

AWARD NUMBER: W81XWH-16-1-0334

TITLE: TRANSCRIPTIONAL MODULATION OF TUMOR-ASSOCIATED
MACROPHAGES TO FACILITATE PROSTATE CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Alan Friedman, MD

Contracting Organization: Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD 21205

REPORT DATE: September 2017

TYPE OF REPORT: Annual

PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT:

Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release; distribution unlimited

The views, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision unless so designated by other documentation.

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing this collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (0704-0188), 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.					
1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) September 2017		2. REPORT TYPE Annual		3. DATES COVERED (From - To) 1SEP2016 - 31AUG2017	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE TRANSCRIPTIONAL MODULATION OF TUMOR-ASSOCIATED MACROPHAGES TO FACILITATE PROSTATE CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER W81XWH-16-1-0334	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) Alan D. Friedman, M.D. Email: afriedm2@jhmi.edu				5d. PROJECT NUMBER 0010838896	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Johns Hopkins University 733 N. Broadway Suite 117 Baltimore, MD 21205				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER Johns Hopkins University 1650 Orleans Street, Room 253 Baltimore, MD 21287	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5014				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT Prostate cancer (PCa) contains abundant tumor-associated macrophages (TAMs), with increased TAM M2 polarization correlating with disease stage, emergence of castration-resistance, and worse prognosis. We hypothesize that targeting TAM transcription factors that mediate their M2 polarization, reprogramming them into the pro-inflammatory M1 state, will provide a novel approach to PCa therapy, and we seek to assess whether adoptive transfer monocytes lacking a key TAM transcription factor shows therapeutic utility, alone or with checkpoint inhibition. During the current reporting year we found that a murine PCa line grows slower in mice lacking NF-kB p50 compared with wild-type controls and in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice vs KLF4(f/f) controls, with increased TAM M1 polarization, particularly in p50-/- hosts, and with increased number and activation of tumor T cells, predominantly CD4 T cells in p50-/- vs wild-type and CD8 T cells in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre vs KLF4(f/f) tumor recipients. We also demonstrated that expansion of marrow progenitors in SCF/FL/TPO for 6 days, culture in M-CSF for 1 day, and adoptive transfer allows PCa tumor localization in preference to normal organs. And we find that anti-PD-1 is active in our tumor model. Thus, we have identified two transcription factors whose down-regulation in PCa TAMs contributes to tumor control and have begun to optimize a novel immunotherapy including adoptive transfer of gene modified myeloid cells.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS Prostate cancer, immunotherapy, tumor-associated macrophages, NF-kB p50, KLF4					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT UU	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 12	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON USAMRMC
a. REPORT U	b. ABSTRACT U	c. THIS PAGE U			19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
1. Introduction.....	4
2. Keywords	4
3. Accomplishments	4
4. Impact	10
5. Changes/Problems.....	10
6. Products	11
7. Participants & Other Collaborating Organizations	11
8. Special Reporting Requirements.....	12
9. Appendices.....	12

1. INTRODUCTION

Prostate cancer (PCa) contains abundant tumor-associated macrophages (TAMs), with their increased content and percentage of M2 polarization correlating with increased disease stage, emergence of castration-resistant disease, and worse prognosis. We hypothesize that targeting TAM transcription factors that mediate their M2 polarization, reprogramming them into the pro-inflammatory M1 state, would provide a novel approach to prostate cancer therapy. This project first seeks to determine whether syngeneic murine PCa cells, unselected or castration resistant, grow more slowly in mice lacking NF- κ B p50 (p50), KLF4, or PU.1 in their myeloid cells, correlated with increased TAM M1 polarization and increased activation of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes. We then seek to assess whether adoptive transfer or murine monocytes lacking p50, KLF4, or PU.1 slows PCa growth, alone or in synergy with CSF1R small molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) or antibody (Ab) targeting or with anti-PD-1 or anti-CTLA4 T cell checkpoint inhibitory antibodies.

2. KEYWORDS

Prostate cancer, immunotherapy, tumor-associated macrophages, NF- κ B p50, KLF4

3. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Major goals of the project

Task 1: Assess prostate cancer growth in WT versus p50^{-/-}, KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre, and PU.1(kd/kd) B6 mice

Subtask 1 - Obtain ACURO approval (mos 1-3), completed prior to 9/01/2016 start date

Subtask 2 - Assess PCa growth in WT vs mutant recipients (mos 4-12), completed 6/01/17

Subtask 3 - Assess castration-resistant growth in WT vs mutant recipients (mos 6-24), 25% complete

Subtask 4 - Assess metastatic growth in WT vs mutant recipients (mos 6-24), 0% complete

Task 2: TAM polarization and T cell activation in WT vs p50^{-/-}, KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre, and PU.1(kd/kd) mice

Subtask 1 - Obtain ACURO approval (mos 3-5), completed prior to 9/01/2016 start date

Subtask 2 – Assess TAM polarization and T cell numbers and activation (mos 6-24), 75% complete

Task 3: Assess the effect of adoptively transferred M2-defective M1 macrophages on prostate cancer

Subtask 1 - Obtain ACURO approval (mos 2-5), completed prior to 9/01/2016 start date

Subtask 2 - Determine effects of adoptively transferred monocytes (mos 6-24), 25% complete

Subtask 3 - Determine whether infused monocytes reach the tumor (mos 6-24), 50% complete

Subtask 4 - Determine how infused monocytes alter tumor TAMs and T cells (mos 6-24), 0% complete

Task 4: Assess synergy between CSF1R blockade and adoptive transfer of M2-defective M1 monocytes

Subtask 1 - Obtain ACURO approval (mos 8-11), completed prior to 9/01/2016 start date

Subtask 2 - Determine the effect of MCSFR TKI on prostate cancer growth (mos 12-36), 0% complete

Subtask 3 - Determine synergy between MCSFR TKI and monocytes (mos 18-36), 0% complete

Subtask 4 - Determine the effect of MCSFR TKI and monocytes on tumor TAMs/T cells (mos 18-36), 0%

Subtask 5 - Determine synergy between MCSFR Ab and monocytes (mos 18-36), 10% complete

Subtask 6 - Determine the effect of MCSFR Ab and monocytes on tumor TAMs/T cells (mos 18-36), 0%

Task 5: Assess synergy between checkpoint blockade and adoptive transfer of M2-defective M1 monocytes

Subtask 1 - Obtain ACURO approval (mos 8-11), completed prior to 9/01/2016 start date

Subtask 2 - Determine synergy between PD-1 Ab and monocytes on tumor growth (mos 12-36), 25%

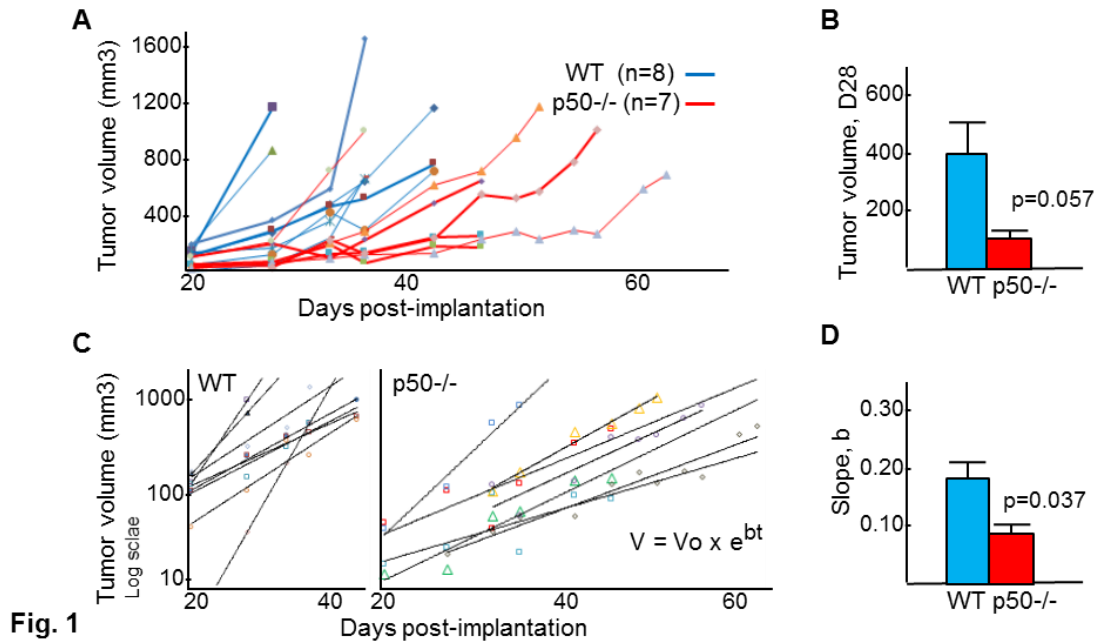
Subtask 3 - Determine synergy between CTLA4 Ab and monocytes on tumor growth (mos 12-36), 0%

Subtask 4 - Determine synergy between PD-1/CTLA4 Ab and monocytes on tumor T cells (mos 12-36), 0%

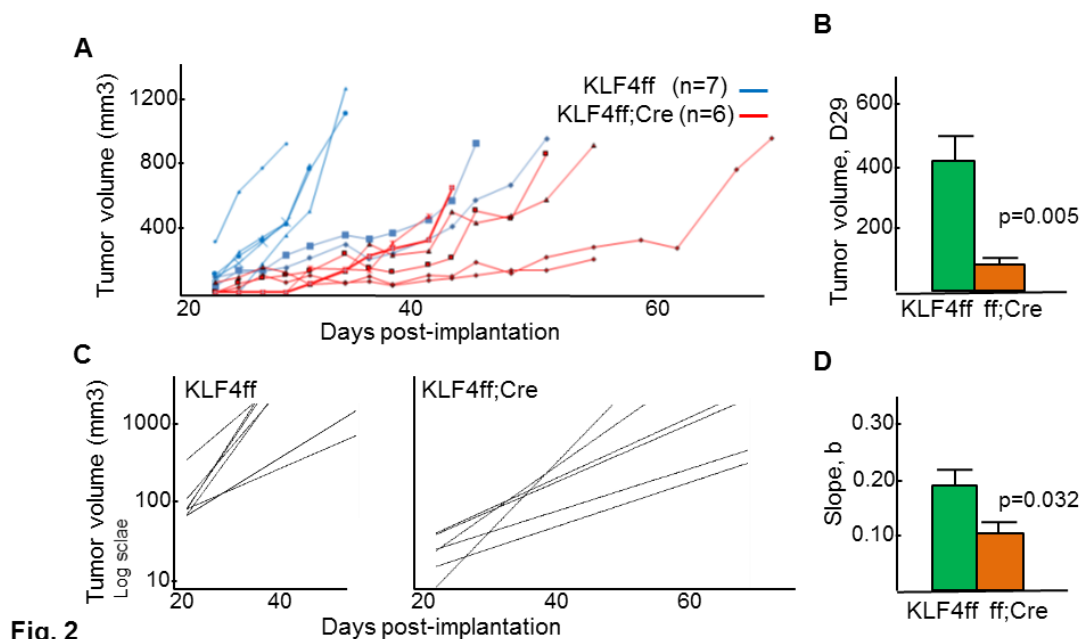
Accomplishments under these goals

Task 1/Subtask 2 – Assess prostate cancer growth in WT versus mutant mice

B6 Hi-Myc SQ tumors were dissociated with collagenase, hyaluronidase, Dispase, and DNaseI, followed by enumeration of viable cells with Trypan blue dye. 2E6 viable cells were inoculated SQ into the shaved flanks of WT or p50^{-/-} B6 male recipients anesthetized with isoflurane. Tumor length (L) and width (W) were measured with a caliper twice weekly, with $V = L \times (W)^2/2$ used to estimate tumor volumes. Tumors are too small to measure prior to day 20. Volume measurements obtained thereafter in WT and p50^{-/-} recipients are shown, with slower growth in p50^{-/-} recipients evident (**Fig. 1A**). When volumes on day 28 are compared, the tumors in p50^{-/-} hosts are on average 4-fold smaller (**Fig. 1B**). As a more accurate means to compare growth, these data were replotted on a log scale, with best-fit lines according to the equation $V = V_0 \times e^{bt}$ shown (**Fig. 1C**). The average slopes of these logarithmic PCa growth curves is ~2-fold lower in p50^{-/-} recipients (**Fig. 1D**).



An analogous experiment was carried out using KLF4(f/f) vs. KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre recipients. Hi-Myc PCa tumor growth was markedly slower in mice lacking macrophage KLF4 (**Fig. 2A**), with ~6-fold reduced tumor volume, on average, on D29 (**Fig. 2B**). After logarithmic transformation, the growth curve slopes were on average ~2-fold lower in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre compared with KLF4(f/f) recipients (**Fig. 1C, D**).



Task 1/Subtask 3 – Assess castration-resistant prostate cancer growth in WT versus mutant mice

B6 Hi-Myc PCa tumor-bearing KLF4(f/f) and KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre male mice were subjected to orchiectomy. These androgen-dependent tumors regressed to an undetectable size over the next 16-42 days, and castration-resistant tumors emerged in two KLF4(f/f) mice and one KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mouse (**Fig. 3**). These tumors reached 400 mm³ on D125 in the KLF4(f/f) recipients but not until D160 in the KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre host, suggesting that absence of KLF4 in tumor macrophages slows growth of castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC). Given the low penetrance of formation of castration-resistant tumor (3 of 8) and the long time period required for their emergence (3-4 months), we sought to passage one of these CRPCs in wild-type hosts for use in future experiments – this was successful, with tumors now uniformly evident by D30.

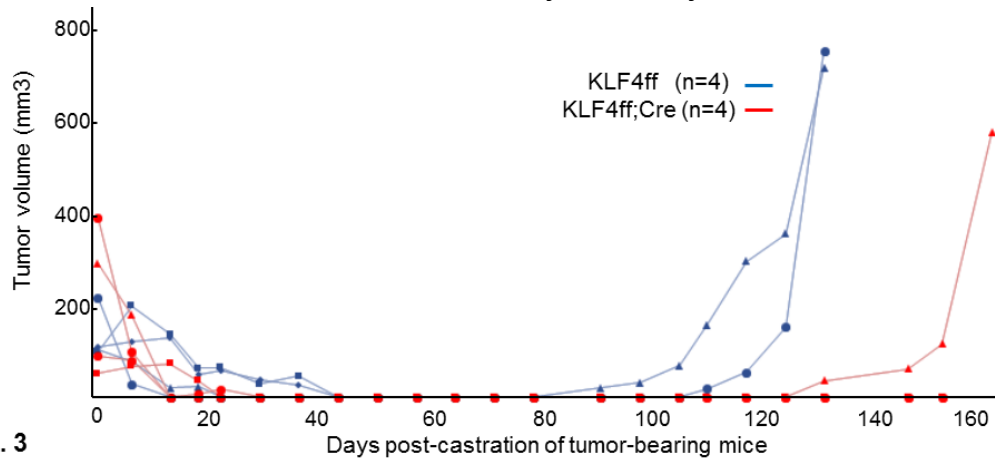


Fig. 3

Task 2/Subtask 2 – Assess tumor TAM polarization and T cell numbers and activation in WT vs mutant hosts

Hi-Myc PCa tumors growing in WT vs p50^{-/-} or KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre hosts were dissociated and analyzed by FACS for myeloid surface markers (n=3). Total myeloid cells, CD45⁺CD11b⁺, and TAMs, F4/80⁺ cells in the myeloid gate, were increased in the absence of p50 or KLF4 (**Fig. 4A**). TAMs were assessed for mannose receptor (MR, M1 marker), MHCII, and PD-L1 (M2 markers). MR was reduced and both MHCII and PD-L1 were increased in the absence of p50^{-/-}, and PD-L1 was increased in the absence of KLF4 (**Fig. 4B**). Tumor CD11b⁺ cells were isolated using Ab-coated beads, and myeloid RNA was then assessed for several M1 and M2 markers by qRT-PCR (n=4). Several M1 markers were elevated and M2 markers reduced in the absence of p50 (**Fig. 4C**). In contrast, tumor myeloid cell M1 and M2 markers were unaffected by absence of KLF4 (not shown); therefore, we in addition subjected RNAs from CD11b⁺ cells within PCa tumors forming in KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice to microarray global gene expression analysis (n=2). Pathway analysis indicated increased expression of RNAs associated with phagocytosis and with LPS Toll-like receptor signaling (**Fig. 5**). TLR signaling can increase macrophage phagocytosis, which in turn can slow tumor growth.

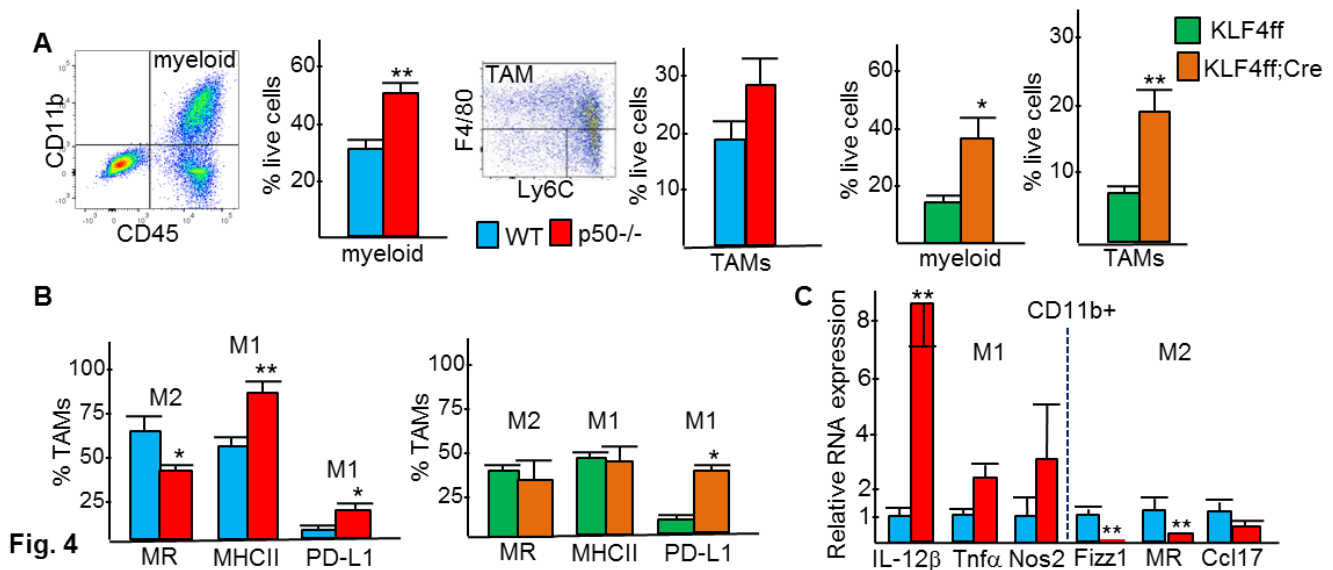


Fig. 4

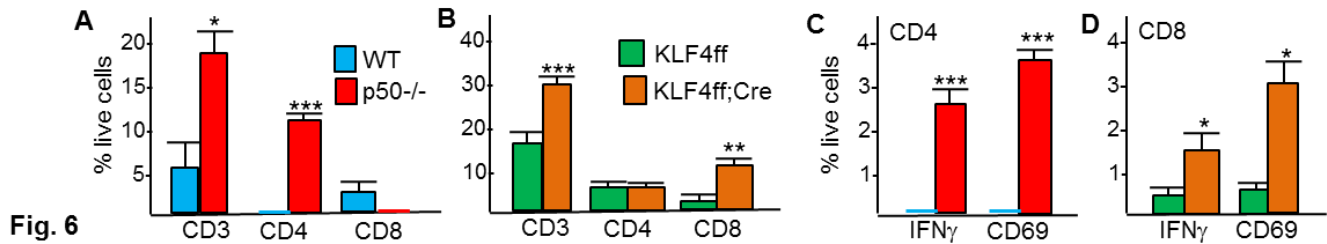
Gene	Fold-Change	Functional Annotation
CD36	1.79	Phagocytosis
Ahsg	1.57	Phagocytosis
CCR7	2.2	Phagocytosis
Gas6	1.40	Phagocytosis
Mfge8	1.42	Phagocytosis
Marco	1.98	Phagosome
Ctsl	1.57	Phagosome
Siglec1	2.0	Phagocytosis

Genes increased >1.4-fold in PCa from KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre vs. KLF4(f/f) hosts.

Gene	Fold-Change	Functional Annotation
Cited1	1.48	Response to LPS
S100a8	1.89	Response to LPS
S100a9	2.1	Response to LPS
CCR7	2.2	Response to LPS
DCN	2.3	Response to LPS
FMO1	1.48	Response to LPS
LBP	1.57	Response to LPS
Sell	1.48	Response to LPS
Sparc	1.6	Response to LPS
Slpi	2.0	Response to LPS
Spon2	1.5	Response to LPS
Thbd	1.5	Response to LPS
Tnfrsf25	1.59	Response to LPS
Slfn4	2.5	Response to LPS
Marco	1.98	Response to LPS

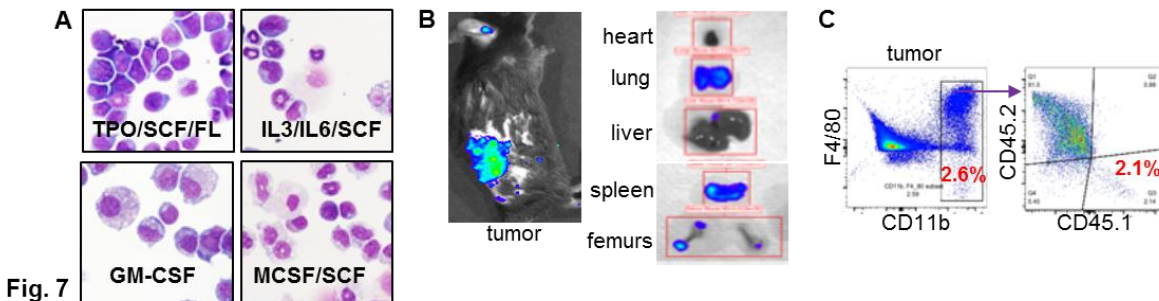
Fig. 5

Hi-Myc PCa tumor-infiltrating T cells were also analyzed. Total tumor CD3⁺ T cells increased in 3.5-fold in p50^{-/-} and 2-fold in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre hosts vs controls; this increase was completely accounted for by CD4 T cells in p50^{-/-} recipients and by CD8 T cells in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre recipients (**Fig. 6A,B**). In addition, the numbers of activated tumor CD4 T cells, enumerated as those expressing intracellular IFN γ or surface CD69, was dramatically increased in p50^{-/-} vs WT hosts, and the number of activated tumor CD8 T cells was increased approximately 5-fold in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre vs KLF4(f/f) tumor recipients (**Fig. 6C, D**). CD25⁺Foxp3⁺ Tregs were unchanged in the absence of KLF4 (not shown).



Task 3/Subtask 2 - Determine effects of adoptively transferred monocytes

As a first step to studying effects of adoptively transferred monocytes on PCa tumor growth, we sought to optimize *in vitro* monocyte generation. Marrow cells were subjected to lineage-depletion using a cocktail of Abs that removes mature monocytes, granulocyte, lymphocytes, and erythroblasts. These were then placed in IMDM with 10% FBS and TPO/SCF/FL, cytokines expected to maintain myeloid progenitor immaturity. After 6 days, WT cells expanded 12-fold and p50^{-/-} cells 15-fold, with a blast-like morphology (**Fig. 7A**, upper left). Cells were then transferred to IL3/IL6/SCF, GM-CSF, or M-CSF/SCF for 2 days. IL3/IL6/SCF gave neutrophils and monocytes, whereas GM-CSF or M-CSF/SCF predominantly generated monocytes, with those in GM-CSF appearing more activated (**Fig. 7A**, upper right and lower).



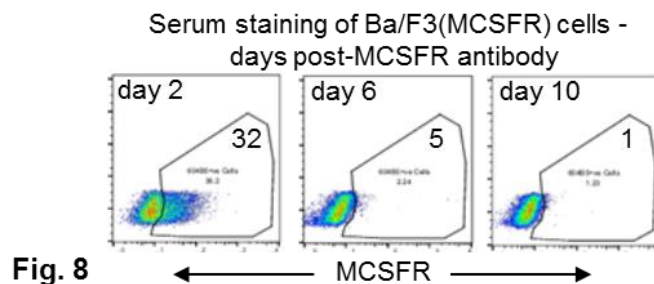
We then compared cells expanded in TPO/SCF/FL for 6d followed by M-CSF or GM-CSF for 1-3 days, for tumor localization using CD45.1⁺ monocytes infused into CD45.2⁺ tumor-bearing recipients, finding little localization of GM-CSF exposed cells but that ~8% of tumor CD11b⁺ myeloid cells derive from infused monocytes exposed to M-CSF for 1 or 2 days, with those exposed to M-CSF for 3 days being much less effective (not shown). We therefore will use M-CSF 1 day in our studies (and not M-CSF for 2 days since these at times might behave poorly as did those exposed for 3 days).

Task 3/Subtask 3 - Determine whether infused monocytes reach prostate cancer tumors

To evaluate monocyte tumor localization vs localization to other organs, Hi-Myc PCa cells were subcutaneously implanted, followed by 5-FU injection on d27 (to reduce marrow monocyte competition, which we find increases infused monocyte tumor localization ~3-fold), tail vein infusion of 10E6 expanded WT CD45.1⁺ monocytes from CMV/Actin-Luc mice (Jackson Labs), on d31, and IVIS imaging of mice on d33; data shown for isolated organs are from another experiment (**Fig. 7B**). Infused monocytes localized to the tumor, with lower amounts in lung and spleen. Tumors were dissociated and subject to FACS analysis on d37; in the example shown, 2.6% of viable tumor cells were CD11b⁺;F4/80⁺ TAMs, and 2.1% of these were CD45.1⁺ donor cells (**Fig. 7C**). Interestingly, infused myeloid cells also contributed to ~2% of tumor CD11c⁺ dendritic cells (not shown).

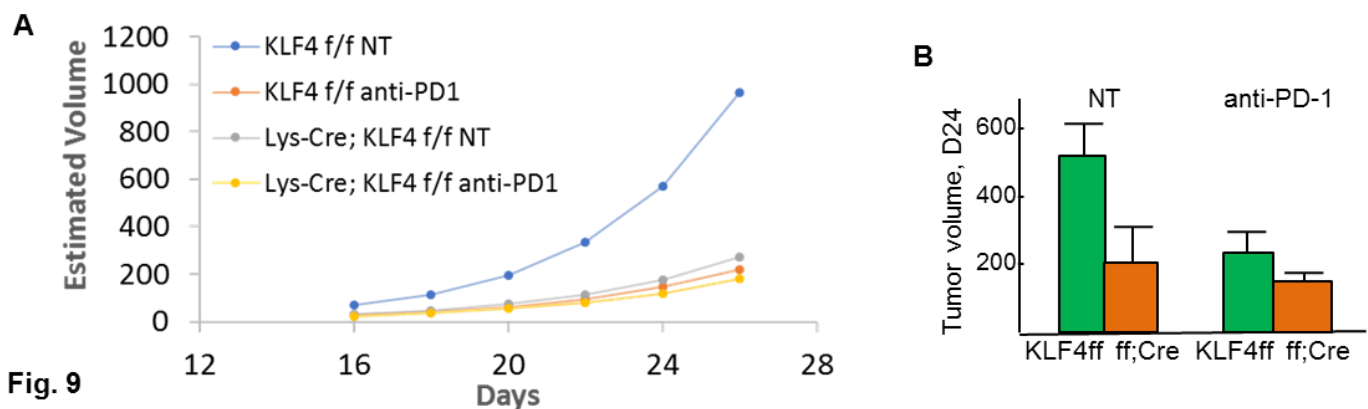
Task 4/Subtask 5 - Determine synergy between MCSFR Ab and monocytes

We have begun to evaluate the utility of MCSFR Ab for tumor TAM depletion prior to monocyte infusion. As MCSFR Ab would also target infused monocytes, we isolated serum 2, 6, and 10 days after three injections of MCSFR Ab and used this to stain Ba/F3 cells expressing exogenous MCSFR, followed by goat anti-Ig-FITC secondary Ab (**Fig. 8**). On average (n=3), 32% of cells stained with day 2, 5% with day 6, and 1% with day 10 serum. These data indicate that monocyte infusions will need to be delayed 5-6 days post-MCSFR Ab.



Task 5/Subtask 2 - Determine synergy between PD-1 Ab and monocytes on tumor growth

KLF4(f/f) and KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice inoculated with Hi-Myc PCa cells either received no treatment (NT) or anti-PD-1 Ab (250 µg/dose) on d10, d13, and d16. Tumor volumes were then monitored (4-5/group). Average tumor volumes on subsequent days and on d24 are shown (**Fig. 9**). As seen before, absence myeloid KLF4 led to markedly slower tumor growth. Anti-PD-1 Ab exposure of KLF4(f/f) mice also markedly slowed tumor growth. Combining KLF4 deletion with anti-PD-1 Ab led to further slowing of tumor growth.



Opportunities for training and professional development

During the past year, this proposal facilitated laboratory-based training and professional development in the fields of prostate cancer research and immunotherapy for two post-doctoral fellows, David Barakat, Ph.D. and Rahul Suresh, Ph.D. In addition to conducting the above experiments, Drs. Barakat and Suresh attended and presented at weekly laboratory meeting held by Drs. Friedman and Pienta, attended the 2016 meeting of the Society for Immunotherapy and Cancer (SITC) at National Harbor, Maryland, and attended numerous scientific seminars at the Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Cancer Center, including Oncology Grand Rounds, Translational Research Conference, and Journal Club.

Dissemination of research results

Nothing to Report.

Plans during the next reporting period

Task 1 As described above, we have obtained a castration-resistant Hi-Myc PCa line that forms SQ tumors 30d after inoculation into castrated WT mice. We will now inoculate WT vs p50^{-/-} and KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice with this line and monitor tumor growth. We also will inoculate WT vs p50^{-/-} and KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice with Hi-Myc PCa cells, and once tumors reach 1.2-1.4 cm will remove this and then assess lung metastases 6 wks later.

Task 2 We will further determine whether absence of KLF4 leads to increased tumor macrophage TLR signaling and phagocytosis. TLR signaling activates BTK kinase to stimulated phagocytosis. We will therefore use Western blotting to assess phosphorylated BTK after exposure of KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre macrophages to TLR inducers such as pIpC. We will also compare the ability of these macrophages to phagocytose dye-labeled Hi-Myc PCa cells.

Task 3 We will continue to optimize localization of infused p50^{-/-} or KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre monocytes to Hi-Myc PCa tumors in WT mice, including use of multiple infusions and pre-exposure of mice to 5-FU or Cytoxan prior to monocyte infusion. We will then compare the effects of WT vs p50^{-/-} or KLF(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre monocytes (or no monocytes) on tumor growth, TAM numbers and M1 vs M2 phenotypes, and tumor-infiltrating T cell phenotypes.

Task 4 We have received 600 mg of the MCSFR tyrosine kinase inhibitor PLX3397 from Plexxikon. WT mice inoculated with Hi-Myc PCa 14d earlier will be treated with this agent by oral gavage (50 mg/kg/day x 4 days), alone or with subsequent monocyte infusions as in Task 3, followed by assessment of tumor growth and tumor TAM and T cell phenotypes. As described above, we have demonstrated that MCSFR Ab is cleared from serum after 6 days. We will now also expose mice inoculated with Hi-Myc PCa to MCSFR Ab alone or followed 6d later with monocyte infusions, followed by assessment of tumor growth and tumor TAM and T cell phenotypes.

Task 5 As described, we find that three doses of anti-PD-1 antibody markedly slows Hi-Myc PCa tumor growth. To improve our ability to detect synergy, we will now expose WT vs p50^{-/-} or KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice to one dose of anti-PD-1 antibody, followed by monitoring of tumor growth. We will also conduct this experiment using anti-CTLA4 antibody alone or combined with anti-PD-1. We then intend to combine the most effective checkpoint inhibitor combination and dosing schedule with infusion of monocytes lacking p50 or KLF4.

4. IMPACT

Impact on the development of the principal discipline(s) of the project

Prostate cancers include normal white blood cells called macrophages that contribute to tumor growth. These tumor-associated macrophages (TAMs) suppress the immune system's ability to fight prostate cancer. This proposal seeks to alter prostate cancer TAMs so that instead of helping the cancer grow they now help the immune system fight the cancer. Like all cells, TAMs contain genes within their DNA that govern their function. Our results indicate that removal of the KLF4 gene, a possibly also the p50 gene, from prostate cancer TAMs slows prostate cancer growth. This finding has implications for the treatment of prostate cancer, as we can now pursue a therapy in which we target KLF4 or p50 in TAMs.

Impact on other disciplines

In addition to prostate cancer, many other cancer contain TAMs that contribute to tumor growth, including brain, pancreatic, and breast cancers. Our findings are therefore also relevant to these and other cancers as targeting TAM KLF4 or p50 may also be effective, alone or in combination with other therapies, for these cancers.

Impact on technology transfer

Nothing to Report.

Impact on society beyond science and technology

Nothing to Report.

5. CHANGES/PROBLEMS

Changes in approach

Nothing to Report.

Actual or anticipated problems or delays and actions or plans to resolve them

As an alternative to use of Hi-Myc PCa cells, we proposed to attempt to develop a related transplantable line from B6 PTEN(f/f);Pb-Cre mice. Although we could establish such lines in tissue culture these did not form tumors in mice. Therefore, we will continue to focus on use of the Hi-Myc PCa line.

In addition to use of WT vs p50^{-/-} and KLF4(f/f) vs KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre mice, we proposed to compare PCa growth in WT vs PU.1(kd/kd) mice in Task 1. Due to difficulty with breeding we have not yet been able to generate sufficient numbers of male mice for this experiment. When we cross PU.1(kd/kd) male mice with PU.1(kd/kd) females, no viable pups are obtained. Crossing PU.1(kd/kd) with PU.1(kd/+) mice does yield offspring, although at weaning PU.1(kd/kd) pups represent only about 25% rather than 50% of these litters, and of course only half of these are male. We are attempting to solve this problem by expanding the number of breeding cages. Fortunately, our results this past year do show markedly slower tumor growth in p50^{-/-} compared with WT and in KLF4(f/f);Lys-Cre compared with KLF4(f/f) mice, allowing us to proceed with use of these models for all approved Tasks/Subtasks. We had indicated in Aim 1a that we would prioritize use of p50, KLF4, or PU.1 mutant mice for subsequent experiments, choosing the system with the slowest tumor growth. As absence of TAM p50 or KLF4 slowed tumor growth markedly, we will proceed with both of these promising models.

Changes that had a significant impact on expenditures

Nothing to Report.

Significant changes in use or care of human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents

Nothing to Report.

6. PRODUCTS

Publications, conference papers, and presentations

The following poster was presented at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine 2017 Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center Fellow Research Day:

Barakat DJ, Simons B, Pienta K, Barberi T, Suresh R, Friedman AD. Transcriptional Regulators of Tumor Associated Macrophage Polarization Influence Lymphocyte Infiltration and Growth of Prostate Cancer.

Websites or other internet sites

Nothing to Report.

Technologies or techniques

Nothing to Report.

Inventions, patents, or licenses

Nothing to Report.

Other products

As described in Section 3, we find that prostate cancer grows significantly slower in mice lacking NF- κ B p50 or macrophage KLF4, associated with increased tumor macrophage and T cell activation. These findings provide a meaningful contribution towards understanding gene regulatory mechanisms that allow TAMs to contribute to prostate cancer growth and towards developing of novel therapy approaches designed to modify tumor TAMs.

7. PARTICIPANTS AND OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

Individuals who worked on the project (effort round up to nearest whole month)

Name: Alan D. Friedman
Project Role: Principal Investigator
Person months worked: 1
Contribution to Project: no change
Funding Support: this award

Name: Kenneth J. Pienta
Project Role: Co-investigator
Person months worked: 1
Contribution to Project: no change
Funding Support: this award

Name: David Barakat
Project Role: Post-doctoral Fellow
Person months worked: 12
Contribution to Project: no change
Funding Support: this award and T32 CA60441

Name: Rahul Suresh
Project Role: Post-doctoral Fellow
Person months worked: 12
Contribution to Project: monocyte expansion, tumor localization, MCSFR Ab pre-treatment (Task 2/Subtasks 2 and 3; Task 4/Subtask 5)
Funding Support: this award

Change in the active other support of the PI and senior/key personnel

Name: Alan D. Friedman
Changes: closed
U01 HL099775, NIH
28520, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation

Name: Kenneth J. Pienta
Changes: closed
90065394, Harvard/DFCI sub-award

new
90069213, CelSee (Pienta), 6/01/16-08/31/17, 0.24 Cal
90070234, Prostate Cancer Foundation (Pienta), 8/01/16-7/31/18, 0.12 Cal
90071429, Prostate Cancer Foundation (Taichman), 8/01/16-7/31/18, 0.12 Cal
1U54 CA210173-01, NIH (Wirtz), 9/01/16-7/31/21, 1.2 Cal
1U54 CA210173-01S, NIH (Wirtz), 9/01/16-8/31/17, 0.6 Cal
90071565, Progenics Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Pienta), 11/01/16-6/30/18, 0.12 Cal
90072088, Progenics Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Pienta), 1/01/17-12/30/20, 1.44 Cal

Dr. Pienta's 0.12 Cal annual effort on this DoD award (contract #W81XWH-16-1-0334) will not change as a result of his new Other Support.

Other organizations involved as partners

Nothing to Report.

8. SPECIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

9. APPENDICES

None.