ARTICLE - Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

Deep phenotyping of nodal T-cell lymphomas reveals immune alterations and therapeutic targets

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Supplementary material

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Figure S1

Figure S3

Live, sCD3 negative cells (concatenated tonsils+LN+PTCL)

A

Figure S7

Supplementary figure legends

Figure S1. Spectral FACS analyses of PTCL samples (A) Kaplan-Meier curves of PFS and OS in the 18-patient flow cytometry cohort. (B) Samples were stained for FACS and analyzed using unsupervised clustering after manual gating on total live cells. The heatmap shows unsupervised hierarchical distribution of clusters between samples (normalized by column).

Figure S2. Manual gating strategy. An example of gating strategy in an AITL sample is shown. This strategy was used for both supervised and unsupervised analyses.

Figure S3. Perturbations of Tconv cell phenotype in PTCL patients. FACS analyses following manual gating on live CD3⁺CD4⁺Foxp3⁻ Tconv cells. (A) Expression of selected markers projected on UMAP. (B) Dot plots showing heterogeneous expression of checkpoint molecules in selected patients, following manual gating on live Tconv cells. (C) Heatmap showing unsupervised hierarchical separation of clusters between samples (normalized by column).

Figure S4. Analysis of surface CD3-negative live cells. Unsupervised clustering analyses following manual gating on live CD3- cells in tonsils, reactive LN and AITL samples, and concatenation using the same number of cells in each sample. (A) FlowSOM distribution of clusters and expression of selected markers projected on UMAP. (B) Heatmap showing hierarchical clustering and expression (normalized by column) of indicated markers in FlowSOM clusters. (C) Heatmap showing unsupervised hierarchical separation of clusters between samples (normalized by column). (D) Dot plots showing expression of the indicated markers in selected patients.

Figure S5. Analysis of Treg cells. (A) Proportion of Foxp3⁺ regulatory T cells (Treg cells) among live cells (left) and among CD4⁺ T cells (right) following manual gating. (B) UMAP visualization, FlowSOM distribution of clusters and projection of selected markers in concatenated samples. (C) Heatmap showing hierarchical clustering and expression (normalized across markers) of indicated markers in FlowSOM clusters, and their differential enrichment between groups. (D) Proportion of CD45RA⁺TCF1⁺ naïve Treg cells among total Treg cells. In A, mean +/- SEM is shown; each dot represents a sample. Kruskal-Wallis tests were used. * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.005.

Figure S6. Analysis of NK cells. (A) UMAP visualization, FlowSOM distribution of clusters and projection of selected markers in concatenated samples upon gating on live CD7+CD56+ Natural Killer (NK) cells. (B) Heatmap showing hierarchical clustering and expression (normalized across markers) of indicated markers in FlowSOM clusters, and their differential enrichment between groups. No statistical difference in cluster representation between samples was found. (C-E) Proportions of CD56 bright (B), CD56 dim (C) and GzmB⁺ (E) NK cells upon manual gating. Kruskal-Wallis tests were used. * p < 0.05.

Figure S7. CD8⁺ T cells in PTCL. FACS analyses following manual gating on live CD8⁺ T cells and random selection of an equal number of cells between each group. The heatmap shows unsupervised hierarchical separation of clusters between samples (normalized by column).

Figure S8. CD39 expression and prognosis value in PTCL. (A) Proportion of CD39⁺ cells among naïve (CD45RA⁺), activated (CD45RA⁻PD-1⁻TIM3⁻) and exhausted (PD-1⁺TIM3⁺) CD8⁺ T cells in the 18 PTCL samples. (B) Proportion of CD39⁺ cells among live T cells. Dashed lines denote the 3 groups of patients according to their level of CD39 expression (low, intermediate, high). (C) Distribution of immune cell subsets in the 3 groups of patients. (D) Proportion of PD-1+TIM3+ exhausted CD8+ T cells, CTLA-4+ CD8+ T cells and GzmB+ CD8+ T cells. (E) Kaplan-Meier curves of OS in patients from the TENOMIC AITL cohort (n=85). *ENTPD1* (CD39) mRNA expression was split in quartiles. (F) Kaplan-Meier curves of PFS and OS in the overall 43- AITL patient cohort used for multi-IF analyses. (G) Kaplan-Meier curves of PFS in different cell populations. CD39 high and low populations were split based on median expression across samples. (H) Kaplan-Meier curves of PFS and OS in CD3⁺CD8⁺ and CD3⁺CD8⁻ populations. CD39 *high* and *low* samples were split following ROC curve analyses.

Supplementary Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the PTCL cohort used in spectral flow cytometry analyses

Supplementary Table 2. Individual clinical immunophenotyping data of the spectral flow cytometry cohort

Supplementary Table 3. Clinical characteristics of the PTCL cohort used in multi-IF analyses

Supplementary Table 4. Individual sample data from the PTCL cohort used in multi-IF analyses

Supplementary Table 5. FACS and multi-IF Abs used in this study

Supplementary Table 6. Individual cell counts before and after staining for spectral flow cytometry analyses

Supplementary Table 7. Number of cells of each indicated subset used for unsupervised analyses following down-sampling and concatenation

Supplementary Table 7 (continued). Number of cells of each indicated subset used for unsupervised analyses following down-sampling and concatenation

Supplementary Table 8. Putative identification of neoplastic phenotypes in PTCL samples.

Supplemental methods

Flow cytometry staining

After thawing in a water bath at 37°C, the cell suspensions were washed in RPMI 1640 W/HEPES W/GLUTAMAX-I (supplemented with 10% FBS; Penicillin/Streptomycin; Non-Essential Amino Acids; Sodium Pyruvate and β-Mercaptoethanol, all from Thermo Fisher). 1 million cells per sample were stained with viability dye for 15 min at room temperature (RT), then incubated with Human FC block for 10 min at RT. Cells were then incubated with CXCR5 antibody mix in FACS buffer (PBS1X with 2.5 mM EDTA and 3% FBS) for 20 min at 37°C, then with surface marker antibodies mixed in FACS buffer and brillant stain buffer (BD) for 30 min at RT in the dark. Cells were then fixed and permeabilized using the eBioscience Foxp3/Transcription Factor Staining Buffer Set (Thermo Fisher Scientific) according to manufacturer's instructions. Cells were finally incubated with intracellular marker antibodies mix for 20 min at 4°C.

Flow cytometry unsupervised analyses

Briefly, each cell subset was gated manually (Live cells, sCD3-negative cells, Tconv cells, Treg cells, CD8+ T cells and NK cells). Prior to concatenation, we used down-sampling to avoid over-representation of one group over the others, which could lead to the identification of poorly representative clusters. The total number of cells in each tissue (tonsils, reactive LN, AITL and PTCL, NOS) was therefore made identical by reducing the number of events to that of the smaller sample. Details on the number of events processed in each case can be found in Tables S3 and S4. Following concatenation, 2-dimensional reduction through Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection (UMAP) and hierarchical clustering through FlowSOM were used.

Tissue micro-arrays and multi-IF protocol

TMA blocks were generated by punching 1 mm cores from FFPE tissue samples using a Tissue Arrayer MiniCore instrument with TMADesigner® 2 Software from ALPHELYS. Three

1 mm cores were taken from each patient sample. The three-plex mIF assay was first optimized as previously described ²³. The standard seven-color TSA protocol template on the BOND RXm was used with modifications. TMAs underwent an initial antigen retrieval step of ER1 at 100°C for 20 min, a dispensing of the TSA reagents (incubation time of 30 min), and DAPI staining at a volume of 150 µL for 5 min. The following sequence was used: anti-CD3+OPAL 570 (position 3), anti-CD8+OPAL 520 (position 4), anti-CD39+OPAL 690 (position 5). All antibodies were diluted using Akoya's antibody diluent/blocking buffer. Slides were imaged using the Vectra Polaris spectral imaging system (Perkin Elmer) at 20X or 40X for TMA. Scans were visualized with the Phenochart software where autofluorescence can be directly removed.

Multi-IF data processing

TMA cores were excluded if one of the following criteria was present: large part or whole of core lost; poor quality staining; or widespread necrosis. Cell phenotypes could be analyzed in the 43 patients. In 6 of them, it was evaluated in one TMA core. For the others, the results retained for each patient were the median of the 2 or 3 TMA cores. Images were spectrally separated with a synthetic algorithm in InForm version 2.4.8 (Akoya Biosciences). Cell phenotypes were identified and counted using image analysis in InForm. Six TMA cores representing the heterogeneous nature of AITL, were selected to train machine learning algorithms for tissue segmentation, cell segmentation and cell phenotyping. First, the tissue was divided into tumor or non-tumor compartments using the tissue segmentation setting by drawing different areas as different categories. Then, cell segmentation was performed using DAPI counterstaining, using the adaptive cell segmentation setting in InForm software. The splitting parameter was adjusted to segment crowded and overlapping cells. Membrane staining was selected to assist in nuclear segmentation. Seven cell phenotypes were analyzed: total T lymphocytes (CD3+), CD8+ T lymphocytes (CD3+CD8+), non-CD8+ T lymphocytes (CD3+CD8-), total cells expressing CD39 (CD39+), total T lymphocytes expressing CD39

(CD3+CD39+), CD8+ T lymphocytes expressing CD39 (CD3+CD8+CD39+) and non-CD8+ T lymphocytes expressing CD39 (CD3+CD8-CD39+). When the training was completed, it was applied to a set of cases to verify that it was working properly. These parameters were then applied to all TMA cores and the percentage of cells according to their phenotypes was calculated using the R version 4.2.1 software.