

Induced pluripotent stem cell-derived dendritic cell vaccine therapy genetically modified on the ubiquitin-proteasome system

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15

16 Short running head: iPS-DC therapy using Ub-PS system

17

18

1 **Abstract**

2 We previously reported that dendritic cells (DCs) transduced with the full-length tumor-
3 associated antigen (TAA) gene induced TAA-specific cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTLs)
4 to elicit antitumor responses. To overcome the issue of quantity and quality of DCs
5 required for DC vaccine therapy, we focused on induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs)
6 as a new tool for obtaining DCs and reported efficacy of iPSCs-derived DCs (iPSDCs).
7 However, in clinical application of iPSDC vaccine therapy, further enhancement of the
8 antitumor effect is necessary. In this study, we targeted mesothelin (MSLN) as a
9 potentially useful TAA, and focused on the ubiquitin-proteasome system to enhance
10 antigen-presenting ability of iPSDCs. The CTLs induced by iPSDCs transduced with
11 MSLN gene (iPSDCs-MSLN) from healthy donors showed cytotoxic activity against
12 autologous lymphoblastoid cells (LCLs) expressing MSLN (LCLs-MSLN). The CTLs
13 induced by iPSDCs transduced ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene exhibited higher cytotoxic
14 activity against LCLs-MSLN than the CTLs induced by iPSDCs-MSLN. The current
15 study was designed that peripheral T-cell tolerance to MSLN could be overcome by the
16 immunization of genetically modified iPSDCs simultaneously expressing ubiquitin and
17 MSLN, leading to a strong cytotoxicity against tumors endogenously expressing
18 MSLN. Therefore, this strategy may be promising for clinical application as an effective

1 cancer vaccine therapy.

2

3 **Introduction**

4 Dendritic cells (DCs) are the most potent professional antigen-presenting cells. The
5 presentation of peptides generated by the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway on MHC class I
6 molecules, known as cross-presentation, is essential for the initiation of antigen-specific
7 CD8⁺ T cells responses [1]. The cross-presentation is an extremely useful feature for
8 antitumor immune responses. We previously reported that DCs transduced with the full-
9 length tumor-associated antigen (TAA) gene induced TAA-specific cytotoxic T
10 lymphocytes (CTLs) to elicit antitumor responses [2-5]. However, the DC vaccine
11 therapy has not reached breakthrough in the cancer treatment, it requires a large quantity
12 of DCs generated from peripheral blood monocytes of patients with cancer. Frequent
13 apheresis must be performed, which is burdensome upon such patients [6]. Moreover,
14 the function of DCs such as maturation, antigen-presenting ability, and migration is
15 diminished in patients with cancer [7]. To overcome these problems of DC vaccine
16 therapy, we focused on induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) as a new tool for
17 obtaining DCs. Several reports have highlighted methods for differentiating DCs from
18 iPSCs (iPSDCs) in mouse and human studies [8-12]. Our previous study reported that

1 mouse iPSDCs transduced with TAA gene have a capacity for TAA-specific antitumor
2 immunity equal to that of bone marrow-derived DCs [13]. In another study, we reported
3 that iPSDCs transduced with carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) gene have the capacity
4 for CEA-specific antitumor immunity in our mouse and human models [14].
5 Furthermore, *in vitro* CTLs obtained by transfecting tumor-derived RNA into iPSDCs
6 from patients with colorectal cancer showed potent tumor-specific killing effect [15].
7 However, we have not been able to create an iPSDC vaccine that exerts a strong
8 antitumor effect. In clinical application of iPSDC vaccine therapy, further enhancement
9 of the antitumor effect is necessary.

10 In the current study, we targeted mesothelin (MSLN) as a potentially useful TAA,
11 and focused upon the ubiquitin-proteasome system to enhance antigen-presenting ability
12 of iPSDCs. MSLN is a CA125 (Carbohydrate Antigen 125)-binding protein. CA125
13 might contribute to the peritoneal metastasis of ovarian cancer by initiating cell
14 attachment to the mesothelial epithelium via binding to MSLN [16]. Co-expression of
15 MSLN and MUC16 (Mucin16, CA125) is related to the invasion process in pancreatic
16 ductal adenocarcinoma [17]. MSLN is a predictive factor for peritoneal recurrence and
17 correlated with poor outcomes in gastric cancer [18]. MSLN is known as an attractive
18 target for cancer immunotherapy, owing to its low expression on normal mesothelial

1 cells and high expression in several solid tumors including gastrointestinal tumors [19].
2 For cancer immunotherapy targeting MSLN, there are reports of dendritic cell vaccine
3 [5], a peptide vaccine [20] [21], and a DNA vaccine [22] in basic research. Miyazawa et
4 al. reported that CTLs induced by monocytes-derived DCs (MoDCs) transfected with
5 whole MSLN gene elicited MSLN-specific cytotoxicity against pancreatic cancer cell
6 line[5]. In clinical practice, phase I/II trials of antibody therapy have been conducted
7 and some efficacy has been shown [23].

8 The ubiquitin was originally identified as the signal to target proteins for
9 proteasomal degradation [24]. The addition of a ubiquitin monomer sequence to an
10 adenoviral transgene as a source of antigen increased both *in vivo* specific CD8
11 immunogenicity and *in vitro* MHC class I-restricted presentation by DCs of the encoded
12 peptides [25]. In tumor immunity, the use of ubiquitin-fused epitopes reportedly
13 enhanced the antitumor effect in mouse DNA vaccines [26] [27] [28] and in human DC
14 vaccines [29].

15 We investigated whether genetically modified human iPSCs expressing MSLN
16 could induce MSLN-specific CTLs. Furthermore, we assessed whether the induction of
17 ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene into iPSCs enhanced the antigen-presenting ability
18 through the ubiquitin- proteasome system and whether it enhanced the cytotoxic ability

1 of CTLs.

2

3 **Materials and Methods**

4 **Cell line**

5 Autologous Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)-transfected B-lymphoblastoid cells (LCLs) were
6 generated from healthy donor peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC), as
7 previously described [3]. LCLs were cultured in RPMI-1640 medium containing 2 mM
8 L-glutamine supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 100U/mL penicillin and
9 100µg/mL streptomycin.

10 **Generation of human iPSCs**

11 iPSCs were derived from PBMCs using Cyto Tune-iPS 2.0 (ID Pharma, Tokyo, Japan).
12 PBMCs were obtained from healthy volunteers. The differentiated protocol of the
13 human iPSCs was performed as previously described [15]. Briefly, in step 1,
14 undifferentiated iPSCs were disseminated onto a 100-mm culture dish coated with
15 growth factor-reduced Matrigel (Corning, NY) in mTeSR Plus-cGMP medium
16 (Stemcell Technologies, Vancouver, BC) supplemented with 80 ng/mL rhBMP4 (R&D
17 Systems, Minneapolis, MN). In step 2, on day 4, mTeSR Plus-cGMP medium was
18 replaced with StemPro-34 serum-free medium (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham,

1 MA) containing 2 mM L-glutamine supplemented with 80 ng/mL rhVEGF (R&D
2 Systems), 25 ng/mL basic FGF (Fujifilm Wako Pure Chemical Corporation, Osaka,
3 Japan), and 100 ng/mL rhSCF (Peprotech, Cranbury, NJ). In step 3, on day 6, the
4 cytokines in StemPro-34 were changed to cytokines mixed with 50 ng/mL rhSCF, 50
5 ng/mL rhIL-3 (R&D Systems), 5 ng/mL rhTPO (Peprotech), 50 ng/mL rhM-CSF
6 (Peprotech), and 50 ng/mL rhFlt-3 ligand (Peprotech). In step 4, on day 13, the cytokine
7 in StemPro-34 were changed to cytokines mixed with 50 ng/mL rhM-CSF, 25 ng/mL
8 rhGM-CSF (Peprotech), and 50 ng/mL rhFlt3 ligand. CD14 positive monocytic lineage
9 cells were sorted using an autoMACS Pro Separator with CD14 MicroBeads, human
10 (Miltenyi Biotec GmbH, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany) on days 16 to 28. In step 5, 1.5
11 $\times 10^6$ CD14 positive monocytic cells/well in 6-well Ultra-Low Attachment Surface
12 plates (Corning) were cultured in the StemPro-34 medium containing 25 ng/mL rhGM-
13 CSF and 40 ng/mL rhIL-4 (R&D Systems) for five days for differentiation into
14 immature iPSDCs.

15 **Recombinant adenoviral vector construction and gene transfer into DCs**

16 The recombinant adenoviral vector AxCAMSLN, encoding MSLN, was generated by
17 the cosmid-terminal protein complex (COS-TPC) method, as previously described [5].
18 AxCALacZ, encoding β -gal, was also generated by the COS-TPC method. The

1 ubiquitin gene was amplified by PCR from PBMC genomic DNA, using the 5' primer
2 (5' AGT CCG CTA GCC GCC ACC ATG CAG ATC TTC GTG AAG ACC 3') and the
3 3' primer (5' TAG TCC GTC GAC GTA TTT AAA TCG ACC CCC CCT CAA GCG
4 CAG GAC 3'). The 5' primer contained *Nhe I* restriction site, the *Kozak* sequence
5 (CGCCACC), and the ATG start codon. The 3' primer added an arginine to the N
6 terminal extremity of ubiquitin protein and contained *Swa I* restriction site [25] [28].
7 The monomer ubiquitin cDNA was inserted into the cosmid vector pAxCAwt to yield
8 the ubiquitin-expressing recombinant cosmid. The MSLN gene was inserted into the
9 *Swa I* restriction site to prepare the ubiquitin-MSLN gene expression recombinant
10 cosmid. AxCAubiquitin-MSLN, encoding ubiquitin-MSLN, was generated by the COS-
11 TPC method (Fig. 1). Immature DCs were transfected with each recombinant adenoviral
12 vector using the centrifugal method at 100 multiplicity of infection (MOI) [2] [4]. The
13 genetically modified DCs were placed at 1.5×10^6 cells/well in 6-well Ultra-Low
14 Attachment Surface plate in the presence of 100 ng/mL rhIL-6, 10ng/mL rhIL-1 β , 10
15 ng/mL rhTNF- α , and 1 μ g/mL PGE2 to induce final maturation for 48 hours [14].

16 **Immunohistochemistry for MSLN**

17 MSLN protein expression was examined by immunohistochemical staining in MSLN
18 cDNA-transduced iPSDCs and ubiquitin-MSLN combined cDNA-transduced iPSDCs.

1 iPSDCs were collected using Smear Gell (GenoStaff, Tokyo, Japan). The endogenous
2 peroxidase activity was suppressed by a solution of 0.3% hydrogen peroxide in
3 methanol for 30 min. After being rinsed in Tris-buffered saline (TBS), the sections were
4 incubated with a blocking reagent; Protein block (Dako, Kyoto, Japan) for 20 min at
5 room temperature. The sections were incubated for 30 min at room temperature with the
6 primary antibody, a 1:1500 dilution of an anti-human MSLN monoclonal antibody
7 (EPR19025-42, Abcam, Cambridge, UK). After rinsing in TBS, the primary antibody
8 was visualized using anti-rabbit antibody (Dako) for 60 min at room temperature, and
9 DAB kit (Nichirei, Tokyo, Japan).

10 **Induction of MSLN-specific CTLs from PBMCs and MSLN pentamer assay**

11 Autologous PBMCs from healthy donors were used as responder cells. MSLN cDNA-
12 transduced iPSDCs (iPSDCs-MSLN), LacZ cDNA-transduced iPSDCs (iPSDCs-LacZ),
13 and ubiquitin-MSLN fusion cDNA-transduced iPSDCs (iPSDCs-UbMSLN) were used
14 as stimulator cells. On day 0, a total of 4×10^6 responder cells and 2×10^5 stimulator
15 cells were mixed in AIM-V medium containing 10 ng/mL rhIL-7 and cultured in 24-
16 well Ultra-Low Attachment Surface plate at a total volume of 1mL/well. On day 2,
17 AIM-V medium containing 20U/mL of rhIL-2 was added at total volume of 2 mL/well.
18 On days 7 and 14, the cultures were re-stimulated with stimulator cells at a ratio 20:1.

1 AIM-V medium containing 20U/mL of rhIL-2 was added every 2-3 days. After three
2 cycles of re-stimulation, CD8⁺ cells as CTLs were sorted from the stimulated PBMCs
3 on day 21 using an autoMACS Pro Separator. The CTLs were stained with the PE-
4 labelled pentamers of HLA-A2-binding MSLN epitope peptides, SLLFLLFSL (A2₍₂₀₋
5 28)) and VLPLTVAEV (A2₍₅₃₀₋₅₃₈₎) respectively (ProImmune, Oxford, UK) in
6 combination with FITC-conjugated anti-CD8 antibody (Becton Dickinson), and
7 analyzed using flow cytometry.

8 **Cytotoxicity assay**

9 The cytotoxic activity was analyzed using a 4h ⁵¹Cr release assay. The protocol of a 4h
10 ⁵¹Cr release assay was modified from a previously established protocol [2]. Briefly, the
11 target cells were labeled with ⁵¹Cr for 1 hour. The target cells were plated at a
12 concentration of 1 × 10³ cells/well with 4 × 10⁴/well unlabeled K562 cells and CTLs as
13 effector cells at various E/T ratio at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ atmosphere for 4 hours. The
14 supernatant was collected and measured for released ⁵¹Cr. MSLN cDNA-transduced
15 LCLs and Lac-Z cDNA-transduced LCLs were used as target cells. MSLN peptides that
16 were HLA-A24 or HLA-A2 restricted CTL epitope, as previously described [20] [30],
17 were synthesized and purified to >95% purity (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO). HLA-
18 A24-binding MSLN epitope peptides, AFYPGYLCSL (A24₍₄₄₂₋₄₅₁₎), FYPGYLCSL

1 (A24₍₄₃₅₋₄₄₃₎), LYPKARLAF (A24₍₄₇₅₋₄₈₃₎), and HLA-A2-binding MSLN epitope
2 peptides, SLLFLLFSL (A2₍₂₀₋₂₈₎), VLPLTVAEV (A2₍₅₃₀₋₅₃₈₎) were synthesized for the
3 experiments. LCLs pulsed with these MSLN epitope peptides were also used as target
4 cells.

5 **Flow cytometric analysis**

6 PE-conjugated anti-human CD11c (Becton Dickinson) was used for monocyte-derived
7 DCs (MoDCs) and iPSDCs staining. Intracellular staining with an anti-human MSLN
8 monoclonal antibody (EPR19025-42, Abcam) and Alexa Fluor 488 conjugated goat
9 anti-rabbit IgG antibody (Abcam) was performed using a Fixation and Permeabilization
10 Solution Kit (Becton Dickinson).

11

12 **Results**

13 **Expression of MSLN in genetically modified DCs**

14 Immature DCs were transduced with recombinant adenoviral vector by centrifugal
15 method at 100 MOI. The genetically modified DCs were analyzed using intracellular
16 MSLN-staining flow cytometry to compare the transfection efficiency of the MSLN
17 gene between MoDCs-MSLN and iPSDCs-MSLN. The percentage of positively stained
18 cells among the MoDCs and iPSDCs was 83% and 84%, respectively (Fig. 2a).

1 **Cytotoxic activity of CTLs induced by MoDCs-MSLN and iPSCs-MSLN**

2 CTLs induced by MoDCs-MSLN from healthy donors 1, 2, and 3 showed cytotoxic
3 activity against autologous LCL-MSLN. CTLs induced by iPSCs-MSLN from healthy
4 donor A, B, and C also showed comparable cytotoxic activity against autologous LCL-
5 MSLN (Fig. 2b).

6 **MHC class 1-restricted MSLN-specific CTLs response by iPSCs-MSLN**

7 To investigate whether CTLs recognize MSLN-derived epitope peptides restricted to the
8 HLA-A types, the cytotoxic activity of CTLs against MSLN epitope peptide-pulsed
9 LCLs was examined. CTLs induced by iPSCs-MSLN from the HLA-A2/A24-positive
10 donor (donors A and B) showed cytotoxic activity against LCLs pulsed with the HLA-
11 A2 binding MSLN peptides, A2₍₂₀₋₂₈₎, A2₍₅₃₀₋₅₃₈₎, and the HLA-A24 binding MSLN
12 peptides, A24₍₄₄₂₋₄₅₁₎, A24₍₄₃₅₋₄₄₃₎, A24₍₄₇₅₋₄₈₃₎. CTLs induced by iPSCs-MSLN from
13 the HLA-A2/A24-positive donor (donor C) showed cytotoxic activity against LCLs
14 pulsed with the HLA-A2 binding MSLN peptides, A2₍₂₀₋₂₈₎, A2₍₅₃₀₋₅₃₈₎, and no cytotoxic
15 activity against LCLs pulsed with the HLA-A24 binding MSLN peptides. These CTLs
16 showed no cytotoxic activity against LCLs pulsed with HLA-A2 binding WT1 peptide
17 (Fig. 2c). These findings suggest that these genetically modified iPSCs-MSLN
18 induced an MHC class 1-restricted MSLN-specific CTLs response.

1 **Effect of DCs transduced ubiquitin and MSLN fusion gene**

2 To investigate whether MSLN protein degradation is enhanced within the DCs
3 transduced ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene, immunohistochemistry and intracellular FACS
4 were examined 48 hours after gene transfer. Cytoplasm was stained in MoDCs-MSLN,
5 whereas cytoplasm was not stained in MoDCs-UbMSLN. Cytoplasm was stained in
6 MoDCs-UbMSLN with MG132, a proteasome inhibitor. The percentage of positively
7 stained cells among the MoDCs-MSLN, MoDCs-UbMSLN, and MoDCs-UbMSLN
8 with MG132 was 56% , 2%, and 46% respectively in intracellular FACS (Fig. 3a).
9 Cytoplasm was stained in iPSDCs-MSLN, whereas cytoplasm was not stained in
10 iPSDCs-UbMSLN. Cytoplasm was stained in iPSDCs-UbMSLN with MG132. The
11 percentage of positively stained cells among the iPSDCs-MSLN, iPSDCs-UbMSLN,
12 and iPSDCs-UbMSLN with MG132 was 82% , 48%, and 64% respectively in
13 intracellular FACS (Fig. 3b).

14 **Induction of MSLN-specific CTLs from PBMCs by iPSDCs-UbMSLN and MSLN**
15 **pentamer assay**

16 To assess the possibility of iPSDCs inducing MSLN-specific CTLs, a pentamer assay
17 was performed. Of autologous PBMCs stimulated with iPSDC-LacZ, iPSDC-MSLN, or
18 iPSDC-UbMSLN, 0.07%, 1.17%, and 2.27% were stained with pentamer, respectively

1 (Fig. 3c). The population of MSLN-specific CTLs increased approximately two-fold
2 with the introduction of the Ub-MSLN fusion gene into iPSCs compared to MSLN-
3 only transgenic iPSCs.

4 **Cytotoxic activity of CTLs induced by MoDCs-UbMSLN and iPSCs-UbMSLN**

5 The CTLs induced by MoDCs-UbMSLN exhibited cytotoxic activity against LCLs-
6 MSLN , 46%, 39%, and 24% in E/T ratio 50, 25, and 12.5 respectively. Whereas the
7 CTLs induced by MoDC-MSLN exhibited cytotoxic activity against LCLs-MSLN,
8 37%, 27%, and 19% in E/T ratio 50, 25, and 12.5. The cytotoxicity of the CTLs induced
9 by MoDCs-UbMSLN were higher than the cytotoxicity of the CTLs induced by
10 MoDCs-MSLN in all E/T ratio. The CTLs induced by iPSCs-UbMSLN exhibited
11 cytotoxic activity against LCLs-MSLN , 20%, 16%, and 11% in E/T ratio 50, 25, and
12 12.5 respectively. Whereas the CTLs induced by iPSCs-MSLN exhibited cytotoxic
13 activity against LCLs-MSLN, 16%, 11%, and 6% in E/T ratio 50, 25, and 12.5. The
14 cytotoxicity of the CTLs induced by iPSCs-UbMSLN were also higher than the
15 cytotoxicity of the CTLs induced by iPSCs-MSLN in all E/T ratio (Fig. 4).

16 Experiments were performed three times to confirm the reproducibility of the results,
17 and similar results were obtained.

18

1 **Discussion**

2 Our results showed that the CTLs induced by genetically modified DCs expressing
3 MSLN could induce MSLN-specific cytotoxic activity. MSLN is the optimal cancer
4 vaccine target for many gastrointestinal cancers[5] [19] [20] [21] [22] [23]. The strategy
5 of this study using DCs-MSLN are expected to be applied to the treatment of
6 gastrointestinal cancer expressing MSLN.

7 Not only the genetically modified naïve DCs-MSLN but iPSCs-MSLN could
8 induce MSLN-specific CTLs with cytotoxic activity against autologous LCL-MSLN. In
9 addition, CTLs induced by iPSCs-MSLN also showed cytotoxic activity against
10 MSLN-specific epitope peptide pulsed LCL in the HLA-A type restricted manner. CTLs
11 induced by iPSCs transfected with whole MSLN gene were indicated to recognize
12 multiple MSLN-derived epitope peptides in an HLA-A type restricted manner. We
13 previously reported a gene-based vaccination strategy using iPSCs transduced with
14 the whole TAA gene[13] [14]. This study also clearly showed that iPSCs had a
15 capacity equal to that of naïve DCs as antigen-presenting cells.

16 In the current study, iPSCs-derived DCs were adenovirally transduced
17 simultaneously with ubiquitin gene and TAA gene, and it was examined whether the *in*
18 *vitro* CTLs immunized with these genetically modified DCs induce a strong cytotoxic

1 activity against LCLs expressing TAA in healthy volunteers. Our result showed that the
2 *in vitro* immunization of iPSDCs-Ub-MSLN elicited a more potent cytotoxic activity
3 than the *in vitro* immunization of iPSDCs-MSLN. This is the first report of production
4 of the recombinant adenovirus expressing the ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene. To ensure
5 that ubiquitin functions properly, the primers were provided with *Kozak* sequences
6 (CGCCACC) that are important during eukaryotic translation. In addition, arginine was
7 placed at the N-terminus of ubiquitin. The use of arginine as a linker enhances
8 proteolysis of the fusion gene. This is known as the N-end rule [28]. To investigate
9 whether the ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene was functioning normally, MSLN protein
10 expression in DCs was assessed by immunohistochemistry and intracellular FACS. In
11 the DCs transduced ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene, MSLN is forced into the ubiquitin-
12 proteasome system and MSLN proteolysis is enhanced because the MSLN protein is
13 thought to be expressed in a form in which ubiquitin is pre-bound to the MSLN protein.
14 As a result, MSLN protein expression in DCs-UbMSLN is thought to decrease. In
15 contrast, inhibition of proteasome function with MG132, proteasome inhibitor, did not
16 reduce MSLN protein expression in DCs-UbMSLN. The ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene
17 transfer enhanced MSLN proteolysis in DCs-UbMSLN, suggesting that proteolysis is
18 proteasome-dependent. Pentamer assay showed that increased MSLN proteolysis

1 enhanced the antigen-presenting capacity of MSLN-derived epitope peptides in DCs-
2 UbMSLN and induced more MSLN-specific CTLs. In addition, it was suggested that
3 ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene-transfected DCs may also enhance cytotoxic activity. To
4 solve the problem of insufficient cytotoxic activity of iPSCDC vaccines, it may be useful
5 to introduce ubiquitin-MSLN fusion gene into iPSCDCs.

6 In conclusion, the current study was designed that peripheral T-cell tolerance to
7 MSLN could be overcome by the immunization of genetically modified iPSCDCs
8 simultaneously expressing ubiquitin and MSLN, leading to a strong cytotoxicity against
9 tumors endogenously expressing MSLN. Therefore, this strategy may be promising for
10 clinical application as an effective cancer vaccine therapy.

11

12 **Data Availability**

13 The data are available upon reasonable request.

14

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2

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7 **Author Contributions**

8 Study concept and design: Tominaga, Miyazawa and Ojima.

9 Acquisition of data: Tominaga, Miyazawa, Maruoka, and Kitadani.

10 Drafting of the manuscript: Tominaga and Ojima.

11 Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: Yamaue.

12 Administrative, technical and material support: Maruoka, Kitadani, and Iwamoto.

13 Study supervision: Yamaue.

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19 **Ethics approval**

1 This study has been approved by the Safety Committee for Genetic Recombination
2 Experiments of this university (approval number: 2020-5). Only healthy volunteer
3 specimens were used in this study.

4

5 **Competing Interests**

6 The authors declare no competing interests.

7

8 **Figure Legends**

9 Figure 1

10 Construction of recombinant adenovirus transduced ubiquitin and MSLN fusion gene.

11

12 Figure 2

13 a) Expression of MSLN in genetically modified MoDCs and iPSCs by intracellular

14 FACS.

15 b) Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from MoDCs-MSLN (donor 1-3) and

16 iPSCs-MSLN (donor A-C) against autologous LCLs-MSLN and LCLs-LacZ as a

17 control.

18 c) Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from iPSCs-MSLN against LCLs pulsed

1 MSLN specific epitope peptides and WT1 specific peptide as a control.

2

3 Figure 3

4 a) Expression of MSLN in genetically modified MoDCs by immunohistochemistry and
5 intracellular FACS. MG132 is a proteasome inhibitor.

6 b) Expression of MSLN in genetically modified iPSDCs by immunohistochemistry and
7 intracellular FACS. MG132 is a proteasome inhibitor.

8 c) Pentamer assay of MSLN specific CTLs generated from genetically modified
9 iPSDCs.

10

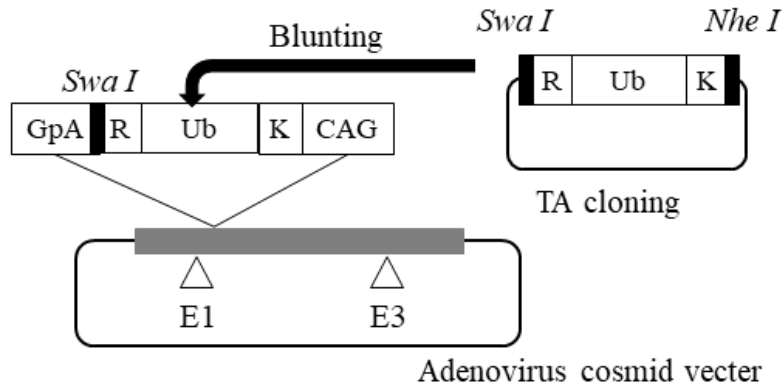
11 Figure 4

12 Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from MoDCs-MSLN and MoDCs-UbMSLN
13 against autologous LCLs-MSLN (Donor 1). Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from
14 iPSDCs-MSLN and iPSDCs-UbMSLN against autologous LCLs-MSLN (Donor A).

15

Figures

mono Ub ligation



hMSLN ligation

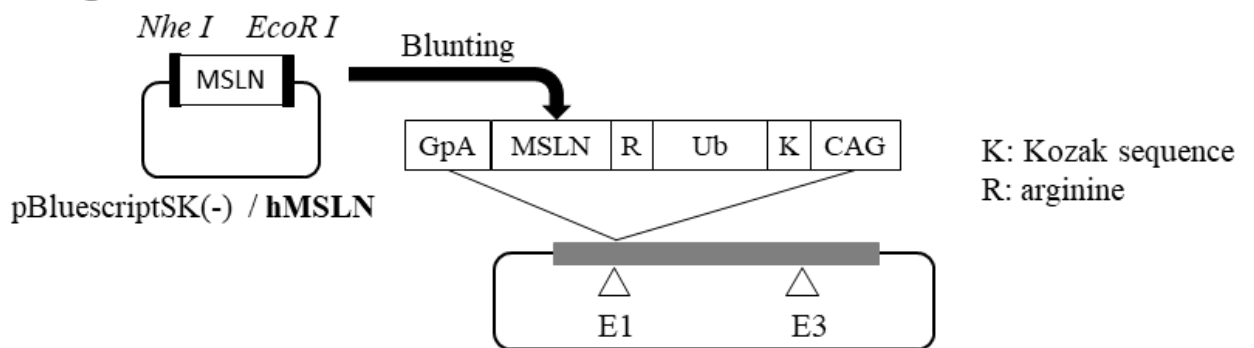


Figure 1

Figure 1

Construction of recombinant adenovirus transduced ubiquitin and MSLN fusion gene.

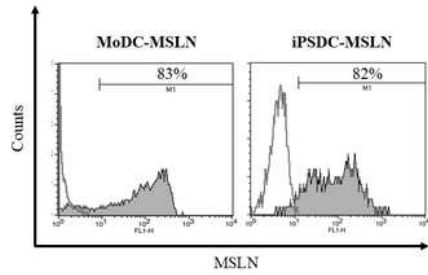


Figure 2a

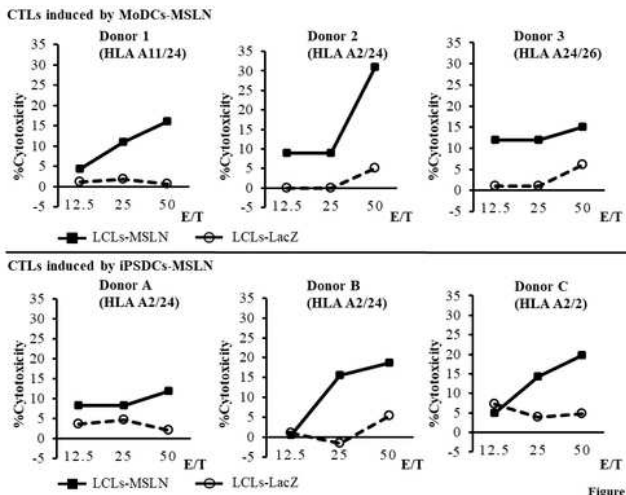


Figure 2b

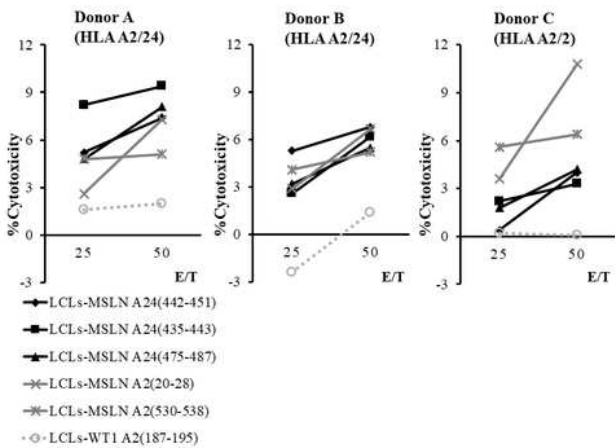


Figure 2c

Figure 2

- Expression of MSLN in genetically modified MoDCs and iPSDCs by intracellular FACS.
- Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from MoDCs-MSLN (donor 1-3) and

iPSCs-MSLN (donor A-C) against autologous LCLs-MSLN and LCLs-LacZ as a control.

c) Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from iPSCs-MSLN against LCLs pulsed MSLN specific epitope peptides and WT1 specific peptide as a control.

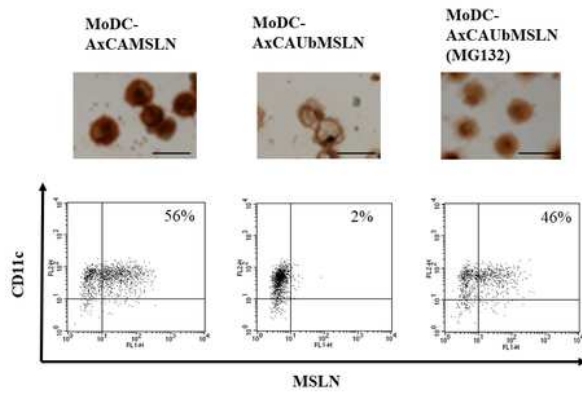


Figure 3a

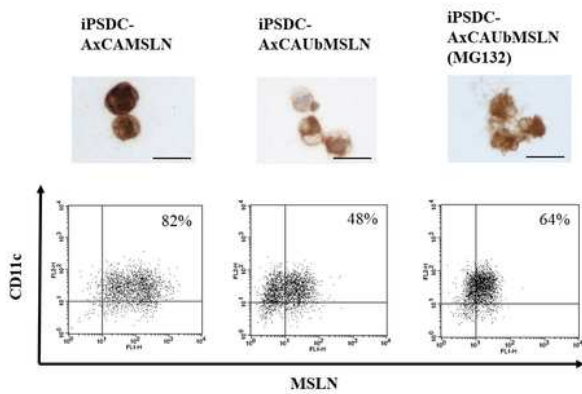


Figure 3b

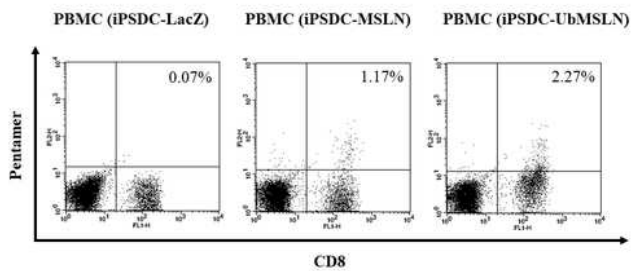


Figure 3c

Figure 3

a) Expression of MSLN in genetically modified MoDCs by immunohistochemistry and intracellular FACS. MG132 is a proteasome inhibitor.

b) Expression of MSLN in genetically modified iPSCDCs by immunohistochemistry and intracellular FACS. MG132 is a proteasome inhibitor.

c) Pentamer assay of MSLN specific CTLs generated from genetically modified iPSCDCs.

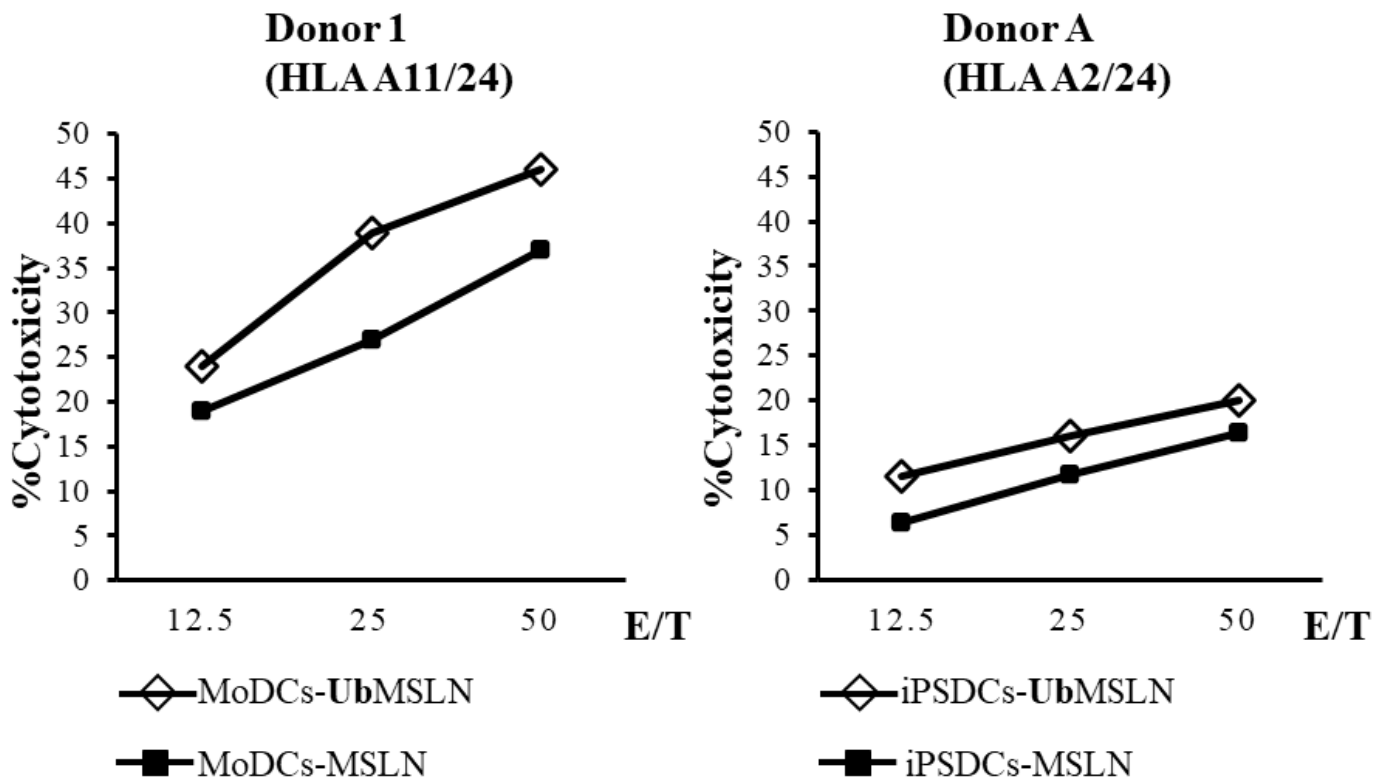


Figure 4

Figure 4

Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from MoDCs-MSLN and MoDCs-UbMSLN against autologous LCLs-MSLN (Donor 1). Cytotoxic activity of CTLs generated from iPSDCs-MSLN and iPSDCs-UbMSLN against autologous LCLs-MSLN (Donor A).