
Figures and figure supplements

Arginase 1 is a key driver of immune suppression in pancreatic cancer

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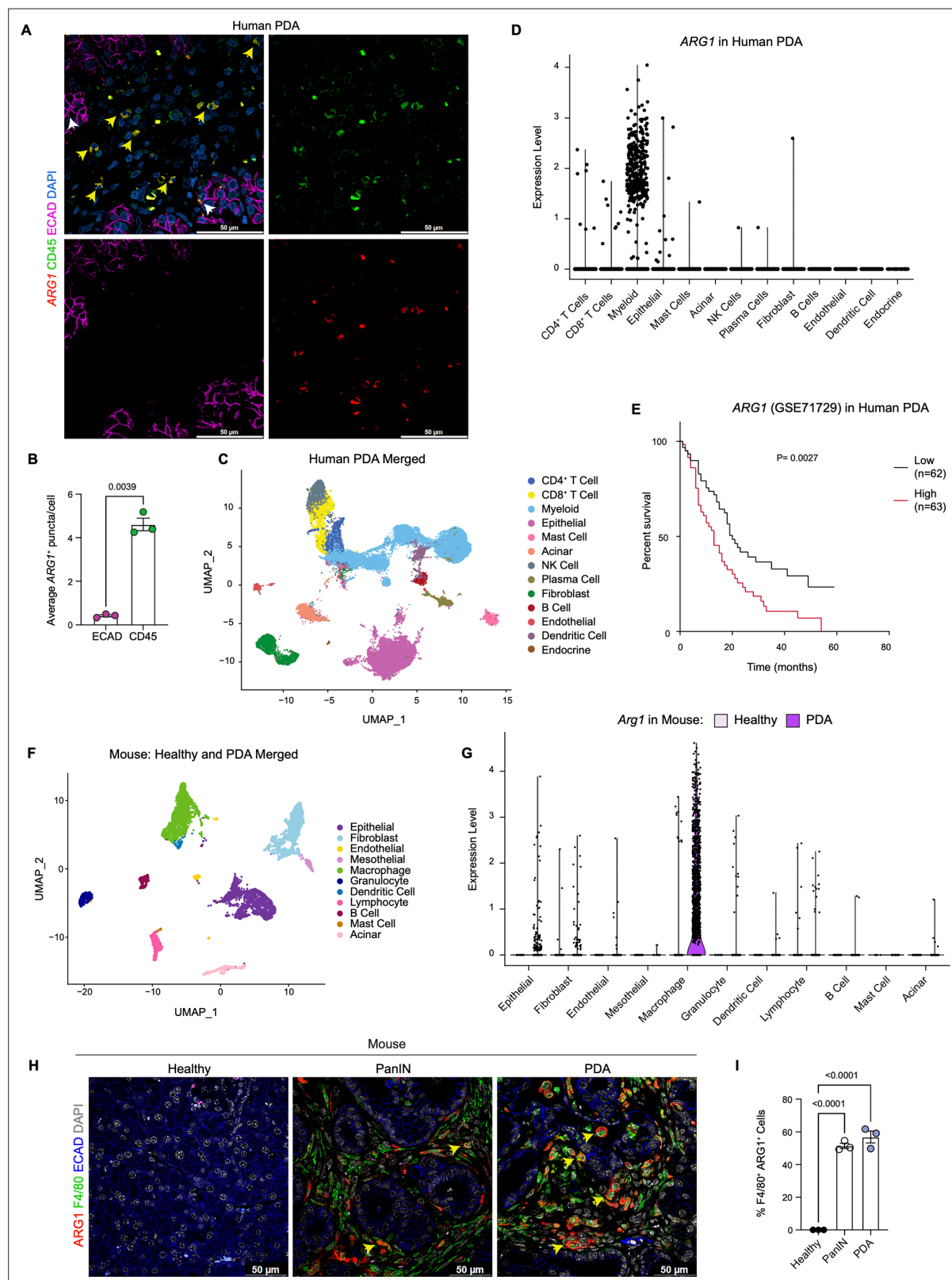


Figure 1. Arginase 1 (Arg1) is highly expressed in human and mouse myeloid cells. **(A)** Representative image of RNA in situ hybridization (ISH) of ARG1 (red) and co-immunofluorescence staining of immune (CD45, green) and epithelial (E-cadherin [ECAD], magenta) cells in human pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDA). Counterstain, DAPI (blue). White arrows point to ARG1-ISH in ECAD⁺ cells, and yellow arrows point to ARG1-ISH in CD45⁺ cells. Scale bar, 50 μ m. **(B)** Quantification of average ARG1⁺ puncta in CK19 and CD45 cells. Unpaired t test with Welch's correction was used to determine

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statistical significance. **(C)** Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) visualization of 13 identified cell populations from single-cell RNA sequencing (sc-RNA-seq) of 16 human PDA tumors. Data from **Steele et al., 2020**. **(D)** Violin plot of normalized gene expression of *ARG1* in the identified cell populations from the human PDA sc-RNA-seq. **(E)** Survival analysis of a human PDA microarray data set (GSE71729) with low (n=62) and high (n=63) *ARG1* expression. Statistical significance was determined using the Kaplan Meier overall survival Logrank test. **(F)** UMAP visualization of 11 identified populations from healthy and PDA merged mouse sc-RNA-seq. **(G)** Violin plot of normalized gene expression of *Arg1* in the identified cell populations from mouse sc-RNA-seq. **(H)** Representative co-immunofluorescence staining for ARG1 (red), macrophages (F4/80, green), and epithelial (ECAD, blue) cells in mouse tissue at different stages of disease. Counterstain, DAPI (gray). Scale bar, 50 μ m. Yellow arrows indicate ARG1 expression in F4/80⁺ cells. **(I)** Quantification of F4/80⁺ ARG1⁺ cells in healthy, PanIN, and PDA mouse tissue. Statistical significance was determined using an ordinary one-way ANOVA with multiple comparisons. p Value was considered statistically significant when p<0.05.

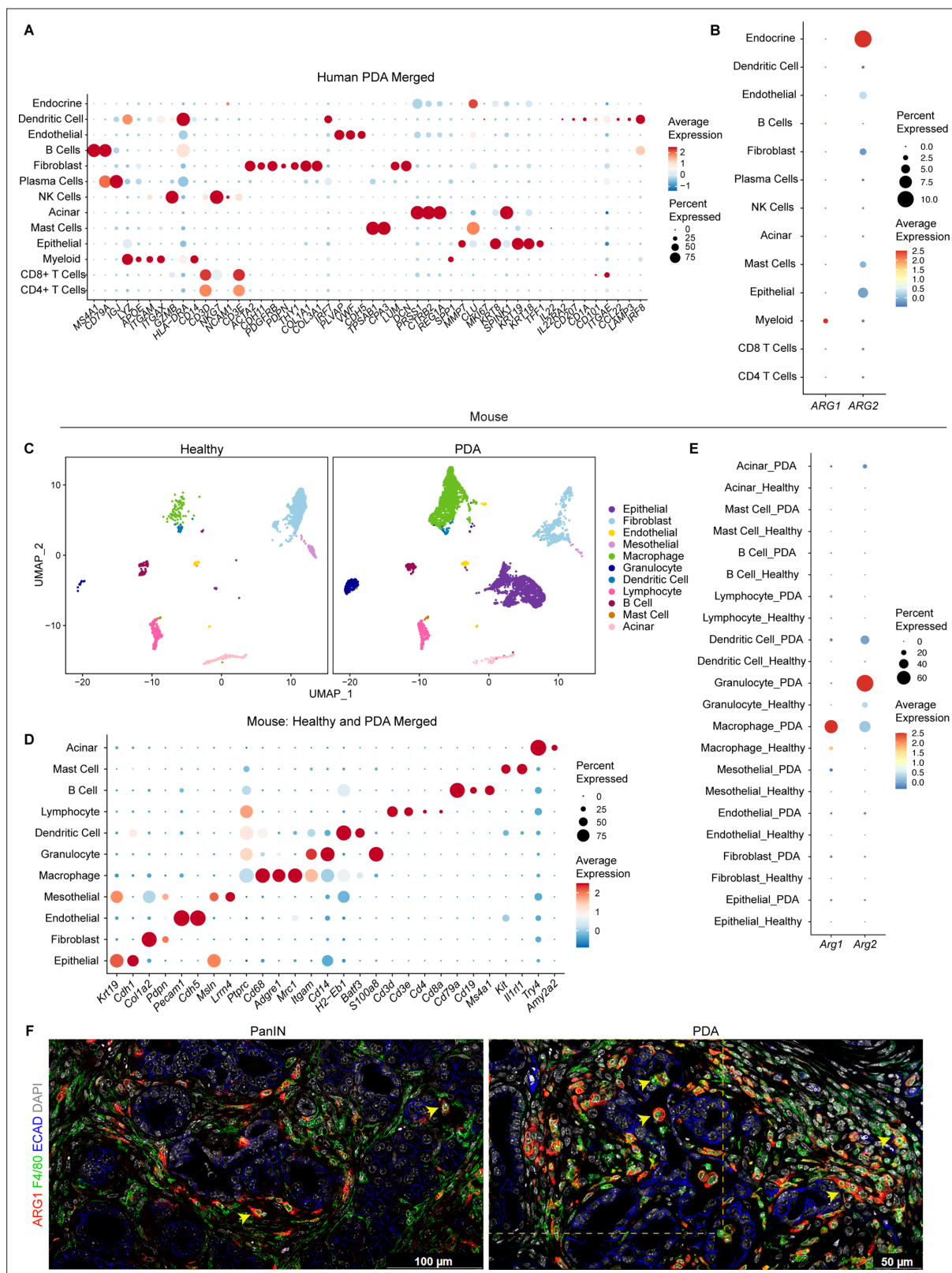


Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Arginase 1 (Arg1) expression in human and mouse myeloid cells. **(A)** Dot plot showing the lineage markers used to identify the different cell populations in the human single-cell RNA sequencing (sc-RNA-seq). Dot color indicates average expression and dot size indicates expression frequency. **(B)** Dot plot showing normalized gene expression levels of *ARG1* and *ARG2* in the human sc-RNA-seq. **(C)** Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) visualizations comparing defined cell populations in healthy and pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. Figure 1—figure supplement 1 continued on next page

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(PDA) mouse sc-RNA-seq. **(D)** Dot plot showing the lineage markers used to identify the distinct cell populations in healthy and PDA mouse sc-RNA-seq. **(E)** Dot plot showing normalized gene expression levels of *Arg1* and *Arg2* in healthy and PDA mouse sc-RNA-seq. **(F)** Representative co-immunofluorescence staining for ARG1 (red), macrophages (F4/80, green), and epithelial (E-cadherin [ECAD]), blue) cells in mouse tissue during PanIN and PDA stages of disease. Quantification of F4/80⁺ ARG1⁺ cells is shown in **Figure 1I**. Yellow dotted box marks the area shown in main **Figure 1H**. Scale bar for PanIN image is 100 μ m; for PDA is 50 μ m.

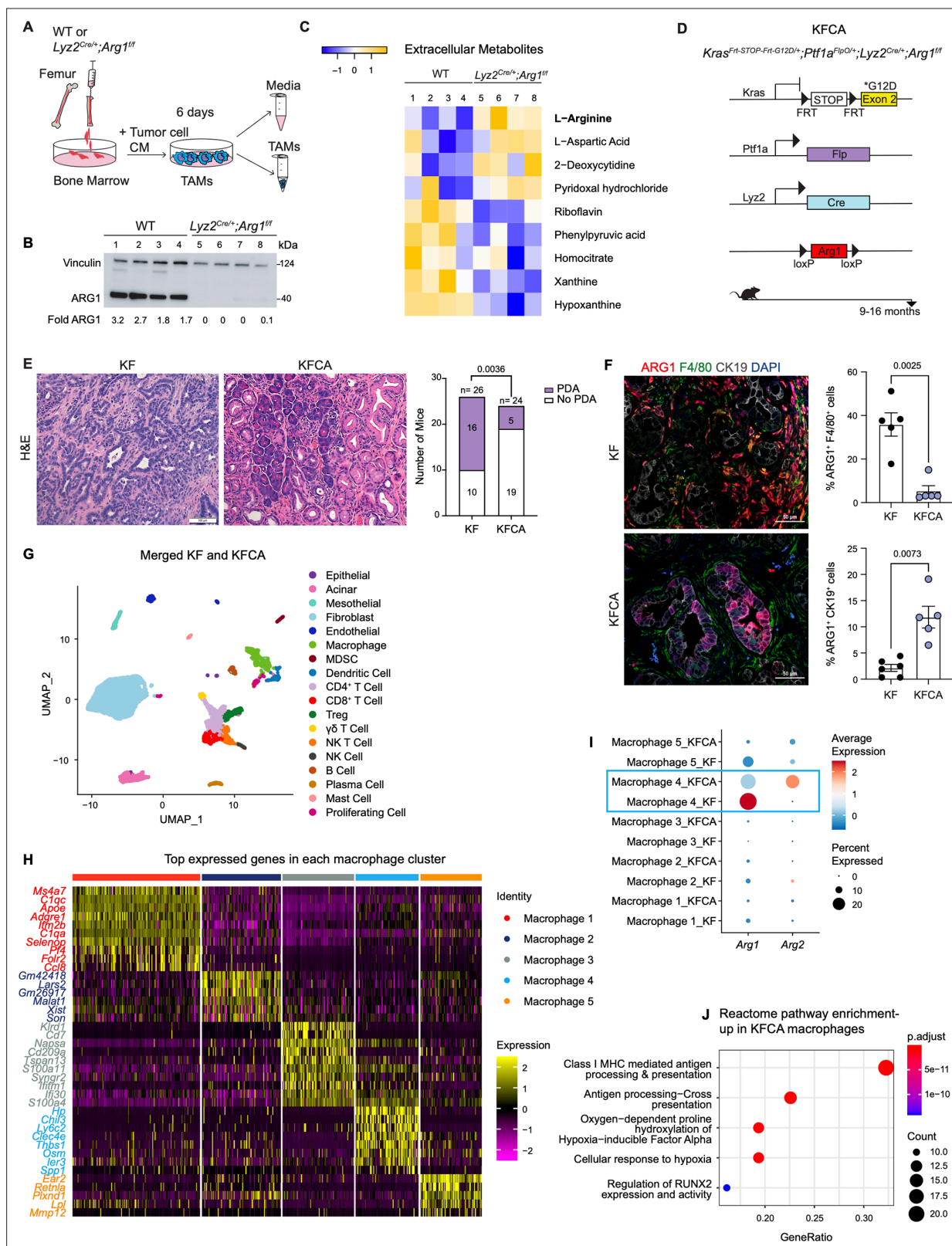


Figure 2. Arginase 1 (*Arg1*) deletion in myeloid cells reduces tumor progression and induces macrophage repolarization in a spontaneous pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDA) mouse model. (A) Schematic illustration for the generation of tumor-associated macrophages (TAMs) from wild-type (WT) and *Lyz2^{Cre/+};Arg1^{fl/fl}* mice. (B) Representative image of western blot for ARG1 levels in WT and *Lyz2^{Cre/+};Arg1^{fl/fl}* TAMs. Vinculin, loading control. (C) Heatmap of statistically significantly different extracellular metabolites from WT (lanes 1–4) and *Lyz2^{Cre/+};Arg1^{fl/fl}* (lanes 5–8) TAM media. (D) Genetic

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makeup of the *Kras*^{Frt-STOP-Frt-G12D/+};*Ptf1a*^{FlpO/+};*Lyz2*^{Cre/+};*Arg1*^{f/f} (KFCA) mouse model for the deletion of *Arg1* in myeloid cells during PDA tumorigenesis. Data shown here from mice aged 9–16 mo, n=24–26/group. **(E)** Representative hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining from age matching KF and KFCA mice. Scale bar, 100 μ m. Histopathology evaluation shown on the right (n=26 KF and 24 KFCA, age matched, 9–16 mo old). Statistical significance was determined using chi-square test. Statistically significant when $P < 0.05$. **(F)** Representative image of co-immunofluorescence staining for ARG1 (red), macrophages (F4/80, green), epithelial (CK19, gray), and DAPI (blue) in KF and KFCA tissue. Scale bar, 50 μ m. Quantification on the right, n=5–6/group. Significance was determined using unpaired t test with Welch's correction. Statistically significant when $p < 0.05$. **(G)** Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) visualization for the identified cell populations in merged KF and KFCA single-cell RNA sequencing. **(H)** Heatmap of top differentially expressed genes in the macrophage subclusters identified from KF and KFCA pancreata. **(I)** Dot plot visualization of *Arg1* and *Arg2* expression in KF and KFCA macrophage clusters. Average expression is shown by color intensity and expression frequency by dot size. **(J)** Reactome pathway enrichment analysis showing significantly upregulated pathways in KFCA macrophages.

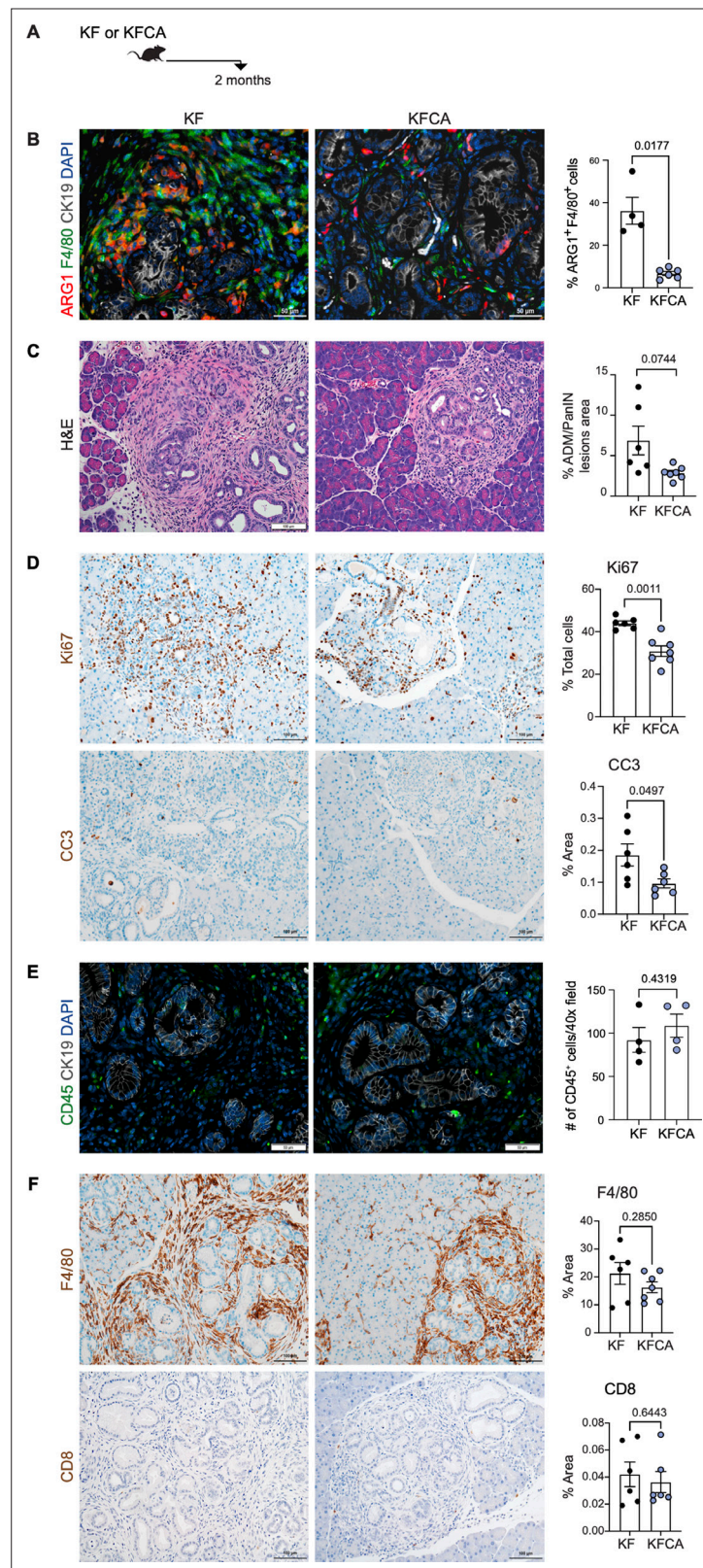


Figure 2—figure supplement 1. Deletion of Arginase 1 (Arg1) in myeloid cells decreases cell proliferation and cell death during early stages of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. **(A)** Experimental design for KF and KFCA mice aged to 2 mo. **(B)** Representative images of co-immunofluorescence staining for ARG1 (red), macrophages (F4/80, green), epithelial (CK19, gray), and DAPI (blue) in KF and KFCA pancreata at 2 mo. Yellow staining shows

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co-localization of ARG1 and F4/80. Scale bar, 50 μ m. Quantification on the right, n=4–6/group. **(C)** Representative hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) images for KF and KFCA mice at 2 mo, n=6–7/group. Scale bar, 100 μ m. On the right, percentage of ADM/PanIN lesions area in KF and KFCA tissue at 2 mo, n=6–7/group. **(D)** Representative immunohistochemistry staining for total cell proliferation (Ki67) and total cell death (cleaved caspase-3 [CC3]). Scale bar, 100 μ m. Quantification on the right, n=6–7/group. **(E)** Representative immunofluorescence staining for immune cells (CD45, green) and epithelial cells (CK19, gray). Scale bar, 50 μ m. Quantification on the right, n=4/group. **(F)** Representative immunohistochemistry staining for macrophages (F4/80) and CD8⁺ T cells (CD8) in KF and KFCA tissue at 2 mo. Scale bar, 100 μ m. Positive staining quantification is shown on the right. Student's t test was used to determine significance. Statistically significant when $p < 0.005$.

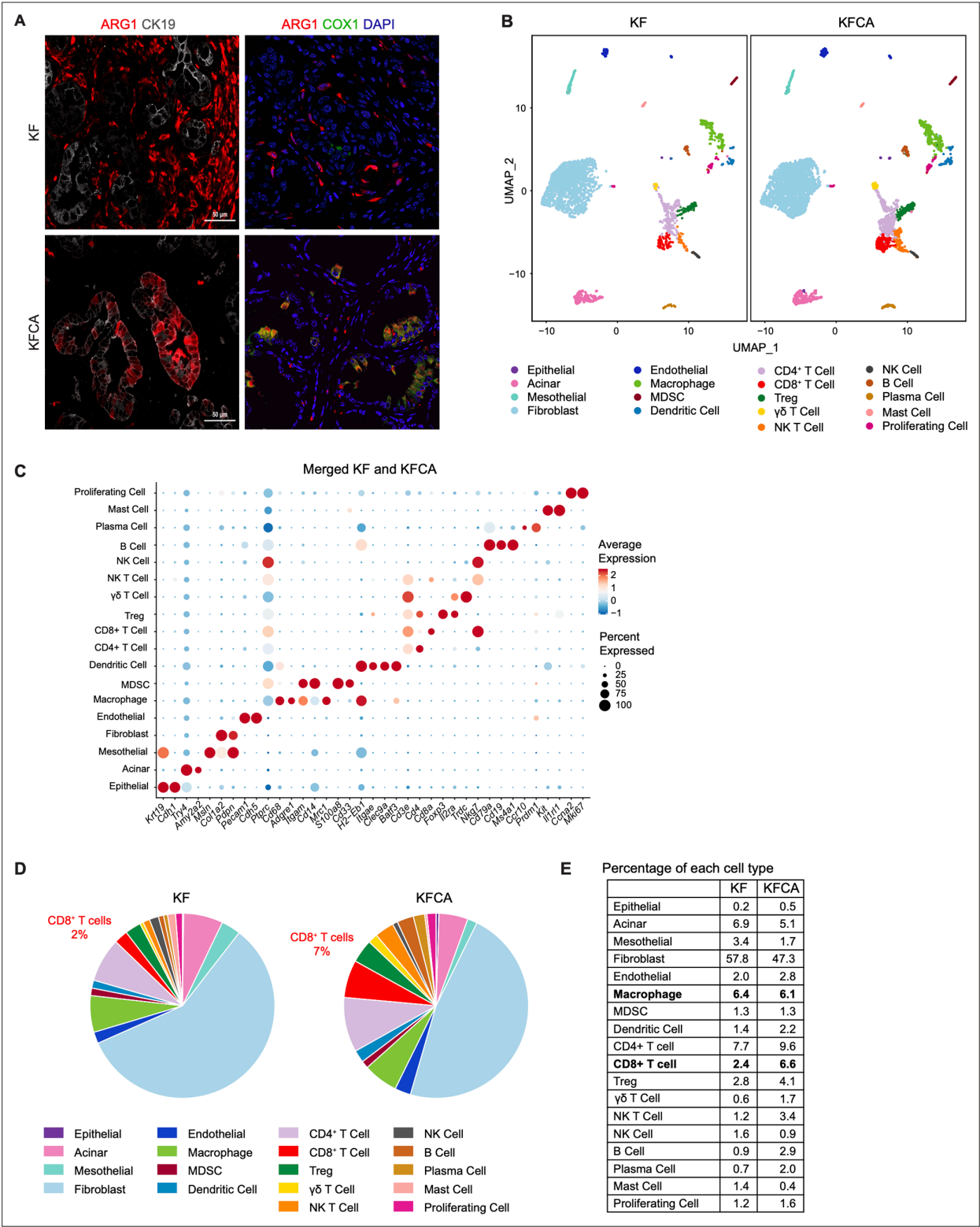


Figure 2—figure supplement 2. Deletion of Arginase 1 (*Arg1*) in myeloid cells alters the immune cell infiltration in a spontaneous pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma mouse model during late stages of disease. **(A)** Left panel: co-immunofluorescence staining from **Figure 2F** showing ARG1 (red) and CK19 (gray) staining without DAPI; right panel: co-immunofluorescence staining for ARG1 (red), COX1 (green), and DAPI (blue) in KF and KFCA tissue. Scale bar, 50 μm. **(B)** Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) visualizations of single-cell RNA sequencing (sc-RNA-seq) comparing the identified cell populations in KF and KFCA. **(C)** Dot plot showing the lineage markers used to identify the distinct cell populations. Dot color indicates average expression, and dot size indicates expression frequency. **(D)** Pie charts comparing the proportion of the identified sc-RNA-seq populations between KF and KFCA. **(E)** Table showing the percentage of each identified population from total cells in KF and KFCA.

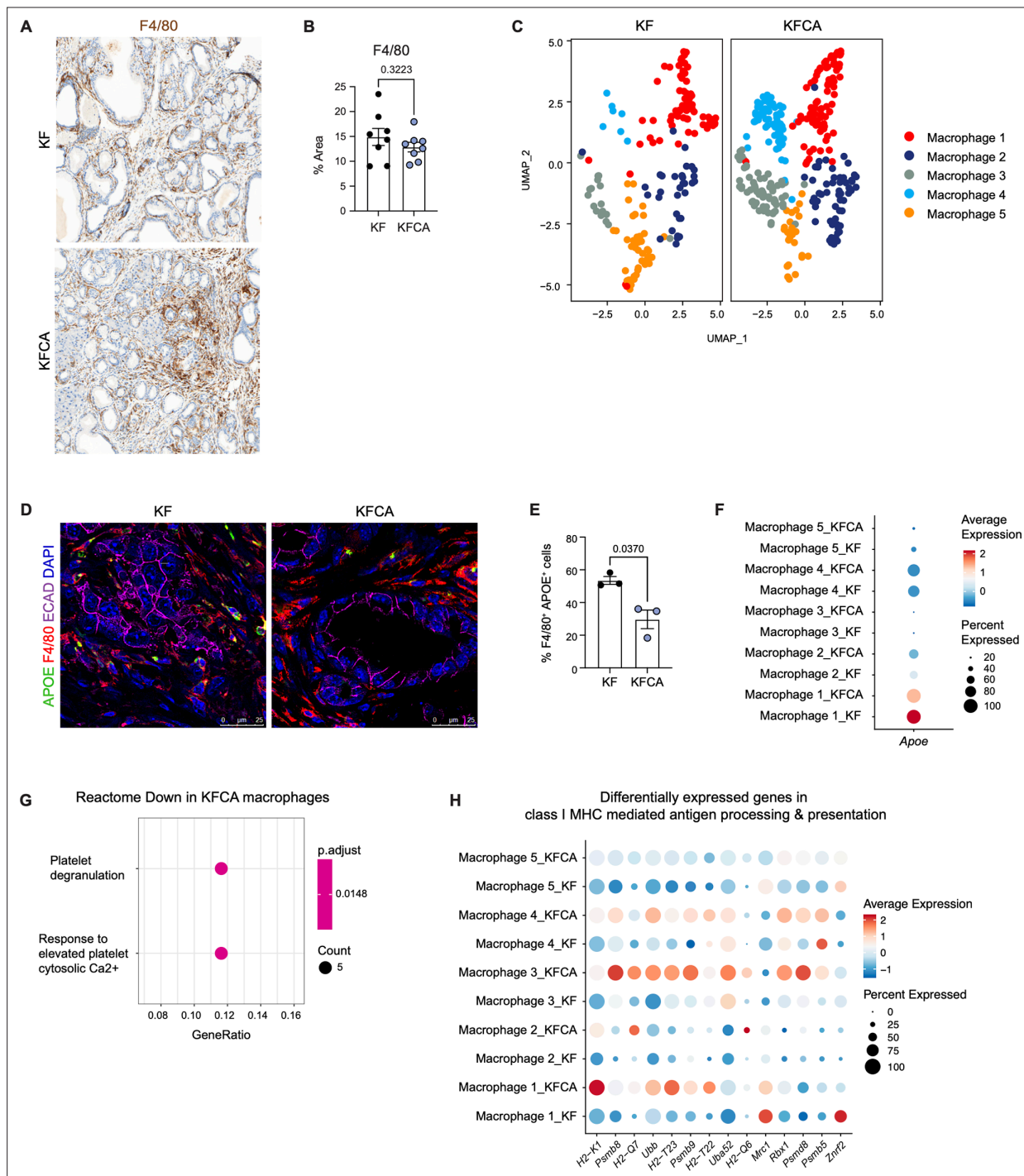


Figure 2—figure supplement 3. Deletion of Arginase 1 in myeloid cells decreases immune suppression in a spontaneous pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma mouse model during late stages of the disease. **(A)** Representative immunohistochemistry staining for macrophages (F4/80) in KF and KFCA tissue during late stage of disease at 20× magnification. **(B)** Quantification for F4/80⁺ staining, n=8/group. Student's t test was used to determine significance. **(C)** Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) visualizations showing the distribution of the five identified macrophage subpopulations in KF and KFCA. **(D)** Representative immunofluorescence staining for APOE (green), F4/80 (red), E-cadherin (ECAD; purple), and DAPI (blue) in KF and KFCA pancreas tissue during late stages of the disease. Scale bar, 25 μ m. **(E)** Quantification of F4/80⁺ APOE⁺ cells, n=3/group. Student's t test was used to determine significance. **(F)** Dot plot visualization of *Apoe* expression in KF and KFCA macrophage clusters. Average expression is shown by color intensity, and percent expressed by dot size. **(G)** Reactome pathway enrichment analysis showing significantly downregulated pathways in KFCA macrophages. **(H)** Dot plot showing differentially expressed genes involved in MHC I-mediated antigen processing and presentation in macrophages.

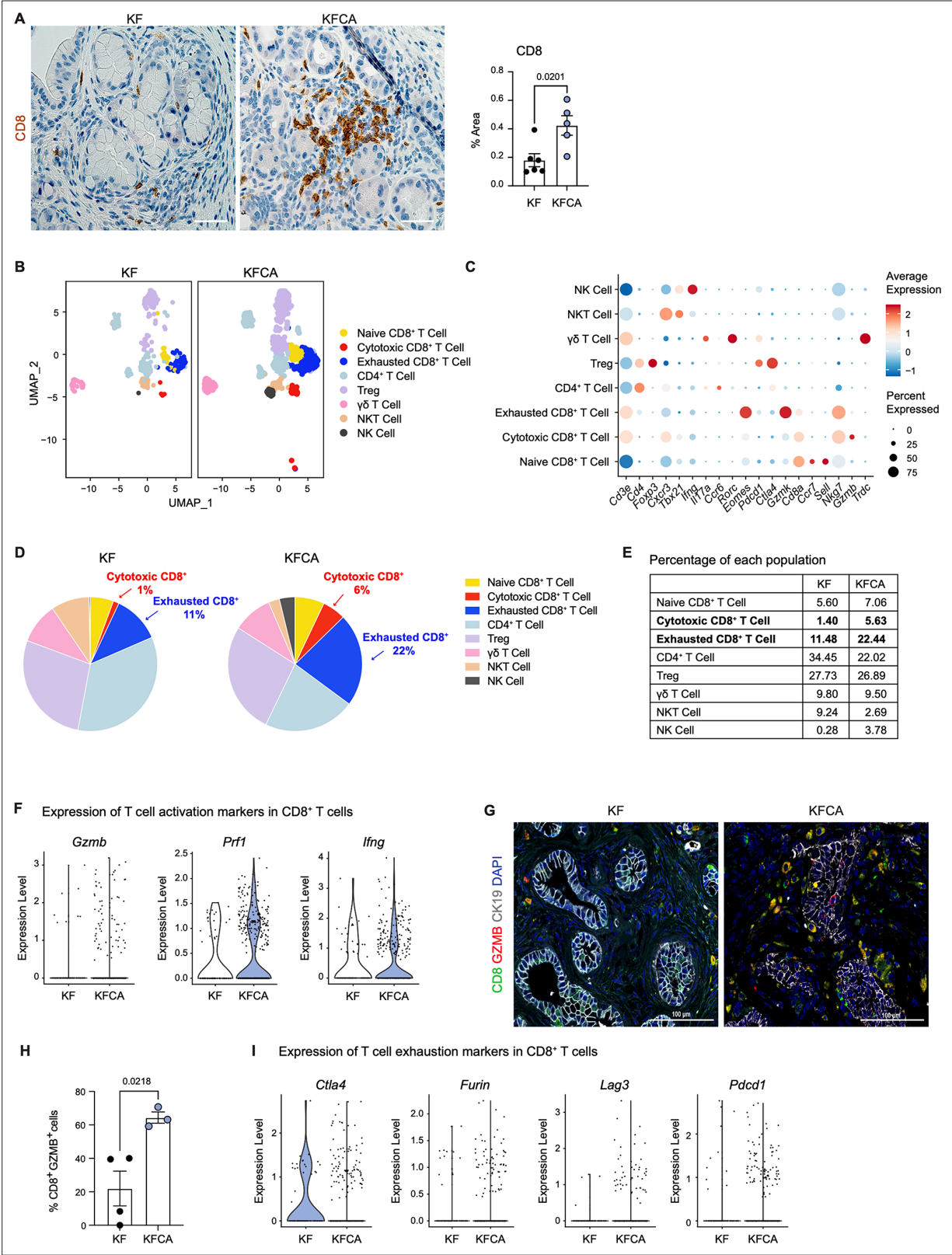


Figure 3. Arginase 1 deletion in myeloid cells increases CD8⁺ T cell infiltration and activation in a spontaneous pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma mouse model. **(A)** Representative images of CD8 immunohistochemistry staining (brown) in KF and KFCA tissue. Scale bar, 50 μm. Quantification of positive area on the right, n=5–6/group. Student’s t test was used to determine statistical significance. **(B)** Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP) visualization of defined T and natural killer (NK) cell clusters comparing single-cell RNA sequencing (sc-RNA-seq) data from KF and

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KFCA. **(C)** Dot plot of lineage markers used to identify the different types of lymphocytes. Dot size shows expression frequency, dot color shows average expression. **(D)** Pie charts showing the proportion of the identified lymphocyte populations in KF and KFCA sc-RNA-seq, percentage values are provided for populations that differ dramatically between KF and KFCA. **(E)** Table showing the percentage of each identified lymphocyte population in KF and KFCA sc-RNA-seq. **(F)** Violin plots showing normalized expression levels of T cell activation markers in all CD8⁺ T cell populations identified in KF and KFCA sc-RNA-seq data. **(G)** Representative images of co-immunofluorescence staining for CD8 (green), GZMB (red), CK19 (gray), and DAPI (blue). Scale bar, 100 μ m. **(H)** Quantification of CD8⁺ GZMB⁺ cells, n=3/group. Student's t test was used to determine significance. **(I)** Violin plots showing normalized expression levels of T cell exhaustion markers in all CD8⁺ T cell populations identified in KF and KFCA.

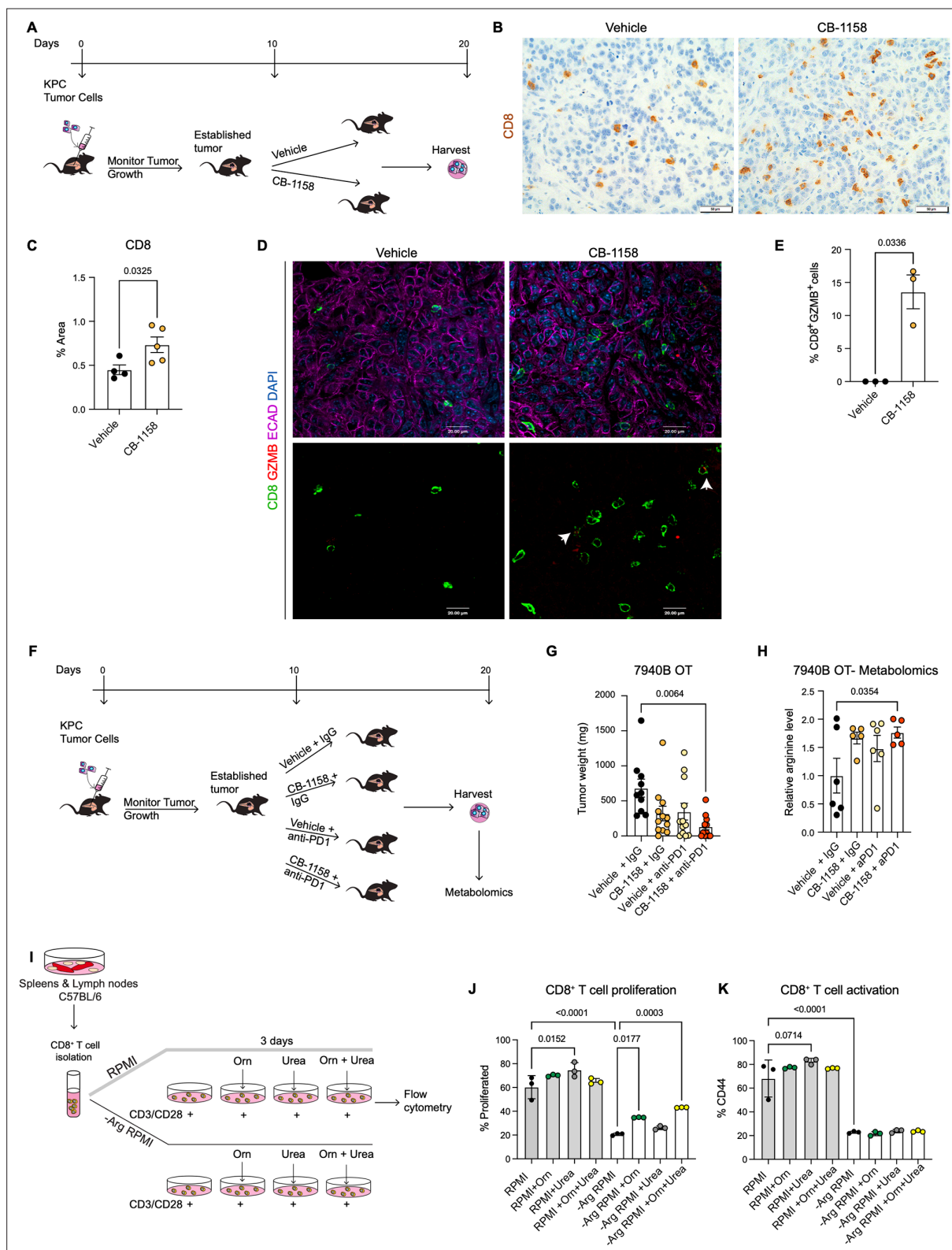


Figure 4. Systemic inhibition of arginase by CB-1158 in combination with anti-PD1 reduces tumor growth in an orthotopic pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma mouse model. **(A)** Experimental timeline and design for orthotopic transplantation of 7940B KPC cells in syngeneic mice. **(B)** Representative images of immunohistochemistry staining for CD8 (brown). Scale bar, 50 μ m. **(C)** Quantification of positive area of CD8 staining from B. Statistical significance was determined using unpaired t-test with Welch's correction. **(D)** Representative images of co-immunofluorescence staining for CD8 (green), GZMB (red), ECAD (purple), and DAPI (blue) in the vehicle and CB-1158 treated group. Scale bar, 20 μ m. White arrows point to co-localization of CD8 and GZMB. **(E)** Quantification of CD8⁺ GZMB⁺ cells. **(F)** Experimental timeline and design for orthotopic transplantation of 7940B KPC cells in syngeneic mice. **(G)** Tumor weight (mg) for 7940B OT. **(H)** 7940B OT- Metabolomics. Relative arginine level. **(I)** Spleens & Lymph nodes C57BL/6. CD8⁺ T cell isolation. 3 days. RPMI, Orn, Urea, Orn + Urea. CD3/CD28 +, -Arg RPMI. Flow cytometry. **(J)** CD8⁺ T cell proliferation. **(K)** CD8⁺ T cell activation.

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localization of CD8 (green) with GZMB (red). **(E)** Percentage of CD8⁺ and GZMB⁺ cells. Statistical significance was determined using unpaired t-test with Welch's correction. **(F)** Experimental timeline and design for orthotopic transplantation of 7940B KPC cells in syngeneic mice and different treatment groups. **(G)** Final tumor weight (mg) from the different treatment groups, n=10–12/group. Statistical significance was determined using two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons correction test. **(H)** Metabolomic analysis showing relative arginine levels in the tumors of the different treatment groups. Two-way ANOVA was used to determine statistical significance, n=5–6/group. **(I)** Experimental scheme for CD8⁺ T cell isolation and growth in different media conditions. –Arg RPMI = RPMI lacking arginine, Orn = ornithine. **(J)** Percent of proliferated CD8⁺ T cells from flow cytometry analysis. **(K)** Percent of activated CD8⁺ T cells (CD44) from flow cytometry analysis. Two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons correction test was used to determine significance. n=3/condition.

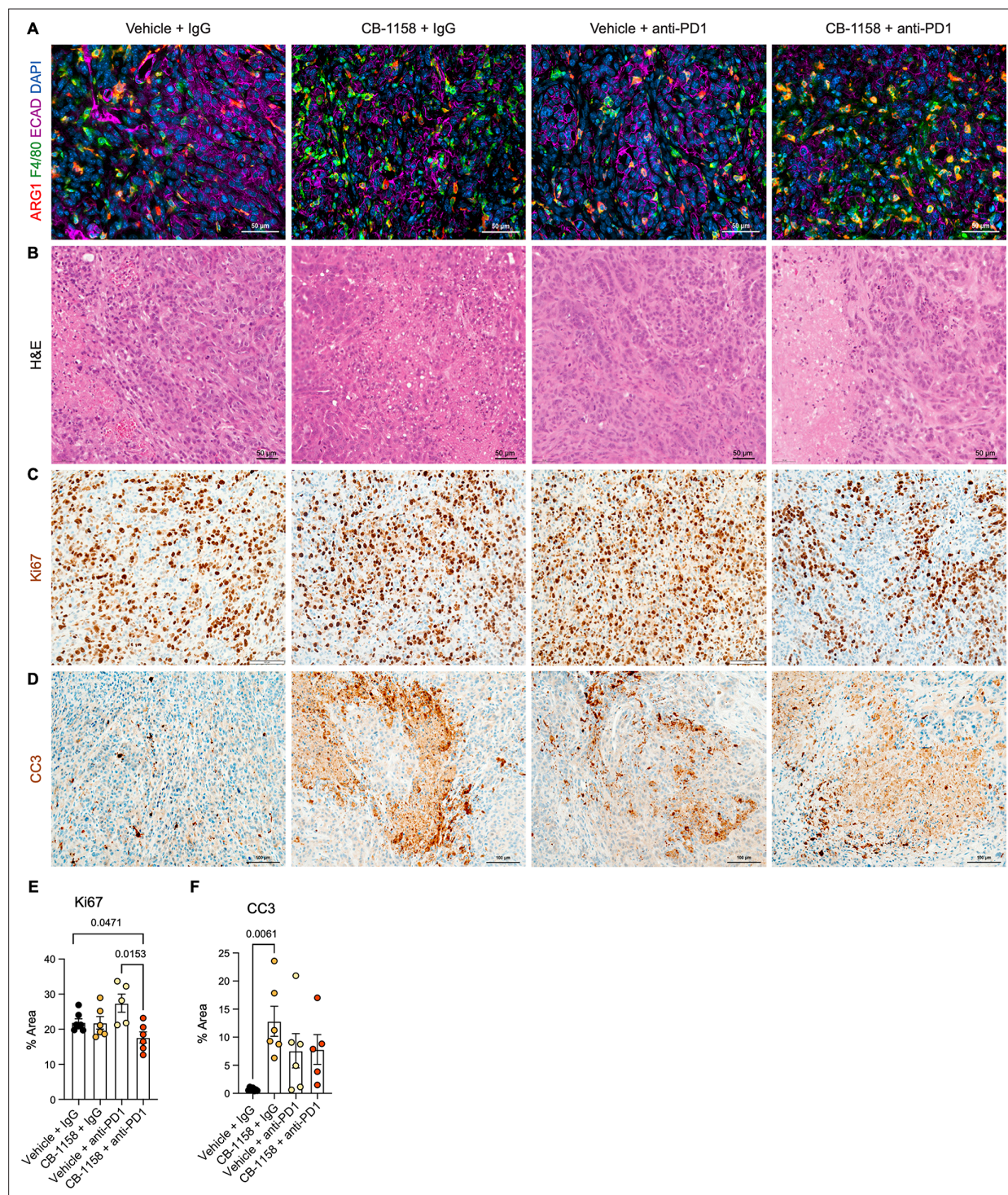


Figure 4—figure supplement 1. Histological analysis of the multiple treatment groups in the orthotopic mouse model. **(A)** Representative images of co-immunofluorescence staining for ARG1 (red), F4/80 (green), ECAD (purple), and DAPI (blue). Yellow shows co-localization of ARG1 with F4/80 macrophages. Scale bar, 50 μ m. **(B)** Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining for the indicated treatment groups. Scale bar, 50 μ m. **(C)** Immunohistochemistry staining for cell proliferation (Ki67). Positive staining is shown in brown. Scale bar, 100 μ m. **(D)** Immunohistochemistry staining for cell death (cleaved caspase-3 [CC3]). Positive staining is shown in brown. Scale bar, 100 μ m. **(E and F)** Quantification of the positive staining area for Ki67 and CC3 from C and D. Significance was determined using unpaired t test with Welch's correction.

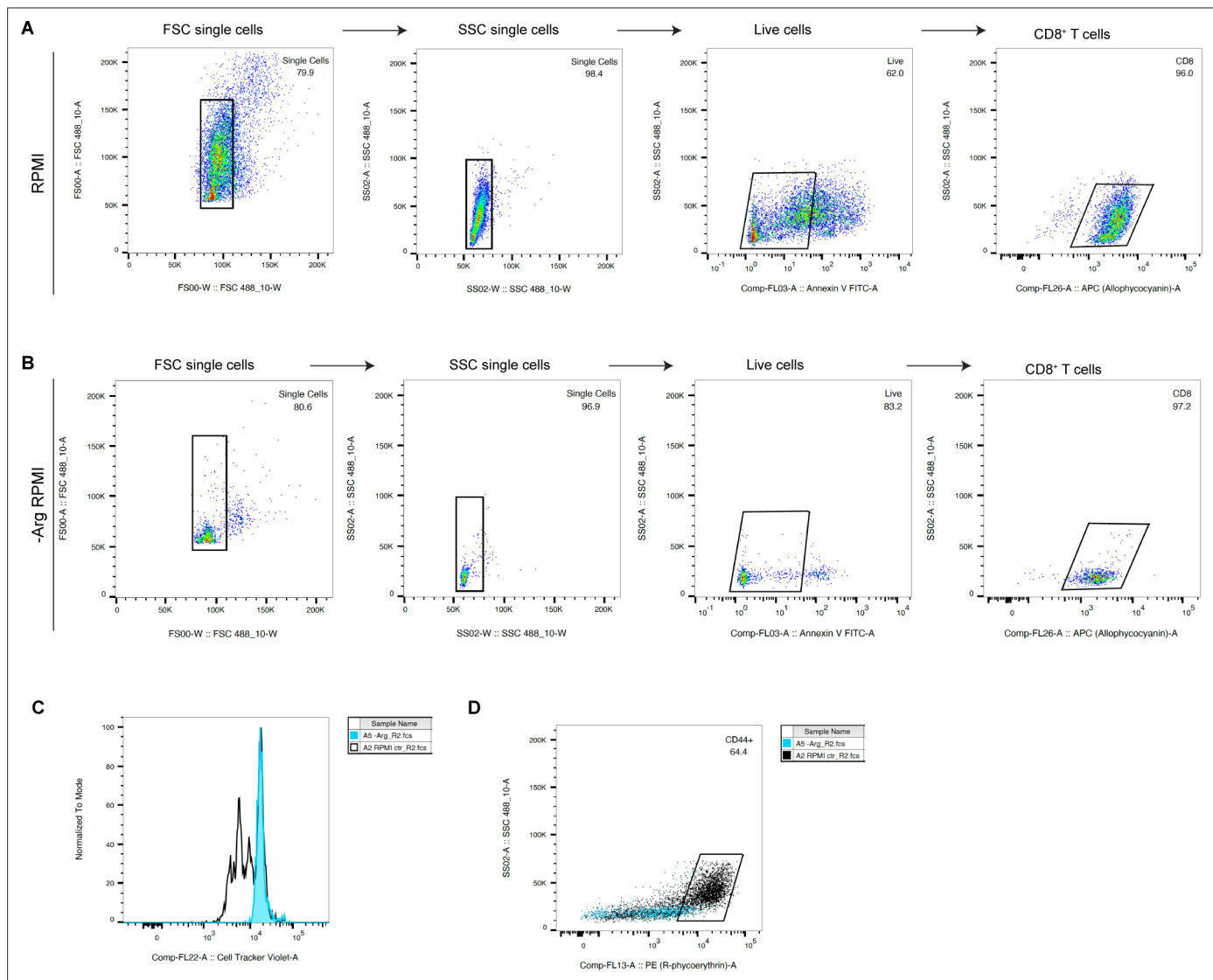


Figure 4—figure supplement 2. Flow cytometry gating strategy for CD8⁺ T cell proliferation and activation. **(A)** Representative gating strategy for cells cultured in RPMI control media. **(B)** Representative gating strategy for cells cultured in RPMI media lacking arginine (–Arg RPMI). **(C)** Proliferating lymphocytes. **(D)** Activated lymphocytes (CD44⁺).

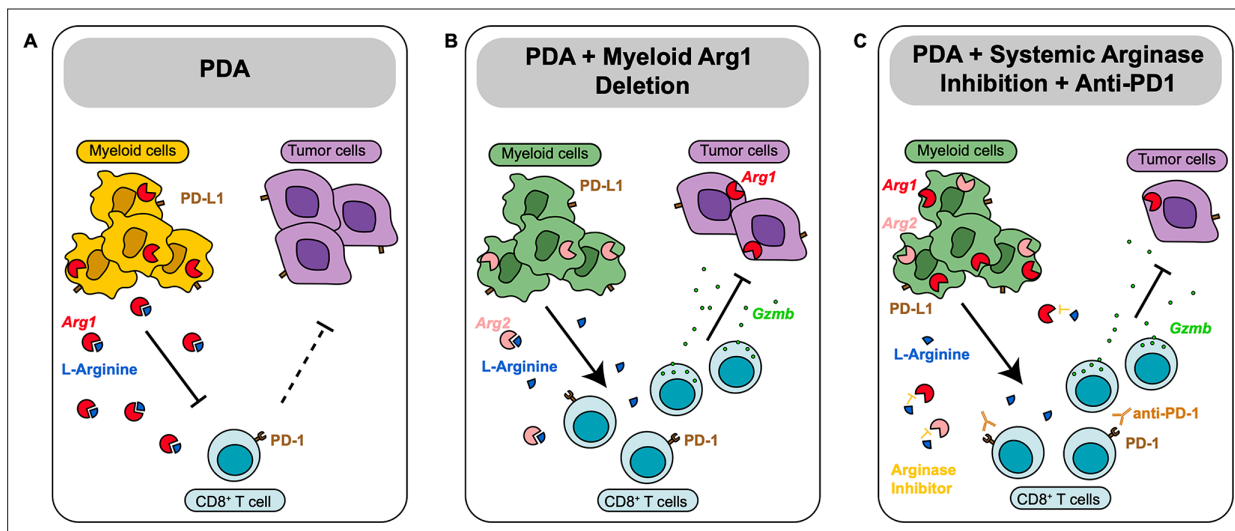


Figure 5. Diagram depicting our working model. (A) In pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDA), expression of *Arg1* in myeloid cells is immune suppressive. (B) Deletion of *Arg1* in myeloid cells in a spontaneous PDA mouse model induces macrophage repolarization and decreases tumor formation. (C) Systemic Arginase inhibition in combination with anti-PD1 immune checkpoint blockade further decreases tumor growth.