

1 **Inhibition of *O*-GlcNAc transferase activates type I interferon-dependent antitumor**  
2 **immunity by bridging cGAS-STING pathway**

3  
4 Jianwen Chen<sup>1,2,8</sup>, Bao Zhao<sup>1,2,8</sup>, Hong Dong<sup>1,8</sup>, Tianliang Li<sup>1</sup>, Xiang Cheng<sup>1,2</sup>, Wang Gong<sup>3</sup>, Jing  
5 Wang<sup>2,4</sup>, Junran Zhang<sup>2,5</sup>, Gang Xin<sup>1,2</sup>, Yanbao Yu<sup>6</sup>, Yu L. Lei<sup>3</sup>, Jennifer D. Black<sup>7</sup>, Zihai Li<sup>2</sup>, and  
6 Haitao Wen<sup>1,2,9\*</sup>

7  
8 <sup>1</sup>Department of Microbial Infection and Immunity, Infectious Disease Institute, The Ohio State  
9 University, Columbus, OH 43210, USA

10 <sup>2</sup>Pelotonia Institute for Immuno-Oncology, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer  
11 Center, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, USA

12 <sup>3</sup>Department of Periodontics and Oral Medicine, University of Michigan School of Dentistry,  
13 University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, USA

14 <sup>4</sup>Department of Cancer Biology and Genetics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210,  
15 USA

16 <sup>5</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, USA

17 <sup>6</sup>Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, USA

18 <sup>7</sup>Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases, University of Nebraska Medical  
19 Center, Omaha, NE 68198, USA

20 <sup>8</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work.

21 <sup>9</sup>Lead Contact

22

23 \*Correspondence: Dr. Haitao Wen, email: [Haitao.Wen@osumc.edu](mailto:Haitao.Wen@osumc.edu)

24 Telephone: 614-292-6724, Fax: 614-292-9616

25 Address: 796 Biomedical Research Tower, 460 W 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Columbus, OH 43210

26

27

28 **Abstract**

29 The *O*-GlcNAc transferase (OGT) is an essential enzyme that mediates protein *O*-GlcNAcylation,  
30 a unique form of posttranslational modification of many nuclear and cytosolic proteins. Recent  
31 studies observed increased OGT and *O*-GlcNAcylation levels in a broad range of human cancer  
32 tissues compared to adjacent normal tissues, indicating a universal effect of OGT in promoting  
33 tumorigenesis. Here, we show that OGT is essential for tumor growth in immunocompetent hosts  
34 by repressing the cyclic GMP-AMP synthase (cGAS)-dependent DNA sensing pathway. We found  
35 that deletion of OGT (*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>) caused a marked reduction in tumor growth in both syngeneic tumor  
36 models and a genetic colorectal cancer (CRC) model induced by mutation of the *Apc* gene (*Apc*<sup>min</sup>).  
37 Pharmacological inhibition or genetic deletion of OGT induced a robust genomic instability (GIN),  
38 leading to cGAS-dependent production of the type I interferon (IFN-I) and IFN-stimulated genes  
39 (ISGs). As a result, deletion of *Cgas* or *Sting* from *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cancer cells restored tumor growth, and  
40 this correlated with impaired CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell-mediated antitumor immunity. Mechanistically, we  
41 found that OGT-dependent cleavage of host cell factor C1 (HCF-1) is required for the avoidance  
42 of GIN and IFN-I production in tumors. In summary, our results identify OGT-mediated genomic  
43 stability and activate cGAS-STING pathway as an important tumor cell-intrinsic mechanism to  
44 repress antitumor immunity.

## 45 **Introduction**

46 Cancer cells can maintain malignant phenotypes partially due to altering the post-translational  
47 modification (PTM) patterns of cancer-related functional proteins under the stimulation of  
48 extracellular and intracellular factors [1]. Protein modification by the *O*-linked  $\beta$ -N-  
49 acetylglucosamine (*O*-GlcNAc) is a dynamic and reversible post-translational modification, which  
50 is added to the hydroxyl group of a specific serine or threonine residue in a target protein by *O*-  
51 GlcNAc transferase (OGT) and removed by *O*-GlcNAcase (OGA) [2]. *O*-GlcNAcylation is a fast-  
52 cycle and nutrient-sensitive PTM, which modifies thousands of cytoplasmic, nuclear, and  
53 mitochondrial proteins and mediates crosstalk with protein phosphorylation, regulating signal  
54 transduction and affecting protein localization, activity, stability, and protein-protein interaction.  
55 Dysregulation of *O*-GlcNAcylation is associated with multiple metabolic diseases and cancer [3,  
56 4].

57         Recent studies observed increased OGT and *O*-GlcNAcylation level in human colon cancer  
58 tissues compared to adjacent normal tissues [5-7], indicating an essential role of OGT-mediated  
59 protein *O*-GlcNAcylation in the pathogenesis of colon cancer. Several oncogenic proteins that are  
60 involved in the pathogenesis of colon cancer have been shown to be directly modified by *O*-  
61 GlcNAc, including  $\beta$ -catenin and NF- $\kappa$ B [8-10]. For example, *O*-GlcNAcylation of  $\beta$ -catenin at  
62 T41 inhibits its phosphorylation, which subsequently attenuates its ubiquitination and degradation  
63 and promotes oncogenic activity [7, 11]. In contrast, inhibitory roles of *O*-GlcNAc signaling in the  
64 growth of human colon cancer and in oncogenic Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling have also been reported  
65 [12, 13]. The aforementioned studies show that *O*-GlcNAc modification of specific proteins can  
66 play opposing roles in tumorigenesis. However, the overall effect of OGT-mediated *O*-  
67 GlcNAcylation in cancer remains unknown.

68           The cGAS/STING cytosolic DNA-sensing pathway plays a vital role in activating the  
69 innate immune response and production of the type I interferons (IFN-I) [14]. Cyclic guanosine  
70 monophosphate (GMP)-adenosine monophosphate (AMP) synthase (cGAS) interacts with  
71 cytosolic double-stranded DNA (dsDNA) in a sequence-independent manner. The direct binding  
72 of cGAS to cytosolic dsDNA promotes cGAS homodimerization and activates the catalytic  
73 activity of cGAS, producing 2', 3'-cyclic GMP-AMP (cGAMP) from ATP and GTP. The second  
74 messenger cGAMP binds to and activates the endoplasmic resident stimulator of interferon genes  
75 (STING). Once activated, STING translocates to the ER-Golgi intermediate compartment  
76 (ERGIC) to recruit TANK-binding kinase 1 (TBK1) and IFN regulatory factor 3 (IRF3), leading  
77 to the production of IFN-I and activation of numerous IFN-stimulated genes (ISGs) [15-17].  
78 However, it remains largely unknown whether OGT expression affects cGAS-STING pathway  
79 and antitumor immunity.

80           In this study, we find that deficiency or pharmacological inhibition of OGT and subsequent  
81 accumulation of cytosolic dsDNA activates the cGAS-STING pathway and induces CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell-  
82 dependent antitumor immunity. Deletion of cGAS or STING diminishes DNA sensing and lead to  
83 progressive tumor growth. Mechanistically, we show that OGT could interacts with HCF-1 and  
84 cleaves it, which contributes to the maintenance of genomic stability. Re-expression of HCF-1<sup>C600</sup>  
85 in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> tumor cells inhibit production of cytosolic dsDNA and IFN-I. In summary, our findings  
86 demonstrate that OGT-mediated DNA damage and activate cGAS-STING pathway as an  
87 important tumor cell-intrinsic mechanism to repress antitumor immunity and provides a window  
88 for potential therapeutic opportunities for in OGT-dependent cancer.

89

## 90 **Results**

### 91 **Increased OGT expression in human and mouse tumor samples**

92 Protein *O*-GlcNAcylation is upregulated in various cancers [12, 18-21]. OGT is the only known  
93 enzyme that mediates *O*-GlcNAcylation of proteins at the Ser or Thr residues [22], we  
94 hypothesized that OGT could serve as an important regulator to regulate cancer cell growth and  
95 serve as a biomarker for cancer. Initial analysis of data from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)  
96 dataset in GEPIA2 (<http://gepia2.cancer-pku.cn/#index>) and found a significant positive  
97 correlation between *OGT* mRNA expression and tumorigenesis in bladder urothelial carcinoma  
98 (BLCA), cholangiocarcinoma (CHOL), colon adenocarcinoma (COAD), esophageal carcinoma  
99 (ESCA), head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSC), kidney chromophobe (LIHC), lung  
100 adenocarcinoma (LUAD), prostate adenocarcinoma (PRAD), rectum adenocarcinoma (READ),  
101 sarcoma (SARC), and a stomach adenocarcinoma (STAD) (Supplemental Fig. 1A). Next, we  
102 utilized UALCAN database analysis, and found that *OGT* mRNA expression was compared  
103 between 286 COAD samples and 41 adjacent or normal samples, the expression of *OGT* was  
104 significantly increased in COAD at the transcriptional level (Fig. 1A). A significant positive  
105 correlation tendency between *OGT* mRNA expression and individual different tumor stages was  
106 observed. The stage IV COAD tissues exhibited the highest expression level of *OGT* in compared  
107 with low stage (Fig. 1B). We also observed a significant positive correlation between *OGT* mRNA  
108 expression and nodal metastasis status (Fig. 1C). Furthermore, we found that the protein level of  
109 OGT was also significantly increased in COAD patient samples and amongst individual different  
110 stages based on the CPTAC and HPA online database (Fig. 1D-F). Similar results are found in  
111 LUAD (Supplemental Fig. 1B-F). These results suggest that high mRNA and protein levels of  
112 OGT in tumorigenesis were consistent in different databases.

113 To determine whether intestinal OGT expression was increased in *Apc<sup>min</sup>* colorectal tumor  
114 mouse model, intestinal tissues were collected for western blot and immunohistochemical staining  
115 (IHC) analysis. Intestinal OGT protein was markedly increased in *Apc<sup>min</sup>* mouse tumor tissues  
116 compared to adjacent or normal tissues (Fig. 1G). As expected, *O*-GlcNAcylation proteins levels  
117 in intestinal tissues were also significantly higher in tumor tissues than adjacent or normal tissues.  
118 IHC staining revealed that mouse OGT protein was markedly higher in tumor tissues than in  
119 adjacent tissues (Fig. 1H), which was consistent with the expression pattern in human samples.  
120 OGT protein was also upregulated in the azoxymethane (AOM)/dextran sodium sulfate (DSS)  
121 colorectal tumor model (Fig. 1I-K). Together, these data strongly suggest that OGT may play a  
122 critical role in tumorigenesis and serve as a prognostic marker and therapeutic target in cancer  
123 treatment.

124

### 125 **Epithelial OGT deletion inhibits mouse colorectal tumorigenesis**

126 To determine whether OGT may be an important therapeutic target for tumor treatment, we  
127 generated an intestinal epithelial cell-specific *Ogt* deletion (*Ogt<sup>AIEC</sup>*) by crossing *Ogt<sup>fl/fl</sup>* mice with  
128 Villin-Cre mice. *Ogt<sup>AIEC</sup>* mice were then crossed with *Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice to generate *Ogt<sup>AIEC</sup>Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice  
129 (Supplemental Fig. 2). To determine whether intestinal OGT expression was decreased in  
130 *Ogt<sup>AIEC</sup>Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice, intestinal tissues were collected for western blot analysis. Intestinal OGT  
131 levels were drastically decreased in *Ogt<sup>AIEC</sup>Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice compared to wildtype *Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice (Fig.  
132 2A). Importantly, deletion of the *Ogt* in intestinal epithelial cells resulted in significantly reduced  
133 tumor size and total number of polyps at 20 weeks of age (Fig. 2A), indicating that OGT promotes  
134 oncogenic transformation in colorectal tumor *in vivo*. To gain insight into the role of protein on  
135 intestinal carcinogenesis in intestinal cancer, we examined the differences in intestinal

136 carcinogenesis. Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining demonstrated that epithelial inflammation  
137 increased in *Ogt<sup>ΔIEC</sup>Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice compared to wildtype *Apc<sup>min</sup>* mice (Fig. 2B). OGT deficiency in  
138 intestinal tissues was also associated with significantly elevated gene expression of key pro-  
139 inflammatory cytokines like interleukin *Il1α*, *Il6*, *TNF-α*, as well as several interferons and ISGs  
140 like *Isg15*, *Mx1*, *Cxcl10* (Fig. 2C). Furthermore, we found IL-2, IL-6, IL-10, IL-17, IFN- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\beta$ ,  
141 IFN- $\gamma$  and CXCL10 were upregulated compared with control mice (Fig. 2D).

142

### 143 **OGT deficiency activates cGAS/STING-dependent IFN-I pathway**

144 Based on previous studies, we found that several interferons and several interferon-stimulated  
145 genes, such as *Isg15*, *Mx1*, IFN- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\beta$  and *Cxcl10* were upregulated. We hypothesized that OGT  
146 deficiency may activate the type I IFN pathway. First, we generated *Ogt* knock outs of murine  
147 colorectal carcinoma models like MC38, LLC, B16-OVA and of a human colorectal cell line,  
148 HT29. We then evaluated the expression changes of *Ifna4*, *Ifnb1*, *Isg15*, *Mx1* and found that all  
149 the genes except *Ifna4* mRNA expression were significantly increased in all cultured *Ogt* knockout  
150 cells (Fig. 3A-D). Next, we investigated how the type I IFN pathway in *Ogt* knockout cells was  
151 activated [23, 24]. We found that while the phosphorylation of STAT1, TBK1 and IRF3 is  
152 increased, the STING expression is reduced in *Ogt* knockout MC38, LLC, B16-OVA and HT29  
153 cells (Fig. 3E-F). To determine whether this effect is specific for *Ogt* knockout, we stably  
154 expressed exogenous OGT in *Ogt* knockout cells and found that the type I IFN pathway activation  
155 effect is abolished (Fig. 3F). The type I IFN pathway is typically activated by both viral RNA and  
156 dsDNA. In order to eliminate the type I IFN pathway activate independent on RNA but dependent  
157 on dsDNA, we knocked out MAVS protein in *Ogt<sup>-/-</sup>* cells, which is a RNA pivotal adaptor protein  
158 activate the downstream protein kinase TBK1, IFN pathway and ISGs in *Ogt<sup>-/-</sup>* cells (24), and we

159 found that knockout of MAVS in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cells has no effect on either *Isg15*, *Mx1*, *Ifna4* and *Ifnb1*  
160 expression or the type I IFN pathway (Fig. 3G-H).

161 We further investigated the mechanism of the type I IFN signaling activation and found  
162 that *Ogt* knockout induced the reduction of the STING. This result is similar to previous studies  
163 [25, 26]. The phenotype of *Ogt* knockout implies that STING is involved in the activation of the  
164 type I IFN pathway. We hypothesized that OGT negatively regulates type I IFN through the  
165 cGAS/STING pathway. Next, we produced the OGT/cGAS and OGT/STING double knockout  
166 cells both in MC38, HT29 and B16-OVA. Surprisingly, these type I IFN and *Cxcl10* signals  
167 disappeared in OGT/cGAS and OGT/STING double knockout cells both in mRNA and protein  
168 level (Fig. 3I-L).

169 The type I IFN signaling is a key pathway that promotes antigen presentation and DC  
170 activation [27-29]. Phagocytosis of extracellular tumor DNA by DCs triggers the activation of the  
171 cGAS-STING-IFN pathway [30, 31]. To determine whether the increased cGAS-STING-IFN  
172 signaling in *Ogt* knockout cells provides an activated signal for single epitope-specific CD8<sup>+</sup> T  
173 cell priming by antigen-presenting cells (APCs), we added the supernatant from B16-OVA tumor  
174 cells into the co-culture system of BMDCs and OT-I cells. The results showed that BMDCs pre-  
175 cultured with *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> B16-OVA tumor cells supernatant provided a potent activated signal  
176 for optimal single epitope-specific T cell proliferation (Fig. 3M), while cGAS or STING deficiency  
177 in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> tumor cells diminished such effects (Fig. 3N). Further, we added the supernatant from  
178 *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> B16-OVA tumor cells into the co-culture system of *Ifnar1* knockout BMDCs and  
179 OT-I cells. The cell proliferation was abolished when treated with *Ifnar1*<sup>-/-</sup> BMDCs pre-cultured  
180 with *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> B16-OVA tumor cells supernatant. (Supplemental Fig. 3). These results  
181 demonstrated that *Ogt* deficiency activate antitumor CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells response is dependent on the



182 type I IFN signal in dendritic cells and in a manner dependent on the tumor-cell-intrinsic cGAS-  
183 STING pathway.

184

### 185 **OGT deficiency causes DNA damage and cytosolic DNA accumulation**

186 Because the accumulation of cytosolic DNA is a consequence of nuclear DNA damage, which can  
187 activate immune response. The cGAS senses cytoplasmic DNA as a consequence of nuclear DNA  
188 damage [32]. Previous studies showed that the STING is degraded while cGAS-STING is  
189 activated [25]. As mentioned above, the STING degraded in *Ogt* knockout cells. We hypothesized  
190 that whether the cytosolic DNA is accumulated in *Ogt* knockout cells, we stained cytosolic double-  
191 strand DNA (dsDNA) with PicoGreen, a widely used immunofluorescence staining that selectively  
192 binds to dsDNA [33, 34], and found that a significantly higher percentage of *Ogt* deficiency cells  
193 than control cells in two different *Ogt* knockout MC38 and LLC cell clones, respectively (Fig. 4A  
194 and Supplemental Fig. 4A). In addition, we also stained dsDNA with anti-dsDNA  
195 immunofluorescence and the results were similar to PicoGreen staining (Fig. 4B and Supplemental  
196 Fig. 4B). We next assessed the phosphorylation of H2AX at Ser 139 ( $\gamma$ H2AX), an indirect marker  
197 of DNA DSBs in the cell lines [35]. Comparable expression levels of H2AX, we found that  $\gamma$ H2AX  
198 was dramatically increased in *Ogt* knockout MC38, LLC, HT29 and B16-OVA cells (Fig. 4C and  
199 4F). We also used the anti- $\gamma$ H2AX immunofluorescence staining and comet assays, a classical  
200 quantifying and analyzing DNA damage, and found that *Ogt* knockout significantly induced  
201 immense DNA strand breakage in MC38 cells (Fig. 4D-E). Finally, the rescued results showed  
202 that exogenous OGT expression abolished the  $\gamma$ H2AX expression both in MC38, LLC, HT29 and  
203 B16-OVA cells and DNA damage in MC38 cells (Fig. 4F-H). Together, these data indicated that  
204 *Ogt* knockout caused DNA damage and induced the cytosolic DNA accumulation.

## 205 **The C-terminus of HCF-1 rescues DNA damage and IFN-I pathway in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cells**

206 Previous studies in Fig. 3F and Fig. 4F showed that expression of exogenous OGT abolished the  
207 type I IFN and  $\gamma$ H2AX signals. To explore the mechanism how OGT regulate the IFN and  $\gamma$ H2AX  
208 production. Next, we use GFP agarose immunoprecipitation and liquid chromatography coupled  
209 to tandem MS (LC-MS/MS) to identify different proteins that interacted with OGT in human  
210 colonic cancer cell line HT29. Interestingly, HCF-1 was the most enriched protein in the  
211 precipitates from *OGT* restored HT29 knockout cells compared to *OGT* knockout cells  
212 reconstituted with empty vector, based on the number of peptides (indicating the identification  
213 confidence) and the number of peptide-spectrum matches (PSMs, indicating the abundance) (Fig.  
214 5A and Supplemental Table 4). Previous studies showed that the human epigenetic cell-cycle  
215 regulator (HCF-1) undergoes an unusual proteolytic maturation by OGT cleavage and process  
216 resulting in stably associated HCF-1<sup>N1011</sup> and HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> subunits that regulate different aspects of  
217 the cell cycle [36]. We found similar results in this study by using co-immunoprecipitation assay  
218 (Fig. 5B-C). We rescued the HCF-1 cleavage phenotype by expression of exogenous OGT (Fig.  
219 5D). To clarify how to OGT regulate function of HCF-1, we transfected empty vector (EV), the  
220 full-length HCF-1-HA (HCF-1<sup>FL</sup>), HCF-1<sup>1-1011</sup>-HA (HCF-1<sup>N1011</sup>), HCF-1<sup>1-450</sup>-HA (HCF-1<sup>N450</sup>),  
221 HCF-1<sup>450-1011</sup>-HA (HCF-1<sup>N450-1011</sup>) and HCF-1<sup>1436-2035</sup>-HA (HCF-1<sup>C600</sup>) and myc-OGT and found  
222 that OGT can bind HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> (Fig. 5E), furthermore OGT directly bind the HCF-1<sup>C600</sup>  
223 (Supplemental Fig. 5A-B). To further understand the physiological function of HCF-1, we  
224 transfected EV, HCF-1<sup>FL</sup>, HCF-1<sup>N1011</sup> and HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> into MC38 control and OGT knockout cells,  
225 respectively. As shown in Fig. 5F, transfected HCF-1<sup>FL</sup> and HCF-1<sup>N1011</sup> didn't rescue the gene  
226 expression differences, such as *Isg15*, *Mxl1* and *Ifnb1*, but HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> can restore the gene  
227 expression differences. These results were confirmed by using western blot and anti-dsDNA

228 immunofluorescence staining (Fig. 5G-H). Overall, these data indicated that OGT regulates the  
229 HCF-1 cleavage and maturation, HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> can eliminate the cytosolic DNA accumulation, DNA  
230 damage, the type I IFN activation and restrain cGAS-STING-mediated DNA sensing.

231  
232 **OGT deficiency inhibits tumor progression through enhancing infiltration by CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells**

233 We examined whether inhibiting *Ogt* can delay the tumor growth and prolong the survival. To  
234 further verify these effects, we utilized transplanted tumor model. We found that the *Ogt* deficiency  
235 MC38 colorectal tumor cells have no obvious inhibit cell growth *in vitro* (Supplemental Fig. 6A).  
236 However, we found that a significant delay in tumor growth, tumor weight and prolong mice  
237 survival compared to the control group (Fig. 6A-B). We also used lewis lung carcinoma (LLC)  
238 cells and the B16-OVA melanoma cells because they represent an aggressive murine tumor model  
239 and are highly resistant to various immunotherapies, similar results were shown in Fig. 6C-D and  
240 Supplemental Fig. 6B-E. These results showed that *Ogt* deficiency could delay tumor growth and  
241 prolong survival of mice in MC38, LLC, and B16-OVA tumor model. We next examined whether  
242 the enhanced antitumor function is related to tumor microenvironment (TME). Consistently,  
243 tumors from C57BL/6 immunocompetent mice bearing *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38 tumors compared with MC38  
244 control tumors, showed higher proportion of CD8<sup>+</sup> and CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells, functional CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup>,  
245 CD8<sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> double positive T cells, but not CD45<sup>+</sup>, CD11b<sup>+</sup> CD11c<sup>+</sup>,  
246 CD11b<sup>+</sup> F4/80<sup>+</sup>, CD11b<sup>+</sup> Ly6C<sup>+</sup> and Treg cells (Fig. 6E-H and Supplemental Fig. 7D-H). The  
247 similar results were also observed in mice challenged with LLC or B16-OVA cells (Supplemental  
248 Fig. 7I-P).

249 To determine whether *Ogt* deficiency is dependent upon adaptive immune system, we  
250 inoculated MC38 control and *Ogt* knockout cells into immunodeficient *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup> mice and tracked  
251 tumor growth. The difference of tumor growth rate disappeared between MC38-*Ogt* knockout and

252 control ones (Fig. 6I), indicating their association with an impaired immune response. We then  
253 postulated that *Ogt* knockout might have potent antitumor effects *in vivo* through CD4<sup>+</sup> T and  
254 CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells. In order to test this hypothesis, we performed antibody-mediated CD4<sup>+</sup> T or CD8<sup>+</sup>  
255 T cells depletion in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> and control tumor-bearing mice and examined the tumor growth and  
256 survival. Depletion CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells dramatically enhanced the tumor growth in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> tumor-bearing  
257 mice, compared to the isotype antibody treatment group, and their antitumor activity of *Ogt*  
258 deficiency disappeared, both in tumor volume, weight and survival curve (Fig. 6J-K). However,  
259 depletion CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells have no obvious effect both in tumor volume and weight in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> tumor-  
260 bearing mice, compared to the isotype antibody treatment group (Supplemental Fig. 8A). These  
261 results implied that CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells mediated the inhibitory effect of *Ogt* deficiency on tumor  
262 progression.

263 Next, to determine whether this effect is specific for OGT knockout, we performed this  
264 experiment *in vivo* using MC38 tumor-bearing rescue model. As we expected, decreased tumor  
265 growth and prolong mice survival phenotype disappeared both in OGT rescued cells (Fig. 6L-M)  
266 and in OGT/cGAS or OGT/STING double knockout tumors (Fig. 6N-O). Furthermore, flow  
267 cytometry results showed that the proportion of CD4<sup>+</sup> T and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells, CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup>  
268 TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> disappeared both in OGT rescued cells (Supplemental Fig. 8B-D) and in OGT/cGAS or  
269 OGT/STING double knockout tumors *in vivo* (Fig. 6P and Supplemental Fig. 8E-F). These results  
270 proved that OGT deficiency induces the cGAS/STING and activates the type I IFN pathway.

271 Increasing evidences support that intratumoral infiltration of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells dictates the  
272 response to immune checkpoint blockade (ICB) therapy and its efficacy on various cancers [37,  
273 38]. Blocking PD-L1 can restore the anti-tumor immune function and enhance the antitumor  
274 immunity by promoting CD8-positive T-cell infiltration, which is widely used in clinical

275 immunotherapy [39, 40]. Because *Ogt* deficiency induced tumor cell-intrinsic immune response  
276 to recruit CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells into MC38, LLC and B16-OVA cells, we hypothesized that *Ogt* deficiency  
277 potentiated enhance the efficacy of PD-L1 blockade *in vivo*. To test this hypothesis, we carried out  
278 the combination treatment of *Ogt* knockout and neutralizing antibody (anti-PD-L1). MC38 and  
279 LLC tumor growth was significantly delayed in tumor-bearing mice treated with PD-L1 antibody  
280 compared to isotype control (Fig. 6Q and Supplemental Fig. 8G), which translated into extended  
281 survival (Fig. 6R and Supplemental Fig. 8H). Deletion of *Ogt* synergized with PD-L1 blockade  
282 treatments to improve antitumor immunity. We next assessed the potential relevance of *OGT* in  
283 human cancer immunity. We first analyzed gene expression profiles of cancer patients from TCGA  
284 database and survival, we found that low *OGT* expression was associated with improved overall  
285 survival (OS) and progression free survival (PFS) in patients with COAD (Fig. 6S-T). Using  
286 TIMER2.0 (<http://timer.cistrome.org>) analysis, we found that *OGT* expression negatively  
287 correlated with CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell infiltration (Fig. 6U). For further analysis, we found that a set of genes  
288 associated with immune response was robustly regulated in *OGT* high and *OGT* low patients. The  
289 response interferon-gamma, interferon-gamma production, cellular defense response, regulation  
290 of inflammatory response, acute inflammatory response is upregulated; DNA mismatch repair is a  
291 downregulated processe, as shown by Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment and pathway analysis  
292 (Supplemental Fig. 9A). Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) showed that T cell activation,  
293 response to interferon-gamma, interferon-gamma production, antigen processing and presentation,  
294 interleukin-1/12 production, dectin-1 mediated noncanonical NF-κB signaling are negatively  
295 correlated with *OGT* expression (Supplemental Fig. 9B-H), while mismatch repair, covalent  
296 chromatin modification and DNA repair complex are positively correlated with *OGT* expression  
297 (Supplemental Fig. 9I-K). Of our most interest, we found that *CD8A*, *IFNG*, *ISG15*, *MX1*, *CD274*

298 and *CXCL10* expression are negatively correlated with *OGT* expression (Supplemental Fig. 9L-  
299 Q). These data suggest a potential involvement of *OGT* deficiency and antitumor immunity in  
300 patients with cancer.

301  
302 **Combination therapy with OSMI-1 and anti-PD-L1 Ab augmented T cells and antitumor**  
303 **immunity**

304 Based on previous studies, we know that *Ogt* knockout causes DNA damage, accumulates  
305 cytosolic DNA, induces cGAS-STING pathway and activates antitumor immunity. Here we  
306 speculated that OGT inhibitor may cause DNA damage and activate antitumor immunity. OSMI-  
307 1 is a small molecule inhibitor of OGT that does not significantly affect other glycosyltransferases  
308 and is active in a very low doses [41]. The cell proliferation exhibited no obvious difference in  
309 different concentrations in MC38 and LLC cells *in vitro* assay (Supplemental Fig. 10A-B). We  
310 stained cytosolic dsDNA with anti-dsDNA and found that treatment with OSMI-1 could  
311 significantly induce a high percentage of cytosolic DNA accumulation (Fig. 7A and Supplemental  
312 Fig. 10C). We next examined the DNA damage and found that  $\gamma$ H2AX was obviously increased  
313 in OSMI-1 treated cells (Fig. 7B-C). We also performed the anti- $\gamma$ H2AX immunofluorescence  
314 staining and found that OSMI-1 significantly induced immense DNA strand breakage in treated  
315 cells (Fig. 7D and Supplemental Fig. 10D).

316 As we all know, the presence of cytosolic DNA could trigger activation of cGAS-STING  
317 pathway [42]. To investigate whether OSMI-1 activated cGAS/STING pathway, we examined  
318 activation of major regulators of the pathway in OSMI-1-treated MC38 and LLC cells, as indicated  
319 by increased phosphorylation of STAT1, TBK1, and IRF3 and reduced STING expression  
320 (Fig.7B-C), which is consistent with *Ogt* knockout cells. As mentioned earlier, deletion of *Ogt*  
321 synergized with PD-L1 blockade treatments to improve antitumor immunity. We next sought to

322 determine whether OSMI-1 enhanced the antitumor immune effect of anti-PD-L1 antibody *in vivo*  
323 by using MC38 tumor-bearing model. To our surprise, similar to anti-PD-L1 therapy, OSMI-1  
324 alone significantly inhibited MC38 tumor growth and survival, and the combination of OSMI-1  
325 and anti-PD-L1 therapy resulted in superior tumor suppression compared with monotherapy (Fig.  
326 7E-F). Flow cytometry results showed that proportion of CD4<sup>+</sup> T and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells was increased  
327 both in OSMI-1, anti-PD-L1 treatment alone and combined treatment with OSMI-1 and anti-PD-  
328 L1 antibody (Fig. 7I), production of IFN- $\gamma$  and TNF- $\alpha$  were significantly enhanced in intratumoral  
329 CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells not only combined treatment with OSMI-1 and anti-PD-L1 antibody, but also single-  
330 agent OSMI-1 treatment (Fig. 7J-K). This pharmacological inhibition model is consistent with  
331 MC38 *Ogt* knockout tumor-bearing mice model.

332 Furthermore, we treated mice bearing LLC tumors, because it represents a most aggressive  
333 murine tumor model and are highly resistant to various immunotherapies. Our results showed that  
334 treatment with single-agent OSMI-1 can slightly inhibited LLC tumor growth and survival.  
335 Combined treatment with OSMI-1 and anti-PD-L1 antibody caused significantly greater tumor  
336 suppression than either monotherapy (Fig. 7F-G). We also found that proportion of CD4<sup>+</sup> T and  
337 CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells was significantly increased in combined treatment with OSMI-1 and anti-PD-L1  
338 antibody. However, single-agent OSMI-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody treatment cannot significantly  
339 increased the proportion of CD4<sup>+</sup> T and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (Fig. 7L). Production of IFN- $\gamma$  and TNF- $\alpha$   
340 were significantly enhanced in intratumoral CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells in combined treatment with OSMI-1 and  
341 anti-PD-L1 antibody, but not in single-agent OSMI-1 or anti-PD-L1 treatment (Fig. 7M-N). This  
342 model is also consistent with *Ogt* knockout tumor-bearing mice model. In summary, OGT inhibitor  
343 OSMI-1 induces DNA damage and cytosolic DNA accumulation, activates cGAS/STING  
344 pathway. Combined OGT inhibitor with anti-PD-L1 antibody markedly suppressed tumor growth

345 and increased CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells and production of IFN- $\gamma$  and TNF- $\alpha$  in tumor. These results  
346 demonstrated a pivotal role of OGT inhibition in augmenting the antitumor immune response of  
347 ICB. Given the increasing importance of immunotherapy for the management of patients with that  
348 OGT inhibitors, combined with anti-PD-L1 blockade may offer a particularly attractive strategy  
349 for the treatment of colorectal and lung cancer, which are instrumental in turning ‘cold tumors’  
350 into ‘hot tumors’.

351

352



## 353 **Discussion**

354 As an important metabolic enzyme, OGT promotes tumorigenesis by glycosylating numerous  
355 proteins. This study found that OGT levels are elevated in both human and mouse tumors (Fig. 1).  
356 Additionally, epithelial deletion of OGT inhibits colorectal tumorigenesis in mice (Fig. 2). DNA  
357 damage and DNA repair signaling pathways play pivotal roles in maintaining genomic stability  
358 and integrity by correcting impaired DNA, which otherwise can contribute to carcinogenesis [43].  
359 These pathways are activated in response to endogenous or exogenous DNA-damaging agents,  
360 helping cells to preserve genomic stability. HCF1 is a member of the host cell factor family,  
361 involved in regulating the cell cycle and playing regulatory roles in various transcription-related  
362 processes. This study found that OGT deficiency leads to DNA damage and cytosolic DNA  
363 accumulation (Fig. 4) by regulating HCF-1 cleavage and maturation (Fig. 5). In antitumor  
364 therapies, chemotherapy and radiotherapy induce cell death by directly or indirectly causing DNA  
365 damage, thereby increasing tumor sensitivity to cancer therapies. DNA damage-inducing therapies  
366 have proven to be immensely beneficial for cancer treatment, functioning by directly or indirectly  
367 forming DNA lesions and subsequently inhibiting cellular proliferation. Therefore, targeting DNA  
368 repair pathways may represent a promising therapeutic approach for cancer treatment. In this  
369 study, we observed that deletion of OGT leads to uncontrolled expansion of DNA damage and  
370 induces cytosolic dsDNA accumulation in tumor cells, suggesting that OGT is a promising  
371 therapeutic target for cancer treatment.

372 The cytosolic DNA sensing pathway has emerged as the major link between DNA damage and  
373 innate immunity, DNA damage in the nucleus results in the accumulation of cytosolic DNA, which  
374 activate the cGAS–STING pathway [44-49]. This study found that OGT deficiency activates the  
375 cGAS/STING-dependent IFN-I pathway (Fig. 3), resulting in the expression of proinflammatory

376 cytokines (e.g., IFN $\beta$ 1 and ISGs) and chemokines (e.g., CXCL10) in a TBK1-IRF3-dependent  
377 manner. OGT deficiency causes DNA damage and cytosolic DNA accumulation, which triggers  
378 this response. The cGAS–STING pathway is the key cytosolic DNA sensor responsible for the  
379 type I IFN production, DC activation, and subsequent priming of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells against tumor-  
380 associated antigens [30, 50, 51]. Recent evidence shows that proper activation of tumor cell-  
381 intrinsic immunity or innate immune cells can enhance antitumor immunity [34, 52, 53]. In this  
382 study, cGAS-STING-IFN $\beta$ 1-CXCL10 signaling axis can provide an activated signal for epitope-  
383 specific CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell priming by antigen-presenting cells. Ultimately, this process results in  
384 increased infiltration of tumor-infiltrating CD8<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes and more effective inhibition of  
385 tumor growth within the tumor microenvironment (TME) (Fig 6). However, knockout of cGAS or  
386 STING can eliminate the proliferation signal of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells and abolish antitumor immunity  
387 (Supplemental Fig. 11).

388         Immunotherapy with checkpoint-blocking antibodies targeting CTLA-4 and PD-1/PD-L1  
389 has revolutionized cancer treatment and drastically improved the survival of individuals in the  
390 clinical treatment. Although immunotherapy has made great progress in the treatment of solid  
391 tumors, only around 20% of patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) respond to mono-  
392 immunotherapy, and a large proportion of individuals develop resistance. Therefore, there is a  
393 need to explore novel alternative strategies and personalized immunotherapy strategies through  
394 combinations of PD-1/PD-L1 blockade with small molecular targets. This is aimed at improving  
395 sensitivity to activated antitumor immune responses in patients and addressing drug resistance [54,  
396 55]. Here we showed that the OGT inhibitor OSMI-1 induced DNA damage and cytosolic DNA  
397 accumulation which led to activation of the cGAS-STING-TBK1-IRF3 pathway, then enhanced  
398 the innate and adaptive immune responses to tumor cells, which reversed the immunosuppressive

399 TME by increasing CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells infiltration. To our surprise, especially in lung cancer mice model,  
400 combination therapy with OSMI-1/PD-L1 can achieve a better antitumor effect than either  
401 monotherapy (Fig7).

402 In summary, our findings demonstrated deficiency in OGT mediated genomic instability  
403 and result in cytosolic dsDNA accumulation, which activating the cGAS-STING signaling  
404 pathway, increasing inflammatory cytokines, and enhancing antitumor immunity. Our study also  
405 addresses an unmet clinical need through the combination of OGT inhibition and anti-PD-L1  
406 therapy, which may represent a promising strategy for colorectal and lung cancer therapy.

407

408 **Acknowledgments**

409 We thank members of the Wen lab for discussion. This work was supported by National Institutes  
410 of Health (NIH) grants R01GM135234 and R01AI162779 (H.W.), R01AI077283 and  
411 R01CA262089 (Z.L.), R01DE026728 (Y.L.) and The Ohio State University Comprehensive  
412 Cancer Center Intramural Research Program (A.M., D.M.J., K.H. and H.W.).

413

414 **Conflict of Interest**

415 The authors declare no competing interests.

416

417 **Declarations**

418 Ethics approval and consent to participate The National Institutes of Health Guide for the Care and  
419 Use of Laboratory Animals was followed in this study. The study was approved by the Ethics  
420 Committee of The Ohio State University and all procedures were conducted in accordance with  
421 the experimental animal guidelines of The Ohio State University (Project ID 2018A00000022).

422

423

424 **Materials and methods**

425 **Mice**

426 *Ogt*<sup>ΔIEC</sup>*Apc*<sup>min</sup> mice were generated by crossing the *Ogt*<sup>fl/fl</sup> mice with Villin-Cre mice, then crossed  
427 with *Apc*<sup>min</sup> mice. C57BL/6 mice, *Apc*<sup>min</sup> mice, Villin-Cre mice, *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup> mice, *Ifnar1*<sup>-/-</sup> mice and  
428 OT-I mice were purchased from Jackson Laboratories. Mice between 8 to 10 weeks of age were  
429 used for the animal experiments, tail genomic DNA was isolated for genotyping. Primers for  
430 genotyping PCR are listed in Supplemental Table 1. All *in vivo* experiments were conducted in  
431 accordance with the National Institutes of Health Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory  
432 Animals and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. The study was approved by the  
433 Ethics Committee of The Ohio State University and all procedures were conducted in accordance  
434 with the experimental animal guidelines of The Ohio State University.

435 **Cell lines and plasmids**

436 Cell lines used in this study including 293T cell line (CRL-3216), B16-OVA cell line (murine  
437 melanoma, SCC-420) from Millipore Sigma, MC38 cell line (CVCL-B288), LLC cell line and  
438 HT29 cell line from the American Type Culture Collection. 293T, MC38, B16-OVA, LLC and  
439 HT29 cells were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (Gibco) supplemented with 10%  
440 fetal bovine serum (Millipore Sigma), 1% glutamine (Gibco), 1% sodium pyruvate, 1% non-  
441 essential amino acids (Gibco), 100 IU/ml penicillin and 100 mg/ml streptomycin (Gibco). The  
442 pWPXLd-OGT-GFP fusion vector was described in our previous articles,<sup>(2)</sup> pET24a-ncOGT-FL  
443 (190821, Addgene), other plasmids were cloned into pcDNA3.1 backbone with c-myc or HA tag.

444 **Quantitative Real-Time PCR**

445 Total RNA was extracted from *in vitro* cultured cells and tissues using Trizol reagent (Invitrogen).  
446 cDNA synthesis was performed with Moloney murine leukemia virus reverse transcriptase

447 (Invitrogen) at 38°C for 60 min. RT-PCR was performed using iTaq Universal SYBR Green  
448 Supermix in CFX Connect Real-Time PCR Detection System. The fold difference in mRNA  
449 expression between treatment groups was determined by a standard  $\Delta\Delta$ Ct method.  *$\beta$ -actin* and  
450 *GAPDH* were analyzed as an internal control. The primer sequences of individual genes are listed  
451 in the Supplemental Table 2.

#### 452 **Co-immunoprecipitation (Co-IP) and western blot**

453 For co-immunoprecipitation, cells were lysed in RIPA buffer supplemented with Protease Inhibitor  
454 Cocktail. Total protein extracts were incubated with goat anti-GFP Trap agarose (gta-20,  
455 Chromotek) or anti-c-Myc Agarose (20168, Thermo Fisher Scientific) overnight at 4°C under  
456 gentle agitation. Samples were washed 4 times with cold RIPA buffer. To elute proteins from the  
457 beads, samples were incubated with 50  $\mu$ l of SDS sample buffer at 95°C for 10 min. Protein content  
458 in the supernatant was analyzed by western blot. For western blot, electrophoresis of proteins was  
459 performed by using the NuPAGE system (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's protocol.  
460 Briefly, cultured cells were collected and lysed with RIPA buffer. Proteins were separated on a  
461 NuPAGE gel and were transferred onto nitrocellulose membranes (Bio-Rad). Appropriate primary  
462 antibodies and HRP-conjugated secondary antibodies were used and proteins were detected using  
463 the Enhanced Chemiluminescent (ECL) reagent (Thermo Scientific). The images were acquired  
464 with ChemiDoc MP System (Bio-Rad). Primary antibodies for western blot included anti-OGT  
465 (5368, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-*O*-GlcNAc (ab2739, Abcam), anti-MAVS (sc-365334,  
466 Santa Cruz Biotechnology), anti-phospho-TBK1/NAK (Ser172) (5483, Cell Signaling  
467 Technology), anti-TBK1 (3504, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-phospho-IRF3 (Ser396) (4947,  
468 Cell Signaling Technology), anti-IRF3 (4962, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-anti-phospho-  
469 STAT1 (Ser727) (8826S, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-STAT1 (9172, Cell Signaling

470 Technology), anti-STING (D2P2F) (13647, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-cGAS for mouse  
471 (31659S, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-cGAS for human (15102S, Cell Signaling Technology),  
472 anti-Phospho-Histone H2AX (Ser139) (MA1-2022, Thermo Fisher Scientific), anti-H2AX (2595S,  
473 Cell Signaling Technology), anti-HCFC1 (50708S, Cell Signaling Technology), anti-GFP (sc-  
474 9996, Santa Cruz Biotechnology), anti-Actin (sc-1615, Santa Cruz Biotechnology), anti-Myc-  
475 peroxidase (11814150001, Millipore Sigma) and anti-HA-HRP (26183, Thermo Fisher Scientific).

#### 476 ***In vitro* pull-down assay**

477 Recombinant OGT-his purified from *E. coli* system. The recombinant HA-HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> were  
478 expressed in 293T cells and total protein extracts were incubated with Pierce™ Anti-HA Magnetic  
479 Beads (88836, Thermo Fisher Scientific) overnight at 4°C under gentle agitation, then  
480 competitively with HA Synthetic Peptide (PP100028, Sino Biological) to purify HA-HCF-1<sup>C600</sup>  
481 recombinant protein. Proteins were then mixed with the Ni<sup>2+</sup> beads for 2 h with rotation at 4°C,  
482 The beads were then washed with washed 4 times with cold RIPA buffer, and protein samples  
483 were analyzed by western blot and commassie blue staining.

#### 484 **ELISA**

485 Cytokines generated by in vitro cultured tissues from mice were quantified using the ELISA Set  
486 for mouse IL-2, IL-6, IL-10, IL-12a, IL-17, IFN- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\beta$ , IFN- $\gamma$ , CXCL10 and TNF- $\alpha$  (BD  
487 Biosciences) according to the manufacturer's protocol.

#### 488 **Lentivirus-mediated gene knockout in mice and human cell lines**

489 pLenti-CRISPR-V2 vector was used for CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene knockout in MC38, B16-  
490 OVA, LLC and HT29 cell lines, all primers used for sgRNA are listed in the Supplemental Table  
491 3. Briefly, lentivirus vector expressing gRNA was transfected together with package vectors into  
492 293T package cells. 48 h and 72 h after transfection, virus supernatants were harvested and filtrated

493 with 0.2 $\mu$ m filter. Target cells were infected twice and 2  $\mu$ g/mL puromycin was added at 3-5 days  
494 for selection. After that, the positive cells were diluted into 96-well plates at one cell per well.  
495 Isolated single clones were verified by western blot.

#### 496 **Quantification of Cytosolic DNA**

497 For PicoGreen staining, cells were washed twice with cold PBS and fixed with cold methanol at -  
498 20°C for 10 minutes. After being washed three times with PBS, cells were blocked with 1% BSA  
499 in PBS for 1 h and stained with Pico488 dsDNA quantification reagent for 1 h. After being washed  
500 three times with PBS, the dish was mounted on white microscope slides using the Prolong<sup>TM</sup> Gold  
501 Antifade Mountant reagent with DAPI and imaged on confocal microscope.

502 For anti-dsDNA staining, cells were washed with 1  $\times$  PBS. Fix the cells with fresh 4% of  
503 para-formaldehyde (sc-281692, Santa Cruz Biotechnology) for 10 min at room temperature, then  
504 discard the 4% PFA in an appropriate container, wash the cells with 1  $\times$  PBS, incubate the cells  
505 with the permeabilization buffer for 7 min at room temperature. After three additional washes with  
506 1  $\times$  PBS, block nonspecific binding sites by incubating the cells with the blocking buffer for 30  
507 min at room temperature. Remove the blocking buffer (Do not wash). Anti-dsDNA antibody (sc-  
508 58749, Santa Cruz Biotechnology) at 1:100 in 1% BSA-PBST.

509 Incubate samples with diluted anti-dsDNA antibody in humidified chamber overnight at 4  
510 °C. Wash 3 times by 1  $\times$  PBS. Dilute the secondary antibody (goat anti-mouse IgG H&L Alexa  
511 Fluor® 488 preabsorbed, ab150117, Abcam) at 1:200 in 1% BSA-PBST. Incubate samples with  
512 the diluted secondary antibody for 1 h at room temperature. Wash 3 times by 1  $\times$  PBS (for 5 min  
513 at room temperature). Drop mounting media containing DAPI (Vector laboratories, Vectashield®  
514 Hardset<sup>TM</sup> Anti-fade mounting medium with DAPI, H-1500) on a slide, and put carefully the cover  
515 slip. Let it sit for 1–3 h at room temperature. Keep the slide overnight at 4 °C in slide box. Observe



516 and acquire pictures with a fluorescence microscope using the RFP and DAPI channels the next  
517 day to ensure that the mounting medium is completely dry.

### 518 **Immunohistochemistry (IHC) and immunofluorescence staining**

519 For immunostaining of tissue sections, 5  $\mu$ m paraffin-embedded sections were cut from paraffin  
520 blocks of biopsies. Tissue slides were placed in oven at 60°C for half 1 h and then deparaffinized  
521 in xylene 3 times for 5 min each followed by dipping in graded alcohols (100%, 95%, 80% and  
522 70%) 3 times for 2 min each. Slides were washed with distilled water (dH<sub>2</sub>O) 3 times for 5 min  
523 each and immersed in 3% hydrogen peroxide for 10 min followed by washing with dH<sub>2</sub>O. Slides  
524 were transferred into pre-heated 0.01M Citrate buffer (pH 6.0) in a steamer for 30 min, and then  
525 washed with dH<sub>2</sub>O and PBS after cooling. Slides were blocked with 3% BSA/PBS at room  
526 temperature for 1 h and then incubated with primary antibody overnight at 4°C, followed by  
527 incubating with secondary antibody including Biotinylated Anti-rabbit IgG and Biotinylated Anti-  
528 mouse IgG at room temperature for 1h. After incubation with avidin-biotin complex followed by  
529 washing 3  $\times$  5 min with PBS, slides were washed with tap water, counterstained with hematoxylin  
530 and dipped briefly in graded alcohols (70%, 80%, 95% and 100%) in xylene 2 times for 5 min  
531 each. Finally, slides were mounted and imaged by confocal microscopy. For the histological  
532 scoring, image J software was used and scored in a blinded fashion using a previously published  
533 paper [56].

534 For the immunofluorescence staining on cells, cells were cultured on the dish. After  
535 treatment, cells were washed with PBS, and then fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) for  
536 10min, and permeabilized by 0.1% triton X-100. Non-specific binding was blocked through  
537 incubation with 5% BSA for 1 h. Cells were stained with anti- $\gamma$ H2AX (05-636-I, Millipore Sigma)  
538 overnight at 4°C, and then incubated with fluorochrome-conjugated 2 nd antibodies for 1 h at room

539 temperature. Nucleus was visualized by mounting with DAPI-containing. Finally, cells were  
540 imaged by confocal microscopy.

541 For the histological scoring, slides were then examined and scored in a blinded fashion  
542 using a previously published grading system [57]. Briefly, histology was scored as follows:–  
543 Epithelium (E): 0, normal morphology; 1, loss of goblet cells; 2, loss of goblet cells in large areas;  
544 3, loss of crypts; and 4, loss of crypts in large areas. –Infiltration (I): 0, no infiltration; 1, infiltration  
545 around crypt bases; 2, infiltration reaching the muscularis mucosa; 3, extensive infiltration  
546 reaching the muscularis mucosa and thickening of the mucosa with abundant edema; and 4,  
547 infiltration of the submucosa. The total histological score was the sum of the epithelium and  
548 infiltration scores (total score = E + I), and thus ranged from 0 to 8.

#### 549 **Comet SCGE assays**

550 Cells were trypsinized to a single cell suspension. Dilute approximat 1:1 in PBS, and immediate  
551 place 1 ml of cell suspension in a 1.5 ml tube on mice. Count cells and ensure a density between  
552  $10^6$ /ml suspension, add 5  $\mu$ l cell suspension and 50  $\mu$ l melted LMAgarose. Mix well and drop it on  
553 the slide at 37°C. Place the slides immediately at 4°C for 30 min. Drop slides immersed in cold  
554 lysis solution at 4°C for 30 min. After cell lysis, electrophoresis was then carried out in the TBE  
555 for 30 min at 35 V voltage. Lastly, DNA was stained with EtBr (20 mg/ml) dye for 10 min. Slides  
556 were completely air-dried before taking images. Images were taken by the confocal microscopy  
557 and analyzed by using CometScore 2.0.

#### 558 ***In vitro* Cross-Priming of T Cells by BMDCs**

559 BMDCs were prepared by flushing bone marrow from mouse hindlimbs and plating  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/ml  
560 in RPMI 1640 media with 10% FBS and 20 ng/ml mGM-CSF. Fresh medium with mGM-CSF  
561 was added into the wells on day 4. On day 6, immature BMDCs were harvested and loaded with

562 1 µg/ml OVA<sup>257-264</sup> (GenScript), B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> and B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cells supernatant at 37°C  
563 for 6 h. BMDCs were then washed three times with PBS to remove excessive peptide followed by  
564 resuspension in RPMI 160 medium with 10% FBS. OT-I CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells were harvested from spleens  
565 of wildtype OT-1 mice by CD8<sup>+</sup> T Cell Enrichment Kit (Miltenyi), labeled with CFSE with 5 µM  
566 CFSE (carboxyfluorescein succinimidyl ester, Life Technologies) in PBS containing 0.1% BSA  
567 (Millipore Sigma) for 8 min at 37°C. CFSE-labeled OT-I CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells were co-cultured with  
568 OVA<sup>257-254</sup> peptide, B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> and B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cells supernatant pulsed BMDCs at a  
569 5:1 ratio in 96-well plates. Analysis of the in vitro expansion was performed 48 h after co-culture  
570 by enumerating the number of CFSE-diluted CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells.

#### 571 **Mass spectrometry assay of OGT interactome**

572 High resolution/accurate mass-based quantitative proteomics strategy was employed to identify  
573 protein-protein interactions. Briefly, immunoprecipitated (GFP) OGT complex from *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>+GFP  
574 and *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>+OGT-GFP in HT29 cells were boiled with SDS buffer followed by Suspension  
575 Trapping based on-filter digestion. The digests were desalted using C18 StageTips, dried in a  
576 SpeedVac and then resuspended in 20 µl LC buffer A (0.1% formic acid in water) for LC-MS/MS  
577 analysis. The analysis was performed using an Orbitrap Eclipse MS (Thermo Fisher Scientific)  
578 coupled with an Ultimate 3000 nanoLC system and a nanospray Flex ion source (Thermo Fisher  
579 Scientific). Peptides were first loaded onto a trap column (PepMap C18; 2 cm×100 µm I.D.) and  
580 then separated by an analytical column (PepMap C18, 3.0 µm; 20 cm×75mm I.D.) using a binary  
581 buffer system (buffer A, 0.1% formic acid in water; buffer B, 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile)  
582 with a 165-min gradient (1% to 25% buffer B over 115 min; 25% to 80% buffer B over 10 min;  
583 back to 2% B in 5 min for equilibration after staying on 80% B for 15 min). MS data were acquired  
584 in a data-dependent top-12 method with a maximum injection time of 20 ms, a scan range of 350

585 to 1,800 Da, and an automatic gain control target of 1e6. MS/MS was performed via higher energy  
586 collisional dissociation fragmentation with a target value of  $5e^5$  and maximum injection time of  
587 100 ms. Full MS and MS/MS scans were acquired by Orbitrap at resolutions of 60,000 and 17,500,  
588 respectively. Dynamic exclusion was set to 20 s. Protein identification and quantitation were  
589 performed using the MaxQuant-Andromeda software suite (version 1.6.3.4) with most of the  
590 default parameters. Other parameters include: trypsin as an enzyme with maximally two missed  
591 cleavage sites; protein N-terminal acetylation and methionine oxidation as variable modifications;  
592 cysteine carbamidomethylation as a fixed modification; peptide length must be at least 7 amino  
593 acids. False discovery rate was set at 1% for both proteins and peptides.

#### 594 **Colitis-associated carcinogenesis (CAC) animal model**

595 The induction of AOM+DSS tumorigenesis model, mice received a single intraperitoneal injection  
596 (10 mg/kg body weight) of AOM followed by three cycles of 2.5% DSS exposure for 5 days. Mice  
597 were sacrificed and tumor assessments were made 8 weeks after AOM injection. Body weight and  
598 tumor number were measured for each animal at the completion of each study. Finally, the colon  
599 tissues were collected for further study.

#### 600 **Tumor cell inoculation**

601 For tumor growth,  $5 \times 10^5$  MC38, LLC and B16-OVA cells were inoculated subcutaneously in the  
602 right flank at C57BL/6 mice or *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup> mice. For CD8<sup>+</sup> and CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell depletion, mice were  
603 treated with 200  $\mu$ g of control IgG (clone LTF-2, Bio X cell) or anti-CD8 $\alpha$  depleting antibody  
604 (clone 2.43, Bio X cell) at day 0, 7 and 14 post tumor cell inoculation. For PD-L1 blockade, mice  
605 were intraperitoneally injected with 250  $\mu$ g of control IgG or anti-PD-L1 antibody (clone 10F.9G2,  
606 Bio X Cell) at day 7, 10 and 13 post tumor cell inoculation. For OSMI-1 treatment experiment,  
607 OSMI-1 (10 mg/kg) (Aobious, AOB5700) was administered intraperitoneally every two days from

608 3 to 19 days after post tumor cell inoculation, Digital caliper was used to measure tumor volume  
609 at least three times a week and tumor volume were calculated using the formula  $\text{mm}^3 =$   
610  $(\text{Length} \times \text{width} \times \text{width} / 2)$ . Mice were sacrificed at 18 days for flow cytometry and sacrificed when  
611 tumors reached a size of  $2000 \text{ mm}^3$  for survival curve.

### 612 **Flow cytometry for TME**

613 Mice tumors were dissected and weighed, then minced into small fragments and digested with 1  
614 mg/mL collagenase IV and 50 U/mL DNase I for 30 min at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . The cell suspensions were  
615 mechanically disaggregated and filtered with  $100 \mu\text{m}$  cell strainers. Centrifuge and lysed with the  
616 ammonium-chloride-potassium (ACK) lysis buffer for 5 min, then added PBS and passed through  
617  $100 \mu\text{m}$  cell strainers. Single cell suspensions were treated with purified anti-CD16/32 (Fc receptor  
618 block, clone 93; BioLegend), and then stained with fluorochrome-conjugated monoclonal  
619 antibodies, including anti-CD11b-FITC (M1/70), anti-F4/80-APC (BM8), anti-CD11c-PE-Cy5  
620 (N418), anti-Ly6C-PE (HK1.4), anti-CD4-PE (GK1.5), anti-CD8-APC (53-6.7), anti-CD25-PE-  
621 Cy5 (PC61) from BioLegend. For intracellular cytokine staining of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes  
622 (TILs), cells were stimulated *in vitro* with phorbol-12-myristate 13-acetate (PMA) (50 ng/ml,  
623 Millipore Sigma) and ionomycin (500 ng/ml, Millipore Sigma) in the presence of GolgiPlug and  
624 GolgiStop (BD Biosciences) for 4 h, and then surface stained as aforementioned. Cells were then  
625 fixed and permeabilized using BD Cytofix/Cytoperm (BD Biosciences) and stained with anti-IFN-  
626  $\gamma$  (XMG1.2) and anti-TNF- $\alpha$  (MP6-XT22) from BioLegend. For intranuclear Foxp3 staining,  
627 single-cell suspensions were stained with antibodies against cell-surface antigens as  
628 aforementioned, fixed and permeabilized using Foxp3 Fix/Perm Buffer Kit (BioLegend) followed  
629 by staining with Foxp3 (clone MF-14; BioLegend).

### 630 **Statistics analysis**

631 Data were analyzed on GraphPad Prism 8 (GraphPad Software) and R software v4.2.2. The  
632 statistical tests, replicate experiments and *P* values are all indicated in the figures and/or legends.  
633 *P* values were calculated using two-tailed student's *t* test, one-way ANOVA or two-way ANOVA  
634 with Tukey's multiple comparisons test, pearson correlation test, log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test for  
635 Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, two-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparisons test or  
636 Tukey's multiple comparisons test, Hypergeometric test and adjusted with Benjamini-Hochberg  
637 method correction and two-sided Wilcoxon's rank-sum test and adjusted with Bonferroni's  
638 correction. Differences between groups are shown as the mean  $\pm$  SD.  
639

640 **References**

- 641 1. Liu, Y.Y., Liu, H.Y., Yu, T.J., Lu, Q., Zhang, F.L., Liu, G.Y., Shao, Z.M., and Li, D.Q.  
642 (2022) **O-GlcNAcylation of MORC2 at threonine 556 by OGT couples TGF-beta**  
643 **signaling to breast cancer progression** *Cell Death and Differentiation*. **29**, 861-873
- 644 2. Li, T., Li, X., Attri, K.S., Liu, C., Li, L., Herring, L.E., Asara, J.M., Lei, Y.L., Singh, P.K.,  
645 Gao, C., and Wen, H. (2018) **O-GlcNAc Transferase Links Glucose Metabolism to**  
646 **MAVS-Mediated Antiviral Innate Immunity** *Cell Host Microbe*. **24**, 791-803 e796
- 647 3. Li, X., Gong, W., Wang, H., Li, T., Attri, K.S., Lewis, R.E., Kalil, A.C., Bhinderwala, F.,  
648 Powers, R., Yin, G., Herring, L.E., Asara, J.M., Lei, Y.L., Yang, X., Rodriguez, D.A.,  
649 Yang, M., Green, D.R., Singh, P.K., and Wen, H. (2019) **O-GlcNAc Transferase**  
650 **Suppresses Inflammation and Necroptosis by Targeting Receptor-Interacting**  
651 **Serine/Threonine-Protein Kinase 3** *Immunity*. **50**, 576-590 e576
- 652 4. Zhu, Y., and Hart, G.W. (2023) **Dual-specificity RNA aptamers enable manipulation of**  
653 **target-specific O-GlcNAcylation and unveil functions of O-GlcNAc on beta-catenin**  
654 *Cell*. **186**, 428-445 e427
- 655 5. Mi, W., Gu, Y., Han, C., Liu, H., Fan, Q., Zhang, X., Cong, Q., and Yu, W. (2011) **O-**  
656 **GlcNAcylation is a novel regulator of lung and colon cancer malignancy** *Biochim*  
657 *Biophys Acta*. **1812**, 514-519
- 658 6. Phueaouan, T., Chaiyawat, P., Netsirisawan, P., Chokchaichamnankit, D., Punyarit, P.,  
659 Srisomsap, C., Svasti, J., and Champattanachai, V. (2013) **Aberrant O-GlcNAc-modified**  
660 **proteins expressed in primary colorectal cancer** *Oncol Rep*. **30**, 2929-2936
- 661 7. Olivier-Van Stichelen, S., Dehennaut, V., Buzy, A., Zachayus, J.L., Guinez, C., Mir, A.M.,  
662 El Yazidi-Belkoura, I., Copin, M.C., Boureme, D., Loyaux, D., Ferrara, P., and Lefebvre,  
663 T. (2014) **O-GlcNAcylation stabilizes beta-catenin through direct competition with**  
664 **phosphorylation at threonine 41** *FASEB journal : official publication of the Federation*  
665 *of American Societies for Experimental Biology*. **28**, 3325-3338
- 666 8. Fardini, Y., Dehennaut, V., Lefebvre, T., and Issad, T. (2013) **O-GlcNAcylation: A New**  
667 **Cancer Hallmark** *Front Endocrinol (Lausanne)*. **4**, 99
- 668 9. Chaiyawat, P., Netsirisawan, P., Svasti, J., and Champattanachai, V. (2014) **Aberrant O-**  
669 **GlcNAcylated Proteins: New Perspectives in Breast and Colorectal Cancer** *Front*  
670 *Endocrinol (Lausanne)*. **5**, 193
- 671 10. Ozcan, S., Andrali, S.S., and Cantrell, J.E.L. (2010) **Modulation of transcription factor**  
672 **function by O-GlcNAc modification** *Bba-Gene Regul Mech*. **1799**, 353-364
- 673 11. Olivier-Van Stichelen, S., Guinez, C., Mir, A.M., Perez-Cervera, Y., Liu, C., Michalski,  
674 J.C., and Lefebvre, T. (2012) **The hexosamine biosynthetic pathway and O-**  
675 **GlcNAcylation drive the expression of beta-catenin and cell proliferation** *Am J Physiol*  
676 *Endocrinol Metab*. **302**, E417-424
- 677 12. Yehezkel, G., Cohen, L., Kliger, A., Manor, E., and Khalaila, I. (2012) **O-linked beta-N-**  
678 **acetylglucosaminylation (O-GlcNAcylation) in primary and metastatic colorectal**  
679 **cancer clones and effect of N-acetyl-beta-D-glucosaminidase silencing on cell**  
680 **phenotype and transcriptome** *J Biol Chem*. **287**, 28755-28769
- 681 13. Wu, J., Bowe, D.B., Sadlonova, A., Whisenhunt, T.R., Hu, Y., Rustgi, A.K., Nie, Y.,  
682 Paterson, A.J., and Yang, X. (2014) **O-GlcNAc transferase is critical for transducin-**  
683 **like enhancer of split (TLE)-mediated repression of canonical Wnt signaling** *J Biol*  
684 *Chem*. **289**, 12168-12176

- 685 14. Li, S., Kong, L., Meng, Y., Cheng, C., Lemacon, D.S., Yang, Z., Tan, K., Cheruiyot, A.,  
686 Lu, Z., and You, Z. (2023) **Cytosolic DNA sensing by cGAS/STING promotes TRPV2-**  
687 **mediated Ca(2+) release to protect stressed replication forks** *Mol Cell*. **83**, 556-573  
688 e557
- 689 15. Ghosh, M., Saha, S., Bettke, J., Nagar, R., Parrales, A., Iwakuma, T., van der Velden,  
690 A.W.M., and Martinez, L.A. (2021) **Mutant p53 suppresses innate immune signaling to**  
691 **promote tumorigenesis** *Cancer Cell*. **39**, 494-508 e495
- 692 16. Fang, R., Jiang, Q., Jia, X., and Jiang, Z. (2023) **ARMH3-mediated recruitment of**  
693 **PI4KB directs Golgi-to-endosome trafficking and activation of the antiviral effector**  
694 **STING** *Immunity*. **56**, 500-515 e506
- 695 17. Kwon, J., and Bakhoun, S.F. (2020) **The Cytosolic DNA-Sensing cGAS-STING**  
696 **Pathway in Cancer** *Cancer Discov*. **10**, 26-39
- 697 18. Gu, Y., Mi, W., Ge, Y., Liu, H., Fan, Q., Han, C., Yang, J., Han, F., Lu, X., and Yu, W.  
698 (2010) **GlcNAcylation plays an essential role in breast cancer metastasis** *Cancer Res*.  
699 **70**, 6344-6351
- 700 19. Itkonen, H.M., Minner, S., Guldvik, I.J., Sandmann, M.J., Tsourlakis, M.C., Berge, V.,  
701 Svindland, A., Schlomm, T., and Mills, I.G. (2013) **O-GlcNAc transferase integrates**  
702 **metabolic pathways to regulate the stability of c-MYC in human prostate cancer cells**  
703 *Cancer Res*. **73**, 5277-5287
- 704 20. Jiang, M., Xu, B., Li, X., Shang, Y., Chu, Y., Wang, W., Chen, D., Wu, N., Hu, S., Zhang,  
705 S., Li, M., Wu, K., Yang, X., Liang, J., Nie, Y., and Fan, D. (2019) **O-GlcNAcylation**  
706 **promotes colorectal cancer metastasis via the miR-101-O-GlcNAc/EZH2 regulatory**  
707 **feedback circuit** *Oncogene*. **38**, 301-316
- 708 21. Yi, W., Clark, P.M., Mason, D.E., Keenan, M.C., Hill, C., Goddard, W.A., 3rd, Peters,  
709 E.C., Driggers, E.M., and Hsieh-Wilson, L.C. (2012) **Phosphofructokinase 1**  
710 **glycosylation regulates cell growth and metabolism** *Science*. **337**, 975-980
- 711 22. Yang, X.Y., and Qian, K.V. (2017) **Protein O-GlcNAcylation: emerging mechanisms**  
712 **and functions** *Nat Rev Mol Cell Bio*. **18**, 452-465
- 713 23) McNab, F., Mayer-Barber, K., Sher, A., Wack, A., and O'Garra, A. (2015) **Type I**  
714 **interferons in infectious disease** *Nat Rev Immunol*. **15**, 87-103
- 715 24. Liu, S., Cai, X., Wu, J., Cong, Q., Chen, X., Li, T., Du, F., Ren, J., Wu, Y.T., Grishin,  
716 N.V., and Chen, Z.J. (2015) **Phosphorylation of innate immune adaptor proteins**  
717 **MAVS, STING, and TRIF induces IRF3 activation** *Science*. **347**, aaa2630
- 718 25. Gui, X., Yang, H., Li, T., Tan, X., Shi, P., Li, M., Du, F., and Chen, Z.J. (2019) **Autophagy**  
719 **induction via STING trafficking is a primordial function of the cGAS pathway**  
720 *Nature*. **567**, 262-266
- 721 26. Gonugunta, V.K., Sakai, T., Pokatayev, V., Yang, K., Wu, J., Dobbs, N., and Yan, N.  
722 (2017) **Trafficking-Mediated STING Degradation Requires Sorting to Acidified**  
723 **Endolysosomes and Can Be Targeted to Enhance Anti-tumor Response** *Cell Rep*. **21**,  
724 3234-3242
- 725 27. Zhu, Y., An, X., Zhang, X., Qiao, Y., Zheng, T., and Li, X. (2019) **STING: a master**  
726 **regulator in the cancer-immunity cycle** *Mol Cancer*. **18**, 152
- 727 28. Joffre, O.P., Segura, E., Savina, A., and Amigorena, S. (2012) **Cross-presentation by**  
728 **dendritic cells** *Nat Rev Immunol*. **12**, 557-569
- 729 29. Zitvogel, L., Galluzzi, L., Kepp, O., Smyth, M.J., and Kroemer, G. (2015) **Type I**  
730 **interferons in anticancer immunity** *Nat Rev Immunol*. **15**, 405-414



- 731 30. Woo, S.R., Fuertes, M.B., Corrales, L., Spranger, S., Furdyna, M.J., Leung, M.Y., Duggan,  
732 R., Wang, Y., Barber, G.N., Fitzgerald, K.A., Alegre, M.L., and Gajewski, T.F. (2014)  
733 **STING-dependent cytosolic DNA sensing mediates innate immune recognition of**  
734 **immunogenic tumors** *Immunity*. **41**, 830-842
- 735 31. Xu, M.M., Pu, Y., Han, D., Shi, Y., Cao, X., Liang, H., Chen, X., Li, X.D., Deng, L., Chen,  
736 Z.J., Weichselbaum, R.R., and Fu, Y.X. (2017) **Dendritic Cells but Not Macrophages**  
737 **Sense Tumor Mitochondrial DNA for Cross-priming through Signal Regulatory**  
738 **Protein alpha Signaling** *Immunity*. **47**, 363-373 e365
- 739 32. Li, T., and Chen, Z.J. (2018) **The cGAS-cGAMP-STING pathway connects DNA**  
740 **damage to inflammation, senescence, and cancer** *J Exp Med*. **215**, 1287-1299
- 741 33. Shen, Y.J., Le Bert, N., Chitre, A.A., Koo, C.X., Nga, X.H., Ho, S.S., Khatoo, M., Tan,  
742 N.Y., Ishii, K.J., and Gasser, S. (2015) **Genome-derived cytosolic DNA mediates type I**  
743 **interferon-dependent rejection of B cell lymphoma cells** *Cell Rep*. **11**, 460-473
- 744 34. Lu, C., Guan, J., Lu, S., Jin, Q., Rousseau, B., Lu, T., Stephens, D., Zhang, H., Zhu, J.,  
745 Yang, M., Ren, Z., Liang, Y., Liu, Z., Han, C., Liu, L., Cao, X., Zhang, A., Qiao, J., Batten,  
746 K., Chen, M., Castrillon, D.H., Wang, T., Li, B., Diaz, L.A., Jr., Li, G.M., and Fu, Y.X.  
747 (2021) **DNA Sensing in Mismatch Repair-Deficient Tumor Cells Is Essential for Anti-**  
748 **tumor Immunity** *Cancer Cell*. **39**, 96-108 e106
- 749 35. Chowdhury, D., Keogh, M.C., Ishii, H., Peterson, C.L., Buratowski, S., and Lieberman, J.  
750 (2005) **gamma-H2AX dephosphorylation by protein phosphatase 2A facilitates DNA**  
751 **double-strand break repair** *Molecular Cell*. **20**, 801-809
- 752 36. Capotosti, F., Guernier, S., Lammers, F., Waridel, P., Cai, Y., Jin, J., Conaway, J.W.,  
753 Conaway, R.C., and Herr, W. (2011) **O-GlcNAc transferase catalyzes site-specific**  
754 **proteolysis of HCF-1** *Cell*. **144**, 376-388
- 755 37. Yost, K.E., Satpathy, A.T., Wells, D.K., Qi, Y., Wang, C., Kageyama, R., McNamara,  
756 K.L., Granja, J.M., Sarin, K.Y., Brown, R.A., Gupta, R.K., Curtis, C., Bucktrout, S.L.,  
757 Davis, M.M., Chang, A.L.S., and Chang, H.Y. (2019) **Clonal replacement of tumor-**  
758 **specific T cells following PD-1 blockade** *Nat Med*. **25**, 1251-1259
- 759 38. Patel, S.A., and Minn, A.J. (2018) **Combination Cancer Therapy with Immune**  
760 **Checkpoint Blockade: Mechanisms and Strategies** *Immunity*. **48**, 417-433
- 761 39. Brahmer, J.R., Tykodi, S.S., Chow, L.Q., Hwu, W.J., Topalian, S.L., Hwu, P., Drake, C.G.,  
762 Camacho, L.H., Kauh, J., Odunsi, K., Pitot, H.C., Hamid, O., Bhatia, S., Martins, R., Eaton,  
763 K., Chen, S., Salay, T.M., Alaparthi, S., Grosso, J.F., Korman, A.J., Parker, S.M.,  
764 Agrawal, S., Goldberg, S.M., Pardoll, D.M., Gupta, A., and Wigginton, J.M. (2012) **Safety**  
765 **and activity of anti-PD-L1 antibody in patients with advanced cancer** *N Engl J Med*.  
766 **366**, 2455-2465
- 767 40. Topalian, S.L., Drake, C.G., and Pardoll, D.M. (2012) **Targeting the PD-1/B7-H1(PD-**  
768 **L1) pathway to activate anti-tumor immunity** *Curr Opin Immunol*. **24**, 207-212
- 769 41. Ortiz-Meoz, R.F., Jiang, J.Y., Lazarus, M.B., Orman, M., Janetzko, J., Fan, C.G., Duveau,  
770 D.Y., Tan, Z.W., Thomas, C.J., and Walker, S. (2015) **A Small Molecule That Inhibits**  
771 **OGT Activity in Cells** *Acs Chemical Biology*. **10**, 1392-1397
- 772 42. Chen, Q., Sun, L., and Chen, Z.J. (2016) **Regulation and function of the cGAS-STING**  
773 **pathway of cytosolic DNA sensing** *Nat Immunol*. **17**, 1142-1149
- 774 43. Clementi, E., Inglin, L., Beebe, E., Gsell, C., Garajova, Z., and Markkanen, E. (2020)  
775 **Persistent DNA damage triggers activation of the integrated stress response to**  
776 **promote cell survival under nutrient restriction** *BMC Biol*. **18**, 36

- 777 44. Lan, Y.Y., Londono, D., Bouley, R., Rooney, M.S., and Hacohen, N. (2014) **Dnase2a**  
778 **Deficiency Uncovers Lysosomal Clearance of Damaged Nuclear DNA via Autophagy**  
779 *Cell Reports*. **9**, 180-192
- 780 45. Hartlova, A., Erttmann, S.F., Raffi, F.A.M., Schmalz, A.M., Resch, U., Anugula, S.,  
781 Lienenklaus, S., Nilsson, L.M., Kroger, A., Nilsson, J.A., Ek, T., Weiss, S., and Gekara,  
782 N.O. (2015) **DNA Damage Primes the Type I Interferon System via the Cytosolic DNA**  
783 **Sensor STING to Promote Anti-Microbial Innate Immunity** *Immunity*. **42**, 332-343
- 784 46. Yang, H., Wang, H.Z., Ren, J.Y., Chen, Q., and Chen, Z.J.J. (2017) **cGAS is essential for**  
785 **cellular senescence** *P Natl Acad Sci USA*. **114**, E4612-E4620
- 786 47. Gluck, S., Guey, B., Gulen, M.F., Wolter, K., Kang, T.W., Schmacke, N.A., Bridgeman,  
787 A., Rehwinkel, J., Zender, L., and Ablasser, A. (2017) **Innate immune sensing of**  
788 **cytosolic chromatin fragments through cGAS promotes senescence** *Nature Cell*  
789 *Biology*. **19**, 1061-+
- 790 48. Harding, S.M., Benci, J.L., Irianto, J., Discher, D.E., Minn, A.J., and Reenberg, R.A.G.  
791 (2017) **Mitotic progression following DNA damage enables pattern recognition within**  
792 **micronuclei** *Nature*. **548**, 466-+
- 793 49. Mackenzie, K.J., Carroll, P., Martin, C.A., Murina, O., Fluteau, A., Impson, D.J.S., Olova,  
794 N., Sutcliffe, H., Rainger, J.K., Leitch, A., Osborn, R.T., Wheeler, A.P., Nowotny, M.,  
795 Gilbert, N., Chandra, T., Reijns, M.A.M., and Jackson, A.P. (2017) **cGAS surveillance of**  
796 **micronuclei links genome instability to innate immunity** *Nature*. **548**, 461-+
- 797 50. Li, X.D., Wu, J., Gao, D., Wang, H., Sun, L., and Chen, Z.J. (2013) **Pivotal roles of cGAS-**  
798 **cGAMP signaling in antiviral defense and immune adjuvant effects** *Science*. **341**,  
799 1390-1394
- 800 51. Deng, L., Liang, H., Xu, M., Yang, X., Burnette, B., Arina, A., Li, X.D., Mauceri, H.,  
801 Beckett, M., Darga, T., Huang, X., Gajewski, T.F., Chen, Z.J., Fu, Y.X., and  
802 Weichselbaum, R.R. (2014) **STING-Dependent Cytosolic DNA Sensing Promotes**  
803 **Radiation-Induced Type I Interferon-Dependent Antitumor Immunity in**  
804 **Immunogenic Tumors** *Immunity*. **41**, 843-852
- 805 52. Guan, J., Lu, C., Jin, Q., Lu, H., Chen, X., Tian, L., Zhang, Y., Ortega, J., Zhang, J., Siteni,  
806 S., Chen, M., Gu, L., Shay, J.W., Davis, A.J., Chen, Z.J., Fu, Y.X., and Li, G.M. (2021)  
807 **MLH1 Deficiency-Triggered DNA Hyperexcision by Exonuclease 1 Activates the**  
808 **cGAS-STING Pathway** *Cancer Cell*. **39**, 109-121 e105
- 809 53. Zhang, W., Liu, W., Jia, L., Chen, D., Chang, I., Lake, M., Bentolila, L.A., and Wang, C.Y.  
810 (2021) **Targeting KDM4A epigenetically activates tumor-cell-intrinsic immunity by**  
811 **inducing DNA replication stress** *Mol Cell*. **81**, 2148-2165 e2149
- 812 54. Jenkins, R.W., Barbie, D.A., and Flaherty, K.T. (2018) **Mechanisms of resistance to**  
813 **immune checkpoint inhibitors** *Br J Cancer*. **118**, 9-16
- 814 55. Murciano-Goroff, Y.R., Warner, A.B., and Wolchok, J.D. (2020) **The future of cancer**  
815 **immunotherapy: microenvironment-targeting combinations** *Cell Res*. **30**, 507-519
- 816 56. Young, K., and Morrison, H. (2018) **Quantifying Microglia Morphology from**  
817 **Photomicrographs of Immunohistochemistry Prepared Tissue Using ImageJ** *J Vis*  
818 *Exp*.
- 819 57. Takagi, T., Naito, Y., Uchiyama, K., Suzuki, T., Hirata, I., Mizushima, K., Tsuboi, H.,  
820 Hayashi, N., Handa, O., Ishikawa, T., Yagi, N., Kokura, S., Ichikawa, H., and Yoshikawa,  
821 T. (2011) **Carbon monoxide liberated from carbon monoxide-releasing molecule**

822           **exerts an anti-inflammatory effect on dextran sulfate sodium-induced colitis in mice**  
823           *Dig Dis Sci.* **56**, 1663-1671  
824

825

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843

844

845

846 **Figure Legends**

847 **Fig. 1 OGT is significantly upregulated in human and mouse tumor samples.**

848 (A-C) Boxplot showing mRNA expression level of *Ogt*, Normal and tumor samples (A), Individual  
849 stages (B), Nodal metastasis status (C). The plot was generated using the UALCAN online server.  
850 D-E) Boxplot showing protein expression level of OGT, Normal and tumor samples (A),  
851 Individual stages (B). The plot was generated using the UALCAN online server  
852 (<https://ualcan.path.uab.edu/analysis.html>). F) IHC analysis of OGT expression in normal colon  
853 tissues, primary colon tumor samples (from Human Protein Atlas, <https://www.proteinatlas.org/>),  
854 scale bar: 400µm. G) Western blot analysis of OGT and *O*-GlcNAc expression in normal, adjacent  
855 and tumor tissues in *Apc<sup>min</sup>* spontaneous tumor mice. H) HE and IHC staining of OGT in adjacent  
856 and tumor tissues in *Apc<sup>min</sup>* spontaneous tumor mice, scale bar: left panel 275 µm, right panel  
857 75µm, n=3 respectively. I) Schematic of AOM/DSS model of colitis-associated colorectal cancer  
858 (CAC). J) Western blot analysis of OGT and *O*-GlcNAc expression in normal, adjacent and tumor  
859 tissues in CAC model. K) HE and IHC staining of OGT in adjacent and tumor tissues in CAC  
860 model, scale bar: left panel 275 µm, right panel 75µm, n=4 respectively. human samples (A-F),  
861 mouse samples (G-K). Statistical significance was determined by Pearson test, unpaired Student's  
862 t-test, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean  
863 of  $\pm$  SD.

864

865 **Fig. 2 Epithelial OGT deletion inhibits mouse colorectal tumorigenesis.**

866 A) Western blot analysis of OGT expression in intestinal tissues and counting tumor numbers in  
867 *APC<sup>min</sup>* and *Ogt<sup>ΔIEC</sup>* mice. B) Histology analysis of intestinal carcinogenesis by HE staining, scale  
868 bar: up panel 275 µm, bottom panel 20 µm, n=3 respectively. C) Real-time PCR analysis of

869 cytokines mRNA expression in intestine. **D)** ELISA analysis of cytokines expression in intestine.  
870 Statistical significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p$   
871  $< 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.

872

873 **Fig. 3 OGT deficiency induces cGAS/STING-dependent the type I IFN pathway.**

874 **A-D)** Real-time PCR analysis of cytokines mRNA expression in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cell lines  
875 including MC38 (**A**), LLC (**B**), HT29 (**C**), B16-OVA (**D**) cells. **E)** Western blot analysis of the  
876 activation of the interferon signaling pathway in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cell lines including MC38, LLC  
877 and B16-OVA cells. **F)** Western blot analysis of the activation of the interferon signaling pathway  
878 in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> rescued cell lines including MC38, LLC, HT29 and B16-OVA cells. **G-H)** Real-time  
879 PCR and western blot analysis of cytokines mRNA expression and the activation of the interferon  
880 signaling pathway in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*Mavs*<sup>-/-</sup> double knockout clones in MC38 cells. **I-K)** Real-  
881 time PCR and ELISA analysis of cytokines mRNA expression in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*cGAS*<sup>-/-</sup> double knockout  
882 clones in MC38 (**I-J**), HT29 (**K**) cells. **L)** Western blot analysis of the activation of the interferon  
883 signaling pathway in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*cGAS*<sup>-/-</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*Sting*<sup>-/-</sup> double knockout clones in MC38, HT29 and  
884 B16-OVA cells. **M-N)** BMDCs pre-treated with B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> (**L**), B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*cGAS*<sup>-/-</sup>  
885 or B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*Sting*<sup>-/-</sup> cells (**M**) supernatant, and co-cultured with OT-1 T cell, then T cell  
886 proliferation was evaluated by flow cytometry, OVA<sup>257-264</sup> as a positive control. Representative  
887 fluorescence-activated cell sorting histograms and statistical data are shown. Data are  
888 representative of two or three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by  
889 unpaired Student's t-test, one-way ANOVA, two-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p <$   
890  $0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.

891

892 **Fig. 4 OGT deficiency causes DNA damage and accumulates cytosolic DNA.**

893 **A)** The extranuclear dsDNA in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38 cells clones were determined by PicoGreen  
894 staining assay was quantified by image J. **B)** The extranuclear dsDNA in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38  
895 cells clones were determined by anti-dsDNA fluorescence staining assay and was quantified by  
896 image J. **C)** Western blot analysis of  $\gamma$ H2AX and H2AX expression in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> cell lines  
897 including MC38, LLC and B16-OVA cells. **D)** Analysis of  $\gamma$ H2AX and H2AX expression in  
898 different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> clones by anti- $\gamma$ H2AX staining assay and was quantified by image J. **E)** The DNA  
899 damage was determined by comet assay, and extranuclear dsDNA was analyzed by using  
900 CometScore in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38 cells. **F)** Western blot analysis of  $\gamma$ H2AX and H2AX expression in  
901 *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> rescued cells including MC38, LLC, HT29 and B16-OVA cells. **G)** The DNA damage in  
902 rescued MC38 cells were determined by comet assay, and extranuclear dsDNA was analyzed by  
903 using CometScore. Data are representative of three or four independent experiments. Statistical  
904 significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, one-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p <$   
905  $0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.

906

907 **Fig. 5 The C terminal of HCF-1 rescue DNA damage and the type I IFN pathway in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>**  
908 **cells.**

909 **A)** Volcano plot of OGT binding proteins identified by LC-MS/MS from stably expressed  
910 exogenous GFP-OGT in OGT knockout HT29 cells. **B)** OGT and HCF1 binding was confirmed  
911 by immunoprecipitation assay in OGT rescued HT29 cells. **C)** OGT and HCF1 binding was  
912 confirmed by immunoprecipitation assay in 293T cells. **D)** HCF1 cleavage was confirmed by  
913 western blot in *Ogt* rescued MC38 cells. **E)** Co-IP analysis of the interaction between OGT and  
914 different HCF-1 mutant. **F)** Real-time PCR analysis of cytokines mRNA expression effected by

915 HCF-1 isoforms in MC38 OGT knockout cells. **G)** Western blot analysis of  $\gamma$ H2AX and H2AX  
916 expression in exogenous HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> expressed MC38 *Ogt* knockout cells. **H)** The extranuclear  
917 dsDNA were determined by anti-dsDNA fluorescence staining assay and was quantified by image  
918 J in exogenous HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> expressed MC38 OGT knockout cells. Data are representative of three  
919 or four independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by one-way ANOVA,  
920 two-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data  
921 represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.

922

923 **Fig. 6 *Ogt* deficiency inhibits tumor progression through enhancing infiltration by CD8<sup>+</sup> T**  
924 **cells.**

925 **A-B)** Tumor volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38 tumors in C57BL/6J mice and mice  
926 survival, n=5 respectively. **C-D)** Tumor volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> LLC tumors in  
927 C57BL/6J mice and mice survival, n=5 respectively. **E-H)** Flow cytometry analysis of percentage  
928 of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells population(**E**) and IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> (**F**), TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> (**G**), IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup>TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> double  
929 positive (**H**) intratumoral CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells population in MC38 tumors, subcutaneous tumor isolated  
930 at day 18 post-tumor inoculation, n=5 respectively. **I)** Tumor volume and weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>  
931 MC38 in *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup> mice, n=5 respectively. **J-K)** Tumor volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38  
932 tumors injected with either control IgG or anti-CD8 $\alpha$  at day 0, 7 and 14 post tumor inoculation in  
933 C57BL/6J mice and mice survival, n=5 respectively. **L-M)** Tumor volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> rescued  
934 MC38 tumors in C57BL/6J mice, tumor growth volume and weight (**L**), mice survival (**M**). **N-O)**  
935 Tumor volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*cGAS*<sup>-/-</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*Sting*<sup>-/-</sup> double knockout MC38 tumors in  
936 C57BL/6J mice, tumor growth volume and weight (**N**), mice survival (**O**). **P)** Flow cytometry  
937 analysis showing percentage of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells population (**N**), CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> (**O**), CD8<sup>+</sup>

938 TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> T cell population (**P**) in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*cGAS*<sup>-/-</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*Sting*<sup>-/-</sup> double knockout MC38 tumors in  
939 C57BL/6J mice, subcutaneous tumor isolated at day 18 post-tumor inoculation. **Q-R**) Tumor  
940 volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38 tumors injected with either control IgG or anti-PD-L1 at  
941 day 7, 10 and 13 post tumor inoculation in C57BL/6J mice and mice survival, n=5 respectively. **S**)  
942 Kaplan-Meier survival curves for colorectal cancer patients with low (n=207) or high (n=231)  
943 *OGT* transcripts in TCGA dataset. **T**) Progression-free survival curves for colorectal cancer  
944 patients with low (n=58) or high (n=58) *OGT* transcripts in TCGA dataset. **U**) Scatterplot  
945 presenting the association between the mRNA expression level of *OGT* and CD8<sup>+</sup> T infiltration,  
946 Spearman's  $r = -0.263$ ,  $p = 9.75E-6$ , Spearman's rank correlation test. Data are representative of  
947 two or three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by Spearman's rank  
948 correlation test, unpaired Student's t-test, one-way ANOVA, two-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p <$   
949  $0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.

950

951 **Fig. 7 Combination therapy with OSMI-1 and anti-PD-L1 augmented T cells and antitumor**  
952 **immunity.**

953 **A)** The extranuclear dsDNA were determined by anti-dsDNA fluorescence staining treated with  
954 50  $\mu$ M and 100  $\mu$ M OSMI in MC38 cells respectively and was quantified by image J. **B-C)**  
955 Western blot analysis of protein expression in MC38 and LLC cells treated with 50  $\mu$ M and 100  
956  $\mu$ M OSMI, respectively. **D)** Analysis of  $\gamma$ H2AX and H2AX expression by anti- $\gamma$ H2AX staining  
957 treated with 50  $\mu$ M and 100  $\mu$ M OSMI in MC38 cells and was quantified by image J. **E-F)** Tumor  
958 volume, weight of MC38 tumors injected with either control OSMI-1 or anti-PD-L1 in C57BL/6J  
959 mice and mice survival. **G-H)** Tumor volume, weight of LLC tumors injected with either control  
960 OSMI-1 or anti-PD-L1 in C57BL/6J mice and mice survival. **I-K)** Flow cytometry analysis showing



961 percentage of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells population (**I**), and CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> cells (**J**), CD8<sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup>  
962 cells (**K**) population in MC38 subcutaneous tumor isolated at day 18 post-tumor inoculation. **L-N**)  
963 Flow cytometry analysis showing percentage of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells population (**L**), and CD8<sup>+</sup>  
964 IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> cells (**M**), CD8<sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> cells (**N**) population in LLC subcutaneous tumor isolated at day  
965 18 post-tumor inoculation. Data are representative of three or four independent experiments.  
966 Statistical significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, one-way ANOVA, two-way  
967 ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the  
968 mean of  $\pm$  SD.

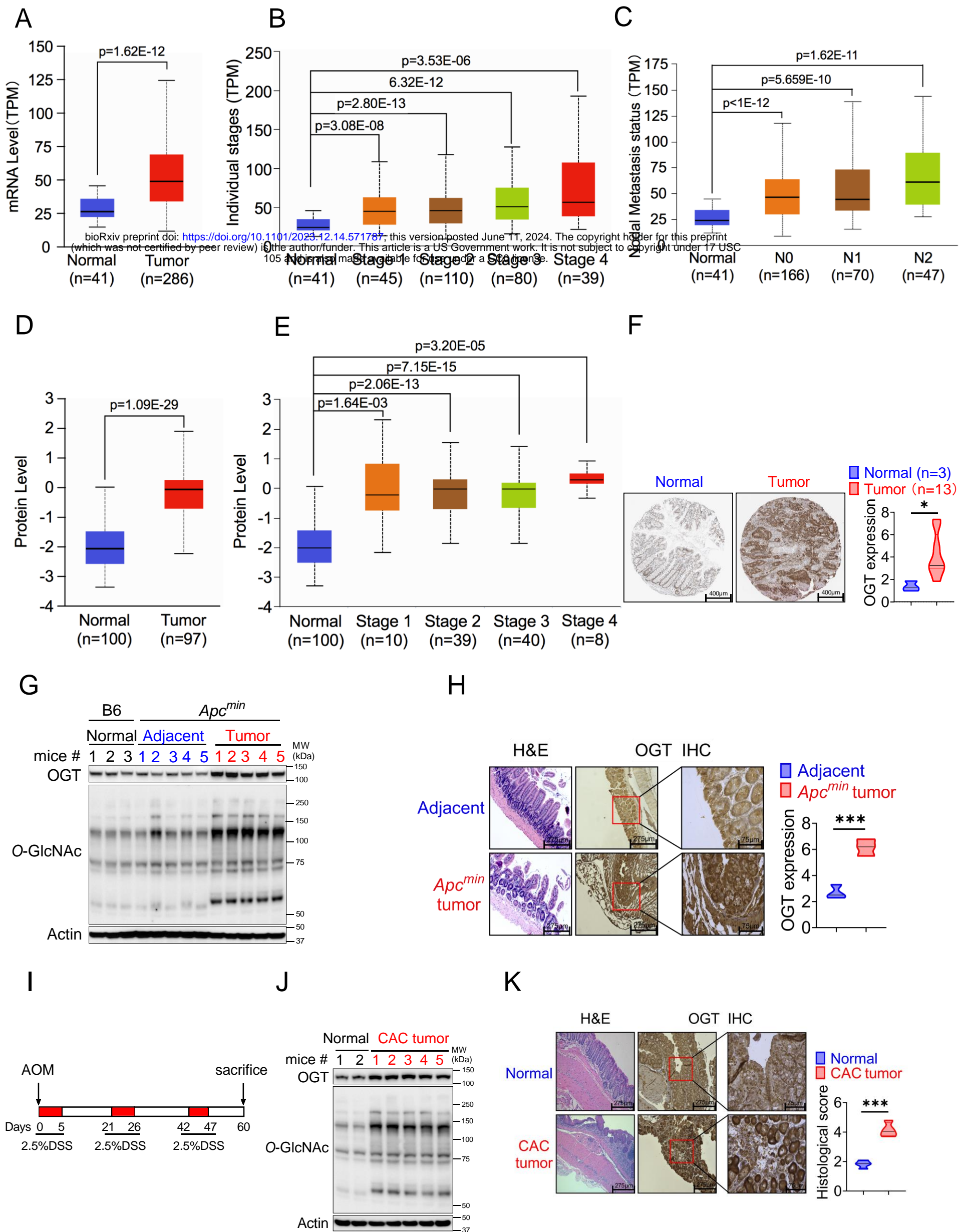
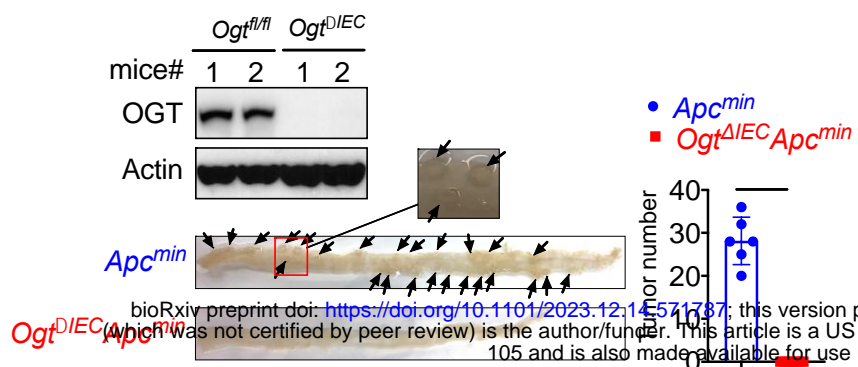
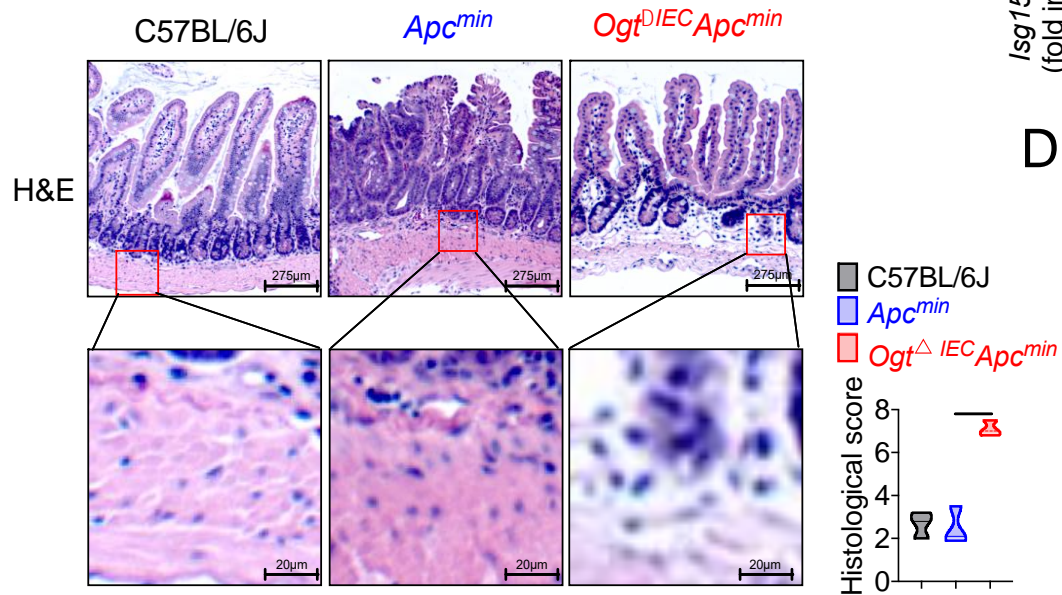


Figure 1

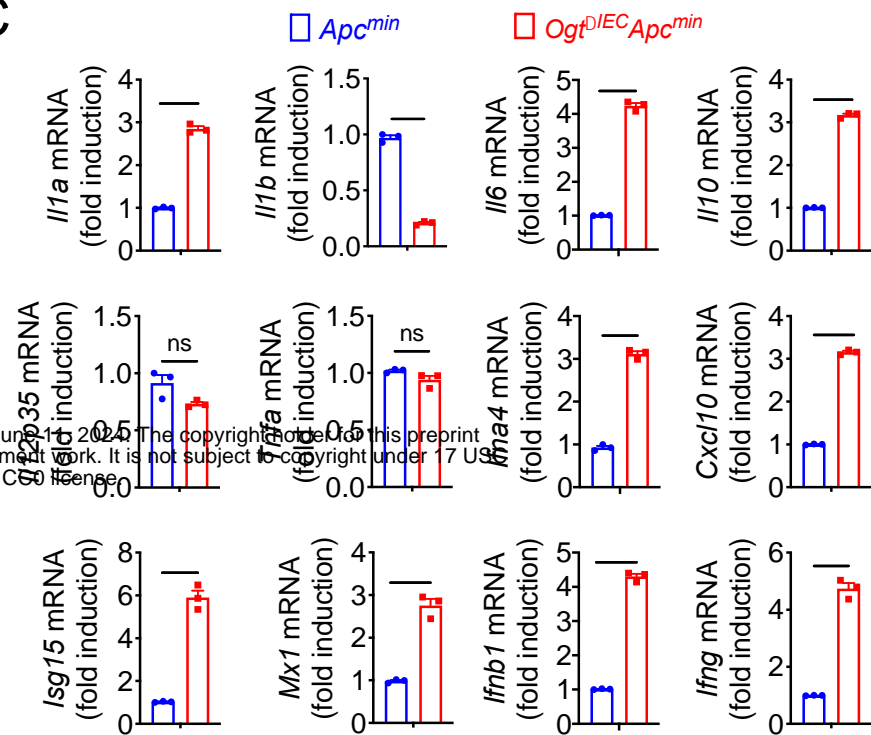
A



B



C



D

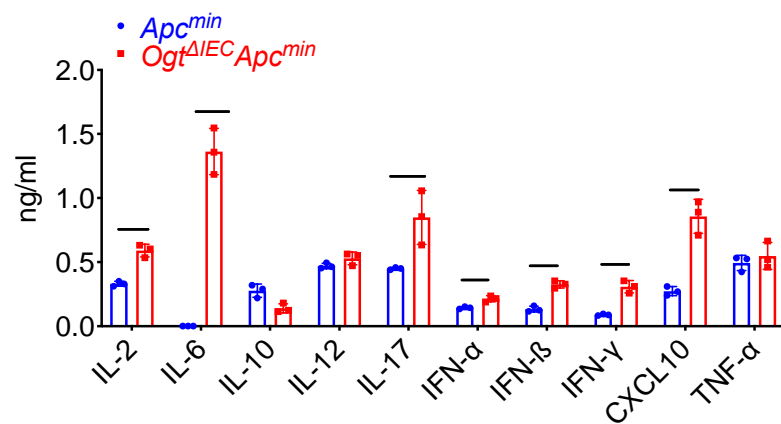


Figure 2

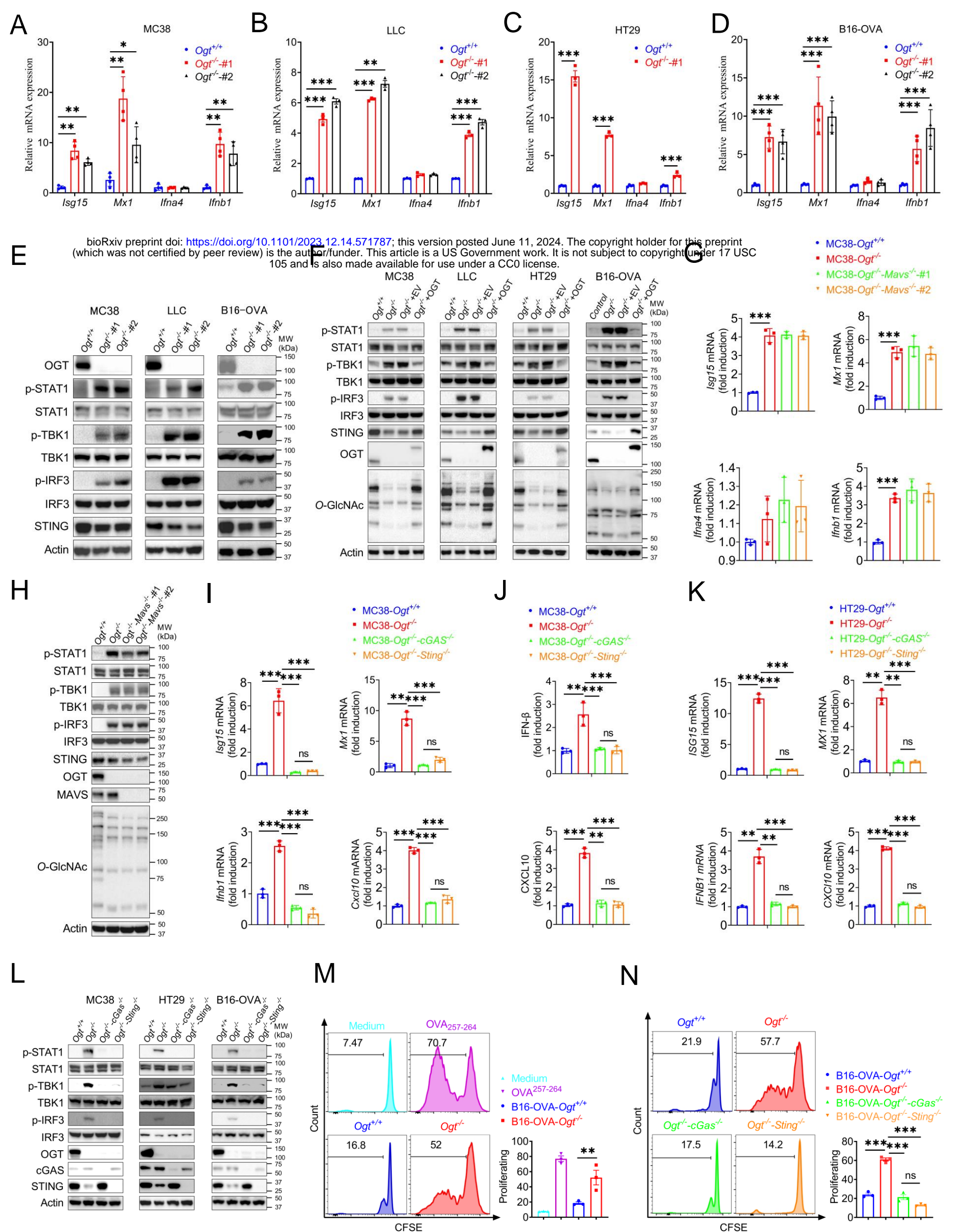


Figure 3

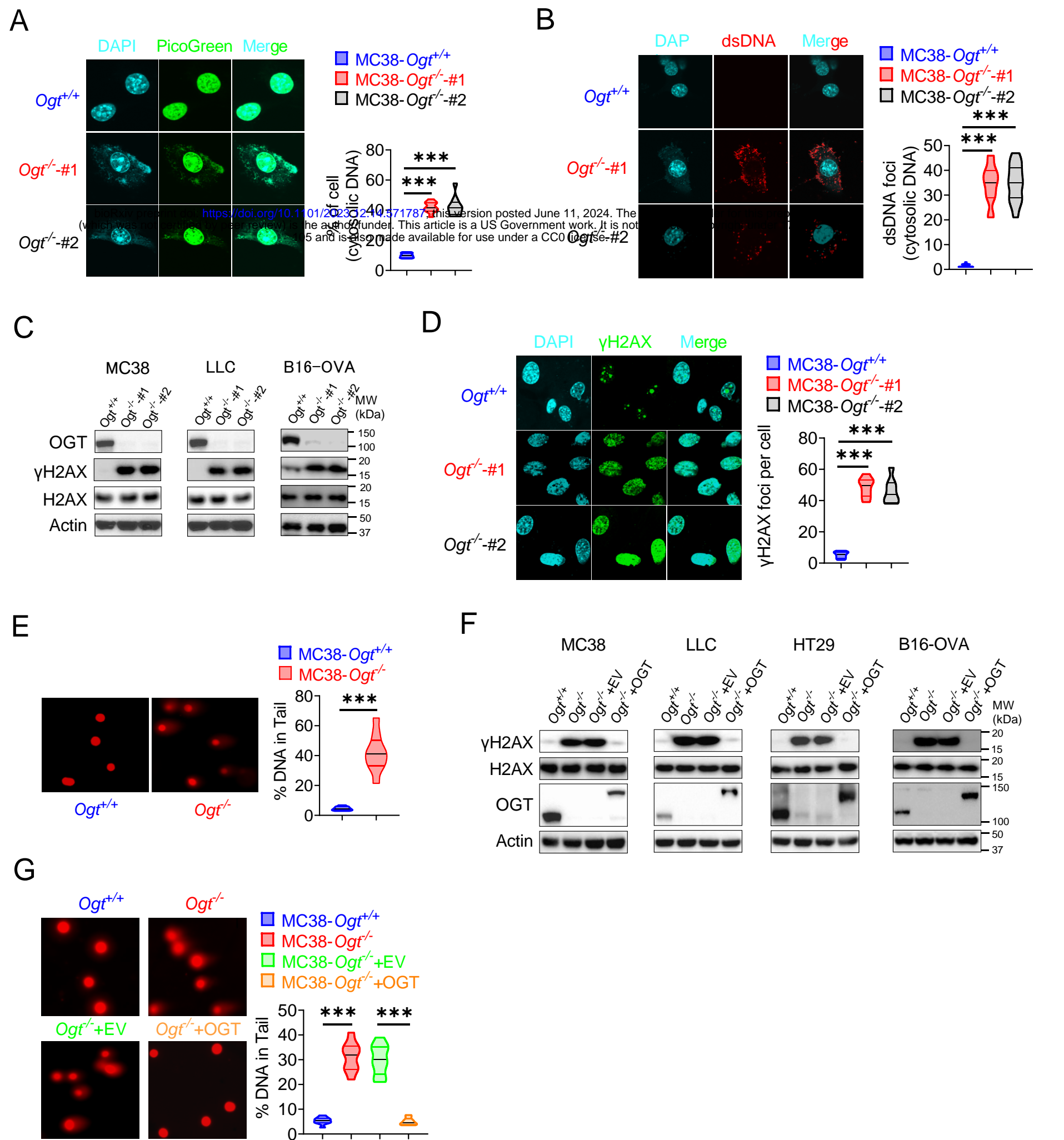


Figure 4

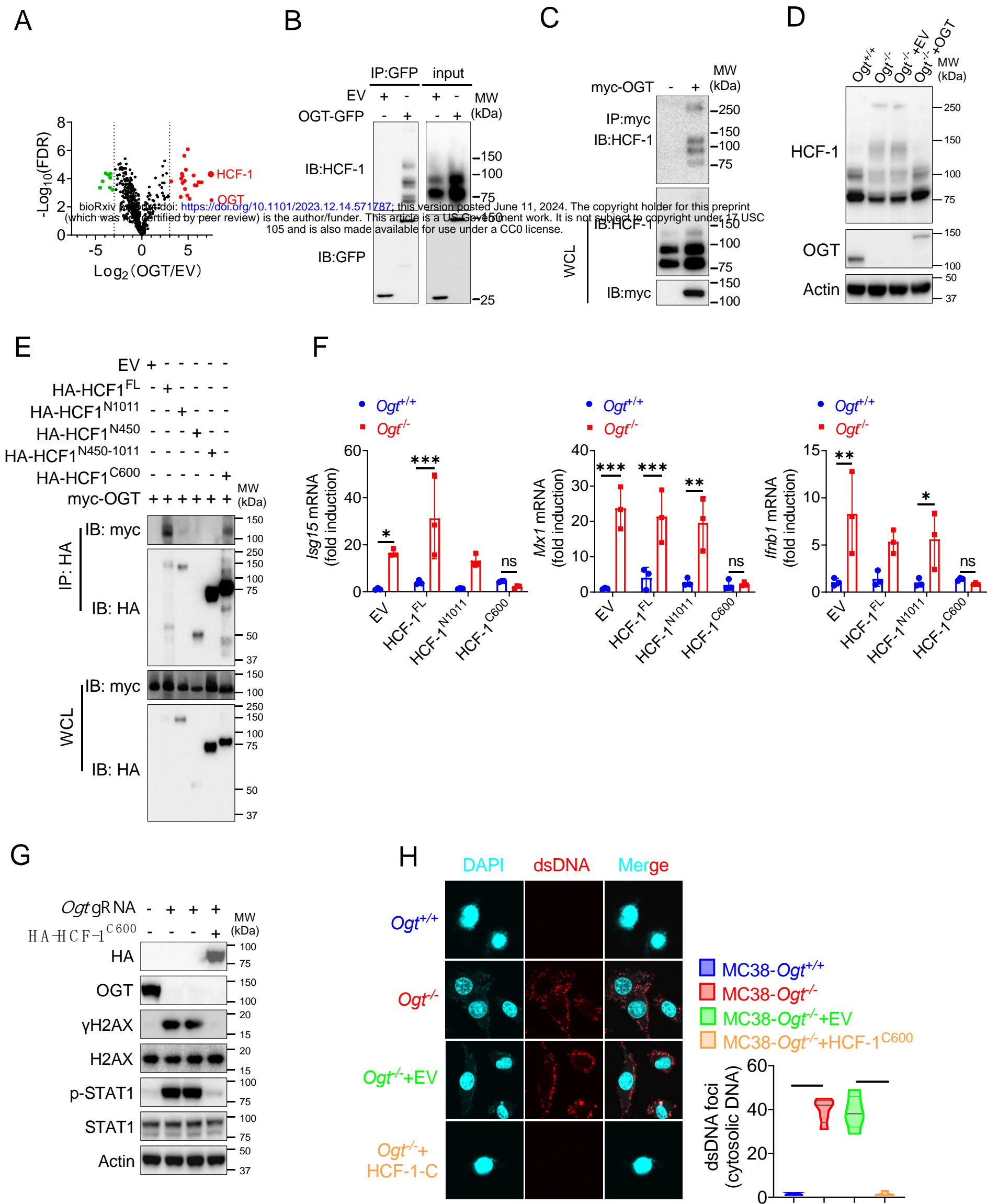


Figure 5

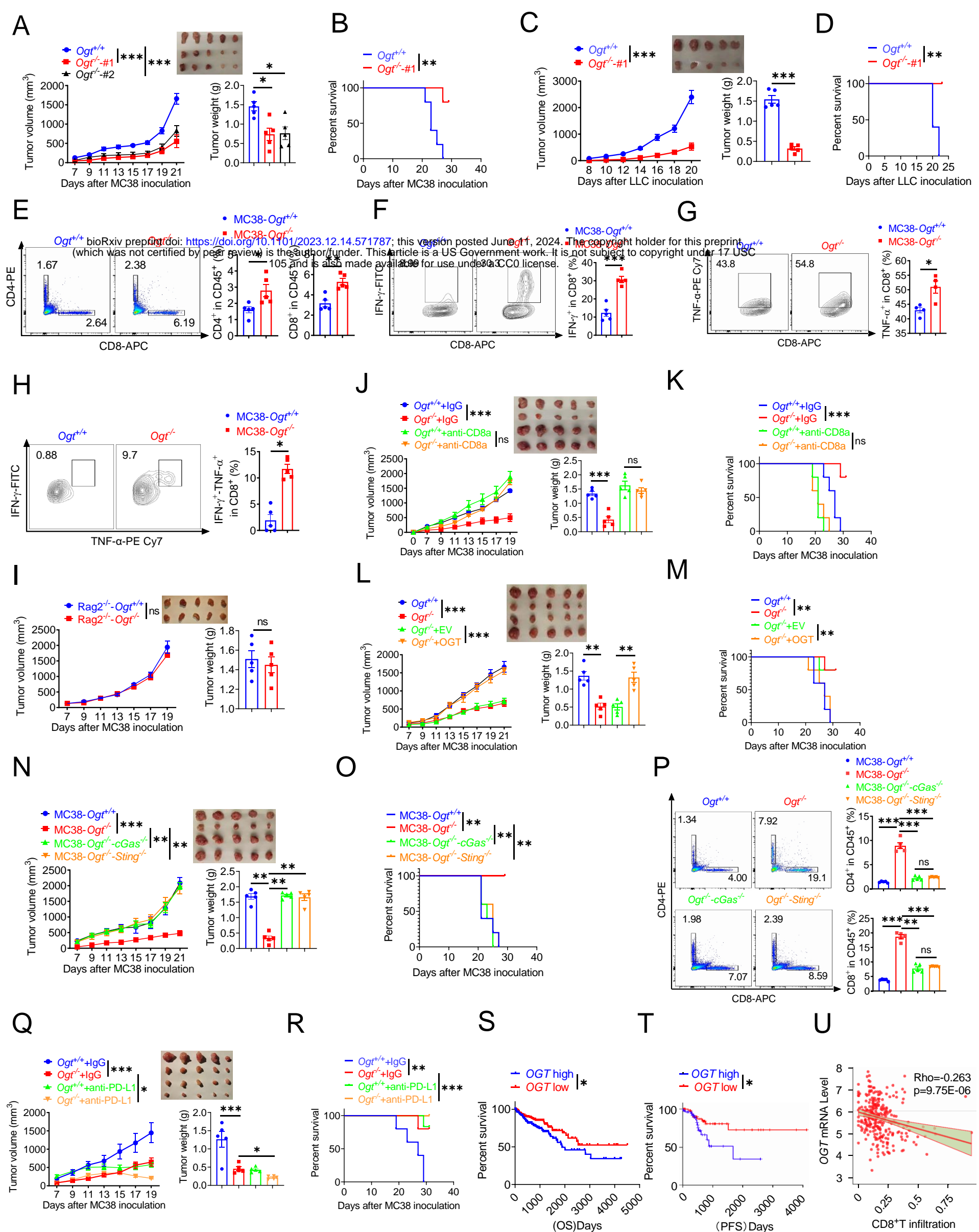


Figure 6

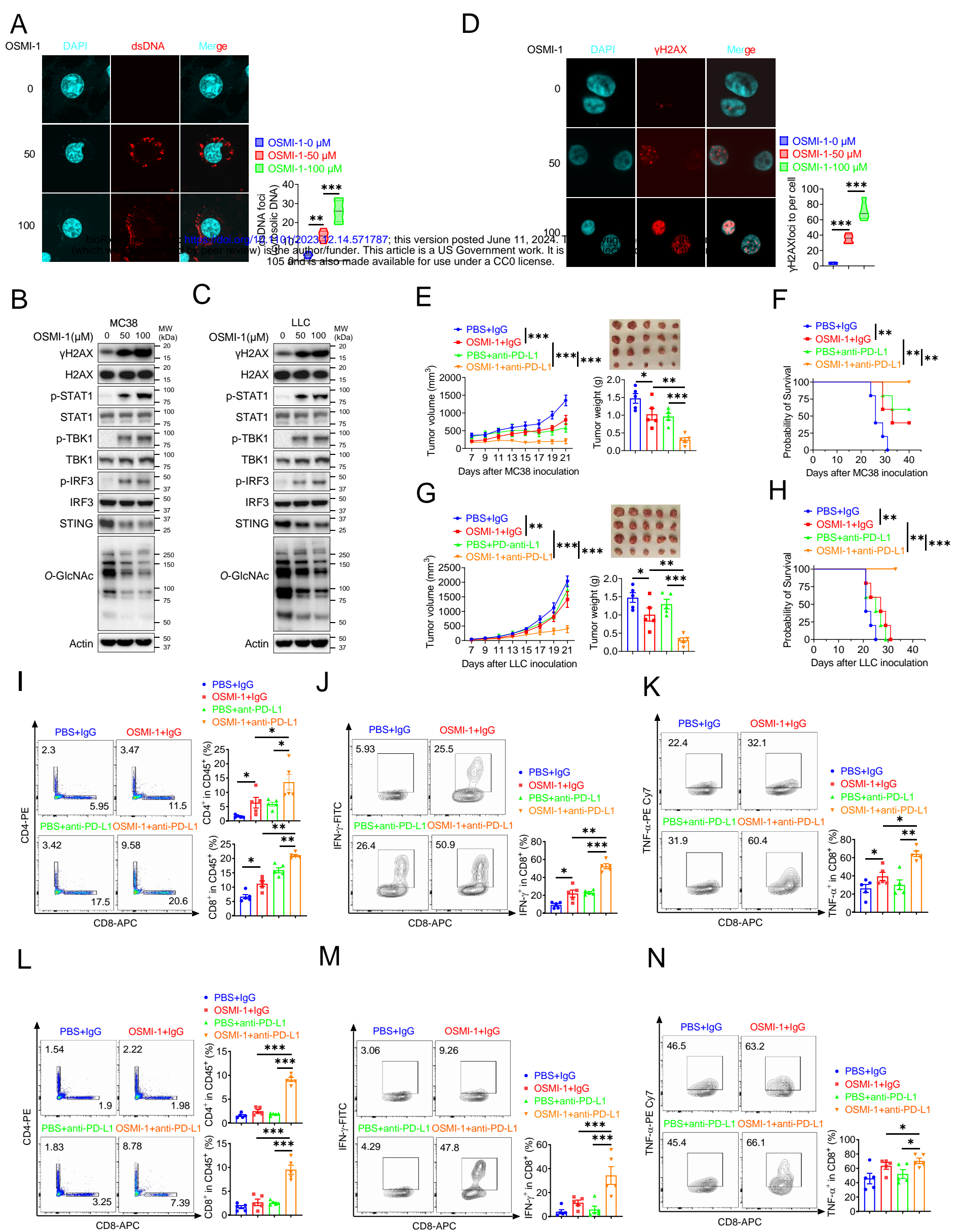
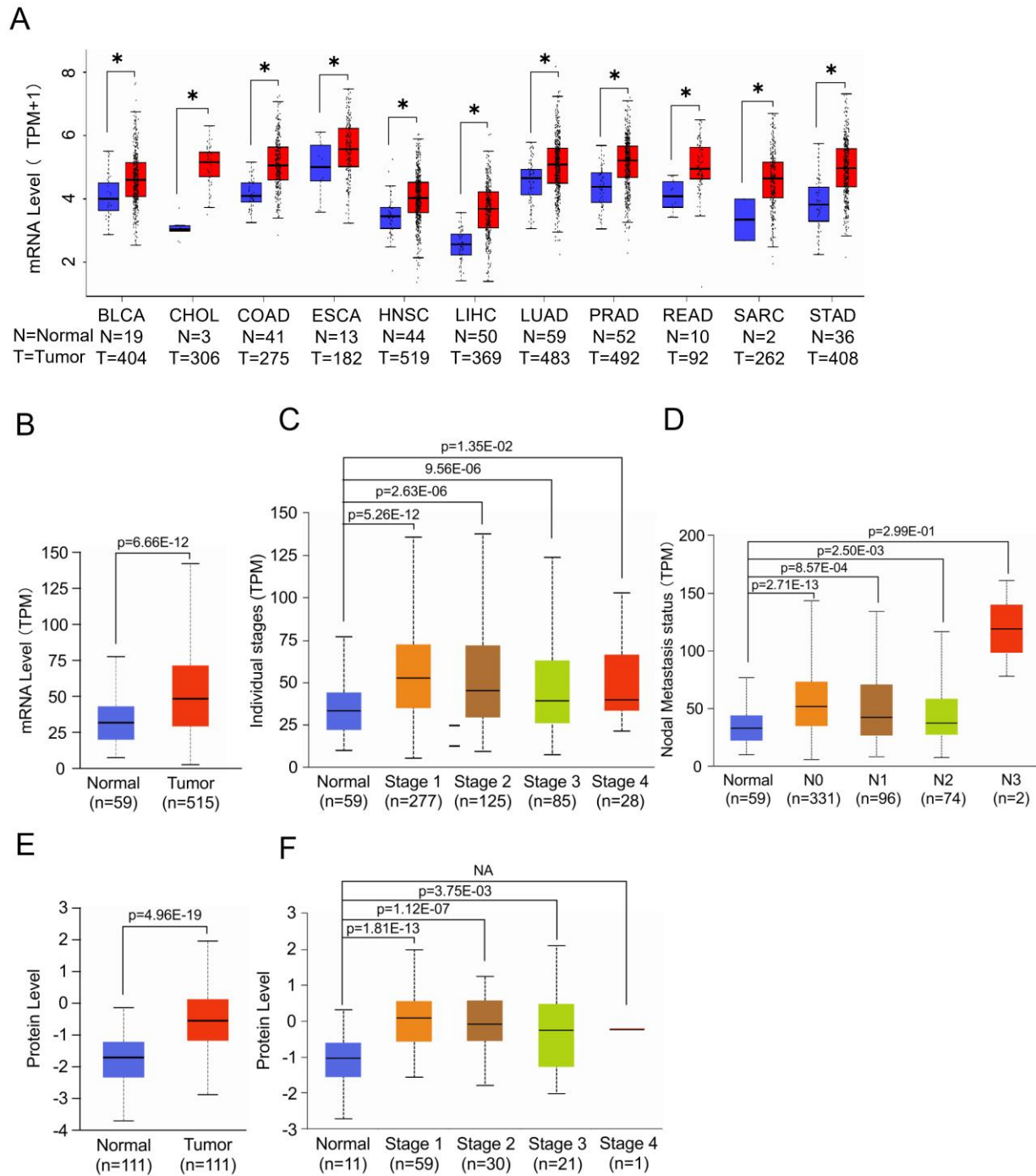


Figure 7

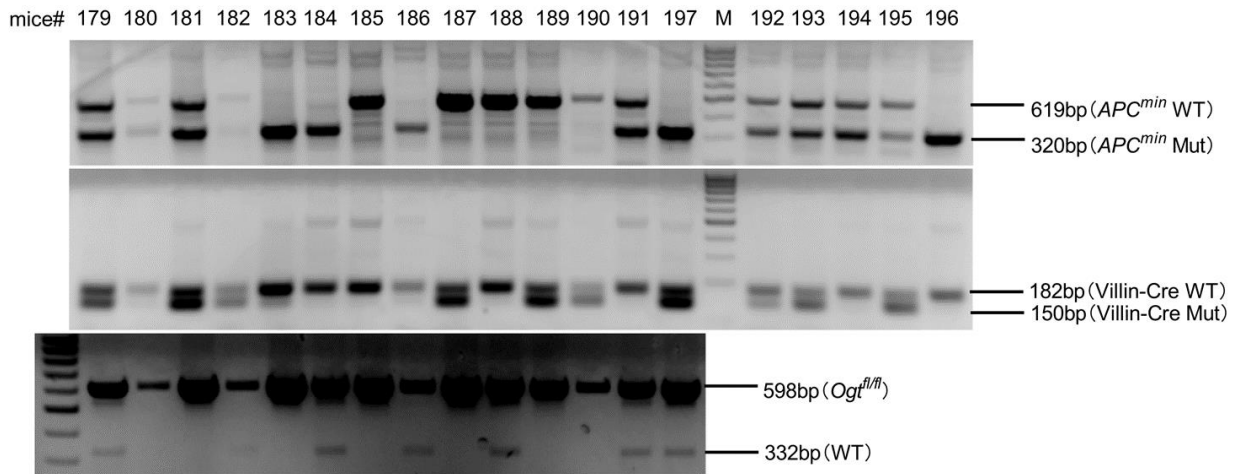




**Supplemental Fig. 1 The expression pattern of OGT in TCGA and CTPAC databases.**

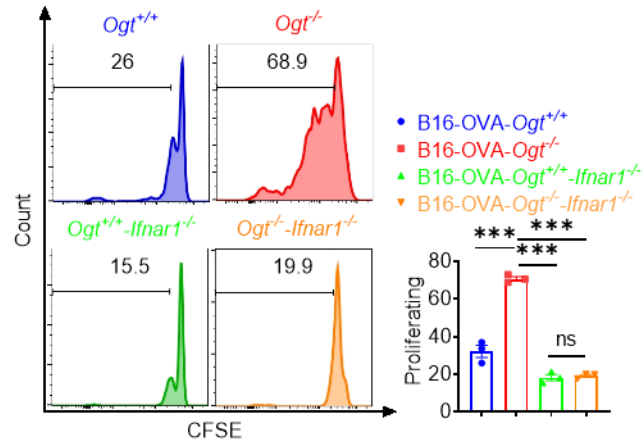
**A)** Boxplot showing mRNA expression level of *Ogt* in multiple types of cancers. The plot was generated using the GEPIA2 online server. \* $p < 0.05$ . **B-D)** Boxplot showing mRNA expression level of *Ogt* in LUAD, Normal and tumor samples (**B**), Individual stages (**C**), Nodal metastasis

status (**D**). The plot was generated using the UALCAN online server. **E-F**) Boxplot showing protein expression level of OGT in LUAD, Normal and tumor samples (**E**), Individual stages (**F**). The plot was generated using the UALCAN online server (<https://ualcan.path.uab.edu/analysis.html>). Statistical significance was determined by Pearson test, unpaired Student's t-test, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.



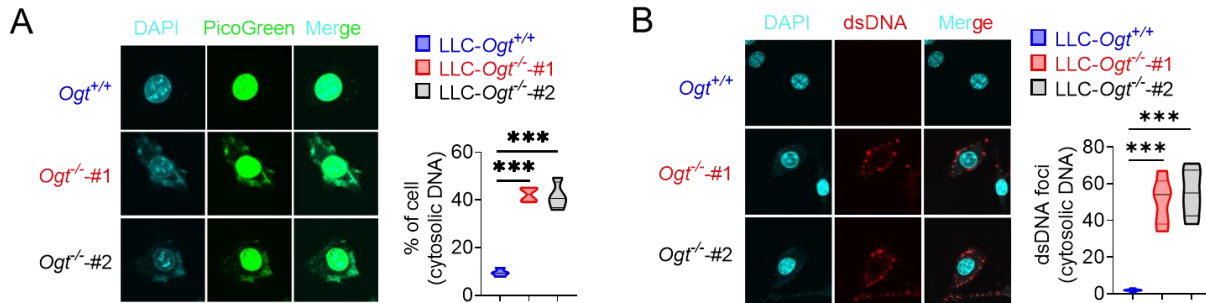
**Supplemental Fig. 2. The genotype of *APC<sup>min</sup>*, *Villin-Cre* and *Ogt<sup>fl/fl</sup>* mice.**

Genomic DNA was extracted from the tails of *APC<sup>min</sup>*, *Villin-Cre*, and *Ogt<sup>fl/fl</sup>* mice and used for PCR with various primers. The resulting products were separated by agarose gel electrophoresis to determine the genotype.



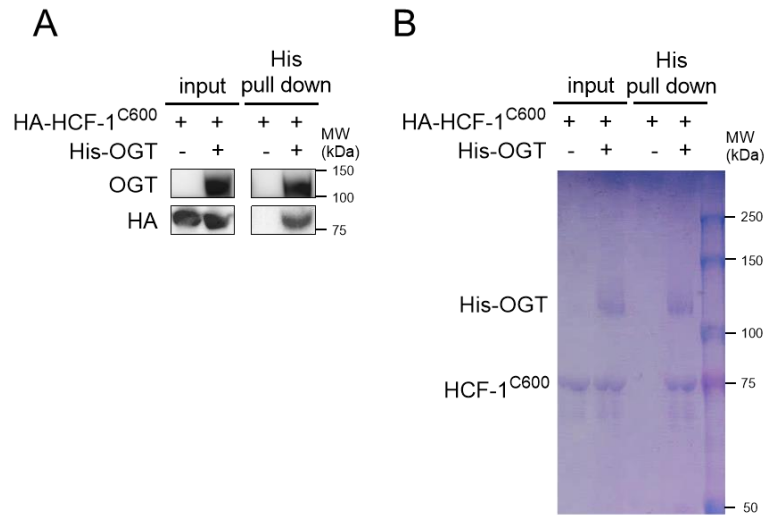
### Supplemental Fig. 3 *In vitro* Cross-Priming of T Cells by *Ifnar*<sup>-/-</sup> BMDCs.

*Ifnar1*<sup>-/-</sup> BMDCs was pre-treated with B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or B16-OVA-*Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> supernatant, and co-cultured with OT-1 T cell, then T cell proliferation was evaluated by flow cytometry. Representative fluorescence-activated cell sorting histograms and statistical data are shown. Data are representative of three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by one-way ANOVA, \**p* < 0.05, \*\**p* < 0.01, \*\*\**p* < 0.001, ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of ± SD.



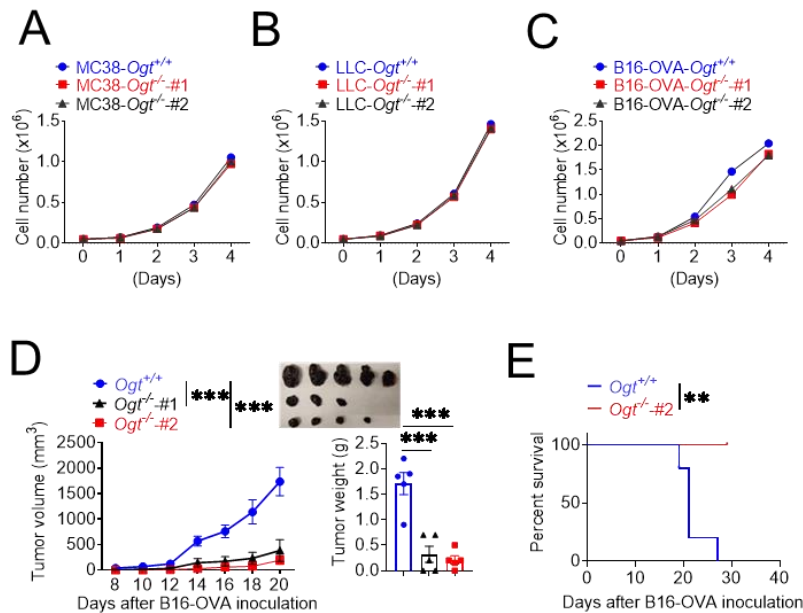
**Supplemental Fig. 4 OGT deficiency causes DNA damage and accumulates cytosolic DNA.**

**A)** The extranuclear dsDNA in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> LLC clones were determined by PicoGreen staining assay and was quantified by image J. **B)** The extranuclear dsDNA in different *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> LLC clones were determined by anti-dsDNA fluorescence staining assay and was quantified by image J. Data are representative of three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, two-way ANOVA, \**p* < 0.05, \*\**p* < 0.01, \*\*\**p* < 0.001, ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of ± SD.



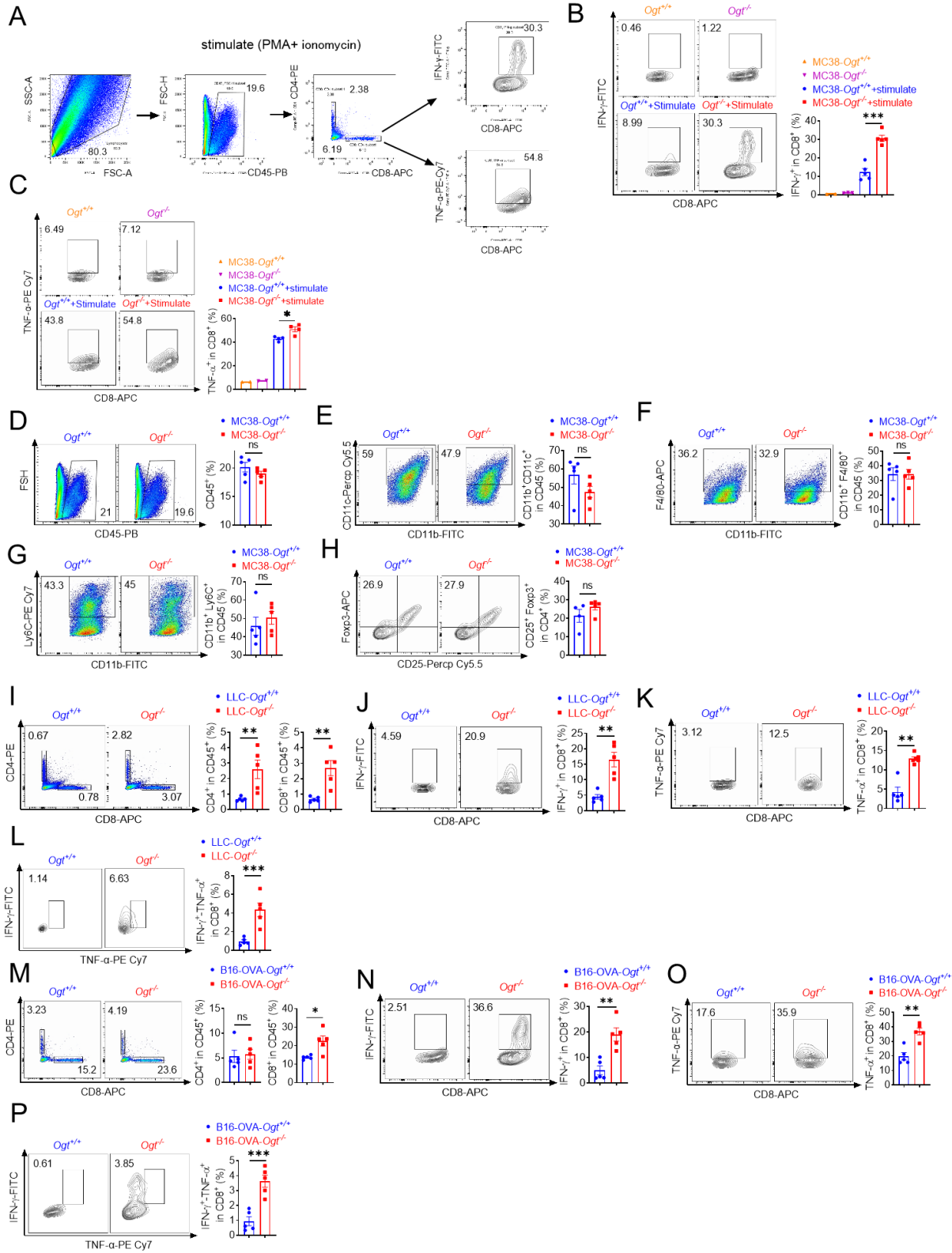
**Supplemental Fig. 5 *In vitro* pull-down assay analysis of the interaction of HCF-1<sup>C600</sup> and OGT.**

**A)** His pull-down assays were used to analyze the interaction between HCF-1C600 and OGT. **B)** His-tagged OGT and HCF1 were expressed and purified, followed by SDS-PAGE separation and staining with Coomassie blue.



**Supplemental Fig. 6 The cell proliferation of different tumor model *in vitro* and B16-OVA tumor growth analysis *in vivo*.**

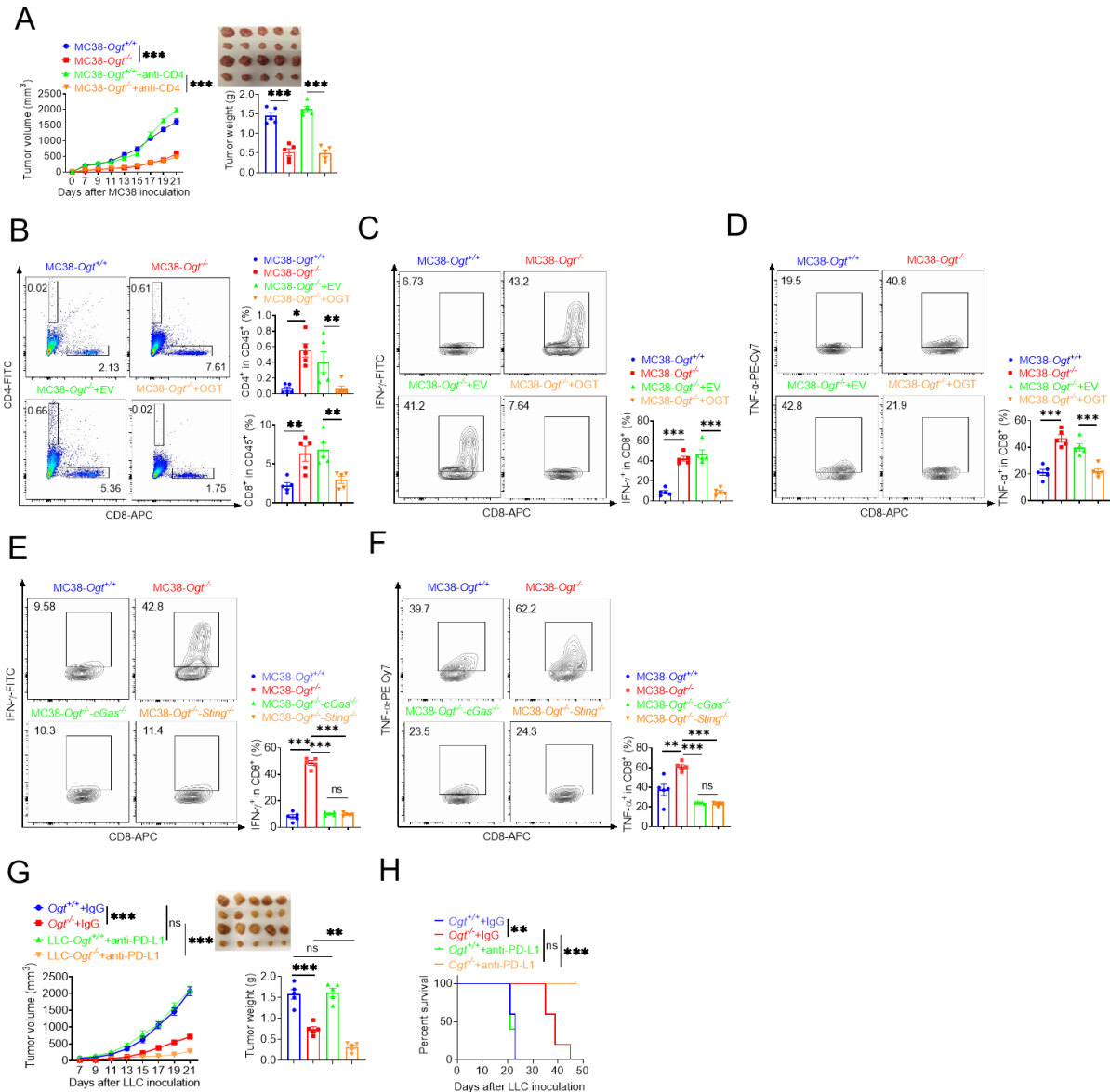
**A-C)**, The cell proliferation of different  $Ogt^{-/-}$  tumor model *in vitro*. **A)** MC38, **B)** LLC, **C)** B16-OVA  $Ogt^{-/-}$  cells proliferation *in vitro*. **D-E)** Tumor volume, weight of  $Ogt^{+/+}$  or  $Ogt^{-/-}$  B16-OVA tumors in C57BL/6J mice, and mice survival, n=5 respectively. Data are representative of two or three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, two-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.





**Supplemental Fig. 7 *Ogt* deficiency inhibits tumor progression through enhancing infiltration of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells.**

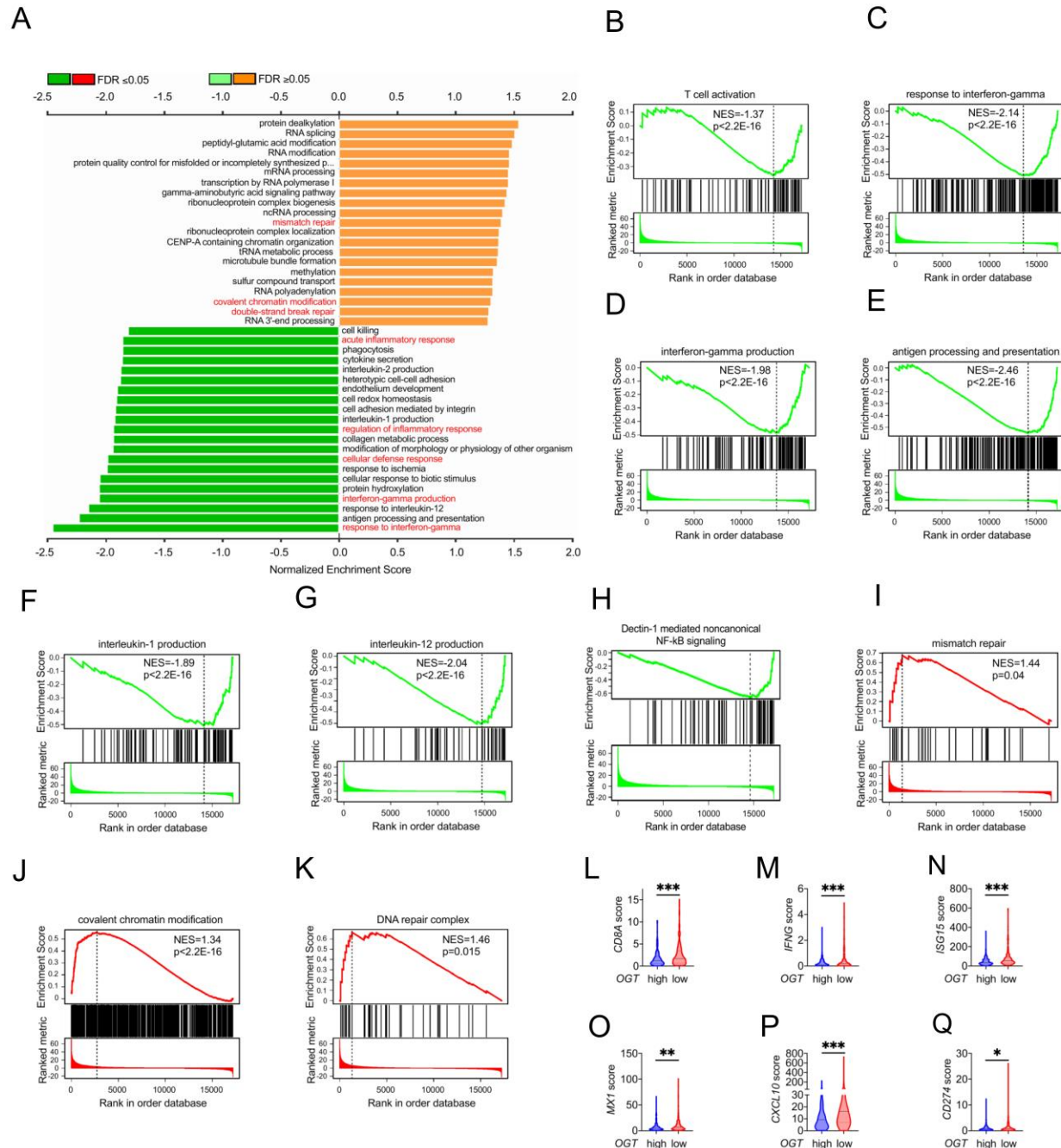
**A)** A total schematic of flow cytometry analysis. **B-C)** Flow cytometry analysis showing percentage of IFN- $\gamma$  and TNF- $\alpha$ -expressing intratumoral CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells in MC38 tumors with or without PMA and ionomycin stimulation. **D-H)** Flow cytometry analysis showing percentage of CD45<sup>+</sup> (**D**), CD11b<sup>+</sup> CD11c<sup>+</sup> (**E**), CD11b<sup>+</sup> F4/80<sup>+</sup> (**F**), CD11b<sup>+</sup> Ly6C<sup>+</sup> (**G**) and Treg cells (**H**) in MC38 tumor model, n=5 respectively. **I-P)** Flow cytometry analysis showing percentage of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells in LLC (**I**), B16-OVA cells (**M**). IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup>, TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> and IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> double positive expressing intratumoral CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells in LLC (**J-L**), or B16-OVA (**N-P**) tumors isolated at day 18 post-tumor inoculation, n=5 respectively. Data are representative of two or three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, one-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.



**Supplemental Fig. 8. *Ogt* deficiency inhibits tumor progression through enhancing infiltration of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells.**

**A)** Tumor volume and weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> MC38 tumors injected with control IgG or anti-CD4 antibody at day 0, 7 and 14 post tumor inoculation in C57BL/6J mice, n=5 respectively. **B-D)** The percentage of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (**B**), CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup> (**C**) and CD8<sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> (**D**) in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> rescued MC38 tumors isolated at day 18 post-tumor inoculation. **E-F)** Flow cytometry analysis

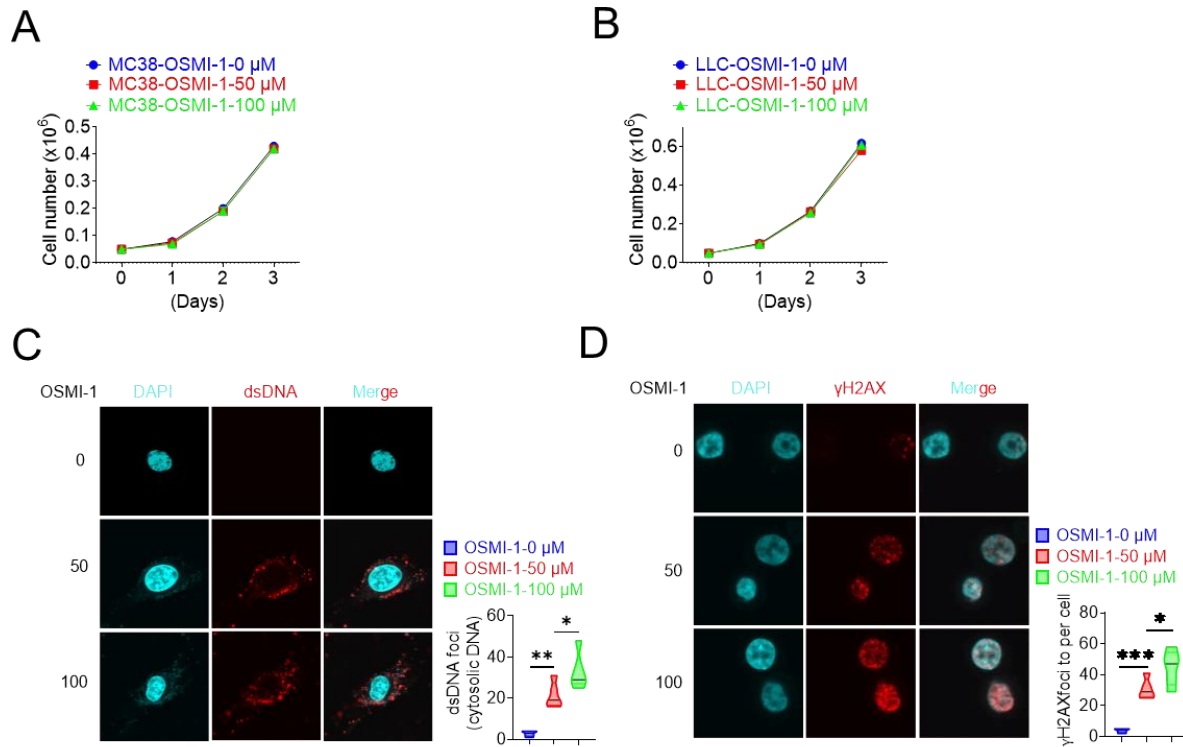
showing percentage of CD8<sup>+</sup> IFN- $\gamma$  (**E**), CD8<sup>+</sup> TNF- $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup> (**F**) in *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*cGAS*<sup>-/-</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup>*Sting*<sup>-/-</sup> double knockout MC38 tumors in C57BL/6J mice, subcutaneous tumor isolated at day 18 post-tumor inoculation. **G-H**) Tumor volume, weight of *Ogt*<sup>+/+</sup> or *Ogt*<sup>-/-</sup> LLC tumors injected with control IgG or anti-PD-L1 antibody at day 7, 10 and 13 post tumor inoculation in C57BL/6J mice, and mice survival, n=5 respectively. Data are representative of two or three experiments. Statistical significance was determined by unpaired Student's t-test, one-way ANOVA, two-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.



**Supplemental Fig. 9** *OGT* expression is negatively related to  $CD8^+$  T cells infiltration in human colorectal cancer.

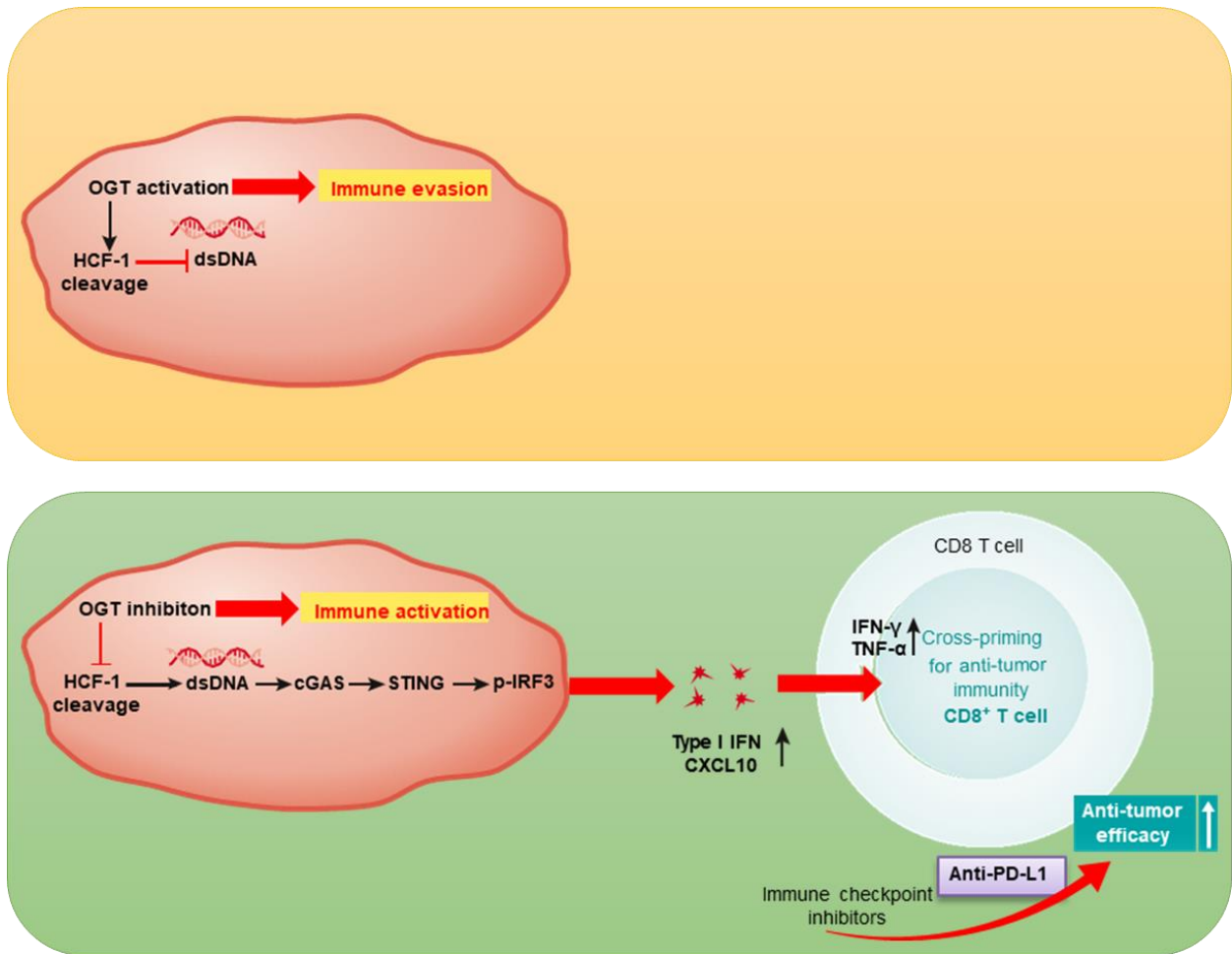
**A)** Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment and pathway analysis in *OGT* high and *OGT* low patients. **B-K)** GSEA analysis in *OGT* high and *OGT* low patients. T cells activation (**B**), response to interferon-gamma (**C**), interferon-gamma production (**D**), antigen processing and presentation (**E**),

interleukin-1 production (**F**), interleukin-12 production (**G**), dectin-1 mediated noncanonical NF- $\kappa$ B signaling (**H**), mismatch repair (**I**), covalent chromatin modification (**J**) and DNA repair complex (**K**) in *OGT* high and *OGT* low patients. **L-Q** RNAseq analysis of mRNA expression pattern in *OGT* high and *OGT* low patients, CD8A (**L**), *IFNG* (**M**), *ISG15* (**N**), *MX1* (**O**), *CD274* (**P**) and *CXCL10* (**Q**) mRNA expression patterns in *OGT* high and *OGT* low patients. Statistical significance was determined by Pearson test, unpaired Student's t-test, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.



**Supplemental Fig. 10 OSMI-1 could significantly induce a high percentage of DNA damage.**

**A-B)** The cell proliferation in different treatments in *vitro*. **A)** MC38 cell proliferation, **B)** LLC cell proliferation. **C)** The extranuclear dsDNA was measured by anti-dsDNA fluorescence staining treated with 50  $\mu\text{M}$  and 100  $\mu\text{M}$  in LLC cells, respectively. **D)** The  $\gamma\text{H2AX}$  expression was measured anti- $\gamma\text{H2AX}$  fluorescence staining treated with 50  $\mu\text{M}$  and 100  $\mu\text{M}$  in LLC cells, respectively. Data are representative of three experiments. Statistical significance was determined by one-way ANOVA, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , ns, no significant difference. Data represent the mean of  $\pm$  SD.



**Supplementary Fig. 11 A schematic of critical role of OGT-mediated antitumor immunity.**

Inhibition of O-GlcNAc transferase promotes the activation of cGAS-STING pathway and the production of type I interferon, which enhances CD8 T cells dependent antitumor immunity.

**Table S1. Primer sequences for genotype**

Genes	Sequence	Size
<i>Ogt<sup>fl/fl</sup></i>	Forward CATCTCTCCAGCCCCACAAACTG	WT 332 bp,
	Reverse GACGAAGCAGGAGGGGAGAGCAC	Mutant 487 bp
Villin-Cre ( $\Delta IEC$ )	WT Forward TATAGGGCAGAGCTGGAGGA	WT 182 bp,
	Mut Forward AGGCAAATTTTGGTGTACGG	Mutant 150 bp
	Common Rev GCCTTCTCCTCTAGGCTCGT	
<i>Apc<sup>min</sup></i>	WT Forward GCCATCCCTTCACGTTAG	WT 619 bp,
	Mut Forward TTCTGAGAAAGACAGAAGTTA	Mutant 320 bp
	Common Rev TTCCACTTTGGCATAAAGGC	

**Table S2. Related to Experimental Procedures. Primer sequences for RT-PCR**

Genes	Forward	Reverse
Mouse <i>Ifna4</i>	CCTGTGTGATGCAGGAACC	TCACCTCCCAGGCACAGA
Mouse <i>Ifnb1</i>	ATGAGTGGTGGTTGCAGGC	TGACCTTTCAAATGCAGTAGAGTCA
Mouse <i>Ifng</i>	TCAAGTGGCATAGATGTGGAAGAA	TGGCTCTGCAGGATTTTCATG
Mouse <i>Il1a</i>	GCACCTTACACCTACCAGAGT	AAACTTCTGCCTGACGAGCTT
Mouse <i>Il1b</i>	CTCATTGTGGCTGTGGAGAAG	ACCAGCAGGTTATCATCATCAT
Mouse <i>Il6</i>	AGCTGGAGTCACAGAAGGAG	AGGCATAACGCACTAGGTTT
Mouse <i>Il10</i>	CCCTTTGCTATGGTGTCCCTT	TGGTTTCTCTTCCCAAGACC
Mouse <i>Il12a</i>	GAGGACTTGAAGATGTACCAG	TCCTATCTGTGTGAGGAGGGC
Mouse <i>Tnfa</i>	GTCAGGTTGCCTCTGTCTCA	TCAGGGAAGAGTCTGGAAAG
Mouse <i>Cxcl10</i>	CCTGCCACGTGTTGAGAT	TGATGGTCTTAGATTCCGGATTC
Mouse <i>Isg15</i>	TGGAAAGGGTAAGACCGTCCT	GGTGTCCGTGACTAACTCCAT
Mouse <i>Mx1</i>	GGGGAGGAAATAGAGAAAATGAT	GTTTACAAAGGGCTTGCTTGCT
Mouse <i>Actb</i>	AGGGCTATGCTCTCCCTCAC	CTCTCAGCTGTGGTGGTGAA
Human <i>IFNB1</i>	CATTACCTGAAGGCCAAGGA	CAATTGTCCAGTCCCAGAGG
Human <i>ISG15</i>	CTGAGAGGCAGCGAACTCAT	AGCATCTTCACCGTCAGGTC
Human <i>MX1</i>	AGAGAAGGTGAGAAGCTGATCC	TTCTTCCAGCTCCTTCTCCTG
Human <i>CXCL10</i>	CTCCAGTCTCAGCACCATGA	GCTCCCCTCTGGTTTTAAGG
Human <i>GADPH</i>	ATGACATCAAGAAGGTGGTG	CATACCAGGAAATGAGCTTG



**Table S3. Related to CRISPR/Cas9. Primer sequences for molecular cloning**

Genes	Forward	Reverse
<i>Ogt</i> gRNA#1	CACCGTGCCACGGAAGACGCCATC	AAACGATGGCGTCTTCCGTGGGCAC
<i>Ogt</i> gRNA#2	CACCGGCTCCAGATGGCGTCTTCCG	AAACCGGAAGACGCCATCTGGAGCC
<i>mMavs</i> gRNA#1	ACCGGCCGTCGCGAGGATGTCTGG	AACCCAGACATCCTCGCGACGGCC
<i>mMavs</i> gRNA#2	CACCGGATACCCTCTCCTAACCAGC	AACGCTGGTTAGGAGAGGGTATCC
<i>mCgas</i> gRNA	CACCGATATGGAAGATCCGCGTAGA	AAACTCTACGCGGATCTTCCATATC
<i>mSting</i> gRNA	CACCGGCTGGATGCAGGTTGGAGTA	AAACTACTCCAACCTGCATCCAGCC
<i>hcGAS</i> gRNA	CACCGAAGTGCGACTCCGCGTTCAG	AAACCTGAACGCGGAGTCGCACTT
<i>hSTING</i> gRNA	CACCGGGATGTTTCAGTGCCTGCGAG	AAACCTCGCAGGCACTGAACATCC

**Table S4. Mass spectrometry assay of OGT interactome**