

The antitumor effect of CAR-T cells targeting transmembrane tumor necrosis factor-alpha combined with PD-1 mAb on breast cancers

Hongping Ba¹, Zigang Dai², Zunyue Zhang¹, Peng Zhang¹, Bingjiao Yin¹, Jing Wang¹,
Zhuoya Li¹, and Xiaoxi Zhou^{2§}

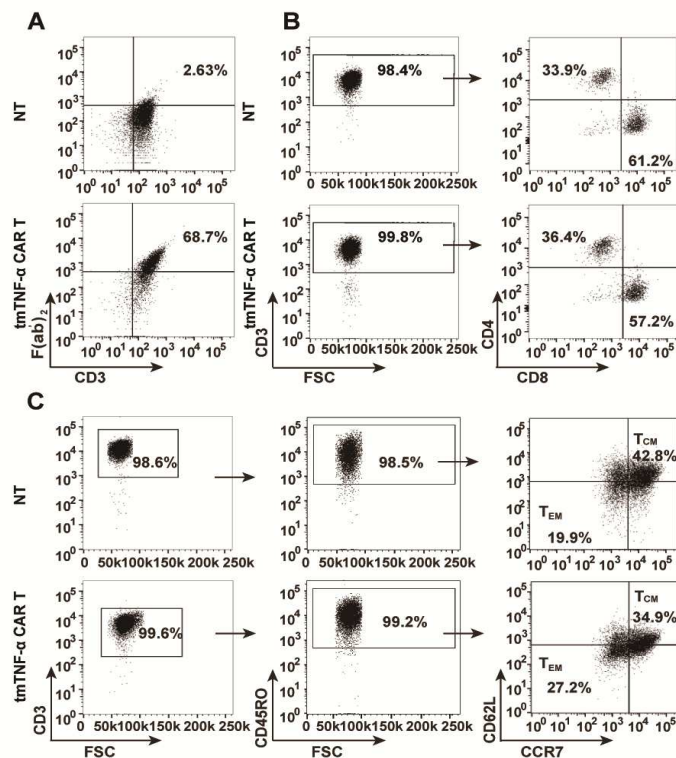
¹ Department of Hematology, Tongji Hospital, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, China

² Department of Immunology, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, China

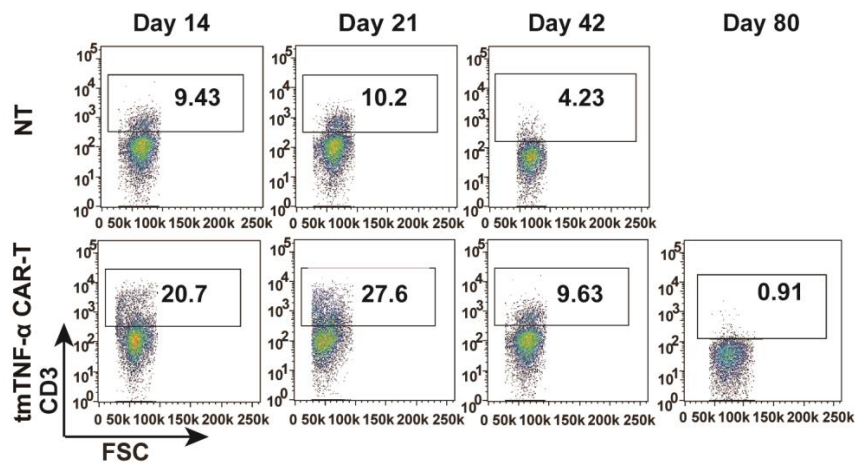
Supplementary Table 1. Antibodies used in flow cytometry and western blotting

Antibody	Catalog number	Company
Anti-F(ab') ₂ of IgG-APC	109-136-097	Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA, USA
Anti-CD3-percp-cy5.5	45-0037-42	eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-CD3-APC-cy7	561800	BD Pharmingen, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-CD4-FITC	11-0041-82	eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-CD8-PE	12-0081-82	eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-CD45RO-Pe-cy7	25-0457-42	eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-CD62L-FITC	11-0621-82	eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-CCR7-PE	12-1979-42	eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-PD1-PE	329906	Biolegend, San Diego, CA, USA
Anti-mouse IgG-FITC	ZF-0312	FeiYi, Wuhan, China
Anti-human IgG-FITC	ZF-0308	FeiYi, Wuhan, China
Anti-CD3	A19017	Abclonal, Wuhan, China
Anti-PD-L1	A20344	Abclonal, Wuhan, China
Anti-IκB	A11397	Abclonal, Wuhan, China
Anti-p38	sc-7972	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, CA, USA
Anti-pp38	4511	Cell signaling Technology, MA, USA
Anti-p65	A19653	Abclonal, Wuhan, China
Anti-pp65	3033	Cell signaling Technology, MA, USA
Anti-AKT	10176-2-AP	Proteintech, Wuhan, China
Anti-pAKT	4060	Cell signaling Technology, MA, USA
Anti-actin	AC026	Abclonal, Wuhan, China
Anti-mouse IgG-HRP	7076	Cell signaling Technology, MA, USA
Anti-rabbit IgG-HRP	7074	Cell signaling Technology, MA, USA

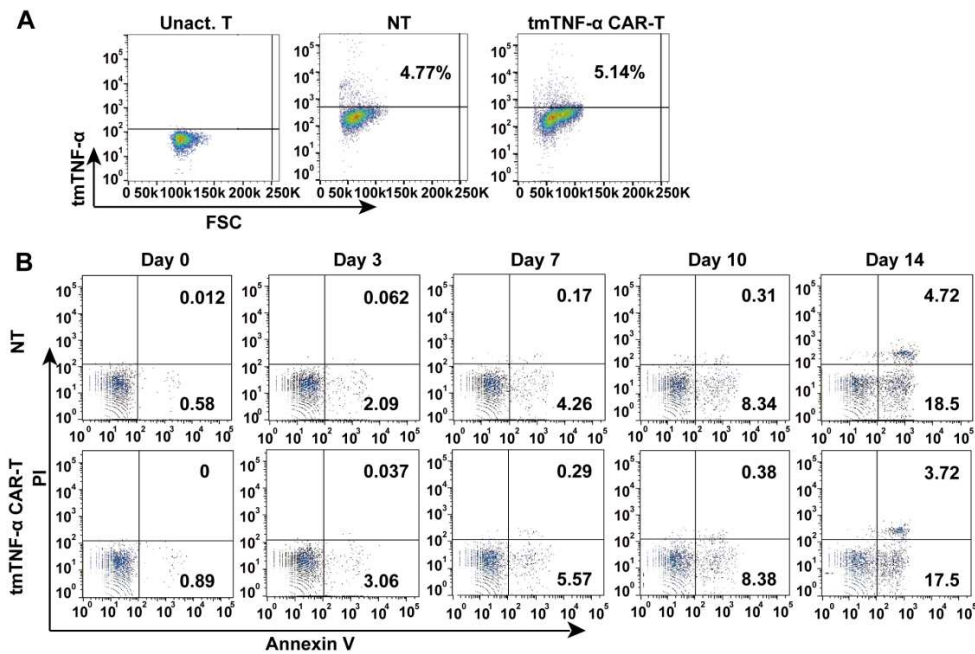
Supplementary Figures

**Supplementary Fig. S1. T cell subsets and memory phenotypes of tmTNF-α CAR-T**

cells. CD3⁺ T cells isolated from UBC were transduced with tmTNF-α CAR gene-containing lentivirus and further cultured for 14 days in the presence of anti-CD3/anti-CD28 and IL-2. Non-transduced T (NT) cells served as a control. (A) F(ab')₂ antibody was used to detect the transduction efficiency of tmTNF-α CAR by flow cytometry and representative cytograms. (B) Representative cytograms of CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cell subsets. (C) Analysis of the expression of CD45RO, CD62L and CCR7 in CD3-positive T cells by flow cytometry and representative cytograms.



Supplementary Fig. S2. Dynamic changes of CAR-T cells in vivo. NOD/SCID mice were inoculated subcutaneously with 2×10^6 MDA-MB-231 cells on the right mamma pat and intravenously administered with 5×10^6 tmTNF- α CAR-T cells or NT cells on Days 7 and 14. Human CD3⁺ T cells in the periphery blood were analyzed at indicated time points by flow cytometry. Representative cytograms of CD3 T cells in the blood. The data of NT treatment group on Day 80 were missing due to the death of mice.



Supplementary Fig. S3. tmTNF- α expression and apoptosis of NT and CAR-T cells. (A)

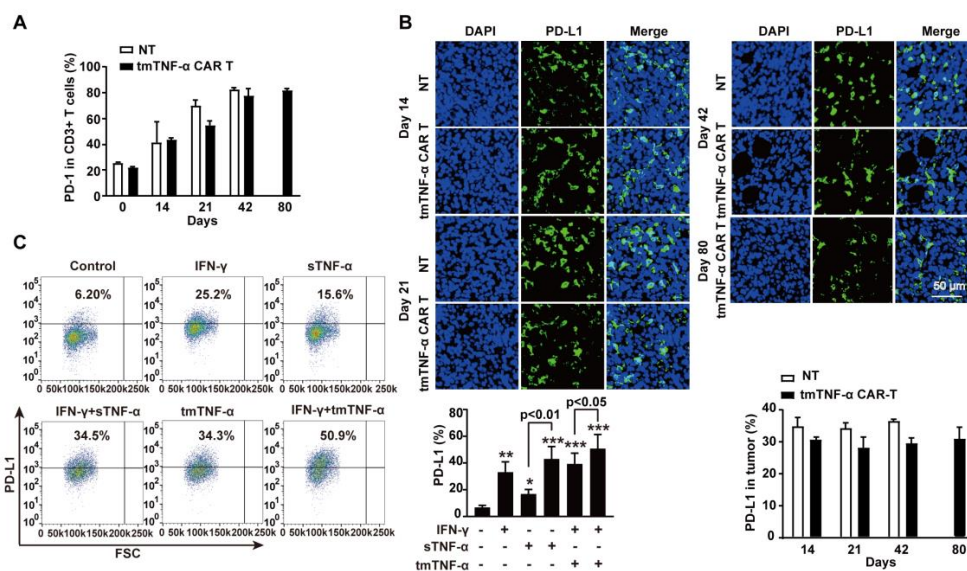
tmTNF- α expression by unactivated T cells (Unact. T cells), NT and CAR-T cells was

detected by flow cytometry and representative cytograms. (B) tmTNF- α CAR-T and NT cells

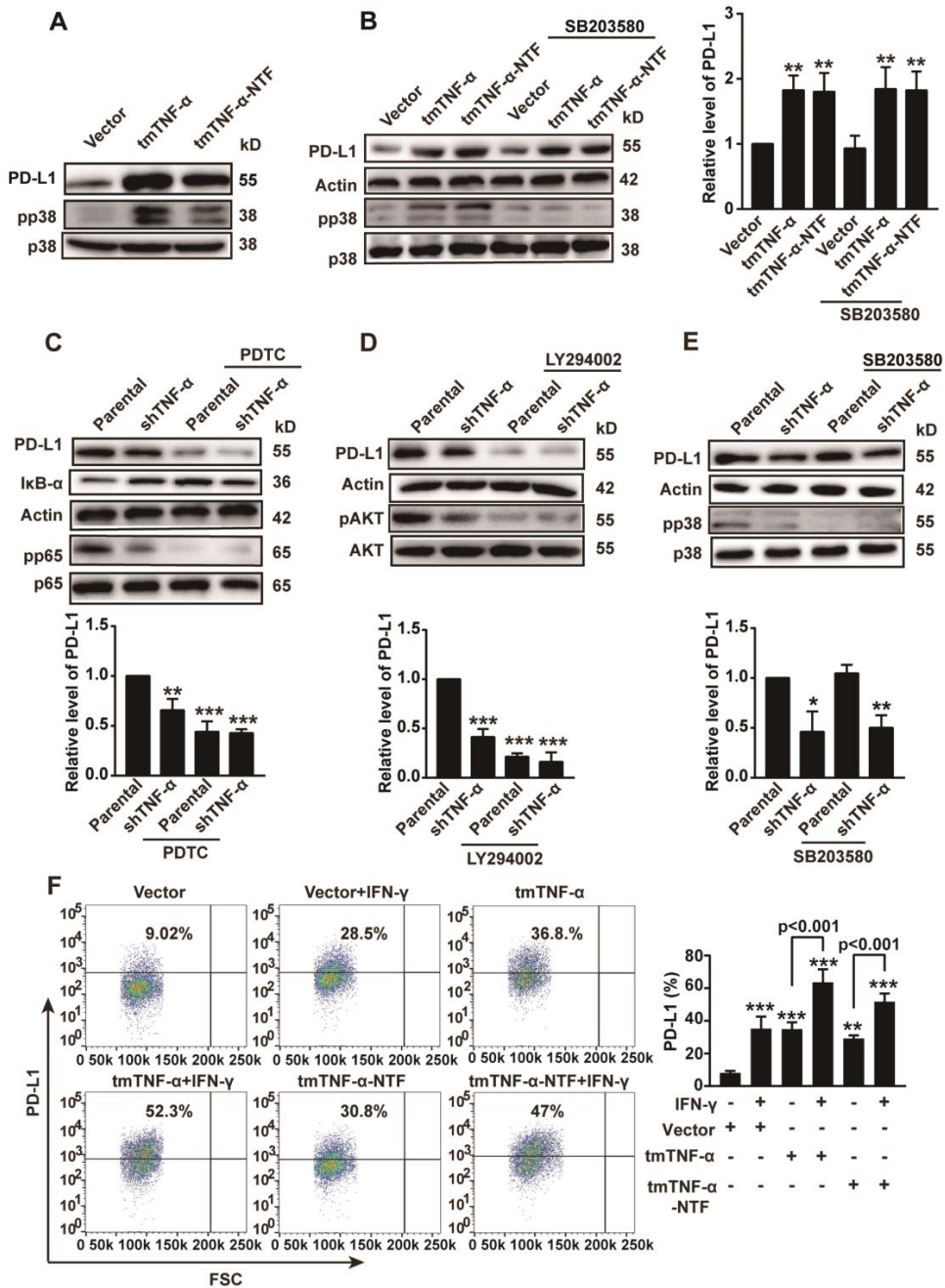
were cultured in medium supplemented with IL-2 (50 IU/ml) in plates coated with anti-

CD3/anti-CD28. Apoptosis of NT and CAR-T cells were analyzed at indicated time points by

Annexin V/PI and representative cytograms of flow cytometry.

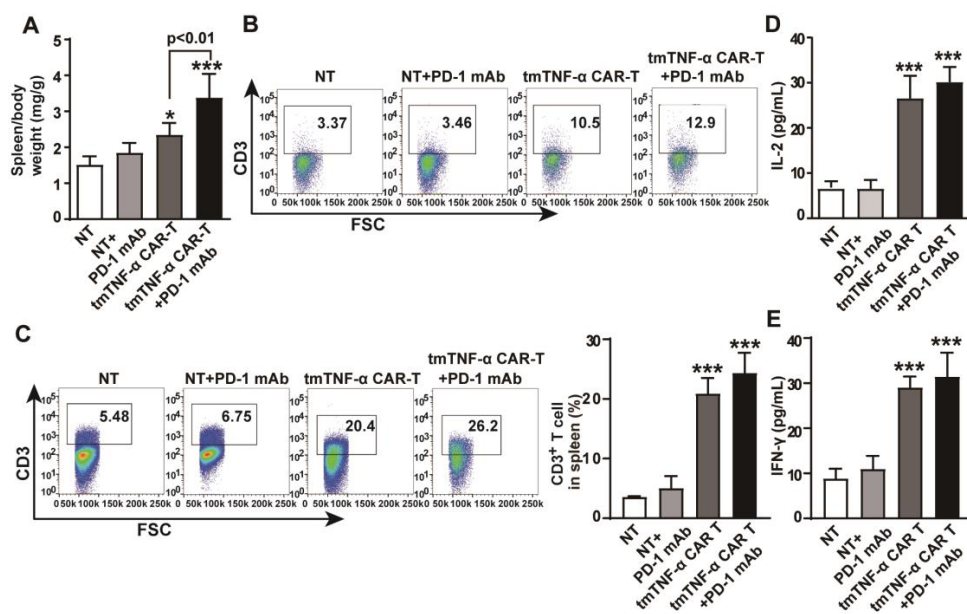


Supplementary Fig. S4. Dynamic changes of PD-1 expression on tmTNF- α CAR-T cells and PD-L1 expression on tumor cells in vivo. NOD/SCID mice were inoculated subcutaneously with 2×10^6 MDA-MB-231 cells on the right mamma pat and intravenously administered with 5×10^6 tmTNF- α CAR-T cells or NT cells on Day 7 and 14. (A) The PD-1 expression in CD3 T cells in the tumor tissues was analyzed by flow cytometry (n=3). (B) PD-L1 expression in tumor tissue sections (magnification $\times 200$) determined by indirect immunofluorescence and quantitative data (n=3). The data of NT treatment group on Day 80 were missing due to the death of mice. The data in vivo represent means \pm SEM. (C) MDA-MB-468 cells were co-cultured for 24 h with 100 ng/ml sTNF- α or tmTNF- α stably transfected, fixed 293T cells at an E/T ratio of 10:1 in the presence of 0.25 ng/ml IFN- γ . PD-L1 expression was detected by flow cytometry. The data represent means \pm SEM of three independent experiments. *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 versus control.



Supplementary Fig. S5. PD-L1 expression is regulated by tmTNF-α in breast cancer cells. (A, B) After transfection of MDA-MB-468 cells with TNF-α or tmTNF-α-NTF for 24 h, the transfectants were treated with or without a p38 inhibitor, 0.6 M SB203580 for 24 h. Representative images of western blot for PD-L1 expression and p38 phosphorylation and

quantitative data. (C, E) shTNF- α stably transfected or parental MDA-MB-231 cells were treated with 100 μ M PDTC (C), 50 μ M LY294002 (D) or 0.6 M SB203580 (E) for 24 h. Representative images of western blot for PD-L1 expression, I κ B α degradation and the phosphorylation of p65, AKT and p38, and quantitative data. (F) TNF- α or tmTNF- α -NTF transfectants were stimulated for 24 h with 0.25 ng/ml IFN- γ after 48-h transfection, PD-L1 expression was detected by flow cytometry. All quantitative data represent means \pm SEM of three independent experiments. *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 versus parental except F (versus vector).



Supplementary Fig. S6. The effect of PD-1 antibody on the tmTNF- α CAR-T therapy.

NOD/SCID mice were inoculated subcutaneously with 2×10^6 MDA-MB-231 cells on the right mamma pat, and intravenously administered with 5×10^6 tmTNF- α CAR-T cells or NT cells on Days 7 and 14. 200 μ g of PD-1 mAb was intraperitoneally injected every three days, and started on Day 7 prior to infusion of tmTNF- α CAR-T cells. Mice were sacrificed on Day 49 (n=6 per group). (A) Spleen weight/body weight. Representative cytograms of human CD3 T cells in the periphery blood (B) and the spleen (C) analyzed by flow cytometry and quantitative data. (D, E) Serum levels of IL-2 and IFN- γ were detected by ELISA. All quantitative data represent means \pm SEM. ***P < 0.001 versus NT.