

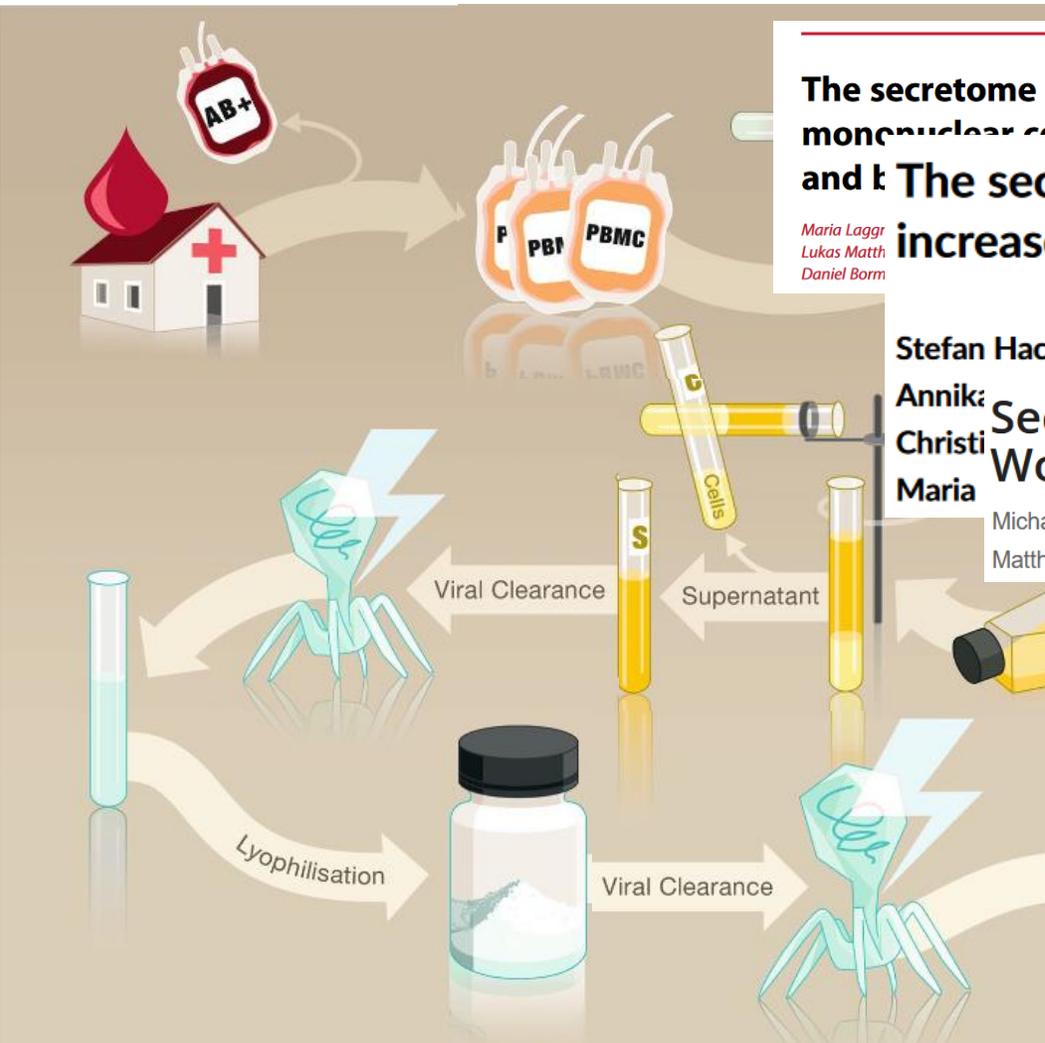
Peripheral blood mononuclear cell-secretome attenuates fibrotic effects in wound healing and scar formation.

Dr.med.univ. Vera Vorstandlechner

supervised by

Univ.Prof. Dr. Hendrik Jan Ankersmit & Assoc. Prof. Dr. Michael Mildner

The Secretome of Gamma-irradiated Peripheral blood mononuclear cells: PBMCCsec



The secretome of irradiated peripheral blood mononuclear cells attenuates activation of mast cells

and The secretome of stressed peripheral blood mononuclear cells increases tissue survival in a rodent epigastric flap model

Maria Laggr
Lukas Matth
Daniel Borm



Stefan Hacker^{1,2} | Rainer Mittermayr³ | Denise Traxler² | Claudia Keibl³ |

Annik: Secretome of Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells Enhances
Christi Wound Healing
Maria

Michae
Matthia

The secretome of apoptotic human peripheral blood mononuclear cells attenuates secondary damage following spinal cord injury in rats

Thomas Haider^{a,b} Romana Häfberger^c Beate Püger^d Michael Mildner^e Roland Blumer^f
Andreas Paracrine Factors from Irradiated Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells Improve Skin
Christian Regeneration and Angiogenesis in a Porcine Burn Model

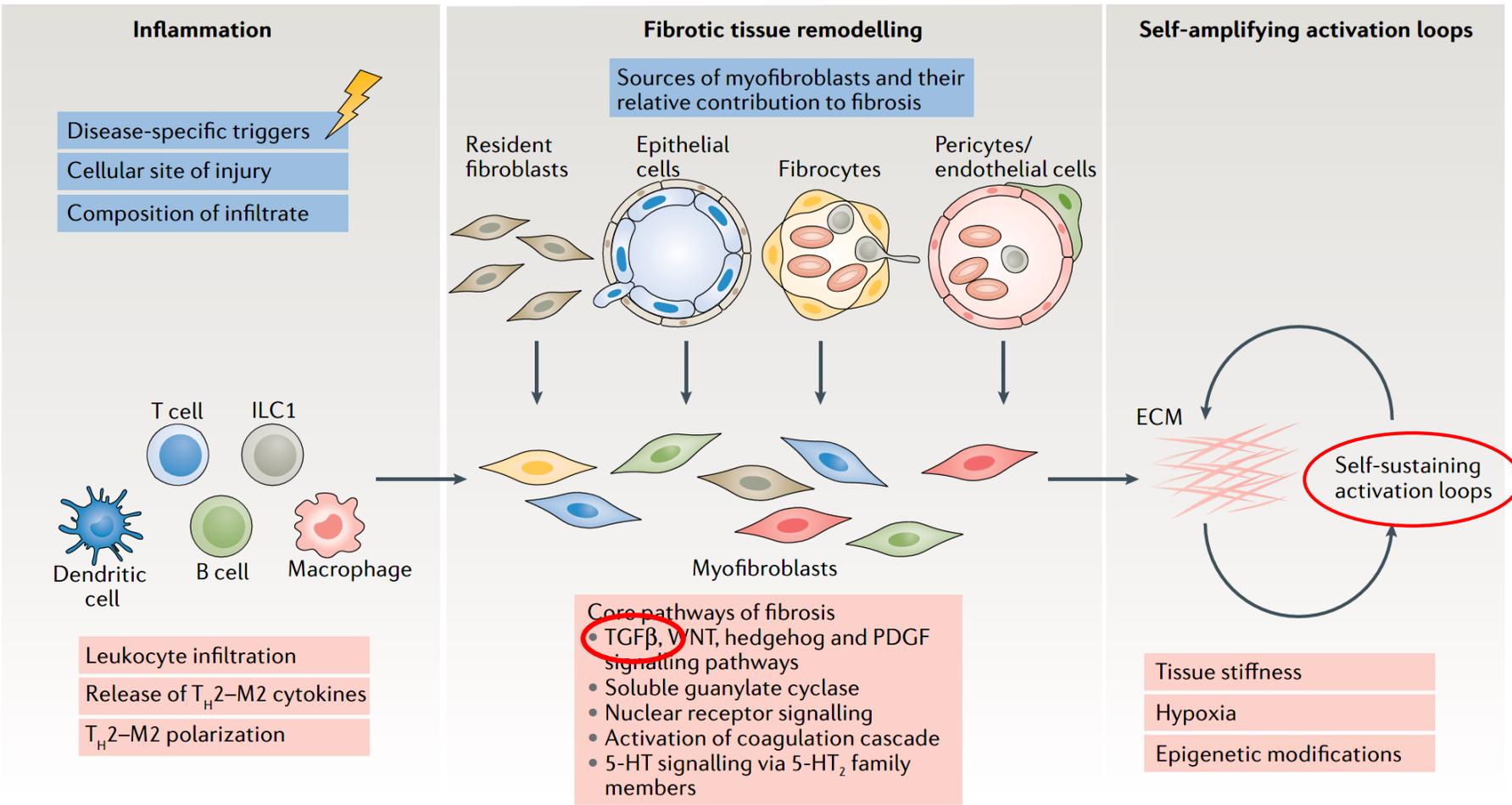
Hendrik Stefan Hacker,^{1,2} Rainer Mittermayr,³ Stefanie Nickl,¹ Thomas Haider,^{2,4} Diana Leberherz-Eichinger,² Lucian Beer,² Andreas Mitterbauer,² Harald Leiss,⁵ Matthias Zimmermann,² Thomas Schweiger,² Claudia Keibl,³ Helmut Hofbauer,² Christian Gabriel,⁶ Mariann Pavone-Gyöngyösi,⁷ Heinz Redl,³ Erwin Tschachler,⁸ Michael Mildner,^{a,8} and Hendrik Jan Ankersmit^{b,2,9}

Skin scarring and hypertrophic scars



Distinct mechanisms of fibrosis

Shared mechanisms of fibrosis

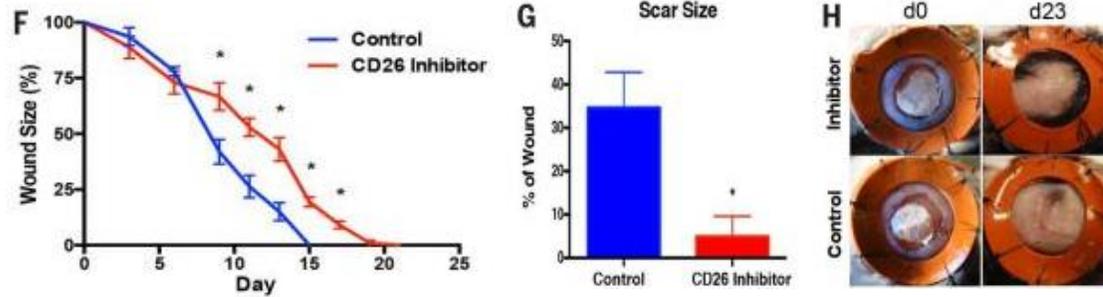


Identification and isolation of a dermal lineage with intrinsic fibrogenic potential

YUVAL RINKEVICH, GRAHAM G. WALMSLEY, MICHAEL S. HU, ZESHAAN N. MAAN, AARON M. NEWMAN, MICHA DRUKKER, MICHAEL JANUSZYK, GEOFFREY W. KRAMPITZ,

GEOFFREY C. GURTNER, [...] AND MICHAEL T. LONGAKER [+2 authors](#) [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

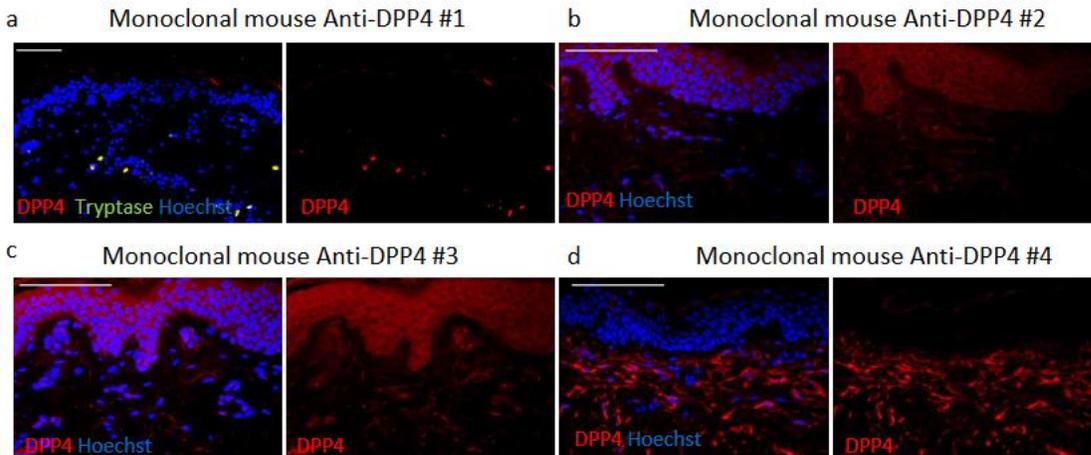
SCIENCE • 17 Apr 2015 • Vol 348, Issue 6232 • DOI: 10.1126/science.aaa2151



Aim 1: The transcriptomic landscape of healthy human skin & DPP4

Challenges:

- „Baseline“ transcriptomic landscape of human skin
- Reliable fibroblast (FB) markers
- Contradicting literature about FB populations
- Challenging DPP4-experiments, lack of reliable antibodies



RESEARCH ARTICLE

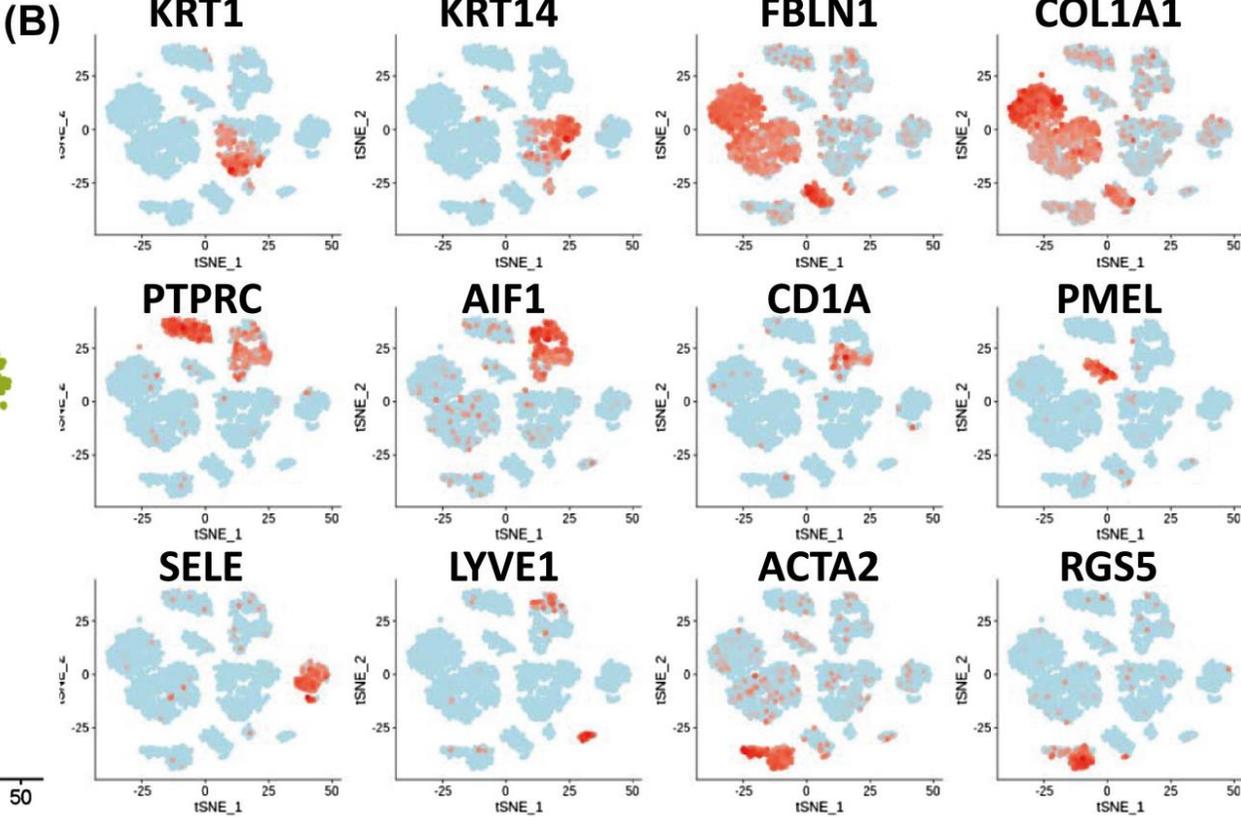
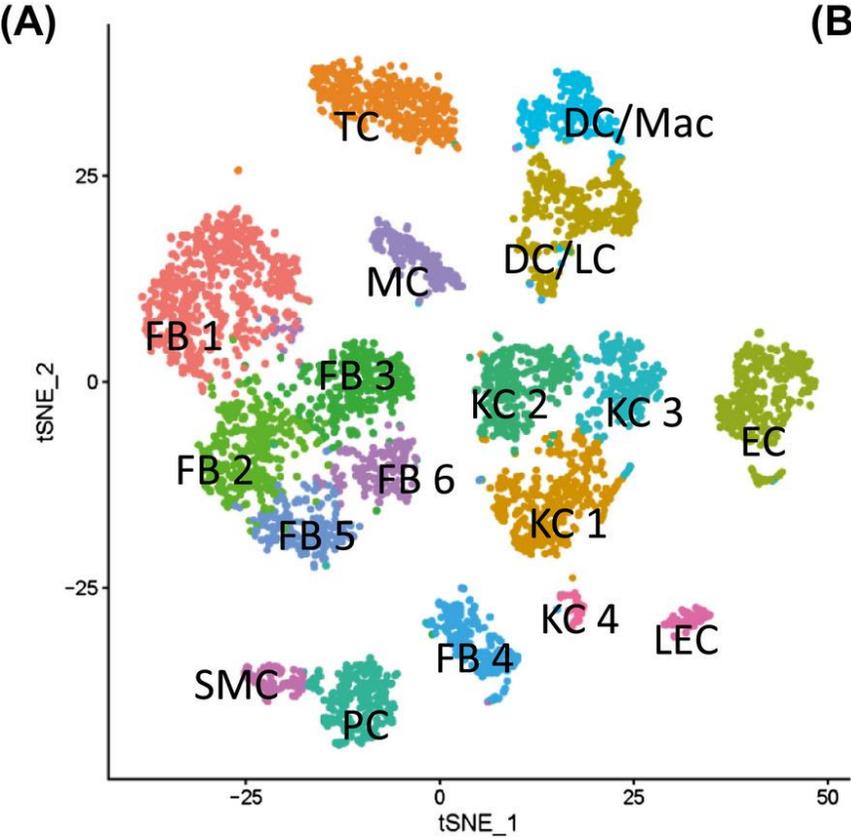
THE FASEB JOURNAL

Deciphering the functional heterogeneity of skin fibroblasts using single-cell RNA sequencing

Vera Vorstandlechner¹ | Maria Laggner¹ | Polina Kalinina² | Werner Haslik³ | Christine Radtke³ | Lisa Shaw⁴ | Beate Maria Lichtenberger⁵ | Erwin Tschachler² | Hendrik Jan Ankersmit¹ | Michael Mildner²

Chapter 1: Deciphering the functional heterogeneity of skin fibroblasts using single-cell RNA sequencing

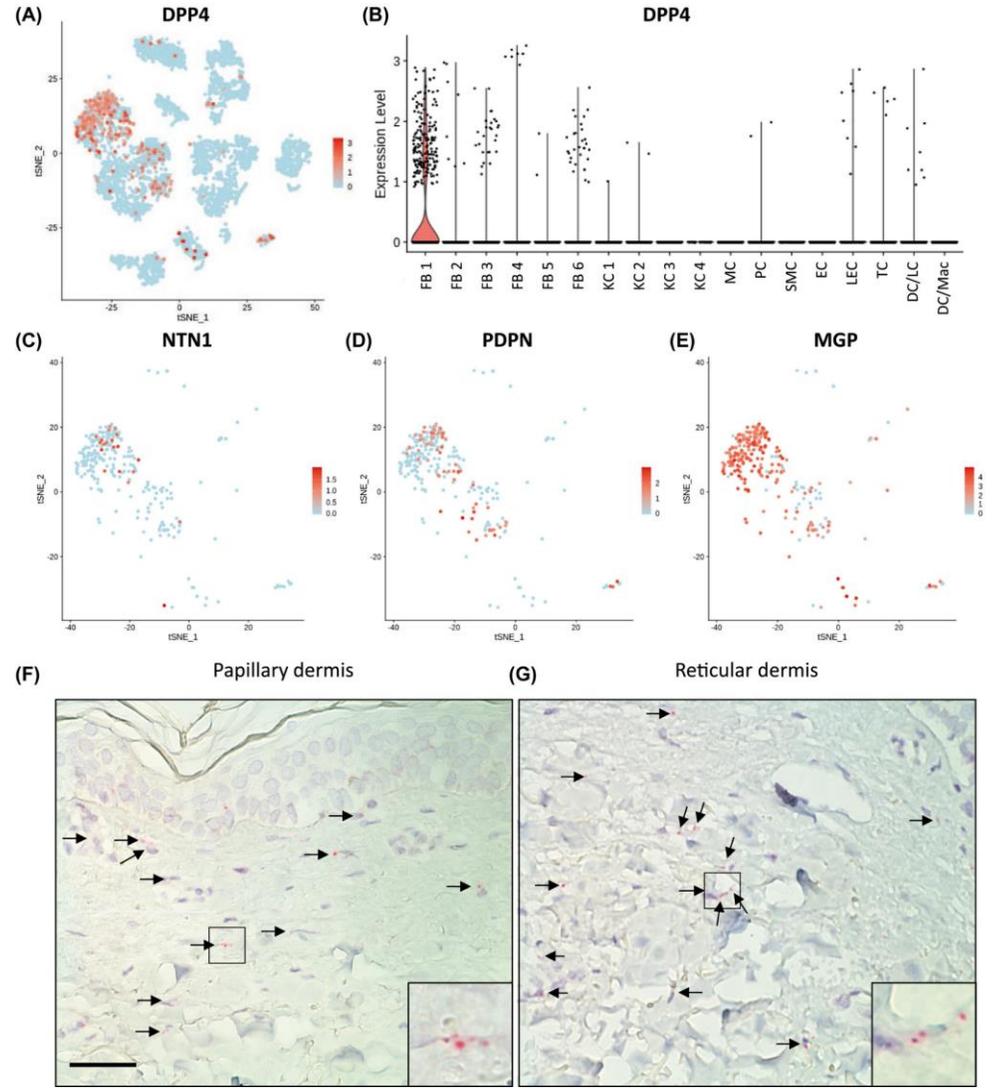
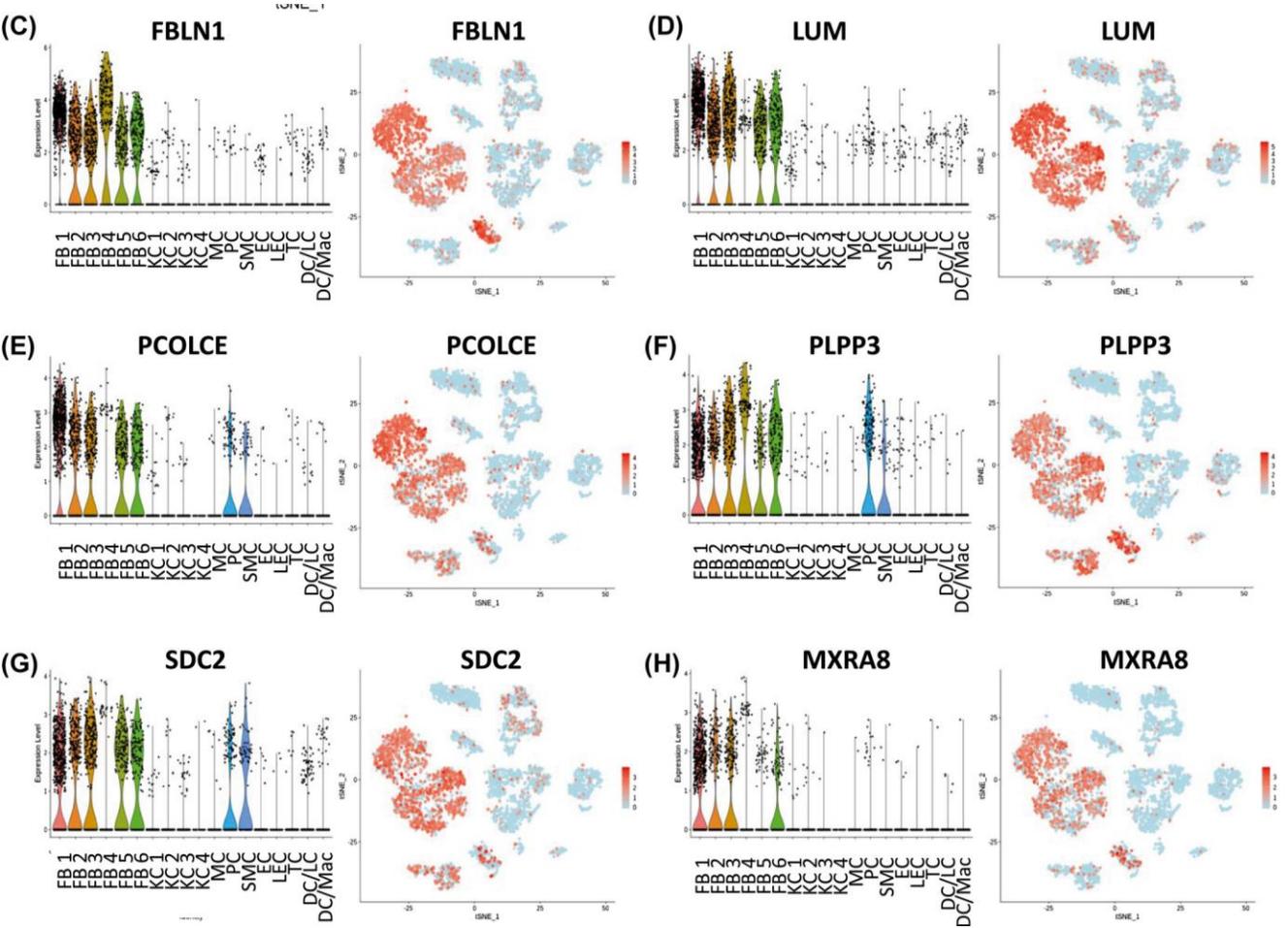
Identifying cell populations and establishing marker genes in healthy human skin



Chapter 1: Deciphering the functional heterogeneity of skin fibroblasts using single-cell RNA sequencing

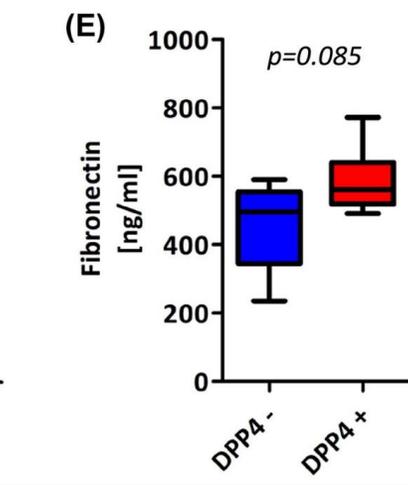
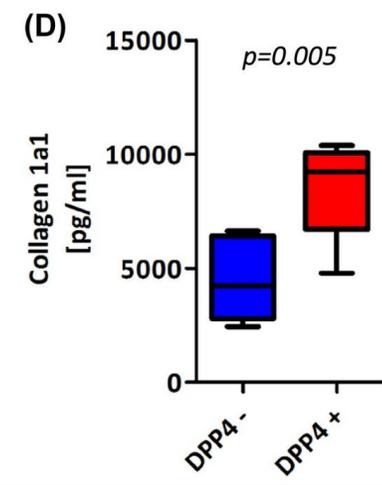
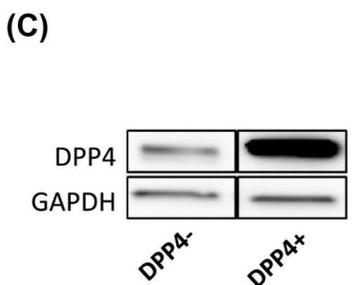
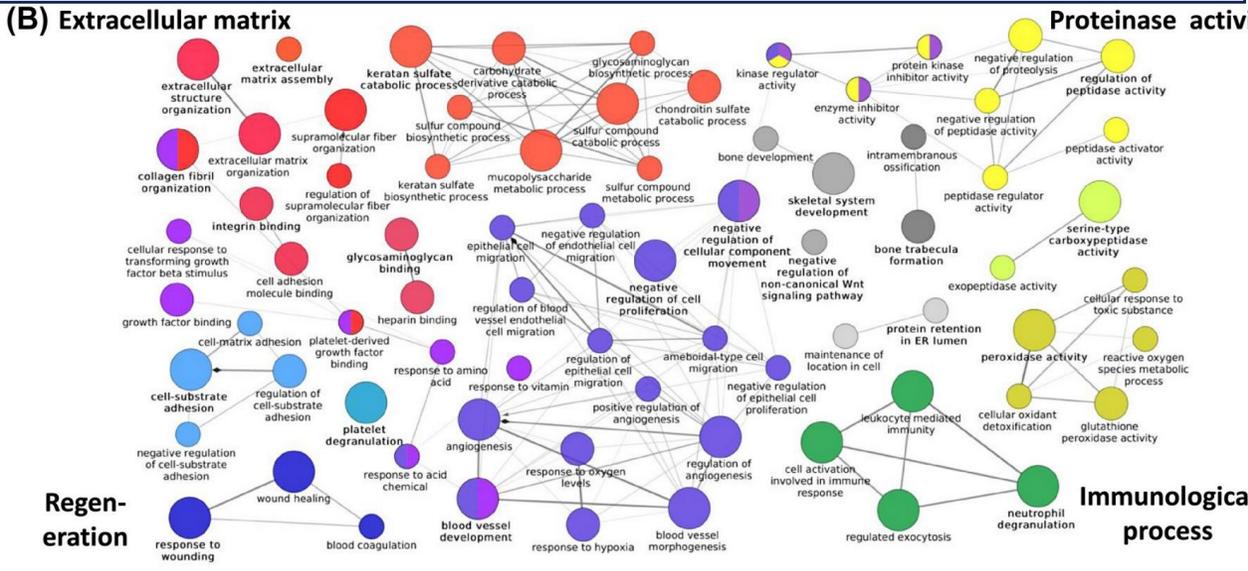
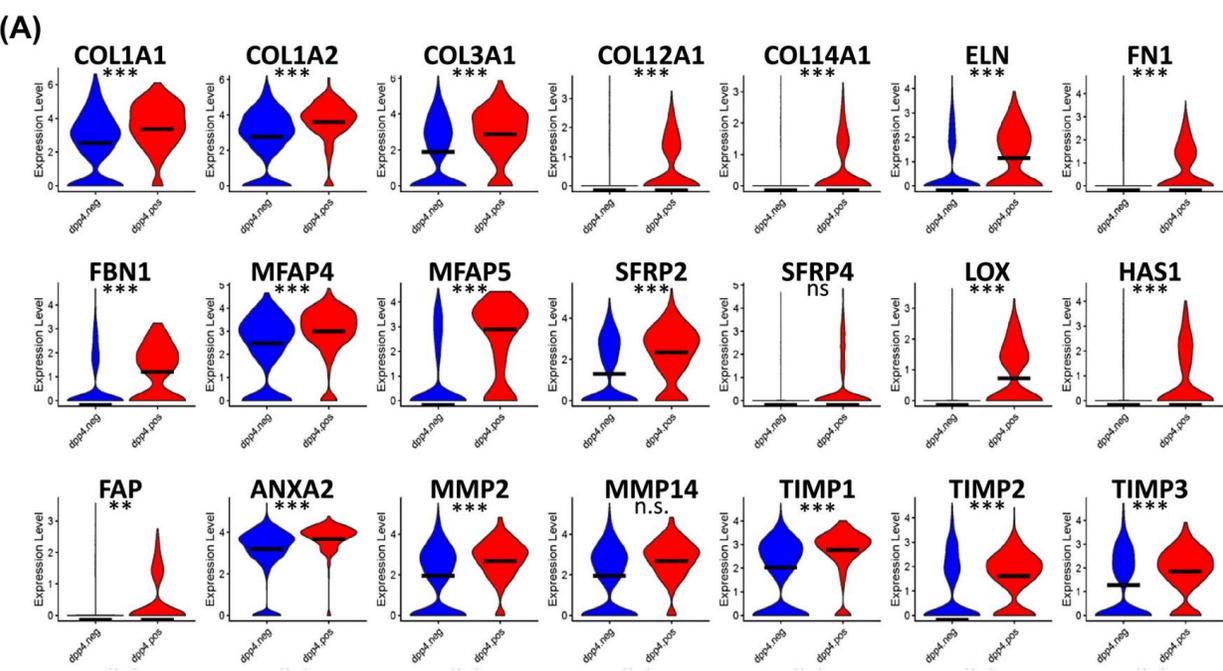
Identification of FB markers

Characterization of DPP4+ FBs

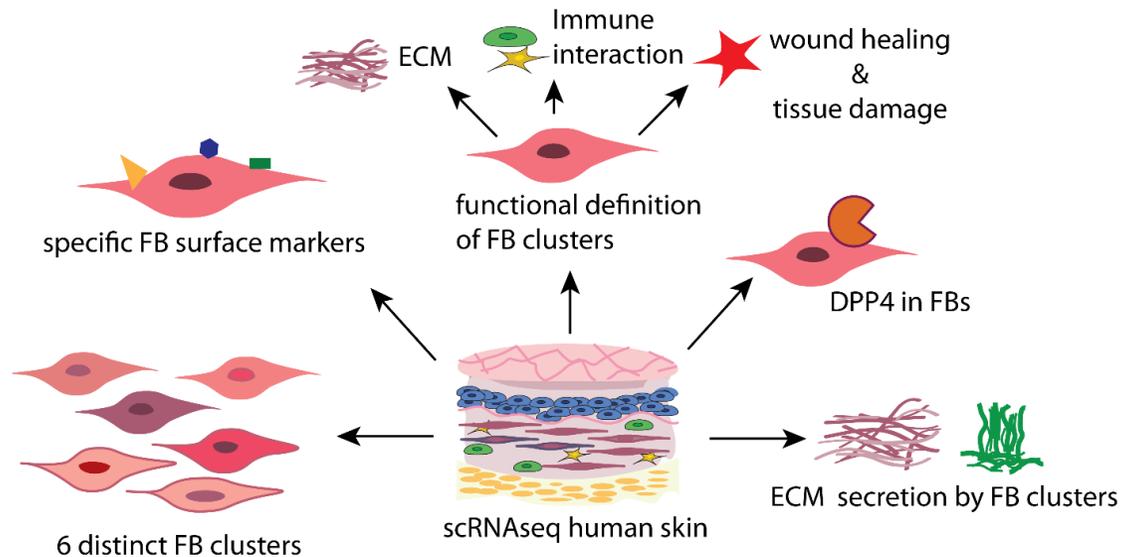


Chapter 1: Deciphering the functional heterogeneity of skin fibroblasts using single-cell RNA sequencing

DPP4⁺ FBs overexpress ECM-related genes in silico and in vitro



Chapter 1: Summary & Conclusions



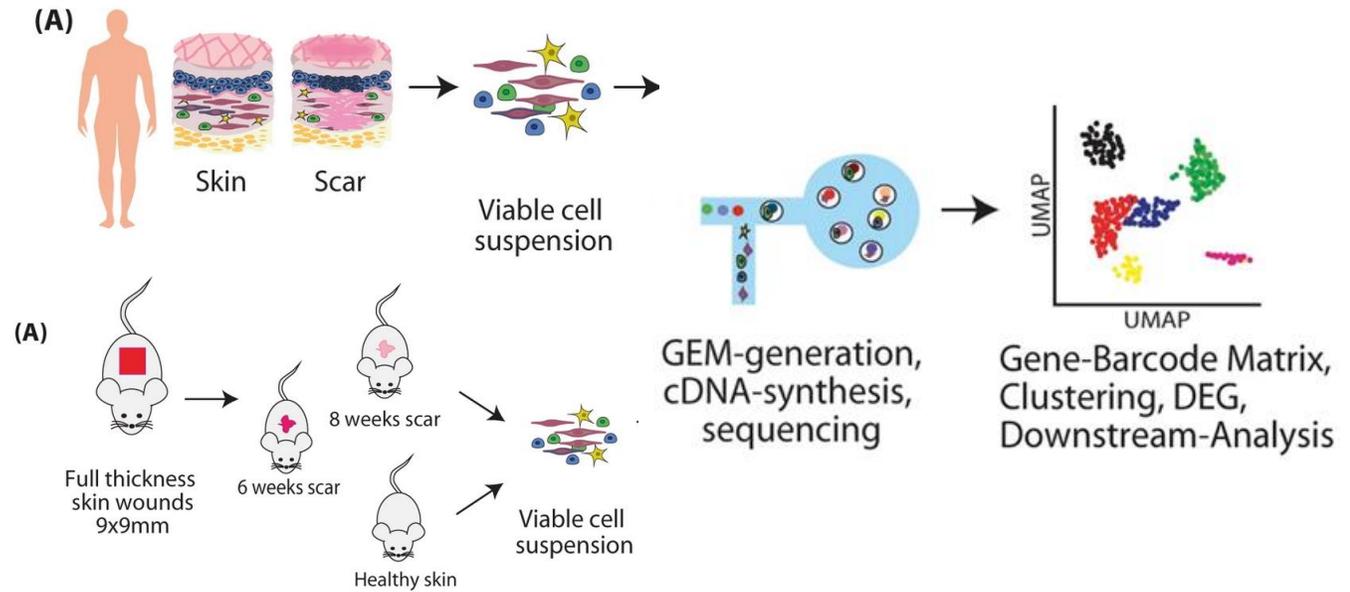
- Identification of FB clusters
- Functional characterization
- Specific FB markers
- A cluster characterized by DPP4-expression
- ECM secretion by FB clusters

Cited by >90 works
Provides a basis for single cell sequencing in human skin

Aim 2: (Hypertrophic) scars compared to healthy human skin

Challenges:

- Major transcriptomic alterations skin vs scar
- New targets for drug development
- Cell populations, cellular interactions, pathways



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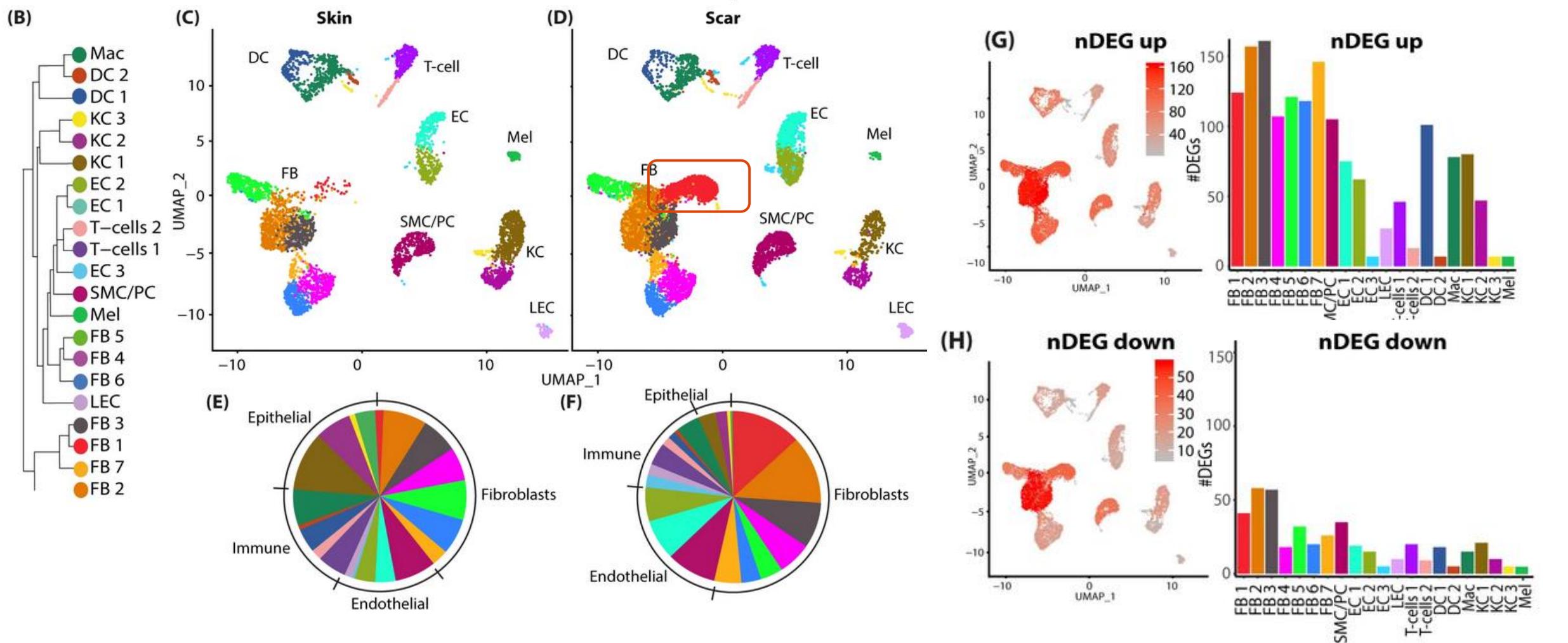
The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

[Vera Vorstandlechner](#), [Maria Laggner](#), [Dragan Copic](#), [Katharina Klas](#), [Martin Direder](#), [Yiyan Chen](#), [Bahar Golabi](#), [Werner Haslik](#), [Christine Radtke](#), [Erwin Tschachler](#), [Konrad Hötzenecker](#), [Hendrik Jan Ankersmit](#) & [Michael Mildner](#)

[Nature Communications](#) **12**, Article number: 6242 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

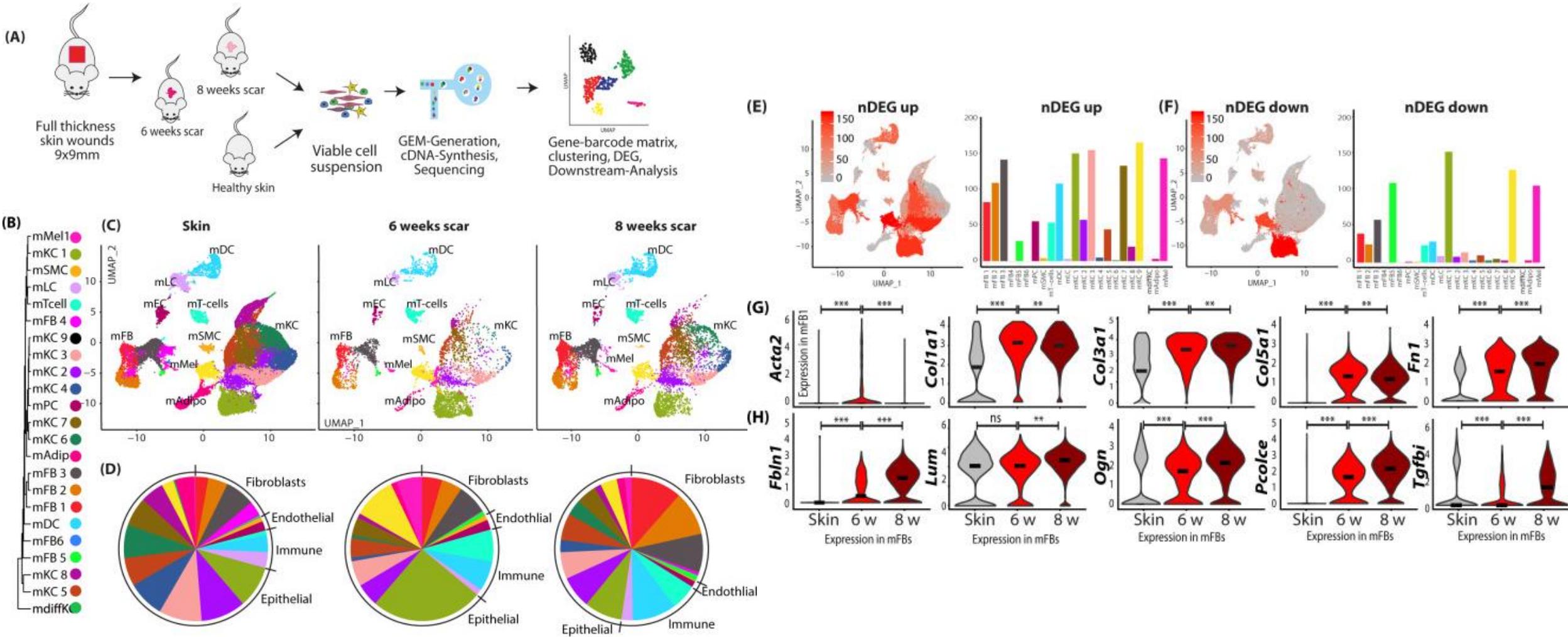
Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

The transcriptomic signature of human hypertrophic scars



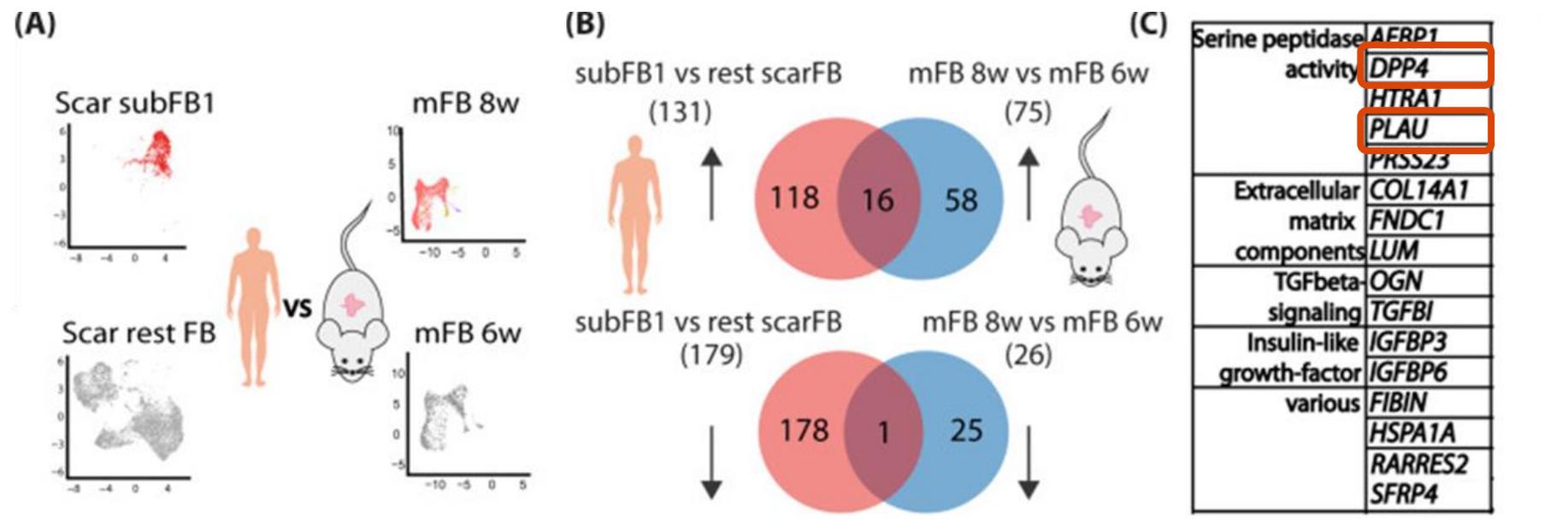
Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

The transcriptome of mouse scar maturation

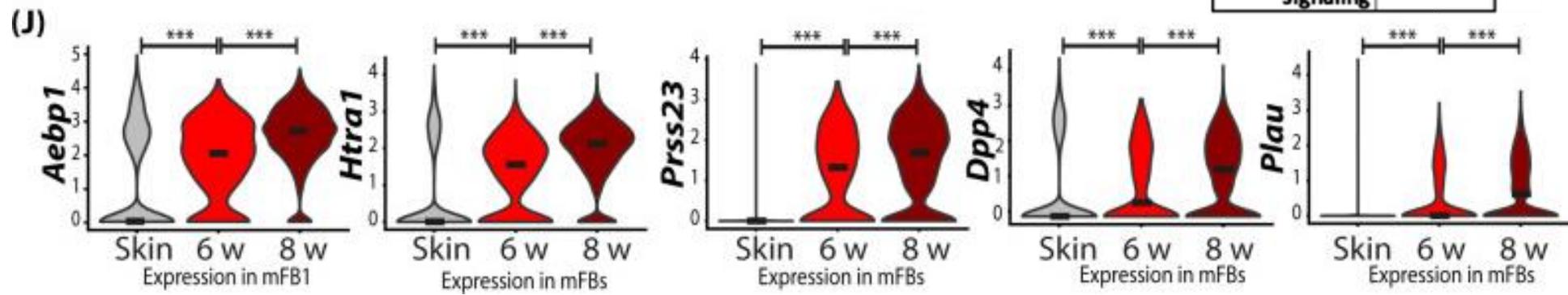


Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

Comparing human scars and mouse scar maturation

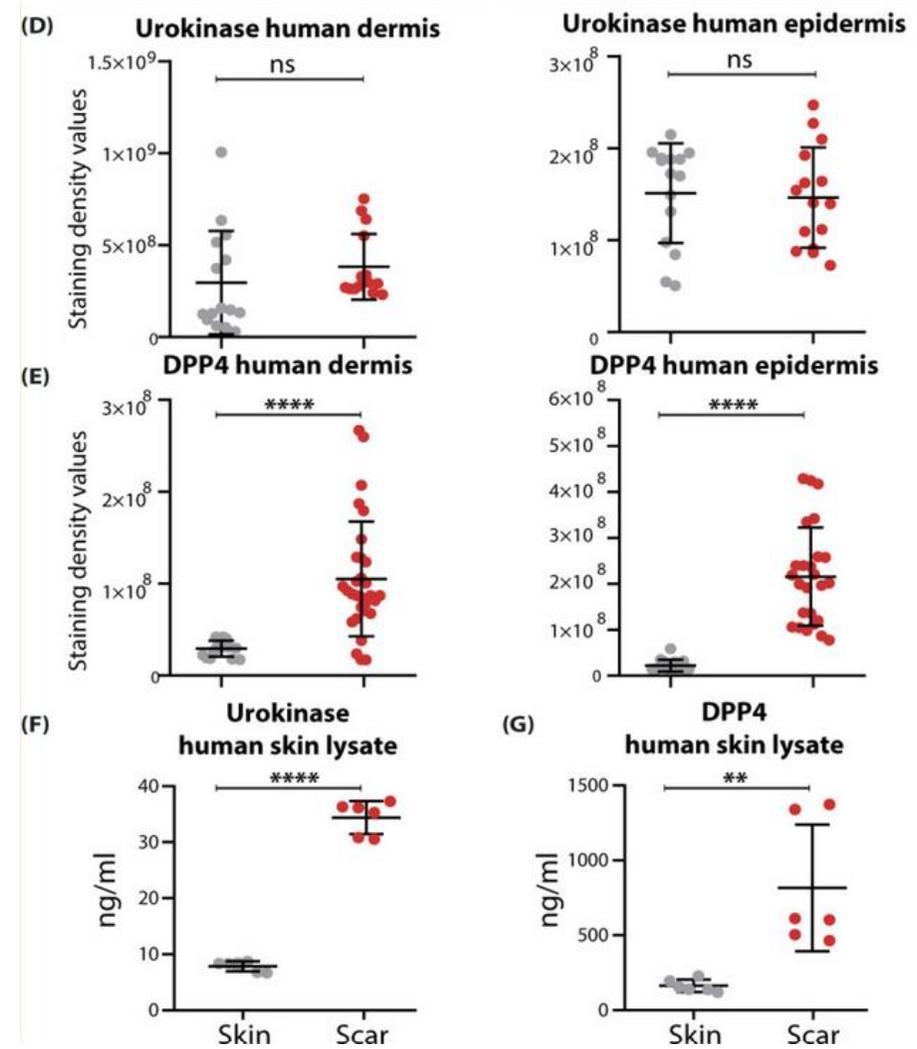
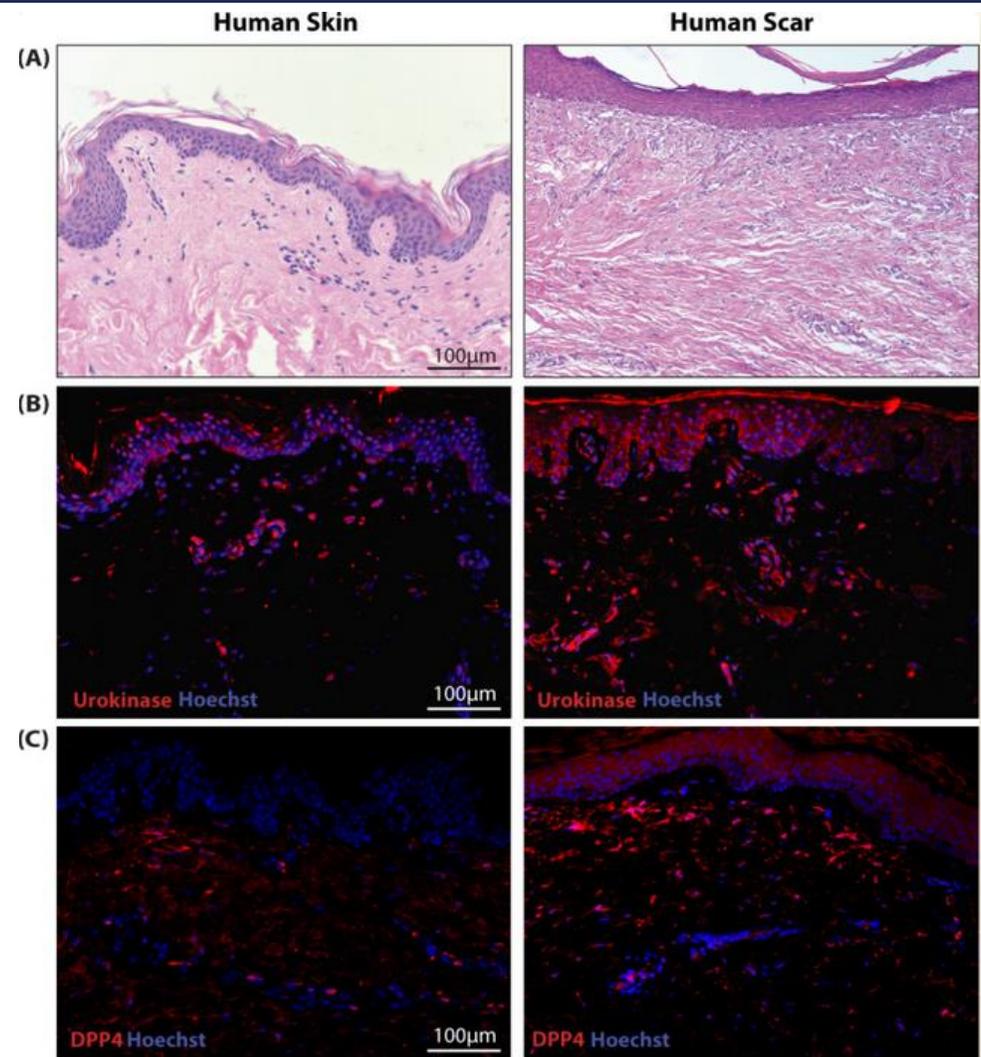


(D) Leptin signaling: *LEPR*



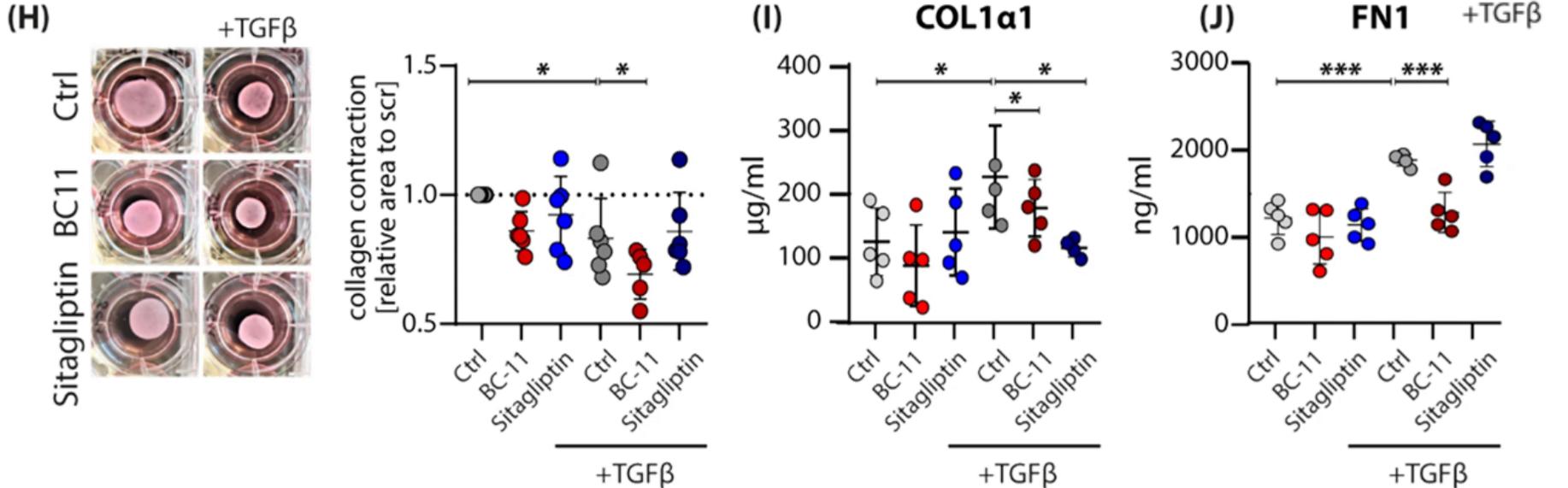
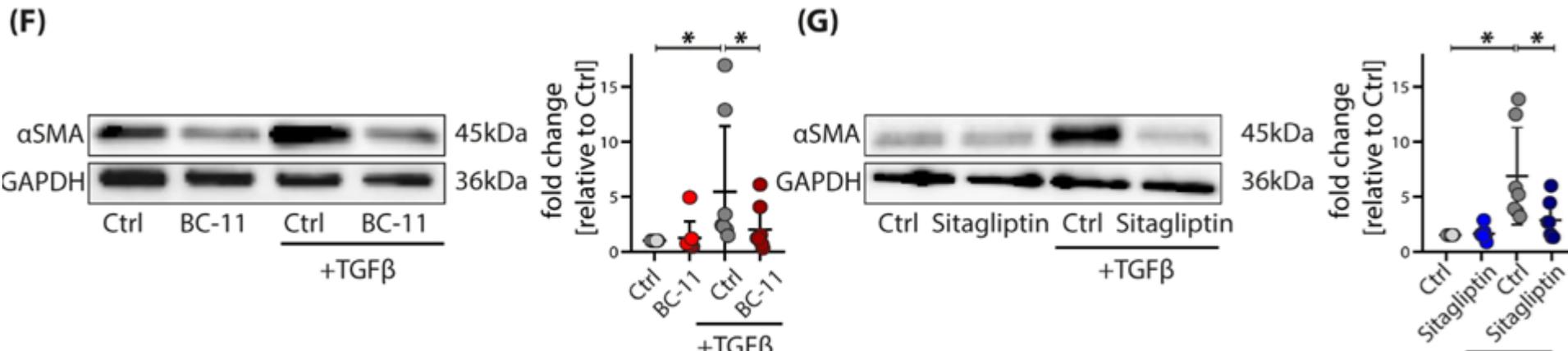
Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

DPP4 and Urokinase are overexpressed in human scar



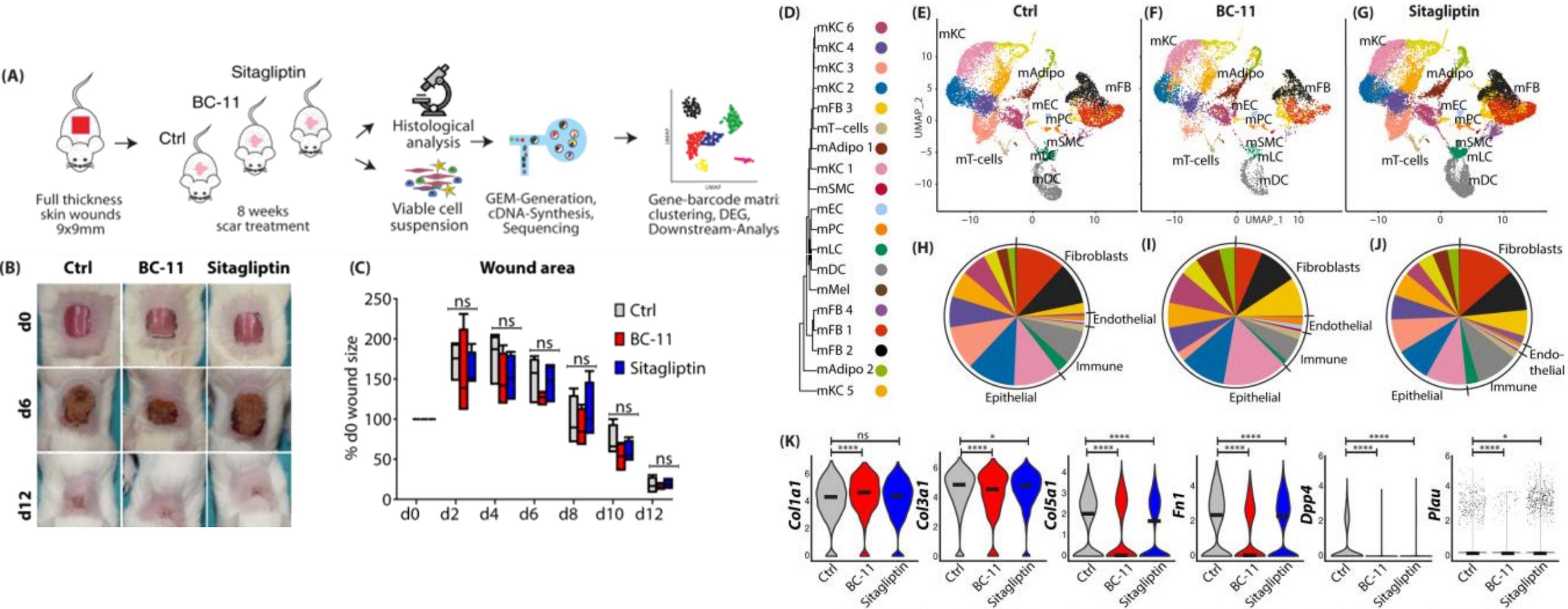
Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

Pharmacological inhibition of *DPP4* or *PLAU* prevents TGFβ-induced myoFB-differentiation and ECM-expression



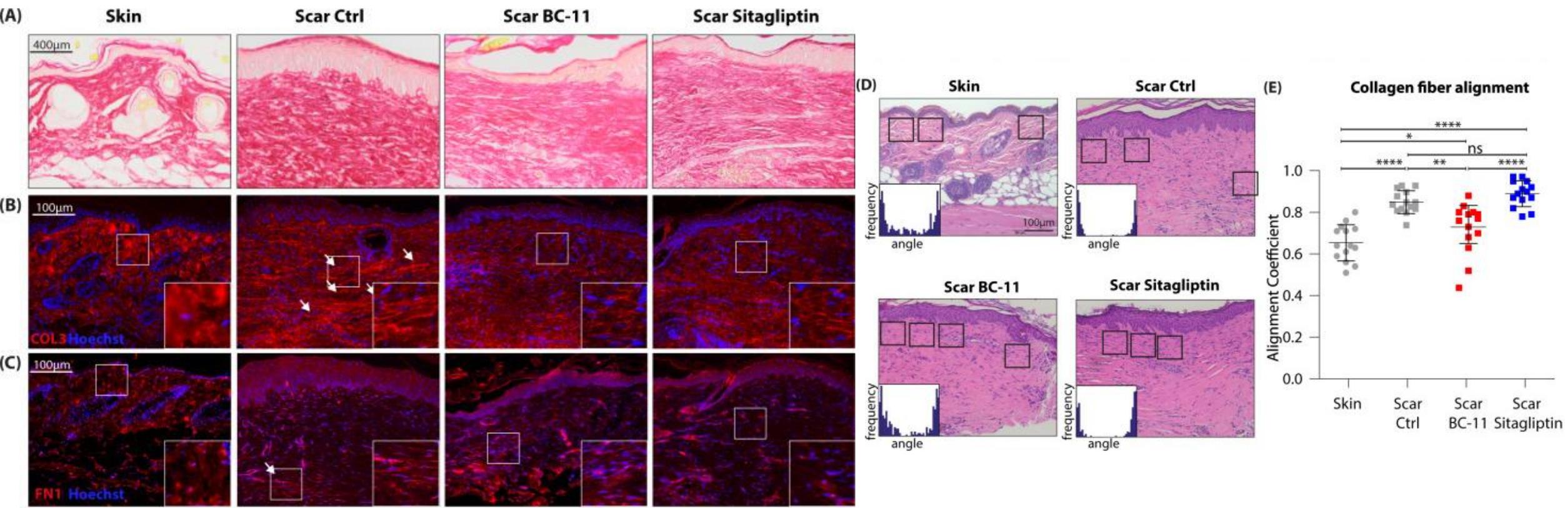
Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

In vivo application of BC-11 or Sitagliptin reduces expression of ECM and serine proteases.

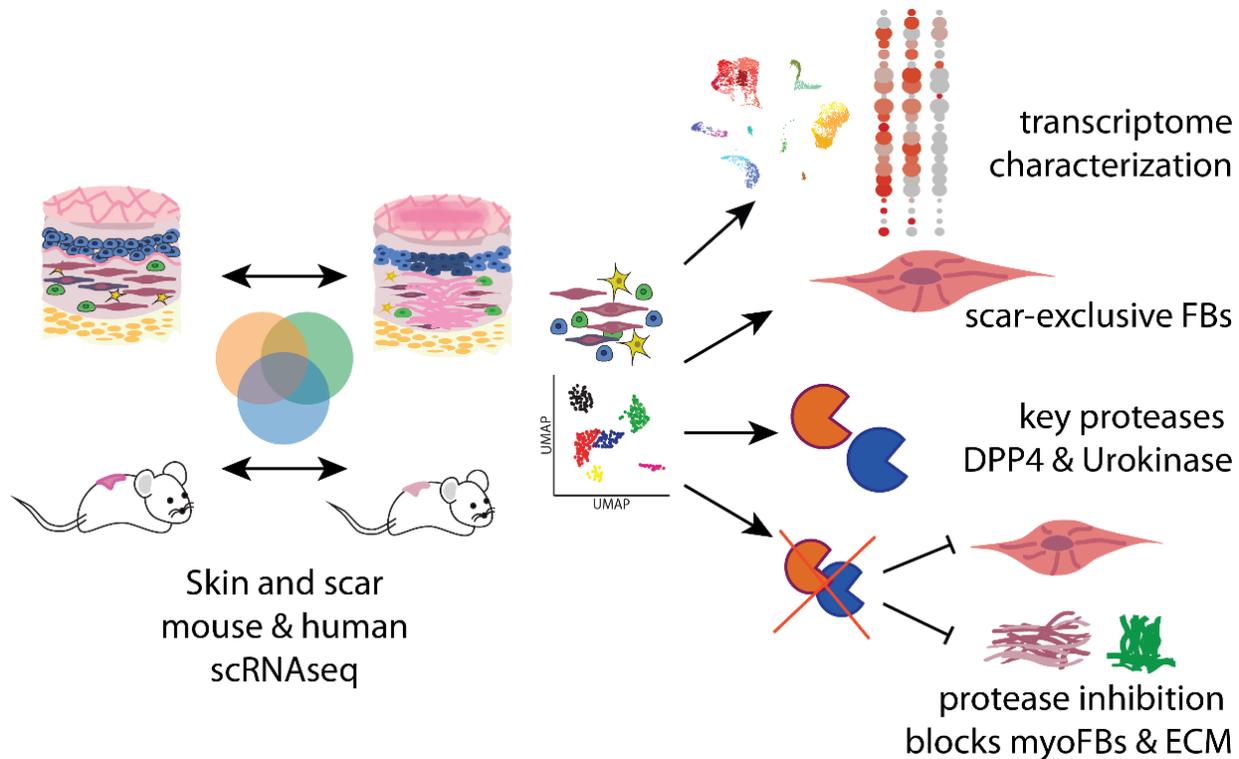


Chapter 2: The serine proteases dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 and urokinase are key molecules in human and mouse scar formation

In vivo application of BC-11 or Sitagliptin improves collagen alignment and fiber orientation in mouse scars.



Chapter 2: Summary & Conclusions



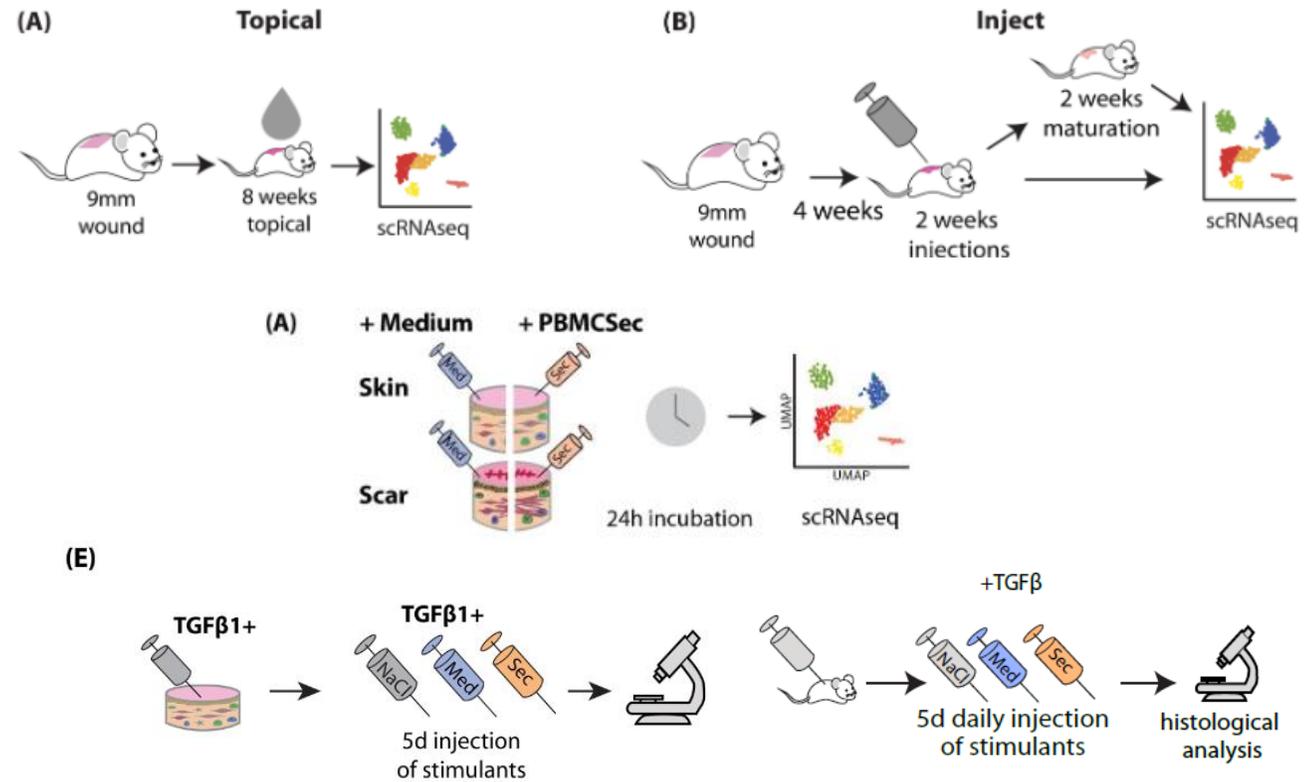
- Newly identified scar-specific FB cluster
- Many newly identified genes regulated in scar
- Serine proteases are regulated in mouse and human scars
- DPP4 and PLAU are overexpressed in scar
- Inhibition of DPP4 or PLAU prevents myoFB-differentiation
- In vivo inhibition of DPP4 or PLAU attenuates fibrotic effects

Provides a basis for further (clinical) investigation of DPP4 and PLAU in skin scarring

Aim 3: PBMCsec in scars

Challenges:

- Numerous components in PBMCsec
- Identify specific mechanisms
- Synergisms, component interactions



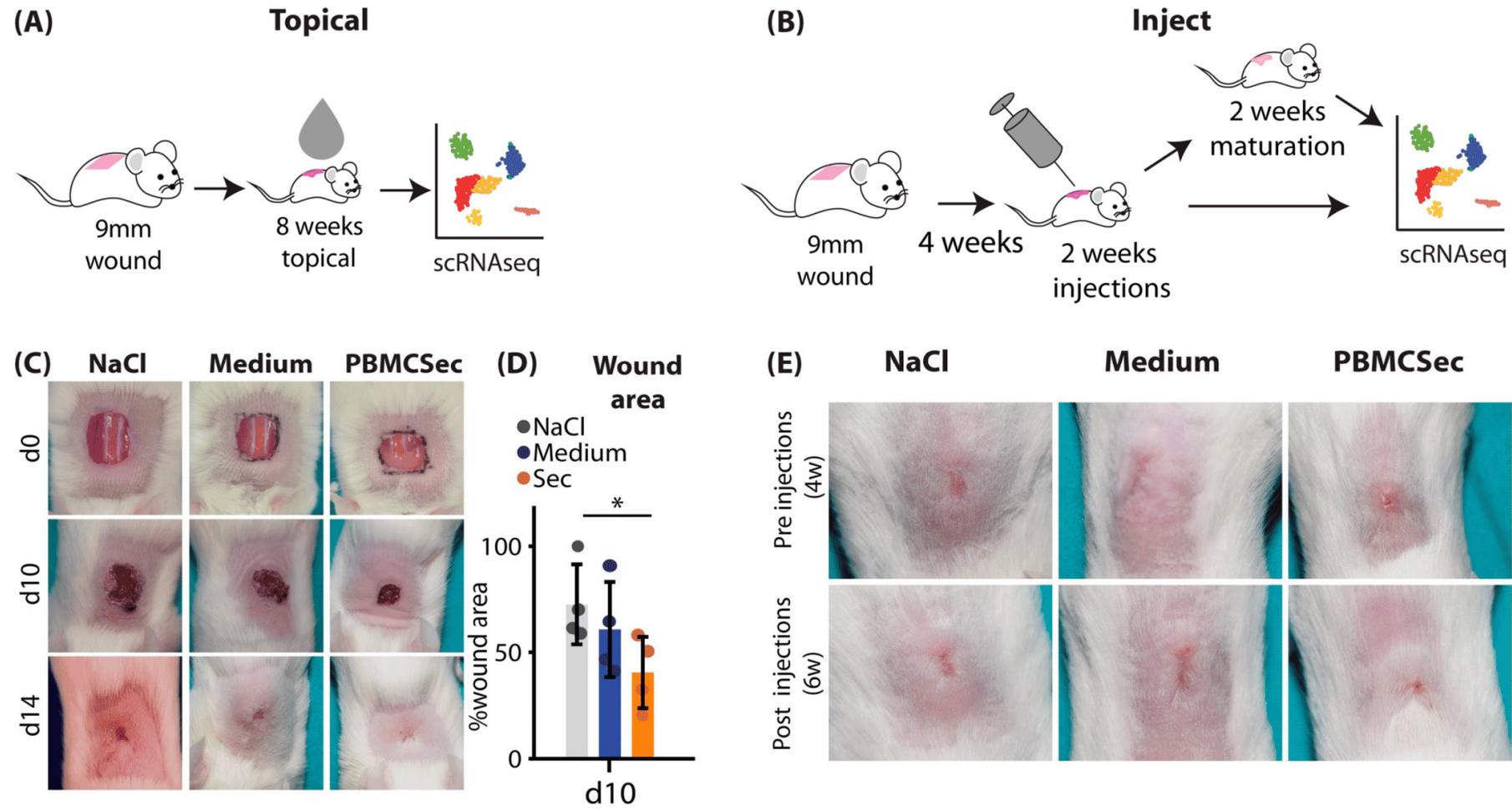
Article

The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

Vera Vorstandlechner^{1,2,3}, Dragan Copic^{1,2,4} , Katharina Klas^{1,2}, Martin Direder^{1,2,5}, Bahar Golabi⁶, Christine Radtke³, Hendrik J. Ankersmit^{1,2,†} and Michael Mildner^{6,*}

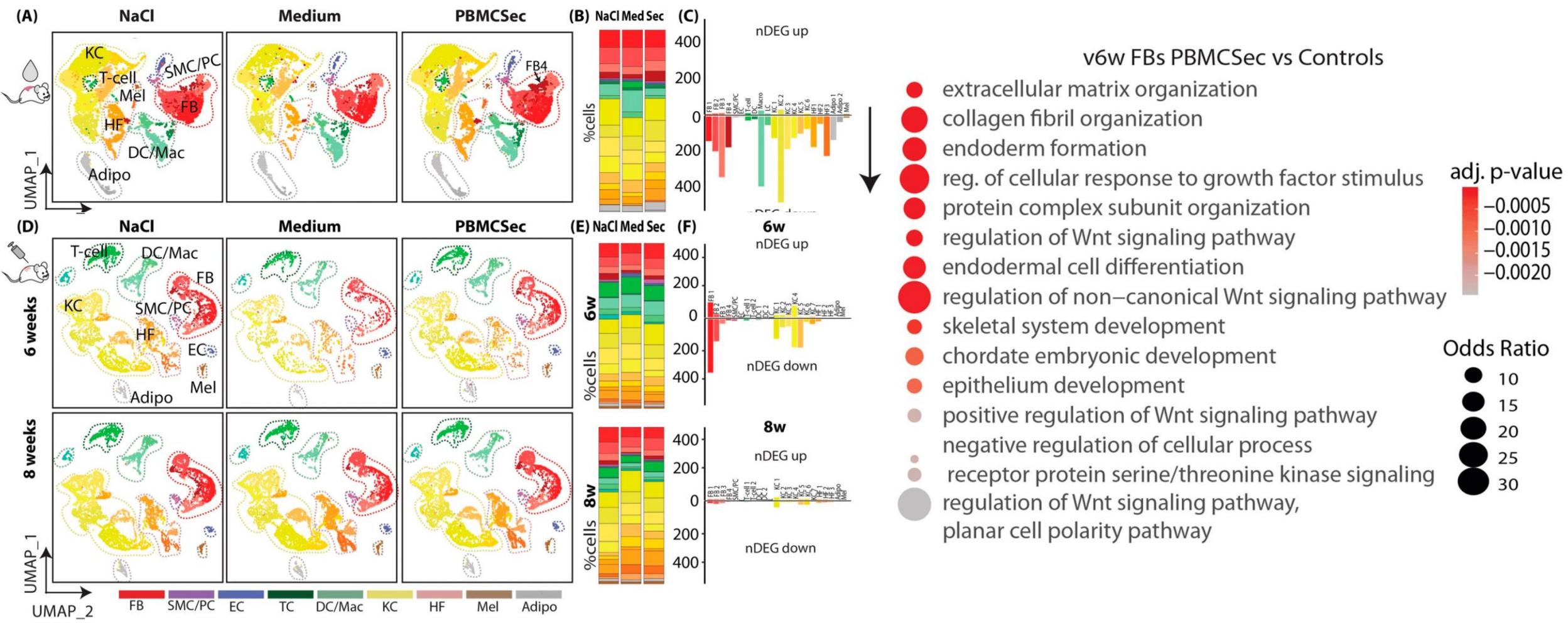
Chapter 3: The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

Comparing PBMCsec-mediated effects on scars after topical or intradermal application



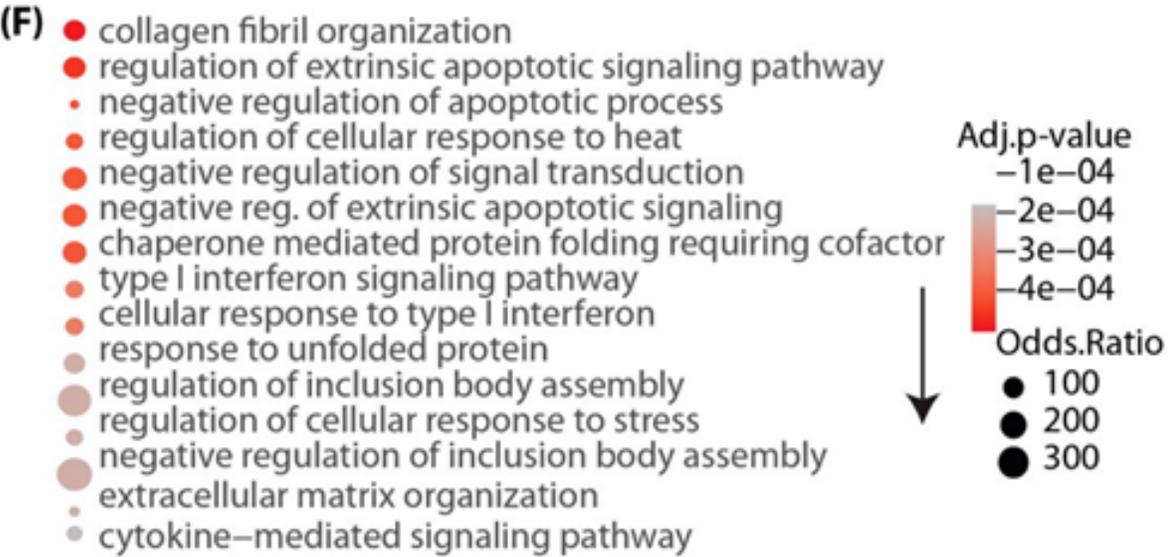
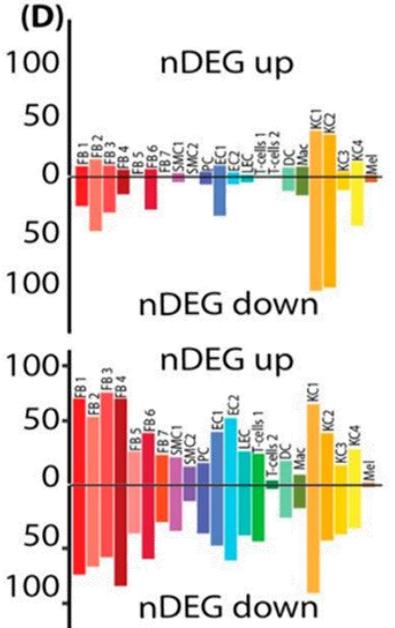
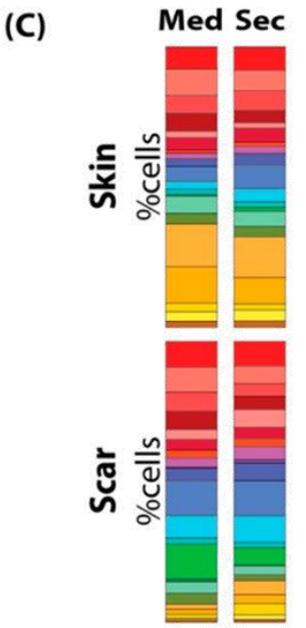
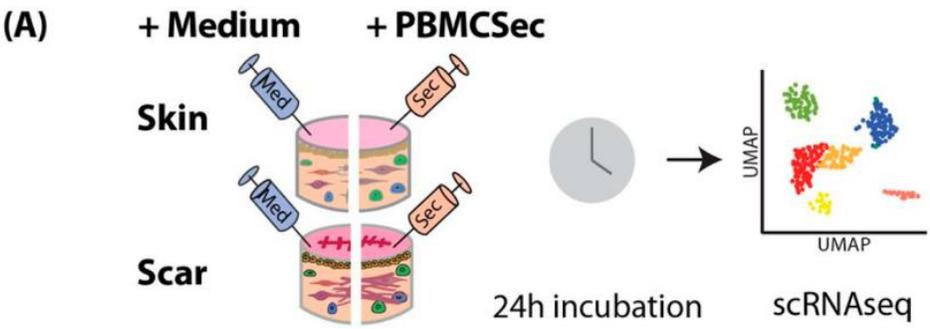
Chapter 3: The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

Topical or intradermal application by scRNAseq



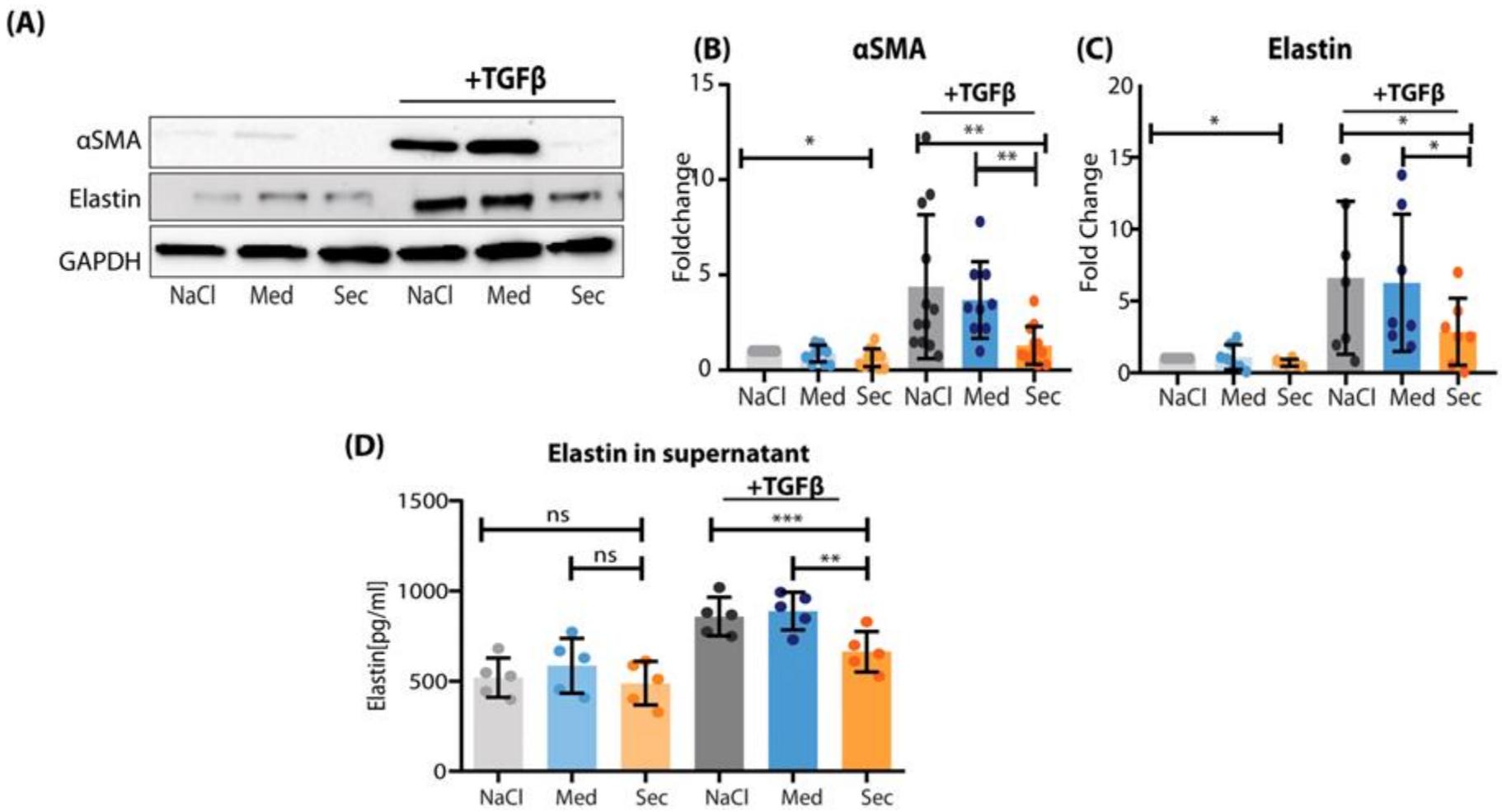
Chapter 3: The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

scRNAseq analysis of human skin and scars treated with PBMCsec ex vivo



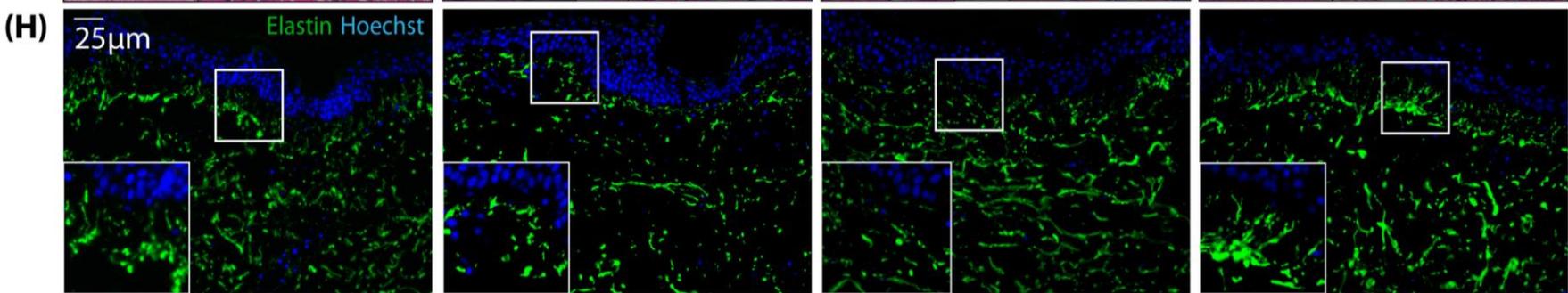
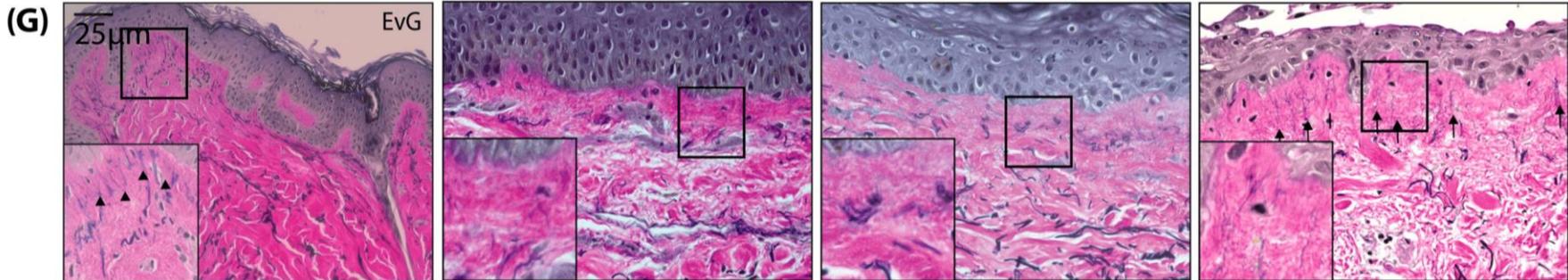
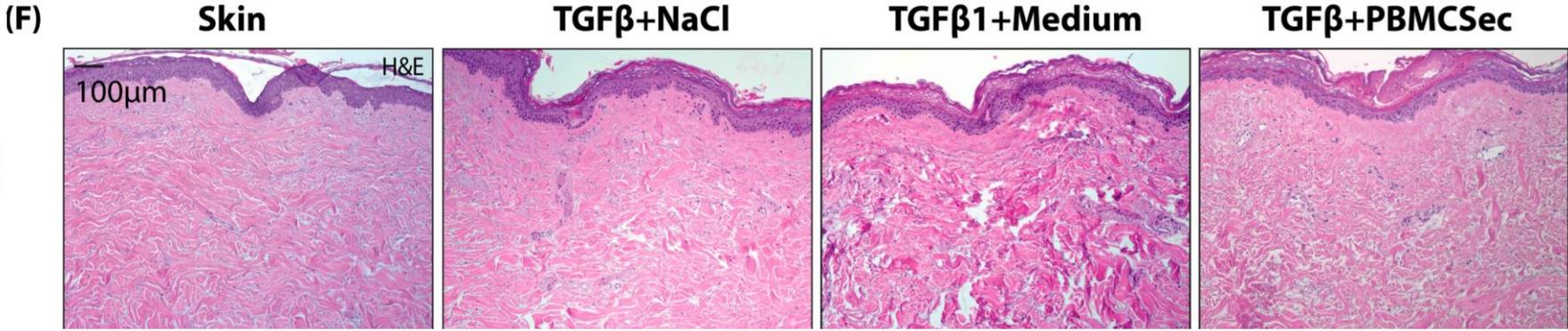
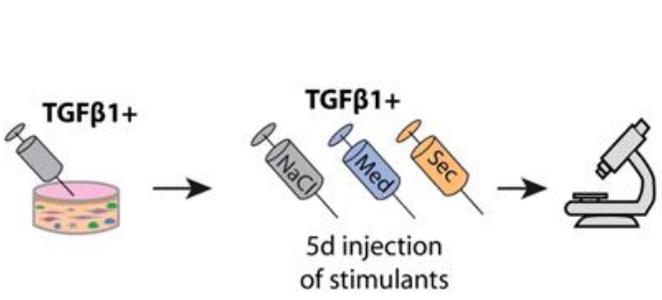
Chapter 3: The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

PBMCsec abolishes myofibroblast differentiation in vitro



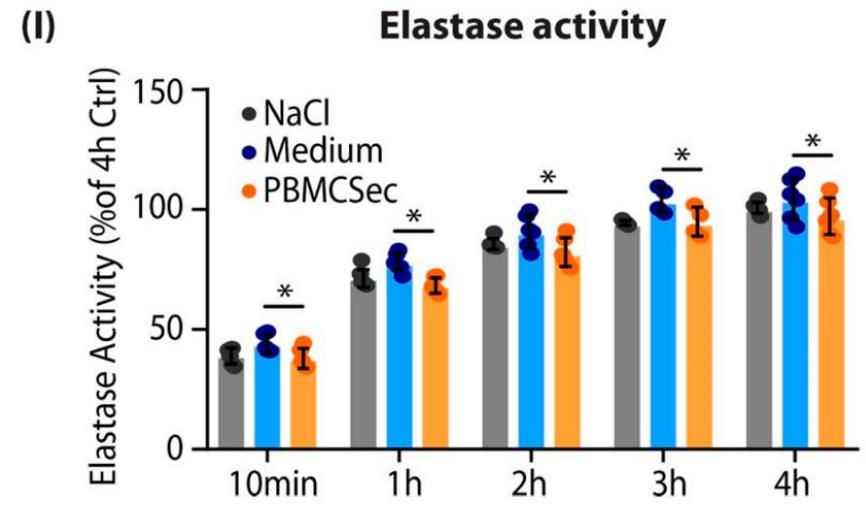
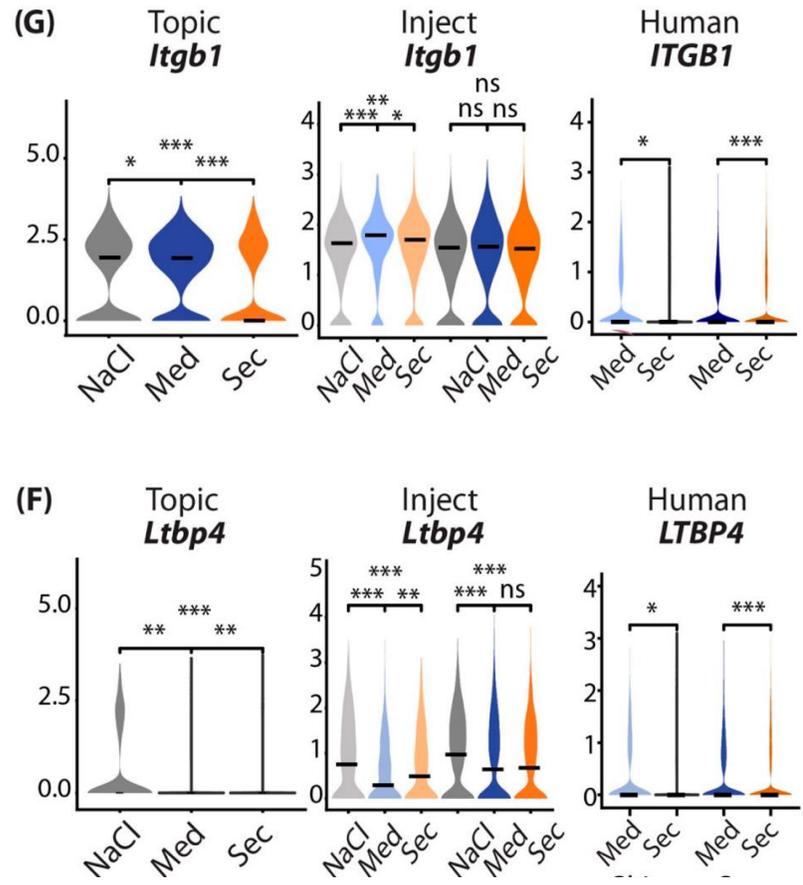
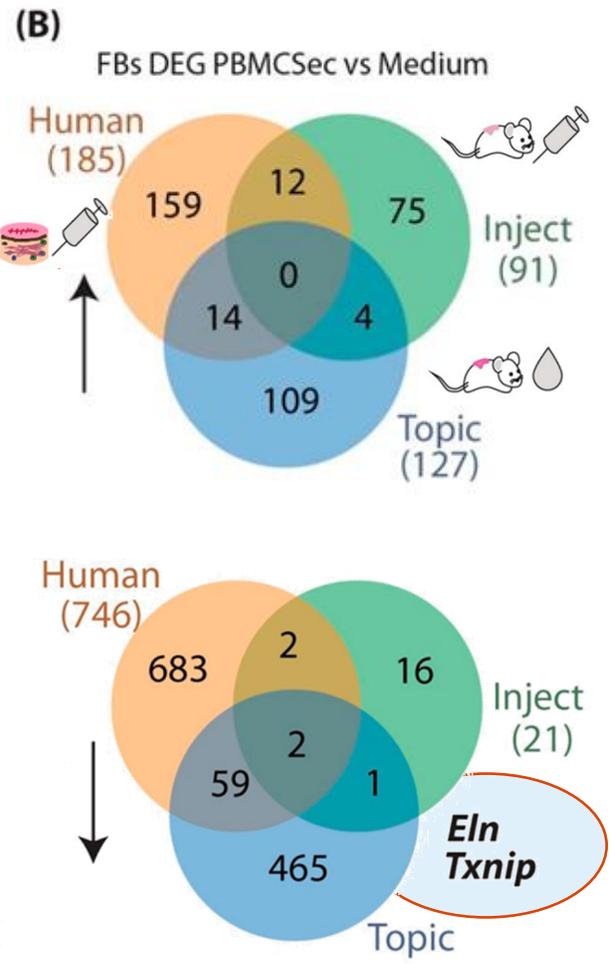
Chapter 3: The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

PBMCsec interferes with TGFβ-mediated Elastin-Degradation

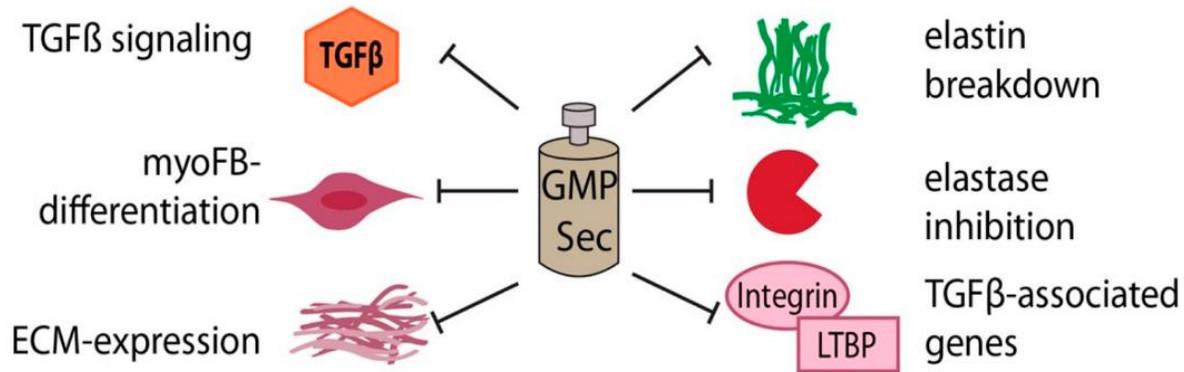


Chapter 3: The Secretome of Irradiated Peripheral Mononuclear Cells Attenuates Hypertrophic Skin Scarring

PBMCsec interacts with TGFβ-regulating genes and slightly inhibits elastases



Chapter 3: Summary & Conclusions



- PBMCsec inhibits TGF β -mediated myoFB-differentiation
- PBMCs tackles ECM-overexpression
- Prevents elastin breakdown
- Indirect effects by inhibiting TGF β -associated genes

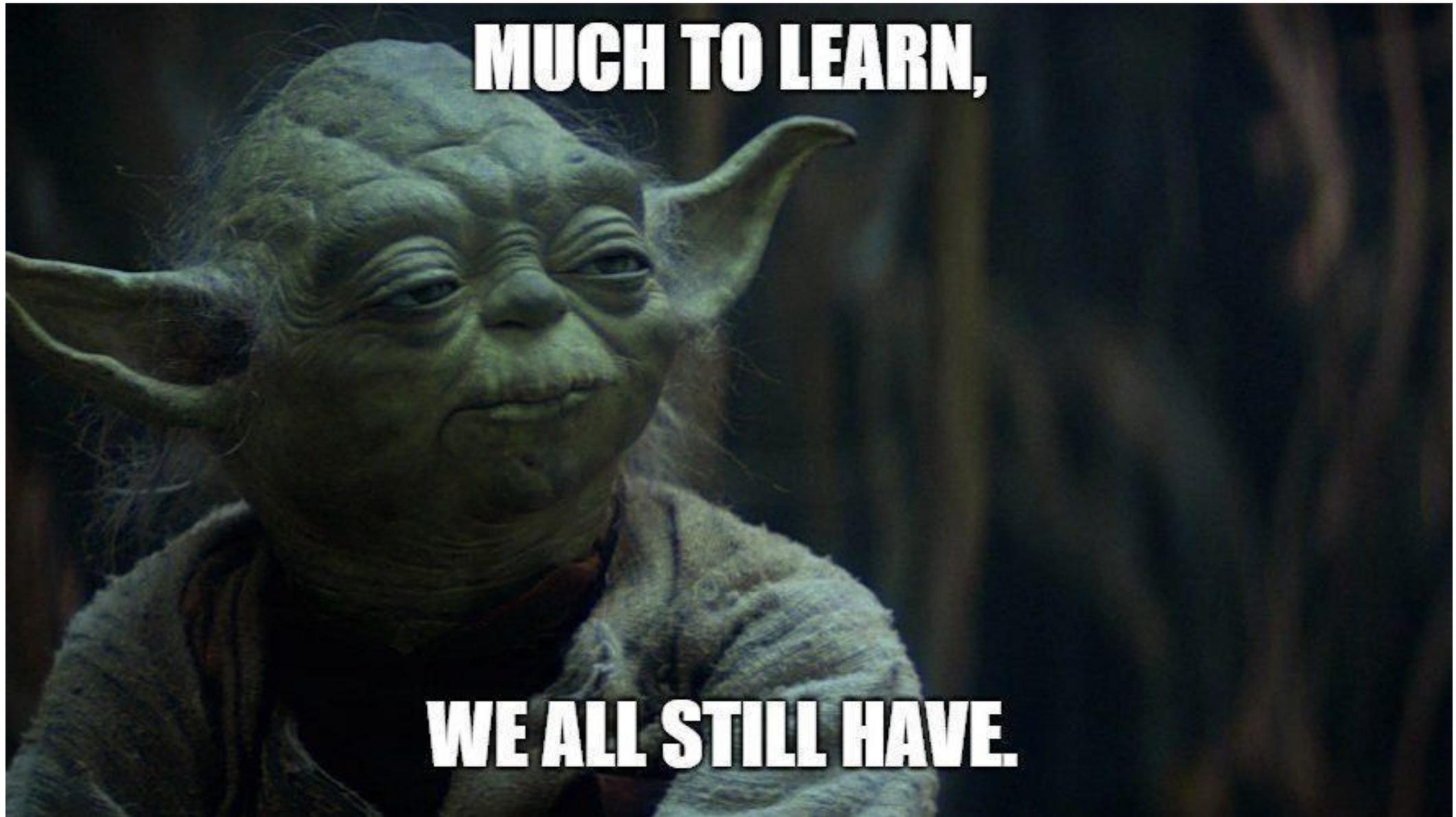
The basis for a clinical Phase I/II study for hypertrophic scarring (e.g. in burns patients)

Discussion, Conclusions & Future Prospects

- Novel FB classification and markers
- Serine proteases DPP4 and PLAU as new pharmacological targets
- Inhibition of myoFB differentiation as combined MOA of DPP4/PLAU inhibitors and PBMCsec
- Non-canonical inhibition of TGF β - signaling
- Elastin as central linchpin of MOA of PBMCsec
- Limitations: translatability mouse- human; sex bias; pharmacodynamics/kinetics of topical inhibitors/PBMCsec

Future prospects

- Clinical Phase I/II study for Sitagliptin in human skin scarring?
- Further (clinical) studies on PLAU-inhibitors
- Clinical study for PBMCsec in scarring
 - Phase II for PBMCsec in foot ulcers completed, results pending





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Daniel Bormann



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Michael Mildner

Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Christine Radtke



My husband
Stefan Spalt



Danke!