Human leukocyte antigen (HLA) class II peptide flanking residues tune the immunogenicity of a human tumor-derived epitope

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Running title: PFRs influence CD4⁺ T cell responses to 5T4

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Peptide		MHC			Contact		
Residue	Atom	Chain	Residue	Atom	Distance	Туре	
Peptide backbone contacts							
Arg-(-3)	С	DRa	Ser-53	Ογ	3.84	VW	
	0	DRa	Ser-53	Ν	3.78	VW	
	0	DRα	Ser-53	Сβ	3.67	VW	
	0	DRa	Ser-53	Ογ	2.82	HB	
Peptide side chain contacts							
Arg-(-3)	Сβ	DRα	Ala-52	Сα	3.84	VW	
	Cβ	DRα	Phe-51	С	3.83	VW	
	Cβ	DRα	Phe-51	Ο	3.67	VW	
	Сβ	DRα	Ala-52	Ν	3.8	VW	
	Сβ	DRα	Ala-52	С	3.73	VW	
	Сβ	DRα	Ser-53	Ν	3.93	VW	
	Сγ	DRα	Arg-50	С	3.96	VW	
	Сү	DRα	Arg-50	0	3.43	VW	
	Сδ	DRα	Arg-50	С	3.97	VW	
	Сδ	DRα	Arg-50	0	3.71	VW	
	Сδ	DRα	Gly-49	0	3.3	VW	
	Νε	DRα	Gly-49	0	3.85	VW	
	Сζ	DRα	Gly-49	0	3.67	VW	
	Сζ	DRα	Ala-52	0	3.93	VW	
	Сζ	DRα	Ser-53	Сβ	3.89	VW	
	NH1	DRα	Ser-53	Сβ	3.58	VW	
	NH2	DRα	Ala-52	С	3.8	VW	
	NH2	DRα	Ser-53	Сα	3.96	VW	
	NH2	DRα	Gly-49	С	3.81	VW	
	NH2	DRα	Gly-49	0	2.75	HB	
	NH2	DRα	Ala-52	Ο	2.99	HB	
	NH2	DRα	Ser-53	Сβ	3.91	VW	
No. of total contacts					26		
vdW			23				
H-bonds				3			
No. of contacts by Arg-(-3) backbone					4		
vdW						3	
H-bond	H-bonds					1	
No. of contacts by Arg-(-3) side chain						22	
vdW						20	
H-bonds					2		

Table S1 Intermolecular contacts between Arg-(-3) and HLA-DR1

vdW = van der Waals (=< 4.0 Å cut-off), H-bonds = hydrogen bonds (=< 3.4 Å cut-off).

Table S2 Crystallization conditions from which HLA-DR1-5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ dataset was obtained

Crystallisation conditions					
Primary screening					
Screen conditions					
TOPS D1	0.1 M Hepes pH 7.0, 15 % Glycerol, 15 % PEG 4000				
TOPS F12	0.1 M Tris pH 7.5, 0.2 M Amonium Sulphate, 25 % PEG 8000				
PACT G10	0.02 M Sodium/potassium phosphate, 0.1 M Bis-Tris propane pH 7.5, 20 % PEG 3350				
Protein concentration	4 mg/mL				
Total drop volume	200 nL				
Seeding					
Parent seed protein	Self (HLA-DR1 5T4111-130)				
Parent seed screen conditions	TOPS D1, TOPS F12, PACT G10				
Dilution volume	1 in 100 (5 mL)				
Dilution buffer	PACT G10				
Reservoir buffer	PACT G10				
Protein concentration	4 mg/mL				
Total drop volume	3 μL				

HLA-DR1-5T4111-130

TOPS = TCR-pMHC Optimised Protein Screen (47), PACT = PACT premierTM HT-96 MD1-36 (Molecular Dimensions), % = % w/v.



Figure S1. Specific clone reactivity to cognate 5T4 peptide. GD.D821, GD.D104 and GD.C112 IFN- γ release in response to stimulation with 10⁻⁵ M irrelevant or cognate peptides as measured by ELISA. Each clone was cross-stimulated with the two non-cognate 5T4 peptides recognized by the three clones as irrelevant peptides controls i.e. the 5T4₁₁₋₃₀ restricted GD.D821 was stimulated with 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ and 5T4₃₇₁₋₃₉₀ and *vice versa*. Scatter points = individual response to each irrelevant peptide, horizontal line = mean response to both irrelevant peptides.



Figure S2. Flow cytometric analysis of CD4 and TCR expression of the three 5T4-reactive T-cell clones prior to multimer staining. Each clone exhibited expression of both antigen receptor and co-receptor as indicated by > 88 % of cells CD4+ TCR+. Quadrant gates set according to FMO/unstained negative control populations. Representative of two independent experiments.



Figure S3. Core binding register predictions of 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ and mutated/truncated peptides. (A) Predicted binding region of wild type 5T4111-130 performed NetMHCIIpan core by v3.2 (FARRPPLAELAALNLSGSRL; core underlined). Probability distribution of predicted residue located at the P1 position of HLA-DRB1*0101 (DR1), highlighting the most probable core register incorporates Leu $(5T4_{117})$ at position P1 as observed in the crystal structure. (B) Predicted core binding regions of mutated/truncated peptides of 5T4111-130 used in HLA binding/T-cell clone activation assays. NetMHCIIpan predicts all peptides most likely retain the same core register as wild type $5T4_{111-130}$.



Figure S4. Additional intermolecular contacts between $5T4_{111-130}$ PFRs and HLA-DR1. (*A*) Pro-(-1) (magenta) interacting with Ser-53 α , His-81 β and Val-85 β . Van der Waals contacts (=< 4.0 Å; black dashed lines), H-bonds (=< 3.4 Å; blue dashed lines), -DR α contacting residues (blue), -DR1 β contacting residues (green). (*B*) Pro-(-2) interacting with Phe-51 α , Ala-52 α & Ser-53 α and Val-85 β . Together, Pro-(-1) and Pro-(-2) form a diproline kink. (*C*) Ser-10 interacting with DR1 α residues Ile-72 α and Arg-76 α and DR1 β residues Pro-56 β , Asp-57 β and Tyr-60 β . (*D*) Ser-12 interacting with DR1 α residues the Ser-12 hydroxyl group and the HLA molecule.



Figure S5. Crystal packing and symmetry interactions of the HLA-DR1 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ structure. (A) Cartoon and stick representation of HLA-DR1 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ within the unit cell (black box) of the analyzed crystal structure. The asymmetric unit consisted of two HLA-DR1 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ copies: chain A, B & C (green, cyan & pink respectively) from which crystallographic analyses are calculated, and a second copy D, E & F (dark grey). Symmetry mate within the unit cell is also shown (light grey). (B) Cartoon representation of HLA-DR1 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ within the observed crystal lattice showing symmetry mates within a single two-dimensional lattice (light grey). Asymmetric unit colored as in Fig. S4. A. (C) Cartoon and stick representation of crystal packing interactions. All theoretical crystal contacts (distance \leq 4.0 Å) between the HLA-DR1 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ (chain A, B & C of asymmetric unit) to the second copy of HLA-DR1 5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ within the asymmetric unit and contacting symmetry mates. Contacts are shown as red dashed lines. Contact hotspots (red circles) included the β 1 helix center (i), the α 1 helix C-terminal edge (ii), $\beta 2$ domain back (iii) and $\alpha 2$ domain side (iv). Some contacts by Pro-2 and Arg-4, to flexible loop regions of symmetry mates, was observed within the peptide N-terminus (grey circle 1). In addition, DR1 β -Glu-110, within a flexible loop of the DR1 β 2 domain was stabilized by the rigid central peptide core residues Glu-3, Leu-4 & Ala-5 (grey circle 2). No crystal contacts were made by the C-terminal hairpin loop (grey circle 3). HLA-DR1 represented as cartoon (green & cyan; symmetry mates = grey) with contacting side chains represented as sticks. Peptide is represented as sticks colored by B-factor (blue to red; B-factor range = 21 to 130).



Figure S6. Optimized growth of HLA-DR1-5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ protein crystals through microseeding. (*A*) Schematic overview of crystal condition well locations (TOPS D1, TOPS F12 & PACT G10) in which primary screens yielded non-diffractable crystalline material (orange) later used as microseeds for crystal optimization. (*B*) Stereomicroscope images highlighting non-diffractable crystal forms from primary crystal screening conditions as outlined in Fig. S5. *A*.(*C*) Stereomicroscope images of high-resolution diffracting 3-Dimensional HLA-DR1-5T4₁₁₁₋₁₃₀ crystals grown at 4 mg/mL via hanging drop in PACT G10 buffer condition (0.02 M Sodium/potassium phosphate, 0.1 M Bis-Tris propane pH 7.5, 20 % PEG 3350) supplemented with microseed stocks produced from combined crystals described previously. Obtained crystals were approximately 80 µm along the longest edge.

Video S1. MD trajectories illustrating peptide mobility. Backbone atoms of PFRs are shown as sticks and color-coded as indicated (inset). Core residues (showing all atoms) are blue sticks with atom coloring as previous. DR α (grey cartoon) and DR1 β (purple cartoon) represented from the static crystallographic structure.