Deciphering the Preeclampsia-Specific Immune Microenvironment: The Role of Pro-inflammatory Macrophages

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Abstract
Preeclampsia (PE), a major cause of maternal and perinatal mortality with highly heterogeneous causes and symptoms, is usually complicated by gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM). However, a comprehensive understanding of the immune microenvironment in the placenta of PE and the differences between PE and GDM is still lacking. In this study, Cytometry by time of flight (CyTOF) indicated that the frequencies of memory-like Th17 cells (CD45RA$^-$CCR7$^+$IL-17A$^+$CD4$^+$), memory-like CD8$^+$ T cells (CD38$^+$CXCR3$^-$CCR7$^+$Helios$^-$CD127$^-$CD8$^+$) and pro-inflam Macs (CD206$^-$CD163$^-$CD38^{mid}CD107a^{low}CD86^{mid}HLA-DR^{mid}CD14$^+$) were increased, while the frequencies of anti-inflam Macs (CD206$^+$CD163$^-$CD86^{mid}CD33$^+$HLA-DR$^+$CD14$^+$) and granulocyte myeloid-derived suppressor cells (gMDSCs, CD11b$^+$CD15^{hi}HLA-DR^{low}) were decreased in the placenta of PE compared with that of NP, but not in that of GDM or GDM&PE. The pro-inflam Macs were positively correlated with memory-like Th17 cells and memory-like

CD8$^+$ T cells but negatively correlated with gMDSCs. Single-cell RNA sequencing revealed
that transferring the F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs with a Folr2$^+$Ccl7$^+$Ccl8$^+$C1qa$^+$C1qb$^+$C1qc$^+$
phenotype from the uterus of PE mice to normal pregnant mice induced the production of
memory-like IL-17a$^+$Rora$^+$Il1r1$^+$TNF$^+$Cxcr6$^+$S100a4$^+$CD44$^+$ Th17 cells via IGF1-IGF1R, which
contributed to the development and recurrence of PE. Pro-inflam Macs also induced the
production of memory-like CD8$^+$ T cells but inhibited the production of
Ly6g$^+$S100a8$^+$S100a9$^+$Retnlg$^+$Wfdc21$^+$ gMDSCs at the maternal-fetal interface, leading to
PE-like symptoms in mice. In conclusion, this study revealed the PE-specific immune cell
network, which was regulated by pro-inflam Macs, providing new ideas about the
pathogenesis of PE.
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Introduction
In recent years, low fertility is a global problem (Agbaglo et al., 2022), exacerbated by
pregnancy complications. Preeclampsia (PE) is a progressive systemic disease during
pregnancy, with pregnancy-induced hypertension, proteinuria, and liver and kidney injury as
the main diagnostic indicators (Chappell et al., 2021). With a global prevalence of 7–10%, PE
is a major cause of maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity, especially in low-income
and middle-income countries. The only specific treatment is delivery (Chappell et al., 2021).
However, due to the variety of symptoms and the heterogeneity of the disease, the
pathogenesis of PE is still unclear (Burton et al., 2019; Grotegut, 2016).
PE is often complicated by gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), which is characterized by
insulin resistance and associated with aberrant maternal immune cell adaption (Corrêa-Silva
et al., 2018; McElwain et al., 2021; McIntyre et al., 2019). Studies have shown that GDM is an
independent risk factor for preeclampsia (Nerenberg et al., 2013; Ostlund et al., 2004;
Schneider et al., 2012). However, whether a different pathogenesis underlies between PE and
GDM is still unclear.
The fetus is equivalent to a semi-homogenous graft for the mother. Therefore,
maternal-fetal immune tolerance plays an important role in the maintenance of pregnancy.
Currently, the pivotal mechanism underpinning the pathogenesis of preeclampsia is widely
acknowledged to involve an increased frequency of pro-inflammatory M1-like maternal
macrophages (Faas et al., 2014; Yao et al., 2019), along with an elevation in granulocytes that
capable of superoxide generation (Lampé et al., 2011; D. Liu et al., 2021), CD56$^+$ CD94$^+$
natural killer (NK) cells (Bachmayer et al., 2006; Travis et al., 2020), CD19$^+$CD5$^+$ B1
lymphocytes (Jensen et al., 2012; LaMarca et al., 2011; Zhong et al., 2007), and activated γδ T
cells (Chatterjee et al., 2017). Conversely, this pathological process is accompanied by a
notable decrease in the frequency of anti-inflammatory M2-like macrophages (Faas et al.,
2014; Yao et al., 2019) and NKp46$^+$ NK cells (Fukui et al., 2011). Adaptive immune response is
also critical for the pathogenesis of PE (Deer et al., 2023). In PE, CD4$^+$ T cells prefer to
differentiate into pro-inflammatory Th1 and Th17 (Eghbal-Fard et al., 2019; Fu et al., 2014;
Lang et al., 2021; Lu et al., 2020; Saito et al. 2007) instead of non-inflammatory Th2 and Treg
(Care et al., 2018; Cornelius et al., 2015a; Saito et al., 2007; Santner-Nanan et al., 2009;
Sasaki et al., 2007).
Moreover, PE can be subdivided into early- and late-onset PE diagnosed before 34

weeks or from 34 weeks of gestation, respectively. Research has revealed that among the
myriad of cellular alterations in PE, pro-inflammatory M1-like macrophages and
intrauterine B1 cells display an augmented presence at the maternal-fetal interface of both
early-onset and late-onset PE patients. Decidual natural killer (dNK) cells and neutrophils
emerge as paramount contributors, playing a more crucial role in the pathogenesis of
early-onset PE (Aneman I et al., 2020). However, a comprehensive and in-depth
understanding of the maternal-fetal interface of PE is still lacking.

The immune cells crosstalk with each other at the maternal-fetal interface elaborately. For
example, the interaction between B2 cells and Th cells depends on CD40 and its ligand
CD40L, which helps B2 cells provide AT1-AAs and differentiate into memory B cells in
reducing uterine perfusion pressure (RUPP) rats (Cornelius et al., 2015b). The cytokines
derived from NK cells can promote the differentiation of Th17 to co-work in recurrent
miscarriage (Fu et al., 2013). The intricate interplay and precise coordination between immune
cells are pivotal in maintaining pregnancy. Nevertheless, the regulation of the immune network
at the maternal-fetal interface of PE patients still needs to be further studied.

In this study, we combined cytometry by time of flight (CyTOF), single-cell RNA
sequencing (scRNA-seq), and rodent experiment to identify the overall immune cell
composition and their interactions at the maternal-fetal interface in PE, GDM, and GDM
complicated with PE (GDM&PE). This study revealed the PE-specific immune cell network,
which was regulated by pro-inflammatory macrophages, providing new ideas about the
pathogenesis of PE.

Results
Overall immune cell profile in the placenta of PE, GDM, and GDM&PE
To fully characterize the immune microenvironment at the maternal-fetal interface of PE,
we collected full-term placentas of PE and normal pregnancy (NP), and did a CyTOF test
(**Table 1**), which panel was shown in **Table 2**. Since PE is usually complicated by GDM, the
subjects of GDM and GDM complicated with PE (GDM&PE) were also included. The
experimental workflow for CyTOF is shown in the schematic diagram (**Figure 1A**). We found
that in addition to the well-known macrophages and T cells, there are also γδ T cells, B cells,
NK cells, granulocytes, dendritic cells (DCs), and myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs).
An overall distribution of CD45$^+$ cell subsets in placenta as shown in the t-SNE maps (**Figure
1B**). There were no significant differences in the proportion of these large subpopulations
comparing the PE, GDM, GDM&PE group to the NP group (**Figure 1C**). To identify the ten cell
subpopulations, CD4, CD8, and γδTCR were used as markers to distinguish CD4$^+$ T cells,
CD8$^+$ T cells, and γδ T cells. CD11b is a marker that distinguishes myeloid cells, including
macrophages and granulocytes (**Figure 1D**). The ten cell subsets were further annotated by
41 markers in the heatmap (**Figure 1E, Table 3**).
Specific altered T cell profile in the placenta of PE
To gain a comprehensive understanding of the distribution patterns within each cellular
subset, we conducted separate clustering analyses for CD4$^+$T, CD8$^+$T, and γδT cells,
respectively. We first analyzed 15 clusters of CD4$^+$ T cells from the placentas of NP, PE, GDM,
and GDM&PE (**Figure 2A**). CD4$^+$ T cell clusters were defined by canonical marker set

signatures (**Figure 2-figure supplement 1A**). The frequencies of memory-like
CD45RA$^-$CCR7$^+$CD69$^-$CD127^{low}TIGIT$^-$Helios$^-$ CD4$^+$ T ells (cluster 8) were significantly
increased in individuals with PE compared with NP controls. At the same time, there was no
significance in the GDM and GDM&PE groups compared with the NP group (**Figure 2B, Table**
4). We analyzed the expression of common intracellular molecules in CD4$^+$ memory-like T
cells by sorting CD45RO$^+$CCR7$^+$CD4$^+$ T cells from placental samples by flow cytometry.
Higher levels of IL-17A and lower levels of Foxp3 were found in memory-like
CD45RO$^+$CCR7$^+$CD4$^+$ T cells in the placentas of individuals with PE (**Figure 2C**). Consistent
with the results of CyTOF, higher fluorescence intensity of CD45RO$^+$CD4$^+$ T cells was found in
the placentas of individuals with PE than that of NP, and this cell population was mainly located
in the placental sinusoids (**Figure 2D**), suggesting that these T cells should be recently
recruited. Moreover, lower expression of immune checkpoint molecules including T-cell
immunoglobulin mucin-3 (Tim-3) and programmed cell death 1 (PD-1) was found in
CD45RA$^-$CCR7$^+$CD4$^+$ memory T cells in the PE group, suggesting that these cells have a
lower immunosuppressive capacity (Chen et al., 2022; Fanelli et al., 2021; Rasmussen et al.,
2022; Wang et al., 2016), there was no significant difference in the GDM or GDM&PE groups
comparing with the NP group (**Figure 2E**). Then, 18 clusters of CD8$^+$ T cells were analyzed
(**Figure 2F**). CD8$^+$ T cell clusters annotation was based on the expression of canonical marker
signatures (**Figure 2-figure supplement 1B**). CD38$^+$CXCR3$^-$CCR7$^+$Helios$^-$CD127$^-$ (cluster 2)
memory-like CD8$^+$ T cells were significantly increased in the PE group (**Figure 2G, Table**
4).CD38$^+$CXCR3$^-$CCR7$^+$Helios$^-$CD127$^-$ memory-like CD8$^+$ T cells of the PE group expressed
lower levels of PD-1 and TIGIT, suggesting the activation of cytotoxicity of these cells (**Figure**
2H) (Morita et al., 2020). Then, 22 clusters of γδT cells were analyzed and annotated (**Figure**
2-figure supplement 1C-D). Cluster 15 (Helios^{mid}CD28^{mid}CD69^{mid}HLA-DR^{mid}CD127^{mid}γδT
cells), with lower expression of Tim3, was significantly decreased in the PE group (**Figure**
2-figure supplement 1E-F). Nevertheless, neither the CD4$^+$ T cells nor the CD8$^+$ T cells
exhibited any alteration in the memory-like clusters when comparing the GDM or GDM&PE
groups to the NP group.
In conclusion, significant changes in placental T cell profile were found in the placentas of
PE but not in those of GDM or GDM&PE, suggesting that abnormal activation of T cells in the
placenta is associated with the pathogenesis of PE.
Abnormal polarization of macrophages was correlated with specific immune cell
subsets in individuals with PE
Except for T cells, we also analyzed 29 clusters of CD45$^+$CD3$^-$CD11b$^+$ cells from
placentas of NP, PE, GDM, and GDM&PE, including 9 clusters of macrophages, 11 clusters of
granulocytes, and 5 clusters of NK/NK-like cells (**Figure 3A**). The clusters of
CD45$^+$CD3$^-$CD11b$^+$ cells were defined by canonical marker set signatures (**Figure 3B**).
Moreover, significantly decreased frequencies of CD68^{mid}CD39^{mid}HLA-DR^{low}CD11b$^+$CD15$^+$
granulocytes (cluster 12), which are identified as granulocyte myeloid-derived suppressor cells
(gMDSCs), were found in the PE group (**Figure 3C, Table 4**). In addition, the frequency of
anti-inflammatory macrophages (anti-inflam Macs) (CD206$^+$CD163$^-$CD86^{mid}CD33$^+$HLA-DR$^+$,
cluster 25) was also significantly decreased, whereas the frequency of pro-inflammatory
macrophages (pro-inflam Macs) (CD206$^-$CD163$^-$CD38^{mid}CD107a^{low}CD86^{mid}HLA-DR^{mid}CD14$^+$,
cluster 23) was significantly increased in the PE group (**Figure 3C, Table 4**). However, the

frequencies of macrophages and gMDSCs were unchanged significantly in the GDM or
GDM&PE groups.

Pearson correlation analysis indicated positive correlations between pro-inflam Macs
(cluster 23 in CD11b$^+$ cells) and CD4$^+$ memory-like T cells (cluster 8 of CD4$^+$ T cells), as well as
CD8$^+$ memory-like T cells (cluster 2 in CD8$^+$ T cells). CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs were negatively
correlated with gMDSCs (cluster 12 in CD11b$^+$ cells), but were not statistically significant.
Conversely, CD206$^+$ anti-inflam Macs (cluster 25 in CD11b$^+$ cells) were positively correlated
with gMDSCs and negatively correlated with CD8$^+$ memory-like T cells (**Figure 3D, 3E**).

These results suggested that abnormally polarized CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs are positively
correlated with memory-like CD4$^+$ and CD8$^+$ T cells in the placentas of individuals with PE and
negatively correlated with gMDSCs.

F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs induced immune imbalance at the maternal-fetal
interface and PE-like symptoms

Though increased pro-inflam Macs have been reported in the placenta from individuals
with PE (Faas et al., 2014), few studies have reported the interaction between macrophages
and other immune cells in the placenta. In this study, transcriptome RNA-seq was used to
analyze the difference between CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs and
CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^+$ anti-inflam Mac isolated from the uterus and placentas of mice with
reducing uterine perfusion pressure (RUPP) (**Figure 4A**). The diagrammatic representation of
the RUPP model is presented in Figure 4-figure supplement 1A. To establish the PE mouse
model, we ligated uterine arteries in pregnant mice on day 12.5 of gestation, and mice with
sham operation were considered as controls (**Figure 4-figure supplement 1A**). We found that
mice of RUPP showed an increased embryo absorption rate, decreased fetal weight, and pup
crown-rump length compared with the sham operation group (**Figure 4-figure supplement**
1B). Increased systolic blood pressure (SBP) and urine albumin creatine ratio (UACR) were
also observed in mice with RUPP, which indicated a successful PE mice mode was built
(**Figure 4-figure supplement 1C**). Then, we injected the PE-mice derived macrophages into
normal pregnant mice. An increased embryo resorption rate, decreased fetal top-rump length
and fetal weight were found in mice injected with PE-mice derived macrophages compared
with mice injected PBS (**Figure 4-figure supplement 1D**). Increased SBP and UACR were
also found in mice injected with PE-mice derived macrophages (**Figure 4-figure supplement**
1E).

In addition, the green fluorescent protein (GFP) pregnant mice were used to distinguish
between maternal and fetal derived macrophages. The wild-type (WT) female mice were
mated with either transgenic male mice, genetically modified to express GFP to generate
either GFP-expressing pups (GFP$^+$pups), or mated with WT male mice for control (**Figure**
4-figure supplement 1F). We found that the majority of macrophages in the uterus and
placenta are of maternal origin (CD11b$^+$GFP$^-$). In contrast, fetal-derived macrophages
(CD11b$^+$GFP$^+$) represent a mere fraction of the total macrophage population (**Figure 4-figure**
supplement 1G). In light of these findings, we have incorporated mouse uterine tissues to
isolate macrophages for subsequent experiments with enhanced effectiveness.

Significant differences were found between the pro-inflam and anti-inflam macrophages
derived from RUPP mouse (**Figure 4B**). There are 2123 genes increased, and 2699 genes
decreased significantly in the pro-inflam Macs compared to the anti-inflam Macs (**Figure 4C**).

The expression levels of genes associated with inflammatory response (Ccl7, Ccl8, Ccl2, IL6)
(He et al., 2019; Wu et al., 2023), complement system activation (C1qa, C1qb) (Chen et al.,
2021), and lipid metabolism (Pltp, Apoe) (Desrumaux et al., 2016) were significantly increased
in the pro-inflam Macs; whereas the expression levels of genes associated with the regulation
of angiogenesis and vascular endothelial growth factor production (VEGFα, Macro) and tissue
development (TGF-β1, Thbs1, Fn1, Slpi) (Jin et al., 2023; Nugteren et al., 2021; Li et al., 2022)
were significantly decreased (**Figure 4C, 4D**). Moreover, Gene Set Enrichment Analysis
(GSEA) was performed to explore the most significantly enriched functional terms between the
two groups of macrophages. We found that NF-κB signaling and interspecies interaction
between organisms were enriched in the pro-inflam Macs, while tissue development and
epithelial cell morphogenesis were enriched in the anti-inflam Macs (**Figure 4E**).
To further investigate the effect of the pro-inflam Macs in immune imbalance at the
maternal-fetal interface, PLX3397, the inhibitor of CSF1R, which is needed for macrophage
development, was used to deplete the macrophages of pregnant mice (X. Chen et al., 2023; J.
Chen et al., 2022) (**Figure 4-figure supplement 2A**). As expected, an increased embryo
resorption rate, decreased fetal top-rump length and fetal weight were found in mice injected
with pro-inflam Macs (**Figure 4F**). Increased SBP and UACR were also found in mice injected
with pro-inflam Macs (**Figure 4G**). Moreover, it is shown that CD44[+] memory-like Th17 cells
and memory-like CD8[+] T cells increased while CD11b[+]Ly6G[+] gMDSCs decreased in mice
injected pro-inflam Macs compared with mice injected anti-inflam Macs, which validated our
findings with CyTOF (**Figure 4H**). Clodronate liposomes were also used to deplete the
macrophages of pregnant mice (X. Liu et al., 2022) before pro-inflam Macs or anti-inflam Macs
were injected into the mice. The same experimental results were obtained (**Figure 4-figure
supplement 2B-2E**). In conclusion, the F4/80[+]CD206[-] pro-inflam Macs induced immune
imbalance at the maternal-fetal interface and PE-like symptoms.
Pro-inflam Macs and anti-inflam Macs subsets are phenotypically heterogeneous
To further explore the role that macrophages play in the immune imbalance at the
maternal-fetal interface in PE, scRNA-seq was performed to analyze the CD45[+] immune cells
in the uterus and placenta from mice that were injected with pro-inflam Macs or anti-inflam
Macs from the uterus and placentas of RUPP mice. An unsupervised cluster detection
algorithm (SEURAT) was applied and eight types of immune cells were detected by mostly
distinguishable cell type-specific genes, including macrophages, monocytes, granulocytes,
T/NK cells, B cells, DC-like cells, mast cells, and basophils (**Figure 5A, 5B**). Macrophages
were further identified into 15 clusters defined by marker set signatures. Single-cell differential
expression analysis (SCDE) was performed for each population and characteristic gene
expression patterns were detected for cluster 0-cluster 14 to characterize the phenotypes of
these subsets in detail (**Figure 5C, Figure 5-figure supplement 1C**). We found that the
frequency of cluster 0 was significantly increased in mice injected with pro-inflam Macs, while
the frequency of cluster 1 was significantly decreased (**Figure 5D**). We also found that cluster
0 highly expresses genes associated with fetal and tissue resident (Folr2) (Nalio et al., 2022;
Thomas et al., 2021), complement system activation (C1qa, C1qb, C1qc) (Chen et al., 2021),
and inflammatory response (Ccl7, Ccl8) (He et al., 2019; Wu et al., 2023); while cluster 1
highly expresses genes associated with tissue repair (Chil3, Slpi, Fn1) (Jin et al., 2023;
Nugteren et al., 2021; Li et al., 2022), blood vessel morphogenesis (Thbs1) (Che et al., 2021)

and preventing oxidative stress (Gsr, Mgst1) (Coppo et al., 2022) (**Figure 5E**). Changes in
gene expression patterns of cluster 0 (pro-inflam Macs) and cluster 1 (anti-inflam Macs) were
analyzed in mice injected the pro-inflam Macs or anti-inflam Macs. We found that enriched GO
terms in cluster 0 and cluster1 including 'antigen processing and presentation of exogenous
antigen' and 'inflammatory response' in the pro-inflam Macs group (**Figure 5F**), in which high
expression of genes such as CCL5, CCL8, CALR, IRF7, IL10, IFI44, IFI30, OAS3, etc. could
be observed (**Figure 5G**). The control group showed elevated expression of MMP14, Chil3,
EGR1, ATF3 and VASP (**Figure 5G**); and these genes were enriched in 'vascular endothelial
growth factor production' and 'tissue development' (**Figure 5F**). These results were consistent
with the transcriptome RNA sequencing results of macrophages.
These data suggested that the CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs with a
Folr2$^+$Ccl7$^+$Ccl8$^+$C1qa$^+$C1qb$^+$C1qc$^+$ phenotype play an important role in the development of
PE.

Pro-inflam Macs induced the memory-like Th17 cells, which was associated with the development and recurrence of PE

We also analyzed the scRNA-seq data of uterine T/NK cells from mice that were injected
with or without pro-inflam Macs. T/NK cells were further identified into 12 clusters defined by
marker set signatures (**Figure 6A, Figure 6-figure supplement 1A**). We found that the
frequency of cluster 0 was increased in mice injected with pro-inflam Macs, while the
frequency of cluster 1 and cluster 2 were significantly decreased (**Figure 6B**). In addition to
genes associated with Th17 cells (IL-17a, IL17f, Rora, Il1r1, TNF) (Wu et al., 2019; Leite et al.,
2023), cluster 0 also exhibits high expression of genes associated with memory phenotype
(Cxcr6, S100a4, CD44) (Schroeder et al., 2023; Bieberich et al., 2021), suggesting that cluster
0 was the memory-like Th17 cells (**Figure 6C**). Cluster 1 exhibited high expression of genes
associated with immunoregulation (Lef1, Tcf7, Ccr7) (Qiu et al., 2022; Sekine et al., 2020);
Cluster 2 exhibited high expression of genes associated with immunomodulation (Gata3, GITR,
CD28), suggesting that cluster 1 and 2 were T cells with immunomodulation function
(Esensten et al., 2016; Pai et al., 2023) (**Figure 6-figure supplement 1B)**. Changes in gene
expression patterns of cluster 0 (memory-like Th17 cells) were analyzed in the pro-inflam
Macs group and control group. We found that in the pro-inflam Macs group, enriched GO
terms including 'positive regulation of response to external stimulus' and 'tumor necrosis factor
production' (**Figure 6D**), in which highly express genes such as TNFSF11, TNF, IL27RA,
IGF1R, CD226, LAMP1 (**Figure 6E**). The control group showed elevated expression of ASS1,
EIF5, S100A9, CTLA4, S100A8 and CXCR4 (**Figure 6E**); these genes were enriched in GO
terms including 'regulation of programmed cell death' and 'cellular biosynthetic process'
(**Figure 6D**). In summary, the pro-inflam Macs induced memory-like Th17 cells, which were
characterized by IL-17a$^+$IL17f$^+$Rora$^+$Il1r1$^+$TNF$^+$Cxcr6$^+$S100a4$^+$CD44$^+$.
To confirm the importance of memory-like CD4$^+$ T cells in the pathogenesis of PE, the
CD4$^+$CD44$^+$ T cells in the uterus and placentas from RUPP or NP mice were sorted and
intravenously injected into normal pregnant mice on day12.5 of gestation (**Figure 6F**). The
CD4$^+$CD44$^+$ T cells derived from RUPP mouse were characterized by an increased frequency
of Th17 cells and a reduced frequency of Tregs (**Figure 6F**). Increased embryo absorption rate,
decreased fetal weight and pup crown-rump length were found in mice injected with PE
mouse-derived CD4$^+$CD44$^+$ T cells (**Figure 6G**). The PE-like symptoms, including increased

SBP and UACR, were also observed in those mice (**Figure 6H**).

It has been reported that sustained expansion of immunosuppressive memory Tregs
during prior pregnancy is beneficial for maintaining a second pregnancy (Rowe et al., 2012). To
verify whether memory-like Th17 cells promote the recurrence of PE, we established a second
pregnant mouse model with a history of PE or NP in the first pregnancy. An increased embryo
resorption rate, decreased crown-rump length, and fetal weight were found in mice with a
history of PE pregnancy compared with those with a history of NP pregnancy (**Figure 6-figure
supplement 1C**). Moreover, mice with a history of PE in the first pregnancy showed increased
SBP and UACR during the second pregnancy (**Figure 6-figure supplement 1D**). Consistently,
higher levels of IL-17A were also found in memory-like CD4$^+$ T cells in mice with a history of PE
in the first pregnancy (**Figure 6-figure supplement 1E**).

The uterine granulocytes from mice that were transferred with pro-inflam Macs from PE
mice were also analyzed using scRNA-seq. Granulocytes were identified into 12 clusters
defined by marker set signatures (**Figure 6-figure supplement 2A, 2B**). We found that the
frequency of cluster 3 were decreased (**Figure 6-figure supplement 2A**)).And cluster 3 highly
expressed gMDSCs associated genes (Ly6g, S100a8, Retnlg, Wfdc21) (von Wulffen et al.,
2023; Kao al., 2023) (**Figure 6-figure supplement 2C**).Changes in gene expression patterns
of cluster 3 (gMDSCs) were analyzed in the pro-inflam Macs group and the control group.
Enriched GO terms including 'tumor necrosis factor production' and 'leukocyte mediated
immunity' were found in the pro-inflam Macs group (**Figure 6-figure supplement 2E**), which
highly express the genes such as IRF7, EGR1, C1QA, C1QB, CCL2, CSF3R, TNFRSF1B
(**Figure 6-figure supplement 2D**). Except for gMDSCs, we also revealed a pronounced
increase in the proportion of CD15$^+$CD66b$^+$ neutrophils among PE patients, implying the
importance of neutrophils in the development of PE (Akkari L et al., 2024) (**Figure 6-figure
supplement 2F**).

In conclusion, pro-inflam Macs could induced the differentiation of
IL-17a$^+$IL17f$^+$Rora$^+$Il1r1$^+$TNF$^+$Cxcr6$^+$S100a4$^+$CD44$^+$ memory-like Th17 cells, which was
associated with the development and recurrence of PE. And the pro-inflam Macs also
suppressed the production of Ly6g$^+$S100a8$^+$Retnlg$^+$Wfdc21$^+$ gMDSCs.

Pro-inflam Macs induced the production of memory-like Th17 cells via IGF1-IGF1R

Our results above showed that pro-inflam Macs induced memory-like Th17 cells in PE,
however, the underlying molecular mechanisms were still unknown. CellPhoneDB analysis
indicated that increased communication counts and signaling pathways numbers between
macrophages and T/NK cells were observed in mice injected with pro-inflam Macs (**Figure
7—figure supplement 1A, 1B**). Then we identified the interacting ligand-receptor pairs
between different types of immune cells and macrophages. Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF1)
-IGF1 receptor (IGF1R) ligand-receptor pair was significantly enhanced between
macrophages and T/NK cells in mice injected with pro-inflam Macs (**Figure 7A**). IGF1 has
significant effects on immune function maintenance, and signaling through IGF1R could cause
increased aerobic glycolysis, favoring Th17 cell differentiation over that of Treg cells
(Bekkering et al., 2018; DiToro et al., 2020). For further demonstration, we analyzed the
frequencies of IGF1$^+$CD14$^+$ cells and IGF1R$^+$CD4$^+$ cells in placentas of individuals with PE and
NP and found both of these two cells were significantly increased in the PE group (**Figure 7B**).

Trophoblast-derived extracellular vesicles from the placenta of PE (PE-EVs), which carry

the fetal antigen, could induce M1-like macrophage (pro-inflammatory Macs) polarization to
participate in the development of PE according to our previous study (X. Liu et al., 2022). To
confirm whether pro-inflammatory Macs induced the production of memory-like Th17 cells via
IGF1-IGF1R, macrophages from human peripheral blood, after incubating with PBS,
trophoblast-derived extracellular vesicles from NP (NP-EVs) or PE-EVs in vitro, were
co-cultured with CD4[+] naïve T cells (**Figure 7C**). The frequencies of memory-like CD45RO[+]
CCR7[+] IL-17A[+] CD4[+] cells significantly increased in the PE-EVs-induced macrophages group
rather than in the NP-EVs-induced macrophages group. However, the frequencies of
memory-like Th17 cells significantly decreased after CD4[+] naïve T cells were treated with the
IGF1R inhibitor BMS-754807 (**Figure 7D**).
To investigate the role of IGF1-IGF1R in the development of PE in vivo, CD45[+]CD4[+] T
cells from NP mice were isolated and treated with BMS-754807 or PBS, then injected into NP
mice at day 11.5 of gestation (**Figure 7E**). Lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced PE mice model
was constructed by intraperitoneal injection of LPS on day12.5 and day15.5 of gestation (Han
et al., 2021), and an anti-CD4 antibody was used to deplete the CD4[+] T cells in pregnant mice.
The mice injected with CD4[+] T cells treated by BMS-754807 presented decreased embryo
resorption rate and increased pup crown-rump length and fetal weight (**Figure 7F**), decreased
SBP and UACR (**Figure 7G**), and decreased frequency of memory-like Th17 cells at the
maternal-fetal interface (**Figure 7H**). These data suggested that pro-inflam Macs could induce
the production of memory-like Th17 via the IGF1-IGF1R, leading to the development of PE.
Discussion
Preeclampsia, a progressive systemic disease during pregnancy, is closely related to the
alterations in the immune environment at the maternal-fetal interface. In this study, the overall
immune cell profiles in the placenta of individuals with NP, PE, GDM and GDM&PE were
detected by CyTOF and a PE-specific change in immune microenvironment of maternal-fetal
interface was described for the first time. Further, we provided a novel insight that pro-inflam
Macs induced memory-like Th17 cells, memory-like CD8[+] T cells, and suppressed the
production of gMDSCs in mice maternal-fetal interface by scRNA-seq. In addition, we first
validated that IGF1-IGF1R was involved in producing memory-like Th17 cells induced by
pro-inflam Macs in vitro and in vivo, thus leading to the development of PE.
Various studies represented the effect of a single subset of immune cells in the
pathogenesis of PE or GDM (Bachmayer et al., 2006; Care et al., 2018; Cornelius et al., 2015a;
Eghbal-Fard et al., 2019; Faas et al., 2014; Fu et al., 2014; Fukui et al., 2011; Lampé et al.,
2015; Lampé et al., 2011; Lang et al., 2021; D. Liu et al., 2021; Lu et al., 2020; Santner-Nanan
et al., 2009; Sasaki et al., 2007; Travis et al., 2020; Yao et al., 2019). Miller et al. provided an
overall analysis of immune cells in the human placental villi in the presence and absence of
spontaneous labor at term by scRNA-seq (Miller et al., 2022). Fangyuan Luo et al. unveiled the
intricate interplay existing between SPP1[+]M1 cells and the IGFBP1[+]SPP1[+] extracellular villous
trophoblast in the context of PE by using sc-RNA seq (Luo F et al., 2023). Li Y et al. highlighted
a key role of a distinct perivascular inflammatory CD11c[high] decidual macrophages
subpopulation in the pathogenesis of preeclampsia through sc-RNA sequencing (Li Y et al.,
2024). However, The immune cells crosstalk with each other at the maternal-fetal interface
elaborately. A comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the immune microenvironment at
the maternal-fetal interface of PE is still lacking. Here, we used CyTOF and scRNA-seq to

comprehensively analyze the immune cell profile and explore the interaction of immune cells in

PE. Additionally, most previous studies have reported immune cells from maternal systemic

circulation rather than directly from the tissue of maternal-fetal interface (Cornelius et al.,

2015b; Deer et al., 2021; Santner-Nanan et al., 2009; Shields et al., 2018; Wallace et al.,

2012). In this study, cells were directly isolated from the tissue of maternal-fetal interface,

which is considered as a more accurate approach to unveil the real immune environment of

the maternal-fetal interface.

Abnormal inflammatory responses were reported to play an important role in the

pathogenesis of both PE and GDM (Aneman et al., 2020; Corrêa-Silva et al., 2018; Deer et al.,

2023; Jung et al., 2022; McElwain et al., 2021). However, it is unclear how the maternal-fetal

interface immune microenvironment differs between the two diseases. We analyzed the

overall placental immune cell profile in NP, PE, GDM and GDM&PE by CyTOF and revealed a

PE-specific   immune   cell   profile: The   frequencies   of   memory-like   Th17   cells

(CD45RA$^-$CCR7$^+$IL-17A$^+$CD4$^+$),   memory-like   CD8$^+$ T   cells

(CD45RA$^-$CCR7$^+$CD38$^+$pAKT^{mid}CD127^{low}CD8$^+$)   and   pro-inflam   Macs

(CD206$^-$CD163$^-$CD38^{mid}CD107a^{low}CD86^{mid}HLA-DR^{mid}CD14$^+$)   were   increased,   while   the

decreased   frequencies   of   CD69^{hi}Helios^{mid}CD127^{mid} γδT   cells,   anti-inflam   Macs

(CD206$^+$CD163$^-$CD86^{mid}CD33$^+$HLA-DR$^+$CD14$^+$) and granulocyte myeloid-derived suppressor

cells (gMDSCs, CD11b$^+$CD15^{hi}HLA-DR^{low}) were observed in the placenta of PE, but not in that

of GDM or GDM&PE compared with that of NP.

PE is often divided into two subtypes based on the time of onset. Late-onset PE, occurring

at 34 weeks of gestation or later, accounts for most preeclampsia cases, while early-onset PE,

occurring before or at 33 weeks of gestation (Lisonkova and Joseph, 2013). However, our

previous study observed no significant difference in the M1/M2 macrophage polarization in

placentas with early-onset or late-onset PE (X. Liu et al., 2022). Therefore, our research was

conducted regardless of the preeclampsia-onset type to ensure consistency in macrophage

polarization of the two subtypes.

There have been studies indicating that pro-inflammatory macrophages, Th17 cells and

CD8$^+$ T cells play an essential role in PE development (Care et al., 2018; Eghbal-Fard et al.,

2019; Lager et al., 2020; Yao et al., 2019). Macrophages was indicated with a

pro-inflammatory phenotype in the placenta with PE (Faas et al., 2014; Yao et al., 2019). Care

et al. reported that placental Tregs helped suppress inflammation at the maternal-fetal

interface (Care et al., 2018). Similarly, Lu et al. found an abnormal increase of IL-17A in the

placenta in the development of PE (Lu et al., 2020). Meanwhile, the abnormal infiltration of

CD8$^+$ T cells in the placenta may contribute to PE (Lager et al., 2020). Consistent with the

previous findings, we found that memory-like CD4$^+$ and memory-like CD8$^+$ T cells significantly

increased in the PE group and that IL-17A was significantly higher expressed in CD4$^+$

memory-like T cells from the PE group, which is vital in vascular inflammation, leading to the

development of PE (Amador et al., 2014; Madhur et al., 2021). Though memory T cells play a

key role in fetal-maternal tolerance in normal pregnancy (Kieffer et al., 2019), few studies have

reported the characteristics of memory-like T cells in the development of PE.

We constructed an adoptive transferred mouse model. The injection of CD4$^+$ T cells from

RUPP mouse, characterized by an increased frequency of Th17 cells and a reduced

frequency of Tregs, induced PE-like symptoms in pregnant mice. Tregs which are well known

to undergird maternal tolerance of the fetus, and which are well known to have an overlapping
developmental trajectory with RORgt[+] Th17 cells (Robertson SA et al., 2019; Sefik E et
al.,2015). This study underscores the importance of Th17/Treg cell balance in maintaining
pregnancy homeostasis. And it is worth noting that we isolated CD4[+] memory-like T cells
directly from the maternal-fetal interface, which is different from previous studies that the CD4[+]
T cells for adoptive transfer were isolated from the spleen and induced in vitro (Cornelius et al.,
2015b; Deer et al., 2021; Shields et al., 2018; Wallace et al., 2012). Recurrence is an important
concern in individuals with PE (Bernardes et al., 2019). We found that a prior PE pregnancy
increased the probability of PE in the next pregnancy in mice, accompanied by an increased
frequency of memory-like Th17 cells at the maternal-fetal interface, suggesting that increased
memory-like Th17 cells are positively related to the recurrence of PE. However, further studies
are needed to confirm the function of the fetal-specific memory Th17 cells in the recurrence of
PE.

Activation of CD8[+] T cells and Th1 cells can be induced by abnormal polarized
macrophages in recurrent miscarriage (Li et al., 2022). The gMDSCs have been reported to
have immune suppressive activity and are necessary for maintaining maternal-fetal tolerance
(Köstlin-Gille et al., 2019; Zhou et al., 2018). However, the correlation between macrophages
and other immune cells in the development of PE remained unclear. We verified that
pro-inflam Macs induced memory-like Th17 cells and memory-like CD8[+] T cells and inhibited
the production of gMDSCs in PE by correlation analysis and adoptive transfer in animal
experiments for the first time, indicating that the immune cells orchestrate a network in the
maternal-fetal interface elaborately. However, PLX3397, used in this study, emerges as a
promising small-molecule compound, endowed with the capability to traverse the placental
barrier, thereby potentially influencing the development and function of fetal macrophages. In
addition to gMDSCs, we conducted immunofluorescence analysis of placental tissue,
specifically targeting CD66b[high] neutrophils. Our findings revealed a pronounced increase in
the proportion of neutrophils among PE patients, fostering the hypothesis that IL-17A produced
by Th17 cells might orchestrate the migration of neutrophils towards the placental milieu. This
migratory response, in turn, could potentially trigger reactive oxygen species (ROS)-mediated
immunopathology, which subsequently lead to PE (Akkari L et al., 2024).

The function of IGR1 and IGF1R in PE is controversial. IGF1 plays a significant role in
maintaining immune function, and IGF1R facilitates the differentiation of naïve CD4[+] T cells
into Th17 cells (DiToro et al., 2020). A study showed that IGF-1R was downregulated in the
serum of individuals with PE (Liao et al., 2021). Decreased amounts of IGF1R were also found
in the placentas of individuals with PE (Robajac et al., 2015). However, another study found no
significance in the affinity and the number of IGF-1R between placentas from individuals with
PE or not (Díaz et al., 2005). We found that mice exhibiting PE symptoms had significantly
enhanced IGF1-IGF1R interaction between inflammatory macrophages and memory-like Th17
cells by analyzing the data of scRNA-seq. Then, this finding was further confirmed in human
placentas from individuals with PE and NP, for the frequencies of IGF1[+] CD14[+] cells and
IGF1R[+] CD4[+] cells were found to significantly increase in the PE group. In vitro, we found that
PE-EVs-treated macrophages secreted more IGF1 than NP-EV-treated macrophages and
induced a higher frequency of memory-like Th17 cells. The inhibition of IGF1R on CD4[+] naïve
T cells resulted in a decreased frequency of memory-like Th17 cells, implying that the

IGF1-IGF1R is critical for the production of memory-like Th17 cells induced by inflammatory
macrophages. Animal experiments confirmed that IGF1R inhibition on CD4$^+$ T cells at the
maternal-fetal interface reduced the frequency of memory-like Th17 cells and relieved PE-like
symptoms.

In addition, placentas from different groups for CyTOF analysis and flow cytometry were
matched by age, preterm pregnancies, and previous abortion history; however, there are
differences in body mass index (BMI), gestational age, term pregnancies, and the number of
living children. Obesity can increase inflammatory and oxidative stress markers in the
placental environment (Spradley et al., 2015). Also, it has been reported that the placental
immune state shifts with gestational age (Lewis et al., 2018). However, as PE is often
accompanied by obesity and early termination of pregnancy, it is difficult to exclude these
factors in sample collection. Moreover, limited placental samples in the GDM&PE group are
the shortage of this study, for it is hard to collect enough clean samples that exclude
interference factors because the number of pregnant women exposed to COVID-19 has
increased sharply since December 2022 in China.

In summary, this study demonstrated the statistically distinguished placental immune
microenvironment in individuals with PE, but not in those with GDM or GDM&PE. More
importantly, macrophages orchestrate a network in the maternal-fetal interface elaborately.
These findings provide novel insights into PE pathogenesis and a potential immune target for
the clinical prevention and treatment of PE.

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Materials and Methods
Clinical sample collection
The samples used in this study were collected from Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital between
October 2020 and August 2023. Informed consent was obtained from all volunteers, and the
Ethics Committee of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine,
approved the study. Human placentas were obtained from women with NP, PE, GDM, or
GDM&PE who underwent elective cesarean delivery. The diagnostic criteria for PE included
new-onset hypertension after 20 weeks of gestation with SBP ≥140 mmHg and/or diastolic
blood pressure ≥90 mmHg and proteinuria (≥300 mg) on at least two occasions. A positive
glucose tolerance test diagnoses gestational diabetes mellitus. Women with normal blood
pressure, full-term pregnancies, and no complications were designated as controls. The
detailed clinical characteristics of the pregnant women in this study are presented in Table 5
and Table 6.

Mice
Eight-week-old female C57 mice and ten-week-old male BALB/c mice were purchased
from Hangzhou Ziyuan Laboratory Animal Technology Co., Ltd (Hangzhou, China) and
Shanghai Jihui Experimental Animal Breeding Co., Ltd (Shanghai, China), respectively. All
animals were maintained under pathogen-free conditions. The Guide for the Care and Use of
Laboratory Animals (China) conducted all experimental procedures involving animals, and the
Animal Research Ethics Committee of the Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital of Zhejiang University
approved the protocols.

Female C57 mice were mated with male BALB/c mice to establish an allogeneic

pregnancy model (Rowe et al., 2012). The day of the vaginal plug detection was considered day 0.5 of pregnancy. SBP was measured using a noninvasive mouse tailcuff BP analyzer (BP-2010A, Softron, Japan) at 12.5, and 16.5 days of gestation. Three random urine samples were collected after day 16.5 of gestation, and UACR was measured by urinary microalbumin (CH0101060, Maccura, China). Mice were euthanized on day 18.5 of gestation.

Reduction in uterine perfusion pressure mouse model

To construct a mouse model of PE, we ligated uterine arteries in pregnant mice on day 12.5 of gestation. Briefly, after 4% chloral hydrate was intraperitoneally injected for anesthesia, bilateral incisions were made on the back of the pregnant mice, and surgical sutures were used to reduce the blood flow of the bilateral uterine arcades.

Isolation of single cells from the mouse uterus and human placenta

Uterus from pregnant mice and placentas from volunteers were washed twice with ice-cold PBS and cut into small pieces. The tissues were digested with collagenase type IV (1 mg/ml, Sigma-Aldrich, USA) and DNase I (0.01 mg/ml, Sigma-Aldrich, U.S.A) in RPMI 1640 medium (Thermo Fisher Scientific) for 40 min at 200 rpm and 37 °C. The suspensions were strained through 70-μm nylon mesh and centrifuged at 500×g for 5 minutes. Leaving the supernatants, the cell pellets from human placentas need an extra purification by Ficoll (P4350, Solarbio, China) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Human CD4$^+$ memory T cells were isolated using a Human Central and Effector Memory CD4$^+$ T Cell Isolation Kit (17865, STEMCELL, Canada).

Adoptive transferred mouse model

Endogenous macrophages or CD4$^+$ T cells were depleted by injecting PLX3397 (S7818, Selleck, USA), clodronate liposomes (40337ES08, YEASEN, China) or anti-CD4 antibody (BE0003-1, BioXcell, USA) intraperitoneally every three days starting from day 10.5 of gestation.

For the adoptive transferred mouse model, phycoerythrin-conjugated anti-mouse CD4 (12-0041-82, eBioscience, USA) and Pc5.5-conjugated anti-mouse CD44 (45-0441-82, eBioscience, USA) were used to label CD4$^+$ memory-like T cells from uterus and placentas. PE-conjugated anti-mouse CD45 (E-AB-F1136D, Elabscience, China), FITC-conjugated anti-mouse F4/80 (11-4801-82, eBioscience, USA), and PE-Cyanine7-conjugated anti-mouse CD206 (141719, Biolegend, USA) were used to label anti-inflam Macs from uterus and placentas, and the remaining CD45$^+$F480$^+$CD206$^-$ cells were considered pro-inflam Macs. The MoFlo Astrios EQ FACS Cell Sorter at Core Facilities, ZheJiang University School of Medicine (China), was used to obtain specific cells with a purity of > 96%. Briefly, 2–5 × 10^5 CD4$^+$ CD44$^+$ T cells, 5×10^5 pro-inflam Macs, or 5×10^5 anti-inflam Macs were injected to pregnant C57 mice intravenously at day 12.5 of gestation.

2–5 × 10^5 CD45$^+$CD4$^+$ T cells from uterus and placentas of pregnant mice were sorted and transferred to pregnant C57 mice at day 11.5 of gestation after treating with 100nM BMS-754809 (HY10200; MedChemExpress; USA) or PBS for three days in vitro.

Mass cytometry by time of flight

Placental villi rather than chorionic plate and extraplacental membranes were used for CyToF in this study. 8 × 10^5 immune cells from NP (n=9), PE (n=8), GDM (n=8), GDM&PE (n=7) presented in Table 1 were washed once with 1x PBS and then stained with 100μL of 2.5 μM cisplatin (Fluidigm) for 5min on ice to exclude dead cells, and then incubated in Fc receptor

blocking solution before stained with surface antibodies cocktail for 30 min on ice. Cells were
washed twice with FACS buffer (1xPBS+0.5%BSA) and fixed in 200μL of intercalation solution
(Maxpar Fix and Perm Buffer containing 250nM 191/193Ir, Fluidigm) overnight. After fixation,
cells were washed once with FACS buffer and then perm buffer (eBioscience), stained with
intracellular antibodies cocktail for 30 min on ice. Cells were washed and resuspend with
deionized water, adding into 20% EQ beads (Fluidigm), acquired on a mass cytometer (Helios,
Fluidigm). Additionally, all PE samples enumerated in Table 1 demonstrate a late-onset
preeclampsia, with placental specimens being procured from patients more than 35 weeks of
gestation and less than the 38 weeks of pregnancy.

As for data analysis, data of each sample were debarcoded from raw data using a
doublet-filtering scheme with unique mass-tagged barcodes firstly. Each .fcs file generated
from different batches were normalized through bead normalization method. Then we
manually gate data using a FlowJo software to exclude to debris, dead cells and doublets,
leaving live, single immune cells. Subsequently we applied the Phenograph clustering
algorithm to all cells to partition the cells into distinct phenotypes based on marker expression
levels. Cell type of each cluster according to its marker expression pattern on a heatmap of
cluster vs marker was annotated. Finally, we used the dimensionality reduction algorithm
t-SNE to visualize the high-dimensional data in two dimensions and show distribution of each
cluster and marker expression and difference among each group or different sample type.

RNA sequencing

5×10^5 CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs (n=3) and 5×10^5 CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^+$
anti-inflam Macs (n=3) were isolated from the uterus and placentas of mice with RUPP
and high throughput sequencing and bioinformatics analyses were conducted at Shenzhen
Huada Gene Technology Service Co. Ltd.(Shenzhen, China). Only differential genes with more
than two-fold change and a corrected P value less than 0.05 were considered statistically
significant.

Single-cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq)

Mice were injected with 5×10^5 CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs or 5×10^5
CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^+$ anti-inflam Macs at 12.5 days of gestation and euthanized on day 18.5 of
gestation. CD45$^+$ immune cells from the uterus and placenta were isolated from mice
transferred pro-inflam Macs and anti-inflam Macs. scRNA-seq was conducted at PLTTECH
Service Co. Ltd. (Hangzhou, China).

Firstly, the outcomes of cellular high-throughput sequencing were preserved in the FASTQ
file format, facilitating a rigorous evaluation of the raw data. Subsequently, the data underwent
debarcoding, enabling its alignment with the reference genome to precisely identify and sieve
effective cells. This process culminated in the construction of a comprehensive gene-barcode
expression matrix.For the statistical analysis and visualization of gene expression levels and
Unique Molecular Identifier (UMI) counts, we leveraged the powerful Seurat software.
Furthermore, we conducted a Clustering analysis rooted in the gene-barcode expression
matrix, utilizing Seurat's capabilities in conjunction with Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
for dimensionality reduction. This allowed us to scale down the clustering results and visually
represent them in two dimensions using either Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection
(UMAP) or t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (tSNE). To gain deeper insights, we
performed Marker genes analysis, which hinged on the clustering outcomes. This enabled us

to pinpoint the genes that significantly distinguished each subgroup, thereby identifying their
characteristic genes. Additionally, we analyzed and graphically represented the varying
expression levels of these genes across different groups, providing a comprehensive
understanding of their differences.

Isolation of NP-EVs and PE-EVs

NP-EVs and PE-EVs were isolated and identified using our published protocols (Jiang et
al., 2021; X. Liu et al., 2022). Briefly, after digesting the placental tissues from NP or PE, the
suspensions were filtered through 100-μm nylon mesh and centrifugated at 3,000×g for 15
minutes. Then the supernatants were filtered with a 0.22-μm filter and centrifuged at
100,000×g for 1h at 4 °C. Then the pellets of EVs were resuspended and centrifuged at
100,000×g once again. A BCA assay kit conducted Protein quantitation of EVs (23235, Thermo
Fisher Scientific). To isolate the T-EVs, 500 μg of the EVs were incubated with 1 μg placental
alkaline phosphatase antibody (SC-47691, Santa Cruz Biotechnology) at 4 °C overnight, then
washed in the recommended buffer (PBS containing 2% exosome-free FBS and 1 mmol/L
ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid), and centrifuged at 100 000×g for 1 hour at 4 °C. After
resuspended, the total EVs were sorted by EasySep Mouse PE Positive Selection Kit II (17666,
STEMCELL) to collect the final NP-EVs or PE-EVs.

Induction of CD4$^+$ memory-like T cells

Macrophages were obtained after five days of culture of mononuclear cells isolated from
human peripheral blood following previous protocols (X. Liu et al., 2022). NP-EVs or PE-EVs in
a 50 μg/mL concentration were added to macrophages and co-cultured at 37 °C for 8 h. The
human CD4$^+$ naïve T cells Isolation Kit (19555, STEMCELL, Canada) was used to isolate
purified CD4$^+$ naïve T cells from human peripheral blood cells according to the manufacturer's
instructions. Then, CD4$^+$ naïve T cells were co-cultured with EV-treated macrophages for six
days. Flow cytometry was performed to measure the frequency of memory-like Th17 cells. For
animal experiments, CD4$^+$ naïve T cells sorted from the uterus and placentas of pregnant mice
were cultured with the IGF1R inhibitor BMS-754807 at a concentration of 10 μM for three days
before co-cultured with macrophages.

Flow cytometry

Single immune cells from the mice uterus were obtained following the method described
above. After incubation with Cell Stimulation Cocktail (00-4975-93, Invitrogen, USA) for five
hours at 37 °C, cells were collected and surface staining for either phycoerythrin-conjugated
anti-mouse CD4 (12-0041-82, eBioscience, USA), APC-conjugated anti-mouse CD8 (100711,
BioLegend, USA), phycoerythrin-Cy5.5-conjugated anti-mouse CD44 (45-0441-82,
eBioscience, USA), APC-conjugated anti-mouse CD11b (101212, BioLegend, USA),
FITC-conjugated anti-mouse Gr-1 (108406, BioLegend, USA), PE-Cyanine7-conjugated
anti-mouse Ly6G (E-AB-F1108H, elabscience, China) or intracellular staining for
488-conjugated anti-mouse IL-17A (506910, BioLegend, USA) was performed according to the
manufacturer's instructions.

Single placental and peripheral lymphocytes and were obtained following the method
described above. The Human Central and Effector Memory CD4$^+$ T cell Isolation Kit (17865,
STEMCELL, Canada) was used to obtain purified memory CD4$^+$ T cells, according to the
manufacturer's instructions. After incubation with Cell Stimulation Cocktail (00-4975-93,
Invitrogen, USA) for five hours at 37 °C, cells were collected and surface staining for

phycoerythrin-conjugated anti-human CD4 (2384240, eBioscience, USA), FITC-conjugated anti-human CD45RO (304204, BioLegend, USA), and phycoerythrin-Cy7-conjugated anti-human CCR7 (353227, BioLegend, USA) or intracellular staining for APC-conjugated anti-human IL-17A (17-7179-42, eBioscience, USA) and Foxp3 (320014, BioLegend, USA) was performed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Immunofluorescence

Frozen sections of the placentas were permeabilized with PBS containing 0.5% Triton X-100 (PBST) for 20 min and incubated for 1 h with a blocking buffer in PBST. The sections were then incubated with anti-CD4 (sc-1176, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, China) and FITC-conjugated anti-human CD45RO (304204, BioLegend, USA) at 4 °C overnight, followed by Alexa Fluor 568-conjugated secondary antibodies (dilution: 1:200, Yeasen, China) for 1 h. The slides were counterstained with 4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI, 1 µg/ml; Roche, Switzerland) for 20 min. Digital images were obtained using confocal fluorescence microscopy (ZEISS LSM 800, Germany). ImageJ software was used to quantify the fluorescence intensity from immunofluorescence (IF) images.

Statistical analysis

Data were analyzed using SPSS version 20. After the Shapiro-wilk test, the data were confirmed to be non-normal distribution. Kruskal-wallis test was used to compare the results of experiments with multiple groups. Student's t-test was used to compare the results of experiments with two groups. All data are presented as mean ± SEM ($*P < 0.05$, $** P < 0.01$, $*** P < 0.001$; NS, not significant).

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Figures with figure Legends

Figure 1 Identification and characterization of placental immune cells using CyTOF

(A) Schematic of the experimental workflow in CyTOF experiment. The placentas were obtained from individuals with normal pregnancy (NP, n=9), preeclampsia (PE, n=8), gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM, n=8) or GDM&PE (n=7).

(B) t-SNE maps showing 8×10^4 CD45$^+$ cells (the average cell number of the all samples) from the placenta overlaid with color-coded clusters and the distributions of B cells, CD4$^+$ T cells, CD8$^+$ T cells, DC, γδT cells, monocytes, granulocytes, MDSC, and NK cells.

(C) Percentages of each cell type of CD45$^+$ cells in placentas.

(D) t-SNE maps showing the expression of CD3, CD8, CD4, γδTCR, CD14, CD15, CD56.

(E) Heatmap showing the expression levels of markers in CD45$^+$ cell subsets.

Data were compared between NP and PE, NP and GDM, NP and GDM&PE using the Kruskal-wallis test and represented as mean±SEM (*$P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$; NS, not significant).

Figure 2 Specific altered T cell profile in the placentas of individuals with PE

(A) Distribution of the CD4$^+$ T cells in the group analyzed using t-SNE.

(B) Scatter dot plots showing the frequencies of cluster 8 of CD4$^+$ T cells in the placentas of individuals with NP, PE, GDM and GDM&PE (n=9 in NP group; n=8 in PE group; n=8 in GDM group; n=7 in GDM&PE group).

(C) Expression of IL-17A and Foxp3 in CD45RO$^+$CCR7$^+$CD4$^+$ T cells in placentas of individuals with NP and PE using flow cytometry (IL-17A: n=10 in NP group, n=15 in PE group; Foxp3: n=7 in NP group, n=9 in PE group).

(D) Immunofluorescence co-staining of CD4 (red), CD45RO (green) and DAPI (blue) in frozen placental sections. The right panels show the fluorescence intensity of CD4 and CD45RO.Scale bar, 20 μm.

(E) Scatter dot plots showing significantly altered markers of in cluster 8 of CD4$^+$ T cells.

(F) Distribution of the CD8$^+$ T cells analyzed using t-SNE.

(G) Scatter dot plots showing the frequencies of cluster 2 of CD8$^+$ T cells in the placentas of

individuals with NP, PE, GDM and GDM&PE.

(H) Scatter dot plots showing significantly altered markers in cluster 2 of CD8$^+$ T cells.

Data were compared between NP and PE, NP and GDM, NP and GDM&PE using the

Kruskal-wallis test and represented as mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001; NS,

not significant).

Figure 2—figure supplement 1 Identification of the placental T cell subsets.

(A) Heatmap showing the expression levels of markers in the CD4$^+$ T subsets (n=9 in NP

group; n=8 in PE group; n=8 in GDM group; n=7 in GDM&PE group).

(B) Heatmap showing the expression levels of markers in the CD8$^+$ T subsets.

(C) Heatmap showing the expression levels of markers in the γδT subsets.

(D) Distribution of the γδT cells in the group analyzed using t-SNE.

(E) Scatter dot plots showing the frequencies of cluster 15 of γδT cells in the placentas of

individuals with NP, PE, GDM and GDM&PE.

(F) Scatter dot plots showing significantly altered markers in cluster 15 of γδT cells.

Data were compared between NP and PE, NP and GDM, NP and GDM&PE using the

Kruskal-wallis test and represented as mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001; NS,

not significant).

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Figure 3 Identification of the placental CD11b$^+$ cell subsets and the Interaction between

placental immune cells.

(A) Distribution of the CD11b$^+$ immune cells in group analyzed using t-SNE.

(B) Heatmap showing the expression levels of markers in the CD11b$^+$ cells.

(C) Scatter dot plots showing the frequencies of cluster 12, cluster 23, and cluster 25 of

CD11b$^+$ cells in the placentas.

(D) Interaction between placental immune cells showed in heatmap.

(E) Scatter plots of Pearson's correlation analysis between placental immune cells.

Data were compared between NP and PE, NP and GDM, NP and GDM&PE using the

Kruskal-wallis test and represented as mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001; NS,

not significant).

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Figure 4 The immune imbalance at the maternal-fetal interface induced by F480$^+$CD206$^-$

pro-inflam Macs.

(A) An illustration showcasing the RNA-seq of the CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflam Macs and

CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^+$ anti-inflam Macs derived from the RUPP mouse model.

(B) Principal component analysis (PCA) reflected the differences between the two groups of

macrophages (n=3).

(C) The volcano map shows a comparison of the content and P value of gene expression

between pro-inflam Macs and anti-inflam Macs. Differential expression genes were screened

out when P < 0.05. Red dots indicate genes with increased expression in pro-inflam Macs.

Blue dots indicate genes with decreased expression.

(D) The volcano map shows differential expression genes between pro-inflam Macs and

anti-inflam Macs.

(E) Representative pathways enriched in the identified genes as determined by GSEA (p

value<0.05).

(F) Embryo abortion rate of the pregnant mice, body weight and crown-rump length of pups

measured on day 18.5 of gestation. Black represents mice treated with DMSO (n=8); gray

represents mice treated with PLX3397 (n=8); blue represents mice injected with

CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^+$ anti-inflammatory macrophages (n=8); red represents mice injected with

CD45$^+$F4/80$^+$CD206$^-$ pro-inflammatory macrophages (n=8).

(G) SBP and UACR of pregnant mice in the four groups.

(H) Frequencies of CD44$^+$CD4$^+$IL-17A$^+$ cells, CD44$^+$CD8$^+$ T cells and CD11b$^+$Ly6G$^+$

granulocytes analyzed by flow cytometry.

Data were compared between groups using the Kruskal-wallis test and represented as

mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).

Figure 4—figure supplement 1 The construction of RUPP mouse model

(A) Experimental design of mice model with PE by reducing uterine perfusion pressure (RUPP)

on day 12.5 of gestation. Mice with sham operation were considered as controls. Systolic

blood pressure (SBP) and urine albumin creatine ratio (UACR) were measured on day 12.5

and 16.5 of gestation respectively. Mice were sacrificed on day 18.5 of gestation.

(B) The embryo abortion rate of pregnant mice, body weight, and crown-rump length of pups

measured on day 18.5 of gestation in the Sham and RUPP group. Embryo abortion rate =

number of absorbed embryos/total number of embryos. Blue represents mice in the Sham

group (n=9); Red represents mice in the RUPP group (n=9).

(C) SBP and UACR of pregnant mice in Sham and RUPP group.

(D) The embryo abortion rate of pregnant mice, body weight, and crown-rump length of pups

measured on day 18.5 of gestation in the mice injected with PBS or RUPP-derived

macrophages. Embryo abortion rate = number of absorbed embryos/total number of embryos.

Blue represents mice in the mice injected with PBS group (n=6); Red represents mice in the

mice injected with RUPP-derived macrophages group (n=6).

(E) SBP and UACR of pregnant mice in PBS and RUPP-derived macrophages group.

(F) Experimental design of GFP pregnant mice model.

(G) Frequencies of GFP$^+$CD11b$^+$ fetal-derived macrophages and GFP$^-$CD11b$^+$

maternal-derived macrophages were analyzed by flow cytometry.

Data were compared between the two groups using the Student's t-test and represented as

mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).

Figure 4—figure supplement 2 Clodronate liposomes were used to used to deplete the

macrophages of pregnant mice to demonstrate that pro-inflam Macs lead to immune

imbalance.

(A) Frequencies of F4/80$^+$7AAD$^-$ macrophages in PLX3397-treated mouse were analyzed by

flow cytometry.

(B) Frequencies of F4/80$^+$7AAD$^-$ macrophages in Clodronate liposomes-treated mouse were

analyzed by flow cytometry.

(C) Embryo abortion rate of the pregnant mice, body weight and crown-rump length of pups

measured on day 18.5 of gestation. Black represents mice treated with control liposomes

(n=6); gray represents mice treated with clodronate liposomes (n=6); blue represents mice

injected with CD45+F4/80+CD206+ anti-inflam Macs (n=6); red represents mice injected with
CD45+F4/80+CD206- pro-inflam Macs (n=6).
(D) SBP and UACR of pregnant mice in the four groups.
(E) Frequencies of CD44+CD4+IL-17A+ cells, CD44+CD8+ T cells and CD11b+Gr1+
granulocytes analyzed by flow cytometry.
Data were compared between groups using one-way ANOVA and represented as mean±SEM
(*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).
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Figure 5 Identification of the macrophage subsets in mice injected with pro-inflam Macs
and anti-inflam Macs by using scRNA-seq.
(A) UMAP maps showing the 8 types of mouse immune cells at the maternal-fetal interface.
(B) Heatmap showing clustering analysis for markers distinguished different type of immune
cells.
(C) UMAP maps showing the 15 clusters of mouse macrophages was listedl.
(D) Bar graph showing the frequencies of clusters of macrophages in the two groups of mice
was listed in the right panel.
(E) UMAP maps showing the distribution of specific markers of cluster 0 and cluster 1.
(F) Dot plot depicting GO enrichment terms that were significantly enriched in the
differentially expressed genes in cluster 0 and cluster 1 from the pro-inflam Macs group
and the control group.
(G) Violin plot of specific differential gene expression in cluster 0 and cluster 1 between the
pro-inflam Macs group and the control group.
Data were compared between the two groups using the Student's t-test and represented as
mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).
Figure 5 Heatmap of different clusters of macrophages.
(A) Heatmap showing clustering analysis for markers distinguished different clusters of
macrophages.
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Figure 6 Identification of the T/NK cells subsets in mice injected pro-inflam Macs and
anti-inflam Macs using scRNA-seq.
(A) UMAP maps showing the 12 clusters of mouse T/NK cells was listed. Heatmap showing
clustering analysis for markers distinguished 12 different clusters of T/NK cells.
(B) Bar graph showing the frequencies of clusters of T/NK cells in the two groups of mice was
listed in the down panel.
(C) Dot plot depicting GO enrichment terms that were significantly enriched in the
differentially expressed genes in cluster 0 from the pro-inflam Macs group and the control
group.
(D) Violin plot of specific differential gene expression in cluster 0 between the pro-inflam
Macs group and the control group.
(F) Frequencies of CD4+CD44+ T cells and the percentages of Foxp3+ or IL-17A+ cells in
CD4+CD44+ T cells at the maternal-fetal interface in Sham and RUPP group analyzed by
flow cytometry.
(G) The embryo abortion rate of pregnant mice, body weight, and crown-rump length of pups
measured on day 18.5 of gestation in mice injected PBS, Sham mouse-derived or RUPP

mouse-derived CD4+CD44+ T cells. Black represents mice injected with PBS (n=6); blue
represents mice injected with Sham mouse-derived CD4+CD44+ T cells (n=6); red represents
mice injected with RUPP mouse-derived CD4+CD44+ T cells (n=6).
(H) SBP and UACR of pregnant mice injected with PBS, Sham mouse-derived or RUPP
mouse-derived CD4+CD44+ T cells.
Data were compared between groups using one-way ANOVA and represented as mean±SEM
(*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).
Data were compared between the two groups using the Student's t-test and represented as
mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).
Figure 6—figure supplement 1 Memory-like Th17 cells may be associated with the
recurrence of PE.
(A) Heatmap showing clustering analysis for markers distinguished 12 different clusters of
T/NK cells.
(B) Embryo abortion rate of pregnant mice, body weight and crown-rump length of pups
measured on day 18.5 of gestation. Blue represents mice with previous normal pregnancy
(n=9); red represents mice with previous pregnancy with PE (n=9).
(C) SBP and UACR of second pregnant mice with a history of PE or NP in the first pregnancy
measured on day 16.5 of gestation.
(D) Frequencies of CD4+ CD44+ T cells and the levels of IL-17A in CD4+ CD44+ T cells in mice
with a pregnancy history with NP and PE analyzed by flow cytometry.
Data were compared using the Student's t-test and represented as mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P
< 0.01, *** P < 0.001; NS, not significant).
Data were compared between the two groups using the Student's t-test and represented as
mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).
Figure 6—figure supplement 2 Identification of the granulocytes subsets in mice
injected pro-inflam Macs and anti-inflam Macs use sc RNA-seq.
(A) UMAP maps showing the 9 clusters of mouse granulocytes. Bar graph showing the
frequencies of clusters of granulocytes in the two groups of mice.
(B) Heatmap showing clustering analysis for markers distinguished 9 different clusters of
granulocytes cells.
(C) UMAP maps showing the distribution of specific markers of cluster 3.
(D) Dot plot depicting GO enrichment terms that were significantly enriched in the
differentially expressed genes in cluster 3 from the pro-inflam Macs group and the control
group.
(E) Violin plot of specific differential gene expression in cluster 3 between the pro-inflam
Macs group and the control group.
(F) Immunofluorescence co-staining of CD15 (red), CD66b (green) and DAPI (blue) in frozen
placental sections. Scale bar, 20 μm.
Data were compared between the two groups using the Student's t-test and represented as
mean±SEM (*P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01, *** P < 0.001).
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1313 **Figure 7 Pro-inflam Macs induce the generation of memory-like Th17 cells via**
1314 **IGF1-IGF1R**

(A) Signaling modules indicated by ligand-receptor pairing between macrophages and other types of immune cells at the maternal-fetal interface using CellPhoneDB.

(B) Frequencies of IGF1$^+$CD14$^+$ cells and IGFIR$^+$CD4$^+$ cells in placentas of individuals with NP and PE (n=12 in NP group, n=4 in PE group).

(C) Schematic of the experimental workflow to induce memory-like T cells in vitro. Macrophages, after incubating with PBS, NP-EVs or PE-EVs, were co-cultured with CD4$^+$ naïve T cells treated with DMSO or BMS-754807. Cells were isolated from human peripheral blood.

(D) Frequencies of CD45RO$^+$CCR7$^+$Th17 cells. Black represents CD4$^+$ naïve T cells treated with DMSO; gray represents CD4$^+$ naïve T cells cocultured with NP-EVs-treated macrophages; blue represents CD4$^+$ naïve T cells co-cultured with PE-EVs-treated macrophages; red represents CD4$^+$ naïve T cells treated with BMS-754807 before co-cultured with PE-EVs-treated macrophages (n=10 in each group).

(E) Schematic of mice transferred CD4$^+$ T cells treated with BMS-754807 or PBS. Anti-CD4 antibody was used to deplete CD4$^+$ T cells in mice on day 10.5 of gestation. CD4$^+$ T cells were transferred into mice on day 11.5 of gestation. 20 µg/kg lipopolysaccharide (LPS) was intraperitoneally injected on day 12.5 and 15.5 of gestation to induce a PE-like pregnant mice model. Mice were sacrificed on day 18.5 of gestation.

(F) Embryo abortion rate of pregnant mice, body weight and crown-rump length of pups were measured on day 18.5 of gestation. Black represents the control group mice (n=6); gray represents mice treated with LPS (20µg/kg) to construct an animal model of PE (n=6); blue represents anti-CD4 antibody treated PE mice (n=6); red represents anti-CD4 antibody treated PE mice injected with CD4$^+$ T cells with DMSO treatment (n=7); orange represents anti-CD4 antibody treated PE mice injected with CD4$^+$ T cells with BMS754807 treatment (n=7).

(G) SBP and UACR of pregnant mice in the five groups.

(H) The frequencies of CD4$^+$ CD44$^+$ IL-17A$^+$ cells analyzed by flow cytometry.

Data were compared between groups using one-way ANOVA and represented as mean±SEM ($^*P < 0.05$, $^{**} P < 0.01$, $^{***} P < 0.001$).

Figure 7—figure supplement 1 Cell–cell communications in immune cells when pro-inflam Macs accumulated at the maternal–fetal interface.

(A) Abundance of connections between different cell types at the maternal-fetal interface analyzed by CellPhoneDB.

(B) Capacities for interactions between immune cells are showed. Each line indicates the ligands expressed by the cell population represented by the same color (labeled). The lines connect to cell types that express cognate receptors. Line thickness is proportional to the number of ligands when cognate receptors are present in the recipient cell type.

1359 **Tables**

1360 **Table 1 Details of the individuals included in the CyTOF**

Parameters	NP (n=9)	PE (n=8)	GDM (n=8)	GDM&PE (n=7)	p Value
Age (years)	31.33 ± 2.108	31.75 ± 4.206	35.25 ±3.419	32.43 ± 2.321	0.1008
BMI (kg/m²)	27.35 ± 1.740	30.84 ±2.888	29.56 ± 2.689	30.16 ± 2.280	0.0518
Gestational age (weeks)	38.89 ± 0.558	37.39 ± 1.253	38.73 ± 0.419	36.22 ± 1.372	<0.001
Number of living children	0.4444 ± 0.497	0.500 ± 0.500	1.125 ± 0.331	0.429 ± 0.495	0.0236
Previous abortions	0.7778 ± 1.030	1.000 ± 0.866	1.000 ± 1.000	1.714 ± 2.050	0.5848
Mean Systolic Blood Pressure	109.7 ± 5.400	151 ± 7.225	106.9 ± 2.848	150.7 ± 9.161	<0.0001

1361

1362 **Table 2 CyTOF antibody panel used for analyzing placentas from individuals with**
1363 **normal pregnancy (NP), preeclampsia (PE), gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) and**
1364 **GDM complicated with PE (GDM&PE)**

Target	Metal tag
CD45	HI30
CD3	UCHT1
CD68	Y1/82A
CD56	NCAM16.2
gd TCR	5A6.E9
CD19	HIB19
CCR6	G034E3
CD38	HIT2
CD103	B-Ly7
CD39	A1
CXCR3	G025H7
PD-L1	29E.2A3
PD-1	EH12.2H7
CD11C	BU15
CD107a	H4A3
pAKT	D9E
CCR4	L291H4
TIGIT	A15153G
CD206	15-2
Helios	22F6
CD28	CD28.2
pSTAT3	4/p-Stat3
GITR	110416
CD33	WM53
CTLA-4	BN13
FOXP3	PCH101
CD163	GHI/61
CD45RA	HI100
ICOS	C398.4A
CD69	FN50
CCR7	G043H7
NKG2A	131411

CD15	W6D3
TIM-3	F38-2E2
CD86	Fun-1
HLA-DR	L243
Granzyme B	QA16A02
CD14	M5E2
pS6	A17020B
CD127	A019D5
CD4	RPA-T4
CD8	RPA-T8
CD11b	M1/70

1365

1366 **Table 3 Expression levels of markers identified in each immune subset in the placentas**

	B cells	CD4[+] T	CD8[+] T	gdTCR	NK cells	Macrophage	Granulocyte	MDSC	Dendritic cells
CD45	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++
CD3	-	++	++	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD68	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	++
CD56	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
gd TCR	++	-	-	++	-	-	-	-	-
CD19	++	-	-	++	-	-	-	-	-
CCR6	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD38	++	++	+	+	++	++	-	-	+
CD103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD39	++	-	-	-	+	++	+	+	+
CXCR3	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	++
PD-L1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
PD-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD11C	+	-	-	-	+	++	++	+	++
CD107a	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+
pAKT	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+
CCR4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TIGIT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD206	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
Helios	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
CD28	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
pSTAT3	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-
GITR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD33	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
CTLA-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOXP3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD163	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD45RA	++	+	+	+	++	-	-	-	-
ICOS	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD69	+	+	+	+	++	+	-	++	-
CCR7	+	++	+	+	-	-	-	+	-
NKG2A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD15	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	-	-
TIM-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CD86	-	-	-	-	-	++	-	-	+
HLA-DR	++	-	+	+	-	++	+	-	++
Granzyme	+	-	-	+	++	+	+	-	-
CD14	-	-	-	-	-	++	-	-	-
pS6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD127	-	++	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD4	-	++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD8	-	-	++	-	-	-	-	-	-
CD11b	-	-	-	+	+	++	++	-	+

1367

1368 **Table 4 The marker profile of PE-specific immune subsets**

	memory-like CD4+ T cells	memory-like CD8+ T cells	gMDSCs	pro-inflammatory macrophages	anti-inflammatory macrophages
	Cluster 08 of CD4+ T cells	Cluster 02 of CD8+ T cells	Cluster 12 of CD3-CD11b+ cells	Cluster 23 of CD3-CD11b+ cells	Cluster 25 of CD3-CD11b+ cells
CD45	++	++	++	++	++
CD3	++	++	-	-	-
CD68	-	-	+	++	++
CD56	-	-	-	-	-
gd TCR	-	-	-	-	-
CD19	-	-	-	-	-
CCR6	-	-	-	-	-
CD38	++	++	-	+	+
CD103	-	-	-	+	+
CD39	+	-	+	-	-
CXCR3	+	+	-	-	-
PD-L1	-	-	-	-	-
PD-1	-	-	-	-	-
CD11C	-	-	++	++	++
CD107a	-	-	-	+	+
pAKT	+	+	-	-	-
CCR4	-	-	-	-	-
TIGIT	-	-	-	-	-
CD206	-	-	+	-	+
Helios	+	+	-	-	-
CD28	+	+	-	-	-
pSTAT3	-	-	-	-	-
GITR	-	-	-	-	-
CD33	-	-	-	-	+
CTLA-4	-	-	-	-	-
FOXP3	-	-	-	-	-
CD163	-	-	-	-	-
CD45RA	-	-	-	-	-
ICOS	+	+	-	-	-
CD69	+	-	-	-	-
CCR7	++	++	-	-	-
NKG2A	-	-	-	-	-
CD15	-	-	++	-	-

TIM-3	-	-	-	-	-
CD86	-	-	-	+	+
HLA-DR	-	-	+	+	++
Granzyme B	-	-	+	-	-
CD14	-	-	-	+	+
pS6	-	-	-	-	-
CD127	+	-	-	-	-
CD4	++	-	-	-	-
CD8	-	++	-	-	-
CD11b	-	-	++	++	++

1369

1370   **Table 5 Details of the individual with NP or PE included in the study**

Parameters	NP (n=30)	PE (n=30)	p Value
Age (years)	31.13 ± 2.9747	31.50 ± 4.1693	0.0741
BMI (kg/m^2)	27.24 ± 2.8048	29.48±3.9295	0.0155
Gestational age (weeks)	38.68± 0.6038	35.53 ± 3.29	<0.0001
Number of living children	0.6000 ± 0.4900	0.4667 ± 0.6182	0.3665

1371

1372   **Table 6 Details of the individual with early-onset preeclampsia or late-onset**
1373   **preeclampsia included in the study**

Parameters	Early-onset preeclampsia (n=11)	Late-onset preeclampsia (n=19)	p Value
The gestational week when blood pressure begins to rise	28.82± 2.8220	36.05± 1.129	< 0.0001
Age (years)	32.45± 4.6768	32.36± 3.8472	0.9568
BMI (kg/m^2)	29.64± 2.6840	28.71±4.4506	0.5388
Gestational age (weeks)	33.45± 3.7887	36.77± 1.2171	0.0014
Number of living children	0.36± 0.5045	0.36 ± 0.4956	0.98

1374

1375

Figure 1

Figure 2

A CD4+ T cells

C01:CXCR3+CCR7midHLA-DR-CD127-
C02:CD38+CXCR3midCD45RA+CCR7+CD127+
C03:CD38+CD28midCD45RA+CCR7+CD127+
C04:CD38+CD28midCD69midICOSmidCD127+
C05:CD38+CD28midHLA-DRmidICOSmidCD127+
C06:CD38+CD28midCD69midICOSmidCD127-
C07:CD38+CD28midCD69-ICOS-CD127-
C08:CD45RA-CCR7+CD69-CD127lowTIGIT-Helios-

C09:CD38-CD28-CCR7-CD127-TIGIT-
C10:CD38-CD28-CCR7-CD127-HLA-DR+
C11:CD38-CD28-CD69+ICOS+HLA-DR+
C12:CD38+CD39+CD86+CD127+HLA-DR+
C13:CD38-CD69+CD127+HLA-DR-
C14:CD38-CD69+CD127-HLA-DR-
C15:CD38midCD69+CD127-PD1midHLA-DR+

B C08: CD45RA- CCR7+CD69-CD127low TIGIT-Helios-CD4+T cells

NP (n=9)
PE (n=8)
GDM (n=8)
GDM&PE (n=7)

C NP   PE
10.87%   23.88%
IL-17A
23.47%   8.39%
Foxp3
CD4

Th17   Treg

D CD45RO / CD4 / DAPI

NP
placental sinusoids

PE
placental sinusoids

CD4   NS
CD45RO   *

E C08: CD45RA- CCR7+CD69-CD127low TIGIT-Helios-CD4+T cells

PD-1
TIM3

F CD8+ T cells

C01 CD38-CXCR3+CCR7+HLA-DR-CD127-
C02 CD38+CXCR3-CCR7+Helios-CD127-
C03 CD38+CXCR3+Helios+CCR7+CD127+
C04 CD38+CXCR3+HeliosmidCCD7+CD127-
C05 CD38+CD45RAmidHelios+CCR7+CD127+
C06 CD38+CD45RAmidHelios+CCR7+CD127+
C07 CD38+HeliosmidCCR7+HLA-DRmidCD127mid
C08 CD38+CD69+CCR7+HLA-DR-CD127mid
C09 CD38+CD69+CCR7+HLA-DRmid CD127mid

C10 CD38-CD69+CCR7-CD69+CD127-
C11 CD38-CD69-CCR7-CD69midCD127-
C12 CD38+PD1+ICOSmidCD86midHLA-DR+
C13 CD38midCD103midPD1midCD69+HLA-DR+
C14 CD38midCD103-PD1midCD69+HLA-DR+
C15 CD38-CD103-PD1midCD69+HLA-DR+
C16 CD38-PD1-CD45RA+HLA-DRmid
C17 CD38-PD1-CD45RA-HLA-DRmid
C18 CD38-PD1-CD45RA-HLA-DR-

G C02: CD38+CXCR3-CCR7+Helios-CD127-CD8+ T cells

NP (n=9)
PE (n=8)
GDM (n=8)
GDM&PE (n=7)

H C02: CD38+CXCR3-CCR7+Helios-CD127-CD8+ T cells

PD-1   TIGIT

Figure 2 figure supplement 1

C01:CD38+CXCR3+CCR7midHLA-DR-
C02:CD38+CCR6+CD39midCCR7midHLA-DR-
C03:CD38+CCR6+CD163midCD39+CCR7midPD1midHLA-DRmid
C04:CD38midHelios+CCR7midCD127mid
C05:CD38+HeliosmidCCR7midCCR7+CD127mid
C06:HeliosmidCCR7+CD127mid
C07:CD38midCD39midCD45RAmidCCR7midHLA-DR+
C08:CD38+PD1midCD69+HLA-DR+
C09:PD1midCD11cmidHeliosmidHLA-DR+
C10:PD1-CD69midHLA-DR-
C11:CD38-PD1-CD69-HLA-DR-

C12:CD38midPD1-CD69-HLA-DR-
C13:ICOSmidHeliosmidCD28midCD69midHLA-DR-
C14:HeliosmidCD28midCD69midHLA-DR-
C15:HeliosmidCD28midCD69midHLA-DRmidCD127mid
C16:CD11cmidHeliosmidCD28-CD69midHLA-DR-
C17:CD163midHeliosmidCD28-CD69+HLA-DR-
C18:HeliosmidCD69+HLA-DR-
C19:TIGITmidHeliosmidHLA-DRmid
C20:CD38midCD39midCD11c+HLA-DRmid
C21:CD38midCD39-CD11cmidCCR7midHLA-DR-
C22:CD38midCD39-CD69mid

Figure 3

Figure 4

A Euthanized at day 18.5 of gestation → Single-cell Suspension → RNA sequencing

RUPP

Anti-inflam Macs
Pro-inflam Macs

B PCA
- Anti-inflam Macs
- Pro-inflam Macs

C Pro-inflam Macs VS Anti-inflam Macs
- Down regulated(2699)
- Not sig(12537)
- Up regulated(2123)

D Anti-inflam Macs   Pro-inflam Macs

Thbs1, Fn1, TGFβ1, Chil3, Slpi, Marco, Gsr, Mgst1, VEGFα, Apoe, TNFrsf1β, IL6, C1qa, C1qb, CXCL1, CCL8, CCL7, CCL2, Folr2, Pltp

E
- Interspecies interaction between organisms — NES=2.0537, p=0.023
- NF-κB signaling — NES=2.6412, p < 0.001
- Epithelial cell morphogenesis — NES=-1.7491, p=0.07
- Tissue Development — NES=-2.0275, p=0.005

Signal2Noise
- Enrichment Profile
- Hits
- Ranking metric scores

F
DMSO — PBS
PLX3397 — PBS, Anti-inflam Macs, Pro-inflam Macs

Embryo absorption rate (%)
Crown-rump length of pups (mm)
Body weight of pups (g)

G
- Day10.5
- Day16.5
Systolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)
Urine Albumin Creatinine Ratio (µg/mg)

H DMSO — PBS
PLX3397 — PBS, Anti-inflam Macs, Pro-inflam Macs

CD44+ CD4+ IL-17A+ T cells (%)
CD11b+ Ly6G+ MDSCs (%)
CD44+ CD8+ T cells (%)

Figure 4 figure supplement 1

Figure 4 figure supplement 2

Figure 5

Figure 5 figure supplement 1

A

Figure 6

Figure 6 figure supplement 1

Figure 6 figure supplement 2

Figure 7

Figure 7 figure supplement 1