nature portfolio

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Last updated by author(s):	12/2/2024

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.

Please do not complete any field with "not applicable" or n/a. Refer to the help text for what text to use if an item is not relevant to your study.
For final submission: please carefully check your responses for accuracy; you will not be able to make changes later.

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	No software used for data collection
Data analysis	Flow jo V 9.6, Graphpad prism V6, FatQC V 0.11.9, MultiQC V1.13, HISAT2 v2.2.0, featureCounts, SAMtools v0.1.20, R V4.4.3

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

All available data are included in the manuscript and the supplementary file. Data sources used to generate graphs is provided with this paper. The raw RNA-sequencing data has been deposited in ArrayExpress (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/arrayexpress/) under the accession number E-MTAB-13860.

Research involving human participants, their data, or biological material

Policy information about studies with [human participants or human data](). See also policy information about [sex, gender (identity/presentation), and sexual orientation]() and [race, ethnicity and racism]().

Reporting on sex and gender	From the total 64 patients 36 were males and 28 females, from 49 healthy controls 26 were males and 23 females.
Reporting on race, ethnicity, or other socially relevant groupings	64 podoconiosis cases and 49 healthy controls(HC) were enrolled in this study. The mean age of the patients and HCs with minimum and maximum range was 47.8 (28-72)34.4 (21-60). Almost all patients and HCs were farmers,82.8% of patients and 75.5% of HCs were married.Majority of patients were on stage II (92.2%) and have lymphoedema on both legs (90.6%).
Population characteristics	Both patients and health controls are agrarian populations who lived at least for 10 years in the endemic area
Recruitment	Patients were selected from two health centers and traced to their locality, endemic healthy controls and patients who volunteered to participate were recruited conveniently
Ethics oversight	Ethics approval was obtained from the AHRI/ALERT (Protocol No. PO-3818) and Ethiopian National Science and Technology (Ref N0. AH/00229/001241/21) ethics review committees in Ethiopia and the BSMS Research Governance and Ethics Committee in the UK (Ref. No. ER/BSMS9DJB/1

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.

[X] 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

Life sciences study design

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

Sample size	Central limit theorem suggest at least n =30 per group and to use non parametric tests if less than this no. It is common to see much less sample size in such immunological and molecular studies. However, the current study has large sample size in each aspect of the methods relative to such studies published making it quite sufficient for statistical analysis
Data exclusions	Data were excluded during analysis for those samples which showed staining deterioration in flow cytometery assay and those which had poor library yield and reads less than 5 million during the RNA-Seq analysis.
Replication	experiments were reproducible and all were carried out based on standard operating protocols and good clinical laboratory practice
Randomization	Both cases and controls experiments were carried out randomly and proportionally to minimize batch effects selection bias. But participants were enrolled conveniently because we could only enroll those who volunteered to participate in the study.
Blinding	The study design is case control study and and participants were enrolled based on set of inclusion and exclusion criteria, so need of blinding

Behavioural & social sciences study design

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

Study description	
Research sample	
Sampling strategy	
Data collection	
Timing	
Data exclusions	
Non-participation	
Randomization	

Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences study design

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

Study description	
Research sample	
Sampling strategy	
Data collection	
Timing and spatial scale	
Data exclusions	
Reproducibility	
Randomization	
Blinding	

Did the study involve field work? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Field work, collection and transport

Field conditions	
Location	
Access & import/export	
Disturbance	

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

n/a	Involved in the study
☐	☒ Antibodies
☒	☐ Eukaryotic cell lines
☒	☐ Palaeontology and archaeology
☒	☐ Animals and other organisms
☒	☐ Clinical data
☒	☐ Dual use research of concern
☒	☐ Plants

Methods

n/a	Involved in the study
☒	☐ ChIP-seq
☐	☒ Flow cytometry
☒	☐ MRI-based neuroimaging

Antibodies

Antibodies used

All antibodies were purchased from Beckton Dickinson unless specified.T cells were stained with CD3-APC-H7, CD4-BV510, CD8-BV421, CD38-APC, HLA-DR-PE-Cy7, Ki-67-PerCPCy5.5, CD62L-PE, Cat No.of 560176, 562971, 562429, 560980, 560651 561284, and 555544 respectively.

Validation

Monocytes were stained with CD16-FITC, CD14-BV421, CD40-PE, CD86-BV510, CD36-PerCP-Cy5.5, HLA-DR-APC-Cy7, Cat No. 555406, 563743, 555589, 563461, 561536, and 641393 respectively.
Dendritic cells were stained with CD11c-BV421, CD123-PerCP-Cy5.5, CD141-APC, CD40-PE, CD86-BV510, HLA-DR-APC-Cy7, and a lineage cocktail comprised of FITC conjugated antibodies to CD3, CD14, CD16, CD19, CD20 and CD56. Cat No. 562561, 558714, 564123,555589, 563461, 641393 and 340546 respectively.

Validation of each antibody is found in the manufacturer website. link to web site is provided here
https://www.bdbiosciences.com/en-us/products/reagents/flow-cytometry-reagents/research-reagents/single-color-antibodies-ruo/

Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines and Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Cell line source(s)	
Authentication	
Mycoplasma contamination	
Commonly misidentified lines (See [ICLAC](#) register)	

Palaeontology and Archaeology

Specimen provenance	
Specimen deposition	
Dating methods	

☐ Tick this box to confirm that the raw and calibrated dates are available in the paper or in Supplementary Information.

Ethics oversight	

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

Animals and other research organisms

Policy information about [studies involving animals](#); [ARRIVE guidelines](#) recommended for reporting animal research, and [Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Laboratory animals	
Wild animals	
Reporting on sex	
Field-collected samples	
Ethics oversight	

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

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	
Study protocol	
Data collection	
Outcomes	

Dual use research of concern

Policy information about [dual use research of concern](#)

Hazards

Could the accidental, deliberate or reckless misuse of agents or technologies generated in the work, or the application of information presented in the manuscript, pose a threat to:

No	Yes	
X	☐	Public health
X	☐	National security
X	☐	Crops and/or livestock
X	☐	Ecosystems
X	☐	Any other significant area

Experiments of concern

Does the work involve any of these experiments of concern:

No	Yes	
X	☐	Demonstrate how to render a vaccine ineffective
X	☐	Confer resistance to therapeutically useful antibiotics or antiviral agents
X	☐	Enhance the virulence of a pathogen or render a nonpathogen virulent
X	☐	Increase transmissibility of a pathogen
X	☐	Alter the host range of a pathogen
X	☐	Enable evasion of diagnostic/detection modalities
X	☐	Enable the weaponization of a biological agent or toxin
X	☐	Any other potentially harmful combination of experiments and agents

Plants

Seed stocks	
Novel plant genotypes	
Authentication	

ChIP-seq

Data deposition

☐ Confirm that both raw and final processed data have been deposited in a public database such as GEO.

☐ Confirm that you have deposited or provided access to graph files (e.g. BED files) for the called peaks.

| Data access links
May remain private before publication.	
Files in database submission	
Genome browser session
(e.g. UCSC)	

Methodology

Replicates	
Sequencing depth	
Antibodies	
Peak calling parameters	
Data quality	

Software	

Flow Cytometry

Plots

Confirm that:

[X] The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).

[X] 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.

[X] A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

Methodology

Sample preparation	Fresh PBMC were stained for surface and intracellular bio-markers
Instrument	FACS Canto II
Software	FACS Diva, and Flow jo
Cell population abundance	Varies across panels but at least 100 000 events acquired for each panel
Gating strategy	Gating strategy for each panel is provided

[X] 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	
Design specifications	
Behavioral performance measures	

Imaging type(s)	
Field strength	
Sequence & imaging parameters	
Area of acquisition	

Diffusion MRI   [ ] Used   [ ] Not used

Preprocessing

Preprocessing software	
Normalization	
Normalization template	
Noise and artifact removal	
Volume censoring	

Statistical modeling & inference

Model type and settings	
Effect(s) tested	

Specify type of analysis: ☐ Whole brain ☐ ROI-based ☐ Both

Statistic type for inference

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(See Eklund et al. 2016)

Correction

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Models & analysis

n/a	Involved in the study
☐	☐ Functional and/or effective connectivity
☐	☐ Graph analysis
☐	☐ Multivariate modeling or predictive analysis

Functional and/or effective connectivity

Graph analysis

Multivariate modeling and predictive analysis