Data Supplement

DNA methylome and transcriptome landscapes of cancer-associated fibroblasts reveal a

smoking-associated malignancy index

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Captions for Supplemental Data 1 to 5 (Excel)

Additional supplements for this manuscript include the following:

Supplemental Data 1 to 5 as a separate Excel file

Supplemental Methods as a separate Word file



Supplemental Figure 1. Phenotype characterization of paired NFs and CAFs from NSCLC patients. (a) Cell morphology of the fibroblasts (NF, CAF) (200x). (b, c) Colony formation assay. 100 cells were seeded in the 35mm dishes and colonies were fixed with methanol and stained with 0.05% crystal violent on Day14. Before staining colonies were shown under the microscope (right). (d, e, f) Lung cancer cells were treated with conditioned medium (CM) from paired NF/CAF for 4 days, and then processed to conduct invasion (d), migration (e) and sphere forming assays (f). Numbers of cells migrated and invaded through the membrane were counted respectively. CM of NF/CAF from individual NSCLC patients was shown on the left and the average value was shown on the right panel (d, e). The number of spheres was counted coordinately (f). Data represent mean \pm SD from three replicate experiments.



Supplemental Figure 2. No indication of cancer cell contamination in the primary cultured CAF cell lines. (a) Flow cytometry staining of CD90 and FAP (CAF markers), and EPCAM (epithelial marker) for the lung CAF cell lines and A549 (an epithelial lung cancer cell line). (b)

Immunofluorescence staining of CD90 (Green) for CAF and BEAS2B (a normal epithelial cell line). (c) Soft-agar assay on the NF and CAF cell lines and A549 to characterize tumorigenic feature. (d) TruSight® Tumor 15 (TST15) targeted NGS to detect EGFR mutation in the DNA samples from a NSCLC patient with EGFR L858R mutation.



Supplemental Figure 3. Validation of differentially expressed genes between NF and CAF samples from NSCLC patients using real-time qPCR. (**a**, **b**) RNA samples of primary cultured NF and CAF pairs were reverse transcribed to cDNA by iScript RT transferase. mRNA levels of selected CAF up- (**a**) and down (**b**)-regulated genes were measured in paired NF/CAF samples. Actin was used as the internal control. Data represent mean ± SD from three replicate experiments.



Supplemental Figure 4. The global methylation pattern in paired NF and CAF samples from 26 NSCLC patients. (a) The density estimation of the DNA methylation level in the beta-values of 26 NSCLC patients individually. Red: CAF. Blue: NF. (b) The number of hyper- and hypomethylated DM CpGs in CAF was analyzed based on the changes in beta-values.



Supplemental Figure 5. Scatter plots of DNA methylation versus gene expression in NF/CAF pairs for 54 genes of MIND. Red: CAF. Blue: NF.



Supplemental Figure 6. Examination of MIND on the discrimination ability in an independent cohort. (a) MIND was applied in an independent cohort of NF/CAF samples from 12 NSCLC patients (GSE68851). The distribution of MIND, ordered from the largest value to the smallest, showed a clear classification between CAFs (Red) and NFs (Blue). (Sample 18_CAF lacked methylation value of cg21116457 in gene SLC14A1). (b) ROC curve showed the performance of MIND in NF/CAF classification with AUC of 0.83 (95% CI = 0.66-1.0), sensitivity of 73% and specificity of 92% (Youden's Index) in the GSE68851 dataset.

Gene Expression



Supplemental Figure 7. Performance of MIND-GE. (a) Scatter plot of the first and second PCs showing gene expression profiles of 52 NF/CAF samples on the 54 genes. CAFs are shown in red and NFs in blue. Triangles indicate samples from patients with relapse while those with no relapse shown in circles. The gene expression signature (MIND-GE) was constructed as the weighted sum of the standardized expression weighted by the loadings of PC1. The distribution of MIND-GE, ordered from the largest value to the smallest, showed a clear partition between CAFs (Red) and NFs (Blue). ROC curve was shown with AUC 0.83 (95% CI = 0.70-0.95), sensitivity 84% and

specificity 80% (Youden's Index). (b) MIND-GE was validated in an independent cohort of NF/CAF samples from 15 NSCLC patients (GSE22874). ROC curve was plotted with AUC of 0.93 (95% CI = 0.84-1.00), sensitivity of 80% and specificity of 93% (Youden's Index).



Supplemental Figure 8. Impact of the malignancy level of tumor microenvironment, as indexed by MIND, on cancer cell viability and invasion. Conditioned medium from the CAFs with high (MIND^{high}, n = 5) or low (MIND^{low}, n = 4) score of MIND were applied to the cancer cell lines A549 and CL1-0. (a) MTT assay for cell viability was performed at 24, 48 and 72 hours. (b) Cell invasion assay was performed at 18h. Data represent mean \pm SD. Mann-Whitney U test was used for significance. **P* < 0.05.



Supplemental Figure 9. Prognostic value of MIND-GE. (a) Kaplan-Meier analysis for relapsefree survival (RFS) prediction by MIND-GE in the CAF samples from our discovery cohort. Patients were stratified into the high and low groups using the median cutoff (P = 0.041, Log rank test). (b) Applying MIND-GE to the gene expression profiling of tumor samples from TCGA LUAD dataset. Patients were stratified into the high and low groups using the median cutoff (OS, P = 0.069).



Supplemental Figure 10. The PPI analysis of the 54 genes constituent of MIND (STRING v11.0).

Supplemental Table 1. Clinical characteristics of NSCLC patients whose NF/CAF were primary cultured for genome-wide profiling

Discovery cohort (n=26)						Validation cohort (n=14)					
Age	Gender	Histology	Stage	Smoking	Recurrence	Age	Gender	Histology	Stage	Smoking	Recurrence
48	М	Squamous cell carcinoma	IIB	Y	Y	83	М	Squamous cell carcinoma	IIIB	Y	Y
86	F	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Y	75	М	Squamous cell carcinoma	IIB	Y	Ν
72	М	Adenocarcinoma	IIA	Ν	Y	69	М	Squamous cell carcinoma	IIA	Y	Y
68	М	Pleomorphic carcinoma	IIB	Y	Y	47	М	Squamous cell carcinoma	IIIA	Y	Y
59	М	Adenocarcinoma	IIA	Ν	Ν	70	М	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Ν
77	F	Adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Ν	Y	64	F	Adenocarcinoma	IIA	Ν	Y
71	F	Metastatic lung cancer	NA	Ν	Ν	68	М	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Y	Ν
54	М	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Ν	64	F	Adenocarcinoma	IA	Ν	Ν
57	F	Adenocarcinoma	IA	Ν	Ν	66	F	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Ν
85	М	Adenocarcinoma	IA	Y	Y	61	F	Adenocarcinoma	IV	Ν	Ν
58	F	Lymphoepithelioma-like	IIIA	Ν	Ν	67	М	Adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Y	Ν
76	М	Squamous cell carcinoma	IB	Y	Ν	59	F	Mucinous adenocarcinoma	IIA	Ν	Ν
76	М	Mucinous adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Y	Ν	81	F	Adenocarcinoma	IA	Ν	Ν
65	М	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Ν	60	F	Adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Ν	Y
77	F	Adenosquamous	IIIA	Ν	Y						
76	F	Squamous cell carcinoma	IIIA	NA	Ν						
54	М	Adenocarcinoma	IV	Y	Y						
81	F	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Y						
76	F	Adenocarcinoma	IIA	Ν	Y						
44	F	Adenosquamous	IIB	Ν	Y						
*63	М	Adenocarcinoma	IIB	Y	Ν						
67	М	Adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Y	Ν						
59	F	Adenocarcinoma	IB	Ν	Ν						
61	F	Adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Ν	Y						
61	F	Adenocarcinoma	IIIA	Ν	Ν						
64	F	Adenocarcinoma	IA	Ν	Ν						

* RNA not pass the QC Affymetrix HU133 PLUS2.0

Supplemental Table 2. Summary of biological mechanisms of 54 genes incorporated in MIND on tumor progression and their potential correlation with smoking.

		0		eir potential correlation with smoking.	
Probeset	GeneSym	Reported	CTD [#]	Biological Mechanisms	Refs
cg22110896	TBX4	Ref1 Ref2	Р	Tumor suppressor and epigenetic regulator in lung carcinogenesis; Super-enhancer-driving transcriptional factor in lung fibroblast; Putative candidates for epigenetic therapy in LUAD.	3-5
cg08594681	CLU	Ref1	S, B, P	Tumor suppressor in lung cancer and response to chemo- and radiotherapy; Regulation for cell cycle, DNA repair and immune response.	6-9
cg26179069	COL14A1	Ref1 Ref2	S, B, P	Fibril-associated collagens involved in the regulation of fibrillogenesis; DNA methylation marker in cancers (e.g., sarcoma).	10-12
cg19534149	NOVA1	Ref1 Ref2	В, Р	Neuro-oncological ventral antigen 1; RNA binding protein; RNA splicing regulation (e.g., hTERT); Oncogene or tumor suppressor (cancer type-dependent); DNA methylation-driven.	13-16
cg26874542	FGF18		В	Involved in cell growth, migration, and epithelial- mesenchymal transition (EMT) via ERK, p38 and MMP26 /Akt/GSK3β/β-catenin.	17-21
cg21929472	SCARA3		S, B, P	Tumor suppressor gene; Cell apoptosis regulation via CPSF3, XIAP-caspases; Tumor growth and metastasis suppression; Scavenging receptor recognizing and contributing to oxidative stress, immune and cell death.	22-24
cg12547531	AQP1	Ref2	S, B, P	Down-regulated in colorectal carcinoma (CRC) via promoter hypermethylation; Tumor suppressor; Cell proliferation, migration, and senescence regulation.	25-27
cg00979704	TNXB		В, Р	Involved in epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) via PI3K/Akt pathway; Tumor suppressor; Down-regulated during tumor progression.	28,29
cg00730441	TBX2	Ref2	В	Downregulated and hypermethylated in lung CAFs; Acted in <i>trans</i> by promoting canonical Wnt (WNT3A); Tumor suppressor; Super-enhancer-driving transcriptional factor in lung fibroblast.	30-34
cg01957732	EYA4	Ref2	S, B, P	Tumor suppressor; hypermethylated and under- expressed in multiple independent lung tumor; Tumor metastasis inhibition via suppression of NF-κB.	35-39
cg15799109	SMAD3		S, N, B, P	Promoter hypermethylation and silencing, associated with hyperresponsiveness to TGF- β 1 in lung CAFs; Tumor suppressor; suppression of NK cell-mediated immune surveillance via Smad3-E4BP4 axis.	2,40-42
cg07760722	NR3C2		N, B, P	The mineralocorticoid receptor and tumor suppressor.	43-45
cg09583036	RAB38		S, B, P	A member of the Ras small G protein family regulating intracellular vesicular trafficking; Alveolar type II epithelial cells development.	46-48
cg19092167	MASP1		В, Р	A component of the lectin pathway of complement activation and the central enzyme in the innate immune system.	49-51
cg18010752	WNT5A		S, B, P	Tumor suppressor; β -catenin activation by FZD4; the canonical Wnt pathway inhibition via promoting β -	52-56

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			catenin degradation by ROR2; A cigarette smoke- responded gene.	
cg14124415	ADAMTS1	S, B, P	A dis-integrin and metalloproteinase with thrombospondin motif protein family; Tumor suppressor and antiangiogenic factor; Immune cell repertoire and inflammatory response regulation.	57-61
cg01766743	SOX5	S, B, P	Tumor growth, invasion and metastasis regulation; YAP1 interaction; EMT regulation and response to TGF- β via Twist1.	62-65
cg26262197	CADM1	S, B, P	Twist1-regulated tumor suppressor; Hippo pathway LATS2 interaction; YAP1 regulation; Tumor progression inhibition via c-Src, PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway, and STAT.	66-69
cg00551679	FOXF1	S, B, P	Endothelial barrier enhancement through S1P/S1PR1 signaling; Lung regeneration stimulation and tumor growth inhibition.	70-73
cg25557280	MET	В, Р	Tumor growth and senescence promotion in the tumorous microenvironment; TGF- β negative regulation of CXCL1 in CAFs through Smad2/3 binding to the promoter, and suppression of HGF/c-Met autocrine signaling	74-77
cg21621104	LRIG1	S, B, P	Tumor suppressor; A feedback negative regulator of receptor tyrosine kinases; Oncogenic signaling restriction from AR, Myc, ERBB oncogenic drivers.	78-80
cg00219210	ARHGAP44	В	GAP activity; Catalyzes Rac-GTP hydrolysis; Reduction of actin polymerization required for filopodia formation; A new target of mutant p53, which suppresses ARHGAP44 transcription.	81,82
cg17395738	TENM4	S, B, P	Involved in neuron development; Connection of H3K27me3 epigenetic markers for cancer prognosis.	83,84
cg07778290	CD9	S, N, B, P	Suppression of cancer cell motility and metastasis depending on cancer types; Adhesion, infection, and inflammatory regulation.	85-88
cg18778196	SMAD6	P	A mediator of TGF- β and BMP anti-inflammatory activity; Suppression of IL1R-TLR signaling through inhibition of NF- κ B activation; Support of lung cancer cell growth and survival.	89-92
cg20967819	GALNT18	В	Response to mucin-type-Golgi stress; Catalyzes the initial reaction in O-linked oligosaccharide biosynthesis.	93,94
cg09811183	TSPAN2	В, Р	Mutant P53-related; Cell motility and invasiveness enhancement via assisting CD44; An important paralog of CD9.	95,96
cg21116457	SLC14A1	В	Transmembrane urea transport facilitation; Tumor suppressor.	97,98
cg00560724	GCNT2	S, N, B, P	A I-branching N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase converting linear i-antigen to I-branching glycan; Negative regulation of tumor growth and survival.	99,100
cg14380519	PRUNE2	S, B, P	Tumor suppressor in prostate cancer; Cell apoptosis regulation.	101,102
cg21557473	AUTS2	S, B, P	Correlation with TGF- β , Hedgehog and Wnt signaling pathway.	103,104

				Oncogene or tumor suppressor (cancer type-dependent);	
cg00308159	MN1		В, Р	Regulation of the Tbx22 function on mammalian palate	105-107
				development.	
cg00283524	KIAA1644		В	A Shisa-like protein.	108
cg05865493	HDAC9		в	Tumor progression and immune response regulation	109,110
Cg05605495	HDAC9		Б	(cancer type-dependent).	109,110
05405000				A CAF marker; Connection to the Rho kinase signaling	
cg05185926	ARHGAP26	Ref2	S, B, P	pathway.	111
			S, N, B,	Connection with Wnt and β -catenin signaling; Regulation	
cg24332570	ANK3		P	of lung cancer and smoking-related.	112-114
				Amyloid-beta A4 precursor protein-binding family B; Cell	
cg08670693	APBB2	Ref2	S, B, P	cycle regulation.	115,116
				EMT regulation via Met autocrine; Brain metastasis	
cg21604970	ST6GALNAC5	Ref2	S, B, P	mediation.	117,118
cg21211213	EBF1		S, B, P	Modulation of TERT expression and PNO1/P53 pathway	119-121
			-	in cancer; Smoking status-associated.	
				ERK/Wnt signaling regulation in osteoblasts and BMP-	
cg11857452	HIVEP3		S, B, P	Runx2/VEGF; Pro-inflammatory regulator via binding to	122-124
				NF-κB.	
	NUAK1			AMPK-related kinase, involved in cell polarity, cell	125-129
cg11658060			S, B, P	proliferation, cell adhesion, senescence, and tumor	
cg11058000			3, D, F	progression; Response to DNA damage-response and	
				repair via interacting with TGF- β , SMAD3, P53, CDKN1A.	
	SLC2A5			A fructose transporter; Enhancement of cell proliferation,	
				migration, invasion, and tumorigenesis via enhancing	
cg25602242			В	fructose utilization, stimulating fatty acid synthesis and	130-132
U				AMPK/mTORC1 signaling; Adjacent lung adenocarcinoma	
				cytoplasmic pro-B cell development.	
				Regulation of neuronal development and fibroblasts-like	
cg25311162	TENM3	Ref2	В	cell differentiation; A tumor marker with epigenetic	133-136
6523311102	TEITING			regulation; Correlation with Wht signaling	133-130
				UP-regulated in cancer; Tumor suppressor in breast and	
10015201			В		127 120
cg18015301	AMPH			lung cancer via inhibiting PI3K/AKT and Ras-Raf-MEK-ERK	137-139
				signal pathways.	
	0,01010	1010		A nicotinamide mononucleotide transporter; Tumor	
cg24838136	SLC12A8		В	growth and metastasis promotion in colorectal, ovarian	140,141
				carcinoma, and bladder cancer via EMT regulation.	
	FBLN2			An extracellular matrix glycoprotein on tissue	
cg03466986			S, B, P	development/remodeling; Epithelial basement	142-144
0,000,000,000				membrane stability; Correlation with TGF– β signaling; A	
				driver of malignant progression in lung adenocarcinoma.	
cg21158795				A CAF malignant marker, promoting tumor growth and	
				metastasis; A new inhibitory molecule on T cells;	
	PDPN	В, Р	Enrichment in CD204 M2 m ϕ (TAM) and negative		
			В, Р	regulation of CD4+ effector T cells; Regulation of tumor	145-156
				metastasis via TGF- β /STATs, Wnt/ β -catenin, and ROCK-	
				LIMK-Cofilin signaling.	
			1	A mitochondrial enzyme synthesizing glutaryl-CoA from	
cg08646805	SUGCT		В	glutarate in tryptophan and lysine catabolism.	157
		L			136,158,
cg17405646	TENM2		В, Р	Synapse formation in neuron development.	150,158,

cg11303839	CCL26	S, B, P	Ligand of CCR3, promoting tumor growth, invasion/migration, angiogenesis; Regulation of TAM and eosinophil recruitment.	160-163
cg23721083	ITGA11	В, Р	Regulator of tumor niche cytokines (IGF-II, PDGF), promoting tumor progression; TGF- β and FGF2-regulated.	164-169
cg23963071	SERPINB9	S, B, P	Regulator of tumor immune escape, blockade of the granzyme B/perforin pathway; Promotion of the resistance to T cell-mediated killing during immune-checkpoint blockade therapy.	170-174
cg07700393	ADAMTS12	В, Р	Tumor growth promotion via enhancing the transcriptional activity of β -catenin in the Wnt/ β -catenin signaling.	175
cg00471190	IL32	В, Р	A proinflammatory cytokine (cancer type-dependent), promoting tumor growth, invasion and metastasis (integrin $\beta 3/p38$ MAPK, NF- κ B- cytokines/metalloproteinase, and immunosuppressive effects); Tumor cell apoptosis induction; Enhancement of NK and cytotoxic T cell sensitivity; Smoking and COPD- related gene.	176-180

[#]CTD: The Comparative Toxicogenomics Database <u>https://ctdbase.org</u> ¹⁸¹*updated Dec. 12, 2020.* **S:** Tobacco Smoke Pollution-; **N:** nicotine-; **B:** Benzo(a)pyrene, B[a]P-; **P:** PMs-related genes References in the supplemental materials.

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		†Validation co	hort (CAF, RFS)	
Signature	n	HR	95% CI	Р
MIND	14	16.15	1.8-2127.9	0.009*
Vizoso 2015-M	14	0.32	0.03-1.71	0.188
MIND-GE		Not ap	oplicable	
Navab 2011-GE		Not ap	oplicable	
Sandoval 2013-T	14	0.51	0-4.5	0.613
		GSE39279	(Tumor, RFS)	
Signature	n	HR	95% CI	Р
MIND	190	1.83	1.22-2.75	0.004*
Vizoso 2015-M	198	1.16	0.78-1.74	0.457
MIND-GE		Not ap	oplicable	
Navab 2011-GE		Not ap	oplicable	
Sandoval 2013-T	197	2.59	1.58-4.23	0*
		TCGA LUA	D (Tumor, OS)	
Signature	n	HR	95% CI	Р
MIND	440	1.46	1.07-2.01	0.018*
Vizoso 2015-M	447	1.01	0.74-1.38	0.94
MIND-GE	504	1.31	0.98-1.76	0.07
Navab 2011-GE	504	1.46	1.09-1.97	0.012*
Sandoval 2013-T	445	1.43	0.84-2.44	0.188

Supplemental Table 3. The comparison of MIND with other CAF-associated signatures.

Abbreviations: RFS, relapse free survival; OS, overall survival; n, number of patients with both the signature and the survival data. HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval. Not applicable: the signatures are not applicable on these datasets due to the lack of gene expression data. \ddagger Firth's Penalized likelihood method was used for this small dataset. *P < 0.05.

Supplementary Data 1. (separate file) 614 differentially expressed (DE) probes

Supplementary Data 2. (separate file) Significant KEGG pathways in DE genes

Supplementary Data 3. (separate file) 14,781 differentially methylated (DM) CpG sites

Supplementary Data 4. (separate file) 1193 DM-DE pairs

Supplementary Data 5. (separate file) Methylation index for NF/CAF discrimination (MIND)

Supplementary Methods

Gene Expression Data Analysis

We performed Affymetrix Human U133 Plus2.0 array for gene expression profiling on 25 pairs of cancer-associated fibroblasts (CAFs) and normal fibroblasts (NFs) with adequate RNA quality (one sample not passing the QC was excluded) from non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) patients in our discovery cohort (N=26). This platform contains 54,675 probes covering 21,649 genes. RMA normalization was performed using the package affy¹ in *R*. Probes on the sex chromosomes and probes with chromosome or gene symbol annotated as "-" were removed after normalization, leaving 41,158 probes.

Differential Expression Analysis

To identify genes exhibiting differential expression (DE) between CAFs and NFs, we performed Significance Analysis in Microarray (SAM) analysis on the 25 NF/CAF pairs using the package samr² in *R*. A total of 614 DE probes were obtained (mean fold change > 1.5 and Q < 0.1), where 242 were up-regulated (189 genes), and 372 were down-regulated in CAFs (272 genes).

Pathway Enrichment Analysis

Significant KEGG³ pathways for the DE genes were determined by the functional annotation tool of DAVID Bioinformatics Resource 6.8.⁴ Seven KEGG pathways were identified at the false discovery level of 10%, including ECM-receptor interaction, PI3K-Akt signaling pathway, focal adhesion, TGF- β signaling pathway, pathways in cancer, hematopoietic cell lineage and cell cycle. Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA)⁵ was also performed to identify KEGG pathways exhibiting significant differences in the global

expression profile between CAFs and NFs. One pathway, ECM-receptor interaction, was identified (Q < 0.1).

DNA Methylation Data Analysis

We used Illumina Infinium Methylation 450K array for DNA methylation profiling on the 26 NF/CAF pairs. This platform contains 485,460 CpG sites. Background correction and normalization were performed using the package methylumi⁶ in *R*. After data preprocessing, sites on the sex chromosomes and sites with missing values in any sample were removed (472,676 sites remained).

Differential Methylation Analysis

To identify CpG sites exhibiting differential methylation (DM) between CAFs and NFs, we performed Wilcoxon signed-rank test on the 26 NF/CAF pairs. Benjamini-Hochberg method was used to control the false discovery rate. A total of 14,781 DM CpG sites were obtained (mean beta-value difference > 0.1 and Q < 0.1), where 5,951 (40%) were hypermethylated and 8,830 (60%) hypomethylated in CAF (Supplemental Figure 4b).

Correlation of clinical variables with CAF/NF Methylation Differences

We explored the heterogeneity of methylation differences for patients with varied clinical backgrounds. Each categorial clinical variable was coded as a binary variable; smoking: ever versus never, stage: early (I and II) versus late (III and IV), histology: adenocarcinomas versus non-adenocarcinomas. The delta beta-values ($\Delta\beta$) of the 14,781 DM CpG sites between patients grouped by each categorial clinical variable were compared by Welch's t-test. For the continuous clinical variable: age, Pearson's correlation coefficient was used. When controlling the false discovery rate at the level of 0.1 level, we obtained 3,707 (25%) smoking-associated DM CpG sites with greater differences in the

ever-smoker group than the never-smoker group. There was no other significant association found in the other clinical variables.

Cis-Correlation between Differentially Methylated CpG Sites and their Target Genes Among the 18,837 genes with probes in both arrays, 419 were DE genes, whereas 220 (53%) had at least one DM CpG site. In contrast, among the 18,418 non-DE genes, only 3,999 (22%) genes had at least one DM CpG site. This significant enrichment (OR = 3.99, P < 0.001, Fisher exact test) suggests that the methylation changes significantly contributed to the differential expression of the target genes.

To identify the DM CpG sites that had cis-correlation with their target genes, we matched the 614 DE probes obtained earlier with 14,781 DM sites by gene symbol, leading to a total of 1,193 DM-DE pairs. For each DM-DE pair, Spearman's Rho was used to evaluate the cis-correlation between the methylation changes and the expression fold changes (FC). We identified 486 DM-DE pairs exhibiting significant correlations (Q < 0.1), and 482 of them had signs consistent with the ratios of the mean log2FC to the mean $\Delta\beta$.

Overall, 340 (71%) negatively correlated pairs were found among the 482 ciscorrelated DM-DE pairs. Based on the location of the CpG sites to their target genes, DM-DE pairs can be assigned into three groups: promoter, within 1,500 bps to the transcription starting site (TSS); body, from the TSS to the end of the transcript; or multiple, in the promoter and body for different transcripts. Among the 57 pairs assigned to the promoter, 24 pairs (42%) were hypermethylated and down-regulated in CAFs while 23 pairs (40%) were hypomethylated and up-regulated. On the other hand, among the 395 pairs assigned to the body, 77 pairs (19%) were hypermethylated and down-regulated in CAFs while 187 (47%) were hypomethylated and up-regulated. And the rest 30 pairs are assigned to the "multiple" group. (Supplementary Methods Figure 1).

Candidate CpG Sites Selection

After intersecting the 3,707 smoking-associated DM CpG sites with the CpGs in the 482 cis-correlated DM-DE pairs, 93 CpG sites were obtained. To further select a smaller number of high-quality methylation probes, we imposed the following filtering steps. First, 10 CpG sites that have SNPs in the nearby region were excluded. Second, to be parsimony, for the remaining 83 CpG sites located in the 54 genes, we only kept the CpG sites with the largest beta-value difference between CAFs and NFs for each gene. The list of 54 selected CpG sites is given in Supplementary Data 5.

Derivation of the Methylation Index for NF/CAF Discrimination

Principal component (PC) analysis was conducted on the methylation profile of the 54 selected CpG sites. The first PC explained 67.0% total variance, and the second PC explained 7.5% total variance. A methylation index for NF/CAF discrimination (MIND) was defined as the weighted sum of the centered beta-values by the loadings of the first principal component.

The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve was used to illustrate the discrimination ability of MIND. The area under the ROC curve of our discovery cohort was 0.88 (95% CI: 0.80-0.97). Based on Youden's index, the optimal cutoff -0.59 had 88% sensitivity and 77% specificity. As a comparison, we studied the discrimination ability of 12 known CAF markers, including ten positive and two negative markers, in gene expression. There was no single known marker with discriminant ability as good as MIND (Supplementary Methods Figure 2). We noticed the sign inconsistent issue for some known

markers with our data. Five positive markers *TNC*, *PDFGRA*, *CSPG4*, *DES*, and *VIM* had lower expression in CAFs than NFs. We performed the linear discriminant analysis on the seven sign consistent markers. The area under the ROC curve of the best linear discriminant direction was 0.75 (95% CI: 0.60-0.89). The discrimination ability of MIND was significantly better (P = 0.018 DeLong's test). If we ignore the sign inconsistent issue and use the best linear discriminant direction of all 12 known CAF markers, the area under the ROC curve will be 0.89 (95% CI: 0.80-0.98), and the optimal cutoff has 88% sensitivity and 76% specificity. MIND showed the same discrimination ability to the best that the 12 known CAF markers can get.

We also examined the discrimination ability of MIND on an independent cohort consisting of 12 NF/CAF pairs from NSCLC patients (GSE68851).⁷ The area under the ROC curve was 0.83 (95% CI: 0.66-1), and the optimal cutoff had 73% sensitivity and 92% specificity (Supplemental Figure 6).

The Prognostic Ability of MIND in CAFs

To examine the prognostics ability of the MIND index, we compared the relapse-free survival (RFS) curves of the two patient groups split by MIND using the log-rank test (P = 0.013, Figure 5a). In our discovery cohort, the cutoff was selected as the value separating CAFs from NFs by controlling the probability of misclassifying NFs at no more than 5% while maximizing the probability of correct classification of CAFs. This selecting procedure is objective and without using the survival data. Multivariate Cox regression with backward selection confirmed the significance of MIND adjusted by stage, age, gender and smoking (HR = 9.29, 95% CI: 1.14-75.44, P = 0.037; Table 1).

We also examined the prognostic power of MIND in an independent validation cohort consisting of 14 NSCLC patients. DNA methylation profiling of their CAF and NF samples was performed using Illumina Infinium Methylation 450K array. The same set of CpG sites and the weights derived from our discovery cohort were used when computing MIND. The median value of MIND was used to split patients into two groups. The results from the log-rank test (P = 0.007, Figure 5b) and the multivariate Cox regression with backward selection remain significant (HR = 29.17; 95% CI = 2.19-6520.53; P = 0.006). Specifically, among the 14 patients, none of the patients in the MIND-low group had RFS events. The package coxphf in R was used to fit the Cox regression with Firth's Penalized likelihood⁸.

The Prognostic Ability of MIND in Tumor Samples

Although MIND was derived from the primary cultured CAFs/NFs, and although the signals from CAFs could be profiled together with the bulk of tumor tissues, we still explored the clinical value of MIND as a prognosis signature in two independent cohorts GSE39279 (444 NSCLCs)⁹ and The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)¹⁰ lung adenocarcinomas (456 LUADs) that have tumor DNA methylation profiles. DNA methylation data and curated clinical data¹¹ were downloaded from Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) and TCGA GDC data portal (https://gdc.cancer.gov/about-data/publications/pancanatlas).

For the GSE39279 cohort, after removing 13 patients with missing beta values of the 54 CpGs, the MIND scores of the remaining 431 patients were computed, using the weights already determined at the discovery stage earlier. Before looking at the survival data, patients were split evenly into two groups using the median cutoff (215 MIND-high and 216 MIND-low). After that, we examined the patient survival data. There were 241 patients missing survival data, 126 from the MIND-high group and 115 from the MINDlow group. The deviation from the expected number of 120.5 in each group was statistically insignificant (P = 0.2863, Fisher exact test), an indication of missing at random. For patients with missing survival data, we simply dropped them from further analysis. This resulted in the survival analysis by the log-rank test with uneven size for MIND-high and MIND-low groups (Figure 5c). For the TCGA LUAD cohort, among the 54 CpG sites, 9 of them were unavailable in the methylation dataset. Thus, the available 45 CpG sites were used to compute the MIND scores for a total of 449 patients, using the weights already determined earlier at our discovery stage. Patients were split evenly into MIND-high and MIND-low groups, using the median cutoff. After removing patients with missing survival data, we performed the log-rank test on the remaining patients (223 MIND-high and 217 MIND-low; Figure 5d). Patients with high MIND scores have shorter RFS in the GSE39279 cohort (P = 0.003, Figure 5c) and shorter OS in TCGA LUAD (P = 0.018, Figure 5d). As for another way of patient splitting, the patients with survival data were evenly divided into high and low MIND score groups (Supplementary Methods Figure 3). The log-rank test results exhibited significant.

The Discrimination Ability and Prognostic Effect of the 54 Target Gene Expressions Principal component (PC) analysis was performed using the standardized gene expression of the 54 target genes. The first PC explained 48.4% total variance, and the second PC explained 9.7% total variance. An expression index (MIND-GE) was defined as the weighted sum of the standardized expression by the loadings of the first principal component. The area under the ROC curve for MIND-GE was 0.83 (95% CI: 0.70-0.95; Supplemental Figure 7a), and the optimal cutoff had 84% sensitivity and 80% specificity. Its discrimination ability was slightly lower than MIND in our cohort. We also examined the discrimination ability of MIND-GE on an independent cohort consisting of 15 NF/CAF pairs from NSCLC patients (GSE22874). The area under the ROC curve was 0.93 (95% CI: 0.84-1), and the optimal cutoff had 80% sensitivity and 93% specificity (Supplemental Figure 7b). MIND-GE also showed significant performance on recurrence prediction in our discovery cohort using the median split (P = 0.041; Supplemental Figure 9a). Applying MIND-GE to the gene expression profiling data of the TCGA LUAD cohort found marginally significant in OS prediction (P = 0.069; Supplemental Figure 9b). This result showed that MIND outperformed MIND-GE in the prognostic assessment.

Comparisons of Molecular Prognostic Signatures

To demonstrate the prognostic ability of MIND compared to other prognostic signatures, we benchmarked against 5 molecular signatures, including 2 methylation-based CAFassociated signatures (**MIND** and **Vizoso 2015-M¹²**), 2 expression-based CAF-associated signatures (**MIND-GE** and **Navab 2011-GE¹³**), and 1 methylation-based tumor-associated signature (**Sandoval 2013-T¹⁴**), on the three datasets described in the manuscript (Supplemental Table 3).

MIND: A methylation-based CAF-associated signature derived from our discovery cohort, representing a linear combination of the centered beta value of 54 CpG sites.

Vizoso 2015-M: Vizoso et al. identified that abnormal DNA methylation on the *EDARADD* promoter can be used as a prognostic biomarker. In this comparison, the

average of the centered beta value of the 3 DM CpG sites they identified was used as a signature.

MIND-GE: An expression-based CAF-associated signature derived from our discovery cohort, representing a linear combination of the standardized gene expression of 54 genes. **Navab 2011-GE:** An expression-based CAF-associated signature, representing a linear combination of the standardized gene expression of 11 genes (13 probesets) derived by Navab et al. The weights from the original paper were applied directly.

Sandoval 2013-T: A methylation-based tumor-associated signature derived by Sandoval et al. using the dataset from GSE39279. The signature is based on the number of hypermethylated events of the 5 genes they identified. In this comparison, patients with any of the 10 DM-CpGs hypermethylated (beta value > 0.4) in the 5 genes were assigned to the high-risk group, otherwise were assigned to the low-risk group.

The first four signatures were first dichotomized by the median value among all the patients with methylation/expression profiles. Prognostic ability of the dichotomized signatures was examined by univariate Cox proportional hazard regression. Notably, some signatures were slightly modified when applied to the TCGA LUAD cohort because some CpGs' methylation values and some genes' expression values are not available in their preprocessed dataset. MIND was defined as the linear combination of the centered beta value of the 45 available CpGs using the same weights as in the original version. MIND-GE was defined as the linear combination of the 48 available genes using the same weights as in the original version. When computing Navab's 11-gene signature which was defined at the probeset level, the summation of the

weights corresponding to the probesets were used for the linear combination of the 11 genes.

The result showed that MIND is the only significant signature in the validation dataset when applying the signatures on the CAF samples, indicating that MIND can better reflect the malignancy level of CAFs than the other molecular signatures. Moreover, when applying the signatures on the tumor samples, MIND remains significant in both tumor datasets GSE39279 and the TCGA. Sandoval 2013-T is the most significant signature in the tumor dataset GSE39279 since it was derived from this dataset using the survival data. However, it's not significant in the TCGA dataset. On the other hand, Navab 2011-GE is significant in the TCGA dataset with the same hazard ratio as MIND. Together, the results illustrate the robust prognostic ability of MIND.

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Supplementary Methods Figure 1. Negatively correlated DM-DE probes were enriched in the promoter regions. With regard to genomic location of CpG sites, significantly cis-correlated DM-DE pairs were plotted with the mean beta-value difference in DNA methylation versus mean log fold change in gene expression in the promoter region (left) and gene body (right), respectively. Grey zone reflected the selective threshold. In the promoter region, 47/57 (82.5%) were negatively correlated whereas 264/395 (66.8%) were in the body.



Supplementary Methods Figure 2. The discrimination ability of 12 known CAF markers in gene expression.



Supplementary Methods Figure 3. Significance of MIND for its prognostic power. Applying MIND to DNA methylation profiling of tumor samples from two independent cohorts with equal size groups. (a) 190 NCSLC Patients in GSE39279 with non-missing MIND score and survival data were stratified into the MIND^{high} and MIND^{low} groups using the median cutoff (P = 0.024). (b) 440 patients in the TCGA LUAD cohort with non-missing MIND score and survival data were stratified into the MIND^{high} and MIND^{low} groups using the median cutoff (P = 0.024). (b) 440 patients in the TCGA LUAD cohort with non-missing MIND score and survival data were stratified into the MIND^{high} and MIND^{low} groups using the median cutoff (P = 0.023). RFS: relapse-free survival; OS: overall survival.