

1 **1-Methylnicotinamide is an immune regulatory metabolite in human ovarian cancer**

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15 **ABSTRACT**

16 **Immune regulatory metabolites are key features of the tumor microenvironment (TME), yet with**
17 **a few notable exceptions, their identities remain largely unknown. We uncovered the immune**
18 **regulatory metabolic states and metabolomes of sorted tumor and stromal, CD4+, and CD8+ cells**
19 **from the tumor and ascites of patients with high-grade serous ovarian cancer (HGSC) using high-**
20 **dimensional flow cytometry and metabolomics supplemented with single cell RNA sequencing.**
21 **Flow cytometry revealed that tumor cells show a consistently greater uptake of glucose than T**
22 **cells, but similar mitochondrial activity. Cells within the ascites and tumor had pervasive**
23 **metabolite differences, with a striking enrichment in 1-methylnicotinamide (MNA) in T cells**
24 **infiltrating the tumor compared to ascites. Despite the elevated levels of MNA in T cells, the**
25 **expression of nicotinamide N-methyltransferase, the gene encoding the enzyme that catalyses the**
26 **transfer of a methyl group from S-adenosylmethionine to nicotinamide, was restricted to**
27 **fibroblasts and tumor cells. Treatment of T cells with MNA resulted in an increase in T cell-**
28 **mediated secretion of the tumor promoting cytokine tumor necrosis factor alpha. Thus, the TME-**
29 **derived metabolite MNA contributes to an alternative and non-cell autonomous mechanism of**
30 **immune modulation of T cells in HGSC. Collectively, uncovering the tumor-T cell metabolome**
31 **may reveal metabolic vulnerabilities that can be exploited using T cell-based immunotherapies to**
32 **treat human cancer.**

33 Tumor-derived metabolites can have profound suppressive effects on anti-tumor immunity, with
34 increasing evidence that they can also function as key drivers of disease progression^{1,2}. Beyond the
35 Warburg effect, recent work has begun to characterize the metabolic states of tumor cells and their
36 relationship to the immunological state of the TME. Studies in murine models have helped uncover the
37 role of metabolites such as (R)-2-hydroxyglutarate³, BH4⁴ and methylglyoxal⁵ as well as pathways
38 including glutamine metabolism⁶, oxidative metabolism⁷, and glucose metabolism⁸ that impact T cell
39 function and antitumor immunity. Furthermore, studies in humans have elucidated key metabolic
40 pathways in tumors, for example demonstrating that tumors can use lactate as fuel⁹. Despite this, the
41 diversity and impact of specific metabolites on tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) are largely
42 unknown. To characterize this diversity and better understand how metabolites in the TME influence T
43 cell function, a combined flow cytometry and mass-spectrometry approach was used to profile tumor
44 and TIL from patients with HGSC. Using this approach two spatially distinct microenvironments were
45 interrogated, the ascites¹⁰ and tumor, within the same patients to reveal potential reciprocal metabolic
46 interactions between tumor cells and TIL.

47

48 The phenotypic and metabolic states of cells in the matched ascites and tumor environments from six
49 patients with HGSC (Extended Data Table 1) were evaluated using high-dimensional flow cytometry to
50 synchronously quantify glucose uptake (2-(N-(7-Nitrobenz-2-oxa-1,3-diazol-4-yl)Amino)-2-
51 Deoxyglucose, 2-NBDG) and mitochondrial activity (MitoTracker Deep Red)^{5,11,12} alongside canonical
52 markers to distinguish immune and tumor cell populations (Extended Data Table 2, Extended Data Fig.
53 1a). This revealed high levels of glucose uptake in tumor cells relative to T cells in both the ascites and
54 tumor, but more modest differences in mitochondrial activity. Tumor cells (CD45-EpCAM+) had on
55 average 3-4 times the glucose uptake of T cells, whereas CD4+ T cells had on average 1.2 times the
56 glucose uptake of CD8+ T cells, suggesting that TILs have different metabolic requirements even within

57 the same TME (Fig. 1a). In contrast, the mitochondrial activity in tumor cells was similar to CD4+ T
58 cells, and both had greater mitochondrial activity than CD8+ T cells (Fig. 1b). Collectively, these results
59 reveal a metabolic hierarchy, with tumor cells more active than CD4+ T cells, and CD4+ T cells more
60 metabolically active than CD8+ T cells. Despite these effects across cell types, there were no consistent
61 differences in the metabolic states of CD4+ and CD8+ T cells, or their relative proportions, in the ascites
62 compared to the tumor (Fig. 1c). Conversely, within the CD45- cell fraction, there was an increase in the
63 proportion of EpCAM+ cells in the tumor compared to the ascites (Extended Data Fig. 1b). We also
64 observed clear metabolic differences among EPCAM+ and EPCAM- cell fractions. EPCAM+ (tumor)
65 cells had substantially greater glucose uptake and mitochondrial activity than EPCAM- cells, consistent
66 with much higher metabolic activity in tumor cells than fibroblasts in the TME (Extended Data Fig. 1c,
67 d).

68

69 Further analysis revealed other clear differences when considering more highly-resolved phenotypic
70 states of T cells¹³. Indeed, activated (Extended Data Fig. 1e-g) and effector memory (Extended Data Fig.
71 1h, i) T cells were much more frequent (as a proportion of T cells) in the tumor than ascites. Similarly,
72 resolving phenotypes by the expression of activation markers (PD1, CD25, CD137) revealed that while
73 these populations showed some differences in metabolism (Extended Data Fig. 2a-e), no consistently
74 significant metabolic differences were observed between naïve, effector, or memory cells (defined by
75 CCR7 and CD45RO, Extended Data Fig. 2f-i). These results were confirmed through automated
76 assignment of cell phenotypes using machine learning method¹⁴, which further revealed an abundant
77 myeloid cell population (CD3-/CD4+) predominately in patient ascites that displayed the highest
78 glucose uptake and mitochondrial activity of any identified cell type (Extended Data Fig 3). These
79 results underscore strong metabolic differences across different cell types found in the ascites and
80 tumors of HGSC patients.

81 A major challenge in understanding the metabolomic profiles of TIL has been the need to isolate
82 samples of T cells of sufficient purity, quality and quantity from tumors. Recent studies have shown that
83 flow cytometry based sorting and bead enrichment methods can cause alterations in cellular metabolite
84 profiles¹⁵⁻¹⁷. To overcome this, we optimized a bead enrichment approach to isolate and separate TIL
85 from surgically resected human ovarian cancers prior to analysis by liquid chromatography tandem mass
86 spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) (See Methods; Extended Data Fig. 4a). To assess the overall impact of this
87 protocol on metabolite changes, we compared the metabolite profiles of activated T cells following bead
88 isolation to cells that did not undergo bead isolation but remained on ice, and found high correlation
89 among methods ($r = 0.77$), as well as high reproducibility among technical replicates for this panel of 86
90 metabolites (see Extended Data Fig. 4b). These methods thus enabled accurate metabolite profiling in
91 cells undergoing enrichment, to provide a first high-resolution platform for the identification of specific
92 metabolites in HGSC thereby allowing deeper insight into cell-specific metabolic programs.

93

94 We applied this enrichment method to profile 99 metabolites in CD4+, CD8+, and CD45- cell fractions
95 from the primary ascites and tumor of six patients with HGSC (Extended Data Fig. 4c). Profiling
96 revealed strong metabolic separation of cell types within and across patients (Fig. 2a, Extended Data
97 Fig. 5a). In particular, patient 70 had distinct metabolic profiles compared to other patients (Fig. 2b,
98 Extended Data Fig. 5b), indicating the potential for substantial metabolic heterogeneity among patients.
99 Notably, patient 70 had a smaller total volume of ascites collected (80 mL) compared to the other
100 patients (1.2-2 L) (Extended Data Table 1). Controlling for inter-patient heterogeneity during principal
101 component analysis (e.g. using partial redundancy analysis) revealed consistent changes among cell
102 types, with clear clustering of cell types and/or microenvironments based on metabolite profile (Fig. 2c).
103 Analyses of single metabolites underscored these effects and revealed dramatic differences among cell
104 types and microenvironments. Notably, the most extreme difference observed was for 1-

105 methylnicotinamide (MNA), which was enriched in CD45⁻ cells in general, and ~10-100-fold in T cells
106 when they infiltrated the tumor (Fig. 3a). This effect was most pronounced for CD4⁺ T cells; while
107 MNA in CD8⁺ cells also appeared to be strongly affected by the environment, this was not significant as
108 tumor CD8⁺ fractions were only evaluable for three of the six patients.

109

110 MNA is produced by the transfer of a methyl group from s-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM) to
111 nicotinamide (NA) by nicotinamide N-methyltransferase (NNMT). *NNMT* is over-expressed in multiple
112 human cancers and has been linked to proliferation, invasion, and metastasis. To better understand the
113 source of MNA in T cells in the TME, we used single cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) to characterize
114 *NNMT* expression across cell types in the ascites and tumor of three patients with HGSC (Extended Data
115 Table 3). Profiling ~6,500 cells revealed that *NNMT* expression was confined to presumptive fibroblast
116 and tumor cell populations in both the ascites and tumor environments (Fig. 3b,c). Notably, there was no
117 appreciable *NNMT* expression in any *PTPRC*-expressing (CD45⁺) populations (Fig. 3c), suggesting the
118 MNA detected in metabolite profiling is imported into T cells. The expression of aldehyde oxidase 1
119 (*AOX1*), which converts MNA to 1-methyl-2-pyridone-5-carboxamide (2-PYR) or 1-methyl-4-pyridone-
120 5-carboxamide (4-PYR), was likewise restricted to fibroblast populations (Extended Data Fig. 6),
121 collectively suggesting that T cells lack the capacity for conventional MNA metabolism. This metabolite
122 profile and scRNA-seq analysis also revealed similar, although less dramatic, patterns for both L-
123 kynurenine and adenosine (Extended Data Fig. 7), two well-characterized immunosuppressive
124 metabolites that were also elevated in T cells from the tumor, and/or in tumor cells. These trends,
125 coupled with the striking enrichment of MNA in T cells within the tumor, raised the possibility that
126 secretion of MNA into the TME may modulate the phenotypes of TIL to compromise antitumor
127 immunity.

128 To determine the impact of MNA on T cells, healthy donor T cells were activated in the presence of
129 MNA and assessed for proliferation and function. Addition of MNA did not lead to decreased
130 proliferation or viability in either CD4⁺ or CD8⁺ T cells after 7 days (Fig. 4a), but rather increased the
131 proportion of CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cells that expressed tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF α) (Fig. 4b).
132 While TNF α has been reported to have context-dependent pro- and anti-tumor effects, it has a well-
133 described role in promoting ovarian cancer growth and metastasis¹⁸⁻²⁰. Patients with ovarian cancer have
134 been reported to have higher concentrations of TNF α within their ascites and tumor tissue than selected
135 benign tissue²¹⁻²³. Mechanistically, TNF α can modulate activation, function and proliferation of
136 leukocytes, and change the phenotype of cancer cells^{24,25}. Consistent with these findings, differential
137 expression analysis of T cell populations between the ascites and tumor also revealed a significant up-
138 regulation of *TNF* on T cells in the tumor relative to the ascites. Importantly, the increase in *TNF* was
139 only apparent for T cell populations that did not exhibit a cytotoxic phenotype (Fig. 4c). Taken together,
140 these data support the notion of a dual immune suppressive and tumor promoting role for MNA in
141 HGSC.

142
143 By applying a combined metabolomics approach, this study revealed pervasive immune metabolome
144 differences between cells within the tumor and ascites of HGSC patients. This integrated analysis
145 demonstrated differences in glucose uptake and mitochondrial activity between T cells and tumor cells
146 in HGSC. However, these flow-based methods of assessing metabolism, while methodologically
147 straightforward and providing single cell resolution, do not provide sufficient information regarding the
148 cellular impacts of specific metabolites that function in cis or in trans within a given cell type.
149 Importantly, our work uncovered a previously unrecognized metabolite MNA as differentially abundant
150 between compartments and cell types. *In vitro*, MNA increased T cell-mediated secretion of the tumor
151 promoting cytokine TNF α , providing insight for an alternative and non-cell autonomous role of MNA as
152 an immune modulator in the ovarian TME.

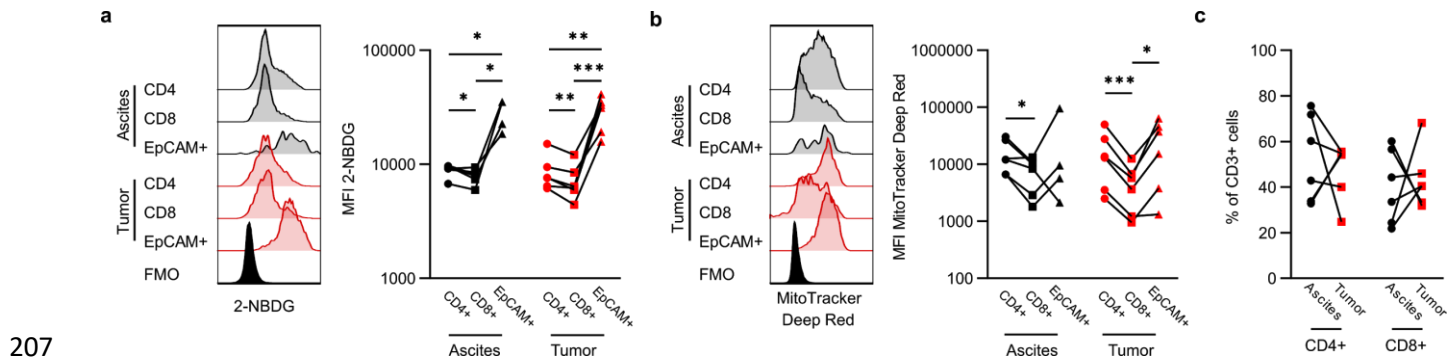
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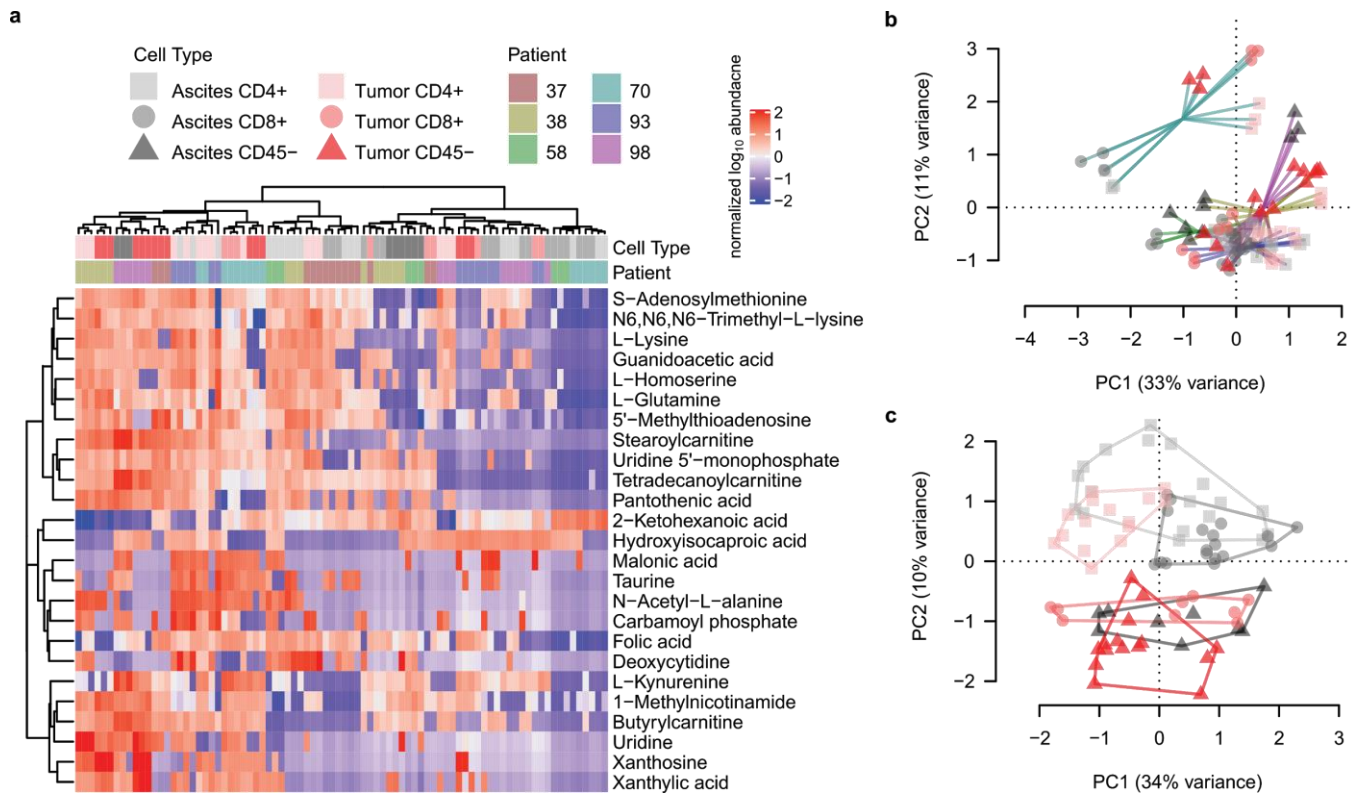
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206 **Figures**



208 **Figure 1 | Tumor cells have greater glucose uptake but similar mitochondrial activity to T cells. a,**
 209 **b,** Representative plot (left) and tabulated data (right) for median fluorescent intensity (MFI) of glucose
 210 uptake (2-NBDG) (**a**) and mitochondrial activity (MitoTracker Deep Red) (**b**) of CD4+ T cells, CD8+ T
 211 cells, and EpCAM+CD45- tumor cells from ascites and tumor. **c,** Proportion of CD4+ and CD8+ cells
 212 (of CD3+ T cells) within ascites and tumor. P-values determined by paired t-test (*p<0.05, **p<0.01,
 213 ***p<0.001) (**a-c**). Lines indicate matched patients (n=6). Fluorescence Minus One (FMO); Median
 214 Fluorescence Intensity (MFI).

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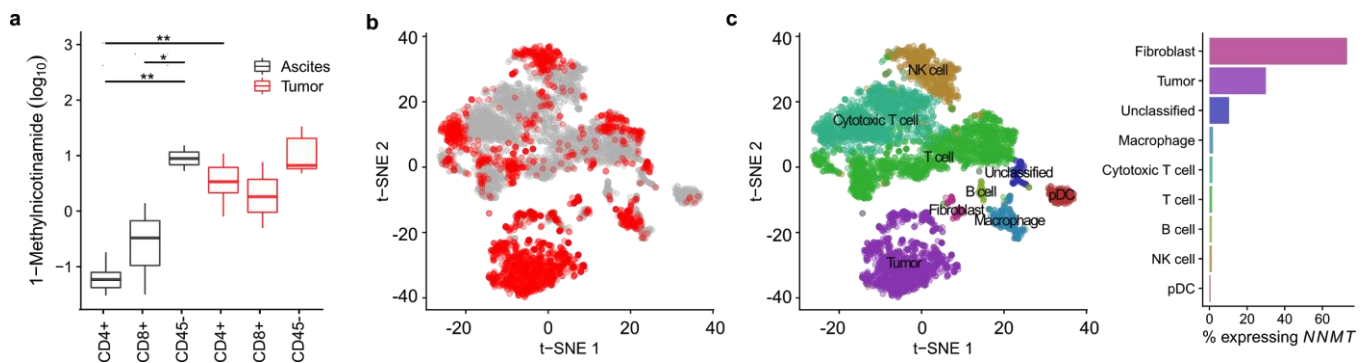


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217 **Figure 2 | Metabolite profiling of matched ascites and tumor reveals key differences between**
218 **tumor cells and T cells. a**, Heatmap of normalized metabolite abundance, with dendrograms
219 representing Ward's clustering of Euclidean distances among samples. **b**, Principal components analysis
220 (PCA) of sample metabolite profiles, showing triplicate replicates of each sample, with samples from the
221 same patients joined by lines. **c**, PCA of sample metabolite profiles conditioned on patient (i.e. using
222 partial redundancy); sample types are circumscribed by convex hulls.

223

224



225 **Figure 3 | 1-Methylnicotinamide (MNA) is more abundant in T cells from the tumor compared to**

226 **ascites. a**, Normalized abundance of MNA in CD4+, CD8+ and CD45- cells from ascites and tumor.

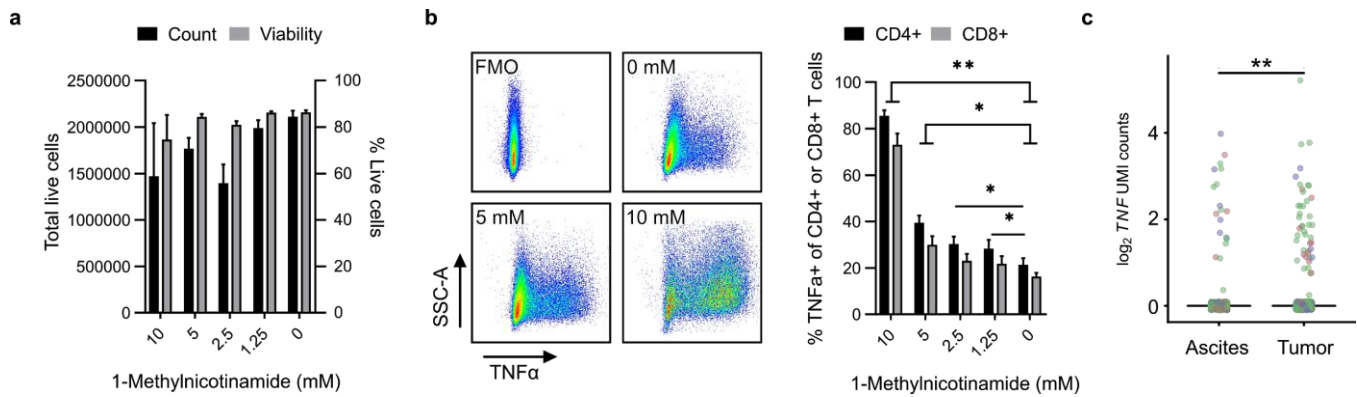
227 Boxplots show medians (lines), interquartile range (box hinges) and range of data up to 1.5X

228 interquartile range (box whiskers). P-values are determined using *limma* with patient as a random effect,

229 as described in methods (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$). **b**, t-SNE of scRNA-seq of ascites (grey) and tumor

230 (n=3 patients). **c**, *NNMT* expression in different cellular populations identified using scRNA-seq.

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232

233 **Figure 4 | Exogenous MNA enhances TNF α expression in T cells. a,** Total live cell count and
 234 viability directly from culture on day 7. Bar graphs represent mean with SEM of three healthy donors. **b,**
 235 TNF α expression in T cells treated with exogenous MNA. T cells were activated using CD3/CD28 with
 236 IL2 in respective concentrations of MNA for 7 days. Cells were stimulated with PMA/Ionomycin with
 237 GolgiStopTM for 4 hours prior to analysis. Example plot of live cells (left) and tabulated data (right). Bar
 238 graphs represent mean with SEM of 3 healthy donors. P-value determined using paired t-test (*p<0.05,
 239 **p<0.01). **c,** T cells (non-cytotoxic) show increased expression of *TNF* in the tumor relative to the
 240 ascites of HGSC. Colors represent different patients. Displayed cells have been randomly subsampled to
 241 300 and jittered to limit overplotting ($P_{adj} = 0.0076$).

242 **Methods**

243 **Patient sample collection and processing.** Patient specimens and clinical data were obtained through
244 the BC Cancer Tumour Tissue Repository (TTR), certified by the Canadian Tissue Repository Network.
245 All specimens and clinical data were obtained with either informed written consent or a formal waiver of
246 consent under protocols approved by the Research Ethics Board of the BC Cancer Agency and the
247 University of British Columbia (H07-00463). Samples are stored in a certified BioBank (BRC-00290).
248 Detailed patient characteristics are shown in **Extended Data Table 1** and **Extended Data Table 3**.

249 For cryopreservation, patient tumor samples were mechanically disaggregated using a scalpel
250 and pushed through a 100 μ m filter to obtain a single cell suspension. Patient ascites was centrifuged at
251 1500 rpm for 10 minutes at 4 °C to pellet cells and remove supernatant. Cells obtained from tumor and
252 ascites were cryopreserved in 50% heat inactivated human AB serum (Sigma), 40% RPMI-1640 (Fisher)
253 and 10% DMSO.

254 **Cell culture reagents.** Complete media consisted of a 0.22 μ m filtered 50:50 supplemented
255 RPMI1640:AimV. RPMI1640 + 2.05 mM L-Glutamine (Fisher) was supplemented with 10% heat
256 inactivated human AB serum (Sigma), 12.5 mM HEPES (Fisher), 2 mM L-Glutamine (Fisher), 1x
257 Penicillin Streptomycin solution (Fisher) and 50 μ M B-mercaptoethanol. AimV (Invitrogen) was
258 supplemented with 20 mM HEPES (Fisher) and 2 mM L-glutamine (Fisher). Flow cytometry staining
259 buffer consisted of 0.22 μ m filtered PBS (Invitrogen) supplemented with 3% heat inactivated AB human
260 serum (Sigma). Cell enrichment buffer consisted of 0.22 μ m filtered PBS supplemented with 0.5% heat
261 inactivated human AB serum (Sigma).

262 **Flow cytometry for metabolic profiling.** Cells were stained with 10 nM MitoTracker Deep Red (MT
263 DR) and 100 μ M 2-(N-(7-Nitrobenz-2-oxa-1,3-diazol-4-yl)Amino)-2-Deoxyglucose (2-NBDG) for 30
264 minutes in complete media at 37°C. Next, cells were stained with viability dye-eF506 for 15 minutes at
265 4 °C. Cells were resuspended in Fc block (eBioscience) and Brilliant Stain Buffer (BD Bioscience)

266 diluted in flow cytometry staining buffer (according to manufacturer instructions) and incubated for 10
267 minutes at room temperature. Cells were stained with a panel of antibodies (**Extended Data Table 3**) in
268 flow cytometry staining buffer for 20 minutes at 4 °C. Cells were resuspended in flow cytometry
269 staining buffer prior to analysis (Cytex Aurora; 3L-16V-14B-8R configuration).

270 Cytometry data were analyzed using SpectroFlo and FlowJo V10, and figures were created using
271 GraphPad Prism 8. Median Fluorescent Intensity of 2-NBDG and MT DR were log₁₀ normalized prior to
272 statistical analysis using paired t-test to account for matched patients. Any population with less than 40
273 events was removed from the analysis, an MFI value of 1 was inputted for any negative values prior to
274 statistical analysis and data visualization.

275 **Unbiased discovery of cell populations in flow cytometry data.** To supplement our manual gating
276 strategy for the above flow panel, we used Full Annotation Using Shape-constrained Trees (FAUST)¹⁴
277 to automatically assign cells to populations, after dead cell exclusion in FlowJo. We manually curated
278 outputs to merge populations that appeared to be mis-assigned (merged PD1+ with PD1- tumor cells),
279 and retained populations comprising, on average, more than 2% of cells in each sample, for a total of 11
280 populations.

281 **Cell activation and enrichment for metabolite profiling optimization.** Peripheral blood mononuclear
282 cells (PBMCs) were isolated from a Leukopheresis Pack (Stemcell) using Ficoll gradient density
283 centrifugation. CD8+ T cells were isolated from the PBMCs using CD8 MicroBeads (Miltenyi) and
284 expanded using TransAct (Miltenyi) for 2 weeks in complete media according to manufacturer's
285 instructions. Cells were rested for 5 days in complete media with 10 ng/ml IL-7 (Peprotech) and then
286 restimulated with TransAct. On day 7, cells were enriched using CD45 MicroBeads (Miltenyi) in three
287 rounds of sequential enrichment according to the manufacturer's instructions. Cells were aliquoted for
288 analysis by flow cytometry (described above) and 1 million cells were aliquoted in triplicate for analysis
289 by LC-MS/MS. Samples were processed for LC-MS/MS as described below. We imputed missing

290 metabolite values with an ion count of 1000. Each sample was normalized by total ion count (TIC) and
291 \log_{10} transformed prior to statistical analysis.

292 **Cell-type enrichment of patient samples.** Patient cells were filtered through a 40 μm filter. Samples
293 were enriched for CD8+, CD4+ and CD45- cells (on ice) using three sequential rounds of positive
294 selection by magnetic bead separation (Miltenyi MACS MicroBeads). CD8- fraction was used for CD4
295 enrichment, and the CD4- fraction was used for CD45- enrichment to maximize cell recovery.

296 **LC-MS/MS metabolite profiling.** To prepare samples (in triplicate) for metabolite profiling, cells were
297 washed once with ice-cold saline solution and 1 mL of 80% methanol added to each sample before
298 vortexing and snap freezing in liquid nitrogen. Samples were subjected to 3 freeze-thaw cycles, and
299 centrifuged at 14,000 rpm for 15 minutes at 4 °C. The metabolite-containing supernatant was evaporated
300 until dry. Metabolites were reconstituted in 50 μl of 0.03% formic acid, vortex-mixed, and centrifuged to
301 remove debris. The supernatant was transferred to a high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)
302 vial for the metabolomics study. Each sample was processed with similar numbers of cells using a
303 randomized processing scheme to prevent batch effects. We performed qualitative assessment of global
304 metabolites as previously published on the AB SCIEX QTRAP 5500 triple-quadrupole mass
305 spectrometer²⁶. Chromatogram review and peak area integration were performed using MultiQuant
306 software version 2.1 (Applied Biosystems SCIEX).

307 **Characterizing metabolic differences across cell types and microenvironments.** Missing metabolite
308 values were imputed with an ion count of 1000 and normalized peak area calculated for each detected
309 metabolite using the total ion count from each sample to correct variations introduced from sample
310 handling through instrument analysis. TIC-normalization was followed by \log_{10} transformation and
311 autoNorm row-scaling using *MetaboAnalystR*²⁷ (default parameters). We conducted exploratory analysis
312 of metabolome differences across sample types using PCA with the *vegan* R package, and conditioned
313 the analysis on patient using partial redundancy analysis. Heatmap dendrograms were constructed using

314 Ward's method to cluster Euclidean distances among samples. We identified differentially-abundant
315 metabolites across cell types and microenvironments using *limma*²⁸ on the log₁₀-transformed row-
316 normalized metabolite abundances. To simplify interpretation, we specified the model using the group
317 means parameterization, treating cell types within microenvironments as each group (n=6 groups); for
318 significance testing we took the average of triplicate measurements for each metabolite to avoid
319 pseudoreplication, and included patient as a block in the *limma* design. To examine metabolites that
320 differed across patients we re-fit models in *limma* including patient as a fixed effect. We reported
321 significance at $P_{\text{adj}} < 0.05$ (Benjamini-Hochberg correction) for pre-specified contrasts among cell types
322 and microenvironments.

323 **scRNA-seq.** Single cell transcriptome sequencing was performed on total viably-frozen ascites and
324 tumor samples using the 10X 5' Gene Expression protocol, following viability enrichment with the
325 Miltenyi Dead Cell Removal Kit (>80% viability). 5 cases with matched tumor and ascites available
326 were profiled, although low viability from 1 tumor sample prevented its inclusion. To enable
327 multiplexing of patients, we combined samples from each patient in lanes of the 10X Chromium
328 controller, with separate runs for ascites and tumor fractions. Following sequencing (Illumina HiSeq
329 4000 26x98bp PE, Genome Quebec; mean of 73,488 and 41,378 reads per cell for tumor and ascites,
330 respectively), we assigned donor identities using *CellSNP* and *Vireo*²⁹ (based on the common human
331 SNP VCF provided by *CellSNP* for GRCh38). We excluded unassigned cells and those identified as
332 doublets, and matched donors between ascites and tumor samples based on the nearest identity-by-state
333 (IBS) of inferred patient genotypes using *SNPRelate*³⁰. Based on this assignment, we retained 3 cases
334 with abundant cellular representation in both tumor and ascites fractions for downstream analysis.
335 Following quality filtering steps in the *scater*³¹ and *scran*³² BioConductor packages, this yielded 6,975
336 cells (2,792 and 4,183 from tumor and ascites, respectively) for analysis. We clustered cells by
337 expression using *igraph*'s³³ Louvain clustering implementation of the shared nearest neighbour network

338 (SNN) based on Jaccard distance. Clusters were manually annotated into presumptive cell types based
339 on marker gene expression and visualized with t-SNE.

340 **T cell functional assay.** PBMCs were isolated from a leukapheresis product (Stemcell) by Ficoll
341 gradient density centrifugation. CD3⁺ cells were isolated from the PBMCs using CD3 Microbeads
342 (Miltenyi). The CD3⁺ cells were activated with plate bound CD3 (5 µg/ml), soluble CD28 (3 µg/ml),
343 and IL-2 (300 U/ml, Proleukin) in the presence or absence of MNA. On the final day of expansion
344 viability (Fixable Viability Dye eFluor450, eBioscience) and proliferation (123count eBeads, Thermo)
345 was assessed by flow cytometry. Effector function was assessed by stimulating cells for 4 hours with
346 PMA (20 ng/ml) and Ionomycin (1 µg/ml) with GolgiStopTM and monitored for CD8-PerCP (RPA-T8,
347 Biolegend), CD4-AF700 (RPA-T4, Biolegend), and TNFα-FITC (MAb11, BD).

348 **Statistical analysis.** Statistical analysis was carried out as described in the text or methods using
349 GraphPad Prism 8, Microsoft Excel or R v3.6.0. Where multiple samples were taken from the same
350 patient (e.g. ascites and tumor), we used paired t-tests, or included patient as a random effect in linear or
351 generalized models, as appropriate. For metabolomic analysis, significance testing was done on means
352 of triplicate measurements.

353 **Data Availability**

354 Raw sequencing data will be deposited at NCBI dbGAP (Accession pending). Processed data files and
355 scripts to reproduce metabolomics and scRNA-seq analyses are available at
356 github.com/vicDRC/onecarbon. Flow cytometry data will be deposited at flowrepository.

357 **Code Availability**

358 R scripts to reproduce metabolomic and single cell RNA-seq analyses are available at
359 github.com/vicDRC/onecarbon.

360 **Methods References**

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386 Biospecimens were obtained with assistance from the IROC-TTR biobank. Single cell library
387 preparations and RNA sequencing were provided by Genome Quebec.

388 **Author Contributions**

389 M.K.K. and P.T.H. designed and performed experiments, analyzed the data, and wrote the manuscript.
390 S.M., S.K., and B.P. helped perform the metabolite profiling experiments. P.T.H., J.S, B.A., J.S, and
391 B.H.N. generated the scRNA-seq data. L.Z. and R.J.D. generated and analyzed the LC-MS/MS data.
392 P.H.W. oversaw biospecimen collection through the IROC-TTR. J.J.L. conceived the project and wrote
393 the manuscript.

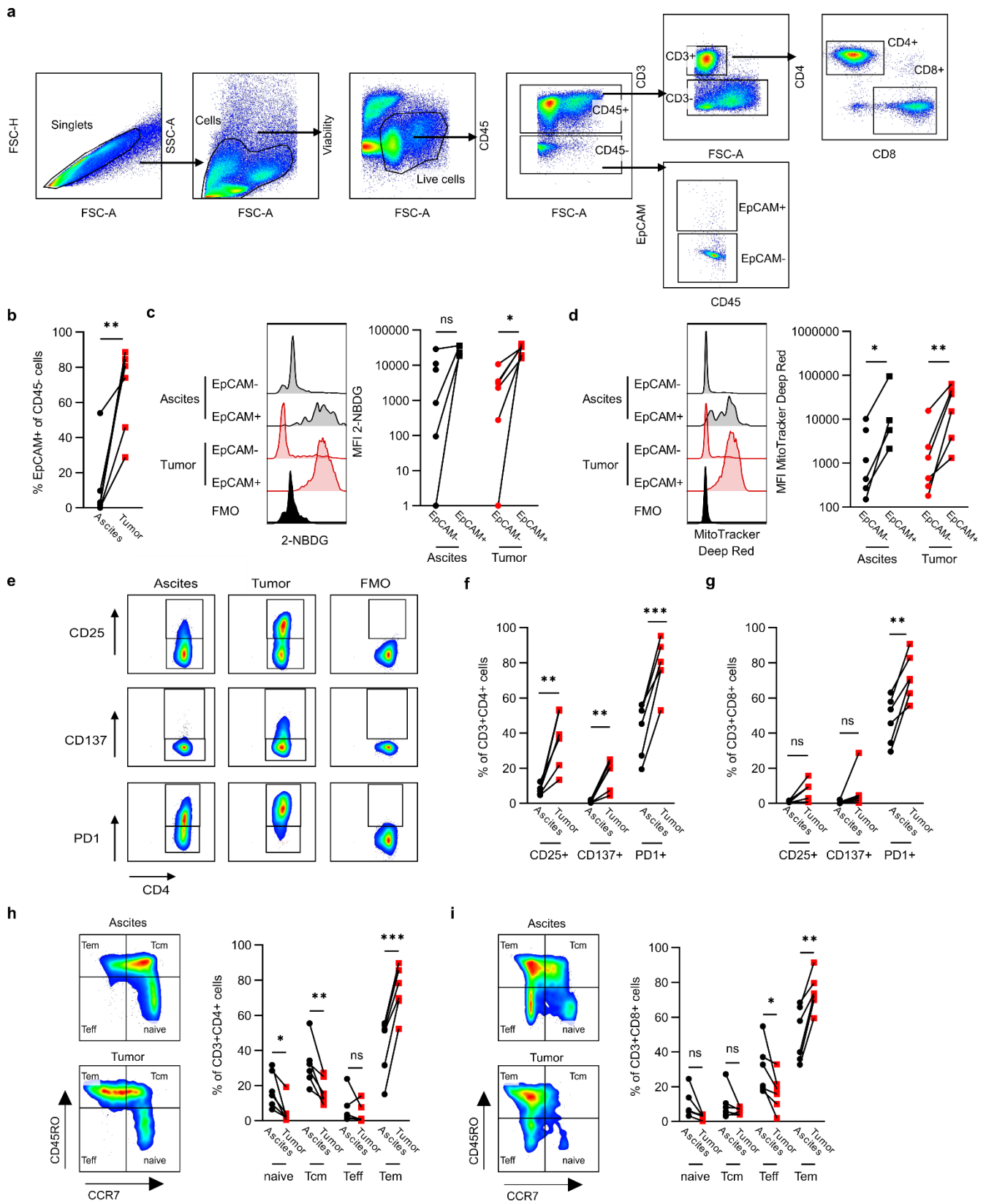
394 **Competing Interests Statement**

395 J.S. is a permanent member and owns stocks of Surface Oncology. R.J.D is a member of the Scientific
396 Advisory Board at Agios Pharmaceuticals.

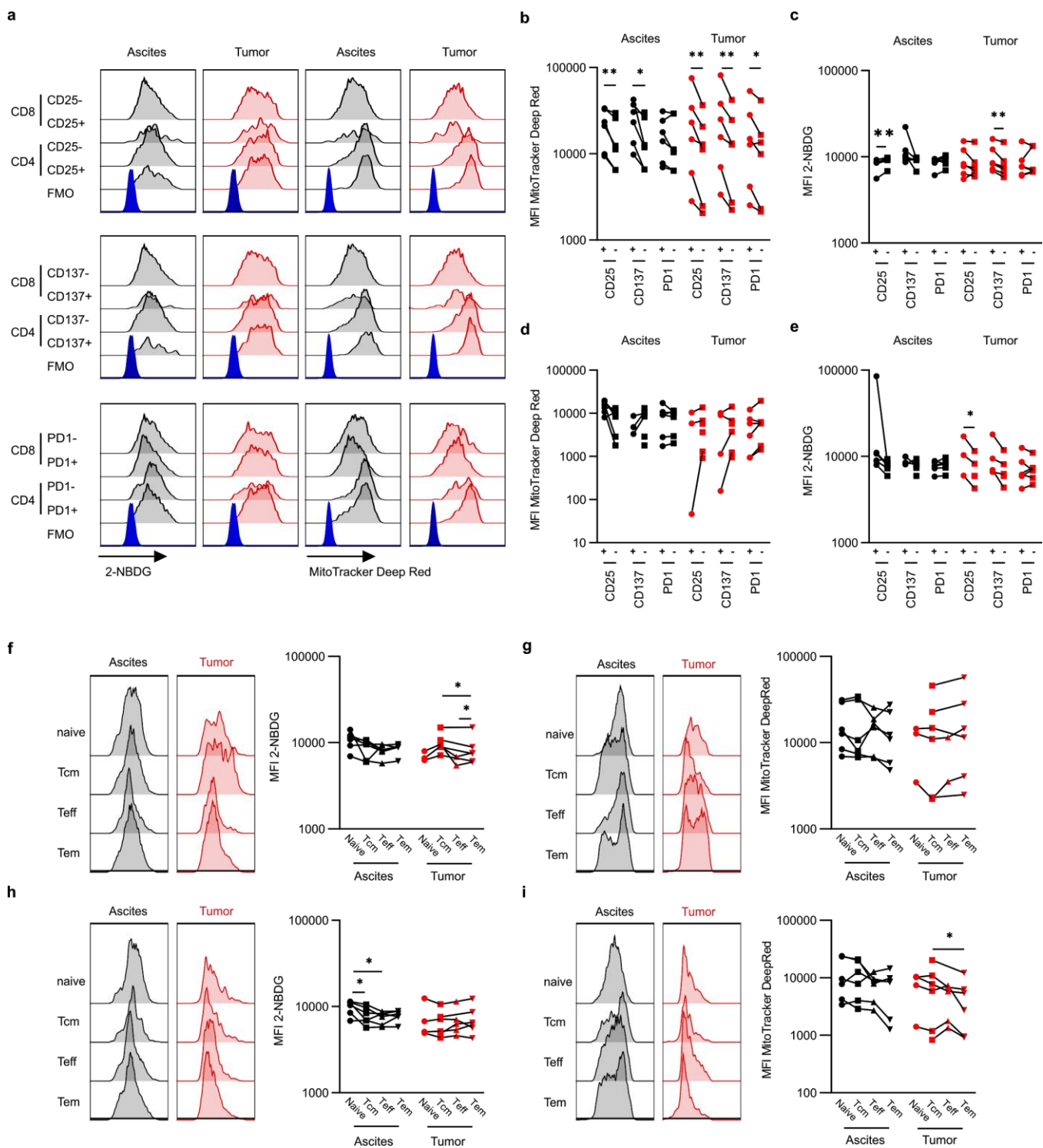
397 **Corresponding Author**

398 Correspondence to Julian J. Lum.

399 **Extended data**



401 **Extended Data Figure 1 | Phenotypic characterization of ascites and tumor by flow cytometry. a,**
402 **Representative gating strategy for analysis by flow cytometry. b, Proportion of EpCAM+ (of CD45-)**
403 **tumor cells within ascites and tumor. c, d, Representative plot (left) and tabulated data (right) for**
404 **glucose uptake (2-NBDG) (e) and mitochondrial activity (MitoTracker Deep Red) (d) of**
405 **EpCAM+CD45- tumor and EpCAM-CD45- stromal cells from ascites and tumor. e, Representative**
406 **gating strategy for CD25, CD137 and PD1 expression by flow cytometry. f, g, CD25, CD137 and PD1**
407 **expression on CD4+ T cells (f) and CD8+ T cells (g). h, i, Naive, central memory (Tcm), effector (Teff),**
408 **and effector memory (Tem) phenotype based on CCR7 and CD45RO expression. Representative plot**
409 **(left) and tabulated data (right) for CD4+ T cells (h) and CD8+ T cells (i) from ascites and tumor. P-**
410 **values (*p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001) determined by paired t-test (b-d, f-i). Median Fluorescence**
411 **Intensity (MFI).**



412

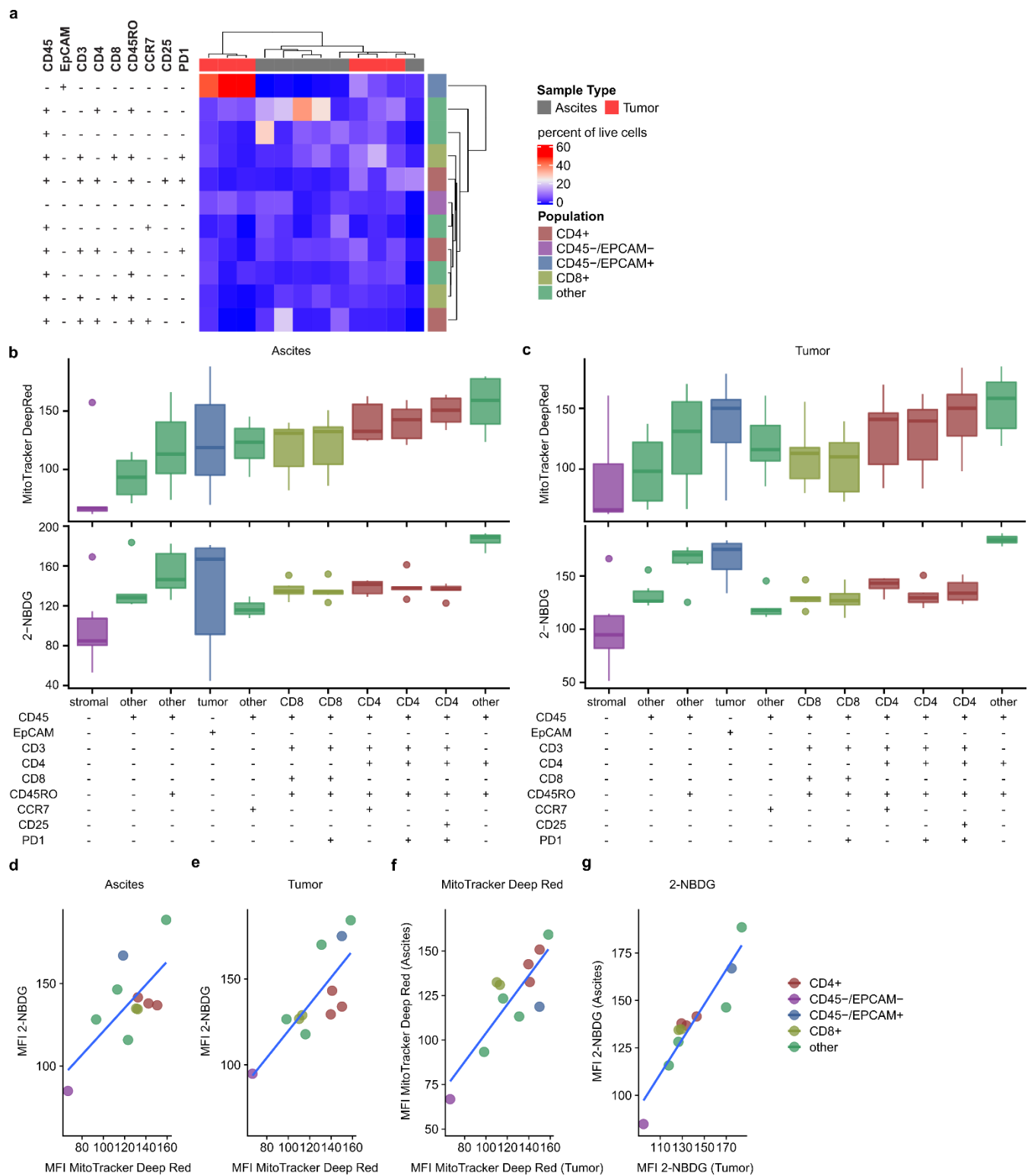
413 **Extended Data Figure 2 | T cell metabolism is impacted by expression of activation markers. a,**

414 Representative plots of glucose uptake (2-NBDG) and mitochondrial activity (MitoTracker Deep Red)

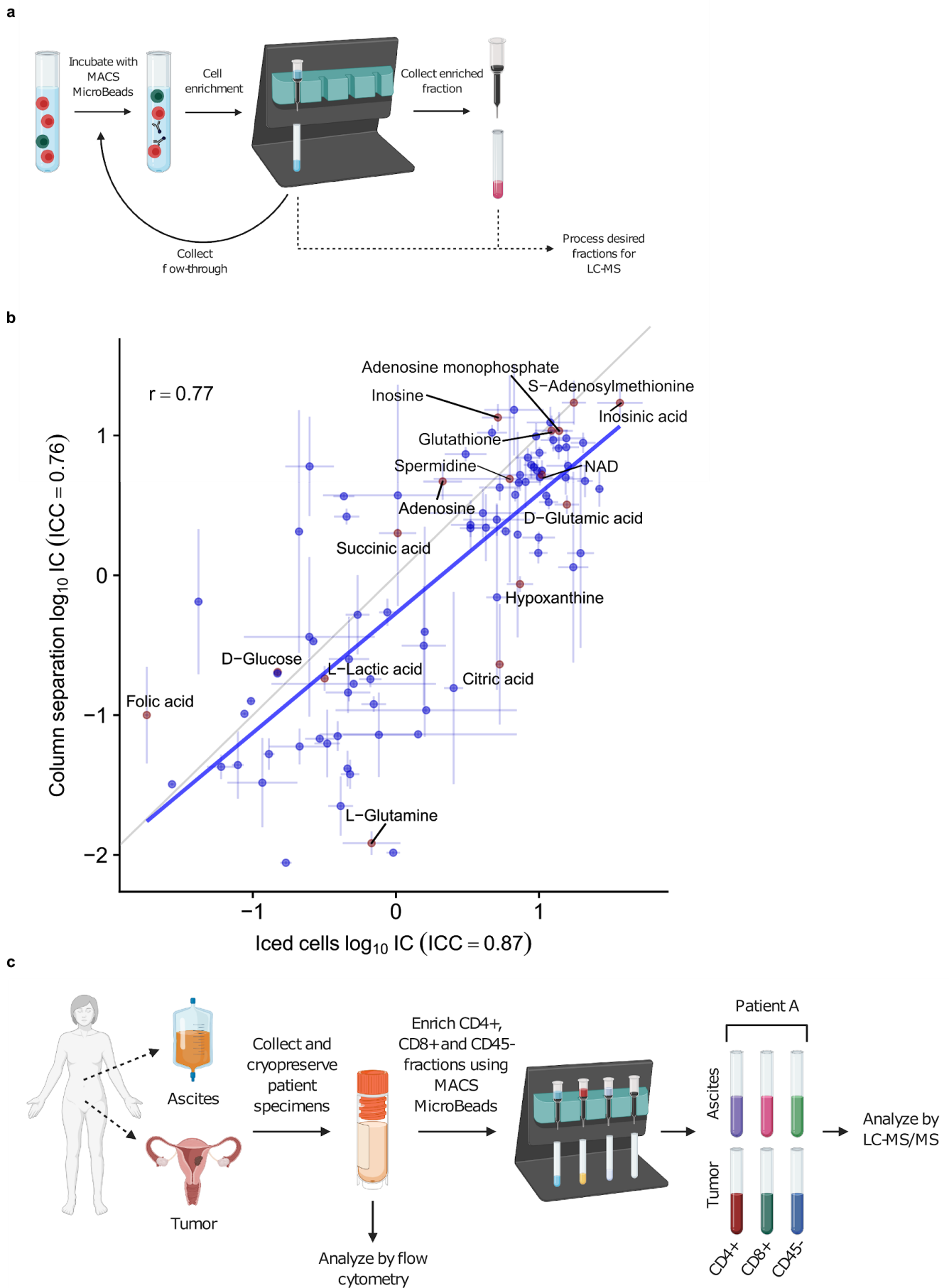
415 for CD25, CD137 and PD1 positive and negative CD4 and CD8 T cells. **b, c,** Mitochondrial activity (**b**

416 and glucose uptake (**c**) of CD25, CD137 and PD1 CD4+ T cells. **d, e,** Mitochondrial activity (**d**) and

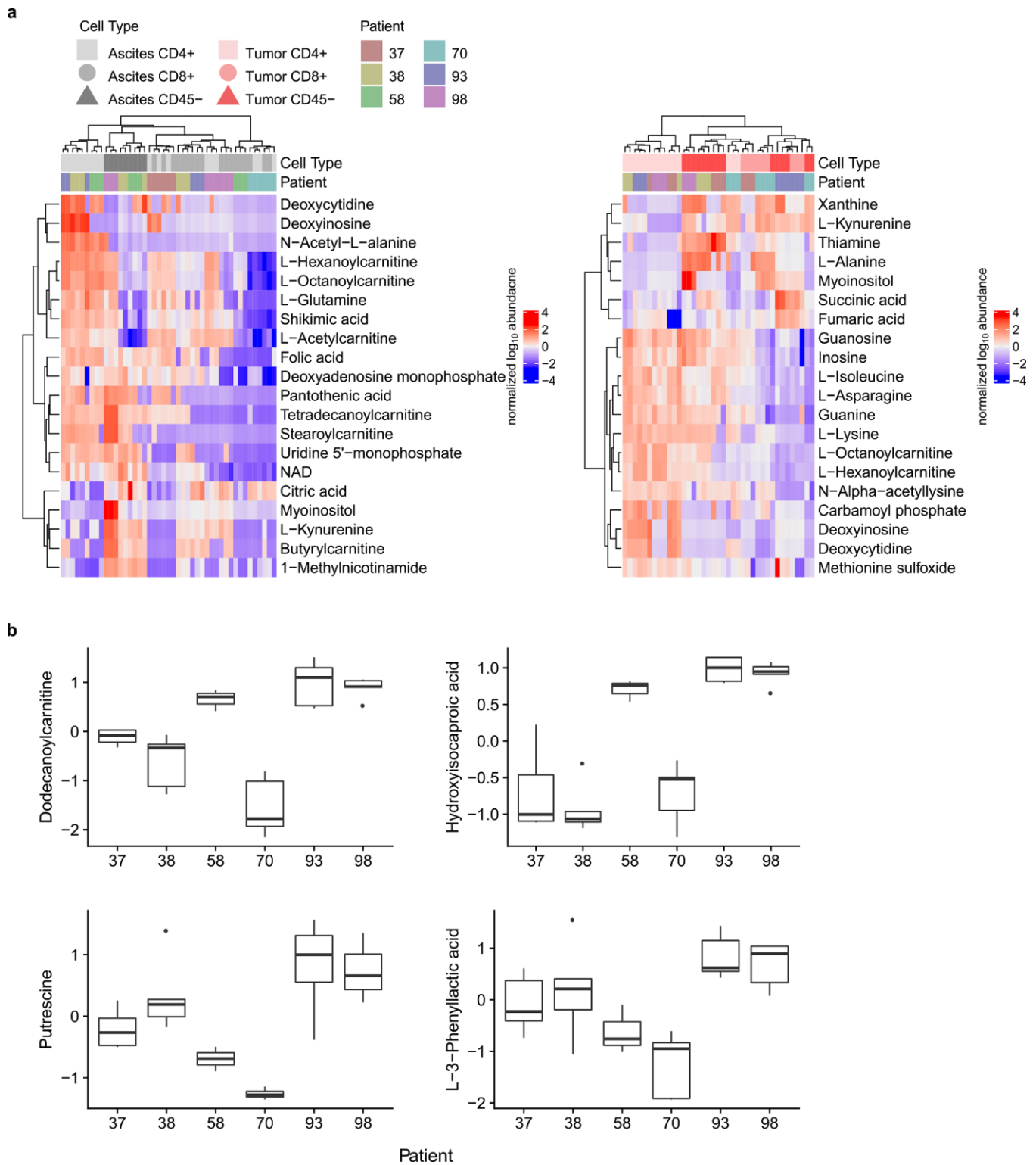
417 glucose uptake (**e**) of CD25, CD137 and PD1 CD8⁺ T cells. **f, g**, Representative plot (left) and tabulated
418 data (right) for glucose uptake (**f**) and mitochondrial activity (**g**) of naive, Tcm, Teff and Tem CD4⁺ T
419 cells. **h, i**, Representative plot (left) and tabulated data (right) for glucose uptake (**h**) and mitochondrial
420 activity (**i**) of naive, Tcm, Teff and Tem CD8⁺ T cells. P-values (* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$)
421 determined by paired t-test **b-i**). Lines indicate matched patients (**b-i**). Fluorescence Minus One (FMO);
422 Median Fluorescence Intensity (MFI); Central memory T cells (Tcm); Effector T cells (Teff); Effector
423 memory T cells (Tem).



428 data (box whiskers; excepting outliers, shown as points) **d, e**, Correlation between glucose uptake and
429 mitochondrial activity of cell fractions within the ascites (**d**) and tumor (**e**). **f, g**, Correlation of glucose
430 uptake (**f**) and mitochondrial activity (**g**) of cell fractions between ascites and tumor. Median (per
431 phenotype) of median (per sample) biexponential-transformed Median Fluorescence Intensity (MFI)
432 values shown.



434 **Extended Data Figure 4 | Schematic workflow and impact of enrichment on metabolite profiling.**
435 **a**, Schematic of magnetic bead enrichment. Cells underwent three consecutive rounds of magnetic bead
436 enrichment or remained on ice. **b**, Impact of enrichment type on metabolite abundance. Means of
437 triplicate measurements for each enrichment type +/- SE shown. Gray line represents 1:1 relationship.
438 Intraclass correlation for replicate measurements (ICC) shown in axis labels. **c**, Schematic of patient
439 metabolite profiling workflow. Ascites or tumor was collected from patients and cryopreserved. A
440 fraction of each sample was analyzed by flow cytometry, while the remaining sample underwent three
441 rounds of enrichment for CD4+, CD8+ and CD45- cells. These cell fractions were analyzed using LC-
442 MS/MS.



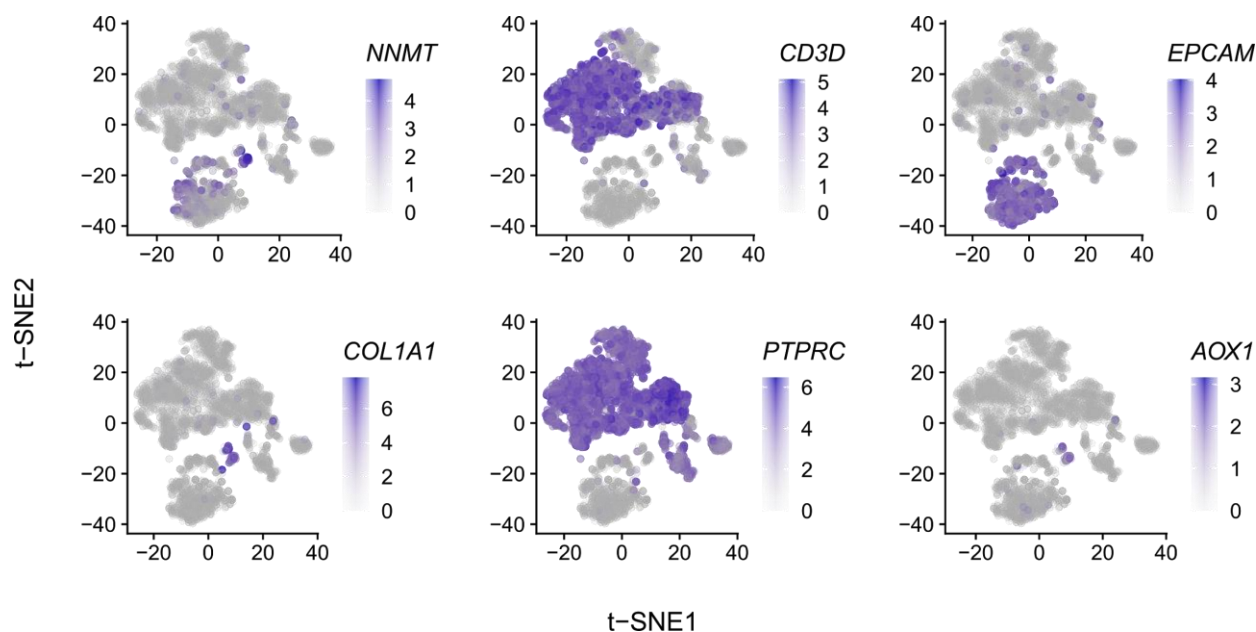
443

444 **Extended Data Figure 5 | Changes in relative metabolite abundance across cell types within ascites**

445 **and tumor. a**, Heatmap of normalized metabolite abundance, with dendrograms representing Ward's

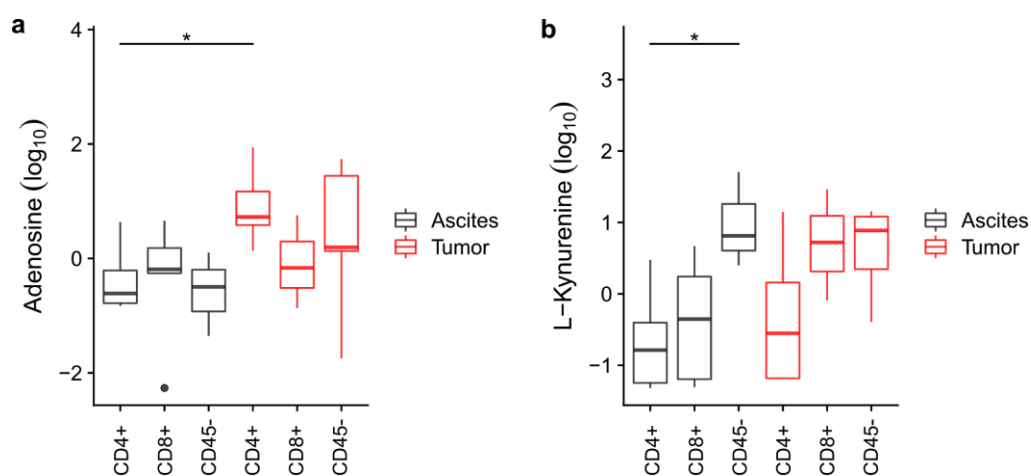
446 clustering of Euclidean distances among samples. Relative abundance of metabolites in the ascites (left)

447 and tumor (right). **b**, Top four significantly differing metabolites across patients (all P_{adj} for F-Test of
448 patient effect in *limma* < 0.05). Boxplots show medians (lines), interquartile range (box hinges) range of
449 data up to 1.5X interquartile range (box whiskers; excepting outliers, shown as points).



450

451 **Extended Data Figure 6 | Expression of population defining makers and metabolic genes within**
452 **the scRNA-seq data.** Expression of *NNMT*, *CD3D*, *EPCAM*, *COL1A1*, *PTPRC* and *AOX1* within
453 ascites and tumor, shown as log₂ normalized unique molecular identifier (UMI) counts.



454

455 **Extended Data Figure 7 | Relative abundance of adenosine (a) and L-kynurenine (b) measured by**
456 **LC-MS/MS.** P-values determined as described in methods (*p<0.05). Boxplots show medians (lines),

457 interquartile range (box hinges) and range of data up to 1.5X interquartile range (box whiskers; outliers
 458 shown as points). P values determined using *limma* as per Figure 3.

459

460 **Extended Data Table 1 | HGSC patient characteristics for metabolic profiling by flow cytometry**
 461 **and LC-MS/MS.**

Patient	Tumor location	Age at surgery	Survival (months)*	Tumor stage†	Tumor grade†	Ascites volume (mL)
37	omentum	70	12	3C	3	1800
38	ovary	40	16	T3b	3	1200
70	omentum	50	23	3C	3	80
58	omentum	78	18	4	3	2000
93	fallopian tube	53	82	3B	2	1600
98	omentum	39	13	3C	3	2000

462 * Survival calculated from the date of diagnosis to the date of death

463 † Tumor stage and grade were determined by a pathologist at the time of surgery

464

465 **Extended Data Table 2 | Flow cytometry metabolic profiling panel.**

Fluorochrome	Marker	Expression	Clone	Company	Catalogue number
---	2-NBDG	Glucose uptake	---	Thermo	N13195
PE	CD326 (EpCAM)	Epithelial cells	1B7	Thermo	12-9326-42
PerCP	CD8	Effector T cells	RPA-T8	Biolegend	301030
PerCP-eFluor710	CD25	Activation/Tregs	4E3	Thermo	46-0257-41
PE-Cy7	CD45RO	Phenotype	UCHL1	Thermo	25-0457-42
---	MitoTracker Deep Red	Mitochondrial activity	---	Thermo	M22426
AF700	CD4	Helper T cells	RPA-T4	Biolegend	300526
APC/Fire750	CCR7	Phenotype	G043H7	Biolegend	353246
eFlour506	Viability	Live/dead cells	---	Thermo	65-0866-14
PO	CD45	Leukocytes	HI30	Thermo	MHCD4530
BV605	CD137	Activation	4B4-1	Biolegend	309822
BV650	CD279 (PD1)	Activation/Exhaustion	EH12.2H7	Biolegend	329950
BV750	CD3	T cells	SK7	Biolegend	344845

466

467

468 **Extended Data Table 3 | HGSC patient characteristics for single cell RNA sequencing.**

Patient	Tumor location	Age at surgery	Survival (months)*	Tumor stage [†]	Tumor grade [†]
46	ovary	54	24	3C	3
58	omentum	78	18	4	3
59	omentum	68	26	3C	3
69	omentum	59	17	3C	3
109	ovary	77	62	3C	3

469 * Survival calculated from the date of diagnosis to the date of death

470 † Tumor stage and grade were determined by a pathologist at the time of surgery