

**FIGURE S1 (related to Figure 1). Widespread glucocorticoid generation via 11β-HSD1 activity in healthy tissues and tumor cells.** (A) Simplified glucocorticoid synthetic pathway. Green arrows indicate enzyme-medicated steroid conversions required for *de novo* corticosterone biosynthesis from cholesterol, including corticosterone generation from its immediate precursor 11-deoxycorticosterone (DOC) by P450c11β (*Cyp11b1*), orange indicates corticosterone generation from inactive metabolite 11-dehydrocorticosterone (DHC) by 11β-HSD1 (*Hsd11b1*), and blue indicates corticosterone inactivation to DHC by 11β0-HSD1 (*Hsd11b2*).

(B) Relative gene expression of *Cyp11b1*, *Hsd11b1*, and *Hsd11b2* in adult mouse tissues. Data were acquired from BioGPS and asterisks indicate expression higher than that of the lowest tissue.

(**C**,**D**) Bioactive glucocorticoid production by (**C**) B16 cells and (**D**) MC38 cells.  $5 \times 10^4$  tumor cells were cultured for cultured for 24 h with 100 nM 22R-hydroxycholesterol (cholesterol), deoxycorticosterone (DOC), or dehydrocorticosterone (DHC) to test for CYP11A1, CYP11B1, or 11β-HSD1 activity. Cells were also treated with cAMP, PMA, LPS, TNF $\alpha$ , or IL-6 to test for induction of glucocorticoid production. GR<sup>GFP</sup> mouse splenocytes were resuspended in B16 or MC38-conditioned medium from various treatments and glucocorticoid activity quantified using a ligand titration assay (Taves et al., 2019).

(E) Relative gene expression of *Cyp11b1*, *Hsd11b1*, and *Hsd11b2* in mouse tumor cell lines. Total RNA was extracted from tumor cell lines and relative expression quantified via RT-qPCR, normalized to *18S* RNA expression.

Data are presented as means of duplicate samples (B) or wells (C-E).



#### FIGURE S2 (related to Figure 2). 11β-HSD1 expression by cancer cells promotes tumor growth *in vivo*.

(A) Tumor growth of B16 cells implanted into control or Cyp11b1<sup>Actin-cre</sup> mice. Mice were implanted with 0.5×10<sup>6</sup> B16 control or Hsd11b1-/- cells, until tumors reach a diameter of 20 mm. Representative data are shown from 1 of 2 experiments.

(B) B16 tumor masses in control and *Cyp11b1<sup>Actin-cre</sup>* recipient mice. Representative of 2 experiments.

(C) Tumor growth of B16 control or *Hsd11b1-/-* cells implanted into *Cyp11b1<sup>Actin-cre</sup>* mice. Representative at a are shown from one of at least two experiments.

(**D**, **G**) B16 (D) control and *Hsd11b1-/-* cells or MC38 (G) control and *Hsd11b1Tg* cell numbers after 72 h in standard growth medium or medium supplemented with 100 nM DHC or corticosterone.

(E) Flow cytometry staining of the gucocorticoid receptor (GR) in B16<sup>vector</sup> and B16<sup>Nr3c1-/-</sup> cells. Cultured cells were detached, fixed with BD cytofix to preserve total intracellular GR protein, stained with Alexa 647-conjugated anti-GR antibody, and data acquired by flow cytometry. (F) Tumor masses of B16<sup>vector</sup> and B16<sup>Nr3c1-/-</sup> tumors implanted into control mice. Data are pooled from two experiments.

Data are presented as means of duplicate samples (D, G) or mean ± SEM (B, C, F) with significance of p<0.05, <0.01, <0.001 indicated as \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*



#### FIGURE S3 (related to Figure 3). Lack of Cyp11b1 expression and activity in tumor-infiltrating cells.

(A) tSNE visualization of single-cell RNA profiles from mouse melanoma tumor-infiltrating cells. Gene expression data were obtained from the Wellcome Sanger Institute mouse genomes project and visualized using the cellxgene platform.

(B) Single-cell RNA from (A) showing the percent of cells in each cluster expressing glucocorticoid metabolic enzyme genes (left) and glucocorticoid response genes (right).

(**C**, **D**) Tumor growth of B16 (**B**) or MC38 (**C**) cells implanted into wild-type or *Cyp11b1<sup>mScarlet</sup>* mice. The frequency of mScarlet<sup>+</sup> in adrenal and tumor-infiltrating cells is shown at center and right, respectively. Data are presented as mean ± SEM.



#### FIGURE S4 (related to Figure 4). Tumor-generated glucocorticoids inhibit infiltrating CD8 and CD4 T cell activity.

(A) Corticosterone recovery from water blanks, spleen tissue, and tumor tissue pools after solid phase extraction. Tissue pools were spiked with known amounts of corticosterone or vehicle, steroids extracted with C<sub>18</sub> columns, and ELISA quantification of corticosterone used to determine corticosterone recovery values. Obtained tissue values were corrected for recovery.

(B) Difference in corticosterone concentration between B16 control or *Hsdd11b1-/-* tumor tissue and spleen tissue from the same mice. (C) B16 control and *Hsd11b1-/-* tumor masses after bilateral implantation of both cell types into single recipient mice.

(C) B to control and *Hsd T b 1-/-* turnor masses after bilateral implantation of both cell types into single recipient mice.

(D) Quantification of tumor-infiltrating cells in B16 control and *Hsd11b1-/-* tumors. Data are pooled from multiple experiments. (E) Cytokine staining of unstimulated control tumor-infiltrating CD8 T cells.

(F) CD39 expression on Foxp3+ Treg cells from B16 control or *Hsd11b1-/-* tumors.

Data are presented as mean ± SEM and significance of p<0.10, <0.05, <0.01, <0.001 indicated as +, \*, \*\*, \*\*\*.



#### FIGURE S5 (related to Figure 5). Glucocorticoids promote tumor Treg activity.

(A) Quantification of tumor-infiltrating cells in B16 tumors implanted into control and *Nr3c1<sup>Foxp3-cre</sup>* mice. Data are pooled from multiple experiments, presented as mean ± SEM, and significance of p<0.05, <0.01, <0.001 indicated as \*, \*\*, \*\*\*.

(B) B16 control and Hsd11b1-/- cell tumor growth in Nr3c1Foxp3-cre mice (N=17,16), Pooled from 2 experiments.

(C) RNA-seq analysis *Nr3c1* and glucocorticoid-responsive genes in control and *Nr3c1<sup>Foxp3-cre</sup>* tumor-infiltrating Treg. Relative expression is shown as log<sub>2</sub> fold change from the mean expression of all samples.



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# FIGURE S6 (related to Figure 6). *HSD11B1* is expressed across human tissues and tumor expression correlates with signature T cell exhaustion and immunosuppression genes.

(A) Relative gene expression of CYP11A1, CYP11B1, and HSD11B1 in healthy adult human tissues. Data were acquired on Oncomine.
(B) Correlation between expression of CYP11A1, CYP11B1, HSD11B1, or HSD11B2 and glucocorticoid response genes (TSC22D3, DUSP1, FKBP5), T cell dysfunction genes (PDCD1, LAG3, HAVCR2, TIGIT), and Treg marker genes (CCR8, CTLA4, ICOS, IL1R2) in human cancers. TCGA gene expression data were analyzed using TIMER2.0 and are shown as heatmaps showing the strength of the correlation (partial spearman's rho) with significant correlations indicated with a black circle. Sample sizes are shown at far right.



FIGURE S7 (related to Figure 7). Checkpoint blockade and Hsd11b1 deficiency have additive effects on tumor growth.

B16 control and Hsd11b1<sup>-/-</sup> tumor growth in wild-type mice, treated with 10 mg/kg anti-PD-1 or rat  $IgG_{2a}$  isotype control (200 µL intraperitoneal) (N=4 per group). Treatments were administered on days 10, 12, and 14.