

Supplemental data

Targeted degradation of oncogenic KRAS^{G12V} triggers antitumor immunity in lung cancer models

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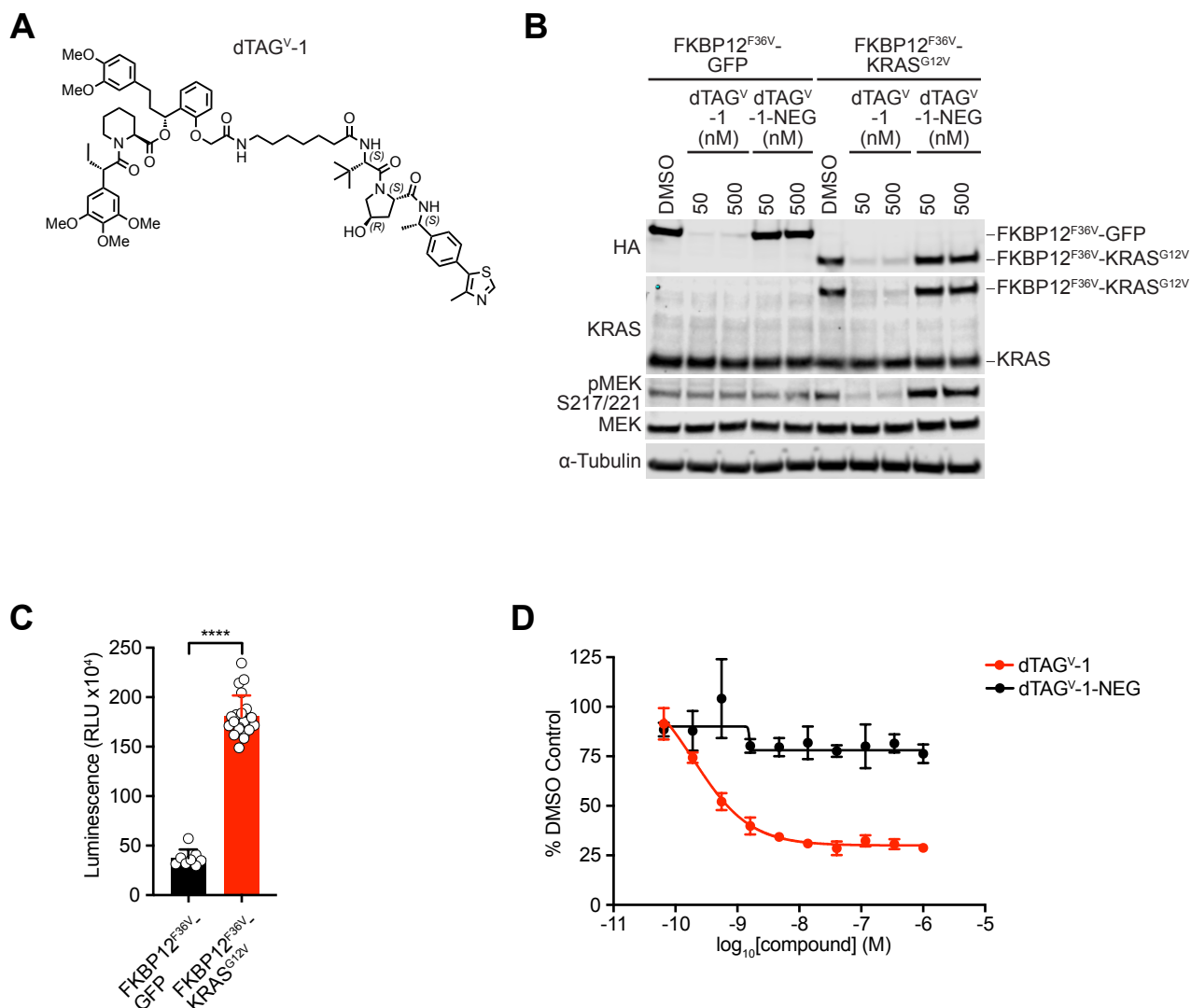
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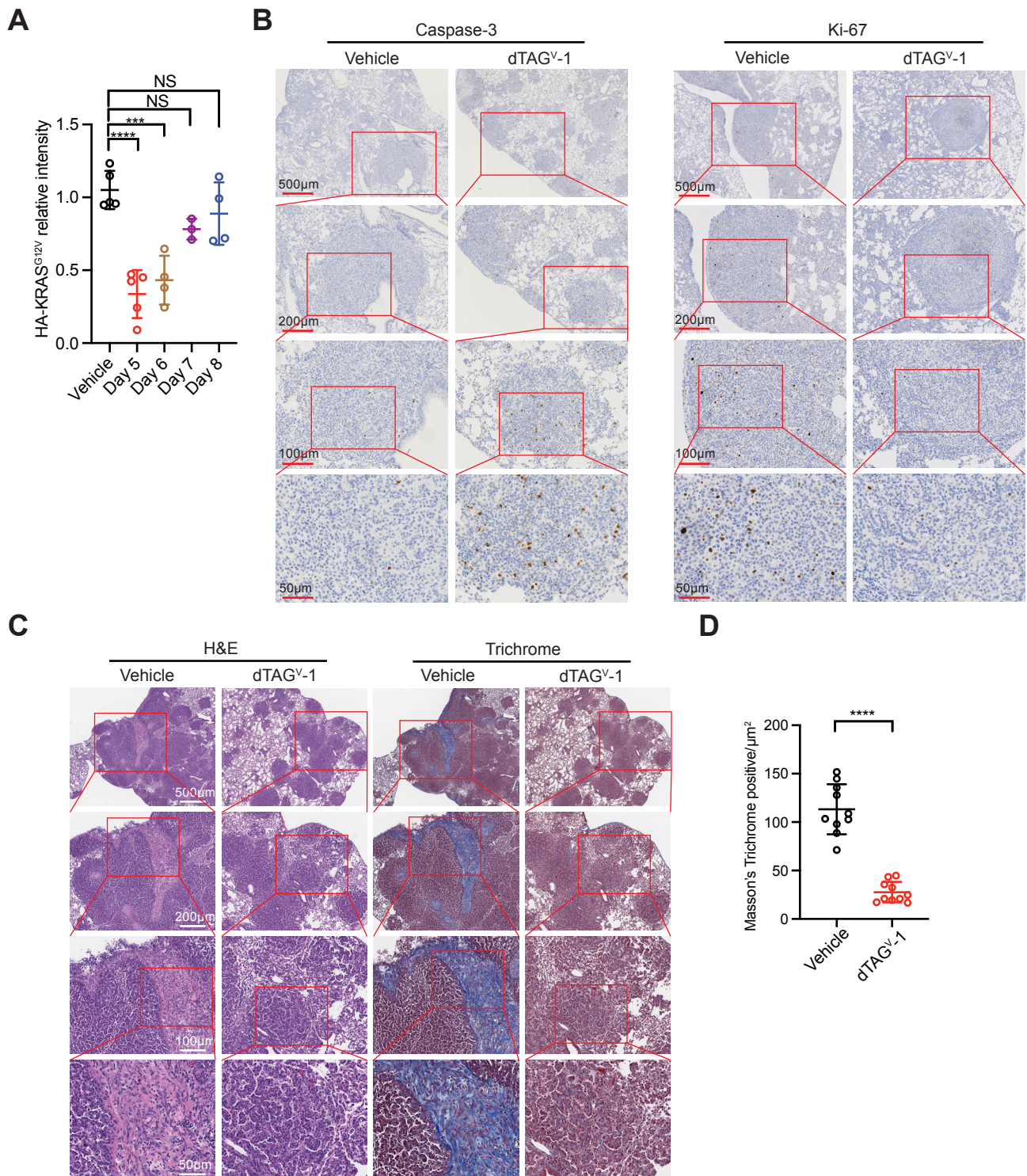
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Supplemental Figure 1. Validation of targeted degradation of KRAS^{G12V} using the dTAG system.

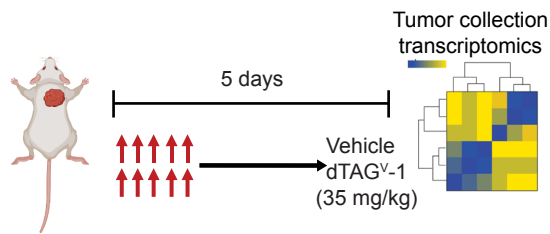
(A) Chemical structure of dTAG^V-1. **(B)** Immunoblot analysis of HA to detect FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP or FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V}, KRAS, pMEK, MEK, and α -Tubulin of AALE cells expressing FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP or FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} treated with DMSO, 50 or 500 nM dTAG^V-1, or 50 or 500 nM dTAG^V-1-NEG for 8 h. Data is representative of $n = 3$ independent experiments. **(C)** Antiproliferation of AALE cells expressing FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP or FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} cultured as ultra-low adherent 3D-spheroid suspensions for 144 h. Data is presented as mean \pm s.d. of $n = 8$ (FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP) or $n = 21$ (FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V}) biologically independent samples and are representative of $n = 3$ independent experiments. RLU = Relative light units. **(D)** DMSO-normalized antiproliferation of AALE cells expressing FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} cultured as ultra-low adherent 3D-spheroid suspensions and treated with the indicated compounds for 120 h. Data is presented as mean \pm s.d. of $n = 4$ biologically independent samples and are representative of $n = 3$ independent experiments. **** $P < 0.0001$ **(C)** by a two-tailed Student's t -test.



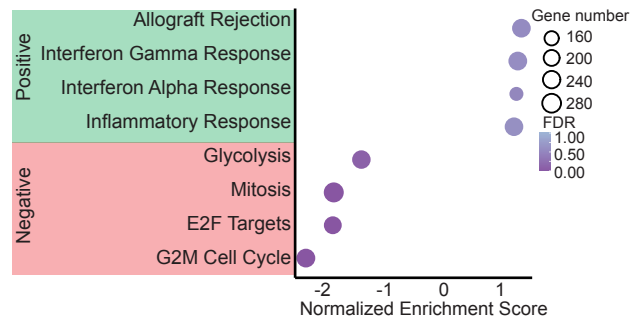
Supplemental Figure 2. dTAG^V-1 successfully degrades KRAS^{G12V} and confers anti-cancer effects in a KRAS^{G12V}-driven lung cancer GEMM.

(A) Quantification of HA to detect FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} relative levels from immunoblot analysis in Figure 3B. Data is presented as mean \pm s.d. from $n = 3-5$ per group. (B) Representative images of IHC staining for Ki-67 and cleaved caspase 3 of lung tumors after indicated treatment, related to Figure 3E. The scale bar represents 500, 200, 100 and 50 μm from top to bottom. (C) Representative images of H&E and Masson's trichrome staining of lung tumors after the indicated treatment. The scale bar represents 500, 200, 100 and 50 μm from top to bottom. (D) Quantification of Masson's trichrome staining after the indicated treatment. Data is presented as mean \pm s.d. of ten representative areas from $n = 3$ mice per group. *** $P < 0.001$, **** $P < 0.0001$, non-significant (NS) by a one-way ANOVA with post hoc Dunnett's test (A) and a two-tailed Student's t -test (D).

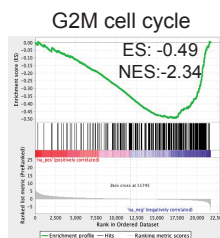
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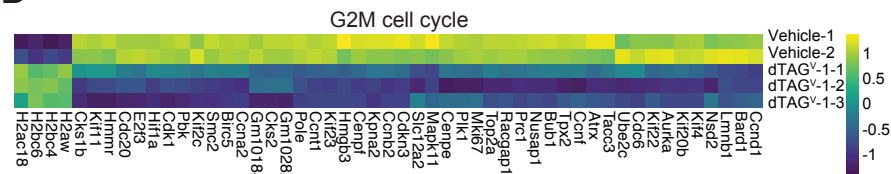
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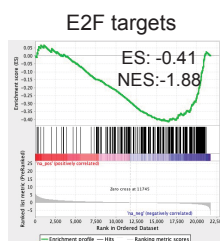
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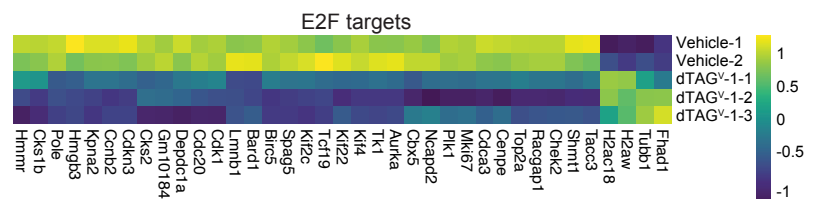
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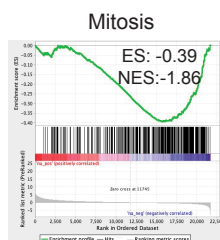
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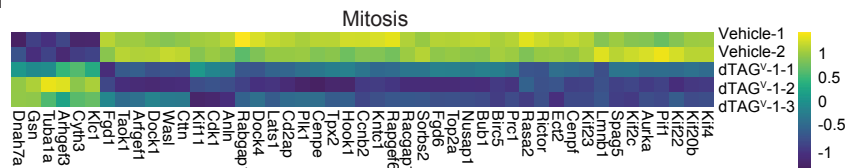
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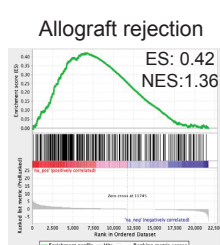
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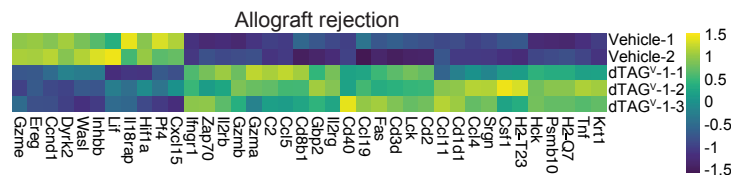
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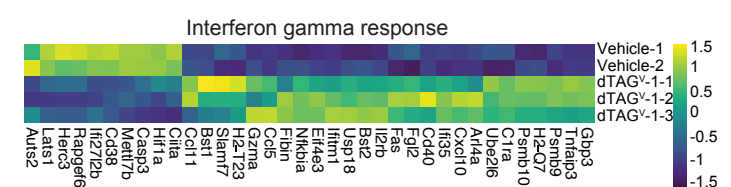
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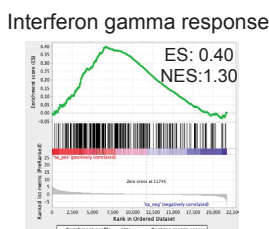
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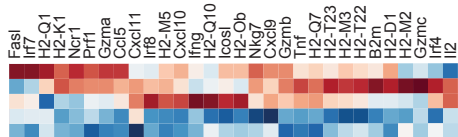
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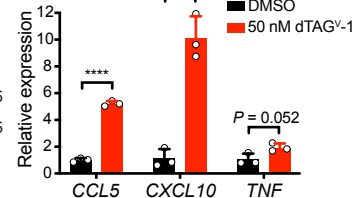
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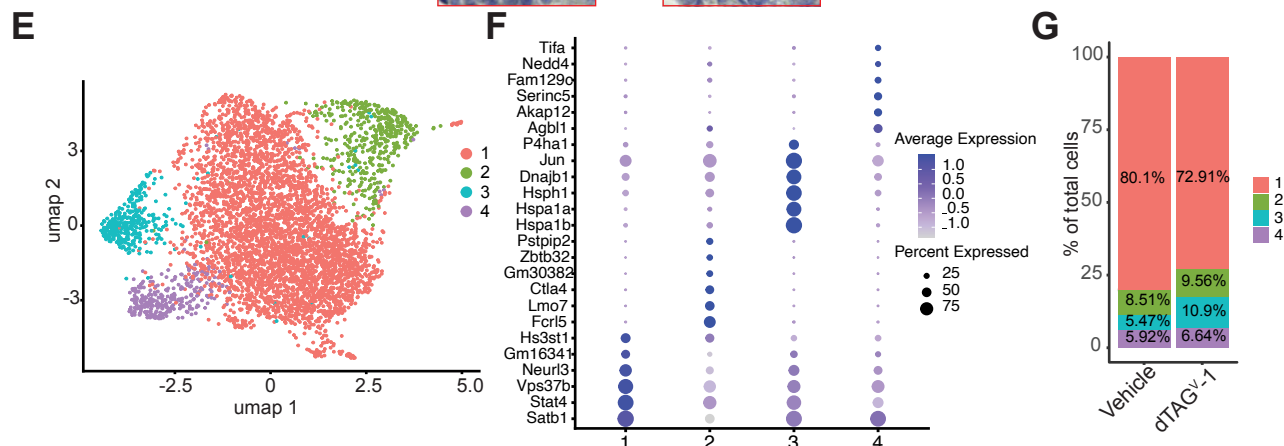
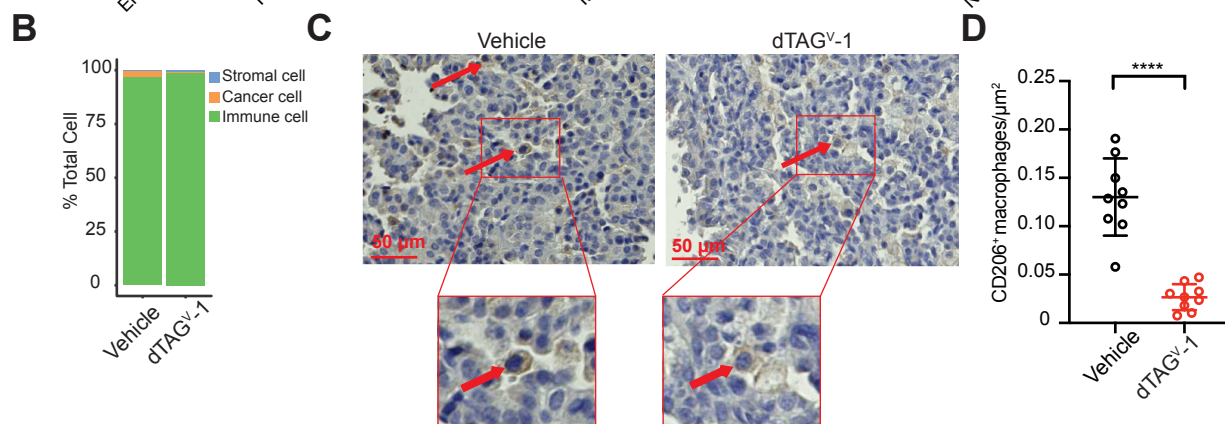
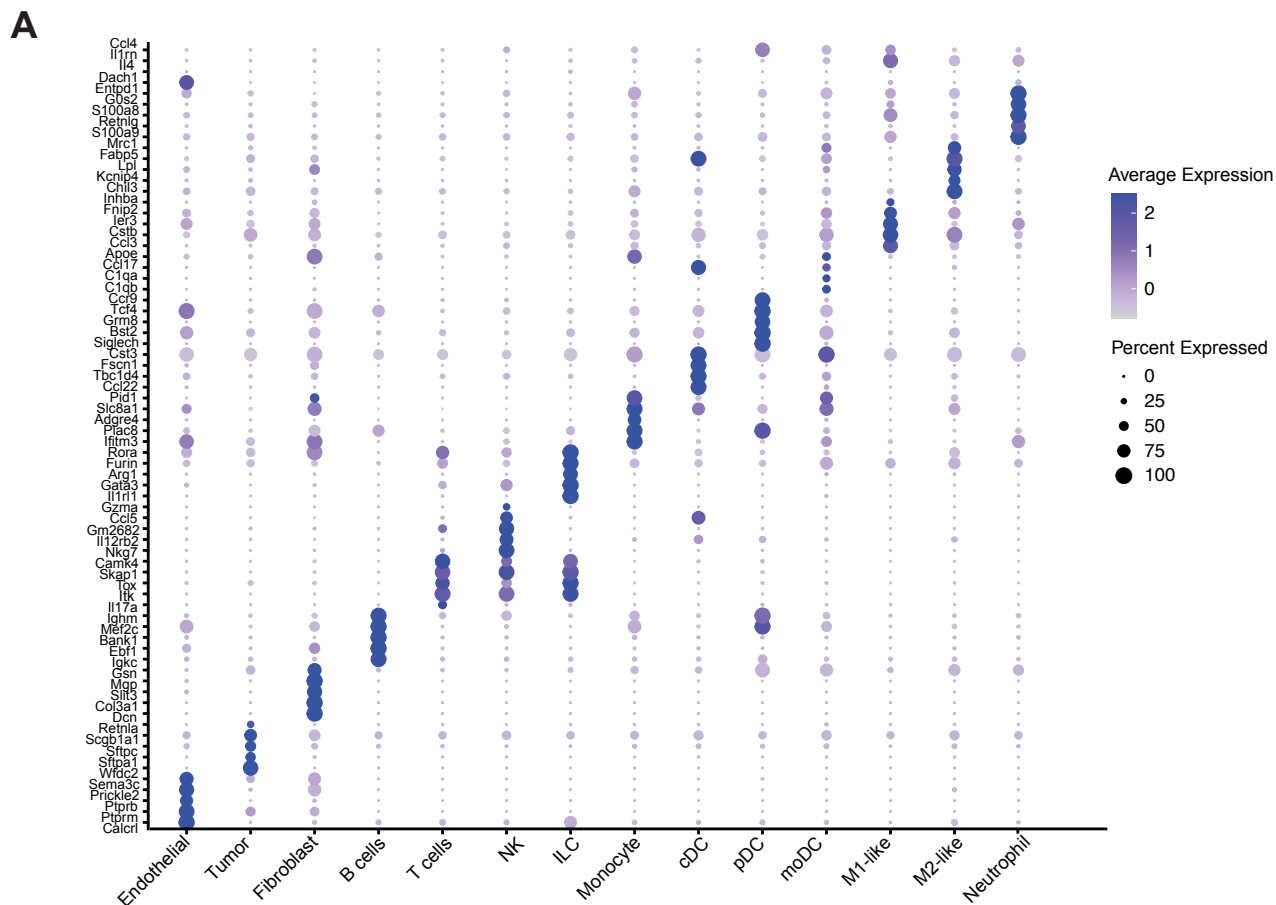


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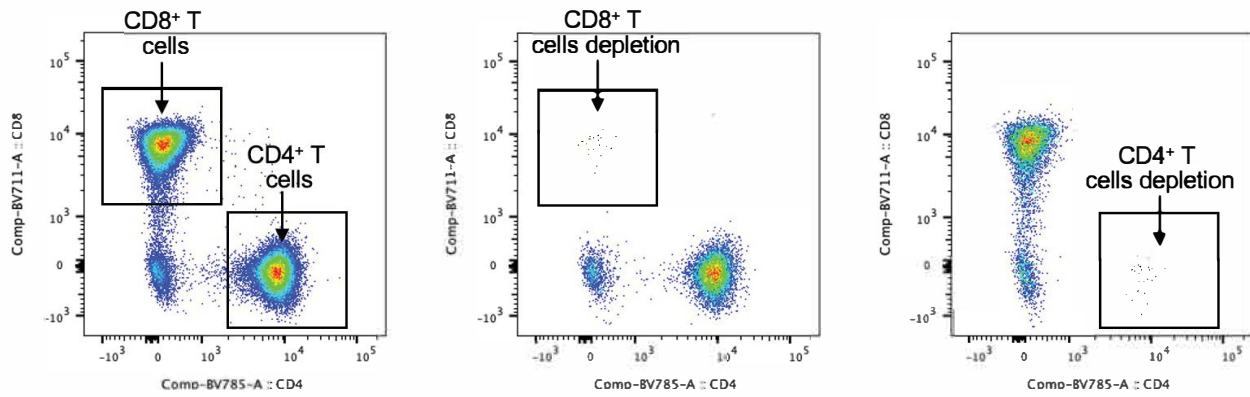
Supplemental Figure 3. Transcriptomic analysis reveals KRAS^{G12V} degradation triggers immune response signaling.

(A) Schematic showing the experimental design for transcriptomic analysis from $n = 2$ vehicle treated mice and $n = 3$ dTAG^V-1 treated mice. (B) Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) of differentially expressed genes showing the top positive and negatively enriched Hallmark pathways upon dTAG^V-1 treatment. (C-H) GSEA and heatmaps of the differentially expressed genes downregulated upon dTAG^V-1 treatment. Shown are G2M cell cycle (C and D), E2F targets (E and F) and mitosis (G and H), with the associated genes. (I-L) GSEA and heatmaps of the differentially expressed genes upregulated upon dTAG^V-1 treatment. Shown are allograft rejection (I and J) and interferon gamma response (K and L), with the associated genes. (M) Heatmap of the differentially expressed genes related to antitumor immunity in vehicle versus dTAG^V-1 treatment. (N) DMSO-normalized relative gene expression of AALE cells expressing FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} treated with DMSO or 50 nM dTAG^V-1 for 48 h. Data is presented as mean \pm s.d. of $n = 3$ technical replicates and are representative of $n = 3$ independent experiments. ** $P < 0.01$ and **** $P < 0.0001$ by a two-tailed Student's t -test.



Supplemental Figure 4. KRAS^{G12V} degradation reprograms the TME to promote anti-tumor immunity.

(A) Dot plot showing the top cell type specific marker genes identified in single-cell RNA-seq analyses. The size and opacity of the dots represent the percentage of cells and the average expression levels of genes in a cluster. (B) Distribution fraction of cancer, immune, and stromal compartments in response to indicated treatment. (C) Representative images of IHC staining for CD206 (MRC1) macrophages in the lung tumors after the indicated treatment. The scale bar represents 50 μ m. (D) Quantification of CD206 staining after indicated treatment. Data is presented as mean \pm s.d. of nine representative areas from $n = 3$ mice per group. **** $P < 0.0001$ by a two-tailed Student's t -test. (E) UMAP plot showing identified cell subsets in B cell population. (F) Dot plot showing the top cell type specific marker genes identified each subcluster of B cells. (G) Percentage of cells in the annotated B cell subsets in response to the indicated treatments.



Supplemental Figure 5. Confirmation of CD8⁺ and CD4⁺ T cell depletion in the *in vivo* treatment study.

Representative density plot of flow cytometry analysis showing CD8⁺ and CD4⁺ T cell population in control and their depletion upon anti-CD8 or anti-CD4 treatment, respectively.

Methods

Cell culture

The following cell lines were employed in this study: NIH/3T3 (source: ATCC, media: DMEM with 10% calf serum and 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin), 293FT (source: Thermo Fisher Scientific, media: DMEM with 10% FBS and 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin), PATU-8902 (source: DSMZ, media: DMEM with 10% FBS and 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin), and AALE (source: Dr. William Hahn, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; media: Lonza Small Airway Epithelial Cell Growth Medium BulletKit Cat#CC-3118). The development of engineered cell lines is detailed below. All cell lines were maintained in 37 °C and 5% CO₂ incubators and routinely tested negative for mycoplasma contamination.

Lentiviral plasmid construction

Cloning of pLEX_305-dTAG-GFP and pLEX_305-dTAG-KRAS^{G12V} were previously described (1, 2). To generate pLEX_305-GFP and pLEX_305-KRAS^{G12V} gateway recombination cloning strategies (Invitrogen) were employed. pENTREGFP2 (Addgene Cat#22450) and pDONR225_KRAS4b_G12V were cloned into pLEX_305 (Addgene Cat#41390) using LR clonase (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Cat#11791-020) as previously described (1, 3).

Lentivirus production, transduction, and cell line generation

pLEX_305-GFP, pLEX_305-KRAS^{G12V}, pLEX_305-dTAG-GFP, and pLEX_305-dTAG-KRAS^{G12V} lentivirus was prepared and concentrated as previously described (1, 3).

NIH/3T3 GFP, KRAS^{G12V}, FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP, and FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} cells

To generate NIH/3T3 GFP, KRAS^{G12V}, FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP, and FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} cells, NIH/3T3 cells were transduced with pLEX_305-GFP, pLEX_305-KRAS^{G12V}, pLEX_305-dTAG-GFP, or pLEX_305-dTAG-KRAS^{G12V} concentrated lentiviral supernatant in the presence of 4 µg/mL polybrene and then selected with 2 µg/mL puromycin.

AALE FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP and FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} cells

To generate AALE FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP and FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V} cells, AALE cells were transduced with pLEX_305-dTAG-GFP or pLEX_305-dTAG-KRAS^{G12V} concentrated lentiviral supernatant and then selected with 1.5 µg/mL puromycin.

PATU-8902 FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V}; KRAS^{-/-} cells

Development and characterization of PATU-8902 FKBP12^{F36V}-KRAS^{G12V}; KRAS^{-/-} cells were previously described (3, 4).

Confocal spinning disk microscopy

NIH/3T3 GFP or FKBP12^{F36V}-GFP cells were cultured on glass-bottom dishes (FluoroDish Cell Culture Dish, Cat#FD35) for 24 h and treated as indicated. After the indicated compound treatments, cells were fixed with 4 % paraformaldehyde in PBS for 15 minutes, washed three times with 1X PBS, and permeabilized with 0.1 % Triton X-100 in 1X PBS for 5 minutes. Cells were stained with nuclear counterstain DAPI (1:1000) for 5 minutes and washed three times with 1X PBS. Images were captured using a Dragonfly 200 High-speed Spinning Disk Confocal imaging platform (Andor Technology Ltd) with a Leica DMI8 microscope stand using a 100X/1.4 oil immersion objective, iXon EMCCD cameras and loaded with Fusion Version 2.3.0.36 (Oxford Instruments) software together with Imaris simultaneous deconvolution. The images were processed using ImageJ software.

Analysis of NIH/3T3 and AALE cell viability cultured as ultra-low adherent 3D-spheroids

NIH/3T3 and AALE cell viability was assayed in ultra-low adherent 3D-spheroid format using PrimeSurface 384-well 3D culture spheroid plates (S-bio, Cat#MS-9384WZ). NIH/3T3 cells were plated at a density of 250 cells/well in 50 μ L media, and AALE cells were plated at a density of 900 cells/well in 50 μ L media. After 24 hours of spheroid formation, cells were treated with compounds using the D300e digital dispenser (HP), and all wells were normalized to 100 nL total DMSO. 5 days later, plates were equilibrated to room temperature for 30 minutes followed by the addition of 10 μ L CellTiter-Glo (Promega, Cat#G7570) for 15 minutes with shaking at room temperature. Luminescence was measured on the CLARIOstar Plus Plate Reader (BMG LabTech). The data was normalized to DMSO-treated control wells and analyzed using GraphPad PRISM v10.

Compounds

dTAG^V-1 (hydrochloride salt) was synthesized and formulated as previously described (3). In brief, dTAG^V-1 powder was brought to room temperature, and 5 mg was weighed out in each vial for daily injections. For 35 mg/kg administrations, dTAG^V-1 was formulated by first dissolving into DMSO (70 mg/mL) and vortexed for 30 seconds to completely dissolve the compound. Next, a 20 % solutol (Sigma, Cat#42966): 0.9 % sterile saline (Moltox, Cat#51-40S022.052) (w:v) solution was prepared and added to the 70 mg/mL dTAG^V-1 solution. To improve solubility, the formulation was heated at 45 °C for five-minute intervals with vortexing for 30 seconds. The final formulation contained 5 % DMSO / 20 % solutol / 75 % sterile saline. Formulations were prepared weekly and stored at room temperature. dTAG^V-1 was intraperitoneally administered.

Histology and immunohistochemistry

As previously described (5), tumor samples were collected fresh and directly fixed overnight in 4 % paraformaldehyde and then processed through graded ethanol, xylene, and into paraffin on a Leica Peloris automated tissue processor. Five-micron thick sections were prepared and either stained with hematoxylin (Leica, Cat#3801575) and eosin (Leica, Cat#3801619) on a Leica ST5020 stainer or immunostained on a Leica BondRX automated stainer, according to the manufacturer's instructions. In brief, tissues for immunostaining underwent deparaffinization online followed by epitope retrieval for 20 minutes at 100 °C with Leica Biosystems ER2 solution (pH 9, Cat#AR9640) and endogenous peroxidase activity blocking with hydrogen peroxide. Sections were incubated for 30 minutes at room temperature with the primary antibody as indicated: HA (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#3724), pERK1/2 T202/Y204 (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#9101), cleaved caspase-3 (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#9579), Ki-67 (Abcam, Cat#ab16667), and CD206 (Abcam, Cat#ab64693). Primary antibodies were detected with antirabbit horseradish peroxidase-conjugated polymer and 3,3'-diaminobenzidine substrate that is provided in the Leica BOND Polymer Refine Detection System (Leica, Cat#DS9800). After counterstaining with hematoxylin, slides were scanned at 40X on a Leica AT2 whole slide scanner for analysis (Aperio Image Library v12.0.16, Leica Biosystems) or using a Keyence fluorescence microscope (BZ-X Series). The images were processed and quantified using ImageJ software.

Multiplex image analysis

The details of the procedure have been reported previously (6). Briefly, separate opal detector fluorophores were utilized for each different phenotyping marker as indicated: CD19 (Abcam, 1:1000, Cat#ab245235)/Opal520, CD3 (Abcam, 1:300, Cat#ab16669)/Opal780, and Foxp3 (Cell Signaling Technology, 1:200, Cat#98377S)/Opal690. Nuclear stain was carried out with spectral DAPI in the final step. Upon completion of scanning on the Vectra (Perkin Elmer), regions of interest (ROIs) were selected from whole slide scans using Phenochart and unmixed on inForm Tissue Analysis software (Akoya Biosciences). QuPath software was used for quantification analysis (7). QuPath enables cell detection using the nuclear stain, DAPI, and segments each individual cell. For phenotyping of individual cells, machine learning approach was utilized to

generate an object classifier for each marker, CD19, CD3 and Foxp3, which was then compiled together and applied onto multiplex images, subsequently normalized to the area size of tumor (per 100 μm^2).

Western blotting

Cells were lysed in RIPA buffer supplemented with cOmplete protease inhibitor (Roche), PhosSTOP phosphatase inhibitor (Roche), and 0.1% Benzodase (Millipore Sigma) at 4 °C with gentle end-to-end rotation for 1 hour. Similarly, tumor nodules were collected and homogenized in RIPA lysis buffer supplemented with Halt™ Protease and Phosphatase Inhibitor Cocktail for protein extraction. Lysates were clarified by centrifugation at 20,000 xg for 10 minutes at 4 °C. Subsequently, an equal amount of protein samples was subjected to 4-12% gradient gel SDS-PAGE, followed by overnight incubation with the primary antibody as indicated: HA (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#3724), GFP (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#2555), α -Tubulin (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#2125), total ERK1/2 (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#9102), pERK1/2 T202/Y204 (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#9101), MEK1/2 (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#4694), pMEK1/2 S217/221 (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat#9121), KRAS (LS Bio, Cat#LS-C175665), and Actin (Sigma, Cat#A5441). The next day, the membrane was washed with TBS-T (TBS with 0.1% Tween) and incubated with appropriate secondary antibodies (LI-COR) at room temperature for 1 hour. Membranes were imaged using the LI-COR Odyssey® Imaging System.

Quantitative PCR

Cells were treated, lysed, and homogenized using QIAshredder columns (Qiagen, Cat#79654), and RNA was extracted using the RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen, Cat#174134), according to the manufacturer's instructions. RNA concentration was determined using CLARIOstar Plus Plate Reader with LVIS plate (BMG LabTech, Cat#1600-680-102). cDNA was synthesized using the iScript Advanced cDNA synthesis kit (BioRad, Cat#1725038), according to the manufacturer's instructions. TaqMan qPCR was performed using QuantStudio 5 (Applied Biosystems). The relative expression of all targets including *RPS17* (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Cat#4453320 Hs00734303_g1), *CCL5* (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Cat#4453320 Hs00982282_m1), *CXCL10* (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Cat#4453320 Hs00171042_m1), and *TNF* (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Cat#4453320 Hs00174128_m1) was calculated using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_q}$ method.

MRI quantification

Animals were anesthetized with isoflurane to perform MRI of the lung field using Biospec 3T Magnet system (Bruker) to scan 16 consecutive sections. Tumor volumes within the whole lung were quantified using 3-D slicer software to reconstruct MRI volumetric measurements as described previously (8).

Tumor-infiltrating immune cell profiling

Tumor-bearing mice were euthanized, and mouse lungs were cut and minced into small pieces followed by digestion in collagenase D and Dnase I in Hank's balanced salt solution at 37 °C for 30 minutes. As previously described (9), the digested tissue was then subjected to a 70 μm cell strainer and treated with 1×RBC lysis buffer. The cell pellets were subsequently stained with indicated markers and then resuspended in PBS with 2% FBS for flow cytometry analysis on BD LSRFortessa and analyzed using FlowJo software. The following flow antibodies were used as indicated: CD45 (BioLegend, Cat#103155), CD8 (BioLegend, Cat#100759), CD44 (BioLegend, Cat#103032), CD62L (BioLegend, Cat#104417), CD69 (BioLegend, Cat#104508), and GZMB (BD Biosciences, Cat#562462).

RNA extraction and bulk-RNA sequencing analysis

Tumor nodules were collected and homogenized, and then subjected to total RNA extraction using RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen, Cat#74136) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Read qualities were evaluated using FASTQC (Babraham Institute) and mapping to GRCm38 (GENCODE M25) reference genome using STAR program (10). Gene expressions were quantified using RSEM program (11). Identification of differentially expressed genes was performed using DESeq2 in R/Bioconductor (R version 4.0.4). All plots were generated using customized R scripts.

Gene set enrichment analysis

Pathway enrichment analysis was performed on all genes ranked from high to low by DESeq2 estimated log2 fold change using the GSEAPreRanked function available in gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) program with enrichment statistic classic and 1,000 permutations (12). Gene sets (hallmark) were downloaded from MsigDB (13). Differential expression genes involved in top enriched pathways were selected to generate heatmaps using pheatmap R function with default hierarchical clustering method for gene orders. For large pathways, genes were truncated based on absolute log2 fold change values for visualization purposes. Additionally, a customized gene set including genes associated with antigen presentation (*B2m*), interferon signaling (*Irf4*, *Irf7*, and *Irf8*), cytotoxic granzymes (*Gzma*, *Gzmb* and *Gzmc*), NK cells (*Nkg7* and *Ncr1*), and antitumor cytokines/chemokines (*Tnf*, *Ifng* and *Cxcl10*) was established and a heatmap was generated based on their normalized expression values.

Single-cell RNA sequencing and analysis

Single-cell RNA-seq (scRNA-seq) was performed as previously described (8). To account for interindividual variability, we harvested and pooled fresh tumor-bearing lungs from two mice each group. Single-cell suspensions were obtained as above in the Tumor-infiltrating Immune Cell Profiling section and were sorted using 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) staining. Cells were then resuspended into single cells and loaded onto a 10X Genomics Chromium instrument to generate single-cell gel beads in emulsion. Approximately 5,000-10,000 cells were loaded per channel. Single-cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) libraries were prepared using the following Single Cell 3' Reagent Kits following the Single Cell 3' Reagent Kits V.2 User Guide. Libraries were run on an Illumina HiSeq 4000 system.

scRNA-seq data processing was described in our previous study (8). Briefly, Cell Ranger Single-Cell Software Suite was used to perform sample de-multiplexing, mapping (GRCm38 genome reference), barcode processing, and gene expression quantification. Filtered gene-barcode matrices that contained only barcodes with unique molecular identifier (UMI) counts that passed the threshold for cell detection were imported into R as a Seurat (Version 4.1.0) object for further analysis (14, 15). Cells with less than 200 genes detected or greater than 5% mitochondrial RNA content were deemed as low quality and excluded from analysis. RNA counts were normalized using Seurat::SCTransform function with regressions of cell cycle score, ribosomal and mitochondrial percentages for each sample. Multiple samples were integrated using Seurat standard scRNA-seq integration workflow with 3,000 anchor genes. A shared nearest neighbor graph was then built based on the first 40 principal components followed by identification of cell clusters using Leiden algorithm. The same principal components were used to generate the UMAP projection (16). Cell types were manually annotated based on canonical cell type markers and differentially expressed genes of each cluster identified using Seurat::FindAllMarkers function with a logistic regression model.

References

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