

Supplementary Figure 1. Distribution of E6+ tumor cells and Iba1+ macrophages in tumor sections. Representative immunohistochemistry images (at 20X magnification) from tumors in the control (upper row) and TriCurin-treated (middle row) groups are shown. Tissue samples from one-half of TC-1 tumors from Vehicle and TriCurin groups were used to generate dispersed tumor cells for Figure 1. The remaining tissue samples were fixed, sectioned, and used for immunostaining with antibodies against E6 (tumor cells) and Iba1 (activated macrophage). Tumors from TriCurin-treated mice showed less E6 staining of the tumor cells (green) in the tumor-core area. The tumor-periphery area in both groups harbored Iba1+ tumor-associated macrophages (TAM) (red). HOECHST = HOECHST33342. (Scale bar: 150 µm). (Lower Row) Lack of non-specific staining from the 2° antibodies.

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Supplementary Figure 2. Tumor-associated activated (lba1+) macrophages (TAM) are IL10^{high} and IL12^{low}, whereas the TAM in the TriCurin-treated tumors are IL10^{low} and IL12^{high}. TC-1 Tumor sections from the Vehicle-treated and TriCurin-treated groups were triple-stained with Iba1, IL10, and IL12 antibodies. The TAM in Vehicle-treated display high levels of IL10 and low levels of IL12 (a, upper row), whereas the tumors from the TriCurin-treated mice display IL10^{low} and IL12^{high} TAM (a, middle row). (b and c). The graphs show a 70% decrease in IL10 and a 244% increase in IL12 (mean \pm S.E.M.) following TriCurin-treatment (n = 4 per group, with four randomly chosen tumor sections from each mouse). (Scale bar: 47.62 µm) (63X). (a, lower row) Lack of non-specific staining from the 2° antibodies.

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Supplementary Figure 3. IL12Ab treatment annulled TriCurin-evoked M1 TAM-mediated infiltration of Cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTL) into TC-1 tumors. (a, first, second and third rows) and (b) TC-1 tumor sections from Vehicle-treated, TriCurin-treated and TriCurin+IL12Ab-treated mice were single-stained with the CD8 (CTL marker) antibody. The Vehicle group displays very little CD8 staining, whereas the TriCurin group shows a 633% increase in CD8 fluorescence (relative to Vehicle) (*p = 7.3 x 10⁻⁵), thus confirming the recruitment of activated CTL. TriCurin+IL12Ab treatment reversed this recruitment of CD8+ CTL to the level in the Vehicle group ($\Delta p = 7.4 \times 10^{-5}$ relative to TriCurin-treated). Four sections per mouse were used for imaging and the data (mean ± S.E.M.) obtained from Vehicle-treated (n = 4), TriCurin-treated (n = 4), and TriCurin+IL12Ab (n = 3) mice. (Scale bar: 47.62 µm) (63X). (Fourth row) Absence of non-specific staining from the 2° antibody.



Supplementary Figure 4. TriCurin induces M2 to M1 re-polarization of TAM in patient-derived head-and-neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) xenografts. Tumors generated from HPV16+ human HNSCC UMSCC47 cells implanted into the flanks of athymic nu/nu (NCr) mice (xenograft) were injected with TriCurin (final estimated intra-tumor concentration ~64 μ M+) for 5 weeks (3 doses per week). Parallel tumor sections were triple-stained to determine the levels of iNOS, ARG1, and Iba1 (marker for activated macrophages). (a upper and lower rows) Vehicle-treated tumor tissues display weak iNOS staining and strong ARG1 staining in the Iba1+ TAM. In contrast, the TriCurin-treated mice display an 89% decrease in ARG1 (b) and a 684% increase in iNOS (c). Four sections per mouse were used for imaging and the graphical data were obtained from Vehicle-treated (n = 3), and TriCurin-treated (n = 3) mice. (63X) (Scale bar: 47.62 μ m).



Supplementary Figure 5. TriCurin treatment causes co-localized activation of NF-kB and STAT1 in HNSCC xenograft tumor-associated macrophages. Parallel tumor sections from the experiment shown in Supplementary Figure 4 were immunostained. (a, middle and lower rows) The P-Tyr⁷⁰¹-STAT1 (activated) and NF-kB p65 (P-Ser²⁷⁶-p65) (activated) in the tumors are colocalized in the Iba1(+) cells. (a-c) The Vehicle-treated mice display basal levels of activated STAT1 and P-NF-kB p65. The TriCurin-treated mice show elevated levels of co-localized P-NF-kB (p65) (93% increase) and activated STAT1 (993% increase) in the Iba1+ TAM. Three sections per mouse were used for imaging and the graphical data were obtained from Vehicle-treated (n = 3), and TriCurin-treated (n = 3) mice. (Scale bar: 47.62 µm) (63X).



Supplementary Figure 6. TriCurin suppresses E6+ tumor cells and induces infiltration of natural killer (NK) cells into the HNSCC xenograft tumors. Parallel tumor sections from the experiment shown in Supplementary figure 4 were double-stained with the NKp46 and E6 antibodies. (a) first and third row (20X magnification); second and fourth row (63X magnification) The Vehicle-treated tumor tissue displays minimal NKp46 stain, but the TriCurin-treated mice show a 441% increase in NKp46-staining (relative to Vehicle) (mean \pm S.E.M.) (b), thus confirming the recruitment of activated NK cells into the tumor. High, concomitant E6 expression observed in the Vehicle-treated sections was significantly suppressed after TriCurin-treatment [1]. Three sections per mouse were used for imaging and data were graphically presented from Vehicle-treated (n = 3), and TriCurin-treated (n = 3) mice. (Scale bar: 150 µm for 20X) (Scale bar: 47.62 µm for 63X). (a, fifth row) Lack of non-specific staining from the 2° antibodies.

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References:

1. Piao L, Mukherjee S, Chang Q et al. (2017) TriCurin, a novel formulation of curcumin, epicatechin gallate, and resveratrol, inhibits the tumorigenicity of human papillomavirus-positive head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. Oncotarget. 8: 60025-35. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.10620