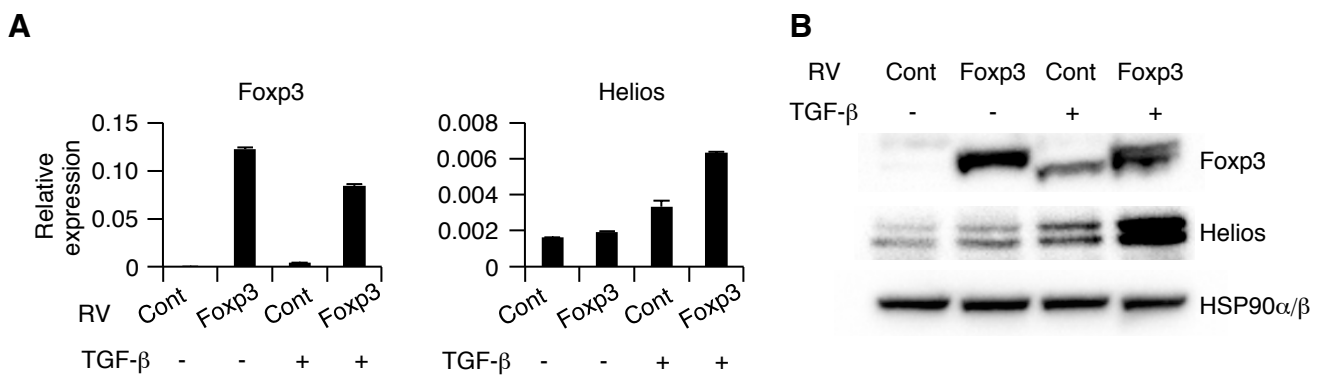


Figure S6. Foxp3 expression and TGF- β signaling cooperatively induce Helios expression. (A, B) Naïve CD4⁺ T cells from WT mice were stimulated with anti-CD3/anti-CD28 mAb in neutral conditions or Treg conditions for 24 hours, infected with retroviruses (RV) of PIN-Flag-Foxp3 or PIN (as a control), and then cultured in the presence or absence of TGF- β (0.5 ng/ml) for 3 days. The cells infected with retroviruses (NGFR⁺ cells) were isolated by magnetic cell sorting. (A) Total RNAs were prepared from these cells, and mRNA levels of Foxp3 and Helios were analyzed by qPCR. Shown are means \pm SD of the relative expression of Foxp3 and Helios (n=3 mice per group). (B) Whole cell extracts were prepared and subjected to immunoblotting with antibodies against Foxp3, Helios, and HSP α/β (as a control).

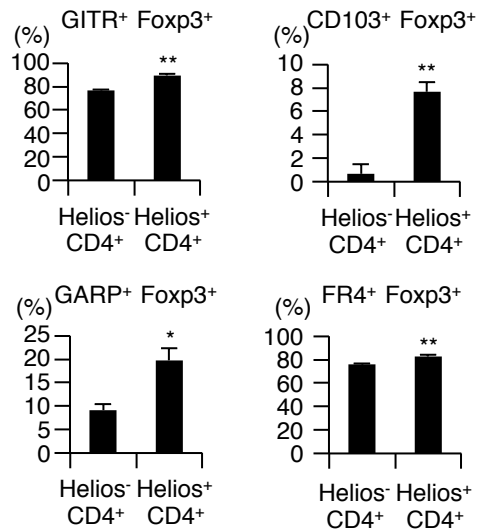


Figure S7. The expression of Treg-related molecules in murine Helios⁺ or Helios⁻ iTregs.

Naïve CD4⁺ T cells from WT mice were stimulated with anti-CD3/anti-CD28 mAb in Treg conditions for 3 days, and the expression levels of Treg-related molecules in Helios⁺ iTregs were compared to those in Helios⁻ iTregs by flow cytometry. Shown are means ± SD of the frequency of indicated cells (n=3 mice per group). *p<0.05. **p<0.01.