

## Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

### Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

n/a | Confirmed

- The exact sample size ( $n$ ) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement
- A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly
- The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided  
*Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.*
- A description of all covariates tested
- A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons
- A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals)
- For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g.  $F$ ,  $t$ ,  $r$ ) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and  $P$  value noted  
*Give  $P$  values as exact values whenever suitable.*
- For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings
- For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes
- Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's  $d$ , Pearson's  $r$ ), indicating how they were calculated

*Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.*

### Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection | Microsoft Excel Version 16.16.14 was used for patient data collection

Data analysis | Analysis was performed with R version 3.6.1.

R packages:  
base packages:  
grid\_3.6.1  
stats\_3.6.1  
graphics\_3.6.1  
grDevices\_3.6.1  
utils\_3.6.1  
datasets\_3.6.1  
methods\_3.6.1  
base\_3.6.1

additional packages:  
reshape2\_1.4.3  
survival\_3.2-13  
survminer\_0.4.9  
ggpubr\_0.2.5  
magrittr\_2.0.3

ggplot2\_3.3.2  
 swimplot\_1.2.0  
 circlize\_0.4.9  
 RColorBrewer\_1.1-2  
 ComplexHeatmap\_2.5.1  
 openxlsx\_4.1.4  
  
 Flow Jo version 10.8.1  
  
 ImageJ version 1.53

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

## Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

The data that support the findings of this study are not openly available due to patient privacy and are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request. They are stored on the controlled access repository of the University Hospital Mannheim.

## Human research participants

Policy information about [studies involving human research participants and Sex and Gender in Research](#).

Reporting on sex and gender

Both sex and gender were registered based on self reporting and all among our 8 patients there were no differences in reported sex and gender. We analyzed whether immunogenicity of H3 K27M-vac was associated with sex or gender, but did neither expect nor find an association.

Population characteristics

Covariate-relevant population characteristics are stated in Figure 1a, Extended Data Table 1 and 2 :

Age at start of vaccination (safety and immunogenicity might depend on patient age)

Sex (safety and immunogenicity might depend on patient sex)

HLA Type (safety and immunogenicity might depend on patient HLA type)

tumor diameter at start of vaccination as judged by product of maximal orthogonal tumor diameter on T1 weighted MRI with contrast enhancement (safety and immunogenicity might depend on tumor diameter)

tumor localization (safety and immunogenicity might depend tumor localization)

time of initial diagnosis (PFS and OS might depend tumor localization)

Karnofsky Performance Index (PFS and OS might depend tumor localization)

Oral dexamethasone intake at start of therapy (safety and immunogenicity might depend dexamethasone intake at start of therapy)

Extend of resection at initial diagnosis (PFS and OS might depend tumor localization)

Dose and fractionation scheme of prior radiation (PFS and OS might depend dose and fractionation scheme of prior radiation)

Dose and type of prior chemotherapy (PFS and OS might depend dose and type of prior chemotherapy)

co-morbidities (PFS and OS might depend on co-morbidities)

Recruitment

Patients were recruited by referral from clinical neurooncologists. All patients eligible for treatment as determined by the treatment plan were extensively informed about the possibility of treatment with H3K27M-vac and potential therapeutic alternatives. Only patients who provided written informed consent after sufficient time for reflection were treated with H3K27M-vac. We therefore cannot exclude self-selection bias which might be responsible for the favorable overall survival of the entire patient cohort together with the required Karnofsky performance score of above 60%. It seems unlikely that self selection had a meaningful influence on safety and immunogenicity.

Ethics oversight

Institutional review board (Ethikkommission) University Hospitals Mannheim, Heidelberg University.

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

## Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

- Life sciences       Behavioural & social sciences       Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see [nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf](https://www.nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf)

# Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	We limited the sample size to eight adult patients with recurrent, histologically confirmed H3K27M+ DMG after standard therapy options and not eligible to be enrolled in the currently ongoing multicenter, phase 1 clinical trial (NCT04808245), because therapy was given on a compassionate use basis and not as part of a clinical trial. The compassionate use program was limited to a small number of patients and eight adult patients were judged to be sufficient to preliminarily assess safety and immunogenicity of H3K27Mvac in patients with progressive DMG.
Data exclusions	No data were excluded from the study.
Replication	To ensure reproducibility of our findings we carefully laid out a treatment plan, determined and reported patient characteristics that might be relevant to the effects studied. Furthermore, we described all experimental procedures in detail and will be happy to refine reporting if reviewers have questions or suggestions for improvement. All experiments were performed once unless otherwise reported. PLA was performed independently twice as indicated in legends of Figure 4 and Extended Figure 5. The attempt of replication was successful.
Randomization	Since all patients received H3K27M-vac randomization did not apply. We extensively determined and reported patient characteristics and tested for several potential covariates such as age (p=0.60), sex (p=0.46), KPS (p=0.75), extent of resection (p=0.94), tumor size (p=0.21), time from histological diagnosis to start of vaccination (p=0.06), concomitant anti-PD1 treatment (p=0.47), dexamethasone intake at baseline (p=0.15) or HLA allelotype. Nonetheless it should be noted that due to the limited number of patients absence of association does not exclude covariates.
Blinding	This was an open label treatment with both patients and treating physicians being aware of the treatment with H3K27M-vac. Efficacy assessment was explicitly not part of the analysis and would require a blinded randomized controlled clinical trial. We report the experiences with a limited number of patients threatened on a compassionate use basis.

## Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

### Materials & experimental systems

### Methods

n/a	Involved in the study	n/a	Involved in the study
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antibodies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology and archaeology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clinical data		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual use research of concern		

## Antibodies

Antibodies used	Elispot: anti-human IFN (1-D1K, Mabtech, 3420-3-250), anti-human IFN (7-B6-1, Mabtech, 3420-6-250); Flow Cytometry: CD3-Fitc (HIT3a, BD, 561802), CD4-BV605 (clone SK3, BD, 565998), CD8-PerCP-Cy5.5 (clone RPA-T8, Invitrogen, 45-0088-42), CD45RA-APC-H7 (clone 5H9, BD, 561212), CCR7-BV711 (clone 150503, BD, 566602), PD1-PE (clone EH12.1, BD, 560795), CD25-BV605 (clone 2A3, BD, 562660), HLA-DR-APC-H7 (clone G46-6, BD, 561358), IFN $\gamma$ -BV421 (clone, 4S.B3, BD, 564791), TNF $\alpha$ -APC (clone, Mab11, Biolegend, 502912), FoxP3-PE (clone 259/C7, BD, 560046). PLA: mouse monoclonal anti-human GFAP (1:2000, Cell signal, 3670), rabbit polyclonal anti-human IBA-1 (1:100, Wako, 019-19741), donkey anti-mouse Alexa Fluor 488 (1:300, Molecular Probes, Invitrogen, A-21202) and donkey anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor 488 (1:300, Molecular Probes, Invitrogen, A-21206)
Validation	all antibodies are ROA reagents. Flow cytometry antibodies were titrated for optimal signal to noise ratios. Validation of FACS Antibodies: CD3-Fitc (HIT3a, BD, 561802): Barclay NA, Brown MH, Birkeland ML, et al, ed. The Leukocyte Antigen FactsBook. San Diego, CA: Academic Press; 1997. (Biology) Beverly PC, Callard RE. Distinctive functional characteristics of human "T" lymphocytes defined by E rosetting or a monoclonal anti-T cell antibody. Immunol. 1981; 11(4):329-334. (Biology) Knapp W, Dorken B, Rieber EP, et al, ed. Leukocyte Typing IV. New York: Oxford University Press; 1989:1-1208. (Biology) Lanier LL, Allison JP, Phillips JH. Correlation of cell surface antigen expression on human thymocytes by multi-color flow cytometric analysis: implications for differentiation. J Immunol. 1986; 137(8):2501-2507. (Biology) McMichael AJ, Beverly PCL, Gilks W, et al, ed. Leukocyte Typing III: White Cell Differentiation Antigens. New York: Oxford University Press; 1987. (Biology) Schlossman SF, Boumsell L, Gilks W, et al, ed. Leukocyte Typing V: White Cell Differentiation Antigens. New York: Oxford University Press; 1995. (Clone-specific)

- CD4-BV605 (clone SK3, BD, 565998):  
Bernard A, Boumsell L, Hill C. Joint report of the first international workshop on human leucocyte differentiation antigens by the investigators of the participating laboratories. In: Bernard A, Boumsell L, Dausset J, Milstein C, Schlossman SF, ed. *Leucocyte Typing*. New York, NY: Springer-Verlag; 1984:9-108.
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- CD8-PerCP-Cy5.5 (clone RPA-T8, Invitrogen, 45-0088-42):  
Vardam-Kaur T, Pathangey LB, McCormick DJ, Bergsagel PL, Cohen PA, Gendler SJ. Multipeptide stimulated PBMCs generate TEM/TCM for adoptive cell therapy in multiple myeloma. *Oncotarget*. 2021 Sep 28;12(20):2051-2067.
- CD45RA-APC-H7 (clone 5H9, BD, 561212):  
Barclay NA, Brown MH, Birkeland ML, et al, ed. *The Leukocyte Antigen FactsBook*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press; 1997.
- Johnson P, Maiti A, Ng DHW. CD45: A family of leukocyte-specific cell surface glycoproteins. In: Herzenberg LA, Weir DM, Herzenberg LA, Blackwell C, ed. *Weir's Handbook of Experimental Immunology*, Vol 2. Cambridge: Blackwell Science; 1997:62.1-62.16.
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- CCR7-BV711 (clone 150503, BD, 566602):  
Birkenbach M, Josefsen K, Yalamanchili R, Lenoir G, Kieff E. Epstein-Barr virus-induced genes: first lymphocyte-specific G protein-coupled peptide receptors. *Nature*. 1993; 67(4):2209-2220. (Biology).
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- PD1-PE (clone EH12.1, BD, 560795):  
Bennett F, Luxenberg D, Ling V, et al. Program death-1 engagement upon TCR activation has distinct effects on costimulation and cytokine-driven proliferation: attenuation of ICOS, IL-4, and IL-21, but not CD28, IL-7, and IL-15 responses. *J Immunol*. 2003; 170(2):711-718. (Biology).
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- CD25-BV605 (clone 2A3, BD, 562660):  
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- HLA-DR-APC-H7 (clone G46-6, BD, 561358):
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- IFN $\gamma$ -BV421 (clone, 4S.B3, BD, 564791):
- Fonteneau JF, Le Drean E, Le Guiner S, Gervois N, Diez E, Jotereau F. Heterogeneity of biologic responses of melanoma-specific CTL. *J Immunol.* 1997; 159(6):2831-2839. (Clone-specific: Flow cytometry).
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- TNF $\alpha$ -APC (clone, Mab11, Biologend, 502912):
- Rathjen D, et al. 1991. *Mol. Immunol.* 28:79.
- Ablamunits V, et al. 2010. *Eur. J. Immunol.* 40:2891.
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- Zhao XJ, et al. 2003. *J. Immunol.* 170:2923.
- Rieger R, et al. 2009. *Cancer Gene Ther.* 1:53-64.
- Maksareekul S, et al. 2009. *Vaccine.* 28:3754
- FoxP3-PE (clone 259/C7, BD, 560046):
- Brunkow ME, Jeffery EW, Hjerrild KA, et al. Disruption of a new forkhead/winged-helix protein, scurfy, results in the fatal lymphoproliferative disorder of the scurfy mouse. *Nat Genet.* 2001; 27(1):68-73. (Biology).
- Giovanna Roncador et al. Analysis of Foxp3 protein expression in human CD4+CD25+ regulatory T cells at a single cell level. *Eur J Immunol.* 2005; 35(Immunogen).
- Wildin RS, Ramsdell F, Peake J, et al. X-linked neonatal diabetes mellitus, enteropathy and endocrinopathy syndrome is the human equivalent of mouse scurfy. *Nat Genet.* 2001; 27(1):18-20. (Biology).
- Elispot:
- anti-human IFN (1-D1K, Mabtech, 3420-3-250) and anti-human IFN (7-B6-1, Mabtech, 3420-6-250):
- Apostolovic D, Grundström J, Kiewiet MBG, Perusko M, Hamsten C, Starkhammar M, Paulie S, van Hage M. Th2-skewed T cells correlate with B cell response to  $\alpha$ -Gal and tick antigens in  $\alpha$ -Gal syndrome. *J Clin Invest.* 2023 Mar 15
- Foord E, Arruda LCM, Gaballa A, Klyning C, Uhlin M. Characterization of ascites- and tumor-infiltrating  $\gamma\delta$  T cells reveals distinct repertoires and a beneficial role in ovarian cancer. *Sci Transl Med.* 2021 Jan 20;13(577)

PLA:  
 mouse monoclonal anti-human GFAP (1:2000, Cell signal, 3670):  
 Eng, L.F. et al. (2000) *Neurochem. Res.* 25, 1439-51.  
 Goebel, H.H. et al. (1987) *Acta. Histochem. Suppl.* 34, 81-93.  
 Jessen, K.R. et al. (1990) *Development* 109, 91-103.

rabbit polyclonal anti-human IBA-1 (1:100, Wako, 019-19741:  
 Imai, Y., Ibata, I., Ito, D., Ohsawa, K., & Kohsaka, S.: *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, 224(3), 855(1996).  
 A Novel Geneiba1 in the Major Histocompatibility Complex Class III Region Encoding an EF Hand Protein Expressed in a Monocytic Lineage  
 Mori, I., Imai, Y., Kohsaka, S., & Kimura, Y.: *Microbiol. Immunol.*, 44(8), 729(2000).  
 Upregulated expression of Iba1 molecules in the central nervous system of mice in response to neurovirulent influenza A virus infection  
 Sasaki, Y., Ohsawa, K., Kanazawa, H., Kohsaka, S., & Imai, Y. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, 286(2), 292(2001).  
 Iba1 is an actin-cross-linking protein in macrophages/microglia.  
 Ahn, J.H., et al.: *Lab. Anim. Res.*, 28(3), 165 (2012).  
 Comparison of alpha-synuclein immunoreactivity in the spinal cord between the adult and aged beagle dog  
 Ide, T., et al.: *J. Vet. Med. Sci.*, 72(1), 99 (2010).  
 Histiocytic Sarcoma in the Brain of a Cat  
 Gaige, S., et al.: *Neurotoxicology*, 34, 135(2013).  
 c-Fos immunoreactivity in the pig brain following deoxyvalenol intoxication: Focus on NUCB2/nesfatin-1 expressing neurons  
 Rodriguez-Callejas, J.D. et al.: *Front. Aging Neurosci.*, 8, 315(2016).  
 Evidence of Tau Hyperphosphorylation and Dystrophic Microglia in the Common Marmoset  
 Fantin, A., et al.: *Blood*, 116(5), 829(2010).  
 Tissue macrophages act as cellular chaperones for vascular anastomosis downstream of VEGF-mediated endothelial tip cell induction

## Clinical data

Policy information about [clinical studies](#)

All manuscripts should comply with the ICMJE [guidelines for publication of clinical research](#) and a completed [CONSORT checklist](#) must be included with all submissions.

Clinical trial registration	Since the patient were treated on a compassionate use basis and not as part of a clinical trial, it was not registered on ClinicalTrials.org.
Study protocol	We provided a treatment protocol that outlines the treatment plan for patients treated with H3K27M on a compassionate use basis.
Data collection	Patients received H3K27M-vac between August 2017 and February 2023 at the University Hospitals of Heidelberg and Mannheim. Both medical centers are tertiary care centers with certified cancer centers by the German Cancer Society.
Outcomes	Safety of H3K27M-vac treatment was assessed during patient visits by a specialized neurooncologist by Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE) version 4.0. Immunogenicity was assessed by ELISpot as extensively specified in the methods section of the manuscript. MRI assessment including response assessment was done by neuroradiologists according to IRANO criteria as specified in the methods section of the manuscript.

## Flow Cytometry

### Plots

Confirm that:

- The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).
- The axis scales are clearly visible. Include numbers along axes only for bottom left plot of group (a 'group' is an analysis of identical markers).
- All plots are contour plots with outliers or pseudocolor plots.
- A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

### Methodology

Sample preparation	blood was collected in Li-Heparin tubes and processed within 6 hours of venipuncture by ficoll-density gradient centrifugation. Isolated PBMC were cryopreserved in freezing medium containing 10% DMSO and stored in a liquid nitrogen gas phase tank. Upon thawing, PBMC were rested overnight prior to any functional analysis.
Instrument	BD FACS Lyric
Software	BD FACSuite was used for aquisition, FlowJo V10 was used for analysis.
Cell population abundance	cells were analyzed post in vitro expansion and contained predominantly T cells . Viability was >93 % in all cases. Approximately 66% of CD3+ T cells were CD4+. Background in unstimulated cells was below 0.04% of CD4+ and total cytokine secreting cells were > 68%. No cytokine secretion was observed in stimulated CD8+ T cells, but both CD4 and CD8 T cells produced IFN and TNF in response to control stimulation (PMA/ionomycine)

## Gating strategy

Hierarchical gating: Exclusions of Debris (FSC-A vs SSC-A)/Exclusion of doublets (FSC-A vs FSC-W), Exclusion of dead-cells (SSC-A vs dead-cell-stain)/Definition of T cells (SSC-A vs CD3-Fitc+)/Definition of T cell subsets (CD8-PerpCP-Cy5.5 vs CD4 BV605)/ Identification of cytokine secreting cells (IFNgamma-BV421 vs TNFalpha-APC), gates were set using unstimulated control

Tick this box to confirm that a figure exemplifying the gating strategy is provided in the Supplementary Information.

## Magnetic resonance imaging

### Experimental design

Design type: Resting state

Design specifications: single measurement block

Behavioral performance measures: n/a, since no behavioral performance measures were performed

### Acquisition

Imaging type(s): structural

Field strength: 3 Tesla

Sequence & imaging parameters: 3D fluid-attenuated inversion recovery FLAIR (echo time (TE) = 398 ms, repetition time (TR) = 5000 ms, inversion time (TI) = 1800 ms, field-of-view (FOV) = 240 mm, spatial resolution = 0.5 x 0.5 x 0.9 mm)  
Contrast-enhanced 3D magnetization-prepared rapid acquisition gradient-echo (MPRAGE; TE = 2.49 ms, TR = 1900 ms, TI = 900 ms, FOV = 240 mm, spatial resolution = 0.9 x 0.9 x 0.9 mm)

Area of acquisition: whole brain

Diffusion MRI:  Used  Not used

### Preprocessing

Preprocessing software: n/a, since images were acquired in clinical routine setting. No preprocessing was performed. Images are merely shown for visualization.

Normalization: n/a, since no normalization was performed.

Normalization template: n/a, since no normalization was performed.

Noise and artifact removal: n/a, since no noise and artifact removal was performed.

Volume censoring: n/a, since no volume censoring was performed.

### Statistical modeling & inference

Model type and settings: n/a, since no statistical modeling and inference was performed.

Effect(s) tested: n/a, since no statistical modeling and inference was performed.

Specify type of analysis:  Whole brain  ROI-based  Both

Statistic type for inference (See [Eklund et al. 2016](#)): n/a, , since no statistical modeling and inference was performed.

Correction: n/a, , since no statistical modeling and inference was performed.

### Models & analysis

n/a | Involved in the study

Functional and/or effective connectivity

Graph analysis

Multivariate modeling or predictive analysis