Behavioral-transcriptomic landscape of engineered T cells targeting human cancer

organoids

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Summary

Cellular immunotherapies are rapidly gaining clinical importance, yet predictive platforms for

modeling their mode of action are lacking. Here, we developed a dynamic immuno-organoid

3D imaging-transcriptomics platform; BEHAV3D, to unravel the behavioral and underlying

molecular mechanisms of solid tumor targeting. Applied to an emerging cancer metabolome-

sensing immunotherapy: TEGs, we first demonstrate targeting of multiple breast cancer

subtypes. Live-tracking of over 120,000 TEGs revealed a diverse behavioral landscape and

identified a 'super engager' cluster with serial killing capability. Inference of single-cell

behavior with transcriptomics identified the gene signature of 'super engager' killer TEGs,

which contained 27 genes with no previously described T cell function. Furthermore, guided

by a dynamic type 1 interferon (IFN-I) signaling module induced by high TEG-sensitive

organoids, we show that IFN-I can prime resistant organoids for TEG-mediated killing. Thus,

BEHAV3D characterizes behavioral-phenotypic heterogeneity of cellular immunotherapies

and holds promise for improving solid tumor-targeting in a patient-specific manner.

Keywords:

BEHAV3D, multispectral time-lapse 3D imaging, behavioral classification, behavior-guided

transcriptomics, patient-derived organoids (PDOs), breast cancer, T cell therapy, $\alpha\beta$ T cells

engineered to express a Vγ9/Vδ2 T cell receptor (TEGs), breast cancer, serial killing

Introduction

Single-cell analyses are providing unprecedented opportunities to analyze the complexity of biological systems (van der Leun et al., 2020). However, they are restricted to providing a snapshot of cellular processes at a given timepoint. Yet living cells are highly dynamic, and their dynamic behavior shapes their function. Therefore, the development of technologies that address individual cell dynamics within a population is essential for understanding cellular behaviors and how these behaviors relate to function. Immune cells engineered to locate and kill tumor cells represent such dynamic cell populations with an increasing clinical importance (June and Sadelain, 2018). Successes of T cell therapies for hematological malignancies have sparked efforts to translate such approaches to solid tumors, including breast cancer (BC), but efficacy has so far been limited (Chen and Mellman, 2017). This poses a clear need for better understanding the mechanism of action of cellular therapies in order to optimize treatment design.

Because of challenges in identifying tumor-specific antigens for solid cancers (Schumacher et al., 2019), pan-tumor therapies that recognize metabolic alterations in cancer cells are being explored (Crowther et al., 2020). This includes an emerging therapy called TEGs, which are peripheral blood αβ T cells engineered to express a Vγ9/Vδ2 T cell receptor (TCR), comprising both CD4[+] and CD8[+] subsets (Gründer et al., 2012; Johanna et al., 2019; Marcu-Malina et al., 2011; Sebestyen et al., 2019; Vyborova et al., 2020). These hybrid cells have the ability to recognize cancer cells via the Vγ9/Vδ2 TCR that senses metabolic changes through the recently identified ligand butyrophilin 2A1 (BTN2A1) bound to BTN3A1 (Rigau et al., 2020; Vyborova et al., 2020). Yet, they maintain the high proliferation and memory capacity of conventional αβ T cells (Marcu-Malina et al., 2011). TEGs are currently in clinical trials for various

leukemia (Sebestyen et al., 2019), but their potential to target solid tumors remains unknown

and should be adressed in adequate preclinical models.

There is a growing interest to use organoid technology to model immunotherapy function (Bar-

Ephraim et al., 2019; Cattaneo et al., 2020; Neal et al., 2018; Schnalzger et al., 2019; Dijkstra

et al., 2018). Patient-derived organoids (PDOs) provide reliable *in vitro* human cancer models

that recapitulate important characteristics of the original tumor specimen (Tuveson et al.),

allowing for the study of patient-specifc therapy responses (Ganesh et al., 2019; Ooft et al.,

2019; Tiriac et al., 2018; Vlachogiannis et al., 2018; Yao et al., 2020). In addition, imaging has

proven to be a powerful approach to characterize the spatial cellular organization and tissue

dynamics in these 3D structures (Dekkers et al., 2019; van Ineveld et al., *in press*; Lukonin et

al., 2020; 2019; Serra et al., 2019). Here, we aim to combine organoid and 3D imaging

technology for the analysis of functional single cell behavior integrated with transcriptomic

profiling to decipher and manipulate the solid tumor-targeting strategy of engineered immune

cells (**Video S1**).

Results

3D live-tracked TEG targeting efficacy

We devised a multispectral 3D image-based platform; BEHAV3D, to live-track efficacy and

mode-of-action of cellular immunotherapy for ~60 human cancer organoid cultures

simultaneously (**Figures 1A-1C; Video S1**). Multiple real-time fluorescent dyes and nanobody

technology were implemented for single acquisition 4-fluorophore spectral 3D imaging of T

cell populations, organoids, and dead cells, allowing us to track single TEGs, individual

organoids and their death-dynamics over 24 h (**Figures 1B, 1C, and S1A-S1C**). We detected

a high variation of TEG-mediated killing efficacy in cultures derived from 14 BC patients

(**Figure 1D; Table S1**), and different targeting kinetics over time (**Figures 1E, 1F, and S1D-**

S1F), with percentages of dying PDOs ranging from near 0% (e.g. 34T) to 100% (e.g. 13T)

(**Figure 1F**). Pearson correlation analysis between imaging data and a commonly used cell

viability assay **(Figures S1G and S1H)**, or interferon gamma (IFN-γ) secretion measured by

ELISA **(Figures S1I and S1J)**, confirmed robustness of our imaging quantification method.

Among the 6 highest TEG-sensitive PDO cultures (above 50% dying organoids; **Figure 1F**),

we noted cultures derived from primary BC of distinct subtypes (triple negative breast cancer

(TNBC), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)$^+$, estrogen receptor (ER)$^+$, and

ER$^+$ progesterone receptor (PR)$^+$HER2$^+$) and from a metastasis derived from a HER2$^+$ primary

tumor (**Figures 1D and 1F**), supporting the potential of TEGs in targeting a broad spectrum of

BCs. Importantly, TEGs control the growth of PDO-derived breast tumors (TNBC primary

tumor and HER2$^+$ metastasis) in mouse xenograft models (**Figure 1G**), showing efficacy of

TEG for BC *in vivo*.

PDO inflammatory features associate with TEG sensitivity

Bulk RNA sequencing of PDOs revealed differentially expressed genes (DEGs) between the 6

lowest versus the 6 highest TEG-sensitive PDO cultures (**Table S2**), related to upregulated

cadherin signaling and steroid biosynthesis pathways in TEG-insensitive cultures, whereas

cytokine signaling, as well as extracellular matrix (ECM) organization, correlated with high

sensitivity to TEG therapy (**Figures 1H, and S1K-S1M**). The highest association was found

between TEG killing and type 1 interferon (IFN-I) signaling genes, including MX1, IFIT1,

OASL, and XAF1, which were highly expressed especially in the 2 highest TEG-sensitive PDO

cultures; 14T and 13T (**Figures 1H, and S1M**). Thus, PDOs maintain tumor-specific

inflammatory features in culture, highlighting their utility for modeling cellular

immunotherapy responses in a patient-specific manner.

TEGs display a high diversity in behavior and killing potential

BEHAV3D implements single immune cell tracking in a 3D space over time and behavioral

classification (**Figures 1B, and 2A; Video S1**), revealing that -when exposed to PDOs- TEGs

could be separated into nine subpopulations with unique behavioral patterns (**Figures 2B-2D,**

and S2A, S2B). Patterns varied from inactive behaviors (*dying*, *static* and *lazy*) to active

motility (*slow scanner*, *medium scanner* and *super scanner*) and organoid engagement (*tickler*,

engager and *super engager*), thus demonstrating a high level of behavioral heterogeneity.

Having captured their behavioral single-cell landscape in this classifier (**Figures S3C-S3E**),

we next predicted TEG behavior when co-cultured with PDOs that showed varying TEG

sensitivity (34T, 100T, 27T, 10T or 13T; **Figure 1F**), as well as an organoid culture derived

from normal breast tissue, which only showed minimal death when cultured with TEGs

(**Figure 2E**). A total of 123,296 TEGs were live-tracked to investigate how the organoid

(inflammatory) profile shapes T cell behavior. For each PDO culture, TEGs displayed unique

distributions of behavioral signatures (**Figure 2E**) and higher organoid killing associated with

an increase in tumor engagement (*tickler*, *engager* and *super engager*), while *static, lazy* and

medium scanner behavior decreased (**Figure 2F**). Correlation between single organoid dying

dynamics and TEG engagement over time revealed that organoids contacted by *super*

engagers, as compared to other organoid-engaging clusters, had the highest chance of being

killed (**Figures 2G, and S2F**). This indicates that effective killing by TEGs relies on prolonged

organoid contact, a main feature of *super engagers* (48 ± 8 min / hr; mean $\pm$ s.d.).

Serial killing capability of *super engager* CD8[+] TEGs

We next linked behaviors to population phenotypes by first differentially labeling CD4$^+$ and

and CD8$^+$ T cells (**Figures 3A, and S3A**). This revealed that prolonged organoid contact and

super engager behavior was a preferred feature of CD8$^+$ TEGs, whereas CD4$^+$ TEGs showed

a higher proportion of *lazy* cells, *slow scanners*, *medium scanners*, *super scanners*, and *ticklers*

(**Figures 3A-3C**) characteristic of high movement and short organoid contact (**Figure 2C**).

Furthermore, long-term behavior classification and back-projection of cells classified in the

live-tracked imaging dataset (**Figures S3B and S3C**), showed that single CD8$^+$ TEGs, once

engaged with an organoid, most often killed multiple cells consecutively (serial killing)

(**Figures 3D-3G**), a preferred feature of engineered T cells(Cazaux et al., 2019; Halle et al.,

2016; Weigelin et al.). In contrast, CD4$^+$ TEGs often moved away after organoid engagement

without killing, but occasionally targeted individual cells in different organoids (**Figures 3D-**

3F, and S3D) thereby displaying slower killing rates (**Figure 3H**). Serial killing by *super*

engager CD8$^+$ TEGs was characterized by attachment to PDOs using a defined anchor point

from where surrounding cells were killed via long protrusions, intercalating between epithelial

cells and extending their initial size up to 5 times (**Figures 3E, and S3E and S3F**).

Remarkably, single CD8$^+$ TEGs were able to kill entire organoids (up to 18 cells in 11 hrs;

Figures 3E and 3G; Video S1). This extent of serial killing and morphological plasticity of

super engager CD8$^+$ TEGs was uniquely revealed by the high spatiotemporal resolution

character of BEHAV3D.

NCAM1 associates with *super engager* behavior

Through single cell RNA sequencing (scRNAseq), we observed differential expression of

NCAM1 in CD8$^+$ TEGs (**Figures 3I**, **S3G and S3H; Table S3**). Although linked to

cytotoxicity in both αβ and γδ T cells(Van Acker et al., 2017), this surface marker has not been

examined in the context of cellular immunotherapy. We confirmed potent effector function

related to NCAM1 expression, by showing that NCAM1$^+$CD8$^+$ TEGs had a higher capacity to kill 13T organoids compared to NCAM1$^-$CD8$^+$ TEGs (**Figure 3J**). To identify behavioral mechanisms underlying this high killing potential, we pre-labeled CD8$^+$ TEGs with NCAM1 nanobodies (**Figure 3K**), to directly compare NCAM1-positive and -negative populations within the same environment. NCAM1$^+$CD8$^+$ TEGs showed reduced *dying* and *static* behavior (**Figures 3L and 3M, and S3I**), supporting a higher *in vitro* persistence. Strikingly, NCAM1$^+$CD8$^+$ TEGs additionally showed a significant increase in *super engager* behavior compared to NCAM1$^-$CD8$^+$ TEGs (**Figure 3L and 3M**). Thus, surface marker expression can be linked to engineered T cell behavior, offering the opportunity to enrich for potent effector behaviors.

Behavioral-transcriptomic profiling of TEGs

To generate insight into the transcriptional programs that underlie tumor-targeting dynamics revealed by BEHAV3D, we next performed single cell transcriptomic profiling of TEG populations enriched for different behavioral signatures, including a TEG population containing > 90% *super engagers* (**Figures 4A and 4B, and S4A; Video S1**). For each main TEG subset, effector CD8$^+$ (CD8^{+eff}), effector CD4$^+$ (CD4^{+eff}) and memory CD4$^+$ (CD4^{+mem}), profound transcriptional changes were observed upon 6 h co-culture with highly targeted 13T organoids, as compared to baseline (*no target control*) (**Figures 4C-4E**), showing that dynamic interplay with PDOs shapes the TEG transcriptomic profile. Behavioral probability mapping inferred from pseudotemporal ordering (**Figure S4B**) of the sequenced TEG populations (**Figure 4F**), revealed dynamic transcriptional programs that were highly conserved between CD8^{+eff}, CD4^{+eff}, and CD4^{+mem} TEGs (**Figure 4G**; Gene cluster (CL)1-3; 85% of genes; **Table S4**). These programs included genes to be down- (CL1) or up-regulated (CL3) by environmental stimuli or engagement to PDOs, as well as genes transiently expressed (CL2)

along the pseudotime trajectory (**Figure 4G;** GO terms per CL in **Figure S4C**). This differential dynamic expression matched with known gene function, confirming robust ordering of TEGs, as shown by genes related to the CD3 signaling complex (LCK, SOS1, CD3E, CD3G; CL1; GO term 'T cell activation'), known to be down-regulated upon T cell activation(Liu et al., 2000) in CL1 (**Figure 4H**). NF-kB signaling, critical for tumor control(Barnes et al., 2015), and effector molecules including FASLG, IFNG, GZMB, TNF were found in CL3, with NF-kB signalling induced by environmental stimuli reaching maximum expression upon prolonged PDO-engagement, while the effector molecules appeared upon engagement (**Figure 4I**). In addition, CL3 contained genes related to rRNA processing that only increased upon prolonged engagement with organoids (**Figure 4H**), consistent with accelerated protein production in T cells following TCR engagement(Asmal et al., 2003; Tan et al., 2017). Finally, CL2 contained early activation markers CD69 and EGR1 with peak expression upon short organoid engagement, in line with IL-2 (CL3), known to be induced by EGR1(Collins et al., 2006), upregulated towards the end of the trajectory (**Figure 4I**). Thus, through our behavior-guided transcriptomics approach we robustly identified dynamic gene orchestration of TEG during tumor targeting.

Gene signature related to (serial) killing *super engager* TEGs

Of gene sets regulated in a TEG subset-specific manner (CL4-8; 15% of genes), CL7 contained genes mainly induced upon prolonged organoid engagement, including cytotoxic genes (e.g. PRF1, CRTAM, XCL1) (**Figures 4H and 4I;** GO: 'Regulation of cell killing'). This cluster of genes was specifically induced in *super engager* CD8^{+eff}, and to a lesser extent in CD4^{+eff} TEGs, and almost absent in CD4^{+mem} TEGs (**Figure 4J**), associating this gene cluster with potent (serial) killing T cells (**Figures 3D-3G**). Analysis of TEGs derived from a different healthy donor and co-cultured with another PDO culture (10T), confirmed that 61 out of the

83 genes of CL7 represent a conserved 'killer' gene signature (**Table S5**). Of these, we identified 20 genes related to T cell activation and cytotoxicity and 14 genes related to other T cell functions (**Figures 4K, and S4D**). However, importantly, we found 27 genes with no previously described T cell function (**Figures 4K, and S4D**). Overall, half of all conserved signature genes (31/61) and 17 out of the 27 novel genes were related to morphological plasticity processes, such as motility, cytoskeleton remodeling and adhesion (**Figure S4D**). Given that morphological plasticity is a key determinant of cell migration, many of the novel genes were found to have a role in promoting tumor cell migration and invasion, including ECM production and mesenchymal state induction (HEG1, BZW2, DCAF13, SQLE, PKIA). For some of these genes, such as CCT3 or AFAP1L2, the mechanism promoting migration is yet undescribed. In line with the prolonged organoid engagement behavioral feature of *super engager* TEGs (**Figure 2C**), we also found various genes related to cell adhesion, such as NCEH1, BYSL or EMP1. Finally, some genes had an additional function related to neurite outgrowth and dendritic pruning (SERPINE2, CHD4, NRTK1), potentially matching the long protrusion that were observed to occur in these serial killing TEGs (**Figures 3E, and Figure S3E and S3F; Video S1).** Thus, behavioral transcriptomics identified a specific gene signature induced in (serial) killing *super engager* TEGs.

PDOs shape the dynamic gene signature of TEG during tumor targeting

To further explore our behavioral-guided transcriptomics approach, we next compared behavior-enriched TEG populations co-cultured between either highly sensitive 13T or intermediately targeted 10T PDOs. Distinct UMAP embedding of different TEG populations **(Figure 5A)** indicated that the patient-specific organoid exposure influences the dynamic TEG transcriptional profile. 41% or 61% of upregulated genes by environmental stimuli or upon prolonged PDO engagement in *super engagers*, respectively, were common between 10T- and

13T-co-cultured TEGs (**Figures 5B**, **and S5A and S5B**; **Table S6)**. Common *super engager-*

related gene signatures included rRNA processing, NF-kB signaling and cytokine signaling

(**Figure S5B**), and matched CL3 gene signatures (**Figure S4C**). However, 10T-co-cultured

TEGs were characterized by induction of high cytokine expression upon prolonged PDO

engagement, including TNF, IFNG and IL2, whereas IFN-I signaling genes were uniquely

induced in TEGs co-cultured with highly sensitive 13T (**Figures 5C, and S5C**).

IFN-β primes PDOs for TEG mediated killing

IFN-I signaling plays fundamental roles in anti-tumor immunity, yet with diverse and

sometimes opposing functions reported for both tumor and immune cells, thereby making it

difficult to fully comprehend and therapeutically exploit these effects(Boukhaled et al., 2021).

IFN-I signaling was detected in 13T organoids (**Figure S1M**), which most prominently

displayed increased RNA levels of the upstream mediator IFN-β, but not IFN-α, among our

collection of PDOs (**Figure 5D)**. Secretion of IFN-β was confirmed by Luminex (**Figure S5D**),

implying that IFN-β was the main mediator of IFN-I signaling observed in 13T. Interestingly,

peak induction of IFN-I signaling in 13T-co-cultured TEGs was detected in non-organoid-

engaging TEGs (from *static* to *super scanner* behavior), in line with a secreted source of IFN-

β, while the pathway was shut down in *super engager* TEGs, suggesting a limited role of IFN-

I signaling in direct killing behavior (**Figures 4F-4H**). Adding recombinant IFN-β to co-

cultures of TEGs with various PDOs that showed low to medium sensitivity to TEG therapy

(100T, 34T, 27T and 10T) indeed did not affect TEG targeting efficacy (**Figure 5E**). However,

34T, 27T and 10T organoids pre-treated with IFN-β showed increased TEG-mediated killing,

while IFN-β treatment did not impact organoid viability by itself (**Figures 5F and 5G**). These

data support that IFN-β has limited impact on the killing capacity of *super engager* TEGs,

confirming that dynamic IFN-I signaling is mainly associating with *static* to *scanner* behavior.

Importantly however, IFN-I signaling increases the sensitivity of organoids to TEG therapy.

Thus, behavior-guided TEG transcriptomics in relation to the type of organoid exposure reveals

IFN-β to prime PDOs for targeting by TEGs. This illustrates the potential of the BEHAV3D to

better understand and guide combinatory treatment approaches in a patient-specific manner.

Discussion

Here, we provide an organoid-based 3D imaging-transcriptomic platform; BEHAV3D, for understanding the mode-of-action of cellular anti-cancer immunotherapies in a patient-specific manner. Using this pipeline, we report on the broad targeting potential of TEGs for breast cancer, poorly permissive to current immunotherapies (Esteva et al., 2019). In addition, by behavior-guided transcriptomics we have generated, to our knowledge, the first molecular map underlying the behavioral landscape of immune cells targeted to solid tumors. By exploiting these results, we were able to design an optimal sequence of IFN-I and TEG combination therapy to boost TEG organoid targeting.

Different from recent studies that have mapped the activation trajectories of murine immune cells during viral infection (Abbas et al., 2020), or human immune cells in normal physiology or cancer (Szabo et al., 2019), we here reconstructed activation trajectories for engineered T cells and uniquely exploited dynamic imaging data revealing their single-cell behavior. This allowed us to dissect gene programs induced by environmental stimuli, versus induction by short or prolonged tumor engagement, and thereby identify the gene signature of TEGs that (serially) killed tumor cells. This signature includes genes not previously linked to T cell function, thereby providing novel opportunities to potentially engineer next generation T cells with potent serial killing capability. Furthermore, multiple genes in this signature are associated with morphological plasticity. Such plasticity may underlie the remarkable cellular extensions of serial-killing TEGs, as observed in our 3D imaging data. Using these protrusions, TEGs intercalated between tumor cells while sequentially killing multiple tumor cells in the PDO, suggesting that morphological plasticity may be an important attribute in the targeting of solid tumors.

Type 1 IFNs have been described to be beneficial for the control of tumor growth,

including in breast cancer, either by exerting direct antitumor effects (Dunn et al., 2005), or by

improving the response to therapies, such as chemotherapy and checkpoint inhibition (Borden,

2019; Sistigu et al., 2014). Yet, opposite roles in inducing treatment resistance have been

described as well (Benci et al., 2016; Boukhaled et al., 2021; Jacquelot et al., 2019). By using

defined immune-organoid co-cultures, we have shown that an IFN-I signature intrinsic to

tumor cells associates with TEG sensitivity, and that IFN-β primes tumor cells for more

efficient targeting, rather than directly affecting TEG killing behavior. Thus, our data support

the clinical use of IFN-I in combination with TEGs and possibly other cellular

immunotherapies.

Adding to patient-specific drug responses observed in PDOs biobanks (Ganesh et al.,

2019; Jacob et al., 2020; Ooft et al., 2019; Tiriac et al., 2018; Vlachogiannis et al., 2018; Yao

et al., 2020), we show that not only killing efficacy, but also the underlying behavioral and

molecular mechanisms of cellular immunotherapy differ between different PDO cultures. We

even detected differences in killing dynamics between individual organoids belonging to the

same PDO culture. This demonstrates that our platform captures the inter- and intra-patient

heterogeneity, a major obstacle for treating solid tumors (Yamamoto et al., 2019). It is

intriguing that gene signatures induced in TEGs upon organoid engagement were partly

dictated by the type of PDO. In addition, the extent of IFN-β pre-treatment outcome on tumor

targeting differed between PDOs, with the highly resistant culture 100T remaining

unresponsive, whereas 34T displayed the highest (4-fold) increase in targeting. Together, these

findings warrant caution regarding generalizing the outcome of immuno-oncology studies that

use a single tumor model, and further supports the value of human organoid technology for

development of personalized therapies.

Altogether, BEHAV3D combines organoid, imaging and sequencing technologies to
offer a comprehensive platform that integrates multiple single-cell readouts, including tumor
death dynamics, single-cell behavior and underlying transcriptomic profiling (**Video S1**).
BEHAV3D may thus contribute to the efforts aimed at enhancing the efficacy of solid tumor-
targeting by cellular therapies.
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Methods

Human material

All human PDO samples were retrieved from a biobank through the Hubrecht Organoid Technology (HUB, www.hub4organoids.nl). Authorizations were obtained by the medical ethical committee of UMC Utrecht (METC UMCU) at request of the HUB in order to ensure compliance with the Dutch medical research involving human subjects' act. The normal organoids were generated from milk obtained via the Moedermelkbank Amsterdam (Amsterdam UMC). Informed consent was obtained from all donors.

Animal material

NOD.Cg-PrkdcscidIl2rgtm1Wjl/SzJ (NSG) mice purchased from Charles River Laboratories (France). Experiments were conducted in accordance with Institutional Guidelines under acquired permission from the local Ethical Committee and as per current Dutch laws on Animal Experimentation. Mice were housed in sterile conditions using an individually ventilated cage (IVC) system and fed with sterile food and water. Irradiated mice were given sterile water with antibiotic ciproxin for the duration of the experiment. Mice were randomized with equal distribution by age and initial weight measured on day 0 and divided into 10–15 mice per group.

Organoid culture

Organoids were seeded in basement membrane extract (BME; Cultrex) in uncoated 12-well plates (Greiner Bio-one) and cultured as described previously(Dekkers et al., 2021; Sachs et al., 2017). Briefly, Advanced DMEM/F12 was supplemented with penicillin/streptomycin (pen/strep), 10 mM HEPES, Glutamax (adDMEM/F12+++), 1 x B27 (all from Thermo Fisher),

1.25 mM N-acetyl-L-cysteine (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 mM Nicotinamide (Sigma-Aldrich), 5 μM

Y-27632 (Abmole), 5 nM Heregulin β-1 (Peprotech), 500 nM A83-01 (Tocris), 5 ng/ml EGF

(Peprotech), 20 ng/ml FGF-10 (Peprotech), 10% Noggin-conditioned medium (NCM)

(Cattaneo et al., 2020), 10% Rspo1-conditioned medium (RCM) (Broutier et al., 2016), and

0.1 mg/ml primocin (Thermo Fisher), and in addition with 1 μM SB202190 (Sigma-Aldrich)

and 5 ng/ml FGF-7 (Peprotech) for PDO propagation ('Type 1' culture medium(Dekkers et al.,

2021)), or with 20% Wnt3a-conditioned medium (WCM) (Broutier et al., 2016), 0.5 μg/ml

hydrocortisone (Sigma-Aldrich), 100 μM β-estradiol (Sigma-Aldrich) and 10 mM forskolin

(Sigma-Aldrich) for normal organoid propagation ('Type 2' culture medium (Dekkers et al.,

2021)). Culture medium was refreshed every 2–3 days and organoids were passaged 1:2–1:6

every 7–21 days using TrypLE Express (Thermo Fisher). For co-culturing, organoids of a 5–

12-day old culture (depending on PDO growth speed) were recovered from the BME by

resuspension in TrypLE Express and collected adDMEM/F12+++. The organoid suspension

was filtered through a 70 μm strainer (Greiner) to remove large organoids and pelleted before

co-culturing. Organoids of passage 5 to 30 after cell isolation were used.

Cell lines

Daudi (Gründer et al., 2012), HL60(Marcu-Malina et al., 2011) and Phoenix-Ampho cell lines

were   obtained   from   ATCC   (authenticated   by   short   tandem   repeat

profiling/karyotyping/isoenzyme analysis). Daudi and HL60 cells were cultured in RPMI

media supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS) and 1% pen/strep (all from Thermo

Fisher). Phoenix-Ampho cells were cultured in DMEM medium (Thermo Fisher)

supplemented with 10% FCS and 1% pen/strep. All cells were passaged for a maximum of 2

months, after which new seed stocks were thawed for experimental use. Furthermore, all cell

lines were routinely verified by growth rate, morphology, and/or flow cytometry and tested

negative for mycoplasma using MycoAlert Mycoplasma Kit. Peripheral blood mononuclear

cells (PBMCs) were obtained from Sanquin Blood bank (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) and

isolated using Ficoll gradient centrifugation methods from buffy coats.

Retroviral transduction of T cells

TEG001 (T cells engineered to express a highly tumor-reactive Vγ9Vδ2 TCR) (Gründer et al.,

2012; Straetemans et al., 2015; 2018), LM1s (mock T cells engineered to express a mutant

Vγ9/Vδ2 TCR with abrogated function) (Marcu-Malina et al., 2011), and TEG011 (mock T

cells engineered to express HLA-A*24:02-restricted Vγ5/Vδ1 TCR; used as control for *in vivo*

studies) (Kierkels et al., 2019; Scheper et al., 2013), were produced as previously described

(Marcu-Malina et al., 2011). Briefly, packaging cells (Phoenix-Ampho) were transfected with

helper constructs gag-pol (pHIT60), env (pCOLT-GALV) and pMP71 retroviral vectors

containing both Vγ9/Vδ2 TCR chains separated by a ribosomal skipping T2A sequence, using

FugeneHD reagent (Promega). Human PBMCs from healthy donors were pre-activated with

anti CD3 (30 ng/mL; Orthoclone OKT3; Janssen-Cilag) and IL-2 (50 IU/mL; Proleukin,

Novartis) and subsequently transduced twice with viral supernatant within 48 hrs in the

presence of 50 IU/mL IL-2 and 6 mg/mL polybrene (Sigma-Aldrich). TCR-transduced T cells

were expanded by stimulation with anti-CD3/CD28 Dynabeads (500,000 beads/10^6 cells; Life

Technologies) and IL-2 (50 IU/mL). Thereafter, TCR-transduced T cells were depleted of the

non-engineered T cells.

Depletion of non-engineered T cells

Depletion of non-engineered T cells was performed as previously described (Marcu-Malina et

al., 2011). In short, αβ T cells were transduced with pMP71: γ-T2A-δ and incubated with a

biotin-labelled anti-αβ TCR antibody (clone BW242/412; Miltenyi Biotec) followed by

incubation with an anti-biotin antibody coupled to magnetic beads (anti-biotin MicroBeads;

Miltenyi Biotec). Next, the cell suspension was applied onto an LD column and αβ TCR-

positive (αβ TCR$^+$) T cells were depleted by Magnetic-Activated Cell Sorting (MACS)

according to the manufacture's protocol (Miltenyi Biotec).

Separation of CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ subsets of TEGs

In order to separate CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs and LM1s, we performed positive selection using

either CD4 or CD8 Microbeads (Miltenyi Biotech) following manufacturer's instructions.

After incubation with magnetic microbeads cells were applied to LS columns and CD4$^+$ or

CD8$^+$ TEGs or LM1s were selected by MACS. After MACS selection procedure, both

Vγ9/Vδ2 TCR$^+$ CD4$^+$ or Vγ9/Vδ2 TCR$^+$ CD8$^+$ subsets of TEGs were separately expanded by

using a rapid expansion protocol (REP) (Marcu-Malina et al., 2011) where TEGs were cultured

in 'TEG culture medium' (RPMI-Glutamax supplemented with 2,5 – 10 % human serum

(Sanquin), 1% pen/strep and 0.5M beta-2- mercaptoethanol) on a feeder cell mixture

composing of irradiated allogenic PBMCs, Daudi and LCL-TM in the presence of IL2 (50

U/ml; Novartis Pharma), IL15 (5 ng/ml; R&D Systems) and PHA-L (1 μg/ml; Sigma-Aldrich).

TEGs were stimulated biweekly by using the REP protocol. In order to monitor the purity of

CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs, cells were analyzed by flow cytometry weekly prior to functional

assays by using anti-pan γδ TCR-PE (Beckman Coulter), anti- αβTCR-FITC (eBioscience),

anti-CD8-PerCP-Cy5.5 (Biolegend) and anti-CD4-APC (Biolegend) antibodies. TEGs with a

purity lower than 90% were re-selected as described above. TEGs were used for co-culture

assays 4 – 5 days after the last IL2/IL15/PHA-L stimulation.

Sorting of NCAM1$^{-/+}$ TEGs

CD8$^+$ TEGs were harvested at day 8-10 of their REP cycle, stained in flow cytometry (FC)

buffer (2% fetal bovine serum, 1x PBS) with Hilyte-488-conjugated NCAM1 nanobodies

(1:400; QVQ) and LIVE/DEAD Fixable Near-IR Dead Cell Stain (1:1000; ThermoFisher) for

30 minutes at 4˚C and consecutively sorted using a SONY SH800S or a FACS Aria Cell Sorter

(BD Biosciences) into NCAM1$^-$ and NCAM$^+$ populations. Cells were rested for 16 h in 'TEG

culture medium' and then used for co-culture.

Live cell imaging of TEG and organoid co-cultures

LM1s or TEGs (20,000) were co-cultured with normal organoids, PDOs or control cell lines

(Daudi or HL-60) in an effector to tumor cell (E:T) ratio of 1:3 or 1:25 (for **Figures 3D-3F**).

CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs were mixed in a 1:1 ratio just before plating. Cells were incubated in

96-well glass-bottom SensoPlates (Greiner) in 200 µl 'co-culture medium': 50% 'Type 1'

organoid culture medium, 50% 'TEG assay medium' (RPMI-Glutamax supplemented with

10% FCS and 1% pen/strep), 2.5% BME and pamidronate for the accumulation of the

phosphoantigen IPP to stimulate tumor cell recognition(Marcu-Malina et al., 2011) (1:2000).

'Co-culture medium' was supplemented with both NucRed™ Dead 647 (2 drops per ml;

Thermo Fisher) and TO-PRO-3 (1:3000; Thermo Fisher) for fluorescent labelling of living and

dead cells ('Imaging medium'). Combination of NucRed™ Dead 647 and TO-PRO-3 light up

dead cell when excited with the 633 nm laser, and living cells when excited with the 561 nm

laser (**Figures S1A and S1B**). Both were combined to achieve the most optimal fluorescent

intensity ratio between dead and living cells for live cell imaging. Prior to co-culturing, TEGs

were incubated with eBioscience™ Cell Proliferation Dye eFluor™ 450 (referred to as eFluor-

450; 1:4000; Thermo Fisher) in PBS for 10 min at 37 °C to fluorescently label all TEGs. When

CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$TEGs were simultaneously imaged, eFluor-450, as well as Calcein AM

(1:4000; Thermo Fisher) were used to label the different TEG subsets in PBS for 10 min at 37

°C. For NCAM1 pre-labeling experiments, a combination of eFluor-450 (1:4000; Thermo

Fisher) and Hilyte-488-conjugated NCAM1 nanobodies (1:400; QVQ) was used to label CD8[+]

TEGs in PBS for 20 min at 37 °C prior to co-culturing. To prevent evaporation while imaging,

200 µl PBS was added to the wells surrounding the co-culture wells. The plate was placed in a

LSM880 (Zeiss) microscope containing an incubation chamber (37 °C; 5% CO_2) and incubated

for 30 min to ensure settling of TEGs and organoids at the bottom of the well. The plate was

imaged for up to 24 hrs with a Plan-Apochromat 20 x/0.8 NA dry objective with the following

settings: online fingerprinting mode, bidirectional scanning, optimal Z-stack step size, Z-stack

of 60 µm in total and time series with a 30 min (up to 60 conditions simultaneously; resolution

512 x 512) or 2 min interval (up to 4 or 10 conditions simultaneously; resolution 512 x 512 and

200 x 200 respectively). To minimize photobleaching of NCAM1-pre-labeled TEGs, the 488

nm laser was only activated 1 Z-stack each hr within the first hrs of imaging. Directly after

imaging, the production of IFN-γ in the supernatant was quantitated using an ELISA-ready-

go! Kit (eBioscience) and cell pellets were used to measure organoid viability using a CellTiter-

Glo® Luminescent Cell Viability Assay (Promega).

IFN-β stimulations

PDOs were harvested as described above and incubated in 96-well round bottom culture plates

(Thermo Fisher) in 100 µl 'Type 1' organoid culture medium, supplemented with 2.5% BME,

with or without the presence of 100 pg/ml recombinant human IFN-β (Peprotech). After 24 h

incubation (37 °C; 5% CO_2), TEGs or LM1s were added to either IFN-β-preincubated or

unstimulated organoids (E:T ratio of 1:3) in 100 µl 'TEG assay medium', supplemented with

2.5% BME and pamidronate (1:1000), with or without the presence of 100 pg/ml recombinant

human IFN-β (Peprotech). Medium without T cells was added for 'organoid only' controls.

After 16 h incubation (37 °C; 5% CO_2), plates were used to measure organoid viability using

a CellTiter-Glo® Luminescent Cell Viability Assay (Promega).

In vivo **targeting by TEGs**

Adult female NSG mice (15-16 weeks old) received sub-lethal total body irradiation (1,75 Gy)

and subcutaneous implantation of an β-estradiol pellet (Innovative Research of America) on

Day -1. On day 0, PDOs ($1x10^6$ 13T organoid cells in 100 µl BME per mouse) were prepared

as described previously (Dekkers et al., 2021) for subcutaneous injection on the right flank on

Day 0, and received 2 injections of 10^7 TEGs or TEG011 mock cells on day 1 and 6 in

pamidronate (10 mg/kg body weight) as previously reported(Johanna et al., 2019). On day 1,

together with the first T cell injection, all mice also received $0.6x10^6$ IU of IL-2 (Proleukin;

Novartis) in IFA subcutaneously. Tumor volume was measured once a week using digital

caliper and was calculated by the following formula: 0.4 x (length x width x width). Mice were

monitored at least twice a week for weight loss and clinical appearance scoring (scoring

parameter included hunched appearance, activity, fur texture, piloerection,

respiratory/breathing problem). Humane endpoint (HEP) was reached when mice experienced

a 20% weight loss from the initial weight, tumor volume reached 2 cm^3, or when clinical

appearance score of 2 was reached for individual parameter or an overall score of 4.

Image processing

For 3D visualization, cell segmentation and extraction of statistics, time-lapse movies were

processed with Imaris (Oxford Instruments), versions 9.2 to 9.5. The *Channel Arithmetics*

Xtension was used for creating new channels to specifically identify organoids (live and dead)

and eFluor-450-labeled or calcein AM-labeled TEGs (live and dead) and exclude cell debris.

The Surface and ImarisTrack modules were used for object detection and automated tracking

of both TEGs (autoregressive motion) and organoids ('connected components' or no tracking).

The *Distance Transformation* Xtension was used to measure the distance between TEGs and

organoids and thresholds for defining organoid–T cell interactions were visually determined.

For tracked TEGs, time-lapse data containing the coordinates of each cell, the values of cell

speed, mean square displacement, distance to organoids and dead cell dye channel intensity

were exported. For experiments with NCAM1 pre-labelling, the mean intensities of the

NCAM1 channel per T cell were exported. For tracked organoids, time-lapse data containing

the coordinates of each organoid, the surface area, volume and mean dead cell dye channel

intensity were exported.

Imaging and sequencing data processing

Analysis of imaging and sequencing data was performed using R Studio version 4.0.2, as well

as the following R packages: DESeq2, devtools, dplyr, dtwclust, eulerr, gganimate, ggplot2,

ggpubr, ggrepel, gridExtra, hypergeo, kmodR, lme4, lmerTest, MESS, nlme, openxlsx,

parallel, patternplot, pheatmap, plotly, plyr, png, purr, RColorBrewer, readxl, reshape2, rgeos,

scales, Seurat, sp, spatstat, stats, tidyr, tidyverse, umap, VennDiagram, viridis, xlsx, zoo.

PDOs killing dynamics

To quantify cell death dynamics of PDO cultures, > 5000 single organoids were analyzed at

each time-point (48 time-points total). The mean dead cell dye intensity within single organoid

surfaces, and values were rescaled to a range between 0 and 100 per experiment to normalize

for variation in the absolute dead cell dye intensity. Per time point, organoids were classified

as 'dying' when the mean dead cell dye intensity was above 7.

T cell dynamics analysis and multivariate time series clustering

For the analysis of TEG behavior overtime, the following parameters were used: T cell death, contact with organoids, speed, square displacement and interaction with other T cells. Interactions between TEGs were measured by computing the distance to the nearest neighbor for each cell. To only include active interactions between TEGs that were not engaged to organoids, we considered cells whose mean speed for the last 20 minutes fell within the 3rd quartile. A threshold for interacting T cells was defined as 10 μm between cell centroids and confirmed by visual inspection of imaging data. For each TEG time series, linear interpolation was used to estimate the values in few cases of missing time points. To compare time series independently of their length, cell tracks were cut to a length of 3.3 hrs. For each experimental replicate, the values of each of the numeric variables were converted to z-scores. To enhance the most discrepant values, only the 3rd quartile range values were kept, while the rest was converted to the minimum values. Finally, each numeric variable was scaled to a range between 0 and 1 and normalized to the mean of the 0.99 quantile (per experimental replicate). For binary variables (TEG-TEG or TEG-organoid interactions), the values were labelled as 1 or 0 for interaction or no-interaction terms. Similarity between distinct cell tracks was measured using a strategy that allows for best alignment between time-series, previously applied for mitotic kinetics (Cai et al., 2018) or temporal module dynamics comparisons (Schafer et al., 2019). A cross-distance matrix based on the multivariate time-series data was computed using the dynamic time warping algorithm from the package "dtwclust". To visualize distinct cell behaviors in 2 dimensions, dimensionality reduction on the multidimensional feature count table was performed by Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection method ("umap" package) (Ali et al.; Becht et al., 2018). Clustering was performed using the k-means clustering algorithm with outlier detection. The identity of each cluster was defined by the mean time-series values of the different parameters (speed, square displacement, organoid contact, T cell interactions, cell death) within each cluster (**Figure 2C**). To confirm the identity of each

cluster, T cell cluster assignments were back-projected to visualize the surfaces and tracks of

particular T cell populations in the imaging dataset (**Figures 2A, S2A and S2B, and S3B**). A

combination of datasets with distinct behavioral characteristics was used to construct a global

TEG behavior atlas using the described methodology (**Figure 2B**).

Cell behavior classification using a Random Forest classifier

For standardized integration of new experiments, we used a random forest classification

approach (Breiman, L., 2001) in order to relate cell behavior to the nine behavioral signatures

that we found in our global TEG behavior atlas (**Figure 2B**). To allow for inclusion of

experiments with a low E:T ratio of 1:25, where the parameter of T cell interaction would be

influenced as compared to the standard E:T ratio of 1:3, the following parameters were used:

T cell death, organoid contact, speed, square displacement. The reference dataset used to build

the global TEG behavior atlas was split into cell tracks to be used as a training dataset (95%)

and a test dataset (5%). To reduce dimensionality, for each cell track, four time-series

descriptive statistics were quantified and used to train the classifier. For numeric variables, the

following measures were computed for each cell track: mean, median, the top 90% of the

distribution, and the standard deviation. For binary values, such as the contact with organoids,

the mean was calculated, as well as the mean and maximum of cumulative interaction. The

random forest classifier was trained using 100 trees on the above-mentioned variables using

the nine behavioral signatures as labels (**Figures S2C and S2D**). The test dataset was used to

assess for accuracy of the classifier and to determine in which behavioral signatures the errors

occurred (**Figure S2E**).

Correlation between TEG behavior and organoid killing dynamics

To estimate the correlation between the onset of death in individual organoids and the

engagement with T cells belonging to the engaging clusters (C7-9), we implemented a

technique of sliding window correlation analysis, previously used for functional brain

connectivity (Preti et al., 2017) and genome analysis (Burke et al., 2010). We calculated the

Pearson correlation coefficient between the cumulative number of organoid contacts with

TEGs from each cluster and the increase in dead cell dye intensity in each over a sliding

window of 3 hrs (**Figures 2F and S2F**).

T cell serial killing capacity analysis

For accurate long-term (up to 24 h) T cell tracking, TEGs were plated at a E:T ratio of 1:25.

Tracks were manually corrected where required. Tracks were divided into shorter subtracks of

160 minutes. Using the random forest classifier described above, each subtrack was assigned

to a behavioral signature (**Figures S2D and S2E**). The following statistics were calculated for

each type of behavioral signature (9 clusters): for continuous variables (square displacement;

speed, T cell death) the mean, median and standard deviation of the upper quantile were

calculated, and for discrete variables (organoid contact and interaction with T cells) the mean,

cumulative mean, maximum and cumulative maximum were calculated. Principal component

(PC) analysis was used to reduce the dimensionality. The top 5 PCs were used to classify the

change in behavioral signature over time (**Figures S3B and S3C**). Equivalent to the approach

that was used for the full tracks in **Figure 2B**, we computed a cross-distance matrix based on

the multivariate time-series data using the dynamic time warping algorithm and performed k-

means clustering in UMAP space. The change in behavioral signatures was represented in a

time-series color plot where each row represents one cell track and the color codes for

behavioral signature (**Figure S3C**). The relative proportion of CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs in each

cluster was calculated and plotted next to each long-term classification (**Figure S3C**).

TEGs that engaged to organoids were back-projected to the imaging dataset and their

first and second actions upon organoid engagement were visually analyzed (**Figure 3D**). TEG

morphological plasticity was calculated by measuring the cell elongation (ratio between the

longest and shortest axes) per cell and per individual timepoint. For each cell track, the

plasticity was then computed as the ratio between the maximal and the minimal cell elongation

(**Figure S3F**). The actions of CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs upon organoid engagement (**Figure 3D**)

as well as the speed of killing and serial killing potential (**Figures 3G and 3H**) were quantified

using Imaris software. Only TEGs were included for which tumor cell killing was clearly

observed (usually visible as a decrease in living cell dye and an increase in dead cell dye, which

co-occurred in many cases with target cell detachment from the organoid). For cases where a

single organoid was fully killed by a single TEG, the number of cells killed by the TEG was

calculated by dividing the killed volume by the average volume of a single 13T cell (2182

μm^3). The killing rate of TEGs was measured as the time period from target cell engagement

until tumor cell death (**Figure 3H**).

NCAM1 pre-labelling quantification using 3D imaging data

Behavioral classification of NCAM1 pre-labelled TEGs was performed as described above, by

predicting behavioral signatures with the Random Forest classifier. NCAM1$^{+/-}$ TEGs were

identified based on an NCAM1 intensity threshold in individual TEGs, visually defined at the

timepoints where the 488 nm laser was turned on. To ensure inclusion of true NCAM1$^-$ or

NCAM1$^+$ TEGs, two intensity thresholds were defined. Only tracks with a defined NCAM1$^+$

or NCAM1$^-$ identity were used for subsequent analysis. For each individual well, a difference

in percentage of NCAM1$^+$ and NCAM1$^-$ TEGs was calculated per behavioral signature

(**Figures 3L and S3I**).

PDO bulk RNA sequencing

For bulk RNA sequencing characterization, RNA of PDOs grown in 'Type 1' culture medium was isolated according to the manufacturer's protocol using the RNeasy Mini Kit (QIAGEN). Quality and quantity of the RNA samples and the libraries were measured with Agilent's Bioanalyzer2100 and Invitrogen™ Qubit™ 3.0 Fluorometer. Quality control was done using FastQC, alignment has been done using STAR (https://github.com/alexdobin/STAR/releases/tag/STAR_2.4.2a) and reads have been mapped to the GRCh37 version of the human reference genome. Quality control on the bams was done using Picard. Read counts were generated with Htseq-count after which normalization is done using DESeq. RPKMs have been calculated with edgeR. For the library preparation the TruSeq Stranded mRNA Library Prep kit from Illumina was used. Sequencing was performed on the nextseq500 sequencer (also Illumina) with single-end 75bp reads. PDO cultures were ranked by responsiveness to TEGs (**Figure 1D**) and differentially expressed genes between the 6 most TEG-sensitive and 6 least TEG-sensitive cultures were analyzed. Genes exhibiting a more than 4-fold expression change with an adjusted p-value <0.05 after multiple hypothesis testing correction were used as input gene set enrichment analysis.

SORTseq sample preparation

For sequencing of different behavior-enriched TEG populations (**Figure 4A**), TEGs ($>0,8x10^6$ per condition) were either (1) co-cultured with 13T PDOs (E:T of 1:3) and separated into organoid-engaged (*engaged*) and organoid non-engaged (*non-engaged*) populations by 2 slow-spin (30 rcf) centrifugation steps at 6 h co-culture, (2) co-cultured with 10T or 13T PDOs (E:T of 1: 3) and separated at 4 hrs into organoid-engaged and organoid non-engaged populations by a slow-spin (30 rcf) centrifugation step, co-cultured for another 2h with or without addition of fresh PDOs, again followed 2 slow-spin (30 rcf) centrifugation steps to

obtain *non-engaged^Enriched* and *super-engaged* TEG populations, or (3) cultured for six hrs

without addition of PDOs (*no target control*), using 12-wells culture plates (Thermo Fischer)

and 'co-culture medium'. To create single-cell suspensions, conditions containing organoids

(all '*engaged'* TEG conditions) were treated with TrypLE for seven minutes at 37°C and

washed with adDMEM/F12+++. Cells were then stained in FC buffer (2% FCS in

PBS) with anti-CD3-APC conjugated antibodies (1:80; BioLegend) and LIVE/DEAD Fixable

Near-IR Dead Cell Stain (1:1000; ThermoFisher) for 30 minutes at 4°C and sorted into 384-

wells SORTseq plates using a FACS Aria Cell Sorter (BD Biosciences) and directly stored at

-80°C until further processing.

SORTseq library preparation and sequencing

All sorted plates were processed according to the CEL-Seq2 protocol with the total

transcriptome amplification via poly-A RNA-capture, library preparation, and sequencing into

Illumina sequencing libraries as previously described(Muraro et al., 2016). Paired-end

sequencing (read1: 30 bp; read2: 120 bp) was used to sequence the prepared libraries using an

Illumina NextSeq sequencer.

Mapping and quantification of SORTseq data

SORTseq data were mapped and reads were counted, using STAR version 2.6.1a on the

Hg38p10 human genome (annotated with GenCode v26). Plate-QC was performed using the

Sharq pipeline (Candelli et al., 2018). Percentage of ERCC spike-in reads and mitochondrial

mRNA reads versus total read count per cell were applied as QC parameters to identify

systemic processing or pipetting errors over the plates. Cells with mitochondrial mRNA reads

higher than 15%, ribosomal RNA content higher than 30%, or ERCC reads higher than 25%

were excluded from the downstream analysis. Cells with fewer than 650 and higher than 4500

genes captured, and genes captured in fewer than 2 cells per plate were also excluded. After

the initial QC steps, the ERCC spike-in reads were removed from the final count tables.

SORTseq and 10x genomics data integration and TEG subpopulation analysis

For analysis of TEGs not exposed to organoids (**Figures 3I, and S3G and S3H**), 3

experimental replicates were used consisting of two datasets processed using SORT-seq and

one dataset processed using 10x Genomics Chromium Single Cell 3′ gene-expression kit.

SORTseq data was processed as described above. For the 10x dataset, (fresh, not co-cultured)

TEGs were viability-enriched via FACS by DAPI staining (1:1000; Thermo Fischer) and

loaded according to the standard protocol of the Chromium Single Cell 3′ Kit (v3). All the

following steps were performed according to the standard manufacturer's protocol. The library

was sequenced on an Illumina Novaseq S1-flowcell and 19,000 reads/cell were collected.

Single-cell RNAseq data were mapped, and counts of molecules per barcode were quantified

using the cellranger(3.1.0) 10x software package to map sequencing data to the GRCh38(3.0.0)

reference transcriptome supplied by 10x. Cells with mitochondrial mRNA reads higher than

15% and with fewer than 200 or more than 5000 distinct genes were excluded from the

downstream analysis. Data were normalized by sequencing depth, scaled to 10,000 counts, log-

transformed, and regressed against the UMI-counts and percentage of mitochondrial mRNA

using the ScaleData function of the Seurat package. For integration of the 10x genomics (n =

1) and SORTseq (n = 2) datasets, we used previously published Seurat v3 data anchor-based

integration(Stuart et al., 2019). Briefly, all three datasets were normalized using SCTtransform

(Hafemeister and Satija, 2019) followed by selection of 5000 features for downstream

integration. Transfer anchors were then learned and applied for integration of all datasets into

a combined dataset. Cell visualization and placement in 2D view was achieved using principal

component analysis (PCA) followed by Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection

(UMAP)(McInnes et al.). Shared nearest neighbor graph-based clustering was done using

Seurat package's FindNeighbors and FindClusters functions with a resolution of 0.8. For cell

type identification marker genes for each cluster were calculated using the FindAllMarkers

function and examined to profile marker genes that correspond to known cell types. Additional

support for identifying cell subpopulations similitudes was achieved by analyzing the

differentially expressed genes with a cell-type annotation tool(Cao et al.). Main marker genes

used for TEG subpopulations identification are plotted in **Figure S3H.**

Pseudotime Trajectory Inference

Two experimental SORTseq replicates of TEGs co-cultured with 13T PDOs, generated as

described above, were used for trajectory interference (**Figure S4B)**. Proliferating T cells were

excluded from the analysis since they did not show any dynamic inflammatory genes during

the analysis. Afterwards, the gene expression table was log normalized with 10,000 scaling

factor. Cell visualization and placement in 2D view was achieved using principal component

analysis (PCA) followed by Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP)

(McInnes et al., 2020). Shared nearest neighbor graph-based clustering was done using Seurat

package's FindNeighbors and FindClusters functions with the resolution of 2. Based on marker

gene expression of CD8, CD4 and IL17RB (Terrier et al., 2010), TEGs were sub-clustered into

3 subtypes; IL17RB$^-$CD8^{+eff}, IL17RB$^-$CD4^{+eff} and IL17RB$^+$CD4^{+mem}. Downstream analyses

were done on each subset separately and compared with each other where mentioned.

RunFastMNN function from SeuratWrappers package was utilized to correct for batch effects

between the two SORTseq replicates. Unless specified, batch corrected UMAP values were

used for visualization of single cells. We used Monocle3 (Cao et al., 2020) package to infer the

pseudotime trajectory and significantly dynamic genes for each T cell subtype. For each cell

subtype either *no target control* or *non-engaged^{Enriched}* TEGs were designated as the root of the

trajectory. In order to have comparable results from both Seurat and Monocle3 packages, the

FastMNN batch corrected UMAP coordinates were imported and used throughout the

trajectory analysis in Monocle3. In IL17RB$^-$CD4^{+eff} and IL17RB$^+$CD4^{+mem} subtypes, Monocle

identified *no target control* cells as a separate partition. In order to have all cells along with a

single pseudotime spectrum (e.g., not having several cells with a same pseudotime value), we

added maximum pseudotime values of *no target control* T cells to pseudotime values of

remaining cells in that subtype. For all TEG subtypes, significant dynamic genes along with

the pseudotime trajectory were calculated and identified using Monocle3's graph_test function

using 1e-20 *q* value as the significance cutoff. Afterwards, using k-means clustering and also

visual inspection of the genes' behavior over the pseudotime, TEGs were clustered into sub-

clusters with similar pattern (CL1-8; **Figure 4G**). The expression profile of the genes along

with the pseudotime trajectory was plotted using pheatmap package(Kolde et al.) using row

scaled (z-score) expression values. Smoothed gene(s) behavior was calculated and visualized

recruiting gam smoothing function in ggplot2 package (Wilkinson, 2011).

Behavior signature inference over the pseudotime.

To align the pseudotime inference with the different behavioral signatures that we identified

with BEHAV3D, we build a probability map distribution for different behavioral signatures

over the pseudotime, based on the fundamental principle of transitivity of probabilistic

distribution (**Figure 4F**). We defined three states of cells quantified by different methods:

- Behavioral_signatures (B_{sig}): {*Static, Lazy, Medium-scanner, Scanner, Super scanner,*

Tickler, Engager, Super engager}. Behavioral signatures of cells identified by imaging

(**Figure 4B**).

• Experimental_engagement_state (Exp_{eng}): {*No target control, Non-engaged, Non-*

engaged^{enriched}, Engaged, Super-engaged}. Cell distribution among different

experimental conditions (**Figure 4A**)

• UMAP_cluster (U_{cl}): {1…X}. Cell assignment to distinct clusters grouping cells with

similar gene expression. Shared nearest neighbor graph-based clustering was repeated

several times using Seurat package's FindNeighbors and FindClusters functions with a

resolution ranging from 1 to 7.

From these three different cell states, the following information was quantified:

• p($B_{sig}|Exp_{eng}$): For each Experimental_engagement_state we quantified the probability

distribution of each Behavioral_signature (**Figure 4F**. This was achieved by

reproducing the Experimental_engagement_states *in silico* on our imaging data. These

values were calculated separately for CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs.

• p($Exp_{eng}|U_{cl}$): For each UMAP_cluster, we quantified the probability of each

Experimental_engagement_state to belong to this cluster.

Given these probabilities, we then quantified for each T cell the probability distribution of each

unique Behavioral_signature in each UMAP_cluster, using the equation:

As a result, each cell was assigned a certain probability distribution for different behavioral

signatures. To refine the probability map, the same process was repeated for 7 runs with

different cluster sizes and the final probability distributions were averaged per cell. Note that

for cells belonging to the *No target control* Experimental_engagement_state, a

Behavioral_signature called *No target control* was assumed. The probability distribution along

the pseudotime trajectory was plotted using pheatmap package[70] of scaled values for each

behavioral signature. Given that the non-engaged behavioral signatures (*Static, Lazy, Slow*

scanner, Medium scanner, Super scanner) exhibited an identical probability map, their values

were plotted together. For visualization purpose, extreme outlier values of skewed distributions

were transformed to a maximal cutoff value. Based on the probability distribution of different

behavioral signatures, the pseudotime was divided into 4 stages (Baseline (no organoids);

Environmental stimuli, Short engagement, Prolonged engagement) for each TEG subtype

(CD8^{+eff}, CD4^{+eff} and CD4^{+mem}).

Differential gene expression analysis of TEGs co-cultured with distinct PDO cultures

For comparison of TEGs targeting 10T or 13T PDOs (**Figures 5A-5C**), SORTseq dataset was

used including TEGs from distinct Experimental engagement states: *Non-engaged^{Enriched}* and

super engager. *No target control* TEGs were used as a control group. SORTseq data were

mapped and quantified and visualized with UMAP as described above. Differential gene

expression analysis was performed with the FindMarkers function from Seurat v3. Common

and specific gene sets were filtered and visualized by Venn diagram with the VennDiagram

package.

Gene set enrichment analysis

The functional enrichment analysis in this study for pathway and biological processes

annotations for gene sets of interest was conducted using ToppFun on the ToppGene

Suite(Kaimal et al.) (**Figures 1H, S4C, and S5B**). An enrichment score was assigned based on

gene enrichment ratio and log p value. For redundant annotations, the annotation with the

highest gene enrichment ratio was selected. The pathways and biological processes with

highest enrichment for gene set of interest were displayed in RStudio.

Serial killer gene signature analysis

Genes of CL7 (**Figure 4G; Table S4 and S5**) were analysed to identify a unique signature for

killer TEGs. 61/83 genes composing this cluster were common to TEGs incubated with 13T

and 10T organoids and underwent extensive literature curation to identify genes with a known

role in T cell cytotoxicity; T cell biology (not related to cytotoxicity); morphological plasticity

or other processes such as GTPase signaling, ribogenesis and transcriptional regulation.

Overlapping gene roles were plotted in a Venn diagram with the Venneuler package (**Figure**

4K).

Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using R or Prism 7 software (GraphPad). Results are

represented as mean ± s.e.m. unless indicated otherwise; *n* represents independent biological

replicates. Two-tailed unpaired t-tests were performed between two groups, unless indicated

otherwise. Pearson correlation was used for paired comparison between three different readouts

(IFN-γ production, cell viability and live imaging). For live-cell imaging, the increase in dead

cell dye between the first and last time point was used as measure. To compare tumor volume

in mice treated with TEGs or TEG001 mock cells, two-way ANOVA with repeated measures

was performed. To compare frequencies of different behavioral signatures between PDOs, a

Pearson's Chi-squared test was applied. To compare the percentage of dead organoids when

TEGs were co-cultured with different PDOs, a one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni

correction was performed. To estimate the change in correlation between 13T PDO death

dynamics and cumulative contact with TEGs for different behavioral signatures, data was fitted

to a linear mixed model with experimental replicate as random effect to account for variation

between them. For cell type enrichment analysis of TEGs' first and second action after

engagement, a hypergeometric test was used (Fisher exact test). For comparisons of

percentages of distinct TEG subtypes in the same well (CD4$^+$ vs CD8$^+$ or NCAM$^+$ vs NCAM),

for each behavioral signature data were fitted to a linear regression model with each individual

replicate set as random effect to account for variation between them. For each fitted model, an

analysis of variance was computed with an F-test. For comparison of IFN-β treatment, paired

t test was performed.

Data availability

RNA sequencing data of this study have been deposited in the Gene Expression Omnibus

(GEO), under accession number GSE172325 (secure token qfahqkgsjnwplgh). Imaging data is

available upon request.

Code availability

Upon request.

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861 Author contributions

J.F.D grew organoids and performed imaging experiments with assistance from H.G.R., E.J.V.

and M.G. M.A. designed and performed the computational analysis. M.A. and J.F.D. analyzed

the data. M.B.B. and M.B.R. assisted with imaging data processing. J.F.D., A.K.L.W. and E.K.

performed scRNAseq experiments. J.P. and D.F. processed PDO sequencing data. H.C.R.A.

performed NCAM1 sorts. F.K. and P.B. analyzed the scRNAseq data. A.C. and E.K. produced

TEGs and performed IFN-γ assays. H.G.R., I.J. and A.D.M. performed *in vivo* experiments.

A.M.B assisted with computational analysis. R.L.I and M.B.R. made the video. O.K. provided

organoid cultures. Y.B.E. and K.K. provided support and developed the co-culture live cell

staining protocol that was used and further adapted. J.F.D, M.A. and A.C.R. designed the study

and wrote the manuscript with support from A.M.M.E., E.J.W., H.G.S, Z.S., J.K. and H.C.

This work was jointly supervised by A.C.R, Z.S, J.K, H.C who share senior authorship.

Declaration of Interests

H.C., Y.B.E. and K.K. are named as inventors on patents or patents pending on Lgr5-stem cell

based organoid technology and immune cell organoid co-cultures. For full disclosure of HC:

https://www.uu.nl/staff/JCClevers/Additional%20functions. J.F.D. is named as inventor on a

patent related to organoid technology. Z. S. and J.K are inventors on different patents with γδ

TCR sequences, recognition mechanisms, and isolation strategies. J.K. receives research

funding from and is scientific advisor and shareholder of Gadeta (www.gadeta.nl).

Figure legends

Figure 1. TEG efficacy across organoids of multiple breast cancer subtypes detected by

multispectral 3D live imaging and *in vivo* TEG targeting. (**A**) Schematic representation of

co-culture preparation. TEGs were generated by engineering peripheral blood αβ T cells to

express a defined Vγ9/Vδ2 TCR via retroviral transduction. TEGs were then co-cultured with

patient-derived breast organoids (PDOs). (**B**) Schematic representation of the BEHAV3D

platform. Fluorescent dyes were combined to specifically label organoids (yellow), TEGs

(blue) and dead cells (red). Co-cultures of organoids and TEGs were imaged in 96-well plates

using spectral confocal microscopy in 3D, followed by segmentation and tracking of organoids

and T cells, and subsequent behavior classification. TEGs of experimental conditions as

indicated were sequenced and pseudotime ordering was used to integrate behavioral data.

Identified targets were used to manipulate TEG targeting. (**C**) Representative 3D multispectral

images of breast PDO cultures (yellow) that show low (1837M), intermediate (10T) and high

(13T) killing by TEGs (blue) at the indicated time points of imaging. Dead cells depicted in

red. Scale bars, 100 μm (left two columns) and 30 μm (right two columns). (**D**) Quantification

of killing of organoids derived from 14 different BC patients upon 24 hr co-culture with TEGs

by 3D live cell imaging. All data were corrected for control LM1 T cell responses. (n = 4

independent experiments; mean ± s.e.m.; TNBC = triple negative breast cancer; ER = estrogen

receptor; PR = progesterone receptor). (**E**) Representative 3D multispectral images showing

automated rendering of single organoids (confetti colors) and T cells (blue) (left image), and

an enlarged section showing presence of dead cell dye (red) in a single organoid (transparent

purple rendering) and TEGs (transparent blue rendering) at the indicated time of co-culture.

Scale bars, 100 μm (left image) and 30 μm (right image). (**F**) Quantification of the percentage

of dying single organoids (% of total) over time for each PDO co-cultured with TEGs (n = 4

independent experiments; mean ± s.e.m.). (**G**) Quantification of the volume of tumors overtime

generated by subcutaneous transplantation of 13T (black lines) or 169M organoids (orange

lines). Animals received 2 injections of either TEGs (dashed line) or control TEG011 cells

(Control; solid line) at the indicated timepoints. (n ≥5 per condition; mean ± s.e.m.). Statistical

analysis was performed by Two-Way ANOVA with repeated measures: 13T-TEG vs 13T-

control p < 0.0001; 169M-TEG vs 169M-control p=0.0016. (**H**) Gene ontology enrichment

analysis of differentially expressed genes between the six highest versus six lowest TEG-

sensitive organoid cultures from d.

Figure 2. TEGs exposed to PDOs display high diversities in their behavior with distinct

killing potential. (**A**) Representative image of automated tracking of each TEG (left image;

10 hrs tracks are rainbow-colored for time). Tracks were classified according to TEG behavior

and back-projected in the image (right image; color-coded by cluster). Scale bars, 50 µm. (**B**)

Umap plot showing nine color-coded clusters identified by unbiased multivariate timeseries

dynamic time warping analysis. Each data point represents a T cell track of 3.3 hrs. Numbers

refer to cluster names presented in (C). (**C**) Heatmap depicting relative values of T cell features

indicated for each cluster, named according to their most distinct characteristics. AU: arbitrary

units in respect to maximal and minimal values for each feature. (OC, organoid contact; Dis,

square displacement; Sp, speed; TI, T cell interactions; CD, cell death) (**D**) 3D-rendered images

of 100T (low-targeting; left image) and 13T (high-targeting; right image) organoids (grey) and

TEGs with 3.3 hr tracks belonging to *lazy* (green) and *super engager* (red) clusters. Scale bars,

20 µm. (**E**) Behavioral cluster distribution of TEGs co-cultured with the indicated PDOs and a

normal organoid culture (left plot), in relation to their killing capacity (right bar graph)

represented as the percentage of dying organoids (% of total) (n ≥ 3 independent experiments;

mean ± s.e.m.). X^2 test; p = 1.132e-08. (**F**) Pearson correlation between behavior cluster size

and the percentage of dying organoids represented in d. CL9 p=0.00006; CL8 p= 0.009; CL7

p=0.006; CL5 p=0.014; CL4 p=0.022; CL2 p=0.0019. (n ≥ 3 independent experiments; mean).

(**G**) Change in correlation between 13T organoid death dynamics (measured as increase in dead

cell dye) and cumulative contact with TEGs (from cluster (C)7-9). Data is represented as mean

correlation per timepoint of all single organoids (n = 4 independent experiments). Linear mixed

model fitting with each experimental replicate as a random effect: C9 vs C8 p= 5.19e-06; C9

vs C7 p < 2e-16.

Figure 3. Unique targeting features of TEGs subpopulations and serial killer potential.

(**A**) Representative 3D-rendered images of CD4$^+$ (blue) and CD8$^+$ (red) TEGs and their full

tracks (up to 10 hrs) co-cultured with the 13T organoids (grey surface rendering at t = 0).

Overview: Scale bar, 50 μm. Zoomed images: Scale bar, 30 μm (**B**) Relative behavioral cluster

distribution of TEGs co-cultured with the indicated PDOs and a normal organoid culture. (**C**)

Behavioral cluster size difference (%) between CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs co-cultured with the

indicated PDOs and a normal organoid culture calculated from B. (n ≥ 3 independent

experiments for each co-culture; mean ± s.e.m.) Linear regression model fitting with each well

as a random effect: C9 p=7.52E-06; C8 p=0.0034; C7 p=0.00018; C6 p=0.000023; C5

p=0.0062; C4 p=0.01; C3 p= 0.001; C1 p=3.01E-06. (**D**) Quantification of the first action and

second action of CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ TEGs after they engaged with an organoid. n = 3 replicates.

Hypergeometric test was used to analyze cell type enrichment in each category. "Kills multiple

cells" p<0.0001; "Kills one cell" p= 0.000015; "No killing" p= 0.0018. (**E**) 3D multispectral

images showing a CD4$^+$ TEG (green) that kills a 13T tumor cell (becomes red) in a first

organoid (yellow) and a second tumor cell in a neighboring organoid (upper panel), and a CD8$^+$

TEG (blue) killing a complete 13T organoid of ~18 cells (yellow becoming red) in 11 hrs

(lower panel). Scale bars, 30 μm. (**F**) Processed images of j showing 3D-rendered organoids

(grey) at t = 0 and the CD4$^+$ TEG (green) or the CD8$^+$ TEG (blue) with their full track rainbow-

colored for time. Scale bars, 10 μm. (**G**) Quantification of the number of cells killed in a

sequence by CD8$^+$ TEGs in time. (n = 3 independent experiments). (**H**) Quantification of the

time it takes to kill one 13T tumor cell for CD4$^+$ TEGs and CD8$^+$ TEGs (n = 3 independent

experiments). (**I**) UMAP embedding showing the expression levels of NCAM1. Color gradient

represents the log$_2$-transformed normalized counts of genes. (**J**) Quantification of the

percentage of dying 13T organoids (% of total) at 10 hrs of co-culture with either sorted

NCAM1$^-$CD8$^+$ TEGs or NCAM1$^+$CD8$^+$ TEGs (n = 5 independent experiments; mean ± s.e.m.).

Two-tailed unpaired t test, p= 0.0001036. (**K**) Schematic representation of fluorescent labeling

strategy of CD8$^+$ TEGs with NCAM1 nanobody and efluor-450 to image and track NCAM1-

positive versus -negative TEGs. (**L**) Behavioral cluster difference (%) between NCAM1$^-$CD8$^+$

TEGs or NCAM1$^+$CD8$^+$ TEGs co-cultured with 13T organoids. (n = 6 independent

experiments; mean ± s.e.m.). Linear regression model fitting with each experimental replicate

as a random effect: CL9 p=0.0002; CL8 p=0.07; CL2 p=0.005; CL1 p=0.02. (**M**) 3D-rendered

images of 13T organoids (grey) from the same well with NCAM+ 'super-engager' CD8+ TEGs

(top image) and NCAM- 'lazy' and 'dying' CD8+ TEGs (bottom image). Scale bars, 10 μm.

Figure 4. Behavioral-transcriptomic profiling of TEGs upon PDO exposure, engagement

and killing. (**A**) Schematic representation of cell population separation for isolation and

sequencing of *super-engaged*, *engaged*, *non-engaged*; *non-engaged^{Enriched}*, and *no target*

control TEGs. (**B**) Distribution of the 9 behavioral signatures described in **Figures 2B and 2C**

of the indicated behavior-enriched TEG populations isolated at 6 hrs of co-culture. (**C-E**)

UMAP embedding of pooled scRNAseq profiles showing distribution of, CD8^{+eff}, CD4^{+eff},

CD4^{+mem} TEGs (C), the 5 behavior-enriched TEG populations described in a (D), and

normalized gene expression of IFNG and GZMB (E). Colors represent the log$_2$-transformed

normalized counts of genes. (**F**) Heatmap representing the probability distribution of different

behavioral signatures and *no target control* over pseudotime for CD8^{+eff}, CD4^{+eff} and CD4^{+mem}

TEGs.   Color represents the scaled probability for each behavioral group. (**G**) Heatmap

showing normalized gene expression dynamics of TEGs upon exposure and engagement to

13T PDOs. Columns represent T cells ordered in pseudotime, rows represent the expression of

genes, grouped based on similarity, resulting in 8 gene clusters (CL). CL1-3 represent gene

expression patterns shared among TEG subsets. CL4-8 show different expression dynamics

between TEG subsets. Horizontal color-bar (on top) represents the corresponding stage of

targeting based on data in f. (**H**) Averaged gene expression over pseudotime for all genes from

indicated GO terms for the indicated TEG subtypes. Graph background color-shading represent

the corresponding stage of targeting. Line colors indicate GO term. (**I**) Gene-expression dot

plot for a curated subset of genes at different stages of targeting. Rows depict genes. Dot color

gradient indicates average expression, while size reflects the proportion of cells expressing a

particular gene (%). (**J**) Violin plots for different TEG subtypes showing averaged expression

of genes related to GO term 'Regulation of cell killing' enriched in CL7 from g. Colors indicate

different stages of targeting. (**K**) Venn diagram depicting common and unique functions from

61 conserved genes composing a (serial) killer gene signature.

Figure 5. IFN-I signaling in PDOs primes TEG efficacy. (**A**) Top panel: UMAP embedding

of pooled scRNA-seq profiles from *super-engaged* and *non-engaged*^{Enriched} TEG populations

co-cultured with either 13T or 10T PDOs; and *no target control* T cells. TEGs are colored per

experimental condition. Bottom panel: UMAP plot showing the expression levels of IFNG and

GZMB. Colors represent the log$_2$-transformed normalized counts of genes. (**B**) Venn diagrams

depicting common and unique genes upregulated in TEGs upon 13T and 10T organoid

exposure (environmental stimuli; top panel) or prolonged engagement (*super engagers*; bottom

panel). (**C**) Heatmap of gene expression for genes involved in functional annotations of interest ("Response to IFN-I", "Cytokine response"), grouped according to TEG populations. (**D**) IFNA and IFNB expression in PDOs from the BC panel in **Figure 1D**. (**E-G**) Quantification of dying single organoids in presence or absence of recombinant IFN-β for the following conditions: organoids co-cultured with TEGs with direct addition of IFN-β, corrected for responses of LM1 control T cells (E); organoids pre-incubated with IFN-β for 24 hrs before co-culture with TEGs, corrected for responses of LM1 control T cells (F), and organoids pre-incubated with IFN-β for 24 hrs and cultured in absence of TEGs (G). Lines connect experimental replicates. (n≥3). Statistical analysis in (F) was performed by paired t test: 34T-IFN-β vs 34T-control $p < 0.0006$; 27T-IFN-β vs 27T-control $p < 0.0216$; 10T-IFN-β vs 10T-control $p < 0.0402$.

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Figure 1

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5