The NOD/ShiLtJ strain (commonly called NOD) is a polygenic model for autoimmune type 1 diabetes. Diabetes in NOD mice is characterized by hyperglycemia and insulitis, a leukocytic infiltration of the pancreatic islets. Marked decreases in pancreatic insulin content occur in females at about 12 weeks of age and several weeks later in males. A 2017 phenotyping study found that 90% of females and 52% of males became diabetic by 30 weeks; median female incidence was 18 weeks. Immune phenotypes in the NOD background consist of defects in antigen presentation, T lymphocyte repertoire, NK cell function, macrophage cytokine production, wound healing, and C5 complement. These defects make the NOD background a common choice for immunodeficient mouse strains. Diabetes onset data is available.
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