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Stem-cell-derived human microglia transplanted in mouse brain to study human disease

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1 **Stem cell derived human microglia transplanted in mouse brain to study human disease**

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19

## 20 **Abstract**

21 While genetics highlight the role of microglia in Alzheimer's disease (AD), one third of putative  
22 AD-risk genes lack adequate mouse orthologs. Here, we successfully engraft human microglia  
23 derived from embryonic stem cells in the mouse brain. The cells recapitulate transcriptionally  
24 human primary microglia *ex vivo* and show expression of human specific AD-risk genes.  
25 Oligomeric Amyloid- $\beta$  induces a divergent response in human vs. mouse microglia. This model can  
26 be used to study the role of microglia in neurological diseases.

27

## 28 **Introduction**

29 Forty-one percent of human genes lack convincing 1:1 mouse orthologs, complicating modelling  
30 diseases in mice<sup>1</sup>. We focused on 44 genome-wide significant genetic loci ( $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ ) identified  
31 by different AD GWAS studies and selected the genes nearest to the lead SNP to build a list of  
32 candidate AD-risk genes<sup>2-4</sup> (Figure 1a, Supplementary Table 1). We found that 15 of these genes  
33 lacked a clear 1:1 mouse ortholog (Figure 1b), e.g. *CRI* or *APOC*. Other genes, such as *CD33* and  
34 the *MS4A4*-cluster have many-to-many orthology with low protein sequence similarity, suggesting  
35 functional divergence. Nine additional AD-risk genes are <60% identical to their mouse ortholog<sup>1</sup>,  
36 including *TREM2*. Even the largest AD genetic risk factor, the *APOE* polymorphism, does not exist  
37 in rodents. In addition, current *in vitro* systems to model human microglia display artificially  
38 induced transcriptional signatures<sup>5</sup>, limiting their use in disease modelling.

39 Here, we investigated survival, integration and transcriptomic features of *human* microglia  
40 transplanted in mouse brain.

41

## 42 **Results**

### 43 *ESC-derived microglia survive and integrate in the mouse brain*

44 We differentiated H9 embryonic stem cell (ESC) into microglia using cytokines CSF1, IL-  
45 34, TGF- $\beta$  and CX3CL1 (Supplementary Figure 1)<sup>6</sup>, and transplanted them into the brain of *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup>  
46 *Il2r $\gamma$* <sup>-/-</sup> *hCSF1*<sup>K1</sup> mice (*hCSF1*<sup>K1</sup>) at P4<sup>7</sup>. We created a permissive environment for human microglia  
47 integration by pre-treating the neonates with Colony-Stimulating Factor 1-Receptor (CSF1R)  
48 inhibitor BLZ945<sup>8</sup>, removing an average of  $53 \pm 7\%$  of host microglia (Supplementary Figure 2).  
49 After 8 weeks, H9-microglia, representing  $9 \pm 5\%$  of the total microglial population (Extended Data

50 1), showed a mosaic distribution across multiple areas of the brain (Figure 1c and d; Extended Data  
51 2), with nearest neighbour distance<sup>9</sup> and density in transplanted areas similar to host mouse cells  
52 (n=4, Figure 1e). H9-microglia showed a complex ramified morphology and expressed homeostatic  
53 markers TMEM119 and P2RY12 (Figure 1d-g).

54

#### 55 *ESC-derived microglia mimic primary human cells at the transcriptome level*

56 We compared the single cell transcriptomic profile of 2,246 transplanted H9-microglia (*in*  
57 *vivo*) (n=3/1: 3 mice in 1 combined sequencing pool), versus 4496 H9-derived monocytes (n=2/1: 2  
58 differentiations in 1 combined sequencing pool) and 3385 microglia *in vitro* (n=2/1), and 22,846  
59 human primary microglia obtained from cortical surgical resections (n=7/7; Extended Data 3;  
60 Supplementary Table 2; online Methods and Reporting Summary). We excluded B- and NK/T-cells  
61 (316), oligodendrocytes (1159), cycling cells (60), and doublets (172) (Figure 2a-c, Extended Data  
62 3). Using Seurat, we defined 6 main clusters named *In vitro*-1 Monocytes (MNC), *In vitro*-2  
63 Microglia (MG), *In vivo*-Homeostatic Microglia (HM), Cytokine Response Microglia (CRM),  
64 CNS-Associated Macrophages (CAM)<sup>10</sup>, and Neutrophils (N $\phi$ ) (Figure 2a; Extended Data 3), based  
65 on experimental data<sup>11</sup> and meta-analysis from microglial transcriptional profiles<sup>12</sup>. CRM represents  
66 a novel cluster and is defined by an upregulation of genes encoding cytokines/chemokines  
67 (Extended Data 3; Supplementary Table 3). More than 97% of the *in vitro* derived H9-monocytes  
68 and microglia were present in *In vitro* clusters (Figure 2a-c), whereas 79% primary microglia  
69 isolated from human brain and 60% of transplanted H9-microglia distributed into the *In vivo*-HM  
70 cluster (Figure 2a-c; Extended Data 3d and e). A smaller percentage (13%) of primary compared to  
71 H9 transplanted microglia (35%) were present in the *In vitro* clusters. In addition, some cells  
72 showed a CNS-associated macrophage (CAM) expression profile (Figure 2a and e).  
73 Immunohistochemistry and *in situ* hybridization confirmed that CAM cells were in proximity to  
74 blood vessels and expressed the perivascular macrophage marker *MRC1* (Figure 2e, lower panels).  
75 The engrafted H9 cells expressed the microglia markers *CX3CR1* and *P2RY12* (Figure 2e, upper  
76 panels).

77 Direct comparison between experimental groups revealed that *in vitro* monocytes/microglia  
78 displayed >300 differentially expressed genes (logFC>0.2) compared to microglia from surgical  
79 samples, consistent with an “activated” profile (Figure 2d and f; Extended Data 4; Supplementary  
80 Table 3). In contrast, engrafted H9-microglia displayed a comparable homeostatic signature to that  
81 of the cells isolated from the human brain, with only 41 differentially expressed genes (Figure 2d

82 and g; Extended Data 4a and b). Therefore, the mouse CNS environment is sufficient to drive  
83 microglia from an artificial *in vitro* “activated” towards a more natural homeostatic brain resident  
84 phenotype.

85

#### 86 *Human ESC-derived and host mouse microglia display a divergent response to oligomeric A $\beta$*

87 We tested our humanized system with an acute AD-related challenge, i.e. oligomeric A $\beta_{42}$   
88 (oA $\beta$ ), previously shown to induce cognitive alterations<sup>13</sup> (Extended Data 5). Mice were injected in  
89 the ventricle with 5  $\mu$ M oA $\beta$  (n=3) or scrambled peptide (Scr, n=3) at 8-10 weeks post  
90 transplantation. We isolated 4880 transplanted H9-microglia 6 hours after injection (n=3x2/2),  
91 excluding CNS-associated macrophages and cycling cells (Extended Data 6). Clustering analysis  
92 revealed a homeostatic (H9.HM), a “primed” (H9.PM), and a cytokine (H9.CRM) cluster (Figure  
93 3a; Extended Data 7). The H9.HM cluster was significantly enriched with scrambled peptide treated  
94 cells (68%, Chi<sup>2</sup>-test, p-value<2.2x10<sup>-250</sup>) and showed high expression of multiple homeostatic  
95 genes (Figure 3a; Extended Data 7; Supplementary Table 3). The “primed” H9.PM cluster was very  
96 different from the previously characterized activated response (ARM) response in wild type mouse  
97 microglia<sup>11</sup> as it expresses an unusual mixture of homeostatic and activation genes<sup>11</sup>, and consisted  
98 of a larger proportion of scrambled (65%) vs. oA $\beta$  cells (35%, Chi<sup>2</sup> test, p-value<10<sup>-250</sup>) (Figure 3a  
99 and b; Extended Data 7). Finally, the H9.CRM cluster was significantly enriched in cells from oA $\beta$   
100 treated mice (75%, Chi<sup>2</sup> test, p-value<2.210<sup>-250</sup>), and displayed high levels of multiple inflammatory  
101 cytokines and chemokines, such as *IL1B*, *IL6*, *CCL2*, *CCL4*, etc. (Figure 3a and b; Extended Data  
102 7). Trajectory analysis<sup>14</sup> revealed a phenotypical change of H9-microglia from homeostatic towards  
103 the cytokine-response state (Figure 3b; Extended Data 7) with microglia from the H9.PM cluster  
104 enriched in the initial and middle phases, indicating they might represent an early response to the  
105 injection of peptides (Figure 3b; Extended Data 7).

106 At the same time, we isolated and sequenced 9942 host mouse microglia (after exclusion of  
107 CNS-associated macrophages and other immune or cycling cells) from the same animals to  
108 compare their reaction to that of H9-microglia (Figure 3c and d; Extended Data 6). Whereas we  
109 acknowledge that the genetic background of the host might cause (unknown) developmental  
110 abnormalities, analysis of different wild-type mouse microglial datasets did not reveal expression of  
111 *Rag2* or *Il2ry*<sup>15</sup> and, although the effect of *Il2ry* deficiency on microglia is not documented, *Rag2*  
112 deficiency does not affect microglial number, morphology or gene expression profiles<sup>16</sup>. Clustering  
113 analysis yielded a homeostatic (ms.HM), a cytokine (ms.CRM), and an activated (ms.ARM)

114 response cluster. The HM cluster was significantly enriched with control cells (70%), whereas the  
115 CRM and ARM clusters mostly consisted of cells from the mice treated with oA $\beta$ , (69% and 77%,  
116 Chi<sup>2</sup> test, p-value<10<sup>-250</sup>) (Figure 3d; Extended Data 8). The ARM cluster showed a similar profile  
117 to that of microglia responding to amyloid plaques<sup>11</sup> (Figure 3c and d; Extended Data 8). Trajectory  
118 analysis showed that mouse microglia transition from homeostatic to cytokine-response to  
119 activated-response cells (Figure 3c; Extended Data 8), suggesting that they form a single successive  
120 response of mouse microglia to oA $\beta$ . We also assessed whether the CRM transcriptomic signature  
121 identified here is uniquely elicited by oA $\beta$ , as it has not yet been described in the response to  
122 A $\beta$  plaques<sup>11,15</sup> (Supplementary Table 3). Reanalysis of previous data on microglial cells from 3 to  
123 21 months old APP<sup>NL-G-F</sup> mice revealed a small number of cells, previously embedded in the ARM  
124 cluster, that displayed a CRM profile (Extended Data 9a-c). In addition, these cells were positioned  
125 in the early ARM phase of the trajectory analysis, suggesting that they are part of a common early  
126 response to both oA $\beta$  and A $\beta$  plaques (Extended Data 9d). We acknowledge that the current work  
127 only provides proof of concept, while further more systematic work is ongoing to fully dissect the  
128 acute and chronic responses of mouse and human microglia to oA $\beta$  and A $\beta$  plaques.

129 We finally evaluated whether this chimeric model covers the human expressome better than  
130 the classical mouse models. We extracted 10,914 one-to-one, bidirectional orthologs between  
131 mouse and human (Supplementary Table 2)<sup>1,17</sup> and performed a correlation analysis comparing log-  
132 fold changes in gene expression in the CRM vs HM comparison done in each species (FRD < 0.05).  
133 We observed a significant, but rather limited correlation in the response to oA $\beta$  (R=0.4, Pearson  
134 correlation, p-value  $\approx$  0) with a number of genes changed in mouse or human alone (logFC > 0.2;  
135 Figure 3e; Extended Data 10), 207 of them showing opposite behaviour (Figure 3f; Extended Data  
136 10c), such as *TYMP*, *NFKB*, *PPARG*, *LIMK2* and *TGFBR1*, a homeostatic microglia marker in  
137 mouse<sup>18</sup> (Extended Data 10c), and the AD-risk genes *ABI3*, *BINI* and *PICALM* (Figure 3f). We  
138 also explored how the 8266 human genes with no clear mouse ortholog reacted to oA $\beta$  and found  
139 79 and 127 uniquely up- and down-regulated human genes, mainly involved in  
140 cytokine/chemokines responses (Extended Data 10d and e). The human response was particularly  
141 strong for *IL1B* and *CCL2* (Figure 3e, red arrows), which have been experimentally implicated in  
142 the pathology of AD<sup>19,20</sup> (Figure 3e, Extended Data 10). Remarkably, 12 of the 15 AD-risk genes  
143 identified as lacking 1:1 mouse orthologs (in Figure 1a), were expressed in primary microglia from  
144 surgical samples (Figure 3g), confirming the association of genetic risk of AD with microglia.  
145 Reassuringly, all these genes were also detected in the transplanted human H9-microglia (including  
146 *APOC*, *CD33*, *CRI*, *MS4A* and *TREM2*). The similarities in gene expression between *Rag*<sup>-/-</sup> *Il2r $\gamma$* <sup>-/-</sup>

147 and wild type mouse microglia (Figure 3g) further supports the proof of concept study presented  
148 here.

149

## 150 **Discussion**

151 Although *in vitro* studies may provide some mechanistic insights into the function of  
152 human microglia, it is also clear that signals from the CNS microenvironment are required to  
153 sustain microglial specification, and that a loss of those cues dramatically disrupts the microglia  
154 phenotype driving them towards an activated state<sup>5</sup>. In addition, some AD-linked genes (e.g  
155 TREM2-membrane phospholipids/APOE, CD33-sialic acid, etc.) play a role in the cross-talk  
156 between microglia and other brain cells. The main challenge is to understand this cellular phase of  
157 AD<sup>21</sup> and therefore introducing those complex aspects into a model of disease is extremely  
158 important. We present here a novel model using ESC-derived human microglia transplantation into  
159 the mouse brain providing the human cells with the crucial environment that defines microglial  
160 identity. Given the limited similarity between mouse and human microglia in terms of candidate  
161 AD-risk genes, this model provides a very useful alternative to study the response of human  
162 microglia *in vivo* in the context of AD and other diseases affecting the CNS, opening important new  
163 routes to understand the role of the many genes identified in the GWAS and other genetic studies  
164 which are not well modelled in mouse cells.

165 ESC-derived human microglia transplanted into mouse brain represents clearly a step  
166 forward to model part of the GWAS defined risk of AD. Despite certain limitations that should be  
167 considered (e.g. lack of adaptive immune system, variability in the grafting efficiency of different  
168 pluripotent stem cells, iPSC), we anticipate that our approach will be widely applicable to study  
169 other neurological diseases. The use of human H9 cells in combination with CRISPR/Cas9  
170 technology opens unanticipated possibilities to model human specific genetic aspects of brain  
171 disease.

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185

186 **Authors contribution**

187 R.M. conceived and designed the study, performed all the experiments and wrote the manuscript.  
188 J.V.D.D. conceived and designed the study, performed all the experiments and wrote the  
189 manuscript. N.F. conceived and designed the study, performed all the experiments and wrote the  
190 manuscript. L.W. performed all the experiments. S.B. contributed on the preparation of oligomeric  
191 amyloid beta and intracerebral injections. O.B. assisted with the flow cytometry experiments. A.L.  
192 contributed on the interpretation of the data. A.S. assisted on human genetics and human to mouse  
193 orthology. Y.F. assisted with the analysis of single cell RNA sequencing data. S.P. assisted with the  
194 single cell RNA sequencing experiments. A.A.M. optimized the xenograft experiments. C.S.F.  
195 optimized the single cell sequencing experiments and library preparations. C.C. assisted with the  
196 differentiation of microglia from embryonic stem cells. L.S. established and maintained the mouse  
197 colonies. T.T. recruited the human subjects, performed the neurosurgeries and provided the human  
198 tissue specimens. V.H.P. contributed to the design of the study and interpretation of the data. C.V.  
199 contributed to the design of the study and interpretation of the data. M.F. contributed to the design  
200 of the study, and analysis and interpretation of the data. B.D.S. conceived and designed the study,  
201 and wrote the manuscript. All authors discussed the results and commented on the manuscript.

202



203 **Competing interest statement**

204 The authors do not have conflicts of interest to disclose with the current study. BDS receives grants  
205 from different companies that support his research and is a consultant for several companies but  
206 nothing is directly related to the current publication.

207

208

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- 251

252 **Figure legends (for main text only)**

253

254 **Figure 1. Human ESC-derived microglia successfully engraft the mouse brain.** (a) Selection of  
255 44 genes with  $p > 5 \times 10^{-8}$  from 3 landmark studies in the field. See online methods. (b) From these 44  
256 candidate AD risk genes<sup>3,4,8</sup>, 15 (marked with a red dot) do not have a clear 1:1 mouse ortholog or  
257 display <60% identity between human and mouse at the primary amino acid sequence. Colour  
258 scale, green (high similarity) to red (low similarity). (c) Schematic representation of the area of  
259 mouse brain covered by transplanted human microglia. Microglia are represented by green dots, and  
260 the distance between anatomically consecutive sections is 500 $\mu$ m. (d) H9-microglia successfully  
261 engraft the mouse brain and (e) express homeostatic markers TMEM119 and P2RY12 (n=4 mice).  
262 Scale bars of 100 and 5 $\mu$ m, respectively. (f) Transplanted cells distribute across the parenchyma  
263 forming a mosaic with similar nearest neighbour distance (NND) and density to that of mouse cells  
264 from adjacent areas (n=4 mice per group, two-tailed t-test  $p=0.9$ , graph shows mean $\pm$ SEM). H9-  
265 microglia are labelled in green (Iba1<sup>+</sup> GFP<sup>+</sup>), whereas arrowheads highlight few mouse cells (Iba1<sup>+</sup>  
266 GFP<sup>-</sup>) co-existing with H9-microglia in the grafted areas of the parenchyma (n=4 mice). Scale bar,  
267 100  $\mu$ m. (g) Higher magnification microphotographs and 3D reconstruction by Imaris show typical  
268 morphology with high complexity branching in H9-microglia (n=4 mice). Scale bar 5  $\mu$ m.

269 **Figure 2. H9-microglia isolated 8 weeks after transplantation are similar to human primary**  
270 **microglia.** (a) t-SNE plot visualizing 33,144 single cells sorted based on CD11b (primary human),  
271 CD11b hCD45 and GFP (engrafted H9-microglia) staining, and *in vitro* derived monocytes (MNC)  
272 and microglia (MG) after quality control, and removal of peripheral cells, cycling cells and  
273 doublets. Cells are coloured according to clusters identified with Seurat's kNN and merging: *In*  
274 *vitro*-1 MNC, *In vitro*-2 MG, *In vivo*-Homeostatic Microglia (HM) and Cytokine Response  
275 Microglia (CRM), CNS-Associated Macrophages (CAM)<sup>10</sup>, and Neutrophils (N $\phi$ ). The assignment  
276 of different clusters to distinct cell types/states is based on previous experimental data from our  
277 lab<sup>11</sup> and a recent meta-analysis describing multiple modules of microglial transcriptional profiles<sup>12</sup>,  
278 as detailed in Extended Data 4a-c and Supplementary Table 3. (b, c) Distribution and percentage of  
279 cells from either *in vitro*, *in vivo* (engrafted) H9 or primary human microglia across the different  
280 clusters identified. (d) Most highly expressed genes in the different samples: *in vitro*-1 MNC; *in*  
281 *vitro*-2 MG, *in vivo* (engrafted) H9 and primary microglia. (e) *In situ* hybridization for *CX3CR1* and  
282 *P2RY12* (microglia) and *MRC1* (perivascular macrophages) confirming the location of the two main  
283 distinct identities acquired by H9 engrafted cells (GFP) in the mouse brain (n=4 mice). Scale bar is

284 25  $\mu\text{m}$  and 10  $\mu\text{m}$  in the left and right panels, respectively. **(f, g)** Volcano plots showing gene  
285 expression differences between average gene expression in **(f)** 22,846 primary vs. 3385 *in vitro* MG  
286 and **(g)** 22,846 primary vs. 2,246 engrafted H9-microglial cells (with a logFC threshold of 0.2,  
287 Wilcoxon Rank Sum test, *p-values* adjusted with Bonferroni correction based on the total number of  
288 genes in the dataset). Genes associated to homeostatic or activation expression profiles are  
289 highlighted in blue and red, respectively (Supplementary Table 3).

290 **Figure 3. Human and host mouse microglial response to oligomeric A $\beta$ .** **(a, b)** Analysis of the  
291 response of H9-microglia upon oA $\beta$  exposure. **(a)** t-SNE plot visualizing the 4880 H9 microglia  
292 passing quality control, and after removal of CAM, cycling cells and doublets. Cells are coloured  
293 according to clusters identified with Seurat's kNN (upper panel; H9.HM: Homeostatic Microglia,  
294 H9. PM: Primed Microglia, H9.CRM: Cytokine Response Microglia, H9) and treatment (lower  
295 panel; Scr: scrambled peptide, oA $\beta$ : oligomeric Ab). **(b)** Plot of the phenotypic trajectory followed  
296 by H9-microglia upon oligomeric A $\beta$  exposure, obtained by an unbiased pseudotime ordering with  
297 Monocle 2 and coloured by clusters as in **d**. H9-microglia followed a trajectory from H9.HM and  
298 H9.PM, to H9.CRM. The heatmap shows the differential expression of representative genes from  
299 each cluster, ordered by pseudotime. **(c, d)** Analysis of the response of endogenous (*Rag2<sup>-/-</sup> Il2r $\gamma$ <sup>-/-</sup>*)  
300 mouse microglia upon oligomeric A $\beta$  challenge. **(d)** t-SNE plot visualizing the 9942 endogenous  
301 mouse microglia passing quality control, and after removal of peripheral cells, CNS-Associated  
302 Macrophages (CAM) cycling cells and doublets. Cells are coloured according to clusters identified  
303 with Seurat's kNN (upper panel; ms.HM: (mouse) Homeostatic Microglia, ms.CRM: Cytokine  
304 Response Microglia, ms.ARM: Activated Response Microglia) and treatment (lower panel; Scr:  
305 scrambled peptide, oAb: oligomeric Ab). **(c)** Plot of the phenotypic trajectory followed by  
306 endogenous mouse microglia upon oligomeric A $\beta$  exposure, obtained by an unbiased pseudotime  
307 ordering with Monocle 2 and coloured by clusters as in **a**. Mouse microglia followed a trajectory  
308 from ms.HM to ms.CRM to ms.ARM. The heatmap shows the differential expression of  
309 representative genes from each cluster, ordered by pseudotime. **(e)** Correlation analysis of the log-  
310 fold change (logFC) in H9 (y-axis) and host (*Rag2<sup>-/-</sup> Il2r $\gamma$ <sup>-/-</sup>*) mouse (x-axis) microglia upon  
311 oligomeric A $\beta$  challenge relative to scrambled peptide (Pearson correlation, R=0.4. Differentially  
312 expressed genes are highlighted in green when significant in both species, blue only in H9-  
313 microglia or orange only in mouse microglia. Numbers between brackets in the legend represent the  
314 amount of up and downregulated genes in each group, respectively. **(f)** Expression changes induced  
315 by A $\beta$  challenge in the selected candidate AD-risk genes (Figure1b). **(g)** Extension of the table  
316 shown in Figure 1a highlighting the important number of putative AD-risk genes in humans that

317 lack good orthologues in mice or show an opposite behaviour upon A $\beta$  challenge (highlighted by  
318 red dots). Expression profile of 44 putative AD genes in our datasets (H9-microglia; primary  
319 human microglia from 7 patients; and mouse host *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup> *Il2r $\gamma$* <sup>-/-</sup> microglia, mouse RM), and wild  
320 type mouse microglia from 2 independent datasets of 12-week-old immunocompetent C57Bl/6 mice  
321 (Sala Frigerio et al.,<sup>11</sup> , SF; and Keren-Shaul et al., KS<sup>15</sup>). We identified 15 genes with observed  
322 expression in human but not mouse microglia and, that were also observed in H9-microglia.

323

324

325

326 **Tables**

327

328 **Supplementary Table 1.** Human to mouse orthology for Alzheimer's Disease risk genes.

329

330 **Supplementary Table 2.** Clinical information of the human specimens.

331

332 **Supplementary Table 3.** Gene expression scores.

333

334 **Supplementary Table 4.** List of human-mouse orthologs.

335 **Methods (online)**

336 Sample size was estimated based on previous experiments performed in the lab<sup>11</sup>. No samples were  
337 excluded from the analysis and all attempts at replication were successful. The experimental groups  
338 were randomised to avoid gender, litter and cage effects. Investigators were blinded when  
339 performing all experiments

340

341 *Human vs. mouse gene orthology and selection of putative AD-risk genes*

342 We determined the orthology between human and mouse genomes using Ensembl Biomart<sup>1</sup>. We  
343 defined “good orthology” as every gene with one-to-one, bidirectional orthology between the two  
344 species and >60% protein sequence similarity. This resulted in a total of 10,914 genes. The full list  
345 is shown in Supplementary Table 3.

346 We based our selection of putative AD-risk genes on several recent publications<sup>2-4</sup>. We focused on  
347 44 genome-wide significant loci ( $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ ) described in these publications and selected as being  
348 the nearest gene to the lead SNP. We used the union of these gene sets for our analysis. In  
349 summary, we extracted 23 genes from Lambert et al. (Table 2 of the original report)<sup>3</sup>, 33 genes from  
350 Jansen et al. (Table 1 of the original report)<sup>2</sup> and 21 genes from Kunkle et al. (Table 1 of the original  
351 report)<sup>4</sup>. Figure 1a shows the distribution of these genes across the different reports and illustrates  
352 how they overlap.

353

354 *In vitro generation of microglia from ESCs*

355 *In vitro* microglia differentiation from embryonic stem cells was based on previously described  
356 protocols<sup>6</sup>. On days 17, 21, 25, 28, and 32, non-adherent cells were harvested and selected using  
357 CD14-labelled magnetic beads (Miltenyi) following manufacturer specifications. Briefly, cells were  
358 collected and centrifuged for 5 min at 300g. Then, cells were incubated for 15 min at 4°C in 80 µl  
359 MACS buffer (AUTOMACS + 5% MACS serum, Miltenyi) with 20 µl of CD14-beads (Miltenyi),  
360 and passed through a LS column (QuadroMACS, Miltenyi). The CD14+ fraction was collected and  
361 centrifuged for 5min at 300g. Monocytes were then differentiated into microglia-like cells using  
362 microglia differentiation medium (TIC) (DMEM/F12, Glutamine (2mM), N-Acetyl Cysteine  
363 (5µg/mL), Insulin (1:2000), Apo-Transferrin (100 µg/mL), Sodium Selenite (100 ng/mL),  
364 Cholesterol (1.5 µg/mL), Heparan Sulphate (1 µg/mL)) supplemented with 50 ng/ml IL34, 50



365 ng/mL M-CSF, 10 ng/ml CX3CL1 and 25 ng/mL TGF- $\beta$ , based on Abud et al. (2017)<sup>22</sup>. The  
366 medium was changed every other day.

367

368 *Mice*

369 *Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup> *IL2 $\gamma$* <sup>-/-</sup> *hCSF1*<sup>KI</sup> mice were purchased from Jacksons Labs (strain 017708), and bred and  
370 maintained in local facilities. All the experiments were performed in these mice as human microglia  
371 require hCSF1 for their growth and survival<sup>7</sup>. Mice were housed in groups of 2-5, under a 14 h  
372 light/10 h dark cycle at 21°C, with food and water *ad libitum*. All experiments were conducted in 8-  
373 12 weeks old male and female according to protocols approved by the local Ethical Committee of  
374 Laboratory Animals of the KU Leuven (government licence LA1210591, ECD project number  
375 P177/2017) following local and EU guidelines.

376

377 *Endogenous mouse microglia depletion*

378 The CSF1R inhibitor BLZ945 was dissolved in 20% (2-hydroxypropyl)- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (Sigma-  
379 Aldrich). Newborns were injected (i.p.) 24 and 48h prior to human cell transplantation at a dose of  
380 200 mg/kg bodyweight.

381

382 *Transplantation of human microglia into the mouse brain*

383 Grafting of human PSC-derived microglia was performed as previously described<sup>23</sup>. Briefly, human  
384 microglia were dissociated and suspended at a concentration of 100,000 cells/ $\mu$ l in PBS. At P4,  
385 mice were anaesthetized by hypothermia and bilaterally injected with 1 $\mu$ l of cell suspension at  
386 coordinates from Bregma: anteroposterior, -1mm; lateral,  $\pm$ 1mm. After the injections, mice were  
387 allowed to recover on a heating pad at 37°C, and then transferred back to their cage.

388

389 *Isolation of human primary microglia*

390 Human primary microglia were isolated from brain tissue samples resected from the temporal  
391 cortex during neurosurgery. All samples represented lateral temporal neocortex and were obtained  
392 from patients who underwent amygdalo-hippocampectomy for medial temporal lobe seizures. The  
393 mesial temporal specimens were sent to pathology and thus not available for study purposes.

394 Samples were collected at the time of surgery and immediately transferred to the lab for tissue  
395 processing, with post sampling intervals of 5-10 min. All procedures were conducted to protocols  
396 approved by the local Ethical Committee (protocol number S61186).

397

#### 398 *Preparation and intracerebral injection of oligomeric amyloid*

399 Oligomeric A $\beta$  1-42 (oA $\beta$ , 5 $\mu$ l 10 $\mu$ M) or scrambled peptide (Scr, 5 $\mu$ l 10 $\mu$ M) were prepared as  
400 previously described by Kuperstein et al.<sup>24</sup> Briefly, recombinant amyloid beta 1-42 peptide  
401 (rPeptide; #A-1163-1) or scrambled amyloid beta 1-42 (rPeptide; #A-1004-1) were thawed at room  
402 temperature 30 minutes before preparation. Peptides were solubilized in 99%  
403 hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP) (Sigma-Aldrich; #105228) at 1 mg/ml concentration. The HFIP was  
404 evaporated using a stream of nitrogen gas, the resulting peptide pellet was resolved in  
405 dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO; Sigma-Aldrich; #D4540), at final concentration of 1 mg/ml. DMSO  
406 was exchanged with Tris-EDTA (50 mM Tris and 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5) using 5-ml HiTrap<sup>TM</sup>  
407 desalting columns (GE Healthcare; #17-408-01). The eluted peptide concentration was determined  
408 using Bradford reagent (Bio-Rad; #5000006) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The  
409 eluted peptide was left to oligomerize at room temperature for two hours in Tris-EDTA buffer. oA $\beta$   
410 or scrambled peptide was further diluted to 10  $\mu$ M in Tris-EDTA buffer and stored at -80°C until  
411 use. At 8-10 weeks of age, grafted mice were anesthetized with a ketamine/xylazine mixture (85  
412 and 13 mg/kg), and 5  $\mu$ l of either oA $\beta$  (10  $\mu$ M) or scrambled peptide (10  $\mu$ M) were stereotactically  
413 injected in the left ventricle at the following coordinates from bregma: anteroposterior, -0.1 mm;  
414 mediolateral, +1 mm; dorsoventral, -3 mm. Mice were allowed to recover in a thermo-regulated  
415 chamber and then transferred back to their original cage. Isolation of microglia was performed 6h  
416 after the intracerebral injection of the peptides.

417

#### 418 *Isolation of human and mouse microglia from the mouse brain*

419 Mice were terminally anesthetized with an overdose of sodium pentobarbital and transcardially  
420 perfused with heparinized PBS. Brains were harvested in PBS 2%, FCS, 2mM EDTA (FACS  
421 buffer), mechanically triturated and enzymatically dissociated using the Neural Tissue Dissociation  
422 Kit (P) (Miltenyi) following manufacturer specifications. Then, samples were passed through a cell  
423 strainer of 70 $\mu$ m mesh (BD2 Falcon) with FACS buffer, and centrifuged twice at 500g for 10 min at  
424 4°C. Next, cells were resuspended in 35% Percoll (GE Healthcare) and centrifuged at 500g for 15

425 min at 4°C. The supernatant and myelin layers were discarded, and the cell pellet enriched in  
426 microglia was resuspended in FcR blocking solution (Miltenyi) in cold FACS buffer, following  
427 manufacturer specifications. After a wash, primary antibody labelling was performed for 30 min at  
428 4 °C, using the anti-CD11b (Miltenyi) and anti-hCD45 (BD Bioscience), adding e780 (eBioscience)  
429 as a cell viability marker. Moreover, unstained cells and isotype-matched control samples were used  
430 to control for autofluorescence and/or non-specific binding of antibodies. Samples were run on a  
431 BD FACS Aria II Flow Cytometer and data were analysed using FlowJo and FCS express software.  
432 Human cells were sorted according to the expression of CD11b, hCD45, and GFP, whereas mouse  
433 cells only expressed CD11b but were negative for hCD45 and GFP (Extended Data 2). For each  
434 experimental condition, we pooled the same number of cells from three mice.

435

#### 436 *Histological analysis*

437 Mice were terminally anesthetized with an overdose of sodium pentobarbital and transcardially  
438 perfused with heparinized PBS and 4% PFA in PBS. Brains were harvested, post fixed in 4% PFA  
439 overnight, and cut in transverse serial sections (35 µm thick) with a vibrating microtome (Leica).  
440 For each sample, 6 series of sections were sequentially collected in free-floating conditions and kept  
441 in cryoprotectant solution at -20°C. Sections were blocked with 5% normal serum in PBS-0.2%  
442 Tween 20 for nonspecific binding. After rinses with PBS-0.1% Tween 20 (PBST), sections were  
443 incubated overnight at 4°C with anti-GFP (Abcam, ab13970), anti-Iba1 (Wako, 019-19741), anti-  
444 P2RY12 (Sigma Aldrich, HPA014518) and anti-TMEM119 (Abcam, ab185333). After washes with  
445 PBST, sections were incubated with the appropriated biotinylated (Vector Labs) or Alexa 488- and  
446 594-conjugated secondary antibodies (Invitrogen) for 1h at RT. When necessary, sections were  
447 incubated with Alexa 488-conjugated Streptavidin (Invitrogen) for 1h at RT. Finally, sections were  
448 counterstained with DAPI and mounted with Mowiol/DABCO (Sigma-Aldrich) mixture. Sections  
449 were visualized on a Nikon A1R Eclipse confocal system. Nearest neighbour distance (NND)  
450 analysis was performed in 20X microphotographs by using a script for Fiji (ImageJ) as previously  
451 described by Davis et al. (2017).<sup>9</sup>

452

#### 453 *Single cell mRNA libraries preparation and sequencing*

454 After microglial isolation, we performed single cell RNA sequencing by using 10X Genomics  
455 single cell gene expression profiling kit. cDNA libraries were produced following manufacturer

456 instructions. cDNA libraries were then sequenced in an Illumina HiSeq platform 4000 with the  
457 sequencing specification recommended by 10X Genomics workflow. For each experimental  
458 condition, we pooled the same number of cells from three mice.

459

#### 460 *Human-mouse orthologs*

461 Human to mouse and mouse to human orthologs tables were downloaded from Ensembl/Biomart  
462 (release 94)<sup>1</sup>. From these tables, only those genes were extracted that have a clean one-to-one  
463 bidirectional ortholog. After filtering out genes that do not express in our human and mouse  
464 microglia datasets, the table resulted in 10914 genes (Supplementary Table 4).

465

#### 466 *Statistics*

##### 467 *Analysis of histological data*

468 Nearest neighbor distance (NND) and microglial density data (from Figure 1) were analysed with a  
469 two-tailed t-test. Data distribution was assumed to be normal but this was not formally tested. P  
470 values < 0.05 were considered statistically significant at a confidence interval of 95%. Data were  
471 represented as mean±SEM.

472

##### 473 *Analysis of single cell RNA sequencing datasets*

474 *Alignment.* The raw BCL files were demultiplexed and aligned by Cellranger (version 2.1.1) against  
475 a human genome database (build hg38 build 84) and mouse database (mm10 build 84). Raw count  
476 matrices were imported in R (version 3.4.4) for data analysis.

477 *Quality control of cells - step 1.* For each dataset, to exclude poorly sequenced cells, damaged cells  
478 and dying cells, we filtered out cells with less than 1000 reads or less than 100 genes detected;  
479 moreover, we excluded cells with more than 10% of reads aligning to mitochondrial genes. Cells  
480 with a number of reads or genes above 3 standard deviations from the sample mean were considered  
481 as doublets and removed. Genes detected in less than 3 cells were excluded from the count matrices.  
482 Data were analysed by principal component analysis (PCA) to identify any obvious batch effects.  
483 For the joint analysis of H9-derived microglia and primary microglia from surgical resections  
484 (Figure 2), the mean depth of sequencing was 102,000 reads/cell, while the mean number of genes  
485 detected per cell was 2072. For the analysis of mouse microglia (Figure 3), the mean depth of

486 sequencing was 68,000 reads/cell, while the mean number of genes detected per cell was 1777. For  
487 the analysis of H9-derived microglia (Figure 3), the mean depth of sequencing was 96,000  
488 reads/cell, while the mean number of genes detected per cell was 1964.

489

490 *Quality control of cells - step 2.* We analysed each dataset using the R package Seurat (version  
491 2.3.4)<sup>25</sup> for the mouse and H9-derived microglia datasets, and version 3.0<sup>26</sup> for the joint analysis).  
492 We performed principal component analysis (PCA) on both the mouse and H9-derived microglia  
493 datasets, after data normalization and scaling and selection of the most variable genes, respectively  
494 2000 and 1390. We selected the first principal components (PCs), 20 for mouse and 20 for H9-  
495 derived cells, based on a scree plot (i.e. a plot of the PC eigenvalues in decreasing order) as input  
496 for the downstream calculations. Clusters are identified using Seurat's FindClusters function.  
497 Further non-linear dimensionality reduction for visualization is done using t-SNE. The standard  
498 workflow was followed also for the joint analysis, see Data integration and Joint clustering section.

499 In the joint dataset integrating in vitro H9 MNC and MG, in vivo H9 microglia and primary  
500 microglia from human cases, unbiased clustering by Seurat identified 13 major cellular populations  
501 (integrated clustering resolution = 0.8) after removal of B cells (28 cells, marked by *CD52*, *CD48*  
502 expression), NK/T cells (288 cells, marked by *NKG7*, *CD247*, *CD7* expression), oligodendrocytes  
503 (1159 cells, marked by *MBP*, *PLP1* expression), cycling cells (60 cells, marked by *TOP2A*  
504 expression), doublets (172 cells, co-expressing microglial and neuronal/astrocyte markers) and a  
505 microglial cluster with very low number of reads and genes (168 cells, with mean genes =  
506 545.9/cell, mean reads = 967.5/cell), probably reflecting damaged or low-quality cells. Post-QC a  
507 total of 32973 microglia, CNS-associated macrophages, monocytes and neutrophils cells were  
508 retained for further analysis. Seurat clusters were merged in 6 main cell types/states (Figure 2a)  
509 according to transcriptomic profile similarities as indicated by differential expression analyses and  
510 signature scoring of cells based on published single-cell microglia datasets (Extended Data 3;  
511 Supplementary Table 3). Stability of the clustering was assessed by multiple runs of analysis  
512 exploring different combinations of parameters and clusters-correlation analyses, in order to avoid  
513 over- or under-clustering of the data.

514 For the mouse microglia dataset, we identified 12 major cellular populations, most of them showing  
515 a tight distribution on the t-SNE plot (Extended Data 6a), with two main clusters (6 and 7) clearly  
516 separating, as well as four other very small clusters (9,10,11,12). Clusters 0 to 5 expressed high  
517 levels of homeostatic microglia markers, which were not expressed in the other, separated, clusters  
518 (Extended Data 6b). Cluster 8 expressed activated microglia and cytokines markers (Extended Data

519 6b). Based on a panel of marker genes (Extended Data 6c), we could identify enrichment for  
520 markers of different cell types other than microglia in the six separated clusters. Clusters 6 and 7  
521 showed high expression levels of gene markers of neutrophils (*Ccr12*) and monocytes (*Ccr2*),  
522 respectively. Clusters 9, 10, and 12, all composed by very small number of cells, expressed gene  
523 signatures of other brain cells (astrocytes (*Clu*), neurons (*Npy*), oligodendrocytes (*Mbp*). Cluster 11  
524 was enriched in markers of cycling cells (*Top2a*). Overall, 89% of cells (13342/15036) in our post-  
525 QC dataset were microglia, and only these cells were retained for further analysis. The final  
526 analysis was performed on oA $\beta$  and scrambled peptide-treated cells (Figure 3), consisting of a final  
527 dataset of 9942 cells.

528 For the H9-derived microglia dataset, we identified 8 major cellular populations, distributed in two  
529 main groups of cells on the t-SNE plot (Extended Data 6d), both showing a treatment-associated  
530 distribution of cells (Extended Data 6e). Clusters 0, 2, 3, 5 expressed homeostatic microglia markers  
531 (Extended Data 6f), while clusters 1 and 4 expressed gene markers of CNS-associated macrophages  
532 (*MRC1*, *CD163*). Cluster 7 expressed low level of macrophage markers and some activation  
533 markers (*CD74*), while cluster 6 was enriched in markers of cycling cells (*MKI67*). Cluster 8  
534 counted few cells, was very different from all the others and had no clear markers, probably  
535 reflecting a small population of doublets. Overall, 72% of cells (6444/8998) in our post-QC dataset  
536 were microglia, and only these cells were retained for further analysis. The final analysis was  
537 performed on oA $\beta$  and scrambled peptide-treated cells (Figure 3), consisting of a final dataset of  
538 4880 cells, after excluding CNS-associated macrophages.

539 *Independent clustering of mouse and H9-derived microglia.* Cells passing QC were analysed using  
540 functions provided with the Seurat package, version 2.3.4. Data was log normalized and we  
541 regressed out the variable of read count. Next, we identified the genes with highest variability and  
542 performed PCA on such gene set. We identified the most informative principal components based  
543 on a scree plot and we used these to perform cell clustering. Identification of differential expressed  
544 genes was performed using the Wilcox test implemented by Seurat's FindMarker. t-SNE plots were  
545 prepared using Seurat's t-SNE implementation. For the mouse microglia dataset, we considered  
546 1020 highly variable genes for PCA and the first 15 PCs for clustering. The H9-derived human  
547 microglia dataset was analysed similarly as described above, by performing PCA on the 1886 most  
548 variable genes and by using the first 15 PCs to perform cluster analysis.

549 *Data integration and joint clustering.* Cells passing QC were analysed using the Seurat package,  
550 version 3.0. The combined object (H9-derived naive microglia and primary microglia from patients)  
551 was split into a list, with each dataset as an element. Standard preprocessing (log-normalization)

552 was performed individually for each of the two datasets, and variable features (nfeatures = 2000)  
553 that were identified based on a variance stabilizing transformation (selection.method = "vst"). Next,  
554 we identified anchors using the FindIntegrationAnchors function, giving the list of Seurat objects as  
555 input. We used all default parameters, including the dimensionality of the dataset (dims = 1:30). We  
556 passed these anchors to the IntegrateData function, in order to get an integrated (or 'batch-  
557 corrected') expression matrix for all cells, enabling them to be jointly analysed. We used the new  
558 integrated matrix for downstream analysis and visualization using the standard workflow.

559

560 *Pseudotime analysis.* To infer the pseudotime of microglia progression towards phenotypic change  
561 in response to oA $\beta$  challenge, we used the Monocle 2 package (version 2.6.4)<sup>14,27</sup>. We performed an  
562 unsupervised identification of cell trajectories and states, based on the top 200 marker genes  
563 identified with a differential expression analysis between oA $\beta$  treated cells and scramble-treated  
564 cells.

565 *Differential Expression.* Differential expression was performed using functions provided with the  
566 Seurat package; p values were calculated using the Wilcoxon rank-sum test. In Seurat's function  
567 FindAllMarkers, no threshold for the min.pct parameter was applied, in order not to miss marker  
568 genes of rare cell populations. All the other parameters were set to default. Genes with adjusted p  
569 values (using a Bonferroni correction) < 0.05 were considered significantly differentially expressed.  
570 Differential expression was used to find cluster markers in all datasets. For Figure 3, differential  
571 expression was performed with the FindMarkers function of Seurat comparing CRM and HM  
572 clusters, both in mouse and H9-derived human datasets, with no logFC or min.pct thresholds.

573 *Scores of cell types/states signatures.* For Extended Data 3 and 7-9, signatures were calculated  
574 using Seurat's AddModuleScore function using a list of marker genes identified for each cell type or  
575 cell state, based on previous experimental data from our lab<sup>19</sup> and recent description of microglial  
576 transcriptional modules<sup>12</sup>. See Supplementary Table 3 for a complete list of all genes defining the  
577 different signatures.

578 *Distribution of samples across clusters.* We compared the distribution of samples between different  
579 clusters by two different tests. We used two-dimensional contingency table (Pearson's Chi-squared  
580 test) to test the overall distribution of treatments across clusters (null hypothesis assuming that the  
581 joint distribution of the cell counts in a 2-dimensional contingency table is the product of the row  
582 and column marginals). In addition, we used goodness-of-fit test (Chi-squared test for given  
583 probabilities) to test distribution within each cluster (null hypothesis assuming that the observed

584 population probabilities in each cluster equal the expected ones; human microglia: A $\beta$  45.6%, Scr  
585 54.4%; mouse microglia: A $\beta$  43.8%, Scr 56.2%).

586 *Pathway enrichment analysis.* Pathway analysis was performed with GOrilla (Gene Ontology  
587 enRIchment anaLysis and visuaLizAtion tool)<sup>28</sup>, with single ranked list of genes as running mode.  
588 For both mouse and H9-derived microglia, genes were ranked by p-value adjusted taken from the  
589 Differential Expression analysis performed between CRM and HM clusters. The enriched ontology  
590 terms were then grouped by major functional categories, and the most significant terms (after  
591 multiple correction by FDR) in the H9-microglia dataset were compared to the same terms in the  
592 mouse host microglia dataset (Extended Data 10a). Each gene that was found significant in  
593 Differential Expression was then annotated with the functional categories it belongs to (Extended  
594 Data 10b and c), considering only the terms that were found significantly enriched in the GOrilla  
595 analysis.

596

#### 597 **Data availability**

598 The data generated in this study is available from GEO (**identifier to be provided**). The data and  
599 code are also available at [scope.bds.org](http://scope.bds.org). Data from Karen-Shaul et al.<sup>15</sup> is available from GEO  
600 (identifier GSE98969). Data from Sala Frigerio et al.<sup>11</sup> is available from GEO (identifier  
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602



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619

620

621 **Supplementary figures**

622

623 **Supplementary Figure 1. Protocol followed to generate ESC-microglia like cells.** (a) Schematic  
624 representation of the protocol and (b) quality control (in triplicate) for the microglia differentiation  
625 step (in green), showing representative bright field image, flow cytometry data on CD45 and  
626 CX3CR1 expression, and mRNA analysis for multiple microglial makers. Graph shows  
627 mean $\pm$ SEM, n=3, one-way ANOVA, \* p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\* p<0.001 vs. M-CSF + IL-34.

628

629 **Supplementary Figure 2. Endogenous mouse microglia depletion.** CSF1R inhibitor BLZ945  
630 was administered (200 mg/kg, i.p.) 24 and 48h prior to human microglia transplantation. Scale bar,  
631 100  $\mu$ m. Graph shows mean $\pm$ SEM, n=3 mice per group, two-tailed t-test \*p=0.002.

632

633 **Extended Data 1. Gating strategy for the isolation of H9-microglia from the mouse brain and**  
634 **graft efficiency.** (a) Human cells were sorted according to the expression of CD11b, hCD45, and  
635 GFP, whereas mouse cells only expressed CD11b but were negative for hCD45 and GFP. (b) H9-  
636 microglia graft efficiency. Percentage of CD11b cells in the total sample, and proportion of human  
637 cells amongst them. Graph shows mean $\pm$ SEM, n=6 mice per group.

638

639 **Extended Data 2. H9-microglia showed a widespread distribution across multiple areas of the**  
640 **brain.** (a) Representative overview of the extent of H9-microglia graft in the mouse brain. Human  
641 microglia are stained for P2RY12 across consecutive sections separated by 500 $\mu$ m to capture  
642 multiple anatomical areas. Scale bar, 1mm. (b) Higher magnification images of multiple anatomical  
643 areas including meninges, cortex, striatum, white matter, choroid plexus and hippocampus.  
644 Labelling shows DAPI (in blue), GFP (in green) and P2RY12 (in cyan). Images are representative  
645 of a staining performed in n=4 mice. Scale bar, 100  $\mu$ m.

646

647 **Extended Data 3. Extended clustering and distribution of *in vitro*, *in vivo* (engrafted) H9 and**  
648 **primary microglia.** (a) PCA shows clear separation between *in vitro* (MNC and MG) and *in vivo*  
649 (engrafted H9 and primary) microglia. The colours correspond to the clustering shown in **Figure**  
650 **2a.** (b) t-SNE plots as in **Figure 2a**, coloured by the combined level of expression of groups of

651 genes that characterise distinct microglial states. The original clusters from **Figure 2a** are outlined.  
652 (c) Selected genes defining the different transcriptomic scores shown in **b**. The full list of genes is  
653 shown in Supplementary Table 3. (d) Distribution of the different samples across the tSNE plot, and  
654 (e) percentage of each sample across the different clusters. All the data shown represents 2,246  
655 transplanted H9-microglia (*in vivo*) (n=3/1, 3 mice in 1 combined sequencing pool), 4496 H9-  
656 derived monocytes (n=2/1, 2 differentiations in 1 combined sequencing pool) and 3385 microglia *in*  
657 *vitro* (n=2/1), and 22,846 human primary microglia obtained from cortical surgical resections  
658 (n=7/7 online Methods).

659

660 **Extended Data 4. Direct comparison of *in vitro*, *in vivo* (engrafted) H9 and primary microglia.**

661 (a) Volcano plots showing paired comparisons between average gene expression *in vitro* MNC, *in*  
662 *vitro* MG, *in vivo* (engrafted) MG and primary cells. (b) Individual comparisons of *in vivo*  
663 (engrafted) H9-microglia and each human subject (human cases 1-7). The dashed line corresponds  
664 to an arbitrary threshold logFC of 0.2. Blue labels correspond to homeostatic genes whereas red  
665 labels correspond to microglial activation genes (Supplementary Table 3). All the data shown  
666 represents 2,246 transplanted H9-microglia (*in vivo*) (n=3/1, 3 mice in 1 combined sequencing  
667 pool), 4496 H9-derived monocytes (n=2/1, 2 differentiations in 1 combined sequencing pool) and  
668 3385 microglia *in vitro* (n=2/1), and 22,846 human primary microglia obtained from cortical  
669 surgical resections (n=7/7). In all cases, Wilcoxon Rank Sum test, *p-values* adjusted with  
670 Bonferroni correction based on the total number of genes in the dataset.

671

672 **Extended Data 5. Characterization of  $\alpha$ A $\beta$  preparation.** Freshly eluted recombinant A $\beta$ 1-42

673 monomers follow a rapid aggregation course in Tris-EDTA buffer. (a) After 2 hours of incubation,  
674 A $\beta$ 1-42 monomers oligomerize and run as dimers and trimers (indicated with \*) on SDS-  
675 PAGE/Coomassie staining, and they are proteinase-K sensitive. (b) Early A $\beta$ 1-42 oligomers form  
676 A11 and OC-positive aggregates. Two  $\mu$ l of either scrambled or amyloid beta 1-42 from different  
677 time points (0 hours, 2 hours and 2 weeks) of incubation was spotted on blots. These dot blots were  
678 probed with A11 antibody (Invitrogen; #AHB0052), which recognizes amino acid sequence-  
679 independent oligomers of proteins or peptides. A11 epitope is transient and is present only in the  
680 early oligomers (2 h), in contrast to the mature fibers (2 w) formed after 2 weeks of incubation. No  
681 fibrillary material is detected after 2 hours of incubation. (c) OC antibody (Millipore; #AB2286)  
682 recognize epitopes common to monomers, amyloid oligomers, and fibrils. (d) 4G8 antibody

683 (Eurogentec; #SIG-39220) detects N-terminal of the amyloid aggregates (epitope between amino  
684 acids 17-24).

685

686 **Extended Data 6. Preparation of the datasets for the analysis of (a-c) host mouse and (d-f) H9-**  
687 **microglia response to oA $\beta$  (see Figure 3). (a)** t-SNE plot of the 13342 cells passing quality  
688 control, coloured by clusters. **(b)** t-SNE plots as in **a**, coloured by the level of ln normalized  
689 expression of selected genes for microglia (*Cx3cr1*, *Tmem119*), monocytes (*Ccr2*) and neutrophils  
690 (*Ccr12*). **(c)** Violin plots of selected marker genes for homeostatic microglia (*Cx3cr1*, *Tmem119*),  
691 CRM (*Illb*), ARM (*Cd74*, *H2-Eb1*, *Ifit3*), neutrophils (*Ccr12*), monocytes (*Ccr2*, *Ly6c1*), astrocytes  
692 (*Clu*), oligodendrocytes (*Mbp*), neurons (*Npy*), and cycling cells (*Top2a*). Analysis shown in **Figure**  
693 **2** was performed after removal of clusters 4 (neutrophils), 7 (monocytes), 10 (astrocytes), 12  
694 (oligodendrocytes) and 9 (neurons). **(d)** t-SNE plot of the 6444 H9-microglia cells passing quality  
695 control, coloured by clusters. **(e)** t-SNE plot as in **a**, coloured by treatment (naïve; scrambled  
696 peptide, Scr; and oligomeric A $\beta$ , oA $\beta$ ). **(f)** t-SNE plot as in **a**, coloured by the level of ln normalized  
697 expression of selected genes for microglia (*CX3CR1*), cycling cells (*MKI67*) and brain resident  
698 macrophages (*MRC1*, *CD163*). Analysis shown in **Figure 2** was performed after removal of clusters  
699 1 and 4 (brain resident macrophages), 6 (cycling cells) and 8 (doublets).

700

701 **Extended Data 7. Expanded analysis, clustering and trajectory inference of the analysis of the**  
702 **response of H9-microglia upon oA $\beta$ . (a)** PCA of 4880 H9-microglia isolated from the mouse  
703 brain (n=3 mice in 1 combined sequencing pool) shows clear separation of the different clusters  
704 identified in our analysis in PC1 and PC2. **(b)** t-SNE plots as in **Figure 3a**, coloured by the  
705 combined level of expression of groups of genes that characterise distinct microglial states. **(c)**  
706 Selected genes defining the different transcriptomic scores shown in **Figure 3b**: homeostatic score  
707 (1), cytokine score (2) activated score (3). The full list of genes is shown in Supplementary Table 3.  
708 **(d)** Volcano plots showing paired comparisons between H9.HM, H9.CRM and H9.PM clusters  
709 ((Wilcoxon Rank Sum test, *p-values* adjusted with Bonferroni correction based on the total number  
710 of genes in the dataset). **(e)** Proportion of the different experimental groups across clusters in  
711 **Figure 3a** (Chi<sup>2</sup> test, \*\*\* *p* < 10<sup>-250</sup>). **(f, g)** Phenotypic trajectory inferred by Monocle 2 as shown in  
712 **Figure 3a**, coloured by **(f)** treatment and **(g)** clusters from **Figure 3a**.

713

714 **Extended Data 8. Expanded analysis, clustering and trajectory inference of the analysis of the**  
715 **response of mouse host microglia upon  $\alpha\text{A}\beta$ .** (a) PCA of 9942 endogenous mouse cells (n=3 mice  
716 in 1 combined sequencing pool) shows clear separation of the different clusters identified in our  
717 analysis in PC1 and PC2. (b) t-SNE plots as in **Figure 3d**, coloured by the combined level of  
718 expression of groups of genes that characterise distinct microglial states. (c) Selected genes defining  
719 the different transcriptomic scores shown in **b**: homeostatic score (1), cytokine score (2) activated  
720 score (3). The full list of genes is shown in Supplementary Table 3. (d) Volcano plots showing  
721 paired comparisons between ms.HM, ms.CRM and ms.ARM clusters (Wilcoxon Rank Sum test, *p*-  
722 values adjusted with Bonferroni correction based on the total number of genes in the dataset). (e)  
723 Proportion of the different experimental groups across clusters in **Figure 3d** (Chi<sup>2</sup> test, \*\*\* *p* < 10<sup>-</sup>  
724 <sup>250</sup>). (f, g) Phenotypic trajectory inferred by Monocle 2 as shown in **Figure 3c**, coloured by (f)  
725 treatment and (g) clusters from **Figure 3d**.

726

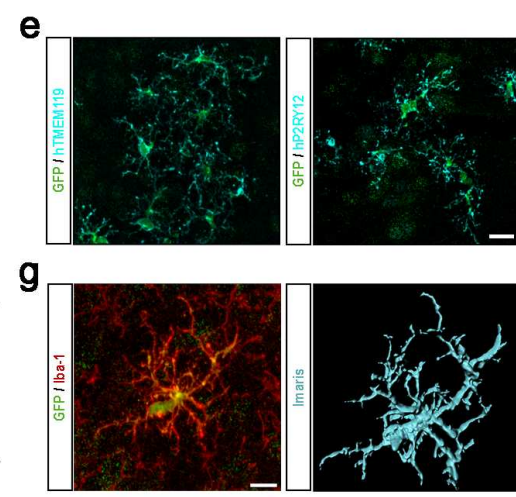
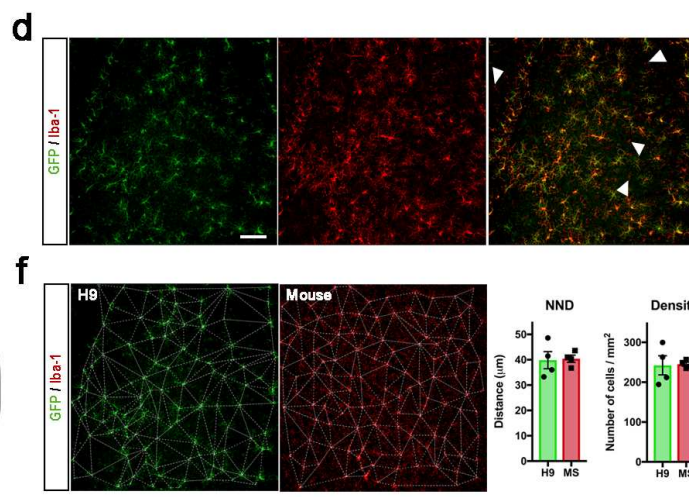
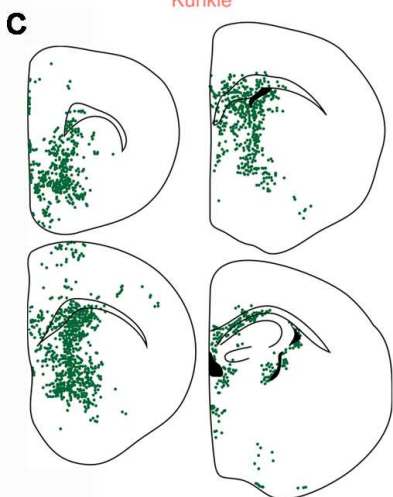
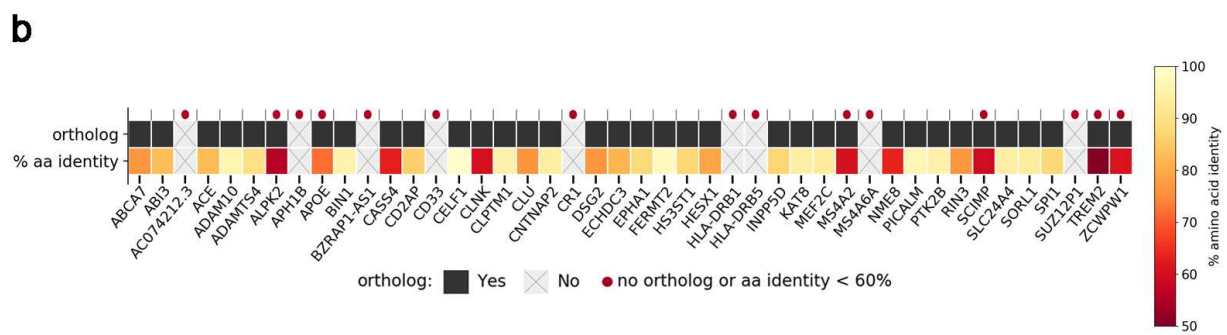
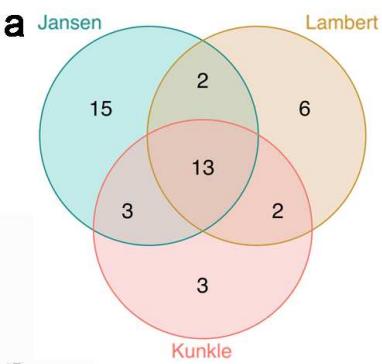
727 **Extended Data 9. Cytokine response microglia (CRM) are also present in APP<sup>NL-G-F</sup> mice.** (a)  
728 Original clustering analysis from Sala Frigerio et al. (2019)<sup>11</sup> consisting of 10,801 microglial cells  
729 from 3 to 21 months old APP<sup>NL-G-F</sup> mice and aged matched wild type controls. (b) Clusters shown in  
730 **a**, coloured with CRM, HM, ARM and IRM transcriptomic signatures. Note the small population of  
731 cells displaying CRM features embedded into the ARM response in APP<sup>NL-G-F</sup> microglia. (c)  
732 Significant enrichment of either homeostatic (HM) or activated (ARM) microglia gene sets from  
733 Sala Frigerio et al. (2019)<sup>11</sup> in our ms.HM and ms.ARM clusters, respectively (ANOVA with  
734 Turkey HSD multiple comparisons correction, \*\*\* *p*≈0; box plots represent median, with 25<sup>th</sup> and  
735 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles and 1.5 times the inter-quartile range as minima and maxima). (d) Subselection of  
736 CRM cells from the main clusters shown in **a**. (e) Microglia cells enriched with a CRM  
737 transcriptomic profile are largely located at early stages of the response to amyloid in APP<sup>NL-G-F</sup>  
738 mice<sup>11</sup>. The left panel shows the trajectory analysis coloured by clusters as represented in panel **a**,  
739 whereas the right panel highlights the cells displaying a CRM profile.

740

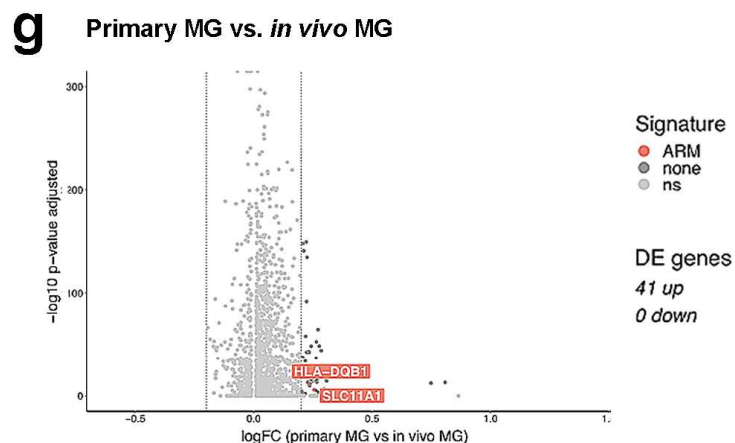
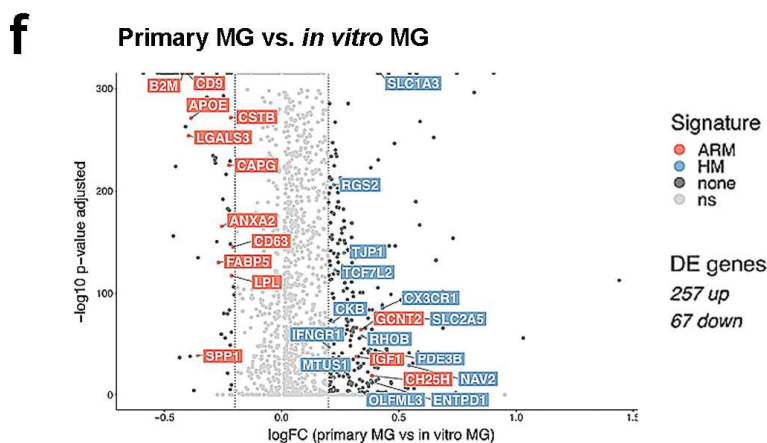
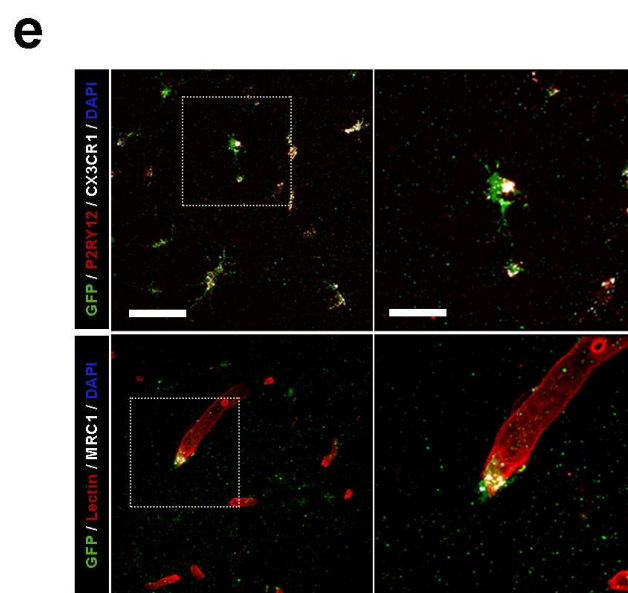
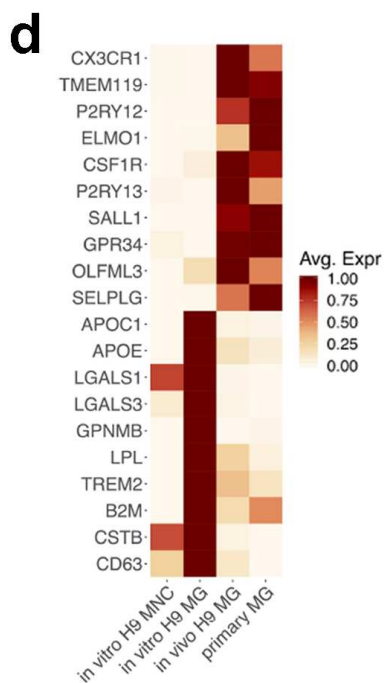
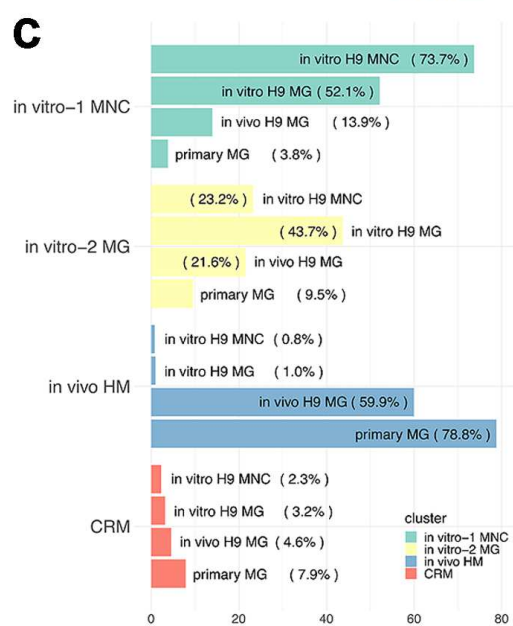
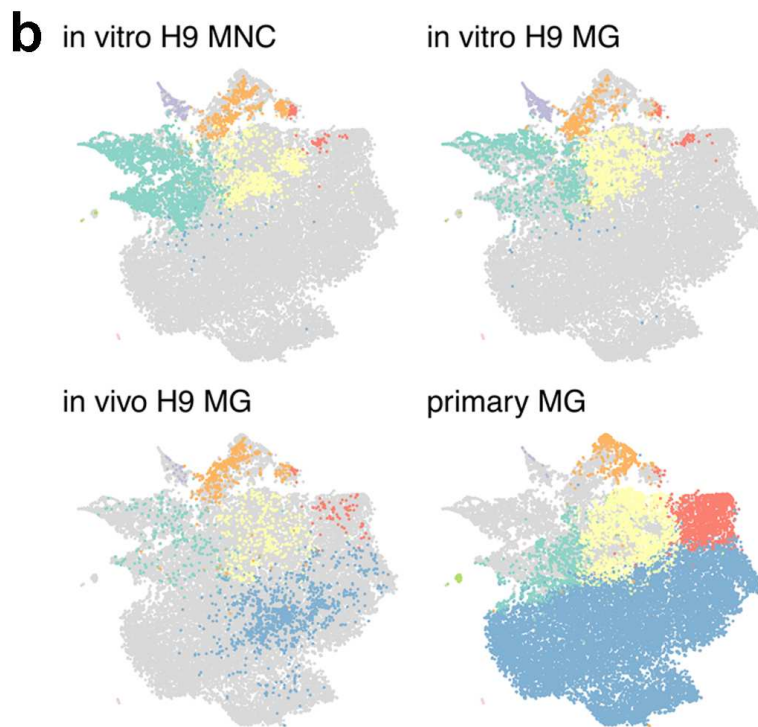
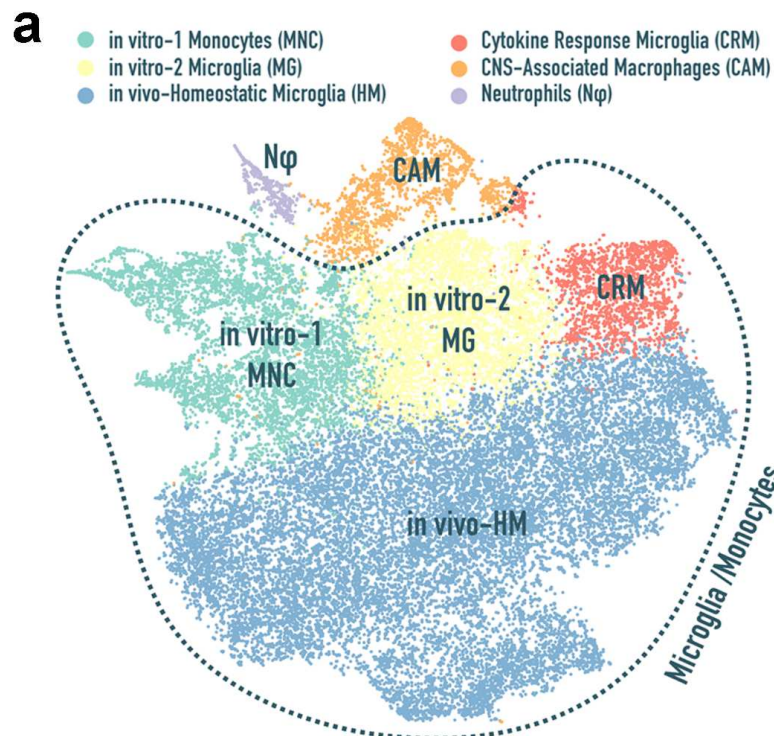
741 **Extended Data 10. Differential responses of human and host mouse microglia to oligomeric**  
742 **A $\beta$ .** (a) Pathway enrichment analysis (GORilla) shows that the differentially expressed genes in  
743 CRM vs. HM clusters are involved in immune and inflammatory processes. (b) Top differentially  
744 expressed genes in H9-microglia upon A $\beta$  challenge relative to scrambled peptide, and expression  
745 of their mouse orthologs by endogenous mouse cells. Coloured marks indicate the functional

746 category as shown in **b**. **(c)** Differentially expressed genes that show opposite behaviour in H9- and  
747 mouse host (*Rag2<sup>-/-</sup> Il2r $\gamma$ <sup>-/-</sup>*) microglia. Coloured marks indicate the functional category as shown in  
748 **b**. **(d)** Volcano plots showing paired comparisons between H9.HM, H9.CRM, but including all  
749 genes (even those with no clear orthology to mouse, Wilcoxon Rank Sum test, *p-values* adjusted  
750 with Bonferroni correction based on the total number of genes in the dataset). **(e)** Further pathway  
751 enrichment analysis (GORilla) performed on the human-specific (with no clear orthology)  
752 differentially expressed genes in H9.CRM vs. H9.HM clusters are involved in cytokine/chemokine  
753 responses.

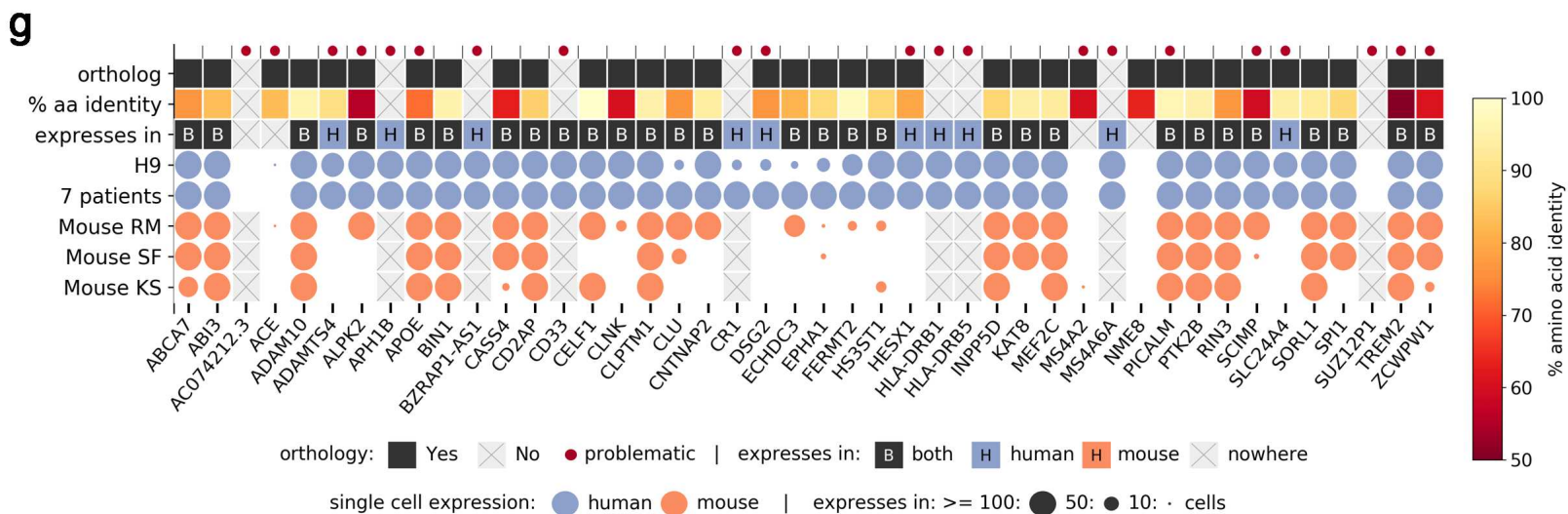
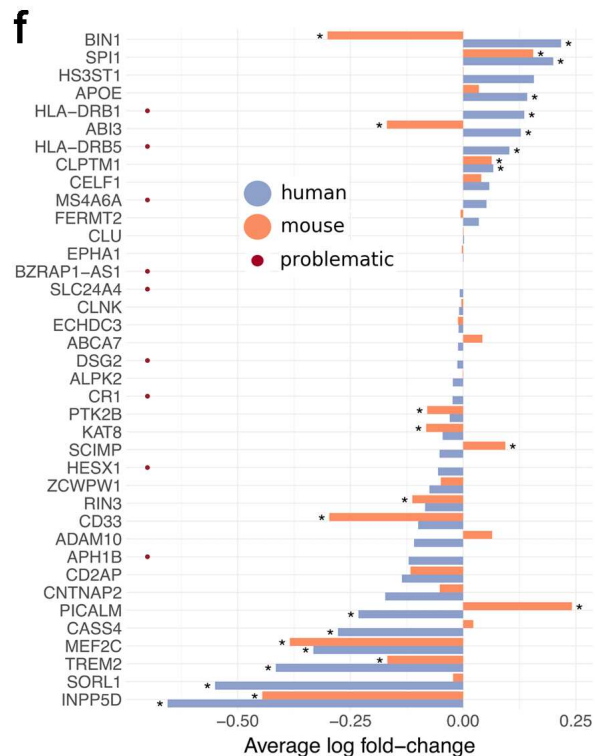
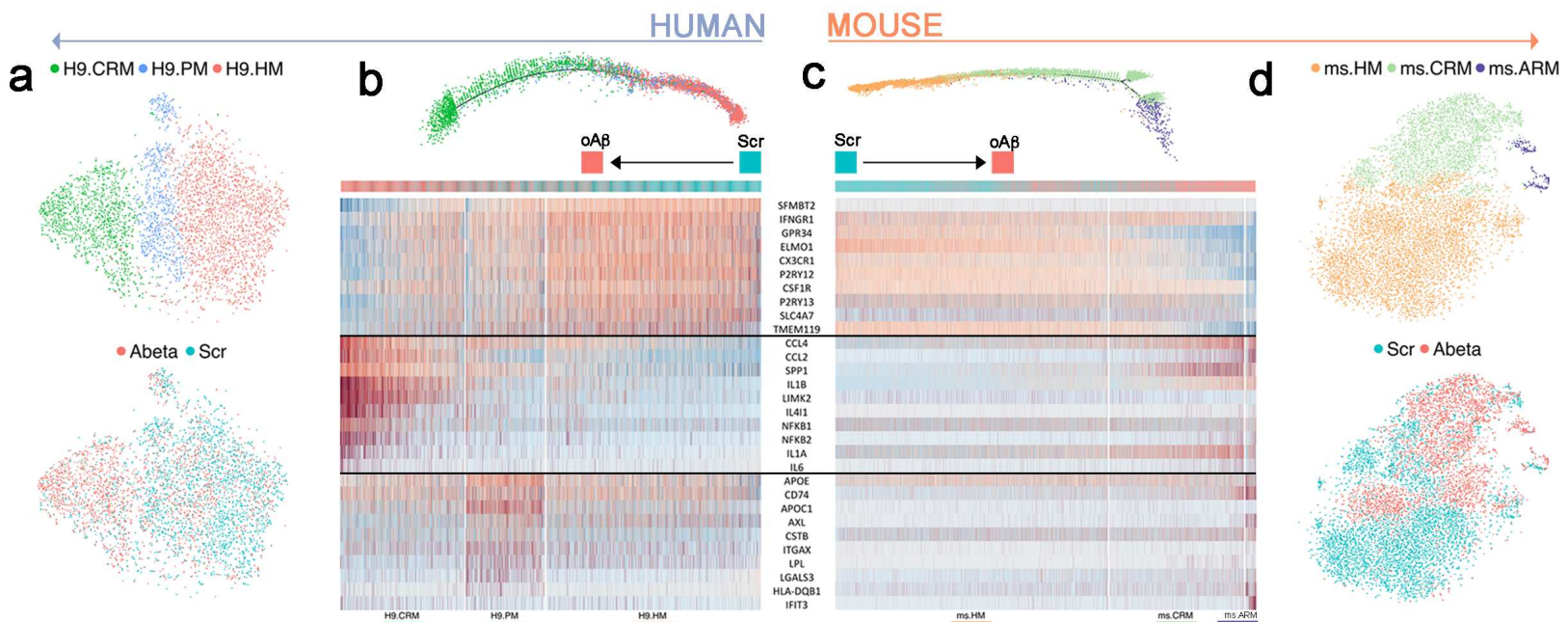
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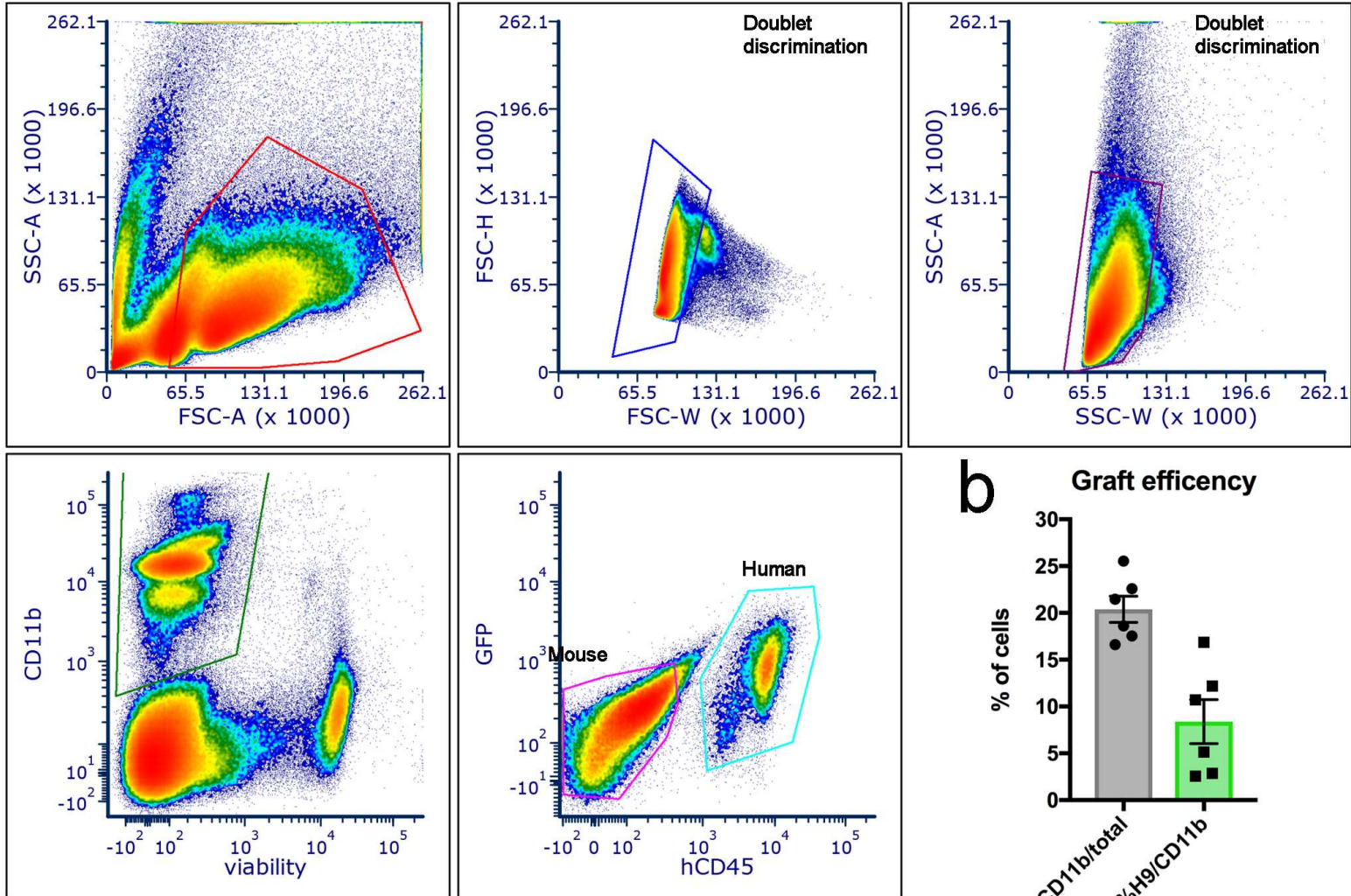




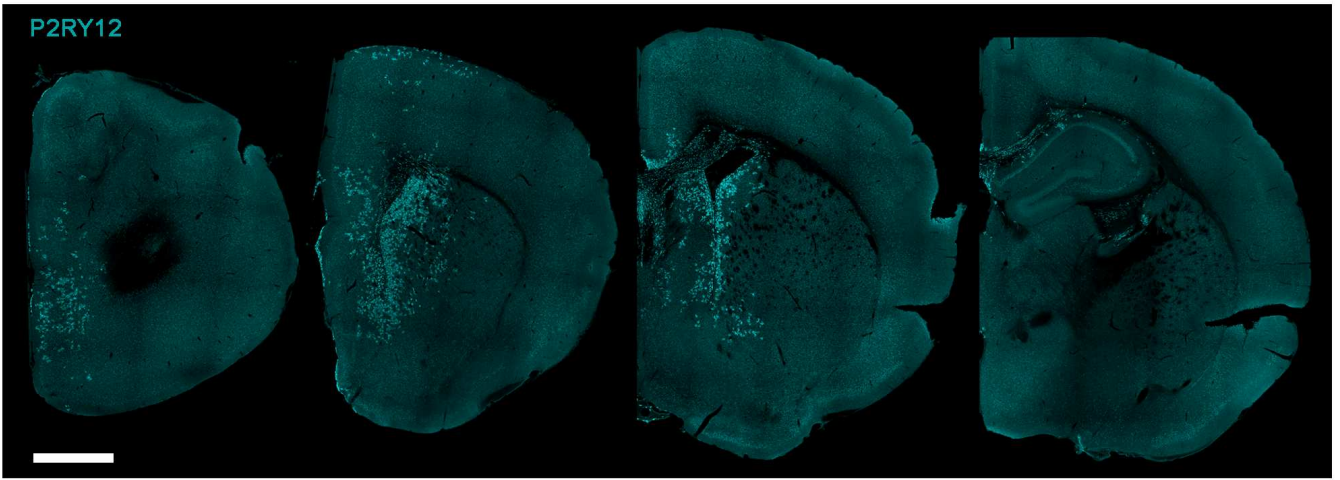
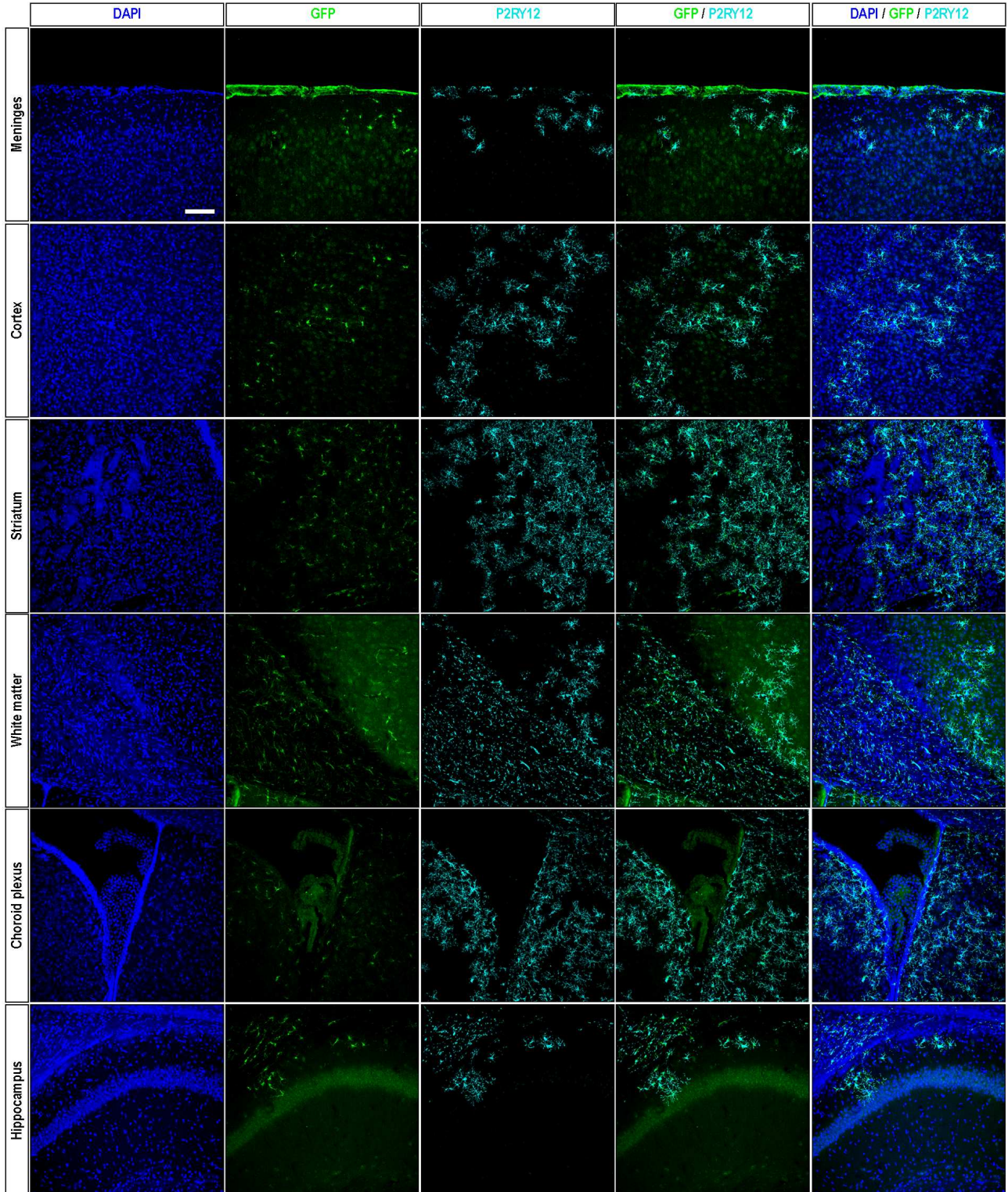




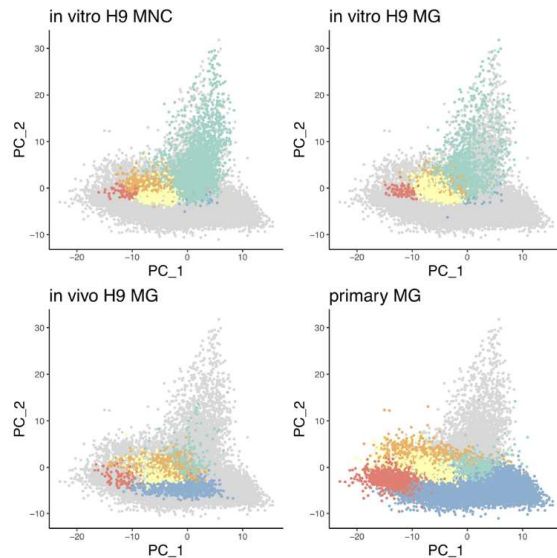
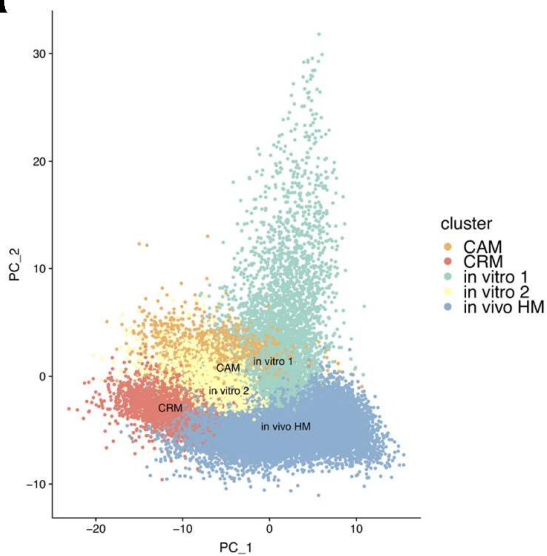
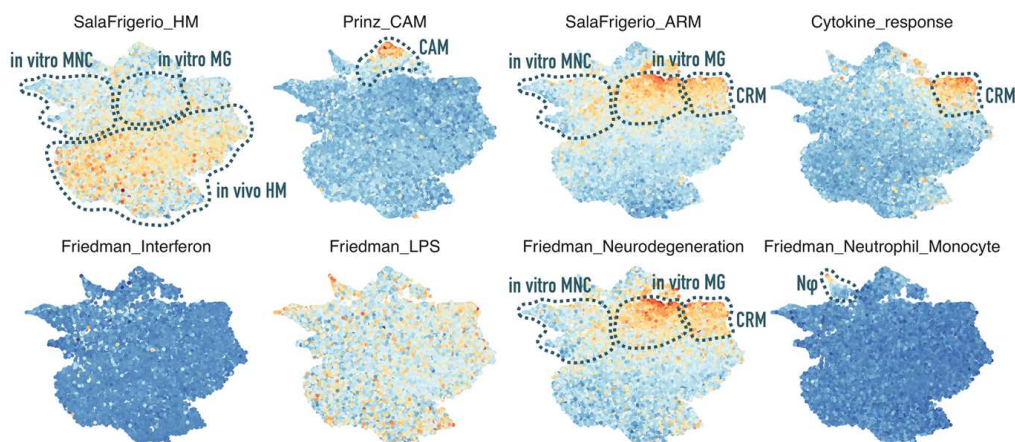
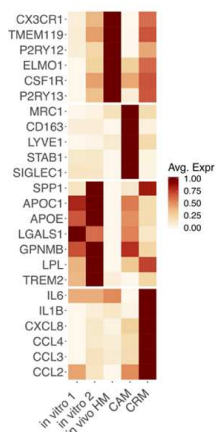
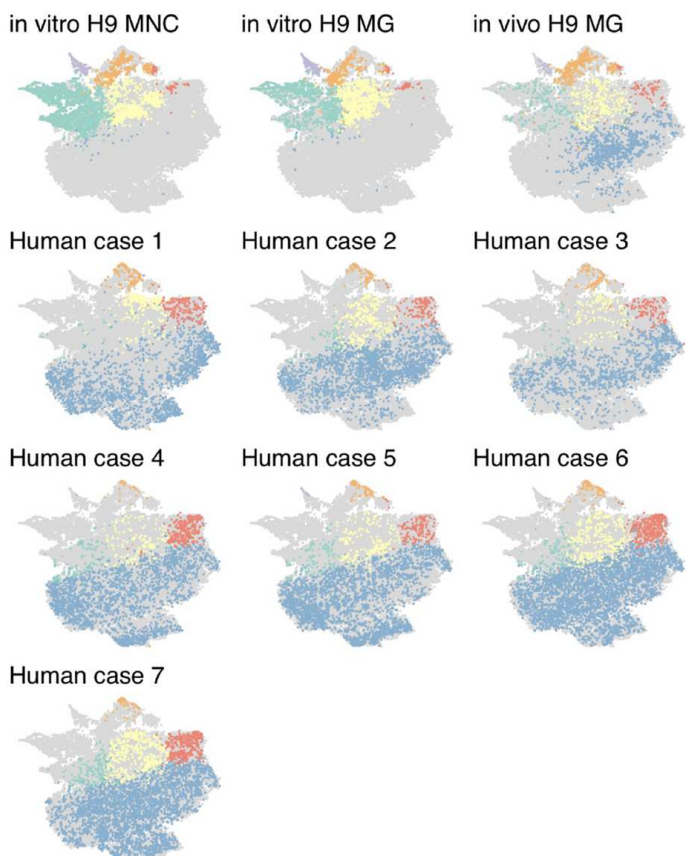
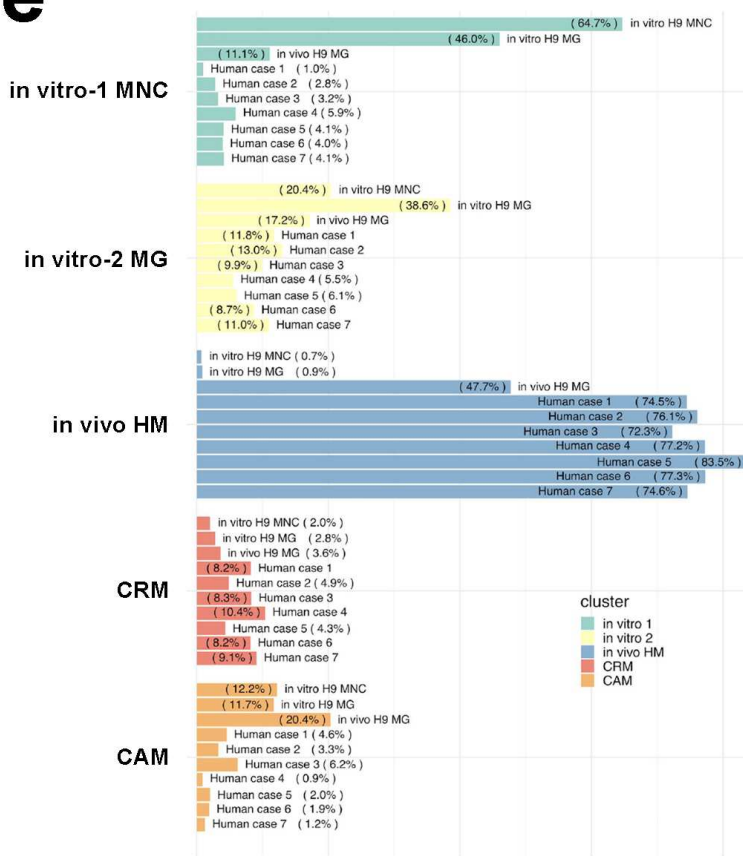


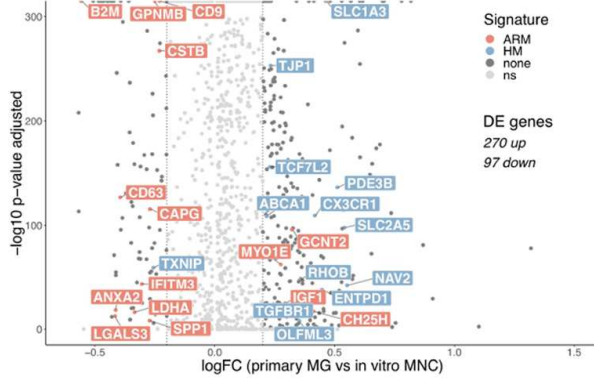
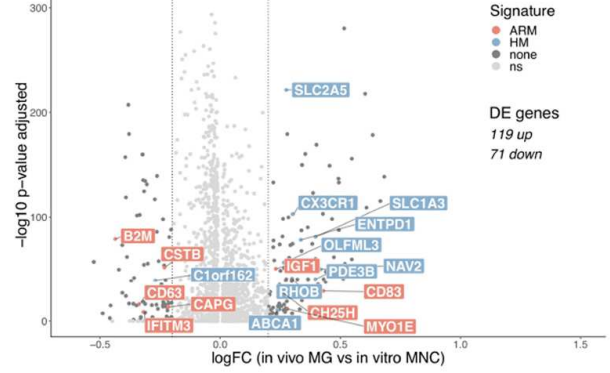
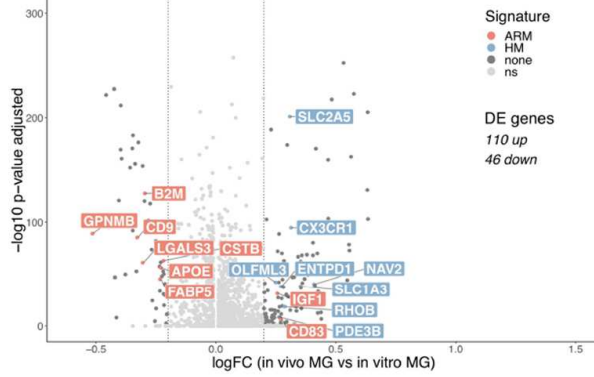
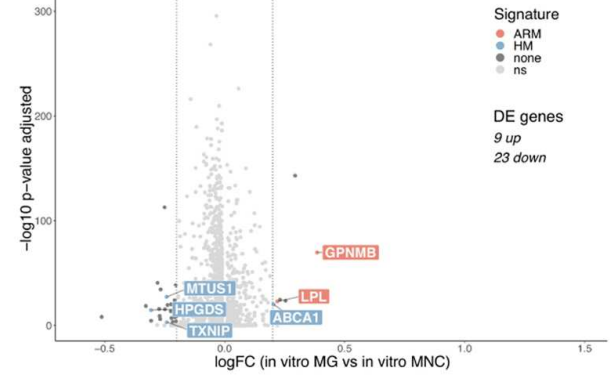
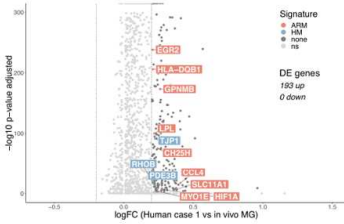
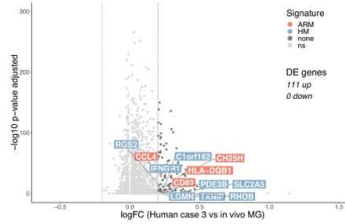
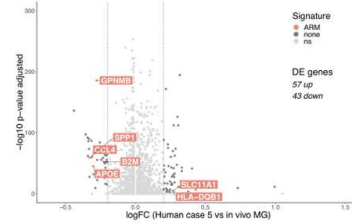
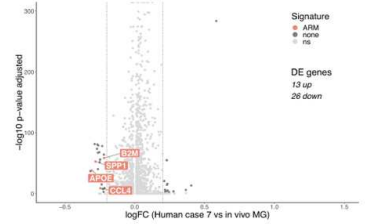
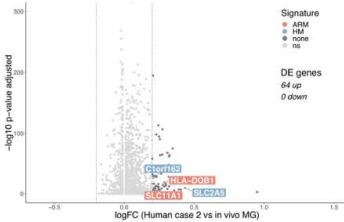
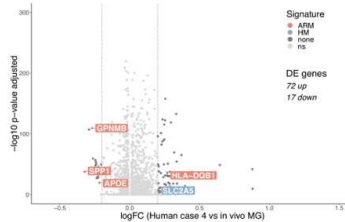
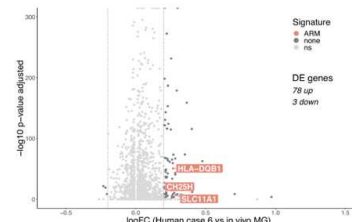
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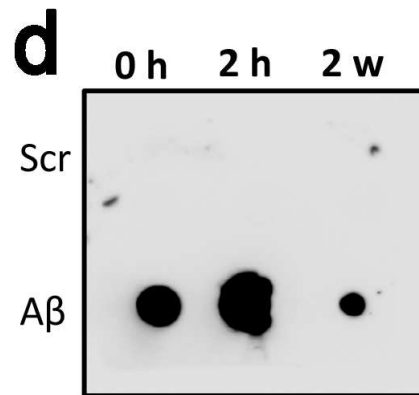
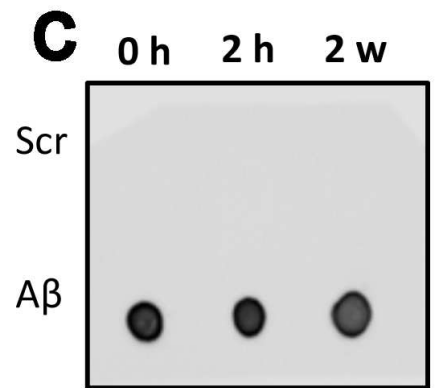
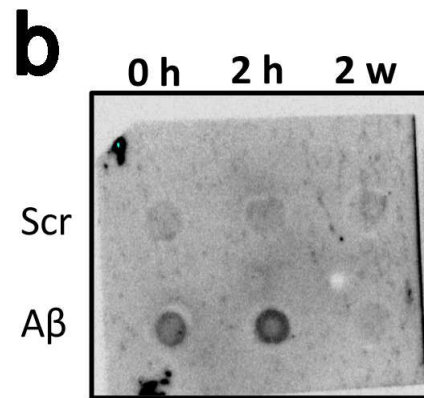
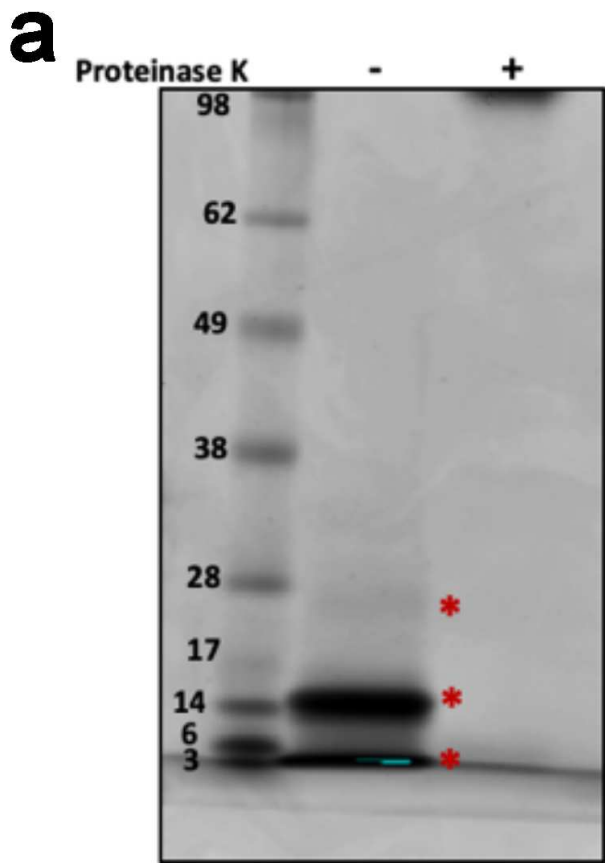


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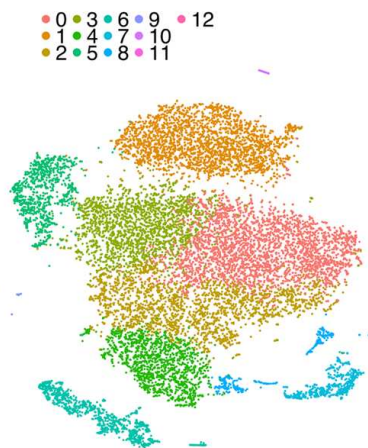
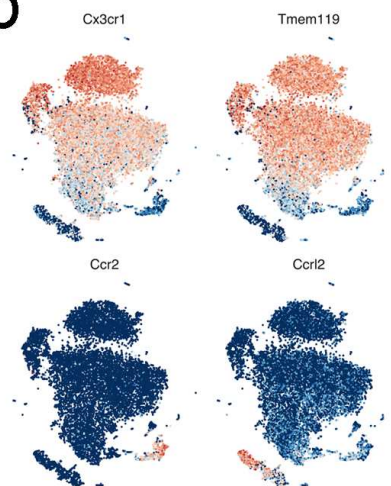
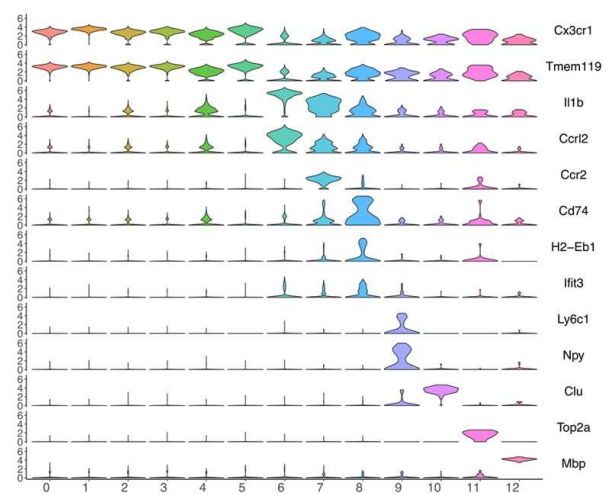
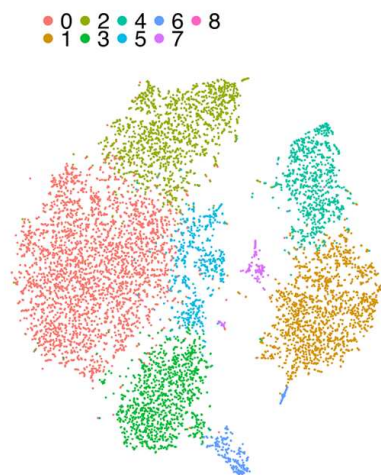
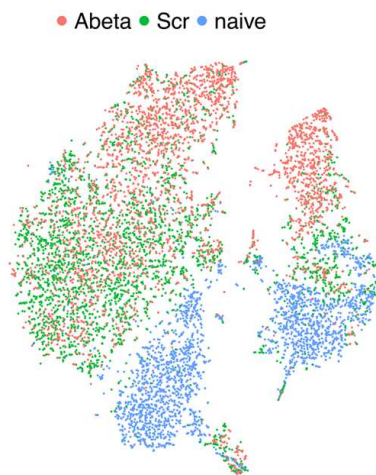
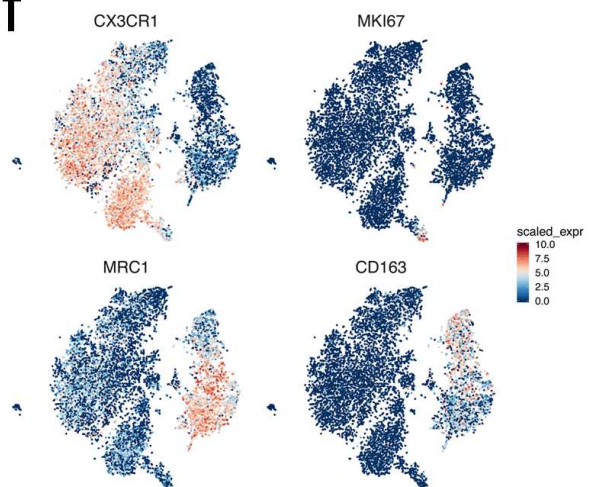


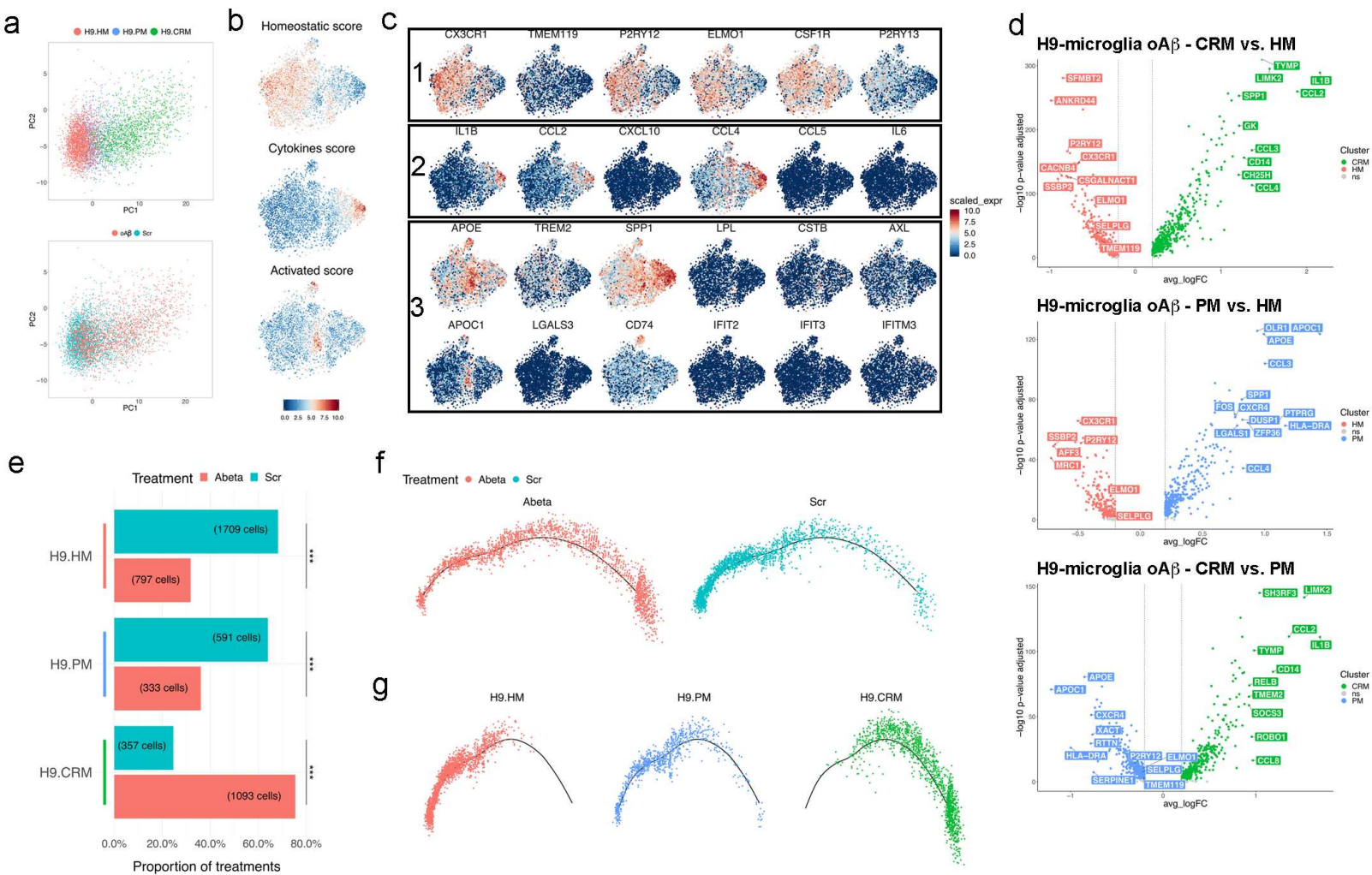
**a****b****c****d****e**

**a****Primary MG vs. *in vitro* MNC*****In vivo* MG vs. *in vitro* MNC*****In vivo* MG vs. *in vitro* MG*****In vitro* MG vs. *in vitro* MNC****b****Human case 1 vs. *in vivo* MG****Human case 3 vs. *in vivo* MG****Human case 5 vs. *in vivo* MG****Human case 7 vs. *in vivo* MG****Human case 2 vs. *in vivo* MG****Human case 4 vs. *in vivo* MG****Human case 6 vs. *in vivo* MG**

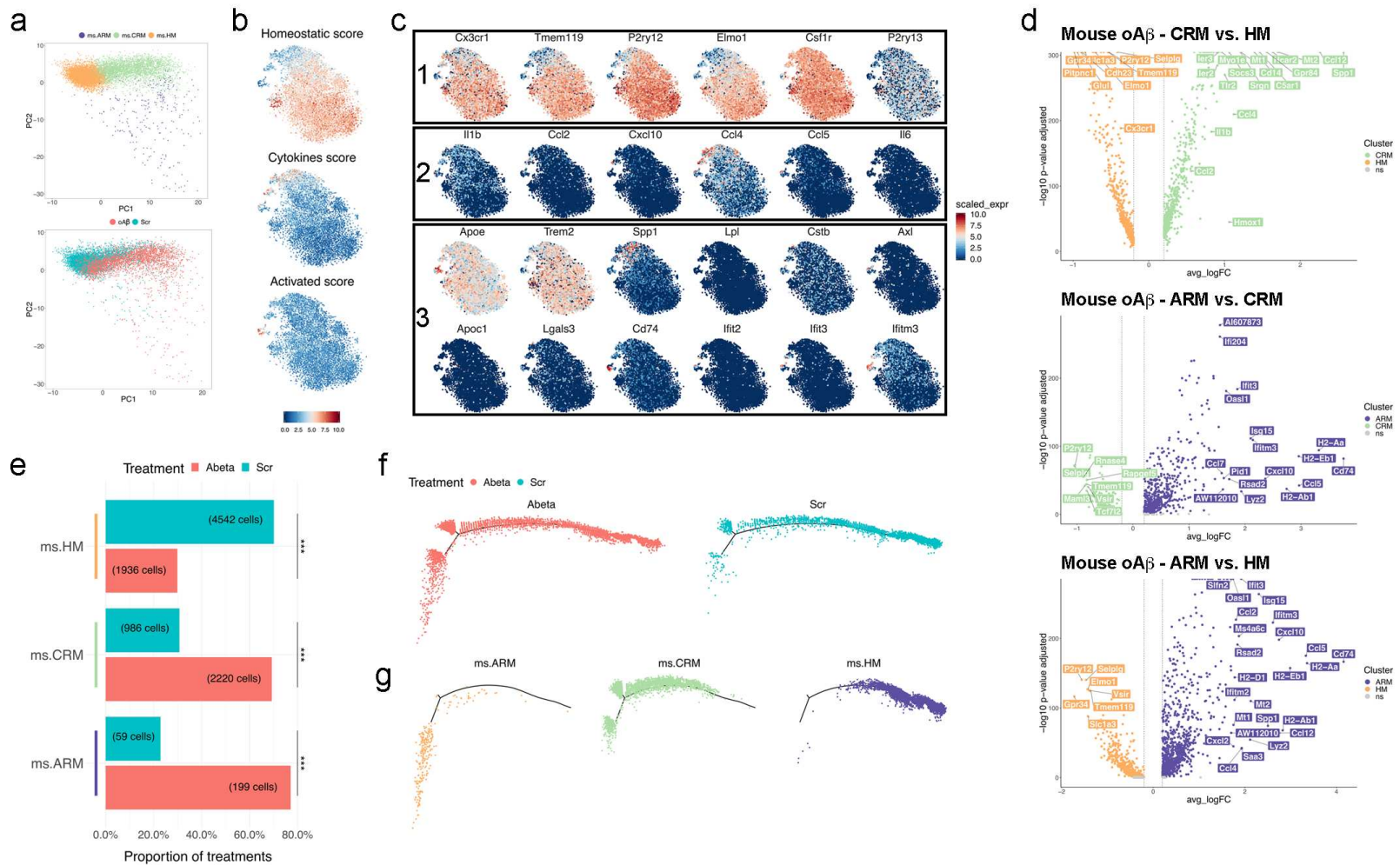




**a****b****c****d****e****f**







**a**

- Homeostatic microglia 1 (HM 1)
- Amyloid response microglia (ARM)
- Interferon response microglia (IRM)
- Homeostatic microglia 2 (HM 2)
- Transiting response microglia (TRM)
- Cycling and proliferating microglia (CPM)

