



Leiden University
Medical Center



BEAT COVID19 STUDY

Immunemonitoring by Flow Cytometry

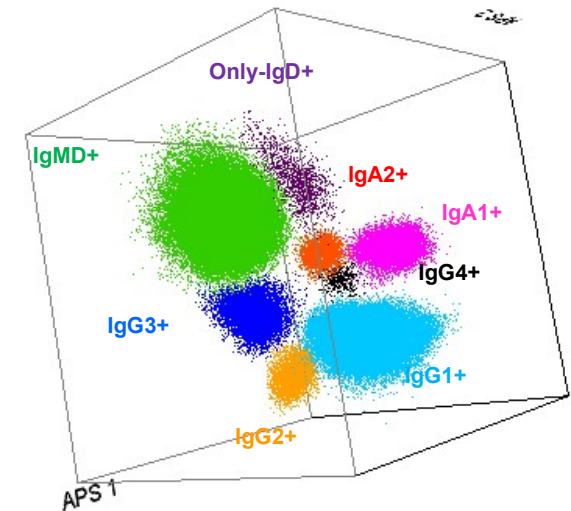
Alita van der Sluijs-Gelling

Mihaela Zlei

LUMC Department of Immunology

Immunemonitoring Group

NVC ZWOLLE, 25 NOVEMBER 2020



The novel SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 outbreak

Outbreak

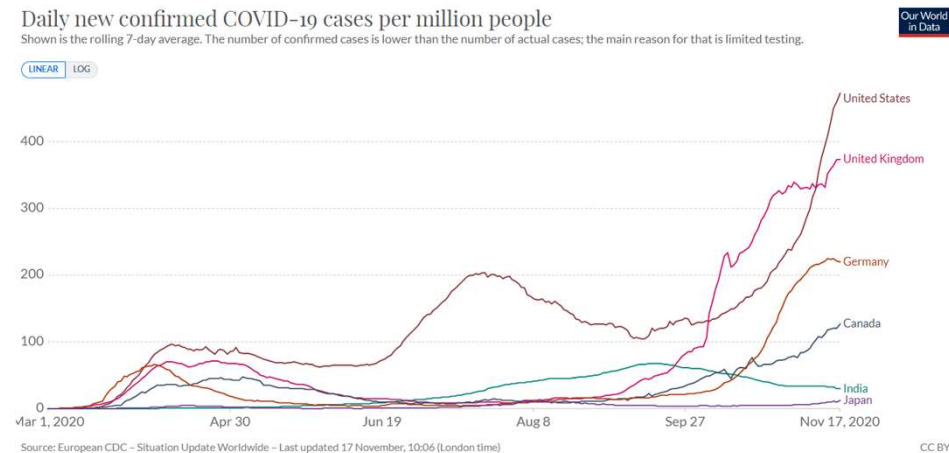
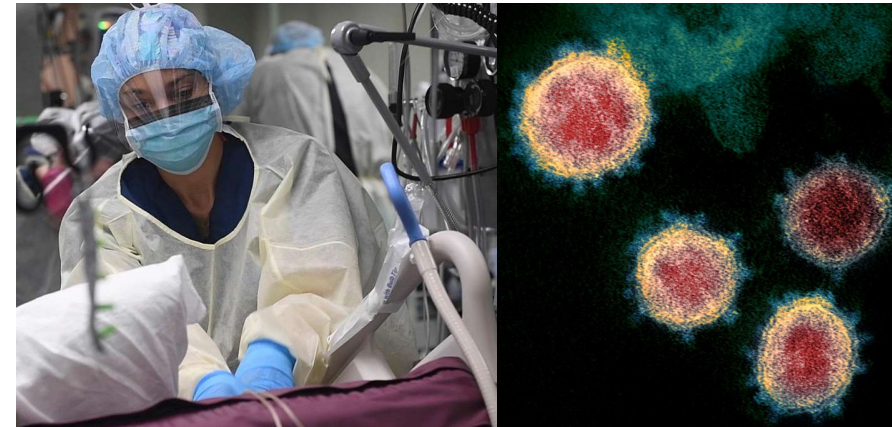
- 30 January 2020: Public Health Emergency of International Concern
- 11 March 2020: WHO declared a **pandemic**

20th Nov. 2020:

- total cases: >57,000,000 (500,000 daily)
- total active cases: >16,000,000
- total deaths: > 1,366,000 (>10,000 daily)

- spread primarily via small droplets from coughing
- estimated R0 of 5.7, before preventive measures implemented
- incubation period: 1 - 14 days (mainly 5)
- up to 80% of exposed people are asymptomatic
- 2-3% need to be hospitalized due to complications
- 20% out of those with complications can die

- **Vaccine candidates have not yet completed clinical trials**
- **No known specific antiviral medication**
- **No known correlates of anti-SARS-CoV-2 immunity**



OBJECTIVES

Premises

- Current vaccine/ other specific treatment not existing
- Gaps in knowledge concerning immunity to SARS-CoV-2

Means

- Investigate cellular immune response in LUMC- hospitalized severe COVID-19 patients
- Integrate the data with serology, molecular biology and functional assays.

BEAT-COVID1 - Biomarker-based Early Anti-inflammatory Therapy for severe COVID-19 (ABR NL73740.058.20)

Identification of biomarkers for prediction of inflammatory processes, in support of BEAT-COVID2 clinical therapy trial

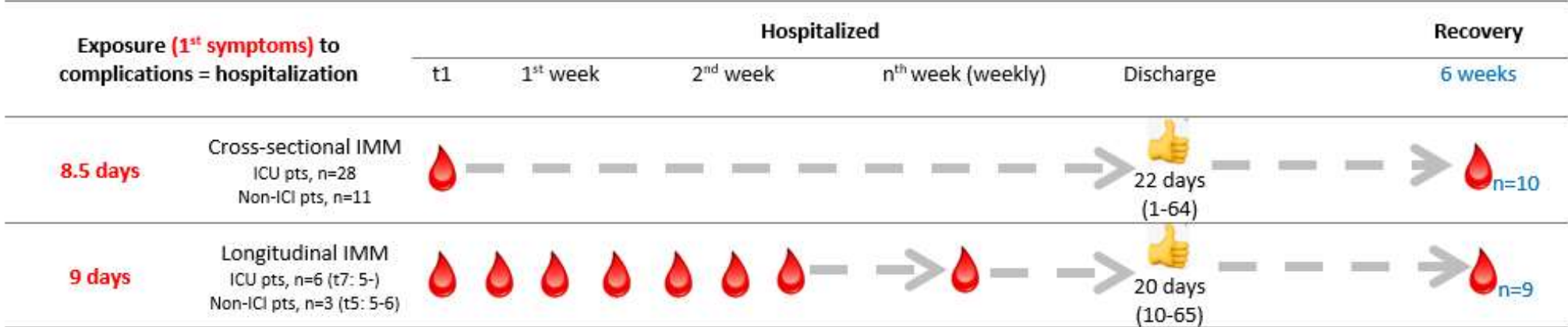
Objective

Increase the understanding of the COVID-19 disease

- What are the **immune profiles** of different types of groups?
- What are the criteria that define different **disease trajectories**?

| Sub-group coordinators | Study |
|---|---|
| Ton Rabelink | Functional glycolyx assays & ECIS test |
| Tom Ottenhoff, Simone Joosten | Circulating cytokines by Luminex |
| Annemieke Geluk | Circulating cytokines by UCP LFA (rapid test) |
| Jutte de Vries, Mariet Feltkamp | SARS-CoV2 specific serology |
| Eric Snijder, Marjolein Kikkert | SARS-CoV-2 specific neutralization |
| Ron Hokke, Manfred Wuhrer | Ab glycosylation, serum glycome, α -glycan Abs |
| Menno Huisman | Coagulation activation parameters |
| Ton Rabelink | Glycolyx destruction and heparanase activity |
| Hermelijn Smits | Stimulation assays |
| Jacques van Dongen, Frank Staal, Christa Cobbaert | Circulating cellular immune responses, with special attention for the blood B-cell system |
| Jutte de Vries | SARS-CoV2 viral load in upper airway |

EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



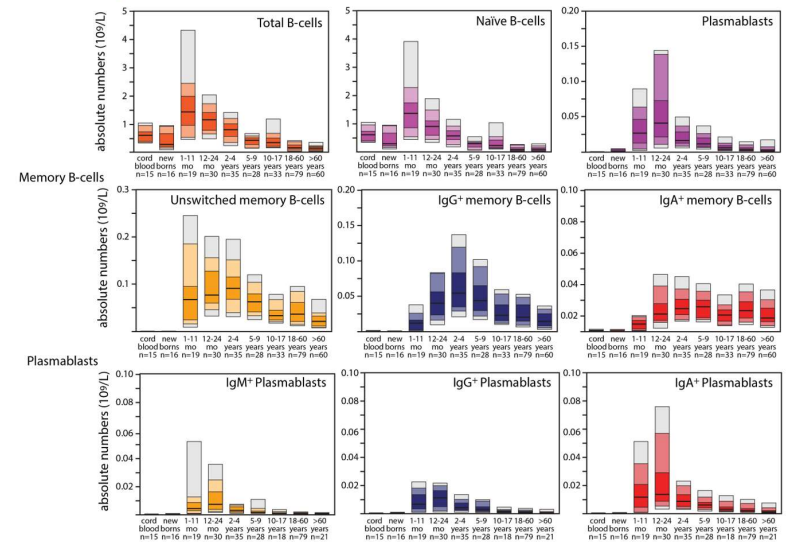
Study group

- **48 patients** included for cellular immune status evaluation (average 62 y)
- 34 ICU patients
- 14 patients from the COVID wards (non-ICU)
- 9 patients - enrolled for a longitudinal immunomonitoring
- 12 healthy controls (>60 y)

Readouts:

- Flow cytometry of > 250 circulating immune cell subsets
- Stored serum, plasma, PBMCs for further research

Age-related reference values of blood B-cell subsets

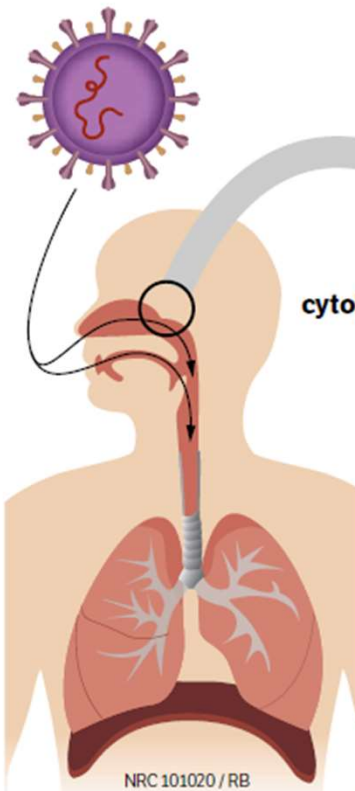


EuroFlow PID report, J.J.M. van Dongen et al. *Frontiers Immunol* 2019;10, article 1271

De immunologische afweer tegen virussen in een notendop

SARS-Cov-2

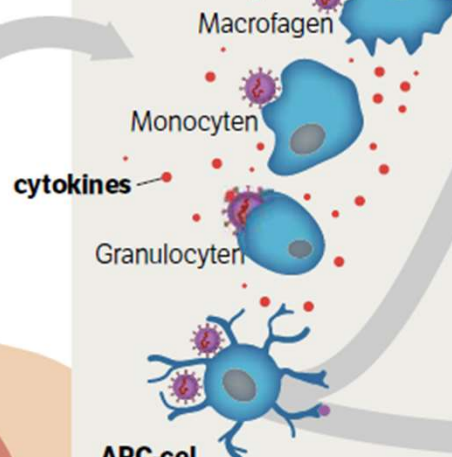
Het virus infecteert cellen in de slijmvliezen van de bovenste luchtwegen en de longen.



NRC 101020 / RB

Aangeboren afweer

Immuuncellen in de slijmvliezen detecteren het virus en beginnen met het opruimen ervan. Ze scheiden signaalstoffen uit die nog meer immuuncellen rekruteren in het infectiegebied.

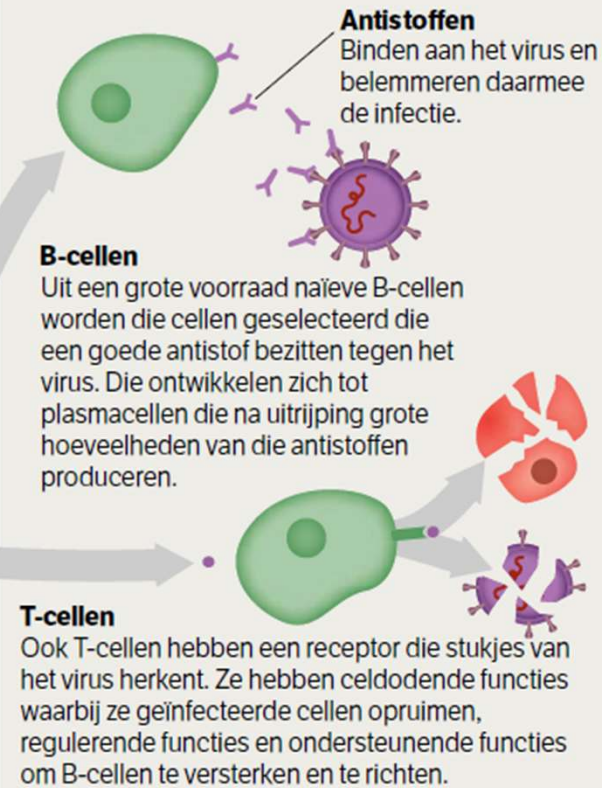


APC-cel

Een deel van de dendritische cellen ontwikkelt zich tot antigeen-presenterende cellen die stukje van het virus presenteren aan de cellen van het adaptieve immuunsysteem.

Adaptieve afweer

Het adaptieve immuunsysteem leert de eiwitstructuren van het virus herkennen. Daarmee ontketent het niet alleen een heel gerichte aanval tegen het virus, maar bouwt het ook een geheugen op.



Antistoffen

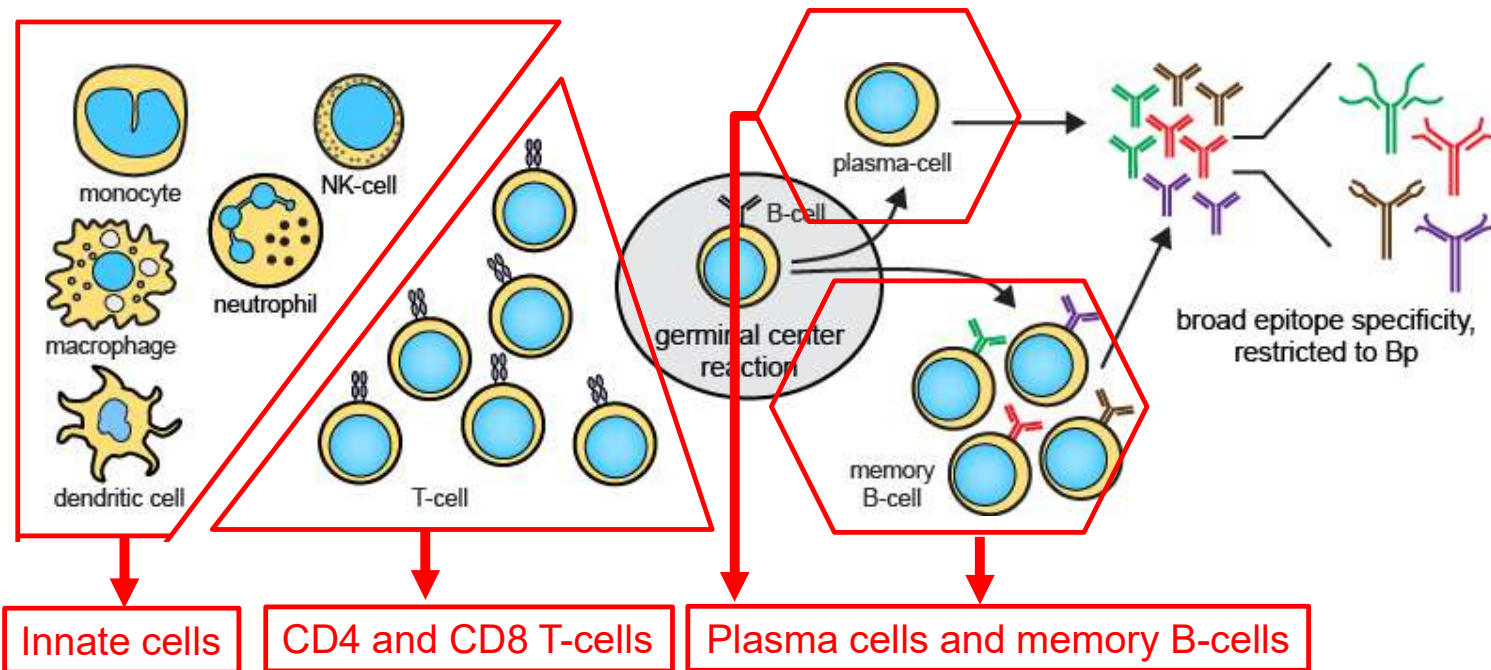
Binden aan het virus en belemmeren daarmee de infectie.

B-cellen

Uit een grote voorraad naïeve B-cellen worden die cellen geselecteerd die een goede antistof bezitten tegen het virus. Die ontwikkelen zich tot plasmacellen die na uitrijping grote hoeveelheden van die antistoffen produceren.

T-cellen

Ook T-cellen hebben een receptor die stukjes van het virus herkent. Ze hebben celdodende functies waarbij ze geïnfecteerde cellen opruimen, regulerende functies en ondersteunende functies om B-cellen te versterken en te richten.

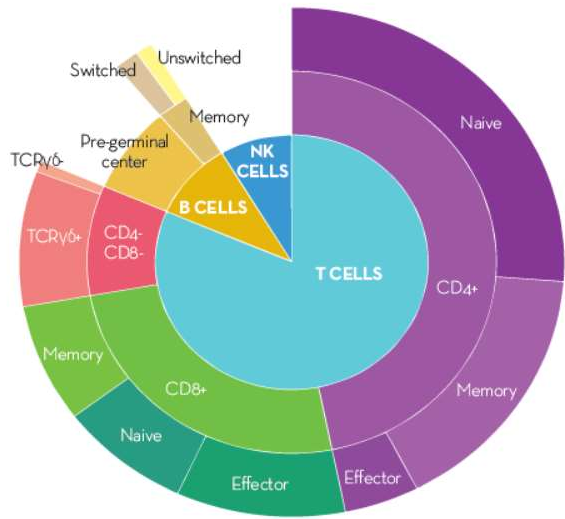


EuroFlow-based next generation flowcytometry in four 14-color tubes:

- 14-color monocyte-macrophage and dendritic cells (DC): **completed: ~22 subsets**
- 14-color CD4+ T-cell populations: **completed: ~85 subsets**
- 14-color CD8+ T-cell subsets and NK-cells: **completed: ~50 subsets**
- 14-color Immature, Memory B-cells, plasma cells, IGH isotypes: **ready: ~115 subsets**

PIDOT Tube – 8 colors, 12 markers

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| BV421 | BV510 | FITC | PE | PerCPy5.5 | PECy7 | APC | APCH7 | BV605 |
| CD27 | CD45RA | CD8 and <u>SmlgD</u> | CD16 and CD56 | CD4 and <u>SmlgM</u> | CD19 and TCR $\gamma\delta$ | CD3 | CD45 | CD38 |

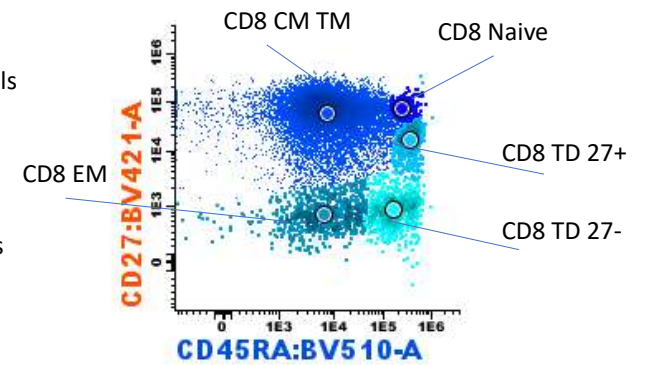
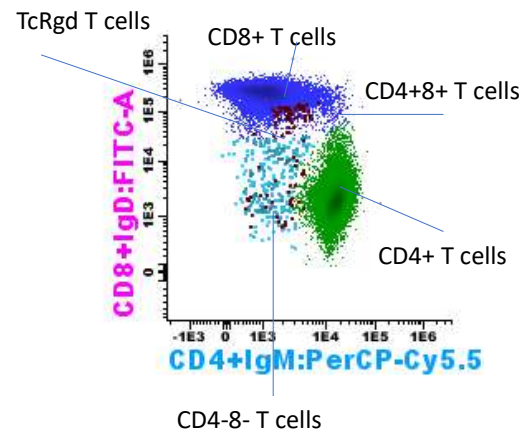
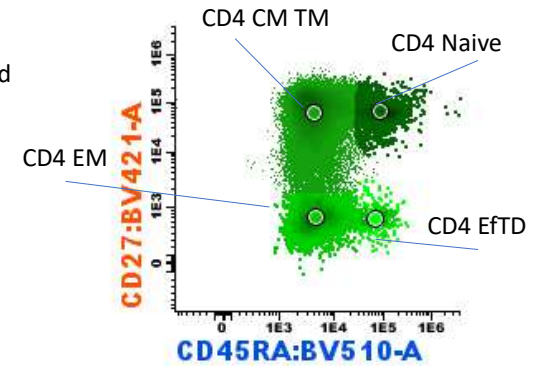
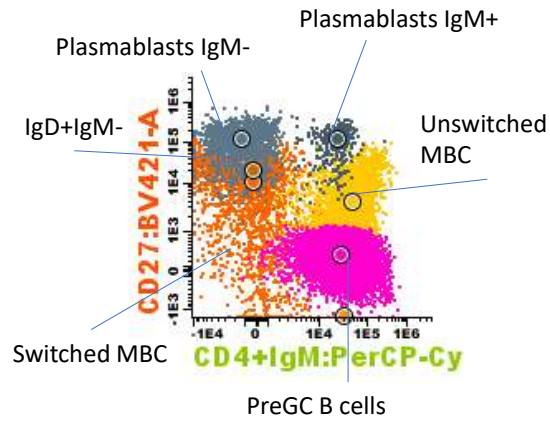
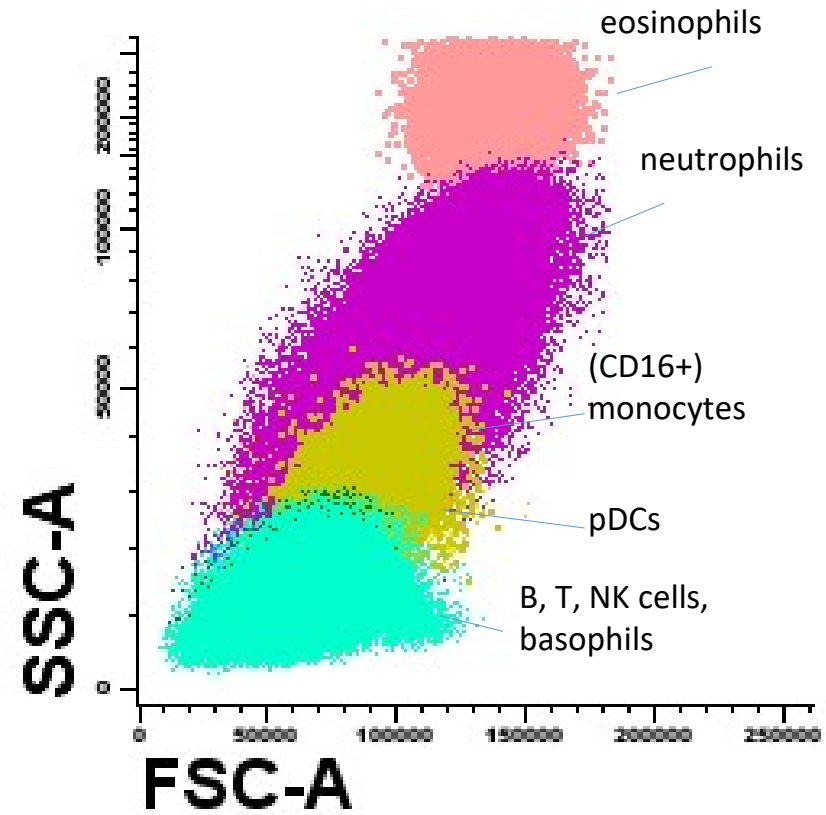


The EuroFlow PID Orientation Tube for Flow Cytometric Diagnostic Screening of Primary Immunodeficiencies of the Lymphoid System

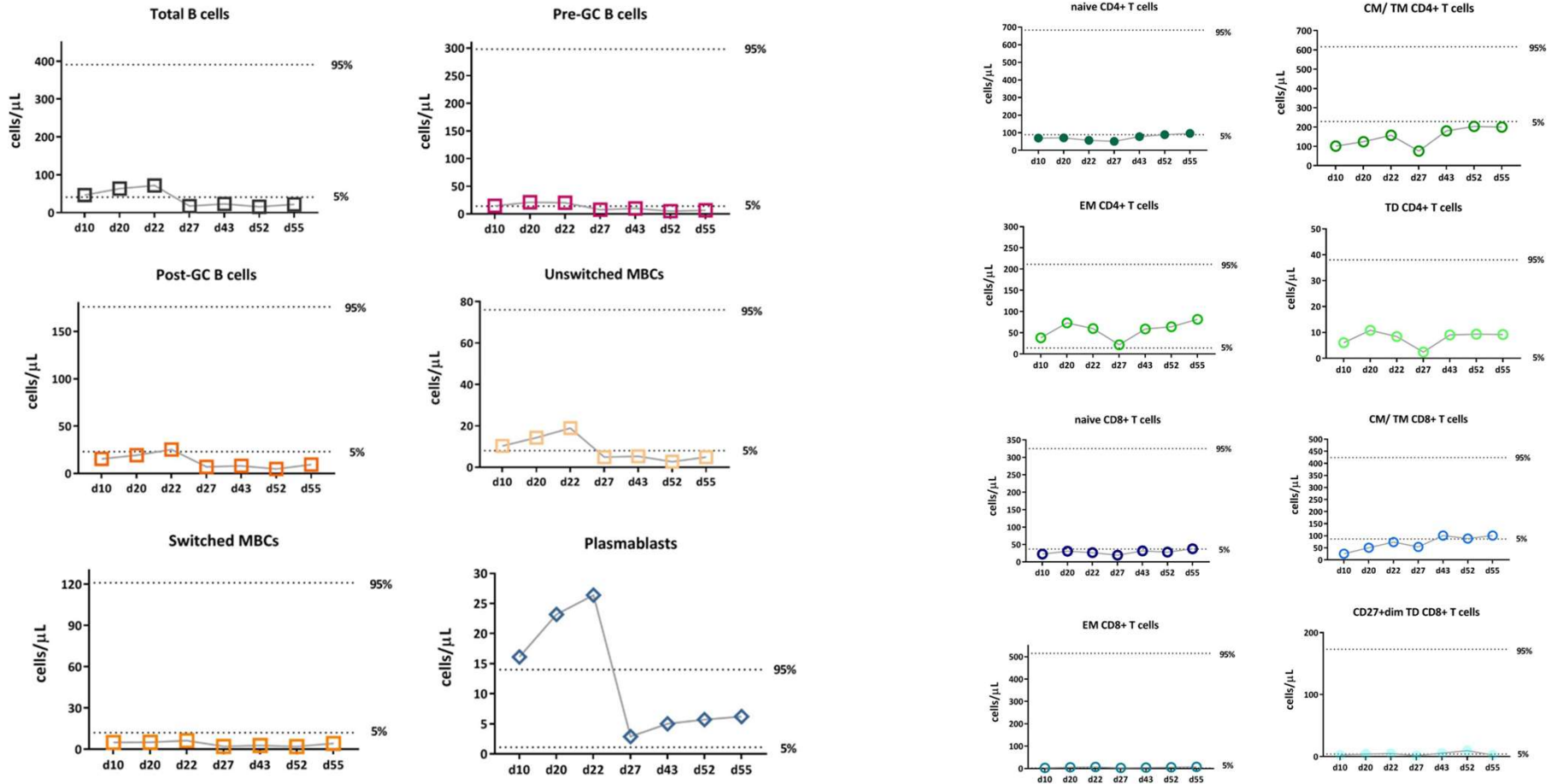
Mirjam van der Burg,^{1*} Tomas Kalina,^{2*} Martin Perez-Andres,^{3*} Marcela Vlkova,⁴ Eduardo Lopez-Granados,⁵ Elena Blanco, Carolien Bonroy, Ana E. Sousa, Anne-Kathrin Kienzler,⁶ Marjolein Wentink,¹ Ester Mejstříková,² Vendula Šinkorova,² Jan Stuchly,² Menno van Zelm,⁷ Alberto Orfao,³ Jacques J.M. van Dongen⁸ on behalf of the EuroFlow PID consortium

Frontiers in Immunology, March 2019





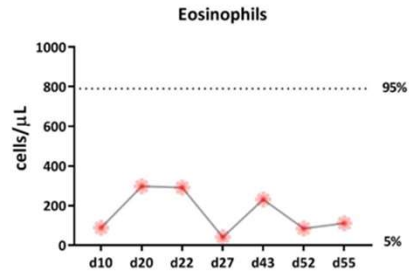
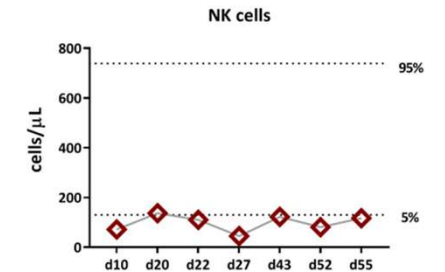
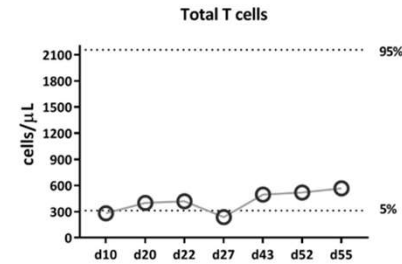
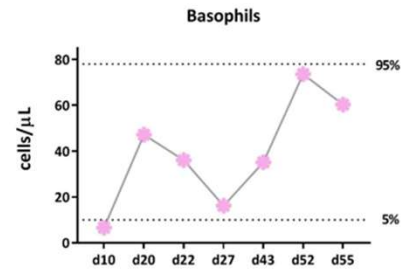
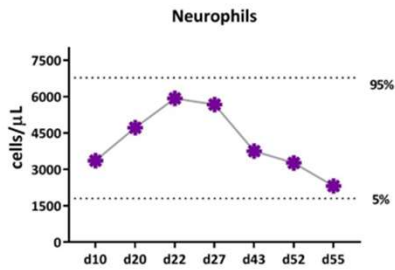
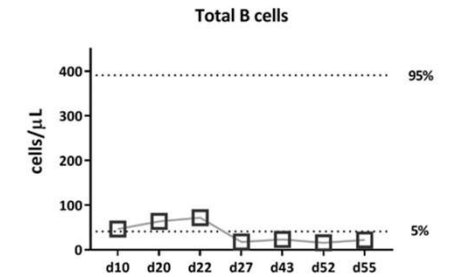
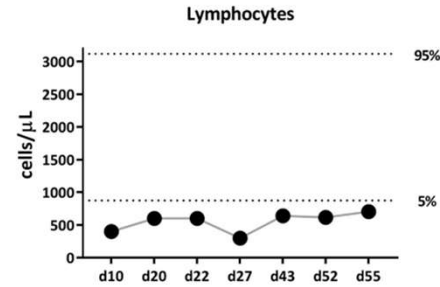
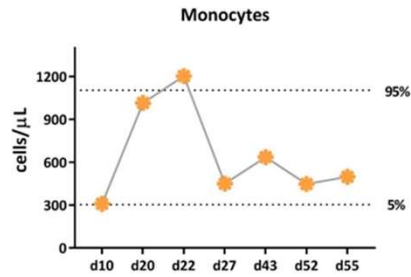
Longitudinal data: B and T cell compartment – Patient example



Detailed immune monitoring of a pregnant woman with critical Covid-19

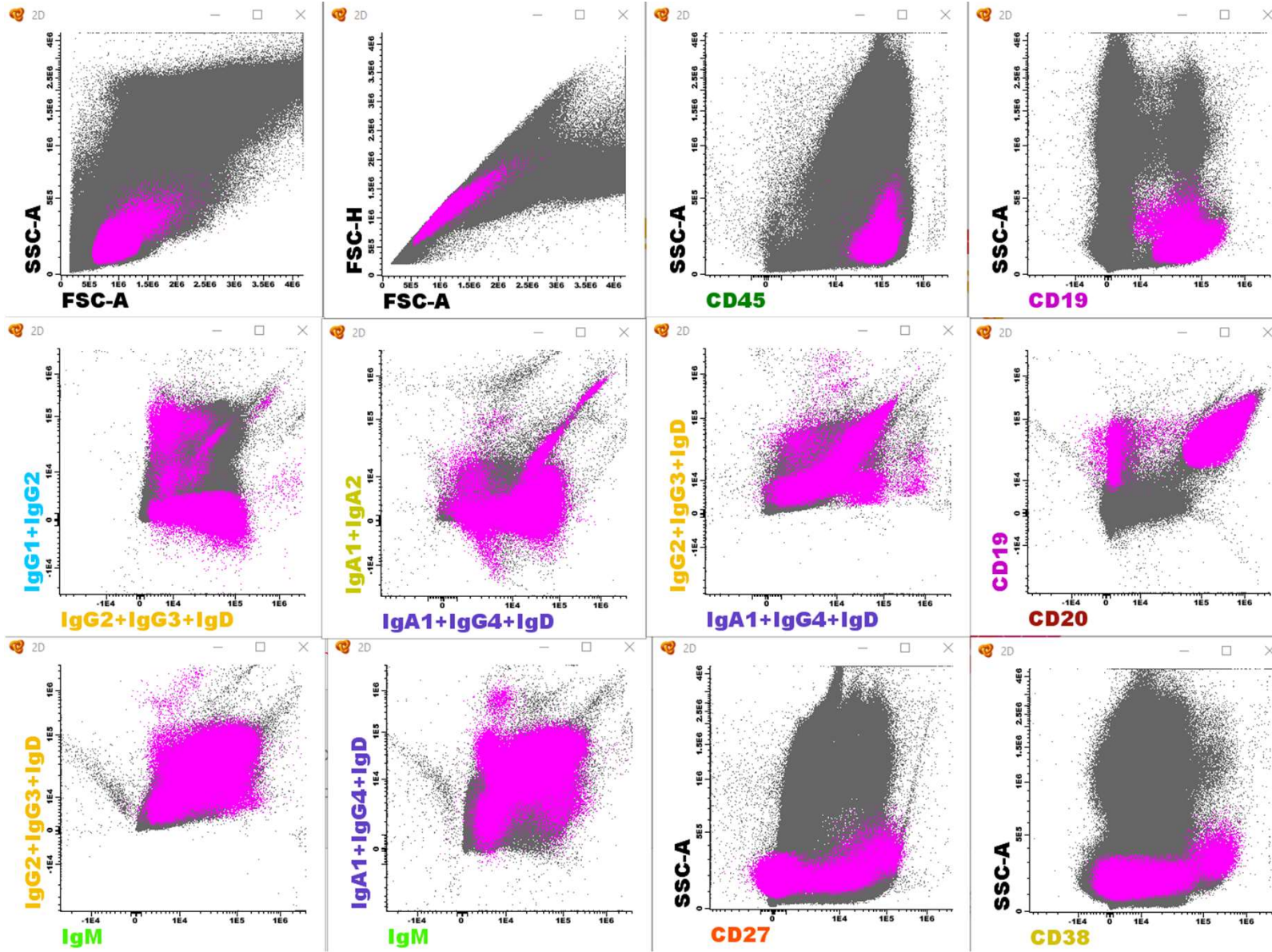
[NAdu Fossé^a](#)[KBronsgeest^a](#)[MSArbous^b](#)[MZlei^c](#)[SKMyeni^d](#)[MKikkert^b](#)[JJMvan Dongen^c](#)[FJTStaal^c](#)[MLPvan der Hoorn^a](#)[Tvan den Akker^a](#)

Longitudinal data: B and T cell compartment – Patient example



Detailed immune monitoring of a pregnant woman with critical Covid-19

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BIG_Presentation_B_cyt // Analysis

File Edit Diagrams Statistics Profile Databases Tool

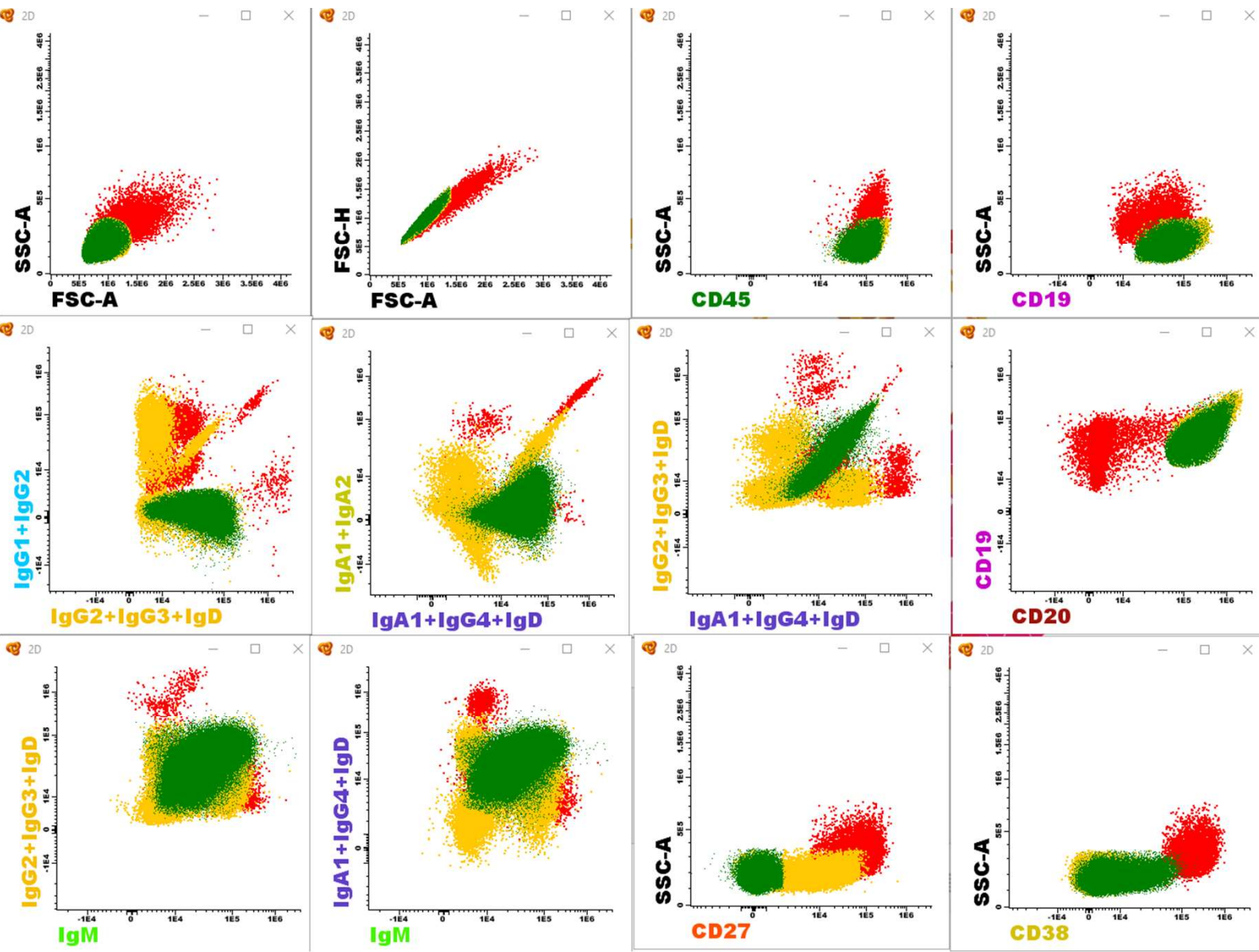
CYT Profile > 20200910_BIG_IMM_COVID-19_173_BdM *

Default Tree +

Population

Events

- VIS.
- Events
 - % Unchecked events: 95.8 %
 - Other Events
 - Debris/Doublets
 - Nucleated cells
 - Other Nucleated cells
 - Lymphocytes
 - Other Lymphocytes
 - T/NK
 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Plasma Cells
 - Myeloid
 - Unspecified Nucleated cells



BIG_Presentation_PC_Mem_PGC_cyt // Analysis

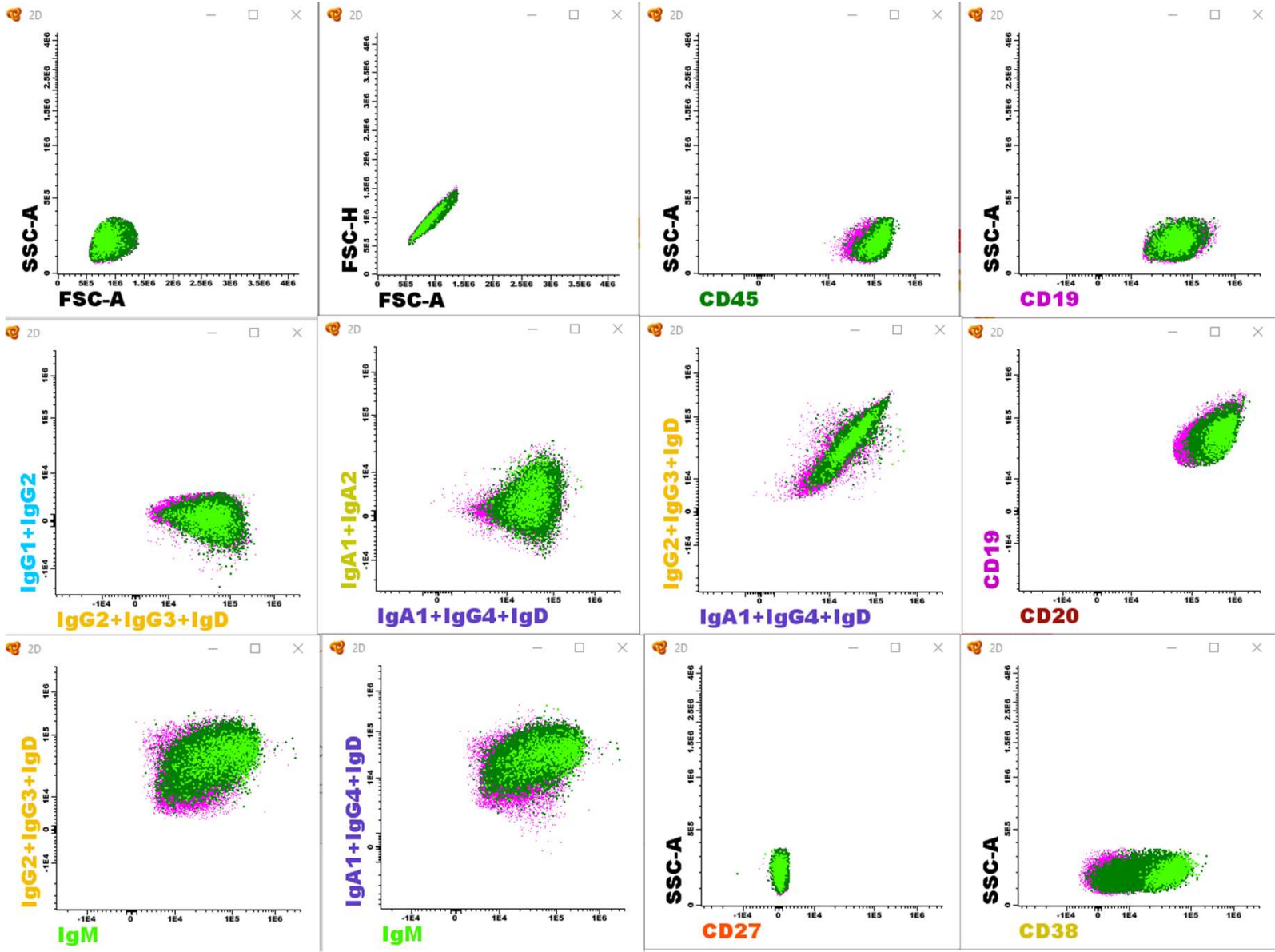
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CYT Profile > BIG_Presentation_PC_Mem_PGC_*

Default Tree +

VIS. Population

- Events
 - % Unchecked events: 95.8 %
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 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Plasma Cells
 - Myeloid
 - Unspecified Nucleated cells



BIG_Presentation_PC_Memory.cyt // Analysis

File Edit Diagrams Statistics Profile Databases Tools

CYT Profile > 20200910_BIG_IMM_COVID-19_173_BdM *

BIG_Pr

Default Tree +

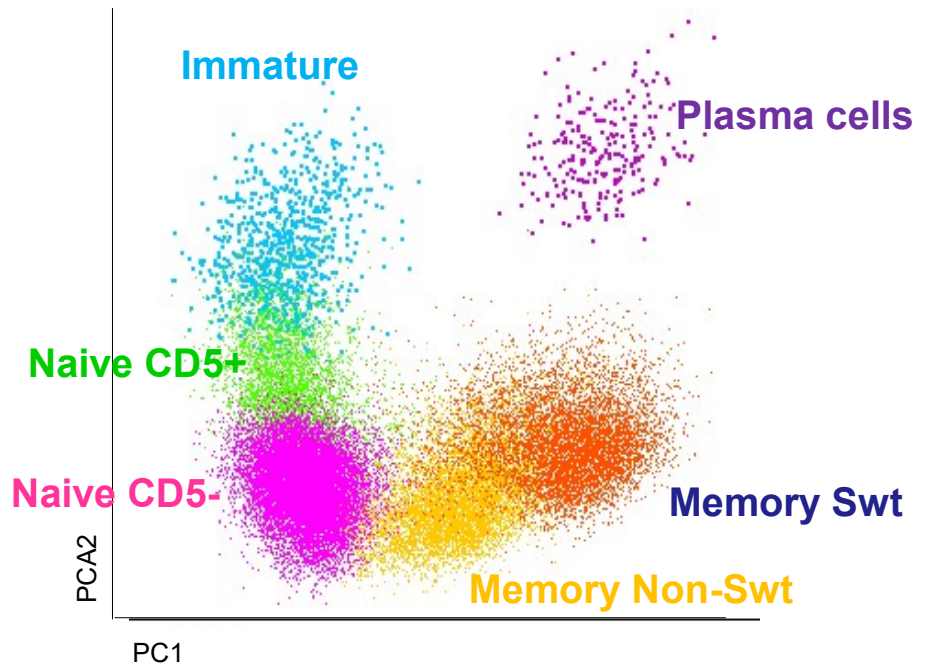
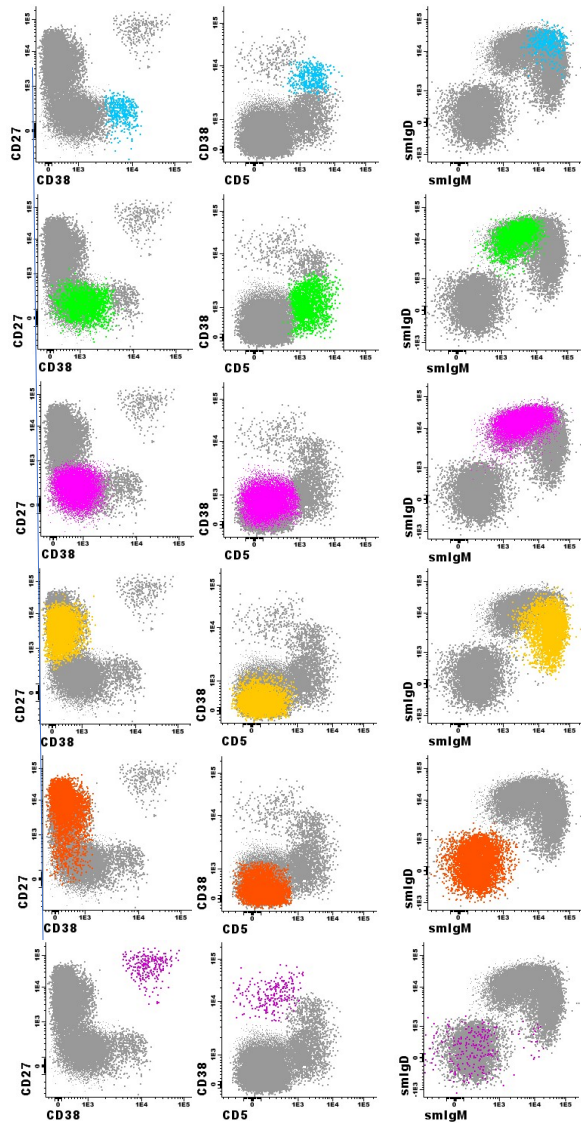
Population

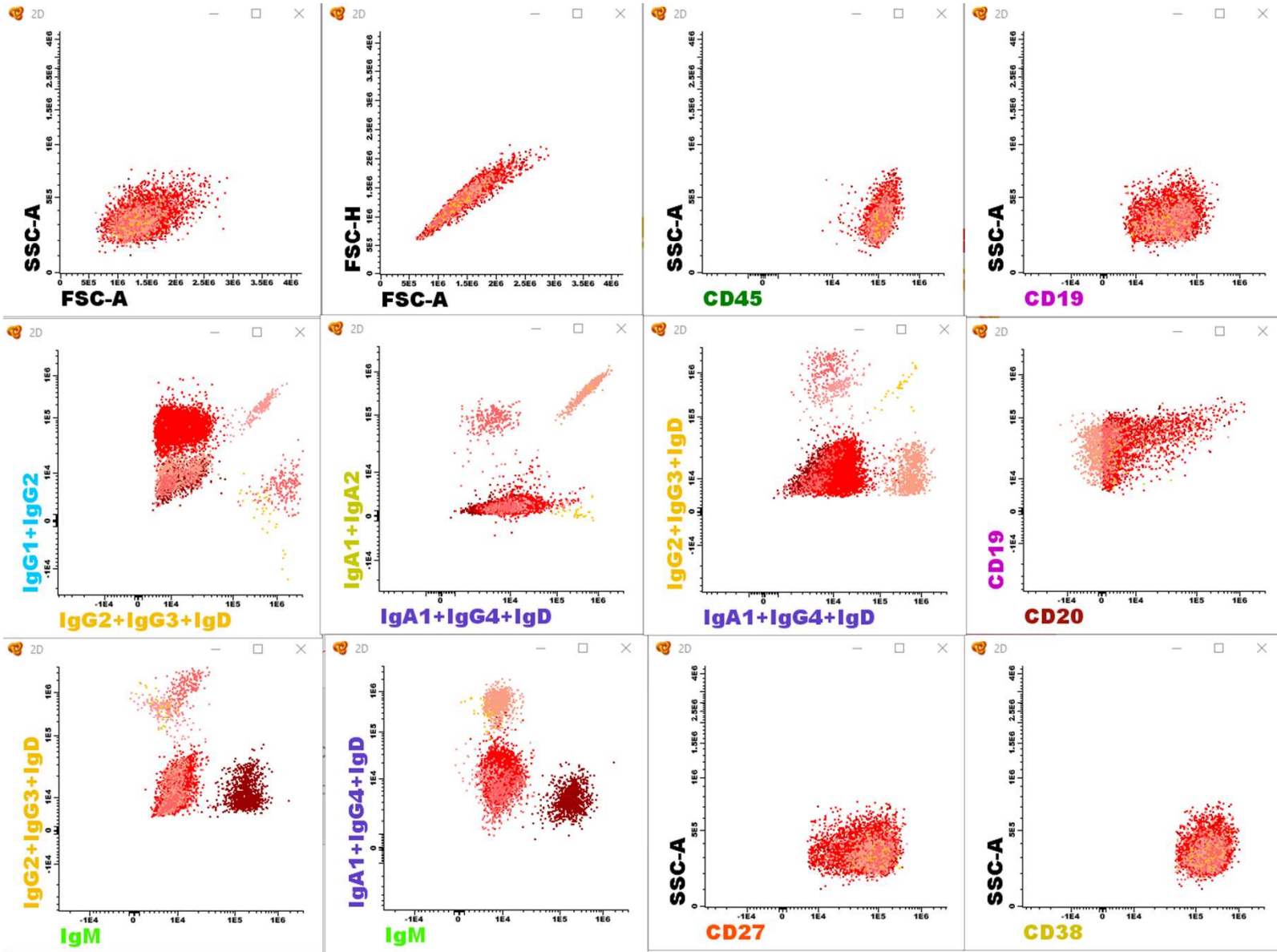
VIS.

Events

- % Unchecked events: 95.8 %
- Other Events
- Debris/Doublets
- Nucleated cells
 - Other Nucleated cells
 - Lymphocytes
 - Other Lymphocytes
 - T/NK
 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Other Pre-GC B Cells
 - Immature
 - Naive CD5+
 - Naive
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Plasma Cells
 - Myeloid
 - Unspecified Nucleated cells

Identification of blood B-cell subsets in APS view





BIG_Presentation_PC_Memory.cyt // Analysis

File Edit Diagrams Statistics Profile Databases Tools

CYT Profile > 20200910_BIG_IMM_COVID-19_173_BdM *

BIG_P

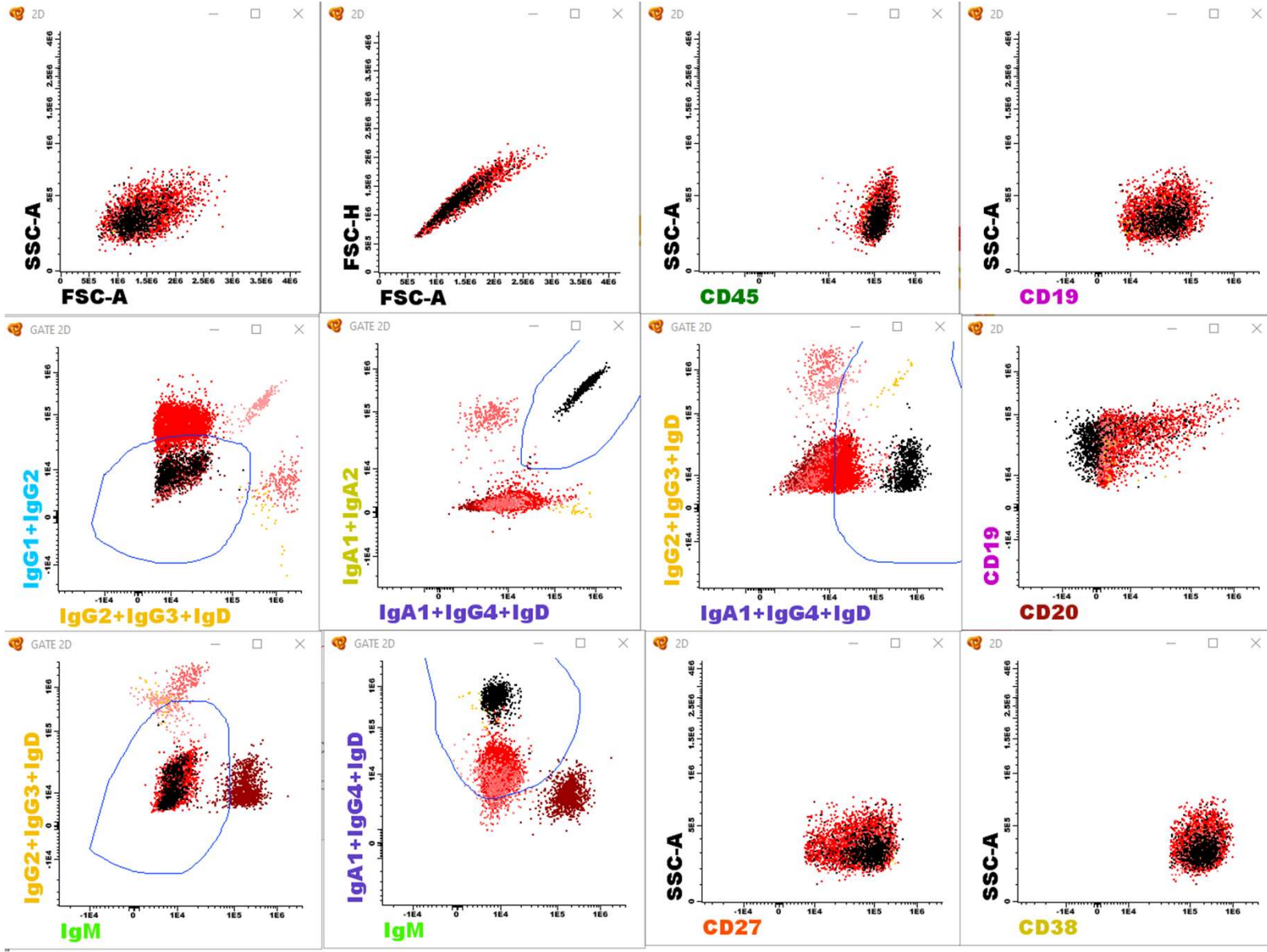
Default Tree +

Population

Events

- % Unchecked events: 95.8 %
- Other Events
- Debris/Doublets
- Nucleated cells
 - Other Nucleated cells
 - Lymphocytes
 - Other Lymphocytes
 - T/NK
 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Plasma Cells
 - Other Plasma Cells
 - PC IgM+
 - PC IgG1+
 - PC IgG2+
 - PC IgG3+
 - PC IgG4+
 - PC IgA1+
 - PC IgA2+
 - PC IgD+
- Myeloid
- Unspecified Nucleated cells

[Gate: 0 events | Total %: 0 | V



BIG_Presentation_PC_Memory.cyt // Analysis

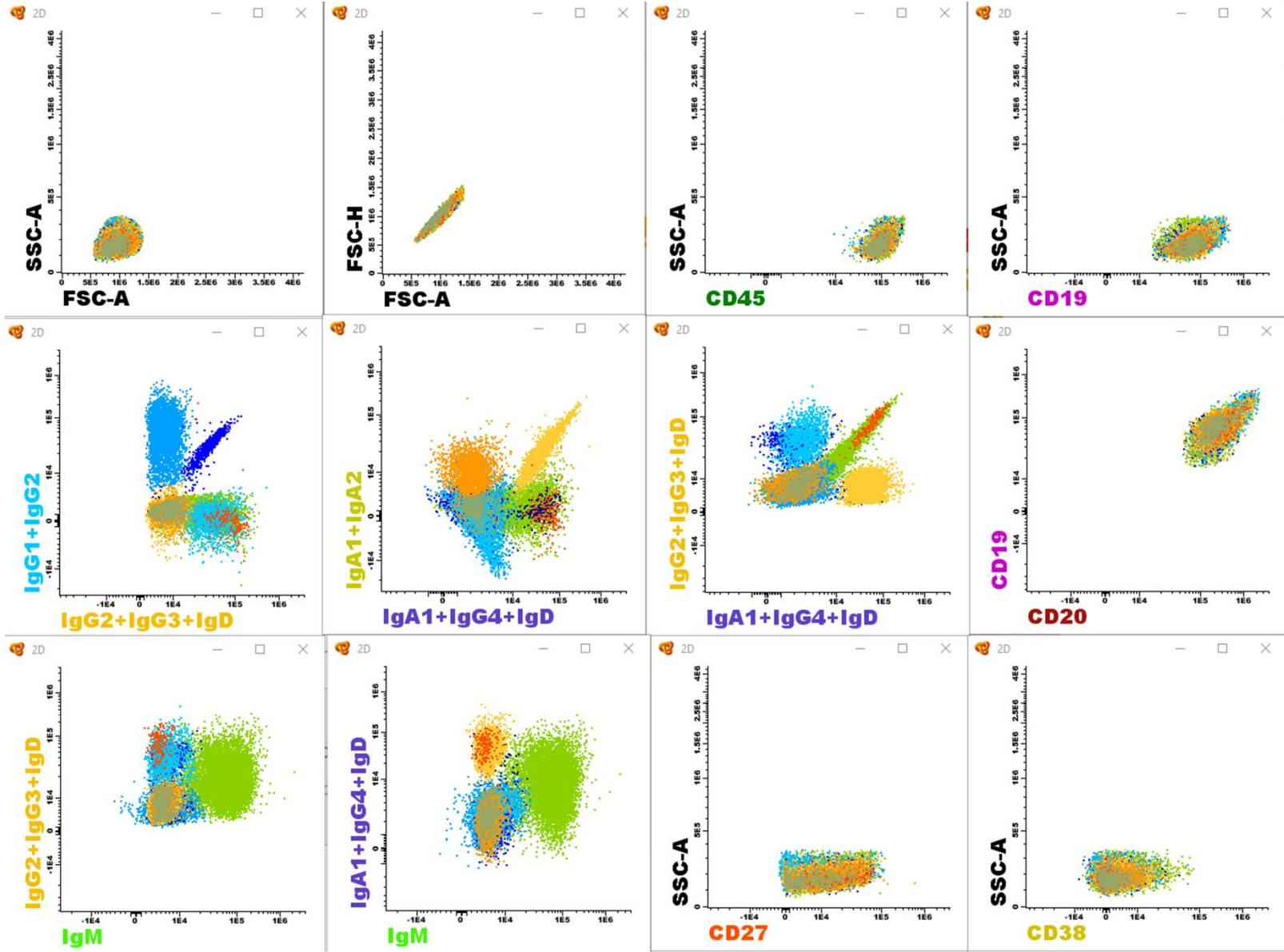
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CYT Profile > 20200910_BIG_IMM_COVID-19_173_BdM *

Default Tree +

- Population
 - Events
 - % Unchecked events: 95.8 %
 - Other Events
 - Debris/Doublets
 - Nudeated cells
 - Other Nudeated cells
 - Lymphocytes
 - Other Lymphocytes
 - T/NK
 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Plasma Cells
 - Other Plasma Cells
 - PC IgN+
 - PC IgG1+
 - PC IgG2+
 - PC IgG3+
 - PC IgG4+
 - PC IgA1+
 - PC IgA2+
 - PC IgD+
 - Myeloid
 - Unspecified Nudeated cells

[Gate: 801 events | Total %: 0.017 | Vis



BIG_Presentation_PC_Memory.cyt // Analysis

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CYT Profile > 20200910_BIG_IMM_COVID-19_173_BdM *

BIG_Pres

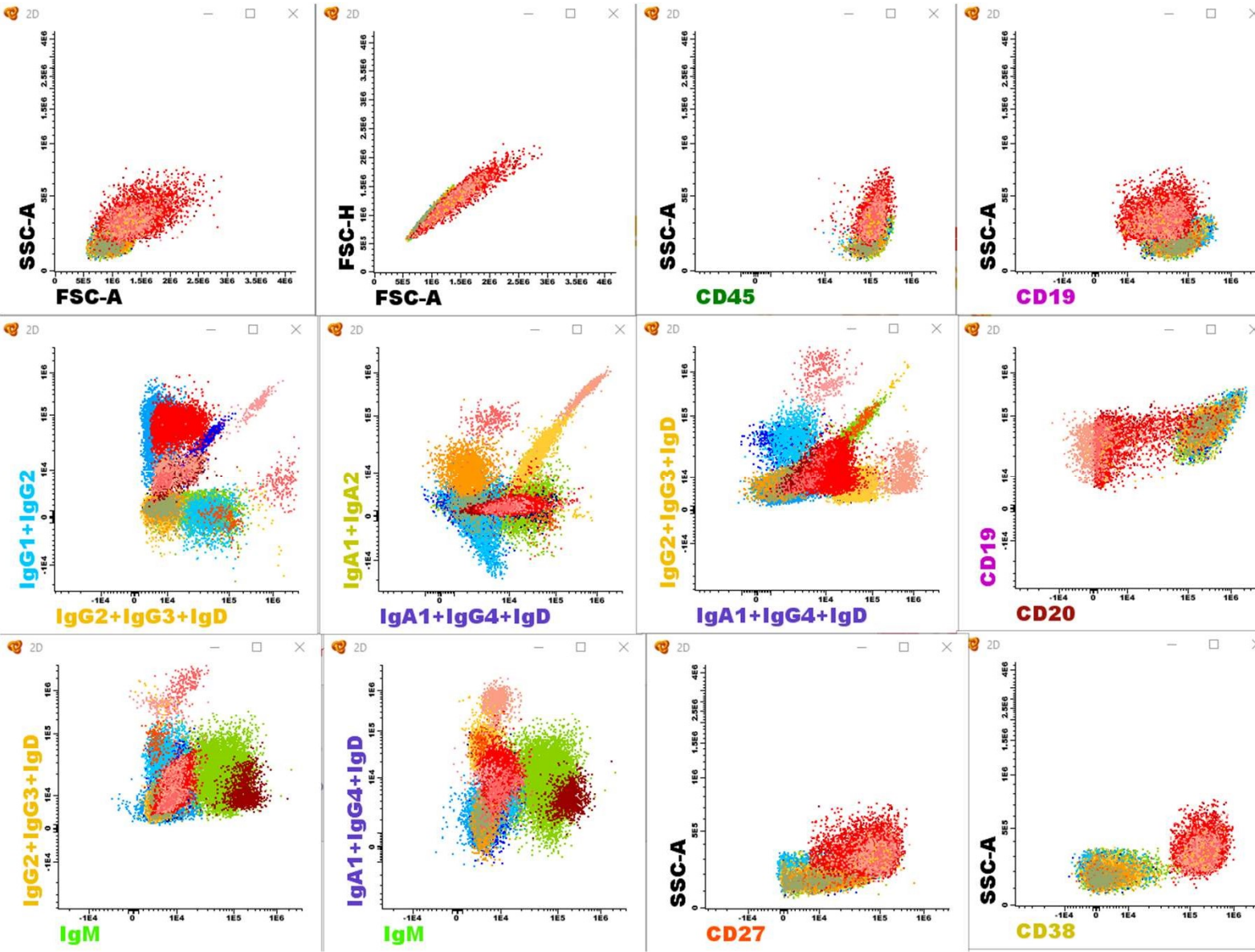
Default Tree +

Population

VIS.

Events

- % Unchecked events: 95.8 %
- Other Events
- Debris/Doublets
- Nucleated cells
 - Other Nucleated cells
 - Lymphocytes
 - Other Lymphocytes
 - T/NK
 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Other Memory B-Cells
 - Memory IgM+ B cells
 - Memory IgG1+ B cells
 - Memory IgG2+ B Cells
 - Memory IgG3+ B Cells
 - Memory IgG4+ B Cells
 - Memory IgA1+ B Cells
 - Memory IgA2+ B Cells
 - Memory Only IgD+
 - Memory Igh-
 - Plasma Cells
 - Myeloid
 - Unspecified Nucleated cells



BIG_Presentation_PC_Memory.cyt // Analysis

File Edit Diagrams Statistics Profile Databases Tools Modules Help

CYT Profile > 20200910_BIG_IMM_COVID-19_173_BdM *

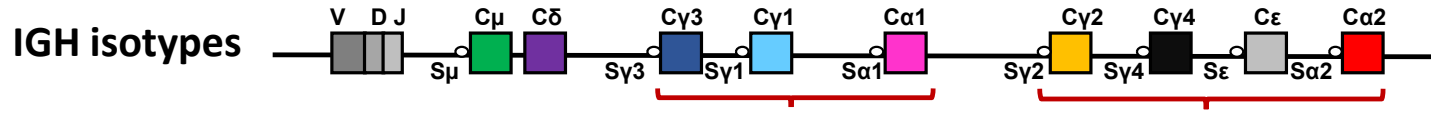
Default Tree +

Population

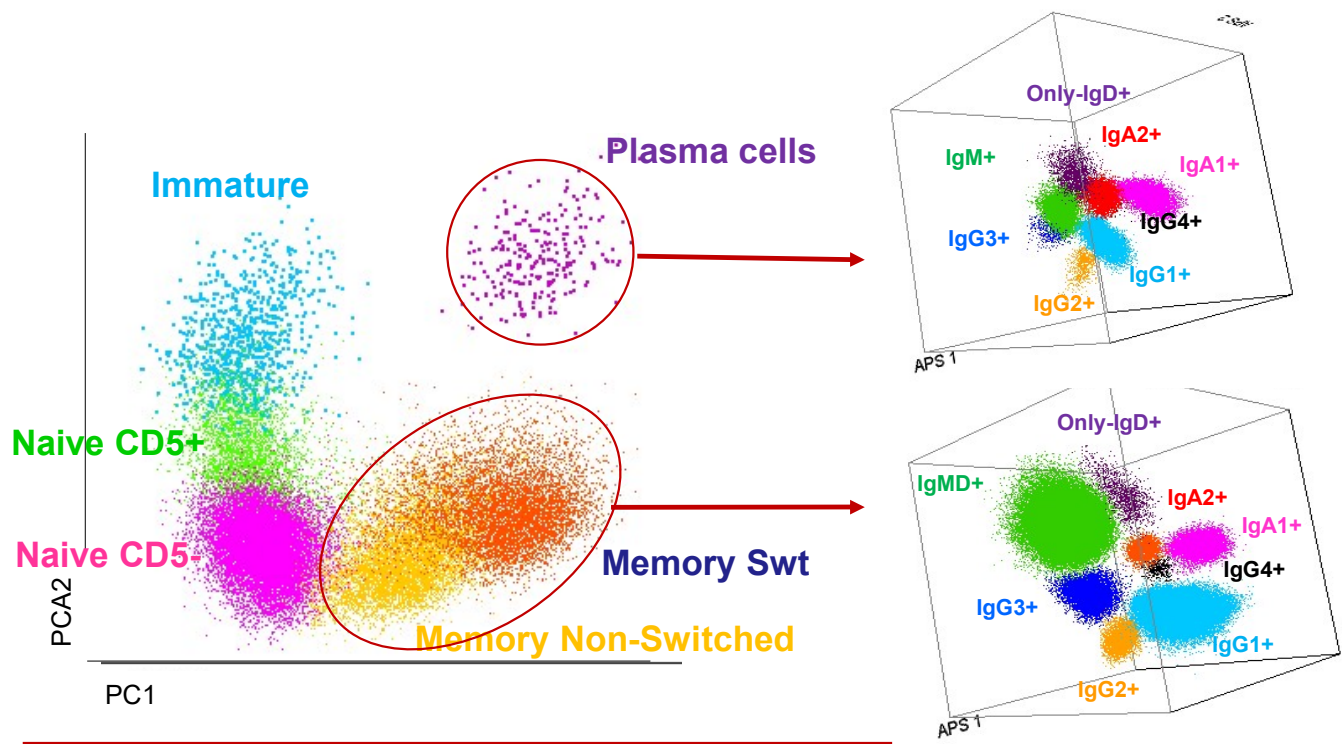
Events

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 - B-Cells
 - Other B-Cells
 - Pre-GC B Cells
 - Memory B-Cells
 - Other Memory B-Cells
 - Memory IgMD+ B cells
 - Memory IgG1+ B cells
 - Memory IgG2+ B Cells
 - Memory IgG3+ B Cells
 - Memory IgG4+ B Cells
 - Memory IgA1+ B Cells
 - Memory IgA2+ B Cells
 - Memory Only IgD+
 - Memory IgH-
 - Plasma Cells
 - Other Plasma Cells
 - PC IgM+
 - PC IgG1+
 - PC IgG2+
 - PC IgG3+
 - PC IgG4+
 - PC IgA1+
 - PC IgA2+
 - PC IgD+
 - Myeloid
 - Unspecified Nudeated cells

Footer: [Color] [Events] [Total %] [n] [Unhealthy %] [n] [Events]



IGH class switch analysis in memory B-cells and plasma cells

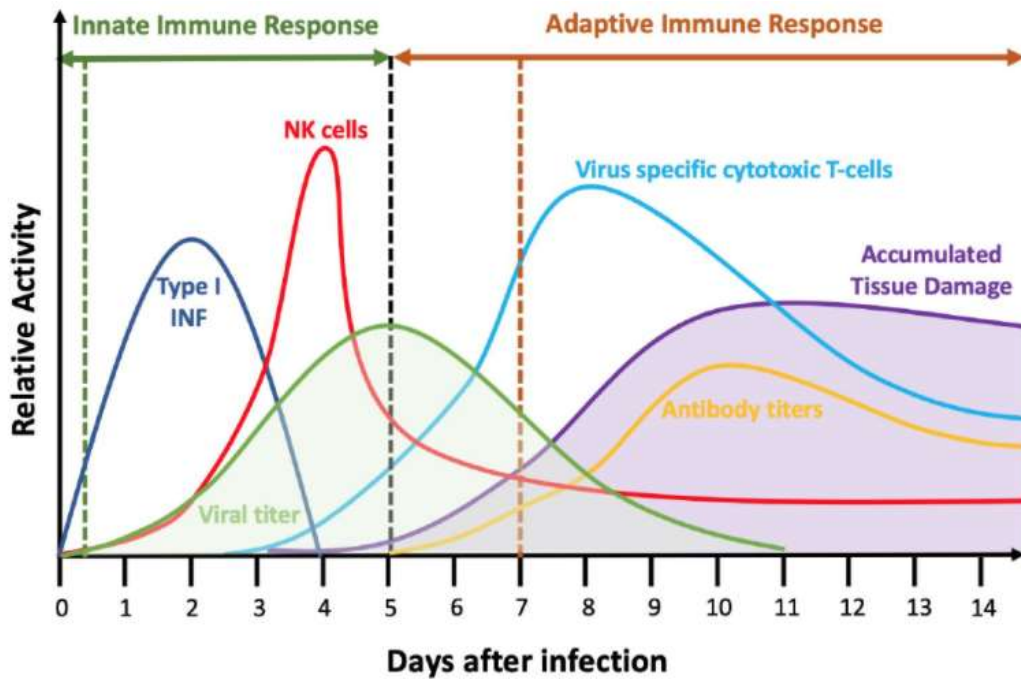


14 colour- combination → ~115 populations

Elena Blanco, Martin Perez, Alberto Orfao, et al. JACI, 2018

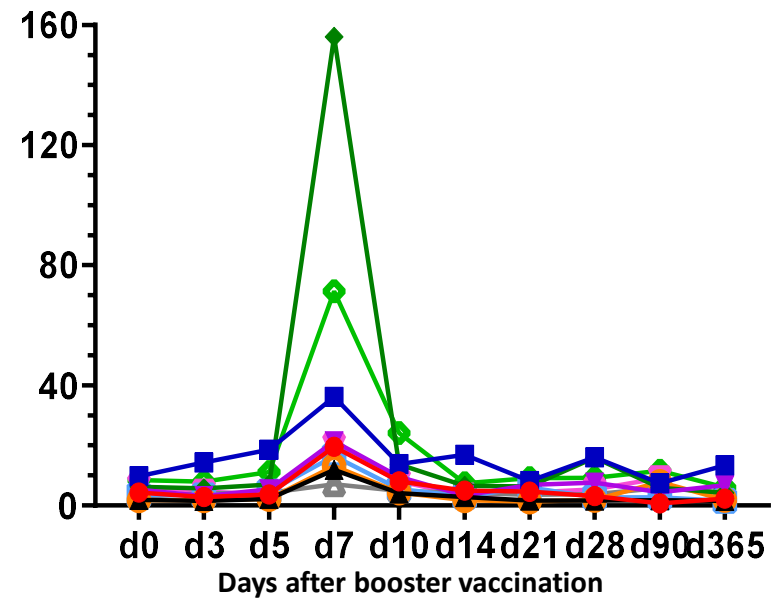


Model of viral infection in epithelial tissues



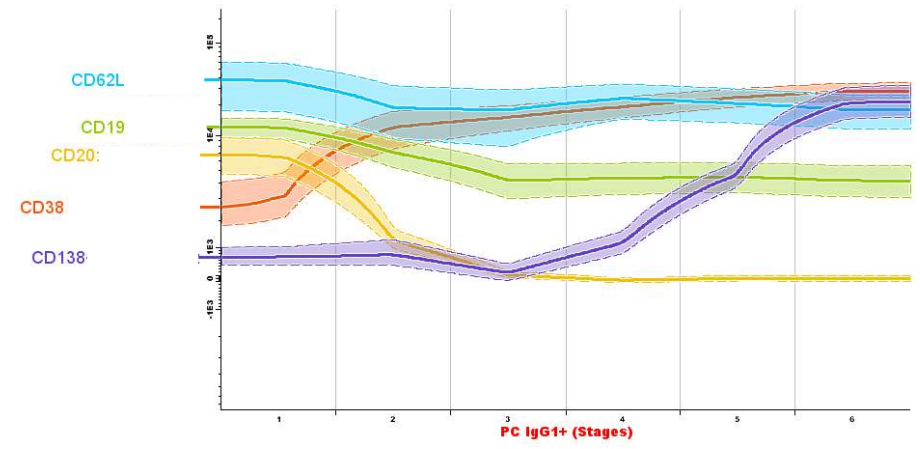
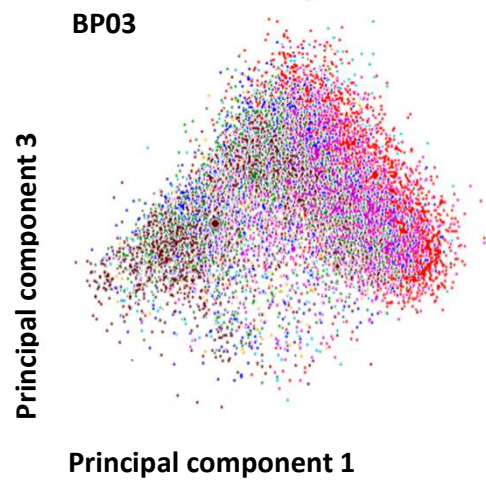
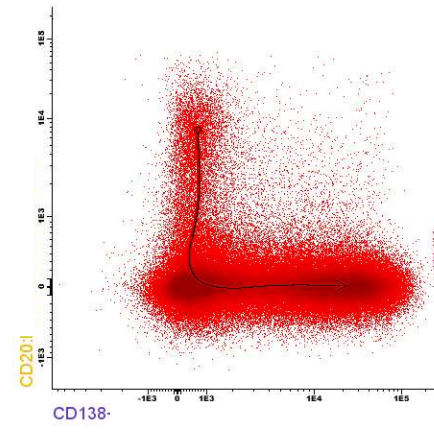
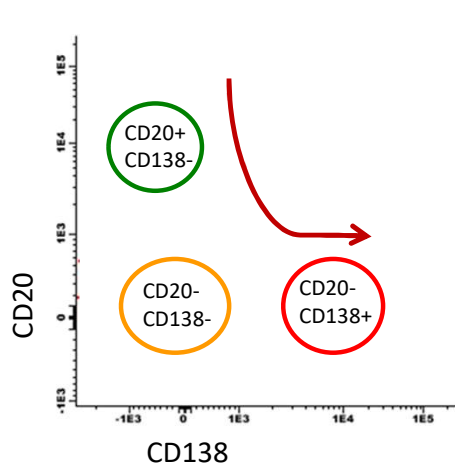
Sego TJ, et al, 2020 May 7. doi:10.1101/2020.04.27.064139

Plasma cell kinetics after booster vaccination with Bordetella pertussis



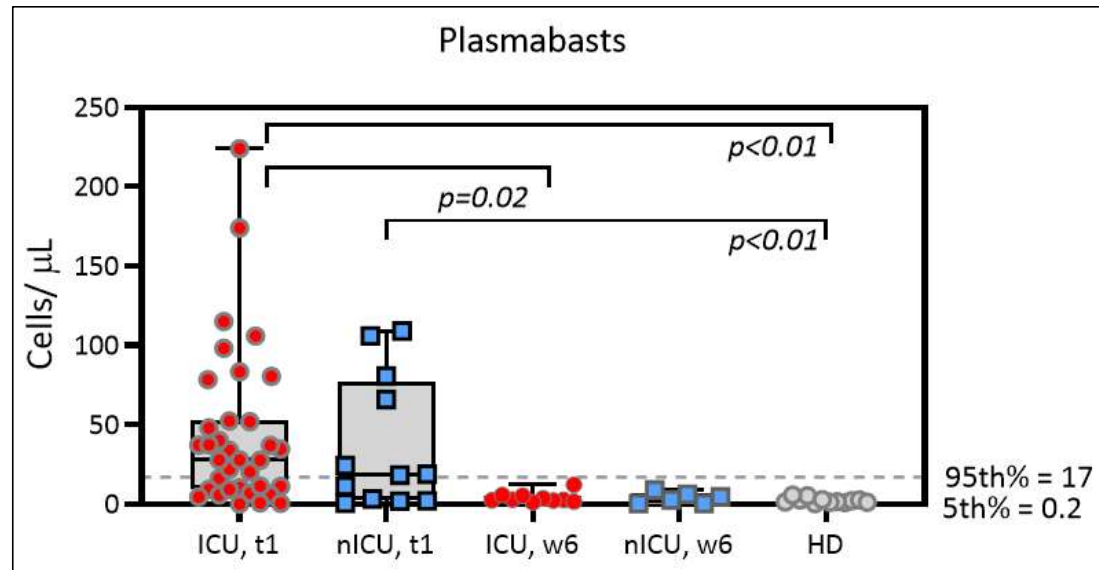
Diks et al, manuscript in preparation

PC MATURATION AFTER BOOSTER AND CHALLENGE

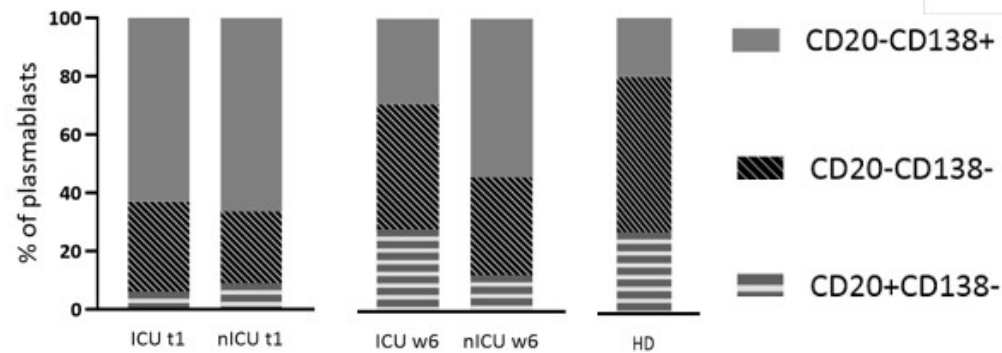


Diks et al, manuscript in preparation

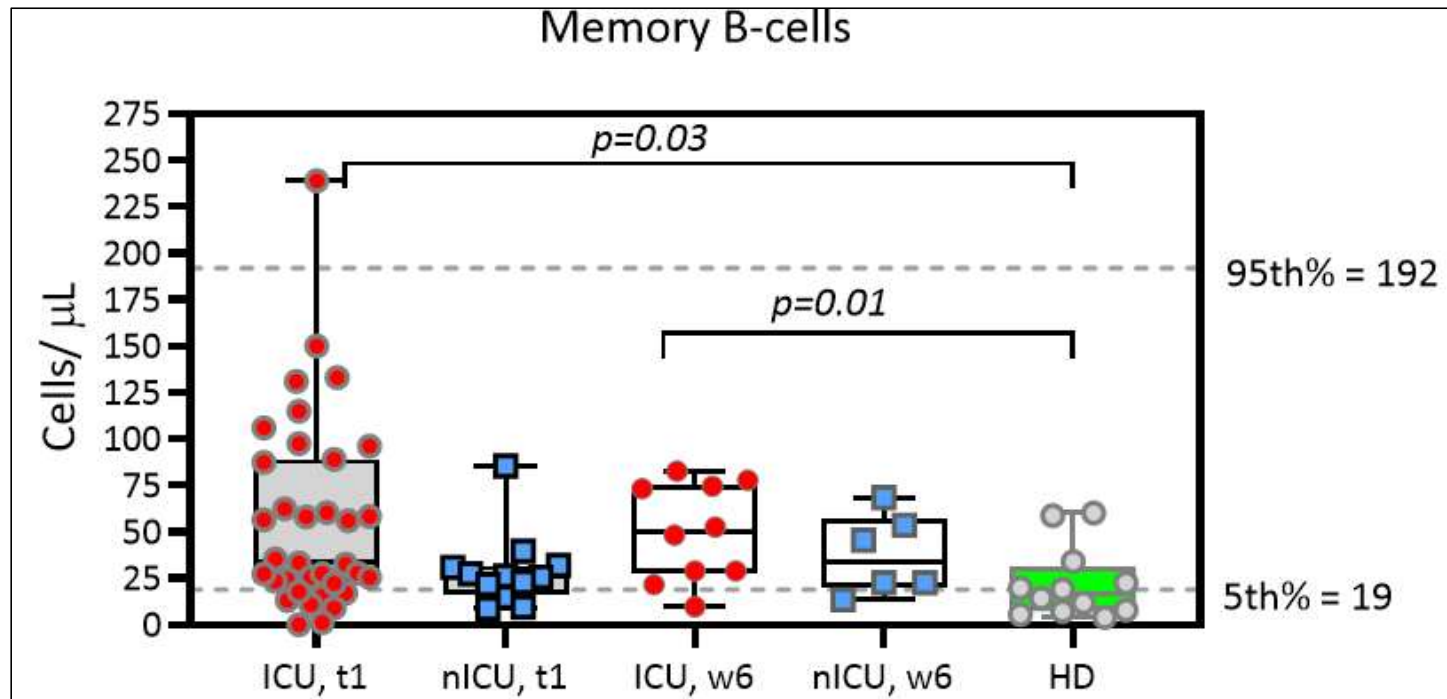
Changes in B-cell compartment, especially kinetics of the plasma cells



Expansion of the most mature plasma cells in the acute phase of the infection

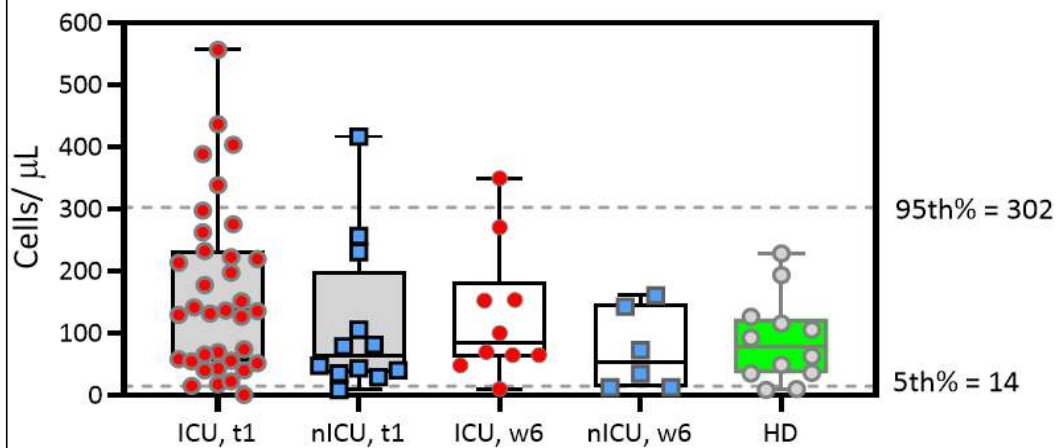


Higher levels of memory B cells in ICU patients 6 weeks after discharge than in healthy donors



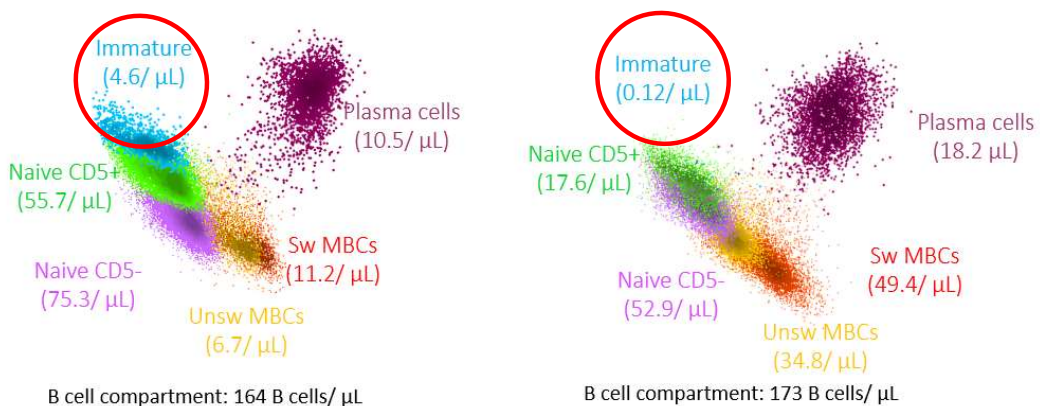
Lower level of immature B cells in patients with a late recovery

Pre - germinal center B-cells



- Pt. 41 (non-ICU, 12 days in hospital)
- 74 year old
- day 18 from the first symptoms

- Pt. 17 (20 days in ICU)
- 71 year old
- day 17 from the first symptoms



OVERVIEW

- Changes in B-cell compartment, especially kinetics of the plasma cells
 - Expansion of the most mature plasma cells in the acute phase of the infection
 - Higher levels of memory B cells in ICU patients 6 weeks after discharge than in healthy donors
 - Lower level of immature B cells in patients with a late recovery
-



**Immunology,
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Kyra van der Pan

Annieck Diks

Anniek de Jager

Gita Naber

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Bas de Mooij

Inge de Laat, Sara Kassem

Alesha Louis

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BEAT-COVID1

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