

1       **Chromosome 9p21.3 Coordinates Cell Intrinsic and Extrinsic Tumor Suppression**  
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36 **SUMMARY**

37 Somatic chromosomal deletions are prevalent in cancer, yet their functional contributions remain  
38 ill-defined. Among the most prominent of these events are deletions of chromosome 9p21.3,  
39 which disable a cell intrinsic barrier to tumorigenesis by eliminating the *CDKN2A/B* tumor  
40 suppressor genes. However, half of 9p21.3 deletions encompass a cluster of 16 type I interferons  
41 (IFNs) whose co-deletions have not been functionally characterized. To dissect how 9p21.3 and  
42 other genomic deletions impact cancer, we developed MACHETE (Molecular Alteration of  
43 Chromosomes with Engineered Tandem Elements), a genome engineering strategy that enables  
44 flexible modeling of megabase-sized deletions. Generation of 9p21.3-syntenic deletions in a  
45 mouse model of pancreatic cancer revealed that concomitant loss of *Cdkn2a/b* and the IFN cluster  
46 led to immune evasion and metastasis compared to *Cdkn2a/b*-only deletions. Mechanistically,  
47 IFN co-deletion disrupted type I IFN signaling, altered antigen-presenting cells, and facilitated  
48 escape from CD8+ T cell surveillance in a cell extrinsic manner requiring loss of interferon epsilon  
49 (*Ifne*). Our results establish co-deletions of the IFN cluster as a pervasive route to tumor immune  
50 evasion and metastasis, revealing how deletions can disable physically linked cell intrinsic and  
51 extrinsic tumor suppression. Our study establishes a framework to dissect the functions of  
52 genomic deletions in cancer and beyond.

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54 **MAIN**

55 Understanding the genetic underpinnings of cancer is a fundamental goal of cancer research.  
56 Most efforts have focused on the characterization of single nucleotide variants (SNVs), which  
57 typically act as ON/OFF switches that affect the output of a single gene. An even larger class of  
58 cancer-associated lesions are copy number alterations (CNAs), which simultaneously impact the  
59 dosage of multiple genes and include chromosomal gains and losses, focal amplifications, and  
60 heterozygous or homozygous deletions<sup>1,2</sup>. Current estimates suggest that a typical tumor carries  
61 an average of 24 distinct CNAs that impact up to 30% of the genome<sup>3,4,6</sup>. Moreover, CNAs show  
62 recurrent patterns that can be associated with clinical outcomes<sup>3,4,7,8</sup>, arguing for active selection  
63 of specific traits rather than stochastic accumulation of genomic alterations. While much of the  
64 research on CNAs has focused on known drivers within the affected regions, emerging evidence  
65 indicates that co-gained or co-deleted genes – once considered “passenger” events – can also  
66 contribute to tumorigenesis<sup>1,9,10</sup>. While these observations imply CNAs produce complex  
67 phenotypes that cannot be recapitulated by manipulating a single gene<sup>11-17</sup>, the experimental  
68 modeling of these lesions remains a major challenge that has impeded the functional assessment  
69 of CNA biology<sup>12,13,18-21</sup>.

70 Among recurrent CNAs, loss of chromosome 9p21.3 is most strongly linked to poor  
71 prognosis and the most common homozygous deletion across human cancers<sup>3,7</sup>. The 9p21.3  
72 locus is particularly prominent since it encompasses multiple key tumor suppressor genes  
73 (TSGs): the cell cycle inhibitors *CDKN2A* (encoding p16<sup>INK4a</sup> and p14<sup>ARF</sup>) and *CDKN2B* (encoding  
74 p15<sup>INK4b</sup>), which collectively engage the function of p53 and RB, the major tumor-suppressive  
75 pathways that are impaired in cancer<sup>5,22-24</sup>. Hence, the current paradigm of how 9p21.3 deletions  
76 contribute to tumorigenesis is by eliminating a cell-intrinsic proliferative block. Nonetheless,  
77 several observations have been difficult to explain by this paradigm. Tumors with 9p21.3 deletions  
78 can display altered immune infiltrates<sup>25,26</sup> and increased resistance to immune checkpoint  
79 blockade<sup>27,28</sup>, suggesting that the locus may also influence immune-related processes. Consistent

80 with this possibility, numerous genome-wide association studies have identified single nucleotide  
81 polymorphisms in 9p21.3 even in non-cancer pathologies, notably age- and inflammation-related  
82 conditions<sup>29</sup>. However, the biological and molecular basis for these observations remains poorly  
83 understood.

84

85 **MACHETE Enables Efficient Generation of Megabase-sized Genomic Deletions in Cellular  
86 Models**

87 To facilitate the experimental study of genomic deletions, we developed a rapid and flexible  
88 approach to engineer megabase-sized deletions termed Molecular Alteration of Chromosomes  
89 with Engineered Tandem Elements (MACHETE). MACHETE involves an integrated process that  
90 inserts a selection cassette within a region of interest, followed by its co-deletion with defined  
91 regions of flanking DNA (**Figure 1A**). First, a bicistronic cassette encoding tandem negative and  
92 positive selection markers is amplified using oligos with homology to a region within an intended  
93 deletion. Second, the cassette is then inserted into the genome by CRISPR-facilitated homology-  
94 directed repair, and cells with integrations are enriched by positive selection. Third, a pair of single  
95 guide RNAs (sgRNAs) targeting the breakpoints of the intended deletion are introduced on either  
96 side of the bicistronic cassette, followed by negative selection. Since the sequence specificity of  
97 the flanking guides exclusively deletes on-target integrations of the suicide cassette, the latter  
98 step not only eliminates cells that retain the selection cassette but also those harboring off-target  
99 integrations (**Figure 1A**). Notably, the MACHETE protocol was designed to eliminate the need for  
100 cloning components: donor DNA is generated by introducing 40-bp homology arms via PCR  
101 amplification of the selection cassette, which is coupled to ribonucleoproteins (RNPs) of  
102 recombinant Cas9 complexed with sgRNAs (**Extended Data Figure 1A-B**). We envisioned that  
103 this approach would enable engineering of an allelic series of deletions, thereby enabling the  
104 systematic functional dissection of distinct regions within a locus.

105 As an initial proof of concept, we engineered a 4.1-Mb deletion of the murine 11B3 locus  
106 (syntenic to human 17p13.1), which encompasses the *Trp53* TSG (**Extended Data Figure 1C**)  
107 and had been previously produced using a Cre/loxP approach<sup>13</sup>. NIH3T3 fibroblasts were targeted  
108 with a PGK-DTR-T2A-Puro (PDTP) dual-selection cassette to an intronic region of *Ccdc42*, a  
109 gene located in the 11B3 locus, and positively selected for insertion of the cassette (11B3 knock-  
110 in (KI) cells). Cas9-sgRNA RNPs were then introduced to target regions flanking *Sco1* and  
111 *Alox12*, the genes that demarcate the intended deletion, and negative selection was performed  
112 using DT to produce a cell population termed  $\Delta$ 11B3 (**Extended Data Figure 1C**). Parental, 11B3  
113 KI, and  $\Delta$ 11B3 populations showed the expected pattern of resistance or sensitivity to the  
114 selection agents, presence/absence of the cassette, and expected deletion breakpoint (**Extended**  
115 **Data Figure 1D, E**). Clonal analysis showed that use of negative selection effectively enabled the  
116 generation of the desired deletion, by increasing the efficiency of  $\Delta$ 11B3 engineering from  
117 undetectable (0/22) to 40% of positive clones (11/27, all heterozygous) (**Extended Figure 1F**),  
118 which was confirmed by sequencing (**Extended Data Figure 1G**).

119 We further developed a series of constructs that enable the use of MACHETE across  
120 various experimental contexts (**Extended Data Figure 1H**). To illustrate the use of MACHETE in  
121 human cells, we selected a cassette composed by a herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase with  
122 blue fluorescent protein (HSV-TK-T2A-BFP), which enables positive selection via fluorescence  
123 activated cell sorting (FACS) and negative selection using ganciclovir. This construct enabled the  
124 production of cells harboring a 45 Mb deletion of chromosome 7q11-7q22 (**Extended Figure 1I-**  
125 **K**). Thus, MACHETE is a customizable approach to efficiently engineer large chromosomal  
126 deletion events.

127

128 **Loss of Type I IFN Genes Is a Common Event in 9p21.3 Deleted Tumors**

129 Armed with MACHETE, we set out to interrogate the biology of deletions at the 9p21.3 locus  
130 (**Figure 1B**). Interestingly, although *CDKN2A* is a well-established tumor suppressor in this  
131 region, we and others have noted that 9p21.3 deletions can encompass additional genes,  
132 including a cluster of 16 type I IFN genes whose genetic loss has not been functionally implicated  
133 in tumorigenesis despite the known role of IFN signaling in anti-tumor immunity<sup>30</sup>. An analysis of  
134 the TCGA dataset<sup>31</sup> revealed that fourteen different tumor types harbor homozygous 9p21.3  
135 deletions in over 10% of cases (**Extended Data Figure 2A**). We further classified 9p21.3  
136 deletions into those targeting *CDKN2A/B* alone (9p small, or 9pS) or larger events that typically  
137 encompassed the entire type I IFN cluster (9p large, or 9pL) (**Figure 1C**). The frequency of the  
138 9pL events ranged between 20-60% depending on tumor type and was one of the highest in  
139 pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) (**Figure 1D**).

140

#### 141 **Engineering 9p21.3 Deletions in Mouse Models of PDAC**

142 Genetic analyses of human PDAC indicate that *CDKN2A* deletions are an early event in tumor  
143 evolution<sup>32,33</sup>, which are thought to emerge as heterozygous deletions that subsequently undergo  
144 loss of heterozygosity<sup>34,35</sup>. These deletions tend to co-occur with activating *KRAS* mutations and  
145 *TP53* loss, two other major drivers in this disease (**Extended Data Figure 2B**)<sup>36</sup>. Given the  
146 potential role of type I IFNs in modulating immune responses, we set out to study the biology of  
147 different 9p deletions in a syngeneic model of murine PDAC derived from established pancreatic  
148 ductal epithelial cells (PDECs) that harbor an endogenous activated *Kras*<sup>G12D</sup> allele<sup>37,38</sup>. While  
149 *Cdkn2a* expression is blunted in this system, the lesions produced following PDEC transplantation  
150 resemble premalignant stages of PDAC, display a limited capacity to progress to invasive  
151 adenocarcinoma<sup>38</sup>, and allow the study of immune-related processes<sup>37,39</sup>. Thus, given the synteny  
152 between human 9p21.3 and murine 4C4 (**Extended Data Figure 2C**), PDEC cells provide a good  
153 platform for MACHETE-based engineering of 9p21.3 equivalent deletions *in vitro* and the  
154 subsequent study of tumor phenotypes in an immune competent *in vivo* context.

155 To model the most relevant genetic configuration for 9p21.3 loss in human PDAC, we  
156 generated *Trp53* knockout PDEC cells using transient CRISPR-Cas9 and introduced an EGFP-  
157 Luciferase cassette to enable visualization of engrafted cells (PDEC-sgP53-EL cells) (**Extended**  
158 **Data Figure 2D**). MACHETE was then used to engineer the two most frequent configurations of  
159 9p21.3 deletions:  $\Delta S$  (“Small”; 0.4 Mb loss spanning *Cdkn2a* and *Cdkn2b*), and  $\Delta L$  (“Large”; 1.3  
160 Mb loss spanning the entire 4C4 locus) (**Figure 1E-G**). Deep sequencing of the breakpoint  
161 regions confirmed the presence of precise 0.4 and 1.3 Mb deletions, and clonal analysis of  
162 targeted cell populations indicated that MACHETE achieved an >8-fold increase in producing cells  
163 with the intended heterozygous deletion (**Figure 1H, Extended Data Figure 2E, F**). As expected,  
164 these populations could be further edited through MACHETE’s capability for iterative engineering  
165 (**Extended Data Figure 2G**). Given the comparable deletion efficiency of  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells, cell  
166 populations were used for subsequent analyses to minimize the effects of clonal variation.

167

#### 168 **Tumors with $\Delta L$ Deletions Are Differentially Surveilled by the Adaptive Immune System**

169 To determine whether each heterozygous deletion event contributes to tumorigenesis, we  
170 transplanted the  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  lines into the pancreata of syngeneic C57BL/6 recipients and  
171 assessed tumor formation at 4 weeks via bioluminescent imaging and at endpoint. Cells bearing  
172 the  $\Delta L$  deletion tended to form more tumors than  $\Delta S$  cells, although the difference was not  
173 statistically significant (**Figure 2A**). Tumors arising from both genotypes were poorly  
174 differentiated, consistent with the histopathology of autochthonous *Trp53*- and *Cdkn2a*-deficient  
175 PDAC models (**Extended Data Figure 2H**<sup>40</sup>). Sparse whole genome sequencing (sWGS)  
176 confirmed that most  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors acquired homozygous deletions of their respective alleles  
177 (7/9 lines for  $\Delta S$ ; 6/8 lines for  $\Delta L$ ), as occurs in human PDAC (**Extended Data Figure 2I**).  
178 However, there was one notable difference:  $\Delta L$  tumors retained a strong EGFP fluorescence  
179 signal and genomic copy number compared to  $\Delta S$  tumors (**Figure 2B-C**).

180 The above findings are consistent with immunoediting of cells with high reporter  
181 expression<sup>41</sup> and raise the possibility that  $\Delta L$  cells may be less immunogenic than their  $\Delta S$   
182 counterparts. Accordingly,  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells showed a similar capability of forming EGFP-  
183 expressing tumors in *Foxn1<sup>nu</sup>* (“nude”: T and B cell deficient) and NOD/SCID *Il2rg<sup>-/-</sup>* (NSG: T, B,  
184 and NK cell deficient) mice (**Figure 2A-C**). Interestingly, cell populations engineered to harbor  
185 4C4 deletions that eliminate upstream elements but that retained the *Cdkn2a/b* genes ( $\Delta I$  allele)  
186 had reduced tumor initiating capacity yet produced tumors that expressed similar levels of EGFP  
187 as  $\Delta L$  tumors (**Extended Data Figure 2J-L**). These data imply that genetic elements upstream of  
188 *Cdkn2a/b* contribute to immunoediting of developing tumors.

189

### 190 **$\Delta L$ Deletions Promote Metastasis by Evasion of Adaptive Immunity**

191 We next compared the behavior of  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumor-derived cell lines in orthotopic transplantation  
192 assays. Four independently derived  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumor lines were FACS-sorted to obtain cell  
193 populations with comparable EGFP levels to eliminate differences in reporter expression as a  
194 confounding factor (**Extended Data Figure 3A**).  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumor cells showed a similar ability  
195 to proliferate in adherent or suspension cultures and produced tumors with undifferentiated  
196 histopathology (**Extended Data Figure 3B, C**). However, consistent with their acquisition of  
197 homozygous 4C4 deletions, the tumors progressed more rapidly (**Extended Data Figure 3D**).

198 Although  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors showed no obvious difference in the fraction of proliferating  
199 or apoptotic cells (**Extended Data Figure 3E**),  $\Delta L$  tumors were much more prone to metastasis  
200 (**Figure 2D-E**). Indeed, these mice displayed a 4-fold higher incidence of macrometastases in the  
201 abdominal area (mesenteric lymph nodes, intestine, and peritoneal cavity) compared to their  $\Delta S$   
202 counterparts, and uniquely harbored overt liver metastases (~25% of mice) (**Figure 2F**). These  
203 observations were confirmed through histological analyses, which also indicated a trend for larger  
204 number and area of liver lesions (**Extended Data Figure 3F-G**).

205        Further insights into the greater metastatic potential of  $\Delta L$  cells were obtained through  
206    analyzing additional tumor genotypes and routes of cell delivery, or by studying tumor behavior in  
207    immunocompromised animals. First, tumor-derived cells that remained heterozygous for the  $\Delta L$   
208    (2/8 lines that did not undergo LOH) or  $\Delta I$  alleles were unable to efficiently produce metastases  
209    following orthotopic injection (**Extended Data Figure 3H-I**). Second, homozygous  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumor  
210    cells were equally able to produce experimental liver metastases following intrasplenic injection  
211    (**Extended Data Figure 3J-K**). Third, as was observed for the immunoediting phenotype,  
212    homozygous  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells showed a similarly high frequency of metastasis following orthotopic  
213    injection into Nude mice (**Figure 2G-I, Extended Data Figure 3L-M**). Therefore, the enhanced  
214    metastatic propensity of  $\Delta L$  cells requires concomitant homozygous deletion of *Cdkn2a/b* and the  
215    IFN cluster and involves an immune surveillance mechanism that acts prior to the colonization at  
216    distant sites.

217

#### 218    **Loss of Type I IFNs Correlates with Metastasis in Autochthonous Mouse Models of PDAC**

219    Next, we tested the association between large 4C4 deletions and metastasis in an independent  
220    and autochthonous genetically engineered mouse model (GEMM) of PDAC. In agreement with a  
221    previous report<sup>36</sup>, metastatic GEMM tumors initiated by mutant *Kras*<sup>G12D</sup> alone or in combination  
222    with a TGF $\beta$  pathway alteration (*Smad4* depletion in our model) spontaneously acquire 4C4  
223    deletions during their natural course of tumor evolution (**Figure 2J-L**). Analysis of deletion size  
224    revealed that primary tumor cells isolated from mice with metastases almost always harbored  
225    large 4C4 events (8/9 mice) whereas those without overt metastases had focal *Cdkn2a/b*  
226    deletions or no 4C4 alteration (4/6 mice) (**Figure 2K, L**). The presence and extent of 4C4 deletion  
227    was similar between individual primary and metastatic pairs (n=7), confirming that 4C4 loss is an  
228    early event in this model (**Extended Data Figure 3N**). Nonetheless, in contrast to the PDEC  
229    system, primary tumors arising in this GEMM model displayed a moderately differentiated

230 histology with stromal involvement (**Figure 2J**), implying that the increased metastatic potential  
231 associated with large 4C4 deletions does not require an undifferentiated histopathology. These  
232 orthogonal data reinforce the notion that one or more genes unique to the  $\Delta L$  deletion suppress  
233 metastasis.

234

#### 235 **4C4 Deletion Genotype Dictates Type I IFN Signaling and Immune Infiltration**

236 To help understand how distinct 4C4 deletion events influence tumor phenotypes, we performed  
237 RNA-seq on bulk  $\Delta L$  and  $\Delta S$  tumors and inferred differences in signaling pathways and immune  
238 cell composition using CIBERSORT<sup>42</sup>. When compared to  $\Delta S$  tumors,  $\Delta L$  tumors displayed a  
239 decrease in pathways linked to IFN signaling (**Extended Data Figure 4A-B**), as well as a broad  
240 depletion in immune signatures, including B and T cell populations (**Extended Figure 4C**). Further  
241 analyses using RT-qPCR confirmed that  $\Delta L$  tumors have reduced levels of type I IFNs (*Ifnb1* and  
242 *Ifne*) and IFN-responsive genes (*Oas1* and *Isg20*) (**Extended Data Figure 4D**). Adding  
243 granularity to these observations, single cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) of tumor-infiltrating  
244 CD45+ cells isolated from  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors identified changes in the abundance of multiple  
245 immune cell populations (**Extended Data Figure 4E-I**).  $\Delta L$  tumors had fewer B cells and myeloid  
246 populations, which was accompanied by an increase in CD8+ T cells – changes that were  
247 confirmed by flow cytometry (**Figure 3A-B, Extended Data Figure 5A-I**).

248 Beyond alterations in the composition of infiltrating CD45+ cells, the distinct 4C4 deletions  
249 led to changes in the transcriptional state of immune subsets. Analysis of an experimentally  
250 derived type I IFN response signature (see Methods and **Extended Data Table 1**) showed that  
251 professional antigen-presenting cells (APCs; macrophages, dendritic cells and B cells) and CD8+  
252 T cells exhibited reduced type I IFN signaling in the  $\Delta L$  setting (**Figure 3B-C, Extended Data**  
253 **Figure 4J**). Moreover, the specific effects of 4C4 deletions on APCs were immune cell type-  
254 dependent: a more pro-inflammatory state of cDC2 dendritic cells in  $\Delta S$  tumors (**Extended Data**

255 **Figure 5J-L**); a shift in macrophage transcriptional states toward higher M1-like cells in  $\Delta S$   
256 tumors (**Extended Data Figure 5M-O**); and an overall reduction across all B cell subtypes in  $\Delta L$   
257 tumors (**Extended Data Figure 5P-Q**).

258 Analysis of CD8+ T cells showed a range of activation states, with a dominant presence  
259 of activated/exhausted (*Pdcd1+*, *Ctla4+*, *Havcr2+*, *Lag3+*), naïve (*Pdcd1-*, *Tcf7+*, *Sell+*), and  
260 cycling cells (*Pdcd1+*, *MKi67+*) (**Figure 3D-E**). Intriguingly, the non-proliferating *Pdcd1+*  
261 population of CD8+ T cells occupied distinct phenotypic space in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors. Further  
262 characterization using MILO<sup>43</sup> revealed that  $\Delta S$  tumors accumulated exhausted CD8+ T cells  
263 marked by *Tox* and *Bcl2* expression, whereas those present in  $\Delta L$  tumors were transcriptionally  
264 distinct and displayed higher expression of *Havcr2* and *Lag3* (**Figure 3F-I, Extended Data Figure**  
265 **5R, Extended Data Table 1**). The high levels of IFN-engaged APCs and distinct CD8+ T cell  
266 states present in  $\Delta S$  tumors implied ongoing immune surveillance that, based on our phenotypic  
267 data, may suppress metastatic spread. In agreement, depletion of B and CD8+ cells, but not  
268 CD4+ cells, enhanced the metastatic potential of  $\Delta S$  tumor cells to levels observed for  $\Delta L$  tumors  
269 (**Figure 3J-K**). Collectively, these data suggest that loss of tumor-intrinsic type I IFNs impairs the  
270 function of professional APCs and produces a unique state of CD8+ T cell dysfunction, leading to  
271 defects in anti-tumor immunity.

272

### 273 **9p21.3 Deletions Correlate with IFN signaling and Immune Infiltration in Human PDAC**

274 To test how 9p21.3 deletions that encompass the type I IFN cluster alter the tumor  
275 microenvironment in human PDAC, we analyzed sequencing data obtained from the COMPASS  
276 trial, which contains 218 primary and 180 metastatic PDAC samples isolated by laser capture  
277 microdissection<sup>44,45</sup>. The availability of whole genome and RNA sequencing from each of these  
278 samples allows tumors to be categorized based on 9p deletion status and then analyzed for  
279 immune signatures linked to infiltrating stromal cells. Consistent with our findings in murine

280 tumors, analysis of primary tumors showed that 9pL deletions correlated with reduced type I IFN  
281 signaling compared to their 9pS counterparts (**Extended Data Figure 6A**).

282 The genotype-specific differences in gene ontology pathways and inferred immune cell  
283 composition correlated well across species (**Extended Data Figure 6B-C, Extended Data Table**  
284 **2**). Notably, IFN cluster-proficient ( $\Delta S/9pS$ ) tumors were enriched in pathways associated with  
285 immune infiltration of both innate and adaptive categories (**Extended Data Figure 6B**) and  
286 showed a relative enrichment of most immune cell populations, particularly effector CD8+ T and  
287 B cell subsets (**Extended Data Figure 6C**). Nevertheless, the relative enrichment in type I IFN  
288 signatures present in primary 9pS tumors was reduced in 9pS metastases (**Extended Data**  
289 **Figure 6D**)<sup>46</sup>, and analysis of RNA-seq data from a second cohort of matched primary and  
290 metastatic PDAC samples confirmed a reduction in type I IFN signaling in metastases irrespective  
291 of tumor genotype (**Extended Data Figure 6E**). When considered in the context of our functional  
292 studies, these data imply that downregulation of type I IFN signaling, by genetic or other means,  
293 promotes PDAC metastasis.

294

295 **Disruption of IFNAR Signaling Phenocopies the Immune Evasive and Pro-metastatic**  
296 **Properties of  $\Delta L$  Cells**

297 Besides type I IFNs,  $\Delta L$  deletions include other genes, including *Mtap*, whose disruption can also  
298 influence tumor cell behavior<sup>47</sup>. To specifically test whether type I IFN signaling is required for  
299 the immune evasive and pro-metastatic features of  $\Delta L$  tumors, we used IFNAR1 blocking  
300 antibodies as an orthogonal approach to disrupting type I IFN signaling in the host. Immune  
301 competent mice were pre-treated with an IFNAR1-blocking antibody or an isotype control,  
302 followed by orthotopic transplantation of  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells analysis of the resulting tumors for  
303 immunoediting of the EGFP-Luciferase reporter and overall incidence of metastasis (**Extended**  
304 **Data Figure 7A**).

305 Consistent with our model,  $\Delta S$  tumors arising in mice subjected to IFNAR1 blockade  
306 expressed higher levels of EGFP than isotype-treated controls (**Figure 4A, Extended Data**  
307 **Figure 7B-C**) and showed a greater incidence of metastasis in secondary transplantation assays  
308 (**Figure 4B; Extended Data Figure 7D-F**). Remarkably, these patterns were comparable to those  
309 arising in immune competent mice receiving  $\Delta L$  cells and in immune deficient animals  
310 transplanted with  $\Delta S$  cells (**Figure 2C, F, I**). In contrast, type I IFN blockade had no impact on the  
311 enhanced metastatic potential of  $\Delta L$  cells (**Figure 4B**). Transcriptional profiling of bulk tumors  
312 confirmed that IFNAR1 blockade phenocopied the reduction of type I IFN signaling observed in  
313 IFN-deficient tumors but had minimal impact on the transcriptome of  $\Delta L$  tumors (**Figure 4C**;  
314 **Extended Data Figure 7G-H**). These data imply that that one or more type I IFNs are required  
315 for the immune evasive and pro-metastatic phenotypes arising in tumors with homozygous  $\Delta L$   
316 deletions.

317

### 318 ***Ifne* Is a Tumor-specific Mediator of Immune Surveillance and Metastasis**

319 The functional redundancy between different type I IFNs remains poorly understood<sup>48</sup>. For  
320 instance, *Ifnb1* is highly expressed in immune cells and acts as a key downstream effector of the  
321 cGAS-STING pathway to engage innate and adaptive immunity, yet the individual contributions  
322 of most other IFNs to infection and cancer immunity are unclear<sup>30,49</sup>. To dissect the functional  
323 contribution of tumor-derived IFNs to immunoediting and metastasis, we leveraged the power of  
324 MACHETE to engineer a refined deletion series that encompass a gradually increasing number  
325 of IFN genes (**Figure 4D**). The resulting cell populations were orthotopically injected as pools into  
326 immunocompetent recipient mice (**Figure 4E**) and expression of EGFP-Luc reporter was used as  
327 an indicator of immune evasion in the resulting tumors.

328 Consistent with different deletion events affording different degrees of immune evasion,  
329 the tumors showed heterogenous expression of EGFP (**Figure 4F**). Isolation of cells with distinct

330 levels of EGFP showed prevalence in deletions affecting the IFN cluster in the EGFP-retaining  
331 population (**Figure 4G**), with a significant enrichment of cells harboring deletions of *Ifne* across  
332 multiple independent tumors (**Figure 4H**). A similar increase in the deletion of *Ifne* was observed  
333 when comparing metastases to primary tumors, further highlighting the potential relevance of *Ifne*  
334 to tumor dissemination (**Figure 4I**).

335 A detailed analysis of type I IFN gene expression in epithelial and CD45+ immune cells  
336 present in  $\Delta S$  tumors reinforced the above observations. As previously reported, *Ifnb1* could be  
337 induced by a cGAS-STING agonist yet was more highly expressed in immune cells than tumor  
338 cells; by contrast, other IFNs, particularly *Ifne*, were not induced by these stimuli and showed  
339 preferential expression in tumor cells (**Figure 4J, Extended Data Figure 7I-J**). Collectively these  
340 data imply that disruption of *Ifne* is necessary for the effects of type I IFN loss on immune evasion  
341 and metastasis.

342 To determine whether *Ifne* was sufficient to suppress immune evasion and metastasis, we  
343 introduced a doxycycline-inducible construct to drive either full-length *Ifne* or a truncated *Ifne*  
344 control in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells (**Extended Data Figure 8A-C**). Both sustained and acute induction of  
345 full-length *Ifne* suppressed overt metastasis of  $\Delta L$  tumors, which was dependent on adaptive  
346 immunity (**Figure 4K, Extended data Figure 8D-H**). Despite the expected overexpression of *Ifne*  
347 and downstream type I IFN target genes (**Extended Data Figure 8I**),  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors showed  
348 differential response to acute *Ifne*:  $\Delta S$  tumors had no effect on primary tumor growth while  $\Delta L$   
349 tumors had a reduction in tumor size and metastasis (**Figure 4K**). Consistent with loss of function  
350 phenotypes, tumors with enforced *Ifne* expression displayed elevated levels of professional  
351 antigen-presenting populations and an increase in activated CD8+ T cells (**Figure 4L-M**,  
352 **Extended Data Figure 8J**). Taken together, these data demonstrate that somatic deletion of type  
353 I IFNs impairs immunoediting and metastasis via the adaptive immune system and reveal a  
354 previously unanticipated role of *Ifne* in suppressing these phenotypes.

355

356 **DISCUSSION**

357 Despite the pervasive nature of CNAs across cancers, their functional characterization has been  
358 hampered by the difficulty of manipulating large genomic regions. MACHETE addresses this  
359 challenge by providing an efficient method that is customizable to any genomic locus, enables  
360 the engineering of deletions of at least 45 Mb in size, and is easy to adopt: it requires no cloning  
361 of targeting vectors, seamlessly eliminates cells with off-target integrations, and – as shown  
362 herein – allows for iterative engineering of refined deletions or increasingly complex genotypes.  
363 Using MACHETE, we reveal previously unappreciated but clinically relevant insights into the  
364 multifactorial nature of 9p21.3 deletions, an event that contributes to up to 15% of human  
365 cancers<sup>50</sup>. Given the emerging view that CNAs influence cancer phenotypes by altering the  
366 dosage of multiple genes, tools like MACHETE will be essential for understanding their biology  
367 and any therapeutic opportunities they create.

368 Our results revise the long-standing paradigm for how genes encoded at the 9p21.3 locus  
369 suppress tumorigenesis. Most studies have focused on the roles of the *CDKN2A* (encoding  
370 p16<sup>INK4a</sup> and p14<sup>ARF</sup>), and to a lesser extent, *CDKN2B* genes (encoding p15<sup>INK4b</sup>), which act in  
371 concert to potently suppress tumorigenesis by driving premalignant cells into a stable state of cell  
372 cycle arrest<sup>5</sup>. Herein, we show that the type I IFN cluster is co-deleted with *CDKNA/B* in nearly  
373 half of all tumors harboring 9p21.3 deletions and encodes factors that act as potent tumor-derived  
374 enforcers of anti-tumor immunity. While other 9p21.3 genes such as *Mtap*<sup>47,51</sup> may also influence  
375 tumors, our data pinpoint type I IFNs as the phenotypically important tumor suppressors in our  
376 model. Therefore, 9p21.3 deletions not only disable a potent block to cancer proliferation but also  
377 facilitate immune evasion, simultaneously disrupting cell intrinsic and extrinsic tumor-suppressive  
378 programs.

379 The emerging picture from our data argues that *Cdkn2a* loss is a requisite event that  
380 enhances proliferate capacity while co-deletion of type I IFNs provides a collateral benefit that

381 promotes immune evasion by altering immune infiltrates in the developing tumor. This model also  
382 explains why neighboring cells are unable to compensate for type I IFN deletions, as incipient  
383 tumors may eventually reach a size where paracrine IFN signaling becomes limiting. Regardless,  
384 the ability of tumor cells harboring type I IFN deletions to avoid immune surveillance at the primary  
385 tumor site increases their metastatic potential. As such, the type I IFN cluster acts as a bona fide  
386 metastasis suppressor locus, adding support to the emerging view that immune surveillance plays  
387 an important role in limiting metastatic spread and contrasting with the prevailing model that  
388 metastasis is strictly driven by epigenetic changes.

389 The role of different tumor-derived type I IFNs during cancer progression has remained  
390 unclear, with most attention given to IFN secretion by immune cells or the regulation of *Ifna/b*  
391 genes downstream of cGAS-STING signaling<sup>49,52-55</sup>. Nonetheless, in our model a subset of type  
392 I IFNs, particularly *Ifne*, are exclusively expressed in tumor cells, where they promote type I IFN  
393 signaling and dictate the composition and state of immune cell infiltrates. Consequently, deletion  
394 of the type I IFN cluster produces a tumor microenvironment that culminates with the  
395 accumulation of exhausted CD8+ T cells that display markers of terminal differentiation,  
396 analogous to those observed in IFNAR1 knockout mice during defective responses to pathogen  
397 challenge<sup>56</sup>. The lack of induction of *Ifne* in response to classic type I IFN inducers (such as TLR  
398 and cGAS-STING agonists) highlights its unique role as a potentially constitutive enforcer of tumor  
399 immune surveillance, perhaps mirroring its only known role in mediating mucosal immunity<sup>57</sup>.

400 In sum, our results nominate type I IFN deletions as a pervasive genetic mechanism of  
401 immune evasion in cancer, rivaling heterozygous deletions of the HLA cluster<sup>58</sup>, and as such may  
402 explain the correlation between 9p21.3 deletions and resistance to immune checkpoint  
403 blockade<sup>50,59,60</sup>. Whether the physical coupling between IFNs and *Cdkn2a/b* is biologically  
404 meaningful or coincidental remains to be determined, but it is noteworthy that both type I IFNs  
405 and *Cdkn2a*-encoded proteins have roles in limiting viral infection<sup>48,61</sup> that may have been co-  
406 opted for tumor suppression. Intriguingly, genome-wide association studies have identified the

407 9p21.3 locus as one of two highly significant regions that are broadly associated with a series of  
408 age-related pathologies, the other key region remarkably coinciding with the HLA locus on  
409 chromosome 6p21<sup>29,62</sup>. While *CDKN2A* is thought to drive the 9p associations, the cooperative  
410 effects between *CDKN2A* and type I IFNs reported herein raise the possibility that variation in  
411 type I IFN regulation plays a role in the biology of these pathologies as well.

412

413 **METHODS**

414 **Pan-cancer TCGA Data Analysis**

415 Analysis of TCGA datasets was performed on cBioPortal<sup>63,64</sup>. All TCGA datasets were selected  
416 and the following onco-query language (OQL) entry was used (**Extended Data Table 3** for 9p21.3  
417 OQL). Tumors with at least 10% of patients harboring 9p21.3 deletion were identified. Tumors  
418 were classified as 9pS if they had a focal deep deletion of *CDKN2A/B*. Tumors were classified as  
419 9pL if both *CDKN2A/B* and the type I IFN cluster was deleted. For the 9pL/9pS relative frequency,  
420 only datasets with at least 40 cases with 9p21.3 loss were considered.

421

422 **Cell Culture**

423 NIH3T3 fibroblasts were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), and were  
424 cultured in DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS) and 100 IU/mL of  
425 penicillin/streptomycin. Parental and stably-expressing Gag/Pol HEK293 lines were cultured in  
426 DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 100 IU/mL of  
427 penicillin/streptomycin. Pancreatic ductal epithelial cells (PDECs), derived from female C57BL/6n  
428 mice, were cultured as previously described<sup>37,38</sup>. Advanced DMEM/F12 supplemented with 10%  
429 FBS (Gibco), 100 IU/mL of penicillin/streptomycin (Gibco), 100 mM Glutamax (Gibco), ITS  
430 Supplement (Sigma), 0.1 mg/mL soy trypsin-inhibitor (Gibco), Bovine Pituitary Extract (Gibco), 5  
431 nM T3 (Sigma), 100 µg/mL Cholera toxin (Sigma), 4 µg/mL Dexamethasone (Sigma), 10 ng/mL  
432 human EGF (Preprotech). PDECs were cultured on collagen-coated plates (100 µg/mL PureCol

433 5005, Advanced Biomatrix). Tumor-derived cell lines were generated by an initial mechanical  
434 disaggregation/mincing, and tumor fragments were transferred to a solution of type V collagenase  
435 (Sigma C9263, 1 mg/mL in HBSS 1X) and incubated at 37 C for 45 minutes. Cell suspensions  
436 were supplemented with an equal volume of DMEM 10% FBS and filtered through a 100  $\mu$ m mesh  
437 (BD). Filtered suspensions were centrifuged for 5 min at 1250 rpm, pellets were resuspended in  
438 DMEM 10% FBS with penicillin/streptomycin 100  $\mu$ l/mL and cultured on collagen coated plates  
439 (100  $\mu$ g/mL PureCol 5005, Advanced Biomatrix). Cells were passaged twice to remove non-tumor  
440 cells and downstream applications were done with these tumor-derived cell lines.

441

442 **Engineering Large Genomic Deletions with MACHETE**

443 To engineer genomic deletions, we developed Molecular Alteration of Chromosomes with  
444 Engineered Tandem Elements (MACHETE). The premise behind MACHETE is to give cells that  
445 bear the deletion of interest a selective advantage over unedited cells, which is achieved by using  
446 a bicistronic cassette consisting of an inducible suicide element and an antibiotic resistance  
447 component. This cassette is integrated into the region of interest by CRISPR-Cas9 mediated  
448 homology directed repair (HDR). Once cells with stable integration of the cassette are positively  
449 selected, they are treated with CRISPR-Cas9 to generate the deletion of interest and edited cells  
450 are enriched via negative selection.

451

452 *Identification and in vitro transcription of sgRNAs:*

453 We used GuideScan to select optimal sgRNA sequences<sup>65</sup>. For each locus of interest, we  
454 identified an sgRNA to introduce the MACHETE cassette by HDR, and sgRNAs to generate the  
455 deletion of interest. For the 4C4 locus, we designed two independent sets of guides for each  
456 deletion to control for potential off-target effects. We generated sgRNAs as previously described  
457 <sup>66</sup>. Briefly, a primer with a T7 adapter and the sgRNA sequence was used to PCR amplify the

458 tracrRNA from a pX330 plasmid. The PCR product was then purified and transcribed using the  
459 RNA MAXX In Vitro Transcription Kit (Agilent) to produce the sgRNA. sgRNAs were then column  
460 purified (RNA Clean & Concentrator, Zymo Research), eluted in water and aliquoted for later use  
461 with recombinant Cas9 (Sigma). Oligos used for sgRNA production are listed in **Extended Data**

462 **Table 4.**

463

464 *Generation of HDR donor:*

465 To maximize flexibility, MACHETE uses 40-bp homology arms that are introduced by PCR. The  
466 locus-specific HDR donors were generated by PCR amplification of the MACHETE bicistronic  
467 cassette using a high-fidelity DNA polymerase (Herculase II, Agilent or Q5, NEB). PCR fragments  
468 were column purified (Qiagen) and quantified. Primers for targeting are presented in **Extended**

469 **Data Table 4.**

470

471 *CRISPR-Cas9-mediated targeting and generation of large genomic deletions:*

472 For all CRISPR editing, we used Cas9 ribonucleotide complexes (Cas9 RNPs) with the intended  
473 guides, to reduce cloning and limit Cas9 expression. To incorporate Cas9 RNPs and donor PCR,  
474 cells were electroporated with the Neon System (Invitrogen) following the manufacturer's  
475 instructions.

476

477 *HDR knock-in of MACHETE cassette:*

478 Briefly, cells were trypsinized, washed in PBS once, and counted. Cells were then resuspended  
479 in Neon Buffer R and aliquoted for the different electroporation reactions. Each condition used  
480  $100 \times 10^3$  cells in 10  $\mu$ L of Buffer R. In parallel, 1  $\mu$ g of Cas9 (ThermoFisher) and 1  $\mu$ g of sgRNA  
481 were complexed for 15 min at room temperature. For the HDR step, 0.5  $\mu$ g of donor DNA was  
482 added to the Cas9 RNP complex, which was then mixed with the cell aliquot. The cell/RNP/donor

483 mixture was electroporated (1400 V pulse voltage, 20 ms pulse width, 2 pulses). For the selection  
484 of cassette knock-in lines, Puromycin (2  $\mu$ g/mL) was added to the media 48 hours after  
485 electroporation. In the case of fluorescence reporters, cells were sorted 48 hours post  
486 electroporation (Sony MA900), and further enriched for stable expression one week after this  
487 initial sort. Selected cells were expanded to establish the parental KI lines. To validate this initial  
488 step, cells were then treated with diphtheria toxin (50 ng/mL) or ganciclovir (10  $\mu$ g/mL) to assess  
489 their sensitivity. On-target integrations were assessed by PCR of gDNA and Sanger sequencing  
490 of the product for confirmation. Genotyping primers are provided in **Extended Data Table 4**.

491

492 *Generation of genomic deletions:*

493 KI cells were trypsinized, washed in PBS once, and counted. Cells were then resuspended in  
494 Neon Buffer R and aliquoted for the different electroporation reactions. Each condition used 100  
495  $\times 10^3$  cells in 10  $\mu$ L of Buffer R. In parallel, 2  $\mu$ g of Cas9, 1  $\mu$ g of 5' flanking sgRNA, and 1  $\mu$ g of  
496 3' flanking sgRNA were complexed for 15 min at room temperature. The cell/RNP mixture was  
497 electroporated (1400 V pulse voltage, 20 ms pulse width, 2 pulses) and cells were seeded in the  
498 absence of selection. 48 hours after seeding, cells were treated with diphtheria toxin (50 ng/mL)  
499 or ganciclovir (10  $\mu$ g/mL) and media was changed every 2 days with ongoing selection. Surviving  
500 cells were then passaged and analyzed for the presence of the intended deletion breakpoint, loss  
501 of selection cassette, and sensitivity to selection was re-evaluated. Genotyping primers are  
502 provided in **Extended Data Table 4**.

503

504 *Breakpoint high-throughput sequencing:*

505 Breakpoint PCRs were purified and sent for amplicon sequencing (Amplicon-EZ, Genewiz)  
506 following service guidelines. Raw fastq reads were aligned to the mouse genome (mm10) using  
507 bowtie2 with parameters "--local -D 50 -R 3 -N 0 -L 19 -i S,1.0,0.7 --no-unal -k 5 --score-min C,20".

508 Aligned SAM reads were processed using custom Rscript to parse the breakpoint location,  
509 junction position, direction of the reads, and alignment types. Alignments for a proper break read-  
510 pairs have to both aligned to the same breakpoint chromosome; coming from 1 primary and 1  
511 secondary alignment; and breakpoints must be located on opposite sides of the breakpoint  
512 junction.

513

514 **Flow Cytometry**

515 To assess expression of EGFP, tumor cell suspensions were generated by initial mechanical  
516 disaggregation/mincing. Tumor fragments were then transferred to a solution of type V  
517 collagenase (Sigma C9263, 1 mg/mL in 1X HBSS) supplemented with soy trypsin inhibitor (Gibco,  
518 0.1 mg/mL) and DNase I (Sigma, 0.1 mg/mL). Tumor pieces in this disaggregation buffer were  
519 transferred to a GentleMACS tube and loaded into the OctoDissociator (Miltenyi). Samples were  
520 treated with the mTDK1 program, after which 5 mL of FACS Buffer (PBS 1X, 2% FBS) was added  
521 to the sample and the mix was filtered through a 100  $\mu$ m mesh (BD). The resulting cell suspension  
522 was centrifuged and resuspended in FACS buffer. Cells were then treated with Fc block (BD,  
523 1:200 dilution) incubated at 4C for 15 minutes and stained with anti-CD45 AF700 (BD, 1:400  
524 dilution) for 30 min at 4C. Cells were washed and resuspended in FACS buffer supplemented  
525 with DAPI (Sigma, 1  $\mu$ g/mL final). Stained cell suspensions were then analyzed in a MA900 sorter  
526 (Sony). EGFP+ cells were analyzed within the CD45-, DAPI- population.

527

528 For multi-parametric flow cytometry analysis, tumor cell suspensions were generated as above,  
529 and cells were stained with LIVE/DEAD fixable viability dye (Invitrogen) for 30 min at 4C. After  
530 this, cells were washed, incubated with Fc block (BD, 1:200) for 15 min at 4 C, and then stained  
531 with conjugated antibody cocktails (see **Extended Data Table 5** for antibody panels) for 30 min  
532 at 4C. After staining cells were washed and fixed (BD Cytofix) for 20 min at 4C, washed again,

533 and stored for analysis. Samples were analyzed in a BD LSРFortessa with 5 lasers, where gates  
534 were set by use of fluorescence-minus-one (FMO) controls.

535

536 **Animals and In Vivo Procedures**

537 **Animals**

538 All mouse experiments were approved by the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC)  
539 Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Mice were maintained under pathogen-  
540 free conditions, and food and water were provided ad libitum. C57Bl/6n and NOD/SCID II2rg<sup>-/-</sup>  
541 (NSG) mice were purchased from Envigo. Foxn1<sup>nu</sup> (Swiss nude) mice were purchased from  
542 Jackson Laboratory. All mice used were 6 to 8 week-old females.

543

544 **PDAC GEMM-ESC models of *Cdkn2a/b* loss**

545 Embryonic stem cells (ESCs) bearing alleles to study PDAC were used as previously described<sup>67-</sup>  
546 <sup>69</sup>. Briefly, Ptf1a<sup>Cre/+</sup>; Rosa26<sup>Lox-Stop-Lox rtTA3-IRES-mKate2/+</sup>; Col1a1<sup>Homing cassette/+</sup> cells were targeted with  
547 shRNAs against *Smad4* or *Renilla* luciferase (non-targeting control). Mice were then generated  
548 by blastocyst injection of shSmad4 or shRen ESCs, and shRNAs were induced by treatment of  
549 the resulting mice with doxycycline in drinking water starting at 5-6 weeks of age. Pancreatic  
550 tumor initiation and progression were monitored by palpation and ultrasound imaging, mice were  
551 euthanized upon reaching humane endpoints of tumor burden, and samples were collected from  
552 primary tumors and metastases (when present). Tumor-derived cell lines were then analyzed by  
553 sparse whole genome sequencing and classified according to the type of *Cdkn2a/b* alteration.

554

555 **Orthotopic transplants**

556 For orthotopic transplants of PDEC cells, mice were anesthetized and a survival surgery was  
557 performed to expose the pancreas, where either 300,000 cells (for primary MACHETE-edited  
558 lines) or 100,000 cells (tumor-derived lines) were injected in the pancreas of each mouse. Mice

559 were then monitored for tumor engraftment (bioluminescence imaging, IVIS) and progression,  
560 and were euthanized when overt disease was present in accordance with IACUC guidelines.

561

562 *Experimental metastasis assays*

563 For liver colonization of PDEC cells, mice were anesthetized, and a survival surgery was  
564 performed to expose the spleen, where 100,000 cells (tumor-derived lines) were injected in the  
565 spleen of each mouse, where the site of injection was then removed and the remainder of the  
566 spleen was cauterized (hemi-splenectomy). Mice were then monitored for tumor engraftment and  
567 progression and were euthanized when overt disease was present in accordance with IACUC  
568 guidelines.

569

570 *Antibody treatments*

571 For IFNAR1 blockade experiments, mice were treated twice per week with either 200 ug i.p. of  
572 control IgG (MOPC21 clone, BioXCell) or 200 ug i.p. of anti-IFNAR1 antibody (MAR15A3,  
573 BioXCell). For depletion experiments: mice were treated with anti-CD8a antibody (Clone 2.43,  
574 BioXCell) or anti-CD4 (Clone GK1.5, BioXCell) with an initial dose of 400 ug i.p., followed by  
575 maintenance injections of 200 ug/mouse. Control, IFNAR1 blocking and CD8/CD4 depletion  
576 antibody treatments were done twice per week, starting one week prior to the orthotopic  
577 transplantation of cells. Treatments were maintained for the entire duration of the experiment. B  
578 cell depletion was done by a monthly intravenous injection of anti-CD20 (Clone SA271G2,  
579 BioLegend), starting one week prior to orthotopic transplantation of cells.

580

581 *In vivo bioluminescence imaging*

582 Mice were anesthetized and hair over the imaging site was removed. Mice were injected with 200  
583 uL of luciferin i.p. (200 mg/L, PerkinElmer #122799) and bioluminescence was acquired 10  
584 minutes after the luciferin injection in an IVIS Spectrum. For organ imaging, mice were injected

585 with luciferin, euthanized 10 min after the injection, and organ bioluminescence was acquired in  
586 an IVIS Spectrum instrument.

587

588 **Imaging and assessment of metastatic burden**

589 Mice meeting endpoint criteria were euthanized and inspected for overt macro-metastatic burden  
590 in the abdominal cavity (peritoneum, diaphragm, mesenteric lymph nodes, ovary/fallopian tubes,  
591 kidneys, and liver), as well as in the thoracic cavity (lungs and rib cage). Primary tumors and  
592 organs were dissected and imaged under a dissection microscope (Nikon SMZ1500) for  
593 brightfield and EGFP fluorescence.

594

595 **RNA Extraction and cDNA Preparation**

596 RNA was extracted by using the Trizol Reagent (ThermoFisher) following the manufacturer's  
597 instructions. The only modification was the addition of glycogen (40 ng/mL, Roche) to the aqueous  
598 phase to visualize the RNA pellet after precipitation. RNA was quantified using a Nanodrop. cDNA  
599 was prepared with the AffinityScript QPCR cDNA Synthesis Kit (Agilent) following the  
600 manufacturer's instructions.

601

602 **DNA Extraction**

603 Genomic DNA was extracted from cells or tissues using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit  
604 (Qiagen) following the manufacturer's instructions.

605

606 **qPCR**

607 For quantitative PCR the PerfeCTa SYBR Green FastMix (QuantaBio), the Taqman Fast  
608 Advanced Master Mix (Applied Biosystems), and the Taqman Genotyping Master Mix (Applied  
609 Biosystems) were used following manufacturer's instructions. For qPCR primers and Taqman  
610 assays, see **Extended Data Table 6**.

611

612 **Histology**

613 Tissues were formalin fixed, dehydrated and paraffin embedded for sectioning. Hematoxylin /  
614 Eosin staining was performed with standard protocols.

615

616 **RNA Sequencing, Differential Gene Expression, and Gene Set Enrichment Analysis**

617 Bulk tumor pieces were flash frozen on dry ice and stored at -80C. Tissues were then  
618 mechanically disrupted in Trizol and RNA was extracted following manufacturer's instructions.  
619 RNA integrity was analyzed with an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer. Samples that passed QC were  
620 then used for library preparation and sequencing. Samples were barcoded and run on a HiSeq  
621 (Illumina) in 76 bp SE run, with an average of 50 million reads per sample. RNA-Seq data was  
622 then trimmed by removing adapter sequences and reads were aligned to the mouse genome  
623 (GRCm38.91; mm10), and transcript counts were used to generate an expression matrix.  
624 Differential gene expression was analyzed by DESeq2 <sup>70</sup> for 3-5 independent tumors per  
625 condition. Principal Components Analysis (PCA) and differentially expressed gene analysis was  
626 performed in R, with significance determined by >2 fold change with an adjusted p value < 0.05.  
627 GSEA <sup>71,72</sup> was performed using the GSEAPreranked tool for conducting GSEA of data derived  
628 from RNA-seq experiments (v.2.07) against specific signatures: Hallmark Pathways, Reactome  
629 Pathways, and Immune Subpopulations.

630

631 **Sparse Whole Genome Sequencing**

632 Low-pass whole genome sequencing was performed on gDNA freshly isolated from cultured cells  
633 as previously described <sup>73</sup>. Briefly, 1 µg of gDNA was sonicated on an E220 sonicator (settings:  
634 17Q, 75s Covaris), and library preparation was done by standard procedure (end repair, addition  
635 of polyA, and adapter ligation). Libraries were then purified (AMPure XP magnetic beads,  
636 Beckman Coulter), PCR enriched, and sequenced (Illumina HiSeq). Reads were mapped to the

637 mouse genome, duplicates removed, and an average of 2.5 million reads were used for CNA  
638 determination with the Varbin algorithm<sup>74</sup>.

639

#### 640 **Human PDAC Transcriptional Analysis**

641 Samples from the COMPASS trial<sup>44,45</sup> were classified as primary or metastatic disease and further  
642 subdivided by status of the 9p21.3 locus: 9pS deletion affecting *CDKN2A/B*, or 9pL deletions  
643 affecting *CDKN2A/B* and at least one IFN gene from the linked cluster. 9pS and 9pL samples  
644 were then analyzed for differentially expressed genes using DESeq2 and assessed by GSEA for  
645 Reactome Pathways<sup>75</sup>, and Immune Subpopulations<sup>42</sup>. As an independent validation of the  
646 differences between primary and metastatic PDAC, a previously published dataset<sup>76</sup> was used to  
647 derive differentially expressed genes using DESeq2. Genes downregulated in PDAC metastasis  
648 were then analyzed using the Enrichr algorithm<sup>77</sup>.

649

#### 650 **scRNA Sequencing**

651 The single-cell RNA-Seq of FACS-sorted cell suspensions was performed on  
652 Chromium instrument (10X genomics) following the user guide manual for 3' v3.1. In brief, FACS-  
653 sorted cells were washed once with PBS containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and  
654 resuspended in PBS containing 1% BSA to a final concentration of 700–1,300 cells per  $\mu$ l. The  
655 viability of cells was above 80%, as confirmed with 0.2% (w/v) Trypan Blue staining (Countess II).  
656 Cells were captured in droplets. Following reverse transcription and cell barcoding in  
657 droplets, emulsions were broken and cDNA purified using Dynabeads MyOne  
658 SILANE followed by PCR amplification per manual instruction. Between 15,000 to 25,000 cells  
659 were targeted for each sample. Samples were multiplexed together on one lane of 10X Chromium  
660 following cell hashing protocol<sup>78</sup>. Final libraries were sequenced on Illumina NovaSeq S4 platform  
661 (R1 – 28 cycles, i7 – 8 cycles, R2 – 90 cycles). The cell-gene count matrix was constructed using  
662 the Sequence Quality Control (SEQC) package<sup>79</sup>.

663 *Data Pre-processing*

664 FASTQ files were generated from 3 different samples ( $\Delta L$ ,  $\Delta S$ ,  $\alpha$ -IFNAR1  $\Delta S$ ) with three mice  
665 pooled together per condition. These files were then processed using the SEQC pipeline<sup>79</sup> using  
666 the default parameters for a 10X single-cell 3' library. This pipeline begins with aligning the reads  
667 against the provided mouse mm10 reference genome and resolving multi-mapping incidents.  
668 SEQC then corrects for UMIs and cell barcodes and filters cells with high mitochondrial fraction  
669 ( $>20\%$ ), low library complexity (few unique genes expressed), and empty droplets. The resulting  
670 count matrix (cell x gene) was generated for each condition as the raw expression matrices.  
671 As each mouse was barcoded with a unique hashtag oligo for each sample, in order to demultiplex  
672 the cells, an in-house method known as SHARP (<https://github.com/hisplan/sharp>) was  
673 employed. Labels are assigned to either identify a cell as belonging to a specific mouse or as a  
674 doublet/low-quality droplet. The labeled cell barcodes and gene expression matrix were then  
675 concatenated together into one count matrix. Most of the downstream analysis and processing  
676 was done using the Scanpy software<sup>80</sup>.

677

678 *Data cleanup*

679 We began by filtering for lowly expressed genes defined as those expressed in less than 32 cells  
680 in the combined dataset. The resulting count matrix was then normalized by library size (defined  
681 as the total RNA counts per cell), scaled by median library size, and log2-transformed with a  
682 pseudocount of 0.1 for the combined dataset. For downstream analysis, we first performed  
683 dimensionality reduction using Principal Component Analysis (PCA) to obtain top 30 principal  
684 components (PCs), chosen based on the decay of associated eigenvalues, computed on the top  
685 4,000 highly variable genes (HVGs). We then computed a k-nearest neighbor graph  
686 representation of the cells on the obtained principal components ( $n\_neighbors = 30$ ). We  
687 visualized the cells on a 2-dimensional projection using UMAP<sup>81</sup> based on the implementation in

688 Scanpy (using *min\_dist* = 0.1 parameter). All the cells from different samples were observed to  
689 group together based on their cell type, which indicated that no batch effect was present in the  
690 data (Figure 3A). The cells were then clustered using PhenoGraph<sup>82</sup> on the PCA space with  $k=30$ .  
691 We ensured that the clusters were robust to variations around the chosen parameter of  $k$ . We  
692 measured consistency using adjusted rand index (as implemented in the Sklearn package in  
693 Python) and observed high degree of consistency for values of  $k$  around 30. Upon close inspection  
694 of the obtained clusters, we observed one cluster that had low CD45 (PTPRC-) and high KRT8+  
695 expression and two other clusters that had low CD45 and high expression of Mitochondrial genes.  
696 As such, we decided to remove these clusters from further analysis.

697

698 *IFN response signature*

699 We first sought to broadly understand, on a per cell type basis, the response to IFN activity. We  
700 reasoned that to answer this, we ought to identify the genes that are most differential between  
701  $\alpha$ -IFNAR1 and control  $\Delta S$ . As such, we constructed an IFN signature by identifying top 100  
702 differentially upregulated genes in  $\Delta S$  compared to  $\alpha$ -IFNAR1. The differential genes were  
703 identified using MAST<sup>83</sup> and the top 100 genes were averaged on a per cell basis and plotted on  
704 the UMAP (**Figure 3C**). Once the signature was constructed, we removed cells from the  
705  $\alpha$ -IFNAR1 condition from further analysis in order to directly contrast  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$ .

706

707 *Analysis on  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  samples*

708 The count matrix of CD45+ cells from the  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  samples included 15334 cells and 15329  
709 genes, 7774 cells belonging to  $\Delta S$  and 7560 to  $\Delta L$ . To ensure that the observed heterogeneity  
710 was not impacted by these cell clusters, we re-processed the data using the same parameters as  
711 described above. Broad cell types were assigned to these clusters according to the average  
712 expression of known markers.

713 CD8+ T cells

714 We isolated cells identified as CD8+ T cells in order to analyze them separately. For this, the  
715 6,080 cells were sub-clustered using PhenoGraph on top of the first 30 PCs ( $k=30$ ) using 1,500  
716 highly variable genes. Using known markers, these PhenoGraph clusters were then annotated  
717 into further subtypes of CD8+ T cells based on the average expression of the markers in each  
718 sub-cluster.

719 Milo analysis on CD8+ T cells

720 We employed Milo<sup>43</sup> to statistically quantify the changes in abundance of  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  specific cells  
721 among the CD8+ T cells subtypes. Milo utilizes nearest-neighbor graphs to construct local  
722 neighborhoods (possibly overlapping) of cells and calculates and visualizes differential  
723 abundance of cells from different conditions in the obtained neighborhoods. For this analysis, we  
724 first constructed a k-nearest neighbor graph ( $k=30$ ) on the first 30 PCs using the *buildGraph*  
725 function in Milo. Neighborhoods were calculated using the *makeNhoods* function (*prop=0.1*,  
726 *refined=TRUE*). We used default parameters for *countCells*, *testNhoods*, and *calcNhoodDistance*  
727 in order to calculate statistical significance and spatial FDR correction, and *plotNhoodGraphDA*  
728 (*alpha=0.5*) to visualize the results. The color scale of the logFC uses blue to represent higher  
729 abundance of  $\Delta L$  cells and red to represent higher abundance of  $\Delta S$  specific cells, and the size  
730 of the circle is proportional the number of cells belonging to the neighborhood. We further  
731 assigned each neighborhood a cell-type identity if more than 80% of the cells in a neighborhood  
732 belonged to a specific CD8+ T subtype, otherwise they are categorized as Mixed.

733

734 Dendritic cells

735 Cells annotated as dendritic cells were isolated for further analysis. The 1,134 cells were clustered  
736 using PhenoGraph on top 30 principal components ( $k=30$ ) using 1,500 HVGs. The dendritic cells

737 were further cell typed according to markers from previous studies<sup>84</sup>. The proportion of cells that  
738 belong to  $\Delta L$  and  $\Delta S$  in each cluster was calculated and plotted.

739

740 **Macrophages**

741 Cells labeled as macrophages (1,788 cells) were isolated. The cells were clustered using  
742 PhenoGraph on top 30 principal components (k=30) using 1,500 HVGs. These clusters were  
743 analyzed and annotated according to macrophage subtypes based on the differentially expressed  
744 genes computed in each cluster compared to the rest of the data using MAST. The proportion of  
745 cells that belong to  $\Delta L$  and  $\Delta S$  in each cluster was calculated and plotted.

746

747 **B cells**

748 1,204 cells annotated as B cells were selected for. The cells were clustered using PhenoGraph  
749 on top 30 principal components (k=30) using 1,500 HVGs. We obtained differentially expressed  
750 genes in each B cell sub-cluster using MAST and utilized the results to distinguish distinct  
751 populations. The proportion of cells that belong to  $\Delta L$  and  $\Delta S$  in each cluster was calculated and  
752 plotted.

753

754 **General Statistical Analysis**

755 Graphs and statistical analyses for Figures 2, 4, Extended Data Figures 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 were  
756 done with GraphPad Prism. For all experiments n represents the number of independent  
757 biological replicates. For Figures 2C, Extended Data Figure 2E, Extended Data 4D, and Extended  
758 Data Figure 5A-I differences were evaluated with a two-tailed t-test. For Figure 4A-B, 4H-I, 4J-M,  
759 Extended Data 3G, Extended Data 3K, Extended Data 7D, Extended Data 7F, Extended Data  
760 Figure 8I-J, differences were assessed by a one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey or Sidak's  
761 multiple comparison test. To assess differences in tumor initiation or metastasis incidence,

762 contingency tables followed by a chi-square test were done for figures: 2A, 2E, 2F, 2H, 2I, 2L, 3K,  
763 Extended Data Figure 3F, Extended Data 3M. For survival curves, log rank-test was used to  
764 assess significant differences. Differences were considered significant for p values < 0.05, where  
765 asterisks represent the level of significance for the analysis used: \*, p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.01; \*\*\*, p <  
766 0.001; n.s. not significant, p > 0.05.

767

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788 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

789 F.M.B. and K.M.T. conceived the study, designed and performed experiments, analyzed data and  
790 wrote the manuscript. Y.-J.H. and A.Z. analyzed WES and RNA-seq data. N.S and R.S. analyzed  
791 scRNA Seq data. T.B. analyzed sWGS data. A.N.W., I.D, B.M, G.L., A.P.C., D.A.C and J.S.  
792 assisted in experiments. R.C. performed scRNA Seq. D.B-S., C.A.I-D, and F.N. provided critical  
793 reagents and data. D.P. provided supervision and critical input on scRNA Seq analysis. S.W.L.  
794 conceived and supervised the study and wrote the manuscript. All authors read the manuscript.

795

796 **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

797 S.W.L. is a consultant and holds equity in Blueprint Medicines, ORIC Pharmaceuticals, Mirimus,  
798 Inc., PMV Pharmaceuticals, Faeth Therapeutics, and Constellation Pharmaceuticals.

799

800 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

801 **Figure 1. MACHETE Enables Efficient Engineering of Genomic Deletions.**

802 (A) Schematic of the MACHETE approach.

803 (B) Frequency of homozygous deletions across the pan-cancer TCGA dataset.

804 (C) Relative frequency of deletions at the 9p21.3 locus classified as 9pS and 9pL across different  
805 cancer types.

806 (D) Frequency of deep deletion of 9p21.3 genes in PDAC patients.

807 (E) Schematic of MACHETE-mediated engineering of 4C4  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L deletions.

808 (F) PCR genotyping for the WT, KI,  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L alleles in the indicated PDEC cell lines.

809 (G) Pattern of resistance/sensitivity to positive and negative selection in PDEC sgP53 EL parental,  
810 4C4 KI,  $\Delta$ S, and  $\Delta$ L cells. Cells were seeded and treated with Puromycin (2  $\mu$ g/mL) or DT-A (50  
811 ng/mL) for 72 hours, and then stained with crystal violet to assess surviving cells.

812 (H) DNA sequencing of breakpoints from  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells confirming loss of the expected genomic  
813 regions (0.4 Mb deletion in  $\Delta S$ , and 1.3 Mb deletion in  $\Delta L$ ).

814

815 **Figure 2.  $\Delta L$  Deletions Are Differentially Surveyed by the Adaptive Immune System and**  
816 **Promote Metastasis.**

817 (A) Engraftment at one month after injection of  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells in C57BL/6, nude, and NSG hosts.  
818 Two independently generated input cell lines were used per genotype ( $n \geq 5$  per each cell line).  
819 Bars represent fraction of metastasis-bearing mice (specific numbers of independently analyzed  
820 mice are noted in parentheses). ns = non-significant (chi-square test).

821 (B) Representative macroscopic fluorescent images of primary tumors harvested from the  
822 indicated genotypes and hosts. Insets show the brightfield image for each tumor.

823 (C) qPCR analysis for EGFP copy number in the gDNA of tumor-derived (Post *in vivo*)  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$   
824 lines from C57BL/6 and Nude hosts, relative to their parental (Pre *in vivo*) counterparts. Each dot  
825 represents an independent tumor-derived cell line. \*\* $p < 0.01$ , ns = non-significant, two-tailed t-  
826 test.

827 (D) Representative images of metastases in C57BL/6 mice with  $\Delta L$  tumors. Left: Brightfield  
828 macroscopic images of abdominal (intestinal and mesenteric lymph node) metastases. Insets  
829 show matched EGFP fluorescence images. Middle: Macroscopic and Hematoxylin/Eosin images  
830 of tumor-bearing livers. Right: Macroscopic and Hematoxylin/Eosin images of tumor-bearing  
831 lungs. T = tumor; N = normal adjacent tissue.

832 (E-F) Overall (E) and organ-specific (F) metastasis incidence in C57BL/6 mice with either  $\Delta S$  or  
833  $\Delta L$  tumors. 4 independently generated input cell lines were used per genotype ( $n \geq 5$  per each  
834 cell line). Bars represent fraction of metastasis-bearing mice (specific numbers of independently  
835 analyzed mice are noted in parentheses). \* $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , chi-square test.

836 (G) Representative images of metastases in Nude mice with  $\Delta L$  or  $\Delta S$  tumors. Hematoxylin/ Eosin  
837 images of tumor-bearing livers (left) and lungs (right) are shown.

838 (H-I) Overall (H) and organ-specific (I) metastasis incidence in C57BL/6 mice with either  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$   
839 tumors. 4 independently generated input cell lines were used per genotype ( $n \geq 5$  per each cell  
840 line). Bars represent fraction of metastasis-bearing mice (specific numbers of independently  
841 analyzed mice are noted in parentheses). ns = non-significant, chi-square test.

842 (J) Representative gross morphology (top) and Hematoxylin/Eosin histological stain (bottom) of  
843 matched primary tumor and overt liver metastasis in a  $Kras^{G12D/+}$ ; shSmad4 PDAC GEMM.

844 (K) sWGS analysis of tumor-derived cell lines from the KC-Ren and KC-Smad4 GEMMs, grouped  
845 by spontaneous 4C4 deletion type (WT,  $\Delta S$ ,  $\Delta L$ ). Schematic of the murine 4C4 locus is shown on  
846 top. Blue tracks indicate deleted regions, with color intensity corresponding to the extent of the  
847 deletion. Numbers correspond to independent mice.

848 (L) Incidence of overt metastasis in mice with tumors that harbor WT 4C4 locus,  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$   
849 deletions. Bars represent fraction of metastasis-bearing mice (specific numbers of independently  
850 analyzed mice are noted in parentheses). \* $p < 0.05$ , chi-square test.

851

852 **Figure 3. 4C4/9p21.3 Deletion Genotype Dictates Type I IFN Signaling and Immune**  
853 **Infiltration.**

854 (A) UMAP of CD45+ cells showing cells derived from  $\Delta S$  ( $n = 7774$  cells) or  $\Delta L$  ( $n = 7560$  cells)  
855 tumors.

856 (B) UMAP of CD45+ cells annotating the specific immune subsets.

857 (C) UMAP of averaged IFN response signature across CD45+ populations.

858 (D) (Upper) UMAP of CD8+ T cells from  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors. Cells are colored by sample. (Bottom)  
859 UMAP of CD8+ T cell clusters. Cells are colored and by their cluster identity.

860 (E) UMAP of imputed expression for the indicated genes.

861 (F) MILO analysis of CD8+ T cells. Neighborhoods identified through MILO analysis using default  
862 parameters (red indicates enrichment in  $\Delta S$ , while blue indicates enrichment in  $\Delta L$ ).  
863 (G) Swarm plot of the distribution of CD8+ T cell neighborhoods in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors across  
864 transcriptional states. The x-axis indicates the Log-fold change in differential abundance of  $\Delta S$   
865 ( $<0$ ) and  $\Delta L$  ( $>0$ ). Each neighborhood is associated with a cell type if more than 80% of the cell  
866 state in the neighborhood belong to said state, else is annotated as “Mixed”.  
867 (H) Differential gene expression of the indicated genes in *Pdcd1+ Mki67- CD8+ T cells*.  
868 (I) UMAP of imputed expression of *Tox* and *Bcl2*. Dashed circles highlight  $\Delta S$ -enriched CD8+ T  
869 cells.  
870 (J) Representative images of liver metastasis upon CD8+ cell depletion.  
871 (K) Incidence of metastasis upon depletion of immune subsets in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors. 2  
872 independently generated input cell lines were used per genotype ( $n \geq 5$  per each cell line). Bars  
873 represent fraction of metastasis-bearing mice (specific numbers of independently analyzed mice  
874 are noted in parentheses). ns = non-significant; \*\* $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , chi-square test.  
875

876 **Figure 4. Ifne Is a Tumor-specific Mediator of Immune Surveillance and Metastasis.**

877 (A) Quantification of EGFP fluorescence in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors from C57BL/6 mice treated with IgG  
878 or  $\alpha$ IFNAR1 antibodies. Representative plots are shown in Extended Data Figure 7B. Each dot  
879 represents an independent biological replicate. \* $p < 0.05$ , one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's  
880 multiple comparison test.  
881 (B) Incidence of metastasis in C57BL/6 mice transplanted with homozygous  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  lines and  
882 treated with IgG or  $\alpha$ IFNAR1 antibodies. 2 independently generated input cell lines were used per  
883 genotype ( $n \geq 5$  per each cell line). Bars represent fraction of mice bearing metastasis (total  
884 numbers of independently analyzed mice are shown). ns = non-significant; \* $p < 0.05$ , chi-square  
885 test.

886 (C) Volcano plots of differentially expressed genes comparing IFNAR1 blockade vs. IgG controls  
887 in  $\Delta$ S or  $\Delta$ L tumors.

888 (D) Schematic of extended series of 4C4 deletion alleles.

889 (E) (Left) Flow cytometry measurement of EGFP fluorescence in tumors derived from deletion  
890 series mix (“Mix”). EGFP-negative cells were used as negative controls (“Neg”). (Right) Schematic  
891 of *in vivo* competition experiment.

892 (F) Representative EGFP immunofluorescent stain of a deletion-mix tumor.

893 (G) (Left) Representative flow cytometry plot of EGFP levels in a deletion-mix tumor. GFP-Low  
894 and GFP-High cell populations were sorted as marked. (Right) Copy-number qPCR analysis of  
895 the indicated genes in the parental cell mix, and GFP-Low vs. GFP-High cells sorted from resulting  
896 tumors.

897 (H) Relative copy-number quantification of indicated genes in GFP-High vs. GFP-Low cells.  
898 \*p<0.05; ns=non-significant, one-way ANOVA followed by Sidak’s multiple comparison test. Bars  
899 represent SEM, n=7 biological replicates.

900 (I) Relative copy-number quantification of indicated genes in metastases- vs. primary tumor-  
901 derived cells. \*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.001; ns=non-significant, one-way ANOVA followed by Sidak’s  
902 multiple comparison test. Bars represent SEM, n=7 primary tumors and 6 metastases.

903 (J) RT-qPCR measurements of mRNA levels for the indicated IFN genes in tumor cells and  
904 infiltrating CD45+ cells from  $\Delta$ S tumors. Each dot is a biological replicate (n=4).

905 (K) Relative quantification of primary tumor weights (left) and number of mesenteric LN  
906 metastases (right) in  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L tumors with add-back of Ifne-expressing or control construct.  
907 \*p<0.05; ns=non-significant, one-way ANOVA followed by Sidak’s multiple comparison test to the  
908 respective control population. Each dot is an independent tumor.

909 (L) Flow cytometry-based quantification of TAM fraction (left) and TAM MHCII levels (right) in  
910 tumors of the indicated genotypes. \*\*p<0.01; \*\*\*p<0.001; ns=non-significant, one-way ANOVA

911 followed by Sidak's multiple comparison test to the respective control population. Each dot is an  
912 independent tumor.

913 (M) Flow cytometry-based quantification of CD69 (left) and PD1 (right) levels in CD8+CD44+ T  
914 cells from tumors of the indicated genotypes. \*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.001; ns=non-significant, one-way  
915 ANOVA followed by Sidak's multiple comparison test to the respective control population. Each  
916 dot is an independent tumor.

917

## 918 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE LEGENDS

### 919 Extended Data Figure 1

920 (A) Preparation of donor DNA and sgRNA used for MACHETE-mediated targeting of the 11B3  
921 locus in NIH3T3 cells.

922 (B) Experimental outline and timing for MACHETE-based 11B3 deletion engineering in NIH3T3  
923 cells.

924 (C) Schematic of MACHETE-mediated engineering of a 4.1 Mb deletion at the 11B3 locus.

925 (D) Crystal violet stain of WT, 11B3 KI and  $\Delta$ 11B3 NIH3T3 cells after selection with puromycin  
926 (Puro, 2  $\mu$ g/mL) and/or diphtheria toxin (DT-A, 50 ng/mL).

927 (E) PCR genotyping for the 11B3 KI and  $\Delta$ 11B3 alleles in the indicated NIH3T3 cell lines.

928 (F) (Left) Experimental outline for testing the impact of DT-mediated negative selection on the  
929 efficiency of  $\Delta$ 11B3 deletion engineering in NIH3T3 cells. (Right) Clonal analysis of NIH3T3 cells  
930 engineered without (-DT) and with (+DT) diphtheria toxin selection.

931 (G) Sanger sequencing of the 11B3 deletion breakpoint confirming the expected deletion.

932 (H) Suite of dual selection cassettes generated for the MACHETE approach.

933 (I) Schematic of MACHETE-mediated engineering of a 45 Mb deletion at the 7q11-22 locus in  
934 HEK293 cells.

935 (J) Flow cytometry plots and quantification of BFP+ and BFP- HEK293 cells under the indicated  
936 conditions.

937 (K) PCR genotyping for the 7q11 KI and  $\Delta$ 7q11-22 alleles in HEK293 cells under the indicated  
938 conditions.

939

940

941 **Extended Data Figure 2**

942 (A) Frequency of deep deletions at the 9p21.3 locus across different types of cancer in the TCGA  
943 dataset.

944 (B) Mutation frequency of *KRAS* and *TP53* in 9pL and 9pS PDAC patients in the TCGA dataset.

945 (C) Schematic of the synteny between the human 9p21.3 and mouse 4C4 locus.

946 (D) Schematic of the generation of PDEC sgP53 EL cells. CRISPR-mediated knockout of *Trp53*  
947 was done by electroporation of a pX330-sgP53 plasmid followed by treatment with Nutlin-3 (10  
948  $\mu$ M) to select for *Trp53*-deficient cells. PDEC sgP53 cells were then infected with a retroviral  
949 EGFP-Luciferase construct and cells were selected by sorting for EGFP+ expression.

950 (E) Clonal analysis of  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L cells engineered without (-DT) and with (+DT) diphtheria toxin  
951 selection.

952 (F) Frequency of heterozygous and homozygous  $\Delta$ S or  $\Delta$ L deletions in PDEC cells following  
953 MACHETE engineering.

954 (G) (Left) Schematic of iterative editing of cells bearing a heterozygous  $\Delta$ L deletion, using a  
955 distinct set of guides to discern between the different deletions. (Right) PCR genotyping of the  
956 distinct  $\Delta$ L deletion breakpoints.

957 (H) Histology of  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L tumors in C57BL/6 mice. Representative H/E images are shown.

958 (I) sWGS analysis of 4C4 deletion status in  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L tumor-derived cell lines (from C57BL/6  
959 hosts). Deep blue color depicts deletion defined as log2 relative abundance < -2.

960 (J) (Top) Schematic representation of the MACHETE-engineered  $\Delta I$  allele that removes a 0.9 Mb  
961 region downstream of *Hacd4* and upstream of *Cdkn2a*. (Bottom) Engraftment of  $\Delta I$  cells in  
962 C57BL/6 mice one month after injection and measured by bioluminescence.  
963 (K) (Left) Representative macroscopic image of a  $\Delta I$  tumor showing retained EGFP expression at  
964 endpoint. Inset shows matched brightfield image. (Right) qPCR analysis for EGFP copy number  
965 in the gDNA of tumor-derived (Post *in vivo*)  $\Delta I$  cell lines from C57BL/6 hosts relative to their  
966 parental (Pre *in vivo*) counterparts. Each dot represents an independent cell line.  
967 (L) Survival curve of C57BL/6 mice transplanted with  $\Delta S$ ,  $\Delta I$ , or  $\Delta L$  tumor cells. Depicted are the  
968 number of mice transplanted and the median survival, which showed no statistically significant  
969 differences (logrank test).

970

971 **Extended Data Figure 3**

972 (A) EGFP levels of representative re-sorted tumor-derived  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cell lines.  
973 (B) Growth curves in adherent (top) or suspension (bottom) conditions for  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cell lines.  
974 (C) Macroscopic images (left) and hematoxylin/eosin stain (right) of orthotopic tumors in C57BL/6  
975 mice transplanted with tumor-derived  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells.  
976 (D) Survival curve of C57BL/6 mice transplanted with tumor-derived  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells.  
977 (E) Representative images (left) and quantification (middle) of the fraction of Ki67+ cells in  $\Delta S$   
978 and  $\Delta L$  tumors. (Right) Representative images of cleaved caspase-3 in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors,  
979 which showed little to no detectable signal.  
980 (F) Lung metastasis incidence in C57BL/6 mice with either  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors. Bars represent  
981 fraction of metastasis-bearing mice (specific numbers of independently analyzed mice are noted  
982 in parentheses). ns = non-significant, chi-square test.  
983 (G) Quantification of the number (left) and relative area (right) of liver and lung metastases in  
984 C57BL/6 mice with either  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors.

985 (H) Metastasis incidence in C57BL/6 mice with either heterozygous or homozygous  $\Delta L$  tumors.

986 (I) (Left) Metastasis incidence in C57BL/6 mice with  $\Delta S$ ,  $\Delta I$ , or  $\Delta L$  tumors. (Right) Copy number

987 of *Ifnb1*, *Ifne*, *Cdkn2a*, and *Cdkn2b* in tumor-derived  $\Delta I$  lines (Post) relative to pre-injection

988 parental  $\Delta I$  cells (Pre). Each dot represents an independent tumor-derived line.

989 (J) Macroscopic images of liver metastases in C57BL/6 mice after intrasplenic injection of either

990  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  cells.

991 (K) Relative area of liver metastases in C57BL/6 mice after intrasplenic injection of either  $\Delta S$  or

992  $\Delta L$  cells.

993 (L) Survival curve of Nude mice transplanted with tumor-derived  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  cells.

994 (M) Lung metastasis incidence in Nude mice with either  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors.

995 (N) Analysis of 4C4 deletion status in PDAC GEMM cell lines derived from matched primary

996 tumors ('P') and metastases ('M'). sWGS was used to assess the status of the 4C4 locus. Deep

997 blue color depicts deletion defined as log2 relative abundance < -2.

998

#### 999 **Extended Data Figure 4**

1000 (A) Histogram of GSEA Normalized Enrichment Score (NES) highlighting the top 10 differentially

1001 expressed Hallmark gene datasets in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors.

1002 (B) Heatmap of type I IFN response gene expression in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors.

1003 (C) Heatmap of gene expression signatures for distinct immune subpopulations in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$

1004 tumors.

1005 (D) Relative mRNA expression of representative type I IFN genes (*Ifnb1*, *Ifne*) or type I IFN targets

1006 (*Oas1l*, *Isg20*), measured by RT-qPCR. Each dot represents an independent biological replicate.

1007 \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01, \*\*\*p < 0.001, two-tailed t-test.

1008 (E) Experimental design for scRNA Seq analysis of CD45+ cells. CD45+ cells were sorted from  
1009 three independent  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors, uniquely labeled by antibody-coupled barcoding, pooled  
1010 and processed for scRNA Seq analysis.  
1011 (F) Number of high-quality CD45+ cells recovered from  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors.  
1012 (G) UMAP of library size per cell.  
1013 (H) Heatmap of genes used to identify specific subpopulations within CD45+ cells.  
1014 (I) Distribution of CD45+ cells across different subpopulations in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors.  
1015 (J) Average expression of the type I IFN response signature across antigen-presenting  
1016 populations (B cells, dendritic cells, and macrophages) and CD8+ T cells. \*\*\*, p < 0.001.  
1017

1018 **Extended Data Figure 5**

1019 (A-I) Immunophenotyping of infiltrating populations in  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta L$  tumors. Frequency of CD45+  
1020 cells (A), CD11b+ cells (B), CD3e+ cells (C), CD19+ B cells (D), CD4+ T cells (E), CD8+ T cells and  
1021 corresponding PD1 mean fluorescence intensity of CD44+CD8+ T cells (F), tumor-associated  
1022 macrophages (TAMs) including CD86+ and CD206+ subtypes (G), CD11b+ and CD103+ dendritic  
1023 cell subsets (H), and myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs) including polymorphonuclear  
1024 (PMN-MDSCs) and mononuclear (M-MDSCs) subtypes (I). \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01, \*\*\*p < 0.001, ns  
1025 = non-significant; two-tailed t-test. Each dot represents an independent biological replicate.  
1026 (J) UMAP of dendritic cell phenographs from  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors. Known populations/states are  
1027 circled.  
1028 (K) Frequency of dendritic cells across phenographs in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors.  
1029 (L) DAVID analysis of Gene Ontology Biological Processes enriched in  $\Delta S$ -specific dendritic cells.  
1030 (M) UMAP of macrophage phenographs from  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors. Known populations/states are  
1031 circled.  
1032 (N) Frequency of macrophages across phenographs in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors.

1033 (O) DAVID analysis of Gene Ontology Biological Processes enriched in  $\Delta S$ -specific macrophages.  
1034 (P) UMAP of B cell phenographs from  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors. Known populations/states are circled.  
1035 (Q) Frequency of B cells across phenographs in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors.  
1036 (R) Enrichr analysis of the top Hallmark Pathways enriched in exhausted CD8+ T cells from  $\Delta S$   
1037 and  $\Delta L$  tumors.

1038  
1039 **Extended Data Figure 6**  
1040 (A) GSEA enrichment scores (NES) of type I IFN signaling in mouse  $\Delta S$  and human 9pS tumors  
1041 compared to  $\Delta L$  and 9pL tumors, respectively.  
1042 (B) Comparison of GSEA NES scores for Reactome Pathways enriched in mouse  $\Delta S$  (y axis) and  
1043 human 9pS tumors (x axis). Highlighted are key pathways and immune populations enriched in  
1044 IFN-proficient tumors. Circle size represents the adjusted p value.

1045 (C) Comparison of GSEA NES scores and Immune populations enriched in mouse  $\Delta S$  (y axis)  
1046 and human 9pS tumors (x axis). Highlighted are key immune populations enriched in IFN-  
1047 proficient tumors. Circle size represents the adjusted p value.  
1048 (D) GSEA enrichment scores (NES) of type I IFN signaling in human primary or metastatic 9pS  
1049 tumors compared to 9pL tumors from the COMPASS and TCGA datasets.  
1050 (E) Hallmark pathways downregulated in human PDAC liver metastases vs. primary tumors. Data  
1051 from Moffitt et al., 2015<sup>75</sup>.

1052  
1053 **Extended Data Figure 7**  
1054 (A) Experimental outline to test the role of type I IFNAR signaling in transplantation experiments.  
1055 (B) Representative flow cytometry plots of EGFP fluorescence in  $\Delta S$  or  $\Delta L$  tumors from C57BL/6  
1056 mice treated with IgG or  $\alpha$ IFNAR1 antibodies.

1057 (C) Representative FACS plots of EGFP+ populations from IgG ΔL, IgG ΔS, or  $\alpha$ IFNAR1 ΔS  
1058 tumors.  
1059 (D) (Left) Representative bioluminescent images of primary tumors and intestines from mice with  
1060 indicated genotypes of transplanted cells and antibody treatments. (Right) Quantification of all  
1061 replicates. Boxes indicate the signal threshold for metastasis detection. \*p < 0.05, chi-square test.  
1062 (E-F) Representative H/E images (E) and quantification (F) of mesenteric lymph node metastases  
1063 in mice with indicated genotypes of transplanted cells and antibody treatments. \*p < 0.05, two-  
1064 tailed t-test comparing IgG vs IFNAR1 blockade in the corresponding cell lines.  
1065 (G) DAVID gene ontology analysis of  $\alpha$ -IFNAR1 downregulated genes in ΔS tumors. Top 10  
1066 significant pathways are shown.  
1067 (H) IFNAR1 blockade specifically affects IFN signaling. NES scores of top 5 UP and DOWN  
1068 Hallmark categories in tumors comparing ΔL vs ΔS (grey bars, data from Figure 4C) or ΔL vs  
1069  $\alpha$ -IFNAR1 ΔS (black bars).  
1070 (I) RT-qPCR measurements of mRNA levels for *Ifnb1* and *Ifne* in tumor cells and infiltrating CD45+  
1071 cells from ΔS and ΔL tumors. Dots represent independent tumors.  
1072 (J) qRT-PCR measurements of mRNA levels for *Ifnb1* and *Ifne* in ΔS and ΔL tumor-derived cells  
1073 after the indicated treatments. Dots represent independent cell lines.

1074

## 1075 **Extended Data Figure 8**

1076 (A) Design of the vector for doxycycline-inducible expression of full-length mouse *Ifne* or a  
1077 truncated version lacking the signal peptide as control.  
1078 (B) RT-qPCR of *Ifne* expression in cells cultured -/+ doxycycline (2  $\mu$ g/mL) for 72 hours. The  
1079 assay specifically amplifies full-length *Ifne*.  
1080 (C) RT-qPCR of IFN target genes (*Irf7*, *Oas1*, *Isg20*) in cells cultured -/+ doxycycline (2  $\mu$ g/mL)  
1081 for 72 hours.

1082 (D) Experimental design to test the role of sustained *Ifne* expression in immune competent and  
1083 immune deficient mice.

1084 (E) Survival curve of immune competent mice orthotopically transplanted with Ctrl or *Ifne*  
1085 overexpressing  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L cells. n = 5 per condition. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01, log rank test.

1086 (F) Survival curve of immune deficient (nude) mice orthotopically transplanted with Ctrl or *Ifne*  
1087 overexpressing  $\Delta$ S and  $\Delta$ L cells. n = 5 per condition. n.s.= non-significant, log rank test.

1088 (G) Representative image of an intestine from a mouse with sustained expression of Ctrl or full-  
1089 length *Ifne*  $\Delta$ L cells at endpoint. Arrowheads point to macrometastases in the mesentery and  
1090 intestine.

1091 (H) Incidence of overt liver metastasis in immune proficient and deficient hosts transplanted with  
1092  $\Delta$ S or  $\Delta$ L cells expressing Ctrl or full length *Ifne* (n=5).

1093 (I) RT-qPCR of *Ifne*, *Irf7*, and *Oas1l* in tumors from immune competent mice treated with  
1094 doxycycline for 1 week before tumor analysis. Each dot represents an independent tumor (n=5).  
1095 \*p < 0.05; \*\*\*p < 0.001, one-way ANOVA followed by Sidak's multiple comparison test.

1096 (J) Tumor immune infiltration of immune competent mice treated with doxycycline for 1 week  
1097 before tumor analysis. Frequency of dendritic cells (far left), CD8 T cells (left), CD4 T cells (right),  
1098 ad B cells (far right) are shown. Each dot represents an independent tumor (n=5). \*p < 0.05; \*\*p  
1099 < 0.01, n.s. = non-significant, one-way ANOVA followed by Sidak's multiple comparison test.

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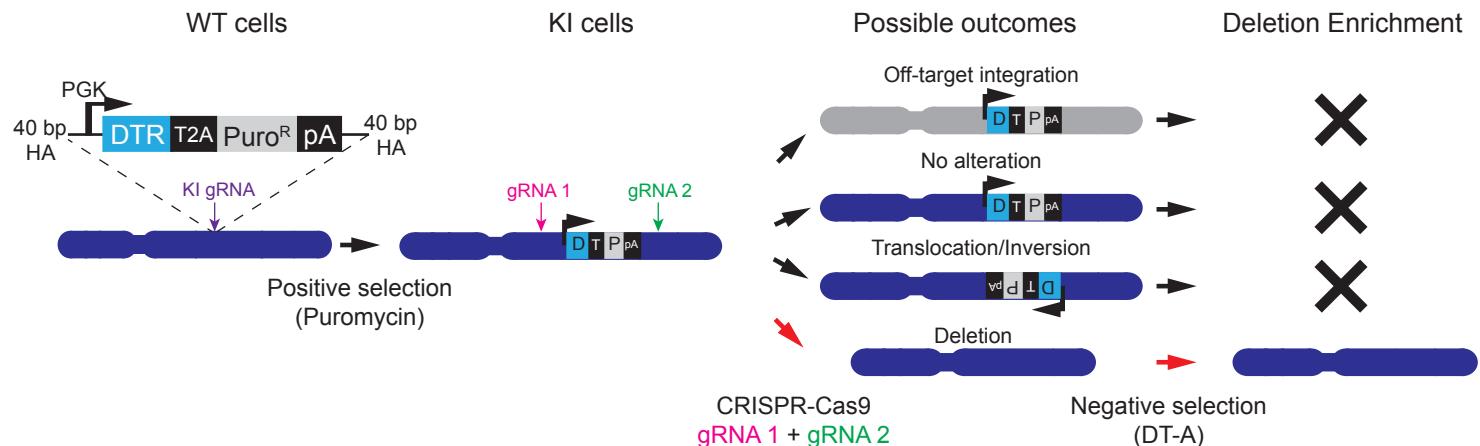
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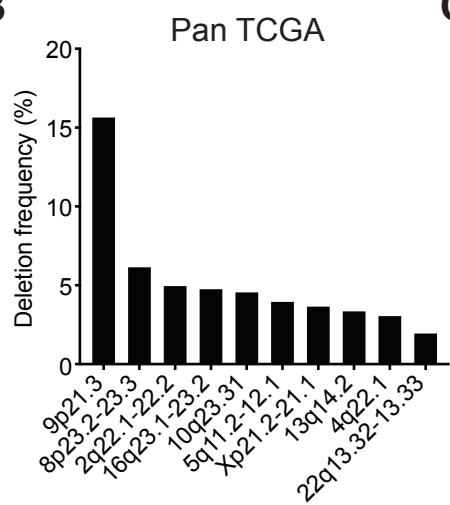
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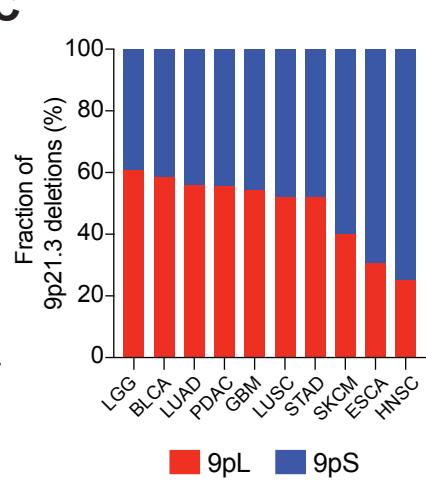
# Molecular Alteration of Chromosomes with Engineered Tandem Elements (MACHETE)



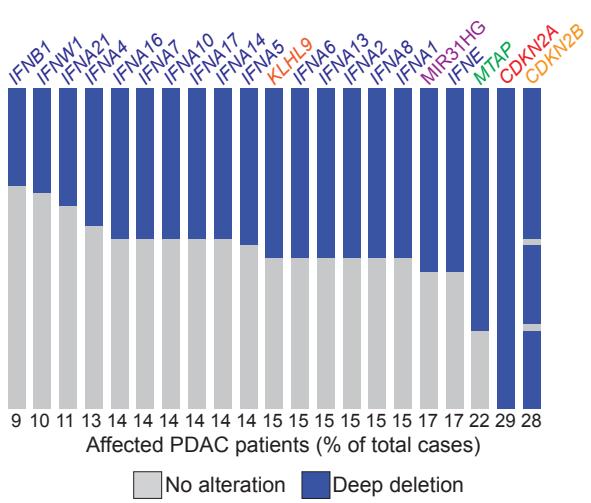
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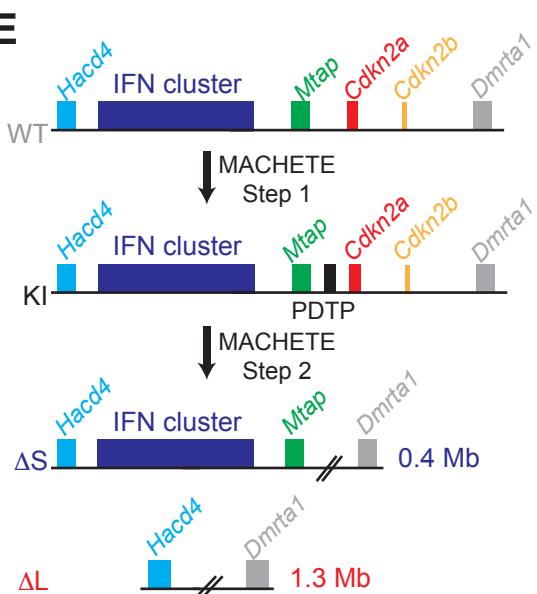
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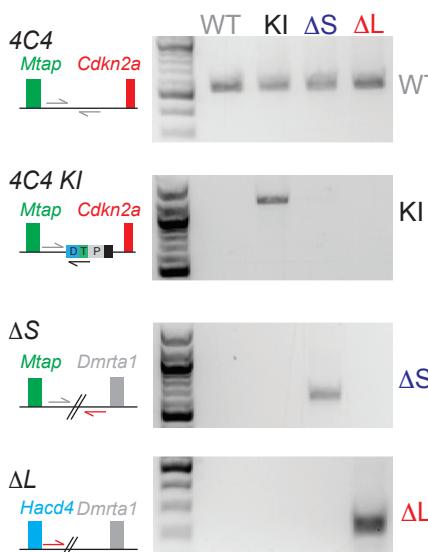
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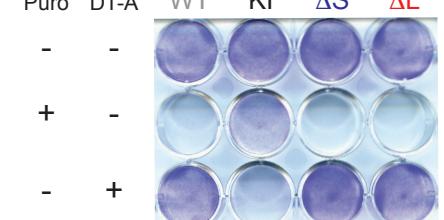
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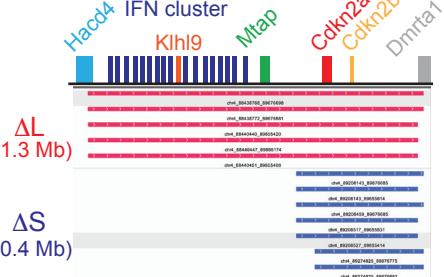
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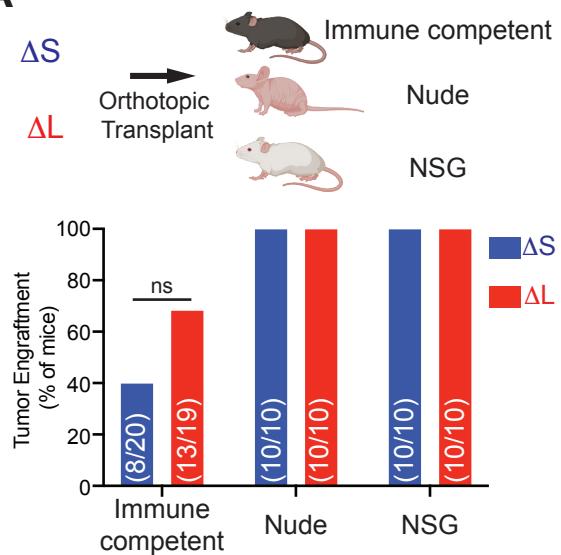


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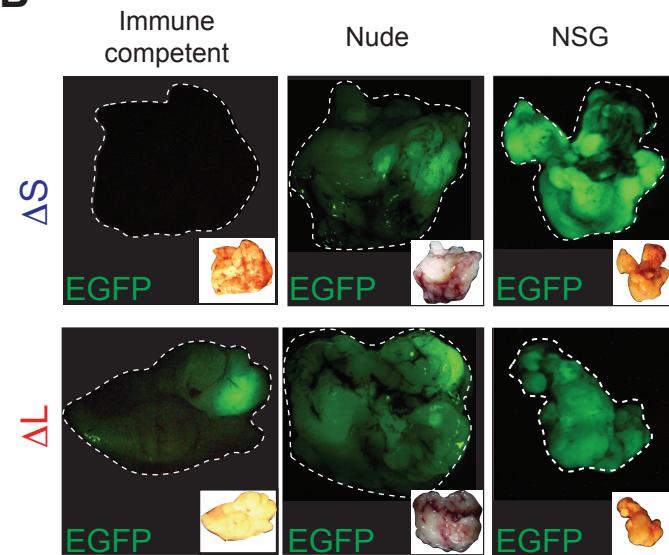


## Figure 2

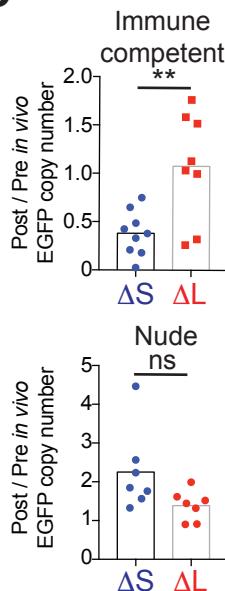
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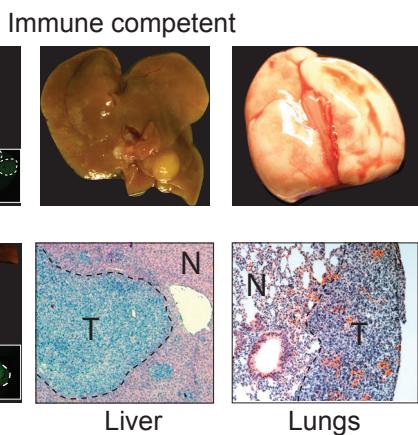
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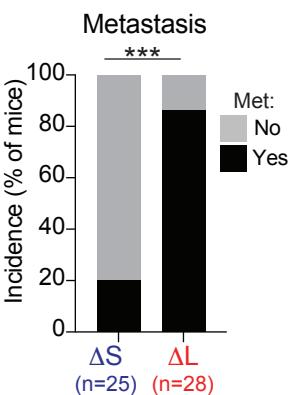
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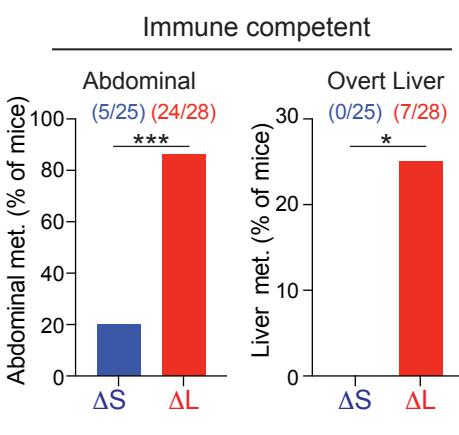
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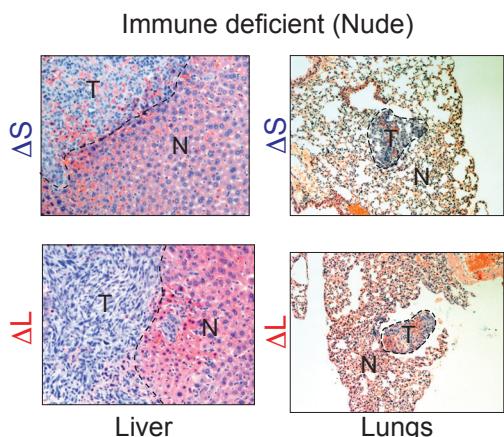
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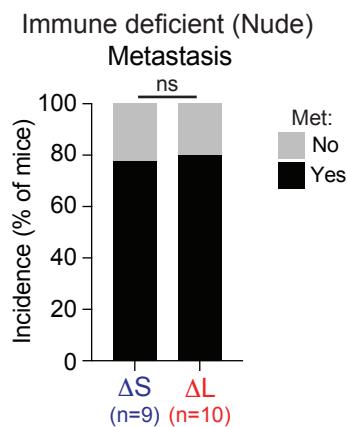
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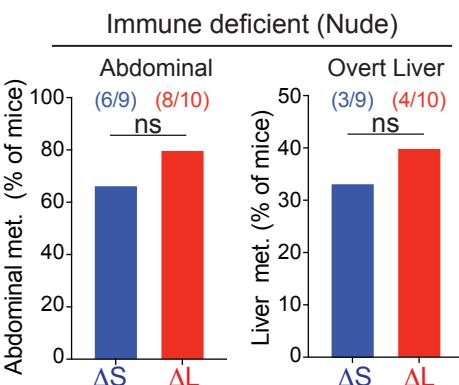
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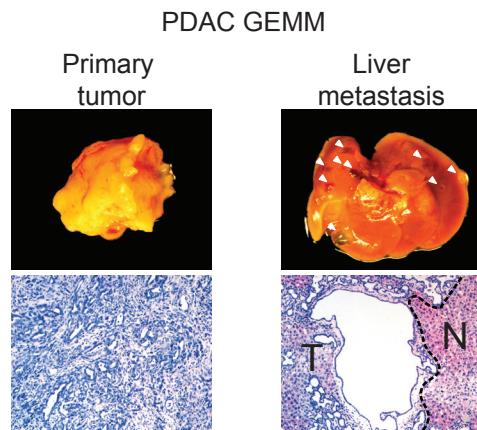
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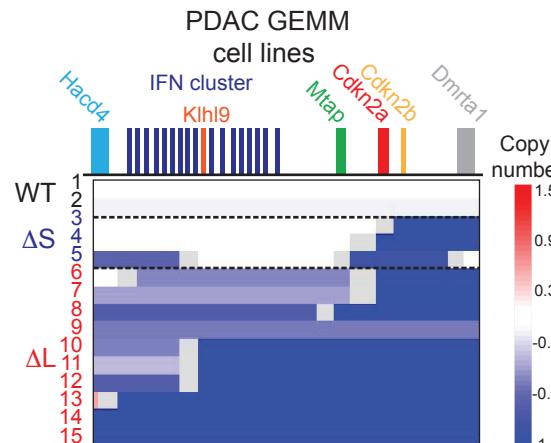
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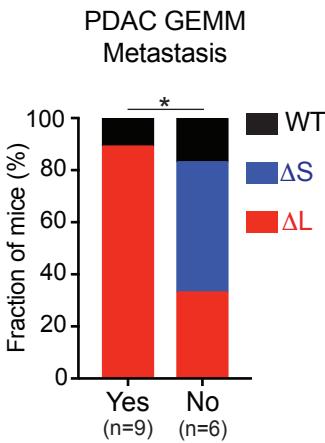
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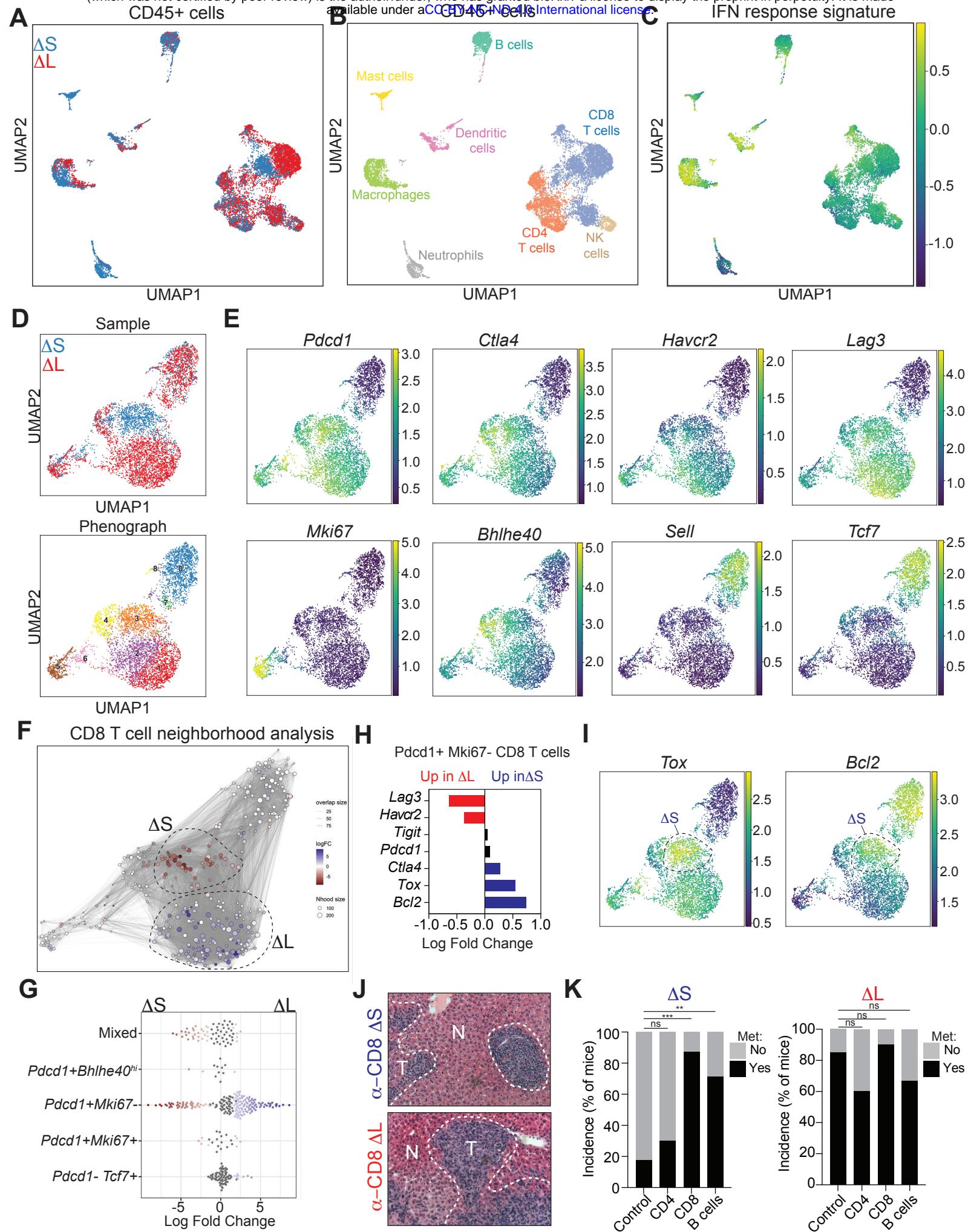
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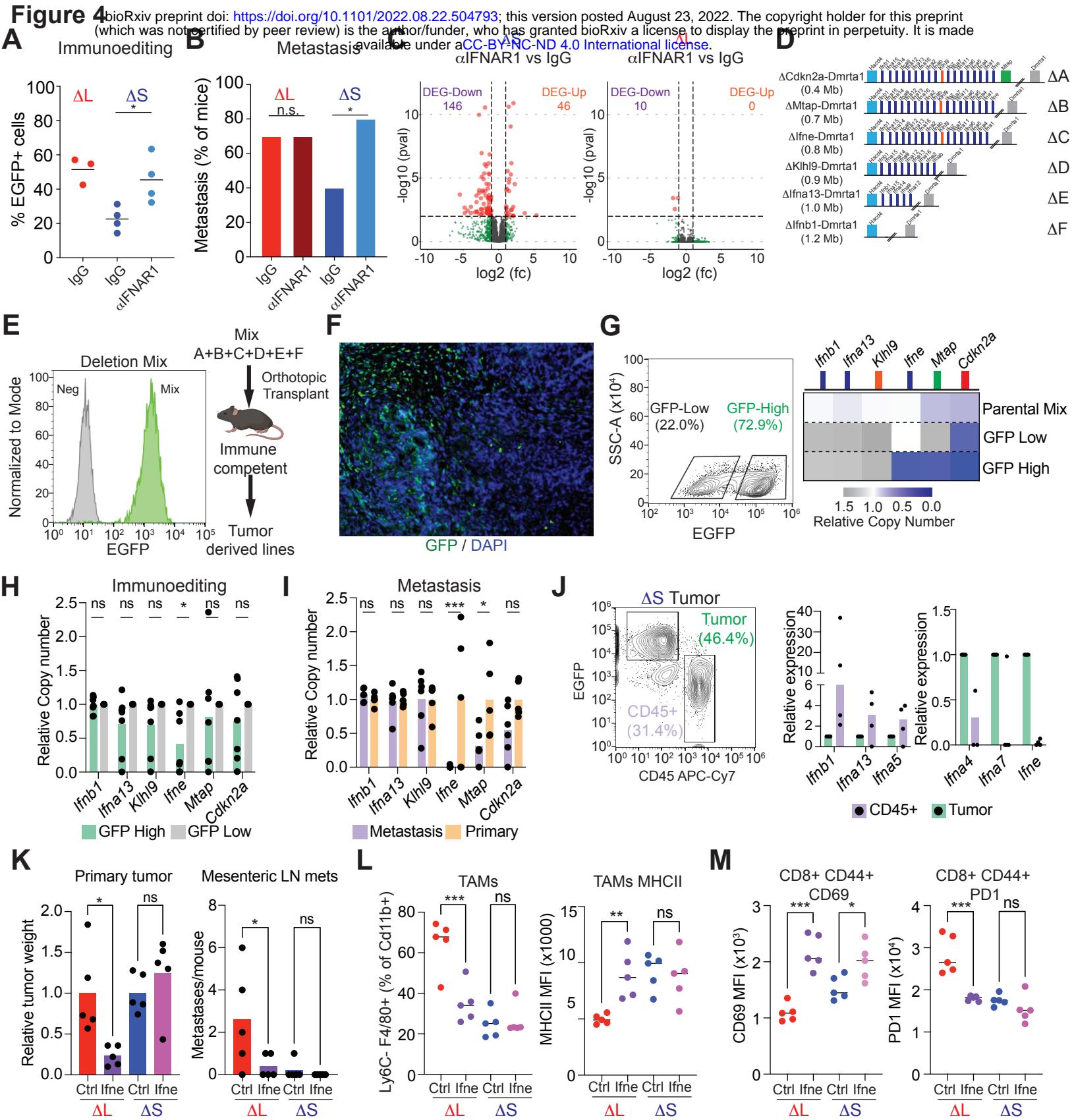


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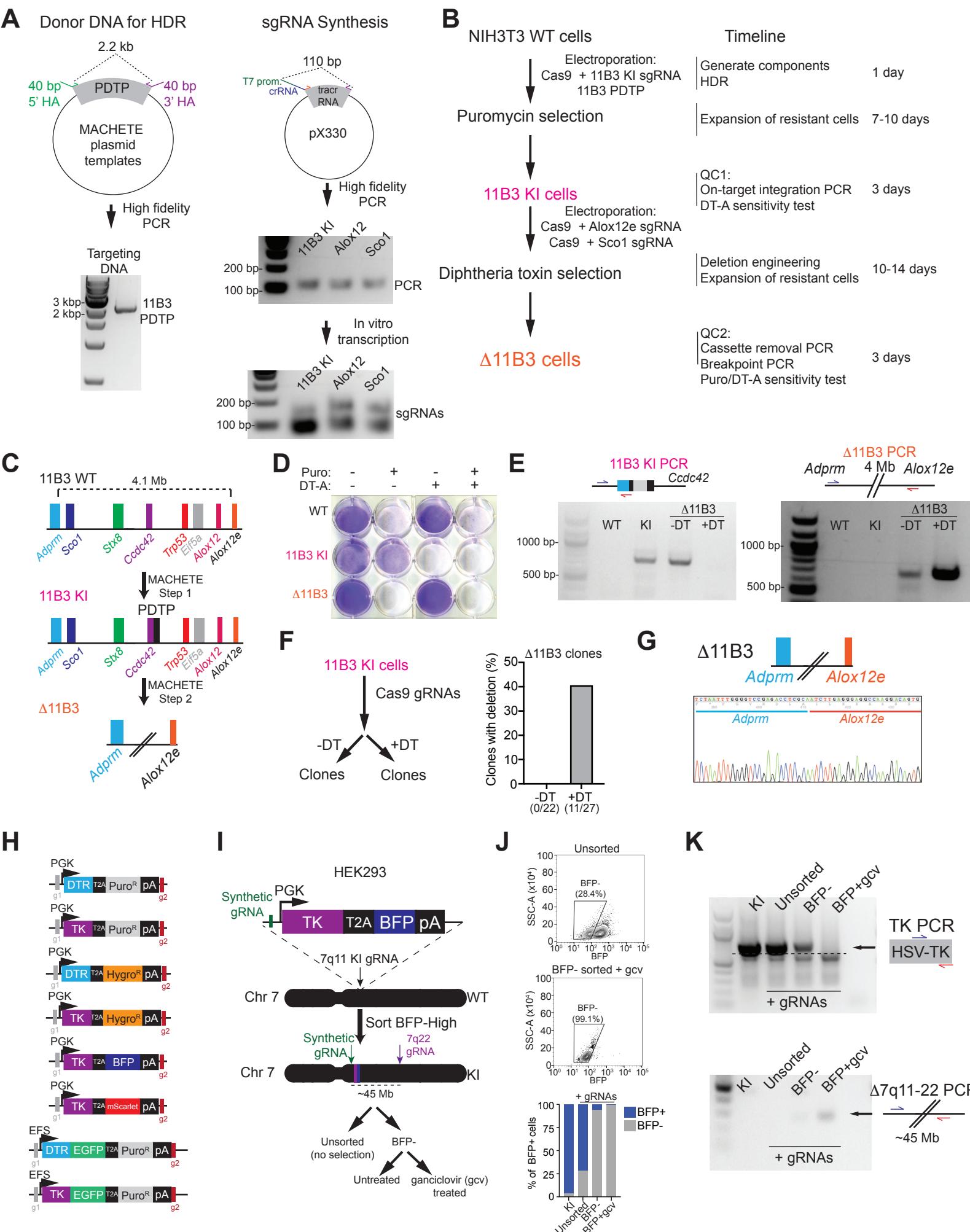


**Figure 3** bioRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.08.22.504793>; this version posted August 23, 2022. The copyright holder for this preprint (which was not certified by peer review) is the author/funder, who has granted bioRxiv a license to display the preprint in perpetuity. It is made available under aCC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 International license.

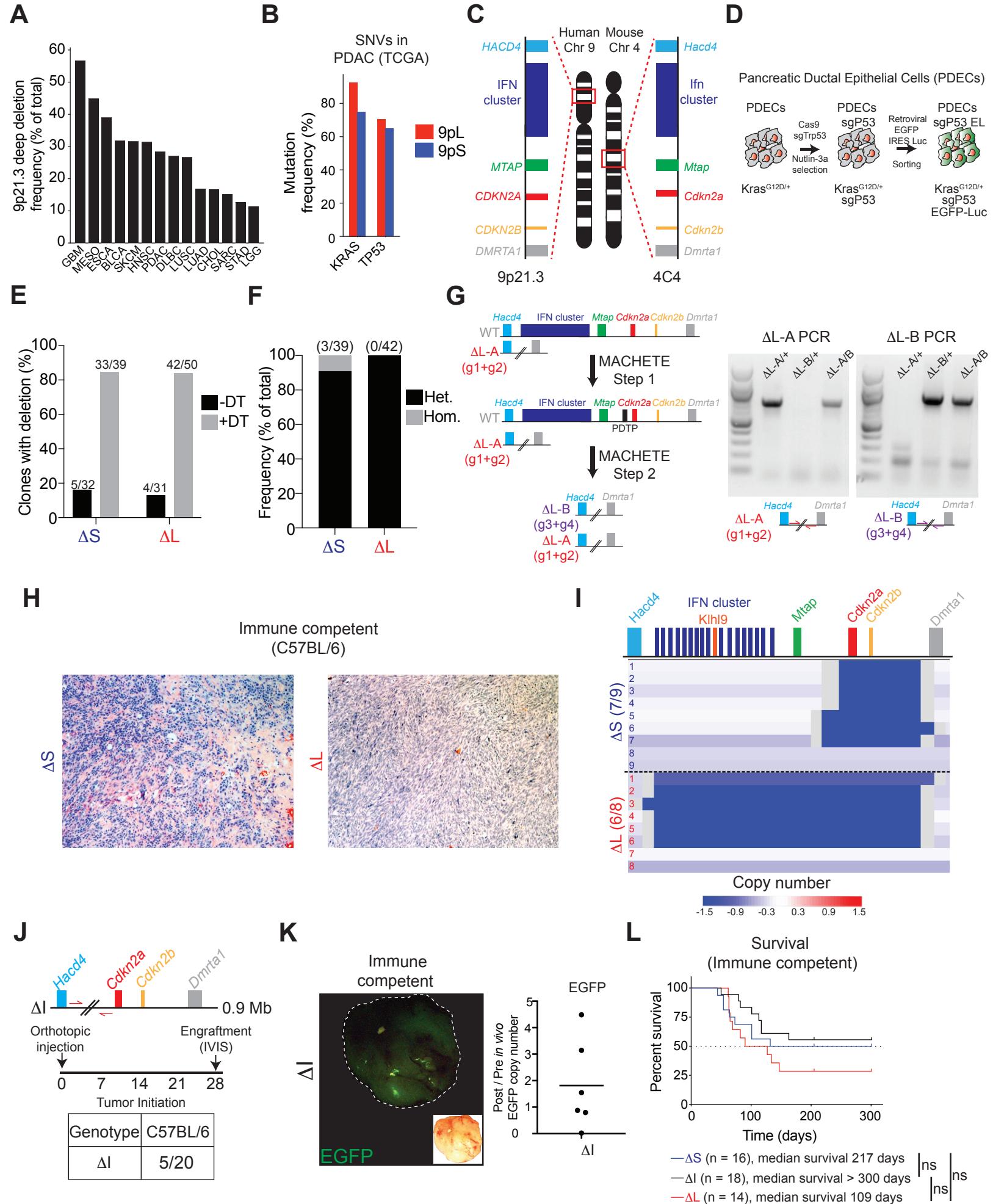


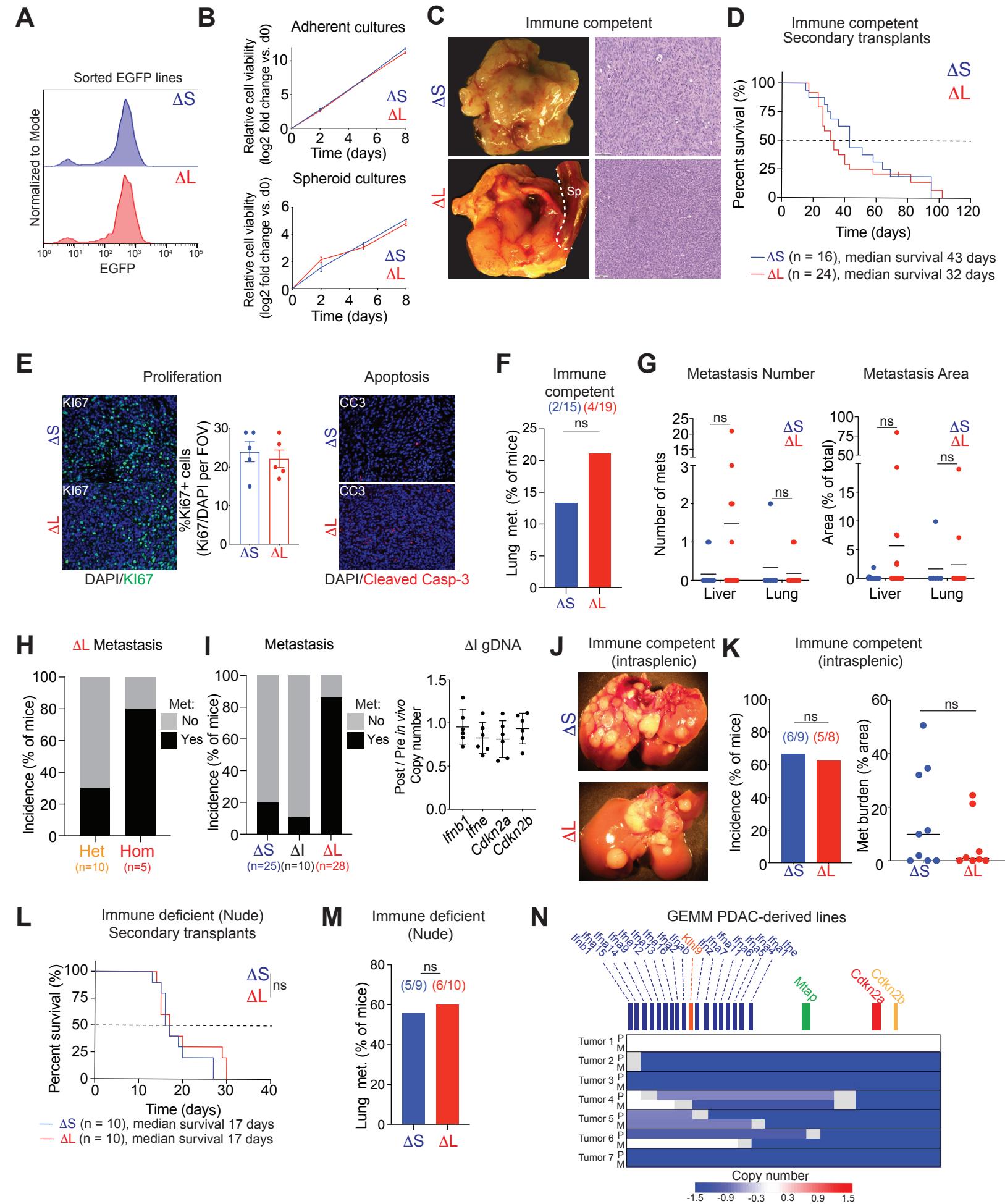


# Extended Data Figure 1



## Extended Data Figure 2

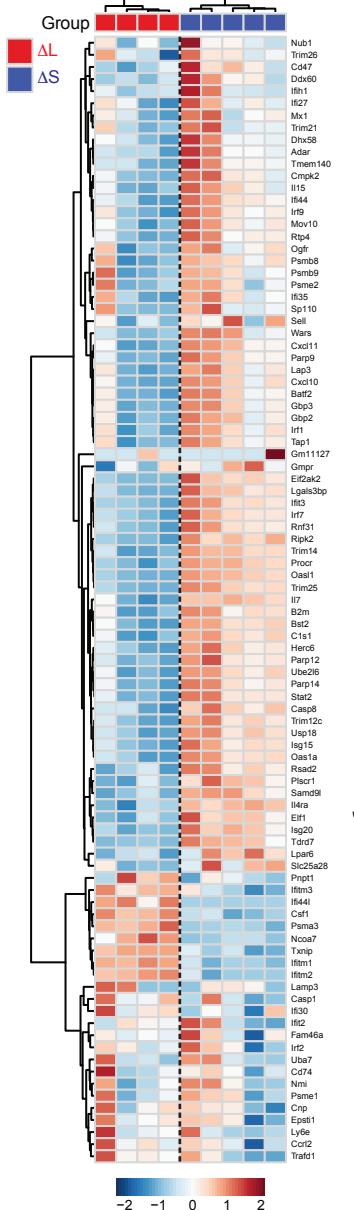




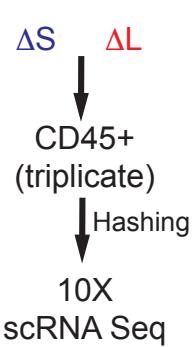
# Extended Data Figure 4

## B

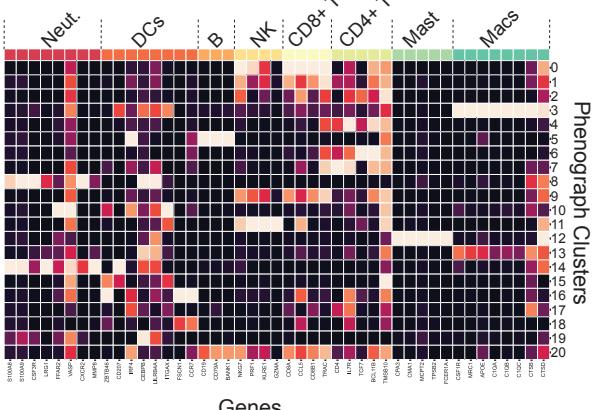
### Type I IFN response



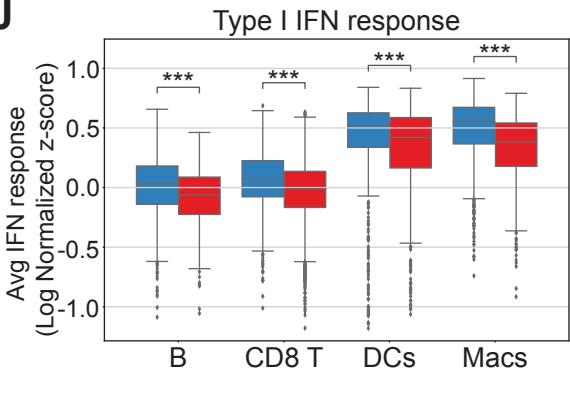
## E



## H

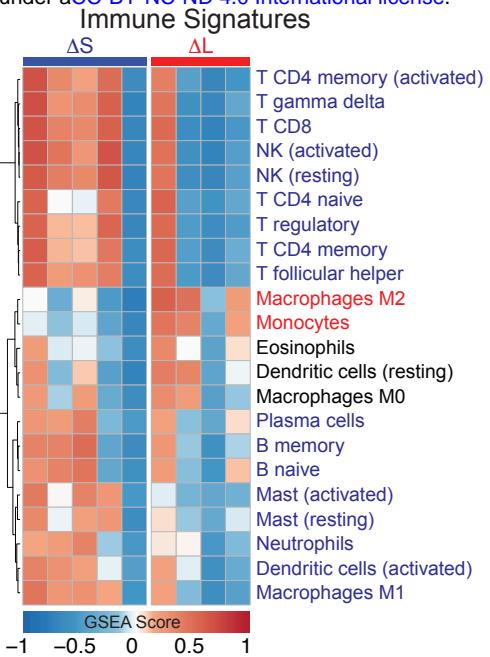


## J



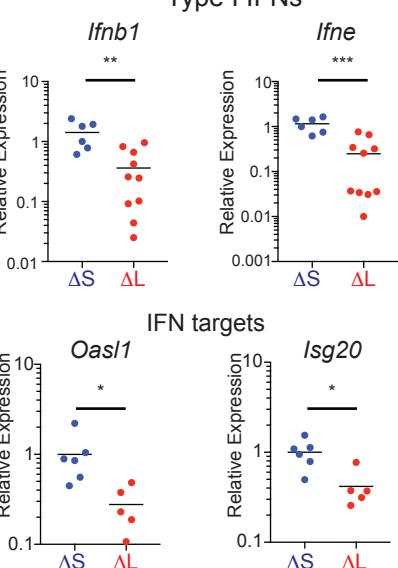
## C

### Immune Signatures

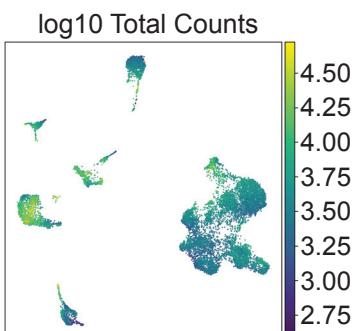


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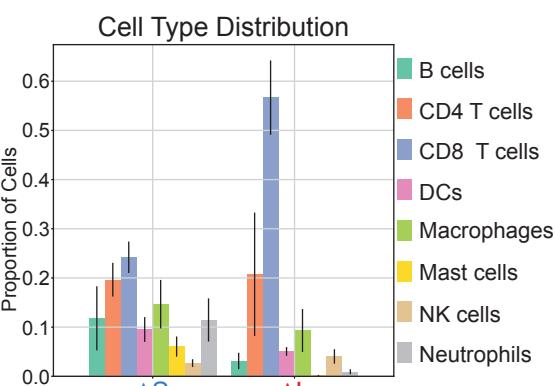
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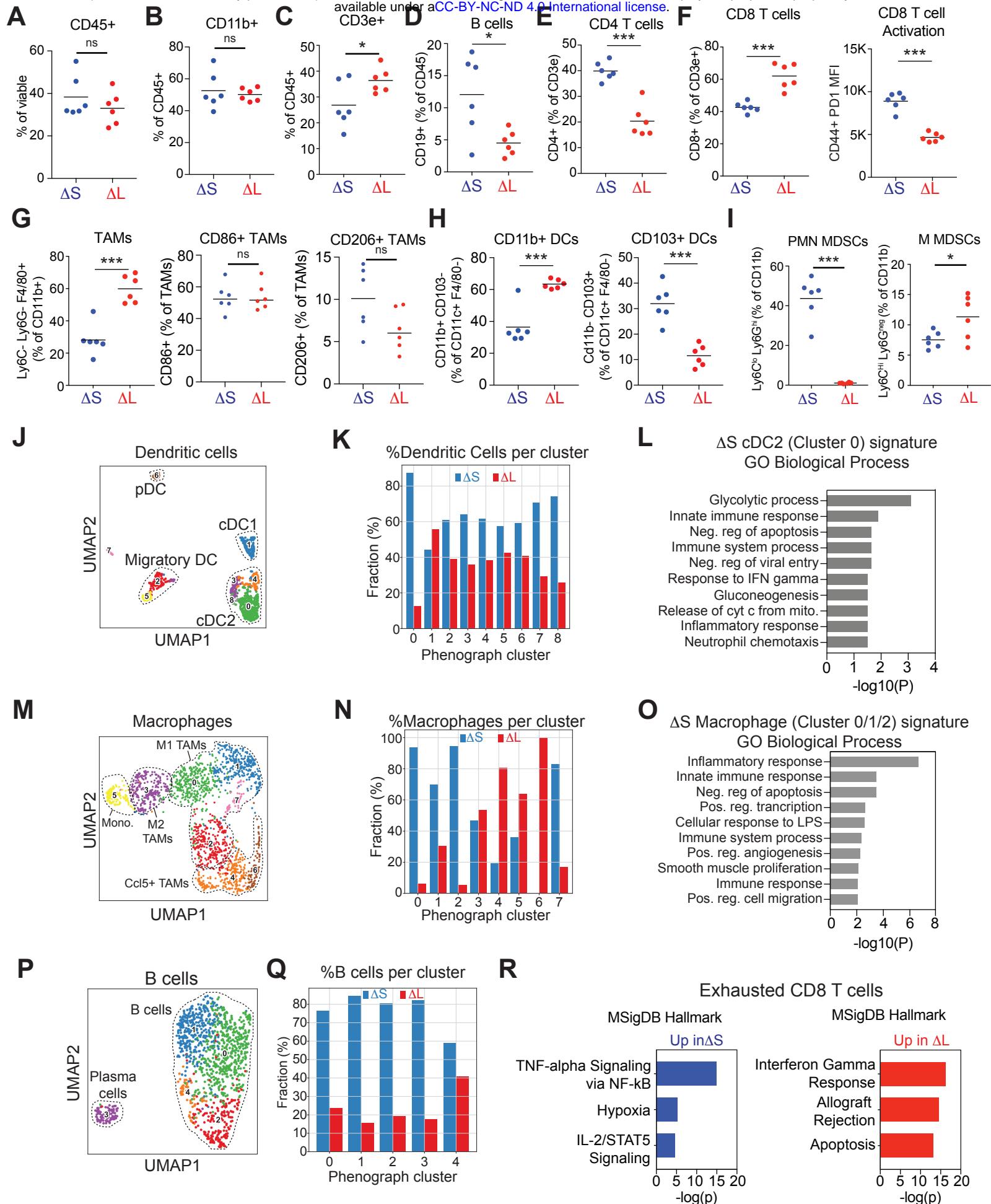
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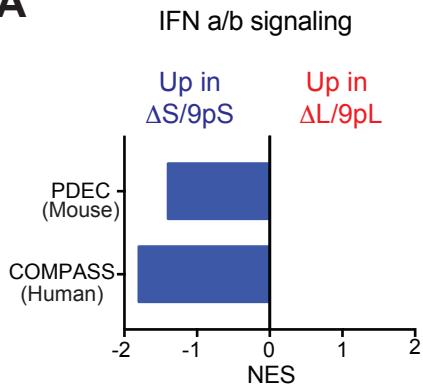
## I



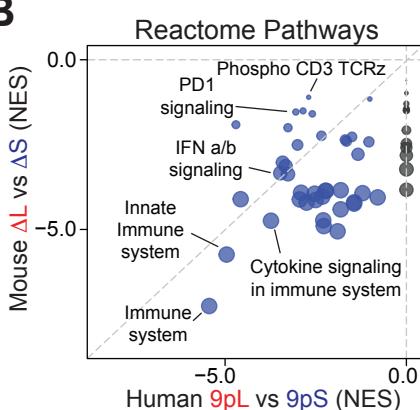
# Extended Data Figure 5



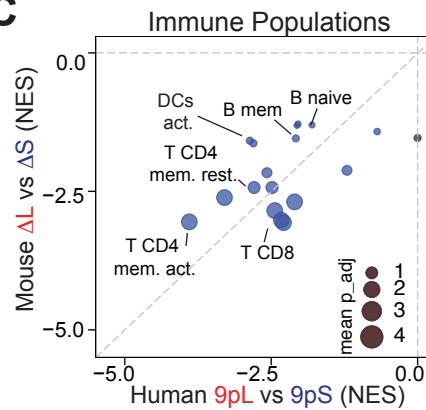
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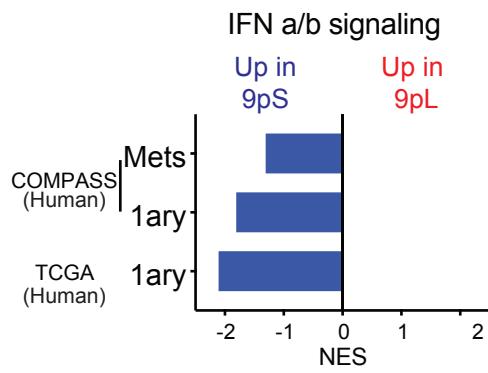
B



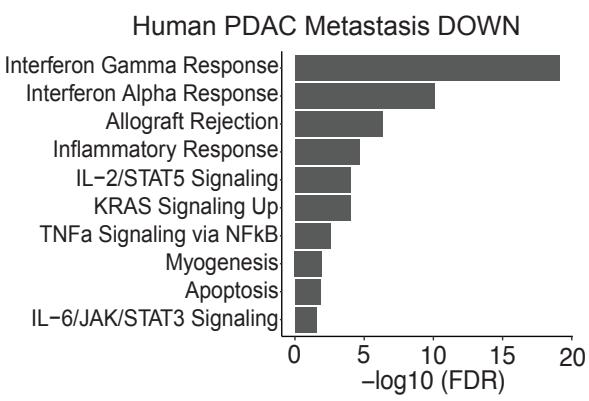
C



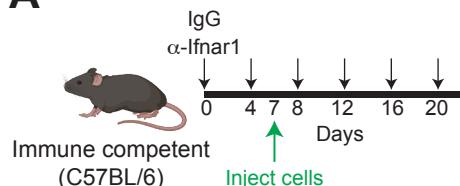
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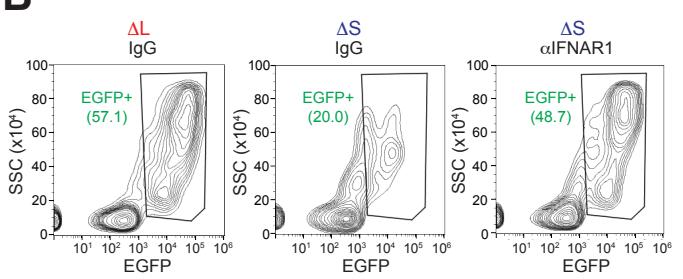
E



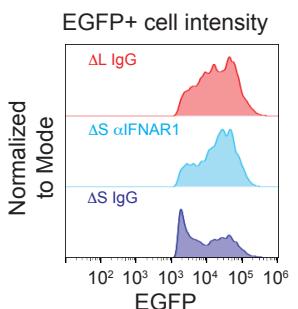
**A**



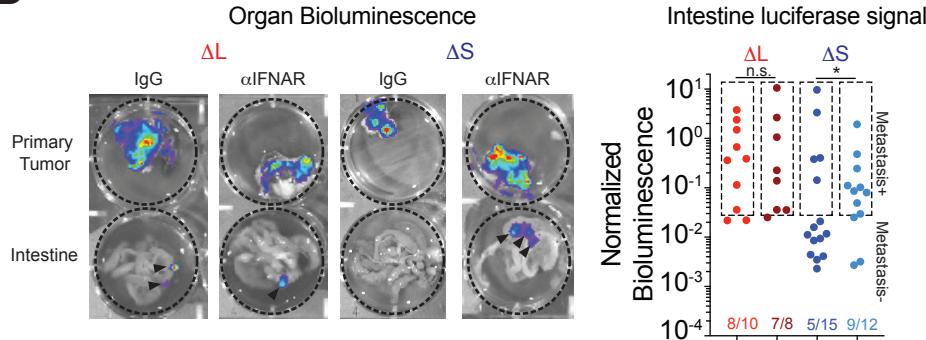
**B**



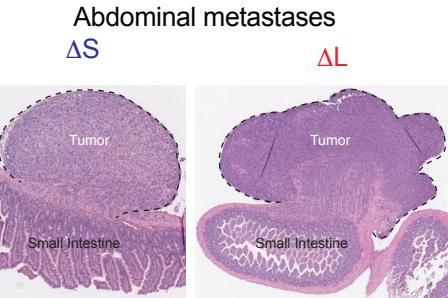
**C**



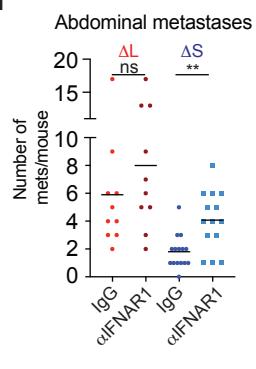
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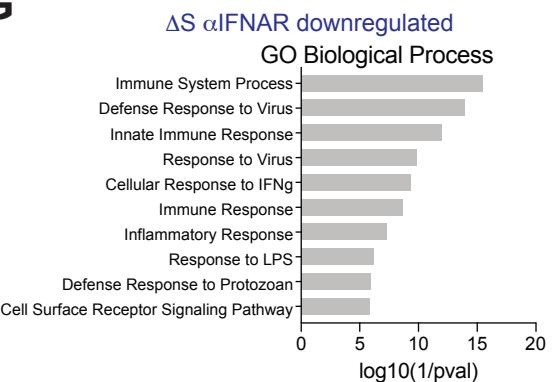
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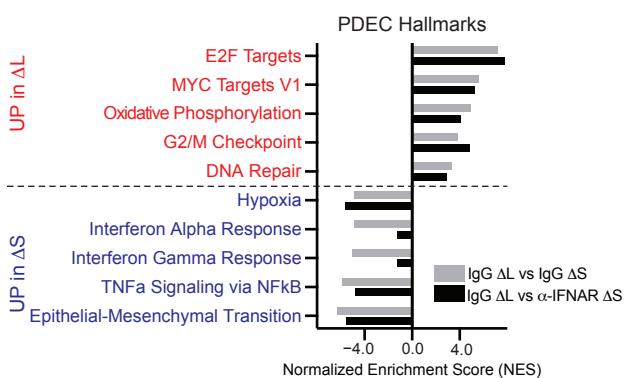
**F**



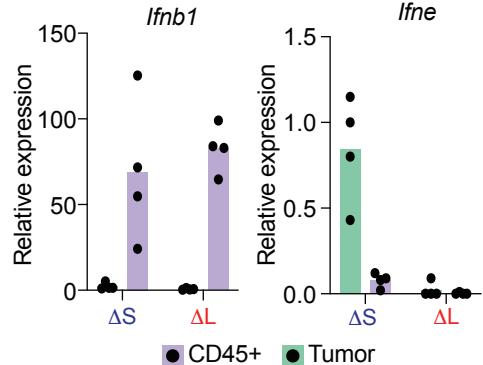
**G**



**H**



**I**



**J**

