Supplementary Material

1 Supplementary Tables and Figures

1.1 Supplementary Figures



Figure S1. Additional information on the generation of single-cell data. (A) FACS gating strategy. Two different populations were sorted for, a PE⁺ (Dextramer reagent-positive) and a CD8⁺ PE⁻ population. (B) T cell receptor alpha (TRA) and T cell receptor beta chain (TRB) usage in atypical NKT cells and $\gamma\delta$ T cells. (C) Distribution of CD8⁺ T cell subsets per patient. (D) Per patient-origin and (E) per condition-origin projected onto the integrated UMAP. (F) Clonotype availability per cell projected onto the integrated UMAP. (G) Cell cycle scores per CD8⁺ T cell subtype. (H) Overall single-cell RNA-seq data quality control metrics per patient. (I) Overall single-cell RNA-seq data quality control metrics per cell type. (J) Percentage of mitochondrial read content per condition. PE, phycoerythrin; UMI, unique molecular identifier.



Figure S2. CD8⁺ T cell exhaustion in COVID-19. (A) Cell type projection of the relationship between T cell exhaustion and cytotoxicity. Each single CD8⁺ T cell is placed in the coordinate system according to its individual exhaustion and cytotoxicity score value with cell type-specific colors. (B) Condition projection of the relationship between T cell exhaustion and cytotoxicity. (C) UMAP projection of exhaustion scores with a magnification of the area where

the exhausted T cells are located. (**D**) Representative gating strategy of the flow cytometry analysis of exhaustion in CD8⁺ T cells. After exclusion of dead cells and doublets, we first gated on CD8⁺ T cells. By gating on TCR V δ 2⁻ and TCR V α 7.2⁻ cells we excluded major populations of $\gamma\delta$ T cells and MAIT cells. Finally, we quantified the frequency of cells expressing different combinations of the exhaustion markers PD-1 and TIM3. (**E**) Violin plot of the exhaustion score per cell type in the PBMC-derived reference dataset. (**F**) Exhaustion scores per outcome in cells from the reference dataset that mapped to exhausted CD8⁺ T cells in the query dataset. (Kruskal-Wallis test: H(2) = 245.9, p < 0.0001; control vs. discharged: p = 0.0525; control vs. deceased: p < 0.0001, discharged vs. deceased: p < 0.0001) (**G**) Violin plot of the exhaustion score per cell type in the BAL-derived reference dataset. (**H**) Exhaustion scores per outcome in CD8⁺ T cells from bronchoalveolar lavage fluid. (Kolmogorov-Smirnov test: D = 0.3033, p < 0.0001) BAL, bronchoalveolar lavage.



Figure S3. UMAP embeddings of reference and integrated datasets. (A) UMAP embedding of the PBMC-derived reference $CD8^+$ T cell dataset (n = 114,209). Reference mapping was performed using *Seurat v4.* (**B**) Per condition-origin and (**C**) per patient-origin projected onto the UMAP of the PBMC-derived reference $CD8^+$ T cell dataset. (**D**) UMAP embedding of the integrated $CD8^+$ T cell dataset (our query dataset with the PBMC-derived reference dataset, n = 139.715). (**E**) Per condition-origin, (**F**) per dataset-origin and (**G**) per patient-origin projected onto the UMAP of the integrated query and reference $CD8^+$ T cell datasets. (**H**) UMAP embedding of the BAL-derived $CD8^+$ T cell reference dataset (n = 3.675). (**I**) Per condition-

origin and **(J)** per patient-origin projected onto the UMAP of the BAL-derived reference CD8⁺ T cell dataset. BAL, bronchoalveolar lavage.



Figure S4. Relevant genes in CD8⁺ T cell differentiation during SARS-CoV-2 infection identified by tradeSeq. (A) tradeSeq knots that subdivide pseudotime into partitions, projected onto the integrated UMAP. (B) Smoothed expression of IL7R and CTLA4 across pseudotime with the y-axis on natural logarithmic scale. *p*-values report the result of differential expression

analysis between progenitor and differentiated cell states across pseudotime (start vs. end testing) for the indicated lineage. (C) Smoothed expression of selected NK cell-related genes, which are expressed at significantly higher amounts during SLEC differentiation in mild compared to severe COVID-19 (condition testing). (D) UMAP projections of relevant genes from *start vs. end testing* and *condition testing*. (E) Surface expression of IL7R (CITE-seq) in CD8⁺ T cell subtypes. SLEC, short-lived effector cells; EX, exhaustion lineage.



Figure S5. Clonal expansion and TCR diversity in COVID-19. (A) Distribution of clonal expansion per cell type within each condition, displayed as relative abundance of clonotype expansion groupings. **(B)** Overlap in TCR sequences between the conditions for TCR alpha chain (left) and TCR beta chain (right). For comparing TCR sequences the 'V gene - CDR3 sequence - J gene' structures of the TCR-sequences were compared between the conditions. **(C)** Relative proportion of CDR3 sequences of the 15 most abundant clones to the total number

of CDR3 sequences per condition for the TRB chain. (**D**) Distribution of clonal expansion per cell type within each condition of the PBMC-derived DC8⁺ reference dataset, displayed as relative abundance of clonotype expansion groupings. (**E**) Distribution of clonal expansion per cell type within each condition in the BAL-derived CD8⁺ reference dataset, displayed as relative abundance of clonotype expansion groupings. (**F**) *FCGR3A* and *KLRF1* expression in the BAL-derived CD8⁺ reference dataset. TCR, T cell receptor; TRA, T cell receptor alpha chain; TRB, T cell receptor beta chain; CDR3, Complementarity determining region 3; BAL, bronchoalveolar lavage.



Figure S6. Heterogeneity among CD8⁺ NK-like terminally differentiated effector memory T cells re-expressing CD45RA. (A) Distribution of $CD16^+$ $CD8^+$ T_{EMRA} subsets per patient. (B) Distribution of clonal expansion within the conditions (left) and within the $CD16^+$ $CD8^+$ T_{EMRA} populations (right), displayed as relative abundance of clonotype expansion groupings. (C) Overlap in TCR repertoire between the $CD16^+$ $CD8^+$ T_{EMRA} populations estimated with Morisita index. (D) Average expression of selected genes related to NK cell phenotype and

function in the six CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} subsets. (E) Surface expression (CITE-seq) of CD161 and CD279 per CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} subtype. (F) Exhaustion, cytotoxicity and apoptosis scores for the six CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} subsets. (G) Pathway activity for all computed PROGENy pathways in CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} cells. (H) Differential transcription factor activity (DoRothEA) estimated with *msviper* in CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA}-3 cells and (I) in CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA}-4 cells between the severe and the mild condition. Positive NES values indicate increased activity in severe SARS-CoV-2 infection. TCR, T cell receptor; TF, transcription factor; NES, normalized enrichment score.



Figure S7. Validation of CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} cells and mild and severe disease scores. (A) Representative gating strategy of the flow cytometry analysis for the validation of the existence of CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} subsets. After exclusion of dead cells and doublets, we first gated on CD8⁺ T cells. By gating on TCR V δ 2⁻ and TCR V α 7.2⁻ cells we excluded major populations of $\gamma\delta$ T cells and MAIT cells. Finally, we gated on CD16⁺ cells and quantified the frequency of cells expressing different combinations of HLA-DR and CD161. (B) Relative proportions of the mean frequencies of CD16⁺ CD8⁺ T_{EMRA} subsets per condition as observed by flow cytometry vs. scRNA-seq. (C) *FCGR3A* expression plotted for all cells in the reference CD8⁺ T cell dataset that mapped together with our CD8⁺ NK-like T_{EMRA} cells in the integrated dataset

(NK-like CD8⁺ subset) and for all other cells in the reference dataset (other cells). (**D**) UMAP embedding of the subclustered NK-like CD8⁺ T cell subset from the reference dataset (n = 24,408). (**E**) Per patient-origin and (**F**) per condition-origin projected onto the UMAP of the NK-like CD8⁺ T cell subset from the reference CD8⁺ T cell dataset. (**G**) Severe disease score values projected onto the UMAP embeddings of our CD8⁺ T cell dataset (left) and the reference CD8⁺ T cell dataset (right). (**H**) Mild and (**I**) severe disease score values per CD8⁺ T cell type in our query dataset (left panels) and the NK-like CD8⁺ T cell subset compared with all other CD8⁺ T cells in the reference dataset (right panels).





Figure S8. Additional cell-cell interactions. (A) Differential ligand-receptor interactions between mild COVID-19 and healthy controls and (B) severe COVID-19 and healthy controls. To assess interactions between $CD8^+$ T cells and non-T cells our dataset was integrated with the whole reference dataset and interactions were predicted using *LIANA*. Differential interactions were then calculated using CrossTalkeR for selected interactions, relevant in NK cell development and function. A group of ligand clusters was selected and NK-like CD8⁺

 T_{EMRA} cells were regarded as receptor cluster. The size of the dots indicates the absolute value of the differential LR-Score. The color indicates the direction of the change in ligand-receptor interactions; orange indicates increased interactions in the disease condition, purple indicates decreased interactions in the disease condition. (C) Boxplots displaying differences in LR-Scores for selected NK cell receptor and CC chemokine interactions between severe and mild COVID-19. All CD8⁺ T cell populations were regarded as receptor population and all other populations (except megakaryocytes) were regarded as ligand population for this purpose. LR-Score, ligand-receptor score.

1.2 Supplementary Tables

Table S1. CITE-Seq antibody panel

| Antibody | Source | Catalog number |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| TotalSeqTM-C0092 Mouse IgG2b, κ | BioLegend | 400381 |
| isotype Ctrl (Clone: MPC-11) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0091 Mouse IgG2a, к | BioLegend | 400293 |
| isotype Ctrl (Clone: MOPC-173) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0090 Mouse IgG1, κ | BioLegend | 400187 |
| isotype Ctrl (Clone: MOPC-21) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0063 anti-human | BioLegend | 304163 |
| CD45RA, (Clone: HI-100) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0088 anti-human CD279 | BioLegend | 329963 |
| (PD-1), (Clone: EH12.2H7) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0087 anti-human | BioLegend | 304259 |
| CD45RO, (Clone: UCHL1) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0159 anti-human HLA- | BioLegend | 307663 |
| DR, (Clone: L243) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0149 anti-human CD161, | BioLegend | 339947 |
| (Clone: HP-3G10) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0081 anti-human CD14, | BioLegend | 301859 |
| (Clone: M5E2) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0148 anti-human CD197 | BioLegend | 353251 |
| (CCR7), (Clone: G043H7) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0390 anti-human CD127 | BioLegend | 351356 |
| (IL-7Rα), (Clone: A019D5) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0050 anti-human CD19, | BioLegend | 302265 |
| (Clone: HIB19) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0080 anti-human CD8a, | BioLegend | 301071 |
| (Clone: RPA-T8) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0072 anti-human CD4, | BioLegend | 300567 |
| (Clone: RPA-T4) | | |
| TotalSeqTM-C0034 anti-human CD3, | BioLegend | 300479 |
| (Clone: UCHT1) | | |

| Patient | Sex | Age | ICU | Ventilation | Days since first positive PCR | Status of infection at time of sampling | SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibody test result | Group |
|---------|--------|-----|-----|-------------|--|--|---|---------|
| P01 | female | 78 | no | no | 5 | positive | negative | mild |
| P02 | female | 77 | no | no | 7 | positive | negative | mild |
| P03 | male | 64 | yes | yes | 12 | positive | positive | severe |
| P05 | female | 27 | no | no | 50 | negative | negative | mild |
| P06 | male | 28 | no | no | 58 | negative | negative | mild |
| P07 | female | 25 | no | no | 57 | negative | indeterminate | mild |
| P11 | male | 56 | yes | yes | 57 | positive | positive | severe |
| P12 | female | 67 | yes | yes | 55 | negative | indeterminate | severe |
| P13 | female | 62 | yes | yes | 49 | negative | positive | severe |
| P15 | female | 75 | no | no | 7 | positive | indeterminate | mild |
| P18 | male | 62 | yes | yes | 96 | negative | positive | severe |
| P19 | male | 82 | yes | yes | 11 | positive | indeterminate | severe |
| P29 | female | 52 | - | - | - | - | negative | healthy |
| P31 | male | 38 | - | - | - | - | negative | healthy |
| P32 | male | 79 | - | - | - | - | negative | healthy |

Table S2. Clinical data

ICU = intensive care unit

Tables S3-S9 are available as xlsx-files

| sampleID | PatientID | Condition |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| S-M074-1 | P-M074 | mild/moderate |
| S-S086-1 | P-S086 | severe/critical |
| S-M076-1 | P-M076 | mild/moderate |
| S-S085-1 | P-S085 | severe/critical |
| S-S087-1 | P-S087 | severe/critical |
| S-S088-1 | P-S088 | severe/critical |
| S-S089-1 | P-S089 | severe/critical |
| S-S090-1 | P-S090 | severe/critical |
| S-S090-2 | P-S090 | severe/critical |
| S-M076-2 | P-M076 | mild/moderate |
| S-M074-2 | P-M074 | mild/moderate |
| S-S088-2 | P-S088 | severe/critical |
| S-S085-2 | P-S085 | severe/critical |
| S-S089-2 | P-S089 | severe/critical |
| S-S087-2 | P-S087 | severe/critical |
| S-S086-2 | P-S086 | severe/critical |
| S-HC003 | P-HC003 | control |
| S-HC005 | P-HC005 | control |
| S-HC010 | P-HC010 | control |
| S-HC011 | P-HC011 | control |
| S-HC013 | P-HC013 | control |
| S-HC014 | P-HC014 | control |

Table S10. Samples from the public dataset that were chosen for integration with our dataset for cell-cell interaction analysis

Table S11 is available as xlsx-files