Figure 5. IL-7 promotes differentiation towards memory and effector T cells and cytokine secreting T-helper cells. The number of naive CD4 T cells (CD44-CD62L+) was not significantly altered by IL-7. By contrast, a significant increase in central memory (CD44+CD62L+) and effector memory (CD44+CD62L-) T cells was found after IL-7 administration (A). IL-7 enhances numbers (and percentages) of CD4 T cells, and of Th1 (IFN-γ) - and Th17 (IL-17), and Th2 (IL-4)-cytokine secreting CD4 T cells (B). Increased IFN-γ was measured in supernatants from lymph node cells (LN) of the IL-7-treated mice as compared to the PBS treated mice. Moreover, upon collagen type II (CII) restimulation of LN, increased IL-17 and reduced IL-4 concentrations were measured as compared PBS-treated mice (C). *, **, *** indicate statistical differences with PBS group of p<0.05, p<0.01, and p<0.001 respectively.