

Enhancing Cancer Immunotherapy with Modified Adaptor Protein and CAR-NK Cell Technology

Tech ID: 34396 / UC Case 2024-070-0

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

This cancer immunotherapy leverages engineered natural killer (NK) cells enhanced by a novel recombinant polypeptide technology. At its core, the FcεR1γ transmembrane domain is modified with a 4-1BB co-stimulatory motif, driving superior activation of NK cell receptors such as NKp30, NKp46, and CD16. Further innovation combines this construct with chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) extracellular domains, such as CD19ScFv-CD8hinge, creating a dual-activation mechanism that integrates innate and adaptive immune responses. This approach enables NK cells to effectively target tumor-associated antigens while overcoming challenges posed by immune inhibitory mechanisms like HLA-E-mediated tolerance.

Competitive Advantages:

- ▶ **Enhanced NK Cell Function:** The modified FcεR1γ with 4-1BB significantly increases the surface expression and activation of NK cell receptors, boosting lytic efficiency against cancer cells.
- ▶ **Overcoming Inhibitory Mechanisms:** Superior activation of NKp30 and CD16 enables NK cells to bypass HLA-E-mediated immune suppression, a critical barrier in cancer immunotherapy.
- ▶ **Dual-Targeting Capability:** Combining CAR and FcεR1γ modifications allows NK cells to simultaneously recognize tumor antigens and stress-induced ligands, improving precision and potency.
- ▶ **Versatility Across Indications:** Tailored CAR designs (e.g., CD19, BCMA, CD33) make this platform adaptable for hematological malignancies and solid tumors, offering broad therapeutic potential.
- ▶ **“Off-the-Shelf” Treatment:** Leveraging NK cell sources such as NK92 cell lines or iPSC-derived NK cells supports scalable, allogeneic therapies with reduced risk of adverse effects like cytokine release syndrome.

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

Preclinical studies have demonstrated robust efficacy of FcεR1γ41BB and CAR-FcεR1γ constructs in enhancing NK cell-mediated cytotoxicity. Key results include:

- ▶ Increased NKp30, NKp46, and CD16 expression in FcεR1γ41BB-modified NK cells.

CONTACT

Gemma E. Rooney

Gemma.Rooney@ucsf.edu

tel: 415-625-9093.



OTHER INFORMATION

KEYWORDS

NK Cells, CAR-NK, Cancer

Immunotherapy

CATEGORIZED AS

- ▶ **Medical**
- ▶ Disease: [Cancer](#)
- ▶ [Therapeutics](#)

RELATED CASES

2024-070-0

- ▶ Potent killing of cancer cells in vitro, including HLA-E+ targets, using CD19ScFv-CD8hinge-FcεR1γ41BB CAR constructs.
- ▶ Enhanced antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) with therapeutic antibodies such as Rituximab.

RELATED MATERIALS

- ▶ [FcεR1γ-based activating chimeric antigen receptor enhanced natural killer cell function against HLA-E+ cells](#) - 11/02/2025

PATENT STATUS

Patent Pending

ADDRESS

UCSF

Innovation Ventures

600 16th St, Genentech Hall, S-272,
San Francisco, CA 94158

CONTACT

Tel:

innovation@ucsf.edu

<https://innovation.ucsf.edu>

Fax:

CONNECT

 Follow  Connect

© 2025, The Regents of the University of
California

[Terms of use](#) [Privacy Notice](#)