| Panel 1 | Panel 2 | Panel 3 |
|---------|---------|---------|
| CD21 | CD21 | CD21 |
| CD20 | CD39 | CD39 |
| CD73 | PD-1 | PD-1 |
| CD24 | CD20 | CD20 |
| CD38 | CD73 | CD73 |
| CD27 | CD24 | CD24 |
| IgM | CD38 | CD38 |
| lgD | CD27 | CD27 |
| CD86 | IgM | IgM |
| CD11c | lgD | IgG |
| CD39 | CD86 | CD138 |
| CXCR3 | CD11c | CD11c |
| CD19 | CD19 | CD19 |
| L/D | CXCR3 | T-bet |
| | CD3 | CD3 |
| | L/D | L/D |

Supplementary Figure 1: Overview of panels used for flow cytometry. All markers were stained on the cell surface except for T-bet in panel 3.



Supplementary Figure 2: Clinical laboratory parameters measured for COVID-19 patients classified in mild, moderate and severe disease course according to the WHO criteria for COVID-19.



Supplementary Figure 3: (**A**) First, Lymphocytes were identified by forward scatter (FSC) and side scatter (SSC) gate. (**B**) Single cells were gated by a forward scatter height (FSC-H) and forward scatter area (FSC-A) gate. (**C**) Living cells were included only. (**D**) Only CD3 negative cells were included. (**E**) B cells were identified by CD19⁺ and CD20⁺ co expression. (**F**) CD24⁺ and CD38⁺ were selected to identify transitional B cells. (**G**) Naïve and memory subsets were identified using CD21 and CD27.



Supplementary Figure 4: (**A**) First, Lymphocytes were identified by forward scatter (FSC) and side scatter (SSC) gate. (**B**) Single cells were gated by a forward scatter height (FSC-H) and forward scatter area (FSC-A) gate. (**C**) Living cells were included only. (**D**) Only CD3 negative cells were included. (**E**) B cells were identified by CD19⁺. (**F**) CD27⁺ and CD38⁺ were selected to identify plasmablasts



Supplementary Figure 5: Correlations between IL-6, CRP, LDH, procalcitonin, D-Dimer and ferritin levels and frequencies of (**A**) plasmablasts on CD19⁺ B cells and (B) atypical memory B cells on CD19⁺CD20⁺ B cells in COVID-19 patients. For bivariate correlation analysis the Spearman correlation and Pearson correlation were applied. P-values smaller than 0.05 were considered significant.



Supplementary Figure 6: (**A**) FlowJo tSNE projection of atypical memory B cells (contour plot) from healthy donors (HD), COVID-19 (C19), and malaria (M) patients. Red circle: high expression of CD39, CD86, and CXCR3, green circle: high expression of PD-1 and low expression of CD86 and CXCR3 (**B**) tSNE projections are shown of the expression of the indicated surface molecules on CD21⁻CD27⁻ atypical memory B cells.



Supplementary Figure 7: Frequency of cells expressing T-bet among atypical memory B cells in healthy donors (HD) and COVID-19 patients.



Supplementary Figure 8: Representative dot plots of CD11c, PD-1, CD39, CD86, CXCR3 and CD73 on CD19⁺,CD20⁺ B cells for healthy donors (HD), COVID-19 and malaria patients.



Supplementary Figure 9: Frequencies of CD39⁺ and CD73⁺ B cells at different stages of differentiation in HD, COVID-19 and malaria. Data are shown as mean \pm SD, where *, **, *** and **** indicate p-values <0.05, <0.01, <0.001, and <0.0001.

Α



Supplementary Figure 9: Longitudinal analysis of the frequency of CD11c⁺, CXCR3⁺, CD86⁺, CD39⁺ and CD73⁺ (**A**) CD27⁻,CD21⁻ B cells and (**B**) plasmablasts in COVID-19 patients.

Supplementary Table 1: COVID-19 cohort and COVID-19 disease severity

| | COVID-19 | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | mild | moderate | severe |
| Patient characteristics | | | |
| age [years] | 51.5 ± 13.70 | 49.3 ± 10.62 | 65.4 ± 8.5 |
| sex [female/male] | 1 5 | 3 3 | 1 7 |
| Blood pressure | | | |
| systolic RR [mean] | 123.1 ± 8.8 | 129.3 ± 11.0 | 122.8 ± 9.5 |
| diastolic RR [mean] | $\textbf{76.3} \pm \textbf{2.0}$ | 77.6 ± 3.8 | $\textbf{72.9} \pm \textbf{4.1}$ |
| Respiration | | | |
| SpO2 [max] | 97.1 ± 1.3 | 95.8 ± 1.2 | 92.6 ± 1.2 |
| SpO2 [min] | 95.7 ± 1.6 | 91.6 ± 1.8 | 81.4 ± 8.3 |
| respiratory rate [mean] | 15.2 ± 1.4 | 17.3 ± 3.0 | 17.2 ± 2.1 |
| respiratory rate [max] | 18.2 ± 4.7 | 23.0 ± 6.7 | 25.25 ± 8.1 |
| pneumonia | 2/6 | 4 / 6 | 8 / 8 |
| Clinical chemistry | | | |
| CRP [max] | 55.3 ± 35.6 | 167.6 ± 159.1 | 173.75 ± 78.9 |
| IL-6 [max] | 24.2 ± 18.2 | 72.52 ± 80.6 | 1356 ± 3443 |
| Ferritin [max] | 391.4 ± 14.2 | 1072.025 ± 1393 | 2016.75 ± 756.3 |
| Hospital | | | |
| time in hospital [mean] | $\textbf{3.84} \pm \textbf{1.6}$ | $\textbf{6.6} \pm \textbf{2.7}$ | 13.125 ± 6.8 |
| time ICU [mean] | | | 8 |

| Sample ID | sample date | Assay | value | result |
|-----------|-------------|-------|-------|----------|
| C19-01 | 9 | lgM | 0.1 | negative |
| | 24 | lgM | 13 | positive |
| | 9 | lgG | <3.80 | negative |
| | 24 | lgG | 136 | positive |
| C19-04 | 13 | lgM | 0.215 | negative |
| | 26 | lgM | 11,1 | positive |
| | 13 | lgG | <3.80 | negative |
| | 26 | lgG | 318 | positive |
| C19-06 | 12 | lgM | 0.346 | negative |
| | 27 | lgM | 0.167 | negative |
| | 12 | lgG | <3.80 | negative |
| | 27 | lgG | <3.80 | negative |
| C19-16 | 22 | lgM | 5.29 | positive |
| | 112 | lgM | 0.616 | negative |
| | 22 | lgG | 55.3 | Positive |
| | 112 | lgG | 37 | Positive |
| C19-19 | 21 | lgM | 7.66 | Positive |
| | 107 | lgM | 0.168 | Negative |
| | 21 | lgG | 168 | Positive |
| | 107 | lgG | 136 | Positive |