

# A multimodal atlas of COVID-19 severity identifies hallmarks of dysregulated immunity

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## 64 Abstract

65 The alpha-variant wave of the COVID-19 pandemic provided a unique opportunity to  
66 study, at single-cell resolution, how near-universal exposure to the same pathogen can  
67 lead to either effective or dysfunctional immune responses in humans. Although single-  
68 cell RNA-sequencing studies have characterized immune cellular features of COVID-19,  
69 they have not shown how tocilizumab treatment changes these features at single-cell  
70 resolution, or which features might persist into convalescence. In this study, we  
71 analyzed 2.5 million circulating immune cells from 428 patients across time points (840  
72 PBMC samples), encompassing three contemporaneous SARS-CoV-2 cohorts: acutely  
73 infected patients across five WHO disease severity levels and three time points,  
74 patients from the first randomized control trial to study the efficacy of tocilizumab in the  
75 management of COVID-19, and convalescent patients three months after infection. We  
76 used linear modeling to integrate multiple data types – including single-cell RNA-seq,  
77 CITE-seq, TCR and BCR sequencing, viral load measurements, viral neutralization  
78 assays, detection of 75 autoantibodies, HLA genotype data, and serum proteomics  
79 covering 1,463 targets – to derive the most comprehensive view to-date of the biological  
80 features of COVID-19 disease severity. Our findings show that myeloid-derived  
81 suppressor cells (MDSCs) act as a key immunologic pivot point in severe COVID-19.  
82 Myeloid dysfunction, which is marked by impaired antigen presentation, drives a non-  
83 productive adaptive immune response, as reflected by reduced expression of B and T  
84 cell gene programs involved in antigen recognition, immune synapse formation, and  
85 cytotoxicity. Severe disease is also linked to autoantibodies targeting type I interferons,  
86 influenced by specific HLA-DQB1 allelic variants, and strongly correlated with serum IL-  
87 6 levels. Tocilizumab treatment eliminates *CLU*-expressing MDSCs and ISG-positive  
88 myeloid subsets, restores antigen presentation, and reactivates productive adaptive  
89 immunity. These changes align with improved clinical outcomes and better clinical  
90 laboratory measures, including reduced CRP. While many immunologic abnormalities in

91 acute severe COVID-19 resolve during convalescence 3-months post-infection, we  
92 observed persistently high *ICOS* expression in regulatory T cells, potentially linking  
93 acute infection to chronic post-COVID syndromes. Overall, we define distinct innate and  
94 adaptive host immune responses associated with acute, IL-6–responsive, and  
95 convalescent SARS-CoV-2 infection. Our multimodal and high-dimensional dataset with  
96 curated clinical metadata provides a foundational and clinically relevant resource for  
97 modeling host immune response biology in health and disease.

## 98 Introduction

99 While various biological facets of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2  
100 (SARS-CoV-2) infection have been investigated, the scale and focus of prior studies  
101 have made it difficult to establish clear and unifying mechanistic explanations underlying  
102 the range of dysfunctional immune responses observed in infection across the spectrum  
103 of disease severity. SARS-CoV-2 infection can be asymptomatic or cause a mild acute  
104 illness, but in some patients — more frequently among those infected with early strains  
105 before vaccines were available — it led to respiratory failure, multiorgan dysfunction,  
106 and death. Morbidity and mortality in COVID-19 is mediated by direct viral damage and  
107 host immune response<sup>1–6</sup>. When an impaired host immune response to infection leads  
108 to organ dysfunction, this condition is classified as sepsis. Understanding which  
109 biological determinants distinguish a host immune response that successfully clears an  
110 infection from one that leads to sepsis is a major challenge in medicine.

111 Despite significant research efforts, progress in understanding the underpinnings of  
112 sepsis has been hindered by the vast complexity of host and pathogen interactions  
113 shaping host immune response, which can vary in many ways. Recently, researchers  
114 have used advanced omics technologies to tackle this challenge by identifying more  
115 homogeneous groups of patients who may share similar host immune response  
116 dysfunctions<sup>7,8</sup>. Notably, these studies have uncovered common patterns of gene  
117 expression program activity across different infectious etiologies<sup>9</sup>. Additionally, single-  
118 cell genomics analyses have revealed novel immune cell states and gene programs  
119 associated with the development and severity of sepsis<sup>10,11</sup>.

120 During the first three months of the initial wave of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in Boston,  
121 MA, USA, prior to any significant viral evolution, widespread availability of anti-viral  
122 therapies, or vaccination, we conducted a longitudinal single-cell RNA sequencing  
123 (scRNA-seq) analysis of the peripheral blood immune response in 351 patients who  
124 presented to the emergency department with febrile respiratory illness. We integrated  
125 these data with clinical phenotype information, viral load measurements, serum  
126 proteomics, serum antibody levels, HLA genotype, and TCR/BCR repertoire  
127 characterization.

128 Our analyses revealed the hallmarks of host-immune response dysfunction across the  
129 full spectrum of SARS-CoV-2 disease severity as it evolves over time. We identify (1)  
130 the cellular and transcriptional features that distinguish an effective adaptive immune  
131 response from a dysfunctional one; (2) the interplay between antigen presentation,  
132 antigen receptor repertoire diversity, and host immune response effectiveness; (3)  
133 which cellular and transcriptional program changes in immune cells persist for months  
134 after infection; and (4) how IL-6-receptor inhibition through immunomodulatory  
135 tocilizumab therapy modulates immunity to reduce tissue damage and improve clinical  
136 outcomes in severe disease. We propose a model in which the initial failure to control  
137 the infection triggers a feedback loop, causing simultaneous immune overactivation and  
138 suppression. The immune overactivation is associated with tissue damage caused by  
139 failure to control the infection, and this suppresses the adaptive immune response that  
140 could help to control the infection. Our results suggest that disrupting this cycle is the  
141 key mechanism by which immunomodulatory therapy can benefit some patients with  
142 sepsis.

## 143 Results

### 144 Study Design

145 We assembled a single center cohort of patients that presented to the emergency  
146 department at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) with a febrile respiratory  
147 illness during the initial alpha variant wave of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and collected  
148 blood samples from 351 patients across five acuity levels and at three time points, and

149 subsequently adjudicated their clinical trajectory according to an established ordinal  
150 scale, in order to define immunological signatures of severity. We generated single-cell  
151 multiomics data from approximately 2.2 million peripheral blood mononuclear cells  
152 (PBMC) isolated from these patients (Figure 1 A). Of these patients, 302 had a positive  
153 PCR test from a nasal swab for SARS-CoV-2, and the remaining 49 patients were  
154 negative. We performed scRNA-seq, cellular indexing of transcriptomes and epitopes  
155 (CITE-seq), and TCR and BCR sequencing on 751 PBMC total samples from these  
156 patients collected across up to four time points, of which 705 samples passed QC and  
157 were included in downstream analysis (Methods; Figure S1). We integrated our cellular  
158 analysis with multiple additional datasets including serum autoantibody data, HLA  
159 genotyping inferred from bulk neutrophil transcriptomic sequencing<sup>12</sup>, as well as  
160 previously published serum proteomics<sup>13</sup> and viral titer data<sup>14</sup> measured in this same  
161 cohort.

162 Clinical features and biological samples were obtained and assessed on day 0 in the  
163 emergency department, and on days 3, 7, and 28 from presentation if the patient  
164 remained admitted to the hospital as an inpatient (Table S1; Methods). Patients had  
165 symptoms for a mean of 8.2 days before entering the emergency department (Figure S1  
166 A). At each time point, clinical severity was manually annotated according to the initial  
167 WHO severity 5-point scale as follows: 1 Death (n=45), 2 Intubation/Ventilation (n=77),  
168 3 Supplementary Oxygen (n=159), 4 Hospitalization (n=46), 5 Discharge (n=24)<sup>13</sup>.  
169 Consistent with previous reports<sup>14,15</sup>, age and viral load were higher in patients with  
170 worse acuity (Figure 1 B, C; Figure S1 B, D).

171 We also used a single-cell multi-omics approach to deeply characterize the host  
172 immune response in a separate cohort of patients after convalescent SARS-CoV-2  
173 infection (defined as positive serology for IgG to the receptor binding domain (RBD) of  
174 the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein) Table S2, and another cohort of critically ill patients  
175 successfully treated with anti-IL-6 receptor therapy Table S3.

176 To distinguish the cellular subsets and transcriptional signals associated with different  
177 factors such as SARS-CoV-2 infection or COVID-19 disease severity, we fit linear  
178 models to the data. All analyses used the same linear model specification, where the

179 feature of interest (e.g., gene expression) is estimated as a linear combination of age,  
180 sex, infection status, maximum severity level, time point, and the interaction between  
181 maximum severity and time (**Methods**). To integrate additional immunological  
182 measurements or modalities (e.g., serum protein levels, autoantibodies, HLA alleles),  
183 we included one additional variable in the model from the corresponding  
184 measurements. This approach provided the flexibility to extend the model with  
185 additional variables, enabling us to identify cellular subsets or transcriptional signatures  
186 associated with many different immunological measurements. We report our results at  
187 two levels of resolution: cell lineage (mononuclear phagocyte (MNP), CD4 T, CD8 T, B)  
188 and cell subset within each lineage ([Figure 1 D, E](#)).

189 Because our study included patients who tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 infection, we  
190 could distinguish which features were specific to SARS-CoV-2 infection or disease  
191 severity. Abundance analysis at the lineage level demonstrated myeloid expansion and  
192 T cell lymphopenia in association with worse severity ([Figure 1 D](#)), consistent with  
193 previous studies<sup>16</sup>. We found the greatest number of severity associations for cell  
194 subset abundance and gene expression in the MNP lineage ([Figure 1 E](#)), but all cell  
195 lineages had associations that characterize a dysfunctional immune state associated  
196 with severity.

## 197 **B cell subsets associated with COVID-19 severity**

198 Within the B cell lineage, we identified 12 cell subsets: six naive populations (B-1, 2, 3,  
199 6, 8, 9) expressing *FCER2*, *BACH2*, and *TCL1A*; five subsets with a memory or effector  
200 phenotype (B-4, 5, 7, 10, 11) expressing *CD27* and *TNFRSF13B*; and plasma cells (B-  
201 12) expressing *MZB1* ([Figure 2 A, B, C](#)) ([Table S4](#)). Infection with SARS-CoV-2 was  
202 associated with an increased abundance of the cell subsets expressing interferon-  
203 stimulated genes (ISGs) (e.g., *IFITM1*): naive B cells (B-3) and memory B cells (B-10)  
204 ([Figure 2 C, D, E](#)). Infection was also associated with the induction of over 500 genes in  
205 these two subsets ([Figure S2 C](#)). The elevated abundance of these ISG<sup>hi</sup> subsets (B-3,  
206 10) persisted over time in patients with worse severity ([Figure 2 D, F](#)), and decreased in  
207 proportion to the neutralization capacity of patient serum ([Figure S3 A](#)), but they were  
208 not associated with viral load ([Figure S3 B](#)). These results are consistent with the

209 hypothesis that viral persistence in severe disease causes a persistent ISG<sup>hi</sup> B cell  
210 state<sup>17</sup>.

211 Patients with more severe disease mainly had increased abundance of memory B cells  
212 (B-5) with *ITGAX*, *CD1C*, *EMP3* and naive B cells (B-1) with *CD83* (Figure 2 D,F; Table  
213 S5). The *ITGAX* (encoding CD11c) B-5 cells have previously been described as atypical  
214 memory B cells (also referred to as CD21<sup>L<sup>o</sup></sup>) found in association with chronic  
215 inflammatory processes, and have also been described as age-associated B cells<sup>18–20</sup>.  
216 Of note, these B-5 cells were associated with increasing age in our data (Figure S3 C).

217 COVID-19 disease severity was associated with higher expression of genes involved in  
218 regulation of inflammation and tissue repair such as *AREG*, *DDIT4*, *ZNF331*, and  
219 *MAP3K8* (Figure 2 J-M) within the B cell compartment across all cell subsets (Table  
220 S6). Severity was also associated with increased transcription of *JUND*, *TOX*, *NR4A2*,  
221 and *NR4A3*, encoding transcription factors implicated in regulation of effector function  
222 and cytokine production, and increased expression of *HLA-DQA2* and *IL6*, consistent  
223 with B cell activation (Figure 2 J, K, M). SARS-CoV-2 infection induced ISGs (*IFI44*,  
224 *IFI44L*, *IFIT1*, *IFIT3*) (Figure S2 A, D), especially in the atypical memory B cells (B-5)  
225 (Figure S2 F, G). However, ISGs were not associated with severity (Figure 2 J, Figure  
226 S2 B, E).

227 Examination of the BCR repertoire (Figure S3 E, F) revealed evidence of convergent  
228 selection with 5.8% of the plasma cell subset (B-12) expressing one of the 40 public  
229 clones (Figure 2 G; Figure S3 G; Table S7). Most public BCR clones localized to the  
230 atypical memory B cells (B-5) from patients who died (Figure 2 H). Further, increased  
231 BCR clonality was associated with worse severity (Figure 2 I) and age (Figure S3 D),  
232 but we did not identify specific BCR genes associated with acuity (Table S8). Since the  
233 abundance of atypical memory B cells (B-5) was not associated with neutralizing  
234 antibody levels (Figure S3 A; Table S9), these results may reflect a maladaptive B cell  
235 population that is more clonally expanded in severe COVID-19 disease.

236 We also found that severity was associated with decreased expression of B cell  
237 receptor (BCR) genes (Figure 2 J, L, M; Figure S2 B, G; Figure S4 A; Table S10).

238 Additionally, we found repression of *CR2* and its encoded protein CD21 (the  
239 complement receptor 2, part of the B cell co-receptor) (Figure S5 A, B, C), which  
240 compounds the effect of lower transcription of BCR genes. We conclude that patients  
241 with more severe disease have increased abundance of atypical memory B cells and a  
242 B cell phenotype with lower expression of BCR machinery, which may impair the ability  
243 to recognize and respond to SARS-CoV-2 antigens.

## 244 Aberrant humoral responses in COVID-19 severity

245 To further understand how changes in B cell subset abundance and gene expression  
246 are associated with the humoral response, we examined how our scRNA-seq findings  
247 correlate with serum levels of anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies, *in vitro* neutralization  
248 capacity, and serum proteins. Increased neutralizing capacity of a patient's serum was  
249 associated with a proportional decrease of ISG transcription (e.g., *IFIT3*) (Figure 2 N,O)  
250 and serum IFNL1 levels (Figure 2 P,Q). In contrast, neutralization capacity was  
251 effectively a surrogate measure for the level of antibody targeting the receptor binding  
252 domain (RBD) of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (Figure 2 R). The level of antibody  
253 against SARS-CoV-2-RBD was associated with increased expression of genes  
254 associated with B cell activation and maturation (e.g., *IL6*) (Figure 2 O), and increased  
255 serum levels of protein markers of B cell maturation (e.g., MZB1, SDC1) (Figure 2 P).  
256 Levels of antibodies against nucleocapsid (N) and RBD were negatively associated with  
257 age (Figure S6 A; Table S11), consistent with the increased abundance of atypical  
258 memory B cells (B-5) in older age and worse disease severity.

259 These data suggest that the reduced production of antiviral antibodies may be one of  
260 the mechanisms by which advanced age contributes to increased disease severity.  
261 Moreover, the integrative analysis of these multimodal observations supports the  
262 hypothesis that the optimality and clonality of the BCR repertoire influences how the  
263 host response progresses from the first phase of interferon production to the second  
264 phase of antiviral antibody production, and demonstrates how this progression is  
265 associated with changes in the transcriptional states of circulating cells. We conclude  
266 that patients with worse severity have plasma cells that fail to rapidly produce effective  
267 antiviral antibodies within the first two weeks of symptoms. The lack of antiviral

268 antibodies impairs the productivity of the overall host immune response as reflected in  
269 the transcriptional states of other immune cell lineages.

## 270 Autoantibodies are associated with COVID-19 severity

271 Autoantibodies against type I interferon have previously been associated with severe  
272 COVID-19<sup>21,22</sup>, and more recent studies have found additional autoantibodies  
273 suggesting a link between SARS-CoV-2 infection, autoantibody production, and the  
274 development of Long COVID or post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC) symptoms<sup>23</sup>.  
275 As such, we expanded our characterization of the humoral response by measuring 69  
276 known autoantibodies (**Methods**; [Figure S6](#); [Table S11](#)). Although we only detected  
277 auto-antibodies in a small subset of patients, we identified nine autoantibodies  
278 associated with disease severity: four types of interferon-alpha (1, 2, 6, 8), interferon  
279 gamma, interferon omega, IL1a, IL13, and pyruvate dehydrogenase E2 (PDC\_e2)  
280 ([Figure 2 S, T](#); [Figure S6 A, B](#)). As a positive control, samples positive for SARS-Cov-2  
281 had significantly elevated levels of the anti-RBD and anti-N antibodies ([Figure S6 C](#)).

282 To reduce the dimensionality of the autoantibody data, we applied non-negative matrix  
283 factorization (NMF). A small subset of patients had a high score for NMF factor 7 (NMF-  
284 7), which has highest loading values for autoantibodies targeting six types of IFN-alpha  
285 (10, 8, 6, 2, 1, 7) and IFN omega ([Figure S6 D](#)). When we tested for NMF-7 association  
286 with cell subsets abundance and gene expression, we found the greatest number of  
287 associations within the myeloid lineage ([Figure S6 E, F](#)). The ISG<sup>Hi</sup> cell subsets in the B  
288 cell, CD4 T cell, and myeloid lineages that were elevated after COVID infection were  
289 negatively associated with NMF-7, suggesting that autoantibodies against IFN alpha  
290 may inhibit the expansion of ISG<sup>Hi</sup> cell states ([Figure S6 F](#)). This finding was further  
291 supported by the negative association between IFN alpha autoantibodies (NMF-7) and  
292 reduced expression of ISGs (e.g., *IFI27*, *IFI44*, *IFI44L*) within the myeloid lineage  
293 ([Figure S6 G, H](#)). Within the myeloid lineage, the pDC (MP-14) cells, which are the  
294 primary producers of IFNalpha<sup>24</sup>, had the greatest number of genes (over 300)  
295 repressed in association with IFN alpha autoantibodies, including *IFI27* and *SIGLEC1*  
296 ([Figure S6 G, H, I](#); [Table S12](#)). Thus, although autoantibodies to type I interferon were  
297 found in a minority of patients, our results demonstrate that their presence affects the

298 abundance of ISG<sup>Hi</sup> cell subsets and the transcriptional phenotype of pDCs, both of  
299 which have critical functions in mediating anti-viral immunity.

## 300 CD4 T cell subsets associated with COVID-19 severity

301 Within the CD4 T cell lineage, we identified 14 cell subsets composed of naive (CD4-1,  
302 3), cytotoxic (CD4-5, 6), effector (CD4-5, 8, 9, 12), regulatory (CD4-13), and ISG<sup>Hi</sup>  
303 (CD4-4, 10) phenotypes, as well as NK-like cells (CD4-2) and subsets that appear to be  
304 double-positive (CD4/CD8) cells (CD4-7, 11, 14) (Figure 3 A, B, C; Table S4).

305 SARS-CoV-2 infection was associated with significant increase of ISG<sup>Hi</sup> cells (CD4-4,  
306 10), increase in the cytotoxic CD4 T cell subset with *GZMH* and *CCL5* (CD4-2), and a  
307 corresponding relative decrease in most of the other cell subsets (CD4-1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8,  
308 9, 11) (Figure 3 D, E; Table S5). In patients with severe COVID-19, these ISG<sup>Hi</sup> CD4 T  
309 subsets (CD4-4, 10) remained at a high abundance over seven days of hospitalization,  
310 but decreased over time in patients with less severe disease (Figure 3 F), consistent  
311 with our parallel observation in the B cell compartment. Worse disease severity was  
312 also associated with lower abundance of the cytotoxic *GZMK*<sup>Hi</sup> *CXCR4*<sup>Hi</sup> CD4-6 subset  
313 (Figure 3 D), which may be related to age-associated increase of CXCR4-mediated  
314 migration<sup>25</sup>. CXCR4 is a chemokine known for its role in T cell signaling and directing  
315 cells to bone marrow niches, and CXCR4 blockade improves survival in a mouse model  
316 of sepsis<sup>26</sup>.

## 317 CD8 T cell subsets associated with COVID-19 severity

318 We identified five NK and NK T cell subsets (CD8-1, 2, 5, 11, 13) and seven CD8 T cell  
319 subsets (CD8-3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10), including gamma delta T cells (CD8-9) and MAIT cells  
320 (CD8-10) (Figure 3 H, I, J; Table S4). SARS-CoV-2 infection was associated with  
321 increased abundance of *KLRC3*<sup>Hi</sup> NK cells (CD8-1), *GZMH*<sup>Hi</sup> *CD52*<sup>Hi</sup> cells (CD8-3), and  
322 *STMN1*<sup>Hi</sup> cycling cells (CD8-6) (Figure 3 K, L). The proportion of *NOSIP*<sup>Hi</sup> effector  
323 memory CD8 T cells (CD8-7) was decreased in SARS-CoV-2 infection (Figure 3 K) and  
324 also decreased in severe patients at time of admission (Figure 3 M; Table S5). Patients  
325 with severe COVID-19 had a relatively lower proportion of gamma delta T (gdT) cells  
326 (CD8-9) at admission (D0), but this cell subset subsequently increased over time

327 (Figure 3 K, M), consistent with previous reports of a decrease in circulating proportions  
328 of gdT cells associated with disease severity and mortality in sepsis<sup>27,28</sup>. Greater  
329 abundance of *NEAT1*<sup>Hi</sup> NK cells with (CD8-5) was associated with worse severity at all  
330 time points (Figure 3 K, M), consistent with previous reports<sup>29,30</sup>.

## 331 Suboptimal TCR selection is a defining feature of COVID-19 332 severity

333 We examined the T cell receptor (TCR) repertoire in the CD4 T cell compartment  
334 (Figure S7 A, B), and found that patients with more severe disease or advanced age  
335 had higher TCR clonality, especially on the first day of hospitalization (Figure S7 C, D).  
336 We also found a lack of clonal expansion in the CD4 T cell compartment, where each  
337 CD4 T cell subset had less than 1% of cells with the 143 public TCRs we identified in  
338 our study (Figure 3 G; Figure S7 E, F; Table S13). Notably, public CD4 T cell TCRs  
339 were observed in very few donors (Figure S7 F, G). In contrast, we found 1,289 public  
340 TCRs in the CD8 T cells (Figure 3 N; Figure S8 A, B; Table S13), and the majority of  
341 these were observed in the cytotoxic subsets, with 19% of the *GZMH*<sup>Hi</sup> (CD8-3) cells  
342 and 11% of the *GZMK*<sup>Hi</sup> (CD8-4) cells containing public TCRs (Figure 3 N; Figure S8 C).  
343 Public CD8 TCR clones were observed in a greater number of donors than the public  
344 CD4 TCRs, and some specific V and J genes were associated with worse disease  
345 severity in both CD4 and CD8 T cell compartments (Figure S7 F, G, H, I, J, K; Figure S8  
346 D, E, F, G, H). Therefore, we focused subsequent TCR repertoire analysis within CD8 T  
347 cells.

348 While severity was associated with higher clonality within the CD8 TCR repertoire at  
349 time of admission, patients with less severe disease had an increase in CD8 TCR  
350 clonality over the first week of hospitalization (Figure 4 A). Therefore, we hypothesize  
351 that individuals with a more limited initial repertoire may be predisposed to the selection  
352 of suboptimal clones over time, whereas patients with a more diverse initial repertoire  
353 may be more likely to expand effective clones over time. Since age was significantly  
354 associated with higher clonality at all time points (Figure 4 A), these observations further  
355 reflect that age-dependent lack of T cell diversity may predispose patients toward  
356 mounting an initially suboptimal adaptive immune response.

357 To investigate this TCR selection hypothesis further, we assessed whether the  
358 abundance of CD8 T cell subsets with different TCR V and J genes was associated with  
359 severity. We found that many V genes of the TCR beta chain (e.g., *TRBV28*, *TRBV7-8*,  
360 *TRBV5-6*) were more abundant in CD8 T cells from patients with more severe disease  
361 (Figure 4 B; Table S14). Previous *in vitro* peptide stimulation assays reported expansion  
362 of T cells expressing *TRBV27* in response to the peptide present in SARS-CoV-1 and  
363 SARS-CoV-2, but *TRBV28* in response to a nearly identical peptide from common  
364 coronavirus<sup>31</sup>. In our patients infected with SARS-CoV-2, we observed an expansion of  
365 *TRBV28* expressing CD8 T cells in association with more severe disease, but we found  
366 no association for *TRBV27* (Figure 4 C). Therefore, we hypothesized that expansion of  
367 CD8 T cells with *TRBV28* in more severely ill patients might indicate TCR repertoire  
368 bias toward TCRs with a lower affinity for SARS-CoV-2 peptides.

369 To test this hypothesis, we trained a previously reported deep learning model  
370 (TCRconv; **Methods**) that predicts epitope binding to TCR sequences on the publicly  
371 available VDJ database<sup>32,33</sup>, and generated epitope affinity predictions for the CD8  
372 TCRs in our cohort (Figure S8 I). We found that many *TRBV27* TCRs were predicted to  
373 bind epitopes from SARS-CoV-2 (primarily SPR from the SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein),  
374 but nearly none of the *TRBV28* TCRs were predicted to bind known SARS-CoV-2  
375 epitopes (Figure 4 D), consistent with the published *in vitro* results<sup>31</sup>. These data  
376 suggest that some patients with severe COVID-19 may have expanded CD8 T cells with  
377 TCRs that have low specificity for SARS-CoV-2 epitopes.

## 378 HLA alleles are a genetic risk factor for disease severity

379 To understand if the molecular structure of the antigen presentation complex is  
380 associated with more severe disease, we tested for an association between disease  
381 severity and each amino acid position in each human leukocyte antigen (HLA) gene  
382 (Figure S9 A; Table S15; **Methods**). These analyses revealed several *HLA-DQB1*  
383 amino acid positions associated with disease severity (Figure 4 E), with a subset of  
384 positions having opposing effects depending on the amino acid residue. Aspartic acid  
385 (D) at position 57 was associated with worse disease severity and higher viral load  
386 (Figure S9 B, D; Table S16), while valine (V) at position 57 was protective against

387 severe disease (Figure 4 F, G). Serine (S) at position 57 was associated with increased  
388 neutralization (Figure S9 C, E; Table S17). Notably, DQB1 D57 is strongly protective  
389 against type 1 diabetes<sup>34</sup> but nearly ubiquitous in patients with narcolepsy<sup>35</sup>.

390 Next, we investigated how these COVID-19 severity-associated amino acids in the  
391 antigen presentation proteins might influence TCR selection. We tested if the  
392 abundance of CD8 T cells expressing each TCR beta chain V (TRBV) gene is  
393 associated with each amino acid position (**Methods**). The protective DQB1 V57 allele  
394 was associated with a lower proportion of CD8 T cells with severity-associated TRBV  
395 genes including *TRBV28* (Figure 4 H), *TRBV7-8* and *TRBV5-6* (Figure S9 F; Table  
396 S18). Since class II HLA presentation to CD4 T cells has been shown to be important  
397 for calibrating the CD8 T cell response<sup>36</sup>, our results suggest that *HLA-DQB1* genotype  
398 and CD4 T cell helper cells may drive the selection of suboptimal CD8 T cell TCRs and  
399 therefore, COVID-19 severity.

## 400 Severity-associated gene expression changes in T lymphocytes

401 In both the CD4 and CD8/NK T cell lineages, SARS-CoV-2 infection induced  
402 transcription of ISGs (e.g., *IFI44L*, *IFIT3*, *OAS1*), but, as with the B cell lineage,  
403 expression of these genes was not associated with disease severity (Figure 5 A, B;  
404 Figure S10 A, B, D, E; Figure S11 A, B, D, E). In both the CD8/NK and CD4 T cell  
405 lineages, we also found hundreds of genes repressed in severe patients, including TCR  
406 genes (e.g., *TRBV5-5*) and genes responsible for modulating the immune synapse and  
407 TCR activation (*SPACA9*, *CETN2*, *ANXA1*) (Figure 5 A, B, C, D). Gene set enrichment  
408 analysis confirmed this observation, demonstrating that COVID-19 severity is  
409 associated with repression of genes in the T cell receptor complex in CD8/NK and CD4  
410 T cells (Figure 5 E; Figure S4 A; Table S10). In the CITE-seq data, we found that  
411 CD101 was negatively associated with severity in CD4 T cells (Figure S5 D, E), and  
412 CD27 and CD28 were negatively associated with severity in CD8 T cells (Figure S5 F,  
413 G). These results are consistent with the downregulation of TCR signaling in severe  
414 patients.

415 Although severity-associated transcriptional repression was observed across all of the T  
416 cell subsets, it was most pronounced in the NK-like CD4 cell subset (CD4-2) (Figure

417 **S11 C**) and the *STMN1*<sup>Hi</sup> cycling CD8 subset (CD8-6) (**Figure S10 C**). However, many  
418 genes across both lineages had increased transcription in association with disease  
419 severity, including *AREG*, *DDIT4*, *ZFP35*, *MAP3K8*, and *IL23A* (**Figure 5 D, F**).  
420 Moreover, despite decreased expression of TCR related genes, several transcription  
421 factors and genes associated with T cell activation (e.g., *KLF6*, *FOS*, *PRDM1*, *BATF*,  
422 *XBP1*, *CD69*) were upregulated in CD4 and CD8 T cells. This increase in T cell  
423 activation markers was not accompanied by an increase in T cell proliferation signals  
424 (i.e., no severity association with the cycling CD8-6 subset, **Figure 3 K**). Moreover, while  
425 cell cycling gene sets were upregulated after infection, they were downregulated in  
426 worse severity (**Figure S10 F, G**). These results suggest TCR-independent, non-  
427 specific, and potentially defective T cell activation.

428 We also identified severity-associated genes that were specific to one T cell lineage.  
429 Within the CD8 lineage, we identified *HAVCR2* and *METRNL* (**Figure 5 D, G; Table S6**),  
430 which encode the inhibitory proteins TIM-3<sup>37</sup> and Meteorin-like<sup>38</sup> respectively. We also  
431 observed altered cytotoxicity within the CD8 lineage in association with increased  
432 disease severity: CD8 T and NK cells repressed *GZMK* and induced *GZMB* (**Figure 5**  
433 **D**), consistent with findings in other forms of sepsis<sup>39</sup>. In contrast, the CD4 T lineage,  
434 but not the CD8 T lineage, had severity-associated upregulation of *CH25H*, which  
435 encodes a metabolic switch that constrains activation in response to interleukin-27 (IL-  
436 27) signaling, and *IL2RA*, which encodes a subunit of the IL-2 receptor complex and is  
437 implicated in T cell activation and proliferation, and maintenance of immune tolerance  
438 (**Figure 5 D, H**).

439 We also identified lineage-specific transcriptional changes with potential relevance to  
440 viral entry. *KIR2DL4* was higher in NK cells from severe patients, and encodes an  
441 inhibitory killer immunoglobulin-like receptor that binds heparan sulfate<sup>40</sup>, a host cell  
442 surface glycosaminoglycan that facilitates SARS-CoV-2 entry<sup>41</sup>. *KIR2DL4* is the only  
443 member of the KIR family known to bind FcεRI-gamma<sup>42</sup>, which negatively  
444 regulates pDC function<sup>43</sup>, suggesting that transcriptional modulation of *KIR2DL4* in NK  
445 cells may contribute to altered dendritic cell regulation in the context of severe COVID-  
446 19. *UGCG* in CD4 T cells, but not CD8 T cells, was associated with severity (**Figure 5**

447 D), and encodes an enzyme responsible for the synthesis of glucosylceramide, a  
448 sphingolipid reported to promote viral entry<sup>44</sup>. Additionally, within the *ISG15*<sup>Hi</sup> CD4  
449 subset (CD4-4), we found that the gene set previously implicated as essential for viral  
450 entry was enriched with severity-associated genes (Figure S11 F, G)<sup>45</sup>, but we did not  
451 find this association in CD8 T cells (Table S10).

452 In summary, these transcriptional changes in more severe COVID-19 suggest an  
453 activated T lymphocyte phenotype marked by the repression of genes involved in  
454 antigen recognition, metabolic activity, immune synapse formation, and cytotoxicity, and  
455 simultaneous induction of genes involved in responding to tissue injury and repair. This  
456 shift toward T cell transcriptional states involved in tissue injury and repair, and away  
457 from viral clearance, may be a necessary response given the extent to which patients  
458 with severe disease have been found to have profound end-organ damage and tissue  
459 injury<sup>13,46</sup>.

## 460 Sepsis-associated monocytes are a cornerstone of COVID-19 461 severity

462 We next characterized the role of the myeloid cell compartment in driving the  
463 dysregulated host response in severe SARS-CoV-2 infection. We identified 14 distinct  
464 mononuclear phagocytes (MNP) subsets (Figure 6 A, B, C), including nine classical  
465 CD14 monocyte subsets (MP-1-8, 15), three non-classical CD16 monocyte subsets  
466 (MP-9, 10, 12), cDCs (MP-11), pDCs (MP-14), and MNP-T cell doublets (MP-13) (Table  
467 S4). These myeloid subsets fall into four states: a progenitor state (MP-1, 4, 7 with  
468 *AHNAK*, *VIM*, *CD99*), a previously reported sepsis-associated state (MP-3 with  
469 *ALOX5AP*, *RETN*, *MCEMP1*, *PADI4*, *CLU*, *SELL*)<sup>10</sup>, an ISG<sup>Hi</sup> state (MP-2, 5, 6, 10), and  
470 ISG<sup>Lo</sup> effector state (MP-8, 9, 12) spanning both CD14 and CD16 MNPs.

471 SARS-CoV-2 infection is associated with increased abundance of *CD14* ISG<sup>Hi</sup> subsets  
472 (MP-2, 5, 6), *CD16* ISG<sup>Hi</sup> (MP-10), *CD16 C1QA*<sup>Hi</sup> (MP-12), and pDC cells (MP-14)  
473 (Figure 6 D, E; Table S5), consistent with previous reports<sup>1,4</sup>. Patients with more severe  
474 disease had decreased relative abundance of the *HLA-DRA*<sup>Hi</sup> subset (MP-8), cDCs  
475 (MP-11), and *CD14 CSTA*<sup>Hi</sup> subset (MP-4) (Figure 6 D, E), also consistent with prior  
476 studies in COVID-19 and sepsis more broadly<sup>1,2,4,21,47</sup>. In contrast, patients with more

477 severe disease had an increased relative abundance of two *CD14* ISG<sup>Hi</sup> subsets (MP-2,  
478 MP-6), as well as the *CD14* ISG<sup>Lo</sup> subset (MP-3) (Figure 6 D, E).

479 Notably, we identify MP-3 as a previously reported *CD14* HLA-DR<sup>Lo</sup> sepsis-associated  
480 monocyte state originally referred to as *CD14* monocyte state 1 (*CD14* MS1) that was  
481 identified in patients with bacterial sepsis<sup>10</sup>, which has also been described as myeloid-  
482 derived suppressor cells (MDSCs)<sup>2,48,49</sup>. The gene program defining this cell state (*CLU*,  
483 *RETN*, *ALOX5AP*, HLA-DR<sup>Lo</sup>) (Figure 6 B, C) has been reported in other studies of  
484 patients with COVID-19, and experimental work has both characterized them as  
485 immunosuppressive, and demonstrated that plasma from patients with either bacterial  
486 sepsis or severe COVID-19 can lead to their induction<sup>2,4</sup>. We also found the severity-  
487 associated ISG<sup>Hi</sup> MP-2 subset to be transcriptionally similar to the MS-1 MP-3 subset,  
488 reflecting an ISG<sup>Hi</sup> variant of the sepsis-associated monocyte state (Figure S12 A).

489 Next, we tested for association between the abundance of MNP subsets and serum  
490 proteins. We identified two distinct sets of serum proteins associated with the ISG<sup>Hi</sup> or  
491 the ISG<sup>Lo</sup> MNP cell subsets (Table S19). Abundance of ISG<sup>Hi</sup> MNP subsets was  
492 associated with proteins involved in the early phase of acute response to viral infection  
493 (e.g., *IFNL1*, *CXCL10*, *CCL8*, *IL15*), whereas ISG<sup>Lo</sup> subsets were associated with a  
494 distinct set of proteins, including monocyte chemoattractants associated with chronic  
495 inflammatory conditions, myelopoiesis and an immunosuppressive tumor  
496 microenvironment (e.g., *AREG*, *CCL23*, *CCL24*) (Figure 6 F)<sup>50</sup>. This bimodal pattern  
497 suggested that the ISG<sup>Lo</sup> subsets, including the sepsis-associated MP-3 subset, are  
498 associated with serum markers of tissue damage and persistent inflammation, not to the  
499 markers of acute anti-viral response.

500 We examined myeloid cell subset associations with the serum level of IL-6, as previous  
501 reports have demonstrated correlation between plasma concentrations of IL-6 and the  
502 sepsis-associated monocyte state<sup>2</sup>. Concordant with these prior findings, we found that  
503 the relative abundance of the MP-3 subset increased in proportion to serum IL-6 levels,  
504 and observed that this relationship persisted over the seven day time course of  
505 hospitalization (Figure 6 G; Table S19). Although the transcriptionally similar MP-2  
506 subset was also associated with serum IL-6 levels, its abundance decreased over time

507 in strong association with the level of serum interferon (e.g., IFNL1) (Figure 6 G). These  
508 longitudinal data demonstrate the shift from the early interferon phase to a later IL-6  
509 phase of disease associated with the expansion of specific MNP subsets. These data  
510 are also consistent with a model in which IL-6 promotes the development of the sepsis-  
511 associated subset (MP-3), and demonstrate that persistent high levels of IL-6 are  
512 present in patients with ongoing inflammation, tissue injury, and more severe illness.

### 513 Myeloid cell gene expression associations with severity

514 COVID-19 severity was associated with a different pattern of gene expression than  
515 infection (Figure 6 H, I; Figure S13 A, B). Infection with SARS-CoV-2 induced gene  
516 expression in ISG<sup>Hi</sup> myeloid subsets (MP-2, 5, 6, 10), *CD16 C1Q* subset (MP-12), and  
517 cDC (MP-11), but repressed gene expression in the other subsets (Figure 6 H, I; Table  
518 S6). Gene set enrichment analysis of infection-associated genes shows increased  
519 expression of genes in the RIG-I-like and Toll-like receptor signaling pathways across  
520 all MNP subsets (Figure S4 B; Table S10). Within some MNP subsets, infection is  
521 associated with the innate immune response and interferon signaling responses (Figure  
522 S13 C).

523 Most genes induced by infection, such as ISGs (e.g., *IFI27*, *OTOF*, *DEFB1*) and ISG  
524 regulators (e.g., *NR1R*) (Figure 6 J) were not associated with disease severity (Figure 6  
525 I), with the exception of a few genes like *RNASE1* that were associated with both.  
526 Severity was associated with repression of genes involved in antigen presentation  
527 (*CD1C*, *HLA-DRA*, *HLA-DQB1*, *CA2*) (Figure 6 L), specifically in *CD14* subset (MP-8),  
528 *CD14* progenitor-like (MP-4), and cDCs (MP-11) (Figure 6 L; Figure S13 D), which are  
529 the same subsets that are less abundant in severe patients (Figure 6 D). These results  
530 are complementary to the repression of TCR genes in the T cell compartment (Figure 5  
531 D, E) — repressed gene expression on both sides of the immune synapse was  
532 associated with worse disease severity. This shows that repressed gene expression  
533 across both sides of the immune synapse is associated with worse disease severity.  
534 Among the genes upregulated with increasing disease severity, we identified genes  
535 involved in immune activation and its negative feedback (*IL10*), as well as alarmins  
536 (*S100A8*, *S100A9*, *S100A12*), tissue damage and repair (*CLU*, *MMP2*), and

537 transcriptional regulation (*HIST1H1C*, *JAK3*) (Figure 6 K, L; Figure S13 B). Increased  
538 MNP expression of *CYP19A1* was also associated with worse severity, consistent with  
539 a previous report of this aromatase-encoding gene mediating worse COVID-19 severity  
540 in males<sup>51</sup>.

541 Some severity-associated genes were increased or decreased among all MNP subsets  
542 (Figure 6 L). For example, all myeloid subsets had increased severity-associated  
543 expression of genes implicated in the secretory granule (*MS4A4A*, *METTL7B*, *FAM20A*,  
544 *THBS1*, *CLU*), which appeared in our gene set enrichment analyses (Figure S13 D).  
545 Other key biological processes that were upregulated across all MNP subsets included  
546 viral entry (*PLAC8*, *FURIN*, *CTSL*, *AGFG1*, *RAB13*), IL-1 related pathway genes  
547 (*IL1R2*, *RETN*, *SLC39A8*), mononuclear phagocyte polarization (*VCAN*, *SOCS3*),  
548 scavenger receptors and PAMP/DAMP signaling (*CD163*, *MARCO*, *STAB1*), tissue  
549 hypoxia (*MAP3K8*, *ADM*, *HIF1A*), alarmins (*S100A8*, *S100A9*, *S100A12*) and  
550 endothelial injury (*ADAMTS2*) (Figure 6 L, Figure S13 D). In parallel, we found that all  
551 myeloid subsets had severity-associated downregulation of genes implicated in  
552 monocyte deactivation (*PLD4*, *AP1S2*), histone deacetylase genes (*HDAC9*, *HDAC2*),  
553 and genes that encode proteins known to bind SARS-CoV-2 (*ATP1B1*, *CLEC10A*,  
554 *RTN1*) (Figure 6 L, Figure S13 D).

555 We note that most severity-induced genes were in the sepsis-associated subsets (MP-  
556 2, MP-3) (Figure 6 H), and the induced genes unique to these subsets were related to  
557 metabolism (*LDHA*, *PLIN2*, *FABP5*, *CYP1B1*), transcriptional regulation (*HIST3H2A*,  
558 *HIST1H2AC*, *RUNX1*) and cytokine signaling (*JAK3*) (Figure 6 L). Considering the  
559 association between serum IL-6 levels and the abundance of the sepsis-associated  
560 subsets (MP-2, MP-3) (Figure 6 G), this severity-associated *JAK3* expression in both  
561 subsets is consistent with published reports demonstrating that IL-6 mediated JAK3-  
562 STAT3 activation results in the repression of HLA-DR gene expression that is  
563 characteristic of the sepsis-associated monocyte state<sup>52</sup>.

564 Among myeloid-expressed genes associated with serum IL-6 level, *CLU* had the  
565 strongest association (Figure S12 B; Table S20), and this gene was associated with  
566 severity in all myeloid subsets. *CLU* encodes clusterin, which has been reported as

567 crucial for sepsis survival with observational and experimental data demonstrating it to  
568 be an anti-inflammatory, histone-neutralizing protein upregulated in response to  
569 extensive cell death<sup>53</sup>. These data suggest that IL-6 shifts the transcriptional state of  
570 myeloid cells away from antigen presentation and toward a clearance and tissue injury  
571 repair.

572 Of the 1,463 serum proteins measured in our dataset, the serum level of IL-6 was the  
573 most strongly associated with COVID-19 severity (22-fold higher in 1-Death than 5-  
574 Disch, 95% CI 17-28,  $P = 6e-47$ , [Figure 6 N](#); [Table S21](#)), and it was consistently  
575 elevated across all time points ([Figure S12 C](#)). Since IL-6 receptor (IL6R) blockade has  
576 been shown to impact clinical outcomes in a subset of critically ill patients with COVID-  
577 19<sup>6</sup>, we hypothesized that IL-6 dependent myeloid dysregulation reflects a central  
578 hallmark of severity biology that might be improved by IL-6R blockade. To investigate  
579 this hypothesis, we characterized the transcriptional effects of IL-6R blockade on the  
580 host immune response at the single-cell level in patients hospitalized with COVID-19  
581 during the alpha wave.

## 582 **Immunologic hallmarks of COVID-19 severity are reversed with** 583 **tocilizumab**

584 We screened the 243 patients from the BACC Bay randomized controlled trial of  
585 tocilizumab in patients with severe COVID-19 that was conducted at our institution  
586 (MGH) and others<sup>54</sup>. We focused our single-cell analysis on four patients who were  
587 identified, retrospectively, to be in the treatment arm and demonstrate clinical  
588 improvement following administration of tocilizumab after study unblinding ([Table S3](#)). In  
589 addition to clinical improvement, these patients had marked decay in serum C reactive  
590 protein (CRP) (measured for clinical care) ([Table S22](#)) and IL-6 levels (measured for  
591 research purposes) ([Table S23](#)) following tocilizumab administration ([Figure 7 A](#);  
592 **Methods**). We performed scRNA-seq, CITE-seq, TCR and BCR sequencing on  
593 specimens collected immediately prior to tocilizumab administration and 4-, 7-, 14-, and  
594 28-days post therapy ([Figure 7 B, C, D](#)).

595 Tocilizumab treatment in this subset of recipients was associated with reversal of CD4 T  
596 and CD8 T cell lymphopenia, and a relatively lower abundance of all myeloid cells

597 (Figure 7 E). The MNP compartment had the greatest number of changes in cell subset  
598 abundances and differentially expressed genes (Figure 7 F), in contrast to the minimal  
599 changes observed in the CD4 T, CD8 T, or B cell compartments (Figure S14).

600 In the myeloid lineage, we identified 12 MNP subsets with a distinct distribution pre- and  
601 post-treatment with tocilizumab (Figure 7 G). To map these cell subsets to our acute  
602 MNP subsets, we trained a linear discriminant analysis (LDA) classifier on the acute  
603 MNP data and then used it to classify each cell from the tocilizumab data (Figure 7 I;  
604 Figure S15). Notably, myeloid subset 2 in the tocilizumab data (t-MP-2) was no longer  
605 detectable after treatment with tocilizumab (Figure 7 J; Figure S16 A, B, C, D, E).  
606 Cells from this subset mapped primarily to the sepsis-associated monocyte state  
607 subsets in the acute data (MP-2, MP-3) (Figure 7 I; Figure S15).

608 Upon closer examination of the cells within each myeloid cell subset over time, we  
609 noted that several clusters were divided into two transcriptionally distinct parts: one  
610 ISG<sup>Hi</sup> (e.g., *IFI6*) and one ISG<sup>Lo</sup> part. The ISG<sup>Hi</sup> parts completely disappeared by day 14  
611 within the classical CD14 monocytes (t-MP2, t-MP4, t-MP8), non-classical CD16  
612 monocytes (t-MP6) and cDC (t-MP7) (Figure S16 C, D). We also identified a transient  
613 population of cycling classical MNPs (t-MP4) at day 4, which resolved by day 28 (Figure  
614 S16 E). By day 28, we observed the return of classical and non-classical monocytes to  
615 normal baseline (Figure S16 C, D, E), as well as cDCs (t-MP7) that no longer expressed  
616 markers of activation and ISGs (Figure 7 J; Figure S16 D).

617 Many of the severity-associated genes that were upregulated in the myeloid cells from  
618 severely ill patients were significantly repressed after tocilizumab treatment (Figure 7 K,  
619 L). These included genes related to secretory granules (*CLU*, *MS4A4*, *METTL7B*,  
620 *FAM20A*), genes encoding PAMP/DAMP receptors (*CD163*, *MARCO*, *STAB1*, *CD151*),  
621 metabolism pathways (*CYP1B1*, *FABP5*), alarmins (*S100A8*, *S100A9*), and ISG (*IFIT1*,  
622 *IFITM1*) (Figure 7 L, M; Figure S4 C; Figure S16 F, G; Table S24; Table S25).

623 Tocilizumab treatment led to repression of *JAK3* and induction of MHC II genes (e.g.,  
624 *HLA-DQA1*) (Figure 7 L, M). IL-6 is known to suppress HLA-DR expression through  
625 JAK3-STAT3 signaling<sup>52</sup>, and our data demonstrates restoration of HLA-DR expression

626 following tocilizumab administration. Our results establish a mechanistic link between  
627 the suppression of the sepsis-associated myeloid gene program and the activation of  
628 the antigen presentation gene program.

629 Since the most severely ill patients in our primary acute SARS-CoV-2 cohort effectively  
630 serve as a comparator for those treated with IL-6R blockade, these results provide a  
631 cellular and molecular basis for the immunomodulatory effects of tocilizumab in patients  
632 who had clinical improvement concomitant with pharmacologic therapy. Our results  
633 demonstrate that the IL-6/sepsis-associated monocyte state axis is a hallmark of severe  
634 COVID-19. Tocilizumab treatment eradicates the IL-6 dependent, immunosuppressive,  
635 sepsis-associated monocyte states (MP-2, MP-3), suggesting that these subsets  
636 contribute to the persistence of the dysregulated immune response. Additionally, the  
637 disappearance of the ISG<sup>Hi</sup> myeloid subsets following treatment implies that viral  
638 clearance is occurring in parallel with reversal of immunosuppression and the  
639 restoration of antigen presentation capacity.

## 640 Immunologic hallmarks in convalescent COVID-19

641 After identifying the central immunologic features of severe COVID-19 and  
642 demonstrating reversal of this dysregulation in the setting of IL-6R inhibition, we next  
643 examined if less severely ill patients — who achieved convalescence without antivirals  
644 or immunomodulatory treatment — had persistent hallmarks of acute disease. To  
645 assess the cellular and molecular changes associated with SARS-CoV-2  
646 convalescence after non-severe infection, we performed scRNA-seq, CITE-seq, TCR,  
647 and BCR sequencing on more than 200,000 cells from 73 donors from a second cohort,  
648 independent of the previously described cohort of patients with acute SARS-CoV-2  
649 infection ([Table S2](#)). Of these 73 donors, 43 had confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection three  
650 months before sample collection, while the remaining 30 had serological studies  
651 consistent with absence of prior infection ([Figure 8 A](#); **Methods**).

652 After clustering to cell lineage and subset resolution ([Figure 8 B, C](#)), we found that CD8  
653 T/NK cells were slightly less abundant than other immune lineages in individuals with  
654 convalescent SARS-CoV-2 infection ([Figure 8 D](#); [Table S5](#)). Within the CD8 T/NK  
655 lineage, convalescent donors had greater relative abundance of gdT cells (c-CD8-6)

656 and lower abundance of effector memory T cells (Tem) (c-CD8-1) (Figure 8 F, Figure  
657 S17). Within the CD4 T cell lineage, convalescent donors had lower abundance of Tem  
658 (c-CD4-4) and two distinct subsets of central memory T cells (Tcm; c-CD4-5 and c-CD4-  
659 8) (Figure 8 G, Figure S18; Table S5). In contrast, B cells had significant differences in  
660 cell subset abundance or gene expression between uninfected and convalescent  
661 patients (Figure S19; Table S5). Similarly, within the myeloid lineage, cell subset  
662 abundances did not differ between the two groups (Figure S20; Table S5). For instance,  
663 convalescent and uninfected patients had similar levels of the CD14 subset most similar  
664 to our acute ISG<sup>Hi</sup> classical monocytes (MP-2) (Figure 8 H left panel) as well as the  
665 sepsis-associated subset (MP-3) (Figure 8 H right panel). In contrast, both severe and  
666 non-severe acute patients had immediate changes in the abundance of these subsets  
667 (Figure 6 E). We conclude that many of the cellular changes present during acute  
668 infection return to baseline within three months of convalescence after infection.

669 When analyzed at the cell lineage level, only 18 genes were differentially expressed, 14  
670 of which were in the MNP lineage (Figure 8 E), and most of the genes were related  
671 (Table S26). Several histone genes (*HIST1H1D*, *HIST1H1C*, *HIST1H1E*, *HIST2H2AC*)  
672 were elevated three months after infection in all four lineages (CD8 T cells, CD4 T cells,  
673 B cells, MNPs) (Figure 8 I, J, K). Some of these genes were also associated with severe  
674 disease in acute infection (Figure 8 L). While certain histone genes were uniquely  
675 associated with acute infection or convalescence, *HIST1H1C* and *HIST2H2AC* were  
676 induced in both (Figure S21 A, B, C). Notably, *HIST1H1C* transcription was also  
677 elevated in the blood in a study of 48 patients with PASC (Post-Acute Sequelae of  
678 COVID-19)<sup>55</sup>, and the encoded H1C protein has been shown to inhibit influenza virus  
679 replication<sup>56</sup>. Our results show that specific histone genes are transcriptionally induced  
680 during acute infection, associated with disease severity, and remain elevated in  
681 circulating immune cells during convalescence.

682 In the Treg cells from convalescent donors (c-CD4-6), we found higher expression of  
683 *ICOS* (FC = 3, P = 2e-6, FDR = 0.02) (Figure 8 M, N), but we did not find this in the  
684 Tregs from acute donors (Figure 8 O). However, *ICOS* was associated with worse  
685 severity in all CD4 T cells from acute patients (FC = 1.75, P = 2e-6, FDR = 2e-4, Table

686 S6). ICOS is known to regulate immune tolerance and autoimmunity, and it may play a  
687 role in both post-acute sequelae and the immune response during recurrent infection<sup>57</sup>.  
688 In contrast, the ISGs induced during acute SARS-CoV-2 infection (e.g., *IFI27*, *IFI44L*,  
689 *IFIT3*, *IFIT1*) were no longer elevated in the convalescent individuals three months after  
690 infection (Figure S21 D, E).

691 Patients who were sampled three months after clearing SARS-CoV-2 infection had  
692 relatively subtle cellular abundance changes compared to what was observed in acute  
693 infection. The major sepsis-associated transcriptional hallmarks (e.g., repressed HLA,  
694 TCR, and BCR genes) were not observed in convalescent patients, indicating that these  
695 are molecular signals specific to acute infection and severe illness. However, we found  
696 that convalescent patients have persistent elevated expression of histone genes (e.g.,  
697 *HIST1H1C*) in all immune cell types and elevated expression of ICOS in CD4 Tregs.

## 698 A conceptual model of the biology of COVID-19 severity

699 We integrated our findings to propose a conceptual model of the host-response in acute  
700 SARS-CoV-2 infection (Figure 9). Our model is based on analysis of multiple modalities  
701 in acute disease across the spectrum of acute COVID-19 severity, the effect of  
702 immunomodulatory treatment, and persistent transcriptional changes that remain in  
703 convalescence. In this model, the effectiveness of the adaptive immune response is the  
704 primary bifurcation point between patients with severe and non-severe clinical illness.  
705 Suboptimal T and B cell receptor repertoire selection and multiple etiologies (e.g., age-  
706 associated and age-independent increase in clonality, existing repertoire bias, HLA  
707 genotype, auto-antibody production, lymphopenia) lead to impaired viral clearance and  
708 consequent ongoing tissue injury and inflammation, including excess production of IL6.  
709 This leads to an IL-6 affected myeloid phenotype characterized by immunosuppressive  
710 sepsis-associated monocyte states and downregulation of antigen presentation which in  
711 turn promotes maladaptive lymphocyte behavior with a shared emphasis on tissue  
712 repair as opposed to viral clearance (Figure S22)<sup>48</sup>. In some patients, interruption of this  
713 cycle with IL-6 receptor blockade reverses the immunosuppressive sepsis-associated  
714 monocyte cell state and restores antigen presentation, which gives the adaptive  
715 immune system a second chance to promote viral clearance. Individuals infected with

716 SARS-CoV-2 may have persistent transcriptional changes for months after infection, but  
717 these changes are different from the the changes in the acute phase of disease.

## 718 Discussion

719 Our multimodal analysis of the immune response to acute SARS-CoV-2 infection in 351  
720 patients reveals associations between disease severity and cell populations as well as  
721 molecular programs defined by scRNA-seq, and includes integrative analysis of CITE-  
722 seq, TCR and BCR sequencing, serum proteomics, auto-antibodies, viral load, anti-viral  
723 antibodies, and HLA genotypes. We show how immunologic intervention affects the  
724 hallmarks of disease severity and propose a conceptual model of immune dysfunction  
725 with maladaptive myeloid phenotype at the center of SARS-CoV-2 pathophysiology,  
726 providing insights into both COVID-19 severity and sepsis as a model of immune  
727 dysregulation.

728 Previous studies have identified myeloid dysfunction, T cell overactivation with  
729 exhaustion, extrafollicular B cell activation and atypical memory B cell phenotypes, TCR  
730 and BCR repertoire dynamics, autoantibody production, and direct viral cytotoxicity in  
731 the development of severe COVID-19<sup>1,4,13,58–64</sup>. We propose three central themes that  
732 integrate these previously reported observations with our findings: (1) impaired antigen  
733 recognition early in disease leads to severe COVID-19 later on; (2) severe disease is  
734 characterized by a shift toward responses to persistent inflammation and tissue injury,  
735 with reduced antigen presentation and effector function despite clear evidence of  
736 ongoing viral infection; (3) this dysfunctional immune state is sustained by IL-6 and  
737 specific subsets of myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs)<sup>48,65</sup> previously associated  
738 with sepsis<sup>66</sup>, which contribute to the immunosuppressive environment and are  
739 associated with disease severity. Importantly, these MDSCs have also been referred to  
740 as MS1 cell state in the context of acute SARS-CoV-2 and sepsis<sup>1–4</sup>.

741 With respect to the first theme, we identify CD21<sup>Lo</sup> atypical memory B cells –  
742 characterized by *ITGAX*, *CD1C*, *EMP3* – as the only B cell subset expanded in more  
743 severe disease, consistent with previous studies<sup>62,67</sup>. Higher proportions of CD21<sup>Lo</sup> B  
744 cells have been associated with poorer COVID-19 vaccine response<sup>68</sup>. CD21

745 expression is typically reduced in apoptotic B cells, and an increased abundance of  
746 CD21<sup>Lo</sup> B cells has been reported in individuals with systemic lupus erythematosus,  
747 chronic variable immunodeficiency, rheumatoid arthritis, human immunodeficiency virus  
748 (HIV) viremia, and exposure to *Plasmodium falciparum*<sup>69</sup>. Notably, several marker  
749 genes of the B-5 cell subset (*SOX5*, *FGR*, *ITGAX*) in our dataset are shared with a  
750 previously described population of expanded anergic B-cell subset in hepatitis C virus-  
751 associated mixed cryoglobulinemia<sup>69</sup>. Although some studies suggest these CD21<sup>Lo</sup>  
752 atypical memory B cells can produce antibodies and autoantibodies, we did not observe  
753 a correlation between their abundance and neutralizing antibody titers in our dataset;  
754 only a small proportion of our patients had evidence of autoantibody production.  
755 However, the majority of expanded public BCR clones in our data were localized within  
756 the severity-associated CD21<sup>Lo</sup> atypical memory B cell subset (B-5), and increased B  
757 cell clonality was associated with worse disease severity. These findings demonstrate  
758 the dysfunctional B cell immune response associated with COVID-19 severity.

759 We found that increased CD8 TCR clonality early in disease was associated with worse  
760 severity, consistent with previous studies<sup>70,71</sup>, and consistent with known age-dependent  
761 decline in CD8 T cell numbers and narrowing of the TCR repertoire<sup>72</sup>. We identified  
762 specific severity-associated TCR genes, the majority of which were predicted not to bind  
763 SARS-CoV-2 epitopes, indicating that patients with severe disease may be selecting  
764 inefficient or suboptimal T cell clones. Our data suggests that a constrained repertoire  
765 may increase the likelihood of selecting suboptimal clones. Conversely, patients with  
766 less severe disease showed increasing clonality over time, consistent with the selection  
767 and expansion of clones that recognize SARS-CoV-2 epitopes.

768 In our data, aspartic acid (D) at position 57 in *HLA-DQB1* was associated with greater  
769 disease severity and higher viral load following SARS-CoV-2 infection. In contrast, the  
770 absence of aspartic acid at position 57 was associated with lower abundance of CD8 T  
771 cells expressing severity-associated TCR genes. Moreover, the *HLA-DQB1* locus has  
772 also been associated with PASC<sup>73</sup> and with failure to seroconvert after COVID-19  
773 vaccination<sup>74</sup>. Class II HLA proteins, such as HLA-DQB1, present antigens to CD4 T-  
774 helper cells, which in turn modulates cytotoxic CD8 T cell development via DC cross-

775 priming<sup>75,76</sup>. In COVID-19, delayed generation of circulating CD4 T follicular helper cells  
776 (cTfh) has been associated with increased disease severity<sup>36</sup>. Therefore, our data  
777 suggest that COVID-19 severity is associated with antigen presentation by HLA-DQB1  
778 to CD4 T helper cells, which influences development of anti-viral CD8 T cells and  
779 antibodies.

780 With respect to the second theme, we propose that multiple features of adaptive  
781 immune response, occurring either independently or in combination, can impair viral  
782 clearance, ultimately leading to a maladaptive immune state characterized by persistent  
783 tissue injury and inflammation. Despite persistent ISG signatures in both the T and B  
784 cell lineages, we observed transcriptional repression of genes involved in effector  
785 function, TCR and BCR signaling, and the immune synapse formation. Concurrently,  
786 genes associated with tissue injury and repair (e.g., *AREG*, *CH25H*, *DDIT4*) were  
787 upregulated. Viruses are known to inhibit TCR signaling<sup>77</sup>, and some hypothesize that  
788 SARS-CoV-2 may directly inhibit TCR signaling<sup>78</sup>. These adaptive immune alterations  
789 are paralleled in the myeloid compartment by broad repression of antigen presentation  
790 gene and protein expression. Since NFkB is required for MHC class II-mediated antigen  
791 presentation<sup>79</sup> — and SARS-CoV-2 requires NFkB for viral replication<sup>80</sup> — viral  
792 hijacking of NFkB may contribute to the observed repression of antigen presentation in  
793 MNPs from patients with acute COVID-19.

794 Our results highlight that COVID-19 severity is associated with extensive transcriptional  
795 changes across myeloid lineage subsets, and increased abundance of myeloid subsets  
796 with immunosuppressive profiles characteristic of MDSCs. Previous studies using  
797 electron microscopy and flow cytometry to characterize circulating immune cells showed  
798 that SARS-CoV-1 infects approximately 50% of lymphocytes and 30% of  
799 monocytes<sup>16,81–83</sup>, and that monocytes exhibit anisocytosis (extreme intracellular  
800 vacuolization)<sup>81,84</sup>. In the context of SARS-CoV-2, increased monocyte distribution  
801 width (MDW), which is a potential clinical indicator of anisocytosis and monocyte  
802 activation, has been observed in several studies<sup>85–91</sup>. In our dataset, severity-associated  
803 gene expression programs, such as those related to secretory granules, support the  
804 idea that increased vacuolization and heightened secretory behavior in myeloid cells is

805 a hallmark of severe COVID-19. These findings suggest that MDW could offer a low-  
806 cost, clinically accessible marker of myeloid dysregulation, but additional studies are  
807 needed to directly connect this phenotype to the more granular molecular changes  
808 identified here and in other single-cell studies.

809 With respect to the third theme, MDSC phenotypes, as well as broader repression of  
810 HLA-DR expression, have been shown to be driven by IL-6/JAK3/STAT3 signaling.  
811 Previous studies showed that IL6R blockade can restore HLA-DR expression in the  
812 myeloid compartment and reverse bulk-transcriptomic signatures of myeloid  
813 dysfunction<sup>2,92,93</sup>. We demonstrate that IL6R blockade through tocilizumab results in the  
814 loss of MDSC cell state, restoration of HLA-DR expression, and re-establishment of  
815 MNP subset homeostasis, as well as reversal of T cell lymphopenia. Notably, these  
816 changes were associated with the disappearance of ISG signatures in all immune cell  
817 lineages, suggesting that resolution of the MDSC cellular state facilitated viral  
818 clearance. In contrast, transcriptional changes within the B and T cell lineages were  
819 minimal following tocilizumab treatment. Our data support a central biological role for  
820 MDSC subsets in maintaining a dysfunctional immune state that impairs viral clearance,  
821 and suggest that MDSC may represent a rational therapeutic target in a subset of  
822 patients with sepsis.

823 The notable difference between some randomized clinical trial (RCT) data showing  
824 limited benefits of IL-6 antagonism in COVID-19 and the clear immunologic effect our  
825 tocilizumab cohort single-cell multiomic analyses identified deserves special mention.  
826 Indeed, RCT conducted from April 2020 through 2021 during the alpha wave of the  
827 pandemic produced mixed results for IL-6 antagonist therapy in COVID-19. Some trials  
828 found no mortality benefit<sup>54,94–96</sup>, while others (or subgroup analyses of negative trials)  
829 showed improvements such as reduced progression to mechanical ventilation and end-  
830 organ support, lower 28-day mortality, and higher discharge rate at 28 days with  
831 tocilizumab therapy<sup>6,97,98</sup>. These differences in results stem from trials enrolling patients  
832 across a spectrum of COVID-19 disease severity, CRP levels, and co-morbidities — a  
833 reflection of the unprecedented challenges and need to rapidly study  
834 immunomodulatory treatment for a new, severely morbid viral infection. Careful review

835 of subgroup analyses and individual RCT data suggests that IL-6 inhibition is most  
836 beneficial for patients with moderate to severe and/or critical COVID-19 disease<sup>97,99</sup>,  
837 especially those with high CRP<sup>95</sup>, and for those who received tocilizumab (as opposed  
838 to other IL-6 antagonists)<sup>100</sup>. Working within the limitations of the study design of our  
839 institution's BACC BAY RCT — where PBMC were collected prospectively to study the  
840 immunology of IL-6 inhibition, and where inclusion criteria study design targeted  
841 hospitalized individuals with moderate COVID-19 disease necessitating supplemental  
842 O2 — we analyzed PBMCs from four individuals who had the most severe disease,  
843 highest pre-tocilizumab CRP and IL-6 levels, largest drop in these laboratory markers  
844 post-treatment, no other immunosuppressive or remdesivir therapy, and who ultimately  
845 were discharged home from the hospital without the need for mechanical ventilation.  
846 Given this rigorous approach marrying subgroup analyses of published RCT data and  
847 our carefully selected patient cohort, we believe that the reversal of the MDSC/MS-1  
848 myeloid state following tocilizumab we have identified in this study is a critical  
849 component of the mechanism underlying IL-6R blockade benefit in severe SARS-CoV-2  
850 infection. This conclusion is further reinforced by our findings that two immunological  
851 hallmarks of severe COVID-19 (i.e., abundance of MNP subsets ISG<sup>hi</sup> MP-2 and MDSC  
852 MP-3) and transcription of severity-associated genes (i.e. *CLU*) resolved by day 4 post-  
853 tocilizumab (Figure 7 I, L), much faster than in the untreated patients (Figure 6 E, K).

854 In convalescent patients who recovered from COVID-19 three months after infection, we  
855 did not find evidence of the MDSC cell state. This suggests that this  
856 immunosuppressive phenotype is a feature of acute disease and does not persist during  
857 recovery. Importantly, MDSCs can regulate inflammation and limit tissue injury. One  
858 example of the protective role of MDSC is their expression of *CLU*, which encodes  
859 clusterin, an enzyme that binds pro-inflammatory histones released by neutrophils and  
860 dying cells<sup>53</sup>. In mouse models of sepsis, *CLU* deficiency leads to increased mortality<sup>53</sup>,  
861 underscoring its protective role in mitigating inflammatory tissue injury. As such,  
862 immunomodulatory therapies that reduce *CLU* expression, such as IL-6 blockade as  
863 observed in our data, could be harmful in patients who are mounting an appropriate  
864 host immune response to tissue injury. A key limitation of our tocilizumab response  
865 analysis is that it focused exclusively on patients who clinically improved, potentially

866 skewing the interpretation towards beneficial effects of MDSC suppression. Future  
867 studies will be needed to determine whether markers of myeloid dysregulation, such as  
868 *CLU* expression, can guide personalized treatment decisions and identify which patients  
869 will likely benefit or be harmed by immunomodulatory therapy.

870 In convalescent patients, we also observed a persistent elevation of *HIST1H1C*  
871 expression across all immune cell lineages, which was also found to be elevated in  
872 patients with PASC<sup>55</sup>. Eukaryotic histones have ancient evolutionary history with  
873 viruses<sup>101</sup>, and the SARS-CoV-2 protein ORF8 mimics a histone H3 motif<sup>102</sup>, suggesting  
874 a possible mechanism for viral interference with host chromatin regulation. Furthermore,  
875 H1C has been shown to bind dendritic cells and induce cytokine storm<sup>103</sup>, as well as  
876 mediate immune evasion by down-regulating MHC-I expression<sup>104</sup>. We also found that  
877 Tregs from convalescent patients have persistently higher *ICOS* expression, a co-  
878 stimulatory molecule known to be elevated in autoimmune diseases<sup>57</sup>. Although we saw  
879 most acuity-associated immune alterations resolve three months into convalescence,  
880 some changes persist related to tolerance, autoimmunity, and response to viral  
881 rechallenge.

882 Our comprehensive characterization of the host immune response in acute and severe  
883 SARS-CoV-2 infection provides an unparalleled multimodal dataset with a depth and  
884 scale that will allow exploring questions fundamental to SARS-CoV-2 and human  
885 immunology. This resource can be used to generate new hypotheses and to validate  
886 future findings from a wide range of investigations related to COVID-19, sepsis, and  
887 immune dysfunction.

## 888 Materials and Methods

### 889 Material Availability

890 This study did not generate new unique reagents.

### 891 Data and code availability

892 Data will be made available upon publication. The scRNA-seq, OLINK, and antibody  
893 data and analysis results will be available for browsing on our own interactive website.

894 Analysis results will be archived on Zenodo. Count matrices (scRNA-Seq, TCR, BCR,  
895 and CITE-seq) and related data will be deposited to NCBI GEO. Source code for data  
896 analysis will be available on GitHub and Zenodo. The raw RNA sequencing data  
897 reported in this study cannot be deposited in a public repository because these data  
898 were collected at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, and as such, a waiver of  
899 informed consent was approved by the Massachusetts General Hospital governing  
900 institutional review board, in compliance with the Code of Federal Regulation (45CFR  
901 46, 2018 Common Rule). To protect the identity of individual subjects, public posting of  
902 raw sequencing data from the patients has not been approved; therefore, raw data is  
903 not provided.

## 904 Patient selection

905 As previously described<sup>13</sup>, patients were enrolled in the Emergency Department (ED) of  
906 a large, urban, academic hospital in Boston from March 24, 2020 to April 30, 2020  
907 during the peak of the initial COVID-19 surge. All study procedures involving human  
908 subjects were approved by the Mass General Brigham (formerly Partners) Human  
909 Research Committee, the governing institutional review board at Massachusetts  
910 General Hospital. A waiver of informed consent was approved in compliance with the  
911 Code of Federal Regulations (45CFR 46, 2018 Common Rule). Included were patients  
912 18 years or older with a clinical concern upon ED arrival for COVID-19 and with acute  
913 respiratory distress, with at least one of the following: 1) tachypnea (22 breaths per  
914 minute), 2) oxygen saturation %92% on room air, 3) a requirement for supplemental  
915 oxygen, or 4) positive-pressure ventilation. The day 0 blood sample (N = 384) was  
916 obtained concurrent with the initial clinical blood draw in the ED, and day 3 (N = 217)  
917 and day 7 (N = 143) samples were obtained for COVID-19-positive patients, if still  
918 hospitalized at those times, yielding 744 samples. In addition, blood was collected from  
919 some patients at the time of substantial clinical deterioration (44 samples); these event-  
920 driven samples were excluded from linear models. Clinical course was followed to 28  
921 days post-enrollment or until hospital discharge, if that occurred after 28 days. Patients  
922 were classified by acuity levels A1-A5 on days 0, 3, 7, and 28 (WHO Ordinal Outcomes  
923 Scale) where the acuity levels are described as follows: A1, death within 28 days (N =

924 42, 14%); A2, intubation, mechanical ventilation, and survival to  $\geq 28$  days (N = 67,  
925 22%); A3, hospitalized and requiring supplemental oxygen (N = 133, 43%); A4,  
926 hospitalized without requiring supplemental oxygen (N = 41, 13%); and A5, discharged  
927 directly from the ED without subsequently returning and requiring admission within 28  
928 days (N = 23, 8%). A1 and A2 were classified as severe (N = 109) and A3-A5 as non-  
929 severe (N = 197). Of all 384 enrolled, 78 (20%) tested negative for SARS-CoV-2;  
930 among these, for 50 (64%), suspicion for COVID-19 was very low based on careful  
931 retrospective chart review by M.R.F. and R.P.B., an emergency physician and infectious  
932 diseases physician, respectively. Among the remaining 28 patients, COVID-19 was a  
933 diagnostic possibility, yet most had multiple negative PCR tests during their hospital  
934 course. While these 78 subjects were categorized as controls, we only generated and  
935 analyzed scRNA-seq data from the 50 subjects with very low suspicion for COVID-19.  
936 Demographic, past medical history and clinical data were collected and summarized for  
937 each outcome group, using medians with interquartile ranges and proportions with 95%  
938 confidence intervals, where appropriate. Detailed clinical data, including age, gender,  
939 ethnicity, and race, are summarized for all outcome cohorts in [Table S1](#). Patient-level  
940 clinical data are available from previously the published study on Mendeley Data:  
941 <https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/nf853r8xsj/1>. To protect the identity of individual  
942 subjects, public posting of patient-level demographic information is limited as required  
943 by the Mass General Brigham Human Research Committee.

## 944 **Tocilizumab cohort study design**

945 To understand how IL-6R inhibition modulates the acuity-specific immunity in SARS-  
946 CoV-2 infection, we obtained clinical specimens obtained as part of the BACC-BAY trial  
947 (NCT04356937), one of the first randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials  
948 performed during the alpha-wave of the COVID-19 pandemic to evaluate the efficacy of  
949 tocilizumab at reducing multi-organ dysfunction (MOD). MOD was measured as the  
950 incidence of the composite endpoint of need for mechanical ventilation, renal  
951 replacement therapy, mechanical support, inotropes or vasopressors, and liver  
952 dysfunction and all-cause mortality in patients hospitalized with confirmed SARS-CoV-2  
953 infection. In this trial, individuals with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and

954 hyperinflammatory clinical state as defined by fever (body temperature  $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ),  
955 pulmonary infiltrates, or the need for supplemental oxygen to maintain an oxygen  
956 saturation greater than 92% were randomly assigned in a 2:1 ratio to receive standard  
957 care plus a single dose of either tocilizumab or placebo. Of note, while the recruitment  
958 of research participants for this BACC-BAY trial and the MGH-specific acute cohort  
959 described in this paper were independent and unrelated, these studies did recruit  
960 patients contemporaneously from March through June 2020. After the results of this  
961 multi-center trial were published and approval was obtained from the trial's data safety  
962 monitoring board to share unblinded data, we selected four research participants from  
963 this trial hospitalized at MGH from whom longitudinal PBMC collected at "baseline" (pre-  
964 tocilizumab, at point of randomization), and day 4, 7, and 21 or 28 post tocilizumab  
965 administration was available (Table S3). We performed 5' V2 scRNA-seq/CITE-  
966 seq/TCR/BCR sequencing with the identical experimental approach as was undertaken  
967 for the central MGH acute cohort. The four patients were chosen based on specific  
968 parameters, including having the highest absolute IL-6 levels and C-reactive protein  
969 (CRP) at the time of randomization into the tocilizumab arm of the trial, and  
970 demonstrating the greatest decrease in IL-6 and CRP levels over a 28-day period  
971 following administration of tocilizumab (Figure 7, Table S22, Table S23). Detailed  
972 review of the medical record demonstrated that PBMC obtained from these four patients  
973 in the tocilizumab arm of the trial at the "baseline" time point correlated with 8-11 days  
974 after onset initial symptoms. Thus, temporally, "baseline" samples from this tocilizumab  
975 mini-cohort correlated most closely with day 0 of the MGH acute cohort. This four-  
976 person tocilizumab cohort was comprised of three males and one female aged 50-60  
977 years old, all of whom were identified as patients hospitalized with COVID-19, requiring  
978 supplemental oxygen but not hospitalized in the intensive care unit setting and not  
979 requiring mechanical ventilation. These research participants did not receive remdesivir  
980 nor any additional concomitant immunosuppression other than tocilizumab, as it was not  
981 yet standard of care during the initial weeks of the alpha wave of the pandemic. All four  
982 patients survived their hospitalization and were discharged home following improvement  
983 in their COVID-19 infection.

## 984 Convalescent cohort study design

985 Whole blood (collected in BD Vacutainer K2EDTA tubes) and serum (collected in BD  
986 Vacutainer serum tubes) samples from consented subjects recovered from COVID were  
987 collected in EDTA tubes at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA, USA.  
988 Results from PCR testing when available, disease and demographic information ([Table  
989 S2](#)) were collected after blood draws through a RedCap-administered survey. All  
990 studies were performed under the IRB protocol number 2020P000849 "Biorepository for  
991 Samples from those at increased risk for or infected with SARS-CoV-2" approved at the  
992 Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA, USA.

## 993 Blood specimen processing

994 Blood samples were collected in EDTA tubes and processed no more than 3 hours post  
995 blood draw in a Biosafety Level 2+ laboratory on site. Whole blood was diluted with  
996 room temperature RPMI medium in a 1:2 ratio to facilitate cell separation for other  
997 analyses using the SepMate PBMC isolation tubes (STEMCELL) containing 16 mL  
998 Ficoll (GE Healthcare). PBMCs were collected using a Ficoll density gradient. Diluted  
999 whole blood was centrifuged at 1200 g for 20 minutes at 20C. After centrifugation,  
1000 plasma (5 mL) was pipetted into 15 mL conical tubes and placed on ice during PBMC  
1001 separation procedures, centrifuged at 1000g for 5 min at 4C, aliquoted into cryovials,  
1002 and stored at 80C. For the PBMCs, the interphase was collected upon density gradient  
1003 centrifugation and placed in a new 15 mL conical tube with p to 10ml of RPMI-10 (with  
1004 human AB serum; Sigma Aldrich) to bring the volume to 15 mL and centrifuged at 330 g  
1005 for 10 mins with high brake. PBMCs were the cryopreserved using CryoStor CS10  
1006 freezing media (BioLife Solutions) with up to 5–10 million cells/cryovial, placed in a  
1007 chilled Mr. Frosty, stored at -80 °C for one day, then transferred to liquid nitrogen for  
1008 long-term storage.

## 1009 PBMC CD45+ enrichment, cell hashing, CITE-seq staining

1010 Cryopreserved PBMC samples were thawed at 37 °C, diluted with a 10x volume of  
1011 RPMI with 10% heat-inactivated human AB serum (Sigma Aldrich), and centrifuged at  
1012 300 g for 7 mins. Cells were resuspended in CITE-seq buffer (RPMI with 2.5% [v/v]

1013 human AB serum and 2 mM EDTA) and added to 96-well plates. Dead cells were  
1014 removed with an Annexin-V-conjugated bead kit (Stemcell Technologies, 17899) and  
1015 red blood cells were removed with a glycophorin A-based antibody kit (Stemcell  
1016 Technologies, 01738); modifications were made to the manufacturer's protocols for  
1017 each to accommodate a sample volume of 150  $\mu$ L. Cells were quantified with an  
1018 automated cell counter (Bio-Rad, TC20), after which,  $2.5 \times 10^5$  cells were resuspended  
1019 in CITE-seq buffer containing TruStain FcX blocker (BioLegend, 422302) and MojoSort  
1020 CD45 Nanobeads (BioLegend, 480030). Hashtag antibodies (BioLegend) were added  
1021 to samples ([Table S27](#)) followed by a 30 mins incubation on ice. Cells were then  
1022 washed three times with CITE-seq buffer using a magnet to retain CD45+ cells. Live  
1023 cells were counted with trypan blue, and samples from each cohort bearing different  
1024 hashtag antibodies were pooled together at equal concentrations. All samples were  
1025 pooled in groups of eight and loaded on one 10x Genomics channel; all 8 samples for  
1026 each pool were balanced for age, gender, disease severity level, and co-morbidities.  
1027 Pooled samples were filtered with 40  $\mu$ M strainers, centrifuged, and resuspended in  
1028 CITE-seq buffer with TotalSeq-C antibody cocktail (BioLegend; [Table S28](#)). Cells were  
1029 incubated on ice for 30 mins, followed by three washes with CITE-seq buffer and a final  
1030 wash in the same buffer without EDTA (RPMI with 2.5% [v/v] human AB serum). Cells  
1031 were resuspended in this buffer without EDTA, filtered a second time, and counted.

## 1032 **Single-cell gene expression, feature barcode, and TCR/BCR** 1033 **library construction and sequencing**

1034 An input of 50,000 hashed PBMC samples was loaded on a single channel in the 10X  
1035 Chromium instrument for blood immune cell analysis, aiming for a recovery goal of  
1036 25,000 single cells. Hashed PBMC single-cell libraries were generated with the  
1037 Chromium Single Cell 5' kit (V2 NextGEM 10X Genomics, PN-1000263) together with  
1038 the 5' Feature Barcode library kit (10X Genomics PN-1000256) according to  
1039 manufacturer's protocols. PCR-amplified cDNA was used for TCR and BCR enrichment  
1040 with the Chromium Single Cell V(D)J Enrichment kit (10 Genomics PN-1000252 and  
1041 PN-1000253). The library quality was assessed with an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer. All  
1042 gene expression, feature barcode, TCR and BCR libraries were sequenced on an

1043 Illumina NovaSeq using the S4 300 cycles flow with the following sequencing  
1044 parameters: (read 1 = 26; read 2 = 90; index 1 = 10; index 2 = 10).  
1045 Measurements from the three modalities were measured in the same cells and could be  
1046 associated using the cell barcode.

## 1047 **Autoantibody methodology**

1048 A 76-plex custom, bead-based antigen array was created to profile serum samples for  
1049 IgG antibody reactivities. The array consisted of three broad categories of antigens: (i.)  
1050 cytokines, chemokines and growth factors to measure autoantibodies against secreted  
1051 proteins; (ii.) autoimmune disease-associated antigens; and (iii.) viral antigens. The  
1052 “Cytokine” content included 47 cytokines, chemokines, growth factors, acute phase  
1053 proteins, and cell surface proteins. The “Traditional Autoimmune-Associated” content  
1054 included 18 commercial protein antigens associated with connective tissue diseases.  
1055 The “Viral” content included 7 antigens derived from viruses such as SARS-CoV-2,  
1056 Epstein Barr Virus (EBV) and cytomegalovirus (CMV). The names, vendors, and  
1057 catalogue numbers of all antigens are listed in [Table S29](#).

1058 Each array was constructed and used to profile serum samples as previously  
1059 described<sup>105</sup>. Antigens were covalently conjugated ([Table S29](#)) to uniquely barcoded,  
1060 carboxylated magnetic beads (MagPlex-C, Luminex Corp.). The resulting bead array  
1061 was distributed into a 384-well plate (Greiner BioOne) by transferring 5 µl of bead array  
1062 per well. 45 µl of diluted serum or plasma sample (1:100) were transferred into the 384-  
1063 well plate containing the bead array. Samples were subsequently incubated for 60 min  
1064 on a shaker at room temperature and left overnight in 4°C. The following morning,  
1065 beads were washed with 3 × 60 µl PBS-Tween on a plate washer (EL406, Biotek) and  
1066 incubated with 50 µl of 1:1000 diluted R-phycoerythrin (R-PE) conjugated Fc-γ-specific  
1067 goat anti-human IgG F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragment (Jackson ImmunoResearch, 106-116-098) for 30  
1068 min. The beads were then washed with 3 × 60 µl PBS-Tween, re-suspended in 50 µl  
1069 PBS-Tween, and analyzed with a FlexMap3DTM instrument (Luminex Corp.). Beads  
1070 were validated using monoclonal antibodies, or prototype plasma or serum samples with  
1071 known reactivities.

1072 For each run, positive controls were included, consisting of prototype human plasma or  
1073 serum samples derived from participants with confirmed prior SARS-CoV-2 infection  
1074 and/or autoimmune diseases with known reactive patterns (e.g., Scl-70, centromere,  
1075 SSA, SSB, whole histones, RNP, anti-IFN, etc.). Healthy controls were obtained from  
1076 the Stanford Biobank prior to the pandemic. Binding events were displayed as Median  
1077 Fluorescence Intensity (MFI). For each sample, as normalization, MFI values for “bare  
1078 bead” IDs were subtracted from the MFI values for each antigen-conjugated bead ID.

## 1079 Pre-processing of single cell and single nucleus RNA-seq data 1080 and quality control (QC) filtering steps

1081 We used 10X Genomics Cell Ranger (version 4.0.0) to pre-process raw single-cell  
1082 RNA-seq data, including demultiplexing FASTQ reads, aligning reads to the human  
1083 reference genome that includes the SARS-CoV-2 transcriptome (md5sum  
1084 bab4d11d604a7d28d63d8cdb7f55a74b GRCh38\_and\_SARSCoV2.tar.gz)<sup>106</sup>, and counting  
1085 the unique molecular identifiers (UMIs) to produce a count matrix with one row for each  
1086 gene and one column for each cell. We used the Terra platform (<https://app.terra.bio/>) to  
1087 run Cell Ranger via the workflow script that is part of a collection called Cumulus<sup>107</sup>. We  
1088 used R scripts to aggregate the data and filter out poor quality cells that had fewer than  
1089 500 genes detected (at least 1 read) or more than 20% of reads from 13 mitochondrial  
1090 genes (MT-ND6, MT-CO2, MT-CYB, MT-ND2, MT-ND5, MT-CO1, MT-ND3, MT-ND4,  
1091 MT-ND1, MT-ATP6, MT-CO3, MT-ND4L, MT-ATP8).

## 1092 Quality control filtering and demultiplexing single cell RNA-seq 1093 data

1094 For the samples that were multiplexed, we used both genetic and hashing antibody-  
1095 based demultiplexing to recover as many cells as possible from each sample. To pass  
1096 quality control, we required each cell to have more than 500 genes detected and  
1097 percent of reads from mitochondrial genes greater than 0.01% and less than 20%. Next,  
1098 we also require that the cell is called a singlet by the Souporecell algorithm<sup>108</sup>.

1099 To assign each cell to a hashtag barcode, we ran the demuxEM<sup>109</sup> algorithm on the  
1100 matrix of counts for each cell of 8 possible hashtag barcodes (8 by N cells). To assign

1101 each cell to a genotype, we ran the SoupORcell algorithm on the scRNA-seq read  
1102 alignment data, and we matched the cell genotypes to the known genotypes of each  
1103 sample from bulk RNA-seq data<sup>12</sup>. Next, we used the following algorithm to match each  
1104 of the 8 possible hashtag barcodes to each of the 8 possible genotypes in a sample. For  
1105 each hashtag, we compute the percentage of cells with that hashtag and each of the 8  
1106 genotypes. For each genotype, we compute the percentage of cells with that genotype  
1107 and each of the 8 hashtags. For each genotype, we choose the match with the greatest  
1108 sum of percentages from the previous two steps. We discard matches that include less  
1109 than 50% of the hashtag's cells or less than 50% of the genotype's cells.

## 1110 Normalizing count data

1111 For a given single-cell counts matrix, we first divide each cell's counts by the sum of its  
1112 counts to get relative abundances. Next, we multiply the relative abundances by the  
1113 median number of genes detected per cell to get CPM values. Finally, we add 1 to the  
1114 values and use report  $\log_2(\text{CPM} + 1)$  values for each gene in each cell, and we refer to  
1115 this quantity as  $\log_2\text{CPM}$  in the figures.

## 1116 Selection of highly variable genes and principal component 1117 analysis

1118 We selected highly variable genes, centered and scaled each gene, computed principal  
1119 components, and ran the molecular cross validation (MCV) algorithm to select the  
1120 optimal number of principal components for downstream analysis<sup>110</sup>.

1121 To identify highly variable genes, we first used the raw counts matrix to compute a  
1122 mean with `Matrix::rowMeans()` and standard deviation with `proxyC::rowSds()` for each  
1123 gene, excluding genes that are detected in fewer than 50 cells. Next, we fit a local 2nd  
1124 degree polynomial regression with `stats::loess()` with the formula  $\log_{10}(\text{sd}) \sim$   
1125  $\log_{10}(\text{mean})$  to model the relationship between mean and variance for each gene's  
1126 counts. We computed the residual variance for each gene, selected the top 80% of  
1127 genes with the greatest residual variance, and centered and scaled each gene to have  
1128 mean zero and unit variance. We computed the singular value decomposition (SVD) of  
1129 the scaled expression matrix and got principal component scores for each cell.

1130 To select the optimal number of principal components, we used the MCV algorithm.  
1131 With the raw count matrix, we randomly split the counts for each cell, resulting in two  
1132 count matrices  $A$  and  $B$  whose sum is equal to the original matrix. With the normalized,  
1133 centered, and scaled matrix  $A'$ , we computed principal components. Then, we  
1134 reconstructed matrix  $A'$  from the top  $K$  PCA scores and loadings ( $UVT$ ) and estimated a  
1135 reconstruction loss with the mean squared error. We also reconstructed matrix  $B'$  using  
1136 the PCA scores computed from  $A'$ , resulting in an estimate of the MCV loss. We  
1137 recorded the losses for each choice of top  $K$  principal components between 2 and 80.  
1138 Then, we chose the  $K$  that minimized the MCV loss. These top  $K$  principal components  
1139 were used in downstream analysis such as low dimensional embedding with UMAP and  
1140 cell cluster prediction with linear discriminant analysis (LDA).

## 1141 **Batch integration, cell clustering, and two-dimensional embedding**

1142 We used the Harmony algorithm to align PCA scores across batches of data<sup>111</sup> and  
1143 then we create a nearest neighbor network of cells by connecting each cell to the 50  
1144 cells with the least Euclidean distance in the space of the harmonized PCA scores. We  
1145 used the Leiden algorithm<sup>112</sup> from the `leidenalg` Python package on the nearest  
1146 neighbor network to identify cell clusters (10 iterations). We used the UMAP algorithm<sup>113</sup>  
1147 to embed the network in two dimensions (`spread = 1, min_dist = 0.25`).

## 1148 **Marker gene identification and cell cluster annotation**

1149 We used two complementary strategies to identify sets of marker genes uniquely  
1150 expressed in each cell lineage and each cell subset. The first strategy uses  
1151 `presto::wilcoxauc()` to compute the area under receiver operator curve (AUROC or  
1152 AUC) for the  $\log_2$ CPM value of each gene as a predictor of the cluster membership for  
1153 each cluster versus all other clusters<sup>114</sup>.

1154 The second strategy uses a pseudobulk expression matrix<sup>115</sup> for the cells in a cluster for  
1155 each patient sample, such that the pseudobulk matrix has one row for each gene and  
1156 one column for each cluster from each patient sample. We normalized the pseudobulk  
1157 counts to  $\log_2$ CPM as described above. Then we used `limma::lmFit()` to test for

1158 differential gene expression between the samples in a cluster versus all other clusters,  
1159 using the log2CPM pseudobulk matrix<sup>116</sup>.

1160 We also created another pseudobulk expression matrix by summing over all cells in one  
1161 of four cell lineages (CD8 T cells, CD4 T cells, MNPs, B cells). We found gene  
1162 expression differences (AUC  $\geq 0.7$ ; pseudobulk FDR  $< 0.05$ ) at the level of cell lineage  
1163 as well as at the level of each cell cluster. We then annotated each cell cluster by using  
1164 marker genes (i.e., area under the curve (AUC)  $\geq 0.7$ , pseudobulk FDR  $< 0.05$ ), which  
1165 we also cross-referenced with published immune transcriptional signatures. We also  
1166 used CITE-seq protein data ( $n = 197$  proteins) to help annotate cellular subsets. For  
1167 each protein, we plotted the expression on the UMAP embedding to visualize which of  
1168 our cell clusters is marked by each protein.

## 1169 Cell type abundance association with disease acuity

1170 We analyzed each cell lineage separately (B cells, CD4 T cells, CD8 T cells, MNPs).  
1171 For each patient sample, we computed the percentage of cells that are assigned to  
1172 each cell cluster. We used limma to fit linear models to the  $\log_2(\text{percent})$  of cells in  
1173 each cluster<sup>116</sup>. This is the main model we used to find cell clusters associated with  
1174 COVID infection and severity (*acuity\_max*):

$$\begin{aligned} 1175 & \log_2(\text{percent}) \\ 1176 & \sim 1 + \text{sex}_n + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} + \text{acuitymaxn} + \text{timen:acuitymaxn} \end{aligned}$$

1177 Next, we fit five additional models (one for each factor) to find the cell clusters  
1178 associated with: viral load (*v1*), autoantibodies to interferon alpha (*aa*), neutralizing  
1179 antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 (*neut*), and abundance of IL6 protein in blood (*i16*).  
1180 Each of these additional models is the main model (shown above) with one additional  
1181 coefficient.

1182 Sex is encoded as a numeric variable *sex\_n* [0, 1] where 1 indicates male and 0  
1183 indicates female. Age is encoded as a numeric variable *age\_n* on the scale [0, 1] as  
1184 follows:

<i>age_n</i>	<i>age_cat</i>
--------------	----------------

---

age_n	age_cat
0	20-34
0.25	36-49
0.5	50-64
0.75	65-79
1	80+

1185 COVID status is encoded as a binary variable *covid* [0, 1] where 1 indicates COVID-  
1186 positive and 0 indicates COVID-negative.

1187 Time point is encoded as a numeric variable *timen* as follows:

timen	time_point
-0.429	Day 0
0	Day 3
0.571	Day 7

1188 Maximum disease acuity is encoded as a numeric variable *acuity\_maxn* as follows:

acuity_maxn	acuity_max_cat
-0.5	5 Disch
-0.25	4 Hosp
0	3 SupO2
0.25	2 Int/Vent
0.5	1 Death

## 1189 Association of gene expression with disease acuity and other 1190 factors

1191 We used limma to fit linear models to the  $\log_2(\text{CPM}+1)$  of each gene in the pseudobulk  
1192 expression data at the level of cell lineage, and also at the level of cell cluster. This is  
1193 the main model we used to find genes that are associated with COVID acuity:

1194 
$$\log_2(CPM + 1) \sim 1 + sex_n + age_n + covid + timen + acuitymaxn$$
  
+timen: acuitymaxn

## 1195 Percent Neutralization

1196 Percent neutralization was defined by LaSalle et al.<sup>12</sup>. Briefly, an *in vitro* assay was  
1197 used to quantify the degree of SARS-CoV-2 viral neutralization when exposed to serum  
1198 from each patient sample.

## 1199 Association of cell cluster abundance and gene expression with 1200 serum protein levels (OLINK)

1201 Serum protein measurements of 1,463 proteins in serum from each patient sample were  
1202 taken from Filbin et al.<sup>13</sup>.

1203 For each scRNA-seq cell cluster and each OLINK protein, we fit a linear model with  
1204 limma to find proteins associated with cell cluster abundance (at the level of patient  
1205 samples):

1206 
$$\log_2(percent) \sim 1 + sex_n + age_n + covid + timen + acuitymaxn$$
  
+timen: acuitymaxn + protein + protein: acuitymaxn

1207 where *protein* represents the concentration (NPX) of a protein in the serum.

1208 For each scRNA-seq gene and each OLINK protein, we fit a linear model with limma to  
1209 find proteins associated with gene expression in each cell lineage:

1210 
$$\log_2(CPM + 1) \sim 1 + sex_n + age_n + covid + timen + acuitymaxn$$
  
+timen: acuitymaxn + protein + protein: acuitymaxn

## 1211 Antibodies and autoantibodies

1212 We measured 76 antibodies and autoantibodies in serum from each patient sample  
1213 (see **Autoantibody methodology** above). For each antibody, we fit linear models to  
1214 find antibodies associated with scRNA-seq cell cluster abundance:

1215 
$$\log_2(percent) \sim 1 + sex_n + age_n + covid + timen + acuitymaxn$$
  
+timen: acuitymaxn + antibody + antibody: acuitymaxn

1216 where *antibody* represents the log2 median fluorescence intensity (MFI) of an antibody  
1217 in the serum.

1218 We also fit linear models to find antibodies associated with scRNA-seq gene expression  
1219 in each cell lineage:

$$1220 \quad \log_2(CPM + 1) \sim 1 + sex_n + age_n + covid + timen + acuitymaxn \\ + timen: acuitymaxn + antibody + antibody: acuitymaxn$$

## 1221 TCR and BCR clonality analysis

1222 We ran the Cell Ranger 4.0.0 VDJ pipeline on the provided reference files (md5sum  
1223 67e4fff7e80d7f7c87ec16475859c080 refdata-cellranger-vdj-GRCh38-alts-ensembl-  
1224 4.0.0.tar.gz). We only considered cells that are part of our scRNA-seq analysis, and  
1225 we considered a unique TCR sequence to be the concatenation of four components  
1226 reported in the `all_contig_annotations.csv` file from Cell Ranger: TCR $\alpha$  V-gene,  
1227 TCR $\alpha$  CDR3 amino acid sequence, TCR $\beta$  V-gene, and TCR $\beta$  CDR3 amino acid  
1228 sequence. Clones missing any of these features were not included in the analyses. We  
1229 considered a unique BCR clone to be the concatenation of two components reported in  
1230 the `all_contig_annotations.csv` file from Cell Ranger: heavy-chain CDR3 amino acid  
1231 sequence and light chain CDR3 amino acid sequence. We only considered clones that  
1232 contain both a heavy chain CDR3 amino acid sequence and also one of a lambda or a  
1233 kappa light chain CDR3 amino acid sequence.

1234 For each cell lineage (CD8 T/NK, CD4 T, B cells), we estimated the clonality of TCR or  
1235 BCR sequences. Then we tested for associations between maximum acuity and  
1236 clonality, as defined below<sup>117</sup>.

$$1237 \quad Clonality = 1 - \frac{H}{H_{max}} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N p_i \log p_i}{\log N}$$

1238 where  $N$  is the total number of unique TCR or BCR sequences.  $H$  is the observed  
1239 Shannon entropy, and  $H_{max}$  is the maximum possible entropy ( $\log(N)$ ).  $p_i$  is the relative  
1240 abundance of a specific TCR or BCR sequence.

1241 We used linear models to test for association between clonality and maximum disease  
1242 acuity. We fit the following model:

$$1243 \quad \text{Clonality} \sim 1 + \text{sex}_n + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} + \text{acuity\_maxn} \\ + \text{timen} : \text{acuity\_maxn}$$

1244 For CD8 T cells, we use *Clonality*. But, for CD4 T cells, we use  $\log_{1p}(\text{Clonality})$ , and  
1245 for B cells we discard samples with  $\text{Clonality} > 1e - 5$  use  $\log_{10}(\text{Clonality})$  instead of  
1246 *Clonality*, because most of the values are near zero for these cell lineages.

## 1247 Calling HLA genotypes from bulk RNA-seq data

1248 We used arcasHLA<sup>118</sup> with SmartSeq2 bulk RNA-seq reads from neutrophils from the  
1249 same patient samples<sup>12</sup> to call HLA genotypes on each patient sample. Then, we  
1250 discarded the patients where all of their samples (e.g., D0, D3, D7) did not have  
1251 matching genotypes.

## 1252 HLA association with COVID-19 acuity

1253 We used hlabud to convert the HLA genotypes like HLA-A\*01:01 to dosage matrices,  
1254 where each row represents a patient and each column represents an amino acid at a  
1255 position in the gene. Then, we fit the following model:

$$1256 \quad \text{acuity\_max} \sim 1 + \text{sex}_n + \text{age}_n + \text{race} + \text{dosage}$$

1257 Where *dosage* is a variable with levels [0, 1, 2] representing the number of copies of  
1258 a particular amino acid at a specific position in an HLA gene.

## 1259 Association of cell cluster abundance and gene expression with 1260 tocilizumab treatment

1261 We used `stats::lm()` in R to fit linear models to the  $\log_2(\text{percent})$  of each cell cluster,  
1262 within each of the four cell lineages (MNP, CD8 T, CD4 T, B):

$$1263 \quad \text{percent} = (1 + \text{count}) / (1 + \text{total})$$

$$1264 \quad \log_2(\text{percent}) \sim 1 + \text{after}$$

1265 Where *count* is the number of cells in a cluster, *total* is the number of cells in one  
1266 lineage, for each donor, and *after* is a binary variable indicating whether the sample  
1267 was taken before or after tocilizumab treatment.

1268 We used limma to fit linear models to the  $\log_2(\text{CPM}+1)$  of each gene in the pseudobulk  
1269 expression data at the level of cell lineage, and at the level of cell cluster:

$$1270 \quad \log_2(\text{CPM} + 1) \sim 1 + \textit{after}$$

## 1271 Association of cell cluster abundance and gene expression with 1272 past COVID infection

1273 We used `stats::lm()` in R to fit linear models to the  $\log_2(\text{percent})$  of each cell cluster,  
1274 within each of the four cell lineages (MNP, CD8 T, CD4 T, B):

$$1275 \quad \textit{percent} = (1 + \textit{count}) / (1 + \textit{total})$$

$$1276 \quad \log_2(\textit{percent}) \sim 1 + \textit{gender} + \textit{age} + \textit{covid}$$

1277 Where *count* is the number of cells in a cluster and *total* is the number of cells in one  
1278 lineage, for each donor. *gender* indicates male or female gender, *age* indicates the  
1279 numeric age of the donor, and *covid* is a binary indicator of SARS-CoV-2 infection three  
1280 months ago.

1281 We used limma to fit linear models to the  $\log_2(\text{CPM}+1)$  of each gene in the pseudobulk  
1282 expression data at the level of cell lineage, and also at the level of cell cluster. This is  
1283 the main model we used to find genes that are associated with past COVID infection:

$$1284 \quad \log_2(\text{CPM} + 1) \sim 1 + \textit{gender} + \textit{age} + \textit{covid}$$

## 1285 Classification of cells from tocilizumab data into clusters from 1286 acute data

1287 We concatenated the expression matrix of the MNPs from the tocilizumab data and the  
1288 acute data. Then we used the methods described above to normalize the data, compute  
1289 PCA scores, and integrate batches with Harmony. We trained a linear discriminant  
1290 analysis (LDA) model (with 10,000 randomly selected cells from the acute data) to  
1291 predict the acute cluster labels from the harmonized PCA scores. Then we input the

1292 PCA scores for each cell from the tocilizumab data to the LDA model to predict the  
1293 acute cell cluster label for that cell.

## 1294 Lead Contact

1295 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and  
1296 will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Alexandra-Chloé Villani  
1297 ([avillani@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:avillani@mgh.harvard.edu)).

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## 1339 Author Contributions

1340 MBG, MRF, MSF, NH and ACV conceived and led the overall study design. PS, MKM,  
1341 and ACV conceived and led the tocilizumab scRNA-seq study design. EMB, LC, AEW,  
1342 OR, AR, DH, JD and RJX conceived the convalescence study cohort while ACV and PS  
1343 conceived and led the convalescence scRNA-seq study design. PJU, NH, and ACV  
1344 conceived the autoantibody study design. MRF led and oversaw the recruitment of the  
1345 MGH acute COVID-19 cohort, with clinical additional clinical expertise provided by RPB  
1346 and MBG. KLP, BL, BM, CL, HK, KK, NC recruited and consented patients from the  
1347 MGH acute COVID-19 cohort. MSF and ACV oversaw the processing of the MGH  
1348 PBMC and serum specimens for the acute cohort, with assistance from PCB, GMB,

1349 MBG, MRF, and NH. JS, TJL, KM, AG, IG, BR, MRL, NS, MF processed PBMC and  
1350 serum samples from the acute cohort with assistance from TS, and DF; MB, LC, and  
1351 AEW established the convalescent clinical cohort. LAZ, SMP, BKT, VP, CH, NP and DP  
1352 processed PBMC and serum samples from the convalescent cohort, PS led the scRNA-  
1353 seq experimental design and execution. PS, JT, TE, TJL, KM, AT, BYA, MR performed  
1354 the scRNA-seq experiments, with assistance from DP and TD for the convalescent  
1355 cohort. APN and EYAY generated the autoantibody data. KS designed and performed  
1356 computational analysis with assistance from CC, NS, SR; KS, PS, CC, and ACV led the  
1357 data interpretation with assistance from LB, PCB, RPB, PJU, MBG, MJM, MRF, MSF,  
1358 and NH; ACV managed and supervised the entire study. KS, PS, CC, ACV wrote the  
1359 manuscript with input from all authors.

## 1360 Declaration of Interests

1361 ORR is co-inventor on patent applications filed by the Broad Institute for inventions  
1362 related to single cell genomics. ORR has given numerous lectures on the subject of  
1363 single cell genomics to a wide variety of audiences and in some cases, has received  
1364 remuneration to cover time and costs. ORR is an employee of Genentech since October  
1365 19, 2020 and has equity in Roche. PCB is a consultant to or holds equity in 10X  
1366 Genomics, General Automation Lab Technologies/Isolation Bio, Next Gen Diagnostics,  
1367 Cache DNA, Concerto Biosciences, Stately Bio, Ramona Optics, Bifrost Biosystems,  
1368 and Amber Bio. Products of 10X Genomics were used in this study. His lab has  
1369 received funding from Merck, Calico, and Genentech for unrelated work. AR is an  
1370 employee of Genentech, a member of the Roche group, and has equity in Roche. AR  
1371 was a co-founder and equity holder of Celsius Therapeutics, is an equity holder in  
1372 Immunitas, and until July 31, 2020 was an scientific advisory board member of Thermo  
1373 Fisher Scientific, Syros Pharmaceuticals, Neogene Therapeutics and Asimov. AR is an  
1374 inventor on multiple patents related to single cell and spatial genomics. JD is a member  
1375 of Biorender's Scientific Advisory Board. RJX is cofounder of Jnana Therapeutics,  
1376 Scientific Advisory Board member at Nestlé, Magnet BioMedicine and Arena BioWorks,  
1377 and Board Director at MoonLake Immunotherapeutics; these organizations had no roles  
1378 in this study. MBG sponsored research agreements through her institution with Olink

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1380 boards for lovance, Merck, Nektar Therapeutics, Novartis, Ankyra Therapeutics;  
1381 consultant for Merck, InterVenn Biosciences, lovance, Ankyra Therapeutics; and equity  
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1383 advisor, 2022-2023), and X-Biotix (scientific advisory board member, 2023-present).  
1384 PJU serves on the scientific advisory boards of SeraNova, 4DMT, Yolo Therapeutics,  
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1388 Genentech, and Thermo Fisher Scientific, and is a medical writer for UpToDate. NH is a  
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1392 to Bristol Myers Squibb; and financial interest in 10X Genomics. 10X Genomics designs  
1393 and manufactures gene sequencing technology for use in research, and such  
1394 technology is being used in this research; these interests were reviewed by The  
1395 Massachusetts General Hospital and Mass General Brigham in accordance with their  
1396 institutional policies. The remaining authors declare no competing interests.

## 1397 Figures

### 1398 Figure 1. Overview of study design

*Figure 1: Overview of study design.*

1399 **A.** Overview of study design. 705 scRNA-seq samples from 351 patients across 3 time  
1400 points. UMAP embedding of all cells where hue indicates cell lineage. UMAP  
1401 embeddings of subclustering results for each cell lineage.

1402 **B.** Patients by age and maximum severity.

1403 **C.** Trajectories of COVID severity over time, by age and improvement. Hue indicates  
1404 maximum COVID severity; y-axis indicates current severity with some jitter. Number of  
1405 patients in each facet is shown.

1406 **D.** COVID-19 severity associations with relative abundance of B cells, CD4 T cells, CD8  
1407 T and NK cells, and Mononuclear Phagocytes (MNPs). Box plots show median and  
1408 interquartile range, dots represent patient samples. Hue indicates COVID severity. x-  
1409 axis indicates time point; y-axis indicates percent of cells from each sample in each cell  
1410 lineage. P-values for the severity coefficient from multivariate linear regression models.

1411 **E.** Table summarizing the number of cell subsets in each lineage that are associated  
1412 with infection or severity (left) and number of genes with differential expression (right).

1413 **Figure 2. B cell subsets and genes associated with COVID-19**  
1414 **severity.**

*Figure 2: B cell subsets and genes associated with COVID-19 severity.*

1415 **A.** UMAP embedding, hue indicates subset membership. *IGHM*, *IGHD*, *CD27*, *MZB1*  
1416 are indicators of major types of B cells.

1417 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, color indicates area under  
1418 the receiver-operator curve (AUROC or AUC) for a one-versus-all comparison of cells in  
1419 one subset versus other cells not in that subset.

1420 **C.** UMAP panels with log<sub>2</sub>CPM gene expression levels of selected marker genes for all  
1421 B cells.

1422 **D.** Cell subset abundance associations for cell subsets (rows). Error bars indicate 95%  
1423 CI for coefficients *covid*, *severity*, and *time:severity* from multivariate linear regression  
1424 analysis. Black color indicates FDR < 5%.

1425 **E, F.** Cell subset abundance for subsets associated with COVID infection (**E**) or COVID  
1426 severity (**F**). Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range,

1427 x-axis represents three time points (D0, D3, D7). Hue indicates COVID infection or  
1428 severity.

1429 **G.** Bar plots showing percent of BCRs in each cell subset that are public.

1430 **H.** UMAP embeddings showing cells with public BCRs. Faceted by maximum COVID  
1431 severity.

1432 **I.** Box plot of B cell BCR clonality in each sample. Hue indicates COVID severity. Dots  
1433 represent patient samples, box plots indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis  
1434 indicates time point, y-axis indicates clonality of BCRs in each sample. P-value  
1435 indicates association with severity.

1436 **J.** Scatter plot of genes associated with COVID infection (x-axis) and COVID severity (y-  
1437 axis). Axes represent log<sub>2</sub> fold-change associations from multivariate linear regression.  
1438 Dots represent genes, black color and size indicate absolute fold-change > 1.5 and FDR  
1439 < 5%.

1440 **K.** B cell gene expression for genes associated with COVID severity. Dots represent  
1441 patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis represents three time  
1442 points (D0, D3, D7). Color indicates disease severity.

1443 **L.** Heatmap of gene set enrichment association results for COVID severity, gene sets  
1444 (rows), cell subsets (columns). Hue indicates signed -log<sub>10</sub> p-value. Dots indicate FDR  
1445 < 5%.

1446 **M.** Heatmap of severity-associated fold-changes for selected genes (rows) and cell  
1447 subsets (columns). Hue indicates fold-change. Dots indicate FDR < 5%.

1448 **N.** Volcano plot of B cell gene expression associations with antibody against SARS-  
1449 CoV-2 RBD. Results from multivariate linear regression. Dots indicate genes, x-axis  
1450 indicates fold-change (relative to a unit increase in anti-SARS-CoV-2-RBD on the MFI  
1451 scale, see **Methods**), y-axis indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. Red color indicates FDR  
1452 < 5%.

1453 **O.** Gene expression of *IFIT3* and *IL6* (y-axis) versus antibody level of anti-SARS-CoV-2  
1454 RBD (x-axis). Hue indicates time point. P-value for antibody coefficient from multivariate  
1455 linear regression.

1456 **P.** Volcano plot of OLINK serum protein associations with antibody against SARS-CoV-  
1457 2 RBD. Results from multivariate linear regression. Dots indicate proteins, x-axis  
1458 indicates fold-change (relative to a unit increase in anti-SARS-CoV-2-RBD on the MFI  
1459 scale, see **Methods**), y-axis indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. Red color indicates FDR  
1460 < 5%.

1461 **Q.** Protein level of IFNL1 (y-axis) versus antibody against SARS-CoV-2 RBD (x-axis).  
1462 Hue indicates time point. P-value for antibody coefficient from multivariate linear  
1463 regression.

1464 **R.** Neutralization assay result (y-axis) versus antibody against SARS-CoV-2 RBD (x-  
1465 axis). Hue indicates time point. Spearman correlation and p-value.

1466 **S.** 74 autoantibodies associated with SARS-CoV-2 severity, x-axis represents fold-  
1467 change and y-axis represents negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value.

1468 **T.** Two box plots show the measurements of antibodies against IFN $\alpha$ 8 and IL1 $\alpha$ , x-  
1469 axis represents time points and y-axis represents the log<sub>2</sub>(MFI+1) measurement of the  
1470 antibody. Hue indicates severity. Two-sided p-value for the coefficient in the linear  
1471 model is shown.

1472 **Figure 3. CD8 T/NK cell and CD4 T cell associations with COVID-**  
1473 **19 severity.**

*Figure 3: CD4 and CD8 T cells and NK cells associated with COVID-19 severity.*

1474 **A, H.** UMAP embedding of CD4 T cells (**A**) and CD8 T/NK cells (**H**), hue indicates  
1475 subset membership.

1476 **B, I.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

1477 **C, J.** UMAP panels with log<sub>2</sub>CPM gene expression levels of selected marker genes.

1478 **D, K.** Cell subset abundance associations for CD4 T cell subsets (**D**) and CD8 T cell  
1479 subsets (**K**). Error bars indicate 95% CI for coefficients *covid*, *severity*, and *time:severity*  
1480 from multivariate linear regression analysis. Black circles indicate FDR < 5%.

1481 **E, F, L, M.** CD4 T cell and CD8 T/NK cell subset abundance for subsets associated with  
1482 COVID infection (**E, L**) or COVID severity (**F, M**). Dots represent patients, box plots  
1483 indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis represents three time points (D0, D3,  
1484 D7). Hue indicates COVID infection or severity.

1485 **G, N.** Bar plot of the percent of TCRs from each cell subset that are public in CD4 or  
1486 CD8 T cells.

1487 **Figure 4. Association of COVID severity with CD8 T cell TCRs**  
1488 **and HLA-DQB1 amino acid positions.**

*Figure 4: HLA and TCR associations with COVID-19 severity.*

1489 **A.** Box plot of CD8 T cell TCR clonality by COVID severity (top) and age (bottom). Dots  
1490 represent patient samples, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis  
1491 represents three time points (D0, D3, D7). Hue indicates COVID severity or age. P-  
1492 value from multivariate linear regression.

1493 **B.** Volcano plot of TRBV associations with COVID severity. x-axis represents fold-  
1494 change (corresponds to a 1-unit increase the percentage of CD8 T cells that have a  
1495 given TRBV gene). y-axis represents negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value from multivariate linear  
1496 regression. Red color indicates FDR < 5%.

1497 **C.** Box plots of CD8 T cell abundance with TRBV27 (left) or TRBV28 (right). Dots  
1498 represent patient samples, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis  
1499 represents three time points (D0, D3, D7). Hue indicates COVID severity. P-value from  
1500 multivariate linear regression.

1501 **D.** Bar plots of TCRconv predicted species for TCRs with TRBV27 (left) or TRBV28  
1502 (right).

- 1503 **E.** Amino acid position associations with COVID severity for HLA-DQB1. x-axis  
1504 indicates position along the gene. y-axis indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value from  
1505 multivariate linear regression. Black color indicates FDR < 5%.
- 1506 **F.** Coefficients from the multivariate linear regression for the effect size of each amino  
1507 acid position on COVID severity. Amino acid positions D57 and V57 are highlighted.  
1508 Error bars indicate 95% CI.
- 1509 **G.** Bar plots of the number of patients with each genotype. Facets indicate genotype (0,  
1510 1, 2) for amino acid position D57 (top) and V57 (bottom). x-axis indicates number of  
1511 patients. Hue indicates COVID severity.
- 1512 **H.** Box plot of abundance of CD8 T cells with TRBV28, x-axis indicates time point and  
1513 hue indicates genotype of HLA-DQB1 V57 (0, 1, 2). P-value from multivariate linear  
1514 regression.

1515 **Figure 5. CD8 T/NK and CD4 T cell gene expression associations**  
1516 **with COVID-19 severity.**

*Figure 5: CD4 and CD8 T cell genes associated with COVID-19 severity*

- 1517 **A, B.** Scatter plot of genes associated with COVID infection (x-axis) and COVID severity  
1518 (y-axis) for CD8 T/NK cells (**A**) and CD4 T cells (**B**). Axes represent fold-change  
1519 associations from multivariate linear regression. Dots represent genes, black color and  
1520 size indicate absolute fold-change > 1.5 and FDR < 5%.
- 1521 **C.** Scatter plot of genes comparing severity associations between CD8 T/NK cells (x-  
1522 axis) and CD4 T cells (y-axis). Axes represent fold-change associations from  
1523 multivariate linear regression. Dots represent genes, black color and size indicate  
1524 absolute fold-change > 1.5 and FDR < 5%.
- 1525 **D.** Heatmap of fold-changes for selected genes in multiple categories (rows) and cell  
1526 subsets (columns). Left panel shows CD8 T cells, right panel shows CD4 T cells. Hue  
1527 indicates fold-change. Dots indicate FDR < 5%.

1528 **E.** Heatmap of signed negative log<sub>10</sub> P-values for gene set enrichment results showing  
1529 association between severity fold-changes in each cell subset. Gene Ontology Cellular  
1530 Compartment gene sets are shown for CD4 T cells (top panel) and CD8 T cells (bottom  
1531 panel). Dots indicate FDR < 5%.

1532 **F, G, H.** CD8 T cell (left column) and CD4 T cell (right column) gene expression for  
1533 genes associated with COVID severity. **F** shows genes associated with both CD8 and  
1534 CD4 T cells. **G** shows genes associated with CD8 T cells, but not CD4 T cells. **H** shows  
1535 genes associated with CD4 T cells, but not CD8 T cells. Dots represent patients, box  
1536 plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis represents three time points (D0,  
1537 D3, D7). Hue indicates COVID severity. P-value from multivariate linear regression.

1538 **Figure 6. Mononuclear phagocyte cell subsets associated with**  
1539 **COVID-19 severity.**

*Figure 6: Mononuclear phagocyte cell subsets associated with COVID-19 severity.*

1540 **A.** UMAP embedding of 857,663 MNP cells, color indicates membership to 15 subsets.  
1541 Arrows indicate relative increased or decreased abundance association with COVID-19  
1542 severity.

1543 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

1544 **C.** UMAP panels with log<sub>2</sub>CPM gene expression levels for selected marker genes.

1545 **D.** Cell subset abundance associations. Error bars indicate 95% CI for coefficients *covid*  
1546 and *severity* and *time:severity* from multivariate linear regression analysis. Black circles  
1547 indicate FDR < 5%.

1548 **E.** MNP cell subset abundance for subsets associated with COVID severity: MP-2, MP-  
1549 3, MP-6, MP-8, MP-11. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and  
1550 interquartile range, x-axis represents three time points (D0, D3, D7). Hue indicates  
1551 COVID severity (top panels) or COVID infection status (bottom panels).

- 1552 **F.** Heatmap of OLINK proteins (rows) associated with abundance of each MNP cell  
1553 subset (columns). Color indicates signed  $-\log_{10}$  p-value (two-sided) for the protein  
1554 coefficient from multivariate linear regression. UMAP embeddings show ISG High  
1555 subsets (2,5,6,10) and ISG Low subsets (3,7,4,1,9,8).
- 1556 **G.** Scatter plots of blood protein (x-axis) versus MNP cell subset abundance (y-axis).  
1557 Dots indicate patient samples, y-axis indicates  $\log_{10}$  percent abundance of cell subset,  
1558 x-axis indicates protein level in blood, hue indicates time point (D0, D3, D7). Two-sided  
1559 p-value for the protein coefficient from multivariate linear regression.
- 1560 **H.** Bar plot of the number of differentially expressed genes for each cell subset,  
1561 associated with COVID infection (left) or COVID severity (right).
- 1562 **I.** Scatter plot of genes associated with COVID infection (x-axis) and COVID severity (y-  
1563 axis). Axes represent fold-change associations from multivariate linear regression. Dots  
1564 represent genes, black color and size indicate absolute fold-change  $> 1.5$  and FDR  $<$   
1565 5%.
- 1566 **J, K.** Gene expression for genes associated with COVID infection (**J**: *IFI27*, *NR1R*,  
1567 *OTOF*, *DEFB1*) or severity (**K**: *CLU*, *S100A8*, *HIST1H1C*, *CYP19A1*, *IL10*, *CD1C*, *HLA-*  
1568 *DQB1*, *CA2*). Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range,  
1569 x-axis represents time point. Hue indicates COVID infection (**J**) or disease severity (**K**).
- 1570 **L.** Heatmap of gene fold-changes for each all MNP cells (first column) and each MNP  
1571 cell subset (columns) for genes grouped into categories. Hue indicates fold-change, dot  
1572 indicates FDR  $< 5\%$ .
- 1573 **M.** Scatter plot of IL-6 blood protein (x-axis) versus *CLU* gene expression in MNP cells  
1574 (y-axis). Dots indicate patient samples, y-axis indicates  $\log_2$  CPM gene expression, x-  
1575 axis indicates protein level in blood, hue indicates COVID severity. Two-sided p-value  
1576 for the protein coefficient from multivariate linear regression.
- 1577 **N.** Volcano plot for OLINK proteins associated with maximum COVID severity.  
1578 Multivariate linear regression, two-sided p-value for the coefficient for severity. X-axis  
1579 represents fold-change for each protein, and y-axis represents  $-\log_{10}$  p-value.

1580 **Figure 7. PBMC cellular and transcriptional associations in**  
1581 **COVID-19 patients who received tocilizumab.**

*Figure 7: PBMC cellular and transcriptional associations in COVID-19 patients who received tocilizumab.*

1582 **A.** IL-6 level over time points for multiple patients, red color indicates 4 selected patients  
1583 for downstream profiling and analysis. Overview of blood sampling and data collection.

1584 **B.** UMAP embedding of all PBMCs. Hue indicates cell lineage.

1585 **C.** UMAP embedding of all PBMCs, hue indicates time after tocilizumab treatment  
1586 (Baseline (BS), D4, D7, D14/28).

1587 **D.** UMAP embeddings for each cell lineage. Hue indicates cell subset.

1588 **E.** Differential abundance of cell lineages after tocilizumab. Dots represent patients, box  
1589 plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis represents percent of cells from  
1590 each cell lineage. Color indicates time point. Linear regression, two-sided p-value for  
1591 the coefficient for severity. Error bars indicate 95% CI.

1592 **F.** Table summarizing the number of differentially abundant cell subsets in each cell  
1593 lineage (left). Table summarizing the number of differentially expressed genes in each  
1594 cell lineage (right).

1595 **G.** Top panels show UMAP embedding of tocilizumab MNP cells, top panels colored by  
1596 time point, bottom panel colored by cell subset membership.

1597 **H.** UMAP embedding of tocilizumab MNP cells, color indicates gene expression for  
1598 selected genes: *CD14*, *FCGR3A*, *CD1C*, *RETN*, *CLU*, *IFI6*, *CXCL10*, *HMG2*, *HLA-*  
1599 *DRA*.

1600 **I.** Top panels show classification of tocilizumab cells into acute cell subsets (A-MP-3  
1601 and A-MP-2). Bottom panels show log<sub>2</sub>CPM gene expression of *IFI6* faceted by time  
1602 point after tocilizumab. Percent of cells with expression is shown.

1603 **J.** MNP cell subset abundance after tocilizumab. Linear regression, two-sided p-value  
1604 for coefficient *after*, error bars indicate 95% CI. Dots represent patients, box plots  
1605 indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis represents percent of cells from each cell  
1606 lineage. Color indicates time point.

1607 **K.** Scatter plot of MNP fold-changes for genes associated with tocilizumab treatment (x-  
1608 axis) and acute COVID severity (y-axis). Axes represent log<sub>2</sub> fold-change associations  
1609 from multivariate linear regression. Dots represent genes, selected genes are labeled.

1610 **L.** MNP gene expression levels for selected genes in each category from panel **K**. Small  
1611 top panels indicate where genes fall in panel **K**. Bottom panels show log<sub>2</sub>CPM (x-axis),  
1612 and color indicates time point after tocilizumab.

1613 **M.** Heatmap of fold-changes for selected genes in 6 categories: MHC II, Secretory  
1614 granules/clearance, ISGs, Metabolism, Alarmins, Transcriptional Regulation. Color  
1615 indicates fold-change. Dots indicate FDR < 5%. Columns indicate MNP cell subset,  
1616 leftmost column indicates all MNP cells.

## 1617 **Figure 8. PBMC cellular and transcriptional associations in** 1618 **convalescent COVID-19 patients.**

*Figure 8: PBMC cellular and transcriptional associations in convalescent COVID-19 patients.*

1619 **A.** Overview of patient selection and blood sampling 3 months after COVID infection.

1620 **B.** UMAP embedding of all PBMCs, hue indicates cell lineage.

1621 **C.** UMAP embeddings of cells from each lineage, hue indicates cell subset.

1622 **D.** Differential abundance of cell lineages, comparing patients who had COVID 3  
1623 months ago and healthy controls. Multivariate linear regression, two-sided p-value for  
1624 the coefficient for COVID. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and  
1625 interquartile range, x-axis represents percent of each donor's cells that belong to each  
1626 cell lineage.

1627 **E.** Table summarizing the number of differentially abundant cell subsets (left) and the  
1628 number of differentially expressed genes (right) between convalescent COVID patients  
1629 and healthy controls.

1630 **F, G, H.** Box plots of cell subset abundances, for cell subsets associated with  
1631 convalescent COVID in CD8 T cells (**F**) and CD4 T cells (**G**) and MNPs (**H**). Dots  
1632 represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis and hue  
1633 represent convalescent COVID infection. p-values from multivariate linear regression.

1634 **I.** Volcano plots for genes associated with convalescent COVID infection in each cell  
1635 lineage (facets). HIST genes are labeled. x-axis indicates fold-change, y-axis indicates  
1636 negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. Red color indicates FDR < 5%.

1637 **J.** UMAP panels showing gene expression of *HIST1H1C* in cell lineages (rows) faceted  
1638 across convalescent COVID infection (columns). Percent of cells with expression is  
1639 shown.

1640 **K.** Box plots of *HIST1H1C* gene expression across cell lineages (rows). Dots represent  
1641 patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis and hue represent  
1642 convalescent COVID infection. P-value for coefficient for COVID infection from  
1643 multivariate linear regression.

1644 **L.** Box plots of *HIST1H1C* gene expression across cell lineages (rows) in the acute  
1645 dataset. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-  
1646 axis represents time point, and hue represents COVID infection (left column) and  
1647 COVID severity (right column). P-values from multivariate linear regression.

1648 **M.** Volcano plot for convalescent CD4 T cell subset 6 (Treg). Dots indicate genes, x-axis  
1649 indicates fold-change, y-axis indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value from multivariate linear  
1650 regression. Red color indicates FDR < 5%.

1651 **N.** Box plot of *ICOS* gene expression in CD4 T cell subset 6 (Treg) in the convalescent  
1652 data. Fold-change and p-value is shown. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
1653 median and interquartile range, x-axis and hue represent convalescent COVID infection.

1654 **O.** Box plot of *ICOS* gene expression in CD4 T cell subset 13 (Treg) in the acute data.  
1655 Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis  
1656 represents time point, and hue represents COVID infection.

1657 **Figure 9.** A schematic diagram of the factors that influence  
1658 **COVID severity.**

*Figure 9: A schematic diagram of the factors that influence COVID severity.*

## 1659 **Supplementary Figures**

1660 **Figure S1.** Quality control.

*Figure S1: Quality control.*

1661 **A.** Days of symptoms before presentation, displayed as a box plot (top) and histogram  
1662 faceted by COVID severity (bottom).

1663 **B.** Copies of SARS-CoV-2 per mL of blood, by time (x-axis) and COVID severity (hue).  
1664 P-value indicates association with COVID severity.

1665 **C.** Percent neutralization from an *in vitro* assay, by time (x-axis) and COVID severity  
1666 (hue). P-value indicates association with COVID severity.

1667 **D.** Bar plot of donors by age and maximum COVID severity, faceted by age, hue  
1668 indicates sex.

1669 **E.** Hexbin plot of the number of genes and percent of mitochondrial reads for each  
1670 bead. X-axis indicates the number of genes detected in each bead. Y-axis indicates the  
1671 percentage of reads assigned to 13 mitochondrial genes in each bead. Hue indicates  
1672 the number of cells inside the hexagon. Horizontal and vertical lines show chosen  
1673 cutoffs: 500 genes, 0.01% and 20% mitochondrial reads.

1674 **F.** Scatter plot with one dot for each batch. X-axis indicates the total number of  
1675 sequencing reads in the batch. Y-axis indicates the mean genes per cell in the batch.

1676 **G.** Distribution of cells per sample. Top panel shows a median of 2,545 cells per  
1677 sample. Middle panel shows cells per sample stratified by COVID-19 severity level.  
1678 Bottom panel shows cells per sample stratified by time point.

## 1679 **Figure S2. Differential expression for B cells from the acute data.**

*Figure S2: Differential expression for B cells from the acute data.*

1680 **A.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID infection.

1681 **B.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID severity.

1682 **C.** Bar plot showing the number of differentially expressed genes for each cell subset,  
1683 associated with COVID infection (left) or COVID severity (right).

1684 **D.** Box plots of two genes (*IFI44* and *IFIT1*) by time point (x-axis) and COVID infection  
1685 (hue).

1686 **E.** Box plots of two genes (*IFI44* and *IFIT1*) by time point (x-axis) and COVID severity  
1687 (hue).

1688 **F, G.** COVID infection (**F**) and severity (**G**) associated gene sets for each cell subset  
1689 (columns). Hue indicates the signed log<sub>10</sub> enrichment P-value from `fgsea()`, dot  
1690 indicates FDR < 5%.

## 1691 **Figure S3. BCR analysis for B cells from acute data.**

*Figure S3: BCR analysis for B cells from acute data.*

1692 **A.** Error bars representing the estimates and 95% CI of coefficients from the linear  
1693 model  $\log_2(\text{pct}) \sim 1 + \text{sex} + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} + \text{acuity\_maxn} +$   
1694  $\text{timen:acuity\_max} + \text{neut}$  Columns indicate coefficients (age, time, sex, covid,  
1695 interaction between time and severity, severity, neutralization). Rows indicate the B cell  
1696 subsets.

- 1697 **B.** Error bars representing the estimates and 95% CI of coefficients from the linear  
1698 model  $\log_2(\text{pct}) \sim 1 + \text{sex} + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} + \text{acuity\_maxn} +$   
1699  $\text{timen:acuity\_max} + \text{v1}$  (bottom panel). Columns indicate coefficients (age, time, sex,  
1700 covid, interaction between time and severity, severity, viral load). Rows indicate the B  
1701 cell subsets.
- 1702 **C.** Box plot of B cell subset B-5 abundance, by age. Dots represent patients, box plots  
1703 indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicate age of patients, y-axis  
1704 indicates abundance of B-5 in each sample.
- 1705 **D.** Box plot of B cell BCR clonality, by age. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
1706 median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicate age of patients, y-axis indicates  
1707 clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value indicates association with age.
- 1708 **E.** Histogram of the number of unique BCRs per donor in B cells from the acute data.
- 1709 **F.** UMAP embedding, where the color of each hexagon indicates the proportion of cells  
1710 in that hexagon that have BCR data. The percent of cells with BCR data is shown.
- 1711 **G.** Table of 40 public BCRs that are observed at least 3 times in the dataset and  
1712 observed in at least 2 donors. Bars indicate the number of donors that have each BCR,  
1713 and hue indicates the maximum COVID severity for each donor.

1714 **Figure S4. Gene set enrichment for acute and tocilizumab data.**

*Figure S4: Gene set enrichment for differential gene expression results in the acute data and the tocilizumab data.*

- 1715 **A.** COVID severity associated gene sets from the C5 Gene Ontology Biological Process  
1716 collection (left), C5 Gene Ontology Cellular Components collection (right) for each cell  
1717 lineage. Hue indicates the signed  $\log_{10}$  enrichment P-value from `fgsea()`, dot indicates  
1718  $\text{FDR} < 5\%$ .

1719 **B.** COVID infection-associated gene sets from the C2 CP KEGG collection (**B**) for each  
1720 cell lineage (columns). Hue indicates the signed log<sub>10</sub> enrichment P-value from  
1721 fgsea(), dot indicates FDR < 5%.

1722 **C.** Associations with tocilizumab treatment for Gene Ontology Biological Process (left),  
1723 Cellular Component (middle), and Molecular Function (right). Hue indicates the signed  
1724 log<sub>10</sub> enrichment P-value from fgsea(), dot indicates FDR < 5%.

1725 **Figure S5. CITE-seq protein associations with COVID-19 severity.**

*Figure S5: CITE-seq protein associations with COVID-19 severity.*

1726 **A, D, F, H.** Volcano plot showing the log<sub>2</sub> fold-change (x-axis) and negative log<sub>10</sub> p-  
1727 value (y-axis) for the association of 197 CITE-seq proteins with COVID-19 severity.

1728 **B, E, G, I.** Box plots of **CR2** RNA-seq gene expression and CD21 CITE-seq protein  
1729 level. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range, x-axis  
1730 represents three time points (D0, D3, D7). Hue indicates COVID severity.

1731 **C.** UMAP embedding of B cells from the acute data. Hue indicates CITE-seq protein  
1732 level of CD11c (ITGAX).

1733 **Figure S6. Autoantibodies associated with COVID infection and**  
1734 **severity.**

*Figure S6: Autoantibodies associated with COVID infection and severity in the acute dataset.*

1735 **A.** Error bars representing the estimates and 95% CI of coefficients from the linear  
1736 model  $\log_2(\text{MFI}+1) \sim 1 + \text{sex} + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} + \text{acuity\_maxn} +$   
1737  $\text{timen:acuity\_max}$ . Columns indicate coefficients (age, time, sex, covid, interaction  
1738 between time and severity, and severity). Rows indicate the antibody targets.

1739 **B.** Box plots of antibodies associated with COVID severity. x-axis represents time points  
1740 and y-axis represents the  $\log_2(\text{MFI}+1)$  measurement of the antibody. Hue indicates  
1741 COVID infection status.

1742 **C.** 74 autoantibodies associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection, x-axis represents fold-  
1743 change and y-axis represents negative  $\log_{10}$  p-value. Two box plots show the  
1744 measurements of antibodies against SARS2\_RBD and SARS2\_N, x-axis represents time  
1745 points and y-axis represents the  $\log_2(\text{MFI}+1)$  measurement of the antibody (median  
1746 fluorescence intensity, or MFI, see **Methods** for details). Hue indicates COVID infection  
1747 status.

1748 **D.** UMAP embedding of NMF factorization of the full matrix of 74 autoantibodies across  
1749 all samples in the acute dataset. Hue indicates the normalized value of each NMF  
1750 component. Bottom panels represent loading values for top 8 antibodies for each of the  
1751 8 NMF components, x-axis and hue both indicate the loading value.

1752 **E.** Within each cell lineage, the number of differentially abundant cell subsets (left) and  
1753 number of differentially expressed genes (right) that are associated with NMF  
1754 component 7 (nmf7, labeled “aa”). For example, 2 cell subsets in the MNP lineage are  
1755 more abundant in proportion to the aa variable, and 2 cell subsets are less abundant in  
1756 proportion to the aa variable.

1757 **F.** Heatmaps showing the fold-changes for associations of each variable (row) with each  
1758 cell subset (column), in each of the 4 cell lineages (bcell, cd4, cd8, myeloid). Dots  
1759 indicate  $\text{FDR} < 5\%$ . Hue indicates fold-change. The rows indicate the coefficients from  
1760 the same linear model shown in panel **B**.

1761 **G.** Number of differentially expressed genes in the MNP (myeloid) lineage for each cell  
1762 subset (row) and each coefficient (aa (nmf7), acuity\_maxn, covid).

1763 **H.** Volcano plot of differentially expressed genes associated with aa (nmf7) in the  
1764 myeloid cell lineage, x-axis shows fold-change and y-axis shows negative  $\log_{10}$  p-  
1765 value. Left panel shows results for pseudobulk expression in all myeloid cells, right  
1766 panel shows results for pseudobulk expression in myeloid cell subset 14 (pDC).

1767 **I.** Scatter plots showing the relationship between gene expression (y-axis) of *SIGLEC1*  
1768 (top panels) and *IFI44L* (bottom panels) versus the value of aa (x-axis). Each dot  
1769 represents a sample, hue indicates COVID severity. P-value indicates association of  
1770 gene expression with aa in the linear model from panel **B**.

## 1771 **Figure S7. TCR analysis for CD4 T cells from acute data.**

*Figure S7: TCR analysis for CD4 T cells from acute data.*

1772 **A.** Histogram of the number of unique TCRs per donor in CD4 T cells from the acute  
1773 data.

1774 **B.** UMAP embedding, where the color of each hexagon indicates the proportion of cells  
1775 in that hexagon that have TCR data. The percent of cells with TCR data is shown.

1776 **C.** Box plot of CD4 T cell TCR clonality, by COVID severity. Dots represent patients,  
1777 box plots indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicate time point, y-  
1778 axis indicates clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value indicates association with  
1779 severity.

1780 **D.** Box plot of CD4 T cell TCR clonality, by age. Dots represent patients, box plots  
1781 indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicate time point, y-axis  
1782 indicates clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value indicates association with age.

1783 **E.** UMAP embedding, where the color of each hexagon indicates the proportion of cells  
1784 in that hexagon that have a public TCR. Facets are by COVID severity. Percent of cells  
1785 with public TCRs are shown.

1786 **F.** Table of public TCRs that are observed at least 3 times in the dataset, and observed  
1787 in at least 4 donors. Bars indicate the number of donors that have each TCR, and hue  
1788 indicates the maximum COVID severity for each donor.

1789 **G, I.** Volcano plot showing analysis results for TRAV and TRAJ association with COVID  
1790 severity or TRBV and TRBJ association, where each dot represents one combination of

1791 V and J genes for the TCR alpha or beta chain. x-axis indicates fold-change and y-axis  
1792 indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value.

1793 **H, J.** Box plots showing the abundance of cells with a particular VJ combination  
1794 associated with severity. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and  
1795 interquartile range. Hue indicates COVID severity; y-axis indicates percent of CD4 T  
1796 cells with the specified combination of V and J genes. P-value for the severity coefficient  
1797 from the multivariate linear model are shown.

## 1798 **Figure S8. TCR analysis for CD8 T cells from acute data.**

*Figure S8: TCR analysis for CD8 T cells from acute data.*

1799 **A.** Histogram of the number of unique TCRs per donor in CD8 T cells from the acute  
1800 data.

1801 **B.** UMAP embedding, where the color of each hexagon indicates the proportion of cells  
1802 in that hexagon that have TCR data. The percent of cells with TCR data is shown.

1803 **C.** UMAP embedding, where the color of each hexagon indicates the proportion of cells  
1804 in that hexagon that have a public TCR. Facets are by COVID severity. Percent of cells  
1805 with public TCRs are shown.

1806 **D.** Table of public TCRs that are observed at least 3 times in the dataset, and observed  
1807 in at least 4 donors. Bars indicate the number of donors that have each TCR, and hue  
1808 indicates the maximum COVID severity for each donor.

1809 **E, G.** Volcano plot showing analysis results for TRAV and TRAJ association (**E**) with  
1810 COVID severity or TRBV and TRBJ association (**G**), where each dot represents one  
1811 combination of V and J genes for the TCR alpha or beta chain. x-axis indicates fold-  
1812 change and y-axis indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value.

1813 **F, H.** Box plots showing the abundance of cells with a particular VJ combination  
1814 associated with severity. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and  
1815 interquartile range. Hue indicates COVID severity; y-axis indicates percent of CD8 T

1816 cells with the specified combination of V and J genes. The x-axis indicates COVID  
1817 severity, and each box represents one time point (D0, D3, D7). P-value for the severity  
1818 coefficient from the multivariate linear model are shown.

1819 **I.** Histogram of TCRconv predicted probabilities (or scores) for each of the CD8 T cell  
1820 TCRs in our data, generated solely from the TCR beta chain. Vertical line at 0.5  
1821 indicates the cutoff for high confidence predictions. Number of total cells is shown, as  
1822 well as the number of cells that pass the cutoff.

1823 **Figure S9. HLA amino acid positions associated with severity,**  
1824 **viral load, neutralization, and abundance of CD8 T cells with**  
1825 **TRBV genes.**

*Figure S9: HLA amino acid positions associated with severity, viral load, neutralization, and abundance of CD8 T cells with TRBV genes.*

1826 **A, B, C.** Associations of HLA amino acid positions with COVID severity (**A**), SARS-CoV-  
1827 2 viral load (**B**), and *in vitro* SARS-CoV-2 neutralization assay (**C**). X-axis represents  
1828 position along each protein and y-axis represents negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. One panel  
1829 per gene. Black dots indicate positions with FDR < 10%, labeled by the amino acid at  
1830 that position.

1831 **D.** Association of HLA-DQB1 G125, D57, and A57 with viral load, x-axis indicates time,  
1832 and color indicates number of copies of the indicated allele. In top panels, dots  
1833 represent samples, box plots indicate median and interquartile range. In bottom panels,  
1834 each bar represents the percent of samples with nonzero values for viral load.

1835 **E.** Association of HLA-DQB1 R130 and S57 with SARS-CoV-2 neutralization. X-axis  
1836 indicates time, and color indicates number of copies of the indicated allele. Dots  
1837 represent samples, box plots indicate median and interquartile range.

1838 **F.** HLA-DQB1 amino acid positions associated with the abundance of CD8 T cells with  
1839 different TRBV genes. Volcano plots show amino acid positions, x-axis indicates log<sub>2</sub>  
1840 fold-change of CD8 T cell abundance and y-axis indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. Box

1841 plots show abundance of CD8 T cells with the indicated TRBV gene on the y-axis, with  
1842 median and interquartile range, color indicates number of copies of the amino acid  
1843 position (0, 1, 2), x-axis indicates time point.

1844 **Figure S10. Differential gene expression for CD8 T/NK cells in the**  
1845 **acute data.**

*Figure S10: Differential gene expression for CD8 T/NK cells in the acute data.*

1846 **A.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID infection.

1847 **B.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID severity.

1848 **C.** Bar plot showing the number of differentially expressed genes for each cell subset,  
1849 associated with COVID infection (left) or COVID severity (right).

1850 **D.** Box plots of two genes (*IFI44* and *IFIT1*) by time point (x-axis) and COVID infection  
1851 (hue).

1852 **E.** Box plots of two genes (*IFI44* and *IFIT1*) by time point (x-axis) and COVID severity  
1853 (hue).

1854 **F, G.** COVID infection (**F**) and severity (**G**) associated gene sets for each cell subset  
1855 (columns). Hue indicates the signed log<sub>10</sub> enrichment P-value from `fgsea()`, dot  
1856 indicates FDR < 5%.

1857 **Figure S11. Differential expression for CD4 T cells from acute**  
1858 **data.**

*Figure S11: Differential expression for CD4 T cells from acute data.*

1859 **A.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID infection.

1860 **B.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID severity.

1861 **C.** Bar plot showing the number of differentially expressed genes for each cell subset,  
1862 associated with COVID infection (left) or COVID severity (right).

1863 **D.** Box plots of two genes (*IFI44* and *IFIT1*) by time point (x-axis) and COVID infection  
1864 (hue).

1865 **E.** Box plots of two genes (*IFI44* and *IFIT1*) by time point (x-axis) and COVID severity  
1866 (hue).

1867 **F, G.** COVID infection (**F**) and severity (**G**) associated gene sets for each cell subset  
1868 (columns). Hue indicates the signed log<sub>10</sub> enrichment P-value from `fgsea()`, dot  
1869 indicates FDR < 5%.

1870 **Figure S12. Comparison of myeloid cell subsets from the acute**  
1871 **data.**

*Figure S12: Comparison of myeloid cell subsets from the acute data.*

1872 **A.** Scatter plot of genes. X-axis represents the area under receiver operator curve  
1873 (AUC) for gene markers of cell subset MP-2, and y-axis represents AUC for gene  
1874 markers of cell subset MP-3.

1875 **B.** Volcano plot showing the fold-change (x-axis) and negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value (y-axis) for  
1876 the association of gene expression in all myeloid cells versus the serum protein level of  
1877 IL6.

1878 **C.** Box plots showing examples of COVID severity-associated serum proteins. X-axis  
1879 indicates time point (D3, D0, D7). Y-axis indicates NPX protein level. Each dot  
1880 represents one patient sample. Box plots show median and interquartile range. Hue  
1881 indicates disease severity. Multivariate linear regression, two-sided p-value for the  
1882 coefficient for severity.

1883 **Figure S13. Differential gene expression for MNP cells in the**  
1884 **acute data.**

*Figure S13: Differential gene expression for MNP cells in the acute data.*

1885 **A.** MA plot for COVID infection, where each point represents a gene, x-axis represents  
1886 mean expression (log<sub>2</sub>CPM) and y-axis represents fold-change for COVID infection.  
1887 Three box plots represent gene expression of *GMPR*, *HIST1H1C*, *LYPD2* across time  
1888 points (x-axis) and COVID infection status (hue).

1889 **B.** MA plot for genes associated with COVID severity.

1890 **C, D.** COVID infection (**C**) and severity (**D**) associated gene sets for each cell subset  
1891 (columns). Hue indicates the signed log<sub>10</sub> enrichment P-value from `fgsea()`, dot  
1892 indicates FDR < 5%.

1893 **Figure S14. CD4 T cells, CD8 T/NK cells, and B cells from the**  
1894 **tocilizumab data.**

*Figure S14: CD4 T cells, CD8 T/NK cells, and B cells from the tocilizumab data.*

1895 **A, F, K.** UMAP embedding of CD4 T cells (**A**), CD8 T/NK cells (**F**), B cells (**K**), hue  
1896 indicates membership to cell subsets.

1897 **B, G, L.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

1898 **C, H, M.** Box plots of cell subset abundances (right panel). Dots represent patients, box  
1899 plots indicate median and interquartile range. Hue indicates time point after tocilizumab;  
1900 x-axis indicates percent of cells assigned to each cell subset. Error bars (left panel)  
1901 indicate the 95% CI of the estimated log<sub>2</sub> fold-change for each cell subset over time.

1902 **D, I, N.** Grey and black bars indicate the number of differentially expressed genes in  
1903 each cell subset with absolute fold-change > 1.2 and FDR < 5%.

1904 **E, J, O.** Volcano plot where each dot is a gene, x-axis indicates fold-change and y-axis  
1905 indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. Red indicates FDR < 5%.

1906 **Figure S15. Classification of MNPs from the tocilizumab data into**  
1907 **subsets from the acute data, continued.**

*Figure S15: Classification of MNPs from the tocilizumab data into subsets from the acute data, continued.*

1908 **A.** UMAP embeddings for Tocilizumab MNP cells at time point BS (left) and Acute MNP  
1909 cells (right). Lines indicate the mapping between cell subsets (e.g. Toci 5,6 maps to  
1910 Acute 10).

1911 **B.** Tocilizumab MNP cells from time point BS classified into the cell subsets from the  
1912 acute dataset. Hue indicates the Acute cell subset, so the tocilizumab cells are colored  
1913 by the acute labels. Text labels are the names of the acute data cell subsets. Number of  
1914 Tocilizumab MNP cells from time point BS are shown in the lower-left corner.

1915 **C, D.** Heatmaps indicating the fraction of cells from each toci cell subset (columns) at  
1916 baseline (**C**) or later time points (D4, 7, 14, 28) (**D**) that were classified into each acute  
1917 data cell subset (rows). White dot in each column indicates the row with maximum  
1918 value.

1919 **E, F.** UMAP embeddings for Tocilizumab MNP cells at baseline (**E**) or later time points  
1920 (**F**). Each toci cell is classified into one of the acute subsets. Facets and colors indicate  
1921 acute cell subsets.

1922 **Figure S16. MNPs from the tocilizumab data.**

*Figure S16: MNPs from the tocilizumab data.*

1923 **A.** UMAP embedding of 28,815 MNPs, hue indicates membership to 12 subsets.

1924 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

1925 **C.** UMAP embedding faceted by time point (BS; D4; D7; D14,28). Data are binned into  
1926 hexagons, and the color of each hexagons indicates the proportion of data from all time  
1927 points that is located in that part of the UMAP embedding.

1928 **D.** UMAP embeddings faceted by time point, showing the binned gene expression level  
1929 of four genes (*CLU*, *FOS*, *CXCL10*, *HMG2*). Hue indicates the mean log<sub>2</sub> CPM level  
1930 of the cells in each hexagon.

1931 **E.** Box plots of cell subset abundances (right panel). Dots represent patients, box plots  
1932 indicate median and interquartile range. Hue indicates time point after tocilizumab; x-  
1933 axis indicates percent of cells assigned to each cell subset. Error bars (left panel)  
1934 indicate the 95% CI of the estimated log<sub>2</sub> fold-change for each cell subset over time.

1935 **F.** Grey and black bars indicate the number of differentially expressed genes in each  
1936 cell subset with absolute fold-change > 1.2 and FDR < 5%.

1937 **G.** Volcano plot (top) where each dot is a gene, x-axis indicates fold-change and y-axis  
1938 indicates negative log<sub>10</sub> p-value. MA plot (bottom) where each dot is gene, x-axis  
1939 indicates mean log<sub>2</sub> CPM gene expression and y-axis indicates fold-change. Red  
1940 indicates FDR < 5%.

## 1941 **Figure S17. CD8 T cells from the convalescent data.**

*Figure S17: CD8 T cells from the convalescent data.*

1942 **A.** UMAP embedding of 99,414 CD8 T/NK cells, hue indicates membership to 14  
1943 subsets.

1944 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

1945 **C.** UMAP panels with gene expression levels for genes across all CD8 T/NK cells:  
1946 *FCER1G*, *HMGB2*, *IL32*, *GNLY*, *CD8B*, *TRDV2*, *TYROBP*, *TUBA1B*, *NKG7*, *IL7R*. The  
1947 percent of cells with non-zero expression is shown in each panel.

1948 **D.** Cell subset abundance (left) and gene expression (right) associations. Error bars  
1949 indicate 95% CI for coefficients age, covid, and genderM from multivariate linear  
1950 regression analysis. Black circles indicate FDR < 5%. Grey and black bars indicate the  
1951 number of differentially expressed genes in each cell subset with absolute fold-change >  
1952 1.5 and FDR < 5%.

- 1953 **E.** Box plots of cell subset abundances. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
1954 median and interquartile range. Hue indicates COVID infected or Uninfected, y-axis  
1955 indicates percent of CD8 T cells assigned to each cell subset.
- 1956 **F.** UMAP of all CD8 T/NK cells, with hexagons representing cells in each region of the  
1957 UMAP embedding. Hue indicates the percent of cells in a hexagon that have TCR data.  
1958 The number and percent of cells with TCR data is shown.
- 1959 **G.** UMAP of all CD8 T/NK cells, faceted by COVID infection (0 Uninfected and 1  
1960 Infected). Hue indicates percent of cells with TCRs that are present in the list of top 5  
1961 most abundant TCRs from each sample.
- 1962 **H.** Box plot of CD8 T cell TCR clonality, by COVID infection. Dots represent patients,  
1963 box plots indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicates COVID  
1964 infected or Uninfected, y-axis indicates clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value  
1965 indicates association with COVID infection.
- 1966 **I.** Box plot of CD8 T cell TCR clonality, by age. Dots represent patients, box plots  
1967 indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicates age of patients, y-axis  
1968 indicates clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value indicates association with age.

1969 **Figure S18. CD4 T cells from the convalescent data.**

*Figure S18: CD4 T cells from the convalescent data.*

- 1970 **A.** UMAP embedding of 46,976 CD4 T cells, hue indicates membership to 9 subsets.
- 1971 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.
- 1972 **C.** UMAP panels with gene expression levels for genes across all CD4 T cells: *RPS13*,  
1973 *MALAT1*, *VIM*, *GZMK*, *LTB*, *CCL5*, *HLA-DRB1*, *FOXP3*, *IL10RA*, *KLRB1*, *TIGIT*, *ITGA4*,  
1974 *IL2RA*, *CTLA4*, *ICOS*, *IL7R*. The percent of cells with non-zero expression is shown in  
1975 each panel.
- 1976 **D.** Cell subset abundance (left) and gene expression (right) associations. Error bars  
1977 indicate 95% CI for coefficients age, covid, and genderM from multivariate linear

1978 regression analysis. Black circles indicate  $FDR < 5\%$ . Grey and black bars indicate the  
1979 number of differentially expressed genes in each cell subset with absolute fold-change  $>$   
1980 1.5 and  $FDR < 5\%$ .

1981 **E.** Box plots of cell subset abundances. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
1982 median and interquartile range. Hue indicates COVID infected or Uninfected, y-axis  
1983 indicates percent of CD4 T cells assigned to each cell subset.

1984 **F.** Volcano plot for genes in cell subset CD4-2 (Tcm Mito) associated with COVID  
1985 infection. X-axis represents fold-change for each gene, and y-axis represents negative  
1986  $\log_{10}$  p-value.

1987 **G.** Box plots for gene expression in cell subset CD4-6 (Treg) associated with COVID  
1988 infection. P-values and q-values (FDR) are shown for each gene. Left panel shows  
1989 repressed genes and right panel shows induced genes.

1990 **H.** Volcano plot for genes in cell subset CD4-6 (Treg) associated with COVID infection.  
1991 X-axis represents fold-change for each gene, and y-axis represents negative  $\log_{10}$  p-  
1992 value.

1993 **I.** Box plots for gene expression in cell subset CD4-6 (Treg) associated with COVID  
1994 infection. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and interquartile range. P-  
1995 values and q-values (FDR) are shown for each gene. Left panel shows repressed genes  
1996 and right panel shows induced genes.

1997 **Figure S19. B cells from the convalescent data.**

*Figure S19: B cells from the convalescent data.*

1998 **A.** UMAP embedding of 26,212 B cells, hue indicates membership to 13 subsets.

1999 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

2000 **C.** UMAP panels with gene expression levels for genes across all MNPs: *IGLC3,*  
2001 *JCHAIN, ABCA6, IGHA1, PPBP, CD27, BACH2, IGHD, ITGB1, CXCR4, CRIP1, IGLL5,*

2002 *TCL1A*, *LINC01857*, *LINC01781*. The percent of cells with non-zero expression is  
2003 shown in each panel.

2004 **D.** Cell subset abundance (left) and gene expression (right) associations. Error bars  
2005 indicate 95% CI for coefficients age, covid, and genderM from multivariate linear  
2006 regression analysis. Black circles indicate FDR < 5%. Grey and black bars indicate the  
2007 number of differentially expressed genes in each cell subset with absolute fold-change >  
2008 1.5 and FDR < 5%.

2009 **E.** Box plots of cell subset abundances. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
2010 median and interquartile range. Hue indicates COVID infected or Uninfected, y-axis  
2011 indicates percent of CD8 T cells assigned to each cell subset.

2012 **F.** Box plot of B cell BCR clonality, by COVID infection. Dots represent patients, box  
2013 plots indicate median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicates COVID infected  
2014 or Uninfected, y-axis indicates clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value indicates  
2015 association with COVID infection.

2016 **G.** Box plot of B cell BCR clonality, by age. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
2017 median and interquartile range. X-axis and hue indicates age of patients, y-axis  
2018 indicates clonality of TCRs in each sample. P-value indicates association with age.

## 2019 **Figure S20. Mononuclear phagocytes from the convalescent data.**

*Figure S20: Mononuclear phagocytes (MNPs) from the convalescent data.*

2020 **A.** UMAP embedding of 56,617 mononuclear phagocytes (MNPs), hue indicates  
2021 membership to 11 subsets.

2022 **B.** Heatmap of marker genes selected for each cell subset, hue indicates AUC.

2023 **C.** UMAP panels with gene expression levels for genes across all MNPs: *LGALS2*,  
2024 *HLA-DQB1*, *IFI6*, *HIST1H2AC*, *FCGR3A*, *CD14*, *AHNAK*, *CUX1*, *CCL5*, *CLU*, *CLEC9A*,  
2025 *IRF8*, *S100A12*, *ZEB2*. The percent of cells with non-zero expression is shown in each  
2026 panel.

2027 **D.** Cell subset abundance (left) and gene expression (right) associations. Error bars  
2028 indicate 95% CI for coefficients age, covid, and genderM from multivariate linear  
2029 regression analysis. Black circles indicate  $FDR < 5\%$ . Grey and black bars indicate the  
2030 number of differentially expressed genes in each cell subset with absolute fold-change  $>$   
2031 1.5 and  $FDR < 5\%$ .

2032 **E.** Box plots of cell subset abundances. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate  
2033 median and interquartile range. Hue indicates COVID infected or Uninfected, y-axis  
2034 indicates percent of CD8 T cells assigned to each cell subset.

2035 **F.** Volcano plot for genes in cell subset MNP-4 (CD14) associated with convalescent  
2036 COVID infection. X-axis represents fold-change for each gene, and y-axis represents  
2037 negative  $\log_{10}$  p-value.

2038 **G.** Box plots for gene expression in cell subset MNP-4 (CD14) associated with  
2039 convalescent COVID infection. Dots represent patients, box plots indicate median and  
2040 interquartile range. P-values and q-values (FDR) are shown for each gene. Left panel  
2041 shows repressed genes and right panel shows induced genes.

2042 **Figure S21. Comparison of differential gene expression results**  
2043 **from the convalescent data and the acute data.**

*Figure S21: Comparison of differential gene expression results from the convalescent data and the acute data.*

2044 **A.** Scatter plot where each point represents a gene, the x-axis represents the fold-  
2045 change associated with COVID infection in the acute data, and the y-axis represents the  
2046 fold-change associated with COVID infection in the convalescent data. From left to right,  
2047 the columns represent cell types: CD8 T/NK cells, CD4 T cells, MNPs, and B cells. The  
2048 top row of plots includes genes that meet  $FDR < 5\%$  and  $abs(FC) > 1.5$  in either the  
2049 acute dataset or in the convalescent dataset. The middle row includes genes that meet  
2050  $FDR < 10\%$  and  $abs(FC) > 1.5$  in both datasets. The bottom row includes genes whose  
2051 name starts with HIST and that meet  $FDR < 10\%$  in either the acute dataset or in the  
2052 convalescent dataset. Error bars indicate 95% confident intervals.

2053 **B.** Error bars and box plots for 4 genes (*HIST1H1C*, *HIST1H1D*, *HIST1H1E*,  
2054 *HIST2H2AC*) in 4 cell lineages (CD8 T cells, CD4 T cells, MNPs, B cells). Dots and  
2055 error bars indicate fold-change for COVID infected versus uninfected individuals in the  
2056 convalescent dataset. Box plots indicate the log<sub>2</sub>CPM gene expression values, hue  
2057 indicates COVID infection status.

2058 **C.** UMAP figures of gene expression, faceted by COVID infection status. Columns  
2059 correspond to genes (*HIST1H1C*, *HIST1H1D*, *HIST1H1E*, *HIST2H2AC*) and rows to cell  
2060 lineages (CD8 T cells, CD4 T cells, MNPs, B cells). Numbers in the lower-right corner  
2061 indicate the percent of cells with non-zero expression of that gene, i.e., 9% of CD8 T  
2062 cells in Uninfected individuals have expression of *HIST1H1C* and 12% of CD8 T cells in  
2063 COVID infected individuals have expression.

2064 **D.** Same as B, error bars and box plots for 2 genes (*IFI30* and *IFI44L*).

2065 **E.** UMAP figures of gene expression, faceted by COVID infection status. Columns  
2066 correspond to genes (*IFI30* and *IFI44L*).

2067 **Figure S22. Summary table of main results.**

*Figure S22: Summary table of main results.*

2068 Table with an overview of main results from this study.

## 2069 Supplementary Tables

2070 **Table S1. Patient metadata for the acute data.**

2071 Information about each patient sample from the acute data. The table includes  
2072 metadata for 908 samples representing 355 patients at a total of 9 time points and 5  
2073 acuity levels.

Column	Definition
public_id	Randomly assigned subject ID

time_point	Time point after entering the hospital in days
timen	Time point converted to a numeric variable for modeling
covid	COVID status (tested positive prior to enrollment or during hospitalization); 0 = negative; 1= positive
acuity_max_cat	The maximum acuity over all time points
acuity_maxn	The maximum acuity converted to a numeric variable for modeling
age_cat	Age category; 1 = 20-34; 2 = 36-49; 3 = 50-64; 4 = 65-79; 5 = 80+
age_n	Age category converted to a numeric variable for modeling
bmi_cat	Body mass index::; 0 = <18.5 (underweight); 1 = 18.5-24.9 (normal); 2 = 25.0-29.9 (overweight); 3 = 30.0-39.9 (obese); 4 = >=40 (severely obese); 5 = Unknown
heart	Pre-existing heart disease – HEART - (coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, valvular disease); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
lung	Pre-existing lung disease – LUNG - (asthma, COPD, requiring home O2, any chronic lung condition); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
kidney	Pre-existing kidney disease – KIDNEY - (chronic kidney disease, baseline creatinine >1.5, ESRD); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
diabetes	Pre-existing diabetes – DIABETES - (pre-diabetes, insulin and non-insulin dependent diabetes); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
htn	Pre-existing hypertension - HTN; 0 = No; 1 = Yes
immuno	Pre-existing immunocompromised condition – IMMUNO (active cancer, chemotherapy, transplant, immunosuppressant agents, aspenic); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
symptom_duration	Days of symptoms before presentation in the hospital

resp_symp	Respiratory symptoms – Symp_Resp (sore throat, congestion, productive or dry cough, shortness of breath or hypoxia, or chest pain); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
fever_symp	Febrile symptom
gi_symp	Any GI related symptoms at presentation (abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea)
d0_draw	Blood draw performed at D0
d3_draw	Blood draw performed at D3
d7_draw	Blood draw performed at D7
de_draw	Blood draw performed at DE
acuity_0	Acuity score for day 0 study window - enrollment plus 24 hours - highest Acuity within Day 0 window; 1 = Death; 2 = Intubated / ventilated, survived; 3 = Hospitalized, supplementary O2 required, survived; 4 = Hospitalized, no supplementary O2 required, survived; 5 = Discharged / Not hospitalized, survived
acuity_3	Acuity score for day 3 study window; 1 = Death; 2 = Intubated / ventilated, survived ; 3 = Hospitalized, supplementary O2 required, survived; 4 = Hospitalized, no supplementary O2 required, survived; 5 = Discharged / Not hospitalized, survived
acuity_7	Acuity score for day 7 study window; 1 = Death; 2 = Intubated / ventilated, survived; 3 = Hospitalized, supplementary O2 required, survived; 4 = Hospitalized, no supplementary O2 required, survived; 5 = Discharged / Not hospitalized, survived
acuity_28	Acuity score on study day 28; 1 = Death; 2 = Intubated / ventilated, survived; 3 = Hospitalized, supplementary O2 required, survived; 4 = Hospitalized, no supplementary O2

	required, survived; 5 = Discharged / Not hospitalized, survived
acuity_max	Acuity max is the highest Acuity level between Day 0 -28; 1 = Death within 28 days; 2 = Intubated / ventilated, survived to 28 days; 3 = Hospitalized, supplementary O2 required, survived; 4 = Hospitalized, no supplementary O2 required, survived; 5 = Discharged, was not admitted to hospital within 28 day window, survived
abs_neut_0_cat	Absolute neutrophil count day 0 category::; 1 = 0-0.99; 2 = 1.0-3.99; 3 = 4.0-7.99; 4 = 8.0-11.99; 5 = 12+
abs_lymph_0_cat	Absolute lymphocyte count day 0 category::; 1 = 0-0.49; 2 = 0.50-0.99; 3 = 1.00-1.49; 4 = 1.50-1.99; 5 = 2+
abs_mono_0_cat	Absolute monocyte day 0 category; 1 = 0-0.24; 2 = 0.25-0.49; 3 = 0.50-0.74; 4 = 0.75-0.99; 5 = 1.0+
creat_0_cat	Creatinine day 0 category; 1 = 0-0.79; 2 = 0.80-1.19; 3 = 1.20-1.79; 4 = 1.80-2.99; 5 = 3+
crp_0_cat	c-reactive protein day 0 category::; 1 = 0-19.9; 2 = 20-59.0; 3 = 60-99.9; 4 = 100-179; 5 = 180+
ddimer_0_cat	D-dimer day 0 category::; 1 = 0-499; 2 = 500-999; 3 = 1000-1999; 4 = 2000-3999; 5 = 4000+
ldh_0_cat	Lactate dehydrogenase day 0 category::; 1 = 0-200; 2 = 200-299; 3 = 300-399; 4 = 400-499; 5 = 500+
trop_72h	Cardiac event – Trop_72h - (hs-cTn =>100 within first 72 hours of presentation); 0 = No; 1 = Yes
abs_neut_3_cat	Absolute neutrophil count day 3 category::; 1 = 0-0.99; 2 = 1.0-3.99; 3 = 4.0-7.99; 4 = 8.0-11.99; 5 = 12+
abs_lymph_3_cat	Absolute lymphocyte count day 3 category::; 1 = 0-0.49; 2 = 0.50-0.99; 3 = 1.00-1.49; 4 = 1.50-1.99; 5 = 2+
abs_mono_3_cat	Absolute monocyte count day 3 category::; 1 = 0-0.24; 2 =

	0.25-0.49; 3 = 0.50-0.74; 4 = 0.75-0.99; 5 = 1.0+
creat_3_cat	Creatinine day 3 category; 1 = 0-0.79; 2 = 0.80-1.19; 3 = 1.20-1.79; 4 = 1.80-2.99; 5 = 3+
crp_3_cat	c-reactive protein day 3 category;; 1 = 0-19.9; 2 = 20-59.0; 3 = 60-99.9; 4 = 100-179; 5 = 180+
ddimer_3_cat	D-dimer day 3 category;; 1 = 0-499; 2 = 500-999; 3 = 1000-1999; 4 = 2000-3999; 5 = 4000+
ldh_3_cat	Lactate dehydrogenase day 3 category;; 1 = 0-200; 2 = 200-299; 3 = 300-399; 4 = 400-499; 5 = 500+
abs_neut_7_cat	Absolute neutrophil count day 7 category;; 1 = 0-0.99; 2 = 1.0-3.99; 3 = 4.0-7.99; 4 = 8.0-11.99; 5 = 12+
abs_lymph_7_cat	Absolute lymphocyte count day 7 category;; 1 = 0-0.49; 2 = 0.50-0.99; 3 = 1.00-1.49; 4 = 1.50-1.99; 5 = 2+
abs_mono_7_cat	Absolute monocyte count day 7 category;; 1 = 0-0.24; 2 = 0.25-0.49; 3 = 0.50-0.74; 4 = 0.75-0.99; 5 = 1.0+
creat_7_cat	Creatinine day 7 category; 1 = 0-0.79; 2 = 0.80-1.19; 3 = 1.20-1.79; 4 = 1.80-2.99; 5 = 3+
crp_7_cat	c-reactive protein day 7 category;; 1 = 0-19.9; 2 = 20-59.0; 3 = 60-99.9; 4 = 100-179; 5 = 180+
ddimer_7_cat	D-dimer day 3 category;; 1 = 0-499; 2 = 500-999; 3 = 1000-1999; 4 = 2000-3999; 5 = 4000+
ldh_7_cat	Lactate dehydrogenase day 7 category;; 1 = 0-200; 2 = 200-299; 3 = 300-399; 4 = 400-499; 5 = 500+
acuity_cur	Acuity at the current time point
acuity_improved	TRUE if the acuity improved over time, else FALSE
neut	Neutralization of the SARS-CoV-2 virus by the patient's plasma, as measured in an in vitro assay, on a scale of 0-1 (negative values indicate noise in the assay)

vi	Viral load measurement in log10 copies per mL
n_cells_passqc	Number of cells that pass quality control
batch	Name of the experimental batch for this sample
flowcell_rna	Name of the flowcell for GEX sequencing data
flowcell_tcr	Name of the flowcell for TCR sequencing data
flowcell_bcr	Name of the flowcell for BCR sequencing data
flowcell_adt	Name of the flowcell for CITE-seq data
has_olink	TRUE if this sample has OLINK data available
has_antibody	TRUE if this sample has auto-antibody data available
has_hla	TRUE if this sample has HLA genotype data available

*Table S1: Patient metadata for the acute data.*

2074 **Table S2. Patient metadata for the convalescent data.**

2075 Information about each patient sample from the convalescent data. The table includes  
 2076 metadata for 152 patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 (n=91) or uninfected (n=61).

Column	Definition
donor	Donor ID
age	Age in years
age_cat	Age category matched to age categories in the acute data
age_n	Age scaled between 0 and 1 for modeling
gender	Gender M or F
covid	SARS-CoV-2 infected 3 months ago 1 or uninfected 0
batch	Batch for sequencing library preparation
n_cells_passqc	Number of cells that pass quality control
relatives	Indication of which other donors are related to this donor
test_simple	Simplified test results for SARS-CoV-2

id50	ID50 from serology
id80	ID80 from serology
sero_status_rbd_n_raw	Serology status for RBD or N, raw
sero_status_rbd_raw	Serology status for RBD, raw
sero_status_rbd_fit	Serology status for RBD, fit
summary_serology_fitte d_ig_g_to_rbd	Summary of serology status (fitted to IgG to RBD)

*Table S2: Patient metadata for the convalescent data.*

2077 **Table S3. Patient metadata for the tocilizumab data.**

2078 Information about each patient sample from the tocilizumab data. The table includes  
2079 metadata for 16 samples representing 4 patients treated with tocilizumab at a total of 5  
2080 time points.

Column	Definition
donor	Donor ID
age	Donor age
gender	Donor gender
time	Days after tocilizumab BS=0
n_cells_passqc	Number of cells in scRNA-seq that pass quality control

*Table S3: Patient metadata for the tocilizumab data.*

2081 **Table S4. Cell cluster marker one-versus-all statistics.**

2082 For each cell cluster in the acute data, tocilizumab data, and convalescent data, one  
2083 row per gene that lists the statistics for that gene. The statistics describe how well each  
2084 gene can discriminate cells that belong to some cluster versus cells that do not belong  
2085 to that cluster.

2086 The table has 3,200,798 rows, one row for each gene (n=29,601) in each cell cluster  
2087 (n=135) from all three of the datasets (acute, convalescent, and tocilizumab).

Column	Definition
dataset	Dataset name (acute, conva, toci).
celltype	Cell type name (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid).
symbol	Gene symbol.
cluster	Cell cluster number.
auc	Area under receiver operator curve for this gene and this cluster.
logFC	The log2 fold-change for this gene in this cluster versus other clusters.

*Table S4: Cell cluster marker one-versus-all statistics.*

2088 **Table S5. Cell cluster abundance association.**

2089 Cell cluster abundance association statistics for 135 cell clusters from all three of the  
2090 datasets (acute, convalescent, and tocilizumab). See Methods for a description of the  
2091 linear models that were fit for each dataset.

Column	Definition
dataset	Dataset name (acute, conva, toci).
celltype	Cell type name (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid).
cluster	Cell cluster number.
coef	Name of the coefficient from the linear model.
logFC	The estimate of the coefficient for this cell cluster, interpretable as a log2 fold-change in the abundance of this cluster that is proportional to an increment of 1 in this variable.
ci_low	The lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for the estimate.
ci_high	The upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for the estimate.

t	The t-statistic for this cluster and this variable.
p	The p-value for this cluster and this variable.
fdr	The adjusted p-value (Benjamini-Hochberg) this cluster and this variable.

*Table S5: Cell cluster abundance association.*

2092 **Table S6. Differential gene expression statistics for the acute data**  
 2093 **(acuity, covid, neut, aa, vl).**

2094 A table with gene expression statistics for four linear models fit to each gene in the  
 2095 acute data. We provide results for cell lineages (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid) as well as cell  
 2096 clusters within each lineage.

Column	Definition
celltype	Name of the acute dataset cell lineage (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid)
cluster	Number of the cell cluster in the cell lineage
coef	Name of the parameter from the linear model
gene	Name of the gene
ave_expr	Average log2CPM expression of the gene
quantile_expr	Quantile of the average expression
p_value	P-value for the coefficient
adj_p_val	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
log_fc	Coefficient for the parameter (log2 Fold-Change)
ci_l	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for the log2 FC
ci_r	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for the log2 FC
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
b	Log odds
percent_cells	Percent of cells expressing the gene

rank Rank of the gene, based on p-value and log2FC  
 model Name of the model fit to the gene

*Table S6: Differential gene expression statistics for the acute data (acuity, covid, neut, aa, vl).*

2097 **Table S7. Public BCR sequences observed in the acute data.**

2098 BCR sequences that are observed in 2 or more acute donors.

Column	Definition
public_id	Donor ID
time_point	Time point after entering the hospital in days
acuity_max_cat	The maximum acuity over all time points
age_cat	Age category
covid	COVID status (tested positive prior to enrollment or during hospitalization)
n_donors	Number of donors that have this BCR
n	Number of cells that have this BCR, per sample (donor_time)
rank	Rank of the abundance of this BCR, per sample (donor_time)
percent	This BCR accounts for what percent of BCRs from this sample
bcr_id	Concatenation of alpha and beta V, J, and CDR3
IGHV	IGH V gene
IGHJ	IGH J gene
IGKV	IGK V gene
IGKJ	IGK J gene
IGLV	IGL V gene

IGLJ	IGL J gene
IGH_cdr3	IGH CDR3 amino acid sequence
IGK_cdr3	IGK CDR3 amino acid sequence
IGL_cdr3	IGL CDR3 amino acid sequence

*Table S7: Public BCR sequences observed in the acute data.*

2099 **Table S8. BCR association results for the acute data.**

2100 Association results for each BCR with acuity in B cells.

Column	Definition
celltype	Cell lineage (B cell)
test	Which gene (or genes) are tested in this row
IGHV	IGH V gene, if tested in this row or else NA
IGHJ	IGH J gene, if tested in this row or else NA
IGKV	IGK V gene, if tested in this row or else NA
IGKJ	IGK J gene, if tested in this row or else NA
IGLV	IGL V gene, if tested in this row or else NA
IGLJ	IGL J gene, if tested in this row or else NA
IGHV_IGHJ	IGH V and J genes, if tested in this row or else NA
IGKV_IGKJ	IGK V and J genes, if tested in this row or else NA
IGLV_IGLJ	IGL V and J genes, if tested in this row or else NA
parameter	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard Error for the coefficient
ci	Confidence interval for the coefficient
ci_low	Lower bound of the confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the confidence interval

t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom for the linear model
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)

*Table S8: BCR association results for the acute data.*

2101 **Table S9. Antibody associations with cell clusters in the acute**  
 2102 **data.**

2103 Association results for 75 antibodies with the abundance of all cell clusters from the  
 2104 acute scRNA-seq data.

Column	Definition
antibody	Name of the antibody
celltype	Name of the celltype (cd8, cd4, bcell, myeloid)
cluster	Name of the cluster in that celltype
parameter	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard error for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
bonf	TRUE if the p-value is less than $0.05 / n$ (Bonferroni threshold)

*Table S9: Antibody associations with cell clusters in the acute data.*

2105 **Table S10. Gene set enrichment results for the acute data.**

2106 Association results for 6605 gene sets with severity, age, infection, sex, and time.

Column	Definition
celltype	acute cell type (myeloid, cd4, cd8, bcell)
cluster	cluster within the cell type, or all
coef	name of the linear model coefficient that is tested with fgsea
geneset	name of the gene set collection (e.g., MSIGDB_HALLMARK)
pathway	name of the pathway in the gene set collection
pval	p-value from fgsea
padj	adjusted p-value (FDR)
log2err	log2 error from fgsea
ES	enrichment score from fgsea
NES	normalized enrichment score from gsea
size	number of genes in this pathway
leadingEdge	the top genes with the strongest log2FC in this pathway

*Table S10: Gene set enrichment results for the acute data.*

2107 **Table S11. Antibody association results for the acute data.**

2108 Association results for 75 antibodies with severity, age, infection, sex, and time.

Column	Definition
name	Name of the protein
parameter	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard error for the parameter

ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
bonf	TRUE if the p-value is less than 0.05 / n (Bonferroni threshold)

*Table S11: Antibody association results for the acute data.*

2109 **Table S12. Antibody associations with gene expression in the**  
 2110 **acute data.**

2111 A table (35,742,420 rows, 12 columns) with gene expression statistics for a linear model  
 2112 fit to each gene and each of the 75 antibodies in the acute data. We provide results for  
 2113 gene expression at the level of cell lineages (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid).

Column	Definition
antibody	Name of the antibody
celltype	Name of the acute celltype (bcell, cd4, cd8, myeloid)
gene	Name of the gene
coef	Name of the parameter from the linear model
log_fc	Coefficient for the parameter (log2 fold-change)
ci_l	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for log2 fold-change
ci_r	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for log2 fold-change
ave_expr	Mean of the gene in this celltype
t	t-statistic for the coefficient

p\_value P-value for the coefficient  
 adj\_p\_val False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)  
 b Log odds ratio

*Table S12: Antibody associations with gene expression in the acute data.*

2114 **Table S13. Public TCR sequences observed in the acute data.**

2115 TCR sequences that are observed in 2 or more acute donors. Organized into two  
 2116 spreadsheets (cd8, cd4).

Column	Definition
public_id	Donor ID
time_point	Time point after entering the hospital in days
acuity_max_cat	The maximum acuity over all time points
age_cat	Age category
covid	COVID status (tested positive prior to enrollment or during hospitalization)
n_donors	Number of donors that have this TCR
n	Number of cells that have this TCR, per sample (donor_time)
rank	Rank of the abundance of this TCR, per sample (donor_time)
percent	This TCR accounts for what percent of TCRs from this sample
tcr_id	Concatenation of alpha and beta V, J, and CDR3
TRBV	Beta V gene
TRAV	Alpha V gene
TRBJ	Beta J gene
TRAJ	Alpha J gene



2119 **Table S15. HLA amino acid positions associated with COVID**  
2120 **acuity.**

2121 Association results for 348 amino acid positions across 7 HLA genes (A, B, C, DPA1,  
2122 DPB1, DQA1, DQB1) with COVID-19 acuity.

Column	Definition
gene	Name of the HLA gene
position	Name of the amino acid position in the HLA gene
param	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard error for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)

*Table S15: HLA amino acid positions associated with COVID acuity.*

2123 **Table S16. HLA amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-**  
2124 **2 viral load.**

2125 Association results for 381 amino acid positions across 7 HLA genes (A, B, C, DPA1,  
2126 DPB1, DQA1, DQB1) with the SARS-CoV-2 viral load in each sample.

Column	Definition
gene	Name of the HLA gene
position	Name of the amino acid position in the HLA gene
param	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter

se	Standard error for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)

Table S16: HLA amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-2 viral load.

2127 **Table S17. HLA amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-**  
 2128 **2 neutralization.**

2129 Association results for 381 amino acid positions across 7 HLA genes (A, B, C, DPA1,  
 2130 DPB1, DQA1, DQB1) with an *in vitro* SARS-CoV-2 neutralization assay (see Methods).

Column	Definition
gene	Name of the HLA gene
position	Name of the amino acid position in the HLA gene
param	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard error for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)

Table S17: HLA amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-2 neutralization.

2131 **Table S18. HLA amino acid positions associated with CD8 T cell**  
 2132 **TRBV genes.**

2133 Association results for 530 amino acid positions across 13 HLA genes (A, B, C, DMA,  
 2134 DMB, DOB, DPA1, DPB1, DQA1, DQB1, DRA, E, F) and the abundance of CD8 T cells  
 2135 with different TRBV genes.

Column	Definition
celltype	Name of the acute celltype (cd8) for which we run the analysis
TRBV	Name of the TRBV gene
gene	Name of the HLA gene
position	Name of the amino acid position in the HLA gene
param	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard error for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)

*Table S18: HLA amino acid positions associated with CD8 T cell TRBV genes.*

2136 **Table S19. Blood protein association with cell clusters in the**  
 2137 **acute data**

2138 Association results for 1,463 circulating blood proteins with the abundance of all cell  
 2139 clusters from the acute scRNA-seq data.

Column	Definition
--------	------------

protein	Name of the protein
celltype	Name of the celltype (cd8, cd4, bcell, myeloid)
cluster	Name of the cluster in that celltype
parameter	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
se	Standard error for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
df_error	Degrees of freedom
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
bonf	TRUE if the p-value is less than 0.05 / n (Bonferroni threshold)

*Table S19: Blood protein association with cell clusters in the acute data*

2140 **Table S20. Blood protein association with gene expression in the**  
 2141 **acute data.**

2142 A table (687,541,239 rows, 12 columns) with gene expression statistics for a linear  
 2143 model fit to each gene and each of the 1,463 circulating blood protein in the acute data.  
 2144 We provide results for gene expression at the level of cell lineages (cd4, cd8, bcell,  
 2145 myeloid).

Column	Definition
protein	Name of the OLINK protein
celltype	Name of the acute celltype (bcell, cd4, cd8, myeloid)
gene	Name of the gene
coef	Name of the parameter from the linear model

log_fc	Coefficient for the parameter (log2 fold-change)
ci_l	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for log2 fold-change
ci_r	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for log2 fold-change
ave_expr	Mean of the gene in this celltype
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
p_value	P-value for the coefficient
adj_p_val	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
b	Log odds ratio

*Table S20: Blood protein association with gene expression in the acute data.*

2146 **Table S21. Blood protein association with acuity in the acute data.**

2147 This includes association results for 1,463 circulating blood proteins with acuity.

Column	Definition
name	Name of the protein
parameter	Name of the parameter from the linear model
coefficient	Coefficient for the parameter
ci_low	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval
ci_high	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval
AveExpr	Mean of the protein value
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
p	P-value for the coefficient
fdr	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
B	Log odds ratio for this protein and this variable

*Table S21: Blood protein association with acuity in the acute data.*

2148 **Table S22. Clinical patient metadata for the tocilizumab data.**

2149 Clinical patient metadata for 62 patients.

Column
donor
Event Name
Repeat Instance
Age
Gender
Select the patient status based on the ordinal scale
Did the subject require mechanical ventilation at any point?
CRP
LDH
Remdesivir?
Immunosuppression
Is the patient deceased?

*Table S22: Clinical patient metadata for the tocilizumab data.*

2150 **Table S23. Patient IL-6 levels over time for the tocilizumab data.**

2151 IL-6 measurements for 26 patients and 7 time points.

Column
donor
Day 1

Day 4  
Day 7  
Day 14  
Day 21  
Day 28  
DC

*Table S23: Patient IL-6 levels over time for the tocilizumab data.*

2152 **Table S24. Differential gene expression statistics for the**  
2153 **tocilizumab data.**

2154 A table with gene expression statistics for one linear model fit to each gene in the  
2155 tocilizumab data. We provide results for cell lineages (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid) as well  
2156 as cell clusters within each lineage.

Column	Definition
celltype	Name of the toci dataset cell lineage (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid)
cluster	Number of the cell cluster in the cell lineage
coef	Name of the parameter from the linear model
gene	Name of the gene
ave_expr	Average log2CPM expression of the gene
quantile_expr	Quantile of the average expression
p_value	P-value for the coefficient
adj_p_val	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
log_fc	Coefficient for the parameter (log2 Fold-Change)
ci_l	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for the log2 FC
ci_r	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for the log2 FC
t	t-statistic for the coefficient

b	Log odds
ensembl_id	Ensembl ID for the gene
percent_cells	Percent of cells expressing the gene

*Table S24: Differential gene expression statistics for the tocilizumab data.*

2157 **Table S25. Gene set enrichment results for the tocilizumab data.**

2158 Association results for 2406 gene sets with tocilizumab treatment.

Column	Definition
celltype	cell type (mnp, cd4, cd8, bcell)
cluster	cluster within the cell type, or all
coef	name of the linear model coefficient that is tested with fgsea
geneset	name of the gene set collection (e.g., MSIGDB_HALLMARK)
pathway	name of the pathway in the gene set collection
pval	p-value from fgsea
padj	adjusted p-value (FDR)
log2err	log2 error from fgsea
ES	enrichment score from fgsea
NES	normalized enrichment score from gsea
size	number of genes in this pathway
leadingEdge	the top genes with the strongest log2FC in this pathway

*Table S25: Gene set enrichment results for the tocilizumab data.*

2159 **Table S26. Differential gene expression statistics for the**  
2160 **convalescent data.**

2161 A table with gene expression statistics for one linear model fit to each gene in the  
2162 convalescent data. We provide results for cell lineages (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid) as well  
2163 as cell clusters within each lineage.

Column	Definition
celltype	Name of the conva dataset cell lineage (cd4, cd8, bcell, myeloid)
cluster	Number of the cell cluster in the cell lineage
coef	Name of the parameter from the linear model
gene	Name of the gene
ave_expr	Average log2CPM expression of the gene
quantile_expr	Quantile of the average expression
p_value	P-value for the coefficient
adj_p_val	False Discovery Rate (adjusted p-value)
log_fc	Coefficient for the parameter (log2 Fold-Change)
ci_l	Lower bound of the 95% confidence interval for the log2 FC
ci_r	Upper bound of the 95% confidence interval for the log2 FC
t	t-statistic for the coefficient
b	Log odds
ensembl_id	Ensembl ID for the gene
percent_of_cells	Percent of cells expressing the gene
rank	Rank of the gene, based on p-value and log2FC

*Table S26: Differential gene expression statistics for the convalescent data.*

2164 **Table S27. Hashing ids and nucleotide sequences.**

2165 Names and barcode sequences for 10 hashtags.

Column	Definition
id	ID of the hashtag
barcode	Nucleotide sequence

*Table S27: Hashing ids and nucleotide sequences.*

2166 **Table S28. CITE-seq target proteins and barcode sequences.**

2167 Names and barcode sequences for 197 CITE-seq features.

Column	Definition
id	ID of the CITE-seq feature
antibody_description	Description of the CITE-seq feature
protein_target	Name of the protein target
barcode	Barcode sequence for the CITE-seq feature
clone	Name of the clone used

*Table S28: CITE-seq target proteins and barcode sequences.*

2168 **Table S29. Multiplexed antigen array content for antibody data.**

2169 Names, vendors, and catalog numbers for 77 antibodies.

Column	Definition
Bead ID	Identifier of the bead for this antigen.
Class	General description of this group of antigens.
Antigen	Name of the specific antigen.
Vendor	Vendor who supplies the antibody for this antigen.
Catalog Number	Catalog number for ordering this antibody.

*Table S29: Multiplexed antigen array content for antibody data.*

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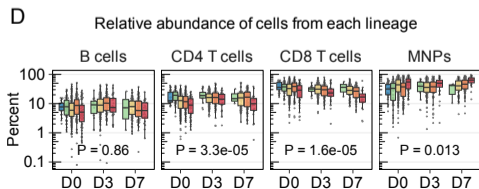
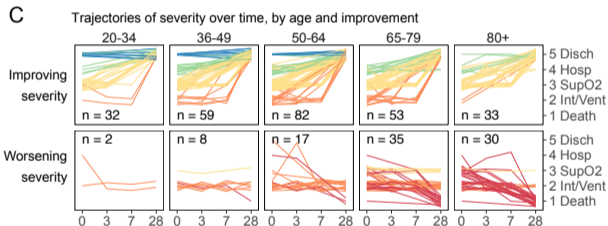
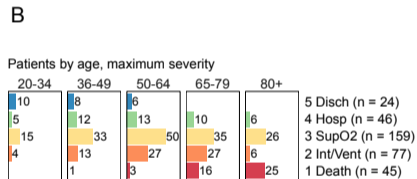
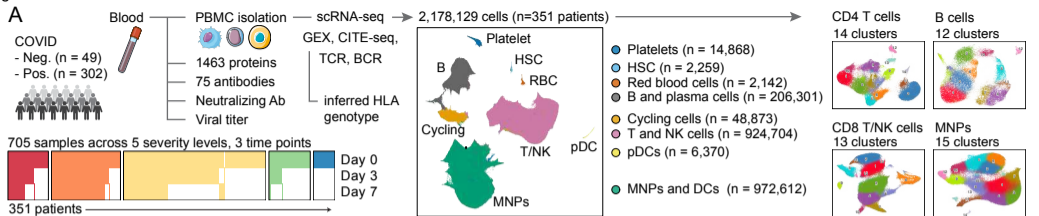
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- 2466 116. Ritchie, M. E. *et al.* [limma powers differential expression analyses for RNA-](#)  
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- 2468 117. Chiffelle, J. *et al.* [T-cell repertoire analysis and metrics of diversity and clonality](#).  
2469 *Current opinion in biotechnology* **65**, 284–295 (2020).
- 2470 118. Orenbuch, R. *et al.* [arcasHLA: high-resolution HLA typing from RNAseq](#).  
2471 *Bioinformatics* **36**, 33–40 (2020).

Figure 1



**E** Linear model:  $\sim 1 + \text{age} + \text{sex} + \text{time} + \text{covid} + \text{severity} + \text{time}:\text{severity}$

Cell clusters w. differential abundance (FDR < 5%)

	COVID	severity
B cells	3↑ 5+	1↑ 0↓
CD4 T cells	3↑ 8+	0↑ 1↓
CD8 T and NK cells	3↑ 1+	1↑ 0↓
Mono. phagocytes	6↑ 7+	3↑ 3+

Genes w. differential expression (absolute FC > 1.5, FDR < 5%)

	COVID	severity
	487↑ 2↓	44↑ 350↓
	213↑ 7↓	58↑ 903↓
	390↑ 11↓	22↑ 637↓
	397↑ 252↓	418↑ 1181↓



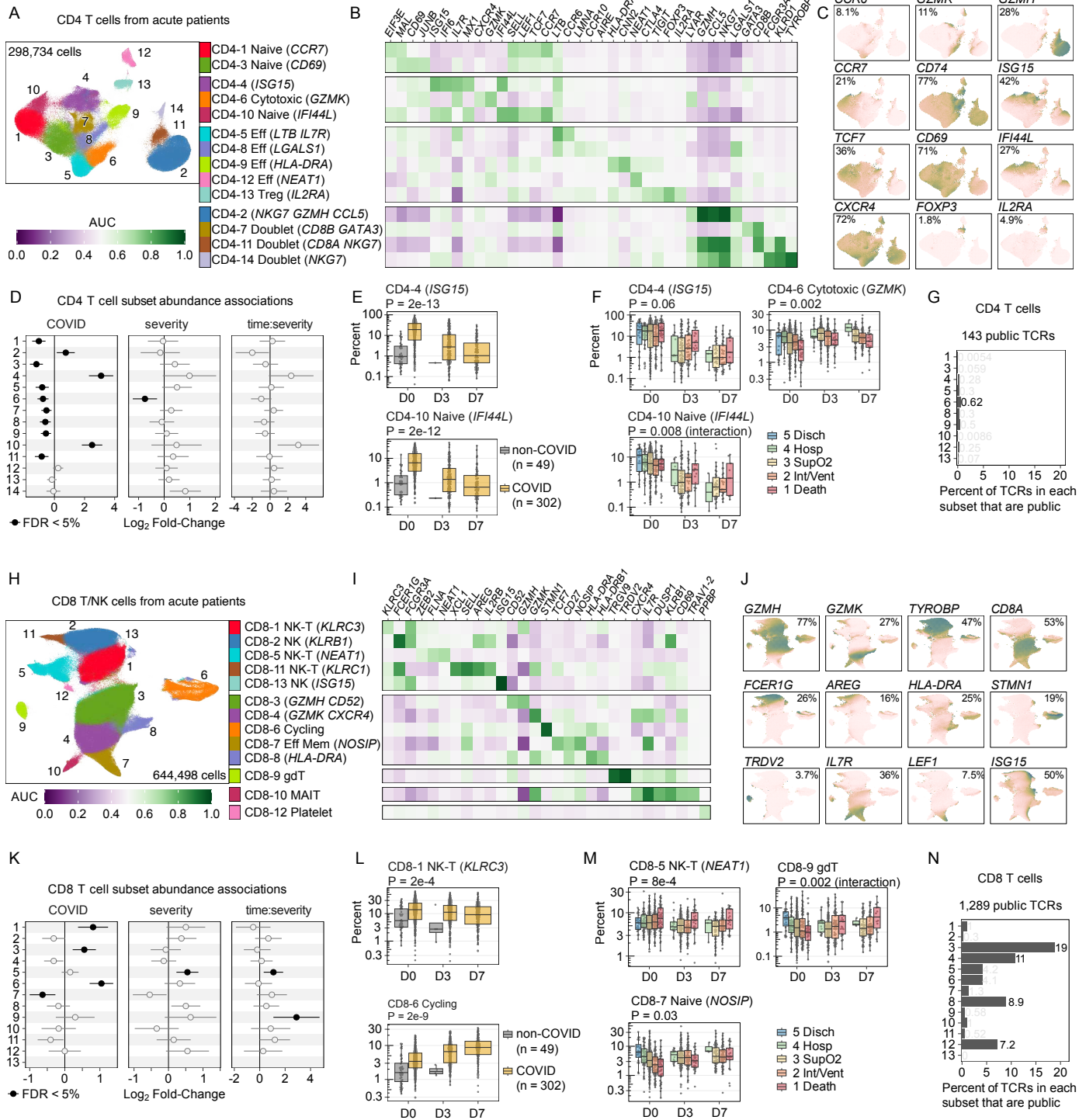
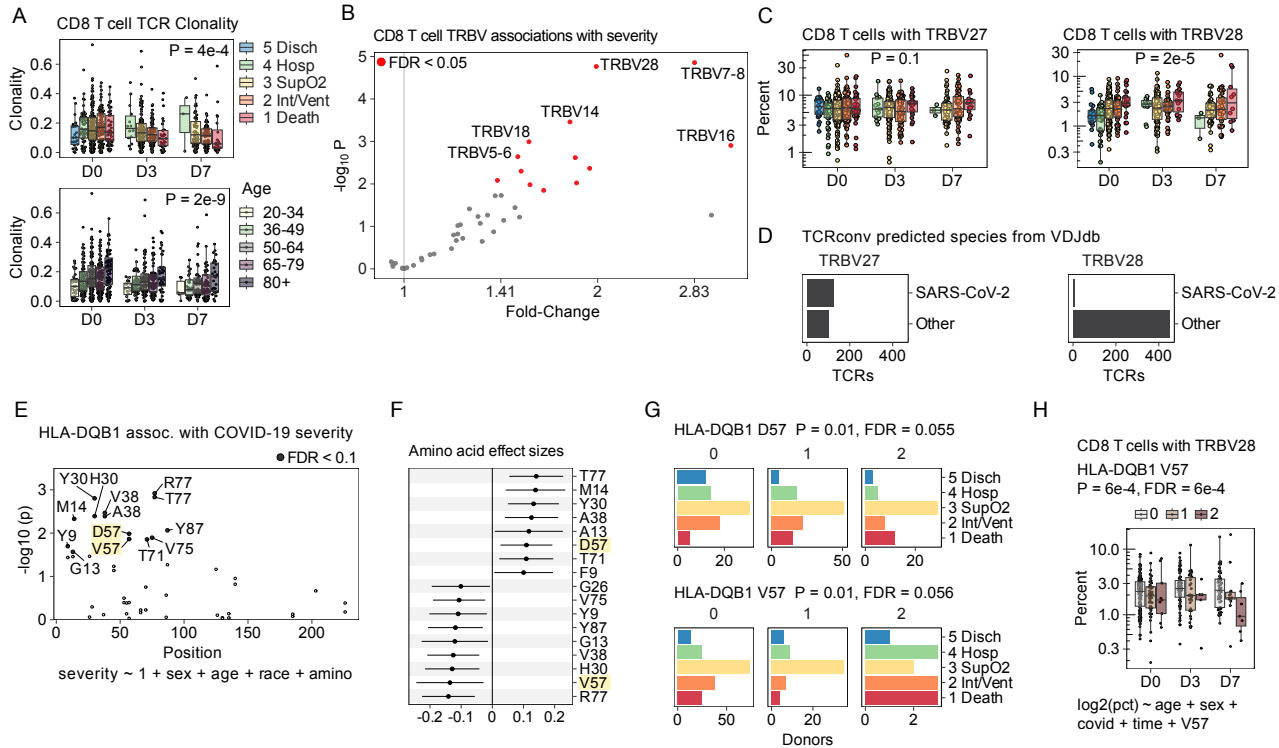
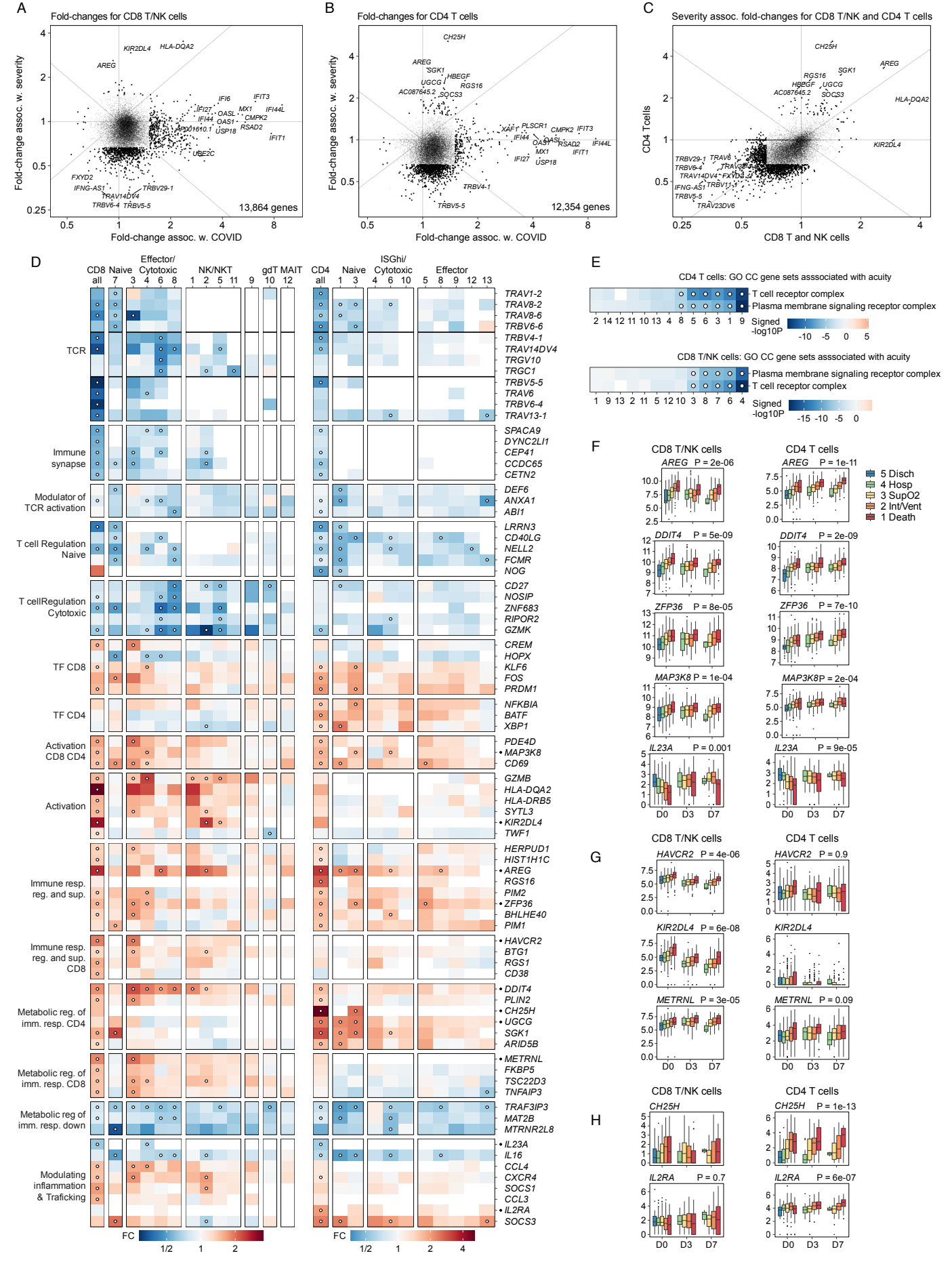
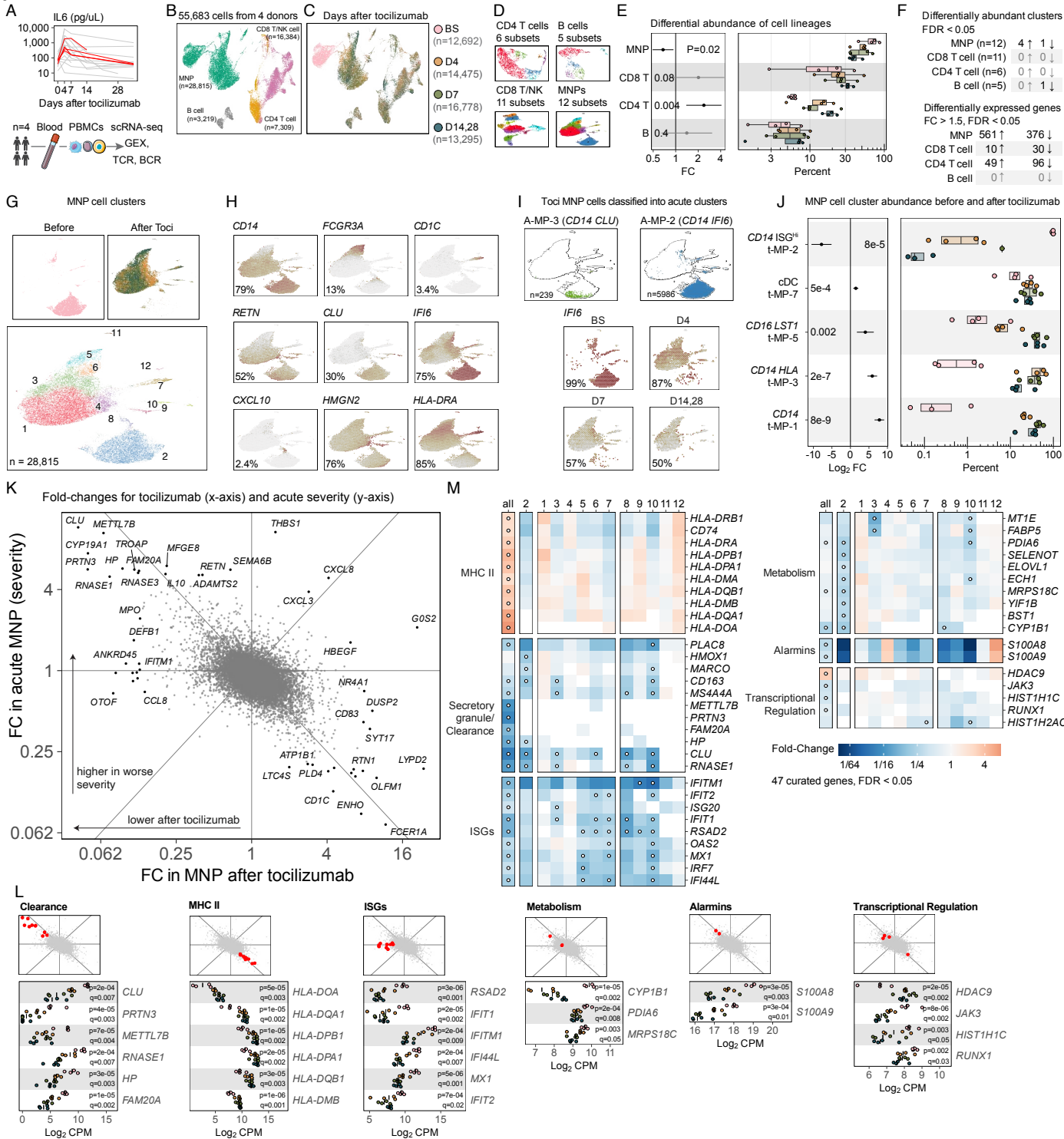


Figure 4









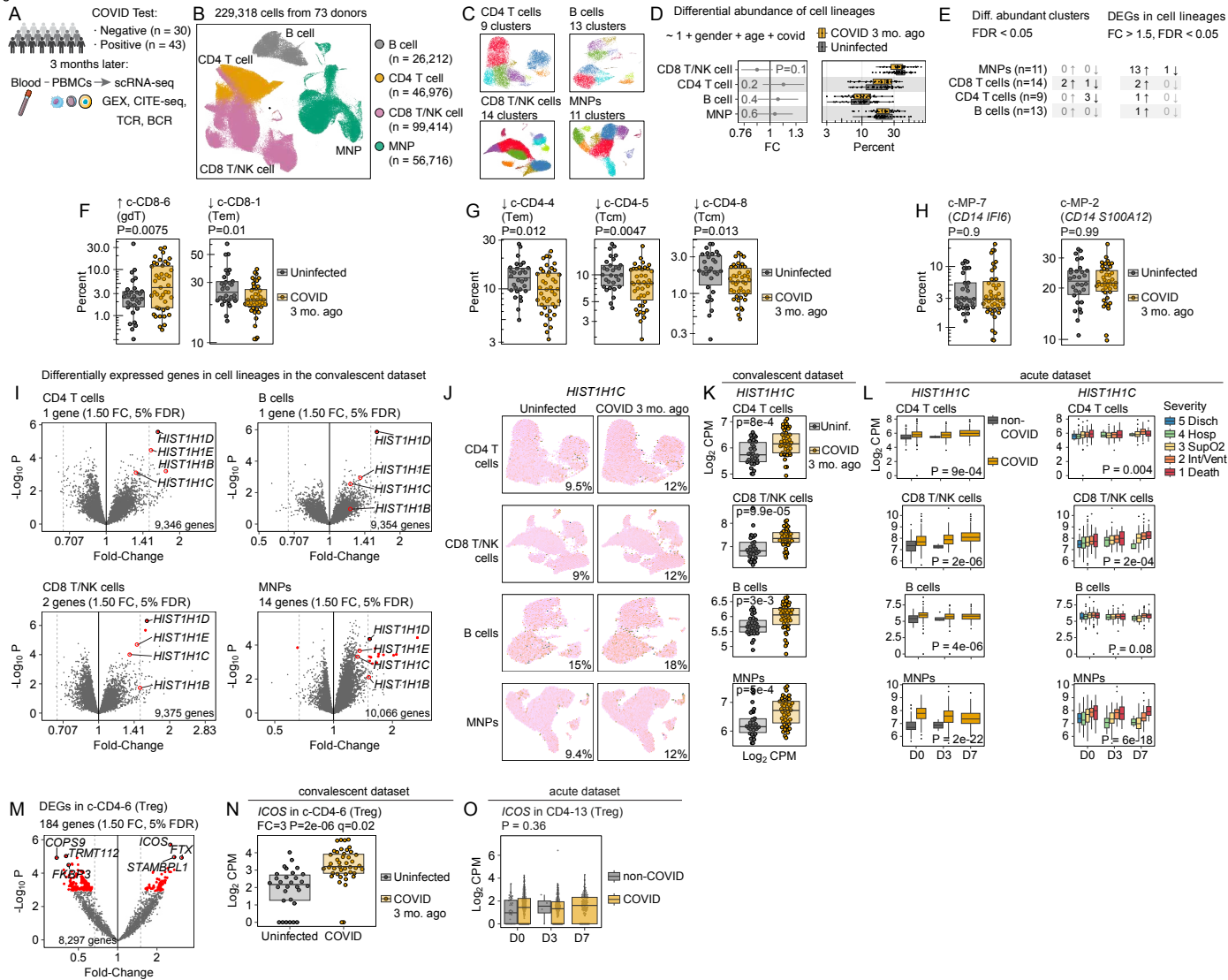


Figure 9

SARS-CoV-2  
infection

adaptive  
immune response

successful  
elimination

convalescence  
↑ *HIST1H1*{C,D,E}  
↑ *ICOS* in Tregs

Risk factors

↑ viral titer  
↑ age  
↑ anti-IFN $\alpha$  antibodies  
↑ lymphopenia

↑ serum IL-6  
↑ TCR/BCR clonality  
HLA genotype

Dysfunctional  
feedback loop in  
severe illness

anti IL-6R  
(tocilizumab)  
↑ MHCII  
↓ ISG  
↓ sepsis genes

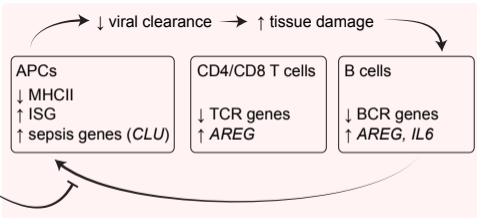
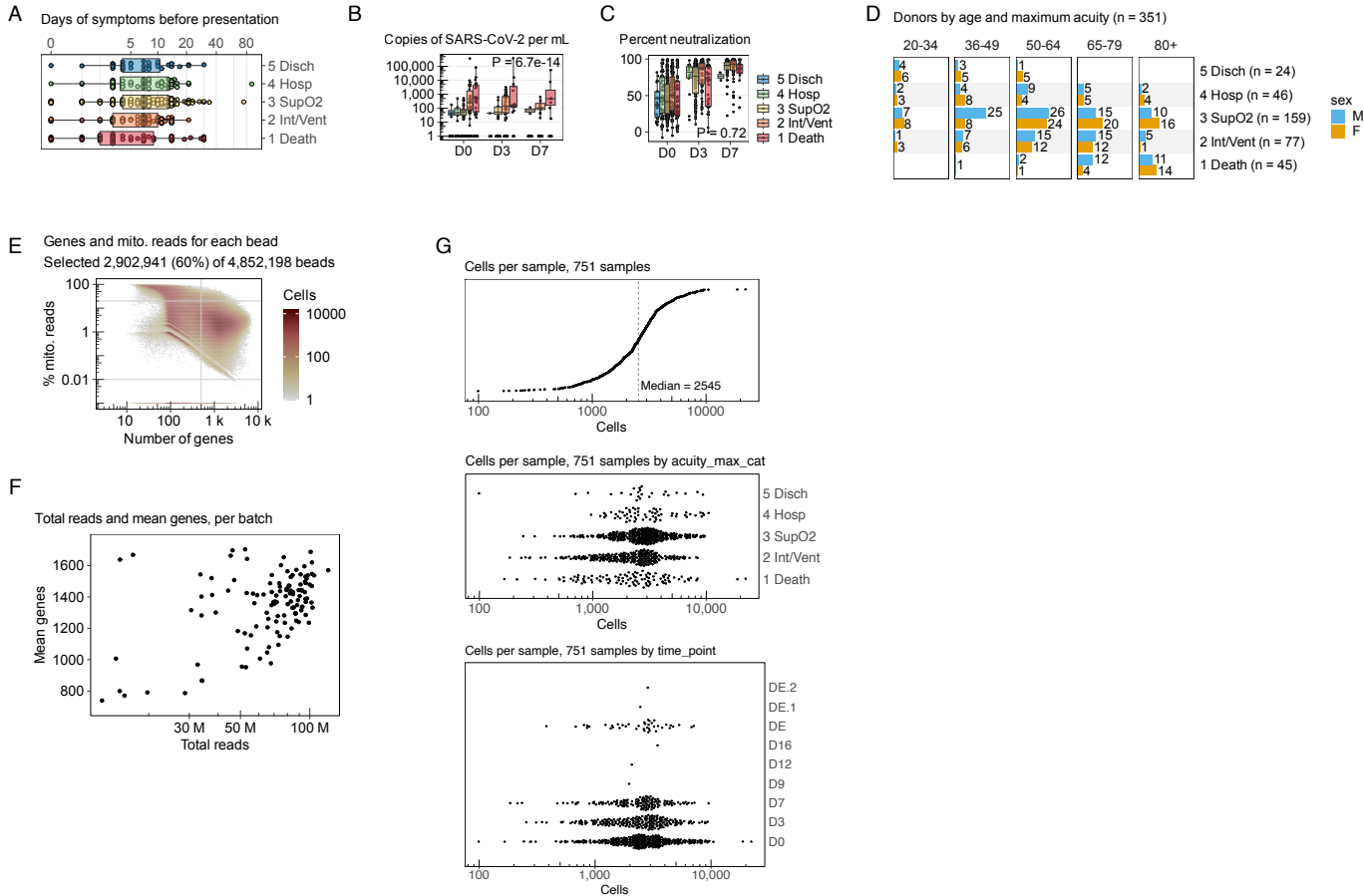


Figure S1

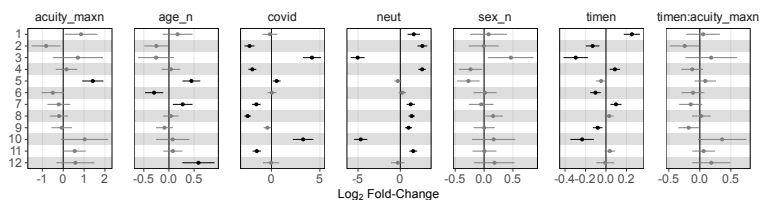




### A B cell cluster abundances associated with neutralization assay

 $\sim 1 + \text{sex}_n + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} * \text{acuity\_maxn} + \text{neut}$ 

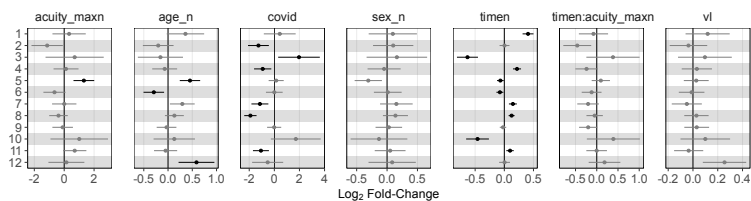
FDR &lt; 5% → False → True



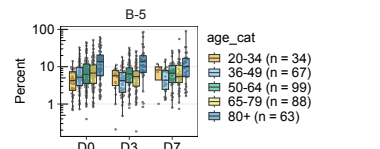
### B B cell cluster abundances associated with viral load

 $\sim 1 + \text{sex}_n + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} * \text{acuity\_maxn} + \text{vl}$ 

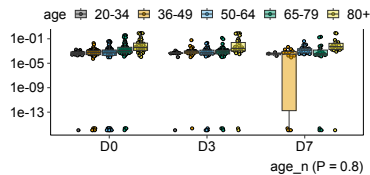
FDR &lt; 5% → False → True



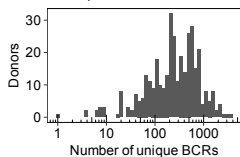
### C B cell cluster B-5 association with age



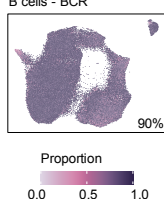
### D B cell BCR clonality association with age

 $\text{clonality} \sim \text{sex} + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} * \text{acuity\_maxn}$ 


### E BCRs per donor

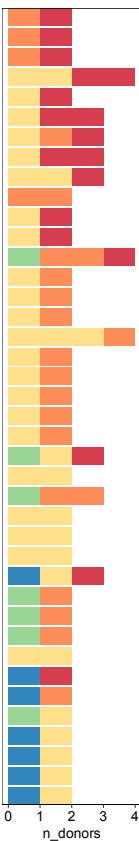


### F B cells - BCR



### G 40 public BCRs with N >= 3 and n\_donors >= 2

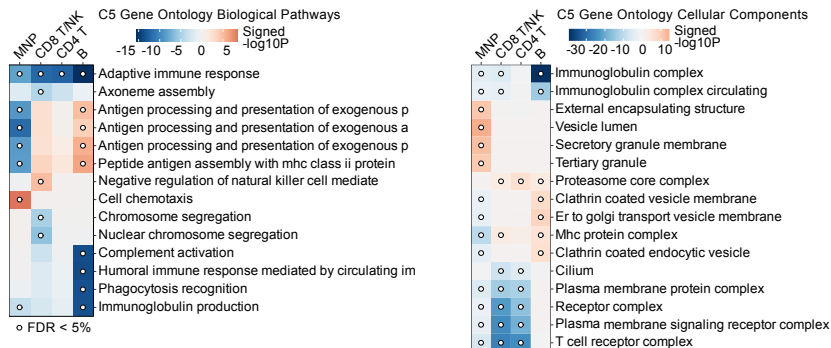
■ 1 Death ■ 2 Int/Vent ■ 3 SupO2 ■ 4 Hosp ■ 5 Disch



	N	IGHV	IGHJ	IGKV	IGKJ	IGLV	IGLJ	IGH_cdr3	IGK_cdr3	IGL_cdr3
6	IGHV3-48	IGHJ4						CASTYGSR		
3	IGHV3-23	IGHJ5	IGKV3-11	IGKJ5				CAKYTSGSMRWFDPW	CQQRSNWPITF	
4	IGHV3-23	IGHJ3	IGKV3-20	IGKJ3				CAGGRIVVTGSIADAFDIW	CQYQSSPLFTF	
4	IGHV4-59	IGHJ4	IGKV3-20	IGKJ1				CARGFDYW	CQYQSSPWTf	
5	IGHV4-34	IGHJ4	IGKV3-11	IGKJ4				CARGRLRYDFWVFQDYFDYW	CQHRSNWPLTF	
5	IGHV4-34	IGHJ3				IGLV3-19	IGLJ7	CARLSRDFDFWSGYPPADFVW		CSSRDSGSLPIF
4	IGHV3-33	IGHJ3	IGKV3-15	IGKJ1				CARETRSGSFYSNPFDIW	CQQYNDWPRTF	
11	IGHV3-23	IGHJ4						CAKLDGSGWLSVDYW		
4	IGHV3-23	IGHJ4						CAKLDGSGWLSVDHW		
3	IGHV3-11	IGHJ3	IGKV3-15	IGKJ2				CARDHGVFREDAFDIW	CQQYNNWPPYTF	
74	IGHV1-69-2	IGHJ4	IGKV3-20	IGKJ1				CARELGYDTSSYYFYW	CQYQSSRTF	
71	IGHV1-69-2	IGHJ4	IGKV3-20	IGKJ1				CARELGYDTSGFYFYW	CQYQSSRTF	
5	IGHV4-39	IGHJ5						CARQSQRPTIFGLVVSFKPGHWFDPW		
69	IGHV5-51	IGHJ4	IGKV2-30	IGKJ2				CARWGRGFTGTVDYFDYW	CMLAIHRPPMCSF	
3	IGHV4-61	IGHJ6				IGLV1-47	IGLJ7	CARVYLDGYDILTGYPRDSHYYGMDW		CAAWDDSLSGYWVF
3	IGHV4-59	IGHJ5	IGKV3-20	IGKJ1				CARGFDPW	CQYQSSPWTf	
18	IGHV3-74	IGHJ4	IGKV2-30	IGKJ1				CARLSIAVAVDDW	CMQGTQWPSWTF	
14	IGHV3-33	IGHJ4				IGLV3-25	IGLJ7	CARKESVAVSEEGFEFW		CQSVDSGGYFYW
42	IGHV3-23	IGHJ4	IGKV2-24	IGKJ2				CAKPDGPDYW	CMQATQFPYTF	
7	IGHV3-23	IGHJ3				IGLV2-14	IGLJ7	CAKDPGTYAFDIW		CSSYTSNNYF
3	IGHV3-23	IGHJ3						CAKPPRIIGYYDAFDW		
10	IGHV1-18	IGHJ6	IGKV2D-28	IGKJ2				CARRWYSGGWYNHPAEWHGMDAW	CMEALQTRGF	
4	IGHV3-33	IGHJ4						CARETADYTSFFDYW		
3	IGHV5-51	IGHJ4						CARHVRHCSGGDCYSSHFDYW		
48	IGHV4-39	IGHJ5						CARQSQRPTIFGLVVIKPGHWFDPW		
5	IGHV3-30	IGHJ3						CAKATSLFWGFQAKDALDLW		
12	IGHV3-23	IGHJ6				IGLV8-61	IGLJ7	CAKVLWTGYNSWDPLGVYYYGMDW		CVLYMGSGIWF
3	IGHV3-23	IGHJ3				IGLV5-45	IGLJ7	CAKCGAKDARDVDFDW		CMWHSSAYIF
501	IGHV1-69-2	IGHJ4	IGKV3-20	IGKJ1				CARELGYDTSGYFYW	CQYQSSRTF	
5	IGHV1-69-2	IGHJ4	IGKV2D-28	IGKJ5				CAATELDKYKVDHW	CMQALQTPITF	
5	IGHV1-69-2	IGHJ4	IGKV2-28	IGKJ5				CAATELDKYKVDHW	CMQALQTPITF	
7	IGHV1-2	IGHJ4						CARGRESGLLFRYFYDYW		
12	IGHV1-18	IGHJ4						CARSGYLPGDNDYW		
6	IGHV1-18	IGHJ4						CARDDDFWSGYTLW		
15	IGHV5-51	IGHJ4						CARHARSGEQLGMDYW		
5	IGHV4-39	IGHJ5						CARQSQRPTIFGLVIVSKPGHWFDPW		
5	IGHV4-39	IGHJ4						CAGSYHILTGYGQSAIVDYW		
3	IGHV3-74	IGHJ4	IGKV2-30	IGKJ1				ICRLSIAEPLDDW	CMQGTQWPSWTF	
12	IGHV3-74	IGHJ4	IGKV2-30	IGKJ1				CARLSIAVAVDDW	CLQGTQWPSWTF	
13	IGHV1-18	IGHJ4						CARLKNYDLLTRGFDFW		

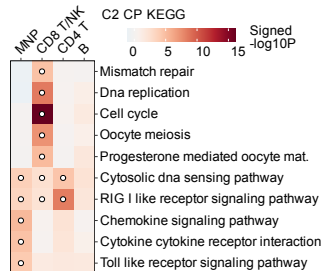
A

## Severity-associated gene sets



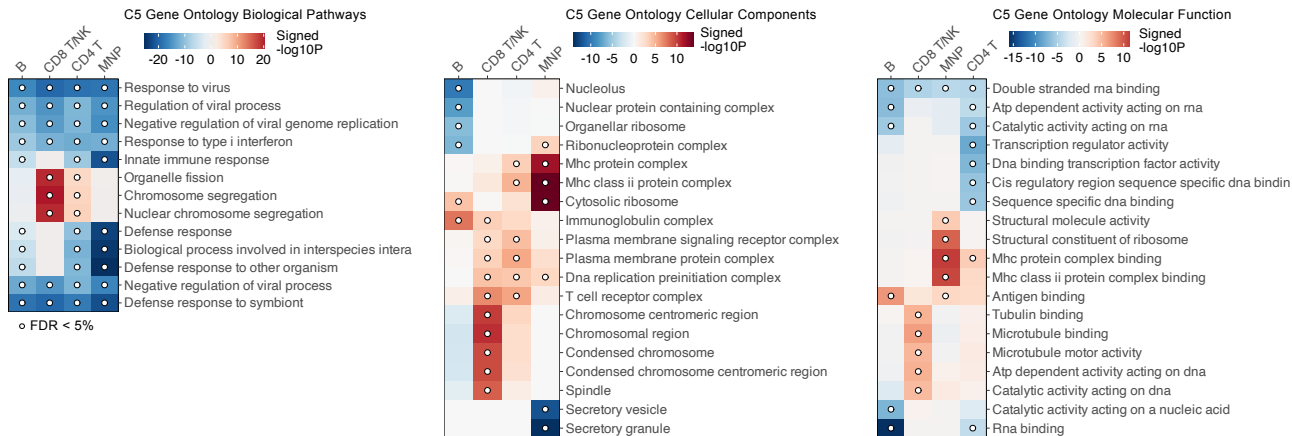
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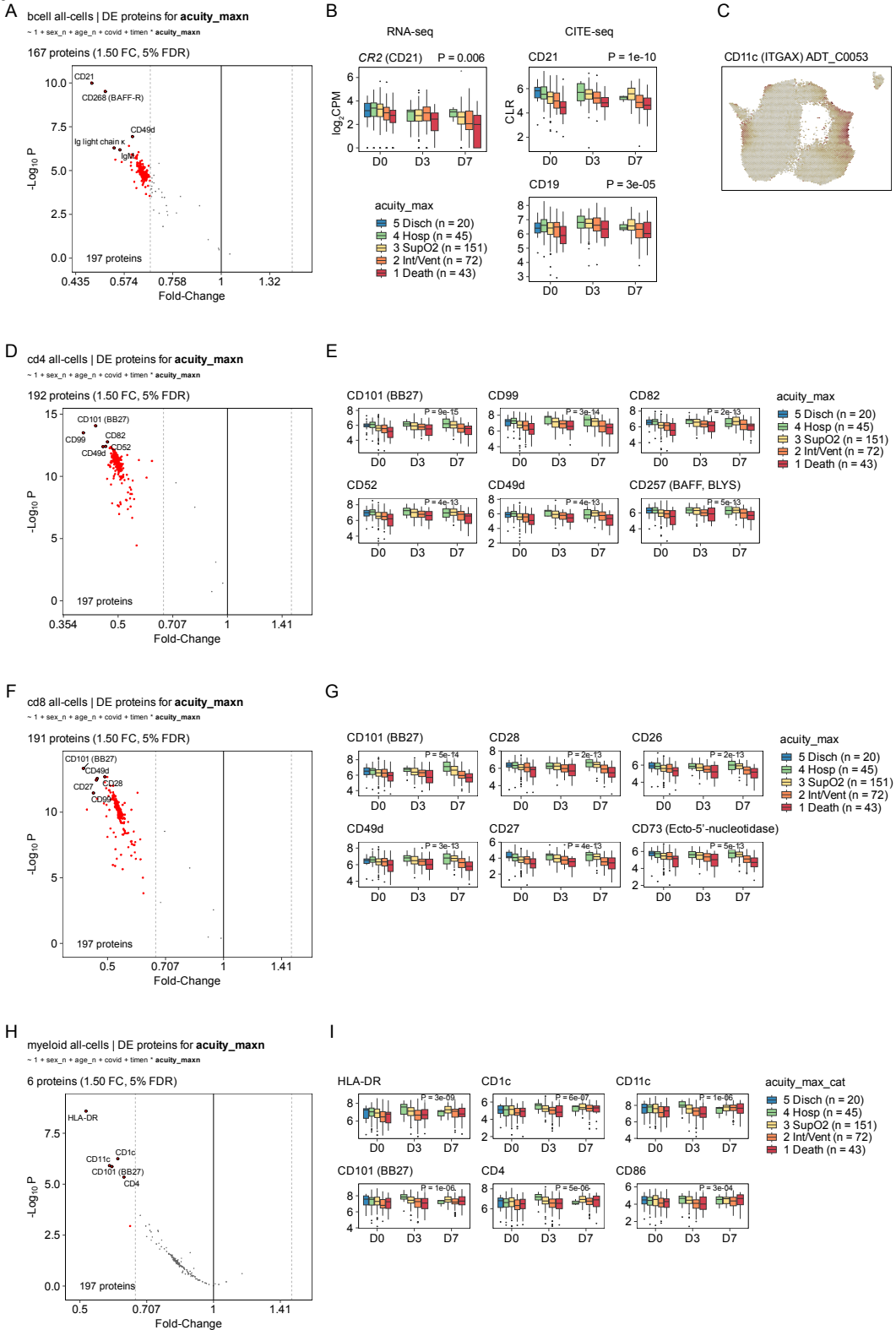
## COVID-associated gene sets

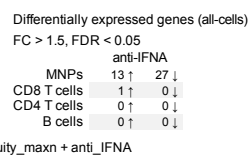
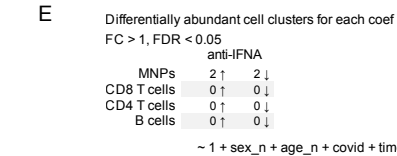
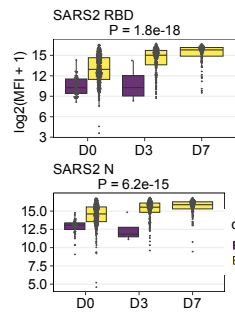
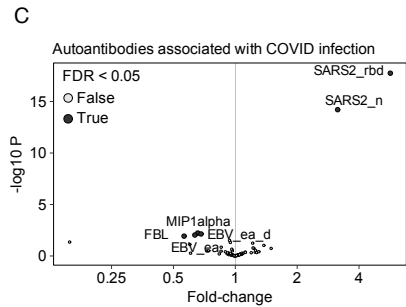
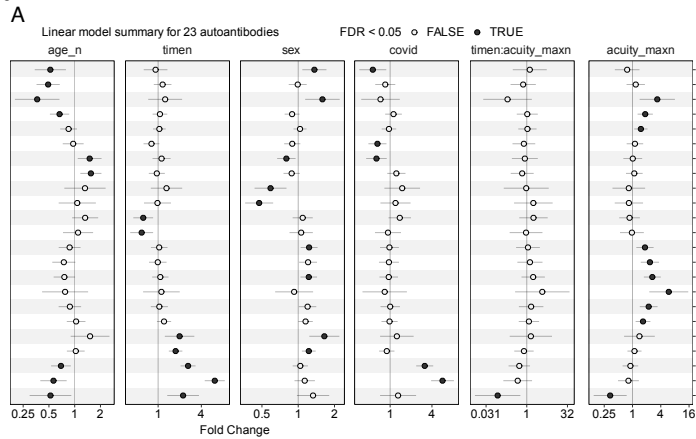


C

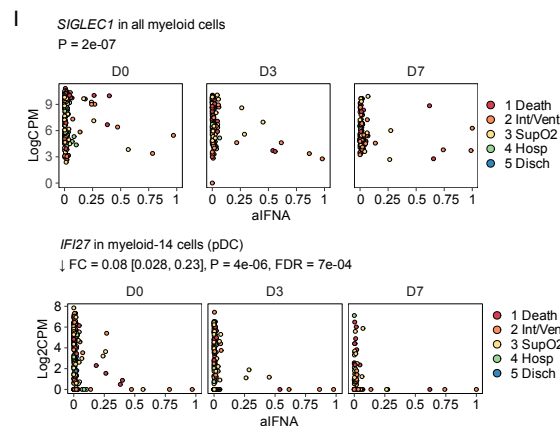
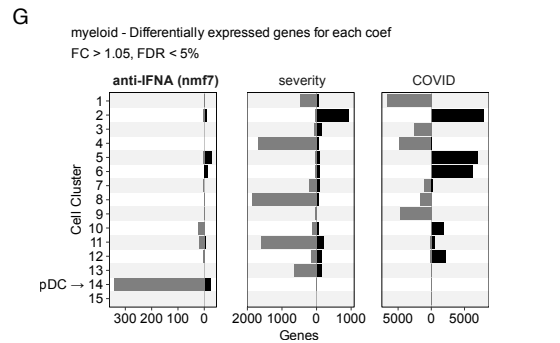
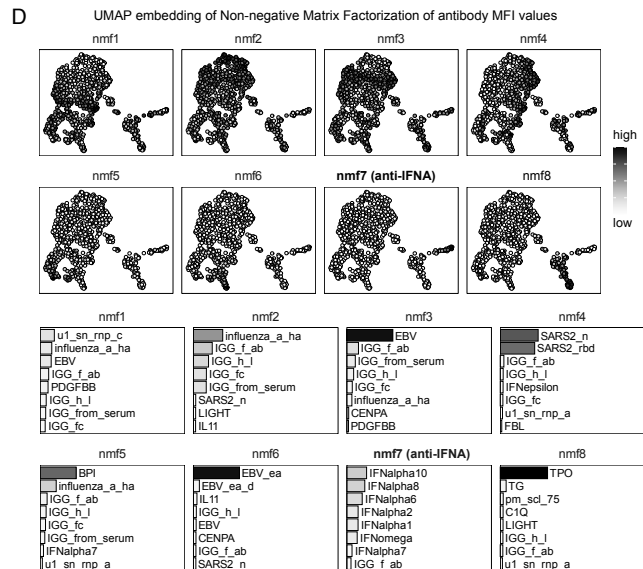
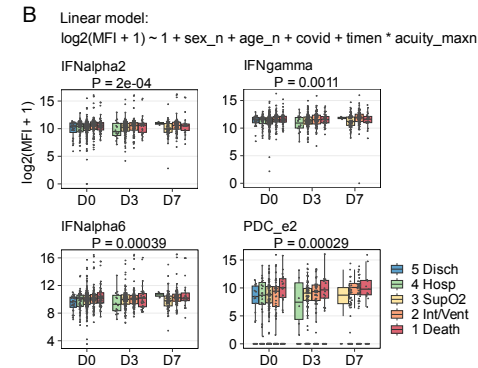
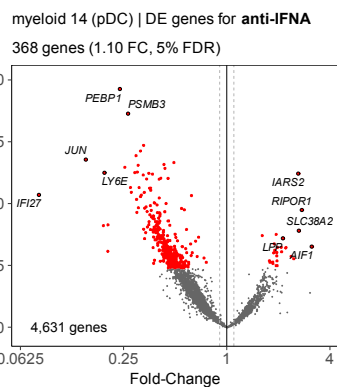
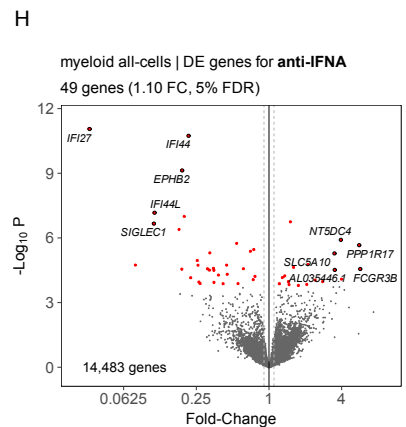
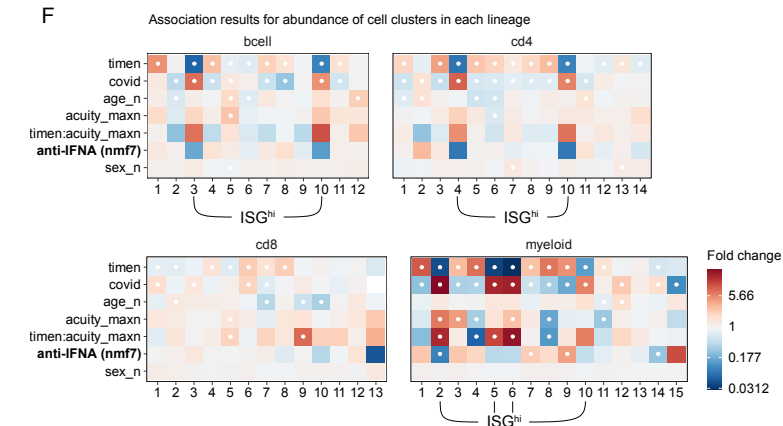
## Tocilizumab-associated gene sets



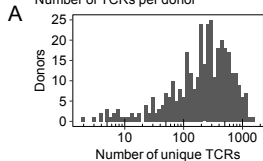




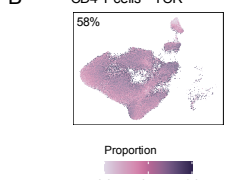
$$\sim 1 + \text{sex}_n + \text{age}_n + \text{covid} + \text{timen} * \text{acuity\_maxn} + \text{anti\_IFNA}$$



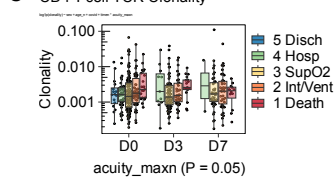
Number of TCRs per donor



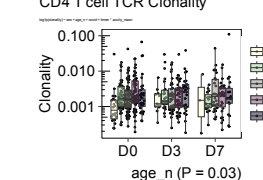
CD4 T cells - TCR



CD4 T cell TCR Clonality

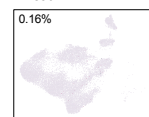


CD4 T cell TCR Clonality

**E**

Public TCRs

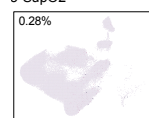
1 Death



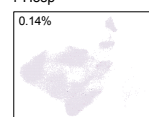
2 Int/Vent



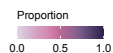
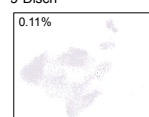
3 SupO2



4 Hosp

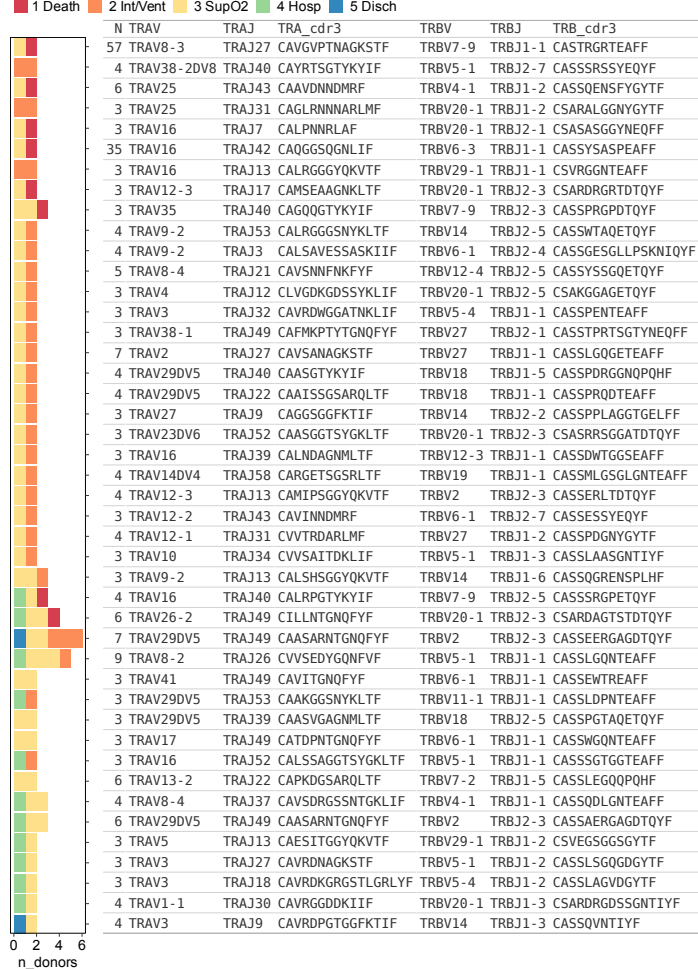


5 Disch

**F**

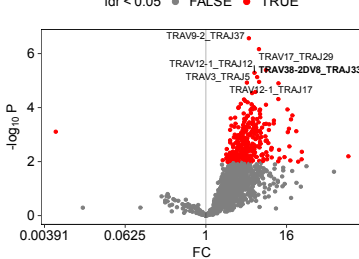
44 public TCRs with N &gt;= 3 and n\_donors &gt;= 2

■ 1 Death ■ 2 Int/Vent ■ 3 SupO2 ■ 4 Hosp ■ 5 Disch

**G**

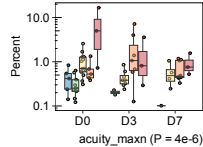
CD4 T cell TRA VJ associations with acuity\_maxn

fdr &lt; 0.05 ● FALSE ● TRUE

**H**

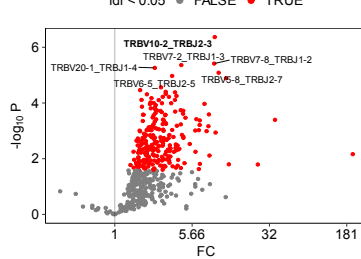
CD4 T cell TRAV38-2DV8\_TRAJ33

log2(pct) ~ sex + age\_n + covid + timen \* acuity\_maxn

**I**

CD4 T cell TRB VJ associations with acuity\_maxn

fdr &lt; 0.05 ● FALSE ● TRUE

**J**

CD4 T cell TRBV10-2\_TRBJ2-3

log2(pct) ~ sex + age\_n + covid + timen \* acuity\_maxn

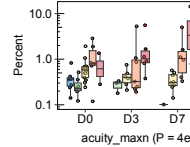
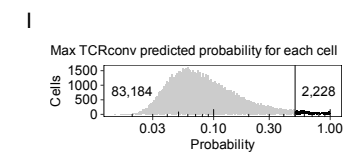
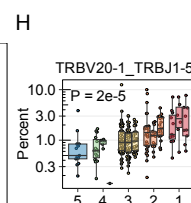
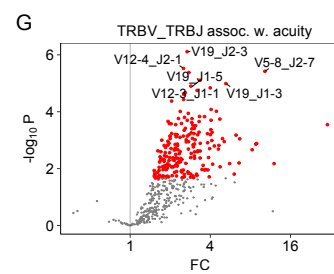
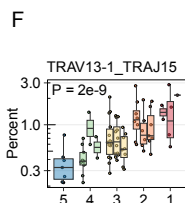
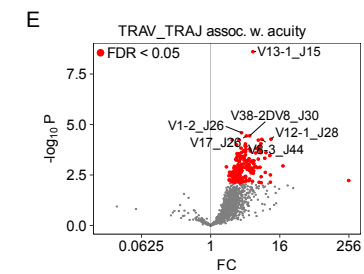
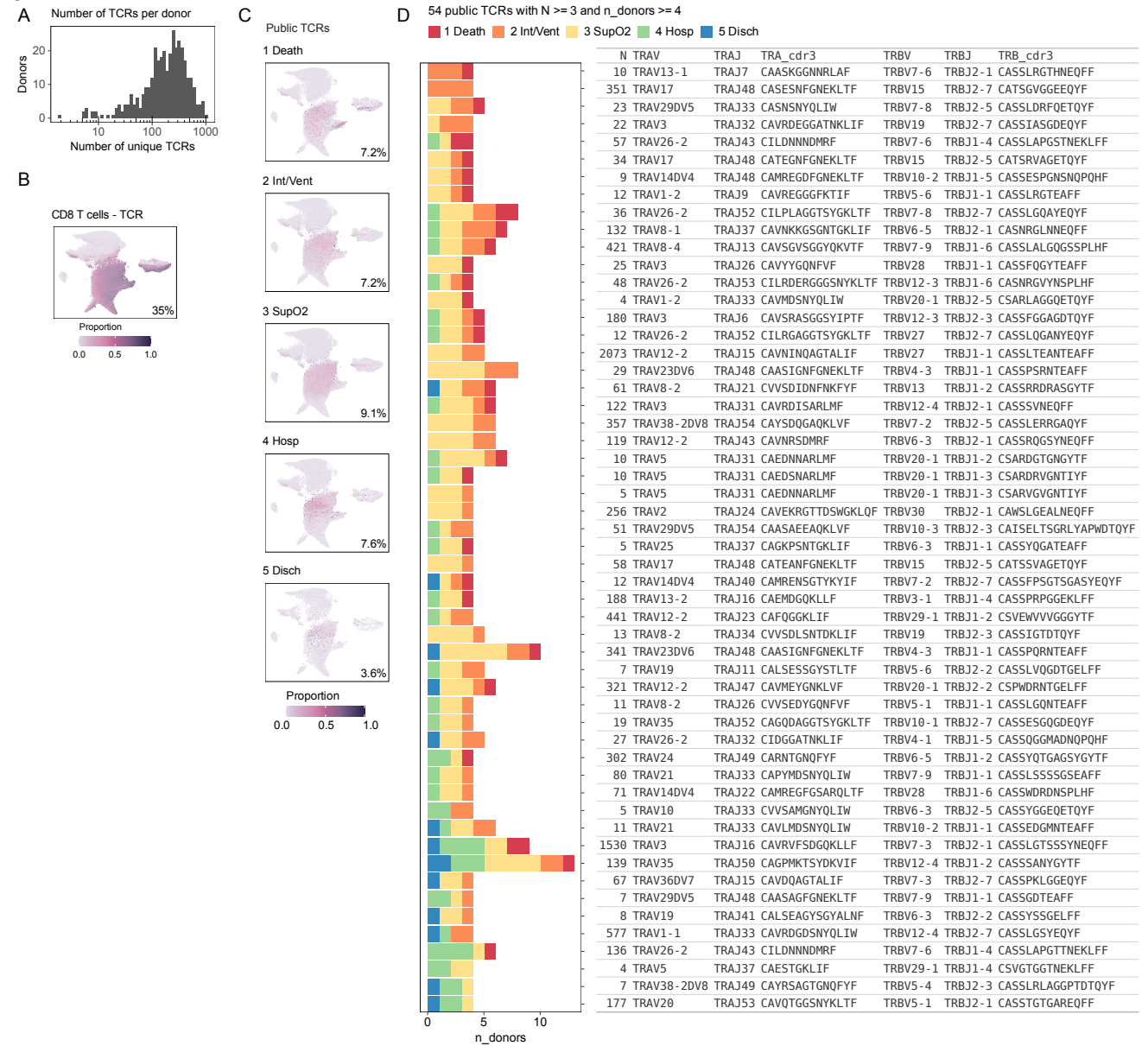
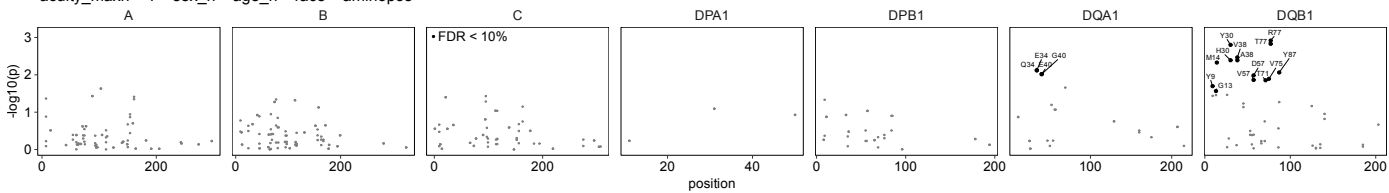
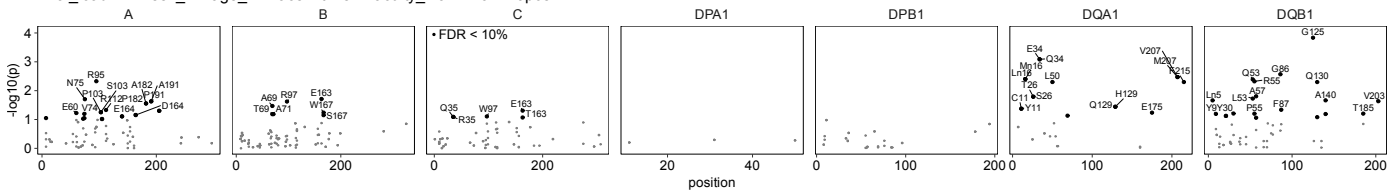
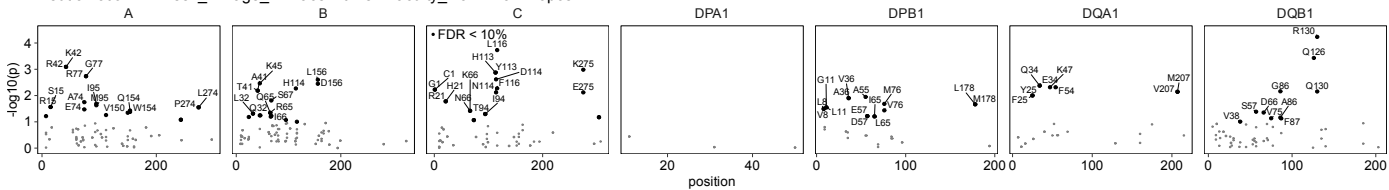
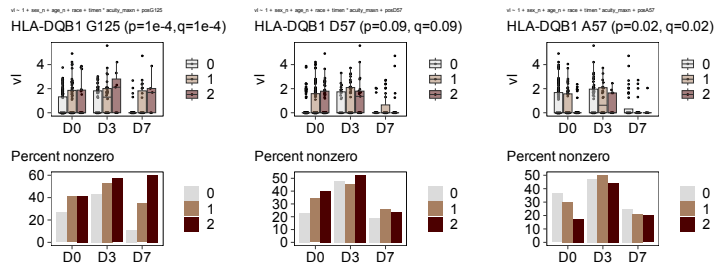
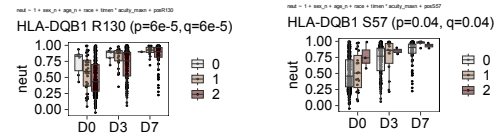
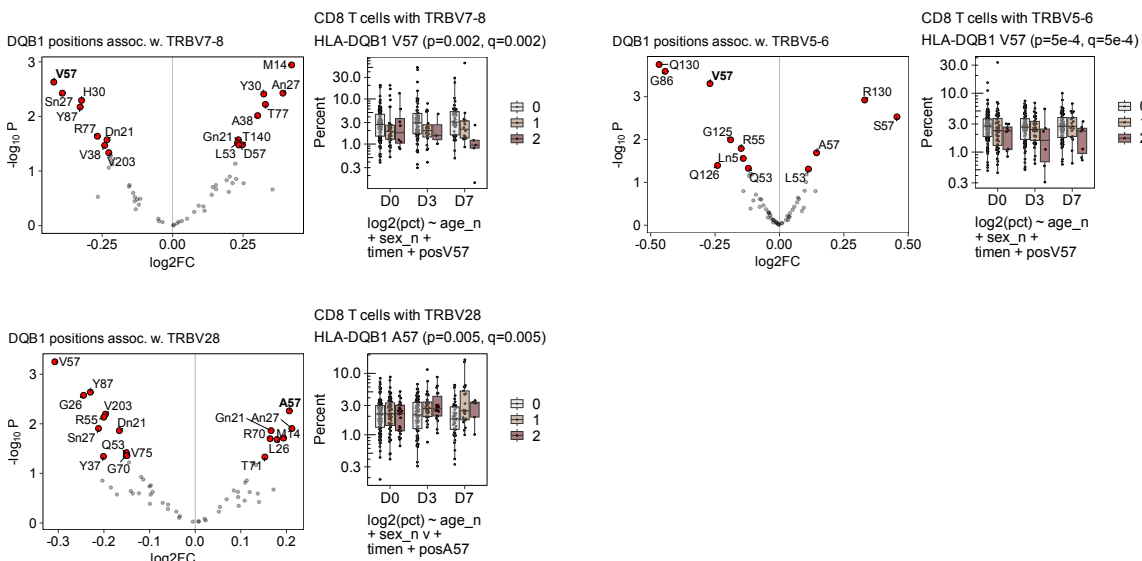
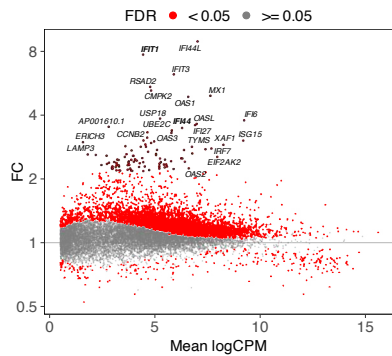


Figure S8

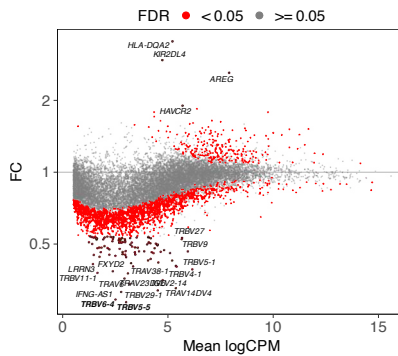


**A** HLA amino acid positions associated with COVID acuity  
 acuity\_maxn ~ 1 + sex\_n + age\_n + race + aminopos

**B** HLA amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-2 viral load  
 viral\_load ~ 1 + sex\_n + age\_n + race + timen \* acuity\_maxn + aminopos

**C** HLA amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-2 neutralization  
 neutralization ~ 1 + sex\_n + age\_n + race + timen \* acuity\_maxn + aminopos

**D** HLA-DQB1 amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-2 viral load

**E** HLA-DQB1 amino acid positions associated with SARS-CoV-2 neutralization

**F** HLA-DQB1 amino acid positions associated with COVID acuity-associated CD8 TRBV genes


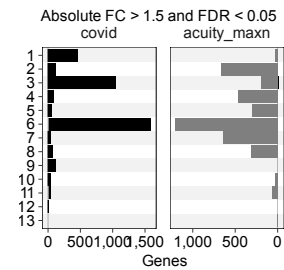
## A Acute CD8 T/NK cells, genes assoc. w. COVID



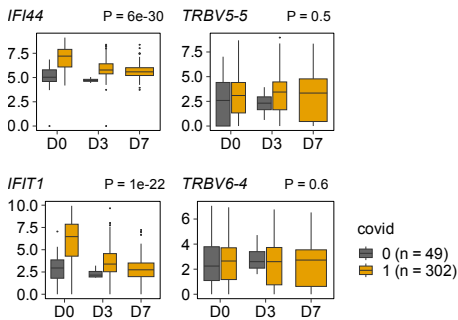
## B Acute CD8 T/NK cells, genes assoc. w. acuity



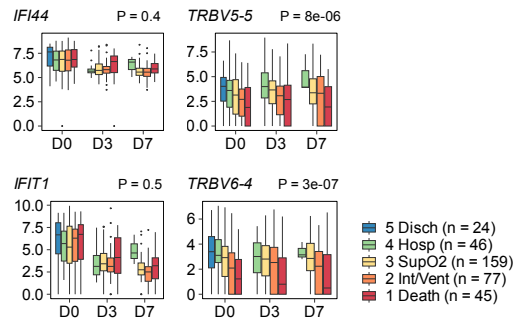
## C Number of differentially expressed genes in CD8 T cell subsets



## D

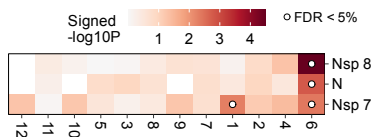


## E

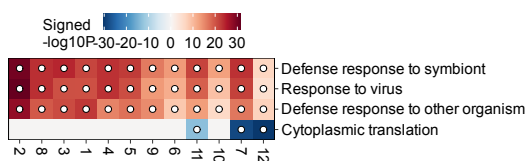


## F CD8 T cell gene set enrichment results for genes associated with COVID

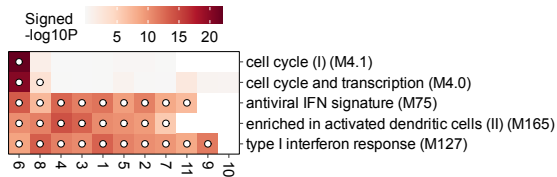
Proteins that bind SARS-CoV-2 proteins (Gordon2020)



MSigDB C5 Gene Ontology Biological Process

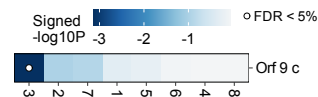


Top 5 BTM\_MODULES pathways for each celltype

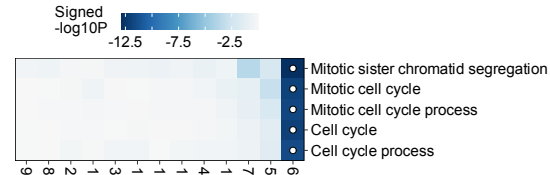


## G CD8 T cell gene set enrichment results for genes associated with severity

Proteins that bind SARS-CoV-2 proteins (Gordon2020)



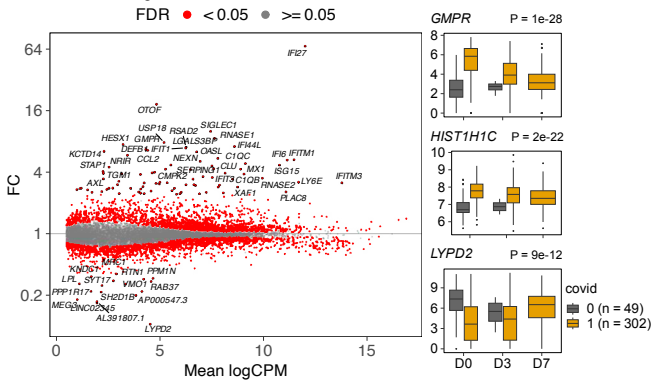
MSigDB C5 Gene Ontology Biological Process



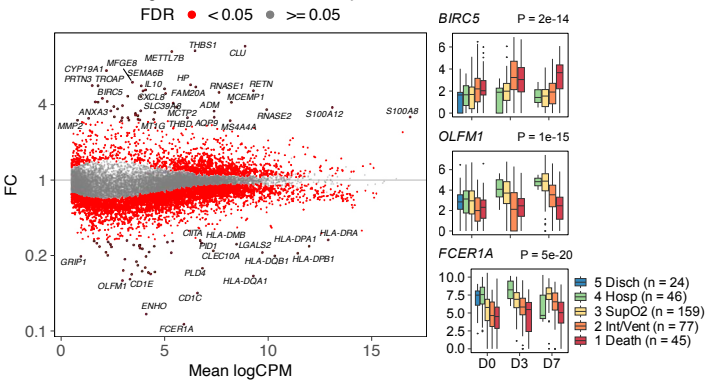




## A Acute MNPs, genes associated with COVID

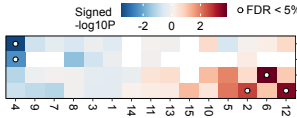


## B Acute MNPs, genes associated with severity

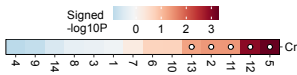


## C MNP gene set enrichment results for genes associated with COVID

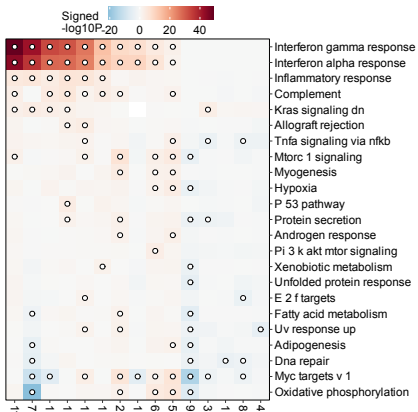
Proteins that bind SARS-CoV-2 proteins (Gordon2020)



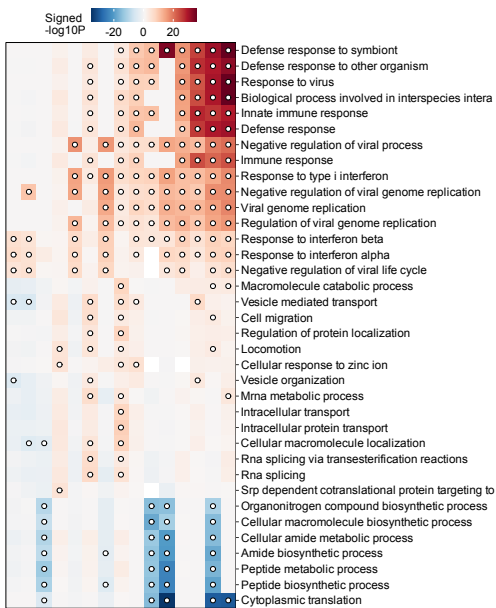
Host entry factors for SARS-CoV-2 (Ugalde et al 2022)



MSigDB Hallmark

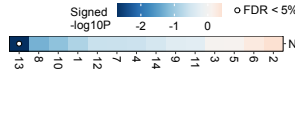


MSigDB C5 Gene Ontology Biological Process

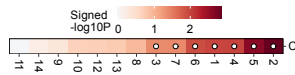


## D MNP gene set enrichment results for genes associated with severity

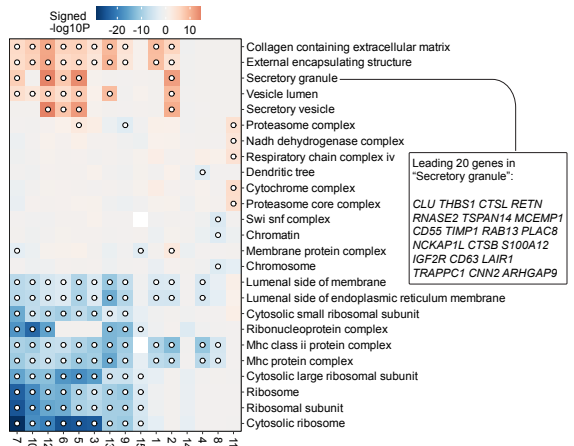
Proteins that bind SARS-CoV-2 proteins (Gordon2020)



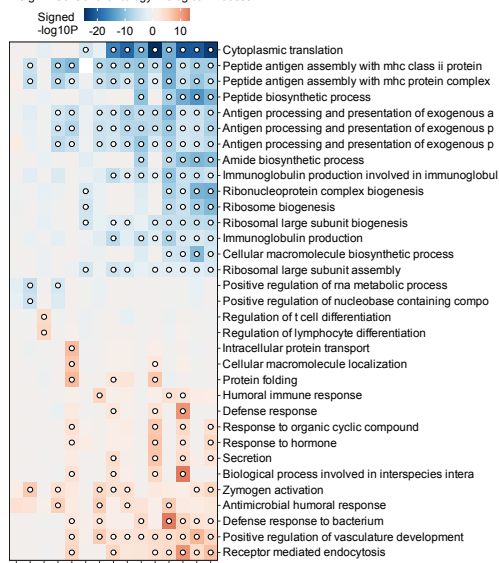
Host entry factors for SARS-CoV-2 (Ugalde et al 2022)



MSigDB C5 Gene Ontology Cellular Component



MSigDB C5 Gene Ontology Biological Process





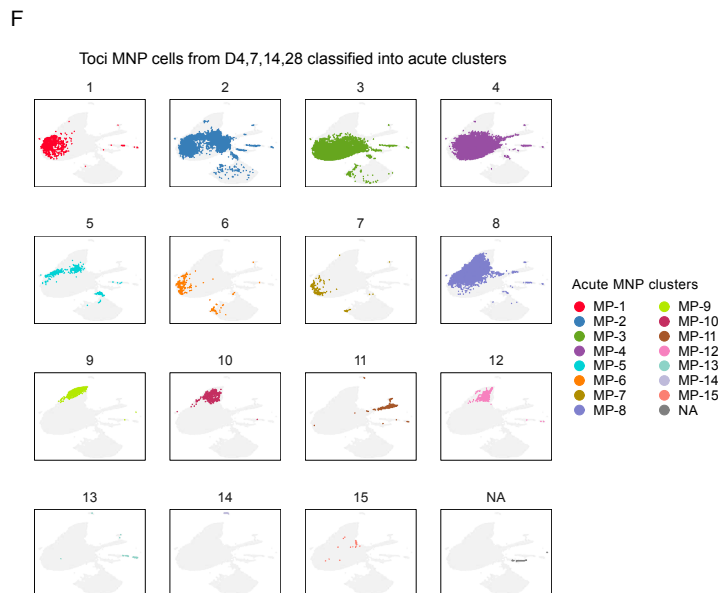
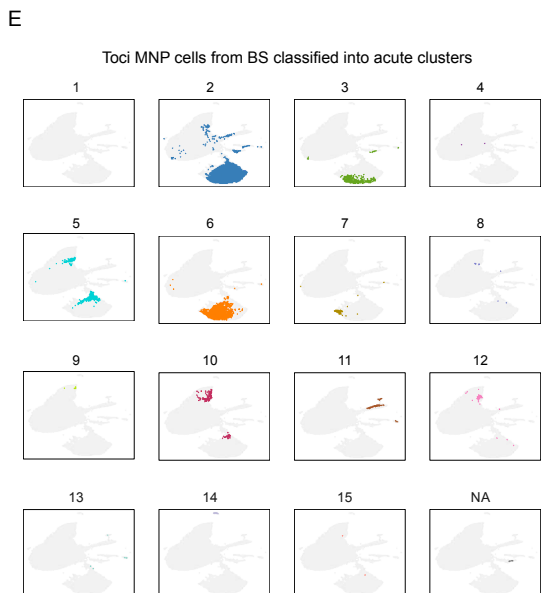
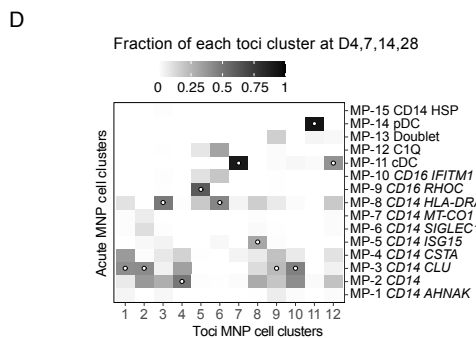
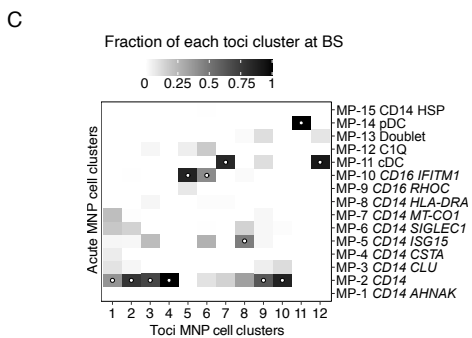
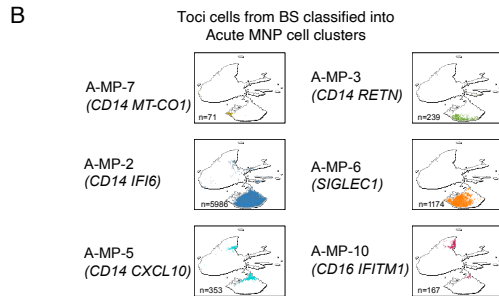
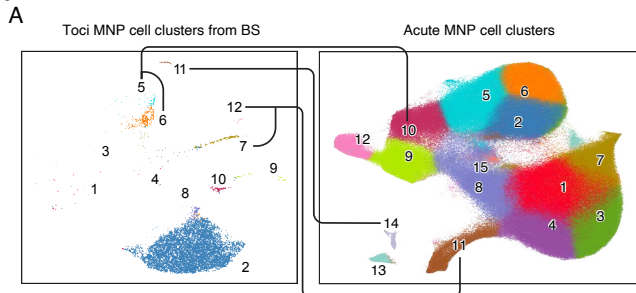
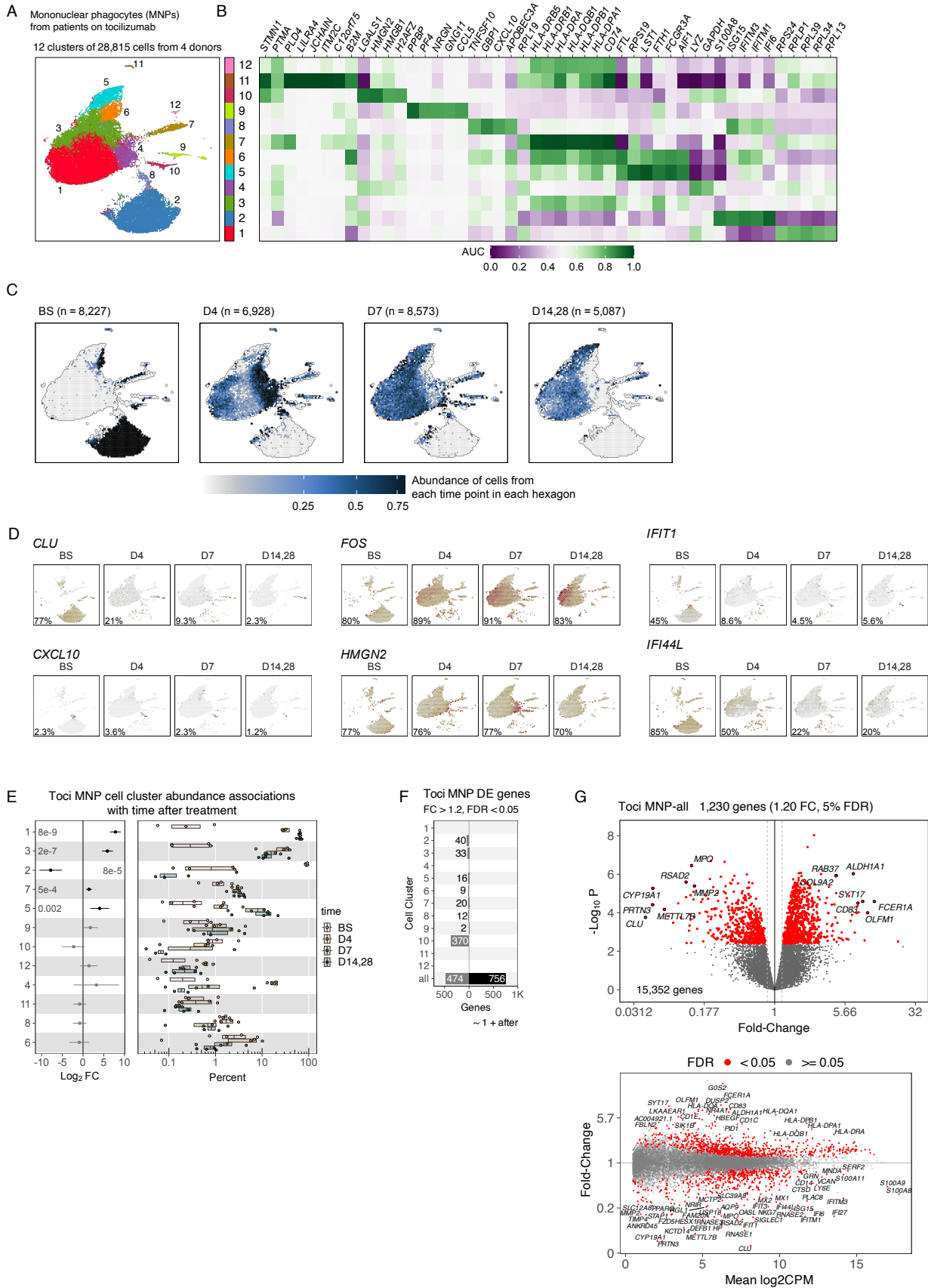
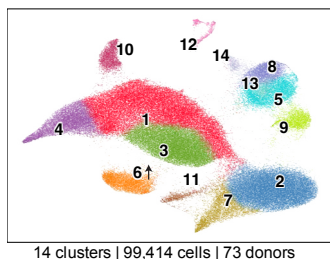


Figure S16



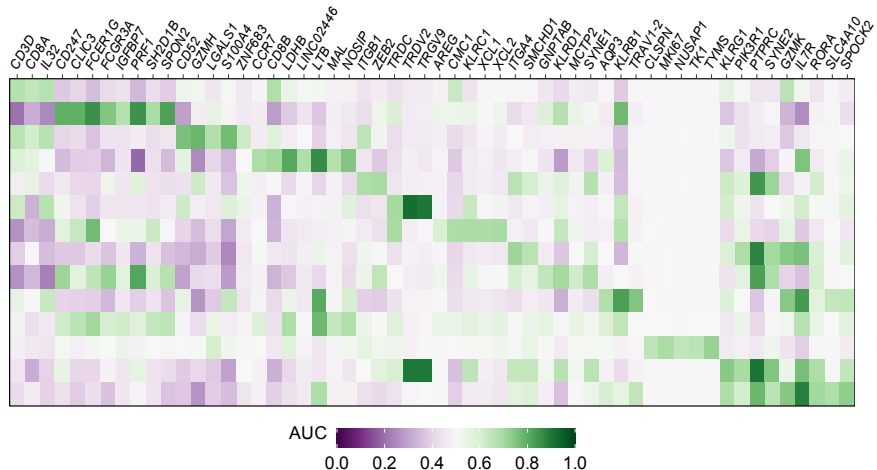
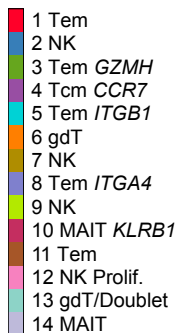
A

CD8 T/NK cells from convalescent donors

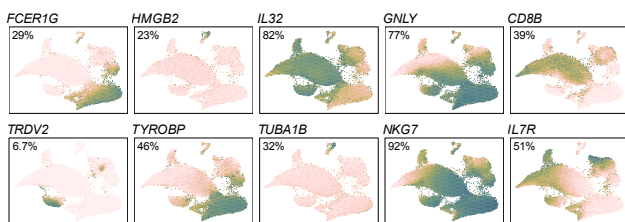


14 clusters | 99,414 cells | 73 donors

B

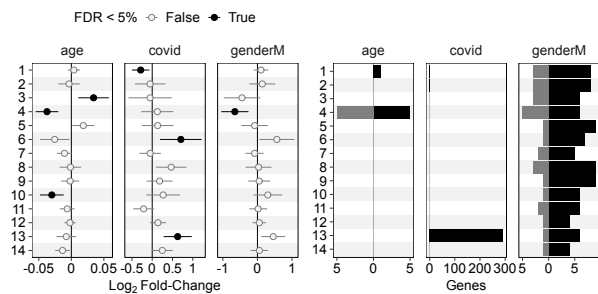


C



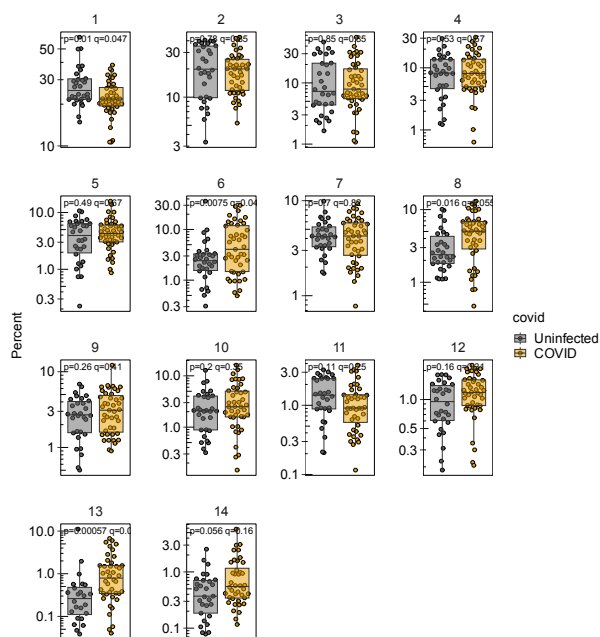
D

CD8 T cell subset abundance associations      CD8 T cell subset Differentially expressed genes  
 Absolute FC > 1.5 and FDR < 0.05

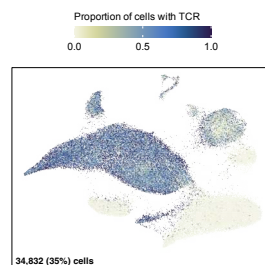


E

CD8 T cell subset abundances

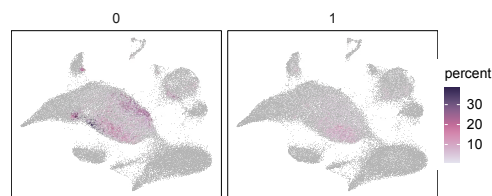


F



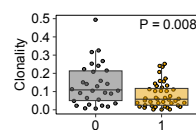
G

CD8 T cells  
 The 5 most abundant TCR in each sample, colored by abundance



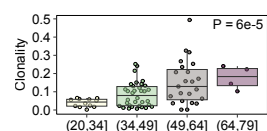
H

CD8 T cell TCR Clonality

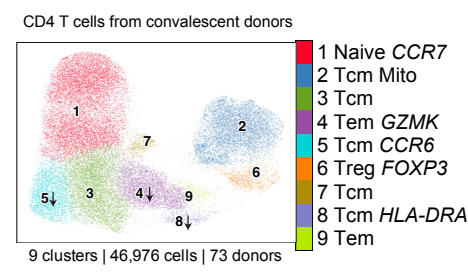


I

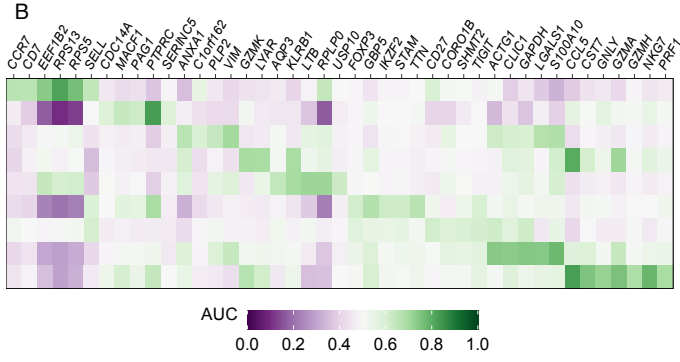
CD8 T cell TCR Clonality



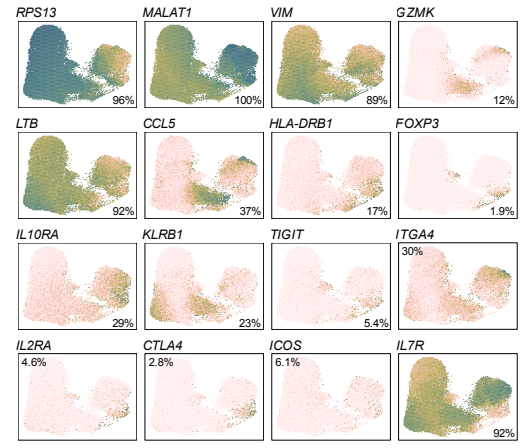
**A**



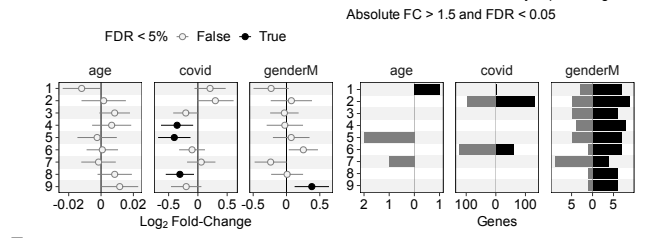
**B**



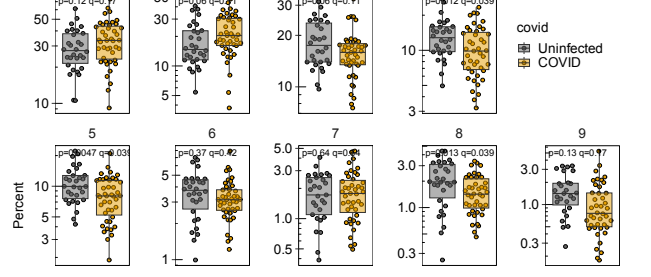
**C**



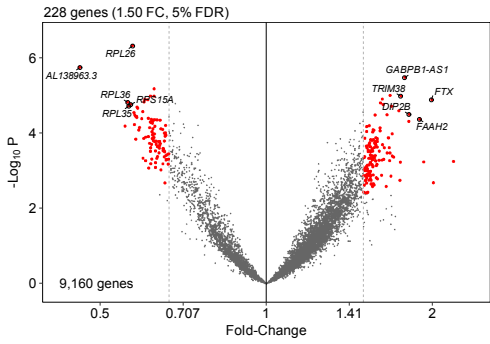
**D**



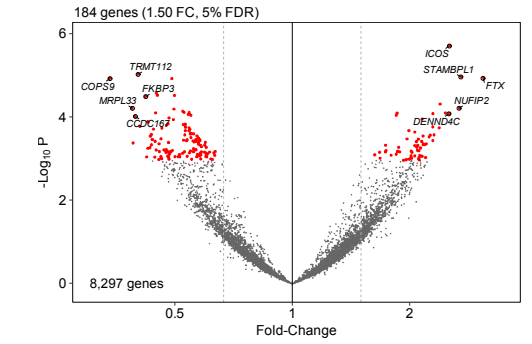
**E**



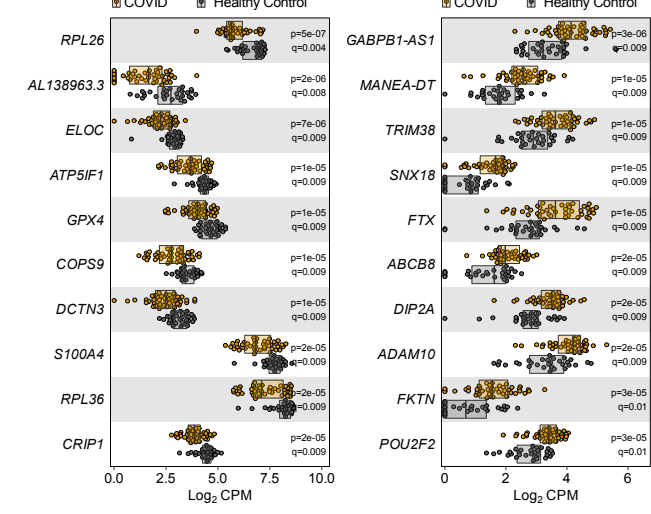
**F** CD4-2 Tcm Mito



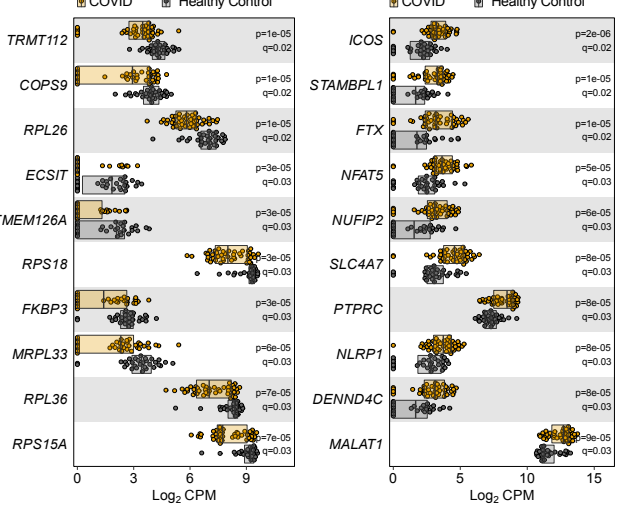
**H** CD4-6 Treg



**G**



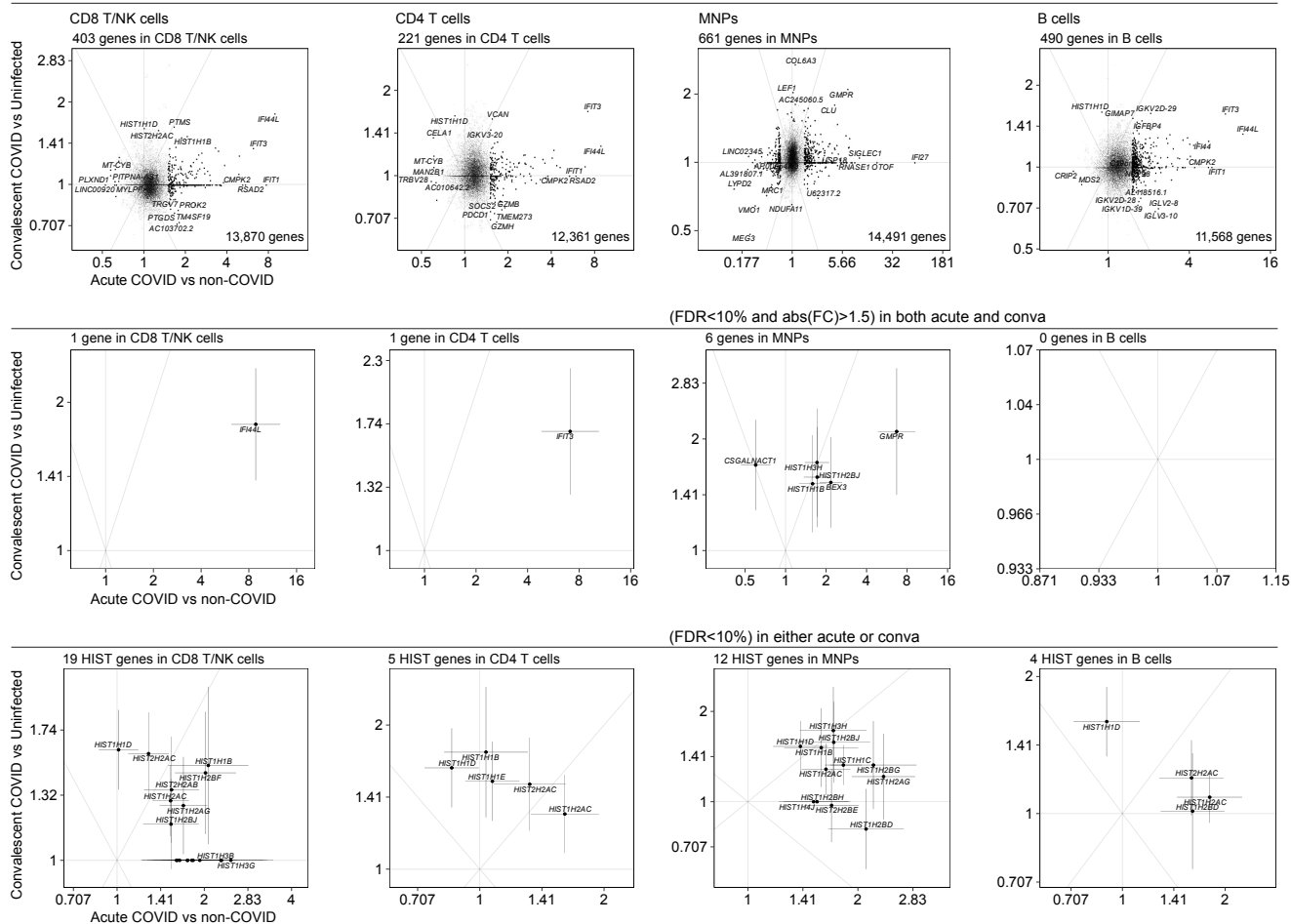
**I**



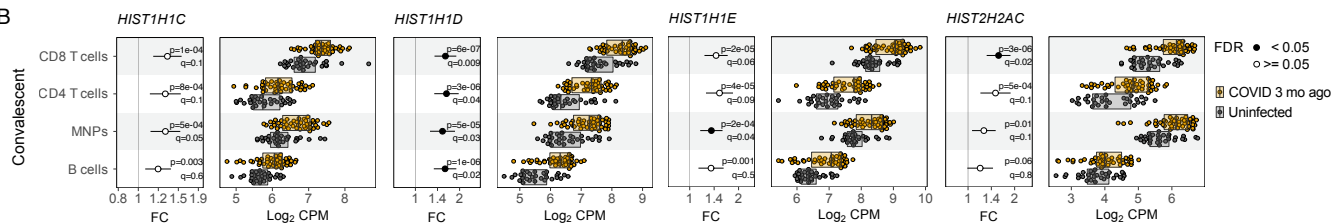




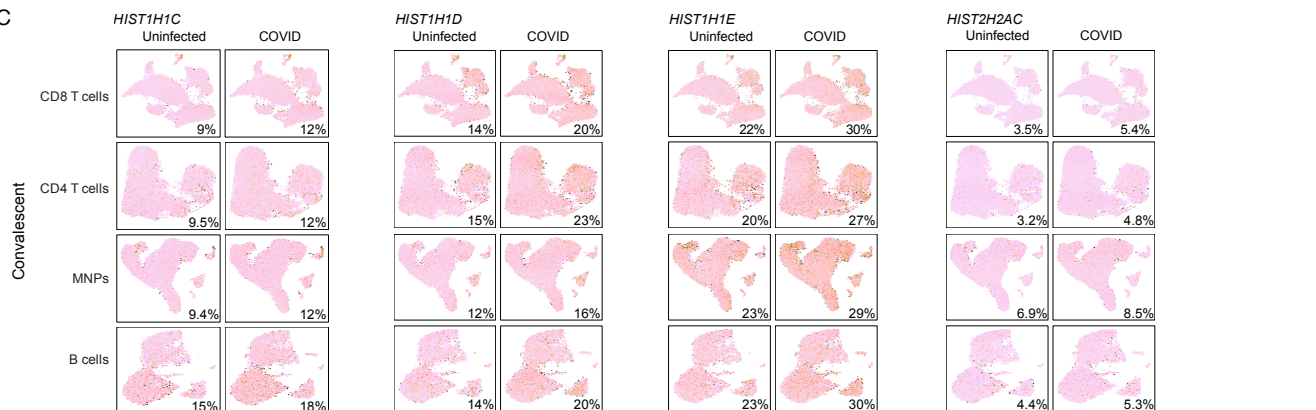
A



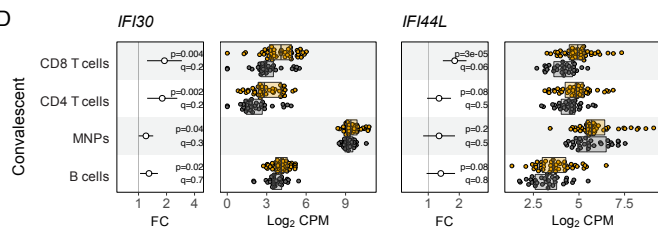
B



C



D



E

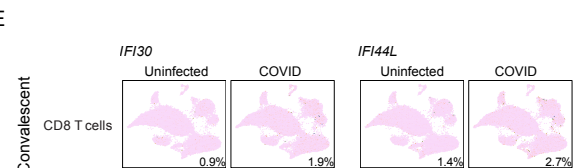


Figure S22

	Acute COVID-19 Severity		Tocilizumab		Convalescence	
	Cell states	Gene programs	Cell states	Gene programs	Cell states	Gene programs
Myeloid cells	↑ CD14 ( <i>S100A12</i> ) ↓ CD14 HLA ↓ cDC	↑ <i>CLU, THBS1, METTL7B, CYP19A1</i> ↓ HLA genes	↓ ISG cells ↓ <i>S100A12</i> cells	↓ <i>CLU, THBS1, METTL7B, CYP19A1</i> ↑ HLA genes		↑ <i>HIST1H1{B,C,D}, HIST2H2AC</i> ↑ GSR in CD14
CD8 T/NK cells	↑ NK ( <i>NEAT1</i> ) ↑ gdT ↓ Naive ( <i>NOSIP</i> )	↑ Unproductive TCR ↑ <i>AREG, DDIT4</i> ↑ <i>KIR2DL4, HAVCR2</i> ↓ <i>IL23A</i> ↓ All TCR genes		↑ <i>CERNA1, KIF2C, SLC35G1, SLC25A10</i>	↑ gdT	↑ <i>IFI44L</i> ↑ <i>HIST1H1{B,C,D}, HIST2H2AC</i>
CD4 T cells	↓ Cytotoxic ( <i>GZMK</i> )	↑ <i>AREG, DDIT4</i> ↑ <i>CH25H</i> ↓ <i>IL16</i> ↓ All TCR genes		↑ <i>HIST1H1A, CCR3, FAM167B</i>	↓ Cytotoxic ( <i>GZMK</i> )	↑ <i>HIST1H1{B,C,D}, HIST2H2AC</i> ↑ <i>ICOS</i> in Tregs
B cells	↑ Memory ( <i>EMP3</i> )	↑ <i>HLA-DQA2, IL6, NR4A2, NR4A3, TOX</i> ↓ All BCR genes				↑ <i>HIST1H1D</i>

Other factors associated with acute COVID-19 severity:

age; viral load; HLA-DQB1 alleles; autoantibodies (IFN alpha, IL1a, PDC\_e2)