

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

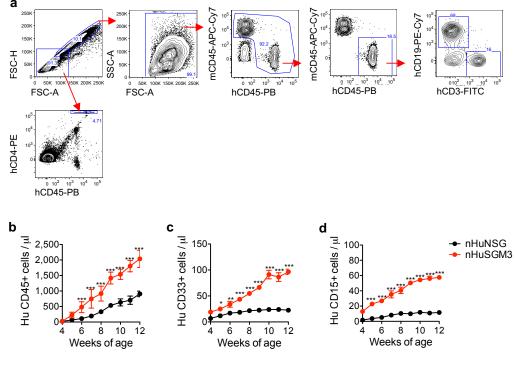
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# Monocyte-derived IL-1 and IL-6 are differentially required for cytokine-release syndrome and neurotoxicity due to CAR T cells

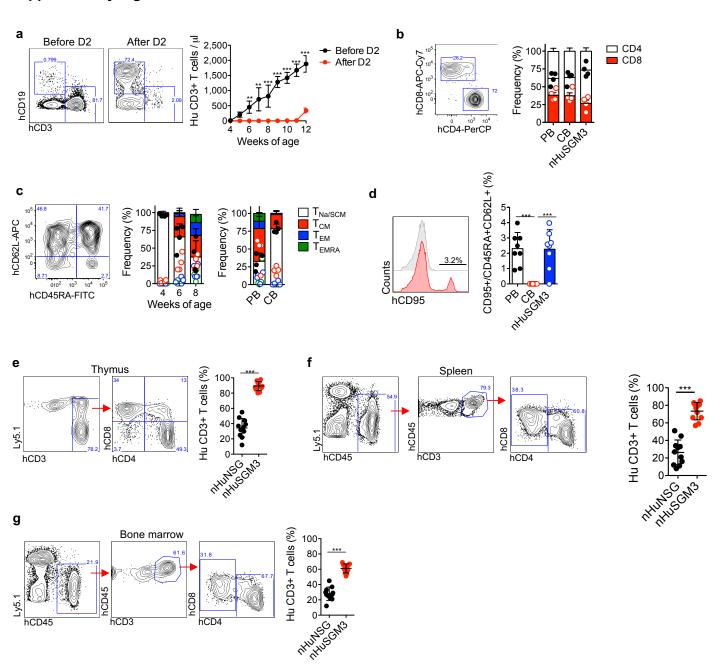
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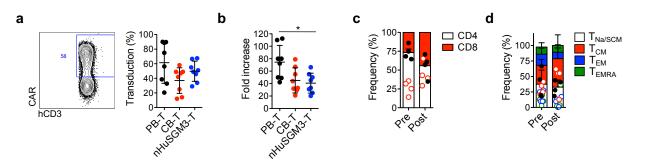


**Human lympho-hematopoietic reconstitution in HuSGM3 mice.** 10<sup>5</sup> human hematopoietic stem/progenitor cells (HSPCs) were injected intraliver into newborn NSG mice (nHuNSG) or newborn NSG mice triple transgenic for human stem cell factor, GM-CSF and IL-3 (nHuSGM3). (a) Peripheral blood of HSPC-humanized mice was incubated with fluorochrome-conjugated monoclonal antibodies, lysed with ACK and run through a FACS Canto II apparatus. Serial gating strategy for cells (upper plots) and counting fluoro-spheres (lower plots). (b-d) Mean Hu CD45<sup>+</sup>, CD33<sup>+</sup> or CD15<sup>+</sup> cell counts ± SD (n=15 from 3 independent experiments each group). \*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test.

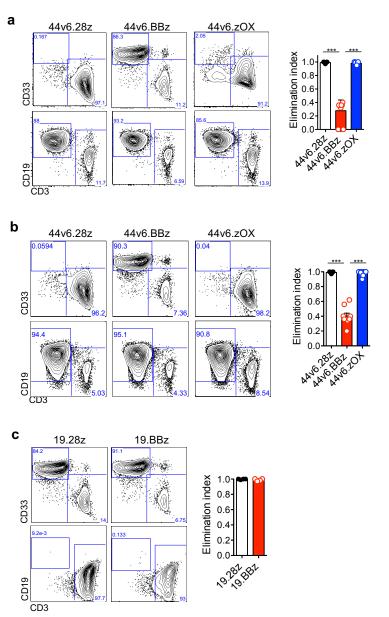
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Human T cell repopulation of lymphoid organs in nHuSGM3 mice. Newborn HSPC-humanized NSG (nHuNSG) or newborn SGM3 mice (nHuSGM3) were analyzed for T cell reconstitution in peripheral blood and lymphoid tissues. (a) Representative plot (5-weeks old) and mean human CD3+ counts ± SD in nHuSGM3 mice transplanted before or after post-natal day 2 (n=5 each group). \*\*\*, P<0.01; \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test. (b) Representative plot and mean CD4/CD8 frequencies ± SD in human peripheral blood (PB, n=4), cord blood (CB, n=4) or 8-weeks old nHuSGM3 mice (n=4). (c) Representative plot and mean frequencies of CD45RA+/CD62L+ naïve/stem cell memory (T<sub>Na</sub>/<sub>SCM</sub>), CD45RA-/CD62L+ central memory (T<sub>CM</sub>), CD45RA-/CD62L- effector memory (T<sub>EM</sub>) and CD45RA+/CD62L- effector memory RA (T<sub>EM</sub>RA) cells ± SD in 4, 6 or 8 weeks-old nHuSGM3 mice, human PB or CB (n=4 each group). (d) Representative plot (grey, isotype control; red, specific antibody) and mean CD95+ percentages over CD8+/CD45RA+/CD62L+ T cells ± SD in human PB, CB or 4 weeks-old nHuSGM3 mice (n=8 each group). \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a one-way ANOVA test. (e-g) Representative gating strategy and mean human CD3+ percentages ± SD in the thymus, spleen or bone marrow of 8 weeks-old nHuSGM3 mice (n=11 each group). \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a Mann-Whitney test.



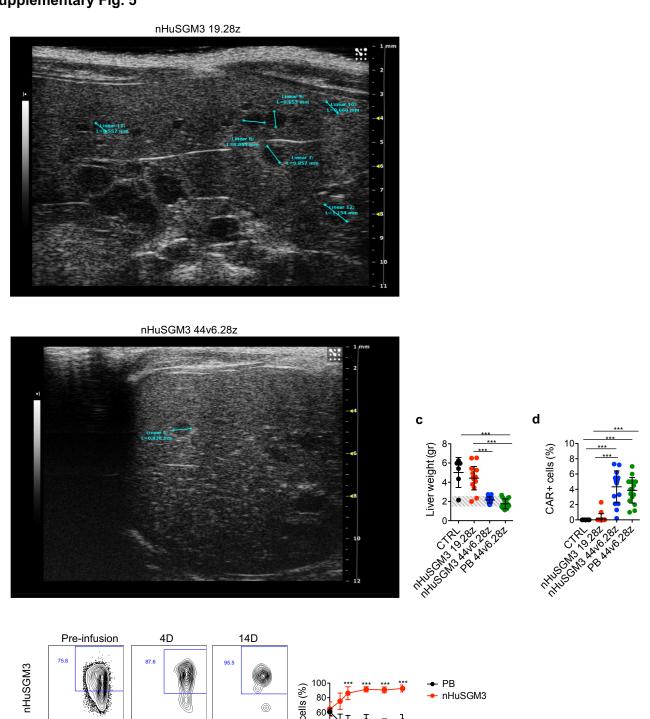
CAR transduction of T cells from nHuSGM3 mice. T cells from human peripheral blood (PB), cord-blood (CB) or from the spleen of newborn HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (nHuSGM3) were activated with anti-CD3/CD28 beads, transduced with a CD44v6.28z CAR and cultured with IL-7/IL-15. (a) Representative plot of CAR positivity and transduction percentages  $\pm$  SD after 7 days (n=8 each group). (b) Fold increases over initial numbers  $\pm$  SD after 15 days (n=8 each group). \*, P<0.05 by a one-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (c-d) Mean human CD4/CD8 frequencies  $\pm$  SD and mean human CD45RA+/CD62L+ naïve/stem cell memory ( $T_{Na}/S_{CM}$ ), CD45RA-/CD62L+ central memory ( $T_{EM}$ ) and CD45RA+/CD62L- effector memory RA ( $T_{EM}$ RA) frequencies  $\pm$  SD in T cells from nHuSGM3 mice before beads activation (Pre, n=4) or after 15 days (Post, n=4).

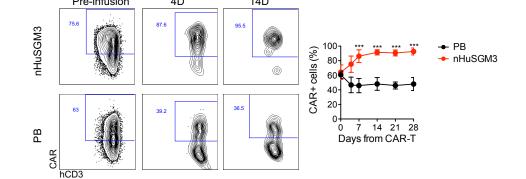


In vitro functionality of CAR-T cells from nHuSGM3 mice. T cells from newborn HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (nHuSGM3) or from human peripheral blood (PB) were activated with CD3/CD28-beads, CAR transduced and cultured with IL-7/IL-15. After 15 days, CAR-T cells were co-cultured at a 1:10 effector-to-target ratio with either CD33+CD44v6+ THP-1 leukemic cells (upper plots) or CD19+CD44v6- BV173 leukemic cells (lower plots). (a-b) Representative 4-days co-culture plots and mean THP1 leukemia elimination indexes ± SD (see Methods) by either (a) nHuSGM3 or (b) PB T cells transduced with a CD44v6.28z, a CD44v6.BBz or a CD44v6.zOX CAR (n=9 independent experiments each group).

\*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a one-way ANOVA test. (c) Representative 4-days co-culture plots and mean BV173 leukemia elimination indexes ± SD by nHuSGM3 T cells transduced with either a CD19.28z or a CD19.BBz CAR (n=4 independent experiments each group).

b

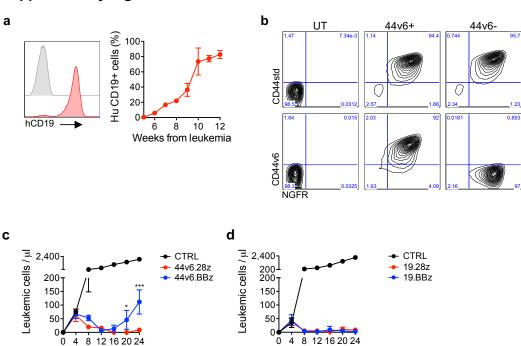




In vivo antileukemia effects by 28z CAR-T cells from nHuSGM3 mice. 2x10<sup>6</sup> CD19·CD44v6<sup>+</sup> THP-1 leukemic cells were infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old NSG mice. After 1 week, leukemic NSG mice received 5x10<sup>6</sup> T cells derived from newborn HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (nHuSGM3), and either un-transduced as control (CTRL) or transduced with a CD19.28z (nHuSGM3 19.28z) or a CD44v6.28z CAR (nHuSGM3 44v6.28z). A group of leukemic NSG mice received T cells from human peripheral blood transduced with a CD44v6.28z CAR (PB 44v6.28z). (a-b) Representative NSG liver ultrasound images. Light arrows: liver sarcomas. (c-d) Mean liver weights ± SD and mean percentages of intra-liver CAR<sup>+</sup> T cells ± SD (CTRL, n=6 from 2 independent experiments; nHuSGM3 19.28z, n=16 from 3 independent experiments; nHuSGM3 44v6.28z, n=16 from 3 independent experiments). Dashed area: range of mouse normal liver weight.

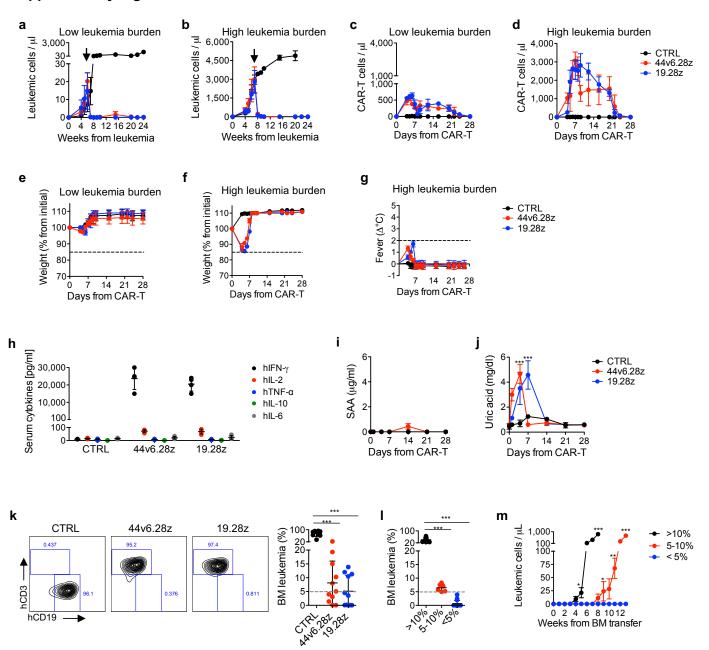
\*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a one-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (e) Representative plots and mean percentages of CAR<sup>+</sup> cells over circulating human T cells ± SD from either 44v6.28z PB or nHuSGM3 mice. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction.

Weeks from leukemia

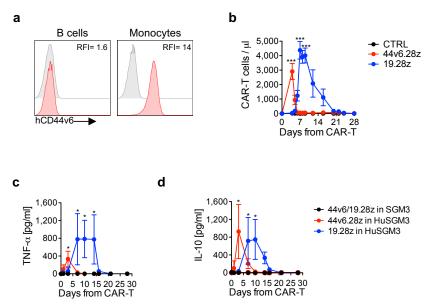


In vivo antileukemia effects by BBz CAR-T cells from nHuSGM3 mice.  $5x10^6$  CD19<sup>+</sup> ALL-CM leukemic cells were infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old NSG mice. (a) Representative plot (grey, isotype control; red, specific antibody) and mean circulating CD19<sup>+</sup> leukemic cell percentages ± SD (n=8 from 2 independent experiments). (b) Representative plots of un-transduced ALL-CM cells (UT, left plots) or ALL-CM cells transduced with NGFR-marked CD44 constructs containing (CD44v6+, middle plots) or not (CD44v6-, right plots) the CD44v6 isoform. (c-d)  $5x10^6$  CD19<sup>+</sup>CD44v6<sup>+</sup> ALL-CM leukemic cells were infused in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice. After 5 weeks, leukemic SGM3 mice received  $2x10^6$  T cells from newborn HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (nHuSGM3), either un-transduced as control (CTRL), or transduced with either a CD44v6.28z (44v6.28z) or a CD44v6.BBz (44v6.BBz) CAR, or with either a CD19.28z (19.28z) or a CD19.BBz CAR (19.BBz)). Mean leukemic cell counts ± SD (n=6 each group from two independent experiments).\*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni correction.

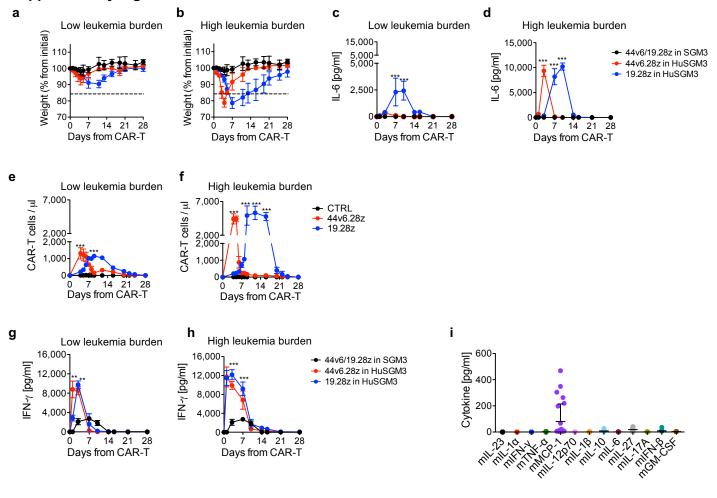
Weeks from leukemia



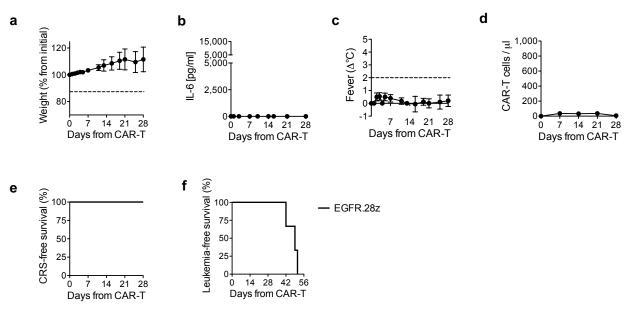
Tumor lysis syndrome by CAR-T cells from nHUSGM3 mice. 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19<sup>+</sup>CD44v6<sup>+</sup> ALL-CM leukemic cells were infused in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice. After 5 (low leukemia burden) or 7 weeks (high leukemic burden), leukemic SGM3 mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> T cells from newborn HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (nHuSGM3), either un-transduced as control (CTRL, n=6 from 2 independent experiments), or transduced with a CD44v6.28z (44v6.28z, n=12 from 2 independent experiments) or a CD19.28z CAR (19.28z, n=12 from 2 independent experiments). (a-b) Mean leukemic cell counts ± SD. Arrow indicated CAR-T cell infusion. (c-d) Mean CAR-T cell counts ± SD. (e-f) Mean body weight variation percentages ± SD. Dashed lines: threshold for severe weight loss (>15%). (g) Mean body temperature variations ± SD. Dashed line: threshold for high fever (ΔT>2°C). (h) Mean human IFN-γ, IL-2, TNF-α, IL-10 or IL-6 serum concentrations ± SD 7 days after CAR-T cell infusion in high leukemia burden mice. (i-j) Mean mouse SAA and uric acid serum concentrations ± SD in high leukemia burden mice. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (k) Representative plots and mean bone marrow (BM) CD19<sup>+</sup> leukemic cell percentages ± SD 24 weeks after CAR-T cell infusion. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a one-way ANOVA test. (I) Mean BM CD19<sup>+</sup> leukemic cell percentages ± SD categorized as follows: >10%, n=10 from 2 independent experiments; 5-10%, n=11 from 2 independent experiments; c5%, n=10 from 2 independent experiments. (m) Mean leukemic cell counts ± SD after CD3-depleted BM cell infusion in secondary 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 recipients according to previous category. \*, P<0.05; \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction.



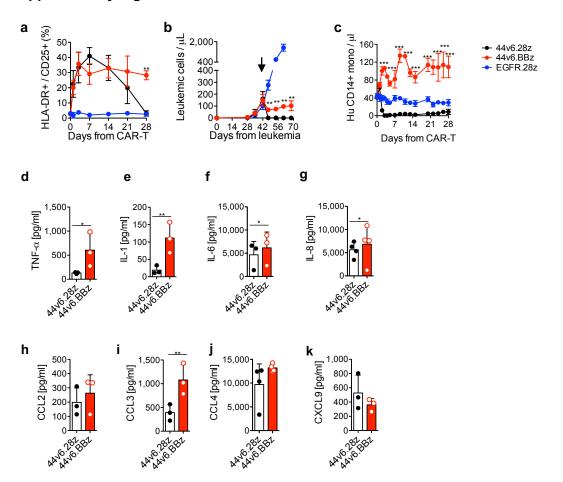
**CAR-T cell expansion in HuSGM3 mice.** 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs were infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 4 weeks, HuSGM3 mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> T cells from newborn HuSGM3 mice, either un-transduced as control (CTRL), or transduced with a CD44v6.28z (44v6.28z) or a CD19.28z CAR (19.28z). n=15 from 3 independent experiments each group. (a) Representative CD44v6 expression plots on circulating B cells and monocytes (grey, isotype control; red, specific antibody) before CAR-T cell infusion. (b) Mean CAR-T cell counts ± SD. (c-d) Besides 44v6.28z in HuSGM3 and 19.28z in HuSGM3, a group of 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice received CAR-T cells without prior HSC humanization (44v6.28z/19.28z in SGM3, n=18 from 3 independent experiments). Mean serum TNF-α and IL-10 concentration ± SD. \*, P<0.05; \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction.



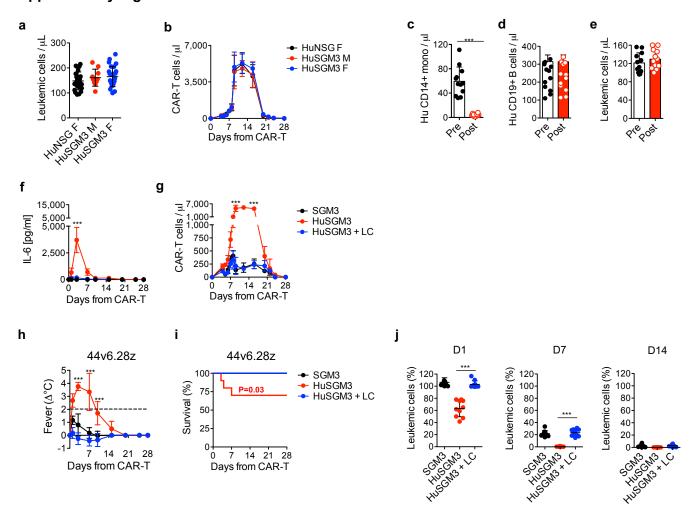
Correlation between leukemia burden, CAR-T cell expansion and cytokine release in HuSGM3 mice. 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs and 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19<sup>+</sup>CD44v6<sup>+</sup> ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 5 (low leukemia burden) or 7 weeks (high leukemic burden), HuSGM3 mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> T cells from newborn HuSGM3 mice, either un-transduced as control (CTRL), or transduced with a CD44v6.28z (44v6.28z in HuSGM3) or a CD19.28z CAR (19.28z in HuSGM3). A group of 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice received CAR-T cells without prior HSC humanization (44v6/19.28z in SGM3). n=15 from 3 independent experiments each group. (a-b) Mean body weight variation percentages ± SD. (c-d) Mean human IL-6 serum concentrations ± SD. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (g-f) Mean human IFN-γ serum concentrations ± SD. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (g-h) Mean human IFN-γ serum concentrations ± SD. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (g-h) Mean human IFN-γ serum concentrations ± SD. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (g-h) Mean human IFN-γ serum concentrations ± SD. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (g-h) Mean human IFN-γ serum concentrations



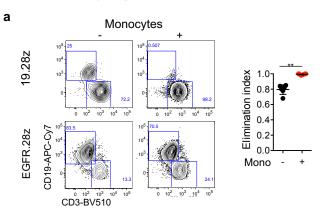
Lack of CRS by irrelevant CAR-T cells in leukemic HuSGM3 mice. 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs and 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19<sup>+</sup>CD44v6<sup>+</sup> ALL-CM leukemic cells were coinfused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 7 weeks, leukemic HuSGM3 mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> newborn HuSGM3 mice T cells transduced with an irrelevant EGFR.28z CAR (EGFR.28z, n=10 from 2 independent experiments). (a) Mean body weight variation percentages ± SD. (b) Mean human IL-6 serum concentration ± SD. (c) Mean body temperature variations ± SD. (d) Mean CAR-T cell counts ± SD. (e) CRS-free survival (see Methods). (f) leukemia-free survival (see Methods).

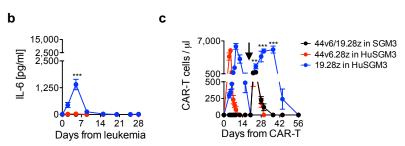


**44v6.BBz CAR-T cell-induced monocytosis in leukemic HuSGM3 mice.** 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs and 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19\*CD44v6\* ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 7 weeks, leukemic HuSGM3 mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> T cells from newborn HuSGM3 transduced with either a CD44v6.28z CAR (44v6.28z), a CD44v6.BBz CAR (44v6.BBz), or a EGFR.28z CAR (EGFR.28z), n=10 from 2 independent experiments each group. (a) Mean HLA-DR\*CD25\* CAR-T cell percentages ± SD. (b) Mean leukemic cell counts ± SD. Arrow: CAR-T cell infusion. (c) Mean CD14\* monocyte counts ± SD. \*\*, P<0.01; \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (d-k) Mean human TNF-α (n=3 each group), IL-1 (n=3 each group), IL-6 (n=3 each group), IL-8 (n=4 each group), CCL2 (n=3 each group), CCL3 (n=3 each group), CCL4 (n=4 each group) and CXCL9 (n=3 each group) serum concentrations ± SD 7 days after CAR-T cell infusion. \*, P<0.05; \*\*, P<0.01 by a Mann-Whitney test with Bonferroni correction.



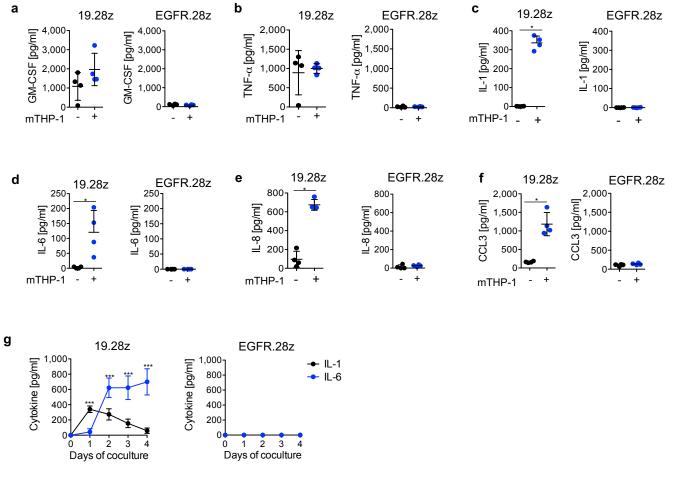
Lack of CAR-T cell expansion in monocyte-depleted leukemic HuSGM3 mice. 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs and 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19\*CD44v6\* ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old female NSG (HuNSG F, n=26 from 3 independent experiments), male SGM3 (HuSGM3 M, n=10 from 2 independent experiments) or female SGM3 (HuSGM3 F, n=26 from 3 independent experiments,). After 5 weeks, leukemic HSPC-humanized mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> newborn HuSGM3 T cells transduced with a CD19.28z CAR. (a) Mean leukemic cell counts ± SD after 5 weeks from leukemia. (b) Mean CAR-T cell counts ± SD. (c-e) Leukemic non-HSC humanized and HuSGM3 mice were treated with lyposomal clodronate (+LC) prior to receiving HuSGM3 T cells transduced with either a CD19.28z (n=10 from 2 independent experiments) or a CD44v6.28z CAR (n=10 from 2 independent experiments). Mean Hu CD14\* monocyte, CD19\* B cell and leukemic cell counts ± SD one day before (Pre) or three days after (Post) LC administration. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 from a one-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (f) Mean human IL-6 serum concentrations ± SD. (g) Mean CAR-T cell counts ± SD. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (h) Mean body temperature variations ± SD. Dashed lines: threshold for high fever (ΔT>2°C). \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (i) Kaplan-Meyer survival curve with exact P value from a Mantel-cox two-sided log-rank test. (j) Mean leukemic cell percentages at day 1, 7 and 14 from CD44v6.28z CAR-T cell infusion. \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 from a one-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction.



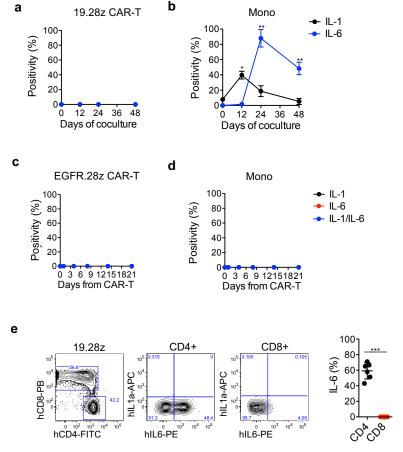


Contribution of monocyte-like cells to *in vitro* leukemia killing and *in vivo* IL-6 release by CAR-T cells. Human peripheral blood T cells were activated with CD3/CD28-beads, transduced with either a CD19.28z or an irrelevant EGFR.28z and cultured with IL-7/IL-15. After 15 days, CAR-T cells were co-cultured at a 1:10 effector-to-target ratio with CD19+ BV173 leukemic cells with or without autologous monocytes (see Methods, n=6 independent experiments each). (a) Representative 4-days co-culture plots and mean BV173 leukemia elimination indexes ± SD.

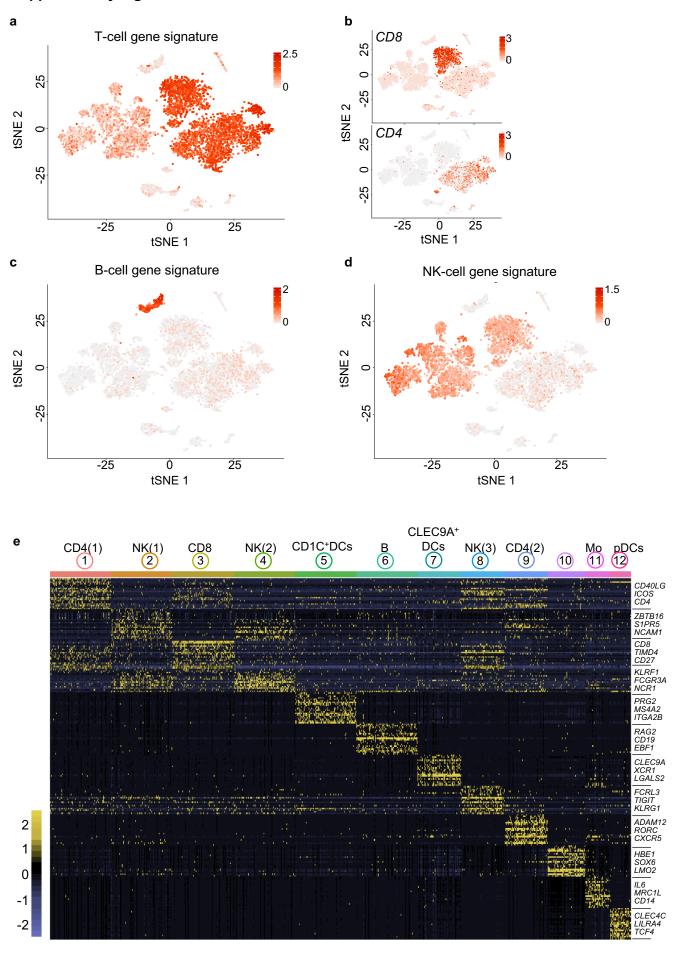
\*\*\*, P<0.01 by a Mann-Whitney test with Bonferroni correction. (b-c) 105 HSPCs were infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 4 weeks, HuSGM3 mice received 2x106 newborn HuSGM3 T cells transduced with either a CD44v6.28z (44v6.28z in HuSGM3) or a CD19.28z CAR (19.28z). A group of 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice received CAR-T cells without prior HSC humanization (44v6/19.28z in SGM3). n=15 from 3 independent experiments each group. After additional 3 weeks, mice were challenged with 5x106 CD19+CD44v6+ ALL-CM leukemic cells (arrow). Mean human IL-6 serum concentrations ± SD. Mean CAR-T cell counts ± SD. \*\*\*, P<0.01; \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction.

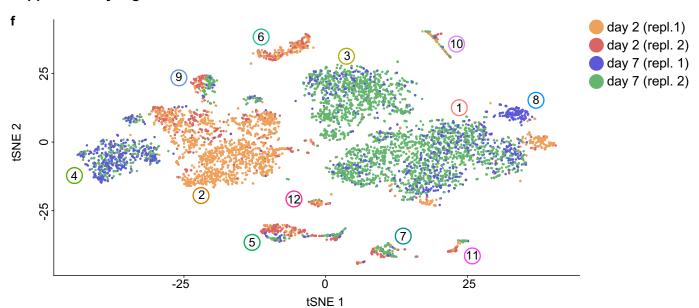


In vitro IL-1/IL-6 induction in monocyte-like cells by CAR-T cells. Human peripheral blood T cells were activated with CD3/CD28-beads, transduced with either a CD19.28z or an irrelevant EGFR CAR and cultured with IL-7/IL-15. After 15 days, CAR-T cells were co-cultured at a 1:10 effector-to-target ratio with CD19<sup>+</sup> BV173 leukemic cells. 48 hrs co-culture supernatants were added to THP1 monocyte-like cells (see Methods). (a-f) Mean human GM-CSF, TNF-α, IL-1, IL-6, IL-8 and CCL3 concentrations in 24 hrs THP1 monocyte-like supernatants ± SD (n=4 independent experiments). \*, P<0.05 by a two-tailed Student's t test. (g) Mean human IL-1 and IL-6 concentrations ± SD in THP1 monocyte-like cell supernatants. \*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test.

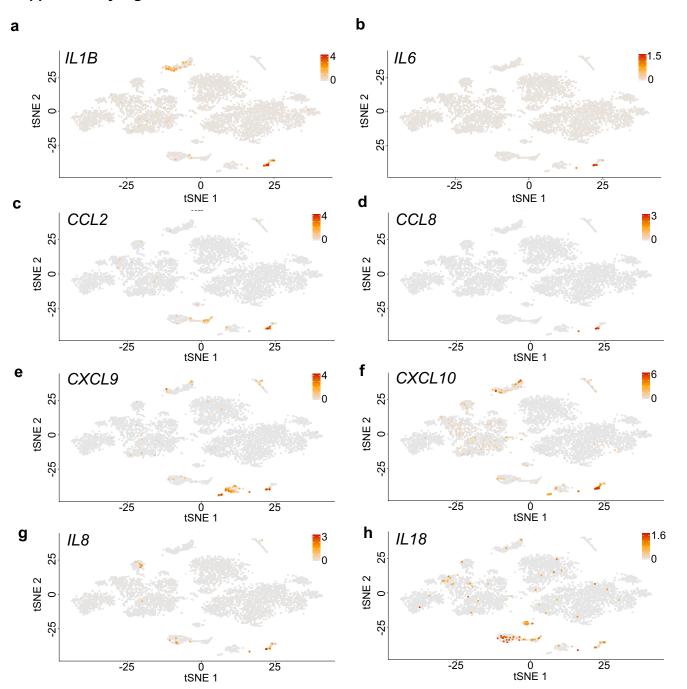


In vivo induction of IL-1/IL-6 release in primary monocytes by CAR-T cells. Human peripheral blood T cells were activated with CD3/CD28-beads, transduced with either a CD19.28z or an irrelevant EGFR.28z CAR and cultured with IL-7/IL-15. After 15 days, CAR-T cells were co-cultured at a 1:10 effector-to-target ratio with CD19+ BV173 leukemic cells, with or without primary autologous monocytes. (a-b) Mean intracellular IL-1/IL-6 positivity ± SD (n=3 independent experiments). \*, P<0.05; \*\*, P<0.01 by a two-way ANOVA test. (c-e) 105 HSPCs and 5x106 CD19+CD44v6+ ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 7 weeks, leukemic HuSGM3 mice received 2x106 T cells from newborn HuSGM3 mice transduced with either a CD19.28z CAR or irrelevant EGFR.28z CAR. (c-d) Mean intracellular IL-1/IL-6 positivity ± SD (n=3 independent experiments). (e) Representative plots and mean human IL-1/IL-6 positivity ± SD in CD4+ or CD8+ CD19.28z CAR-T cells 7 days after infusion (n=6). \*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-tailed Student's t test.





scRNA-Seq identification of human lymphoid and myeloid cell populations in leukemic HuSGM3 during CRS. 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs and 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19+CD44v6+ ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice (HuSGM3). After 7 weeks, leukemic HuSGM3 mice received 2x10<sup>6</sup> T cells from newborn HuSGM3 mice transduced with a CD19.28z CAR. At day 2 and day 7 from fever onset, human CD45+ cells were isolated from the spleen and analyzed by Single-cell RNA Sequencing (scRNA-Seq). ScRNA-Seq tSNE plots of data from (a) T cell (CD3D, CD3E, CD3G, CD27, CD28), (b) CD8/CD4, (c) B cell (CD19, MS4A1, CD79A, CD79B, BLNK) and (d) NK cell signatures (FCGR3A, FCGR3B, NCAM1, KLRB1, KLRC1, KLRD1, KLRF1, KLRK1). Color scale: log transformed TPM across genes within each signature. (e) Heat map of log transformed TPM for top 20 discriminative genes within each cluster (cl.) and selected representative genes for each cl. (circled numbers, 200 cells per cl.). (f) scRNA-Seq tSNE plots of data from mice at day 2 and day 7 from fever onset. Each colored dot are referred to a single experimental sample and replicate.



Myeloid-specific expression of genes encoding for inflammatory cytokines and chemokine in leukemic HuSGM3 mice during CRS. For experimental design description, see legend of Supplementary Figure 16. (a-h) tSNE plots showing single-cell expression levels of the indicated genes. Color scale reflects gene expression in log(TPM+1).

### Supplementary Fig. 18 b С а d CAR-T cells / E / CAR-T cells 44v6.28z 19.28z 19.28z 44v6.28z 8,000 30,000 30,000 Vehicle CAR-T cells / μl Tocilizumab FN-γ [pg/ml] IFN-γ [pg/ml] 6,000 20,000 20,000 Anakinra 4,000 10,000 10,000 2,000 0 7 14 21 28 Days from CAR-T 0 7 14 21 28 Days from CAR-T 28 21 28 0 14 21 28 0 7 14 28 Days from CAR-T Days from CAR-T f е 44v6.28z 19.28z 400π 400-Vehicle Tocilizumab IL-2 [pg/ml] IL-2 [pg/ml] 300-300 Anakinra 200 200 100 100 0 14 21 14 21 Ó 28 Days from CAR-T Days from CAR-T j i g h 19.28z 19.28z 44v6.28z 44v6.28z Weight (% from initial) Weight (% from initial) 110-Vehicle 110-Tocilizumab Fever (∆°C) Fever (∆°C) 100 100 Anakinra 90 80 80 ò 21 28 14 21 14 21 28 7 14 Ò ż 14 21 Days from CAR-T Days from CAR-T Days from CAR-T Days from CAR-T k n 19.28z 19.28z m 19.28z 19.28z 400 4,000-6,000 60 Vehicle TNF-α [pg/ml] IL-10 [pg/ml] 3,000 IL-6 [pg/ml] IL-1 [pg/ml] Tocilizumab 300 4,000 Anakinra 200 2,000 2,000 20 100 1,000

21

q

CCL3 [pg/ml]

6,000

4,000

2,000

14

Days from CAR-T

19.28z

14 21 28

Days from CAR-T

14 21 28

p

CXCL10 [pg/ml]

28

2,500

2,000

1,500

1,000

500

Ŏ

Days from CAR-T

19.28z

14 21

Days from CAR-T

0

IL-8 [pg/ml]

8,000

6,000

4.000

2,000

0

CAR-T cell expansion upon tocilizumab/anakinra prophylaxis in leukemic HuSGM3 mice.  $10^5$  HSPCs and  $5x10^6$  CD19+CD44v6+ ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice. After 7 weeks, leukemic HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (HuSGM3) received  $2x10^6$  T cells from newborn HuSGM3 mice transduced with either a CD44v6 CAR.28z (44v6.28z) or a CD19.28z CAR (19.28z), n=50 from 3 independent experiments each group. Immediately prior to CAR-T cell infusion, mice were administered either vehicle (n=14 per group), tocilizumab (n=18 per group) or anakinra (n=18 per group). (a-b) Mean CAR-T cell counts  $\pm$  SD. (c-f) Mean human IFN- $\gamma$  and IL-2 concentrations  $\pm$  SD. \*, P<0.05 from a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni. (g-h) Mean body weight variation percentages  $\pm$  SD. Dashed lines: threshold for severe weight loss (>15%). (i-j) Mean body temperature variations  $\pm$  SD. Dashed lines: threshold for high fever ( $\Delta$ T>2°C). \*\*, P<0.01; \*\*\*\*, P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction. (k-r) Mean human TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-10, IL-6, IL-1, IL-8, CXCL10, CCL3 and CCL2 serum concentrations  $\pm$  SD. \*, P<0.05; \*\*P<0.01; \*\*\*\*,P<0.001 by a two-way ANOVA test with Bonferroni correction.

14 21 28

19.28z

14 21 28

Days from CAR-T

Days from CAR-T

7

r

800-

600

400

200

0

CCL2 [pg/ml]

14 21 28

Vehicle

Anakinra

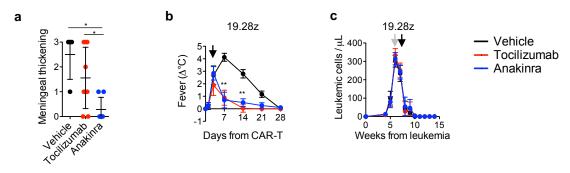
Tocilizumab

Days from CAR-T

19.28z

14 21

Days from CAR-T



Prevention of CAR-T cell-mediated neuropathology by anakinra administration. 10<sup>5</sup> HSPCs and 5x10<sup>6</sup> CD19<sup>+</sup>CD44v6<sup>+</sup> ALL-CM leukemic cells were co-infused i.v. in 6-8 weeks-old SGM3 mice. After 7 weeks, leukemic HSPC-humanized SGM3 mice (HuSGM3) received 2x10<sup>6</sup> T cells from newborn HuSGM3 mice transduced with a CD19.28z CAR. (a) 30-days meningeal thickening score ± SD (see Methods) in leukemic HuSGM3 mice administered vehicle (n=4), tocilizumab (n=9) or anakinra (n=7) prophylaxis. \*, P<0.05 by a Mann-Whitney test. (b-c) Leukemic HuSGM3 mice receiving CD19.28z CAR-T cells from nHuSGM3 were administered vehicle (n=10), tocilizumab (n=10) or anakinra (n=10) at fever onset (black arrow). \*\*, P<0.01 by a two-way ANOVA test. Mean body temperature variations ± SD. Mean leukemic cell counts ± SD. Light arrow: CAR-T cell infusion; arrow: drug administration.