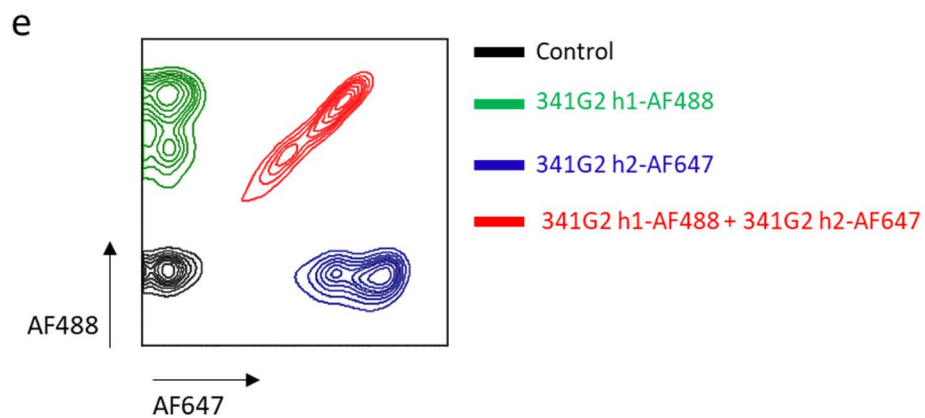
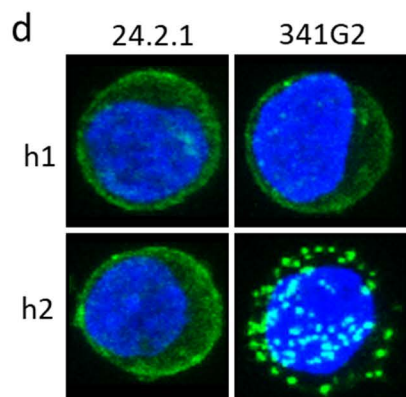
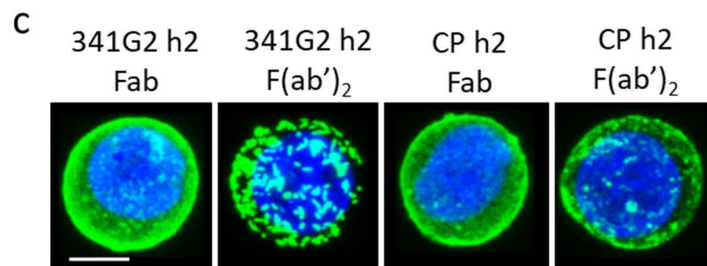
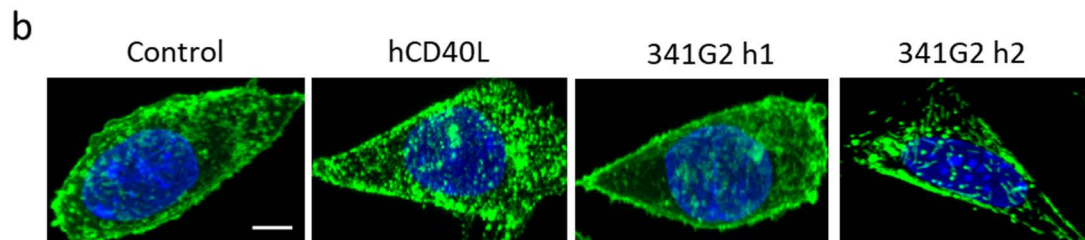
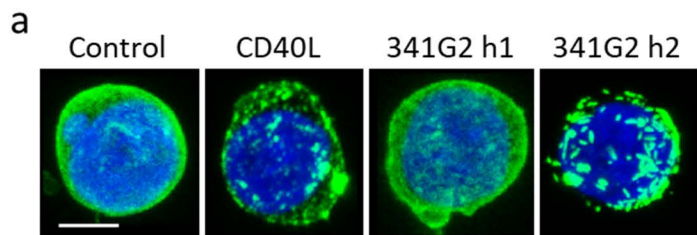
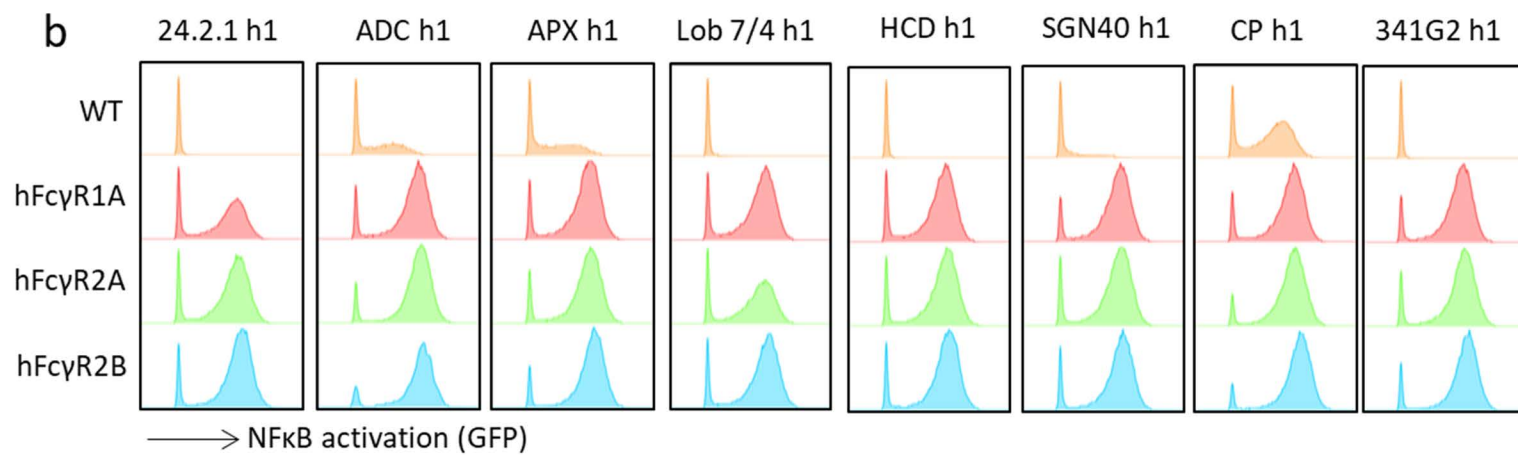
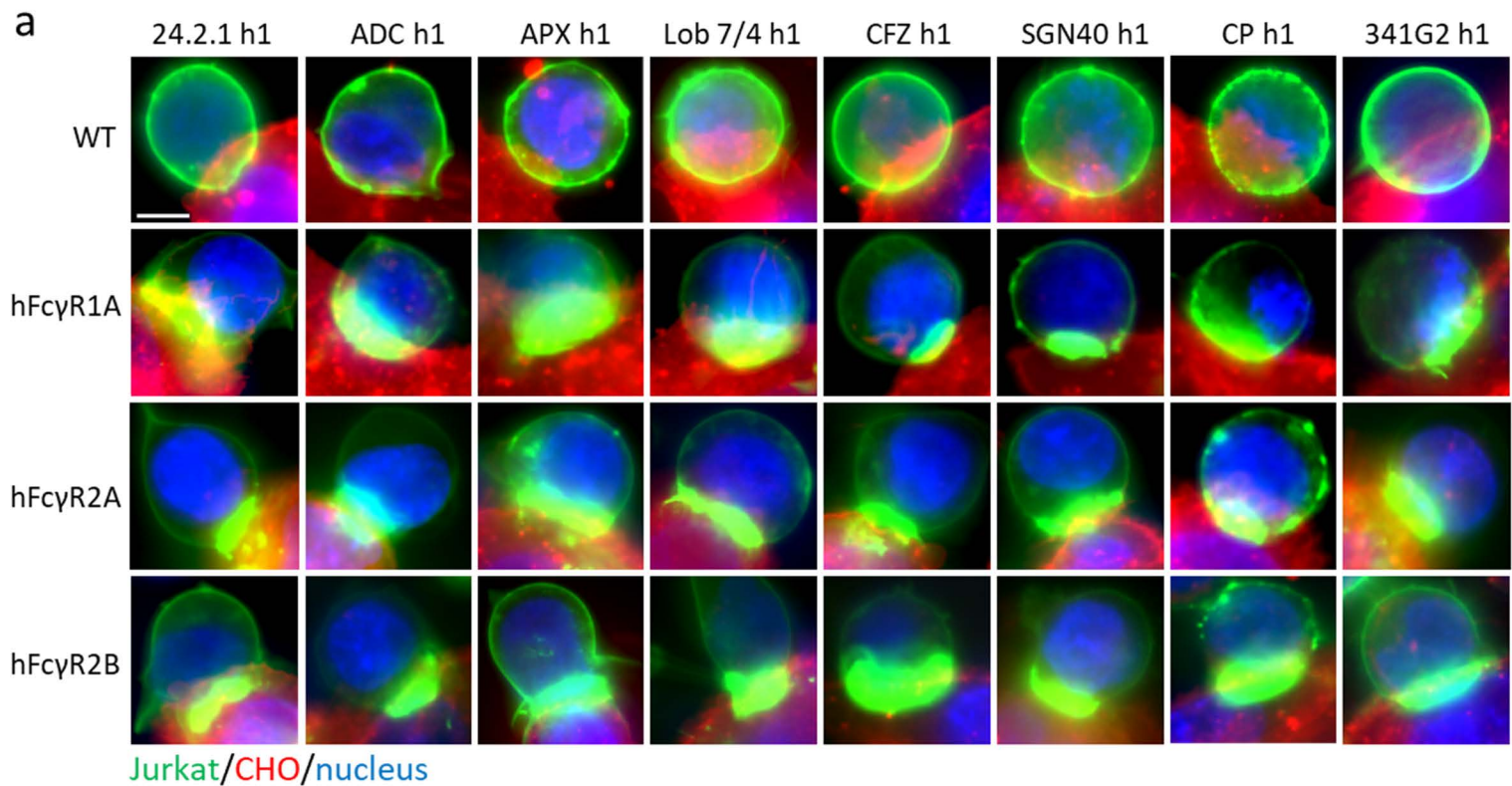


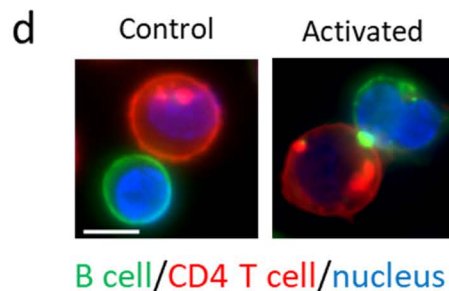
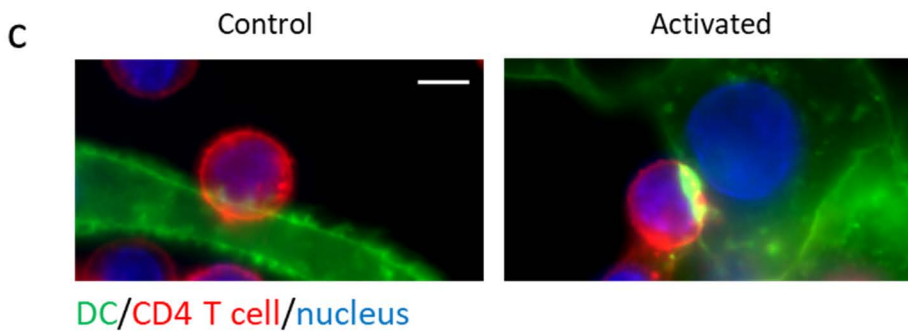
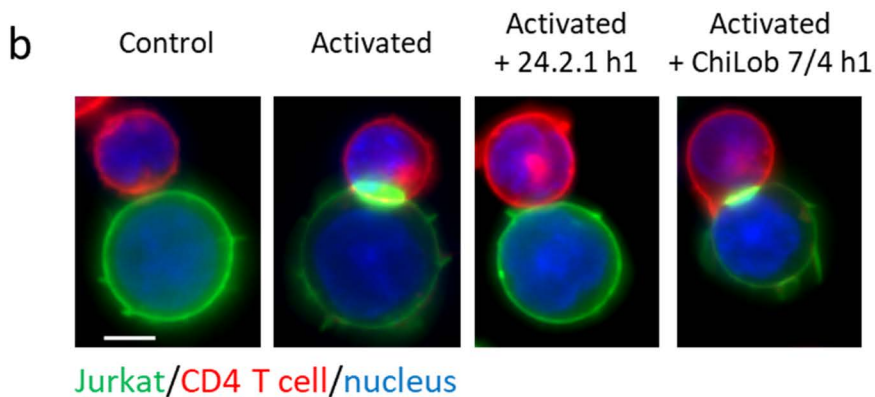
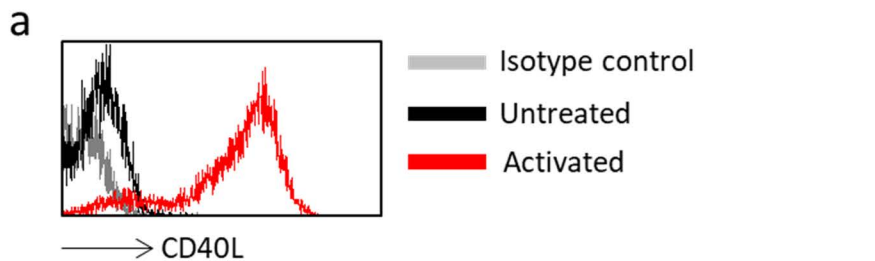
Supplementary Figure 1. Heat map ranking of the agonistic activity of CD40 agonists based on published human B cell proliferation data¹. From left (blue) to right (red): low to high agonistic activity.



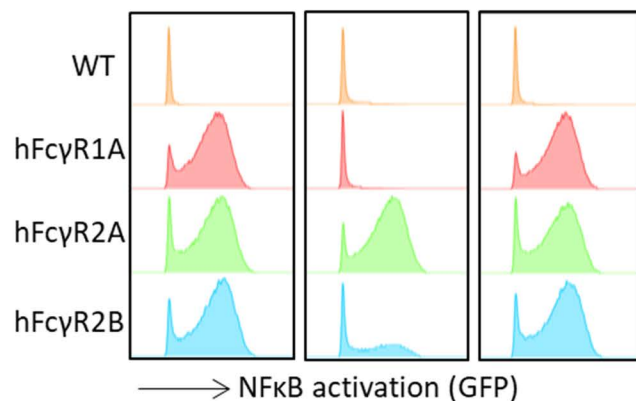
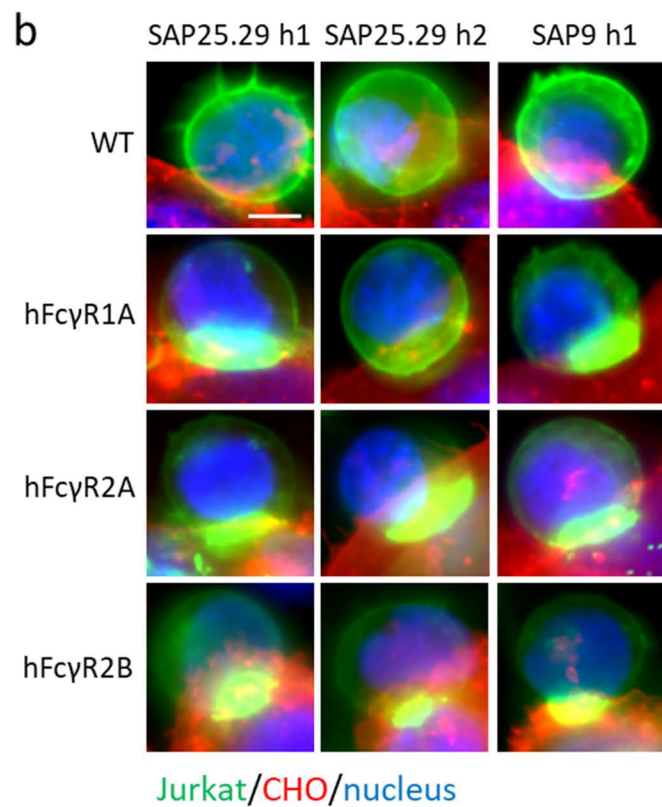
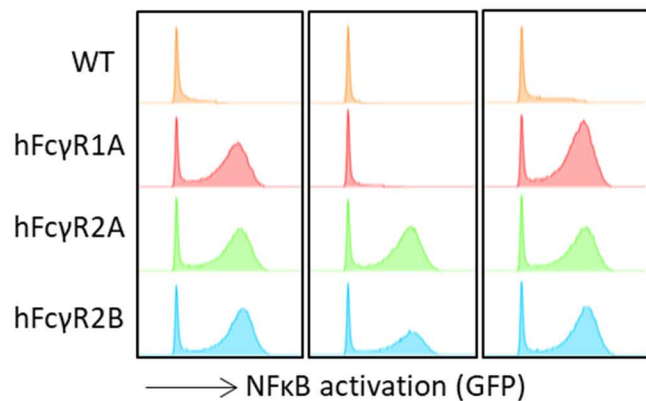
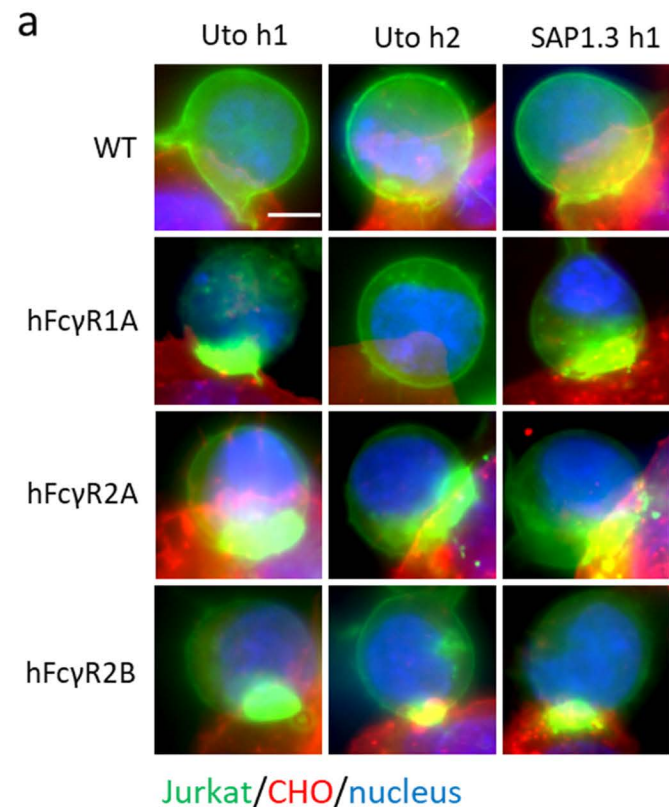
Supplementary Figure 2. CD40 agonists induce receptor clustering in different cell lines. **a** Jurkat cells expressing full length hCD40-GFP, **b** CHO-k1 cells expressing hCD40ECD-GFP, **c** Jurkat cells expressing hCD40ECD-GFP, and **d** Ramos cells were treated with 10 µg/mL of different CD40 agonists as indicated for 1 hour and then fixed with methanol, the nucleus stained with DAPI and imaged using a Leica SP8 confocal microscope. All images are representative of at least 10 images from at least 2 independent experiments. Scale bar, 4 µm. **e** Jurkat cells expressing hCD40ECD were incubated with 10 µg/mL 341G2 hIgG1-AF488, 341G2 hIgG2-AF647 or a mixture of both, and bound fluorescent molecules were analysed by flow cytometry.



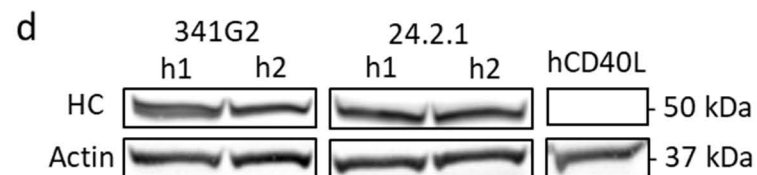
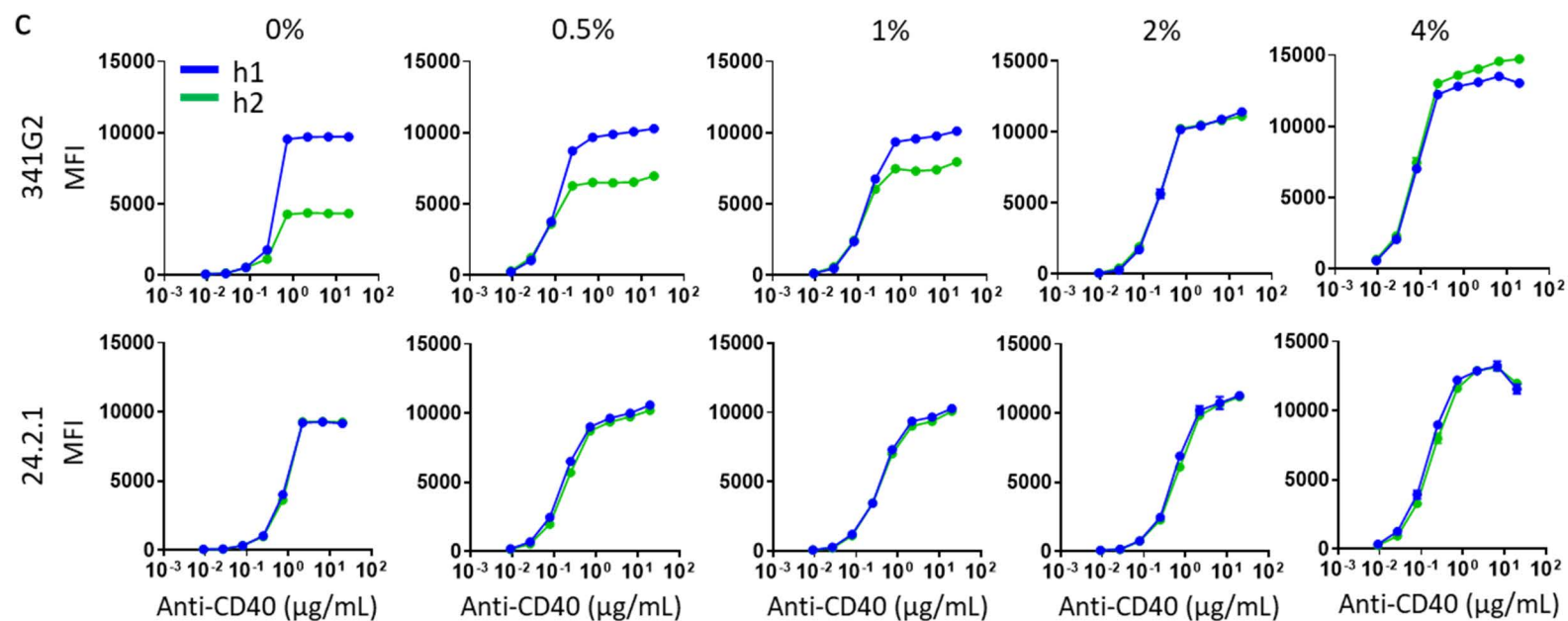
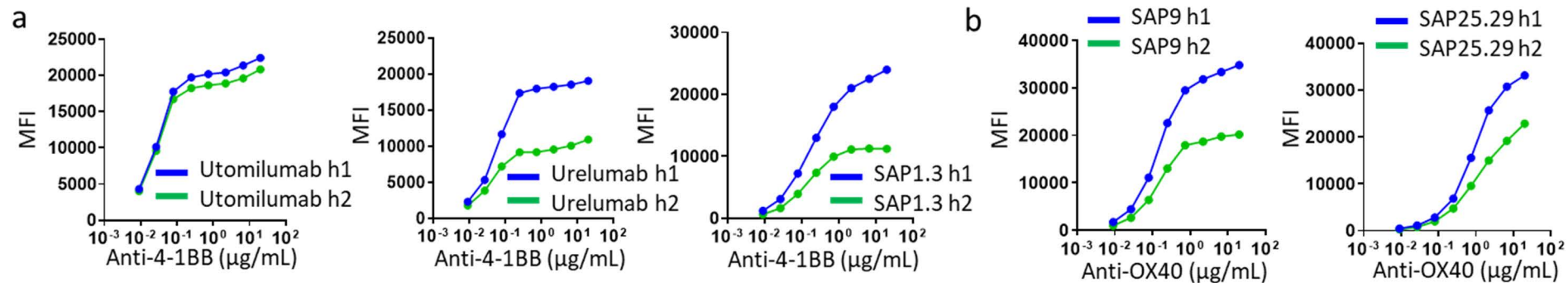
Supplementary Figure 3. FcγR-expressing CHO-k1 cells overcome anti-CD40 mAb epitope to mediate CD40 clustering. **a** Jurkat-hCD40ECD-GFP cells (green) opsonized with various anti-CD40 mAbs as indicated were incubated with CHO-k1 cells (red) expressing hFcγR1A, hFcγR2A or hFcγR2B for 15 minutes and then imaged in wide-field mode using an ONI Nanoimager; nuclei were labelled with Hoechst 33342 (blue). All images are representative of at least 10 images from 2 independent experiments. Scale bar, 4 μm. **b** Jurkat-NFκB-GFP reporter cells expressing hCD40 were incubated with various anti-CD40 mAbs as indicated at 10 μg/mL in the presence or absence of CHO-k1 cells expressing hFcγR1A, hFcγR2A or hFcγR2B for 6 hours, the level of NFκB activation was then quantified by GFP expression assessed by flow cytometry. Histograms representative of at least 3 independent experiments.



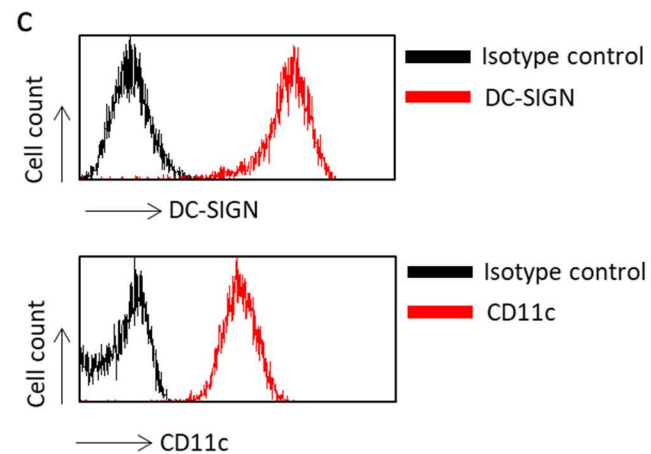
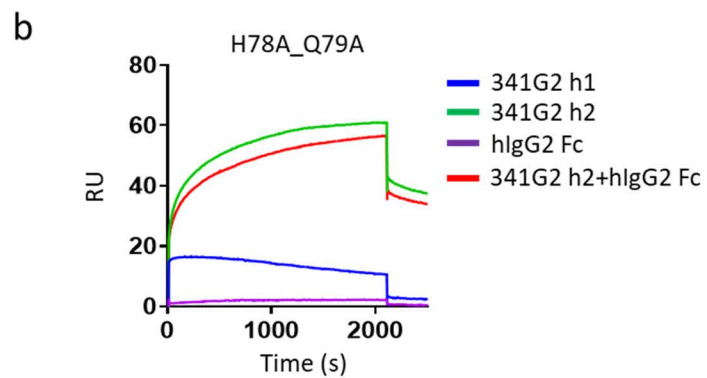
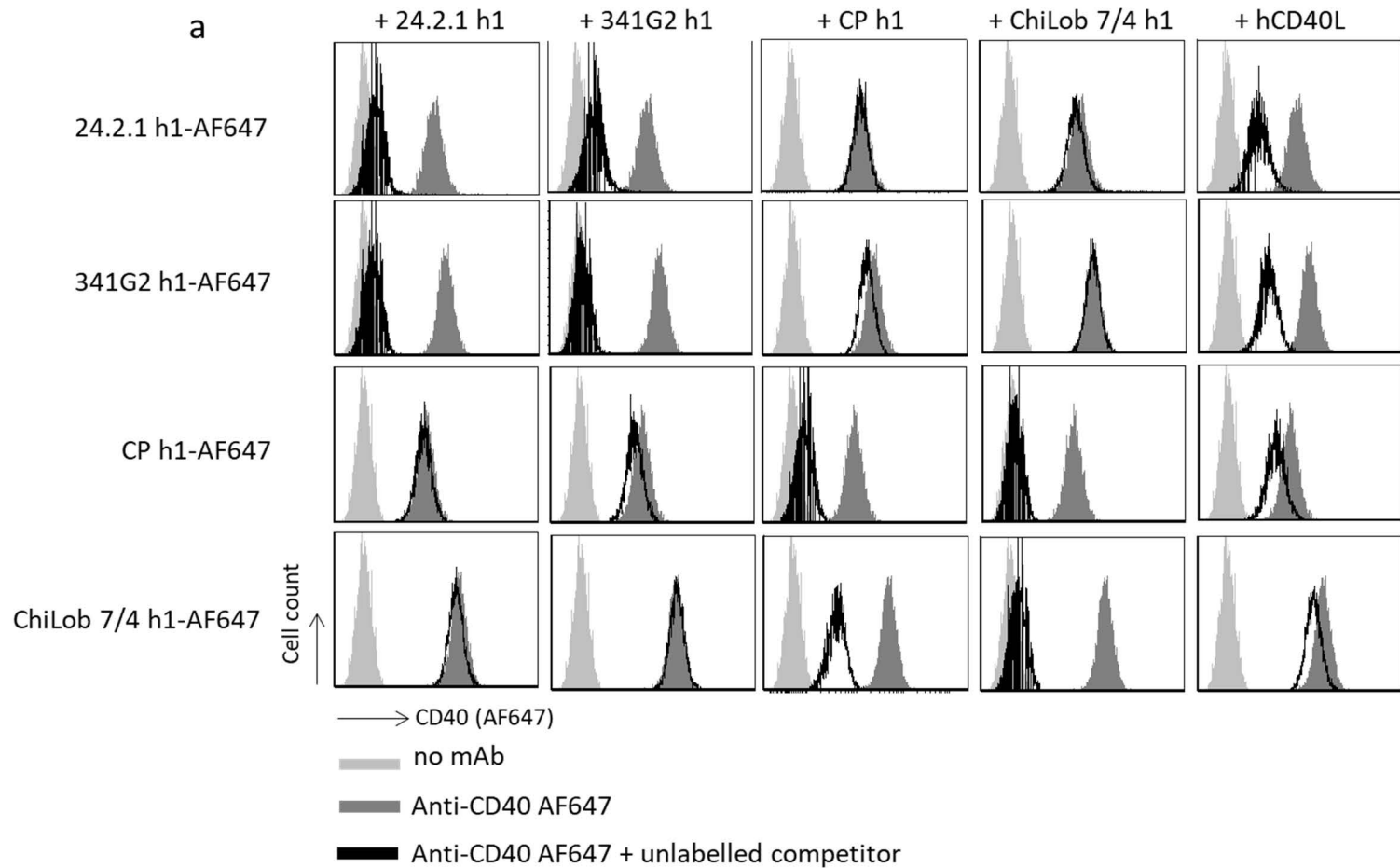
Supplementary Figure 4. Activated CD40L-expressing CD4 T cells induce CD40 clustering. **a** Purified human CD4 T cells were activated by incubation with PMA and ionomycin for 6 hours and then analysed for surface expression of CD40L by flow cytometry. **b-d** Activated T cells (red) were co-cultured with **b** Jurkat-hCD40ECD-GFP cells (green), **c** human monocyte-derived DCs pre-labelled with ChiLob 7/4 h1-AF488 (green), or **d** normal human B cells pre-labelled with ChiLob 7/4 h1-AF488 (green) for 20 minutes before wide-field fluorescence imaging using an ONI Nanoimager; nuclei were labelled with Hoechst 33342 (blue). All images are representative of at least 10 images from 2 independent experiments. Scale bar, 4 μm .



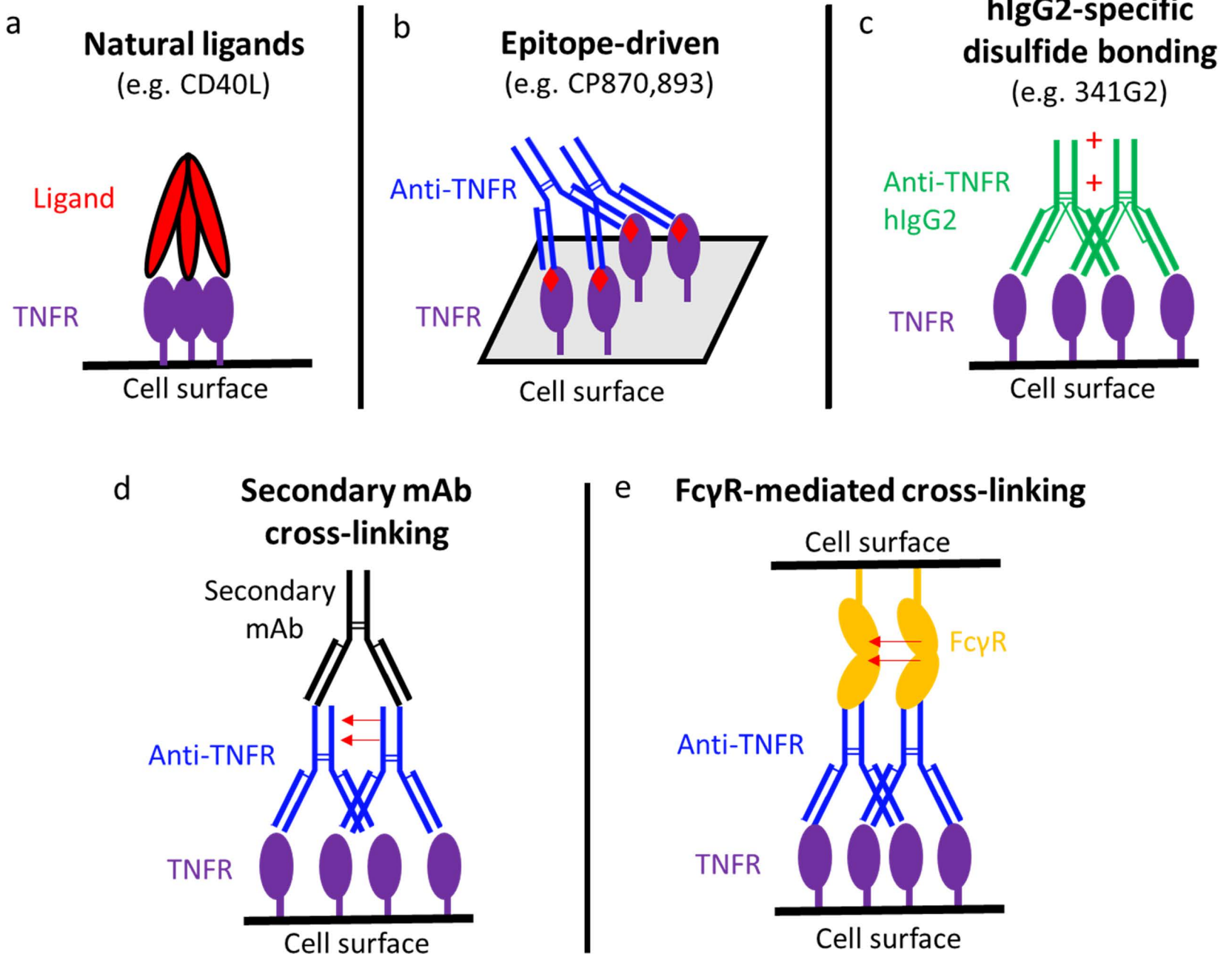
Supplementary Figure 5. FcγR-expressing CHO-k1 cells overcome anti-4-1BB mAb and anti-OX40 mAb epitope to mediate receptor clustering. **a** Jurkat-h4-1BBECD-GFP cells (green) opsonized with various anti-4-1BB mAbs as indicated were incubated with CHO-k1 cells (red) expressing hFcγR1A, hFcγR2A or hFcγR2B for 15 minutes and then imaged in wide-field mode using an ONI Nanoimager; nuclei were labelled with Hoechst 33342 (blue). Lower panels: Jurkat-NFκB-GFP reporter cells expressing h4-1BB were incubated with various anti-4-1BB mAbs as indicated at 10 μg/mL in the presence or absence of CHO-k1 cells expressing hFcγR1A, hFcγR2A or hFcγR2B for 6 hours. The level of NFκB activation was then quantified by GFP expression assessed by flow cytometry. **b** Jurkat-hOX40ECD-GFP cells (green) opsonized with various anti-OX40 mAbs as indicated were incubated with CHO-k1 cells (red) expressing hFcγR1A, hFcγR2A or hFcγR2B for 15 minutes and then imaged in wide-field mode using an ONI Nanoimager; nuclei were labelled with Hoechst 33342 (blue). Lower panels: Jurkat-NFκB-GFP reporter cells expressing hOX40 were incubated with various anti-OX40 mAbs as indicated at 10 μg/mL in the presence or absence of CHO-k1 cells expressing hFcγR1A, hFcγR2A or hFcγR2B for 6 hours. The level of NFκB activation was then quantified by GFP expression assessed by flow cytometry. All histograms are representative of at least 3 experiments; and all images are representative of at least 10 images from 2 independent experiments. Scale bar, 4 μm.



Supplementary Figure 6. Receptor clustering causes epitope shielding. **a** Jurkat cells expressing h4-1BBECD were incubated with various anti-4-1BB mAbs as indicated for 1 hour and then washed and bound hIgG was detected by polyclonal anti-hIgG Fc. Means \pm SEM, n = 3, data representative of independent 3 experiments. **b** Jurkat cells expressing hOX40ECD were incubated with various anti-OX40 mAbs as indicated for 1 hour and then washed and bound hIgG was detected by polyclonal anti-hIgG Fc. Means \pm SEM, n = 3, data representative of 3 independent experiments. **c** Ramos cells were fixed with various concentrations of PFA as indicated and then washed and incubated with serially diluted 341G2 and 24.2.1 h1 or h2. Bound hIgG was detected by polyclonal anti-hIgG Fc. Means \pm SEM, n = 3, data representative of 3 independent experiments. **d** Ramos cells were incubated with 10 μ g/mL 341G2 and 24.2.1 h1 or h2 for 30 minutes and then cells were lysed and the lysates were subject to detection for hIgG by Western blotting as described in Methods. Data representative of 3 independent experiments.

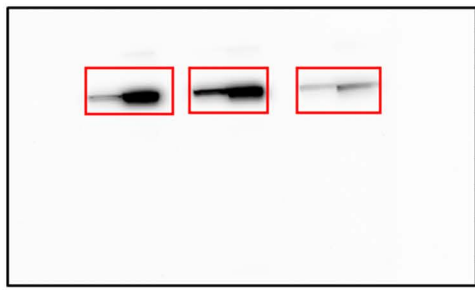


Supplementary Figure 7. Anti-CD40 mAbs bind to different, non-cross-blocking, epitopes. **a** Ramos cells were incubated with 0.25 µg/mL AF647-labelled anti-CD40 mAb alone or in presence of 20 µg/mL of various unlabelled anti-CD40 mAbs as indicated, and the level of bound AF647-labelled mAb detected by flow cytometry. **b** Recombinant soluble His-tagged CD40ECD mutant was captured by anti-His mAb pre-immobilized onto a CM5 chip, and then 341G2 h1, 341G2 h2, recombinant hIgG2 Fc fragments or 341G2 h2 mixed with recombinant hIgG2 Fc fragments were injected at 1000 nM using a Biacore T200 instrument. The association phase lasted for 2100 seconds and the dissociation phase lasted for 300 seconds. **c** Immature DCs were derived from purified CD14⁺ monocytes cultured in the presence of IL-4 and GM-CSF for 6 days. The surface expression of DC-SIGN and CD11c on DCs was analysed by flow cytometry.

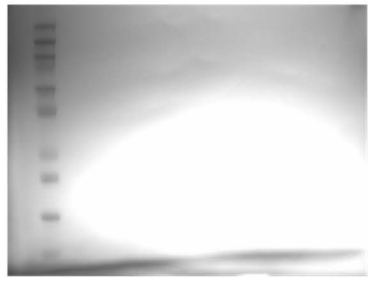


Supplementary Figure 8. Schematic indicating various means of achieving effective TNFR clustering. Natural ligands and TNFR-specific mAbs can achieve receptor clustering through a range of distinct modalities. **a** Natural ligands induce receptor clustering by virtue of their multimeric state, while antibodies can achieve receptor clustering through multiple alternative mechanisms: **b** by binding to rare epitopes that inherently facilitate clustering. **c** through effects mediated by the IgG2 isotype. **d** through application of a second layer of hyper-crosslinking antibody. **e** through engagement with FcγR expressed on an accessory cell or surface.

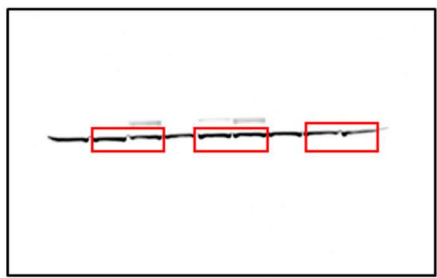
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unstain	h1 h2	unstain	h1 h2	unstain	h1 h2



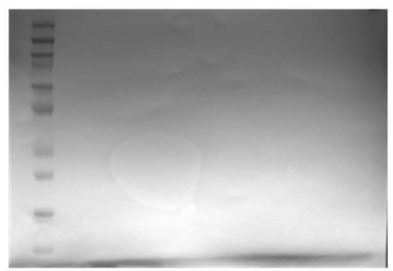
250 kDa
150 kDa
100 kDa
50 kDa
37 kDa
25 kDa
20 kDa
15 kDa
10 kDa



H78A Q79A		T75A H76A		S49A D50A	
unstain	h1 h2	unstain	h1 h2	unstain	h1 h2



- 250 kDa
- 150 kDa
- 100 kDa
- 50 kDa
- 37 kDa
- 25 kDa
- 20 kDa
- 15 kDa
- 10 kDa



Supplementary Figure 9. Full Western blotting images corresponding to Fig. 6d

Fig. 1a

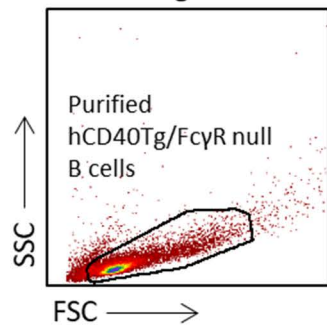


Fig. 2b

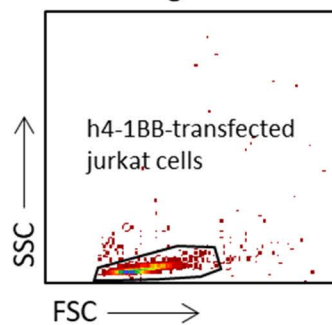


Fig. 2d

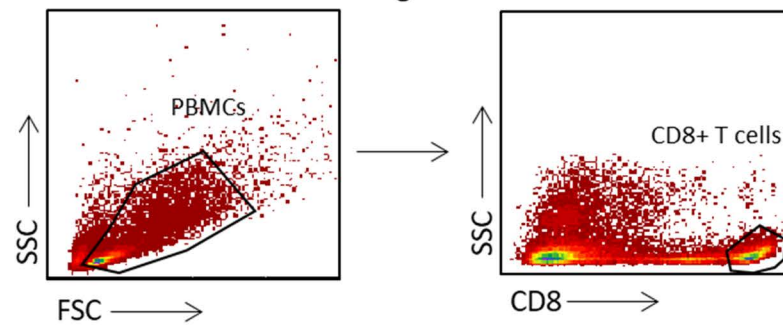


Fig. 2f

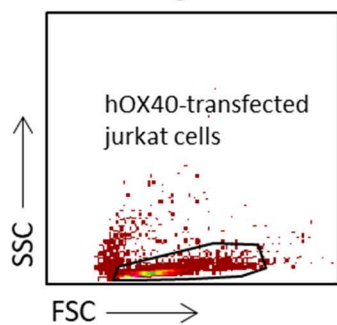


Fig. 4b, 4c, 4d, 5b, 5c and 5d

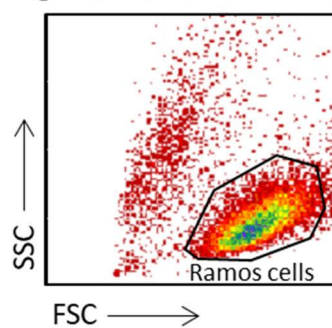


Fig. 5e

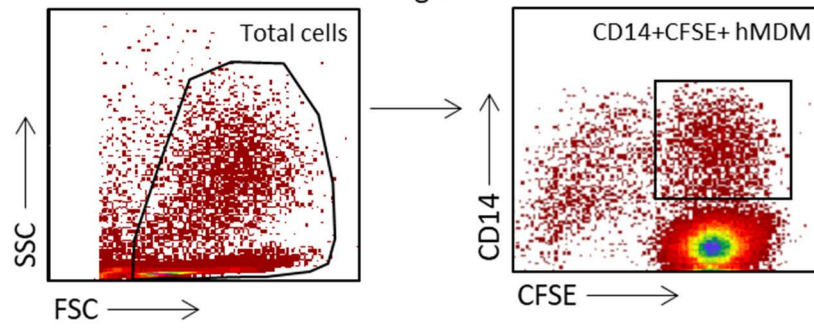
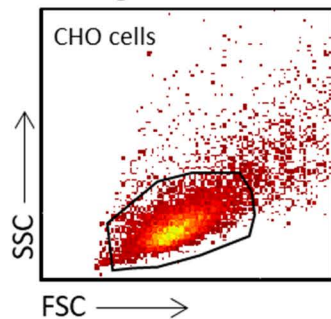


Fig. 6c and 6e



Supplementary Figure 10. FACS gating strategy corresponding to Fig. 1a, 2b, 2d, 2f, 4b, 4c, 4d, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e, 6c and 6e.

Supplementary References

- 1 Yu, X. *et al.* Isotype Switching Converts Anti-CD40 Antagonism to Agonism to Elicit Potent Antitumor Activity. *Cancer cell* **37**, 850-866 e857, doi:10.1016/j.ccell.2020.04.013 (2020).