

Extracellular vesicles of bone marrow stromal cells rescue chronic lymphocytic leukemia B cells from apoptosis, enhance their migration and induce gene expression modifications

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ONLINE SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX

Online Supplementary Appendix Text

Biological samples and cell culture

All patients had the typical CD19⁺/CD5⁺/CD23⁺ phenotype. PBMCs were isolated by Ficoll-Hypaque gradient centrifugation and B-cells were purified by negative selection, using a CLL B-cell isolation kit (Macs Miltenyi Biotec, Leiden, The Netherlands). The CLL B-cells were cultured at a density of 4×10^6 cells/500 μ l in RPMI 1640 (Lonza, Verviers, Belgium) with 10% fetal bovine serum filtered through a 0.2- μ m filter. These samples were cultured for 24 h before functional studies and RNA extraction. Online Supplementary Table S1 summarizes the patient characteristics. BM-MSCs were harvested from the sternum or iliac crest of healthy volunteers or CLL patients after written informed consent, isolated and cultured as previously described¹. Additional details about MSC characterization are provided in Supplemental Information Figure S1.

Extracellular vesicle characterization

BM-MSC EVs were characterized by a latex bead technique; the EV pellet was incubated with 10 μ l of fluorochrome-conjugated monoclonal antibody for 15 minutes in the dark. Samples were washed with PBS and centrifuged at $150\,000 \times g$ for 1 hour at 4°C. Labeled EVs were resuspended in 1 ml of PBS and 1 μ l of beads (aldehyde sulfate latex beads 4 μ m-Invitrogen) was added. Samples were incubated overnight at 4°C with gentle agitation, followed by a wash step with centrifugation at $300 \times g$ for 10 minutes. Beads were also incubated with the antibody washed at $150\,000 \times g$ (without sample) as the negative control. EVs labeled with a negative marker (a marker that is not present on the cells from which the EVs were derived; for example, CD45 for BM-MSC EVs) were used as a second negative control. The coated beads were resuspended in PBS before analysis with a MACSQuant Analyzer. Electron microscopy was used to study the morphology of the EVs. The samples were submitted for TEM (transmission electron microscopy). A total of 40 μ l of vesicle suspension was placed on a carbon-coated EM grid, and 0.4 μ l of 25% glutaraldehyde was added. Vesicles were then allowed to settle onto the grid overnight at 4°C. Grids were then blotted on filter paper and stained for 30 seconds with 2% uranyl acetate. After further blotting and drying, samples were directly observed on a Tecnai 10 TEM (FEI). Images were captured with a Veleta camera and processed with iTEM and Adobe Photoshop software.

Monitoring of BM-MSC EV uptake by CLL B-cells

EVs from BM-MSCs were labeled with PKH67, a green fluorescent dye that labels lipid membranes (Sigma Aldrich, Missouri, USA). EVs were incubated in 2 μ l of PKH67 (2 μ M) for 5 minutes, followed by incubation in 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) at room temperature to stop the reaction and washed with PBS at 150 000 \times g to remove excess dye. For the negative control, PBS was incubated with PKH67 and treated with the same procedure. A MACSQuant Analyzer (Miltenyi Biotec) was used to monitor the uptake of EVs by CLL B-target cells. CLL B-cells were cultured with BM-MSC EVs previously labeled with the fluorescent dye PKH67 for 10 minutes, 1 h, 3 h or 24 h. Internalization of EVs was detected within 10 minutes by flow cytometry, and an increased internalization of PKH67 positive EVs was detected with time, as shown with the Mean Fluorescence Intensity (MFI) in the Figure 1. To exclude false positive results due to dye contamination, we added PKH67-labeled PBS to samples. No “dye contamination fluorescence” was detected on samples, confirming that the washing steps in our protocol were efficient. We used flow cytometry to evaluate antigen expression in CLL B-cells after EV integration, and we observed the increased expression of CD63 (microvesicle marker), supporting the antigen transfer theory (data not shown).

Migration assay

Briefly, 10⁶ CLL B-cells were resuspended in 200 μ l of RPMI medium (without serum) and plated in the upper chamber of a 6.6-mm diameter Transwell culture insert in bare polycarbonate with a 5- μ m pore size (Corning Incorporated, NY, USA). The lower chamber of each well contained 500 μ l of RPMI medium with or without SDF-1 α (stromal cell-derived factor 1 α , a CXC chemokine, highly produced by BM-MSCs, that induces CLL cell migration) (100 ng/mL) (R&D Systems, Minneapolis, MN, USA). To evaluate the effect of EVs on cell migration, CLL B-cells were pre-incubated with 2 μ g of BM-MSC EVs or with RPMI alone as a negative control for 4 h. This time of pre-incubation (4h) was chosen to allow the complete integration of EVs in CLL B-cells and the initiation of physiologic effect. After 4 hours of culture, cells were recovered from the lower chamber and concentrated by centrifugation. The absolute number of cells was then determined as follows: 100 μ l of the cell suspension was counted with a MACSQuant Analyzer (Miltenyi Biotec) using the absolute volumetric cell counting function. The migration index was calculated as the number of cells transmigrating in the presence of SDF-1 α divided by the number of transmigrating cells in the absence of SDF-1 α and EVs. CLL B-cells were also pre-incubated during 1h with the CXCR4 antagonist AMD3100 (5 μ g/ml) and pertussis toxin (200ng/ml), a G-protein inhibitor, in order to evaluate action mechanism of EVs. The migration ratio represents the

number of migrating cells in each condition divided by the spontaneous migrating cells (in absence of EVs).

Measure of genes involved in apoptosis

Myeloid cell leukemia 1 (Mcl-1) intracellular expression was determined by flow cytometry using primary unconjugated antibody with a secondary antibody coupled to FITC (Immunoglobulin swine F(ab')₂ / DAKO, Denmark) and cell lymphoma extra-large (BCL-XL), X-linked inhibitor apoptosis protein (XIAP), B-cell CLL/lymphoma 2 (BCL2) and BCL2-associated X protein (BAX) expression were investigated by qPCR (quantitative real-time PCR) with specific primers.

Drugs for chemosensitivity assay

Flavopiridol (Sigma-Aldrich, Bornem, Belgium) and fludarabine (FLUDARA; Schering AG, Berlin, Germany) were dissolved to make stock solutions in water at 1 µM and 100 µM, respectively. Bortezomib (VELCADE) (Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, MA, USA) was dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide at a concentration of 1 mM. Cladribine (2CdA) (Sigma-Aldrich) and methylprednisolone (Sigma-Aldrich) were dissolved in absolute ethanol. Ibrutinib, idelalisib (CAL-101) and venetoclax (ABT-199) (Selleckchem.com, Munich, Germany) were diluted in water at a concentration of 1mM for ibrutinib and idelalisib and 1µM for venetoclax. Stock solutions in DMSO were stored at -20°C. CLL B-cells were pre-incubated with 2 µg of BM-MSC EVs or with RPMI as a negative control for 4 h and placed into 24-well plates with drugs. Apoptosis was then evaluated after 24 h by Annexin-V/7AAD labeling as described in the main manuscript. The results were normalized to the negative control (cells without drug and EVs).

Gene expression profile and bioinformatic analysis

Gene expression profiles comparing CLL cells cultured with or without 5 µg of EVs were performed as previously described ². Total RNA was extracted from CLL B-cells cultured with or without 5 µg of EVs in a single step with TriPure Isolation Reagent (Roche Applied Science). Microarray analysis was performed using 120 ng of RNA with the Affymetrix GeneChip® Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array (Affymetrix, High Wycombe, UK). Amplification, hybridization, and scanning were performed according to standard Affymetrix protocols as described previously ². The data discussed in this publication have been deposited in the NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus and are accessible through GEO Series accession number GSE82051 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE82051>). A comparative and explorative gene

expression profile was determined for 6 samples. CLL B-cells were obtained from 3 different patients and were incubated with or without EVs for 24 h. We identified significant differences between sample groups using the BRB Array Tools (Biometric Research Branch, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MA, USA). Only probe sets defined as present by the Affymetrix algorithm in at least 80% (5/6) of the cases were considered for further analysis. We performed two-sample paired t tests with a random variance model on the two groups, with or without EVs, for each gene. The false discovery rate (FDR) correction was applied but not used because of the low number of paired samples (n=3). However, genes of interest were further validated on a larger number of patient samples by real-time PCR. Using BRB gene set expression comparison tools, overrepresentation of gene ontology (GO) categories were investigated by the least squares (LS) permutation test. The “SuperExactTest” was applied to assess the statistical significance of intersections between different gene signatures. This test provides a p value characterizing the statistical difference between the expected and the obtained overlaps as described by Wang and colleagues³. To calculate this parameter, we used 12500 genes as total number of genes (obtained by removing the probesets considered as “absent” by the detection call algorithm in 80% of samples and by reducing this number to only one probeset per gene (the most expressed)).

Flow cytometry analysis

All harvested cells were analyzed on a MACSQuant Analyzer flow cytometer (Miltenyi Biotec). To establish the phenotype of CLL B-cells and BM-MSCs, the cells were washed with PBS, resuspended in 100 µl and labeled with specific fluorochrome-labeled monoclonal antibodies for 15 minutes in the dark. All antibodies are listed in the Online Supplementary Table S9. Cells were washed with PBS, fixed with a 4 % formaldehyde solution and a minimum of 20 000 cells were acquired. Collected data from all experiments were analyzed using FCS 3.0 (De Novo analysis software, Los Angeles, CA, USA). BM-MSCs were characterized by the positive expression of CD105, CD73, CD90, CD146 and CD166 and were negative for CD45 as presented in the Online Supplementary Figure S1. We compared the expression of these markers with the BM-MSCs obtained from healthy and CLL patients as presented in the Online Supplementary Table S10. CLL B-cells were characterized by the typical CD5+, CD19+ and CD23+ phenotype.

Validation by Real-time PCR analysis (qPCR)

We used 12.5 ng of cDNA produced by standard reverse transcription in a qPCR reaction with power SYBR® Green PCR Master Mix (Life Technologies, Merelbeke, Belgium) and 0.32 µM gene-specific

forward and reverse primers (Life Technologies, Merelbeke, Belgium). Primer sequences are listed in the Online Supplementary Table S11. Standard real-time PCR was performed on an ABI VIAA7 (Life Technologies). To ensure that all expression levels were comparable, the data were normalized to the cyclophilin A gene (PPIA) as an endogenous control and calibrated by subtracting 10 (chosen arbitrarily) from the ΔCt value. The comparative $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method was then applied for data analysis, and fold changes were subsequently calculated ($\text{fold change} = 2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$) as described by Van Damme et al ⁴.

EV effect on CLL B-cell BCR activation

To evaluate if EVs can induce a BCR activation, Raji cell line or CLL cells were incubated with 2 μg of EVs and BCR signaling was evaluated by examining intracellular calcium flux, ERK and AKT phosphorylation. Stimulation with a goat F(ab')₂ anti-human IgM (SouthernBiotech - final concentration 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) was used as positive control. Briefly, B cells at $1 \times 10^6/\text{mL}$ were incubated in Hanks Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS) containing 5mM Fluo-8AM (Molecular Probes) and 0.02% (vol/vol) Pluronic F-127 (Sigma) for 45 minutes at 37°C. The mean of fluorescence intensity (MFI) was first measured by flow cytometry, normalized by the MFI of untreated cells and plotted every 10 seconds. Samples were subsequently treated with 1 μM of ionomycin (Sigma), which elicited robust calcium fluxes in all samples. The phosphorylation of ERK and AKT was evaluated by flow cytometry. After EV addition (or IgM stimulation as positive control), Raji cell line or CLL cells were fixed and permeabilized using the Cell Signaling Buffer Set A (Miltenyi Biotec). Cells were then stained with anti-ERK 1/2 pT202, pY204 PE (Miltenyi Biotec) and anti-AKT pS543 PE antibodies (Miltenyi Biotec) during 30 min. Flow cytometry (FC) data were acquired with a MacsQuant analyzer (MACS Miltenyi Biotec) and the analysis was performed with FCS 4 Express software (DeNovo Software). Data were presented as the mean fluorescence intensity ratio of IgM stimulation/unstimulated cells and EV treatment/untreated cells.

MicroRNA quantification

microRNA expression was measured using the TaqMan microRNA quantitative PCR (Life Technologies, Merelbeke, Belgium). Briefly, 10 ng of total RNA were reverse-transcribed using the microRNA reverse transcription kit (Life Technologies) and a specific reverse transcription stem-loop primer, according to the manufacturer's protocol. All reactions were run in duplicate. We measured expression of the endogenous control, RNU48 (Life Technologies), under the same conditions for all our samples. The expression of each microRNA relative to RNU48 was determined using the $\Delta\Delta\text{cycle}$

threshold (Ct) method. MicroRNA levels are expressed in fold change of the target miR expression and calibrated by subtracting 10 (arbitrarily chosen) from the ΔCt . The fold changes were subsequently calculated (fold change = $2^{\exp(-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct})}$).

Online Supplementary Appendix Tables

list	Sex	Age	Stade	IgVH	ZAP	LPL	CD38
P1	F	59	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P2	F	75	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P3	F	58	A	ND	NEG	NEG	NEG
P4	F	54	A	ND	POS	POS	POS
P5	F	53	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P6	F	62	A	NM	POS	POS	POS
P7	F	61	A	M	NEG	NEG	POS
P8	F	60	A	NM	POS	POS	ND
P9	F	70	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P10	F	59	A	ND	NEG	NEG	NEG
P11	F	63	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P12	F	62	A	NM	POS	POS	POS
P13	F	58	A	M	POS	POS	NEG
P14	F	43	A	M	POS	POS	NEG
P15	F	67	A	ND	NEG	POS	POS
P16	F	56	A	NM	POS	POS	NEG
P17	M	75	A	ND	POS	POS	POS
P18	M	62	A	ND	ND	ND	NEG
P19	M	62	A	M	NEG	NEG	POS
P20	M	60	A	M	NEG	POS	NEG
P21	M	78	A	oligoclonal	POS	POS	POS
P22	M	51	A	M	NEG	POS	NEG
P23	M	66	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P24	M	69	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P25	M	68	A	oligoclonal	NEG	NEG	POS
P26	M	53	A	ND	NEG	POS	NEG
P27	M	42	A	NM	POS	POS	NEG
P28	M	57	A	NM	POS	POS	NEG
P29	M	59	A	M	NEG	NEG	NEG
P30	M	52	A	M	NEG	POS	NEG
P31	M	50	A	NM	ND	ND	POS
P32	F	51	B	ND	POS	POS	POS
P33	M	58	B	NM	POS	POS	NEG
P34	M	51	B	M	NEG	POS	POS
P35	M	54	B	NM	POS	POS	POS
P36	M	49	B	NM	POS	NEG	POS
P37	M	65	B	NM	POS	POS	POS
P38	M	62	B	ND	NEG	NEG	NEG
P39	M	65	C	NM	POS	POS	NEG
P40	M	68	C	oligoclonal	NEG	POS	ND

Table S1: Patient characteristics. The forty patients used in the study were diagnosed with CLL. Sex, age, stage, IgVH (Immunoglobulin variable heavy chain region) – ZAP70 (zeta-associated protein 70) – LPL (lipoprotein lipase) and CD38 (CD38 molecule) status (M=mutated/NM=unmutated/ND=not determined). These prognostic factors were assessed as previously described ⁵.

Drugs	Concentrations
Bortezomib	5 nM
Cladribine	500 nM
Flavopiridol	10 nM
Fludarabine	3 μ M
Methylprednisolone	10 μ M
Ibrutinib	10 μ M
Idelalisib	10 μ M
Venetoclax	10nM

Table S2: Concentrations of drugs tested in the chemosensitivity assay. We used specific concentrations based on the half maximal (50%) inhibitory concentrations (IC50) as previously established by Stamatopoulos and colleagues ²

	GO category	GO ontology	GO term	Number of genes	LS permutation p-value
1	GO:0007267	BP	cell-cell signaling	<u>24</u>	0.00658
2	GO:0003779	MF	actin binding	<u>18</u>	0.0107
3	GO:0007268	BP	synaptic transmission	<u>16</u>	0.01076
4	GO:0015629	CC	actin cytoskeleton	<u>15</u>	0.0125
5	GO:0045944	BP	positive regulation of transcription from RNA polymerase II promoter	<u>25</u>	0.01881
6	GO:0001228	MF	RNA polymerase II transcription regulatory region sequence-specific DNA binding transcription factor activity involved in positive regulation of transcription	<u>5</u>	0.01962
7	GO:0008289	MF	lipid binding	<u>13</u>	0.02454
8	GO:0045893	BP	positive regulation of transcription, DNA-templated	<u>31</u>	0.03033
9	GO:1902680	BP	positive regulation of RNA biosynthetic process	<u>31</u>	0.03033
10	GO:0000982	MF	RNA polymerase II core promoter proximal region sequence-specific DNA binding transcription factor activity	<u>6</u>	0.03106
11	GO:0051254	BP	positive regulation of RNA metabolic process	<u>32</u>	0.03146
12	GO:0050804	BP	regulation of synaptic transmission	<u>6</u>	0.03507
13	GO:0008092	MF	cytoskeletal protein binding	<u>31</u>	0.03701
14	GO:1901652	BP	response to peptide	<u>17</u>	0.04614
15	GO:0034728	BP	nucleosome organization	<u>6</u>	0.04804
16	GO:0071824	BP	protein-DNA complex subunit organization	<u>6</u>	0.04804
17	GO:0045935	BP	positive regulation of nucleobase-containing compound metabolic process	<u>36</u>	0.04956
18	GO:0051173	BP	positive regulation of nitrogen compound metabolic process	<u>36</u>	0.04956
19	GO:0002790	BP	peptide secretion	<u>5</u>	0.0497
20	GO:0015833	BP	peptide transport	<u>5</u>	0.0497
21	GO:0005102	MF	receptor binding	<u>29</u>	0.05084

Table S3: Gene set enrichment (GO categories) using BRB array tools. Using BRB array tools, we performed gene set enrichment analysis investigating gene GO categories. The upregulated genes in CLL B-cells after EV treatment were highly represented in the categories of cell-cell signaling (GO:0007267), actin cytoskeleton organization (GO:0015629, GO:0007010, GO:0030036), receptor binding (GO:0005102) and positive regulation transcription (GO:0001228).

ProbeSet	Symbol	Parametric p-value	FDR Crompot	Geometric mean Crompot	Parametric p-value Burger	FDR Burger	Geometric mean Burger	Parametric p-value Guarini	FDR Guarini	Geometric mean Guarini
<u>244480 at</u>	<u>TCF4</u>	0.0016352	0.93	-2.38	0.0020926	0.03	-1.85	0.0231109	0.0752	-1.18
<u>1558877 at</u>		0.0034705	0.93	-2.13	0.0005616	0.02	-1.69	0.0004932	0.0129	-1.33
<u>230364 at</u>	<u>CHPT1</u>	0.0015667	0.93	-2.13	0.0031984	0.04	-1.89	0.0035465	0.0268	-1.27
<u>209967 s at</u>	<u>CREM</u>	0.0007252	0.93	-2.13	0.0025909	0.03	-4.00	0.0023428	0.0223	1.26
<u>236260 at</u>		0.0066831	0.93	-2.08	0.0021637	0.03	-2.17	0.0022321	0.0218	-1.25
<u>238983 at</u>	<u>NSUN7</u>	0.0020277	0.93	-2.08	0.0036369	0.04	-1.72	0.0087642	0.0416	-1.25
<u>231472 at</u>	<u>FBXO15</u>	0.0014771	0.93	-2.08	0.0004168	0.01	-2.63	0.0461802	0.118	-1.22
<u>231166 at</u>	<u>GPR155</u>	0.0077568	0.93	-2.04	0.0009683	0.02	-2.27	0.0005218	0.0129	-1.39
<u>243469 at</u>	<u>ELF2 E74</u>	0.0044298	0.93	-2.00	0.0001376	0.01	-1.92	0.0006382	0.0144	-1.27
<u>241861 at</u>	<u>SYCP3</u>	0.0074234	0.93	-1.89	0.0244041	0.11	-1.45	0.0000919	0.011	-1.61
<u>210377 at</u>	<u>ACSM3</u>	0.0065966	0.93	-1.89	0.0002657	0.01	-2.38	0.0024557	0.0225	-1.37
<u>244860 at</u>	<u>SIK3</u>	0.0315227	0.93	-1.89	0.0401969	0.14	-1.35	0.0031007	0.0248	-1.18
<u>243915 at</u>		0.0012035	0.93	-1.85	0.0290873	0.12	-1.43	0.0031086	0.0248	1.33
<u>222378 at</u>	<u>LOC378805</u>	0.014539	0.93	-1.72	0.0050321	0.05	-1.92	0.0139713	0.0544	-1.22
<u>233483 at</u>	<u>TBC1D27</u>	0.0151178	0.93	-1.72	0.0335387	0.13	-1.33	0.006453	0.0347	-1.20
<u>212094 at</u>	<u>PEG10</u>	0.0164605	0.93	-1.69	0.0000114	0.01	-1.69	0.0038612	0.0275	-1.45
<u>237187 at</u>	<u>HRK</u>	0.0149487	0.93	-1.67	0.0010440	0.02	-2.04	0.0016088	0.0196	-1.32
<u>236621 at</u>	<u>RPS27</u>	0.0336616	0.93	-1.67	0.0376326	0.14	-1.33	0.0041761	0.0281	-1.18
<u>210785 s at</u>	<u>THEMIS2</u>	0.0037767	0.93	-1.67	0.0000632	0.01	-2.50	0.0410023	0.109	-1.16
<u>235765 at</u>	<u>TLE4</u>	0.0320591	0.93	-1.64	0.0027831	0.04	-1.28	0.0148042	0.0567	-1.20
<u>237741 at</u>	<u>SLC25A36</u>	0.0128476	0.93	-1.61	0.0153590	0.09	-1.43	0.0107355	0.0463	-1.18
<u>210069 at</u>		0.0286858	0.93	-1.61	0.0112093	0.07	-1.27	0.0156074	0.0581	-1.14
<u>233614 at</u>		0.0320958	0.93	-1.59	0.0071181	0.06	-1.64	0.0048012	0.0296	-1.25
<u>226164 x at</u> <u>t</u>	<u>RIMKLB</u>	0.0065561	0.93	-1.59	0.0203715	0.10	-1.45	0.0125172	0.0512	-1.18
<u>240174 at</u>		0.0491966	0.93	-1.56	0.0209487	0.10	-1.30	0.00096	0.0169	-1.28
<u>208078 s at</u>	<u>SIK1</u>	0.013732	0.93	-1.56	0.0029716	0.04	-2.17	0.0462271	0.118	-1.15
<u>204194 at</u>	<u>BACH1</u>	0.0171662	0.93	-1.52	0.0012402	0.02	-2.08	0.0024636	0.0225	-1.18
<u>1557242 at</u>		0.0204808	0.93	-1.49	0.0087357	0.06	1.23	0.011452	0.0483	-1.20

<u>235694 at</u>	<u>TCFL5</u>	0.0149852	0.93	-1.45	0.0245322	0.11	-1.75	0.0002045	0.0123	-1.41
<u>212960 at</u>	<u>TBC1D9</u>	0.0242395	0.93	-1.45	0.0433257	0.15	-1.20	0.0004966	0.0129	-1.33
<u>231911 at</u>	<u>ERMN</u>	0.0418543	0.93	-1.45	0.0017055	0.03	-2.04	0.0013616	0.0183	-1.30
<u>207237 at</u>	<u>KCNA3</u>	0.0232545	0.93	-1.45	0.0273898	0.12	-1.27	0.0057739	0.0324	-1.28
<u>201369 s at</u>	<u>ZFP36L2</u>	0.0200635	0.93	-1.45	0.0120842	0.08	-1.64	0.0085132	0.041	-1.22
<u>212451 at</u>	<u>SECISBP2L</u>	0.0223021	0.93	-1.43	0.0018268	0.03	-1.54	0.0037975	0.0275	-1.20
<u>215102 at</u>	<u>DPY19L1P</u> <u>1</u>	0.0395632	0.93	-1.41	0.0133389	0.08	-1.32	0.0078945	0.0393	-1.23
<u>235459 at</u>	<u>RNF41</u>	0.0489184	0.93	-1.39	0.0040892	0.04	-1.61	0.0073743	0.0375	-1.23
<u>224707 at</u>	<u>CYSTM1</u>	0.0299733	0.93	-1.37	0.0023188	0.03	-2.04	0.0222075	0.0733	1.19
<u>226858 at</u>	<u>CSNK1E</u>	0.0444659	0.93	-1.35	0.0050642	0.05	-1.67	0.0180606	0.0638	-1.20
<u>206759 at</u>	<u>FCER2</u>	0.0449327	0.93	1.34	0.0152915	0.09	2.17	0.0488493	0.122	1.22
<u>213831 at</u>		0.0489728	0.93	1.37	0.0426300	0.15	1.69	0.0464339	0.118	1.30
<u>206206 at</u>	<u>CD180</u>	0.0269908	0.93	1.43	0.0000097	0.01	2.91	0.0172653	0.0618	1.30
<u>225540 at</u>	<u>MAP2</u>	0.02693	0.93	1.43	0.0034505	0.04	1.90	0.0204279	0.0692	1.33
<u>205291 at</u>	<u>IL2RB</u>	0.0272784	0.93	1.43	0.0031467	0.04	1.63	0.0013416	0.0183	1.34
<u>204674 at</u>	<u>LRMP</u>	0.0355773	0.93	1.43	0.0001626	0.01	2.18	0.002204	0.0217	1.49
<u>221581 s at</u>	<u>LAT2</u>	0.0396273	0.93	1.44	0.0165749	0.09	1.57	0.0003449	0.0123	1.43
<u>1563674 at</u>	<u>FCRL2</u>	0.023706	0.93	1.47	0.0206558	0.10	1.97	0.0130302	0.0522	-1.14
<u>205659 at</u>	<u>HDAC9</u>	0.0246864	0.93	1.48	0.0004732	0.02	2.16	0.0275198	0.0833	1.22
<u>239975 at</u>	<u>HLA-DPB2</u>	0.0384864	0.93	1.51	0.0012243	0.02	3.18	0.0071912	0.0371	1.33
<u>204135 at</u>	<u>FILIP1L</u>	0.0403201	0.93	1.54	0.0004489	0.01	2.77	0.0132365	0.0527	1.29
<u>244413 at</u>	<u>CLECL1</u>	0.015429	0.93	1.57	0.0000235	0.01	2.45	0.0404825	0.109	1.18
<u>226147 s at</u>	<u>PIGR</u>	0.0353852	0.93	1.57	0.0001939	0.01	3.25	0.0050604	0.0302	1.56
<u>204032 at</u>	<u>BCAR3</u>	0.0451759	0.93	1.58	0.0000281	0.01	2.61	0.0003419	0.0123	1.99
<u>226517 at</u>	<u>BCAT1</u>	0.0251515	0.93	1.71	0.0419284	0.15	1.60	0.0014015	0.0184	2.20
<u>201577 at</u>	<u>NME1</u>	0.0456957	0.93	1.73	0.0239437	0.11	1.86	0.0008131	0.0158	1.95
<u>203471 s at</u>	<u>PLEK</u>	0.0296043	0.93	1.79	0.0034663	0.04	2.92	0.0095134	0.0437	1.42
<u>201694 s at</u>	<u>EGR1</u>	0.0049216	0.93	1.83	0.0000579	0.01	2.39	0.0002389	0.0123	2.49
<u>203504 s at</u>	<u>ABCA1</u>	0.0101293	0.93	1.84	0.0303216	0.12	1.81	0.0352116	0.0985	-1.16

<u>237753_at</u>	<u>IL21R</u>	0.0295439	0.93	1.84	0.0361478	0.14	1.67	0.0015811	0.0196	1.79
<u>223751_x_at</u>	<u>TLR10</u>	0.0142748	0.93	1.88	0.0004388	0.01	2.76	0.0060941	0.0334	1.46
<u>200953_s_at</u>	<u>CCND2</u>	0.0135025	0.93	1.94	0.0104396	0.07	2.21	0.0010871	0.0173	1.64
<u>236099_at</u>		0.0059956	0.93	1.96	0.0000409	0.01	3.83	0.0027729	0.024	2.30
<u>202391_at</u>	<u>BASP1</u>	0.0128482	0.93	2.00	0.0017401	0.03	1.72	0.0003798	0.0124	1.61
<u>212295_s_at</u>	<u>SLC7A1</u>	0.0153344	0.93	2.03	0.0032142	0.04	1.60	0.0007901	0.0157	1.77
<u>200629_at</u>	<u>WARS</u>	0.0113106	0.93	2.24	0.0037782	0.04	2.41	0.0006497	0.0144	2.46
<u>205249_at</u>	<u>EGR2</u>	0.0165075	0.93	2.25	0.0000728	0.01	4.35	0.0001687	0.0123	3.60
<u>201761_at</u>	<u>MTHFD2</u>	0.0110963	0.93	2.65	0.0099564	0.07	1.81	0.0002699	0.0123	2.40
<u>205114_s_at</u>	<u>CCL3</u>	0.0207883	0.93	3.75	0.0095773	0.07	6.11	0.0000441	0.011	7.91
<u>206115_at</u>	<u>EGR3</u>	0.01632	0.93	3.77	0.0000780	0.01	7.80	0.0008653	0.0164	3.63
<u>204103_at</u>	<u>CCL4</u>	0.0116537	0.93	4.62	0.0036825	0.04	8.74	0.0000673	0.011	7.79

Table S4: List of 69 genes common in CLL B-cells activated by 3 different microenvironmental stimuli. We compared our microarray results with 2 previously published studies on CLL B-cells activated by NLC culture ⁶ or BCR stimulation using anti-IgM ⁷. We obtained many similarities between the differentially expressed genes, and 69 genes were common among all three studies. (FDR= False discovery rate)

	Crompton	Burger	Guarini
Crompton et al. 2016		9%	11%
Burger et al. 2009	28%		27%
Guarini et al. 2008	22%	17%	

Table S5: Percentage similarity between signatures of CLL B-cells activated by 3 different microenvironmental stimuli. We used public microarray signatures from 2 different studies on CLL B-cells activated by NLC culture or by BCR stimulation^{6;7}. Guarini shared 11 and 27% of the common differentially expressed genes with microarray signatures from Crompton and Burger, respectively, whereas Burger shared 9 and 17 % of the common differentially expressed genes with signatures from Crompton and Guarini, respectively. In total, 28% and 22 % of the differentially expressed genes in CLL B-cells pre-treated with EVs were in common with signatures obtained by Burger and Guarini, respectively.

ProbeSet	Parametric p-value	FDR	GM	Symbol	Parametric p-value Burger	FDR Burger	GM Burger	Parametric p-value Guarini	FDR Guarini	GM Guarini	Parametric p-value Herishanu BM	FDR Herishanu BM	GM Herishanu BM	Parametric p-value Herishanu LN	FDR Herishanu LN	GM Herishanu LN
1558882_at	0.0081721	0.93	1.87	HTATSF1P2												
1552742_at	0.0019666	0.93	1.87	KCNH8												
226560_at	0.0353017	0.93	1.87	SGPP2				0.0053063	0.0308	1.39						
223751_x_at	0.0142748	0.93	1.88	TLR10	0.0004388	0.01	2.76	0.0060941	0.0334	1.46				0.0000001	4.76E-07	1.63
204440_at	0.0198748	0.93	1.92	CD83				0.0008872	0.0165	2.03	0.0003388	0.000504	1.47	0.0000001	0.0000001	2.89
200953_s_at	0.0135025	0.93	1.94	CCND2	0.0104396	0.07	2.21	0.0010871	0.0173	1.64	0.0000103	0.0000358	1.4	0.0000001	0.0000001	2.33
202391_at	0.0128482	0.93	2	BASP1	0.0017401	0.03	1.72	0.0003798	0.0124	1.61				0.0000001	0.0000001	1.48
212295_s_at	0.0153344	0.93	2.03	SLC7A1	0.0032142	0.04	1.60	0.0007901	0.0157	1.77						
241278_at	0.0011709	0.93	2.05	FCRL3	0.0014897	0.03	1.96									
202431_s_at	0.0073695	0.93	2.12	MYC				0.0024242	0.0225	2.05				0.0000059	0.0000131	2.21
206641_at	0.0081022	0.93	2.16	TNFRSF17	0.0000138	0.01	7.63							0.0004591	0.000564	1.41
224405_at	0.0069175	0.93	2.19	FCRL5	0.0008401	0.02	3.30									
200629_at	0.0113106	0.93	2.24	WARS	0.0037782	0.04	2.41	0.0006497	0.0144	2.46						
205249_at	0.0165075	0.93	2.25	EGR2	0.0000728	0.01	4.35	0.0001687	0.0123	3.60	0.0000051	0.0000234	2.42	0.0000001	4.76E-07	3.69
201669_s_at	0.0009462	0.93	2.33	MARCKS				0.0056968	0.0322	1.50						
201761_at	0.0110963	0.93	2.65	MTHFD2	0.0099564	0.07	1.81	0.0002699	0.0123	2.40				0.0000001	0.0000001	2.25
235122_at	0.0105866	0.93	3.58	HIVEP3	0.0046659	0.04	2.18									
205114_s_at	0.0207883	0.93	3.75	CCL3	0.0095773	0.07	6.11	0.0000441	0.011	7.91	0.0051931	0.0425	1.61	0.0000001	0.0000001	8.33
206115_at	0.01632	0.93	3.77	EGR3	0.000078	0.01	7.80	0.0008653	0.0164	3.63	0.0000003	0.00000433	2.65	0.0000014	0.00000421	2.9
204103_at	0.0116537	0.93	4.62	CCL4	0.0036825	0.04	8.74	0.0000673	0.011	7.79	0.0000399	0.0000979	1.95	0.0000001	0.0000001	6.16

Table S6: Comparison of microarray profiles between CLL B-cells activated by EVs from BM-MSK, by NLC culture, and CLL B-cells from lymph nodes (LN) and bone marrow (BM) —the 20 most increased genes. We listed the 20 most differentially expressed genes in our microarray signatures compared with signature of CLL B-cells activated by NLC culture and with signature of CLL B-cells coming from LN and BM. We observed multiple common genes; between 5 and 50% of genes were similar.

ProbeSet	Parametric p-value	FDR	GM	Symbol	Parametric p-value Burger	FDR Burger	GM Burger	Parametric p-value Guarini	FDR Guarini	GM Guarini	Parametric p-value Herishanu BM	FDR Herishanu BM	GM Herishanu BM	Parametric p-value Herishanu LN	FDR Herishanu LN	GM Herishanu LN
203474_at	0.000852	0.93	-3.03	IQGAP2												
214481_at	0.000282	0.93	-2.70	HIST1H2AM										0.0028611	0.00312	1.37
230505_at	0.000822	0.93	-2.63	LOC145474	0.000035	0.01	-2.22									
208547_at	0.000245	0.93	-2.63	HIST1H2BB	0.036171	0.14	-1.47									
210387_at	0.000521	0.93	-2.56	NCALD				0.0215648	0.0716	-1.19						
226430_at	0.000930	0.93	-2.56	RELL1												
214472_at	0.004179	0.93	-2.50	HIST1H3D	0.001371	0.03	-1.37							0.0000001	0.00453	1.57
214469_at	0.000281	0.93	-2.44	HIST1H2AE										0.0000297	0.0000502	1.58
244480_at	0.001635	0.93	-2.38	TCF4	0.002093	0.03	-1.85	0.0231109	0.0752	-1.18						
215779_s_at	0.001441	0.93	-2.38	HIST1H2BG										0.0000001	0.000254	1.92
225767_at	0.000847	0.93	-2.33	LOC283501	0.000682	0.02	-5.00							0.0000001	0.0178	1.49
236561_at	0.007771	0.93	-2.33	TGFBR1	0.003767	0.04	-1.61									
202254_at	0.001188	0.93	-2.27	SIPA1L1	0.001121	0.02	-1.89							0.0000003	0.0000012	-1.67
208575_at	0.000520	0.93	-2.27	HIST1H3A												
1556055_at	0.006130	0.93	-2.22	LOC283501												
215967_s_at	0.001343	0.93	-2.22	LY9	0.013431	0.08	-2.08									
235683_at	0.001753	0.93	-2.22	SESN3				0.015922	0.0589	-1.20						
1561469_at	0.003764	0.93	-2.17	OC10192886	0.021923	0.10	-1.22				0.0000002	0.0000122	1.45			
1556750_at	0.004939	0.93	-2.17	LOC153577												
209967_s_at	0.000725	0.93	-2.13	CREM	0.002591	0.03	-4.00	0.0023428	0.0223	1.26						

Table S7: Comparison of microarray profiles between CLL B-cells activated by EVs from BM-MSc, by NLC culture, and CLL B-cells from lymph nodes (LN) and bone marrow (BM) —the 20 most decreased genes. We listed the 20 most differentially expressed decreased genes in our microarray signatures compared with signature of CLL B-cells activated by NLC culture and with signature of CLL B-cells coming from LN and BM. We observed multiple common genes; between 30 and 85% of genes were similar.

ProbeSet	Symbol	Parametric p-value	FDR Crompot	GM Crompot	Parametric p-value	FDR Herishanu	GM Herishanu	Parametric p-value	FDR Herishanu	GM Herishanu
<u>222139</u> at	<u>ERV3-2</u>	0.0120762	0.93	-1.96	0.0000071	0.00	-1.54	0.0003011	0.000458	-1.33
<u>242163</u> at	<u>THRAP3</u>	0.0127298	0.93	-1.92	0.0000469	0.00	1.54	0.0016418	0.00196	1.34
<u>243996</u> at	<u>#N/A</u>	0.0420794	0.93	-1.75	0.0000026	0.02	-1.41	0.000131	0.00428	-1.49
<u>222378</u> at	<u>LOC378805</u>	0.014539	0.93	-1.72	0.0000001	0.00	2.81	0.0039845	0.0358	1.35
<u>223044</u> at	<u>SLC40A1</u>	0.0113652	0.93	-1.72	0.0000004	0.00	2.26	0.0000002	0.0000034	2.38
<u>238987</u> at	<u>B4GALT1</u>	0.01053	0.93	-1.64	0.0007103	0.00	1.60	0.0009489	0.0012	1.34
<u>208078</u> s at	<u>SIK1</u>	0.013732	0.93	-1.56	0.0000012	0.00	2.16	0.033681	0.137	1.36
<u>202499</u> s at	<u>SLC2A3</u>	0.0106537	0.93	-1.52	0.0000001	0.00	2.89	0.000301	0.000458	1.51
<u>222557</u> at	<u>STMN3</u>	0.015219	0.93	-1.52	0.0000001	0.00	-2.04	0.0000065	0.0000278	-1.37
<u>218113</u> at	<u>TMEM2</u>	0.0148242	0.93	-1.52	0.0000001	0.00	1.74	0.0000107	0.0000366	1.34
<u>231085</u> s at	<u>PCBD1</u>	0.0392184	0.93	-1.49	0.0002861	0.00	-1.82	0.0001789	0.00514	-1.41
<u>235286</u> at	<u>CKLF</u>	0.0298872	0.93	-1.49	0.0000003	0.00	2.20	0.0000157	0.00126	1.39
<u>242325</u> at	<u>YWHAH</u>	0.0269495	0.93	-1.49	0.0009843	0.00	-1.64	0.0000001	0.00000238	-1.85
<u>208891</u> at	<u>DUSP6</u>	0.0118315	0.93	-1.47	0.0000003	0.00	3.07	0.000002	0.0000122	2.58
<u>208553</u> at	<u>HIST1H1E</u>	0.0171241	0.93	-1.47	0.0125070	0.01	1.51	0.0000019	0.0000121	-1.52
<u>242918</u> at	<u>NASP</u>	0.0362146	0.93	-1.47	0.0000014	0.00	2.10	0.0001015	0.000194	1.38
<u>222088</u> s at	<u>SLC2A14</u>	0.0182502	0.93	-1.47	0.0000038	0.00	2.27	0.000476	0.00923	1.39
<u>237318</u> at	<u>SLC43A3</u>	0.0444614	0.93	-1.45	0.0001234	0.00	-1.82	0.0000002	0.000114	-1.59
<u>241996</u> at	<u>RUFY2</u>	0.0388297	0.93	-1.45	0.0000373	0.00	-1.47	0.0002698	0.000418	-1.32
<u>1560926</u> at	<u>PPP4R2</u>	0.0370256	0.93	-1.43	0.0000003	0.00	1.47	0.0000682	0.00289	1.49
<u>239328</u> at	<u>#N/A</u>	0.046883	0.93	-1.35	0.0030601	0.00	-2.33	0.0000013	0.000329	-1.56
<u>1559044</u> at	<u>EXOSC1</u>	0.0495316	0.93	-1.35	0.0003943	0.00	1.39	0.0002241	0.000365	1.31
<u>226397</u> s at	<u>#N/A</u>	0.046678	0.93	1.51	0.0000001	0.00	2.28	0.0000001	0.0000001	1.79
<u>204135</u> at	<u>FILIP1L</u>	0.0403201	0.93	1.54	0.0000026	0.00	1.74	0.0001045	0.000199	1.56
<u>204032</u> at	<u>BCAR3</u>	0.0451759	0.93	1.58	0.0000001	0.00	2.25	0.0000836	0.000172	1.35
<u>237753</u> at	<u>IL21R</u>	0.0295439	0.93	1.84	0.0000001	0.00	1.72	0.0000002	0.0000034	1.39
<u>1557049</u> at	<u>BTBD19</u>	0.049729	0.93	1.85	0.0000001	0.00	2.78	0.0007296	0.000949	1.48
<u>204440</u> at	<u>CD83</u>	0.0198748	0.93	1.92	0.0000001	0.00	2.89	0.0003388	0.000504	1.47
<u>200953</u> s at	<u>CCND2</u>	0.0135025	0.93	1.94	0.0000001	0.00	2.33	0.0000103	0.0000358	1.40
<u>236099</u> at	<u>#N/A</u>	0.0059956	0.93	1.96	0.0000001	0.00	1.35	0.0003059	0.00717	1.31
<u>205249</u> at	<u>EGR2</u>	0.0165075	0.93	2.25	0.0000001	0.00	3.69	0.0000051	0.0000234	2.42
<u>205114</u> s at	<u>CCL3</u>	0.0207883	0.93	3.75	0.0000001	0.00	8.33	0.0051931	0.0425	1.61
<u>206115</u> at	<u>EGR3</u>	0.01632	0.93	3.77	0.0000014	0.00	2.90	0.0000003	0.00000433	2.65
<u>204103</u> at	<u>CCL4</u>	0.0116537	0.93	4.62	0.0000001	0.00	6.16	0.0000399	0.0000979	1.95

Table S8: List of 39 genes common in CLL B-cells treated with BM-MSC EVs and from lymph nodes (LN) and bone marrow (BM). We compared our microarray results with previously published study on CLL B-cells coming from bone marrow and lymph nodes ⁸. We obtained many similarities between the differentially expressed genes, and 39 genes were common among all three signatures. (FDR= False discovery rate)

Name	Fluorochrome	Provider
CD19	PE	Miltenyi Biotec
CD5	FITC	Miltenyi Biotec
CD23	FITC	Beckman Coulter
CD20	PE	Miltenyi Biotec
CD105	FITC	Ancell Corporation
CD166	PE	BD Biosciences Pharmingen
CD184	PE	BD Biosciences Pharmingen
Annexin-V	FITC	BD Biosciences Pharmingen
7AAD		BD Biosciences Pharmingen
CD146	PC5	Beckman Coulter
CD73	PE	Miltenyi Biotec
CD90	PE	Miltenyi Biotec
CD45	PE-cy7	BD Biosciences Pharmingen
Mcl-1	Uncoupled	Santa Cruz Biotechnology
Immunoglobulin swine anti-rabbit F(ab') ₂	FITC	Dako A/S
CD63	PE	Miltenyi Biotec
CD69	PE	Miltenyi Biotec

Table S9: Antibodies used for flow cytometry analyses. Primary and secondary antibodies used for flow cytometry and PCR manipulations.

Type	CD90	CD146	CD166	CD73	CD105	CD45
Healthy MSC (%)	99.0	98.0	96.0	96.0	96.3	0.9
SEM (n=5)	0.3	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.1
CLL MSC (%)	96.3	96.0	97.7	96.7	95.9	0.8
SD (n=3)	0.3	2.1	0.3	1.5	1.10	0.2

Table S10: Expression of classical markers of MSC obtained from healthy and CLL patients. We determined the expression of CD90/CD146/CD166/CD73/CD105/CD45 on BM-MSCs from healthy and CLL patients (presented by percentage of positive cells with the standard error of the mean (SEM) calculated on 5 and 3 samples for healthy and CLL BM-MSCs, respectively. We did not observe any difference about the expression of these markers and any CD19 positive cells have been detected confirming the purity of the culture.

Name	Forward	Reverse
PPI	GCTCGTGCCGTTTTGCA	GCAAACAGCTCAAAGGAGACG
FCRL5	CCCAGCGCAGTGAGACAGT	GCAAAAAGGGCCACTTCTGTTC
CD69	TGGTGATGAAGACCACATTCA	AGAACAGCTCTTTGCATCCG
CCL4	CGTGTATGACCTGGAAGTGAAGT	TCCCTGAAGACTTCCTGTCTCTGA
HRK	CAGGCGGAACTTGTAGGA	CTCTGGAAACGGGAACC
PDE8A	AGGCGCCCATCACCAA	TGTCACAGGCATGGGACTACTT
LY9	TTCAGCTGGTGCATTTGGAA	TCAGCTTGGCTGGAACAGAA
CCR7	CAGATGCAATGACTCAGGAC	CTGTTTCCCAGTGTTGTCTG
HDAC9	CTCATGCCGAGCAAATGGTT	GACTTAGCAGGTTTCATGGAATCTTC
MCL1	GAGACCTTACGACGGGTT	TTTGATGTCCAGTTTCCG
LPL	CCGCCGACCAAAGAAGAGAT	TTCCTGTTACCGTCCAGCCAT
MYC	CTTCTCTCCGTCCTCGGATTCT	GAAGGTGATCCAGACTCTGACCTT
BCL2	GGCTGGGATGCCTTTGTG	GCCAGGAGAAATCAAACAGAGG
XIAP	AGTGGTAGTCCTGTTTCAGCATCA	CCGCACGGTATCTCCTTCA
BAX	CCTGTGCACCAAGGTGCCGGAAGT	CCACCCTGGTCTTGGATCCAGCCC
BCLXL	GGGGTAAACTGGGGTCGCATT	ACCTGCGGTTGAAGCGTTC

Table S11: Used primer sequences in the qPCR study. Forward and reverse primer sequences of genes studied in CLL B-cells by qPCR.

Online Supplementary Appendix Figures

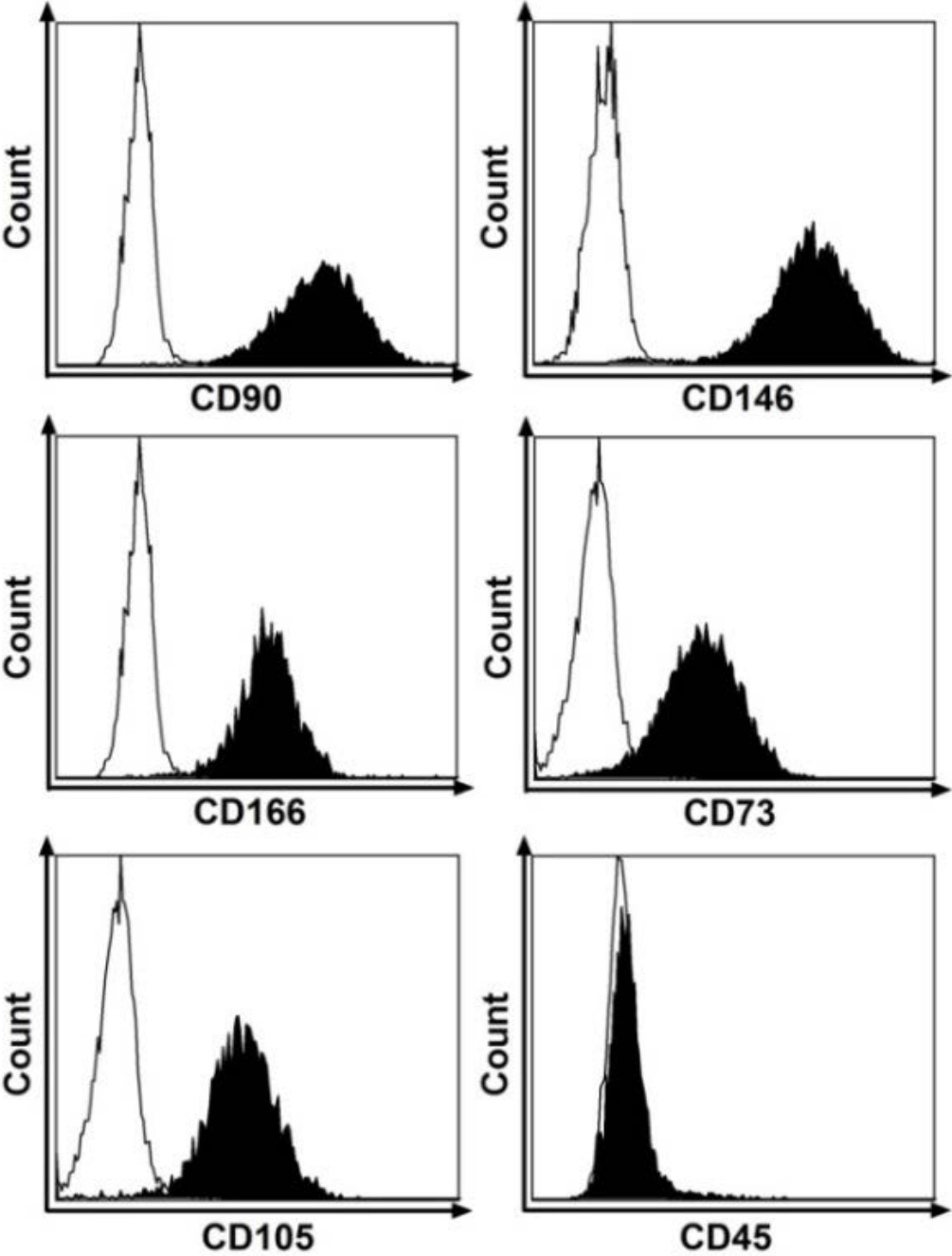


Figure S1: Characterization of BM-MSCs. BM-MSCs were characterized by flow cytometry, they expressed classical markers of MSCs (CD105, 73, 146, 90 and 166) and were negative for CD45. The fibroblast-like morphology was confirmed by optical microscopy.

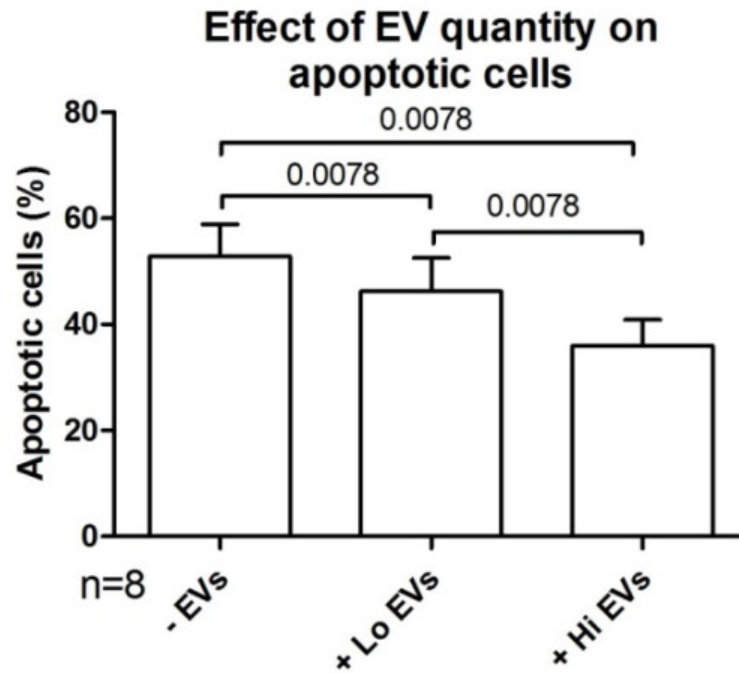


Figure S2: EV quantity effect on CLL B-cell apoptosis. Apoptosis assay was performed on CLL B-cells that received two different quantities of EVs or nothing as a negative control. Low (Lo) EVs means between 0.25 and 1 μ g while High (Hi) EVs means more than 1 μ g for 4 million of cells. We observed a significant impact of higher quantity of EVs on CLL B cell apoptosis.

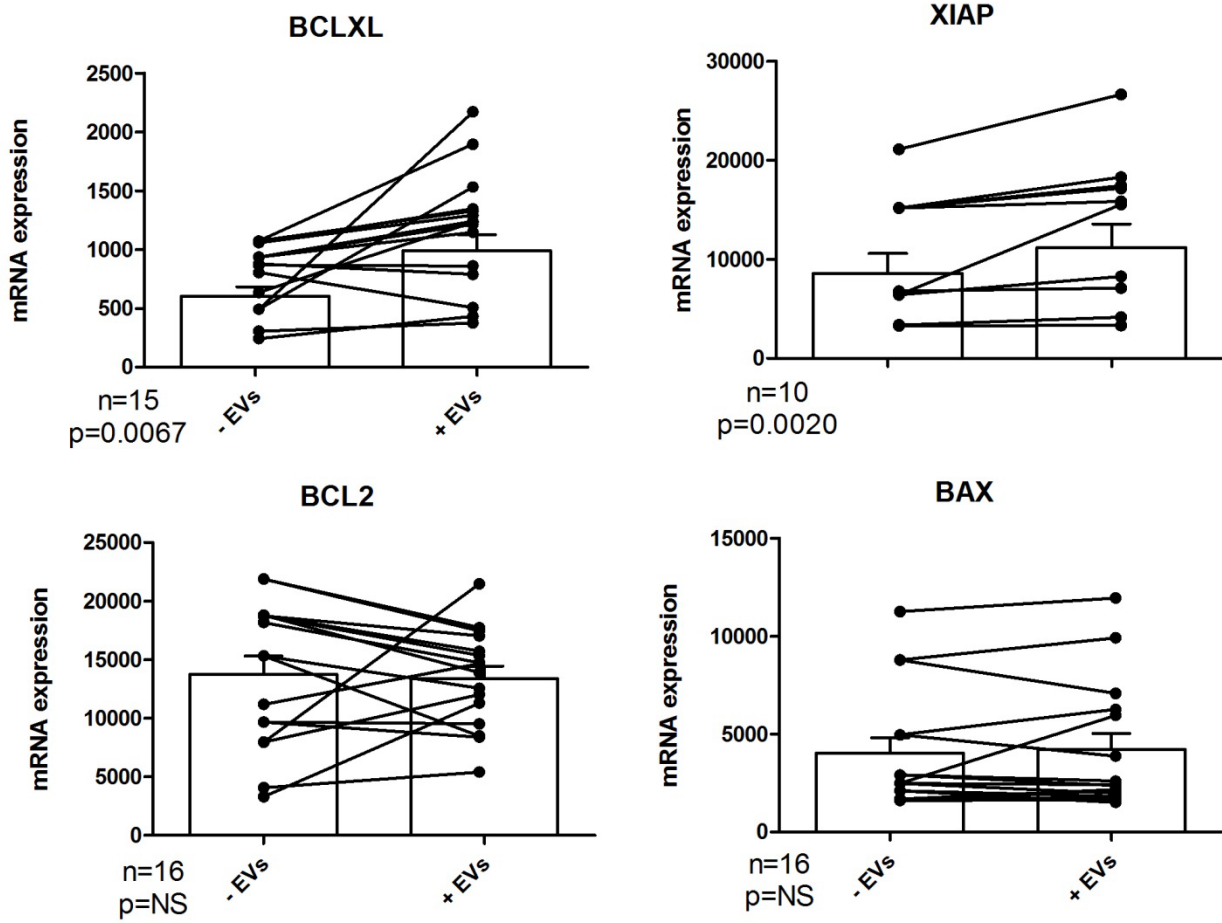


Figure S3: Expression of genes involved in apoptosis after EV integration in CLL B-cells. We studied the expression of BCLXL, XIAP, BCL2 and BAX in CLL B-cells after EV integration. We noted an increased expression of BCLXL and XIAP mRNA by qPCR but no difference was observed for BCL2 and BAX.

Viability

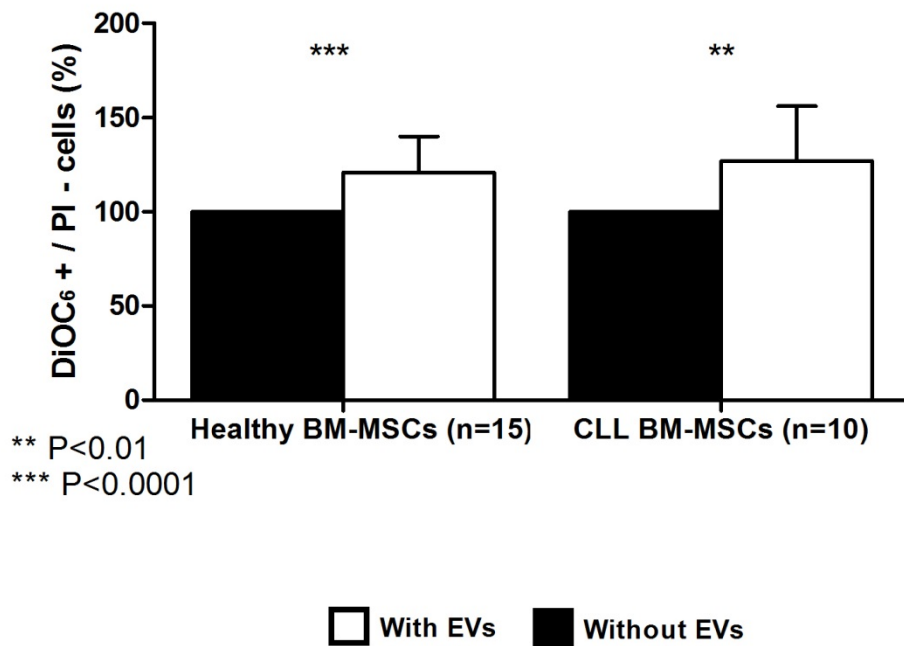


Figure S4: EV effect on CLL B-cell viability. Cell viability was analyzed by DiOC6/PI labeling assay on CLL samples treated by EVs derived from healthy (n=15) and CLL BM MSCs (n=10). Results were normalized using the viability of cell without EVs (100%). The addition of EVs from BM-MSC can significantly increase this parameter.

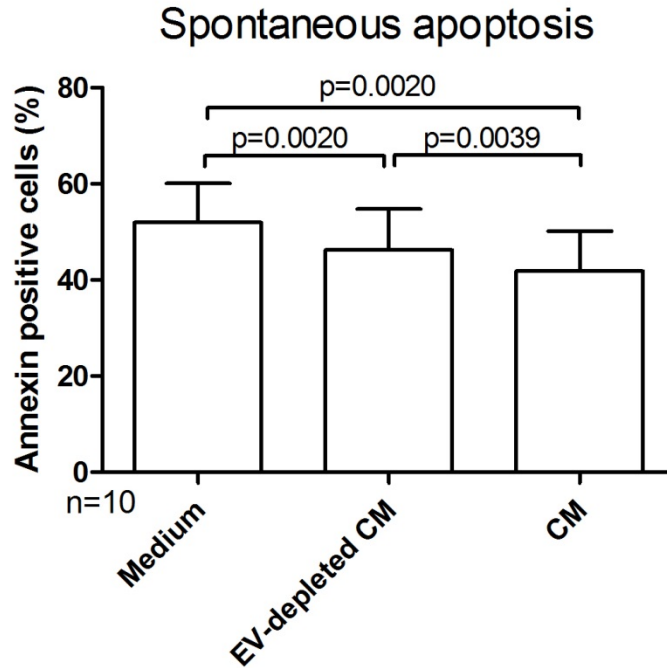


Figure S5: Effect of MSC conditioned medium and EV depleted conditioned medium on CLL B-cell apoptosis. The addition of conditioned medium versus EV depleted conditioned medium from BM-MSC culture exhibited a significant difference of annexin positive cell percentage, demonstrating that conditioned medium, without concentration of EVs already induce protective effect on CLL B-cells.

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