

1 **Title: Impact of isotype on the mechanism of action of agonist anti-OX40**  
2 **antibodies in cancer: Implications for therapeutic combinations**

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51 **Running Title:** OX40 mAb therapy

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53 **Keywords:** OX40, isotype, therapeutic activity

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56 **Abbreviations:**

57	ADCC	Antibody dependent cellular cytotoxicity
58	I.P.	Intraperitoneal
59	I.V.	Intravenous
60	KI	Knock-in
61	KO	Knock-out
62	mAb	Monoclonal antibody
63	PBMCs	Peripheral blood mononuclear cells
64	TILS	Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes
65	TME	Tumor microenvironment
66	TNFRSF	Tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily
67	WT	Wildtype

68

69

70 **Abstract**

71 **Background:** OX40 has been widely studied as a target for immunotherapy with  
72 agonist antibodies taken forward into clinical trials for cancer where they are yet to  
73 show substantial efficacy. Here, we investigated potential mechanisms of action of  
74 anti-mouse (m) OX40 and anti-human (h) OX40 antibodies, including a clinically  
75 relevant monoclonal antibody (mAb) (GSK3174998) and evaluated how isotype can  
76 alter those mechanisms with the aim to develop improved antibodies for use in  
77 rational combination treatments for cancer.

78 **Methods:** anti-mOX40 and anti-hOX40 mAbs were evaluated in a number of *in vivo*  
79 models, including an OT-I adoptive transfer immunisation model in hOX40 knock-in  
80 (KI) mice and syngeneic tumour models. The impact of Fc $\gamma$ R engagement was  
81 evaluated in hOX40 KI mice deficient for Fc gamma receptors (Fc $\gamma$ R). Additionally,  
82 combination studies using anti-mPD-1 were assessed. *In vitro* experiments using  
83 peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) examining possible anti-hOX40 mAb  
84 mechanisms of action were also performed.

85 **Results:** Isotype variants of the clinically relevant mAb GSK3174998 showed  
86 immunomodulatory effects that differed in mechanism; mIgG1 mediated direct T cell  
87 agonism whilst mIgG2a acted indirectly, likely through depletion of Tregs via  
88 activating Fc $\gamma$ Rs. In both the OT-I and EG.7-OVA models, hIgG1 was the most  
89 effective human isotype, capable of acting both directly and through Treg depletion.  
90 The anti-hOX40 hIgG1 synergized with anti-mPD-1 to improve therapeutic outcomes  
91 in the EG.7-OVA model. Finally, *in vitro* assays with hPBMCs, anti-hOX40 hIgG1  
92 also showed the potential for T cell stimulation and Treg depletion.

93 **Conclusions:** These findings underline the importance of understanding the role of  
94 isotype in the mechanism of action of therapeutic mAbs. As a hIgG1, the anti-hOX40  
95 mAb can elicit multiple mechanisms of action that could aid or hinder therapeutic  
96 outcomes, dependent on the microenvironment. This should be considered when

97 designing potential combinatorial partners and their Fc $\gamma$ R requirements to achieve  
98 maximal benefit and improvement of patient outcomes.

99

100

### 101 **What is already known on this topic**

102 Several studies have demonstrated efficacy of anti-OX40 monotherapy in murine  
103 preclinical models but whilst clinical trials have demonstrated good safety profiles,  
104 therapeutic effects have been disappointing.

105

### 106 **What this study adds**

107 In this study, we have made use of human OX40 knock-in mice to dissect the impact  
108 isotype has on the mechanism of action of anti-human OX40 antibodies; specifically  
109 isotype variants of GSK3174998, an anti-human OX40 antibody that has been  
110 investigated clinically. We demonstrate that the hIgG1 isotype is the most effective  
111 human isotype in our models with the capacity to synergize with anti-mouse-PD-1  
112 and that it can act via both Treg depleting and CD8 activating mechanisms  
113 depending on the microenvironment.

114

### 115 **How this study might affect research, practice or policy**

116 Our study emphasises the importance of understanding the mechanisms of action of  
117 therapeutic antibodies and how that needs to be combined with an understanding of  
118 the environment they are acting in, in order to deliver their therapeutic potential. Thus  
119 for OX40 to become a viable monotherapy target it may need to be more selectively  
120 matched to appropriate tumours. Our study also has implications for how antibody  
121 combination therapies are evaluated clinically and the impact of the isotype of each  
122 antibody on the availability of Fc $\gamma$ R and hence the mechanisms of action of both  
123 antibodies.

124

125

126 **Introduction**

127 Antibody immunotherapy now benefits a proportion of cancer patients, most notably  
128 after checkpoint blockade in melanoma and non-small cell lung cancer (1, 2).  
129 However, with responses only seen in some patients and resistance occurring in  
130 others, alternative strategies are being explored (3-5). One option is immune  
131 stimulation through tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily (TNFRSF) members  
132 such as OX40 (CD134) (6-10). OX40 is important for T cell proliferation, survival and  
133 effector function (11-14), with agonistic antibodies evoking anti-tumor activity in  
134 several preclinical models (8, 15-19), leading to the development of a number of  
135 clinical candidates. However, monotherapy trials have been disappointing, with  
136 limited evidence for efficacy (reviewed in (20)) with checkpoint blockade  
137 combinations now being explored (21-26). The addition of anti-PD-1 to anti-OX40  
138 monotherapy is typically beneficial in preclinical models (21, 22, 25), although some  
139 studies show anti-PD-1 has a negative impact on anti-OX40 monotherapy (23, 24),  
140 leading to considerations of the treatment sequence and the importance of the  
141 immune status in each model. One aspect that is under-explored is the impact that  
142 isotype can make on monoclonal antibody (mAb) immunotherapy and mechanism of  
143 action, particularly in the context of combination therapy.

144

145 Anti-mOX40 mAb mechanisms of action are clearly influenced by isotype and  
146 interactions with Fc $\gamma$ R, with mIgG1 engaging the inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ RIIB to trigger OX40  
147 signalling and T cell activation, and mIgG2a depleting OX40+ cells, particularly Tregs  
148 (16, 27, 28). Studies have also shown an impact of isotype on anti-PD-1 (29-31).  
149 Therefore, as trials look to combine mAb targeting these molecules, an  
150 understanding of optimal Fc $\gamma$ R interactions for clinically relevant anti-hOX40 mAb is  
151 required.

152

153 Previously, we reported a hOX40 KI mouse strain, whereby anti-hOX40 mAb with  
154 mouse Fc regions demonstrated both antigen-specific CD8+OT-I T cell expansion  
155 and anti-tumor responses (16). Here, we extend these studies to examine the  
156 humanised clinically-relevant anti-hOX40 hIgG1 antibody GSK3174998, dissect the  
157 impact of Fc $\gamma$ Rs on its mechanisms of action and consider how these may influence  
158 potential combinations.

159

## 160 **Results**

161 *Anti-mOX40 increases effector CD8+ T cells in responsive models.*

162 First, using the anti-mOX40 agonist mAb, OX86 (32), we showed that monotherapy  
163 treatment of different tumors delivered variable efficacy (Fig 1A & B and  
164 Supplementary Fig 1A-E). There was no impact on tumor growth in LLC and B16  
165 tumors in response to anti-mOX40 treatment whereas EMT6, A20 and CT26 tumors  
166 were controlled to varying degrees. To investigate the potential mechanisms  
167 involved, tumor infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) were analysed from mice challenged  
168 with CT26 tumors. TILs harvested on day 10 after anti-mOX40 mAb treatment had  
169 more CD3+ and CD8+ cells compared with isotype control, alongside more  
170 CD8+IFN $\gamma$ + and CD8+CXCR5+ cells (Fig. 1C), indicating that they had more effector  
171 CD8+ cells (33). Similar results were obtained from A20 tumors; CD8+ T cells  
172 isolated from tumors at various time-points showed several immunomodulatory  
173 genes were altered by anti-mOX40 mAb treatment (Supplementary Fig. 2A).  
174 Furthermore, an increase in CD8+Ki67+ (35.3% vs. 24.3%), CD8+PD-1+ (57.1% vs.  
175 46.8%) and CD8+GzmB+ (34.8% vs. 20.47%) cells was observed (Supplementary  
176 Fig 2B), supporting that OX40 treatment leads to an increase in proliferative CD8+ T  
177 cells with effector function in the tumor. A significant increase in CD4+Ki67+ (27.7%  
178 vs. 20%) and CD8+GzmB+ (6.2% vs. 1.1%) cells was also seen in the blood on day  
179 10 (Supplementary Fig. 2C). Furthermore, PD-1 was upregulated on both CD4 and



180 CD8+ T cells (8.2% vs. 3.8% and 5.2% vs. 3.3%, respectively) (Supplementary Fig.  
181 2C) indicating anti-mOX40 mAb treatment increases activated CD4 and CD8 T cells  
182 with potential for increased functionality both within the tumor and systemically.

183

184 To explore other aspects of the T cell response, the TCR repertoire in CT26 tumor-  
185 bearing mice was examined after 50 or 100  $\mu$ g anti-mOX40 mAb. Anti-mOX40 mAb-  
186 treated mice showed an increase in TCR clonality in the spleen compared to a  
187 pooled group of untreated and isotype controls (Fig. 1D left panel). Untreated and  
188 isotype control groups were not significantly different and so pooled to allow more  
189 robust statistical evaluation (Supplementary Fig. 2D). Likewise, an increase in TCR  
190 clonality was also seen in the tumor (Fig. 1D right panel). Furthermore, the overlap  
191 between clones identified in spleen and tumor was increased (Fig.1E). These data  
192 indicate that anti-mOX40 mAb drives activation of T cells, promoting clonality and  
193 enhancing effector functionality.

194

195 Whilst anti-mOX40 mAb monotherapy showed some therapeutic benefit in the  
196 models above, the effects were limited. Therefore, combination with checkpoint  
197 blockade was investigated. Given the evidence for an upregulation of PD-1 on CD4+  
198 and CD8+ T cells after anti-mOX40 mAb treatment (Supplementary Fig. 2C and  
199 (34)), we investigated combination with anti-PD-1 mAb. Treatment of CT26 tumor-  
200 bearing mice with anti-mPD-1 mAb monotherapy did not produce significant  
201 enhancement of survival (Fig. 1F). Whilst anti-mOX40 mAb monotherapy again  
202 showed a modest but significant improvement in survival, the combination with anti-  
203 mPD-1 mAb resulted in far greater survival; ~75% of animals survived >50 days  
204 compared to ~30% with anti-mOX40 mAb alone (Fig. 1F). The long-term survivors  
205 were fully protected from subsequent rechallenge with CT26 (Supplementary Fig.  
206 3A), providing evidence of effective memory generation.

207

208 Given the potential impact of dosing schedules on combination therapy (23, 24), we  
209 next investigated differences in administration schedules, comparing concurrent or  
210 sequential treatments. In the CT26 model, concurrent delivery of anti-mOX40 and  
211 anti-mPD-1 mAb resulted in greater efficacy than sequential delivery (Supplementary  
212 Fig. 3B) and so subsequent investigations continued with this regimen. To evaluate  
213 the impact of the combination on TILs, Nanostring® was performed. The anti-mOX40  
214 and anti-mPD-1 combination increased T cell and immunomodulatory gene  
215 transcription in TILs, although the difference from anti-mOX40 monotherapy was  
216 subtle (Supplementary Fig. 3C). TIL immune phenotyping showed limited changes in  
217 the Tregs (Fig. 1G left panel) but significant increases in the CD8:Treg ratio in mice  
218 treated with the combination (Fig. 1G right panel). The CD4<sup>+</sup> effector memory (EM)  
219 population (CD62<sup>low</sup>CD44<sup>high</sup>) was increased, with the CD8<sup>+</sup> EM population  
220 unchanged (Fig. 1H). Further investigation showed that the combination significantly  
221 increased the CD8+Ki67<sup>+</sup> and CD4+Tbet<sup>+</sup> T cell populations in the blood over  
222 isotype or anti-PD-1 monotherapy, with a similar trend in the number of CD8+GzmB<sup>+</sup>  
223 T cells (Supplementary Fig. 3D). However, in TILs the combination treatment  
224 resulted in a statistically significant increase in the CD8+GzmB<sup>+</sup> population  
225 (Supplementary Fig. 3E) but not CD8+Ki67<sup>+</sup> or CD4+Tbet<sup>+</sup> T cells (Supplementary  
226 Fig. 3E), further illustrating the importance of understanding both tumor-localized and  
227 systemic responses. Serum levels of effector cytokines IFN $\gamma$  (Supplementary Fig.  
228 3F), TNF $\alpha$  (Supplementary Fig. 3G), IL-6 (Supplementary Fig. 3H) and IL-2  
229 (Supplementary Fig. 3I) were also significantly increased in the combination arm, to a  
230 greater extent than the single treatments. When TCR clonality was examined, only  
231 the combination showed an increase in the blood (Fig. 1I left panel) whereas in the  
232 tumor, both anti-mOX40 monotherapy and the combination resulted in a significant  
233 increase (Fig 1I right panel). The combination did not increase TCR clonality in the  
234 tumor above that induced by the anti-mOX40 monotherapy, suggesting that OX40

235 modulation drives the increase in the tumor. However, the combination increased the  
236 number of overlapping expanded clones above that of either monotherapy,  
237 supporting the need for both treatment arms (Fig. 1J).

238

239 *Anti-hOX40 mIgG1 can act directly on antigen-specific T cells.*

240 To help translate these findings, we made use of a clinically relevant humanized anti-  
241 hOX40 mAb (GSK3174998) and hOX40 KI mice (16). GSK3174998, was recently  
242 explored in a Phase 1/2a trial (ENGAGE-1 - NCT02528357) (26, 35). To explore its  
243 potential mechanisms of action in our murine pre-clinical models, it was isotype  
244 switched to mIgG1 and mIgG2a isotypes which exhibit differing Fc $\gamma$ R binding profiles  
245 (36, 37) and effector functions for anti-TNFRSF mAbs (16, 27, 38-41). mIgG2a  
246 interacts strongly with activating Fc $\gamma$ R and can elicit target cell deletion, whereas  
247 mIgG1 binds preferentially to the inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ RII, evoking receptor crosslinking  
248 leading to agonism and target cell activation.

249

250 To explore the impact on antigen-specific CD8 T cell expansion, hOX40KI<sup>het</sup> OT-I  
251 Tg<sup>het</sup> cells were adoptively transferred into hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> recipients before treatment  
252 with ovalbumin (OVA) alongside anti-hOX40 mIgG1 or mIgG2a and monitoring for  
253 CD8+OT-I+ T cells (Fig. 2A). Anti-hOX40 mIgG1 and mIgG2a expanded CD8+OT-I+  
254 T cells in the blood equivalently during the primary response, although only the  
255 mIgG1 group mounted a robust secondary response when challenged with the  
256 SIINFEKL ovalbumin peptide (Fig. 2B). These observations, including the mIgG1-  
257 dependent memory response, mirror data generated with other antibodies targeting  
258 hOX40 (16). Treatment with both isotypes also showed a significant expansion of  
259 CD8+OT-I+ T cells in the spleen, albeit to a greater extent with anti-hOX40 mIgG1  
260 (Fig. 2C). CD4+Foxp3+ (Treg) cells expanded in mice treated with the anti-hOX40  
261 mIgG1, but significantly decreased after mIgG2a treatment (Fig. 2D). This

262 consistently resulted in a fold change of CD4<sup>+</sup>Foxp3<sup>+</sup> T cells >1 with anti-hOX40  
263 mIgG1 and <1 with anti-hOX40 mIgG2a (Fig. 2E).

264

265 To explore whether GSK3174998 was acting via different mechanisms dependent  
266 upon isotype, purified hOX40KI<sup>het</sup> OT-I Tg<sup>het</sup> CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells were adoptively transferred  
267 into WT C57BL/6 recipient mice, where the anti-hOX40 antibody can act only on the  
268 adoptively transferred cells, and the experiment was repeated. The anti-hOX40  
269 mIgG1 again expanded the CD8<sup>+</sup>OT-I<sup>+</sup> T cells (Fig. 2F), supporting a mechanism of  
270 direct activation on the CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells. In contrast, the mIgG2a variant had no effect,  
271 indicating it causes CD8<sup>+</sup>OT-I<sup>+</sup> T cell expansion indirectly, most likely through Treg  
272 depletion.

273

274 *Anti-hOX40mIgG1 requires both activating and inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R for optimal activity.*

275 Given this clear isotype-dependent effect, we investigated the role of different Fc $\gamma$ R  
276 in the CD8<sup>+</sup>OT-I<sup>+</sup> T cell expansion. Accordingly, hOX40KI mice were crossed with  
277 either Fc $\gamma$  chain KO or Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice. Fc $\gamma$  chain KO mice lack expression of all  
278 activating Fc $\gamma$ R, preventing antibody-mediated target cell deletion (42, 43). In  
279 contrast, Fc $\gamma$ RIIB loss prevents the receptor crosslinking required for the agonistic  
280 activity of anti-TNFRSF antibodies (39-41). Upon adoptive transfer of hOX40KI<sup>het</sup> OT-  
281 I Tg<sup>het</sup> splenocytes into hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO mice, responses to both anti-  
282 hOX40 mIgG1 and mIgG2a were reduced (Fig. 3A). The response to anti-hOX40  
283 mIgG2a was almost completely lost as expected if depletion is a key component of  
284 this mechanism of action (Fig. 3A right panel). More surprising was the significant  
285 reduction in response to anti-hOX40 mIgG1 mAb, presuming receptor crosslinking is  
286 important for the activity of this isotype, given Fc $\gamma$ RIIB expression is retained and  
287 competition from activating Fc $\gamma$ R reduced (Fig. 3A left panel). Comparison of the  
288 peak responses across multiple experiments confirmed this loss of response with

289 both isotypes of anti-hOX40 mAb, although the anti-hOX40 mIgG1 retained activity  
290 significantly above that of the isotype control, unlike the anti-hOX40 mIgG2a,  
291 suggestive that the mIgG2a response was disrupted to a greater extent (Fig. 3B). To  
292 address whether this was restricted to the blood, spleens were harvested on day 4  
293 and T cell populations enumerated. Both anti-hOX40 isotypes, in both strains,  
294 showed a significant increase in CD8+OT-I+ T cells (Fig. 3C) although the absolute  
295 numbers were lower in the Fc $\gamma$  chain KO strain. As previously shown, the anti-hOX40  
296 mIgG2a mAb decreased the number of Treg in the hOX40KI strain but this reduction  
297 was lost in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO mice (Fig. 3D). These data indicate that the  
298 mIgG2a-mediated loss of Tregs in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice occurs through depletion  
299 mediated via activating Fc $\gamma$ R. More surprisingly, the increase in Treg after anti-  
300 hOX40 mIgG1 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> was also lost in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO mice (Fig. 3D).

301

302 To investigate the role of Fc $\gamma$ RIIB, the experiments were repeated in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  
303 Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice. As might be anticipated if Fc $\gamma$ RIIB was providing crosslinking for  
304 the anti-hOX40mIgG1 mAb, the magnitude of the CD8+OT-I+ T cell response was  
305 reduced in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO recipients (Fig. 3E left panel). In contrast, the  
306 response to the anti-hOX40 mIgG2a was unaffected by the loss of the inhibitory  
307 receptor (Fig. 3E right panel). Analysis of splenocytes on day 4 also showed less  
308 expansion of CD8+OT-I+ cells in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO recipients treated with  
309 anti-hOX40 mIgG1 compared with WT hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> recipients whilst the response to  
310 anti-hOX40 mIgG2a mAb was significantly above isotype in both strains (Fig. 3F).

311 Analysis of splenic Tregs showed the reduction in numbers mediated via anti-hOX40  
312 mIgG2a mAb was maintained in both WT hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO  
313 strains (Fig. 3G and H), albeit to a lesser extent in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO strain.  
314 The increased number of Tregs and positive fold change seen in response to anti-  
315 hOX40 mIgG1, however, was not consistently maintained in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO

316 mice (Fig 3G and H). The loss of either activating or inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R had a significant  
317 impact on the ability of the anti-hOX40 mIgG1 isotype to elicit CD8+OT-I+ T cell  
318 expansion, possibly indicating that both are mediating antibody crosslinking.

319

320 *Anti-hOX40 hIgG1 engages with both activating and inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R to mediate*  
321 *antigen-specific T cell expansion.*

322 We next examined the effect of human isotypes, including the hIgG1 isotype  
323 previously used in the clinic. Although this experimental set-up involves interactions  
324 between human antibodies and mouse Fc $\gamma$ R, the inter-species similarities and  
325 differences are known (16, 37) making it possible to interpret the findings and infer  
326 likely mechanisms of action for exploitation in patients. Evaluating hIgG1, hIgG2 and  
327 hIgG4 variants of the anti-hOX40 mAb, only the hIgG1 was able to robustly expand  
328 CD8+OT-I+ T cells in the blood, although the secondary response to SIINFEKL was  
329 lower than might be expected (Fig. 4A). Splenic CD8+OT-I+ T cells also showed the  
330 greatest expansion in response to anti-hOX40 hIgG1 (Fig. 4B). Only the hIgG1 anti-  
331 hOX40 mAb resulted in a statistically significant reduction in the numbers of splenic  
332 Tregs (Fig. 4C). To understand whether anti-hOX40 hIgG1 was capable of acting  
333 directly on the transferred cells, hOX40KI<sup>het</sup> OT-I Tg<sup>het</sup> splenocytes were transferred  
334 into WT C57BL/6 recipient mice. As before, only the hIgG1 anti-hOX40 mAb  
335 expanded the transferred cells (Supplemental Fig. 4A). To further confirm the direct  
336 effect of hIgG1 anti-hOX40 mAb on the antigen-specific CD8+ T cells, purified  
337 hOX40KI<sup>het</sup> CD8+OT-I Tg<sup>het</sup> cells were transferred into WT recipients and stimulated  
338 with OVA and anti-hOX40 mAb. Again, only anti-hOX40 hIgG1 expanded the  
339 CD8+OT-I+ cells (Fig. 4D).

340

341 Given these observations, we focused on the importance of the different Fc $\gamma$ R. hIgG1  
342 interacts with multiple activating mouse and human Fc $\gamma$ R and so we hypothesised

343 that these interactions were responsible for the observed reduction in splenic Tregs.  
344 To test this, hOX40KI<sup>het</sup> OT-I Tg<sup>het</sup> cells were transferred into hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> or  
345 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO mice prior to OVA and anti-hOX40 mAb stimulation. In the  
346 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO strain the expansion of CD8+OT-I+ T cells was  
347 significantly lower than in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> strain and insufficient to elicit a secondary  
348 response to SIINFEKL peptide (Fig. 4E). Analysis of splenocytes on day 4 showed  
349 reduced expansion of CD8+OT-I+ T cells in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO strain (Fig.  
350 4F). No consistent Treg depletion was observed in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO  
351 mice (Fig. 4G; Supplemental Fig. 4B), resulting in a significant difference between  
352 the Treg fold change induced by anti-hOX40 hIgG1 in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> versus  
353 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO recipients. As there was still some expansion of CD8+OT-  
354 I+ T cells in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$  chain KO mice above the isotype control, the role of  
355 Fc $\gamma$ RIIB was explored in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice. Despite variation between  
356 experiments, pooled data showed a slight reduction in expansion of CD8+OT-I+ cells  
357 in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO compared WT hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice (Fig. 4H and  
358 Supplemental Fig. 4C). Likewise, as the response contracted into memory phase  
359 (day 40), significantly greater percentages of CD8+OT-I+ T cells were observed in  
360 the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> strain than the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice (Fig. 4I) suggesting  
361 that Fc $\gamma$ RIIB has a role in the generation or persistence of memory. This translated  
362 into a greater secondary response in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> versus hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO  
363 mice (Supplementary Fig. 4D). Similarly, in the spleen at day 4, CD8+OT-I+ T cells  
364 significant increased in both strains (Fig. 4J). These data indicate that there is an  
365 initial expansion of CD8+OT-I+ T cells in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice but that  
366 the response is not maintained, which leads to a lower overall recall response.  
367 Analysis of splenic Tregs in the hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO strain was inconclusive  
368 when analysed as individual experiments (Fig. 4K); however, when analysed across  
369 multiple experiments, a fold change <1 (Fig. 4L) was seen, suggesting Fc $\gamma$ RIIB is not

370 important for Treg depletion. Thus, these data suggest that anti-hOX40 hlgG1 mAb  
371 mediates its effects through depletion of Tregs via the activating Fc $\gamma$ R as well as by  
372 acting directly on the CD8+ T cells with cross-linking provided by Fc $\gamma$ RIIB.

373

374 *Anti-hOX40 hlgG1 combination with anti-mPD-1 improves efficacy in EG7-OVA*  
375 *model.*

376 Next, we explored the therapeutic efficacy of the various anti-hOX40 mAb in a murine  
377 tumor model. Mice were challenged with E.G7-OVA thymoma cells and then treated  
378 once tumors had developed as outlined in Fig. 5A. Anti-hOX40 mlgG2a caused a  
379 slight delay in tumor growth (Fig. 5B) which resulted in 15% long-term survivors (>50  
380 days) across 3 independent experiments (Fig. 5C). The anti-hOX40 mlgG1 resulted  
381 in a significant reduction in tumor growth (Fig. 5B) with 47% long-term survivors (Fig.  
382 5C). For both isotypes, long-term survivors were protected from rechallenge with  
383 E.G7-OVA (Supplemental Fig. 5A and B). These data show that for this particular  
384 antibody, mlgG1 provides greater efficacy than mlgG2a and infer that depletion of  
385 Tregs may be less beneficial than direct CD8 activation. Given that anti-hOX40  
386 hlgG1 had shown potential to mediate both depletion and direct activation we  
387 investigated its efficacy in the E.G7-OVA model versus hlgG2 and hlgG4. Although  
388 mean changes in tumor growth were not significantly different (Fig. 5D), anti-hOX40  
389 hlgG1 gave more long-term survivors (28%) compared to hlgG2 (10%) or hlgG4  
390 (0%) (Fig. 5E), with long-term survivors showing resistance to rechallenge with E.G7-  
391 OVA (Supplemental Fig. 5C). As the efficacy of the anti-hOX40 hlgG1 mAb in this  
392 model was relatively limited, and following our earlier results with anti-mOX40 mAb,  
393 combination with anti-mPD-1 mAb was assessed. As anti-mPD-1 efficacy is reduced  
394 when there is insufficient priming of CD8 T cells (44), a staggered dosing schedule,  
395 employing anti-hOX40 hlgG1 mAb first, as outlined in Fig 5F, was used. Mice  
396 treated with anti-mPD-1 monotherapy showed no reduction in tumor growth, whilst



397 those treated with anti-OX40 hIgG1 and the combination showed tumor control (Fig.  
398 5G). Anti-mPD-1 monotherapy showed a marginal improvement in survival but with  
399 no long-term survivors whereas anti-hOX40 hIgG1 resulted in a significant  
400 improvement in survival with 21% long-term survivors (Fig. 5H), which was enhanced  
401 in the combination; 46% of mice surviving >90 days (Fig. 5H). In a following  
402 experiment where a staggered and concurrent dosing strategy were compared, we  
403 did not observe a significant difference in the strategies, suggesting that concurrent  
404 dosing is also effective in this model (Supplementary Fig. 5D-F). These data support  
405 combining anti-hOX40 and anti-mPD-1 mAb in the clinic to achieve improved tumor  
406 control compared with monotherapy.

407

408 *Anti-hOX40hIgG1 can elicit cytokine secretion from hPBMCs and preferentially*  
409 *targets hTregs in ADCC reporter assays*

410 To see if the combination of anti-hOX40 hIgG1 and anti-PD-1 could trigger higher T  
411 cell activity in humans, PBMCs from healthy donors were activated with anti-CD3 and  
412 anti-CD28 in the presence of anti-hOX40 hIgG1 and pembrolizumab and then  
413 analysed for IFN $\gamma$  (Supplemental Fig. 6A) and TNF $\alpha$  (Supplemental Fig. 6B)  
414 secretion. For both cytokines, the combination resulted in the highest secretion,  
415 suggesting that in patients, this combination may also result in a greater immune  
416 response.

417

418 To consider which patient groups might benefit most from treatment with anti-hOX40  
419 mAb, we analysed the TCGA database for expression of OX40, OX40L and PD-L1.  
420 The expression of all three markers varied widely across tumor types (Supplemental  
421 Fig. 6C) however renal cell carcinoma (RCC) and sarcoma samples showed high  
422 levels, particularly of OX40 and so may be good options for combination therapy. To  
423 explore this further, we performed flow cytometric analysis of patient tumor samples.  
424 The majority of CD3+ TILS within resected tumor samples (NSCLC, CRC, Bladder,

425 Head and Neck, Thyroid, Prostate, Cervical, Endometrial, Gastric and RCC) were  
426 CD4+, with lower numbers of CD8+ T cells and a minority of Treg (Fig. 6A).  
427 However, OX40 on these T cell subsets was inversely correlated with their cellular  
428 frequency, with both percent OX40 positivity and number of molecules/cells being  
429 highest on Treg > CD4+ > CD8+ T cells, as indicated previously (45-47) (Fig. 6B and  
430 C). These data suggest that anti-hOX40 mAb might preferentially target Tregs and  
431 CD4+ effectors over CD8+ T cells. This hierarchy was also observed when PBMCs,  
432 isolated from healthy donors or cancer patients, were activated for 2 days, with Tregs  
433 showing the greatest number of OX40 receptors/cell, followed by CD4+ effectors and  
434 CD8+ T cells (Fig. 6D). Given that in the hOX40KI mouse model, the anti-hOX40  
435 hIgG1 mAb depleted Tregs in the presence of activating Fc $\gamma$ R, an in vitro ADCC  
436 reporter assay was performed to evaluate the ability of different T cell subsets to  
437 engage hFc $\gamma$ R1IIIA (as a readout for depleting potential) once opsonised with mAb. To  
438 better mimic ongoing immune response in the tumor, healthy donor or patient  
439 PBMCs were activated in vitro with anti-CD3/anti-CD28, sorted into the respective  
440 cell populations, and then incubated with anti-hOX40 hIgG1 mAb and hFc $\gamma$ R1IIIA-  
441 expressing reporter cells. Treg showed the greatest ability to engage hFc $\gamma$ R1IIIA and  
442 induce luciferase expression (Fig. 6E), with the number of OX40 receptors strongly  
443 correlated with luciferase induction across all cell types (Fig. 6F). This relationship  
444 between the number of OX40 receptors and the ability to engage hFc $\gamma$ R1IIIA,  
445 suggests a potential mechanism of action in patients with Tregs the primary target for  
446 depletion.

447

448

## 449 **Discussion**

450 In agreement with previous reports, we showed that anti-mOX40 monotherapy could  
451 be efficacious in several mouse tumor models. When mouse IgG isotypes were  
452 examined, our results were consistent with those targeting other TNFRSF members

453 (16, 39, 48), namely that mIgG1 was agonistic, acting directly on CD8+OT-I+ T cells  
454 whilst mIgG2a acted indirectly, most likely through depletion of Tregs. Fc $\gamma$ R KO mice  
455 studies supported this hypothesis, with anti-OX40 mIgG2a activity and Treg depletion  
456 requiring the presence of the  $\gamma$  chain (activating Fc $\gamma$ R), whilst loss of the Fc $\gamma$ RIIB had  
457 no impact. In contrast, for anti-OX40 mIgG1 loss of both inhibitory and activating  
458 Fc $\gamma$ R had an impact. The loss of the crosslinking activity of the Fc $\gamma$ RIIB was predicted  
459 to impact the CD8+OT-I+ T cell expansion (39-41), however the reduction in the  
460 expansion in the  $\gamma$  chain KO strain was unexpected. Whilst activating Fc $\gamma$ R are  
461 typically considered to recruit effector immune cells with a depleting capacity, it is  
462 possible they could also provide crosslinking. The principal ability of all Fc $\gamma$ R to  
463 evoke mAb:receptor cross-linking has been shown previously, with the reliance on  
464 Fc $\gamma$ RIIB thought to reflect amenable expression patterns and location (49, 50). The  
465 mIgG1 primarily interacts with mFc $\gamma$ RIIB and mFc $\gamma$ RIII, both of which are low affinity  
466 receptors (51, 52) and so it is possible that on cells that lack the high affinity Fc $\gamma$ RI,  
467 such as NK cells and neutrophils, these low affinity receptors combine to provide  
468 crosslinking. In the  $\gamma$  chain KO mice the mFc $\gamma$ RIII component is lost, resulting in  
469 crosslinking from only Fc $\gamma$ RIIB and hence a potential reduction in expansion. These  
470 data are surprising given that the same observation was not made for CD40 (41) or  
471 4-1BB in tumor models (39) but this may be reflective of OX40's requirement for  
472 higher order oligomerisation for signalling whilst CD40, at least, has been suggested  
473 to pre-exist in low order oligomerisation (28, 53) and so may require lower levels of  
474 crosslinking. Alternatively, it may reflect that activating Fc $\gamma$ R deliver additional signals  
475 into important immune cells (such as DC), serving to boost immune responses, as  
476 proposed previously (54, 55).

477 Expanding this analysis into the E.G7-OVA tumor model, we showed that for  
478 GSK3174998 antibodies, a mIgG1 isotype provides greater efficacy than mIgG2a.  
479 Whilst this may suggest that direct CD8 activation would be the more effective

480 mechanism in this model, previous studies with a panel of antibodies against hOX40  
481 had not shown this isotype preference (16), indicating a potential epitope  
482 dependence.

483

484 To explore more clinically relevant settings, hIgG isotypes of GSK3174998 and their  
485 potential mechanisms of action were also explored. The hIgG1 variant resulted in the  
486 greatest expansion of CD8+OT-I+ T cells > hIgG2 and hIgG4, whilst also causing  
487 Treg loss. Further studies showed that as with the mIgG1, the hIgG1 variant was  
488 capable of acting directly on CD8+OT-I+ T cells, albeit more modestly than the  
489 mIgG1, suggesting that hIgG1 can act via both direct agonism and depletion of  
490 Tregs. Experiments in the Fc $\gamma$ R KO mice supported this hypothesis as both the loss  
491 of the activating Fc $\gamma$ R ( $\gamma$  chain KO) and Fc $\gamma$ RIIB impacted the ability of the hIgG1 to  
492 expand CD8+OT-I+ T cells. Extending this analysis to the E.G7 tumor model, the  
493 hIgG1 isotype (GSK3174998) was again more effective than hIgG2 and hIgG4.  
494 Whilst the hIgG1 showed similar attributes to both the mIgG1 (in terms of efficacy  
495 and mechanism) and mIgG2a (Treg depletion) it is important to note that in terms of  
496 Fc $\gamma$ R engagement, structure and Fc $\gamma$ R independent functions there are no direct  
497 homologues between mouse and human IgG (51) and hence it can deliver both  
498 deletion and agonism unlike the mouse isotypes. Perhaps slightly more surprising is  
499 the lack of efficacy with the hIgG2. hIgG2 antibodies have been shown capable of  
500 evoking powerful target receptor agonism in an Fc $\gamma$ R independent manner (reviewed  
501 in (56)) when targeting various TNFR, due to the unique hinge of hIgG2 (57).  
502 However, this effect is not seen in all antibodies; for example, the anti-4-1BB mAb  
503 Urelumab but not Utomilumab is rendered more agonistic as a hIgG2 than a hIgG1  
504 (58). Thus, it suggests that GSK3174998 may be more in line with Utomilumab in  
505 that isotype switching to hIgG2 does not render it more agonistic and hence delivers  
506 a less impressive impact both in OT-I expansion and efficacy in the E.G7 tumour

507 model than anticipated. Another interesting point is that despite showing properties  
508 similar to the mIgG1, the hIgG1 never performed as well as the mIgG1 in the E.G7  
509 model (28% vs 47% long-term survivors, respectively). One possible explanation is  
510 the use of a human isotype engaging mouse Fc $\gamma$ R; however, human isotypes,  
511 including hIgG1, have been shown to interact with mouse Fc $\gamma$ R effectively to elicit  
512 cell depletion (52). Another possibility is that the capacity for engaging both activating  
513 and inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R results in competition for effector mechanisms which is  
514 detrimental to overall efficacy. As our knowledge of the interaction between hIgG and  
515 Fc $\gamma$ R continues to increase, new mutations are being introduced into hIgG with the  
516 aim of increasing or decreasing affinity for different Fc $\gamma$ R. Campos Carrascosa et al.  
517 recently showed that an engineered anti-OX40 hIgG1-V12 mAb with increased  
518 binding to hFc $\gamma$ RIIB resulted in increased TIL proliferation compared with the WT  
519 hIgG1 antibody (28). Whilst this approach looks promising, the availability of Fc $\gamma$ R in  
520 the tumor microenvironment in different cancers will presumably prove crucial in  
521 determining whether increasing affinity for the inhibitory receptor is a fruitful line of  
522 development. Indeed, whilst our data suggests that the hIgG1 isotype should be the  
523 preferred isotype to take to the clinic, anti-OX40 hIgG1 mAb have shown limited  
524 efficacy in the clinic to date (26, 59-61). There are several potential explanations for  
525 this lack of translation from preclinical models including 1) the relatively lower  
526 cytotoxicity potential of hIgG1 vs mIgG2a; 2) the higher affinity of hIgG1 for the  
527 human inhibitory receptor; 3) the upregulation of Fc $\gamma$ RIIB in human tumours (62) and  
528 4) the relative paucity of Treg in human cancers versus murine models. Therefore, it  
529 maybe that OX40 hIgG1 would only be capable of having clinical impact in tumours  
530 where Treg were 1) prevalent, 2) the main mechanism limiting immune response and  
531 3) capable of deletion due to a permissive Fc $\gamma$ R expression pattern. It has already  
532 been questioned whether Treg prevalence in many human tumours is sufficient to act  
533 as an effective immunomodulatory target (63) and whether anti-CTLA-4 mAb operate

534 through Treg deletion in humans (64) despite abundant and clear evidence in mouse  
535 models (including with human Fc $\gamma$ R expressing mice) (45, 65). To evaluate this and  
536 deliver clinical benefit, it may be necessary to biopsy for sufficient Treg presence and  
537 amenable Fc $\gamma$ R expression patterns in patients and optimise the OX40 mAb Fc for  
538 higher A:I ratio, through targeted mutations and/or glycoengineering (66).

539 In considering these aspects, a limitation of our study is that the pre-clinical mouse  
540 models do not fully recapitulate the human Fc $\gamma$ R expression profile seen in human  
541 tumours. A further limitation of our study is that it utilises a chimeric  
542 human:mouse OX40 model. Whilst we have previously shown that the hOX40KI  
543 model does broadly mimic expression patterns of human OX40 (16), it more closely  
544 reflects the expression pattern of mouse OX40 and moreover, does not contain the  
545 human signalling domain and machinery, leading to potential differences to those  
546 observed in the clinic.

547 As introduced above, one of the strategies being explored in the clinic is the  
548 combination of anti-OX40 with anti-PD-1. In line with other pre-clinical studies  
549 combining PD-1/PD-L1 axis blockade with anti-OX40 mAb (22, 34), we were able to  
550 show improved therapy in both the CT26 and E.G7-OVA models (Fig 2F, 5G and H).  
551 Furthermore, this combination increased IFN $\gamma$  and TNF $\alpha$  production from healthy  
552 human donor cells (Supp Fig 6 A and B). Despite this, and a body of supportive pre-  
553 clinical data, results from clinical trials indicate this combination will not be  
554 transformative in patients (21, 26). One possibility is that further understanding of  
555 dosage/scheduling is needed for the pre-clinical efficacy to be translated into the  
556 clinic. Different pre-clinical models have shown conflicting data as to whether  
557 concurrent treatment with anti-PD-1 and anti-OX40 is beneficial or detrimental (22-  
558 24, 34). Wang et al. investigated this based on responses to BMS-986178 in patients  
559 and comparison with their surrogate antibody OX40.23 in the CT26 model and  
560 showed that OX40 expression was lost following high receptor occupancy (25).

561 Through modelling, they suggested that there may be a need for adjusting dosing  
562 and scheduling to achieve lower occupancy than is desired traditionally when using  
563 receptor-blocking entities such as checkpoint inhibitors.

564

565 Another consideration, especially when developing combinations of antibodies is the  
566 competition for Fc $\gamma$ R. Here, we showed that anti-OX40 requires multiple Fc $\gamma$ R for its  
567 maximal immune stimulating properties (both in vivo and in vitro using hPBMCs), and  
568 whilst we did not directly investigate the Fc $\gamma$ R requirement for the anti-PD-1, others  
569 have previously shown that Fc $\gamma$ R engagement impacts the efficacy of anti-PD-1 mAb  
570 (29-31). Therefore, there is a possibility that competition for Fc $\gamma$ R between the two  
571 mAbs could limit the combinatorial impact. Anti-PD-1 mAbs in the clinic are mostly  
572 hIgG4, selected for reduced capacity for Fc $\gamma$ R engagement, however they retain  
573 appreciable affinity for Fc $\gamma$ RI (51, 52), which likely limits their efficacy. Indeed  
574 Moreno-Vicente et al recently compared anti-PD-1 hIgG4 and anti-PD-1 hIgG4 FALA  
575 (Fc null) mAbs in mice expressing hFc $\gamma$ R, showing the Fc null variant gave enhanced  
576 effects (30). Although the immune context during immunisation clearly differs from  
577 that in a tumor model, or cancer patient, this aspect of competition for Fc $\gamma$ R  
578 engagement should be more widely explored.

579

580 Whilst our data agrees with the concept that targeting OX40 and particularly the  
581 combination with checkpoint blockade could be a therapeutic option, clearly more is  
582 still needed for this to be translated successfully to the clinic. A greater understanding  
583 of what is needed for OX40 therapies to work in pre-clinical models and the  
584 difference between those models where treatment fails or succeeds, may provide the  
585 insight to deliver favourable outcome in patients. Similarly, lessons from the clinic in  
586 terms of Fc $\gamma$ R profiles, cellular compositions and spatial arrangements in conjunction

587 with biomarkers for underpinning immune mechanisms, in relation to varying dose,  
588 will help inform how to develop more effective strategies targeting OX40 in the future.

589

## 590 **Material and Methods**

591 Primary human samples

592 hPBMCs were obtained from whole blood following centrifugation through a density  
593 gradient medium. Surgically resected cancer patient tumor tissues were obtained  
594 from Avaden Biosciences (Seattle), shipped overnight. Fresh tumors were  
595 dissociated immediately upon arrival, and within 24 hours of surgical resection using  
596 GentleMacs Human Tumor Dissociation kit (Miltenyi Cat. #130-095-929). Baseline  
597 immune phenotyping occurred immediately upon tumor dissociation.

598

599 Mice

600 C57BL/6, BALB/C and OT-I mice were obtained from Charles River Laboratories or  
601 Envigo. hOX40KI were generated by Ozgene (16). hOX40KI/OT-I mice were  
602 generated in house. Young adult mice were sex- and age-matched and randomly  
603 assigned to experimental groups. Experiments were not blinded.

604

605 Antibody Production

606 Anti-hOX40 mAb was produced as previously described (13). Isotype switching was  
607 performed by cloning V regions into mammalian expression vectors encoding mIgG1,  
608 mIgG2a, hIgG1, hIgG2 or hIgG4 (S228P L235E to minimise hIgG4 Fab arm  
609 exchange) constant regions. Antibodies were expressed by transient transfection of  
610 HEK293 cells and purified from supernatants by protein A affinity chromatography  
611 using MabSelect SuRE columns (GE Healthcare) followed by size exclusion  
612 chromatography (SEC) using Superdex 26/60 200 SEC columns (GE Healthcare).  
613 All preparations were filter sterilised (0.2 µM) and endotoxin low (<2 EU/mg protein).

614



615 ADCC reporter assays

616 PBMCs from healthy human donors were cultured for 42 hours  $\pm$  human T activator  
617 CD3/CD28 Dynabeads (Gibco). CD4<sup>+</sup> T effector and Treg cells were isolated with  
618 the EasySep Human CD4<sup>+</sup>CD127<sup>low</sup>CD25<sup>+</sup> Regulatory T cell Isolation kit (Stemcell)  
619 and CD8 T cells with Dynabeads CD8 Positive Isolation Kit (Invitrogen). These cells  
620 were treated with anti-hOX40 antibodies or isotype controls and used as targets in  
621 the ADCC Reporter Bioassay kit (Promega) at a 1:6 ratio, incubated at 37°C for 6  
622 hours. Luminescence was read using an Envision plate reader.

623

624 OX40 Receptor density determination

625 Quantification of OX40 levels was assessed using PE-labelled GSK3174998 with BD  
626 QuantiBrite beads (BD Biosciences) via flow cytometry. Spearman correlation  
627 coefficients and two tailed t-tests were calculated in GraphPad Prism using the total  
628 OX40 receptor values and the fold induction obtained for each cell type.

629

630 Flow cytometry

631 Flow cytometry antibodies are listed in Table 1. Intracellular staining was performed  
632 using Foxp3 staining buffer kit (ThermoFisher-eBioscience) or Transcription Factor  
633 Buffer set (BD Biosciences) according to the manufacturer's protocol. All flow  
634 cytometry experiments were performed on either a FACSCanto II or Fortessa (BD  
635 Bioscience). Data analysed using FACSDiva (BD Bioscience) or FlowJo (BD  
636 Bioscience).

637

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642

Target	Clone	Company
mCD8a	53-6.7	ThermoFisher-eBioscience
mCD4	GK1.5	ThermoFisher-eBioscience
mCD3	145-2C11	ThermoFisher-eBioscience
mFoxp3	FJK-16s	ThermoFisher-eBioscience
mCD62L	MEL-14	ThermoFisher-eBioscience
mCD44	IM7	ThermoFisher-eBioscience
H-2K <sup>b</sup> /SIINFEKL tetramer		Southampton University
isotypes		Corresponding companies
hCD4	RPA-T4	BD-Biosciences
hCD8	RPA-T8	BioLegend
hFoxP3	PCH101	eBioscience
hCD25	BC96	BioLegend
hOX40	ACT-35	eBioscience

643 Table 1. – Flow cytometry antibodies used.

644

645 OT-I Adoptive Transfer

646  $1 \times 10^5$  hOX40 KI<sup>+/-</sup> OT-I cells were injected i.v. into hOX40 KI<sup>+/+</sup> or WT C57BL/6 mice.

647 24 hours later 5mg ovalbumin (Sigma) and 100 $\mu$ g anti-hOX40 or isotype control were

648 given i.p. Splenic analysis was performed by harvesting spleens day 4 post i.p. OT-I

649 kinetics were monitored in the blood through SIINFEKL tetramer staining and mice

650 were rechallenged 6-10 weeks later with 30 nM SIINFEKL (PeptideSynthetics) i.v.

651 once the memory T cell population had contracted to less than 1% of the single cell

652 population. Mice with SIINFEKL tetramer responses <1% of CD8+ lymphocytes at

653 the peak of the response were excluded due to the likelihood that OT-I transfer had

654 failed since isotype controls peak at an average 5.2% +/- 0.58 s.e.m. (mIgG1) and

655 4.65% +/- 0.65 s.e.m. (mIgG2a) in blood and 3.8% +/- 0.79 s.e.m (mIgG1) and 3.1%

656 +/- 0.89 on day 4 in spleens. Exclusions based on these criteria are indicated in

657 Figure Legends.

658

659 Tumor Models

660 CT26:  $5 \times 10^4$  CT26 (ATCC: CRL-2638) mouse colon carcinoma cells were inoculated

661 subcutaneously into the flank of BALB/C mice. Palpable tumors were measured

662 using callipers with tumor volume calculated using  $(L \times W \times H)/2$  or  $0.52 \times \text{Length} \times$

663 Width<sup>2</sup>. Mice (n = 7–13/treatment group) were randomized when tumors reached  
664 approximately 100–150 mm<sup>3</sup> and treated with anti-mOX40 rat (r)IgG1 (clone OX86,  
665 BioXCell BE0031), anti-mPD-1 rIgG2a (clone RPM1-14, BioXCell BE0146) or their  
666 respective isotype controls, rIgG1 (clone HRPN, BioXCell BE0088) or rIgG2a (clone  
667 2A3, BioXCell BE0089). Antibodies were given i.p. twice/week starting on  
668 randomization day for a total of 6 doses for efficacy studies or up to 3 doses for  
669 pharmacodynamic studies. In combination experiments with CT26, antibodies were  
670 dosed concurrently. Mice were removed from the study when maximal tumour size  
671 was reached (either 2,000 or 4000 mm<sup>3</sup>, depending on study site). Mice were also  
672 removed due to weight loss (> 20%), ulceration or tumor necrosis, or any obvious  
673 inhibition of normal mouse activity.

674

675 E.G7-OVA: 5x10<sup>5</sup> E.G7-OVA cells were injected subcutaneously into the flank of  
676 hOX40KI<sup>+/+</sup> mice. Based on preliminary experiments n = 5 was determined as  
677 sufficient to see a p < 0.05 for tumor therapy. Groups of 8 mice were inoculated to  
678 ensure a minimum of 5/group with established tumors with comparable size (between  
679 5x5 and 8x8 mm) for treatment. Mice were then ranked according to tumor size and  
680 assigned to treatments groups so that average tumor size per group was equivalent.  
681 This ensured mixed treatment groups within cages to reduce the influence of housing  
682 on treatment effect. Mice received 3 x 100 µg anti-hOX40 mAb or isotype i.p. every  
683 3rd day. Mice were culled once they reached humane endpoint (20 x 20 mm) or end  
684 of experiment if long-term survivors. Mice which eradicated tumor after treatment  
685 were rechallenged with 5x10<sup>5</sup> E.G7-OVA s.c. into the flank. Combination experiments  
686 of anti-OX40 hIgG1 (100 µg) and anti-PD-1 rIgG2a (250 µg; clone RPM1-14,  
687 BioXCell BE0146) were performed as outlined in Fig 5F.

688

689 Pharmacodynamic studies

690 Mouse pharmacodynamic studies were performed in A20 or CT26 mouse models  
691 following monotherapy or combination treatment. In monotherapy studies, animals  
692 were dosed with 100µg rIgG1 or anti-mOX40 rIgG1 (OX86) once or twice a week and  
693 harvested 48 hours following the third dose. In combination studies, mice were  
694 randomized into five groups receiving vehicle, isotype control (rIgG1 100 µg + rIgG2a  
695 200 µg), anti-mOX40 (OX86 100 µg +rIgG2a 200 µg), anti-PD-1 (PD-1 200 µg +  
696 rIgG1 100 µg) or anti-mOX40 and anti-PD-1 (OX86 100 µg +PD-1 200 µg). Mice  
697 were dosed twice a week on day 0, 3 and 7 and blood and tumor harvested on day 3,  
698 7 and 10 following the first dose equating to 1, 2 and 3 doses, respectively. Tumor  
699 samples collected were subjected to dissociation using Miltenyi Tumor Dissociation  
700 Kit cocktail (Miltenyi Biotec, Cat#130-096-730) for 40 minutes at 37°C. After  
701 digestion, and filtration,  $1 \times 10^5$  cells were pre-blocked where necessary with human or  
702 mouse Fc block (Miltenyi Biotec) and stained with detection antibodies.

703

#### 704 Statistics

705 All results show mean  $\pm$  standard error of the mean (SEM). One way Anova with  
706 multiple comparisons (Dunnett's, Tukey's or Sidak's as stated in legend) or Mann  
707 Whitney tests were used as stated in legends, performed using GraphPad Prism.  
708 Survival curves were evaluated using a Log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test. Significance  
709 shown relative to isotype control unless bar is shown. Where indicated ns = not  
710 significant, \*  $p \leq 0.05$ , \*\*  $p \leq 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p \leq 0.001$ , \*\*\*\*  $p \leq 0.0001$ .

711

#### 712 **Declarations**

#### 713 **Ethics Approval**

714 All studies were conducted in accordance with the GSK Policy on the Care, Welfare  
715 and Treatment of Laboratory Animals and were reviewed by the Institutional Animal  
716 Care and Use Committee either at GSK or by the ethical review process at the

717 institution where the work was performed. Studies performed at the University of  
718 Southampton were conducted in accordance with UK Home Office guidelines, under  
719 PPL P4D9C89EA and were additionally approved by the University of Southampton's  
720 AWERB committee.

721 Human biological samples were sourced ethically and used in accordance with  
722 informed consent. Patient material was obtained with the appropriate informed  
723 consent in accordance with the GSK human biological sample management policy  
724 and standard operating procedure. Healthy blood for PBMC obtained from GSK:  
725 Quorum (Advarra) Protocol #24109QMR/3. Tumour samples for the TILs were  
726 brought from Avaden Bio.

727

#### 728 **Availability of Data and Material**

729 All datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the  
730 corresponding author on reasonable request.

731

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736

#### 737 **Author contributions**

738 JW, LD, KC, TM, SB, HJ, DK, HS, PB, J, LB, KV and LSW performed experiments.  
739 JW, LD, SB, HJ, DK, HS, PB, J, LB, KV and LSW performed statistical analyses. MJ,  
740 VE, TI, CP, HN, AS, SH, and LH provided technical support, reagent generation and  
741 QC. JW, LD, SB, HJ, DK, HS, PB, J, LSW, PM, SB, NY and MSC designed  
742 experiments. JW, RS, JS, AH, EP, SM, SB, PM, NY and MSC provided concept

743 leadership. JW, PM, NY and MSC wrote the manuscript. All authors contributed to  
744 manuscript revision and read and approved the submitted version.

745

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748

#### 749 **Conflict of interest**

750 MSC is a retained consultant for BioInvent International and has performed  
751 educational and advisory roles for Baxalta and Boehringer Ingelheim. He has  
752 consulted for GSK, Radiant, iTeos Therapeutics, Surrozen, Hanall and Mestag and  
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754 LSW, DK, HS, PB, JJ, HN, AS, LH, SH, SB, RS, JS, AH, EP, SM, PM and NY are (or  
755 were at the time the work was conducted) employees of GSK.

756

#### 757 **Figure Legends**

758 Figure 1. anti-mOX40 rIgG1 mAb results in an activated immune response in CT26  
759 syngeneic tumor models. A. Schematic of mice challenged with  $5 \times 10^5$  CT26 tumor  
760 cells and subsequent treatment with either isotype control or anti-mOX40 (OX86)  
761 mAb (100  $\mu$ g) twice weekly. B. Growth curves of mice challenged with CT26 cells  
762 and treated as depicted in A; n = 10 (similar trends observed in multiple studies). C.  
763 Mice inoculated with  $5 \times 10^5$  CT26 tumor cells were harvested 10 days post initial  
764 treatment with TILs assessed by flow cytometry for CD45+CD3+ (left panel), CD8+  
765 (left middle panel), CD8+IFN $\gamma$ + (right middle panel) and CD8+CXCR5+ (right panel).  
766 N = 7 isotype control and n = 5 for anti-mOX40, one experiment. D. Mice inoculated  
767 with  $5 \times 10^5$  CT26 tumor cells 7 days post treatment with indicated doses of anti-  
768 OX40. Spleens (left panel) and tumor (right panel) were harvested and assessed for  
769 TCR repertoire clonality; n = 3 except the combined group of isotype and untreated

770 where n=6, one experiment. E. Analysis of the overlap of TCR CDR3 clones between  
771 spleen and tumor analysed in D; n = 3 except the combined group of isotype and  
772 untreated where n = 6, one experiment. F. Survival curves of mice challenged with  
773  $5 \times 10^5$  CT26 SC and treated with either anti-mOX40 (100  $\mu$ g), anti PD-1 (200  $\mu$ g) or  
774 combination of anti-mOX40 and anti-PD-1 dosed as outlined in A. n = 10 for isotype,  
775 anti-mOX40 and anti-PD-1, n = 20 for anti-mOX40 + anti-PD-1. Similar trends were  
776 observed in multiple studies. G-H TILs harvested on Day 10 and immunophenotyped  
777 for Treg (G – left panel), CD8:Treg ratio (G right panel) and effector memory cells  
778 (CD62L low CD44 high) (H). n = 5, one experiment. I. TCR repertoire clonality  
779 analysis for blood (left panel) and tumor (right panel) from CT26-bearing mice  
780 harvested on Day 15; n = 7, except for tumor sample treated with anti-PD-1 where n  
781 = 6, one experiment. J. Analysis of the overlap of TCR CDR3 clones between blood  
782 and tumor. N = 7, one experiment \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\*\* p < 0.001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p <  
783 0.05 Mean +/- SEM B. Sidak's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA, C & E –  
784 unpaired T-Test, D-E - Dunnet's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA, F- Log-rank  
785 test, G-J – Tukey's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA

786

787 Figure 2. anti-hOX40 mIgG1 and mIgG2a mAb are costimulatory in the OT-  
788 I/hOX40KI model. A. Schematic of the experimental model; hOX40<sup>het</sup> OT-I cells are  
789 transferred into hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice, immunized with OVA in the presence of anti-  
790 hOX40 mAb and various cells measured by flow cytometry before recall stimulation  
791 with SIINFEKL. B. Expansion of tetramer positive OT-I cells in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  
792 recipients. Isotype mIgG1, anti-hOX40 mIgG1 and anti-hOX40 mIgG2a n = 4, Isotype  
793 mIgG2a n = 3, representative of two independent experiments. Numeration of OT-I  
794 (C) and Treg (D) cells in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> spleens harvested on Day 4 pooled from six  
795 independent experiments. Isotype mIgG1 and anti-hOX40 mIgG1 n = 21, isotype  
796 mIgG2a and anti-hOX40 mIgG2a n = 20, two mice per group were excluded due to  
797 no OT-I response. E. Treg fold induction pooled from six independent experiments

798 anti-hOX40 mlgG1 n = 21 and anti-hOX40 mlgG2a n = 20. F. As in A except  
799 hOX40<sup>het</sup> OT-I purified CD8+ T cells transferred in WT C57BL/6 recipients, n = 4,  
800 representative of two independent experiments. C-E analyzed as one-way ANOVA,  
801 Sidak's multiple comparison. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean +/- SEM.

802

803 Figure 3. Anti-hOX40 mlgG1 mAb requires both activating and inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R for  
804 activity. hOX40<sup>het</sup> OT-I cells were transferred into transferred into hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>,  
805 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO or hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice and then immunized as in  
806 Figure 2A. A. Response to anti-hOX40 mlgG1 (left panel) or anti-hOX40 mlgG2a  
807 (right panel) n = 4 except isotype mlgG2a in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> where n = 5. One mouse  
808 was excluded from anti-hOX40 mlgG1 in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> recipients due to a lack of OT-I  
809 response hence n = 4. Representative of two independent experiments. B. Peak OT-I  
810 responses in blood from hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO recipients n = 5  
811 except Isotype mlgG1 in both hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO where n = 4.  
812 One of two independent experiments. Splenic analysis of OT-I (C) and CD4+Foxp3+  
813 (D) T cells on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. N = 4 except  
814 for anti-hOX40 mlgG2a in hOX40KI where n =3. One mouse excluded in isotype  
815 mlgG2a group in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> due to lack of staining hence n = 3. Representative of  
816 two independent experiments. E. OT-I kinetic responses in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and  
817 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIBKO mice in response to anti-hOX40 mlgG1 (left panel) or anti-  
818 hOX40 mlgG2a (right panel) n = 4 except Isotype mlgG1 in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and Isotype  
819 mlgG2a in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice where n = 3. Representative of two  
820 independent experiments. F-H. Splenic analysis of OT-I (F) and CD4+Foxp3+ (G) T  
821 cells on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. N = 3 for all  
822 hOX40KI recipient groups, n = 4 for all hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO except for anti-  
823 hOX40 mlgG1 and anti-hOX40 mlgG2a treated groups where one mouse was  
824 excluded as due to lack of OT-I response hence n = 3. 1 of 2 independent



825 experiments. H. Treg fold induction pooled from two independent experiments, n = 7  
826 for hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> anti-hOX40 mlgG1 and mlgG2a, n = 6 for hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO  
827 anti-hOX40 mlgG1 and mlgG2a. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\*\* p < 0.001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p <  
828 0.05 Mean +/- SEM B-D, and F&G – One-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple  
829 comparison.

830

831 Figure 4. anti-hOX40 hlgG1 mAb activity requires both activating and inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R.  
832 hOX40<sup>het</sup> OT-I cells were transferred into hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO or  
833 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice and then immunized as in Figure 2A. A. OT-I kinetic  
834 responses in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> recipients in response to challenge with anti-hOX40 hlgG1,  
835 hlgG2 and hlgG4 (solid lines) or isotype controls (dashed lines) n = 3 except for  
836 Isotype hlgG4 where n = 2 due to sick mouse being culled at start of experiment.  
837 Representative of two independent experiments. Splenic analysis of OT-I (B) and  
838 CD4+Foxp3+ (C) T cells on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge.  
839 Isotype and anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 6, isotype hlgG2, anti-hOX40 hlgG2 and anti-  
840 hOX40 hlgG4 n = 5 and Isotype hlgG4 n = 4. Representative of two (B) and three (C)  
841 independent experiments. D. As in A except hOX40<sup>het</sup> OT-I purified CD8+ T cells  
842 transferred in WT C57BL/6 recipients. OT-I kinetic responses in WT recipients in  
843 response to challenge with anti-hOX40 hlgG1, hlgG2 and hlgG4 (solid lines) or  
844 isotype controls (dashed lines) Isotype and anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 5, isotype and anti-  
845 hOX40 hlgG2 n = 4, isotype and anti-hOX40 hlgG4 n = 3. Representative of two  
846 independent experiments. E. OT-I kinetic responses in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  
847  $\gamma$  chain KO mice in response to anti-hOX40 hlgG1, isotype hlgG1 n = 4, anti-hOX40  
848 hlgG1 n = 3 due to one mouse excluded based on lack of OT-I response,  
849 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO Isotype hlgG1 n = 5, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO anti-hOX40  
850 hlgG1 n = 4. Representative of two independent experiments. F. Splenic analysis of  
851 OT-I T cells on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>

852 Isotype hlgG1, anti-hOX40 hlgG1 and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO isotype hlgG1 n = 4,  
853 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 5. G. Splenic analysis of CD4+Foxp3+  
854 T cell fold change relative to Isotype control on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody  
855 (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 14, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  $\gamma$  chain KO  
856 anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 14. H. OT-I kinetic responses in hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  
857 Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO mice in response to OVA and anti-OX40 hlgG1. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> - isotype  
858 hlgG1 n = 16, OX40 hlgG1 n = 12 due to four mice being excluded based on lack of  
859 response. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO - isotype hlgG1 n = 19, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO  
860 anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 15 due to four mice being excluded based on lack of  
861 response. Pooled from four independent experiments. I. Blood analysis of OT-I T  
862 cells on Day 40 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  
863 isotype hlgG1 n = 12, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 10 due to two mice being  
864 excluded due to lack of response, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO isotype hlgG1 n = 15 and  
865 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 13 due to two mice being excluded  
866 due to a lack of response, data pooled from three independent experiments. J.  
867 Splenic analysis of OT-I T cells on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g)  
868 challenge. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Isotype hlgG1 and anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 4, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup>  
869 Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO isotype hlgG1 and Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 5. K. Splenic  
870 analysis of CD4+Foxp3+ T cell numbers on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody  
871 (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Isotype hlgG1 n = 4, anti-hOX40 hlgG1 n = 6,  
872 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO isotype hlgG1 n = 4 and hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO anti-  
873 hOX40 hlgG1 n = 6. L. Splenic analysis of CD4+Foxp3+ T cell fold change relative to  
874 isotype control on Day 4 post OVA (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge.  
875 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> n = 10, hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO n = 11 data pooled from two  
876 independent experiments. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean +/- SEM B-C,  
877 F & J- Sidak's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA, G - unpaired T-Test, I -  
878 Tukey's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA

879

880 Figure 5. Combination of anti-hOX40 and anti-PD-1 is more efficacious than  
881 monotherapy. A. Schematic of treatment regime used in B-D. B. Growth curves of  
882 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice inoculated with  $0.5 \times 10^6$  E.G7-OVA S.C. and then treated with 100  
883  $\mu\text{g}$  anti-hOX40 mIgG1 or mIgG2a or respective isotype controls on Day 10, 13, 16. N  
884 = 9 representative of three independent experiments. C. Survival graph of  
885 hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice challenged as in B. Isotype mIgG1 n = 21, isotype mIgG2a n = 20,  
886 anti-hOX40 mIgG1 n = 19 and anti-hOX40 mIgG2a n = 19 pooled from three  
887 independent experiments. D. Growth curves of hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice inoculated with  
888  $0.5 \times 10^6$  E.G7-OVA S.C. and then treated with 100  $\mu\text{g}$  anti-hOX40 hIgG1, hIgG2 or  
889 hIgG4 or respective isotype controls on Day 10, 13, 16. Isotype hIgG1 n = 4, isotype  
890 hIgG2 n = 7, isotype hIgG4 n = 6, anti-hOX40 hIgG1 n = 7, anti-hOX40 hIgG2 n = 5  
891 and anti-hOX40 hIgG4 n = 6, representative of two independent experiments. E.  
892 Survival graph of hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice challenged as in D. Isotype hIgG1 n = 8, isotype  
893 hIgG2 n = 12, isotype hIgG4 n = 11, anti-hOX40 hIgG1 n = 14, anti-hOX40 hIgG2 n  
894 = 10 and anti-hOX40 hIgG4 n = 12 pooled from two independent experiments. F.  
895 Schematic of E.G7-OVA tumors treated with anti-OX40 and anti-PD-1. G. Growth  
896 curves of hOX40KI<sup>hom</sup> mice inoculated with  $0.5 \times 10^6$  E.G7-OVA S.C. and then treated  
897 as detailed in F. Isotype combination n = 8, anti-hOX40 hIgG1 n = 8, anti-PD-1  
898 rIgG2a n = 8 and anti-hOX40 hIgG1 + anti-PD-1 rIgG2a n = 7, representative of two  
899 independent experiments. H. Survival plots of hOX40KI mice challenged as in F.  
900 Isotype combination n = 15, anti-hOX40 hIgG1 n = 14, anti-PD-1 rIgG2a n = 14 and  
901 OX40 hIgG1 + anti-PD-1 rIgG2a n = 13. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean  
902 +/- SEM B - Sidak's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA on day 52 related to  
903 isotype control, C, E and H – log-rank test.

904

905 Figure 6. anti-hOX40 and anti-PD-1 combination increases cytokine production from  
906 hPBMC cultures. A. Resected tumor samples were analyzed for CD4, CD8 and Treg  
907 populations n = 45 for CD4 and CD8 and n = 39 for Treg. B. hOX40 expression on  
908 resected tumor samples on CD4+ effectors, Tregs and CD8+ T cells, n = 12. C.  
909 hOX40 receptor density on resected tumor samples was determined using  
910 BDBioscience Quantibrite beads n = 13. D. Analysis of total OX40 receptor  
911 numbers/cell in healthy donor (filled circles) and patient (open circles) PBMCs  
912 activated for 2 days with anti-CD3/anti-CD28 beads n = 10. E. Fold induction of  
913 Fc $\gamma$ RIII ADCC following healthy (filled circles) and patient (open circles) PBMCs  
914 activation for 2 days with anti-CD3/anti-CD28 beads, separation into cell type and  
915 then incubated with 10  $\mu$ g/ml anti-OX40 (GSK3174998), n = 10. F Correlation of total  
916 hOX40 receptor numbers (as determined by numbers of hOX40 receptors per cell x  
917 % hOX40+ cells) with ADCC fold induction in response to anti-hOX40 treatment of  
918 cells isolated from healthy and patient donors activated as in D & E. n = 10. \*\*\*\* p <  
919 0.0001, \*\*\* p < 0.001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean +/- SEM B-E – Tukey's multiple  
920 comparison one-way ANOVA F - Pearson correlation.

921

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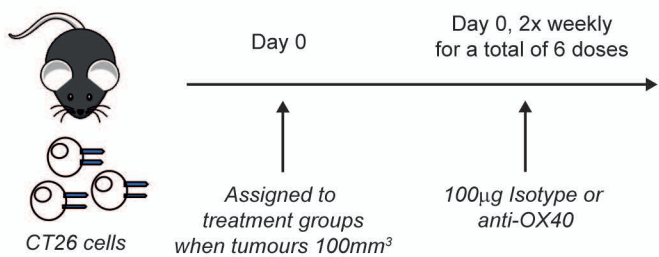
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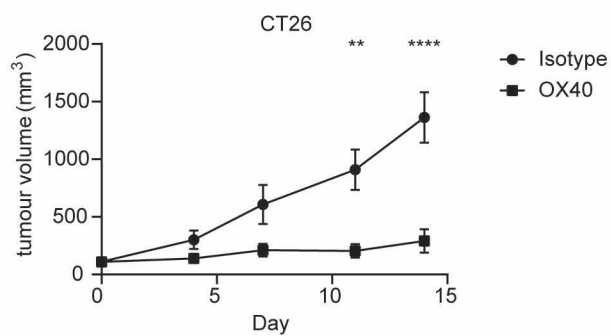
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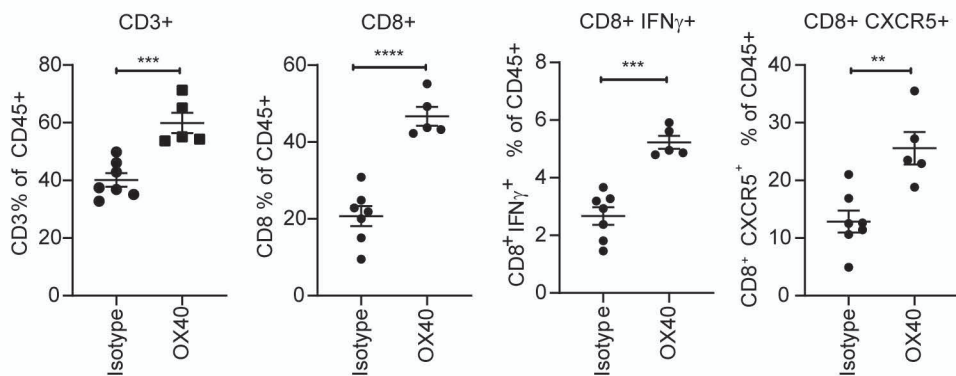
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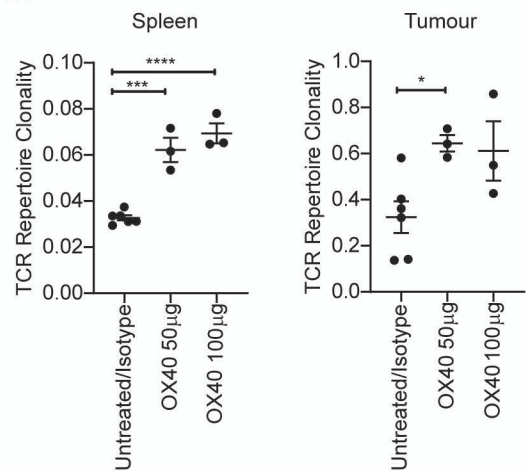
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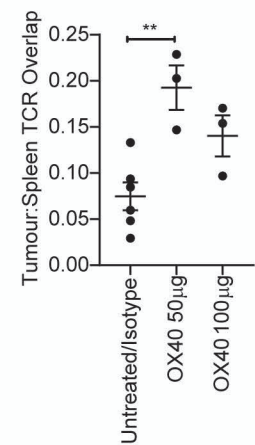
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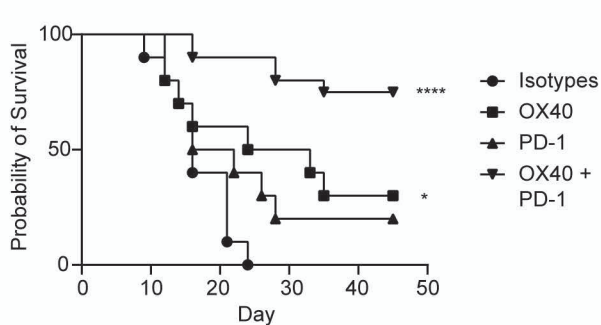
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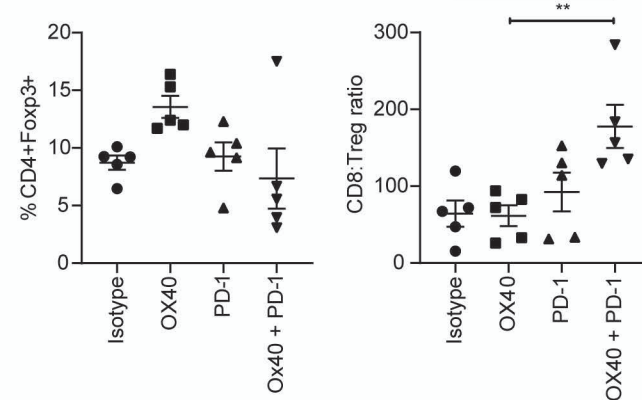
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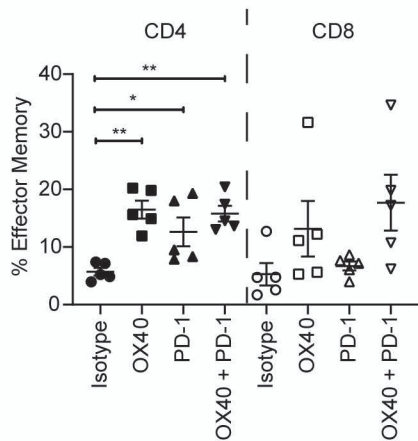
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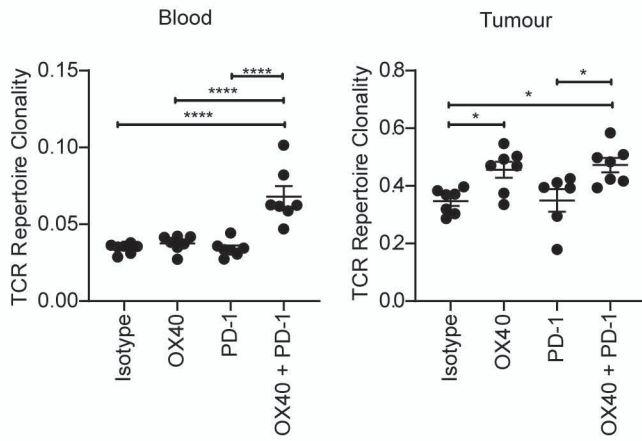
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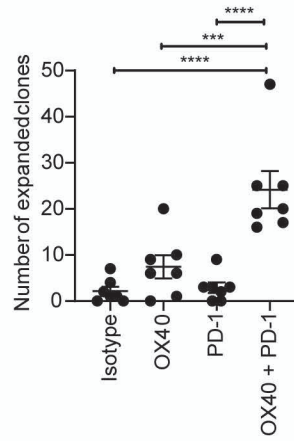
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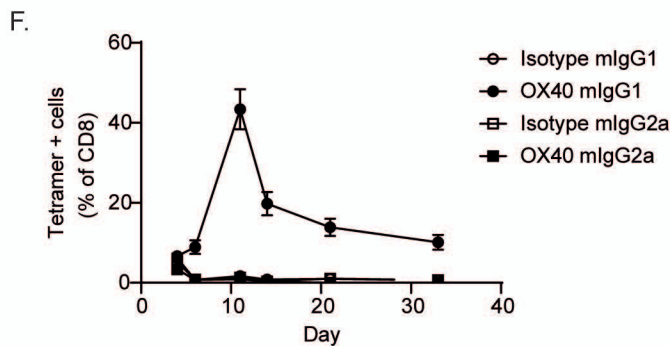
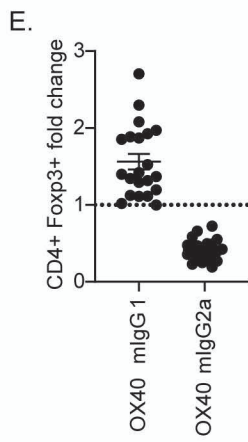
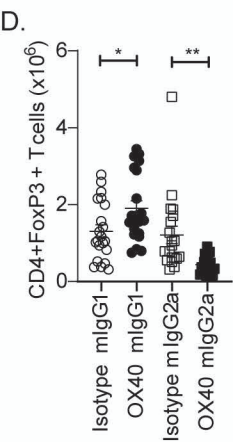
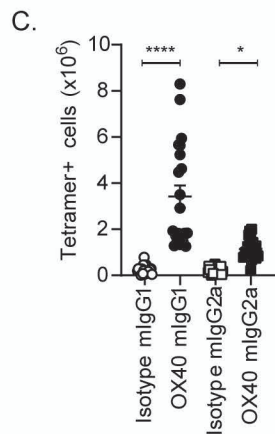
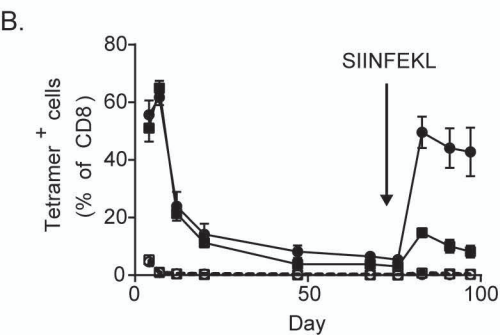
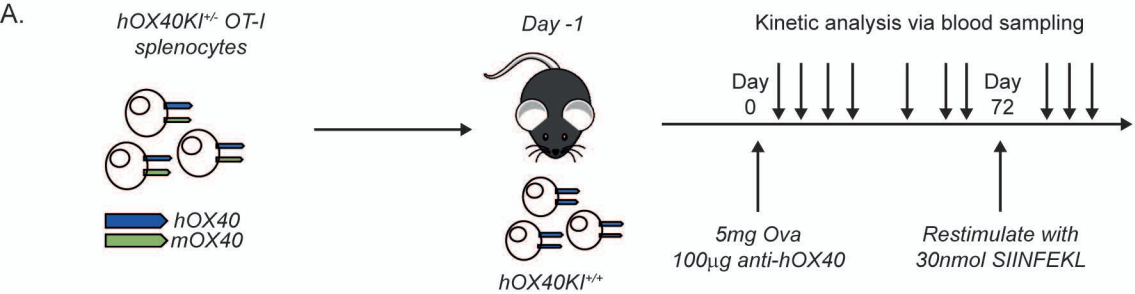


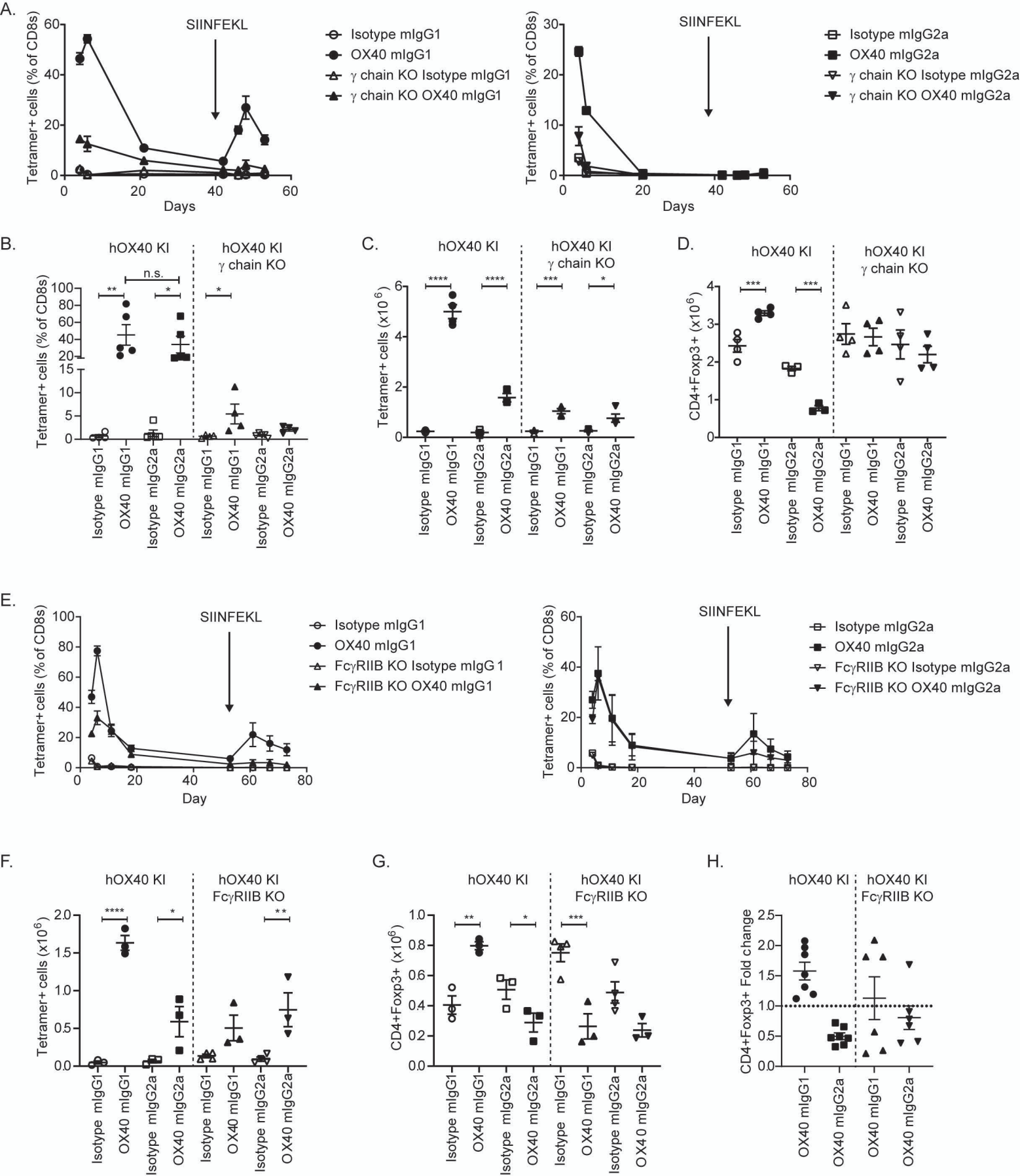
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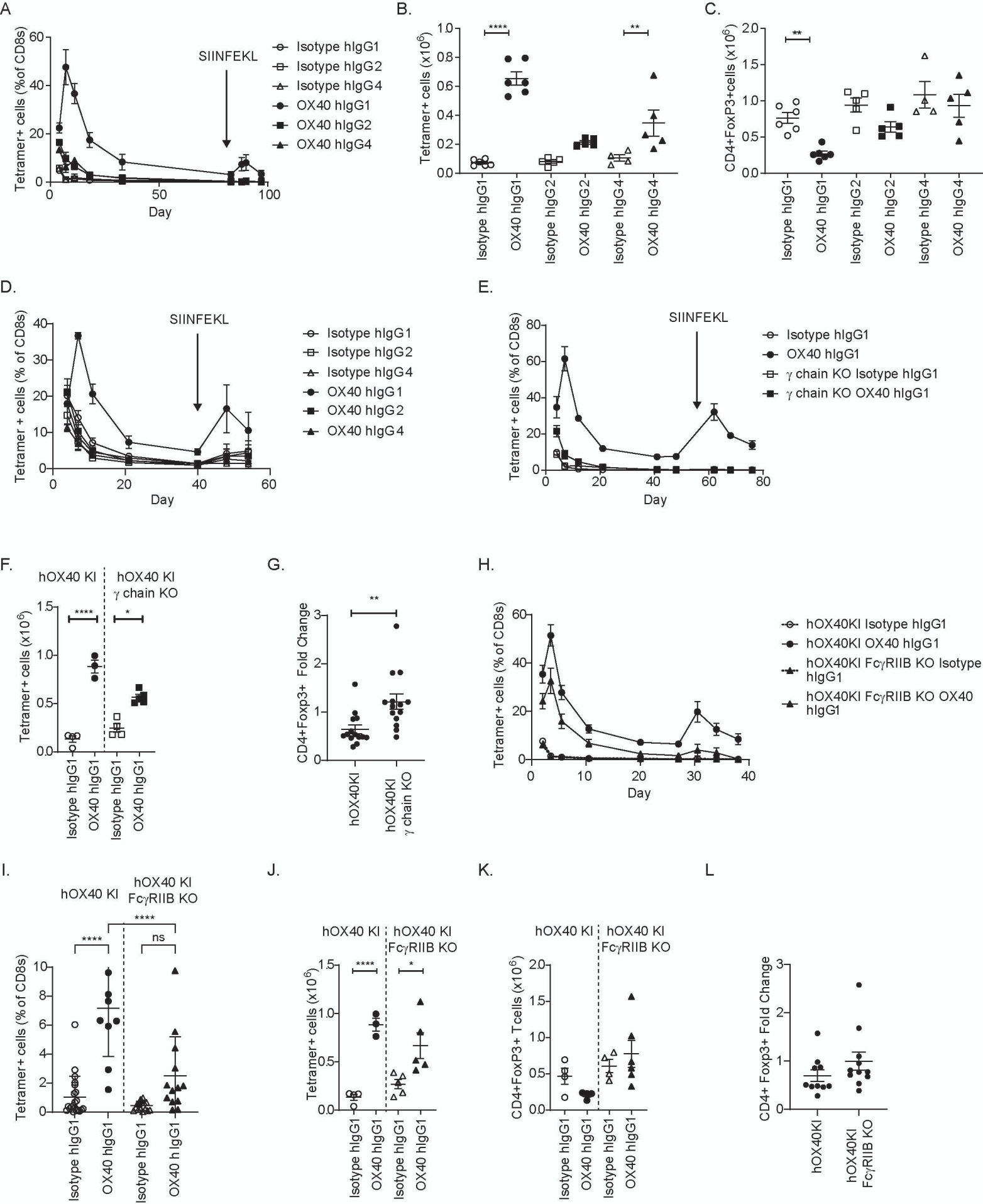


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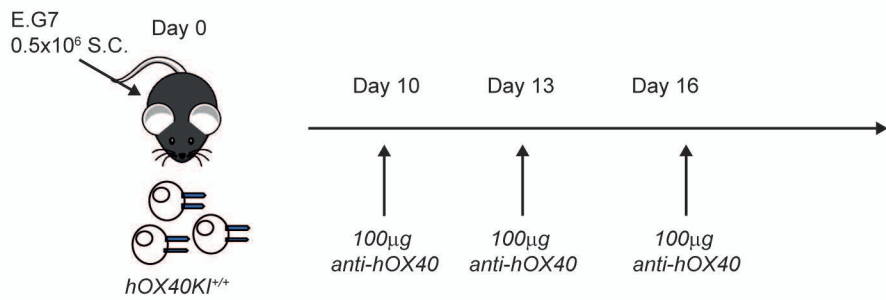




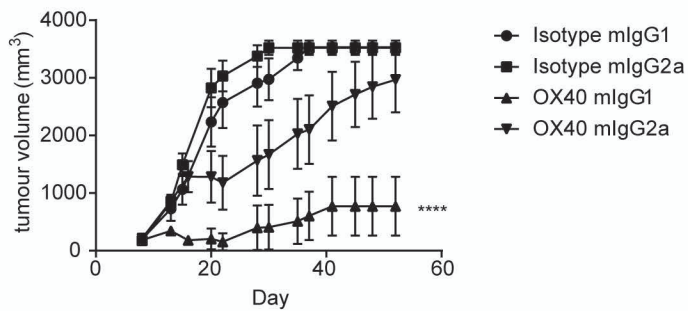




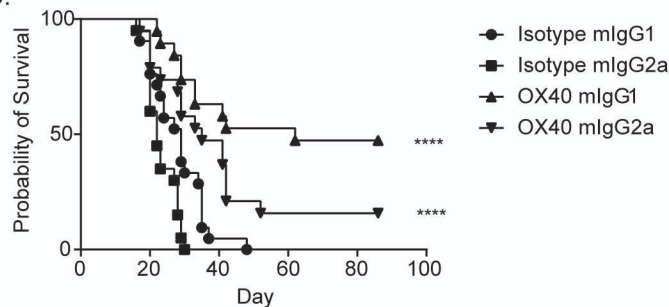
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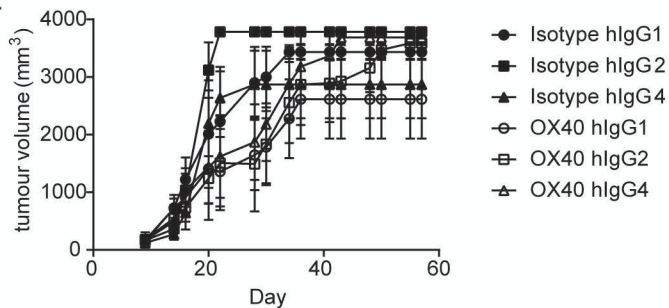
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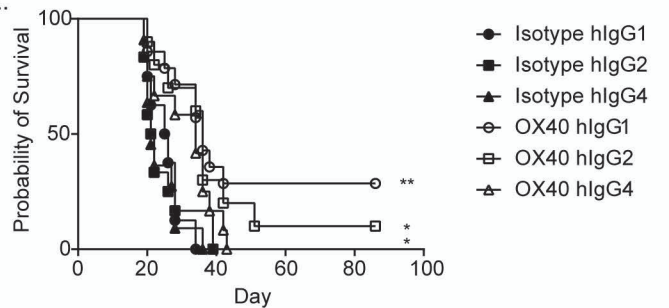
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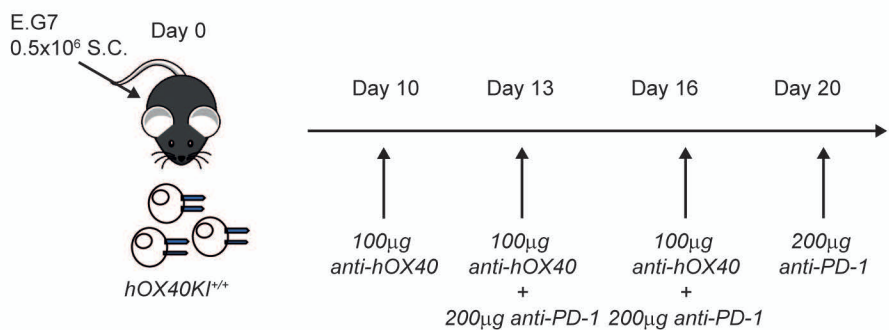
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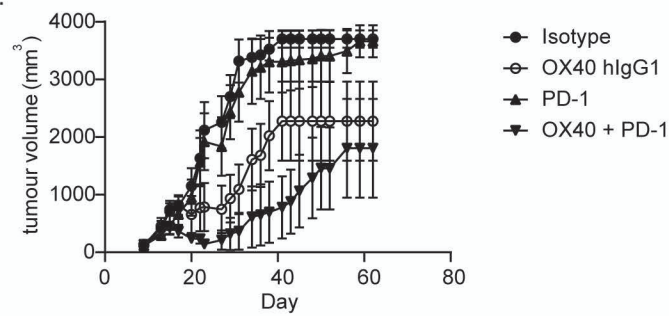
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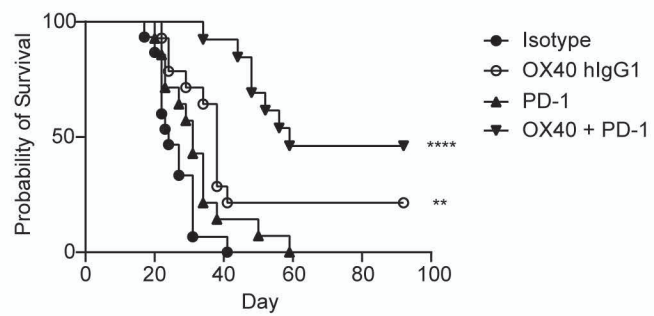
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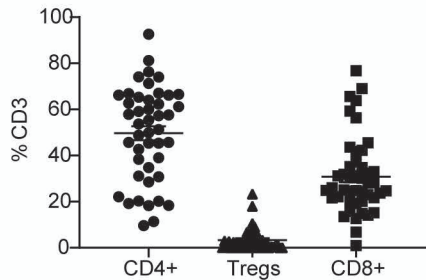


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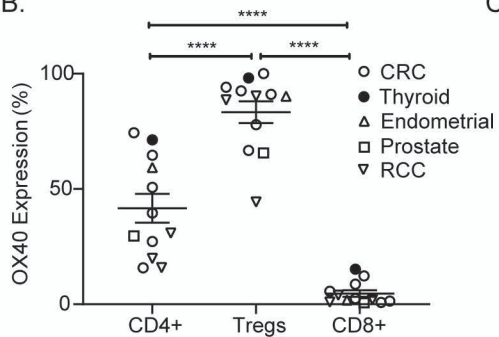




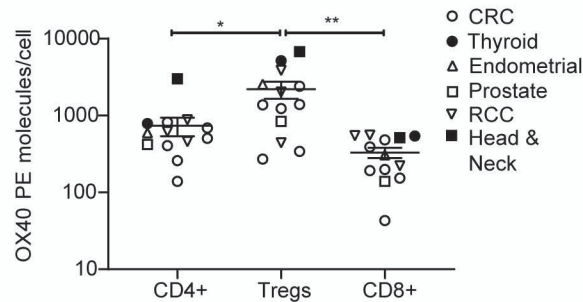
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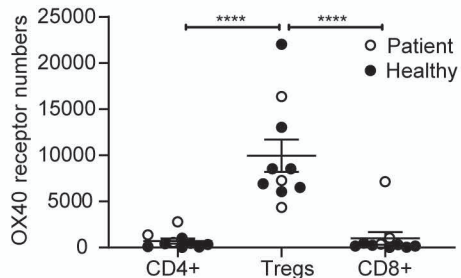
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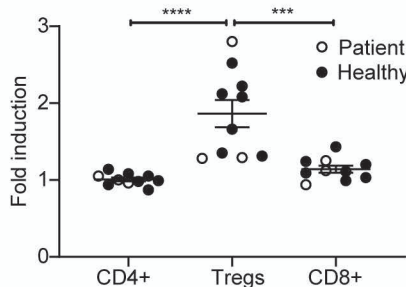
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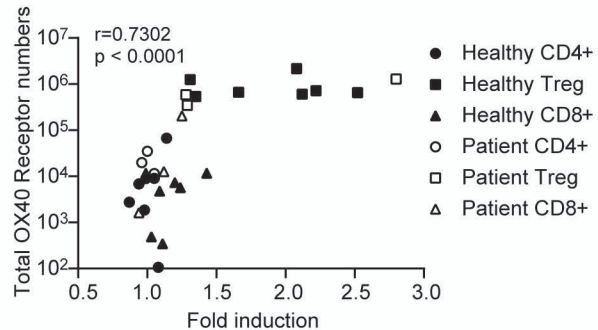
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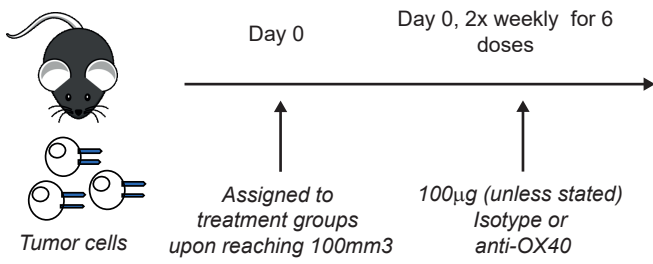
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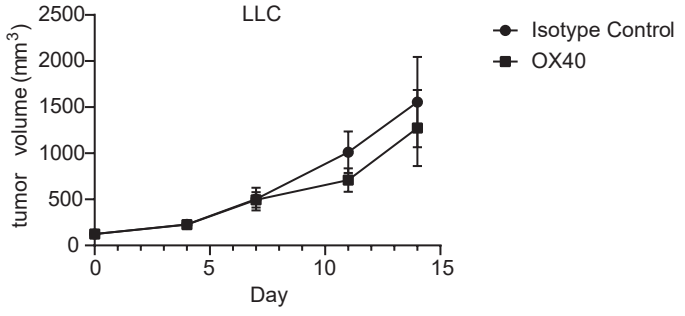
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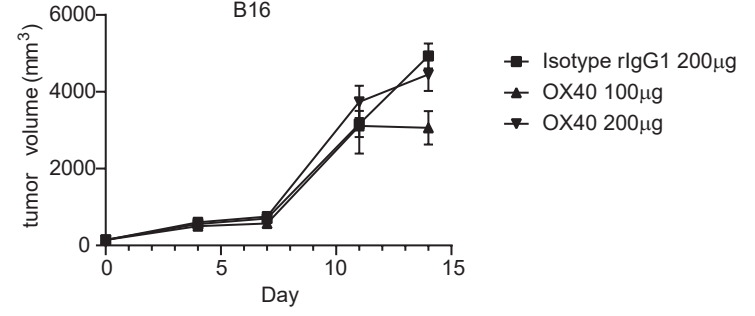
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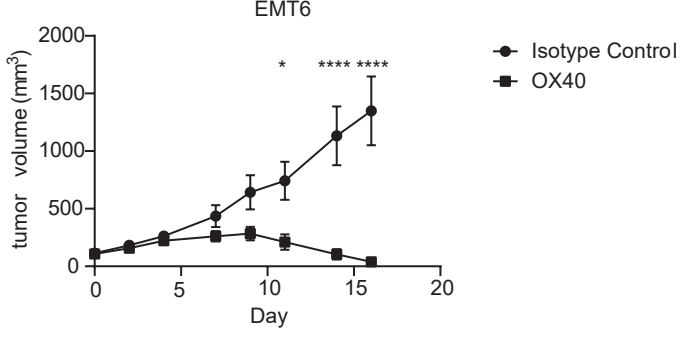
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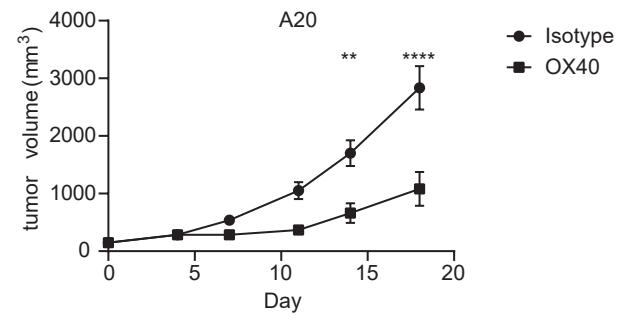
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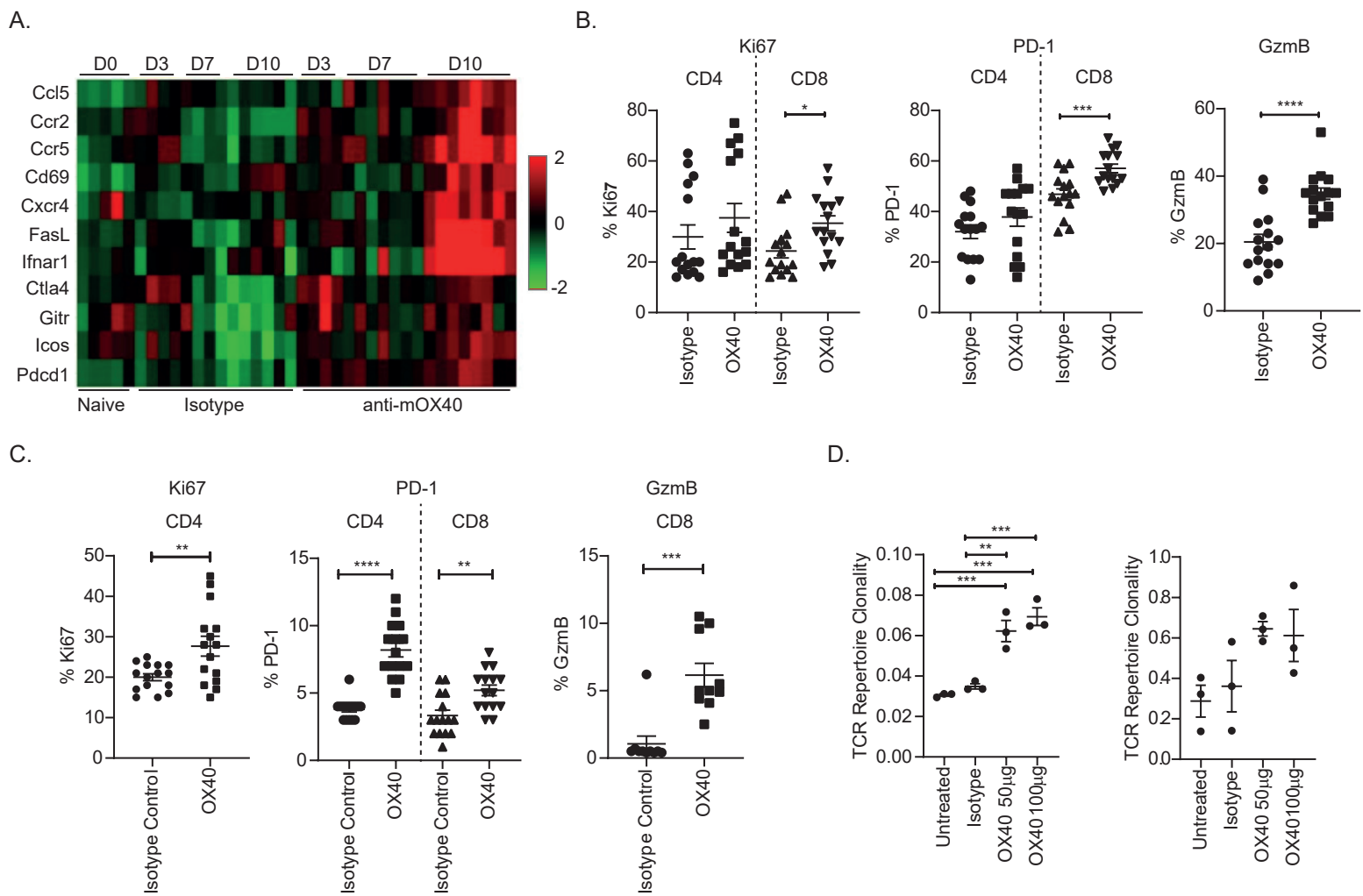
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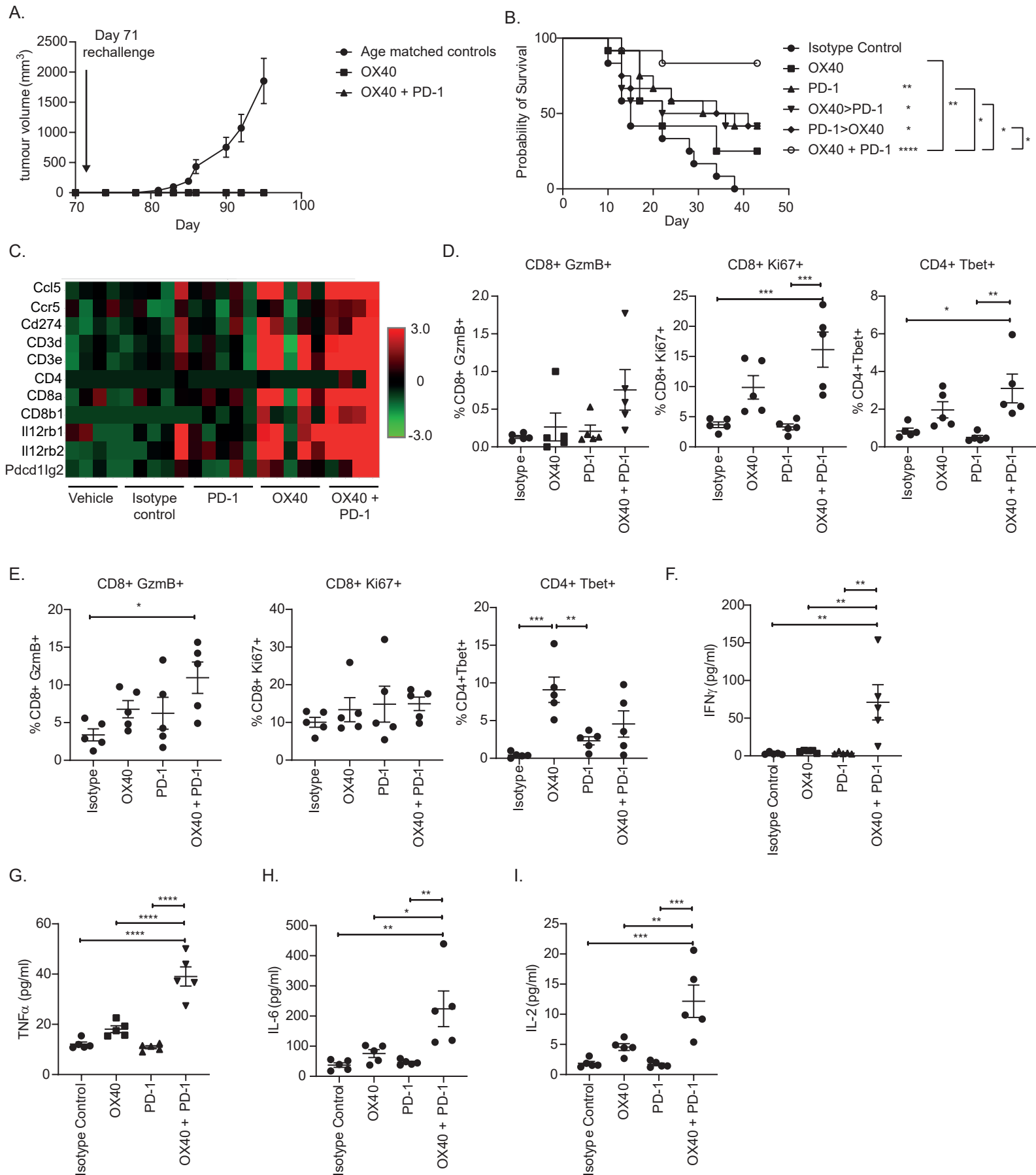


Supplemental Fig 1. A. Schematic for experiments shown in B-F. Mice were challenged with tumour cells, assigned to treatment groups upon reaching 100mm<sup>3</sup> and treated with either isotype control or anti-OX40. B. Growth curves for mice challenged with LLC (1x10<sup>5</sup> cells) and treated with 100 µg n= 7, one experiment. C. Growth curves of mice challenged with B16F10 (2.5x10<sup>4</sup> cells) and treated with either 100 µg or 200 µg OX40. n=6 for Isotype rIgG1 and n=7 for both OX40 groups, one experiment. D. Growth curves of EMT6 (1x10<sup>5</sup>) and treated with 100 µg n=10 one experiment. E. Growth curves of mice challenged with A20 (1x10<sup>6</sup>) and treated with 100 µg OX40. n=25 isotype control and n=26 anti-OX40 one experiment. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean +/- SEM Sidak's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA.

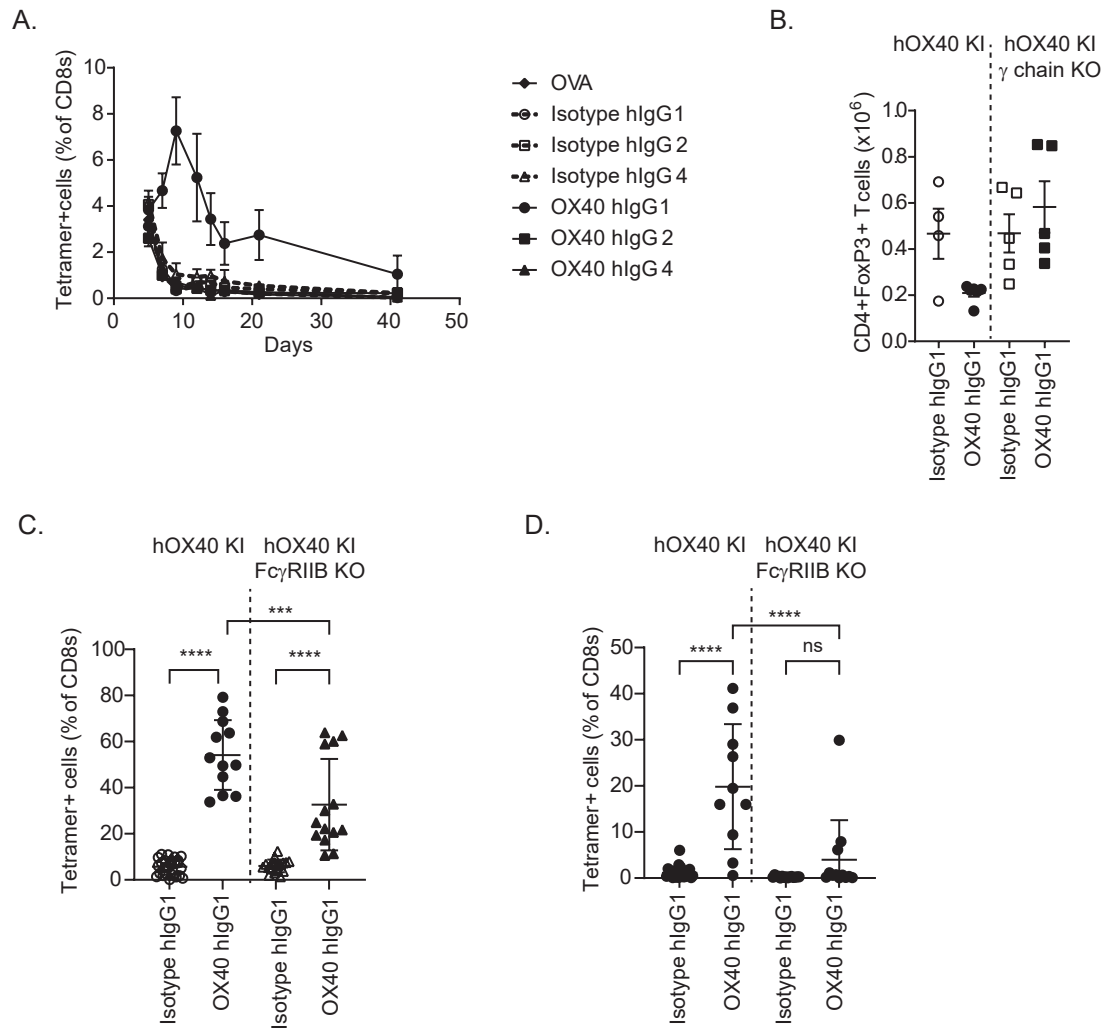


Supplemental Fig. 2. A. Gene expression analysis of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells isolated from A20 tumor-bearing mice treated with 100 µg isotype control or anti-OX40 twice weekly. Mice treated as in schematic shown in Supplemental Fig. 1A. Tumor infiltrate (B) and Blood (C) taken from A20 tumor-bearing mice on Day 10 post randomisation and treated with isotype control or anti-OX40 (200 µg) and analysed for Ki67 (left panel), PD-1 (middle panel) and GzmB (right panel). B. n = 15, pooled from 3 independent experiments C. n = 15 for Ki67 and PD-1, pooled from 3 independent experiments, n = 10 for GzmB, pooled from 2 independent experiments. D. Mice were challenged with  $5 \times 10^4$  CT26 tumor cells and treated with indicated doses of anti-OX40. Spleens (left panel) and tumor (right panel) were harvested 7 days post assignment to treatment groups and assessed for TCR repertoire clonality n=3, one experiment. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\*\* p < 0.001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean +/- SEM B & C – unpaired T-Test, D - Tukey's multiple comparison one-way ANOVA

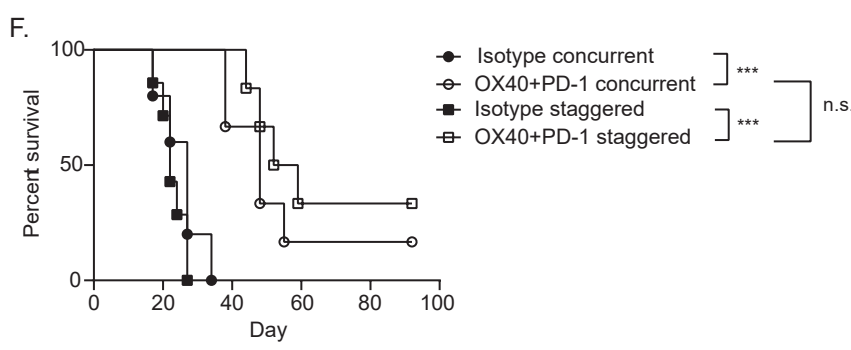
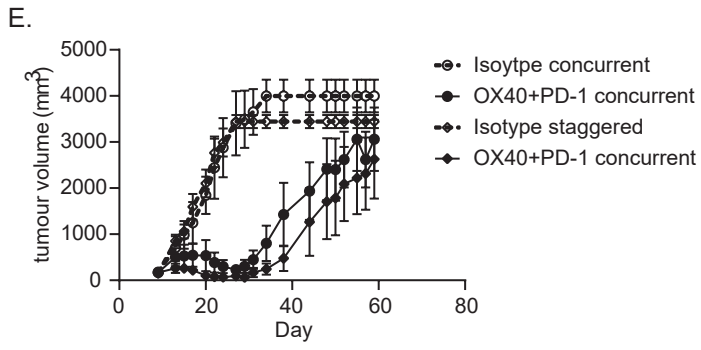
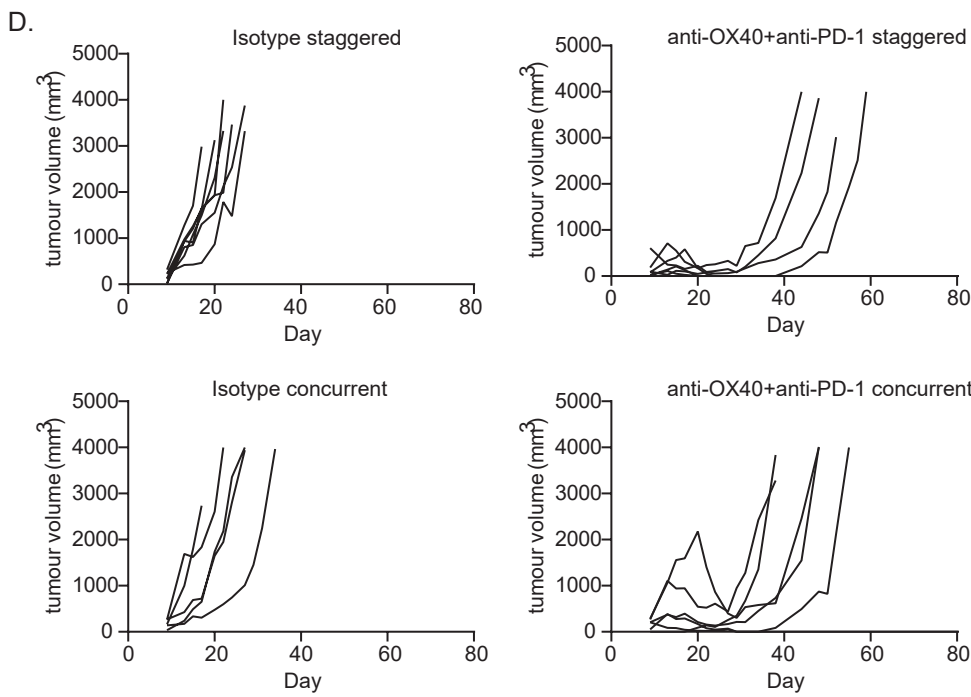
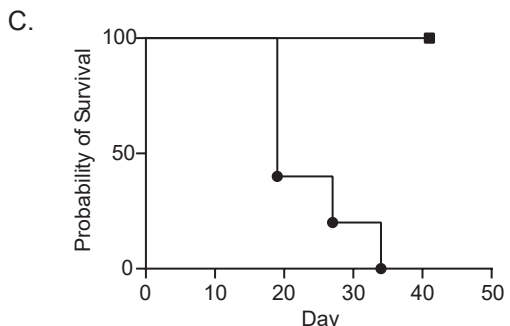
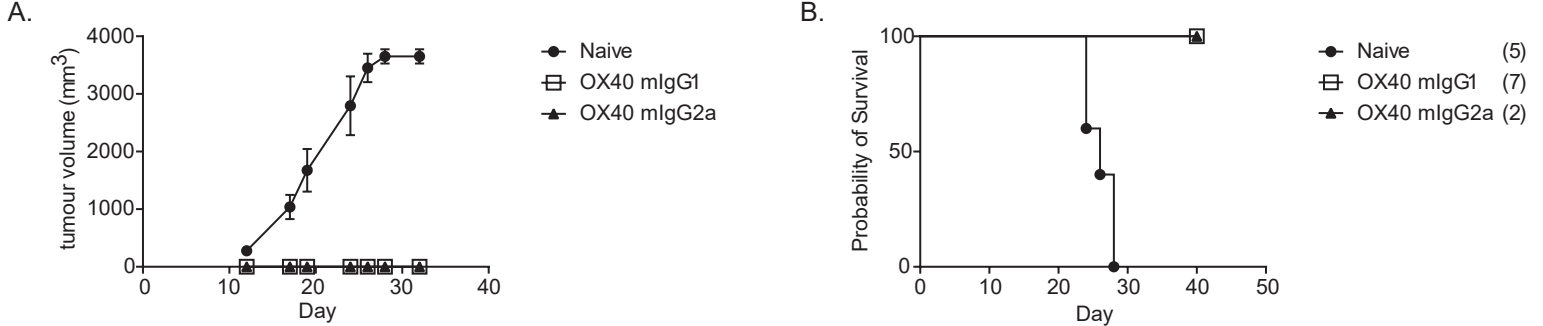




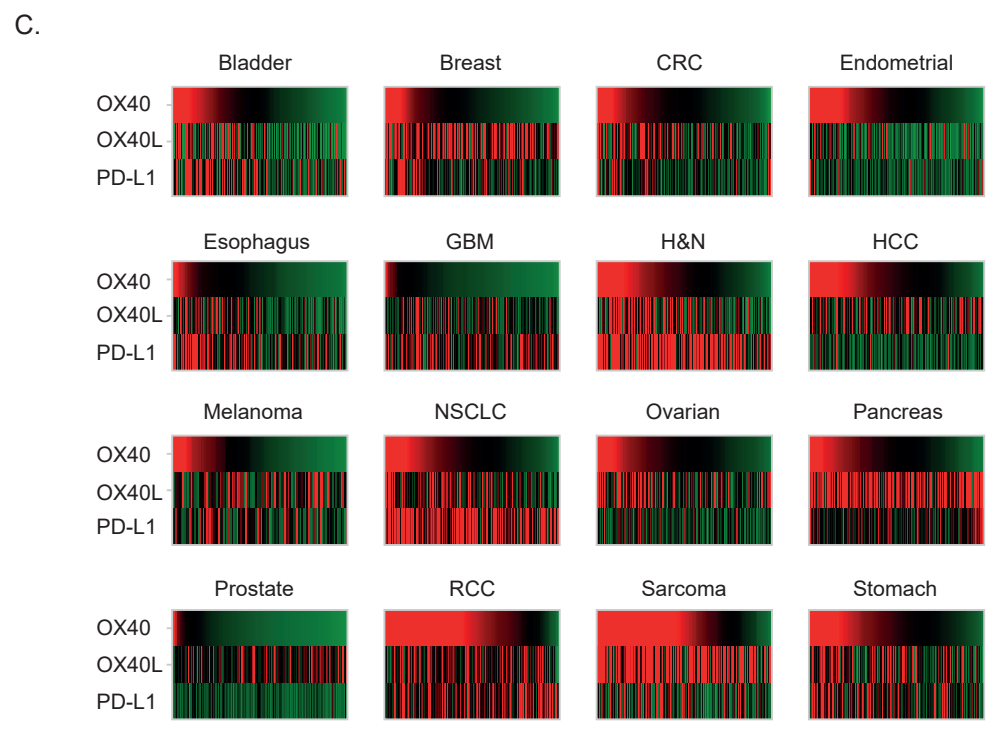
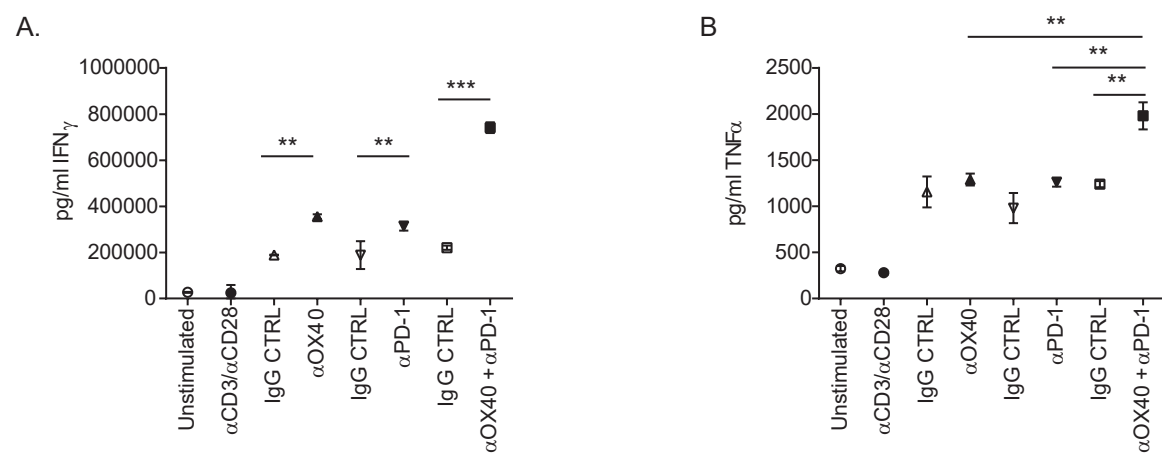
Supplemental Fig 3. Combination treatment with anti-OX40 and anti-PD-1 leads to increase in Th1 cytokines in CT26 tumor model  
 A. Growth curves of naive mice or long term survivors from set up as in Fig 1F. Mice challenged with CT26 cells ( $5 \times 10^4$ ) on Day 71 n=10 age-matched controls, n=2 OX40 monotherapy and n=14 OX40 + PD-1, one experiment. B. Survival curves of mice challenged with CT26 ( $5 \times 10^4$ ) and treated with 6 doses of Isotype combination (rlgG1 100  $\mu$ g + rlgG2a 200  $\mu$ g), OX40 (100  $\mu$ g), PD-1 (200  $\mu$ g) or combination given concurrently (OX40+PD-1) or sequentially either as OX40 first (OX40>PD-1) or PD-1 first (PD-1>OX40) n=12, one experiment. C Gene expression analysis of CD8+ TILs harvested on Day 7 n= 4 for vehicle and OX40+PD-1, n=5 for isotype, OX40 and PD-1 monotherapies. D & E. Blood (D) and tumour (E) samples taken on Day 10 immunophenotyped for CD8+GzmB+ (left panels), CD8+Ki67+ (middle panels) and CD4+Tbet+ (right panels). n=5, one experiment. F-I. Serum from mice challenged as in Fig. 1F were analysed for IFN $\gamma$  (F), TNF $\alpha$  (G), IL-6 (H) and IL-2 (I). n=5 one experiment. \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001, \*\*\* p < 0.001, \*\* p < 0.01, \* p < 0.05 Mean +/- SEM B - Log rank test, D-I Tukeys one-way ANOVA with multiple comparison.



Supplemental Fig 4. anti-OX40 hlgG1 expands OT-I T cells in WT recipients. A.  $1 \times 10^5$  hOX40KI<sup>+/-</sup> OT-I were transferred into WT C57BL/6 recipients and challenged with 5 mg Ova + 100  $\mu$ g isotype or anti-OX40 mAb. Blood samples were analysed on the indicated days, n=3 representative of 2 independent experiments. B. Splenic analysis of CD4+Foxp3+ T cell numbers on Day 4 post Ova (5 mg) and antibody (100  $\mu$ g) challenge. Isotype hlgG1 mAb n=4, anti-OX40 hlgG1 mAb n=6,  $\gamma$  chain KO Isotype hlgG1 mAb and anti-OX40 hlgG1 mAb n=5 representative of 2 independent experiments. C. Blood analysis of OT-I T cells on Day 7, Isotype hlgG1 mAb n=16, anti-OX40 hlgG1 mAb n=12 (4 mice excluded due to lack of response), Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO Isotype hlgG1 mAb n=19, Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO anti-OX40 hlgG1 mAb n= 15 (4 mice excluded due to lack of response). Data pooled from 4 independent experiments. D. Blood analysis of OT-I T cells on Day 61, Isotype hlgG1 mAb n=12, anti-OX40 hlgG1 mAb n=10 (2 mice excluded due to a lack of response), Fc $\gamma$ RIIB KO Isotype hlgG1 mAb n=15 and anti-OX40 hlgG1 mAb n= 13 (2 mice excluded due to lack of response). Data pooled from 3 independent experiments. \*\*\*\* p<0.0001, \*\*\* p<0.01, Mean +/- sem C & D – Tukey's multiple comparison one way ANOVA



Supplemental Fig 5. Anti-OX40 mAb induces protective memory and is augmented with staggered or concurrent treatment with anti-PD-1 mAb. EG.7 Ova rechallenge experiments with mice previously challenged with EG.7 Ova and treated with anti-OX40 mIgG1 and mIgG2a (A & B) and anti-OX40 hIgG1 (C). Mice were re-challenged with  $0.5 \times 10^6$  EG.7 Ova, as were Naive mice to act as controls. Naive mice, n=5, mIgG1 n=7 (A & B), mIgG2a n=2 (A & B), hIgG1 n= 2. D-F Mice challenged with  $0.5 \times 10^6$  EG.7 Ova were treated with anti-OX40 hIgG1 and anti-PD-1 mAb either concurrently or with a staggered dosing schedule. Individual growth curves are shown in (D), combined growth curves in (E) and Survival curves are shown in (F). Isotype concurrent n=5, Isotype staggered n=7, OX40+PD1 concurrent n=6 and OX40+PD-1 staggered n=6 \*\*\* p<0.001, F - Log rank test.



Supplemental Fig 6. OX40 and PD-1 boost Th1 cytokines in PBMCs from healthy donors. A & B. Treatment of healthy hPBMCs cultured in presence of anti-CD3/anti-CD28 expander beads (1:20 ratio) for 48 hours, then restimulated with anti-OX40, pembrolizumab or both (10 $\mu$ g/ml) in the presence of anti-CD3 beads at a 1:1 ratio for a further 4 days. Supernatants tested for IFN $\gamma$  (A) and TNF $\alpha$  (B). Representative data shown from one of 5 donors. C. OX40, OX40L and PD-L1 abundance in various tumours (stage IV) using RNA-Seq data from TCGA. Expression is based on reads per Kb per million (RPKM). Mean  $\pm$  S.E.M. \*\*\* p<0.0003, \*\* p<0.005 A & B - Unpaired t test.