Supplementary Information for

Human Sox4 facilitates the development of CXCL13-producing helper T cells in inflammatory environments

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Supplementary Figures



Supplementary Figure 1. Gating strategy of figure 1. Naïve human CD4⁺ T cells differentiated for 5 days were gated with FSC and SSC, followed by removal of doublet cells and dead cells. Percentages of quadrants were investigated. As for PD-1^{hi}CXCR5⁻ClassII⁺ population, the frequency of CXCL13-positive cells in the population was investigated.



Supplementary Figure 2. Limiting of IL-2 upregulates CXCL13 production by PD-1^{hi}CXCR5⁻ClassII⁺ cells. **a-d** Human naïve CD4⁺ T cells were differentiated as in figure 1. **a** Representative histograms showing frequency of CXCL13-positive cells in PD-1^{hi}CXCR5⁻ClassII⁺ cells. **b-d** Percent PD-1^{hi} cells (**b**), percent PD-1^{hi}CXCL13⁺ cells (**c**), and percent CXCL13⁺ cells in PD-1^{hi}CXCR5⁻ClassII⁺ cells (**d**) are shown as corresponding dots (n=3) and mean \pm SEM with schematic definition of the populations.



Supplementary Figure 3. Proinflammatory cytokines enhance cell proliferation and CXCL13 production. **a-c** Human blood CD4⁺ T cells labeled with CellTraceTM Violet were stimulated with plate-bound 10 µg/ml anti-CD3 and 10 µg/ml anti-CD28 antibodies in the presence of 10 µg/ml neutralizing anti-IL-2 antibody with TGF- β 1 alone, TGF- β 1 plus TNF, TGF- β 1 plus IL-1 β , and TGF- β 1 plus IL-6 (each 10 ng/ml) for 5 days in serum-containing IMDM. **a** Schematic description of analysis. **b,c** Percentages of cells with more than one division in total cells (**b**), or percentages of CXCL13⁺ cells in cells with 0-1 division or in cells with more than one division (**c**) are shown. Quantifications were shown as corresponding dots (n=3) and mean ± SEM; ***P* <0.01, and ****P* <0.001 one-way ANOVA, Tukey test.



Supplementary Figure 4. Lentiviral induction of exogenous Sox4 protein in human $CD4^+$ T cells. Protein expression of Sox4 in human $CD4^+$ T cells cultured with TCR stimulation in the presence of TGF- β stimulation and IL-2-neutralization or lentiviral transduction of human Sox4. Sox4-transduced human $CD4^+$ T cells were sorted as YFP^+ cells.



Supplementary Figure 5. Lentiviral knockdown of Sox4 significantly downregulated CXCL13 induction. **a-c** Naïve human CD4⁺ T cells transduced with control or Sox4-specific shRNA by GFP-expressing lentivirus were differentiated in the presence of TGF- β . **a** Schematic description of analysis with a representative dot plot. **b,c** mRNA expression of *Sox4* relative to *18srRNA* determined by quantitative PCR in sorted GFP⁺ cells (**b**, n=3), and relative induction of cells positive for CXCL13 protein in GFP⁺ cells compared with GFP⁻ cells determined by flow cytometry (**c**, n=6 from two experiments) are shown. The data are presented as corresponding dots and mean ± SEM. ***P <0.001 unpaired student's t test.

Identity: 383 / 474 (80%) Similarity: 433 / 474 (91%)

Human Sox4	1	MVQQTNNAENTEALLAGESSDSGAGLELGIASSPTPGSTASTGGKADDPSWCKTPS <mark>GHIK</mark>	60	
Mouse Sox4	1	MVQQTNNAENTEALLAGESSDSGAGLELGIASSPTPGSTASTGGKADDPSWCKTPSGHIK	60	HMG
Query	61	RPMNAFMVWSQIERRKIMEQSPDMHNAEISKRLGKRWKLLKDSDKIPFIREAERLRLKHM	120	
Sbjct	61	RPMNAFMVWSQIERRKIMEQSPDMHNAEISKRLGKRWKLLKDSDKIPFIQEAERLRLKHM	120	
Query	121	AD YPDYKYRPRKK VKSGNANSSSSAAASSKPGEKGDKVGGSGGGGHGGGGGGGGSSNAGGG	180	
Sbjct	121	ADYPDYKYRPRKK VKSGNAGAGSAATAKPGEKGDKVAGSSGHAGSSHAGGG	171	
Query	181	GGGASGGGANSKPAQKKSCGSKVAGGAGGGVSKPHAKLILAGGGGGGGKAAAAAASFAAE	240	
Sbjct	172	AGGSSKPAPKKSCGPKVAGSSVGKPHAKLVPAGGSKAAASFSPE	215	
Query	241	QAGAAALLPLGAAADHHSLYKARTPSASASASASASASAALAAPGKHLAEKKVKRVYLFG	300	
Sbjct	216	QAALLPLGEPTAVYKVRTPSAATPAAS-SSPSSALATPAKHPADKKVKRVYLFG	268	
Query	301	GLGTSSSPVGGVGAGADPSDPLGLYEEEGAGCSPDAPSLSGRSSAASSPAAGRSPADHRG	360	
Sbjct	269	SLGASASPVGGLGASADPSDPLGLYEDGGPGCSPDGRSLSGRSSAASSPAASRSPADHRG	328	
Query	361	YASLRAASPAPSSAPSHASSSASSHSSSSSSSSSSSSDDEFEDDLLDLNPSSNFESMSLG	420	
Sbjct	329	YASLRAASPAPSSAPSHASSSLSSSSSSSSGSSSSDDEFEDDLLDLNPSSNFESMSLG	386	
Query	421	SFSSSSALDRDLDFNFEPGSGSHFEFPDYCTPEVSEMISGDWLESSISNLVFTY 474		
Sbjct	387	SFSSSSALDRDLDFNFEPGSGSHFEFPDYCTPEVSEMISGDWLESSISNLVFTY 440		IAU

Supplementary Figure 6. Highly conserved similarity of Sox4 in humans and mice. Sox4 conserves high similarity especially in the N-terminus domain, HMG domain and TAD between humans and mice.



Supplementary Figure 7. Protein levels of Sox4 in mouse $CD4^+$ T cells. Mouse $CD4^+$ T cells were cultured with TCR stimulation in the presence or absence of TGF- β stimulation or lentiviral transduction of mouse Sox4 or human Sox4 as in figure 4d. As control, human naïve $CD4^+$ T cells without or with transduction of human Sox4 were also investigated. Sox4-transduced mouse and human $CD4^+$ T cells were sorted as YFP⁺ cells. Expression of mouse or human Sox4 proteins were visualized by immunoblotting with antibodies harboring reactivity against both human and mouse. TGF- β stimulation and lentiviral transduction of mouse or human Sox4 in mouse CD4⁺ T cells with the level in human Sox4-transduced human CD4⁺ T cells which show CXCL13 induction as in figure 3.



Supplementary Figure 8. RA synovial PD-1^{hi}CD4⁺ T cells preferentially express MAF and TOX. Representative density plots of RA synovial fluid CD4⁺ T cells stained with anti-PD-1, CXCL13, MAF or TOX antibodies. PD-1^{hi} cells preferentially express CXCL13, MAF and TOX.



Supplementary Figure 9. Immunohistochemical staining with Sox4 antibody of RA synovial tissues. **a**–**d** Representative staining patterns of Sox4 in RA synovium. Sox4 (brown) and hematoxylin (blue). **a** A representative sample with moderate diffuse cell infiltration without ELS formation. Sox4⁺ cells are not detectable. **b** A representative sample with moderate cell infiltration that forms mild nodule-like structures in sublining layer. Sox4 was preferentially expressed in nodule-like structures. **c** A representative sample with severe cell infiltration with ELS formation in villous hypertrophy of synovium. **d** A representative sample with severe cell infiltration with ELSs. Scale bars: 100 μ m.



b





d





Supplementary Figure 10. Triple immunostaining of RA synovial tissues. **a–c** Stainings of CXCL13 (Green), Sox4 (Red), and CD3 (Blue). **a** A representative sample with moderate cell infiltration in sublining layer accompanied with moderate ELS formation. Sox4⁺ cells are present in both areas with diffuse cell infiltration and with ELS formation. Scale bars: 100 μ m. **b** A representative sample with mild ELS formation. Scale bars: 50 μ m. **c** A representative sample of villous hyperplasia. Scale bars: 50 μ m. **d** Staining of PD-1 (Green), Sox4 (red) and CD4 (Blue). Arrowheads indicate representative PD-1^{hi}CD4⁺Sox4⁺ cells. Scale Bars: 50 μ m. **e** Staining of CXCR5 (Green), Sox4 (red) and CD4 (Blue). Scale Bars: 50 μ m.

Supplementary Figure 11. Full images of Immunoblots

Fig. 2d SOX4



Fig. 2d ACTB

100 kD	
75 kD	
50 kD —	
37 kD —	_

Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1. Expressions of genes relating to Tfh cells, PD-1^{hi}CXCR5⁻CD4⁺ T cells of RA, and/or Th17 cells

_	Probe Set ID	Gene Symbol	Entrez Gene	FC (TGF β + IL-1 β vs IL-12)	FC (TGF β + IL-6 vs IL-12)
	205242_at	CXCL13	10563	32.0	38.2
	203140_at	BCL6	604	-1.4	-1.5
	215990_s_at	BCL6	604	-1.4	-1.5
	228758_at	BCL6	604	-2.7	-2.8
	207607_at	ASCL2	430	1.0	-1.3
	229215_at	ASCL2	430	1.0	1.0
	205965_at	BATF	10538	-1.5	1.4
	206363_at	MAF	4094	1.9	5.4
	209348_s_at	MAF	4094	2.7	3.3
	1566324_a_at	MAF	4094	3.0	3.1
	209347_s_at	MAF	4094	3.7	2.0
	1566323_at	MAF	4094	1.1	1.2
	204529_s_at	тох	9760	2.6	6.3
	204530_s_at	тох	9760	1.2	2.1
	217192_s_at	PRDM1	639	1.3	-1.2
	235668_at	PRDM1	639	1.2	-1.1
	228964_at	PRDM1	639	4.0	-1.1
	206126_at	CXCR5	643	-2.3	-1.2
	216734_s_at	CXCR5	643	-1.4	-1.2
	210439_at	ICOS	29851	-1.4	-1.5
	207634_at	PDCD1	5133	1.0	1.0
	207892_at	CD40LG	959	-1.8	-1.8
	209582_s_at	CD200	4345	1.6	1.1
	209583_s_at	CD200	4345	1.6	1.0
	240070_at	TIGIT	201633	2.6	3.4
	211211_x_at	SH2D1A	4068	2.6	3.1
	211209_x_at	SH2D1A	4068	2.8	3.0
	211210_x_at	SH2D1A	4068	2.7	3.0
	210116_at	SH2D1A	4068	2.4	2.9
	230391_at	CD84	8832	3.0	2.2
	211188_at	CD84	8832	-1.4	-2.1
	205988_at	CD84	8832	1.7	1.5
	244352_at	CD84	8832	1.6	1.4
	211192_s_at	CD84	8832	1.7	1.4
	211190_x_at	CD84	8832	1.7	1.3
	211189_x_at	CD84	8832	1.7	1.2
	211191_at	CD84	8832	1.1	-1.2
	1552497_a_at	SLAMF6	114836	1.3	-1.0
	206181_at	SLAMF1	6504	-1.8	-1.6
	1555626_a_at	SLAMF1	6504	-1.5	-1.4
	239427 at	SLAMF1	6504	-1.1	1.0
	221271_at	IL21	59067	-11.4	-20.2
	206978_at	CCR2	729230	5.5	4.1
		CCR2	729230	1.9	1.5
		CTSB	1476	-1.5	-2.0
	200838_at	CTSB	1476	-1.5	-1.9
	213275_x_at	CTSB	1476	-1.2	1.6
	227961_at	CTSB	1476	-1.6	1.5
		CTSB	1476	-1.5	-1.1

Supplementary Table 1. Continued

Probe Set ID	Gene Symbol	Entrez Gene	FC (TGF β + IL-1 β vs IL-12)	FC (TGF β + IL-6 vs IL-12)
206419_at	RORC	6097	1.2	1.2
228806_at	RORC	6097	2.1	1.9
210426_x_at	RORA	6095	1.1	1.2
210479_s_at	RORA	6095	1.1	1.2
226682_at	RORA	6095	1.7	1.7
235567_at	RORA	6095	1.5	1.6
236266_at	RORA	6095	2.7	3.5
240951_at	RORA	6095	1.0	1.4
216876_s_at	IL17A	3605	2.0	4.3
234408_at	IL17F	112744	-1.0	-1.0
221165_s_at	IL22	50616	-4.6	-4.5
222974_at	IL22	50616	-51.2	-30.7
1552912_a_a	t IL23R	149233	-1.4	-3.7
1561853_a_a	t IL23R	149233	-1.2	-2.9

Probe Set ID	Gene Symbol	Entrez Gene	FC (TGF-β +IL- 1β vs IL-12)	FC (TGF-β +IL-6 vs IL-12)	Localization
219529_at	CLIC3	9022	14.7	12.9	Nucleus
218318_s_at	NLK	51701	4.3	6.4	Nucleus
201416_at	SOX4	6659	4.6	4.9	Nucleus
201417_at	SOX4	6659	6.9	6.8	Nucleus
202087_s_at	CTSL	1514	24.2	43.0	Cytoplasm
228739_at	CYS1	192668	21.8	20.6	Cytoplasm
206588_at	DAZL	1618	18.6	45.3	Cytoplasm
215017_s_at	FNBP1L	54874	17.1	26.6	Cytoplasm
225700_at	GLCCI1	113263	4.5	4.8	Cytoplasm
1560316_s_at	GLCCI1	113263	4.2	4.9	Cytoplasm
205466_s_at	HS3ST1	9957	7.7	19.1	Cytoplasm
227889_at	LPCAT2	54947	10.0	27.9	Cytoplasm
227556_at	NME7	29922	16.6	20.7	Cytoplasm
213010_at	PRKCDBP	112464	7.8	11.9	Cytoplasm
217762_s_at	RAB31	11031	12.2	5.4	Cytoplasm
217763_s_at	RAB31	11031	10.0	4.2	Cytoplasm
217764_s_at	RAB31	11031	15.4	7.8	Cytoplasm
209324_s_at	RGS16	6004	4.9	4.0	Cytoplasm
209325_s_at	RGS16	6004	6.2	5.1	Cytoplasm
204067_at	SUOX	6821	10.6	13.0	Cytoplasm
1553030_a_at	SUOX	6821	4.5	4.4	Cytoplasm
204604_at	CDK14	5218	4.6	6.8	Cytoplasm
201525_at	APOD	347	8.3	6.8	Extracellular Space
	COCH	1690	12.0	5.9	Extracellular Space
213428 s at	COL6A1	1291	7.5	12.2	Extracellular Space
205242 at	CXCL13	10563	30.6	38.1	Extracellular Space
226847 at	FST	10468	11.8	9.4	Extracellular Space
243110_x_at	NPW	283869	8.1	8.2	Extracellular Space
211756_at	PTHLH	5744	4.6	5.9	Extracellular Space
206310 at	SPINK2	6691	10.7	12.8	Extracellular Space
213994_s_at	SPON1	10418	16.3	12.9	Extracellular Space
201506_at	TGFBI	7045	16.8	44.0	Extracellular Space
223502_s_at	TNFSF13B	10673	21.0	21.3	Extracellular Space
207426_s_at	TNFSF4	7292	14.6	33.9	Extracellular Space
227233 at	TSPAN2	10100	6.2	5.3	Extracellular Space
227236 at	TSPAN2	10100	5.8	5.7	Extracellular Space
1563445 x at	CTSLP8	1518	8.8	9.1	Other
208029 s at	LAPTM4B	55353	5.9	8.0	Other
208767 s at	LAPTM4B	55353	5.9	7.5	Other
214039 s at	LAPTM4B	55353	5.6	6.9	Other
1554679 a at	LAPTM4B	55353	7.2	8.6	Other
230650 at	SLCO5A1	81796	14.0	28.1	Other
213851 at	TMEM110	375346	4.4	6.5	Other
235079 at	ZNF704	619279	4.1	4.4	Other
202391 at	BASP1	10409	14.5	35.0	Other
219010 at	C1orf106	55765	7.9	13.5	Other
	CCDC74A///C	00557//01 100	1.0	5.0	Out
227966_s_at	CDC74B	90557///91409	4.0	5.3	Other
214079 at	DHRS2	10202	10.8	24.8	Other

Supplementary Table 2. Candidate genes that fulfilled the criteria

Probe Set ID	Gene Symbol	Entrez Gene	FC (TGF-β +IL- 1β vs IL-12)	FC (TGF-β +IL-6 vs IL-12)	Localization
1554918_a_at	ABCC4	10257	9.0	7.7	Plasma Membrane
201242_s_at	ATP1B1	481	21.9	34.5	Plasma Membrane
201243_s_at	ATP1B1	481	14.7	24.7	Plasma Membrane
231873_at	BMPR2	659	5.8	5.5	Plasma Membrane
203065_s_at	CAV1	857	9.8	15.0	Plasma Membrane
212097_at	CAV1	857	20.6	44.8	Plasma Membrane
204440_at	CD83	9308	5.5	10.4	Plasma Membrane
201131_s_at	CDH1	999	4.8	9.0	Plasma Membrane
226189_at	ITGB8	3696	9.5	20.9	Plasma Membrane
229461_x_at	NEGR1	257194	21.9	33.3	Plasma Membrane
221796_at	NTRK2	4915	7.6	24.2	Plasma Membrane
210830_s_at	PON2	5445	4.5	8.2	Plasma Membrane
209611_s_at	SLC1A4	6509	6.5	6.2	Plasma Membrane
225688_s_at	PHLDB2	90102	5.0	5.5	Plasma Membrane
207536_s_at	TNFRSF9	3604	4.9	4.5	Plasma Membrane
211786_at	TNFRSF9	3604	6.3	5.6	Plasma Membrane
210643_at	TNFSF11	8600	9.2	10.5	Plasma Membrane
235438_at			4.3	6.2	

Supplementary Table 2. Continued

Donors of paired blood and synovial CD4 ⁺ T cells				
Number of participants	14			
Gender, male/female	4/10			
Age (year)	67.8±9.6			
Disease Duration (years)	14.4±10.6			
Positive RF, n (%)	13 (92.9%)			
Positive ACPA, n (%)	12 (85.7%)			
ESR, mm/hour	38.8±24.2			
C-reactive protein, mg/liter	18.2±23.0			
DAS28, Average	4.77±1.15			
Medication, n (%)	10 (100%)			
Steroid	4 (28.6%)			
Synythetic DMARDs	13 (92.9%)			
Biologics	6 (42.9%)			

Supplementary Table 3. Clinical characteristics of RA participants

Totally 10 samples of synovial fluid and 5 samples of synovial tissue were investigated. Both syonivial fluid and synovial tissue were available from one participant, whose data of pripheral blood CD4⁺ T cells was used in both comparisons for synovial fluid and synovial tissue.

Number of samples	14
Gender, male/female	2/12
Age (year)	58.8±17.0
Disease Duration (years)	13.0±13.3
Positive RF, n (%)	12 (85.7%)
Positive ACPA, n (%)	11 (78.6%)
ESR, mm/hour	46.9±30.3
C-reactive protein, mg/liter	20.7±20.6
DAS28, Average	4.01±1.39
Medication, n (%)	13 (92.9%)
Steroid	6 (42.9%)
Synythetic DMARDs	11 (78.6%)
Biologics	6 (42.9%)

Paraffin-embedded RA synovial tissues

SD, standard deviatin; RF, rheumatoid factor; ACPA, anticitrullinated protein antibody; ESR, erythrocyte sedimaentation ratio; DAS28, 28-joint Disease Activity Score, DMARDs, Disease Modifying Anti-rheumatic Drugs.

Age, ESR, C-reactive protein and DAS28 are shown as mean \pm SD.