

Supplemental material

Microenvironmental Th9– and Th17– lymphocytes induce metastatic spreading in lung cancer

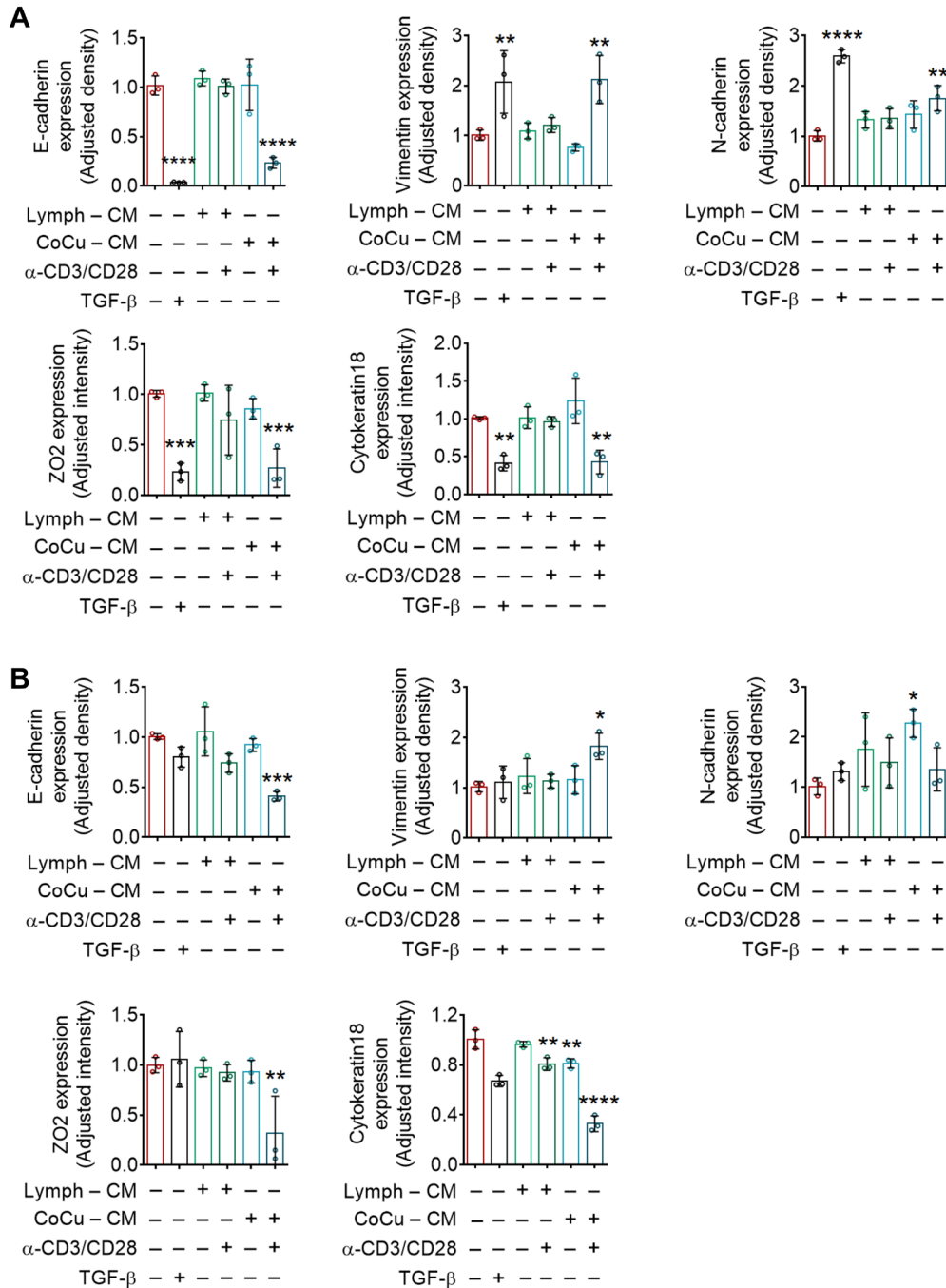
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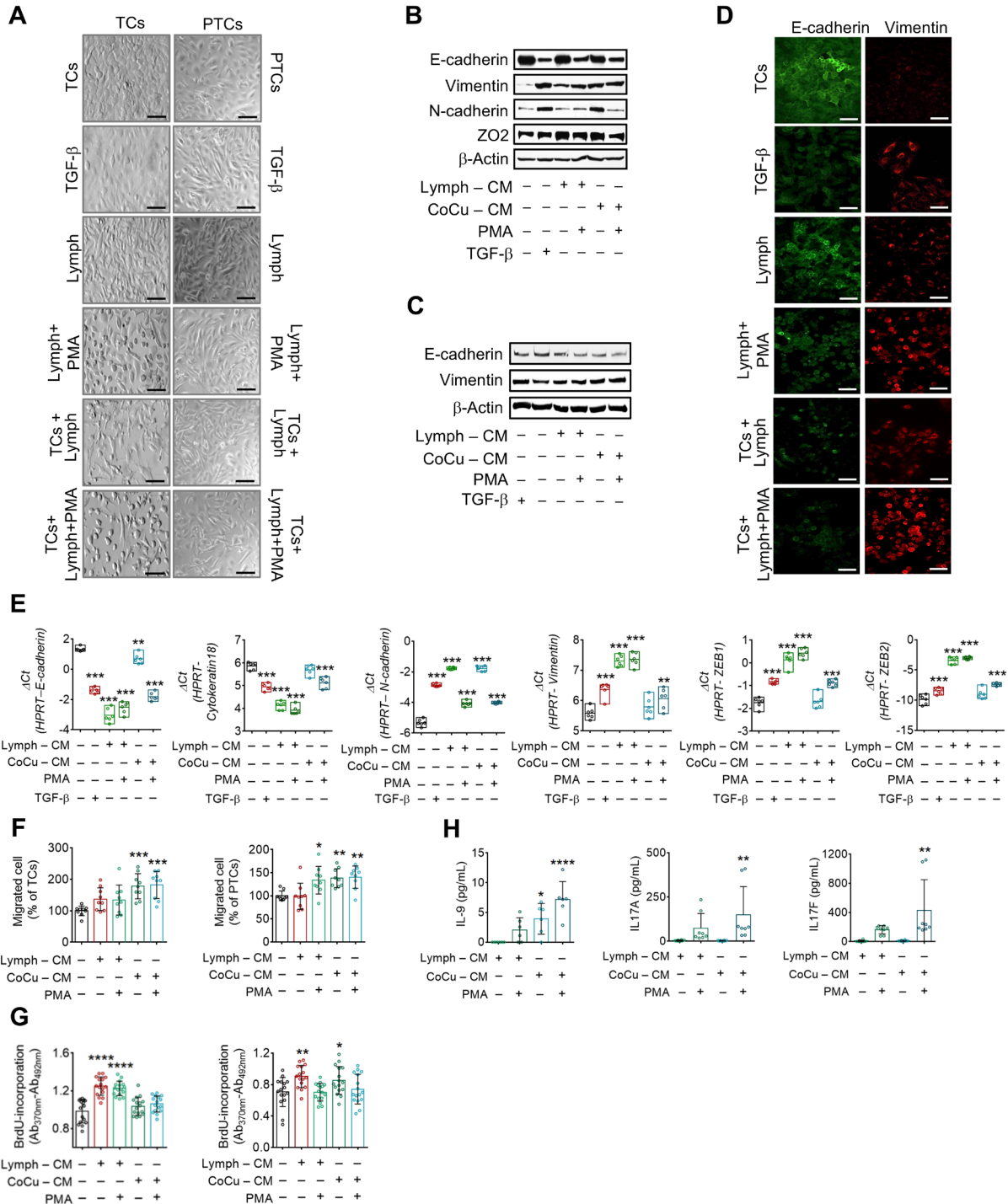
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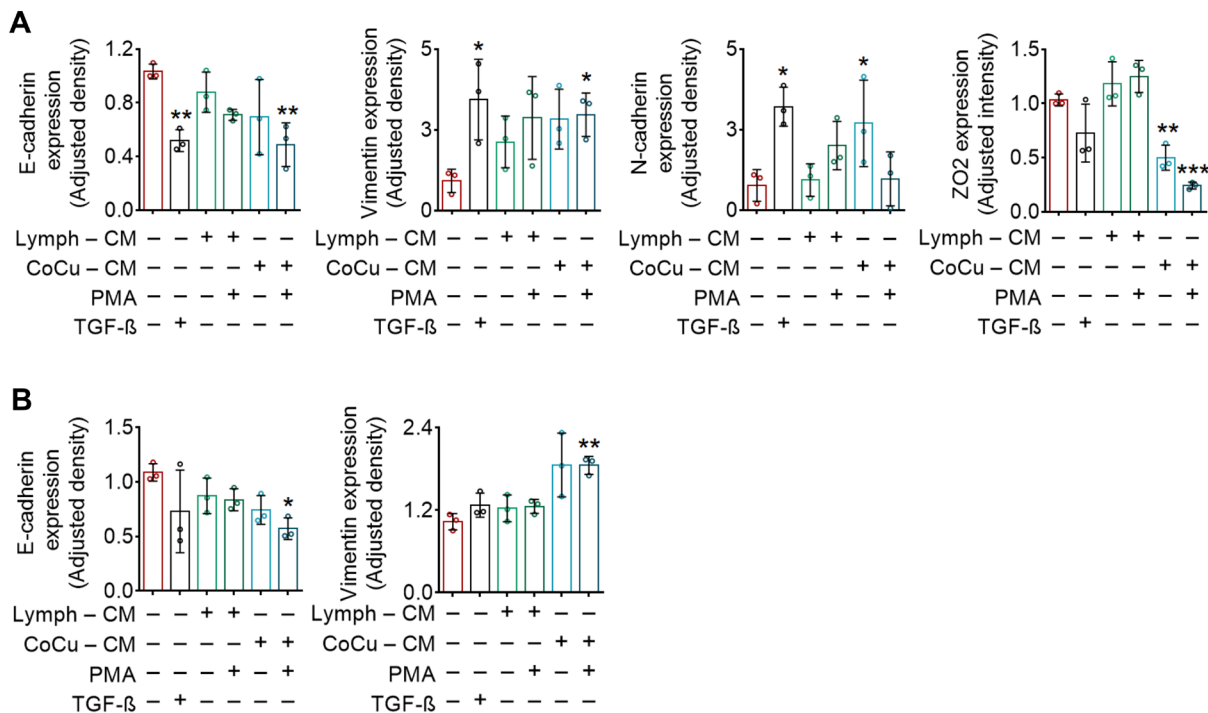
Supplementary Figure 1. Lymphocyte CM induces deregulation of EMT marker protein expression in human cancer cell lines and primary tumor cells: (A) Quantification of protein expression of EMT markers E-cadherin, Vimentin, N-cadherin, ZO2 and Cytokeratin18 after 48h stimulation of A549 cells. (B) Quantification of protein expression of EMT markers E-cadherin, Vimentin, N-cadherin, ZO2 and Cytokeratin18 after 48h stimulation of PTCs. (n = 3 donors) in

A and B **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 compared to A549 or PTCs using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.



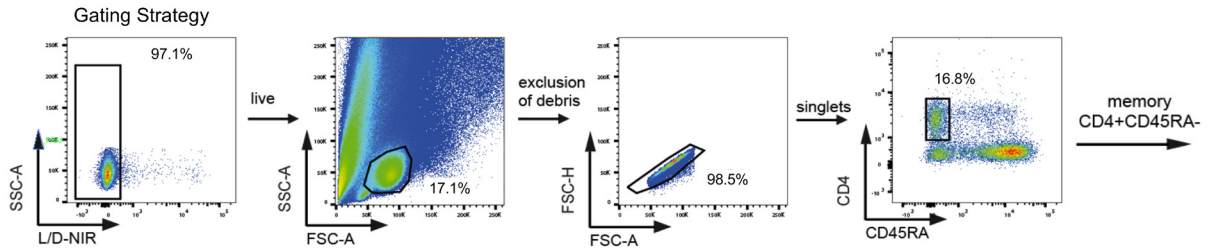
Supplementary Figure 2. PMA-activated Lymphocyte CM prompts EMT and enhances the migratory potential of human lung cancer cells: Conditioned medium (CM) of A549, primary human NSCLC cells (PTCs), Lymphocytes (Lymph -/+ PMA) or co-culture (A549+ Lymph) was

used for stimulation of A549 and PTCs to assess epithelial mesenchymal transition (EMT), migration and proliferation. (A) Representative photomicrographs depicting the morphology of tumor cells (A549 and PTCs) after 48h of stimulation with CM. (B) and (C) Western blot analysis of EMT markers (E-cadherin, Vimentin, N-cadherin and ZO2) from (B) A549 and (C) PTCs lysates after 48h stimulation with CM. (D) Immunocytochemistry of E-cadherin (green) and Vimentin (red) after 48h stimulation of A549 with CM. Scale bars: 50µm. (E) mRNA profile expression of EMT markers after 24h stimulation of A549. (n = 3 donors; 2 experimental replicates) (F) Migration and proliferation (as assessed by BrdU incorporation) of A549 after 6h and 24h of stimulation with CM, respectively. (G) Migration and proliferation (as assessed by BrdU incorporation) of PTCs after 12h and 48h of stimulation with CM respectively. (n = 3 donors 3 experimental replicates) (H) Quantitative analysis of IL-9 and IL-17A detected in CM with or without co-culture by ELISA (n=3 donors 2 experimental replicates). In E-H *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001, ****P < 0.0001 compared to A549, PTCs or Lymph-CM using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.

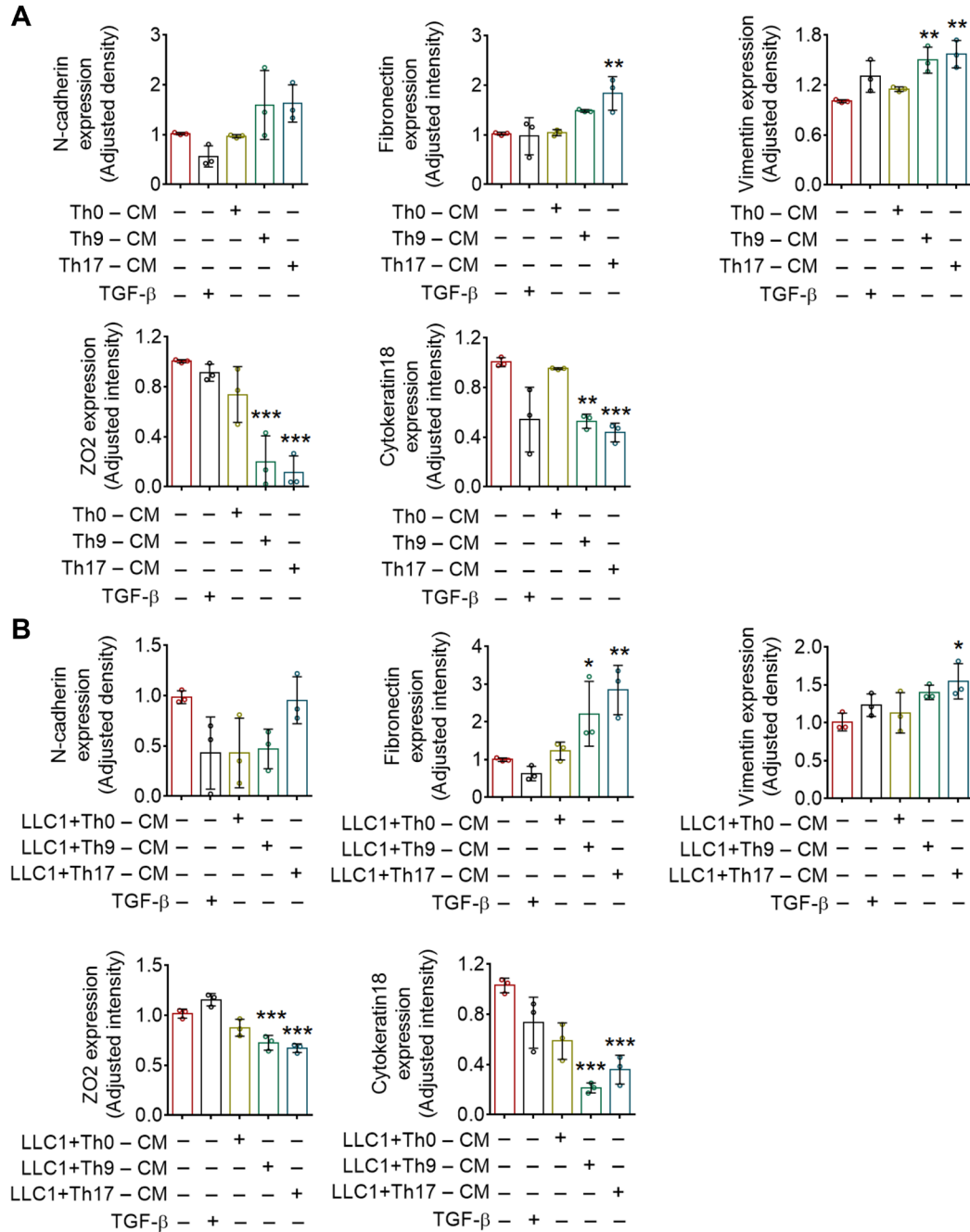


Supplementary Figure 3. Lymphocyte CM induces deregulation of EMT marker protein expression in human cancer cell lines and primary tumor cells: (A) Quantification of protein expression of EMT markers E-cadherin, Vimentin, N-cadherin and ZO2 after 48h stimulation of

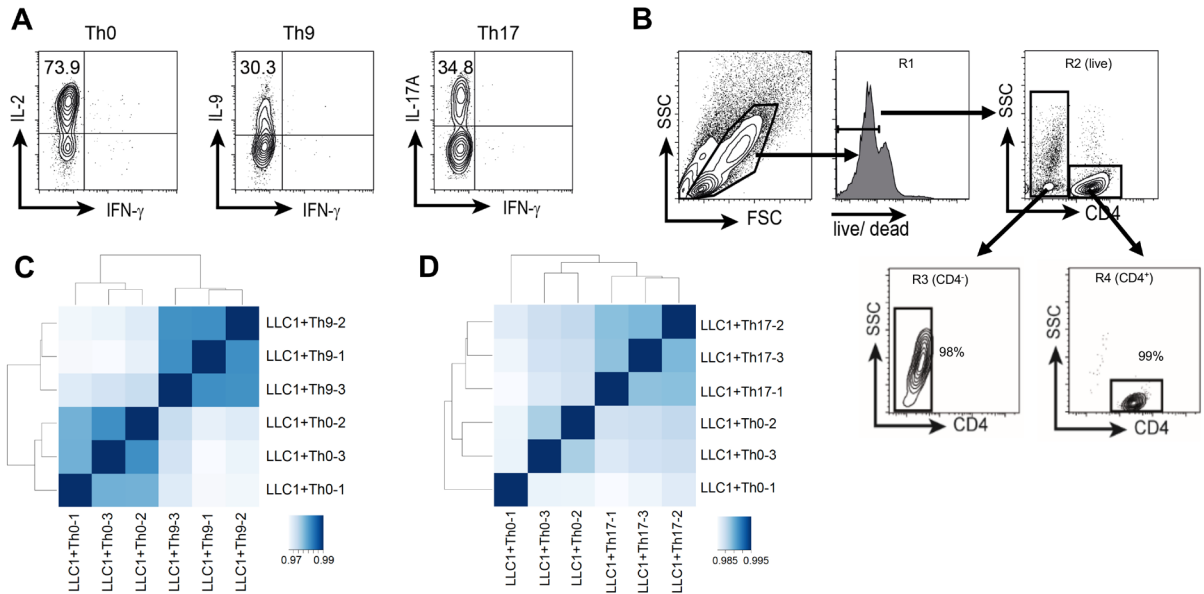
A549 cells (n = 3 donors). **(B)** Quantification of protein expression of EMT markers E-cadherin and Vimentin after 48h stimulation of PTCs (n = 3 donors). In A and B *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 compared to A549 or PTCs using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.



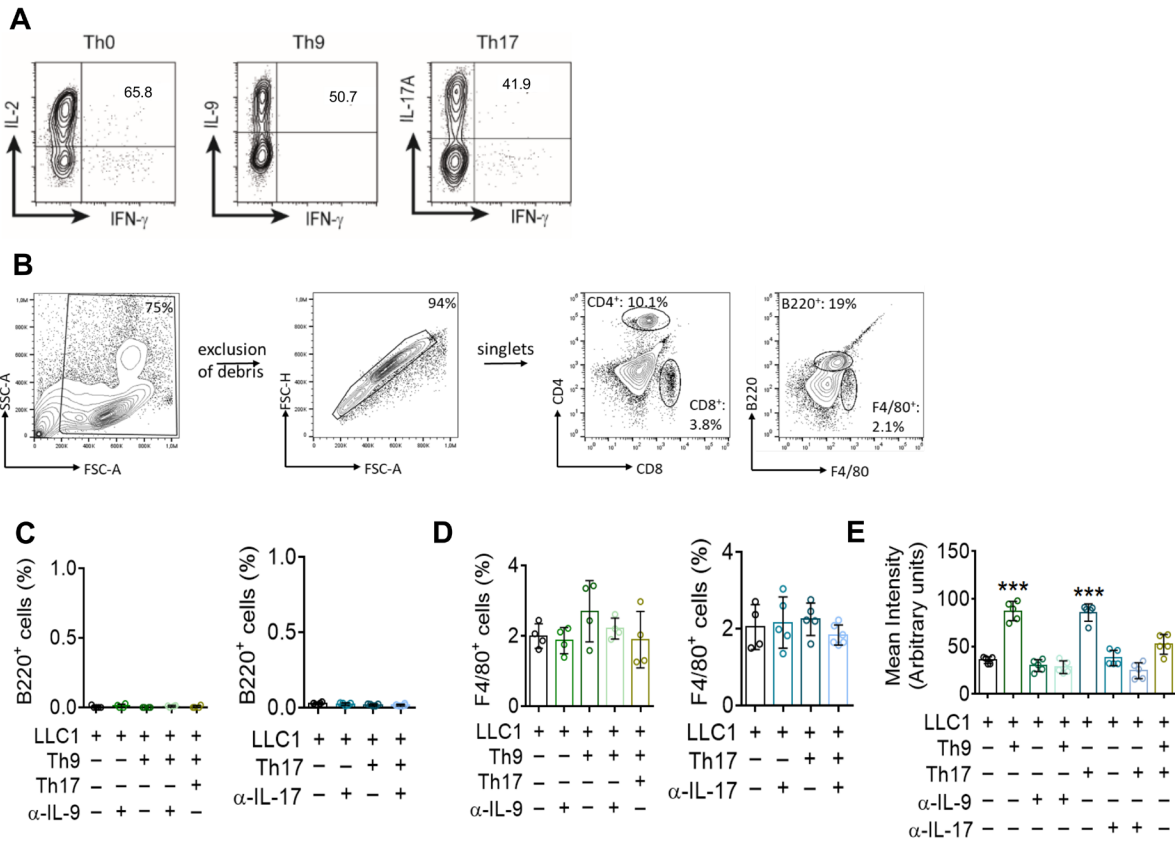
Supplementary Figure 4. Gating strategy for human memory CD4⁺ T cell subsets: Tumor was dissociated to obtain a single cell suspension, isolated immune cells were stained and acquired. Acquired cells were first gated for live/ dead staining (Zombie-NIR), then gated for exclusion of debris (FSC-A vs. SSC-A). Memory CD4⁺ cells were identified by gating of CD4⁺CD45RA⁻ cells, in which IL-9 and IL-17 were then analyzed.



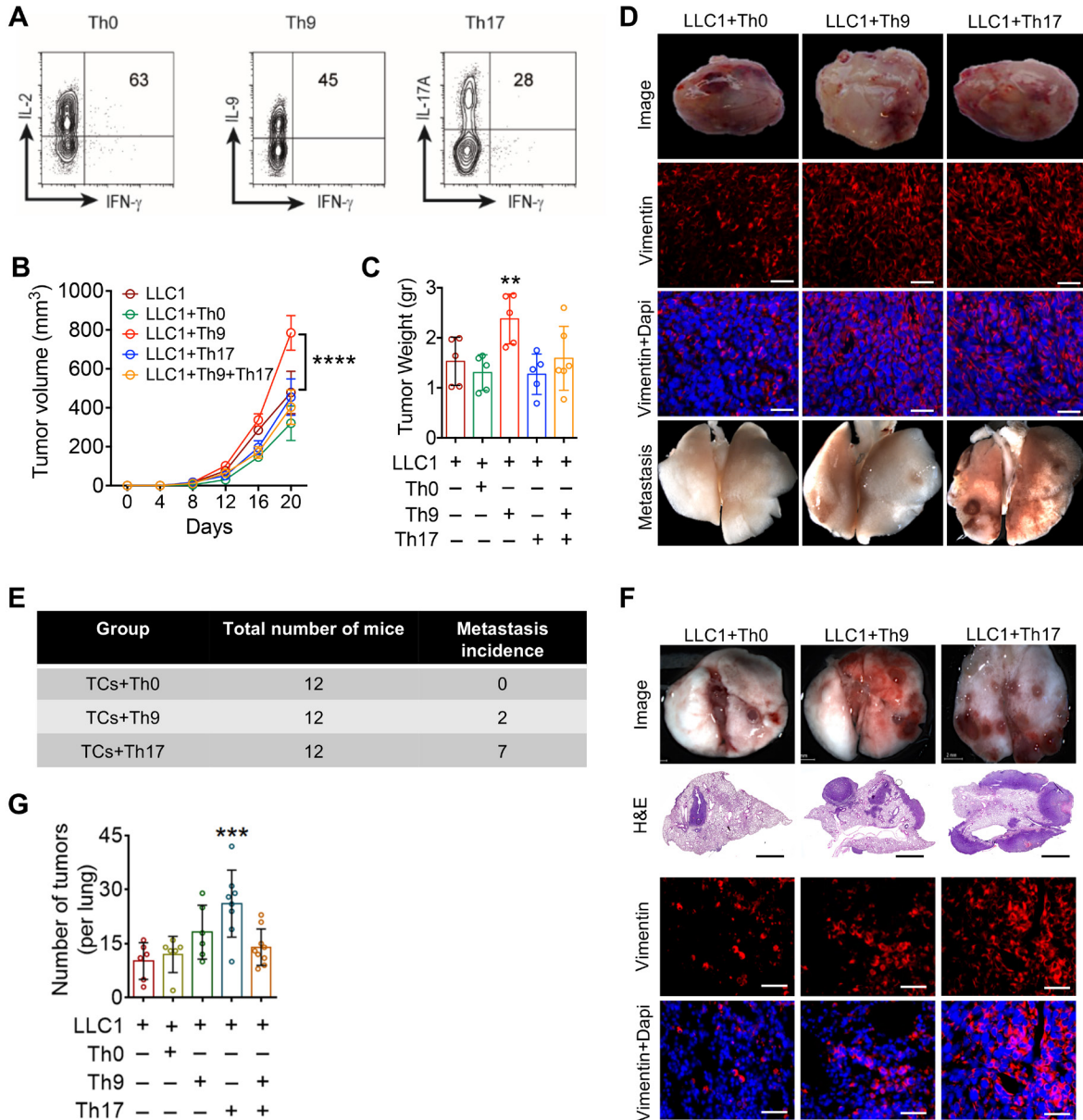
Supplementary Figure 5. CD4⁺ T-cell subtype specific CM deregulates protein expression of EMT markers: (A) Quantification of protein expression of EMT markers N-cadherin, Fibronectin, Vimentin, ZO2 and Cytokeratin18 after 48h stimulation of LLC1 cells. (B) Quantification of protein expression of EMT markers N-cadherin, Fibronectin, Vimentin, ZO2 and Cytokeratin18 after 48h stimulation of LLC1 with co-culture CM. (n = 3 donors) in A and B *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 compared to LLC1 using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.



Supplementary Figure 6. (A) Naive CD44⁻CD62L⁺CD4⁺ T cells were isolated from C57BL/6 mice and then treated with specific cytokines for 2 – 3 days in order to differentiate into Th9 (TGF- β and IL-4), Th17 (TGF- β and IL-6) or Th0 (without cytokines) cells. Differentiation was confirmed by performing analysis for cell-specific cytokines like IL-9, IL-17, IL-2 and IFN- γ by flow cytometry. (B) After 24h of co-culture, cells were sorted to remove all CD4⁺ T lymphocytes and RNA sequencing was performed on remaining LLC1 cells. (C and D) Spearman correlation of RNA-seq data displaying the similarity of replicates and conditions per experiment.

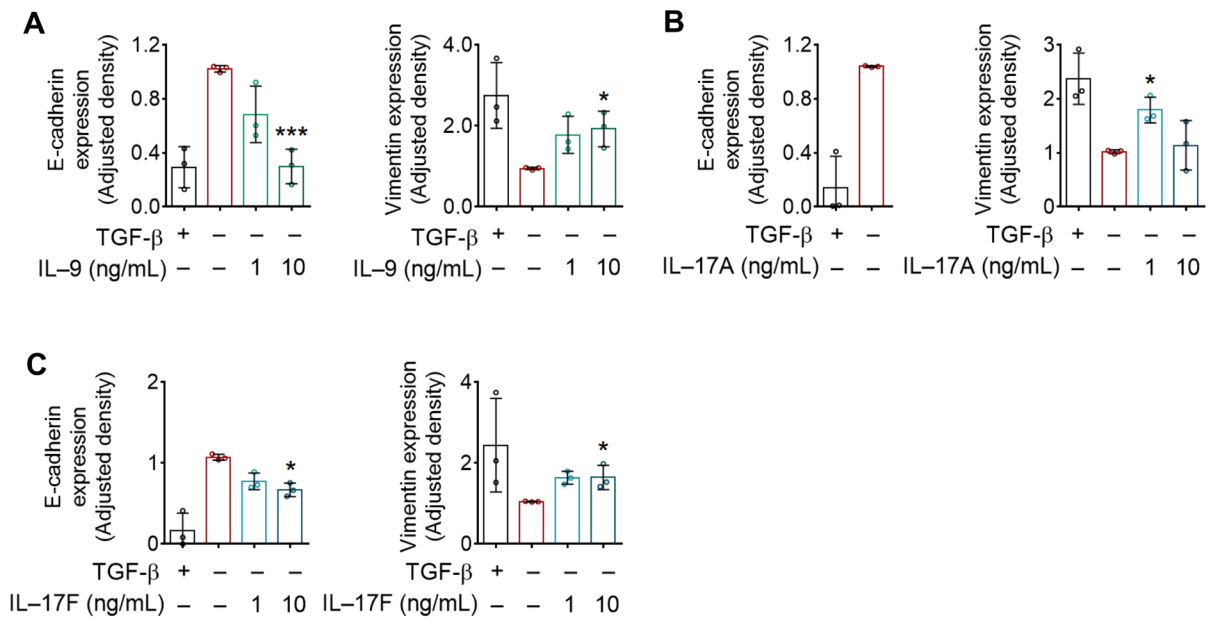


Supplementary Figure 7. Flow cytometry analysis of cytokine production by artificially generated Th0, Th9 and Th17 cells: (A) Naive CD44⁻CD62L⁺CD4⁺T cells were isolated from C57BL/6 mice and treated with specific cytokines for 2 - 3 days to differentiate into Th9 (TGF-β and IL-4), Th17 (TGF-β and IL-6) or Th0 (without skewing cytokines) cells. Differentiation was confirmed by performing analysis for cell-specific cytokines IL-2, IL-9, IL-17, and IFN-γ production by flow cytometry. (B) Flow cytometry gating strategy for analysis of the frequencies of CD4⁺, CD8⁺, B220⁺ and F4/80⁺ cells. Acquired cells were first gated for exclusion of debris (FSC-A vs. SSC-A), then on single cells (FSC-H vs. FSC-A. CD4⁺, CD8⁺, B220⁺ and F4/80⁺ cells were identified based on the expression of CD4, CD8, B220 and F4/80 markers. (C and D) FACS analysis of B cells (B220⁺) and macrophages (F40/80⁺) in lungs from treated mice after co-injection (n=4) (E) Mean intensity measurement for Vimentin from immunofluorescence staining of tumor sections (n=5). ***P < 0.001 compared to LLC1 control group using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.

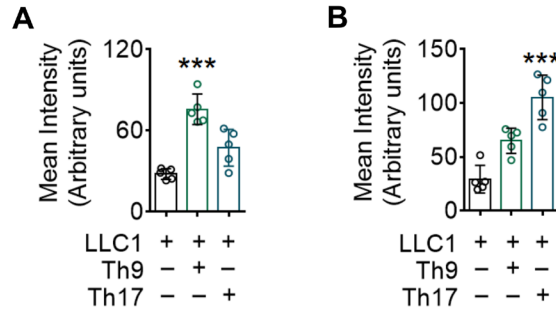


Supplementary Figure 8. Co-injection of LLC1 cells with Th9 and Th17 cells in WT mice leads to increased primary tumor growth and metastasis in vivo: (A) Naive CD44⁻CD62L⁺CD4⁺ T cells were isolated from C57BL/6 mice and then treated with specific cytokines for 2 – 3 days in order to differentiate into Th9 (TGF- β and IL-4), Th17 (TGF- β and IL-6) or Th0 (without cytokines) cells. Differentiation was confirmed by performing analysis for IL-9, IL-17, IL-2 and IFN- γ production by flow cytometry. Afterwards, Th0, Th9 or Th17 cells were co-injected with LLC1 cells into C57BL/6 mice (B–E) subcutaneously or (F–G) intravenously. (B and C) Tumor size, tumor weight of extracted tumors of co-injected groups (n=5). (D–E) Representative images of tumors, immunofluorescence staining for Vimentin (red)

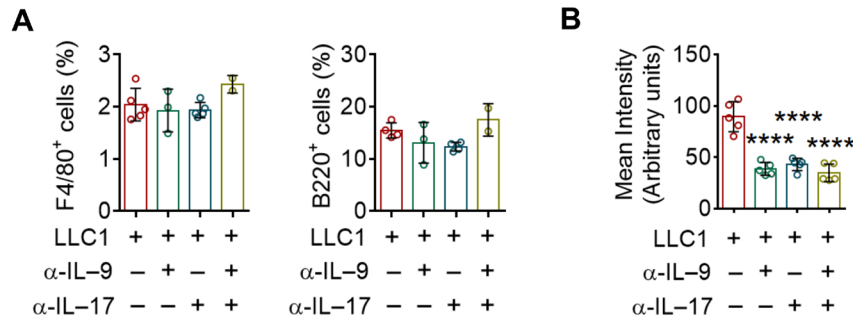
and DAPI (blue) in sections, extracted lungs and table depicting metastasis incidence. (F) Representative pictures of extracted lungs, hematoxylin & eosin (H&E) stained sections and immunofluorescence staining for Vimentin (red) and DAPI (blue) in tumor sections after intravenous co-injection of Th0, Th9 or Th17 cells with LLC1 cells. In D and F scale bars for immunofluorescence: 50 μ m. In F scale bars for H&E staining: 1.5mm. (G) Quantification of macroscopic lung tumor nodules (n = 6). **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 in B, C and G compared to LLC1 co-injection group using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.



Supplementary Figure 9. Stimulation with IL-9 and IL-17 results in decreased E-cadherin and increased Vimentin protein levels in A549 cells: (A-C) Quantification of protein expression of E-cadherin and Vimentin in A549 cells after 48h stimulation with IL-9 (A), IL-17A (B) and IL-17F (C). (n = 3 experimental replicates) in A-C **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 compared to unstimulated A549 using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.



Supplementary Figure 10. EMT marker Vimentin is increased in the tumor stroma of co-injection mice with impaired IL-9 and IL-17 signaling: (A) Mean intensity measurement for Vimentin from immunofluorescence staining of tumor sections of *Il17ra*^{-/-} mice. (B) Mean intensity measurement for Vimentin from immunofluorescence staining of tumor sections from *Il9r*^{-/-} mice. (n=5) ***P < 0.001 compared to LLC1 control group using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.



Supplementary Figure 11. Macrophages and B cells display no change after antibody treatment: (A) FACS analysis of macrophages (F40/80⁺) and B cells (B220⁺) in lungs from WT treated mice (n=2-4) (B) Mean intensity measurement for Vimentin from immunofluorescence staining of tumor sections of WT mice. (n=5) ****P < 0.0001 compared to control using one-way ANOVA Dunnett's test.