Neoantigen Cancer Vaccines and Different Immune Checkpoint Therapies Each Utilize Both Converging and Distinct Mechanisms that in Combination Enable Synergistic Therapeutic Efficacy

Running Title: Overlapping and Distinct Mechanisms of Effective Neoantigen Cancer Vaccines and Immune Checkpoint Therapy

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Highlights

- NeoAg cancer vaccines utilize distinct mechanisms from αCTLA-4 or αPD-1 ICT

- NeoAg vaccines induce TCF1$^+$ stem-like and proliferating NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells

- CD8 TCR clonotype expansion relates to phenotype and functional state associated with immunotherapy

- NeoAg vaccines induce partially distinct macrophage remodeling from ICT

- NeoAg vaccines synergize with ICT, exceeding combination αCTLA-4/αPD-1 ICT efficacy

SUMMARY

The goal of therapeutic cancer vaccines and immune checkpoint therapy (ICT) is to eliminate cancer by expanding and/or sustaining T cells with anti-tumor capabilities. However, whether cancer vaccines and ICT enhance anti-tumor immunity by distinct or overlapping mechanisms remains unclear. Here, we compared effective therapeutic tumor-specific mutant neoantigen (NeoAg) cancer vaccines with anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 ICT in preclinical models. Both NeoAg vaccines and ICT induce expansion of intratumoral NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, though the degree of expansion and acquisition of effector activity was much more substantial following NeoAg vaccination. Further, we found that NeoAg vaccines are particularly adept at inducing proliferating and stem-like NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells. Single cell T cell receptor (TCR) sequencing revealed that TCR clonotype expansion and diversity of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells relates to their phenotype and functional state associated with specific immunotherapies employed. Effective NeoAg vaccines and ICT required both CD8 and CD4 T cells. While NeoAg

vaccines and anti-PD-1 affected the CD4 T cell compartment, it was to less of an extent than observed with anti-CTLA-4, which notably induced ICOS$^+$Bhlhe40$^+$ Th1-like CD4 T cells and, when combined with anti-PD-1, a small subset of Th2-like CD4 T cells. Although effective NeoAg vaccines or ICT expanded intratumoral M1-like iNOS$^+$ macrophages, NeoAg vaccines expanded rather than suppressed (as observed with ICT) M2-like CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages, associated with the vaccine adjuvant. Further, combining NeoAg vaccination with ICT induced superior efficacy compared to either therapy in isolation, highlighting the utility of combining these modalities to eliminate cancer.

INTRODUCTION:

For cancer immunotherapies such as immune checkpoint therapy (ICT), T cell recognition of tumor antigens is critical for efficacy[1-4]. In contrast to aberrantly expressed non-mutant tumor antigens, tumor-specific neoantigens (NeoAgs) formed from somatic alterations in cancer cells are largely excluded from immune tolerance and are exclusively expressed in cancer cells, making them favorable cancer vaccine targets[2-4]. Significant progress has been made in the field of NeoAg cancer vaccine development, showing promise in early-phase clinical trials[5-12]. Despite this, many fundamental questions regarding NeoAg vaccines remain unclear, including how to best combine therapeutic vaccines with other T cell-directed therapeutic modalities including ICT to promote optimal outcomes in cancer patients.

We previously used immunogenomic/mass spectrometry approaches to identify NeoAgs and subsequently demonstrated that therapeutic NeoAg cancer vaccines could provoke tumor rejection in methylcholanthrene (MCA)-induced sarcoma models[13]. Others have used similar approaches to identify immunogenic NeoAgs[4,6,7,14-17]. We further showed that NeoAgs are major targets of T cells reactivated by ICT and that anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 ICT induces changes in both CD4 and CD8 T cells within the tumor microenvironment (TME)[13,18-21], consistent with findings from others[22,23]. While both conventional CD4 and CD8 T cells drive immunotherapeutic responses to cancer, CD8 T cells are often the most potent direct inducers of tumor cell death[24]. In both cancer patients and preclinical models, intratumoral CD8 T cells that express activation markers including inhibitory receptors such as PD-1, LAG-3, and TIM-3 often exist in a terminally differentiated state and may display a range of functional capabilities from short-lived cytotoxic and cytokine producing CD8 T effector cells to dysfunctional or exhausted CD8 T cells that exist in a state of limited or restrained functional capabilities[25]. These dysfunctional or exhausted CD8 T cells exist on a spectrum and may progress from intermediate

dysfunctional/exhausted to terminal dysfunctional/exhausted CD8 T cells characterized by high,

sustained expression of inhibitory receptors, reduced function, and unique transcriptional and

epigenetic profiles. These features differentiate dysfunctional/exhausted CD8 T cells from memory

T cells and T cells displaying stem-like properties (often referred to as progenitor/precursor

exhausted CD8 T cells). These distinct states are driven by key transcription factors, including TCF-

1, which promotes stemness or memory-like attributes[26,27], and TOX, which plays a crucial role in

establishing terminal dysfunction/exhaustion[28-30]. Chronic antigen exposure and/or signals within

the TME promote maintenance of NFAT-independent TOX expression and establishment of a fixed

epigenetic landscape in terminal dysfunctional/exhausted CD8 T cells[31]. The increased presence of

PD-1^{hi} TOX$^+$ TCF-1$^-$ CD8 T cells in tumor biopsies correlates with a poorer prognosis in patients

treated with ICT and these cells likely lack the ability to gain significant effector function following

PD-1/PD-L1 blockade[32,33]. Instead, stem-like PD-1$^+$ Tim-3$^-$ TCF-1$^+$ CD8 T cells within tumors and

lymph nodes expand and differentiate into PD-1$^+$ Tim-3$^+$ CD8 T effector-like cells in response to

anti-PD-1/PD-L1 ICT[25,34-37].

While T cells are the major target of NeoAg vaccines and ICT, myeloid cells are a critical

component of the TME[38]. Macrophages are amongst the most abundant intratumoral myeloid

cell population and may comprise both embryonically-derived tissue-resident macrophages and

monocyte-derived macrophages, with the latter accounting for a majority of macrophages

present at diseased sites[39-41]. We previously observed major complexity in the ICT-induced

changes occurring in the intratumoral macrophage compartment, despite T cells being the

predominant direct target of ICT[19-21]. These changes included remodeling from M2-like

CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages in progressively growing tumors to M1-like iNOS$^+$ macrophages

in tumors that go on to reject in response to ICT. Further, blockade of TREM2 expressed on

macrophages induced a decline in CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages and promoted macrophages

expressing immunostimulatory molecules, with anti-TREM2 monoclonal antibody (mAb)

dampening tumor growth and augmenting anti-PD-1 efficacy[42].

Tumor immune cell compositions clearly play a major role in response to

immunotherapy[43,44], but the heterogeneity and dynamics of immune infiltrates in response to

immunotherapies such as NeoAg cancer vaccines is not thoroughly characterized. Further,

although much progress has been made towards defining the mechanisms behind ICT efficacy,

our understanding is still incomplete and direct comparisons between cancer vaccines and

different ICTs used alone or in combination are largely lacking. A more refined understanding of

how NeoAg vaccines impact the immune TME in comparison to other immunotherapies can

inform rational use of NeoAg vaccines and combinatorial immunotherapies.

To address this, we developed preclinical models to interrogate potential synergies

between the mechanisms underlying NeoAg cancer vaccines and different ICTs. We

systematically compared different immunotherapies that lead to tumor rejection, including

NeoAg cancer vaccines, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, and anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1 ICT using mouse

melanoma models expressing defined NeoAgs. NeoAg vaccines induced the most robust

expansion of polyfunctional NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, including proliferating and stem-like

CD8 T cells. Further, NeoAg-specific CD8 TCR clonotype expansion and diversity of NeoAg-

specific CD8 T cells related to their phenotype and functional state associated with specific

immunotherapies used. Anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 ICT increased the frequency and effector

function of intratumoral NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, with anti-CTLA-4 containing treatments

also dramatically altering the CD4 T cell compartment. Both NeoAg vaccines and ICT resulted in

an expansion of M1-like iNOS$^+$ macrophages and while ICT reduced the frequency of

intratumoral CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ M2-like macrophages, CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages were largely

maintained in NeoAg vaccine treated mice. To investigate whether the unique impacts of

NeoAg vaccines and ICT combine for enhanced tumor control, we tested the efficacy of NeoAg

vaccination in combination with either anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 and found that the window of

therapeutic efficacy was extended by combination treatments, further supporting the rationale

of combining NeoAg vaccines with ICT.

RESULTS:

NeoAg vaccines and ICT induce T cell-dependent long-term tumor protection

For this study, we modified the genetically engineered mouse model (GEMM)-derived

$Braf^{V600E}$ $Pten^{-/-}$ $Cdkn2a^{-/-}$ YUMM1.7 mouse melanoma line[45] to express different combinations of

MHC-I and MHC-II NeoAgs. GEMM tumors are generally poorly immunogenic; however, they can

be engineered to express NeoAgs to study tumor-immune interactions[20,46-49]. We engineered

YUMM1.7 to express known tumor antigens via introduction of minigenes encoding the G1254V

mutation in Laminin subunit alpha 4 (mLama4^{MHC-I}), the A506T mutation in Alpha-1,3-

glucosyltransferase (mAlg8^{MHC-I}), and the N710Y mutation in Integrin beta 1 (mItgb1^{MHC-II})

NeoAgs[13,20] in various combinations: mLama4^{MHC-I} + mItgb1^{MHC-II} (Y1.7LI line) or mAlg8^{MHC-I} +

mItgb1^{MHC-II} (Y1.7AI line) **(Figure S1A)**. Consistent with prior observations[45,50], the parental

YUMM1.7 melanoma line was insensitive to anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 ICT **(Figure S1B)**. In

contrast, enforced expression of mLama4^{MHC-I} or mAlg8^{MHC-I} NeoAg along with mItgb1^{MHC-II} NeoAg

rendered YUMM1.7 melanoma lines (Y1.7LI and Y1.7AI) sensitive to anti-CTLA-4 ICT **(Figure 1A)**.

We next asked whether therapeutic cancer vaccines composed of the synthetic long

peptide (SLP) containing the minimal MHC-I NeoAg epitope and the adjuvant poly I:C (pI:C) could

induce regression of the Y1.7LI and Y1.7AI NeoAg-expressing lines. Tumor bearing mice treated

with pI:C alone displayed outgrowth of Y1.7LI or Y1.7AI melanoma, whereas vaccines comprising

relevant NeoAg SLP + pI:C (neo VAX) induced complete rejection or delayed outgrowth of both

Y1.7 NeoAg expressing variants **(Figure 1B)**. NeoAg vaccine-induced tumor rejection was

dependent upon specific NeoAg expression, as mAlg8 SLP + pI:C did not induce Y1.7LI (mLama4-

expressing) tumor rejection and vice versa with Y1.7AI (mAlg8-expressing) **(Figure 1B)**. Mice

that rejected Y1.7AI or Y1.7LI tumors upon neo VAX or anti-CTLA-4 were rechallenged in the

absence of any additional treatment with the same tumor lines at least 60 days after rejection

of primary tumors. Upon secondary challenge, no detectable tumor was observed indicating

long-term protection against rechallenge with the same tumor **(Figure S1C)**. In contrast, both

Y1.7-NeoAg expressing lines grew out when injected into naïve mice in the absence of

treatment, indicating cell line preparations used in rechallenge experiments were capable of

tumor formation. When mice that previously rejected Y1.7LI tumors upon were rechallenged

with parental YUMM1.7, progressive tumor growth was observed **(Figure S1D)**, indicating

immunity was NeoAg-specific.

We next used peptide-MHC (pMHC) tetramers to detect intratumoral CD8 T cells

recognizing the mLama4 or mAlg8 NeoAg presented on H-2K^b. Tumors from anti-CTLA-4 treated

mice contained greater frequencies of mAlg8- or mLama4-specific CD8 T cells compared to mice

receiving control mAb **(Figures 1C and S1E)**. Whereas pI:C alone had little effect on the frequency

of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, neo VAX induced an over 5-fold or more increase in mAlg8- or

mLama4-specific CD8 T cells **(Figures 1C and S1E)**. Neo VAX also significantly increased the

frequency of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells co-expressing the inhibitory receptors PD-1 and TIM-3

(Figure S1F), although this does not necessarily indicate reduced function and may instead reflect

antigen stimulation and T cell activation state[24,51].

To expand on these observations, we focused on the Y1.7LI line and delayed treatment

initiation until day 7 post-transplant. Y1.7LI tumor bearing mice treated with control mAb or

control VAX (irrelevant mAlg8 SLP + pI:C) starting on day 7 displayed progressive tumor outgrowth

(Figure 1D). In contrast, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, combination anti-CTLA-4 plus anti-PD-1, or neo

VAX induced tumor rejection in a majority of mice. ICT- and neo VAX-induced tumor rejection was

dependent on both CD4 and CD8 T cells, as mAb depletion of either T cell subset abolished

therapeutic efficacy **(Figure S2A)**. Y1.7LI-rechallenged mice that rejected Y1.7LI tumors upon neo

VAX or anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 initiated on day 7, but not untreated naïve mice, showed

no detectable tumor upon secondary challenge **(Figure S2B)**.

Tumor microenvironment remodeling induced by NeoAg vaccines and ICT

We next used an unbiased approach to assess whether effective tumor-specific NeoAg

vaccines induced TME alterations that are distinct or overlapping with different forms of ICT. Y1.7LI

tumor bearing mice were treated with (1) control mAb, (2) anti-CTLA-4, (3) anti-PD-1, (4) anti-

CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1, (5) control VAX (irrelevant SLP + pI:C), or (6) neo VAX (mLama4 SLP + pI:C)

beginning on day 7 **(Figure 2A)**. Tumors were harvested on day 15 (a critical timepoint prior to

tumor rejection during ICT or neo VAX in this model) and live CD45$^+$ cells were sorted for

scRNAseq. We used unsupervised graph-based clustering to stratify myeloid cells and lymphocytes

(**Figures 2B and 2C**). scRNAseq and flow cytometry both indicated that immunotherapy altered the

proportions of different myeloid and lymphoid subsets **(Figure S3A)**.

To gain more insights into how the different immunotherapies altered T cells in the TME,

we chose clusters containing activated T cells for subclustering and identified multiple clusters of

conventional CD4 and CD8 T cells, Foxp3$^+$ CD4$^+$ T regulatory cells (Tregs), gamma delta T cells ($\gamma\delta$T),

and innate lymphoid cells (ILCs) **(Figures 2D, S3B-S3E, S4, and S5)**.

While most clusters contained either CD4 or CD8 T cells, cluster Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ contained a mix

of Tregs, CD4 T cells, and CD8 T cells and displayed a cell proliferation transcriptional signature

(Figures 2D-2F, S4 and S5). Not only did tumors from neo VAX, anti-CTLA-4, or anti-PD-1 treated

mice have a greater frequency of cells within Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$, but the ratio of cycling conventional CD4

and CD8 T cells to Tregs was higher as compared to control mAb or control VAX **(Figures 2G-2K)**.

Anti-CTLA-4 (+/- anti-PD-1) reduced proliferating Tregs and expanded CD4 T cells within

Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$, while the ratio of proliferating CD8 T cells to Tregs or CD4 T cells was higher with anti-

PD-1. Interestingly, neo VAX contained the greatest ratio of cycling CD8 T cells to other T cells in

this cluster **(Figures 2H-J)**.

Although this analysis did not distinguish their antigen specificity, we identified 5

exclusively CD8 T cell clusters, spanning a range of activation states including proliferating

(Cd8$_{Cycling}$), CD69^{hi} IFN stimulated [Cd8$_{iSTIM}$ (interferon STIMulated)], PD-1$^+$ TCF7$^+$ plastic/stem-like

or progenitor exhausted (Cd8$_{PE}$), and PD-1$^+$ TCF7$^-$ terminal effectors or dysfunctional/exhausted

CD8 T cells (Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$) **(Figures 2D, 2E, S4, S5, and S6A-S6F)**. Cd8$_{Cycling}$ exhibited features of

proliferation/cycling but was exclusively composed of CD8 T cells which displayed a more activated

phenotype compared to Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ **(Figures S4, S5, S6A, and S6B)**. Whereas the percentage of

Cd8$_{Cycling}$ cells increased modestly with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1, neo VAX drove ~2-fold increase in

the frequency of cells within this cluster **(Figure S6B)**, thus indicating that neo VAX more robustly

expands subsets of proliferating CD8 T cells.

Cluster Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ expressed little detectable *Tcf7* (encoding TCF-1) and displayed elevated

transcript expression of multiple inhibitory receptors (e.g., *Pdcd1* (PD-1), *Havcr2* (TIM-3), *Lag3*) and

other genes associated with T cell activation, effector function, and also exhaustion/dysfunction

including *Tox* **(Figures S5, S6A, and S6C)**. Cd8$_{PE}$ expressed *Pdcd1*, but to less of an extent than

Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$, and additionally expressed *Slamf6* and *Tcf7,* indicating a phenotype consistent with

progenitor/precursor exhausted T cells that display plastic/stem-like properties **(Figures S5, S6A,**

and S6D). neo VAX, anti-CTLA-4, or anti-PD-1 reduced the fraction of cells within Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ and

Cd8$_{PE}$ with combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 standing out as the only treatment to not

decrease the frequency of Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ **(Figures S6C and S6D)**.

Within Cd8$_{Cycling}$, Cd8$_{PE}$, Cd8$_{iSTIM}$, and Cd8$_{Ccr7}$, the highest expression of *Lag3*, *Cd39*, and

Gzmb within each respective cluster was observed with combination anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1 ICT

(Figures S5, S6A, S6B, and S6D-S6F). Additionally, *Prf1* was most robustly induced by combination

ICT in all CD8 clusters, except for Cd8$_{Ccr7}$, where neo VAX induced the highest expression **(Figures**

S5 and S6A-S6F). Further, a pattern emerged within CD8 T cells whereby in each cluster, anti-CTLA-

4 (alone or in combination with anti-PD-1), as well as neo VAX to some extent, drove higher

expression of *Cd226* encoding the co-activating receptor CD226/DNAM-1. CD226 counteracts the

actions of the inhibitory receptor TIGIT by competing for binding to ligands such as CD155[52].

Expression of *Tigit* followed an inverse pattern as *Cd226* with anti-CTLA-4 containing treatments

and neo VAX reducing *Tigit* expression within clusters expressing the highest levels of *Tigit*

(Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$, Cd8$_{Cycling}$, Cd8$_{Ccr7}$) **(Figures S5, S6A, S6B, S6C, and S6F)**.

Anti-PD-1 expands PD-1$^+$ TCF7$^-$ NeoAg-specific Teff/Tex and robustly expands Bhlhe40^{hi} PD-1$^+$

TCF7$^-$ NeoAg-specific Teff/Tex when combined with anti-CTLA-4

We and others previously demonstrated that tumor antigen-specific CD8 T cells have unique

features as compared to bystander CD8 T cells and that immunotherapy primarily affects tumor

antigen-specific versus bulk CD8 T cells[13,18,53-55]. Therefore, we monitored CD8 T cells specific

for the mLama4 NeoAg in the setting of neo VAX or ICT **(Figure 3A)**. Anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-

1 increased the overall frequency of intratumoral CD8 T cells with anti-CTLA-4 (+/- anti-PD-1)

also driving a significant increase in mLama4-specific CD8 T cells as a percent of CD8 T cells or

CD45$^+$ cells and anti-PD-1 significantly increasing mLama4-specific CD8 T cells as a percent of

CD45$^+$ cells **(Figures 3B-3D and S7A)**. Notably, neo VAX drove the greatest increase in mLama4-

specific CD8 T cells from less than 2% (control mAb or control VAX) to over 20% of CD8 T cells,

which accounted for over 4% of intratumoral CD45$^+$ cells **(Figures 3C, 3D, and S7A)**.

Since our scRNAseq profiling of CD45$^+$ cells did not distinguish NeoAg-specific CD8 T

cells, we profiled NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells by sorting intratumoral mLama4 tetramer positive

CD8 T cells from mice under different treatment conditions **(Figure 3A)**. We profiled between 937

to 1762 mLama4-specific CD8 T cells for each of the different ICT treatment conditions and 4459,

6723, and 7646 mLama4-specific CD8 T cells for control mAb, control VAX, and neo VAX,

respectively. The two smallest clusters contained contaminating stromal cells, with the remaining

clusters comprising NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells that we annotated based on expression of select

transcripts and gene set enrichment patterns **(Figures 3E-3G, S7B, S7C, S8, and S9)**; this enabled us

to distinguish additional features that were not evident from profiling bulk CD8 T cells.

Clusters nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ and nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}Cd8** expressed *Pdcd1, Havcr2* (TIM-3), *Lag3,* and

Tigit, as well as effector transcripts (e.g., *Nkg7*, *Ccl5*, *Gzmb*, *Gzmk*, *Prf1*, *Cxcr6*). These two clusters

also expressed *Tox* and exhibited little to no detectable expression of *Tcf7* **(Figures 3F, 3G, S7B,**

and S7C), consistent with effector and/or dysfunctional/exhausted CD8 T cells. neo VAX most

notably reduced the proportion of nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ cells, whereas the proportion of cells in this cluster

increased with anti-PD-1 (+/- anti-CTLA-4) **(Figure 3H)**. In nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}Cd8**, the top defining

marker of this cluster was *Bhlhe40* **(Figures 3G and S8)**, which we previously demonstrated was

upregulated in tumor-specific T cells and required for CD4 and/or CD8 T cell effector function and

response to ICT[21]. In addition to *Bhlhe40* (as well as *Pdcd1, Havcr2,* and *Lag3*), this cluster also

expressed other transcripts induced by TCR activation, including *Ctla4, Cd69, Nr4a1* (Nur77), and

Nr4a3 and also displayed high expression of *Tbx21* (T-bet) and *Ifng* **(Figures 3G and S7B)**. As

compared to control mAb treatment where nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}Cd8** represented ~2.4% of mLama4-

specific CD8 T cells, a small increase in frequency was observed with anti-CTLA-4, control VAX, or

neo VAX, and a more substantial ~2.6-fold increase occurred with anti-PD-1 **(Figure 3H)**. Strikingly,

anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 combination ICT increased this cluster to over 28% of mLama4-specific

CD8 T cells.

In addition to increasing the frequency of cells within PD-1$^+$ TCF7$^-$ Teff/Tex clusters

(nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ and nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}Cd8**), combination ICT increased expression of *Bhlhe40, Fasl, Il7r,*

Icos, and *Cd28*, while decreasing *Tox, Pdcd1, Lag3, Entpd1,* and *Tigit* expression within both

clusters **(Figures S7B and S7C)**. Further, combination ICT decreased *Havcr2* and increased *Cd69*

expression in cluster nAg.**Bhlhe40**[Hi]Cd8. The decrease in *Tox, Pdcd1, Lag3, Entpd1,* and *Tigit* (and

Havcr2 in nAg.**Bhlhe40**[Hi]Cd8) was also observed with anti-CTLA-4 (but not with anti-PD-1) **(Figures**

S7B and S7C), suggesting that these changes induced by combination therapy were primarily

driven by anti-CTLA-4. In contrast, increased *Bhlhe40* expression was most prominent in the

presence of anti-PD-1. Other features (e.g., increased *Icos*, *Cd28*, and *Fasl*) were unique to anti-

CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 combination ICT treatment **(Figure S7B)**.

NeoAg vaccination preferentially increases PD-1⁺ TCF7⁺ stem-like as well as proliferating NeoAg-

specific CD8 T cells

Amongst the most prominent NeoAg vaccine-driven changes, NeoAg vaccines drove an

over 3-fold increase in the frequency of mLama4-specific CD8 T cells within cluster nAg.**PD-**

1⁺TCF7⁺Cd8 as compared to control mAb and over 8-fold increase as compared to control VAX

(Figure 3H). Cluster nAg.**PD-1⁺TCF7⁺Cd8** displayed high expression of *Pdcd1*; low to moderate

expression of *Ifng*, *Gzmk*, and *Prf1*; and little to no detectable expression of *Havcr2* or *Entpd1*

(Figures 3G and S7B). nAg.**PD-1⁺TCF7⁺Cd8** also expressed transcripts encoding molecules related

to T cell homing such as *Ccr7*, as well as *Bach2*[56], *Slamf6*, and *Tcf7*, consistent with CD8 T cells with

plastic or stem-like properties seen in progenitor exhausted CD8 T cells **(Figures 3G, S7B and S8)**.

While NeoAg vaccines promoted this population, the proportion of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells

within this cluster was largely unchanged with anti-CTLA-4, reduced slightly with anti-PD-1, and

even further reduced with combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 **(Figure 3H)**. Anti-CTLA-4

containing treatments displayed decreased expression of *Pdcd1*, *Lag3*, *Tigit* and increased

expression of transcripts encoding molecules related to T cell quiescence and homing such as

S1pr1, Sell (Cd62l), and *Klf2*, as well as *Il7r* **(Figures S7B and S7C)**.

We annotated 5 clusters of "cycling" NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells displaying a range of

activation states and proliferation signatures **(Figures S7B and S8)**. NeoAg vaccination and control

VAX increased the frequency of cells each of the 5 cycling NeoAg-specific CD8 T cell clusters,

although to differing degrees **(Figure 3I)**. This suggests that although far more NeoAg-specific CD8

T cells are observed within tumors treated with neo VAX as compared to control VAX **(Figures 3C**

and 3D), within NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, both control VAX and neo VAX promotes cycling

tumor-specific CD8 T cells. Together, these 5 cycling clusters represented 20.9% of all mLama4-

specific CD8 T cells under control mAb treatment, 54.1% under control VAX treatment, and

61.3% under neo VAX treatment **(Figure 3I)**. The frequency of total cells within cycling clusters

was modestly increased by anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 ICT, whereas anti-CTLA-4 plus anti-PD-1

combination ICT decreased the frequency by almost half. Within nAg.Cd8$_{Cycling}$_**1**,

nAg.Cd8$_{Cycling}$_**3**, and nAg.Cd8$_{Cycling}$_**4**, either control VAX or neo VAX increased the frequency of

NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells to about the same level **(Figure 3H)**. In contrast, nAg.Cd8$_{Cycling}$_**2**

represented 10.6% of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells under control VAX conditions, whereas under

neo VAX conditions, the frequency of cells within this cluster increased to 19.2% of NeoAg-

specific CD8 T cells **(Figure 3H)**. As compared to the other cycling clusters, nAg.Cd8$_{Cycling}$_**2**

expressed higher *Xcl1*, *Tnfrsf4* (OX40), *Tnfrsf9* (4-1BB), *Prf1*, and *Ifng* **(Figures S7B and S9)**.

TCR repertoire clonality is associated with different NeoAg-specific CD8 T cell states

We next assessed the relationship between TCR clonality and phenotype of mLama4

NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells. A total of 15,668 clonotypes expressing both TCR alpha and beta

chains **(Figures 4A-4C)** and 17,492 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells with at least one productive TCR

alpha or beta chain or both **(Figures S10A-S10C)** were analyzed separately and primarily

focused our analyses on clonotypes expression both TCR alpha and beta. Amongst NeoAg-

specific CD8 T cells with both TCR alpha and beta with an activated phenotype, the 5 cycling

NeoAg-specific CD8 T cell clusters display highest overlapping TCR clonotypes with each other

and nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}**Cd8 **(Figures 4A and 4B)**. nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ also displayed overlap with

nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}**Cd8 and cycling CD8 T cell clusters. Although nAg.**PD-1$^+$TCF7$^+$**Cd8 contained far

fewer overlapping TCR clonotypes, nAg.**PD-1$^+$TCF7$^+$**Cd8 with TCR expressing both alpha and beta

chain, shared the largest frequency of clonotypes with nAg.Cd8_**13**, followed by nAg.Cd8$_{iSTIM}$,

nAg.Cd8_**12** and nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ **(Figure 4B)**.

Shannon Diversity Index suggested a lower TCR diversity in the cycling clusters,

nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}**Cd8, and nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ with nAg.Cd8$_{iSTIM}$ displaying greater diversity **(Figure 4C)**.

nAg.**PD-1$^+$TCF7$^+$**Cd8 and nAg.Cd8_13 displayed greater diversity, with nAg.Cd8_12 displaying the

highest Shannon Diversity Index score. Comparing treatment groups, the largest putative increase

in NeoAg-specific CD8 T cell TCR diversity with TCR alpha and beta pair occurred with either anti-

PD-1 or anti-CTLA-4 ICT followed by anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 combination ICT, with all ICT

treatment groups displaying a higher Shannon Diversity Index score than control mAb and neo

VAX, which had a similar diversity score **(Figure 4C)**. Amongst NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells with one

or both TCR alpha or beta chain, anti-CTLA-4 exhibited the highest Shannon TCR Diversity Score,

followed by anti-PD-1, anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 combination ICT, control mAb, and neo VAX

(Figure S10C). Control VAX displayed by far the least TCR diversity or highest clonality of NeoAg-

specific CD8 T cells among all treatment conditions (**Figures 4C and S10C**).

Thus, while ICT increase TCR diversity amongst mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, NeoAg

vaccines induce mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells with more expanded clonotypes and less

diversity compared to ICT.

NeoAg vaccines induce robust expansion of NeoAg-specific IFN-γ⁺ CD8 T cells expressing PD-1

and LAG-3 and/or TIM-3

Since we noted that mice treated with neo VAX displayed a greater frequency of PD-1⁺

TIM-3⁺ NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells as compared to other conditions when treatment was initiated

on d. 3 post-tumor transplant **(Figure S1F)**, we assessed surface expression of PD-1, TIM-3, and

LAG-3 on intratumoral mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells from mice when treatment initiation

occurred on d. 7 (as in our scRNAseq experiments). As expected, a majority of NeoAg-specific CD8

T cells expressed PD-1, with similar frequencies of PD-1⁺ TIM-3⁺ or PD-1⁺ LAG-3⁺ NeoAg-specific

CD8 T cells observed between control mAb, control VAX, and the different ICT treatment

conditions **(Figures 4D and S7D)**. However, expression of PD-1 on a per cell basis was lower in ICT

treated groups. In contrast, a dramatic increase in the percentage of PD-1⁺ TIM-3⁺ or PD-1⁺ LAG-3⁺

NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells was observed in mice treated with neo VAX and amongst PD-1⁺, TIM-3⁺,

or LAG-3⁺ NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, PD-1, TIM-3, and LAG-3, respectively, was expressed higher

in the neo VAX treated group (**Figure 4D**). Intracellular cytokine staining (ICS) on isolated

intratumoral CD8 T cells restimulated with the mLama4 NeoAg peptide revealed that anti-CTLA-4

increased the frequency of IFN-γ⁺ or TNFα⁺ CD8 T cells, while neo VAX induced the greatest

expansion (> 5-fold) of IFN-γ⁺ or TNFα⁺ CD8 T cells **(Figure 4E)**. Amongst mLama4 NeoAg-

stimulated IFN-γ⁺ CD8 T cells, expression of IFN-γ increased significantly with anti-CTLA-4 and/or

anti-PD-1, with neo VAX prompting the most robust increase **(Figure 4E)**.

Anti-CTLA-4 promotes Th1-like CD4 T cells expressing ICOS and Bhlhe40, while combination anti-

CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 ICT induces a small subset of Th2-like CD4 T cells

Since effective neo VAX or anti-CTLA-4/anti-PD-1 ICT require not only CD8 T cells, but also

CD4 T cells **(Figure S2A)**, we examined CD4 T cells from our scRNAseq performed on sorted CD45⁺

cells **(Figure 2A)**. Anti-CTLA-4 prominently induced a higher frequency of conventional CD4 T cells

and reduced the percentage of Tregs as assessed by both scRNAseq and flow cytometry (**Figures**

2G-2I, 2K, S3A, and S3B). Notably, anti-CTLA-4 (+/- anti-PD-1) induced subpopulations of Th1-like

cells expressing *Ifng* and *Bhlhe40*, including cluster **ICOS^{hi}Bhlhe40^{hi}** CD4$_{Th1}$ that also highly

expressed *Icos***,** *Pdcd1*, *Ctla4*, *Cxcr6*, *Csf2* (GM-CSF), *Fasl*, *Furin* (encoding a TCR/IL-12-STAT4-

induced proprotein convertase), and *Tnfaip3* (encoding the A20 protein that regulates TCR/CD28-

mediated NF-κB activation and TCR-mediated survival) **(Figures 2E, 5A, 5B, S5 and S11A).**

ICOS^{hi}Bhlhe40^{hi} CD4$_{Th1}$ displayed enrichment in IL-2 STAT5 and IL-6 JAK STAT3 signaling, TNFa

signaling via NF-κB, and IFN-γ response gene sets amongst others **(Figure S11A)**. neo VAX also

exhibited a greater frequency of cells within this cluster as compared to control VAX **(Figure 5B)**.

Cd4$_{Th1}$_**A** also expressed *Icos* and *Bhlhe40*, but to less of an extent than **ICOS^{hi}Bhlhe40^{hi}** CD4$_{Th1}$

(**Figures 5A and S5**). Cd4$_{Th1}$_**A** was further distinguished from **ICOS^{hi}Bhlhe40^{hi}** CD4$_{Th1}$ by lower

Furin, Cxcr6, Runx3, Tnfaip3, Pdcd1, Havcr2, and *Lag3* expression and higher *Tbx21* (Tbet) and *Il7r*

expression. Although both clusters expressed glycolytic enzyme transcripts, greater expression of

several of these transcripts was seen in **ICOS^{hi}Bhlhe40^{hi}** CD4$_{Th1}$, while Cd4$_{Th1}$_**A** displayed gene set

enrichment in Fatty Acid Metabolism **(Figures S5, S11A, and S11B)**. Additionally, both clusters

displayed significant enrichment in TGF beta signaling gene sets **(Figures S11A and S11B)**. Anti-

CTLA-4 dramatically increased the frequency of Bhlhe40^{+} CD4$_{Th1}$_**A**, with anti-PD-1, and to less of

an extent neo VAX, also increasing cells within this cluster **(Figure 5B)**. CD4$_{Th1}$_**B** was the smallest

cluster of Th1-like cells and exhibited high *Ifng*, *Pdcd1*, *Havcr2, and Tigit* expression **(Figures 5A,**

S5, and S11C). This cluster also expressed the highest level of *Lag3* and *Tox* amongst all CD4

clusters **(Figures 2E, 5A and S5)**. Only subtle changes to the frequency of cells within this cluster

were seen with treatments apart from control VAX and combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1,

with the latter displaying the highest frequency of cells within this cluster amongst all conditions

(Figure 5B).

The increase in IFN-γ expressing Th1-like cells most prominently induced by anti-CTLA-4

was reflected by ICS on isolated intratumoral CD4 T cells restimulated *ex vivo* with the mItgb1

MHC-II NeoAg peptide. Anti-CTLA-4 +/- anti-PD-1 induced the strongest increase in the overall

frequency of conventional CD4 T cells, with anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 increasing the frequency

of IFN-γ^+ CD4 T cells upon restimulation with mItgb1 peptide **(Figures 5C and 5D)**. This is in

contrast to neo VAX, where only subtle changes were observed. Altogether, these findings indicate

that while mice treated with anti-CTLA-4, alone or in combination with anti-PD-1, display the most

dramatic increase in IFN-γ-producing Th1-like CD4 T cells within the tumor, anti-PD-1 also incites

IFN-γ^+ CD4 T cells **(Figure 5D)**. This is also supported by comparing the expression of *Ifng* transcript

within *Ifng*$^+$ CD4 T cell clusters, where anti-PD-1 induced increased *Ifng* expression, even in clusters

whose frequency was unaltered by anti-PD-1 (**Figures 5A, S5, and S11A-S11D**).

Interestingly, combination ICT induced expansion of Cd4$_{Th2}$, a small cluster that express

Icos and *Bhlhe40*, as well as *Furin, Tnfaip3*, *Cd28*, and *Il7r*. Unlike the other ICOS$^+$ Bhlhe40$^+$ clusters,

Ifng, Havcr2, and *Lag3* were barely detectable and instead, Cd4$_{Th2}$ expressed *Gata3*, *Il4*, *Il5*, and

Il13, indicative of Th2-like CD4 T cells (**Figures 5A, S5, S11E, and S11F**).

To gain insight into the temporal dynamics of the observed changes in CD4 T cells, we used

Monocle to analyze scRNAseq data[57]. Monocle suggested that the starting point for conventional

CD4 T cells corresponds to cells within either the Cd4$_{Naive/Mem}$ cluster (expressing *Tcf7, Il7r,* and

S1pr1) or CD4 T cells within the Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ cluster **(Figure 5E)** with Cd4$_{Tfh}$ (displaying T follicular

helper-like transcriptional features) connecting Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ CD4 T cells to the main trajectory

towards Cd4$_{Naive/Mem}$ and the branch to more activated, polarized CD4 T cells. Notably, a

pseudotime trajectory branch point occurs whereby activated CD4 T cells occupy Th1-like

ICOS^{hi}Bhlhe40^{hi}Cd4_{Th1} driven by anti-CTLA-4 (+/- anti-PD-1) (and to a lesser extent by neo VAX) or

encounter another branch whereby they assume one of two fates: they either become Th1-like

CD4 T cells within Cd4$_{Th1}$_**A** or become Th2-like Cd4$_{Th2}$, with Cd4$_{Th1}$_**A** being induced by anti-CTLA-

4 and/or anti-PD-1 or neo VAX and Cd4$_{Th2}$ primarily being driven by combination anti-CTLA-4 and

anti-PD-1 **(Figure 5E)**.

Features of intratumoral Treg subpopulations during NeoAg vaccine or ICT treatment

We also identified three CD4 Foxp3$^+$ Treg clusters **(Figures S3B)**. Treg_1 and Treg_3

appeared to be the most activated with Treg_3 expressing the highest level of *Ctla4*, *Havcr2*, and

Klrg1 **(Figure S5)**. Mice treated with anti-CTLA-4 alone or in combination with anti-PD-1

experienced a decrease in frequency of Treg_1 and Treg_3 **(Figures S3B)**, which is consistent with

previous results that the anti-CTLA-4 mAb we used (mouse IgG2b; clone 9D9) partially depletes

Tregs, especially those highly expressing CTLA-4[19,21-23,58-60]. Treg_2 expressed lower amounts of

Ctla4, Havcr2, Tigit, and *Klrg1* with the frequency of these Tregs not being affected by anti-CTLA-4,

whereas anti-PD-1 with or without anti-CTLA-4, control VAX, or neo VAX displaying a greater

frequency of cells in this cluster **(Figure S3B)**. As compared to control VAX, the cellular density of

Treg_1 and Treg_2 decreased in tumors from mice treated with neo VAX **(Figures S3B)**. Further,

transcript expression of *Foxp3* in Treg_2 was lower in the neo VAX group. These alterations to the

overall frequency of Tregs most prominently observed in the presence of anti-CTLA-4 were also

corroborated by flow cytometry analysis **(Figure S3A)**.

Intratumoral myeloid cell compartment during NeoAg vaccines or ICT treatment

To characterize intratumoral monocytes/macrophages and DCs, we subclustered myeloid

cells excluding the single cluster of neutrophils **(Figures 2B, 2C, S3A, and S12A)**. In addition to a

cluster of plasmacytoid DCs (pDCs), four other DC clusters were identified **(Figures S12A-S12E)**.

Cluster CD103[+]cDC1 expressed multiple classical DC (cDC) 1 transcripts including *Itgae* (*Cd103*),

Xcr1, and *Clec9a* **(Figures S12B and S12E)**. CD63[+]Ccr7[+]cDC and Ccr7[+]cDC expressed *Ccr7*, *Cd1d1*,

Cd200, *Fscn1*, *Cd274* (PD-L1), and *Pdcd1lg2* (PD-L2)*. As compared to Ccr7[+]cDC, CD63[+]Ccr7[+]cDC

expressed higher *Cd63, Cd40, Btla,* and *Cd70* **(Figures S12D and S12E)**. These two migratory cDC

clusters are consistent with mregDCs, a term describing a maturation state of cDC1s and cDC2s

upon uptake of tumor antigen and although they express immunoregulatory molecules, they are

not necessarily immunosuppressive[61,62].

Distinct Macrophage Remodeling Induced by NeoAg Vaccines and ICT

Overall, monocytes/macrophages represented a plurality of intratumoral CD45[+] cells and

displayed a range of phenotypic states[63,64] **(Figures 6A, S3A, and S13)**. Ccr2[+]M_**c1** displayed

transcripts consistent with monocytes, including *Ccr2* and *Chil3*, and the frequency of cells within

this cluster increased slightly with anti-PD-1 or neo VAX **(Figures 6A, 6B, and S13C)**. While *Chil3[+]*

monocytes were previously shown to be reduced by a NeoAg vaccine in preclinical models[65], the

NeoAg vaccine and adjuvant used in that setting differed from ours.

We previously demonstrated that anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 induces macrophage TME

remodeling characterized by a reduction in M2-like macrophages co-expressing the fractalkine

receptor (CX3CR1) and CD206 and an increase in M1-like iNOS[+] macrophages in mouse MCA

sarcoma models[19,21]. We noted a similar ICT-induced remodeling trend in the Y1.7LI melanoma

model. Whereas a slight decrease in the frequency of CX3CR1[+] CD206[hi] M_**c2** cells expressing high

levels of *Cx3cr1*, *Mrc1 (Cd206)*, *Trem2*, *Vcam1*, *Cd63, Cd81,* and *Cd72* was observed with anti-

CTLA-4 +/- anti-PD-1 ICT, expression of *Cx3cr1* and the frequency of *Cx3cr1[+]* macrophages within

this cluster was decreased under all ICT treatment conditions or with neo VAX **(Figures 6A-6C,**

S13A, and S13C). CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ M_**c3** also expressed *Cx3cr1*, as well as *Mrc1*, *Trem2*, *Vcam1*,

and *Cd72* with the latter transcripts being expressed less than in CX3CR1$^+$ CD206^{hi} M_**c2 (Figure**

6A). CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ M_**c3** also displayed high expression of *Mki67* and exhibited lower *Mertk*

expression as compared to CX3CR1$^+$ CD206^{hi} M_**c2**. Anti-CTLA-4 reduced the frequency of

CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ M_**c3 (Figures 6B and S13A)**. Although the aforementioned two clusters

expressed the highest levels of *Cx3cr1* and *Mrc1*, M_**c8** macrophages also expressed *Cx3cr1* and

Mrc1 under control mAb conditions with ICT reducing expression of *Cx3cr1* within these clusters

(Figures 6C and S13A). Comparable expression levels of *Cx3cr1* was observed in M_**c8** under

control VAX and neo VAX conditions, with neo VAX increasing the frequency of cells within this

cluster **(Figures 6B, 6C, and S13A)**. Under control VAX conditions, a proportion of cells in cluster

M_**c10** expressed *Cx3cr1* and *Mrc1*, and under either control VAX or neo VAX conditions,

macrophages within cluster M_**c11** expressed both *Cx3cr1* and *Mrc1*. The frequency of cells within

M_**c11** increased in mice treated with either control VAX or neo VAX, with ICT reducing this

population **(Figures 6B and S13A)**. Overall, monocytes/macrophages from mice treated with

control VAX and neo VAX displayed higher average expression of *Cx3cr1* as compared to ICT

groups, with neo VAX also displaying similar expression of *Mrc1* as control mAb **(Figure 6D)**.

Several monocyte/macrophage clusters expressed high levels of *Nos2* (iNOS); other

clusters expressed varying levels of *Nos2*, with expression of *Nos2* being highly correlated with ICT

treatment, as well as neo VAX to some extent **(Figures 6C and S13B)**. Further, expression of *Cd274*

also correlated with expression of *Nos2* within macrophage clusters, in particular under ICT

treatment conditions **(Figure S13C)**. While the overall frequency of these iNOS$^+$ M1-like clusters

only modestly increased with ICT, the frequency of cells within these clusters expressing *Nos2*

and/or *Nos2* expression on a per cell basis dramatically increased under all ICT conditions **(Figures**

6B, 6C, and S13B). Nos2^{hi}M_**c4** and Nos2^{hi} M_**c6** both manifested high expression of *Nos2*, *Il1a*,

Il1b, *Cxcl2*, *Inhba,* and *Nfkb1,* signatures of inflammatory macrophages **(Figures 6A and S13C)**.

While Nos2^{hi}M_**c4** displayed classic features of M1-like macrophages including low *Mrc1*

expression, Nos2^{hi} M_**c6** moderately expressed *Mrc1* and exhibited higher *F13a1, Trem2,* and *Il1a*,

along with lower *Il1r2* expression compared to Nos2^{hi}M_**c4 (Figures 6A and S13C)**. Nos2^{hi}M_**c4**

displayed high expression of *Cxcl9* and *Spp1*, with expression of the latter diminished with ICT or

neo VAX **(Figure S13C)**. Higher *CXCL9* and lower *SPP1* expression was recently found to be

correlated with a macrophage prognostic score in cancer patients[66]. Nos2^{hi}M_**c5** highly

expressed *Nos2* in the presence of ICT, with ICT also increasing the frequency of macrophages

within this cluster (**Figures 6B, 6C, and S13B**). This cluster also expressed moderate levels of *Mki67*

and other cell cycle related transcripts, indicative of iNOS$^+$ macrophages with proliferative

capabilities **(Figure 6A)**. Nos2^{hi} M_**c7** was the smallest iNOS$^+$ macrophage cluster and in addition to

Nos2 expression under ICT conditions, Nos2^{hi} M_**c7** highly expressed interferon-stimulated genes

(ISGs) **(Figures 6A, S13B and S13C)**.

These same overall patterns were manifested at the protein level where in anti-CTLA-4

and/or anti-PD-1 treated mice, the frequency of intratumoral CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages

decreased with a concomitant increase in iNOS$^+$ macrophages **(Figures 6E and 6F)**. In contrast,

while neo VAX treated mice also displayed a greater frequency of iNOS$^+$ macrophages,

CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages were only slightly reduced by neo VAX as compared to control VAX,

but were maintained at a similar frequency as seen in control mAb treated mice **(Figures 6E and**

6F). These results reveal that despite a relatively a similar abundance of CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$

macrophages that were previously associated with progressively growing tumors in untreated or

control mAb treated mice[19,21], neo VAX induces tumor regression equivalent to ICT.

ICT Broadens Therapeutic Window for Neoantigen Vaccines

We noted changes that were not only shared between treatment conditions, but also distinct depending upon which treatment strategy was employed, which was further illustrated by Principle Component Analysis (PCA) **(Figure S14)**. This, together with our findings that neo VAX induces robust expansion of IFN-γ-producing NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells that highly express PD-1 **(Figures 3C, 3D, 4D, 4E, and S7A)**, prompted us to asked whether neo VAX could synergize with ICT. While neo VAX or ICT led to robust rejection of Y1.7LI when initiated on d. 7 post-transplant, a majority of tumor bearing mice displayed tumor outgrowth when treatment with anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, or neo VAX was initiated on d. 12 post-transplant. We therefore used a d. 12 treatment start timepoint to assess whether combining neo VAX with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 improved efficacy **(Figure 7A)**. Mice treated with neo VAX in combination with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 displayed enhanced tumor control as compared to control VAX (irrelevant SLP + pI:C) + anti-PD-1 or control VAX + anti-CTLA-4 **(Figure 7A)**. Further, neo VAX used in combination with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 provided superior tumor growth inhibition compared to combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 ICT. To extend our findings to a distinct tumor model, we assessed our vaccine protocol and combination treatment using the MC38 tumor model, which has several known endogenous MHC-I tumor NeoAgs[17,67,68]. We previously confirmed in our MC38 line the presence of point mutations that form NeoAgs (mAdpgk, mRpl18, and mDpagt1)[17,67]. We assessed combinatorial treatments in MC38 tumor bearing mice by choosing an injection dose of cells and treatment schedule where monotherapy with anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, or neo VAX alone is largely ineffective **(Figure 7B)**. PBS, control VAX, or neo VAX was administered to MC38 tumor bearing mice on d. 12 and 19 post-transplant with or without anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 given on d. 12, 15, 18, and 22. Similar to results in the Y1.7LI model, neo VAX in combination with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 provided superior protection

versus monotherapy **(Figure 7B)**. These findings in two distinct models complement ongoing

NeoAg vaccine clinical trials and further support the rationale for combination NeoAg-based

therapies.

Discussion

In this study, we compared different immunotherapies that lead to tumor rejection and

pertinent control treatments where tumor progression occurs using mouse melanoma models

with relevant gain- and loss-of-function genetic perturbations[45] and defined NeoAgs. Although

prior studies have examined NeoAg vaccines[13,15,17,65,69-71], few (if any) studies have performed

extensive comparisons between NeoAg vaccines, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, and combination ICT in

the same robust experimental system. While most prior studies involving ICT or NeoAg vaccines

focused on either lymphoid or myeloid cells[22,69,70,72], our work has provided insights into both

categories of cells and how different immunotherapies differentially affect these cells. Our

treatment schedule and analyses were initially performed so that the NeoAg cancer vaccines or

ICT we used lead to complete tumor rejection in a majority of mice; thus, we could compare and

contrast the molecular and cellular changes that occur as a consequence of NeoAg vaccines or

different forms of ICT and link them to outcomes. We specifically chose to study an SLP NeoAg

vaccine to complement ongoing clinical trials employing SLPs usually in combination with the

adjuvant polyIC:LC[7,10,73].

The current study makes several key observations. First, NeoAg vaccines and ICT work by

several overlapping mechanisms related to the CD8 T cell response, with key differences in the

overall magnitude of the response and phenotype of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells observed. NeoAg

vaccines induce the greatest expansion of functional intratumoral NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells

including proliferating T cells and PD-1[+] TCF-1[+] stem-like CD8 T cells[69,74]. However, anti-CTLA-4

and/or anti-PD-1 also increased the frequency of intratumoral CD8 T cells, including NeoAg-specific

CD8 T cells with enhanced production of IFN-γ. Anti-PD-1 alone, or most dramatically when

administered in combination with anti-CTLA-4 ICT, induced a subset of Bhlhe40[hi] NeoAg-specific

CD8 T cells also display high expression of *Tbx21* and *Ifng.* We previously documented that ICT

promotes Bhlhe40 upregulation in NeoAg tumor-specific T cells and that expression of Bhlhe40 in

CD4 and/or CD8 T cells is paramount for effective ICT[21]. A more recent study identified Bhlhe40 as

modulating a key differentiation point between progenitor and intermediate subsets of exhausted

T cells in an in vitro exhaustion model and chronic LCMV infection[75]. Additionally, Bhlhe40[hi]

NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells expressed *Ctla4, Cd69,* as well as *Nr4a1* and *Nr4a3,* which suggest

recent activation and/or TCR stimulation due to their known pattern of rapid and transient

expression following T cell stimulation. While some of the alterations in cellular subpopulations

and gene/protein expression observed with combination ICT were distinct from either anti-CTLA-4

or anti-PD-1, certain features were also observed with anti-CTLA-4 ICT, whereas other changes

were more akin to those observed with anti-PD-1. These findings add to the accumulating

evidence that the enhanced anti-tumor activity of combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 ICT is

likely mediated by not only additive effects, but also through mechanisms distinct from the

monotherapies[19,23].

Amongst mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells with an activated phenotype,

cycling/proliferating CD8 T cells displayed a high degree of overlapping TCR clonotypes with each

of the cycling clusters, as well as with nAg.**Bhlhe40^Hi^Cd8.** nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ also displayed overlap with

nAg.**Bhlhe40^Hi^Cd8** and cycling CD8 T cell clusters. A similar observation was made in human non-

small cell lung cancers (NSCLC) patients, where the TCRs in CD8 T cells recognizing NeoAgs or non-

mutant tumor antigens that expressed markers of exhaustion overlapped to large extent with

proliferating CD8 T cells[76]. Shannon Diversity Index suggested a lower TCR diversity in the cycling

clusters, nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$, and nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}**Cd8. The lower diversity and high clonotype expansion

seen in nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$ and nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}**Cd8 are consistent with observations made in human

melanoma patients, where it was shown that highly expanded clonotype families were

predominantly comprising CD8 T cells expressing markers of exhaustion[53]. Cluster nAg.**PD-**

1$^+$TCF7$^+$Cd8 with a stem-like/progenitor exhausted phenotype displayed greater TCR diversity than

cycling clusters, nAg.Cd8$_{Eff/Ex}$, nAg.**Bhlhe40^{Hi}**Cd8, and nAg.Cd8$_{iSTIM}$. We also found that compared

to control mAb, a higher Shannon Diversity Index score was observed with any of the ICT

treatment conditions assessed, with anti-CTLA-4 promoting the largest putative increase in NeoAg-

specific CD8 TCR diversity. NeoAg-specific CD8 TCR from NeoAg vaccine treated mice displayed

less diversity, suggesting that NeoAg vaccines promote expansion of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells

with a more restricted TCR repertoire while under control VAX treatment conditions, NeoAg-

specific CD8 T cells are highly clonal.

In addition to modulating the CD8 T cell compartment, ICT notably impacted the CD4 T cell

compartment as well. Anti-CTLA-4 reduced the frequency of Tregs as expected[19,21,22,58-60] and

induced ICOS$^+$ Th1-like conventional CD4 T cells displaying high expression of Bhlhe40[21].

Interestingly, subsets of Th1-like CD4 T cells with high expression of Bhlhe40 were previously

found to be enriched in patients with microsatellite instability colorectal cancer, who display

favorable outcomes in response to anti-CTLA-4[77]. Further, studies in both preclinical models and

human melanoma patients have revealed that anti-CTLA-4 induces ICOS$^+$ CD4 T cells expressing

IFN-γ[78,79]. Anti-PD-1 also increased the frequency of overall IFN-γ^+ Th1-like CD4 T cells, but to less

of an extent as compared to anti-CTLA-4. Combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 ICT induced a

small, but significant subpopulation of Th2-like CD4 T cells (Cd4$_{Th2}$).

While vaccines targeting MHC-I NeoAgs predominately altered CD8 T cells, we found that

these MHC-I NeoAg vaccines require CD4 T cells for efficacy. The detailed mechanisms regarding

the contribution of CD4 T cells in NeoAg vaccines targeting MHC-I NeoAgs remains to be fully

elucidated. Although CD4 T cells and MHC-II NeoAgs are critical components of anti-tumor

immunity[20,48,80-86], we specifically chose to utilize an SLP vaccine against a single MHC-I NeoAg to

definitively link the MHC-I NeoAg vaccine response to a specific defined NeoAg. Further, since

MHC-II NeoAgs are more difficult to predict than MHC-I NeoAgs, we wanted to study the effects of

an MHC-I NeoAg vaccine and whether this NeoAg vaccine approach in combination with anti-

CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 ICT could provoke rejection of larger, established tumors. While SLPs offer

several advantages over short peptides including the potential to provoke both CD4 and CD8 T

cells responses[87,88]; the NeoAg SLPs we used (mAlg8 or mLama4) provoke only NeoAg-specific CD8

T cell responses[13]. Nevertheless, determining whether incorporating an MHC-II NeoAg such as

mItgb1 or even a shared, non-mutant antigen will enhance the efficacy of NeoAg vaccines in our

models is of future interest.

Beyond the T cell compartment, we noted a divergent impact of NeoAg vaccines on the

myeloid compartment compared to ICT. Both ICT and neo VAX increased M1-like iNOS$^+$

macrophages to levels higher than with control mAb or control VAX. Since both control VAX and

neo VAX contained pI:C, the induction of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells by the neo VAX, and not just

pI:C by itself, likely contributes to some of the changes observed in the macrophage compartment,

consistent with observations that peptide vaccine-induced CD8 T cells modify the intratumoral

macrophage compartment[89]. ICT reduced the frequency of intratumoral M2-like CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$

macrophages whereas neo VAX (NeoAg SLP + pI:C) treated mice displayed a greater frequency of

CX3CR1$^+$CD206$^+$ macrophages, albeit less than with control VAX (irrelevant SLP + pI:C), as

compared to control mAb or ICT treated mice. Therefore, NeoAg vaccines to provoke tumor

regression in a TME that is partially distinct from that of ICT. In MCA sarcoma models, we found

that ICT-driven induction of iNOS$^+$ macrophages was dependent upon IFN-γ, whereas ICT-driven

depletion of CX3CR1+CD206+ macrophages was partially independent of IFN-γ[19]. In our vaccine

setting, we hypothesize that favors the induction of T cell-derived IFN-γ and other signals that

drives monocyte polarization to iNOS+ macrophages upon entering the tumor, but other signals

promote maintenance, expansion, or induction of CX3CR1+CD206+ macrophages as well. These

signals are yet unknown but are likely induced by the pI:C (contained in both the control VAX

and neo VAX), which acts as a TLR3 agonist in the endosome to potently induce a type I IFN

response and can also activate RIG-I/MDA-5 in the cytosol to promote IL-12 production[90,91].

Although we use "M1-like" and "M2-like", our current study further supports the concept that

intratumoral macrophages display a spectrum of activation states and do not fit exclusively into

"M1" or "M2" states[63]. While CX3CR1+CD206+ macrophages display expression patterns

consistent with immunosuppressive macrophages, transcriptional profiling and select

phenotype marker expression may not distinguish macrophages as immunosuppressive.

Nevertheless, it is tempting to speculate that combining NeoAg vaccines that maintain or

promote CX3CR1+CD206+ macrophages expressing high levels of *Trem2* with treatments

targeting this macrophage population[42,92] might enhance the efficacy of NeoAg vaccines.

The unique features induced by each immunotherapy condition prompted us to assess

combining NeoAg vaccines with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 ICT. In both the Y1.7LI melanoma model

and MC38 model, NeoAg vaccines combined with either anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 leads to equal or

even better anti-tumor immune responses than even combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1.

While up to 20-30% of patients treated with anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 may experience durable

cancer control, ~50% of metastatic melanoma patients treated with the combination of anti-

CTLA-4 plus anti-PD-1 experience durable cancer control; however, immune related adverse

events remain a problem[93,94]. As NeoAg vaccines have demonstrated favorable safety

profiles[6,7], combining NeoAg vaccines with single agent ICT may yield robust anti-tumor

immunity with less toxicity than anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 combination ICT[69-72]. While we find

that anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 can synergize with neo VAX in different tumor models when we

give the first NeoAg vaccine and ICT mAb at the same time, the timing of treatment may impact

the response in certain situations, as observed in other models and vaccine settings[95]. Although

our approach targeting a single NeoAg in the Y1.7 model and three NeoAgs in the MC38 model

was efficacious, it is likely that targeting multiple NeoAgs and possibly even shared, non-mutant

antigens will be required in patients due to tumor heterogeneity and therapy induced-

immunoediting, with at least some of the antigens targeted by the vaccine needing to be clonal

NeoAgs[96,97].

This study provides key insights into the transcriptional, molecular, and functional

changes that occur within major immune cell populations within the TME following different

forms of cancer immunotherapy and compliments ongoing human clinical studies of NeoAg

vaccines. Although we did not fully elaborate on every specific immune cell population we

profiled, our analyses were designed to interrogate the entire immune TME, and thus our study

should additionally provide an important resource. The myeloid and lymphoid cell subsets and

potential biomarkers we have described herein should inform the development of improved

personalized NeoAg vaccines and combinatorial therapies in human patients.

STAR★Methods

Key resources Table S1

Mice

All mice used were on a C57BL/6 background. Wildtype (WT) C57BL/6J mice were purchased

from Jackson Labs. All *in vivo* experiments used 8- to 12-week-old male or female mice (to

match the sex and strain of the tumors). All mice were housed in a specific pathogen-free

animal facility. All animal studies were performed in accordance with, and with the approval of

the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of The University of Texas MD

Anderson Cancer Center (Houston, TX).

Plasmids

Gene blocks for mAlg8, mItgb1, or mLama4 were purchased from Integrated DNA Technologies.

Minigene constructs were cloned into the BglII site of pMSCV-IRES GFP (mAlg8 and mItgb1) or

pMSCV (mLama4 and mItgb1) using the Gibson Assembly method (New England Biolabs). To

generate neoantigen-expressing Y1.7 melanoma cell lines, constructs were transiently

transfected into Phoenix Eco cells using Fugene (Promega). After 48 hours, viral

supernatants were filtered and subsequently used for transfection of Y1.7 melanoma cell line.

Y1.7 mLama4 [MHC-I].mItgb1 [MHC-II] (Y1.7LI) and Y1.7 mAlg8 [MHC-I].mItgb1 [MHC-II] (Y1.7AI) were sorted

based on GFP positivity and clones were verified for neoantigen expression.

Tumor cell lines

The *Braf[V600E] Cdkn2a[-/-] Pten[-/-]* YUMM1.7 parental line was originally generated in a male GEMM

on the C57BL/6 background as described[45]. Parental YUMM1.7 was purchased from ATCC (CRL-

3362) and was modified to generate NeoAg-expressing Y1.7 lines. The MC38 line was obtained

from B. Schreiber (Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine). All tumor cell lines

were found to be free of common mouse pathogens and Mycoplasma as assessed by IDEXX

IMPACT I mouse pathogen testing [PCR evaluation for: Corynebacterium bovis,

Corynebacterium sp. (HAC2), Ectromelia, EDIM, Hantaan, K virus, LCMV, LDEV, MAV1, MAV2,

mCMV, MHV, MNV, MPV, MTV, MVM, Mycoplasma pulmonis, Mycoplasma sp., Polyoma, PVM,

REO3, Sendai, TMEV] in December 2023. Tumor cell lines from the same cryopreserved stocks

that were used in this study tested negative for Mycoplasma and were authenticated and found

to be free of non-mouse cells as assessed by mouse cell STR profiling (IDEXX CellCheck mouse

19 plus Mycoplasma spp. testing) in December 2023.

Tumor transplantation

The $Braf^{V600E}$ $Cdkn2a^{-/-}$ $Pten^{-/-}$ YUMM1.7 parental melanoma line, Y1.7LI or Y1.7AI melanoma line,

and the MC38 colorectal cancer line cells were propagated in R-10 plus BME media [RPMI media

(HyClone) supplemented with 1% l-glutamine, 1% penicillin–streptomycin, 1% sodium pyruvate,

0.5% sodium bicarbonate, 0.1% 2-mercaptoethanol, and 10% heat-inactivated fetal calf serum

(FCS) (HyClone) upon thawing, tumor lines were passaged 3 to 6 times before experimental use.

Prior to injection, cells were washed extensively, resuspended at a concentration of 0.5×10^6 cells

(for YUMM1.7, Y1.7LI, and Y1.7AI) or 1.5×10^6 cells (for MC38) in 150 μL of endotoxin-free PBS and

150 μL was injected subcutaneously into the flanks of recipient mice. Tumor cells were >90%

viable at the time of injection as assessed by Trypan blue exclusion. Tumor growth was quantified

by caliper measurements and expressed as the average of two perpendicular diameters. Lack of

survival was defined as mouse death or mean tumor diameter size of 15 mm.

Tumor rechallenge

For tumor rechallenge, mice that rejected primary tumors after treatment with anti-CTLA-4, anti-

PD-1, anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1, or NeoAg vaccines were then rechallenged with same number of

cells used in primary challenge with either the same tumor line used in the primary tumor

challenge or a different tumor line as indicated at least 60 days after complete rejection of the

primary tumor.

In vivo **antibody treatments**

For ICT treatment, YUMM1.7 parental, Y1.7LI, or Y1.7AI tumor-bearing mice were treated

intraperitoneally with 200 μg of anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 on d. 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, and 22 or d. 7,

10, 13, 16, 22, and 28; or d. 12, 15, 18, 21, 27 and 33 post-tumor transplant. For controls, mice

were injected with 200 μg of IgG2a isotype control antibodies. MC38 tumor-bearing mice were

treated intraperitoneally with 200 μg of anti-CTLA-4 and/or anti-PD-1 on d. 12, 15, 18, and 22 post-

transplant. For antibody depletion studies, 250 μg of control mAb, anti-CD4, or anti-CD8α was

injected intraperitoneally into mice at d. −1 and every 7 days thereafter until day 20. CD4 and CD8

depletion was verified by flow cytometry analysis of surface-stained peripheral blood monocytes

(PBMC) and intratumoral immune cells. For *in vivo* experiments, "*In vivo* Platinum"-grade

antibodies that were verified to be free of mouse pathogens (IDEXX IMPACT I mouse pathogen

testing) were purchased from Leinco Technologies: anti-PD-1 (rat IgG2a clone RMP1–14), anti-

CTLA-4 (murine IgG2b clone 9D9), anti-CD4 (rat IgG2b clone GK1.5), anti-CD8α (rat IgG2b clone

YTS169.4), and isotype controls (rat IgG2a clone 1–1, mouse IgG2a clone OKT3, or rat IgG2b clone

1–2).

Peptides

Mutant Lama4 8-mer (<u>V</u>GFNFRTL), mutant Lama4 SLP (QKISFFDGFE<u>V</u>GFNFRTLQPNGLLFYYT),

mutant Adpgk SLP (HLELASMTN<u>M</u>ELMSSIVHQ), mutant Rpl18 SLP (KAGGKILTFD<u>R</u>LALESPK), mutant

Dpagt1 SLP (EAGQSLVISASIIVFNL<u>L</u>ELEGDYR), mutant Alg8 8-mer (ITY<u>T</u>WTRL), OVA-I$_{257-264}$

(SIINFEKL), mutant Itgb1 SLP (DDCWFYFTYSVNGY<u>N</u>EAIVHVVETPDCP), and OVA-II$_{323-339}$

(ISQAVHAAHAEINEAGR) peptides were custom ordered from Peptide 2.0. All peptides were HPLC

purified to >95% purity.

Vaccination

Y1.7LI or Y1.7AI tumor bearing male mice were vaccinated subcutaneously with 10 μg mLama4 or

mAlg8 synthetic long peptide (SLP) in combination with 50 μg of VacciGrade™ high molecular

weight Polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid (pI:C) (InvivoGen) in a total volume of 150 μL diluted in

endotoxin-free PBS on d. 3, 9, and 15 or d. 7, 13, and 19 or on d. 12, 18, and 24 post tumor

transplant. MC38 tumor bearing female mice were vaccinated subcutaneously with 20 μg of

mAdpgk SLP plus 20 μg of mRpl18 SLP plus 20 μg of mDpagt1 plus 50 μg pI:C adjuvant or control

vaccine composed of 40 μg of irrelevant HPV SLP + 50 μg of pI:C on d. 12 and 19 post-tumor

transplant. For SLP, peptide sequence used for mLama4; QKISFFDGFE<u>VGFNFRTL</u>QPNGLLFYYT

(epitope underlined), for mAlg8; AVG<u>ITYTWTRL</u>YASVLTGSLV (epitope underlined), for mAdpgk;

HLELASMTNMELMSSIVHQ, for mRpl18; KAGGKILTFD***R***LALESPK and for mDpagt1;

EAGQSLVISASIIVFNLLELEGDYR. mLama4 SLP served as a relevant SLP for the Y1.7LI line and an

irrelevant SLP for the Y1.7AI line. mAlg8 served as a relevant SLP for the Y1.7AI line and an

irrelevant SLP for the Y1.7LI tumor.

Tetramers

OVA-I (SIINFEKL)-H-2K^b (irrelevant control tetramer), mutant Alg8-H-2K^b, and mutant Lama4-H-2K^b

tetramers conjugated to PE or APC fluorophores, were obtained from the Baylor College of

Medicine MHC Tetramer Production Facility.

Tumor and spleen harvest

Established tumors were excised from mice, minced, and treated with 1 mg/mL type IA

collagenase (Sigma-Aldrich) in HBSS (Hyclone) for 45 minutes at 37°C. Cells were washed thrice.

Red blood cells were lysed using ACK lysis buffer (Gibco). To remove aggregates and clumps, cells

were passed through a 40-μm strainer. Spleens were harvested, crushed, and vigorously

resuspended to make single-cell suspensions. To remove aggregates and clumps, cells were passed

through a 70-μm strainer and subsequently through a 40-μm strainer.

TIL peptide restimulation

For peptide and PMA/ionomycin T-cell stimulation, cells from tumors, isolated as described above

(see tumor and spleen harvest section), stained, and CD4 and CD8 T cells were sorted. For sorting

CD4 and CD8 T cells, tumor cells were stained for 5 min at room temperature with 500 ng of Fc

block (anti-CD16/32) and then stained with antibodies to CD45, CD3ε, CD4 or CD8α and Zombie

NIR Viability dye in 100 μl of staining buffer. Cells were incubated for 30 minutes at 4°C. Live

CD45$^+$Cd3ε^+CD4$^+$ and live CD45$^+$Cd3ε^+CD8α^+ were then sorted on a BD FACSAria II (BD

Biosciences). Splenocytes harvested from naive mice and 100,000 splenocytes were then pulsed

with 1 μM of various 8- or 9- or 17- or 28-mer peptides or simulated with 10 ng/mL of PMA

(MilliporeSigma) and 1 μg/mL of ionomycin (Fisher) and 100,000 CD4 or CD8 TIL were

subsequently added and incubated at 37 °C. Naive splenocytes added with or without CD4 or CD8

TIL, was included as control. After 1 h, BD GolgiPlug (BD Bioscience) was added in, and cells were

incubated for an additional 5 h at 37 °C.

Tetramer staining

For tetramer staining, cells were stained for 5 min at room temperature with 500 ng of Fc block

(anti-CD16/32). H-2K^b tetramers conjugated to PE (1:50) or APC (1:100) for mutated Alg8, mutated

Lama4, or SIINFEKL were added to cells and incubated for 20 min at 37°C. Tetramer-stained cells

were further stained with surface antibody for anti-CD45, anti-Thy1.2, anti-CD8α, anti-CD4, anti-

PD-1, anti-TIM-3, and anti-LAG-3 antibody for 20 min at 4 °C.

Flow cytometry

For flow cytometry, cells were stained for 5 minutes at room temperature with rat anti-mouse

CD16/32 (mouse BD Fc Block; clone 2.4G2, BD Biosciences) at 1 µg/million cells and then surface

stained with flow antibodies for 20 minutes at 4°C. Surface antibodies were diluted in FACS

staining buffer (PBS with 2% FCS, 2 mmol/L EDTA, and 0.05% NaN3; Sigma). Anti-mouse CD45-

BV605, CD90.2/Thy1.2-PE-Cy7, anti-mouse CD8α-BV786, anti-mouse CD4-BV711, anti-mouse

CD19-BV650, anti-mouse CD20-BV421, anti-mouse CD45R/B220-BUV395, anti-mouse

Nkp46/CD335-FITC, anti-mouse γδ TCR-PE-Cy7, anti-mouse PD-1-BV421, anti-mouse TIM-3, anti-

mouse LAG-3-PerCP-Cy5.5, anti-mouse CD3ε-APC , anti-mouse CD64-BV421, anti-mouse Ly6G-

Alexa Fluor 700, anti-mouse CX3CR1-FITC, anti-mouse I-A/I-E-BV650, anti-mouse CD103-BV421,

anti-mouse CD24-BV711, anti-mouse CD11c-BV786, anti-mouse CD11b-APC, anti-mouse F4/80-

BUV395, anti-mouse CD64-APC, CD117-FITC, anti-mouse CD11b- PerCP-Cy5.5, anti-mouse PDCA-

1/BST-2 BV650, anti-mouse CD172a APC, anti-mouse PDL1-PE, anti-mouse FcεRI-PE-Cy7 were

used for surface staining at the indicated dilutions. Zombie NIR Viability dye was added at 1:500

during surface staining.

For intracellular staining, surface-stained cells were fixed and permeabilized with

Fixation/Permeabilization Solution Kit (BD Bioscience). Fixed and permeabilized cells were then

stained with anti-mouse CD206-PE-Cy7 and anti-mouse iNOS/NOS2-PE for 30 minutes at 4°C.

For FOXP3 staining, surface-stained cells were fixed and permeabilized using the

eBioscience FOXP3/Transcription Factor Staining Buffer Set. Fixed and permeabilized cells were

then stained with anti-mouse FOXP3-FITC for 30 minutes at 4°C.

For intracellular cytokine staining of lymphocytes, tumor cells were isolated and CD4 and

CD8 T cells were sorted and added to peptide pulsed or PMA+Ionomycin stimulated splenocytes

and incubated at 37°C for 6 hours with GolgiStop (BD Bioscience). Cells were then washed and

stained for 5 minutes at room temperature with Fc block at 1 µg/million cells and then surface

stained for 30 minutes at 4°C, and then fixed and permeabilized with BD Fixation and

Permeabilization Kit. Fixed and permeabilized cells were then stained with anti-mouse IFN-γ-APC

and anti-mouse TNF-PE-Cy7 for 30 minutes at 4°C. All flow cytometry was performed on an BD

Fortessa X-20, BD LSR, BD Fortessa, and analyzed using FlowJo software. Gating strategy used is

depicted in **Figure S15**.

scRNAseq

Antibody hashing for multiplexing

Antibody hashing and multiplexing was utilized for scRNAseq/scTCRseq of NeoAg-specific CD8 T

cells. For CD45$^+$ scRNAseq experiments, antibody hashing and multiplexing was not performed.

For analysis of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, cell and nuclei labeling were performed according to

an adapted BioLegend cell hashing protocol (TotalSeq™-C Antibodies and Cell Hashing with 10x

Single Cell 5' Reagent Kit **v1.1** Protocol, BioLegend). Single cell suspensions of harvested tumors

from treated mice were resuspended in BioLegend Cell Staining Buffer containing Fc receptor

block and stained with mLama4 PE and APC labelled tetramers for 20 min at 37°C. Tetramer-

stained cells from control mAb, control VAX, and neo VAX treatment conditions were

immediately surface stained by adding anti-CD90.2/Thy1.2-PE-Cy7 and anti-CD8α-BV786

antibodies and incubated for 20 min at 4°C. Tetramer-stained samples from anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1,

and anti-CTLA-4 plus anti-PD-1 treated groups were incubated with mixture of surface stain (anti-

CD90.2/Thy1.2-PE-Cy7 and anti-CD8α-BV786 antibodies) and barcoded antibodies with unique

hashtags for each treatment condition [anti-CTLA-4: Hashtag 1 Total Seq™-C0301 anti-mouse

Hashtag 1 Antibody; anti-PD-1: Hashtag 2 (Total Seq™-C0302 anti-mouse Hashtag 2 Antibody);

anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1 combination: Hashtag 3 (Total Seq™-C0303 anti-mouse Hashtag 3

Antibody)]. Hashtag antibodies were used at a concentration of 1 μg per 2 million cells. Staining

with surface antibodies and hashtag antibodies was done for 30 min at 4°C. Cells were then

washed 3X with BioLegend Cell Staining Buffer. Sorted mLama4 tetramer-specific CD8 T cells

with unique hashtags (anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, and anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1 samples) were pooled

for single-cell library generation and CITE-seq (cellular indexing of transcriptomes and epitopes

by sequencing) through multiplexing. Separate libraries were generated for control mAb, control

VAX, and neo VAX samples and, thus, these were not multiplexed.

scRNAseq with TCR and FBC sample Processing

For TCRseq of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells, samples were hash tagged and processed as

described in "antibody hashing" section above. Cells were counted on a Countess 3 FL

automated cell counter (Life Technologies) and viabilities were determined using trypan blue

exclusion. Cell capture processing and gene expression, TCR, and feature barcode library

preparations were performed following 10X Genomics' guidelines for 5' scRNAseq which

included TCR and cell surface marker detection [CG000330_Chromium Next GEM Single Cell 5'

v2 (Dual Index) with Feature Barcode technology-Rev F]. QC steps after cDNA amplification and

library preparation steps were carried out by running ThermoFisher Qubit HS dsDNA Assay

along with Agilent (Santa Clara, CA) HS DNA Bioanalyzer for concentration and quality

assessments, respectively. Library sample concentrations were verified using qPCR using a KAPA

Biosystems KAPA Library Quantification Kit prior to pooling. Libraries were normalized to 5 nM

for pooling. The gene expression, TCR, and FBC libraries were pooled in a ratio 5:1:1 (where

applicable-one sample out of four). The pool was sequenced using a NovaSeq6000 S4-XP,200-

cycle flow cell lane. The run parameters used were 26 cycles for read 1, 90 cycles for read2, 10

cycles for index1, and 10 cycles for index2 as stipulated in the protocol mentioned above. Raw

sequencing data (fastq file) was demultiplexed and analyzed using 10X Genomics Cell Ranger

v.7.1.0 software utilizing standard default settings and the cellranger count command to

generate html QC metrics and coupé/vloupe files for each sample.

CD45+ scRNAseq library generation

Droplet-based 5' end massively parallel scRNAseq was performed by encapsulating sorted live

CD45+ tumor-infiltrating cells into droplets and libraries were prepared using Chromium Next GEM

Single-cell 5' Reagent Kit v2 (10x Genomics) according to manufacturer's protocol. The generated

scRNAseq libraries were sequenced using an Illumina NovaSeq6000 S2 flow cell.

scRNAseq alignment, barcode assignment, and unique molecular identifier counting

The Cell Ranger Single-Cell Software Suite available at https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-

cell-gene-expression/software/overview/welcome was used to perform sample demultiplexing,

barcode processing, and single-cell 5' counting. Cellranger mkfastq was used to demultiplex raw

base call files from the NovaSeq6000 sequencer, into sample-specific fastq files. Files were

demultiplexed with 81.9% to 97.1% perfect barcode match, and 90%+ q30 reads. Afterward, fastq

files for each sample were processed with Cellranger count, which was used to align samples to

mm10 genome, filtered, and quantified. For each sample, the recovered cells' parameter was

specified as 10,000 cells that we expected to recover for each individual library.

Preprocessing analysis with Seurat package

The Seurat pipeline was applied to each dataset following tutorial specifications from

https://satijalab.org/seurat/articles/archive; version 4.3 and https://hbctraining.github.io/scRNA-

seq_online/. Data from all groups were merged into a single Seurat object, and integration was

performed using the reciprocal principal component analysis (PCA) workflow to identify

integration anchors. After integration, genes that were expressed in fewer than 3 cells and cells

that contained fewer than 500 transcripts (unique molecular identifiers; UMI) were excluded. Cells

with more than 10% of mitochondrial transcripts were also excluded from analysis. The cutoffs

used were set based on the characteristics of the cell population in each dataset. Data were

normalized using LogNormalize method (counts for each cell divided by the total counts for that

cell, multiplied by the scale factor of 10^4 and natural-log transformed using log1p). PCA was

performed on about 2,000 genes with PCA function. A uniform manifold approximation and

projection (UMAP) dimensional reduction was performed on the scaled matrix (with most variable

genes only) using the first 40 or 50 principal components (PCA) for mLama4 neoAg-specific CD8 T

cells and CD45$^+$ cells, respectively, to obtain a two-dimensional representation of the cell states.

For clustering, we used the function FindClusters that implements SNN (shared nearest neighbor)

modularity optimization–based clustering algorithm on 30 PCA components, leading to 33 clusters.

Identification of cluster-specific genes and marker-based classification

To identify marker genes, the FindAllMarkers function was used with likelihood-ratio test for

single-cell gene expression. To characterize clusters, we used ImmGen database. For heat map

representation, mean expression of markers inside each cluster was used. To compare gene

expression for the clusters inside cohorts (e.g., T cells, macrophages) we used FindMarkers

function to calculate average log2 fold change and identify differentially expressed genes between

each pair of experimental conditions using a Wilcoxon rank-sum test for calculating P values and

Bonferroni correction for Padj values.

T cell population analysis

To gain more insights into different immunotherapies-induced T cells remodeling in the TME, we

subclustered activated T cells (excluding quiescent T cell clusters 10 and 12). Identification of most

variable genes, PCA, UMAP, clustering, and marker selection analysis were performed as described

above.

Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA)

To identify if MSigDB hallmark gene sets are up-regulated or down-regulated between clusters

and treatments, we performed gene set enrichment analysis. Fold-changes of gene expression

between comparisons were calculated using Seurat R package v.4.3.0.1, and normalized

enrichment scores as well as p-values of given gene sets were then estimated using the gage R

package v.2.46.1.

Pseudo time trajectory analysis

To determine the potential lineage differentiation within CD4 T cell subpopulations, we used the

Monocle3 R package to construct CD4 differentiation trajectories after specifying the

corresponding cells as root nodes. Subsequently, graph test was used to find the pseudo time

trajectory difference genes, and the obtained genes were used to plot the heat map.

scTCRseq Analysis

scTCRseq data for mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells for each sample were processed by

CellRanger. For TCR selection a meta data .csv was exported after initial QC and imported into R

and TCR clones were further analyzed in combination with the corresponding scRNAseq data

using the R packages scRepertoire v.2.0.0 and Seurat v.4.3.0.1. mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T

cells with at least one productive TCR alpha or beta chain or both and separately, with paired

TCR alpha beta chains were considered for precise identification of TCRs. The total number of

this NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells with TCR alpha and beta pair set was 15,668 from 17,492 total

TCR (TCR with single alpha or beta or both alpha and beta pair) [control mAb: 3,118 from 3,539

total TCR; anti-CTLA-4: 1,208 from 1,394; anti-PD-1: 1,162 from 1,283; anti-CTLA-4 plus anti-PD-

1: 657 from 790; control VAX: 4,986 from 5,622; neo VAX: 4,537 from 4,864]. The Shannon

Index of diversity was calculated with the R package scRepertoire (V.2.0.0)

(https://www.borch.dev/uploads/screpertoire/articles/clonal_diversity). Downsampling to the

smallest repertoire size and bootstrapping to return the mean diversity estimates was

performed with the number of calculations set to the default of 100.

Statistical analysis

Samples were compared using an unpaired, two-tailed Student t test, two-way ANOVA, or log-rank

(Mantel–Cox) test unless specified otherwise.

Data and software availability

Data files for the sequencing data reported in this article will be deposited in the Gene Expression

Omnibus (GEO) database and made publicly available at the time of publication. Software used in

this study is available online: current version of Cell Ranger: https://support.10xgenomics.com/

single-cell-gene-expression/software/downloads/latest; Seurat 4. 3.0.1:

https://satijalab.org/seurat/; ggplot2 3.3.3: https://ggplot2.tidy verse.org/index.html; scRepertoire

2.0.0: https://www.borch.dev/uploads/screpertoire/; and ImmGen: https://www.immgen.org. All

other data generated in this study are available within the article and its Supplementary Data files,

will be provided upon request at the time of publication, and/or will made publicly available at the

time of publication via deposition in appropriate databases.

Authors' Contributions

S. Keshari: Conceptualization, data curation, investigation, visualization, methodology, data

analysis, writing–original draft, writing–review and editing. A.S. Shavkunov: Conceptualization,

data curation, investigation, data analysis, writing–review and editing. Q. Miao: Conceptualization,

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investigation, visualization, writing–review and editing. J.E. Pineda: data curation, investigation,

visualization, writing–review and editing. E. Alspach: Resources, formal analysis, investigation,

visualization, writing–review and editing. K. Hu: Formal analysis, investigation, visualization,

writing–review and editing. K.E. Pauken: Formal analysis, investigation, visualization, writing–

review and editing. K. Chen: Resources, formal analysis, investigation, visualization, writing–review

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Figure 1

Figure 1. Therapeutic NeoAg vaccines or ICT inhibit NeoAg-expressing $Braf^{V600E}$ $Pten^{-/-}$ $Cdkn2a^{-/-}$ melanoma growth.

(A) Tumor growth and percent tumor rejection in wildtype (WT) C57BL/6J mice transplanted with Y1.7 mA^{MHC-I}.mI^{MHC-II} (Y1.7AI) and Y1.7 mL^{MHC-I}.mI^{MHC-II} (Y1.7LI) melanoma cells and treated with control mAb or anti-CTLA-4 immune checkpoint therapy (ICT) starting on d. 3 post tumor-transplant, and subsequently on d. 6, 9, 12, 18, 24.

(B) Tumor growth, cumulative mouse survival, and percent tumor rejection in WT C57BL/6J mice transplanted with Y1.7AI and Y1.7LI melanoma cells and treated with mAlg8 or mLama4 NeoAg synthetic long peptide (SLP) plus poly I:C (pI:C) vaccines or pI:C alone starting on d. 3 post tumor-transplant and given every 6 days for 3 total doses.

(C) Bar graphs displaying mAlg8 or mLama4 tetramer-specific CD8 T cells in Y1.7AI and Y1.7LI tumors treated with control mAb, anti-CTLA-4, pI:C, mAlg8 SLP + pI:C NeoAg vaccine (for Y1.7AI) or mLama4 SLP + pI:C NeoAg vaccine (for Y1.7LI) as in **(A)** and **(B)** and harvested on d. 16 post-tumor transplant. SIINFEKL-H2-K^b tetramer served as irrelevant control.

(D) Tumor growth, cumulative mouse survival, and percent tumor rejection in WT C57BL/6J mice transplanted with Y1.7LI melanoma cells and treated with control mAb, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1, irrelevant (for Y1.7LI) mAlg8 SLP + pI:C (control VAX), or relevant mLama4 SLP + pI:C (neo VAX) starting on d. 7 post tumor-transplant, and subsequently on d. 10, 13, 16, 22, 28 for ICT and d. 13, 19 for NeoAg vaccines.

Tumor growth data in **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(D)** are presented as individual mouse tumor growth as mean tumor diameter and are representative of **(A)** five, **(B)** three, or **(D)** four independent experiments. Tumor rejection graphs display cumulative percentage of mice with complete tumor rejection from independent experiments. Cumulative survival curves and tumor rejection graphs include mice from three independent experiments (**$P < 0.01$, ***$P < 0.001$, log-rank (Mantel–Cox) test). Bar graphs in **(C)**, display mean ± SEM and are representative of at least three independent experiments (*$P < 0.05$, **$P < 0.01$, ***$P < 0.005$, NS, not significant; unpaired, two-tailed Student's t test).

See also **Figure S1**.

Figure 2

Figure 2. scRNAseq of intratumoral immune cells from Y1.7LI tumor bearing mice treated with NeoAg vaccines or ICT.

(A) Experimental setup for **(B)-(K)**. WT C57BL/6J mice were injected with Y1.7LI melanoma cells and subsequently treated beginning on d. 7 with control mAb, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1, irrelevant (for Y1.7LI) mAlg8 SLP + pI:C (control VAX), or relevant mLama4 SLP + pI:C (neo VAX) and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant. Intratumoral live CD45$^+$ cells were sorted and analyzed by scRNAseq.

(B) UMAP plot from scRNAseq of intratumoral CD45$^+$ cells with annotated cell types.

(C) Feature plot showing lineage-specific transcripts defining lymphoid and myeloid cell types.

(D) Feature plots displaying subclustering of activated T cell-containing clusters, subclustered T cell/ILC cluster annotations (middle plot), and *Cd4* and *Cd8* expression (bottom plot).

(E) Heat map displaying average expression of select transcripts by cluster.

(F) Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) displaying significantly enriched gene sets in cluster Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$.

(G) Proliferating T cells in cluster Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ by treatment condition represented as percentage of subclustered T cells.

(H) Dot plot depicting expression level and percent of cells expressing *Foxp3*, *Cd4*, *Cd8*, *Ifng* in Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ by treatment condition.

(I) Percentage of Foxp3$^+$ Tregs, conventional CD4 T cells, or CD8 T cells in Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ by treatment condition.

(J) Graph displaying CD8 T cells from cluster Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ represented as percentage of total subclustered T cells.

(K) Graph displaying conventional CD4 T cells from cluster Cd4/8$_{Cycling}$ represented as percentage of total subclustered T cells.

See also **Figures S4** and **S5**.

Figure 3

Figure 3. NeoAg vaccines and ICT induce shared and distinct alterations to NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells.

(A) Experimental setup for **(B)-(I)**. WT C57BL/6J mice were injected with Y1.7LI melanoma cells and subsequently treated beginning on d. 7 with control mAb, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1, irrelevant (for Y1.7LI) mAlg8 SLP + pI:C (control VAX), or relevant mLama4 SLP + pI:C (neo VAX) and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant. Single cell suspensions of harvested tumors were stained with SIINFEKL- or mLama4-H2-K^b PE and APC labelled tetramers and surface stained with flow antibodies for analysis or sorting of mLama4 tetramer positive CD8 T cells for scRNAseq.

(B) Graph displaying CD8 T cells as a percentage of intratumoral live CD45$^+$ cells in Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions.

(C) and **(D)** Graph displaying mLama4 tetramer-positive CD8 T cells as a percentage of **(C)** CD8 T cells and **(D)** CD45$^+$ cells in Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions.

(E) UMAP plot from scRNAseq of mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells. Cell types were annotated based on transcriptional states of NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells.

(F) Feature plots displaying expression of select phenotype and lineage transcripts.

(G) Heat map displaying average expression of select transcripts by cluster.

(H) Bar graph displaying frequency of mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells within each cluster by treatment condition.

(I) Frequency of total mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells within the 5 cycling clusters combined by treatment condition.

See also **Figures S7** and **S8**.

Figure 4

Figure 4. NeoAg-specific alpha-beta TCR clonotype expansion and diversity relates to phenotype and functional state of T cells associated with different immunotherapies.

(A) Chord diagram displaying overlapping TCR clonotypes of mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells by cluster.

(B) Morisita index values depicting overlapping TCR clonotypes of mLama4 NeoAg-specific CD8 T cells by cluster.

(C) Shannon TCR diversity index by clusters and treatment groups.

(D) Graphs displaying percent of PD-1$^+$ TIM-3$^+$/LAG-3$^+$ or MFI of PD-1, TIM-3, or LAG-3 on PD-1$^+$, TIM-3$^+$, or LAG-3$^+$ mLama4-specific CD8 T cells in Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant.

(E) Graph displaying IFN-γ$^+$ or TNF-α$^+$ CD8 T cells and IFN-γ or TNF-α MFI as assessed by intracellular cytokine staining of mLama4 peptide restimulated CD8 T cells isolated from Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant.

Bar graphs in **(D)** and **(E)** display mean ± SEM and are representative of at least three independent experiments (*$P < 0.05$, **$P < 0.01$, ***$P < 0.005$, **** $P < 0.0001$; NS, not significant, unpaired t test).

See also **Figure S10.**

Figure 5

Figure 5. Anti-CTLA-4 induces an ICOS$^+$ Bhlhe40$^+$ Th1-Like subpopulation of CD4 T cells and a small Th2-Like subpopulation when combined with anti-PD-1.

(A) Heat map displaying normalized expression of select genes in each CD4 T cell cluster by treatment condition.

(B) Bar graphs depicting frequency of CD4 T cells within each cluster by treatment condition.

(C) Graph displaying CD4 T cells as a percentage of intratumoral live CD45$^+$ cells as determined by flow cytometry in Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant.

(D) Graph displaying IFNγ$^+$ CD4 T cells as assessed by intracellular cytokine staining on CD4 T cells isolated from Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant.

(E) Monocle 3-Guided Cell Trajectory of CD4 T Cell Clusters. UMAP plot displaying exclusively CD4 T cell-containing clusters (left) of all experimental conditions, CD4 T cell trajectory graph overlaid on UMAP (middle) where the origin of the inferred pseudotime is indicated by the red arrow and assigned with pseudotime score 0, and geodesic distances and pseudotime score among other CD4 T cells are calculated from there based on transcripts associated cell states. CD4 T cell clusters overlaid on Monocle3 pseudotime plot (right).

Bar graphs in **(C)** and **(D)** display mean ± SEM and are representative of at least three independent experiments (*$P < 0.05$, **$P < 0.01$, ***$P < 0.005$, ****$P < 0.0001$, NS, not significant, unpaired t test).

See also **Figure S11**.

Figure 6

Figure 6. NeoAg vaccines promote partially distinct macrophage remodeling from ICT.

(A) UMAP displaying sub-clustering of select myeloid clusters from CD45[+] scRNAseq analysis (See Figure 2A) and heat map displaying normalized expression of select genes in each monocyte/macrophage cluster.

(B) Percent monocytes/macrophages in each cluster by condition and treatment represented as percent of live CD45[+] cells.

(C) Heat map displaying normalized expression of *Mrc1* (CD206), *Cx3cr1*, and *Nos2* (iNOS) in each monocyte/macrophage cluster by treatment condition.

(D) scRNAseq dot plot depicting expression level/percent of cells expressing *Mrc1* and *Cx3cr1* within all monocytes/macrophages clusters by treatment condition.

(E) Representative flow cytometry plots and graph displaying CX3CR1[+]CD206[+] macrophages in Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant.

(F) Representative flow cytometry plots and graph displaying iNOS[+] macrophages in Y1.7LI tumors under different treatment conditions and harvested on d. 15 post-tumor transplant.

For flow cytometry analysis in **(E)** and **(F)**, dot plot displaying CX3CR1[+]CD206[+] and iNOS[+] macrophages are gated on macrophages using a gating strategy previously described[97]. Bar graphs in **(E)** and **(F)** display mean ± SEM and are representative of at least three independent experiments (**$P < 0.01$, ****$P < 0.0001$, NS, not significant, unpaired *t* test).

See also **Figures S12** and **S13**.

Figure 7

Figure 7. NeoAg vaccines broaden the therapeutic window for anti-CTLA-4 or anti-PD-1 ICT when used in combination.

(A) Tumor growth and cumulative survival of WT C57BL/6J mice transplanted with Y1.7LI melanoma cells on d. 0 and treated beginning on d. 12 with different monotherapies: control mAb, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, irrelevant SLP + pI:C (Control VAX), or relevant mLama4 SLP + pI:C (neo VAX); or combination therapies: anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1 combination ICT, anti-CTLA-4 + control VAX, anti-CTLA-4 + neo VAX, anti-PD-1 + control VAX, or anti-PD-1 + neo VAX.

(B) Tumor growth and cumulative survival of WT C57BL/6J mice transplanted with MC38 cells on d. 0 and treated beginning on d. 12 with different monotherapies: control mAb, anti-CTLA-4, anti-PD-1, irrelevant HPV SLP + pI:C (Control VAX), or relevant mAdpgk SLP + mRpl18 SLP + mDpagt1 SLP + pI:C (neo VAX); or combination therapies: anti-CTLA-4 + anti-PD-1 combination ICT, anti-CTLA-4 + control VAX, anti-CTLA-4 + neo VAX, anti-PD-1 + control VAX, or anti-PD-1 + neo VAX.

Tumor growth data in **(A)** and **(B)** are presented as individual mouse tumor growth as mean tumor diameter with fraction indicating (# of mice rejecting tumor)/(# of mice used in experiment) and are representative of three independent experiments. Cumulative survival curves in **(A)** and **(B)** include mice from three independent experiments (*$P < 0.01$, **$P < 0.05$, ***$P < 0.001$, log-rank (Mantel–Cox) test).