Supplementary Materials

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Materials and methods

Study approval. Animal experiments were conducted with the approval of the NCI and NIAMS Animal Use and Care Committees and performed in accordance with NIH guidelines. All NIH cancer patients providing human samples were enrolled in clinical trials approved by the NIH Clinical Center and NCI institutional review boards. Each patient signed an informed consent form and received a patient information form before participation.

Mice and cell lines. C57BL/6 mice (obtained from Charles River Laboratories, Frederick, MD) of 6–8 weeks of age were used as recipient hosts for adoptive transfer unless otherwise indicated. pmel Ly5.1 transgenic mice were used for adoptive cell transfer and viral kinetics experiments. To obtain pmel Ly5.1mice we crossed pmel(B6.Cg-/Cy Tg [TcraTcrb] 8Rest/J) with Ly5.1 mice (B6.SJL-PtprcaPepcb/BoyJ) obtained from Jackson Laboratory. All mice were maintained under specific pathogen-free conditions. Modified B16-mhgp100 (H-2D^b), a mouse melanoma cell line, was transduced as previously described to express glycoprotein 100 (gp100) mutated to express human amino acid residues at positions 25–27 (EGS to KVP); this line was used as the tumor model. Cell lines were maintained in complete media DMEM (Gibco) with 10% FBS, 1% glutamine and 1% penicillin–streptomycin.

 $[\mathbf{K}^+]_e$ media formulation. $\uparrow [\mathbf{K}^+]_e$ media was prepared as described previously (22). Unless otherwise indicated, re-activation of cells in elevated $[\mathbf{K}^+]_e$ was performed with an isotonic RPMI formulation with an additional 40 mM of potassium for mouse cells and 50 mM for human cells in comparison to the control condition medium. Briefly, $\uparrow [\mathbf{K}^+]_e$ medium was produced by obtaining a custom formulation of RPMI 1640 from Gibco that was devoid of NaCl. Isotonic medium containing an additional 40 mM KCl was reconstituted with a combination of NaCl and KCl such that the final inorganic salt concentrations, in mM, were: NaCl 63.4, NaHCO₃ 23.8, Na₂PO₄ 5.6, KCl 45.3, MgSO₄ 0.4 and Ca(NO₃)₂ 0.4.

In vitro activation of T cells. $CD8^+$ T cells from pmel mice were stimulated *in vitro* with 1 μ M human gp100 peptide (10 μ g/ml) for 5 days and secondary re-stimulation was done for 48hrs with plate-bound anti-CD3 (1 μ g/ml; BD Biosciences) and soluble anti-CD28 (1 μ g/ml; BD

Biosciences) and expanded in culture medium containing 60 IU/mL of IL-2. All conditions (e.g. Ctrl, \uparrow [K⁺]e, 2-HC, Acss1 over expression) were activated as listed above for a total of 10 days. For measuring T cell effector function on day 10, these cells were washed of their original culture media (experimental or control and cytokines) prior to stimulation for 5 h with anti-CD3 and anti-CD28 without IL-2 in the presence of brefeldin A and monensin (BD Biosciences).

Extracellular flux analysis. Oxygen consumption rate (OCR) and extracellular acidification rate (ECAR) were measured using a XF96 extracellular analyzer (Seahorse Bioscience) as previously described in the indicated conditions. Prior to the analysis cells were washed in PBS and subjected to live cell separation using Ficoll density separation (Lympholyte-M, CedarLane). OCR and ECAR were measured in XF medium as per manufacturing instructions (non-buffered RPMI 1640 containing 25 mM glucose, 2 mM l-glutamine, and 1 mM sodium pyruvate) under basal conditions and in response to 1 μM oligomycin, 2 μM fluoro-carbonyl cyanide phenylhydrazone (FCCP) or 100 nM rotenone with 1 μM antimycin A (Seahorse Bioscience).

Intracellular cytokine staining, phosphoflow and flow cytometry. For all flow cytometry experiments, T cells were stained with a fixable live/dead stain (Invitrogen) in PBS followed by surface antibody staining in FACS buffer (PBS with 0.5% BSA and 0.1% sodium azide). For intracellular cytokine staining, cells were first stained for surface markers and later stained for intracellular molecules following fixation and permeabilization following the manufacturer's protocols (BD Cytofix/Cytoperm). Briefly, all the cells were washed of their original culture media (experimental or control and cytokines) prior to stimulation. In the experiments depicted (fig. S5H and fig. S7B) cells were stimulated presence of brefeldin A and monensin in 'control' media - complete RMPI 1640 media with standard ion concentrations with FBS without IL2. For phosphoflow staining, BD PhosFlow reagents were used, and protocols were carried out according to the manufacturer's protocols. After washing, cells were stained with phosphoantibodies purchased from Cell Signaling. Antibodies for surface staining and intracellular cytokine staining were purchased from BD Biosciences, BioLegend and eBiosciences. To check BODIPY-FL C16 uptake in control or $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ treated cells, freshly prepared 1 µM BODIPY was pulsed onto T cells overnight, then washed twice with PBS prior to flow cytometry quantification or confocal microscopy. To check glucose analogue 2-NBDG (2-(N-(7-Nitrobenz2-oxa-1,3-diazol-4-yl)Amino)-2-Deoxyglucose) uptake, cells were pulsed with freshly prepared 10 μ M NBDG for 30 min then washed twice with PBS prior to flow cytometry quantification. All experiments were conducted on a BD Fortessa flow cytometer (Becton Dickinson) and analyzed with Flow Jo software (TreeStar).

Adoptive cell transfer (ACT) and tumor immunotherapy. For immunotherapy studies, C57BL/6 mice were implanted subcutaneously with 5×10^5 cells of the melanoma line B16mhgp100. 10 days after tumor implantation, mice (n=5-10) were sub-lethally irradiated (600 cGy), randomized, and injected intravenously with 5×10^5 pmel Ly5.1 T cells transduced with control or *Acss1* overexpression vectors or control/ \uparrow [K⁺]_e or control/2-HC. Post-T cell transfer mice received intraperitoneal injections of IL-2 in PBS (18×10^4 IU per 0.5 ml) once daily for 3 days starting on the day of cell transfer. T cell transfers and measurement of tumors were coded and performed in a blinded manner. Tumors were measured every two or three days after transfer and tumor area was calculated by length × width of the tumor. Mice with tumors approaching greater than 400 mm² were euthanized. Tumor measurement are presented as mean ± SEM at the indicated times after ACT.

Immunophenotyping, persistence and response of CD8⁺ T cells to acute viral infection. To measure the persistence of transferred control/ \uparrow [K⁺]_e or control/2-HC cells in tumor bearing mice, spleens from the respective groups were collected at the indicated time points for CD62L phenotyping and for quantification of absolute numbers. For experiments assessing the response of CD8⁺ T cells to acute viral infection, 5×10^5 MSGV or *Acss1* transduced and Thy1.1-enriched pmel Ly5.1 CD8⁺ T cells were transferred into Thy1.2⁺ Ly5.2⁺ recipient C57BL/6 mice. Following transfer, mice were vaccinated with 1×10^7 plaque-forming units (PFU) of recombinant human vaccinia virus expressing mhgp100. For measuring TIL phenotype, mice implanted with B16- tumors and received control/ \uparrow [K⁺]_e T cells were obtained on day6 or day 10. Each tumor was weighed for normalizing the absolute numbers before processing to single cell suspensions. Tumors were processed with Tissue Dissociator (gentleMACSTM Dissociator) and lymphocytes were separated from dead cells using lympholyte (Lympholyte®-M (Mouse)-Cedarlane). For measuring the persistence of TIL in Fig.4J, CD90.1 TIL were sorted from B16-tumors of the mice (n=20 per condition) receiving control/ \uparrow [K⁺]_e T cells. Sorted TIL are

normalized and transferred to CD 90.2 mice. Recall responses of the transferred TILs in CD90.2 host was assessed by challenging with recombinant vaccinia virus expressing gp100. Absolute numbers were enumerated on day 5 post viral challenge.

Experimental metastasis. To analyze the efficacy of adoptively transferred T cells to treat established lung tumor nodules or prevent further colonization we used B16-F10 melanoma cells recombinantly expressing mhgp100. B16-F10-gp100 (2×10^5 cells) were intravenously injected into sub-lethally irradiated (600 cGy) mice. Ten days after implantation, mice were randomized and injected intravenously with 1×10^5 pmel Ly5.1 T cells treated in control (n=10) or 2-HC (n=10) conditions for 10 days. Two weeks later mice were euthanized, and lungs were collected to enumerate the lung nodules.

Retroviral transduction. Platinum-E ecotropic (PlatE) packaging cells (Cell Biolabs) were plated in complete media one day before transfections on poly-d-lysine-coated 10-cm plates (Corning) at a concentration of 6×10^6 cells per plate. On the day of transfection complete media was replaced with media without antibiotics. Packaging cells were transfected with 20 µg of retroviral plasmid DNA encoding MSGV-Thy1.1, MSGV-*Acss1*-Thy1.1or *Acss1*-Flag-Thy1.1, MSGV-*Acss2*-Thy1.1, MSGV-LC3-mcherry-eGFP-Thy1.1, MSGV-LC3G120A-mcherry-eGFP-Thy1.1 (G120A is an autophagy-inefficient construct) along with 12 µg pCL-Eco plasmid using 60 µL Lipofectamine 2000 in OptiMEM (Invitrogen) for 8 h. Medium was replaced 8 h after transfection and cells were incubated for a further 48 h in complete media. To capture the viral particles for efficient transduction, retroviral supernatants were spun at 2,000 x g for 2 h at 32°C in 24-well non-tissue-culture-treated plates coated with Retronectin (Takara Bio). Human peripheral blood lymphocytes (PBL) were transduced with the NY-ESO-1 TCR following similar procedures as described above with 293GP cells as packaging cells and RD114 helper plasmid.

Confocal and live cell imaging. Live cell imaging was performed on LC3-mcherry-eGFP-Thy1.1 or G120A transduced T cells to monitor the autophagy flux. 10,000 cells were seeded in an 8 well chamber slide and at least 10 images were taken for each condition. To observe the co-localization of ACSS1 in the mitochondria, Acss1-FlagThy1.1⁺ T cells were used. MitoTracker

Green was used to stain mitochondria and Cy3-conjugated anti-Flag was used for *Acss1*-Flag. MSGV-Thy1.1 cells were used as negative control for background against Cy3-conjugated anti-Flag. A Nikon Ti2-E microscope (Nikon Instruments, Inc., Melville, NY) equipped with a CSU-W1 spinning disk unit (Yokogawa Corp. of America, Newnan, GA), Hamamatsu ORCA Flash 4 v3.0 sCMOS camera (Hamamatsu Photonics K.K, Bridgewater, NJ), motorized stage, and 60x plan-apochromat (N.A.1.4) objective lens was used to acquire images of Biodipy-FL C16 labelled cells. The same imaging parameters were used for all images in the dataset. Images were collected using the accompanying Nikon Elements software (v4.2) with same linear lookup-table (LUT) applied to all images in the dataset before being exported as Tiff files. The exported files were arranged and composed into figures using Adobe Photoshop.

Metabolomics. For intracellular metabolite measurements in T cells exposed to Ctrl / \uparrow [K⁺]e, 4*10⁶ cells were collected in Eppendorf tubes and briefly washed twice with 1 mL ice cold PBS before snap freezing in liquid nitrogen. 1 mL 80% methanol/water (pre-cooled in -80°C freezer) was added to frozen pellets to extract the metabolites. Samples were centrifuged at 20000g for 10 min at 4°C, and the supernatant was concentrated using a speed vacuum concentrator. In brief, Metabolomic analyses were performed as described using LC Q Exactive Plus Mass Spectrometer (LC-QE-MS) (Thermo Scientific) (*44*). Metabolanalyst was used to range-scale data and provide pathway analysis of metabolites significantly changed (1.5-fold difference, P<0.05)(www.metabolanalyst.ca/).

AcCoA and Citrate quantification. T cells (n=3) cultured in control or \uparrow [K⁺]_e or 2-HC conditions were collected and washed in PBS to perform analysis of total and cytoplasmic AcCoA and citrate levels. For extraction of cytoplasmic AcCoA and citrate, samples were homogenized in 1% Triton X-100, 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH=7.4, 150 mM NaCl on ice for 10 min. Samples were then centrifuged at 20000 g for 10 min at 4C to pellet nuclei and mitochondria. Supernatant obtained after centrifugation was used as the nucleocytosolic fraction to measure AcCoA or citrate by fluorometric assay (Ex=535, Em=587) or by HPLC. The following kits were used (Acetyl-Coenzyme A Assay Kit –MAK039; Sigma); (Citrate Assay Kit- MAK057; Sigma) to quantify citrate and AcCoA. For total cellular AcCoA quantification, pelleted cells were extracted using 80% methanol or 5% sulfo-salicylic acid with 50µM DTT. Briefly, cells

were frozen in liquid nitrogen and thawed on ice 2 two times before deproteinizing with a 10 kDa MWCO spin filter prior to the assay. AcCoA concentrations were interpolated with AcCoA standards using fluorometric assay (Ex=535, Em=587) or by mass spectrometry. Citrate concentrations were interpolated with citrate standards using colorimetric assay (570 nm).

For measuring AcCoA using HPLC, samples were transferred into SUN-SRi Glass Microsampling Vials (Thermo Fisher) and 40 μ l of each sample was separated using an Agilent 1100 HPLC (Agilent Technologies) equipped with a reverse phase column, Luna 3 μ m C18(2) 100 Å, 150 x 4.6mm (Phenomenex). The HPLC-reverse phase column was calibrated with variable concentrations (2, 4, 8, 16, and 32ug/mL) of acetyl-CoA (Sigma). The mobile phase was described by Shibata et al., and consisted of two eluents: 75 mM sodium acetate, 100 mM NaH₂PO₄ pH 4.6 (buffer A). Methanol was added to the buffer A at a ratio of 70:30 (v/v) = buffer A:methanol (buffer B). The gradient was starting with 10% of buffer B, 10min at up to 40% of buffer B, 13min at up to 68% of buffer B, 23min at up to 72% of buffer B, 28min at up to 100% of buffer B. The flow rate was 0.6ml/min and the detection were performed at 259 nm. UV chromatograms were analyzed using a software, ChemStation version B. 04.03 (Agilent Technologies)(*45*).

Electron Microscopy. T cell pellets (n=3) cultured in control or \uparrow [K⁺]_e were fixed in 2% glutaraldehyde and 0.1 M Sodium cacodylate buffer. These cells were further processed for Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM); with two washes of 0.1 M Sodium cacodylate buffer for 10 min each and then post fixation with 1% Osmium tetroxide in 0.1 M and 0.1 M Sodium cacodylate buffer for an hour at room temperature. Then the cells were washed twice with 0.1 M Sodium cacodylate buffer for 10 min, and one wash of 0.1M Sodium acetate buffer for 10 min. Later, cells were stained with 0.5% Uranylacetate (UA) in 0.1M Sodium acetate buffer for one hour at RT. After staining with UA, cells were washed twice with 0.1M Sodium acetate buffer for 10 min. Pellets went through dehydration in a graded ethanol series (50%, 70%, 90%, 95%, 100%). Cells were cross linked with Propylene oxide and then infiltrated in 100% polyscience resin for overnight at RT. On the following day, resin was changed twice and incubated at 55C oven for 48 hours. When the resin is cured, blocks were ultra-thin sectioned (70-80nm) and

stained for 1:1 0.5% UA in ddH₂O and 70% ethanol for two minutes and rinsed with ddH₂O, then stained with 1:1 Leadcitrate and ddH₂O and later rinsed with ddH₂O. After blotting the grids were carbon coated with TedPella Evaporator and imaged with Hitachi 7600.

RNA sequencing and analysis. RNA-Seq analysis was performed on *in vitro* cultured day 10 $CD8^+$ T cells from $\uparrow[K^+]_e$ and control with 3 culture replicates. RNA-Seq was performed as described previously. Briefly, a total of 200ng of total RNA was used to prepare the RNA-Seq library by using TruSeq RNA sample prep kit (FC-122-1001, Illumina). Approximately 40 million reads were sequenced and aligned to mouse genome (NCBI37/mm9) with TopHat 2.0.11(46). Only uniquely retained mapped reads were used to calculate differentially expressed genes using egdeR or Cuffdiff software packages (47, 48). Fisher's exact test or t-test were used to evaluate significance with indicated P value and fold-change thresholds.

ChIP-sequencing and ChIP-PCR. Chromatin Immunoprecipitations were performed with validated antibodies from previous literature (39, 40) and protocols were followed according to manufacturing instructions provided by the ChIP-IT Express Shearing Kit (Active Motif). Briefly, CD8⁺ pmel cells cultured in control or $[K^+]_e$ were fixed with formaldehyde for 7 minutes on a rocking platform and quenched with 1X of Glycine. Cells were pelleted with PMSF and protein inhibition cocktail and stored at -80°C prior to cell lysis. Thawed cells were suspended in ice cold lysis buffer to obtain nuclei material. Nuclei material was sheared by incubating with enzymatic cocktail for 15 minutes at 37°C. Sheared chromatin with a total of 15ug/sample was spiked with 50 ng of spike in DNA(Active motif Cat# 53083) and incubated with protein G magnetic beads with anti-H3K27Ac (Abcam Cat# ab4729), H3K9Ac (Abcam Cat# ab4441), H3K27me3 (Abcam Cat #ab19547)7 spike in antibody (Active motif Cat# 61686) and anti IgG at 4°C overnight. Magnetic beads were washed with buffers to remove unbound immune complexes and eluted with 150ul of elution buffer. Obtained DNA was reverse crosslinked and purified by phenol chloroform extraction. Concentration of the ChIP DNA was measured using a highly sensitive DNA assay protocol on TapeStation (Agilent) to normalize the DNA. Samples were sequenced on an Illumina NextSeq with 75bp reads in single end mode with approximately 40M reads per sample. To validate the ChIP-Seq results, we performed ChIP-PCR on the *Cd3e* and *Ifng* loci and normalized the enrichment to spike in chromatin (Active motif -

guidelines for qPCR normalization). ChIP enrichment and efficiency in different treatment conditions at the *Ifng* or *Cd3e* loci were performed by qPCR using the SYBR Green PCR master mix (ABI). Chromatin enrichment for different treatment conditions was extrapolated with the standard curve produced from diluting the input DNA. The following primers were used for qPCR: *Cd3e* promoter-F: 5'- TCAGTGTG GAGGTGCTTTG-3', *Cd3e* promoter-R: 5'-CAGCCTTCCCATAAGGATGAA-3'; *Ifng* promoter-F:5'-GGAGCCTTCGATCAGGTATAAA-3' *Ifng* promoter-R: 5' -CTCAAGTCAGAGGGTCCAAAG-3'; *Pdcd1*_Enhancer-F: 5'-GTGACTTGGCTCAAGGATGT-3', *Pdcd1*_Enhancer-R: 5'- TTG ATGGGTCCTGCGTAAAG. *Pdcd1*_TSS-F: 5'-TACAGGGTAGTGAGGAGTAAGG-3' *Pdcd1* TSS-R: 5'-GTTCATATCCCTGGCCTCATAG-3'

ChIP-Seq and peak calling analysis. Sequenced reads with single end 75 bp were obtained by using the Illumina Pipeline. Sequenced reads were trimmed for adapters and aligned to the mouse genome (NCBI37/mm9) with Bowtie v2 and only uniquely mapped reads were retained. The output of Bowtie was converted to BAM files, which represent the genomic coordinates of each read. Bam files were normalized using RPKM and converted to coverage tracks in big wig format using Deeptools (Command #BamCoverage -b Bam File --normalizeUsingRPKM -binSize 10 --smoothLength 30 -bl mm9.blacklist.bed --centerReads --minMappingQuality 30 -o Output File.bw). Tracks generated were viewed using the IGV (Integrative Genomics Viewer). Peaks were called using Homer software with (# findPeaks Tag directory -i Input -region -size 1000 -minDist 2500 >Output.txt) and the statistical significance for enrichment between control and [K⁺]e conditions was calculated on 2 biological replicates with Deseq2. Volcano plots were plotted with Log fold change, which are calculated from normalized read counts of the peaks annotated to nearest TSS (homer.ucsd.edu/ getDiffExpression.pl) versus P-values obtained from Desq2 output files. Effector and Exhausted gene list Table. S7 (37) was used to interrogate the H3K9Ac deposition for Fig.3I and fig.S5B. Source of effector gene list for Fig.3H: differentially expressed mRNA transcripts in effector subset (CD44⁺CD62L⁻) compared to naïve (CD44⁻CD62L⁺) CD8⁺ T cells were used to interrogate the H3K9Ac deposition in the indicated conditions. In brief, naïve 1e⁶ (CD44⁻CD62L⁺) OT-I TCR-Tg Rag^{-/-}Ly5.2⁺ CD8⁺ splenocytes were transferred into to Ly5.1⁺ hosts followed by 4e⁷ PFU of recombinant human vaccinia virus

expressing ovalbumin antigen to obtain the T cell effector subset (CD44⁺CD62L⁻) 5 days post-infection.

CRISPR-Cas9 mediated ATG7 deletion. Non-targeting control sgRNA and autophagy related 7 (ATG7) modified single guide RNAs (sgRNAs) were purchased and synthesized by Synthego. Mixture of synthetic sgRNA + Cas9 nuclease +1*10⁶ activated T cells were suspended in 100ul of electroporation buffer (Neon transfection, Thermo Fisher) and later electroporated using Neon transfection (Thermo Fisher, setting: 1600V, 10 milliseconds, 4 pulses). T cells were restimulated on day 6 for 48 hrs. with CD3CD28 (1 µg/mL) and later cultured without CD3, CD28 for another 3 days with a total of cells cultured for 10 days in control or \uparrow [K⁺]e (\uparrow [K⁺]e = additional 40 mM).

Immunoblot analysis. Western blot analysis was performed using standard protocols. Proteins were separated by 4%–12% SDS-PAGE, followed by standard immunoblot analysis using anti–Acss1(Abcam-ab224176), Acss2 (Abcam- ab66038), LC3A/B (D3U4C; Cell Signaling), Acetylated-Lysine (Ac-K-103; Cell Signaling), p-AMPK(2531S), and β-actin (Cell Signaling). In brief, for immunoblot quantifications, cells were resuspended in total cell extraction buffer and kept on ice for 10 min followed by homogenization. Cells were then centrifuged at 20,000g for 20 min at 4°C to pellet cell debris. Detection of proteins was performed using secondary antibodies conjugated to horseradish peroxidase-HRP and the super signal west pico chemiluminescent substrate (Thermo Scientific-Pierce).

Statistical analysis. For adoptive transfer experiments, recipient mice were randomized before cell transfer. Tumor measurements were plotted as the mean \pm SEM for each data point, and tumor treatment graphs were compared by using the Wilcoxon rank sum test and analysis of animal survival was assessed using a log-rank test. In all cases, two tailed test with P values of less than 0.05 were considered significant. Statistics were calculated using GraphPad Prism 7 software (GraphPad Software Inc.).

Table S1

Pt ID	Somatic mutation generated neo-antigen	Histology
Α	TRIP12	Melanoma
В	SRPX	Melanoma
С	HYAL2	Lung
D	HISTHIC	Ovarian
Е	HISTIH3B	Colon
F		Melanoma
G		Melanoma











Double negative

Annexin V⁺ PI⁻

Annexin V⁺ PI⁺

Ctrl ↑[K⁺]_e



fig. S1. Dysregulated extracellular $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ ion gradients limit nutrient processing and alter cellular metabolism

(A) Heat map depicting abundance of amino acids in murine pmel T cells under control and $[K^+]_e$ conditions. (B) Statistics of Fig. 1E showing quantification of cells with Bodipy FLC₁₆ uptake in the indicated conditions. (C) Quantification showing reduced Bodipy FLC₁₆ uptake in the presence of non-selective potassium channel inhibitor BaCl₂(2 mM). Values indicate average geometric MFI, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of two independent experiments. (**D**) Experimental set-up for *in vitro* culture conditions of pmel CD8⁺ T cells with gp100 (10µg/ml) peptide in the presence of splenocytes for 5 days, followed by 48 hrs of re-stimulation with α CD3/ α CD28 (1 µg/mL plate bound). Cells were later cultured without stimulating antibodies for an additional 3 days for a total of 10 day culture in control or $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ $(\uparrow [K^+]e = additional 40 mM)$. (E, F) Representative FACS plots defining the percentages of live (Annexin V -PI-), early apoptotic (Annexin V+PI-) and late apoptotic and necrotic populations (Annexin V⁺ PI⁺) cultured in indicated conditions and enumeration of absolute CD8⁺ T cell numbers over the course of culture. (G) Subset of enriched Kennedy pathway intermediates involving in autophagy flux in human CD8⁺ T cells. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = atleast three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01: *** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons





fig. S2. \uparrow [K⁺]_e triggers a functional program of autophagy and nutrient renewal

(A) Illustration of the MSGV retroviral constructs encoding the autophagy gene microtubule associated protein light chain 3 beta (LC3b) in conjunction with mCherry, GFP and Thy1.1 marker. Replacement of the LC3b glycine at amino acid 120 position with alanine is used as an autophagy incompetent construct. (B) Quantification of GFP and mCherry puncta of live cell confocal images represented in Fig. 2B treated under indicated conditions. (C) Representative flow cytometry plots and quantification of autophagy flux by measuring the loss of GFP signal within the transduced (Thy1.1⁺) populations. (D, E) Representative immunoblot, flow cytometry and quantification of phospho-AKT (S473) in indicated conditions. (F, G, H, I) Representative flow cytometry and quantification phosphorylation of p-mTOR (S2448) and mTOR signaling downstream targets ribosomal protein S6 (S240/244) (S235/236) kinases and phospho-4EBP1 (T37/46), stimulated under anti-CD3 and anti-CD28 cross-linking in the indicated conditions (J) Immunoblot showing increased phosphorylation of the AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) in $[K^+]_e$ compared to Ctrl cells. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01; *** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.





Ctrl

С

В





fig S3. Culturing CD8⁺ T cells in $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ preserves oxygen consumption capacity and mitochondrial integrity

(A) Representative O_2 consumption rates (OCR) of $CD8^+$ T cells genetically engineered with NY –ESO-1 obtained from PBL of a melanoma patient and cultured in control or $\uparrow[K^+]_e$. (B) Representative FACS histograms and quantification showing low mitochondrial membrane potential ($\Delta \psi$) of human CD8⁺ T cells cultured in $\uparrow[K^+]_e$. Values indicate average geometric MFI, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of two independent experiments, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * *P* < 0.05; ** *P* < 0.01; *** *P* < 0.001; **** *P* < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.(C) Representative scanning electron micrographs of CD8⁺ T cells cultured in control (n=3) or $\uparrow[K^+]_e$ (n=3). Electron micrographs showing 85% of the cells are degenerative cells with severe mitochondrial structural damage in control compared to $\uparrow[K^+]_e$. Red arrows indicate the abundance of mitochondria in indicated conditions.







D

F

H3k9Ac ChIP-PCR *CD3e* promoter



H3k9Ac ChIP Seq *Actb* TSS



H3k27Ac ChIP-PCR *CD3e* promoter

Ε

G

H3k9Ac ChIP Seq *B2M* TSS



H Ctrl ↑[K*]e H3K9Ac

fig. S4 \uparrow [K⁺]_e mediated metabolic programming depletes cytoplasmic AcCoA to preserve epigenetic stemness

(A) Representative immunoblot of human CD8⁺ T cells showing reduced protein acetylation on lysine residues and quantification (right) in the indicated conditions. Data show mean +/- SEM of two independent experiments. (**B**, **C**) Quantifications of enrichment by ChIP-PCR at the *Ifng* enhancer and *Pdcd1* transcription start site locus. (**D**, **E**) Quantifications showing no significant differences in H3K9Ac and H3K27Ac deposition at the *Cd3e* loci by ChIP-PCR. (**F**, **G**) Quantification of the normalized read counts of the peaks associated with non-effector genes *Actb* and B2*m*. (**H**) Representative acetylation immunoblots showing total histone lysine 9 (H3K9ac) and lysine 27 (H3K27ac) in indicated conditions. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.001 between selected relevant comparisons.









L





fig. S5 \uparrow [K⁺]_e limits acquisition of effector functions and maintains CD8⁺ T cells in a less differentiated state

(A) Differentially bound H3K9Ac deposition in $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ and control cells for effector genes identified in volcano plots of Figure 3H (centered \pm 10 kb). (B) Volcano plot representing the H3K9Ac deposition at exhaustion genes which were enriched at open chromatin regions from ATAC-seq datasets (GSE86797) (C) GSEA showing negative enrichment for the exhausted genes represented in (B). NES, normalized enrichment score; FDR, false discovery rate. (D) Immunoblot of stemness associated transcription factor TCF7 in CD8⁺ T cells cultured in indicated conditions. (E) Quantifications showing CD8⁺CD62L⁺ percentages of T cells cultured in indicated conditions (F) Quantifications showing CD8⁺CD62L⁺ percentages of CD8⁺ T cells cultured in non-selective potassium channel inhibitor BaCl₂ (2 mM). (G) Experimental set-up of in vitro culture conditions of pmel CD8⁺ T cells and activation of T cells for intracellular cytokine analysis. (H) Representative flow cytometry plots showing IFN- γ and IL-2 production in the indicated conditions and quantifications of IL-2⁺ and IFN- γ^+ of CD8⁺ T cells cultured in control or $[K^+]_e$. (I, J) Representative FACS histograms and quantification of Pd1, Tim3, Lag3 expression of T cells cultured in indicated conditions. (K) Experimental set-up and quantification of killing with pmel CD8⁺ T cells: B16 gp100 (E:T) in control or fK^+ . (L) Schematic showing activation of pmel CD8⁺ T cells in normal ionic conditions and transferring to $\uparrow [K^+]$ during secondary stimulation. Representative flow cytometry plots showing % IFN-γ of CD8⁺ T cell and quantifications showing delayed acquisition of effector functions in activated T cells exposed to $\uparrow [K^+]_e$. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two or three independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates, two-tailed ttests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01; *** \dot{P} < 0.001; **** P < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.





F

fig. S6 \uparrow [K⁺]_e mediated metabolic programming preserves epigenetic stemness

(A) Quantification of methionine cycle intermediates SAM and SAH by LC-MS/MS in the indicated conditions (n=6 replicates per condition). (B) Representative immunoblots showing total histone lysine 27 (H3K27me3) in indicated conditions. (C) Representative genomic alignments of H3K27me3 and RNA-seq measurements showing reduced deposition of methylation or transcripts at the *Bach2*, *Tcf7*, and *Klf2* locus of CD8⁺ T cells treated in the indicated conditions. Black bars under the tracks represent the called common peaks in \uparrow [K⁺]e and control. (D) Volcano plot representing a subset of memory associated genes and naïve associated genes with reduced H3K27me3 deposition in \uparrow [K⁺]e than control T cells. (E) GSEA showing negative enrichment for H3K27me3 within naïve associated genes. (F, G) Quantifications of normalized CD62L populations and total cellular yields in varying hypertonic or isotonic potassium conditions. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01; *** P < 0.001;



fig. S7 \uparrow [K⁺]_e limits effector cell differentiation of CD4⁺ and genetically engineered T cells (A) Experimental set-up for activation of naïve CD4⁺ T cells in the indicated conditions, control or \uparrow [K⁺]_e (\uparrow [K⁺]_e = additional 40 mM). (B) Representative flow cytometry plots showing IFN- γ and IL-2 production in the indicated conditions. (C) Quantifications of IL-2⁺ or T-bet⁺ IFN- γ^+ of CD4⁺ T cells cultured in control or \uparrow [K⁺]_e with varying concentrations of IL-12. (D) Schematics of the culture conditions and retroviral transduction of T cell with NY-ESO-1 TCR. Representative pseudo color and quantification of CD27⁺ CD62L⁺ cells in peripheral blood leukocytes obtained from three melanoma patients transduced with the HLA-A*0201-restricted NY-ESO-1 TCR and cultured in indicated conditions. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * *P* < 0.05; ** *P* < 0.01; **** *P* < 0.001 between selected relevant comparisons.





fig. S8. $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ promotes persistence and anti-tumor activity of T cells following adoptive transfer

(A) Schematic illustrating control or $f(K^+)$ T cell culture conditions and adoptive T cell transfer into mice bearing established B16 melanoma tumors. Persistence of the transferred T cells were analysed on day 6 and day 10 in the indicated tissues. (B, C) Representative FACS plots and quantifications of adoptively transferred $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ or control T cells gated on Ly5.1⁺ CD90.2⁺ in indicated tissues. (Right) Representative FACS plots showing reduced KLRG1 and increased CD62L expression in $[K^+]$ -conditioned cells. Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of two independent experiments with at least 5 mice per group. (D) Schematic illustrating control or $f[K^+]_e$ T cell culture conditions and adoptive T cell transfer into mice bearing established B16melanoma tumors. TILs were analysed on day 10. (E) Representative FACS plots showing absolute number quantifications and % of CXCR5⁺ or CXCR5⁺ TIM3⁻ of adoptively transferred $[K^+]_e$ or control T cells in spleen. Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of two independent experiments with at least 5 mice per group (F) Schematic illustrating the measurement of in vivo autophagy flux in the setting of adoptive T cell transfer. (G) Representative flow cytometry plots and quantification of autophagy flux by measuring the loss of GFP signal within the Thy1.1 populations. Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01; *** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.

Fig. S9



fig. S9 \uparrow [K⁺]_e conditioning augments *in vivo* recall and anti-tumor activity of adoptively transferred cells.

(A) Schematic illustrating measurement of *in vivo* memory recall responses of control or $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ T cells in mice challenged with vaccinia virus expressing gp100. Memory recall responses of the transferred T cells (CD45.1) were analysed on day 30 by challenging the hosts (CD45.2) with adenovirus expressing gp100. (B, C) Representative FACS plots and quantifications showing percentages and absolute numbers of CD45.1⁺ of recalled CD8⁺ T cells 5 days post viral challenge. (D, E) Quantifications showing percentages KLRG1⁺ and PD1⁺ of recalled CD8⁺ T cells. Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of two independent experiments with at least 5 mice per group (F) Adoptive T cell therapy and survival rates of sub lethally irradiated mice bearing B16-Trp1 tumors treated with CD4⁺ TRP-1 transgenic T cell cultured in control or $f[K^+]_e$. Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of two independent experiments with at least 5 mice per group. Tumor measurements were plotted as the mean \pm SEM. for each data point, and tumour treatment graphs were compared by using the Wilcoxon rank sum test and analysis of animal survival was assessed using a log-rank test. (C, D, E) Data show mean +/-SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01; *** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.



fig. S10. Provision of extracellular acetate or electroporation of AcCoA restores IFN γ production in \uparrow [K⁺]_e exposed CD8⁺ T cells

(A, B) Representative FACS plots and quantification of IFN γ secretion by provision of external acetate in indicated conditions. (C, E, G). Experimental set-up of *in vitro* culture conditions of pmel CD8⁺ T cells with gp100 (10µg/ml) and electroporation of AcCoA (red) on indicated timepoints. All cells were re stimulated on day 6 for 48hrs with CD3,CD28, for a total of 10 day culture in control or \uparrow [K⁺]_e (\uparrow [K⁺]_{e=} additional 40 mM). (D, F, H) Representative flow cytometry analysis and quantification of CD62L vs CD44 positive cells in the indicated conditions. For all relevant figures, data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * *P* < 0.05; ** *P* < 0.01; *** *P* < 0.001; **** *P* < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.



fig. S11. Treatment with 2-HC limits effector differentiation and promotes autophagy.

(A) Schematic of control or 2-hydroxy citrate (2-HC) T cell culture conditions. CD8⁺ Pmel-1 T cells were activated with gp100 peptide for 5 days in the presence of 5mM 2-HC followed by secondary stimulation with anti-CD3 (1 µg/ml) and anti-CD28 (1 µg/ml). Cells were analysed for surface markers or intracellular cytokines on day 10. (**B**, **C**) Representative flow cytometry analysis and quantification of CD62L vs CD44 positive cells and IFN- γ production in T cells cultured in control or (2-HC-5mM). (**D**) Representative FACS plots defining the percentages of live (Annexin V⁻ PI⁻), apoptotic (Annexin V⁺PI⁻) and necrotic populations (Annexin V⁺ PI⁺) cultured in control or 2-HC. (**E**) Absolute CD8⁺ T cell numbers quantification over the course of culture. (**F**) Representative live cell confocal images defining the GFP and mCherry puncta in cells treated under indicated conditions. (**G**) Representative flow cytometry plots and quantification of autophagy flux by measuring the loss of GFP signal and accumulation of mCherry using flow cytometry in indicated conditions. For all relevant figures data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = at least three culture replicates(B,C,D,G), two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * *P* < 0.05; ** *P* < 0.01; *** *P* < 0.001; **** *P* < 0.001 between selected relevant comparisons.



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fig. S12. Provision of acetate restores AcCoA levels and IFN γ production of 2-HC treated CD8⁺ T cells

(A) Restoration of cytoplasmic AcCoA by provision of external acetate (Acetate-5mM) in the indicated conditions. (**B**, **C**) Representative FACS plots and quantification of IFN γ secretion by provision of external acetate in indicated conditions. (**D**) Immunoblot showing ablation of autophagy in 2-HC by provision of external acetate. (**E**) Representative FACS plots and quantification of adoptively transferred control or 2-HC T cells gated on CD8⁺Ly5.1⁺. Recall responses were performed by challenging the mice with 1 × 10⁷ plaque-forming units (PFU) vaccinia virus expressing gp100. Absolute numbers were quantified in the blood on day 7 post adoptive T cell transfer. (**F**) Representative images of B16-F10 lung metastatic nodules and quantification 14 days post treatment with control (n=10) or 2-HC (n=10) treated T cells. For all relevant figures data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * *P* < 0.05; ** *P* < 0.01; **** *P* < 0.001 between selected relevant comparisons.

Fig. S13



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fig. S13. Autophagy is critical for preserved stemness following \uparrow [K⁺]e

(A) Experimental set-up of *in vitro* culture conditions of pmel CD8⁺ T cells with gp100 (10µg/ml) and electroporation of CAS9 protein and Atg7-targeting sgRNAs on indicated timepoints. All cells were re stimulated on day 6 for 48hrs with CD3, CD28, for a total of 10 day culture in control or $\uparrow [K^+]_e$ ($\uparrow [K^+]_e$ additional 40 mM). (B) Immunoblots showing reduction in ATG7 protein and ablation of autophagy in $[K^+]$ conditions. (C) Representative flow cytometry analysis showing reduction in CD62Lpositive cells in the setting of $\{K^+\}$ and ATG7 disruption. Statistics in Fig.5Q. (D) Quantifications of total cellular AcCoA. (E) cytoplasmic AcCoA and cytoplasmic citrate from the cells treated in the indicated condition. (D, E) Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments with n = atleast three culture replicates, two-tailed t-tests. (F) Representative flow cytometry analysis (left) and absolute number quantification (right) of RV-control or Acss1-Thy1.1 of transferred cells in the spleen 7, 14, 21 days post adoptive transfer by challenging with recombinant vaccinia virus expressing gp100. In vivo data shown are representative of two independent experiments with at least 5 mice per group. Data show mean +/- SEM and is representative of at least two independent experiments, two-tailed t-tests, asterisks indicating significance are * P < 0.05; ** P < 0.01; *** P < 0.001; **** P < 0.0001 between selected relevant comparisons.

Fig. S14



fig. S14. A model depicting the dynamic link between local ions, metabolite abundance and epigenetic status in CD8⁺ T cells.

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