## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

# **Accelerated progression of chronic lymphocytic leukemia in E**µ**-TCL1 mice expressing catalytically inactive RAG1**

Vincent K. Nganga, Victoria L. Palmer, Hina Naushad, Michele D. Kassmeier, Dirk K. Anderson, Greg A. Perry, Nathan M. Schabla, and Patrick C. Swanson

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS**

#### *Mice*

Genotyping for the dnRAG1 and Eµ-TCL1 transgenes was performed as described <sup>1,2</sup>. Cohorts were either sacrificed at predetermined ages (6, 12, 24, and 36 weeks), or when they became moribund. All mice were housed in individually ventilated microisolator cages in an AAALAC certified animal facility in accordance with university and federal guidelines, and mouse protocols were approved by the Creighton University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Survival data was obtained by monitoring a cohort of 11 Eµ-TCL1 and 14 DTG mice until the animals became visibly ill and necessitated euthanasia. This data was used to generate Kaplan-Meier plots to compare survival characteristics between the genotypes and was further analyzed for significance using the log-rank test.

#### *Flow cytometry and cell sorting*

Single-cell suspensions prepared from spleen, bone marrow, lymph nodes, and peripheral blood were depleted of red blood cells by hypotonic lysis and stained with fluorochrome-conjugated antibodies as described earlier<sup>3</sup>. The following antibodies were used: BD Biosciences (San Jose, CA) anti-B220-PE-TXRD (RA3-6B2), anti-CD19-APC-Cy7 (ID3), anti-CD5-biotin (53-7.3), anti-CD21/CD35-PE (7G6), anti-CD11b-PE (M1/70), anti-CD23-Biotin (B3B4), anti-CD4-APC-Cy7 (GK1.5), and anti-CD25-PE-Cy7 (PC61), and eBioscience (San Diego, CA) anti-CD5-PE (53-7.3), anti-IgM-APC (II/41), anti-IgD-FITC (11-26c), anti-CD3- APC (145-2C11), anti-CD8-A700 (53-6.7), anti-TCRβ-FITC (H57-597). Samples stained with biotinylated antibodies were detected using streptavidin-Qdot585 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). Data collection and cell sorting was performed using a FACSAria flow cytometer (BD Biosciences). Data was analyzed using the FlowJo software (Tree Star, Inc. Ashland, OR).

#### *Ig gene analysis*

To analyze clonality and V(D)J recombination status, genomic DNA was isolated from spleen tissue using the Wizard Genomic DNA Purification Kit (Promega, Madison, WI), and 10-15µg was digested overnight with EcoR1, separated on a 0.8% agarose gel, transferred to Amersham Hybond-N+ nylon membrane (GE Healthcare, Piscataway, NJ) and hybridized with a  $^{32}P$ -labeled J<sub>H</sub> probe. Phosphor images were acquired using a Typhoon 9410 variable mode imager (GE Healthcare).

To analyze Ig gene usage and mutational status, RNA was isolated from spleen tissue obtained from three ill Eµ-TCL1 and three ill DTG mice using the Ambion RiboPure Kit (Novagen) according to manufacture instructions. cDNA was prepared from 1µg of RNA in a 20µL reaction using First Strand cDNA Synthesis Kit (Novagen) with oligo(dT) primers according to manufacturer instructions. Ig genes were amplified from cDNA (1-2 $\mu$ L) by PCR using Platinum *Taq* DNA Polymerase High Fidelity (Invitrogen) and MuIgV $_H$ 5'- A to -F forward and MuIgMV $_H$ 3'-1 reverse primers to amplify heavy chain sequences (Mouse Ig-Primer Sets, Novagen), and mouse universal 5<sup> $Mk$ </sup> forward and  $3kC$  re verse primers<sup>4</sup> to amplify light chain sequences.

PCR products were gel-isolated using the GeneJET Gel Extraction Kit (Fermentas, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA) and cloned into the PCR 2.1 TOPO TA vector (Invitrogen). Isolated colonies were grown in minicultures overnight and plasmid DNA was purified using the E.Z.N.A Plasmid Mini Kit I (Omega Bio-Tek, Norcross, GA). For both heavy and light chain genes, at least 10 independent clones per mouse were sequenced using a commercial vendor (ACGT, Inc., Wheeling, IL). Sequences, with primer sites omitted, were analyzed using IMGT/V-QUEST tool [\(http://www.imgt.org\)](http://www.imgt.org/) to identify Ig gene usage, mutations, and CDR3 composition and isoelectric point.

#### *Microarray*

Total RNA was isolated from sorted splenic CD19<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>hi</sup>CD5<sup>-</sup> B cells obtained from WT mice or splenic CD19<sup>+</sup>CD5<sup>+</sup> B cells obtained from dnRAG1,  $E\mu$ -TCL1 and DTG mice using the Ribopure kit (Ambion, Austin, TX) according to manufacturer instructions. Biotin-end labeled cDNA was prepared from total RNA (100-200 ng) using whole transcript labeling kits from either Affymetrix (Affymetrix, Santa Clara, CA) or Ambion per manufacturer instructions. Resultant cDNA was hybridized overnight to Mouse Gene 1.0 ST Arrays and washed, stained, and scanned using the Affymetrix GeneChip system with a 3000 7G Affymetrix scanner at the University Nebraska Medical Center Microarray Core Facility. All procedures were conducted following Affymetrix suggested protocols. Array data sets were normalized using the Robust Multichip Average (RMA) algorithm included in the Affymetrix Expression Console software. Further analyses were performed using dChip [\(http://biosun1.harvard.edu/complab/dchip/\)](http://biosun1.harvard.edu/complab/dchip/)<sup>5</sup>.

Data sets obtained from 12 week-old animals and those obtained from splenic and peritoneal B1a B cells, and splenic developing (transitional T1-T3), mature (marginal zone and mature follicular), and activated (germinal center) subsets available within the NCBI GEO series GSE15907 through the Immunological Genome Project Consortium  $\text{(ImmGen)}^6$  were normalized using the RMA algorithm in the Affymetrix Expression Console. Batch effects were adjusted using  $ComBat^7$ . A hierarchical cluster was generated using dChip using 102 genes with the greatest variation that were identified by the filtering criteria which set the standard deviation for logged data between 1.10 and 1000, and an expression level at greater than or equal to 5.65 in 25% of samples. Principal component analysis was also performed by dChip using the filtered gene set.

## *Real-time quantitative PCR*

Primer sets used for qPCR are as follows:

Prl2a1

Forward: 5′-GGAAAAGAGCAATGGACTCCTGG-′3; Reverse: 5′-CAGTCTCTGACTTCAAGGATGCC-′3

Il10

Forward: 5′-CGGGAAGACAATAACTGCACCC-′3; Reverse: 5′-CGGTTAGCAGTATGTTGTCCAGC-′3

Sox4

Forward: 5′-GCCTCCATCTTCGTACAACC-′3; Reverse: 5′-AGTGAAGCGCGTCTACCTGT-′3

Rgs13

Forward: 5′-CTACATCCAGCCACAGTCTCCT-′3; Reverse: 5′-TGAGCTTCTTCAAAGCATGTTTGAG-′3

Sell

Forward: 5′-ATGGTGAGCATCCCAGCCTA -′3; Reverse: 5′-CCCCTTCCAGCATTCCATCA-′3

Actin beta

Forward: 5′-AGAGGGAAATCGTGCGTGAC -′3; Reverse: 5′-CAATAGTGACCTGGCCGT -′3



#### **Figure S1. Histological and flow cytometric evaluation of ill E**µ**-TCL1 mice and DTG mice.**

(A) Peripheral blood smears of ill Eµ-TCL1 and DTG mice at end point were stained with Wright-Giemsa and imaged as in Fig. 2A (400x). Magnified images of representative cells are shown in the inset. (B) Flow cytometry was used to analyze splenic lymphocytes from three different ill Eµ-TCL1 mice (top row) and DTG mice (bottom row) for the expression of sIgM, B220, and CD11b on  $CD19<sup>+</sup>CD5<sup>+</sup>$  B cells. Histograms for the three different mice are shown as solid, dashed, and dotted lines.



**Figure S2. Characterization of CLL-like disease progression in DTG mice.** 

(A) Flow cytometry was used to compare the expression of CD5, sIgM, sIgD, CD21, CD23, and CTLA4 expression on splenic WT CD19<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>hi</sup> B cells to splenic CD19<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>ho</sup> B cells from dnRAG1, Eµ-TCL1 mice and DTG mice. Spleen weights (B) and white blood cell (WBC) counts (C) were compared for WT, dnRAG1, Eµ-TCL1 mice and DTG mice at either 6, 12, 24, and 36 weeks of age (B) or at 36 weeks of age only (C). Error bars represent the standard error of the mean. 5-6 animals of each genotype were analyzed at each time point. Values obtained for DTG mice are significantly different from those obtained for WT, dnRAG1, or Eµ-TCL1 mice  $(*, p<0.05; ***, p<0.001)$ . (D) The percentages of gated CD3<sup>+</sup>TCR $\beta$ <sup>+</sup> lymphocytes that are CD4<sup>+</sup>, CD8<sup>+</sup>, or CD4<sup>+</sup>CD25<sup>+</sup> T cells (top) and the absolute numbers of these T cell populations (bottom) in the lymph nodes and spleen of 36 week-old WT, dnRAG1, Eu-TCL1, and DTG mice (n=8-14 per genotype) as determined by flow cytometry are shown in bar graph format. Error bars represent the standard error of the mean. Statistically significant differences  $(p<0.05)$  between values obtained for DTG mice relative to WT  $(a)$ , dnRAG1 (b), or E<sub>µ</sub>-TCL1 (c) mice are indicated.



### **Figure S3. Histology of bone marrow and kidney sections of 36 week-old WT, dnRAG1, E**µ**-TCL1, and DTG mice.**

Paraffin-embedded bone marrow and kidney sections were developed with hematoxylin and eosin. Images in columns 1 and 3 (100x for bone marrow, and 200x for kidney) were acquired using a Nikon i80 microscope and DigiFire camera running ImageSys digital imaging software (Soft Imaging Systems GmBH, Munster, Germany). Bone marrow images in column 2 (1000x) were acquired using a Nikon i80 microscope and Nikon Digital Sight DS-F1 camera running the NIS-Elements Imaging software version 2.33. Bone marrow and kidney show little or no abnormal infiltration at this time point. Scale bars: bone marrow, 200 µM; kidney, 100 µM.



**Figure S4. Analysis of SCID mice engrafted with leukemic B cells from DTG mice.** 

SCID mice receiving either no cells or  $1x10^6$  sorted CD19<sup>+</sup>CD5<sup>+</sup> B cells from one of two different 36 week-old DTG mice (cells from each DTG mouse were transferred into two SCID recipients; n=4 total) were sacrificed at 3 months post-transfer. Spleen weights were measured (A), and the percentage (B) and/or absolute number (C) of CD19<sup>+</sup>IgM<sup>+</sup> B cells were determined in spleen, bone marrow (BM), lymph node (LN), and peripheral blood (PB).





(A) The gene expression profiles of sorted B cells from 12 week-old mice in this study were compared to those from normal developing, mature, and activated B cell subsets by unsupervised hierarchical clustering analysis. Clustering was performed by dChip on batch effect-corrected log<sub>2</sub> expression values for 102 genes (rows) and 33 arrays (columns), which includes those from sorted splenic WT CD19<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>hi</sup>CD5<sup>-</sup> (WT) and transgenic  $CD19^+B220^{\text{lo}}CD5^+$  (dnRAG1, Eµ-TCL1, and DTG) B cells from 12 week-old mice reported here, and those obtained from sorted splenic and peritoneal B1a cells (B1a-Sp and B1a-PC), splenic transitional B cells (T1-T3- Sp), splenic marginal zone (MZ-Sp) and follicular B cells (Fo-Sp), and splenic germinal center (GC-Sp) B cells available through the ImmGen database<sup>6</sup>. Red and green intensities indicate high to low gene expression, respectively. The dendrogram shows the relationships between the populations. (B) Principal component analysis. PCA was performed on 102 genes identified in (A) by dChip.



## **Figure S6. CD23 expression on leukemic cells from an ill DTG mouse.**

Flow cytometry was used to compare CD23 expression on  $CD19^+B220^{\text{lo}}$  B cells from the Eµ-TCL1 mouse (M52) and the ill DTG mouse (F57) used for the comparative gene expression analysis found in Table S5, which showed that Fcer2a (CD23) was upregulated  $\sim$ 32-fold on CD19<sup>+</sup>CD5<sup>+</sup> B cells from the DTG mouse relative to those from the Eµ-TCL1 mouse.



#### Expression of B cell receptor signaling genes in 12 week-old mice



#### Expression of B cell receptor signaling genes in older mice



#### **Figure S7. Hierarchical clustering analysis of data sets from 12 week-old and older WT and transgenic animals using genes involved in B cell receptor signaling.**

A supervised hierarchical clustering analysis was performed using a set of 22 genes known to play a role in B cell receptor signaling pathways. The relative expression of these genes in WT CD19<sup>+</sup>B220<sup>hi</sup>CD5<sup>-</sup> B cells compared to transgenic  $CD19<sup>+</sup>CD5<sup>+</sup>$  B cells is shown at right for 12 week old mice (top panel) and older animals (bottom panel).

## **Table S1. Analysis of IgVH sequences from ill E**µ**-TCL1 and DTG mice**



VH genes highlighted in yellow appear in both E<sub>H</sub>-TCL1 and DTG mice; VH genes in bold red font were also identified in sequences analyzed by  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $P$  and

Tail *et al.* Figures are indicated by ( $\psi$ ).<br>
<sup>1</sup> CDR3 sequences highlighted in green appear in both Eµ-TCL1 and DTG mice and were also identified in sequences analyzed by Yan *et al.*<sup>16</sup><br>
<sup>16</sup> Mutated amino acid resid

# **Table S2. Analysis of IgVL sequences from ill E**µ**-TCL1 and DTG mice**



<sup>†</sup> V<sub>K</sub> genes highlighted in yellow appear in both E<sub>H</sub>-TCL1 and DTG mice; V<sub>K</sub> genes in bold red font were also identified in sequences analyzed by Tan *et al.*<sup>16</sup>. Pseudogenes are indicated by  $(\psi)$ .

¥

PtC, phosphatidylcholine; Br-treated RBCs, bromelain-treated red blood cells; Sm, Smith antigen;



# Table S3. Top 50 differentially expressed genes between 12 week dnRAG1 and DTG mice



### Table S4. Top common differentially expressed genes in older transgenic mice relative to WT mice

\*Il10 was not among the top 50 common differentially expressed genes in all pairwise comparisons.



\* Items listed in bold are found in both Tables S5 and S6





\* Items listed in bold are found in both Tables S5 and S6

## **SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES**

- 1. Hassaballa AE, Palmer VL, Anderson DK, et al. Accumulation of B1-like B cells in transgenic mice over-expressing catalytically inactive RAG1 in the periphery. *Immunology*. 2011;134(4):469-486.
- 2. Bichi R, Shinton SA, Martin ES, et al. Human chronic lymphocytic leukemia modeled in mouse by targeted TCL1 expression. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2002;99(10):6955-6960.
- 3. Fusby JS, Kassmeier MD, Palmer VL, et al. Cigarette smoke-induced effects on bone marrow B-cell subsets and CD4(+):CD8(+) T-cell ratios are reversed by smoking cessation: Influence of bone mass on immune cell response to and recovery from smoke exposure. *Inhal Toxicol*. 2010; 22(9): 785-796.
- 4. Wang Z, Raifu M, Howard M, et al. Universal PCR amplification of mouse immunoglobulin gene variable regions: the design of degenerate primers and an assessment of the effect of DNA polymerase 3' to 5' exonuclease activity. *J Immunol Methods*. 2000;233(1-2):167-177.
- 5. Li C, Hung Wong W. Model-based analysis of oligonucleotide arrays: model validation, design issues and standard error application. *Genome Biol*. 2001;2(8):RESEARCH0032.
- 6. Heng TS, Painter MW. The Immunological Genome Project: networks of gene expression in immune cells. *Nat Immunol*. 2008;9(10):1091-1094.
- 7. Johnson WE, Li C, Rabinovic A. Adjusting batch effects in microarray expression data using empirical Bayes methods. *Biostatistics*. 2007;8(1):118-127.
- 8. Bloom DD, Davignon JL, Retter MW, et al. V region gene analysis of anti-Sm hybridomas from MRL/Mp-lpr/lpr mice. *J Immunol*. 1993;150(4):1591-1610.
- 9. Krishnan MR, Jou NT, Marion TN. Correlation between the amino acid position of arginine in VH-CDR3 and specificity for native DNA among autoimmune antibodies. *J Immunol*. 1996;157(6):2430-2439.
- 10. Kofler R, Strohal R, Balderas RS, et al. Immunoglobulin kappa light chain variable region gene complex organization and immunoglobulin genes encoding anti-DNA autoantibodies in lupus mice. *J Clin Invest*. 1988;82(3):852-860.
- 11. Lehuen A, Bartels J, Kearney JF. Characterization, specificity, and IgV gene usage of anti-lymphocyte monoclonal antibodies from perinatal mice. *Int Immunol*. 1992;4(10):1073-1084.
- 12. Kitagawa Y, Okuhara E. The separation of three antibody populations from anti-poly(A).poly(U) antibodies elicited in mice or rabbits and antigenic features of poly(A).poly(U)). *Mol Immunol*. 1982;19(2):257-266.
- 13. Tillman DM, Jou NT, Hill RJ, Marion TN. Both IgM and IgG anti-DNA antibodies are the products of clonally selective B cell stimulation in (NZB x NZW)F1 mice. *J Exp Med*. 1992;176(3):761-779.
- 14. Mueller CM, Minnerath JM, Jemmerson R. B lymphocyte recognition of the self antigen mouse cytochrome C in different mouse strains: targeting of the same dominant epitope by naturally-occurring cells expressing distinct VH genes. *Mol Immunol*. 1997;34(12-13):843-853.
- 15. Monestier M, Kandiah DA, Kouts S, et al. Monoclonal antibodies from NZW x BXSB F1 mice to beta2 glycoprotein I and cardiolipin. Species specificity and charge-dependent binding. *J Immunol*. 1996;156(7):2631-2641.
- 16. Yan XJ, Albesiano E, Zanesi N, et al. B cell receptors in TCL1 transgenic mice resemble those of aggressive, treatment-resistant human chronic lymphocytic leukemia. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2006;103(31):11713-11718.
- 17. Wloch MK, Alexander AL, Pippen AM, Pisetsky DS, Gilkeson GS. Differences in V kappa gene utilization and VH CDR3 sequence among anti-DNA from C3H-lpr mice and lupus mice with nephritis. *Eur J Immunol*. 1996;26(9):2225-2233.
- 18. Ibrahim SM, Weigert M, Basu C, Erikson J, Radic MZ. Light chain contribution to specificity in anti-DNA antibodies. *J Immunol*. 1995;155(6):3223-3233.
- 19. Pennell CA, Mercolino TJ, Grdina TA, Arnold LW, Haughton G, Clarke SH. Biased immunoglobulin variable region gene expression by Ly-1 B cells due to clonal selection. *Eur J Immunol*. 1989;19(7):1289-1295.
- 20. Jethwa HS, Clarke SH, Itoh-Lindstrom Y, Falk RJ, Jennette JC, Nachman PH. Restriction in V kappa gene use and antigen selection in anti-myeloperoxidase response in mice. *J Immunol*. 2000;165(7):3890-3897.
- 21. Guo WX, Burger AM, Fischer RT, Sieckmann DG, Longo DL, Kenny JJ. Sequence changes at the V-D junction of the VH1 heavy chain of anti-phosphocholine antibodies alter binding to and protection against Streptococcus pneumoniae. *Int Immunol*. 1997;9(5):665-677.
- 22. Reininger L, Ollier P, Poncet P, Kaushik A, Jaton JC. Novel V genes encode virtually identical variable regions of six murine monoclonal anti-bromelain-treated red blood cell autoantibodies. *J Immunol*. 1987;138(1):316-323.