Supplementary Information

Disruption of the tumour-associated EMP3 enhances erythroid proliferation and causes the MAM-negative phenotype

Nicole Thornton^{1†*}, Vanja Karamatic Crew^{1†}, Louise Tilley^{1†}, Carole A. Green², Chwen Ling Tay¹, Rebecca E. Griffiths², Belinda K. Singleton², Frances Spring², Piers Walser¹, Abdul Ghani Alattar³, Benjamin Jones¹, Rosalind Laundy¹, Jill R. Storry^{3,4}, Mattias Möller³, Lorna Wall⁵, Richard Charlewood⁵, Connie M. Westhoff⁶, Christine Lomas-Francis⁶, Vered Yahalom⁷, Ute Feick⁸, Axel Seltsam⁹, Beate Mayer¹⁰, Martin L. Olsson^{3,4‡}, David J. Anstee^{2‡}

¹International Blood Group Reference Laboratory, NHS Blood and Transplant, Bristol, UK

²Bristol Institute for Transfusion Sciences, NHS Blood and Transplant and NIHR Blood and Transplant Unit in Red Cell Products, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

³Division of Hematology and Transfusion Medicine, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Lund University, Lund, Sweden

⁴Department of Clinical Immunology and Transfusion Medicine, Office of Medical Services, Lund, Sweden

⁵Reference Laboratory, New Zealand Blood Service, Auckland, New Zealand

⁶New York Blood Centre, New York, USA

⁷Magen David Adom, National Blood Services, Ramat Gan, Israel

⁸Deutsches Rotes Kreuz, Blood Donor Service, Institute Bad Kreuznach, Germany

⁹German Red Cross Blood Service NSTOB, Institute Springe, Germany

¹⁰Institute of Transfusion Medicine, Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, corporate member of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Berlin Institute of Health, Germany †shared first authors, [‡]shared senior authors

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Supplementary Table 1. MAM-negative patient samples (coded P1-P10) and P9's family samples (coded P9-mother, P9-father, P9-sibling) included in the study.

Sample	Year of Discovery	Referred from Ethnicity	Clinical Information	Reference
P1	1993 (Original)	IBGRL collection Partial Irish and Cherokee descent	First two children not affected. Antibody detected during 3 rd pregnancy, no clinical evidence of HDFN	Anderson <i>et al.</i> ¹ Montgomery <i>et al.</i> ²
P2	2000	IBGRL collection	3 rd pregnancy, severe HDFN. At 29 weeks gestation, during IUT, emergency caesarean section required. Baby died at 6 months old due to complications of premature birth (posttraumatic pulmonary insufficiency)	Montgomery <i>et al.</i> ²
P3 (sibling of P2)	2000	New York, USA Arabic	One successful pregnancy	Montgomery <i>et al.</i> ²
P4	2001	Berlin, Germany	No data	None
P5	2003	Bad Kreuznach, Germany	No data	None
P6	2012	New York, USA Yemeni	Patient was G2, P1 Baby born full-term at 38 weeks. Laboratory values at birth: Hb 21 g/dL (range: 13.5-19.5 g/dL), platelet count 132,000/uL (range: 150,000- 450,000/uL), total bilirubin 7.1 mg/dL (range: 6-8 mg/dL). No indication for RBCs/platelets transfusion or UV phototherapy. Newborn discharged from hospital on day 3 of life without evidence of any clinical symptoms.	Burgos <i>et al</i> . ³
P7	2014	New York, USA Caucasian from Virginia	Female patient born in 1960 with history of pregnancy. Diagnosis included sepsis, colitis, UTI, small bowel resection.	None
P8	2015	Berlin, Germany Kurdish Turk	Antibody detected during 2 nd pregnancy, no clinical evidence of HDFN, newborn's RBCs DAT negative.	None
P9	2015	Auckland, New Zealand <i>Caucasian</i>	Severe HDFN, required IUT. Placental abruption and IU death at 28 weeks.	None
P9-mother (mother of P9)	2015	Auckland, New Zealand	Not applicable	None
P9-father (father of P9)	2015	Auckland, New Zealand	Not applicable	None
P9-sibling (sibling of P9)	2015	Auckland, New Zealand	Not applicable	None
P10	2015 (first detected in 1994)	Sweden Middle Eastern	Two children, not affected	None

Supplementary Table 2. Serological characterisation of MAM.

Red Cell Antigen Molecules	CD Number	Blood Group System		
Glycophorin A	CD235a	MNS	•	Δ
Glycophorin B	CD235b	MNS	•	Δ
α-1.4-Galactosyltransferase	CD77	P1PK	nt	Δ
RhD	CD240D	RH	•	Δ
RhCcEe	CD240CE	RH	•	Δ
Basal Cell Adhesion Molecule	CD239	LU	•	Δ
Kell Metallo-Endopeptidase	CD238	KEL	•	Δ
Fucosvltransferase 3	CD174	LE	•	Δ
Atypical Chemokine Receptor 1	CD234	FY	•	Δ
Solute Carrier Family 14 Member 1		JK	•	Δ
Solute Carrier Family 4 Member 1	CD233	DI	•	Δ
Acetylcholinesterase	00000	YT	•	Δ
CD99	CD99	XG	•	nt
Ervthroblast Membrane Associated Protein	0200	SC	•	Δ
ADP-Ribosyltransferase 4	CD297	DO	•	Δ
Aquaporin 1	00201	0	•	^
Intercellular Adhesion Molecule 4	CD242	IW		Δ Λ
Complement C4B	00242	CH/RG		Δ
Complement C4A		CH/RG		Δ
Fucosyltransferase 1		Н		Δ
Kx Protein		XK		Δ
Glycophorin C	CD236	GE		Δ Λ
CD55	CD55	CROM		Δ
Complement C3b/C4b Recentor 1	CD35	KN		Δ Λ
CD44	CD44	IN	W	Δ
Basigin	CD147			Δ Λ
CD151	CD151			Δ
Semanhorin 74	CD108	IMH		Δ
Glucosaminyl (N-Acetyl) Transferase 2	00100			Δ Λ
B-1 3-N-Acetylgalactosaminyltransferase 1		GLOB		Δ
Aquaporin 3		GII		nt
Rh Associated Glycoprotein	CD241	RHAG		Λ
ATP Binding Cassette Subfamily G Member 2	CD338			Δ
ATP Binding Cassette Subfamily B Member 6	02000	LAN		Δ
Small Intergral Membrane Protein 1		VEL	•	Δ Λ
CD59	CD59	CD59	nt	Δ Λ
Solute Carrier Family 29 Member 1	0200	AUG	•	Δ Λ
Prion Protein	CD230	KANNO	•	Δ
B-1 4-N-Acetyl-Galactosaminyltransferase 2	00200	SID	nt	^
		High Prevalence		1
		(no system)		
unknown		Cs ^a	•	Δ
unknown		Er ^a	•	Δ
unknown		Er3	nt	Δ
unknown		LKE	nt	Δ
unknown		Emm	•	Δ
unknown		AnWj	•	Δ
unknown		PEL	•	Δ
unknown		ABTI	•	Δ

Key: anti-MAM found to be positive (Δ) with RBCs lacking high prevalence antigens of this molecule; MAM-negative cells found to be positive (\bullet) or weak (**w**) with antibody(ies) detecting presence of this molecule. nt, not tested.

Supplementary Table 3. Serological typing of red blood cells (RBCs) from five MAM-negative patients (P2, P4, P8, P9 and P10) and MAM-positive control cells, with anti-In^b and anti-INFI (antibodies reacting with antigens of Indian blood group system, carried on CD44).

DBC complex	Antibodies					
RDC samples	Anti-In ^b	Anti-INFI				
P2	0	1+				
P4	1+	W				
P8	(+)	nt				
P9	2+	nt				
P10	1+	nt				
Control MAM+	4+	4+				

nt, not tested

Supplementary Table 4. MAIEA results with anti-MAM (P1).

Antibody Clone	Protein Specificity	Absorbance Ratio (>2.0 = positive)
BRIC222*	CD44 (epitope 1)	16.5
BRIC241	CD44 (epitope 1)	21.0
BRIC205	CD44 (epitope 2)	14.3
BRIC214	CD44 (epitope 2)	13.4
BRIC219	CD44 (epitope 2)	14.8
BRIC223	CD44 (epitope 2)	20.4
BRIC225	CD44 (epitope 2)	14.9
BRIC235*	CD44 (epitope 2)	21.4
KZ1* ^I	CD44 (epitope 3)	35.3
BRIC224	Lu (domain 1)	1.0
BRIC221	Lu (domain 4)	1.1
BRIC18	Kell (K18 region)	1.0
BRIC203	Kell (Kp ^{b/c})	1.2
HIM6	CD147 (domain 1 epitope	1.0
UM-8D6	CD147 (domain 1 epitope	1.1
MEM6/6	CD147 (domain 2)	1.0
LA1818	RhAG	1.5
AE-1	AChE	1.0
BRIC230	DAF (SCR-1)	1.2
BRIC110	DAF (SCR-2)	1.1
BRIC5	LFA-3	1.0
BRIC229	CD59 (epitope 2)	1.0
BRIC6	Band 3	1.0
BIRMA84b	Band 3 (Wr ^b)	1.2
BRIC125	CD47	0.9
MIMA123	Dombrock	1.0

*Also tested with P4 anti-MAM and found positive; ⁺ also tested with P2 and P5 anti-MAM and found positive.

Supplementary Table 5. Summary of *EMP3* inactivating mutations identified in all MAM negative samples tested (P1-P10) and family members of P9 (P9-mother, P9-father, P9-sibling).

Sample	EMP3* mutation	Methods used	Notes
P1	Homozygous full gene deletion	PCR, Sanger sequencing	No amplification of <i>EMP3</i> exons 2 to 5. Amplification of 700bp product as seen in P9 suggests presence of same/similar deleted allele. No wild-type allele present, but compound heterozygosity for two different deletions remains possible. Sanger sequencing shows breakpoints to be slightly different from P9, with a deletion of 8518bp (c.1-3513_492+1379del).
P2	Homozygous c.[123C>G; 373A>G] (p.Tyr41Ter)	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	Premature stop codon, predicting no expression of functional EMP3. Additional variant c.373A>G after predicted stop codon will not be expressed on truncated protein. The gnomAD database shows <i>EMP3</i> c.123G allele freq. at 43/251,000 (0.00017; predicted homozygote freq. 2.9x10 ⁻⁸).
P3 (sibling of P2)	Homozygous c.[123C>G; 373A>G] (p.Tyr41Ter)	PCR, Sanger sequencing	See notes for P2.
P4	Homozygous exon 5 deletion	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	No coverage of <i>EMP3</i> exon 5 on exome sequence. No apparent loss of read depth in remaining areas of <i>EMP3</i> , supporting homozygosity for exonic deletion (rather than hemizygosity with whole gene deletion). No amplification with exon 5 primers (exon 2, 3, 4 amplify with no mutations). Amplification with <i>EMP3</i> Ex4F and <i>TMEM143</i> R shows band of reduced size- from expected 2807bp to around 2000bp, suggesting deletion of ~800bp encompassing <i>EMP3</i> exon 5. Sanger sequencing shows deletion of 822bp, encompassing all of exon 5 (c.323-231_*421del).
P5	Homozygous exon 4 deletion	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	No coverage of <i>EMP3</i> exon 4 on exome sequence. No apparent loss of read depth in remaining areas of <i>EMP3</i> , supporting homozygosity for exonic deletion (rather than hemizygosity with whole gene deletion). No amplification with exon 4 primers (exon 2, 3, 5 amplify with no mutations). Amplification with <i>EMP3</i> Ex3F and Ex5R shows product of reduced size- from expected 3312bp to around 2600bp, suggesting deletion of ~700bp encompassing <i>EMP3</i> exon 4. Sanger sequencing shows deletion of 745bp, encompassing all of exon 4 (c.182-186_322+418del).
P6	Homozygous c.[123C>G; 373A>G] (p.Tyr41Ter)	PCR, Sanger sequencing	See notes for P2.
P7	Homozygous full gene deletion	PCR, Sanger sequencing	See notes for P1.
P8	Homozygous exon 4 deletion	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	See notes for P5.
P9	Homozygous full gene deletion	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	No <i>EMP3</i> coverage on exome sequencing. No amplification of <i>EMP3</i> exons 2 to 5. Primers spanning a predicted ~9000bp region encompassing <i>EMP3</i> amplify a ~700bp band (not seen in controls), suggesting a deletion of >8000bp. Sanger sequencing shows deletion of 8519bp, spanning complete <i>EMP3</i> gene (c.1-3532_*1361del). Data from parents (P9-mother and P9-father) suggests P9 may be a compound heterozygote for two similar, but genetically distinct, whole gene deletions (see below).
P9-mother	Presumed heterozygous for full gene deletion, with wild-type allele	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	<i>EMP3</i> coverage on exome sequencing reduced by approx 50%. Presence of (at least) one copy of <i>EMP3</i> gene confirmed by PCR. Amplification of 700bp band as seen in P9 shows presence of deleted allele (presumed heterozygous with wild-type <i>EMP3</i> allele). Sanger sequencing confirms heterozygosity for P9 deletion (c.1-3532_*1361del).
P9-father	Presumed heterozygous for full gene deletion, with wild-type allele	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	<i>EMP3</i> coverage on exome sequencing reduced by approx 50%. Presence of (at least) one copy of <i>EMP3</i> gene confirmed by PCR. No 700bp band as seen in P9 apparent- suggesting a larger deletion encompassing these primer sites. Breakpoints have not been identified by Sanger sequencing.
P9-sibling	Presumed heterozygous for full gene deletion, with wild-type allele	Exome sequencing, PCR, Sanger sequencing	<i>EMP3</i> coverage on exome sequencing reduced by approx 50%. Presence of (at least) one copy of <i>EMP3</i> gene confirmed by PCR. Amplification of 700bp band as seen in P9 shows presence of deleted allele- inherited from mother, presumably with wild-type allele from father. Sequencing confirms heterozygosity for P9 deletion (c.1-3532_*1361del).
P10	Homozygous c.[123C>G; 373A>G] (p.Tyr41Ter)	PCR, Sanger sequencing	See notes for P2.

*EMP3 reference sequence NM_001425.2, five exon transcript, coding exons 2-5.

Supplementary Table 6. Nonsense variants in *EMP3* found in the gnomAD exome dataset v2.1.1⁴ (no loss-of-function homozygous variants recorded). NM_001425.2 was used as the reference sequence. The gnomAD database uses the ENST00000270221.6 transcript with coding exons 2-5 identical to NM_001425.2 but with a slightly longer non-coding exon 1.

Variant ID	Nucleotide change	Predicted amino acid change	gnomAD allele frequency (%)
rs777112006	c.1A>G	p.Met1?	0.0014 (4 of 282,756)*
rs146324824	c.3G>C	p.Met1?	0.00040 (1 of 251,438)*
rs747282198	c.78+1G>A	Altered splicing	0.00080 (2 of 251,446)
rs747282198	c.78+1G>C	Altered splicing	0.00040 (1 of 251,446)
rs748935769	c.85_86delTG	p.Trp29AspfsTer27	0.00040 (1 of 249,144)
rs768347751	c.92_93delTC	p.Leu31ProfsTer25	0.00040 (1 of 249,668)
rs201392469	c.123C>G	p.Tyr41Ter	0.017 (43 of 251,000)**
rs1269751062	c.156G>A	p.Trp52Ter	0.00040 (1 of 251,012)
rs778509172	c.172delA	p.Ser58AlafsTer6	0.00040 (1 of 250,700)
rs1372215797	c.181+2T>C	Altered splicing	0.00040 (1 of 249,932)
rs761028282	c.182-2A>C	Altered splicing	0.00080 (2 of 251,258)
rs764214118	c.182-1G>A	Altered splicing	0.00080 (2 of 251,264)
rs1337327394	c.187_202del16	p.Leu63SerfsTer49	0.00040 (1 of 251,298)
rs758799081	c.217_218dupTC	p.Leu74ProfsTer44	0.00040 (1 of 251,424)
rs1394101002	c.247delC	p.Leu83CysfsTer34	0.00080 (2 of 251,452)
rs202222961	c.274C>T	p.Arg92Ter	0.00080 (2 of 251,238)
rs763027671	c.277C>T	p.Arg93Ter	0.0016 (4 of 251,250)
rs775496329	c.364delG	p.Ala122ProfsTer?	0.00041 (1 of 241,670)
N/A	c.390delG	p.Arg131GlufsTer?	0.0011 (3 of 274,744)
rs1471461966	c.432_453dupGGCCTTC CCCCTCGCCCTGGTC	p.Ser152GlyfsTer46	0.00042 (1 of 237,216)
rs763479095	c.437delT	p.Phe146SerfsTer?	0.00042 (1 of 236,416)
rs769824313	c.492A>G	p.Ter164TrpextTer23	0.00049 (1 of 204,384)

* Start codon lost. Next methionine is found 69bp downstream.

^{**} Detected in multiple studies. Twenty-five of these alleles have been detected in Ashkenazi Jews (0.25% allele frequency in this group).

Supplementary Table 7. *EMP3* alleles found among the 2,504 individuals included in the 1000 Genomes Project⁵. NM_001425.2 was used as the reference sequence. Only one allele with a probable inactivating variant was found in this dataset. The impact on MAM antigen expression for other alleles is not known.

Alle (total	le count n=5,008)	Nucleotide change	Amino acid change	AFR	AMR	EAS	EUR	SAS
4,917	(98.2%)			1,320 (99.8%)	678 (97.7%)	1,004 (99.6%)	959 (95.3%)	956 (97.8%)
77	(1.54%)	c.373A>G	p.lle125Val	0	16 (2.31%)	0	46 (4.57%)	15 (1.53%)
5	(0.10%)	c.210G>A	p.Met70lle	0	0	0	0	5 (0.51%)
3	(0.06%)	c.278G>A	p.Arg93GIn	0	0	3 (0.30%)	0	0
1	(0.02%)	c.3G>C	p.Met1?*	0	0	0	1 (0.10%)	0
1	(0.02%)	c.71T>C	p.Leu24Ser	0	0	1 (0.10%)	0	0
1	(0.02%)	c.131C>T	p.Thr44Met	0	0	0	0	1 (0.10%)
1	(0.02%)	c.275G>A	p.Arg92GIn	0	0	0	0	1 (0.10%)
1	(0.02%)	c.[320C>T; 373A>G]	p.[Thr107lle; lle125Val]	1 (0.08%)	0	0	0	0
1	(0.02%)	c.409T>G	p.Tyr137Asp	1 (0.08%)	0	0	0	0

Super-populations defined in the 1000 Genomes Project: AFR = African. AMR = Ad Mixed American. EAS = East Asian. EUR = European. SAS = South Asian.

* Start codon lost. Next methionine is found 69bp downstream.

Supplementary Table 8. Relative EMP3 expression compared to CD81 and glycophorin A obtained from proteomics data generated by previous MS analysis of undifferentiated (expanding) BEL-A2 cell line compared with cultured adult erythroid cells at day 8 of culture⁶.

Accession	Description	Gene ID	Average Abundances (n=3): cRBC-d8*	Average Abundances (n=3): BELA2	Coverage	# Peptides	# PSMs	# Unique Peptides	# AAs	MW [kDa]	calc. pl	Gene ID
M0R122	Epithelial membrane protein 3 OS=Homo sapiens GN=EMP3 PE=1 SV=1	EMP3	63.7	135.7	59	3	4	3	63	7.1	4.72	
A0A024RCB7	Tetraspanin OS=Homo sapiens GN=CD81 PE=3 SV=1	CD81	82.1	101.8	28	4	6	4	236	25.8	5.29	CD81
A0A0C4DFT7	Glycophorin-A OS=Homo sapiens GN=GYPA PE=1 SV=1	GYPA	102.7	98.6	21	2	5	2	150	16.4	5.27	GYPA
	Ratio of EMP3/CD81		0.78	1.33								
	Ratio of EMP3/GYPA		0.62	1.38								

Supplementary Table 9. Serological testing of human anti-MAM and monoclonal anti-EMP3 with two MAM-negative patients (P8, P9) and two MAM-positive controls (C1, C2).

		Antibodies								
	Anti	-MAM	Anti	-EMP3	EMP3 An		Anti	-RhAG		
RBCs	Unt	Pap+F	Unt	Pap+F	Unt	Pap+F	Unt	Pap+F		
P8	0	0	0	0	4+	4+	4+	0		
P9	0	0	0	0	4+	4+	4+	0		
C1	4+	4+	0	3+	4+	4+	4+	0		
C2	4+	4+	0	4+	4+	4+	4+	0		

Unt, untreated cells; Pap+F, papain+PNGaseF (2 stage) enzyme-treated cells

Supplementary Table 10. Inhibition of anti-EMP3 binding to MAM, where incubation of MAM-positive papain+PNGaseF treated RBCs with human anti-MAM blocked the binding of murine monoclonal anti-EMP3, whilst no blocking was observed with an unrelated antibody, anti-Jk^b.

	Unsensitised RBCs	Anti-MAM sensitised RBCs	Anti-Jk ^b sensitised RBCs
anti-EMP3	3+	0	3+
anti-Rh	4+	4+	4+
Isotype control	0	0	0

Supplementary Table 11. Representative literature assessing EMP3 expression levels in cancers from diverse tissue sources, where *EMP3* has been reported either as an oncogene (upregulated) or as a tumour suppressor (downregulated).

Tissue	EMP3 level	Proliferation	Principal methods	Reference
Uveal melanoma	↑	N/R*	Transcriptomics, gene suppression	Kaochar <i>et al.</i> 7
Glioma	↑	N/R	Microarray, RT-qPCR	Gao <i>et al.</i> ⁸
Primary breast carcinoma	↑	N/R	miRNA	Hong <i>et al.</i> 9
Hepatocellular carcinoma	↑	+	EMP3 knockdown	Hsieh <i>et al.</i> ¹⁰
SKOV3 ovarian cancer cell line	↑	No effect	siRNA	Huang <i>et al.</i> ¹¹
Upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma	↑	+	siRNA, methylation analysis	Wang et al. ¹²
Primary breast carcinoma	1	+	RT-PCR, methylation analysis	Zhou <i>et al.</i> ¹³
Primary glioblastoma	↑	N/R	Microarray, RT-qPCR	Scrideli <i>et al.</i> ¹⁴
Mammary luminal epithelial cells	1	N/R	Microarray, expression profiling	Mackay <i>et al.</i> ¹⁵
Non-small cell lung cancer	\downarrow	N/R	Immunohistochemistry	Xue <i>et al.</i> ¹⁶
Oligodendroglioma	\downarrow	N/R	Methylation analysis	Pasini <i>et al</i> . ¹⁷
Esophageal squamous cell carcinoma cell line	\downarrow	-	Microarray, methylation analysis	Fumoto <i>et al.</i> ¹⁸
Gliomas	↓	N/R	Microarray, methylation analysis	Kunitz <i>et al</i> . ¹⁹
Gliomas and neuroblastomas	\downarrow	-	Microarray, methylation analysis	Alaminos <i>et al</i> . ²⁰

* Not reported

Supplementary Table 12. Primers for PCR amplification and Sanger sequencing of *EMP3* and erythroid isoform of *CD44H*.

Amplified	Duine o #*	Primer	Primer	PCR Amplification Enzyme	Product
Region	Primer	Sequence (5' to 3')	Position ⁺	& Annealing Temp. (°C)	Size (bp)
EMP3 exon 2_3	EMP3 Ex2F	CGATCTCCTGACCTCAGGTG	inton 1 (-121 to -102)	BioTaq, 65	993
	EMP3 Ex3R	CCCAATTCTCAGTCCCATGAG	intron 3 (+78 to +58)		
EMP3 exon 3	EMP3 Ex3F	TTACAGGCATGAACCACCAGG	intron 2 (-207 to -187)	BioTaq, 60	398
	EMP3 Ex3R	As above	As above		
EMP3 exon 4	EMP3 Ex4F	AGGGTCACATGGTGAGCAAG	intron 3 (-81 to -62)	BioTaq, 65	384
	EMP3 Ex4R	GCAGAGATGTAGCCCACGG	intron 4 (+162 to +144)		
EMP3 exon 5	EMP3 Ex5F	CCATGGGATATTGGGAAATGTAG	intron 4 (-67 to -45)	BioTaq, 65	382
	EMP3 Ex5R	AGAGGTCAAGCGTGCGCAG	intron 5 (+62 to +44)		
EMP3 exon 4	EMP3 Ex3F	As above	As above	Expand, 60	3312
spanning exon 3 to 5	EMP3 Ex5R	As above	As above		
EMP3 exon 5 spanning	EMP3 Ex4F	As above	As above	Expand, 60	2807
exon 4 to TMEM143	TMEM143R	GCCTGATGAACAGAGGAGATAG	intron 5 (+1524 to +1503)		
	EMP3 In4F	CCGTGGGCTACATCTCTGC	intron 4 (+144 to +162)	Not applicable	Sequencing primer
EMP3 complete gene	CCDC114F	CTGTGCTATACTGGTATTCCAG	EMP3-3949 to EMP3-3928	BioTaq, 62	9182
	TMEM143R	As above	As above		
<i>CD44</i> exon 1	CD44_1F	ACTTCCGAGGCAGCCTCATTG	exon 1 (-147 to -127)	AmpliTaq Gold, 65	392
	CD44_1R	ACACAATTCTCCAACGGTTTAGCG	intron 1 (+156 to +178)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 2	CD44_2F	TGTTAACCAGGCTGGTCTTGAG	intron 1 (-196 to -175)	AmpliTaq Gold, 65	430
	CD44_2R	AGTTCTAAGCCCAGCTGCCTG	intron 2 (+48 to +68)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 3	CD44_3F	TAACTCGGTTGTTGAAACCTCCG	intron 2 (-141 to -119)	AmpliTaq Gold, 60	341
	CD44_3R	AGCTGAGCTCCAAAGACCAGG	intron 3 (+46 to +66)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 4	CD44_4F	GCTTCCACAGTGCCTGATATAG	intron 3 (-286 to -265)	AmpliTaq Gold, 60	427
	CD44_4R	TACCACAGAGAACACACCTGAG	intron 4 (+51 to +72)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 5	CD44_5F	TCTCCCACCACTGGATAGATAGG	intron 4 (-132 to -110)	AmpliTaq Gold, 60	439
	CD44_5R	GTGCAATGCTCAGGAAGGTCAG	intron 5 (+55 to +76)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 15	CD44_15F	GATAGGCTGTATAAGAATGCAAAGG	intron 14 (-92 to -68)	AmpliTaq Gold, 65	400
	CD44_15R	GTGTCAGTATTACCAGGGAACTG	intron 15 (+223 to +245)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 16	CD44_16F	GGAGAGCTGCCCTTTATGCAG	intron 15 (-86 to -66)	AmpliTaq Gold, 65	378
	CD44_16R	AGCTAGTTTGCAGAACCCAGG	intron 16 (+200 to +220)		
<i>CD44</i> exon 17	CD44_17F	CTGTGGTGCTTGTTTCAACTAGG	intron 16 (-101 to -79)	AmpliTaq Gold, 60	268
	CD44_17R	AGGGACTACGCTCTGAGCAG	intron 17 (+69 to +88)		

 * F and R denote forward (sense) and reverse (antisense) direction, respectively

[†]Primer positions relative to the respective exon/intron boundary.

Position in *CCDC114* (upstream of *EMP3*) is given relative to the start of *EMP3* coding +1A of ATG codon in exon 2, and in *TMEM143* (downstream) it is relative to the end of *EMP3* exon 5.

Supplementary Table 13. Parameters for homology modelling, molecular dynamics and software packages used.

Method	Model/Parameter	Reference
SWISS-MODEL	Initial automated homology model building	Biasini, M., <i>et al.</i> ²¹
MODELLER 9.19	Rebuilding of first extracellular loop	Marti-Renom, et al. ²²
CHARMM-GUI Membrane Builder	Asymmetric membrane bilayer assembly and homology model insertion, initial thermalisation and equilibration parameters	Wu, E.L., <i>et al.</i> ²³
Force field parameters for lipids and protein	CHARMM36 Protein Lipids	Best, R.B., <i>et al.</i> ²⁴ Klauda, J.B., <i>et al.</i> ²⁵
Solvation model	TIP3	Jorgensen, W.L., <i>et al</i> . ²⁶
Molecular Dynamics Calculations	NAMD 2.11	Phillips, C.J., <i>et al.</i> ²⁷
VMD (Visual Molecular Dynamics)	MD model assembly and topology file, visualisation. Trajectory analysis	Humphrey, W., <i>et al.</i> ²⁸
MEMBPLUGIN	Membrane analysis, bilayer thickness	Guixà-González, R., <i>et al.</i> ²⁹
PROTTER	Topology representation for homology model	Omasits, U., <i>et al</i> . ³⁰



Supplementary Figure 1. Flow cytometry experiments show CD44 to be markedly reduced on RBCs of MAM-negative individuals. Flow cytometric data from RBCs of five MAM-negative individuals [P2, P4, P5, P8, P9], three family members of P9 [mother (P9-M), father (P9-F) and sibling (P9-S)] and four random control samples [C1-C4] tested with anti-CD44 (BRIC222). All MAM-negative samples had a reduction in fluorescent signal compared to the control samples in agreement with serological (Supplementary table 3) and immunoblotting results (shown in Supplementary Figure 7a). The amount of CD44 on MAM-positive RBCs of the parents (F1 and F2) and sibling (F3) of P9, all MAM heterozygotes, had similar expression of CD44 to control samples. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Supplementary Figure 2. Reduction of EMP3 expression examined by cell surface expression analyses and qPCR. Wild-type BEL-A2 cells were maintained in culture for 65 days, with doubling time of 23.9 h. Lentiviral delivery system was used to package and prepare four EMP3 shRNA constructs, of which two worked well (EMP3 sh4 only shown here) and scrambled controls (scr) in HEK293T cell line. BEL-A2 cells were transduced with concentrated virus, and transduced cells were cultured for 28 days following the selection in puromycin. Scrambled control cells retained the same doubling time as native BEL-A2, whilst EMP3 shRNA transduced cells had an improved doubling time of 21.1 h, showing 10-fold higher cumulative increase in cell number on day 28 than the control. (a) Reduction in EMP3 RNA expression (to approximately 25% of scr in EMP3 sh4 cells) was monitored by qPCR on days 2 or 3, and at days 9 or 10 post-transduction. No reduction was observed in CD44H RNA expression levels. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. (b) Approximately 50% reduction of EMP3 in EMP3 sh4 cells was determined by flow cytometry using a human anti-MAM antibody (P9; prepared by adsorption and elution from antigen-positive cells). (c) Confocal microscope immunofluorescence analysis (magnification 40x) showed no difference in CD44 expression between EMP3 sh4 and scr cells when stained with anti-CD44 on day 5 of differentiation. However, when sh4 and scr cells were stained with anti-MAM on day 5 of differentiation, reduction of EMP3 in sh4 cells was observed. Representative images selected from 10 images. The same results were obtained with EMP3 sh2 (not shown). CD44 and MAM stained green; DAPI stained blue. Scale bars are 10 µm.



Supplementary Figure 3. Disruption of the EMP3 gene by CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing in BEL-A2 cell lines; clone E0.5-18 stained with commercially available anti-EMP3. (a) Cells from three of the eight successful transfectant KO clones, as determined by EMP3 Sanger sequencing and anti-MAM staining, were also tested with anti-EMP3 monoclonal antibody, to assess directly the expression of EMP3 on cell surfaces. Flow cytometry assays displayed reduced expression of EMP3. (b) Sanger sequencing of EMP3 exon 2 confirmed an inactivating deletion in KO clone E0.5-18, NM 001425.2: c.17 21delTGGTG. The deletion, detected close to the location of the guide DNA, would introduce a reading frame shift and premature termination of the protein translation (p.Leu6ArgfsTer49). (c) Immunofluorescence assays displayed markedly reduced expression of EMP3. EMP3 stained green; DAPI stained blue. Scale bars are 10 µm. Three KO clones were stained on two different days with anti-EMP3, all giving the same results. In general, commercially available monoclonal anti-EMP3 proved to be poor reagents and a low level of staining of KO cells was observed with both flow cytometry and immunofluorescence methods. We suspect this was due to cross-reactivity with the other members of the EMP family of proteins. A similar level of cross-reactivity was detected by serological tests (data not shown).

Supplementary Figure 4. EMP3 distribution in human tissues and cell lines. EMP3 expression levels in **a**) human tissues and **b**) a selection of cell lines, shown as median protein expression data from proteomics-based draft of the human proteome, collated by ProteomicsDB^{31,32}.

Supplementary Figure 5. MAM antigen is expressed on platelets and is not affected by the platelet activation status. a) The reactivity on platelets of MAM-positive and -negative (P10) samples following incubation with either anti-MAM eluate or isotype control (IgG) is shown as a histogram and a graph of mean fluorescent intensity of MAM reactivity. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. b) MAM expression is shown to be independent of the platelet activation status. Representative flow cytometry plots of platelets (collected from leucocyte-depleted apheresis units) and treated with Mock (top panel) and TRAP (bottom panel) were assessed (from left to right) for CD62P expression and further gated on CD62P-negative and -positive to analyse MAM expression. c) FACS fluorescence intensity (FI) histogram overlay for MAM expression on non-activated and activated platelets showed no differences in MAM expression.

Supplementary Figure 6. Enhanced proliferation of P9 and P10 erythroid cells compared to age- and gender-matched controls, observed in two independent experiments with different culturing protocols, conducted in separate laboratories. CD34+ cells were isolated from buffy coats of P9, P10 and associated controls C1(P9) and C1(P10), C2(P10). (a) P9 and C1(P9) cells were cultured at IBGRL (Bristol, UK) for 21 days following the three-stage protocol described in Griffiths *et al.*³³ P9 showed 4.2 times greater cell proliferation on day 21 than C1(P9) control. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. (b) P10 and two matched controls C1(P10), C2(P10) were cultured at the Transfusion Medicine laboratory, Lund University (Lund, Sweden) for 18 days, using a different three-stage method based on Giarratana *et al.*³⁴ and Flygare *et al.*³⁵ Culture stages labelled I, II, III. The results were analyzed using two-way ANOVA with adjustment for multiple comparisons. Error bars represent SEM of three technical replicates. P10 also had on average four times greater cell proliferation than C1(P10) control. ns, not significant; ****, P<0.0001. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Figure 7. Immunoblotting and immunoprecipitation experiments demonstrate the marked reduction of CD44 on RBCs of MAMnegative individuals and the association between erythroid CD44 and the MAM-reactive glycoprotein. a) Immunoblotting of anti-CD44 antibodies to the electrophoretically separated components of RBC membranes from MAM-negative individuals (P2 [n = 3], P4 [n = 2], P5 [n = 3], P8 [n = 3], P9 [n = 4], P10 [n = 3]) and three random controls (C1 [n = 3], C2 [n = 2], C3 [n = 3]). 10% gels, non-reducing conditions, 10 up protein loaded per lane, MAM-negative RBC membranes have a markedly reduced amount of CD44; the anti-actin control demonstrates consistent protein loading. The numbers quoted are from independent experiments; in 4 out 6 experiments the blots were run in duplicate and gave identical results in both duplicates (P4, n = 3; P2, P5 and P10, n = 6; P8, n = 4; P9 n = 9). Source images are provided in Supplementary Figure 11 and as a Source Data file. b) Immunoblotting of human anti-MAM eluate to the electrophoretically separated components of RBC-derived CD44 immune precipitates. i) Reactivity of human anti-MAM eluate (P9) with control (C1, the same control as in (a) above) and MAMnegative (P9) RBC membranes and control RBC-derived CD44 (CD44 IP) or isotype control (mG1 IP) immune precipitates electrophoresed on a 12% gel (non-reducing conditions; n = 2). *Reactivity with Protein G that is released in small quantities from the Protein G Sepharose used to isolate the immune complexes. ii) The same blot as (i) reprobed with anti-actin to demonstrate equivalent loading of RBC membrane samples (10 µg per lane). iii) The positive control gel of RBC-derived CD44 (CD44 IP) or isotype control (mG1 IP) immune precipitates and control and MAM- (C1, P9) RBC membranes immunoblotted with anti-CD44 (10% gel, reducing conditions; n = 2). iv) The same blot as (iii) reprobed with anti-actin to demonstrate equivalent loading of RBC membrane samples (10 µg per lane). Source images are provided in Supplementary Figure 11 and as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Figure 8: MAM (EMP3) and CD44 expression during ex vivo cell culture of MAM-negative example (P9) and the matched control (CTRL), as determined by flow cytometry analysis. CD34+ progenitor cells from a buffv coat of P9 and age, gender matched control were cultured for 21 days by three-stage protocol³³. a) Expression levels of cell surface MAM antigen were monitored by immunostaining with anti-MAM eluate from day 6 of the culture. No detectable MAM expression was observed in P9 for the duration of the culture, whilst MAM expression in CTRL increased on day 8 and was subsequently maintained at approximately the same level. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. **b**) Expression levels of cell surface CD44 were followed by immunostaining with monoclonal BRIC222 anti-CD44 from day 7 of the culture. In the later stages of the culture, when cells were more abundant, CD44 expression was examined by an additional monoclonal anti-CD44, BRIC235. CD44 expression was high in the early erythroid cells (day 8 - 10) but it was much reduced in the later stages (day 15 onwards), especially in P9, where no detectable CD44 was seen on cell surfaces on day 18. Filtered reticulocytes and red cells from P9 retained lower levels of CD44, compared to the control cells. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Figure 9. The total ablation of CD44 in BEL-A2 cell line does not affect expression of MAM. (a) Flow cytometry analysis of three BEL-A2 wildtype cells treated with an empty vector (WT) and three knock-out (KO) clones with anti-CD44 (BRIC222). The CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene editing system was used to disrupt CD44 in BEL-A2 erythroid cell line. All three tested transgenic BEL-A2 CD44 KO clones had no detectable CD44 on cell surfaces. The representative histogram shows CD44 reactivity relative to isotype control in CD44 KO clone 3, compared to wild type BEL-A2 cells treated with a mock vector. **(b)** Flow cytometry analysis of BEL-A2 three CD44 KO clones and three wild type clones treated with a mock vector. Representative histograms show anti-MAM reactivity relative to negative control. MAM expression remains the same in CD44 KO clones when tested with two human anti-MAM eluates (P=0.831 for P1 and P=0.719 for P9 eluate; unpaired two-tailed t-test, n=6 for each antibody).

Supplementary Figure 10. The representative gating strategies for flow cytometric evaluation. (a) Gating strategy used in flow cytometry experiments depicted in Figure 2a (analysis of EMP3 KO clone E0.5-6 with anti-MAM), Supplementary Figure 2b (reduction of EMP3 expression in BEL-A2 transduced with EMP3 shRNA), Supplementary Figure 3a (analysis of EMP3 KO clone E0.5-18 with anti-EMP3) Supplementary Figure 9a, b (total ablation of CD44 in BEL-A2 cell line does not affect expression of MAM); these experiments utilised BEL-A2 cells, all analysed by the same gating strategy. The gate on the FSC vs SSC dot plot defines the cellular population; the isotype negative control was used to set the FL-2 or FL-6 fluorescence voltages such that the gated cells fell within the first decade. (b) Figure 3 (EMP3 transfection causes MAM expression in Daudi cells); live Daudi cells were identified and gated; after doublet exclusion the GFP-positive cells were identified and MAM reactivity was measured on this third gated cell population. (c) Supplementary Figure 1 (CD44 is markedly reduced on RBCs of MAM-negative individuals); the gate on the FSC vs SSC dot plot defines the red cell population; the isotype negative control was used to set the FL-2 fluorescence voltages such that the gated cells fell within the first decade. All samples were analysed by the same gating protocol. (d) Supplementary Figure 5 (MAM antigen is expressed on platelets and is not affected by the platelet activation status); platelets isolated from leucocytedepleted apheresis units were gated on CD61-positivity after doublet exclusion, then MAM reactivity checked within the CD61-positive cells. (e) Supplementary Figure 8a, b (MAM and CD44 expression during ex vivo cell culture of MAM-negative (P9) and control samples); cultured red cells (cRBCs) were analysed on days 6 to 18 of culture. The gate on the FSC vs SSC dot plot defines the cellular population; the isotype negative control was used to set the FL-1, FL-2 or FL-6 fluorescence voltages such that the gated cells fell within the first decade. Anti-MAM and anti-CD44 expression were measured on the gated population of cells compared to their respective negative controls.

Supplementary Figure 11. Uncropped original immunoblotting scans from Supplementary Figure 7. Immunoblots presented in Supplementary Figure 7a, b are marked here by the red outline.

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